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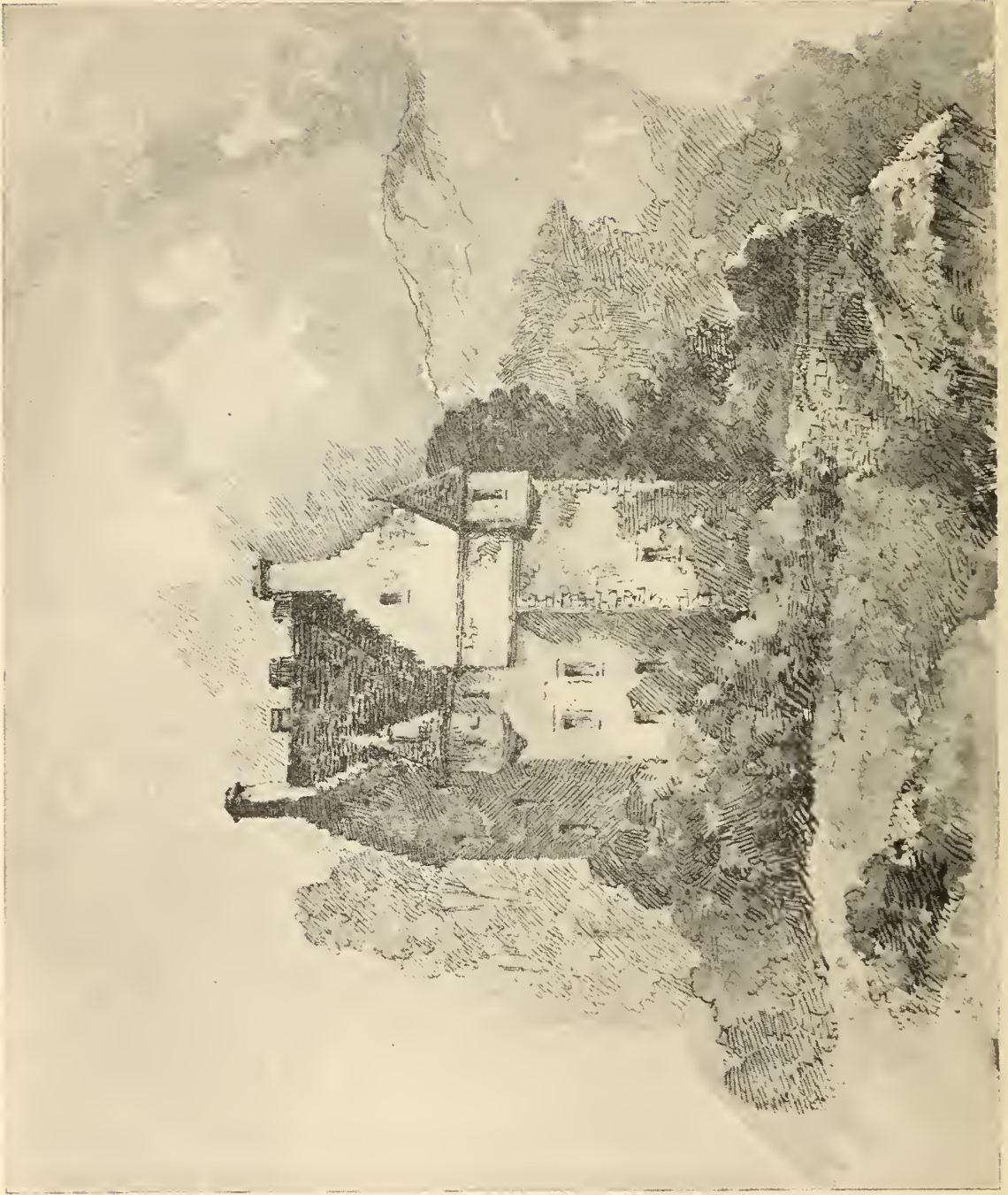
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Old Kilbryde Castle.

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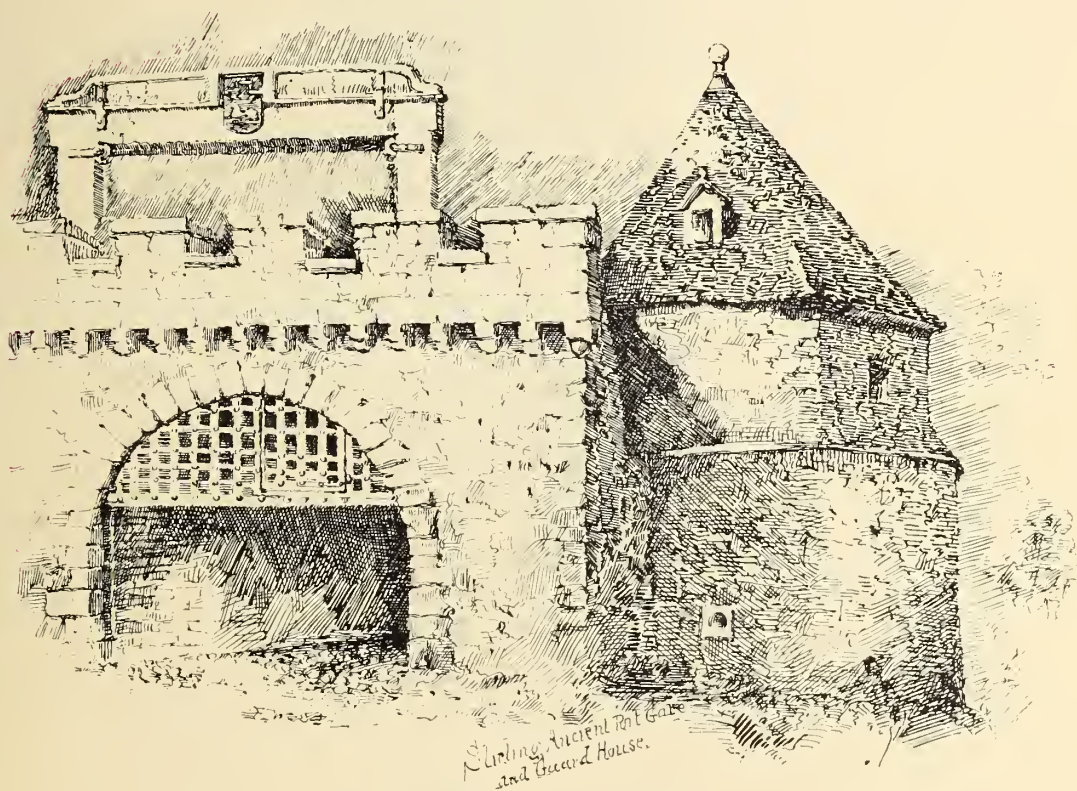
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By

J. S. FLEMING, *f.r.s.a. (Scot.)*

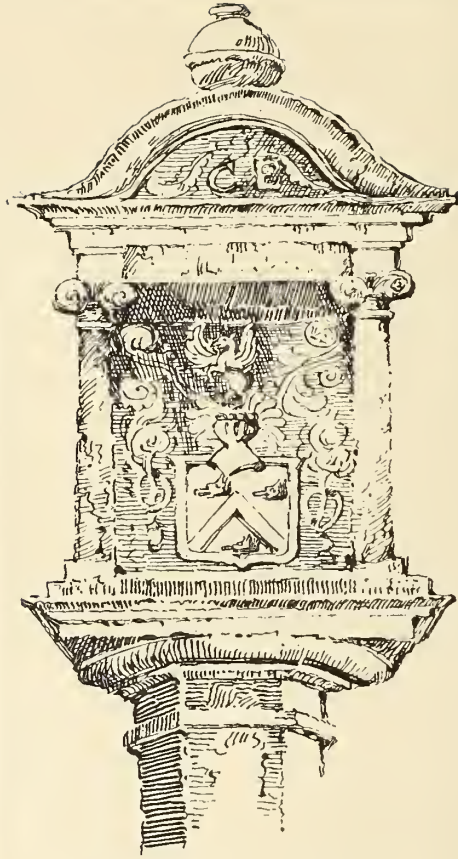
*Author of "Old Lodgings of Stirling,"
"Old Nooks of Stirling" &c.*

WITH PEN AND INK SKETCHES BY THE AUTHOR.



*Stirling Ancient Port Gate
and Guard House.*

PAISLEY and LONDON, ALEXANDER GARDNER,
Printer by appointment to the late QUEEN.



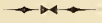
Birth Market Crass

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Preface.



WHILE engaged in collecting materials for the compilation of my small book on *The Old Ludgings of Stirling*, it occurred to me that the scope of my investigations might with advantage be considerably extended. Frequent references to country houses in the neighbourhood and to intricate genealogical complications tempted me to pursue the subject further, and to devote the scanty leisure which the exigencies of my professional work allowed to the discovery and delineation of the mansions and fragments of mansions still remaining in the vicinity. I engaged in this fascinating work without the least intention of publishing the result of my labours; but as my sketches accumulated, and as many of them represented the remains of ancient buildings not hitherto illustrated or even noticed, many friends, in whose judgment I have confidence, recommended the publication of the whole series.

The favourable reception accorded to my smaller work, *The Old Ludgings*, has encouraged me to persevere with my investigations, and also to hope that the light thrown on the domestic habits and social relationships of the Gentry more immediately connected with the Royal Burgh about 400 years ago and since, and also on the domestic architecture of that interesting period, may be regarded as a sufficient justification for the publication of this volume.

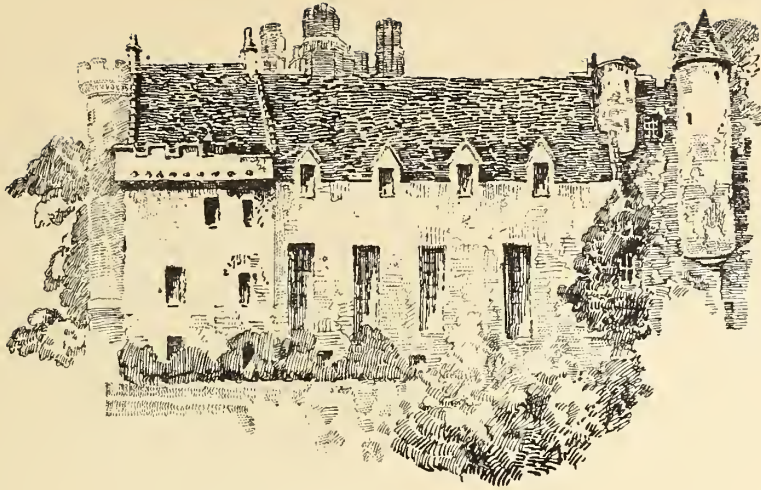
It was of course only natural that during the Jacobean period, when Stirling was so frequently the residence of the Court, many houses of considerable architectural pretension should be erected in and

around the town. Unfortunately, few of these now stand. Some have been so much altered and added to as to be almost unrecognisable. Some have been superseded by mansions in a style more consistent with modern ideas, in which case the older buildings have been utilised as lodgings for workmen, or stable accessories, or worse still, have been left neglected and allowed to fall into ruin ; while in other instances only a dovecot, gateway, or a moss-grown dial, bearing weather-worn sculptured crests and initials, is left to mark the spot where the ancient family mansion stood. In other instances it was not without considerable difficulty that the exact position and character of the original building could be ascertained.

I must acknowledge with gratitude my obligations to the proprietors of the various old houses which I visited for their uniform courtesy and kindness in affording me every facility for gaining the information I desired. My thanks are especially due to Mr. H. M. Shaw Stewart, M.P., of Carnock, the late Colonel Stirling of Gargunock, Colonel Wilson, Bannockburn House, Mr. James Aitken of Darroch, and the Hon. Mrs. Livingston of West Quarter ; also to Sir James Balfour Paul, Lyon King-at-Arms, for his most valuable assistance, always so cheerfully given, in deciphering doubtful family bearings, crests, and initials, and to Mr. J. W. Campbell, Stirling, and Mr. Galbraith, Town Clerk, for free access to the Burgh Registers at all times.

The illustrations have all been sketched by the author from the existing remains, with the exception of Kinnaird, West Quarter, Callander, and Keir old mansions, representing buildings which have now entirely disappeared or been rebuilt.

J. S. F.



Birth Castle.

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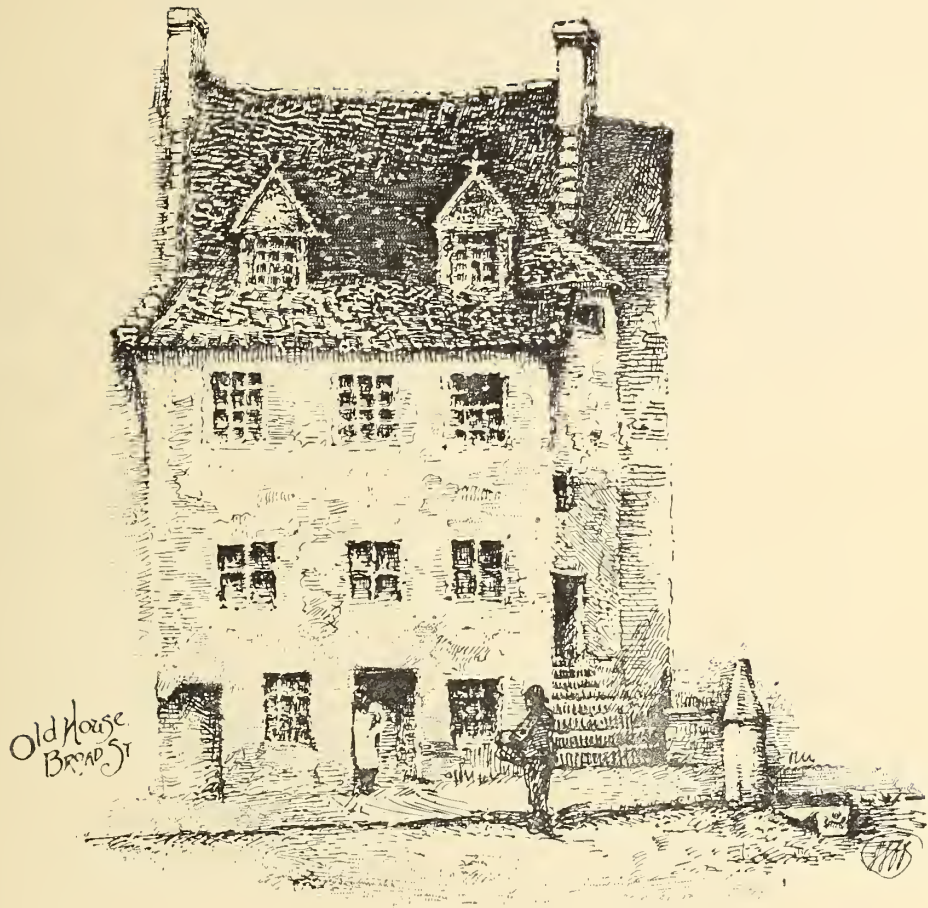
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Old House
Broad St



Ancient Castles and Mansions of Stirling Nobility.

CHAPTER I.

Town Houses or Ludgings.

“The Town House of a Nobleman was termed his LUDGING in Old Scotch.”—*Lord Lindsay.*



F the ancient Town Houses or LUDGINGS of the Nobility, Officials, and Gentry, most existed, although in more or less delapidated condition and ruined state, until the year 1784, up to which year the Town of Stirling retained its ancient condition almost unaltered for many centuries previously, with the exceptions of the clearance of ruined Houses in 1671 and of the obstructive outshots and forestairs in narrow neck of St. Mary's Wynd, by special Act of Parliament in 1705,

Dr. Rogers says : “Up to the former date many of the ancient buildings are alleged to have borne early dates of erection almost incredible. A stone in an old ruined building taken down on south side of Broad Street, the ancient High Street, is alleged to have had the date 1111, and in a passage, or close, in St. John Street leading to the old Episcopalian Church, a stone in a building bore the almost impossible date of 1000.” *

The Town became a permanent Royal residence (although it was so for longer or shorter periods at intervals so far back as the reign of Alexander I. and subsequent kings) in the reign of David I., when it grew from a comparatively small country town of that semi-barbarous era to the size it had attained in the middle of the sixteenth century, principally through the residence of the Regents, Nobility and High Church dignitaries attending the Court, and then remained stationary for several centuries. During the sixteenth century, Queen Mary's reign, it became more the residence of the Nobility than at any other marked period, and many substantial and elegant structures were then erected, some of which, although ruined, still shew an advanced ornamental domestic architecture commanding our admiration. These are principally in courts and back closes.

In this Queen's troublous time, it was the scene of more important historical transactions and events than even Edinburgh, the capital itself. The whole of the streets, except the “Hie Gait” proper, or Market Square, now Broad Street, (which from the addition

* NOTE.—*It is incredible*, for one reason, it was not the fashion at that early period to affix names and dates on domestic buildings, and the weather effects of ten centuries would efface or make illegible any inscriptions; and the dates may probably be 1511 and 1600, the figure 5 in its ancient form being very similar and often taken for an I.

of fronts added to several old houses is shewn to have been then some 25 feet broader than at present) were little better than narrow lanes, for the most part called "Vennals" and "Raws," and irregular and confined.

It was asserted that notwithstanding its granite rocky foundation, parts of the high grounds were of a mossy character, and that a few of the older houses there were discovered to have been founded on planks or trees where these soft parts existed. The mossy subsoil on the surface of the rock is attributed to the remains of an ancient forest, which tradition ascribes as having covered a considerable part of the upper Town, Gowan hills, and Castle Rock, and which forest trees, in Pont's Topographical Map of 1654, are depicted as then also studding the Royal Park. No trace of roots of trees of such a forest has ever been found either in Castle Hill or in cultivating the King's Park, and Pont is not always a reliable authority.

The Town proper, very small in dimensions, surrounded by a south wall supplementing its natural physical defences on the north, was entered from the east by an archway, which Dr. Rogers describes as "of ponderous masonry, flanked by two towers, 20 feet thick, secured by a huge iron gate and portcullis, containing within its walls a guard room; and from the north by the river Forth, the bridge over which was secured by an archway with an iron gate," no regular built wall on the north side seeming necessary beyond rough, irregular, loose stone work, parts composed of enormous stones, supplementing the steep declivity of the ground on this side. No part of the ancient Town has been less interfered with than the Castle Hill and its houses, its original condition being almost preserved, and not the slightest trace of a *regular* built wall, as a continuation

of the south Town wall, exists, or is shewn, in the various ancient illustrations of the Town and Castle of the end of the seventeenth century, to have existed there. The public way seems to have led from an area at the present Grammar School, up the Castle Rock, and divided about half-way to the Castle, one branch going to the Castle, and the other leading down the north declivity to the lower Castle Hill, and through its valley westward to the pass of Ballingeich. Here a bye gate in a rough dyke named the "great wall" because of its representing the Town wall such as it was, seems to have been placed on the declivity of the continuation of the present road between the upper and lower Castlehill, about the position of the group of figures on this Sketch. The line of foundations of the



View of Old Playfield
from Site of Upper King Stables. 1854

old houses indicate this direction, and this state existed before the recent new road was cut through to Ballingeich. There were in addition various bye or side gates of simpler character for the convenience of the Burgesses in St. Mary's and Friars' Wynds, etc. It is in mind, also, that in 1746, a period when traces of any wall would exist, that the Magistrates gave as a justification for surrendering the Town to Prince Charles, that it had no wall on the *north* side except "slight dykes and hedges."

It may be a coincidence merely, but it seemingly confirms this view as regards Stirling, the rock being of nearly similar configuration on its north side to Edinburgh, that Mr. Peter Miller, in an article read to the Scottish Antiquarian Society in 1887, remarked regarding the ancient Edinburgh wall, that it was not continued on the *north* side, and assigns a similar reason—that at that date the northern side of the edge of rock, including part of High Street, was a steep cliff furnishing sufficient natural defence.

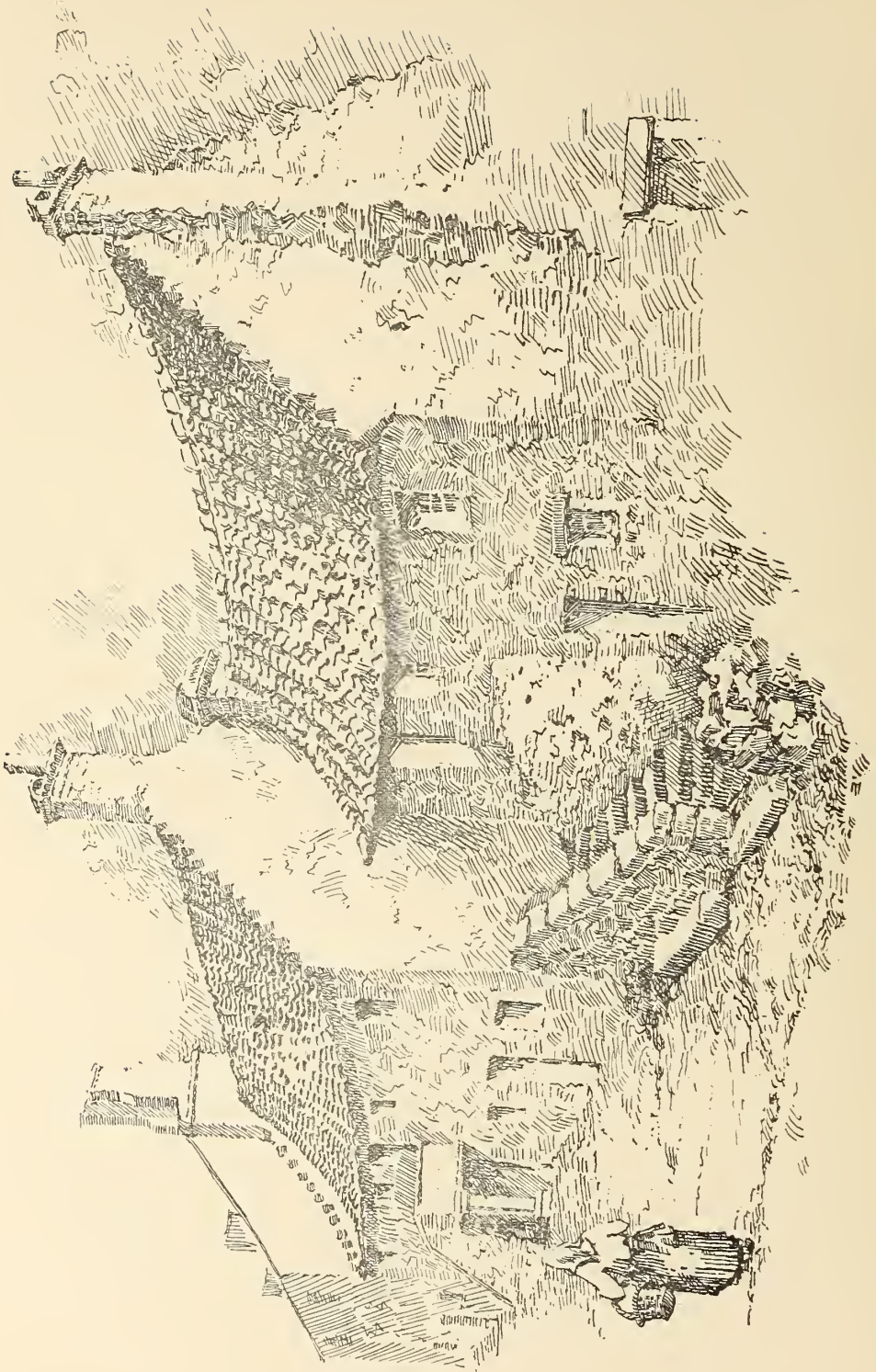
The Town was, in the sixteenth century, of a very limited area: no buildings of an earlier period than the beginning of the eighteenth century lie outside the limits comprehending Broad Street, St. John Street, Spittal Street, and Baker Street to the Infirmary, St. Mary's Wynd to the King's Stables, with an exception hereinafter noted. The old Burgh Records, about 1473, mention only High Gait or High Street, South Gait or Back Raw, Middle Raw, St. Mary's Wynd or Vennel, Kirk Wynd, Castle Wynd, and Friars' Wynd, with buildings on the Castle Hill and at the Old Bridge. In the years between 1544 and 1550, the town being divided into quarters, each overlooked by a Bailie, the householders, or heads of families, are censused at 385, of which 86 are given to St. Mary's Wynd, Castle Wynd, and north

part of Hiegait (now Broad Street); 98 to Back Raw, south side of the Hiegait, and a part beneath on the north side; 98 to the South Quarter from Belgebrig (at the lower end of Bow Street) downwards; and 103 to the North Quarter, including, no doubt, the Middle Raw, afterwards Baxter Wynd, now Baker Street, and a few houses in Friars' Wynd, etc.

During this period, and for nearly a century prior to 1603, the Old Town was the residence of the Regents—Lennox, Mar, Morton, Moray—noblemen, highest Church dignitaries, and the lairds of adjoining estates, to whose lodgings the Burgh Registers make numerous references, and many of whose successors retain to this day in their families the names and estates of their ancestors; and these buildings mostly belong to the period of the Regencies, and down to Cromwell's Protectorate.

In the vicinity of, and under the protection of, the Castle, in the Hie Gait, South Gait, and Back and Middle Raw and Vennals of the Virgin Maria and Castle respectively, were situated the residences of the nobility, municipal functionaries, and higher class burgesses, which, from the Burgh Records, appeared to have been situated principally in, and virtually lined both sides of the Hie Gait. These corbie-stepped front-gabled houses, the form borrowed from France and Holland, were at their highest prevalence in Edinburgh in 1620. Few houses earlier than 1611 now survive in Stirling, a considerable clearance having been made by the Magistrates' order in 1671, for the demolition and re-erection of the then ruined ancient buildings, and those of which we give sketches are therefore of the greater interest.

As might be expected, the royal servants attending at the Castle had their residences in its vicinity, and we have the remains



Old House, Castlehill.

Sketch 1.

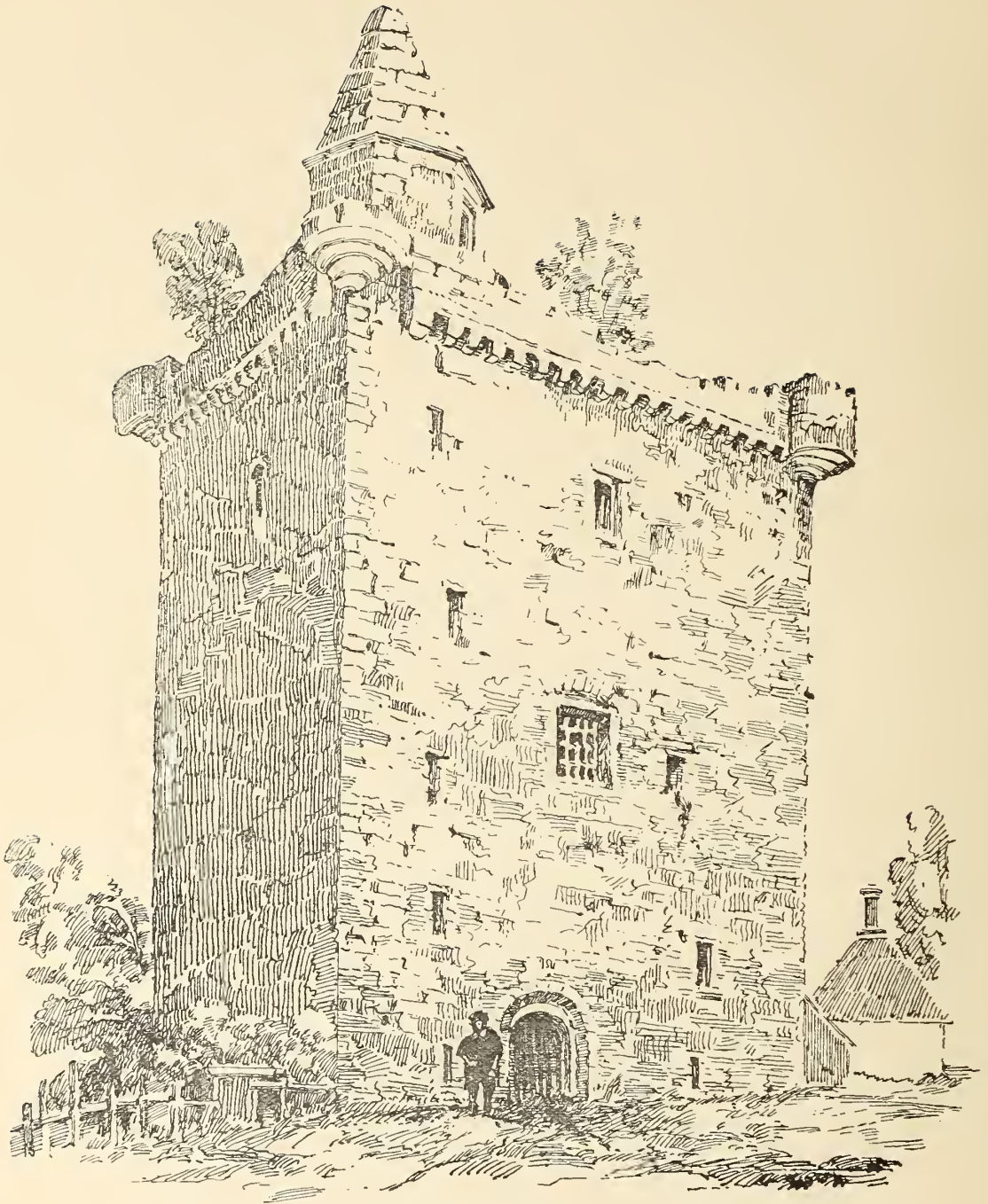
of very ancient buildings still existing, of which we give sketch on page 20, any one of which may be either of the buildings referred to in the following Royal grants to his servants.

Sketch No. 1 is alleged to be the old house of Thomas Ritchie.

James VI., on 28th September, 1578, granted to Thomas Ritchie, his servant, and Janet Meclum, his spouse, the piece of land called the *Auld Pleyfeild*, lying near to the Castle on the north side thereof, near the gate of the "Great Wall." And on 15th July, 1579, he grants to Thomas Erskine, "servant in our Buttery" (*servienti promptuaris suo*), and Christian Thomson, his spouse, for the *good services* of the said Thomas, the lands on the north part of the Castlehill of Stirling, against the east part of the well ("*fontem*") called "Scottis Wall," between the garden of said Thomas Ritchie. And on 23rd May, 1595, sasine is given to Christopher Lambe, "Maister cuik to His Magestie," "of a little chaumer biggit by him on the crag" (on the Castlehill), "and to Jonet Rudderfurd, his spouse." *

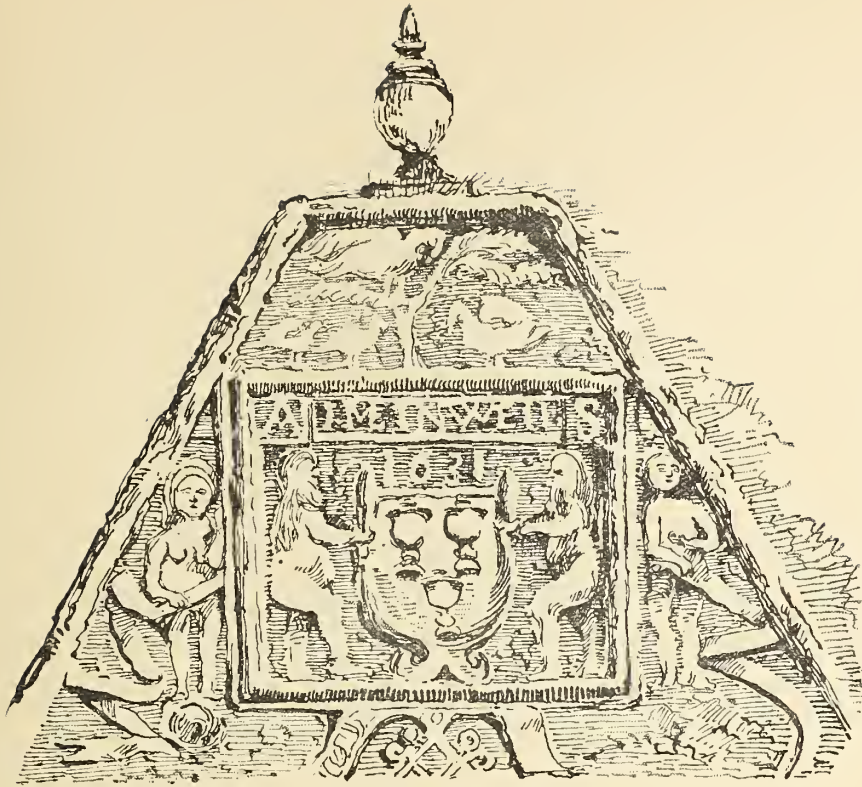
* NOTE.—This Royal "Maister cuik" was one of the principal conspirators in Earl Angus' treasonable proceedings, and King James VI. specially exempts him from pardon in his Deed of Remission and Pardon to the Stirling Town Officials, etc., dated at Falkland, 26th June, 1584.





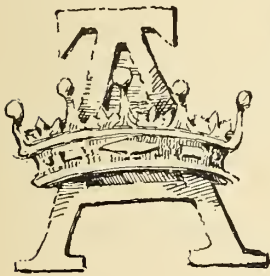
Bauckie Tower.

Sketch 2.



CHAPTER II.

Castellated and Domestic Architecture.



S for classification, the form and fashion of the ancient country residences of the nobility of Scotland may be divided into three periods, of which the following are good types in the immediate neighbourhood :—

1. The period previous to, and continuing to, the end of 1400—Bruce Castle at Carnock, Kilbryde near Doune, and Castle Campbell and Gartartan or Gartmore Castle, “The Haining,” Plean, Alloa, Clackmannan, and Sauchie Towers.

2. This comprehends the whole of 1500—Blairlogie Castle, Newton, Lecky, Torwoodhead, and Little Sauchie Houses, Mugdock and Bardowie Castles, Menstrie House (older part), Carnock House, the Manor and Touch and Gargunnoch Houses, etc.

3. The whole of 1600—Sauchie Mansion House, Auchenbowie, Bannockburn, Easter and Wester Polmaise Houses, Stenhouse, Woodside, Wester Livilands (which is not typical), Garlett, Westquarter, Quarrol and Kinnaird, etc., and newer portions of Menstrie House.

FIRST, and most interesting, period.—It is scarcely realisable that the mansions prior to 1500, consisting of a single massive square tower, or keep, with turrets at its four angles, and with its surrounding moat or wall, or partly both, forming a court, intended primarily for defence, are all of a higher class of architecture and are more elaborate and ornamental in internal construction, combined with care and skill in the selection of material and in workmanship, than in those mansions erected in the subsequent more peaceful times.

The mediæval ages were the most turbulent in our history, when what was owned had to be held by the strong arm. Family feuds and rival ambitions made life and property insecure, and raids and burnings, with retaliations, were every-day occurrences amongst the nobility. These prevalent excesses few monarchs were able to suppress, or to hold their lords in check, whose numerous vassals made them petty kings. The vassals were not only so in name, but in reality, and subject to assist their lords superior by the obligations of their holdings, giving their lords a legally sanctioned jurisdiction, frequently and unscrupulously exercised, of pit and gallows, over any contumacious or rebellious vassal or retainer.

Proportionate to their rank, they supported numerous retainers, who joined their lords in their feuds, resided in, and warded the tower, and all alike went daily armed in some fashion. The tower, with its protecting moat or wall, was erected strong enough to withstand a temporary raid, but unable to stand any siege.

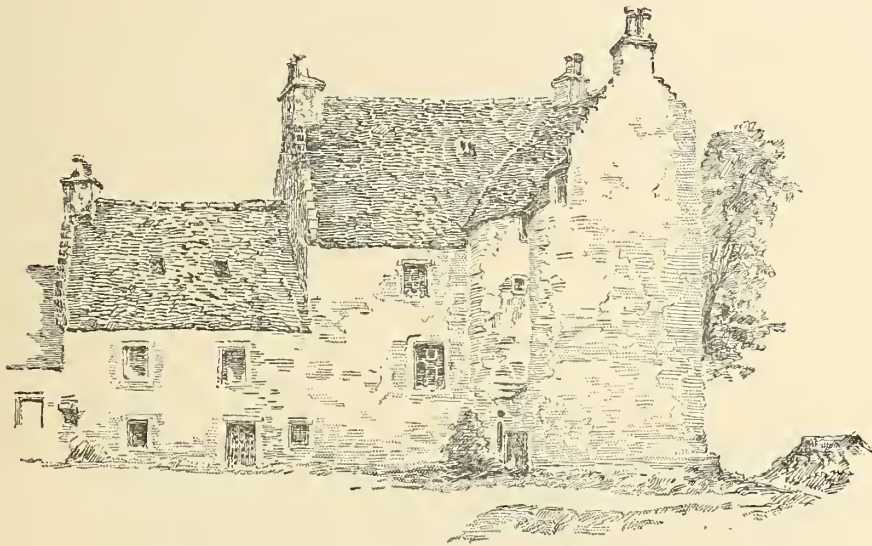
Notwithstanding these lawless and turbulent times, adverse to the cultivation or development of the arts, there then existed in Scotland a skilled element in art and a cultivated taste, which had been introduced into its architecture long previously, from the Continent, and had fused with its inhabitants, especially amongst the monks and other ecclesiastics. It was not confined to the erection of abbeys and monasteries in the country, as part of this taste is exhibited in the present remains of the domestic architecture forming the residences of the nobility of that period, which being primarily intended for security, seems superfluous.

On the Continent, art and architecture were almost at their highest excellence, and the refined noble ecclesiastical structures—with their exquisite sculpture and profuse ornamentation of twelfth century, whose existing fragments at this day command our admiration—were yet in evidence. The ecclesiastical officials did not then confine themselves strictly to their sacred duties, as they appear not only as learned scholars and eminent statesmen, but also as skilled architects and builders, and even gardeners. However that may be, or from whatever cause, these massive stone towers, with their machicolated battlements, not only show a master designer and builder, in the selection and adaptation of materials, and skill in the workmanship, with the study of the buildings' proportions and devices for protection and defence, but each and all of them have

evidence—where ornament did not interfere with the solidarity of the fabric, or its being safeguarded from a foe—of refined taste and execution, which none of the buildings erected in the subsequent and more peaceful periods bear. There seems to have been a decided retrogression, during the subsequent settled and peaceful times, in the domestic architecture of Scotland, and no careful observer of the existing remains of the buildings of these different periods but must have experienced this reflection. Mr. Ross, the Rhind lecturer, seemed to notice this, and states that the foreign church builders were employed, in the first period, in the building of mansions for the Nobility when their church building ceased.

The general arrangement of the interior of these towers (Sketch 2), which seldom exceeded 34 by 28 feet over all the walls—which are 4 feet thick—consisted of 4 stories, viz., one large apartment on ground floor (a kitchen and general apartment), having an ample fire-place and open draw well, and recesses for stores; and here is also the guard-room, a small apartment at the doorway; the ceiling of this general apartment, which forms the floor of the apartment above, being heavy stone vaulting, and the lights mere slits in the walls, and even these all secured by iron bars. The first floor is one large apartment, with enormous fireplace, the lintel stone, in some instances, 10 to 12 feet, and exquisite artistically carved jambs, the windows few and narrow, and all barred with iron, the bars interlacing. This is the dining hall, used for lord, lady, guests, and retainers, sitting at the same board and in one company, but according to their rank and sex. The superincumbent flats formed the dormitories—small, narrow, and confined, with sparse accommodation for the absolutely necessary bed, and receptacle for the

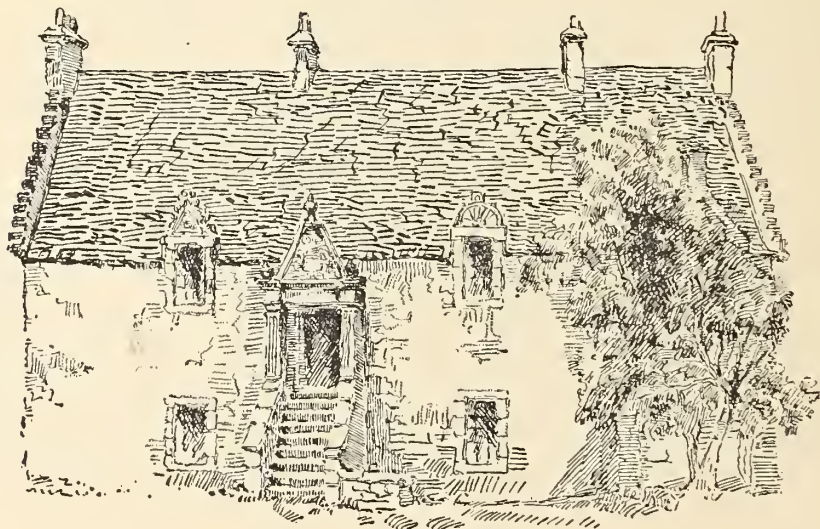
scanty wardrobe of their occupants. A stair passing through the massive walls leading to these apartments ascends also to the top of the tower, which has a low pitched roof, and a passage of two feet broad encircling the battlements, a covered turret forming the termination of stair being utilised as the watchman's shelter. The coat of arms of the owner, more or less rudely or ornamentally sculptured, was inserted either in front of the tower over its doorway, or over the archway in its encircling court wall. These characteristics, more or less varied in form, exist in the above mansions of this period.



Newton Downe.

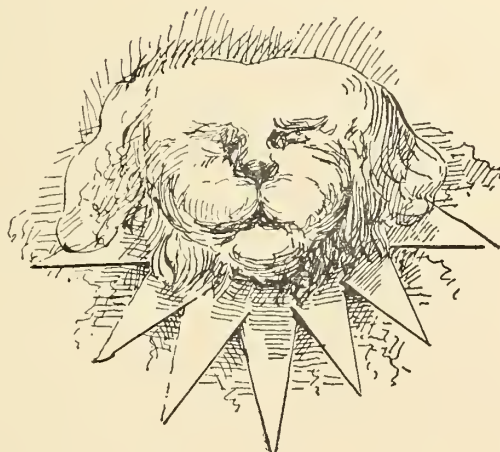
The SECOND period, from the beginning to the end of 1500, is an abrupt and complete change, a style of a simple two crow-stepped gable-house and wing, with a tower, round or square, in the front, with main entrance and stair; and one, but more frequently, two, pepper-box turrets on the angle of each gable commanding either

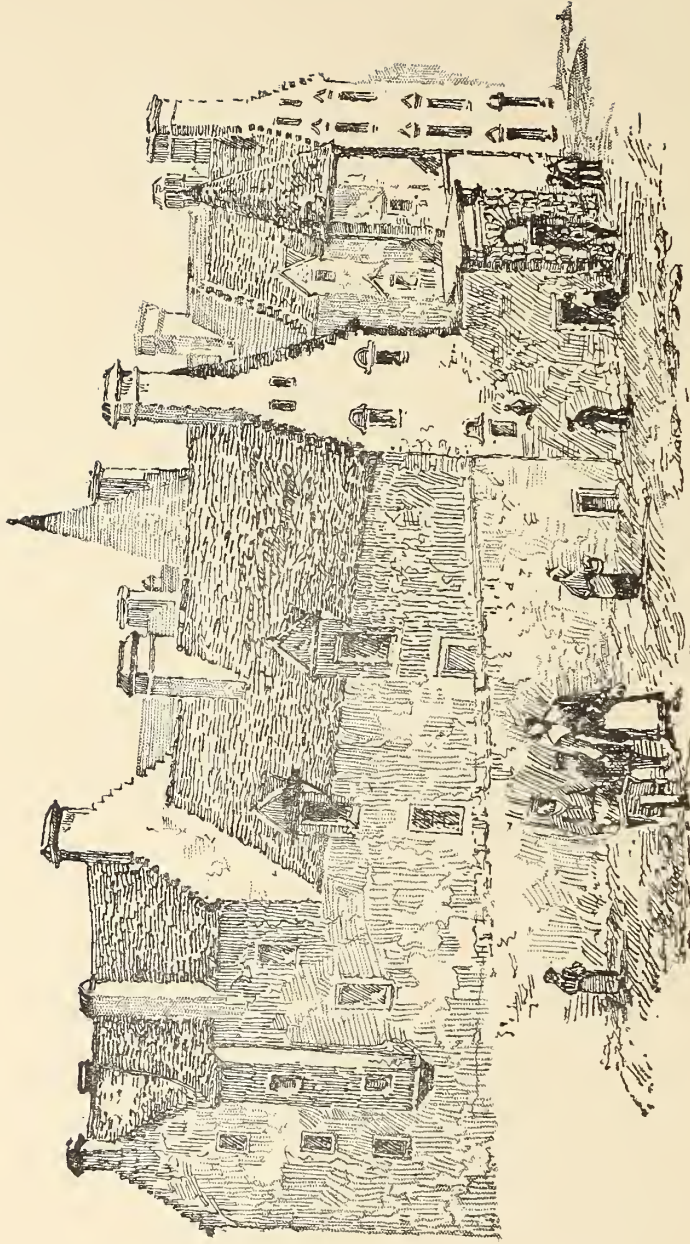
side, the lower windows narrow and guarded with interlaced bars ; and often one or more loopholes for shot guns commanding the doorway ; walls, 3 to 4 feet thick, and built solid, with internal stone stair ; all rooms small and low in the ceiling, and with dormer windows ; the tympani enriched with date and initials of the owner and his wife, or by fantastic symbols and Latin mottoes. The coat-of-arms over doorway, or on a conspicuous position on the main house front. The ground plan, an L, with high walls on the two other sides forming a protecting square internal court ; and most buildings situated on naturally inaccessible positions. The building is now changed in consequence of more peaceable times, and sacrificing its strength and the inconveniences of a fortification for more domestic comforts to its occupants and their social habits ; in fact, accommodating itself to the times. And as these were not yet quite settled, and law and order not yet paramount, the building was made strong enough to protect its owner and his family from straggling marauders. This period has formed a distinct style, known as the Scottish Baronial, and was carried to great perfection.



Sauchie Mansion.

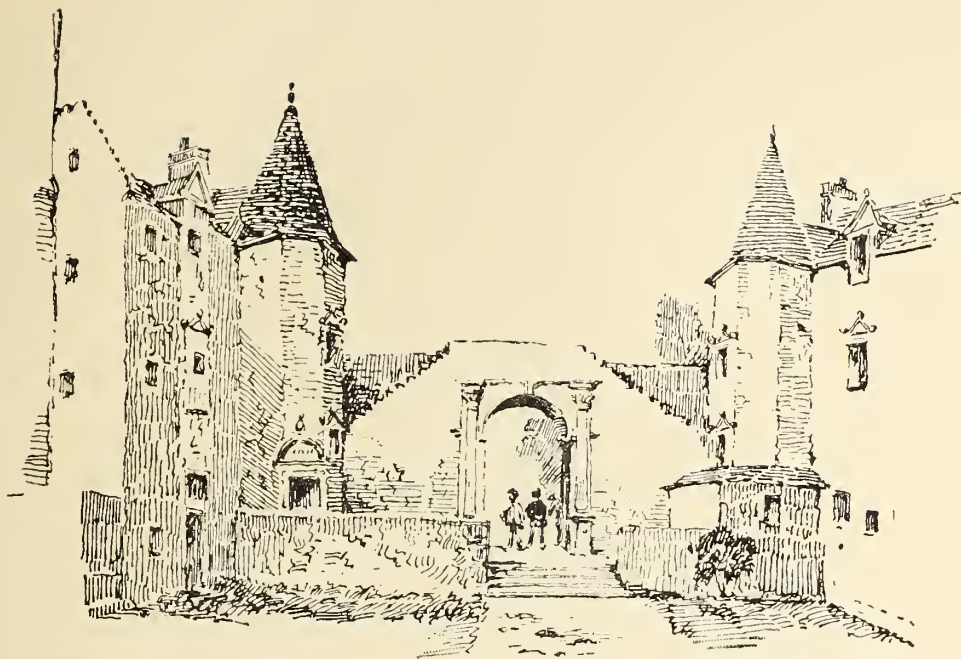
The THIRD period (1600)—following the succession of James VI. to the English crown (1603), and consequent cessation of wars with our “auld enemies, the English,” constituting a complete settlement of the country, and establishment of security generally—exhibits a gradual transition to a fine domestic architecture, with all the conveniences and comforts for which the building could be made available, and a total abandonment of the semi-fortified house, with its provisions for protection. A taste, both in town and country, at the early portion of this century prevailed for inserting scrolls, quaint devices, emblems, moral and scriptural mottoes, names, dates, and initials, of owner and his wife, on the mansions of the aristocracy and wealthier burgesses; or, sometimes, family crests with arbitrary alterations on it, as witnessed in *Sauchie Mansion* above, and in the old burgess dwellings in the ancient Cities and Burghs of Edinburgh, Stirling, and Culross.





Earl of Stirling's Mansion.

Sketch 3.



CHAPTER III.

RETURNING to the "Old Ludgings" in Stirling. Proceeding from the Castlehill we have the finest specimen of a Nobleman's Ludging or Town House in Scotland, it is authoritatively stated, in the

Earl of Stirling's Mansion.

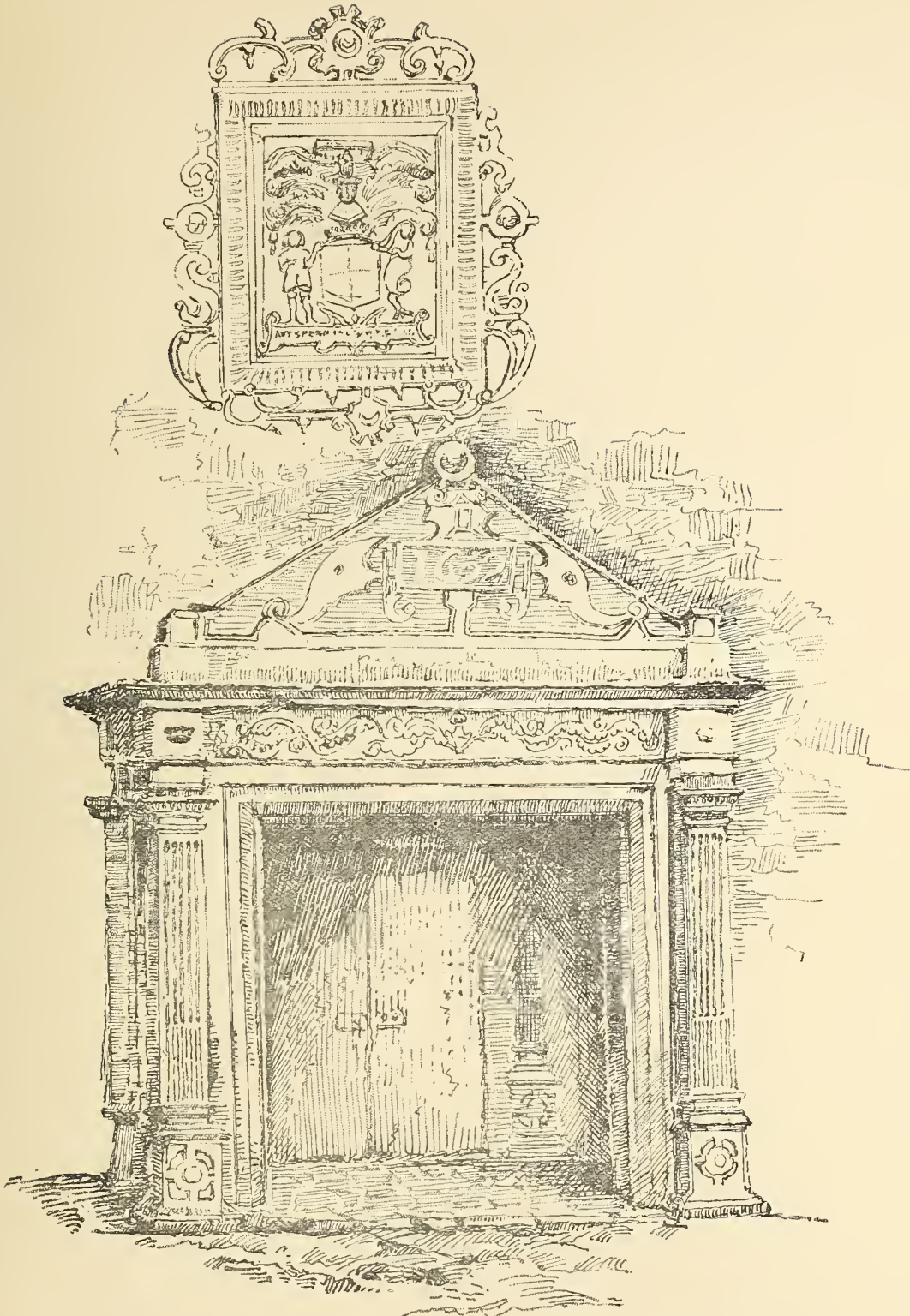
(See Sketch opposite. No. 3.)

The town mansion situated at the head of Castle Wynd, Stirling, near the Castle, commands an extensive view of the Ochils, the Saline Hills, and the Carse of Stirling, with the silver thread of the Forth winding in many mazes through it; and, also, of the town of Alloa, Clackmannan Tower, etc., the latter a conspicuous object in the landscape. It also, like the view from the Castle ramparts, over-

looks the famous battlefields of Stirling Bridge, Bannockburn, Falkirk, Sauchieburn, and Sheriffmuir. The original plan is E shaped (the middle beam of the letter representing its handsome porch) (Sketch 4), with two towers (one dwarf), having conical roofs, in the inner angles. The tympani of its numerous dormer and public room windows are all varied and richly ornamented with coronets and scrolls interlacing, those at the back being festooned with clusters of flowers, fruit and other garden products in arabesque fashion, and all in semi-classical style. It is considered a perfect specimen of a French chateau, and the most magnificent example of a Scottish nobleman's ludging or town mansion, extant in Scotland.

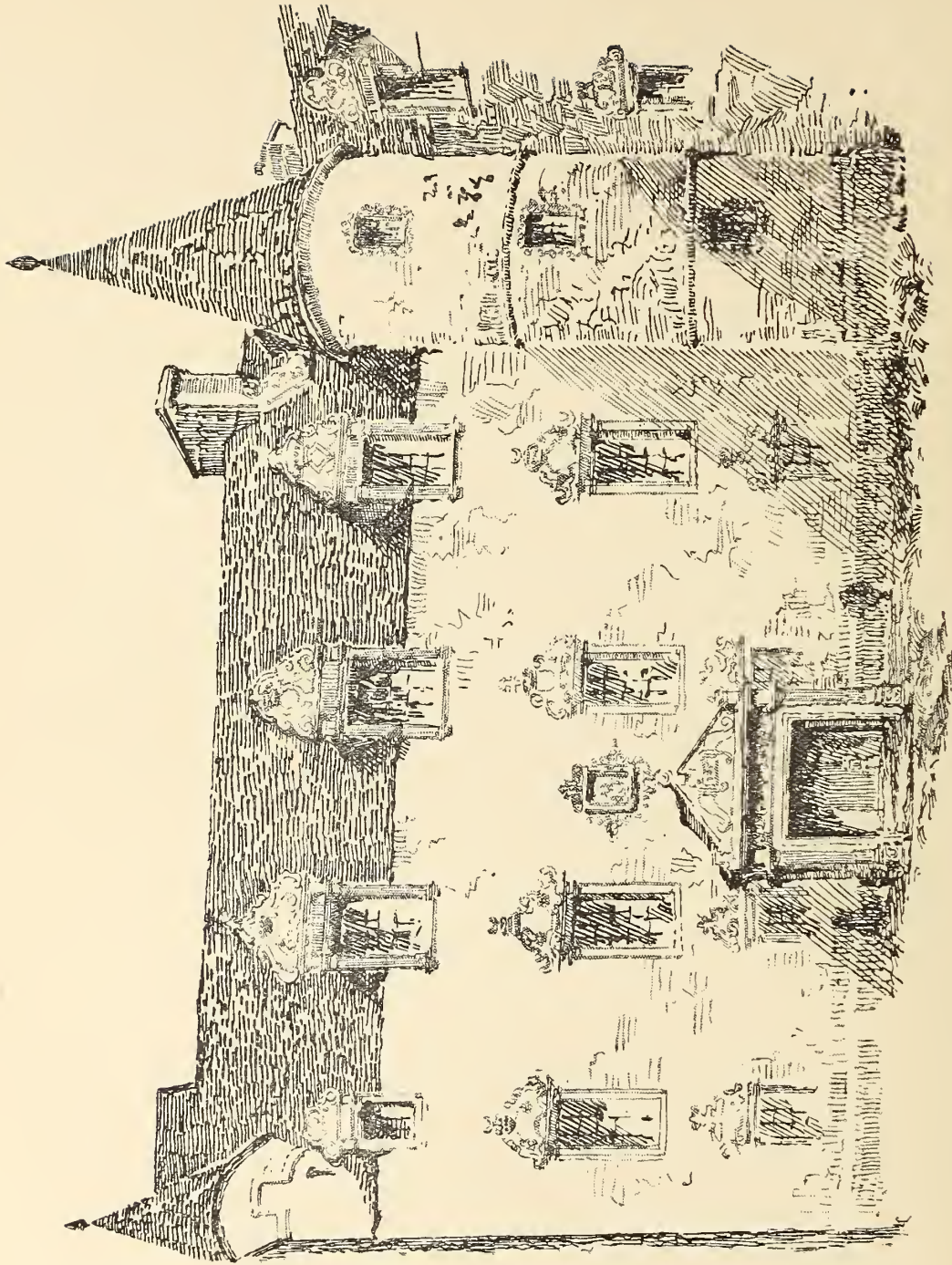
Over the arcade entrance is an artistic and elaborate framed stone panel, containing the Earl's paternal and assumed Nova Scotia combined coats-of-arms, finely sculptured, with the mottoes, "*per mare per terras*," and "*aut spero aut sperno*," respectively, ("through sea and land," and "I hope or despise.") Internally it had a noble entrance hall (now sub-divided by partitions) with large fire-place, having massive stone jambs, and lintel with sculptured figures. On the first floor, a lofty baronial hall pannelled in oak, and similarly sculptured massive stone fire-place. A wide oaken balustraded staircase communicating between the two floors, having carved oak figures at the landings. All the internal stairs have steps peculiarly moulded.

A small oratory, with niche in the east wall for a saint's statue, enters immediately off the hall. The Duke of Argyll, who subsequently acquired the mansion, extended the two wings and erected an ornamental arched gateway to the street, with two small hexagonal towers flanking internal side of the gateway (above Heading), thus forming a court (having a short flight of steps to the gateway) of 47 feet square.



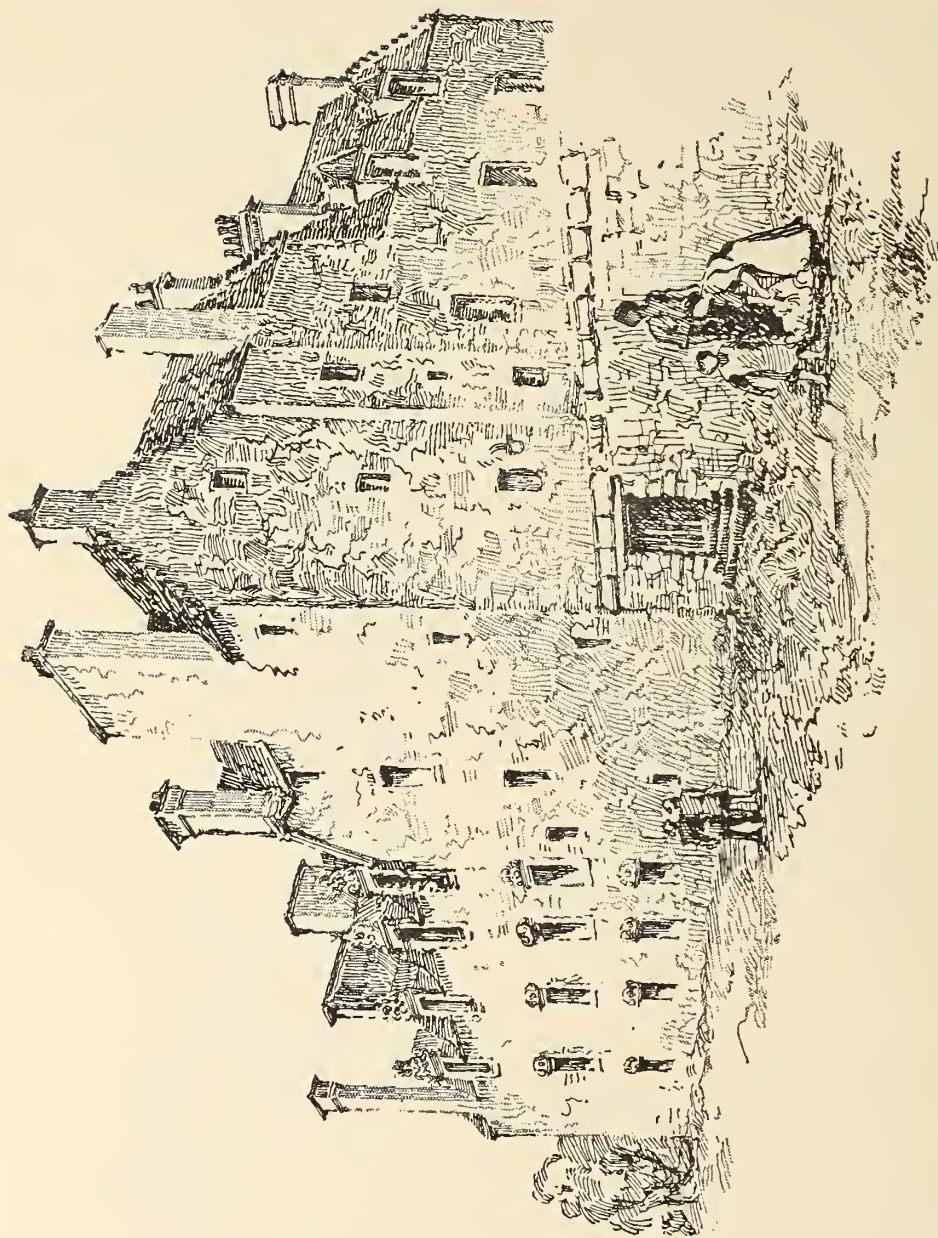
Porch of Earl of Stirling's Lodging.

Sketch 4.



South View Front.

Sketch 5.



North, or Back View.

Sketch 6.

The centre original building is 90 feet long, and three storeys in height with three tiers of windows, the lower series being barred, while the domestic offices were in the west or north-west wing. The ornamental windows, 14 in front and 13 to the back, all differ in the designs on the tympani. The chimney-heads where joining the roof are ornamented with scroll carvings. The porch is $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 5 feet deep, with two pillars and two pilasters. The date on the ancient porch and a dormer is 1632, but it is believed the building was begun earlier. The building of the central parts and wings are completed according to the original plan, and in harmony with each other. The initials of the Earl and Janet Erskine, his Countess, with their coronets, appear on two dormers. On the southmost of the hexagonal towers, built by the Duke of Argyll, is the date 1674, and the Duke's crest, a boar's head, which also appears on the windows and door heads of the parts he built.

The whole buildings have suffered severely by the operations of the Board of Ordnance in suiting its occupancy for a military hospital, windows being bricked up, and sculptured work covered with plaster, and other more objectionable alterations.

The garden to the back seems to have had a terrace, and the prospect from it is unsurpassable. It is now all waste. (Sketch to 7).

This fine building was erected, or at least begun, about the year 1630, and carried on from time to time as the Earl's financial position enabled him, and he ever seems to have been borrowing. The Viscount had in that year been, by directions of Charles I., marshalled by Lyon King of Arms, allowing to him his arms, quartered with that of the Clan Allister, who had acknowledged him chief of their clan, and had been entered along with Archibald Alexander of Tarbet,

the actual chief of the clan, as Burgess of Stirling, on 10th August, 1631, the year preceding the mansion's erection. He was then resident at Menstrie House.

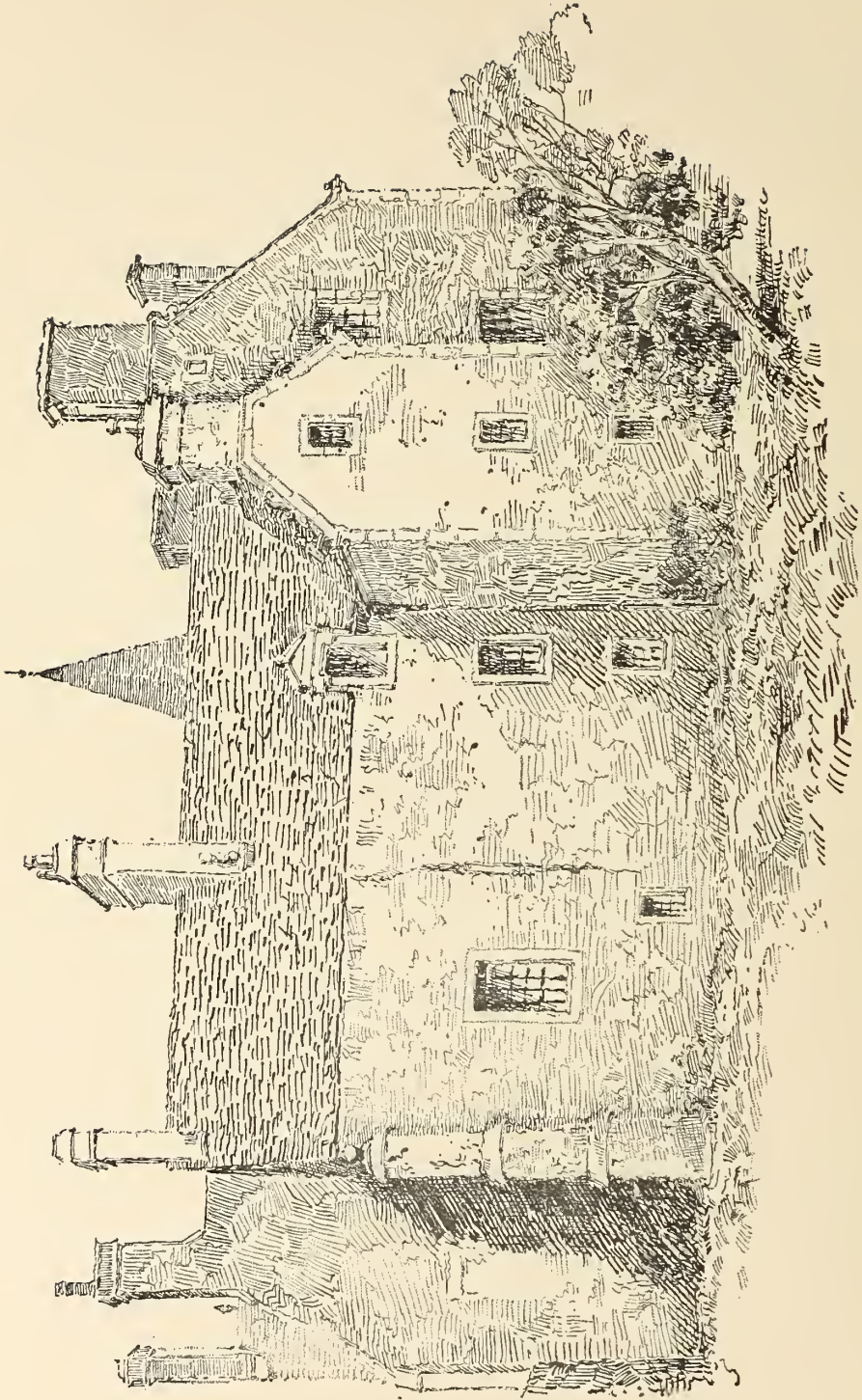
His second son, Sir Anthony, was the architect. Sir Anthony had studied architecture on the Continent, then at its best period, and on November, 1628, was (no doubt with his father's all-powerful interest) appointed Master of Works for Scotland in conjunction with Murray of Kilbaberton, and in 1637, Royal Surveyor, at joint salaries of £12,000 Scots.

He was initiated into the rites of his craft at the Lodge of St. Mary's Chapel in Edinburgh, and in this connection chosen "General Warden" of the Master Tradesmen of Scotland, receiving half of apprentice entrance fees and penalties, although his appointment was contested by Sir William Sinclair of Roslin, who protested, but unsuccessfully, against it.

Anthony was admitted a Burgess of Stirling in October, 1632. He died at London on August, 1637, and his corpse was brought to Stirling by sea, and interred by torchlight in Bowie's aisle of the High Church, his brother, Sir William Alexander, having predeceased him. He was a man of acknowledged talent, if not genius, and regret was expressed at his early death. He was married, but had no children.

Out of seven sons, Charles alone survived the Earl.

The Earl's uncle Archibald was a merchant in Stirling and Dunfermline, and was Magistrate and Dean of Guild at Stirling in 1593 and 1601. Another uncle, Andrew, Writer in Stirling, was owner of Southfield, and, in 1616, is called brother to the guidman of Menstrie, and, in 1627, uncle to Sir William Alexander.



Vicar, front garden.

Sketch 7.

The Earl's history reveals a personality of no common kind, and whether as a poet or politician, he had great pertinacity and perseverance. He was fruitful in resources for accomplishing his varied schemes of a gigantic character, in all of which, however, including his colonization of Nova Scotia, he was unfortunate. He became involved in such pecuniary straits, that, although he resorted (under his monarch's favour, exceptionally exerted in his behalf) to various questionable practices in order to replenish his purse, he seems never to have been, even in his greatest prosperity and power, free from debt. He died bankrupt at Covent Garden, London, on 1st November, 1640.

Sir Thomas Urquhart, a contemporary, gives a fine and just character of the Earl, which has been so frequently quoted and is so generally known, the reader is referred to it. His body, embalmed, was buried in Bowie's Aisle, beside his son, Sir Anthony, who had, after its acquisition from Thomas Craigengelt, by his father, partly rebuilt it, and made the upper part the family pew.

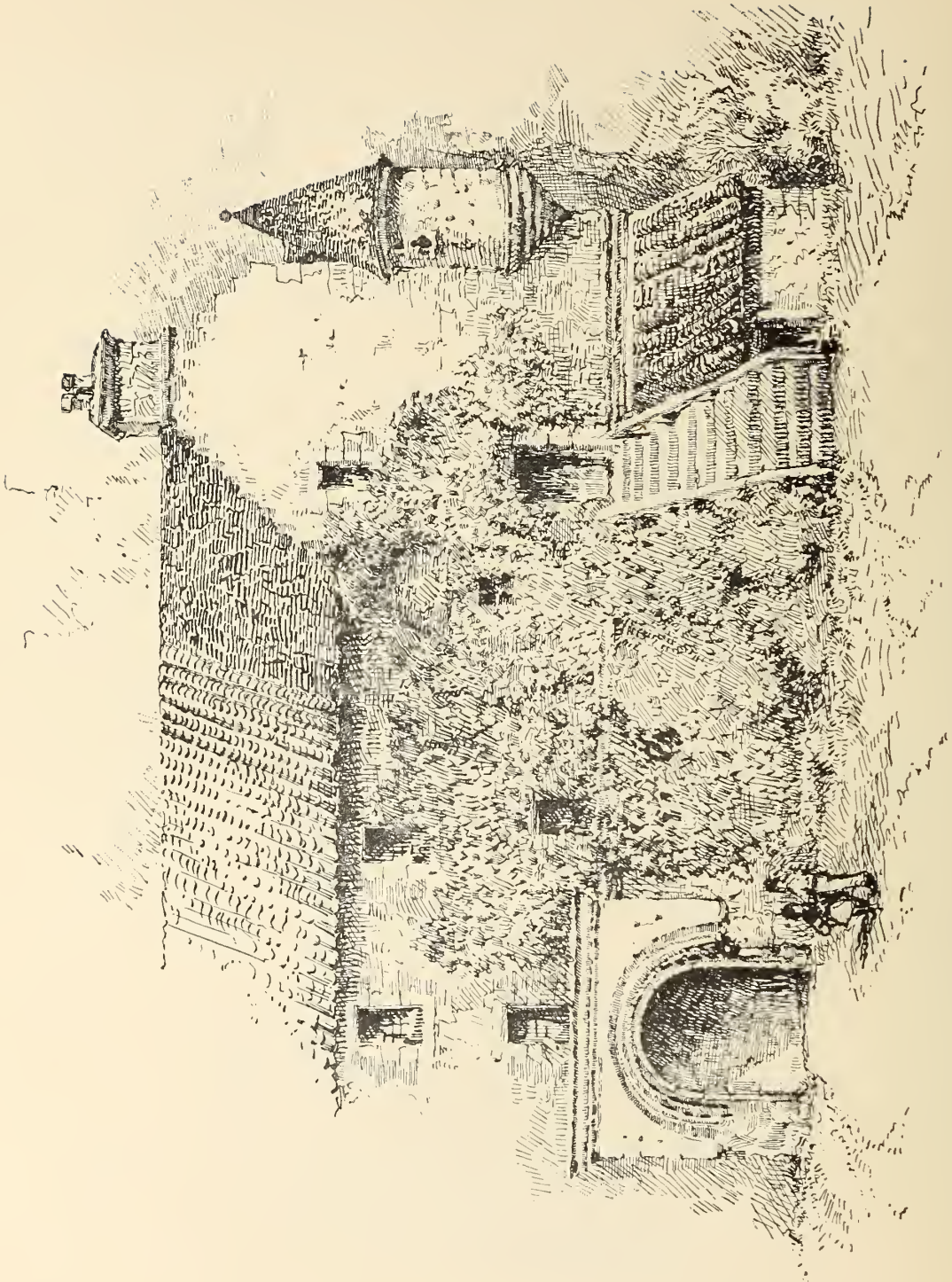
This Town Mansion was heavily mortgaged to the Masters of Spittal's Hospital, and on 11th September, 1655, G. Robertson reports to the Patrons of the Hospital "that all the Earl of Argyll would give for Charles Alexander's house was £1000 in four years' time, the Masters to get all the plenishing put in for the poor." To such base uses was this splendid mansion, within fifteen years of its noble owner's death, and twenty-three of its erection, put to—a common poorhouse for the indigent and vile. The Duke of Argyll's erections, although subsequent in date, are of inferior style and meaner character, and from their dilapidated appearance, and the destruction by wind and weather of part, shews that they have been erected of less substantial and durable materials, in contrast to the original earlier mansion,

which remains unimpaired and in its original external magnificence. The Earl of Argyll entertained Charles II., when a prince, within its walls, and also, in 1680, James II., then Duke of York. The Earl resided in it in 1715, when his forces were encamped in the King's Park, previous to the Battle of Sheriffmuir. The last royal resident was the Duke of Cumberland, in 1746, while on his way north to Culloden Field.

The mansion and burying-place, or aisle, was sold by the Duke of Argyll in 1764 (the family having held it fully 100 years), to James Wright, Writer, Stirling, who retained part of the large garden on which he built a residence, and sold the mansion and part of remaining ground to the Government for a military hospital; but this possession, from the indifference and ignorance of the officials and tradesmen employed, has been attended with dire results.

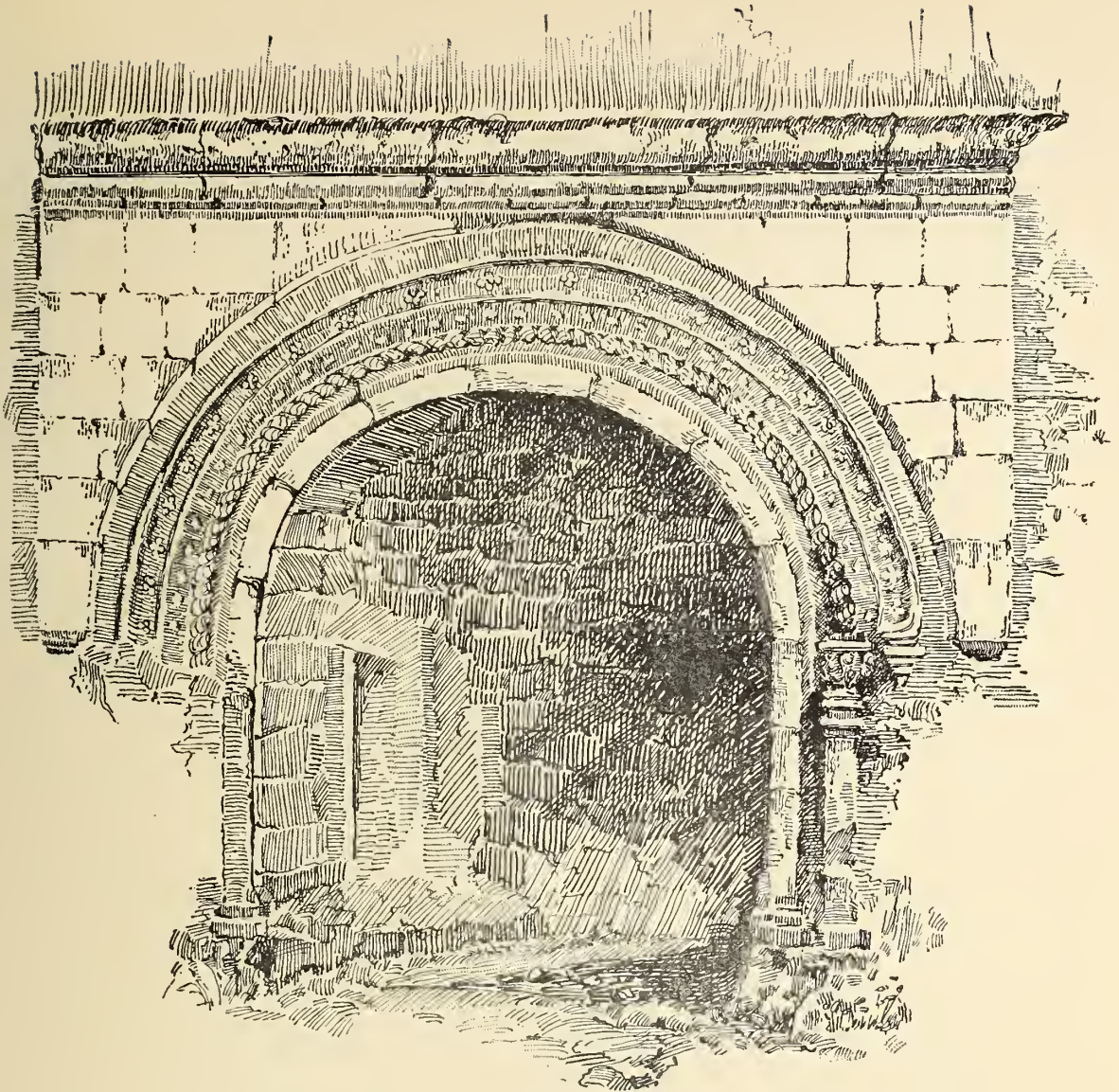
The aisle was removed in making some church alteration, and the ashes of the Earl, in a lead coffin, and those of his family, were scattered to the winds. The whole history of family and building reads like a tragedy.





West View.

Sketch 8.



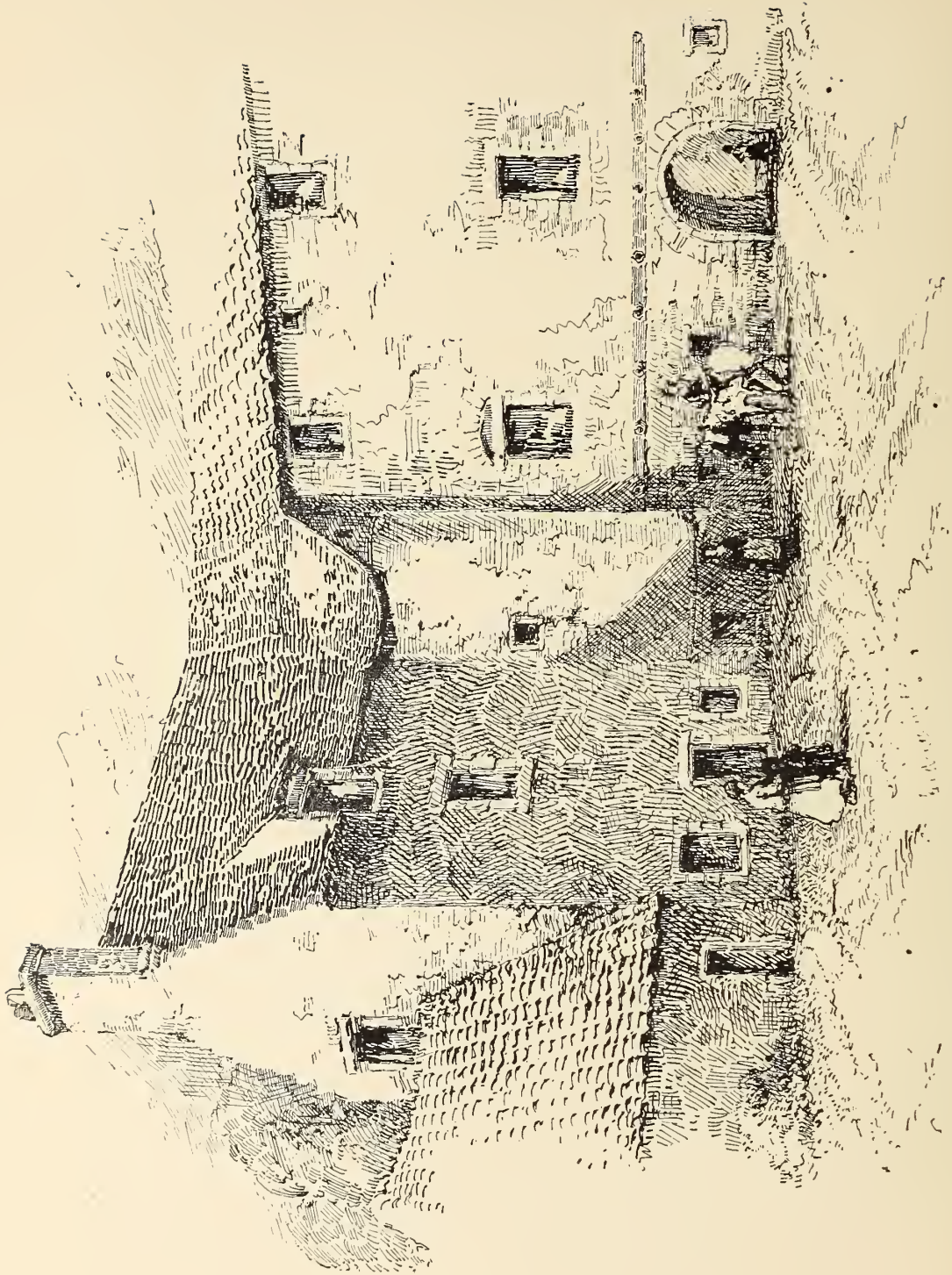
Arched Gateway, Menstrie House.

Country or Menstrie House.

The original part of the old family country mansion house, situated at the foot of the Ochils, was of the Scottish type of plain house, with turrets at the crow-stepped gables of the sixteenth century. It seems to have been considerably altered and added to so as to form three sides of a square, having an east wall making an enclosed

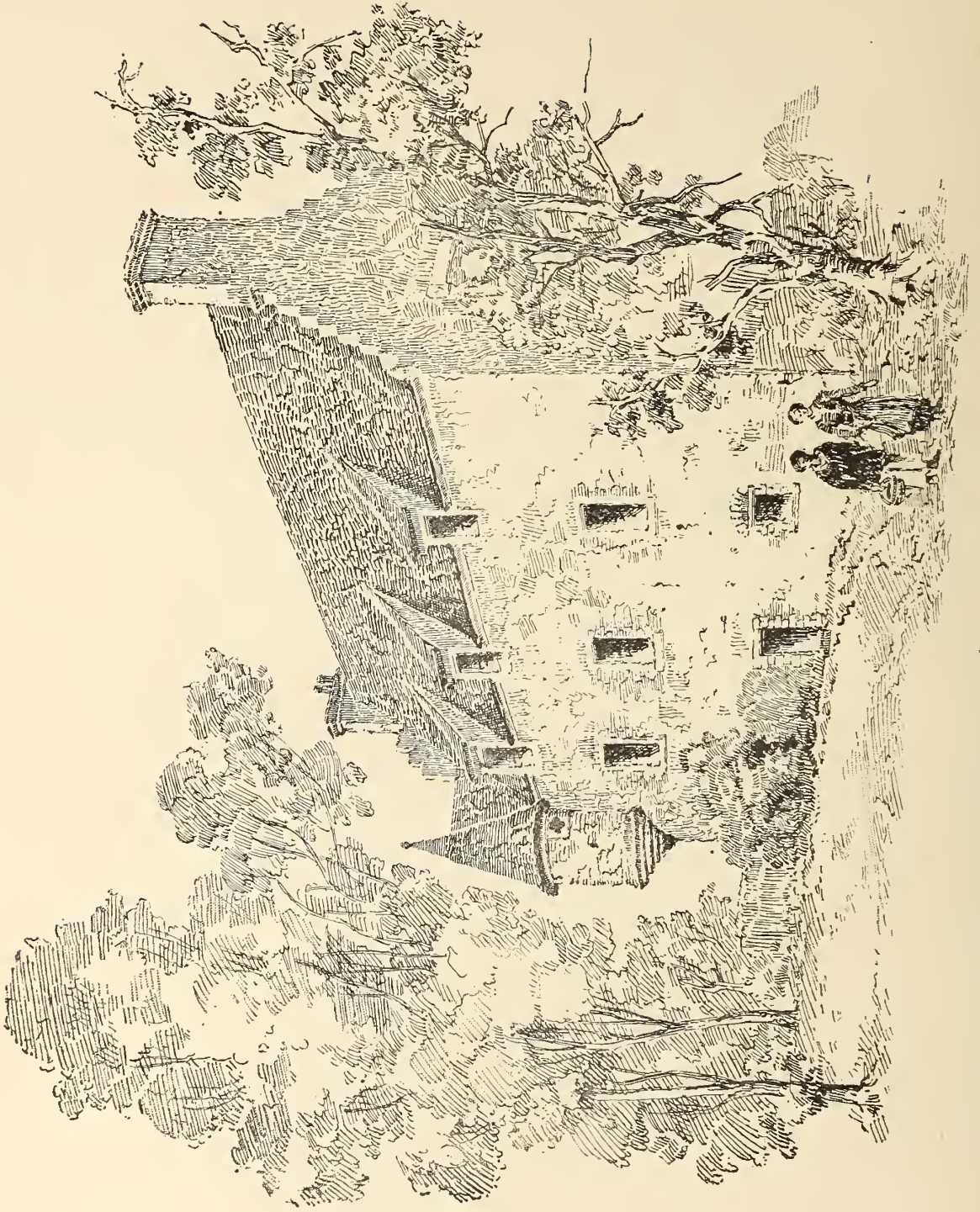
court, and these extensive alterations and additions, with profuse ornamentations, apparently made by Sir Anthony. The tympani of the dormers have disappeared, but the arched gateway (as above) through the west front to the court shows a remarkable mixture of Scottish and classical mouldings, with pillar, cable, and ball-flower enrichments of an earlier style, mingled with architrave, frieze, and cornice of pseudo-classic entablature. These all retain their sharpness, free from injury and weather effects. Parts of other buildings, especially in the court, indicate an older period. Here a room is shown where Sir Ralph Abercromby was born. The orchard, remains of old trees, and traces of a drive, indicate grounds of some size and taste. The parts yet bear evidence of the flames of Montrose's burning. Here the Earl composed most of his poems. It is now occupied by a dairyman, and the buildings turned into byres, cattle sheds, etc.

The origin of the Alexander family and of their ownership of this old Menstrie Mansion, goes back to the residence of the Argyll family in Castle Campbell, when an Alexander, a son of Tarlach Mac-Alexander, came from Kintyre sometime about 1481, and settled down in Menstrie under the protection of that powerful family. In 1505, a Thomas Alexander de Menstry officiates as one of sixteen in an arbitration between the Abbot of Cambuskenneth and Sir David Bruce of Clackmannan; but he must have been a brother, as Andrew Alexander was then proprietor of Menstrie, and had a son Alexander. He appears as proprietor prior to 1527. This Alexander was succeeded by his oldest son Andrew, who married Marion Coutts, and their eldest son Alexander married Marion Graham of Gartavertane, by whom he had two daughters and a son William, the Earl of Stirling, who is supposed to have been born at Menstrie in 1572. As



Sketch 9.

The Court.



Menstric House, South View.

a scholar, William was selected to travel with Archibald Seventh Earl of Argyll visiting France, Spain, and Italy. He succeeded on his father's death to the small patrimony "Mains of Menstrie."

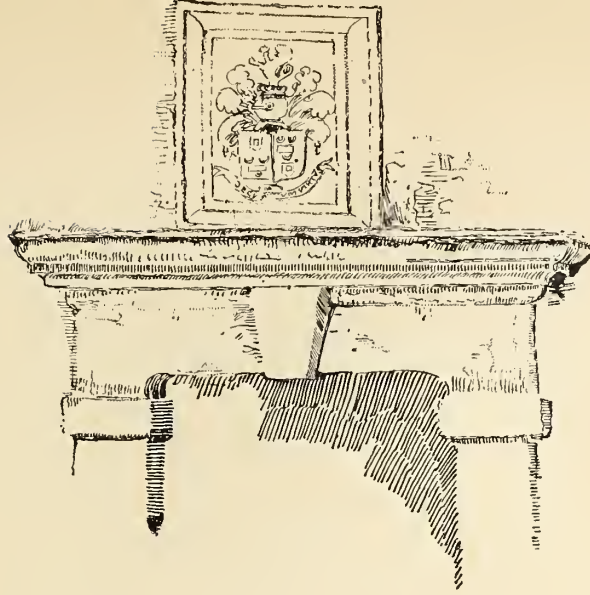
On 4th March, 1598, by agreement with, and on payment of 6000 merks to the Earl of Argyll, and in consideration of his services "in foreign nations and at home" (thus keeping the companionship in mind), the Earl granted him the whole Lands and Barony of Menstrie, the Mains of Menstrie having been previously resigned by Earl William for the purpose of incorporation by Argyll in the Barony.

The building of the original or earlier part of this Mansion would refer back to the possession of the Mains of Menstrie by William's great-grandfather, Alexander, in 1527. It was burnt by the Duke of Montrose in 1645, for his alliance and connection with the Earl of Argyll at the same time with Castle Campbell, the Earl of Argyll's residence.

The Earl prior to 1603, married Janet, daughter of Sir William Erskine, Commendator of Glasgow, whose initials are on the two dormer windows of the Town Mansion. This Mansion seems to have been furnished and occupied by them for the first time, in the autumn of 1635.

His history in the *Memorials of the Earl of Stirling*, (Edin. 1877, 2 vols.) must be referred to for his life.





CHAPTER IV.

Sir James Holburne of Menstrie's Mansion.

A TWO-STOREY dwelling-house, with crow-stepped gables, having a fine doorway, with the Holburne coat of arms over it, (Sketch above) stands in the High Road, or Street of Menstrie, and is popularly known by the name of "Windsor House," or "Castle." Its appearance is not very ancient, and the date of its erection may be about the end of the seventeenth or the first decade of the eighteenth century. The property could not have been long in that family, as we find from the title deeds it had fallen into the hands of Alexander Abercromby, father of the hero of Aboukir, and was feued by him, in 1726, for £68 Scots, to a Thomas and William Dawson, and is described as lying in the "Barony of Regality of Menstrie, Parochine of Logie, and Sheriffdom of Clackmannan." It was subsequently held by John Alexander, merchant, and his son, James, gets a charter of confirmation from Major-General Ralph Abercromby, the hero himself.

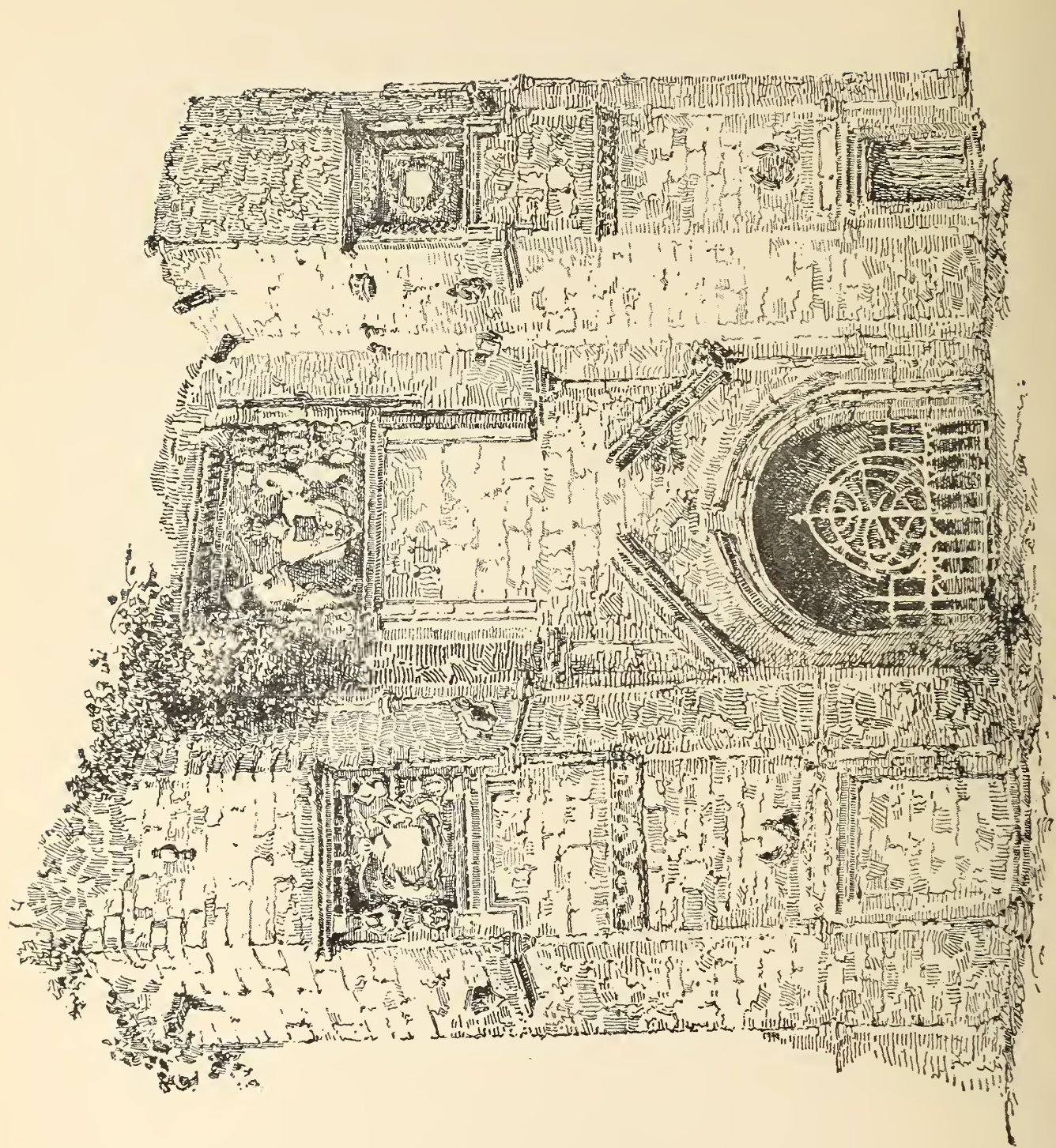
The deeds give no explanation of the name, nor afford any assistance in tracing its owner; the coat of arms, with its motto,

Decus summum Virtus, alone identifying it as the mansion of either Sir James Holburne, first Baron of Menstrie, or of a cadet of the family. The local names used in the boundaries, of "Maiden Well" and "Gravestone or Little Well," arouse some interest in the village, whose sun dial, or public time-keeper, is also sketched below.

The family is only traceable from the beginning of the seventeenth century when James Holburne of Menstrie married Janet, daughter of John Inglis. Their son, James, was created first Baronet by Queen Anne, in 1706, and he was succeeded by his son, Sir James, who had a son, also Sir James, both advocates, the latter being the Examiner of Exchequer. This Sir James was succeeded by a son, Sir Alexander, whose son, also Sir Alexander, the third Baronet, a captain in the Royal Navy, dying without issue, was succeeded by his cousin, Francis, Rear-Admiral, Governor of Greenwich Hospital, and M.P. for Stirling Burghs. After his death, in 1771, his son, also Sir Francis, the fourth Baronet, succeeded.

A descendant, Miss Mary H. Mary Anne Holburne, of Bath, in 1852, left £8000 for building and endowing a church in her ancestor's Barony of Menstrie, which has now been applied for that purpose.

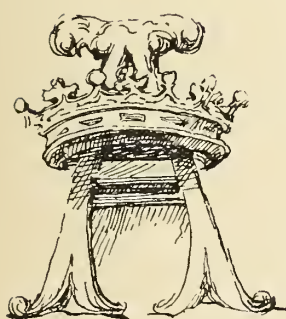




Mrs. Ludging.



Mar's Ludging, Stirling.

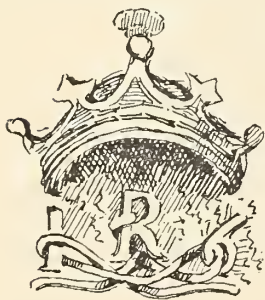


S an unique specimen of ornate domestic architecture of the renaissance of the middle of the sixteenth century it forms an object of great interest. A front elevation wall with two octagonal towers flanking an archway, on which towers are the arms of the Earl, that on the north with his Countess's arms impaled, with the Royal arms over the archway, and an ivy-covered north gable, extending in all 120 feet

across the head of Broad Street—the ancient “Hie gait,”—is all that remains. It forms a protection from the north-west winds to that street.

It was erected by the talented and noble Regent, 6th Earl of Mar, partly on the waste ground of the town, and the site of an old tenement acquired from a Walter Geagie, described as “next to the church, all parts of the town’s lands subject to it of an annual rent or feu-duty of £4;” and seems also to have included the site of Robert Callander of Manor’s old tenement.

