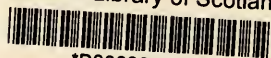


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SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE
FAMILY OF DE VAUX, VAUS, OR VANS,
(LATINE DE VALLIBUS,)
OF BARNBARROCH.





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SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE
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ON the Continent of Europe the De Vaux family have been Dukes of Andrea, Princes of Joinville, Taranto, and Altamura; Sovereign Counts of Orange and Provence; and Kings of Vienne, and Arles, &c. &c., as well as Lords de Vaux in Normandy. See Moreri, La Pise, Bouche, Ruffy, Ammirato, Ferrante della Marra, &c. &c.

Members of the Norman branch of the family accompanied the Conqueror to England in 1066, and there their descendants became Lords De Vaux, of Pentney and Beevor in Norfolk, of Gillsland in Cumberland, and of Harrowden in Northamptonshire. See Peerages by Dugdale, Collins, Banks, &c. &c.

In page 133 of Sir David Lindsay's Heraldry Certified by the Privy Council, *Vaus* is mentioned as one of "*the Sur-names of thame that come furth of Ingland with Sanct Margaret*," who married King Malcolm the Third of Scotland about the year 1070; and in page 17 of the Selection of the Harleian Miscellany by Kearsley, printed in 1793, it

is said, "Out of these confusions in England, Malcolm King of Scotland did take his opportunity for action. He received into protection many from England, who either from fear or discontentment forsook their country, of whom many families in Scotland are descended, and, namely, these, Lindesay, Vaus, Ramsay," &c. &c. Lord Hailes, Rapin, Hume, and other authorities, notice the reception of the Anglo-Normans by Malcolm.

Nisbet (Ar. Vans of Barnbarroch, ap. p. 250) says, "The learned antiquary and historian Sir James Dalrymple, observes that the ancient surname Vans, in Latin charters called De Vallibus, is the same with the name of Vaux in England, and is one of the first surnames which appear there after the conquest. One of the family came to Scotland in the time of King David the First; and in the reign of his grandson and successor Malcolm the Fourth, mention is made of Philip De Vallibus who had possessions in the south; and soon after that we find the family of Vallibus, or Vans, proprietors of the lands and barony of Dirletoun in East Lothian."

JOHN DE VALLIBUS is a witness to two charters of King Malcolm's the Fourth, the one No. 31 in the Coldingham Chartulary, and the other among the Lundin charters.*

PHILIP DE VALLIBUS is a witness to a charter by King William (the Lion), which is No. 50 in the Coldingham Chartulary.

WILLIAM DE VALLIBUS is a witness to charters granted by King William the Lion. See No. 379 in the Kelso, No. 143 in the Dunfermline, and No. 161 in the Arbroath Chartularies, and No. 8 in that of the Monastery Sacntæ Crucis Edinensis. He also made several grants to the monks of Arbroath, Dryburgh, and Durham. See these Chartularies.

* Caledonia, vol. i. p. 580. Chalmers says, "As the three first races of the Duglases were not among the *Magnates Scotiæ*, they appear not as witnesses to the charters of David I. or his grandsons, Malcolm IV. and William, or of his son, Alexander II., whatever the peerage writers may say mistakenly."

JOHN DE VALLIBUS, designed the son of William, confirmed his father's grants—see these chartularies—and was witness to charters of King William the Lion's. See No. 378 of the Kelso, and No. 48 of the Coldingham Chartulary.

In the year 1174 he was one of the hostages given to the English for the ransom of the Scots King William. See Rymer's *Fæd.* vol. i. p. 40; Prynn's *Records*, &c. &c.

JOHN, designed son of Robert De Vallibus of Ellebottl.—see Durham and Dryburgh chart.*—appears to have succeeded his unele, or cousin, the preceding John. He was witness to several charters granted by King Alexander the Second. See Arbroath, Newbottle, Dryburgh, and Cupar Chart., and he confirmed and made grants to these religious houses. See these Chartularies, and Chalmers' *Caledonia*. Also he was Sheriff of Edinburgh. See Chalmers, vol. i. p. 586, and 130 Newbottle Chart.

