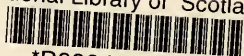


S. 121. a


National Library of Scotland



B000451147

NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF SCOTLAND
EDINBURGH





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2012 with funding from
National Library of Scotland

Charles F. H. Shaw
& Vera K. Shaw
with the Author's
kind regards
A
July 1877

Genealogical Account

of the

Highland Families

of

Shaw

BY

ALEXANDER MACKINTOSH SHAW



Shaw of Tordarroch

1877



No. 15

LONDON

ONE HUNDRED COPIES PRIVATELY PRINTED.

Alex MacKintosh Shaw

PREFACE.

IF, as the Wise Man tells us, "the glory of children are their fathers," those who can look back on a long array of ancestors among whom the virtues of patriotism, fidelity, and self-sacrifice were conspicuous assuredly have wherein to glory. They are born to an inheritance which, though it be of a purely sentimental character, is yet, when rightly used, more really valuable than mere riches, and more truly ennobling than mere titles of rank.

To glory in or be proud of such an inheritance is a duty incumbent on all who possess it; but their pride should be of a proper kind. None have a right to assume merit or to demand that others shall pay them respect on account solely of the number or worth of their ancestors, for

quis generosum dixerit hunc qui
Indignus genere, et præclaro nomine tantum
Insignis?

Those who can indulge in pride of race, therefore, should do so without demanding or expecting special honour on account of it from others, remembering that honour is due only to merit, and that no merit is conveyed by birth.

They should also be sure that in giving expression to their pride they do not give occasion for comparisons between their ancestors and themselves to their own disadvantage. "Of what avail are pedigrees?" asks the noble poet of a corrupt Rome, "what does it profit

PREFACE.

that you possess a long descent, and exhibit the pictures of your ancestors, and boast of great men among them, if with these pictures in your sight you lead a wicked life? To what purpose are the images of so many warriors on your walls if within those walls you spend the whole night at dice, and reel to your bed at day-break, the time at which they were wont to be drawing out their legions to battle?"¹

True and legitimate pride in ancestors is shown by the endeavour to imitate their virtues and to keep unspotted the good name which they have transmitted; and it is in kindling and keeping warm such a pride that a knowledge of family history is of the highest possible value.

New generations of Shaws are growing up in various quarters of the world, and for their benefit principally the following Genealogical Account of their race is written. To them I dedicate it, in the earnest hope that by its perusal they may be encouraged to maintain in every thought and action of their lives the honour of the name of Shaw.

A. M. S.

London,

April, 1877.

¹ Stemmata quid faciunt? quid prodest, Pontice, longo
Sanguine censeri, pictosque ostendere vultus
Majorum, et stantes in curribus Æmilianos,

* * * * *

Si coram Lepidis male vivitur? Effigies quò
Tot bellatorum, si luditur alea pernox
Ante Numantinos? si dormire incipis ortu
Luciferi, quò signa duces et castra movebant?

Juvenal—Sat. VIII.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY ANCESTORS.

“IT is the general tradition,” says the Rev. Lachlan Shaw,¹ “that the SHAWS are descended of MacDuff, Earl of Fife. Sir George Mackenzie, in his *Alphabetical Manuscript of Genealogies*, says, ‘That Sheach or Shaw,² son of MacDuff, was progenitor of this name.’ Sir Robert Sibbald dedicates his *Modern History of Fife* ‘To the Earl of Wemyss, Lord Elcho, and to the Nobility and Gentry of the name of Wemyss, Shaw, Toshean, Duff, Douglas, Lesley, and Abernethy, descended of the Clan MacDuff.’ Mr. Nisbet, in his *Marks of Cadency*, writeth, ‘That the Shaws are said to be descended of a younger son of MacDuff, Earl of Fife.’ The Bishop of Carlyle, in his *Scottish Historical Library*, says, ‘I have seen a treatise of the origin and continuance of the Thanes and Earls of Fife surnamed MacDuff, of whom the families of MacIntosh, Wemyss, Shaw, and Duff are descended.’ Let me add that Dr. Abercrombie, in his *Martial Achievements*, observeth that King Malcolm Canmore rewarded those who had contributed to his restoration,

¹ *History of the Province of Moray* (Edin., 1775), p. 41.

² *Shaw* or *Seagh* (pron. *Sheach*) is a corruption of an obsolete Gaelic word signifying “proud,” “princely.” It is, doubtless, akin to *toseach*, “foremost” or “principal,” originally “beginning” or “first part.” It has no connection with the Saxon “*shaw*,” a word of common occurrence in the Lowlands of Scotland, and meaning “a small wood.”

from the names of which, or lands given to them, many ancient families have their surnames, and particularly Gordon, Seaton, Lesley, Calder, *Shaw*, &c.”

“These hints,” continues the reverend writer, “are sufficient to show the antiquity of this name, and their descent from MacDuff.”

According to our old Scots historians, MacDuff, Thane (or lieutenant-governor) of Fife, for his services against the usurper MacBeth, and for his aid in obtaining the throne of Scotland for Malcolm Canmor Mac Duncan, was rewarded by the latter with the title of Earl—a title borrowed from the Saxon court—and the grant of certain hereditary privileges and honours. These rewards were conferred upon him in 1057, on Malcolm's becoming King. Earl MacDuff is the first of his line of whose history we have, or perhaps can now hope to have, any certain knowledge. No doubt his ancestors, like himself, were leading men in the kingdom; it is even believed that they were offshoots of the royal race; but the history of Scotland, as it has come down to us, and especially the history of the kings of Scotland, cannot be depended upon with any degree of certainty before the time of Malcolm Canmor and his immediate successors, when the art of writing began to be employed somewhat more extensively than before, and when lands began to be held by written tenure.

MacDuff, it must be observed, was not in the time of the first Earl of Fife the name of his family; it was

simply his own personal appellation. Hereditary surnames did not come into use until about a century later, but when they did, the family of the Earls of Fife took for their surname that of their great ancestor who had won for them their position.

The fifth Earl of Fife was Duncan, Earl MacDuff's great-grandson, whose name occurs frequently in charters by King David I. He died in 1154, leaving three sons,

Duncan, who carried on the line of the Earls of Fife;

John, Lord of the Weems, ancestor of the Earls of Wemyss; and

Shaw, from whom the Mackintoshes, and through them the Shaws, trace an unbroken male descent.

Some genealogists make Shaw the second and John the third son, but ancient genealogies are not always to be depended upon in regard to the proper sequence of children. Assuming, therefore, that in this instance the sequence above given is correct, the lineal *male* representative of the old Earls of Fife at the present time is the Earl of Wemyss and March, the line of Duncan, eldest son of the fifth Earl of Fife, having ended in a female who died without children in 1346.

Shaw, third son of the fifth Earl, accompanied King Malcolm IV. in an expedition which that monarch undertook in 1163 against the rebellious inhabitants of Morayland. According to some old historians, the insurgent tribes were almost totally destroyed in a great

battle on Urquhart Moor, near the Spey; others have it that the king negotiated with them, promising them their lives if they would submit, and that, his offer being accepted, he kept his word, but required all engaged in the rebellion to remove to other parts of the kingdom. Neither account may be wholly incorrect; it is not improbable that a sanguinary battle was followed by negotiations, on the terms stated, with the survivors of the vanquished tribes and others of their race who had been absent from the field. At all events, it is an historical fact that the Moray tribes—"homines inquieto semper ingenio," as Buchanan calls them—were in frequent insurrection during the reign of Malcolm, and that their power was completely crushed by that monarch; and further, it is generally admitted that, as a means of effectually curbing them, the chief among them were removed and their country was divided among strangers.

The assistance rendered by the son of the Earl of Fife in this expedition is said to have conduced in a great measure to the quelling of the insurrection. In what particular capacity he accompanied the king we are not told; but we may reasonably assume that the brother of the powerful Earl of Fife would occupy a situation of some eminence, both in the council and in the field. Whatever his services, Shaw received as a reward the possession of some of the lands previously occupied by the rebels. These were Petty and Breachley, on the southern shore of the Moray Firth, and the forestry of

Strathearn (the valley of the Findhorn). He was also made custodian or governor of the castle at Inverness, a post which continued in his family for some generations. On account, most probably, of his high descent, he was called *Mac-an-Toiseach*, "son of the foremost or chief man," and this designation, shortened into *Mackintosh*, in due time became the name of the family and clan which sprung from him.¹

Such is the account which has obtained for centuries among the Mackintoshes of the origin of their family, and of their settlement in the north. One genealogy containing it was written about the close of the fifteenth century, two others in the century following, and in the seventeenth century these were embodied in a lengthy history of the family, from MacDuff down to about the year 1670, compiled by Lachlan Mackintosh of Kinrara, brother of the eighteenth chief². It is accepted by numerous heralds and genealogists since Lachlan of Kinrara's time, among whom may be mentioned Nisbet,

¹"In the clan system there were no surnames; every one was known by the name of his father, so that Celts have names as long as their pedigrees. There were often surnames given to individuals, but they were not at first descendible. The forms of the Church show that there were no surnames when these forms were first established. In the marriage ceremonial christian names only are used. The inconvenience of the clan system led, among the Celts in Ireland and the Highlands, to the adoption of the name of the founder of a family, not only by his descendants, but by those who followed him in war, or held property under him in peace."—*Charters of the Priory of Beaulieu*, by E. Chisholm-Batten (London, 1877), p. 309.

²This History will be referred to in subsequent pages under the title of *Kinrara MS.*

in his *Heraldry*; Shaw, in his *History of Moray*; Buchanan of Auchmar, in his *Enquiry into the State of Scottish Surnames*; and Douglas, in his *Baronage of Scotland*.

The connection of the Mackintoshes and Shaws with the old Earls of Fife is shown in their arms. The arms of the earldom were “*or, a lion rampant gules.*” Nisbet says, “The arms of Macduff, Thane and Earl of Fife, most probably are originally in imitation of the sovereign bearing.....the double tressure being only omitted to distinguish them from the Royal arms, to which they might have gone as near as any family in the kingdom.” This “*ruddy lion ramping in gold*” occupies the first quarter of the Mackintosh shield, and the first and fourth quarters of the shields of the Shaws and Farquharsons. It also appears in the arms of the noble family of Wemyss.

Shaw Mac-an-toisich was succeeded by his son *Shaw*, and he by his son *Ferquhard*, who married a daughter of his kinsman and patron Malcolm, Earl of Fife, but left no family. Ferquhard was succeeded by his nephew *Shaw*, third of the name, who extended the possessions of his family by acquiring the lands of Meikle Geddes and Rait, on the Nairn, and by obtaining from the Bishop of Moray a lease of Rothimureus in Badenoch, afterwards occupied by the Shaws for nearly two hundred years. Shaw, son of William, married Helena, daughter of William, Thane of Calder or Cawdor, and dying in 1265 was succeeded by his eldest son *Ferquhard*,

who was, as is stated by Douglas and evidenced by the acts recorded of him, "a man of great parts and remarkable fortitude." He died in the flower of his age and renown, leaving, by a daughter of the powerful Angus Mor of Isla, two young children, a boy and a girl. The boy, Angus, sixth chief of the Mackintoshes, was brought up by his uncle Alexander of Isla, and in 1291, when about twenty-three years of age, married Eva, daughter and heiress of Dougal Dal, chief of the Clan Chattan. He was present with his followers at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314, and in 1318-9 accompanied Randolph, Earl of Moray, on a campaign in England.

So far the descent of the Shaws, or rather of the family of which the Shaws are cadets, has been traced from its remote source in the person of the Thane of Fife immortalized by Shakspeare. It will now be necessary to go back in point of time to say something of other ancestors of the Shaws—the early chiefs of Clan Chattan.

Here we enter into what has been not unaptly called "a whirlpool of opposing currents." There are few questions of Scottish history which have had greater variety of opinion expressed upon them than those concerning the origin and early history of the Clan Chattan. The historic Clan Chattan, a confederacy of various tribes which, from the fourteenth to the eighteenth century, under the chiefs of Mackintosh, exercised considerable influence on the affairs of the

Highlands of Scotland, is of course familiar to every reader of Highland history; but the original or pre-historic clan is to a great extent a mystery even to those who have set themselves to become acquainted with it. Who the original clan were, whether of the native Celtic race or part of a Gaulish or Teutonic immigration from the continent—even the locality of their original seat in Scotland—is wrapped in uncertainty, in spite of the labours of antiquaries to give even thus much of fixity to their history. One party avers that they were of the Scoto-Irish immigration; another makes their original home in Caithness; and a third brings them from Germany soon after the commencement of the Christian era, and says that they were of the race of Gauls driven from their native land by the Romans.

With regard to their name there is still greater diversity of opinion. One says it is from the Catti, one of the Gaulish tribes just mentioned; another says it was obtained from Gillicattan Mor, founder and leader of the clan, and that he was “servant of St. Katan;”¹ a

¹Mr. Skene says that Gillicattan was founder of the clan and of the name; and on this some writers have assigned to the clan an ecclesiastical origin, believing that Gillicattan, as his name seems to imply, was in the service of the Church. Mr. E. W. Robertson (*Scotland under her Early Kings*, vol. i. p. 241) is of opinion that he was a *co-arb*, or kind of hereditary abbot, of St. Katan. But although the name doubtless means “servant of Katan,” we are not therefore bound to believe that its bearer was actually a minister of religion; as well believe that all the Gilchrists and Gillecallums who ever harried and slew were employed in the service of some church or monastery dedicated to Christ or St. Malcolm! The prefix “Gille” was used when a person was honoured by being named after some saint, and was simply an addition made to the name with the intention of denoting reverence and humility.

third derives it from *cat* or *catai*, a weapon; a fourth, bringing the clan from Caithness, says that country obtained its name from the wild cats which infested it, and that the clan obtained their name either from these animals or from the country; while a fifth, also bringing them from the extreme north, gives the name a topographical derivation. This last writer, the Rev. Lachlan Shaw,¹ thinks it probable that the clan "either took their name from or gave it to *Catav*, now Sutherland, their ancient residence"—*catav* (from *cad*, high, and *taobh*, a side) being the high side of the Ord of Caithness, in contradistinction to *Gualav* (from *gual*, low, plain, and *taobh*) the low side. Of the several theories, each of which has numerous supporters whose opinions on such matters are eminently deserving of attention and consideration, I am inclined to regard this as the most reasonable and probable. It is strengthened by the fact that in the northern Highlands are other clan names derived from local circumstances, as Clan *Mörqan* (Mackays), "dwellers by the sea;" Clan *Ross*, from *ros*, "a promontory;" and probably *Moray* or Murray, from *mor-thaobh*, "by the seaside."

It may be remarked, however, that the idea of the clan's German parentage is by no means so ridiculous or so devoid of likelihood as some writers have imagined. It is not more opposed to reason or probability than the generally received belief that other German tribes at an early period settled a considerable portion of South

History of Moray, p. 50.

Britain, and even rounded the Pillars of Hercules, or than Cæsar's account of the remarkable exodus of the whole nation of the Helvetii. Both Tacitus and Pliny speak of the Catti in Germany, and the former mentions their expulsion by Tiberius Cæsar. Next we learn from our early chroniclers that certain people from Almaine, or Germany, arrived in Scotland during the Roman occupation of Britain, and that, being sworn enemies to the Romans, they aided the Scots against those invaders; further, that they settled in the country, chiefly in the district between the Spey on the east and Inverness on the west, that is, in Moray; and finally, Mr. Skene considers it proved by a MS. Genealogy of 1450 that the Clan Chattan were descended from the ancient inhabitants of Moray.¹ I may add that the view of the German extraction of the clan is favoured by Sir Robert Gordon,² and is alluded to by Sir Walter Scott.³

Whether they were originally foreign adventurers or native Celts, whether their cradle was on the banks of the Rhine, in the wilds of Caithness, or in the fastnesses of Lochaber, it is tolerably clear that by the latter part of the thirteenth century the Clan Chattan had found a settled home in Lochaber, and were a clan of some importance. These are the only certain facts we know of them. Mr. Skene⁴ assigns to them the proud position

¹ *Highlanders of Scotland* (Lon., 1837), vol. ii. p. 162.

² *Earldom of Sutherland*, p. 14.

³ "*Fair Maid of Perth*"—chap. xxvii.—Note.

⁴ *Highlanders of Scotland*, vol. ii. pp. 162-5.

of principal branch of the Moray tribe, and most powerful of the clans under the sway of the native Earls of Moray. He also shows from the MS. of 1450 that their chiefs at one time possessed, by their own descent, a title to the Maormordom or ancient Earldom of Moray.¹ If his deductions are correct, which is perhaps doubtful—the authority of the said MS. being not unimpeachable—we have the curious fact that in the issue of the marriage of Eva with Angus, chief of Mackintosh, the blood which flowed in the veins of the famous Maarmor of Moray, Macbeth, must have mingled with the blood of his great enemy Macduff.

Sir Æneas Macpherson, who wrote an account of the Macphersons in the reign of Charles I., gives the following genealogy of the early Clan Chattan chiefs down to Dougal Dal, the last:—

Gillicattan Mor, in the time of Malcolm Canmore, was father of *Diarmed*, who succeeded about the year 1090, and was father of *Gillicattan*, his successor, who flourished in the reign of David I. *Gillicattan* had two sons, the elder of whom, *Diarmed*, dying without issue in 1153, was succeeded by his brother *Muirich*, Parson of Kingussie, from whom the Macphersons (*i.e.* sons of the Parson) are called Clan Mhuirich. He had five sons,—*Gillicattan*, Ewen “Baan,” Neil, Ferquhard, and David “Dhu.” The eldest, *Gillicattan*, succeeded him, and was father of *Dougal “Dal,”* whose only child Eva married the young chief of Mackintosh.

¹ *Highlanders of Scotland*, vol. ii. pp. 172-3.

The Mackintoshes and Shaws are thus descendants of the old Clan Chattan chiefs through Eva, who brought to the Mackintosh family the lands, Glenlui and Locharkaig, occupied by her clan in Lochaber, and to the Mackintosh chiefs the position of head of Clan Chattan.¹

Ewen Baan, second son of *Muirich*, had three sons,

¹This is not a solitary instance in early Highland history of property and chiefship devolving on a female, and of her transmitting her right thereto to her husband. Mr. Skene mentions one instance, that of Christina, daughter of Alan MacRoderic of the Isles, who, about the time of the marriage of Angus Mackintosh with the heiress of Clan Chattan, succeeded her father in the lordship of Garmoran to the prejudice of her brother Roderic, who "it would appear was not considered legitimate by the feudal law." (*Highlanders of Scotland*, ii. 56.) See also Gregory's *History of the Western Highlands and Isles*, p. 24, where Roderic is spoken of as "leader of the vassals of Christina, heiress of Alan MacRuari." Again, Alexander of Isla "acquired a considerable addition to his territories by marriage (about 1280) with one of the daughters and *co-heiresses* of Ewen de Ergadia" (Skene, ii. 59); and John, first Lord of the Isles, was only enabled to assume that proud title on acquiring the North Isles by his marriage with Amie, daughter and *heiress* of Ranald MacRuari (Gregory, p. 27). See also Skene, vol. ii. p. 63, where it is stated that on the death of Ranald of the Isles in 1346, "John, who had married his sister Amy, *became entitled* to the succession." Yet with these facts before him, and in spite of abundant evidence (sometimes adduced by himself) of the existence of *feudal law* in the Highlands at this period, Mr. Skene denies the right of the chiefs of Mackintosh to the headship of Clan Chattan, a right which has been recognized by Kings, Lords of the Isles, and other Highland chiefs, from the fourteenth century downwards, and which was accepted by the members of the *old* Clan Chattan without dispute down to 1591 (See Skene's *Highlanders*, vol. ii. pp. 170 *et seq.*). But surely Mr. Skene cannot deny that Angus Mackintosh may have succeeded to the Clan Chattan lands and chiefship *in right of his wife under the feudal law*, when he himself indicates the existence of the feudal law in regard to the Clan Chattan lands, which he says "were held of the crown by the chief of the clan." (p. 170).