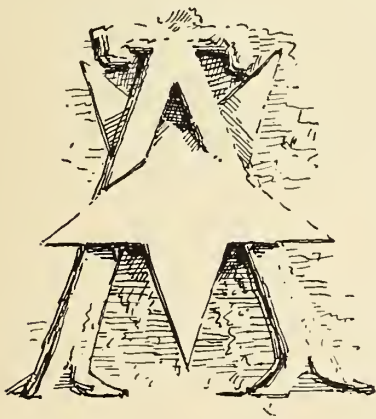
The date of *beginning* the erection is presumably that on the Royal coat of arms over the archway, 1570, and of its *completion*, 1572, the date of the tablet in the hands of the figure which has apparently formed the head of the arched gateway before its removal to a mean house in the Craigs. In sketching the numerous ciphers and symbols adorning the front elevation, the repetition of the letter A (see heading) with Earl’s coronets, etc., of which sketches are given here, and the dress and appearance of the figure holding the tablet with date, 1572—a gentleman in plain dress—while the other figures are either in court dress, or professional musicians and soldiers, struck me as



having significant meanings. Regarding the A, the search from 1306 to 1598, amongst the many hundreds of Erskine’s relations to the Mar family, and other large land owners, reveals only one instance, Thomas Lord Arskine, witness to a charter of James II., dated 1457, who used the A for his surname. In the Regent Mar’s charter

(builder of this Mansion), by Queen Mary, 23rd June, 1565, his name is John Lord *Erskine*. King James VI.’s charter is to John, Earl of Mar, Lord *Erskine*, and his spouse, Lady Annabella Murray, Countess

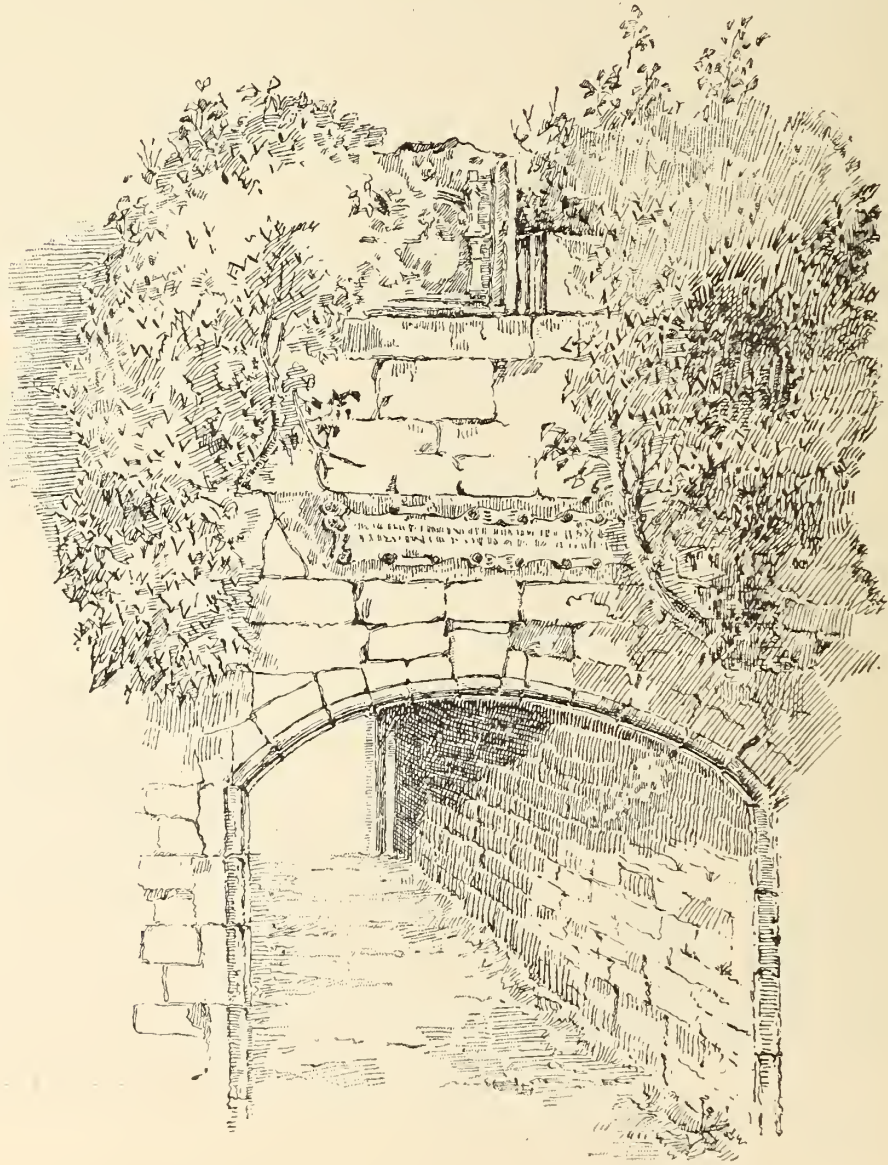
of Mar, in life rent and Maria *Erskine*, their daughter, dated at Stirling Castle, 29th July, 1571, during the very progress of its erection; and in the charter to Little Sauchie by James V., dated 7th June, 1541, to James *Erskine*, he is described as brother-german of John Lord *Erskine*. The James VI. letters of remission for the raid of Ruthven, are to John Earl of Mar, Lord *Erskyn*, and Master James *Erskien*; and in another charter dated 1584, Jane Margaret *Erskin* is designed as daughter of John, Earl of Mar, Lord *Erskine*. No use is made of the letter A, although it will be noticed that different spelling of his surname is adopted by each member in these writs; nor does it once occur in the *Mar Peerage Trial Record (Ancient and Modern)*, in the numerous references and quotations from charters therein furnished. The only instances I can give of its being used is a letter from Killigrew, English Ambassador to Burleigh, dated 29th October, 1572, the day following the Regent's death, that Alexander *Areskine*, the Regent's brother, had told him there was no hope of life in Mar; and in the signatures to two letters, from John Lord *Areskine*, afterwards eighth Earl of Mar, dated 16th December, 1647, one from Stirling and the other from Alloa, to Sir George Stirling of Keir, as given in the "Book of Keir."



the mullet being her family arms.

I have been unable to get a signature of Regent Mar, when *Lord Erskine*, he always signing "Mar," and the matter is thus unexplained why A should be adopted by him on his house as representing his family name of *Erskine*. This sketch of the A with a mullet, two of its rays inserted, may represent *Annabella Murray*,

As regards the figure with tablet 1572, although defaced, it is recognisable as the portrait of a gentlemen in plain dress, and is thus different from the other courtier-dressed and mythical figures. From the prominent position it had held, and as bearing the date of the completion of his mansion, it is most likely that of the Regent himself.



As the Regent died suddenly (under a suspicion of poison), on 28th October, 1672, his occupancy was brief.

The mansion was, however, undoubtedly occupied, and continued so during her lifetime, by his widow, Annabella Murray, who, as representing her husband, the hereditary custodier of the Royal Princes, had continued the charge of the infant James VI. That he may have resided occasionally in this mansion with her may



be implied from a letter addressed to her at Stirling by Queen Elizabeth of England, in November, 1672, the month following her husband's death, in which the Queen cautions her "to watch over the safety of the young prince, her dear relative."

That it was the Dowager Countess's residence after her son, John, the 7th Earl in succession to the Earldom, is certain; he having married Lady Mary Stewart, a cousin of the King's, and from the fact of the King having visited his cousin in 1592, at Alloa House, the young Earl had undoubtedly adopted that mansion as his residence.

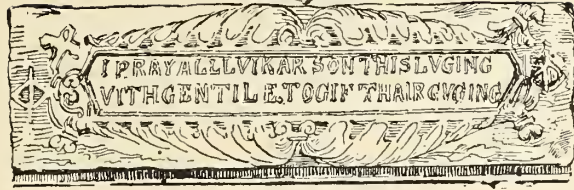
The garden and grounds to the rear of the Ludging were augmented by charter granted by James VI., to the said Annabella, Dowager Countess, on 16th April, 1582, by the addition of the "Haugh and Brae," and part of the Parkhill, taken from the Royal Park. These are described as on the south side of the then cemetery, (the present valley, and back walk, and bog), and as "having remained utterly waste since the memory of man." This strip of ground, "Haugh and Brae," subsequently known as Lady Annabella Mar's Haining, or enclosure, it is sad to reflect, is, with the above ruin,

the sole residue of most extensive possessions anciently held by the Mar family in Stirling, now remaining to their descendants.

The description of the boundaries of this grant, are interesting for the ancient names of the different parts of this locality. The present Butt Well is characteristically named the "Spout Well," the "Cow-gate," supposed for South Gate, the street or road in this locality, now St. John Street, the road from the Castle gate to the Royal Park and "Parkhill Craig," identified in the present "Lady Hill," "The Valley," and the "Auld Dyke," as the Town Wall.



Part
2.



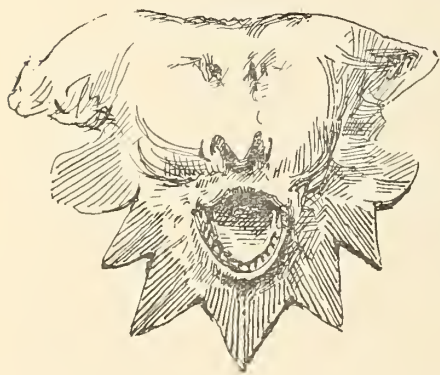
Mar's Ludging.



THE eccentric genius, Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, who claimed royal descent through the said Lady Mary Stewart, published an interesting work of his royal ancestress, entitled the *Household Book of Mar*, inserting amongst the illustrations, from his own pencil, a sketch of Mar's Ludging. It is a meagre and poor work of art without attempt at delineating in detail its many characteristic ornaments. The intention of the builder, the character of the architecture and sculptured figures and emblems, with its significant inscriptions coupled with the Earl's relation to the owner of the then deserted extensive monastical buildings of Cambuskenneth Abbey (of which the only remains beyond the bare foundations, are the ancient

tower and fragment of a fine arched doorway), raised the traditional controversy now continued and still undecided, of the mansion having been built with stones from the Abbey, ruthlessly pulled down and thus disposed of, and that a curse attending the sacrilege prevented it being ever finished or occupied by its builder. The history of its erection is certainly obscure ; but architects emphatically refute the above suggestion, and declare that all the building details have been carefully designed and executed for the positions the stones occupy, or if any such, these must have been altered to suit the original intention of the architect. No stone having an ecclesiastical character is embodied in the structure, while the inscriptions founded on to support the tradition have no significance, but are merely moral or religious mottoes, as was the fashion of the period, as all antiquarians know.

We notice two emblems of a religious character, viz., what seems the "Bambino," forming with its cross bandages an upright pillar, but the face is of an adult, not a child, and an inscription "nisi dominus," (p. 52) under the spread wings of an angel. Mr. Archibald, a local



geologist, at our request, specially examined the stones of the existing ruins of the Abbey, and compared them with those of the ruined Mar Mansion. He reported that both buildings were erected of two kinds of stones and from the same quarries. This, of course, is not conclusive. From Timothy Pont's old plan of Stirling, 1620,

the Mansion is shewn with the two towers having their cone-shaped roofs, and the building otherwise appears complete and entire.

The building, which authoritative architects describe as having more affinity to the Gothic style than to the Jacobean Renaissance, and resembles in some respects the Palace in Stirling Castle and Falkland Palace, has a series of sculptured figures (life size), emblems, and monograms, as well as the inscriptions referred to. A row of emblems on each alternate stone, forms the seventh course from the lintels of the base doorways, extending from gable to gable and around the two towers; above it, and similarly set at regular intervals, are half length figures, and where unmutilated can be identified as cavaliers, ladies, and musicians, etc., in French costumes of the period of erection, which were then in fashion at both the English and Scotch Courts. The other carvings and pillars, which the half length figures support, are in keeping with those on the Palace of Stirling Castle, erected in 1529 by James V. We know James V. hired French architects; and French workmen were sent to him by the Duke of Guise, his brother-in-law. In April, 1539, he, by his letters, appointed "Nycolas Roy, Frenchman," Master Mason for Scotland, and "six French masons," "with miners (quarriers) from Lorain," were sent by the Duke; and in 1559, Queen Mary appoints "John Koytell," apparently a Frenchman, master mason. We find that about the period of erection, work was being done on Edinburgh and Stirling Castles, and the author of the illustrated work, *Master Masons for Scotland*, expresses his opinion that the two Palaces, Stirling Castle and Falkland, bear French characteristics, with hints of the Renaissance superadded to the Gothic, after the Parisian or Orleans type. The stones used in the Stirling Palace



erection were blue, hard and difficult of being chiselled, and came from Kingudy on the banks of the Tay, four miles west of Dundee.

Mr. Honeyman, R.S.A., architect, an authoritative antiquarian, expresses an opinion that the original Mar building stood exactly in the centre of an enclosure extending from the Church to a point 32 feet north of the west gable, that it seemed to have been commenced by the Regent Mar in 1570, and was almost, if not altogether, completed at his death in 1572.

The octagonal towers have doors in front with internal stairs communicating with the upper storey, and in the basement, three vaults or booths, on each side of the towers, are like shops. The basement is isolated from the upper storey and the centre passage through the archway has no opening on either side, nor had a gate at the courtyard end (p. 70). The main entrance to the upper storey being, he suggests, from the court side.

The inscriptions over the tower doorways are :—

On North Tower.

THE MOIR I STAND ON OPPIN HITHT
MY FAVLTIS MOIR SVBIECT AR TO SITHT.

On South Tower.

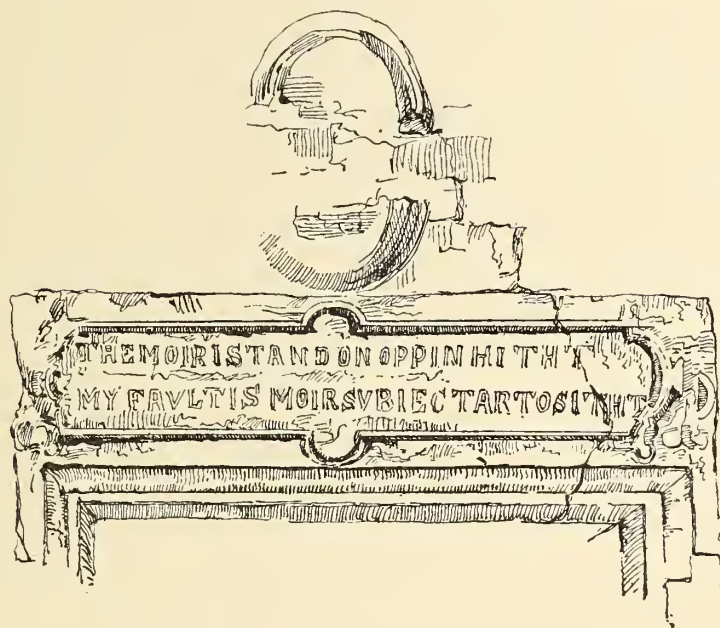
I PRAY AL LVIKARIS ON THIS LVGING
VITH GENTIL E TO GIF THAIR IVGING.

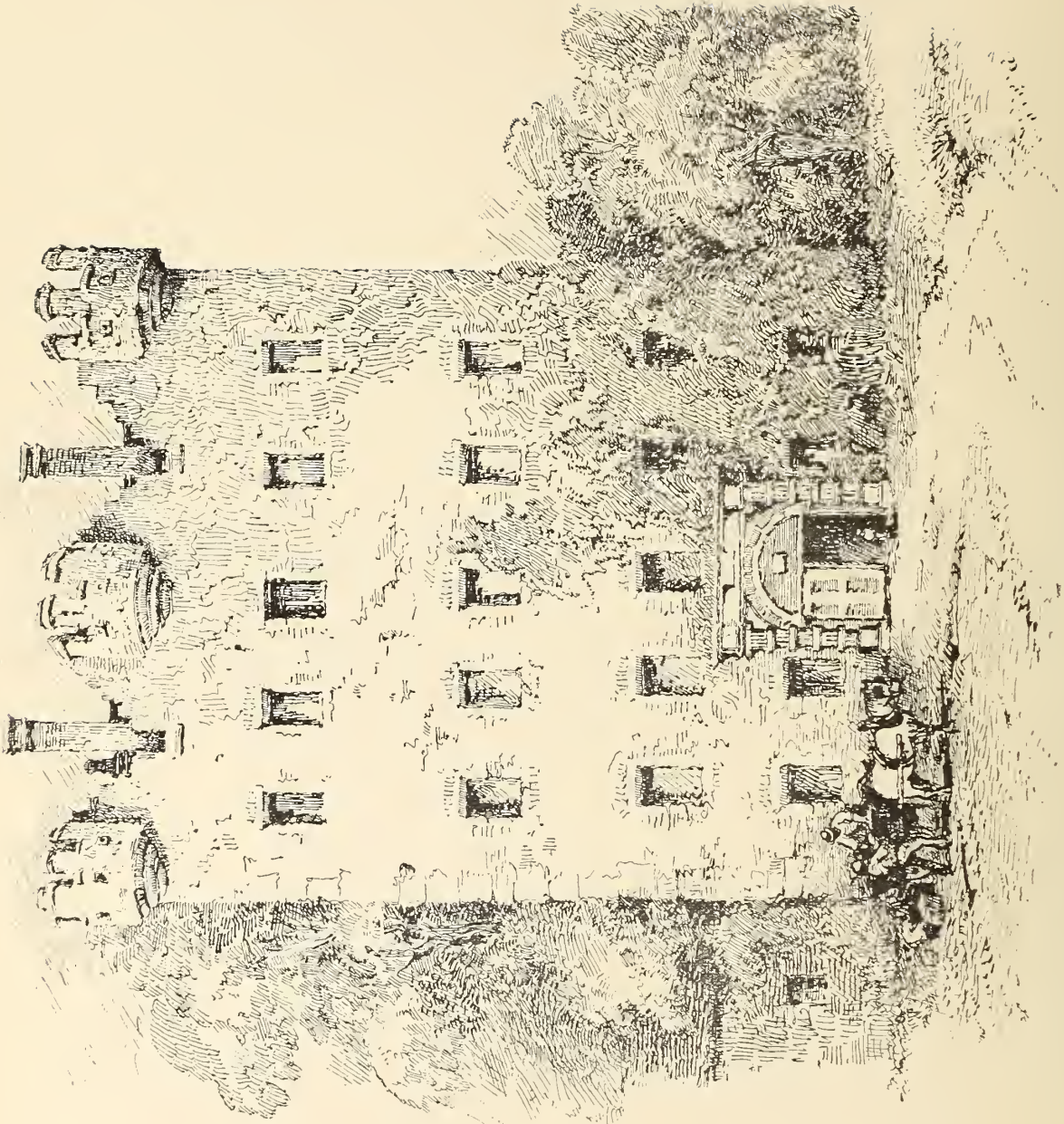
Over Rear Archway.

ESSPY · SPEIK · FVRTH · AND · SPAIR · NOTHT
CONSIDDIR · VEIL · I · CAIR · NOTHT.

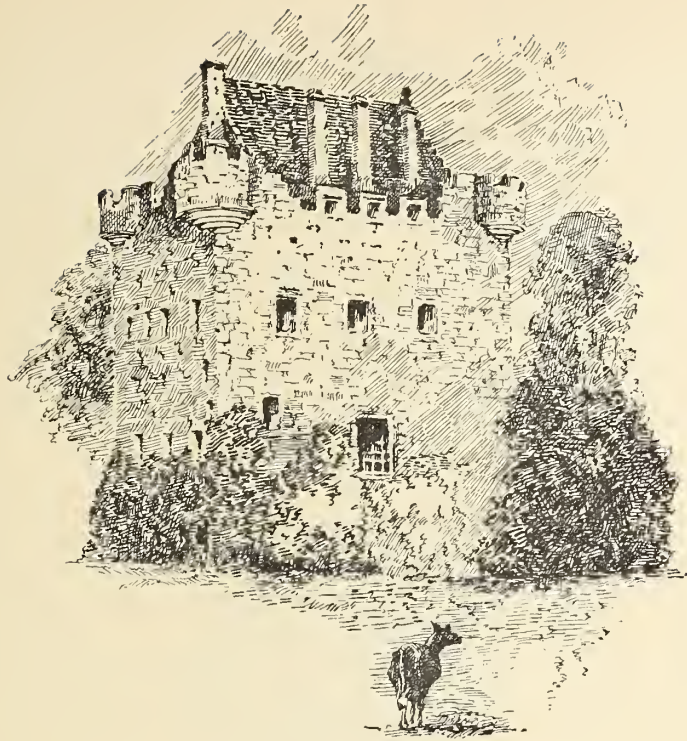
The inference—almost a certainty—is that the King's French architect or master mason, drew the design. It may be that some

of the French workmen on the Palace were employed, and that stones from the same quarry were used. The close friendship and the favour with which the Regent was regarded by the Royal Family supports this inference.





Mar Tower.



CHAPTER VI.

Regent Mar's Country Mansion, Alloa Tower.

A SQUARE massive tower of three storeys, with walls six feet, and in some places eleven feet thick, with recesses, and a tower about eighty-nine feet high, with corner turrets, and fine antique porch with crest and griffen. Of the date of the erection of this venerable and interesting feudal relic, which is the oldest complete edifice standing in this district, perhaps in Scotland, history is silent, but it must be very early, and tradition attributes it to a king. It was excambed by David II. with Lord Erskine, the lands

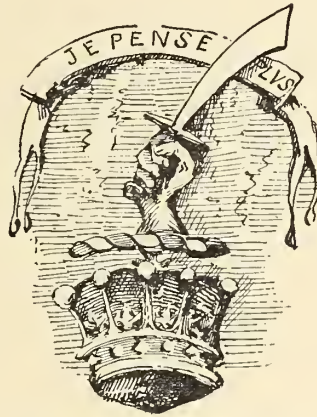
exchanged being in Perthshire. It was occupied successively by the Mar families, the hereditary custodiers of Stirling Castle and keepers of the young princes. Many monarchs resided and received their education there, notably Queen Mary, James VI., and his son, Prince Henry.

The possessions of this powerful and wealthy family included the Barony "de Alway, cum castro, fortalio, molindinis," etc., and were held off the crown direct.

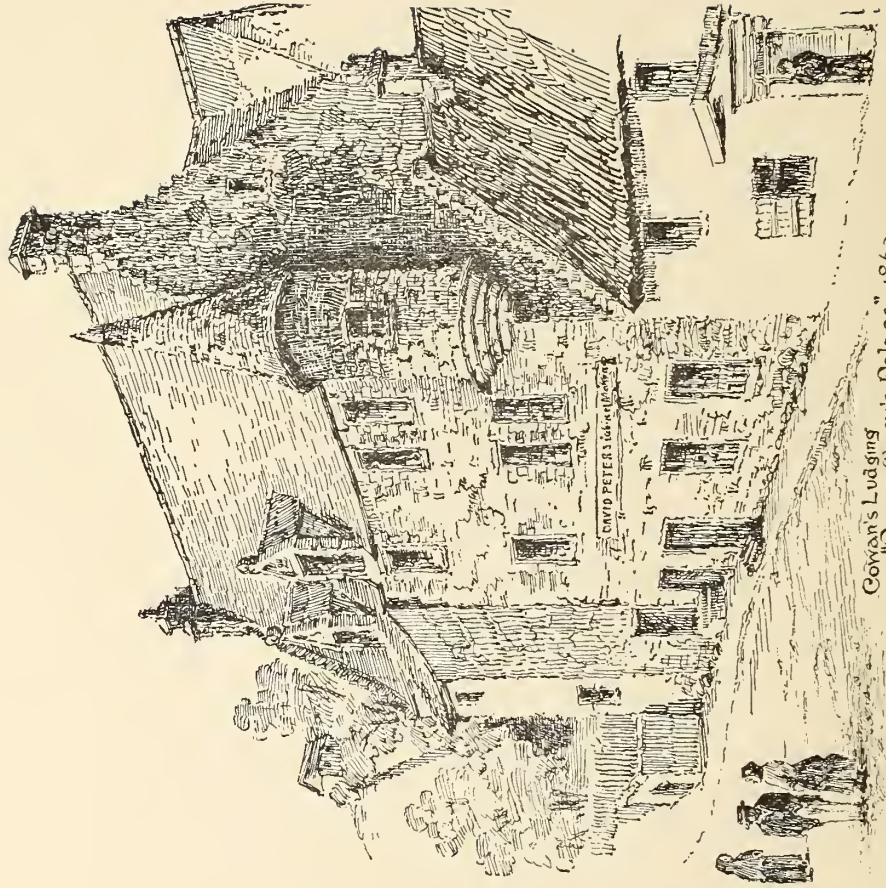
As an illustration of the important possessions and offices held in *Stirlingshire* alone (in Clackmannanshire, Perthshire, etc., these were more extensive and important) ere the family's decline and subsequent attainder for the part taken in the 1715 Rebellion by Secretary of State Lord Mar (completing the family's fall and leaving it in poverty), we quote a charter by King Charles I., dated 25th March, 1635, to John Earl of Mar, Lord Garioch as heir of John Earl of Mar: "With captaincy and custody of Stirling Castle, with the meadow, formerly Gardyne Buttis, at Gallowhills, with pasture for six horses, superiorities of the Lordships of Stirling, seneschal of Menteith, Lordship of Buchan, etc., etc., lands and Mill of Cultenhove, Sheriffship of Stirling, Lands of Cambusbarron with patronage of the Chapel of Cambusbarron, Abbey of Dryburgh, Priory of Inchmaholm, and Church Lands of St. Ninians; Lands, Baronies, and Churches, Teinds, and others of old of the Abbey of Camkuskenneth, etc., the Lands of Raploch, called the King's Raploch, the brae or bank called 'the Hauch' or Haining, the tiends of Kirktown *alias* St. Ninians Kirk, etc."

It is outside our province to deal with family histories, except in so far as assisting in the identification of the buildings and ownership of these ancient mansions, and the Mar family has an ancient

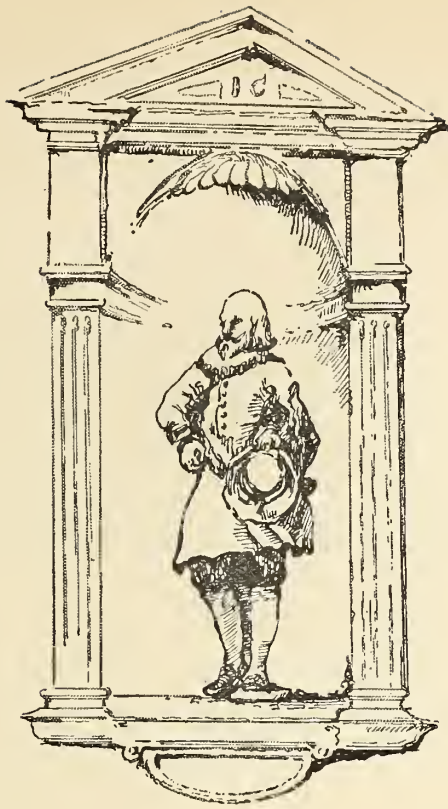
and interesting record for historians. It is a sad reflection, this ancient and powerful family, stripped of its many high offices, depleted of its vast possessions, and impoverished by the extravagances of its members, ending with the attainder and forfeiture of its title by the unlucky and prominent part played by the Secretary in the Rebellion of 1715.



Crest over doorway.



Gowan's Lodging
"Queen Mary's Palace." 1860.

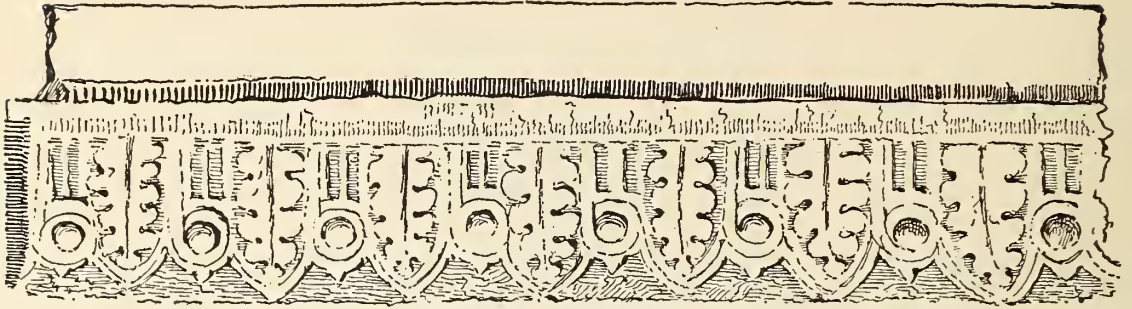


CHAPTER VII.

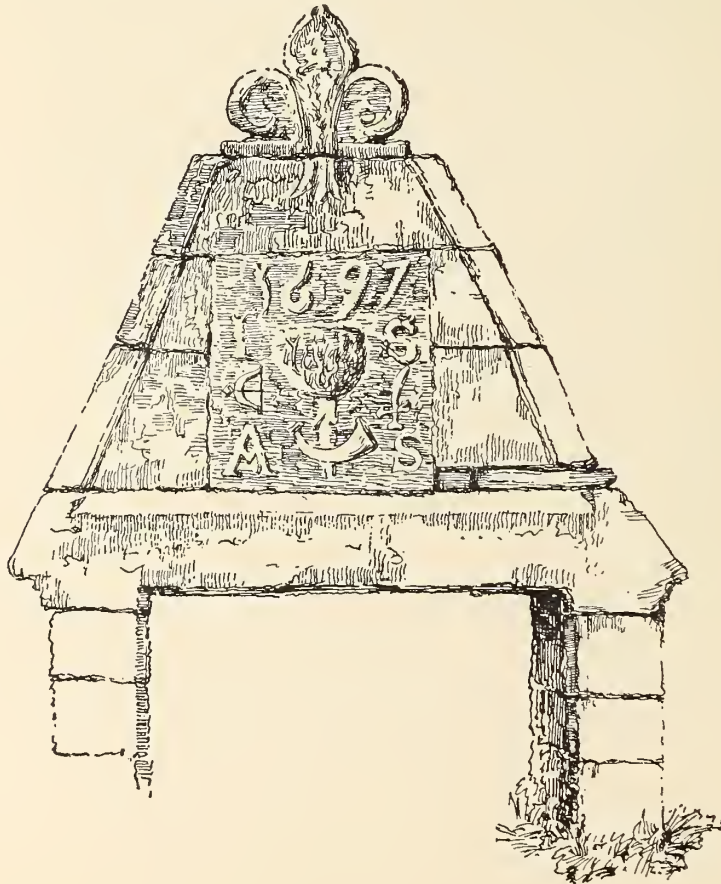
The Cowane Mansion House.

THIS Ludging is next in architectural and historical interest to the Ludgings of the Earls of Mar and Stirling before described. It is situated on the west side of the ancient "*Vennal of le Virgin Marie*," now St. Mary's Wynd. The building is now in ruins. There have been two distinct buildings side by side, united by a passage, and the outer, or street house, is of more ancient construction than its back neighbour; and the building also shows signs of two distinct periods of alteration, and also of the re-erection of its upper portion.

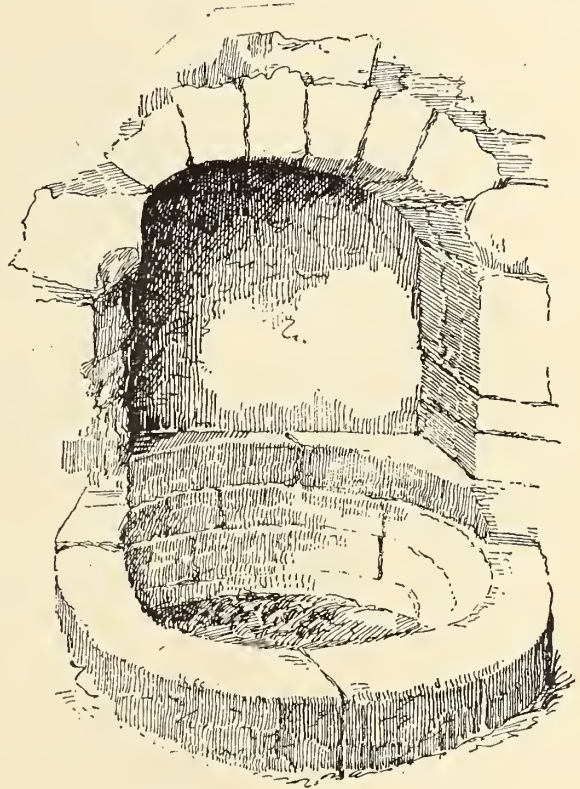
The front building, as shown on the sketch (opposite), taken as the building appeared about the year 1860, shows an original frontage of three storeys, with two fine dormer windows, having the dates 1633 and 1697



respectively, and initials and monogram representing John and Alexander Cowan (see heading, Wester Polmaise) and John and Alexander Short. The later dormer contains a coat-of-arms, a tree with hunting-horn slung across its trunk, a bent bow with arrow set, on the right, and hunting-knife on left. It may be the arms of the Short family (sketch below).



The building has a square staircase in the front, and turrets on the east and west corners of the north gable (sketch page 90). It is about 100 feet in length, with gables 5 feet thick, the southmost, containing the kitchen flue, being the thickest. The general building is composed of the commonest rubble, the small stones being bound by the old lime, which is, even at this date, as hard as the stones themselves, but the windows and door jambs, lintels, and soles of the first two storeys—the more ancient part of the building—are finely moulded, and the present projecting staircase has evidently replaced an old outshot, or outside stair of some kind, with an entrance through a door yet visible, although built up in the second storey. From the very ancient draw well in an alcove of the kitchen, and the mouldings of doors, etc., this part of the building is evidently about 100 years earlier than 1633, the earliest date on the dormers. Probably its erection may be attributed to the end of the fifteenth century, and the date on the dormer must therefore refer to the rebuilding of the upper part and back house. There was also attached behind this building a large hall or chapel, 16 × 16 feet, with circular arched ceiling 16 feet high, two fine stone carved fire-places (sketch page 91), and



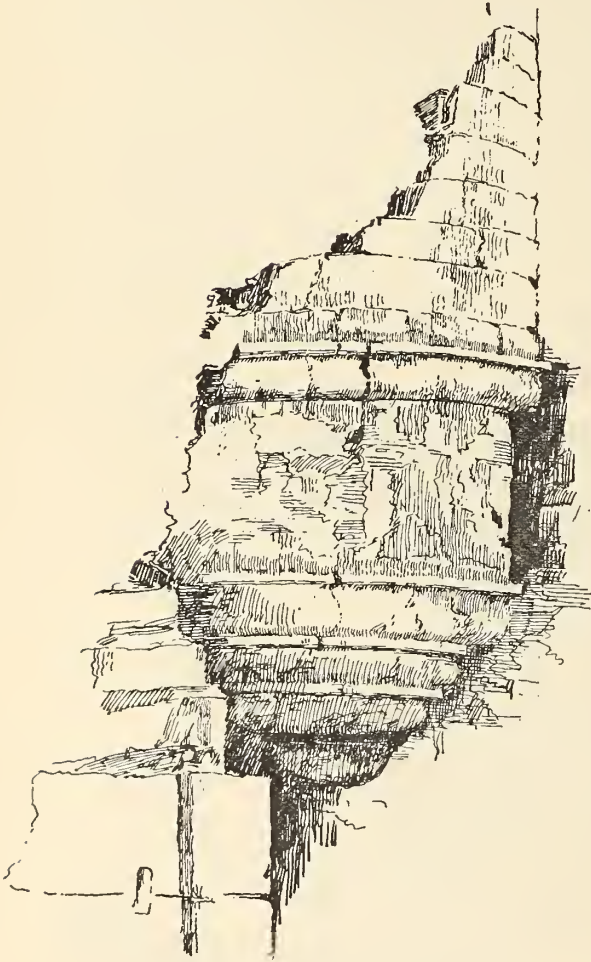
seven large square windows, having oak carved linings, of which the headpiece, page 88, is a sketch, all now gone. It is popularly alleged that an opening shown adjoining the staircase is a subterranean passage to the castle. The north port gate of the town stood at its front.

In Mr. Cook's article on John Cowane's life there is corroboration

from the Registers of Sasines of the result of our examination of the buildings themselves of an earlier possession by the Cowane family than 1633, the name of "John Cowane, merchande," grandfather of John Cowane, Stirling's benefactor, appearing in 1544, in the first quarter, or Mary's Wynd district; and the continuous possession by the Cowane family is a fact having an important bearing on the identification of the owner of this mansion house.

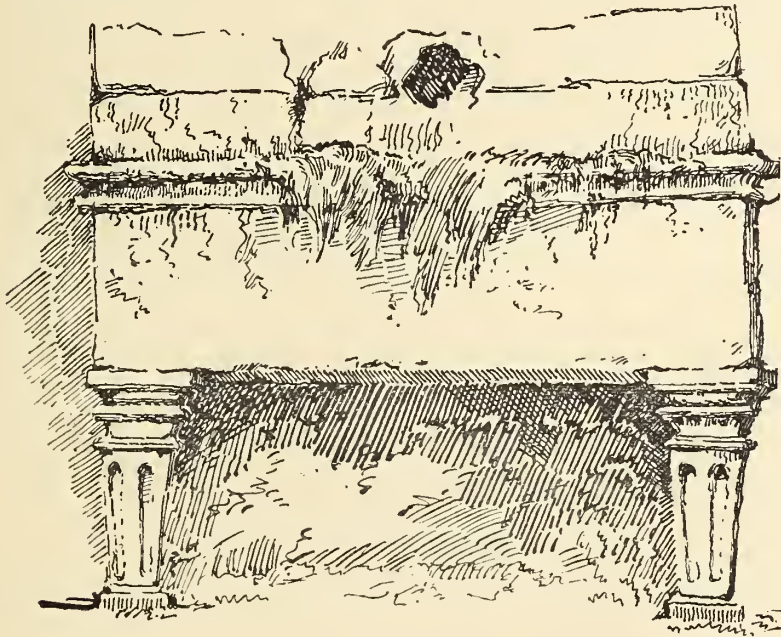
Dr. Rogers claims as its original owner the Regent Morton, and that the chapel or banquetting-hall was used by the Earl for sumptuous banquettings to the foreign ambassadors on his reception of them with their credentials. If this were

so, the hall would have a tragic interest, as it was at one of these banquets, in April, 1579, Chancellor the Duke of Athole was poisoned.



This requires that the Ludging should have been owned until the Regent's death in 1587, when it was, Dr. Rogers says, first acquired by the Cowanes. No deed or authority showing a connection with Regent Morton is offered or referred to. Architects agree that the building can be traced, from its style of architecture, to have been erected in the sixteenth century.

Mr. Cook says Bailie Andrew Cowane, John's father, on 4th April, 1580, bequeathed this property to his son James, a surgeon, who having predeceased him, it passed to Andrew's two other sons, John (the benefactor of Stirling), and Alexander, a surgeon, whose daughter, Agnes, was married to James Schort, merchant. From the above



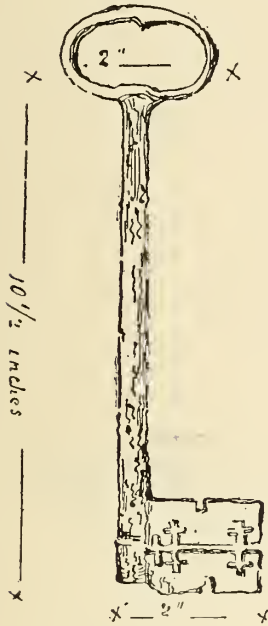
information we can only guess that the front and older building was erected either by John Cowane (the grandfather), early in the sixteenth century, or by Andrew Cowane, the wealthy merchant, about 1563 ;

that he added the back house in 1603; and, subsequently, that the whole upper part of the building was carried up a storey, the turret added, and the internal parts much improved by the wealthy sons, John and Alexander, and completed in 1633. The subsequent addition of J. S. and A. S. 1697, were made on the dormer after Alexander and John Schort, his nephews, succeeded to it. John Cowane (Stirling's benefactor) died in 1633, when Alexander succeeded to it as his younger brother and heir; by his death, in 1644, it passed to Alexander Schort; and at his death, about 1663, to John Schort, provost, who died in 1654.

From the title deeds by disposition and assignation, dated 17th September, 1762, Albert Munro, with consent of Hew Mackaill, apparent heir of his mother, Elizabeth Schort, daughter of deceased Alexander Schort, in decret of sale against the creditors of Elizabeth Schort, *inter alia*, conveys to Archibald Brown of Greenbank, Elizabeth's just and equal third of that tenement of land lying in the Mary Wynd of the burgh of Stirling, as lately possssed by herself and Ann Schort, her sister, and Catherine and Elizabeth Ann Brays, her nieces, height and length, back and fore, with the close, yeard, well, and pertinents thereof *belonging of old to Alexander Cowane, merchant, granduncle to Alexander Schort, merchant in Stirling, her father, and son of umquhile John Schort, Provost of Stirling*. This deed, by which the property for the first time during a continuous possession of fully two hundred years, passed for ever from the Cowane family, takes up and continues the connection from Alexander Cowane, John's brother. By disposition and assignation, dated 8th February, 1764, the said Archibald Brown, with consent of Ann Schort and her nieces, Katherine and Elizabeth Ann Brays, *conveys* the property to James

Scott and Thomas Gilfillan. In November, 1771, having been used as a carpet weaving factory, it was thereafter sold by the creditors to Patrick Connal for £100. It passed by succession from Patrick Connal to his sons, and it is then described as "commonly called *The Carpet Manufactory House.*"

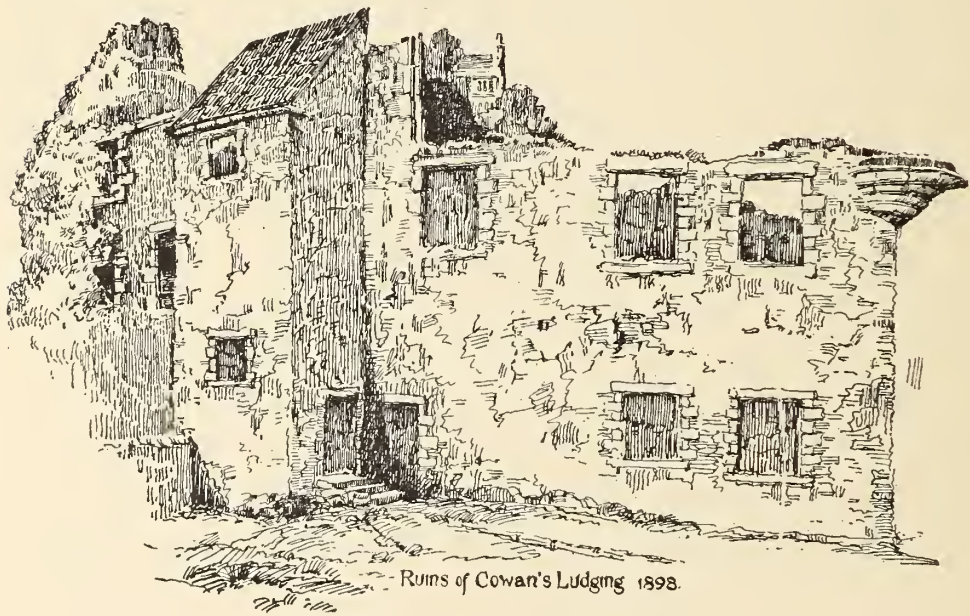
When in Patrick Connal's possession, it may be of interest to learn that he gave a tack of it to John M'Gibbon, writer in Stirling, Town Treasurer, appointed by the Lords of Council and Session, and as authorised by *the Managers of said Burgh* (the town having been at this time disfranchised by reason of its corrupt Magistracy and Council, was under managers), of date 1st April, 1776, "for behoof of the community of the said Burgh, and for the purposes of schools, and accommodating the masters thereof within the same."

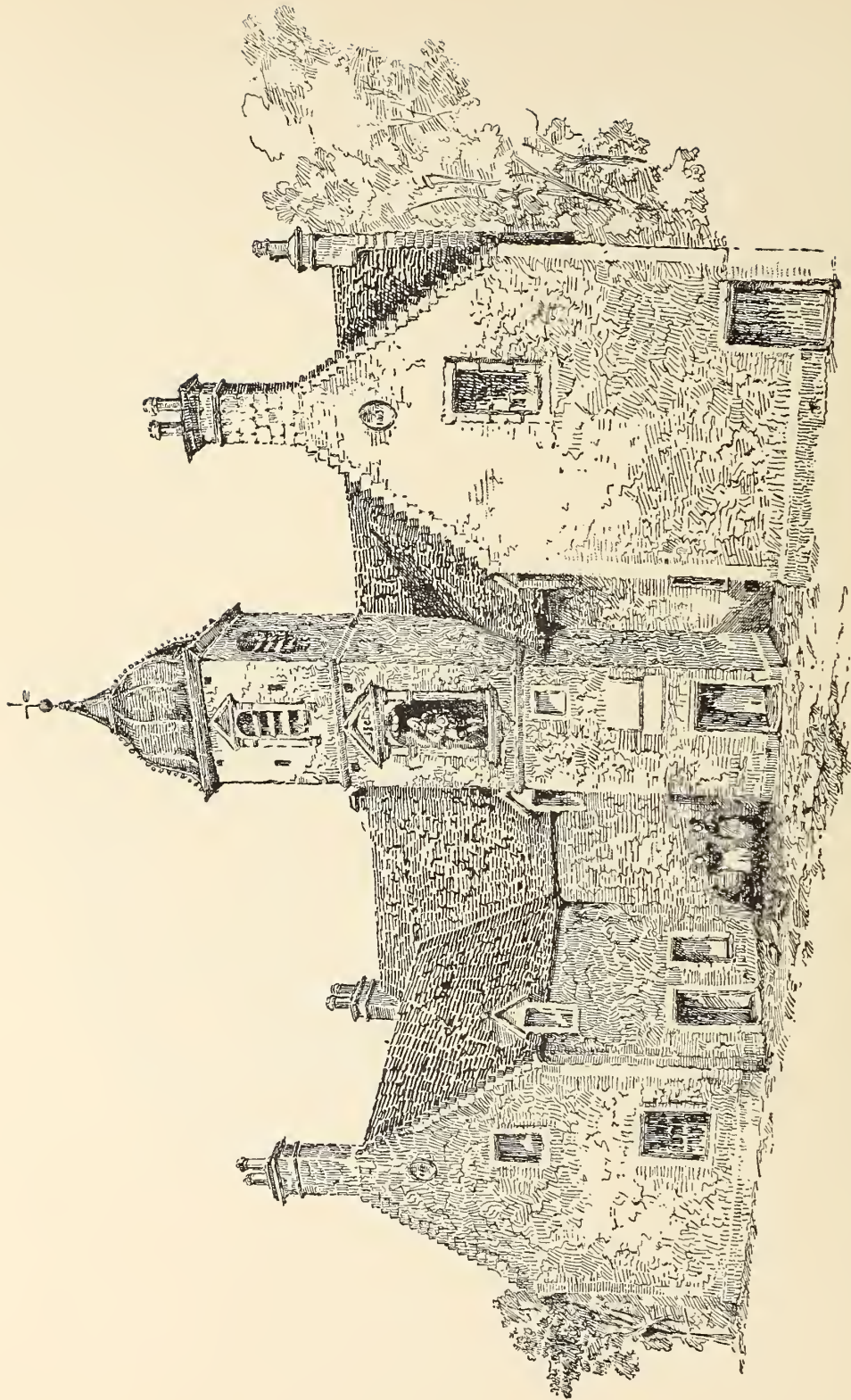


The property seems to have been in a state of great dilapidation by non-occupation after the failure of the Carpet House Company, Scott & Gilfillan, as, while reserving a cellar behind the house, commonly called the "Milne House," Patrick Connal is to repair and make sufficient the floor in the upper kitchen, and to glaze the windows, "which are not so at present."

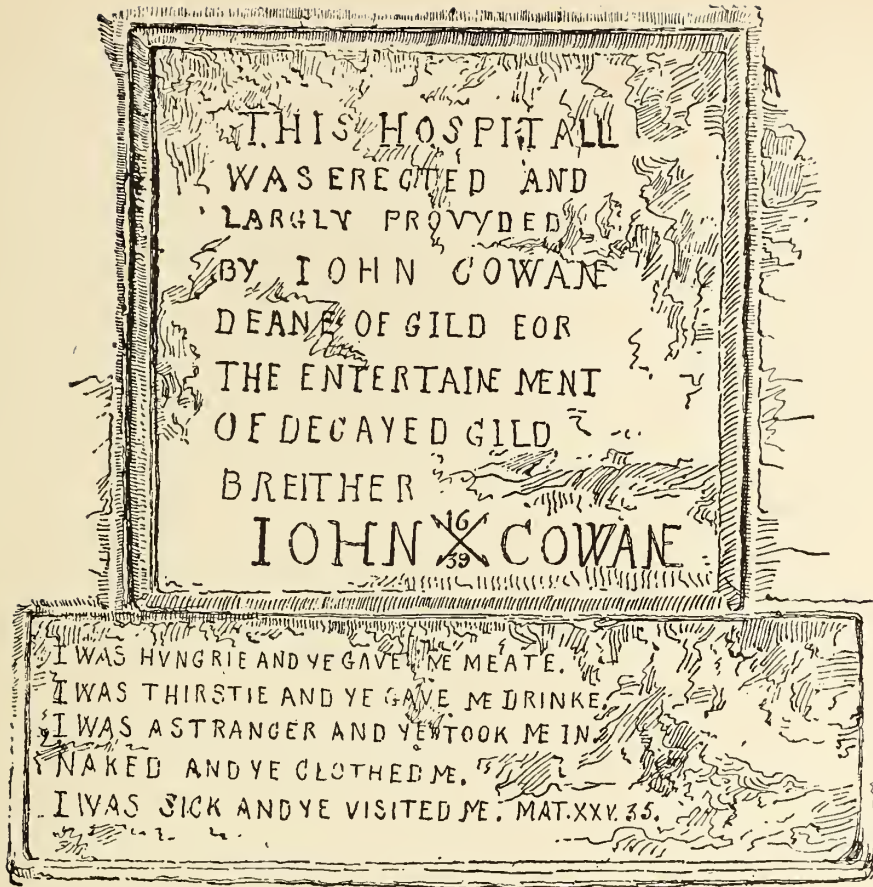
This building, the undoubted ancestral family residence, and, almost for certain, the birthplace of John Cowane, Stirling's most generous benefactor, was unroofed some years ago by order of the

Town Council, the patrons of his Hospital, on the plea of its being in a dangerous condition, and has ever since been totally neglected by the very patrons of the house he founded. Whoever is to blame, the neglected condition of this ancient mansion reflects on the gentlemen representing the institution John Cowane founded, and to the town's people, who so largely benefitted for above two centuries by his handsome provision for them, it is little less than a scandal. The handsome oak carving was taken away; only scraps remain of what surrounded the hall windows, of which we give a sample; and also a sketch of the massive door-key of the mansion.





Cowan's Hospital.



CHAPTER VIII.

John Cowane's Hospital.



A LARGE two storey, crow-stepped gabled house, with two wings and a campanile tower, containing what is represented as the donor's statue (page 87), forms a ground plan of an inverted **m**, the tower and entrance forming the middle limb, and the other two the wings. The dates on it, 1638 and 1639, represent the periods occupied in its

erection, as we find that the Accounts of John Robertson, "one of the Measters" of Cowane's Hospital, begins with "Crop, 1635." The trust must have therefore been administered in an *old house* shortly after John Cowane's death in 1633.

The heading, "Accounts and disbursements dispensit be James Robertson, younger, on the demolishing of ye old house and building of ye new ane in place yrof, calit Cowane's Hospital," shows that the building items run from Whitsunday, 1636, to October, 1638, and amounted to £5,502 Scots, and a smaller further expenditure in 1639.

The whole purposes of the mortification, which the donor's brother and heir-at-law, Alexander, voluntarily agreed to, and did reverently and conscientiously carry into effect, are shewn by the contract and agreement and disposition by him of certain lands, bonds, and annual rents, dated "at Stirling on the Threttene day of Februare, the yeir of God Jajvjc threttie and seven yeiris," given to Provost Thomas Bruce and the Councillors and Deacons of Stirling, "representing the hail bodie and communitie thereof," to *dote, mortify* and *bestow* "All and Hail the soume of Fourtie thousand merkis, usuall money of this realme, to be employed on land or annual rent for building and erecting of Ane Hospital or Almous hous, w^t in the said Bur^h to be callit in all tyme cumyng Cowane's Hospitall, and for entertenyng and sustenyng there-intill of the number of Twelf decayed Gildbreithers, actual Burgesses and Indwellaris of the said Bur^h or at least sa manye of them as the yeirlie rent of the said Hospital or Almous hous may be conveniently to susteyne w^t in the same."

Although not a party thereto, Henry Guthrie, minister, signs the deed, and hence, we presume, arises the claim of the first minister and his successor to be a patron.

In the "Measter's" Accounts £30 Scots is entered as Provost Thomas Bruce's expenses "to Edinr. and returning back the time of settling the agreement between Umq. Alexander Cowane and the toune," a significant reminder of the almost immediate death of Alexander after his conveyance; and also a fee to John Williamson, Clerk (Sheriff and Town Clerk), for "writing the writs of the mortified landis."

How long the residence of the "twelve Gild breithers" was continued is uncertain, but the Dormitory was utilized as an hospital during the plague and cholera epidemics, and subsequently occupied as a private school. The Refectory was used as a public meeting place and for assemblies, down to 1852, when the floor between these two apartments was removed and this part of the building formed into the present fine hall, with open oak roof and stained glass windows—the larger east window containing the repetition of John Cowane's statue and Gildry arms, by Ballingall.

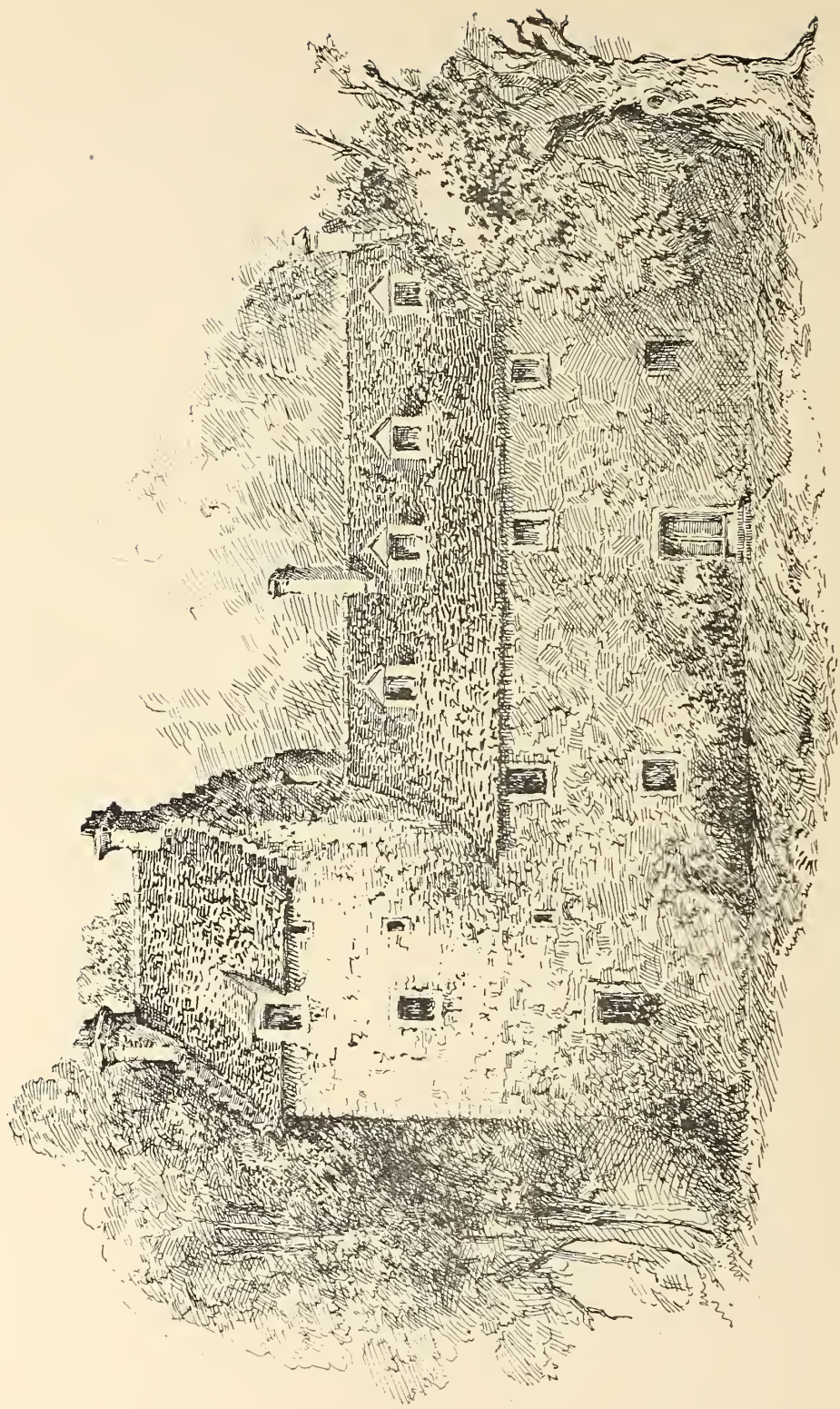
Of the various articles preserved connected with John Cowane and the Gildry, the most valuable and interesting is the old oak carved coffer, with its moral and religious texts (reproduced from the building itself), gifted by Alexander Cowane, apparently in his brother's name, in 1636, to contain the Gildry muniments and title deeds—no doubt the Deed of Mortification principally. Its acquisition was a valuable and appropriate addition to the Hospital and hall, and its donor is entitled to the best thanks of the whole community. The chest has evidently been made by a foreigner, as shown by the misspelling and use of "cittie." A common practice at that period was to obtain all oak carving from Holland. It is almost certainly Dutch work.

The inscription reads—

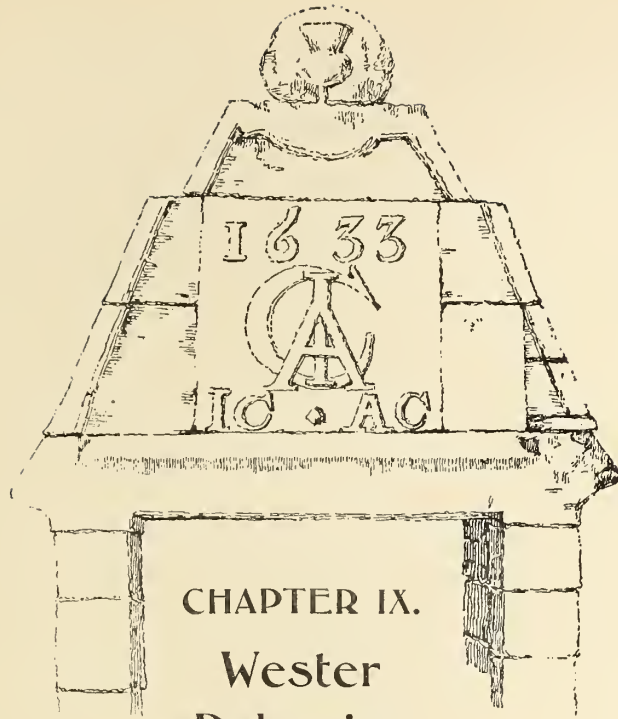
“ NO BETTER THOUGHT THIAN THINCKE
ON GOD AND DAYLY HIM TO SERVE.
NO BETTER GYFT THAN TO YE POORE
WHYCHE READIE ARE TO STERVE.
MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE
BUT BY EVERIE
WORD THAT PROCEEDETH OUT OF THE MOUTH
OF YE LORD.
IOHN COWANE'S GVIFTE TO YE CITTIE OF
STERLING 1636.”

“ IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE
THEN TO RECEIVE.
I WAS HUNGRIE AND YE GAVE ME MEATE.
I WAS THIRSTIE AND YE GAVE ME DRINK.
I WAS A STRANGER AND YE TOOK ME IN.
NAKED AND YE CLOTHED ME.
I WAS SICK AND YE VISITED ME.”





Old Wester Palmaise Mansion.



CHAPTER IX.
Wester
Polmaise
or Stewart Hall

FORMED part of the ancient Barony of Polmaise Cunningham belonging to the Cunningham family, and came into the Murray family through a daughter, Cristina Cunningham, having married William Murra of Tulchadam. From a charter dated 9th November, 1475, where she is designed as his relict, it appears she survived him.

Alexander Cowan, the esteemed brother of John, in whom was reposed implicit confidence to carry out the magnificent endowments with which John had entrusted him on his death-bed, was joint owner of Cowan's Ludging in St. Mary's Wynd, and his initials appear, in conjunction with those of his brother, and the date 1633, on one of the dormers (above sketch). He acquired this small, detached estate, and for distinction from the other Polmaises, he named it "Polmaise Cowan." It is a three-storey square tower, having crow-stepped gables

and high-pitched roof, with a turret stair on the east gable and many small windows, some mere slits, and has a more modern east wing of two storeys. Remains of an older wall exist, on part of which this wing appears to be built. The Mansion is surrounded by some fine old trees (see sketch, page 102).

No date, initials, or carving of any kind is visible on the external walls, but from its style, perhaps the third decade of the seventeenth century may be prescribed as its date and when Alexander Cowan purchased the estate. Alexander Cowan married Anna, daughter of Sir John Stirling of Keir, and in their marriage contract he is designated as of Wester Polmaise. He died precedent to his wife, and she by her marriage contract was vested in the estate as survivor. She died in 1639, childless, and on 19th October of that year her brother, Archibald Stirling of Garden, served himself heir to her in the estate which is there called "Polmaise Cowan," and as being situated on the north bank of the water of Bannockburn. Sir Archibald Stirling, who was a senator of the College of Justice, succeeded also to Sir George Stirling of Keir in the Keir estates on 15th August, 1667.

Sometime prior to 1777, John Stewart purchased this estate and Mansion House, then called the Barony of Polmaise Cowan, along with goose croft, clay croft, and Bolfornought. Being in difficulties, he executed a trust deed, dated 27th August of that year, to John Hay, accountant, but on 15th May, 1784, he gets re-assignation thereof from his trustee, and he is designated then as of Stewart Hall—the name having been changed by him. On 14th May, 1792, James Stewart succeeds as heir of provision to John Stewart, son of Archibald Stewart, his brother, on his disposition, dated 20th August, 1764; and on 19th August, 1800, David Stewart, W.S., succeeds as heir of line and pro-

vision to James, his brother, and the property is called the Barony of Stewart Hall, formerly Polmaise Cowan.

The Mansion has remained in the Stewart family and still retains their name. Dr. Rodgers identifies it as the tower in which the ill-fated Lady Grange, in 1732, was detained for many months in strict imprisonment, prior to her captivity in the Hebrides, having been brought from Edinburgh by midnight stages. This incident is referred to in Dr. Kenneth Macleays' *Memoirs of Rob Roy*. The description of the fabric exactly corresponds to this tower at the period of her imprisonment, which was from 22nd April to 15th August, 1732, and she was thence carried to Callendar, blindfolded, on horseback. Her husband, Lord Grange, a senator of the College of Justice, being a Jacobite, feared that his wife (a woman of violent temper), who had learned their secrets, might compromise him and other noblemen similarly involved. The Keir family, the owners of the Mansion at that time, were also Jacobites, and hence may have given the use of the tower.

A small, grey granite tombstone was, in 1899, sent by the Earl of Mar to mark the grave of that ill-fated lady in the old churchyard of Trumpin at Waternish, Skye, where she was interred by her husband.



From Cowan's Lodging.



CHAPTER X.

Robert Spittal's Mansion, Coldoch.

SPITTAL'S philanthropy, especially in bridge building, extended to the Brig of Doune. The above sketch of the tablet and the inscription still upon it, with quaint lettering and phraseology, makes it interesting. It contains in addition the Spittal arms, which are "an eagle displayed, sable membered, and armed gules between three crescents of the base, and his implement of trade."

IN GOD IS AL MY TRAST
 QOD SPITTEL THE X,
 DA OF SEPTEMBER IN
 THE ZEIR OF GOD IM
 VXXXV ZEIRS FUN

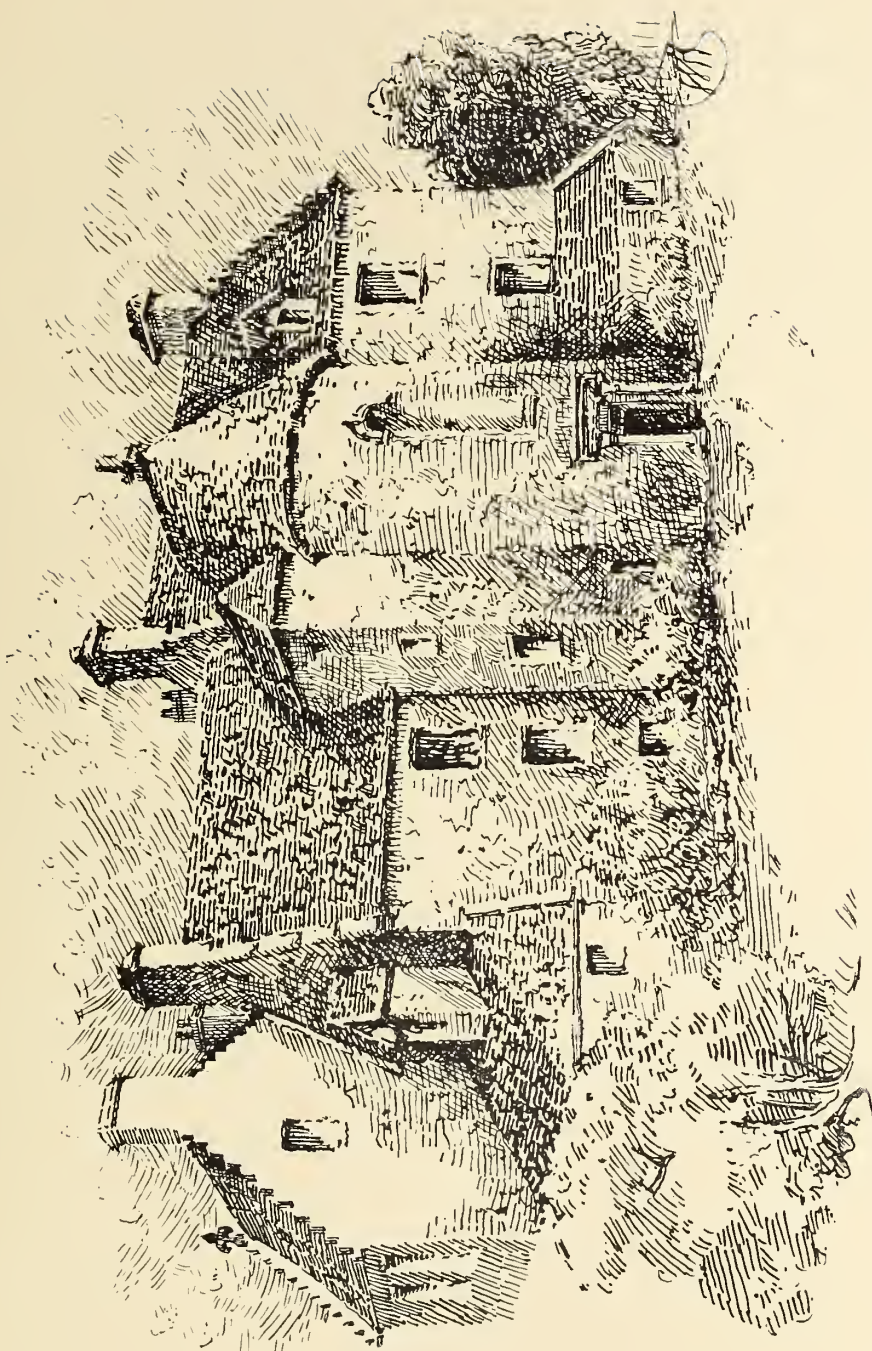
DID WES THIS BRIG
 BE ROBERT SPITTEL
 TAILZOR TO IJE MAIST
 NOBLE PRECES MARGARET
 SPOVS TO KING JAMES Y FEIRD.

King James "the Feird" was a generous monarch to the "servant of the Queen's Grace," as on 14th August, 1513, he conveys to him the lands of Easter Coldoch in the Lordship of Menteith, extending, etc., and to his heirs male, whom failing, to heirs female, the eldest succeeding without division, the lands being astricted to the King's

Mills ; and an obligation on Robert Spittal to build a mansion with hall, chamber, barn and yard, byres, stables, garden, and other necessary furnishings. In implement of the terms of this obligation of his holding, no doubt, the present old mansion was built by him.

There is a specially interesting previous history connected with these lands—the Royal property—referring to the finding of the Army chest and £4000 in gold coins, hid after the fatal battle of Sauchieburn by James III.'s Treasurer, and discovered by Walter Symson on the field of Sauchie, who gets on 24th January, 1489, from James IV., a charter for his lifetime, *inter alia*, of parts of Coldoch called “Donald Youngstons” and “Wattie Smethistons,” as a reward. It is stated thus:—“*pro suo servicio et recuperacine cujusdam, boxe quarto millium, librarum auri, monetati, et cujusdam gladii quondam Regis Roberti Bruce in bello propre de Strivling, in die Sancti Barnabe.*” James III. seems to have carried his royal ancestor Robert the Bruce's sword to the field as a talisman. The battle was subsequently known as “the field of St. Barnabas day.”

The Mansion (see sketch opposite page), is situated on the banks of a stream, and on the ridge of land overlooking the wide plain of Kincardine Moss, and in full sight of Stirling Castle. The old part consists of a square two storey house, with an east wing, all having crow-stepped gables, a large turret staircase on the north, with ancient door, the original front. The ground floor consists of two large vaulted chambers, each 15 feet square, with the great height of ceiling of 16 feet, and walls 4 feet thick, the upper flat and attics, a labyrinth of passages and small rooms, mere closets with narrow stone passages and stairs. The window jambs, soles, and lintels of older part of building are broad circular mouldings, and the



Baldach Old Mansion.

turret staircase had probably the old clock, the old-fashioned iron works of which were, with some old oak carving, found in an outhouse.

The ancient stables and outhouses have been extensive, and a large garden and some very old timber adjoin.

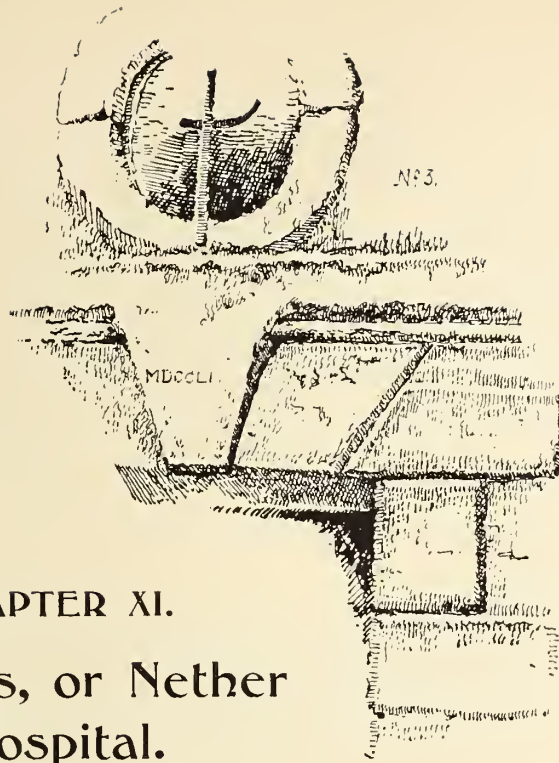
On March 31, 1558, Robert Spittal having died childless, his nephew, Master Nicolanius, Burgess of Edinburgh, succeeded to Easter Coldoch, as his heir male.

A Finlay Spittal, evidently a relation, in 1537 seems to have been in possession of the neighbouring parts of Wester Spittalton of Cessentully, and sold it to a Robert Done. Robert Spittal is a witness to King James V.'s charter of confirmation of the title to him.

In this connection an older two storey farm-house called Spittalton, still used as a dwelling close by, was alleged to be that occupied before the present mansion by Robert Spittal.

When the estate was acquired by Mr. Graham in 1828, he greatly altered and added to the old Mansion House, and affixed his coat-of-arms over a new entrance made on the south side; but much of the old house remains in its entirety.

About five hundred yards west of the Mansion is a very finely preserved small ancient broch of 30 feet within its walls, which are of uncemented stones 15 feet thick, and having galleries or burrows in them. It is included in Dr. Anderson's *Brochs and Forts of Scotland*.



CHAPTER XI. Spittal's, or Nether Hospital.

THE only buildings now representing this Hospital are a house in Spittal Street (No. 82) and the Trades' Hall, with their inscriptions as afternoted.

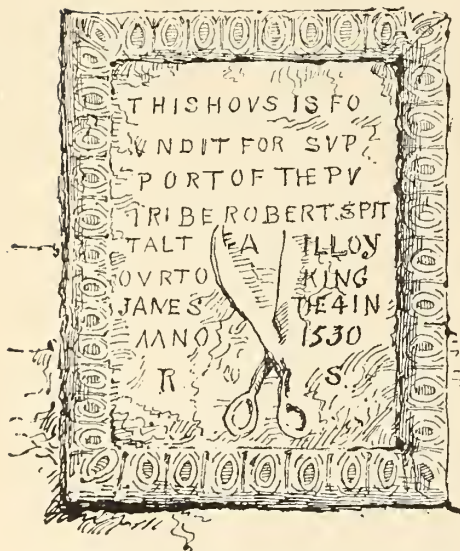
The Spittal Street house (sketch, Shaw of Sauchie), formerly Sir James Shaw of Salky's, between the King's Hie Gait on the north. and the gait called the Back Raw on the south, was conveyed in favour of "Robert Spittal, servant to the Queen's Grace," and was retained by him and used by the Patrons of the Mortification he founded as an Alms House or Hospital. Frequent reference is made in the Town's Records to the Alms House in the Friars' Yaird, and there is no doubt of the identity of this house as Spittal's Hospital property, and it bears evidences of its antiquity. Robert Spittal had properties in various parts of the town, and in 1527, the death-bed declaration of Gilbert Johenson on his question to him of "Gudeman, it is said that ye murmur me sayand I have doune ye gret wrangis in the bigin on your

ground," and the said Gilbert answered, "I sa na thing of ye bot ye are ane gud nebour," shews he was then building. He also acquired Johenson's property on 19th November, 1541, from James V., who, for his good services, *inter alia*, grants to him the land and tenement in the Burgh between his (Spittal's) lands, the lands of Walter, the place of the Fratrum Minorum (*et vicum regium*) King's High Street, which belonged to Robert Johensoun, son and heir of the late Gilbert Johensoun, *escheat* to the King by Robert Johensoun absenting himself in England for fourteen years. The other property given belonged to Robert M'Clere, was also adjacent, and forfeited for similar absence. These properties are on the *south* side of the street, while Robert Spittal's house, above referred to, is on the *north* side.

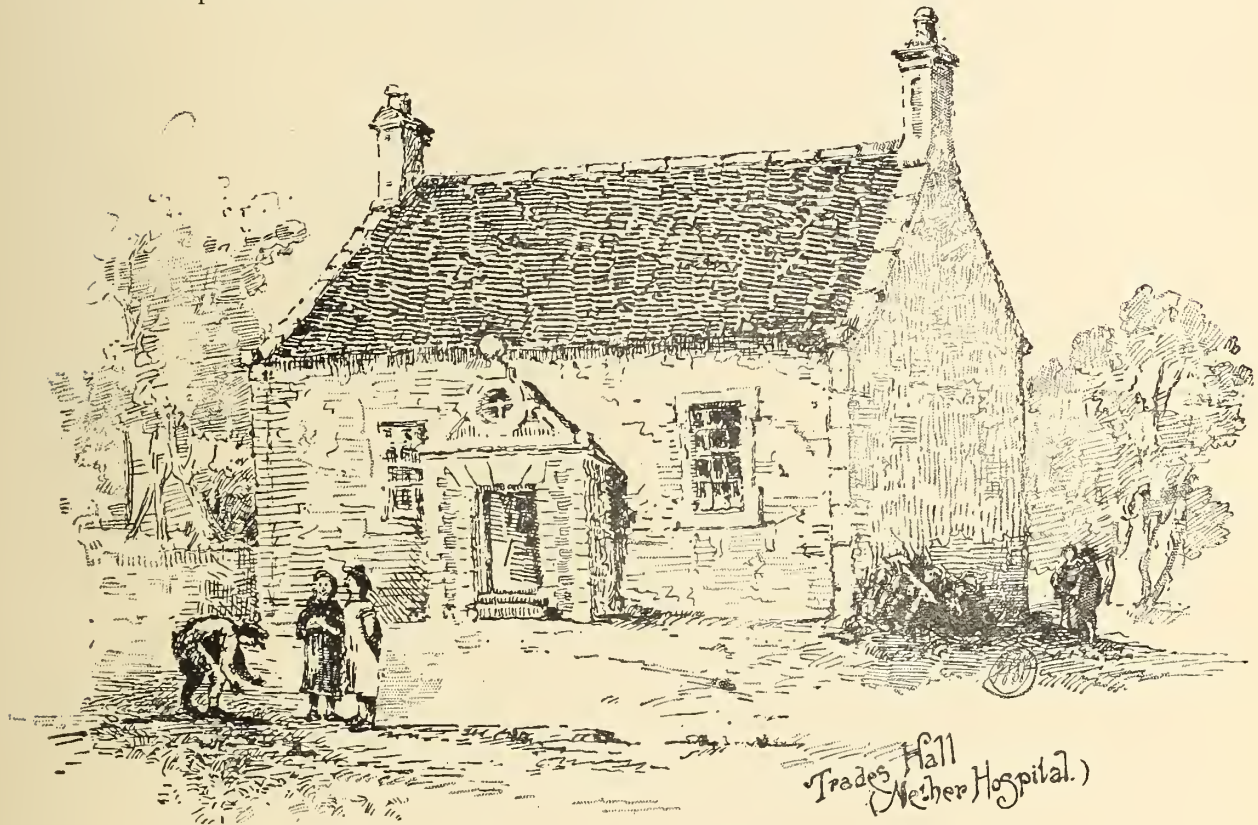
The Spittal Street house, the original appearance of which has been completely changed within recent years by the removal of the turnpike and dormer windows, bears an old inscription with date 1530. The appearance of this stone and quaint lettering points to its execution about that period, and no doubt refers to Spittal's original Almshouse.

The Masters of Hospital were appointed to furnish coats and breeches to the weekly pensioners, and a pew in

the loft of the parish church was allotted to them. They were subject to a strict supervision by the Kirk Session apparently, as on 25th March, 1628, they record: "William Meassoune, puirman in the Hospital, compeared, and being accused for not wearing of his livery,

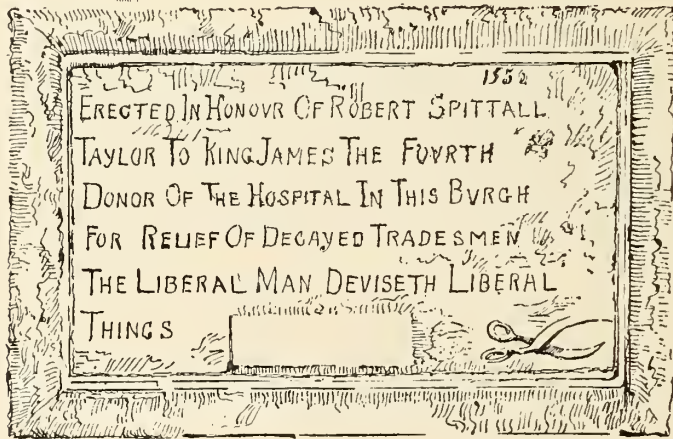


and not keiping of the Kirk, and for his drunkenness, and for wanting his mark off his Gowne sleife, is ordained giffened he be seen awanting his own Gowne, or drunk, or out of the Kirk, or wanting his mark (badge), he should loose his place;" and on 19th December, 1608, "The Maister of the Hospital was ordered not to pay the Beidmen their rents and portions except they make *actual* residence within the Hospital House."



The Trades' Hall (sketch above) also bears an inscription claiming to be erected in honour of Robert Spittal. It was built, as the keystone of the porch doorway shows, in 1751, and is a one-storey house, superiorly built for its period, forming a hall of 36 ft. by 25 ft.

The porch (sketch page 113) is of ancient rustic work, the lintel being one immense stone, and the finishing of window jambs and lintels is in fine masonry. The hall contains a sculptured stone chimneypiece of the period, 8 ft. by $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft., and a marble tablet with inscription. The west outer wall bears the tablet and inscription as shown in the sketch below, but otherwise the building has no historical interest.





CHAPTER XII.

Alms House.

IN the Close No. 78 on the north side of Baker Street, just below the entry to the Boy's Industrial School, formerly John Don's house, and what was anciently a court with numerous small properties, known as "Bell's Close," is a remarkable old two-storey building with a tower and square front gable. It is a small building, 32 ft. by 19 ft. broad, and walls $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick, with a high pitched roof, had only two narrow windows in the upper storey and two small windows and a narrow door to the vaulted apartments forming the ground floor, in the front only, and a small circular window at the back. The entrance doorway in the tower, built of free stone in courses, is now built up, and had finely moulded jambs and lintels. A deep moulding about mid height surrounds the tower and is carried across the front elevation, giving a striking character to the building. The original windows have all been splayed. The limited light, and that only in front, and small

accommodation of the building points to its being one large room, while a small turret stair behind indicates access to one or two apartments in

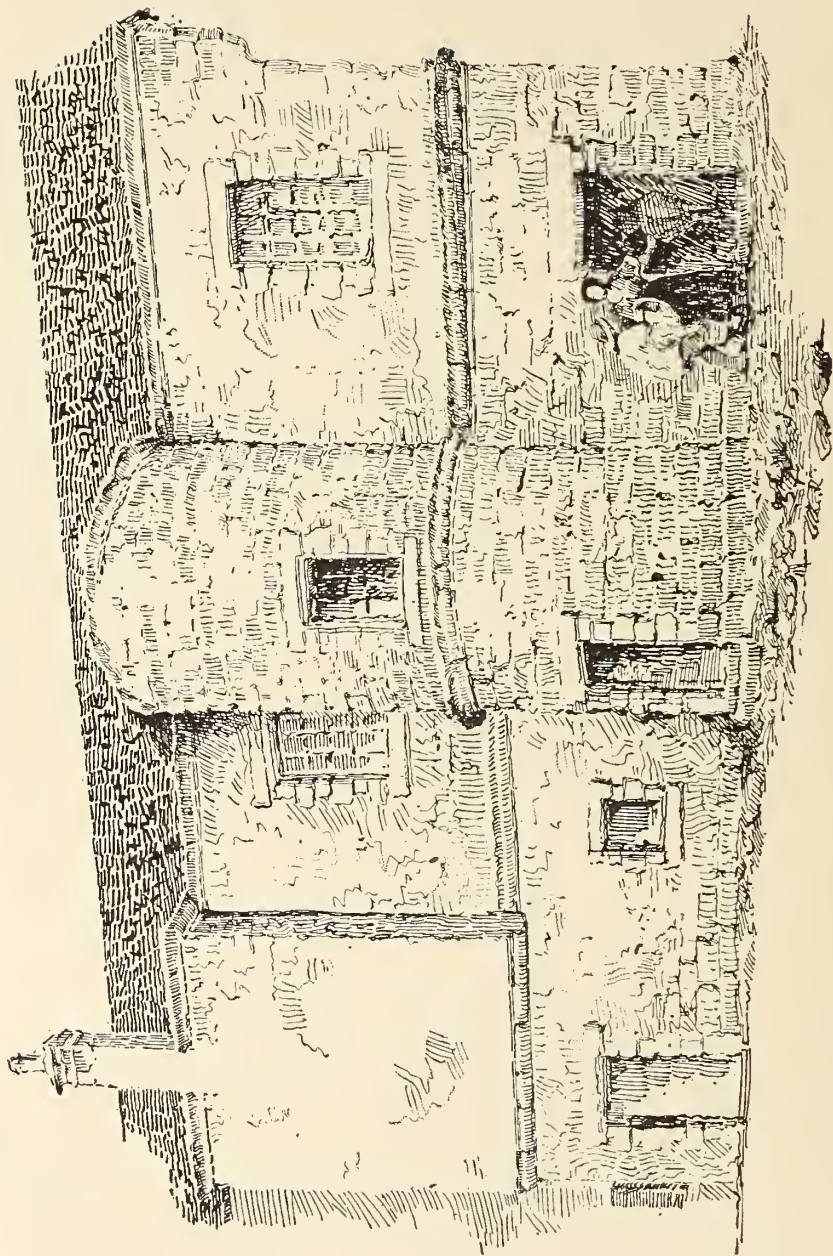


the roof. It seems not built with conveniences suitable for the accommodation of a family, and suggests strongly the idea of an institution or hall.

In the wall of an adjacent modern house is inserted an ancient coat of arms (sketch, p. 122), and above the doorway, in a wing attached to the above School, is inserted another (sketch, heading), both of which are alleged to have been taken from this building when recently repaired. The present proprietors of this property having no title-deeds referring to it, we have had recourse to the title-deeds of the two properties adjoining

and marching, the special distinctive character of such a building being certain to be used as a boundary mark. From the register, we trace "Lawrie's Turnpike" to a William Callander whose creditors adjudged it, on 21st November, 1717, to the Deacons of the Seven Incorporated Trades, along with a tenement at the head of the Middle Row, and they were infest in it on 19th December, 1730. It is described as that tenement called "Lawrie's Turnpike" and as being on the *east* of D. Esplain's tenement, with the High Street (Baker Street) on the south. This makes it clear that Lawrie's Turnpike faced the street, and is some yards farther east from the position of this building, which did and does not come near the street, a large ancient building intervening.

Bell's Close, originally a large court with several tenements in it, was bit by bit absorbed by Mr. Don into the grounds fronting and



Olma House.

surrounding his then new mansion, and the entry, or approach, thereto was also widened, the Town Council relieving him of the church annuals with which these absorbed properties were burdened "for his encouragement in the building of a spacious Ludging at the head of Bell's Close and the wings at the entry thereto."

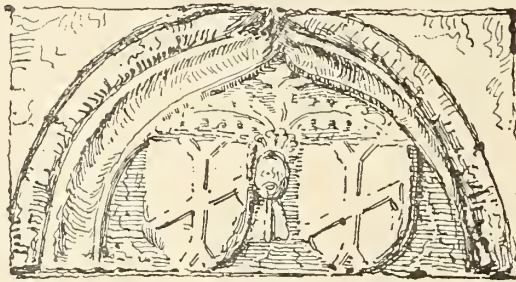
One of these pieces of ground so acquired by Don was originally exchanged by contract of excambion between the Masters of the Nether Hospital and John Wordie of Cambusbarron, dated 1st November, 1712, described "as also including the yaird adjacent to the *old house* called the *Trades Meeting House or Alms House*," with, etc., as the same was possessed by John Allan, etc." (Sketch opposite).

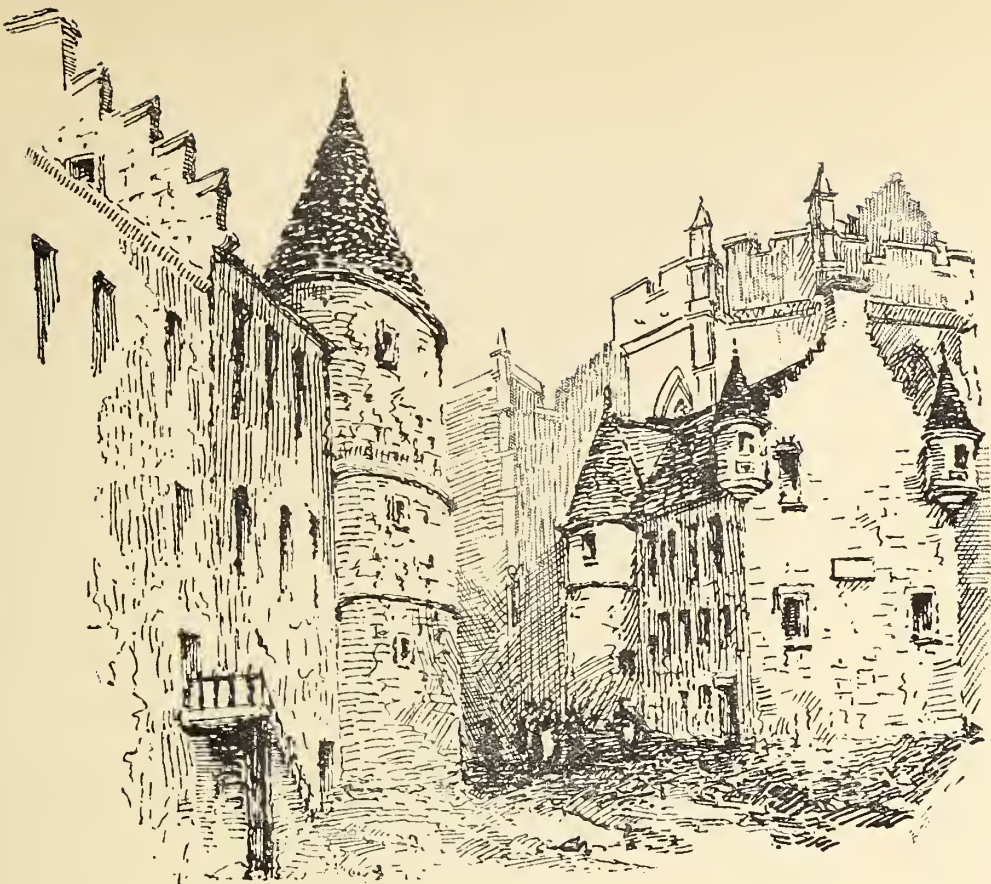
Some confounding of identity of the names "Trades Meeting House" and the Lawrie House purchased from Callander's creditors is apparent, but apparent only, as when this building was named as such, Lawrie's Turnpike was not acquired by the Incorporated Trades until five years after this date, and it retains its very ancient and distinctive name in the Trades' conveyance then obtained. The explanation, therefore, seems that after being used as an alms house, the Trades had used the hall, or large room, as their meeting house until they acquired Lawrie's Turnpike, when their meetings were transferred to these premises.

One of the coats of arms (if such either may be called) consists of two shields, with floral carvings; the other is a plain shield, supported by two naked children, having each in the one hand a long band or garment, and in the other what appears to be an apple, with two cherubs hovering over and protecting them—specially applicable to the shelter given by a sympathetic Town Council, in 1652, "to certain puir bairns greeting and crying nichtlie under the stairs for

fault of ludging," who order a weekly laid of coals to be put into the "*alms house* for them during the winter."

The other coat of arms carry nothing to identify their owner, but may probably have come from Lawrie's Turnpike. As the older Alms House was, previous to 1641, "converted for want of maintenance into ane minister's manse," its erection may be attributed to about that date, and the present condition and weather effects upon the stones would bear out that age. The present building, while retaining its main and important architectural features, has undergone considerable alterations, a new roof replacing the higher pitched one, and the under vaulting and tower being filled up with the rubbish. Its design is similar to the remains of Forrester of Logie's and Stirling of Keir's Ludgings, but that does not alter our opinion that it was not originally a ludging or living house, but an alms house or hospital.





CHAPTER XIII.

Part 1.

Adam Spittal of Blairlogie.

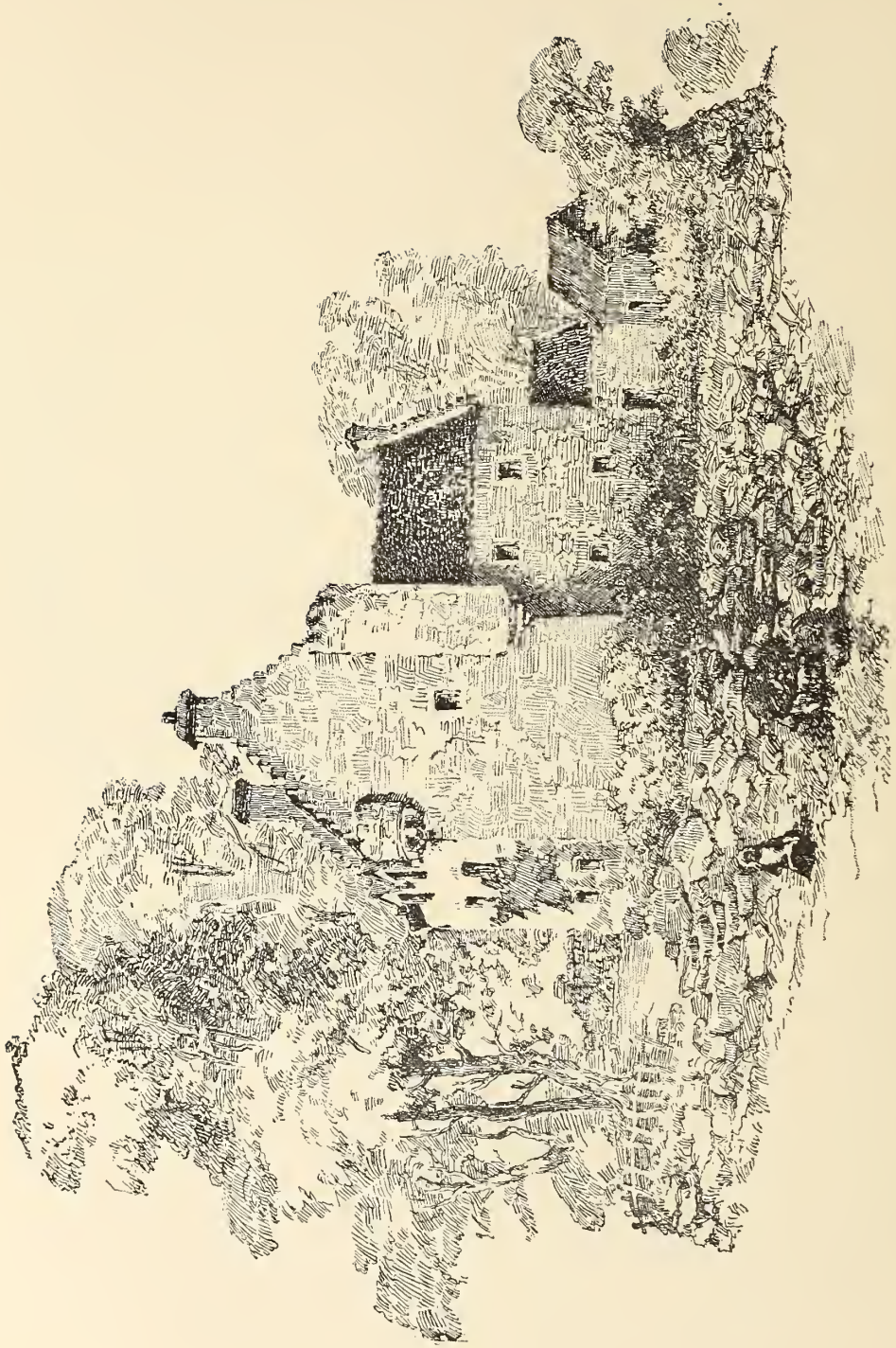
THE Town House or Ludging in Stirling of Adam Spittal of Blairlogie we ascertain from the boundaries in a contract of lease, dated 1st April, 1592, between that town and James Menteith of Randifurde of the "*South Brae*," to have been the east house adjacent to John Bruce of Auchenbowie's mansion, popularly known as "Bog-hall" or "Boglehall," at the head of St. John Street, Stirling. A mere glimpse of it, or its site, is seen in an old drawing of the Parish Manse of 1820, which is situated adjacent to it. It has an outside stair and railing. (Sketch above).



Part 2.

Blairlogie Castle.

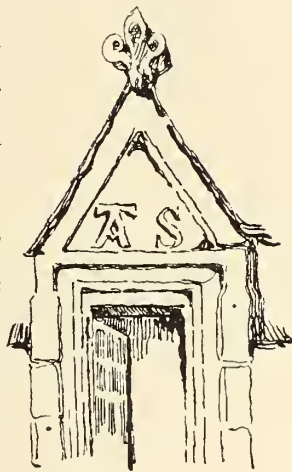
THIS whitewashed, small, baronial Mansion of the early sixteenth century is L shaped, and situated on a spur of the Ochils overlooking the hamlet of that name. From its two irregular shaped towers, a pair of ancient Scots firs, and the backing of a steep mountain, it is a picturesque feature of the Carse of Stirling. It is on a partially artificial terrace, 10 feet high on its south and east, and is bounded on the latter side by a mountain torrent issuing from Warrick Glen. The approach to it is by a precipitous pathway and bridge over the torrent, and its situation is of great natural strength. The three dormer windows bear respectively a *fleur de lis* and initials A. S., a thistle and initials E. H., and a man's head, or rose, and date 1513 (year of Flodden) or 1543. The walls are very thick, windows narrow and barred, and the rooms small and low in the ceiling. The plateau immediately on its north side, called "Castlelaw," implies its use by the Barons' Court. It is alleged a cabinet in the upper apartments



Blairlogie Castle.

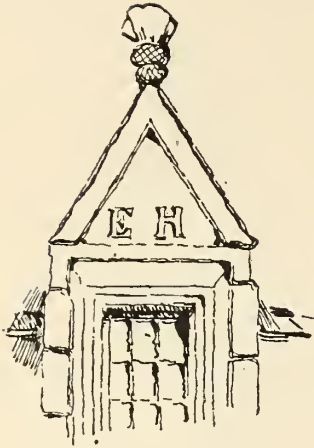
concealed a small door, opening by a secret spring, giving access to the turret and roof. On the oaken beams, some years ago laid bare, appeared a series of floral decorations in colours common in the seventeenth century. The wing forming the small arm of the L was said to be added in 1582.

The building is typical of country mansions of the early sixteenth century, replacing the tower, built for strength only, by giving more domestic conveniences and less discomforts, while containing provision for defence from casual marauders.



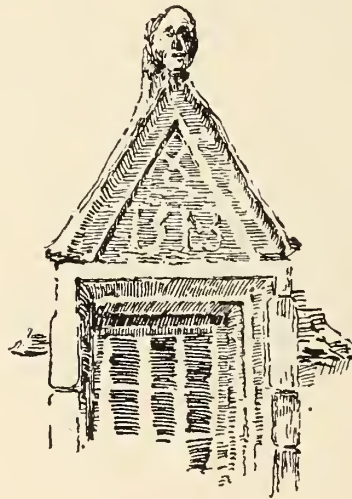
The date 1513 (or 1543) and the initials occasion a difficulty, as no owner at the period of either of these dates have names corresponding to them. Colonel Hare, the present proprietor, states them to represent *Adam Spittal* and *Ellen Holbourne*, his wife, and 1513, but, unfortunately, these are inconsistent with the registers, which shew that the proprietor on 2nd November, 1513, and for many years thereafter, was a *James Spetaile*. The agents of Lord Balfour, the former proprietor, state that the old titles could throw no light on the discrepancy or verify the above. There was, however, an *Alexander Spittal* proprietor about 1543.

The lands of Blairlogie, along with Logie, Raploch, and Craighforth, were crown possessions, and awarded by Act of Scots Parliament as part of the dower of Marie, Queen to the young King James II., on their marriage, and in which she was infeft on 1st July, 1451.