JOHN succeeded his father John, being designed John the Younger, D^{nus} de Dirleton, when granting 5 merks yearly out of his fair of St. James's in Roxburghshire, as a composition regarding his disputed patronage of Wilton. See No. 281 Glasgow Chart. In 1243 he gave 10 merks yearly out of his lands of Golyn to the See of Glasgow. See its Chart. Nos. 413, and 417, and p. 14, Excerpts in the Advocates' Library. In 1244 he is mentioned as one of the *Magnates* of Scotland, in the Pope's ratification of the peace between England, and Scotland. See *Mat. Paris*, p. 437; edit. 1644. In 1255 he was *one* of the barons who counselled, or rather forced, King Alexander the Third to change his minis-

* In the first half of the thirteenth century are to be found an Edward de Wallibus, witness to a charter by William, son of Patrick (Earl of Dunbar), No. 9, in the Coldstream Chartulary, and also witness to another, No. 49. A Magro. Griffino de Vallibus, witness to a charter, No. 250, in the Arbroath (Old) Chartulary. An Engelram de Vallibus, according to Sir Robert Sibbald's *History of Fife*, p. 369, edition 1803, witness to a charter to the Monks of Cupar; and a Robert de Wallibus, witness to a charter by "Earl Patrick" (of Dunbar), No. 6, in the Coldstream Chartulary. All these individuals (especially Robert) were probably of the Dirleton family, although evidence of this has not yet been obtained.

ters. See Rymer's Faed. vol. i. p. 566; edit. 1706; and Ridpath's Border History, p. 146. According to Carte's History of England, vol. ii. p. 143, a considerable body of troops was brought to Henry the Third, at the siege of Northampton, in 1264," by John Comyn, John Baliol, Lord " of Galloway, Robert de Brus, Lord of Annandale, John De " Vaux, Henry de Percy, and other Lords in the marches of " Scotland."

ALEXANDER, in the Glasgow Chart. designed the son of John, in 1267 exchanged the annuity granted by his father for one out of his mill at Haddington, and made and confirmed grants to the monks of Dryburgh. See these chartularies.

JOHN succeeded, and he is designed in the Glasgow Chart. the grandson of John De Vallibus, and son of Alexander. He confirmed this grant, and appears to have been the second husband of the illustrious Dervorgill, (the daughter of Allan Lord of Galloway, by Margaret, eldest daughter of David, Earl of Huntingdon, third son of King David the First of Scotland, and brother to Kings, Malcolm, and William,) the widow of Sir John Baliol, and mother of King John Baliol, whose claim to the Crown came to him through her.

This second marriage is not mentioned by Wyntoun, or others; but the evidence of it is to be found in the Dryburgh Chart. (Nos. 126, 127, 128, 129,) where is given a charter by Alexander de Baliol of the Wood of Gleddiswood, "*qui quondam fuit cum Domni. Johannis de Wallibus, et Dna. Dervorgill sponse sue.*" The words are repeated in the Seisine which follows, and another charter is given of Roger de Quincy's relating to the same lands. Roger de Quincy's first wife was Helen the elder, but half sister of Dervorgill, and his then wife was Alyenor, the widow of William de Vaux of Norfolk. (See Dugdale, &c. &c.) The *original* of the Dryburgh Chart. is in the Advocates' Library. This John de Vaux sat in the Parliament of Brigham in 1290, and in 1291 swore fealty, at Berwick, to Edward the First.





In 1298 he defended his castle of Dirleton against the famous Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham. In 1304, he was a principal party to the agreement between Edward of England and "John Comyn and his aydents," and according to Ryley's *Placeta Par. folio*, 369, John Comyn, Edmund Comyn, John de Graham, and John de Vaux, sealed this agreement at Strathord, 9th February, 33d of Edward the First. The sincerity of this submission seems to have been very doubtful, for in 1306 mention is made of him as a friend of Robert Bruce's, and an order is given by Edward the First to Aymer de Valence to seize on the persons of John de Vaus and Alexander de Seton, and to send them to the King, and also to seize on the castle of Dirleton, and give it to the keeping of John de Kyngeston. (See Rymer's *Faedera*, vol. ii., p. 1013.) It appears, however, that John made his peace with Edward, as on the 30th September, 1307, (See Rymer, vol. iii., p. 14,) an order is given to the Earl of Dunbar, John de Hastings, John de Fitz-Marmaduke, Robert de Keth, Alexander de Abernethi, Henry de St. Clair, Alexander de Baliol, and John de Vaus, to proceed against Robert Bruce in Galloway. (See Ridpath's *Border History*, p. 233.) John was sheriff of Edinburgh, and his daughter, Etham, was married to Sir William de Maulia of Panmure. (See Nisbet's *Heraldry*, vol. ii., part 3, p. 50.) To John succeeded