Kenneth, Ian, and Gillies, from whom descended respectively the three principal branches of the Macphersons, those of Cluny, Pitmean, and Invereshie.

With Angus, the sixth chief, the genealogy of the Shaws leaves the direct line of the chiefs of Mackintosh. Angus and Eva had seven sons;—*William*, who succeeded his father and carried on the line of chiefs; *John*; *Angus "Og,"* ancestor of the Mackintoshes of Dalmunzie; *Malcolm* and *Ferquhard*, both killed at the battle of Durham or Neville's Cross, in 1346; *Duncan*; and *Shaw*. The second of these, John, had a son *Gilchrist*, who was father of *Shaw Mor*, the founder of the family or clan of the Shaws; and thus, of the clans belonging to the historic Clan Chattan which branched off from the Mackintosh stem, the Clan Shaw is the most ancient.

CHAPTER II.

SHAW MOR, FOUNDER OF THE CLAN.

DURING the chiefships of the three successors of Angus, sixth chief of Mackintosh, the family of John, his second son, would naturally occupy a position of prominence and importance in the clan. Their importance would for a time be somewhat augmented by the circumstance that Lachlan, the eighth chief, was during the latter part of his chiefship incapacitated by age from taking an active part in the management of his clan, and that his son and successor, Ferquhard, was apparently unfitted or unwilling to undertake his father's duties.¹ In these circumstances, the times being lawless and the clansmen turbulent, it was necessary that some one should take upon him the duty of leading the clan in their frequent warlike expeditions. Such a person was found in Shaw mac Gilchrist, whose claim to the distinction perhaps lay as much in his individual prowess as in his nearness of blood to the chief. Accordingly on two occasions of historical importance we find Shaw leading the men of Clan Chattan.

¹ Ferquhard, soon after he became chief, "*willingly* renounced his inheritance and birthright in favour of his uncle Malcolm," his clansmen being "altogether dissatisfied with his way of managing affairs." *Kinnrara MS.*—The MS. describes the clan as "an active and stirring people at that time."

The first of these occasions was in 1391, when a large body of Highlanders under Duncan, natural son of the Wolf of Badenoch,¹ descended upon the fertile plains of Angus and succeeded in routing the forces led against them by the Sheriff of Angus and Sir David Lindsay of Glenesk. Particulars of this descent, commonly known as the Raid of Angus, are given in Wyntoun's *Cronykil* and Buchanan's *History of Scotland*, and the names of the leaders and their principal adherents are given at length in an Act of the General

¹ Wyntoun (*Orygynale Cronykil of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 469) speaks only of "thre chiftanys great" of the Highlanders,—Thomas, Patrick, and Gibbon, whose surname was Duncanson. These three were ancestors of the Clan Donnachie or Robertsons of Athole. With Wyntoun's lines before him, Lord Lindsay (*Lives of the Lindsays*, vol. i. p. 95) thinks it probable that the foray arose out of a supposition on the part of the Duncansons that they had a claim to the lands of Glenesk. Their father's first wife—they being sons by a second marriage—was one of the co-heiresses of Sir John Stirling of Glenesk, and a sister of Sir David Lindsay's mother; and the portion of Glenesk which she brought into the Duncanson family being taken out of it by her only child, a daughter, the sons by her husband's second marriage may have wished to retain it and have endeavoured to take forcible possession. Lord Lindsay's opinion may be correct, but it is perhaps more probable that the raid was due to the plundering propensities of the younger "Wolf of Badenoch," for the exercise of which the rich lands of the shire of Angus afforded a favourable field. This probability is strengthened by the fact that his name appears *first* in the list of persons outlawed for the affair by Act of Council of 26th March 1392, and that among his adherents were clansmen from the shires of Inverness and Ross on whom the Duncansons could have had no claim whatever. His father the Wolf, brother of Robert III., as king's lieutenant in the North and lord of Badenoch had acquired great influence over the Highlanders, and to this influence, as well as to his father's rapacious propensities, Duncan succeeded. At this time the Wolf and his son were probably the only persons who could have collected such a varied array as appears from the list of names in the Act of Council to have taken part in the Raid of Angus.

Council which passed under the Great Seal on the 26th March 1392.¹ Among those "put to the horn," or outlawed, for their share in the Raid we find *Slurach et fratres ejus et omnes Clanqwhevil*—Slurach and his brothers and the whole Clan Quheil. As there never was such a Highland name as Slurach, and as Shaw is mentioned by Wyntoun in connection with Clan Qwhevil shortly afterwards, it is tolerably evident that the parliamentary scribe intended to write *Sheach*, as Seagh, one of the most common Gaelic forms of the name Shaw, is pronounced.

The next occasion on which we find Shaw representing his kinsman and chief is one of greater note. The famous Clan Battle at Perth, which has furnished the great Wizard of the North with the groundwork of one of his most thrilling romances, is an event almost unique in history. The circumstances attending it are so generally well known as to need little more than brief mention here. Two Highland clans or confederacies, styled by the contemporary chronicler, Andrew Wyntoun, "Clahynnhe Qwhewyl" (Clan Quhele) and "Clachiny Ha" (Clan Ha), having for some time been engaged in deadly feud to the no small disturbance of the lieges in their parts of the country, agreed, at the instance of Dunbar, Earl of Moray, and Sir David Lindsay of Glenesk, to submit their long standing quarrel to the test of a combat of thirty champions on each side, and to abide by the issue. The champions

¹ *Scots Acts of Parliament* (1844—fol.), vol. i. p. 217.

met one day about the end of September (the Monday preceding the Feast of St. Michael) in the year 1396, on the North Inch of Perth, and there, in presence of King Robert III., his Court, and an immense concourse of spectators, they joined combat. One of the champions of Clan Quhele having fallen sick, his place was filled by a volunteer from the crowd, one Henry of the Wynd, a harness maker or armourer. At the close of the sanguinary fray, in which "heads were cloven asunder and limbs lopped from the trunk" by the great two-handed swords of the fierce warriors, it was found that only one man of the Clan Ha survived; and he, seeing eleven of his adversaries still alive and thirsting for his blood, flung himself into the Tay and swam to the other side, leaving the victory to the opponents of his clan.

The names Qwhewyl and Ha used by the old chronicler have long passed into oblivion, but from subsequent chroniclers and from family histories of the Mackintoshes and Camerons, there is no difficulty in assigning them respectively to the Clan Chattan and the Clan Cameron. Between these two clans subsisted an "auld fed," or old feud, in which "thare forelderis ware slane to dede," as mentioned by Wyntoun; and the facts that the Camerons were the opponents of the Mackintoshes or Clan Chattan in this battle, and that they were defeated, are acknowledged by themselves, in an old MS. History of their Clan which is prefixed to the Memoirs of Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochail.¹

¹ *Memoirs of Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochail* (Edin., 1842). For an

The leader of Clan Quhele is variously designated by the chroniclers. Wyntoun calls him "Scha Ferqwharis sone;" Bowar, the continuator of John of Fordun's *Scoticronicon*, calls him "Scheabeg;" Boece "Stratberge," evidently a mistranscription; and Major "Shaw Beg." Sir Robert Douglas calls him "Shaw Mackintosh" and "Shaw Oig" (younger). In the Mackintosh MS. History he is called "Shaw Mackintosh."

It will be observed that Wyntoun speaks of Shaw as "Ferqwharis sone," or son of Ferquhard, whereas we have seen that his father's name was Gilchrist, son of Ian. The apparent discrepancy is easily accounted for by the fact that it was a common thing for a man to be spoken of as son of some remote ancestor; indeed it is to this mode of designation that we owe most of the names beginning with "Mac" at the present day.¹ The fifth chief of the Mackintoshes, Ferquhard, was a renowned warrior in his time, "a man of great parts and remarkable fortitude," as Douglas calls him; and nothing is more likely than that his name descended as a patronymic as far down as to his great-great-grandson Shaw Mor.

The name Scheabeg or Shaw Beg implies that Shaw was short of stature, but he is also frequently designated "Mor" (great), no doubt on account of his martial reputation. Another of his most common appellations

enquiry into the causes of the combat, and an attempt to identify the clans engaged in it, see *The Clan Battle at Perth in 1396* (London, 1874) by the present writer.

¹ See Note on p. 5.

was Sgorfhiachlach or Coriachlich, from the projecting or "buck"-teeth which adorned his features. The Mackintosh MS. Histories sometimes call him Shaw Mor Coriachlich, as does also Sir Æneas Macpherson.

As a reward for his success at Perth Shaw received from his grateful kinsman the *duchus* or right of occupancy of the lands of Rothimureus in Badenoch, which had been held by the Mackintoshes under the Bishops of Moray from 1236. "Lauchlan gave to Shaw the possession of the lands of Rothimureus for the valour he showed that day against his enemies."¹ Shaw's posterity continued in possession of the lands for some generations, acquiring in the time of his grandson a stronger right to them than that of mere occupancy, as we shall see. In fact the family were so closely identified with the district that they are generally known even at the present day as the Shaws of Rothimureus, and their doings in bygone days have furnished a great part of the subject matter of the local tradition.

According to the Rev. Lachlan Shaw, the wife of Shaw Mor was a daughter of Macpherson of Cluny, but the Mackintosh MSS. say that her father was Robert MacAlister vic Aonas—who, however, may have been an ancestor of the Macphersons of Cluny. The reverend historian's account of the early history of the Shaws is not altogether to be relied upon, and some of his most important statements are made without the slightest

¹ *Kinrara MS.*

fragment of authority except that of tradition. His account will be specially examined hereafter.

Shaw Mor died in 1405, and his grave is still pointed out in the churchyard of the Parish of Rothimurcus, near the last resting places of many of his descendants. It is covered by a large slab, which in the course of years has sunk almost below the level of the surrounding ground; and it has long been marked by four large round stones, indicating the extent of the "narrow house," in accordance with the ancient fashion from which, probably, the cairn took its rise.¹ These stones are said by tradition to be under the special protection of the Bodach an Duine, the friendly family spirit of the Shaws; and the Rev. William George Shaw of Forfar (now, alas! no longer with us), in his *Memorials of Clan Shaw*, relates several interesting stories told by people of the district concerning attempts to move the stones from their place. Some of these stories show evidence of a kindly feeling on the part of the present possessors of Rothimurcus for the memory of their predecessors. Mr. Shaw writes as follows concerning the part of the churchyard in which Shaw Mor lies among his descendants:—

"The burying ground of the Shaws has ever remained separate and distinct in the Churchyard of Rothimurcus. They have still a heritage in Speyside, but it is the

¹ Thus in *Fingal* (bk. i.) we read, "Four stones rise on the grave of Cathbar;" and in book v., "Whose fame is in that dark green tomb? Four stones with their heads of moss stand there. They mark the narrow house of death."

heritage of a tomb. The rough slab which covers the grave of Coriacalich (*sic*) lies in the centre of a group of the graves of his kindred. None but Shaws have ever been buried there, and there are few now remaining in the district to be buried, when they die, beside the dust of Coriacalich. The name has now well nigh died out. The soil, however, was disturbed a few weeks ago to receive the mortal remains of a Shaw from Glenfeshie. No written title exists, on which the race could found, to prove their claim to the proprietorship of this burial place; but there it remains, at the eastern end of the church of St. Tughaldus, an impressive witness to the reality of their bygone history. It is said that in days gone by, when an old patriarch of the Grant family, who had enclosed a sepulchre for himself at the corner in the Churchyard farthest removed from the Shaws' burying-ground, was asked his reason for building it at such a distance, his reply was that 'he was an old man, and that at the resurrection he would require to get the start of the Shaws. They had never agreed in life, and he was sure they would not agree then.' "1

We have now arrived at an important point in the history of the Shaws, and that is their beginning as a family. For although, as we shall see, they were not known by the name of Shaw for three or four generations after Shaw Mor, their existence as a

¹ *Memorials of Clan Shaw* (privately printed), 1st Edition, p. 6.

distinct family may be taken as commencing with that personage, and with him properly begins their history. We have seen that they descend, on the one side, through the early Mackintosh chiefs from the ancient Thanes of Fife, and probably, through these, from "great and glorious but forgotten kings;" and on the other side from the chiefs of old Clan Chattan, whose origin, like that of the Macduffs, is lost in the mists of antiquity. But in consequence of the anxiety of a certain Farquharson of the seventeenth century to glorify his own race, the Shaws, and consequently the Farquharsons, who sprung from them, have had a very different history given them. Not content to bring down his clan from the old Earls of Fife through the Mackintosh chiefs, this bold Farquharson wrote a "Genealogie of the Farquharsons" in which he drew that clan and the Shaws *direct* from Shaw, who he says was third son of Macduff, Earl of Fife, and "took his proper name for his surname, came north, and possessed himself of Rothimureus, which was a part of his father's inheritance." At the same time he makes the Mackintoshes the descendants of Macduff's first son.

In a lengthy paper,¹ Sir Æneas Macpherson, the well-known advocate and antiquary of the last two Stewart reigns, ably criticises and refutes in detail the statements

¹The title of this MS., which is in the possession of Sir George Macpherson-Grant, Bar^{t.}, of Invereshie and Ballindalloch, is as follows;— "Vanitie Exposed, or, A Plain and Short Answer to a late Peaper Intituled the Genealogie of the Farquharsons, wherein the Authour's Ignorance and Self-contradictioun are sett in their true light, and the

of this vain and venturesome genealogist. In his opening remarks he says, "I shall briefly, and it may be more fully than such a rapsodie deserves, plainly make appear that this scribbler has left the beaten road, that is the *constant and uncontraverted tradition of the Shaws themselves* and their neighbour families; In place of which he has endeavoured to corrupt the very springs, and persuade the Shaws—as some of them have told me—to embrace a new tradition and genealogie of his making, which has neither truth, connection, nor authoritie." Sir Æneas professes his belief in the generally received genealogy of the Shaws in these words, "The Shaws and Farquharsons were and are still believed to be come of the Laird of Mackintosh a long time after his predecessor married the heiress of Clan Chattan.....for which they may be allowed to be come of Macduff, as come of Mackintosh, but no otherwise;" and he gives a list of his authorities, "the oldest and wisest not only of my own but of all our neighbour families," among whom are three Shaws—Donald of Dalniver, John of Guislich, and Robert the drover; three Farquharsons—Robert of Invercauld and Wardes, William of Inverey, and James of Camdel; and various Grants, Mackintoshes, Macphersons, and others, "all men of sense and reputation, and most of

Right Genealogie of that modern Family briefly hinted att from the concurring Testimonies of the Shaws, the Farquharsons themselves, and all their Neighbour families; In a Letter to a Friend by No Enemy of theirs but a Friend to Truth, Sir Æneas Macpherson of Invereshie, Knight."

them so very old that if they were not acquainted with Finla Mor¹ himself, they were at least personally known to his children."

Against the claim set up by this genealogist may also be opposed the statements of one of his own clan, Alexander Farquharson, Tutor of Farquharson of Brouchdearg. This person, in a MS. Genealogy of the name of Farquharson written in the year 1733, says, "I shall give an account of their marriages, possessions, and descendants, leaving all that's controverted or obscure about their descent from the Thanes of Fife &c., their actions and alliances at their first appearance, to such as can find clearer evidence for them than I am able to get by conversing with the oldest men, and comparing what has been wrote before on the subject." He laments that "it is become the custom to propagate idle stories," and declares his intention "to relate nothing but truth." He commences the Genealogy by the statement that "Farquhar Shaw, whose name first gave rise to this surname, came over from Rothimurcus."

Mention has been made of erroneous statements by the Rev. Lachlan Shaw concerning the early history of the Shaws. One of these also has the effect of giving the Shaws as a clan an antiquity to which they are not entitled. On the authority of "unvaried tradition"—which it will be observed is opposed to the "constant tradition" of Sir Æneas Macpherson, who lived a

¹ Finla Mor was grandson of Farquhar Shaw, the founder of the Farquharson family, and lived in the first half of the sixteenth century.

century previously—he says that the Shaws possessed Rothimurcus long before the date of the battle at Perth, and thinks it “probable that they settled in the north in the beginning at least of the fourteenth century.”¹ In the same page he contradicts himself to some extent, for he speaks of the Shaws as holding Rothimurcus in lease of the Bishops of Moray “during a hundred years (from 1250 to 1350) without disturbance.” He goes on to speak of a feud between the Shaws and the Cummines in consequence of Cummine of Strathdallas having obtained a lease of the lands in or about the year 1350, in which feud James Shaw, chief of the clan and father of Shaw Coriachlich, was killed.² A reference to the Mackintosh genealogy, however, shows that this James’s existence cannot be accepted, and that the reverend author’s statements as to the possession of Rothimurcus by Shaws before 1396 are of an equally apocryphal character. It states that the lands, which in 1226 were granted by Alexander II. to Andrew, Bishop of Moray, and his successors,³ were feued to Shaw, fourth chief of Mackintosh, by the same Andrew ten years later; that the offspring of this Shaw’s second son, Duncan, “lived in Rothimurcus successively until the fight at the North

¹ *History of Moray*, p. 42.

² This alleged tradition as to a James Shaw no doubt really refers to James, son of Shaw Coriachlich, who was killed at Harlaw in 1411. However “unvaried” it may be, tradition cannot be safely relied upon for an accurate account of events happening at such a remote period.

³ The deed granting Rothimurcus to the See of Moray, dated at Stirling 31st March 1226, is printed in Shaw’s *History of Moray*, appendix xii.

Inch of St. Johnstown, when Malcolm, *alias* Callum Mor, who then only remained of Duncan's posterity, was slain;" and that William, seventh of Mackintosh, took a *new* lease on 19th March 1347, from John Pilmore, Bishop of Moray.

These statements alone are sufficient to overthrow the tradition appealed to by the Historian of Moray, and there is still stronger evidence against his theory of the early existence of Shaws in Rothimureus in the fact, admitted by all branches of the Shaws and apparent from the Mackintosh genealogy, that Shaw Mor Coriachlich, leader of the thirty champions of Clan Chattan in 1396, was the *founder* of the Clan Shaw. It is also a fact, as already mentioned, that the name Shaw was not borne by the family for three or four generations after Shaw Mor.¹ In the Kinrara MS. Shaw Mor's successor is spoken of as "James *Mackintosh*, son to Shaw that fought on the North Inch of St. Johnstown." Subsequently it states that the eleventh chief of Mackintosh "disponed his right of possession of Rothimureus to his cousin Alister Keir *Mackintosh*, *alias* Shaw, the third from Shaw *alias* Gilchrist mac Ian;" and that on the 4th September 1464 the Bishop

¹ Similarly some of the descendants of Farquhar Shaw, a great-grandson of Shaw Mor, who lived in the fifteenth century and gave his name to the Farquharsons of Braemar, were known by the name of Shaw as recently as in the last century, as appears from the *Brouchdearg MS.* "There are several families in Athole come of the other three sons [of Farquhar, great-grandson of the founder of the race] all called MacEarchars and *Shaws.*" The MS. names about a dozen of these "Shaws."

of Moray, superior of the lands, confirmed their transfer to Alister Keir *Mackintosh*. The same Alister figures in various documents of the period (which will be duly noted), always as Alister Mackintosh, and never by the name of Shaw. Again, the grandson of this Alister is called Mackintosh in 1539; and finally, Sir Æneas Macpherson, in his tract already referred to, is "very positive that there never was a Shaw in Rothimurcus till Robert III. his time."