The property remained in the possession of the Spittal family until the death of James Spittal, of Blairlogie, laird of Leukheite, when it passed to the Dundas family, in virtue of a marriage contract between his daughter, Elizabeth Spittal, and Robert Bruce Dundas, of Blair, dated 8th July, 1796, his widow, Frances Innes, having an annuity of £200 secured over it. The Dundas family sold it to Lord Balfour's ancestors, and it is now owned by Colonel Hare.

The ancient Kirk of Logie, with the date of 1598 on it, replacing an older pre-Reformation church, and its very ancient burying ground, should contain the remains of the members of the Spittal family, but not a single tombstone referring to them is to be found.



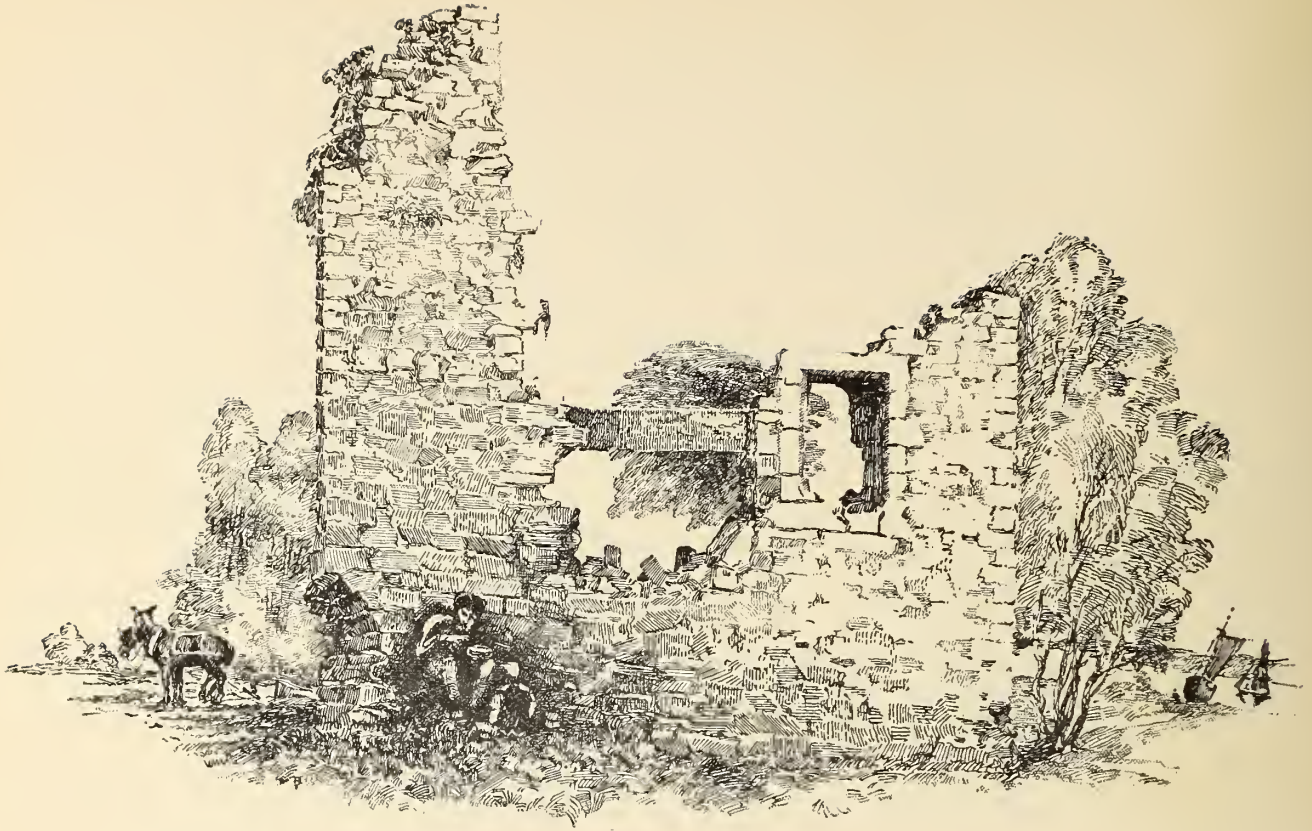
CHAPTER XIV.

Part 1.



Robert Callander's Stirling Ludging,

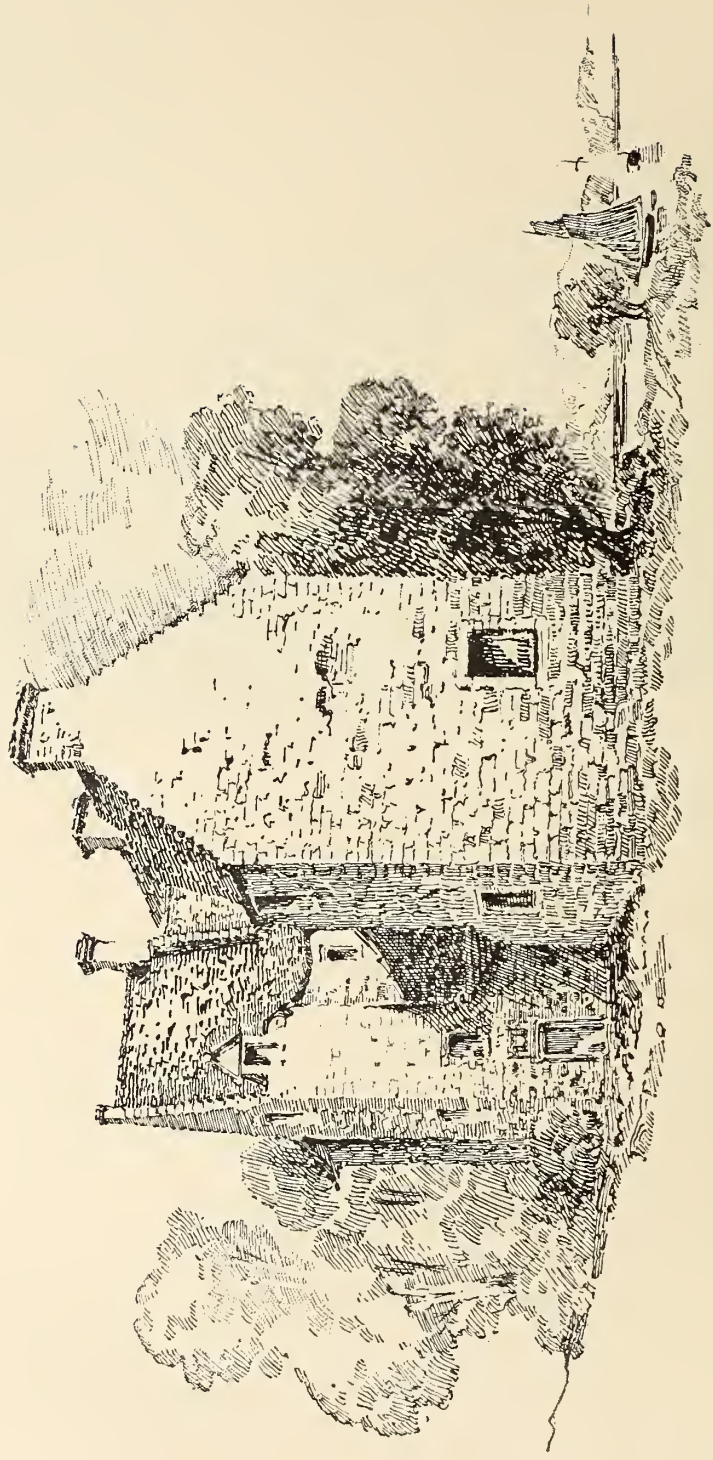
F which only the site is ascertained from an Instrument granted by the Provost of Stirling on 28th February, 1536-7, in augmentation of the provisions for serving the altar of St. Katherine in the parish church of Stirling (of which the Town Council were patrons) by gifts of the common waste land situated on the north side of the choir. The boundaries are described as "between the stile of the passage leading to the north entrance of the said choir on the south side, on the one part, and the *tenement of Robert Callander of Manor* on the said north side, on the other part, etc. The waste ground and Robert Callander's tenement were acquired and incorporated by John, sixth Earl of Mar, in the site upon which he erected his mansion or ludging, in 1570, at the head of Broad Street. No vestige of the tenement therefore exists.



Part 2.

The Manor.

THIS Mansion, situated on the Pow or Pool and close to the river Forth, was entire in 1850 when the sketch (page 135) was taken. It is an example of the Scottish Baronial style of the second period. A coat of arms hewn on a stone above the entrance through the tower, contains the initials of Robert Callander and his wife (R. C. and M. R.) and the date 1572. It had then begun to fall into ruin, and now consists of a mere fragment of the west gable and a few stones of the side walls. The old yew tree survives. (Sketch above).



Marion Mansion.

The Mansion, a single house in depth, consisted of a main building and wing running on same lines with it, formed of regular ashlar courses of freestone, was 50 feet by 18 feet in breadth (the wing a little less), and had walls $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, and gables 3 feet thick. The east wall verged on the pow, up to which the tide flows (navigable at high water for very small vessels), and close to the well known broad Manor ford over the Forth. The windows (soles, jambs, and lintels) are all deeply splayed and arched internally. The large fire-place, with its moulded lintel, 7 feet by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad, has a circular recess like a *piscina* entirely inside on the right hand of the north jamb. The ruined dovecot, the invariable accompaniment of such mansions, stands a few yards westward, and both are now left isolated in the midst of a field of ploughed land. The stone with coat of arms we found lovingly cared for at the neighbouring farm by the lady tenant. The origin of the name King's Pow House, or Poolhouse, we cannot trace.

Robert Callander, called also of Powhouse, was, in 1502, proprietor not only of Manor, but of Lepnoch and Ashentriull in the valley of the Ochils, formerly called Menstrie Glen. He was a gentleman of position and consequence at the Courts of James IV. and V., and appears frequently as a witness to the king's signature of charters executed at Stirling Castle. The above several lands, with Logy, Blairlogie, Cornton, etc., formed the Barony of Cornton, and were held off Dame Anna Bisset, Lady Harden (superioress), as heiress of Lord Dirleton, who seems to have derived them from the Crown, as they were formerly held off the Nunnery of North Berwick.

A somewhat awkward family episode is recorded as occurring in 1509, wherein Robert Callander's daughter, Isabella, supplanted Jean Elphinston, a daughter of Lord Elphinston, who was betrothed to

James Kinross. A bond of contract for the fulfilment of the marriage between them was entered into by their respective fathers, John Kinross and Lord Elphinston, the former pledging his Mill of Kippenross for the due implement of the marriage contract by his son. For the slight to Lady Jean, a feud may have ensued between the families. Whether the provision of the bond was exacted and the Mill forfeited, history does not say ; but on the part of the Callander family this feud seems healed by the marriage of Robert Callander, a son, to Katherine Elphinston, another daughter. On 3rd January, 1525, both he and Katherine obtain a charter of confirmation from James V. of the lands of Manor, wherein they are described as “commonly called the Kingis Pullis ;” and on 8th August, 1528, James V., with consent of his mother, Queen Margaret, confirms to “Robert Callander de Maner et Katherine Elphinston, lands of Halls, of Erth, etc., and lands and village of Skeoch, to which she had succeeded and brought to him.”

On her husband's death, Katherine Elphinston, on 25th August, 1542, being designed as spouse of *the late* Robert Callander, is confirmed by the king in liferent, and her son, Alexander Callander, in fee, in the lands of Delangry and Westerton of Bothkennar ; and by another charter at the same time, the king confirms the widow further in liferent, and another son, James Callander, in fee, of her lands in Airth. In a further Crown charter, dated 1568, a Walter Callander, as witness to the king's signature, is designed as brother-german to Robert Callander de Manor ; and on 7th February, 1586, in a charter by the commendator of Culross Abbey to him (Walter) of the lands of Bordie, he is designed as brother-german of *the late* Robert Callander de Maner.

From these writs the family of old Robert Callander apparently consisted of four sons—Robert, Alexander, James and Walter. Robert

succeeded at his father's death, about 1542, to Manor, and died previous to 1581. Alexander, as second son, was the heir of his mother, but she divided her dower lands between him and his brother James, as above, reserving her liferent. Walter got Bordie (in Fifeshire) evidently under another deed.

Since writing the above we have formal authentic evidence of this by letter of redemption dated 28th July, 1576, and a deed dated 11th May, 1581. By the former, a Michael Gilbert, goldsmith, acknowledges that "ane honorable man, Robert Kallendar of ye Maner," has infest him in an annual rent of ten merks, to be "uplifted and tane of ye said lands of Maner;" and by the other his wife is designed "ane honerabill woman, Margaret Reid, relict of umquhill rob. Callander of Manner," he having died betwixt these dates. This letter of redemption of a wadset is of interest as describing a very ancient custom of redemption. Here it is specified to be made by payment of 100 merks "at the kirk of Stirling," and failing Gilbert's compearance to receive it there, to be consigned in the hands of the "Provost, Baillies, and Deacons of the Gild of Stirling," who were lawfully appointed to receive it and discharge the burden. It is possible this debt was incurred to defray part of the costs of the erection of the mansion four years previously.

This Mansion seems, therefore, to have been built by Robert Callander, the son, whose initials, with those of his wife, Margaret Reid, and the date of erection, 1572, appear on the coat of arms. The coat of arms (page 140) contains on the dexter side that of "*Callendar* of Meyners," (*Pont's MS.*) sable, a bend betwixt six billets *Or*, and the initials R. C.; and on the sinister side that of *Read*, a buck's head erased *sa* bisantee, and initials M. R. This is the special crest of Read of Kingstead, Norfolk, and the lady may be of that family.

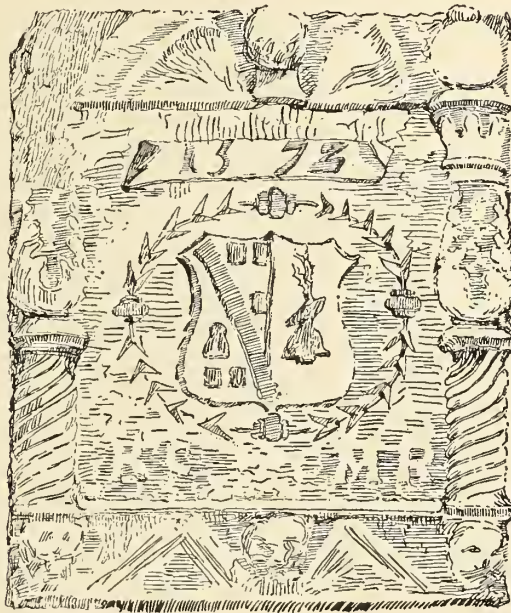
Robert Callander, the son, dying without issue, a nephew, John, succeeded, probably by entail, to Lupnoch, Lessentriull, and Manor; and at his death, his son Robert succeeded thereto, and also to the said lands of Kingis Po House, which were, with other lands in Polmont, described as situated in the Regality of the Monastery of the Holy Cross, near Edinburgh.

Dame Anna Bisset pledged the superiority of the Barony of Cornton, including Manor, Polehouse, Logie, and Blairlogie, in warrandice of her conveyance of the lands of Dirleton.

The lands and Manor-place, reduced to a medium farm, seem to have passed from the Callander family, about 1622, to a Menteith, from whom they were acquired by the Dundas family, about 1628. In 1754, John Dundas placed them under the fetters of an entail, and the last heir of entail, Ralph Peter Dundas, dying in 1828 without issue, the succession was taken up by his cousin, James Dundas, of the city of Philadelphia, barrister, a domiciled citizen of the United States, being born there after the Treaty of Independence. On his title to succession being challenged by the next heir of entail Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Dundas, the Court of Session decided that he was incapable from alienage to inherit Manor; and it was thereafter disentailed and sold by Edward Thomas Dundas, a successor of Colonel Dundas, to Mr. John Dawson. In his disposition, dated 30th November, 1877, the lands are called "the lands of King's Powhouse, *alias* Mannor, or Manor, with the Manor Place, houses," etc., and the teinds, parsonage, and vicarage, and the salmon fishings in the Water of Forth, pertaining to Manor, "with such liberty and use thereof as umquhile Robert Callander and his predecessors had of old time by past," lying within the parish of Logie and sheriffdom of Perth.

The lands are held direct off the Crown, but the feu duty is, with nearly all the Cornton lands, paid to the Earl of Mar, these having been gifted to his family by the Crown.

The Callander family, after parting with their property, seem to have rapidly retrograded in the world. Several of their descendants occupied cottages in its vicinity for many subsequent years, their names appearing in the parish registers, such as:—“1699, May 5, Isabella Callander in Manor dies; 1708, September 16, died Robert Callander of Manor; 1713, also dies *a son of the Laird of Manners*; 1716, a child of William Callander of Maner; and, 9th April, 1724, a lass of William Callander of Manner,” etc.





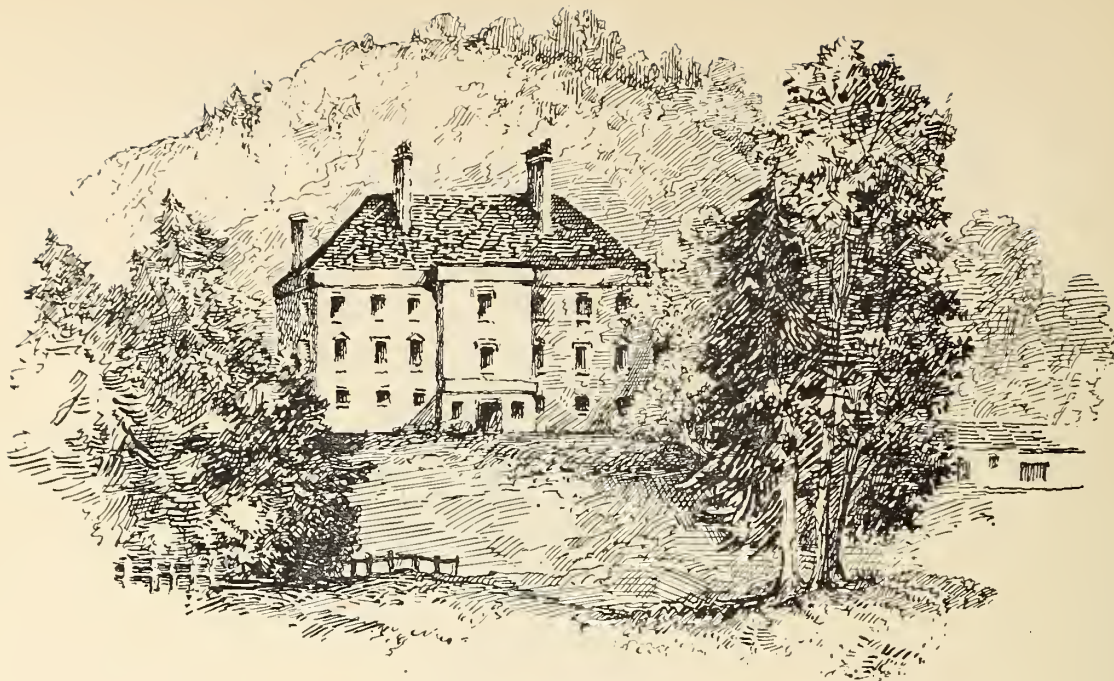
On Kildean Mill.

CHAPTER XV.

Part 1.

Callander of Craigforth.

JOHN CALLANDER of Craigforth's Town House or Ludging was situated in Baker Street, and was sold by him, in 1767, to a John Dollar, mason, when it is then described to be in ruins. Dollar rebuilt the house, which is that many-windowed building, Nos. 93, etc., on south side of Baker Street. It bears a tablet with the above date, 1767. It appears to have been the ancient Town House attached to Craigforth estate as, in 1544, Lady Craigforth is resident in this quarter, viz., "Belgebrig and aine pairt beneath."



Old Craigforth.

Part 2.

Old Craigforth.

CRAIGFORTH, anciently Craggorth, Craignorth, etc., belonged to, and was enumerated amongst, King Robert the Bruce's lands in 1329. The estate seems then to have consisted of the Rock and a considerable extent of level lands, yielding a good revenue. Robert II., in 1381, gives a charter of confirmation to William More and his heirs, whom failing, to William de Lindsay and Cristaine, his spouse, whom failing, to others, of the greater part of the estate; and Robert, Duke of Albany, burdens the crown portion, in 1417, with an annual rent of 20 merks, for a chaplain to the chapel of St. Michael the Archangel in Stirling Castle, to pray "for the souls of Robert and David de Bruce, and Margaret and Murielle, their wives." James II. pledged it, along with other royal lands, as a security in his marriage contract, for a

provision of £5000 to his consort Maria, which is dated 1st July, 1451; and shortly thereafter he burdened it with an annual rent of 10 merks to an Archibald Newton de Dalcove, evidently in discharge of some obligation, or for services rendered by Newton.

The Crag, the part of the estate retained in the Royal hands, was used by James IV., who was a keen sportsman, for his hawks, which were kept there under the charge of a woman, although he had two falconers, John of Callander, and Knox. Accordingly we have entries in the Lord Treasurer's Accounts, on 24th June, 1496, of payments "to the wyf that kept the Crag of Craggorth," and "the wyf that kept the King's hawks."

To the other section of the estate, John, Lord Lindsay, succeeded to his ancestor William, who, in 1497, was in turn succeeded by his brother Patrick. Patrick sold the lands, along with portions of Erth (Airth), to John Elphinston de Pittendreich on 8th November, 1497. James IV. burdened the royal part with the support of two chaplains to the Church of St. Ninians "the Confessor," in 1500, and, in 1504, further mortgaged it for 20 merks for a chaplain to the Castle chapel.

The Elphinston family were favourites of the King, and James IV., for John Elphinston's good services and the King's special friendship, incorporated the various lands of Craigforth, Chuirmyrelands, and Pittendreich into the Barony of "Elphinston Gerere,"—the Royal lands being then probably added to them. On 14th September, 1507, Alexander, created first Lord Elphinston, succeeded his father Sir John, and he and his spouse, Elizabeth Barley (Barlow), an English lady, and the favourite maid of honour of James' consort, are confirmed in the Barony, which included "the Mill of Craigforth, fishings on the Water of Forth, with the cruives and the 'the stank,' or dam, over

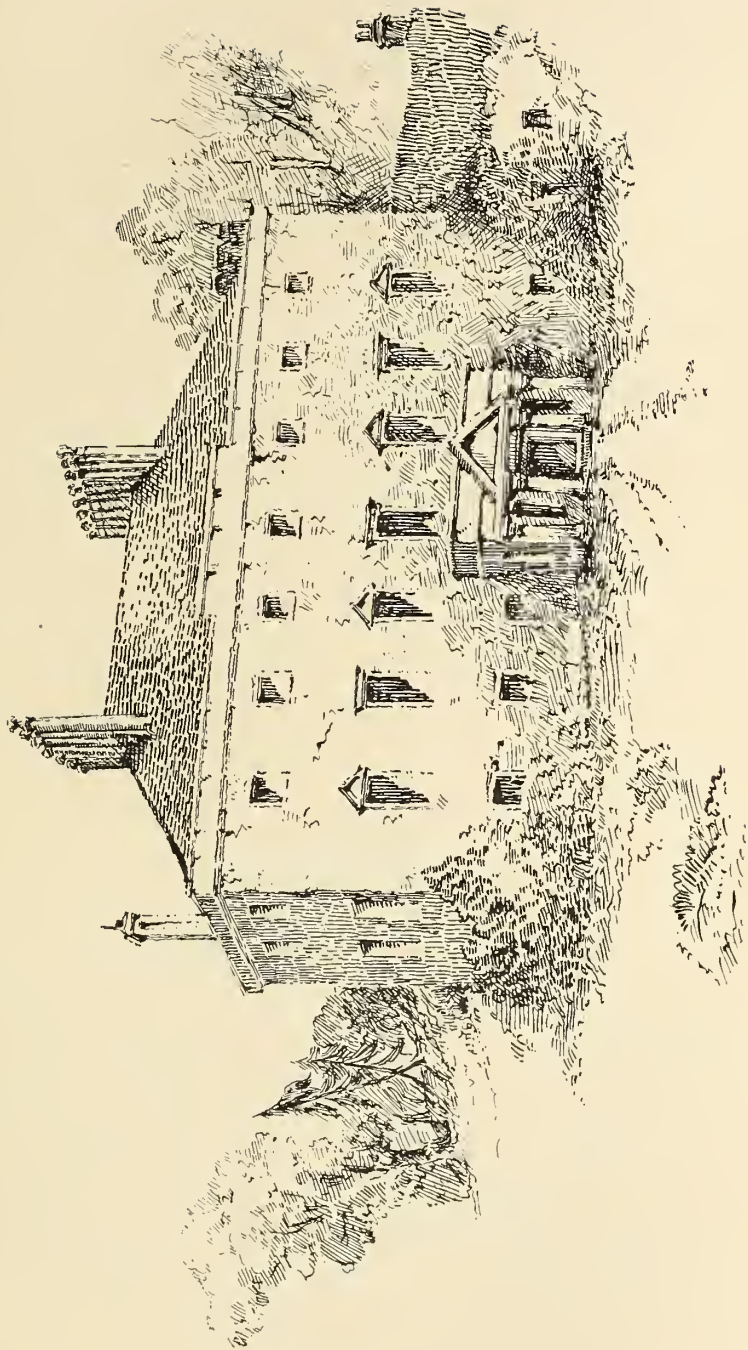
against his lands." On 15th January, 1553, Mary Queen of Scots, on the narrative of Lord Alexander's death (killed at Flodden with James IV.), and that his son Robert was then a minor (2 years old), while the titles given to him by her father, James V., in consequence of the disturbed times, were either destroyed or lost, granted anew the Barony to Robert, Lord Elphinston, and Margaret Drummond, his spouse.

This estate continued thereafter in the Elphinston family down to about 1675, when Craigforth was purchased by John Callander. The family residence, however, was always at Elphinston Castle on the Airth part of their estate. John Callander was succeeded by his son James, an Advocate, who died in March, 1728, and the estate then passed to his son, who in turn was succeeded by his son James, who, under his marriage contract, dated 5th February, 1791, infefts his spouse, Dame Elizabeth Helena, in parts of the estate (Old Mills, Langside, Kaines, and Falleninch). James becoming insolvent in 1796, his creditors held the estate, and the record shews their proceedings; but ultimately it was recovered or retained, and his creditors settled with, and it now remains in his descendants' possession.

The tradition of the estate having been purchased by the King's smith, named Callander, from the excess of money for his account for work at Stirling Castle—received in *Sterling* when only charged in *Scots* currency—is very doubtful. It receives some corroboration, however, from the following entries in the Treasurer's Accounts, viz. :—

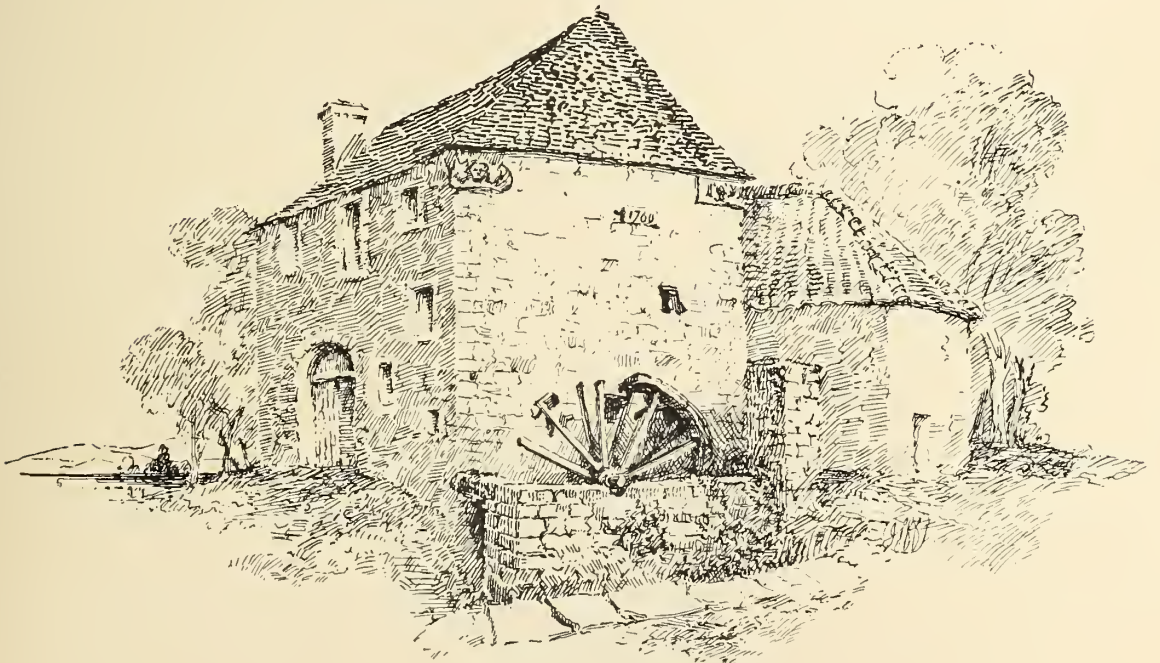
“4th March, 1675.—Payed to John Callander, smith, for ironwork, £84 3 0
 “Payed more to the said John Callander for
 more ironwork, 118 11 0”

The name and date correspond to that of John Callander's acquisition of Craigforth,



Craigforth Mansion.

The present Mansion has been at several periods altered and added to, and its oldest parts certainly do not go beyond the Callander acquisition in 1675. It bears no date, initials, or crest, but, as we satisfied ourselves from enquiries on the spot that no tradition of any ruins which might be ascribed to an older mansion on the rock was ever discovered, except those forming the foundation walls (about 2 ft. thick) of a simple cottage, the erection must be put to John Callander, about 1675. The foundations of this cottage were laid bare on digging a trench for a drain some 20 years ago, and as the walls ran at right angles across the avenue—the only access to the Mansion house—the cottage must have existed and been demolished prior to the Mansion's erection and formation of the avenue. The situation pointed out is close to where the ancient Highway from Stirling to the ford over the Forth touches the lower edge of the rock, and in full view of Stirling Castle. It is more than probable they were the foundations of the



Old Kildean Mill.

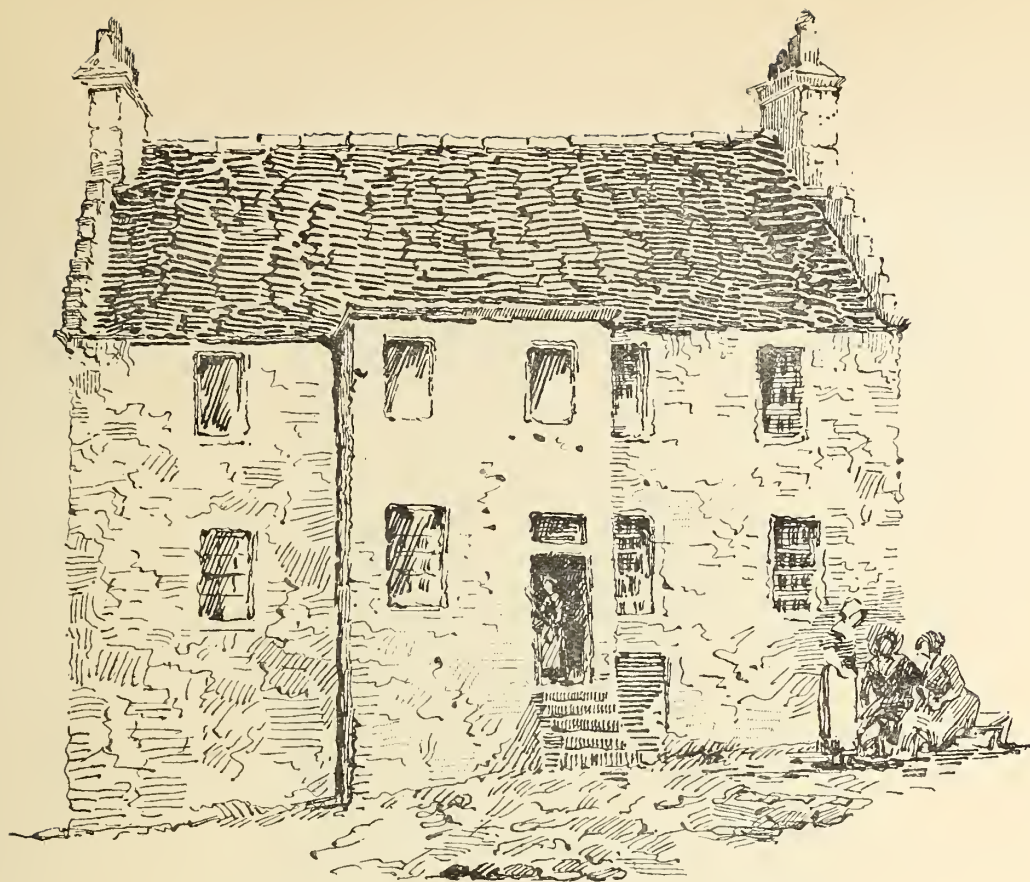
dwelling of "the wyf that kept the King's hawks and the Crag of Cragforth," in 1496. This ancient Highway runs in a straight line with the old Clay Tollhouse in perfect preservation for 500 or 600 yards, is 30 feet broad, and bounded on each side by a bank and ditch and a row of trees. It is probably part of the old Roman Road.

In addition to the "Auld Mills," the Callander family owned the Mill at Kildean, which contains the date 1760, what appears to be a coat of arms (a lion's head and two horses' heads as supporters), a winged figure, and another sculpture covered over. Sketches of the Mill in 1855 and the figures are given. The identity of the coat of arms is not ascertainable, and might apply to Murray, Lord Elibank, and been brought from a neighbouring building.* We also give an old sketch (page 140) of Craigforth Mansion in the fifties.

From the Burgh Records, John Callander appears, in 1695, and again in 1717, litigating with the town of Stirling as to alleged encroachments on their fishings; and what is termed a "Fishers' Court" was convened at the Cruives, where the Magistrates and Mr. Callander met to settle the dispute. These fishing rights were a fruitful source of dispute between the proprietor of Craigforth, Abbot of Cambuskenneth, and town of Stirling.

* NOTE.—Sir J. Balfour Paul, to whom these sketches were submitted, states that they are *not* armorial, but mere architectural embellishments.





CHAPTER XVI.

Part 1.

Wester Livilands.

COMMISSARY Robert Murray's Town House stood in what was a very large court entering off Baker Street, called "Bell's Close," then occupied by various small tenements and gardens, which were, from time to time, absorbed by Sheriff Clerk Don in his large self-contained ludging, which with its court and extensive garden, formerly occupied by the National Bank, is presently taken up by the Boys' Industrial School.

This ludging and Wester Livilands were succeeded to by his son, John, who, in a Precept of *Clare Constat* by the Magistrates of Stirling, dated 6th November, 1669, is acknowledged as heir to his father, Robert Murray, Commissary of Stirling, "in that tenement of land in Bell's Close, and orchard thereto belonging."

The sketch (page 147) is of the oldest tenement now existing in that court, and if not Murray's, is interesting otherwise as an unusual type of an old dwelling-house.

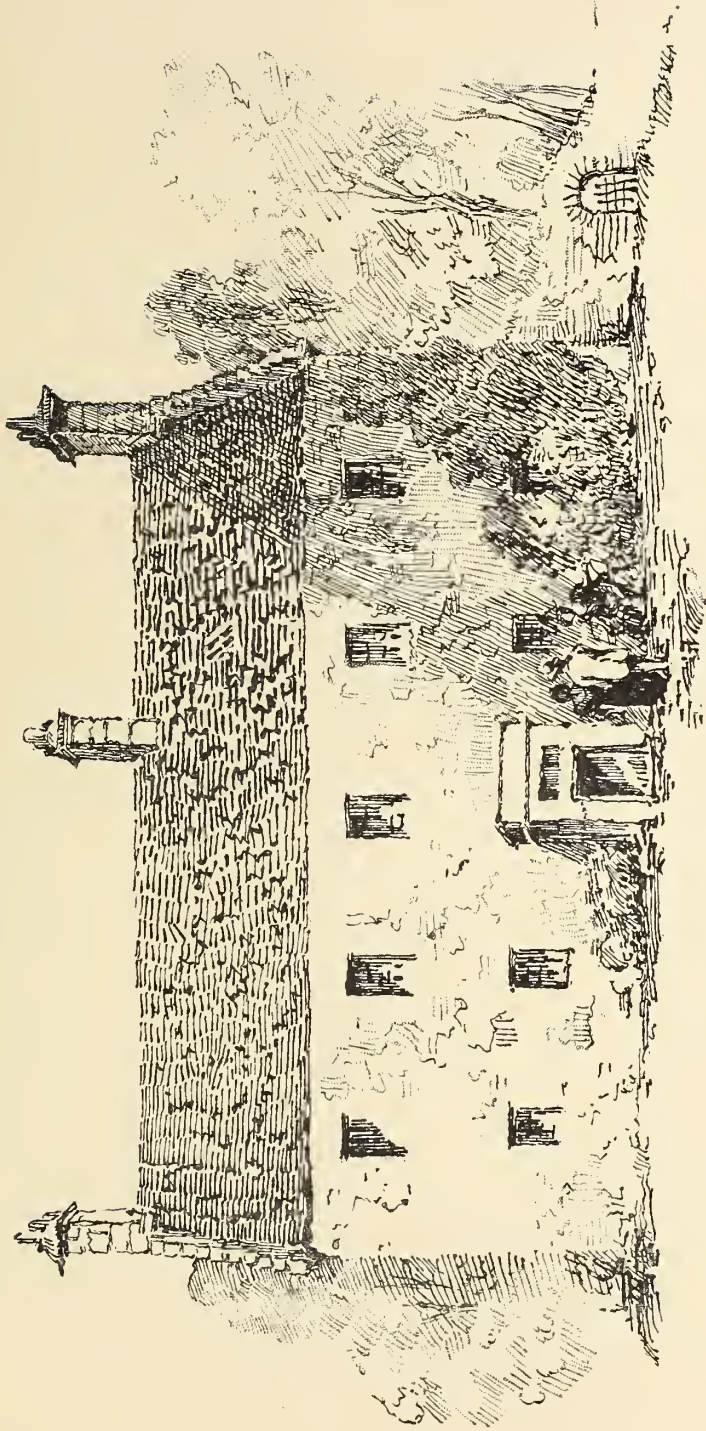


Part 2.

Wester Livilands Mansion

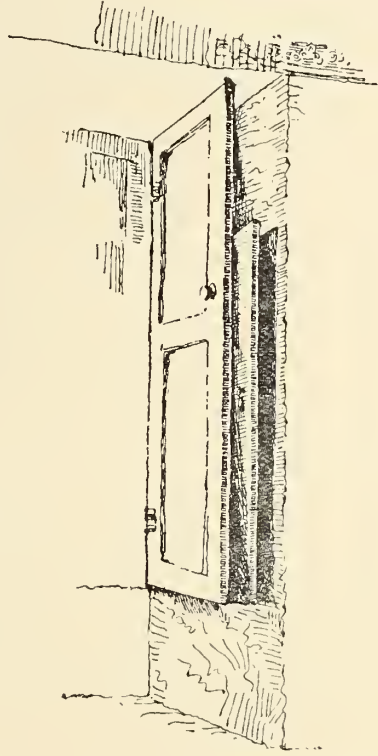
IS (or rather was, as it is now removed) a long, two-storey, white-washed, plain, single house (sketch opposite), of one room in breadth, 50 by 20 feet, and with walls $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, which had been erected across the neck of a miniature spur 60 feet above the level of the Carse, and approached by a broad avenue of old trees. It is apparently upon the site of an older building, some traces of which were visible, and in a position of strength, a recognised principle in residences of the mediæval ages, for which its situation was suitable. The north wing seems modern. The rest of the spur behind was the garden.

A modern porch covers the original doorway, with its simple floriated scroll mouldings, but otherwise, no noticeable architectural features, initials, date, coat of arms, or carved stone are visible; and



the construction of the house was shown to be of the poorest work. It is alleged the date 1629 is on its walls, but this must refer to the painted date and initials, M.R.M., on the panelling of a concealed closet, representing "Master Robert Murray," and which, it is said, contained also the initials of C.C., his wife.

The concealed closet, the subject of interest, entered off the second floor passage, the door to which was concealed by a subsequently erected wooden stair to the attics. It is 10 by 6 feet in length, with a window facing the east, 4 ft. 8 in. in height, while the south side is formed by a wooden pannelling, having as a freize a series of seven sibylline heads, with their accompanying rhyming prophecies, in black letter, and the remaining side walls painted imitation oak to correspond thereto, making a complete little ornamented chamber. Two quaint, small presses exist in the west wall. This closet, as shewn by the painted beams forming the ceiling of the south and adjoining room, and revealed in taking down the building, had originally been part of the south room, and had been formed by simply running the panel across that room. Under the wooden stair a small, press-like opening near the floor, sufficient for a man to creep through to the door, was visible. In the gable of the south apartment, part of which wall was apparently older and thicker than the others, behind each of the shutters of the window were concealed doors having



locks (sketch, page 151). That on the right and nearest the fire-place gave access to a lined recess, 3 feet broad and 15 inches deep, open to the attics, and sufficient to hold a man ; and the recess by the concealed door under the left shutter, was 2 by 2 feet—two most artfully contrived places of concealment.

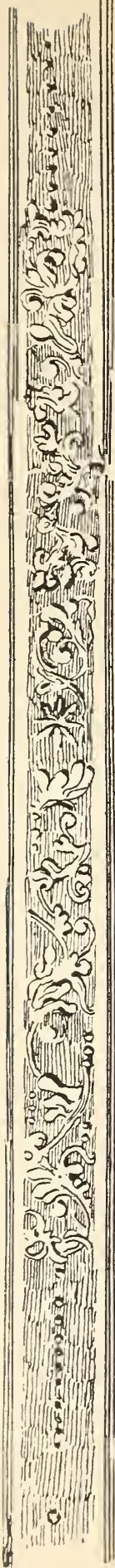
The backs of the sibylline panels, which formed the north partition of this room, were painted flower subjects.

The history of the closet and of the sibyls, and their origin and the circumstances surrounding their situation are given, and the heads themselves beautifully reproduced, in an able article by Mr. Ross, in Vol. xxxiii. of the *Annual Reports of the Scottish Society of Antiquaries*, to which the reader is referred ; but in it no notice is taken of these concealed recesses.

The ancient paintings so revealed, of which we give sketch of one pattern, are on three sides of the roughly hewn oak beams forming the supports to the attic floor.

A similarly painted room exists in what is known as the "Colonel's Close" in Culross, which is, undoubtedly, the chapel or oratory. The females there are full-sized and painted similarly in distemper but on a circular or waggon shaped, wooden roof, in panels, and with accompanying black letter moral precepts. The date on the dormer of this chapel is 1597.

In Wilson's *Memorials of Edinburgh*, an apartment in Queen Mary of Guise's Palace, an oratory having a similar arched or waggon shaped ceiling, is decorated with painted devices in rich arabesques and graceful designs of fruit, flowers, etc., and surrounding panels with inscriptions in Gothic letters, and the author adds, this species of emblematic device was greatly in vogue in the sixteenth century.



In 1629, the date of Charles I.'s reign, the Catholic religion was proscribed under penalties, mass and other services having to be conducted in secrecy. So general were these hidden observances resorted to by Catholics in heart, outwardly professing the new religion, that there came to be recognised in many of the highest class mansions an apartment called the "Priest's hole." Reference is made in Pepys' *Diary* to Charles II.'s admission to him that after his defeat and flight from Worcester, he was fain to eat a piece of bread and cheese from a poor man's pocket, and at a Catholic house he lay a good while in the *priest's hole* for privacy.

In an article in *Stirling Observer* of 14th September, 1899, I was struck by the consensus of opinion formed by its writer with my own, as to the object and uses of the closet and recesses. The description is so much better expressed that I thankfully quote it:—"In the old Catholic mansions existed a secluded part of the house, usually called the chapel, where religious rites could be performed with the utmost privacy, and close and handy was usually an artfully contrived hiding-place, not only for the officiating priest to slip into in case of emergency, but also where his vestments, sacred vessels, and altar furniture, could be put away at a moment's notice." The writer also adds, "These cunning priests' holes were invented and constructed by the Jesuit, Nicolas Owen, who devoted the greater part of his life thereto, when Catholic worship was illegal."

The situation, arrangement, and decoration of the closet (the window facing the east), and the respective sizes and proximity of the *penetralia* to it, completely answer to the improvised oratory or chapel and to the *priest's hole* and receptacle for the altar vestments and accessories of Catholic worship respectively.

In January, 1629, we have Charles issuing letters to his Council "concerning the insolent behaviour of some papists," and regarding Sir William Mentethe of Kerse's petition, instructing his Council, "that within six months they (the papists) shall conforme themselves to the New Religion, otherways they shall remove themselves out of that our kingdom."

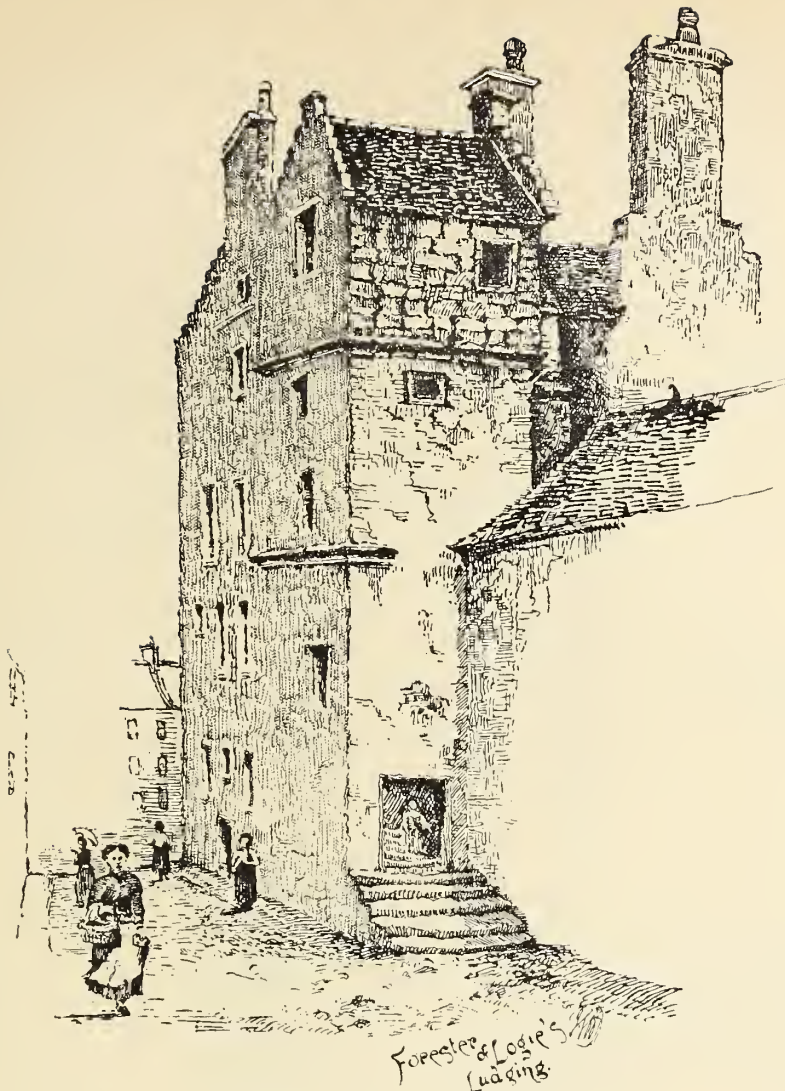
Commissary Murray, an officer of an ecclesiastical character, had certain fees derivable from the churches within his jurisdiction, and had relinquished those referring to certain churches assigned to the Bishopric of Glasgow, receiving in return from James VI. (who had appointed him when constituting the inferior ecclesiastical courts in twenty-three towns) a small compensating pension. This fell into arrears, and Charles I., on Mr. Murray lodging a claim therefor and asking for a continuation of his pension, stated he was unwilling to ratify any pension which had been locally assigned, but authorised him to be paid the *value* thereof, the local pension itself to be paid into his own exchequer.

The unerring evidence of stone and lime testify to the exercise of a prohibited religion within Mr. Murray's mansion, notwithstanding his official appointment, royal pension, and gifts to the parish church in the interests of the new religion, and are explainable on no other grounds whatever. Commissary Murray appears to have built this house.

In August, 1651, General Monk had his residence in the mansion, and within its walls was signed the capitulation of Stirling town and castle. An entry for wines, pipes, and tobacco supplied on that occasion "to Lieutenant-General Monk and the Balyeis," to the extent of £9 6s. 8d. appears in the Treasurer's Books.

Part of the estate, anciently named Loveylands and Levelands, was sold to James Nathaniel Rind, whose creditors sold it to the Magistrates of Stirling in December, 1785, who feued it out, and it is now occupied by the several fine mansions of Springbank, Annfield, etc. The mansion-house itself, with the remaining lands, were retained in the Murray family down to some twenty years ago, when Mr. James Morrison acquired them, and they have since been sold to Mr. James Drummond, who in the erection of his handsome mansion has had to pull the old one down; and now even its name is gone, he having changed it to Westerlands.





St. Mary's Wynd.

CHAPTER XVII.

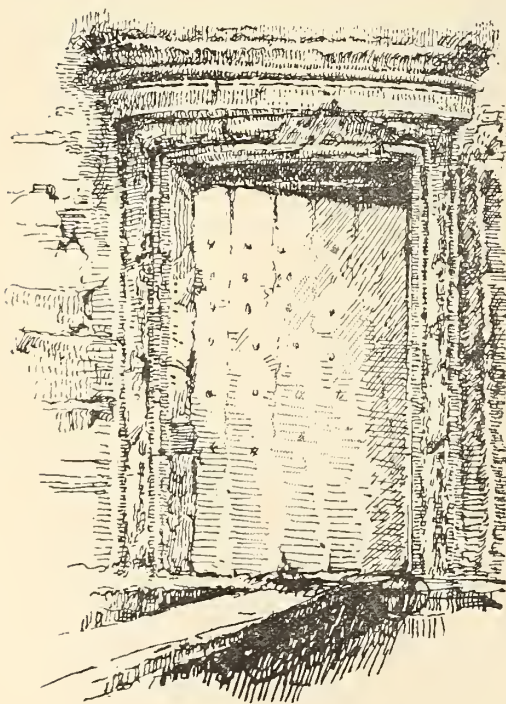
Part 1.

Forresters of Logie Mansions.

THESE two Ludgings, almost entire and both occupied, form the double corner tenement of Broad Street and St. Mary's Wynd, Stirling, as shewn, with their respective special architectural characteristics, on the two sketches and relative drawings. They belonged to

John Forrester and Neil Forrester of Logie. In an Instrument of Sasine, dated 1583, Neil Forrester is infeft as heir of his father John, in “the tenement on the north side of the King’s Hie Street, between our Lady Vennell on the east, the tenement of Alexander Forrester of Garden (the ruins of which were sold to and pulled down by the Corporation of Stirling, and the present large tenement called “the Town’s New House” erected in its place) on the west, the tenement of the deceased John Forrester of Logy (the house with the turret stair seen from Broad Street pend, sketch opposite) on the north, and the King’s High Street (Broad Street) on the south. The dates of their erection may be about 1520, and they remained in the Forrester family until 1658.

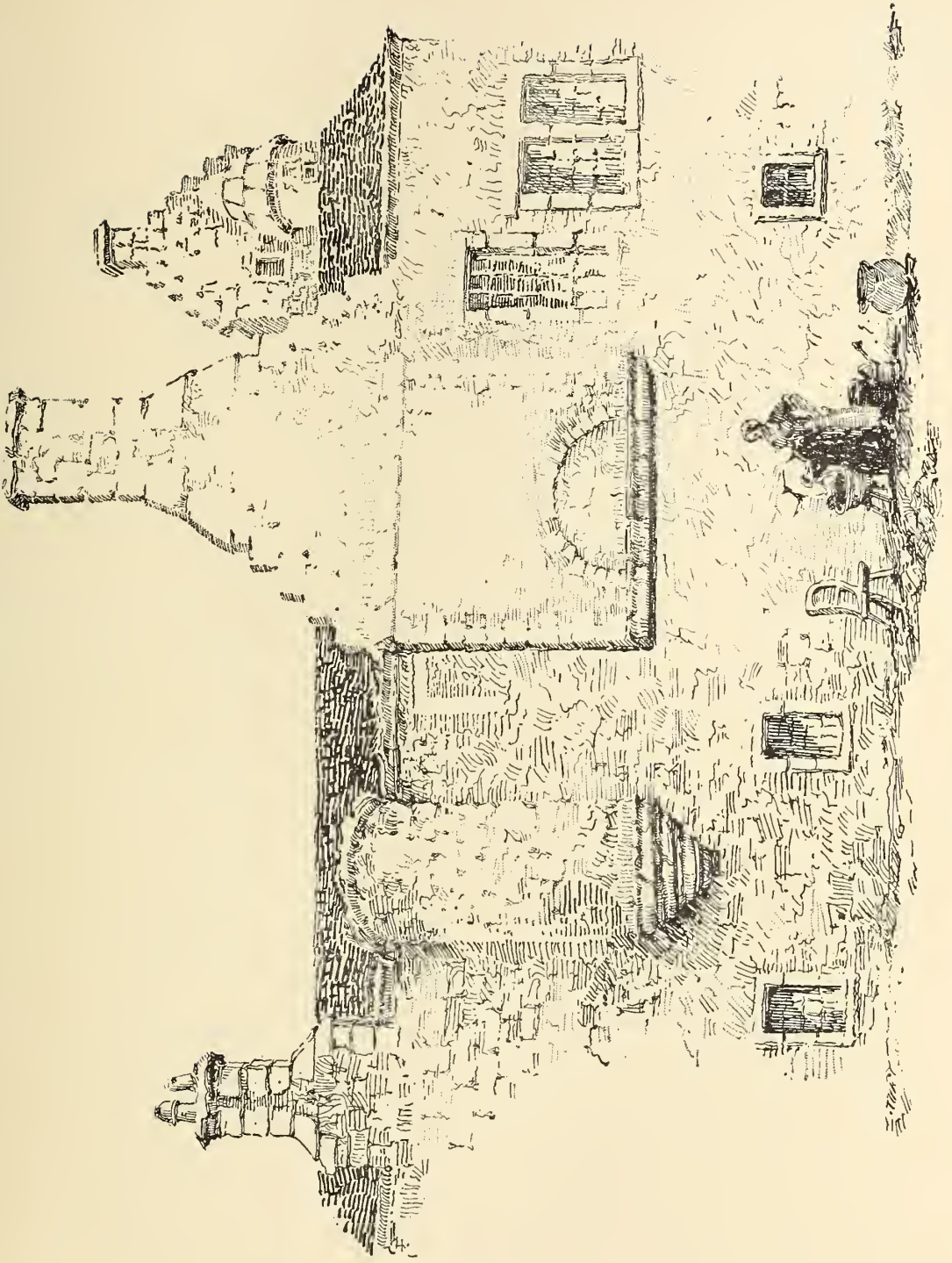
The Mary Wynd house (sketch, page 157) was the Stirling Bank which collapsed in 1820.



These lodgings are the most complete of the few mansions of the nobility now left of the time of the Court in Stirling Castle, but they are divested of their former internal grandeur, being in the occupancy of a low class of tenants.

The Forresters, an ancient, extensive, and influential family, were all related, and held amongst them the local estates of Torwood, Garden, and others, and for upwards of a century filled the principal municipal offices of provost, bailies, etc., of Stirling—offices then coveted by the aristocracy

and landed gentry of the district.



Forester of Logie's Lodging.

Part 2.

Forrester's Logie Country Mansion House.

IN an Instrument of Sasine, dated 31st May, 1634, Maister David Forrester is confirmed by the King, as heir of James Forrester of Logie, his father, in the lands and town of Logie, "*cum prato et domibus et horto ejusdem, ex orientali latere torrentis de currentis juxta ecclesiam de Logy, infra dominibus de Stirling*"—being, "with the meadow and house and garden of the same, on the east bank of the running stream adjacent to the church of Logie, in the lordship of Stirling." A house and yard formerly existed here, belonging to the parish, in which the minister and schoolmaster lived, and which, in the Report of a Commission, dated in 1627, was stated as having been set in feu by the King, after the Reformation, to James Forrester of Logie, "quilk," the Commissioners add, "is thocht cannot be law stand, seeing it vas once belonging to the Kirk, and thair the ministeris and school maisteris leive and dyit."

The site and foundation stone of this, the old manse, and thereafter the country mansion of Forrester, as pointed out to me by the late Mr. Troup, Clerk to the Dunblane Presbytery, is about 100 yards east of the ruined church, and on the left hand of the footpath close to the wall of the public road leading between the old and new churches, and exactly corresponds to the Latin description in the above charter (sketch, page 162). In the Crown Customers' Accounts of rents drawn

for 1514, the "*lands of the meadow*" are separately rented as a main part of the subject, and must have been of considerable extent. A view of the picturesque, ivy-clad old church of Logie, consisting merely of



Site of Forrester's Logie Mansion.

the belfrey gable and two walls, is obtained from the spot. These ruins bear on a south window sole the date 1598. The stone is evidently placed there recently, and is not in its original position, but I consider it the date of erection. This ruin does not represent the pre-Reformation church, which was of larger extent, but the one erected upon its foundations, and, probably, with many of its stones.

It is difficult to believe that these roofless, ivy-covered walls was an existing church in the memory of a recent parishioner (Adam Bennet), and its bell rang out the call to worship to the parish so recently as 1820. Above the door in the ruined gable a tablet has been inserted, with an elaborately sculptured coat of arms and motto, and also an inscription that "this stone was removed from the manse in 1804." The coat of arms, that of Douglas of Lochleven, with the substitution of a celestial coronet for the ducal one, was a complete puzzle to connect with the building, but ultimately traced to one of its ministers, Alexander Douglas, a son of the famous Bishop Robert Douglas, an alleged illegitimate son of George Douglas of Lochleven. The arms with motto, "*Jamais arriere*" ("never behind"), and the winged heart, was placed in the building of the manse in 1628.

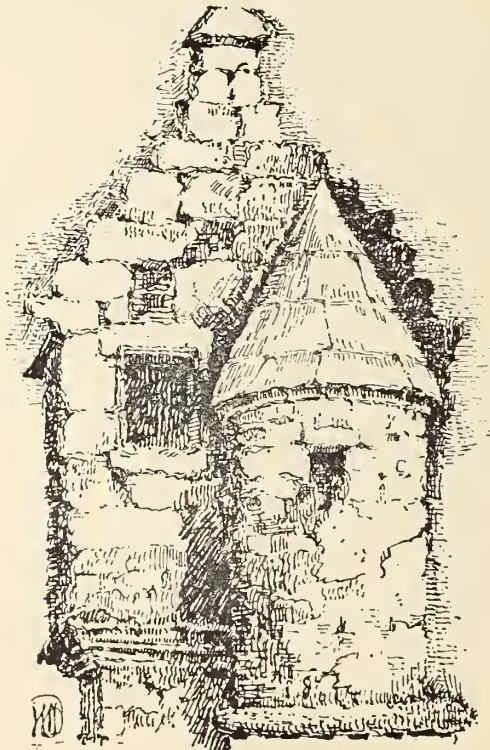
On 31st March, 1673, James Forrester is infeft as heir of his father David Forrester of Logy, the lands being described and bounded as above, except that the old church is called "the parish church of Logie."

A singular and striking illustration of the reckless regard of life and lawless state of Scotland, even in James VI.'s good government, is afforded in a record dated 15th July, 1595, when David Forrester of Logie, who was married to Janet Alexander, an aunt of the Earl of Stirling, had been foully slain by John Livingstone of Dunipace and

seven others, servants of Livingstone, and his kinsman, Bruce of Airth. A kind of Court of Assize was held by the Presbytery in the older church to try the accused, when they were absolved. The widow, along with her mother, dissatisfied, appeared in the High Court of Edinburgh, and personally appealed to the judge for justice against the accused. The result of this piteous appeal is not learned.*

The last member of this branch of the Forresters is referred to in an entry in the Session Clerk's books : " 31 Augt., 1722—died Mr. James Forrester, Laird of Logie, Advocate."

* NOTE.—David Forrester of Logie was murdered at Falkirk, in 1595, when returning from Edinburgh, the Lairds of Dunipace and Airth being suspected, as Forrester was a special friend of the Earl of Mar, with whom they were at enmity. Mar ordered the body to be brought to Linlithgow, and thereafter, with funeral pomp, having the portrait of the murdered man, wounded and bloody, as when found, displayed on a white sheet, carried through Falkirk, an enemy's country. So great was the power of the Livingstone and Elphinston families, who protected the murderers, their kinsmen, that the Earl failed to bring them to justice.

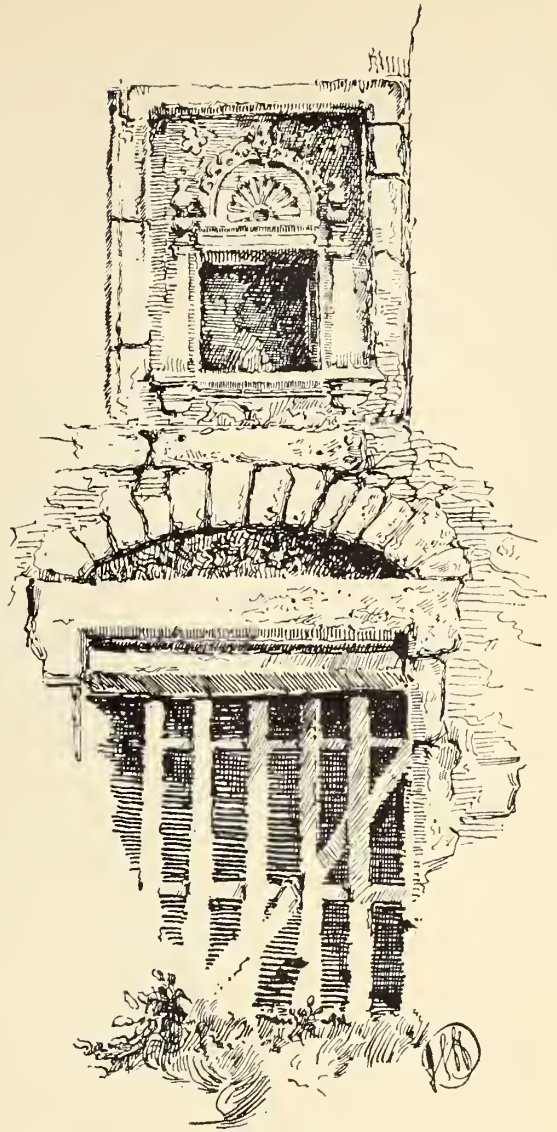


CHAPTER XVIII.

Part I.

Torwood Castle.

SITUATED on the highest of several wooded eminences on the south side of the highway leading from Larbert to Stirling, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from the former town, and quite overlooking what was formerly the Royal Forest of Torwood, which is alleged to be a relic of the more ancient and extensive Caledonian forest, is a roofless mansion house of considerable size and pretensions. It is termed a castle, but it is destitute of the characteristics applicable to a place of defence, and is in no sense a stronghold. The ground plan is the reversed letter Γ . The main buildings have been three storeys in height, and consisted of three plain crow-stepped gabled houses of unequal height, and a square turret stair. Two high walls (the westmost formed the back wall of some outhouses) connected and formed with the buildings an oblong square, having an internal court of 120 feet on the east and west, and 80 feet on the north and south sides. The buildings occupied 80 feet on the south and 48 feet on the west sides of this square. The mansion is entered from the court by a wide doorway inserted in the east wall of



Torwood Doorway.

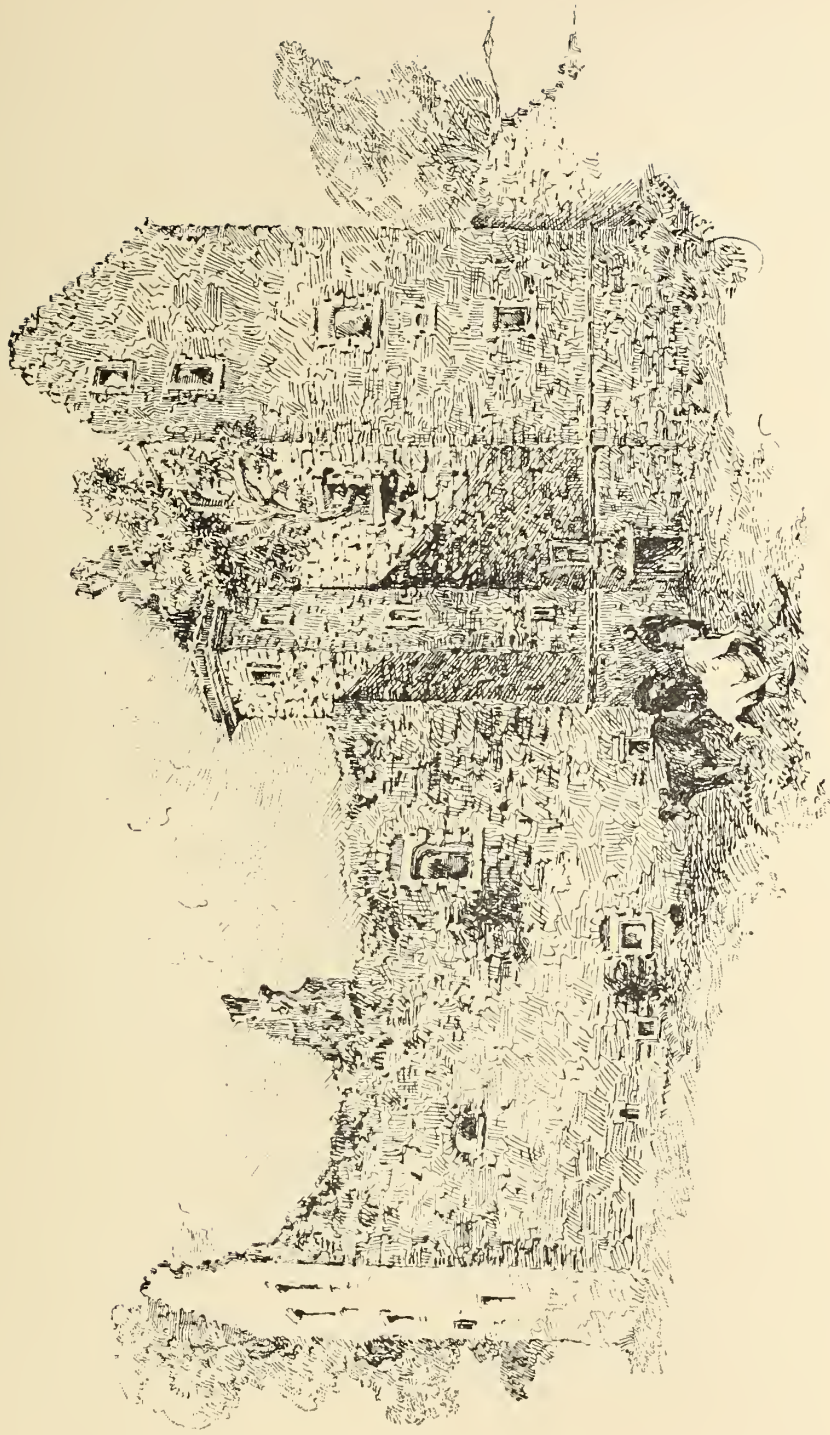
the north wing, the highest of the buildings, and *not* in the turret itself—an unusual arrangement.

At the north-east and furthest corner of the court walls from the main buildings, are the foundations and part of the walls, with a subterranean, vaulted chamber, of what appears to be a guard room for the court entrance, situated just at that spot. It is about 15 feet by 12 feet. On the north wing a wide moulding, or string course, about 8 feet from the ground, encircles it, and is continued round the turret, accommodating itself to an ornamental niche over the main doorway, in which the owner's crest was placed, but is now empty.

In the outside south wall of what has evidently been the great hall are five small windows in the basement, and three large and three slightly smaller windows in the hall storey, all formerly secured by iron bars. The eastmost of the larger windows would seem to have been used as an outside door, a most improbable original arrangement, and there is no evidence of a communicating stair. (Sketch, page 173).

An earlier building, called in the charters, "the Forester's house," is stated to be represented by the vaulted building on the north of the court entrance, and this is probably the case, as that building, even in its ruined state, bears marks of a superior architecture, having the roof vaulting groined. The very earliest charter, so far back as 1450, shews that the office and its duties required a personal attention and residence, and the present building is certainly about 100 years later. No name, initials, date, or crest, appear on its walls to verify its ownership, although it is stated to be similar in design to Dunipace ancient mansion, and presumably of the same period.

A family named Bailie are alleged to be the first holders of the forester's office, but from Malcolm Forrester's possession in 1450,

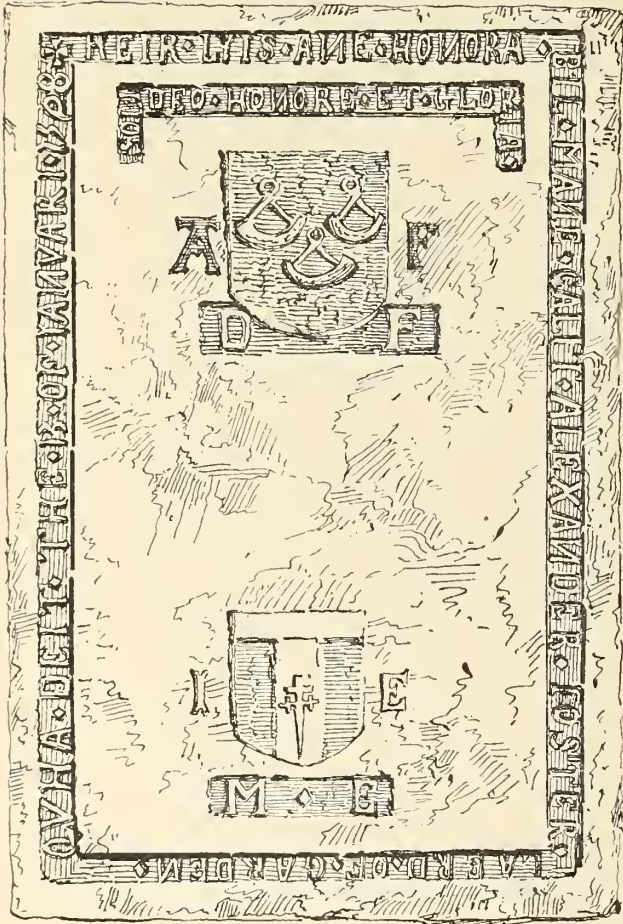


Jarwood Mansion.

downwards in a direct unbroken line, it remained and was hereditary in that family, whose surname most probably originated from their office. David succeeds his father Malcolm in 1476, and on 26th November, 1488, James IV. confirms Duncan Forestare of Gunnershaw as heir of Hendry (David), and again, on 26th November, 1497, he confirms Sir Walter Forestare as heir to Duncan. On 9th September, 1528, Sir Walter is succeeded by David, son of David Forestare of Garden, and on 29th July, 1567, James VI. confirms the office and lands to Alexander Forestar of Garden in liferent, and to James, his son, in fee, including the house of the forester, and the lands and pertinents "of old pertaining to said office, of which the said Alexander and his predecessors have had possession beyond the memory of man:" it includes also the house and lands of Forester's hill, with right to fallen wood, bark, birch, and right of pasturage for 24 animals, 3 horses, and 6 tilling beasts, with all powers belonging to the office: "as also of *building a mansion of stone and lime*, with policies and plantations corresponding thereto." No doubt the present mansion was erected, in implement of the above obligation, by Alexander, and the general appearance and style of the masonry is in harmony with this date.

Alexander Forrester was Provost of Stirling at this period, and had his town ludging on the north side of what was formerly the *Hie* or *Mercategait*. His ancestors had a close connection with Stirling, and the members of his family sat in the High Church, and at their death were interred in the old chapel, called from this fact the "Garden aisle," (on the west window lintel of which are the initials D.F.), where their tombstones, with their arms and names, dating back to the time of Provost Alexander, may be seen. (Sketches, pages 170 and 174). The shields of that tablet on page 170 contain respectively the arms

of Forrester and Erskine, and initials A.F. and I.E.—those of Provost Sir Alexander Forrester and Jeanie Erskine, his wife. The other initials D.F. and M.E., apparently added later, being cut into the stone, seem those of their son Duncan and his wife. In addition to the



Latin motto, *Soli deo honore et gloria*, the margin is surrounded by the following inscription, "Heir lyis ane honorabil mane calit Alexander Foster, Laerd of Garden, quha deit the 13 of Januar, 1598." The tombstone on page 174 contains also two shields, one with the husband's arms alone, and the other with his impaled with those of his wife's, evidently a member of the Forrester family, the date and initials, 1584, and A.D. and E.M.

The situation of both the ancient and more modern house have been admirably chosen for commanding the whole forest, on which it looks down. After the departure of the Court to England, in 1603, the duties of the forester were considerably relaxed, the trees cut down and the forest laid waste, while his Majesty's deer were rapidly being exterminated. It culminated, in 1632, when Sir James Forrester's absence was so continued that the neglected condition of the Royal

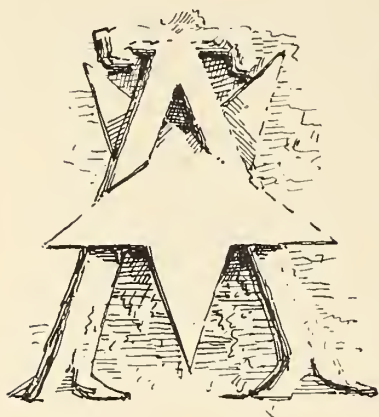
Forest was brought to the notice of King Charles I. He issued letters, dated 15th March, 1632, to Margaret and Mary Forrester, daughters of Sir James, then residing in the mansion, granting them special commission to pursue, "according to the law of our kingdom," the delinquents slaying the deer and cutting the trees, the Lord Advocate to concur for their better assistance, and all fines and "amer-ciament's" taken from the delinquents for the time byegone were awarded to them for their own use.

The troubles of the martyred king with his Parliament and the general unsettled state of Scotland, combined to the neglect of protection of the deer and the forest, as of minor consideration in these trying times; and little more is subsequently heard of Torwood Royal Forest. None of the ancient trees now survive, but a strain of the King's deer exists, and is now protected in the adjoining woods of Carbrook. Thomas Dundas of Fingask, who had acquired Quarrel, purchased Torwood estate in 1751 from the heirs of Lord Forrester, and his successor, Mr. Dundas of Carronhall, recently sold it to the late Mr. Bolton of Carbrook.

In the Jesuit priest (Blackhal's) remarks of his journey from Edinburgh to pass the Forth at Stirling Bridge, in 1643, he refers to finding an ale house at end of Torwood, and, in passing Torwood, "which now hath nothing but some scattered oackes, dying for antiquity, which conserve the name and memory of that sometymes so famous a Wood, especially in the history of Wallace."

Part 2.

Forrester of Garden's Town Ludging.

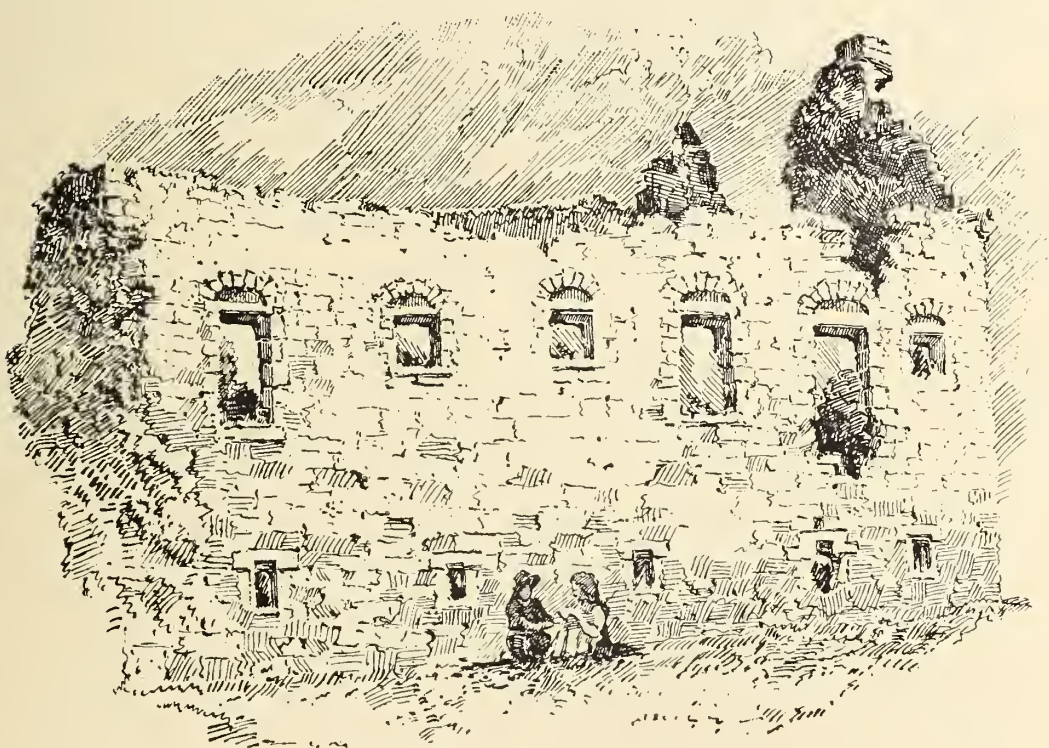


N Instrument of Sasine, recorded 20th May, 1658, in favour of Thomas Bauchop describes this ludging as “that great tenement of land or building, with the close, yard, and pertinents of old belonging to the deceased Sir James Forrester of Garden, lying on the north side of the High Street of Stirling, betwixt the land of the deceased James Forrester of Logie, on the east, the land of the deceased James Robertson, merchant, on the west, and the High Street on the south,” etc. The Corporation purchased the property, described as in ruins in 1718, and on its site built the large tenement, with the pend, in Broad Street, at a cost of £1,463 Scots. It is named in the Town Records the “Town’s New House,” and was intended for an hotel.

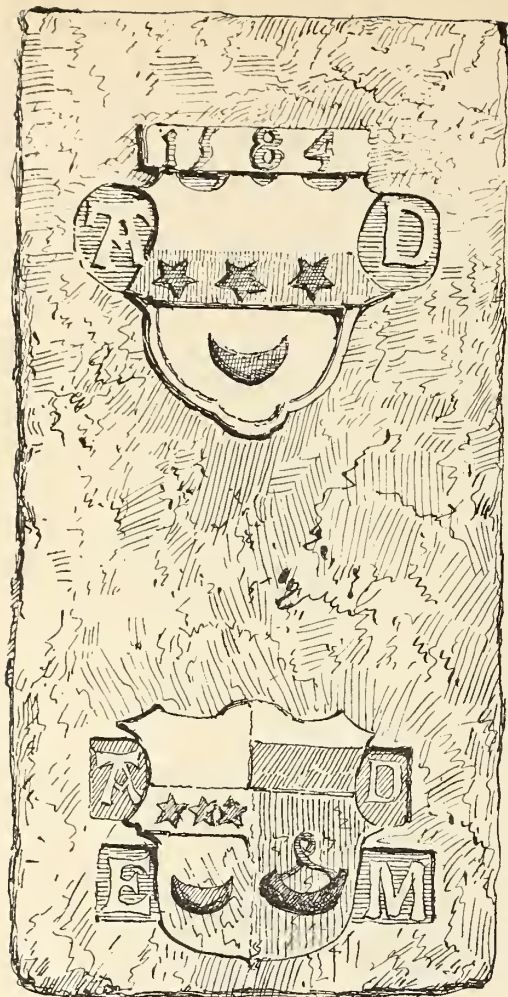
In 1498 the ancient house belonged to Sir Duncan Forrester of Garden, Gunnershaw, and Skipynch, who was Master of the Royal Household, and also held the office of Customar and Collector of the King’s rents. Sir Duncan was a favourite of James IV., who stood sponsor or “*hufe* to Duncan Forestair’s sones, bairne, giving a gratuity of £9 to be put in the ‘Tapir.’” On 12th April, 1518, Sir Duncan, “of devotion,” constituted an annual rent of 13s. “over 2½ riggs of land near the dovecot of John Bully, next the High Street (evidently

behind his ludging), to Sir James Aikman, chaplain of the Holy Cross, for prayers for the souls of Sir Duncan, Margaret Forsyth and Margaret Bothwell, his wives. On 5th October, 1525, the Provost and Town Council convene a meeting "in the lugene of Sir Duncan Forestair of Garden, knycht, to avis on the gift of the Altar of Sanct Katerin, fundit and situat within their parocht kirk, betwixt ane and twa houris efter noune."

The old town mansion, thus demolished, was probably of the same type to be in harmony with the adjoining ludging of his kinsman, Forester of Logie.



Banqueting Hall, Torwood.



*Tombstone in Garden Aisle,
Stirling.*

Part 3.

The Old Tower or Fortalice of Garden.

IS alleged by tradition to have been situated on a tree covered mound in a marsh, formerly a shallow lakelet, about 400 or 500 yards west of the present mansion. The island, for such it seems formerly to have been, is about 210 feet by 120 feet, and its highest portion—about 10 feet above the water at its lowest level—is about 60 feet by 52 feet, with a causeway on the north by way of access to the mainland. On this the castle is conjectured to have stood, but not even a stone of a building kind is visible.

Although utilized in building the present mansion, some vestige of the site of the tower would have been expected, and the suggestion is raised that the marshy ground absorbed what stones remained. Hence the castle must have required a wooden pileing for its foundation, which may yet be verified by trenching the mound. The present mansion, whose walls in the older parts are $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, may date back to the middle of the seventeenth century, and was probably built by the Senator, Sir Archibald Stirling. It was, Mr. Stirling informed me, greatly altered and added to by his father in 1827.

A few yards to the north of the mound is a knoll bearing the title of Gallowshill. This is the old Scots name for an elevated station for viewing purposes, but tradition assigns the gallows to a spot on it, presently represented by a large stone.

The earliest reference to Garden is in a charter of James IV., dated 28th November, 1497, and signed at Stirling, to Walter Forestare, son and apparent heir of "our faithful friend Duncan Forestare de Skipynch," of, *inter alia*, the lands of Garden, "with the Tower, Fortalice, and Mill thereof;" and on 16th May, 1508, the King, in addition to confirming Walter's investiture, erects these, with goose croft and clay croft of Stirling, into a free Barony of "Forestare Garden"—his father, Sir Duncan, who was then alive, reserving his liferent. At the same time the son was infeft in Torwood, etc.

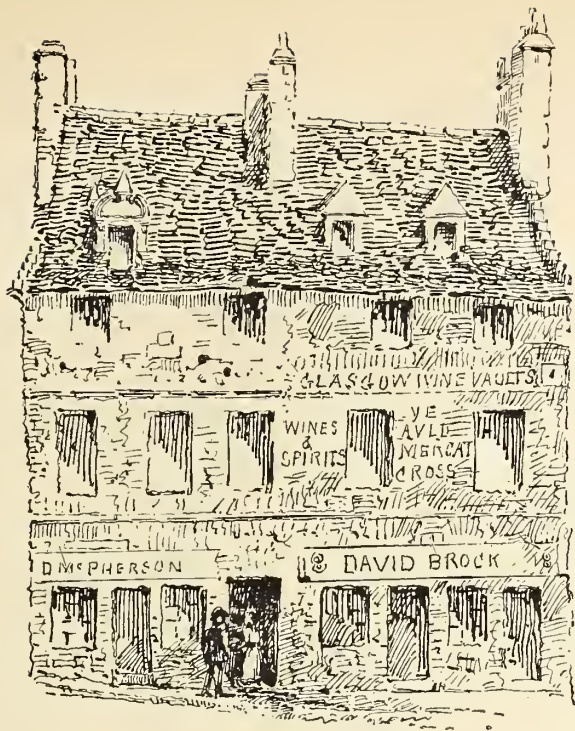
One of Sir Duncan's daughters married Sir Alexander Forrester, and held the lands of Blackburn in Linlithgowshire, whose descendant is Lord Forrester of Corstorphine, etc.

Walter, some short time prior to 9th September, 1528, was succeeded by his son David, but his possession was brief, as on that date his son, also a Sir David, is settled therein, and in Torwood and the office of Royal forester. On 29th July, 1567, he was succeeded by his son, Provost Sir Alexander, whose tombstone (page 170) relates that he died on 13th January, 1598. He had at least two sons, James and Duncan. Sir James, the eldest, succeeded him, and on 26th October, 1603, also to his mother, Jeanie Erskine, in her lands of Ardmore in Menteith. On 5th April, 1608, Sir James makes up and records his title as heir to his great grandfather's father, Walter of Garden, in the lands of Cambusbarron and patronage of the Chapel. His younger brother Duncan, of date 26th March, 1602, similarly made up and

recorded a title as heir of his father's great-grandfather's grandfather, Robert Forrester of Boquhane, to other lands; and it is interesting as including a barn and garden (*horreo et horto*) "on the east part of the stone wall near the Port of Stirling." Sir James seems to have shortly thereafter deserted Garden old Castle, probably as becoming uninhabitable, for Torwood, and made that mansion his residence, as he is designed, in August, 1622, as of that place.

Sir Archibald Stirling, a branch of the Keir family and a Senator of the College of Justice, was proprietor of Garden prior to 1667, and the present mansion may then have been built and occupied by him. On 15th August of that year, he designs himself as now of Keir, he having succeeded shortly before to Keir estates as heir of Sir George Stirling. On 31st July, 1668, Sir John Stirling of Keir succeeds to Garden as heir male of provision to Sir Archibald, and the estate remains in the possession of his descendants—Mr. Stirling of Garden being the present proprietor.





CHAPTER XIX.

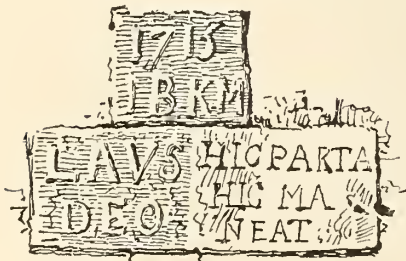
Part 1.

Alexander, First Lord Elphinston's Ludging

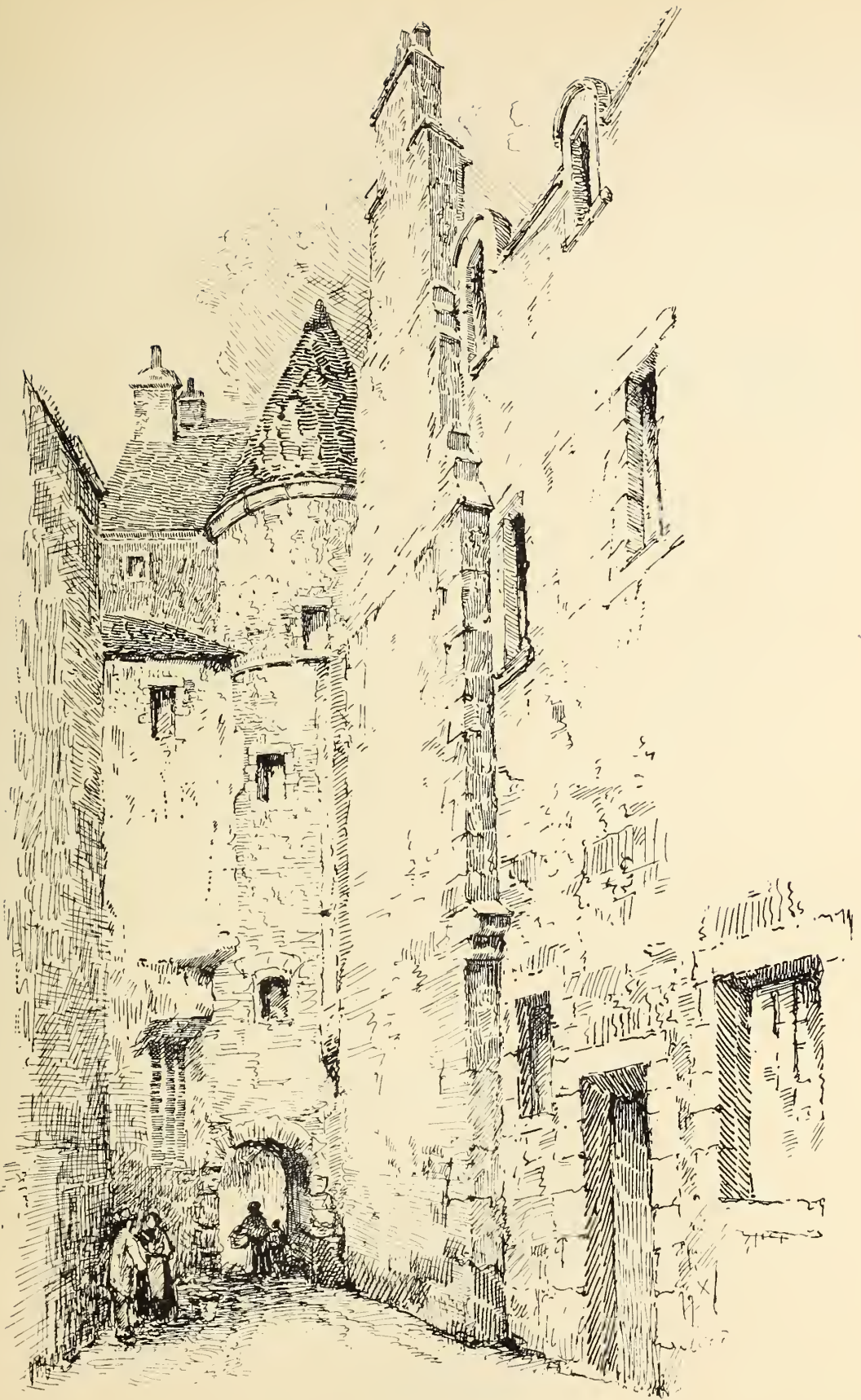
IS situated on the west side of a close, or through entry, between Broad Street and St. Mary's Wynd, named "Craigis Cloiss" in 1630. It consists of two buildings, one fronting the former street now occupied by a spirit dealer, (sketch above), and with its ancient carved dormer, latin inscriptions, and sun dial, forms a conspicuous object. That behind, although from the narrowness of the close unobserved by passengers, retains its very ancient turretted stair tower, with its original conical roof—the only perfect specimen in Stirling. From their evidences of great antiquity, the older parts of these buildings may date back to Alexander, First Lord Elphinston's ownership, about

1509. Esteemed by James IV., and married to his consort's favourite maid of honour, the English lady, Elizabeth Barlow, Elphinston was killed with his royal master at Flodden.

On 6th May, 1533, his son, Alexander, Second Lord Elphinston, sold the properties to Sir John Paterson, Canon of the Chapel Royal of Stirling, the description being "his fore tenement of land, under and above, in the burgh of Stirling, on the north side of the Hie Street, opposite the Market Cross, which was formerly called 'Muiresland,'" and on account of a *life rent* over it (probably of his mother, Elizabeth Barlow), he gave all his tenement, back and fore, with the garden and pertinents in the Back Raw, in warrandice. This deed is dated at Elphinston, one of the witnesses thereto being William Johnstone, "his lordship's chaplain," and he signs his surname "Elphynstoun" and appends his seal. The first Lord Elphinston's widow being liferented in it, points to it being the family residential mansion. The identity of the building is confirmed by the description in a tack and obligation of the adjoining eastmost tenement, by "Schir William Alschinder, chaplain servitor to my Lord of Ergile" (a relation of the Earl of Stirling's ancestor), dated 12th July, 1546, as being on the north part of the "Queenis gait fornent the mercate croce of the samyn, betwixt the land of Schir John Paterson and umqle Robert Paulie on the west pairt, on that ane pairt, the land of David Forester of Garden on the est pairt, etc."



The sculptured texts of the inscription—*Laus deo, hic parta, hic mancat; nisi dominus*; date and initials, 1715. I.B.K.M.—may have been on the original front of this building, as the present close distinctly



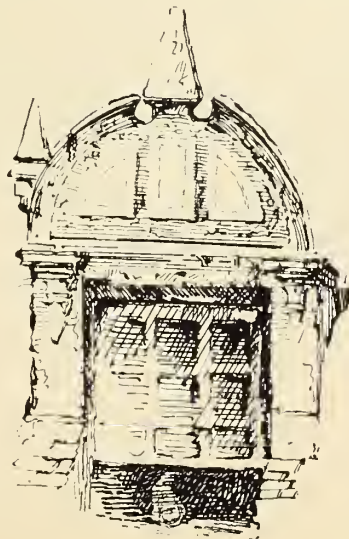
Lord Elphinston's Lodging.

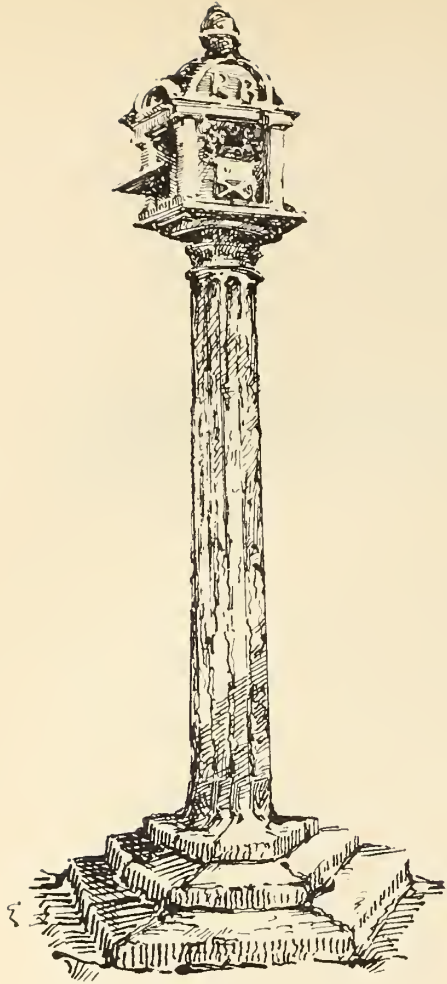
shews, that the building has been brought forward to the High Street and a new front of some 10 feet added, with these texts placed haphazard on it. They, therefore, can give no assistance in investigating its age and ownership. The initials and date give apparently the persons who made and the date of the conversion. Mary, a daughter of the first Lord Elphinston, died in it.



The Back Raw house was, in memory of Elphinston's death at Flodden and of his father, John's, at Pinkiecleuch, burdened with "twa merkis of obit silver, to be upliftit and tane to the feft chaplanes yeirly, for sufferagh to be downe for the saulles of unquhile Alexander Lord Elphinston and Schir Johen Elphinstone, his fader, of ane land and tement liand in the Bac Raw." This deed is dated 14th October, 1521.

The connection between the Lords Elphinston and the Corporation of Stirling continued for about two centuries, and consisted often of litigations and other unneighbourly acts concerning Craigforth cruives and salmon fishings, of which Lord Elphinston was owner; but, notwithstanding these, otherwise friendly relations existed—Lady Elphinston being kindly treated by them on various occasions.





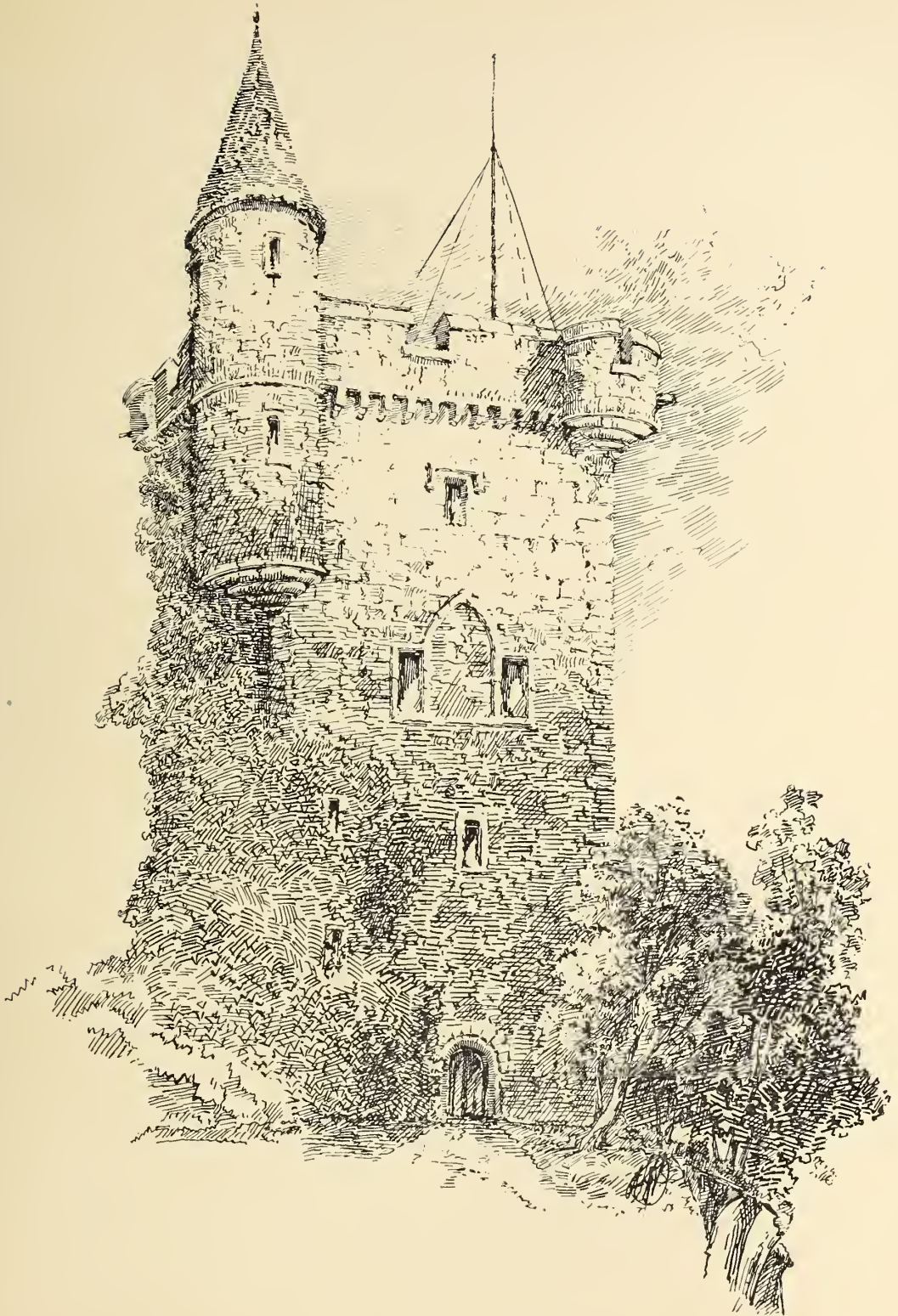
Birth Market Cross.

Part 2.