THOMAS, who is mentioned by Guthrie, and Brady, as being one of the sixty-five Earls, and Lords, who led the Scotch army at the battle of Halidon Hill, 19th July, 1333. Thomas was killed in 1346 at the battle of Nevil's Cross, near Durham, where also his successor

WILLIAM was taken prisoner. After being detained for some time in England as a prisoner, (see Rymer's *Faed.* vol. v. p. 534, 584, 599,) he returned to Scotland, and his name appears in many of the transactions of that period, especially as a party to the ransom of King David the Second, and as one of the twelve Scots nobles and knights, who obliged themselves to *compel* their king either to return to his captivity in

England, or to observe the conditions of his ransom, and of the truce concluded in 1357; and also as a witness to the execution of this treaty in England, and to its ratification in Scotland by the King and the Parliament. (See Rymer's *Faeld.* vol. vi. p. 48, 56, 58, 61, 62, and Robertson's Index, p. 108, No. 23.) William was made Steward of the Household; for in the Chamberlain Rolls of the year 1358, there is mention "*Domini Willielmi de Vaus Senescalli Domus Regis.*" King David appears also to have granted to him the keeping of the forest of Buyme and Awne, (see Robertson's Index, p. 45, No. 37;) and Patrick, Earl of March and Moray, having granted to him the Sheriffship and Constabulary of Elgin, it was confirmed to him by the King. (See Robertson's Index, p. 42, No. 19; p. 71, No. 7; p. 72, No. 25; and Reg. Mag. Sig. apud Spynie, 5th January, An. Reg. 33°.) William's death must have taken place in 1364; for in the Chamberlain Rolls of that year mention is made of the ward "*heredis Domini Willielmi de Vaux;*" and he was succeeded by his son

WILLIAM, his elder son Thomas having been killed at the siege of Berwick in 1355. (See Ridpath's *Border History*, p. 341.) This last William died in 1392, according to *Caledonia*, vol. ii. p. 410, and was succeeded by two co-heiresses; but whether they were the daughters of Thomas, or of William, is uncertain. The eldest married Sir John Halyburton, who became Lord of Dirleton, and whose family, after a few descents, ended in three sisters; Janet, married to William, second Lord Ruthven; Mariota to George, fourth Lord Home; and Margaret to George Ker of Faudenside, (see Douglas and Wood's *Peerage*, vol. i. p. 689.) The second daughter was married to Sir Patrick Hepburn, younger of Hailes, ancestor to the well-known Earl of Bothwell, the husband of Queen Mary.

Chalmers, in his account of the Dirleton family, (*Caledonia*, vol. ii. p. 436,) omits several generations, and in vol. iii. p. 396, talking of Wigtonshire, he makes a cu-





rious mistake, for he considers the Barnbarroch, and Sheuchan, families as distinct, whereas they are the same. On the same page, however, he justly observes "*the name has been changed from Vaus to Vans—a change peculiar to this shire.*" And although he does not dispute the Barnbarroch branch being descended from a younger son of the Dirleton family, he thinks Alexander Vaux, Bishop of Galloway in 1426, was the first of his name in Wigtonshire.

Nisbet says positively, (vol. ii. app. p. 250,) that the Barnbarroch branch are the only remaining heirs male of the Dirleton family, that they descend from a younger son, and although they have no charter older than 1451, "that the Vanses of that house have subsisted long before that; for a younger brother of the family, Mr. George Vans, Dean of Glasgow, was Secretary of State to King James the Second." Nisbet also says, that "now since they represent the principal family, by the rules and maxims that are laid down in heraldry, they may strike out the Mollet, the brotherly difference, and wear and carry the *Bend simple*, as they have done for some centuries." Tradition says the same, and that the first Vaux in Wigtonshire married an heiress there—it is said, a De Morville.

In an old book, entitled "*Histoire des Malheures de la France sous le Roi Jean*," publié à Paris, chez Barde, 1611, p. 103, vol. ii., are these words, "Dans ce temps la Le Comte de Douglas, et son Frere Archimbald, Seigneur de Gallovay, venoient avec 3000 Ecossais au secours du Roi. Ils firent bon service a la bataille de Poitiers, (A.D. 1356) ou ils perirent presque tous. Des Hommes de Marque, portant Bannière furent tués—André Stevard, très jeune, mais tres brave; Robert Gordone, Chevalier d'une grande famille; André Haliburtone, Homme de Cœur, et de Tête; *et André Vaus de Gallovay, le Frere d'armes du Seigneur Archimbald.* Le Comte échappa, mais Archimbald fut pris."

