

# TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

# BUCHAN CLUB

(BUCHAN FIELD CLUB).

1908-1913.

VOL. X.

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Nov 7 1912. Edg.

## INTRODUCTION TO TENTH VOLUME.

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SINCE the publication of the last volume of the Transactions the title of the Club has been changed from the "Buchan Field Club" to "The Buchan Club." It was found that the title "Field Club" was too restricted in meaning when one considered the nature of the investigations carried out by the Society. An examination of the Transactions of the Club for the past 25 years reveals the fact that the Club has not only conducted researches on the flora and fauna of the district, but it has worked very frequently in archaeological, historical, and other fields. After due consideration, therefore, the new title was adopted. This title is descriptive only of the territory and does not indicate any particular branch of science as a field for study. The memoirs contained in this (the tenth) volume are chiefly historical and biological. No less than five papers appear dealing with the history of the North-East. A most comprehensive and able review of the life of James Francis Edward Keith, the great Field-Marshal, from the pen of Mr Robert Anderson, appears as the first memoir. Members will read with interest the account of the antecedents and career of this great Scotsman. The connection of the Keiths with Aberdeenshire dates from Bannockburn, when Sir Robert Keith received the forest of Kintore and other lands in the North-East as a reward for his unique service at Bannockburn and for his loyalty and adherence to the Bruce. Field-Marshal Keith was born at the Castle of Inverugie in 1696—a year famous in Aberdeenshire from the fact that every pollable person living within the shire of Aberdeen is known to us to this day from the poll book. In 1715 Field-Marshal Keith and his brother the Earl Marischal took the step which ultimately drove them to a foreign land and gave them the opportunities for carving out careers worthy of their ancestral qualities. This memoir should be read in conjunction with Dr Bruce's "Earl Marischal" and Andrew Chalmers' contributions to the history of Buchan.

Sheriff Ferguson contributes two interesting papers dealing in a comprehensive manner with the old castles and the old baronies of Buchan. The appearance of castles in Buchan is contemporary with the arrival of the great Norman family of Comyn in the North-

East. During the age of the great barons, which extended from the time of the Norman Conquest to about 1300, the old castles of Slains, Ravenscraig, Rattray, Dundarg, and others were built. The chief castles of the middle period which ran from 1300 to 1600 were Inveralloch, Cairnbulg, Fedderate, Fyvie, and Inverugie. The more modern castles are those of Philorth, Ellon, and Brucklay. The memoir on the old castles should be read in conjunction with the "Old Baronies of Buchan," which is a mine of information respecting the earldom of Buchan, the regality of Slains, the lordship of Inverugie, and the baronies of Kinmundy, Pitfour, King Edward, Philorth, Pitsligo, Strichen, Fedderate, Fyvie, and others.

A most interesting account of "Cruden's two Bishops" is written by the Rev. Adam Mackay, Cruden. Those two able men, James Drummond, Bishop of Brechin, and William Dunbar, minister of the parish of Cruden, and subsequently Bishop of Moray and Ross and Bishop of Aberdeen, suffered greatly at the hands of the Presbyterians during the stirring period at the close of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth centuries. This historical note of the relations which the two Bishops had with the parish of Cruden is written by a kind hand and is full of just appreciation of two remarkable men.

Rev. J. B. Davidson contributes an excellent paper, full of great detail, on the "Third Volume of the Deer Presbytery Record," from the year 1701 to 1710. It is interesting to note that Mr Davidson, as clerk to the Presbytery, has charge of the Presbytery Records, and it is quite evident that he has studied them with loving care. The records were carefully written, the penmanship being exceedingly good, although the style of writing would now be called old-fashioned. One finds from these records most interesting facts reflecting light on the life of the population of Aberdeenshire 200 years ago. One continually finds references to collections made for harbours in various parts of the country, Banff, Pennan, and Peterhead; for instance, and Eyemouth, to mention a harbour outside the boundaries of the north-eastern counties.

Major Cheyne contributes a short paper on "Some Heraldic Records of Buchan" collected by him from various churchyards in East Aberdeenshire. This paper is well illustrated, and should be read by all those interested in heraldry.

Biological papers are contributed by Mr H. B. Mitchell, who writes on "The Colour and Song of Wild Birds;" Dr Bowman, who

writes on "Fish Life in the North Sea;" Dr Rennie, who contributes a short article on "Economic Natural History;" William Taylor, Lhanbryde, a Naturalist of wide experience, who writes on some "Records of Whales and Porpoises Captured or Stranded on the East of Scotland during the past 40 years;" and Professor J. Arthur Thomson, who writes on the "Wonders of Bird Migration." These papers should be read by all local Naturalists—they are full of valuable information. Mr H. B. Mitchell's paper is of a somewhat controversial character, dealing as it does with the problem of selection. It is a difficult matter to upset or disprove Darwin's conclusions, and one is afraid that until a larger mass of material of a quantitative character is collected and collated, little advance will be made in our knowledge of this most fascinating problem. There is no doubt whatever that selection in lower animal life has taken place, and one should never lose sight of the fact that selection of one character usually means unconscious selection of many other characters as well. It is possible that in some instances colour selection may be of this secondary nature. The Club is indebted both to Mr H. B. Mitchell and to Professor Thomson for having placed their views so clearly before the members, and it is hoped that their action will stimulate others to enter the field and to place the results of their observations before the Club.

A very interesting lecture was given to the members by Mr John Don on "Modern Methods of Water Purification," a summary of which appears in this volume.

Four excursions were held during the period reviewed in this volume. The first of these was an excursion to Kinmundy under the leadership of Sheriff Ferguson on 1st September, 1909, when he gave an account of the old castles of Buchan. The second was held on 3rd September, 1910, to Inverquhomery, under the leadership of the late Dr Alexander Bruce, president of the Club. Dr Bruce read his retiring presidential address, the subject being "The Tenth and Last Earl Marischal." This address appears as the second chapter of Section VI. of the Book of Buchan, and is not printed in the volume under review.

The excursion for 1911 took place on 5th August to Cruden, and was under the leadership of the Rev. Adam Mackay, who contributed the paper on "Cruden's Two Bishops" already referred to.

A very largely attended and successful excursion was held to Pennan and Fraserburgh on the 31st August, 1912, under the leader-

*Introduction.*

ship of Professor J. Arthur Thomson, who was assisted by Professor Trail, Dr A. W. Gibb, Mr Pycraft, and Mr A. Landsborough Thomson. Professor Thomson gave a short address on the "Cliff Birds of Pennan." Professor Trail spoke of the flora of the district, and Dr Gibb gave a lucid exposition of the reason why beds of old red sandstone were to be found in Pennan and nowhere else in Buchan. Mr James Grant, president of the Banffshire Field Club, followed with an interesting and detailed account of the history of the district.

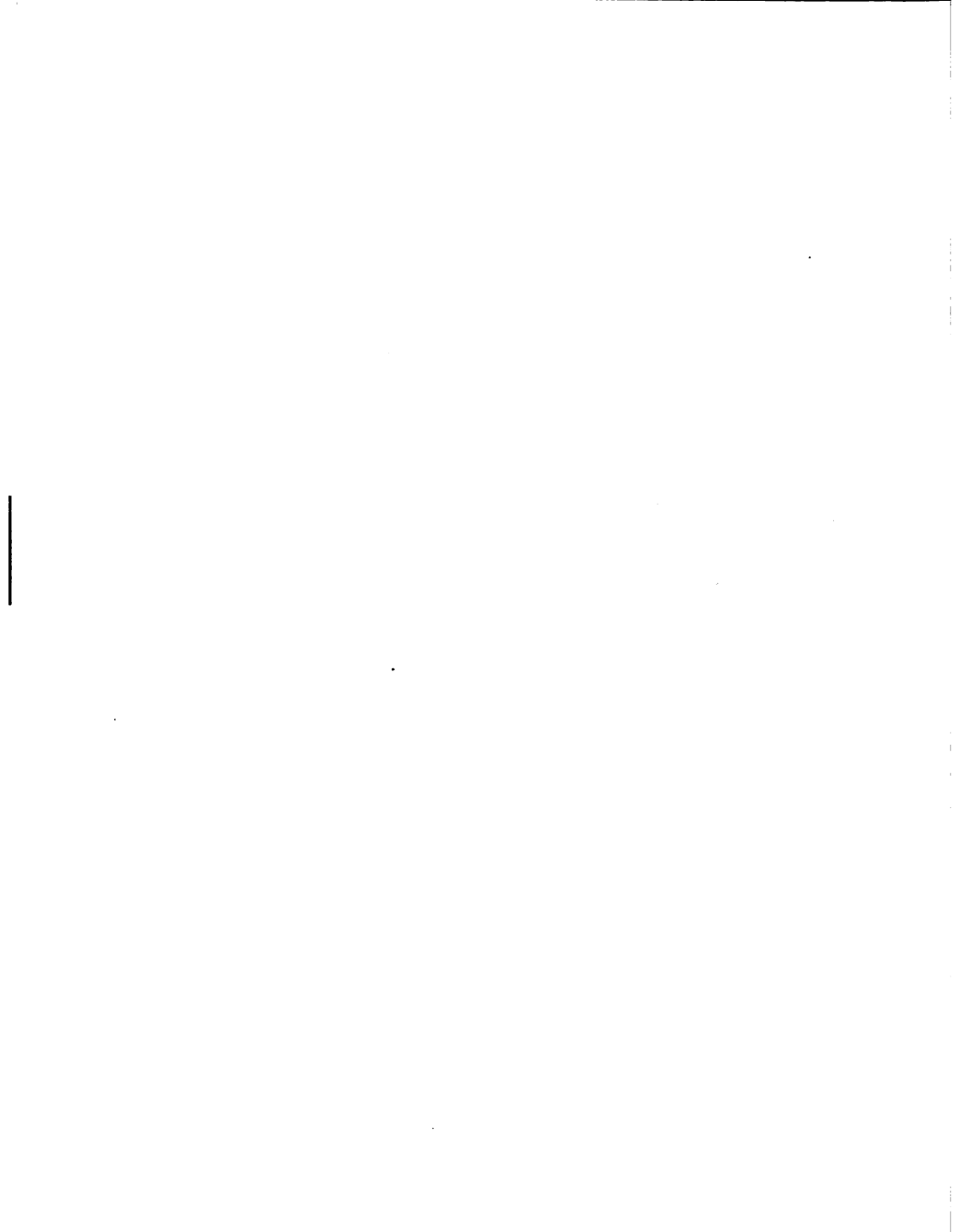
This volume runs to nearly 300 pages and is full of interest to Buchan people born and bred. The editor sincerely trusts that the Buchan Club will continue to be supported by natives of the North-East at home and abroad, if only to prove among other things how utterly false is the statement that there is nothing of historical interest in Buchan.

"Nought of historical interest here!"

Where the soil hath run red with the blood of the Dane,  
Where the ruins are grey of the Abbey of Deer,  
Of the towers of the Comyn, the Keith, and the Cheyne!

J. F. TOCHER.

Crown Mansions,  
Union Street, Aberdeen,  
20th January, 1914.



THURSDAY, 10th December, 1908.

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ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the Club was held in the Societies' Room, Townhouse, Peterhead, on Thursday, the 10th December, 1908, at 8 p.m. Mr Robert Anderson, President of the Club, occupied the chair, and delivered his retiring address (see page 2). On the motion of Mr Robert Gray, seconded by Mr A. M'Donald Reid, Mr Anderson was cordially thanked for his retiring presidential address, and for his able conduct in the chair during the majority year, particularly on the day of its celebrations on the 10th October.

The following officials were duly elected to serve during the year:—

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL.

*President*, - - - ALEXANDER BRUCE, M.A., M.D., LL.D.  
*Senior Vice-President*, - - - PROFESSOR J. ARTHUR THOMSON, M.A.

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*Hon. Secretary and Editor*, - - - J. F. TOCHER, B.Sc., F.I.C.  
*Treasurer*, - - - A. CLARK MARTIN, Solicitor, Peterhead.

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ROBERT LEES, M.A., B.Sc. | G. S. TRAIL, M.D.  
GEORGE LUNAN, F.C.S. | And all Past Presidents.

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THURSDAY, 10th December, 1908.

RETIRING PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON "FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH," BY ROBERT ANDERSON, ABERDEEN.

To essay a sketch of the life of Field-Marshal Keith—the 150th anniversary of whose death occurred two months ago—is a task that needs no apology or justification, scarcely even a word of introduction. Taken all in all, the Field-Marshal was perhaps the most notable man that Buchan has produced—the one who achieved the greatest distinction in history, and has left behind him the most abiding fame. Exiled from his native land at an early age owing to his devotion to a proscribed dynasty, he became one of those soldiers of fortune whose ranks were so frequently and so honourably recruited from the noble class to which he belonged. His life was spent almost wholly in foreign military service—in Spain, Russia, and Prussia successively ; and with the abundant experiences of warfare that fell to his lot, he developed insight and abilities of the highest order, being eventually accorded a place among the military geniuses of his time. The "Dictionary of National Biography" says of him that "As a soldier, he was beyond question by far the greatest of all 'Scots abroad.'" The author of "The Scot Abroad" declares that he "made for himself a place in history, and achieved a fortune far above the home respectability, affluence, and rank from which calamity had driven him," Carlyle has eulogised him ; and there is a consensus of opinion as to his valour and skill and generalship, one authority stating that "In the wars of Frederick he displayed conspicuous ability, manifesting in critical contingencies a remarkable union of circumspection and promptitude."

The career of such a man, so eminent and so highly lauded, would naturally form an attractive subject for exposition in itself, but there is an additional element in connection with it which is calculated to considerably augment the interest attaching to the theme. Field-Marshal Keith was the last but one of a family, not only associated with Buchan for a long period, but for the greater part of that time the dominant family in the region—a family also, many members of which figured conspicuously in the history of the nation as well.

\*"Encyclopædia Britannica," art. "Keith, Francis Edward James" (*sic*).

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

The writer of the description of the parish of St Fergus in the New Statistical Account of Scotland (1837) applies to him the lines—

*"Cui genus a proavis ingens clarumque paternae  
Nomen erat virtutis, et ipse acerrimus armis"*

("He came of a long line of ancestors whose name was renowned for valour, and he also was most valiant.")

The antiquity of the family is such that its early origin is lost in legend, but the services of its members to king and country can be traced through the centuries. The Keiths are said to have been invested with the hereditary office of High Marischal of Scotland by Malcolm II. in 1005, though more credible authority assigns a later date; and the position and influence acquired by the family may be surmised from their being further ennobled in 1458, the Marischalship being utilised to designate, and no doubt emphasise, the earldom then substituted for the barony of Keith. Bannockburn was largely won by the cavalry charge of Sir Robert Keith, who received the forest of Kintore (Halforest) and other lands in Aberdeenshire for his adherence to the cause of Robert the Bruce. The family obtained a foothold in Buchan in the middle of the fourteenth century by the marriage of one of the younger scions with the heiress of Inverugie; and it multiplied and flourished so as to become, in the expressive language of Rev. Andrew Chalmers, "no longer a family but a tribe." A process of parcelling out the family estates was practised to such an extent that "it seemed as if the Keiths had been sown broadcast all over Central Buchan."\* "The cadets of the family were to be found in almost every corner of the lower districts; at Ludquharn, Bruxie, Clackriach, Northfield, and in other localities they had manors and estates."† Inverugie became the property of the main branch of the Keith family about 1538, by the marriage of the 4th Earl Marischal with the heiress of Sir William Keith who fell at Flodden. George, 15th Earl—he who founded Marischal College—was a prominent statesman, a leader of the Reformation party, and entrusted with special powers to curb the Earl of Huntly and the "Popish lords" of these north-eastern parts. William, the 7th Earl, was also the recognised head of the Covenanted party in the

\* "The Barony of Fetterangus," by Rev. Andrew Chalmers in the "Transactions of the Buchan Field Club," IV., 60-1.

† Pratt's "Buchan," 3rd edition, p. 390.

ROBERT ANDERSON

north; and it is one of the many ironies of history to find a line of Whig statesmen expiring in two brothers devoted to the Stuart cause—George, the 10th Earl Marischal, and James, who became the trusted Field-Marshal of Frederick the Great. "Their story," says a writer, "combines all the romance with which high descent, youthful enthusiasm, and great sacrifices enhance the misfortunes of the votaries of a fallen cause, with the respect that attends on the courageous carving out of a new career in foreign lands, on intimate association with the greatest practical and literary intellects of the age, on high character and honourable bearing in all vicissitudes, on a soldier's death, and on restoration to lands and honours for unique service in exile to the native land, too late, alas! to do more than gild with a last ray the clouded sunset of an ancient line."\*

This story of the two brothers—the final chapter in the history of the Keiths, Earls Marischal—might well find a place in the Transactions of the Buchan Field Club, as, indeed, might also a general outline of the family and a detailed account of its more famous members. By some misunderstanding, I have been credited with undertaking this latter enterprise; † but the task is too formidable for one with a scanty modicum of leisure, and would involve, besides, a great amount of research work that could only be done thoroughly by a specialist. To some extent, the careers of the Earl Marischal and Field-Marshal Keith run on parallel lines; and the temptation to construct a narrative including them both is exceedingly strong, but any such attempt would involve a paper of intolerable dimensions. Besides, the last Earl Marischal—described by Andrew Lang as "one of the most original, and one of the most typical characters of the eighteenth century—a character of no common distinction and charm"—is worthy of a paper all to himself; only, if Mr Lang confesses that "we are obliged to follow him by aid of slight traces in historical manuscripts, biographies, memoirs, and letters, published or unpublished," ‡ the prospective task—which I gladly pass on to some successor in the Presidency, or to some more capable and energetic member—is not particularly enviable. For the nonce, at all events, let us content ourselves with a glance at the career of the

\* *Scottish Review*, October, 1898.

† "Transactions," Vol. IX., p. 127.

‡ "The Companions of Pickle."

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Field-Marshal, availing ourselves of such material as is ready to our hand, though sadly conscious that, after all, he is, in Carlyle's phrase "left very dim to us in the Books."

### EARLY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

James Francis Edward Keith was born at the Castle of Inverugie, 11th June, 1696.\* He was the second son and fourth and youngest child of William, the 9th Earl Marischal, his mother being Lady Mary Drummond, daughter of the 4th Earl of Perth. The 9th Earl Marischal had begun to shed the Whiggism of his immediate ancestors, for he was opposed to the Union of the two Kingdoms, and looked with little favour on the legislative measures introduced during the reign of King William. "Stuartism obsessed him," says Mr Bulloch, "to the point of perilous reaction."† But it was the mother who helped largely to mould the character of her two sons, and predispose them to the Stuart cause. She was a Catholic and an ardent Jacobite, her sentiments finding expression in the well-known Jacobite ballad generally attributed to her—"When the King comes over the Water"—

My father was a good lord's son,  
My mither was an earl's daughter,  
And I'll be Lady Keith again,  
That Day our King comes over the Water." ‡

Other Jacobite influences were operative in James Keith's early training. His education as a boy was, from 1703 to 1710—that is, from his seventh to his fourteenth year—supervised and directed by his young kinsman, Robert Keith, who afterwards became Bishop of Fife and Primate of the Scottish Episcopal Church (1743-57). But in 1713 his mother secured a tutor for him in the person of William Meston, then a teacher in the Aberdeen Grammar School, the author of "Mob Contra Mobbed," the satirical poem on "The Rabbling of Deer." Meston was an enthusiastic Jacobite; and as he apparently

\*He was baptised on 16th June, 1696, according to the baptismal register of the parish of St Fergus. (See "Statistical Account of Scotland," 1795, Vol. XV.)

† "The Maker of Marischal College."

‡ See Appendix A.

## ROBERT ANDERSON.

was much more than a tutor, acting as companion to the boys in their holidays at Dunnottar and Inverugie, and occupying an honoured place in the household, he may readily have acquired an ascendancy over impressionable youths and impregnated them with his ideas. The probability of this having happened is shown by the alliance of master and pupils having been maintained after the Jacobite rising tested the sincerity of both, for Meston took part with the brothers Keith in the proclamation of the Chevalier at the Cross of Aberdeen.\* It is surmised that both the brothers were educated at the Aberdeen Grammar School,† and there is no doubt, at all events, that they were both students at Marischal College—Earl Marischal in 1708-10, while James Keith was a member of the class of 1711-15, though for how long is not quite certain.‡ James Keith studied law in Edinburgh for a short time, but his heart, we are told, was set on soldiering; and in August 1715—being then in his eighteenth year—he was on his way to London to seek a commission in the army, when, at York, he was met by his brother, who, deprived of his command of the Scottish troop of horse Grenadier Guards, was hurrying to Scotland to take part in the Earl of Mar's rising. He turned with his brother and cast in his lot with the fortunes of the Jacobite party, for at this period of his life his actions were largely guided by the affection he had for his elder brother and the obedience he paid to his counsels.

"Traditions, handed down from generation to generation" (says a biographer), "speak of the love of the two brothers as something remarkable, and of the power of the elder and more staid over the more impulsive and mischievously-disposed Field-Marshal as an uncommon thing. . . . This love they never lost; for, when in exile, and often reduced to great straits, they kept as long as possible in each other's company; and when at last compelled to separate, a correspondence was sustained as close as the circumstances of the time and their varied engagements would allow—for the younger was soon deeply immersed in the troubles of a very troublous period. And at last when a permanent home seemed to be obtained for the one, he hastened to acquaint the other with the fact, and it required very little to prevail upon either to form the resolution of spending the remainder of their days together." §

\*See "The Ingenious and Learned William Meston, A M.," by J. T. Findlay in "Transactions of the Buchan Field Club," Vol. VII., 102, *et seq.*

† See article, "Arcades Ambo," by William Keith Leask in *Aberdeen Grammar School Magazine*, February, 1908.

‡ "Records of Marischal College," Vol. II. (New Spalding Club, 1898).

§ M'Lean's "Memoir of Marshal Keith."

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

### THE JACOBITE RISING OF 1715.

Into that ill-starred adventure, the Jacobite rising of 1715, it is not necessary to enter at any length. What may be termed the active operations of the insurgents lasted for only two months and twenty days, the sole event of importance being the indeterminate battle of Sheriffmuir. No scope, therefore, was afforded young Keith either of earning distinction or exhibiting skill, and, besides, whatever share he had in the operations is overshadowed by that of his brother, who, owing to his rank, occupied a much more prominent position. Some of the early incidents of the rebellion, however, have a local interest, and may be recalled. James Keith was doubtless one of the "several gentlemen" who accompanied the Earl Marischal when he entered Aberdeen on 20th September, and "who, with drawn swords, rode to the Cross, where the Sheriff proclaimed the Chevalier." The Earl left Aberdeen for his seat of Inverugie the following day, "again proclaiming the Pretender as he passed through the Oldtown." At Peterhead, the proclamation of the Pretender was made—not by the Earl Marischal, but by Thomas Arbuthnot, the Provost, who was also his lordship's factor by the way. As the townspeople were Jacobites, there was no hesitation in taking steps on the Pretender's behalf. Seven Spanish cannon mounted on the Keith Inch (said to have belonged to the St Michael, one of the vessels of the Spanish Armada, wrecked on the rocks at Peterhead in 1588), were removed to the Tolbooth Green—which was at the top of Broad Street—being placed there for the defence of the town. The Town Council, moreover, called out all the "fencible men," divided the town into four quarters, and ordered guard to be kept each night. The Chevalier de St George (or Old Pretender, as he is frequently called; actually, of course, James Francis Edward, son of James II., and designated James III. and termed "King" by his devoted adherents), landed at Peterhead on 22nd December, 1715, old style (2nd January, 1716, new style), having been "conducted by good providence" thither.\* Having spent a night in a house in the town, he proceeded to the Earl Marischal's seat at Fetteresso, where he held his first Privy Council.†

\* "A Journal of the Earl of Marr's Proceedings" (London, 1716).

† Cf. "A History of Peterhead," by James Thomas Findlay (*Buchan Observer*, 1896). See Appendix B.

ROBERT ANDERSON.

THE BATTLE OF SHERIFFMUIR.

The insurgents, however, had not waited for the arrival of the Chevalier to begin the movement which aimed at placing him on the throne and superseding the Hanoverian dynasty. A Jacobite army had been assembled at Perth, and in October the Earl Marischal joined it with, it is said, 300 horse and 500 foot,\* comprising, no doubt, vassals and retainers of the Earl at Inverugie and elsewhere. A local ballad, at any rate, depicts Marischal at "Inverugie's towers," appealing to his loyal henchmen to arm, and the appeal meeting with an enthusiastic response—

With a cheer, the brave retainers  
Heard the words of noble Keith ;  
With a cheer they quickly mustered,  
Bent on victory or death ;  
With a cheer they drain their goblets,  
And the glasses from them fling,  
Marching out from Inverugie  
To the standard of their King.†

At the battle of Sheriffmuir on 13th November, Marischal commanded a squadron on the right of the front line, and his brother was evidently alongside him, though whether in any position of command seems a little uncertain. Great confusion prevailed in getting the heterogeneous gathering of Highlanders into proper military order and line, and when the engagement began Marischal's squadron found itself located in the centre. In the course of the battle the squadrons both of Marischal and Drummond, "breaking from the position which they had wrongly taken on the centre, wheeled to the right, 'all broke and scattered, everie man for his own hand, rideing as hard as his horse could carrie him' in pursuit of Argyll's broken left."‡

\* Sinclair asserts that those whom the Earl brought to Perth "were not then four-score," and that they were very badly mounted.—"Memoirs" (Footnote in "The Chevalier de St George," by Professor Terry).

† Findlay's "History of Peterhead."

‡ "The Chevalier de St George, and the Jacobite Movement in his Favour, 1701-1720," by Professor C. Sanford Terry (London, 1901), p. 294, footnote.

"James Keith, riding in his brother's squadrons, got the first of his many wounds. . . . The ball, which had penetrated his shoulder, had embedded the shirt in the flesh, and he passed the night of the battle in torture at Drummond Castle. The vigour of nineteen years is, however, the best of surgeons." ("Marshal Keith," by Frederick Dixon, in *Temple Bar*, June, 1898).

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Sheriffmuir was a drawn battle—

There's some say that we wan,  
Some say that they wan,  
And some say that nane wan at a', man ;  
But o' one thing I'm sure,  
That at Sherramuir  
A battle there was that I saw, man ;  
And we ran and they ran,  
And they ran and we ran,  
And we ran, and they ran awa', man.\*

The Jacobite army fell back on Perth, and made no further advance. Well described by Burton as “a miscellaneous assemblage of the eager, the opinionative, and the reluctant,” it was destitute of all enthusiasm, and was totally lacking in agreement on a common line of action. The rivalries among the leaders that had already led to divisive counsels broke out afresh, and a general discontent prevailed, augmented by the withdrawal of some of the chiefs and a distrust of Mar's leadership, and even of his sincerity. So, on 30th January, 1716, a general retreat northward was ordered, and no sooner ordered than begun, for the army was on the move by midnight. Five days later (4th February) the Chevalier himself left for France, hastily embarking at Montrose on the *Maria Teresa* of St Malo, a ship of about 90 tons. He ordered the Earl of Mar (who ranked as Duke among those who designated the Pretender King) and the Marquis of Drummond to accompany him. The Earl Marischal received a similar order, but was disinclined to act upon it, not only desiring to stay and share the fate of his countrymen, but being convinced that the situation was not desperate, and that “to conclude all, he did not think it for the King's honour, nor for that of the nation, to give up the game without putting it to a tryall.”† A fortunate accident prevented his sharing the odium of taking to flight. He and a Colonel Clephan could not find a boat to convey them to the ship, which was lying a mile off, and the Pretender waited for them till he could wait no longer, his departure being precipitated “because of the nine men of war that were cruising thereabouts.”

\* Ascribed to the Rev. Murdoch M'Lellan, parish minister of Crathie, Aberdeenshire (See “The Scottish Jacobites and their Poetry,” by Norval Clyne).

† Keith's “Memoirs.”



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KEITH'S MEMOIRS.

Interesting sidelights on this and other episodes of the 1715 rising are furnished by James Keith in some Memoirs written by himself, and published by the old Spalding Club.\* Unfortunately, this autobiography carries us no further than 1734, and therefore gives us no account of Keith's Prussian services. But for the period with which it deals it is an exceedingly valuable contribution—an "authentic" record in a sense, yet somewhat limited; devoid to an extreme degree of all self-glorification and containing very little introspection, yet shrewd and observant withal. As the preface to the Spalding Club edition says—

"In few words, and without entering into the intrigues of the party, he shows vividly and truly the characters of the Jacobite leaders in Scotland, and the petty views and jealousies which ruined their enterprises. With equally slight touches he paints the folly of the Stuart Court, the inconsistency of the Pope, the poverty and boasting of Spain, the cabals of the Court of Moscow, and its barbarism, thinly gilded over by the Empress's pretended civilisation; while with a careless modesty he keeps his own deeds and merits out of view, and leaves us to learn the estimation his military genius and conduct obtained by the rapid progress which he made to rank and honours, in a foreign service, and without friends."

When the rebel army learned that the "King" had deserted them, "the consternation," says Keith, "was general, and the whole body so dispirited, that had the Duke of Argile followed us close, and come up with only two thousand men, I'm perswaded he might have taken us all prisoners." Argyle, however, halted a day at Montrose, and so gave the poor, abandoned, and disconcerted fugitives time to reach Aberdeen. A council of war was then held to decide whether the army should march to Inverness and make a stand there, or proceed directly to the mountains and disperse. It was resolved to proceed first to Gordon Castle and consult with the Marquis of Huntly. When the town of Keith was reached, the Earl Marischal was despatched to sound the Marquis, but "easily perceived by his answer that there was nothing to be expected from him." Flight to the Highlands was all that was left. Ruthven, in Badenoch—near Kingussie—was reached in two days, and "from thence," as Keith laconically puts it, "every one took the road pleased him best." Keith accompanied the regiments of Sir Donald MacDonald of Sleat

\*"A Fragment of a Memoir of Field-Marshal James Keith." Written By Himself. 1714-1734. (Spalding Club, 1843.)

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

and Ranald Macdonald of Clanranald to the west islands ; and, after considerable delay, he was able to make his escape with other officers in a ship sent by the "King" from France, arriving on 12th May at St Paul de Leon, in Brittany.

### EARLY YEARS ON THE CONTINENT.

Keith proceeded at once to Paris—the "King" was then at Avignon—but before long he found himself in pecuniary embarrassments. "Having left Scotland so abruptly," he says in his Memoirs, "that I had no time to provide any money to bring along with me, what I had was soon at an end, and my friends there not knowing to what part of the world I was gone, had sent no bills for me. I lived most of the time on selling horse furniture, and other things of that nature, which an officer commonly carries with him ; and tho' I had relations enough in Paris, who cou'd have supplied me, and who wou'd have done it with pleasure, yet I was then either so bashful or so vain, that I wou'd not own the want I was in." His difficulties were speedily relieved, however, by a remittance from Scotland and an allowance of 200 crowns a year from the Chevalier. The rest of the year 1716, the whole of 1717, and part of 1718, Keith passed at "the Academy," completing his studies, and in particular making rapid progress in mathematics. He tried to get into the service of Peter the Great of Russia—"for having now nothing to trust to but my sword," he writes, "I thought it high time (being about 20 years old) to quitte the Academy, and endeavour to establish myself somewhere, where I might again begin my fortune"—but his efforts were unsuccessful. Fate indeed, destined that, before embarking on the career that was to bring him fortune—and fame as well—he should once more engage in an adventure on behalf of "the King over the Water."

### THE GLENSHIEL AFFAIR.

This is what is known as the Glenshiel affair—for it was more an incident than a real rising, and an incident, too, occurring rather out of international politics and the territorial conflicts of the time than from devotion to the Pretender or enthusiasm for the Jacobite cause. Cardinal Alberoni, the first Minister of Spain, an ambitious states-

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man, sought to upset the Treaty of Utrecht by wresting Italy from Austrian domination ; and in pursuance of this policy the Spanish fleet, early in 1718, seized Sicily. Austria and Britain, however, had entered into a treaty of mutual defence ; and, in accordance with the arrangements therein made, Britain, after fruitless negotiations with the view of restraining Alberoni and frustrating his designs, despatched a fleet to the Mediterranean. This fleet, which was commanded by Admiral Byng, attacked and destroyed the Spanish fleet off Cape Passaro, in the neighbourhood of Syracuse, in the month of August. As a consequence, Alberoni's animosity was momentarily diverted from his arch-enemy, Austria, to this country, and he determined to rouse the Jacobites in England and Scotland, and, at the same time, to support them with Spanish forces.\* Keith and his brother, the Earl Marischal, were despatched by the Duke of Ormonde to Madrid to arrange with the Cardinal the plan of the undertaking, and accomplished their mission not altogether without adventure, being received at one place with remarkable deference, due to the supposition that one of them was the Chevalier himself. Keith returned to France to advise the Jacobite leaders in exile of the fresh attempt on behalf of the cause—only to discover that “we had two factions amongst us, and which proved the occasion of our speedy ruin when we landed in Scotland.”†

In company with the Marquis of Tullibardine and others, Keith embarked at Havre on 19th March, 1719, for the island of Lewis. He eventually effected a junction at Stornoway with the Earl Marischal and a small portion of the Spanish force arranged for by Alberoni. The principal part of the Spanish expedition, however—which, under the command of the Duke of Ormonde, was intended to be landed in England to aid the English Jacobites—never reached our shores. It consisted of 5000 troops, 10 field pieces, and 15,000 arms. Setting sail from Cadiz in 29 vessels on 7th March, it encountered a frightful tempest, which lasted twelve days, “destroying, wrecking, and dispersing nearly the whole number of men-of-war and transports.”‡

\*See Professor Terry's “The Chevalier de St George,” and Lecky's “History of England in the Eighteenth Century.”

†“The fleet never doubled Cape Finisterre. It cruised about. On the night of the 28th March it was about 50 leagues west of Cape Finisterre. About one in the morning of the 29th it encountered a terrible storm which lasted for 48 hours. The fleet was scattered to the four winds. Horses, guns, stores, and arms had to be thrown over-board. Many men died of hardship and privation. The flagship was dismasted and

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The design was that the Spaniards landed on the west coast should, with the Highlanders in the neighbourhood—who were expected to rise instantaneously—march to Inverness and remain there till a sufficiently large force was assembled to warrant an advance southward. Marischal's small force—or Tullibardine's, for Tullibardine assumed command in respect of a pretended commission in his favour—disembarked at Loch Alsh, in Kintail, and, with the comparatively few Highlanders who "came out" on this occasion—the combined forces numbered altogether about 1000—encamped in temporary huts in the wild solitude of Glenshiel.

Here, an engagement with the royal forces—about 1100 strong—under General Wightman, took place on 10th June—the Chevalier's birthday, curiously enough. It lasted for three hours and resulted in the Jacobites being defeated. They were forced to retire to the top of the mountain on which the battle was conducted, and darkness and the height of the mountain prevented their being further pursued. In the circumstances, the Jacobite leaders came to what was possibly the only decision open to them. "Considering that they had neither provisions nor ammunition, that the few troops they had had behaved in a manner not to give great encouragement to try a second action,"\* it was resolved that the Spaniards (there were 274 of them) should surrender and that the Highlanders should disperse; and this was done.† Keith himself being sick of a fever, was forced to lurk in the mountains for a few months, but in the beginning of September he managed to embark at Peterhead, and four days afterwards landed at Texel, in Holland. He eventually made his way—after some curious experiences—to Paris; and, then, having paid his respects (with his brother) to the Chevalier at Rome, he arrived at Madrid in July 1720.

lost most of her guns. All the ships were more or less crippled. . . . The enterprise had failed." ("The Jacobite Attempt of 1719," edited by William Kirk Dickson. Scottish History Society, 1895.)

"The elements, always so contrary to the Stuart cause that the Whigs quoted Scripture to prove that those ever-contrary winds were Heaven-sent, while the Jacobites assigned them a very different origin, settled the matter even without the intervention of Admiral Berkeley, cruising in the Channel to safeguard the coasts of England and France." ("James Francis Edward, the Old Chevalier," by Martin Haile. London, 1907.)

\*Keith's "Memoirs."

†See "The Battle of Glenshiel," by Professor Terry in the *Scottish Historical Review*, July 1905.

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### A SIEGE OF GIBRALTAR.

Here, then, we find Keith, at the age of 24, once more cast upon his own resources, and what money he possessed once again gradually dwindling away till the vanishing-point was reached. "I knew nobody, and was known to none," he writes, in those deliciously frank Memoirs of his; and he was glad to accept for a time the shelter and hospitality of an Admiral Cammock whom he had known in Paris. A commission as Colonel in the Spanish army which had been granted him by Cardinal Alberoni was finally recognised, to the extent of his receiving the pay without being placed in any regiment—not at all to Keith's liking. Five years were spent in idleness—two of them in Paris, where, yielding to the blandishments and importunities of some acquaintances of the fair sex, he endeavoured to enter the French service, but without success, and indeed without hope, Keith philosophically recognising "how difficult it is for a stranger to make his way in a country where all the nobility serves, and where commonly, the King has more officers than he has bread to give them." He at last found some employment in the futile siege of Gibraltar by the Spaniards in 1726-7—a siege of five months, "in which," says Keith, "we had about 2000 men killed or wounded, and in which all we gained was the knowledge that the place was impregnable by land." But discovering that his Protestantism was a bar to his promotion in Spain, he availed himself of an opportunity of transferring his services to Russia, the opportunity arising through the interposition on his behalf of the Duke of Liria (son of the Duke of Berwick, the natural son of James II.), who was then Spanish Ambassador at the Court of Russia.

### IN THE RUSSIAN SERVICE.

In the beginning of 1728, Keith (now 32 years of age) was received into the army of Peter II., grandson of Peter the Great, in the quality of Major-General. He was not by any means the first Aberdeenshire man, or Buchan man even—to enter the service of the Czars of Russia. Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries, Cruden (1635-99) acquired great fame both as a General and as an Admiral in Russia, and was, besides, the friend and adviser of Peter the

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**FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.**

(Portrait by BELLE).

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Great. Two of his sons, James and Theodore, entered the Russian army;\* and he had as son-in-law Major-General Gordon of Auchintoul, who, after serving in the Russian army with distinction, returned home and subsequently took a prominent part in the 1715 rising. There was, too, an Admiral Thomas Gordon—presumably an Aberdeenshire man—who became Governor of Kronstadt in 1726, and, descending with a fleet on Danzig in 1734, compelled the surrender of that town by the King of Poland, Keith—who, as we shall see, took part in the siege—congratulating him on “the happy success of the expedition.”†

Keith's advancement in the Russian army was rapid, and was quite independent of the machinations of princely families and the successive changes in the Imperial rulers. He arrived, as John Hill Burton says, “in time to witness the strange scene of intrigue, political restlessness, and barbaric extravagance which opened on the death of Peter the Great”; and referring to Keith's Memoirs, Burton very properly adds—“The young Scot looked about him with an observant eye, and his few dry notices of passing scenes would be valuable to a historian of Russia.”‡ The Dolgorukis were bent on obtaining control of the young Czar, and had arranged a marriage between him and a Princess of their family; but this scheme was frustrated by the early death of Peter II. in 1730. Then the Dolgorukis and Galitzins made Anna, Duchess of Courland, Empress, upon certain terms; but she speedily broke the bargain, determined to rule by herself, and banished the Dolgorukis. Keith was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of a new regiment of Guards (the Body-guard of the Empress), whereupon, he naively remarks—“All Mosco was as surprised as I was myself; and as the emploiment is looked on as one of the greatest trust in the Empire, and that the Officers of the Guards are regarded as domesticks of the Sovereign, I received hundreds of visits from people I had never seen nor heard of in my life, and who imagined that certainly I must be in great favour at

\*J. M. Bulloch in *Aberdeen Free Press*, 24th January, 1901.

†“The Gay Gordons,” by J. M. Bulloch (London, 1908), p. 68. See also “A Forgotten Aberdeen Admiral,” by Mr Bulloch in *Aberdeen Free Press*, 3rd and 14th September, 1898, and “Admiral Thomas Gordon in Russia,” by Mr Bulloch in *Scottish Notes and Queries* (2nd Series, I., 111).

‡Mr A. M. Munro thinks the Admiral may have belonged to the Gordons of Seaton (*Scottish Notes and Queries*, 2nd Series, II., 111).

† “The Scot Abroad,” by John Hill Burton.



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Court, in which they were prodigiously deceived." Two years later, in connection with some army reforms that were projected, Keith was appointed one of three Inspectors-General, being assigned the department of the frontier of Asia along the rivers Volga and Don, with a part of the frontiers of Poland about Smolensk ; he spent half a year in inspecting 32 regiments, at great distances from each other, necessitating a journey of over 1500 leagues.

### THE WAR OF THE POLISH SUCCESSION.

Up to this time, Keith had had no opportunity of displaying his undoubted military genius in the actual field of warfare, but he must have exhibited capacity of a distinctive kind in organisation or in the disciplining of troops, else, in such a hotbed of intrigue as the Russian Court, he could not have gained the promotion he did, even with the powerful backing of the Duke of Liria. That he took his profession seriously and applied himself to its study is evidenced by his behaviour on reaching Russia. He was ordered at once to take the command of two regiments of foot. Being ignorant, however, both of the language and the manner of service, and recognising that the latter was very different from that of other countries, he asked for a delay of three months so that he might acquaint himself with both. The request was readily granted—with advantage to everybody concerned, it may be assumed ; but the request itself is a striking testimony alike to the modesty of the man and the zeal of the true soldier, willing to spare no trouble in perfecting himself in his work. Here we have a notable example of that "capacity for taking pains" which has been familiarised to us as a definition of genius. The time had now arrived, however, when Keith was to demonstrate his possession of exceptional qualities for the conduct of active military operations.

In 1733, a war arose over the Polish succession ; the Poles chose Stanislaus as King, but Russia regarded Stanislaus as an enemy, and favoured the selection of Augustus, the Elector of Saxony, son of the deceased King. On the threatened outbreak of hostilities, Keith was despatched to the Ukraine,\* with 6000 foot, to be ready to enter

\*An extensive country, formerly on the frontier of Russia and Poland, now forming the Russian governments of Kiev, Tchernigov, Podolia, Kharkov, and Poltava.

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Volhynia. The occupation of that province having been determined upon, Keith crossed the Dnieper on the ice in the middle of December, and marched through the country, meeting with no opposition of consequence, and at last joined hands with his superior, General Lacy (an Irishman) at Danzig. He co-operated with Lacy in the siege of Danzig, greatly distinguishing himself, we are told, and being made a Lieutenant-General. Stanislaus was obliged to yield; and a portion of the victorious Russian army, under the command of Lacy and Keith, was told off to join the Austrian forces collected near Mannheim under Prince Eugene, to drive the French back to the Rhine. The conclusion of peace in 1735, however, put an end to this project before it was really begun.

### WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

Then followed a war between Russia and Turkey in 1736, Muennich being in command of the Russians with Keith as his second. Muennich first stormed Azov, on the Black Sea, but the Tartars advancing to its relief, he quitted the siege, and, defeating the Tartars, advanced into Crim-Tartary. In the course of the operations that followed, Muennich delegated to Keith the command of the Russian forces in the Ukraine.

"This," says one of Keith's biographers, "was intrusting him with one of the most difficult services that can well be imagined, and which demanded all the prudence and experience of the most consummate General. He had the soldiers to preserve from a contagious malady which had already made considerable havock, to protect from the perpetual incursions of the Turks and Tartars, and to provide in all things necessary for the approaching campaign. Mr Keith was, perhaps, the only man in the world who could have performed such a task; and he did it so effectually that all was in readiness for opening the campaign, 1737, much more early than usual."

The feature of the renewed campaign was the storming of Otchakov, a strong Turkish town between the Black Sea and the estuary of the Dnieper. It was conducted with a recklessness and disregard of system, and a consequent expenditure of human life, that angered Keith, just as the barbaric methods employed in pillaging Poland had aroused his indignation and protests. Carlyle gives us the following picture—

\*"Discourse on the Death of Marshal Keith."

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"In the centre of Muennich's line is one General Keith, a deliberate stalwart Scotch gentleman, whom we shall know better; Muennich himself is to the right: Could not one try it by scalade; keep the internal burning free to spread, at any rate? 'Advance within musket-shot, General Keith!' orders Muennich's Aide-de-Camp cantering up. 'I have been this good while within it,' answers Keith, pointing to his dead men. Aide-de-Camp canters up a second time: 'Advance within half musket-shot, General Keith, and quit any covert you have!' Keith does so; sends, with respects to Field-Marschall Muennich, his remonstrance against such a waste of human life. Aide-de-Camp canters up a third time: 'Feld-Marschall Muennich is for trying a scalade; hopes General Keith will do his best to co-operate!' 'Forward then!' answers Keith; advances close to the glacis; finds a wet ditch twelve feet broad, and has not a stick of engineer furniture. Keith waits there two hours; his men, under fire all the while, trying this and that to get across; Muennich's scalade going off ineffectual in like manner—till at length Keith's men, and all men, tire of such a business, and roll back in great confusion out of shot-range."

Keith was badly wounded by a bullet in the knee, and had to withdraw from the campaign—during which, by the way, he had been promoted to the rank of General of Infantry. "I had sooner," said the Empress Anna, "lose ten thousand of my best soldiers than Keith." His brother, the Earl Marischal, hurried to his side from Valencia, in Spain, "full of as deep love and care for him as in the days of their youth," and arrived in time to save the leg from amputation."†

### VISIT TO ENGLAND.

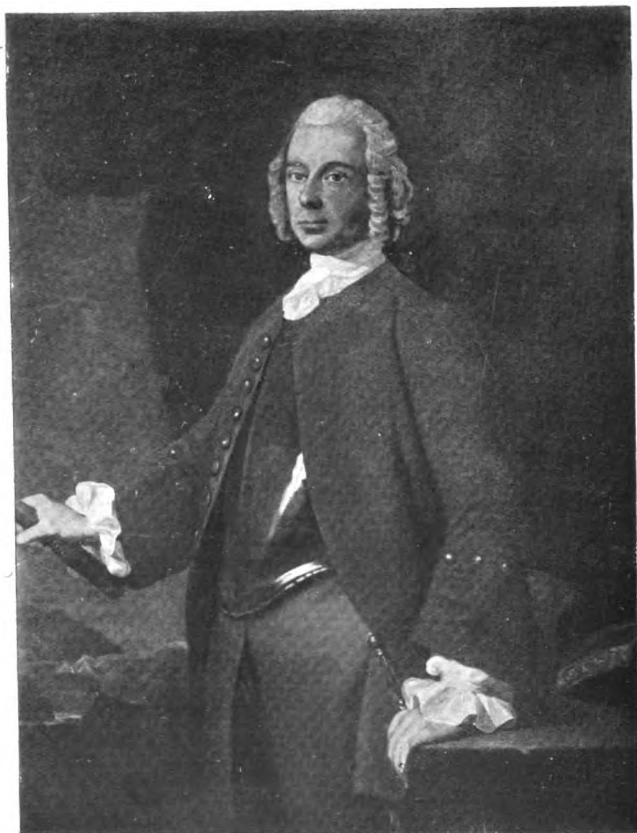
It took fully two years before Keith was restored to his usual state of health. He and the Earl Marischal went to France, residing

\*"History of Frederick the Great," Book X., Chap. iv.  
See Appendix C.

†During this war with Turkey a very curious incident is related as happening to Keith, stress being laid upon it as illustrative of "the wandering Scot." I confess to being somewhat sceptical about the story, but as it is *ben trovato* at any rate, it may be cited for what it is worth—

"In the year 1739, when a treaty of peace was being agreed upon between the two belligerents, the Commissioners for this purpose were Keith on the part of Russia, and the Grand Vizier on that of Turkey. These two personages met and carried on their negotiations by means of interpreters. When all was concluded they rose to separate. Keith made his bow with his hat in his hand, and the Vizier his salaam with his turban on his head. But when these were over, the Vizier turned suddenly round, and, coming up to Keith, took him by the hand, declaring in the broadest Scotch dialect that it made him 'unco happy to meet a countryman in his exalted station.' Keith, completely surprised, looked eagerly for an explanation, when the Vizier said 'Dinna be surprised, man; I'm o' the same country wi' yoursel'. I min' weel seein' you and yer brither, when boys, passin'. My father, sir, was bellman o' Kirkcaldy.'" (McLean's "Memoir of Marshal Keith.")

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**FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.**  
(Portrait by ALLAN RAMSAY).

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

for some time at Bareges, a small watering-place in the Pyrenees.\* While in France, Keith was charged with some diplomatic mission respecting the relations of Russia and Sweden, then in a critical state, and he was also sent to England "in a public character, to manage some affairs of great moment." He arrived at London in February, 1740, and, on the 15th of the month, had an audience of George II. The fact that he was a Jacobite, a rebel, and an exile was politely ignored; he was received and honoured as a distinguished General and the representative of a Great Power. He, on his side, it is said, declared that he acknowledged George II. for his lawful Sovereign and acquiesced in the succession of the House of Hanover.†

### CAMPAIGN IN SWEDEN.

On Keith's return to Russia, there was waiting him as a present from the Empress in recognition of his services in the war with

\*The two brothers eventually visited Paris. "Here, an examination of the wound disclosed the fact that the trouble was caused by the failure of the surgeons to remove the particles of clothing embedded in it by the ball. On the extraction of these, Keith became rapidly convalescent." ("Marshal Keith," by Frederick Dixon.)

†The Magistrates of Peterhead sent him a congratulatory letter, and received the following reply—

"Gentlemen,

"I received with the greatest pleasure the letter you did me the honour to write me, and I return you my most sincere thanks for your kind wishes and expressions in regard to myself and family; nothing could be more agreeable to me than to see that, after so long an absence, I am still remembered by my countrymen, and particularly by those whom I'm obliged to look on as nearer to me than even most of the rest. I am only sorry that my gratitude can be but expressed at present in words, but I hope you will be persuaded, that in everything that lies in my power, nobody will be readier and willing to serve you than,

"Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient and most humble servant,

"JAMES KEITH.

"London, May 4, 1740."

Possibly it was in connection with Keith's visit to this country that the incident occurred which is referred to in Kennedy's "Annals of Aberdeen," the account of it given by Kennedy being taken from Dr Anderson's Essays on National Industry—

"About seventy years ago, the magistrates of Aberdeen, as a token of respect for their countryman, Field Marshal Keith, presented to him a pair of stockings, spun from Highland wool, and knitted by a lady in the town, of such fineness that, although of the largest size, they could easily be drawn through an ordinary thumb ring. They were sent to him in a box of curious workmanship, and he regarded them as so valuable an acquisition as to be worthy of the acceptance of the Empress of Russia, to whom he afterwards presented them. They were valued at five guineas." ("Annals of Aberdeen," 1818, II., 199.)

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Turkey, a gold-hilted sword valued at 6000 roubles (£1500 sterling). The Empress Anna died in October (1740), and her death led to a re-shuffling of the dynastic cards. She was succeeded by Ivan VI., a minor, whose mother became Regent; but a revolution occurred within a year, Elizabeth, daughter of Peter the Great, ascending the throne in November, 1741. A soldier of fortune like Keith had no difficulty in accommodating himself to the new regime, and he acknowledged the new sovereign without hesitation.

Prior to this, he had, on resuming active service, been appointed Governor of the Ukraine. "A single year of his wise and humane administration," it has been said, "made the natives complain that they should either never have appointed him, or having once done so, never have recalled him."\* This recall was occasioned by the outbreak of war with Sweden in August, 1741; and in the two years' campaign that followed Keith bore a leading part, particularly in the capture of Willmannstrand, in the invasion of Finland, in compelling 17,000 Swedes to surrender at Helsingfors, and in the reduction of the Aland Islands. He "was greatly admired for many instances of most extraordinary courage and conduct," and at one period Lacy left him in command before Viborg with two Russian Generals under him—"he could scarcely have given a greater evidence of the confidence he placed in Mr Keith's ability than by leaving him thus exposed to the whole Swedish forces, which were in full march to raise the siege of that town."†

"On the Russian side" (says Carlyle) "General Keith, under Field-Marshal Lacy as chief in command had a great deal of the work and management; it was of a highly miscellaneous kind, commanding fleets of gunboats, and much else; and readers of *Mannstein* can still judge—much more could King Frederick, earnestly watching the affair itself as it went on—whether Keith did not do it in a solid and quietly eminent and valiant manner. Sagacious, skilful, imperturbable, without fear and without noise; a man quietly ever ready. He had quelled, once, walking direct into the heart of it, a ferocious Russian mutiny, or uproar from below, which would have ruined everything in few minutes more. He suffered with excellent silence, now and afterwards, much ill-usage from above withal till Frederick himself, in the third year hence, was lucky enough to get him as General."‡

\* "Dictionary of National Biography."

† "Discourse on the Death of Marshal Keith."

‡ "History of Frederick the Great," Book XII., chap ix.

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Sweden made peace with Russia in 1743, losing Eastern Finland in the transaction.\* Shortly afterwards, she asked aid from her former adversary to repel a threatened attack by Denmark, and Keith was despatched to Stockholm with 10,000 men, acting for nine months in the double capacity of Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Sweden.†

### WITHDRAWAL FROM THE RUSSIAN SERVICE.

Keith had now reached the zenith of his fortunes in Russia; henceforth he was subjected to a series of petty indignities that eventually led to his abandoning a country that proved insensible to his services. In fifteen arduous years he had thoroughly established a reputation as an able and trustworthy military commander; he had been repeatedly victorious in war, and had no less emphatically demonstrated his administrative capacity in peace-time; he had earned distinction, awards, and the favour of the Sovereigns he served—indeed, the Empress Elizabeth fell in love with him, and offered to marry him and of course to raise him to the highest dignity in the state.‡ But it is not easy for a foreigner to maintain a position of pre-eminence in any country, far less in a country so exclusive as that of Russia, with a Court so honeycombed with intrigue and influence; and Keith gradually became the object—and in the end the victim—of the jealousies of Russian Generals, and of the personal

\* "Among the Swedish prisoners was an orphan, Eva Merthens, pretty and clever, whom Keith carefully educated and made his mistress; he had several children by her." ("Dictionary of National Biography"). She survived him till 1811. ("Chambers's Encyclopædia.") See also Andrew Lang's "Pickle the Spy" and "The Companions of Pickle."

† For fuller details of the several Russian campaigns referred to, see the article on Count Lacy in the "Dictionary of National Biography."

‡ M'Lean's "Memoir."

"There seems to have been another very potent reason for this step" [Keith's sudden departure from St Petersburg in 1747], "which has only lately come to light in the correspondence of the Field-Marshal with Chevalier Drummond at Berlin. This was nothing more nor less than the growing affection of the Empress, which threatened to assume a form incompatible with his station and his security. In her letters she calls him the only man 'who can bring up a future heir of the throne in my mind and in the footsteps of Peter the Great,' and he himself writes to Drummond as early as 1745—'The Empress is resolved to raise me to a height, which would cause my ruin as well as her own. This being so—in other words, Siberia looming in the distance—Keith's sudden departure is more than sufficiently accounted for.'" (Fischer's "The Scots in Germany.")



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animosity of high State officials. He was removed from one post after another till, in 1747, he found himself left with the command of a couple of regiments only. Keith, whose practical common-sense was one of his most characteristic qualities, must have had a tolerably clear apprehension of what all this was leading to, and he very promptly arrived at the conclusion that it was high time to remove himself elsewhere. This resolve to quit Russia was not improbably accelerated by obstacles being placed in the way of his brother, the Earl Marischal, paying him a visit, permission being refused on the representation of the British Ambassador that the Earl was a Jacobite. The final and deciding cause was most likely the appointment of a younger General (Prince Repnin) to the command of a Russian force about to be despatched to the Rhine countries. This, as Carlyle puts it, "finished off the connection of General Keith with Russia — this, of seeing Repnin, his junior and inferior, preferred to him, was, of many disgusts, the last drop which made the cup run over, and led the said General to fling it from him, and seek new fields of employment."\* So Keith quitted Russia after nineteen years' service, and making his way to Hamburg, addressed himself to Frederick the Great with an offer of service, and was instantly created by Frederick (15th September, 1747) a Prussian Field-Marshal, with £1200 a year. Two years later he became Governor of Berlin, with £1600 a year.

### CONNECTION WITH PRUSSIA AND FREDERICK THE GREAT.

Here we enter on the last phase of Keith's career, finding him, at the age of 51, a conspicuous figure at the Prussian Court, with a high military reputation derived from his achievements in the Russian army, honoured and esteemed by Frederick the Great, no less on that account than on account of his personal qualities, and associating on terms of equal footing with the wits and men of letters,

\* Carlyle's "Frederick the Great," Book XVI, chap. ii.

"Of the two capable captains who had contributed, in the earlier part of the century, to the martial glories of Russia, Lacy had died in 1751, and Keith, offended by the refusal of the Russian Government to give an asylum to his brother the ex-Jacobite, and piqued, besides, at not receiving the command of the auxiliary corps of 30,000 men sent to the Rhine in 1747, which was given instead to his junior, Prince Rjepnin, had the same year quitted the Russian for the Prussian service." ("The Daughter of Peter the Great," by R. Nisbet Bain. London, 1899.)



**FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.**  
(Portrait by FRANCESCO TREVISANI).

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## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

from Voltaire downwards, with whom the Prussian monarch was wont to surround himself, first patronising and petting them, and then quarrelling with them and dismissing them. The next nine years of his life were years of comparative inactivity—in a military sense, at all events; and we have a pleasing picture of Keith acting as the King's confidant and adviser on many matters outside his immediate duties—designing massive bridges over the Spree, negotiating for the settlement in Prussia of an English manufacturer of woollen goods, and endeavouring to secure an opening for Prussian industry in the East Indian markets. What is perhaps the oddest thing of all is to find Keith the medium of ordering pictures for the King, the prices to be paid and all the arrangements being left to Keith's judgment; how the Field-Marshal came to be an authority on the fine arts is more difficult to make out even than how he gained a mastery of the art of war. But, surprising as it may seem, and not easy to account for, looking to his training and career, Keith was a man of many accomplishments. The Royal Academy of Berlin, "proud of having a governor alike remarkable for his military genius and his literary acquirements," enrolled his name on the list of their honorary members\*; and he invented a "war game" in imitation of chess, at which the King and he used to play†—hence probably the statement that "he may be fitly remembered as the inventor of Kriegspiel, or rather of its precursor, Kriegschachspiel."‡ The nine

\* M'Lean's "Memoir."

† "Notwithstanding his large income, Keith, who was particularly liberal in money matters, often by his generosity exceeded the income allowed him; and, knowing that Frederick visited such conduct with his displeasure, he, as the less of two evils, at such times absented himself from Court. Frederick, on one of these occasions, requiring to see him on some business of importance, called at his house, and found the Marshal in his garden employed in pointing paper cannons at pins of wood, and noting how he might pour the greatest quantity of fire upon them as their position changed. Learning the cause of his absence, the King cheerfully paid his debts, entered with the greatest of pleasure into his amusement, caused the number of pins to be increased to many thousands, and had often many a keen engagement in the garden, which was of great service to them afterwards in the field. The Marshal also invented an amusement in imitation of the game of chess, at which the King and he used to play. Having caused several thousands of small statues of men in armour to be cast, he set them opposite to each other, ranged them in battalions as if he had been drawing up an army; and by bringing out some of the wings or centre, showed the advantage or disadvantage resulting from the different draughts which were made." (M'Lean's "Memoir.")

See also the old Statistical Account of Scotland, Vol. XV. (Parish of St Fergus.)

‡ "Dictionary of National Biography."

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years of peace, too, must have been fairly happy years for Keith, for he and his dearly loved brother were at last reunited.\* The Earl Marischal reached Berlin in January, 1748, and Frederick took him under his protection—out of consideration for the Field-Marshal in the first place probably, but eventually for his own sake; "The Earl presently became personally dear to him, as a friend without subservience, and a philosopher without vanity or pretence." † The King gave him a pension of 2000 crowns, sent him to Paris as Ambassador in 1751 (mightily offending this country thereby), appointed him Governor of Neuchatel in 1754, and in 1759 Ambassador to Spain. As Macaulay says—

"Their long wanderings" [those of the two brothers], "terminated at Potsdam; nor had Frederick any associates who deserved or obtained so large a share of his esteem. They were not only accomplished men, but nobles and warriors, capable of serving him in war and diplomacy, as well as of amusing him at supper. Alone of all his companions they appear never to have had reason to complain of his demeanour towards them. Some of those who knew the palace best pronounced that Lord Marischal was the only human being whom Frederick ever really loved." ‡

Of the Field-Marshal himself Carlyle furnishes the following portrait, etched in his characteristically graphic style—

"Highly respectable too, and well worth talking to, though left very dim to us in the Books, is Marshal Keith; who has been growing gradually with the King, and with everybody, ever since he came to these parts in 1747. A man of Scotch type; the broad accent, with its sagacities, veracities, with its steadfastly fixed moderation, and its sly twinkles of defensive humour, is still audible to us through the foreign wrappings. Not given to talk, unless there is something to be said; but well capable of it then. Friedrich, the more he knows him, likes him the better. On all manner of subjects he can talk knowingly, and with insight of his own. . . . Friedrich greatly respects this sagacious gentleman with the broad accent." §

### THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR.

The outbreak, in 1756, of the conflict between Prussia and Austria, Frederick the Great and Maria Theresa—which came to be known in history as the Seven Years' War, and resulted in Prussia taking rank as one of the leading European Powers—gave Field-

\* The two brothers, however, did not always live together on the best terms (See "Pickle the Spy," and "The Companions of Pickle.")

† Andrew Lang's "Companions of Pickle."

‡ "Essays;" "Frederick the Great."

§ "History of Frederick the Great," Book XVI., Chap. ix.

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Marshal Keith the opportunity at last of once more manifesting his military genius. This war originated in the desire of Maria Theresa to recover Silesia, which she had been obliged to cede to France eleven years before, and was precipitated by a secret compact to reduce Prussia to the condition of a fourth-rate Power entered into between her, the Empress Elizabeth of Russia, and Madame de Pompadour of France—the “Alliance of the three petticoats,” as it was styled—the Queen of Poland (who was also Electress of Saxony) becoming a consenting party.\* Learning of the compact, Frederick resolved to anticipate his enemies, and in August, 1756, he invaded Saxony in three columns, he himself heading the centre column, Keith being second in command. Dresden was speedily occupied, the Saxon army having withdrawn to the hilly country known as Saxon-Switzerland, and Keith was despatched by Frederick to convey “his homages” to the Queen of Poland. The formality was meant to cover the seizure of secret papers in the Royal archives—an “unheard-of procedure” which shocked some of the Courts of Europe, more especially as the Queen stood with her back to the cabinet in which they were, saying she would resist their seizure. A story obtained currency that Keith used personal violence to the Queen, but it is completely disproved by Carlyle: the papers were seized—though not by Keith—Her Majesty being induced in the long run to “become passive.” An Austrian army under the command of Marshal Browne, advanced from Bohemia to the relief of Saxony, and the first battle of the campaign took place at Lobositz in October, Keith’s column participating, and the Prussians proved victorious.

In 1757, Frederick found Austria, Russia, France, Sweden, and minor German princes arrayed against him, while his only allies were Great Britain and a few German states.† He began the second year’s campaign by marching into Bohemia. Fighting and winning a bloody battle at Prague, he laid siege to the city, into which the

\* The palace of Sans-Souci at Potsdam, which was built by Frederick, is surmounted by three statues of Maria Theresa, the Empress Elizabeth, and Madame de Pompadour, with their backs to their respective countries.

† “Virtually, the whole Continent was in arms against a small State which, a few years before, had been regarded by most men as beneath serious notice. But it happened that this small State was led by a man of high military genius, capable of infusing into others his own undaunted spirit, while his subjects had learned both from him and his predecessors habits of patience, perseverance and discipline.” (Article on Frederick II. by James Sime, in the “Encyclopædia Britannica.”)

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defeated Austrians had escaped; the siege lasted six weeks, but proved quite unavailing. During the course of it, Keith's quarter on the west side of the Moldau had to sustain a furious sally by the Austrians, the fighting lasting for nearly six hours, but ending in the repulse of the assailants—

"During the night between the 23rd and the 24th of May, Prince Charles of Lorraine, with 12,000 men, made a violent attack on Keith's post. The best Austrian troops were chosen for this purpose . . . to cut their way through the Prussian line. Brandy was distributed to the men, and the assurance was given at the same time that a French army would attack the Prussian rear. In dead silence the troops marched out of the camp under the command of General Laudon, arranged themselves in battle array, and then pressed forwards towards the left wing of the Prussian army. At about half-past one the first shots were fired. Keith was immediately on horseback, and gave orders; in fifteen minutes the Prussians stood ready. The troops in the intrenchments, which were first stormed, fought bravely, and kept the enemy's superior force at bay until they received support. Reiterated assaults were vigorously driven back. At three o'clock Keith himself appeared on the front, and flung the Austrians back, with the loss of 1000 killed and wounded. . . . The King, who heard of the battle in his camp at Saint Michael, on the other side of the Moldau, without being able to participate in it, was much delighted at Keith's victory, and hoped to reap great results from it."<sup>\*</sup>

Before long, the Austrians under Marshal Daun, having defeated Frederick at Kolin, relieved Prague, and forced the Prussians to retreat to Saxony. Of Keith's share in this enforced withdrawal Carlyle gives an animated picture in a few sentences—

"Marshal Keith's fine performance. Keith, from the Weissenberg, does not march, such packing and loading still; all the baggages and artilleries being with Keith. Not till four in the afternoon did Keith march; but beautifully then; and folded himself away—rearguard under Schmettau 'retreating chequerwise,' nothing but Tolpatcheries attempting on him—westward, Budin-ward without loss of a linstock, not to speak of guns. Very prettily done on the part of Keith."<sup>†</sup>

### INCIDENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

Frederick's aim now was "to scatter himself into thin threads, and roam about, chiefly in Thuringen and the West of Saxony, seeking something to fight with, and finding nothing." The scene of the campaign gradually shifted, and by October Keith was driven

<sup>\*</sup> Von Ense's "Leben des Feldmarschall Jakob Keith." (Quoted in "The Scot Abroad.")

<sup>†</sup> "Frederick the Great," Book XVIII., chap. v.

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into Leipzig, holding out there for a couple of days till relieved by the King, and defying a force twice the size of the one he had.

"On the 24th of October, Austrian hussars appeared, against whom Keith sent a party, who skirmished with them for three hours. On the same day a division of the enemy's army, consisting of more than 8000 men, followed, and summoned the Prussians to surrender in the name of the Prince of Hildburghausen, who commanded the Imperial army. Counting all the men hurriedly collected by Keith out of Halle, Merseburg, and Weizenfels, his forces scarcely amounted to 4000 men. The Prince of Hildburghausen and the Prince of Saubise had already been informed at Nuremberg, on the 22nd, that the number did not exceed this, and had joked a great deal about that 'army'; they scarcely expected resistance. But Keith let them know, through the commandants of the town, that he would defend it to the last man, and in his own name he added—'Tell the Prince of Hildburghausen that by birth I am a Scotsman, by choice and duty a Prussian; and I am determined so to defend the town that neither the Scotch nor the Prussians shall be ashamed of me. The King, my master, has commanded me to keep the place, and I shall keep it.'