Elphinston Tower and Fortalice.

THE only remains of the ancient mansion called the Tower and Fortalice of Elphinston, is the well-preserved, ivy-covered, square, machicolated tower bearing that name, situated at the east end of the estate, and about half-a-mile from the modern mansion, formerly Elphinston, but now called Dunmore. It is perched on a sandstone rock, having, on the north an abrupt descent of 50 feet to the flat plain, which evidently at some distant age was covered by the Forth, but is now a marsh. Viewed from the north and east, the tower

is a conspicuous object for many miles. The west side of the tower bears marks of some extensive building being formerly attached to it, but from the comparatively trifling ruins and great alterations recently made on the ground surrounding it, no foundations of such could be traced. There is no coat of arms, carving, or initials visible on it, and its date is left to be obtained from the noble family whose baronial residence it was not earlier than the beginning of the fifteenth century. It was probably built by Sir John Elphinston, father of the first Lord Elphinston. The door to the tower faces the south. It was a place of some natural strength by reason of its situation.



Elphinston Tower.

The possession of Elphinston dates back to John Elphinston, who married Marjory Erth, heiress of Erthbeg, or Little Erth, and acquired with her the earliest possessions of the Elphinstons, which were the residences of the descendants of the main line for about a century and a half, and formed the nucleus of their estate. John died about 1340, and Alexander, before his succession, was one of eighty squires who garrisoned Stirling Castle when held by the English Warden, Sir Thomas Rokeby, in 1336. In 1435, Henry of Pendrich was in altered circumstances.

A peerage compendium assigns the origin of the family to a German ancestor, who married a sister of Robert the Bruce, and got with her lands in Lothian, which he named after himself "Evington," and that a descendant, Alexander, exchanged part of these, called "Kinchiber," with Alexander, son of Adam More, for the lands of Erthbeg, which he called Elphinston. But this history is clearly wrong in many other points and is unreliable.

The Right Honourable John Elphinston acquired from his kinsman, Lord Lindsay, in 1497, Agnes of Erth's share of Erthbeg, and thus held Erthbeg, Barony of Airth, and lands of Craigforth direct off the King, the charter being granted for "good and faithful counsel and assistance," presumably at the battle of Sauchieburn, where he acted a conspicuous part and was called the "King's familiar shield bearer." He dropped the name of Pendreich and retained only that of this Barony. He died in 1508.

Alexander, his son, who succeeded him about 1509, was a great favourite of James IV., who created him Baron Elphinston, erected his various lands into a Barony, and appointed him a Privy Councillor and Keeper of Stirling Castle, besides being officially attached to the Court.

So highly favoured was he that the King procured his marriage with Elizabeth Barlow, an English lady, the favourite maid of honour of his consort, Margaret Tudor; and on 12th August, 1513, at Twisselhaugh, (a memorable date and place on account of the execution of numerous charters and grants in fulfilment of prior obligations) the King, evidently having a presentiment of his death, grants to him and his English spouse the lands of Kildrummy in Aberdeenshire—the consideration being naively expressed that his “consort’s Maid of Honor, Elizabeth Barley, as a foreigner whom we had desired Lord Elphinston to wed, and for his good and faithful gratuitous services, and in contemplation of her dowry made to her, being beyond her native land in the service of our consort, and on account of his predecessor’s (John’s) death at Piperdane” in the King’s ancestors’ service. Alexander was killed with his royal master at Flodden, on the fifth of the following month. In stature and appearance he is described as having resembled the King, and he agreed, previous to the battle, for the safety of James, whose bravery in exposing himself was feared would mark him out for English weapons, to personate him and take this risk. He was accordingly clothed in similar armour, and acted so perfectly that he imposed on, and was actually followed and defended by the chief of the Scottish nobility. Similarly, after the battle, his body was mistaken by the English for that of the King.

By his marriage to Elizabeth Barlow he had two sons, Alexander and James, and three daughters, one of whom, Mary, died in Stirling. Alexander who was only two years of age at his father’s death, succeeded to the estates, and was entered on a precept issued by James V. (who had been newly crowned at Stirling) to John Craigengelt, Sheriff of Stirling, and James Spetaile of Blairlogie, Alexander’s attorney,

dated 8th November, 1513, on payment of 140 merks of relief duty. This charge is inconsistent with the Act at Twisselhaugh exempting heirs of slain soldiers from relief duty. The lands are described as the Lands and Barony of Elphinston, with Tower and Fortalice of Elphinston annexed thereto, which included the extensive and widely-separated lands of Pendreich, Craigrosse, Quarrol, Craigforth, Gargunnoch, Carnock, and Playne. The Kildrummy estate, of course, remained vested in the widow as the King's dowry.

An incident in the family history occurs on 29th March, 1509, when, as it seemed then a common family custom, Alexander, first Lord Elphinston, gave bond "to his well beloved friend," John Kinross of Kippenross, for the marriage between his son James and Jean Elphinston, who, if his daughter, must have been a child. Kippenross pledged his Mill for performance of his part of the contract. James, however, married Isabella, daughter of Robert Callander of the Manor.

On 15th May, 1524, Robert Elphinston appears for the young Lord Alexander, and lays down 100 merks on the altar of the Parish Church of Stirling for the redemption of the lands pledged by Sir John in 1506, to a Malcolm Cristison, a burgess. The money is consigned in the Town Clerk's hands, and Provost Alexander Foster grants a receipt.

In 1568, James VI. orders Robert, Lord Elphinston, who had joined the rebel lords, to deliver up his Tower and Fortalice.

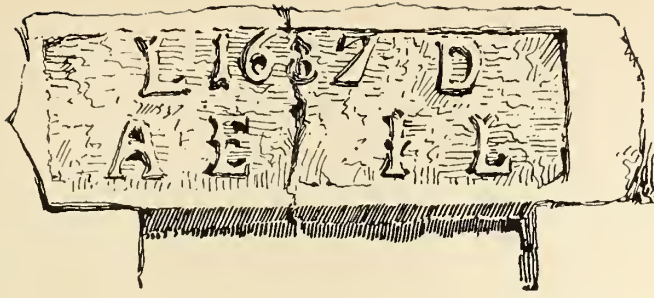
James, second son of Alexander, the second Lord, was "cup-bearer" to James VI. Another relative was Master of the Household, and on 29th July, 1651, gets an order from Charles II. on the Magistrates of Stirling for £104, for the King's use, who was then in Stirling Castle. On 19th January, 1619, Alexander succeeded, as heir of his

father Robert, and on 30th May, 1655, his son succeeded, the lands and barony then including the advocacy of the parish Kirks of Airth, Logie and Straithgull, and Ferryboat of Elphinston. On 27th September, 1683, Charles Elphinston, designed as of Airth, succeeds as heir of his father Richard, to the lands of Airth and Pendreich.

Lord Keith, the celebrated admiral and M.P., the fifth son of Lord Charles, was born in the Tower on 12th January, 1746, although he died at Tulliallan. The last resident Elphinston was John, the eleventh Lord, an officer wounded in Canada when serving under General Wolfe. By disposition, dated 3rd July, 1784, he sold Elphinston to John, Earl of Dunmore, who was infest on 17th July, 1786—the name being then changed to Dunmore. The Earl of Dunmore, appointed by Queen Anne a Privy Councillor and Governor of Blackness Castle, must have occupied the old Tower, etc., as the date on his new mansion, with coat of arms (a heart and motto, *Fidelis adversis*), is 1822.

The market cross of Airth (sketch, page 182), a very fine specimen of its class, has four faces, on two of which are the respective coats of arms and crests of Bruce and Elphinston, with the initials R.B. and C.E. and motto, “Doe well and let them say,” with the date 1697. On the other two faces are sun dials. The initials represent Robert Bruce of Airth and Charles, ninth Lord Elphinston, designed as “of Airth,” who erected the cross. He was slain in a duel with Captain William Bruce of Airth at Torwood.





Part 3.

Skaithmuir.



LD Skaithmuir is situated about 500 yards west of Quarrel Mansion, and is a square tower 36 feet by 24 feet, and about 60 feet high, having its doorway in the east wall. It has been completely gutted out to utilize it for a pumping engine to a coal pit. On its west side running north and south, and 18 feet distant therefrom, are the foundation walls of some extensive building, about 60 feet in length. Several other ruined erections surround it, but are intermixed and inseparable from the ruins of more modern erections connected with the pit. The demesne wall, 8 feet high, encloses about 6 or 8 acres, all now open to and used by the population of the adjoining miners' village for their rubbish. There are two sun dials on the east and west corners of the south wall of the Tower (sketch, page 190), and on the lintel of a window on the second floor of the west wall are the initials and date, L.A.E., 1637, D.I.L. (sketch above), representing Lord Alexander Elphinston and Dame Jean Livingston. As the erection of the Tower is of an anterior date, these must apply to some additions and alterations then made on it.

From the registers we find that *Ska'muir* Tower and Mansion was

the residence, in September, 1542, of Robert Bisset of Quarrel, a charter by him, to Ninian Bruce, of part of Kinnaird, being dated from it.

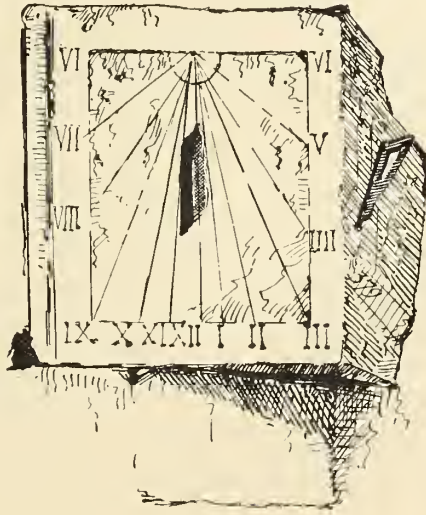
In the marriage contract of 10th April, 1575, between Robert, Lord Elphinston and Dame Margaret Drummond his spouse, for their son, Master Alexander Elphinston, *and* William, Lord Livingston, and

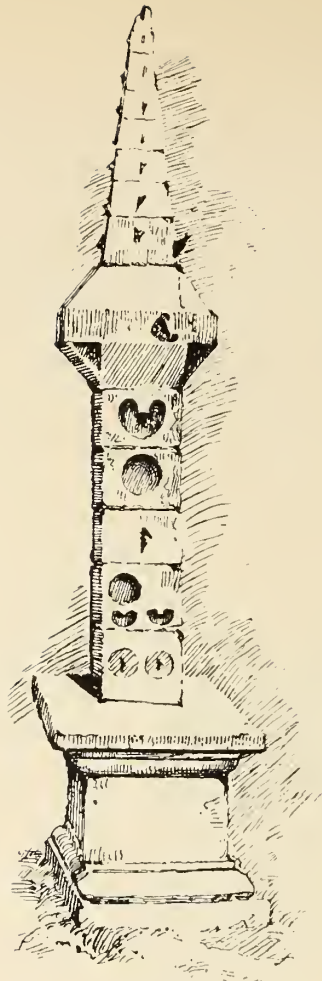


Old Skaithmuir.

Agnes Fleming, his spouse, for their eldest daughter, Jean Livingston, dated at Mar and Eister Kilsyth, the lands of Pittendreich, near Stirling, are conveyed to the young couple, and the lands and barony of Elphinston are given in warrandice thereof. Master Alexander succeeded his said father, Lord Robert, on 19th January, 1619, and died previous to 13th May, 1655, when his son, also Alexander, fifth Lord Elphinston, succeeded him, not only in Quarrell, but in the lands and barony of Elphinston. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Patrick, Lord Drummond. The sixth Lord Elphinston married his uncle's daughter, Lillias, while the seventh Lord Elphinston died without issue.

The neglected condition and abuse of this mediæval baron's residence is regrettable, and raises a painful feeling that such a disregard for these historical memorials of a long-past generation should exist and that they receive from their owners so scant consideration—a vandalism rare, however, amongst our landed gentry.

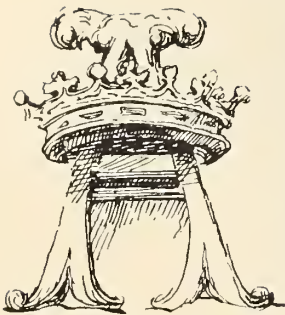




Sun dial, Quarrel.

Part 4.

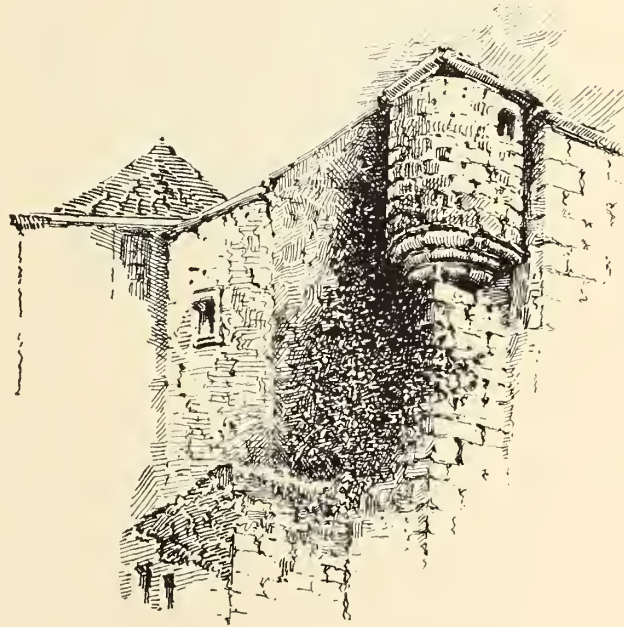
Quarrel (Carronhall).



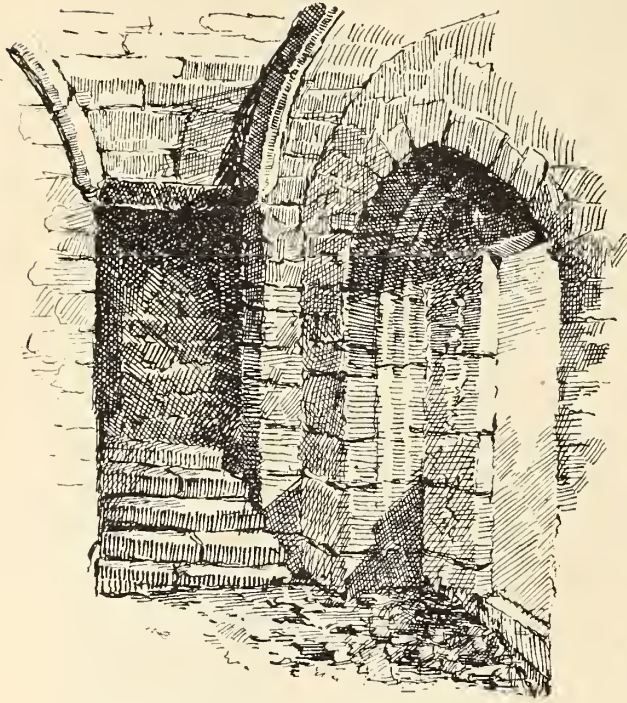
THOMAS BISSET of Quarrel appears as one of an inquest in a Breve of Terce led by Marion Somerville, widow of David Foster of Torwood, dated July, 1492 ; and the main part of this estate continued in that family down to 30th October, 1604, when John Bisset, who gets sasine, as heir of his father Robert, in Chirmuirlands, in the Baillery of Stirling, is there designed as of Quarrel.

OR 29th August, 1512, James IV. grants to Alexander, Lord Elphinston, the lands of Quarrel, described as in the Barony of Herbertshire, having belonged formerly to the above Thomas Bisset and afterwards to Oliver Sinclare de Roslyn, and being alienated from said Barony were then in the King's hands. In 1510, 1527, and 1542, charters of confirmation are granted by James IV. and James V. to the said Oliver Sinclare and Agnes Crichton, his spouse, of the other parts. The last of these charters, a deed of entail, included half of Stanehouse and Quarrel, under which there was apparently a failure, as the lands had reverted to the King.

The lands, *cum castris*—thus including Skaithmuir Castle—were burdened with an annual of £6 to the Convent of the Holy Cross. James VI. on the narrative of the convents being abolished or non-existent, conveyed this and other church annuals to Sir Ludovic Bellenden, son and heir of James, commendator of said convent,—the *reddendo* being £200 and giving the service of a Knight Baronet (banneret). On 12th August, 1591, the same king ratifies Sir Ludovic's grant of church annuals, but withdrew from it those affecting the parts of Quarrel, and united them to the Barony of Elphinston.



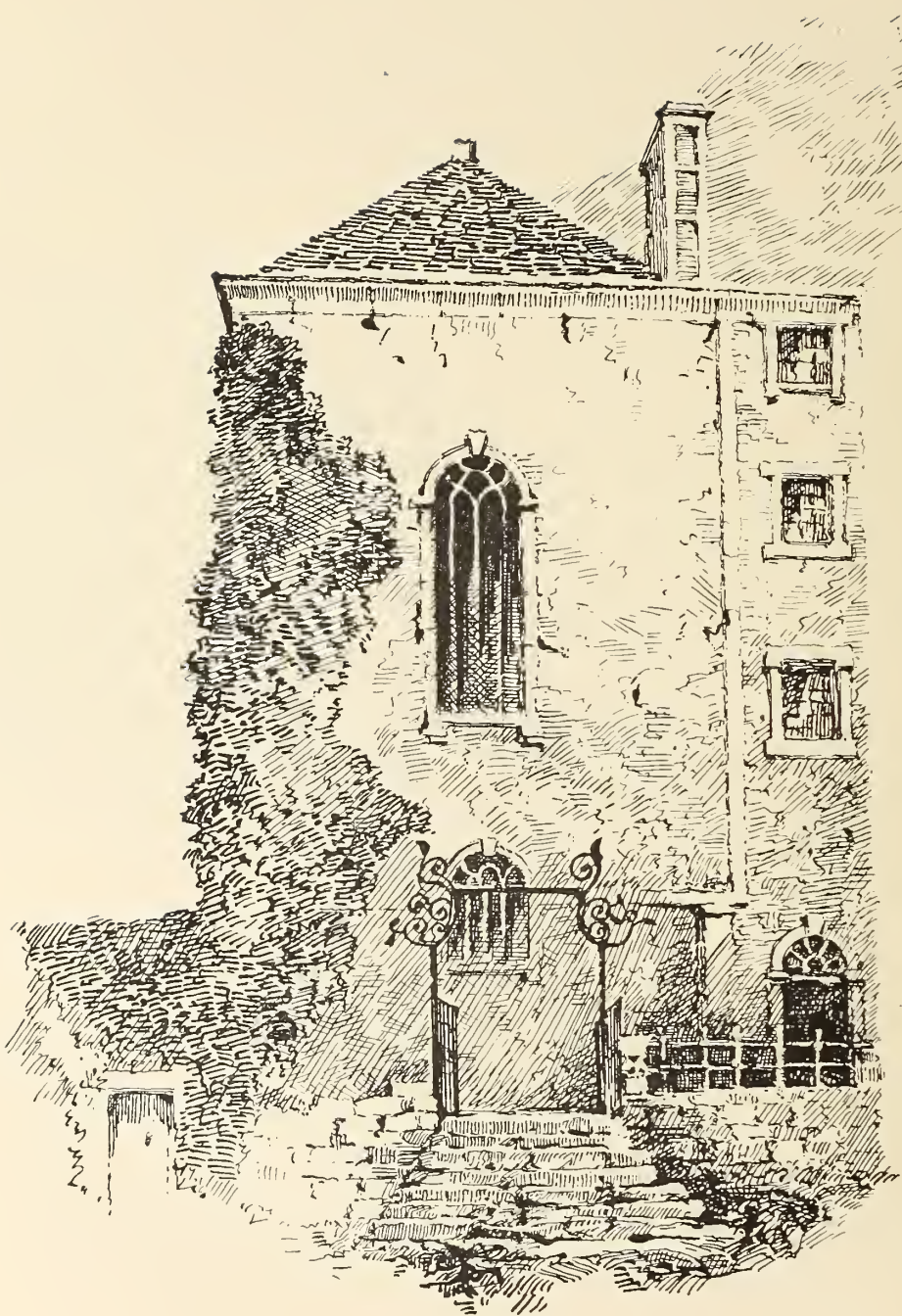
Quarrel thus came into the Elphinston family in August, 1512, and being incorporated therewith, it followed the succession of the Elphinston Barony, narrated in the preceding article, down to 23rd September, 1773, when held by the heiress, Lady Clementina Fleming



*Inside chapel, shewing old door
built up.*

of Biggar and Cumbernauld. On 23rd October, 1760, John, Lord Elphinston, succeeded to Quarrel, Pocknave, and Powfoulis, and gets a charter under the great seal. On 27th February, 1797, his son, John Fleming of Biggar and Cumbernauld, Lord Elphinston, succeeds to those parts of the Barony of Elphinston called Quariol, Pocknave, and Powfowlis, but this is only to the superiority, the *dominium utile* having been previously sold, or came into the possession of George Drummond of Blair Drummond, who, by disposition

dated 19th January, 1749, sold them to Thomas Dundas, younger, of Fingask, for £7000—the lands marching with the lands of his father—Bailie Thomas Dundas of Letham. The lands of Quarrel comprehended the old Barony of Skaithmuir, with its mill and lands, and Manor Place of Quarrel, the shore of Quarrel, now Carronshore, with coal field and buildings at the shore, shore dues, and passage boat ;



Quarrel.

together with "right and title to the coal hewers and coal burners working and serving in the present going coal, or which belong to the said coal, and may at present be serving in any other coal." This shows that so recently as 1749, the colliers were bought and sold as part of the estate. At this time the old Manor House received additions and alterations, and the name was changed to Carronhall by Thomas Dundas. He was succeeded by his son, also Thomas, on 23rd September, 1790, and with Quarrel was included Easter Skaithmuir, while, at the same time, he was infest in Torwoodheid. David Erskine of Cardross was superior in 1831, when the estate is described as "the lands of Quariol, now called Carronhall."

The mansion, originally a square tower similar to Skaithmuir, has been built around by various apartments, the tower now forming the hall and staircase—all incorporated therewith. The sketch (page 193) represents the oldest parts, a turret and stair. There is also an out-house, now used as a wine cellar, in the west wing. It is the ancient chapel, 16 feet by 16 feet, with courses of freestone forming its barrel-vaulted roof, supported by four broad ribs, and being entered originally by a small staircase from the north (sketch, page 194). Its only window is in the east gable, and has been converted into the door to the cellar (sketch, page 198).

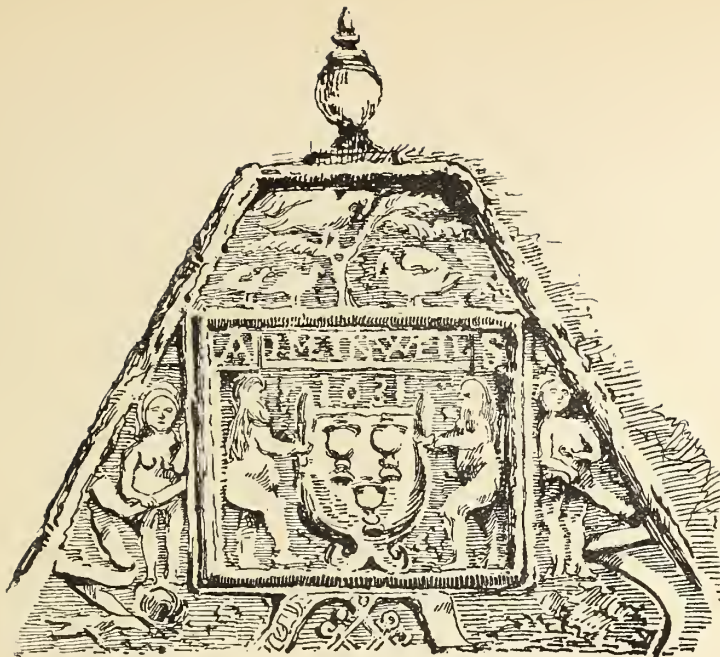
From the strength of the walls of the tower and the character of the building of the chapel, it is most probable that they existed in Thomas Bisset's time, about the middle of the fifteenth century, and are probably older than Skaithmuir.

The sketch opposite is of the part next the garden, and shews one of the external sides of the old tower and staircase. In the garden is

the very singular sun dial sketched on page 192, which is exactly similar to that at Barnbougle Mansion in Fifeshire. No name, initials, arms, or date is visible on any part of the mansion or the dial.



Chapel window.



CHAPTER XX.

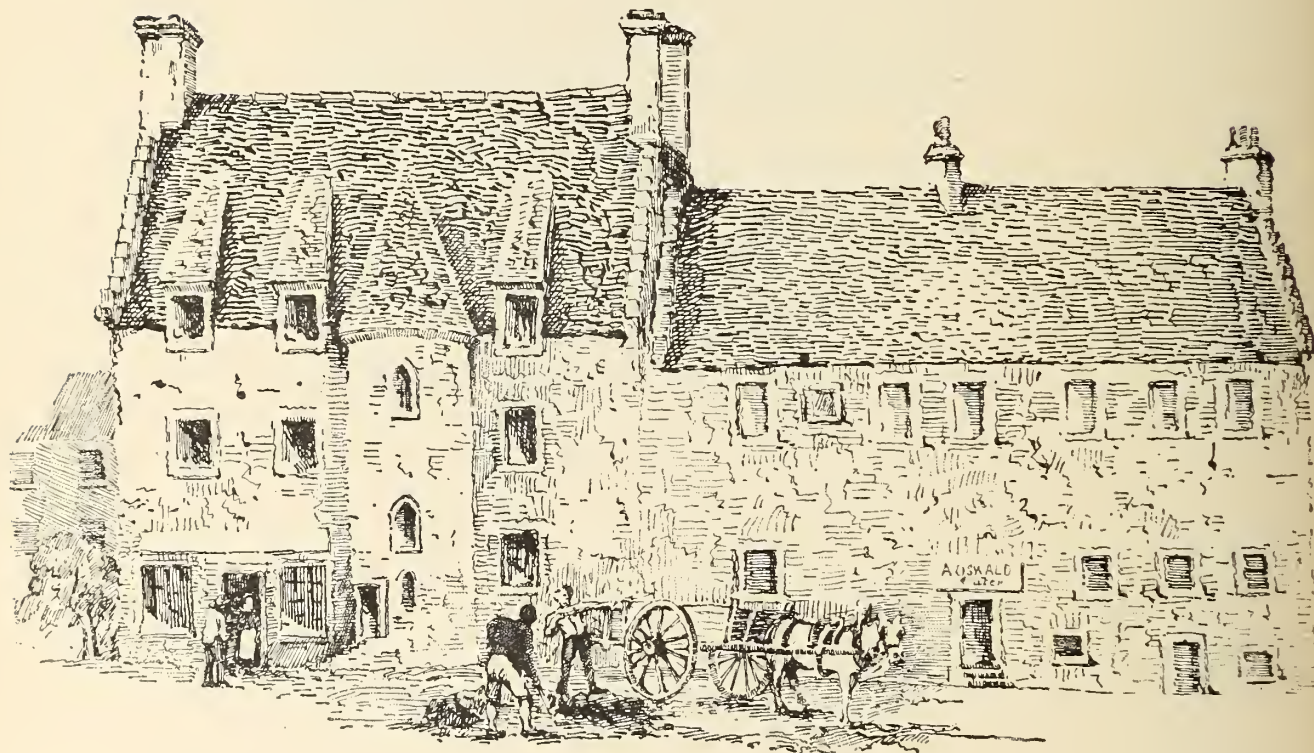
Part 1.

Shaw of Sauchie's Ludging.

THIS family, by reason of their constant attendance on the Court, had an early and close connection with Stirling, requiring a town residence so far back as 13th March, 1476, when James held the lands of Knockhill, part of which was subsequently sold to Adam Bully in 1479 and 1484. Alexander held a tenement and croft at the north end of St. Mary's Wynd in 1540 (Knockhill). This tenement, situated in his park of Knockhill (afterwards called Brown's Park) and under the Castle walls, is long since razed to the ground.

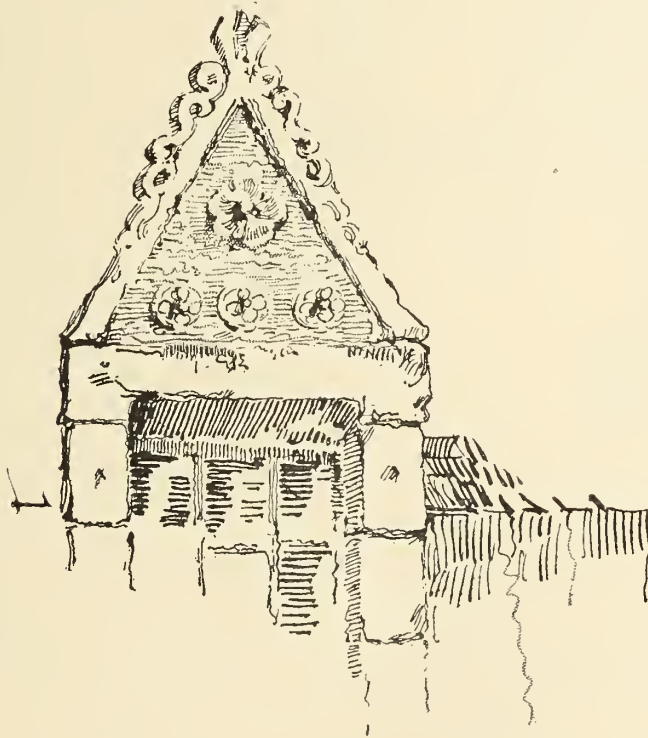
On 6th May, 1521, "James Schaw of Salky, Knycht," granted in presence of the Provost and Bailies, "that he renunsit and gaife our all rycht or tittle (title) of rycht that he had, has, or mycht have in ony tyme to cum, to ane land and tenement pertenyng to umquhill Thomas

Young, liand within the said Burgh betuex the land and tenement of umquhill Robert Duncan on the est part, and the land of Sir James Darrow on the wast part, and the King's Hiegait on the norcht part, and the gait callit the Backraw on the soucht part, to *Robert Spettale*, servand to the Quenis grace," and obliged himself never to come in the contrary, etc., under the pain of "manswearing," etc.



The sketch above represents Sir James Shaw's house conveyed to Robert Spittal, used by the latter as an Alms House, as the tablet on it shews, and was owned by the patrons of the Hospital he founded down to a comparatively recent date. Thirty years ago this house preserved its original condition, which was exactly similar, with tower

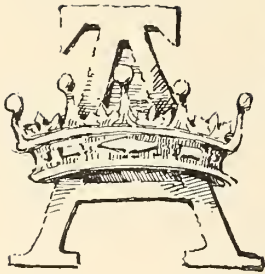
and dormer windows, to its neighbour on the west, presumably Sir Robert Darrow's house, above referred to. An examination of its massive walls and vaulted cellars reveals its great age. The walls are 6 feet thick, and their four small windows give the vaults the appearance of casemates. These features, and its weather-worn chimney-heads indicate it to be the older house of the two. So recently as 1703, "the *Alms House* in the 'Friars' Yard" (old High School yard), is referred to in the Town Records as then existing, and the old stone tablet, with its quaint lettering and date 1530, is evidence of its antiquity and the purposes for which it was used.





Part 2.

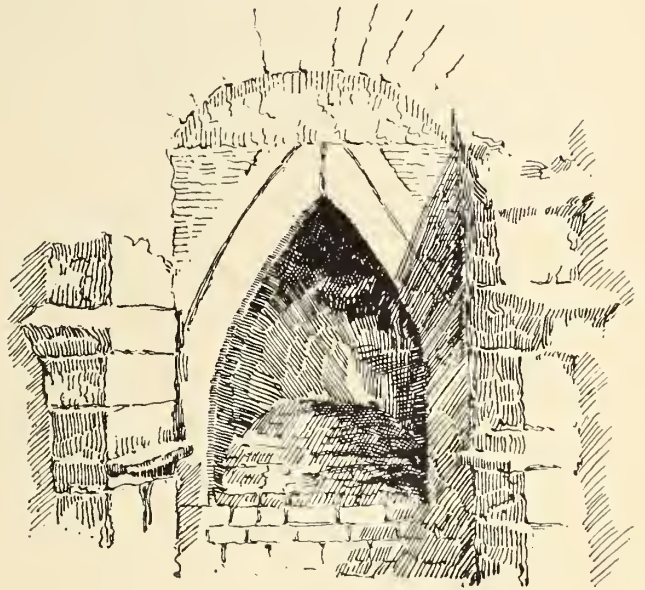
Sauchie Tower.



LARGE square tower, a good type of a nobleman's residence in the feudal times, was erected by Sir James Shaw, it is stated, about 1420. It stands detached, on an eminence, about midway between Alloa and Tillicoultry, close to the village now of that name, but formerly called Newton of Sauchie. (Sketch, see page 28). It is 34 feet from north to south, by 28 feet from east to west, outside its walls, has machicolations on its battlements, with four pepper-box turrets at its angles, and a small tower on the roof, which existed some fifty years ago, terminating the inside stair. This formed, no doubt, a shelter to the warder on the battlements, from which a wide range of the country is commanded.

The Tower had four floors. The ground one is vaulted, and is entire, consisting of a large apartment (apparently the kitchen) with store recesses and what seems to be a guard room; also, an open ashlar-built draw well. The first floor, one large dining-hall, has a fireplace 10 feet wide, with a lintel stone of 12 feet, and sculptured jambs (sketch, Bruce's Castle).

The walls contain stone corbels for the support of the oaken beams of the floor of the chamber above, now gone. In a room off this is what seems to be an oven—this sketch. A few narrow windows, all barred, the iron bars interlacing, are its only lights. The second floor is apparently a large single room like the dining hall, and with a large fireplace and windows somewhat similar. The third floor contained the dormitories, but the



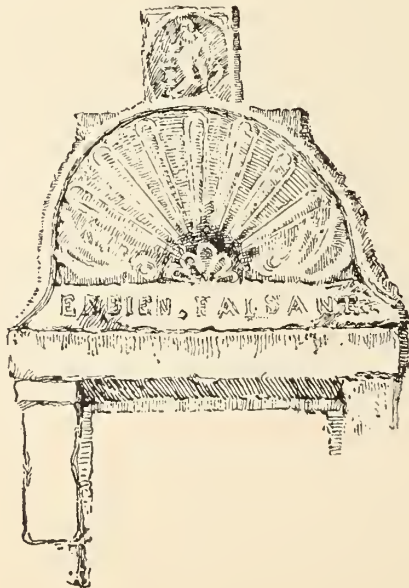
Oven, Sauchie.

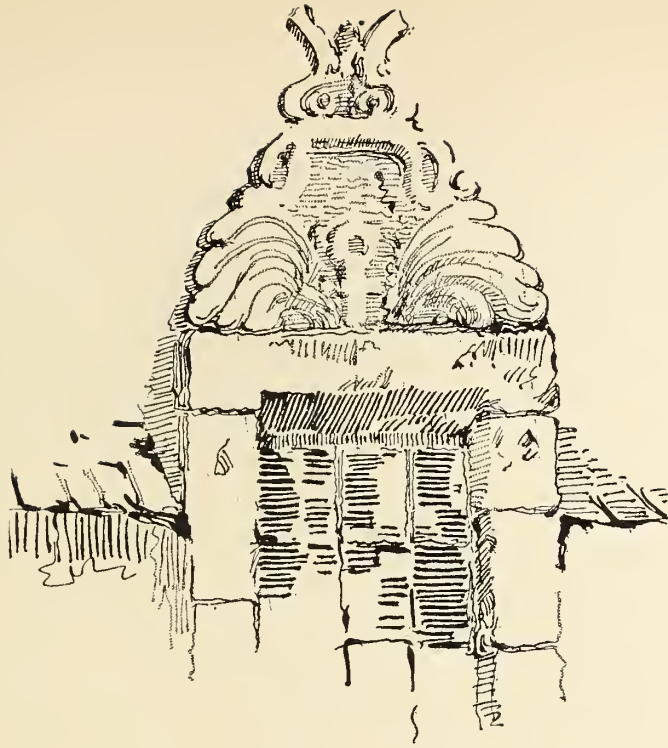
wooden floors of this chamber and that beneath it having fallen in, these are indistinguishable in the ruins. The windows here are also barred. All the windows are splayed inside, in their soles, jambs, and lintels, and the masonry is otherwise very superior work. One or two of the original iron bars remain in the windows.

A moat had surrounded the north and west sides of the Tower, as remains of it and the stream that evidently supplied its water, exist. Two high walls probably formed the other sides of the enclosing court,

with an arched gateway by way of access, having, no doubt, the old coat of arms (sketch, page 202), discovered built into the wall of an adjoining cottage, over it. The three flaggons in the arms point to the hereditary office of royal cupbearer being originally in the Shaw family. A descendant, David Murray, is designed as cupbearer to James VI.

The more modern seventeenth century mansion (see sketch, p. 34), with its numerous dormers, windows, and porch, is of interest from the quaint carvings and inscriptions they carry. The coat of arms, date, and initials, with motto, "I mein weil," (sketch, page 199), are those of Sir Alexander Shaw, who was served heir to his father in Sauchie in 1631, and thus he had erected the mansion immediately on his succession. He married Helen, daughter of Sir Robert Bruce of Clackmannan. A special peculiarity occurs in the inscription recorded on the ribbon held by the two uncouth savages, the supporters of these arms, in respect that it follows the various windings of the ribbon so faithfully as to be thus rendered unreadable. Those on the two front dormers, however, are respectively, "*En bien faisant*" and "*Je me contente.*" All of these are illustrated by the various sketches in this chapter.





Part 3.

History of the Shaw Family.

THOUGH the estate of "Salacheth" or Sauchie, dates back to the charter of Sir Robert the Bruce, 10th June, 1321, wherein he grants to Henrico de Annandio the lands, "with its woods, planes, pastures, roads, ways, stone quarries, dams, mills, multures, waters, fishings, and liberties of hunting and fishing, yet the age of the old Tower does not correspond to so early a period. Henry, who was Sheriff of Clackmannan, was succeeded by his son, David, and he by Islay de Annandio, a supposed son. Islay had two daughters, Margaret, married to William Brown of Colston, and Mary, who married James Schaw of Greenock. The parts of the Barony containing the principal *mannerum* went to the eldest, Margaret, while the other lands were divided equally between them. Margaret, however, about 1420,

executed a disposition of part of Sauchie to her husband, whom failing, to John, son of Sir James Schaw, and on 30th June, 1536, John Brown, her successor, sold the remainder of Sauchie to Alexander Schaw. The Tower's erection may, therefore, be more accurately ascribed to the possession of James Schaw, in the beginning or middle of the fifteenth century.

Few noblemen of his rank, in his time, held so many important offices, or played so conspicuous a part in Scottish history, as Schaw of Sauchie; and as his Tower has been selected for description as a type of a nobleman's residence in the feudal ages, so his public history may be given as a fair example of a mediæval baron's career, and as illustrative of the social economy during these troublous times.

In 1421, Sir James, as the King's Customar, collects his rents at Inverkeithing. In 1470, his son, Sir James, appears as a witness to a charter by King James III. by the designation of "our comptroller." In 1471, he is Sheriff of Stirling, and in that capacity gives sasine to Margaret de Logy, the Queen of James III., of her dower lands of Tillicoultry—Sir Symon Grey, vicar of Tillicoultry, being a witness. On 6th June, 1480, his cousin, William Brown, designed as of Colston and *Sauchie*, gives him infestment of the lands of Dawmerketh, etc., referring to their mothers' dowers. Having mortgaged or given a wadset over Sauchie,* which the records shew was then a prevalent fashion of raising money in absence of banks, to Matthew Forrester, a

* NOTE.—These usurous traffickings between needy nobility and wealthy burgesses were a feature of that age, the latter owing part of their wealth and much of their consequence from the power thus acquired over the borrowers. The interest charged was 10 per cent., with a chance of failure of redemption and consequent forfeiture of lands. The constitution of the security was generally a bond of annual rent of a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. on the advance, and a letter of redemption from the lender, giving the amount, and manner, and place of repayment. Dowager-Queen Margaret, widow of James IV., pledged her "hat of selvus begairet with cheynis of gold," with Marion Bruce for £100, in 1547.

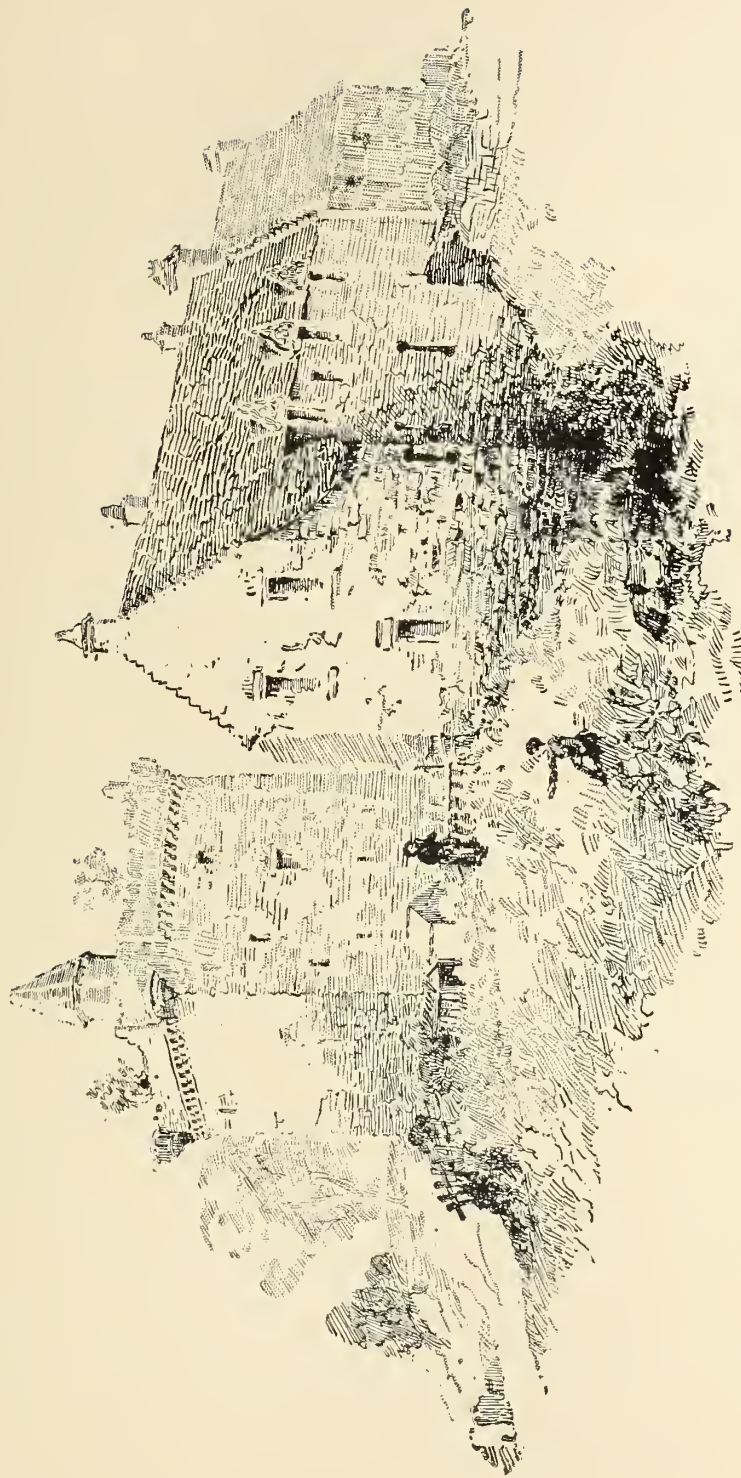
wealthy Stirling burgess, for £500 Scots, he appears on 25th August, 1482, to redeem it and claim his estate. About a year previously, Sir James' son John had either abducted or got Jonet Forrester, Matthew's daughter and heiress, to elope with him, occasioning an outcry and a demand for justice by the father and relatives against the seducer. The *denouement* of this episode is revealed by the record of the notary's instrument, dated 28th November, 1481, vizt:—"James Schaw of Sauchie came to the ludging of Matthew Forrester with Jonet Forrester, his daughter, who being interrogated anent her being carried off by John Schaw, son of the said James, averred it had been done with her consent, and she was now his wife." So the threatened feud ended happily with a marriage. As a provision for the young couple, Sir James, on 18th January following, infefts his son and Jonet Forrester, "his wife," in the lands of Abyrint. No doubt Matthew contributed his share, as his daughter's portion, in another and not less satisfactory form.

We now come to a period of Sir James' history which casts a deep blemish on his character, and reveals the ingratitude he returned his royal master for the conferment of the many high offices, and how the implicit trust reposed in him was so basely abused. In addition to his other offices, the King had conferred on him the constabularyship of Stirling Castle and the custody of his son, the Duke of Rothesay, his successor. Precedent to the battle of Sauchieburn and his murder at Bethune's Mill, the King, as is well known, sought admission to his son in Stirling Castle, but was refused by Schaw; and subsequently the Prince was handed over to the rebel lords, Argyll and Angus, to be used by them as a tool to legalise their treason, and for the unnatural act of fighting against his own father—an act which is known caused the Prince the deepest remorse, and affected his whole life, occasioning

numerous, otherwise unaccountable, pilgrimages to the Saints' shrines as an atonement. It is recorded that these very Lords afterwards so detested Sir James for his treachery, though committed at their instigation and in their service, that they got him deposed from his official position in favour of Sir John Lundie. This must have been a long time afterwards, for on 20th January, 1489, a few months only after his accession, the youthful King, then only 16 years of age, issued royal letters re-bestowing not only on Sir James, but on his son John, "and the longest liver of them for the whole of his lifetime, the custody of the Castle, Mansion or House, and Fortalice of Stirling, with the office of constabulary, *all as held by him from the late King, our father.*" And, subsequently, the Treasurer is ordered to repay James Schaw of Sauchie £50 lent to the King "quhen he was Prince."

The next reference to the family of Schaw is on 24th May, 1568, when James VI. demanded from Sir James, a grandson, "delivery of the tour and fortalice of Saquhy to his officers," he having joined the discontented and rebellious Lords.

In a no less unfavourable light does this Schaw figure in the following discreditable incident in which he incurred Queen Mary's dire displeasure. On 25th October, 1561, with the Queen from France, came several French ladies and gentlemen who remained at her Court. One of the Frenchmen was robbed of the large sum of 4,500 crowns. The suspected thief was a relative of Sir James', who was summoned to Stirling, and was interrogated in the Queen's presence as to his kinsman's hiding-place, and "confesset and granted that he knew William Schaw culpable and participant of the taking of jiii. m. v. c. crowns fra the frenchman, and that he hes been dyvars times in his hus sins syne, and being chairged to produce the said William befor Hir Hieness, hes nocht dun the samyn. The Queen assigns the said James



Sauckle Mansion and Tower.

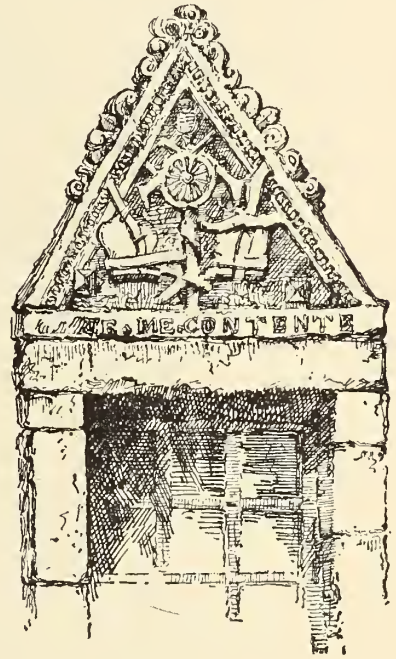
the last day of November to apprehend and produce William befor hir and council, and failure, to incur Queen's indignation." History is silent as to whether William was produced, proved guilty, punished, and the crowns recovered, or not.

Sir James, in difficulties, and at open feud with Sir William Douglas of Loch Leven, and their retaliatory raids against each others' castles, families, and vassals, becoming most intolerant, the Lords Commissioners summoned them before the Court of Session. They called them to "expone and declare the questions and actions debateable betwixt them," after which the Lords "ordained baith parties to pursue their actions, civilly or criminally, and to desist from invading or pursuing their friends, servants, or tenants," etc.

The only other instance we will refer to is on 23rd June, 1568, when Sir James of Sauchie and his son become bound in relief of four kinsmen who had been sureties to the extent of £1000 for John Blacater of Tulliallan, suspected, with three others, of Darnley's murder. On 26th June, 1567, Blacater had been "put in the irns and turmentis," and was then being liberated from prison on bail.

On 4th August following, Queen Mary quit-claims Sir James and Margaret Kirkcaldy, his spouse, and the lands of Sauchie, "*cum castro, turre, fortalicio*, etc., thereof."

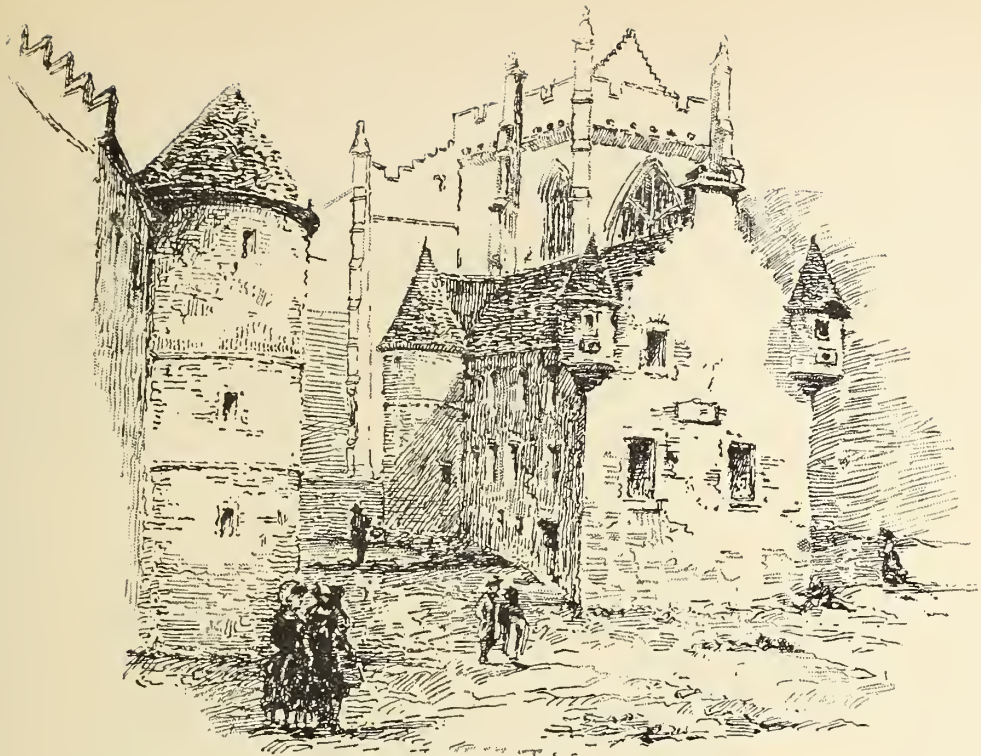
In July, 1608, Sir James Schaw of Sauchy is served heir to Alexander Schaw of Tillicoultry. On 27th August, 1623, Sir Alexander (who married Helen, daughter of Sir Robert Bruce of Clackmannan)



was served heir to Sir James, and Sauchie, with other lands in Kinross, were at that time erected into a Barony of Sauchie. He was the builder of the mansion house adjoining the old Tower, as before mentioned. A nephew, James Schaw of Arncumbrie (Arngomery), soldier son of Sir William, Master of Works, seems to have succeeded to Sauchie previous to 1623.

The estate remained in the Schaw family down to 1793, when William Schaw, Lord Cathcart, was owner. He was succeeded, in 1826, by William, Earl of Mansfield, both descendants, the latter dying in 1898, at an advanced age. The adjoining village was anciently named Newton Shaw.





Old view of Auchenbowie Lodging.

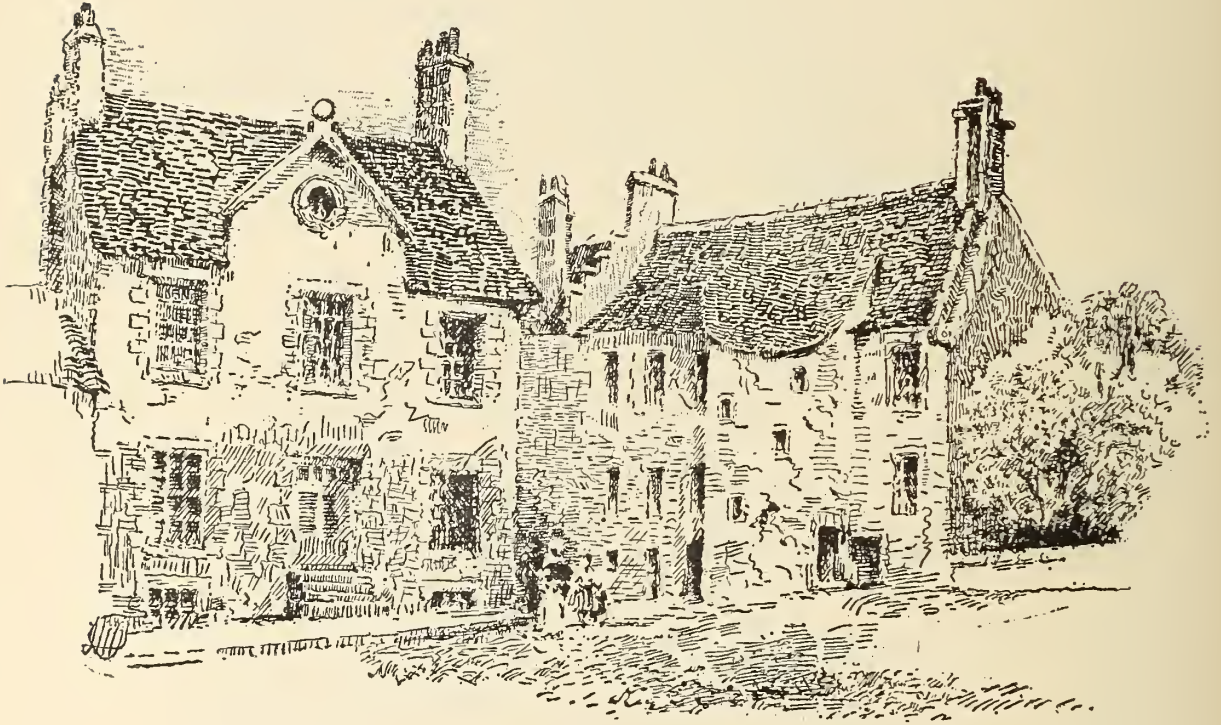
CHAPTER XXI.

Part 1.

Provost Robert Bruce of Auchenbowie's Town House

IS the last house at the head and on the south side of St. John Street, the ancient South gait or Back Raw, and is one of the oldest in Stirling, popularly named Boghall or, as corrupted, *Bogle ha'*. The house of that name, however, is supposed to be that belonging to Lord Fleming of Boghall in the vicinity, and, undoubtedly, this was the town mansion of Robert Bruce of Auchenbowie. The existing evidences of its antiquity are the filleted coping of the east, stepped gable, the ornamental corbels, the rough, strong vaulted, ground floor, and the

moulded doorway. The sculptured stone on a wall behind, now partially covered up by an outhouse, is evidently a coat of arms, to which Dr. Rogers refers. The turret stair anciently had a conical roof, as we see from the sketch (page 213) taken from an old drawing of the ancient manse of Stirling, which adjoined it. A similar filleted coping appears on an old building in the Cowgate of Edinburgh, bearing the



Bruce of Auchenhawie's Lodging.

date 1574, which Wilson, in his *Memorials of Edinburgh*, describes as an early form of crow-stepped gable. The west gable has fallen or been removed, but the vaulting of the ground floor of that section of the building existed in our day. The late Dr. Galbraith, in his reminiscences, speaks of the fine carved archway (now incorporated in and

forming the north entrance of the High School building) as having originally stood in its vicinity—being, probably, a court entrance to the mansion.

In a contract of lease, 1592, by the town to James Rutherford of the *South Brae* (the Back Walk), the north boundary is the dyke of the Kirk yaird, the back tenement and back yaird of Robert Auchmoutie (now Cowane's Hospital and green), *John Bruce* of Auchenbowie, and Adam Spittal of Blairlogie. And in King James VI.'s confirmation of a charter, dated 12th May, 1587, granted by the late Robert Auchmouty, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Stirling, with consent of Robert, perpetual commendator of Dunfermline and its convent, patrons of the vicarage, to Robert Auchmoutie, junior, son of John Auchmoutie, of a piece of the garden of the vicarage and old ruined house, it is described as between the small house of John and the little garden and the *house of John Bruce*.

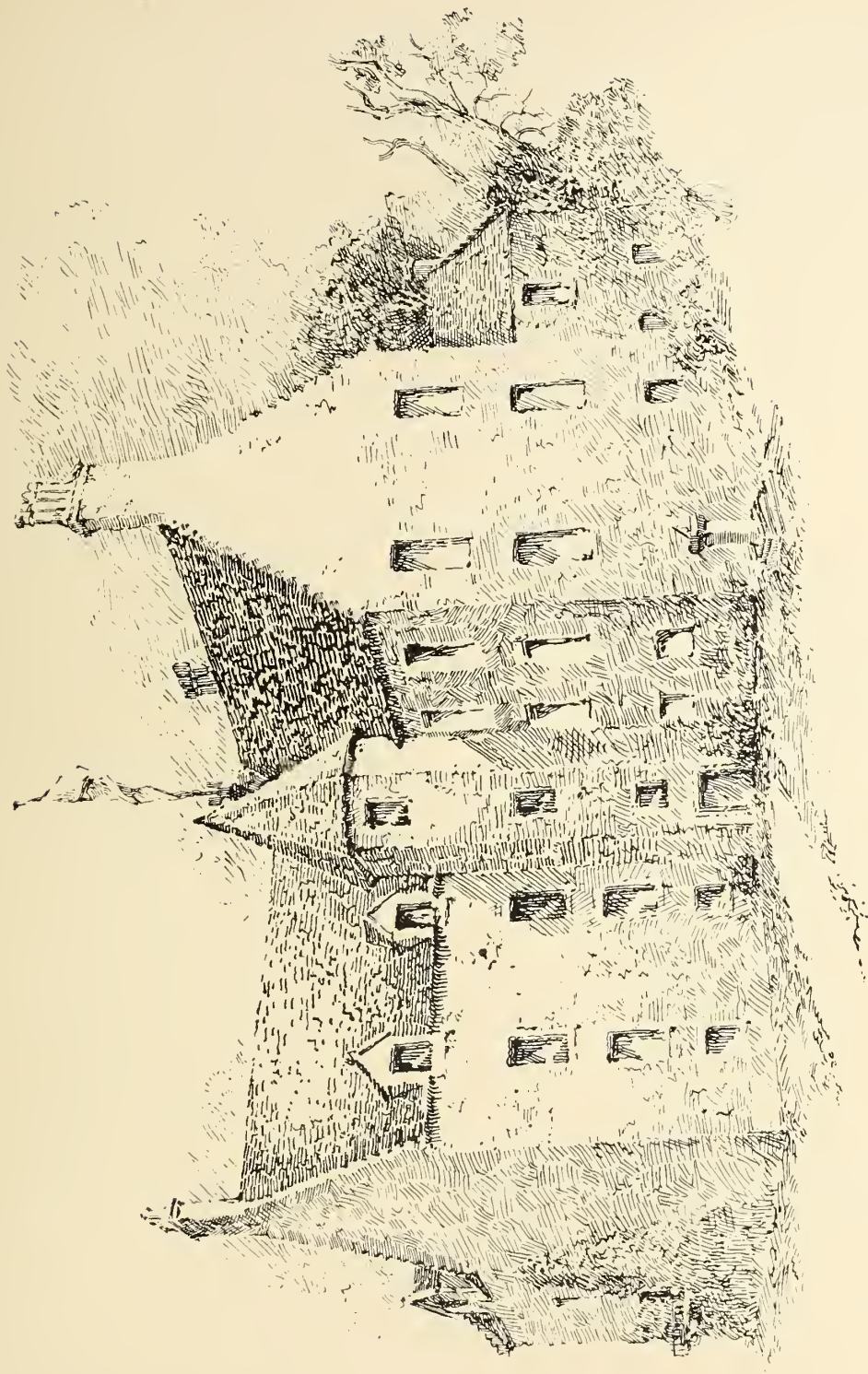
Robert Bruce, who could only be designed as of Auchenbowie after he acquired it in 1508, was a magistrate in 1521, and Provost in 1556. In answer to a complaint of remissness in his magisterial capacity, he protests that, if he has neglected his duties, it has been for want "of time and place to uptak the samyn." The period of his elevation to this high office, which, no doubt, demanded a corresponding residence suitable to its dignity, was, very probably, the date of his erection of this superior burgh dwelling—about 1520.

Part 2.

Country Mansion.

THIS plain old mansion is situated on the south side of the highway between Stirling and Larbert, in a wood of very old timber, and has been greatly altered of late years, but, fortunately, leaving the older portions on the north nearly in their original condition, from which our sketch opposite is taken. There is also, on the back lawn, an old sun dial (sketch, page 219), having the initials G.M. and M.B. and a coat of arms. There are no initials or arms on the old building itself, and no date on the sun dial.

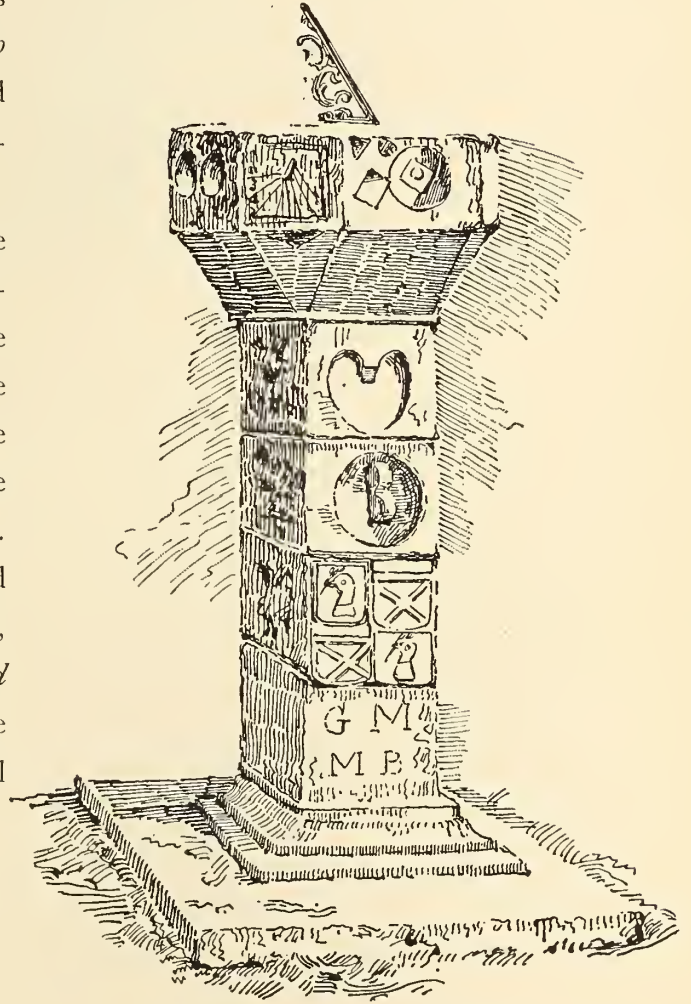
The property originally belonged to Alexander Cunningham of Polmaise, *Militis* and Lord of the Barony of Polmaise Cunningham, of which it formed a part, and was sold conform to disposition dated 6th June, 1508, by his son and heir, Robert Cunningham, to Robert Bruce, burgess of Stirling, and Margaret Sandilands, his spouse, and the longest liver, and the heirs of their body, whom failing, to the said Robert Bruce's own heirs. He was Provost of Stirling in 1555, and appears as a witness to a deed by John Cunningham of Polmaise of Livilands, dated 31st May, 1556. He seems to have been succeeded by his son John, some time previous to 1587, and on his death, Alexander, his son, on 2nd April, 1631, succeeded to the estate; who, in turn, was succeeded by Robert Bruce some time before 1660, when he appears in St. Ninian's Kirk Session Minutes as getting two seats allotted to him in that kirk; and in September following, in consequence of complaints, is ordered to remove the rails he had put up on his pew.



Architektur.

Robert Bruce was succeeded on 10th July, 1694, by Janet Bruce, who took up the succession as heiress of tailzie and provision, and she was on October, 1708, succeeded by her sister, Margaret Bruce, who married Major-General George Munro, and their son, John, then takes up the succession. He died about 1788, when his two daughters, Janet, widow of George Home of Argaty, and Isobel, spouse of Ninian Lewis, captain of the *Woodcot*, East Indiaman, succeeded jointly as heiresses-portioners. Janet seems to have transferred her *pro indiviso* half to her sister, Mrs. Lewis, and the estate, thus acquired, has remained in the Lewis family.

There may be old parts of the more ancient mansion of 1508 incorporated with the present house not visible externally, but its style and appearance, as shewn on the sketch, is more that of the middle or end of the seventeenth century. It was probably greatly altered and modernised by Margaret Bruce, whose initials and arms *quartered* with those of her husband, George Munro, appear on the old sun dial on the lawn.



Sun dial, Auchinbowie.



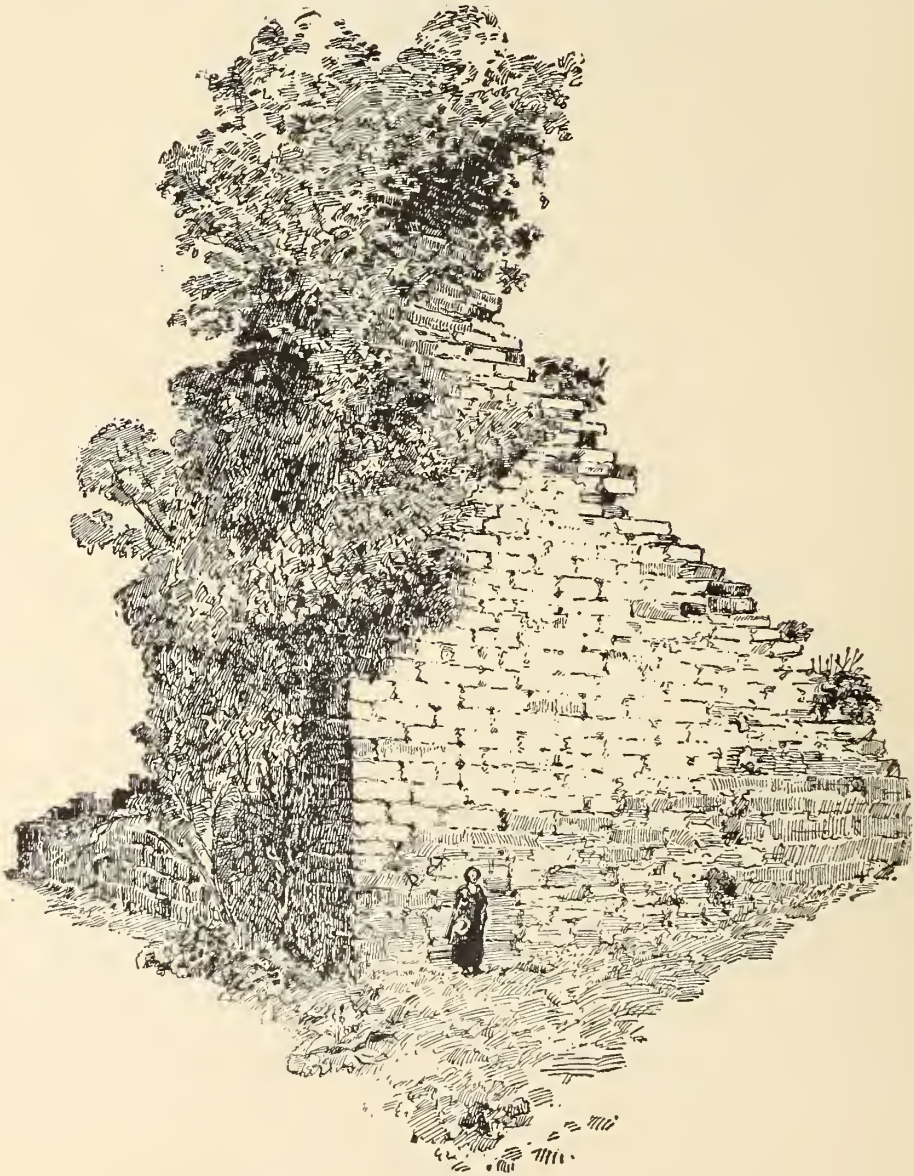
CHAPTER XXII.

Bruce's Castle, Old Carnock.



RUINED, ivy-clad Tower, on a rocky eminence in the grounds of Mr. Shaw of Carnock, and situated about half-a-mile west of Airth station, is all that remains of Bruce's Castle. It is squarely built with regular courses of large, chiselled freestones, measures 50 feet by 40 feet externally, with walls of the great thickness of 6 feet, and is entered by a small, lancet-shaped doorway (sketch above) in its east wall, which Grose, in his *Antiquities of Scotland* (1790), says had an iron gate, removed by the owner,

Mr. Nicolson, shortly before, to form the door of a servant's house. The approach has been by the east side, where evidences of the old roadway exist, and is a gradual ascent from the plain, to which the other three sides descend abruptly. The highest parts of the walls are the north and east sides of the tower, shewn in the sketch below.



Remains of Bruce Castle.

There are only a few feet standing on the other sides, but the fallen stones and accumulated soil and vegetation cover up part of these and block the entrance by the doorway.

The interior accommodation consisted of three flats of large single apartments. The ground floor and that immediately above it are vaulted, the former being subdivided into some recesses—probably the store rooms, well, etc. Although on an eminence, the situation of the Castle is not easily discovered, as the ruins are closely surrounded by trees. Grose exhibits, in his sketch of the ruins, which is otherwise not quite accurate, the hill bare of trees, and these have since been planted.

No coat of arms, initials, or date, or even sculptured stone, except the doorway and the finely finished pillars, or jambs, of the chimney-piece, in the north wall of the second storey, are visible. In design these pillars are exactly similar to those in the chimney of the hall in Sauchie Tower (sketch, page 226), to which building this Castle has a most remarkable resemblance, and may have been built by the same architect, as their ages correspond. There are two masses of masonry on the south or lower side of the mound, which may have been the gate tower in the surrounding wall, but no evidence of a connecting wall is visible. Dr. Rogers describes the Tower as round. This mistake could not have occurred if he had visited the spot.

The lands of Erth and Slamannan, of which anciently Carnock formed a part, were given by David II., by charter dated 7th April, 1365, as his dower to Isabella, Lady Fyfe, on her marriage with Thomas Byset, Lord Upsethynton. About a century afterwards they were owned by William de Erth, whose daughters succeeding as heiresses-portioners, married, and carried with them their divisions of the family estate to their husbands. One division passed to an ancestor of Alex-

ander Drummond of Arnmore, who married a Marjorie Bruce; and the other division was sold by Agnes Erth to Alexander Forestare of Torwood. The part on which the Castle stands was acquired by Alexander Hepburn by marriage with Mariote Normavil, and predeceased his spouse, who appears infest in it, and in her lands of Gargunnock and others, with the title of "Lady Gargunnock."

On 31st May, 1480, James III. grants a charter to Alexander Hepburn, son and heir-apparent of Mariote Norvale, *inter alia*, of the lands of Carnock, reserving to her her liferent, but excepting and saving therefrom the right of her son to "the Tower and Fortalice of Carnok and the £20 lands next adjoining thereto,"—the latter being apparently the policies and park, etc., necessary for its proper occupation. Thus Alexander Hepburn or his son must have built the Tower, as the family's principal residence seems to have been Gargunnock.

The succession of Lady Gargunnock and her son was challenged both by David Graham, designed also as of Gargunnock, and by Alexander Seton of Tulibody, who had at different times taken forcible possession of Carnock Castle and Gargunnock mansion house. In an action in the Court of Session, in 1489 (the abbot of Cambuskenneth being one of the judges), Alexander Hepburn, son and heir of Alexander Hepburn, appears and complains of Graham's "wrangis destruction of his toure and place of Carnok, and ye taking away of *ye irn yet* of ye same, and for destruction of his place of Gargunok, and ye wod of ye same, and also with holding of a horse and harness and uther gudes of areship" (with the land the heir was also entitled to the best of every article of the deceased's moveables from the executor, as heirship-moveables). Decreet was given against Graham by default. The "irn yet" is probably that above referred to as removed from

the doorway of this Tower by Mr. Nicolson, to which Graham had restored it.

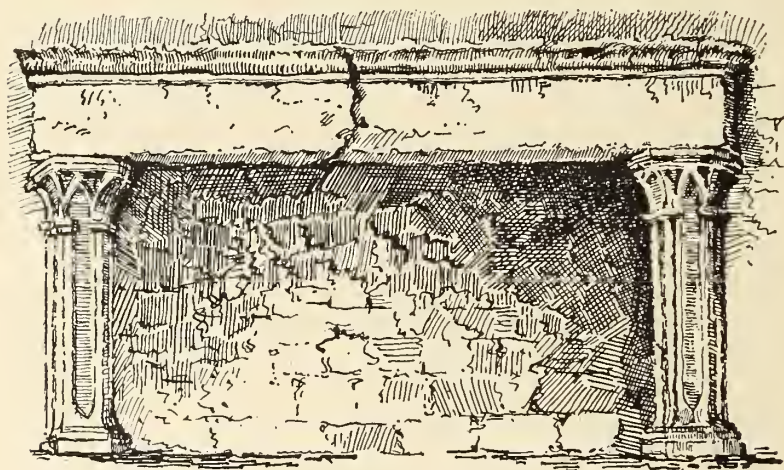
On 28th February, 1492, the Lords, in another process by "Laidy Gargunock" against Alexander Seton, decrees that for "aucht that they haf yet sene, Alexander Seton of Tulibody shal decist and cese fra the vexacion and distrubling of Marioun Norwell, Laidy of Gargunok, in the broiking and joysing of her place and lands of Gargunok and Carnok." This did not apparently end the dispute as, on 27th June, 1494, Alexander Seton appears against Alexander Hepburn for "wrangis occupation and manuring of Mains of Cranok."

On 19th June, 1510, Alexander Hepburn, who died childless, was succeeded by his two sisters. One of them, Margaret, married to Walter Sellar, then sold her half to Alexander, Lord Elphinston, along with other lands in Fyfe. These Lord Elphinston transferred to his son, William Elphinston and Elizabeth Trumbule, his spouse, on 31st March, 1511. The other sister, Marjorie, having died childless and without heirs, her share fell to the King as *ultima hæres*, and was, on 13th July, 1531, granted by him to a William Wod de Bonynton. This seems, however, only a security title.

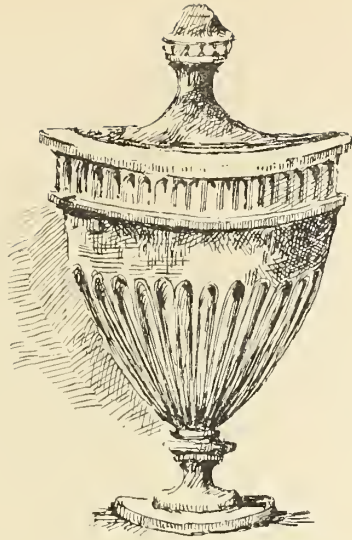
In January, 1519, Robert Bruce appears in the Registers as proprietor of Carnock. A relative, Marjorie Bruce, along with her husband, Alexander Drummond, executes an entail in their own favour in life-rent, and their son, Robert, in fee, of the lands of Carnock, with the Tower, Fortalice, orchard, dovecots, coal pits, etc. Robert, by deed of entail, dated 1571, executed another deed of entail through his children in their order of seniority, by which Robert Drummond, his son, succeeded to the whole estate. This Robert was Master of Works for Scotland, and built the old mansion of North Carnock, which bears his

initials, with those of his wife, and the date 1584 (see chapter thereon). The original Castle, as their residence, and the ownership of the whole lands was thus merged in the Drummond family, whose successors still hold them.

The name of Bruce Castle given to Old Carnock was probably to distinguish it from Drummond's newer mansion called Carnock, for certainly it was built previous to Bruce's ownership.



Fireplace, Sauchie Tower.



CHAPTER XXIII.

Old Kinnaird Mansion

DOES not seem to date back beyond the middle of the eighteenth century; parts of it, perhaps, to the early seventeenth century, when Master Robert Bruce held the estate. An older house must have existed on its site and been partly incorporated with it, but in consequence of its entire removal to provide a site for the present extensive, palatial edifice, there is now no evidence available.

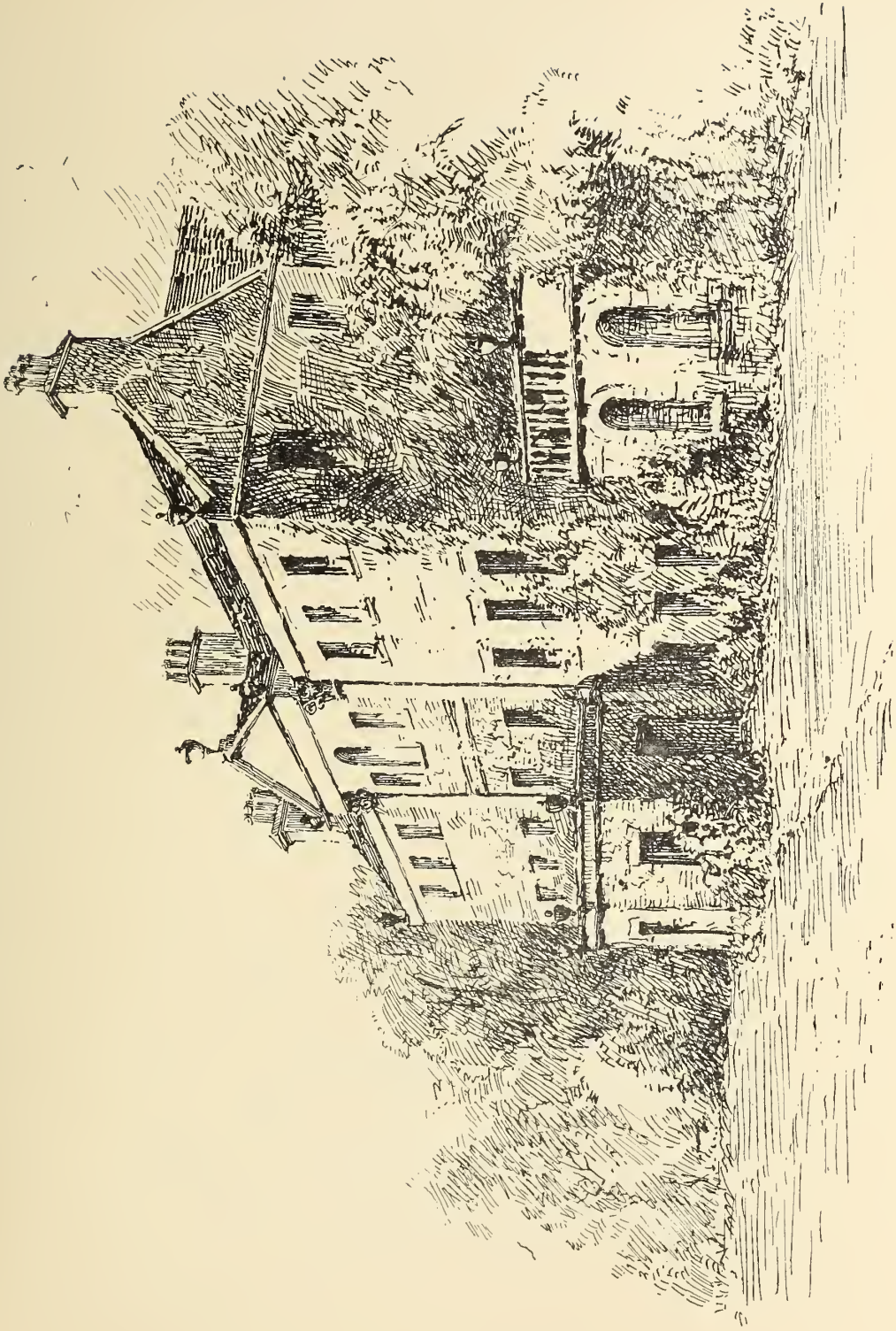
The estate is stated to have been granted by Sir Alexander Bruce of Airth to his youngest son, Robert Bruce, an eminent clergyman, born in 1599 (1559?), and stated to have died in 1638, at 77 years of age. His son, Robert Bruce, is infeft in Kinnaird as heir of *Master* Robert Bruce, on 20th October, 1638, which gives about the date of the latter's death. On 3rd January, 1655, Alexander is infeft as heir of Robert Bruce, younger, his brother-german, in the lands, and he was succeeded by James Bruce, the famous scholar and traveller, who was born in 1730, and was killed by a fall on the staircase of Kinnaird in

April, 1794. His grandfather was David Hay of Woodcot, who, marrying Helen, the heiress of Alexander, took his wife's name of Bruce, and he was succeeded by their son, David Bruce, the father of the Abyssinian traveller. In November, 1788, James appears in an agreement with Sir Thomas Dundas, in straightening their respective marches. He was succeeded by James Bruce, who in 1802, is entered in Windyedge and part of Quarrel on a precept of *Clare Constat* from the said Sir Thomas Dundas.

James, the traveller, in early life had before his travels, married Miss Allan in 1754, who died shortly after. On his return from London, indignant and disgusted at his treatment, and at being discredited by the ignorant nobility and even some *savants*, he occupied himself in rebuilding his house in 1776. He married Mary, daughter of his neighbour, Sir Thomas Dundas, who was very much his junior, and died in 1785. Local anecdotes of the traveller recently lingered about the district, and vivid remembrance of his strong, masculine physique (he was 6 feet 4 inches and correspondingly built) gave rise to jokes about his horse's burden when passing the villagers in his daily rides.

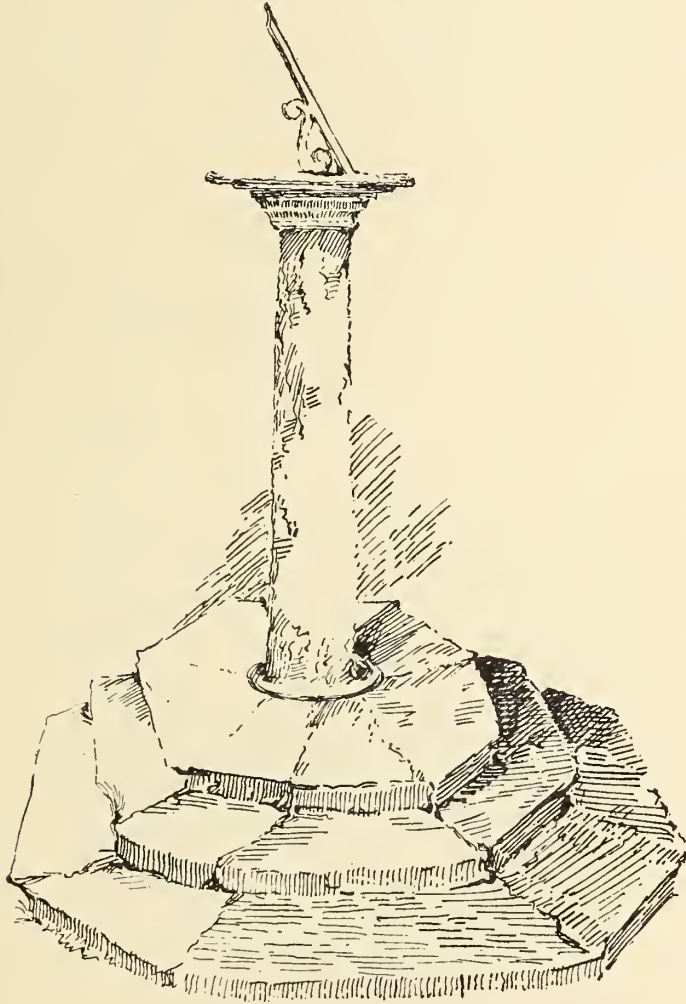
There must be noticed a magnificent broad avenue, lined on both sides by unbroken rows of stately elms, extending in a long vista to the mansion, and an artificial pool near by. In the adjacent, large garden two gigantic planes growing side by side, with a rustic seat between, were planted by the eminent divine, Master Robert, as representing his wife and himself, in commemoration of their marriage.

The sun dial (sketch, page 231) was erected in the garden by the Traveller, and bears the date, 22nd June, 1792, and inscription—
 “YESTERDAY IS PAST : TO-MORROW IS NOT THINE. *Qua redit rescitis*

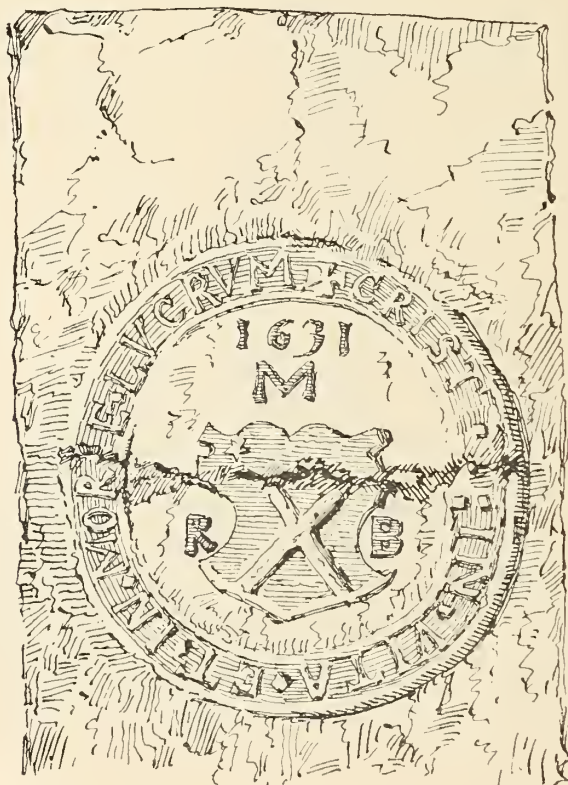


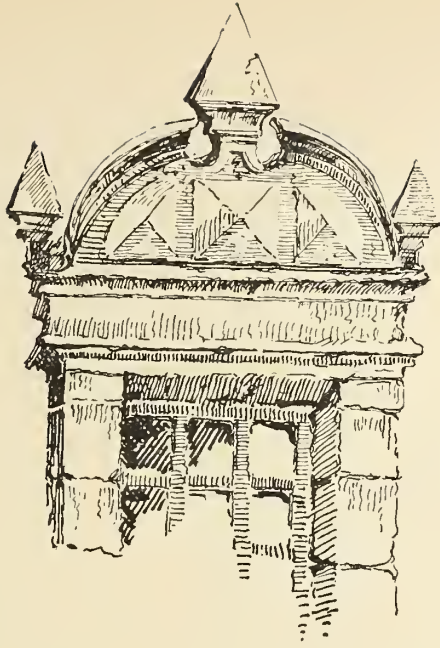
Kinnaird old Mansion.

horam." The vase (sketch, page 227) formed the finial to the façade of the mansion now demolished. A room in the former, replaced by one in the present mansion, is, we believe, used as a museum for the spoils and collections of the Traveller, the fruits of his wanderings in foreign lands.



Several historians of the life of Master Robert Bruce are erroneous in their dates. One of the oldest tombstones in Larbert churchyard (sketch below, taken after this chapter was printed) has the date 1631, the initials, M.R.B., and the Bruce coat of arms. An accompanying tablet records that "Master Robert Bruce, born in 1554, died in 1631, aged 77, was second son of Sir Alexander Bruce of Airth and Janet, daughter of fifth Lord Livingston, and his remains are interred at the foot of the pulpit of the first church in Larbert, which he built, and from which he sought to make known the truth as in Christ,"—referring doubtless to the Latin motto surrounding his arms. Not a stone of this first church remains.





CHAPTER XXIV.

Stenhouse (anciently Stanehouse) Mansion

ERRONEOUSLY named Staniland in Pont's Map, is about two miles north east of Larbert, and, as shewn by the sketch on page 235, is a beautiful type of the Baronial style of architecture of the seventeenth century. It may have been built on the site of, or incorporated with an earlier mansion, as the Bruce's possession goes back at least to 1417. It was erected by Sir William Bruce, second baronet, who married Dame Helen Douglas, whose initials, with her coat of arms impaled, and date, 1655, omitted in copying sketch, appear on the old tablet of which we give a sketch on page 238. This tablet had been removed from above the old doorway in the tower when the recent alterations and new porch were built, and re-inserted in the front of the main building.

The ground plan is in the form of an L, and the building, although small, has all the characteristics of the Baronial style in its purity—the corner turrets and tower having conical roofs, the main houses with high-pitched roofs and crow-stepped gables, and two superiorly sculptured dormers, etc. The dormer forming the sketch on page 233 is exactly similar to that on what is alleged to be Elphinston's town house, Broad Street, Stirling (page 177).

Dr. Bonar, in his *Statistical Account* of the parish, gives the date as 1622, and that the mansion was erected by Sir William, the *first* baronet, but the inscribed tablet bears the above date and owner.

The surrounding park has some clumps of fine old timber, which also lines the avenue, and, with the picturesque appearance to which the Scottish Baronial style lends itself, makes this mansion with its surroundings interesting.

The ownership of the Bruce family dates back, it is said, to 1417, when a Robert Bruce, descendant of Bruce of Clackmannan, married Agnes, a daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Airth of Airth, and obtained that portion of Airth estate, now Stenhouse, with her. A son, Sir Robert, married Janet, daughter of fifth Lord Livingston. His son Sir Alexander (William?) married Margaret, daughter of Sir Malcolm Forrester of Torwood, whose son John was the John Broys of Stanehouse referred to in the Registers, on 3rd February, 1478, as appearing as a vassal before Sir William Charteris of Cagnoir (Chartershall) and "craved the said Sir William to replege a certain man to his court." Sir John married Elizabeth, daughter of Menteith of Kerse.

Previous to 1510, the lands seem to have been subdivided, one half being held by George Sinclair of Roslyn and his wife, Agnes



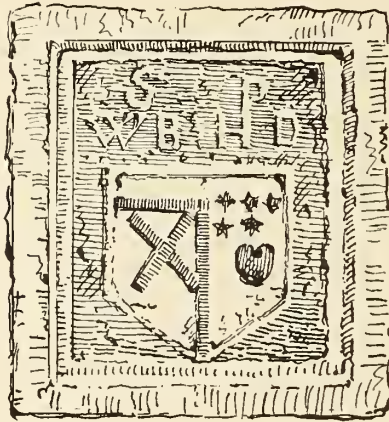
Stenhouse Mansion.

Crichton, and included part of Quarrel. Oliver Sinclair, and ultimately William Sinclair of Herbertshire, succeeded to this portion, the latter obtaining a charter from James VI. on 28th October, 1583. Sir William Bruce, first baronet, succeeded to the other half, on which the mansion is built, on 28th June, 1611, and was created Baronet of Nova Scotia on 26th June, 1629. He married Rachel, daughter of Joseph Johnston of Hilton. Their eldest son, Sir William, the *second* baronet, mentioned above as the builder of the mansion, succeeded them. His wife was Helen, daughter of Sir William Douglas of Cavers—the initials $\begin{smallmatrix} S. \\ W.B. \end{smallmatrix}$ and $\begin{smallmatrix} D. \\ H.D. \end{smallmatrix}$ with coat of arms, on the old tablet described above, representing their names and family bearings. Sir William was a man of learning and parts, and a favourite of Charles I., but on that king's death, he joined the Parliamentary Party, and formed one of that faction in Stirlingshire for the kingdom's defence in 1649. His son, Sir William, the third baronet, married Margaret, daughter of his neighbour, Elphinston of Quarrel; and their son, Sir William, fourth baronet, married Margaret, daughter of John Boyd. He was succeeded by his second son, Sir Robert, who died unmarried, and was succeeded by Sir Michael, who married Mary, daughter of Sir Andrew Agnew, and died in 1795.

Sir Michael was a beneficent laird to his tenants and to the inhabitants of his parish—one act being the voluntary assessing himself, along with other four heritors, in 30s. per £ of old Scots rental of his estate in a year of famine and distress, for their relief, and, in addition, he imported large quantities of grain, which he sold to them below the market value. On 20th June, 1791, he acquired from John Dundas the lands of Slamannan, muir, and mill, which Mr. Dundas had purchased in 1791. On 1st November, 1796, Sir William, his

eldest son, succeeded to the estates as heir, on a Precept of *Clare* from William Forbes, proprietor of Callendar estate, the superior.

This estate which had remained in the ancient Bruce family for five centuries was sold, about twenty years ago, to Mr. Sheriff of Carronvale, who still possesses it.





Clackmannan Tower (east view).

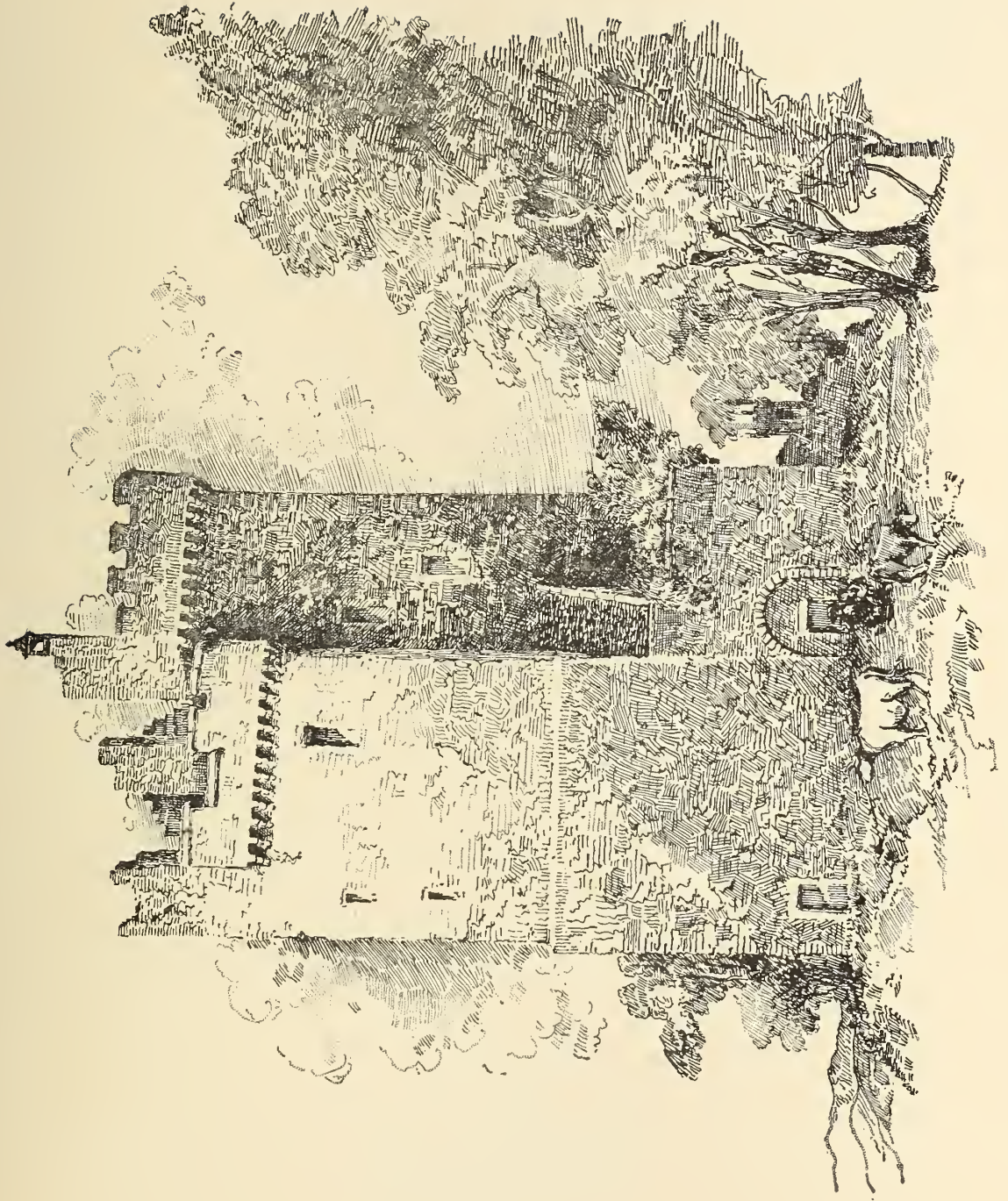
CHAPTER XXV.

Clackmannan Tower.

THIS conspicuous feudal edifice, predominating over the valley of the Forth, is stated to have been erected by King Robert the Bruce as a hunting-seat, and it descended to his successors the Broys of Clackmannan, his other kinsmen being the Bruces of Airth, Kinnet, Carnock, and Auchenbowy. The Tower was visible from, and could exchange signals with, the castles of these members of the family. The two-handed sword and helmet of the King is still preserved as evidence of the royal connection.

The Tower is 79 feet high, and has indications of a moat and drawbridge on the south-east front, and standing as it does on the highest point of a cone-shaped hill, commands an extensive prospect. It is said to date back to the fifteenth century, and is built on the keep plan, universal at that time. The semicircular doorway, ornamented cornices, and pediment with vases at each end and apex, denote a later period than the building itself, and is stated to be of the Renaissance, and the belfry, drawbridge, and moat, of the seventeenth century. The ground floor has vaulted roof, guard room, recesses, and closets. The first floor contains the kitchen, with chimney 9 feet wide, and large rooms in different towers (there are virtually two). One of these rooms has a fireplace with magnificently carved and moulded jambs, and the other shews a wall press behind, while each has window recesses with slabs to seat four persons on either side. The timber floors are all gone, but the fireplaces are visible in the gables, and this part is the home of a colony of bats. There is a peculiarity in the machicolations supporting the parapet of the battlements, these forming open spaces through which stones, boiling lead, etc., could be thrown on the heads of escaladers. The usual corner turrets overlooking the weaker defences are wanting, except the square hanging tower, with machicolations, over and commanding the front doorway. There are remains of a doorway in the wall of the south-east court, which is small and of an ornamental character similar to that of the main entrance. From the high position of the Tower, no water could be available to keep the ditch filled for any appreciable defensive purpose.

The Towers, of which east and west views are given, are both roomy and could accommodate a large family and retainers, with sufficient provisions for a siege. A small belfrey and brazier, for signalling or warning by night or day, surmount the roof.