Barnes, Hollingshed, Abercrombie, and others, mention

Sir Andrew Vaux to have been killed at the battle of Poitiers; and this Sir Andrew is believed to have been the younger brother of Willielmus of Dirleton, who died in 1358, to have settled in Galloway, and to have been succeeded by another Sir Andrew, who, according to Dr. Brady, in his "History of the Succession of the Crown," see app. rec. 18; and Barnes, in his "History of Edward Third," p. 798, was one of those present, and consenting, to the settlement of the Scots Crown, made at Scone, in 1373.

His younger son, it is thought, was Alexander, Bishop of Galloway, from 1426 to 1451, and that he was succeeded by his eldest son

JOHN, who married E. Kennedy, and was sent, in 1437, together with Alexander Do^{nus} de Gordon, Alexander Do^{nus} de Montgomery, and Johannis Methven, Clericus, as ambassadors from James the Second of Scotland, to Henry the Sixth of England. (See Rymer's Faed. vol. ii. p. 389, &c.) Along with these persons also, he concluded a truce with England in 1438. See Ridpath's Border History, p. 404. His younger sons were Ninian, who is believed to have been Bishop of Galloway; Martin, who was Almoner, and Confessor, to James the Third, and Ambassador to Denmark in 1468, and John of Lochslin in Ross-shire.*

ROBERT, the eldest son, succeeded John, and married Lady Euphemia Graham, of the House of Menteth, who long survived him, and became the third wife of Sir William Stewart, the ancestor of the Earl of Galloway. Robert received from the Earl of Douglas, Lord of Galloway, stabbed at Stirling by King James Second, a charter of the lands of Barnbarroch, dated 26th January 1451, which was ratified by the Crown 13th August of the same year, and renewed at Kirkcudbright 26th October 1453, by James, become Earl of Douglas and Lord of Galloway. In this renewal the

* The Lochslin branch ended in females about the year 1600; and about the same period, and in the same manner, ended the Vauses of Manie, in Aberdeenshire, a branch certainly connected with the Barnbarroch family, but how does not appear.

Earl styles Robert “*dilecto consanguineo nostro*,” and as far as is known, these words were used because Earl James had then married “*the Fair Maid of Galloway*,” who was the daughter of Archibald, fifth Earl of Douglas, by his second wife Lady Euphemia Graham, of the house of Strath-erne, who afterwards married James, first Lord Hamilton, and was cousin to her namesake, married to Robert Vaus. His younger sons were Thomas, ambassador to England in 1457, (Faed. vol. xi. p. 389, &c.) Dean of Glasgow, Secretary to the King, and Keeper of the Privy Seal (see Chartulary of Moray); George, Bishop of Galloway, Dean of the Chapel-Royal of Stirling, and one of the conservators of the peace with England, concluded at Aytoun 30th September 1493, (see Rymer’s Faed. vol. xii. p. 674; Keith’s Cat. &c.) and Patrick, Prior of Whitehorne. Robert was succeeded by

BLAIZE, his eldest son, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir John Shaw of Haillie, a Privy Councillor, and Ambassador from Scotland to Denmark, and widow of Sir John Stewart of Garlies, who had predeceased his father Sir William above mentioned. Their son

PATRICK succeeded, and his seisin is dated 26th February 1482; but, from the “*Acta Auditorum*,” 9th October 1483, it appears that “Patrick Vaus, and George, Bishop of Galloway, his tutor” and uncle, were obliged to bring an action of “removing against Sir William Stewart, Knight, and “Euphame his spouse, donators of his entry, for withholding “the landis of Barneberach.” This was the Euphemia mentioned as Patrick’s grandmother, and he married Margaret, daughter of John, second Lord Kennedy, one of the Regents of Scotland, and grandson of the Princess Mary, daughter of King Robert the Third; by Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander, Lord Montgomerie, ancestor of the Earls of Eglintoun. Their son

JOHN succeeded in 1528, and married Janet, daughter and heiress of Sir Simon M’Culloch of Myretoun, chief of the name, keeper of the Palace of Linlithgow, and a Privy Coun-