Another historian of the Shaws, the late Rev. William George Shaw, Forfar, in his privately-printed *Memorials* of the Clan, also established the Shaws in Rothimurcus for some time before 1396, being led away by the statement of the Rev. Lachlan, and by the occurrence of names equivalent to Shaw in two deeds of 1234 and 1338.¹ But further research showed him that the

¹ In the first of these, an agreement between Andrew, Bishop of Moray, and Walter, Earl of Menteith, a Fercard son of *Seth* (*i.e.* Shaw) appears as witness. In the second, a charter by Alexander, Earl of Ross, confirming a grant of Delnafert (Dalniver) and Kinrorayth (Kinrara) to Malmore of Glencarny, reservation is made of an acre of ground near the Stychan of Delnafert "in qua situm fuit manerium quondam *Scayth* (Shaw) filii Ferchardi." (*Spalding Club Miscellany*, vol. iv. pp. xxvi. and xxvii. of Preface). But the mention of names equivalent to Shaw at these dates does not prove either that Shaws then held Rothimurcus or that a *family* of Shaws was then in existence. The names in the deeds are simply what we should now call Christian names, and if the *Seth* or Shaw in the first is taken as a surname, surely by the same process of reasoning the Ferchard or Farquhar in the second ought to be regarded as a surname, rather than the Scayth. In reality, the Fercard son of Seth in the agreement of 1234 was Farquhar, third chief of the Mackintoshes, son of Shaw the second chief; while the Scayth filius Ferchardi in the charter of 1338 was in all probability Shaw, a younger son of the sixth chief, and grandson of *Ferquhard*, fifth chief, the renowned warrior already mentioned on page 18.

“unvaried tradition” of the Historian of Moray was not to be relied upon, and in the second appendix to his original *Memorials*, with an honesty which formed a distinguishing feature in his character, he retracted what he had previously written on the subject in the following words,—“On a thorough consideration of the whole subject, I have come to the conclusion that previous to 1396 (the date of Coriacalich) there was no race of Shaws distinct from the Mackintoshes, and that the account given by the Mackintosh MS. as to the origin of the Shaws is to be relied on. In the first place, the earliest portion of the MS. is as old as 1498, and must have been written by the contemporary of Coriacalich’s grandson, who must have been cognisant of all the facts of the descent. In the next place, I find the statements of the Mackintosh MS. confirmed by the genealogical records of other families as to facts as far back as 1450. In the last place, the Shaws themselves can produce *no genealogy* previous to Coriacalich. Certain acts and deeds are indeed attributed to a James Shaw, said to be his father; but I think there can be little doubt that the James Shaw who is said to have had the contests with the Comyns, was the son, and not the father, of Coriacalich.”

CHAPTER III.

SHAW MOR'S SUCCESSORS, IN ROTHIMURCUS.

Of JAMES, the son and successor of Shaw Mor, but little is known. It appears from the Kinrara MS. that he accompanied the chief of Mackintosh to the aid of Donald of the Isles in 1411, and fell in the battle of Harlaw. The historian Boece, who gives an account of the battle, says that the chief of Mackintosh was killed, but this is proved to be wrong by the Mackintosh genealogies, and it is very probable, as the writer of the MS. is of opinion, that Boece's error was caused by his informant's confounding James Mackintosh or Shaw with the chief of Mackintosh. "James Mackintosh, son to Shaw that fought on the North Inch of St. Johnstown, was slain there, who doubtless hath been taken by Boetius his informer for the laird of Mackintosh, so as the mistake doth plainly appear."¹ This is somewhat important, as it shows not only that Shaw Mor's son was a personage of sufficient importance in the clan to be specially noticed at his death, but that he was not known by the name of Shaw.

James married "the daughter of Gregor Grant," and had by her two sons, Alasdair or Alexander "Ciar" (brown), and Adam, ancestor of the Shaws of Tordarroch

¹ *Kinrara MS.*

in Strathnairn. Both these sons were children at their father's death in 1411.

ALEXANDER, or ALASDAIR CIAR.—Tradition relates that the Comyns, who had at one time been all powerful in Badenoch, but whose power had been broken in the thirteenth century, took advantage of the death of Shaw Mor to harass his successors, and to endeavour to eject them from Rothimurcus. They were no doubt sufficiently numerous in the neighbourhood, and sufficiently antagonistic to the Clan Chattan who had supplanted them, to give the new occupiers of Rothimurcus some trouble, and many were the surprises and skirmishes which ensued. Their efforts were favoured for a time by the death of James at Harlaw and the youth of his sons, and for some years they appear to have got the upper hand of the Mackintoshes, and to have taken possession of Rothimurcus. In these years, according to some, they built the fort which still stands, though in ruins, in Loch-an-Eilan, as a means of securing their possession. The Rev. Lachlan Shaw places these events some eighty years earlier, making Shaw Mor the infant dispossessed, and killing his father in an encounter with the dispossessors. In this, however, as we have already seen, he is manifestly wrong. The circumstances all tend to show that, as is often the case, tradition has erred as to date, and has attributed the doings of Alasdair Ciar to his grandfather.

Alasdair Ciar,—to continue the tradition—who had

been under the care of his mother's family, on attaining manhood set about the task of regaining his rights. With some assistance from his friends he surprised and cut off the leader and a large party of the Comyns at a place called from the circumstance Lag-nan-Chiuminaich—the Comyns' hollow—and within a short time cleared the district of the remainder.

The local traditionary story of this occurrence is thus summarised in the *New Statistical Account of Scotland*:¹—"The leading men of the Cummings were upon an excursion to the low country, and the Shaws, apprised of this circumstance, resolved to waylay them upon their return and effect their ruin. The latter placed a sentinel upon the summit of the Calart Hill, at the eastern boundary of the parish, with instructions to give a preconcerted signal as to the route of the Cummings, north or south of the hill. Their plan thus matured was followed up, and the hour at length arrived when the hostile parties met. A desperate encounter took place, and the Shaws prevailed. Not one of the foe escaped, and thus the sword effected what the law dared not accomplish. At the base of the Calart there is a hollow still known by the name of Lag-na-Cuimminich, indicative of the spot where the tragedy was acted."²

¹ *New Stat. Account* (Edin. 1845)—*Elginshire*, p. 139.

² In the *Celtic Magazine* for Sept. 1876 (vol. i. p. 333) the legend is given in full detail from the time when the Comyns seized Rothimurcus and slaughtered the Shaws to their extinction at Lag-nan-Chiuminaich. It relates how the infant heir of Rothimurcus, his father and kinsmen

It may be observed that this was not the first occasion on which the Mackintoshes had come into collision with the Comyns. From the time of their acquisition of Rothimurcus in the thirteenth century the Comyns had been their near neighbours in Badenoch, as they also were in Moray, and had no doubt regarded with jealous eyes the settlement in their vicinity of such a rising clan. Then in the end of the thirteenth and beginning of the fourteenth century came the wars of Bruce, in which opposite sides were espoused by the neighbours; the Comyns, as is well known, being the most uncompromising enemies of the patriot king. In these troubles, and during the minority of Angus, sixth chief of the Mackintoshes, the Comyns had seized upon his lands of Geddes and Rait, and had taken possession of the Castle of Inverness, of which the Mackintosh chiefs were hereditary

having been slain, was saved by his nurse, who carried him to Strathardle in Perthshire and placed him in the charge of the baron of that place; how, when he became a man, the young Shaw returned to Rothimurcus with a body of followers, and made himself known to his old nurse by breathing through the keyhole of her door; and how his nurse, after killing her only cow for him and his band, counselled him as to the best means of intercepting the Comyns on the following day. Such minutiae have no doubt been added during the transmission of the legend, but the general features are the same as those of the account in the text. The legend in the Magazine, however, goes on to relate that the same young Shaw who repossessed himself of his inheritance soon afterwards lost it in consequence of his murdering his stepfather Dallas, and that he became an outlaw and died of a broken heart. This is an example of the manner in which tradition not unfrequently mingles and confuses events of different periods, the murder of his stepfather being really the act of Alasdair's great great-grandson a century and a half after Alasdair's re-occupation of Rothimurcus.

constables. After his marriage with the heiress of Clan Chattan, the Kinrara MS. says, "the power of the Comyns increasing, Angus saw himself unable to oppose them, and remained in Lochaber till 1308, when King Robert Bruce surprised and overthrew the garrison of Inverness." By the vigorous proceedings of Bruce, the great power of the Comyns was completely broken, and their lands in Badenoch were taken from them and given to others. They continued, however, in some strength in Moray, and the feud between them and the Mackintoshes smouldered until some time after the battle of Harlaw, when Malcolm Beg was at the head of Clan Chattan. It broke out at last, at about the time when the Comyns in Badenoch were enjoying their temporary occupation of Rothimurcus. Alexander Comyn, who held possession of the Mackintosh lands of Geddes and Rait, caused several of the Clan Chattan to be apprehended while passing through his lands, and hung them. Malcolm Beg retaliated by surprising some of the principal men of the Comyns at Nairn, and putting them to the sword. A series of surprises and invasions followed, the result of which was to give the last blow to the already crippled power of the Comyns, and to restore to the Mackintoshes the lands of which they had been robbed more than a hundred years before.

Although no connection between this great feud with the Comyns of Moray and the less important one in which the Mackintoshes or Shaws in Rothimurcus

engaged with the Comyns of Badenoch is either mentioned or implied in the Mackintosh histories, there can be but little doubt that they were in some way connected. Both extended over several years, and although the exact dates are not given in either case, it is apparent from other considerations that both were being carried on at about the same time. It is, therefore, not unreasonable to suppose that the Comyns in the two districts acted in concert on a prearranged plan, attacking the Mackintoshes at both extremities of their country simultaneously, or else that the feud between the main bodies of the two clans was brought about by the events in Rothimurcus. It is worthy of remark, however, that there is no mention of any attempt on the part of the Mackintoshes in the north of Inverness-shire to succour their brethren in the south; so that, after all, tradition may be wrong in fixing the commencement of the feud which placed the Comyns in temporary occupation of Rothimurcus immediately after the death of James at Harlaw, and the real fact may be that this feud did not commence until the chief of Mackintosh was too busily engaged in fighting the Comyns of Moray to be able to send a force to Badenoch.

Alasdair Mackintosh or Shaw was the first of his line who obtained a *right* to Rothimurcus. It would appear from the Kinrara MS. that his two predecessors had held it as *duchus* only,—“Lachlan (eighth chief of Mackintosh) gave to Shaw (*i. e.* Shaw Mor) the *possession*

of the lands of Rothimureus for the valour he showed (on the North Inch of Perth) against his enemies," implying that he only allowed him to occupy the lands. But further on the MS. states that Duncan, eleventh chief, "*disponed his right of possession and tack* [in other words, transferred his lease] of Rothimureus to his cousin Alister Keir Mackintosh, *alias* Shaw, the third from Shaw *alias* Gilchrist vic Ian." The Bishop of Moray being superior of the lands, his sanction to this step was of course necessary, and accordingly, by a deed dated 4th September 1464 at Elgin, David Stewart, then Bishop, gives to "Alexander Keyr Makyntosy" a charter of the lands in feu ferme (*carta feodi-firmæ*), and receives him as his tenant. Thus his family, which had previously held the lands only as sub-tenants at will of the Mackintosh chiefs, now held them in direct feu from the superiors, the return being twenty-four merks yearly, unless Alasdair or his heirs should reclaim a certain portion of land—*decem libratiss terræ*—from the Spey or the Ness for the use of the Bishop and his successors, in which case he and they are to have the lands of Rothimureus in true excambion for the land reclaimed on payment of a sprig of fir (*unum germen abiegnum*) if demanded.¹

¹ *Registrum Episcopatus Moraviensis*, No. 448. The clause as to the power of excambion is also found in the Bishop's confirmation of the sale of the feu by Alan, grandson of Alasdair Ciar, to George Gordon in 1539.


In 1491 Ferquhard, son of Duncan, eleventh chief of Mackintosh—a young man whose turbulent disposition afterwards procured him an imprisonment of sixteen years in the castle of Dunbar—joined Alexander of Lochalsh, nephew of John of the Isles, in an attempt to regain for the Island chiefs the Earldom of Ross. Contrary to the wish of his father, he was accompanied by the Clan Chattan of Badenoch, among whom were doubtless some of Alasdair Ciar's followers. The insurgents proceeded to the Mackenzies' country about Strathconan, where they were met by Kenneth Mackenzie and his clan, and totally routed at Blar-na-Parc. The Mackenzies in their turn broke the law by ravaging the Earl of Huntly's lands of Ardmanach in the Black Isle, these being held for the Earl by Rose of Kilravock, whose son Hucheon had joined the insurgents with his friend Ferquhard Mackintosh. In retaliation, Huntly, as lieutenant in the North, in the following year directed the chiefs of Mackintosh and Grant, and Hucheon Rose of Kilravock, to proceed against the Mackenzies. In carrying out their instructions these chiefs laid waste the lands of Urquhart, Sheriff of Cromarty, who successfully appealed to the law for the restoration of his goods and the payment of compensation.¹ In connection with the proceedings consequent on these raids we find Alasdair Ciar mentioned as one of the principal persons taking part in the invasion of the Mackenzies' .

¹ *Acts of the Lords of Council*, 1478—95, p. 273.

country ordered by Huntly. On 20th December 1499 the Earl gives a "Testimonial" to the effect that it was by his direction that "Duncan Makynthois captane of the Clynyatane, Jhone the Grant of Fruchy, Huchowne the Ros of Kylrawok.....*Alexander Keir of Rata-morkos*, with their complisis, men, and freindis, to the nowmer of thre thosand," had passed upon the Mackenzies in Ross, they being the "Kingis rabellis at his horne in that tyme."¹

Alasdair is frequently mentioned in deeds of the period, always as Alexander or Alister Ciar *Mackintosh*, never by the name of Shaw. He so figures in the *carta feodi-firmæ* of Rothimurcus in 1464, above mentioned; as witness to a band of manrent to Lord Errol in 1472; in an instrument by the Earl of Huntly in 1479 preserved among the papers at Kilravock Castle; in a band of kindness between Duncan, eleventh chief of Mackintosh, and Rose of Kilravock in 1481;² in an endorsement of the same band by Duncan's son in

¹ Papers at Kilravock Castle.

²To this band the seal of Alasdair is affixed. The band narrates that Duncan Mackintosh, because he "had nocht [his] propir seile present, has procurit with instance the seile of ane honorabil man, Alexander Macyntoiche of Ratamorchhouse to be affixed to this present writ." The only portion of the arms which remains quite distinct is a chief charged with three mullets; but Mr. Cosmo Innes in the first and fourth quarters traces the lion rampant, "but very indistinct," and for the second and third quarters suggests "bezants apparently 3, 2, and 1." (*Roses of Kilravock* p. 144). It is probable, however, as suggested by the author of *Memorials of Clan Shaw*, that this seeming arrangement of bezants denotes the remains of what were originally fir trees, thus  the one at the base being the trunk, and the others the branches. This

1490; and in a band of amity at Forres on 21st June 1482 between William, Thane of Calder, and Hucheon Ross, Baron of Kilraick (Kilravock), where with Sir Alexander Dunbar of Westfield and Thomas le Grant, canon of the Cathedral Churches of Moray and Ross, he is named an arbiter in case of future dispute. Mackintosh of Kinrara, whenever in his MS. he speaks of Alasdair and his son by the name of Mackintosh, adds on each occasion the words "*alias* Shaw," this latter name having at the time of his writing completely superseded the other.

The Kinrara MS. does not give the name of Alasdair's wife, but Mr. W. G. Shaw says that she was a daughter of Stewart of Kincardine, ancestor of the famous John Roy Stewart of "the '45." His children, however, are given in the MS. as follows,—*John*, his successor; *Alasdair Og*, ancestor of the Shaws of Dell, or the Daill of Rothimureus; *James*, ancestor of the Shaws of Dalniver; *Farquhar*, ancestor of the Farquharsons of Braemar; and *Iver*, ancestor of the Shaws in Harris. Alasdair Ciar was succeeded by his eldest son,

IAN or *John*, of whom nothing is recorded except that he married Euffin or Euphemia, daughter of Alan, third

would make the arms the same as those of the Shaws at the present time, with the exception of the mullets, for which it is difficult to account. In modern heraldry mullets denote descent from a third son, but according to the Mackintosh genealogy the family to which Alasdair Ciar belonged came from the second son of the chief of Mackintosh. They may, however, in this case denote cadency from the Earls of Fife.

son of Malcolm Beg Mackintosh, tenth chief, and had by her a son, Alan, who succeeded him.¹

ALAN married the youngest daughter of Ferquhard, twelfth chief of Mackintosh, by Giles Fraser, daughter of Lord Lovat.² For some reason which does not appear, he parted with the right to Rothimurcus. Mackintosh of Kinrara says, "Alan Mackintosh, *alias* Shaw, oye (grandson) to the said Alister Keir, dispoined the right to Edom Gordon, governor of Ruthven Castle, in the year 1539, reserving only his son James his liferent, and so the right of Rothimurcus fell away from the Mackintoshes and Shaws after they had enjoyed the same the space of 303 years." This statement is correct so far as the main fact is concerned, but from the Register of the Bishopric of Moray it appears that the name of the Gordon to whom the feu was sold was George, not Edom, and that only Alan's, not his son's, liferent was reserved. George Gordon, constable of Ruthven Castle, was probably George, second son and successor of the fourth Earl of Huntly. The entry (No. 449) in the *Registrum* is as follows:—"Confirmatio ab Episcopo data cartæ venditionis ab *Alano Keyr McKyntosy*³ de Rathamurcous concessæ magistro *Georgio Gordoun* constabulario de Ruthven de Baidyenoeh, terrarum de Rathamurcous cum lacu et manerie seu

¹ *Kinrara MS.* ² *Ibid.*

³ It will be observed that the descendants of Shaw Mor are still called by the name of Mackintosh.

fortalicio, tenendarum de Episcopo sub eisdem conditionibus et cum eadem potestate excambii quæ in carta Alexandri [*i.e.* Alexander Ciar in 1464] continentur; libero tenemento reservato pro tempore vitæ dicti Alani; Coram testibus, Georgio comite de Huntlye, Johanne Lesly de Syde &c., &c., Apud Innernes 26 Novembris 1539." This is the date of the "carta venditionis" or deed of sale; the "Confirmatio" by the Bishop is dated "apud Elgin 3 Januarii 1539," about five weeks afterwards, the year ending on the 24th March. On the latter date, at the "Cathedrall kirk of Murraye" at Elgin, "Maister George Gordoun, baron of Rothymurcus," binds himself to pay to the Bishop "twentye foure markis yeirlye, under payn of tynsaill (loss) of the feu of the barony of Rothymurcus, notwithstanding that the frank tenement of the said barony is reservit till *Alane Kere* for all the dayis of his lyvetime; and attour to deliver yeirlye to the Bischoep aucht skoir fyr sparris sufficient to be gestis (eight score fir spars for joists), or at the lest sa mony sparris as the rentale of the Bischoep proportis, or as *Alane Kere* or his predecessouris usit to deliver."

JAMES, Alan's eldest son, possessed no interest in Rothimurcus, as we have just seen, although he seems to have remained there. Nothing material is known of him. The Rev Lachlan Shaw, in his History of Moray¹

¹p. 42.

and in a MS. History of the Mackintoshes,¹ erroneously calls him John, but the Kinrara MS. in three places gives his name as James—"James that was last laird of Rothimurcus of the surname of Shaw." In a volume entitled *The Braemar Highlands*² is related a traditional story of a fight between a party from Rothimurcus under the laird of Rothimurcus, Seumas na Gruaig, James of the Flowing Locks, and Finla Mor Farquharson and his followers, in which Seumas was killed. The fight arose out of a claim made by Seumas or James of Rothimurcus to the lands of Invercauld, on account of his relationship to Stuart, previously laird of Invercauld, through whose daughter the lands had come into the possession of the Farquharsons. The story, if true, no doubt relates to James Shaw, son of Alan.