Blackmanan Tower (west view)

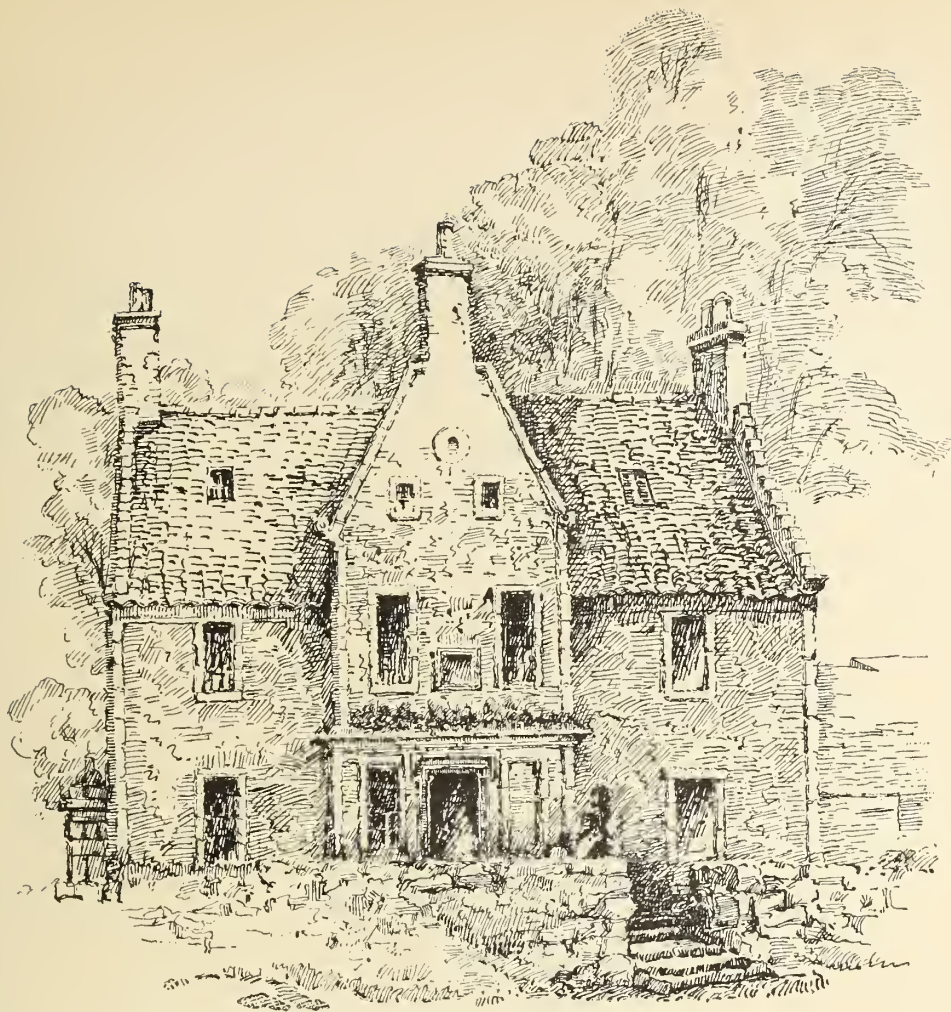
The town of Clackmannan, with its ancient town house, cross, and traditionary stone, is interesting. As lords of the barony, the cross contains the Bruce arms—a saltier.

The first mention I have of the Bruces of Clackmannan is in 1359, when Robert Bruce, first Baron of Clackmannan, gets a charter from David II. of the Castle and Manor of Clackmannan as *delecto et fidelii suo consanguineo Roberti Bruce*; and in a decret on a submission to Thomas, Lord Erskine, and others, to settle a dispute between the two relatives, David Broys of Clackmannan and David Broys of Kennet, as to the claim of the former to hold his relative astricted to his mill of Clackmannan, dated 21st January, 1481; and Kennet “consented for *his life* to come to the said mill.”

From a charter dated 14th April, 1674, in favour of David Bruce de Clackmannan, as heir of Sir Hendrie Bruce de Clackmannan, the family high offices and lands then held included the lands and Barony of Clackmannan, etc., office of Sheriff and of *Forester* of the Sheriffdom of Clackmannan, with the free customs of Bartholomew Fair of Clackmannan, all erected into a Burgh of Barony in the county of Clackmannan. The latter office is significant of the tradition of the Tower having been a hunting lodge and the neighbourhood a forest for deer stalking, hawking, etc.

The Earl of Elgin, a descendant of the Bruces, now holds the Tower and lands.

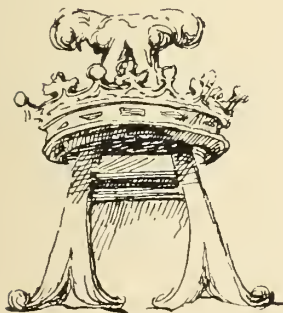




Garlett.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Garlett or Garland Mansion.



SINGLE two-storey, crow-stepped, gabled and tiled house, is situated at the base of a tree covered embankment, about ten minutes' walk from Kilbagie station. It has a front gable or façade, giving it an architectural interest, and had vaulted underground chambers, or cellars, now filled up. A low terrace and garden in front faces the south.

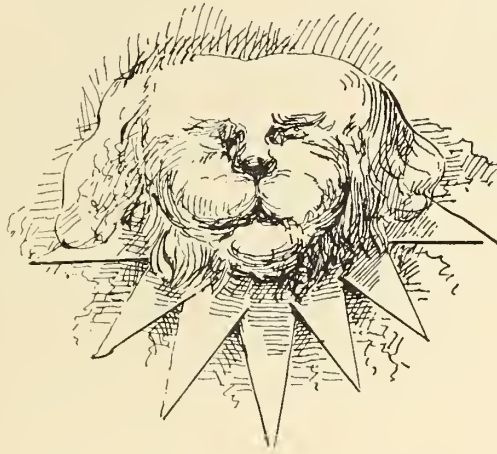
The façade is ornamental in appearance, has three small windows in the top (one of them circular), two larger windows, with a vacant niche for coat of arms between them, in the second storey, and a deep cornice or frieze projecting over a moulded doorway, with two flanking windows, on the ground floor. The internal work and fittings are uninteresting, and shew no superior furnishings, at any time, beyond those of a modest mansion or simple dwelling. The house has been divided and occupied by workmen. One of two original gate pillars, of fine workmanship, remains attached to the west gable.

The owner, Lord Balfour, can furnish no history of its origin or builder, nor of the coat of arms amissing, but says it was the mansion house of an original small estate of that name belonging to the Bruce family.

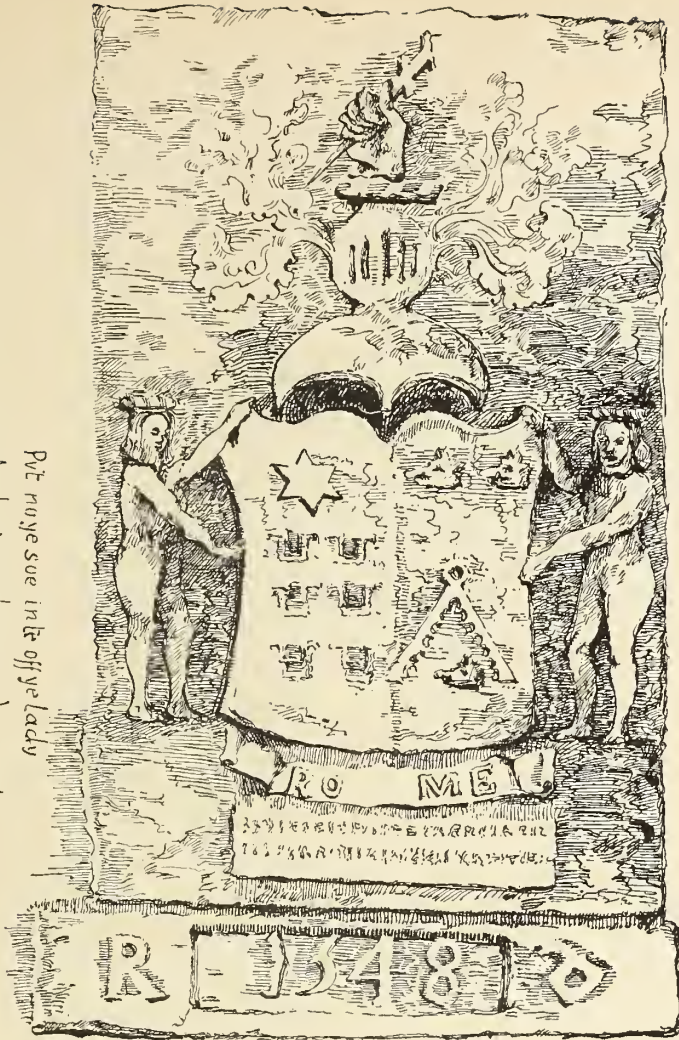
In a charter, dated 2nd March, 1670, Alexander gets a conveyance of the lands from his father, Master Robert Bruce of Kennet, and in another, dated 29th January, 1684, it is described as "*et terras de Garlett cum decimus*," and was then *undivided*. It first appears *divided* in the person of an Alexander Bruce, described as of *Garland* (its subsequent name), and in January, 1728, James Bruce of Barbadoes is served heir to his sister Mary, *daughter of Alexander Bruce of Garland*; and on the same date, William Bruce, son of Alexander Bruce, surgeon, is served heir of conquest to his grandfather, David Bruce, son of *Alexander Bruce of Garland*. This shews that David Bruce of Garland purchased or acquired this estate otherwise than by hereditary succession.

The style and character of the house points to its erection during a peaceful period of the country's history, as it has no barriers of defence, either of situation or wall strength, for protection against marauders. It certainly is not earlier than the last decade of the seven-

teenth century, and was never more than a modest residence, fit only for the cadet of the influential family of the Bruces. It was probably built by Alexander Bruce, the first. The coat of arms, if found, would assist in the identification of the builder, there being no date nor initials on the building to prove that.



Pit na gesue in te off ye lady
And gif ye do ye sel' repent



Carnock coat of arms.

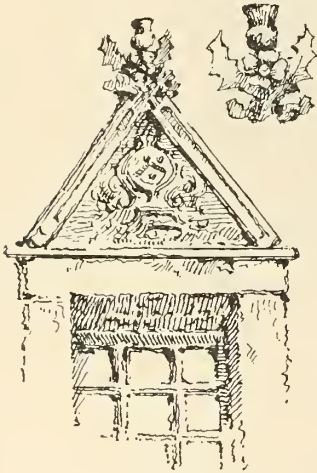
CHAPTER XXVII.

Carnock Mansion.

THE name Kernock, Crannock, and Carnock, derived from Saint Kentigern, arises from a pretty legend that on this spot the Saint *rested* with the corpse of “the venerable man, Fregus,” on his way from Culross to Glasgow for its interment in the ground on which the Cathedral, dedicated to this Saint, was afterwards erected. He laid the

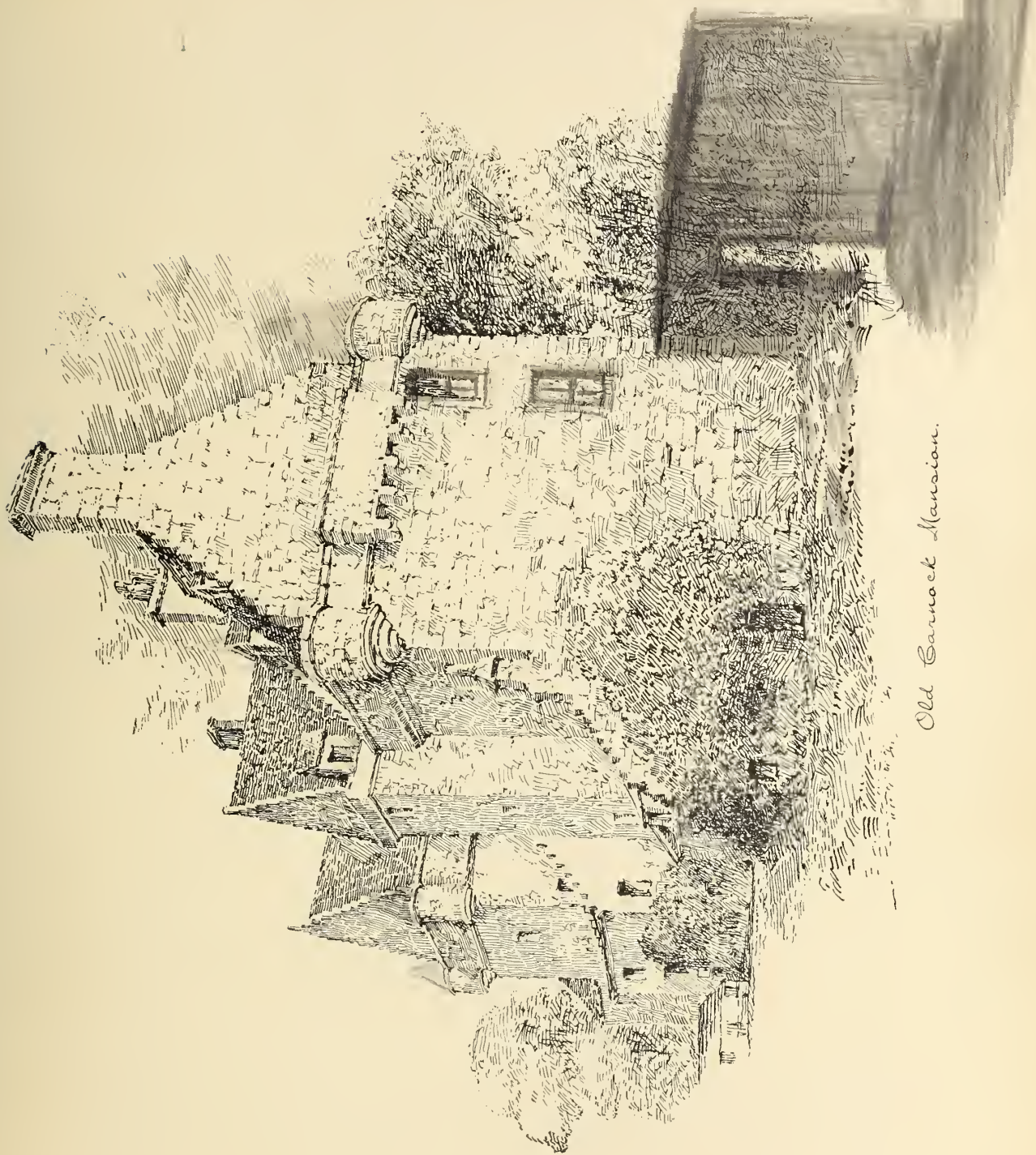
body in a new wain, drawn by two untamed bulls left to their own will, and so was guided by them to Glasgow. The tradition is verified by the remains of an old chapel within a hundred yards of this mansion, which dates beyond 1523, and is named Carnock, fragments of which (the holy water font, and one or two door and window lintels) are still to be seen.

The estate dates back to the time of James III., when William, eldest son of Lord Drummond of Stobhall and Cargill (whose sister, the beautiful Annabella Drummond, was consort to that King) married a daughter of the Baron of Airth, who received Carnock as her dower. This is the origin of the Drummond family's possession, and from it



proceeded the branch of Hawthornden. David Drummond, his son, succeeded him, and in 1476 he is shewn as presenting a charter of the lands of Erthbeg, part of Airth estate, to his son Robert, and at the same time he gives sasine of a 42s. land of Carnock to Alexander Cunningham of Auchinbowie and Mariota, for her life time; and we have Robert, the heir apparent, protesting against his father's deed. This Robert appears, in Muthill parish in 1479, as one of several witnesses to the marriage of another Annabella Drummond, a relative, to William, Lord de Graham.

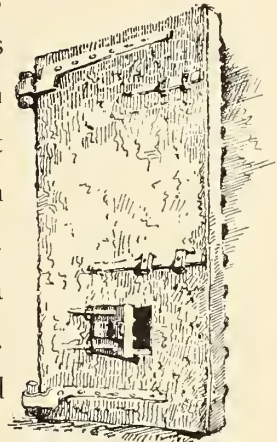
In 1482, a curious testamentary agreement is recorded between Sir David Drummond and a priest at St. Ninians, Sir Andrew Millar, who surrenders all his goods to David, who, in return, obliges himself to support his executors in the ingathering of Sir Andrew's debts.



Old Carnock Mansion.

The original building seems to have consisted of two square towers with pepper-box turrets, connected by an intervening building, and by subsequent alterations the embattlements were almost erased, and the roofs added to the towers. In 1827, the alterations tending to the modernising of the mansion were continued, and the stable wing along with the porch added. The original parts, however, of the old building, with its 4 feet thick walls, high-pitched roof, and crow-stepped gables, and turrets, make it an interesting and picturesque type of a nobleman's residence of the early part of the sixteenth century.

The ancient doorway covered by the porch, with its thick oak, iron-knobbed door, remains. This door is unique in respect that it has near the bottom a singular small wicket-door or panel, about 1 foot square, on hinges, with a strong lock, as shewn in this sketch. Its purpose at that place is not obvious.

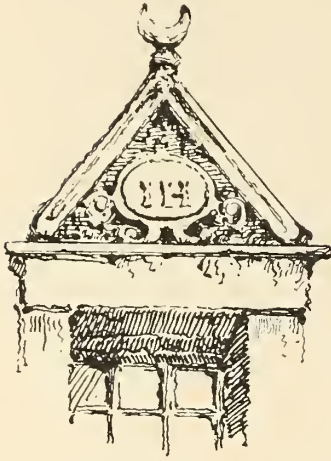


The most ancient of the coats of arms is in a panel over the present doorway (sketch, page 249). It contains, in addition to the combined Drummond and Elphinston arms, on a scroll the letters R.D. and M.E., which represent Robert Drummond and his wife, Margaret Elphinston, and on the ledge of the moulding, R.D. and date 1548. The lettering on panel reads—

PUT NO YE SOE INTO OFF YE LADY
AND GIF YE DOE YE SEL REPENT.

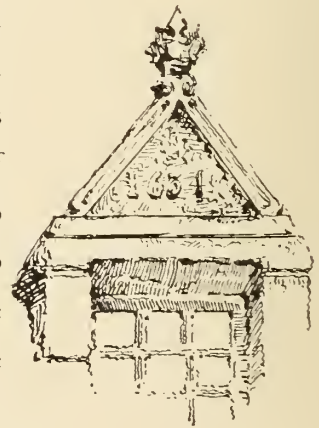
This legend or aphorism is mysterious, and no explanation of its insertion nor of the personality of the lady occasioning the inscription is

available. The above initials represent the builder, Sir Robert Drummond, and the apparent date of the erection of this mansion. Sir Robert Drummond was Master Mason for Scotland, having been appointed on 6th April, 1579, and we find him engaged, amongst other work, in 1581, making extensive repairs on Doune Castle, the Queen's former residence. He seems to have been a gifted gentleman, and was an attendant at the Court. In 1550 he appears as one of the curators of his nephew, Lord Elphinston, before the Regent Moray, obtaining sasine for his ward and his wife, Margaret Drummond, of the lands of Kildrummie.



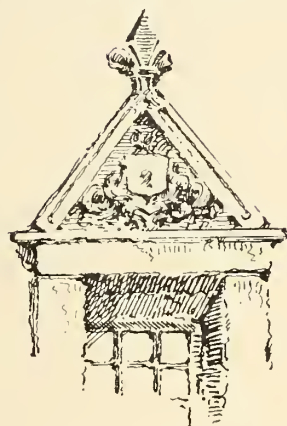
In a subsequent Deed of Commission the curatory or supervision was continued for the reason given that Robert, Lord Elphinston, "had simpairt hurt his leiving and heritadge by reason of his youtheid," and two of his three commissioners' consent was required to selling or wadsetting his lands.

Sir Alexander Drummond, *militis*, seemed to have succeeded to Carnock, and in 1627, John Drummond, his son, is served as heir in the lands of Malor MacNab and others in the Barony of Carnock. In 1630, this John Drummond, who also held Bannockburn and Skeoch, sold these to John Rollo, along with the burial place on the north side of the choir and the seat in the ancient church of St. Ninians,

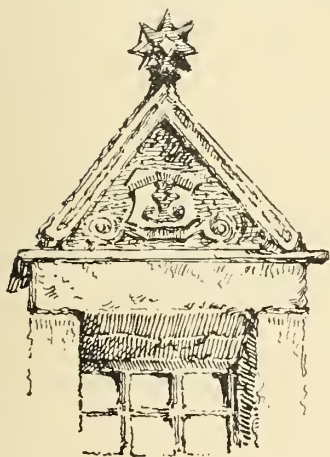


In 1634, Sir Thomas Nicolson, who acquired Carnock from him,

made the extensive alterations and erected the six fine dormer windows with their heraldic insignia, on the south. He was succeeded, in 1646, by his son, also Sir Thomas, and in the royal charter of confirmation the description includes the *Tower* and the Mill of Carnock, and the "Myln quarter and Mill, *Manor, and Place of Plane.*" On 28th September, 1664, Sir Thomas Nicolson, the third Baronet, is served heir to his father, Sir Thomas, not only in the lands and Barony



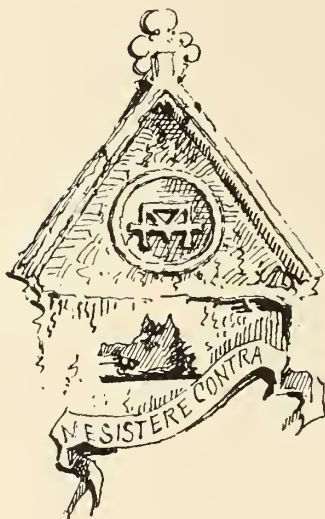
of Carnock, with the Tower of Carnock, but also to the above lands and Barony of Plane, Easter and Wester Craigquarter, etc. On 29th January, 1684, he succeeds to his uncle, Archibald, Lord Napier, and to the lands of Ruskie, etc., and fishings on the Teith. On 6th September, 1686, the lands are subdivided to his daughters, who succeed as heiresses-portioners of Thomas, Lord Napier, nephew of their father, viz., Dame Helen Nicolson, spouse of John Shaw, junior,

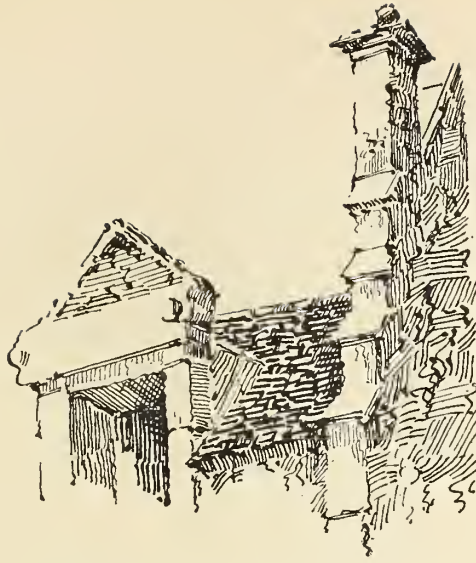


of Greenock, Dame Isabella Nicolson, spouse of James Dunbar of Mochram, and Dame Margaret Nicolson, spouse of James Hamilton of Moncrieff. The estate thus came into the Shaw family, and is now owned by a grandson of Dame Helen, viz., Michael Shaw Stewart, Esquire, M.P.

At the "Bell Races" in Stirling, on Peace Tuesday, 12th April, 1661, John Drummond of Carnock, having won eight bells of silver (weight 8 ounces) at the bell race, between Stirling and Bannockburn, Mr. Thomas Rollok, younger, burgess, becomes cautioner

that he will redeliver them to be run for again the next Peace Tuesday, under pain of 500 merks. The origin of the term "to bear the bell" is here revealed.





East corner of Ludging.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Part 1.

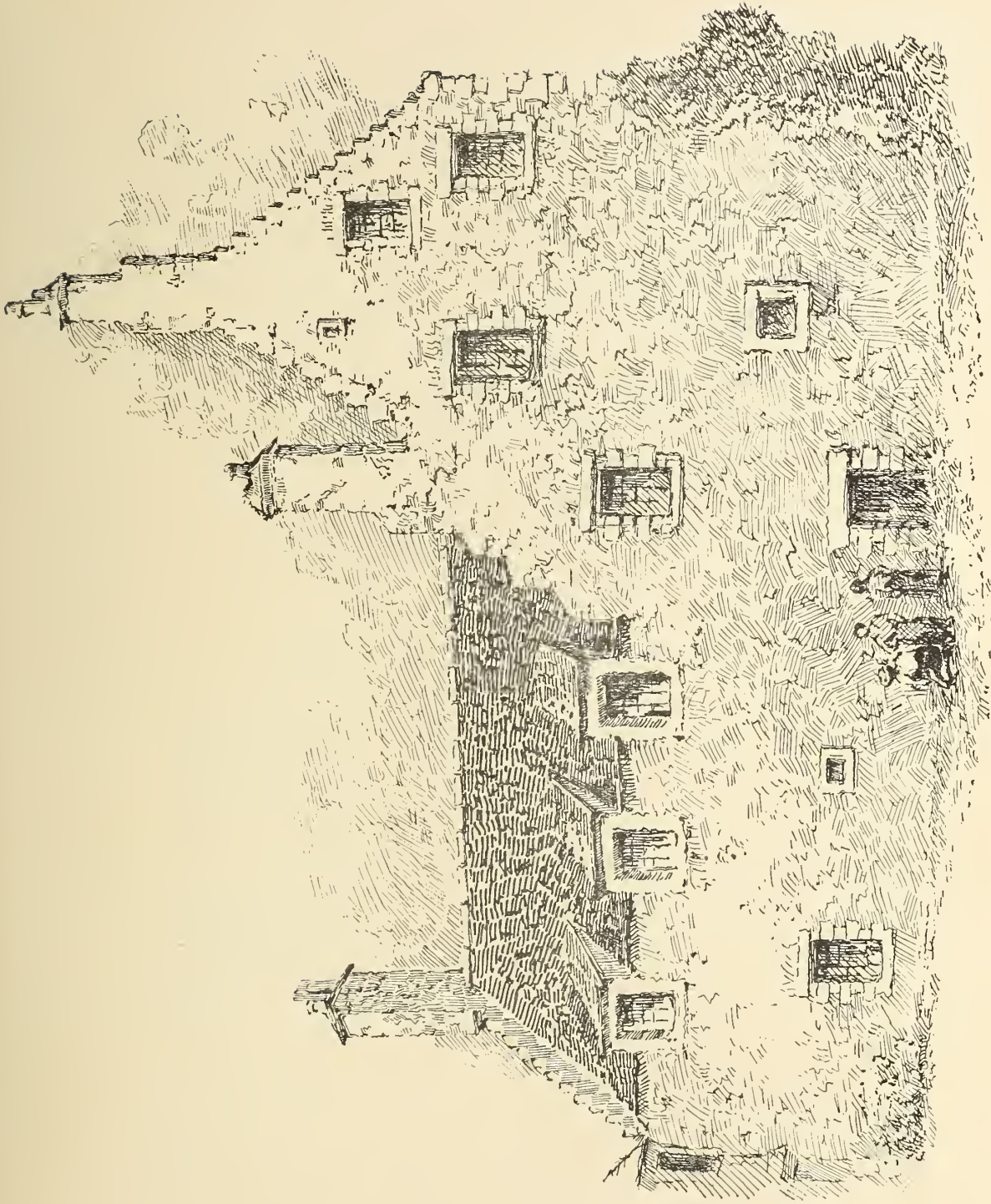
Provost Sir James Stirling of Keir's Town Ludging.

SIR JAMES was Provost of Stirling from 1559 to 1561 (at that time an office of ambition to our local nobility), and again in 1563, and occupied a seat at the civic board as a councillor in the intermediate years. He exercised his influence in many instances to the benefit of the town, notably in obtaining from Queen Mary the charter of 15th April, 1567, of the church lands and endowments, including those of the Preaching and Franciscan Friars, to the considerable augmentation of the common good. His ancestors had a long and close connection with the town. The official dress of the Provost, says Dr. Rogers, was a black gown, tied under the chin, wrapped round the shoulders, narrow at the top and increasing to the ground, with bands like a clergyman.

Provost Sir James resided, and some of his children were born, in the family residence. Its situation at the east corner of the foot of Broad Street, is identified in James V.'s charter of 22nd Nov., 1526, forfeiting Keir estates, in which it is included and described as at the end, or foot, of the King's highway, and from the Town Council order, dated 30th May, 1614, that: "Na inhabitant build their biggings out upon the King's hie causeway, etc., especially fra Bell's yet to the Laird of Keir's ludging, on baith sides of the gait;" further, that it was a collection of buildings the whole length of the close No. 20 Broad Street, to the garden behind, having a frontage to the "King's hie causeway."

This property was held by the Keir family until 1659, when Sir William Stirling sold it to David More of Leckie, by disposition, dated 2nd January of that year. The extent and composition of the property is shewn from its description therein: "That ludging or tenement of land and booths thereof, with yairds and hail pertinents of the same, lying betwixt, etc., the land sometime pertaining to the deceased Robert Cousland, now to the heirs of John Stevenson and Robert Russel, merchant, on the south; the land sometime pertaining to Alexander Erskine of Cangloir, thereafter to Thomas, Earl of Kellie, and now to Jonet Kilbowie (the old Sheriff Clerk's office), on the north; and the High Street on the west parts." The remains of the ancient parts of the building are visible, notably a square gable or projection similar to Forrester of Logie's ludging (page 157), but the accompanying turret has been removed as an obstruction, and the ground floor, all vaulted, are now utilised as grocer's cellars. The sketch opposite shows the most complete of these ancient buildings, the dormer windows only having been modernised.

Sir James was married three times, first, to Janet Stirling of

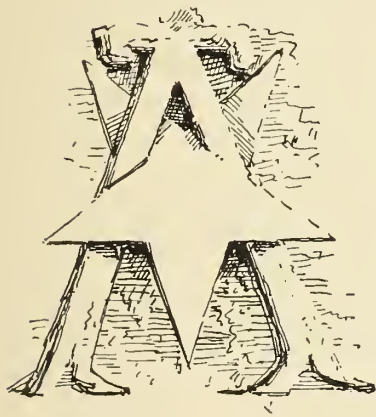


Sir James Stirling of Keir's Lodging.

Cawdor (divorced, January, 1541), next, to Jane Chisholm "cousines," but really illegitimate daughter, to William Chisholm, Bishop of Dunblane, and the third, unnamed, on 5th March, 1542. He died at his Calder estate, which he got by his first wife, on 3rd February, 1588, his widow and second son, Archibald, being his executors. Sir Archibald succeeded him in Keir, and married Grizel Ross, daughter of Dame Jean Semple, Lady Ross, in 1589. John, the eldest son, was served heir in other lands. A sketch of Sir James' seal is given on page 265. Mr. Stirling, the present laird, informs me that no portrait of Sir James exists, but we saw one of his daughter at Keir House.

Part 2.

Keir Mansion House.



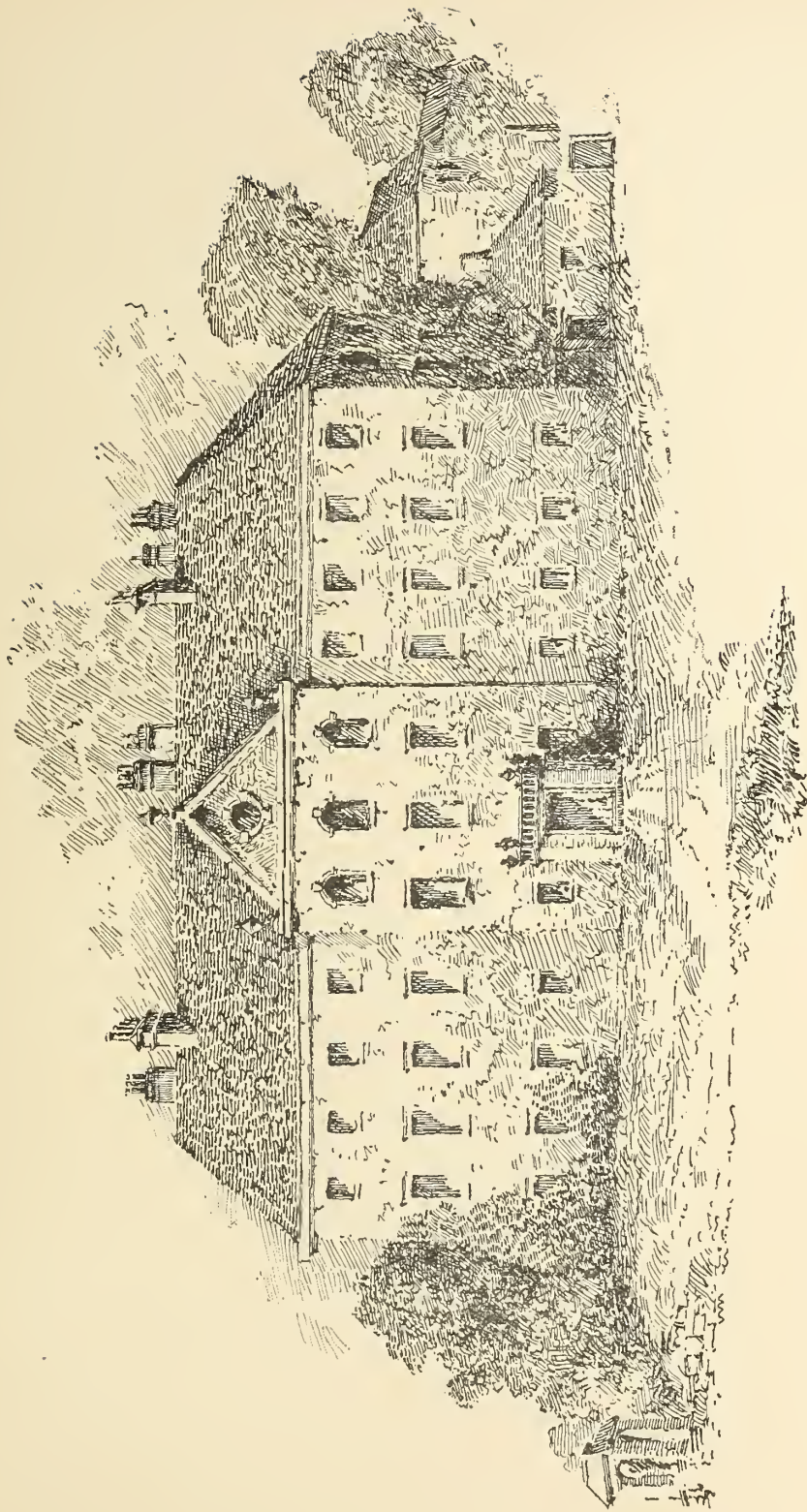
S the ancestor, Lucas of Striveling, purchased the estate whence originated the surname, from George Leslie of that ilk, sometime between 1370 and 1449, there must have existed a very early mansion house, or fortress, on this rocky knoll. The character of that building, from its nomenclature in the writs of the estate, viz., the Tower of Keir and Place of Keir, was a semi-fortress and mansion. If originally a Tower previous to its destruction by James III. on 11th June, 1488, it must have been changed at its restoration then, as James VI., on 25th May, 1568, in his operations against the rebel

Lords, whom Sir James (the Provost) had again joined, orders him to deliver up the House and Fortalice of Keir.

No part of that ancient house and fortalice is externally visible in the numerous alterations and additions made in the last three centuries, the last, and greatest, being its remodelling by the late Sir William Stirling's father in 1830, and by Sir William himself in 1860. The sketch on page 263 is taken from an old print of 1783—the oldest drawing or print extant, to our knowledge—and from the style of the elevation, the house would not be of earlier date than fifty years previous thereto. The burning of the Tower in 1488 was caused by William Stirling having espoused the cause of the Nobles, headed by Prince James against his father James III. Shortly before Sauchieburn, and after a skirmish with the royal forces, the Prince took refuge in the Tower, but was driven out, and the place burned to the ground by his opponents.

On 7th January, 1489, after James IV.'s succession to the crown by his father's assassination at Bethune's Mill, William Stirling is granted a charter by the King, narrating that the Tower and Place of Keir* had been burned under the evil advisors of his father when last at Stirling, when the writs and evidences had been destroyed, and he had therefore erected the lands into a Barony of Keir, in free blench for payment (delivery?) of a pair of gilt spurs at the Tower of Keir, on the feast of St. John the Baptist; and also knighted the laird. Again, on 28th October preceding, he grants £100 to William "for bigging of his Place."

* NOTE.—William Keir was suspected of being one of the persons who pursued the King from Sauchieburn Field and had a hand in his assassination at Bethune's Mill, in revenge for the destruction of his house and goods. William Fraser, in his *History of the Stirlings of Keir* (1858) clears him of this charge.



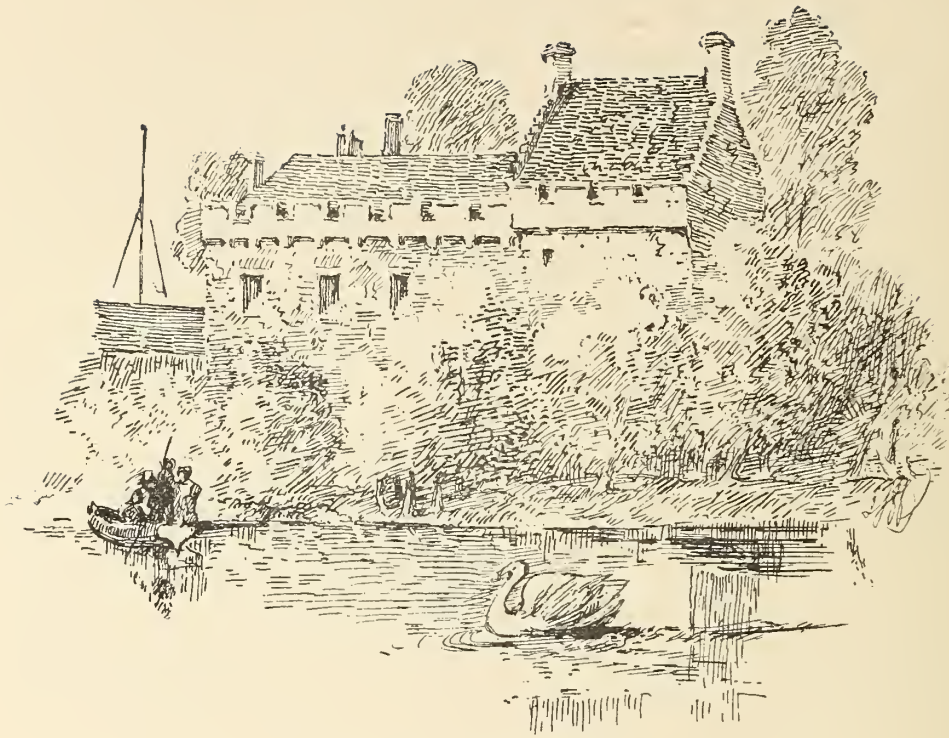
Keir Mansion prior to 1783.

Provost Sir James Stirling was one of the two judges appointed by James VI. to try Morton for his share in Darnley's murder, and he pronounced him guilty and passed sentence of death. John, his eldest son, was assassinated by Shaw of Cambusmore, at Stirling Bridge, in 1539. Shaw got a respite. Another son, James, was slain at Dunblane by William Sinclair, in a dispute about property there.

The estate of Keir was forfeited by the descendant, Sir James Stirling's participation in the Rebellion of 1715, and was purchased from the Commissioners of forfeited estates, by his relatives, and restored to his son. In this connection, several of the framed oil portraits of the Stewart Kings and Princes preserved in Keir Mansion, presently bear evidence of the canvases having been cut from the frames and subsequently restored and repaired, these having apparently been rolled up and concealed during the search for acts of rebellion.



Seal of Provost Sir James Stirling.



Bardowie Castle.

Part 3.

Bardowie Castle,

VARIOUSLY named Pardowy and Perdowy, is a picturesque, crow-stepped gabled mansion of the sixteenth century, having a square tower attached, on the banks of a deep lake of that name. It seems not to have been of any strength or of extensive accommodation, and was a Royal tenantry belonging to the family of Keir. It is situated in the extreme west of the county, a few miles from Milngavie,

and within sight of Mugdock Castle. The sketch above, from a sketch book of 1856, shews its southern side.

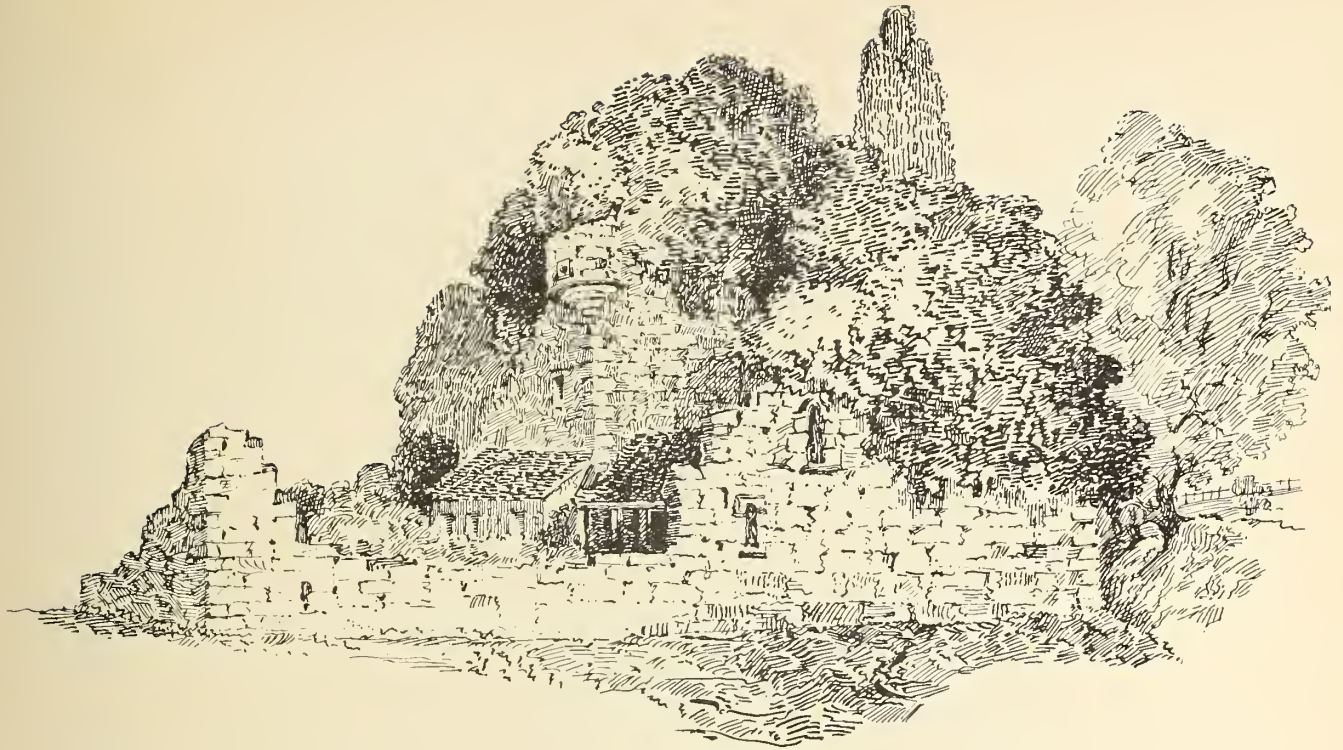
On 29th January, 1505, John Hamilton of Buthernok is confirmed by James IV., on a charter from Matthew, Earl of Lennox, in the lands of Buthernok, of which Bardowie forms a part, with Kincaid, Birdstone, etc., in the Earldom of Lennox and Counties of Stirling and Dumbarton—a witness to the charter being “Master Robert Hammyltoun, *rector* of Baldernok.” On 19th November, 1526, James V., for his good services, confirmed to James Hammyltoun de Fynart, soldier, the lands of Bardowie and others above, which were seized “from John Stirling, formerly of Keir, soldier, the King’s immediate tenant, but pertaining to the King by reason of his *forisfactum* and *lese Majesty* ;” and sasine is to be taken at Bardowie House for all the lands. On 13th January, 1531, the same King gives to James Hammyltoun de Fynart, formerly “our principal Sewar,” and Margaret Levingstoun, his spouse, along with numerous other lands, the Barony of Uchiltree, the lands of Pardowie, etc., along with the advocation of the church of “Beddernoch” (Baldernok), etc.

On 6th August, 1532, James V. re-grants to John Stirling of Keir the lands of *Pardowie*, with *tower, fortalice, and lake of the same*, and as above, and all other lands of Allan Hammyltoun de Pardowie’s, held off James Hammyltoun of Fynart, with the mill and advocation of the church of “Bothornok,” in the county of Dumbarton. This may be the superiority. Bardowie Mansion thus existed in 1526, and probably had been erected by John Hamilton of Bothernok.

On 16th September, 1579, James VI. confirms to Archibald Stirling, his second son, a charter of Sir James Stirling’s, conveying the lands of Keir and others, in which is included the lands of Bardowy, with the

tower, fortalice, and lake, and right of patronage of the rectorship thereof, etc.—Sir James Stirling reserving a free liferent, and the deed is dated at Keir, 15th September, 1579. Conveyances of the paternal estates by the nobility during their lifetime to their sons, reserving a life-rent, was a common mediæval custom.

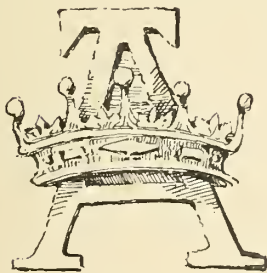




Arnhall Mansion.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Arnhall Ruined Mansion.



SMALL, square, roofless tower, having turrets at its angles, and walls nearly hid by the luxuriant ivy and brushwood, stands solitary in a park forming part of Keir policies, and about 400 yards west of that mansion. It bears the date 1617, but has no initials or coat of arms, yet it can be traced to have belonged to the Dow family, and must have been built by Harry Dow, aftermentioned. The attached buildings and walls of a small court have been converted into cattle sheds. It is said that the house had an addition made to it in 1680. The mansion, with its

accompanying grounds, subsequently belonged to the Athole family, and is stated to have formed the dowager-house of a Duchess of Athole.

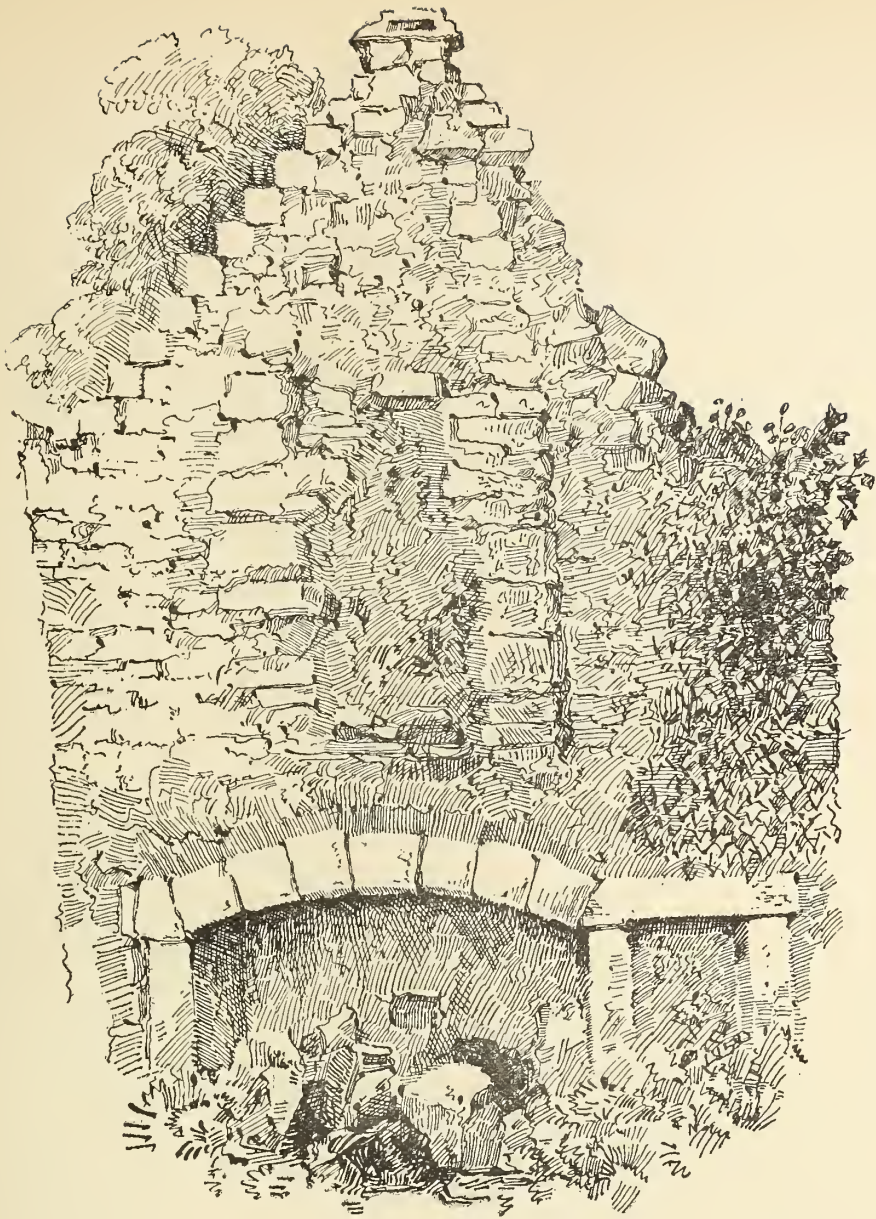
The above Harry Dow, in his old age, made a gift of 300 merks to the Kirk Session of Stirling, which, with a letter, was presented by his son John, on 30th March, 1647, and is thus recorded in the Session books as being thankfully received :—

“Because I had my educatione in my youthheid within the toun of Striviling at Skooles and learning of guid exerceisses, to the glorie of God, and in token of thankful remembrance to the place, I haiff gawin and bestowit thrie hundreth merkis money for help to the stock and provisione off the auld Hospittall at Striviling, callit Spittillis Hospittall, and for a suppliment to the entertainment to the indigent and misterful peopill remaining thair at present, and to cum, which hoping will be acceptat in guid pairte. Gewand all praise to God Almyhtie, and still praying for his mercie and remissione off my sins, through the righteous meritis off his blissed sone Jesus Christ, my onlie Saviour —Just waiting for the tyme that he salbe pleasit to mak the seperatioune.

“August, 1645, to be presentit to the Kirk Session of Striviling.

“H. DOW OF ARNEHALL.”





Ancient Fireplace.

CHAPTER XXX.

Woodside (Glenbervie) Mansions.

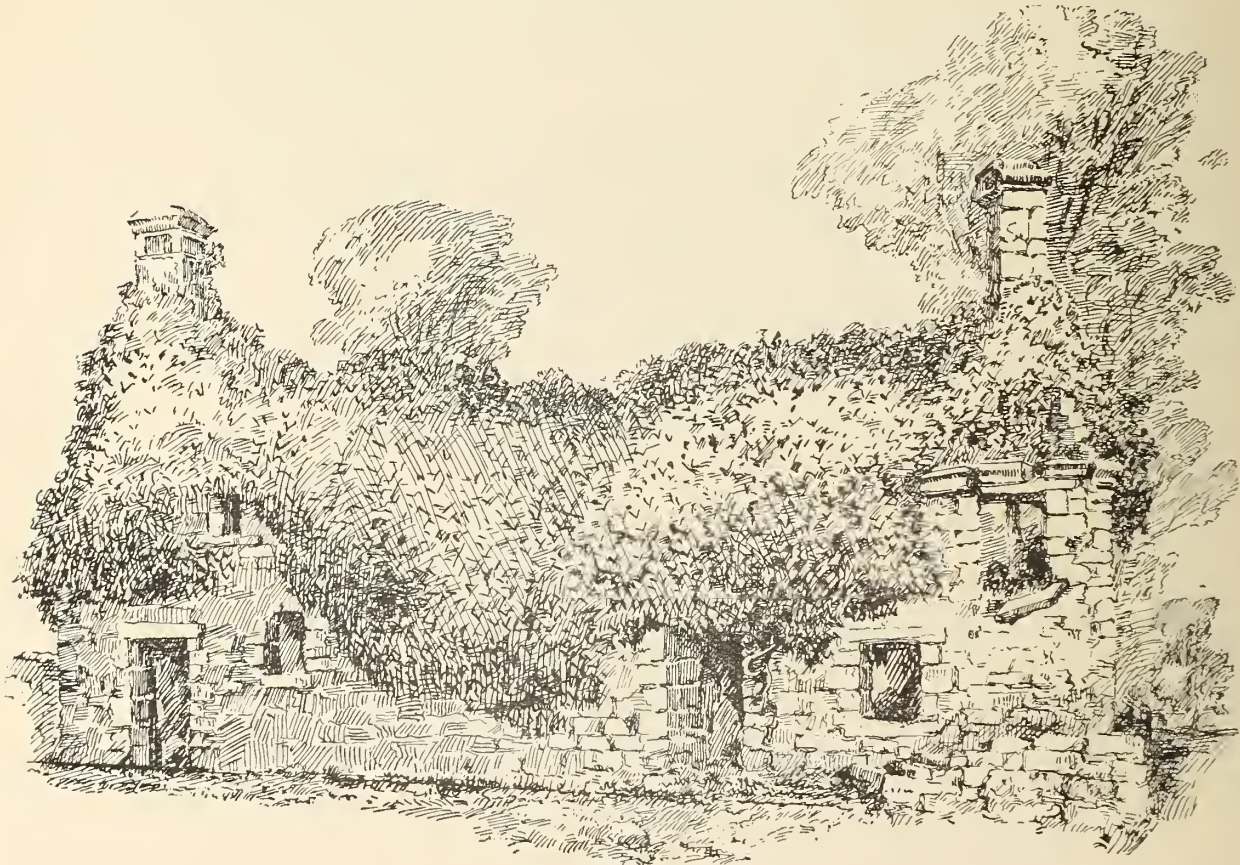
OF the three Mansions of Woodside succeeding each other, there exists only the most ancient—a roofless, plain, ivy-clad building—and the present, comparatively modern, handsome mansion, in the

Tudor style, the intermediate house having been completely erased, but we are able to give a sketch of it (page 275) taken from an old pencil drawing.

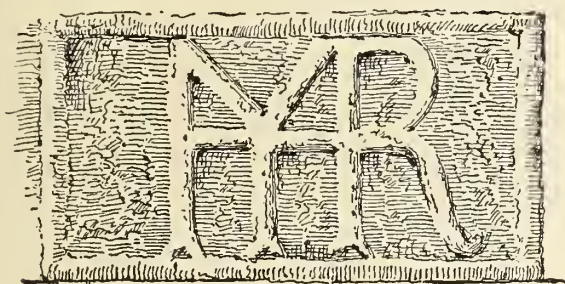
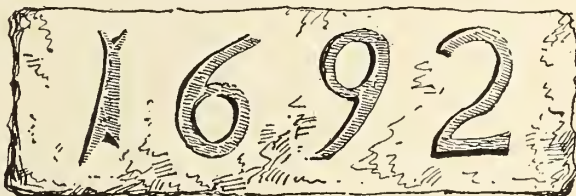
MANOR PLACE OF WOODSIDE.

(Sketch below).

About a mile and a half west of Larbert, on the Stirling Road, this mansion is shewn on Timothy Pont's Map of 1654 as being within the boundary and on the north edge of the very ancient and famous Forest of Torwood. The ruins shew a plain, two-storey building, with two crow-stepped gables, 54 feet by 20 feet, walls 2 feet thick, and



an ogee cornice moulding round its upper ledge. Originally its accommodation seems to have been four apartments, an additional outshot and wing having been subsequently added. On the ground floor in the east gable is a remarkably wide-arched kitchen fireplace, which, with a recess, occupies its whole width (sketch, page 271). The basement windows bear the marks of iron bars, but otherwise the building has had no defence, and never was a place of strength. It is situated near a small lake, and the ruins are almost enveloped with ivy and brushwood. On the lintel of the west door of the south side is the date



and over that of the door in the upper storey (it is entered by an outside stair), on the same side, is the monogram of this sketch. The former is apparently the date of certain alterations visible on the house made by Sir Henry Rollo; the latter being the monogram containing his initials and those of Margaret Young, his wife. The tower of the stables adjoining has the coat of arms forming the sketch, page 279, along with the comparatively recent date 1758, being the arms or crest of the Strachen family of Thornton, and refers to the possession of the estate by Mr. John Strachen.

The ancient forest of Torwood, surrounding this old house at that time, has long since receded, so to speak, and left this simple yeoman's dwelling stranded and entirely shelterless on the open plain, near the

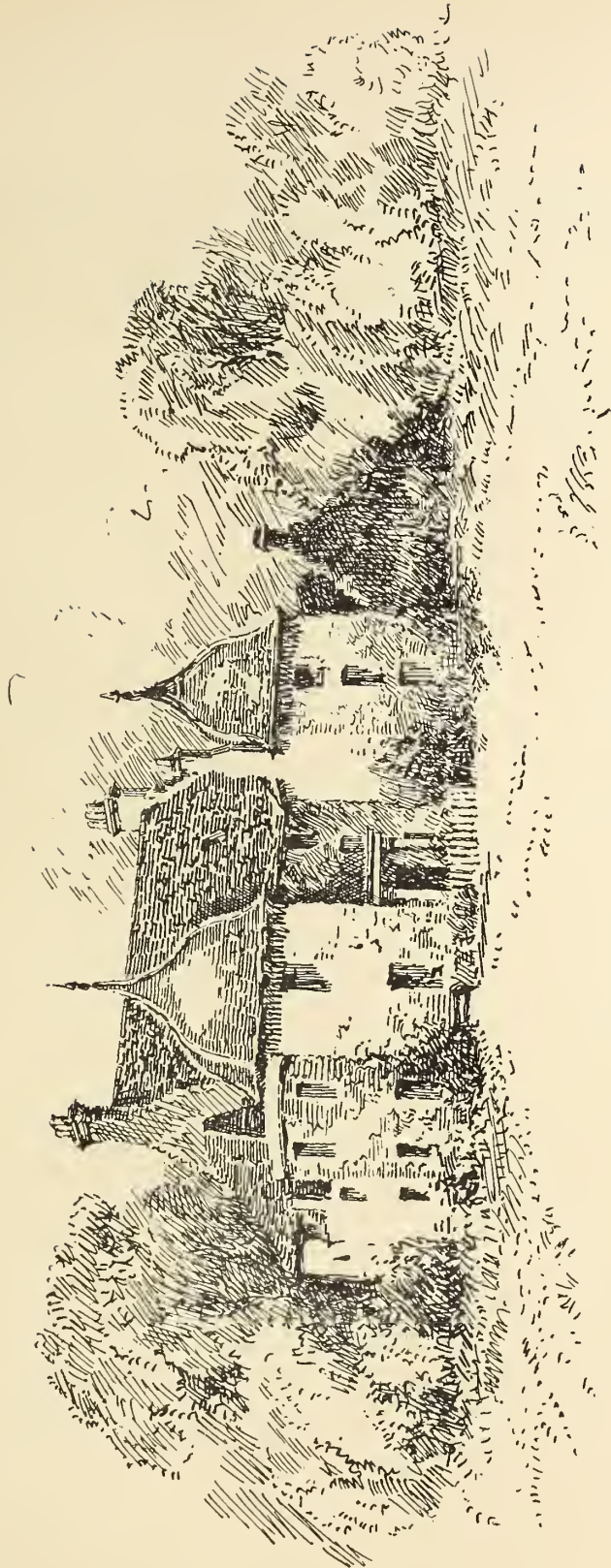
old lake with its reduced waters. The rapid destruction of the trees through natural decay and the lawless acts of the adjoining inhabitants, in cutting down the saplings and slaying the royal deer, were subjects of complaint, in 1637, against the hereditary keeper, Sir James Forrester of Torwood Castle.

From the titles, the estate came to Mr. Henry Rollo by his marriage with Dame Helen Elphinston, in 1636, having originally formed part of the estate of Quarrel. In a charter, under the great seal, recorded on 13th September of that year, of, *inter alia*, Woodside, Larbertshiels, and Stanerigmill, in their favour, the destination, failing children of the marriage, is to the heirs of the said Dame Helen, thus shewing that the lands were that lady's, and were to return to her kin, failing her children.

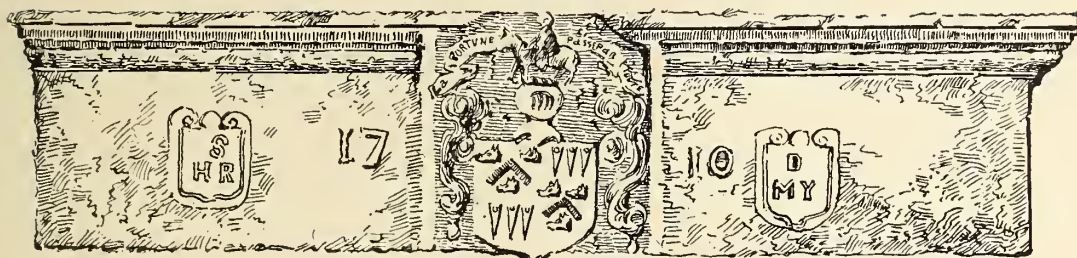
From its architecture and absence of the defensive arrangements common to mansions in the early troublous times, and the appearance of its weather-worn stones, this mansion shews a comparatively late date. It is almost certain that Mr. Henry Rollo built it in 1636, the year he came into the estate. John Rollo, the eldest son of the marriage, succeeded on 6th April, 1654, and was infeft and the estate erected into a free tenandry, called the Tenandry of Larbertshiels, on 29th July, 1661, sasine to be given to him at "the Manor Place of Woodside." He was succeeded on 13th July, 1674, by his son, also a Henry Rollo, afterwards created a baronet, who married Margaret Young. Lord George Forrester of Torwoodheid augmented the estate by five acres and eight acres respectively off Torwoodheid, in 1710, which were added to and enclosed by Sir Henry as part of the estate, and he then built

MANSION HOUSE (No. 2).

(Sketch opposite).



Woodside, from an old drawing.



The above is a sketch of the lintel over the doorway of this house, which had been preserved when the building was removed and its stones used in the erection of the existing mansion, some forty years ago. It contains Sir Henry's arms *quartered*, instead of, as is the custom, *impaled*, with those of his spouse, Dame Margaret Young,² the Rollo motto, "*La Fortune passe partout*," and the date of erection, 1710, with the initials S.H.R. and D.M.Y. on separate shields.

The original manor house, although altered only eighteen years previously, seems to have been insufficient for their accommodation, and was then abandoned. Its ruins are visible in the sketch (page 275), shewing that this mansion was situated quite close to it.

On 15th May, 1724, Sir Henry and his spouse sold the estate, "with the Manor Place of Woodside," to Sir George Dunbar, who changed the name to Dunbar House, and added considerably to its acreage. On 7th December, 1782, his trustees sold it to Mr. John Strachen, who reverted to its original name, and added forty-six acres off Banton to the lands. On 20th January, 1801, he sold it to David

* NOTE.—Sir J. Balfour Paul, to whose courteous assistance I am also otherwise indebted in identifying the arms and crests occurring in this work, describes it thus: "*Rollo*—a chevron between three boars' heads. *Young*—three piles, each charged with an annulet. It is unusual to find the arms of a man and his wife quartered. They are usually impaled, or, if the wife is an heiress, her coat is carried in an escutcheon of pretence."

this fearfull visitioun hes proceedit immediatlie from the hand of God, whois divine chastisements must with a christiane resolution be embraced and susteined. It becometh all good Christians who are feeling members of this bodie to resent the distresses and misereis of thir poore gentlemen, and by thair cheerefull benevolence to contribute a pairt of thair means, whairwith it hes pleased God to blesse thaim towards thair releefe. For whilk purposis the lords of Secreit Counsell hes recommendit, and be the tenour hereof recommends the saids distrest gentlemen to the favourable charitable and christiane consideratioun of the whole estaits both spirituall and temporall within this kingdome, and to the whole personis of whatsom-ever ranke, qualitie or degree within the same, Requeisting and desyring thame and everie ane of thame to extend suche proportioun of thair liberalitie and charitie to the saids gentlemen as the importance and necessitie of the caus requires, And the saids Lords hes committed and be the tenour hereof committs the collectionn of this contribution and benevolence of the people to the personis particularlie underwrittin and to twa and twa of thame conjunctlie according as they ar here conjoynd and as they sall be directed to the severall parts and corners of the cuntry, viz. : etc."—*Privy Council Acta*, 1628-29, fol. 86.





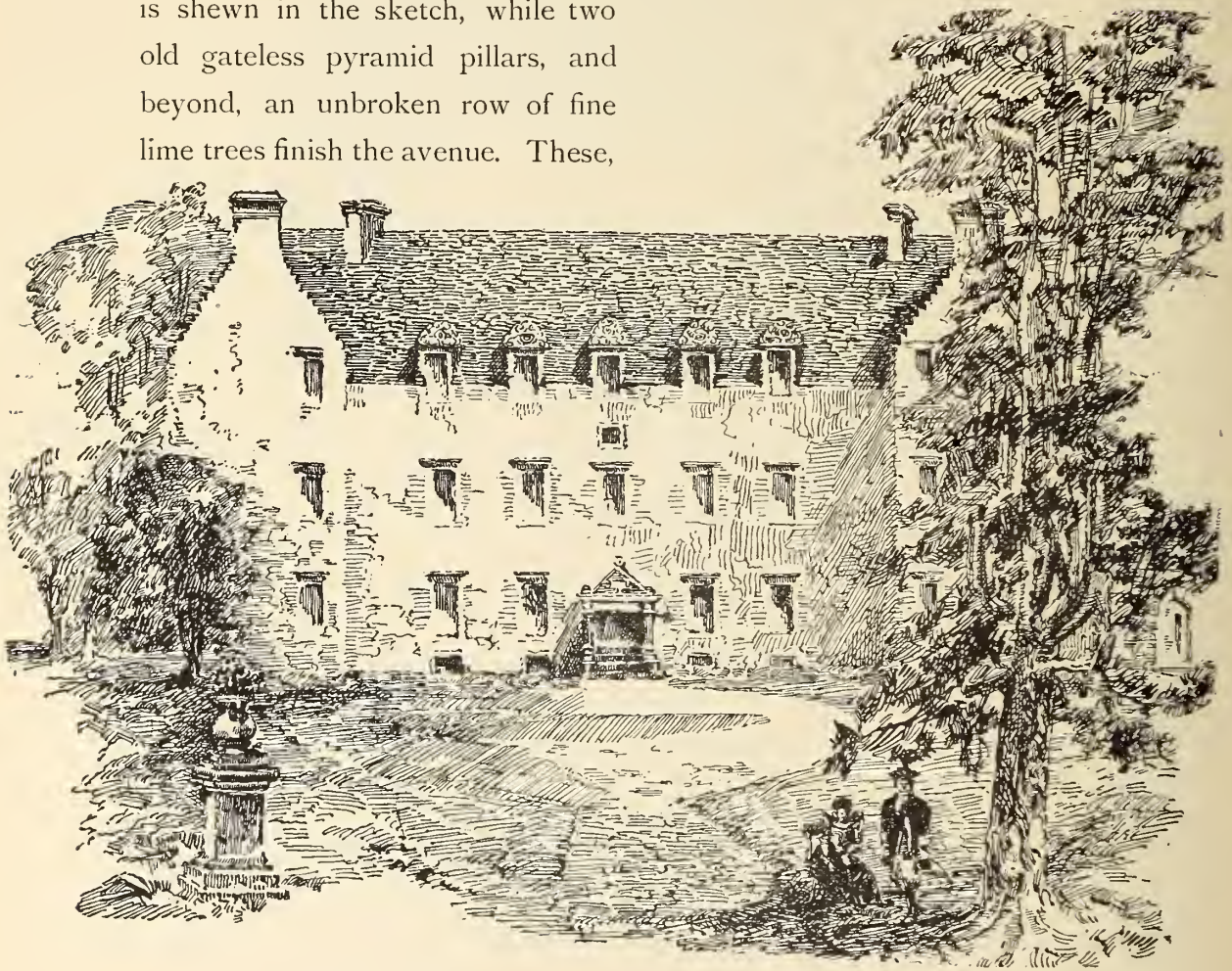
"Tibermaska" or Skeoch's Well (St. Ninian's Chapel).

CHAPTER XXXI.

Old Bannockburn Mansion.

THIS interesting seventeenth century nobleman's country house (sketch, page 282) retains its ancient features, and the drawing, taken about 1820, may stand for its present appearance—the porch only being altered. The plan of the mansion is an inverted I (⊥), the stem being the main building, with the two limbs as wings—the west-most containing the domestic offices. It faces Stirling Castle, of which, however, being in a hollow, it has no view, and is situated on the east edge of the field of Bannockburn, in a wood of some old timber.

The style of building is similar in most respects, although not so rich, as the mansion of the Earl of Stirling, erected in 1632, especially so in the design of porch and carvings of the twelve dormers. The drive and lawn in front are flanked by two old silver firs, one of which is shewn in the sketch, while two old gateless pyramid pillars, and beyond, an unbroken row of fine lime trees finish the avenue. These,



with an aged chestnut called "the Man and Three Boys" in the woods (a survivor of the ancient forest of Torwood), and a noble ceiling in the old drawing-room of the mansion, form the most interesting parts. This

ceiling, uncommon in Scotland, is a work evidently of French art, both in design and execution, and commands unqualified admiration.

The coat of arms being removed from the niche over the doorway, and no initials or dates visible to assist the investigation of its date and builder, there remains only the style of building and other circumstances to verify this. As no mansion house appears on a map of 1654 of this part of the county, and as the silver fir (only introduced into Scotland in 1603) bears to have been planted at the erection of the mansion and laying off the grounds and drive, so this would point to its erection being about 1654, the builder being either Sir John Rollo or Andrew, third Lord Rollo.

The lands, with Airth and Slamannan Muir, were originally a grant by Robert the Bruce to a William Bisset, and it included goose and well crofts; and the ancient name is "Bannok," interpreted "Whitehill." David II., in 1360, confirmed the grant to Thomas Bisset, Lord Upsethynton and Lady Fyfe, his wife. In 1373, Robert II. confirms this to Duncan Wallays (Wallace) and his wife, Eélionore de Bruce, Countess of Carrick, the relict (1) of a son of Edward the Bruce, the King's nephew, and (2) of James Sandilands, and, failing children, to James Sandilands, her son. The lands are then called "Ochtir Bannok." In 1489 the Sandilands family had endowed a chapel at the well called "Tibermasko,"* the well of Ma-Skaw or Skeoch (St. Skeoch), on Wellcroft at Stirling. The ruins remain, and are now called St. Ninian's Chapel and Well (sketch, page 281). In 1584 the lands

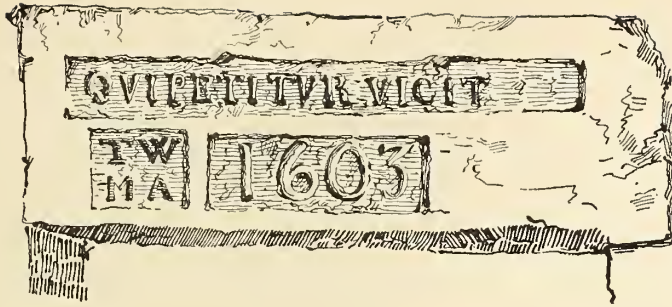
* NOTE.—The chapel is thus described in a charter, dated 23rd August, 1510, by James IV. to James Sandilands and his spouse, Mariota Forestar, of lands of Slamannan Muir, Erthbisset, and Bannockburn—"et advocacione et donacione capellanie, capelle, St. Niniani nuncaput, TIBERMASKO juxta Burgum de Strivelin."

passed to Robert Drummond, who incorporated them in his Barony of Carnock, and the name is changed to "Over Bannockburn." Sir John Rollo purchased them about 1630, and his heir, the third Lord Rollo, succeeded to them, acquiring also Skeoch and Cuthill and the right of patronage not only to the chapel at "Tibermasko" but to Skeoch Chapel (B.V.M.), situated below Bannockburn, and now gone. The building of Tibermasko is now converted into a public washing house, the vaulting chamber in which the enormous flow of water rises being built over. This vault is 14 feet by 11 feet. A niche in the east wall seems to have held the saint, St. Ninian, who was called "The Confessor." The water of the well is so cold in summer that people cannot stand long in it, and again, in winter, so warm as to thaw whatever is thrown into it and emits smoke. This indicates that the spring must issue from a great depth in the earth. Sir Hugh Paterson, *militis*, acquired the whole lands shortly thereafter, and was succeeded by his son, also a Sir Hugh, in 1696, when they were erected into the present Barony of Bannockburn. This Sir Hugh was, in 1701, succeeded by his son, Sir Hugh, the third of that name, who was a relative of the Earl of Mar, and a rank Jacobite. The lands were held afterwards by Sir Alexander Gibson Maitland, and now by Colonel Wilson. Sir Hugh, the third, favoured the rebellions of 1715 and '45, and Prince Charles was his guest on 14th September, 1745, on his route to the south, and again on 4th January, 1746, on his return, and during the siege of Stirling Castle. It was here he made the acquaintance of Sir Hugh's niece, Miss Wilkinshaw, of the connection between whom there is a history.

Provost Wallace and a councillor of Stirling, on the summons to surrender the town (which was then defended by walls with gates),

visited Prince Charles, and were entertained there all the night of the 6th January, 1746 ; but the majority of the Council and those inhabitants who objected to the deputation and were against the surrender of the town, led by the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine, in the deputation's absence, called out and armed 900 of the inhabitants, who shut the Port gates, and a ridiculous episode occurred. As a reply to his summons at the gate, the rebel drummer was fired at, and fled, leaving his drum, which is gravely chronicled as having been gallantly "towed over the walls" as a trophy of war. This and the other circumstances attending the surrender formed a sarcastic article in the *St. James' Post* of 30th January, 1746, which excited the wrath of the Magistrates. It taunted them with pusillanimity and cowardice ; and the justification of the Provost resenting the insinuations of he and his co-councillors having been influenced by the Prince's condescension and hospitality, forms amusing reading. He stated "that he never spoke to the Prince's son, nor was in a room with him, and all acted together," and that the *Post* "was stuffed with gross falsehoods." The article was directed to be contradicted in the newspapers. On the following day, four councillors went and surrendered the key of the gate at Bannockburn House.

A key was recently found hid in a recess in the wall of the bedroom then occupied by the Prince. It is of rough common smith make, and evidently for the lock of an iron gate, and as the Port Gate key was amissing thereafter, an entry appearing in the town's books "for two new keys to the Port gate," which was of iron, proves its identity. A bullet hole is shewn in the wall at the head of the bed which Prince Charles occupied in this room. Tradition states it was caused by the pistol of an assassin, fired through the bedroom window. History is silent on this point.



CHAPTER XXXII.

St. Ninians' Ludging of Rollo of Powhouse.

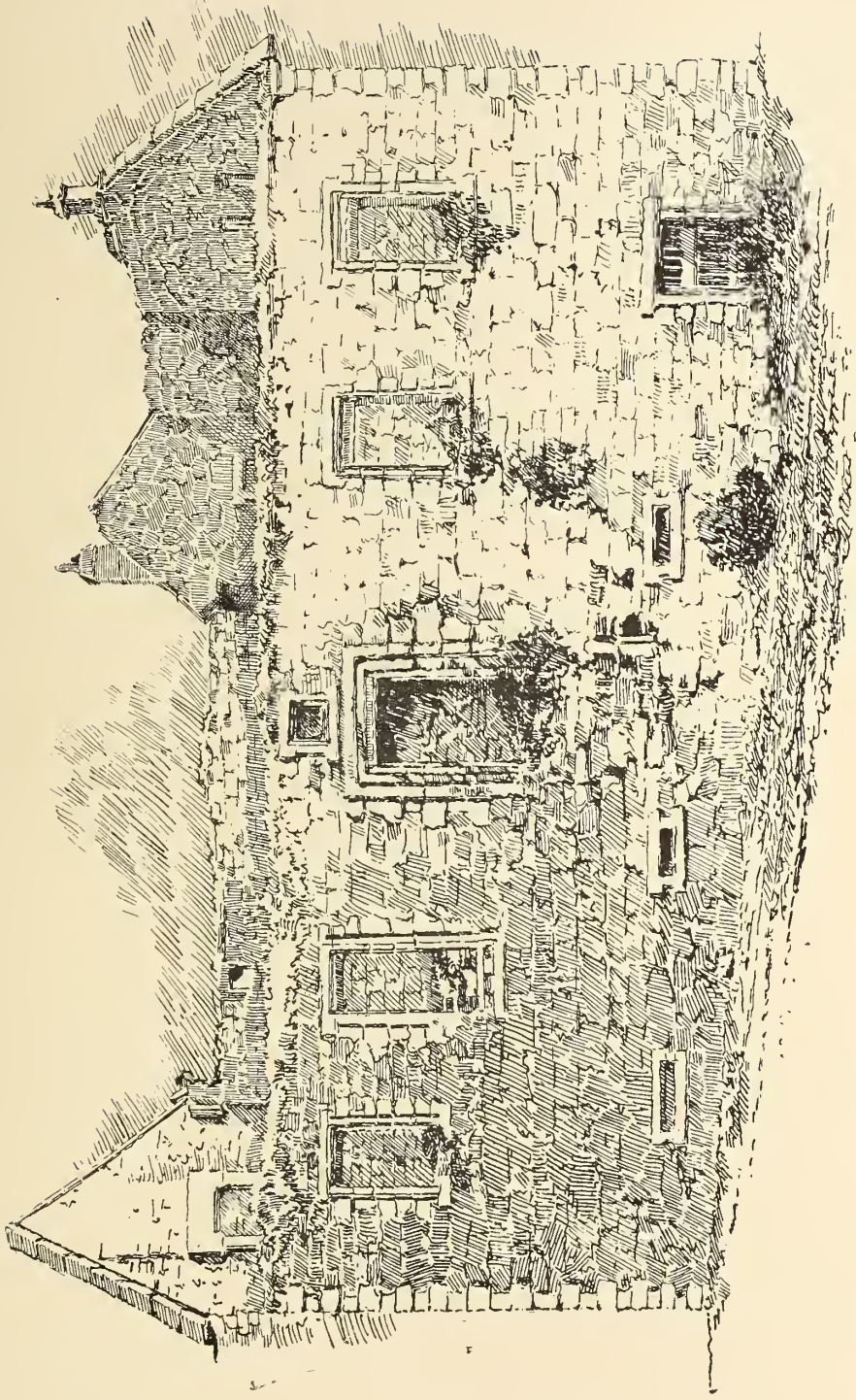
THE two oldest and most interesting houses in St. Ninians, for their architectural characteristics and inscriptions, are identified by their local names of "the Gallery" and "Parliament Close," and are, by a happy coincidence, embraced in one deed.

The GALLERY (sketch, page 289) is situated on the west side of the main street or highway, and is a roofless mansion of some architectural pretensions, two storeys in height, having semi-dormer windows at the back. It is L shaped, the larger limb having a frontage of 50 feet by 20 feet, and the back too-fall, 30 feet by 20 feet, with walls $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The ground floor, the cellars, are barrel-vaulted, and the main door was entered by a short outside stair direct off the thoroughfare. The sitting rooms seem to have occupied the first floor, and the kitchen, singularly, with the sleeping rooms, the upper flat. Over the doorway there is an empty niche which evidently contained the owner's crest or arms. The building is of ashlar courses, and the soles, jambs, and lintels of the front windows and doors have ogee mouldings. There is a back court and a small garden.

From a disposition, dated 25th March, 1704, to the south or east tenement immediately adjoining, by John Wordie, smith at St. Ninians' Kirk, and his spouse, to Robert Rollo, the boundary is described as "by his (Robert Rollo's) tenement on ye west." In a subsequent disposition, dated 1726, the boundary is "by the tenement of land of Robert Rollo on the north and east." But the direct evidence of Rollo's ownership and his erection of the ludging is ascertained from an instrument of sasine in favour of William Archibald's trustees, dated 31st March, 1831, embracing the *Gallery* and *Parliament Close*. The Gallery is described as "that tenement or *lodging*, high and laigh, back and fore, lying in the village of St. Ninians, and on the west side of the King's highway leading through the said village: which tenement and others sometime pertained to, *and was built by*, Robert Rollo of Powhouse, and was sold by his heir to James Culling, teacher," etc.

As the laird of Powhouse was, in 1689, one of four overseers appointed by The Estates of the Kingdom to conduct the first election of Stirling Town Council in the Cromwellian reign, and was alive in 1704, his erection of the ludging may be attributed to the period between 1670 and 1680, and it is a mansion of a type erected about that era. The sketch opposite is that of the frontage, and the crest of Rollo of Powhouse, which no doubt occupied the niche above the doorway, is given as a sketch on page 291.

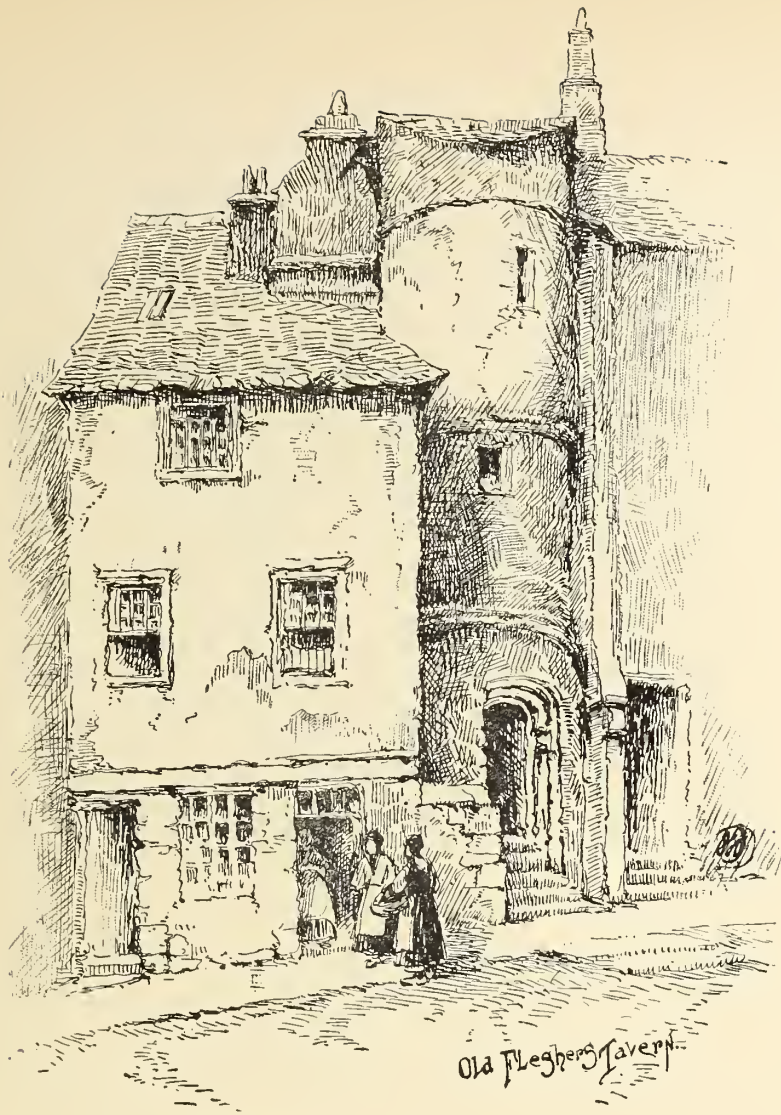




Rolla of Pawhouse's Ludging.

PARLIAMENT CLOSE is the name given to a small back court entered by a horse shoe shaped arch off the Kirk Lane. On the lintels of doors of two of the houses in it are the following inscriptions: that of the door, in the upper flat of the front house, the initials and date, T.W. M.A., 1603, and the Latin motto, "*Qui petitur vicit*" (who tholes overcomes"); and on the other, W.W. E.D., 1674, and are supposed to represent respectively Thomas Wordie and his spouse, and William Wordie and Ellen Doig, his wife, whose initials also appear on Williamfield (Torbrex Mansion), and who are known to have held several tenements in this part of St. Ninians. Unfortunately the title deeds do not go back far enough to assist this enquiry or verify the ownership.





CHAPTER XXXIII.

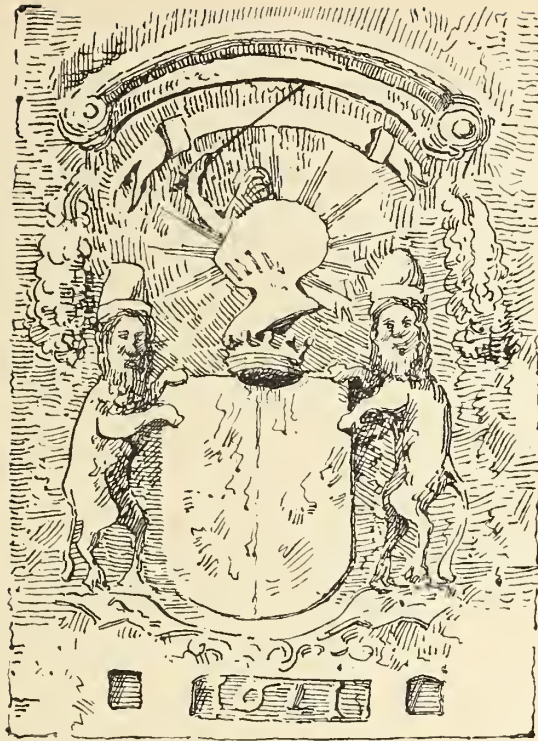
Part 1.

Old Fleshers' Tavern (Earl of Linlithgow).

ABOUT the middle, and on the south side of St. John Street, is a picturesque two-storey house with rather remarkable turnpike stair. The English artist, Linley Sambourne, considered it sufficiently interesting to include it in his sketch-book of a Highland tour, published some years ago. This house is alleged to have been the Earl of Lin-

lithgow's Ludging. The building consists of two floors, with one large apartment of 15 feet by 12 feet on each floor, both entering directly off the turnpike stair. The apartment on the first floor, being the kitchen, has a finely-moulded stone chimney piece, 7 feet by 5 feet, the lintel being one immense stone. The upper chamber is exactly of the same dimensions. The walls of the whole building are four feet thick, of immense stones, and all is of the most solid construction. The tower or turret has a deep moulding, and probably the roof was originally cone-shaped. The sketch (page 293) shews heavy mouldings round the tower, and there has been a strong door hung on the entrance. The owner assured us that the old woodwork was of oak. No date or inscription is visible, but the present owner says one of four corbels, when displaced, had the single letter A covering its whole surface, and the removal of the plaster shewed an old painted wall of a yellow colour. It is hardly worthy of notice that in the centre of what must have been the original front, but is now the south wall of the room of the first flat, is a stone tablet, with a deep border, containing an old oil-coloured painting representing roughly the execution of Queen Mary.

In 1622, Alexander, Earl of Linlithgow, had a connection with Stirling, and is "freely and lovingly admitted to the liberty and freedom of a burgess and guild brother" of the Burgh of Stirling. By disposition, recorded 25th December, 1656, "ane noble and potent Earl, James, Earl of Callander, Lord Almond, and Alexander Livingston, only son to the deceased Earl of Linlithgow," dispone to Robert Gib, merchant burgess of Stirling, "that ludging or tenement (laitlie waist and now built) sometime pertaining to the Earl of Linlithgow, lying within the said Burgh in the Raw called the Back Raw," shewing that the Earl had a ludging certainly in its vicinity. He had also a ludging in Falkirk, in which his widow, Mary, Countess of Callander, was infest.



Part 2.

Callander Mansion.

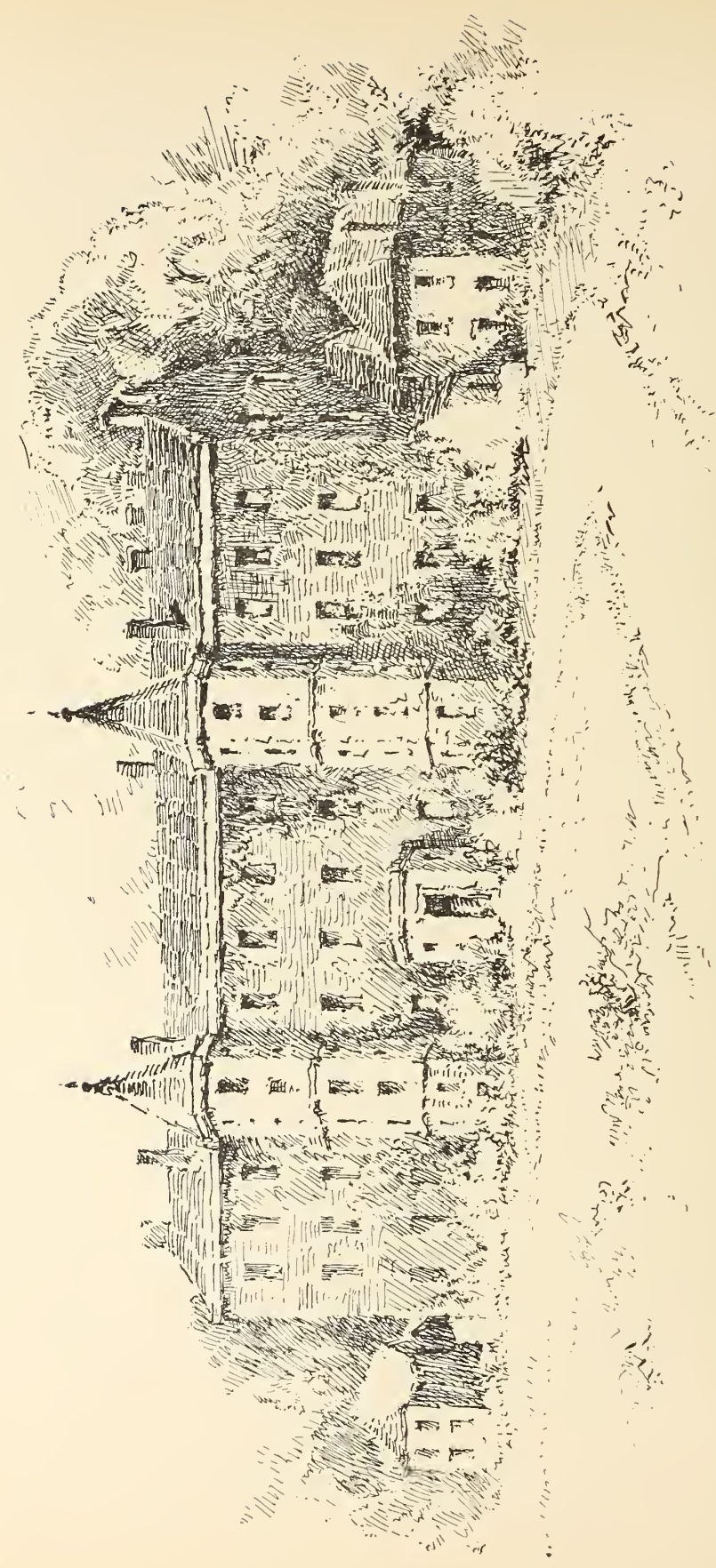
THE Mansion House as it existed previous to the possession by the Forbes family is shewn in the sketch on page 298. It is built upon, and incorporated with, an older castle or fortalice of an extremely early date. Fragments of ruins and inscriptions, with the date 1596, are stated to be preserved near the Manse, but this must have referred to later additions. The style of architecture of this building is applicable to a period about the middle of the seventeenth century, and, as the coat of arms (shewn above), which is affixed to West Quarter Mansion, a branch of the family, and which tradition says was removed from Callander House most probably in 1783, when

the Forbes family purchased it from the Commissioners of forfeited estates, bears the date 1641, either of these dates may suit the erection.

The assignment of the origin of the family name and arms to the Roman fuel provider, or *Calloner*, with its supposed three billets of wood, significant of his trade, for arms, is too hypothetical for serious consideration. The other explanation of the supposed billets being rolls of paper, representative of the Callander who was the royal comptroller or clerk, is more reasonable. The three billets form a distinctive part in the arms of all the Callander clan and in no other family.

The above dates correspond to the creation of James, first Earl of Callander, who was a son of Alexander, son and heir of William, Lord Livingston, for whom Queen Mary became sponsor at his baptism in Callander House, on 1st July, 1565, and who became first Earl of Linlithgow—Lord William having died prior to 1593, when Alexander succeeded to him in Callander estates and title. The families of Livingston and Callander and the town of Falkirk were always closely connected, the latter sharing in their troubles and rejoicings. The Earl of Callander was Lord of the Barony, which included the town of Falkirk, and the corporation and inhabitants were therefore his vassals. The erection of the town into a Free Burgh of Regality is embodied in the same charter granted by James VI. to the said Alexander, Lord Livingston, of the baronial estates of Callander and others.

The old castle or fortalice had an historical interest. The ill-fated Queen Mary, who was in close friendship with the Livingstons (the youngest daughter of Alexander, fifth Lord, being one of the Queen's famous four Marys), dined in the mansion on 12th August, 1562. She also, as referred to above, attended as sponsor, incurring great inconvenience and risk to herself, riding from Perth with 300



Gallander House about 1789.

horsemen at early daybreak, to avoid Morton. She stayed there with Darnley, her future husband, in August following, and, subsequently, sent invitations to Lord and to Lady Livingston, who was a daughter of Malcolm, Lord Fleming, to the pageant and baptism of her son in Stirling Castle; and on 13th January, 1566, she visited her friends, with the royal infant, spending four days, on the 24th of that month with them.

On 24th May, 1568, James VI. orders William, Lord Livingston, who had joined the rebel Lords, to deliver up the "Castle, Tower, and Fortalice of the Calender."

Lord Livingston bound himself with the other nobles to effect the release of Queen Mary from Loch Leven. On her escape, he welcomed her and joined her party, with all his retainers, his Falkirk vassals, who fought with great gallantry at Langside. After their defeat, he accompanied the Queen in her flight to England, and, with Lady Livingston, shared her imprisonment at Bolton, at a time when Mary's other friends had deserted her. Lord Cecil, in reporting Mary's conduct in prison, mentions that "the greatest person about her is Lord Livingston and the lady, his wife, and she is a fair gentlewoman." Lady Livingston's health was so impaired by the strict imprisonment and strain that, on Queen Mary's change of prison, she was left ill at Rotherim, in 1570, for which the Queen expressed her concern in a letter to Lord Burleigh. Both Lord and Lady Livingston returned to Scotland before the Queen's execution.

In a list of nobility and their creeds, sent to England, dated 1st July, 1592, Lord Livingston is described as a papist, of 61 years, and his wife, the Lord Fleming's sister, and his residence, Calendar. From the Falkirk magazine of 1827, we quote that "in the old churchyard of Falkirk, near the figured tombstones of the old Barons of Callander, is

one obscure, flat, defaced tombstone, and with the coat of arms on the



*Effigies of Baron and Baroness
of Callander.*

dexter side is impaled a chevron-in-chief, the Fleming arms, and on it the initials W. L. are traceable." This defaced stone is suppose to represent Lord and Lady Livingston's grave. The other members of the noble family were buried in the south aisle of the old Kirk, the tombstone being marked by four great stones, representing two knights and their ladies.

Sir Alexander married Lady Eleanor Hay, and was succeeded by their son James, of Brighthouse, a castle on the Avon, who went through the Swedish wars, with some of his vassals, serving under Gustavus Adolphus, and after his return in 1633, was created by Charles I., Lord Almond and Falkirk, in 1641. He derived the estates from his brother Alex-

ander, Earl of Linlithgow, who, as governor of Linlithgow Palace, resided at Midhope, an old small baronial mansion. He was King's Treasurer in 1641, joined with his vassals "the engagement," was defeated at Witherby, and retired to the Continent. His vassals, on their

return, submitted to the censure of the Kirk Session for their conduct. Cromwell excluded him from the Act of Indemnity of 1654 for this.

After the disastrous rout and retreat of the Scots from Dunbar, Charles II. left a garrison in Callander House, which was then a fortified place of some strength, and Cromwell, on being obstructed, took it, and put the small garrison to the sword. Quantities of human bones were dug up in removing the old gateway on the lawn. Opposite this gateway a huge ash tree, 14 feet in diameter, grew, named the "Dule" Tree (Scotch, "grief") or gallows' tree,—the rights of the Baron comprehending pit and gallows.

In 1652, General Monk repaired and resided with part of his troops in Callander House. Alexander, second Earl, signed the Covenant in 1675, when it was occupied by the Parliamentary army; and in 1678, on the soldiers again taking possession, the Falkirk vassals rose and put them to flight. The other members of the family adhered closely to the King, and, on his restoration in 1682, the Covenanter was deprived of his Sheriffship and Baronial power over the Regality of Falkirk—the latter being given in favour of the Earl of Linlithgow, and the other in Lord Erskine's favour.

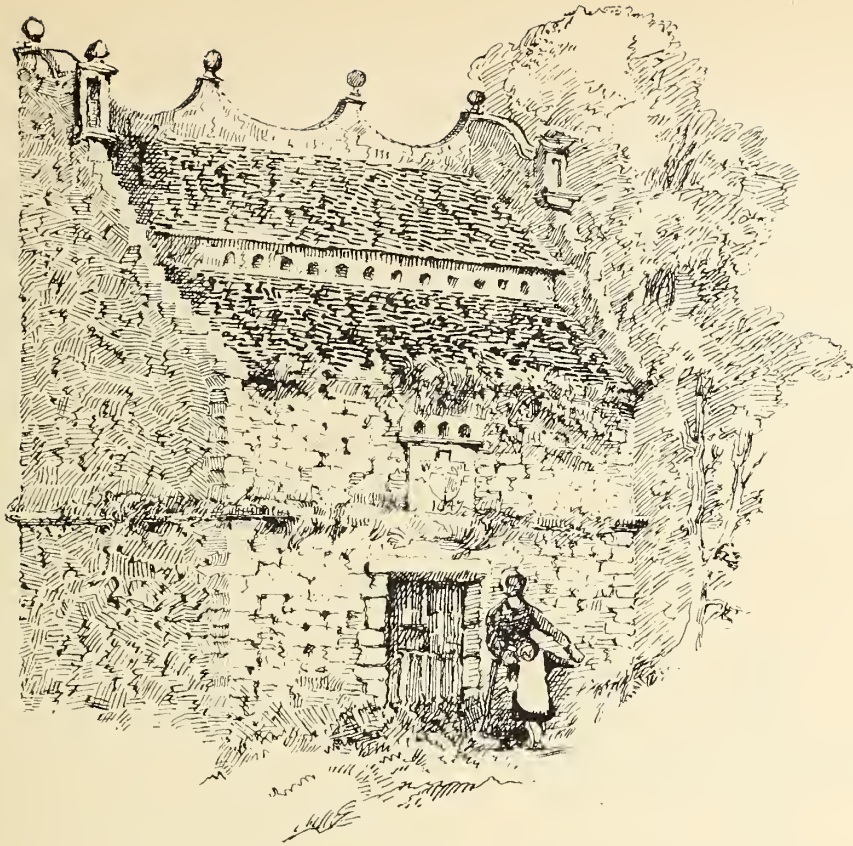
The terms of the great charter, granted by James VI., dated 13th March, 1600, are "for the great care and extreme diligence and solicitude of our trusty servant, Alexander, Lord Livingstone, and Dame Helenore Hay, his spouse, in divers years past, with regard to our two legitimate daughters, by their undertaking their education in their own society, and being due them £10,000 for food and education, of them and their body servants," etc. In addition to conferring the government of the Castle, Tower, and Fortalice of Callander on him, etc., the King erects Falkirk into a Free Burgh of Barony, with market cross,

fairs, baron's court, and a special court for administering justice. The £10,000 was repayable betwixt the rising and setting of the sun at the grave of James, Earl of Morton, in the parish kirk of Edinburgh—the holding being a pair of gilt spurs, at Callander Castle, at the feast of Pentecost. As an example of the semi-barbaric powers of a feudal Baron, we further quote: “with court and issues of amerciements, herezeldes, bluidwits, and mercheta mulierum, with free forestry and its laws and casualties, with furka, fossa, sok, sak, thole, theme, infangthief, outfangthief, pit, and gallows.”