"The next morning early he assembled the Town Council before him, and made the following address to them—'I must inform you, gentlemen, that the Prince of Hildburghausen has sent me a summons to surrender the town to him, which, however, I am not going to do. He threatens, in case of a refusal, to resort to extreme measures. Thus he sets me an example to do so likewise; and so to him you must impute the misfortune to which your town is exposed. If you wish to avoid this, I advise you to go to him, and persuade him, for your sakes, and those of the rest of the inhabitants, to spare the town, for otherwise I will burn the suburbs on the first news of his attack; and if that will not stop him, I shall go and not even spare the town.'

"The delegates could make nothing of the Prince; he would grant no more than permission to the Prussians to leave the town unhindered. When Keith rejected a second summons, and also this degrading offer, the prince was enraged, and sent him a message to say that, if Leipzig was set on fire, he would lay Berlin and Potsdam in ashes. Keith laughed at this threat, and made every preparation for defence, had trenches dug, ramparts raised, and set hussars and riflemen to skirmish with the enemy.

"Frederick wrote to Keith from Eulenberg, October 25th—'Be easy; the Prince of Hildburghausen will not eat you; I will answer for it.' And Keith answered on the 26th—'I have just received the letter in which your Majesty tells me that you are going to bring me powder, artillery, and everything needful. When I have that, he who wishes to eat me will perhaps find me a very tough morsel.'\*\*

Keith took part in the subsequent battle of Rossbach (5th November)—one of the most famous Prussian victories of the war—and then marched again into Bohemia. In the spring of 1758 he conducted another fruitless siege—that of Olmutz, in Moravia—withdrawing once more in complete order: "The Prussians softly vanish in long smooth streams, with music playing, unmolested by Daun; and leaving nothing, it is boasted, but five or three mortars, which kept playing to the last, and one cannon, to which something had hap-

\* Von Euse (Quoted from "The Scot Abroad").



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pened.”\* The retreat converged on Leutomischl, and was then pursued to Konigsgratz; and, even at the risk of being charged with quoting too freely from Carlyle, one cannot resist quoting this passage—

“ Keith himself takes the rear-guard, the most ticklish post of all, and manages it well, and with success, as his wont is. Under sickness at the time, but with his usual vigilance, prudence, energy; qualities apt to be successful in war. Some brushes of Croat fighting he had from Loudon; but they did not amount to anything. It was at Holitz, within a march of Konigsgratz, that Loudon made his chief attempt; a vehement, well-intended thing; which looked well at one time. But Keith heard the cannonading ahead; hurried up with new cavalry, new sagacity and fire of energy; dashed out horse charges, seized hill tops, of a vital nature; and quickly ended the affair. A man fiery enough, and prompt with his stroke when wanted, though commonly so quiet. ‘Tell Monsieur’—some General who seemed too stupid or too languid on this occasion—‘Tell Monsieur from me,’ said Keith to his Aide-de-Camp, ‘he may be a very pretty thing, but he is not a man.’ The excellent vernacular Keith—still a fine breadth of accent in him, one perceives! He is now past sixty, troubled with asthma; and I doubt not may be, occasionally, thinking it near time to end his campaigns. And, in fact, he is about ending them, sooner than he or anybody had expected.”†

### THE BATTLE OF HOCHKIRCH—KEITH'S DEATH.

The end came with the battle of Hochkirch fought on Saturday, 14th October, 1758. Hochkirch is a little town in the province of Bautzen, in the east end of Saxony, close to the Silesian frontier. The Prussians had encamped here in a very dangerous position, practically untenable without the Stromberg Hill, which they had neglected to occupy, and which was immediately taken possession of by the forces under the Austrian commander, Marshal Daun. Frederick had resolved to clear out of “this bad post,” and had arranged to silently evacuate it on the Saturday night; but Daun devised an encircling movement, to be followed by a surprise attack on the Prussian camp before daylight on the Saturday. The attack was actually delivered about five o'clock of a misty morning, and a desperate engagement ensued. Keith was in command of the right wing, and learning that his “big battery” had been taken, headed a rush for its recapture. In this he succeeded, but only momentarily; and finally, quite surrounded and overwhelmed, and unable to get up reinforcements, he was obliged to retire. He had been shot twice on the right side, but had disregarded these wounds; but, shot once

\* “Frederick the Great,” Book XVIII., Chap. xii.

† Ibid.



**FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.**  
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again, and this time through the heart, he fell dead into the arms of John Tebay, a wandering English horse soldier, who attended him as mounted groom. His naked corpse, wrapped only in a Croat's mantle, was recognised by the son of his old comrade Lacy—identified, too, by the former wound on the knee—and was honourably buried by Daun next day in the village church of Hochkirch. Carlyle in his *History of Frederick*, spares a note "for the sake of a heroic kind of man, who had not too much of reward in the world." The passage is exceedingly familiar by frequent quotation, but may be reproduced once more—

"Tebay could not recover Keith's body: Croats had the plundering of Keith; other Austrians, not of Croat kind, carried the dead General into Hochkirch Church: Lacy's emotion on recognising him there—like a tragic gleam of his own youth suddenly brought back to him, as in star-light, piercing and sad, from twenty-years distance—is well known in books. On the morrow, Sunday, October 15th, Keith had honourable soldier's-burial there—'twelve cannon' salvoing thrice, and 'the whole corps of Coloredo' with their muskets thrice; Lacy as chief mourner, not without tears. Four months after, by Royal order, Keith's body was conveyed to Berlin; reinterred in Berlin,\* in a still more solemn public manner, with all the honours, all the regrets; and Keith sleeps now in the Garrison-Kirche—far from boiny Inverugie; the hoarse sea-winds and caverns of Dunottar singing vague requiem to his honourable line and him, in the imaginations of some few."†

A monument to Keith was erected in Hochkirch Church in 1776.‡

### ESTIMATES OF THE FIELD-MARSHAL.

Field-Marshal Keith, as we have seen, has been the subject of many eulogies; other eulogiums there are, couched in that excessively artificial and extravagant style of the eighteenth century which the improved taste of the present day is apt to regard—and occasionally to dismiss—as grandiloquent and too high-flown. Poetasters are among the chief sinners in this respect. Peter Buchan, in his "Family of Keith," quotes a somewhat sorry piece of doggerel "On the Death of General Keith," by a John Whyte, four lines of which will suffice—

This hero's valiant deeds, with fame  
Do sound through all our Christian land;  
He made the Pagan for to shake,  
And powerful Turk to feel his hand.

\* On 3rd February, 1759.

† "Frederick the Great," Book XVIII., chap. xiv.

‡ See Appendix D.

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And he also quotes some stanzas "taken from an old unpublished ballad," which are not a whit better—

When Frederick knew that Keith was dead,  
He cried, my father dear,  
My dearest friend, when hard bestead,  
Thy counsel still was clear.

. . . . .  
Thou wast my cabinet of wit,  
Thou wast my ruling plan ;  
Thou wast the darling of my heart,  
O thou, dear mortal man !

Though poorly expressed, however, these effusions enable us to realise in a way the high estimate in which Keith was held for his military renown and his personal accomplishments, and to understand the fascination his character had for his contemporaries, and particularly for Frederick the Great. In "Don : a Poem" (republished with additions in 1742)—a curious narrative poem, in which descriptions of mansion-houses along the river are interspersed with disquisitions on the martial and other deeds of the families to whom they belong—there is a glowing rhapsody of our hero—\*

See how brave Keith now treads the Russian plain,  
And snowy mountains, where fierce Tartars reign !  
Clio, descend ! with martial heat inspire ;  
Teach me to praise the youth whom I admire ;  
And sing the Hero, whose exalted name  
Stands 'mongst the first in the rolls of fame ;  
Whose courage soon made his high merit known  
To the great Empress on the Russian throne.

. . . . .  
My muse, what numbers wilt thou find  
To paint the virtues that in Keith are join'd ?  
Too great the task, tho' noble is the theme.

This is interesting as showing that at a comparatively early period of his service abroad, the fame of Keith's achievements had reached his native country, while the amplification in which the poet indulges—too lengthy to be quoted—demonstrates that even the details of these achievements were accurately known.

But the principal eulogy of Keith is to be found in a "Discourse" on his death read before the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin,

\* Brought in with reference to Keith-hall, the seat of the Earls of Kintore, a branch of the Marischal family ; the estate ultimately reverted to the last Earl Marischal (See Walker's "Bards of Bon-Accord," p. 166.)

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which was published in 1760, and was probably delivered on the occasion of the removal of the Field-Marshal's body from Hochkirch to the Garrison Chapel at Berlin, or very soon thereafter. It embraces a biography of Keith—which seems to have formed the groundwork of most of the biographies written since, and which contains numerous particulars that it has been impossible even so much as to refer to in this paper—and concludes with an elaborate characterisation of Keith, from which the following sentences may be quoted—

"Thus disappeared one of the greatest men of the age—a man worthy to be compared with those illustrious names which raised Greece and Ancient Rome to all the heights of their glory. . . . He would have made a great figure in the sciences and in literature had not his life been so much occupied in the manner we have seen. He spoke English, French, Spanish, Russian, Swedish, and Latin, and was able to read the Greek authors.\* . . . General, Minister, Courtier, Philosopher; all these characters, however different in themselves, were in him united. The most profound scholars have been known to leave his company quite in ecstasy, and scarcely believing their own ears.

"But, beyond all contradiction, he chiefly excelled in military affairs. When we take a review of his life, we are confounded with the great variety of his brave exploits, and are scarce able to follow him through that number of places where he acquired renown. . . ."

It is unfortunate that this delineation of the Field-Marshal's character and of the qualities which secured him his commanding position among his compeers should be marred by over-elaboration and the employment of language so laudatory. In these prosaic days of ours, and with the intense development of the critical spirit, we are apt to be suspicious of such lavish praise; its very excess raises doubts as to whether it is altogether warranted. Yet the author of the "Discourse" evidently knew his subject, was familiar with the details of Keith's career and with the incidents that gave it prominence, and was presumably in a position to be aware of the estimation in which Keith was held, and the reasons for it. If therefore, we discount the exaggeration almost inseparable from a funeral *éloge*, and make allowance for the florid style of literary expression so prevalent when this particular one was composed, and if we combine with the residuum what is to be gleaned from other sources, we may arrive at a reasonable conclusion as to what manner of man Field-Marshal Keith was, and wherein his eminence lay.

That he was a great General, possessed of a distinct genius for the science of war, does not require to be insisted upon. His whole career was a demonstration of it. His employment in two foreign

\* Marshal Keith did not understand German (Carlyle's "Frederick," Book XVIII., Chap. ii.)

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armies, his rapid promotion in each, the skill and success with which he conducted the operations assigned to him, and the crowning fact that he was the trusted General and second in command of Frederick the Great, the "war god" of the latter half of the eighteenth century—all this testifies to the high position Keith holds, and must continue to hold, among the world's distinguished captains of armies. Specially pleasing is it to note also that this great military genius was a man of culture, who could on occasion wield the pen as well as the sword, could write charming letters, and could take his part and hold his own in conversation with wits and literati—these qualities being all the more conspicuous in the case of Field-Marshal Keith owing to their rarity among military men in his day. Other characteristics he had that endear his memory. He was essentially a humane commander—at a time, too, when humanity in warfare was an almost unknown quantity. He revolted at and protested against Russian barbarities in war—prevented them as far as he could; and he ruled by affection, not by dread. Living in a period when pillage was an ordinary concomitant of war, he died poor. "My brother leaves me a noble legacy," wrote the Earl Marischal after Hochkirch; "last year he had Bohemia under ransom, and his personal estate is about 70 ducats" (about £25).\* And we cannot better take leave of the striking personality with which we have been dealing than by recalling the concise answer of the Earl Marischal to a request for materials for a biography of his dead brother—"Probus vixit, fortis obiit" ("He lived a pure life, and died a brave death.") These words are inscribed on the pedestal of the statue of the Field-Marshal, which, with commanding gesture, looks down Broad Street of Peterhead, and they fittingly epitomise the career of one whose name and fame are imperishably associated with the Buchan which gave him birth, and which, in so doing, contributed not a little of those eminent qualities that earned for James Francis Edward Keith the distinguished and distinctive position he occupies among the great men of his time.†

\* "As a matter of fact, Keith bequeathed all he had to his mistress, who afterwards married and survived him fifty-three years. It is impossible to determine whether his German biographers are right in ascribing his poverty to a splendid unselfishness, or whether there is anything in the statement of the old Statistical Account that he "was a very bad economist, and sometimes absented himself from Court when he could not pay his debts." ("Dictionary of National Biography.")

† See Appendices E, F, and G.

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APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

“LADY KEITH” (THE COUNTESS MARISCHAL).

The complete text of the Jacobite ballad “When the King Comes Ower the Water,” generally attributed to “Lady Keith” (the Countess Marischal) is as follows—

I may sit in my wee croo hoose  
At the rock and the reel to toil fu' drearie ;  
I may think on the day that's gane,  
And sigh and sab till I grow wearie.  
I ne'er could brook, I ne'er could brook  
A foreign loon to own or flatter,  
But I will sing a rantin' sang  
That Day our King comes ower the Water.

O gin I live to see the day  
That I hae begged, and begged frae Heaven,  
I'll fling my rock and reel away,  
And dance and sing frae morn till even !  
For there is ane I winna name  
Wha comes the bingin' byke to scatter ;  
And I'll put on my bridal goon  
That Day our King comes ower the Water.

I ha'e seen the gude auld day,  
The day o' pride and chieftain glory,  
When Royal Stuarts bare the sway,  
And ne'er heard tell o' Whig nor Tory.  
Though lyart be my locks and grey,  
And eild has crooked me doun—what matter ?  
I'll dance and sing another day  
That Day our King comes ower the Water.

A curse on dull and drawling Whig,  
The whining, ranting, low deceiver,  
Wi' heart sae black and look sae big,  
And canting tongue o' clishmaclaver !  
My father was a good lord's son,  
My mither was an earl's daughter,  
And I'll be Lady Keith again  
That Day our King comes ower the Water.



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“There is no probability” (says Mr Norval Clyne, in “The Scottish Jacobites and their Poetry”) “in the supposition that ‘Lady Keith’ herself had anything to do with these verses, nor do they truly represent her circumstances after 1715. She was then the widow of the ninth Earl Marischal, and her proper title was the Dowager Countess. Her two sons, the tenth Earl and his brother, were amongst the first to join the enterprise of Lord Mar. Its failure brought upon them attainder and life-long exile, but could not affect her rank or patrimony. She retained, until her death in 1729, the occupancy of Inverugie, then ‘a great castle and court,’ where she gave shelter and support to Meston the poet, and educated the last Lord Oliphant, then a minor, whom she had rescued from the deepest poverty.”

The Countess Marischal, according to Mr William Boyd, “was no ordinary woman, and when occasion called it forth she was wont to exhibit an ardour and earnestness which must have made her a valuable auxiliary in supporting the Jacobite cause. It is said that, after the ruin of the family, she was visited by a former maid-servant, who had married and kept the Castle [Inverugie] before the rising of 1715. She ventured to express to the Countess her regret that the young Earl and his brother had taken a course so disastrous in its result. The noble dame rose from her chair in high displeasure, and, with a scornful look, replied, ‘Woman, if my sons had not done what they did, and what I bade them do, I would have gone out myself, with my spindle and my rock.’” (“Old Inverugie.”)

This incident suggested to Mr Norval Clyne some verses, which originally appeared in “Grass of Parnassus from the Bents o’ Buchan” (Peterhead, 1887), but now form an appendix to “The Scottish Jacobites and their Poetry”—

### THE LAST COUNTESS MARISCHAL.

At Inverugie, by the sea,  
Its lady, old and grey,  
Sat, with her bower maid at her knee,  
As daylight died away.

She sat and span, and softly sang,  
Ay as she turned her wheel—  
“By Inverugie’s keep there grows  
A plant that I lo’e weel.

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

" 'Tis not the gentle gillyflower.  
Blooming in gardens fair ;  
Nor yet the bonnie briar bush,  
Scenting the summer air.

" Its leaves beside my window cling,  
Between me and the day ;  
For sweetly sad are the thoughts they bring  
To wish they were away.

" It spreads them over ruined walls  
With kindly close embrace,  
And ne'er forsakes the lonely halls  
Where dwelt a fallen race.

" Through storm and skaith it keeps its faith,  
The plant that's dear to me ;  
O weel I lo'e the Ivy true,  
The Plant of Loyalty !"

Her sweet sad song the lady sang,  
But thoughts of bygone years,  
And of her landless, homeless sons,  
Filled her old eyes with tears.

" O waesom, waesom was the day,"  
Outspoke her weeping maid,  
" When the young lords unsheathed their swords  
A luckless cause to aid !"

With flashing cheeks and flashing eyes  
Up rose that noble dame —  
" Cease woman, cease your idle words,  
For they are words of shame !

" And shamed had been my two dear sons,  
If gladly at the call  
Of their true King they had not gone  
And risked their life and all.

" Dishonour's stain is worse to bide  
Than loss of lands and gear ;  
Nor sons of mine would turn aside  
For favour or for fear.

" If for their King they had not braved  
The prison and the block,  
I had myself at once gone out  
With my spindle and my rock!"

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APPENDIX B.

THE OLD PRETENDER IN PETERHEAD.

The landing of the Old Pretender in Peterhead is thus described—

“The Pretender and his five Companions having lodged one Night in the Habite of Sea-Officers at Peterhead, and another at Newburgh, a House of the Earl of Marischal, on the 24th they passed *incognito* thro’ Aberdeen with two Baggage Horses, and at Night came to Fetterosse, the principal Seat of the Earl of Marischal, where he stay’d till the 27th, when the Earl of Mar, Marischal, and Hamilton came up to wait on him. Having dress’d and discover’d himself, they all Kiss’d his Hand and own’d him as King; thereafter they caus’d Proclaim Him at the Gates of the House. . . . He design’d to pursue his Journey next Day towards Perth; but he was seized with an aguish Distemper, which detain’d him for some days at Fetterosse.” (“The History of the late Rebellion rais’d against His Majesty King George by the Friends of the Popish Pretender,” by Peter Rae. Dumfries, 1718).

As to the house in Peterhead in which the Chevalier slept—“that old house, south end of the Longate, presently belonging to Mr James Annand” (Buchan’s “Annals of Peterhead,” 1829)—see *Scottish Notes and Queries*, I., 161, 180.

Mr Findlay gives the following copy of a letter written in Peterhead by the Old Pretender on the night of his arrival—to whom is not known—still preserved in the Arbuthnot Museum of Peterhead—

“PETERHEAD Dec. 22nd, 1715.  
“I am at last thank God in my own ancient kingdom as the bearer will tell you with all the particulars of my passage and his own proposals of future service.—I wrote the queen the news I have gott and gave a line to the agent in attendant that I send you from the army a letter from my friends to whom I am going to-morrow.—I find things in a prosperous way and hope all will go well. If friends on your side do their part as I have done mine. My compliments to ——— tell him the good news I can’t write to him for I am weary and won’t delay a moment the bearer.

“J. R.”

A local Jacobite song, “My Mantle,” celebrates the landing of the Chevalier at Peterhead, and gives some account of his reception there. It is reproduced by Peter Buchan in his “Gleanings of Scarce Old Ballads,” Buchan suggesting that the oft-repeated refrain, “My mantle, my mantle, my mantle’s on the green hay,” is an innuendo to rouse one to lay aside his coat, risk all, and fight to the death for the Stuarts. The song is as follows—

Here begins this guid New Year,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
Guid bless us a’ that’s present here,  
My mantle’s on the green hay.

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Our maut-gaugers they're but loons,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
They herrie the country and borrows towns,  
My mantle's on the green hay.

King James is land't at Peterhead,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
An honour great to us indeed,  
My mantle's on the green hay.

The night was wet and let the tide,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
He couldna into Ugie ride,  
My mantle's on the green hay.

He slept a' nicht in our good town,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
Upon a guid saft bed o' down,  
My mantle's on the green hay.

In the morning when he raise,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
The Marischal's bailie brushed his claihs,  
My mantle's on the green hay.

He sought neither horse nor steed,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
But the auld mare carried John Reid,  
My mantle's on the green hay.

He's come to set auld Scotland free,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
From Curs'd Hanover tyrannie,  
My mantle's on the green hay.

Them that does not wish him well,  
My mantle, my mantle,  
May Highland clans wi' German steel,  
Lay their mantles on the green hay.

Regarding the Chevalier's passage through Aberdeen, "it is recorded that he only stayed in the burgh long enough to have dinner in Skipper Scott's house in the Castlegate, and that the strictest incognito was preserved." (A. M. Munro in Introduction to "Historical Papers relating to the Jacobite Period, 1699-1750," edited by Col. Allardyce. New Spalding Club, 1895).

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APPENDIX C.

KEITH AT THE SIEGE OF OCHAKOV.

A fuller account of the siege of Ochakov is given in "The Pupils of Peter the Great," by R. Nisbet Bain (London, 1897), from which the following excerpt is taken—

"The fortress was in the form of an irregular oblong flanked by divers bastions. Three sides of it were surrounded by a parapet, a glacis, and an *avant-fossé* twelve feet wide, but the seaward side was only protected by a low wall in a very indifferent state of defence. . . . Muennich began by occupying a few half-ruined Turkish redoubts in the gardens round the town, and then proceeded to throw bombs into the fortress with such success that whole streets were soon in flames. Anxious to profit by this lucky accident, Muennich ordered Keith, who was posted in the centre of the attacking columns, to advance into the open within gunshot of the glacis, and keep up a continuous fire to distract the attention of the garrison on the ramparts, and at the same time prevent them from extinguishing the flames in the town. Keith represented that such a manœuvre would mean the useless sacrifice of many of his men; but, the Marshal insisting, he promptly obeyed, and led them to the foot of the glacis, where their progress was arrested by the above-mentioned *avant-fossé*, which they were unable to cross, being totally unprovided with ladders or other siege apparatus. For two hours Keith and his men remained in front of this ditch, vainly endeavouring to find a passage across, and exposed all the time to a murderous fire from the walls of the fortress. Finally, they were obliged to retire behind the redoubts in the garden, and the besiegers sallying forth, massacred all the wounded on the spot. It was now that Muennich, seeing his army retreat, completely lost his head, and, giving way to despair, threw his sword to the ground, and exclaimed to those about him 'All is lost!' In the confusion of his distress, moreover, he sought to lay the blame of failure on Keith's shoulders, insinuating that it was in consequence of that general's excessive impetuosity that the assault had succeeded so ill. Keith, stung to the quick by such an imputation, when he had all along been obeying orders against his own better judgment, at once sent a message to Muennich, begging him to desist from such representations, or else he would demand a court-martial to clear himself, when he would not fail to point out all the blunders that had been committed since the commencement of the siege.

"Keith was so dangerously wounded in the leg that at first it was feared he would lose it, but his brother came and took him off to Paris where the limb was saved. The grateful Empress raised Keith to the rank of a lieutenant-general, sending him besides a present of 10,000 rubles (£2500) to pay his travelling expenses and his doctor's bill. Muennich, too, paid him a visit after the storming of the fortress, and congratulated him on his valour. 'Monsieur de Keith,' added the Marshal, 'methinks it is partly to you that we owe the success of this great enterprise.' 'Nay, your Excellency,' replied Keith, still mindful of Muennich's unjust insinuations the day before, 'nay, I don't want to make the least merit out of the affair. What I did was done absolutely in obedience to your orders.'"

ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

APPENDIX D.

MEMORIALS OF KEITH.\*

A monument to Keith was erected in Hochkirch Church in 1776 by his kinsman, Sir Robert Murray Keith—"modest Urn of black marble on a Pedestal of gray," says Carlyle, "and in gold letters, an Inscription † not easily surpassable in the lapidary way." This inscription is as follows—

JACOBO KEITH  
GULIELMI COM. MARESC. HERED. REGNI SCOTIAE  
ET MARIAE DRUMOND FILIO  
FREDERICI BORUSSORUM REGIS  
SUMMO EXERCITUS PRÆFECTO  
VIRO  
ANTIQUIS MORIBUS ET MILITARI VIRTUTE  
CLARO  
DUM IN PRÆLIO NON PROCUL HINC  
INCLINATAM SUORUM ACIEM  
MENTE MANU VOCE ET EXEMPLO  
RESTITUEBAT  
PUGNANS UT HEROAS DECET  
OCCUBUIT  
D. XIV. OCTOBRIS  
MDCCLVIII.

("To James Keith, son of William, Hereditary Earl Marischal of the Kingdom of Scotland, and Mary Drummond; an officer of the highest rank in the army of Frederick, King of Prussia; a man distinguished for his integrity of character and his valour in the field. While, in battle not far from here, he was restoring by courage, gesture, call, and example, the wavering line of his soldiers, he fell, fighting like a hero, on the 14th of October, 1758.")

"These words go through you like the clang of steel," adds Carlyle.

A marble statue of Keith, executed by J. P. A. Tassaert, was erected by Frederick in 1768 in the Wilhelmsplatz at Berlin—one of

\* The substance of this Appendix appeared in the "Aberdeen Journal" Notes and Queries," No. 68, August 4, 1909 (Vol. II.)

† Generally credited to Metastasio, but really by Ernesti (See "Dictionary of National Biography.")

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four to the four most deserving heroes of the Seven Years' War\*—but in 1857 it was removed to the Military School, its place being taken by a bronze reproduction, a replica of which (by M. Geiss, Berlin) was presented to Peterhead by King William I. of Prussia (subsequently William I., German Emperor) in 1868, and was erected in front of the Town House.† The original statue is now in the newly-erected Kaiser Friedrich Museum along with the original statues to the other five generals named in the footnote and a statue of Frederick the Great, Keith being in the niche on the right hand side of Frederick—bronze reproductions of the five doing duty with that of Keith on the Wilhelmsplatz.

\* So Carlyle says ; but the article on Keith in *Temple Bar*, June, 1898, says there are six statues—to the old Dessauer, Schwerin, Winterfeld, Seidlitz, Zeithen, and Keith.

† The story of how the replica was obtained for Peterhead—mainly at the instigation of the late Mr William Anderson, editor of the *Peterhead Sentinel*—is given in some detail, along with the correspondence with the Prussian authorities, in M'Lean's "Memoir." The statue was unveiled on 16th August, 1869 (See *Peterhead Sentinel* of 20th August, 1869, and 16th June, 1896).

The late Rev. John Longmuir, LL.D., of Aberdeen, on visiting Peterhead in 1869, composed an "Address to the Statue of Marshal James Keith," which was printed in the *Peterhead Sentinel*, and was subsequently (1874) reprinted in pamphlet form. A few stanzas may be quoted—

Sae, Keith, tho' thou has wan'ert far  
 Sin' fell the standard's tap in Mar,  
 Thro' crafty court, an' wastefu' war,  
     Wi' doughty deed ;  
 Yet thou returns, wi' glory's scar  
     To Peterhead.

Had thou to George allegiance sworn,  
 Thou mith hae liv'd where thou was born,  
 Improvin' aits, an' woo, an' horn,  
     Where Ugie cheers,  
 Till gather'd, like a sheaf o' corn  
     To thy forbears.

Thou turns thy back on Lewis bare,  
 Where thou would Sherramoore repair ;  
 But discord marked the counsels clair  
     O' thy cool brain ;  
 An' yon's the Inch, whence, sick and sair,  
     Thou sailed for Spain.

Thou kindly turns a hamewith glance  
 To Invergie's bonny stance,  
 Where like a filly thou wad prance,  
     Wi' thy mild brither ;  
 Till here thou welcomed James frae France,  
     Urged by thy Mither.



**STATUE OF FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH  
AT PETERHEAD.**



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OF THE  
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## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Prince Henry of Prussia also honoured Keith's memory: on an obelisk erected at Rheinsberg he inscribed—"With the greatest uprightness he joined the most extensive knowledge."\* And in 1889 the present German Emperor, "to commemorate Field-Marshal Keith's glorious services, and to the end that they should be for all time honoured and kept in memory," ordered the 1st Upper Silesian Regiment to be re-named the Keith Regiment.†

A fire occurred at the Garrison Church, Berlin—"the resting-place of 14 field-m Marshals and 50 generals"—on Monday, 13th April, 1908. The building was totally destroyed, and of 68 standards preserved as trophies in the church, only two, captured from the French in 1813, were rescued. The fire, however, did not reach the vaults, and the coffins, including that of Keith, were untouched.‡

Then lang uninjured may thou stand,  
While honour's tronsoun fills thy hand,  
An' prove, tho' aft our cloudy land  
    Deceives the pleugh,  
She never fails to rear a bang  
    O' heroes teugh!

\* Fischer's "The Scots in Germany," p. 127, footnote.

† "When the Duke of Connaught attended the army manœuvres in Silesia in 1890, it was the Keith Regiment of Infantry which the present Emperor purposely selected to show to his English uncle the nature and construction of the new campaigning tent, and at the ensuing march past it led the van." ("Bi-Centenary of the Birthday of Field-Marshal Keith" in *Aberdeen Free Press*, 13th June, 1896).

‡ See *Aberdeen Daily Journal*, 16th April, 1908. The "Journal" stated that "Several years ago, when Keith's coffin was opened by order of the present Emperor, in presence of the Earl of Kintore, the Field-Marshal's nearest of living kin, the body was found to be in a wonderful state of preservation, and quite recognisable as that of the Marshal, to judge from his portrait at Keith-hall, the seat of the Kintore family."

A correspondent writing to the *Aberdeen Free Press*, 24th October, 1908, said—"When the Garrison Church was recently almost destroyed by fire, the crypt fortunately escaped. It possesses the extraordinary power of keeping the bodies of those placed there in a perfect state of preservation. Through the influence of a German friend, I was allowed to see Field-Marshal Keith, lying in his coffin, dressed in full uniform, the face so life-like, but curiously tanned, the upper lip pierced by the bullet which extinguished the life of this brilliant warrior, the idol of every German soldier. When the French entered Berlin after the battle of Jena, in 1806, the coffins were rifled. Even the Field-Marshal's last resting-place was not spared, and the story goes that the rings from his fingers were taken."

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APPENDIX E.

TRIBUTES TO KEITH'S MEMORY.

The two hundredth birthday of Field-Marshal Keith was celebrated with great ceremony at Berlin, on Thursday, 11th June, 1896, by express command of the Emperor William. There was a display in front of Keith's monument on the Wilhelmsplatz, which was taken part in by a deputation from the 1st Silesian Regiment which still bears Keith's name, the regiment itself being then in garrison in Upper Silesia. Provost Smith, Peterhead, sent a congratulatory telegram under circumstances explained at a special meeting of the Town Council on Monday, the 15th, the report of which is as follows:—

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting,

Provost Smith said he wished to make a statement which he hoped would not be without interest. On Wednesday last, he received the following telegram from a respected Peterheadian in London:—

"To-morrow is the anniversary of Marshal Keith's birthday. Great celebration at Berlin before statue. Suggest wire congratulations to William, Emperor, as reminder of 1868."

He (Provost Smith) had not had the slightest hesitation in giving effect to the recommendation, and he had caused the following telegram to be sent to the German Emperor at Berlin on Thursday morning:—

"The people of Peterhead tender their sympathetic congratulations to Your Majesty and people on the celebration to-day of the anniversary of Marshal Keith's birthday. In 1868 your illustrious grandfather presented a cast of the Berlin statue to Peterhead, which bears the following inscription—'Field-Marshal Keith, born at Inverugie, Peterhead, 1696. Killed at the battle of Hochkirch,\* 14th October, 1758. The gift of William I., King of Prussia, to the town of Peterhead, 23rd August, 1868.'

"JOHN SMITH, Provost."

On the same afternoon, the following reply was received, dated from the Schloss, Berlin—

"Please convey to the people of Peterhead my sincerest thanks for their kind and sympathetic congratulations on the celebration of the two hundredth birthday of Field-Marshal Lord Keith. He was a splendid soldier, with all the best qualities necessary to be cherished by his Sovereign and to be beloved by his soldiers. Brave and loyal, by his glorious death at Hochkirch he remains for ever a model for the officers of my army, and especially for the regiment that proudly bears his name. By his death he testified once again to the truth of the old saying that 'blood is thicker than water.'

"WILHELM, I.R."

\* "Hochkirchen," unfortunately, is the word on the statue; but this is a solecism. I am informed that a Peterhead lady (Miss Violet Walker, Richmond) received a letter from Carlyle, in which attention was called to the blunder.

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

Provost Smith explained that the celebration only came to his notice on the previous day, and he took upon himself the official duty of telegraphing in the name of the people of Peterhead. He moved that the telegram be engrossed.

The reading of the message was received with applause, and the action of the Provost in taking upon himself to despatch these communications in his official capacity was highly commended, Bailie Ross, in seconding, remarking that it was a pity they had not sent the Provost to attend the celebrations.

The motion was agreed to.\*

The 150th anniversary of the death of the Field-Marshal occurred on 14th October, 1908, and, on the occasion of the annual dinner of the Former Pupils' Club of the Aberdeen Grammar School, on the 17th, Professor W. L. Davidson, who presided, proposed a toast to the memory of the Field-Marshal, a distinguished former pupil of the school, the toast being pledged in silence.†

## APPENDIX F.

### PORTRAITS OF THE FIELD-MARSHAL. ‡

There are two well-known portraits of Field-Marshal Keith. A painting of him by Belle, representing him as a young man clad in armour is in the possession of the University of Aberdeen, and hangs in the Picture Gallery of Marischal College. A reproduction of it in photogravure appears in the "Records of Marischal College and University," Vol. II. (New Spalding Club, 1898)§ which the editor, Mr P. J. Anderson, has kindly allowed to be copied to illustrate this paper.

\* From *Aberdeen Journal*, 16th June, 1896; see also *Peterhead Sentinel* of the same date.

† "See an article on " Marshal Keith : The Anniversary of Hochkirch," by W.M.A. in the *Aberdeen Free Press*, 14th October, 1908. The article is descriptive of a visit paid to Hochkirch, the church, and Keith's monument, and to the field-path or "loaning" where, according to tradition, Marshal Keith fell "As the visitor goes on his way," said the writer, "he reflects not a little on the curious chance which links this place with the north-east of Scotland."

‡ The substance of this Appendix appeared in the "'Aberdeen Journal' Notes and Queries," No. 67, July 28, 1909 (Vol. II.)

§ See "Description of the Armorial Bearings, Portraits and Busts in the Mitchell Hall and Picture Gallery, Marischal College." By E. A [rnett] (Aberdeen, 1896, 2nd ed., titled "A Guide to Marischal College," 1908)

A reproduction of the photogravure appeared in the *Aberdeen Grammar School Magazine*, February, 1908.

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Another portrait of the Field-Marshal, in later life, executed by Francesco Trevisani, belongs to the Earl of Kintore, and hangs at Keith-Hall; it is reproduced in Caw's "Scottish Portraits" (I., 142) and the Scottish History Society's publications (Vol. XIX., p. 193), and in the great window of the Mitchell Hall, Marischal College.\*

A third portrait, painted by Allan Ramsay in 1742, adorns the walls of the Town Hall at Stonehaven: it represents the Field-Marshal in civilian dress, with a steel cuirass below his coat, however, and wielding a baton. This portrait was presented to the town of Stonehaven by Major Fraser of Tornaveen in 1901.† A reproduction of it forms the frontispiece to "The Scots in Eastern and Western Prussia," by Th. A. Fischer (Edinburgh, 1903). Major Fraser, unfortunately, does not know the history of the portrait: all the information he can furnish is that he found it hanging in the house at the time of his father's death.

But Allan Ramsay would seem to have painted another portrait of the Field-Marshal. Rev. D. G. Barron, Dunnottar, has in his possession a mezzotint engraving of a portrait of "His Excellency James Kieth, Lieutenant Colonel of One of the Regiments of Foot Guards, and General in chief of the Armys of His Imperial Majesty of all ye Russias," bearing to be painted by A. Ramsay and engraved

\* The portrait of the Field-Marshal in the Art Gallery, Peterhead, labelled "By Blakey," is, I am informed, a photograph of the Keith-hall portrait.

† "There has just been presented to the town of Stonehaven by Major Fraser of Tornaveen a valuable portrait in oil of the famous Prussian General, Field-Marshal Keith, brother of the Earl Marischal. The portrait, which has been accepted by Provost Mowat on behalf of the town, measures 5 feet by 4, and represents the Marshal in the red coat of the period with ruffles, underneath which can be seen the steel breastplate. The Marshal wears a well-powdered wig, and the face, which is most natural in its expression, indicates more of the courtier than the hero of many a well-fought fight. The forehead is high, and the eyes expressive, but the firm-set mouth gives indication of his determined nature. In his right hand he holds a field-marshal's baton, while in the background the tents of his army can be seen. The name of the painter, 'A. Ramsay, 1742,' is at the right-hand bottom corner of the picture. The artist, Allan Ramsay, was the eldest son of Allan Ramsay, the poet, and author of 'The Gentle Shepherd,' and lived between the years 1713 and 1784. He studied in Edinburgh, and visited London and Rome. He attracted attention by a head of Forbes of Culloden and a full-length portrait of the Duke of Argyll. He was patronised by the Duke of Bridgewater, and rose to be the most famous portrait painter of his time, being appointed painter to His Majesty in 1767. His work was noted for its firm flesh painting and soundness in method. The picture is in a fine state of preservation, not the least indication being apparent of its great age. The gift is one that will be highly appreciated by the town." (*Aberdeen Journal*, 29th April, 1901.)

## ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

by A. Van Haecken. The portrait is quite distinct from that in the Stonehaven Town Hall.

A small engraving of a portrait of the Field-Marshal appears in Anderson's "Scottish Nation" (1872), said to be "from an original in the possession of William Douglas, Esq., Liverpool, to whom it descended from his relative, Col. Robert Keith, the last direct male representative of the noble family of Keith Marischal."

Some time after the delivery of my paper, I received from Mr Joseph Ogilvie, LL.D., Aberdeen, a curious line engraving representing a bust of the Field-Marshal in classical style, with a wreath of laurel around his head. It bore this inscription—

JAMES FRANCIS EDWARD KEITH  
Field Marshal in the Armies of Prussia  
Born June 14th O.S., 1696.

A. Bell, Sc.

Dr Ogilvie informed me that the engraving was found among the papers of the late Mr Alexander Cruickshank, LL.D., Aberdeen, but that of its history or purport, or where it was obtained, nothing was known. Inquiry at the Department of Prints and Drawings of the British Museum revealed equal lack of knowledge there. A friend in Berlin, however, with whom I communicated on the subject, made some inquiries, the result of which is embodied in the following note—

"In reference to the reproduction you enclosed,\* I have consulted the directors of the Royal Museums here. Their opinion is that it is a caricature. As a matter of fact, it is not a portrait of the Field-Marshal at all, but of his brother George, the Earl Marischal. In many portraits the two brothers are confounded. In the National Gallery here, there is an engraving of George Keith by Richardson, which has evidently been copied by the man who perpetrated the reproduction you sent me. As the copy is 'before the letter,' he must have mistaken it for the Field-Marshal."

The German authorities, however, while they may be right as to the portrait being a caricature, are mistaken in assuming it to be a portrait of the Earl Marischal. Mr Barron has shown me a dupli-

\* A reproduction of the picture referred to was given as a frontispiece to Vol. I. of the "Aberdeen Journal' Notes and Queries," 1908.

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cate of the portrait of the Field-Marshal along with a companion portrait of the Earl Marischal, both of them belonging to Mrs Napier, Stonehaven. The portrait of the Earl Marischal is inscribed—

By Strangers honour'd : by his Country mourn'd  
More real joy MARCELLUS exil'd feels  
Than Cæsar with a Senate at his heels.

Born April 2d O.S., 1693

That of the Field-Marshal—

In fame, in fortune, as in Blood the same ;  
But he whose valour saves a sinking State,  
In future annals shall be call'd the Great.

The following description of the Field-Marshal's personal appearance is given by Mr Dixon in his article in *Temple Bar*—

"It was in September, 1747 that Keith came to Potsdam. You may see him, as he appeared to the Berliners of those days, in Menzel's striking woodcut, a weather-beaten, rugged soldier of some fifty summers. Rather above the middle height, strongly but perfectly proportioned, he is shown wrapped in his military cloak, his fur-trimmed hat pressed firmly over his brows, grasping his field-glass in the fingers of his right hand. The nose is slightly aquiline, the complexion bronzed, the chin square and massive, the mouth straight and determined yet drooping at the corners into a faint indication of quiet humour. A face expressive of unflinching honesty and sagacity, dignified by a look 'of such intense goodness that,' declared one who knew him, 'it won the heart at first sight'"

The portrait here referred to is probably that by Adolf Friedrich von Menzel, painted in 1851, and engraved by Eduard Kretzschmar for a series of plates, "Aus König Friedrichszeit," 1886; it is plate 6. In producing this portrait, Menzel appears to have used a vignette of Keith by Meno Haas (1752-1833). It is perhaps the best-known portrait of the Field-Marshal in Berlin; but there is a very fine portrait of him by Pesne (in oils, half length), in a private collection, a copy of which in pencil is in the National Gallery of the German capital. Contrary to what might be considered a natural expectation, Keith does not figure in Menzel's "Schlacht bei Hochkirch" ("Battle of Hochkirch"); nor does he appear in the famous "Tafelrunde" ("The Round Table at Sans Souci") by the same artist—though the Field-Marshal is specified in the catalogues of the Berlin National Gallery (where the picture is) as "zur Linken des Königs sitzend," the person in question is really his brother, the Earl Marischal. A portrait of the Field-Marshal, however, is introduced into Camphausen's picture of Frederick and his generals in the Schwarze Adler Saal of the Royal Palace, Berlin.

ON FIELD-MARSHAL KEITH.

APPENDIX G.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

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ROBERT ANDERSON.

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“A Scot Abroad,” by Robert S. Rait, in *Scottish Review*, April, 1900, containing extracts from the correspondence between Keith and Drummond, referred to in a footnote on p. 21. Not only do the letters substantiate the story that the Empress Elizabeth desired Keith to marry her, but, says Mr Rait, they “contain evidence of the mastery possessed by Keith over all the conditions of European politics in his day.”

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The late Mr R. Nisbet Bain, in a private note to me correcting a mistaken allusion in his “The Pupils of Peter the Great” to “Keith’s” “Diary of the Turkish War”—it should be “Münnich’s” Diary—said—

“A ‘Journal du Marechal Keith, par Weidemann’ existed in MS. at one time—where I cannot say; I have never seen it. Perhaps the following bibliographical details about Keith may interest you—

“‘Tagebuch des Olersten von Gaudi über die Ereignisse des sielenjäligen Krieges.’ 10 vols. fol. Wesel, 1778.

“‘Eloges des marechaux de Schwerin et de Keith.’ Berlin, 1758.

“Von Ense’s work contains copious extracts from unpublished letters of Keith.”

R. A.

FRIDAY, 26th March, 1909.

PAPER ON "COLOUR AND SONG OF WILD BIRDS," BY  
H. B. MITCHELL, M.A.

A MEETING of the club was held in the Societies' Room, Town-house, Peterhead, on Friday, 26th March, 1909, at 8 p.m., Professor J. Arthur Thomson, Aberdeen, vice-president (in the absence of Dr Bruce, president) in the chair. Mr H. B. Mitchell read the following paper on

"COLOUR AND SONG OF WILD BIRDS."

The observation of birds and bird life is not only a useful and interesting branch of the study of Nature, but affords one of the most healthy and delightful forms of physical recreation, impossible to be described in language, only to be understood and appreciated by actual experience. A more general interest in the subject would be a boon and a blessing not only to the bipeds with feathers but to those without. Our distinguished chairman has done admirable service in this direction, and for which he has earned, not only the thanks of all lovers of Nature, but the gratitude of the birds themselves.

My own interest in birds, which is personal rather than scientific, was increased by the fact that for some years my home was in the country. In my immediate vicinity, for commercial reasons, all nests and eggs were summarily destroyed, a proceeding with which I had no power to interfere, however much I may have felt inclined to do so. Seeing a large number of eggs going to waste a thrifty Scottish instinct suggested to me that I might utilise some of them in making for myself a small collection.

I think it is unfortunate that teachers and guardians, actuated no doubt by humanitarian motives, discourage or prevent their young people from making such collections. There is no better method of creating and fostering an interest in birds themselves, an interest which is certain to be followed by affection for and sympathy with them.

It is a mistake to suppose that the feelings entertained by birds for their eggs are identical with or even comparable to the affection of the higher animals for their young. If their feelings are to be gauged by the sacrifices they are prepared to make, they are not particularly intense, little, if anything, more than a sense of property, which no great apprehension of danger to themselves is often sufficient to neutralize.

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By the exercise of a little judgment, eggs can be procured without entailing any suffering upon the bird at all, and even if in some cases pain is occasioned, it will be compensated a thousand-fold if it helps to modify the wanton cruelty of the British schoolboy, more particularly the town-bred variety.

Unfortunately cruelty towards birds is not restricted to the years of boyhood. The seabirds that take refuge in our harbours or seek their daily food on our shores, are the objects of persecution as senseless as it is reprehensible, stoned to death or shot without the pretext of a legitimate reason.

If a poor man can help himself to a livelihood by killing birds and eating their flesh or selling their feathers, by all means let him do so, but nothing whatever will justify, and no condition short of the crass blind ignorance of savagery will account for the type of mind that, impelled by no necessity, without motive or inducement of any kind, can find pleasure or satisfaction in reducing one of the loveliest forms of creation to a mass of blood and dirt.

The colouring of birds is in one aspect a part of the subject of the colouring of animals in general. That is a wide subject and properly belongs to the history of development. I shall not attempt to enter upon the subject in that light beyond pointing out that in the higher animals colour appears to be an important element in differentiation and identification, enabling the individual to discriminate between friend and foe, the members of a community to recognise one another, and forging an important link in the chain uniting parent and child so important for the preservation of the young in the defenceless stage of their existence.

There is a general resemblance between what we may call the distinctive colourings of wild birds and those of wild flowers. I do not refer to the colours of plants and birds in general, but to those which most distinctly force themselves upon the attention. In both, the most notably distinctive colours are white and yellow. As between the two, white is perhaps more prevalent among birds, yellow among flowers. In the flower world the two colours are sometimes found in combination, notably in the case of the daisy and white chrysanthemum.

It appears to be generally accepted that the purpose flowers are intended to serve is to attract the attention of insects for purposes of fertilization. The colours chosen are of the most conspicuous char-

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acter, so as to secure a maximum of attention and serve their purpose in the most effective way. From this it is a reasonable or at least an admissible inference that where highly conspicuous colours show themselves in the plumage of birds, the purpose intended to be served is similar to that intended by the colouring of flowers, viz., that of attracting attention.

I believe, and will endeavour to show, that the possession of distinctive colours and the gift of song bear a certain relation to one another, but in the meantime, I shall defer what I have to say on that subject to a subsequent part of the paper.

The general belief seems to be that both these endowments have been bestowed by Nature upon our feathered fellow mortals for the purpose of heightening the mutual attraction of the sexes.

Among the humbler, as among the more exalted bipeds, we are told, elegant attire and musical accomplishments are the wares of the dealer in the matrimonial market, expressly designed to dazzle the eye and bewitch the ear of the intended victim of matrimony.

Generations of feathered dandies and vocalists have vied one with another in the gaiety and splendour of their attire, and strained their little throats in competitive voice production, for the entertainment and enslavement of critical females, the successful competitors being rewarded with the appreciation and the love of the coveted fair ones. Hence it has been asserted that where the bird population is dense, and rivalry correspondingly keen, the operation of the laws of natural selection and survival of the fittest have evolved a bird race of superior personal appearance, and vocal accomplishments.

Such an interpretation is no doubt romantic and interesting, for the reason and in the degree that it assimilates the life of birds to that of human beings, but for the same reason and in the same degree it is improbable. It assumes for the bird creation a standard of artistic perception which is much too high. The intellectual powers of birds are sufficient to enable them to exercise a certain amount of discrimination between the different sounds and visible objects that enter into their daily life, but I do not think they are such as makes it possible for them to appreciate music or visual beauty as a source of pleasure or enjoyment, either in the bird itself or another individual. In point of intellect the lowest of human beings is immeasurably superior to the highest of birds, and yet even among our own species only a

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limited number have attained to the standard which has been claimed and been assumed for birds.

I am not leaving out of account the peculiar attitudes of the fantail pigeon that upraises and throws backward his dainty little head with every appearance of overweening vanity, attributed to his consciousness of the superior quality of his characteristic tail. As I have said, however, I do not think a bird is capable of an emotion so peculiarly intellectual as personal vanity, and suggest a different and more common-place explanation of the bird's peculiar action. Birds are constructed in such a way that the weight of their body is rather finely balanced. Having only two feet, relatively small and charged with the support of a proportionally heavy body, the state of a bird is one of not very stable equilibrium. While standing on the ground it requires very little to send it off its balance.

The abnormal development of the tail feathers tends to aggravate this disadvantageous condition of affairs, and to place their possessor more helplessly at the mercy of the elements. Every puff of wind from behind is liable to catch his big tail and throw the bird forward on his face. In these circumstances he finds it necessary to put himself to special trouble to provide for the preservation of his *status quo*. Like many other birds, such as the ducks and the geese, the fantail uses his head as a makeweight, throwing it backward, and thereby moving his centre of gravity nearer to his base and so far neutralising the disturbing influence of his tail. We may be tolerably certain that the fantail regards himself as a victim rather than a favourite of Fortune, and his gigantic tail as more of a nuisance than an occasion of vain glory.

In contradistinction to the rule that obtains among human beings, it is the male bird rather than the female that is characterised by splendour of attire. If it is the case that Nature intended this as a means of heightening the attraction of one sex for the other, it is not easy to understand why means of attraction presumably of equal value to both sexes should be so liberally bestowed on the one and practically denied to the other. Why should the male of the golden pheasant and the peacock be arrayed like Solomon in all his glory, and their equally deserving spouses be gowned like dowdy washer-wives? It would be attributing too much to the mere difference of sex to suppose that the male bird, in full possession of the means of attraction, is void of any faculty of artistic appreciation, while the

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female, not dowered with beauty herself, should possess the exclusive faculty of realising it in her mate.

Moreover, if beauty of personal appearance is such an important factor in the matrimonial relations of life, why has Nature availed herself so little of it in her equipment of the highest animal of all.

Man has an incomparably greater power of perceiving and appreciating beauty than any other bird or beast that lives, and yet it is an undoubted, though perhaps unpalatable fact, that man is one of the ugliest animals on the face of the earth.

So when we pass from general principles to consider the subject in detail, the same reasonings apply. In some birds, the most beautiful colours are almost unseen when the bird is at rest, and are only displayed when he takes to flight. The grey wagtail is at any time one of our most beautiful birds, but the exquisite yellow lustre of the under parts of his body are almost invisible except when he is on the wing.

If his gorgeous raiment is supplied to him for the purpose of charming the eye of his coveted bride, it is strange that he should keep it in the background in the psychological moments of courting, and suddenly display it when he is flying away from his lady love, unless we credit him with a *quasi*-human sentiment of spite, and a desire to avenge himself on the disdainful fair one by letting her see what she has missed.

Moreover, it is quite contrary to Nature's practice to waste her resources in needless expenditure, and there does not appear to be any necessity for decking the male bird in gorgeous plumes or endowing him with superlative musical powers, merely for the purpose of enabling him to secure a mate. Hen birds are not generally scarce nor particularly coy, and the biped that *has* feathers can wive himself without the adventitious aid of personal beauty or accomplishments as easily as the biped that has none.

A suggestive feature, common to the plumage of both sexes, suggests an explanation of a different kind.

When the sitting female is surprised on her nest, and takes to flight for the apparent purpose of securing her own safety, certain feathers, previously more or less concealed, are suddenly and conspicuously displayed. These feathers are usually white, and the part of the little creature's body where they present themselves varies in different species. In the case of the buntings and the wagtails,

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the feathers appear on each side of the tail ; in that of the wheatear, on the other hand, a mass of snowy white on the rump, concealed while the bird is at rest, is immediately disclosed the moment the wings are spread open for flight. The lapwing, on rising from the ground, displays a white breast, rendered all the more noticeable by the dark colour of the feathers immediately around it.

The common feature of all these displays of previously invisible colour, is the manifest tendency to render the bird more conspicuous, and more effective in attracting the attention of an observer, the purpose which Nature appears to have intended them to serve.

While the female is sitting on her nest, and it is desirable that she should escape observation, those flaunting adornments are carefully concealed, but are ready at any moment to be brought into play should danger threaten the eggs or the young ones.

It is quite in keeping with the principles of Nature that means provided for the safety of the young should entail danger on the parent. The strongest instincts, and most careful provisions in the animal economy, are devoted to the perpetuation of the race. If necessary for the preservation of the young generation, Nature is never loth to sacrifice the old, nor indeed, are the old generations slow to sacrifice themselves. Parental devotion is a rule of animal as well as moral life.

I think there can be little doubt that it was from the flight of birds under the circumstances above mentioned that the figurative expression, "show the white feather" took its rise. The explanation given in our dictionaries, that a white feather in the tail of a gamecock was regarded as a sign of degeneracy, has all the appearance of having been invented for the purpose in hand. If the derivation I suggest is the correct one, it is certainly a notable illustration of the perversity of language, that what is really an illustration of conscious or unconscious bravery and self-sacrifice, should have been adopted as a symbol of disgraceful cowardice. This ingenious device for diverting the attention of an enemy from the young to the parent is not confined to birds. It is possessed by other animals, notably the wild rabbit. The snowy whiteness of the under parts of the body invisible when the creature is sitting still, is suddenly displayed when it takes to flight, serving the same purpose as the white feathers of the bird. It has been suggested that in such cases as the rabbit, this phenomenon is designed to provide for the collective safety of the flock or



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herd to which the animal belongs, the sudden and conspicuous display of white fulfilling the function of a danger signal, to apprise the other members of the congregation of the presence or approach of an enemy.

It cannot be said with certainty that this explanation is not a possible one, but there are several considerations that militate against it. The walks and ways of rabbits are of such a character that if the display of white is intended to serve the purpose of a danger signal it can never be very effective. Both in birds and in other animals the colour is displayed in such a manner as to be more patently visible to a pursuing enemy than any other, while those birds that are most distinctly gregarious are just those that are not supplied with the supposed means of providing for mutual protection.

The contrast between the plumage of the male bird and the female is so evident to the most careless observer, that it is unnecessary to multiply instances. The bright hued yellow bunting with his tiny song concerning "a little bit of bread and no cheese," is familiar to thousands who have perhaps never seen and would fail to recognise his dull coloured homely little wife.

The specially attractive plumage of the male bird serves and I think is intended to serve the same purpose as the display of white feathers previously referred to. It is designed to divert attention and danger from the female and the eggs or young to the more powerful, less defenceless, and less indispensable male bird.

While the sober garbed mother sits snugly on her nest, with her eggs or her young hid away out of sight, the wary and courageous father flaunts his gay plumes in the face of the enemy, dares the destroyer to the combat, and lures him away from his mate and her helpless family. As one would naturally expect, the characteristic gay colours of the male do not appear until they are required. In the helpless days of childhood, he shelters himself under the sober garb of femininity, making no attempt to don the toga virtilis, until he attains to years of discretion, and has a family of his own to take care of.

Those views appear at first sight to be contradicted, but are in reality confirmed by what happens to the Mallard in the later months of the summer. At the time when Mrs Duck commences to hatch her eggs a remarkable change takes place in Mr Drake's appearance. The proudly curled feathers of his tail disappear, the beautiful green

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plumes that have hitherto adorned his brow, give place to the dull grey locks of premature age, and the once dainty spark becomes a veritable Quaker in the sombre sadness of his autumn attire. In *all this, however, Nature is neither cruel nor capricious*. Whatsoever a man or beast soweth, that shall he also reap. Judged by any code of morality but his own, the Mallard is a selfish and unprincipled character. As soon as the hatching time arrives, he basely deserts his wife and family, and spends the rest of the summer in selfish enjoyment. Dame Nature is liberal, but insists on getting value for her money. Those fine clothes were not given for purposes of vain ostentation, but for the protection of his wife and family, and as Mr Mallard fails to put them to a proper use, he is justly deprived of them as a punishment for shirking his natural obligations.

There is space for repentance, however, and in due course the prodigal returns to his family. There is no fatted calf to kill or ring to put on, but the new robe is not wanting, and the reclaimed and rehabilitated sinner goes on his way rejoicing.

In some species there is little or no difference between the appearance of the male and the female, and these cases may be put forward as controverting or at least weakening the force of the argument. I am not prepared to assume that there is no ground for this, but in a good many cases this similarity can be accounted for not only without weakening, but to some extent strengthening my argument. The wood-pigeon and the cole-tit may be taken as two examples of this class, the males and the females being so much alike that they can scarcely be distinguished the one from the other. It is not, however, in plumage alone that the male pigeon and cole-tit resemble the respective females, they are also assimilated to them in natural function, taking their turn of sitting on the nest during the incubation of the young. In these circumstances it is evident that special brilliance of colour would not only fail to serve as a means of protection, but be a source of positive danger. I have selected these two as familiar instances, but there are many other cases where the same similarity of appearance in the sexes is accompanied by the same peculiarity of habit.

In the case of gregarious birds such as the rook, whose nests are clustered together in large numbers it is obvious that no good purpose would be served by supplying the male bird with special powers

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of attraction, seeing the whereabouts of nests and young ones is so manifest that concealment is evidently no object.

In other cases, however, the appearance of the male is as homely and inconspicuous as the female, while the male takes no part in the incubation. The thrush and the skylark are familiar examples of this class, the males lacking any special attraction for the eye as compared with the female, and at the same time standing on their privilege as masculines and declining to sit upon eggs. The lack of special attraction in the matter of plumage, however, is more than compensated by the faculty of song.

This attractive gift is possessed by some birds in a remarkable degree, in others it is deficient or almost entirely absent, and it is a matter of common observation that those most noted for their power of song, such as the nightingale, the thrush, and the lark, are comparatively deficient in vestural adornments.

From this circumstance it seems to be a natural inference that the faculty of song and gaiety of garb are both intended to serve the same purpose, and in accordance with the principle of strict economy on which Nature works, where the one is bestowed, the other is deemed unnecessary, and is withheld.

As the female bird is endowed with certain means of attracting attention in the matter of plumage, brought into play in special circumstances, so also she possesses the faculty of sound-making in a similar degree as compared with her mate, made use of under conditions similar to those in which she displays her white tail feathers. The female blackbird for example cannot be said to sing in the proper sense of the term, but when disturbed and flying from her nest, she utters cries so shrill and piercing that they cannot fail to attract attention. So, too, the most familiar of our domestic fowls has retained a trace of her wild remote ancestress, in the harsh and distracting din with which she proclaims to the universe the important fact that its collective wealth has been augmented to the extent of one egg, and at the same time endeavours to divert attention from the spot where the egg has been laid.

One of the most familiar and most remarkable of our song birds is the skylark. This little creature seldom or never sings when at rest, reserving the display of his characteristic powers until he soars upward to the kies. If the music is intended for the benefit of the singer's mate, it is very remarkable that, like the rich attire of the

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grey wagtail, the means of attraction only come into play when the male is departing from the female, seldom or never when he is by her side. As a charm to the female ear the skylark certainly uses his gift with little discretion or appropriateness, whereas, for the purpose of diverting the attention of a possible enemy from the sitting female and her eggs or young ones, his soaring song is conspicuously well adapted.

The male blackbird has a call which he makes use of when he desires to attract the attention of his absent mate, but it is a harsh, monotonous chirp, as complete a contrast as possible to the melodious accents of his proper song.

It is well known that exhibitions of bird song take place for the most part during the spring and early summer, and this seems to show that whatever theory is adopted in explanation of the phenomena of song in general, it is in a general way connected with the production or care of the young. Some birds, however, may be heard indulging in a casual tune at what may appear to be altogether unreasonable times. The robin, the thrush, and the wren are recognised instances. I have many times heard the robin and the wren singing in the late months of the year, but strange to say I cannot recollect ever hearing the thrush, which is recognised as one of the most notable examples. This is probably a mere accident of defective observation, but I think it as well to mention the fact. On the other hand, I have heard and read little or nothing about the skylark in this relation, and have frequently heard him singing as late as the month of November. Whatever bearing this may have on the view I have been maintaining, it must be acknowledged that at this period there is no likelihood of there being any birds so young as to be in need of parental attention, and still less that belated lovers should still linger in the courting stage. From the number of birds seen at the time, and other circumstances, I am inclined to think the robins I have heard in the autumn were migrants recently arrived in the district, although I am not aware of any reason why they should break into song on the completion of a journey.

Although it is true, however, that birds sing at times when the song can be of no service for the protection of the young, the fact does not prove that this is not the purpose Nature intended it to serve. It is reasonable to suppose that the exercise of the power of song, like that of other natural functions, is a source of happiness in itself, and

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may be at times indulged in for the sake of the pleasure it affords the singer, apart altogether from the function it is intended to serve.

In treating of cause and effect in every sphere of animal activity, we must allow a margin for the operation of spontaneity and the discharge of surplus energy.

Young animals especially, including the young of mankind, run, leap, and shout without any apparent reason save a superabundance of animal spirits, and perhaps some allowance should be made for this in considering the apparently exceptional occasions on which the faculty of song is brought into play.

At first sight it no doubt appears an objection to the views here suggested, that the special attractions bestowed upon birds and other animals, and the manner in which they are displayed not only fail to serve as a protection against man, but actually help to guide him to the place where the eggs or the young are concealed, and thereby place them more effectively at his mercy. The arts, however, with which Nature has endowed the lower creatures are, generally speaking, intended to protect them from one another only, and are neither designed nor sufficient to cope with human intelligence. Man is not merely part of, but Lord of the Creation.

A few words may be added on the subject of the colouring of birds' eggs. In not a few cases this colouring harmonises with that of the immediate surroundings of the nest, and it has been suggested that this harmony has been developed by the operation of the law of survival, for the purpose of concealment, and thereby preserving the eggs from capture and destruction.

Those eggs which in colour most closely resemble the objects in their immediate vicinity are frequently deposited on the bare ground, or in open situations, and this circumstance certainly favours the view that their colour has been determined, at least partially, by the necessity for concealment. This, however, will not explain the phenomena of egg colouring in general. The eggs of the mavis and hedge sparrow, for example, not only do not conform to the colour of their environment, but are in striking contrast to it. It is plain, therefore, that whatever purpose the colouring is intended to serve in such cases, it is not that of concealment.

The one feature most characteristic of all egg colouring is its marked individuality. Almost every species has colourings, or at

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least markings, so distinct that there is rarely any difficulty in determining by the appearance of an egg, the species of bird to which it belongs.

Differentiation rather than concealment, appears to be the object aimed at. Side by side with the development of family life and increased affection for young, individuality has become more important, and differentiation more and more necessary for the purpose of identification, and a protection against cuckooism.

Each bird has its colourings or marks by which it can identify its own eggs, and distinguish them from what is the product of another. It is no doubt the fact that birds continue to sit after the deposit of a cuckoo's egg in their nest, but it is also true that they are able to perceive and have a disposition to resent the presence of a strange egg. I have a distinct recollection of testing this on one occasion, by putting an egg of one bird into the nest among the eggs of another, the result being that the invaded nest was at once deserted.

Public opinion of the bird world on the subject of the cuckoo is easily ascertained. He is universally regarded as the villain in the drama of feathered life. Though perfectly able to provide for his family like an honest bird, he is believed to have wilfully chosen to lead a life of idleness and dishonesty perpetrating a deliberate fraud on his neighbours for the purpose of shirking his natural obligations and securing the vicarious rearing of his offspring.

He is an object of general reprobation, viewed in the light of a public enemy, and treated as such. No means are available for branding the offender, so the bird communities endeavour to protect themselves against his impostures by branding their own eggs. After all, however, public opinion among birds as it frequently is among men, may be harsh and unjust. The cuckoo is not a villain, he is a martyr to overstrained conservatism. The early birds, like the early Christians, had all things in common. No individual marked off any part of the universe by building a nest and claiming it as his peculiar property. Eggs were laid in the most convenient spot that could be procured and the parent considered she had done her duty when she discovered and laid her eggs where circumstances seemed favourable for the development of the young, leaving Nature herself to do the rest. The first nest builders were no doubt regarded with disfavour as cranks and innovators, and much as in modern times a respectable brood hen would regard an artificial incubator. In course of time, however, it speedily appeared that

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those birds that took the trouble to construct a suitable nesting place and attend to the process of incubation themselves were most successful in rearing their families.

The new method came gradually into fashion until it was the accepted rule of bird conduct. The orthodoxy of one generation became the heresy of another. The cuckoo, however, has persistently adhered to the old fashions, choosing rather to suffer affliction as a persecuted anachronism than forsake the ways of his fathers. In selecting the most comfortable spot she can find for the reception of her eggs Mrs Cuckoo follows the course that has been hallowed to her by the practice of immemorial antiquity. If that spot happens to be where a nest has been built by other birds that is their affair. There is no deception practised in the matter, no attempt to touch up the colour, so as to make the eggs pass for anything but what they are. This last fact appears to point to the conclusion that the peculiar habit of the cuckoo is ancestral and not an abnormal variation from family life.

As happens in other departments of life, however, where the individual refuses to move with the times the times will move him.

The comparatively small number of cuckoos and the absence of any indication of their probable increase, appears to point to the ultimate triumph of what is popularly deemed virtue in the drama of bird life, and indicates that at no distant date the cuckoo will become extinct, to the great joy of the birds and the profound regret of mankind.

## DISCUSSION.

Professor J. Arthur Thomson said they had listened with much pleasure to Mr Mitchell's very original, almost adventurous paper, which had charmed them with its qualities of style and phrasing, and also with its pleasant humour. Mr Mitchell certainly did not lack courage in that year when all the scientific world was celebrating the centenary of Darwin. Mr Mitchell had chosen to upset the Darwinian apple cart, he had devoted himself that evening to showing up one of Darwin's theories. He should like for a little to suggest some difficulties which were raised in his mind by the entirely novel and original theories which he thought, however, was likely to be useful because they suggested some weak spots in the Darwinian interpreta-

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tion. The essence of the Darwinian theory was that the brilliant plumage and the exquisite singing of many male birds survived because they were useful. Mr Mitchell's theory did not depart from the essential Darwinian theory ; he simply pointed out that they were useful from a different reason. According to the Darwinian theory the bright colour of the plumage and the fine singing of the males had survived because they were useful when captivating the female, when wooing and courting her. According to Mr Mitchell they were useful in decoying the enemy away from the nest. But the cock chaffinch, for instance, at the breeding season did what he never did at any other season of the year. He went into the vicinity of his desired mate and spread his wings to display certain feathers in them which were not conspicuous even in flight, and making at the same time a curious rattle in his throat. It was all over in ten days, and the conundrum was, what could it be but a deliberate display on the part of the cock chaffinch of a particular beauty in his wing and a particular note in his repertoire. Mr Ruskin, always a keen critic, with a certain similarity to that expressed in the paper, said very pertinently that what struck him most with regard to the peacock, was not that he should have such eyes in his tail as that the peahen should have such eyes in her head. They did not now credit the female bird with a strong, well educated, artistic perception. That view had been abandoned, because, as Mr Mitchell indicated, it was crediting the birds with a very subtle quality, indeed, which was only very rudimentary in the most of mankind. What they did believe was that the whole impression excited and produced in the female bird a pleasant frame of mind, which, although it was not due to perception of any one particular little detail about the plumage, had been wrought by the general expression of the whole thing. That was the psychology of preferential mating now accepted—that a female bird did not single out a male bird with a peculiar kind of plumage, but one that made her feel pleasant and in a good humour. It was just as they could suppose that a woman would prefer a man who had a fine moustache rather than a man without one—not because she admired his moustache so much as that the *tout ensemble* pleased her. Then if song were primarily for the purpose of leading the enemy away from the nest, which was Mr Mitchell's view, how was it that in the great majority of cases the male birds sang on the nesting tree, and often on a branch just above the nest? Their British birds of most brilliant



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plumage were, perhaps, the kingfishers and the blue tits. Why had the kingfisher a brilliant plumage when his nest was in an inaccessible hole in a bank. According to Mr Mitchell, he should be plainly coloured. How again could it be explained that the nightingale had been known to sit on the same place for sixteen hours making the nest conspicuous by his continual song? He admired the ingenuity of Mr Mitchell, but the Darwinian theory, he thought, would survive. He thought, however, that they owed something to Mr Mitchell for having in so charming a way directed their attention to some of the weak spots in the Darwinian interpretation. There was no doubt a good many birds which decoyed the enemy away from the nest. Among the best decoys was the Arctic skua, which at times feigned lameness or a broken wing, but they found that the male and female birds were indistinguishable as regarded plumage. Arthur Russell Wallace, however, dissented from Darwin's views; he did not believe in preferential mating, and although Mr Mitchell had parted company with Darwin on these points, he joined with Darwin's great co-worker Arthur Russell Wallace. Darwin had pointed out that there were cases where the difference between the males and the females could not be explained on the basis of their captivating or luring qualities. He (Professor Thomson) thought that one should keep an open mind on the question, especially at the time of the year when they had an opportunity of listening to the singing of birds at the breeding time and seeing the displays of their plumage, and see if they could not find some corroboration of these views regarding pretty plumage and singing birds at the breeding period of life.