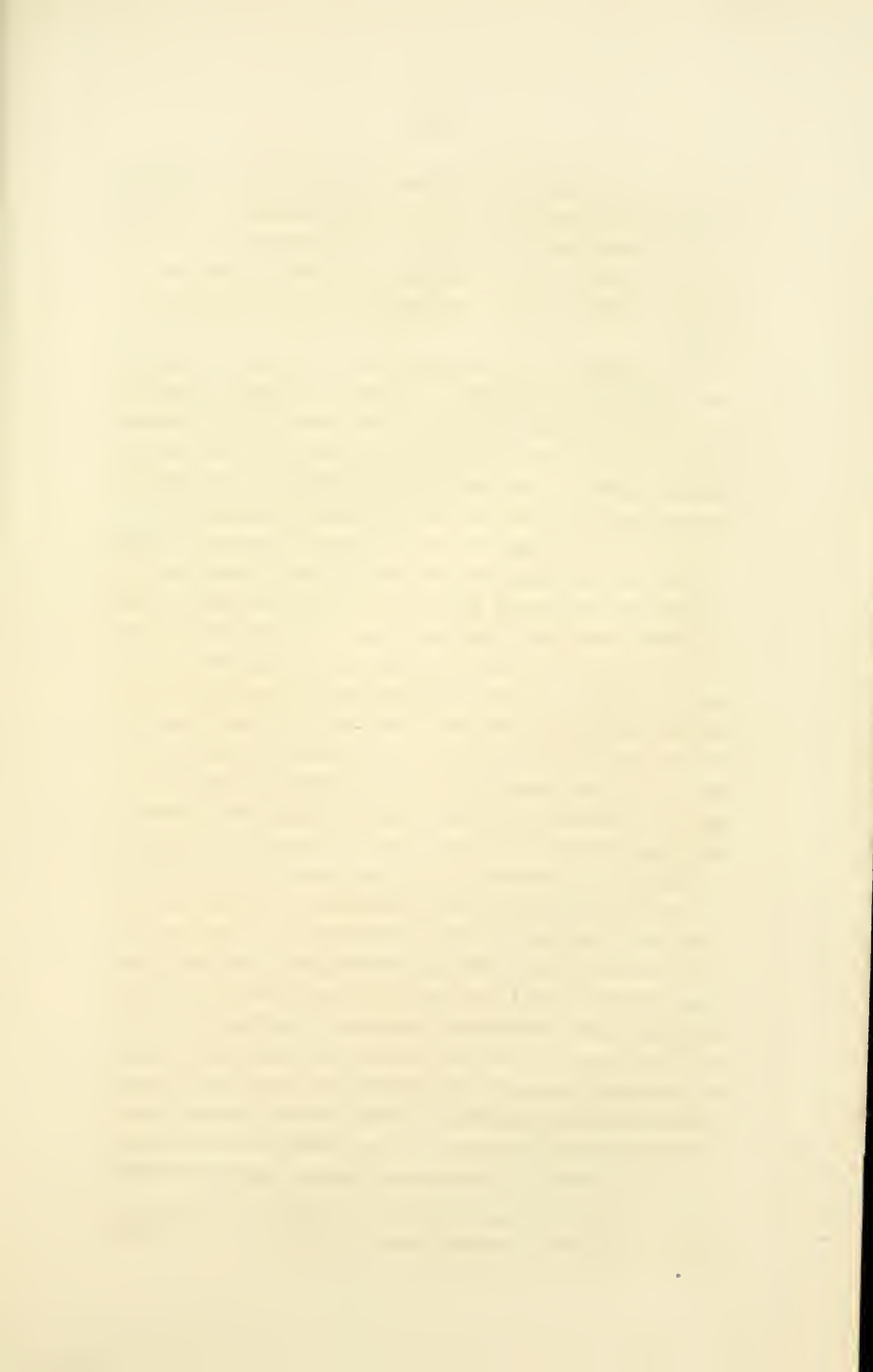
cillor; by M. daughter of Gordon of Lochinvar, ancestor to the Viscounts Kenmure. This marriage brought into the family the hereditary Coronership, or Crownership* of Wigtonshire; and Sir John having been killed in 1547 at the battle of Pinkie, or Pinkescleugh, he was succeeded by his son