The charter of Charles I., 22nd July, 1646, erected Falkirk into “one new and Free Burgh of Regality, to be called the Burgh of Falkirk.”

Staunch friends to the Stewart family, the Mansion House exercised its hospitality to Prince Charles, in September, 1745, on his way to Edinburgh. The Earl, joining that rebellion, forfeited his title and estates, the latter being seized by the Government, and, on a sale by the Commissioners of Forfeited Estates in 1784, were purchased by William Forbes, merchant in London—the charter of sale, under the great seal, in his favour being dated 20th December, 1783, and his sasine therein recorded in the Particular Register of Sasine, 19th January, 1784. William Forbes married Margaret Macadam in 1787, and on 10th September, 1788, she is infeft in a liferent annuity of £1200—her marriage contract provision over the Barony.

Mr. Forbes' successor has completely changed the plain old mansion of the seventeenth century, and in its place there is now a palatial residence in the modern baronial style of architecture. The moat also is filled up and grounds levelled so that no evidence of it and the old Castle, Tower, or Fortalice exists, beyond the great thickness of the old walls visible internally, and the springs which supplied the moat, occasionally bursting near it.



Dovecot, West Quarter.

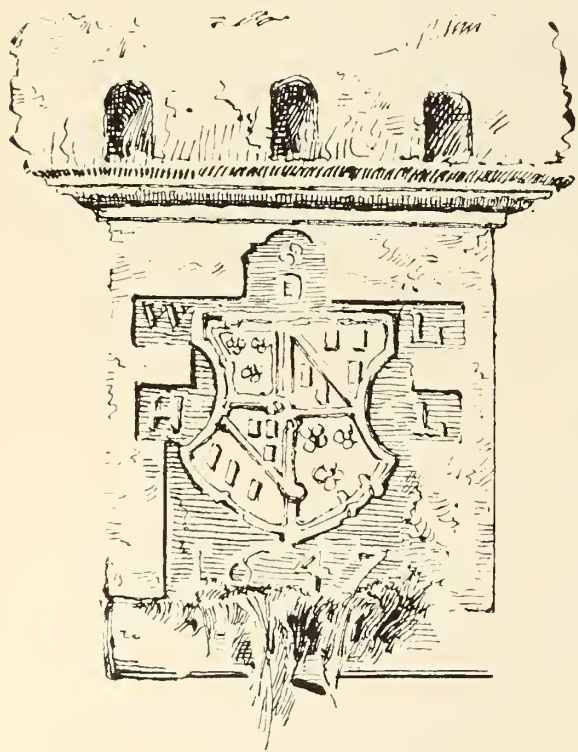
Part 3.

West Quarter Old Mansion.

THIS picturesque estate of a cadet of the ancient and noble house of the Earl of Linlithgow is situated about a mile and a half east of Falkirk, was originally part of the Barony of Callendar, and is the only branch of the family and estate which escaped the general forfeiture that fell to the lot of the chiefs of this once all-powerful family in the Rebellions of 1715 and 1745. Notwithstanding, this estate had vicissitudes of fortune and passed out of the male line of the West Quarter Livingstons, and it remains the only property now held by the name.

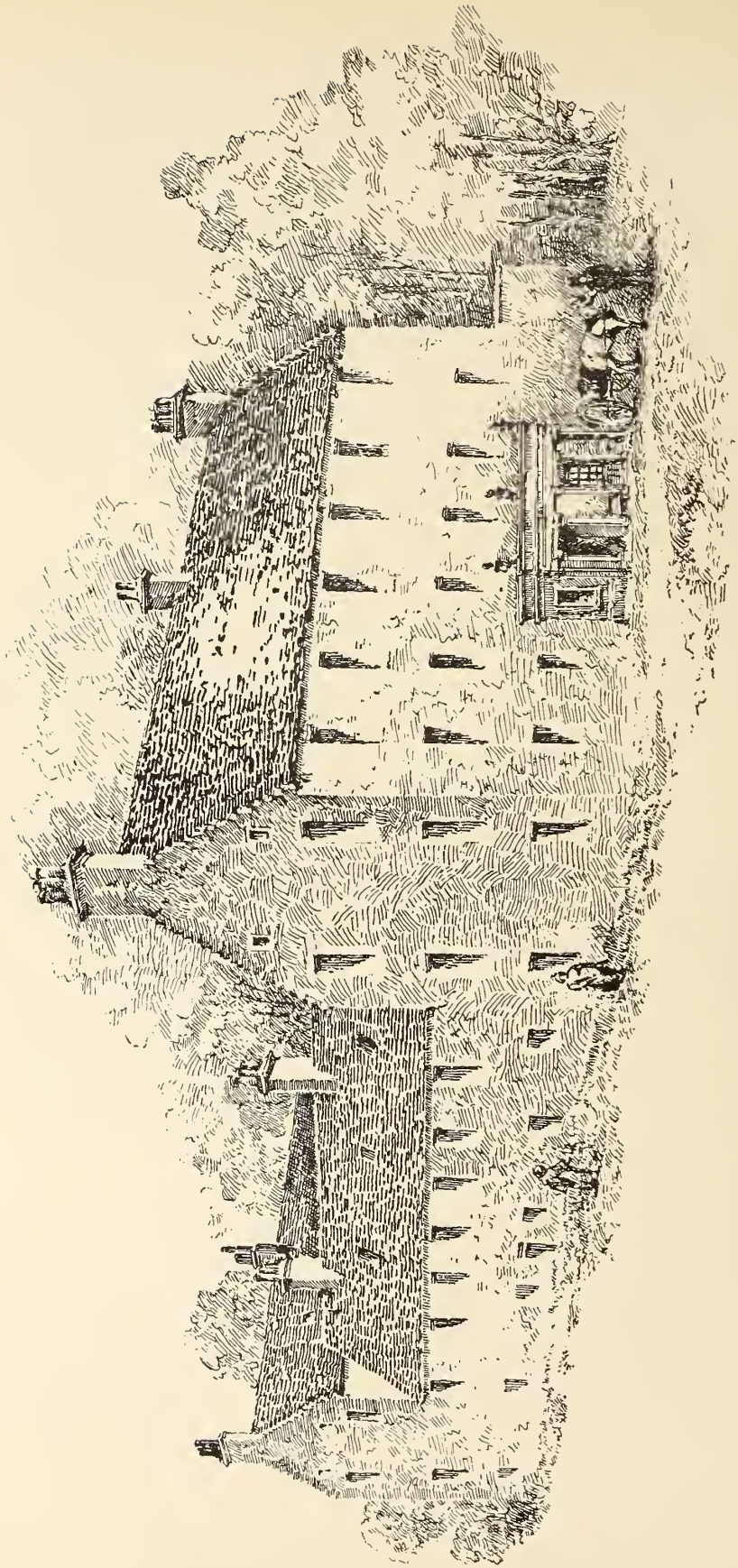
The extensive, plain, old seventeenth century house was situated on the bank of a deep wooded glen, having a stream and picturesque

waterfall of some volume and height, but which has been removed to give place to the present magnificent mansion. It was erected by *Sir William Livingston*, the fourth son of Sir Alexander Livingston of Craigiehall and Susan Walker, and a direct descendant of Sir George of Ogleface. He subsequently succeeded to Ogleface with West Quarter, on his brother James' death, contesting successfully against a claim of Lord Napier thereto. He was married to *Helenore Livingston*, daughter of



his kinsman, Alexander Livingston, who brought with her a fourth of her father's estate of Redding (West Quarter), in 1626. From the coat of arms on the ancient dovecot, still preserved, the initials S.W.L. and D.H.L., with date 1647, represent the said Sir William Livingston and Dame Helenore Livingston, his wife, and the date of erection of the *dovecot*, and probably of the mansion itself. From this marriage Sir William, to distinguish him from the other members of the family of the same name, was better known as "the husband of the heiress of West Quarter."

In 1648 Sir William served under his cousin, the Earl of Callendar, as second in command, in the unfortunate attempt by the Scots to rescue King Charles, known as "The Engagement." He was appointed governor of Carlisle Castle, surrendered subsequently to the English on the defeat of the Scots, and on his return suffered a



West Quaster Old Mansion, from photo.

judgment of censure from his parish Kirk Session. He died in 1676, followed by Dame Helenore three years afterwards. Their eldest son, James, who succeeded to his father's estate, married his kinsman's (the Earl of Callendar) widow, Lady Mary Hamilton, daughter of the Duke of Hamilton, and he, adhering to the Orange Government, was created a Knight Baronet by King William on 30th May, 1699. He died childless in 1701, and his widow, who took for her third husband Patrick Ogilvy, acquired, with consent of her niece, Helen Livingston, a liferent of not only a fourth of Redding, called West Quarter, "with the mansion house and a seat in the parish church," but also "the great ludging in Falkirk," and is therein styled Countess of Callendar and Countess of Findhorn. She was succeeded by (1) Sir George, who died in 1729 without issue; (2) by his brother, Alexander, who died unmarried in 1766; (3) by Sir William, who died in 1769 without issue; and (4), by Sir Alexander, a nephew of a collateral branch, who died in 1795, when his son, Admiral Sir Thomas, married to a daughter of Stirling of Glorat, succeeded thereto. George III., in 1803, for his distinguished services and "as nearest collateral heir male" of the attainted Earl of Linlithgow, conferred on Sir Thomas the forfeited hereditary offices of Keeper of Linlithgow Palace and Blackness Castle. Sir Thomas consequently claimed the chieftainship of the clan and the right to represent the noble family of Livingston, lost by the attainder. He died in 1853, a Rear-Admiral.

The family was thereafter represented by Thomas Livingston Fenton Livingston, a great-nephew of Sir Thomas, who succeeded through his paternal grandmother in 1853, whose surname he assumed, and he represented the only one of the historical Livingstons in Scotland. The estate is now held by the Hon. Mrs. E. Fenton Livingston.

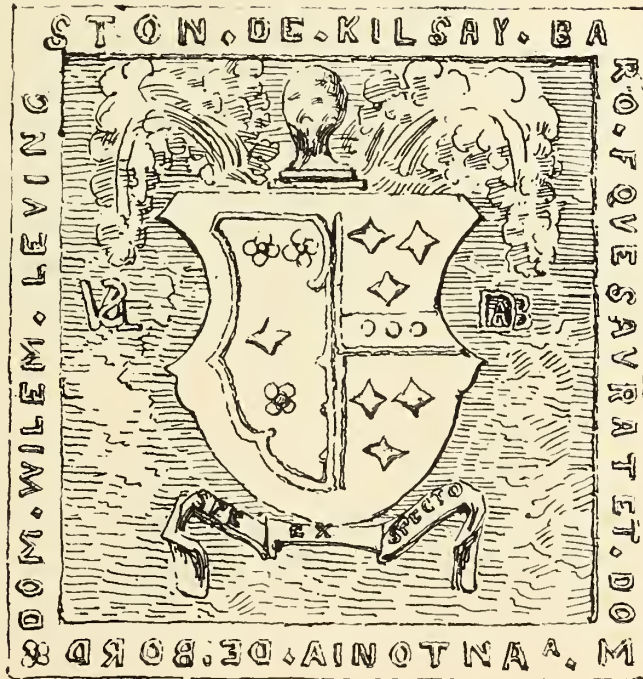
The scenery is noted in the neighbourhood, and was the subject of praise by the descendant of an American cadet who held various high offices in New York State, and took part in the War of Independence. After a visit and hospitable entertainment by the Admiral at West Quarter House in 1819, in a letter to his mother he describes himself as amongst grand scenery, and that Sir Thomas retained a warm kindness for and drank the healths of his friends over the water after dinner. Sir Thomas' praise is also sung in homely rhymes by his lodge-keeper, Jane Anderson, which as revealing the good and genial heart of a tar of the old school and the affection bred thereby in his servants to him, we venture to quote. After describing the beautiful West Quarter scenery, she adds:—

“ But he : how mean to me and mine the scenery would look
 Could I not see its noble lord come stepping over the brook,
 And hear his grand commanding voice—to evil doers a dread,
 But peace to them that doeth well, and pity to all that need.
 The Baron's steps are feeble, and his auburn locks are grey,
 Yet his majestic countenance is bright and fresh as May,
 For He who made him what he is, for ever be his trust,
 For like his noble ancestors he must return to dust.”

In addition to the dovecoat arms there are built into the upper storey of the present magnificent Scottish Baronial mansion, for preservation, two other coats having no connection with the West Quarter family, but evidently brought from Kilsyth and Callendar Houses. The sketch, page 309, is evidently from Kilsyth, and bears the name of the Kilsyth Livingstons. It has in addition to the Latin inscription of “Sir William Livingston of Kilsyth,* Knight Baronet (Baro Eques Savaratus), and Lady Antonia of Bord,” and the motto “*Spe expecto*,” their

* NOTE.—Sir William, a man of parts and learning, accompanied Lennox to France in 1601, was a Lord of Session in 1609, Privy Councillor in 1613, and Vice-Chamberlain. He succeeded to the Barony of Kilsyth, 4th October, 1620, and married Antonia de Bord, a French lady, by whom he had a son and daughter.

monograms S.W.L. and D.A.B. The Lady was from France, and her arms of the Duchy of Hesse are quartered in the shield with those of her husband, viz., "argent, a fesse gules charged with two annulets of the field between a star in chief and a rose in base of the second." Knight Baronets had precedence of Baronets Nova Scotia. The other (sketch, page 295) is the arms of the Earl of Linlithgow, with fantastic supporters representing the lions. From the height and weather-worn condition of the stone, the motto is undecipherable, and was probably *Et domi et foris*, and the date 1641 would refer to the erection of additions to Callendar House, as that ancient mansion's history goes far back to the thirteenth or fourteenth century. As was common on change of ownership, the arms were probably removed from Callendar House when the estate was seized by the Crown, on the Earl's attainder, and sold to Mr. Forbes in 1783.

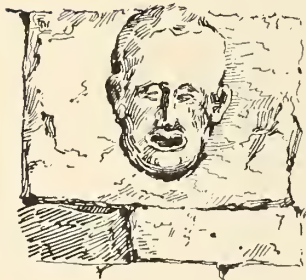




North view.

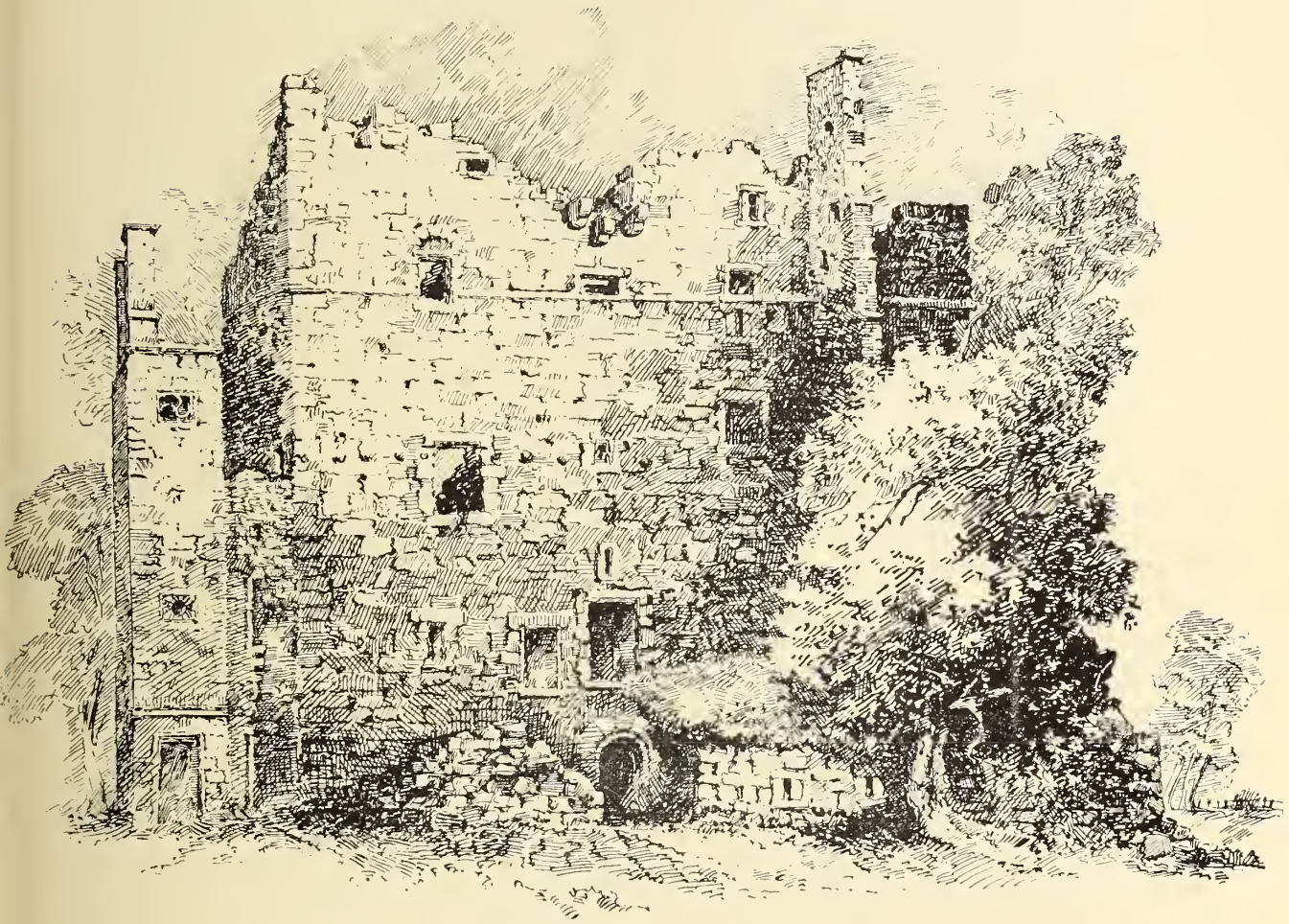
Part 4.

Ancient Castle of Haining



DERIVED its name from being situated in a wood enclosure—"Hanite" being an old Scotch term used in the Forest laws to signify an enclosed or fenced in wood. This old mansion seems to consist of three buildings united and inter-communicating, is roofless and without any protecting fence. It stands on a solitary mound in a field of grain, the ancient approach, distinctly traced, being by a stone bridge over a now empty water course, which formerly was probably

part of a surrounding moat. The field is on the north side of the canal and about two miles east from Polmont village. The front tower, of which this view is taken, is 36 feet and three storeys in height, and is entered by a circular doorway through an apparently outer fortification



East or front view.

or wall, with a loopholed guardroom commanding it. The corbels which had supported a hanging turret just over it, are visible, and the ruined walls to some height of a round tower on its north-east angle

(sketch, page 310), detached from the building, apparently forms with some outside vaulted buildings part of the Castle's defences. The walls of the main buildings are of the enormous thickness of 7 feet 4 inches, and the ground floor rooms are vaulted and have iron-barred windows, while the upper floors are gone. A comparatively modern wing on the south has been added, and the main doorway shifted to that portion of the Castle. There is no date, initials, or coat of arms, nor carved work, except a head carved on the upper courses of the front, to indicate the owner or date of the erection of this imposing structure, which must be very early, and its occupants a family of importance. The place is in ruins and free to the public.

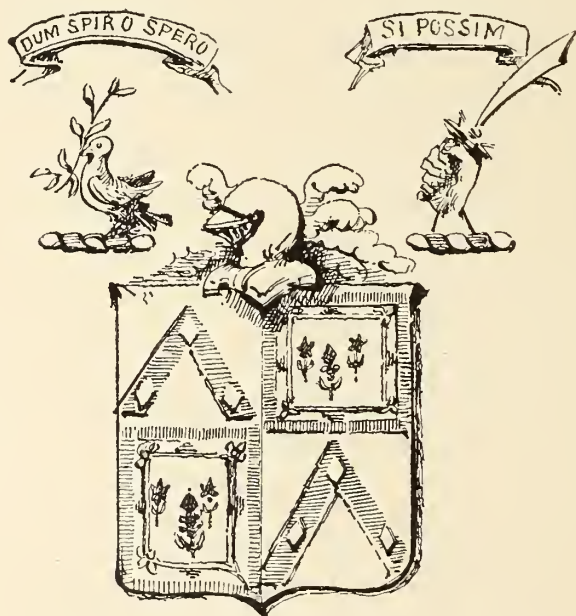
The Castle belonged to the Crawford family, and the estate was possessed, along with Mungwell, or Manuel, prior to 1546, by William Crawford de Haining, and the mansion existed at that time.

On 16th May, 1546, the elder of his two daughters, Agnes, succeeds him as an heiress-portioner to part of the lands of Mungwell and Haining, with the manor, etc., of Haining and mill of Mungwell. She married Thomas Livingston, the third son of Alexander, fifth Lord Livingston, who was the founder of the Livingstons of Haining, but it is said, before her marriage, she sold her half of these lands to his kinsman, Alexander Livingston of Dunipace, from whom her husband re-purchased them, and gets a charter thereto on 12th March, 1553, from Mary, Queen of Scots. On 13th April, 1556, his wife succeeds to her younger sister, Margaret's *pro indiviso* half, and became thus in possession of the whole Barony.

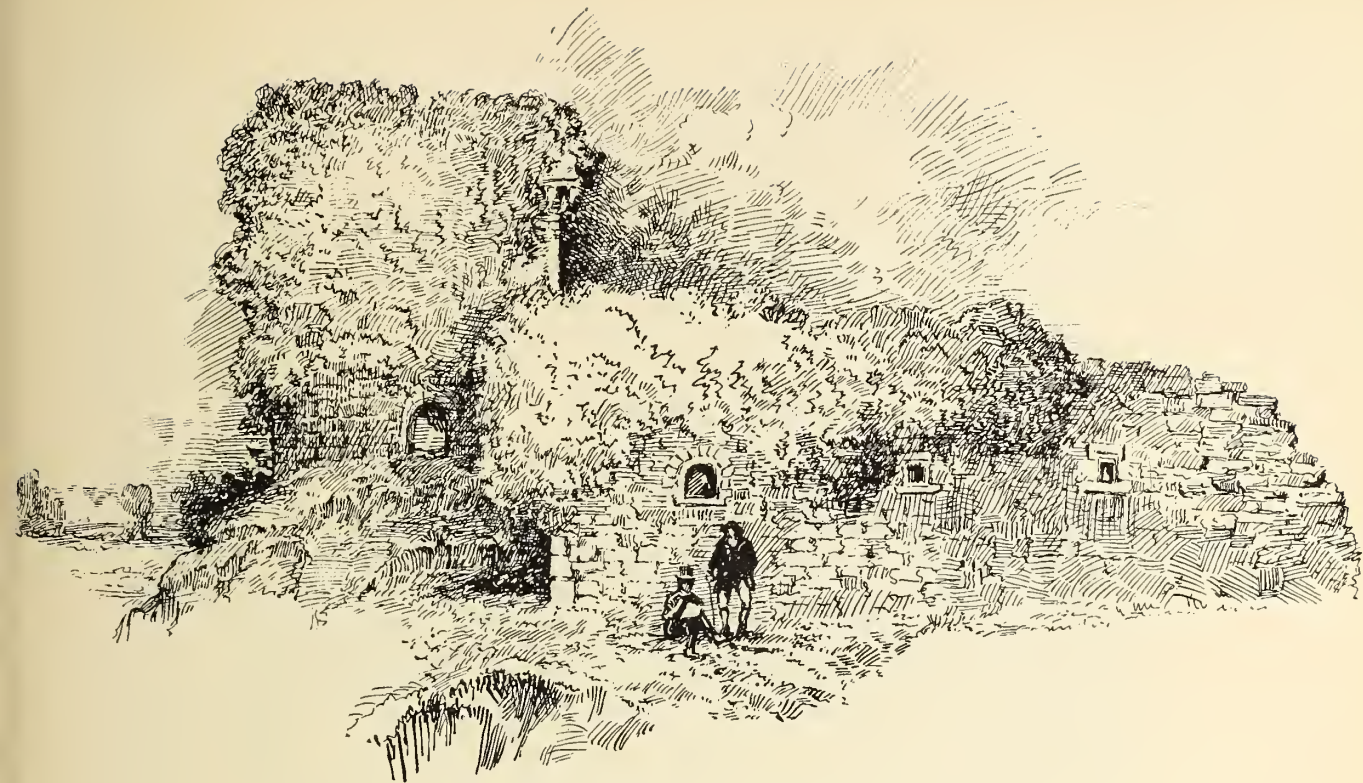
On 12th March, 1553, Thomas Livingston obtains remission, along with other lairds in the district, from attending the army at Pinkiecleugh; but adhering to Queen Mary's party, in May, 1568, the

Regent Moray orders him to deliver up "the tower and fortalice of Haining." Subsequently with his brother-in-law, Alexander Bruce of Airth, Thomas becomes security for the good behaviour of his sister-in-law, Lady Livingston, one of the Queen's Marys, and her staunch friend, whose intrigues on her mistress's behalf had brought upon her the displeasure of Moray. His name also appears as surety for members of his family and kinsmen, along with that of his son, Thomas, younger of Haining, in various feuds and quarrels of the nobility of that district. Agnes, his wife, died in 1564, and he, called the "Elder of Haining," died on 12th May, 1602. They left several sons and two daughters, and the eldest, Thomas, called the younger of Haining, is, on 26th October, 1602, served heir to his mother, Lady de Haining, in a third of the lands. He died about 1610, and was succeeded by his son, Thomas, the third, who entered himself heir to his father on 3rd November of that year, and was in turn succeeded by Alexander, his eldest son. On 16th May, 1632, Alexander also succeeds as heir of Robert Crawford, his great grandfather, through his mother, to the superiority. He left no issue, and was succeeded by his brother John. In 1633, his eldest son, also John, gets sasine of the lands, on his father's obligations, and thirteen days afterwards, sasine of the lands of Whiting. He married Isabella Stewart, by whom he had a son, James, but James, Earl of Callander, their kinsman, who had obtained an assignation to a mortgage over them, renounced the lands to James' uncle, Alexander, who carried down the descent. He was first of Parkhall, to which name he changed the former name Haining. He married Christian Stirling of Glorat, and died in 1708, succeeded by his eldest son, Alexander, also designed of Parkhall, in 1716, who died without issue.

On 15th March, 1775, John M. Livingston, as heir of provision to his brother William, gets sasine of parts of Haining. He married Antonia Calder, and died in 1786, succeeded by his eldest son, who was killed while hunting in 1809, and being unmarried, the succession passed to his sister Margaret, who married her cousin, John Livingston Learmouth. He died in 1798, and Margaret in 1840, succeeded by their son, Thomas Livingston Learmouth, whose first wife, Christian Donald, died in 1843, and his second wife, Mary Coull, in 1887. Mr. Learmouth himself died in 1871, aged 60, and had four sons by Christian Donald. The eldest, Thomas, succeeded to him, and married (1) Louisa, daughter of Sir Thomas Valliant, and (2) Jeannie, daughter of Leslock Reid, and has children by both. He died some years ago survived by his widow, who presently possesses the estate.



Armorial bearings and crests of Livingstons of Haining.



Plane Tower and Manor.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

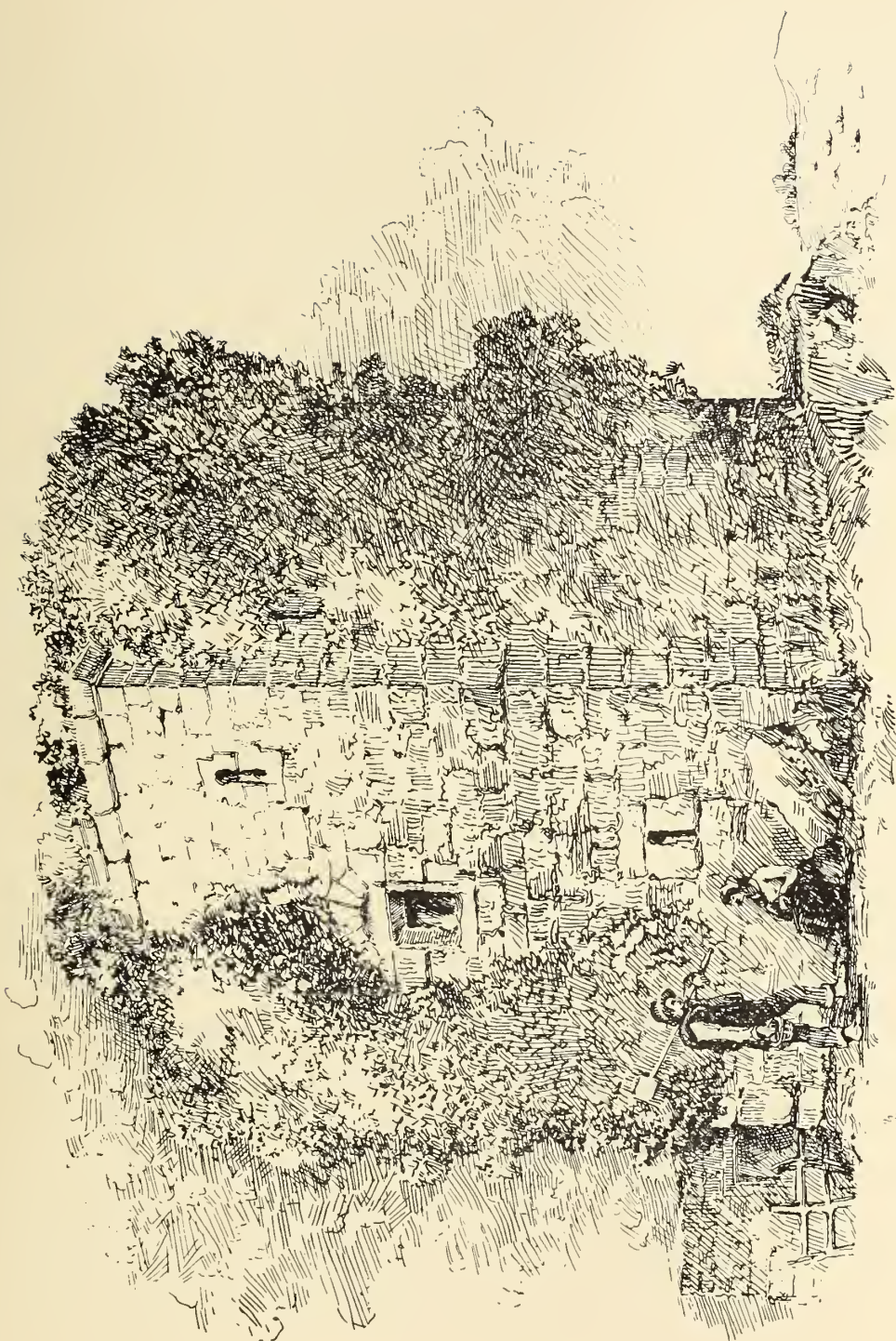
Tower, Fortalice, and Manor of Plane

IS the name given in the charters to the group of buildings, now in ruins, about four miles west of Larbert, and near to the railway, from which it is a conspicuous object. It consists of a small square tower of the fifteenth century type, and a large building, apparently of three storeys, forming a west wing, which with two walls on the east and south sides had formed an enclosing court-yard. It is built on a sandstone rock slightly elevated above the stretch of flat country on its east and north sides, having deep declivities on its west and south sides, in the hollow of the former of which is a small loch, utilized as a

dam for the old and now disused mill below, and the other side had apparently been formed into terraces and anciently used as a garden. The selection of the site was evidently for its natural defensive strength.

The Tower is 27 feet by 20 feet outside, and consisted of three apartments or floors, the ground one being vaulted, and with only a mere slit for light, and a small circular doorway (sketch, page 324) in its west wall, outside its defences. The second floor (the dining hall) has a large fireplace and ornamental pillar jambs of good taste, and was entered by an outside stair from the court. The communication between the dining hall and the dormitories is by a stair in the inside angle formed by the junction of the north and east walls (sketch, page 321), while the vaulted ground chamber is quite isolated from both the upper parts of the tower and the court. The walls are 4 feet thick, and some of its stones, which are all ashlar sandstone courses, are 5 feet by 3 feet and 4 feet by 3 feet in size, which gives a distinct impression of great solidity and strength. A single pepper-box turret on the south-west angle commands and protects its two doorways, and having no balancing neighbour, gives an odd look to the tower, which, however, is presently concealed by the enveloping ivy.

The west wing seems to have been a separate three-storey building, 60 feet by 30 feet, having no connection with the tower, and built over three large vaulted chambers connected with each other and also with the court, but apparently not with the upper chambers, which seem to have been entered, similarly to the tower, by an outside stair from the court. Only the first floor of this building, with its vaulted roofs and small windows, remain (sketch, page 315). A small attached vaulted room on the north, facing and close to where the stair to the second floor of the tower touched the court, would seem to have been a guard



Plans Tower.

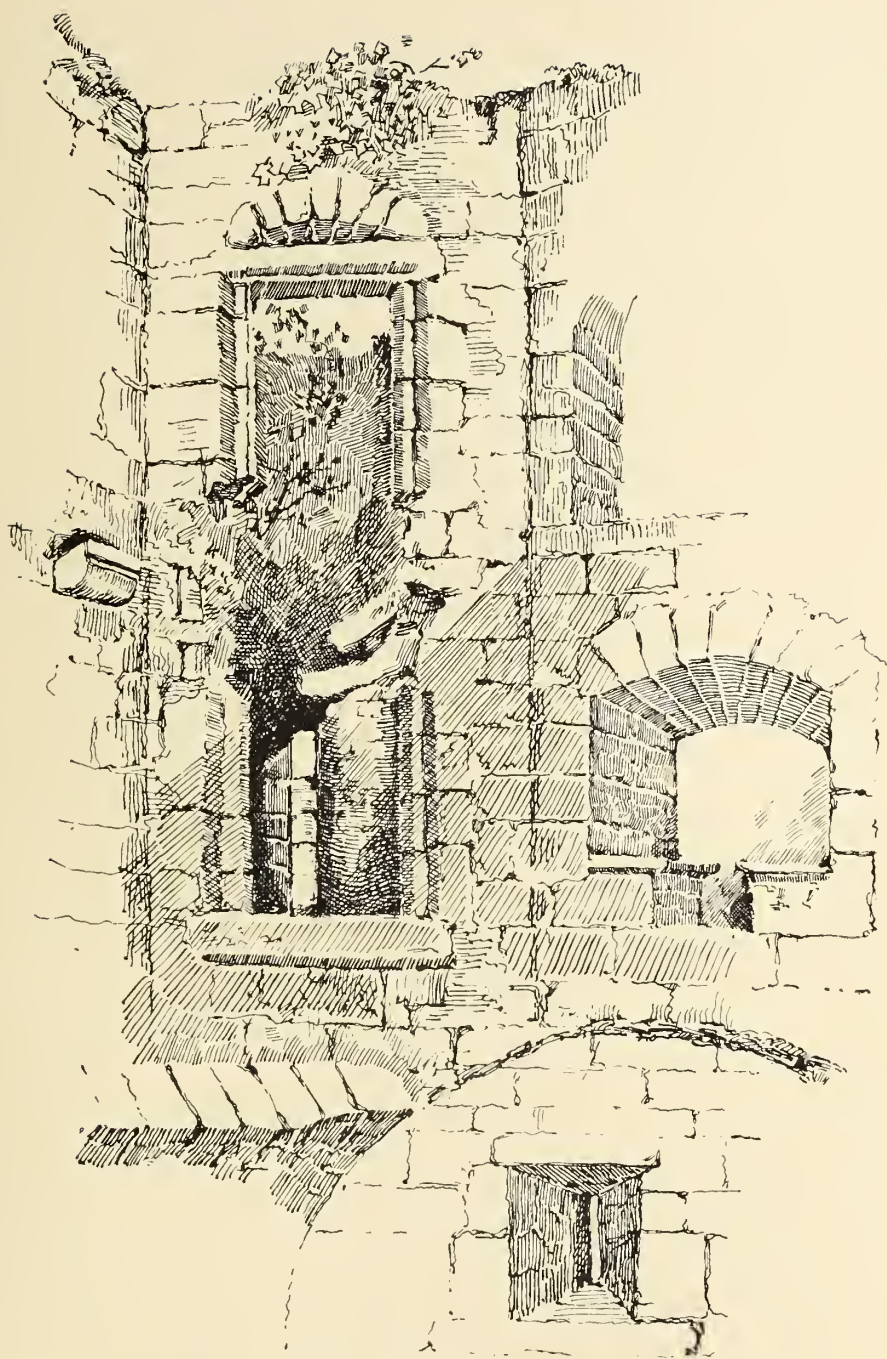
house protecting that entrance and probably the gateway in the court wall, which may have been here; but the wall is now gone, being removed when the present roadway, diverting the older one, was formed nearer the tower.

The popular idea that the tower was merely used on a threatened raid for housing the neighbours' cattle and the upper apartments as a temporary place of refuge for their owners, is quite untenable—perfect nonsense, indeed. This idea has probably arisen from its apparent isolation. I say apparent, as the roof of the vaulting, as shewn in the sketch, is gone, and a trap-door in the dining-hall floor may have existed, making a connection by a moveable ladder with that floor, as we see in Gartavartane (Gartmore) old Castle, where the ground vaulted chambers had been connected in this manner. The tower, the original erection, in its tasteful stonework, well squared door and window jambs, etc., noble fireplace, and well planned arrangement of the limited accommodation, bears to have been specially built, not only as a place of strength, but as a permanent residence for, and used by, the baron and his family and servants; and its details are similar in almost every feature to those in Bruce's Castle and Sauchie Tower—good types of what constituted a nobleman's residence in the fifteenth century. The west wing, a much later erection, probably in 1542, was very extensive, it being the principal source for the stones from which the adjoining cottages were built, the solidity of the tower resisting attempts to dislodge any for that purpose.

The old tenant who joined us in our quest made us aware that not a vestige of coat of arms, initials, dates, or marked stones have been found in the ruins of Plane, and he had been resident there, and took an interest in its old walls, for very many years.

The succession to the lands of Plane, burdened with an annual of £10 of silver money to the Holy Church of "Mairie de Cambuskenneth," ended in females, Elizabeth, Mariota, and Agnes, daughters of William of Erth and Plane. Elizabeth de Erth, Lady Plane, married Thomas Somerville of Batlaw, a son of William, Lord Somerville, and on 27th February, 1449, they were by James II. confirmed by charter, in Plane and other lands—the destination to them jointly and longest liver, and failing heirs of the marriage, to Elizabeth's own heirs—indicates the source from which the lands were derived. On 3rd March, 1459, they granted part of the lands to William, son and "apparent heir" of Thomas, reserving their own liferent. On 3rd August, 1473, we find Thomas Somerville not only disputing with the venerable Father in God, Henry, Abbot of Cambuskenneth, the payment of £5 silver money, his proportion of above annual rent for his half of Plane, but deforcing the Abbot's officers on their attempting to recover it; and judgment is given by the Court against him. On the death of Thomas, Lady Plane got into dispute with her sons, David Drummond and William Somerville, by having disposed of part of her lands to Alexander Forrester of Torwood, and notaries' protests against this act, in protection of their rights, are taken by them and Robert Drummond, in June, 1476.

William, who married Marion Bruce, succeeded to Plane in 1476. He appears in Court in 1490, as surety for Lady Erth and others, "touching the withholding of the teind and fruit of Sawline, pertaining to the said Elizabeth;" and in 1480 decree is given against him, at the instance of John Bruce of Stanehouse, for £10 lent money and price of a horse and harness. One of his daughters, Elizabeth, was married to Richard Bothwell, Lord Holyrood House, and Provost of Edinburgh. His son,



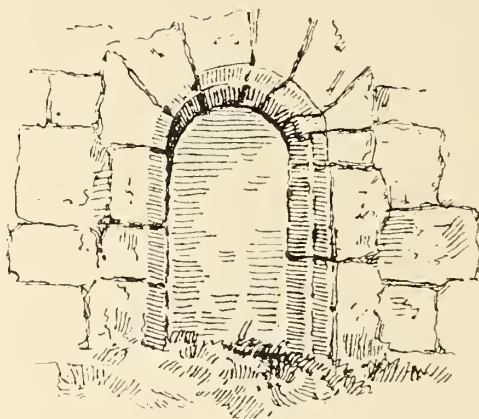
Plane Castle, interior.

David, who then succeeded, was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Elphinston, about 1513, and they, during their lifetime, granted Plane and part of Carnock to their son and heir-apparent, Thomas, who, in November, 1523, sold the seventh part of Carnock to his relative, Alexander Drummond of Ermore, and along with it the *advocation of the chapel of Carnock*, the fragments of which lie close to Carnock House. On 20th June, 1530, Thomas, on his father's death, was with his wife, Margaret Livingston, confirmed in the lands, and, being childless, they executed a deed of entail, which James V. confirmed on 10th May, 1542, in favour of themselves and longest liver, and to Thomas Somerville, their nephew; and the lands include "*the Tower, Fortalice, and Manor of Plane*," and are incorporated into a free Barony. In 1611 David Somerville succeeded as heir to the said Thomas, the nephew.

The lands seem to have passed thereupon into the Carnock family, and a descendant, Sir Thomas Nicolson of Carnock, soldier, on 26th August, 1646, is confirmed not only in Carnock Tower and Mill, but in the lands of Mylne Quarter and Mill thereof, with the "Manor and Place of Plane," and he is succeeded in 1664 by his heir, also Sir Thomas Nicolson. The Tower and Manor then followed the destination of the Elphinston estate, Dunmore, and the ruins, owned by the proprietor of that estate, were recently sold to Mr. Ritchie.

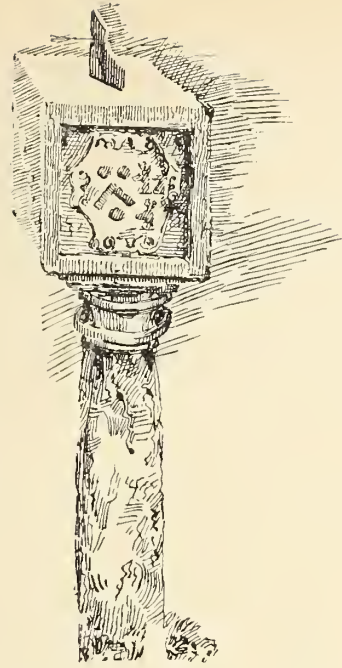
From the foregoing detailed possessions, no reason for the mystery surrounding them and their owners should exist. The buildings formed the manorial residences of the proprietors of the Barony of Plane, and were probably erected—the Tower by Elizabeth Erth, Lady Plane, and her husband, about 1460, and the mansion house forming the west wing, by David Somerville and Lady Elizabeth Elphinston, about 1523, in whose charter of confirmation they are for the first time

specially mentioned as “Tower, Fortalice, and *Manor*.” They were thus the family residence of the Somervilles, Barons of Plane, for about 300 years.

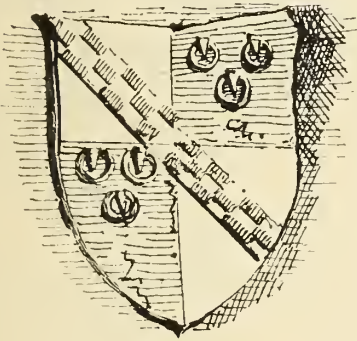


CHAPTER XXXV.

Kers or Kerse Castle
(Zetland House).



Menteith of Kerse



ABOUT one mile west of Grange-mouth on the Larbert Road, this mansion (sketch, page 327) is situated. It has replaced a very ancient tower and fortalice, or castle, which existed on West Kerse estate, built by John Mentteith some short time previous to 1469. About 300 yards west of it and in front of the great gate to the gardens, there are some loose stones, overgrown with ferns and brushwood, near which is the old sun dial (sketch above) containing the arms of a Hope and his wife, which would seem to mark the site of the old tower. The extensive gardens, including this site, are entirely surrounded by a wide moat 40 feet broad, and having the depth of 4 feet, now dry; but a burn runs close by, whose waters probably were formerly used to fill it. No other vestige of ruins is visible of this very ancient stronghold, for such it seems to have been rather than an ordinary mansion, and from

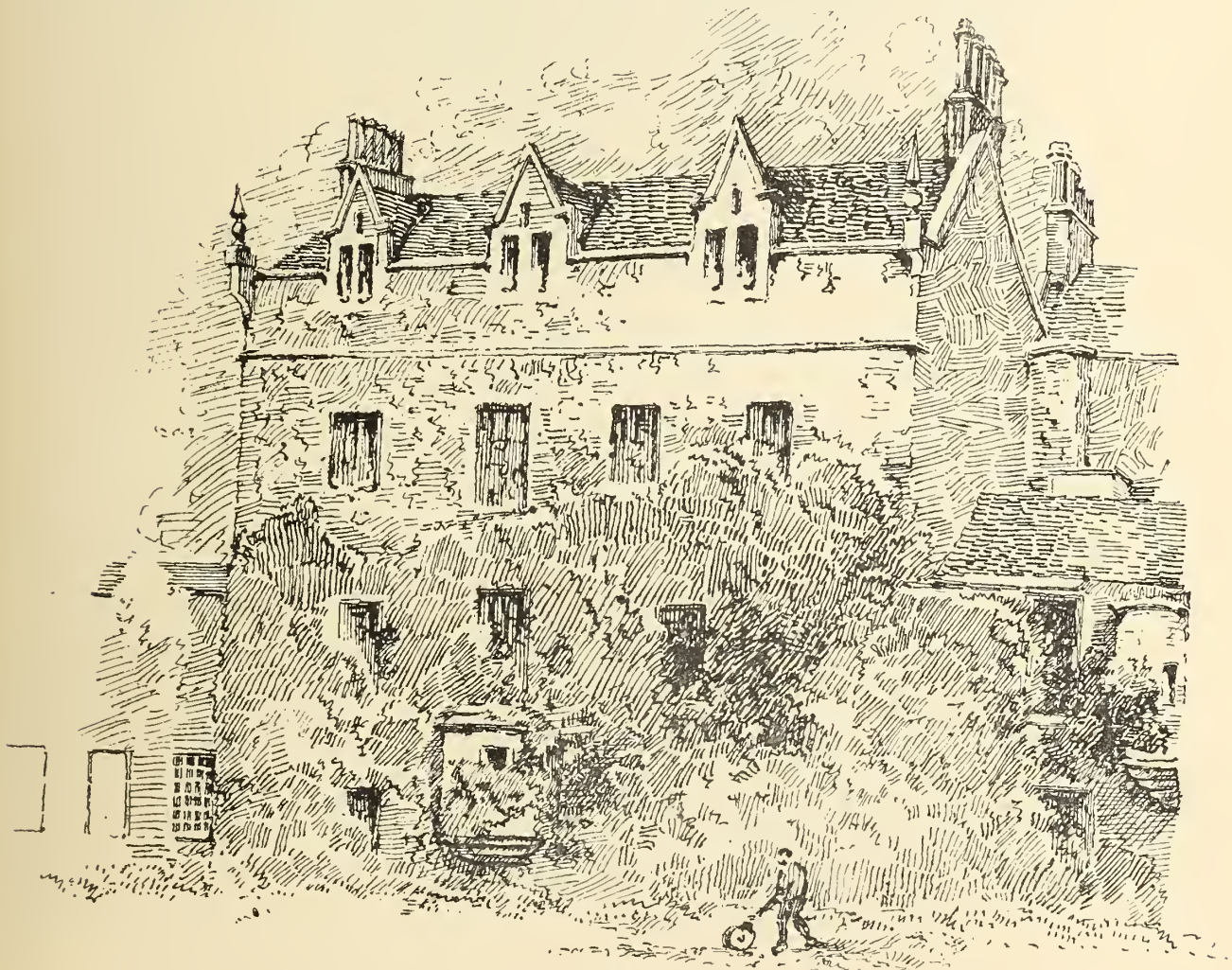
its figure on Pont's Map of 1654, and large grounds surrounded by the moat, must have been an extensive series of buildings.

The sketch of the present mansion (page 327), now called Zetland House, is taken from the lawn at its rear or south side, and comprehends all the older, and therefore most interesting, parts of it. But even the oldest part does not seem earlier than the middle of the seventeenth century, although the change of structure by modern alterations, which include a new front and an upper storey, prevents any decided opinion. No doubt the stones of the older mansion were utilized in building it when the former, with its confined restrictions and inconveniences of a fortified house, was abandoned for the greater accommodation afforded by the latter. No coat of arms, initials, or date is visible, except that on the old sun dial, referred to above. It represents Sir Thomas Hope's, Lord Justice General, proprietor of Kerse, impaled with his wife's arms, three bucks' heads. She was Helen Rae, daughter of Alan Rae of Pitsendie. As Sir Thomas, born in 1606, had died in 1643, his occupation of the Castle was probably 1630, and to him may be ascribed the erection of the *mansion*.

Kers or Kars seems to have been Crown lands, and so early as David II. were mortified by him to the Abbot and Convent of the Holy Cross, Edinburgh, for an annual rent of £60 in alms and for a daily mass at the great altar of that church for the souls of this king and his predecessors. This grant is repeated by Robert III in 1390. In April, 1450, in the description of the boundaries in a deed of neighbouring lands granted by James II., it gives the Kers lands the distinctive name by which they were subsequently known as "*West Cars* on the water of Carroun." As it is on 26th July, 1469, just 19 years afterwards, that the designation of a John Menteith, one of a deputa-

tion, is of *Kerse*, it is not unlikely he was the first owner and the builder of the old tower and fortalice. About 1476, John was succeeded by his son William, upon whom James IV. subsequently conferred knighthood and the office of Sheriff of Clackmannanshire, formerly held by John Shaw, along with a grant of the lands and Barony of Aloway.

In 1488 a bitter feud existed between the Menteiths and Bruces of Airth, and William Menteith becomes bound for himself, his son and

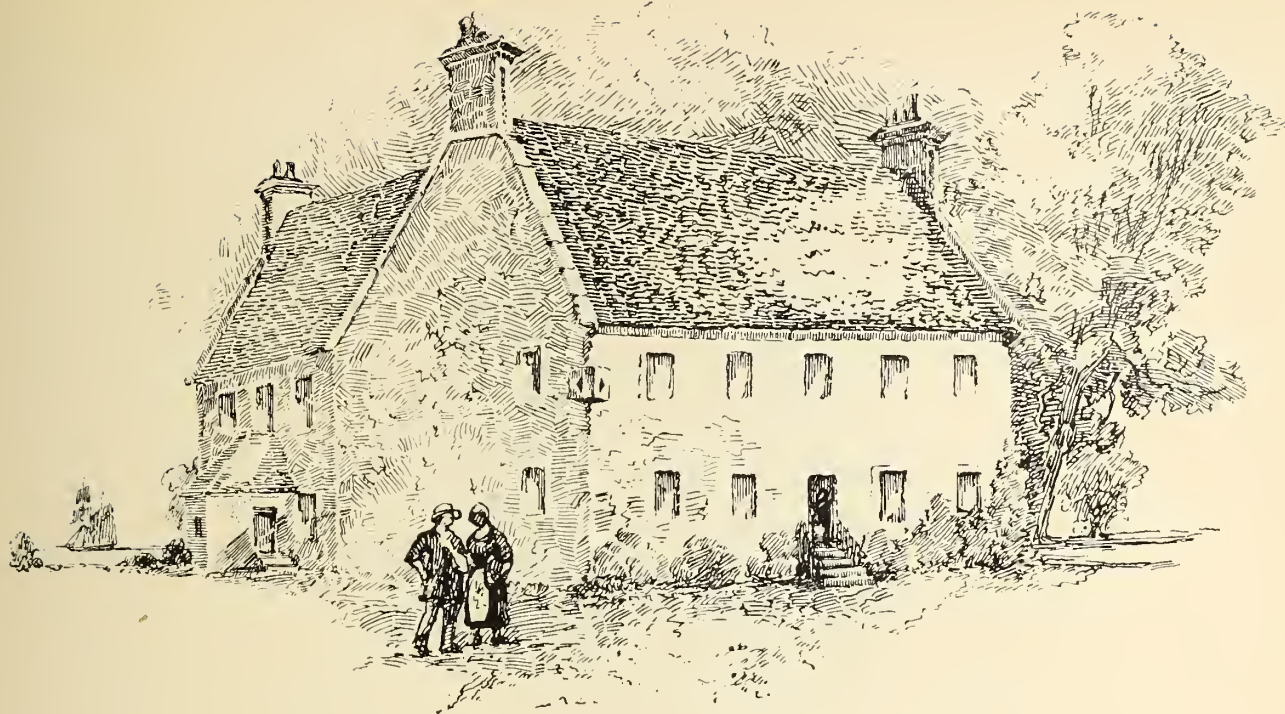


Kerse Castle.

brother, to keep Robert Brois of Airth and Edward and Lucas, his brothers, scaithless; and Brois also becomes bound, along with the Earl of Bothwell, similarly to keep free from harm the Menteiths, and engage to settle their disputes by law.

In February, 1491, William and his wife, Margaret Muschet, appear as defenders in an action by James Muschet—evidently a family dispute. In 1508, William, designed as Lord of the Barony of Aloway, being apparently childless, executes a conveyance to his nephew and *heir apparent*, William Menteith, and Elene Bruse, his spouse, of lands in Aloway, and, in 1510, sells to Sir William Stirling of Cader his lands of Ochiltree. On 18th February, 1509, James IV. grants a new charter to William Menteith of Kerse, incorporating *de nova* these lands with others into one free Barony of West Kerse, formerly held *in capite* of the king; and the character of the ancient buildings is derived from the description therein, “the lands of West Kerse, with Tower, Fortalice and Manor, garden, orchards, and fishings in the Yares,” etc.

Sir William was succeeded by John sometime prior to 1566, when we find John and Bruce of Tulyallan incurring the indignation of Mary Queen of Scots and Darnley, for the troubles in their Barony of Clackmannan, and are prohibited from keeping the fair—John, Earl of Mar taking charge of it. John was succeeded by Sir William, who, on 15th January, 1629, in great extremity, with his lady appeals for protection from his creditors to Charles I., who refused it until they “conformed to the true religion professed within that our kingdom,” the Bishop of Rosse reporting them “under process.” This necessitated the sale of the estate to Sir Thomas Hope, from whose family by marriage contract, on 18th March, 1788, it seemingly passed to Sir Thomas Dundas, in whose descendants it remains.



CHAPTER XXXVI.

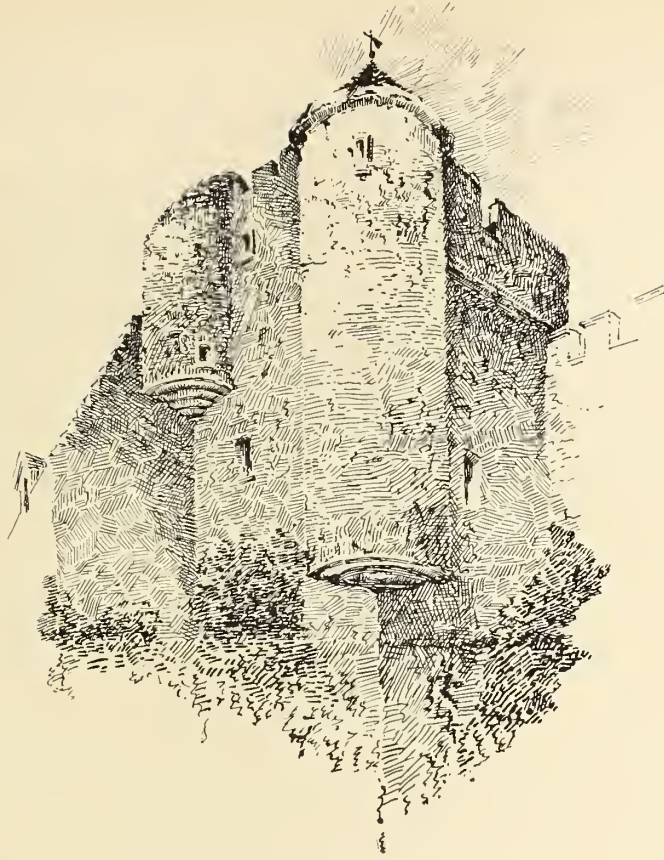
Kersie Mansion

APPEARs on Pont's Map of 1654 as a mansion house within a lawn or park of trees, situated on the banks of the Forth, over against Alloa. It is a two-storey building, L-shaped, having a row of five windows in its front top flat, and the entrance on ground floor, with two windows on each side, is reached by a short outside stair with railing, while a sun dial graces its west corner—all as shewn on the sketch above. The internal walls in some places are very thick, one gable being of the enormous thickness of 8 feet, shewing that the present building has been erected on or incorporated with an older one. The present tenant in some trenching work in the barn-yard, came upon the roots of several trees of a large size. The line of the

old drive to the mansion is quite visible. There are no inscription, date, or initials to identify its owners, and even its ancient name is somewhat obscure, as no such place as Kersie appears in the Public Records prior to 1600. In 1469 the owners of Kerse is John Menteith, and of West Kerse, William Menteith, but these represent estates some distance from Kersie. The only reference to Kersie is in a decree between the town of Stirling and the Convent of Cambuskenneth, dated 19th February, 1496, where the "fischeing of the Watter of Kersy and Tulibody are to be broukit and joisit by ane venerabill fader in God, Henry, Abbot" of that convent.

The inference is that the mansion was built and owned, with its surrounding land, by a cadet of the important ancient family of Menteith of West Kerse, about the middle of the sixteenth century. It ultimately became the property of the Earl of Dunmore, who recently sold it, and is now occupied by the tenant of the farm of Kersie, Mr. Gray.





East wing, Airth Castle.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

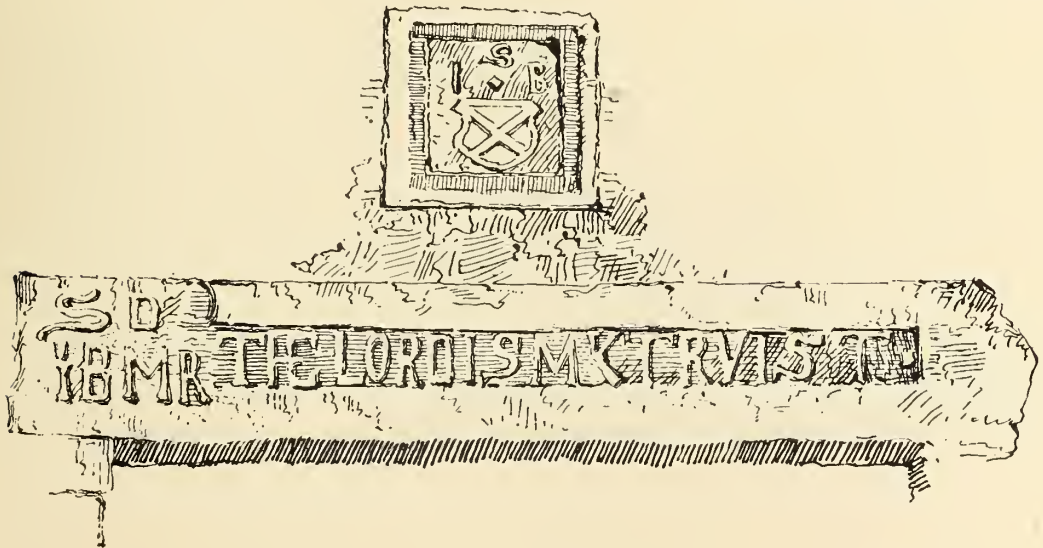
Airth Castle.

THE term Erth, in Gaelic *Ardhe*, signifies a hill, and here there are two hills or eminences, with a stretch of level plain from their bases to the river Forth. These hills were occupied by Airth Castle and Elphinston Tower (named Ermore and Erthbeg) respectively. The Erth family is very ancient. Adam de Erth in 1248, held considerable lands in Stirlingshire, subsequently subdivided into Erth, Elphinston, Carnock, and Plane; and Fergus de Erth, a nobleman, occupied the Castle in 1309. The existing ancient portions of the

old Place of Airth are very extensive, and the sketch, page 333, is taken from the south, so as to comprehend all the interesting buildings. The east wing is certainly the oldest part. It consists, as shewn by the sketch (page 331), of a square tower with two unequal sized turrets at its front corners. The west wing, which is alleged to be as old as the time of Wallace, is a simple square tower with embattlements, and is named Wallace's Tower in connection with Blind Harry's account of that hero having sacked it when held by 100 English, to relieve his uncle, the Priest of Dunipace, then a prisoner in it. A large plain elevation, with dormer windows, fills the space between these two towers, the windows having been widened and increased in height recently. The building on this side is situated on the brink of a steep knoll of considerable height, now forming a terraced garden, and surrounded by old timber. *Billings* says that the towers on south and east are remarkable for being external, and that on the left with the conical roof (page 331) is the oldest part of the castle, and would date between 1550 and 1600.

Edward Bruce, second son of Sir Robert Bruce of Clackmannan, married Agnes, one of three daughters and co-heiresses of William Airth of that ilk, and widow, apparently, of Livingston of Mannerston, and got with her the lands and Barony of Airth, which afterwards became his chief title. Elizabeth married (1) Thomas Somerville of Batlaw and (2) David Drummond of Carnock, and got portions of the lands of Plane, in 1470; and Marjory married John Elphinston, and got Erthbeg. Edward Bruce of Airth was succeeded by his son Robert. The castle of Airth was burnt by James III. on 11th June, 1488, previous to the battle of Sauchieburn, Robert having joined the rebel Lords; and on 3rd July, 1489, after James IV.'s succession, he gets £100 of compensation "for

byggen of his Place that was brynt." Prior to January, 1519, he was succeeded by his son, Robert, who is "enterit to the freedom of the Burgesary of Stirling by reason of hes father," and is one of the cautioners, with Robert Bruce of Auchenbowie, for the dower of Provost Crichton's daughter, married to Alexander Bisset of Quarrel. He was succeeded by Sir Alexander Bruce, who married a daughter of Livingston, Earl of Linlithgow, in 1547. In 1601, John Bruce succeeded to him, and King James VI., on 21st July, 1600, erected Airth and Falkirk into Royal Burghs, to the prejudice of the Burgh of Stirling. The Stirling Town Council appointed Commissioners "to raise summons of reduction of the rights made and grantit by our Sovereign Lord to the prejudice of the liberties of this Burgh;" and on 24th September following, other two Commissioners are appointed to get these erections annulled. Sir John was married to Margaret, third daughter of Alexander, Lord Elphinston, and Jean Livingston, and their tomb, the former north chapel of Airth Old Church, has the saltier arms of Bruce and the initials S.J.B., and beneath that both their initials with the inscription shewn on the sketch underneath. He



seems to have been succeeded by Alexander, whose tombstone of black marble is said to adjoin the above, and to bear on it "*Ex Robertii Brussii Scotorum Regis filio natu secundo progenito, Baroni Airthense,*"—the date of his death being 1642, and age, 56. He seems to have been succeeded by Richard Elphinston, who married Jane (or Isobel?) Bruce, and on 27th September, 1683, his son, Charles, succeeded him in the lands and Barony of Airth, etc.

The Airth market cross was erected by Charles Elphinston in 1697, his initials and coat of arms, and those of his father and mother with their arms quartered, appearing as in the two sketches on page 336 and the vignette in the title to this book. The other two sides of the cross are sun dials, and one of them has the date 1697. The sketches here are fuller in detail than those in the Elphinston chapter. It is stated to be a fine example of a burgh cross. Charles was killed in a duel with his relative, Captain William Bruce of Auchenbowie, at Torwood.

Judge Graham acquired the estate in 1717, and it remains in his family. The modern north front with its towers was added to the mansion in 1803.

The town or burgh of Airth is one of the few quaint old towns which being isolated until recently from the outside world, retains many of the features of its importance in the first decade of the eighteenth century in its better class houses, having coats of arms, symbols or trade badges, initials of their owners, and dates affixed; and noticeably two municipal buildings, the Market House, called the "Blue House," and "Turnpike," which has the date 1705, being apparently the former Council chambers. There are many others with dates between 1705 and 1730, and among them a large tenement, with the guildry arms over

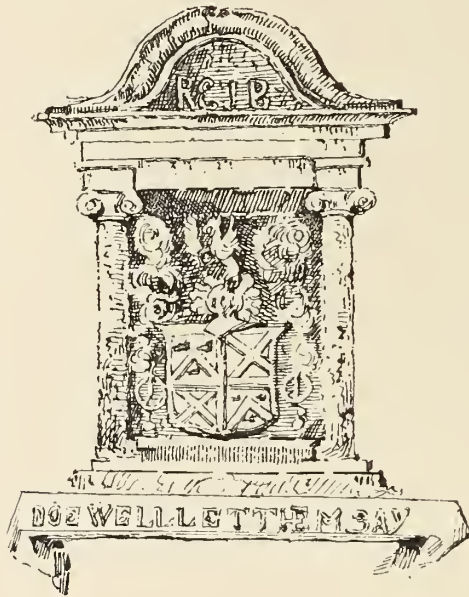
its doorway, stands at the cross. In the north end of the town lies what is evidently a work of importance, viz., the dry bed of an old canal connecting the town with the Forth, and bringing their boats from that river to their very door. Airth burgh had undoubtedly a port and service of trading boats in the Forth with a not inconsiderable trade for a small town, but the ruin of its trade and with that its importance, dates back to 1745, when their fleet of boats was seized and destroyed by the Government troops to prevent them being utilised by the Pretender's army in crossing the Forth. This trade has never returned, notwithstanding the town's recent connection by rail. It remains a dull, lifeless, sleepy place.

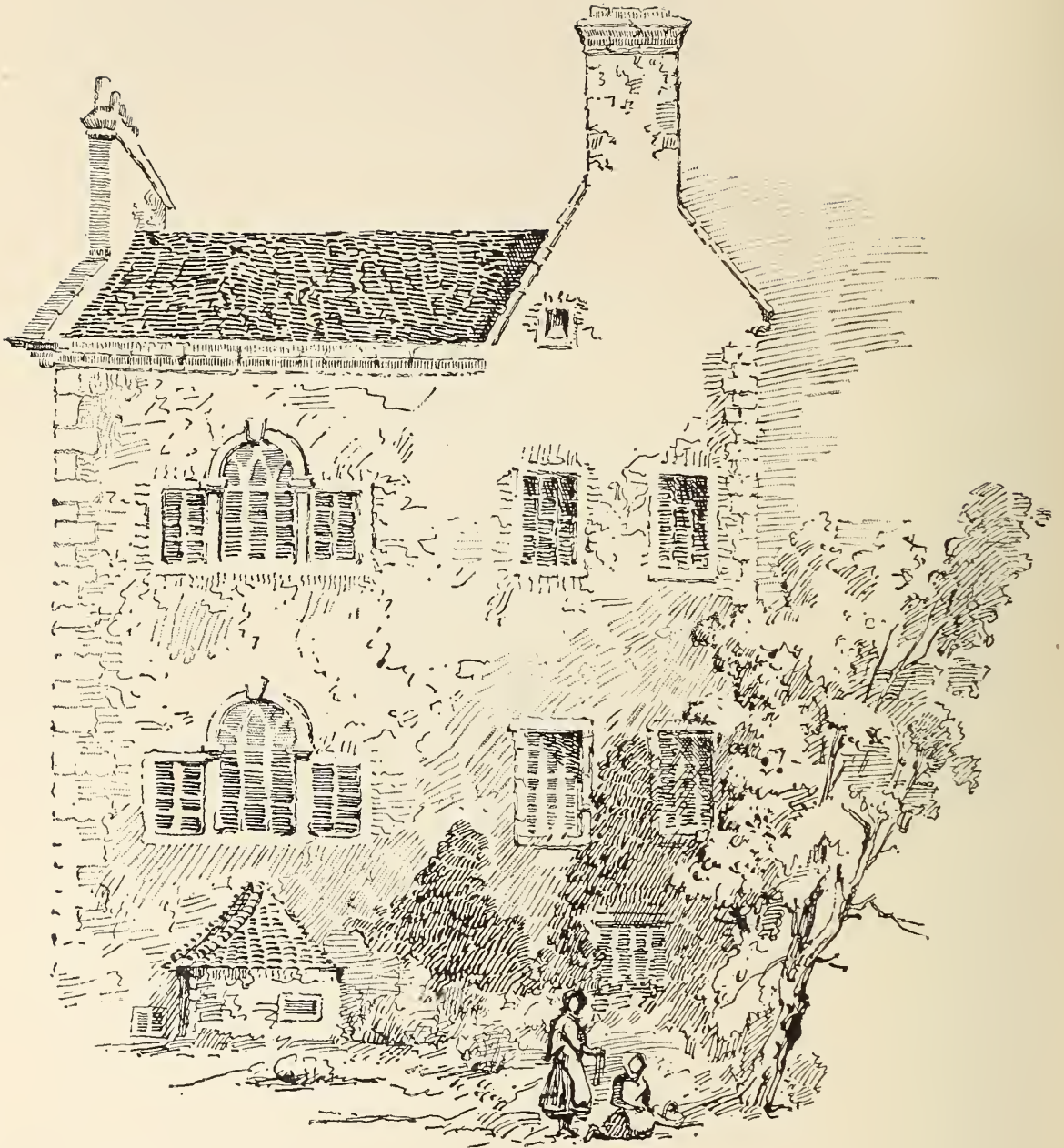
The old church, apparently of an early date, being attributed to the transition period of the twelfth century, is with its surrounding tombstones, as it stands on the very verge of a rock, close to the Castle, a picturesque and conspicuous object from the plain. It contains the tombstones of the ancient Airth family and their many branches that had residences in the vicinity. The structure, a long, low, narrow nave, 80 feet by 20 feet, with a north aisle supported on four circular arches with 10 feet of span each, has two south chapels, each 18 feet by 18 feet, attached—all roofless—and what apparently was a north chapel is now the Airth family sepulchre; a square tower is on its south wall, and an underground vault, reached by a flight of steps, inside the church.

It has on its south door lintel the date July 15, 1647. This unusual exactness excites suspicion as to the lintel having



formed a tombstone, but it is quite suited to its place. A recumbent female effigy lies at the east gable wall without any identifying mark. While the older portions of this fine ecclesiastical building may date back to the fifteenth century, we think the architecture of the main portions, including the tower, is of a later period, and the above date may apply to the reconstruction of the church.





Leckie's Lodging.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Part 1.

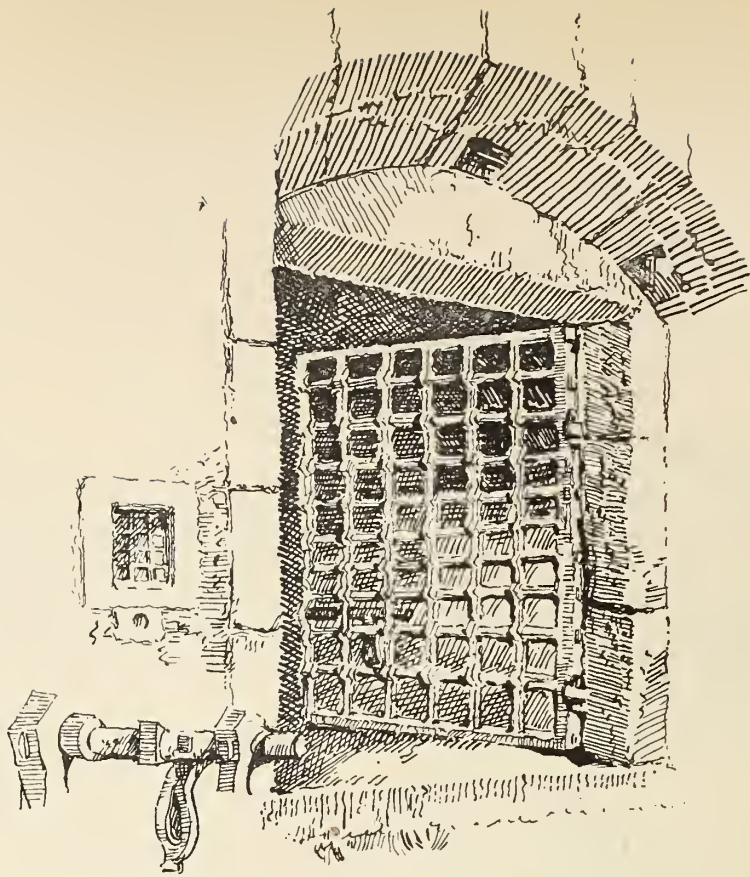
David Moir of Leckie's Ludging



F which we give a sketch opposite, is situated at the bottom of the close entering from Broad Street through the old tenement of Alexander Erskine of Gogar. It is three storeys in height, has the ground floor and first flat in their original condition, and both its internal and outside appearance shew it to have been a mansion of some pretensions. The upper storeys have been rebuilt apparently, and some alterations on the older parts made later.

This house was the town mansion of Bailie David Moir, proprietor of Leckie estate. In a disposition, dated 2nd January, 1659, Sir William Stirling of Keir conveyed to David Moir of Leckie part of his subjects entered from the close below the above, on the garden ground of which he, David Moir, erected this house in or about the year of his purchase; and it remained in the Moir family until a very recent date. It seems to have had a fine garden of some extent, now waste, and the view from its windows commands an extensive prospect of the country and overlooks the north part of the town.

David Moir, or his son, David, held the offices of Dean of Guild, Treasurer, and Bailie of Stirling respectively, between 1687 and 1694.

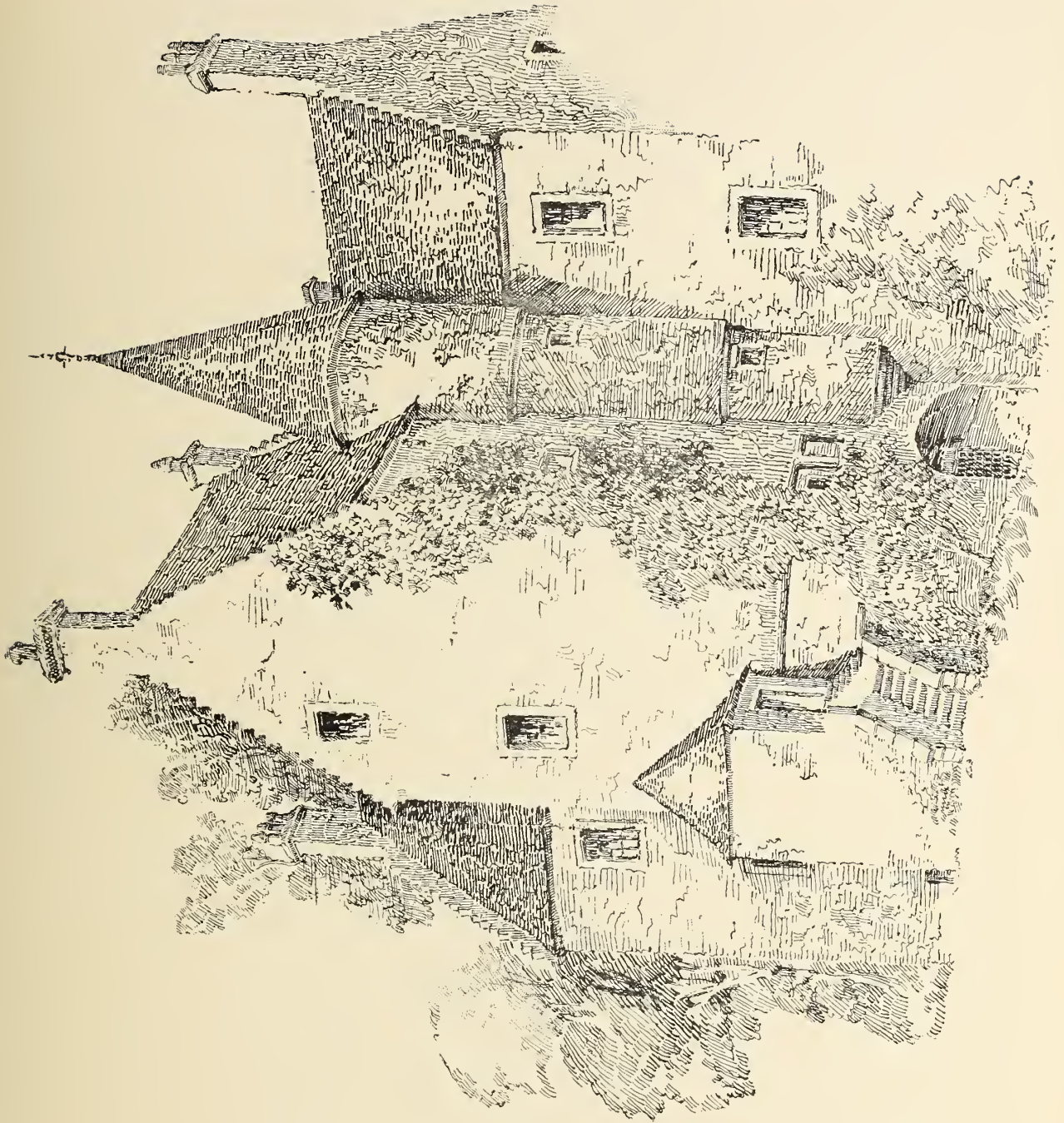


Part 2.

Leckie or Lekky Mansion.

THE earliest reference to this estate is in 1406, when a John de Dolas conveys Easter Lekky to Murdaco de Lekky, who then held Wester Lekky. Mordaco conveyed the latter, on 7th March, 1441, to John de Moravia de Kepmad, evidently a near relative, a life-rent being reserved for himself and Margaret, his spouse.

Easter Leckie seems to have fallen to the Crown, for James II., on 14th May, 1451, conveys it to an Adam Cosure, a burges of Stirling, *pro ejus fideli servitio*. Cosure was a money-lender, and the *faithful services* was the loan of 300 merks to the king. James III., on 13th September, 1472, in his charter of Easter Leckie to William,



Leekie Mansion.

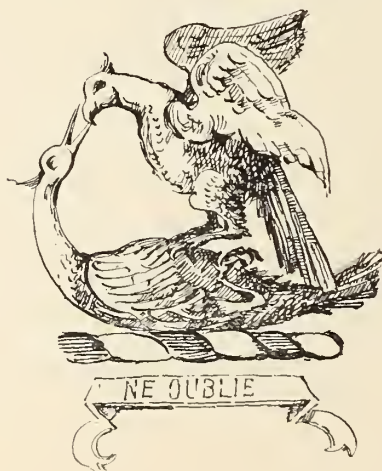
Lord Monnypenny, narrates this burden to Cosure ; but on 16th July preceding, at the high altar of the parish church of Stirling, 300 merks had been tendered to Cosure by the attorney of Lord William and the clerk of the King's Council, and declined by him on the Shylock-like reason that "when he (Cosure) was proffered on behalf of the King sicklike payment as he delivered to the King's progenitor, he would give such answer as effeired." Four days after the tender, however, the attorney of Lord William de Monnypenny is infest by a precept from Chancery, who sold them on 23rd September to Andrew, Lord Avendale. His infestment and that of Margaret Kennedy is confirmed by James IV. on 4th February, 1500.

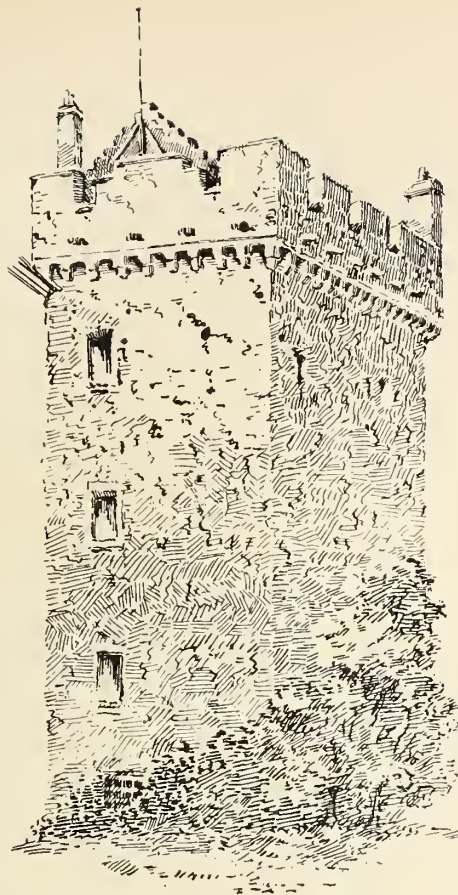
Andrew, Lord Avendale, duly entered with the king and held the lands down to 1521, the casualties being paid separately for Leckie, Shirgarton, and Offers. Lord Methven, brother-german to Lord Avendale, succeeds thereto, and on 21st July, 1548, sold them to Archibald, Earl of Argyll, the price being £1000; and Queen Margaret's charter confirming the deed is to the Earl in liferent, and Colin Campbell, his second son, in fee. Colin married Jonet Stewart, daughter of the Countess of Sutherland.

John Lekky of Lekky, apparently a descendant of Mordaco de Lekky (killed at Pinkiecleuch), who held the other parts of Leckie, seems to have acquired Easter Leckie from Lord Colin, and was succeeded, on 26th March, 1555, by his son, Walter, when their description is the Lands and Barony of Lecky. He was succeeded by his son, Alexander Leckie, and the lands and barony are called Wester Leckie, which includes Easter Leckie, Offers, and Shirgarton. On 12th January, 1648, John Leckie of Leckie succeeds as heir to Alexander Leckie, apparently being the same lands. Prior to 11th January, 1688 (about 1659), Bailie David Moir acquired them from him, and at his

death, David Moir, his eldest son, having died, George, his brother and heir, succeeded to, and was confirmed in them on that date. On 3rd October, 1789, a successor, George Moir, acquired and consolidated the superiority with the *dominium utile*. On 31st May, 1796, Dr. Robert Moir succeeds to George as heir of tailzie and provision.

From the architecture of this mansion and the fact that John Leckie (killed at Pinkiecleuch) got the estate created a Barony, which implies a mansion, mill, etc., about 1535, it is more than probable he was the builder of its older parts. Its situation on a lawn, with surrounding stream and old trees, makes it a favourite subject for the artist. The ancient, ponderous iron gate, with its massive bars still hanging on the old doorway (sketch, page 342), and the numerous loopholes commanding that doorway, refer us to the period of insecurity affecting the whole country after the disastrous field of Flodden (1513), when the builders returned to the style of semi-fortified houses. The Stewartry of Menteith, on the edge of which the mansion stands, was also then in a lawless condition, whereof complaints were made at Doune Castle. The Moir crest (sketch below) has been removed from the niche, and no initials or date appear on the mansion, which still remains in the Moir family.





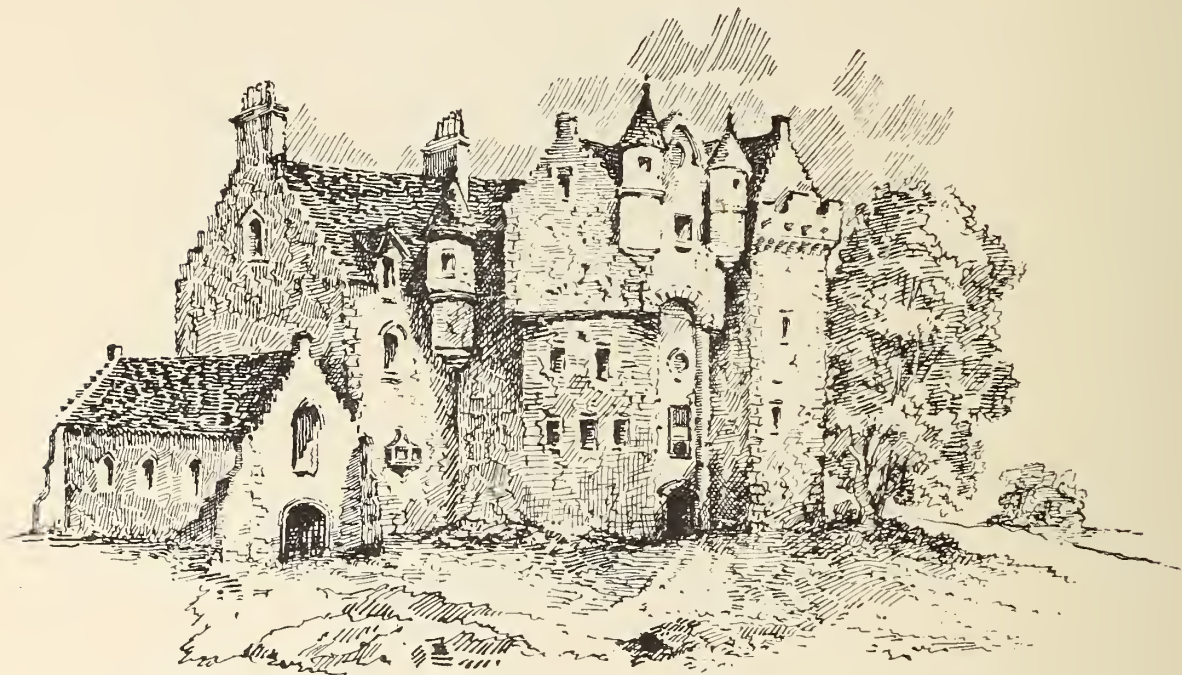
CHAPTER XXXIX.

Touch Old Mansion.

THE ownership of the estate of Touch Fraser, on which this mansion is built, is alleged to date back to 1234, when Bernard Fraser, stated to be of Touch, is appointed to the hereditary office of Sheriff of Stirlingshire. A Sir Richard Fraser of the County of Stirling makes homage at Berwick on 28th August, 1296.

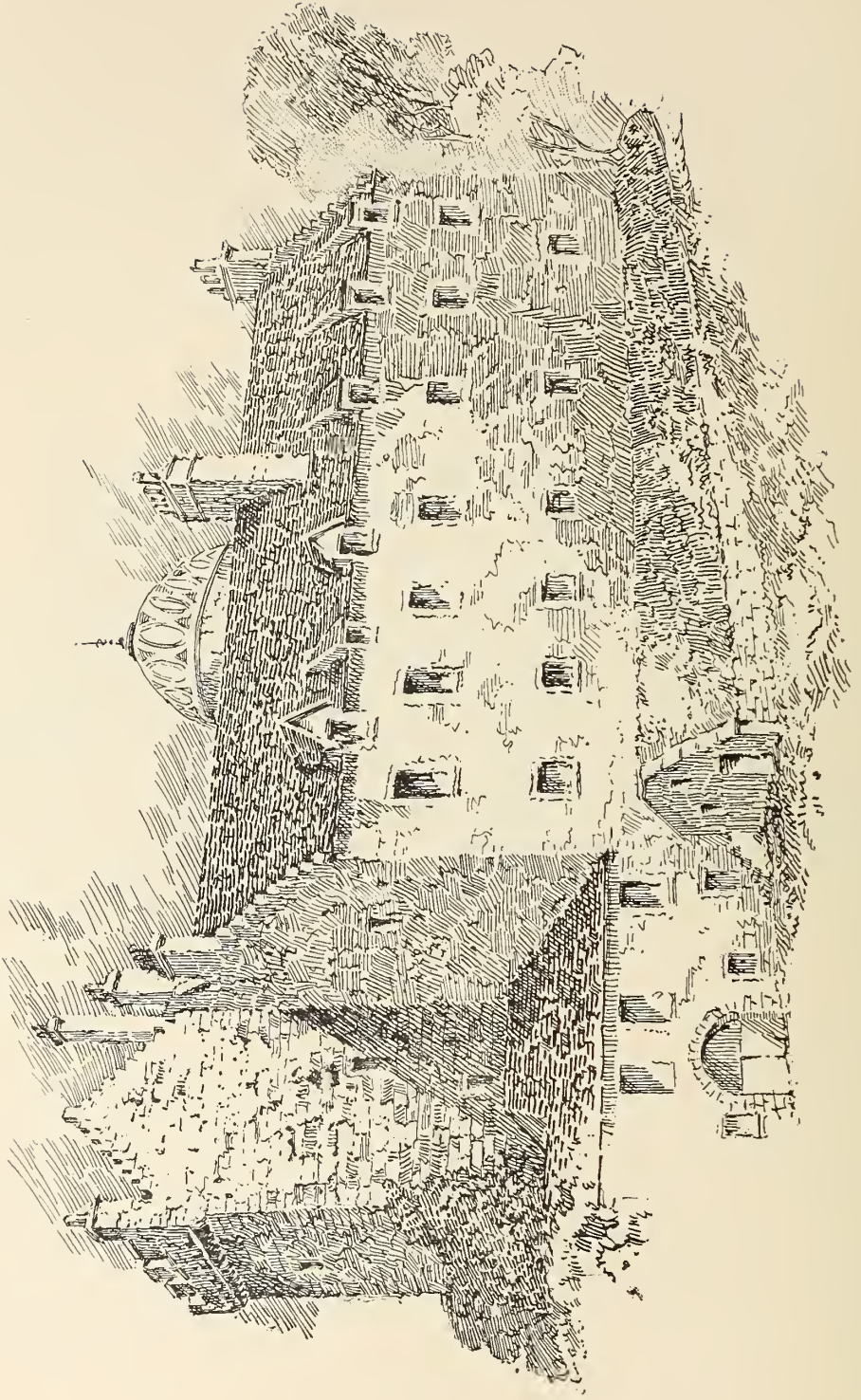
From the Registers, in 1320, a charter to Touch Fraser is granted by Robert the Bruce to Alexander Fraser, and refers to these lands being held by Fraser's predecessors from Alexander III. In 1407,

Robert, Duke of Albany (Regent) confirms a charter, or deed of entail, by "our father," William de Keth, and Margaret Fraser, "our mother," to John Stewart, Earl of Buchan, "our son," and Elizabeth Douglas, his spouse, with the office of Sheriff of Stirlingshire; and on 26th February, 1426, James I. confirms this charter to John Stewart and Elizabeth Douglas and their heirs, all as granted by the Duke.



Fouch Fortalice.

From an undoubtedly very ancient model of this tower and fortalice, with its chapel, by the courtesy of the lady owning it, we are able to give the sketch above, and the inscription in black letter of its builder, John Durey (page 352), appearing on a tablet over the tower doorway. The character of the architecture points to the last part of the fifteenth century, and is of great interest.



Jouch Mansion.

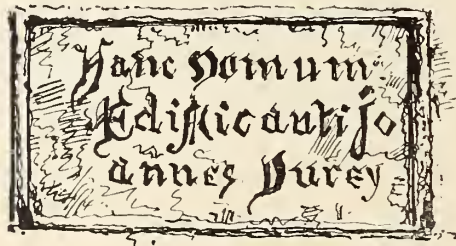
On 4th November, 1510, James IV., for his special affection, infefts anew "Alexander Seton de Tulchfrasere, *militis*," in the Lands and Barony of Tulchfrasere, "which the said Alexander and his predecessors had enjoyed for so long time past, and which had been adjudged, on 27th February, 1504, to pertain to the King on account of the late Murdoch, Earl of Fyfe, to whom the lands belonged by reason of infeftment from the late John Stewart, being criminally convicted by our predecessor." (He was executed at Stirling with his sons for treason, by James I. in 1424). This is the first record of the Seton family's ownership.

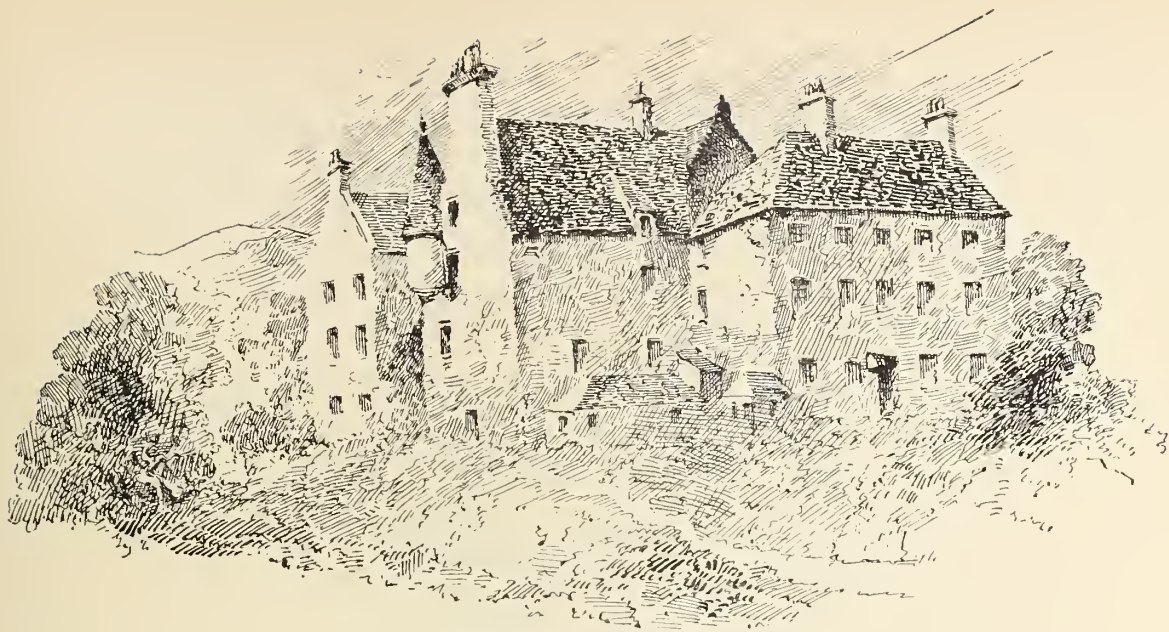
In 1513 Ninian Seton, son of Alexander Seton, designed as of Tulibody, enters with the king to what is described as "a sixth part of the lands of Gargunnoch, with the tower, fortalice, and mansion of the same." This may be read as the mansion of Tulchfrasere, which is described as part of the Barony of Gargunnoch, but more reasonably applies to Gargunnoch estate which was claimed by Alexander Seyton. On 4th May, 1546, Walter Seton succeeds to his father, Ninian, in the said sixth part of Gargunnoch, and on 27th August, 1547, John Seton, designed of Gargunnoch, sells to Walter Seton of Tulibody his part of the Lands and Barony of Gargunnoch, with the mill. On 2nd July, 1563, Queen Margaret grants charter to James Seyton, as son and heir apparent to Walter Seyton of Tulibody, in the Lands and Baronry of Touch Fraser, with "the fortalice and manor of Touch," and "the 15 merk lands of Gargunnoch," with the mansion and fortalice of the same, and advocation of the churches and chapels in the County of Stirling, and also the lands of Tulibody—his father, Walter, reserving his liferent to himself and his spouse, Elizabeth Erskine. On 7th December, 1569, James Seyton, in implement of his mother's marriage contract, gives her part of the lands of Meiklewood and others, in the

Baronies of Touch Fraser and Tulibody, *excepting* the lands of Touch Fraser. On 1st August, 1635, James Seyton succeeds as heir of James Seyton, his father, in the lands and Barony of Touch Fraser and advocacy of chapel of the same.

The estate continues in the Seton family down to the middle of the eighteenth century, when the heiress, Betty Seyton, marries Hugh Smith, a son of Charles Smith, merchant in Edinburgh, whose mother was Elizabeth Paterson of Bannockburn, and Hugh assumed the surname and arms of Seton. In June, 1785, this Hugh Seton, who had incurred considerable debts, with consent of his marriage contract trustees and his son, Archibald, burdens the estate to discharge them. In 1802, Archibald succeeds, and is infest under his father and mother's marriage contract, dated 13th September, 1753, and also in the mother's part of the lands of Bannockburn. The lands continue in the family of Sir Henry Seton Stewart, who succeeded to Mr. Archibald Seton.

The architectural features of the older parts of this mansion, of which sketches are given (pages 347 and 348), and the general character of antiquity borne by the other main building (sketch, page 350), points to an early period, probably to Alexander Seton of Tulibody's predecessor, John Stewart, Earl of Buchan, who as hereditary Sheriff of Stirling, would require a residence near the Court town, and that about 1450. The charter of 1510 shews that the mansion was then in existence. The entrance tower in the model has been removed, and a new façade and considerable other alterations made on the buildings, but the other old portions are quite recognisable, and have been carefully preserved.





Gargunnock Mansion.

CHAPTER XL.

Gargunnock Mansion.