On the motion of Mr A. M'Donald Reid, seconded by Mr Rice, a cordial vote of thanks was awarded Mr Mitchell for his paper.

Mr Mitchell, in acknowledging, said he came there for the purpose of calling attention to the subject, which to him was of intense interest. He had also had the privilege of listening to a criticism of his views by a gentleman who was probably the most authoritative zoologist at present alive in the country. They were all very pleased to have had Professor Thomson there. They had very pleasant memories of Professor Trail, his predecessor, and he hoped they would have very pleasant meetings with Professor Thomson in the future.

WEDNESDAY, 1st *September*, 1909.

## EXCURSION TO KINMUNDY.

THE only excursion of the season was held to Kinmundy House, where the members were the guests of Sheriff and Mrs Ferguson. The excursionists left Peterhead early in the afternoon, and on their drive to Kinmundy House, were joined by many country members. On arrival shortly after three o'clock, the company were received by their hosts, who spared no effort to make the visit an agreeable one. The afternoon's proceedings were of a most interesting and enjoyable nature.

Among those present were Dr Bruce, the president of the club, and Mrs Bruce, Inverquhomery House; Mr Vincent Connell Bruce and Dr Ninian Bruce; Mr James Ferguson of Kinmundy, K.C., Mrs Ferguson, and Mr James Ferguson, jun., of Kinmundy; Mrs Burnett Stuart of Dens and Crichtie, Mr Gilbert Burnett Stuart; Hon. Mrs Barrington, Pitfour; Mrs Parkinson; Mrs Bridge, Newton of Kinmundy; Mr J. W. Forbes, Inverugie; Rev. Dr Forrest and party, Lonmay; Mr Gavin Greig and party, New Deer; Mr J. F. Tocher and Mrs Tocher; Mr J. W. Tocher and Miss Tocher; Mr J. J. Simpson, Aberdeen University; Mr George M'Gregor, Ellon; Mr J. S. Farquhar, Strichen; Senator Gibson and party, Peterhead; Mr and Miss Rennie, Milladen; Dr Findlay, Crimond; Rev. R. S. Kemp, Old Deer; Mr W. L. Taylor, Peterhead; Mr Anton, Crimond; Mr R. B. Fyffe, Old Deer; Mr W. Hackett, Peterhead; Bailie and Mrs Duncan; Rev. J. and Mrs Wilkinson; Mr H. B. Mitchell; Mr A. R. Ritchie and party; Mr and Mrs James Reid, Hayfield; Rev. W. M. Sutherland and Miss Sutherland, Clola; Miss Garden, Clola; Mr W. Park, Strichen; Misses Wood, Crombie, and Boyd, Peterhead; Rev. J. B. Davidson and Miss Davidson; Mr and Mrs W. Martin and party; Mr and Mrs A. Milne and party, Westfield; Mrs J. Shivas; Mr and Mrs F. Shivas; Dr and Mrs Middleton and party; Mr and Mrs A. Clark Martin; Mr and Mrs A. R. M'Farlane; Mr A. and Miss Ferguson, Peterhead; the Misses Young, Mountpleasant; Mr and Mrs David Scott, Peterhead; Mr Thomas Brown; Mr George Napier; Mr G. Inkster; and Mr Urquhart, Peterhead.

A meeting of the club was held in the library of the house in the course of the afternoon—Dr Bruce, Inverquhomery, president, in the chair. The following gentlemen were admitted members of the club:

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—Mr Hugh Bremner, M.A., B.Sc., Peterhead ; Mr T. R. Brown, Peterhead ; Mr W. H. Leask, Provost of Peterhead ; Mr John Donald, M.A., Peterhead ; Mr John Holmes, Longside ; Mr G. Merson, F.C.S., Kilmarnock ; Mr G. Inkster, Aberdeen ; and Mr W. E. Coutts, New Deer.

Sheriff Ferguson then gave the following paper on "The Old Castles of Buchan." At the close of the meeting the president commented on Sheriff Ferguson's contribution, and spoke of the value of local research, particularly of historical research. He moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Sheriff for his paper, and to Mr and Mrs Ferguson for their genial hospitality. Rev. Dr Forrest, in an interesting speech, seconded the vote of thanks, and Sheriff Ferguson suitably replied. After the meeting, members examined a number of ancient manuscripts in the Sheriff's room, the various commissions of Major-General James Ferguson, who fought in the Marlborough wars, being inspected with great interest. The party were thereafter entertained to tea and afterwards visited the grounds, escorted by Mr James Ferguson, jun. The main party left Kinmundy at 6:30, and prior to leaving, the president called for three hearty cheers for their hosts, which was cordially responded to.

### PAPER ON "THE OLD CASTLES OF BUCHAN," BY JAMES FERGUSON OF KINMUNDY, K.C., SHERIFF OF FORFARSHIRE.

Aberdeenshire is specially rich in the number of old castles which still exist either in ruins or as inhabited mansions within its borders, and of these memorials of ancient days not a few are to be found within the bounds of Buchan. Some are nothing or little more than a site and a name. A few are still, substantially in their original state or with modern additions, inhabited by the representatives of their original lords, one records the care of successive families of ancient blood, one has been restored by its modern possessor, but the great majority are more or less picturesque ruins only recalling

"A tale of the olden time,  
The deeds of days of years gone by,"

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and now awaking the reflection present to the mind of Ossian long before one of their stones was laid,

“ Whence have sprung the things that are  
And whither roll the passing years.”

Associated with the great name of Comyn are the ruins of Kin-Edar and Dundargue, the name of Rattray, the original ownership of Old Slains, Inverallochy, and, more doubtfully, Cairnbulg. To the Cheynes pertained Ravenscraig and Arnage. The Keiths were lords of Inverugie, Ludquharn, Boddam, Clackriach, the castle on the Keith Inch of Peterhead and, in succession to the Cheynes, of Ravenscraig. The Frasers lived long in Cairnbulg, Kinnairdhead, and Philorth, and before the Cumines in Pitullie. Slains and Delgaty were houses of the Hays, Pitsligo and Waterton of the Forbeses, Gight, and Ellon of the Gordons,

“ Towie Barclay of the glen  
Happy to the maids but never to the men.”

and Cullen of Buchan were strongholds of the Barclays, Craigston remains a monument of the Cavalier Urquharts, while the *magnifica et amena arx* of Fyvie still speaks specially of the cultured taste and large view of the proud Seton who, in King James VI.'s days, was President of the Court of Session and Chancellor of Scotland.

The authors of the Castellated Architecture of Scotland assert that there are no Scottish Castles of older dates than 1200, and classify them under four periods—

- I.—1200—1300.
- II.—1300—1400.
- III.—1400—1542.
- IV.—1542—1700.

To the first period they assign only certain great castles such as Lochmaben, Bothwell, Kildrummie, and Inverlochy. It appears to be very doubtful whether so sweeping a condemnation of the antiquity of many of our old castles is justified, when the strong local traditions, the extent to which the great Norman families were established in the land even in the early portion of the 250 years prior to the reign of Robert the Bruce, the great advance in civilisation made in the reigns of the Scottish dynasty of Malcolm Canmore, and the distinctive

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features of certain of the castles which remain are kept in view. There is a great difference between the large keep with walls of enormous thickness at the base, and the smaller towers with walls of less strength, of which the border peel towers form a lesser variety. The former seem to have been erected to resist an attack in force with the battering engines of the day, while the latter were calculated rather to beat off a clan raid or Border foray. For example the great square tower of Drum is traditionally said to have been erected by King William the Lion. It was in a Royal forest granted by Robert the Bruce to his friend, Irvine, but the massive keep and the great width of the walls indicate that it was of older date than the War of Independence. Similarly the great square tower imbedded in the corner of the modern mansion of Cavers in Roxburghshire was probably part at least of the castle of the Balliol who owed the Barony before it passed to the Douglasses, to whose representatives it still belongs. The size and strength of these great keeps, distinct in character from the lighter towers ornamented in later ages with the pepper box turrets, corresponds rather to the condition of Scotland prior to the War of Independence, and the times of the great barons such as the Durwards, Balliols, and Comyns, than to that which prevailed when the Borders were constantly overrun by English hosts and the more settled prosperity of the northern Lowlands was intermittently broken by clan and family feuds.

A less elaborate classification than that of the authors of the *Castellated Architecture of Scotland* is sufficient for the purposes of this paper, and the Castles of Buchan may be dealt with under the following periods—

- I.—The age of the great Barons—generally—1100—1300.
- II.—The times of the lesser Barons—generally—1300—1600.
- III.—The 17th to 19th centuries—1600 to 1900.

A problem of some interest is at once presented by the fact that so many of the old castles specially associated with the name of the Comyns are found actually on the frowning cliffs or near the shores of the North-Eastern sea. It is generally assumed that their sites were selected with a view to defence against enemies from the land. But their traditional owners were the acknowledged superiors of all the wide district, and their power was not one to be lightly challenged. May the sites not have been selected with a view to defence of the

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land against an enemy coming from the sea, whose march into the interior would be seriously embarrassed if he left places of such strength behind him with active garrisons, and to meet whom the forces of the realm could be assembled in strength if he spent time on their reduction? During the two centuries prior to the War of Independence the memories of the Danish invasion and ravages of the Northmen were not of very ancient date. Indeed some of the rock strongholds may have been originally occupied and fortified with trenchments by Danish and Norwegian bands, and it is said by Forsyth, speaking of the Battle of Cruden, that near the bay of Ardendraught (Cruden Bay) "the Danes then had a castle, the ruins of which are yet to be seen." No vestiges of the castle now remain but in the charters of Ardendraught, the lands of the barony were conveyed "*Cum Turre et Fortalicio eurundem.*" In the reign of Alexander III. in anticipation of the invasion of Haco of Norway, defeated at Largs, an order was issued for the careful inspection and repair of all the castles situated on the northern coast.

### I.—RUINS, &C. OF THE AGE OF THE GREAT BARONS, C-1100—C-1300.

*The Old Castle of Slains.*--According to Pratt it is doubtful whether the old castle owed its origin to Fergus, Earl of Buchan, or to the Comyns who succeeded to the Earldom. It was subsequently the seat of the Hays, Earls of Erroll, and was destroyed by King James VI. in 1594, after the battle of Glenlivet. The site is a fine one with a bay on the north and a sweep inland on the south, and the ruins, consisting of two sides of a solitary tower, stand out boldly on the top of a peninsular rock. On the peninsula are remains of fortification within which was a space known locally as "the walk," and artificially separated from the end of the peninsula crowned by the remains of the tower, at a point on the "Queenzie" or isthmus, where there was formerly a draw bridge. M'Gibbon and Ross conjecture that the castle belonged to their third period, 1400—1542, and probably the extensive buildings, now disappeared, were erected at different dates.

*The Original Castle of Inverurie.*—The castle, of which no vestiges exist, is said to have been situated a little to the west of the ferry on

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the north side of the river Ugie, near its mouth. It may have been the original seat of the Le Neyms and subsequently of the Cheynes.

*Ratray.*—The Castlehill of Ratray is believed to be the site of an old castle of the Comyns, of which no remains exist, but about 1734, on an eminence at the south-east side being dug up, a number of stones were found, from their appearance supposed to have been part of the kitchen of the castle, and during the construction of some drains a few years ago a well made causeway was discovered at the foot of the mound. Inverallochy and Cairnbulg are also said to have been castles of the Comyns, but it would not appear that any of the present ruins can be assigned to so early a date.

*Dundarg.*—The "red fort," crowning a high peninsular rock of red sandstone on the shore of the Moray Firth, was undoubtedly a Comyn Castle, and was held so late as 1334 by Beaumont, the heir of the last Comyn, Earl of Buchan. Portions of a large court and buildings exist, and the strong arched gateway that guarded the entrance remained entire until 1873 or 1874 when it was destroyed by lightning. The Old Statistical Account, describing the entry over a narrow neck, says:—"The whole breadth of the front is only 12 feet: the door is 4 feet 2 inches wide, 6 feet high, and is arched: the height of the walls 12 feet 7 inches: the length of the side walls still standing is 10 feet 6 inches: there are no other remains of the walls except the inside of the foundation, the outside having fallen down owing to the mouldering away of the rock on which it was built. There is a fine wide green where the entrances have been." Near the neck that joins the rock to the mainland are a triple ditch and ramparts of considerable extent.

*Wallace Tower* is the traditional name of an old ruin situated in a strong position on a tongue of land called Ha'hill in the glen of Minonie in Gamrie, consisting of two fragments, a south-east and north-east corner, the former from 15 to 16 feet high and 8 feet thick, and the latter from 10 to 18 feet high, with part of a pointed Gothic arch running about three feet into the wall. Tradition assigns its erection to Sir William Wallace, and the author of "Ruined Castles in Banff" considers that the arch indicates that it is of the same age as King Edward.

*King-Edward*, or more properly Kin-Edar—probably the "head of the water"—was the chief seat or "principal message" of the Comyn Earls of Buchan. It is mentioned in 1273. It stands on a

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bold precipitous rock, and was protected by the Burn of King Edward on the west and on the north by a deep pool. "Of the castle itself," says Mr Spence, "very little now remains beyond a few masses of masonry showing the main lines of the walls and the position and area of the principal chambers on the ground floor. The gateway of the castle, still marked by some of the largest fragments of masonry, faces the north-west, and immediately in front of this gateway the neck of the peninsula is cut across by a deep dry ditch. On the other side the fortress was inaccessible. Outside the ditch and directly in front of the gate there is a level field of considerable extent known as "The Lichtin' Green." Within the gateway lay a rectangular courtyard, 103 feet by 56 feet, and around this court there are still well-defined traces of rooms differing in size and in strength of masonry, according, apparently, to position and use. Of such chambers there had been three on each side of the courtyard, while at the east end, opposite to the gate, one of larger dimensions seems to have occupied the space between the two sides. One remarkable feature was the mode in which a foundation was provided for part of the building, where the promontory consisted of sand. There the building was commenced far below the sand enclosed, and a retaining wall cemented with pure lime carried up in minute terraces till the general line of the wall foundations was reached, from which the castle wall rose perpendicularly. The receptacle for the ponderous bolt or beam used to secure the gate consists of a huge hole let horizontally into the mass of masonry on one side of the gateway.

There is no evidence of the castle being inhabited since the days of the Comyns, but the barony of King Edward was shortly thereafter created. From the Rosses it passed to Alexander, Lord of Badenoch, and then to the Stewart Earls of Buchan, and in 1509 the Castlehill and steading with the stones and lime, were granted to Lord Forbes with licence to build on it "one castle tower or fortalice," but there is no evidence of his having carried out his intention to build.

*Ravenscraig.*—There is one other castle of which the main tower or keep may probably date from a period prior to 1300. It is that of Ravenscraig or the Craig of Inverugie, situated about a mile up the Ugie from the ruins of later Inverugie. About 1200 the lands of Inverugie appear to have belonged to the Norman family of Le Neym. In the time of William the Lion they had passed to the Cheynes by



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whom they were held till the marriage of the heiress to John Keith about 1350. The thickness of the walls of the keep—from 11 to 9 feet—"pierced by narrow arrowlets in the form of a cross, a shape which generally indicates considerable antiquity," and the pure Norman arch of the windows appear to me to suggest that the keep was constructed before the castle passed from the Cheynes to the Keiths, and probably not long after the acquisition of the lands by the Cheynes.

The castle is strongly situated on the bank of the Ugie, and was evidently also surrounded by a moat, beyond which there are traces of earthworks. The original keep has evidently been added to, and the ruins show a building on the L. plan, while at one time the circular stair in the wall at the western angle was carried in a round turret above the general level of the battlements. "An apartment," wrote Mr Boyd, "still exists, constructed in the thickness of the western wall, which had been used as an oratory or small chapel, and, within my recollection, its ceiling still exhibited simple, yet effective decorations in colours of red, black, and yellow."

### II.—CASTLES OF THE AGE OF THE LESSER BARONS, 1300-1600.

It will be most interesting and convenient to deal with these in connection with the families who were their founders or principal occupants.

*Inverallochy*.—Although Inverallochy is said to have been the seat of an ancient castle of the Comyns, and tradition says that there was a stone over one of the doorways with the inscription—

"I Jordan Comyn, indwaller here,  
Gat this hous and lands for biggin' the Abbey o' Deer."

While a Jordan Comyn is recorded as a younger son of an Earl of Buchan, and was probably the progenitor of the family of Inverallochy, the castle, now a ruin, was obviously of far later construction. Sir William Cuming of Inverallochy was Marchmont Herald in 1499, and had a charter of Inverallochy under the Great Seal in 1503-4. He was knighted in 1507, and was Lyon King of Arms in 1514 and 1518. "The castle," say Macgibbon & Ross, "may have been built by the Lyon King, and we may positively say that it was not built before his time." It occupies three sides of a courtyard,

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with a high enclosing wall on the fourth side. The sides are all of unequal length, and in no part were the walls of exceptional thickness.

The estate passed to a branch of the Frasers to whose descendants it still belongs.

*Cairnbulg.*—The old Castle of Cairnbulg is said to have been destroyed by King Robert the Bruce. The lands formed part of these which passed to the Rosses, and in 1375 to the Frasers of Philorth, and Cairnbulg Castle was for long the residence of Lord Saltoun's ancestors. The oldest part of the castle is a square tower, the dimensions and characters of which suggest a later date than that of the War of Independence, and it was probably the original residence of the Frasers. Outside the tower, connected with it at an angle and running backward, was a more modern building, at the opposite angle of which, from the square, or rather oblong tower, was a substantial round tower. The buildings, other than the keep, are said to have been built about 1545 by Sir Alexander Fraser, the seventh laird. His son disposed the barony of Cairnbulg to another Fraser, from which it passed to Andrew Fraser, father of the first Lord Fraser of Muchalls, by whose descendant it was sold to Colonel John Buchan in 1703. After belonging to a family named Aberdeen, and to the third Earl of Aberdeen, who left it to his son, John Gordon, the estate was in 1862 acquired by Mr Duthie's Trustees, and is now the property of Mr John Duthie, who has carried out a complete restoration of the old castle. Messrs Macgibbon & Ross consider the large and oblong keep as dating "at the earliest from the end of the fifteenth century."

*The Wine Tower, Fraserburgh.*—It is probable that the next residence of the Philorth family was the erection known as the Wine Tower, on the edge of the sea, and in close proximity to the Castle of Kinnaird Head. It is of rough masonry, 27 ft. 7 in. by 21 feet on the outside, and consists of three vaulted chambers, one above the other. But within this rough shell are some remarkable and interesting carvings. In the roof of the intermediate chamber are three stone pendants, one of which bears the Royal Lion and tressure of Scotland, another the emblems of the Passion, and the third the family arms of the Frasers of Philorth, thus typifying the realm, the religion, and the race of the original owner. In the arched soffits of the small windows are other shields with impaled coats of arms, showing the

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recent alliances of the family, and it is curious that one of these confirmed the marriage given in one Peerage and confuted another, while it was also in accordance with a papal dispensation in the charter chest at Philorth. On the pendant with the Fraser Arms is the motto "In God is All," and on an entwined ribbon the inscription "The Glory of the honorabill is to fear God." It is probable that this tower was built by Sir Alexander Fraser, the founder of Fraserburgh, and resided in by him until his completion of the Castle of Kinnaird. It probably owed its name of the Wine Tower to being then used as a cellar in connection with the large castle in days when large quantities of claret were imported from France, for which its close proximity to the sea would be convenient. The Wine Tower was reconveyed to Lord Saltoun by the Northern Lighthouse Commissioners about 1899.

*Kinnaird Head.*—The Castle of Kinnaird was built by Sir Alexander Fraser in 1570. The tower, the only part which remains of the original structure—a parallelogram—is oblong, about 30 feet by 40 feet and 60 feet high. It was acquired by the Northern Lighthouse Commissioners in 1787, and though considerably altered for lighthouse purposes "retains a good corbel course with round projecting bartizans at the angles and square ones in the centre of the faces." The lighthouse tower and lantern is placed on the flat roof, and the light is one of the most powerful in the United Kingdom.

*Pittulie.*—The lands of Pittulie belonged to the Frasers from at least before 1408 to 1670, when they were acquired by Mr Cumine of Auchry. The ruins of the castle consist of an oblong block with a square tower at the north-west corner, with curious square angled windows on the two corners next the sea, lighting an apartment known as the Laird's Room. The rest of the structure is a low building with round angle turrets, the corbelling of which commences about 12 feet from the ground. Upon stones forming part of the walls were the dates 1651, 1674, and 1727, the latter probably marking additions made by the Cumines. The Fraser Arms were at one time on part of the building, and a stone bearing those of Cheyne, now built into the byre of an adjoining farm, probably recorded an alliance with that family.

Cairnbulg has suggested the other castles probably built by Frasers. Further to the east and south were the habitations of another great family, which obtained part of the old possessions of

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the Comyns. Ravenscraig, which was probably the oldest residence of the Keiths in Buchan, has been dealt with. In its immediate vicinity rose at a later date the lordly towers of Inverugie. Ludquharn, Boddam, and Clackriach were occupied by Cadets, while a tower on the lands of Deer and a castle on Keith Inch are also associated with the name.

*Inverugie Castle.*—The ruins of Inverugie consisted till recently of a square central mass with two corner circular towers, a gateway and double court, and handsomely coped walls. The castle was protected and partially restored between 1777 and 1820 by James Ferguson of Pitfour, and the hall was used as a ball-room on occasions of tenantry rejoicings. In April 1890, a part of the ruins collapsed in a gale, and the greater part of one of the towers fell on 1st January, 1899, with the result that in the necessary blasting operations for the public safety, a road running immediately below the towers, the remainder of the towers were so weakened that it was necessary to remove them altogether, lower portions alone being left standing.

The character of the remains of Inverugie is suggestive rather of a nobleman's residence than of a fortress designed to resist the offensive weapons of the age in which it was erected. The circular towers, while substantial and remarkable in having square chambers inside, and the other arrangements, while excellent as a protection against a raid of caterans, or even a recrudescence of the family feuds which were not forgotten many years after their real dangers had disappeared, would have been of little avail in any civil commotion of sufficient magnitude to genuinely menace the great house of the Earl Marischal. Tradition credits the erection of most of the castle to George, the Earl Marischal who founded the Marischal College in Aberdeen in the end of the 16th century, and the architectural experts say "that there is nothing inconsistent with the statement in the style of the building." It is, however, evident from the date, 1670, on the singular coping of the wall, which has the curious carving of a coach and pair, then more remarkable in Buchan than a traction engine in 1870, or a motor car in 1904, that portions of the buildings are of a much more recent date, and with the date of 1670 a fine oak carving of the Keith and Douglas (Earl of Morton) Arms—those of the second wife of the earl of that date—preserved in a neighbouring cottage, is in accord. Tradition assigns to one of the round towers a fabulous antiquity and the name of the Cheyne Tower, but there is

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nothing to connect the building with the Cheynes. If any existing ruin dates from the days of the Cheynes, it is the keep of Ravenscraig, also known as Craig of Inverugie, where King James VI. is recorded as having been present at the Laird's daughter's marriage in 1589, and the real mansion houses in succession of the barony and lands seem to have been the castle near the river's mouth, of which no traces remain, the castle of Ravenscraig with its old square tower and later additions, and the round towered Inverugie on the beautiful bend of the Ugie between the two older sites.

Inverugie succeeded Dunottar as the principal residence of the Earls Marischal either before or when the sea fortress on the Kincardineshire coast was converted into a government prison for rebellious Whigs. It fell into ruin on the forfeiture of their ancient line in 1715, but after the purchase of the estates from the last Earl Marischal by Lord Pitfour and his son, both of whom were deeply attached to the interests, both antiquarian and material, of Buchan, the ruin was completely repaired by the latter. Unfortunately there succeeded in Buchan, as elsewhere, a period when everything was sacrificed or neglected in the laudable march of agricultural improvement, and when the unexpected collapse of the ruin came in the absence abroad of the owner, the public highway required immediate measures to be taken which proved too drastic. It is deeply to be regretted that so interesting a specimen of a Scottish nobleman's residence in the century prior to the Union associated with the most touching and romantic tragedy of "the '15," though not a survival of any early ages, should have been lost.

"Inverugie by the sea,  
Lairdless shall thy lands be,  
And underneath thy ha'-hearth stane,  
The tod shall bring her bairnies hame."

*Keith Inch.*—It is said that on the Keith Inch of Peterhead the Earls Marischal formerly had a castle built on the model of the Palace of the Kings of Denmark. George Earl Marischal went to Denmark on an embassy in 1589, when James VI. was married to Anne of Denmark, and the building was probably constructed after his return. Less fortunate than Kinnaird Tower at Fraserburgh no vestiges remain.

*Ludquharn.*—The "Knight of Ludquharn" was a principal cadet of the Keith family, and the branch was dignified with a baronetcy.

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Of the Castle of Ludquharn only a few piles of stones remain on the farm of Mains of Ludquharn. The estate is referred to in 1732 as "lately belonging to Keith of Ludquharn, baronet, now to Guthry of Ludquharn, son to Guthry of King Edward."

*Boddam*.—The ruins of this old castle on a promontory south of Buchanness, consisting of a few arches and walls with traces of foundations. In 1868 some large hinges, apparently those of a draw-bridge, were discovered. It is described as a seat of Keith of Ludquharn, and its last inhabitant in the 15th century was Lady Keith of Ludquharn, of whom her old servant, of over 30 years, used to say—"There was niver sae muckle atween us a' that time as—'The de'il speed the leear.'"

*Clackriach*.—"The Castle of Clackriach" in Old Deer, the seat in the 17th century of a cadet family of the Keiths, says Mr Boyd, "stands on a slight eminence in the centre of the farm of that name. It is a quadrangular building, having a projecting wing, and its only title to the name of a castle is the fact that it has possessed a turreted staircase and arched doorway and windows—one of the latter having been secured by iron stanchions, portions of which still remain firmly fixed in the walls."

South of those acquired by the Keiths, the possessions of the Comyns on the eastern coast passed into the hands of the noble House of Hay, and the old castle of Slains became as has been seen the residence of the Earl of Erroll till its destruction in 1594.

*Slains Castle*.—The present castle of Slains, on the brink of the rocks at Bowness, north of the Bay of Cruden, was erected after his return from exile by Francis, Earl of Erroll, who had fought at Glenlivet. The old part of the castle and part of the court having been his work, "the rest," says The View of the Diocese of Aberdeen, "has been continued by his successors, till Charles, the last Earl, added the front A.D. 1707." Gilbert, 11th Earl of Erroll, in 1664 added so much as to have a stone inscribed to him as the maker of the "Fundamentum." In 1836-37 the castle was rebuilt by the 17th Earl, with the "exception of the lower part of the original tower, which stands on the brink of a deep rocky ravine, a small portion at the southmost corner, and the piazza formerly running round the main square." The situation is one of the most striking in Scotland, and the view from the smoking room is like that from the stern ports of an old three decker.

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*Delgaty.*—In the heart of Buchan, far inland, is the still inhabited old castle of Delgaty which once belonged to the Hays of Erroll, who were superiors of Turriff, and one of whose leading cadet branches was the house of Delgaty, descended from the older branch of Arden-draught, whose most distinguished representative shared the triumphs, the fate, and the "True Funerals" of the great Montrose. "It stands," says Dr Pratt, "on the west bank of a valley, and consists of a massive square tower, about 66 feet high, with battlements and turrets. The Hay Arms, with the family motto *Serva Ivgon*, flanked by the initials V.H. and the date 1579, are upon a slab near the bartizan. Part of the walls are at least seven feet thick, and some of the rooms are groined, having the bosses embellished with the arms of the Hays, particularly an apartment on the first floor, supposed to have been originally an oratory and now used as a library." The old ballad of the battle of Glenlivet says that the Earl of Erroll—

Let his men of war frae Turra,  
To meet with Huntly and his force,  
At Elgin in the Moray.

About 1680 the description of Buchan says "Turriff belongs to the Earl of Erroll. Near to this town is Delgaty, where Erroll sometimes lives." The estate passed from the Hays in 1763. M'Gibbon and Ross say that the main work of the original square keep is easily distinguished, though additions have been made at various times. "It is of the simple, plain, and lofty type so usual in Aberdeenshire in the sixteenth century, and has the noble tower ornamented with the numerous small corbels and cable pattern then so common." The lands were acquired from the Frasers by William Hay of Arden-draught in 1749, and in one room of the castle is the inscription over the fireplace—"1570, I hope in ye Lord."

*Two old ruins, one of which belongs to a later period, are associated with the clan and name of Forbes.*

*Pitsligo.*—The oldest cadet of this great Aberdeenshire House was the Laird of Pitsligo. It is remarkable that Buchan contains four of the residences of the important families commemorated in the old lines—

"There be six great barons of the north ;  
Fyvie, Findlater, and Philorth,  
And if ye wad ken the other three,  
Pitsligo, Drum, and Delgatie."

## ON THE OLD CASTLES OF BUCHAN.

The keep according to The View of the Diocese of Aberdeen, was built in the early part of the 15th century by Sir William Forbes of Pitsligo, son of Sir John of Druminnor, who in the time of James I. came into possession of the estates by his marriage with the only daughter of Sir William Fraser of Philorth. The simple keep stands near the south-west corner, and from it a quadrangular building extends, with a round tower projecting at the north-east angle. The arched gateway passes through the enclosing wall on the west side of the courtyard, a little to the south side of the keep. There is still a fine garden enclosed with old walls, in one of which, near to the northern sea, a fig tree grows. The date 1577 is on a carving of the Royal Arms of Scotland; that of 1603 on one of the Royal Arms of Scotland, England, and Ireland, with the Scottish Lion in the position of honour; and that of 1663 on a shield showing the quartered coat of Forbes and Fraser impaling the three garbs of Buchan, and the initials of Alexander, 2nd Lord Pitsligo, and his wife Lady Mary Erskine. The castle was unroofed and allowed to go to ruin after being sold to Mr Gordon of Troup in 1759.

*Similarly two houses, one of which was also of a later period, are united with the fortunes of the Gay Gordons.*

*Gight*—Sometimes called Formartine, though in Buchan—now a shapeless ruin—was a castle of the L type, with thick walls, wall chambers, and a shot hole commanding the doorway. It was a place of great strength, evidently of the 15th century, and was probably built by William Gordon, 3rd son of the second Earl of Huntly, who acquired the property in 1479, and was the founder of the turbulent race of the Gordons of Gight, the heiress of whose house was the mother of Lord Byron. It was plundered by the Covenanters in the Civil war. Beautifully situated on the Braes of Gight, only part of the walls, a hall on the upper floor, 37 feet long by 21 broad, a lobby, with groined arching on the roof, and three vaulted rooms now remain.

*Two ancient castles in the east of Buchan were seats of the old Norman family of Barclay.*

*Towie-Barclay.*—An inscription, on what was the chief entrance, states that the “foyndator deceisit” in 1136, and on another scroll is



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said to have been an inscription that it was founded in 1210. But these are records of the antiquity of ownership, and the date 1593 on the first stone probably corresponds to the real date of completion of most of the work. The dates 1604 and 1695 are on more modern portions. In 1792 the turrets and embrasures were removed, and two storeys taken off the keep and the fosse filled up. The plan is a slight modification of the plain quadrangular keep, the basement vaulted and the vault over the entrance way ornamented with ribbed and groined vaulting. The hall is very fine, 30 feet by 20, vaulted in two compartments with a ribbed and groined vault, springing from corbels carved with foliage. There is a vaulted gallery with bosses carved with the monogram I.H.S., and the emblems of the Passion, while the corbels have shields containing the emblems of the Four Evangelists. The building evidently dates from the middle of the sixteenth century. The estate passed from the Barclays with the Rhymer's curse in 1752. Towie has the distinction of having seen the first deadly shot fired in the civil war. The lairds of Towie and Delgaty had plundered arms from the young laird of Cromarty at Balquholly, and the Royalist lairds of Gight, Banff, and Cromarty determined to do the same at Towie. But the Master of Forbes and Lord Fraser manned the house and shot "diverss schotes," by which a servant of Gight was killed. "This," says Spalding, "was the first blood that was drawn here since the beginning of this covenant."

*Cullen-of-Buchan*, about two miles from Macduff, belonged to a branch of the family, and seems to have been a place of strength. The only remains are a stone on which, with initials, are the Barclay arms and the date, 1574, and another with the same arms. Till 1807, about 40 feet of the earth walls were in existence, and were of great thickness.

*In the north-western region of Buchan are old Castles belonging to other ancient families.*

*Auchmedden.*—On the bank of a ravine leading down to the picturesque village of Pennan "stood the ancient castle or place of the Bairds of Auchmedden, not a vestige of which beyond a few scattered stones of the foundation is now to be seen," though part remained used as a granary within the memory of old inhabitants, and a portion of the south wall still exists.

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*Eden.*—On the Deveron, about four miles from Banff, are the ruins of Eden, comprising an oblong building, 40 feet by 26 feet rising to the height of three storeys, and a gabled tower 20 feet square and three storeys high. The estate belonged to the Meldrums from 1424 to 1630, and to the Leslies till before 1712, one of the owners being Patrick Leslie, Provost of Aberdeen, "A Vehement Covenanter," while a stone bears the initials of his son, who appears to have added to the original structure, and the dates 1676, and 1677 are on the walls.

*Balquholly.*—The modern castellated mansion of Hatton stands on the site, and has incorporated with it part of the old castle of Balquholly. It seems to have belonged to the Mowats from about at least 1400 to 1729, when it was sold to Alexander Duff of Hatton. Of Hatton Castle the new Statistical Account says:—"it is a very substantial and commodious edifice of a quadrangular form, with corner turrets (really towers), and while its outward appearance is handsome and attractive, the interior accommodation is no less convenient and elegant."

*In the centre of the district are the massive ruins of Fedderate,  
and in the south west the lordly pile of Fyvie.*

*Fedderate.*—What remains of Fedderate is a building of the L plan, with rounded corners measuring 58 feet 8 by 44 feet, with walls 7 and 8 feet thick. The floors are all arched with stone. The property belonged to the Crawfords, whose ancestor is said to have "gone to the north in King Robert Bruce's wars" in the end of the 13th and beginning of the 14th centuries. M'Gibbon and Ross think the castle was probably erected about the end of the 15th century. It was surrounded by a morass and fosse, and reached by a causeway with drawbridge, traces of which were visible when the first Statistical Account was written. In 1721 it is mentioned as "the strong castle of Feddrat belonging to Forbes of Balogie." It belonged at one time to the Irvines of Drum and then to Mr John Duff-Dingwall of Brucklay. In the description of New Deer in 1723 by Mr Ferguson (probably the Laird of Pitfour), in Macfarlane's Geographical Collections, it is said "The House of Fedderate was of old reckoned a great strength, and about the Revolution, some days after the battle of Cromdale, several gentlemen of the King's party came there, and

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caused the country people to carry in a great deal of provisions for them ; but after the regular forces had lain some few weeks before it, they surrendered and were carried abroad on the Government's charge." There was a tradition that Fedderate would never be taken till the wood of Fyvie came to the siege, and the soldiers of William of Orange are said to have cut down the wood of Fyvie and brought it with them for use in the siege. The earliest notice of Fedderate is a charter by which Fergus, Earl of Buchan, gave to John, son of Uthred, the three Daachs of Fedderate.

*Fyvie.*—On the extreme edge of Buchan, close to the river Ythan, stands still inhabited the finest of the old castles not only of Buchan, but of the North. Five towers are associated with the memory of the families which have owned it in succession. Fyvie was a royal residence before the War of Independence, and it is possible that part of the Preston Tower preserves some of the original castle in which Edward I. slept in 1296. It was enlarged and heightened by Sir Henry Preston about 1390. The Meldrum Tower, which dates from 1460, contains the sealed chamber, the opening of which was to bring disaster to the owners. The Seton Tower, situated between them, was built after 1596, and is formed by two drum towers in the centre of the building, which "at the height of about 42 feet from the ground are united by a bold arch, 11 feet wide, into one grand central mass or pavilion. Just beneath the springing of the arch the drums are corbelled out to the square, and on either side they terminate in turrets, with a fine gable in the centre, and dormers between the gable and turrets." In the centre of the arch above the main entrance in old times is the Murder Hole, from which melted lead could be projected on the assailants of the great iron gate still retained in its old position, and consisting of seven perpendicular and twelve horizontal bars swung on three hinges. The Gordon Tower at the north end of the west wing was built by General the Hon. William Gordon in 1777, and the Forbes Leith Tower by the present owner, Lord Leith of Fyvie (Mr Forbes-Leith) in 1890. The chief embellishments of Fyvie were the work of Alexander Seton, Lord Fyvie and Earl of Dunfermline, who acquired the Barony in 1596, became Lord President in 1593, and Lord Chancellor of Scotland in 1604, and died in 1622. In addition to the erection of the Seton Tower he harmonised with it the two older towers, adding the turrets and ornamental upper stages. The grand circular staircase

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at the end of what was then the west wing, with its beautiful carvings and coats of arms, was also built by him, and the whole building as left by him was one of the finest specimens of the Scotch school of castellated architecture in its prime. Fortunately the later additions have been carried out in complete harmony and with excellent taste. Fyvie was stoutly held by Lady Lindsay in 1395 against an attack by Robert de Keith, when it is said she melted all the lead and pewter vessels and discharged them as molten liquid through the "Murder Hole." The roof of the castle and "every pewter dish, vessel, and flagon" was converted into bullets in 1644, when Montrose in its vicinity beat off the attacks of Argyll, and it was near Fyvie that the Duke of Cumberland received from Lady Anne Gordon, wife of the Earl of Aberdeen, and daughter of the Duke of Gordon, the fearless answer when he asked her name as she stood by the roadside with her children to see the troops pass, "I am the sister of Lord Lewis Gordon." The Rhymer's malediction still hangs over the lordly pile, and the tale of the three stones from "Harryit Kirklands" remains incomplete.

### III.—CASTLES OF THE 17TH-19TH CENTURIES.

*Craigston.*—Second perhaps only to Fyvie among the memorial edifices of Buchan is Craigston,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles north-east of Turriff, the work of John Urquhart, the Tutor of Cromarty, to whose descendants it still belongs. The ornamentation of Fyvie marks the passage into the new ornate style of the 17th century, and Craigston affords a fine instance of the residential castles which rose in the period of peace and prosperity that followed the Union of the Crowns before the dark days of the Civil War. It consists of a central tower with projecting wings, the two wings being connected by a lofty arch surmounted by a highly ornate and sculptured balcony. "The inside of the Castle," says Sir Andrew Leith Hay, "is remarkable for a spacious hall now converted into a handsome drawing-room, containing numerous specimens of curiously-carved oak panelling of the same age as the building and the remains of its original decoration. These present the effigies of a very miscellaneous assemblage of heroes, kings, evangelists, and cardinal virtues." An inscription on the walls states that the castle was "foundit the fourtene of March, one thousand sex houer four yeiris, and endit the 8 of December, 1607." It is doubt-

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ful whether the upper part of the castle was ever completed in accordance with the original design, but the local tradition is that the angle turrets were erected and removed only within comparatively recent years in consequence of having shown signs of weakness.

*Philorth.*—The older portion of Philorth, the residence of the Frasers, Lord Saltouns in succession to Kinnaird Castle, is “a fine example of a simple but picturesque Scottish mansion of the 17th century.” Its title to be included among castles is established by two substantial round towers, between which was probably the original entrance, now built up, though above there remains a coat-of-arms. It bears the date 1666. The house was largely rebuilt by the grandfather of the present Lord Saltoun, and the fine modern front and rooms on the opposite side from the oldest portion were constructed by the present peer.

*Waterton.*—On the most picturesque part of the banks of the Ythan are the fragmentary remains of the old castle of Waterton, the seat of the Forbeses of Waterton. The estate was bought by William Forbes of Tolquhon in 1614 or 1616, and made over in 1630 to his fourth son, who is supposed to have built and completed the castle between 1640 and 1650. A stone has been placed on the ruin by the grandson of the late Laird bearing the family arms and the inscription, “This stone marks the site of the ancient seat of the family of Forbes, Lairds of Waterton, A. D., 1630-1770.”

*Ellon.*—The old castle of Ellon is described in The View of the Diocese of Aberdeen, as “a very great house, the great hall having two rows of windows and being 28 feet high.” It was in old times known as the “Fortalice of Ardghight.” Only one round tower now remains, a picturesque object in the vicinity of the modern castle built in 1851. The castle and lands of Ellon were in the early part of the eighteenth century the property of a family of Gordons, but were sold in 1752 to George, Earl of Aberdeen. On the death of the third Earl, who had added largely to the castle, the estate passed to his second son, and from him to his half-brother, who served in the Peninsula, and to whose grandson it now belongs.

*Arnage.*—The castellated house of Arnage is supposed to have been built about 1650 on the site of an older keep. The estate was for long the property of the Cheynes, a branch of the ancient house of Ravenscraig, and passed from them in 1630. After being held by

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various families, it was purchased in 1702 by Provost John Ross of Aberdeen, the ancestor of the present owner. It was a turreted house on the Z plan, with wheel stairs, vaulted rooms, and an entrance commanded by a shot hole.

*Dudwick.*—No remains of this old castle, which belonged to General King, created Lord Ythan by King Charles I., exist, but a drawing taken in 1851 is reproduced in the 1887 edition of the "Castles of Aberdeenshire."

*Brucklay.*—In the parish of New Deer is the fine castellated mansion of Brucklay, the property of Mr Dingwall Fordyce, the modern turreted additions to which are clustered round an old tower. It is not known when the original portion of the castle was built, but it had that "beauty and character which most of the houses erected in Scotland during the latter half of the 17th century possessed, arising chiefly from their loftiness and broken skyline relieved by turrets and crow-steps on high pitched gables. A lofty central round tower containing the staircase was the principal feature of the castle." In 1849 the old circular staircase was renewed, and the new one erected in a square tower carried up to a height of 75 feet, and terminated by a sort of keep on the top. The original style of the building was restored and somewhat elaborated by the introduction of corbelled turrets and dormer windowheads. Considerable additions have subsequently been made.

The aim in these pages has been to give a general survey of the old castles of Buchan, to record the families with whose fortunes they are associated, and of whose fall too many of them are memorials, and to indicate the social conditions in which they arose and which their remains illustrate. It has not been attempted to apply to each the minute examination of the antiquarian or the architect, or to trace in full detail the history of their owners, or to repeat every "frit" and legend that lingers round their crumbling walls. They speak of a time that has passed away, but has contributed much to later ages; which had its good as well as its bad; its public spirit and devotion, as well as its hardships and oppressions; when, if there was discord abroad, there was loyalty at home; and amid stern conditions and rough surroundings there lived men of taste, of culture, and of dignity. Fortunate it is that Fyvie, Craigston, and Delgaty remain to disprove rough generalities as to the rude character of our fore-

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fathers. Nor can we better take leave of those that are roofless and  
and bare, or mouldering heaps of stone, than in the oft quoted lines  
of the poet who drew his maternal ancestry from an old castle of  
Buchan :—

“And there they stand, as stands a lofty mind,  
Worn, but unstooping to the baser crowd,  
All tenantless save to the cranny wind,  
Or holding dark communion with the cloud.  
There was a day when they were young and proud ;  
Banners on high, and battles pass'd below ;  
But they who fought are in a bloody shroud  
And those which waved are shredless dust ere now,  
And the bleak battlements shall bear no future blow.”

OF Buchan some one from the south once remarked—"It's pretty enough, but there's nothing of historical interest about it!"

"Nought of historical interest here!"

Must all history loom large on the annalist's page?  
And there only doth matter of interest appear  
Where great charter was signed or famed battle did rage.

"Nought of historical interest here!"

Why—Buchan—the name speaketh loud of the past.  
The King of broad Scotland its chieftian might fear,  
Till in their own earldom they lost it at last.

"Nought of historical interest here!"

Where the soil hath run red with the blood of the Dane,  
Where the ruins are grey of the Abbey of Deer,  
Of the towers of the Comyn, the Keith, and the Cheyne!

"Nought of historical interest here!"

To yon mystical circle thy footsteps turn.  
Who were they that laboured those cairns to uprear,  
Whose dead ashes protect yon stone shell and clay urn?

Yes, for him that can read it, each field has its story,  
Where axes and arrows the plough has upcast,  
Of dead generations, of long-vanished glory,  
A record revealed of the long-buried past.

— From "The Great North of Scotland Railway," by W. Ferguson,  
Kinmundy, 1881.



SATURDAY, 3rd *September*, 1910.

THE Twenty-third Annual Meeting of the Buchan Field Club was held at Inverquhomery, Longside, on Saturday, 3rd September, 1910, at 3.30. Dr Alex. Bruce, Inverquhomery, President of the Club, occupied the chair, and there was a large turn-out of members and their friends. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Club:—V. C. Bruce, Esq. of Inverquhomery; W. Craighead, Esq., Brae of Biffie; G. Dickie, Esq., Belfast; Dr Wood, Longside; and Rev. R. Henderson, B.D., Longside.

After apologies for absence had been intimated, the election of officebearers took place. The following were elected to the respective offices named:—President, Professor J. Arthur Thomson, M.A., Aberdeen. Senior vice-president, Mr A. M'D. Reid, M.A., Peterhead. Vice-presidents, Messrs James Will, M.A., New Pitsligo; J. A. Fairley, Edinburgh; W. J. Caird, Sandhaven; Rev. Dr Stewart, Peterhead; Dr Smith, Peterhead; Sheriff Ferguson, K.C., of Kinmundy. Hon. secretary and editor, Mr J. F. Tocher, Peterhead. Hon. treasurer, Mr A. Clark Martin, Peterhead. Council—Messrs F. J. R. Anderson, Fraserburgh; Evan Bissett, Peterhead; Dr W. Butler, London; Messrs A. G. Brown, Fraserburgh; W. W. Cruickshank, Fraserburgh; Rev. J. Davidson, Bristol; Messrs John Don, M.A., B.Sc., Maybole; A. Ferguson, Peterhead; Mrs Ferguson of Kinmundy; Mr J. W. Forbes, Inverugie; Dr J. Findlay, Crimond; Messrs J. T. Findlay, London; Robert Gray, Peterhead; Dr A. W. Gibb, Aberdeen; Messrs Robert Lees, M.A., B.Sc., Fraserburgh; G. Lunan, F.C.S., Edinburgh; Alex. Milne, Peterhead; John Milne, Maud; James Murray of Glenburnie; W. C. MacBean, Peterhead; S. Macdonald, Fraserburgh; J. D. M'Intosh, Fraserburgh; D. J. Mitchell, Burnhaven; John Mackay, Bradford; General F. S. Russell, C.M.G., Aden; Mr C. D. Rice, M.A., B.Sc., Peterhead; Mrs Burnett-Stuart of Dens and Crichtie; Mr W. Crampton Smith, B.Sc., Keith; The Right Hon. Lord Saltoun, Philorth; Dr Stephen, Peterhead; Dr Trail, Strichen; and the past presidents as follows:—Dr Alex. Bruce, Edinburgh; Mr R. Anderson, Aberdeen; Dr P. Giles, Cambridge; Mr Gavin Greig, New Deer; Professor Trail, Aberdeen; Mr H. B. Mitchell, Peterhead; Rev A Chalmers, Wakefield; Mr J. Gray, London; Professor Reid, Aberdeen; Dr Middleton, Peterhead; Mr A. Copland, Edinburgh; Dr Trail, Fraserburgh; and Rev. Dr Forrest, Lonmay.

## ANNUAL MEETING.

Thereafter the President delivered his retiring Presidential address, the subject being "The Tenth and Last Earl Marischal." (See Section VI. Chapter II, The Book of Buchan). Sheriff Ferguson moved, and Mr Gavin Greig seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the President, to which Dr Bruce suitably replied. Ladies and non-members retired at this stage, and the meeting proceeded to discuss the proposed change of title of the Club. The President put the following resolution, unanimously recommended by the Council :—That in view of the wide character of the work carried out by this society the title of the club be changed from the "Buchan Field Club" to "The Buchan Club." After a discussion, in which Rev. Dr Forrest, Lonmay ; Mr W. Ross Cooper, Edinburgh ; Rev. W. Sutherland, Clola ; Rev. A. Mackay, Port Erroll, and the Honorary Secretary took part, the Club agreed, by a considerable majority, to shorten the title as suggested by the Council. The title of the Club in future will therefore be The Buchan Club. This was all the business, and the members joined the remainder of the party at tea.

FRIDAY, 9th December, 1910.

LECTURE ON "FISH LIFE IN THE NORTH SEA," BY  
ALEX. BOWMAN, D.Sc., ABERDEEN.

A MEETING of the Club was held in the Societies' Room, Townhouse, Peterhead, on Friday, 9th December, 1910, at 8 p.m. Mr A. M'Donald Reid, Vice-President, in the chair. Dr Alex. Bowman, Zoologist to the International Investigation of the North Sea Committee (Scotland), Aberdeen, delivered an interesting lecture, of which the following is a summary, on

"FISH LIFE IN THE NORTH SEA."

In no other direction has progress been more rapid in recent years than in the extension of our knowledge of the fish life in the seas round our coasts. This progress has been brought about no less by commercial enterprise in the fisheries than by a rapid advance in our methods of scientific investigation. The life of fish may be said to be controlled by two dominant instincts—feeding, that instinct which tends to preserve the life of the individual, and breeding, that instinct which is necessary for the continuance of the race. So distinctly marked off from each other are these two instincts in the life of the common fresh water eel that a study of its life story may well repay us.

THE FRESH WATER EEL.

The fresh water eel feeds and grows in the rivers, and breeds in the sea. They are found in the rivers of Europe from the Mediterranean to North Cape, and from this it is evident that they are able to live under the most diverse conditions. On the other hand they demand definite conditions of depth, temperature, and salinity for their breeding grounds. Not only must the adult eels have access from the rivers to these grounds where the special conditions are to be found, but there must be no barrier for the return of the young eels to restock the rivers. The favourable breeding grounds are found in the neighbourhood of the 500 fathoms line which extends from the Faroe Islands to the coast of Morocco. There are no eels in the rivers which flow into the Black Sea, because although the temperature and depth in the Black Sea is suitable for the breeding eels, the salinity is very low and, further, the presence of sulphuretted

## ON FISH LIFE IN THE NORTH SEA.

hydrogen excludes all life from its depths. So, too, there is an entire absence of eels from the rivers which flow into the Atlantic on the west coast of Africa, although admirably suited for the growth of the eel, because the water on the coast at suitable depths is too cold for reproduction. But the number of eels which can reach any particular place from the breeding grounds is dependent not only on the long pelagic life of the eel but on the strength and direction of the currents and the remoteness of the localities from the breeding grounds. The rivers of Germany and the inner parts of the Baltic, therefore, receive far fewer eels than the west of Ireland or even the Bristol Channel. But in Germany and Denmark, where eels are appreciated, the stock of the rivers has been added to by the transplantation of young eels from those places where they are plentiful. This process is of considerable economic importance since these young eels are not only extremely cheap but have considerable vitality, so that transplantation is an operation which offers no practical difficulty. Adult eels when they go down to the sea never return, so that to take full advantage of an eel-fishery all adult eels should be captured. Sufficient adults will reach the breeding grounds from the smaller streams. The ultimate basis of the food supply in the sea is the phytoplankton. Growth and reproduction of these minute forms are influenced directly by physical environment. The sea has its regular succession of seasons just as the land has, and similarly there may be good and bad seasons in the sea. The number of the minute forms will therefore vary greatly according to the season. So that the young fishes are not only influenced directly by physical environment but they are dependent on these minute forms for their food. Hence a bad season in any one year for the young fishes, through the unfavourable conditions, means a very high mortality amongst the delicate forms. Few, or many young fish one year means few, or many marketable fish some three or four years afterwards. Fluctuations in the supply of fishes may therefore be due entirely to natural causes which have been at work.

### THE HERRING.

The herring is a plankton feeder throughout its whole life. Physical environment may affect the numbers in any locality in two ways. It may affect the adult directly through the sufficiency or

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insufficiency of food, or indirectly by affecting the young forms so that there is scarcity or abundance in any particular year. Our knowledge of the life history of the herring is far from being perfect. It is well known that the eggs of most of our food fishes float at the surface of the water. The most notable exception is the herring which lays its eggs on the bottom. Not only do the eggs float at the surface of the water but they are extremely small, and as they contain food for the young fish larva when first hatched out, must necessarily be very small. The number of days which it takes to hatch out a larva depends mostly on the temperature. During the egg stage and indeed for some considerable time after it is hatched the little fish is in a very helpless condition and is drifted passively by the current. In two or three weeks' time the larva must be borne away into regions quite remote from the place where it was born. The influence of the currents as a distributing agent during the young stages in the life of a fish has been well shown. Any change in the direction or strength of the currents would have a profound influence on the distribution. In fact local fluctuation in a fish population may be due entirely to change in conditions in regions many hundreds of miles away. So great are the fluctuations produced by these natural causes that it is only after many years' records that we may be able to see how other factors whose effects just now are masked may affect the fish life. The purpose of much of the scientific investigation to-day is to try and estimate man's effect on the fish supply.

## THE PLAICE.

The plaice is a convenient fish for study in this respect, as it has a very limited distribution. It is confined within the 50 fathom line and is therefore within the sphere of man's influence during its whole life—the more so because it lives on the bottom. The eggs are pelagic, and the larvæ after a time find favourable conditions of life on the sandy beaches. The little plaice when it has reached this stage has got over most of its troubles, for it is practically immune from most of its enemies and the rate of mortality must be much reduced. For long attempts have been made to rear the young of the plaice from the egg to the first bottom stage, but up till now there has been no success in dealing with large numbers. Usually the small larvæ

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are kept in the hatchery until the little yolk is almost absorbed and then they are liberated in the sea. These tiny creatures are quite helpless, and as we are entirely ignorant of the physical conditions and currents which would be most favourable to them the utility of this method as an attempt to help to restock the depleted grounds is to be questioned. The little plaice feed and grow on the sand beaches, and gradually as they get older and larger they slip out towards the deeper water. The plaice only spawn in the spring months, so that a year separates one brood from the other. All those belonging to a particular brood are nearly one size. If the lengths of a large number of plaice caught at one time be arranged in an ascending series of sizes, it is often found that they fall into groups which correspond to the broods of the various years. We are therefore able to tell in a general way the age of particular plaice. During the winter the plaice grow but slowly, while under the influence of the summer warmth growth become rapid. So marked are these changes in some species that they affect the whole skeleton of the fish. Just as the trees on land show the distinct marks of summer and winter growth, so the bones of the fishes have stamped on them a record of the changes through which they have passed. By counting the rings on the bones or scales, the age of any particular specimen can be found. In this way it has been found that growth is very rapid during the first years of life of the fish, but as the fish gets older the increase of growth each year becomes less and less, until when the fish has practically reached its largest size the increase is inappreciable. The increase in growth is controlled by the two factors, quantity of food and temperature. In the fully grown fish the food is needed to maintain their vital functions and activities, whilst in the young fish much of the food is used up for their growth. Let us return to the particular case of the plaice.

### FISH OVERCROWDING.

In favourable spawning years the shallows may become crowded with small plaice which, as they get older, make greater demands on the available food supplies within the area. There is serious overcrowding, so that each individual has to compete with his neighbour for food. The growth of each individual cannot be so rapid even although the temperature is favourable. In the case of so called "virgin" grounds, it seems as if the area supported the

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maximum number of large plaice, but that each individual secured but a bare subsistence. This is perhaps well exemplified in the case of the White Sea fishing grounds, which have been recently exploited by British trawlers. The plaice, in most respects very similar to North Sea plaice although got in enormous numbers, fetched comparatively poor prices on the market on account of their lean condition. Experiments have been carried out in marking and transplanting some of these White Sea plaice to North Sea grounds, and the plaice on recapture have shown a phenomenal increase in growth. Thus in the future the transplantation of plaice from overcrowded areas to more suitable areas may be of considerable economic importance. There is little practical difficulty in the case of the plaice as it is a species with great vitality which is easily captured. But there is still great difficulty, especially in the case of the plaice of obtaining the best results from these areas. The instruments of capture, as used at the present day, are such that the plaice is caught long before it has reached its best economic value. The trawl indiscriminately captures all individuals above a certain very small size. At present no remedy has been found for this undoubted evil. Thus we have seen that the greatest fluctuations in the fish supply in any area in the sea may be due entirely to natural causes. We have left out of consideration the natural enemies which each species has to contend with. Man's destructive powers are but small compared with those natural destructive agencies, and his influence on the fish population may be entirely masked for many years by the greater changes. This is true, more particularly in the case of the round fish, but man's influence is more easily seen in the valuable flat fishes which in their restricted distribution are always under his power. It remains for us, therefore, not only to understand fully the conditions of life under which the fish live, but, having acquired this knowledge, to assist Nature so that she may produce from the sea her best harvest from year to year for the good of the nation.

Lantern illustrations were given throughout the lecture showing the life history of the eel, haddock, herring, and other fishes, with particular reference to the reproduction and the mortality of the younger forms. A very interesting diagram was shown in which Dr Bowman demonstrated the dependence of one form of life upon another in the sea, the ultimate result of which was that all fish life depended for food upon the small form of animal life called plankton and on vegetable algæ.

FRIDAY, 10th March, 1911.

SOME RECORDS OF WHALES AND PORPOISES CAPTURED OR STRANDED ON THE EAST COAST OF SCOTLAND DURING THE PAST 40 YEARS, BY WILLIAM TAYLOR, LHANBRYDE.

A MEETING of the Club was held in the Societies' Rooms, Town-house, Peterhead, on Friday, 10th March, 1911. Professor J. Arthur Thomson, Aberdeen, President of the Club, in the chair. Mr Wm. Taylor, Lhanbryde, Elgin, a naturalist of wide experience, delivered an interesting lecture, of which the following is a summary, on

EAST COAST WHALES AND DOLPHINS.

Mr Taylor, after briefly describing the land mammals, and making some interesting remarks on a few which had been neglected in study, proceeded to deal with the special subject of his lecture. The osteology and general structure of whales, dolphins and porpoises were first described, skeletons of a few being shown on the screen. He pointed out the significant peculiarities in structure which distinguished the cetaceans. The cetaceans were represented by three great divisions—namely, whalebone whales, sperm and bottle-nosed whales, and the many species of dolphins and porpoises. The best known cetacean was the porpoise called *Phocoena communis*. The Tay whale was mentioned as the well-known example of the humpback species. The rorquals were then described, and a picture of Sibbald's rorqual was thrown on the screen, while the lecturer referred to that animal, which was eighty feet in length, as being probably the largest creature that had ever existed, extant or extinct. Incidentally he mentioned that Sir William Turner had dissected that animal and that the unborn calf was found to be twenty feet long. The great sperm whale, belonging to the same family as the bottle-nosed, was recorded once during this generation on the East Coast. It was, of course, a South Sea whale, in contradistinction to the ordinary bottle-nosed whale, which was indigenous to European seas. Sowerby's whale was more frequently found in these seas than had formerly been suspected. Illustrations of the pilot or caain' whale, the killer whale, and the white whale were all exhibited on the screen, after which the lecturer proceeded to describe the various species of dolphins. He explained that these were found along the Moray Firth at Burghead, Covesea, and Buckie, and



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incidentally mentioned that the killer and pilot whales really belonged to the dolphin family. About 100 years ago an Atlantic right whale (that is, a whalebone whale belonging to a species allied to the Greenland whale which was formerly brought to Peterhead, Dundee, and elsewhere), with a young one, appeared off Peterhead, but the young one only was captured. Nothing of it had been preserved, however. The affinities and characteristics of Sowerby's whale were discussed by Mr Taylor with particular reference to a specimen which was stranded in the Moray Firth some years ago.

An extremely interesting part of the proceedings was the exhibition on a screen of a great number of lantern slides of the various kinds of whales, dolphins, porpoises, referred to in the lecture.

The following complete list, so far as is known, of whales and dolphins, captured or stranded on the East Coast of Scotland during the past forty years, has been supplied by Mr Taylor for publication in the Transactions :—

FAMILY BALENIDÆ (Whalebone Whales).

Date.	Species.	Sex.	Locality.	Feet Long.	By whom noted.
Nov. 1869	Sibbald's rorqual ...	Female	Longniddry ...	78	Turner
" 1898	Do. do (bone) ...		Burghead ...		Turner
" 1871	Common rorqual ...		Peterhead ...	64	Struthers
" 1882	Do. do. ...	Male	Moray Firth ...	68	Flower
" 1884	Do. do. ...		Nairn ...	50	Struthers
" 1893	Two Do. do. ...		Aberdeen Beach		G. Sim
Feb. 1904	One Do. do. ...		Kirkcaldy ...		W. Evans
Apr. 1905	One Do. do. ...	Male	Near Stonehaven		W. Taylor
" 1872	Rudolphi's whale ...		Bo'ness ...	44	Turner
" 1870	Lesser rorqual ...		Aberdeen ...	14	Struthers
" 1877	Do. do. ...		Bervie ...	16	Struthers
" 1888	Do. do. ...	Female	Granton ...	28	Turner
" 1870-80	Do. several ...		In Firth of Forth		Turner
" 1882	Do. do. ...		Catterline ...	14	G. Sim
Oct. 1888	Do. do. ...		Alloa ...		Turner
Jan. 1895	Do. do. ...		Peterhead ...	39	D. Gray.
" 1896	Do. do skeleton ...		Cullen ...	27	W. Taylor
" 1898	Do. do. ...	Male	Portknockie ...	24	W. Taylor
Mar. 1871	Humpback whale ...		Wick ...		Struthers
Jan. 1884	Do. do. ...	Male	Dundee ...	40	Struthers
" 1910	Atlantic right whale (bone)		Fort George ...		W. Taylor

The lesser rorqual is the most abundant species on the East Coast, of whalebone whales.

## ON EAST COAST WHALES AND DOLPHINS.

About a hundred years ago a right whale, with a young one, appeared off Peterhead. The young one was captured but nothing of it preserved.

A Sibbald's rorqual was stranded about the year 1800. It was eighty feet long. It came ashore at Boyne, Banffshire.

### PHYSETERIDÆ (Spermaceti Whales).

Date.	Species.	Sex.	Locality.	Feet Long.	By whom noted.
1863	Sperm whale ..	Male	Thurso ..	55	in B.M.
	Bottlenose whale		Dunrobin ..		Turner
1871	Do. do. ..		Fraserburgh ..		Struthers
1879	Do. do. ..	Female	Grangemouth ..	26	Turner
Nov. 1885	Do. do. ..	Male	Dunbar ..	22	Turner
" 1883	Two Do. do. ..	Female	Queensferry ..		Turner
" 1894	Do. do. ..	Male	Burghhead ..	25	W. Taylor
" 1896	Do. do. ..	Female	Bo'ness ..	16	J. Simpson
" 1888	Sowerby's whale	Male	Aberdour ..	15	Turner
" 1895	Do. do. ..	Male	Morrison's Haven	15	J. Simpson
Oct. 1897	Do. do. ..	Male	Nairn ..	15	W. Taylor
" 1900	Two Do. do. ..	Female	Nairn ..	16-9	W. Taylor
" 1904	Do. do. ..	Male	Fraserburgh ..	14	W. Taylor
" 1908	Do. do. ..	Female	St Andrews ..	16	M'Intosh
" 1911	Bottlenose whale	Female	Cocksburnpath ..	29	Not seen

### DELPHINIDÆ (Porpoises, &c.)

Date.	Species.	Sex.	Locality.	Feet Long.	By whom noted.
Every year.	Common porpoise..		Abundant ..	5	Dr Joss
1879	White whale ..		Dunrobin ..		Struthers
1884	Do. ..		Dunbeath, Caithness	12	in B.M.
Oct. 1871-4	4 Bottlenose porpoises ..	Both	Firth of Forth ..	10	W. Taylor
" 1899	4 Do. do. ..	Both	Delny, Ross ..	9	W. Taylor
" 1901	6 Do. do. ..	Both	Munlochy ..	10	W. Taylor
" 1902	1 Do. do. ..		Nairn ..		Not seen
" 1910	1 Do. do. ..		Aberdeen Beach...	9	Turner
" 1881	White-beaked dolphin		Berwick ..		Turner
" 1883	Do. do. ..	Female	Berwick ..		Turner
" 1888	2 Do. do. ..	Both	Stonehaven ..		Turner
" 1898	1 Do. dug up		Lossiemouth ..		W. Taylor

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DELPHINEDÆ (Porpoises. &c.)—Continued.

Date.	Species.	Sex.	Locality.	Feet Long.	By whom noted.
Oct. 1898	White-beaked dolphin ..	Female	Buckie ... ..	7	W. Taylor
" 1907	Do. do. ...	Male	Cramond ... ..	8	(Bruce Campbell
" 1887	Common dolphin . . .	Female	Dalmeny ... ..	5½	Turner
" 1895	Do. ... ..	...	Aberdeen ... ..	8	G Sim
" 1899	Do. ... ..	Female	Tay... ..	6½	M'Lachlan
" 1910	Do. ... ..	Female	Nairn ... ..	5½	W. Taylor
" 1899	Striped dolphin (skull) ...	...	East Coast ... ..	...	W. Taylor
" 1905	Do. ... ..	Female	Dunrobin ... ..	6	Turner
" 1867	23 Pilot whales ... ..	...	Aberdeen Museum	6	
" 1875	1 Do. ... ..	...	Granton ... ..	...	Alston
" 1891	2 Do. ... ..	...	Berwick ... ..	...	Dr Hardie
" 1899	1 Do. dug up	...	Queensferry ... ..	...	J. Simpson
" 1876	Killer whale ... ..	...	Gamrie ... ..	...	W. Taylor
Aug. 1899	Risso's grampus ... ..	Male	Granton ... ..	22	Gibson
			East Coast ... ..	...	Dr Traquair

Many Cetaceans are called "Grampus" but they are generally confounded with pilot whales and bottlenose porpoises.