ALAN, eldest son of James, was outlawed under the following circumstances:—

James's widow, a Campbell, married a second husband, one of the Dallases of the house of Cantray, a family long connected by ties of friendship with the Mackintoshes. She and her husband occupied the family

¹ "*Memoirs Genealogical and Historical of the Family of MacIntosh, with an Introduction concerning the Families of MacDuff and Clan Chattan.*" The MS. is in the possession of Mackintosh of Mackintosh. It is dated 1758, and is unsigned, but bears the same motto, "*Antiquam exquirite matrem,*" as the *History of Moray*. From internal evidence alone it is clear that the author was the Rev. Lachlan Shaw, and in addition to this it is actually in the handwriting of that individual, as the present writer has proved by other documents in his possession.

² *The Braemar Highlands*, by Elizabeth Taylor (Edin., 1869), p. 137.

residence in the Doune of Rothimurcus, which Alan, a hot-blooded youth, wished to be given up to him. On being refused, he conceived a deadly enmity against his step-father. The two met one day near the Doune, high words ensued, and Dallas was assaulted and slain by his stepson, who was in consequence soon afterwards put to the horn as an outlaw.¹ It is likely that the slain man had been obnoxious to others in the district besides his slayer, for tradition records that a strong feeling prevailed among the Shaws in favour of Alan, and that both he and his brother received active assistance in their subsequent proceedings. Alan collected a band, and conducted himself after the usual manner of outlaws, attacking and plundering all whom he considered hostile to him, and for a short time defying all attempts to apprehend him. According to tradition, as related by the Rev. Lachlan Shaw, he was at last betrayed by a confidant, Mackintosh of Strone, at Lag-na-Calrich, and conveyed to Castle Grant, where he was "civilly entertained, conveyed to his room at night, and found dead in his chair in the morning."

The two reverend gentlemen of the clan whose accounts have been quoted seem not to have been aware

¹"The discord, aggravated by other circumstances, was barbarously resented by Allan, for, chancing to meet Cantray on the public road south of the Doune, he assaulted and murdered him, in a hollow called to this day *Lag-an-Dalasich*. For this heinous crime, aggravated by his connection with Dallas, Allan was prosecuted and outlawed." *Rev. L. Shaw's MS. Memoirs of Family of MacIntosh*. Shaw states that the murdered man was Dallas of Cantray himself, but I have not been able to verify this statement.

of the fact that Alan had no legal right to the possession of Rothimureus, and that this right had been alienated from the Shaws by his grandfather, but make it appear that his outlawry was the cause of his losing the lands.¹ They say that his forfeiture and escheat were purchased by John Grant of Freuchie, and that Rothimureus was given by him in exchange for Muckerach to his uncle Patrick Grant of Muckerach, ancestor of the present family of Rothimureus.² That they are in error is proved by the entries under date 1539 in the Register of the Bishopric of Moray already quoted, and by the fact that when the lands passed to the Grants, they passed from the Gordons, to whom Alan's grandfather

¹The Rev. W. G. Shaw, however, in the second Appendix to his original *Memorials*, says, "I may mention that the Mackintosh MS. bears that Allan Shaw, oye or grandson of Alister Kiar, disponed the right of Rothimureus to Edom Gordon, of Scottish ballad notoriety. This so far fortifies the conclusion I had arrived at in the body of the Memorials, that the lands seem to have passed from the Shaws previous to the slaughter of his stepfather by Allan, the chief. The tradition of the district most probably attributed to Allan the grandson's crime what was really the result of Allan the grandfather's legal act and deed."

²The local tradition, according to the writer of the article on Rothimureus in the *New Statistical Account (Elginshire, p. 139)*, gives another account of how the lands passed into the hands of the Grants. "The last of the name (of Shaw) who held the property, actuated by a spirit of malignant envy, murdered his stepfather, the Dallas, an act which so irritated the mother of the youth that, collecting the deeds and instruments by which her son could hope to hold the property, she escaped to Castle Grant and surrendered to John Grant of Freuchy the whole rights and interests of the young Shaw. The laird of Grant, having thus acquired these lands, gifted them to his second son Patrick, who towards the close of the sixteenth century took possession, and since that period till the present day his descendants have been in quiet and secure enjoyment of the inheritance."

had disposed them in 1539. On the 14th July 1567, at Huntly, George, fifth Earl of Huntly, gives a deed of sale of Rothimurcus to John Grant of Freuchie, and this deed is confirmed by the Bishop of Moray at Elgin on the 17th of the same month.¹

As has been remarked, the George Gordon, constable of Ruthven in Badenoch, to whom Alan Ciar disposed his feu of Rothimurcus in 1539, was probably George, second son of the fourth Earl of Huntly. By the death of his elder brother Alexander without issue he became Lord Gordon, and as "Georgius dominus de Gordoun ac dominus terrarum de Rothymurchus" we find him giving a lease of Rothimurcus to his kinsman Alexander Gordon, son and apparent heir of George Gordon of Baldornie, on the 4th November 1560; confirmation being given by the Bishop on the 28th March 1561.² On the death of his father at the battle of Corrichie in 1562, George Lord Gordon became fifth Earl of Huntly, and under this title we find him selling the lease of Rothimurcus to Grant of Freuchie in 1567. The lease being transferred to the Grants in 1567, it seems strange to find Huntly in the year following binding himself to infeft another in the lands; yet in a band, dated at Huntly the 22nd March 1568—9, between "ane nobyll and mychte lord George erle of Huntle, lord Gordon and Badenach, and lowetenent to our souerane ladie the Quenis majestie thoro this hale realme, on the

¹ *Registrum Episc. Morav.*, No. 452.

² *Ibid.*, No. 451.

ane part, and Lauchlan M'Ynthose of Dunnachtan on the other part.....the said erle oblissis hyme, his aris and assignais, for the gude service done to ws in our souerane lades causs be the said Lachlan M'Ynthosche of Dunnachtan, his kyne and frendis, to infest and cess sufficientlie the said Lachlan, his aris and assignais, in all and hale the landis of Rathamurchus, witht the pendicles or pertinentis liand within the regalite of Spyne, to be halden hereditable in feu ferme of the bischop of Moray." On the other hand the chief of Mackintosh binds himself to pay the Earl the sum of "twa thousand sex hundretht merkis, the sowmes contenit in the reversion made be umquhile Angus Williamsone in Dallefour to umquhile *Allan M'Allister*," also with his kin and friends "to serve the Earl and his heirs against all mortal, &c."¹ There is no record that the provisions of this band were carried out, but from the mention of the reversion it would appear as though the lease had been disponded to the laird of Grant somewhat after the manner of a wadset, redeemable at the pleasure of the disponer.

Shortly after acquiring the lands of Rothimurcus, Grant of Freuchie transferred them to his kinsman

¹ *Spalding Club Miscellany*, vol. iv. p. 226 (Gordon Papers). The "gude service" done by Mackintosh was in assisting the Earl on behalf of Queen Mary. In common with other barons of the north he subscribed a band for the Queen's service early in 1568, and he is the only Highland chief whose name appears in a band for the Queen's defence signed at Hamilton on 8th May of the same year, five days before the fatal battle of Langside.

Patrick Grant of Muckerach, who appears as "of Rothimureus" in a deed of 1578. Rothimureus is still in the possession of Patrick's descendants, the present representative of the family being Sir John Peter Grant, K.C.B.

CHAPTER IV.

MAIN STEM CONTINUED :—IRISH SHAWS.

THE Rev. Lachlan Shaw, in his MS. Memoirs of the Mackintoshes, says, "on the authority of men of probity, whose fathers lived at the time of these transactions," that on Alan's capture and death "his brother and associates exiled into the Western Isles and Ireland, where their descendants are said to live in opulent circumstances. Thus the direct line of the Shaws of Rothimurcus became extinct in the country, and the nearest collateral branch was Shaw of Dell." It is indeed likely that the followers of the outlaw, on losing their leader, would consult their own safety by removing from the scene of their lawlessness, and it is a fact that branches of the Shaws are still to be found in Harris and in Ireland who have been settled there for many generations. But Tradition delights to tell of the determined opposition of an Alasdair Ruaidh Shaw¹—an ancestor of the Shaws of Inchrory—to all attempts made by the Grants, on their acquiring the district, to remove him from his holding of Achnachaitnich in Rothimurcus; how he laughed at all attempts to eject him by legal process, and resisted with guns and claymores all efforts to remove him by force; and how he lived and died (about the middle of the seventeenth century) on the spot he had so well defended. In an

¹ Alasdair Ruaidh or Roy, the Red.

able and interesting manner the Rev. W. G. Shaw shows that this Alasdair Ruaidh must have been brother to the outlawed Alan, and progenitor of the Shaws sometime of Crathinard in Mar and Crandard &c. in Glenisla.¹ If his deductions are correct, as there can

¹ Appendix No. II. to original *Memorials of Clan Shaw*. Mr. Shaw shows the connection between the main stem of the Shaws and James Shaw in Tullochgrue, the first in the pedigree of his own branch of the clan, thus—

William Shaw, an old man aged 70 years residing at Castletown of Corgarff, informed him that the “dispossessed” Alan Shaw had *two brothers*, one in *Tullochgrue*, the other in the Dell of Rothimureus. W. Shaw’s grandmother, who died in 1825 aged 92 years, had spoken of Alasdair Ruaidh as being *tenant of Achnahaitnich*. Several anecdotes related by the same authority speak of Alasdair as living at Achnahaitnich. W. Shaw had heard that Alasdair or *some of his descendants removed to Crathinard*. His own grandfather, Alister Shaw, was grandson of a John Shaw *from Crathinard* who rented a grazing from Forbes of Skellater in what is now Sir Charles Forbes of Newe’s forest of Corgarff. He had heard from old members of his family that his grandfather was named after Alister Ruaidh of Tullochgrue or Achnahaitnich.

Some months after giving the above information, W. Shaw, Corgarff, visited Rothimureus, and wrote to Mr. W. G. Shaw, “I met with an old woman in Rothimureus who told me she had heard old people talk about Alister Ruaidh of Achnahaitnich, the next farm to Tullochgrue,..... that *Alister’s son lived at Tullochgrue*; that his son left and *went south across the hill*, she did not know where. She had also heard that Alister and Donald of the Daill were uncles (?) of the laird that murdered Dallas.”

From all this Mr. Shaw considers that it may be pronounced with certainty—1st, That Alasdair Ruaidh was brother of Alan, the outlawed chieftain of the Shaws; 2nd, That his son (mentioned by the old woman as having lived at Tullochgrue) was no other than the James Shaw of Tullochgrue, first in the pedigree of his own branch of the clan, who is recorded in a MS. by George Shaw, of date about 1770, as having “set up at Tullochgrue,” who married a daughter of Farquharson of Invercauld, and whose son, James, married Miss Machardy, heiress of Crathie; and 3rd, That the descendants of James Shaw, Tullochgrue, are consequently descendants of the old Rothimureus stem.

be little doubt they are—for Alan is known to have had brothers—the main line of the Shaws is still largely represented.

James Shaw, living at Tullochgrue in Rothimurcus, whom Mr. W. G. Shaw considers to have been son of Alasdair Ruaidh and nephew of Alan, the outlaw, married a daughter of Robert Farquharson, first of Invercauld, son of Finla Mor.¹ Of him Mr. W. G. Shaw wrote in his original *Memorials*,—"James Shaw of Tullochgrue is the first in the pedigree of the compiler's branch of the clan. He was the last of the Shaws of that branch who lived in Rothimurcus (*circa* the year 1600). A manuscript found among the papers of George Shaw, grandson of Duncan of Crathinard, states that 'James Shaw, father of James Oig, set up at Tullochgrue,' and that 'he married a daughter of Farquharson of Invercauld.' The tradition in the family is that he was a descendant of Coriacalich. From his position in life, he must have been a near connection of the dispossessed descendant of the 'great chief of the Shaws,' as Coriacalich is still called in the district. 'In every clan,' says Chambers, 'there were two ranks of people; the *douaine uailse*, who could trace their derivation from the chiefs of former times, and assert their kinsmanship to the present; and a race of commoners who

¹ *MS. Genealogy of the Farquharsons*, by Alexander Farquharson, Tutor of Brouchdearg. This MS. brings down the genealogy of the Farquharsons from Farquhar Shaw, who "came over from Rothimurcus," to the year 1733.

could not tell how they came to belong to the clan.' It must of course have been to the former rank that the husband of a daughter of Invercauld's belonged."

James Shaw, son of James in Tullochgrue, left Rothimurcus and settled at Crathinard on Deeside, where he married the daughter and heiress of John Machardy of Crathie. From the Farquharson Genealogy it would appear that this lady was his own first cousin once removed, her grandfather, Alexander Farquharson, being brother of James Shaw's mother. James's son,

Duncan of Crathinard, was born in 1653. He was, says his descendant Mr. W. G. Shaw, "what we should now call an influential man in his day and generation.....he was not only chamberlain to the Earl of Mar, but factor for Balmoral, Abergeldie, and Invercauld, which means that he was a well-educated man, with a very considerable knowledge of business. He was also a man of great bodily strength and stature, and for all these reasons he obtained amongst his contemporaries the name of *Donnachadh Reim Aon*—Duncan the man of power."

The Rev. W. G. Shaw had in his possession a Protection granted to Duncan by General Mackay of Scourie, dated 26th June 1690—a necessary instrument in the years immediately succeeding the battle of Killierankie, when burning and slaughter were the rule wherever the people were supposed to have Jacobite proclivities. The Protection, "given at the camp at Achintoul on the head of Gairne the 26th June 1690,"

narrates that Duncan had "hitherto behaved himself loyallie and dutifullie to the present Government, and had hindered all his tenants and servants from joining those in rebellion against their Ma^{ties} King William and Queen Mary," and that therefore "these are prohibiting and discharging all officers and soldiers of their Ma^{ties}' armies to trouble or molest the said Duncan Shaw, his family, tenants, or servants, or to take away spoyll or meddle with any of his or their goods, gear, cornes, cattell, or others whatsoever belonging to them, as they shall be answerable upon their peril." The obtaining of this Protection by Duncan seems to point to a departure in his case from the Jacobite principles professed by the rest of his family and clan—for all the Shaws, with one or two exceptions, were staunch supporters of the Stúarts; but it is probable that he made his own desires and sympathies subservient to the interests of his principal, Lord Mar, who was at this time a minor. It is said that when Lord Mar was "out" in 1715, Duncan concealed and thus preserved the titles to his estates.

Duncan afterwards obtained a Commission to raise and command a company, one of the precursors of the Black Watch, for the protection of his district against the marauding bands of caterans from the west who frequently visited it. The original of this Commission was in the possession of the late Peter Shaw, Finegand.

Duncan sold Crathinard to Farquharson of Invercauld about the year 1710. The circumstances under

which he is stated to have done this speak most highly for his generosity and sense of honour. After he ceased to be chamberlain to Lord Mar, he entered on the business of a cattle drover, and at one of the Falkirk Trysts—which it is said he had the honour of originating—he sold a large drove of cattle to an English stranger, who disappeared, after the cattle had been driven away, without paying for them. Most of the cattle belonged to Duncan himself, but a considerable number of them had been entrusted to him by his neighbours, among whom were many poor persons, crofters and others. In order to pay all of these the full value of their cattle, and maintain his good name, he had no course open but to sell his estate, and from this he did not shrink, although his doing so involved his removal from the place of his nativity and his many friends. Leaving Deeside, he moved with all his family to Glenisla, where he obtained a lease of the farm of Crandard from Lord Airlie. Several years afterwards, at a market in the town of Forfar, he met with the Englishman who had defrauded him. This individual, declaring that his conscience had sorely troubled him for his fraud, paid Duncan the whole of the sum he had so long owed him, and purchased, this time with ready money, the drove he had with him.¹ Duncan now

¹ “Crathinard’s retainers were treated to such an abundant supply of claret that they drank it out of bickers; and for long after there was a saying in the country, on the occasion of any unusually good market, that there never had been a market like it since that in Forfar when Duncan Reim Aon’s drovers drank bickerfuls of wine.”—*Memorials*, App. II. p. 3.

endeavoured to regain Crathinard, but could not induce Invercauld to part with it. He was able, however, with the means now at his disposal, to settle his sons comfortably and give them a good start in the world.

From some letters in the possession of the late compiler of the *Memorials of Clan Shaw* it is apparent that Duncan kept up the connection of his family with the head quarters of the Clan Mackintosh. He corresponded with Lachlan, twentieth chief, and in a Band and Tack (in the writer's possession) between Lachlan and James Shaw of Dell on the one part, and Alexander Macpherson of Craggie on the other, dated at Culloden 19th May 1711, it is interesting to find his signature alongside those of Alexander Shaw of Tordarroch (whose family branched out from the main Rothimurcus stem in the fifteenth century) and John Shaw of Guislich in Rothimurcus, as witnessing the signatures of their common chief, Mackintosh, and their kinsman Shaw of Dell or Daill of Rothimurcus.

Duncan died at Crandard in 1726, and was buried within the precincts of the old church at Kirkton of Glenisla. He was twice married, first to a daughter of Forbes of Skellater, afterwards to a daughter of Farquharson of Coldrach. By his second wife he had seven sons and five daughters. The sons were—*James*, settled at Daldownie on Deeside; *John*, at Riverney, also on Deeside; *Donald*, an officer in the Dutch army; *Duncan*, of the Balloch in Glenisla; *Alister*, of the Achavan in Glenisla; *Farquhar*; and *William*, of Forter

in Glenisla. All of these, except James and Duncan, were "out" in 1745. Alister, in Lord Ogilvie's regiment, was wounded at Falkirk, but recovered in time to fight at Culloden.

From these seven sons of Duncan of Crathinard are descended a numerous issue:—

James, the eldest, was thrice married, and left three sons, *Duncan*, factor to the Earl of Airlie; *John*; and *Donald*.

John, by a daughter of Farquharson of Brouchdearg, had four sons and two daughters.

Duncan was married first to a daughter of Small of Dirnanean, secondly to a daughter of George Farquharson of Coldrach. He had four sons, *James*, of the Lair in Glenshee; *Farquhar*, Balloch; *William*, Dalnaglar; and *John*; and two daughters, Elizabeth and Isabella.

James of the Lair's son *Charles* was father of *William* (died 17th Nov. 1876 at Edinburgh), whose son, the Reverend *William George Shaw*, of St. John's Episcopal Church, Forfar, compiled the *Memorials of Clan Shaw* from which has been drawn the greater part of the preceding account of the Shaws who left Rothimureus and settled in Deeside and Glenisla.¹ Mr. W. G. Shaw was twice married,

¹ With Mr. Shaw the task of gathering and uniting the scattered fragments of the history of his clan, and placing that history on record for the benefit of those concerned, was truly a labour of love. Some of his

first to Maria Elizabeth Molyneux, daughter of William Nelson Clarke, D.C.L., of Ardington, Berks; secondly to Margaret, daughter of William Whyte, The Manor House, Forfar. He died on the 24th October 1874, leaving by his first marriage six sons and two daughters.¹

Duncan of the Balloch's third son, *William*, Dalnaglar, had issue *Duncan* (father of Charles Shaw, Sheriff Substitute, Lochmaddy); *Peter*, proprietor of Blacklunans in Glenisla and

material he had ready to his hand, gleaned from his father and grandfather, and others of past generations; and another valuable source of information open to him was his extensive kindred and acquaintance among the Shaws of Glenisla and Glenshee. He applied himself in the most energetic manner to the task of building upon this groundwork, holding correspondence with Shaws wherever he could hear of them, and not unfrequently taking long journeys for the purpose of augmenting and verifying his information. The work he did was one which merits the gratitude of all claiming descent from Shaw Mor, not only on account of its own value, but because it is probable that had he not taken up the matter as he did, no other would have been found to do it who possessed the same means of acquiring information together with the peculiar gift necessary both for acquiring and for digesting it.