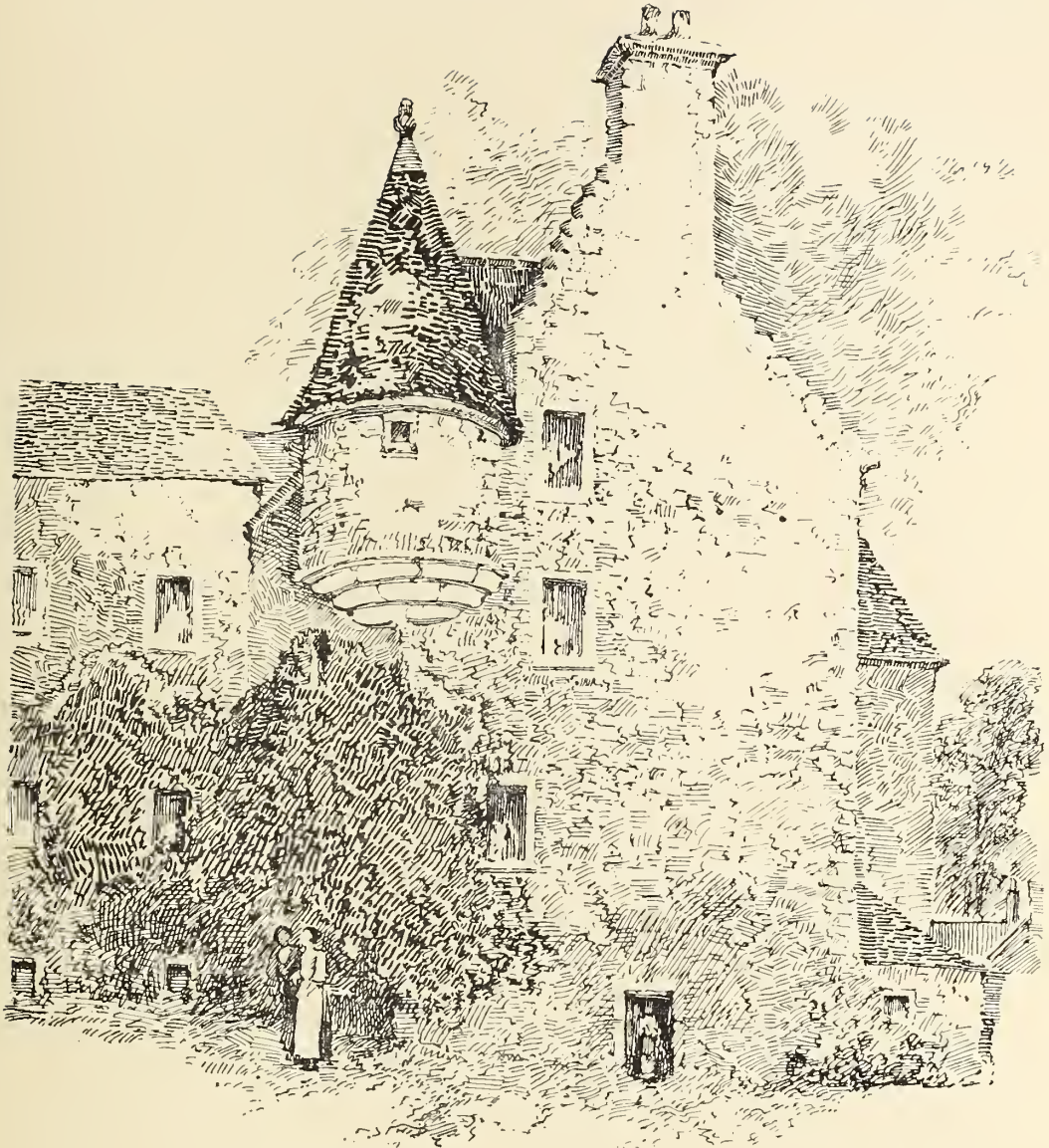
THE name is alleged to be derived from the Celtic *Cair quineach*, conical fortress. Keir hill was a fortified place of an oval figure, surrounded by a rampart, erected on the hill, near the confluence of two burns uniting at the east end of the village, probably in the thirteenth century. The site of the Peel of Gargunnock, a much older building and larger fortification, is about 50 yards from the Forth, near the mouth of Gargunnock burn, and was surrounded by a rampart and

ditch. Not a vestige now remains. Wallace had a garrison here, and when the English erected a small fort near Frew to guard the ford over the Forth, he, with a small force from the Peel, attacked and destroyed it.

The lands and Barony of Gargunnock appear in the Registers of 1470 as being held, along with Carnock and others, by Alexander Hepburn and Marote Normavil, styled "Laidy Gargunok," and on her husband's death, she conveyed them to Alexander Hepburn, her son, reserving her liferent. Their possession seems to have been disputed by David Graham, designed of Gargunnock, apparently a gentleman of position, and Alexander Seyton of Tulibody, but their claims are repelled by the Court. . (*Vide* Old Carnock article).

The oldest parts of the mansion, which is situated some distance to the east of the alleged site of the Keir hill, consists of the east wing, with its solitary corner turret, but shortly previous to 1790, it is stated to have had a high wall, strong gate in front, and a moat, indicating a place of strength. Neither wall, gateway, nor moat is traceable. The walls of this wing are fully four feet thick, and itself is of a design of architecture in use in the end of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century; but the early building may possibly date back to 1460, and thus have been built by Alexander Hepburn, senior.

In 1513 Alexander Elphinston owned part of the lands of Gargunnock, for which he paid entry money to the king. The same year Ninian Seyton, son and heir of the above-named Alexander Seyton, pays entry money for a *sixth* part of the lands of Gargunnock, "*with* the tower, fortalice and mansion of the same." From this it would appear as if the Seytons had got possession of the estate and old



Gargunnock Mansion.

mansion, which was the subject of litigation between his father, Alexander Seyton and Mariote Normavil—although this is not quite clear.

In 1740 Colonel Campbell of Ardkinglass and Governor of Stirling Castle, appears as proprietor, and the ancient sun dial in the garden (sketches, pages 353 and 358) bears his arms, name and title. His son, Sir James Campbell, succeeded him, and in consequence of his financial difficulties, had, in 1784, burdened the estate with debt, and in the securities the description is, “of parts of the Barony of Gargunnoch and *Manor Place* of the same.”

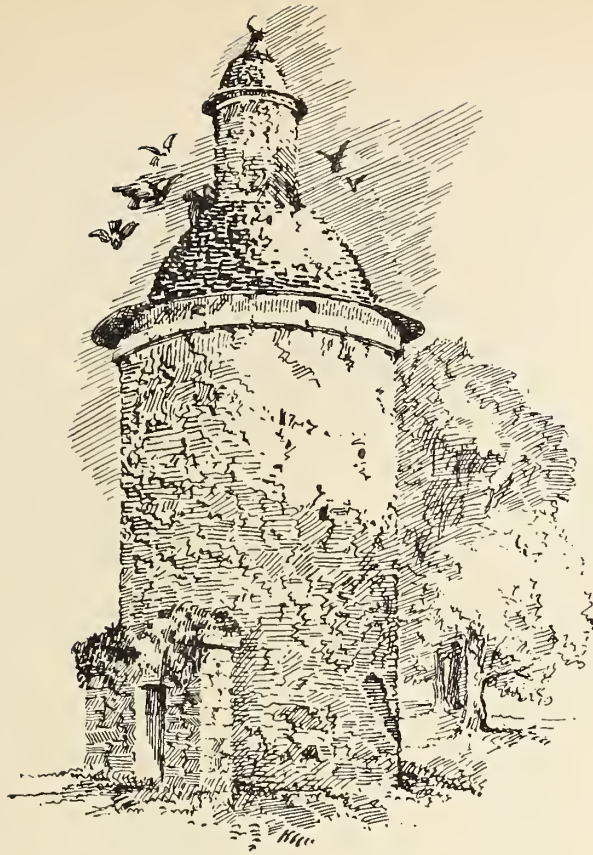
On 30th August, 1793, Colonel James Erdington acquired the estate from the Campbell family, including therein the kirk lands and chaplainries, the mill of Gargunnoch, and the patronage of the Church of Stirling (St. Ninian's?), by charter under the Great Seal, dated 4th February, 1793. He subsequently acquired other parts of Gargunnoch from John Graham of Meiklewood. On 10th January, James Erdington, a minor, succeeds his father, and along with his mother, Ann Weller (his trustee until he attained 30 years of age), is infest therein on his father's disposition, and on 10th February following, his mother takes an annuity of £300 and a liferent of the “Manor Place,” garden, orchard, and policy of Gargunnoch by her marriage contract.

The estate was shortly thereafter purchased by John Stirling, who made many alterations on the mansion, and was succeeded by his son, the late Colonel John Stirling, when in his minority, and it now remains in that family. The memory of the late Colonel Stirling is held in the highest respect amongst the villagers for his generosity and sympathy in their affairs, no less for his courtesy

and amiability of character by his friends and the neighbouring gentry.



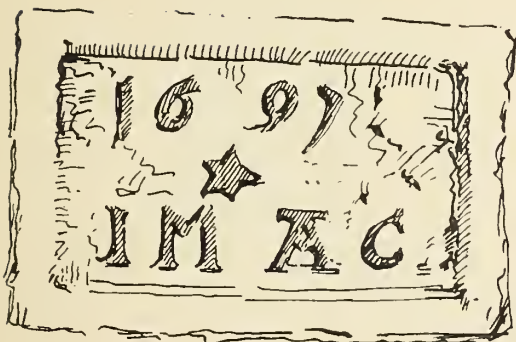
Sun dial, Gargunnock.



Old dovecot, Polmaise.

CHAPTER XLI.

Polmaise Old Mansion

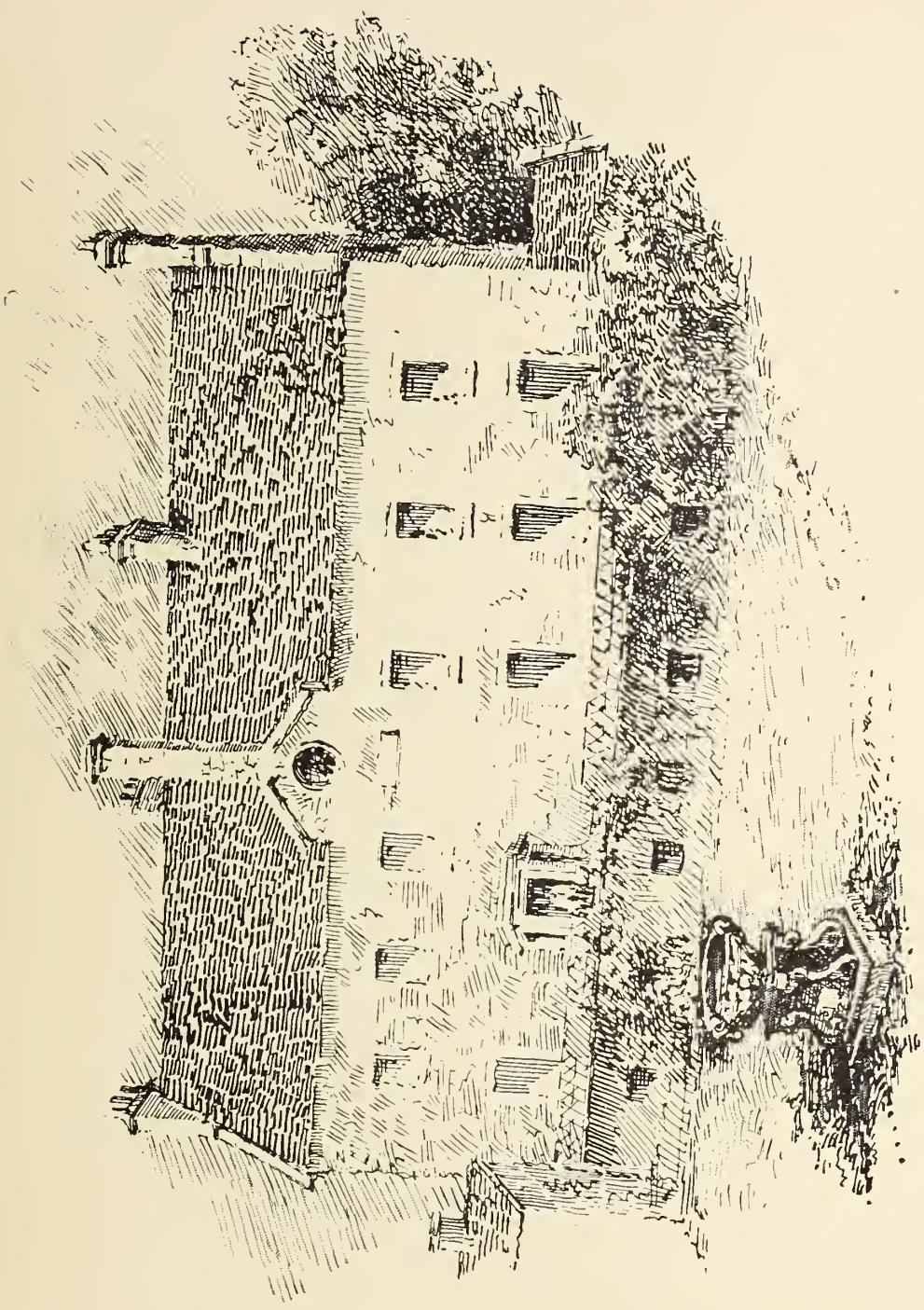


IS situated in a fine wooded park on the banks of the river Forth, about midway between Stirling and Airth, and is a plain, three storey, long building, with wings. The situation is low, and the mansion ground must be subject to the river's floodings. It has no noticeable architectural features beyond a gable-

like projection with a tympanum, and below it a tablet with the initials J.M. A.G. (John Murray and Anna Gordon of Durie, his wife), and date 1697. A similar tablet, with same initials and date, is inserted in the wall of Kerse Mill, which also belongs to the Murray family. As the owner of ancient "Pollmase" estate, Alexander Cunninghame, had a mansion, and his ownership dates back to some period prior to 1475, an older house must have existed here, or in the vicinity, for no part of this building shews an antiquity earlier than the date of the tablet.

The name "Pollmase" occurs in a charter of David II., dated 1147, to the Church of St. Mary, Stirling, of an "island lying between "Pollemase and Tulibodeim."

Alexander Cunningham, Knight, hereditary Sheriff of Stirlingshire, held the lands prior to 1475, and his daughter Cristine, married William Murra of Touchadam, who predeceased her. Through her the Polmaise estate came into the Murray family, whose descendants still own it. Sir Alexander took principal part with the rebellious Lords siding with the boy prince against his father, James III., and an incident suggestive of these troubles, arises in an action in the Court of Session, in February, 1489, a few months after the battle of Sauchieburn, when a Thomas Tod sues him and a James Livingston for an account, the defence pleaded being that the money "was for our sovereign's use to buy gunpowder." Sir Alexander also appears in Court on two other occasions, one for contempt of Court, in failing as Sheriff to enforce a decree of that Court; but he was acquitted on the explanation that the creditor had compounded with his debtor, against whom the decree was granted. On 12th October, 1501, he voluntarily renounces for himself and son the hereditary office of Sheriff of Stirling in favour of the Provost and Bailies of that town, to whom, by their



Palmaise Old Mansion.

jurisdiction over the burgesses, naturally belonged this right. The King, overlooking his confirmation of the Magistrates in this office, appointed John, Earl of Mar, and his son, Robert Erskine, to it. The Magistrates, however, successfully resisted in Court Mar's attempt to displace them. James Cunningham, prior to 1555, held the Barony acquired from his father, and was succeeded by his daughter, Isabella, who married and had a son, James, who took his mother's surname and succeeded to it.

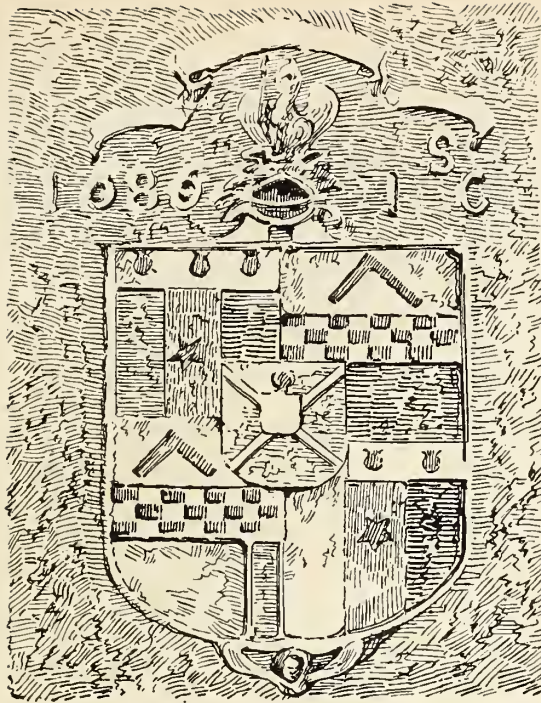
The above William "Murra" was succeeded in his portion of the Barony by a son, John, who left two daughters, evidently by different marriages, as they are named Jonet Murray, elder, and Jonet Murray, younger. Jonet, the elder, was, in 1555, elected to the unusual female privilege of being "enterit in her fader's freedom of Burgess and Gild *Breither*" of Stirling. On 18th July, 1603, John Murray, presumably a son of one of the married daughters taking his mother's surname, is Provost of Stirling, and in 1618, lets Kerse Mill to the town in an emergency. In 1671 he gets assistance by collections to bridge the burn at his mill. In 1689, he, or his son of same name, designed as Laird of Polmaise, is appointed a Commissioner by the Cromwellian Government, along with three neighbouring gentlemen, to carry through the first election of Provost and Town Council for Stirling. Much irritation was caused in the town, arising out of a litigation as to the Laird of Polmaise's claim to hold a fair at Brocksbrae in competition with Stirling, during the years 1705 and 1707, and some feeling is exhibited in the minutes of the Council against him.

The selection of Polmaise for the family residence and the erection of this mansion may be ascribed to John Murray, whose initials and date, 1697, appear on it (sketch, page 359). On one of the tablets on Kerse mill is the lettering, "16. M.S. 72." and "17. ^{M.}D. 54."

This mansion, no doubt, superseded the original family residence of the Murrays at Murrayswood, or Touchadam, the foundations of which are still pointed out in the "Haining Shaw," a level, wooded plain some 300 or 400 yards on the south and at the foot of Gillieshill crag, and at the back of Garter mansion. The situation gives the derivation of the park's name. These foundations, unenclosed, nowhere exceed 2 feet above the ground, are partially concealed by the growth of the turf, and all lie within an area of 90 feet by 60 feet. The outline of an oblong building running east and west, 42 feet by 18 feet, and walls 3 feet, 4 inches thick, can be traced, with two square buildings, 15 feet by 15 feet, probably towers, at each angle, and something like a doorway in the middle of the north side. The ruins are mainly conjectural, have no natural defensive position, and no outworks ; and it is not easy to accept the tradition that they form the remains of a residence to so great a family in the troublous times of the fifteenth century. The Polmaise mansion continued to be the Murray residence down to the succession of the present descendant, Colonel Murray, about 35 years ago, who erected, near the ancient residence in Murrayswood, the present splendid baronial mansion, to which the family removed. An old



sun dial in the garden of Polmaise, erected apparently in Queen Anne's reign, and the porter lodge, of a more recent date, have the coats of arms of the Murray family. That on the dial has the lion supporters "rampant gardant," or fronting. The correct form ("rampant" only) is on the lodge, as in the annexed sketch.



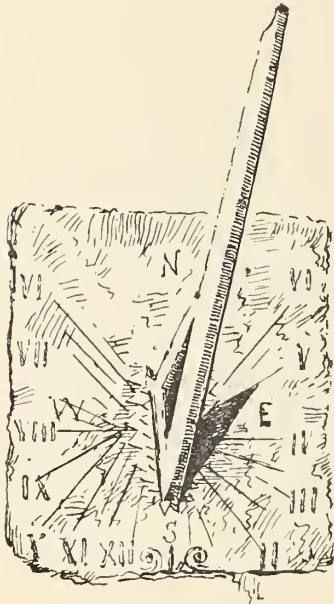
CHAPTER XLII.

Gartavartane Castle and Gartmore Mansion.

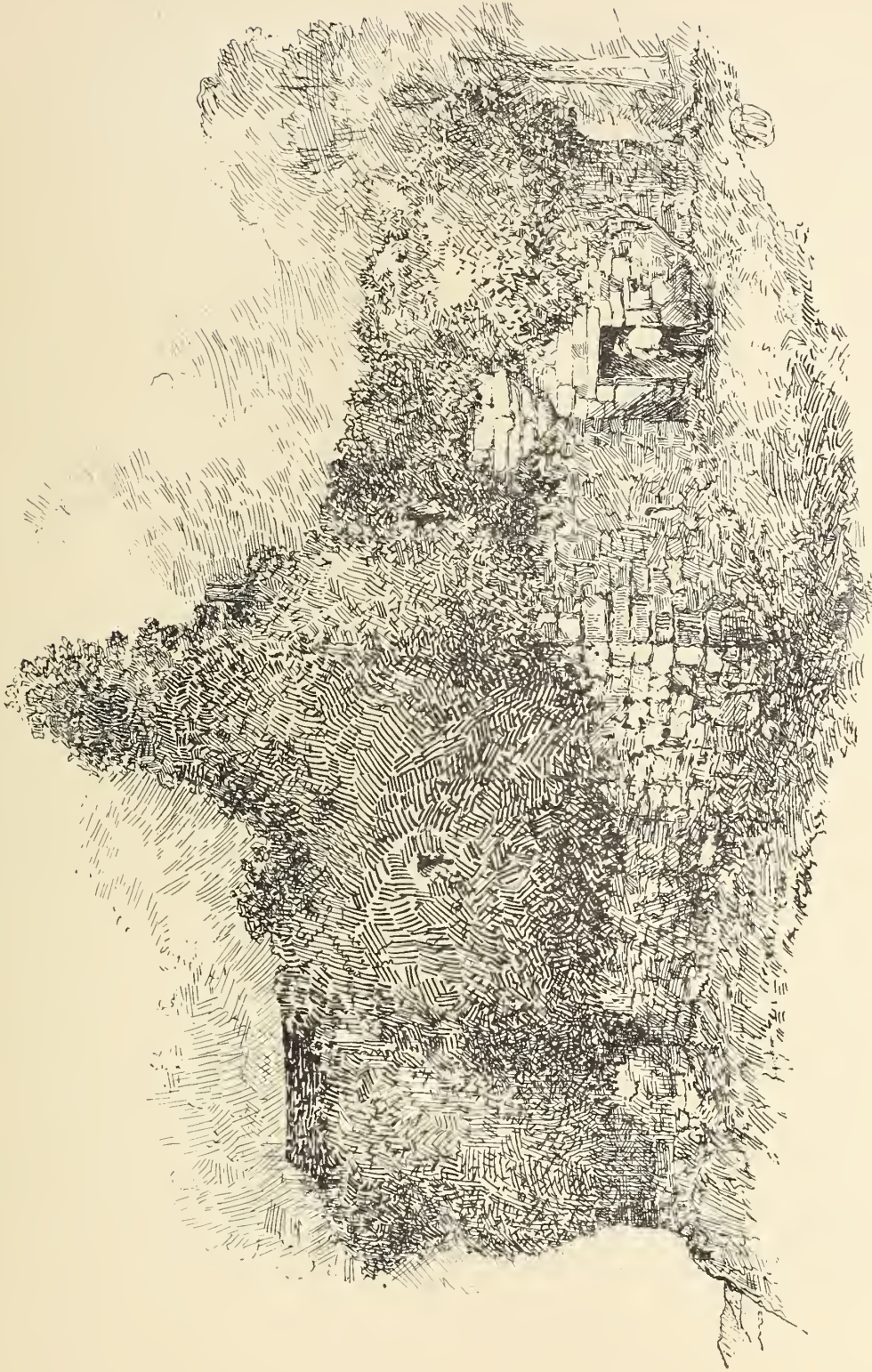
THE ancient name was also Gartallartane, and prior to 1509 was owned by a John Lindsay, giving the Barony the name of Gartartane Lindsay, by which this part was subsequently known. The old castle or fortalice is on a rocky eminence about 300 or 400 yards east of the mansion house of Gartmore, and consists of a low square building of not more than one storey and vaulted ground floor, 27 feet on each side, with two towers on the south-east and north-west angles, 15 and 18 feet in diameter respectively. A small, pepper-box turret overhangs the door, which is on the east side of the largest tower. The walls vary from 5 to 4 feet in thickness, and the two vaulted chambers

in the ground floor are each 15 feet by 15 feet, have apertures in their ceilings, with moveable flags in the floors above for covering them, and slits for windows. The towers, especially the larger with doorway and stair, have many loopholes, the doorway being low and narrow (3 feet wide), and with a large lintel stone, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 3 feet. The whole buildings are of rough but strong masonry, and that and the above description points to its having been built specially for strength and the protection of its inmates from marauders. It is on the borders of Menteith Stewartry, where a lawless state existed, complaints of which were made to Queen Mary, who held the Steward of Doune Castle responsible for the disturbances.

No initials, date, coat of arms, or ornamental work appear on the Castle's walls, but all is severely rude and massive. A coat of arms (sketch, page 365), with a date, 1686, is inserted over the garden gateway. It has the initials S.J.G. and is quartered with the arms (1st and 4th) of Graham, (2nd and 3rd) of Stewart, and (4th) Menteith; and the escutcheon of pretence is the Nova Scotia badge. These are the



initials and arms of Sir John Graham, and have apparently been removed from the mansion to their present position on some alteration taking place. There are no less than four sun dials. We give this sketch and another (page 372) as being the two most ancient and interesting. These recorders of time are a common feature in ancient country mansions, especially between 1600 and 1640. The stone of the carved dials—a hard blue stone, noted for its endurance of weather effects—was obtained from the



Gortawantane Old Castle.

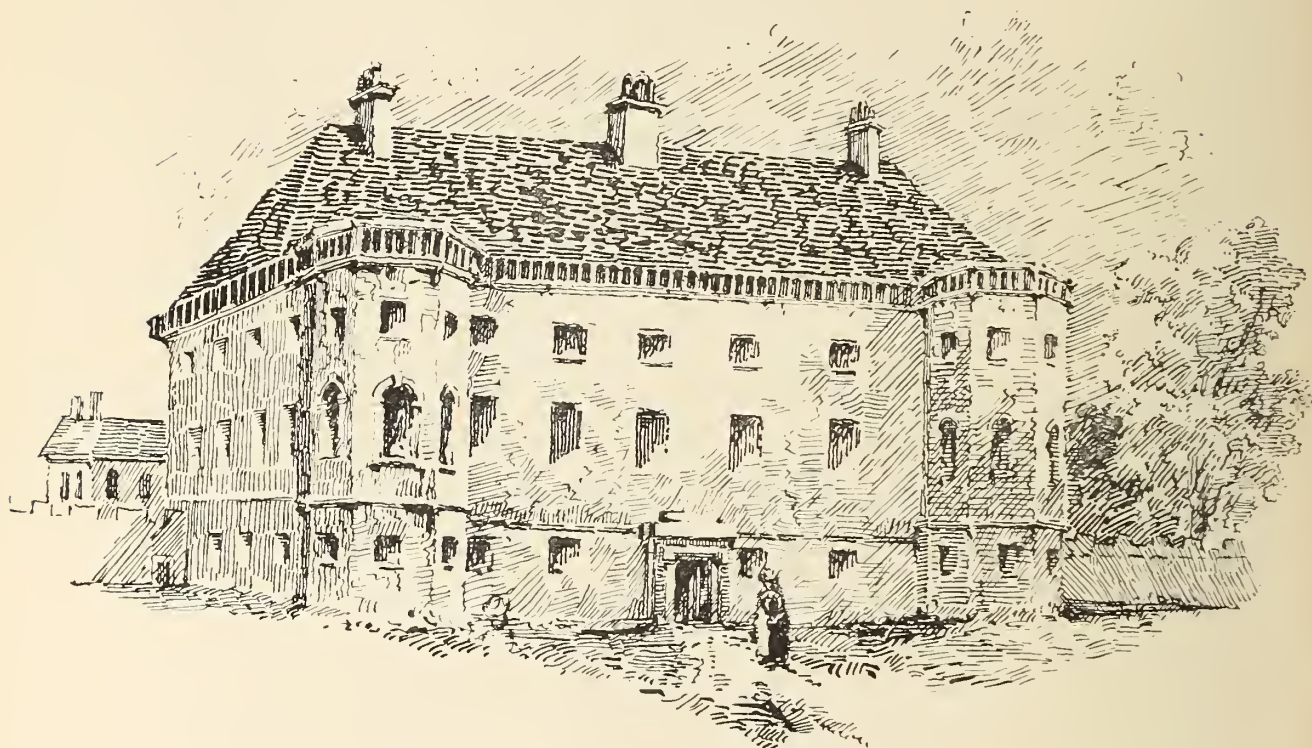
quarry of Kingudy, near Dundee, which belonged to Provost Robert Mylne. Another interesting object is the primitive belfry, a couple of large trees, close to the ivy-covered walls, intertwining, in a cleft of whose branches is hung a large bell with a rope, which is coiled round a lower limb when not in use.

The land or estate of Gartmore (a later name) is composed of parcels of land acquired at different periods of time by the Graham family. The oldest named, Wester Gartavartane, dates back to the ownership of a Robert Noble, in 1452, and another, to Elizabeth Menteith of Rusky, in 1495; but the portion on which the old Castle seems built, refers to the possession of John Lindsay prior to 1509, when he sold it to a Dormundo Johnstone, *alias* Makfersoun, and Isabella Stewart, his wife.

In 1526 James V, confirms a charter to an Aulay Mackalway and Grissel Symple, his wife, of the lands of Gartmore, extending to a 12 merk land of old extent; and on 24th January, 1555, Walter Mackalway, his heir, sold these lands to Robert Graham, brother-german of John Graham, Earl of Menteith, with the mill of Gartmore, etc. The subsequent history is far from clear.

On 21st January, 1573, James VI. gives a charter to William Graham, son and heir-apparent of Gelbert Graham de Gartavartane, of 4 merk land of Gartavertane Lindsay, the portion containing the Castle. On 27th May, 1606, Robert Graham receives charter, as son and heir of the said William Graham, both of Gartmore and Gartavartane Lindsay; and in October, 1624, Agneta Graham, sole child of Robert, succeeds as his heiress. She seems to have died without issue, and the succession fell back to William Grahams' heirs, as on 12th February, 1695, Sir John Graham of Gartmore, soldier, is infeft as heir male of

line to Sir William, in both Gartmore and Gartavartane, besides other lands. Lady Elizabeth Graham, in December, 1633, married William, afterwards Sir William Graham of Gartmore, and had a son, Sir John, and a daughter, Mary. The Earl of Menteith died in 1694 without issue, and left his personal estate to this Sir John, whose armorial



Gartmore in 1783.

bearings and initials and date appear in the sketch, page 365. Sir John died in 1708 without issue, and Mary Hodge, daughter of his sister, Mary Graham, succeeded to him in 1713, and married her relative, William Graham of Gallengad, claimant to the Earldom of Menteith. Her elder son, Sir John, died without issue, in 1740 (?), and the second

son, a medical student, renounced his succession to Gartmore in favour of Nicol Graham, for "1000 merks wherewith to purchase chirurgical instruments." The Earl conditioned with the first Sir John to erect two statues, one to himself and one to his Countess, over their graves in Inchmahome, giving minute details of design and quality of workmanship, and these effigies still exist.

The tablet with Sir John Graham's initials and coat of arms would be substantial evidence of his having built the mansion, but the last of the Graham proprietors, Robert B. Cunningham Graham, Esq., has written us that his ancestor, Nicol Graham, who was owner of the estate in 1705, built it, and that the oldest sun dial belongs also to his time, while the other was erected in 1813. This would indicate that another mansion was erected after the abandonment of the Castle, and the present one may be erected on its site, or incorporated with its walls.

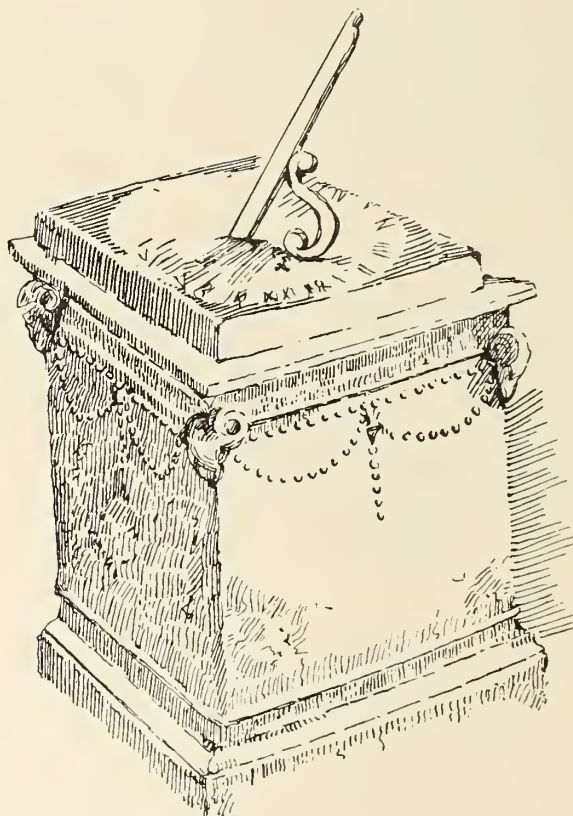
Nicol Graham, it was, who created the village, giving long leases off the estate at almost nominal rents. He had a son, William, who seems to have predeceased him, and his three daughters, Eliza, Margaret, and Harriet, on 22nd July, 1789, are infest as heiresses-portioners to their grandfather in the estate.

Robert Graham, designed as of Gartmore, on 20th August, 1790, gets sasine in parts of Bucklyvie, and infests his spouse, Elizabeth Buchanan, therein.

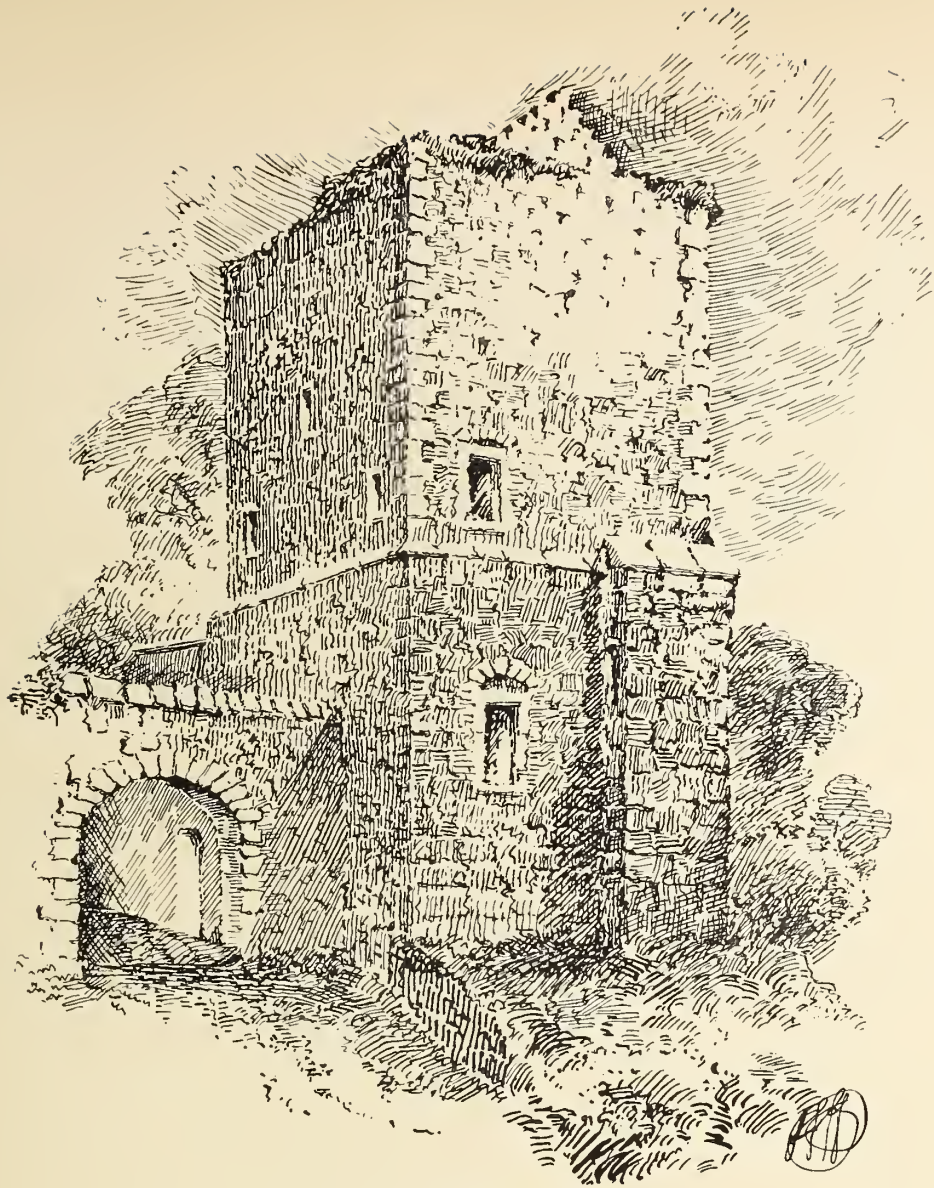
The old Castle, a chieftain's stronghold, is stated by M'Gibbon and Ross, in their *Castellated Architecture*, to have been built by a Malcolm Macfarlane about 1597. No data is given for this, and no Macfarlane is found in the registers connected with either Gartavartane or Gartmore, neither about that date nor for two centuries previously.

Andrew Graham appears as proprietor of Gartavartane about that time. It presents features of a very early type, and its late owner, the above Robert B. C. Graham, who ascribes it to the thirteenth century, may be correct. The mansion and estate, the last of the family possessions held in the district for centuries, have now passed out of the Graham family, having been sold to Sir Charles Cayser.

The sketch of Gartmore mansion on page 370 is its condition in 1783. That of the sun dial shews it to be in the form of a Roman altar.



Sun dial, Gartmore.



Mugdock Castle.

CHAPTER XLIII.

Mugdock Castle and Mansion,



NCIENTLY Mukdow, Muddok, Mogdok, and Midok, is a very old family possession of the Graham of Montrose family. The buildings sketched in 1856, consisted then of a tower, with entrance gateway, and a more recent or sixteenth century mansion situated on the edge of a small lake, near Milngavie, on the

ridge separating the valleys of Blane and Allander. It was protected on two of its sides by a wall, and on the other two by the lake. The buildings are now gone, or absorbed into the modern mansion which occupies its site. The old Castle was twice harried and burned by the Buchanans, from whose ancestors the lands of Carraklaid, and the lake and islands thereof, were forfeited by James IV. for their "criminal acts," and, in 1507, were granted to William, Earl of Montrose, who incorporated them in his Barony of Mugdok, as afternoted; and the feud thus originated had been carried down from generation to generation.

An episode of the social relations between members of the old family is revealed by a receipt, dated March, 1657, granted by Captain Harry Graham of Killearn to James, second Marquis, his relative, for 4000 merks, specified to be for the lodging and boarding of the Marquis and his servants for two years, during the rebuilding of the ruined Castle.

The tower is, undoubtedly, from its antiquity, that mentioned in the charter of James III. in 1488, after alluded to, and the mansion much later, but probably in 1657, by James, when rebuilding the tower. The buildings which had been occupied by the late Sheriff Guthrie Smith, were removed in 1875, when the present mansion superseded them.

The castle and Barony of Mugdock were held by Patrick, Lord Graham, as far back as 1444. In 1458, the various lands were incorporated by James II. into the free Barony of "Mukdow." On 23rd May, 1488, James III. confirms William, Lord le Graham, *inter alia*, in the lands and Barony of "Muddok," with the *castle* and mill thereof, and also the lands of Athra (Airthrey, Bridge of Allan), succeeding to Patrick by "failure of heirs of his body." On 10th August, 1507,

James IV. gives to William, Earl of Montrose, Lord Graham, the lands of Carraklaid with the lake and islands thereof, along with the island of Inchgarroch and Lochkadowne, formerly in the county of Stirling, then in Dunbarton, which in the charter is stated to have "been held by Walter Buchanan's ancestors, but forfeited by and adjudged to his royal ancestor, King James I., for certain criminal acts (*foris fecerunt*)," and it was united to the Earl's Barony of Mugdock. He was succeeded by his grandson, John, who died in 1608. On 23rd May, 1581, James VI. confirms John Graham, son and heir apparent of the said John Graham, Earl of Montrose, Lord Graham, in, *inter alia*, the lands and Barony of Mukdok and Dundaffmuir, with the *tower* and *fortalice* of Mukdok, mills, fishings, woods, and tenants, and lake and its fishings, advocacy of the Churches of Killearn and Dundaffmuir (Kirk c' Muir), and chaplainry of the altar of Holy Cross in the Parish Church of Dunbarton; and who, from a letter dated from Mugdock to his factor, Laurence Graham, Kincardine, on 28th July, 1625, had made the castle his principal residence. On 28th March, 1627, James, Earl of Montrose, Lord Graham and Mugdock (the celebrated first Marquis of Montrose, then only 14 years of age, and who was executed on 21st May, 1650), succeeded, as heir to his father, the said John, in said lands and Barony, with tower and fortalice of Mukdock. lake, fishings, and advocations as above, as also in the lands and Barony of *Athra*, with salmon fishings in river Allan, etc. On 26th March, 1665, his son James, second Marquis of Montrose and Earl of Kincardine, as his heir, succeeds to the same lands and Barony and *tower* and *fortalice* of Mukdok (he died in 1669); and so on, down to the present Duke of Montrose's ownership of both Mugdock Castle, and other lands,



Kilbryde Castle in 1861, prior to repairs.

CHAPTER XLIV.

Kilbryde Castle

IS so named from the ancient Chapel of St. Bridget, the ruins of which existed some years ago distant about 200 or 300 yards to the east of it, the site being now occupied by a tasteful small church, In Blaeu's map of 1652 the castle is named "Kirkbride."

The lands formed part of the estate of Malise, Earl of Menteith, and were gifted by him to his son and heir, Sir John, named of the "bright sword," who was confirmed by charter of James III., dated 7th April, 1469, and he is allowed, as the first owner, to have built the old castle. It is situated on the Ardoch stream, about 2 miles east of Doune, and is one, if not perhaps the most typical in this district, of the old Scottish Baronial semi-castle of the transition period between

the square keep and the more modern manor house. . Situated as it is, with a small piece of flat ground, on a miniature rocky spur, surrounded on three sides by steep cliffs forming a deep glen, in which the Ardoch, here a mountainous torrent, rushes, and having erected across the neck of the spur where it joins the mainland a strong built wall (its other defence), entered by an arched gateway, the only approach, it is a veritable stronghold. This gateway had a ponderous iron gate, the padlock and key whereof, corresponding in massiveness, weighed some 20 pounds, and the former contained a secret ingenious mechanism regulating the key's power of opening and shutting it subject to the possessor of this knowledge. A series of steps cut in the rock leads down the cliff to the stream, in the bed of which a line of boulders form stepping-stones for crossing it at this point, which are now to give way to a light suspension bridge. These stepping-stones, from their worn footstep marks, must have been in frequent use for a long time. The castle holds a wild, romantic, and strong situation, rendering it impregnable from the primitive weapons of its time.

The ground floor, all vaulted chambers, sunk in the rock, contains the ancient kitchen, with an arched fire-place of 9 feet by 5 feet, and over this is erected the old parts of the castle. Tradition assigns to Mary, Queen of Scots, a chamber in the square tower, with its two turrets, facing the south-east and overlooking the rocky, wooded glen with its stream flowing 100 feet below; and perhaps to this tradition this part of the old castle owes its preservation, as extensive alterations have been made on the other parts. This apartment is 18 feet by 15 feet, the breadth of the building, and the two turrets entered from it are 5 feet by 4 feet each, while the walls here are $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick.

The old parts of the castle furnish a ghost story—the murdered



Kildryde Castle.

daughter of the laird of Cromlix appearing to its inmates periodically, at midnight, in the Black Knight of Kilbryde, her murderer's apartment, accompanied by the rustling of a silk dress.

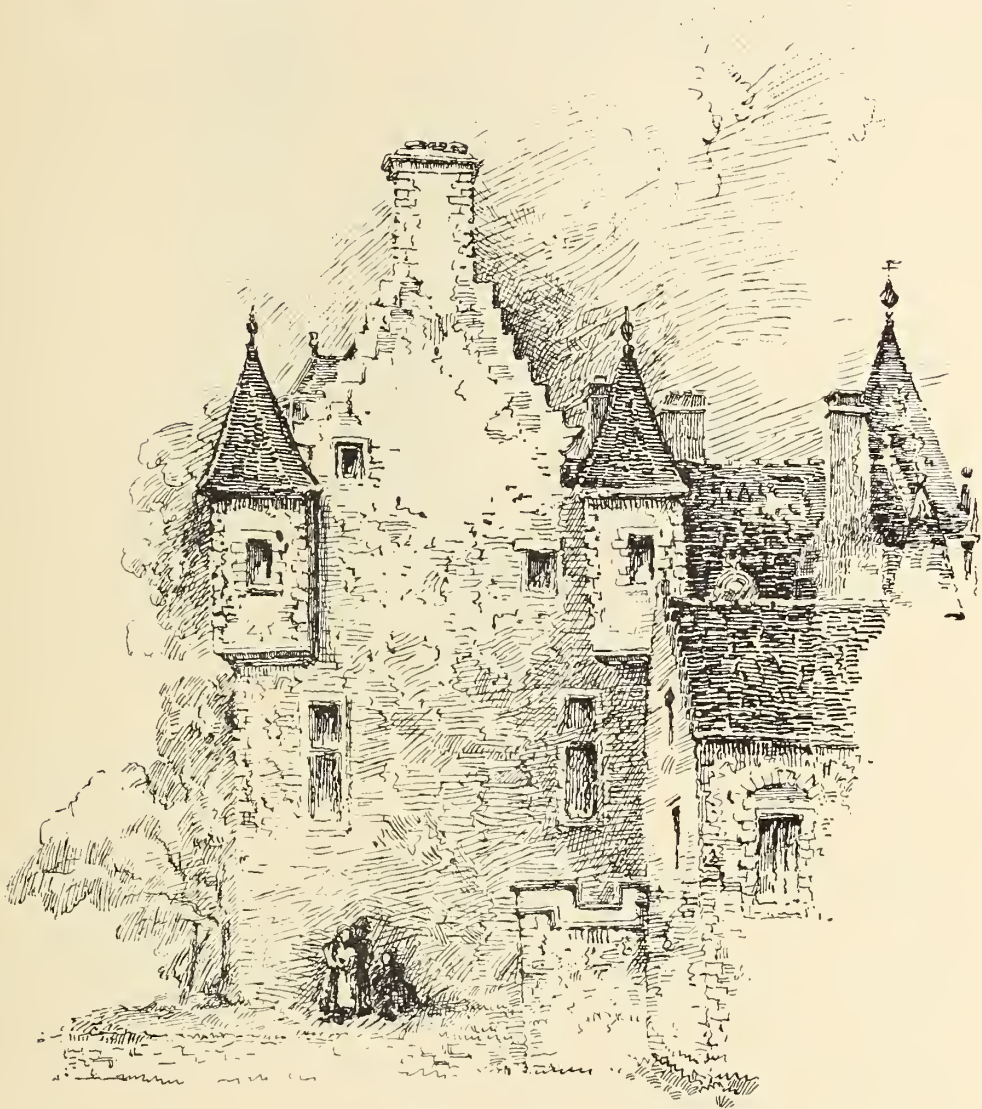
The Earl of Malise was indebted for 400 merks to James Mushet of Tolgarth, and the Lords of Council and Session, on 7th May, 1487, for lack of moveables to distress, granted decree adjudging Kilbryde for the debt; thus overriding the Earl's grant to his son, Sir John, married to Mary Mushet, apparently a daughter of James, who had entered upon and drawn the rents down to 27th February, 1491. The tenants appear in Court and complain of double distress, as the widow of John (who had died) claimed her terce (a third of the rents) from them also, when decret was given preferring her. On 27th June, 1492, Alexander Graham, as heir of Earl Malise, claims the estate, producing in court the charter of the Earl to his son and heir, the umquhile Sir John, and pleads its anterior date to that of James Mushet's decree of adjudication. Following him, Patrick, Earl of Bothwell, claims it as "a tenantry of Bothwile and hadden off him in chief as Erl of Bothwile." Alexander, however, gained the estate, and, succeeding to the Earldom of Menteith, conveyed it to his son, Walter Graham, the "Black Knight." The lands shortly after his succession seem to have been forfeited to the Crown, and on 29th April, 1508, James IV., for his faithful services, grants them to Henry Schaw, soldier, explaining that they were formerly Alexander, Earl of Menteith's, but alienated by the King.

On 7th June, 1509, James IV. confirms charter by Henry Shaw, for his affection, to Mariote Forrester, daughter of Walter Forrester of Torwood, of part of the lands, with its mill, and 3 merk lands of "Coldoch Eister." On 3rd July following, the King grants to Malcolm

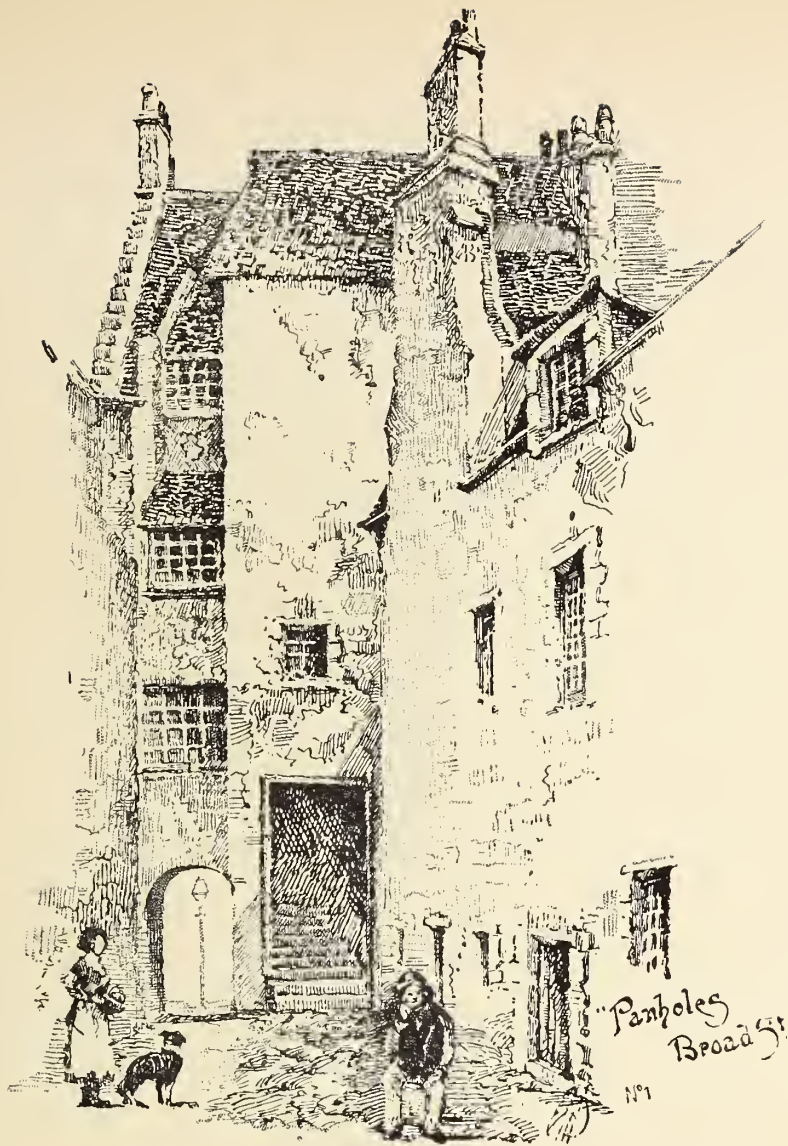
Drummond "de Magoure," a third of the lands and mill, referring also to its alienation from Alexander, Earl of Menteith. On 3rd February, 1512, the King confirms a charter of the said Alexander to his son, the said Walter Graham, of part of the lands which Alexander had held. On 2nd February, 1532, James V. granted the same lands explaining the former conveyances to Henry Schaw and Malcolm Drummond, to Alexander, Earl of Menteith, and his heirs. On 12th December, 1571, James VI. confirms a charter by William, Earl of Menteith, with certain consents, to Margaret Douglas, his spouse, in liferent, on a contract of marriage, of the Earldom of Menteith and, *inter alia*, £30 lands of ancient extent of Kilbride, with the tower, fortalice and mill of the same. On 6th November, 1610, William, Earl of Menteith, is confirmed by the King in the lands of Bina, a third part of Kilbryde, mill of Bina, etc., and on 23rd July, 1680, John Graham de Boutoun succeeds as heir of Thomas Graham, son of Walter Graham, his uncle, in the church lands called Boutoun de Kilbryde; and on 31st August, 1687, William Graham, his son, succeeds thereto. Sir James Campbell of Aberuchil's ancestors purchased the parts containing the castle it is alleged about 1669, in whose descendants it remains.

The castle which has been modernised, has the ancient parts tastefully incorporated in the extensive additions, all executed in harmony with the old Scotch Baronial style of architecture, to which its situation and surroundings add a picturesque interest (see frontispiece to book). These additions, however, render the identification of the ancient parts difficult without an examination of the interior of the mansion. The sketches on pages 377 and 379 are prior to the repairs on the castle, and that on page 383 as it now appears. It also contains several fine old portraits of Sir James' ancestors, and a very important

one of Mary, Queen of Scots, which seems to be contemporary with the century in which she lived, and a good work of art.



Kilbryde.



CHAPTER XLV.

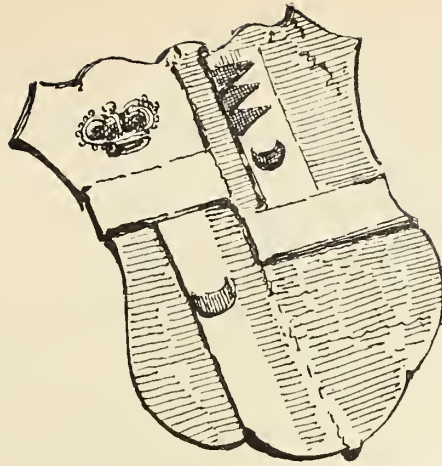
Robert Graham of Panholes.

F the two crow-stepped gabled houses adjoining each other facing Broad Street, the ancient Hie Gait, the double-gabled one on the west, although apparently the oldest, has no pretensions

to architectural or artistic interest, bears no name, or initials, date, or inscription, but the ground floor is extensively vaulted, and would be erected about the end of the sixteenth or in the first decade of the seventeenth century. The back part, as seen from the close, has a square turnpike stair and projecting eaves and windows, having a suggestion of one of the old picturesque English houses of the seventeenth century still seen in many English country towns.

This ludging, or another on its site, is said to have belonged to James Kirk, Commissioner to the Duke of Argyll, in 1529, and then to John Graham of Baldoran (also designed as of Queenshaugh), Town Clerk of Stirling, who was succeeded by William Graham, his son. In 1599 the ludging, along with Easter, Middle, and Wester Panholes, with cottaries, brewhouses, and mills in Blackford, passed to his son, Robert, who in 1615, also made up title to Baldoran, as heir to his grandfather, John, and in 1628, to an annual rent of £20 over Nether Caldwell, Kilsyth. The house appears to have been built in his time.

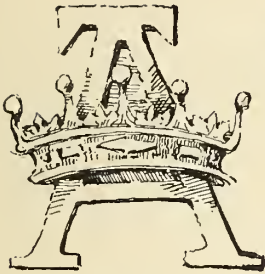




Erskine of Gogar

CHAPTER XLVI.

Erskine of Gogar's Ludging.



The foot of and fronting Broad Street, the former Hie Gait, is a three-storey tenement built of regular courses of chiselled stone, with three dormer windows, but there are no initials, date, or ancient inscription on it, although one of the dormers bears marks of an obliterated date.

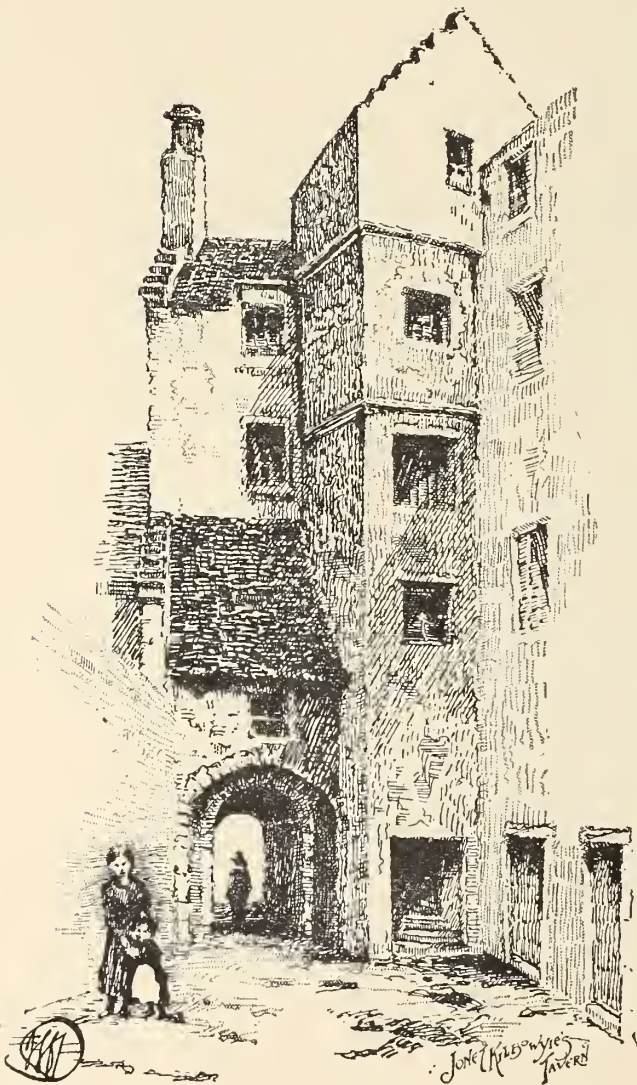
The tradition of its having been the royal nursery may arise from the fact that the house was at one time the property of the Erskines of Mar, who were hereditary keepers of Stirling Castle, and had also charge of the heirs of the Scottish throne from James V. down to Prince Henry. Lord John Erskine, afterwards Earl of Mar, disposed this house to his younger brother, Alexander Erskine of Gogar and Canglour, whose son, Thomas, Earl of Kellie, sold it to Jonet Kilbowie. The supposition that this was Willie Bell's tavern, when the Secretary

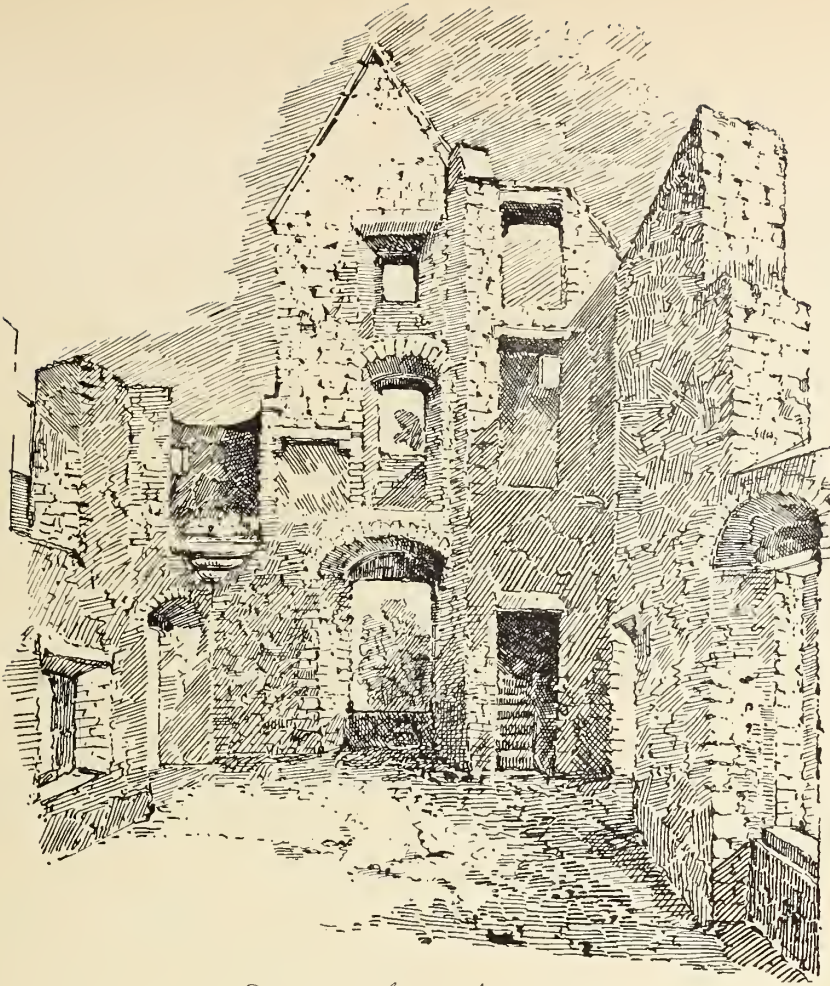
Lethington was visited by Queen Mary in 1566, may probably be true. The Burgh Treasurer's Accounts show that in Jonet Kilbowie's time, between 1650 and 1660, the house was a thriving tavern and the scene of municipal festivities. One entry, dated September, 1651, reads as follows :—

“Item, depursit, to Jonet Kilbowie, which wes spent the tyme of the capitulation by and attour quhat is specifieit in the former count at the said capitulation, £10 II 4”

This was the surrender to General Monk in the previous August. At this time every trifling event seems to have been made an excuse for convivial meetings by the Provost, Bailies, and Town Councillors, all at the expense of the town.

The old ludging, of which a sketch of the back view is given, as being less altered, was occupied by the Stirling Bank, and latterly, by the Sheriff Clerk as his chambers, in which was the Sheriff's room ; and the Bank's safe was used for preserving the County Registers of Deeds, etc.

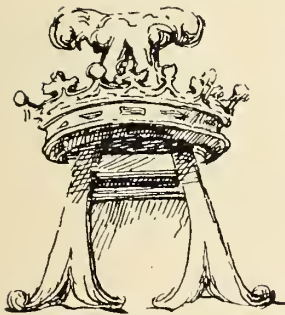




Dining Hall, Sauchie.

CHAPTER XLVII.

Little Sauchie Castle,

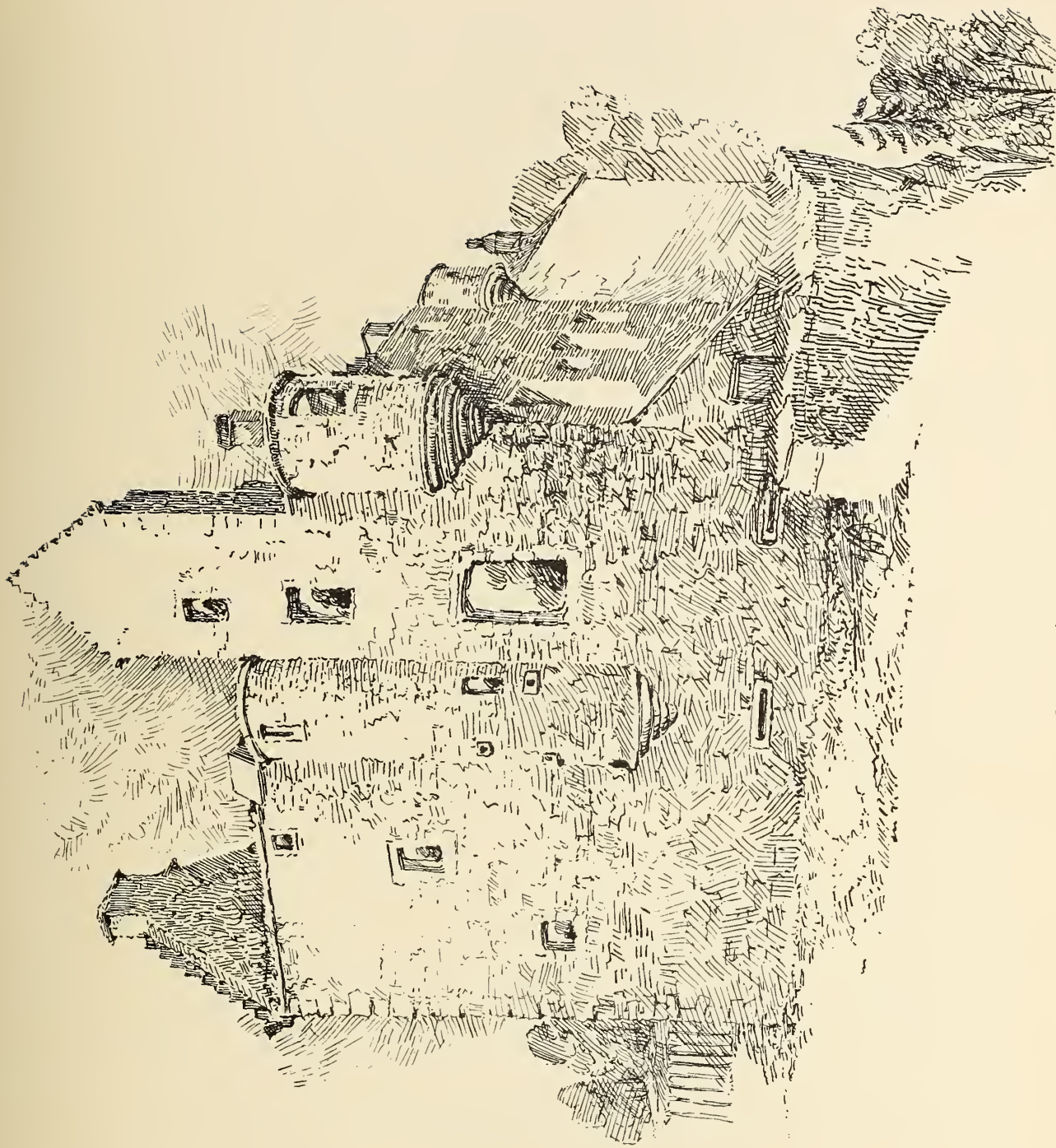


ROOFLESS, feudal mansion of the early sixteenth century, is perched upon the verge of a rocky chasm through which Sauchie burn runs, and which forms its natural defence on the north and east sides. The ground plan of the buildings is of the usual L shape, the longer and east limb being about 36 feet, and on the north

side 30 feet, and the shorter limb on the west, 12 feet, respectively in length. The latter contains the entrance hall and stair. Band stones on the west corner of the south gable indicate the wall of an enclosing courtyard. The ground floor consists of two barrel-vaulted chambers, having loopholes commanding the doorway. On the first floor entered from the stair is the dining hall, 27 feet by 18 feet, having three arched windows on the east, two on the west, and a very large one in the south walls (sketch, page 389). The dormitories on the floor above the dining hall, were reached by a narrow turret stair in the east wall of that apartment. The kitchen, originally a one-storey building, has an arched fireplace 9 feet wide. Numerous artfully contrived loopholes are inserted on the ground floor and turret in the east wall, commanding all approaches from that side ; and a wide subterranean conduit passes under the kitchen floor, having its exit on the cliff. It seemed to be closed by a wall about 12 feet from its exit, but the factor told me it had been proved to have a connection with the stream, immediately above the castle, from which water was drawn. It is possibly only an ancient house or cesspool drain flushed from the burn.

No coat of arms, initials, or date appear on the oldest part of the building, although a stone under the upper window in the north wall, which has evidently been put there in the recent repairs, appears to have the letter E on it. On the lintel of a back door in the wing are the initials J.R. J.S. 1772. Whom they represent is uncertain, as the Ramsay family did not obtain the estate till fourteen years after this date.

As the chasm in the rock, through which the burn tumbles over a waterfall right under the walls of the castle, is very deep, and clothed with dense foliage, the ancient ruined mansion, with its tower and corner turrets, has an artistic and picturesque effect. On the dovecot,



Little Bauckie Castle.

situated in the flat ground below the castle, also in ruins (sketch, page 394), is a tablet with a defaced coat of arms and, indistinctly, the letters G. (or J.) F. and date 1700, as shewn in this sketch. It is therefore of a comparatively recent period.

The lands were originally conveyed by James II. under his marriage contract, dated 1st July, 1451, *inter alia*, in security of £5000 annually to his consort, Queen Marie. On 1st May, 1528, James V., with consent of Dow-



ager Queen Margaret Tudor, widow of James IV., grants them under a charter to Alexander Douglas de Manys and Margaret Stewart, his spouse, with an obligation to build a mansion house and lay out the ground in policies—the feu duty of £13 4s. 6d. to be paid to his mother and, after her death, to himself. This charter, however, was superseded, and the following note appears in the margins of the Register against the entry :—

*“ Nota quod carta Alex. Douglas subscript. non levatur sub magno sigillo super terris de Little Sauchy, sed postea Jacob. Erskin in feodatus erat in eisdem per cartam feodifirme ut patet inferius in presenti registro.” **

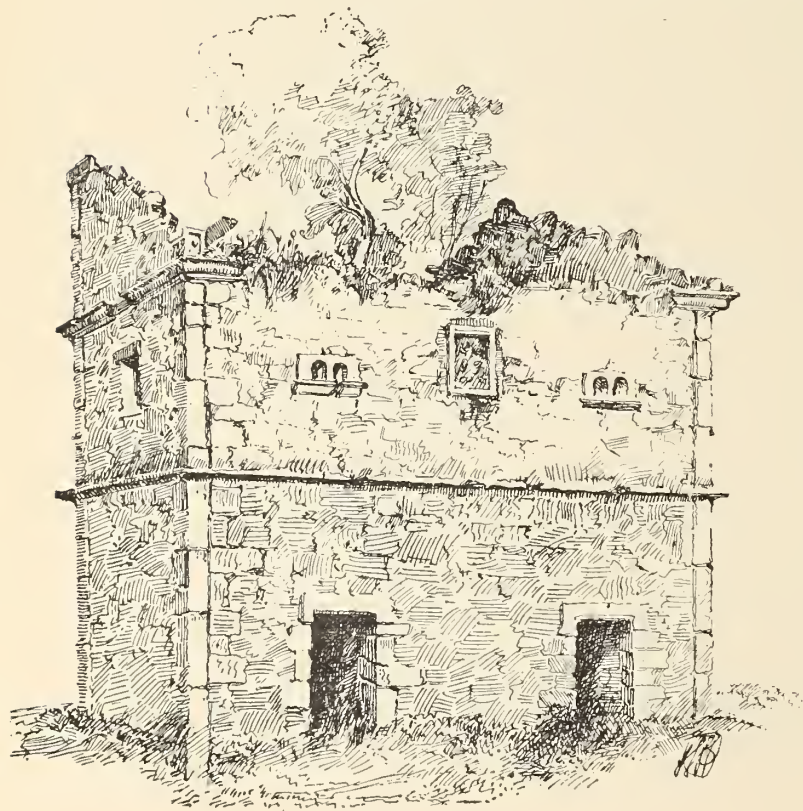
On 3rd May following, a new charter is granted by the King, with consent of his mother, in similar terms. to “our special servant, James Erskin, brother-german of John, Lord Erskin,” the feu duty of £13 4s. 6d. *et obulum* payable to the Queen’s *camerariis*, with the same obligation to build a mansion house, etc. This charter was confirmed on 7th June, 1541, by James V., with above consent, to the said James

* “NOTE.—That the annexed charter of Alexander Douglas is not abrogated (cancelled) under the Great Seal to the lands of Little Sauchie, although afterwards James Erskin was infeft in the same lands by a feu charter, as appears later on in this Register.”

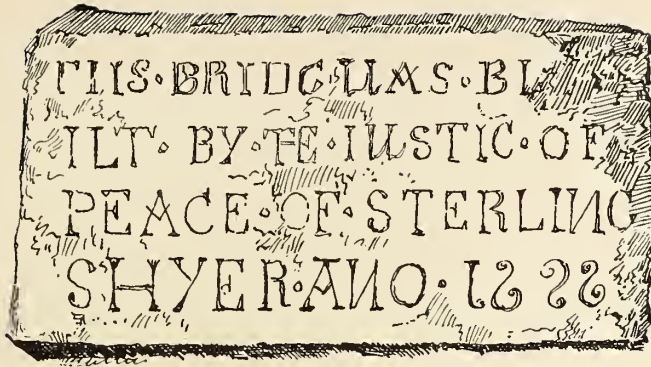
Erskin and Cristine Striveling, his spouse, and the heirs of their marriage, whom failing, the husband's heirs, and continuing the same obligations. Thus Sir James Erskine built the mansion, probably about the date of his marriage to Dame Cristine.

In 1776 a gentleman of the plebeian name of John Cheap of Sauchie appears as owner, mortgaging the estate, and in 1786 these burdens are discharged when William Ramsay of Barnton purchased it from his creditors. On 9th September, he was infeft, in a charter under the Great Seal, dated 7th August, 1786, not only therein, but also in the lands of Chartershall, with its mansion house, milneholm, teinds, etc., and on the same day he is also infeft, in a disposition by the trustees for the creditors of Sir James Campbell of Ardkinglas, in parts of the lands of Dundaff. The estates have continued in the Ramsay

family ever since, who have laid out and beautified the grounds surrounding the mansion, and recently erected a magnificent Baronial mansion some half-a-mile west of the earlier building. William Ramsay is now represented by Miss Maitland, only child of the late Sir James Maitland, who also holds Barnton, and this lady has taken a loving care of this mediæval Erskine mansion.



Davocat.



CHAPTER XLVIII.

Charterha' Mansion.

THE baronial residence of Sir William Charteris, Knight, of Cagnoir, or Canglor, surrounded by a large park, with a wall, and close to the Bannock burn, appears on Pont's Map of 1654, and on Edgar's more recent one of 1745. No portion of the ancient mansion now exists, but the situation of the present farm dwelling-house, outhouses, and other erections attached to it, corresponds exactly to its ancient position. There are evidences of the stones having been utilised in the building of these erections, as some of them, 3 and 4 feet long, are visible. The farm house itself is built of regular, chiselled freestone courses, which are hid by a coating of white-wash. The park wall is traceable through its whole boundaries. The situation is within a few hundred yards of the hamlet and bridge of Chartershall, and a similar distance from the ancient mills of Cultenhore.

The estate was erected into a Barony and held by Sir William Charteris prior to 1470, when he conveyed them to his eldest son and heir apparent, Thomas Charteris, and his spouse, Euphemia Broys, by a deed of cassation executed on his behalf by another son, David. On

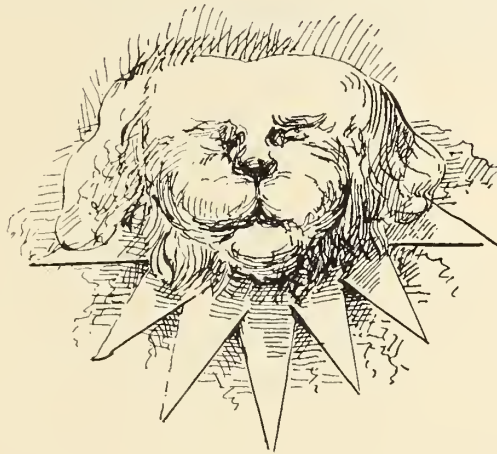
5th November, 1471, Sir William warns his son and his wife to compear in his Barony court to surrender Craigquarter, Little Cangnor, and Bukesyde, and to reseize them in the £20 lands of Cangnor, which failing to do, he recognosced and took re-possession. Sir William seems to have been married twice, his last, on 2nd November, 1478, being to Isabella, or Elizabeth, Stewart, daughter of Arthur Stewart of Albany; and he died in the end of the following year, his widow appearing in a breve of terce on 31st October, 1479, in which she got decree against another son, also a Sir William, and his tenants, on 3rd July, 1480. Sir John Bruce of Stanehouse, in 1478, appears as a vassal of Sir William.

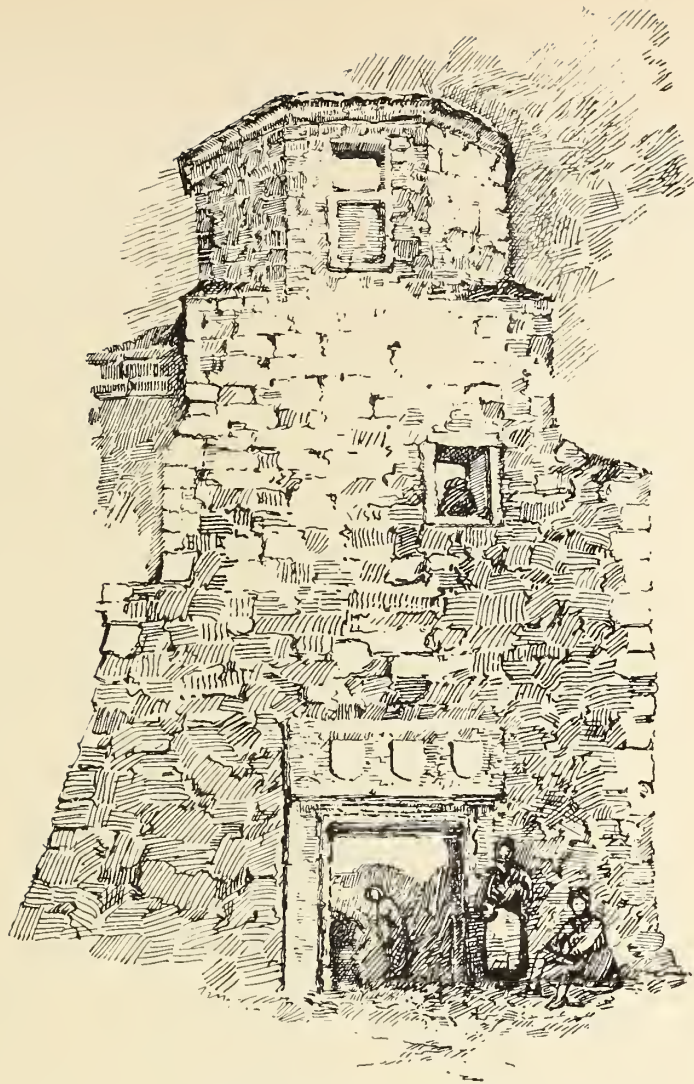
Sir William, the second, seems to have been succeeded by his son, Sir Robert Charterhouse, and he by Sir John of Kinfauns; and on 17th November, 1559, Sir John was succeeded by his son, also a Sir John, in the lands and Barony of Cangnor, with the mill and *lake*, etc., and the right of leading a stream through the lands of Sauchie to his mill.

The lands and mansion house were afterwards held by Alan Rae of Pitsindie, who, in default of a son, was succeeded by his daughters, Anna, Helen (married to Sir Thomas Hope, p. 326), and Elizabeth, as heiresses-portioners, in the Barony, with "the mansion called Chartourhall." Shortly thereafter the Barony and mansion were acquired by Master James Chrystie of Stenton, whose son, James, was infest therein. James Cheap of Little Sauchie then acquired them, and his creditors sold the mansion house along with the adjoining Barony of Little Sauchie, in August, 1786, to William Ramsay of Barnton, banker in Edinburgh, and on 4th October, 1792, he infests himself in liferent, and his son, Peter, in fee, in the "mansion house and mains of Charters-

hall." Other parts of the Barony were held by Sir Archibald Edmonston of Duntreath, who conveyed these to his son, George, in 1786. The Barony remains in the Maitland family, but no vestige of the mansion exists, except what is embodied in the farm house and offices.

The slab with inscription taken from the ancient bridge over the Bannock at Chartershall village when replaced by the present bridge (also containing a panel with the inscription, "This Bridge was rebuilt by the Justices of the Peace, 1747"), has been carefully preserved by Miss Maitland, the present proprietrix of the estate. We give a sketch of it on page 395. It replaced a still older bridge, to the repair of which, in 1682, St. Ninian's Kirk-Session gave 10 merks. The lintel of a door in the ruins of a superior freestone house adjoining the north side of the bridge, has the initials, "17 W.F. 61." It has probably been built with stones from the old Chartershall mansion.





Banqueting Hall.

CHAPTER XLIX.

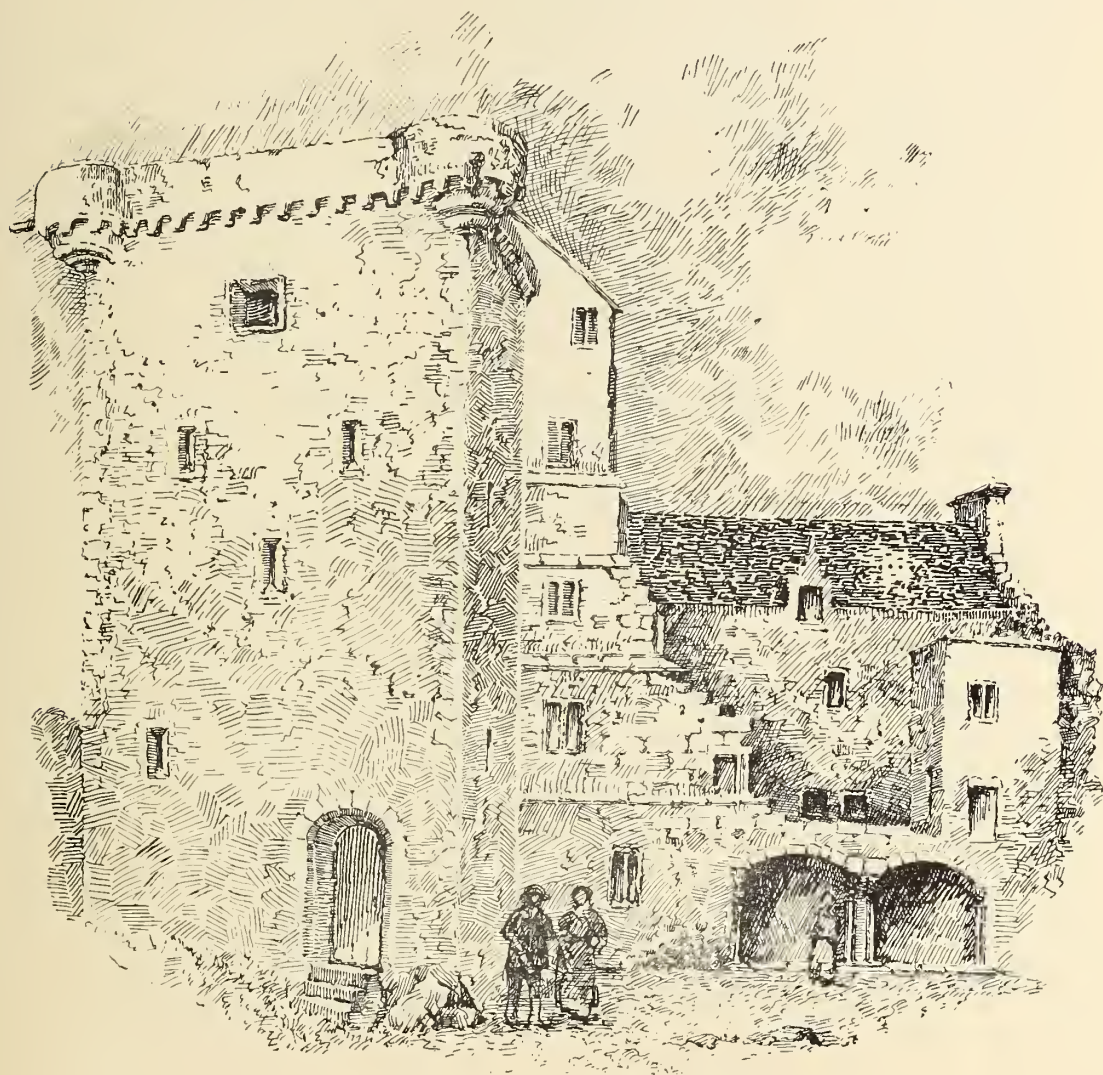
Castle Campbell, anciently Dolare or Gloum Castle,

IS one of the few feudal residences of a Scottish nobleman of the first rank now in the district. Romantically situated on a small triangular spur of the Ochils, overlooking the town of Dollar, and insulated

on its east and west sides by rifts in the mountain, through which flow two streams that unite at its apex, and forming thus a mountain torrent of some volume, rushes noisily down the wooded glen. It debouches therefrom just above the town, through which it continues a quieter course until it joins the river Devon. The castle, tower, and gateway, with its wall, completely crosses the narrow neck joining the spur to the mainland or mountain. The chasms on the other three sides are of great depth, and form complete natural defences to those parts of the castle, and the front, having the gateway, being approachable only by a steep path, must have made this stronghold impregnable in those early times when the artillery was of a primitive kind. With modern artillery, however, the surrounding mountains would give a complete command of the castle. Its capture and destruction by Montrose, in 1645, was considered a military achievement. The ascent is so intensely steep and rough by either mountain road or glen path, that the cartage of the stones (its walls are of free stone) and the necessary building materials in the castle's construction, is a marvellous work of ingenuity and labour, and reflects favourably on the capacity of the workmen of the mediæval age. The beautiful though rocky pathway through this picturesque wooded glen, which, from its high enclosing walls, is never susceptible to the sun's rays, with its rushing torrent and lonely castle, forms a romantic and interesting excursion.

This castle was amongst the first residences of the noble family of Argyll, wherein many of its members were born, and married in the old Church of Dollar, the ruins of which still remain, and in whose churchyard others have been buried. The ground plan or arrangement of its buildings, as shewn by the rough sketch on page 399, is an internal square court, with east, south and front sides occupied by buildings,

and the west by a high wall. The front containing the great tower, gateway, and a high strong-built continuing wall, extends about 90 feet, right across the neck of the spur, and completely protects that side. The square tower, about 80 feet high, with four turrets at the angles and machicolated battlements, is on the north-east corner; and the archway door, 11 feet by 7 feet, has had a heavy barred gate and a portcullis, with a double or second gate on the court side. The lower



Court, Castle Campbell.

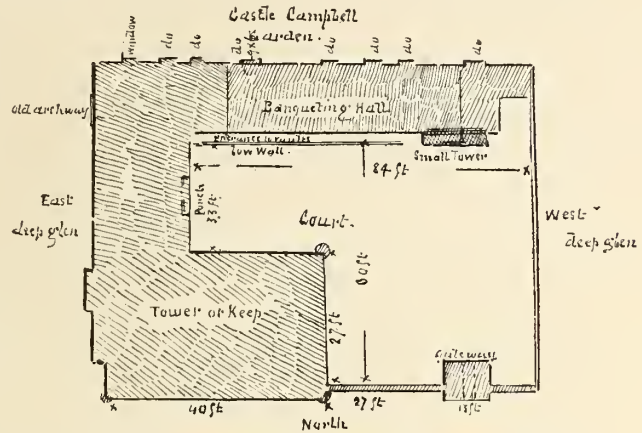
part or apex of the triangular spur is the garden, with steps in the rock to a well, and has a sheer depth of fully 100 feet to the bed of the stream. The great tower, built of chiselled ashlar courses in a substantial and workmanlike manner, is four storeys high, having one large apartment, 27 feet by 15 feet in each, and with walls decreasing from 6 feet in thickness on the ground floor to 5 feet at the top. The first and second floors have elegant and wide fireplaces, 9 feet by 6 feet, shewing these to have been the sitting apartments. The entrance to the first and other two floors is by the square, outside tower, but circular within, on its south side. That to the ground floor—a vaulted, bare apartment, probably the guard room—is near the gateway on the west side, and is entered by three steps. This chamber is isolated from the other parts of the tower, having no internal communication. The topmost apartment and the two apartments, 14 feet square, on the ground floor of the east wing, have all most handsomely ribbed vaulted ceilings. All these buildings are roofed and occupied by the caretaker and his family.

The large building completely filling the south side of the court seems composed of three rooms, all roofless, and its upper walls in ruins. The largest apartment, 40 feet by 22 feet, has a fine fireplace, four small and one very large handsome window, 9 feet by 6 feet, all in the south wall, and commanding an unrivalled and extensive view of the wooded glen and the plain beyond. I was informed that this large window was filled with coloured glass, but both glass and sashes are now gone. There is also a niche, either for a saint's image, or for a press, in it. This apartment was no doubt the banqueting hall, and may also have been used as the family chapel. The other two apartments flank this hall on either side, and the whole building is entered

from the court by a singular tower, which has three heraldic shields, divested of markings, but in relief, over the doorway (sketch, page 399). The court at its widest is 84 feet by 60 feet, and there is some under vaulting in the south wing entered from it.

A Colin Campbell was Master of James III.'s household, and held with it other official appointments.

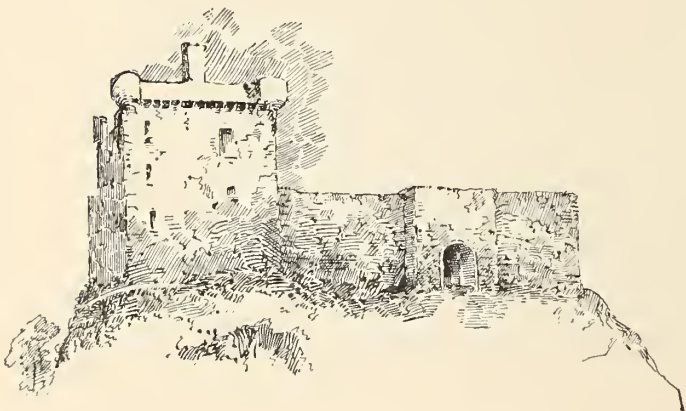
He joined the rebel Lords in the rebellion which culminated on the field of Sauchieburn. His grandfather, also Colin, held the adjoining Barony of Menstrie in 1402, but no reference to a castle or house appears in the Registers until the charter of James IV. in favour of Lord Archibald, Earl of Argyll, dated 11th May, 1497. Archibald's great-grandfather held the lands, and was succeeded by his son, Duncan, who, again, was succeeded by Colin, the second, Archibald's father, who had divided these lands, formerly called "Church Lands of Campbell," into three divisions, two of which were held by the Bishop of Dunkeld and the third by Lord Archibald himself. By indenture of agreement between him, George, Bishop of Dunkeld, Duncan Campbell of Glen Urquha, and Isabella Stewart, relict of Colin, who had held the two divisions and had given them to the Holy House and Chapter of Dunkeld, the whole of the lands are conveyed to Archibald, in whose favour the charter is made. They are therein described as "the Church Lands of Campbell, alias *Dolare* or *Gloum* so called, with the castle and fortalice of the *same*," and are put into the fetters of a

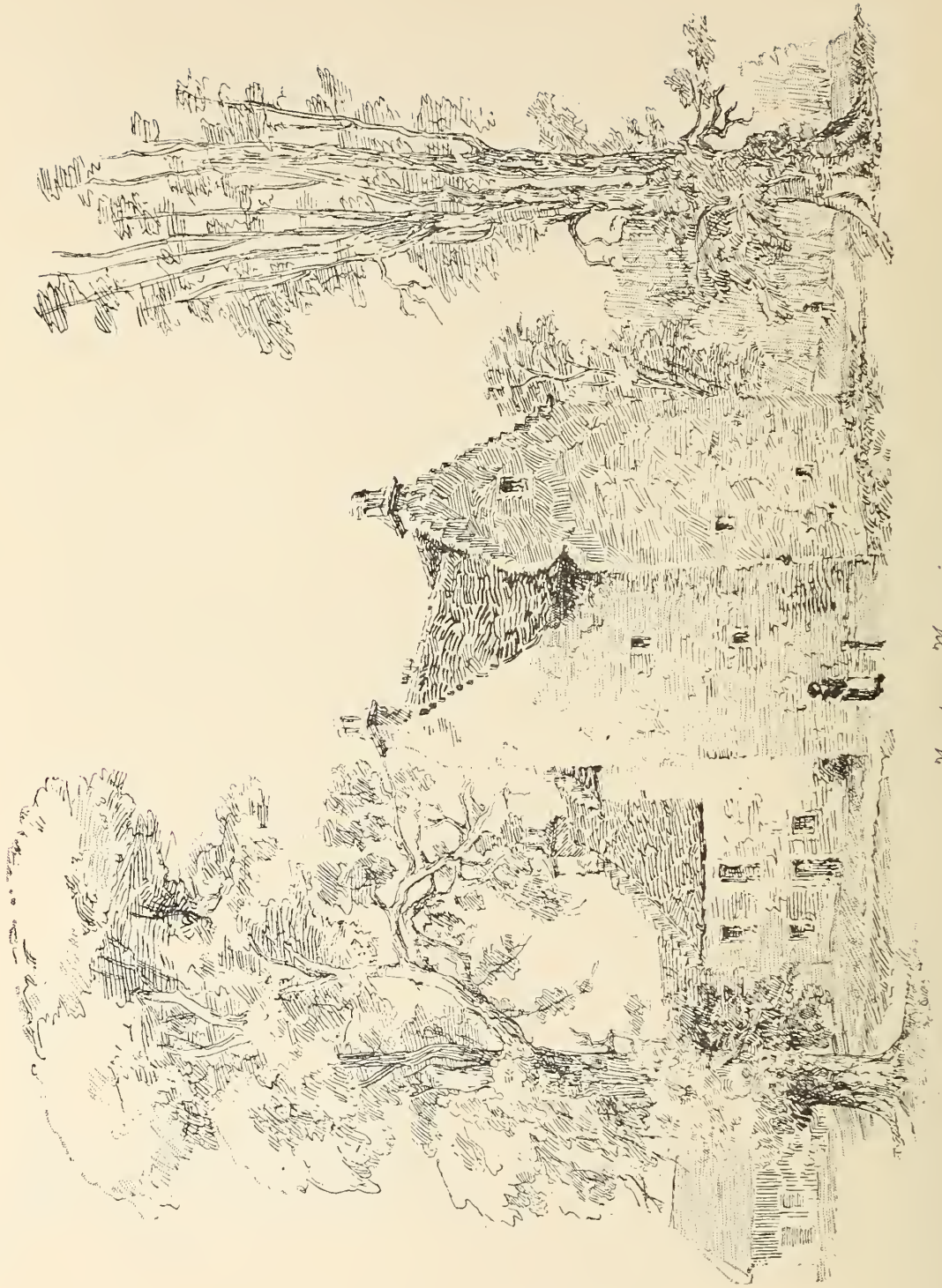


strict entail. Isabella reserves her liferent, and the reddendo, 16 merks sterling, is given to the Bishopry of Dunkeld. The indenture is signed at Dunkeld on 31st January, 1493.

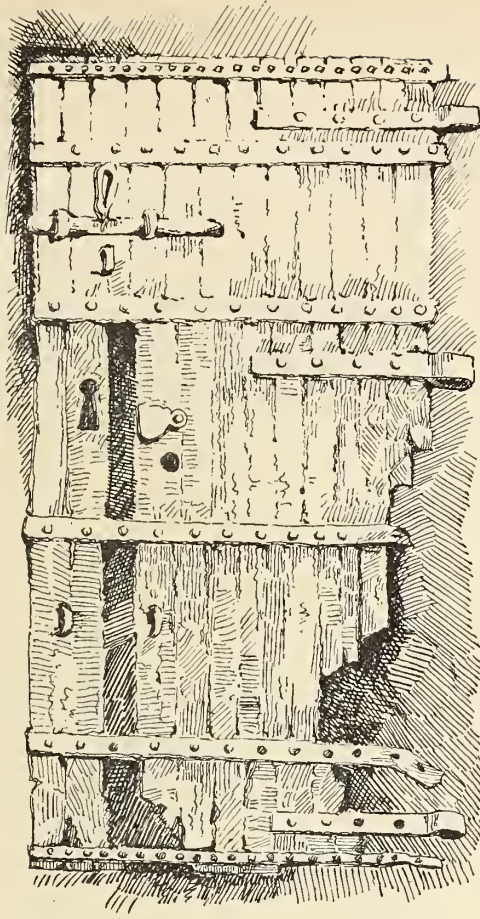
We see from a charter signed at Stirling by James V., dated 18th January, 1526, that Archibald, as son and heir apparent of Colin, is entered, *inter alia*, in the lands of Menstrie, with mill, and also "in the lands of *Gloume*, with castle and fortalice called "*Castle Campbell*." It reserves a liferent to Colin, who is thus shewn to be then alive, and consequently not the Colin mentioned in the preceding paragraph, but probably a brother who had succeeded to him, and this Colin would be a nephew. The point of interest is the name *Gloume* given to the lands and castle, which vividly describes the lonely situation of it and its surrounding land in the sunless glen; and to that name having been discarded between these two dates and the ancient name of *Campbell* reverted to. This change is stated to have been accomplished by act of James IV., in 1489, at the instance of Colin, but the deed of later date, 1493, retains the ancient term, *Gloume*, without reference to the act. From several deeds dated at *Castle Campbell*, this family must have occupied it for two centuries at least.

There are no names, initials, date, or coat of arms to assist us to its builder, all such having apparently been carefully erased or removed, probably when the Argyll family parted with the property in 1805, and it is only an inference that it was built by Colin, son of Duncan, in the middle of the fifteenth century.





Newton Mansion.



Very old iron door, Newton.

CHAPTER L.

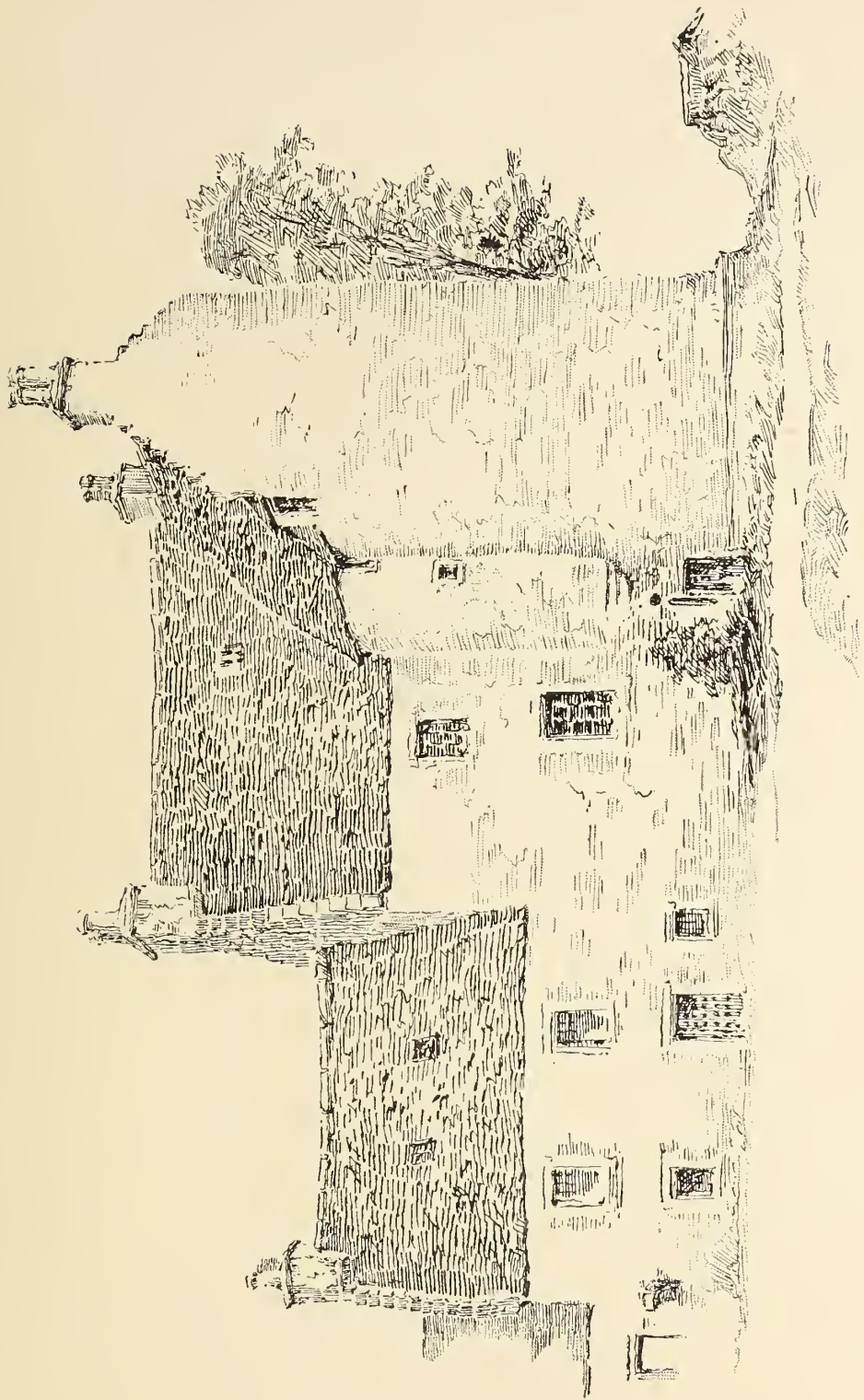
Newton Old Mansion, Doune,

IS an early Scotch Baronial building, with crow-stepped gables, of the Blairlogie Castle type, the ground plan being L-shaped. It is situated on an eminence within 500 yards of and overlooking Doune Castle, and bounded on the west by the Ardoch stream. The east and main building is semicircular, suggesting a tower originally, and in it is the doorway and staircase. The remains of the arch of a gateway indicate the usual court formed by two walls uniting with the ends of

the building, and the ground floor, which is vaulted, has two loopholes commanding the doorway. The doorway is made for an iron door, which had been removed, and we found it preserved, in a shattered state, in the vaults (sketch, page 407). No inscription, date, initials, or coat of arms are visible on the building, but in the walls of a dwelling-house at the home farm adjoining is the tablet, with arms and initials, shewn in the sketch (page 412), which we learned was found in a cellar of the old building, where it had been placed after some alterations, and subsequently inserted there for preservation. From the age of the trees surrounding and encroaching on what was the old court, the old mansion will probably be 250 or 300 years old.