FRIDAY, 21st April, 1911.

A MEETING of the Club was held in the Societies' Room, Town-house, Peterhead, on Friday, the 21st April, 1911, at 8 p.m. Dr Smith, Vice-president of the Club, in the chair. Mr John Don, M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C., Maybole, delivered an interesting lecture, of which the following is a short summary, on

### WATER PURIFICATION.

Mr Don introduced his subject by remarking that the practice of water purification was one of those branches of industry which had made an astonishing bound within the last 25 years. The old system of sand filtration had been, so to speak, disestablished. Also the old chemical testing of the wholesomeness of drinking water, so laboriously developed by Wanklyn, Thresh, and others, have been superseded. He divided the modern methods of water purification into six great classes—1, rapid mechanical filters; 2, step filters or successive filtration; 3, non-submerged filters or sprinklers; 4, sterilisation by ozone; 5, sterilisation by chlorine; 6, sterilisation by violet rays. He then proceeded to explain purification by rapid filtration, taking as a special example the Bell filter which has been successfully introduced at Edinburgh, Bolton, and many other places. The precipitation of impurities by a coagulant was explained, and Jewell's patent device for introducing the same was depicted on the screen. Other mechanical filters and the Jewell and the Candy were also explained, and attention drawn to the application of polarite. Coming to step filtration, the Puech Chabal system was explained, and the results of this treatment were shown to be most successful with very polluted waters like those of the Elbe and the Seine. The lecturer then proceeded to discuss the ozone treatment in detail, and by means of numerous slides explained how complete sterilisation is effected. The new process of purification by violet rays, as tested at Marseilles, was lastly discussed, and all the inventions which the French engineers have lately perfected were explained to the audience.

Mr Don illustrated his points by showing lantern slides on the screen, giving diagrams of the various methods of purification of water as used in this country and also on the continent.

SATURDAY, 5th August, 1911.

PAPER ON "CRUDEN'S TWO BISHOPS," BY REV. ADAM MACKAY, M.A., B.D., CRUDEN.

A MEETING of the Club was held in the Church Hall, Cruden, on Saturday, 5th August, 1911, at 3:30 p.m., Mr Robert Anderson, Past President, in the chair. Rev. Adam Mackay, M.A., B.D., read the following paper on

CRUDEN'S TWO BISHOPS.

*A Historical Note regarding the Right Rev. James Drummond, D.D., and the Right Rev. William Dunbar, M.A., and their relations with the Parish of Cruden.*

IN the Parish of Cruden a quaint, old bridge, known as the "Bishop's Bridge," leads from the highway to the Parish Church. It consists of a single arch of red sandstone, which spans the burn of Cruden; and it is reported to have been built in 1697,\* and widened its present width (is only 10 feet) in 1763.† On its south side two tablets are built into the wall, one bearing the arms of the Earl of Erroll, and the other of the Bishop of Brechin.‡

To the casual visitor the bridge is one amongst many objects of historical interest in the parish, and invariably the same question is asked, "How comes it that this bridge is known as the Bishop's Bridge, and that the arms engraven upon it should be those of the Bishop of Brechin?" The story is an interesting one. Dr James

\* This is the date on the bridge itself: but as Bishop Drummond died in 1695, it must have been built prior to that time. In a MS. Collection of the late Rev. Robert Ross (presently in my possession) I find it stated that the bridge was built in 1690. Probably 1697 marks the date at which the tablets bearing it were built into the wall.

† "In 1763 this bridge was widened about two feet by James, Earl of Erroll. The additions do not rest on a regular foundation, but on rude corbets, near the spring of the arch."—Pratt's Buchan, 3rd Ed., p. 49.

‡ The Tablets are interesting and are still plainly decipherable. That bearing the arms of the Earl is the westmost of the two, and has on it an Earl's coronet with a shield (containing the arms) below. Round the sides and top is the legend I E E—John, Earl of Erroll. John was the eleventh Earl. The tablet containing the Bishop's arms has on it a mitre, and below a shield crossed at the back by two croziers. One half of the shield has the armorial bearings of the Drummond family (Earls of Perth): the other half is plain, or else has become indistinguishable. Round this tablet are the letters I B B—James, Bishop of Brechin. Both measure 2 ft. 4 in. by 1 ft. 11 in.; and both bear the date 1697, divided in the one tablet by the coronet, and in the other by the B and the mitre.

## ON CRUDEN'S TWO BISHOPS.

Drummond, minister of Muthil, was elevated to the See of Brechin in 1684. He was of a retiring disposition, and would much have preferred to remain minister of his quiet country charge; but the powerful influence of his parishioner, James, Earl of Perth, secured for him the appointment; and the advice of other friends, both within and without the Church, constrained him to accept. He was consecrated by Archbishop Rose, in the Abbey Church of Edinburgh, on Christmas Day, and for five years continued to exercise a wise sway over his diocese. He was a good man, of wide culture, a diligent student of Holy Scripture, and a faithful pastor and preacher. He had also a keen sense of honour and a high regard for the sacredness of his office, for when the King, displeased at Bruce, the Bishop of Dunkeld, sought to depose him and to give his bishopric to Drummond, Drummond wrote back saying that he knew of no vacancy in the See of Dunkeld.\* But his merits were of no avail in saving for him either his office or its emoluments in the mêlée which ensued upon the Revolution Settlement and the triumph of Presbyterianism. On April 11, 1689, Episcopacy was abolished by the Estates, and three days later Bishop Drummond preached for the last time in his Cathedral Church from Romans, xii., 1.† It was then that he came to Cruden. Already well advanced in years, he welcomed, in a sense, his enforced retirement; and found a very gracious and peaceful home at Slains Castle with John, eleventh Earl of Erroll, who had married his relative, the Lady Anne Drummond.‡ He was not content, however, to be inactive. He interested himself in the welfare of the Parish, and was a tower of strength to its minister, the Rev. William Dunbar. He gifted two silver Communion cups to the church,§ and finding that the burn, which flows past it, was frequently in flood and dangerous to ford, he enlisted the sympathy

\* Cp. Scott's *Fasti* VI. p. 891. Grub's *Eccl. Hist.* III. p. 284.

† "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

‡ Cp. Pratt's *Buchan*, 3rd Ed. p. 48—foot note.

§ The two silver communion cups are in the possession of the Kirk Session of Cruden Parish Church, and are still used at each communion. The larger of the two stands six inches high, and measures 4½ inches in diameter across the top. The smaller is 4¾ inches by 3¾. Both bear the inscription:—"Dedicated to the service of Jesus and of His Church at Cruden by Dr Ia. Drummond, late Bishop of Brechin, who died at Slains, 13th Ap., 1695." The cups form two of a set of six—three others of which were gifted by "Robert Cumming of Birness, 1712"; and one other of which was gifted by "Samuel Hutcheon who died at Craighead, the 16 of Aprile 1711."

of the Earl, and got his help in building a bridge, himself largely affording the means out of his slender pension. Hence the name, and hence the two coats of arms. Dr Drummond died of dropsy at Slains Castle in 1695,\* and was buried in Cruden Parish Church. The exact spot is not known: in "The View of the Diocese of Aberdeen" (1732) we are told that his grave is in the "aisle."† By his will he bequeathed to his noble host his library, a most valuable collection, and still a mine of interest to the antiquarian and book-loving student.

"How comes it," the visitor next asks, "that the Bishop should have taken so great an interest in the Parish Church, seeing that Presbyterianism had become the established form of Church government in the land?" In answering that question another life-story, and another interesting glimpse of parish history, are brought to light. Cruden was one of many parishes in the north, and especially in Buchan, where, after the Revolution Settlement, the Episcopal clergy were "indulged." That is to say, those in office at that date were allowed to continue, even although they had been ordained by, and were still in full sympathy with the Bishops.‡ William Dunbar, who, as has just been mentioned, was minister of Cruden when Bishop Drummond resided there, was a staunch Episcopalian—one of the ablest and most devoted, indeed, of the Episcopal ministers—

\* There is some difference of opinion as to his age at the time of his death. Dr Hew Scott puts it at 76 (*Fasti III. p. 891*): Keith puts it at 66 (*Catalogue of Bishops*).

† "It (*i.e.* the Church) has an isle, and six silver chalices, two of them gifted by Dr Drummond, last Bishop of Brechin; who also built the bridge on Cruden, and lies buried in the isle there." (*View of the Diocese—Pub. by the Spalding Club in Collections for the History of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff 1843—p. 375*.)

The present writer is strongly of opinion that the grave of Drummond is on the east side of the pulpit at a spot easily defined. There is a grave there, and it is the only grave which is known to be in the church. The difficulty is that for long it has been covered by a flat stone bearing an inscription to the effect that Patrick Cruickshank, advocate in Aberdeen, who died in 1656, lies buried underneath it. But as the Episcopalians must have loved Bishop Drummond, and may have feared that his ashes would be desecrated, it is not improbable that they had taken the precaution to cover his grave with an alien headstone before the Presbyterians invaded the parish. This theory is the rather confirmed by the fact that in the Churchyard Register it is distinctly stated that Patrick Cruickshank's stone "should be on grave No. 533"—a grave outside and to the east of the church.

‡ At Ellon, for instance, the minister (Walter Stewart by name) was allowed to continue in office till his death in 1711, though ardent in his advocacy of Episcopacy, and bidding defiance on many occasions to the Presbytery when they come to transact business in his Church. Mr Milne, Udny, and Mr Clark, Methlick, also continued to adhere to Episcopacy.

## ON CRUDEN'S TWO BISHOPS.

and it was only natural that the Bishop should have found in him a congenial and sympathetic mind.

Dunbar, however, had his own difficulties—difficulties peculiar to his position. For several years after his settlement in the parish, and while Presbyterianism was still weak, the relations between him and his Presbytery appear to have been of the most cordial description. He referred cases of discipline to them, and they referred them back to him again,\* he wrote a full and courteous answer regarding certain questions which, by instruction, they propounded to him relating to the heresy of Bourignonism;† and once, at least, they employed him as their agent to search out and to punish a certain delinquent who had bidden defiance to their jurisdiction.‡ In everything he manifested a shrewd common-sense, and also a kindly and peaceable disposition. Unfortunately he had not been ordained as minister of Cruden until after the Revolution Settlement—not, indeed, until 1691, and then likely by the hands of a Bishop:§ and in 1708, almost two full decades after his appointment, the Presbytery of Ellon were ordered by the Synod of Aberdeen to summon him to their bar “to answer for his intrusion.” The Presbytery were very loath to obey (he had been a good friend), but the compelling influence behind them was strong, and after a time a summons was served. Mr Dunbar wrote immediately in answer, stating that he was ignorant of its purpose, and desiring that the Presbytery, if they had any matter against him, would “send some one of their number to converse with him thereanent.” This request was ignored, and twice again he was summoned. On the second occasion he appeared, and found it difficult—be he courteous as he might—to give answers which they considered satisfactory. Indeed matters seemed to be coming to an open rupture, when suddenly, and without any explanation being given, the process was stayed.||

The lull, however, was only temporary, and preceded the storm. In 1715 Dunbar made the mistake of avowing himself openly a

\* Cp. Mair's Records of the Presbytery of Ellon, p. 333.

† Cp. Mair's Records, p. 244.

‡ Cp. Mair's Records, p. 332.

§ Mr Barclay, his predecessor, died in 1691, and in the confusion of the times Mr Dunbar had likely been allowed to step quietly in. At a meeting of the Presbytery (held on 26th June, 1716) he pleads “that he had *nearly 26 years* lived as Minister of Cruden in a good correspondence with the Presbytery.”—Mair's Records, p. 335.

|| Cp. for above and following facts Mair's Records, pp. 332-9.



Jacobite, and of giving to the "Pretender," when he landed at Peterhead, all the help and countenance in his power. He prayed for him from his pulpit; he ordained a fast on his behalf; he publicly inveighed against the Hanoverian succession; and, one is led to infer, he even incited the youth of the parish to throw in their fortunes with the rebel army. The result was inevitable. No sooner was the rebellion crushed, and power restored to the hands of the Presbytery, than a fresh process was started. Early in 1716 he was summoned by the Presbytery to appear at Ellon and to answer for his conduct, but he declined their jurisdiction on the ground that the charge which they preferred against him was criminal: and so successfully did he maintain this attitude, that the Presbytery were forced ultimately to remit the matter to the Synod. The Synod had fewer scruples, and he was formally deposed on October 5.\* Still he clung to his rights: but on this occasion the civil power was more willing to act along with the ecclesiastical. On Saturday, December 29, military were sent from Peterhead, by orders of the Sheriff, to take possession of the church, and to debar him from preaching:† and in the following year he was prosecuted before the

\* There seems to have been some irregularity in the proceedings, as Dunbar complains in the "Representation" of insufficient notice. It was, however, the day of Presbytery, and his complaint was unheeded. The following evidence, reluctantly given, shows fairly well the grounds which the Synod considered they had for deposition:—"Thomas Smith in Greenhill, a married man, aged about 50 years, purged of malice and partial counsel Depones, he never heard Mr. Dunbar pray for King George by name; he never heard him pray for the Pretender under the name of King James the eighth, but that he always prayed for the King; he never heard him pray that the King might be brought to the throne of his ancestors; he heard him pray for the King whether by sea or land in the time of the Rebellion, but does not mind if he did forbear that form of praying after the Pretender's landing; he does not remember if he intimate and observed a Fast in or about November; he does not mind if he heard him say that the throne had been possessed by Usurpers; he remembers he preached on the 2nd February but minds not that he read a proclamation on the Sabbath before; he uses a liturgy in the Church of Cruden, and possesses it and the Manse *Causa scientae*—he is a Parishioner and ordinary hearer."—Cp. "Representation of the State of the Church," pp. 42-45, (*really* 50-54); Archibald's "Ten Years' Conflict," p. 129; Mair's "Presbytery Records," p. 336.

† The following is a copy of the warrant granted on the occasion to the troops:—"Glenkindie and Mr Forbes, Sheriff-Substitute, their Orders to the soldiers to take possession of the Churches."

Whereas we are required by the Presbytery of Ellon, to give Access to the Ministers of the established Government into the Church of Cruden, presently possessed by Mr William Dunbar, Intruder there, who tho' he be deposed (for his rebellious Practices) by the said Presbytery, contumaciously keeps Possession and Preaches in the said Church: These are therefore desiring and com-

## ON CRUDEN'S TWO BISHOPS.

Lords of Justiciary on a charge of "intruding into the Parish Church, leason-making, and praying for the Pretender." An Act of Grace by His Majesty, however, compelled the Solicitor-General to desert the diet. But on 1st March, 1718, a sentence was at length obtained, ordering his removal from the Parish, and Dunbar, more concerned for the fate of his flock than for himself, ungrudgingly submitted.\*

One cannot read the details of the story—the pleadings of Dunbar, the loyalty of his parishioners, their evident affection for him and for his ministrations, etc.—without entertaining a great regret, that such things could have happened. To the end he was conciliatory, and asked merely for reasonable measures.† The sympathies of the people were wholly with him.‡ Indeed it is doubtful had not witnesses been compelled to give evidence (upon payment of a fine of 100 merks) if anyone could have been found willing to incriminate him.§ When finally he was deprived of his living, the entire congregation of the Parish Church went out with him, and it was more than a year before a Presbyterian minister

manding you William Mekeldnie, and the men under your command, to march to the Kirk of Cruden, and take possession of the said Church upon Saturday afternoon the twenty-ninth instant; and upon the next immediate following Sabbath you are to admit a minister of the Established Government to preach at the said Church, and to debar the late Incumbent, Mr Dunbar, therefrom. And after Divine Service, you are to deliver the keys of the said Church to the Minister of the established Government. Given under our Hands and Seals at Peterhead, the seven and twentieth day of December, Seventeen Hundred and Sixteen, and for doing of all which this shall be a sufficient warrant.

Signed and Seal'd

PA. STRACHAN,

FRANCIS FORBES, Sheriff-Substitute.

On the Sunday appointed, the Presbyterian minister who came to Cruden preached to an audience of military. Not a parishioner was present. He took for his text Romans i., 13, "Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you but was let hitherto, etc." The irony of his position!—Cp. Appendix to "Representation"; Archibald's "Ten Years' Conflict," pp 131 and 209.

\* Cp. Scott's "Fasti," III., p. 606.

† See account of trial both in the "Representation" and in the Presbytery Records—Mair, p. 335 especially.

‡ Cp. above note telling how not a Parishioner turned out to hear the Presbyterian minister.

§ The Presbyteries sought and obtained an Act of Parliament compelling witnesses to give evidence under above named penalty (cp. Archibald's "Ten Years' Conflict," p. 129). As it was, only eight of the thirteen witnesses summoned appeared before the Synod. (Cp. Mair's Presbytery Records, p. 336).

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could be found bold enough to settle in the parish.\* Dunbar, too, had in him the elements of heroism. He was one of that little band of Episcopalian ministers who, on 30th October, 1716, when all was vague uncertainty and dread, met together at the Lews of Fyvie, to consider the fortunes of the Church, and to take concerted measures for defence.† And he had literary ability. It was at the Manse of Cruden, under his supervision and largely by his pen, that that remarkable book, "A Representation of the State of the Church in North Britain, and of the Sufferings of the Orthodox and Regular Clergy" was compiled and written.‡ Indeed, had his pen been a little more graphic—as graphic as his courage was certainly great—he might have left behind him a story of the hardships and perils of Episcopacy in the north that would have thrilled the imagination and touched the pity of the reader almost as much as the story of the Covenanters in the south. It is pleasant, however, to be able to tell that his own Church did not forget his services. In 1727 he was consecrated a Bishop, and, by the Concordat of Bishops in 1731, was recognised as Bishop of Moray and Ross. In 1733 he was transferred to the See of Aberdeen, and lived there to a good old age. He resigned his Bishopric on July 4, 1745, and died early in 1746, in his 85th year.§

To the shame of Cruden, be it recorded, there is no tablet or other memorial to commemorate the fact that two such men as

\* A Mr Oliver, who went as supply, complained bitterly of abuses during Divine Worship. Mr Wardlaw (subsequently colleague to the celebrated Ralph Erskine) agreed to become minister, but remained less than nine months, being glad to accept a call to Dunfermline. A Mr Gerard, who was called by the Presbytery, preferred to go to the Chapel of Garioch. A Mr James Ogilvie, who was also called, flatly refused acceptance. It was 27th April, 1720, before a Presbyterian minister, content to stay, was settled in Cruden.—Mair's Records, pp. 338-43.

† Cp. Preface to "Representation of the State of the Church," p. vii.; Archibald's "Ten Years' Conflict," p. 119.

‡ Cp. statement in Preface to Representation, telling how the committee of four ministers, appointed to publish their case, met at Cruden in November, 1716; and delegated the work first to three and then to two of their number—holding a second meeting for this purpose at the Manse of Cruden on 10th December, 1716. That Dunbar was one of the two seems beyond question. In all probability he wrote the Preface.

§ Cp. Grub "Eccl. Hist." III, 399, IV., 5, 9, 46; Archibald's "Ten Years' Conflict," p. 132. Dean Archibald is wrong in saying that he died on 4th July, 1745. That was the date when he resigned his Bishopric. He died early in 1746.

## ON CRUDEN'S TWO BISHOPS.

Drummond and Dunbar ever lived or worked there. \* The bridge and the two silver communion cups (the latter are still in the possession and use of the Parish Church) are an abiding witness to the generosity of the one, and mark the period of the ministry of the other. But it does seem regrettable that nothing should have been done to preserve in a more living way the story of their connection with the parish, and of their sufferings as Churchmen.

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\* It is hoped that this reproach may soon be wiped out.† An endeavour is being made at present to obtain subscriptions for the erection of a bronze tablet, which, it is intended, shall bear the following inscription :—

“ SACRED TO THE MEMORY

OF

The Right Reverend James Drummond, D.D., Bishop of Brechin, 1684-89, who was deprived of his Bishopric at the Revolution Settlement, and who resided at Slains Castle in this Parish until his death, at the age of 66, on 13th April, 1695. He was a good and pious man, diligent in his office. By his generosity this Church was enriched with two silver communion cups; and by his help and means the bridge which leads to it, still known as the “ Bishop's Bridge,” was built. He sleeps in the “aisle” of this Church.

And of

The Right Reverend William Dunbar, M.A., who was Minister of this Parish, 1691-1718, and who was compelled to vacate his living by civil force. He subsequently became Bishop of Moray and Ross, 1727-33, and of Aberdeen, 1733-45. Whilst Minister of this Parish he was much beloved and esteemed by all his flock, and approved himself a faithful pastor and diligent preacher. Under his influence and largely by his pen, the remarkable book, “ A Representation of the State of the Church in North Britain, and of the Sufferings of the Orthodox and Regular Clergy,” was written at Cruden in 1716. He died in 1746 in the 85th year of his age.

All too tardily erected to the memory of these two friends of, and sufferers for God, by Presbyterians and Episcopals alike, in this year of grace 1911.”

†Since the foregoing address was written it is pleasing to be able to state that this hope has been realised. On 31st August, 1911, a Memorial Tablet to Bishops Drummond and Dunbar, bearing the above inscription, was unveiled and dedicated in Cruden Parish Church. The Dedication Service was conducted by the Right Rev. Alexander Stewart, D.D., Principal of St Mary's College, St Andrews, and Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland; the Rev. Adam MacKay, B.D., Minister of the Parish; and the Rev. Donald Stuart, M.A., U.F. Church, also taking part. After the service the Table was unveiled by the Most Rev. Walter John Forbes Robberds, D.D., Bishop of Brechin, and Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland. The Right Rev. Rowland Ellis, D.D., Bishop of Aberdeen, was also present, and gave an address.

WEDNESDAY, 1st October, 1911.

ON "SOME HERALDIC RECORDS OF BUCHAN" BY  
MAJOR ARCHIBALD YTHAN CHEYNE, 15TH BENGAL  
LANCERS, RISALPUR, N.W.F.P., INDIA.

THE following paper has been communicated to the Club by  
Major A. Y. Cheyne, 15th Bengal Lancers, Risalpur, N.W.F.P.,  
India, namely:—

SOME HERALDIC RECORDS OF BUCHAN.

No. 1. *Fyvie Church (Coloured Wooden Panel).*

Or, within a double tressure fleury counterfleury, 3 crescents,  
and on a chief gules 3 cinquefoils argent. Crest: a crescent.  
Motto: "Semper." Inscribed, Alexander Seton, Lord Fyvie,  
1603.

The Setons were proprietors of Fyvie for about a century.  
Alexander (3rd son of George, 6th Lord Seton) acquired the  
estates by purchase from the family of Meldrum in 1596. He  
was created Lord Fyvie in 1598, and Earl of Dunfermline in  
1605. He became Lord Chancellor under James VI. and died  
in 1622. He was married to Lilies, daughter of Patrick, 3rd  
Lord Drummond.

No. 2. *Fyvie Church (Wooden Panel).*

3 cushions and in base 3 buckles. Inscribed R.D. and M.L.,  
1671, and ornamented with 5 roses.

A record of Richard Dunbar of Monkshill, and his wife  
Marjory Leslie. Dunbar of the House of Cospatriek bore  
varying numbers of roses within a bordure and the roses  
shewn here are probably in this allusion. The Leslie buckles  
are here added to the coat of Dunbar in honour of his wife.

No. 3. *Fyvie Churchyard.*

On the dexter side, quarterly: 1st, 3 boars' heads couped  
(Gordon); 2nd, 3 lions' heads erased (Badenoch); 3rd, 3  
crescents within the royal tressure (Seton); 4th, 3 cinquefoils  
(Fraser); over all, an inescutcheon. The shield impales  
quarterly: 1st and 4th, a demi-otter rampant, issuing from a  
bar wavy (Urquhart); 2nd and 3rd, 3 crescents (Seton).

## ON SOME HERALDIC RECORDS OF BUCHAN.

Crest: a buck's head. Supporters: 2 deerhounds. Mottoes: "Bydand" (Gordon) and "By sea and land" (Urquhart). Inscribed, D.G.G. and D.E.V., 1685.

This is the quartered shield of Sir George Gordon of Gight impaling the quartered arms of his wife Dame Elisabeth Urquhart. Sir George Gordon, IX. of Gight, married his cousin Elisabeth, only daughter of Sir Patrick Urquhart of Meldrum, and died before 1695. Their only daughter, Marie, married Alexander Davidson and a younger son of this union, Alexander, assumed and continued the surname and insignia of Gordon of Gight.

No. 4. In the wall of Fyvie Castle is a shield displaying the Seton Arms, as in No. 1, and impaling the 3 bars wavy of the Drummonds. It bears the date 1599 and is inscribed A.L.F. for Alexander Seton, Lord Fyvie, and D.L.D. for Dame Lillias Drummond, his wife (see No. 1).

Nos. 5 and 6. *Old Deer Churchyard.*

No. 5 is a very broken and obliterated slab shewing a fesse: in chief, a mullet: in base, apparently a hand appaumée. Inscribed, C.C. 1603.

This is stated to be the shield of Charles Crawford of the Annochie branch, cadets of the Crawfords of Fedderat.

No. 6 is still more obliterated but bears a similar date and initials, presumably those of the same Charles Crawford,

No. 7. *Old Deer Churchyard.*

A buckle between 3 boars' heads, within an embattled border (Ferguson), impaling a cross moline (Deans). Crest: a hand issuing from a cloud and holding a broken spear. No date. To commemorate James Ferguson of Kinmundy and his first wife, Elizabeth Deans. This James Ferguson purchased in 1723 the estates of Kinmundy, which still remain in his family. He married secondly Margaret Irvine of Artamford and died in 1777.

No. 8. *Old Deer Churchyard.*

A cross potent, square pierced, with initials M.A.S., and an almost illegible inscription, testifying to the virtues of

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Magister Abraham Sibbald, the second minister of Old Deer, who was entered in 1586. He was of the family of Sibbald of Keir in the Mearns. The same initials with the Sibbald arms are to be found in Longside Church (No. 13).

### No. 9. *Old Deer Churchyard.*

Built into the wall of the old church is a coat-of-arms shewing a chief paly of six : in dexter base, a heart : and in sinister base a crescent. Initials, A.K. and C (?) K. Dated 1603, with two quaint effigies of the owners of the initials. Above is an obliterated inscription to Andreas Keith, who died in 1603.

This is the only sculptured example I have found of the Keith arms shewing their more ancient bearing of 6 pales, 3 pallets on a chief being the usual later form. The legend of their origin is well known, how that one Robert, a chieftain of the Catti (from whom the Keiths), at the Battle of Panbride in 1006 saved the life of Malcolm II. by slaying the Danish king Canus, in recognition of which act Malcolm drew three fingers, dipped in the blood of the slaughtered king, down the shield of the aforesaid Robert. The Keith arms at Bruxie House, dated 1598 (No. 18), also display a heart and crescent, whilst James Keith of Bruxie, in 1718, bears a heart (No. 15); probably, therefore, this Andrew Keith was one of the Bruxie branch. The Keith of Tilligone also display a man's heart in base.

### No. 10. *Old Deer Churchyard.*

Also built into the wall of the church are the Keith arms with 3 pallets and an inscription without date to George, Earl Marischal, Lord Keith and Altrie, and patron (of Deer). This would commemorate the Earl who founded Marischal College, Aberdeen, in 1593.

### No. 11. *Longside Churchyard.*

3 bears' heads (Forbes), impaling a chevron between 3 crosses patées (Barclay). Crest : a crescent. "Motto : "Spero."

The Forbes arms are here charged with a crescent for a difference. Nisbett quotes this difference to have been borne

## ON SOME HERALDIC RECORDS OF BUCHAN.

by Forbes of Savoch, near by, a cadet of Tolquhoun. The wife's arms are charged with a bear's or boar's head for a difference, and she may have been a Barclay of Towie.

No. 12. *Longside Old Church.*

Dated 1620. This is stated by Jervise in his "Epitaphs and Inscriptions" to be the Keith and Cheyne arms quartered, but the arms in the 2nd and 3rd quarters, though hard to interpret, are certainly not those of Cheyne. They appear to be men's hearts, ensigned with crowns.

No. 13. *Longside Old Church.*

A square stone displaying a cross potent square pierced, with the initials A.S., perhaps a record of the same Abraham Sibbald, minister of Old Deer, noted in No. 8.

No. 14. *Longside Old Church.*

The Bruce Arms, a chief and saltire, with the initials G.B. Stated by Jervise to bear the date 1620.

No. 15. Let into the bridge over the stream near the Abbey of Deer are the Keith arms charged with a heart, and inscribed I.K. and E.R., 1718. Below is an inscription to James Keith of Bruxie, who erected the bridge. I am unable to trace the name of his wife, E.R.

No. 16. *At the House of Faichfield.*

A stag's head cabossed, and on a chief a cross crosslet fitchée between 2 spur revels. Motto: "Patientia et gratia vinco." These are the arms of the family of Thomson, who acquired Faichfield after the Frasers, cadets of Muchil.

No. 17. *New Deer Churchyard.*

On the upper shield, 3 boars' heads couped, with initials and name of David Gordon, 1595: on the lower (presumably for his wife), a lion rampant and initials I.M.

Perhaps a Gordon of Barak, near by, whose wife, from her arms, was probably a Mowatt. The slab is ornamented with a fleur-de-lis and a catherine wheel, and bears the exhortation "Sver nocht" (Swear not).



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### No. 18. *Bruxie Farm.*

In the wall of a barn is a slab bearing the Keith arms charged with a heart and a crescent in base (see Nos. 9 and 15). Inscribed G.K., 1596. The stone is ornamented with 2 crescents but is broken away at the top.

Nos. 19 and 20. In a bridge near Cruden Bay Station are two shields, each dated 1697. One is that of Bishop Drummond, erector of the bridge, and bears the Drummond arms (3 bars wavy), impaling on the dexter side the now effaced arms of his see : the shield is surmounted by a mitre and the whole is placed over two pastoral staves in saltire. It is inscribed B.I.D. for Bishop James Drummond, Presbyter of Muthil, who, in 1685, was preferred to the See of Brechin, of which he was the last bishop. He died in 1695 and was buried in Cruden Church.

The second shield bears the 3 inescutcheons of the Hays, surmounted by an earl's coronet and inscribed E.I.E. for John, 11th Earl of Errol, patron of Bishop Drummond.

No. 21. This wooden panel, now in the possession of Ferguson of Pitfour, is in excellent preservation, and was found in the ruins of Inverugie Castle. It bears the arms of Keith, impaling the Douglas arms, which are—quarterly : 1st and 4th, a man's heart ensigned with an imperial crown, and on a chief 3 mullets (Douglas) : 2nd and 3rd, a chief and issuant therefrom, 3 piles, the 1st and 3rd charged with a mullet (Douglas of Dalkeith). It bears the date 1660 with the initials E.W.M. for William, 7th Earl Marischal, and A.C.M. for his second wife Anne Douglas, Countess Marischal, a daughter of Robert Earl of Morton. Earl William died in 1661 without male issue, leaving four daughters by his first wife Elizabeth, daughter of George, Earl of Winton. He was succeeded by his brother George as 8th Earl Marischal.

Nos. 22 and 23. The first of these, dated 1616, is to be seen on the wall of a house on Keith Inch, Peterhead, and the second, dated 1606, on a house facing the North Harbour.

They each show a lion rampant on a variously shaped shield, one bearing the initials A.G. and the other E.G.

## ON SOME HERALDIC RECORDS OF BUCHAN

The family arms of Gray are a lion rampant within an engrailed border, and from the shape of the two shields it is probable that the engrailed border is here intended and that they are records of the Gray family, who owned property in Peterhead. The initials E.D. on No. 22 are perhaps for Elspeth Duncan, who married into the Gray family about that time.

- No. 24. In the back wall of a cottage near Inverugie Castle is a further record of William, Earl Marischal, and Anne, Countess Marischal, dated 1666 and inscribed E.W.M. and C.A.M. (see No. 21).
- No. 25. On the Salmon House near the Mouth of the River Ugie are the Keith arms, dated 1585, with the initials G.K. The Salmon House is stated to have been built by George, 5th Earl Marischal, about this date.
- No. 26. In the possession of Mr Blake, New Pitsligo, is a wooden panel shewing within a border, on a fence a hawk's head erased: in chief, 3 mullets, and in base, a boar passant. Motto: "My Trust." Initials, G.B.  
This coat of arms is evidently a relic of the Baird family, but differs from that of Baird of Auchmedden, which does not shew the fesse or the hawk's head.
- No. 27. Built into the wall of Ellon Church are the arms of William Forbes of Tolquhoun—quarterly 1st and 4th, a bear's head muzzled (Forbes): 2nd and 3rd, an unicorn's head couped (Preston): impaling the arms of his wife Jean Ramsay, viz.: an eagle displayed and in chief 3 mullets. Motto: "Salus per Christum vive ut vivas."  
William Forbes of Tolquhoun acquired the lands of Waterton from Bannerman of Elsieck about 1633. He married Jean Ramsay, daughter to the Laird of Balmain, and an inscription shews their son, John Forbes of Waterton, to have erected this monument to their memory when building the Waterton Aisle of Ellon Church in 1637, which was rebuilt in 1755 by their great grandson Thomas Forbes of Waterton and his wife Margaret, daughter of Montgomery of Asloas, who sold the lands of Waterton to the Earl of Aberdeen about 1770.

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### Nos. 28 and 30. *Ellon Churchyard.*

The Annands of Auchterellon also had an aisle in Ellon Church and a memorial of the family remains on part of the old church wall. In the centre (No. 28) is a very ornamental representation of the Annand Arms, viz. : a chief and saltire in the collar point 3 spots of ermine and in the flanks and base point a mascle. Supporters, 2 pegasi. Crest : a demi-falcon(?) displayed. Motto : "Sperabo." Inscribed, D.D.A. obiit 1326. On the left of this are the Annand arms, impaling those of Fraser of Philorth (see No. 47), but much obliterated, with an inscription to Alexander Annand of Auchterellon, who died on July 9th, 1601, and his wife Margaret Fraser, daughter of Philorth, who died in 1602. On the right (No. 30) are the arms of Alexander Annand of Auchterellon, son of the above Alexander, died.....(no date), impaling those of his wife Margaret Cheyne, daughter of Esslemont, died.....(no date). The Cheyne arms shew : quarterly 1st and 4th, a bend between 6 crosslets fitchées (Cheyne) : 2nd and 3rd, 3 laurel leaves sprigged (Marshall). This stone bears the initials A.A. and M.C. and the motto "Mors Christi vita rostra."

The Annands appear in Auchterellon about 1500 and were probably descended from the Angus family of that name. The whole monument was apparently erected by the last named Alexander before his death and that of his wife, for the dates of their decease are left blank, and the family of Udny was in Auchterellon by 1626. The Dominus D.A., to whose memory the central monument was erected, was probably the founder of the family and in all likelihood the progenitor of Dominus David de Annandia de Mylis, who occurs in 1359 and 1380.

### No. 29. *Ellon Tolbooth (Chapel House).*

3 boars' head erased and, on an inescutcheon, a galley : the whole placed over 2 keys in saltire. Crest : a blackberry spray. Motto : "Veniunt felicius uvœ." The slab is further ornamented with 2 keys in saltire and a blackberry spray. This appears to be a memorial of the family of Kennedy of Kermuck, hereditary Constables of Aberdeen, to which office the crossed keys are in allusion.

ON SOME HERALDIC RECORDS IN BUCHAN.

No. 31. *Aberdour Churchyard.*

A martlet disclosed and in chief 3 quatrefoils (?). Initials, I.Q. and an inscription to "Hone Quhyt in Ardlahill," who died in 1590.

This is the tombstone of John Whyte, tenant in Ardlahill, to George Baird of Auchmedden. In an action for removing, brought against him by Baird, John Whyte and his predecessors are stated to have been "kindly possessors" of these lands for 1000 years. John Whyte also held the lands of Cowburtie from Fraser of Philorth.

Nos. 32 and 33. *Aberdour Churchyard.*

These are records of Mr George Clerk, minister of Aberdour, and of his two wives. No. 32 shews for Clerk a fesse chequée, in chief a crescent between 2 mullets and in base a boar's head: it impales the 3 bears' heads of the Forbes. This slab bears the initials M.F. and shews the resting place of the first wife Magdalen Forbes, probably of Pitnycalder, as they were elders in the parish at the time: she is shewn in the inscription to have died in 1629. No. 33 displays the Clerk arms as above, impaling for Ogstone 2 lions rampant in chief and 3 lozenges in base. This bears the initials M.G.C. for Magister George Clerk, and I.O. for Jean Ogstone, his second wife, and the inscription states him to have been entered as parson of Aberdour in 1614, and to have died in 1644. The Session Records shew Jean Ogstone to have been of the family of Auchmaleddie, near Strichen: she survived her husband.

No. 34. *Aberdour Churchyard.*

In chief 3 mullets: in base a boar passant. Initials, G.B. and an inscription to "George Bairde de Auchmedden," who died in 1593, in his 76th year.

No. 35. *Aberdour Churchyard.*

In chief, a double-headed eagle: in base, 3 leisters (pitchforks). Initials, M.W.R. and an inscription to Magister William Ramsay, who was entered as parson of Aberdour in 1651 and died in 1690. Other ministers of the same surname are found in Aberdour in the latter half of the preceding century.

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### No. 36. *Aberdour Churchyard.*

A slab, dated 1659, shewing two shields, one bearing the Baird arms (a boar passant), supported by an eagle displayed, with the initials I.B. The second shield displays the quartered arms of Ogilvy, viz. : 1st and 4th, a lion passant guardant (crowned ?) : 2nd and 3rd, 3 crescents. Initials, C.O. These initials and arms refer to James Baird of Auchmedden and to his wife Christian Ogilvy, daughter to William Ogilvy of Boyne. An inscription shews the monument to have been erected by him to his forbears, whose bodies are there interred, viz. : Andrew, George, Gilbert and George, who died in 1543, 1593, 1620, and 1642, and to his mother Ann Fraser, daughter of Lord Saltoun, and to his grandmother Elizabeth, daughter of Keith of Troup. The erector of this monument was High Sheriff of Banffshire, and was knighted by Charles II. The Bairds held Auchmedden from 1534 till 1750, when it was sold to Lord Haddo by William Baird, who joined in the rebellion of 1735. The property has since come into the hands of the Bairds of Gartsherrie.

### No. 37. *Turriff Churchyard.*

This slab displays the shield of Mr Walter Hay (3 inescutcheons and charged with a mullet) and that of his wife, S. Innes (3 mullets), with the inscription "Tumulus clari viri M. Valteri Hay qui obiit XX. Augusti 1589."

### No. 38. *Turriff Churchyard.*

This monument bears an inscription "to the immortal names of the distinguished Mr John Forbes of Gask, who died October 15th, 1653, and Isabel Urquhart his spouse, who predeceased her husband August 5th, 1647 : and likewise of Christian Dalgarno, a pious woman, wife of Patrick Forbes, Laird of Craigfintrie, who, on May 1st, 1661, erected this stone although his honourable ancestors are interred elsewhere among the original Forbes in the Church of Kerne."

Three shields are shewn : that on the left under the initials I.F. and I.W. shew the arms of John Forbes of Gask (3bear's heads coupéd muzzled, charged with a mullet for a difference), impaling the arms of his wife Isabel Urquhart

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(3 boars' heads erased). In the centre, under his initials, is the shield of Patrick Forbes of Craighintrie charged with a dagger for a difference. The third shield shews on the dexter side the impaled arms of Dalgarno (a fesse chequée between 3 boars' heads erased) under the initials C.D. for Christian Dalgarno, wife of Patrick Forbes and widow of the Laird of Culter. On the sinister side of her shield is impaled a mullet between 2 ladders and in chief 2 mullets, under the initials B.I. Patrick Forbes probably acquired Craighintrie through his mother, as it was Urquhart property until 1654.

No. 39. *Turriff Churchyard.*

The Forbes arms, charged with a mullet for a difference. Initials I.F. and an inscription to Janet Forbes, Lady Brux, who died October 20th, 1589.

Janet Forbes was a daughter of Alexander Forbes of Pitsligo and married John Forbes of Brux, who had apparently been previously married to Elizabeth Gordon. The register of deaths in the Charter Room of Aberdeen records the date of Janet Forbes' decease as being March 1st, 1590, and she is therein described as "Lady Bawack."

No. 40. *Turriff Churchyard.*

A red sandstone slab showing the Mowatt arms (a lion rampant), impaling the Forbes arms. Initials M.M. and an obliterated inscription to "Barbara .... spouse to .... Mowatt of Mydde ...." The family of Mowatt or Montealto was of Norman origin and they were the proprietors of Balquhollie near Turriff.

No. 41. *Turriff Churchyard.*

A small slab let into the wall of the Old Church and bearing the Errol (Hay) arms (3 escutcheons), with a coronet and the initials W.E.

No. 42. *Turriff Churchyard.*

A tablet, dated 1636, displaying the arms of Barclay of Towie (a chevron between 3 crosses patée), impaling the arms of Anne, daughter of Lord Drummond (3 bars wavy). Initials P.B. and A.D.

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Sir Patrick Barclay, described in this inscription as "the glory of Towie," died about 1624. He was probably twice married, for in a note upon his brother George's MS. of Wyntoun Cronykil it is stated that he married a daughter of Barclay of Gartly, and that in consequence he changed his arms from two crosses to three. His second wife Anne, daughter of Lord Drummond, outlived him and afterwards married Fraser of Murthil.

No. 43. *Turriff Churchyard.*

This shield bears the Forbes arms charged with a dirk for a difference. Initials, M.F. Motto: "Grace me guide." Inscription: "This monument is erected by.....memory of his spouse Margaret . . . daughter to late John Forbes of Cragtoun, first spouse to the honoured Thomas Mowat of Ardo, both registe . . . clerk of Aberdeen, register of Banffshire and Kin-carn: she departed 12th September, 1662.

No. 44. *Turriff Churchyard.*

Above are the Skene arms (3 dirks or skeens, paleways in fesse, supported of 3 wolves heads) with the initials A.S., and below are the arms of Coutts (a stag's head cabossed, between the attires an arrow point downwards) with the initials I.C. This monument was erected to Mr Andrew Skene by his widow Jean Coutts, daughter to the Laird of Auchtertoull. Mr Andrew Skene (of the Aucharie branch) was parson of Turriff and died in 1678.

No. 45. *Turriff Churchyard.*

This monument bears the initials V.L. and B.M. and was erected to William Lindsay, died 1579, and his wife Barbara Mowatt, died 1558, by their son William in 1583.

A curious mistake upon the sculptor's part is to be noticed, for he has delineated the Lindsay arms (a fesse chequée) in the 2nd and 3rd quarters and the Mowatt arms (a lion rampant) in the 1st and 4th.

No. 46. *Turriff Churchyard*

The Hay arms (3 inescutcheons). Initials, V.H. Motto: "Patiar." Inscription to Mr William Hay, canon of Aberdeen

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and prebendary of Turriff, where after 36 years happily spent in that office he died May 1582 in his 82nd year.

No. 47. *Turriff Churchyard.*

To Alexander Forbes of Bythnie, "late Bailzie in Turreff."  
Initials A.F. and B.E.

This shield bears for Forbes, a bear's head and a chief, and impales for his wife B.E. a wheatsheaf and a chief.

No. 48. *Rathen Churchyard.*

These are several pieces cemented together which may have no connection. One bears the inscription "Alexander Fraser of Philorth Patron," and another stone cemented in near by bears a date 1633. On the shield in the centre are the Fraser arms (3 fraises), quartering for Abernethy a lion rampant.

No. 49. *Rathen Churchyard.*

To Janet Fraser, wife of William Fraser, died 1624.

This bears Fraser, quartered as above.

Nos. 50 and 51. These two slabs are probably but examples of the ornamental tombstone maker's art. The first is to John Alexander, died 1790: the information "Death spareth none" is also imparted. The second is in memory of Barbara Couper, spouse to Alexander Anderson, sometime in Cortinbre.

No. 52. *King Edward Churchyard.*

The Keith arms (3 pales) and initials R.K.

Supposed to be a record of Robert Keith, Commendator of the Abbey of Deer, brother of William, 4th Earl Marischal.

No. 53. *King Edward Churchyard.*

A much obliterated shield, apparently shewing 2 bears' heads in chief, and a mullet and a quatrefoil in base.

Supposed to be a record of Arthur, 9th Lord Forbes.

No. 54. *King Edward Churchyard.*

To John Urquhart. Motto: "Will vell and wis veil."

Initials, I.V. No date.



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This shield displays 3 boars' heads and is charged with a mullet. This is probably a branch of the family of Cromarty, who bore 3 boars' heads, the family of Meldrum bearing a demi-otter issuing from a bar wavy.

No. 55. *King Edward Churchyard.*

A broken slab which appears to have originally borne two shields, the lower one shewing a stag's head erased. It apparently bears the date MDVIII.

No. 56. *King Edward Churchyard.*

3 boars' heads erased (for Urquhart), impaling 3 mullets. Initials I.V.

No. 57. *King Edward Churchyard.*

To Elizabeth Urquhart. Dated 1580. 3 boars' heads erased. (There is also in King Edward Churchyard a stone to Sir Patrick Leslie of Eden and his wife Dame Isobel Cheyne, died 1616 and 1666, but the arms on it are too obliterated to be interpreted).

No. 58. *Cuminestown (Built into the Manse Wall).*

This is a well preserved relic of the Errols, and shews the Hay arms (3 escutcheons, two and one). Supporters: 2 countrymen, each holding a yoke over his shoulder. Crest: a demifalcon rising. Motto: "Serva jugum."

This is in all probability connected with another stone, built in near by, bearing the initials I.E., and a record of John, 11th Earl of Erroll, patron of Monquhitter.

No. 59. *Monquhitter Churchyard.*

A shield bearing 3 garbs (wheatsheaves (and charged with a buckle. Crest: 2 swords in saltire. The stone bears the Cumming motto, "Currag" (Courage), and another motto, "Qui me tulsit sidera." Initials, W.C.

This monument was erected to William Coming of Auchry and Pittuly (Elgin), who died in 1707, by his wife Christian Guthrie, daughter of Sir Henry Guthrie of King Edward. William Coming, provost of Elgin, claimed descent from the

## ON SOME HERALDIC RECORDS OF BUCHAN.

Altyre family. He bought the estate of Auchry from the Urquharts about 1670, and built the old Church of Monquhitter at his own expense.

No. 60. *Cuminestown (Built into the wall of Castle Farm).*

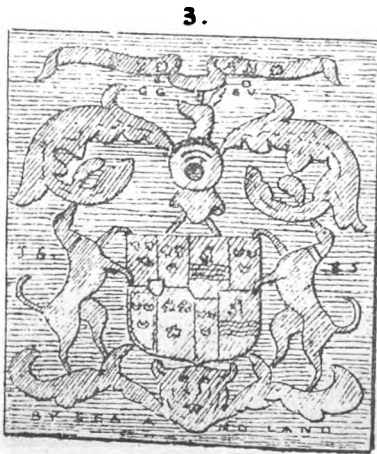
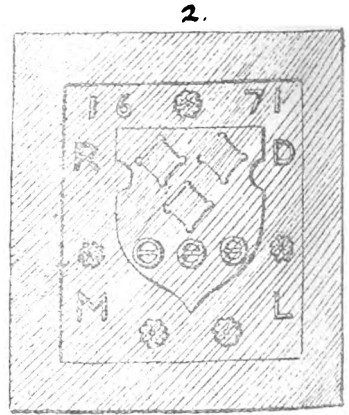
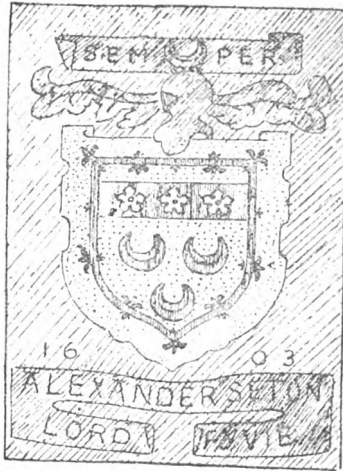
A fesse embattled ; 2 crescents in chief and a buckle in base, (Con): the shield impales quarterly 1st and 4th, 3 crosses, crosslets fitchées (Cheyne) : 2nd and 3rd, 3 laurel leaves slipped (Marshall). Motto: "Constant and kynd." Initials, P.C. and M.C.

This Patrick Con of Auchry married Margaret Cheyne, daughter of Thomas Cheyne of Essilmont, and was great grandson to William Con, son of Donald of the Isles, Chief of the Macdonalds. Margaret Cheyne was still alive in 1617.

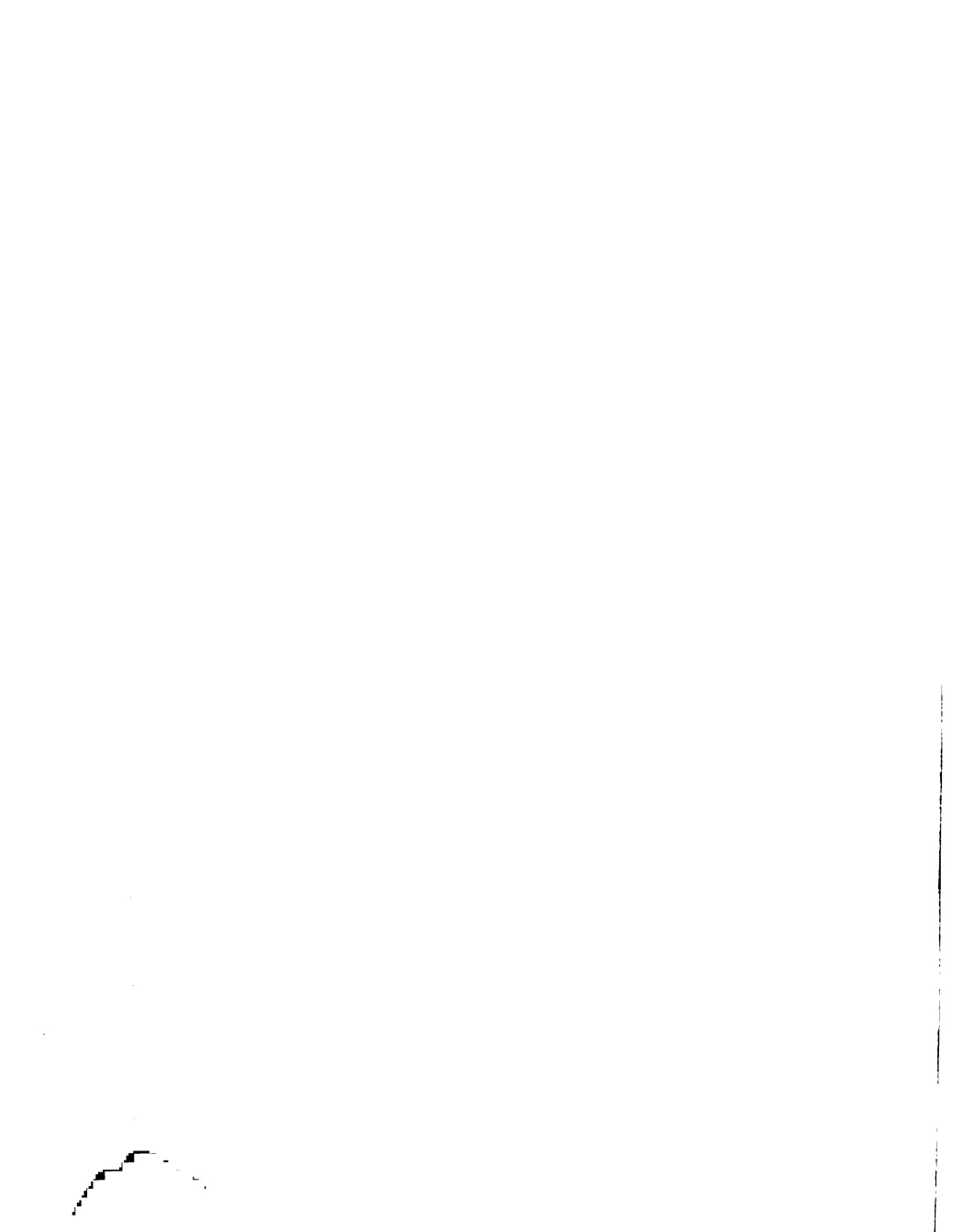
No. 61. A stone from among the ruins of the Abbey of Old Deer, now put as the keystone to an archway. This appears to be an example of the heraldic "panache" of ostrich plumes.

Nos. 62, 63, 64. These coping stones, one of them bearing the date of 1670, are from the ruins of Inverugie Castle. They are not actually heraldic, but are interesting examples of the sculptor's art. No. 62 shows the lion and thistle of Scotland. No. 63 delineates apparently a helmeted knight carrying a (broken) lance and followed by his esquire carrying his shield. No. 64 is probably a representation of the family coach of the Earl Marischal.

MAJOR CHEYNE







FRIDAY, 1st December, 1911.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Club was held in the U.F. Church Hall, Prince Street, Peterhead, on Friday, 1st December, 1911, at 8 p.m. Professor J. Arthur Thomson, President of the Club, occupied the chair, and delivered his Presidential Address (see page 134). The following officers were duly elected to serve during the year 1912 :—

**Officers and Council.**

President—Professor J. Arthur Thomson, M.A., Aberdeen.  
Senior Vice-President—Mr A. M'Donald Reid, M.A., Peterhead.

**Vice-Presidents :**

Messrs James Will, New Pitsligo. J. A. Fairley, Edinburgh.  
Robert Lees, Fraserburgh. C. D. Rice, Peterhead.  
Dr Smith, Peterhead. Sheriff Ferguson of Kinmundy, K.C.  
Hon. Secretary and Editor—J. F. Tocher, B.Sc., F.I.C.  
Treasurer—A. Clark Martin, Solicitor, Peterhead.

**Council :**

F. J. R. Anderson, Fraserburgh.	Evan Bisset, Peterhead.
A. G. Brown, Fraserburgh.	W. W. Cruickshank, Fraserburgh.
Rev. J. B. Davidson, Peterhead.	John Don, Maybole.
A. Ferguson, Peterhead.	Mrs Ferguson of Kinmundy.
J. W. Forbes, Peterhead.	Dr J. Findlay, Crimond.
J. T. Findlay, London.	Robert Gray, Peterhead.
Dr A. W. Gibb, Aberdeen.	James Grant, Banff.
Senator Gibson, Ontario.	Rev. A. Mackay, Cruden.
W. Murison, Aberdeen.	Alexander Milne, Peterhead.
John Milne, Maud.	W. C. MacBean, Peterhead.
S M'Donald, Fraserburgh.	J. D. M'Intosh, Fraserburgh.
D. J. Mitchell, Burnhaven.	John Mackay, Bradford.
General F. S. Russell, C.M.G., Aberdeen.	Rev. John Strachan, Cruden.
Mrs Burnett-Stuart of Dens and Crichtie.	W. Crampton Smith, Keith.
Right Hon. Lord Saltoun of Philorth.	Dr Stephen, Peterhead.
Dr Trail, Strichen.	Dr Wood, Longside.

And all Past Presidents.

FRIDAY, 1st December, 1911.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON "THE WONDER OF BIRD-MIGRATION," BY PROFESSOR J. ARTHUR THOMSON, M.A., ABERDEEN.

FROM ancient days the migration of birds has excited the wonder of thoughtful observers. The author of the Book of Job took note of the hawk that stretched her wings towards the south, and the Hebrew prophet in his message to Israel recalled the fact that "the stork in the heavens knoweth her appointed time, and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming." We know much more about the phenomena of migration than did these early observers, but it can hardly be said that the wonder is less. Even with our aeroplanes, the way of the swallow flying south is still too wonderful for us.

Sometimes the migratory movement is seen with almost startling vividness, so that even the careless are impressed; at other times the annual tide flows and ebbs without calling for much remark. On an island like Heligoland, which lies on a favourite migratory route and is without any resident birds of its own (save sparrows), it is very impressive to see wave after wave of migrants strike the rocky shore in the autumnal westward and south-westward movement. The birds used to light in thousands on the small fields now given over to batteries, and rest for a few hours before continuing their journey. Observers on the Isles of Scilly sometimes see hundreds of thousands of birds of the same kind flying from the English coast; and taking many hours to pass. And many who have travelled on a steamship up the West Coast of Africa in autumn have had the good fortune to see enormous armies of birds making their way south, often from a distance like dense clouds of smoke swirling rapidly close to the water. Some of the migrants often rest on the ship for a while, until they feel that they are being carried the wrong way. Then they rise into the air and make for the south again.

Not less interesting is it to watch the actual arrival of the summer visitors, especially when they come in after a long sea-voyage, and sink to the ground as if welcoming a rest. When one sees swallows and the like arriving on the coast of Cornwall, for instance, one recalls Tennyson's picture—"Faint as a climate-changing bird, that flies all night across the darkness, and at dawn sinks on the threshold of her native land, and can no more." But whether the migration be seen in a striking or in an inconspicuous form, it can never fail to produce the thrill of wonder in the reflective observer.

## ON THE WONDER OF BIRD-MIGRATION.

### SOME FUNDAMENTAL FACTS.

Migration is not to be mixed up with the invasion of a new territory in search of food and under pressure of increasing population—though it may have originated in some cases in this way. It is a regularly recurrent seasonal movement—an oscillation between summer-quarters and winter-quarters, between a breeding and nesting-place and a feeding and resting-place. And one of the fundamental facts is that birds always nest in the colder area of their migratory range.

For the Northern Hemisphere it must be admitted that bird-migration is a general phenomenon, though it differs greatly in its range and conspicuousness. In many parts of Scotland the curlews pass at the beginning of winter from the exposed moorland to the neighbourhood of the sea-shore, where it is easier to procure food; and flocks of sixty or more of these shy birds are often seen at work among the jetsam. This is migration within a short radius. It may be contrasted with that of the Arctic Tern which the "Scotia" explorers found "wintering" in the Antarctic summer in 74 deg. S. lat.—"the greatest latitudinal range of any vertebrate animal."

Our knowledge of bird-movements in the Southern Hemisphere is very scanty, and must be left out of account at present; but for the Northern Hemisphere it is a very familiar fact that the birds of any country can be classified, from the migration point of view, into five sets—(1) There are the summer-visitors, such as swallow, swift, cuckoo, nightingale, and so on through the long list (mostly insectivorous, by the way,) who arrive from the South in spring, nest and breed within our bounds, and return in late summer or autumn "to warmer lands and coasts that keep the sun." (2) Against these we have to place the winter-visitors, such as fieldfare and redwing, both first cousins of the thrush, the snow bunting, and many of the northern ducks and divers, who nest in the far North, but come South in winter. (3) In a set by themselves we may rank the birds-of-passage in the stricter sense, like some of the sandpipers, the great snipe, and the little stint. They rest for a short time only in a country like Britain, on their way further south or further north.

(4) Then there are the "partial migrants," who are always represented in the country or area in question, but not always by the same individuals. That is to say, some individuals leave the country



and others do not; and the place of those who go is often taken by other individuals from elsewhere. Thus in many parts of Scotland one may see lapwings every month of the year, and yet there is a regular autumnal migration of lapwings from Scotland to Ireland. There are always goldfinches to be found in the South of England, but there is a regular migration southwards in October and a corresponding return in April. Recent research has shown that the list of "partial migrants" is a long one—longer than used to be thought. (5) There remain the strictly resident birds—such as, in Britain, the red grouse and the house sparrow (to take a sacred and a profane example). The rook and the robin may serve as two other instances. But the list has been greatly reduced by the discovery that many of the reputed residents are really partial migrants. It is obvious that no hard and fast line can be drawn; and it goes without saying that species which are resident in one country may be migratory in another, just as the summer-visitors of one country are of course the winter-visitors of another.

Perhaps another division should be made for the interesting "casual vagrants" who occasionally turn up in a country, far off their normal line of movement. The American Kildeer Plover shot in Aberdeenshire in 1868 is a good instance.

The migration of birds is a seasonal phenomenon, and it seems legitimate to rank among the fundamental facts the contrast that obtains between the autumnal and the vernal movements. There is some uncertainty in regard to various features of the contrast, but that it is marked must be admitted. The autumnal migration, on the whole southwards, is less intense than the return migration in spring. One often observes a good deal of preliminary fuss and not a little dallying before the autumnal migrants get fairly under way. They make trial journeys and may begin their pilgrimage with short stages. The young birds are said to get restless first; the old males are said to linger longest. It may be that the adults are kept back by the need of recuperation after their family cares, and also by a moult after which the feathers damaged by the summer's wear and tear are replaced. Everyone knows the exceptional case of the cuckoo, whose offspring, carefully fostered by other birds, do not leave Britain for six weeks or so after all their real parents have gone.

In spring, on the other hand, the movement is much more intense, impetuous, and urgent. The adult males seem usually to

## ON THE WONDER OF BIRD-MIGRATION.

take the lead, "love-prompted;" then follow the adult females; the immature birds, who will not breed for a season or two, bring up the rear. Thus the vernal order is the reverse of the autumnal order. There is some evidence, also, that the spring journey is more direct than the autumn journey. Short-cuts are found and impelling haste is the characteristic feature. Where the sexes fly separately, it may be that this is because they naturally fly at different rates.

Another general fact that impresses us in regard to migration is its regularity and success. When weather conditions are very unpropitious, there is often great mortality. The streets of towns are sometimes strewn with the corpses of thousands of birds that have gone astray and succumbed to the cold. As many as five hundred nightingales have been gathered in a single day from one small town. Large numbers of migrants perish every year by dashing themselves against the windows of light-houses. But, on the whole, the striking fact is not the number of failures but the large proportion of successes. This is the more striking when the difficulties of a long migration journey are borne in mind. What we are made to feel is that migrating is an old-established business; it has been going for so many hundreds of thousands of years, that it has acquired a certain smoothness. A thrush born in the North of Scotland is found at the end of its first summer near Lisbon—a long journey for an inexperienced traveller who is hardly counted as a migrant at all. And there are many similar instances.

The feature of regularity is also illustrated by the remarkable punctuality of arrival and departure which is usually exhibited, except, indeed, when the meteorological conditions are unusual. Fog and head-winds may delay arrival; a summer that favours insect life may induce birds to delay their departure; but, on the whole, there is a striking temporal regularity in the comings and goings.

Still more remarkable is the fact of spatial regularity. For in a few cases (doubtless to be increased) we have conclusive proof of a bird's return to its birthplace. A swallow marked as a youngster with an aluminium ring has been known to return the following year, not merely to the same county or parish, but to the same farm-yard—a striking instance of precision in the sense of locality, and of a constitutional home-sickness bringing the bird back from its winter-quarters (probably in Africa) to its birthplace in England. The same return to the original homestead has been proved in the

case of the house-martin and the stork, and is certainly one of the most wonderful facts about migration.

#### CONCRETE PROBLEMS OF MIGRATION.

One of the most important questions which patient investigations, like those of Mr Eagle Clarke, are in process of answering, concerns the routes which birds follow in their migratory flight. On the basis of observations made at light-houses and light-ships and at strategic inland stations, it has been possible to map out certain favourite routes, and equally useful results have rewarded "the ringing method" pursued by Dr Thienemann at Rossitten, Dr Mortensen in Holland, Aberdeen University and the editor of "Bird Life" in Britain, and by several others on the Continent and in America. The method is to place properly fitted light rings of aluminium with a number and address on the feet of a large number of birds—most conveniently when they are still young, but after the foot has nearly reached its maximum diameter. Some of these "ringed" birds come to grief in the usual ways, and in a small percentage of cases the finders of the birds are good enough to return the ring to the address stamped on it and to state where and when they found the bird. These data are registered on a map (a different one for each kind of bird and for each season), and as they accumulate in the course of years the distribution of crosses on the map will show the nature of the migratory movement with an accuracy proportionate to the number. The distribution may show an irregular diffusion over a wide area, which would indicate the absence of well-defined paths; or it may show a definite strand or curve, which would indicate one of the favourite paths. Thus Dr Thienemann has been able to trace the autumnal path of the white stork from North Germany to South Africa. There can be no doubt that it flies in the main from North to South-East. In the same way, it has been made clear that there is, among hooded crows for instance, a great westward movement in autumn, *e.g.*, from Finland along the shores of the Baltic, and that there is a subsequent curve towards the South. This westward and then southward curve seems to be true of many birds in North Europe. Certain contingents seem to swerve southwards by the valleys of the Rhine and the Rhone, and then across the Mediterranean to North Africa. Other contingents seem to go further westwards, crossing, it may be, by way of

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Heligoland to the South of England, and thence across to France, Spain, and Portugal, finally landing like the others in North Africa. For some other birds, like the swallow and the red-spotted bluethroat, there is considerable evidence of a more direct north to south movement in autumn. Large numbers of swallows are seen in autumn making their way down the west coast of Africa, perhaps reaching the Cape; those from Eastern Europe are said to work their way southwards by the Nile Valley. Corresponding species or varieties in North America seem to fly to Brazil, and in North Asia to Burmah.

It is not merely in regard to the routes followed by migratory birds that we are in ignorance; we are in most cases quite unable to say where our summer visitors pass the winter. We know that they leave us for the south, and we know that birds of that kind become numerous in the late autumn in some other area—the shores of the Mediterranean, Arabia, West Africa, South Africa, and so on—but what we wish to be able to do is to make precise statements, for instance, that certain summer visitors to the Midlands of England spend their winter on the Gold Coast or elsewhere. Perhaps this will eventually become possible if the bird-marking method is prosecuted for a long stretch of years. Another question of great interest, which must wait for its answer until many more data accumulate, is whether the return journey in spring is by a route different from that of the autumnal journey.

Other matters for investigation, which must be patiently continued without hurrying towards an answer, are the altitude and the velocity of the migratory flight, and its relation to weather conditions. While enormous armies of larks, starlings, thrushes, and some other birds have been seen flying very low across the sea, it is probable that most migrants fly at a considerable height. But precise data are few.

It is certain that many a bird may attain in its everyday life to a velocity of fifty miles an hour, and it is probable that double that is a safe estimate for the rate of many a migratory flight, when the whole life is raised to a higher pitch. But precise data are few.

And as to meteorological conditions it becomes increasingly clear that birds in their migrations are somewhat strikingly indifferent to the weather, until, at least, it reaches a high degree of storminess or fogginess or unpropitiousness generally. It seems that the

weather conditions which obtain when and where a mass-movement begins are of much more moment than those into which the birds pass in the course of their flight.

DEEPER PROBLEMS OF MIGRATION.

It is interesting to inquire where we should rank the migration on the inclined plane of animal activities, but no secure answer can be given in the present state of science. It seems to partake very largely of the nature of instinct; that is to say, birds have a specific hereditary preparedness or disposition for their migratory movements, which enables them to go through with them without education or experience. But this does not exclude the view that birds have their wits about them as they fly, for many instinctive activities show a spice of intelligence. Nor does it exclude the view that birds migrate more successfully as they grow older, for not a few instinctive performances are perfected by practice. That the migratory activity has an instinctive basis is suggested by its regularity and orderliness, without much individuality and with little hint of caprice; by the preparations made before there is any real need, and of course it must be remembered that none of our summer visitors have any personal experience of wintry conditions, literally knowing no winter in their year; by the success with which young birds carry it through, apparently unguided and untutored; by a few observations of restlessness shown at the proper time by comfortably caged birds; and by the sporadic occurrence of other true migrations in widely separated divisions of the animal kingdom—*e.g.*, land-crabs, salmon, eels, turtles, and some deer, cetaceans, seals, and bats.