In prosecuting his work he not only made many friends for himself, but was the means of bringing together and binding in friendship many Shaws who otherwise would probably never have heard of each other's existence. For this alone those who have profited owe his memory a debt of gratitude. The discovery of a new clansman he himself hailed as the discovery of a long-lost relative, and to such his house and heart were always open. Of the warmth and steadfastness of his friendship, of his unvarying kindness and generosity, and of his purity and honesty of purpose, many others besides the writer of these lines can speak. He was indeed one whom to know was to love.

¹ These are *William Somerset Clarke*; *Charles Kenmure*; *Ronald*; *Llewellyn Robert*; *Claude Francis* (since deceased); *Somerset Ian Alister*; *Katherine Molyneux*; and *Dorothea Maria*.

tenant of Finegand in Glenshee (father of William, now of Blacklunans and Finegand, who is married and has issue; John; Duncan Charles; and four daughters); *Thomas* of Whitrig (father of the Rev. William, Alloa; James, Skaithmuir; Gordon; and David); *Rev. John*, Skye; Captain *James*, Drumfork; and a daughter, Susan, mother of William Shaw Soutar, Blairgowrie; Thomas Soutar, Perth; and Patrick James Soutar, Dunfermline.

Alister married first a daughter of Murray of Binzean, next, a daughter of John Shaw, Darnivert; and had three sons, Duncan, William, and Donald, of whose issue (if any) nothing is known to the writer.

Farquhar, by a daughter of John Shaw, Glenclunie, Braemar, had three sons, *Duncan*, *William*, and *Alexander*. The eldest of these married a daughter of Alexander Shaw of Inchrory, and had two sons, *James*, who died without issue, and *Alexander*, who resided at Inchrory in Glenavon and Stroneavaich in Glenconlas. The latter was father of *Donald*, now at Minmore, Glenlivet; *John*, a Priest of the Roman Catholic Church, now at Rutherglen; *Duncan*, deceased; and *Alexander*, also deceased. Donald, the eldest of these, has three sons, *John*, *Donald*, and *James*; his brother Alexander

also left three sons, *Thomas*, *Alexander*, and *James*.

William married first Agnes, heiress of Bannerman of Forneth, secondly, Isabel, daughter of Shaw of Kinrara. He had seven sons, *George* (died at Forter, Glenisla, in 1770, aged 30 years); *James*, Auchenree; *William*; *John*; *Thomas*, of Shawfield, Forter (father of the late *Thomas* Shaw of Shawfield; Mrs. Macdonald of Balnakeillie, and Miss Isabella Shaw, late of Shawfield); *Duncan*; and *Alexander*.

Duncan, eldest son of James, Duncan of Crathinard's eldest son, was factor to the Earl of Airlie at Cortachy Castle, and was out in the '45. He had two sons, *David* and *John*, and two daughters. John, the second son, left three sons, *William* of Newhall, Perthshire, Captain in the Perthshire Militia; *Thomas*; and *Duncan*; and three daughters.

David, elder son of Duncan, Factor to Lord Airlie, settled in Jamaica, where he made a fortune. His will was proved on the 5th October 1805. By his wife, Henrietta Campbell, he had five sons and three daughters,—

Thomas Burke, Surgeon in the Bengal Army, married Jane Brodie; died in India 20th Sept. 1814, leaving one son who died in infancy.

George Gardyne, Major in the Army, served with the 4th, 14th, 17th, and 22nd Light Dragoons; was twice married, and died at Maidstone, in Nov. 1867, leaving two daughters.

David, of whom hereafter.

Alexander Hamilton, died unmarried 13 Dec. 1872.

John Campbell, Incumbent of Ennerdale, Cumberland, deceased.

Elizabeth, married John Brodie, W.S. Edinburgh.

Sarah, died unmarried. *Fanny*, died unmarried.

David, third son of David Shaw and Henrietta Campbell, took the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Edinburgh University in 1817, and entered the Bombay Army in 1821. He died at Hurnee on the 28th December 1833. He married Christina, daughter of Hugh Neilson, by whom he had issue—

George James.

Edmund, lost in the wreck of the ship "Protector" in the Bay of Bengal in October 1838.

Henry De Leon Fawcett, died in infancy.

David, Lieutenant-Colonel Madras Staff Corps; married Frances Ralston Maxwell, daughter of Major-General Bayley, Madras Army, and has issue three sons, *David George*, *Alexander James*, and *John Stewart*, and three daughters, *Nina Harriet*, *Gertrude Augusta*, and *Frances Marie*.

Doyle Money, Fleet Surgeon Royal Navy; has medals for the Crimea, China, and Abyssinia, and was promoted for distinguished service.

Christina Georgiana, married Dr. Herbert Giraud, Bombay Army; died in 1866, leaving two

daughters, Gertrude Georgiana, married Lieutenant Colonel Jervis Harpur, Bombay Staff Corps; and Nina Laura, married Dr. John Peet, Bombay Army.

Gertrude Henrietta, married Captain Charles Edward Hill, R.E.; died off St. Helena, 15 June 1852.

George James, M.D., eldest son of Dr. David Shaw and Christina Neilson, entered the Bombay Army in 1841; served in Sir Charles Napier's campaign in Scinde in medical charge of the Artillery and Scinde Horse, and was present at the Battle of Meeanee on 17th February 1843, for which action he has a medal; was subsequently Assay Master of the Calcutta and Madras Mints until his retirement in 1869 with the rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals. He married Mary Anne, daughter of D. Thom, Leith, and had one son, David De Leon Herbert, who died at Edinburgh on the 26th October 1871, aged twenty-one years.

From the main stem of the Shaws sprang several families of the name who are frequently mentioned in documents of the last two centuries, and who are mostly still represented.

Among these were the SHAWS OF INCHRORY, whose representatives have a tradition that their family is descended from Alasdair Ruaidh, Auchnahaitnich, the

supposed brother of Alan, the outlawed head of the Shaws. They only trace with certainty, however, to a *John Shaw* in Crathinard, who rented from Forbes of Skellater a large grazing in what is now the deer-forest of Corgarff, where there is still an erection known as "John Shaw's Shieling." Looking to the facts that this John came from Crathinard, that Duncan of Crathinard married a daughter of Forbes of Skellater, and that a connection has always been supposed to exist between the Inchrory Shaws and his own branch of the clan, also to the tradition of the representatives of the Inchrory Shaws that Alasdair Ruaidh was one of their ancestors, Mr. W. G. Shaw is of opinion that this John Shaw was a brother of Duncan of Crathinard. John had a son, *Alister*, who married a daughter of Finla Farquharson of Achriachan, and settled at Inchrory, in Glenavon. He was out in the '45, and several anecdotes are related of him in Sir Thomas Dick Lauder's *Legendary Tales*. He also figures in company with Colonel John Roy Stuart in a "Story of 1746" by the Ettrick Shepherd. He had three sons, *Gregor*, *Donald*, and *Alister*. Gregor's son, *John*, was father of *Gregor* and *Donald*, residing at Torbane near Inchrory, the elder of whom, now deceased, left one son, *John Donald*, second son of Alister Shaw of Inchrory, was father of *James*, who took the farm of Achgourish, in the parish of Abernethy, which is still occupied by his family. James had two sons, *Donald* and *Alexander*. Alister, third son of Inchrory, was grandfather of

William Shaw, Corgarff, the correspondent of Mr. W. G. Shaw mentioned on p. 48.

Alexander Shaw, Dalchuil, near Tomintoul, and William Shaw, Milltown of Inverourie, both of whom have issue, are also descendants of Alistair Shaw of Inchrorry.

IRISH BRANCH OF THE SHAWs.—The genealogy of the family of Shaw of Terenure, County Dublin, bears that that family was originally from Scotland, and that it belonged to the Clan Chattan. The Rev. W. G. Shaw mentions a tradition in Speyside that one of the clan Shaw had emigrated to Ireland about the time of the Revolution in 1688, and his informant (Mr. William Shaw, Corgarff) understood that the descendants of this member of the clan occupied a high position in the sister island.

The family trace their descent from a *William* Shaw, captain in the regiment of General Ponsonby in the army of William III. He served at the Battle of the Boyne in 1689. After the campaign he received a grant of some of the forfeited lands in Kilkenny, also a lease from General Ponsonby of a portion of the demesne lands of Bessborough. Here he built a residence, called the Sandpits, where his family lived for three generations. His eldest son left no male issue, but his second son,

Robert, by Mary, daughter of Bernard Markham, and sister of the Archbishop of York, had six sons and two daughters. The fifth son,

Robert, became a merchant in Dublin, where he

realised a large fortune. He married first Mary, daughter of — Higgins of Higginsbrook, County Meath, and secondly, Priscilla Cecilia, daughter of Colonel Armitage. By his first wife he had (with two daughters) five sons,—*Robert*; *Bernard*; *Ponsonby*, banker in Dublin; *Thomas*, Captain 25th Light Dragoons; and *John*. By his second wife he had *George*; *Lees*; and two daughters. He died 2nd July 1796.

Robert, his eldest son, created a Baronet on 17th August 1821, was Colonel of the Royal Dublin Militia. He sat in the Irish Parliament for New Ross, and voted against the Union. In the Imperial Parliament he represented Dublin from 1804 to 1826. He was twice married. By his first wife (Maria, daughter and sole heiress of Abraham Wilkinson of Bushy Park, Dublin) he had five sons and three daughters. The sons were *Robert*, second Baronet; *Frederick*, third Baronet; *Beresford William*, 5th Regiment, afterwards Major Dublin Militia, died 1847; *George Augustus*, in holy orders, died 1838; and *Charles*, Barrister-at-law and Queen's Counsel, died 1870, leaving issue.

Sir Robert Shaw died 10th March 1849, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

Robert, second Baronet, Deputy Lieutenant for County Dublin. He died 19th February 1869, in his 73rd year, and was succeeded by his brother,

Frederick, third Baronet, born in 1799. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and Brazenose College, Oxford, and was an honorary LL.D. of Dublin

University. He was called to the Irish Bar in 1822, and appointed Recorder of Dublin in 1828, retaining this post till his death. He represented Dublin City in Parliament in 1830—1, and Dublin University from 1832 to 1848, when he retired on account of ill health. He was made a Privy Councillor under Sir Robert Peel's Government in 1834. He married Thomasine Emily, daughter of the Hon. George Jocelyn, son of the first Earl of Roden, by whom he had issue, with three daughters,

Robert, present Baronet, Lieutenant-Colonel late Dublin Militia, born 3rd August 1821; married Kate, daughter of William Barton, of Grove, County Tipperary, and has issue, Frederick William, born 5th March 1858.

George, C.B., Colonel Royal Artillery, born 1822, married and has issue.

Frederick, Under Secretary to Foreign Department of Indian Government, Bengal, died without issue, 13th December 1856.

Edward Wingfield, Captain late Royal Navy, married and has issue.

Wilkinson Jocelyn, Captain 102nd Regiment.

The Right Hon. Sir Frederick Shaw died 30th June 1876.

“There can be no doubt,” says Mr. W. G. Shaw, writing in 1871, “that the distinguished family now represented by Sir Frederick Shaw of Terenure may be rightly and truly claimed by the Scottish Shaws as united to them in the bonds of a common clanship.”

CHAPTER V.

SHAWS OF DELL, DALNIVERT, AND HARRIS.

IF the several branches of the Clan Shaw were to be treated in the order in which they struck out from the parent stock, the Shaws of Tordarroch would take precedence of their cousins of Dell, their ancestor having been *brother* of Alasdair Ciar, while the ancestor of the Dell Shaws was his son. But as the Tordarroch Shaws were from their commencement stationed at a considerable distance from the rest of their name, and acted independently of them as a distinct branch of Clan Chattan under the chiefs of Mackintosh, it will be convenient to treat them separately, and to proceed here with the history of those branches which remained in and about Rothimurcus.

SHAWS OF DELL.

After the outlawry and death of Alan Shaw, and the migration of the other representatives of the eldest son of Alasdair Ciar, the Shaws of Dell, or the Daill, of Rothimurcus appear to have been regarded as the heads of the name in the district. Thus Sir Robert Sibbald,¹ writing in 1680, speaks of Rothimurcus as having “belonged to the Schaws, who yet possess (*i.e.*, occupy) the parish, Alexander Schaw of Dell being head of the

¹ *MS. Collections* in Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.

tribe." He adds, "The Schaws are able fighting men, and acknowledge Macintosh to be their chieftain, and go under his banner." According to the Kinrara MS. the ancestor of the branch was Alasdair Og, second son of Alasdair Ciar; but the Rev. Lachlan Shaw—who is believed to have been of the family of Dell—calls him James Mor. He has, however, perhaps confounded him with the ancestor of the Dalniver branch, or with one of the earlier Jameses mentioned by himself; and as the testimony of the Kinrara MS. on disputed points of genealogy is in several instances corroborated by documentary evidence and by the genealogies of other families, it may perhaps be accepted as correct in this matter, or at all events as more trustworthy than the testimony of the historian of Moray.

Little is known of the several heads of the family of Dell. For some three or four generations their importance would of course be overshadowed by that of their relations of the main stock, and when at last, in the seventeenth century, they came to be looked upon as heads of the tribe in Rothimurcus, the Shaws had become a "broken clan," a clan without a recognised chieftain. For this reason, doubtless, the Shaws in Rothimurcus do not appear in the Band of Union among the Clan Chattan executed in 1609, in which the heads of the various component septs acknowledge their dependence on the chief of Mackintosh. Still those of the name who remained together in Rothimurcus looked up to the family as representing there the line of Shaw

Mor and Alasdair Ciar, and, as we have seen, "went under the banner of Mackintosh," as their forefathers had done.

For the first four generations we know nothing of the Shaws of Dell but their names, which, descending from father to son, were—*Alasdair* "Og"¹ (second son of Alasdair Ciar), *James* "Beg," *Alasdair* or Alexander, and *Alasdair* "Og." On the 19th July 1594, *John*, son of the last named, appears before the court of regality of Spynie, under the style of "Johne MacAlister in Dell of Rothimurkus," charged by the baron of Kincardine (Stuart) with the "spulzie of ane broune horse," and in spite of his plea that he took the said horse away "ordowrlie and nocht spulyed, but be vertue of the Act of Athell, boynd for ane better horse spuilzeat be the said persewar from the said defender," he is decerned by the judge "to have vrongouslie intromittit with and detenit the broune horse lybellit and thairfor to content and pay to the said complainer the soume of threttene schillings and four pennis money" for each day from the date of spoliation to that of decret.² This act of "intromission," whether justifiable or not, is unfortunately all we know of John MacAlister, but there is every reason to suppose that he and the Shaws in Rothimurcus would not be idle in the feud which

¹ "Og" or "Oig" means *young* or *junior*.

² *Spalding Club Miscellany*, vol. ii. p. 128. In one place in this entry John is called "John *McJames* McAlister," probably an error of the scribe by whom it was written.

raged between the Earl of Huntly on the one hand, and the chiefs of Mackintosh and Grant on the other, from 1591 to 1594, when the western auxiliaries of the Earl, the Camerons and Macdonalds of Lochaber, invaded Strathspey and subsequently Mackintosh's lands in Badenoch. In the latter expedition a skirmish took place in which the Clan Chattan were defeated with a loss of fifty men.

John MacAlister Og had a son, *John Og*, whose name occurs in the Valuation Roll of the Sheriffdom of Inverness in 1644. Only two persons besides himself are mentioned in the united Parishes of Laggan and Rothimurcus, and his rental is set down as £66 13s. 4d. He must have died before 1680, that being the year in which his son *Alexander* is mentioned by Sibbald. In the Valuation Roll of 1691 Alexander Shaw of Dell is rated at the same amount as his father in 1644. In a Commission of Fire and Sword granted to the chief of Mackintosh in 1698 "— Shaw of Dell," no doubt this Alexander, is named one of the Commissioners to act with Mackintosh.¹ Alexander had two sons, *Robert*, who probably died before 1711, and *James*, who died in 1758.

James is one of the parties to the Band and Tack of 1711 already mentioned as in the writer's possession. In this Band he and Lachlan, chief of Mackintosh, borrow £800 from Alexander Macpherson of Craggie,

¹ *Registrum Secreti Concilii, Acta*, 22nd February 1698.

Mackintosh giving the latter a tack for nine years of the lands of Dalreach in the Parish of Moy. James Shaw of Dell also appears as one of the friends of Mackintosh at a conference held at Moyhall in September 1724 between that chief and Lachlan Macpherson of Cluny—or more properly a conference among the principal men of Clan Chattan—on the subject of the claim which had been set up by Cluny's immediate predecessors to the headship of the clan. The result of the conference was that Cluny signed an agreement binding "himself and his successors to pass from and renounce to and in favour of Lachlan Mackintosh of that Ilk and his successors all and whatsoever pretensions he had, has, or anyways may have, to the said chieftainry for now and for ever." On this interesting occasion nearly all the septs of which the Clan Chattan was composed were represented by their several heads. Cluny was accompanied by the heads of the principal families of the Macphersons, and Mackintosh was supported by eight of his own name, by the chieftains of the Macgillivrays, Macbeans, Macphails, and Macqueens, by Farquharson of Invercauld and his kinsman of Inverey, and by two Shaws, James of Dell and Angus of Tordarroch.

James married a daughter of Lachlan Mackintosh of Balnespie, but whether he had any descendants or not does not appear. He is the last of the Shaws of Dell of whom the writer has been able to find any record.

The SHAWS OF GUISLICH in Rothimurcus were an offshoot from the Dell Branch, being descended from Donald of the Daill, who was contemporary with Alan, the chieftain of the Shaws outlawed for the slaughter of his stepfather. He was probably a younger son of the family of Dell, as none of the heads of that family bore the name Donald. It is possible, however, that tradition has erred in giving him this name.

According to the Macpherson Genealogy, Isobel, daughter of *Alexander Shaw* of Guislich, married Thomas Roy, progenitor of the Macphersons of Etterish, who was out in the wars of Montrose, and was censured on that account by the Synod of Moray in 1648. An *Alexander Shaw* of Guislich is named one of the Commissioners for carrying out Letters of Fire and Sword granted by the Privy Council to Lachlan, chief of Mackintosh, against the Macdonalds of Keppoch in 1698.¹ In 1711, *John Shaw* of Guislich appears as witness, with Duncan of Crathinard and Alexander of Tordarroch, to a Band and Tack granted by the chief of Mackintosh and Shaw of Dell to Macpherson of Craggie. His daughter was the mother of the famous Colonel John Roy Stuart.

THE REVEREND LACHLAN SHAW, author of the History of the Province of Moray, is said to have belonged to the Dell branch of the Shaws, and to

¹ *Registrum Secreti Concilii, Acta*, 22nd February 1698.

have been descended from the Donald of the Dail already mentioned as an ancestor of the Shaws of Guislich. Donald of the Dail, as has been suggested, was probably a younger son of the Dell family.

Lachlan was the son of Donald Shaw, farmer in Rothimurcus. He was minister of Kingussie from 1716 to 1719, of Calder from 1719 to 1734, and of Elgin from 1734 to 1774, when he resigned his charge. At Elgin he was visited by Pennant on his first tour in Scotland, and furnished that traveller with considerable matter relating to the Province of Moray, which appears in the Appendix (No. II.) to the large editions of the *Tours*.