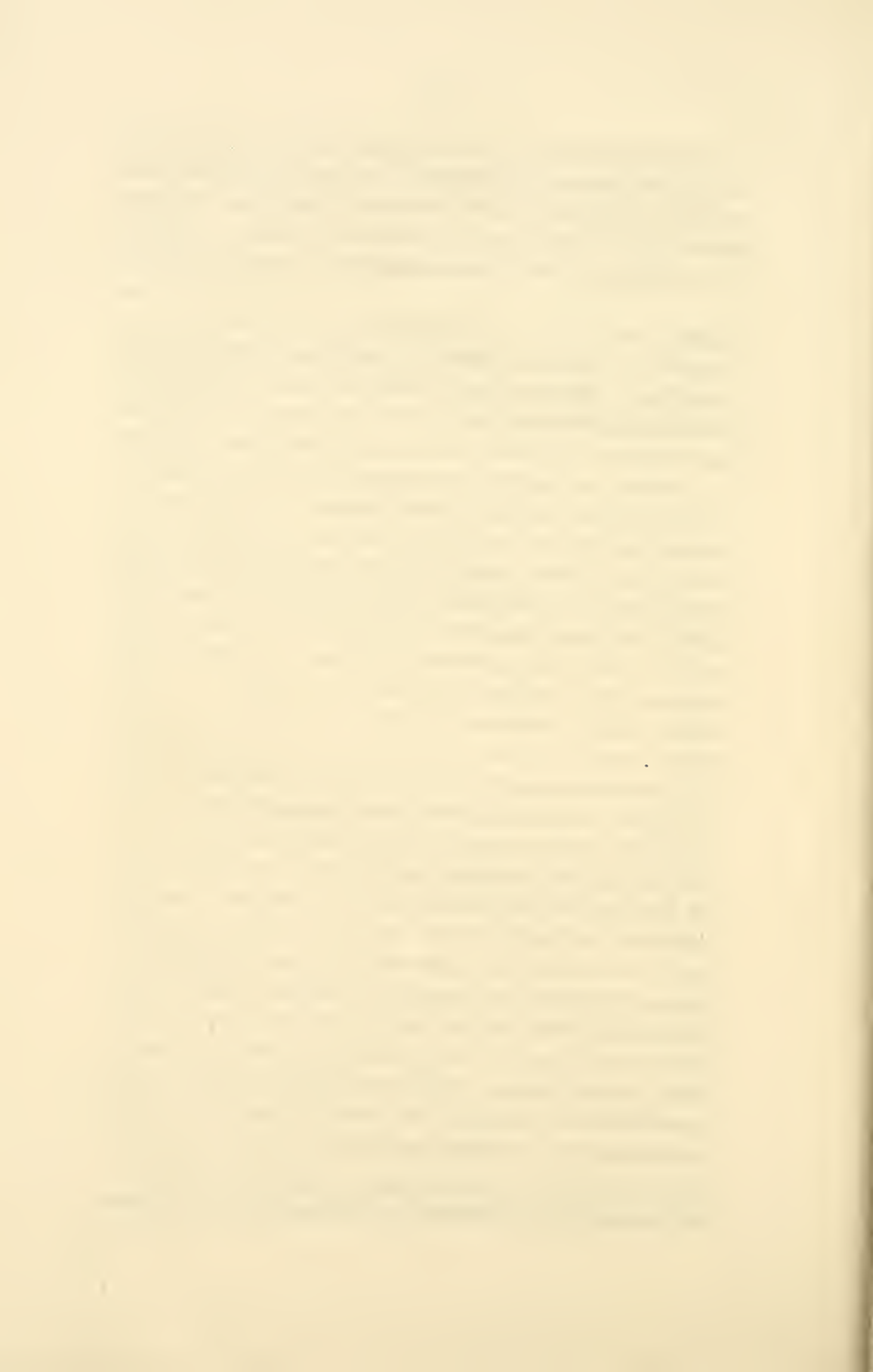
ALEXANDER, who married, first, Lady Janet, daughter of David, first Earl of Cassilis, by Agnes, daughter of William, Lord Borthwick, and secondly, Euphemia, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Dunbar of Moehum, by Elizabeth, daughter of Mungo Muir of Rowallan, and having no issue male, he was succeeded in 1568 by his brother