If it be granted that the migratory activity has an inborn instinctive basis, we look none the less for the immediate causes or stimuli which pull the trigger twice a year at the proper time. In the case of the autumnal movement, we think of the increasing cold and the decreasing shelter, of stormy weather and the shortening of the daylight hours available for food-collecting, and of the dwindling supply of insects and slugs, fruits and seeds, and so on. But we shall probably go wrong if we regard these unpropitious conditions as more than liberating stimuli which act on a prepared state of mind.

## ON THE WONDER OF BIRD-MIGRATION.

The stimuli that prompt the northward journey in spring are more difficult to state, especially when we take into account the great diversity of the winter-quarters and the fact that a large proportion of the returning migrants are immature. The conditions of temperature, humidity, and food supply are often such as to exclude for many kinds of birds the possibility of nesting in the South. Perhaps in some cases the bird's constitution is such that it cannot become reproductive without the subtle stimulus implied in a return to the conditions of the original birthplace. Perhaps, too, there are lingering memories of the abundant and pleasant food—whether berries or mosquitoes—to be had in the North. Both on the reproductive and on the nutritive side there may be a sort of constitutional home-sickness.

It is difficult to get beyond mere speculation in regard to the origin of the migratory activity. The living organism is not merely a responsive plastic system which the environment subjects to various experiences; it is a creature that experiments. Migration was an experiment, an inborn inspiration—probably to begin with of germinal origin—in the face of untoward conditions. The new line of solution, peculiarly natural to a flying creature, was to evade the difficulties, instead of facing them. Thus, instead of hibernating or laying on fat or making a great store of food, birds migrated before the approach of winter. It was a stroke of genius to discover that the prison doors were open!

Our view, then, is this, that an original instinctive mutation must be postulated, which amounted to "a new idea," but was not an idea, which found expression in a timeous restlessness, in sensory alertness, in adventurous experiment, and in a power of flying more or less in one direction. Perhaps we see something like the beginning of it to-day in animals which seem to be sensitive to remote warnings of an impending storm, and take refuge accordingly. Given a beginning, we can understand the diffusion, augmentation, and specialisation of the migratory instinct, on ordinary Darwinian lines. Discriminate elimination of the dull, the sluggish, the wilful, the inexpert would gradually raise the standard of migratory capacity millenium after millenium.

As to the actual historical conditions that justified the migration experiment and sustained the discriminate elimination of the inexpert, there are two theories, both of which may be true. On one theory,

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our present-day summer visitors used to be at home over a great part of the Northern Hemisphere which once had a much warmer and more equable climate than it now enjoys. Then there was no need for much migration, though most of the birds would probably seek to get away from the warmer areas at the breeding and brooding time, and away from the more exposed northern outposts when winter came. But if the climate changed and became steadily more severe, if the winters lengthened and the snow-line crept lower and lower down on the mountains, if great glaciers spread southwards, and so on, then very gradually birds had to migrate further and further south in the winter and were able to penetrate less and less far into the North in spring. When the climate changed again for the better, and the ice retreated Pole-wards, there came about a recolonisation of the North Temperate Zone as a breeding area. There was a return to the old racial haunts which the Ice Ages had rendered temporarily uninhabitable.

In general terms, then, the present-day spring migration northwards implies an organic reminiscence of the original headquarters before the Ice Ages; and the present-day autumn migration southwards implies an organic reminiscence of the second home which was discovered under the stress of the glacial intrusion.

The other theory lays the emphasis on the food supply. Many birds are prolific, and over-crowding is apt to occur. Instead of crowding in one area all the year round, and involving themselves in want, birds learned, like the Swiss peasants, to exploit two areas, each for about half of the year. They tended to push further and further northward in spring, exploring and exploiting new grounds, staying as long as they could, and retreating before the breath of winter to their old home in the south, or, in many cases, far beyond that. It was probably most effective to go as far north as possible before settling down to family life. A noteworthy fact is that the more prolific birds tend to have the wider migratory range.

WAY-FINDING.

The most fascinating question in regard to migration is the one whose solution is probably most remote, *How do the birds find their way?* It is in agreement with scientific method that instead of giving too much time to speculation on this theme, we should devote

## ON THE WONDER OF BIRD-MIGRATION.

years of patient investigation to the much humbler question, *What way do they find?* After years of devotion to the less ambitious question, we shall probably be able to ask the more fascinating question in some more hopeful form.

No doubt the wonder is great that birds return from the south to their birthplace in the north; that inexperienced young birds make a long journey, often over-sea, to suitable winter-quarters, with success in a large proportion of cases; that they keep their direction in the dark and at great heights, and while flying over the pathless sea. It is true that there are many failures, a crop of tragedies every year, a never-ceasing process of discriminate and indiscriminate elimination, but the marvel is the relative success of one of the most daring of life's experiments. Let us glance very briefly at the various suggestions that have been made in regard to the way-finding. (1) It has been suggested that success in way-finding may be due to inherited experience, slowly cumulative from generation to generation, enriched and specialised by individually minute contributions. There is probably very little soundness in this suggestion, for we have no secure evidence of the direct entailment of the results of experience, and we find it difficult to state what *content* the experience could have in the case of birds flying by night, and often at great heights, and across the sea, as so many do.

(2) An attractive theory is that of social tradition, and in this there may be some truth. The idea is that those lead well one year who followed well for several years before. Ornithologists are not quite omniscient; there may be some old experienced hands amongst that rushing troup of youngsters. But the difficulties are great. How could the old hand become *experienced* in the matter of a night journey across the Mediterranean? In the case of the cuckoo there does not seem to be a single adult left in Britain when the youngsters begin to migrate. But there is no evidence that cuckoos are less successful migrants than other birds.

(3) A third theory, that has a great deal to be said for it, lays all the emphasis on sensory acuteness. Birds have very keen senses of sight and hearing; the migrants *sometimes* follow coast-lines, river-valleys, lines of islands, and so on. But it is quite plain that this cannot be the whole answer, since many birds migrate by night and at considerable altitudes. Nor are there any landmarks in the open sea.



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(4) The fourth suggestion has almost certainly a high degree of soundness, that birds have in a sublime degree "a sense of direction," which is expressed in two forms—as a capacity for flying continuously in a definite direction, and as a capacity for "homing." In regard to the second form we have more data, for the "homing" powers of cats and dogs, cattle and horses, are well known. Even when the cat is put in a basket, and taken in a cab, and then in a train, it finds its way back. It is true that we do not hear very much of the cats who left their second home and did *not* return to their first home, but the positive cases are very interesting. It appears to be well proved that if a hive-bee, issuing from the hive, be caught and imprisoned in a match box and put into a pocket, and be thus transported for an intricate half-mile, and then released, it ascends into the air, and makes "a bee-line" for home. The "homing" of pigeons is also a familiarly established fact, and the value of it is not lessened by knowing that the power can be greatly increased by training. In fact, it seems legitimate to suppose that birds have in a sublime degree the sense of direction and the homing faculty. But all that we can say is that this not unwarranted assumption makes the problem of way-finding less of an isolated riddle.

FRIDAY, 19th January, 1912.

PAPER ON "DEER PRESBYTERY RECORD, VOL. III.,"  
BY REV. J. B. DAVIDSON, M.A., F.E.I.S.

A Meeting of the Club was held in the Societies' Room, Town-house, Peterhead, on Friday, 19th January, 1912, at 8 o'clock p.m. Mr A. M'Donald Reid, senior vice-president (in the absence of Professor J. Arthur Thomson, president), in the chair. Rev. J. B. Davidson read the following

NOTES ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORD, VOL. III.

THE volume under notice, which follows one ceasing on 3rd April, 1660, is of foolscap folio size, bound in sheep, and lettered on the back "Records of the Presbytery of Deer 1701-10. Volume III." It has evidently been re-bound, but there is no note of binder's name or date of re-binding. The right hand corners of the leaves and certain other parts that have been damaged are carefully repaired with transparent film, and defective fly leaves are made up with suitable paper fillings. Pages 67-80 have apparently been subjected to the action of water so that the ink of the writing has been diffused over the page, but the writing can be made out with some difficulty. The style of writing is old-fashioned, and the penmanship is by several persons. The spelling is somewhat erratic, showing that the canons that settled the spelling of 18th century essayists had not been adopted by the Presbytery of Deer.

On the original fly leaves are several notes and errata. The title "the Presbytery Book" is twice written on one page, and on another "The Presbytery Book off Deer."

The inscription on the title page is—

Record from April 16th, 1701. to Sept. 12, 1710.

The Presbyterie Book  
of Deer Begune  
Anno 1701.

And this list follows—

- Mr Andrew Guthrie, Mnr. at Petterhead.
- Mr James Brown, Mnr. at Aberdour.
- Mr William Law, Mnr. at Crimond.
- Mr James Farqhar, Mnr. at Tyrie.
- Mr Thomas Udny, Mnr. at Strichen.  
ordained August 20, 1701.
- Mr James Anderson, Minr. at Rathen.

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Mr John Webster, Minister at New Deer.  
Mr Alexander Auchinleck, Minr. att Fraserburgh.  
Mr James Leslie, Minr. att Crimond.  
Mr Thomas Gordon, Minr. att Lonmay.  
Mr John Mercer, Minr. at Tyrie.  
Mr John Gordon, Minr. att Old Deer.

The names of Mr Law and Mr Farqhar are cancelled for reasons that will be referred to afterwards.

The last page, 261, has a docquet to this effect—

Thus Endeth The first Book of Regis(tters) of the Prisbitrie of Deer beginning Aprile Sixteenth One thousand Seven hundred and one years and ending Sepr. the twelfth one thousand Seven hundred and ten years containing pages two hundred and sixty foure and the next book of Registers begins Septer. twentie Sixth one thousand seven hundred and ten years according to the former and above adjournment.

Anderson, Cl. pb.

As to the methods of keeping the Record certain points strike one as different from the present practice. The sederunt is not always recorded by names, but in such phrases as "all the brethren except —— (Feb. 14, Mar. 24, 1702)," "all present except (July 7, 1701)." An early form is "After prayer, rolls called, sederunt (here follow names) (Ap. 16, 1701).

Absent members are noted, and they are excused either at the meeting where the absence is noted, or at a subsequent meeting. The minister of Tyrie is censured for his absence—Sep. 18, 1705—Mr Farqhr is "excused for former absence, but exhorted to keep the "dyets better in tyme coming."

Members are censured for leaving before the conclusion of a meeting—July 16, 1710. "The presbitrie considering that some "brethren att their own pleasure remove from the presbitrie before "the rising thereof by reason of which much business is often "retarded. Therefore the Presbitrie does appoynt the severall "brethren to attend each dyet till the rising thereof, and that no "member take upon himself to depart without the presbitrie's "allowance asked and given, with certification that whoever does "otherwise remove they shall be censured att the next meeting."

The Minutes are not signed nor necessarily engrossed by the person appointed Presbytery Clerk, but they are revised and prepared for visitation by the Synod, at approval of which the Presbytery Clerk signs, as for instance Ap. 17, 1705:—

"Mr Brown and Mr Farqhr report that they visited and revised the minutes drawing them up in mundo, wh wer read

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

and wi some amendments wer approven by the presbetrie and ordered to be registered in the book and to be subscribed as is usual by the Clerk Mr Wm. Thain now returned from Murray. Will Thain, Cl. pby."

Sepr. 18, 1705, the signature is—

Mr Wm. Law, Clk. pby.

The attestation of Synod visitation is regularly made and signed Jo. Angus Cls. Syn. (or otherwise).

The conclusion of a meeting is, as it still is, by prayer—forms used being—

p. 46, "and so closed with prayer."

p. 198, "and so closeth with prayer."

p. 156 "The Presbyterie closes with prayer."

Two meetings, Rathen, Mar. 11, 1703, and Crimond, Mar. 22, 1703, p. 66, are not recorded as closed with prayer. The latter minute contains a report of a revisal of minutes—

"This day Mr Brown and Mr Farqhr report that they "revised the minutes according to appointment, which wer this "day read in face of the presbetrie and ordered to be insert in "the register and to be subscribed by the Clerk."

The signature is—Ja. Farqhr, Cl. pr.

*Constituting by prayer* (older form "*incalling* the name of God") was for the most part followed by exercise and addition, these being a critical exposition of a prescribed text, the exercise, and a specification of doctrines contained in it, the addition, made by members appointed in turn. At first one member was appointed to exercise, and another to add, but afterwards the practice came to be that one member did the part of both speakers. The Epistle of Jude is *added* verse by verse, and afterwards Col. 1. At first the exercise and addition were regularly made, but towards the end of the period under review adding is subject to suspension on account of the season, the harvest, the late coming up of members, pressure of other duties, preparing for Communion, weighty business to come before the presbytery, and such like—

246, At Strichen, Ap. 25th, 1710, it is noted,

"No exercise this day in regard of a publick mercat in the place." June 7, 1706, "absent Mr Farqhr and therefore ther is no sermon." And at Deer, Jan. 11, 1709, "This day Mr Anderson was ready to deliver the exercise, but in regard the

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church doors wer shutt by order of the Earl Marischal's chamberlane because the presbytrie had caused cite Mr haburn intruder att St Fergus therfor ther was no exercise."

Probationers who were sent into the Presbytery to give assistance, and students, were sometimes appointed to add.

The Moderator was chosen, as is still the rule, at the first meeting after the Synod, and this is usually referred to as "according to their laudable custom."

May 4, 1703. "The presbetric delays the choosing of "a new moderator till the next day for weighty reason."

Oct. 9, 1701. "According to the laudable custome of this "Church, this being the first meeting after the Synod, the "Presbetry proceeded to choose a new Moderator, and accord- "ingly a list being made, Mr James Brown was chosen "Moderator till the next Synod, and Mr William Law was "chosen (erasure) clerk to the presbetry."

It is not recorded that the minutes of a preceding meeting were read and approved. They must have been kept at first in scroll. It is sometimes stated that the minutes were not read—the meaning apparently being that business adjourned from the previous meeting was not taken up.

Erasures and interpolations have been permitted in a fashion and to an extent that would incur the severe censure of Synod visitors nowadays.

Rubrics are carefully written up except from Ap., 1709, to 16 Sept., 1709. The writing of this period is remarkably small and fine, but not in the hand of Mr Jas. Anderson, Cl. pby., who signs the half-year's minutes.—Query, was the writer Mr Webster, New Deer?

The present practice of both the Moderator and the Clerk signing the Minutes began 11th March, 1785, although there are some omissions afterwards.

ECCLESIASTICAL CONDITIONS.

It may be convenient here to refer to the ecclesiastical conditions of the time, and the position of the various parishes in the presbytery with regard to incumbents.

After the Revolution Settlement in 1690 the Church of Scotland was Presbyterian, and it has been so ever since. In 1689 the Estates declared for Presbytery, and in a few months afterwards

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

Parliament abolished Episcopacy as ratified by law, but it was not until the following year, 1690, that Presbytery was explicitly established. The General Assembly passed a liberal measure for the continuance of clergy in their livings who had conformed to Episcopacy, and in fact the majority of such clergy remained and conformed to Presbytery. In some parts of the country, however, there were disorders. As soon as the flight of James VII. at Christmas, 1688, was known, a number of Episcopal curates in the south of Scotland were rabbled out of their parishes—many of these being from Aberdeenshire. But it was not so as a general rule. The Scottish people as a whole showed forbearance. And in Aberdeenshire this was specially so, for Episcopacy was strong, both by territorial influence and connexion with Jacobite politics. The landed interest and the popular feeling seem to have been largely in sympathy with the Episcopalian ministers. Although not conforming, these were allowed to remain in their parishes—to live in their manse, draw their stipends, and minister to their people—and were not insisted on to take the qualifying oath to government until some time after the Record opens (1701).

At that date some parishes of the Presbytery were occupied by Presbyterian ministers, others by Episcopal ministers, who, having been inducted before 1690, were allowed to remain, although non-juring, and others by Episcopal ministers who, not having been inducted before 1690, were not legally parish ministers, and were known as intruders. The Parishes were occupied as follows:—

Peterhead—Rev. Thomas Guthrie	...	...	Presb.
Crimond—Rev. Wm. Law	...	...	"
Aberdour—Rev. James Brown	...	...	"
Tyrie—Rev. James Farquhar	...	...	"
Strichen—Vacant.			
Fraserburgh—Rev. James Moor	...	...	Episc.
Pitsligo—Rev. Wm. Swan	...	...	"
Deer—Rev. George Keith	...	...	"
New Deer—Rev. David Sibbald	...	...	"
Lonmay—Rev. John Huison	...	...	" Intdr.
Longside—Rev. Alex. Robertson	...	...	" "
Rathen—Rev. James Chein	...	...	" "
St Fergus—Rev. Alex. Hepburn	...	...	" "

Mr Hepburn was intruder since death of Mr Alex. Ross,

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At the first meeting, April 16, 1701, Mr And. Guthrie, Peterhead, was chosen moderator, and Mr Alexander Howart clerk.

The lecturer has been informed that this Mr Howart is he who carried off the minute-books of the Kirk Session of Peterhead prior to 1673. Before that he was parish schoolmaster, reader, precentor, and session-clerk of Peterhead.

The sederunt may be worth transcribing. It is "Mr And. Guthrie, minister at Peterhead; Mr James Brown, minister at Aberdeen; Mr Wm. Law, minister at Crimond; Mr James Farquhar at Tyrie; Mr Alexr. Howart, minister at Slayns; Mr Robert Burnet, Supplie minister."

The minute begins thus:—

"Att Deer, Aprile 16, 1701. The said day the brethren of "this Presbytrie having been disjoynted from the united Presbytrie of Ellon and Garioch, Mr Alexr. Howart, minister at "Slaines, added to their number for this current year, by ane "act of the last Synod at Abd., had ye first meeting here as was "appoynted them at Aberdeen April the fourth I. ai. VII. &c. "and one."—Here is an old style of date writing—1 (one thousand), ai. (anni), VII. (seven) &c. et centum (hundred) and one.

In this way the Presbytery of Deer was constituted within bounds as we know them, and as had been before the Restoration, 1660.

Access to the Church of Deer is wanted for place of meeting. Mr Guthrie and Mr Brown are appointed to goe to Mr George Keith, incumbent at Deer, and demand the church in which the presbyteriall meetings might be kept. Mr Keith craves some delay "untill he informs himself of the Earle Marischall's mind." The crave is granted provided Mr Keith doe it betwixt this and the next presbyterie, May 21, 1701. On that date access is again desired, the time allowed being elapsed, and Mr Guthrie showing that the Earle Marischall was most willing that the church should be allowed for that use. Mr George, on being "discovered," "desires a little more tyme untill he speak with the Earle," excusing delay on account of his "valetudinary conditione." At Deer, June 25th, 1701, Mr Keith is not at home, but some of the family referred the Presbytery to

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

"Whitriggs," "who knew the Earle Marischal's mind." Whitriggs gave the required access.

The old man probably could not bring himself to give access.

There is one occasion afterwards that the Presbytery could not meet in the church because Mr Keith had a marriage in it; and another when the Presbytery was locked out because the Earl Marischal was angry with them because they had interfered with Mr Hepburn, Intruder, at St Fergus.

Att Deer Septr. 2d, 1701.—The pby. did receive severall instructions from the Commissione of the Synod, which are as follows:—

1mo.—That they take a nott of the schoolmasters who refuse to subscribe the Confessione of Faith and give it in to the Synod.

2do.—That they appoint this Commissione to the Gen. Assem. to represent the great abuse made at Yool, and show that some Episcopal minrs. preach that day as also to represent the abuse at Rain (Laurence Fair).

3ie.—To sett up paroochial magistrates and that they deal with pedagogs and chaplains to subscribe the Confessione of Faith.

4to.—To bring in their collections for Algire Captives.

5to.—That they read the sentence of Depositione against Dr Garden. Lastly that they conferr wt. Epicopall helpers within the bounds and report to the Synod.

These show the special injunctions laid on the Presbytery.

### I.—AS TO TOPICS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

*Sessions.*—Bailies or Magistrates are several times enjoined to be appointed, and are reported as appointed.

*Schools.*—Ministers are enjoined to establish Schools in their parishes. The work is commended, "it being so laudable a work, and of so great use towards the strengthening of the ministers' hands" (Dec. 23, 1701), but progress is slow "in regard of the great poverty of this country" (Dec. 2, 1701).

Some progress is made (May 5, 1702)—"As also anent schools "that some of them are already settled with maintenance, and that "others find great difficulty through the poverty of the paroches."



The last entry on schools is on May 19, 1702, "as also the setting of maintenance for schools" is "earnestly recommended to the serious consideration of the whole brethren."

*Schoolmasters* were required to sign the Confession of Faith.—May 21, 1701.—"It was thought more fit to advertise the Schoolmasters by a letter to keep the next pby. day for this object than "to give them a summons by ane officer. The several minrs. agree "to write the Schoolmasters as under:—

"Minr. of Peterhead to aquant schoolmasters of Peterhead, Longside, St Fergus.

"Minr. of Tyrie to aquant Deer, Auchrydie, Streichen.

"Minr. of Aberdour to aquant Aberdour, Pitsligo, Fraserburgh."

So it is clear that at this date there were schools in these parishes. June 25th, 1701.—The schoolmaster of Peterhead compeared and "confessed himself most ready and willing ti doe it, but delayed for some tyme becausa a copie of ye Confession of Faith was not yet come to the Presbyterie's hands" (!! ) Others pleaded for delay—"it was a matter of weight and yrfor craved some tyme to deliberate"—which was granted, but they were summoned for July 15th, when the Commission of Synod would meet at Deer.

It is to be noted that a copy of the Confession "was not yet come to the Presbytery's hands." The schoolmasters probably knew that, and perhaps the Presbytery were not very desirous.

The first signatures to the Presbytery's official copy are on 23rd April, 1734.

There is delay until Sept. 2, 1701, when the following are the Instructions of Commission of Synod to Pesbytery:—"That they take a nott of the schoolmasters who refuse to subscribe the Confession of Faith, and give it in to the Synod."

This is peremptory—

And so at Streichen, Sept. 30th, 1701, "several compeared, were discoursed with, and got put off in one way or another."

Dec. 2, 1701.—Citation delayed "till they hear what other presbetrays are doing in the sd. affair."

Other presbyteries had difficulties, too, *e.g.*, Ellon.

Dec. 23, 1701.—"The brethren are to conferr wt. some among them that are best inclined and to report."

Jan. 27, 1702.—"Some profess themselves willing, others do desire conferences with ministers."

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

Feb. 24, 1702.—It is enjoined Mr Andrew Guthrie shuld cause his schoolmaster to subscribe the Confession of Faith—others are cited to next meeting. “Mr John Meldrum, schoolmaster at Deer, was most willing, but it was thought fit to delay till others shuld come to do it togidder.”

(Why? Was it because the Presbytery had no copy?)

Further delays till June 9, 1702.—They should hear what other presbyteries had done, “as also hearing that the sd. schoolmasters are become more averse than formerly they were.”

(Delays—But the situation is getting critical.)

July 12, 1702.—“Some of the brethren report that they have “spoken some of the schoolmasters and find them still for delay, “being on the matter unwilling to subscribe the sd. Confession. The “Presbetry, that they might pit an end to so tedious a matter, “appoints the severall brethren to warn the neerest adjacent schoolmaster, and so all to be present against the next presbetry day to “give their last ansr, that so the Presbetry may be in readiness to “give an account of their willingness to the Synod.”

At next meeting (Aug. 16, 1702) none are present, and at next meeting (Sept. 1, 1702) none compeared except Mr Allexr. Frazer, schoolmaster at New Deer, “go being desired to subscribe the Confession of Faith, made many shifts and at last did plainly refuse to subscribe at this tyme.”

The case is referred to the Synod. The Synod presses for action.

Feb. 23, 1703.—Instructions are given to Comrs. to G.A. that the names of the schoolmasters who refuse to subscribe the Confession of Faith be given to the Generall Assembly.

As regards schoolmasters, the case now takes rest till Sept. 4, 1710 (for more than 7 years). There is “A letter from modr. of “G.A. giving account of several acts, and particularly one against “Buregnonisme, and appoynting the severall schoolmasters and “chaplains within their bounds to subscribe the Confession of Faith, “the following schoolmasters to be at the next Pby. in order to “subscribe the Confession of Faith:—

Mr James Thom at Peterhead. Mr Robert Irving at Rathen.  
Mr Wm. Maitland at Crimond. Mr Wm. Watt at New Deer.  
Mr James Lyell at Lonmay. Mr Wm. Smith at Strichen.  
Mr Daniel Beaton at Aberdore.”

SCHOOLMASTERS AND MASTER OF FORBES.

"Crimond, June 21, 1710."—This day a letter having come "directed to the presbitrie from the modr. of the late General Assemblie, it was read, and the consideration thereof referred till the next meeting. Ane Act of the late General Assemblie against Buregnonisme was read containing severall appoyntments on Presbitries, viz.—to preach against the sd. errors, as also to call the severall schoolmasters and chaplains before them oblidging them to subs. the Confession of Faith, and further to use all suitable endeavours for suppressing the forsd. errors and the spreading thereof. The presbitrie considering the sd. Act and how much the forsd. errors are spreading in this bounds, do appoynt the severall Brethren to preach closely and faithfully against these errors. Also to bring in a list of the severall chaplains and schoolmasters in their bounds to the next dyet, and further the Presbitrie being informed that the Master of Forbes frequently haunteth Doctor George Garden's Company, resorting ordinarily to his hous, and that the sd. Master of Forbes is tainted with the forsd. corrupt princles., therefore the presbitrie appoynt Mr Brown and Mr Leslie to wait upon the Master of Forbes then in their bounds and to deal with him to renounce these princles. and withdraw from the abetting thereof."

Dr George Garden, New Aberdeen, trans. from Old Machar 22 Nov., 1683, deprived by Privy Council 1692 for not praying for William and Mary, and deposed by Gen. Assem. 5 March, 1701, for Bourignonism. (Scott's *Fasti*).

Bourignonists.—French Quietists of the 17th century—took their name from Antoinette Bouriguon de la Porte, a Flemish lady (A.D. 1616-1680), who rejected all churches and sects and claimed to found and govern a new religious body solely by the guidance of her own personal inspiration. Until 1889 Bourignonism was one of the heresies ministers of the Church of Scotland had to abjure at their ordination. The word was then removed from the prescribed questions.

There was further trouble in the Presbytery about Bourignonism. *Probationers* were employed to supply vacant pulpits. They were either resident within the bounds or were brought from other presbyteries. They were present at meetings of Presbytery and reported on the discharge of duties to which they had been appointed,

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

*Visitations of Parishes* were frequent. Manses do not seem to have been in a good state, and there are several Appretiations of them recorded. Valuations of operations are in Scots money. There is one mention of Sterling money. The Synod subscribed 10s Sterling for Fraserburgh case Oct. 23, 1705.

On account of the death of the queen (Queen Mary) in 1702, the General Assembly sat for a shorter time than usual.

The Union of Parliaments in 1707 receives but little notice. March 18, 1707.—*Privie Censures*—"the severall brethren did pray by turns acknowledging their own sins and the sins of the land and entreating the Lord to remove his wrath."

*Privy Censures*.—One specimen may be sufficient, Sept. 12, 1702.—"This day the presbetry having met principally for the privie censures according to the act of the Generall Assembly, intituled "act again profaneness made at Edn. anno 1699, did proceed to sd. "work wherein brethren are required to be very strict in searching "with the behaviour of one another, whereupon all the brethren did "pray one by one after anoyer. After ye severall brethren had "done they were singlie turned out and removed and the judgment "of the rest strictly inquired into concerning him yt was gone forth, "there was nothing found worthy to be recorded, at the incalling of "the brethren they were all earnestly admonished to be circumspect "in their walk, to be faithfull and diligent in their work in reproving, "admonishing and exhorting their severall flocks, and withall, that "they should be stedfast in these tymes of difficulty that are lik to "come on the church, and finally the severall brethren are enjoined "to wait on the ensueing synod to be carefull to get the acts of the "synod, the acts of the former synod not being come to our hands "yet."

The above method was probably as effective as the present one of answering queries in a schedule.

Copies of *Acts of Assembly* could not at first be had.

Nov. 11, 1701.—Brethren are enjoined to procure the Acts of the G.A. last by past wt the former.

It was the year of 1702, June, before copies were got. "Because of a fire in the house of the Clerk of Assembly in Edinburgh all the stock of printed Acts of Assembly was burnt."

*Stipends*.—Ap. 16, 1701.—"Upon a desyre of the Laird of "Boyndlie to the united presbyterie of Ellon, Deer, and Garioch for

“a warrant for uplifting the vacant stipend of ye parish of Tyrie to  
 “be employed for pious uses within the parish conform to Act of  
 “Parliament, the presbyterie finding the desyre of Boyndlie relevant  
 “allowed him to uplift the samen for the uses forsaid.”

May 21, 1701.—“It was intimat to Mr Byres, Chamberlane to  
 “Strichen, that the presbyterie consents that the vacant stipend of  
 “that parish preceding Whitsunday last whet is over paying the  
 “supplies (in compliance with Lady Streechen’s desire) be employed  
 “for repairing the manse and a certain ruined bridge in that parish.”

The practice of employing stipends for so-called pious uses in  
 the case of vacancies tended to prolong vacancies. Now the stipend  
 of a vacant parish, unless it be payable as An. to the representatives  
 of a deceased minister, is payable to the Trustees of the Minrs.’  
 Widows’ Fund, which course became operative in 1744.

*Professor of Divinity.*—As is still the practice, two represent-  
 atives were sent from the Presbytery to assist in the choosing of a  
 professor for the old town of Aberdeen—Ap. 16, 1701; May 4, 1703;  
 May 23, 1704; June 6, 1704; Dec. 5, 1704.

*Bursary.*—Nov. 11, 1701.—“According to the Act off the  
 “General Assembly the severall brethren have paid each of them  
 “twenty shill. Scots for maintaining a bursar for the irisch language,  
 “the Synod of Abdn. and Angus being to maintain one bursar  
 “among them by the Act.”

“Irish” means Gaelic. There are many entries regarding  
 bursars and students. There is no bursary now in the Presbytery.

*Discipline.*—In the record there are many mentions of Discipline  
 Cases, but these occupy larger space than their importance deserves,  
 because they are adjourned from meeting to meeting, and so the  
 references to a single case are multiplied without any substantial  
 advance being made in dealing with it.

Ideas have changed since the days of the record as to the efficacy  
 of methods of what is called public repentance. It may be accepted,  
 however, that the church methods of discipline were in consonance  
 with the spirit of the age, and that the processes of church censures  
 must have been supported by public opinion, else they could not  
 have been enforced or continued.

To us it seems unreasonable to expect that an offender would  
 be benefited by appearance in sackcloth on the stool of repentance  
 on successive Sundays, nor would the exposure be to the edification

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of the worshippers. Fugitives from discipline were not few, notwithstanding the practice of proclaiming some cases from all the pulpits of the country. One case of discipline drags its slow length through the whole period of the record. The man had already been excommunicated, the parties are found to have contracted an irregular marriage before a notary (Jerome Spence in Peterhead). The woman by and by professes repentance and is restored, the man refuses or puts off on one pretext or another for so long as the record covers. Another delinquent leaves the country under accusation of murder and returns apparently none the worse, a trilapse is declared to be worthy of death. Professors of repentance offend again before their process is finished, become irregular in their confession, and rude in their language and behaviour. By the machinery of church discipline they are followed from parish to parish, and not even a death-bed is free from inquisition. It is a sorry record, and the presumption arises that there were transgressions either not found out, or if known, not dealt with. Present day morals may not be all that they should be, but surely there is an advance on the state of morality disclosed by such old records. It is to be remembered, however, that the cases recorded apply to the worst people, and are not to be taken as an average of the moral standard—as well take the records of the present police courts as a standard.

*Popish Families and their Children.*—In 1701 lists are required, and to some extent given, also “what Protestant friends they have who might be employed for instructing the sd. children in the “Protestant religion.” The matter rests until 1707, when the G.A. writes “showing the growth of Popery is so very great in this nation and that severall minrs. cannot attend their ministeriall work, and “the stopping priests going to and fro in their paroches from seducing “their people.”

The proposed remedy is that every minr. should contribute the half of one half-year's centesima of his stipend for maintaining a young man to assist those minrs.

The Presbytery does not take this view, and “refers” the case to the Synod.

But in 1708 complete lists are made out. On Dec. 22, 1709, in a list of excommunicated persons, several are “for apostasy to poprie.”

*Sabbath-Breaking.*—“Feb. 22, 1710.—The presbytrie considering “how greatly the sin of Sabbath-breaking abounds, and particularly “of peoples frequenting change houses on the Lord’s Day, therefor “that the said sin may be suppressed, the presbytrie strictly enjoins all “the members to prosecute persons guilty before their Session, or wher “ther is no Session, to bring them befor the presbytrie, always the “sd. persons being first admonished privately and not taking the “said admonition.”

Sept. 4, 1710.—Mr Udney represents that one William Cruden in the parish of Lonmay was found traveling on the Lord’s Day August last the thirteenth through the parish of Strichen with a burden upon his back. The presbitrie appoynts Mr Gordon to cause summond the said Cruden to the next dyet.

Laurance Fair gave trouble. Feb. 23, 1703.—Commission and instructions to G.A. anent abuse of lauran fair—“the people do buy timber on the Sabbath evening and travel from one parish to another on the Lord’s Day.”

July 7, 1701.—The Presbytery drew up several articles wherein the Commissioners advice is to be sought *inter alia* “I.—Anent a “timber mercat in the town of Old Rain in Garioch called Laurance “Fair, which is kept early on Munday morning, which occasions “great profanation of the Lord’s Day by travailing to it even in the “tym of Divine Service, the presbyterie craves the Commissioners’ “advice how to put a stop to this.”

May 5, 1702.—Mr Brown reported from G.A. that application behoved to be made to the Parliament for removing some of these abuses, viz.—the merkat called Lauran fair and the abuses at Yule day.

“Dec. 31, 1706.—The sd. day anoyer letter from the forsd. “Commission was read showing the lamentable increase and “spreading of profanity and disorder, recomending it to all minrs. “of the Gospel and to the severall judicatories faithfully to testifie “against profanity and immorality in all ranks of persons and against “witchcraft and sorcery, and to endeavour to hinder the selling, “buying and dispersing atheistical books and pamphlets. The “presb. seriously recommends this to all the brethren.”

June 20, 1710.—“The severall Brethren are appoynted to gett “ane extract of the Act agt. Drunkenness and typling on the Lord’s “Day, and to intimat it from the pulpit.”

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*Intruders*, as already explained, were Episcopal ministers who came to officiate in parishes where Episcopal ministers were not legally inducted, that is inducted before 1690. The Presbytery were enjoined "to conferr with Episcopal helpers within their bounds and report to the Synod." An inducted Episcopal minister might have a helper who was not an intruder, as at Fraserburgh and Pitsligo. Mr James Chein was an intruder at Rathen.

June 25, 1706.—The Presbytery authorises Mr Law, Crimond, to formally summon Mr Chein to compear before the Commission of Synod at Deer, 15th July.

July 29, 1701.—It is found that Mr Chein is suspended by the Commission from the exercise of his ministry. If he continue preaching he is to be cited before the Synod for further censure.

Aug. 20, 1701.—Mr Chein continues preaching, and is to be cited before the Synod for his contumacy.

Concerning the rest of the intruders and intruding helpers, citation is delayed until the Presbytery be advised by the Commission.

The minister at Fraserburgh was Mr James Moor (Episc.), who was assisted by his son, Alex., who, after the death of his father, intruded.

Nov. 11, 1701.—Ministers are instructed to read sentence of deposition on Dr Geo. Garden, late minr. at New Aberdeen—copies to be sent to Episcopal minrs; and there are evidences that relations were not broken off by members of Presbytery with Episcopal minrs. who remained in their parishes.

Mr Guthrie and Mr Brown repeated that they had spoken to Mr Alex. Dalgarno (probably at Pitsligo), and Mr Alex. Moor, the two Episcopal helpers, and that they "had required of them that they "should not intrude into those places where they officiat in case of "the deaths of the respective incumbents, qo answered that they had "no such design to go in to these kirks, albeit they were warrant, "ych answer the presb. ordained to be recorded in their register."

This states the position from the Episcopal point of view.

Dec. 1, 1701.—Reported that copies of sentence of Dr Garden's deposition had not been transmitted to Episcopal minrs. Minrs. told to do it agt. the next. presby. and to allow the episcopall incumbents a longer tyme than till the last of this instant.

Mr James Chein continues to preach at Rathen.



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Dec. 23, 1701.—Episc. minrs. allowed till middle of Jany. to read Dr Garden's sentence.

Mr James Chein still preaches at Rathen. Summons delayed until Phy. "be more ripley advised in the sd. affair."

There was an Intruder at Crimond, Mr Thomas Gray, before Mr Wm. Law was inducted.

Jan. 27, 1702.—Reported the Episcopal minrs. have not read the sentence of deposition against Dr Garden—matter referred to Synod.

Mr Chein to be summoned to meet pby.

Feb. 14, 1702.—Mr Law reports that he summoned Mr Chein, who did not compear. He is to be cited to next Synod.

April 9, 1702.—Synod deposed Mr Chein. Mr Law to intimate at Rathen next Lord's day.

May 5, 1702.—Reports that access to ch. of Rathen was denied to him by Mr Chein, "whereupon the sd. Mr Law at the Kirk styl "read the sentence of deposition against Mr Chein, affixing a copy "of the sd. sentence on the sd. Kirk styl, which copie he saw Mr "Chein take off with his own hand, and when the sd. Mr Law "declared the church vacant the sd. Mr Chein declared he was "willing to supplie the same."

May 5, 1702.—Mr Alex. Craig, late minr. in Shetland, and living at Fraserburgh, is forbidden to preach within the bounds.—He is Episcopalian.

May 19, 1702.—Mr James Chein continues to preach. Affair to be represented to the civil magistrate.

June 9, 1702.—Mr Chein is to appear before the Council of Scotland 25th instant.

June 30, 1702.—Mr Chein did not go, and continues to preach. Minrs. of Abden. to be consulted regarding such contempt. King's advocate to be written to.

July 12, 1702.—Mr Chein will shortly get his sentence from the Council.

August 16, 1702.—Reported that Mr Chein is now sentenced by the Privy Council, but letters not to hand. Mr Farqhr appointed to preach at Rathen and deliver to Mr Chein a copy of the sentence when it comes. Intimation made on 23 Aug., 1702.

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Nov. 10, 1702.—Mr Craig promised not to preach in any vacant church within presby.'s inspection. Produced two testificates. Enquiries to be made at G.A. anent relevance of these.

Further regarding Mr Chein at Rathen, see Notes on Parish.

During the next five years little appears to have been done. At Abden., May 12, in tymn of Synod, 1708:—

“The presbetrie considering an order from the Synod appointing “the severall presbtries to meet at that tym for taking up a list of “intruders and other disorderly preachers within their respective “bounds, did therefor draw up the following accompt, viz.:—That “Mr Allexr. Hepburn is an intruder at St Fergus since the revolu- “tion, is unqualified, prayeth not for the queen, and is a contemner “of publick fasts and thanksgivings. Next that Mr Aexr. Moor “and Mr Allexr. Craig are intruders at Fraserburgh, having gott “close to the forme of words in that book, yet when they come to “the paragraph in prayer wherein the queen’s majestie is mentioned “they do pass it by praying for our dread sovereign. They are not “qualified, are supposed to be off erroneous principls, do admit “scandalous persons to the sealing ordinances, do hugg and coun- “tenance excommunicate persons, that Mr Barclay at peterhead has “intruded in a meeting houss, and got up the English service, and “is unqualified. Mr Robertson at Longside, Mr Keith at Deer, “and Mr Swan at Pitsligo do employ the forsd. unqualified men to “preach in their pulpits. Ther are two vacant parishes in the “bounds, viz.—Lonmay and Crimond.”

Oct. 27, 1708.—Under Act of Synod, Pby. cites intruding ministers to next dyet.

Lonmay, Nov. 23, 1708.—Some informality of citation found. Execution delayed till 28 Dec. next. But as it was orderly for Mr Craig and Mr Moor, they were called at the most patent church door. One William Symson, chaplain to my Lord Saltoun, compeared in their name with a written commission togeder with severall inhabitants of the town and paroch off Frazerburgh, in the said commission wer contained Mr Moor and Mr Craig their defences which wer read paragraph by paragraph, and Mr Achinlek gave answers thereto *viva voce*, and after much reasoning and many debates *hinc inde*, the presbytrie considering that witnesses behoved to be summoned to prove their intrusion. Therfor the moderator, in name off the presbytrie summoned the said Mr Symson and Mr

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Alexr. Davidson, chaplain in petuly. Mr Wm. Huison, son to the deceast Mr Huison, soment tyme intruder at Lonmay; Robert Tailor att Wakmill off Philorth; William Forest, merchant in Frazerburgh; Alexr. Gordon, town clerk there, to compear at Kirk of Rathen 7 Decr. next," and officer to summon Mr Craig and Mr Moor.

Rathen, Dec. 7, 1708.—Other witnesses having been summoned, the citations were sustained.

Mr Moor and Mr Craig called, but compeared not, "although Mr Moor was present at the church door he would not come in."

Witnesses called and compeared.

It was proposed to them that they should "declare upon oath what they knew as to the intrusion, as also if they prayed for her "majestic queen Ann, and if they observed fasts and thanksgivings."

The whole witnesses declined to take oath. They were warned that the case would be taken to a higher court.

Some who were baillies and who had been baillies were asked if they had in their custody any of the utensils belonging to the Kirk—declared that they knew nothing of the affairs about the Kirk Session of Fraserburgh.

Resolved to get the kirk agent, Nicoll Spence, at Edinr., to get them enrolled in order to be summoned before the circuit court that is to be in May next to come.

Dec. 29, 1708.—Anent Mr Heburn and Mr Barclay, the Earle Marischal was not returned home. To be summoned to next dyet.

Deer, Jany. 11, 1709.—Called at the Kirk door, albeit the presbytrie mett in their quarters, but neither they nor the witnesses compearing, only William Ogilvie, Chamberlane to the Earle Marischal, compeared with ane procuratorie signed by the said Barclay and Heburn.

Discharged from exercising any part of the ministeriall office within the forsaid paroches or within the bounds—to be intimated to them.

This day Mr Anderson was ready to deliver the exercise, but in regard the church doors war shutt by order of the Earle Marischal's Chamberlan because the Presbytrie had caused cite Mr Heburn intruder att St Fergus, therfor there was no exercise.

Feb. 1, 1709.—Intimation delayed.

Feb. 24, 1709.—Intimation to be made.

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Mar. 16, 1709.—Intimation made. Letter from Mr Heburn acknowledging intimation "as also a confession of the said intrusion and a resolution to continue."

Criminal letters to be raised against Mr Heburn and Mr Barclay.

June 19th, 1709.—Moderator of G.A. wants list sent up. No list sent, but on Oct. 25, 1709, the Ply. learns that the names of the Intruders are putt into the *porteous rolls* (Parties Rolls).

*Collections* were made for Harbours—Banff, Eyemouth, Pennan.

11 Nov., 1701.—"This day a letter from James Baird, writer in Edn., desiring if the collections for the harbour of Banff be not as yet delivered out of our hands, we might transmit them to him, in answer to which it is found that collections have been gathered for the sd. harbour and transmitted before our settlement in this Presbetry, and that the people are altogether unwilling to give any more."

Dec. 5, 1704.—This day Mr Guthrie, Mr Law, and Mr Anderson gave in their several collections for the harbour of penan to Mr Brown.

A collection for Peterhead harbour was enjoined of an older date, Vol. II., pp. 362, 368. 1705 is the earliest date for contributions referred to in the "Book of Buchan," p. 292.

June 15, 1658.—"It is recommended to the several ministers to collect in their congregations for the Bulwark of Peterhead conform to the prov. Assembly Act therenant."

Nov. 9, 1658.—"The Provinciall Assembly having again recommended the Bulwark of Peterhead to the severall congregations, the Presbyterie appoynts such brethren as have not collected for it to doe it with all conveniency." N.B.—For the history of Peterhead harbour, see "Book of Buchan."

*Poor People*.—They were collected for by name, *e.g.*, 11 Nov., 1701.—"According to the Synod's appointment the severall brethren are appointed to bring in their charity to Robert Watson, a poor man in the paroch of Tyrie."

Jany. 4, 1705.—"Janet Duff, a poor distressed woman in the paroch of Kemnay, ther being an act of Synod in her favour."

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May 29, 1705.—“This day ane James Anderson in the paroch of Frazerburgh, who hes his houss lately spoiled by robbers under night did petition the presbetrie for charity.”

Sep. 10, 1706.—“Duncan Cassie in old Abdn. did send a letter to the presb. for some charitable supply being recommended by the Generall Assembly to all the Kirk-Sessions.”

Aprile 15, 1707.—“The severall brehren report that they have payed Duncan Cassie.”

But all had not paid, for on Dec. 16, 1707.—“All the brethren have collected for Duncan Cassie.”

Isobel Gow from the parish of Tarves is another case—Oct. 26, 1708.—“The brethren have supplied Isobell Gow as was recommended.”

May 17, 1709.—Submitted Two Acts of the late Assembly, one in favour of Mr M'Cracken, “a minister in Ireland, another in favour of Mr John Corsar, a German minister, for collections, both “of which were recommended to the severall brethren.” No further notice of these cases in the volume.

*Collections for Accidents*—Fire in Leith. Jan. 26, 1703.—“The Brethren are to bring in their Collections for the distressed inhabitants of Lieth against the next presbetrie day.”

On Feb. 23, 1703, the following collections were delivered:—

Mr Guthry	...	...	...	...	20 lib.
Mr Brown	...	...	...	...	4 ”
Mr Law	...	...	...	...	5 ” 6 8 penies.
Mr Farqhr.	...	...	...	...	6 ”
Mr Udny	...	...	...	...	2 ” 17 6.

Total—38 4 2—“al Scots money.”

June 20, 1710.—Fire at Cannongate head, Edn. The volume does not contain the result.

*For Missions.*—The first instance of collection for what would now be deemed strictly Mission Work, Mar. 25, 1710.—“The severall brethren have agreed to collect for the propagation of Christian Knowledge.”

In 1709 there was an Act of Assembly Commission “that enquire be made (of presbyteries) if any in their bounds be slaves “in Turkey or Barbary,” and on June 26, 1709, it was reported that enquiry had been made, but the Brethren could hear of none.

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June 20, 1710--The Centesima--Moderator appointed to write the minrs. of Abdn. to know what they have done in that affair.

100th part of the Stipend given for a Widows' Fund--7 contributions to be enough. Begun in the Episc. period.

See Mair--Pby. of Ellon, p. 176.

*Miscellaneous.*--On Page 22 is a copy of the Oath of Purgation used in processes of discipline.

Dec. 2, 1701.--Acts of Assembly not yet got. There was a fire in the sub-Clerk's house (reported Jan. 27, 1702, p. 52). A request for extracts of the reprinted Acts of G.A. to be sent south, if there are any in the brethren's hands. There are none.--Prints were got for June 9, 1702.

Dec. 4, 1701--King's Gift.--"The Moderator reports that he "had received thirten pounds and six sh. eight d. Scots of the King's "Gift from the moderator of the Synod, which is to be expended "for defraying publick expenses, and the sd. moderator to give "it out att the presbetry's appointment as they shall see cause."

There is still given by the Sovereign through the Lord High Commissioner a gift of £2000, the Royal Bounty. It was first given in 1725, £1000, and in 1811 was increased to £2000.

At Edn. March last (1702) Mr Brown disbursed ane *rex dollar* "given to Mr Farqhar qch was by him given to John Bisset, notter, "for extending ane instrument against Mr James Chein," Intruder at Rathen. Note *Rex dollar*--a silver coin of value about 1s 6d.

Jan. 4, 1704.--First case of *Reverend*. "They do appoint their Reverend Broyr Mr James Farqhr minister at Tyrie."

Feb. 22, 1704.--Modr. to write a letter to Mr Keith, minr. at Deer, to cause him to summon a discipline defaulter. An instance among others of intercourse maintained with non-juring ministers.

July 16, 1706.--"This day the presbetry appointeth Mr Wm Law their moderator to preach the second Synod Sermon at Abder. on the Thursday."

Note the appointment by the Pby:--Mr Law was suspended for this sermon; he joined the Episcopalians and became intruder at Slains. Along with Mr Keith he kept up illegal meeting-houses at Ellon and Cruden.--See Mair, Presbytery of Ellon, p. 315.

Feb. 1, 1709.--A letter from the modr. of the Commission anent the form of visiting of families, which was recommended to the severall brethren of the presbytrie.--What does this refer to?

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Feb. 1, 1709.—Mr Guthrey was ill.—“He has not been able all this winter to attend the presbytrie, and that he continued very tender, whereupon he was excused albeit the presbytrie are at a loss for want of him.” N.B.—A certificate of good character!

“The Presbytrie considering the Act of the Commission empowering presbyteries to keep fasts and thanksgivings upon occasions within their own bounds, do therfor appoint the seventen day off February instant as a day of thanksgiving for the happie success of the last campague and for severall oher reasons which every minister shall adduce, as he seeth cause--”

Battle of Oudenarde—11 July, 1708.—Total defeat of the French—may be referred to.

Feb. 24, 1709.—“The presbytrie appoints the severall brethren to pay four pound ten shill. Scots to Mr Achinlek to help in bearing of his expenses to the Assmby.”

This is not a usual arrangement. Members have to bear their own expenses.

Mar. 25, 1710.—By letter from G.A. Commission a public fast to be kept on 29 instant, the severall presbyteries to draw up reasons as they saw cause. Reasons were drawn up, a copy to be read to each congregation.

Strichen, Ap. 25, 1710.—The Brethren could stay only for a short time “seeing they behooved to goe home all night, there being no accomodation in the place by reason of a great publick mercat.”

Crimond, June 29, 1710.—No exercise that day “by reason severall of the brethren were long in coming up haveing been necessarily detained, and that severall weighty affairs are lying just now before the presbitrie, the appoyntment therfore is continued as formerly.”

Reported Mr David Anderson, minr. att Foveran, is chosen professor of divinity.

II.—AS TO PARTICULAR PARISHES.

At the time to which the Record applies the power of nominating ministers to the parishes was in the hands of “the heritors of the parish being Protestants, and the elders, who were “to name and propose the person to the whole congregation to be “approved or disapproved by them.” This arrangement continued until 1712, when Patronage was restored (C. A. Johnston, Ch.

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Defence Handbook), and which is said to have been in consequence of the rabbling of Deer (Scott's Fasti, Deer).

*Strichen* was the first parish to be dealt with, it being vacant.

Aprile 16, 1701.—Mr Brown is appointed to interview Lady Streichen to "doe his endeavour wt her to call a minister to the "Church of Streichen!" He is empowered "to moderat a call upon "the invitatione of the said Ladie and parishioners of Streichen, "provyding that Mr Robert Burnet, Supplie Minister, or Mr Thomas "Udny, probationer, be the persons they pitch upon."

There were probably reasons not recorded for limiting the choice to those two names. The result of Mr Brown's appointment was (May 21, 1701) that on the invitation of Lady Streichen and the parishioners he had preached in the Church of Streichen and had moderat a call to Mr Thomas Udny, probationer, to be minr. at Streichen. The call was supported by George Byres, Chamberlane to Lady Strichen; Andrew Low, new miln of Strichein; George Pirie, miln of Kindraught, elders, and sustained by the Phy. and accepted by Wm. Udny. He is put on "tryalls" and appointed to supplie the vacancy.

July 7, 1701.—His Tryalls were prosecuted.

July 15, 1701.—"Mr Thomas Udny having been appointed by "last presbyterie to have ane exercise and addition with the rest of "his tryalls this day, but not being as yet come up, the presbyterie "renews the appointment upon him that he doe it at the nixt "presbyterie."

Note.—The Presbytery met at Deer at 8 o'clock in the morning "in regard the Commissione is to meet att ten hours the sd. day in "the sd. place."

At next meeting of Presby.—Aberdour, July 29, 1701—Mr Udny's "tryalls" were ended. As a specimen the minute is transcribed in full.—(Mr Udny) "answered his questionary tryalls, gave "proof of his skill in languages, in all which as in all other steps "of his tryall giving satisfacione, he was approven. The presby- "terie therefor in pursuance of his ordinatione and admisionne to "the ministry have appointed the minr. of Tyrie to preach at "Streichen the next Lord's day and warn the people there that if "they have anything to object against the admisionne of Mr Thomas "Udny that they would repair to the presbytery to be holden at "Streichen the 20th day of Agust nixt, and give in the samen in due



“form, and further the sd. minister of Tyrie is appointed to affix a  
“copie of the edict upon the most patent door of the Church of  
“Streichen and return the same duly execut and Indorsit. Mr  
“Andrew Guthrey, moderator, is appointed to preach his ordinatione  
“sermon the forsd. 20th of August at Streichen, and give him  
“Impositione of hands in conjunctione with his Brethren”—

Which was duly carried out.

Sep. 1, 1701.—Crave is granted of Mr Udny's edict for appretiation of Manse of Streichen. Att Streichen, Sep. 30th, 1702 (sic—? 1701) Mr Udny was satisfied to take the large house according to the former appretiation, and only craved the lower bigging might be repaired. The workmen reported before the Pby. rose—“For “materials, viz., iron and timber, they declair that fourtie pounds “Scots will repaire the samen providing that the parishioners doe “lead the feele and dovett which the Chamberlane promist to “cause doe.”

A harmonious settlement and useful ministry! Subjoined is the entry in Scotts Fasti—1761, Thomas Udny, licen. by Pby. of Garioch, 31st Dec., 1700, called 11th May and ord. 20th Aug., 1701, died 16th Aug., 1747, in 46th minr.

The Parish of *Rathen* next comes into prominence, p. 74.

May 19, 1702.—The brethren report that Mr James Chein, notwithstanding the sentence of the Synod, is still preaching ther, therby contemning the authority of the Church. Mr Brown is appointed to represent the affair to the civil magistrate.

June 9, 1702.—Mr James Chein is reported to be still preaching at Rathen, notwithstanding the sentence of the Synod. Also Mr Brown reports that he wrote as he was appointed and that the sd. Mr Chein is to appear before the Council off Scotland on the twenty-fifth of this instant.

June 30, 1702.—Mr Chein still preaching and has not gone south to the Council. Mr Brown to represent to the minrs. of Aberdeen “the great inconveniency to this country occasioned by “such contempt, desiring them to write to the King's advocate anent “the sd. affair.”

July 12, 1702.—Reported that Mr Chein will shortly get his sentence from the Council.

Aug. 18, 1702.—Mr Chein is deprived. Mr Farqhr appointed to intimate the sentence—to preach at Rathen. He is to take a

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nottar publik and 2 subscribing witnesses—to take instruments—to deliver a double of the notice to Mr Chein—(all necessary legal forms).

Sep. 1, 1702.—Mr Farqhr reports that “he received the Councill’s Act depriving Mr James Chein, and accordingly in all points he obeyed the presbetry’s order, in a word that the sd. Act was duely intimate to the sd. Mr Chein. After sermon he did advertise the people that Mr Chein was discharged to preach any more within the sd. paroch or exercise any part of his ministry.”

Sep. 22, 1702.—The Pby. finding it difficult to supply Rathen with preaching write for one James Anderson, preacher of the Gospell, living in the paroch of Ellon, that he come and preach at the sd. Kirk the two Lord’s days till the Synod. (There was an arrangement for Mr Anderson to come when called).

Oct. 19, 1702.—Mr Anderson obeyed—he is to continue in the bounds and preach at Rathen. But in Nov. 22, 1702, Mr Anderson is called to Glenbuket. Hence Mr Brown and Mr Farqhr are appointed to wait on Heritors anent planting of Rathen.

Jan. 26, 1703.—“They received answer from my Lord Salton that in regard the presbetry had planted the Kirk of Tyrie twice without his consent where he was concerned as patron, therefore he would not concern himself with the sd. affair of the Church of Rathen, as also the sd. brethren, received answer from my Lords Frazer and the heritors of that paroch that they would not actually concurr, yet they wer content the place wer planted with a good man and told they would be passive in the sd. matter.”

(Lord Saltoun is disagreeable, the other heritors cautious—but there is evidently no enthusiasm).

The call to Glenbuket of Mr Anderson is delayed to see if the people of Rathen want him.

Feb. 8, 1703.—Lord Frazer content with report of Mr Anderson—he would go and hear him; there was great satisfaction among the people—the Laird of Inverallochie is his daily hearer—but the paroch refuse to give a call—will be content if Mr A. is planted among them by a *jus devolutum*.

The Pby. resolves if a call is not given before 24th instant to give call themselves, and appoint trials. Explanation is given to Pby. of Garioch anent the call to Glenbuket, that for the greater good of the church Mr Anderson should go to Rathen.

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Feb. 23, 1703.—Mr Law appointed to consult Dr Gordon of Craigeli upon the account of his interest in Rathen.

Feb. 29, 1703.—Mr Anderson's triall approved.

Reported that Dr Gordon gave Mr Law a discreet answer wishing the pby. might plant Rathen with a good man.

Mr Anderson gets the presbyterial call.

Mr Farqhr appointed to read edict on Sunday first for ordaining Mr Anderson. (The Edict is recorded).

Mr Brown is appointed to preach 7 Mar. and intimate that Pby. has resolved to give ordination and admission to Mr Anderson which is to be on 11th Mar.—My Lord Fraser and the rest of the heritors to receive notice and to be invited to the ordination.

Mar. 11, 1703.—There is account of ordination service. But when the call for objectors was given "compeared James Dunbar, wedsetter in Mill of Rathen within the paroch, togider with Alexr. Gordon, nottar in Frazerburgh, the sd. James Dunbar protested "in name of my Lord Salton and al that wold adhere to him against "the legality of the sd. call, aledging the kirk was not yet fallen in "the presbetrie's hands. But the sd. James produced no commission "from my Lord Salton or any other in whose name he pretended "to appear."—(There was the usual taking of instruments, protesting and retesting).

It is to be noted that the questions are recorded—both pastor and people wer exhorted to their wonted duties and so wer dismissed with prayer, singing of psalms, and pronouncing the benediction.

On Aug. 31, 1703.—Reported that "Mr Jas. Chein is removed by death!" (Had he been ill before, or did the trouble kill him?)

Mr Anderson is advised "not to meele with anything belonging "to the manse or glieb untill he get legall diligence upon his act of "ordination unless he get peaceable access without interruption."

He had not got possession of the manse at his ordination.

And now Jan. 4, 1704, Mr James Dunbar comes up again—this time with a commission from Ld. Salton with a notary and 2 witnesses asking elders to be appointed at Rathen with a view to a minister being planted there—ignoring altogether the proceedings of the Pby. in inducting Mr Anderson. There are protests and retests at great length with taking of instruments. But the Pby. resolved to take the advice of the minrs. of Abdn.; also that the

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Kirk Agent should write "the Laird of Boinlay to interpose his moyen with my Lord Salton to desist from such a procedure."

Feb. 22, 1704.—Boinlay spoke to my Lord Salton to be favourable to Mr Anderson, minister at Rathen, who got this answer that his los. would try what he could do in law, and if that failed he would say no more. (Lord Saltoun is recalcitrant).

Mar. 21, 1701.—Mr Law reports delivering the pby.'s letter to him and getting a word-of-mouth answer—that he would call justice of peace courts to deal with delinquents escaping discipline—he and the rest of the parishioners had subscribed a call to Mr Alexr. Moor, son to the late minr., although Mr Moor had not qualified the Pby. should take him on trial—held that Mr James Anderson was not legally inducted, the church not being vacant. Mr Law replied that the parish had long been vacant, as the Committee of the Gen. Assem. in 1694 had declared that Mr Chein had no pastoral relation to the people of Rathen. The whole affair is referred to the Synod for advice.

May 2, 1704.—Visitation of Rathen appointed for 29 day of this month.

May 29, 1704.—Visitation made—Compeared the whole elders and most of the heads of familys, there being none of the heretors in the country except one or two—none had anything to object against the life or doctrine of Mr James Anderson their minister. "They all declared that they were very well satisfied with his life "and conversatn and that his doctrine was edifying, also that he "was dilligent in his other ministerial work of catechising, exercise "of discipline as he had access, and of his visiting the sick to the "satisfaction of the whole parish."

N.B.—The phrase "as he had access" points to obstructions in the way.

Mr Anderson himself gave satisfactory answers and had nothing to object against the elders, they were assisting him in the exercise of discipline. But he complained that he could not get access to his manse, which was very prejudicial to him. He and Mr Udny are appointed to take a nottar along with them and witnesses and require the keyes of the old manse from John Chein, merchant in Frazerburgh, or Baillie Dunbar in the paroch of Rathen, supposed to be the havers of the sd keyes, and upon refusall to take instruments in the hands of the nottar and to report their dilligence.

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July 11, 1704.—Reported that in Frazerburgh they could not get a nottar (!!).

Aug 22, 1704.—Reported that John Chein and Bailie Dunbar refused the keys—instruments were taken in the hands of Jerome Spence, nottar.

(Was he a relative of Nicol Spence, agent for the Church, Edin?)

In Sepr. 5, 1704—Instruments wer read from John Chein and Bailie Dunbar. The affair is referred to the Synod for advice.

Oct. 12, 1704.—Reported that the instruments are sent south to the Kirk agent with a letter written by the Synod to her maties advocate relating to the sd affair.

Dec. 5, 1704.—Mr Anderson having pursued for his stipends before the Sheriff-depute off Abden. "my Lord Salton hath sisted "the sd process for himself and all such as shall adhere to him, and "hath sisted the samen before the Lords of the Session."—Mr Anderson did require an advise of the presbetrie.

They appoint an information of their whole procedure to be sent south to the lawyers whom Mr Anderson is to employ.

Jany 2, 1705.—Mr Anderson reports that the information with his call and admission, "as also the whole papers relating to his affair that were in his advocate's hands in Abdn. have been sent south."

Jany. 30th, 1705.—Mr Guthrie has written a letter to the Kirk agent.

Mr Anderson produced two letters, one from Mr Meldrum and anoyr from the Kirk agent—that they had fixed on an advocate called Mr James Gellie. The presby. writes Mr Meldrum and the Kirk agent again.

Mar. 27, 1705.—Mr Anderson petitions the Presby. "that they "wold right the manse of rathen he being immediately to enter "therto." Appointed for 17th April Mr Farqhr to preach in the Lordsday next evening, to intimate to heretors and all concerned to be present, to "affix a copie of the edict on the most patent door "of the church as usual," Mr Anderson to bring workmen with him.

Ap. 17, 1705.—Visitation of manse. No heritors compeared nor workmen from them. Mr Anderson's workmen gave in an account subscribed with their hands amounting to 20—15—04 Scots. The Presbetrie doth appoint the same to be expended for the sd reparation, and that Mr Anderson pursue for the samen as accords in law.

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Records about Rathen cease until June 18, 1708, when the Act anent the visitation of the paroch of Rathen is to be considered at sd meeting.

July 13th, 1708.—The visitation is delayed “in regard Mr Anderson is busied about visitation of families in order to celebrate the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper,” but Aug. 10th, 1708, Mr Anderson is appointed to make publik intimation from the pulpit that the Pby. will meet at Rathen for visitation on 7th Sepr. next; and on

Sep. 7, 1708—Mr Anderson reported that he had made publik intimation of this dyet of the Presbytrie advertising all the heretors and others concerned to be present this day.

Heritors were called. Col. John Buchan of Carnbulgh, the lairds of Enerallochie and Achires had nothing to object against Mr Anderson, and they wer well pleased with him in the exercise of his ministry. Similar testimony was given by the Elders. But when the officer was proceeding to call the heads of families or any other concerned, many answered we are all here present, so that the officer stayed calling at the church door. Questions were put and answered as before. But Mr Auchinleck was not satisfied, and pointed out that the heads of families had not been called at the church door. (He may have had a suspicion that some were hanging back). The officer was sent to call the “heads of families any privat persons or any concerned,” whereupon appeared ane George Leith in Mains of Carnbulgh, who “being inquired what he had to say, answered that he had imparted severall things concerning Mr James Anderson to some of the members, particularly Mr Brown and Mr Udny, to which in truth though grave he did and would adhere, to which it was answered that these brethren had imparted these several things to Mr Anderson and the Presbytrie, who accordingly admonished and rebuked the sd Mr Anderson, so that now the moderator desired to know if he had any new thing to object, and advertised that if he had anything he should be clear and distinct in it and in its probation and desired him to be at the next Presbytrie of which he should be acquainted, to which Mr Leith answered that he was to be no lybeller, but thought that the Presbytrie wer to search into Mr Anderson’s deportment by virtue of the Synod’s Act and a fama clamosa, but said he would be a witness, after which he was dismissed, and Mr Achinleck appointed

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to inform him of the next meeting to be at Strichen the 21st Sepr. instant, wher he should have access if he pleased."

Here is an example of dealing with a fama. There was private remonstrance with the accused. The fama became clamosa, but the the accuser would not libel. He threw the responsibility on the Presbytery. This is what usually happens.

Sep. 21, 1708.—Mr Leith did not compear. The Presbytery thought the imputations against Mr Anderson groundless, and detailed reasons—saw no ground to move further in the matter, and exhorted Mr Anderson "to seek grace from the Lord to help him to the right improvement of those things."

Oct. 16, 1708.—But the Synod won't leave the case alone. The Presbytery are ordered to call George Leith and witnesses, "to examine and censure as they shall see cause, and report dilligence to the next Synod."

(The Presbytery could not help themselves—they were bound to take up the case again).

Dec. 7, 1708.—Mr Leith written to to meet Committee of Presbytery to-morrow—Mr Udney and Mr Webster the Committee.

Feb. 1, 1709.—Committee reported meeting with George Leith. He alleged against Mr Anderson—Drunkenness, Irregular Steps in Discipline, admitting people to the Lord's Supper who wer not fit. Mr Anderson denied, especially that of drunkenness, and further he said that if he was faulty as to discipline or anent the Lord's Supper he resolved to be more circumspect in future. Names of witnesses were given. Presbytery appoints them to be summoned.

(Observe—there was no libel).

Strichen, Feb. 8, 1709.—Witnesses are to be examined, but the Presbytery "wer not a sufficient number of a meeting secluding Mr James Anderson who is a party in the case." Mr Brown and Mr Udney were the other two, the rest were absent.

Rathen, Feb. 22, 1709.—Witness heard—evidently unwilling—details of drinking, of inability to ride a horse, which were denied.

Feb. 24.—Presbytery met at Crimond to ordain Mr Leslie, Lonmay, *eodem die post meridiem*.

Examination of witnesses continued. Presbytery must stay all night.

Lonmay, Feb. 25, 1709.—Do.

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Strichen, Mar. 16, 1709.—Mr Udny to write Mr George Leith desiring him to attend the next Presbyterie to see if he have any further information against the said Mr Anderson.

Mar. 29, 1709.—Christian Whyte, witness, compeared, but in regard there was not a quorum of the Presbyterie secluding Mr Anderson to take the "deposition, a letter was written to Mr Webster," (to attend to-morrow) be eight in the morning, he being nearest.