Being a minister of the Presbyterian Church, he was of course a Whig and Hanoverian in politics. But although a decided enemy to the Jacobite interest, he appears to have been inclined to the side of mercy and forgiveness in regard to individuals after the rising was put down. Giving a list of persons in his parish who had not been concerned in the "Rebellion," in return to an order of the Lord Justice Clerk in 1746, he mentions that he has not included in the list the names of persons who frequented the [Episcopalian and other] meeting houses, because they were not part of his proper charge, and were reputed Jacobites—although he could not prove them to be such,—but he adds, "it cannot be justly inferred that all who are not in our lists are guilty."¹

¹ Dunbar's *Social Life in Former Days*, First Series (Edin., 1865).

He is best known by his *History of the Province of Moray*, published at Edinburgh in 1775, a work exhibiting considerable learning and research. It gives detailed accounts of the various parishes and the principal families of the Province, with sketches of its civil, military, and ecclesiastical history, as well as of its natural history. In spite of numerous inaccuracies, which a closer acquaintance with family records would have enabled the writer to avoid, the work is of great value to the antiquary and student of Highland history. The communication made by the author to Pennant, to which reference has been made, is apparently drawn from the compilations he had made for the *History*. Another work of Lachlan Shaw's, though never printed, is "*Memoirs Genealogical and Historical of the family of MacIntosh, with an Introduction concerning the Families of MacDuff and Clan Chattan.*" The manuscript, in the author's own beautiful hand, is in the possession of Mackintosh of Mackintosh.

By his first wife, a Miss Stewart, Inverness, Lachlan had a son, David, who settled at New York.¹ One of David's daughters, Janet, married a nephew of John Wilkes of "North Briton" notoriety, and was mother of Charlotte, second wife of Lord Jeffrey, the distinguished Scottish judge and "Edinburgh Reviewer." Maria, another of David's daughters, was the wife first of Sir Jacob Wheate, Baronet, Captain R.N., and afterwards

¹ *Memorials of Clan Shaw* (Original Edition)—Notes, p. 14.

of the Hon. Sir Alexander Forrester Cochrane, K.B., Admiral of the Blue, tenth son of the eighth Earl of Dundonald.

Duncan, eldest son of Lachlan by his second marriage, was minister of Rafford from 1753 to 1783, when he was translated to Aberdeen. He became a Doctor of Divinity, and filled the office of Moderator of the General Assembly.

SHAWS OF DALNIVERT.

This branch was descended from James, third son of Alasdair Ciar. Having become extinct in the male line in the beginning of this century, no detailed genealogy of it can now be obtained, and mention of its members in the genealogies of other families and in other documents is comparatively rare.

Dalnivert—probably *Dal-na-bhaird*, the Bard's Field—was one of the “davochs of the head” given to the family of Mackintosh by the Earl of Huntly in 1557, under an order of Parliament, as part compensation for the illegal execution, or murder, of William, fifteenth chief of Mackintosh, in 1550. Another “davochof the head”—so called as being compensation for the beheading of Mackintosh—was South Kinrara.¹ Both places are in the parish of Alvie, and in the district of Rothimurcus, and both still belong to the Mackintoshes.

¹ In addition to Dalnivert and South Kinrara, Huntly had to give the barony of Essie in Strathnairn, and various lands in the Braes of Strathdearn.

On becoming the property of the Mackintoshes, Dalnivert was granted in wadset to the Shaws, probably to Alexander, son or grandson of the above-mentioned James Mac-Alasdair Ciar; but it is not unlikely that the Shaws had previously occupied the lands.

The first of the Dalnivert Shaws of whom mention is found is *Alexander*, probably son (or grandson) of James the founder of the branch. According to a MS. Genealogy of the Macphersons, in possession of Cluny Macpherson, he married a daughter of William Macpherson of Bialid, apparently about the middle of the sixteenth century. In the same MS. we find a daughter of "—— Shaw of Dalnivert" marrying William Macpherson, an ancestor of the Macphersons of Invereshie, who was killed at the battle of Auldearn in 1645. As the son of this marriage is spoken of in 1648 as "old and unable to travel," it is probable that the father of William Macpherson's wife was the Alexander Shaw of Dalnivert just mentioned.

The MS. also records a marriage between Mary, daughter of Macpherson of Pitchern, and *Donald* Shaw of Dalnivert. This Donald is mentioned by Sir Æneas Macpherson in the paper quoted in the early pages of this work as one of the "old men" from whom he had acquired much of his information; so that he was doubtless son of Alexander. His daughter, Margaret, married William Macpherson of Pitchern, one of the persons censured in 1648 by the Synod of Moray in a document to be presently quoted.

The next mentioned of the Shaws of Dalnivert is *William*, who with other Shaws, Mackintoshes, and Macphersons had taken up arms under the noble Marquis of Montrose on behalf of King Charles I. He is summoned with the rest in January 1648 before the Provincial Synod of Moray to answer for his malignancy, but neither puts in an appearance nor sends an excuse. "Being absent without excuse," he and four others are "referred to the Presbytery of Aberlour to process and censure them."¹ William was probably son of the fore-mentioned Donald Mac-Alexander.

Donald of Dalnivert, son of William, in 1679 accompanied Lachlan, nineteenth chief of Mackintosh, on one of the several expeditions which he undertook to Lochaber against the Macdonalds of Keppoch, who for some two hundred years had persisted in occupying the lands of Keppoch, Glenroy, and Glenspean, to which the Mackintosh chiefs had charters.²

John is the next Shaw of Dalnivert of whom we have any record. According to the Macpherson Genealogy

¹ *Register of Provincial Synod of Moray*—12th and 13th January 1648. A James Shaw in Dunachton appears on these dates; he is ordained by the Synod to make repentance in sackcloth in the Kirk of Calder, to acknowledge his guiltiness—"with the rest of the bloody enemies"—before the Presbytery of Aberlour, to hear sermons, and to subscribe the covenant.

² Donald's name appears in this connection in a MS. preserved in the Advocates' Library in Edinburgh among Macfarlane's Genealogical Collections, vol. 1. The MS. is entitled "*De Origine et Incremento Makintoshiorum Epitome.*"

he married Jean, daughter of John Macpherson, Etterish, by a daughter of the Ewen Macpherson younger of Cluny who headed the Clan Mhuirich in the wars of Montrose. Ewen of Cluny being a contemporary of the above-mentioned William Shaw, John Shaw of Dalnivert, the husband of his grand-daughter, was no doubt William's grandson, and son of the Donald of Dalnivert mentioned in 1679.

William Shaw, son of *Angus* Shaw of Dalnivert, and probably grandson of the fore-mentioned John of Dalnivert, appears as writer of and witness to a contract of marriage between William Shaw, Forneth, and Isobel Shaw, Kinrara, dated at Kinrara 25th August 1751.¹ He held Dalnivert until his death,² and was succeeded by his brother,

Thomas, who died without issue in 1810, the last Shaw of Dalnivert. There is a tombstone to his memory in the churchyard of Rothimurcus.

¹ See pp. 57, 76.

² William's eldest daughter, Margaret Shaw, married Captain Alexander Clark, son of John Clark and his wife Margaret, youngest sister of James Macpherson of Belleville, the translator of Ossian. Captain Clark and Margaret Shaw had three sons,—*James*, Lieutenant 42nd Regiment, deceased; *John*, who married a daughter of Sir John Dalrymple, and died a Major-General in the Army and Colonel of the 59th Regiment; and *William*, formerly of the Royal Navy, afterwards of the East India Company's Service. Lieutenant James Clark, the eldest of these sons, occupied Dalnivert for some time, and in the *New Statistical Account of Scotland* (Edin., 1845—vol. xiv. p. 93) is stated to have "nearly doubled the arable land of the farm by draining, grubbing, and embanking," during his tenure. His improvements are also noticed in Stewart's *Highlands and Highlanders of Strathspey and Badenoch* (London, 1860), p. 266.

The SHAWES OF KINRARA, about a mile and a half from the Doune of Rothimurcus, were most probably an offshoot of the Dalnivert branch.

John Shaw, Kinrara, by his wife Elizabeth Stewart, had three sons, *James*, *Thomas*, and *John*; and two daughters,—Margaret, married to John Shaw, Dal-downie, grandson of Duncan of Crathinard; and Isobel, second wife of William Shaw of Forneth, seventh son of Crathinard. The marriage contract between the two latter is dated at Kinrara 25th August 1751. On 26th August 1728, General Wade grants to this John permission to carry a gun, sword, and pistol, on the recommendation of the Lord Advocate and Colonel Farquhar.¹

James, eldest son of John, fought at Culloden, and died soon afterwards from the effect of the hardships he endured after the battle.

Thomas, second son, married Madeline, daughter of

¹The original is in the possession of Mackintosh of Mackintosh, and is similar to the usual form of such licence given in the Appendix to *Burt's Letters*. It is as follows:—

George Wade, Esq., Lieutenant General and Commander in Chief of H.M. Forces, Castles, Forts, and Barracks in North Britain. By virtue of the power and authority to me given by His Majesty I do hereby permit and authorize you, John Shaw of Kinrara in the county of Inverness, to keep, wear, and carry with you, upon all your lawful occasions, from the date hereof to the 20th September 1730, the following weapons, viz., a gun, sword, and pistol: Your behaving in all that time as a faithful subject of His Majesty, and carrying yourself peaceably and quietly towards the people of the country. Given at Inverness the 26th day of August 1728. (Signed) George Wade.—Recommended by the Lord Advocate and Colonel Farquhar.

Macpherson of Dalraddie, and had two sons, John and Robert, both of whom joined a regiment of Fencibles raised by the Duke of Athole in 1777—8, and on its disbandment obtained commissions in the East India Company's Service. The elder died on his voyage out, and the younger rose to the rank of Major, dying in 1812.

John, third son, also fought at Culloden, and was murdered in cold blood on the third day after the battle. According to the narrative furnished by the Rev. George Innes, Forres, to Bishop Forbes, "one Mr. Shaw, younger of Kinrara, in Badenoch, had been carried into a hut with other wounded men, and amongst the rest a servant of his own, who being only wounded in the arm could have got off, but chose rather to stay, in order to attend his master. The Presbyterian minister at Petty, Mr. Laughlan¹ Shaw, being a cousin of this Kinrara's, had obtained leave of the Duke of Cumberland to carry off his friend, in return to the good services the said Mr. Laughlan had done the Government; for he had been very active in dissuading his parishioners and clan from joining the Prince, and had likewise, as I am told, sent the Duke very pointed intelligence of all the Prince's motions. In consequence of this, on the Saturday after the battle, he went to the place where his friend was, designing to carry him to his own house. But as he came near he saw an officer's command, with

¹This is incorrect. The minister of Petty from 1742 to 1758 was *Æneas* Shaw. He was afterwards minister of Forres, and died in 1773.

the officer at their head, fire a platoon at fourteen of the wounded Highlanders, whom they had taken all out of that house, and bring them all down at once; and when he came up he found his cousin and his servant were two of that unfortunate number. I questioned Mr. Shaw himself about this story, who plainly acknowledged the fact, and was indeed the person who informed me of the precise number.”¹

SHAWS IN HARRIS.

In a passage of the Rev. Lachlan Shaw’s MS. Memoirs of the Mackintoshes which has already been quoted, it is stated that on the capture and death of the outlawed Alan Shaw, “his brother and associates exiled into the *Western Isles* and Ireland, where their descendants are said to live in opulent circumstances.” An earlier authority, Mackintosh of Kinrara, indicates the locality of some of these descendants by the mention of

¹ *Jacobite Memoirs*, edited from MSS. of Bishop Robert Forbes by Robert Chambers (Edin., 1834), p. 296. There is a note by the Bishop himself to the passage quoted, as follows:—“Perhaps it may be true that Mr. Laughlan Shaw (as well as cripple Sandy Shaw and the Surgeon) went to the field in quest of his wounded kinsman; but Mr. James Grant was mighty positive in asserting the contrary. I could indeed well see that James Grant had great indignation at Mr. Laughlan Shaw for not going instantly (upon receiving information) to the field of battle to seek out his own kinsman, and indeed from this account of the Rev. Mr. George Innes it plainly appears that the said Mr. Laughlan Shaw was most shamefully dilatory in his motions, by his own confession. However, at any rate, Mr. Laughlan Shaw’s affirmation upon the point is a plain and strong proof that the wounded Shaw (the Badenoch man) and several others were cruelly put to death in cold blood.”

Shaws in *Harris*, whose ancestor, he says, was *Iver*, fifth and youngest son of Alasdair Ciar, and great-grandson of Shaw Mor.¹ Whether the descendants of Iver took part in the lawless proceedings of their outlawed chieftain and were among those who on his death "exiled into the Western Isles," or whether their settlement in *Harris* was prior to the events which drove so many of the Shaws from Rothimurcus, does not appear, but there is a probability that at the present day Iver's posterity are to be found in *Harris* among the *Western Isles*. In the second Appendix (written in 1869) to his original Memorials of Clan Shaw, Mr. W. G. Shaw writes as follows:—

"A statement in the Mackintosh MS., a portion of which is as old as 1498, has been confirmed in a very interesting manner whilst these pages were passing through the press. Some months ago I had a letter from a gentleman in London, Malcolm Macleod, Esq., asking me for a perusal of the Memorials, and informing me that he knew of a race of Shaws in *Harris*. A few weeks ago, I received from Mr. A. Mackintosh Shaw the extracts above alluded to from the Mackintosh MS. in which *Ivor* is given as the fifth son of Alister Kiar Shaw, and as ancestor of the Shaws in *Harris*. I then wrote to Mr. Macleod, asking him to give me further information as to the Shaws in *Harris*. He replies—
 'The Shaws in *Harris* go under the name in Gaelic of

¹ *Kinrara MS.*

Clann Dhom'l 'ic Iomhair or Ivor, doubtless the Ivor you have traced out in the MS. They never got the name Shaw applied to them by the common people, it being the custom in the place to speak of a person as the son of such a one, who was the son of a second, back to no end. There are at present existing the families of Iain Mor Mac Dhom'l ic Iomhair, of Iain og Mac Dhom'l ic Iomhair, of Anaos Mac Dhom'l ic Iomhair, and of Mairidh Ni'an Dhom'l ic Iomhair, the widow of the late Archibald Ross, and a great grandmother.' "

It should be stated, however, that the present members of the family here spoken of, with whom the writer has had communication, are ignorant of any connection of their family with Harris prior to the time of a *Donald* Shaw, great-grandfather of Iain-Mor, Iain Og, and Anaos. They are unable to trace back beyond this Donald, who they say came from Skye, and was father of *Iver*, who had three sons, *Malcolm*, *John*, and *Donald*. It may be, therefore, that the children of the last-named are called "Clan Dhom'l 'ic Iomhair" from their father and grandfather only, and not from Iver son of Alasdair Ciar in the fifteenth century. Still there is the probability that their great-grandfather Donald had been only a temporary resident in Skye, and that his ancestors had belonged to Harris and were the representatives of the original Iver Shaw from Rothimurcus.

Mr. W. G. Shaw also mentions a family of Shaws

formerly belonging to Skye as being doubtless of the race of Ivor. One of this family was a Lieutenant Donald Shaw of the North Carolina Highlanders in 1790.

CHAPTER VI.

SHAWS OF TORDARROCH.

ALTHOUGH only a branch of the Clan Shaw, the Shaws of Tordarroch, in Strathnairn, for nearly three centuries ranked as a distinct clan, and as such formed one of the component tribes of Clan Chattan under the chief of Mackintosh. In the Band of Union amongst Clan Chattan entered into in 1609 by the heads and principal men of the various septs—the Mackintoshes, Macphersons, Macbeans, Macqueens, Macgillivrays, and others—the head of the Shaws of Tordarroch signs “for himself and taking the full burden of his race of Clan Ay.” As has already been remarked, the main body of the Shaws are not represented in the Band, having before this time become a “broken clan.” Owing no doubt to the great distance by which they were separated, the Shaws in Strathnairn and their cousins in Rothimurcus seem to have had little or no intercourse after the Tordarroch branch struck out in the fifteenth century, and the only occasion of their coming together of which we have any record is the one already noticed, when Alexander Shaw of Tordarroch, Duncan Shaw of Crathinard, James Shaw of Dell, and John Shaw of Guislich, affix their signatures to a deed executed at Culloden in the year 1711.

The lands of Tordarroch are situated in the United Parish of Daviot and Dunlichity, on the banks of the Nairn, about four miles above the bridge of Faillie and about twelve miles from Inverness. Originally forming part of the Castle lands of Inverness, they, with others, were given by the fifth Earl of Huntly, hereditary constable of the castle, in 1568 (27th June) to the family of Mackintosh. The name Tordarroch means "a hill of oaks," and although none of these trees are to be found in the neighbourhood at the present day, it is evident from the name that they once flourished there, probably at some remote period. This circumstance, coupled with the fact that within a few hundred yards of the present farmhouse of Tordarroch is a tolerably perfect "clachan" or Druidical circle,¹ may indicate that Tordarroch was in ancient times a favourite resort of the Druids, by whom the oak was held in particular favour. In more recent times Tordarroch was a frequent gathering place for the portions of Clan Chattan living about Inverness and Petty, and in Strathnairn and Strathdearn. It is the opinion of some writers that Dunlichity, the hill near Tordarroch from

¹ "The outer circle is 35 or 36 paces in diameter, the middle one 20 paces, of which thirty-six stones remain of unusual size, partly prostrate, partly upright, some 5 feet high; while eight of the outer circle are great lumps of rock. The large stone S.S.W. of the centre is 8 feet high and 11 feet in girth. Altogether, the group has a peculiarly picturesque and weird-like aspect. The inner circle seems to have been 8 paces in diameter, but is indistinct." [*Guide to Inverness*, by Peter Anderson, Edin., 1868, p. 50.] Other Druidical circles are found in the neighbourhood, at Leys C. stle, Gask, Daviot, &c.

which the parish derives its name, is properly *Dun-le-Chatti*—the hill of Clan Chattan, “which ancient tribe, under the various surnames of Mackintosh, the chief, Macgillivray, Macpherson, Macbean, Shaw, &c., continue in the possession of an extensive tract upon either side of this hill, which yet bears upon its summit the tokens of having been the rendezvous, and the place whence the signals were made, as the exigencies of remote times required.”¹ This derivation, however, is perhaps doubtful.

ADAM, brother of Alasdair Ciar and grandson of Shaw Mor, was the progenitor of the Tordarroch branch of the Shaws, as is witnessed both by the family records and by the MS. History of the Mackintoshes written by Lachlan Mackintosh of Kinrara. The latter says that Shaw Mor’s son James left “two sons, viz. Alister Keir, of whom are descended the Shaws of Rothimurcus, and Adam, of whom are descended the Shaws of Tordarroch.” On his father’s death at Harlaw in 1411 and on the occupation of Rothimurcus by the Comyns, Adam was taken under the protection of his kinsman Malcolm Beg, tenth chief of Mackintosh. His son

ROBERT was father of Angus and Bean—or Benjamin. The elder of these,

¹ *Survey of the Province of Moray*—Aberdeen 1798, p. 208. The writer of the account of the Parish in the *New Statistical Account of Scotland* (Edin., 1845, vol. xiv. p. 93) says the name means the “hill which is in the middle of and bisects the territory of the Catti.”

ANGUS, appears as one of the signatories to a band, called "Clan Chattan's Band," executed by some of the leading men of the clan at Inverness on the 2nd May 1543. It appears that, in return for a life-rent tack of Benchar, Clunie, Schiphin, and Essich, William, fifteenth chief of Mackintosh, had agreed to give to George, fourth Earl of Huntly, a band of manrent; and to render this more solemn and binding, with a view probably to induce the Earl to hold to his part of the agreement, some of the principal clansmen of Mackintosh bound themselves, "under the pane of cursing," to renounce their chief "gywe it hapins the said Wilzeam M'Intosche to failze and break his band of manrent in his seruice to the said Erle."¹ The tack was accordingly granted by Huntly and the band of manrent signed by "Wilzem Makinthose" (as William spells his name) on 12th May 1543, ten days after the date of Clan Chattan's Band.