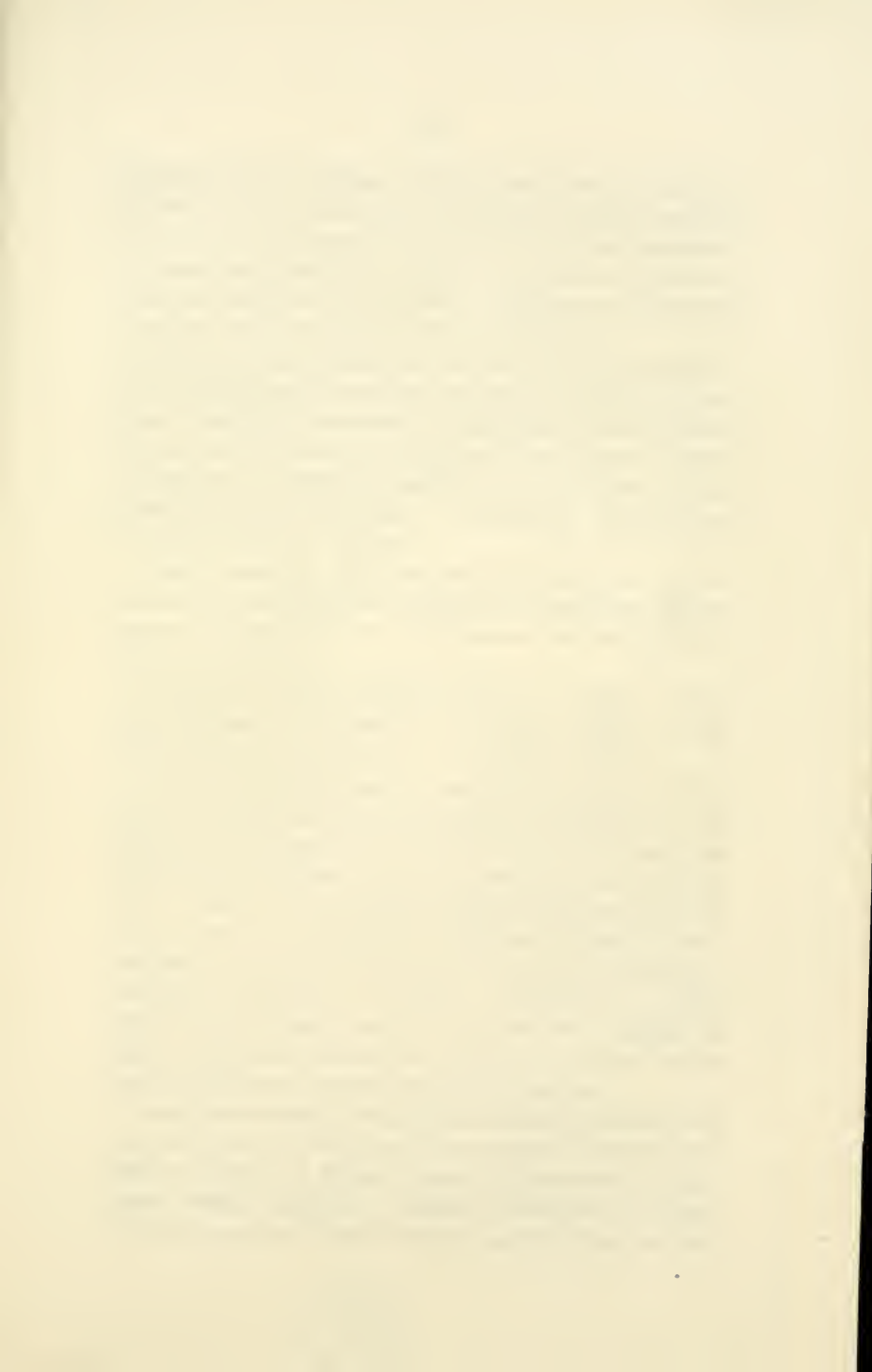
PATRICK, who married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Hugh Kennedy of Girvan Mains, by Lady Janet Stewart, daughter of the second Earl of Athol; and secondly, Lady Catherine, daughter of Gilbert, third Earl of Cassilis, Lord High Treasurer of Scotland, by Margaret, daughter of Kennedy of Bargeny. Lady Catherine was widow of Sir William Wallace of Craigie, and after Sir Patriek's death, married, thirdly, Sir William M'Lellan of Auehlean, Tutor of Bombay. Sir Patriek was of the Privy Council, a Judge, Ambassador to Denmark, and one of the Commissioners appointed to govern the kingdom during the royal absence; and having no sons by his first marriage, he was succeeded in 1597 by