Presbytery evidently hard pressed to overtake the business, but will not proceed with less than 3, a quorum, exclusive of Mr Anderson.

Mar. 30, 1709.—Further examination of witnesses. Mr Udny reports that Leith would not meddle more in that affair. The Synod recommends that the affair be brought to a period and that other witnesses be examined.

Rathen, July 12, 1709.—Conclusion of examination of witnesses. Judgment—"Did unanimously assoilzie him of the sd Process, in the meantime admonishing him to walk soberly and mind his work faithfully and diligently."

All without a libel!! No more of Rathen).

The Fasti notice of Mr Anderson is—James Anderson, licen. by the Presbytery of Garioch, 26th Nov., 1701, called by the Presbytery *jure devoluto*, 24th Feb., and ord. 11th Mar., 1703; died between 19th Nov., 1740, and 20th Jan., 1741 (Presby. Reg.).

He was succeeded by his youngest son.

Fraserburgh.—Ap. 7, 1703.—Mr James Moor, late incumbent at Fraserburgh, is reported dead. He was a non-juring minister, and his son Alexander in Episcopal orders was permitted to assist him on condition that he would not intrude after his father's death. He had promised to the Presbytery that he would not.

Mr Brown is instructed to go to Fraserburgh with a "nottar and witnesses to require the keys of the church door first from the kirk-officer, next from the present baillif of the town, and in case of refusal to require them from my Lord Saltown, and if he also deny them he is to take instruments in the hands of the nottar upon every one his refusal, and in case of getting access he is to preach at the kirk of Fraserburgh on Sabbath come eight days."

May 4, 1703.—Reported Mr Brown was denied and took instruments in the hands of James Bisset, nottar publik, and witnesses, which instruments are sent south to John Blair, agent for the Kirk of Scotland, that application be made to the privie counsell according to law.



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Aug. 17, 1703.—Mr Brown reports that he has received a letter from Mr George Meldrum, moderator of the Commission of the late General Assembly anent Frazerburgh. The affair has been represented to the Commission and also to my Lord Chancellor—Mr Brown had conferred with my Lord Salton, who is at Edinburgh now in tyme of Parliament, and that he had often dealt for a meeting o' the Privie Counsell, but could not obtain it because of the Parliament, but had put the affair among the rest of the griveances, and wold be mindfull of it.

Mr Andrew Guthrie is appointed to attend the next dyet off the Commission—which is to sitt att Edin. the first week of Sept. next to come and appoint him to be carefull anent the affair of Frazerburgh.

Nov. 9, 1703.—Given in with the rest of the griveances to the Privie Counsell.

Decr. 7, 1703.—Matters stand as they wer.

Jan. 4, 1704.—Mr Brown appointed to write Mr Osburn (Professor) desiring him to write to the Moderator of the Commission or the Kirk Agent for getting an act of Counsell to obtain the Kirk of Frazerburgh.

Feb. 22, 1704.—The Presbetrie—"taking the lamentable state and condition of the town and parish of Frazerburgh to their most serious consideration, specially the great increase of wickedness therein, and how others that will be contumacious in other paroches shift themselves thither that they may escape censure, they unanimously agree that a letter be written to my Lord Salton from the Presbetrie intreating his los. to interpose his authority that such as are delinquents may be sisted befor the Presbetrie during the vacancy of the sd Kirk, and likewise that his los. wold allow the Presbetry access to preach at Frazerburgh in order to the settlement off the sd paroch with a faithfull minister for putting a stop to such wikedness as is daily growing there.—And Mr William Low is appointed to cary the sd letter and to report his dilligence."

Mar. 21, 1704.—Mr Low reports "that he went to my Lord Salton and delivered the Moderator's letter, the which his los. read "and returned the following answer by word of mouth to Mr Low. "That he wold cause all justice of peace courts and cause fine "delinquents and tak their obligation to satisfie the church discipline "when the church should be legally setled, and in case any shold

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"shelter themselves in this paroch that belongs to other paroches he  
"shuld cause drage them to compear at the respective judicatories  
"to whom they did belong, and further he and the rest of the  
"parishioners had subscribed a call to Mr Allexr. Moor, son of the  
"late minr., and had offered the sd call to our moderator at his  
"dwelling housse under form of instrument, and albeit the sd Mr  
"Allexr. had not complyed with the government yet he judged the  
"Presbetrie might try him, and if he wold not condescend then they  
"shd fix on anoyr, to which Mr Low had replyed that application  
"shuld have been made to the Presbetrie and not to the moderator  
"allone, and further that Mr Moor ought to apply himself to the  
"judicatories of this church if he wer willing to be received."  
(This is similar to the proposal for Rathen).

May 23, 1704.—Mr Brown to write one letter to Professor Meldrum at Edn. and another to John Blair, Kirk Agent, in both which he is to represent the present state of the sd Kirk and to crave advice what shall be done for the getting of access therto, and to report his dilligence agt the next dyet.

July 11, Aug. 1, 1704.—No replies to letters.

Aug. 1, 1704.—This day the Presbetrie do find "that Mr Allexr. Moor, a preacher, and son to Mr James Moor, late minr. at Frazerburgh, at his own hand without any allowance from the Presbetrie or any other judicatorie, with which the sd Presbetrie are greatly offended, especially considering that they had over-looked him to help his father at the sd Kirk during the old man's lifetyme, and that the sd Mr Allexr. had promised to the Presbetry "not to intrude into the sd church after his fayr's death, therfor they appoint Mr Brown to cause cite the sd Mr Allexr. Moor to appear before the next Presbetrie and Mr Brown to report his "dilligence."

Aug. 22, 1704.—No replies to letter sent to Mr Meldrum or Kirk Agent.

Mr Moor was cited, but being callad, compeared not.

Mr Low to cause sumond him *pro 2do* to the next dyet of the Presbetrie.

Sep. 5, 1704.—No return as yet from Edn. anent the Kirk of Frazerburgh.

Sep. 5, 1704.—Mr Moor being called, compeared not—to be cited *pro 3o* to the next Presbetry.

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Sep. 19, 1704.—Still Mr Moor did not compear. He is referred to the next Synod, and Mr Brown to cause sumond him to compear before the Synod to answer for his contumacie.

Oct. 31, 1704.—Mr Moor did not compear before the Synod—an act of the Synod was drawn up discharging "the sd Mr Allexr. Moor to preach in the Kirk or paroch of Frazerburgh or in any other Kirk within the bounds of the Synod under pain of the highest censure, and the samen to be intimate to him with the Presbetrie's first convenience, wherupon the Presbetrie before they shuld make a legall intimation of the sd Act did appoint two of their own number, viz., Mr Brown and Mr Law, to conferr wt the sd Mr Moor, to see if they can prevail with him to desist as afore sd."

(Very considerate and patient! Still no return from the South).

Dec. 5, 1704.—No return yet to the Synod's letter. Mr Guthrie to write anoyr letter to the Kirk Agent.

Mr Brown and Mr Farqhr conferred with Mr Moor. Mr Anderson, minr. at Foveran, being occasionally present, gave great assistance—"Did hold out to the sd Mr Moor the unreasonableness "and ilegality of his entrance into the Kirk of Frazerburgh and "violently possessing the samen contrary to the laws both of Church "and State." Answered Mr Moor's defences—He "gave no positive "answer what he wold do."—"In regard ther is not as yet a legall "intimation of the Synod's sentence made to the sd Mr Moor, Mr "Brown and Mr Udny are appointed to conferr wt him again and "to deliver him a true copy of the Synod's Act. The Presbetry "considering that Mr Moor is under process, delay writing South for "further answer to the letter anent Frazerburgh."

Jan. 2, 1705.—Reported Mr Moor seems to be very irresolute what to do. Mr Brown and Mr Udny give him a true copy of the Synod's Act. Pby. delays further conference (there were only 4 present) till next meeting, and writes to the Pby. of Aberdeen for advice.

Jan. 30, 1705.—Mr Guthrie and Mr Law to conferr further with Mr Moor. But a letter has come from Mr Osburn (Professor of Divinity, New Town, Aberdeen) "ych gave great encouragement to "proceed with Mr Moor, and the Councill was very favorable at "this juncture."

Feb. 27, 1705.—Mr Guthrie and Mr Law report conference. Mr Moor "hoped the Presbetrie wold not proceed too hastily in a

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"matter of so great moment, he desired they would allow them a tyme to consider and deliberate." The Pby. agrees to do so till next meeting.

Mar. 27, 1705.—Mr Brown had not been able to see Mr Moor, the Presbetry resolving yet further to comply with Mr Moor his desire—delay him till the next Presbetry.

May 29, 1705.—"It is found that the Synod of Abdn. has written a letter to her maties advocate, also a letter to Mr George Meldrum, Professor of Divinity in the College of Edn., both anent Mr Moor and the paroch off Frazerburgh, as also the Synod has appointed this Presbetry to proceed against the sd Mr Moor by using legall diligence. The Presbetry delays the matter till the next dyet yt Mr Guthrie be present who has been at the South and had this affair among his instructions."

June 12.—Reported Mr Guthrie gave in Pby.'s instructions to Committee of General Assembly, spoke to her Majesty's advocate anent Mr Moor's intrusion, who promised to represent the sd matter as one of the griveances—affair delayed for further news from Edn.

July 10, 1705.—No accompt from the South.

July 31, 1705.—Mr Guthrie to write Mr Osburn to know from him how matters are going at the South in order to the calling of committee letters against Mr Moor.

Aug. 29, 1705.—Affair delayed till after the Synod.

Oct. 23, 1705.—Anent the affair of Frazerburgh, the Synod has recommended that Council letters be raised against Mr Allexr. Moor, "who still continueth to intrude there, as also the Synod having given ten shillings Sterling to help to cary on the sd process the Presbetry resolves to proceed as soon as possible: in the meantyme Mr Brown is appointed to write the minr of Banff to know what wer the expenses of their letters against Mr Barclay at Auchterless."

(N.B.—Sterling! Other sums are in Scots money.)

Nov. 20, 1705.—Accompt is got from minr. of Banff as to expenses. Letters were written to John Blair, Kirk Agent, "and the brethren having added more money to the ten shillings Sterling, that Council letters mt be obtained against Mr Moor with all possible hast."

Dec. 4, 1705.—A *pro re nata* meeting. "Mr Moor, Intruder att Frazerburgh, is gone South to Angus upon design as is supposed to be put in orders by the late Bishop of Abdn. and to return to

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Frazerburgh to officiat as minister there" (up to this point it looks as if Mr Moor would have been inducted into Frazerburgh if he had qualified to Government,—“resolved to draw up a true and impartial information of Mr Moor, his cariage and behaviour toward the judicatories of this church, as also an accompt of the Presbtrie's lenity and tenderness toward him all along before and since his father's death, the samen in two doubles to be sent South, one of them to Mr George Meldrum, minister of the throne church of Edn. and the other to Mr David Williamson, minr. of the west church off Edn., to be by them represented to her maties advocate, and another to John Blair, agent, that they being fully informed of the sd. matter, may be in a condition to obviat any evill designe with respect to the church off Frazerburgh, as also to informe the agent to cause put in one Mr Alexr. Craig in the sd Councill letters, who oft tyme intrudeth into the sd church off Frazerburgh.” (Throne Church, now Tron!)

Dec. 4, 1705.—Council letters come, but being so long by the way they cd not be legallye execute in due tyme. A new dyet craved. Mr Moor is returned to Frazerburgh continuing his intrusion as formerly.

Jan. 29, 1706.—Another letter to the Agent.

Feb. 12, 1706.—No return. Mr Guthrie to write to Mr William Carstairs, Moderator of the Commission, to deall for his assistance in the sd matter. *Note* Carstairs—Principal of Edinburgh University, Minister of Greyfriars Church and Moderator of General Assembly, who exercised a leading influence in the affairs of his time.

Mar. 12, 1706.—Reported that Councill letters are raised against Mr Moor and Mr Craig, Intruders at Frazerburgh, and the samen execute by messenger.

Mr Farqhr to be advertised to preach.

Ap. 2, 1706.—Reported “that Mr Moor and Mr Craig, who wer cited before the Privie Councill, have not gone South, but have desisted from preaching in Frazerburgh, and so ther was no sermon in that church the last Lord's Day, so that Mr Law is appointed to go to Frazerburgh on any day this week—to make offer to the magistrates to come and to preach on the next Lord's Day, and in case he get access he is to have sermon—and declare the church vacant.”

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Ap. 23, 1706.—Reported Mr Law “discoursed the magistrates anent the state of their church, and desired access to preach as he was appointed, who told him they could do nothing in that affair without speciall permission from my Lord Salton”—as also this day ther wer two letters produced to the Presbetrrie from my lord Advocate, one of ych is to my Lord Salton, desiring his los. to give access to the Presbetrrie to preach at Frazerburgh according to law, the other is directed to the laird of Boinly as a justice of the peace desiring him to assist the Presbetrrie in getting the church doors off Frazerburgh made patent, Mr Udney to deliver the letters and to preach at Frazerburgh in case he get the doors made patent.”

May 8, 1706.—Mr Udney reported that he did not go upon several weighty considerations, but Mr Farqhr, with the laird of Boinly, went on Sabbath last.

He produced “a letter from the laird of Boinly bearing an “account of the great abuse and violent opposition that he and Mr “Farqhr mett with at Frazerburgh with some others that wer with “them, that they suffered a most feirs rable by throwing of stones “and other indignities that wer done to them, that they gott open the “church doors and Mr Farqhr did pray in the pulpit and declared “the church vaccant, but was forced out again and could not get “opportunity to preach.” The Pby. “did appoint a true representation of the sd rabble to be drawn up and sent to John Blair, Agent, to prevent fals reports that might be made of the samen.”

May 29, 1706.—Answers to letters from Ld. Advocate and Sir Robert Forbes sent by express to Edin.

June 25, 1706.—Mr Moor has given over preaching in the church and town—the nearest adjacent minr. is appointed to enquire if there will be preachable access had to preach in Frazerburgh and to do as he shall find occasion.

July 16, 1706.—Mr Anderson did deall for access but found none. The Pby. received information from my Lord Advocate that ther is peacable access obtained to the church—without any disturbance. Mr Anderson appointed to preach.

Oct. 4, 1706.—Mr Achinlek to preach at Frazerburgh on Sabbath come eight days, being thirteenth instant.

(He had been in Ellon Pby. and is afterwards minister.)

Nov. 5, 1706.—“The Presb. taking to their most serious consideration the desolate condition of the town and paroch of Frazerburgh

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for want of a fixed gospell minr., do resolve to have the sd. church planted with all possible conveniency—Mr Anderson to intimate to all concerned the Presbtrie's willingness that they should move in the sd. affair and call for a qualified man to be their fixed minister, and to signifie the samen at the next meeting—in case they shall not compear the Presbtry will proceed as said is—Meantime Mr Achinlek, probationer, is taken on the first peice of his tryall, in order to his settlement ther, they being unanimously resolved to sign a presbyteriall call to him att their next dyet in case ther be no other proposed by the heretors and people foresaid.'

Dec. 3, 1706.—Reported that the intimation was made—none from sd. parish compeared and a presbyteriall call was given to Mr Alex. Achinlek who submitted himself to the Presbtrie, and his trials were proceeded with.

Jany. 19, 1707.—Mr Achinlek's trials approven—edict for him to be served from the pulpit on 19th instant and a copie thereof to be affixed on the most patent church door calling for objectors to the life and doctrine of Mr Achinlek, and if no objection Mr Achinlek to be ordained to be minr. att Frazerburgh 4th Fb.. Also in regard to the paucity of their number and the circumstances of that place, they also appointed letters to be written and sent to severall neighbouring minrs. inviting them to correspond in the sd. action. Letters were sent to Mr David Anderson (afterwards Professor). minr. at Foveran; Mr Wm. Forbes, minr. at Tarves; Mr Henry Liklie, minr. at Oldmeldrum.

Feb. 4, 1707.—The vacancy was reported Ap. 7, 1705. Ordination of Mr Achinlek. The corresponding members were present. Edict returned served. Objectors to life and doctrine of Mr Achinlek were called for but none compeared, "albeit ther was great opposition to the sd. work by a rable of people," whereof follows a short and true account.—"The Master of Salton being in the Town Council hous with the magistrates and severall other inhabitants about the tyme that the minrs. came into the town the sd. day, sent a letter subscribed by many hands to the sd. brethren in their quarters er ever they went to church for to constitute and call the forsd. edict shewing that they desired the Presby. not to settle Mr Achinlek among them because he was not acceptable to them, but gave no particular objection against him as sd. is the brethren returned this answer to

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the bearer by word of mouth that they had not as yet mett, their members not being all come up, but so soon as they wer convened and constitute they should consider the samen and return an answer. After which they went to the church, but as they wer going thither they wer assaulted on the high streets wt a rable of people who threw stones and dub or mire upon them—pursueing them in to the church with the same weapons, so that they were forced to retire to a corner under a loft that they might think on an answer, and being greatly hindered by the mob forsd., they sent one of their brethren to speak with the master and magistrates forsd., who wer still in the councill housse hard by the church. Some officers wer sent in to the church who made some show of silencing them, but to no purpose, the noise and insolent cariage of the sd. rable still increasing. In the mean tyme the edict forsd. was called at the church door as is above sd. At length the master and magistrates turning impatient for an answer to their letter, which was retarded as sd. is, they came in to the church with a great rable at their back, and the sd. master being in passion called furiously for an answer in write to whom the moderator answered that he and the magistrates being personally present ther needed no answer in write, to which the master replyed that if he got not a satisfactory answer in write he cold not undertak to keep off the rable but let them loose on the Presbetrie, upon which Mr Thomas Udny, minister att Strichen, protestested (sic) that the sd. master and magistrates should be lyable for whatever molestation or trouble the Presb. should sustain in going about their work in settling the place with a minister, and therefore took instruments in the hands of Mr Henry likly minr. at Oldmeldrum, Clerk *pro tempore*. The master and magistrates hereupon removing and expecting an answer as sd. is, yet the noise of the rable rather increased, so that with great difficulty they got the answer to the letter finished. The Presby. considering that they could not get the ordination of Mr Alexr. Achinlek gone about, resolved to retire into their quarters to Bailie Hay, his housse, and in the mean tyme appointed three of their own number to cary the sd. letter to the master and magistrates sitting still in the Councill housse. viz., Mr Guthry, Mr Brown, and Mr Anderson, which they delivered to the sd. master, who having read the samen and not finding it satisfactory, returned this answer that they wold come to their meeting to protest against their procedure. The modr., Mr Guthry, in name of the



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Presby., required of the sd. master and magistrates that they should by their power and authority compesce the rable and tumult that no disturbance might be given to the worship of God, and if the sd. disturbances should not be stayed he declared that they behoved to tak such methods for setting of the minr. as necessity would allow upon all which he protested and took instruments in the hands of Alexr. Gordon, town clerk of Frazerburgh, present in the sd. councill. After which these commissioned did remove to their quarters to their brethren and in their way thither they mett with great trouble from the rable, as had also the rest of the brethren in their return from the church. And while they wer taking the sd. affair into their consideration the sd. Master of Salton with magistrates came in with a great rable about them and gave in a protestation in write against the procedure of the Presb. in setting Mr Achinlek, and thereupon required and took instruments in the hands of Mr James Anderson, clerk of the Presb., and while they wer removing one of the Bailies returned and told the Presb. that they wer going to burn their answer to the master's letter and so the rable removed to attend the sd. sollemnity. In the meantyme the Presby. considering that ther was no objection made against the life and doctrine of of the said Mr Achinlek, as also that they could not sett about the said work in that orderly way as it required, resolved to ordain the said Mr Achinlek in the same chamber where they were. And Mr Udney after prayer proposing the usual questions to him and he returning satisfactory answers thereto, he was ordained to the function of the holy ministry by prayer and imposition of the hands of the Presb. according to the laudable practice of this church before severall gentlemen and others present as witnesses, after which the brethren gave him the right hand of fellowship. During this tyme there was great quietness because the rable was convened about the cross with the beating of a drum to see the Presb.'s answer burnt or els a double therof, and so the work was very peaceably gone about in that tyme."

It need hardly be said that there were Councill Letters over the case. There were proceedings against Mr Alex. Moor, who continued to baptize and marry. There was a visitation of the Manse, Mr Moor being still in it, and some difficulty arose in discerning what were fixtures and what moveables—this depending on a former visitation minute which Mr Moor was alleged to have,

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but would not produce. The Manse business was ultimately adjusted by a conference. Walter Gabriell, the messenger who served the citations in the rabble case, was boycotted, and being in distress, the Pby. had to interpose their credit to get him relieved. John Lindsay, his successor, had difficulty in getting money. Lord Salton was very angry. The Pby. conferred with him at the Old Kirk of Philorth, but he refused to accept the Pby.'s conditions. He was reported as intending to apply the vacant stipend for uses without the parish and without the knowledge of the Pby., who craved that regard might be had to pious uses within the parish.

Church Registers and Utensils were not at first given up, but after delay and trouble they were got for the use of the Church.

It was attempted to deal further with Mr Moor, but the witnesses summoned would not take oath. Mr Moor and Mr Craig did not pray for the Queen. In 1710 Mr Achinleck was able to get a Session constituted.

Mr Achinleck appears to have been an able minr., taking his part in the Pby. and succeeding in consolidating his charge under very difficult circumstances.

From Scott's *Fasti*—Alexander Achinleck, licen. by the Presb. of Ellon, 7 May, 1706, called by the Presb. *jure devoluto* 5th Dec. following; and ord. 4 Feb., 1707, when there was a rabble at his settlement, though there were no pertinent objections against him. He died 11th Sep., 1753, in 47th min. He was familiar with Alexander, Master of Saltoun, and through him learned that the Acts 1711 regarding Toleration and Patronage passed in consequence of the uproarious conduct displayed at the settlement of Old Deer.

### NEW DEER.

May 29, 1706.—This day the Presb. wer deuly informed of the death of Mr David Sibbald, incumbent att New Deer.

(Note the term incumbent.)

The usual forms were gone through—heritors and people being consulted, and after several probationers had been heard, a call was subscribed to Mr John Webster, Fetteresso, who was in due course inducted 29th April, 1707. This was a harmonious settlement, and negotiations regarding appretiation of the Manse with Mrs Sibbald are very satisfactory. There is a caution, however, in the sentence

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Mar. 25, 1710—"In case Mrs Sibbald, widow of the late incumbent, "att New Deer, doe not evict the half-year's stipend from him" (Mr Webster). Such a claim would now be settled under the law of An.

*Fasti.*—John Webster, A.M., trans. from Fetteresso, called 23rd Jan. and adm. 29th April; trans. to Cruden 15th Mar, which sentence was affirmed by the Synod 6th April, 1720.

(He had many difficulties in Cruden.)

CRIMOND.

And now a strange turnover happens at Crimond—  
For several years in the period Mr Law takes his part as a convinced and zealous Presbyterian minr. His manse is visited in 1701. The soum of the whole is 155 lib. 10s 8d.

The parish is visited in 1704—a rather formal visitation. But in Oct. 4, 1706, there is the entry—it being found that Mr Wm. Law, present moderator, is suspended from the exercise of his ministry by the Synod because he has given offence in his sermon before the Synod and congregation of Abden., therefor Mr Guthrie was chosen modr. *pro tempore*.

Ap. 29, 1707.—The church doors were reported shut to the Pby., and continued so. The Pby. were ordered by the Synod to declare the church vacant, which was done, 25 May, 1707, by Mr Achinlek, before witnesses. Still no access. Legal steps for access are taken, 25 May, 1707, and access appears to have been got before Jan. 8, 1708.

Feb. 24, 1708.—But the heretors and people will not call a minister. They wanted the affair of Mr Law decided first. (They were probably right). The Synod, however, presses the case.

July 29, 1708.—One heritor compeared with commissions from others. The Pby. "did conclude that ther was nothing but shifts and dilatoriness intended by the heretors." A list of probationers given to them. If they did not call, the Pby. would, the appointment of the Synod being so peremptorie.

Ap. 10, 1708.—Heritors not satisfied with the three young men given them in the list.

Sep. 7, 1708.—Heritors want affair delayed till Synod, Oct. 8, 1708. Synod gives peremptory appointment to proceed in planting Crimond.

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(A letter written by Mr Webster comes back to him—miscarried by accident !!)

Nov. 23, 1708.—Congregation allowed by the Synod till last Tuesday of Dec. to choose a minister, but in case they do not choose “the severall brethren are to think on one to be minister of Crimond.”

Dec. 28, 1708.—Heritors along with Mr Wm. Law, late minr., desire delay till next Gen. Assem., to which Mr Law had appealed. But as the Synod had enjoined the Pby. to proceed to settlement, the crave could not be granted.

Instruments taken as usual.

Then the heritors produced a call in favour of Mr Guthrie, Peterhead (a makeshift evidently!) The Pby. gave a call to Mr Clarehue, a probationer, but he would not accept it—he was “utterly averse.” He got till to-morrow to think over the case—on the morrow he still refused. (He would have accepted a call to Lonmay, which by this time was vacant). A call was then prepared to Mr James Leslie, another probationer. The heritors wanted more probationers—they would pass from the call to Mr Guthrie if the crave was granted, but the Pby. gave the call to Mr Leslie, who submitted himself to trials—objections to be heard at Rathen, 23rd Feb., 1709. Mr Leslie to be ordained to Crimond next day. Heritors desire delay.

23 Feb., 1709.—Objections were offered by Mr James Nisbet in Longleyes, who was commissioned by the heritors, and Mr Wm. Law also compeared. Only two heritors had signed objections, and they are held “lyable for the damage, dangers, disorders, and abuses that should be committed in the tym of settling the said church,” and also with regard to Wm. Law the Presby. “did find by Mr Law his “discourse that he had underhand dealings with the heritors for “hindering the setlment of the place.” Objections found to be altogether irrelevant and of no weight.

Feb. 24, 1709.—Ordination proceeded with (Mr Leslie had at the same time a call to Towie in Alford). There seems to have been fear of disturbance on the first Sabbath, for Mr Anderson is appointed to help Mr Leslie. Mr Law was still in the manse, and on being required to leave it, desired on 19th June a conference, and a Committee was appointed to meet for the same at Mr Udney's house on 30th June. Mr Law excused himself by letter. Mr Brown had seen him and learned that he would remove from the manse “providing

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“the Committee of Synod would rescind the recommendation to the “brethren not to employ him till the next Synod.” The Pby. considered “they could not midle in that affair.”

Aug. 23rd, 1709.—The Committee has advised to pursue Mr Law legally. Mr Leslie recommended to prosecute—some of the public fund being asked for the purpose.

Dec. 6, 1709.—An edict is served Dec. 22, 1709, in appretiation of the manse.

N.B.—Andrew Low, birlyman. (A birlyman was the officer of a Court of Barony).

The appretiation is made, but not submitted.

On Sep. 4, 1710, it is reported that Mr Law “has sett up a meeting-house in the sd. paroch and preaches therein contrary to his express promise before the Generall Assemblie.”

Next day (Sep. 5, 1710), his answer is reported that he did not remember any such promise, and that the cause of his preaching was that his wife was tender and could not goe to church. The Pby. drew up an inhibition for him to be delivered by their officer and to summon him to the next Presbitrie att Lonmay the 26 instant.

Thus far the Record Vol. III.

Mair's *Presbytery of Ellon*.—After this in July, 1718, “in the case of Mr William Low (Law), who hath now set up an irregular meeting-house at Ellon, notwithstanding that he was depost by the Presbytery,” it was appointed to prosecute him before the Justice of the Peace, and sentence was got against him. He had been conspicuously active at Slains before this.

*Fasti*.—1701, William Law, trans. from Glenbucket, called 26 Jan. and adm. 26th March, loosed and suspended from the ministry by the Synod 27 Mar., 1707, for erroneous doctrine teaching “that virtue was more natural than vice.” A committee was appointed by the Gen. Assem. 25th April, 1709, to try his sufficiency for the ministry and his orthodoxy, on whose report he was relaxed next day from the sentence of suspension, but he renounced Presbyterian Communion and government, set up a meeting-house in Crimond, prior to 5th Oct., 1710, having taken ordination previously from an exauctorate bishop, went subsequently to Aberdeen, continued preaching, and was depost by the Presby. of Ellon on 29th May, 1707, for intruding at Slains.

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### LONMAY.

Ap. 15, 1707.—“Mr Anderson is appoynted to declare the Kirk of Lonmay vacant on Sabbath next, being the twentieth of this Aprile.” So runs the first entry concerning Lonmay. It may be led up to by the *Fasti* entry for Lonmay, 169—John Houstone, formerly of Eaglesham, intruded prior to 1696; died in 1707 (Presb. Reg.). There is no express mention of his death in the Register.

June 9, 1707.—A list of persons nominate to be elders.—June 4, 1707—They are found to be men of competent knowledge. Mr Anderson appointed to ordain them and to moderat in a call to Mr George Irving, probationer.

But (Sep. 2, 1707) there is a note of warning.—Although there was a letter from the heritors desiring Mr Irving to be settled among them, Craigeli “did demand that in case ther wer any things to be laid to the sd. Mr Irvine’s charge, he might be purged thereof.”

And now the elders nominated refused to accept, being unwilling to be engaged after such a manner (Feeling in parish!).

There are evil reports regarding Mr Irvine. Mr John Duncan (probationer) and he accuse each other. Witnesses are heard—one deponed that Mr George Irvine came from Fraserburgh to “the deponent’s house (a public house), he appeared very light and frothie in his behaviour, uttered some minced oaths as faith and the like.” That was three years before.

Mar. 16, 1708.—He is found guilty of drunkenness and the case is appealed to the Synod.

N.B.—The word *Servitrix*.

Mr Irvine’s case passes over to the Synod and Pby. of Aberdeen.

Sep. 21, 1708.—Col. Ogilvie desires a month or six weeks to advise, which is allowed, but with certification that if a call be not presented, the Pby. would be excused to go on.

Nov. 23, 1708.—Time allowed now elapsed. Pby. tries to ascertain inclinations of people towards any of the young men.

Dec. 28, 1708.—The people were for Mr Clarehue (see Crimond) “except Wm. Abernethie, Col. Ogilvie’s Chamberlain, and severall other of the heretors.”

One may gather that while the people with the heritors could call a minr., the heritors exercised a rather effective controlling power.

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Dec. 19, 1709.—Opinion divided. Some were for Mr Clarehue, some for Mr Stewart, and a third part were to submit to the Pby.'s determination. "Mr Clarehue pleadeth that he was leifer seeing "the generality of the people declared for him and therefor would "not accept the call of Crimond"—But the heritors "do violently "withstand his settlement."

Protestations, but settlement delayed.

Jan. 11, 1709.—Several heritors pleaded for delay on the ground that the appointment had not yet fallen to the Pby. (It had).

A petition from a great many householders of Lonmay is presented in favour of Mr Clarehue. Heritors allege it is disorderly. Settlement delayed.

Feb. 1, 1709.—Further delay craved by heritors—Granted. (A probable harmonious settlement was likely in view).

Feb. 22, 1709.—Further delay granted—but "that the power of calling was fallen into the Presbytrie's hand, yet they would endeavour to fix one there who might be acceptable to them, as also they hoped that the said heritors and people would not be for any but such as would be acceptable to the Presbytrie."

Feb. 24, 1709.—Col. Ogilvie was willing to have Mr Stewart settled.

Mar. 16, 1709.—The Pby. would not settle Mr Clarehue. "The moderator posed the consciences of the severall brethren, and the paroch was greatly divided against him." As to Mr Stewart, some of the heritors were against him. Case delayed till Synod. "Mr Clarehue removed from our bounds."

It was thought expedient that he should be out of the way. He had disappointed the Pby. about Crimond.

Mr Thomas Gordon appointed to preach at Lonmay, March 27th, and at Crimond, Aprile 3.

This was probably according to arrangement. Mr Gordon was the *deus ex machina*.

June 18, 1709.—Col. Ogilvie and Craigellie craved since the right of settling the Kirk of Lonmay was in the Pby.'s hands, they might see to the speedier planting of it with a gospell minister.

They were commended for their concern. (They knew now how things were to go).

July 12, 1709.—The Pby. would not come to fix upon the person at this dyet—delayed till next meeting.

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July 26th, 1709.—Call drawn up and signed by the Pby. to Mr Thomas Gordon.

And hereafter the settlement goes on in ordinary course.

Sep. 22nd, 1709.—Mr Gordon ordained.

Thereafter the manse is appretiated.

Feb. 21, 1710.—Process begun for appointing Kirk-Session—Names given.

N.B.—Mr Gordon was hurt at the rabble of Deer.

*Fasti.*—Thomas Gordon, licen. by the Presb. of Kirkcaldy, 15th June, 1708, having been appointed to preach here by the Synod, he was called by the Presb. *jure devoluto* 26th July, and ord. 22nd Sep., 1709; died 12 July, 1743, in 34th min. He married Agnes Coupar, who died 5th Nov., 1778, and had a son, Mr Thomas.

### TYRIE.

At the opening of our record Mr James Farquhar is minister.

*Fasti.*—1701—James Farquhar, called in Oct., 1700, and ord. 27 Mar. after. Demitted 31st Aug., which was accepted by the Synod, 6th Oct., 1709, as he entertained scruples regarding Congregational Church-government, which on further consideration he renounced before 30th April, 1715, and was subsequently settled at Nigg.

He was known as John Gilone, and was eccentric in his habits.

Dec. 22, 1702.—Lady Pitsligo has refused to pay her proportion of the Stipend. She is to be spoken to.

Jan. 26, 1703.—Lady Pitsligo is not willing, “She had some tacks of preceding minrs., which she thought Mr Farquhr should be content with, but knew not wher they wer till such time as her son, my Lord Pitsligo, should return home, and in the mean tyme promised to supply the sd. minr. with victual and money.”

The Pby. is appointed by the Synod to meet at Tyrie “for redressing Mr Farqhr’s griveances.”

May 2, 1704.—The Pby. met and intimated meeting for 23rd instant.

At which meeting Mr Brown reports that the Synod having appointed Mr Hugh Innes to correspond with the Presbetry at this tyme to deal with my Lord and Lady Pitsligo for redressing Mr Farqhr’s griveances, he had written to Mr Innes, who “had dealt very seriously withe the forsd. honobl. persons in behalf of Mr Farqhr,” and informed Mr Brown “that my Lord and Lady Pitsligo



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“wold condescend that the stipend payable by them forth of their  
“lands in Tyrie shuld be three hundreth and fiftie marks, making  
“the stipend of the whole paroch to amount to seven hundreth marks,  
“and this was all he could do, and that they shuld make punctual  
“payment of the sd. sown yearly in all tyme coming and endeavour  
“to pay up the rests as soon as possible.”—Consideration referred.

Heretors, Elders, and Heads of Families were called—compeared  
lairds of Boinly and Tyrie. James Barclay, servant in Pitsligo,  
appeared with a commission from my Lady Pitsligo as liferentrix;  
also Elders and Heads of Families. No fault found with Mr  
Farquhar. He, however, complained that he wanted grass and  
money for buying communion elements—the want of a school was  
very prejudicial—and he could not obtain redress.

Boinly and Tyrie stated that they paid the stipend according to  
locality, and were willing to bear their part for a school and  
communion elements, if the rest of the heritors would do so. Mr  
Barclay had not authority to agree. He was required to get an  
answer next day. Mr Farquhar is not satisfied with the offers.

Next day, May 29, 1704.—No return from Lord Pitsligo. Mr  
Brown and Mr Law to go to Pitsligo, discourse my Lord and Lady  
Pitsligo, and report.

June 16, 1704.—Reported that Lord and Lady Pitsligo would  
not go further than they had promised to Mr Innes. Mr Guthrie to  
write to Presby. of Aberdeen according ti Synod's order.

July 11, 1704.—Reported anent Lord and Lady Pitsligo—My  
Lady wold condescend only to that for her parts that the Stipend  
shuld be three hundreth and fiftie mark Scots yearly, and as for  
grass, communion elements, and a school, she could do nothing in  
respect that herself was but a liferentrix and severall of the heretors  
of the said paroch were but minors. Affair referred to Synod for  
advise.

Mr Farquhar begins to absent himself from Presby. meetings  
and is censured by the Pby. for absence (Sep. 18, 1705), but June 15,  
1708, the Pby. in obedience to the Assembly and Synod's appoint-  
ment, issued forth a sumonds citeing Mr James Farqhr, minr. of the  
gospell at Tyrie, to appear before the Commission to sitt at Edin.  
the first Wednesday of July next, ther to answer for his irregularities  
in the west country. *Mem.*—What were they?

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

Mar. 12, 1706.—The Modr. (Mr Udny) reporteth that he had spoken to Mr Farqhr to attend the Presbetries better, who received no answer thereanent.

June 7, 1706.—Absent Mr Farqhr, and therefore no sermon.

Aug. 20, 1706.—Absent Mr Farqhr, and therefore no exercise.

Feb. 4, 1707.—Mr Farqhr is present. (Interesting in connexion with future developments).

July 13, 1708.—Mr Archibald delates William Charles, officer to the Presbetrie (in the above mentioned affair of Mr Farqhr), "as a horrid blasphemers and swearer and earnestly desired the Presbytrie to censur him according."—Delayed.

Ap. 9th, 1709.—This day a letter came from Mr Farquhar . . . earnestly desiring that they would order a few supplies for his charge in regard he was obliged about some "necessary affairs to be absent "for some time. The Pby. taking the same into their serious "consideration, though he had deserted their meetings, yet looking "on the place as within their bounds and the necessity of the people, "and willing to use all tenderness towards him, granted his desire."

(A carefully drawn and generous resolution.)

On Oct. 25, 1709, he has demitted the charge. He had given it in to a Committee of Synod, the Synod accepted it, and made appointment that the Presby. should declare the Kirk vacant, which was delayed for some weighty considerations until 12 March, 1710.—A strange situation!

Ap. 25, 1710.—Letters from Boynlie that no supplies be sent in the vacancy for three Sabbaths next ensuing in regard Mr Farqhr is preaching in the manse for sd. time.

And from Tyrie that no probationer be sent in the vacancy, "least the Stipend be exhausted, they having great use for the same "for repairing the Kirk and Kirkyard dyks," which letters the Presbitrie taking to their consideration, after long reasoning and posing every one's conscience specially with respect to the first letter, they appoint ane answr to be written to the Laird of Boynlie shewing that they are exceedingly difficulted in their consciences and therefore cannot grant his desire. They appoynt the sd. answr to be instantly drawn, and the Moderator, with Mr Leslie, is to cary the same and to shew Boynlie wherein the Presbetrie's strait doth lie, also Mr Udny is appoynted to writte ane answr to the Laird of

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Tyrie shewing that they are to take his desire contained in his letter under their consideration att the next meeting.

May 23, 1710.—The Laird of Boynlie requests that Mr Wm. Osburne be appointed to preach at Tyrie some time. He is appointed to supply till next meeting.

June 20, 1710.—The L. of B. now desires Mr John Mercer to be sent, but the Pby. understands that he is called for the Pby. of Kincardine and so "cannot be gott."

July 18, 1710.—This day a letter came to the Presbitrie from the heritors of the parish of Tyrie in conjunction with the elders desiring that the vacant stypend of the sd. paroch might be spared for helping to repair the Kirk and Kirkyard dyks. Mr Osburne cannot return. They desire a hearing of Mr John Mercer, probationer, and in the meantyme that the place be supplied with actual ministers in regaird there is need of keeping session for severall urgent affairs. The Presbitrie found that they could not prejudice the young men of the benefit of the supplys seeing the law has allowed the same, and that the said young men are appoynted their bounds from tyme to tyme by the Synod.

Observe the custom for extra local supply.

But in the meantime the Presbitrie is most willing to supply the place with actuall minrs. both for preserving the Stipend and keeping Session there, but now by reason of severall Commissions and other urgent affairs they are not in condition to supply them herewith att present, meantyme they apopynt the Modr. to writt for the sd. Mr Mercer according to the desire of the sd. parioch, who is hereby appoynted to supply att Tyrie after he is come to the bounds.

Sep. 4, 1710.—Ld. of Boynlie and some of the elders and heads of familys petitioned that a minr. be sent as soon as possible to moderate in a call. Mr Udny is appointed to intimate first Sunday, 10th instant, and Mr Brown to moderate at the subscribing of a call on Tuesday, 13th instant.

The Presbitrie finding that the sd. petition did also bear ane earnest desire that the Presbitrie would grant ane act in their favours, for allowing them a year's vacant stipend which is to be due at Michalemass next for repairing their Kirk and Kirkyard dykes, the next gaval of the sd. Kirk being now taken down to the ground and the Kirkyard dyks being totally ruinous, and that also the manse standeth in need of reparatione. The Presbitrie con-

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

sidering the sd. desire, granteth the same so far as their power reaches, appoynting the Modr. to draw the sd. Act for the sd. year's vacant stipend, which is to be due att Michaelmass next for to be improven upon the forsd. pious uses.

Mr Mercer has preached the last two Sabbaths. A call is moderated in and offered to him, which he accepted, and after trials was duly ordained to the charge.

The Laird of Boynlie was ordained a ruling elder.

*Fasti*.—John Mercer, eldest son of Thomas of Todlaw and Smiddyburn, licen. by Presby. of Ellon, 30th May, 1710, called 12 Sep., and ord. 30 Noy. same year; died 31st Mar., 1761, in his 74th year and 51 min. He marr. Isobel Martin, who died 21st Mar., 1765, and had a son, Mr Thomas, a preacher; and a daughter, Elizabeth, who marr. Mr James Wilson, minr. of Gamrie.

He is reported to have been a most worthy man and minister.

### DEER.

Became vacant by the death of Mr George Keith.

The *Fasti* entry with regard to him is—1683, George Keith, translated from Montkeggie (*e.g.*, Keithhall), he hesitated in taking the oaths in 1689 required by law, and died 16th July, 1910.

The steps thereupon taken by the Pby. led to the rabble of Deer, already treated of in the *Book of Buchan* by Mr Malcolm Bulloch; but the Presbytery's record of it, and the subsequent settlement of a minister, are not in the volume under notice.

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In closing these notes it may be remarked that it is evident that the times dealt with were critical, but the men who drew up the Record were careful and faithful. On the whole they were wise and considerate, and the foundation they were able to lay has proved to be sound and good; and their rivals, to whom the credit of conscientious motives is due, could have a reasonable expectation that according to conditions in Aberdeenshire at least theirs would be the winning, not the losing side.

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APPENDIX.

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Scott's Fasti Notices of other Ministers in the Presbytery referred to in the Record.

Aberdour, 1697.—James Brown, A.M., trans. from Kilbucho, 26th Aug.; died 31st July, 1732, aged 70, in 43rd min. A son, Mr John, became min. of Longside.

Crimond, 1709.—James Leslie, brother of Mr Wm. L., min. of Chapel of Garioch, called by the Presb. jure devoluto, 11th Jan., and ord. 24th Feb.; trans. to St Fergus 30th Aug., 1729.

Fraserburgh.—James Moore, trans. from Rathen, adm. before 17th April, 1667; His Majesty gifted to him the estate of Alex. Crawford in Rathen, 6th Aug., 1678, and he died 23rd March, 1703, in 73rd age and 44th min. He married Margaret Crawford, who died 21 May, 1717, and had two sons and two daughters.

170— Alexander Moore, A.M., son of the preceding, took his degree at the Univ. and King's College, Aberdeen, in 1681, became helper to his father. Intruded after 23rd March, 1703; died in April, 1717, aged about 56. Bishop Keith says he was "the best of men I ever saw."

Longside.—Alex. Robertson, A.M., son of Thomas Robertson, also minister of Longside, acquired his degree at the Univ. and King's College, Aberdeen, 13th July, 1675, became chaplain to the laird of Pitsligo, was pres. by George, Earl Marischal —, and inst. (colleague and suc.) 25th Aug., 1687; taking the oath of allegiance at the Revolution, he continued in the cure, but was deposed 8th July, 1716, for complying with the rebellion, etc. He was proprietor of Duniehills, and is mentioned as having seen a mermaid. He marr. Christian, daugh. of Mr John Mercer, min. of Kinellar, relict of Mr Arbutnot, and had three sons and a daugh., Thomas, Alex., Arthur, and Lillias.

Lonmay.—John Houstoun, formerly of Eaglesham, intruded prior to 1696; died in 1697.

New Deer (formerly Auchreddy), 1682.—David Sibbald, A.M., graduated at the Univ. and King's College, Aberdeen, 9th July, 1668; adm. between 24th April and 17th Sep., 1682; died 15th May, 1706, aged 55, in 24th min. During his incumbency he obtained gifts from the congregation for purchasing four silver chalices for their use. He marr. Elizabeth Sibbald, and had four daugh., Marjory, Elizabeth, Catherina, and Christian.

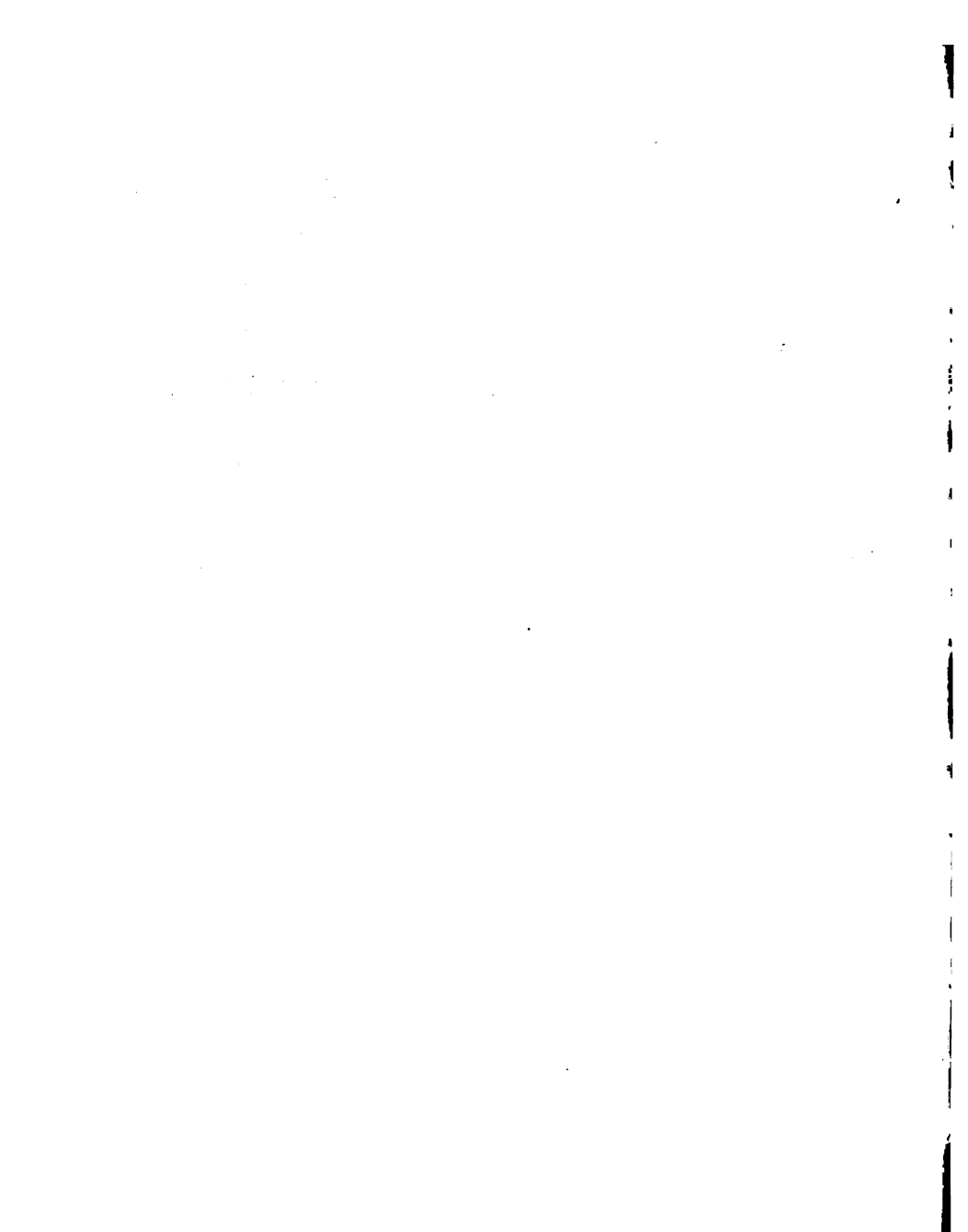
Peterhead, 1699.—Andrew Guthrie, trans. from Edrom, called 17th July, 1698, and adm. 10th April after; demitted, which was accepted 30th Sept., 1720, and died in May, 1722, in 32nd min., leaving an only son, Mr Thomas.

## ON DEER PRESBYTERY RECORDS.

Pitsligo, 168— William Swan, sen., son of Mr Alex. Swan, A.M., also minister of Pitsligo, acquired his degree at the Univ. and King's College, Aberdeen, 3rd July, 1679; adm. prior to 1689; deposed 3rd July, 1716 for complying with the rebellion, etc. He set up a meeting-house at Fraserburgh, 2nd July, 1721, and subsequently removed to a house at the Cairns of Pittulie, where he preached to a congregation of some fifteen or twenty till near his death, which took place in 1742, aged about 84. He married Grizel Robertson, and had two sons, Alexander and William.

Rathen, 169— James Cheyne, formerly of Carluke, intruded before 1696, was deprived by the Privy Council in Aug., 1702, and died in Aug., 1703.

St Fergus (Longley or Inverugie), 169— Alex. Hepburn, A.M., a native of Buchan, graduated at the Univ. and King's College, Aberdeen, 11th July, 1676, intruded before Sept., 1703; but was deposed 20th Nov., 1716, for declining the authority of the Presby., complying with the rebellion, etc. He went to Peterhead, and died in 1737, aged about 81; having married Eliza Cook, who died 17th Sept., 1703, aged 42, and had two sons, George and William, and three daugh.—Ann, who married Mr Arbuthnot, ship-master, Peterhead; Jean—J. Duncan, dyer, Peterhead; and Mary. He left in MSS. a description of Buchan in 1721.



FRIDAY, 22nd March, 1912.

LECTURE ON "ECONOMIC NATURAL HISTORY" BY  
JOHN RENNIE, D.Sc., LECTURER ON PARASIT-  
OLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

A MEETING of the Club was held in the Societies' Room, Townhouse, Peterhead, on Friday, 22nd March, 1912, at 8 p.m., Mr A. M'Donald Reid, senior vice-president (in the absence of Professor J. Arthur Thomson, president) in the chair. After formal business Dr Rennie, Aberdeen, gave a lecture of which the following is a summary:—

ECONOMIC NATURAL HISTORY.

DR RENNIE said that it was easy to count upon the fingers of one hand a series of natural history problems bearing on common animals, the solution of which would save to this country alone not less than twenty million pounds per annum. Many of these problems could only be solved by the co-operation of many individuals, and as they were full of interest, apart from their practical significance, he hoped that, with the help of suggestions to be thrown out in the course of his lecture, some members of the Buchan Club would be induced to share in the work. Dr Rennie proceeded to discuss particular instances, the first of these being the crane fly or "daddy-long-legs." This insect, he said, in its larval stage, was extremely destructive to the roots of corn crops. It was known locally as the grub or "tory worm." There were several species occurring on agricultural lands, but the general course of the life history was similar in all of them. The eggs were laid in late summer or autumn, and from these young maggots—the grubs—were hatched in a fortnight or so. These lived in the soil throughout the winter. Exactly what they did then depended upon the kind of weather they experienced. So long as the weather was open and frost not too severe, they fed. In spring, when crops germinated and tender rootlets were available, they became extremely active in mild weather, and fed voraciously as a rule. Yet the effects upon the crops varied in different years. The damage done was much greater in certain years than in others, and this was not altogether due to an actual difference in the numbers of grubs. To suppose



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so would be to attribute a false simplicity to what is not a simple problem. Feeding ceased as early as the month of May, and from about June to September crane flies were hatched out and mated, after which egg laying took place and the life cycle commenced once more. For the attacks of this fly various remedial measures were recommended and were practised. They were often of no avail owing to the need for them being discovered too late. Of great practical importance, from the farmers' point of view, was the question how the larvæ passed the winter. If the winter was a severe one they appeared to go deep into the soil, and not feed. In such a case those larvæ in spring would both be small and hungry, and crops stood a good chance of suffering. This was especially the case if the growth of the crop in spring was slow owing to cold weather. On the other hand, if the winter was open and there were a good many mild days, they would feed so that by February they might be quite large. In that case the damage to crops was likely to be slight. A farmer would thus be able, by paying a little attention to the weather throughout the year, to form more or less reasonable expectations as to attack. Dr Rennie proceeded to give an account of investigations proceeding as to the life conditions of this insect, and described an interesting discovery of an unsuspected enemy. He said he had found that a large number of the grub might be affected with the maggot of a certain fly (*Siphona Gemiculata*.) The infection eventually killed the grub. The infecting maggot, however, completed its development and became a fly sometime during the month of May. This particular fly deposited its eggs on the skin of the cabbage moth caterpillar. It was very probable that this caterpillar was also eventually killed and that it was the adult fly which hatched out from it in September which infected the crane fly larvæ. Any cause which tended to cut off the cabbage moth caterpillars before the infecting maggot had completed its development cut it off also, so that, for example, a wet autumn in killing cabbage moth caterpillars—a good thing in its way—was reducing the numbers of the natural enemies of the crane fly—which turned the scale the other way. This might be taken as an illustration of the complexities which, although of absorbing interest, made the solution of the economic problem all the more difficult.

Dr Rennie next discussed the ox warble fly. The normal development of this fly, he said, had been variously estimated to cost

## ON ECONOMIC NATURAL HISTORY.

the combined industries of the hide merchant, butcher, stock raiser, and dairy farmer in this country from two to seven million pounds per annum. What did they know of the life history of this fly? It was surprising to note how few investigations had been made upon it, and how unconcerned those directly affected were as to procuring of effective remedies against it. This fly spent its larval existence of about nine months, within the bodies of cattle, emerging at the end of its larval period through a perforation in the skin of the back. The larva fell to the ground, there to pupate and eventually, in the course of six weeks or so, to give rise to the winged insect. The ox warble fly was rather attractive looking, resembling a small bumble bee. It does not feed at all, its whole time being taken up with mating and subsequently with finding bovine hosts upon which to lay its eggs. Much conflicting evidence existed as to the details of the life history of this insect. The older view was that the maggots were laid upon the back of the animal, and entered and left by the same opening in the skin. A newer view, and one supported by a considerable array of facts, was that the eggs were laid upon the feet, that they were licked into the mouth, bored through the gullet and migrated through the body, eventually appearing on the skin of the back at places where they could not be reached by the animal affected. Against all this they had the fact that calves had been kept muzzled and otherwise prevented from licking their bodies during the whole period in which the egg-laying warble fly was in existence, and for some time beyond it, yet five out of six so treated were found to contain warble maggots the following year. It was possible that infection might take place both ways. The fact was clear that during nine or ten months of the year all the flies were within the bodies of cattle and therefore those were under human control. It seemed to him it should not be difficult for an authority like the Board of Agriculture to obtain an Order requiring all persons possessing cattle to clear them of warble maggots at the suitable season in each locality each year. Such an arrangement if carried out would exterminate the fly in a single year.

Dr Rennie proceeded to discuss the problem of the rat from the economic standpoint. Its destructiveness and other objectionable features were familiar to everybody and did not need to be enlarged upon. From the point of view of natural history, however, the rat was extraordinarily interesting. It must be classed among the most

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successful of living creatures, biologically speaking. Its fecundity, ready adaptation to all climates and kindred physical conditions, and indiscriminate feeding enabled it to survive where others would starve. Its intelligence and resource in difficulty and its ferocity in actual danger were very great. Dr Rennie considered that the estimate as to the cost of the rats to Great Britain as about £15,000,000 was not too much. They still awaited a solution of the rat problem. After some references to wood pigeons, lapwings, and wagtails, the lecturer in conclusion indicated the kind of information which it was in the power of a field club, or of an interested individual, to supply.

A cordial vote of thanks was, on the motion of Mr Rice, given to Dr Rennie for his interesting and instructive lecture.

SATURDAY, 31st August, 1912.

## EXCURSION TO PENNAN AND FRASERBURGH.

THE Club held an excursion to Pennan and the Fraserburgh coast on Saturday afternoon. Members and their friends travelled by 19 motor cars from Peterhead, Fraserburgh, and the surrounding districts, and reached Pennan shortly before 3 o'clock. The excursion was under the leadership of the president, Professor J. Arthur Thomson, who was accompanied by Professor Trail, Mr Pycraft, and Dr A. W. Gibb, and Mr A. Landsborough Thomson.

The following ladies and gentlemen accepted invitations to the excursion:—Professor and Mrs Hendrick, Aberdeen; Mr and Mrs Robert Mitchell, Peterhead; Dr and Mrs Forrest, Lonmay; Mr Gavin Greig, New Deer; Mr H. B. Mitchell, Peterhead; Mr Adshead, Peterhead; Dr Middleton, Peterhead; Mr and Mrs M'Donald Reid, Peterhead; Mrs Burnett-Stuart of Dens and Crichtie, and party; Dr and Mrs Findlay, Crimond; Mr J. Chisholm and party, Longhaven House; Provost Leask, Peterhead; Mr and Mrs David Morgan, Peterhead; Mr C. D. Rice, Peterhead; Dr Smith, Peterhead; Rev. J. B. Davidson and Miss Davidson, Peterhead; Mr Bristowe, Peterhead; Miss Stephen, Peterhead; Mr T. Heslop, Peterhead; Mr and Mrs J. D. Bisset and party, Peterhead; Mr K. Lochhead, London; Mr and Mrs Hacket, Peterhead; Mr Williamson, Peterhead; Mr John Scott, New Pitsligo; Mr Slessor, Peterhead; Mr A. Clark Martin, Peterhead (treasurer); Mr James Clark, Peterhead; Rev. A. M'Kinlay, New Pitsligo; Mr A. Daniel, Peterhead; Mr Evan Bisset, Peterhead; Bailie Ritchie and party, Peterhead; Mr A. R. M'Farlane, Peterhead; Mr and Mrs Rennie, Milladen; Mr James Farquhar, Strichen; Mr J. F. Tocher (secretary), Mrs Tocher, Miss Tocher, Peterhead; Miss Farquharson, A. Washington, Peterhead.

The following ladies and gentlemen joined in the excursion from Fraserburgh:—Dr Trail, Fraserburgh; Mr John H. Low, Rev. J. Cadenhead, Messrs R. K. Hutcheon, James R. Gordon, Edwin Johnstone, John Calder, George Menzies, and John Thomson; H. Cowie, M.A.; R. Lees, M.A., B.Sc.; John Stewart, M.A.; W. J. and Mrs Caird, Rev. Mr Cowie, Maud; John Black, M.A.; A. G. Brown, Witchhill; J. D. Mackintosh, solicitor. Mr James Grant, M.A., LL.B., president of the Banffshire Field Club, and Mr John Yeats, honorary secretary, joined the party at Pennan. The party

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inspected the cliffs at Pennan, after which the excursion proceeded to Fraserburgh, where a meeting of the Club was held—Professor J. Arthur Thomson, president, in the chair.

### NEW MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen were admitted members of the Club:—Messrs John E. Sutherland, M.P., Portsoy; James Booth of Downie-hills; T. M. Chalmers, Wakefield; J. Mackie, Aberdeen; William Pennie, Aberdeen; Bailie Philip, Peterhead; Mr Robert L. Mitchell, Peterhead; Professor Hendrick, Aberdeen; Mr A. Daniel, Peterhead; George Mitchell, Fraserburgh; W. H. Cowan, M.P., and Mrs Cowan; Dr Beddie, 17 Saltoun Place; Bailie Gordon, Seafield; Bailie Mackie, Bayview; Messrs William Stephen, M.A., 77 Saltoun Place; John Stewart, M.A., Academy; John Thomson, M.A., King Edward Street; John Calder, M.A., King Edward Street; Rev. J. Cadenhead, M.A., Saltoun Place; Mr William Reid, M.A., Schoolhouse; Mrs John H. Low, 66 Broad Street; Messrs William Donald, Grattan Place; A. G. Gavin, Mid Street; R. K. Hutcheon, Grattan Place; Edwin Johnstone, Hexagon; James R. Gordon, Strichen Road; John Hendry, Grattan Place; George Menzies, Charlotte Street; John Davies, King Edward Street; T. P. Burnett, Strichen Road; Robert Gray, Victoria Street, Fraserburgh; F. C. Grant, Rosehearty; R. Finlayson, solicitor; Charles Mitchell, fishcurer; John Cranna, harbour treasurer; Rev. Father Wiseman; J. W. Tarras, solicitor; J. Donald, bank accountant; John Henderson, Academy; . Cowie.

### TWO NOTABLE PRESIDENTS.

On the motion of Mr J. F. Tocher, it was resolved to record the great loss which the Club had sustained by the death of two of its past presidents—the late Mr John Gray, the president of 1899, and the late Rev. Andrew Chalmers, the president of 1901. Both members were frequent contributors to the transactions, and did a great deal to popularise the Club and to extend its scope. It was agreed to insert an appropriate minute in the records of the Club.

SATURDAY, 31st August, 1912.

## THE NATURAL HISTORY OF PENNAN.

A MEETING of the Club was held in the Belleslea Hotel, Fraserburgh, at 4.30 p.m. Professor J. Arthur Thomson, president, in the chair. The President said they had to congratulate themselves on having had a very successful excursion on a delightful afternoon. They had a distinguished gathering that day. He saw around him other four representatives of the teaching staff of the University of Aberdeen, and all sorts of other learned men, and it made one feel it would be an auspicious occasion for reviving the University of Fraserburgh, which had been extinct for so many years—(laughter and applause). Professor Thomson then gave a short address, illustrated by coloured drawings, on the "Cliff Birds of Pennan"—the birds which they might have seen if they had known where to look. Some, he was afraid, had already gone for the year, but if they had had more time that day they could have seen the guillemots, the razorbills, and the puffins. They were about 65 years too late, however, to see the white eagles, which used to be seen on Pennan cliffs. It seemed strange that there should have been so many birds on these precipitous cliffs—an uninviting place and a strange place to bring up large numbers of young, altogether so unprepossessing at first sight. The explanation was that so far as the characteristic birds he had mentioned were concerned, they belonged to the same great family of auks to which the great auk, now extinct, belonged. These were not at home on *terra firma*, and simply came to our shores from April to the end of August for the purpose of breeding. The most characteristic he had seen at Pennan was the guillemot, about which scores of interesting points could be mentioned. They had to a greater extent than other birds top-shaped eggs, an adaptation which prevented loss though laid on narrow shelves of rock through the egg rotating in a circle. Professor Thomson then commented on the plumage of the puffin and the relationship of the razorbill to the great auk, and also produced interesting illustrations of these and of the cormorant. He then asked Mr Pycraft, the well-known ornithologist, to say a few words.

Mr Pycraft, who had a hearty reception, said it was one of the most memorable hours he had spent—the hour at Pennan that afternoon. He desired to impress upon all the members, particularly those in that district, how much could be done in observation of the

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change of plumage of the birds. Much as had yet been written on British birds, there was still a great deal to do in that direction—(applause).

Professor Trail said Pennan was a very interesting district, especially the parts between Aberdour and Pennan on the one side and Pennan and Banff on the other. The Den of Auchmedden was a ravine of exquisite beauty, and there were other dens of the same sort. Through the red sandstone the water had cut these narrow gorges. He would recommend all the members of the Buchan Club to pay a visit to these dens, where they would find a very interesting group of plants. He hoped next season to be able to spend a few days in the district in an organised excursion of investigation among these plants—(applause).

Dr Gibb, lecturer in geology at Aberdeen University, gave a most interesting address dealing with the geology of Pennan. He said the history of the quaint old village was just the history of old red sandstone. Exhibiting a pebble picked up on Pennan shore, he said that pebble had been laid to rest at Pennan long before there were any birds. By means of an improvised model, Dr Gibb gave a lucid exposition of the reason why beds of old red sandstone were to be found in Pennan and nowhere else in Buchan.

Mr James Grant, President of the Banffshire Field Club, gave an interesting account of the history of the district.

Dr Trail, Fraserburgh, in a racy and reminiscent speech, proposed a vote of thanks to the various speakers, and this was heartily accorded.

The weather was favourable, and the party returned home after an enjoyable outing.

*Contributed* FRIDAY, 27th December, 1912.

THE OLD BARONIES OF BUCHAN, BY JAMES FERGUSON  
OF KINMUNDY, K.C., SHERIFF OF FORFARSHIRE.

*The Earldom and the Baronies.*

It is after the conclusion of the War of Independence, and the ruin that overtook the ancient Earls of Buchan and the proud House of Comyn—a name that at one time numbered three Earls and more than thirty belted Knights—that we come into definite real historical touch with the defined and described barony in Buchan. The outstanding feature of the settlement made by King Robert the Bruce was the constitution of the great baronies—large but limited—the lords of which were directly answerable to the king of whom they held in chief. The smaller baronies are mostly, if not all, of later date, and generally emerge after the contest of the Crown with the great feudal houses of which that of Douglas was the most powerful and ambitious. But while the phrase “the revolution that placed the Earl of Carrick on the Scottish throne” is a catching one, it is misleading, for the contest was not a revolutionary, but a dynastic struggle, and a national rising to secure the independence of the realm. The Earls of Buchan paid the forfeit of feudal delinquency against a successful superior, and of the rebel who allies himself with a foreign enemy against his native Sovereign. They had held the Earldom in direct succession and peaceful inheritance from a long line of Celtic Mormaers, the last two of whom appear as feudal Earls, but who possessed in virtue of rights come down from days when the Mormaer was practically an independent Sovereign, like the kinglets of Ireland, and the Monarch was merely an *Ard-righ* or head king. Before and during their tenure of the earldom, the older tribal conditions of Celtic times had been merging into feudal ones, and charter rights had been granted by Earl Fergus. Both the systems of military service, the Scottish service, dating from the oldest days and originating on similar lines in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, and the knight-service, the obligation to provide a mailclad man from a feudal fee, are found in active observance during and after their time, and had probably been in existence side by side before it. The changes made by King Robert were accomplished with as much regard to moral claims as possible. The greater



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grants of the forfeited lands were made to those nearly connected by marriage or maternal descent with the dispossessed house of Comyn, and through the ladies of their race the blood of the old Celtic Mormaers runs to this day in the veins of a large proportion of the gentry of Buchan. In a few cases it is clear that the original owners under the Celtic dynasty of Malcolm Canmore, proprietors in Buchan, either independently or under the superiority of the Comyn earls, continued to enjoy their estates. There were, as at other times, great changes of individual fortune following upon public convulsions; there has never been in Scotland, and least of all perhaps "benorth the Mounth," a wholesale transfer of landed property from one race or class to another such as occurred in the Saxon, Danish, and Norman conquests of England.

To an account of the baronies some notice of the earlier Mormaers and Earls of Buchan is a proper preliminary. The light of authentic record first breaks on Buchan when Columba and Drostan, after landing at Aberdour, came to Deer between 563 and 597, and received from Bede the Pict, who "was Mormaer of Buchan before them," "the towns" of Aberdour and Deer. The names of the Mormaers that have been preserved owing to their gifts to the Columban Monastery are:—

Bede the Pict.

Comgall, son of Aeda, who made a gift to Columba and Drostan.