It would appear that, as in the case of the family of Rothimurcus, the surname Shaw was not assumed by the Tordarroch branch for some generations after Shaw Mor's time. Thus in Clan Chattan's Band Angus signs as "Angus mac Robert" only; his nephew also uses his own father's name as a patronymic; and it is not until so late as 1669 that we have documentary evidence of the use of the surname Shaw by the family.

¹The Band is given in full in vol. iv. of the *Spalding Club Miscellany*, p. 260.

Angus mac Robert was the first of the Shaws in Tordarroch. In 1568 the lands came into possession of the Mackintoshes, and were assigned to him and his successors in wadset. Dying without issue, Angus was succeeded in the headship of the family and in the occupation of Tordarroch by his brother,

BEAN, or Benjamin, whose daughter Effie, according to the Macpherson Genealogy, married Donald mac Gillicallum (Macpherson) of Essich.¹ Bean was succeeded by his son,

ANGUS, who signed the Band of Union among^t Clan Chattan in 1609 as "Ay mac Bean vic Robert of Tordarroch, for himself and taking the full burden of his race of Clan Ay." As already mentioned, the fact of his signing this band, in common with the chieftains of the other clans forming the confederacy of Clan Chattan, shows that the Shaws of Tordarroch had already attained the position of a distinct sept under their own chieftain, who was directly subordinate to the chief of Mackintosh, the head of the whole confederacy.

It will be observed that Angus here signs himself *Ay mac Bean*, and that the clan is similarly called *Clan Ay*. It is difficult to find a reason for this, unless we accept *Ay* as a synonym for *Angus*. That it is not a clerical abbreviation of *Angus* (or *Aonghais*, as the

¹ In a *Stent Roll of the Parish of Inverness* made in 1634 "Effie nien Bean" (*i.e.* daughter of Bean) is rated at 25 merks for each of two ploughs of Essich. (*Invernessiana*, by C. Fraser-Mackintosh, M.P.—p. 145.)

name is spelled in Gaelic) is tolerably evident from the fact that the clan is called Clan Ay, and was known by that name in after years.¹ Mackintosh of Kinrara says that the Shaws—meaning, doubtless, the Tor-darroch Shaws only—were called in Irish (*i.e.* Erse or Gaelic) *Clan Taigh*. The word *taigh* or *tigh* in Gaelic means a house, but as this cannot be its meaning as applied to the Shaws, I would suggest that it was probably written by Kinrara phonetically, and should be *t'Aigh* or *d'Aigh*, for *de Ay*. Clan d'Ay would thus be the clan of Ay.² The name Ay occurs also in the Act of Parliament already quoted in connection with the Raid of Angus in 1391, where among those put to the horn we find "Joannem Ayson juvenem," probably John, son of *Angus Og* (young Angus), third son of the sixth chief of Mackintosh. And Mr Skene, speaking of an Angus who held the district of Moray soon after 1089, says, "When Wimund, who claimed the earldom of Moray in the reign of David II., asserted that he was the son of *this Angus*, he assumed *in consequence* the name of Malcolm *Macheth*"³—that is, son of Heth.

¹ "At a Christmas shinty match, sixteen able-bodied men of Clan Ay contested with their neighbours successfully. Some pestilence broke out, and before midsummer following, the sixteen slept in their graves at Dalarossie, side by side; and old people yet living can show the spot in the graveyard." (*Antiquarian Notes*, by Charles Fraser-Mackintosh, Inverness 1865, p. 361.)

² The preposition "*de* often appears undisguisedly in its own appropriate sense. Lhuyd translates the Latin *de*, *e*, *ex*, by *de*." (Munro's *Practical Grammar of Scottish Gaelic*, p. 157).

³ *Highlanders of Scotland*, by W. F. Skene, vol. ii. pp. 162—3.

In Gaelic *e* is sounded as *a* in "tale," and *th* is silent, so that with the exception of the aspirate the pronunciation of Heth would be precisely the same as that of Ay. The names Clachiny-*hā* and Clan *Kay* (query, Clan 'ic Ay¹) used by Wyntoun and Bowar respectively in their accounts of the fight at Perth in 1396 are in all probability identical with Heth or Ay.

Whether Ay was at one time a synonym of Angus, or not—and it must be confessed that there appears no evidence of its use now or at any time within the last two centuries—the fact remains that in the Band of 1609 Angus Shaw appears as Ay on behalf of his race of Clan Ay, and that the clan was subsequently known by the same name. If, therefore, Ay is really an ancient synonym of Angus now become obsolete, the clan must have been called after either the Angus Shaw of Tordarroch of 1609 or his uncle of the same name.

Angus also appears—as Angus Mac Bean—in a Stent Roll of the Parish of Inverness dated the last day of March 1634, in which he is rated at 25 merks for each plough of his lands of Knocknageal. In addition to Tordarroch he was proprietor of part of the Leys in the parish of Inverness, and in a Valuation Roll of 1644 his holding in this parish is valued at £110 3s. 4d. Scots,

¹ Assuming that the Clan Kay of Bowar were the Camerons, there is additional ground for supposing that Ay was the same as Angus in the fact that an Angus is stated to have been ancestor of the Camerons in the time of Kenneth III., and to have been the husband of that monarch's daughter.—See *History of the Camerons* prefixed to *Memoirs of Sir Ewen Cameron*, p. 1.

while Tordarroch in Dunlichity Parish is set down as worth only £61 6s. 8d. Scots. Wester Leys continued in possession of the Shaws down to the beginning of the present century.

ROBERT, son of Angus, is the first of his line mentioned by the surname of Shaw, his father being called in the Valuation Roll and elsewhere "Angus mac Bean," that is "son of Bean." The first mention we find of Robert is as witness—with Lachlan Mackintosh of Kinrara, brother of the eighteenth chief of Mackintosh and author of the MS. History of the Mackintoshes—to a deed of Renunciation, dated 30th November 1669, by Lachlan Mackintosh of Aberarder in favour of Donald and William Macgillivray. As Robert *Schaw* of Tordarroch he is recorded in vol. iii. of the Commissary Records of Inverness, under date 19th June 1677, as "faithfully giving up debts resting to deceased John m'Ean vic Alister in Tordarroch." Again, as Robert Shaw portioner of Leys he is named a Commissioner of Supply for the county of Inverness in an Act of Parliament of 7th June 1690; and, also as portioner of Leys, his name appears in the Valuation Roll of Inverness-shire in 1691, where his portion is valued at £96 13s. Scots. In this Roll Tordarroch is set down under the Laird of Mackintosh, the superior.

Robert died in 1691, leaving three sons,—*Alexander*, his successor; *Donald*, who married Jean, widow of Robert Mackintosh of Benchar, and daughter of Donald

Macpherson of Nuid;¹ and *William*, whose name, as “son to umquhile Robert Shaw of Tordarroch,” occurs in a horning of 28th February 1699,² and who was quartermaster of Mackintosh’s Regiment in 1715. Robert had also a daughter, Euffin or Euphame, who married Donald, son of Thomas Macpherson of Killihuntly, and grandson of Angus Macpherson of Invereshie.

ALEXANDER, Robert’s eldest son and successor, is mentioned as “of Tordarroch” under dates 23rd August 1692, 26th June 1696, and 17th October 1699,³ and as “of Wester Leys” under date 21st October 1697.⁴ In an Act of 1698,⁵ renewing a Commission granted to the nineteenth chief of Mackintosh for raising Fire and Sword against Coll Macdonald of Keppoch and others, he is erroneously described as “younger” of Tordarroch. As “younger of Tordarroch” he had accompanied Mackintosh in 1679 against the Macdonalds in Brae Lochaber. He married Anne, second daughter of Donald Mackintosh of Killachie, great-great-grandfather

¹ Donald Macpherson of Nuid was grandfather of Lachlan of Nuid, who on the death of Duncan of Cluny in 1722 succeeded him as heir male, and was great-grandfather of the present honoured chief of the Clan Mhuirich.

² *Particular Register of Inhibitions, &c., for Inverness-shire*, vol. vi.

General Register of Hornings, &c., vols. 114, 312, and 338.

⁴ *Particular Register of Inhibitions, &c.*, vol. vi. On this date, as well as on that first mentioned, Alexander is named in conjunction with his neighbour Paul Macphail of Inverarnie, head of the Macphails, who were one of the constituent tribes of Clan Chattan.

⁵ *Registrum Secreti Concilii—Acta*, 22 Feb. 1698.

of Sir James Mackintosh the eminent lawyer and writer. By her he had three sons, *Robert*, *Angus*, and *John*.

The part played by the Clan Chattan in the Rising of 1715 is matter of history, and one of its members, William Mackintosh younger of Borlum, was placed at the head of the force despatched across the Firth of Forth to the Borders, which penetrated into England as far as Preston in Lancashire. The Clan appear to have been in readiness for action for some time before the commencement of the Rising in September 1715, for as early as in April 1714, the chief of Mackintosh had held a meeting of his clansmen at the head of Strathnairn, after which arms had been diligently provided.¹ On the 13th September 1715, immediately on the arrival of the news that the Earl of Mar had set up King James's standard in Braemar, the chief of Mackintosh, aided and counselled by Borlum younger, assembled his clansmen at Farr, a few miles from Tordarroch, marched into Inverness with colours flying, seized all the arms and ammunition he could find, and proclaimed King James in the capital of the Highlands. Three weeks afterwards the chief and Borlum younger, with about 700 of the clan, joined the Earl of Mar at Perth. They were formed into a separate battalion, under the chief as Colonel, and John Farquharson of Invercauld as Lieutenant-Colonel. Robert Shaw, eldest son of Alexander of Tordarroch, was one of the captains,

¹ Letter in Charter Room of the Duke of Montrose, dated 24 Sept. 1714.

his brother Angus one of the lieutenants. Their uncle, William Shaw, was quartermaster of the battalion. One writer says that the clansmen composing this battalion "were the most resolute and best armed of any that composed the army;"¹ another that the regiment "was reckoned the best the Earl of Mar had;"² and the Rev. Robert Patten, who was with the army in England, speaks of their good order and equipment.³

On the night of the 11th and 12th of October six regiments—Lord Strathmore's, Lord Mar's, Logie Drummond's, Lord Nairne's, Lord Charles Murray's, and Mackintosh's—crossed the Firth of Forth under command of William Mackintosh of Borlum as Brigadier. After threatening Edinburgh, they marched towards England, and on the 22nd joined the forces of Lord Kenmure and Mr. Forster. On the 10th November they entered Preston, where, after standing a short siege in which Mackintosh's regiment distinguished itself, the whole force surrendered to the Hanoverian generals Willis and Carpenter. Among the prisoners sent to London were the chief of Mackintosh, Brigadier Mackintosh, and Robert and Angus Shaw. The chief was at first lodged in the Fleet Prison, but afterwards removed to Newgate, whence he was liberated in the following August on the intercession of his wife, aided by friends among whom was Simon, Lord Lovat. The Brigadier was also confined in Newgate, and made his

¹ Charles's *Transactions in Scotland in 1715—6*, vol. i. p. 283.

² Rae's *History of the late Rebellion* (1718) p. 237.

³ Patten's *History of the late Rebellion* (1717) p. 6.

escape, with some of his fellow-prisoners, by manfully knocking down his gaolers. Newgate was also the prison of the two Shaws, the elder of whom, Robert, died within its walls after some months of confinement.¹ His brother Angus subsequently received a pardon, and was set at liberty on giving security for his future allegiance to the reigning family.

The name of John, third son of Alexander, occurs as one of the witnesses to a document executed at Dunachton on 4th June 1726, appointing Macgillivray of Dunmaglass arbiter between Lachlan, twentieth chief of Mackintosh, and Lachlan Macpherson of Cluny, in any disputes that might arise in the carrying out of an agreement made between the two at Moyhall on 15th September 1724. In the attesting clause John is spoken of as "*Mr.* John Shaw, brother to Tordarroch"—the "*Mr.*" probably indicating that he occupied some clerical position. He married Margaret, daughter of Robert Rose of the family of Rose of Wester Drakies, and was father of *Colin*, living in Culblair, Petty; and *William* of Craigfield.² Colin had three sons, *William*,

¹ On the 21st April 1716 Robert writes to his father from Newgate as follows:—"Sir, Pay to John Cuthbert or order on eight days sight the sum of ten pounds sterling money at the house of Isobel Corvie, vintner in Inverness, for value received of him by me in ready money, with interest and expenses as effeirs, and pray make thankful payment and oblige your most affectionate son to serve you, Robert Shaw—To Alexander Shaw of Wester Leys."

² William is referred to in the *History of Moray* (p. 124.) as occupying the lands of Craggie on the Nairn, nearly opposite Daviot House. "On the east side of the river the first northward is Craggie, the property of the late William Shaw of Craigfield, cousin to Tordarroch."

Paymaster 97th Regiment, who served in Egypt, the Peninsula, and Canada, and was afterwards Justice of the Peace for Inverness-shire; *Charles*, Lieutenant Royal Artillery; and *George*, Captain 96th Regiment, who served in the Peninsula and Canada. All these sons died unmarried, and their branch of the family is extinct.

ANGUS, his elder brother having died unmarried, became head of the family on his father's death, which took place some time between 1717 and 1724. In the latter year we find Angus Shaw of Tordarroch present at the meeting of the principal men of Clan Chattan, held at Moyhall, to which reference has already been made,¹ when Macpherson of Cluny formally renounced in favour of Mackintosh and his successors all pretensions he or his successors had or might have to the headship of the clan. The Reference to Macgillivray of Dunmaglass just mentioned as having been signed at Dunachton on 4th June 1726, bears that it was written by Angus Shaw, who also signs as a witness. This Angus was in all probability Angus of Tordarroch.

Angus, as we have seen, in order to obtain pardon for taking up arms against King George, had given security for his subsequent good behaviour. In consequence of this he took no part in the great Rising of 1745—6, although he was sorely tempted to rise and "fight for Charlie." Tordarroch, situated in the district where lived so many Mackintoshes, Macgillivrays, and others

¹ See p. 68.

who "went out," and within a few miles of Moyhall, where lived the famous Lady Mackintosh whose loyalty to the Stuarts prompted her to embody her husband's clan for the Prince's service, was in the very vortex of temptation. Angus, therefore, wisely removed from it and took up his abode at his farmhouse of Wester Leys, about four miles from Inverness. Even here his resolution well-nigh failed him, and on the morning of the Prince's fatal march towards Culloden and Nairn, it was only by the quick woman's wit of his wife—whose brother, Dallas of Cantray, was killed at Culloden—that he was prevented from joining his kinsmen and friends, and sharing their defeat and subsequent misfortunes. Knowing his irresolution, and fearing that the balance might turn to the side which she instinctively felt was the unsafe one for her husband, herself, and their family, the lady rose at an early hour and carefully secreted various necessary portions of her lord and master's wearing apparel.¹ Whatever his feelings at the time, no doubt Angus was sincerely grateful to his wife afterwards, for instead of being subjected to the extremities of hardship experienced by the defeated Jacobites—those at least who escaped with life from Culloden—he earned by his "good behaviour" the approval of the ruling powers, by

¹This was a milder expedient than that resorted to for the same purpose by another lady, who, while giving her husband his breakfast preparatory to his setting out to join the Prince's army, upset a kettle of boiling water over his knees, as if by accident.

whom, when the country became settled, he was made a magistrate.

On the flight of Prince Charles through Strathnairn after the battle of Culloden, he called at the house of Tordarroch, which stood on the west side of the Nairn nearly opposite the present farmhouse of Tordarroch Mains, and on the site now occupied by the cottages called Baile na Bodach.¹ "The Prince, with Lord Elcho, Sir Thomas Sheridan, O'Sullivan, and Mr. Alexander Macleod, aide-de-camp, marched to Tordarroch, where they got no access," says Edward Burke, Charles's faithful guide,²—the house being deserted and closed.³ Perhaps the numerous descendants of Angus Shaw may be allowed to regret that their ancestor was thus debarred the privilege of affording some assistance to his Prince, had it been but the gift of a cup of water.

Some miles away from this spot, Angus Shaw and his family at Wester Leys had heard in the meantime the sounds of the brief battle, and had seen some of

¹ The last trace of the old house of Tordarroch was a portion of the garden with its boundary; but this slight vestige was obliterated some years ago, and nothing now remains but tradition to indicate the spot, where the Shaws of Tordarroch lived for more than two centuries down to 1746. The dust of most of them lies mingled with that of some generations of the Macphails of Inverarnie in the neighbouring churchyard of Dunlichity, in an enclosure adjoining the eastern wall of the edifice, and close to the burying-place of the Macgillivrays.

² Journal of Edward Burke, in *Jacobite Memoirs*, p. 364.

³ "The first place where Prince Charles stopped was at Tordarroch, about nine miles from Inverness, but as there was no person at home they all went to Aberarder in Mackintosh's country." *True Journal*, p. 1.

the vanquished clansmen fleeing for their lives.¹ They soon heard also of the death of many of their nearest and dearest friends—among them James Dallas of Cantray, Angus' brother-in-law and an officer in the Clan Chattan regiment. In the few expressive words of Mr. Hossack, Provost of Inverness in 1745, "the brunt of the battle fell on Clan Chattan," for out of the twenty-one officers of the Clan Chattan regiment eighteen were left dead on the field.

By his wife Anne, daughter of Dallas of Cantray,² Angus had three sons and two daughters:—

Alexander.

Æneas, who served in the first American War as Captain in the Queen's Rangers (64th Foot). He rose to the rank of Major-General in the Army, was Adjutant-General of the Canadian Militia, and a Member of the Legislative

¹ A kinswoman of the writer's, making a communication to a periodical in September 1872 on the transmission of historic recollections, mentions the following circumstances:—"My grandfather, Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Shaw, was a little child when the battle of Culloden was fought. His home was within sight of the muir. Amid the din of battle and the dismay caused by the defeat of Prince Charlie, the child was forgotten; towards evening a hue and cry was made for him, and he was found asleep in an empty malt cart in the yard. When roused he said he had gone there to hide from the big guns. That was in 1746. My mother (his daughter) died a few months ago (in January 1872), aged 75, from whom I heard this. My grandfather was at the taking of Quebec, and saw the death of General Wolfe." A son of Alexander's died so recently as in November 1875, and a grandson who remembers him is still living (aged 80 years).

² Anne's sister Agnes married Duncan Mackintosh of Castle Leathers, and was mother of Alexander, twenty-fourth chief of Mackintosh, and great-grandmother of the present chief.

Council of Upper Canada. He died of fatigue in the American War of 1813, leaving five sons (*Alexander, Richard, Charles, Æneas, and David*, all officers in the army) and five daughters (*Isabella*, married John Powel, son of the Chief Justice of Upper Canada; *Anne*, married John Baldwin; *Sophia*; *Mary*; and *Charlotte*), mostly settled at Oak Hill (*i.e.* Tordarroch) near Toronto.

John, 68th Regiment, in which he rose to the rank of Major. He was killed in action with a privateer on a voyage to the West Indies. One of his brother lieutenants in the 68th in 1776 was his second cousin John Mackintosh, father of Sir James Mackintosh.

Anne, unmarried.

Margaret,¹ married Farquhar Macgillivray of Dalcrombie, one of the three officers of the Mackintosh Regiment who escaped from Culloden. She died in 1833.