JOHN, his son, by the second marriage, who had to wife, Margaret, daughter to Uchtred M'Dowall of Garthland, by Margaret, daughter to Henry Stewart, first Lord Methven. Lord Methven was High Chancellor, and Treasurer of Scotland, and third husband of Margaret of England, the widow of King James the Fourth; but, by her, Lord Methven had no surviving issue,—his children were by Lady Janet Stewart above-mentioned, daughter of John, second Earl of Athol. When not of age, Sir John was appointed Commendator of the famous abbey of Crossraguel, which, a few years before,

* The Crowner of each county, or district, commanded the troops raised in it, and attached all those guilty of breaches of the King's Peace.—*See Dr. Jamieson's Dict. &c. &c.*







had been the scene of those cruelties, (mentioned in Pitcairn's History of the Kennedys,) from which Sir Walter Scott has sketched his torturing of the Jew in *Ivanhoe*,—see signature by James the Sixth, 1587. Sir John was of the Privy Council, and a gentleman of the Privy Chamber to James the Sixth, and was succeeded in 1642 by his son

PATRICK, who married Grizel, the widow of Sir Robert Maxwell, of Spotts and Orchardton, and daughter of John Johnston, of Annandale, (ancestor of the Marquisses of Annandale,) Warden of the Western Marches, and Lord Justice General of Scotland; by Margaret, daughter to Sir W. Scott, of Buccleuch, ancestor of the Dukes of Buccleuch. Patrick died in 1673, and their eldest son

JOHN succeeded. He dissipated the greater part of the estates, and leaving no issue male by his wife, Grizel, daughter of Sir John M'Culloch of Myretoun, was succeeded in 1696 by his brother

ALEXANDER, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, by Agnes, daughter of Sir John M'Culloch of Myretoun. In 1709 their son

PATRICK succeeded, and an accumulation of debts forced him to sell every thing, but the barony of Barnbarroch. He represented Wigtonshire in the first Union Parliament, and afterwards the Wigton district of boroughs; and married, first, a daughter of Sir James Campbell of Lawers, by whom he had a son, who died without issue; and second, Barbara, daughter of Patrick M'Dowall of Freugh, by a daughter of Haltridge of Dromore, in Ireland. Colonel Vans retired from the army pretty early in life, but died suddenly in 1733, owing to the breaking out of a wound received at the battle of Almanza, and was succeeded by his son

JOHN, who under a mutual entail assumed the name and arms of Agnew of Sheuchan, having married Margaret, only child and heiress of Robert Agnew of Sheuchan; by Margaret, another daughter of Patrick M'Dowall of Freugh. The M'Dowalls of Freugh became Earls of Dumfries; and



the title is now enjoyed by the Marquis of Bute, in right of his mother, who was the daughter and heiress of the late Earl.

ROBERT succeeded to his father John, in 1780, and married Frances, daughter of John Dunlop of Dunlop; by Frances, only surviving child of Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie, Bart. Robert died in 1809, leaving three sons—John, Patrick, and Henry Stewart; and three daughters—Margaret, Frances Georgina, and Anna Maria.

JOHN succeeded, and having died unmarried, he was followed in 1825 by

PATRICK, now living.

The arms of *Vans of Barnbarroch*, are—Ar. a Bend Gules, —see the Work of Sir David Lyndsay of the Mount, p. 59; “Wauss Lord Dyriltoun of Auld.” Crest, a Lion rampant, holding scales in the dexter paw. Motto—“Be Faithful.” Supporters, two savages, with clubs in their hands, and wreathed about the middle with laurel. See Nisbet, vol. i. p. 92, and vol. ii. p. 252. These arms were cut on a stone, built into the old house of Barnbarroch, and on which also were the initials, I.V. and E.K., and the date, 1433.

The Evidences of the Barnbarroch descent, are almost all to be found there.







Dear Sir,

I will beg pardon of your good friend for the
few unintended copies of the little sketch of my journey
which have been printed, only because, printing is ^{light}
so soon, and cheap, then much copying - and then

Ever very truly your Obedt^l
Henry J. May -

Edin^g 7th March 1832 -

To Robt Pitcairn Esq
50. Castle Street

46 7 497