Matain, son of Caerell, who gave the Mormaers share in Altrie.

Domnall, son of Girec.

Domnall, son of Ruadri, who gave Bidbin (Biffie).

Domnall, son of MacDubbacin (Macdobharcon).

Cainnech, son of MacDobarchon.

Gartnait, son of Cainnech, who and Ete, daughter of Gillemichel his wife, made a grant for a consecration of a church of St Peter in 1132.

Colban, Mormaer of Buchan, who and Eva his wedded wife, daughter of Gartnait, made a grant witnessed by witnesses named, and the "nobles of Buchan all in witness hereof in Elan."

Colban lived in the reign of David I. (1107-1124), as his grant in Gaelic is witnessed by Broccin and Cormac, Abbot of Turriff, who also appears as witness to King David's charter to the clerics

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of Deer. Colban seems to have been the father of Earl Roger, and either father or grandfather of Earl Fergus, as Roger refers to Gartnait his grandfather in his gift to the Culdees of Monymusk. The book of Deer also preserves the names of several Toisechs who held rank next to the Mormaer, and were apparently chiefs of Clans. When Comgall made his gift one was made by Muridach, son of Morcunn, the Toisech. When Matain gave the Mormaer's share Arti, son of Baten, gave the Toisech's share. Maelbrigte, son of Cathal, joined in his gift with Domnall, son of Girec. Cathal, son of Morcunn, gave Achad-na-glerech (the Clerk's field, Clerkshill?). Domnal and Cathal joined in the gift of Etdanin. When Domnal, son of Ruadri, gave Bidbin (the Mormaer's share), Maelcoluim, son of Culeon, also gave (the Toisech's share), and "Maelcoluim, son of Kinaed (King Malcolm II., 1005-1034, the Conqueror of Lothian), gave the king's share in Bidbin." When Colbain and Eva made their grant it was concurred in by Donnachie, son of Sithech, Chief of Clan Morgainn, and among other donors was Comgall, son of Caenech, Chief of Clan Canan, who gave land marching with Aldin Alenn (Aden?). Donchad, son of Macbethad, gave Achadmadchor. Cormac, son of Cennedig, gave as far as Scalemerlech. Bidbin (Biffie), Alterin (Altrie), Auchmachar, and Skillymarno, all appear in the lands of the Cistercian Abbey at its dissolution. At a date probably before 1179, Roger, Earl of Buchan, granted a charter to the Keledeis de Munimusc of an annual rent of grain out of Fedarg (Fedderate) and other gifts, "as Gartnait my grandfather gave them the foresaid charity." Fergus, Earl of Buchan, appears as witness to the erection of St Peter's Hospital in the Spittal by Bishop Matthew Kininmount, of Aberdeen, who died in 1199. He granted a charter before 1214 of the three davochs of Fedreth (estir auhio(ch) (A)uhetherb, Auhethas, and Conwiltes), clearly defined by boundaries, together with the land of Ardendrach to John, son of Uthred, in exchange for the land of Slains and Cruden, to be held in fee and heritage as freely and fully as any Earl or Lord in Scotland could infest any vassal, excepting his right of holding courts of life and limb, the *reddendo* being the service of one archer and three capital attendances at the Court of Ellon to the Earl and the forensic service of our Lord the King. The relief was taxed at £20 "sterlingorum." Among the witnesses were Cospatrik, son of Maded, Malothem his brother, William of Slansy, and Adam, brother of the Earl.

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Marjory (or Margaret), daughter of Fergus, married William Comyn, third son of Richard Comyn, son of Richard Comyn, Justiciary of Scotland (1178-1189), and Hexetilda, granddaughter of King Donald-bane. By a previous marriage William Comyn was ancestor of the Lords of Badenoch and the Comyn Earls of Monteith. He was appointed Justiciar of Scotland in 1220 by William the Lion and died in 1233. Between 1211 and 1214 William Comyn, Earl, and Margari, his wife, Countess of Buchan, granted a charter to the Church of St Thomas the Martyr of Arbroath for the health of the soul of our Lord King William and his sons, and the souls of all our ancestors and successors, of the Church of Bethelny, and of a full toft in the town of Bethelny, William of Slanes being among the witnesses. The Countess Marjory also gave to the Abbey of Arbroath the church of Turriff. In 1218 or 1219 Earl William founded the Cistercian Monastery of St Mary of Deer where he was buried and on which he conferred the lands of Barre in Strath Isla, the witnesses to the charter of these lands being the Countess Marjory, Magnus, son of Earl Colban, Adam, son of Earl Fergus, and many others, and "with the consent of Marjorie my wife, daughter of the late Fergus, Earl of Buchan"—the land of Fechil upon Ythan, there being among the witnesses the Countess, Magnus, Adam, William of Slanes, Nicholas, our Chaplain, Merlswan, son of the Earl, and John, son of Hutred. The foundation charter is believed to have conveyed the churches of Deer and Inverugie, St Peter (Peterhead), with their lands. Earl William granted to Cospatrik Mac-madethyn the lands of "Stratheyne and Kyndrochet" (Strichen) for the payment yearly of 2 stones of wax at Whitsunday and the performance of so much of the military service of the Earldom of Buchan as attached to these lands. The wax rent was afterwards given by the Earl of Buchan in free alms for ever to the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Rattray, said to have been founded in memory of a son of the house drowned by falling into the castle well there. The Chronicle of Melrose records that in 1233 *obiit Willelmus Cumin comes de Buthhan Abbatie de Der fundator.*

The first Comyn Earl was succeeded, according to Douglas's Peerage, by his son William, who was also Justiciar, and is said to have died in 1258, but in 1247 Alexander, Earl of Buchan, was a witness to a charter by King Alexander II. in favour of Robert of Wauchope, and the later view is that there was only one William Comyn, Earl of Buchan.

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The next Earl, Alexander, granted a charter to Fergus, son of John of Fothese, of the tenement of Fothese, the *reddendo* being the forensic service of the King and a half pound of wax yearly to the Earl, and among the witnesses being Sir William Cumyn, our brother, Philip of Fedarg, Huctred our Seneschal, John of Kyn-drocht, and Morgund our Chaplain. In 1261 he granted "at Kelly in Buchan" a charter founding "at Newburgh in Buchan" for the sake of our Soul and of Isabelle our spouse, a hospital for six poor Prebendaries who should celebrate divine rites for the welfare "of ourself and of Isabelle our spouse and of all the faithful dead" in the chapel of Newburgh. In 1265 he leased from Gameline, Bishop of St Andrews, his land of Elon in Buchan "*Quam Scoloci de Elon tenent*," undertaking to perform the forensic service of the land and to be faithful to the Bishop and Church of St Andrews, and guaranteeing for himself and his heirs the reversion of the said land of Ellon to the Bishop and Church of St Andrews. In 1273 he granted a charter founding an eleemosynary house at Turriff, and granting to God, the Blessed Mary, St Congan of Turriff, the said house, the master, chaplains, and other poor persons there serving God, his land of Knockihuly on the Deveron, the charter being granted at Kelly, and among the witnesses being King Alexander III., both Reginald Cheynes (father and son), and Sir Fergus Cumyn, our brother. Two chalders of meal and three chalders of malt were to be furnished yearly by his Constable of Kennedor. In 1277 he granted to Jurdan Cumyn for his homage and service the land of Inuyrachy (Inverallochy), which had been perambulated by its proper marches on the day of St Margaret the Virgin before himself, named witnesses, and many others of our Court, and trustworthy men of the land, and also *le Fortre of Inrure* pertaining to the land to be held of him in fee and heritage, the *reddendo* being one pair of white spurs in blench farm. In 1281 Hugh, Bishop of Aberdeen, Alexander, Earl of Buchan, then Justiciar, and Sir Reginald Cheyne, the father, sat in full Court of Justiciary in a lawsuit of the Abbey of Arbroath about the Moor of Nigg. In 1287 Earl Alexander granted to the Abbey of Arbroath an annual rent for a partice of their land of Taruays which was enclosed within his Park of Kelly. Sir Reginald le Chene about 1300 granted to the Church of the Trinity and St Michael at Scone his land next to that in which was situated the Manor of Good Memory of Alexander of Good

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Memory, formerly Earl of Buchan, before he exchanged it. Earl Alexander was both Justiciar and Lord High Constable of Scotland. His wife was Isabelle de Quenci, daughter of Roger de Quenci, Earl of Winchester, and Helen, one of the heiresses of Alan, Lord of Galloway, where to this day a tract of hilly country retains the name of the Forest of Buchan.

He was succeeded by his son John Comyn, last Earl of Buchan of their name, also Justiciar and Constable of Scotland, who held both the Earldom of Buchan and the Thanages of Fermartyn and Glenduachy. In 1300 Earl John presided "as then Justiciar" in a Court at Aberdeen Castle, in which a lawsuit of the Abbey of Arbroath as to the lands of Tarves was heard, and between 1290 and 1308 gave the Church of Kynedward to the Abbey of Deer, "the last gift which the brethren of St Mary were destined to receive from his name and lineage." During the reign of his relative, John Balliol, the Earl of Buchan took an active part in State affairs. He commanded the Scottish Army which invaded England in 1296, and went on an embassy to Paris in 1303, but shared in the general submission to Edward I. in 1304. The murder of Sir John the Red Comyn of Badenoch by Bruce at Dumfries in 1306 rendered the feud between their families irreconcilable, and the Earl of Buchan having sworn fealty to Edward, kept his faith at the expense of his lands. Checked by Bruce in Glenesk, repulsed at the Slenauch on the borders of Formartine and Strathbogie, and completely defeated at Inverury, the Earl and his forces were pursued into the heart of Buchan by the fiery Edward Bruce, and finally crushed on the slopes above the Abbey of Deer. There followed "the harrying of Buchan," the confiscation of the possessions both of the Buchan and Badenoch branches of their clan, and the proscription of the name of Cumyn.

John, Earl of Buchan, died in exile in England predeceased by his only son. His eldest daughter, Alicia, married Henry Lord Beaumont, who claimed the Earldom in her right, and during the short reign of Edward Balliol after Dupplin in 1332, obtained the possession. He was ultimately besieged in the Castle of Dundarg in 1336, forced to surrender, and on payment of ransom allowed to return to England.

The second daughter of John, Earl of Buchan, according to Douglas, was Margaret (or Rosamond) Cumyn, who married Sir John Ross, brother to the Earl of Ross.

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In a manuscript genealogy of the family of Cheyne it is stated that Francis Lord Cheyne of Inverugy and Essilmont had by his wife Isabel, daughter to John Cumming, Earl of Buchan (besides his heir Francis), Sir Reynauld Cheyne of Straloch and Henry Bishop of Aberdeen (the builder of the Bridge of Don). This Sir Reynauld had by his second wife Janet Marshall, heiress of Essilmont, John Cheyne of Essilmont. Bishop Cheyne was for some time banished to England by King Robert "for having favoured his uncle the Earl of Buchan and the other Cummings." From this statement it would appear that Isabel Cumyn, the wife of Cheyne of Inverugie, was a daughter of Alexander, Earl of Buchan, and not of John.

In "the copy of the Tabill quhilk which was at Couper of all the Erles of Erroll quhilk ver buryit in the Abbey Kirk thair" in the charter room at Slains, it is stated that Gilbert de Haya, Lord of Erroll, Regent of Scotland during the minority of King Alexander II., who died about 1255, married a daughter of William Comyn, Earl of Buchan. She was the grandmother of Gilbert de Hay, the friend of King Robert, upon whom he conferred the hereditary High Constablership of Scotland in 1314. In Peter Buchan's account of the family of Keith it is said that Sir John, 11th of the line, married Margaret Cumming, daughter of the Earl of Buchan. She was the grandmother of Sir Robert Keith, Marischal of Scotland, "who kept close by King Robert Bruce in all his troubles, was the chief instrument in gaining the battle of Inverury," and at the head of the Scottish Horse broke and scattered the English Archery at Bannockburn. Her grand-daughter was, according to Buchan, the wife of William the Hardy, Baron of Douglas, and mother of the Good Sir James and his brother Hugh, but in Douglas's Peerage it is stated that the Good Sir James was the son of his father's first wife, daughter of the Lord High Steward, and the Marischal's daughter, his second wife. Douglas also states that the wife of Archibald Douglas, Lord of Galloway, killed at Halidonhill in 1333, and mother of William, Earl of Douglas, who married the heiress of Mar, was the daughter of John Cummin.

Thus all those who received their first grants of extensive possessions from the forfeited lands of the Comyn Earl in Buchan were more or less closely connected with his house. Hay the Constable, who received the lands and Castle of Slains, and Keith the Marischal, who obtained the Barony of Aden, were both great

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grandsons of a Comyn Earl; Sir John Ross, who got the great Barony and Castles of Kynedward and Cairnbulg, was son-in-law of the forfeited Earl; the Douglasses, who received the lordship and Castle of Rattray, and the Baronies of Crimond and Aberdour, were also connected with the house of Comyn; Archibald, Lord of Galloway, who is said himself to have married a Comyn, being the third son of William the Hardy.

Four families established in the district under the suzerainty, or at least in the time of the Comyn Earls, continued to hold their lands. Of these the principal was the Norman family of the Cheynes of Inverugie, who were closely connected by marriage with the Comyn Earls, and appear as witnesses to their charters. "The first charter of Inverugie," says the Author of the View of the Diocese of Aberdeen, "lately in the Marischal's hands was granted by King William the Lyon *Bernardo Cani filio Gulielmi Canis.*" They were hereditary Sheriffs of Banff, of which County their lands of St Fergus, Fetterangus, and Straloch were till 1889 detached portions. The important Barony of Fedderate belonged to a family who took their name from it, and were probably the descendants of the John, son of Uchtred, who received a charter of three davochs of Fedreth from Fergus, Earl of Buchan, about 1206. Magnus of Fetherith was one of the great Barons who met at Brigham in 1289. William of Fedreth appears in 1286 and 1294 as the husband of Christian of Moravia, one of the heiresses of Duffus in Moray. In 1286 there was a convention as to lands in Strathnaver between the portioners of Duffus, namely, William of Fedreth and Christian his spouse, and Sir Reginald le Cheyne who (or whose father) in a charter of Strathnaver in 1269 appears as the husband of Mary, daughter of the late Frysikin of Moravia, the other heiress. William of Fedreth about 1300 bound himself to maintain the Abbey of Deer in all their actions and causes, held from the Convent in superiority the lands of Auchrathy (Auchreddie or New Deer), and declared that he had no right in the part of the Park of Badorosky from the northern part of the rivulet flowing within the Park of the same place, though Magnus his father believed that he had some right, among the witnesses to the deed being Roger of Fedreth and Jordan Cumyn. In the rolls of missing charters by King David II. was a "Carta given by William Feddereffe of that ilk to William Cumming and Helen Feddereffe of the lands of Feddereffe."

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In an MS. account of "The Arms and Succession of the Crawfords in Scotland" it is said that William Crawford, first Laird of Featherhead, was grandson to the Laird of Hayning, who going to the North in King Robert Bruce's wars, there married the daughter of Cumine, Earl of Buchan, and by her got the lands of Slanyness, which he after exchanged for Featherhead. So he was first Leard of Slains in Buchan: thereafter of Featherhead." It is possible that the line of the Fedreths terminated in an heiress who married a Comyn, one of the offshoots from the stock of the Earldom, and that an heiress of the name, though not a daughter of the Earl, carried the lands to the Craufords.

The estate of Inverallochy was long held by a family of Cumyns, probably descended from the Jordan Cumyn to whom it was granted by the Earl of Buchan, and who is said to have been a son (probably illegitimate) of one of the Earls. The first of the Buchans of Auchmacoy is said to have been a son of Cummin, Earl of Buchan, who adhered to the Bruce, and was allowed to retain his estate, but compelled to change his name. "It appears," says the New Statistical Account, "from Robertson's Index of Scarce Charters that the Buchans of Auchmacoy were proprietors of that estate as far back as the year 1318, holding it of the Earl of Buchan until the forfeiture of the too powerful Cummings in the reign of King Robert Bruce. In 1503 James IV. gave Andrew Buchan a new charter, and erected his lands into a free Barony which has been inherited by his lineal male descendants ever since."

The great castles of the Comyn Earls were—Kinedward, their principal messuage near the banks of the Deveron; Dundargue on the northern coast, which was apparently the chief residence of the Barony of Aberdour; Cairnbulg at the other extremity of the great Barony of Kinedward; Rattray on the sandy coast near the Loch of Strathbeg, formerly an arm of the sea, commanding what was apparently the port of Northern Buchan long before the Frasers founded Fraserburgh or the Keiths developed Peterhead, and which may have survived till the Douglas forfeiture; Slains near the eastern coast, the successor of which a little further north is still the seat of the Earl of Erroll, Lord High Constable of Scotland; and Kelly, now represented by the Earl of Aberdeen's mansion of Haddo House, which, though not now in modern Buchan, was in old days described as *in Buchania*, was a favourite residence of the Comyn Earls, and



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must have been a convenient home when they also held the thanage of Fermartyn. Dundarg, Rattray, and Slains may originally have been constructed as Coast defences in the days of the Danish and Norwegian Wars, for in the reign of Alexander III., before Haco's invasion was shattered at Largs, an order was issued for the inspection and repair of all the castles on the northern coast.

Buchan seems to have prospered under the rule of the Comyn Earls. They held it not by conquest, or by purchase, or independent grant, but as the heirs by blood, and by natural succession of its old Pictish or Scottish Lords. The names preserved in their charters indicate that the old Celtic owners remained with some Saxon settlers and Norman Knights, probably more Normans than Saxons having in their day found their way as far North as Buchan, among the "faithworthy men of the country," who attended their Courts, and it is probable that the army broken by Bruce at Inverury was largely comprised of "a following" from the smaller owners and tenantry of the old original Celtic stock, attending the representative of the ancient Mormaers to the field under the historic obligation of Scottish service. They seem to have been loyally and enthusiastically followed in Buchan, Badenoch, and Galloway by the brave men of the native race, and King Robert's contest with them was as critical as, and an essential preliminary to, his victory on the wider field of Bannockburn. The Comyn Earls were skilled soldiers, sagacious statesmen, and high officers of State, who bore a conspicuous part in the public affairs of the nation. In their own territory they showed themselves thoughtful for the spiritual welfare of the people and benefactors and reformers, according to the lights of the times, of the Church. They raised one famous Abbey as the lantern of the north-eastern corner of the realm, they endowed churches, and they founded hospitals. Under their strong and dignified rule Buchan seems to have enjoyed a period of peace and developing civilisation, and when King Robert launched his brother in pursuit of the retreating levies of the region and

"herryit it on sic manere,  
That eftir that weill fifty yeir  
Men menyit the herschip of Bouchane,"

he probably found it, in comparison with the war-harassed districts further south, a territory well worth the ravaging.

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Upon the fall of the Black Douglases in the middle of the 15th century, their lands in Buchan were divided. Rattray itself passed to the Earl of Erroll, Broadland of Rattray to Monypenny coming ultimately to the Keiths, Crimond to Dunbar of Westfield, and subsequently also to the Hays, while Aberdour went to Lord Borthwick and subsequently passed to the Cheynes of Esslemont, a branch of the old house of Inverugie of which a lesser offshoot held Arnage under the superiority of Slains. At a still later period embracing the Wars of the Covenant the outstanding feature was the power and prosperity of the Keiths. The Earl Marischal held in property or superiority at one time or another, the lands which had formed his family's first great northern Barony of Aden, the heritage by two marriages of the old Cheynes of Inverugie, the lands of Rattray, and those of Cairness beyond the Loch of Strath-beg, the old possessions of the Abbey of Deer, Little Crichtie, and Coynach, while the Knight of Ludquharn had the castle of Ludquharn, and that of Boddam at Buchanness on the extreme eastern point of the Scottish Coast. In the north another cadet family of the name were owners of Troup and Northfield on the Moray Firth. The territory of the Earl Marischal seems to have stretched at its fullest in an unbroken sweep from the march of Slains to the borders of Inverallochy, and up the Valley of the Ugie beyond Bruxie and Clackriach, and even to Auchreddie and Cairnbanno, and south and east round Crichtie and Coynach, by the march of Kinmundy to the limits of Slains again.

The smaller Baronies were of later development than the great ones into which the heritage of the Comyns was portioned. Out of the greatest of them, Kinedward, came Philorth, Pitsligo, Delgaty, Inverallochy, Strichen, Glencuthill, Moncoffer, New Murecroft, and Allathan. Out of Aden came, if not Baronies, many estates. Some of these secondary Baronies supported families of great influence and dignity. An old rhyme says

“There be six great Barons of the North,  
Fyvie, Findlater, and Philorth,  
And if you would ken the other three,  
Pitsligo, Drum, and Delgatie.”

Of these all, except Findlater, were Barons of Buchan, for the Irvines of Drum for long held the domain of Fedderate. The list excludes

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the great Earls, Erroll and Marischal, who held the two offices of highest dignity in the Scottish realm.

The charters and deeds from which the notices of the earlier Baronies are traced (mainly collected in the *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*) present some points of picturesque interest. The *reddendo* in many cases was "The services due and customary," as in that of Philorth. In several it was three or one attendances annually at the head Court of the Barony or of the Sheriffdom, either alone or with other prestations. In the cases of Aden and Invergie, for example, the *reddendo* to the King was three attendances annually at the three head Courts of the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, together with ward, relief, and marriage when they happen. Ward, relief, and marriage are frequently specified and not infrequently taxed at money rates. The most honourable tenure of all was that of a pair of gilt spurs at the Feast of Pentecost if asked only in name of blench duty, found in the cases of Slains and Kinmundy. The charter in these cases generally narrates specially distinguished service by the grantee. In the case of Faithlie in 1381 where the grant is by a subject superior, the *reddendo* is gilt spurs. In one case, that of the grant of Inverallochy by Alexander, Earl of Buchan, the *reddendo* is a pair of white (or silver) spurs to the Earl. A silver penny is not uncommon, as in the cases of Broadland Rattray, Pitsligo, and Ardgrain. A rose at the Feast of St John the Baptist, Midsummer, is found in that of Aberdour, and a red rose at the same Feast in that of New Murecroft, and a fixed quantity of wax for the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin at Rattray in that of the lands of Kindrocht. In some cases it is the service of one Knight, or part of the service of one Knight, the true Knight service of the mailclad mounted man of feudal chivalry. In Fergus, Earl of Buchan's charter, the recipient is bound to provide the service of one archer. A remarkable and carefully adjusted stipulation is found in Irvine of Drum's grant of Artamford, where the *reddendo* is, in addition to a money payment and attendances at Courts, "their proper service in the manner of the country in the armies of our Sacred Lord the King and his successors at their own expenses and their personal services in our proper service beyond the '*Australem escam*,' commonly called the South Vater Esk or South Vater at our expenses, but within the said Esk, that is the northern part of this Kingdom, at their own expenses." In the case of lands in Ellon

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held of the Archbishop of St Andrews, the *reddendo* was 8/- Scots at the Feast of St Martin, for the sustentation of two clerical singers in the Parish Church of Ellon. The forensic service of our Lord the King is in many cases specially saved or stipulated, this being the ordinary obligation by which the armies of feudal times were kept in the field for forty days. It covered both the Knight service of a mounted man at arms and "the Scottish service," to which every one down to the husbandman with a cow, as laid down by Robert the Bruce, was liable. It is probable that by the service "*more patriæ*" Scottish service was meant, but express allusions to Scottish service are not wanting. In the charter of Laskgoune in Slains of 1433, the lands are to be held "making the Scottish service to our Lord the King as much as pertains to the fourth part of one davoch of land." When King Robert I. granted to Mary Comyn, widow of Edward Comyn, her rights of terce out of her late husband's lands, of "the two Cullenachys and Salchope within our thanage of Fermartyn," it was under the condition "there being saved to us only from the said land the Scottish service in our army." The Aberdeenshire charter chests contain illustrations from beyond the bounds of Buchan. When David II. granted to Adam of Urquhart in 1357 the whole Sheriffdom of Cromarty it was subject to giving attendance at the Royal Court of Justiciary at Inverness and the Scottish service as much as pertains to so much land, and when William of Fedreth and his wife gave to Sir Reginald Cheyne in 1286 the four davochs of land which they held in Strathnaver and any other land they might in future hold there, Cheyne and his heirs undertook to make for them the third part of the service of one Knight for their land in the Barony of Duffus in Moray and the Barony of Strathbrok in Linlithgow, it being adjected that the men and tenants of the Fedreths "will make the Scottish service as often as service of this kind happens to be exacted or afforded."

In King William the Lion's charter of 1171 confirming the Earldom of Mar to Morgund, son of Gillocherus, lately Earl, he is taken bound to make "*forinsecum servicium videlicet servicium Scoticanum sicut ante-cessores sui mihi et ante-cessoribus meis facere conseruerunt.*"

In the charter of 1369 to Adam Urquhart, Sheriff of Cromarty, of lands in the Barony of Kinedward, he is taken bound to make the forensic service to our Lord the King: Fergus, Earl of Buchan, in

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his charter stipulated that the grantee should make to him the free service of one archer, with the forensic service of our Lord the King, as much as pertains to the foresaid lands, and in King Robert I.'s charter of Rattray of 1324 to Archibald of Douglas, Archibald and his heirs, were bound to make "the forensic service as much as pertains to the half of the service of one Knight."

The Earldom of Buchan forfeited by the Comyns was in later times twice conferred by the Kings upon members of the Royal House of Stewart. It seems, however, to have been mainly a title of honour, carrying only with it a limited connection with such parts of the Earldom as may not by that time have been granted to others in barony. The substantial rights of property or superiority were given by independent grants of the Barony of Kinedward.

In 1370-1388 the thanage of Fermartyn was conferred by King Robert II. on Sir James Lindsay, who was designed "Lord of Crawford and Buchan."

In 1374 (according to Douglas) King Robert II. conferred the Earldom of Buchan upon his fourth son, Alexander Stewart, Lord of Badenoch, "The Wolf of Badenoch."

In 1382 the King conferred upon Alexander Stewart, Lord of Badenoch, after his marriage with Eufemia, Lady of Ross, the Barony of Kynedward. He died in 1394 without legitimate issue, though one of his sons became the famous Earl of Mar and Garioch, who fought at Harlaw.

His brother Robert, Duke of Albany, Governor of Scotland, then got the Earldom, which he bestowed upon his gallant son John, Earl of Buchan and Constable of France, who fell at Verneuil in 1424 without male issue, leaving a daughter, who married Lord Seton. Eufemia the younger, Countess of Ross, resigned her title of Ross, and estates including the Barony of Kynedward, in favour of her uncle, John Stewart, Earl of Buchan, and one charter by him of lands in Kynedward, dated in 1423, was confirmed by King James I. in 1428. From 1442 to at least 1486 the Barony of Kynedward was in the hands of the Lords of the Isles as the representatives of the House of Ross.

In 1476 or 1477 King James III. conferred the Earldom of Buchan upon Sir James Stewart, Lord of Auchterhouse, second son of the Black Knight of Lorn by Queen Joan, widow of King James

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l., and thus uncle of the King, from whom it has passed in descent to the present time.

In 1490 King James IV. granted to him the lands of the Barony of King Edward, and charters dealing with lands in that Barony were granted by him and by his son Alexander, Earl of Buchan, who succeeded to the Earldom in 1505, but the Barony of Kynedward seems to have been taken from the Earl of Buchan of the later Stewart line, for in 1503 and 1505 King James IV. granted or confirmed charters of lands in Kynedward, which narrated that it had been adjudged to belong to the King as next heir of the late John, Earl of Buchan, Constable of France, who died the last legal possessor of the Barony, and whose nearest legal heir in the Barony was George Lord Seton, who had resigned his rights in the Barony in favour of the King.

Earl Alexander was succeeded by his son John who, his only son having been killed at Pinkie, was succeeded at his death in 1551 by his grand-daughter, Christian Stewart, who married Robert Douglas, brother of the Earl of Morton. Their son, James Douglas, Earl of Buchan, was succeeded by an only daughter, Mary Douglas, Countess of Buchan, who married James Erskine, son of the Earl of Mar, in favour of whom herself and their heirs, she resigned and got a new charter of the Earldom of Buchan in 1625. The Earldom has since descended in the family of Erskine.

John, Earl of Buchan, in 1527, granted a charter of Ardgrain "*In comitatu Buchanie*," and the Earls of Buchan long continued to receive sasine of the Earldom and "the Mount called Earlishill" at Ellon.

*The Individual Baronies.*—The notices of these which follow are, as far as possible, given in geographical order, proceeding, in the first instance, northwards round the Coast. The smaller Baronies which formed part originally of the greater, are generally dealt with in succession to them, though this has not been definitely adhered to where local situation or later connection made it desirable to present together a general view of the lands in the same district. The Baronies of course often included detached or non-contiguous lands, Kininmonth and Auchiries, for example, being in the Barony of Slains even before the Earls of Erroll acquired Crimond and Rattray. A Buchan Barony sometimes had incorporated with it by annexation lands in other districts or Counties, and similarly

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lands in Buchan were in a few cases portions of a Formartine or even a Lothian Barony.

### *The Barony and Regality of Slains.*

*Slains.*—Upon the forfeiture of the Comyn Earls of Buchan, King Robert granted the high office of Constable of Scotland, which had been held by them, to his faithful follower, Sir Gilbert Hay, ancestor of the Earls of Erroll. One of their castles was that of Slains on the eastern Coast, and a gift of a large part of the Earl of Buchan's lands accompanied the constabulary. The Barony of Slains seems substantially to have embraced the Parishes of Cruden, Slains, the buried Parish of Forvie, and part of Ellon till it met the lands of the Scolaria of Ellon. It gave a title to a Pursuivant at Arms of the Lord High Constable.

In a roll of missing charters of King Robert I. is a "Carta Gilberti de Haya of the lands of Slanes." In 1368 an agreement was made between the Lord of Erroll and William of Fenton by which Fenton was infest in 20 mercats of land of old extent in the Barony of Slains, and in 1389 the Constable granted to Richard of Kynnard, the lands of Chethynrawache and Kynnynmonde *cum fortiris* in the Barony of Slains, the charters being confirmed by the King in 1397. In 1377 Robert II. granted to his dearest son, Thomas Hay (husband of his daughter Elizabeth), the Constable, these *centum libratas terre in tenemento de Slanys* which our grandfather, Robert the Illustrious King of Scots, had given to the deceased Gilbert Hay to be held in fee and heritage as one whole and free Barony, the *reddendo* being one pair of gilt spurs at Slains at the Feast of Pentecost in name of blench farm.

In 1546 the Earl of Erroll regranted to Thomas, son and heir of Ulfridus Lask, the lands of Lask and Achlethin in the Earldom of Buchan and Barony of Slains, and in 1470 William, Earl of Erroll, confirmed a deed of 1457 by which Alan of Kynard pledged to William Hay of Ury his lands of Lital Arnag with the mill, Schethynrawestone and Cragy in the Barony of Slains. In 1461 Margaret Fenton of Bakie resigned her fourth part of the lands of Archeries in the Barony of Slains; in 1477 the Earl of Erroll regranted the fourth part of the lands of Achiries to William Hay of Dronlaw, and in 1487, Janet Fentoun of Bakie, widow of William

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Haket, resigned the fourth part of the lands of Arquhere in the same Barony. In 1482 Alexander Fraser of Philorth was served to 12 marks of the lands of Tallarty to be supplied, if Tallarty was insufficient, from the lands of Tibirtaw in the Barony of Slains, the 12 marks of the foresaid land being held in fee of the Earl of Erroll. In 1498 Henry Douglas resigned his fourth part of the land of Auchirys in the Barony of Slains in excambion for those called *le Emreis lands* in the Barony of Erroll. In 1495 Agnes Brogan had resigned her two parts of the lands of Brogane Leask in the Barony.

In 1501 Thomas Kinnard of Skewow sold to the Earl the lands of Little Arnage with the mill, Sythin Rawak, Craigie and Cortycrome, which he held of him, reserving a house and yard and acre of land in Cortycrome, in which he was to be infeft along with Kynonmond and Parskow in blench farm. In 1504 John Hay, Junr., was infeft in Craigiecroft with the mill of the same and multures of the Earl's lands of Leysk, Mikill Artrawchy, and Auchlethen in the Barony of Slains, and in 1506 the Earl as Lord and Baron of Slains granted to Ade Hepburne of Cragie the lands of Raynstoune and Cragy in the Barony. In 1507 Elizabeth, Countess of Erroll, discharged her terce out of the lands of Acharnys and Ardiffery, the Knaperlaw, Furvie, Balmatuthyll, the Mill of Crudane, the two Ardmackornis, the Gask, Cloichtow, the Hawdo of Furvie, the Ailhousis and Smiddie of Cruden in the Barony of Slains, and William, Earl of Erroll, was served heir *inter alia* of all the lands of the Barony of Slains. In 1511 John "Roberti" of Leask Brogan in the Barony resigned his lands, and in 1513 two pairs of gilt spurs were exacted for the sasine of William Hay in the Barony of Slains and offices of Constable of Scotland, and of the Sheriffship of Aberdeen, and £4 of relief for the lands of Rattray. In 1514 Alexander Chalmers had sasine of the lands of Mekil Nedder Ordlethin in the Barony, and in 1516 of the eastern half of the town of Neddirdir Ordlethin. In 1521 William Hay had sasine of Neddirdir Leisk with the mill, and in 1553 Barbara Hay, his daughter, had sasine of the sunny part of the half of the town of Nether-leask, with the whole Mill of Leask and Mill Lands, namely, Craigiecroft and the astricted multures of Meikle Artraqhuy, Tassethill, Netherleisk, Overleisk, Caikmald, Balscamsay, Ardlethin.

In 1605 the Earl of Erroll sold to William Watson the town and lands of Haddo of Rattray in the Barony of Slains and Parish of



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Crimond. In 1672 John Menzies was served to one-eighth part of two ploughs of Knappernay, and one-eighth part of two ploughs of Crawley with the croft belonging to those lands occupied by John Bruce, within the Barony and Parish of Slains.

In 1705 Charles, Earl of Erroll, was served heir *inter alia* to the Lordship and Barony of Slains, and the Regality of Slains. The Lordship and Barony of Slains is described as including Leask and Garnhill in the Parish of Slains, Artrochies, Tipperty, and Tarty in the Parish of Logy, Little Arnadge in the Parish of Ellon, Pitmedden and Mill of Torrie in the Parish of Udney, Wester Auchquharnie and Earlseat in the Parish of Cruden, Kininmonth, Haddo, and Rattray in the Parish of Crimond, and Elsick in the Parish of Fetteresso in the Shire of Kincardine.

The extent and old scope of the Barony is indicated by the investigations and decreets as to marches. In 1512 the marches were laid down between the Earl's lands of Slains, Knapperlaw, and Clochtow, and Gilbert Hay's lands of Ardendracht, which though in the centre of the Slains Barony had originally been part of the Barony of Belhelvie in Formartine. In 1555 a solemn inquiry was held under the auspices of the Archbishop of St Andrews as to the breaking up of a "merche cairne callit Cairne Sheilis," between the Master of Erroll's lands of Gask in the Barony of Slains and the lands of Inuernytie pertaining to William Lord Marischal in the Barony of Audehan. In 1596 William Leisk of that ilk testified that "before Flowdown his umquhill father" married Hay daughter to the Laird of Mouquhallis, who was then Goodman of Inuernytie, that Hay's shepherd had built a sheep cot on the south side of the burn of Invernettie, that William, Earl of Erroll, came to the ground and demanded of the shepherd "Wha dwelt therein, whome of he held the said house, or wha aught that land?" The shepherd answered that the land was the Earl's, and that his master "in hamelenes" had put up the cot "for safety of his sheep in evil wedder on his Lordship's ground." The Earl answered "Gif he had said othirwayis he suld causit hang him upon the balk of the said house." Walter Leisk also said that, being at Essilmonth in the tyme of umquhil Sir Patrick Cheyne, umquhil Alexander Fraser of Philorth came from Aberdeen "fra sum peremptor dyatt thair betwixt the Erle of Erroll and the Erle Marschell" as to the "questionable debate" of marches between Gask and Invernettie, and on being

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asked by Cheyne answered that, as he believed or heard "of common brute of the countrie, the burn of Inuernytie was richt merch." In 1587 Francis Earl of Erroll and John Gordon of Pitlurg submitted to George Earl of Huntly as judge mutually chosen to march the debatable lands betwixt the lands of Slains and Cruden pertaining to the Earl, and John Gordon's lands of Kynmundy and Kinknokie, and in 1607 a similar contract was made between the Earl of Erroll as proprietor of the lands and Barony of Slains and of the lands of Stainniehill, Adie, and Moreseat, pertinents of the said Barony, and Andrew Fraser of Stanniewood, proprietor of the lands of Kinmundy (Nether) and lands of Saok and Denis pertinents thereof.

The Leasks, father and son of that ilk, had in 1617 and 1622 become involved as cautioners for Keith of Ludquharn, with whom they were apparently related, and their lands of Leask, including Bogbrae and Belliescamphie, were apprizid. In 1681 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir *inter alia* to the lands of Leask held of the Earl of Erroll, and these lands were with others conveyed to him in 1688 by Sir Robert Milne of Barnton, who had acquired many of the creditors' rights.

### *The Barony of Ardendraught.*

*Ardendraught.*—About 1200 the lands of Ardendrach were given to John son of Uchtred by Fergus, Earl of Buchan, along with Fedderate in excambion for Slains and Cruden. In 1370 David II. confirmed a charter by which John de Bona Villa de Balhelvie sold to Walter Moygne Knight his land of Ochluchry "*infra dominium de Ardendracht.*" In 1414 John Fraser, Lord of Ardendrauch, granted to his cousin, Alexander Fraser, his lands of le Haldauch lying in the lordship of Ardendrauch for his life. The lands of Ardendraucht and Auchleuchries appear as contained in the Barony, formerly the old thanage of Belhelvie, in the modern Formartine, prior to 1503. In 1547 John Gordon of Pitlurg gave to his brother, James Gordon, the lands of Easter and Wester Auchleuchries lying in the Barony of Ardendracht, and the Hays of Ardendraught were a leading cadet branch, from which came the Hays of Delgaty, of the House of Erroll.

In 1692 at Moscovia General Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries, Commander-in-Chief of the select regiments of their Imperial Majesties of all Russia, granted to John Gordon, his eldest son, the lands of Auchleuchries, etc., "in the barronie of Ardendred, Parish of Crouden, Shirrefdome of Aberdiene, and Kingdome of Scotland."

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In 1722 Mary, Countess of Erroll, with consent of Mr Alexander Hay of Dalgetie, granted a precept of *Clare constat* of Auchleuchries, etc., in the Barony of Ardendraught and Regality of Slains, to be held of her as immediate superior.

### *The Barony and Lordship of Inverugie.*

*Inverugie.*—The lands of Inverugie on the lower north bank of the Ugie were the principal possessions of the great Norman family of Cheyne, who were hereditary Sheriffs of Banff. They passed on the marriage of the heiress of their name, about 1380, to the younger son of the Marischal who founded the family of the Keiths of Inverugie, which also ended in an heiress whom the third Earl Marischal, who fought at Pinkie in 1547, ultimately married.

In 1400 Catrina Pyngil, with consent of her husband, John Steill, pledged to William of Dalgarnock the whole half town of Blacwatyr in the Barony of Inviroyg.

In 1491 King James IV. granted to Sir Gilbert Keith of Inverugy and Jonete Graham, his spouse, the whole superiority of the lands of Torterstoun, Buthla, le Scottis Myln, and the rock commonly called le Ravinniscrag, which formerly belonged to George, Earl of Huntly. At the same time the King granted authority to Gilbert Keith to erect a castle or fortalice on the said rock called Ravinniscrag in length, breadth, and height as should seem most expedient "*cum Vectibus ferreis, le battaling Machcoling portculicis le drawbiggis,*" with all other defences for secure guards of the said castle with constables, janitors, *excubatoribus*, prison-keepers, watchmen, ditches and prisons, and all other liberties and advantages as any castle within the realm.

In 1493 Sir Gilbert Keith, and in 1495 William Keith of Inverugie appear as superiors of the lands of Medillesse, Southesse, North esse, and Peittenhavch with the fishing of the waters of Ugy, Scottispule, and the cruffis of the samen.

In 1508 William Keith of Inverugie obtained a royal charter by which the lands of Straloch, which he had license to alienate to James Cheyne to be held of him, were united to his lands and Barony of Inverugy. In 1538 the Sheriff of Banff had to account for the duties of the Barony of Inverugie on the sasine of two heiresses, and William, Earl Marischal, and his spouse Lady Margaret Keith,

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received a charter, *inter multa alia*, of a half of the Barony of Inverugie *cum castro fortalicio*, etc., and the whole lands and Baronies enumerated which formerly belonged to Elizabeth, sister of the said Margaret, were incorporated into one Barony to be called the Barony of Inverugie, the *reddendo* being three attendances at the head Courts of the Sheriffdom of Banff with ward relief and marriage. In 1543 Queen Mary confirmed a charter by Margaret Keith, Countess of Marischal and Lady of Inverugie, by which she granted to "our dear uncle" John Keith of Ravynniscraig the lands of Brodland Rattray, and Mylnhill, Carneglass, and Carnes, Routhnochy, with the mill of the same called of Crimond, Coklay, Donyhillis, and Dennis, Torterstoun, Buthlaw, Aillhoushill, with the mill of the same called Scottismylne, Ravynniscraig with the rock and fortalice or *castrum* of the same, and the fishings both in fresh and salt water lying in our Barony of Inverugie and Shire of Aberdeen. In 1581 the Sheriff of Banff had to account for the duties of a half of the lands and Barony of Inverugie upon the sasine of George Earl Marischal, and of the lands in Caithness and Linlithgow incorporated with the said Barony, while it as well as Deer and Aden was frequented by vagabonds and common thieves. In 1589 the Earl confirmed a charter in favour of John, son of Andrew Keith, of Ravenscraig, Mains of Torterstoun, the Manor fortalice and castle of Ravenscraig with the Scottismylne, Ailhoushill, Coklay, Dennis, Dounihillis, Thunderton, the Outhill and Cranloch, Gledenny, Bouthlaw, and Newsait, Brodland, Mylnhill, with the Mill of Crannoch, Rothnachie, Carneglas, and Carness, with the fishings in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen and Barony of Inverugie, the *reddendo* being four pennies in name of blench farm. The grant was confirmed by the King in 1593.

In 1609 there was conveyed *inter alia* in conjunct fee to Lady Mary Erskine, future spouse of the Master of Marischal, the lands of Ednie, Mills of Inverugie, and lands of Archlie (sic Auchlie?), Carhill, over Kinloche, Blackwater, Southesse, etc., in the Barony of Inverugie and Sheriffdom of Banff.

In 1632 when the lands of Troup were granted to Sir James Gordon of Lesmoir, the taxed ward was described as part of the taxed *devorie* due from the Lordship and Barony of Inverugie. In 1642 there was given *inter alia* in life rent to the Countess Marischal "Middil Esse, North Esse, Newseat, South Esse, Mosland, Kirk-

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croft and Blair of the same, Pittenheth, Bearhill, over Kinlock, Carnehill, Blakwatter, Torterstoun, Ravinscraig, *cum castro*, with the mill of Torterstoun in the Barony of Inverugie.

Considerable lands were held by the Earl Marischal in superiority of which it is difficult to determine to which of their Baronies they belonged. In 1681 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir *inter alia* to the lands of Coynach with the Mill of Clola, Little Cocklaw, Myreside, and Balmuir with tenements in Peterhead, Seatoune, Lands of Stirlinghill, Auldmad, with the Manor Place, Golkhorne, Drymure, Gokhill, Badforsko, with the Mill, all held of the Earl Marischal, these lands being in 1688 conveyed to Sir William Keith by Sir Robert Milne, in whom the lands of the Ludquharn family other than Ludquharn had become vested in consequence of a series of apprisings. Auld Mad and Badforsko were in the Lordship of Altrie, though not so described in these deeds.

The Barony of Inverugie appears to have come to be considered the most important possession of the Earls Marischal, and the bulk of their other possessions were consolidated with it as the Lordship of Inverugie. The most complete description of their lands in Buchan, other than those of the Lordship of Altrie or Deer, which was dealt with by a separate charter of the same date, is found in a Royal Charter of September, 1692, by which King James VI. regranted to George Earl Marischal and William Keith his son, the Lordship and Barony of Inverugie, comprehending apparently all the Baronies previously held inclusive of Keith-Marischal in Lothian, Dunottar, and others in the Mearns, Kintore, Straloch, etc. After dealing with Keith Marischal some of the Kincardineshire and the Kintore lands, it proceeds to specify "The lands and Barony of Auden with the fortalice *lie Manys* Manor Place and pendicles, viz. :—Creichie, Conyek, Auden, Smvddylands, Slowgiescroft, Mill of Auden, Brighous, Mynetlay (Mintlaw), Langmure, Auchtydonald, Lie Smyddyland of the same, Auchley, Dumpstone, Fortre, Rora, Mill, and Lie Brewstercroft of the same, Quhytsvd, Cortheis, Corthebray, Salterhillis, Lie Auldtown of Auchereis, Lie same, Lie Ailhauscroft and Lie Broustercroft of the same, Mill of Inverquhombray, Yokkishill, Auchtyga, Blakburne, *alias* Coklaw, Invernety, Mill of the same, Coitburne *alias* Littel Boddome,

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Mekill Boddom, boats and fishings of Boddowness, Inchmoir, Lie Schiphirdiscroft, and Smyddyland, and Volumescroft, and Cottelliscroft of Invernety, Dorne with the fortalice, Auchinhamperis with the fortalice mill and multures, Troup, Pettindrum, Petblie, Newcroft, Norfield, Prastoun, Crowvi, Honieshillis, Techmurie, with castles, mills, etc., in the Sheriffdoms of Aberdeen and Banff; the lands and Barony of Inverugie with the castle and pendicles, namely, the Mill of Inverugie with the mill lands, etc., Lie Inglismylnie *lie Smythicroft*, with the salmon fishings, *lie Cruvis* on the Water of Ugy, *lie Lowsydhillock*, *lie quhyt-boittis fisching* of the same, Over Kinloch West-Ailhous, Eist-Ailhous, Nether Kinloch, Scottistown, Willis-croft, Blackwater, *lie quhyt-fisching*, with boats of the same, Pettinheicht, *lie quhyt-fisching* with boats of the same, North Essay, Middil Essye, South Essy, Newsait, Carcairne, Beirhill, Vobsteriscroft, Kenye (Ednye?), Mill of Eirthlie, Gallowhil, Fullingmill of Huthie, Hewthy, Mill of Gavell, *Lie Mylnetown* of G. Gawell, Auchreny." There follow the lands of Straloch, lands and Barony of Dunottar, etc., and the charter proceeds:—"The town and lands of Torterstoun, Butlaw, Scottismyle, the Mount *lie Ravinscraig* with the fortalice and Manor Place, the lands of Dawniehillis, Dennis, Ailhoushill, the lands and Barony of Boirdland of Ratrie, Raithnaquhye, Carnglas, Cardness, *lie Mylnhill*, Mill of Crawmond, with the mill lands, etc." These are followed by the lands and Barony of Fetteresso. A similar enumeration of the lands of Aden, Inverugie, Torterstoun, etc., is found in a later charter of 1612.

### *The Barony of Aden.*

*Aden.*—The historian of the Keith family states that in 1320 King Robert Bruce bestowed on Sir Robert Keith, the Marischal, who led the Scottish Cavalry at Bannockburn, "the greatest part of his cousin the Earl of Buchan's lands." His grandfather had married Margaret Comyn, daughter of the first Comyn, Earl of Buchan. His grandson's second son John married Mary Cheyne, the heiress of Inverugie, about 1380.

In 1324 King Robert I. granted a charter to Robert Keith, which, along with the office of Marischal and Lands in Lothian, Strathbogie, the Forest of Kintore, and others confirmed to him the lands of "Alneden in Buchania cum nova foresta." In a roll of lost charters of Robert I. is a "*Carta Roberti Keith Marshall* of Scotland of the lands of Alneden and Auchidouenald, etc., in *vice*

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*comitatu de Aberdeen.*" His son, King David II., granted a charter to Edward Keith of the Forest of Kintore the Barony of Alneden, and the Forest of Cardenauche in Buchan *in vice comitatu de Aberdeen.*

The Barony of Aden appears to have been an extensive one on both banks of the Ugie, and probably embraced the most of the lands, including the later Parish of Longside, between the possessions of the Abbey of Deer, the lands of Over Kinmundy, which for a century or so seem to have remained in the great Barony of King Edward, Ludquharn, of which the superior was the Earl of Mar, Lord Erroll's great Barony of Slains, and the possessions of the Cheynes on the Lower Ugie. In later years cadet families of the Keiths held many smaller properties in the valley of the Ugie. Between 1366 and 1407 William Lord Keith, Marischal of Scotland, gave a charter to Thomas Fraser of "all our lands of Kymmoney (Nether Kinmundy), with the pertinents in the Barony of Alden," the *reddendo* being three annual attendances at the head Courts within the said Barony of Aden, and in 1378 he gave an annual rent of 6 merks sterling from his lands of Achidonalde in the Barony of Aden to a Chaplain in the Cathedral of Aberdeen. In 1426 Robert Keith, Knight Marischal, gave a charter to his cousin, John Fraser, Junr., "of the lands of New Forest in the Earldom of Buchan and Sheriffdom of Aberdeen." These lands of Kinmundy were apparently those of Nether Kinmundy in Longside between which and Over Kinmundy in Old Deer lay those of Ludquharn long the possessions of an important cadet family of the Keiths, and the New Forest or Cardenauche may well have been the wilder region reaching to the long ridge that formed the boundary with the Barony of Slains, of which much still remains moss and moorland, and which from the remains of trees found in the mosses must once have been well wooded. In 1427 another charter was given by Robert Keith, the Marischal, to "John Fraser now called Unicorn" (one of the Pursuivants) of "all our land of *Nova Foresta* in the Earldom of Buchan," he giving attendance at the three head Courts of the Barony of Aldane, and in 1482 the Earl Marischal undertook to infeft his son and his spouse Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of the Earl of Huntly, in 100 merks worth of lands out of his lands of the Barony of Alden. In 1505 Thomas Fraser of Stanewod as heir to his father Andrew, was infeft in the lands of Kynmundy lying in the Barony of Audane.

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In 1503 the King confirmed to William, Earl Marischal, the lands and Barony of Aden, and incorporated with the said Barony those of Petinbla and Pettindrum, which he had hitherto held in tenantry and blench farm of the baron of Kynedward, and were in the King's hands as the modern baron of Kynedward, and in 1514 the Earl gave sasine of Pittendrum and Pitblae (in Strichen) in his Barony of Aden to his son Alexander. In 1509 William Johnston was served heir in the lands of Sauchok and Dennys in the Barony of Aldane, and in an annual rent from the lands of Innerwadie within the said Barony. Savock, Dens, and Innerveddie, all lie to the eastward of Nether Kinmundy. In 1555 there was a settlement of marches between the lands of Gask in the Earl of Erroll's Barony of Slains and the lands of Inuernytie in the Earl Marischal's Barony of Audehan. In 1581 the Sheriff of Aberdeen had to account for the relief of the lands and Barony of Audane upon the sasine of George Earl Marischal, and in the same year a commission was issued to the Earl, Keith of Ludquharn, and Keith of Clackriach, to apprehend certain "*vagabondos et communes fures infra bondas domini de Deir et baroniarum de Inverugy et Audene degentes.*"

The Inverugie charter of 1592 already quoted gives a full enumeration of the lands in the Barony of Aden, from which it appears that at that time it included, not only the bulk of the land from Crichtie and Coynach on the west—exclusive of Kinmundy and apparently also of Ludquharn—to Buchanness on the east, and the land on the north bank of the North Ugie, including Rora below the junction of the North Water, but the lands of Cortes, Auchiries, &c., near the eastern end of Mormond, and Troup and other lands in the extreme north-east of Buchan. Among the lands conveyed in 1609 in conjunct fee and security of her terce to Lady Mary Erskine on the occasion of her marriage with the son of the Earl Marischal were the lands of Inverneties with the fortalice and Manor Place of Peterhead in the Island called Inch Keith (Keith Inch), the lands of Auchtigaw, Auchlie, Collilaw, with the fishings and mills, in the Barony of Alden, Sheriffdom of Aberdeen.

In 1642 infestment in life-rent was given to the Countess Marischal *inter alia* in Rora, Yokishill, Corthbray, and Inverquhombrie, with the two crofts and Mill of the same in the Barony of Aden.



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In 1678 Helen Strachan, widow of George Rankin, and spouse of Alexander Gordon, was infeft in a third of the Mill of Aden, and the half plough of Aden called Scarelavereik in the Parish of Deir, Barony of Aden and Shire of Aberdeen. In 1681 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir *inter alia* to Meikle and Little Boddam with white fishing, Fishertown, etc., and new lands of Stirlinghill marching with Longhaven and Gask belonging to the Earl of Erroll in the Barony of Auden and Parish of Peterugie which were conveyed to him in 1688 by Sir Robert Milne.

The Barony of Aden seems to have been incorporated with the Lordship of Inverugie, for, when the lands of Aden forming the modern estate of that name were annexed to the Barony of Kinmundy in 1723, from which they were separated in 1758, they were described as having been part of the Lordship of Inverugie. The mill lands of Aden had been wadset by the Earl Marischall in 1696.

### *The Barony of Altrie and Lordship of Deir.*

*Altrie*, formerly the *Abbey Lordship of Deir*.—The lands belonging to the Cistercian Monastery of Deer were an ecclesiastical lordship or Barony in the Lord Abbot and Convent. In 1493 James Abbot of the Monastery of Deer and the Convent of the same confirmed to John Crawford dwelling in Auchlek the half of our lands of Auchharbe lying in our Lordship of Deir, to be held as any other land in the realm of Scotland for service rendered. In 1539 the Abbot John with consent of the Chapter set to George Gordon of Scheves our lands of Carnebannocht, Auchtmonzell, and Ardmauchtar liand within our Barony of Deir, and a charter signed by Robert Keith, Commendator of Deir at Paris in 1554, sealed at the Monastery in 1554, and confirmed by Queen Mary in 1557, set in perpetual feu and emphyteusis to Alexander Keith in Glackreoch, the lands of Glackreoch and Little Elrik in the Lordship of Deir. In 1556 the Commendator set in the same way to Robert Lumsden and Elizabeth Keith, his spouse, the lands of Auchradie in the Lordship of Deir. In 1560 the Commendator and Convent granted a charter of their salmon fishing upon the Water of Ugy lying in the Lordship of Deir in feu farm and heritage to William Earl Marischal, and in 1581 vagabonds and common thieves are described as living within the lands of the Lordship of Deer and Baronies of Inverugie and Aden.

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On 7th July, 1587, Robert Keith, Commendator of Deir, David Howesoune and James Brown, apparently the remanent members of the community, resigned into the King's hands all the lands, lordships, baronies, etc., which had pertained to the said Abbey or the patrimony thereof, for erection into a temporal lordship "to be callit in all tyme cuming the Lordschip of Altrie" in favour of Robert the Commendator during his life and George Earl Marischal and his heirs. The Barony of Altrie comprehended "the Manor Place of Deir of Auld callit the Abbey of Deir. . . . With the Mains called Cuthill, the lands of Clerkhill, the Quartaillhouse and Walkmylne thereof, the Mill of Crichtie and Multures, the lands of Dennis, Meikle Auchrydie, Auchmunyel, Carnebannoch, Mill and multures, Littill Auchrydie, Craigmylne, Glauckriauch, Litill Elrick, Aulmad, Badforsky, Auchleck, Acherb, Cryalie, Skillymarno, Auchmachar, Altrie, Biffie, Raw of Biffie, and Parkhouse of Biffie, Brucehill, the Mill of Bruxie and multure, Scroghill, Kirkton of Deir, Benvells, Meikle Elrick, Fechil (on the Ythan), Monkishill (Ellon), the Grange of Raehill, the Fischertown of Peterhead, Carkinsche (Keith Inch), Monkisholme (Newburgh on the Ythan), Overalterlandis of Fouerne (Foveran), Nether Alterlandis of Fouerne, an annual rent of £3 6s 8d furth of Tillioch, of 23/4 out of Toukis, and of 40/- out of Sauchok of Kinnundie, the tenement of lands and houses in the Burgh of Aberdeen, the salmond fishing of Inverugie in salt and fresh water, the Abbey Miln of Deir within the walls of the said Abbey, the Kirktown of Deir, all lyand in the Scherifdome of Aberdeen, the lands of Barre in Bamff . . . . with the teind sheaves and emoluments of all the kirks and parishes of Deir, Peterugie, Foveran, and Kinedward. The great majority of these lands lay south-west and north of the Abbey, but the other possessions were more or less detached. The locality and history of most of them either carries back to the grants made in Celtic times to the old Columban Monastery or preserve a testimony to the piety and munificence of the Comyn Earls of Buchan by the first of whom the Cistercian Abbey was founded in 1219. The charter of erection of the Lordship of Altrie was dated 29th May, 1587, and carried with it the privilege of erecting a port at the Keith Inch at Peterhead. It made provision for the Ministers of Deer, Peterhead, Foveran, and King Edward, and declared that the Lordship should be held in free lordship and free Barony, the *reddendo* being £140 at the Feast of Pentecost.

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In 1681 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir *inter alia* to the lands of Blackhouse, Eight Riggs of Reidhill and two crofts in the Lordship of Altrie held of George Earl Marischal, which were conveyed to him by Sir Robert Milne in 1688.

The Earls Marischal seem to have been gradually parting with their lands before their forfeiture after the Rising of 1715. In 1697 the Earl Marischal wadset Clerkhill, along with Bridgehouse and the four ploughs of Aden, and these lands passed through Douglas of Whiteriggs to the Fergusons of Pitfour and Kinmundy. In 1640 he had wadset Biffie which afterwards passed to the same owners through Baird of Auchmedden. In 1709 the Earl disposed the lands of Aden, Deir, and Biffie to Baird of Auchmedden, who, in 1709, obtained a charter under the Great Seal erecting the häll lands of Aden, Deer and others into a Barony to be called the Barony of Old Deer. They were in 1728 incorporated with the Barony of Kinmundy from which they were separated in 1758 when sold to Alexander Russell of Moncoffer.

### *The Barony of Balmure.*

*Balmure.*—In 1458 King James granted to David Lindissay, son of David Lindissay of Lethnot and Margarete Fentoune of Baky *inter alia* the whole fourth part of the lands of the Barony of Balmure in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen.

In 1439 Margarete de Fentoun de Beufort had granted *inter alia* to Walter Ogilvy a whole fourth part of her lands of Coklaw, Balmure, and Drumblate in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen. In 1459 the King granted to David Stewart, Knight, and Mariote, his spouse, *inter alia* a fourth part of the lands of Balmur, Coklaw, Tro(tir)stoune, Buthlaw, Drumblat, and Tollis in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, all the lands dealt with having fallen to the King by reason of forfeiture committed and perpetrated against our Royal Majesty by James of Douglas, Knight, and Janeta of Fentoun, his spouse. In 1472 King James confirmed a charter by which George Earl of Huntly, Lord Gordon and Badenoch, granted to Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, Knight, the lands of Balmure, Tortistown, Coklaw, Denside, le Aylehoushill, Buthlaw, and the Mill of Tortistown, of which lands a fourth part had been resigned to the Earl by Margaret de Fentoun of Bakie at Airlie, a fourth part had been

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resigned by Janeta de Fentoun, her sister, spouse of William Hakete, at Huntly, a fourth part had been resigned by George Narne of Sandfurde at Huntly, and a fourth part existed in the Earl's hands by way of right, the *reddendo* being three attendances at Capital Courts at the Earl's Barony of Cluny.

In 1617 and 1635 the lands of Balmuir, Boddam with Manor Place, tower and fortalice, and Blackhouse belonged to Alexander Keith of Balmuir. In 1681 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir *inter alia* to Little Cocklaw, Myreside, and Balmuir, held of the Earl Marischal, and in 1688, these lands were with Boddam and others conveyed to him by Sir Robert Milne.

### *The Barony of Torterston.*

*Torterston.*—In 1656 Andrew, Lord Fraser, with consent of Alexander Forbes of Boyndlie resigned the lands of Buthlaw, the third part of Thunderton, and Muir of Tortarstoune in the Barony of Tortarstoune and Parish of Langside, in the hands of William Earl Marischal in favour of Alexander Lord Forbes of Pitsligo.

### *The Barony (?) of Ludquharn.*

*Ludquharn.*—In 1435 Robert, Lord Erskine, on claiming the Earldom of Mar, as an element of proof of his descent, produced a charter of about 1350 from Sir John Menteith, Lord of Arran, in favour of Sir Edward Keith and Christian Menteith, his dearest daughter, of the lands of Pirchock and Ludcairn. Lord Erskine was the only son of Thomas Lord Erskine by Dame Janet Keith his spouse, who was the daughter and heiress of Sir John Menteith, Lord of Arran, by his spouse Lady Elyne, daughter of Graitney, Earl of Mar. He further showed that Thomas, Lord Erskine, and Dame Janet Keith had with his consent conveyed the said hail lands and Barony of Pirchock (Parcock or Skelmuir) and Ludcairn, to Duncan, son of Sir John of Wemyss. This is the only reference to Ludquharn as a Barony. Parcock is later described as in the Barony of Kelly, and the superiority of Ludquharn was in 1635, 1655, and 1680 still held by the Earls of Mar. The Keiths of Ludquharn were a younger branch of the principal cadet family, that of Invergie and Ravenscraig, afterwards merged by marriage

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in that of the Earl Marischal, being descended from a younger son of Inverugie. They obtained a baronetcy in 1629. The superiority of the lands of Coynach which for long belonged to the Keiths of Ludquharn was vested in the Earl Marischal, for in 1695 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn resigned his lands of Coynach in the hands of William Earl Marischal, the immediate superior, and the Earl granted a charter of them to John Gordon of Myretown. After the forfeiture of the Earl Marischal upon the Rising of 1715 William Keith, Yr., of Ludquharn, granted a precept of Clare Constat of Coynach in 1720 at Philadelphia in America as the superior thereof and another as Keith of Ludquharn at London in 1730. After passing through two or three hands the lands of Coynach were acquired by James Ferguson of Kinmundy in 1744. In 1629 Charles I. granted a charter to Sir William Keith of Ludquharne of that part and portion of the region and Dominion of Nova Scotia in America bounded and limited on the north for the most part by the Barony and Regality of Agnew, belonging to Sir Patrick Agnew upon the shore of the sea, and thence proceeding for the space of six miles observing always three miles in breadth, and by the said Barony of Agnew for boundary towards the south, with a clause of union into one free Barony and Regality to be called the Barony of Ludquharn. The *reddendo* was one penny Scots on the Feast of the Nativity of our Saviour.

In 1635 the lands of Ludquharn were described as comprehending the mains of Ludquharn with the Manor Place, Lenaboe, Tolhendrie, Washingpool, Boigend, Blakiesbog, Chapelcroft, New and Old Mills, etc., and as held of John Earl of Mar. In 1681 when Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir to his father, Sir Alexander, they were described as comprehending Ludquharn Mains and Manor Place, Newton of Ludquharn, Washingpool, Lenabo, Torhendrie, Blacksboig, Auchtidore, Chapelcroft, Over and Nether Mills thereof and as held of Charles Earl of Mar. The Keiths of Ludquharn had during the 17th century incurred a large amount of debt, and their estates, which were very extensive, had been repeatedly appraised. They passed in 1658 to Alexander Lord Forbes of Pitsligo, who obtained sasine of Ludquharn from John, Earl of Mar in 1662, and sold it to Robert Forbes, Tutor of Cragievar in 1679. The other lands, including those of the Keiths of Balmure, and Cocklaw, to whom the later Ludquharn Keiths were heirs, were

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sold by him to Sir Robert Milne of Barnton who had acquired other rights, and who in 1688 disposed these other lands (including Boddam), exclusive of the Barony of Dumbreck, and lands in the Barony of Fedderate to Sir William Keith of Ludquharn. Sir R. Milne had in 1681 obtained an Order of Adjudication charging Sir William to enter as heir to the Barony of Troup including Northfield in Banff, held of the King, the lands of Little Cocklaw, Myreside, and Balmure, Coynach with the Mill of Clola, and feu tenements in Peterhead held of the Earl Marischal, the lands of Whythill, Wittingshill, Meikle Auchyeoch, Auchquath and Mill of Auchquath in the Barony of Fedderate held of Alexander Irvine of Drum, Meikle and Little Boddam, Stirlinghill, in the Barony of Aden, Blackhouse, eight riggs of Reidhill and two crofts in the Lordship of Altrie held of the Earl Marischal, the lands of Seatowne, Stirlinghill, Auld Mad, and Manor Place thereof, Golkhorne, Drymure, Gokhill, Badforsko with Mill held of the Earl Marischal, Ludquharn (as above) held of Charles Earl of Mar, Leask held of the Earl of Erroll, Logiehill held of Urquhart of Craigfintrie (Craigston), the Kirktown of Fetterangus, the lands and Barony of Dumbreck held of the Crown (in Formartine), and lands in Caithness.

It thus appears that though the property from which they took their title, Ludquharn was not a separate Barony when in the hands of the Keiths. It passed from the Forbeses to Guthrie of King Edward and latterly to the Earls of Erroll, from whom it was purchased by Russell of Aden early in the 19th century.