ALEXANDER, eldest son of Angus, received a commission in the 60th or Royal American regiment of

¹ Margaret Shaw or Macgillivray was in her time, as I have been told by those who knew her, a living encyclopædia of Highland legendary and family history. From an old Bible which belonged to her I first obtained the names of the several heads of the family of Tordarroch, from Adam, grandson of Shaw Mor, to her brother Alexander, only the name of Adam's son Robert being omitted. The general correctness of her genealogy I succeeded in proving in every particular, as the text shows, by the aid of documents of various kinds and occasional notices in the Mackintosh MSS. and elsewhere.

foot in 1756, and in 1776 was senior lieutenant and adjutant of the fourth battalion of that regiment. He served in America in the War of 1754-60 with the French, and during part of his service was aide-de-camp to General Prevost. At the capture of Quebec in 1759 he was severely wounded. After the close of the American War of Independence he quitted the army, and returned to live for a short time on his inheritance.¹ In 1790 (26th November) he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man, and held this post until about 1804, when he resigned it in favour of Lord Henry Murray, a brother of the Duke of Athole, then titular sovereign of the island. During his tenure of the Lieutenant-Governorship, Alexander was Commandant of the Manx Fencibles.

He was the last Shaw actually "of Tordarroch," for on the entail of the Mackintosh estates by Sir Æneas Mackintosh, the wadset under which he and his predecessors had held the lands for two centuries and a half was redeemed, and Tordarroch returned into the direct possession of the family of Mackintosh. He also disposed of Wester Leys to Fraser of Culduthel, and with the proceeds purchased a company for his eldest son, who, however, died very shortly afterwards.

¹ He is mentioned by the Rev. Lachlan Shaw in the *History of Moray* (1775), p. 124.—"Above Inverarnie, on the side of Nairn, is Tordarroch, the seat of Alexander Shaw, an ancient branch of the Shaws of Rothimureus. This family's heritage is Wester Leys in the Parish of Croy, but they hold Tordarroch in lease of MacIntosh, and have resided in it above two hundred years."

Alexander was twice married. By his first wife, Charlotte, daughter of the Rev. John Stewart, Episcopal minister in Inverness, he had two sons,—

1. *Aneas*, Captain 39th Regiment, died in Guadeloupe, West Indies, in 1795, unmarried.
2. *John*.

By his second wife, Anne Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Blanckley,¹ he had four sons and four daughters. The sons were

3. *Henry*, Ensign unattached,² died unmarried.
4. *Charles*, Ensign 91st Regiment,² and Lieutenant 17th Regiment; drowned in Glenluce Bay, in 1804, on his way from Dublin to attend his mother's funeral; unmarried.
5. *Claudius*, born 12th February 1791, named after his godfather, the Right Rev. Claudius Crigan, Bishop of Sodor and Man, by whom he was educated until old enough to be sent to the Military College at Marlow. He was appointed Gentleman Cadet in the Royal Regiment of Artillery in 1805, and in 1809 received his commission as second lieutenant. After serving three years in Gibraltar and

¹The Blanckleys were a Hampshire family, and representatives—in the female line—of the family of Raleigh, to which Sir Walter Raleigh belonged. They possessed various relics of that great man. The family of Blanckley is believed to be now extinct in the male line.

²As was customary in those days, both Henry and Charles were commissioned officers from infancy. Henry never performed military duty, but was on half-pay all his life.

Malta, he joined the British Army in Spain on the retreat from Burgos in 1812, and was attached to the Battering Train until the conclusion of peace in 1814. He had the Peninsular War Medal, with clasps for San Sebastian and the Nive. From France he went direct to America, and served with the Artillery in the war on the Niagara Frontier. In the War of 1835—7 in Spain he was Colonel in command of the Artillery of the British Legion, under Sir De Lacy Evans, and for his services was made a Knight Grand Cross and a Knight of the Second Class of the Order of San Fernando,¹ and received various decorations besides. He was also a Knight of the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

He married (in 1817) Archange, daughter of Angus Mackintosh, 25th of Mackintosh, and had issue *Alexander Æneas* (father of Alexander Mackintosh and Mary Elizabeth); *Duncan Blanckley* (Lieutenant of Artillery in the British Auxiliary Legion in Spain,

¹The first of these distinctions was "for meritorious conduct generally, and particularly on 28th May 1836;" the second "for the assault and occupation of the town, and the capture of the fort, of Yrun, on 16th and 17th May 1837." The taking of Yrun was judged worthy of commemoration by the striking of a medal, which in the case of Colonel Shaw and the other superior officers was of gold. For further details of Colonel Shaw's service see *Hart's Army List* for 1856, p. 664. See also Nicholas Carlisle's *Orders of Knighthood* (Lon., 1839), pp. 414—5.



afterwards Captain Stirlingshire Militia), died unmarried; *John*; *Samuel Page*, died unmarried; *Charles*, married and has issue; *Anne Louisa Augusta*, married the Rev. Samuel Cutler Hooley, now Vicar of Tharston, Norfolk, and has five sons and one daughter; and *Isabella Henrietta*, married her cousin, the Rev. John Ellis Troughton, late Rector of Aberhafesp, Montgomery, and has also five sons and one daughter.

Colonel Claudius Shaw died 10th November 1875, in his eighty-fifth year.

6. *Duncan William*, Lieutenant-Colonel 20th Bengal N.I., sometime Resident at Baroda, died in India, leaving one son, *Alexander Duncan*.

Alexander had also four daughters, *Anne*, *Elizabeth*, *Millicent*, and *Augusta*, the last of whom was wife of the Rev. Samuel Flood Page, and died in 1872, leaving two sons,—*Alexander Shaw*, Vicar of Selsley, Gloucestershire, married and has issue; *Samuel Flood*, formerly Lieutenant 105th Regiment, afterwards for some years Captain and Adjutant of the London Scottish Rifle Volunteers, retired with the rank of Major, is married and has issue; and two daughters,—*Millicent Anne*; and *Margaret Shaw*, married to Captain George Coussmaker younger of Westwood, Surrey, of the Bombay Staff Corps.

On the death of Alexander Shaw of Tordarroch on 30th May 1811, at Bath, he was succeeded as head of the family by his eldest surviving son, John.

JOHN, born in 1772, entered the army as ensign in the 42nd Regiment (Black Watch), with which he served in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island. In 1787, by obtaining men for him, his father procured him a lieutenancy in the 77th Regiment, which was raised in that year for service in India. With this regiment he served ten years, and rose to the rank of Captain. He was engaged in the war with Tippoo Sultan, and with his light company was one of the first to enter Seringapatam. He obtained his majority in the 40th Regiment, and his lieutenant-colonelcy in a Veteran Battalion. In the Peninsular War he was offered by Lord Beresford the command of a brigade of Portuguese, but this distinction his impaired health compelled him to decline. He died on 21st October 1835, a Major-General in the Army.

He married Anna, daughter of Andrew Nesbitt, Superintendent of the Bombay Marine, and had issue—

John Andrew.

Alexander Nesbitt, Justice of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant of Ross and Cromarty; married Georgiana, daughter of the Rev. C. Hodson, D.D., Regius Professor of Divinity, Master of Brazenose College, Oxford, and Vice-Chancellor of the University. He died on 4th August 1872, leaving issue *Charles Forbes Hodson*; *Donald*, Captain 86th Regiment; *Vero Kembell*, B.A. Cantab.; *Charlotte Stuart*, married David Sturrock, M.D., late

Bombay Army; *Marianne*, married Lieutenant-Colonel John Macintyre, Royal Artillery; *Anna Frances*, married her cousin Colonel, now Major-General, Sir Arnold Kemball, C.B.; *Julia Reid*, married James Gibbs, Judge in the High Court of Bombay and Member of Council.

Donald William, died in India, leaving one daughter, Anna Caroline.

Marianne, married Vero Kemball, and had issue *George Carwardine*, Captain Bombay Lancers, deceased; *Arnold Burrowes*, Major-General in the Royal Artillery, Knight Commander of the Order of the Star of India, and Military Companion of the Order of the Bath, married his cousin Anna Frances, as above mentioned; *John*, Major-General Bombay Army; *Vero Seymour*, Captain Bombay Artillery, deceased (father of *Vero Shaw*, Trinity Hall, Cambridge); *Alexander Donald*, Cornet Bombay Lancers, deceased; *Charles Gurdon*, Judge in the High Court of Bombay; *Rose*; and *Sarah Henrietta*, married Charles Frederick Crokat of Summerhill, Kent.

Isabella Forbes.

Elmira Riddell, married Captain (afterwards Admiral) Sir Charles Malcolm, R.N., and was mother of Captain George Malcolm, R.N.

JOHN ANDREW, eldest son of Major-General John Shaw, and present representative of the Shaws of

Tordarroch, was born in 1797. After some years' service in India he succeeded in 1842 (as heir of entail in right of his paternal grandmother) to the possession of the estate of Newhall, in the counties of Ross and Cromarty—formerly part of the lands of the Urquharts, hereditary Sheriffs of Cromarty. In consequence of this he added to his surname that of Mackenzie, and quartered the arms of Mackenzie. He is Justice of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant for Ross and Cromarty; and is married, but has no issue. The heir-apparent to the headship of the family of Shaw of Tordarroch and to the estate of Newhall is his nephew,

CHARLES FORBES HODSON, eldest son of the late Alexander Nesbitt Shaw, and at present a Judge in the Bombay Presidency. He married Ellen, daughter of Major-General John Ramsay, and has issue *Vero Kemball*, B.A. Cantab.; *John Alexander*; *George Malcolm*; *Charles Frederick Dillon*; *Arthur Cokat*; *Grenville Reid*; *Alexander Nesbitt Robertson*; *Anna Catherine*; and *Ellen Isabella*.

APPENDIX.

I. ROTHIMURCUS AND LOCH-AN-EILAN.

ROTHIMURCUS, the district with which the name of Shaw is most closely connected, is situated in the county of Inverness, and lies between the districts of Strathspey and Badenoch on the north and south, and between the River Spey and the Brae Riach and Cairngorm mountains on the west and east. Ecclesiastically it forms a portion of the Parish of Duthil, having been annexed in 1630, though retaining its church and glebe. The church was dedicated to Saint Tughaldus.

In the charter by Alexander II. to the Bishop of Moray, dated at Stirling 31st March 1226, the name is spelt *Rotemorchos*. Two centuries later we find it spelt *Ratamorkos*, and in the sixteenth century *Rathamurchus*. The name is generally supposed to mean "the great plain or stretch of firs" (*Rathad-mor-ghuibhais*). It may, however, be *Rath* or *Roth-morghuibhais*, the great fort of the firs—*Rath*, *Rait*, or *Roth*, according to Colonel J. A. Robertson,¹ being "a round earthen fort or stronghold." A mound which has every appearance of having been used in ancient times for purposes of security and defence stands at

¹ *Concise Historical Proofs respecting the Gael of Alban* (Edin., 1866), p. 317.

the Doune of Rothimurcus, and is properly the *Doune*, or *Dun*, that is, the fortification or stronghold; and it may be from this earthen fort among the firs that the name of the district is derived.

One of the most noticeable of the natural features of the district is LOCH-AN-EILAN, the lake of the island. It lies almost under the shadow of the giant Cairngorm, and until late years was embosomed in thick pinewoods. With the grey ruins of an ancient castle on its island, it still presents features of wild and romantic beauty. It is thus described by one who wrote of it in 1843 :—

“ The Great Magician himself in his most imaginative mood could not have conjured up a lovelier spot. Hemmed in by mountain, rock, and wood,—the former towering to a great height, the latter, the growth of centuries, dipping into the water—Loch-an-Eilan truly realizes the poetical image of a mirror set in a deep and gorgeous frame. Art has also been combined with Nature to heighten the romance of the scene. In the centre of the lake is a small island, crowned with a ruined fortress, roofless, and crumbling to decay. The island is so small that the castle seems to rise directly out of the water, as if called up by a Prospero to aid the imaginations of the poet, and crown the labours of the draughtsman. A wonderful echo is formed at a point on the shore nearest to the island. It is first repeated from the ruined castle, and afterwards echoed back from every rock and crag and mountain corry that girdles in the lake, till the sound is seven times

repeated. An eagle has built her nest in the ancient pile, and has long been a denizen of the ruined tower."¹

Another writer has the following:—"Loch-an-Eilan Castle is interesting historically and traditionally, and as presenting a grand subject for the pen of a poet and the pencil of a painter. Once a stronghold of the sacrilegious Wolf of Badenoch, it may be well supposed to have been during his reign the scene of many bloody deeds and crimes to excite the poet's imagination; and for the painter we scarcely know of a scene of more varied Alpine grandeur. Loch-an-Eilan, about two miles distant from the Spey, is embosomed in an amphitheatre of lofty precipices, rising from the water's edge, crowned with woods clinging to the rocks, reflecting on the bosom of the loch the inverted shadows of the bold and rugged scenery. In the centre of the loch stands the castle, appearing at times as if rising from the water, and washed by the murmuring lake at its base. As a Highland feudal stronghold it was of considerable dimensions, and though roofless and ruinous, its lofty walls, and the imposing scenery, are awe-inspiring to the mind of the beholder."²

II. FARQUHAR SHAW OF THE BLACK WATCH IN 1743.

THE 42nd Regiment of the Line, originally embodied in 1740 as the 43rd Regiment, was formed out of

¹ *Highland Note Book*, by Robert Carruthers (Edin., 1843), p. 209.

² *Lectures on the Mountains*, by W. G. Stewart (London, 1860), 2nd Series, p. 173.

several independent companies in the Highlands, which, from the dark hue of their dress and from their being employed to check disaffection and depredations, were known as the *Black Watch*. In 1743 the Government decided to send the regiment abroad, although the men had enlisted on the understanding that their service would be confined to their own Country. Under the pretence that King George desired to review them, they were decoyed to London, but on arriving there they found that the King had left for Hanover. Having been thus once deceived, they were only too ready to give credence to rumours which were now circulated amongst them to the effect that they were to be sent to the West Indies. Rather than submit to this, a large number of them determined to return to Scotland. About one hundred started, and had proceeded as far on their way as within a few miles of Oundle in Northamptonshire when they were intercepted by a body of troops, to which they surrendered. Taken back to London, they were tried and sentenced to death; but this sentence was executed on only three of them, Malcolm and Samuel Macpherson, corporals, and Farquhar Shaw, a private. These three were accordingly shot within the precincts of the Tower of London on the 18th July 1743, meeting death like men, with a courage and resignation which affected even their executioners. The *Scots Magazine* for July 1743¹ says, "On Monday the 18th July at 6 o'clock in the

¹ Page 341.

morning, Samuel and Malcolm Macpherson, corporals, and Farquhar Shaw, a private man, three of the Highland deserters, were shot upon the parade within the Tower pursuant to the sentence of the Court Martial. The rest of the Highland prisoners were drawn out to see the execution, and joined with them in their prayers. They behaved with great decency and resolution. Their bodies were put into three coffins by three of the prisoners their namesakes, and buried in one grave near the place of execution."

The following account of Farquhar Shaw is given in a pamphlet written soon after the execution by the minister of the Church of Scotland who attended the three men from the giving of their sentence to its execution.¹—"Farquhar Shaw, aged about thirty-five years, unmarried, was born in the parish of Rothiemurcus in Strathspey and shire of Inverness. His father, Alexander Shaw, was an honest farmer, but gave his son no education, as living at a distance from schools and not in a condition to maintain him elsewhere. Farquhar lived some time by droving, but, meeting with misfortunes in that business, was reduced and obliged for subsistence to enlist in this Regiment, where he has lived till now without any reproach."

¹ Pamphlet in British Museum entitled "*The Behaviour and Character of Samuel Macpherson, Malcolm Macpherson, and Farquhar Shaw, the three Highland Deserters who were shot, &c., &c.: Also, A Plain Narrative of the Original Institution of the Regiment, containing an Impartial Account of the Rise and Progress of the late Mutiny, &c., &c., London: Printed for Mr. Cooper in Paternoster Row, 1743.*"

Samuel Macpherson, a nephew of Macpherson of Breachachie, was twenty-nine years of age, and Malcolm, son of Angus Macpherson of Driminard, thirty. "All three were men of strong natural parts," says the gentleman whose account has just been quoted, "and religiously disposed, both from habit and principle, the natural result of a good example and early instruction in the doctrine and precepts of Christianity; for I received from all of them a great deal of satisfaction when I examined them on the grounds of our holy religion; and even Shaw, who was perfectly illiterate, and could neither read nor write, was ignorant of no Christian doctrine necessary to salvation, or from whence he could draw comfort in his present circumstance. They were educated, and died, members of the Church of Scotland, though they cheerfully embraced the opportunity of receiving the Sacrament from the hands of the Reverend Mr. Paterson, who officiated for the Chaplain of the Tower, after the form of the Church of England on the Sunday preceding their execution."

It is said that the rising of 1745 was accelerated by these events, and this is very probable, for the manner in which the regiment was decoyed to London, and the punishment of the mutineers by death and transportation, would doubtless have the effect not only of impressing the clansmen in the North with a belief that the sufferers had had good reason for their attempt at escape, but of sending through them a thrill of dismay

and distrust of the Hanoverian Government. The treatment of the regiment would also, of course, be a powerful weapon in the hands of the Jacobite agents in the Highlands. "The Clan Chattan," says Henderson,¹ "observing that three of their name, to whom most of them—as the other Highlanders—were related, had fallen a sacrifice for the crime of which several Grants and Munroes were equally guilty, breathed nothing but revenge; however their resentment was smothered for a while, till it began to burn with the greater violence."

A correspondent of the Rev. W. G. Shaw, Mr. John Shaw, of St. Louis, in the United States of America, states that Farquhar Shaw was his father's uncle, and that he was born and reared at the end of the Bridge of Alvie.² During a visit to Scotland a few years ago, after an absence of some fifty years, this Mr. Shaw had a stone slab placed over the grave of Shaw Mor Coriachlich in Rothimurcus Churchyard, with an inscription commemorating his victory at Perth in 1396. In this inscription the exploits of Shaw Mor are attributed to a *Farquhar* (!) Shaw, Mr. John Shaw having a recollection that in his young days (more than half a century ago) the great leader was so designated in Rothimurcus. Of course Mr. John Shaw's recollection has played him false, and he has confounded the leader

¹ *History of the Rebellion* (Lond., 1753), p. 131.

² *Memorials of Clan Shaw* (2nd Edition), p. 56.

at Perth with his own great-uncle who was shot and buried in the Tower of London. If any memorial be substituted for the time-worn grey stone which has marked the spot for centuries, it should be one more worthy the person commemorated than is the ugly oblong slab which Mr. John Shaw has placed there; it should bear a correct inscription, and should have the approval of Shaws, Mackintoshes, and Farquharsons, all of whom have an interest in Shaw Mor Coriachlich.

III. ARMS, CRESTS, AND MOTTO.

The ARMS of the Shaws of Rothimurcus are Quarterly—First and Fourth, *Or*, a Lion Rampant *gules*, armed and langued *azure*; Second and Third, *Argent*, a fir-tree growing out of a mount in base, *all proper*; on a chief *gules*, a canton of the field charged with a dexter hand couped, fesswise, *proper*, holding a dagger erect, *gules*.

CREST.—A demi-lion *gules*, holding in the dexter paw a sword proper, erect.

MOTTO.—*Fide et Fortitudine.*

The ARMS of the Shaws of Tordarroch are slightly different in the second and third quarters. They are

Quarterly—First and Fourth, *Or*, a Lion Rampant *gules*, armed and langued *azure*; Second and Third, *Argent*, a fir-tree growing out of a mount in base, *all proper*; on a chief *gules* charged with an augmentation of the

royal standard of Scotland, a canton *of the field*, thereon a dexter hand coupé, fess-wise, *proper*, holding a dagger point downwards, *gules*. (See Title-page).

CREST.—A dexter hand and forearm coupé, holding a dagger erect, *all proper*.

MOTTO.—*Fide et Fortitudine*.

The ARMS of the Farquharsons are similar to those of the Shaws of Tordarroch with the exception that the royal standard of Scotland is *in bend*. Their crest is the same as that of the Shaws of Rothimurcus.