James V., by charter dated 18th January, 1514, for the special services bestowed, and to be bestowed, on him and his mother, the Queen, grants to Cristina Raa a liferent of the lands of Gartincaber and *Newton*. This lady was a servant or maid of honour to the Dowager-Queen, and had a ludging, or town house, in Castle Wynd, Stirling; and in a dispute, in 1525, with a neighbour regarding its gable, Robert Spittal (Stirling's benefactor) appears as factor for her. She is there designed as *servitrex* to the Queen.

On 22nd October, 1529, the lands are granted along with others, and with the custodianship of the Castle of Doune, to James Stewart, Seneschal of Menteith. This includes the fishings in the lake and waters of Gudy and Teith; and on 2nd February, 1532, James V., a minor, with his mother's consent, confirms this charter. On 20th January, 1539, James V., then of full age, grants the same lands of Newton in Doune to "our familiar servant," James Edmonston, "filio naturali" of the late William Edmonston of Duntreath, saving the annuity of the Queen; and the reddendo contains an obligation "to



Newton Mansion.

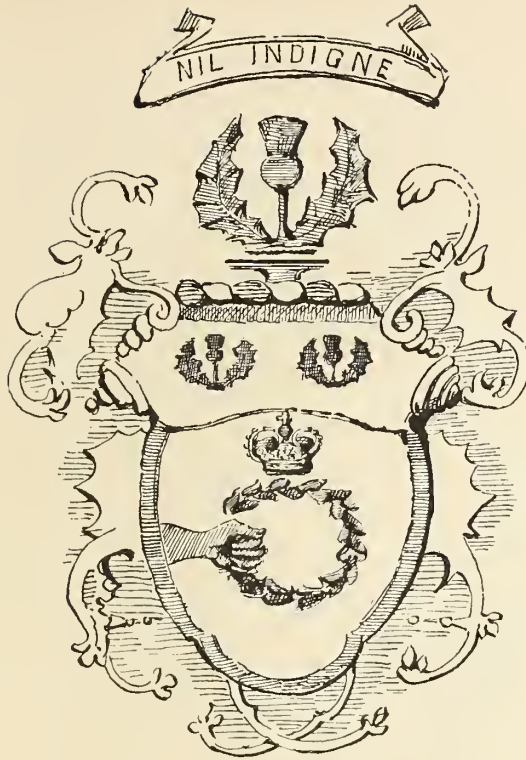
build a mansion with bolicies, etc." On 5th April, 1541, the same King grants another charter to James Edmonston of Newton, repeating the terms of the former, with the same obligation, and he *revokes* the charters of 1529 and 1532 given to James Stewart, with the captaincy of Doune Castle, and all others. On 15th May, 1543, William and Archibald Edmonston, brothers of James, met James Stewart in the High Street of Dunblane. A fight ensued in which James Stewart was killed; historians say the quarrel arose out of the irritation caused by the loss to the Edmonston family of the offices of Steward of Menteith and captaincy of Doune Castle. As these appointments and lands were, by the preceding charter, taken *from* Stewart, and, along with Newton, re-granted to the Edmonstons two years previous to this encounter, any cause of irritation and offence would be on Stewart's part. The Edmonstons, notwithstanding, were pardoned for the crime. On 1st September, 1561, Mary, Queen of Scots, attempts to revive the Stewarts' title to Newton and the custody of Doune Castle, by confirming the grant by James V. of 22nd October, 1529, to his descendants; but the Edmonstons were in firm possession and retained it undisturbed.

James Edmonston is one of an assize in 1583; and on 30th August, 1589, he consents to a deed by his wife, Margaret Biset, one of the daughters and heiresses-portioners of Walter Biset of Kynneff. He died shortly prior to 1616, when he was succeeded by his son John, on 14th March of that year. This John was married to Agnes Cowan, daughter of Walter Cowan, Stirling, and their initials I.E. and A.C. are on the foresaid tablet (page 412), which also contains three crescents—the Edmonston arms—and two foxes' or hounds' heads, which could not be intended for the arms of his wife, as hounds or foxes form no part of the Cowan family arms. The original parts

of the mansion date back to James Stewart's and to James Edmonston's possession, but the sculptured tablet was put up by John Edmonston, probably in 1630, as he died in 1639. On 23rd July of that year, his son, James, is served heir in Newton; and on 6th March, 1687, James' son, also called James, succeeds him in the lands. He died in September, 1699, and was succeeded by his brother, Patrick Edmonston, who, on 25th February, 1706, was infest in Newton and also in Powhouse. his service being dated 11th December, 1705. This Patrick was, with Stirling of Keir, involved in the Jacobite cause, and both were tried for treason in 1709.

The title continued in the Edmonston family, the last of them being Miss Grizzel Kinnimund Edmonston, only surviving child of Colonel James Edmonston, who is infest, as heir of her deceased brother John, on a precept from Chancery, dated 25th June, 1840, and she by her settlement, dated 4th July, 1852, gave the liferent of the lands to Thomas Buchanan, and the fee to John Buchanan, both of Powis. On 4th November, 1858, John Buchanan sold the estate to the late John Campbell, merchant in Glasgow, who changed the name to Inverardoch; and on his death, in 1882, it was, and still is, held by his trustees.





CHAPTER LI.

Part I.

Cambusbarron Mansion.

THE name "Campisbarrone" appears in the earliest Registers of lands, and this estate anciently extended from St. Ninians and the King's Park dyke, on the east and north, to Touch and Murrays-hall, on the south and west. The mansion—from the west gable (sketch, page 414), all that remains—appears to have been a two-storey, narrow, plain house, about 40 feet by 18 feet, with walls from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet thick—a yoeman's modest mansion of a type applicable to the 17th century. It is situated about 50 yards off the old highway leading

through the village and on its west side. The two-storey gable is utilized for a one-storey cottage, next to "Cromwell Cottage," built by the late Dr. Mushet on the mansion's foundations apparently. William Wordie, who acquired this part of the lands from W. Leslie of Balquharn some few years prior to 1682, may safely be described as

the builder of the mansion. No carved stone, initials, crest, or date appear on the gable or cottage walls. The coat of arms on page 413 was sketched from some heirlooms preserved in the Wordie family, kindly lent by a lady descendant. This suggestion of the founder of the Wordie family having erected the mansion arises from the fact that all the owners of Cambusbarron lands preceding him held them in conjunction with other lands where their residences were built. Thus in 1380, David II.'s reign, they were, along with Craigforth, Torwood, Skeoch, and Erth, held by an Adam More of Abercorn—all

being included in a Barony of Cambusbarron. In Robert II.'s reign they were held by a Hugo de Eglinton, along with Shiphauch, etc.; and in 1482, were owned, with the patronage of the Chapel of Cambusbarron, the one half by a Matthew Forrester, and the other half by



Two-storey Gable.

Alexander Lamby of Drumberry, who, in 1510, exchanged them with Robert, Lord Erskine, for the lands of Newton in Kincardine. As this is the first reference to the chapel, its erection may be ascribed to the period of this joint possession.

Prior to 1603, Sir Walter Forrester of Garden owned his ancestor Matthew's share, along with a joint patronage of the chapel, and on that date he was succeeded by his nephew, Sir James Forrester. They were afterwards held by the said William Leslie, who sold them to the foresaid William Wordie, who held other lands and several tenements in St. Ninians and Stirling.

The initials of this sketch, which appear on the lintel of a house in Parliament Close, St. Ninians, are alleged to be William Wordie



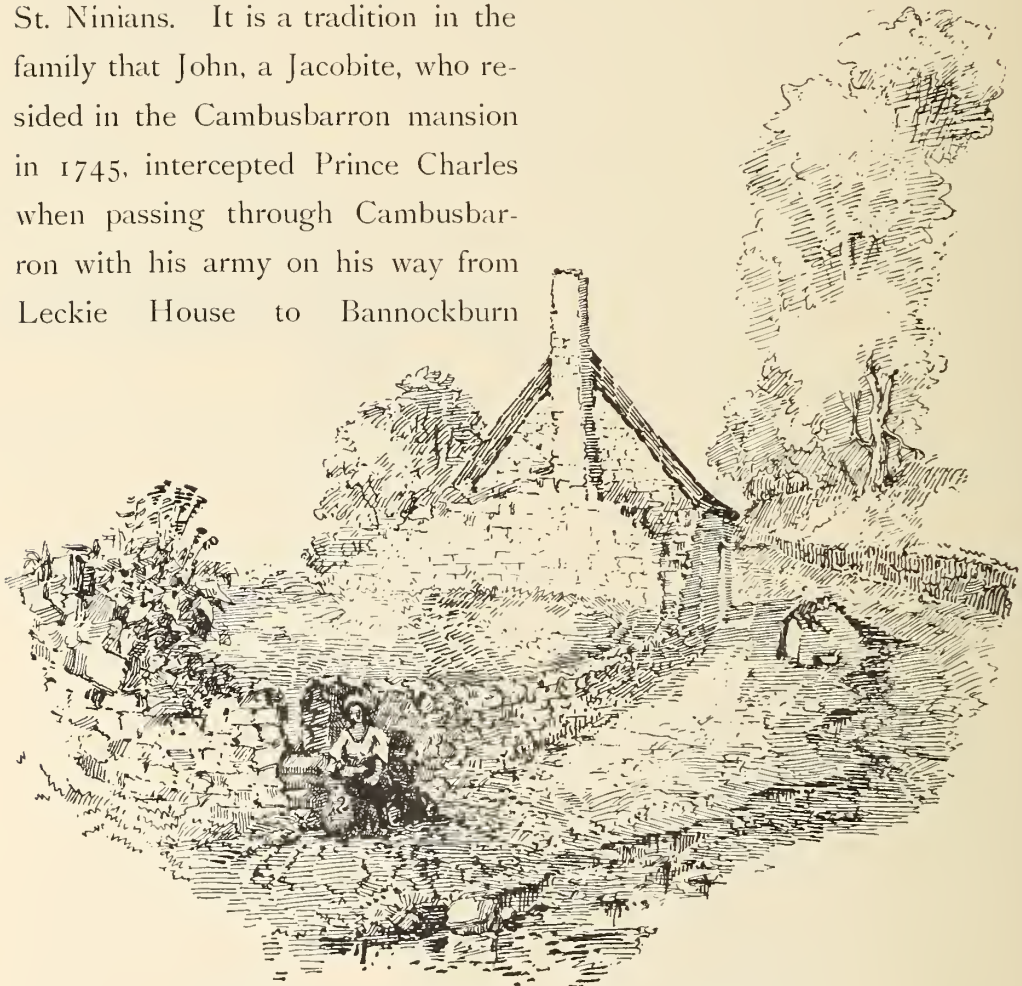
and Ellen Doig, his wife, and the initials T.W. 1603, etc. (see page 287), on another door lintel in that court, also applies to the family, identifying these properties as theirs.

The first occurrence of the family name is in 1560, when a *Willelmi Weirdy, nuncius vicecomitatus* (Sheriff's messenger), officiates with other two *nuncios* at an assize for serving James Cunningham as heir to Polmaise and Torbrekkis estates.



In 1682 William Wordie acquired Torbrex, and erected the old mansion house of Torbrex (Williamfield), as this tablet, with his initials and those of Isobel Mushet, his wife, and date, appears on it. His son, John, succeeded to the estates. He married

Sophia Landele, and died somewhere about 1713, leaving two sons, John and William. John, a merchant in Edinburgh, married Agnes Mushet in 1737, a daughter of the Mushets of Burnbank, and he held one half, *pro indiviso*, of the lands, with the alternate patronage of the Chapel of Cambusbarron, also the mansion houses of Torbrev and Cambusbarron, the lands of Torbrev and Kirklands of St. Ninians and the above mentioned tenements in St. Ninians. It is a tradition in the family that John, a Jacobite, who resided in the Cambusbarron mansion in 1745, intercepted Prince Charles when passing through Cambusbaron with his army on his way from Leckie House to Bannockburn



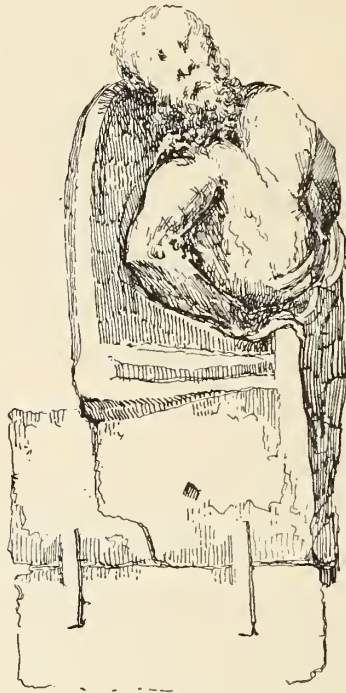
Alleged site of Cambusbarron Chapel.

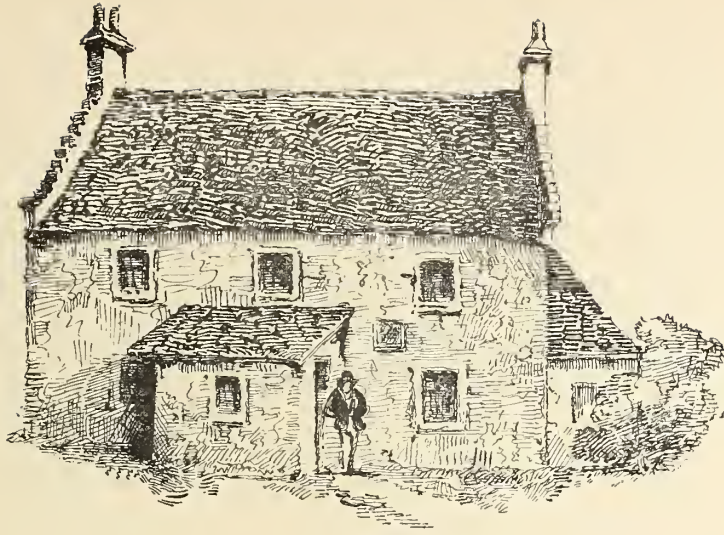
House, *en route* for England, and treated him to a refreshment of cake and wine, which was graciously accepted ; that the Stirling Castle guns were trained on the force when it had cleared the Park Rock concealing it and emerged on the Torbrex lands ; and several cannon balls found subsequently there were retained as a memento. John seems to have changed his residence from Cambusbarron to his Torbrex mansion (Williamfield) shortly thereafter, as his daughter, Isobel, was married to Alexander Murray of Polmaise out of that house. He died about 1781, when his trustees were vested in the lands, and they sold them in divisions, viz., to Arthur Buchanan, who acquired 15 acres named "Kenning Knowes," to Captain James Blair the part named "Birkhill," to Alexander Blair, the part named "St. Thomas' Well," and another got "Leslie's Dryfields." The mansion house and garden went to John Graham of Cambusdrenny, and being no doubt, with its modest accommodation, an inconvenient residence for a family, was resold by him on 27th February, 1786, to John Donaldson, portioner, Cambusbarron. Ultimately becoming ruinous, it and the garden were purchased by the late Dr. Mushet, a collateral descendant, who erected Cromwell Cottage, some 30 years ago, as already stated.

The other *pro indiviso* division of Cambusbarron, with alternate patronage of its chapel, was acquired by William Duthie in 1785, and conveyed by him to his eldest daughter, Mary Ann, in 1798. The descendants of the Wordie family are now represented by the Murrays of Polmaise and Wrights of Torbrex, the former holding the superiority.

Tradition places the ancient Cambusbarron Chapel in the vicinity of the grounds in the sketch (page 416), taken in 1854, but no trace of ruins or foundations have been found there. However, at the neighbouring farm-steading of St. Thomas' Well, originally part of Cambus-

baron estate, which ancient well gives a volume of water equal to St. Ninians' Well at the old Chapel of "Tibermasko" or St. Skeoch, there are innumerable carved and other stones of an ecclesiastical edifice, which combined with its proximity to a noted spring, points to its being the site of the ancient chapel; and its well that from which the Abbot of Inchaffray obtained the holy water to bless Robert the Bruce and his army on the field of Bannockburn. Two stone male half-figures, near the situation of the mansion, may have belonged either to it or to the adjacent chapel.





Part 2.

Torbrex Mansion.

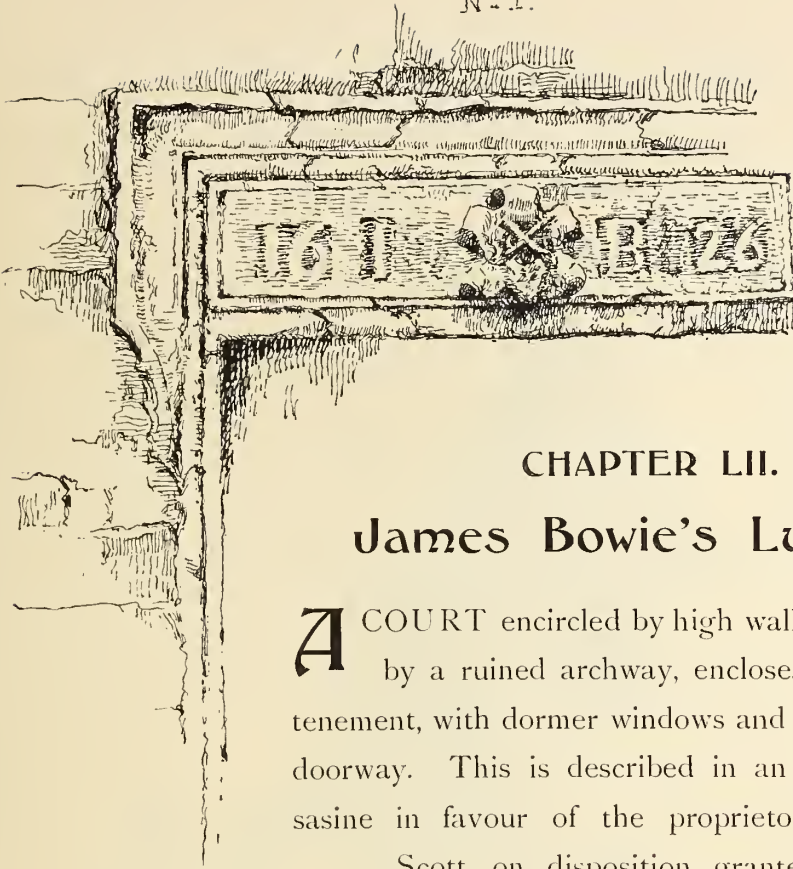
THE above house, in the village of Torbrex, does not represent the original mansion on Blaeu's Map of 1654, but one erected by John, or Thomas, Buchanan, who obtained a feu charter in 1719 from his relative, John Wordie. He married Ellen Campbell, whose initials, with his and those of his mother, and his arms and date of erection, appear on the tablet (sketch, page 420). This tablet over the door, was removed to its present position when certain alterations, including a porch, were made on Torbrex, and when some carved work and an old chimney mantelpiece were taken to Polmaise House.

On 27th October, 1533, James V. confirms a charter, dated 8th May, 1532, by Robert Bisset of Quarrel, the superior, to Duncan Narne of Bannockburn and Margaret Scot, his spouse, in the lands of Torbrekkis, and lake and bog of the same, lying between the lands of

Cambusbarron, the New Park, Loveylands, the Kirklands, and Southfield, which James Binny, burges of Stirling, had resigned. On 29th August, 1534, James V. grants a charter thereto to James Cunningham of Polmaise, and he was succeeded by his relative, John Cunningham of Drumquhassil, as his heir, on 27th August, 1560, on a breve of inquest before Willelmi Weirdy, Malcolm Kinross, and David Ramsay, as Sheriff's messengers; Margaret Aytoun, James' relict, being reserved a liferent. On 23rd April, 1801, Charles M'Donald acquired the mansion house and bog. It now remains the property of the Murray family of Polmaise. The description of the boundaries and character of the ground, lake and bog, are interesting as showing the original nature of the subjects.

The small house at Murrayshall lime kilns is alleged to have had the date 1673, and to have been built and occupied by John Murray and his family prior to Polmaise mansion on the Forth, but this is scarcely credible.





Bowie's Court
ST. MARY'S WYND.

CHAPTER LII.

James Bowie's Ludging.

A COURT encircled by high walls, and entered by a ruined archway, encloses a two-storey tenement, with dormer windows and an ornamental doorway. This is described in an instrument of sasine in favour of the proprietor then—John Scott, on disposition granted to him by Elizabeth Bowie, one of two daughters of James Bowie, *sergeant of His Majesty's wine cellars* (who left no son)—dated 1st June, 1659, as all and haill that tenement of land, close, yard, little house and little yard upon the north side of the said tenement “now converted into *ane hale great ludging* or tenement of land, and ane yard, all pertaining of old to Jerome Bowie, thereafter to the deceased James Bowie, sergeant of the late King's wine cellar, his son, thereafter to the deceased Anna and Elizabeth Bowie, his only daughters, etc., lying within said burgh at the foot of St. Mary's Wynd thereof, and on the east side of the same.”

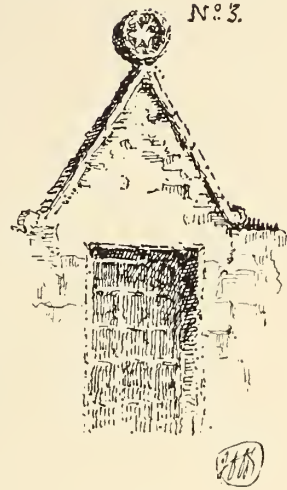
The ludging forms the east side of the courtyard, which is about 60 feet long by 30 feet wide, and thus faces the gateway. It is two storeys in height, with corbie-stepped gables, and has two dormer



windows to the back. It had formerly two to the front, but only one now remains, all with different terminals (sketches, page 423). A remarkable feature is the finely-moulded front doorway of the ludging

itself (sketch, page 421), with carved lintel, concealed by a modern outside stair. The figures and coat of arms (a scroll enclosing a saltier with bull's head (sketch, page 424), and the initials, I. B., 1626, give its owner's name and armorial bearings, with the date of erection.*

The windows in the gable to Irvine Place are of considerable height from the ground, and the front wall and gateway to the court facing St. Mary's Wynd are three feet thick. The gate, from the marks of its hinges, must have been a heavy one. All this arrangement points to the ludging having been *without* the protection of the town wall, and a



No. 2.



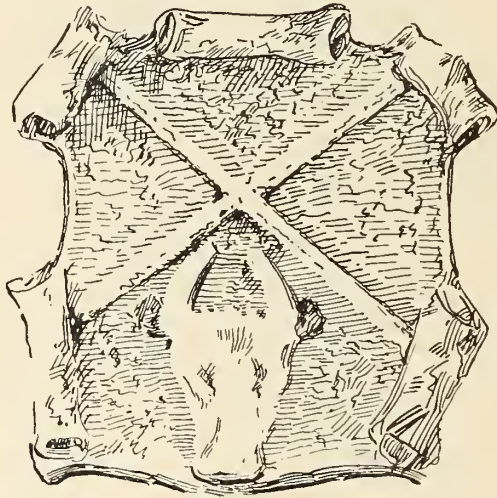
fortress within itself; and from the boundaries then of Duncan Watson's adjoining property, in 1699, which are described as *outside* the Port Gate, this must also have been the case with this ludging. This court was known in our early days as Bowie's Court.

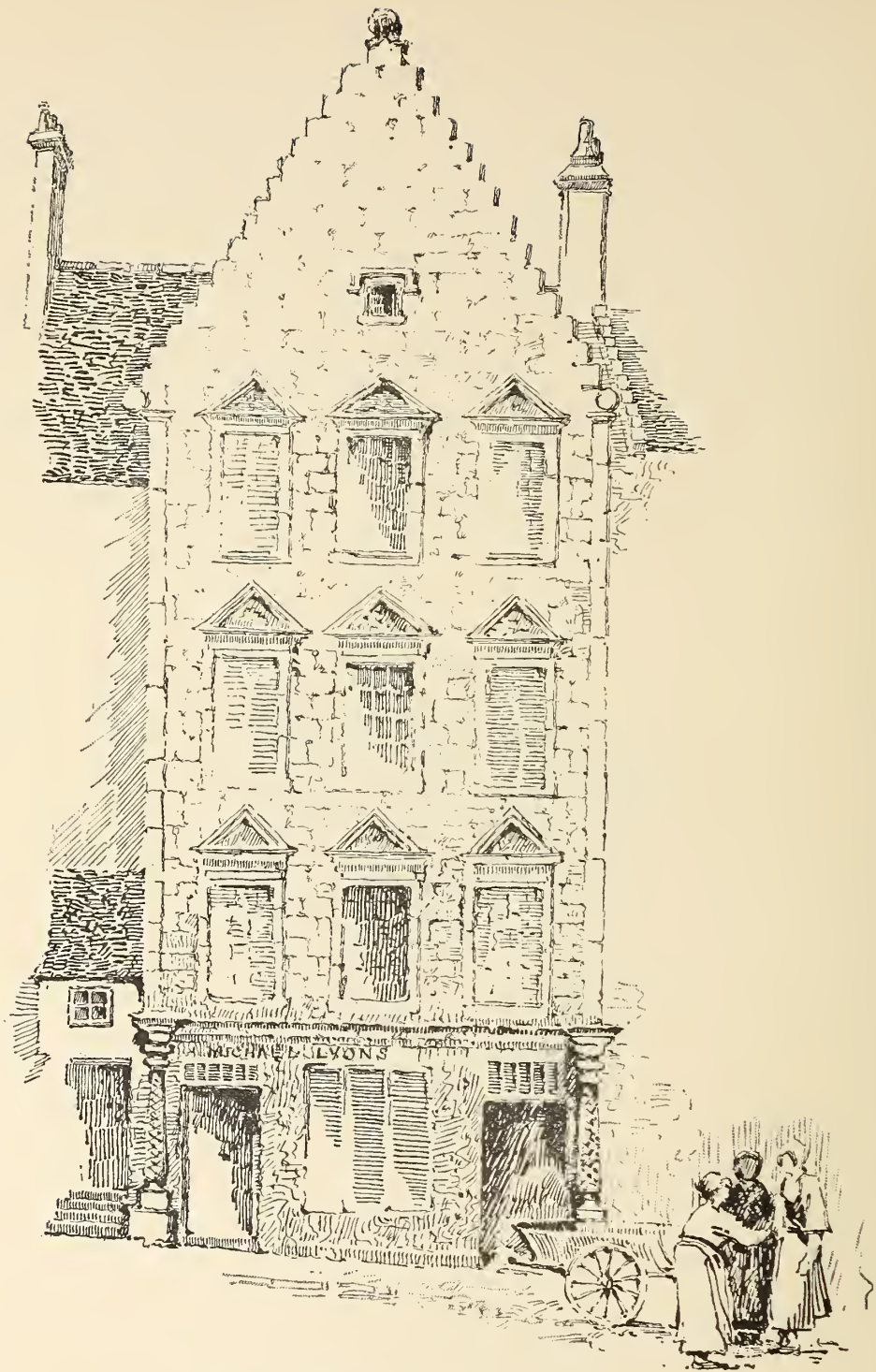
James Bowie was married to N. Cherrystone, designed as "*Ceymlare* to His Majesty, James VI.," who survived her husband, who died about 1659; and she is consentor to her daughter's disposition. James Bowie was, along with a number of the King's servants, on 17th July. 1617, admitted a

* NOTE.—Sir J. Balfour Paul, on submission of a special sketch taken after the whitewash was scraped off the shield, considered it interesting, and that it was the coat of arms—"a saltier with a bull or cow's head embossed, the only arms shewn from an old MSS. of the Bowie family, and almost invariably belonging to families in Annandale." It is an ancient family. The same arms are on the seal of Sir Eustace Boiwill appended to Ragman's Roll.

burgess of Stirling. Like the rest of the King's servants, he was shabbily treated, his salary being in arrears on Charles I.'s succession, and it was only after repeated applications that his importunity was successful in obtaining, on 7th June, 1632, Royal Letters to the Earl of Mar, "our Treasurer, to pay the feyis due unto him as Master of our wyne seller of that our kingdom according as is mentioned in the gift grantit thereupon by our late Royall father, *togidder* with the arrieris thereof."

Since this article was in the publisher's hands, the "great ludging," court, and other buildings have been entirely removed.





Town Clerk Harie's Lodging.



CHAPTER LIII.

Town Clerk James Norie's Ludging.

THE absence of architectural interest in the Panholes' tenement is compensated for in this ludging, which forms a very perfect specimen of the Netherland domestic architecture, with classical forms incorporated, prevalent in the seventeenth century. It has a gable to the street with a narrow frontage, is three storeys in height, with three windows on each storey (the two side ones being simulate) and a small attic window. The ground floor—now a shop—has a heavy cornice supported by two small lozenge-marked pillars. The building is of

regular courses in freestone, so wonderfully preserved as to deceive as to its age. The nine windows of the three flats, the blind as well as the real, are treated alike on classical lines of moulded jambs and lintels or architraves, with pediments formed of horizontal and raking cornices, the tympanum of each containing initials or inscriptions, for which they form fine settings. The terminal stone of the gable is a colossal projecting human head, of a sphinx-like aspect, but may be a portrait. The ground floor, back and front, is vaulted, and the rooms are wainscotted in panels. The original entrances were both from the close, one having a projecting lintel with jambs.

The inscriptions within the various tympani are as follows :—

Top Flat.

I R 1671 A L

Second Flat.

I N Soli Deo Gloria A R

("Glory to God alone.")

First Flat.

Arbor Vitae Sapientia Murus Aheneus Bona Conscientia

("Wisdom is the tree of life.")

("A good conscience is a brazen wall.")

We learn from Rector Hutchison that *Murus aheneus bona conscientia* was a favourite motto at the time when Latin mottoes were in fashion. Sometimes *sana* (sound or clear) is written in place of *bona*. In this form it is the motto of the Earl of Scarborough. The original seems taken from—

"Hic murus aheneus esto,
Nil conscire sibi, nulla pallescere culpa."

Horace, Epist. i. 160.

These Christian and moral precepts, with names or initials of the owner

and his wife, and the date of the erection of the building, are very common introductions during this period.

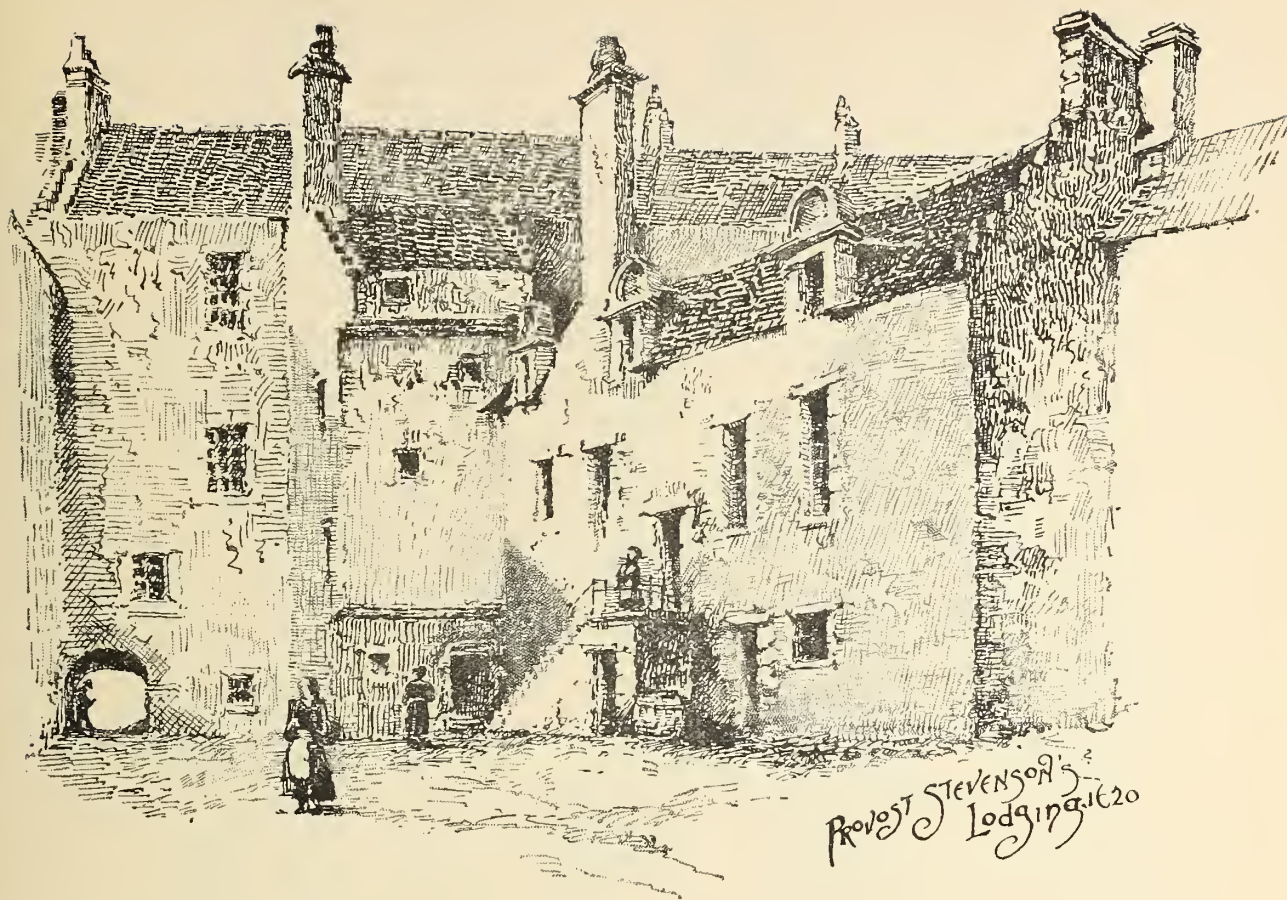
This ludging, easily known by the initials carved on the front, made a good centre for identifying the houses on each side of it.

Robert Norie, a royal servant, owned the old house preceding the erection of this one. He was, in 1471, succeeded in it by his son, who sold it to James Robertson, and who conveyed it by marriage contract to his married daughters, Agnes and Jean,* and to Maria, a spinster. Agnes married James Norie, and held one-third *pro indiviso* share; and the whole three, with the husbands of the married daughters, are infest therein on 15th September, 1659. The present building, erected in 1671, by James Norie, bears the initials of the daughters and their husbands, and it is suggested that the head forming the finial of the gable is the portrait of Town Clerk Norie himself in his official wig (sketch, page 430). He seems to have retained his office (it was then a yearly appointment) until 1679, and to have died about 1680. It is probable he is a descendant of the early proprietor, Robert Nory, who was a royal servant, and, in a most interesting charter, received a gift from James II. and Maria, his Queen, of the lands of "Quenijs halch," etc. (part of the Queen's dower), on 1st June, 1452, the consideration being "*pro jucundo novis per ipsum regi premitus de nativitate Jacobus principes heredis et filii regis legitimis relatis*,"—as the bearer of the first tidings of the birth of Prince James (III.), son and heir of the King. The holding is the delivery of a "red rose" at the Feast of John the Baptist, at Queenshaugh. As Queenshaugh is afterwards found in possession of Town Clerk Graham of Panholes,

* NOTE.—Jean's husband was Thomas Anderson, but she may have married again. Agnes survived her husband, and was succeeded by her only son, Alexander Norie, a merchant, in 1722.

before referred to, shortly thereafter, it is so singular a coincidence that the property, at that time, seemed attached to and followed the office of Town Clerk.





CHAPTER LIV.

Provost Stevenson's Lodging.

IN the courtyard entered by the pend in the tenement immediately on the east of Norie's house, is a two-storey house with three circular-headed dormer windows and front chimney (sketch above). The four windows (one of which now answers as a door for a recently erected outside stair) seem, from their regularity and height, to light a large room or hall. The house has a crow-stepped gable, and was originally entered from the square tower or staircase of the larger front

tenement forming the south side of the courtyard, the door jambs and lintels being moulded. The back view of this south house gives an impression of greater antiquity than its front, which has been recently under the hands of the modernizer.

In 1595 the buildings belonged to James Stevenson, maltman, to whom the Town Council gave liberty to take seven ells east and west "from his work-house end," and nine ells south and north at the west end of his house, "and that off the gait now lyand waist." In 1597 he is one of four of a deputation entrusted with the firlots to have adjusted in Edinburgh, and on 13th October, 1598, he is one of the inquest for fixing the annual price of victual.

On 21st September, 1629, Alexander Cunningham, contravening the Act "by bigging with timber under the foir stair of unquhile James Stevenson's foreland forenent the Mercate Cross," is prosecuted by the neighbours, with the Fiscal's concurrence, and ordered to demolish the timber work, etc. Robert Stevenson, who succeeded to his father in the properties, was Provost in 1656. The present houses were erected after his father's death, probably in 1630, and after the above litigation.





CHAPTER LV.

Bailie Bauchop's Ludging.

THOMAS BAUCHOP, on 25th May, 1658, is infest in that back tenement of land, with the close and yard thereof, of old pertaining to the deceased Alexander Bauchop, grandfather to the deceased Thomas Bauchop's brother, lying in the head of the Mary

Wynd, on the east side thereof, as only lawful son to Thomas Bauchop, merchant, with north part of yard, excepting the laigh vaults, pertaining to the heirs of the deceased Thomas Bauchop, with entrance by a stair of the north house.

Thomas Bauchop was Treasurer in 1668, etc., and Bailie in 1673 and 1674.

Above the windows of the eastward part of the house are two inscribed slabs. The initials, A.B., M.W., are doubtless those of Alexander Bauchop and Margaret Williamson, his wife ; and T.B., I.W., those of the uncle, Thomas Bauchop and his wife ; while the initials on the second plate, T.B., M.S., are probably those of Bailie Thomas Bauchop and his wife, with date of erection, 1672.





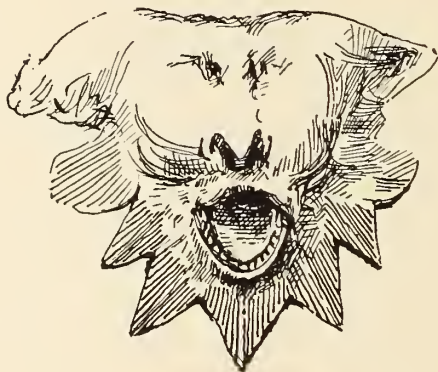
CHAPTER LVI.

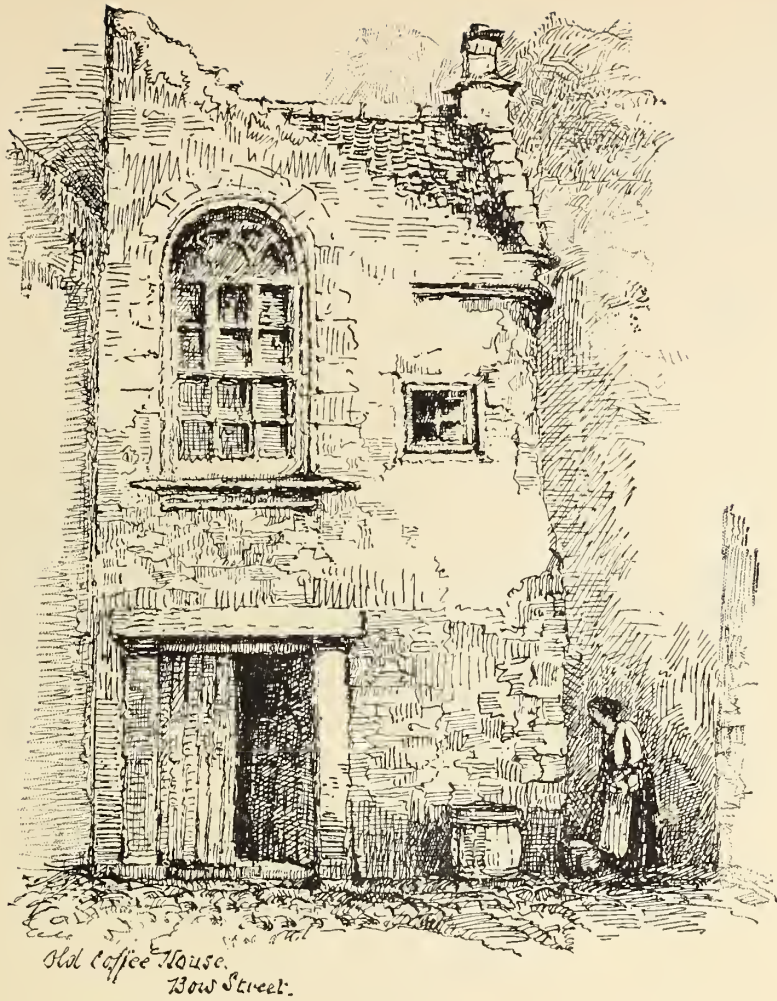
Glassingall House, Broad Street,

STANDS at the east end of a close at the foot of Broad Street, and was the town-house of the proprietor of Glassingall, whose country mansion is near Dunblane. It was erected, as the keystone of the doorway bears, in 1737. It has a fine appearance from its terraced

garden, has large windows, and is vaulted on the ground floor. The sketch (page 435) is taken from the court. The main rooms are wainscoted to the ceiling, with press and room doors after the same design, and the doors are fitted with antique brass hinges. The design of wainscoting attracted the attention and pencil of an architect publishing a work on ancient architecture. On a large panel over the fireplace is a large superior oil painting of Stirling Castle, evidently an original, represented by a print published in 1753; and there is also a composition landscape subject on a panel over the doorway. The view from the back windows, which is unobstructed, cannot be surpassed, and the house shews a fine taste in both the builder and the owner.

Mr. Alexander Smith of Glassingall, who died about 1845, alleged on his death-bed that he had left a will. After an exhaustive search, it was ultimately conjectured that, in destroying some private papers, he had inadvertently allowed a holograph will to drop amongst them. His fortune reverted to the Crown, who made a gift of the heritage to Thomas Stewart Smith, artist, a relation outwith the legal line of succession, and the founder of the Smith Institute, Stirling.





CHAPTER LVII.

Old Coffee-House.

COFFEE-HOUSES were established and extensively used during Charles First's time, from 1629 to 1640, when there being no Parliament, these establishments were the only refuges for discussion of politics. The coffee-house system extended to Scotland.

The house here sketched is at the end of a close in Bow Street, and was probably erected early in the seventeenth century. It was the

principal hostelry in 1745, and had convenience for stabling and lodgings for bagmen or travellers; and latterly it became a rendezvous for the tanners and farmers meeting on Fridays, being convenient for the market held in Broad Street adjoining. Early in last century it was a great howff for the professional class. A former proprietor, still alive, speaks personally of its being crowded on market days by county gentlemen, and he remembers, when a boy, of seeing the horses for the Perth and Glasgow coaches being stabled in the back premises and taken to water at the Old Bridge.

The Stirling Coffee-house has likewise an historical connection. In January, 1746, Prince Charlie, on obtaining the surrender of the town from the Provost and Magistrates, removed from Bannockburn House to and lived in it during the time of his siege of Stirling Castle, held by General Blackney. An old lady, Margaret Paterson, has told that, when a child, she recollected of seeing two Highlanders walking sentry in front of this close, and of being held up by her father to see Prince Charlie himself pass out with an attendant guard of two soldiers. Margaret Paterson died over fifty years ago at the age of eighty. Brember, an old hostler of Macpherson's, a former proprietor, in the knowledge of this tradition, in his old age, brought visitors to see the house as one of the then objects of interest, relative to Prince Charlie's residence in it. The house was owned by Macpherson as an hostelry in 1820, when he removed to the Saracen Head. It was afterwards kept by Andrew Kerr, and then by Morris M'Intyre, when it ceased to be an inn. The walls are thick and the original roof was oak, with oak pins holding the slates. Its public room has a fine pilastered wooden chimney-piece, the columns having Ionic capitals with panel in centre. The room was originally wainscoted, parts of which remain.



Old Gips Inn

CHAPTER LVIII.

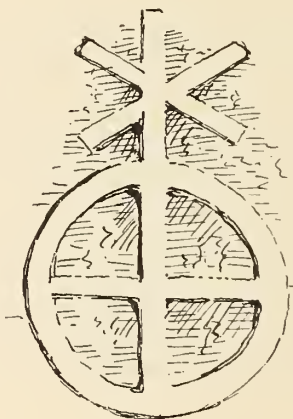
An Old Hostelry.

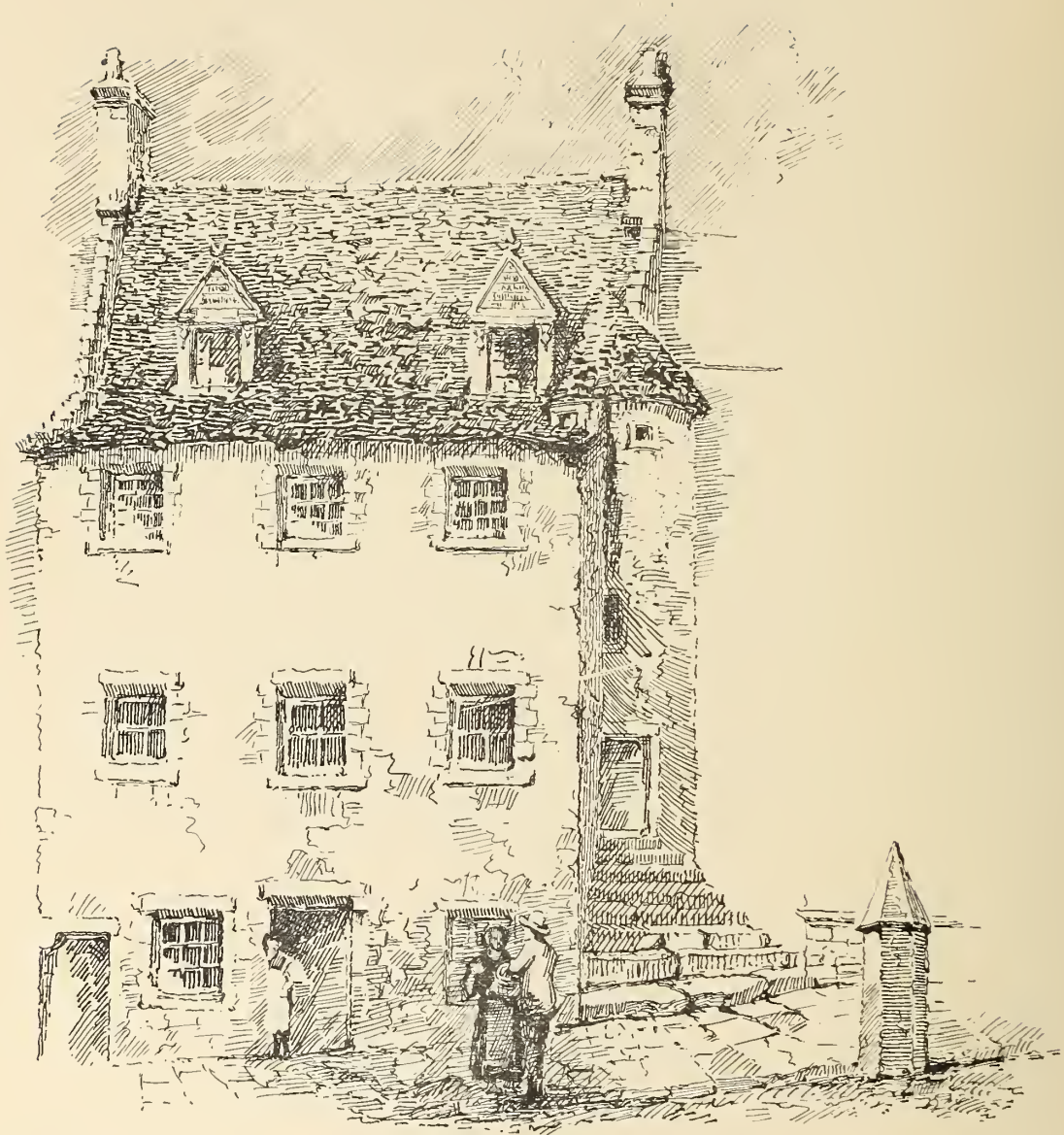
AT No. 31 St. Mary's Wynd, a two-storey, whitewashed, dilapidated house, with a projecting turret stair and crow-stepped gables, was one of Stirling's old inns or hostelries, and after undergoing many changes during its three centuries of existence, has virtually returned to its original occupation, but in a degraded form, being a common lodging-house. Each floor contains two large apartments entered directly off the turnpike, both being wainscoted with square wood panels to the roof and an old pattern frieze. The mouldings of the fire-

jamb and lintel show that the building is of considerable age. It has two marked features—a wide stone-arched kitchen fire-place, 9 feet by 6 feet, in the back wing, and a long arch like a tunnel (the barrel vaulting), 18 feet wide and 11 feet in height, open from end to end without a partition, with the turnpike projecting into it, and upon which the house is entirely built. This seems to have been specially designed for stables, which by Act of Parliament, 1424, all keepers of hostelries were bound under penalties to provide, the Act ordaining “all borow townes of this realm shall provide stabillis and chawmers to ridaris and gangaris.”

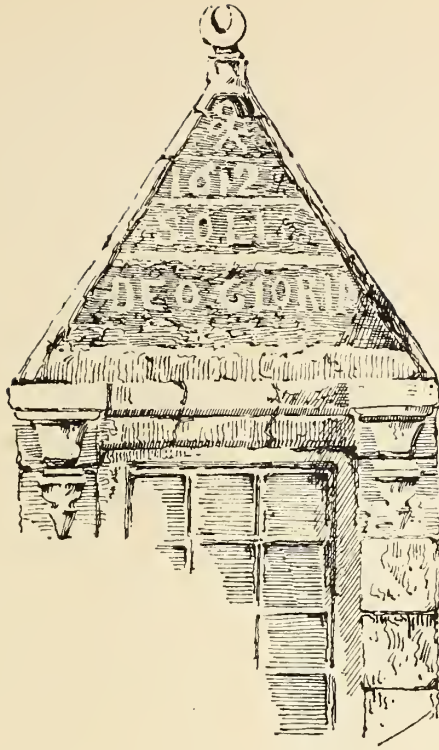
The house has a back wing entering off the long close. Neither has any date, inscription, initials, or carved work, except the device or ancient symbol of the Trinity* upon the corbel of the east gable—a singular emblem for an inn—and on its western neighbour another but indecipherable carving. From the above features, if tradition did not confirm it, there is no doubt that this is one of the ancient inns or hostelries of the burgh, St. Mary’s Wynd being a principal thoroughfare two centuries ago.

* NOTE.—The Trinity monogram in the sketch below replaced the eagle on the old Roman standard of the Trinity. It is composed of I, the initial for Jesus, and the cross, and the circle on which it stands represents the world—symbol of the conquering power of Christ over the world. It fell into disuse, but was revived in the twelfth century.—Hulmes’ *Symbolism in Christ. Art.*





Old House, Broad Street.



CHAPTER LIX.

Ancient House, Broad Street.

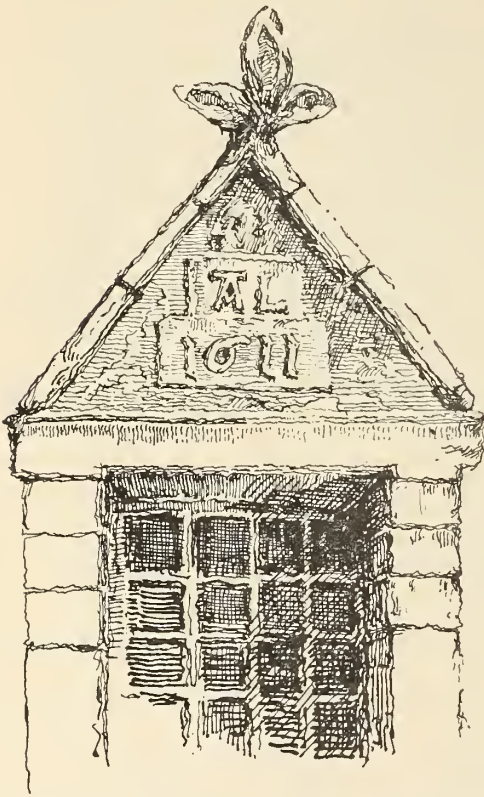
THIS is the small two-storey house at the old stone representing the market cross, opposite the new cross in Broad Street, next to the Tolbooth, and, with the stone, forms the subject of the sketch on the opposite page. The present front having been added after its erection to bring it into the street line, half conceals its old turnpike stair. It has an antiquarian interest from being one of the few ancient houses containing moral and religious inscriptions still existing, which are here engraved on the two quaint dormer windows in the front roof. The east dormer (sketch above), with a crescent as terminal, contains the date 1612 and inscription *Soli Deo gloria*, and the western one,

with *fleur de lis* terminal (sketch, page 445), has the same date with *Benedicam Dominum omni tempore*—being respectively “Glory to God alone,” and “I will bless the Lord at all times.” In heraldry, the terminals would represent the “second” and “sixth” sons, but these were too commonly used as ornaments for dormers by builders at this

period to bear any significance.

On a dormer of a back tenement attached to this old house, with a *fleur de lis* terminal, is the initials A.L., and date 1611.

From the title deeds, which go back to 24th December, 1659, when a Robert Burns, merchant, burgess of Glasgow, gets the house with his wife, Barbara Adamson, from his father-in-law, David Adamson, we have little assistance in discovering its builder or of the name represented by the above initials. The descriptions are:—
“All and Hail that middle tenement of land lyand within the



Burgh of Stirling, in the middle raw thereof, fornent the mercat cross, under the foir tenement of land yet was formerly possessed by Thomas Ewing, Tailzour,” etc. ; as also, “All and Hail that back tenement of land, high and laigh, lying on the north side of the Back Raw, contiguous to the said middle tenement, and sicklike, All and hail that eastmost laigh foreshop lying opposite to the cross in that tenement pertaining to James — Tailor, and which belonged to Robert For-

rester, then to Duncan Forrester, thereafter to Andrew Plumber, thereafter to John Adamson, Notary, thereafter to David Adamson, his son," etc.

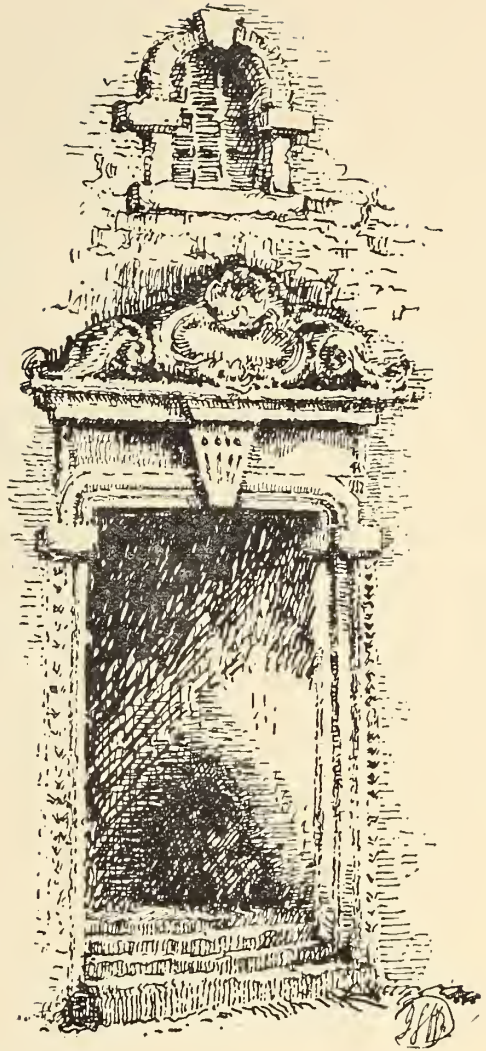
About sixty years ago, the buildings belonged to Thomas Kidston, baker, whose trustees sold them to James Burden, brewer, and he used the back premises for the purposes of his trade. As Provost Robert Forrester of Boquhan and Duncan Forrester of Queenshaugh were both undoubtedly alive in 1601, it is just possible that either of them may have rebuilt the house in 1612; and it may be upon the site of Provost Robert Forrester of Kelyemuk's house—the ludging which he bought for £100 from Marion Bruce, referred to in a transaction about the Queen Dowager's hat, placed in pawn, of date, 10th June, 1547.

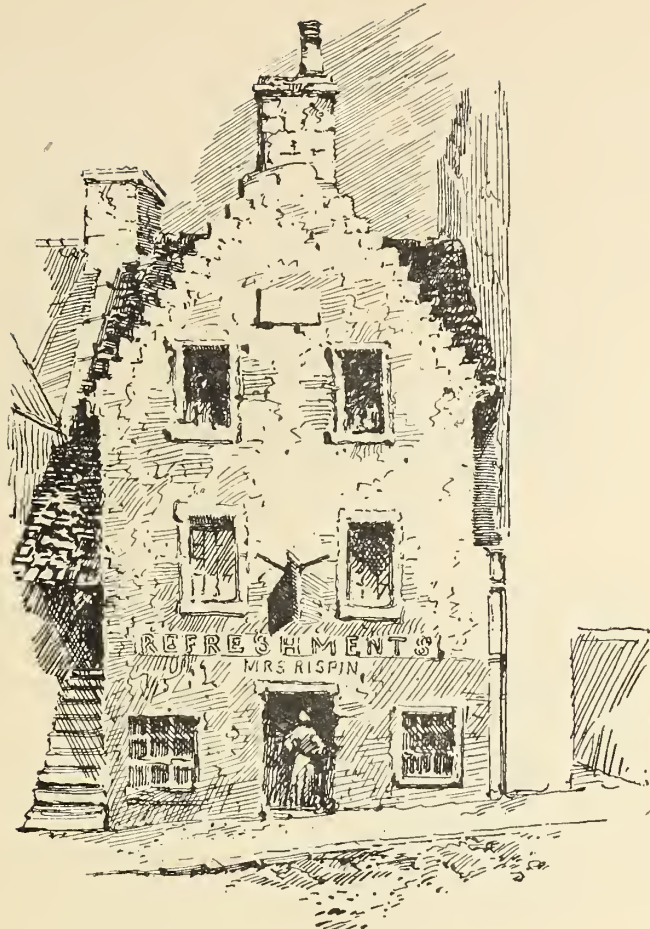


CHAPTER LX.

An Old Doorway.

NO. 74 St. Mary's Wynd owns this fine doorway, with scroll pediment and small quaint window over it. The house, of two storeys, is partly below the level of the street in front, and at the back is three storeys in height. The interior contains no marks of any kind beyond those of a simple dwelling, and no date or inscription. Its erection, judging by the doorway and pediments, may be ascribed to early in the eighteenth century.





House, Baker Street.

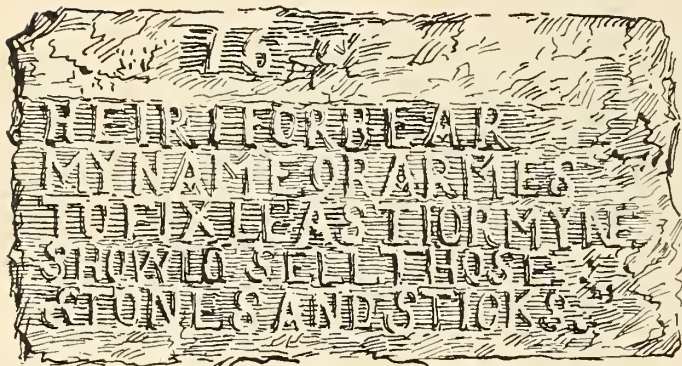
CHAPTER LXI.

Le Boghall Ludging, etc.

ATENEMENT bearing this name, we learn from an old Protocol Book belonged, on 11th April, 1476, to an Alexander Symson and Jonet Ayre, who are then infeft in it. It seems to have been situated in what is now Kirk Wynd, or in the close adjacent, and the antiquity and characteristics of the building (sketch, page 451). as seen

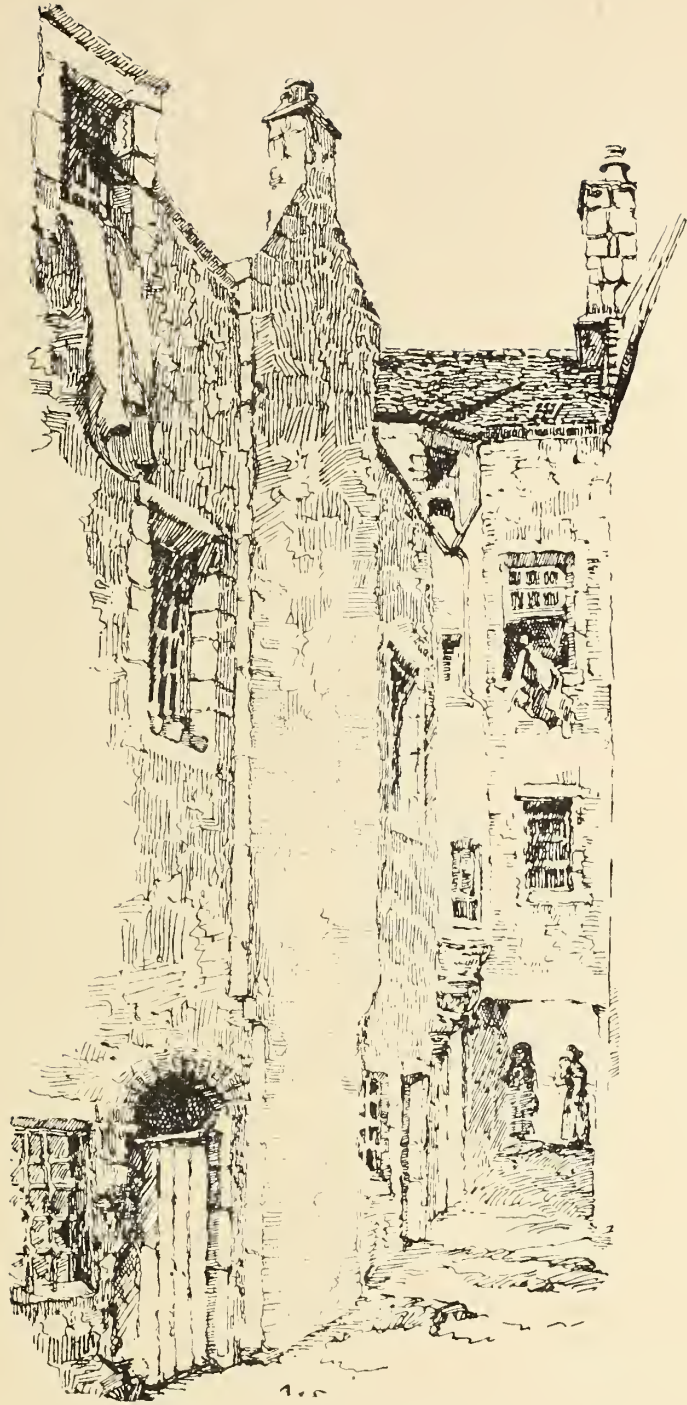
from the close, bear evidence of its having been a superior house, and may be Boghall. The ground floor is vaulted, and the windows, which with the doors are deeply splayed, have strong interlacing iron bars, peculiar to buildings of the sixteenth century. The attention of Mr. D. Y. Cameron, the etcher painter, was drawn to it and to the doorway, which he said was similar to those of houses he had seen in Venice. Its vicinity to Bruce of Auchenbowie's ludging suggests the origin of the name "Bogleha," popularly ascribed to that tenement.

On another old tenement (No. 13 Baker Street, sketch, page 449),



the westmost of three ancient crow-stepped gabled houses, all of the same construction and attached, with their gables fronting that street, is the inscription and date, 16— (the latter partially obliterated, but seems to be 1631) given here. A

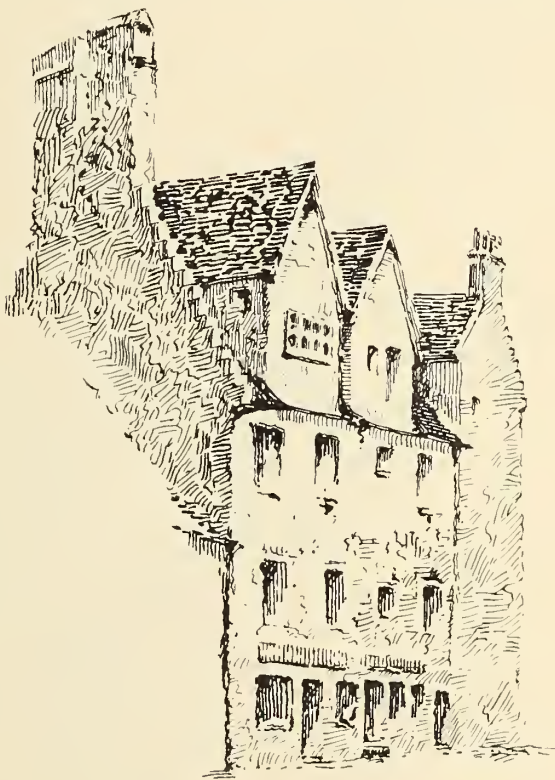
special meaning is attributed to this inscription as an allusion to the owner of its westmost neighbour, an old square three-storey tenement, who, after its erection, had conspicuously affixed his arms and initials, and through impecuniosity had to sell the building. This legend is hardly corroborated by the title deeds, which shew that the Incorporation of Weavers, whose arms are affixed to it, were proprietors, and that the ludging, which by its vaulting and general appearance of antiquity is undoubtedly the older building, being described as "that *great* ludging or tenement, belonged to David Craigengelt, afterwards to Patrick Craigengelt, and latterly to Charles Craigengelt of Wood-



Le Boghall (supposed).

side, who sold it to the Incorporation. This member of the Craigenfelt family thus seems to be the impecunious owner so hit at by the inscription, and the Craigenfelt arms and initials may have been replaced by that of the Weavers. The owner of the inscribed house illustrated above, about 1700, was John Marshall, writer, and in 1781, it belonged to John Porter, gunsmith. The trio, all similar architectural structures, have been razed to the ground, and the sketch, taken two years ago, may be therefore of interest as preserving its features. The east-most and most superior house contained three very fine carved fireplaces.

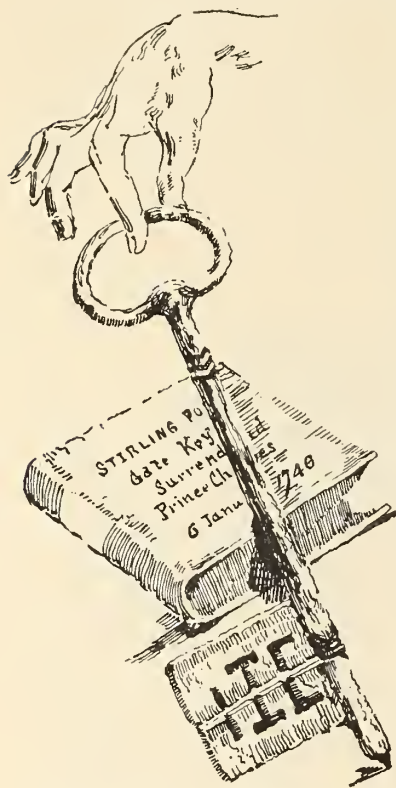
The old sixteenth century houses, composed of substantial stone fabrics, but with wooden projecting galleries, having merchants' booths underneath, are either all gone, or completely modernised. One stood at the head of Broad Street, adjacent to Mar's Ludging, being seen in an old and interesting print; but there remain two specimens—one at the foot of Broad Street and the other in Bow Street—the latter of which is this sketch. It belonged in the middle of the seventeenth century to a Gilbert Robertson, designed as a merchant, and afterwards to an Edward Luckieson. The sashes in the glazed windows of these houses had the lower part in folding halves. These halves were



often unglazed, but were made up of carved wooded panels. A sketch of the oldest existing specimen, taken from a house in Baker Street, is given on page 455. Neither it nor the house, however, date so far back as the sixteenth century.

NOTE.—In 1643, the Jesuit priest, Gilbert Blackhal, narrates an adventure at Stirling while attempting to cross from Edinburgh to Fife by Stirling Bridge, which being expressed so vividly and yet simply, and as giving a perspicuous account of the port gate, town wall, and characteristics of a Stirling ludging of that period, deserves to be inserted here.

Blackhal, in consequence of the boatmen at Leith declining to cross to the Fife coast on Saturday “as 12 hours had clapped” (the Puritans having torbidden all work from noon on Saturday until Monday

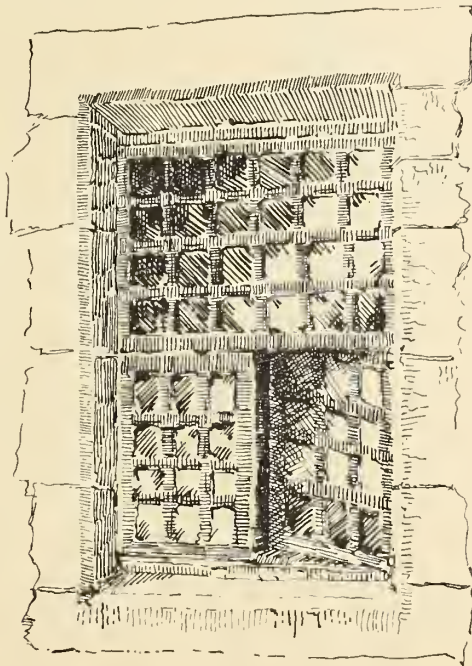


morning under great penalties), could not return to Edinburgh for fear of searchers sent to all inns on Sundays to see who were absent from the communion; he resolved to ride to and cross by Stirling Bridge. He stayed overnight at Burrowstoness, his host having to be eluded as he insisted on Blackhal joining him in the following day's communion, and dined at “an aile house al alone at the end of Torwood, which has nothing now but some scattered oaks of antiquity,” being distant two miles from Stirling. Having had in remembrance a vision of his patron saint to avoid for his life a *walled* town, which Stirling seemed to represent, he approached it in great trepidation “for I sie a long stone wal at every syd of the Town gate, and in this sadd condition I looked up and did sie the matter of three hundred paces from me two gentlewomen going to the Towne by another way which joyned with myne about one hundred paces before we came to the gate.” He spurred his horse, joined them, and enquired how he could get to the bridge *without* going through the town; and having allayed their suspicions which the enquiry raised in their minds regarding his motives, “they seemed to have compassion ou me, and said, we are sorry you have come so nere the towne, for now you can nathar go back again nor turne to any hand unremarked, and followed as an enemy to the state, and therupon kept in prison until your cause of going by the towne be tried. But we belive your frinds wil gette you soon brought out of prisonne, but it would ever

hender your voyage. Therfor your best cours wil be to enter in the towne, and you shal not go sex times the lenth of your horse in it, for we shal tak you out by a back gate. Speak not to us befor any body, but follow us wher we go. The towne gatte was shutte, and the wicket only open. [Last port gate erected 1591]. I lighted from my hors, and bouldly followed them in, and they entered in at the first great gatte upon our right hand, but about twenty paces from the gatte of the towne. They left the dore open behind

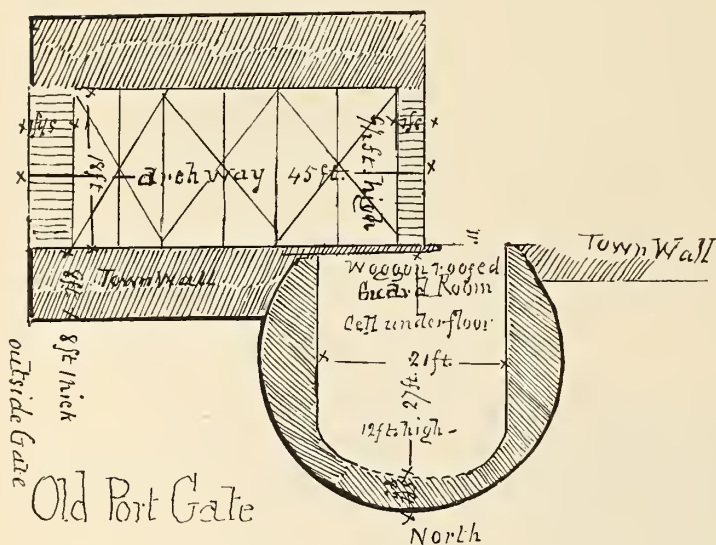
them, for me to follow, and when I was in they did boult it, for befor it was shut only with a sneck that lifted up, or, as the French call it, unloquet. The loging perteaned seurlly to some personne of quality, for it was very fair, a great courte builded on three quarters, and a baluster of iron on the side towards the garden, which had a faire and large parterre. By good fortune, there was no body in al the loging; whither no body was then dwelling in it, or that al the people were gone to the preaching, I cannot tel, for I was so glad to winne away that I did nor enqyur. They did take me through an alle [alley] of the garden to a stare which descended by the side of the towne walle: The stare was al of stone, and but little more as one foote broade, and very steep downe. The wall was on the lefte hand of it, and nothing on the other side to sauve people from falling from it to the right hand. My hors made great difficulty to enter it, but one of the gentewomen did tak the end of the bridle, and going befor him did draw him to her, and I did go behind and poussé him downe until he got his hindermost feet one marche downe, and then he did runne downe al the reste, and the gentewoman befor him, and did hold him until the other and I came to her. They were two very hand-some gentewomen, and very civil, and, as I could judge, sisters; for in visage and voice and clothing they were so lyk one another, that they could not be easily distinguished, unles both present together. When we were al downe, they did show me the way to the bridge, distinguishing it from the way which did go to Alloway [Alloa], a little towne upon the same water of Forth; and they bidding God give me good successe of my processe, and I givinge them many humble thanks for the great favour which they had done me, we separated. They went up the stare againe, and I to the bridge, but softly, until I had passed the bridge, and was up the bray on the other side of the water.

“I thanked God with al my heart and soule, who had so mercifully provided theis two gentewomen to deliver me out of the danger that threatened me. For if I had gone through the towne (as I would have bein constrained to do if I had not rencountered happily theis gentewomen). I would have been sent with a gard to the castel, to bein examined. For the Scots army was then at Newcastle, and no stranger or unknowen man was suffered to passe through any towne that had a gouverneur until he were first presented to him; wher if I had been carried, my fortune had bein soone made.”



Old Port Gate and Guard Room.

IN Bailie Ronald's interesting and reliable work, reference is made to "the Round House" existing in Messrs. Kinross's grounds, and with the view of getting details for a sketch of what the old Port Gate may have been, we examined it. The title-page contains a sketch of it, and of what appears to be an ancient gateway. This points to it being the guard room, invariably attached to the main entrance or gateway of all walled towns. The tower is two storeys high, and



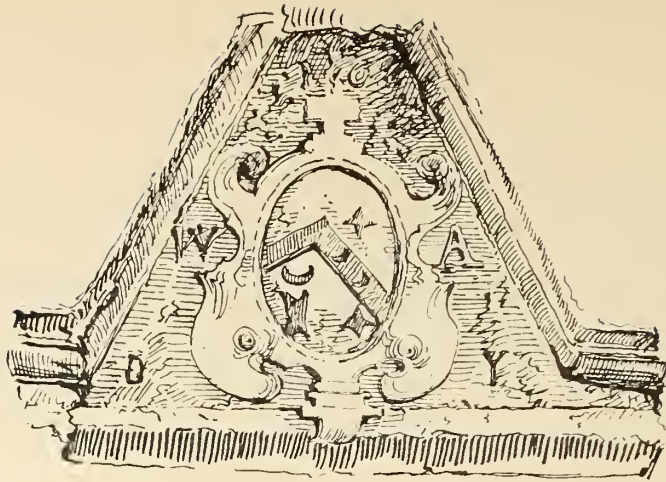
retains its conical roof, while its ground floor, a vaulted chamber with flagged floor, is 27 feet by 21 feet and 12 feet high. The archway is 16 feet broad by 9½ feet high, and runs through the breadth of the wall, about 40 feet, having the outside end built up, and the town wall is 6 to 8 feet thick.

The ceiling of the vaulted archway forms the ground floor of a dwelling house. Both archway and guard room are utilised as a smithy, etc.

In the sketch, we have merely restored the battlements and its corbel supports to the gateway, and added the beam for the working of the portcullis from the design of a Dutch town gate. The position of

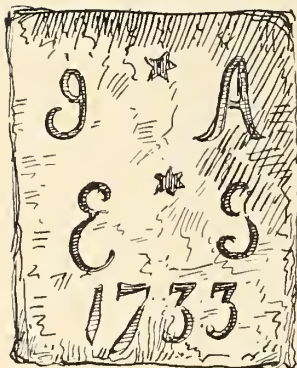
this guard room identifies the archway as the main entrance to the town until that was shifted farther west, such invariably occupying the right hand side of its inner gate. The flags cover a vaulted cell, which we did not see, but Bailie Ronald gives its dimensions as 11 feet by 7 feet and 7 feet high. This would be lighted by a grating in the guard room floor. A cell for temporary confinement always formed part of these guard rooms.





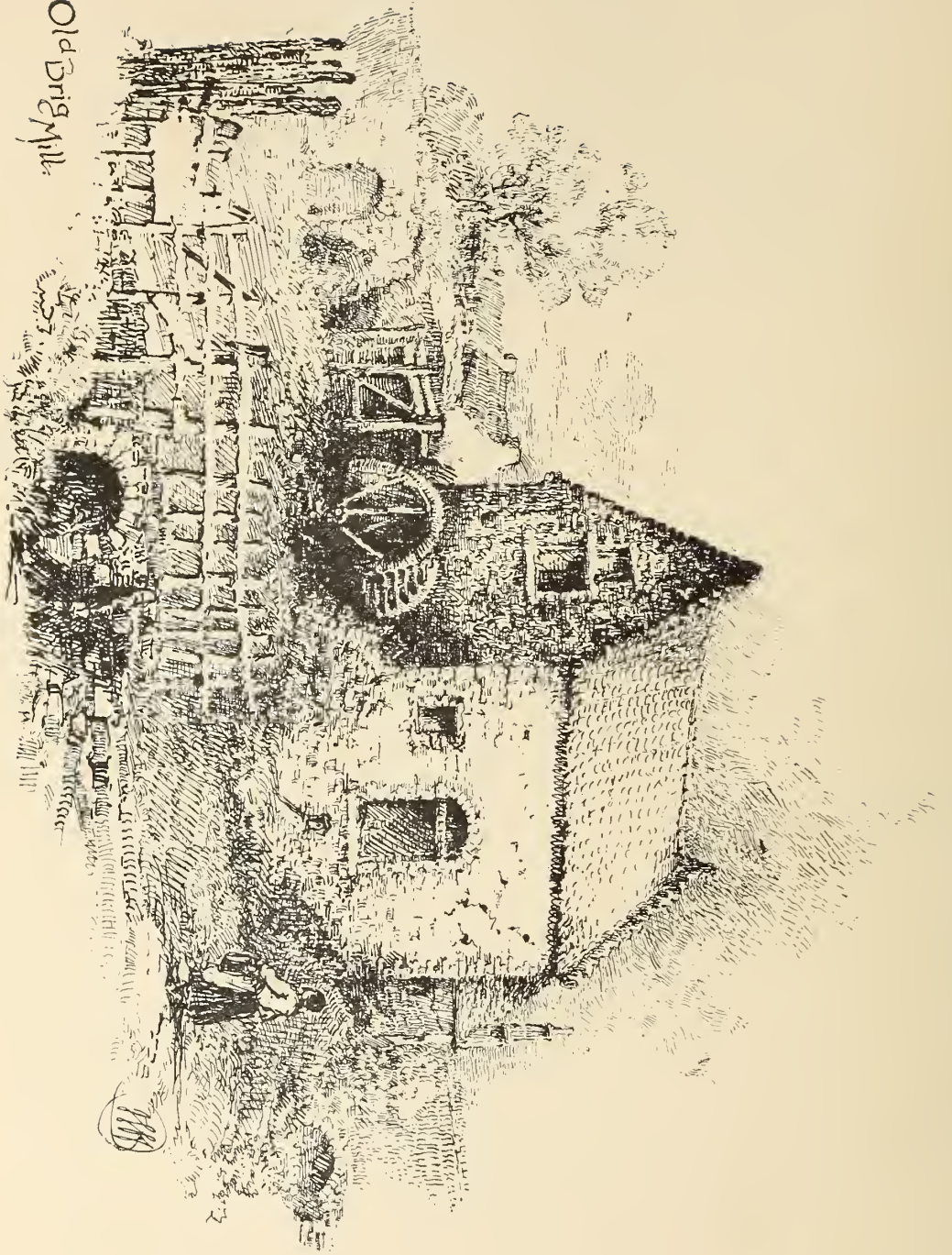
Old Coat of Arms.

THE above shield with an apparent coat of arms is presently the lintel stone of a common doorway in the tan works entering off Queen Street, Stirling. It has a date, now indecipherable, and the initials W.A. On submission of the sketch to Sir J. B. Paul, Lyon King-at-arms, for identification, his opinion was that the arms had been carved by a person who did not know the meaning of what he was doing, and that they were incapable of identification.



This sketch is a tablet over the small crow-stepped gabled house at the foot of Barn Road, adjacent to St. Mary's Wynd, and contains the initials J.A. and E.G. and date 1733. The ownership is ascribed to Provost James Alexander and his spouse, E. Glass, an ancestor of Sir James Alexander of Westerton. There may be a connection between it and the above, as the first tablet has evidently been brought from some older building, and may also belong to the Alexander family, having A as the surname on it.

Old Brig Mill



CHAPTER LXII.

The Town's Mills.



UR sketch opposite shows the Brig Mill, with part of a ruin which includes an arch as it existed in 1850, and the remains of the vault under the old guard-house at the Bridge.

This mill and the Burrows Mill belonged originally to the Preaching or Dominican Friars of Stirling, whose monastery, or house, was situated in the vicinity of the present Post Office, and who held at the time of the Reformation, in addition thereto, lands, annual rents, and other property which formed their endowments. These extensive and valuable possessions, and specially the above-named mills, by the cupidity of the Friars and prebendaries, when the old religion and its rights were abolished, were disposed of by Prior Andrew Makneill, in 1560, to Alexander Erskine of Cangnoir, brother-german of John, Lord Erskine, and Margaret Home, his spouse, which was confirmed by Francis and Mary. This transaction, by which the Town Council and Magistrates were overreached, and what should have belonged to them (being supported by the burgesses' multures) passed to a private individual, not even a burgher, naturally irritated them; and on 15th December, 1561, a suggestion is recorded by James Stirling of Keir, then Provost, "anent obtaining the Burgh Mills, with the crofts, yairds, and lands to the common gude, for sic reasonable

causes to be done to the Queenis grace plessour, and the hail Council thought the same expedient and tak upon hand therefore the bigging of the park dyke with such other things as may maist easily be conuenit." Accordingly, on the representation of the Deputies of the Town to the Queen, whether the said dyke was built or the other things "maist easily conuenit" were executed or not, Mary Queen of Scots, by herself (Darnley, her husband, having been murdered the previous February), on 15th April, 1567, granted to the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Stirling, "all lands, tenements, houses, buildings, chapels, churches, yards, annual rents, fruits, and others whatsoever, which belonged to the Dominican or Preaching Friars and Minorites or Franciscans," and rescinded and annulled all and sundry such previous alienations and dispositions by the Friars, etc.

We quote these conflicting dispositions to the same properties thus fully, to explain the after-continued litigation between the town and Cangnoir as to the ownership or right to the mills, a most valuable asset of the Friars. In Erskine of Cangnoir's conveyance the two mills are *specially* described and the sasine of him and his spouse therein, with Francis and Mary's confirmation as the over superior thereof, completed the investiture in their persons absolutely; whereas the mills are not even mentioned in the town's charter of the Friars' properties.

After years of litigation, and many ridings to Edinburgh by the Town Clerk "in pursuit of the mills" with Cangnoir, the Provost, with others, are deputed "to pass to Thomas Erskine of Gogar (Cangnoir's successor), and treat with him concerning his reputed right to the mills and lands within this burgh upon conditions as shall be set down to them." This attempt to settle does not seem to have been successful, and on 25th August, 1652, nearly a century after the seizure of the

mills, the Town Council agree to buy from Maister Leslie's brother, who had acquired Lord Erskine's rights, these mills and their lands at 16,000 merks. In this quarrel of disputed ownership, the mills and buildings fell into ruins, as in the same year the Brig Mill was rebuilt by the town. On 27th March, 1654, the Town Council executed an Act of thirl and astriction "of the haill neighbours and inhabitants of this burgh, present and to come, to the common mills, callit the Bridge and Burrow Milns, to grind all their malt to be brewn by them, and pay multure therefor."

The mill shewn on the sketch (page 460) is the old one erected in 1652, and the ruined arch on the left hand side of the sketch may be the remains of the original mill erected by the Friars preachers. The vault of the old guard-house, shewn on the right hand side, was built in September, 1746, to replace a more ancient guard-house, then declared to be "in great disrepair and uninhabitable," and the Treasurer was appointed to cause build a new "house at the west end of the Bridge kiln, of 16 feet in length, within the walls, covered with slates, and that without delay."

Since the sketch was taken in 1850, considerable changes both on the old mill and on the houses in its immediate vicinity have been made. St. Roches' Chapel existed in 1721, when a tenement, part of its possessions, is described, in a disposition to a Robert Russel, as being bounded by it on the north; the east boundary being the *calcylem ducca ponti*, shews that it was on the west side of the street—the situation corresponding exactly to the roofless front-gabled building, having its walls running east and west, now belonging to the town. St. Roch, or Ma Roch, has been variously named St. Moluk, St. Malochij, and St. Mawwarroch, arising probably out of the prefix *Ma*, or

Saint, being misunderstood by the writers. This chapel was subject to an annual rent to the altars of St. James and St. Thomas in the High Church, and the adjoining field, called the Ferry Croft, with the dues of the ferry, belonged to St. Lawrence's altar in the same church.



Addenda et Corrigenda.



MAR LUDGING, for dates 1672, read "1572."

COWAN MANSION, p. 92, line 8, for 1644, read "1638."

WESTER POLMAISE, p. 104, line 10, for *Keir*, read "Garden."

MANOR, p. 135 (add), "An exactly similar Reid arms occurs on the lintel of the door of a house in Edinburgh, with the date 1557, and initials A.A. and H.R., representing Alexander Aitchison and Helen Reid. She was probably a sister."

WESTER LIVILANDS, p. 151, line 10, for *length*, read "breadth."

FORRESTER OF GARDEN, p. 176, (add as footnote), "Sir J. Balfour Paul says the arms on the single shield (sketch, p. 174) and on the dexter side of the impaled coat are those of Durham of Grange; but no member of that family with the initials A.D. occur at the period indicated by the date 1584. In all probability the arms are intended for those of Durham of Mollet, one of which family married an Elizabeth Murray, whose initials E.M. correspond. There are three mullets on her coat above the hunting-horn, but they do not appear on your sketch. I see them, however, on a sketch which was taken at the time I saw them. They are really on a chef, not on a fess, which the former might be mistaken for owing to its position on the shield.

"The shield with the three hunting-horns (sketch, page 170) is that of Alexander Forrester of Garden, and the one with the pale charged with a cross crosslet fitchée is that of Jean Erskine, his wife. The D.F. and M.E. are probably the persons whose arms are depicted on another slab in the chapel, on which is an inscription to Agnes Leeshman, who died in 1633. Below this inscription (which may be of a later date than the shields) are two shields, the one with a single hunting-horn and the initials D.F., and the other with a pale charged with a figure which is indistinct, but may be a buckle, and with the initials M.E. I have it in my notes that these stand for Duncan Forrester and Margaret Erskine."

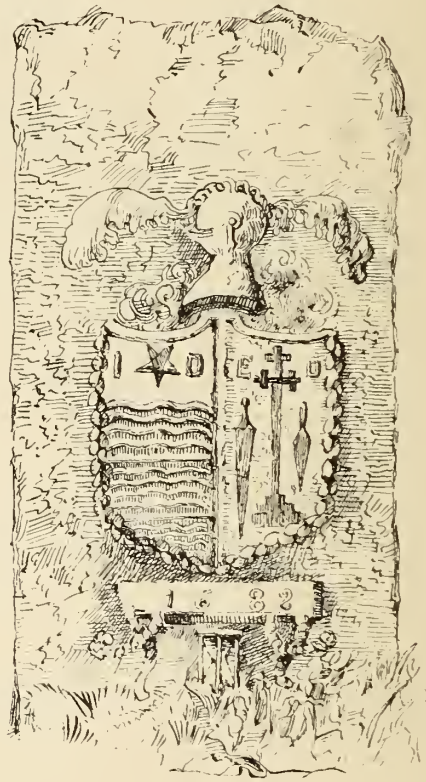
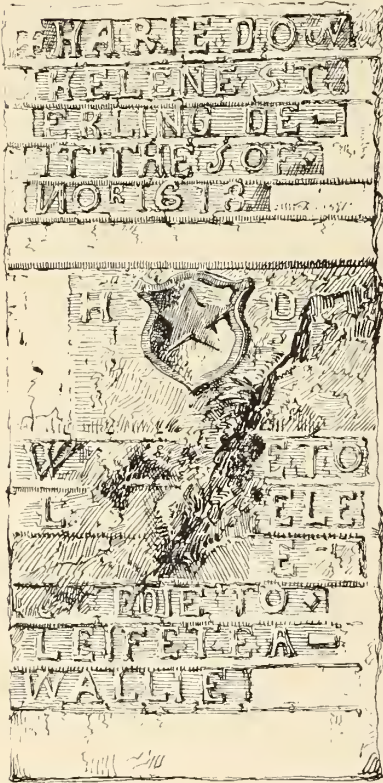
ELPHINSTON LUDGING, p. 181, for *Pinkiecleuch*, read "Piperden;" p. 185, line 5, after *John* add "first of the name;" p. 188, line 20, for *Robert Bruce*, read "Richard Elphinston and Isobel Bruce."

CARNOCK, p. 253 (add after motto, Put no ye soe into off ye Lady, and gif ye doe ye sel repent), "Earl Graham of Airth's first wife, Annabella Drummond, was a relative of Robert Drummond, upon whose coat of arms is this inscription. The Earl relates he purchased from the Earl of Linlithgow the Elphinston's house in Edinburgh, 'at the instigation of my woeful wyse wyfe, which was burned down like everie thing that that unhappie woman my wyfe lade her hand to.' This may be the lady the sculptor had in mind." P. 254, the initials on dormer represent Isobel Henderson, and the monogram on that, p. 256, represent Master Thomas Nicolson and this lady, his wife.

BARDOWIE, p. 266 (add), "From a precept of *Clare*, dated 17th June, 1798, by Sir William Stirling to John Buchanan, now Hamilton, acknowledging him as heir to Elizabeth Hamilton, spouse of Thomas Hamilton of Lenny, in the lands and mansion house of Bardowie, with the isle and loch, the position of Keir family was that of superior and the Hamiltons that of owner of the *dominium utile*.

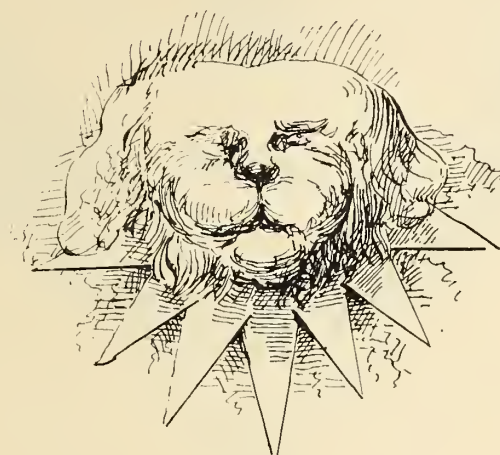
ARNHALL, p. 270 (add) "Harry Dow married Helen, daughter of his adjoining neighbour, Stirling of Keir, whose tombstone, with date of her death and the annexed Scriptural aphorism, is to be seen in Kilmadock deserted old churchyard, and being defaced, the letters wanting have been courteously supplied to us by an intelligent investigator of the quaint old tombstones in it. See sketches below:—

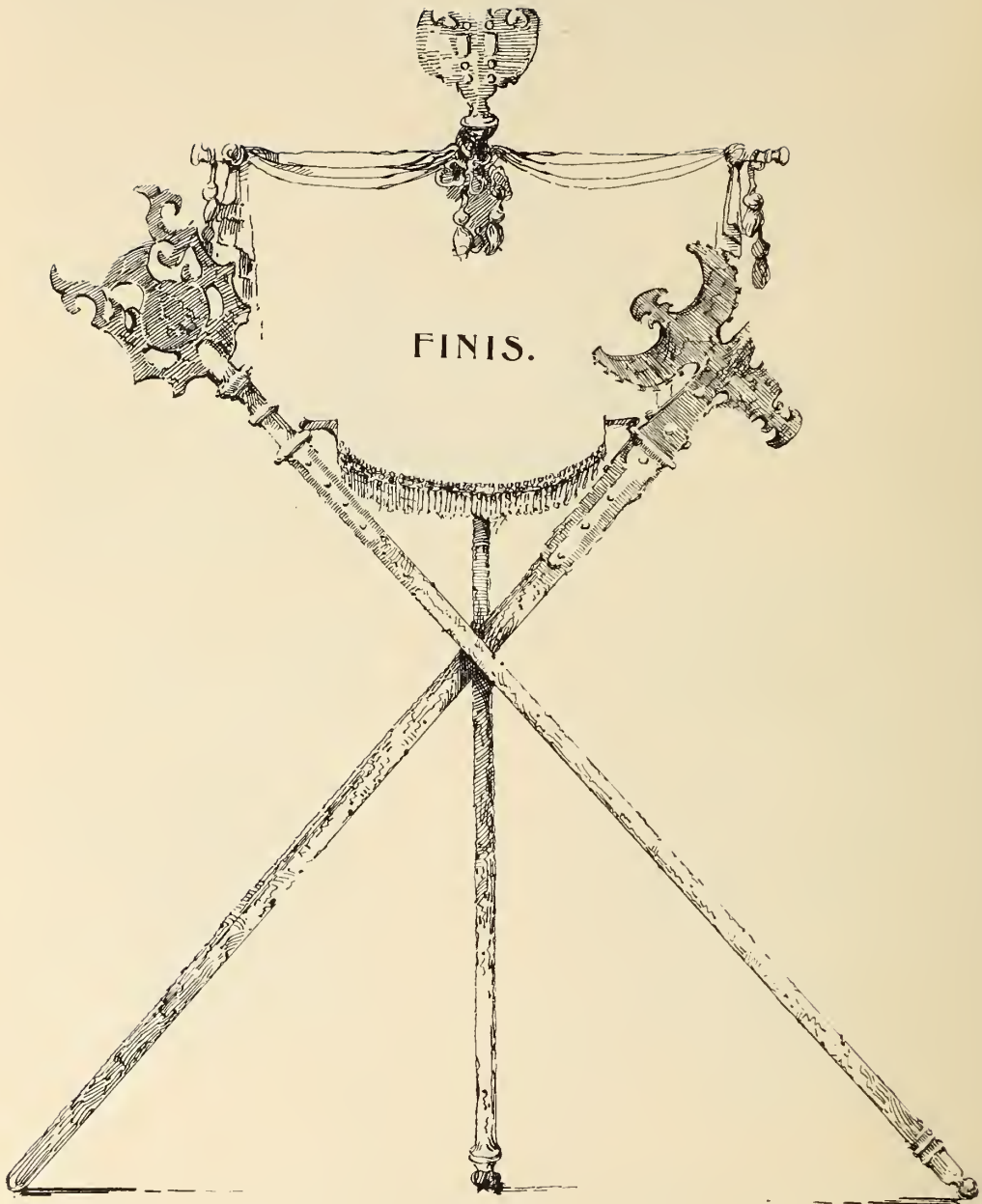
"WE · LEIF · TO · LIFE · WE · LEIF · TO · DIE
WE · DIE · TO · LEIF · ETERNALLIE.



"The other sketch is of a wall slab lying loose in the graveyard. It has the initials J.D. and E.D. and apparently the armorial bearings of a Dow and Drummond, but its connection with Harry Dow is doubtful."

KERSIE, p. 330 (add), "In September, 1558, a John Abercromby *de Kersie* gets from David, Commendator of Cambuskenneth, a renewal of his father's lease of Throsk, an estate marching with it, but he may be only a tenant.





FINIS.

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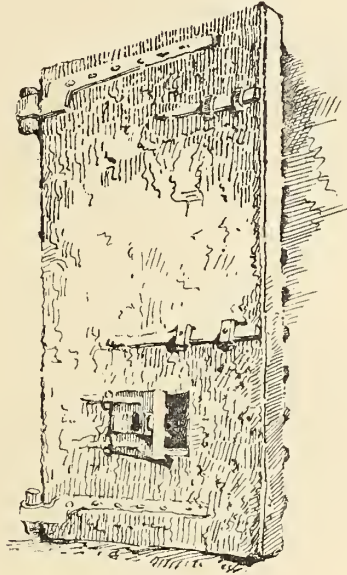
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*Site of Jarresters
Lodge Mansion.*