### *The Barony of Kinmundy.*

*Kinmundy.*—In 1426 King James I. granted to Alexander Setoun of Gordoun and Egidia Hay, his spouse, *inter alia*, the lands of Kynmonedi in the Barony of Kinedward. In 1506 the lands of Kinmundy, "*videlicet villam de Kinmundy le Myllhill le Millbrekis, Pettymercus et Kynknokky*" were bought by John Gordon of Lungar from Alexander Seton of Touch-Fraser, to be held in fee and heritage, the *reddendo* being "*servicium debitum et consuetum.*" In a charter of 1543 they are described as "*jacentes in Baronie de Kynedwart.*" A charter of 1544 has been deciphered as "*lying in the Barony of Kyn(monde),*" and in 1579 the Sheriff of Aberdeen had to account of £24 of relief *integrarum terrarum de Kynmundie, Kynknokkie, Mylnbrek cum pendiculis et pertinenciis*

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*jacentum infra baroniam de Kynmoundie.* In 1580 King James VI. granted a charter to John Gordon of Pitlurg of the lands and Barony of Kinmoundie, namely, the lands of Over Kynmondie, Kynknoeke, Mylnbrek, Mylnhill, and Pittemarcus, with the Manor, Mills, etc., to be held of the King in fee and free Barony. In 1588 the King granted another charter by which he gave to John Gordon, "all and whole the lands and Barony of Kinmoundie containing the underwritten lands, the *villam* and lands of Kilmundie *cum manerie*, the lands of Dourie, Pittymarcus, Smalburne, Kinknokie, Burnegrainis *alias* Barracksait, and Pettindreychtissait . . . formerly incorporated into one Barony called the Barony of Kinmundy." The lands belonging to the Gordons of Pitlurg in the Baronies of Strathbogie and Drumblade and the *villam* land and Mill of Gilcomston are then detailed, and for the good and gratuitous service rendered by Sir John Gordon the whole foresaid lands are incorporated into one and whole free Barony to be called the Barony of Kinmundy, the house of Kinmundy to be the principal messuage, and to be held of us and our successors in fee heritage and blench farm for ever, the *reddendo* being one pair of giltspurs annually at the Feast of Pentecost at the said Manor Place or messuage of Kinmundy in the name of blench farm if asked only. Sasine of the same lands, including most of the disconnected lands annexed, other than those of Gilcomston, was granted in 1600, and in 1618 the King granted to Robert Gordon of Fechil (afterwards of Straloch), brother german of John Gordon of Pitlurg, the lands of Kinmundy, other than the annexed lands, incorporated into one free Barony of Kinmundy, which John Gordon had resigned, but redeemable by the payment of a rose noble at the Church of St Nicholas, Aberdeen. Sasine was granted of the lands comprised in the original Barony of Kinmundy in the Parish of Old Deer, but exclusive of the disconnected annexed lands, in 1692. In 1723 the lands and Barony of Kinmundy were sold by Alexander Gordon of Pitlurg to James Ferguson of Balmakelly, and in 1728 a new charter of Barony was granted to him and his heirs by George I. By that charter there was anew granted to James Ferguson of Kinmundy and his heirs, all and whole the lands and Barony of Kinmoundie comprehending . . . the town and lands of Over Kinmoundie with the Mains and Manor Place of the same, the town and lands of Dewrie . . . of Milnbreck with the Mill, mill lands and astrict multure of the

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same . . . . of Milnhill . . . . of Pettimarkhouse . . . . of Smallburn . . . . of Kinknockie, comprehending the town and lands of Oldtown of Kinknockie, Nethertown, formerly Westerstyre, formerly Pittendriechseat, and Backhill formerly Barrackseat . . . . all lying within the Parish of Old Deer and County of Aberdeen and united, incorporated, and erected into one whole and free Barony called and in all time to be called the Barony of Kinmundy, which lands and Barony formerly belonged to Alexander Gordon of Pitlurg, and in like manner those portions of the lands and Barony of Old Deer after mentioned, namely, the town and lands commonly called the Mains of Aden, the pendicle called Bridgehouse, the pendicle called Clerkshill, along with the Mill of Aden, etc., the town and lands of Kirktown of Old Deer, with superiority of the feus, the town and lands of Biffie, Raw of Biffie, and Parkhouse of Biffie, all lying in the Parish of Old Deer, and the two annual markets held within the Kirktown of Old Deer commonly called Aickie and Dusten Fairs, with weekly markets, which lands formerly belonged to William Baird of Auchmedden, were disposed by him to James Ferguson of Pitfour, Advocate, in 1712, and by the said Mr James Ferguson of Pitfour to James Ferguson of Kinmundy in 1727. The said lands, etc., were by the charter separated and disjoined from the Barony of Old Deer and united and joined to the foreſaid Barony of Kinmundy. The *reddendo* was for the said Barony of Kinmundy a pair of gilt spurs yearly at the Feast of Pentecost at the Manor Place or Message of Kinmundy in blench duty if asked, for Aden, Mill of Aden, and Bridgehouse, "all which are parts of the Lordship of Inverugie and are therefore held of us in taxed ward," 20 merks Scots yearly, and for Clerkshill, Kirktown of Deer, Biffie, Raw of Biffie, and Parkhouse of Biffie, "all which are part of the Lordship of Altrie," one merk Scots. All these lands other than the old Barony of Kinmundy seem to have been gradually parted with by the Earl Marischal, and the Barony of Old Deer had been erected by a charter under the Great Seal in favour of William Baird in 1708. In 1758 James Ferguson of Kinmundy sold to Alexander Russell, late of Moncoffer, those parts of the lands and old Barony of Old Deer, viz.—the Towns and Lands of Aden's commonly called the Mains of Aden, comprehending Nether Aden, Middle Aden, and Upper Aden, with the pendicle called Bridge-



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house, the pendicle called Clerkhill, as also these pendicles of the same called Dunshillock, Butterhaugh, Smiddylands, and Bridge-foot, together with the Mill of Aden, comprehending, etc., and siclike the Town and Lands of the Kirktown of Old Deer, etc., and right of superiority, and the Town and Lands of Biffie, Raw of Biffie, and Parkhouse of Biffie, comprehending, etc., and the two yearly markets and fairs "which were all portions of the Barony of Old Deer, and were lately disjoined from the same and annexed to the Barony of Kinmundy, but are now separated and disjoined therefrom in all time coming."

### *The Barony of Pitfour.*

*Pitfour.*—In 1383 King Robert II. gave to his natural son "Alexandro Senescalli," whose mother was "our beloved Mary of Cardny," all his lands of Pitfour in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen and of Lunan in Forfar. In 1477 King James confirmed a charter by which Egidia Stewart, Lady of the half of the lands of Lunan and Pitfour, sold to John Andree, Burgess of Aberdeen, all the lands of the half of Pitfour in the Earldom of Buchan, to be held of the King in fee and heritage. In 1493 Walter Innes, son of the laird of Invermarkie, received sasine from Walter Rothwene of Lunan of all and each his lands of Pitfour in Aberdeenshire. In 1506 John Anderson sold his lands of the half of Pitfour to Thomas Innes in Cotts of Lanbryde, and in 1507 John, son of Thomas Innes, was served heir to the half of Pitfour. In the same year the King granted to Walter Innes the lands of Touchis and the half of Pitfour, and erected them into the free Barony of Touchis. In 1581 John Keith "apperand of Northfield," granted a letter of reversion to James Innes of Tulchis and Agnes Urquhart, his spouse, of ane pleuche land of the town and lands of Pitfour, lyand within the Barony of Tulchis."

In 1667 Charles II. granted a charter to George Morison of Pitfour by which "the lands and Barony of Toux and Pitfour—comprehending . . . the lands commonly called Toux and Pitfour, Mill of Leggat, Mill Lands, etc. . . . Cairneurchies, Drumies, Braikieshill, Dumbmill, Teitswall, Gachinwives, with the Manor Place of Pitfour, the whole houses, etc., were united and incorporated into one Barony to be called the Barony of Pitfour."

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On June 9th, 1700, William Morrison was served heir, and in the same year he sold Pitfour to James Ferguson of Badifurrow.

### *The Barony of Toux.*

*Toux* (see Pitfour).—In 1507 the lands of Touchis and the half of the lands of Pitfour were erected into the Barony of Toux in favour of Walter Innes, and in 1667 the lands and Barony of Toux and Pitfour were incorporated into the Barony of Pitfour in favour of George Morison of Pitfour. In 1581 John Keith Apperand granted a letter of reversion in respect of "ane plewche land of town and landis of Pitfour," within the Barony of Tulchis, sold to him by James Innes of Tulchis, and in 1587 James VI. confirmed a charter of entail by which James Innes of Touchis and Agnes Urquhart, his wife, settled the lands of Touchis with the half of the lands of Pitfour united into one Barony to be called the Barony of Touchis. In 1700 William Morison was served heir in the lands and Barony of Toux and Pitfour as incorporated into one Barony to be called the Barony of Pitfour by King Charles II.'s charter of 1667.

### *The Barony of Rattray.*

*Rattray*.—The Castlehill of Rattray is believed to have been the site of one of the great castles of the Comyn Earls of Buchan, and the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary there is said to have been founded in consequence of a son of the Earl being drowned in the well. In 1554, in consequence of a dispute between the Earl Marischal and the Earl of Erroll as to their rights over it, Queen Mary erected the town and lands of Rattray into a free Royal Burgh.

In 1324 King Robert the Bruce had granted the "*dominium de Retreff cum portu ejusdem*" to Archibald of Douglas, and the Barony seems then to have included both Rattray and Crimond. Between 1371 and 1390 Robert II. granted *inter alia* to John Walays all the lands of Reytre in the Earldom of Buchan. In 1426 King James confirmed *inter alia* the grant of Archibald Earl of Douglas and Lord of Galloway to his brother James Douglas of Balvany of the Baronies of Aberdour and Rattray. In 1459 James II. gave to William Earl of Erroll the lands of Rettre lying in the Earldom of Buchan which Walter Tulloch of Bonyngtoun had resigned. In

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1507 William Hay, Earl of Erroll, was served heir *inter alia* in the lands of Ratra held in fee of the King by the service of ward and relief, and in 1513 the relief of the lands of Rattray due in respect of the sasine given to William Hay of the same had to be accounted for. In 1573 a submission was entered into on the part of the Burgh of Rattray, Andrew, Master of Erroll, and Andrew Keith of Ravenscraig, touching the marching of the town lands and Mure of Rattray, the lands of Haddoch Rattray, pertaining to the said Andrew Master of Erroll and the lands of Broadland Rattray pertaining to the said Andrew Keith. In 1605 the Earl of Erroll sold to William Watson in Bilbo the town and lands of Haddo of Rattray described as in the Barony of Slains.

*Broadland of Rattray.*—In 1458 King James II. granted to William Monypenny of Ardwenny the lands of the Barony of Brodland of Ratre of Rothnaquhy, of Carneglase, and of Mylhill, and the Mill of Creichmount, falling by reason of the forfeiture of the late Hugh Douglas, Earl of Ormonde, to be held of the King in fee and heritage, the *reddendo* being (blench) a silver penny at Pentecost at the “Capitale messuagium de Brodeland de Ratre.” A month later he granted the same Barony and lands which Monypenny had resigned to his dear clerks and praying brothers, Provost and Canons of the Collegiate Church of St Salvator at St Andrews. In 1495 William Keith of Inverugie was served heir to his father Gilbert in the lands of the Barony of Brodland of Ratre, Rathnoquhyn, Carneglass, Mylnerhill, and the Mill of Crechmont.

The lands of Rathnoquhyn (Rathen), Cairnglass, and Cairness north of the Loch of Strathbeg seem thus to have formed part of the Douglas Barony of Rattray. They were later (1543 and 1589) among the possessions of the Keiths of Inverugie.

### *The Barony of Crimond.*

*Crimond.*—This was for long a considerable Barony held by the Douglasses and afterwards by the Hays.

In 1324 King Robert the Bruce confirmed to our dear and faithful Archibald of Douglas for his homage and service, the Lordship of Rattray with the Port of the same, the land of Creichmonde, in which the Church is situated, the lands of Creichmonde Nagorth, and of Creichmonde Bellie with the Mill, the Port of

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Kindoloss, the lands of Carnglass, Rothmathie, and of Tallykerath, to be held in fee and heritage as one free Barony, he and his heirs performing the external service so far as pertains to the half of the service of one Knight and the ordained due and customary service from the said lands.

In 1404 Isabel of Douglas, Countess of Mar and the Garioch, granted to her husband, Alexander Stewart, the Victor of Harlaw, among other lands "*Baroniam de Crechmond in Buchania.*"

In 1450 "Hew of Douglas Erll off Ormonde and Lorde off the Barounry of Crechmonde sett and to ferme lett . . . tyll ane honorabill Lord and our dearest brother Wilyeme Lord Haye ande Constabill of Scotlande, all and hayll our landis of the Barounry of Crechmonde for the term of five years," constituting him our Balye.

In 1455 James II. granted to John Dunbar for his faithful service the whole lands of Crechmond Aglis, Cremonde Gorth, Cremond Mogat, Tillykerak with le Park, "which lands have come into our hands by reason of the forfeiture of the late Hugh Earl of Ormont." Hugh, Earl of Ormond, was brother of James 9th Earl of Douglas (Baron of Aberdour), who died in the Monastery of Lindores. They had been defeated by the Earl of Angus in 1455. In 1487 James III. confirmed a charter by which Beatrice of Dunbar, Lady of Creichmond, and widow of the late Mr Gilbert Hay of Urie gave to her dearest son William Hay of Ury all her lands of her Barony or Lordship of Creichmond. Two months later in the contract of marriage between William Hay and Katherine Rate of Drumtochty, William Earl of Erroll undertook to "Causs the said William be lauchfully entrit in the fee of the haill lands of Crechmond." In 1513 Andrew Hay had sasine of the Barony of Parkcreichmond, in 1531 Patrick Hay of the Barony of Cremond, and in 1552 William Hay "*Baronie seu dominij vulgo lie lairdschip de Chremond.*" In 1544 Queen Mary confirmed a charter granted in 1531 by which John Brabaner, burgess in Aberdeen, for his affection to his son Gilbert and his wife Isabella Boyes and the large sums given as her dowry "*per reverendos dominos magistros Hectorem et Arthurum Boyis,*" granted to his son the sunny half of the whole town of Over Cremond called Cremond Gorth in the Barony of Crimond, which half Patrick Hay of Ury had sold to him, Agnes Slugy his wife, and their heirs. In 1557 Queen Mary granted to William Hay of Ury and Janete Wood his wife, the lands of

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Creichmonthgorthe in the Barony of Cremonth, which lands were his by inheritance. In 1560 William Hay of Ury and of the Barony of Creichmond sold to Alexander Fraser of Philorth the lands of Talykeraw, Blairmormond and Park, called Park of Creichmond in the Barony of Cremonth; in 1565 Queen Mary confirmed a charter by which William Hay of Urie granted to his cousin John Hay in Creichmondmogat, and Jonete or Jene Hay his wife, the lands of Creichmondmogat with the Mill and Mill-Lands lying within the Barony of Creichmond Park; and in 1569 William Hay at the request of Janet Wood his wife granted the town and lands of Creychmont Gorth in the Barony of Creychmont to his son and apparent heir John Hay. In 1588 King James VI. confirmed to John Hay of Urie the lands and Barony of Creichmond, namely, the lands of Creichmond Park, Blair Mormond, Karnekanschie, Tallikerie, Creichmond Haggilis with the corn mill, Creichmond Gorthie with the corn mill and the pendicle called Lochillis, Creichmond-Mogat with the corn mill and fulling mill and pendicles called Kerlob, Channerahill, Karne, . . . . Blarquhaton and Berriebra, with the lakes, fishings, etc., to be held of the King in free Barony. In 1674 Mary Meldrum, wife of David Murray, Commissary of Moray, and Elspet Murray, wife of Mr David Cumming, Minister at Bremurray, were served heirs portioners of their uncle John Hay of Logie in the Mill of Crimond, the plough of Nethertown of Crimondgorth, the plough of Longley, and half plough of Overtown of Crimondgorth and plough of Lochhillis, and the other plough of Overtown of Crimondgorth formerly occupied by John Mowat and the town and lands of Strathtodle lying contiguously within the Barony and Parish of Crimond.

In 1705 Charles Earl of Erroll was served *inter alia* to the lands and Barony of Crimond with castle tower, fort, and Manor Place thereof therein comprehending the dominical lands of Crimond and mill thereof, the lands of Crimond Park, Blairmormonth Cairnkempsie, Tillikeirries, the lands of Crimondhayhills with the meal mill thereof, the lands of Crimondgorth with the meal mill thereof and pendicle called Lochhillis, the lands of Crimondmogat with the meal and dye mills thereof, the lands of Cairnlob, Chaurahill, Blairquhattin, Berriebrae, all lying in the Parishes of Crimond and Longmay, . . . all lying in the Barony of Crimond.

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### *The Barony of King-Edward.*

*Kin-Edward.*—The Barony of Kin-Edward was a great and extensive one and appears to have originally included most of the lands of the Comyn Earls in the North of Buchan. Upon the forfeiture of the last Comyn Earl, King Robert gave a large portion of his estates to Sir John Ross, younger son of the Earl of Ross, whose wife was a daughter of the Earl of Buchan. In a Roll of Missing Charters, by King Robert I., there appears “*Carta Joannis Ros, sone to the Earl of Ros, in togher with Margaret Cumyng, daughter to the Earle of Buchan, the half of the Earle of Buchan’s haill lands within Scotland.*” King-Edward, formerly the greatest of the castles of the Comyns in Buchan, is said to have been the principal messuage of their Earldom, though by custom from Celtic times their Courts were held on the Earls’ hill of Ellon. The lands which had been the moiety of the Earl’s estates conferred on Ross and his wife, were now erected into, if they had not previously been, a separate Barony called Kin-Edward. The Barony remained in the family of the Earl of Ross for a generation or two till Euphemia, heiress of their line, married Sir Walter Leslie by whom she had a son Alexander, Earl of Ross, who died leaving an only daughter a second Euphemia, and a daughter Margaret who married Donald, Lord of the Isles. The elder Countess Euphemia married secondly Alexander Stewart, Lord of Badenoch and Earl of Buchan, son of Robert II., and her sister Johanna Sir Alexander Fraser of Philorth. Alexander Earl of Buchan died without issue, and his brother Robert, Duke of Albany, got the Earldom which he bestowed on his gallant son John Earl of Buchan and Ross and Constable of France, who fell at Verneuil in 1424. The younger Euphemia went into the cloister and resigned her title and estates in favour of her uncle John Stewart, Earl of Buchan, her mother being a daughter of Robert Duke of Albany, Governor of Scotland. This setting aside of the next heir, the Chief of the Isles, was the cause of the bloody battle of Harlaw in 1411. From about 1442 to 1490, but for an intermittent forfeiture, the Barony was again held by the Lord of the Isles as the direct heir. In the latter year James IV. granted it resigned by John of the Isles, to his uncle James Stewart, son of the Black Knight of Lorn by Queen Joan, widow of James I. and granddaughter of Edward III., Earl of Buchan (cr. 1469), and Lord of

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Auchterhouse, known as "Hearty James," but in 1503 it was again in the Royal hands, having been adjudged to the King as heir of John Earl of Buchan who died in 1424. The site of the Castle was granted to Lord Forbes in 1509.

In 1351 Hugh of Ross granted a charter to his uncle Peter of Grame of his lands of Scaterdy and Bath *in Buchania infra tenementum de Kynnedor*. In 1365 designing himself as "dominus de Fylorth" he gave a charter to Ade de Vrchard, Sheriff of Cromarty, of his land of Fohesterdy "*in Buchania infra balliam de Kynnedor cum le Fortyr ejusdem quod dicitur Clochorby*," and in 1366 William Earl of Ross and Lord of Skye confirmed his brother's charter. In 1369 King David II. confirmed a charter by which Walter of Lesly, Lord of Filorthe, gave the same lands to John son of Adam of Urquhart, and also the charter by the late Hugh of Ross.

In 1381 Walter of Leslie gave a charter to his cousin Andrew Mercer of the land of Faithlie (Fraserburgh) in the Barony of King Edward, which Johaneta de Meingnes, daughter and heir of the late Alexander of Meingnes had resigned, the *reddendo* being a pair of gilt spurs, and in 1382 King Robert II. confirmed a charter which Walter of Lesley of Ross and our dear Cousin Eufamia, his spouse, had granted to Andrew Mercer of the lands of Faithley and Tiry, both in the Barony of Kynedward, while in the same year Eufamia, Lady of Ross, confirmed the grants of Faithley and Tyrie made by her late husband Walter Lesley. In the same year King Robert II. granted the Barony of Kynnedward "*dilecto filio nostro Alexandro Senescalli domino de Badenoch*" (afterwards Earl of Buchan who died in 1394), which our cousin Eufemia Lady of Ross had resigned, to be held by the same Alexander and Eufemia. By another charter (attributed to 1401)\* King Robert again gave to "our dear son" Alexander Lord of Badenoch the whole Barony of Kinedward which Eufemia, Lady of Ross, had resigned. In a Roll of Missing Charters of the reign of Robert III. is a confirmation to Thomas Gardin of the lands of Fulkabater in the Barony of Kinedward. In 1411 William Fraser, Lord of Philorth,

\*There appears to be a mistake as to the date attributed to this charter. It is in the 12th year of the reign. The 12th year of Robert II. was 1382, and Alexander Stewart, the Wolf of Badenoch, was his son. The 12th year of Robert III. was 1401 or 1402, but Alexander Stewart was not his son.

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gave a precept for infefting Alexander Lord Forbes in the lands of Mykil Fintra with the half part of Talymald, Blactoun with ly Smithhill, Miltown of Kynnedwart Beluss and an annual rent of the town of Edane in the Barony of Kinedwart. In 1423 John, Earl of Buchan, and Constable of France, granted a precept for infefting William Forbes of Kynnaldu in the lands of Carnywhinge, Brekor vor and Litol Brekor in the Barony of Kinedwarte, and in 1428 King James confirmed a charter of John, Earl of Buchan, Constable of France, Chamberlain of Scotland, by which he gave to Patrick of Ogilvy, Sheriff of Angus, and Christian of Keith, his spouse, our dearest cousin, the whole Lordship of Glencuthil with the pertinents, namely, Echmedane and le Glenhoussis, Kynbene, Bith, Petmakaldor, Towy, Bothmakaly, le Saltcotis, Inchebrek, and the lands of Goweny, lying in our Barony of Kynedwart, and the town of Alathan, lying in the Earldom of Buchan.

In 1422 Alexander of Yle, Earl of Ross, Lord of the Isles and Justiciary of Scotland beyond the Forth, granted the Barony of Kinedward with the patronage of all benefices in it to Alexander of Setoun, Lord of Gordon, for his lifetime, and in 1446 Alexander Fraser, Lord of Phillorthe, and John of Thorntoun, of that ilk on the part of Mariote his spouse, submitted to William Lord of Hay, Constable of Scotland, a question between them as to the lands of Lencardy lying in the Barony of Kynedward. In 1453 James, Lord Forbes, demanded sasine of the lands of Fintra from Walter Stewart "*ballivo legitimo Baronie de Kynedwart, sub magnifico et potente Domino Comite de Ross ac domino Insularum.*" In 1468 Alexander Menzies, burgess in Aberdeen, sold to John Andree the lands of Vdoch in the Barony. In 1470 "*Johannes de Ylle, comes Rossie et Baro de Kynedwart*" confirmed a charter by which Thomas Graham sold the lands of Scatyrtu and Bytht lying in the Barony of Kynedward to Alexander Fraser of Philorth. By a deed sealed by Thomas Cumyne at the Monastery of Deer in 1460, confirmed by John of Isla, Baron of the Barony of Kynedward in 1461, and by the King in 1475, Thomas Cumyne of Pullane sold to William Cumyne Lord of Culter his two halves of the lands of Kyndrocht and of Audiale in the Barony of Kynnedward, the double *reddendo* being 5½ lbs. of wax to the granter at the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Rattray, and a silver penny to the Lord of the Barony of Kynnedward at the Manor of the Barony. In 1471 John



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of Isla confirmed to Alexander Fraser of Philorth the lands of Skatterty, the *reddendo* being prestable "*Apud vetus castrum nostrum de Kinedward,*" and Fraser obtained sasine.

On 15th July, 1476, although he had been forfeited in November, 1475, the King restored to John of Isla his earthly honours and gave him a new charter of the lands of Kinedward. In March of the same year the King had confirmed to Alexander Dunbar of Westfield the lands of Byth and Scatterty which he had held of John formerly Earl of Ross, and in September of the same year there was a submission before Vicarsgeneral as to these lands between Dunbar and Fraser. In 1477 the King ratified to Elizabeth of Levingstoun, spouse of John, formerly Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, a donation formerly made to her for her life out of the lands of the Barony of Kinedward. In 1479 the King confirmed a charter granted in 1478 by John of Isla by which he granted in feu to Alexander Leslie of Warderis all the lands of the Barony of Kynedward, namely, the dominical lands of Kynedward commonly called le Castletown, and the lands of Eister Tiry, Kynarroquhy, and Faithley, reserving the three markets of the lands of Castletown, "*cum monte castri ejusdem ad faciendum Domino nostro regi servicium pro dictis terris et Baronia de Kynedward debitum et consuetum.*"

In 1481 the King granted to John Dempstare of Achterless the superiority of Latteris and five parts of the lands of Fortray, Ordmyddill, Munark, and Kynarmyt, and a sixth part of the Mains of the said Lordship of Lateris, a sixth part of Durlateris and Glaslo, with a sixth part of the mills, on the resignation of John, Lord of the Isles as Baron of Kynedward superior of the same. In 1483 William Cuminge of Culter gave to his son William his house and lands of Innuerelloghy "*cum lacu dictam domum circumeunte et piscariis ejusdem ac le Fortre de Innuerury* lying in the Barony of Kynedward," to be held of John Lord of the Isles and Lord Baron of Kynedward in fee and heritage, and in the same year Alexander Cummyrn, son and heir of the late William Cummyrn of Culter, sold to his dearest uncle, Alexander Irvine of Drum, his lands of Inrelochwy with the castle and lake of the same in the Barony of Kynedward to be held of himself. In 1486 John Lord of the Isles confirmed the charter of William Cumming of 1483, and approved a grant which the late William

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had made to his son Thomas of the half of the lands of Kindrocht and the half of the lands of Audiale lying in the Barony. In 1487 William Gray of Kindrocht sold his lands of a fourth part of the town of Kindrocht in his half of the same within the Barony of Kyneddor to John, son and apparent heir of John Gordon of Auchluchry. In 1490 King James granted the Barony of King Edward to James, Earl of Buchan, Lord of Auchterhouse, and in 1495 confirmed a charter by his uncle the Earl of Buchan, Lord of Auchterhouse and of the Barony of King Edward by which he granted to his cousin Robert Stewart his three parts of the lands of Castletowne in the Barony of Kinedward, reserving *monte Castri cum castro ejusdem ac le Herberr Halche et tribus acris terrarum ad sustentacionem unius servandi dicte Baronie.* In 1497 the Earl gave to John Mar and Jonete Ogistoun, his spouse, an annual rent from our lands of Vdoch in the Barony. In 1501 Alexander Seton of Tulchfraser resigned in the hands of Alexander Earl of Buchan and Lord of the Barony of Kynedward his lands of Kinnimund in the Barony of Kynedward, which the Earl Lord Superior handed over to John Gordon of Lumger. In 1503 King James IV. on the narrative that the lands and Barony of King Edward had been adjudged to belong to him as next heir to the late John Earl of Buchan, Baron of Kinedward (*i.e.*, the Constable of 1424), granted and quit claimed to "*magister*" Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty, his lands held of the said Baron of Fechrrie and Clochquhorby in the Barony. Similarly he confirmed to William Meldrum of Fyvie and Elizabeth Barclay, his spouse, the lands of Edane with their mill, the lands of Auchindoll, Strathtary and Fortree of Auchnamonze in the Barony of Kingedward, and to Robert Burnet of Balmade, his lands of Balmade resigned in the hands of the King "*Tanquam moderni Baronis de Kynedward.*" He also confirmed to Henry son of Laurence Mersar of Mekilloure, his lands of Faithlie and Fyvie long held before the time of the said Earl immediately of the Baron of Kynedward. He confirmed also to William Earl Marischal her lands of Pettindrum and Petinbla in the Barony which he had held in "*tenandria et alba firma de Barone de Kynedward,*" and annexed them to the Earl's Barony of Aden. In 1503 William Udny of that ilk gave to Andrew Elphinstoun of Selmys his lands of Balnakeddil in the Barony of Kynedward. In 1504 George, son of William Gray of Audiale, and his father sold to Andrew Elphinstoun of

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Selmys the lands of Audiale in the Barony of Kynedward, and Henry Merser of Audy sold to Alexander Fraser of Philorth his lands of Faitly and Tyrie in the same Barony. In 1505 the King confirmed a charter by which William Fraser of Philorth sold to Sir John Ogilvy of Miltoun his lands of Scattyrte their fishings and pertinents in the Barony of King Edward, and granted a charter to John Lord Forbes of the lands of Meikle Fintre, Blacktown, Belwoss, the Mill of Kynedward, a half part of the lands of Tullymald, the lands of Little Alethan, and an annual rent out of the lands of Edane in the Barony of Kynedward. He also granted a charter to Thomas Cowpland of a half of the lands of Udache, namely, the half of the dominical lands of Udache, Ardin, Auchry, Buthquhanyoquhy, and the Mill of the same in the Barony of Kinedward. The charter narrates that the lands and Barony are in the King's hands because of non entry by the death of the late John Earl of Buchan, Constable of France, Chamberlain of Scotland, and Baron of King Edward, who died the last legal possessor of the Barony: that George Lord Seton was his legal and nearest heir in the Barony, and that for the gratifications, etc., afforded him by the King, Lord Seton had resigned all claim of right or title to the said Barony. In 1505 Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy was served in the lands of Faichlie in the Barony of Kynedward. In 1506 the King confirmed Philorth's charter to Ogilvy of Miltoune, Thomas Urquhart was served heir to his father Mr Alexander Urquhart, Sheriff of Cromarty, in the lands of Fechrie and Clichquhorby, and the King confirmed to Patrick Barclay of Grantuly and Elizabeth Arbuthnot, his wife, half of the lands of Moncoffer with the fishings of the Water of Devorne in the Barony of Kynedward, and to William Ogilvy his lands of Gowny. In 1507 the King confirmed a charter by which Robert Gordon of Udache sold to John Forbes of Brux and Mariote Gordon his wife, half of the lands of Udache with the mill stone quarries, etc., of the same, and the lands of Mekil Bitht in the Barony of Kynedward. In the same year William Buchan of Auchmacoy was served heir *inter alia* to an annual rent from two parts of the lands of Faichlie in the Barony, and Andrew, son of William Buchan of Auchmacoy, was served to the lands of the half of Wykhorne also in the Barony of Kynedward. William Meldrum of Fyvie was served to a sixth part of the lands of Rossaurty, of a third part of the Mill, of a third part of the

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"brasina," of a third part of the Port of Rossaurty, of the Multure of a third part of Brekauche, of the Multure of a third part of Pettallauchy, and of the Multure of a sixth part of Rossaurty and of the lands of Brekauche and Pettallauchy in the Barony of Kynnedward. In 1508 Thomas Meldrum was served heir to his father William Meldrum of Fyvie in the lands of Edan with the Mill, the lands of Auchinoule, Strathтары and Fortree of Auchmunyochne in the Barony of Kynnedward. In 1509 King James granted to John Lord Forbes "*montem castrı et le Stede de Kyn-edward,*" with the bounds, stones, lime and pertinents of the same, on which he intends to construct or build near his lands of Blacktown in the Barony of Kynedward, now pertaining to us, and gave him full power and special license to build and maintain on the said "*monte castrı et le Stede*" a castle, tower, or fortalice as may seem best in height and breadth with defences, namely, *Barmkyn* and *le Machcolin*, moveable bridges, namely, *le drawbriggis* with gates and all other things necessary, and to appoint constables, watchmen, prison-keepers, and all other officers necessary for the guards of the said castle. In the same year he confirmed the charter by which Robert Gardine of Folay sold to William Blakhall of that ilk and Isobelle Hay, his spouse, the shady half of the lands of the half of Lital Folay and Blakwatter in the Barony of Kynedward, and granted to George Meldrum of Fyvie a half part of the lands of Petallochy with the kitchen, hall, and houses of the same, a half part of Brekhalche, with the multure of a third part of the same, a sixth part of the lands of Rossawarty with the Mill *le Brewhouse Croft* and *le Porthavin* of Rossaurty in the Barony of Kinedward.

In 1531 King James V. confirmed the charter by which Francis Gordon, portioner of Kindrocht and Sathlee (Faithlie?) sold to his brother John Gordon of Lungar his half part of the lands of Kindrocht and the third parts of the lands of Sathlee in the Barony of Kynedward. In 1534 the King granted a precept to infest John Lord Forbes in the lands of Baquharis and Alathin in the Barony of King Edward. In 1543 Queen Mary granted to John, son and apparent heir of John Gordon of Pitlurg, and Jonete Ogilvv, his spouse, the lands of Over Kynmundv, Kynknoke, and Millbrek, then described as lying in the Barony of Kynedwart, and in 1546 the Sheriff of Aberdeen had to account for the relief of the half of Kindrocht and third part of Saithlie in the Barony of Kynedward

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due on the sasine of John Gordon. Although the reading is deficient, it seems probable that Kinmundy had by this time been erected into a separate Barony. In 1556 the Sheriff had to account for the relief of an annual rent of a half of the lands of Saithlie in the Barony of Kynedward, on the sasine of Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy, and again in 1582 on the sasine of another Alexander Buchan. In 1583 Robert Innes of Kinkell sold to Alexander Fraser of Philorth the third part of the town and lands of Faithlie in the Barony of Kinedward. on the sasine of Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy, and again in 1582 on the sasine of another Alexander Buchan. In 1583 Robert Innes of Kinkell sold to Alexander Fraser of Philorth the third part of the town and lands of Faithlie in the Barony of Kinedward.

In 1592 King James VI. incorporated *inter alia* the lands of Scatterty, Faithlie, and Tyrie, the lands of Innuerallochy, with the town, etc., Fortrie of Innuerrowrie, the third part of the town and lands of Faithlie, and the shady part of the town and lands of Kindrocht with the Barony of Philorth.

In 1664 Master Alexander Udny, son of William Udny of that ilk, now minister at Haukiness in Kent in England, sold to Robert, son of Mr James Clerk of Tillicorthie "all and hail my tuelf oxin gates of the town and lands of Bonnaketill called Hillbrae" in the Barony of King Edward.

The names and situation on the map of the various lands connected with the Barony of Kinedward show that it must indeed have been a lordly dominion, and not much, if at all, unequal to the description of the half of the Earl of Buchan's lands. More or less in the vicinity of the *Mons Castri* and dominical lands, it embraced Scatterty, Byth, Fischerie, Blacktown, and Moncoffer and Eden on the lower Deveron. Up that river its shade extended over Muiresk, Ardmiddle, and Laithers. Eastward along the Coast of the Moray Firth it included Glencuthil, Auchmedden of the Bairds, Braco, Roseheart, and Fraserburgh. and beyond Kinnaird Head the fort and lake of Inverallochy of the Comyns. More inland lay Tyrie, Kindrocht, and Strichen, Udoch, Auchrv, and Allathan, and southward beyond the possessions of the Abbey of Deer on the ridge of Kinknockie in Kinmundy it touched the marches of Slains and saw the eastern sea and bay of Aberdeen.

In the "Description of Old Deer" of 1723 it is stated "The Earl of Buchan (*forfeited by the Bruce*) dying without heirs male left two

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daughters, the one whereof was married to one of the predecessors of the Earl Marischal, and the other to the eldest son of the family of Mar; by which daughters both families got considerable additions to their estates, the Earl of Buchan's lands being divided between them. It seems the men of those times were not so nice upon land marches as now, for upon the south side of Mormount (a great hill north of the church of Deer about six miles) there was erected a very high stone (vulgarly known by the name of the Huntstone of Mormount) to the south whereof at five miles' distance and in view of the first upon the top of a hill near the house of Pitfour another high stone perpendicularly set up, and south of the second a third stone at Dens or Meikle Creichie in view of the second; two miles distant and south of the third a fourth stone at Parcock, and in view of the third like a meridian line: the lands on either side falling it seems by lot to the two parties above mentioned: Whence it is to this day the Earl of Marr has several superiorities in this and the adjacent parishes." It seems probable that the Earl of Mar in this passage is a mistake for the Earl of Ross, but some of the Buchan lands did pass with the Barony of Kelly south of the Ythan to the Erskine family. The marriage with Keith the Earl Marischal was in earlier generation. An Earl of Mar had married a daughter of William Comyn, Earl of Buchan. In 1267 Fordun records the death of the *Comitessa de Mar soror comitis de Buchan*. Charter evidence does not accord with the division by meridian line, and the stones probably attested some older demarcation.

### *The Barony of Inverallochy.*

*Inverallochy*.—The lands of Inverallochy were for long the property of a Cumming family said to have been descended from a younger son of one the old Comyn Earls of Buchan. The lands were apparently held in feu of the Earl of Buchan, and for long of his successors in the Barony of Kinedward. Tradition records the existence among the ruins of Inverallochy Castle of a stone bearing the description—

"I Jurdan Cumyn indwaller here,

Gat this hous and lands for biggin the Abbey o' Deir."

In 1277 Alexander Cumyn *comes de Bouchan* confirmed to Jurdan Cumyn the whole land of Inuyrachy, by all the divisions by

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which it was perambulated before us and Sir Thomas of Rossie our Knight, Thomas le Gray Maurice, Rector of Lumplin, and many of our Court and trustworthy men of the country on the day of St Margaret the Virgin by ascending "*in le Moneruy usque Monticulam de Bruxi*," with the lake and fishings and *le Fortre de Inrure* pertaining to the said land, the *reddendo* being one pair of white spurs at the Feast of Pentecost. This charter, described as including the whole land of Inuerrachy by perambulated marches with the lake and fishings and *le Fortre of Inruri*, and with the aqueduct of the said lake to his mill, was read, seen, and diligently examined in 1475 and confirmed by King James, saving the wards, reliefs, marriages, rights and services from the said lands due and customary to us before the present confirmation.

In 1483 William Cuminge of Culter, Lord of the lands of Innuerelloghy, granted to his son William his house and lands of Innuerelloghy with the lake surrounding the said house and the fishings of the same and the Fortre of Innuerury in the Barony of King Edward to be held of John Lord of the Isles and Lord Baron of Kynedward, Lord Superior of the same, and in 1486 his charter was confirmed by the Lord of the Isles.

In 1483 Alexander, son and heir of the late William Cumyn of Cultir, sold to his uncle, Alexander Irvine of Drum, to be held of himself, his lands of Inrelochwy with the castle and lake of the same lying in the Barony of Kynedward.

In 1492 letters of remission were granted to Alexander Irvine of Lunmay and others for the violent taking and holding of the place and fortalice of Inuerallochquhy.

In 1504 the King granted to William Cuming of Inverelochy, otherwise called Marchmont Herald, and Margaret Hay, his wife, the lands of Inverelochy, the castle, lake, fishings, and mill of the same, with the aqueduct to the said mill and *le Fortre of Inverurie* "*Ad terras de Inverelochy spectantibus*," the *reddendo* being one attendance at the head Court of the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen with ward relief and marriage. In 1513 the King again granted to William Cumynge, son and heir apparent of Marchmont Herald, the same lands. In 1537 Alexander Cuming had sasine, and in 1539 he and his wife Margaret Fraser had another Royal charter. In 1571 William Cumming of Inueralochy had sasine of the lands of Inueralochy and of the lands of Fortrie and Finnerurie, which

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had been in the King's and his dearest mother's hands for over 23 years from the Battle of Pinkiecleuch, in which Alexander Cuming of Inueralochy was killed, as son and heir of the said Alexander.

In 1592 King James of new granted and confirmed to Alexander Fraser of Philorth *inter alia* the lands of Inneralloquhay with the tower fortalice, Manor, lake, fishing, mill, etc., watercourse from the lake to the mill, the lands of Fortrie of Innuerowrie and the mill called Denend with the white fishing wraik and ware fische bait, etc., extending to three pounds of old extent lying in the Barony of Innueralloquhy, and incorporated them with the other lands specified into the Barony of Philorth.

In 1697 Alexander Fraser was served heir of his father Alexander Fraser of Inverallochy, in the lands of Inverallochie with the tower, fort, Manor Place, houses, etc., loch, fishings thereof, mill, etc., with the water course of said loch running to and leading from said mill . . . with the white fishing, etc., on the sea shore, in the Parish of Rathen, . . . the town and lands of Armabeidie, etc., with the pasture of cattle of said lands of Armabeidie in and by the lands and bounds of Cairnglas . . . lying in the Parish of Lonmay, and likewise in the town and lands of Bonnatoune in the Parish of Lonmay in special warranty and security of the foresaid lands of Inverallochy and Armabeidie, . . . and also of the towns and lands of Cairnglas . . . created and incorporated into a whole and free Barony to be called the Barony of Inverallochy.

### *The Barony of Philorth.*

*Philorth.*—Sir Alexander Fraser of Cowie married Johanna, sister of the Countess Euphemia and co-heiress of William, Earl of Ross, and obtained the lands of Philorth formerly part of the portion of the Earl of Buchan's lands transferred to the House of Ross. In 1375 Walter Leslie, Lord of Ross, granted to our dear brother and sister Alexander Fraser and Johanne, his spouse, the lands of Philorth, namely, Kirktown, Cairnbuilg, Inuerolochy, Ardglassay, Kinglasse, with the Mill, Kinbog, Ardmakren with the Mill, the two Brakours, Auchintuin, Auchmacludy, Braklawmoir, Greater Drumquhendill and Less Drumquhendill, Auchinchogill, Plady, Loncardy, and Delgaty, with the Querell-lands of Greater Fyntrie, Balcherr and Blacktoun.



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In 1478 sasine was given to William Hay of Ardendracht of the lands of Auchinchogyll in the Barony of Philorth, and in 1482 Alexander Fraser of Philorth was served heir in the Barony of Philorth including the lands of Tibardy and Utlaw now in the said Barony by annexation. In 1501 William, brother of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, was served heir in the lands and Barony of Philorth, and in 1512 William Ogilvy resigned the lands of Fityhede in the Barony of Philorth. In 1516 the Sheriff had to account for the duties of the lands of the Barony of Philorth. In 1570 Alexander Fraser received sasine in the Barony of Philorth, and the lands of Tyrie and Faithlie, Skatterty, Tillichero, Blairmormont, Park of Crimond, the sunny half of Kindrocht, and Denend, and the fishing of the lands of Cairnbulg, Faythly, Pittouly, and Couburty. In 1541 Queen Mary granted a charter constituting Faithlie a free Burgh of Barony. In 1550 Sir Alexander Fraser had a charter of the lands of New Murecroft of Kirkton of Tyrie which were erected into a separate Barony. In 1552 he bought from Forbes of Pitsligo, the lands of Pettalochy, and in 1588 there was incorporated with the Barony of Philorth and the lands of Aberdour in Aberdeenshire and Tibertie and Utelaw in Bamff of old united to it, the lands of Scattertie in the Barony of Kin Edward, the lands of Faithlie and Tyrie with the port of Faithlie and Burgh of Barony within the foresaid Barony, and the lands of Kirktown Tyrie in the Barony of Aberdour. In 1592 King James again confirmed to him all these lands, and also the lands of Inveralloquhy, Fortrie of Inuerowrie and the Mill called Denend in the Barony of Inveralloquhy, the third part of the town and lands of Faithlie and the shady half of the town and lands of Kindrocht and Denend with the Mill. In 1601 all these lands and others were again erected into the Barony of Philorth and the town and Burgh of Fraserburgh, of old called Faithlie, into a free port, Burgh of Barony, and free Regality with special power to found a University.

### *The Barony of New Murecroft.*

*New Murecroft.*—In 1550 Queen Mary granted to Alexander Fraser of Philorth the whole lands of *Lie Murecroft* of Kirkton Tyrie with the superiority of the lands of Ardlaw, Bodichail with the mill, lying in the Barony of Aberdour in the Sheriffdom of

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Aberdeen, and by annexation in the Barony of Borthwick, resigned by John Lord Borthwick, and erected them into one new and free Barony to be called the Barony of New Murecroft to be held of the Crown in free heritage and free Barony, the *reddendo* being one red rose on the soil of the said lands at the Feast of St John Baptist at midsummer in name of blench farm.

### *The Barony of Pitsligo.*

*Pitsligo.*—The lands of Pitsligo seem originally to have been part of the Barony of Aberdour. They passed by marriage from the Frasers of Philorth to the senior cadet branch of the House of Forbes. The second son of "Sir John with the Black Lip," posthumous child of the Chief who fell at Dupplin in 1332, was Sir William Forbes of Kinaldie who married Agnes, daughter of the second Fraser of Philorth. He built the castle of Pitsligo of which the tower was erected in 1424.

In 1455 a charter under the Great Seal of the lands of Pitslegow in the Earldom of Buchan, and Mykilwardris in the Regality of Garviach, united into the Barony of Pitsligo, was granted to Alexander Forbes of Kynnaldi on the resignation of himself and Agnes Fraser his mother. In 1476 the King confirmed to him the lands and Barony of Pitsligo with the houses or tower of the same, the *reddendo*, instead of ward and relief, being made a silver penny of blench farm. The *reddendo* of Kinaldie was at the same time changed from blench to ward and relief. In 1477 Alexander Forbes, and in 1496 John Forbes, were infeft as heirs. In 1579 a Royal charter was granted to Alexander Forbes of the Baronies of Pitsligo with the annexed lands of Mikill Wardress and Kynaldy with other lands. In 1556 Alexander Forbes, in 1563 William Forbes, and in 1567 Margaret Forbes, his senior heiress, had sasine of the Barony of Pitsligo. In 1580 the King granted to Alexander Forbes *inter alia* the Barony of Pitsligo and annexed lands of Meikle Wardres in the Garioch, incorporated as before into one free Barony, and in 1593 John Forbes had sasine.

In 1600 King James VI. granted a charter to John Forbes of Pitsligo confirming to him the lands and Barony of Pitsligo and its dependencies of Meikle Wardes and Cowburty, the lands and Barony of Kynnaldy, of new granting the Barony of Pitsligo with its dependencies, of new granting the Barony of Kynnaldy and specifying its contents, and erecting all the lands aforesaid into one free

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Barony to be called the Barony of Pitsligo. In 1618 another charter was granted of the Barony with the annexed lands of Courburtibeg, and in 1637 Alexander Lord Forbes of Pitsligo was served heir male of his father Alexander Lord Forbes of Pitsligo in the lands and Barony.

### *The Barony of Strichen.*

*Strichen.*—Between the years 1214 and 1233 William Cumyn, Earl of Buchan, granted the lands and mill of Stratheyn and Kindrochet to Cospatric Macmadethyn for the payment of two stones of wax at Whitsunday yearly, which rent was afterwards given by the Earl to the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Rattray.

In 1528 James V. granted to Andrew, son and apparent heir of John Chalmer of Strathechin and Christine Fraser, his spouse, the lands of Strichen and the lands of Rosseviot "in regalitate de Garyauch" erected into one whole and free Barony, to be called in all future time the Barony of Strichen.

In 1554 Queen Mary granted a charter of the lands of Strichen to Alexander, nephew and apparent heir of Andrew Chalmer of Streychane and Elizabeth Johnstoun, his spouse. Earlier in the same year Queen Mary had confirmed a charter by which Alexander Chalmer *feodarius terrarum de* Strathechin sold to Thomas Fraser, son of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, his lands of Burrahill, Humleis Carne, Fairnybray, Auchnarie, Quhitehill, with the mill commonly called le Corne Mylne of Straithechin lying in the Barony of Straithechin. In 1559 Queen Mary confirmed a charter of December, 1558, by which Alexander Chalmer sold to Thomas Fraser, son of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, the dominical lands of Strachechin with the fulling mill commonly called "*The Walkmylne of Straquhin*" in the Barony of the same. In 1573 James VI. granted to Thomas Fraser of Strechin and Issobelle Fraser his wife, the lands and Barony of Strechin with the superiority of *lie* Newton of Strechin with the tower, fortalice, mills, etc. In 1590-1 the King granted to Thomas Fraser of Knokie and Elizabeth Forbes his wife, the lands and Barony of Strichen and the superiority of the new town of Strechin with the tower, etc., which had formerly belonged to Katherine and Violet Fraser, daughters and heirs of the deceased Thomas Fraser of Strichen, and had been resigned by them. In 1612 sasine was given to Thomas Fraser now of Strechin of the lands and Barony of Strechin, and specially of the dominical lands of

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Strechin with the tower fortalice gardens of the same, the grain mill of Strechin, the fulling mill of Strechin, the lands of Barrahill, Humleiskairne, Fairnaybray, Achnary, Quhythill, Torquhat, Halkhill, Newhill Brounsyde, . . . Newtown of Strechin with the new meal mill of Strichen, in the Parish of Rathen, incorporated into one free Barony called the Barony of Strechin. On the formation of the Parish of Strichen in 1633 a signator was granted in favour of Thomas Fraser elder of Strichen of the lands and Baronie of Strechin and of the patronage of the Kirk of Strichen.

### *The Barony of Delgaty.*

*Delgaty.*—The lands of Delgaty, Auchinshogill, Plaidy, and Loncardy, were included among those conveyed by Walter Leslie, Lord of Ross, the Baron of Kinedward, to Alexander Fraser of Philorth in 1375. In 1478 Sir Alexander Fraser of Philorth gave sasine of the lands of Auchinshogill to William Hay of Ardendracht, and in 1494 Gilbert the Hay of Dellgathie entered into a contract with John Chene of Essilmont for the marriage of Cheyne's son and Hay's daughter. In 1503 William Fraser of Philorth resigned into the King's hands his lands of Auchinshogill with the mill, Delgaty with its quarries, Kinminity, Loncardy and Plady, and the King granted them for behoof of Gilbert Hay, son and heir of the late William Hay of Ardendracht, to be held in fee and heritage of our Sovereign Lord the King. In the same year Sir William of Philorth granted a letter of reversion undertaking, on the narrative that Sir Gilbert Hay had sold to him the lands of Delgaty, Loncardy, and Plady in the Barony of Delgedy, to upgive and resign the said lands upon the payment of five hundred merks "upon the large altar of Aberdeen," and in the following year having received that sum he resigned the said lands in the hands of the foresaid Sir Gilbert Hay. In 1510 the King confirmed a charter of Gilbert Hay of Ardendracht in which he granted to his son Alexander Hay, and Elizabeth Abernethy his spouse, the lands of Northtoun, Auchinshogill, and Plady in the Barony of Delgaty, and in 1539 the marches were determined between the lands and Barony of Delgaty belonging to Alexander Hay, and the lands of Udacht belonging to Alexander Forbes of Bruchis, Alexander Con of Auchray, and Robert Shand, portioners of the same, called le Quarrelhill of Delgattie, by

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Alexander Guthrie alias Falkland, one of the Sheriff Deputes of the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, commissioned by the Earl of Moray, Sheriff Principal.

In 1705 Charles, Earl of Erroll, was served heir *inter alia* in the lands and Barony of Delgatie comprehending the dominical lands of Delgatie with the Manor Place . . . meal and dye mills . . . the lands of Udoch, Coupland Udoch called the dominical lands of Udoch and Manor Place thereof with the flower gardens, etc., and their pertinents called Overhiltown, the land of Crosswoodhill otherwise called Ledmuir . . . Burnside and Laverockhillock, the sunny half of the lands of Greenness and the half of the town and lands of Balquhynochie as the same is divided from the other half thereof belonging to William Gordon along with the Mill of Udoch, Mill Lands . . . with the superiority of the shady half of the lands of Ardein . . . in the Parish of Turreff, and likewise the town and lands of Meikle and Litle Auchrys with the tower Fort Manor Place, etc., Netherwood and Hairmoss, the shady half of Greenness with the outsets of Little Auchrys called Tewthar and Grayston, Mill of Hairmoss, Mill Lands, etc., . . . and also the towns and lands of Over and Nether Kinminities and Corssgeldie, and these two ploughs of land of Delgatie commonly called the old corn garden of Delgatie, . . . the lands of Muriefauld . . . Assogils, Mill thereof, mill lands . . . Hilltown of Aschogill, . . . Whytreshes, Wraes, Skatertie, Claymires, along with the salmon fishing on the Water of Doveran, . . . and also one annual rent of 44 pounds Scots leviabie from the foresaid lands of Delgatie . . . all lying in the Barony of Delgatie Parishes of Turreff and Montwhitter.

### *The Barony of Allathan.*

*Allathan.*—In 1532 John Pantoun received sasine of the lands of the Barony of Allethan.

### *The Barony of Glencuthill.*

*Glencuthill.*—In 1423 Glencuthill was part of the Barony of Kynedward.

In 1503 King James IV. confirmed a charter by which Alexander Earl of Buchan and Lord of Achitirhous and Banff, and Baron of the

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Barony of Glencuthill granted to William Lord Ruthven his lands of Glencuthill and the Barony of the same lying within the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen. In 1547 George Baird of Glencuthill describes his lands of Glencuthill and Auchmedane as in the Barony of Glendowaghuy and Shire of Aberdeen. In 1604 the Sheriff of Aberdeen had to account for dues of the lands and Barony of Glencuthill due in respect of the sasine given to James now Earl of Moray, Lord Abernethy and Downe.

### *The Barony of Moncoffer.*

*Moncoffer.*—In 1506 the King confirmed to Patrick Barclay of Grantuly and Elizabeth Arbuthnot his spouse, the half of the lands of Moncoffer with the fishings of the Water of Doverne in the Barony of Kynedward, which half was formerly held by the said Patrick hereditarily as a free tenantry of the said Barony, formerly held of the Baron of the same, and the said Barony has been adjudged to pertain to the King as heir of John Earl of Buchan, and the King has granted his whole right in and to the said half. *Reddendo* three attendances at Aberdeen and ward, etc.

In 1597 the Sheriff of Aberdeen had to account for duties in respect of the sasine of Gilbert Baird now of Auchmedden in the shadv half of the lands of Auchnagorth lying in the Barony of Moncoffer.

### *The Barony of Aberdour.*

*Aberdour.*—The lands of Aberdour were an early Barony of considerable extent in the hands of the great house of Douglas. They had been part of the Comyn's lands, for their great castle of Dundarg seems to have long remained the principal messuage. In 1378 Robert II. confirmed a charter of Archibald of Douglas, Lord of Galloway, by which he conferred on Alexander Fraser, Knight, for his homage and service 80 marcatas in lands and mills in his Lordship of Abredour in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen. On 27th June, 1408, Alexander Fraser, Lord of Philorth, sold to Patrick Reid of Collvystown his land of Little Drumquhendill in the Barony of Aberdour, and on 31st October James of Douglas, Lord of Abercorn and of the Barony of Aberdour *in Buchania*, confirmed

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the lands to Patrick Reid Ramsay, "our dear Esquire," and his charter was ratified by Archibald Earl of Douglas, Lord of Galloway and Annandale. On 9th October of the same year the Lord of Abercorn and Aberdour gave to his dearest cousin William Fraser the lands of Ovir Pettouly, Nether Pittouly, and Petslegach, Culburty, le Quaral, Ardlach, Achlun, le Threbulgenis with the Mill of Balgeny, Glascelach, Culcoach, Auchmacludy, Drumwhendil with its Mill, Mamsy with the Mill of Bادهall and Rathin in the Barony of Aberdowir and Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, and on the 31st the Earl of Douglas and Lord of Galloway confirmed the gift specifying also Tullynamolt with its mill. In 1423 James of Douglas, Lord of Abercorn, confirmed a charter by which William Fraser of Philorth in 1418 granted to John of Gordon, natural son of the late Lord John Gordon, Lord of the same, all his lands of Ardlach with the Mill of Badychale in the Barony of Aberdour, and in 1420 James of Douglas of Balveny had granted a precept for the hereditary sasine of Alexander, the son and heir of William Fraser of Philorth in the lands of Culburty, Mamsy, Over Pettouly, Nether Pettouly, and Rathin in the lordship of Aberdour. On the 24th of July, 1423, James Douglas, Lord of Balveny and overlord of the Barony of Aberdour, granted to his kinsman William Forbace, Lord of Kynnauld, the lands of Glasloch, Coulauch, Tullynamolt, Nether Bulgne, Midmas of Bulgne, Ovir Bulgne, Achillim, with the mill of Bulgne, and the quarry of Culburty in the Barony of Aberdour resigned by William Fraser, Lord of Philorth, in favour of the said William Forbace and Agnes his wife, daughter of the said William Fraser. In 1426 King James I. confirmed the charter by William Fraser, dated 12th August, 1424, by which he gave those lands, Petslegach also being specified, to William Forbes and Agnes Fraser, his wife, to be held of the magnificent and potent Lord James of Douglas, Lord of Balveny and Aberdour, a confirmation of which by Douglas had been inspected. In 1426 the King confirmed gifts by which *inter alia* Archibald Earl of Douglas and Lord of Galloway gave to his brother James of Douglas of Balveny the Baronies of Aberdour and Rattray in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen. In 1450 James II. confirmed to our dearest cousin William, Earl of Douglas and Annandale, Lord of Galloway, all the lands of the Barony of Aberdour and the castle and rock of Dundarg which formerly belonged to our beloved cousin Hugh Earl of Ormond and which

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he had resigned. Two years later the Royal dagger broke the Douglas league at Stirling Castle. Two years more saw the forces of Earl James melt away at Abercorn when the Red Douglas put down the Black, and in 1455 the final blow was struck at Arkinholme on the Esk.

The Barony now passed into the hands of the Borthwicks. In 1503 William Lord Borthwick died seised as of fee in the lands and Barony of Aberdour. In 1538 King James V. granted a charter by which the Barony of Aberdour with many other lands, in Lothian, Peebles, Selkirk, Berwick, and Lanark were united with the Barony of Borthwick. In 1550 Queen Mary granted the lands of New Murecroft of Kirkton Tyrie with the superiority of Ardlaw Bodichail, in the Barony of Aberdour and by annexation in the Barony of Borthwick, to Alexander Fraser of Philorth, erecting them into a new Barony. In 1556 John, Lord of Borthwick, granted a tack to George Baird of Auchmedden of the lands of Clintertie lying in his Barony of Aberdour and Borthwick. In 1570 William Lord Borthwick sold to his son his lands and Barony of Borthwick under the condition that he should fulfil his obligations to Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont as to a feu of the lands of the Barony of Aberdour. On 17th July, 1571, William Lord Borthwick sold to Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont all the lands and Barony of Aberdour, namely, the Manor Place and ecclesiastical mansion of Aberdour, Clintertie, Ardlayhill, Killequharne, and Pennand, Tyrie, Mekill Auchrie, Blalthangy, Middilhill of Balthangy and Gallye with mills, ports, etc., as one whole and free Barony to be called in all future time the Barony of Aberdour. They were excepted from the next Borthwick sasine of 1573, and the charter was confirmed by King James in 1571 and again in 1587. In 1582 Patrick Cheyne sold to Fraser of Philorth the lands of Kirktown Tyrie in the Barony of Aberdour, and in 1587 the King of new granted the lands and Barony of Aberdour to Patrick Cheyne of Essilmont, the *reddendo* being a rose yearly on the Feast of St John the Baptist.

In 1660 Patrick Cheyne sold to Master John Cheyne of Pitfichie *inter alia* the Mains of Aberdour with the corn mill and Killiequharne with the ports, etc., and in the same year with his consent sold to Patrick Cheyne, his lawful son by Magdalen Fraser his wife, the Manor Place or Manis of Aberdour with the tower and fortalice of Dundarg, Ardlahill, Killiequharne, Clentertie, Badiscoller,



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Greindyk, Pennand, and its quarry with the Mill of Aberdour, etc., in the Barony and Parish of Aberdour. In 1605 a charter of appreciation of these lands belonging to Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont was granted to Alexander Fraser Apparent of Philorth. In 1608 Fraser sold the lands of Over and Nether Pittulies, the Barony of Outlawe, the lands of Tippertie and Scattertie, the Mains of Aberdour with the Manor of Dundarg, Pennan, Killiquharne, Clintertie and Ardlahill, to Andrew son of John Fraser of Quarrelbus. In 1624 Andrew passed on the Aberdour lands to John, eldest son of the deceased Sir Alexander Fraser of Fraserburgh, and in 1630 Alexander Fraser Younger of Philorth granted Aberdour, the tower and fortalice of Dundarg, Kilquharne, Ardlayhill, Clintertie, and Pennan to Lord Pitsligo, who, in 1635 granted Clintertie and Pennan to George Baird of Auchmedden. In 1637 Alexander Lord Forbes of Pitsligo was served heir of his father in the lands and Barony of Aberdour.

### *The Barony of Troup.*

*Troup.*—In 1413 Robert Duke of Albanie, Earl of Fife, and of Menteth, and Governor of Scotland, confirmed the charter by which our dear brother Robert of Keith, Marischal of Scotland, and of the Barony of Troup, granted to our cousin John of Keith, his son, all his lands of the said Barony of Troup in the Shire of Bamff, the *reddendo* being the *forinsecum servitium* to the King, and three attendances at head Courts to be held within the lands of the said Barony of Troup to the Marischal and his heirs. The Marischal reserved the superiority and service of free tenants of the lands of Achorthie, Curvi, and Hayninghil lying within the said Barony of Troup. In a Roll of Missing Charters of the preceding Sovereign David II. there is noted one to Andrew Buttergask of the Barony of Troupe in the Shire of Bamff.

In 1581 the Sheriff of Bamff had to account for the relief of the whole superiority of the lands and Barony of Troup due by sasine given to George, Earl Marischal.

In 1681 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir *inter alia* to the Tenmerkland of the Barony of Troup called the lands of Northfield, that part of the lands of Northfield some time belonging to the Mains of Troup, with the Manor Place, white

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fishing, haven, fishing boats, station and shore or landing places in the Barony of Troup and Shire of Bamff, held of the King, and in 1688 these lands were conveyed to him by Sir Robert Milne.

### *The Thanage and Barony of Glendowachie or Doune.*

*Glendowachie.*—Glendowachie appears to have been the only ancient thanage within the bounds of Buchan proper, of which it occupied the north-western corner forming part of the Sheriffdom of Bamff. It is said in the "View of the Diocese of Aberdeen" to have given the title of Lord formerly to the eldest son of Cummin, Earl of Buchan, but for this there is no foundation. It is, however, noted in Douglas's Peerage that in 1583 James Douglas was served heir as "Earl of Buchan, Lord Glendouachy, etc., at Bamff."

In the reign of Alexander III. (1249-1286) the thanage of Glendouachy was valued at twenty pounds yearly. In a Roll of Missing Charters of King Robert I. is a *carta Hugonis de Ross* of the thanage of Glendouachy in the Sheriffdom of Bamff. In 1382 King Robert II. granted to his dear son John Lyoun (husband of his daughter) the lands of the thanage of Glendouachy which had fallen to us because the late William Earl of Ross had alienated them without obtaining our consent.

In 1402 Isabel, Countess of Mar and Lady of the Garioch, in her widowhood gave to Alexander Keith of Grandoun the Lordship of Glendouachy and the lands of Doun, and the grant was confirmed by King Robert III. in the following year. In 1413 Alexander of Keith, Lord of Grandoun, gave to Patrick Ogilvy, son and apparent heir of the Sheriff of Angus, and Christian, his wife, his lands and Barony of Doun in the Shire of Bamff. In 1491 Walter Barclay of Tolly was served heir to the lands of Collane lying in the thanage of Glendonauchy, which are held of the Thane of Glendonauchty in fee as superior in blench farm, and are now in the hands of the Earl of Buchan and Lord of Glendouauchtly.

In 1522 John, Earl of Buchan, Lord of Ouchterhous and Baron of the Barony of Glendowachtly, gave a precept of sasine for infefting Patrick son of Walter Berclay in the lands of Collan, and in 1528 King James V. granted to John Earl of Buchan "*terras et baroniam de Glendowoghuy alias Downe.*" In 1547 George Baird of Glencuthill granted to his wife Margaret Drummond, widow of John Gordon of Pitlurg, his lands of Glencuthill and Auchmedane lying in the Barony of Glendowaghuy and Shire of Aberdeen. In 1559

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Walter, son of Patrick Berclay of Tolly, was served heir of Collane in the Barony of Glendouachtie and Shire of Bamff, and in 1618 Patrick, son of Walter Barclay of Tollie, was served heir to the lands of Collane "*infra dominium de Glendowachie.*"

### *The Barony of Fedderate.*

*Fedderate.*—One of the great Baronies of Central Buchan was that of Fedderate. Between 1203 and 1214 it belonged to Fergus Earl of Buchan, who granted to John son of Uthred the three davochs of Fedreth in exchange for lands in Cruden and Slains. William of Fedreth and Cristina of Moravia, his wife, appear as benefactors of the Church in 1294, and for some generations it belonged to the Fedreths of Fedreth. In 1490 the King granted to Thomas Crawford, son of William Crawford of Fethray and Katherine Ogilvy his spouse, the lands of Allathane, Bothmacaly, and Breklaw within the Lordship of Fetheray which he had resigned. In 1505 John Chamer was served heir of Thomas Chamer of Stracheyehin in the lands of Corsogich in the Lordship of Federay. In 1507 William Buchan of Auchmacoy was served *inter alia* in three-fourths or parts of the lands of Meikle Creichie in the Lordship of Federay held of the Lord of Federay in blench. In the same year the King confirmed a charter granted by William Crawford of Fetheray to John Anderson of his lands of Mekilcreche in his Lordship of Fetheray, lying between the lands of Lital Creche belonging to the Earl Marischal on the east, Dennis belonging to the Abbot and Convent of Deir on the north, Meikiletrick belonging to the Convent on the west, and his own lands of Annochie on the south. In 1528 the King confirmed a charter by which George Crawford of Feddraucht sold to Alexander Bisset his lands of Crechty with pertinents and specially that outset commonly called le Auld Bray, lying in his Barony or Lordship of Feddraucht. In 1527 King James granted a charter to George Crawford of Fedderat and Jonete Irvine, his spouse, of the lands of Quvltis and Actanfort. In 1538 John Knox of that ilk obtained diligence against George Crawford of Federat charging him to infest him in feu ferm in the lands of Auchyauch in the Barony of Fedderat. In 1553 Queen Mary granted to George Crawford of Fedderat and Agnes Ogilvy his wife, the lands and town of Culchye of Federat in the Barony.

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In 1552-3 George Crawford sold to Fraser of Philorth the lands of Meikle Creychtie in the Barony of Fedderay. In 1561 Fraser of Philorth granted to William, nephew of George Crawford, of Fedderay, and Christian Fraser his wife, the lands of Meikle Creychie in the Barony of Fedderay.

In 1573 the King gave the ward and non-entry duties of Meikle Allathane, Multounbray and Piktillim in the Barony of Fedderate to Robert, brother to Alexander Irvine of Drum. In the same year William Crawford received sasine of the lands and Barony of Fedderate, namely, the Manor Place of Fedderet with the Mill Auldwhat, Quhytstanis, Mekill Balmakellie, Irnesyde, Auchquhat, Mekill Auchyeocht, Litle Auchyeocht, Broclaycht, Schevaldo, Act-amfurde, Pondircroft, Corbihill, Mekill Allathane with the Mill, Corsgeycht, Brovinhill, Quhitcarnis, Quhyithill, Witten's-hill, Clochcan, Bruntbray with mill tofts and croftis *lie outsettis*, etc., with the tower fortalice and Manor Place of Fedderet lying within the Barony of Fedderat and the superiority of the lands of Dragy, Glenbeg, and Goacht, lying within the Sheriffdom by annexation.

In the same year (1573) William Crawford of Fedderate sold to Alexander Irvine of Drum his whole Barony of Fedderat, namely, the Manor Place of Fedderate with tower and fortalice, grain mills, etc., Schevado, Auchtamfort, Pundlarecroft, Culche, Stevinsburne, Quhuiteboig, Corbishill with grain mill, Allathin, Piktillim, Mutturbray, Corsgeycht, Quhitestanis, Auldquhat, Meikle Bathmakellie, Brunehill, Quhytcarnis, Quhithill, Irnesyde with dye mill, Auchquhacht, Withinshill, Broklay, Meikle Auchyeoche, Gorschehill, Litill Auchyeoche, Meikle Crechie, Bruntbray, Clochcan, Annoquhy with corn mill, within the said Barony of Fedderat. In the same year William Crawford sold to Gilbert Irvine of Cullairry, brother of Drum, his lands of Auldquhat in the Barony of Fedderat. In 1576 duty on the lands of Annoquhy was accounted for in respect of the death of George Crawford of Fedderat, grandfather of William Crawford. In 1582-3 Alexander Irving of Drum granted to his eldest son and heir apparent Alexander Irving the Barony of Fedderat, the grant being confirmed by King James on 13 April, 1583. In 1599 Alexander Irving "*Feodatarius de Drum*" with consent of his father, granted to his brother John the lands of Ardtanfurd, Schivado, and Punlarcroft in his Barony of Fedderat and Parish of Deir. The *reddendo* stipulated the proper services

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*more patriæ* in the armies of our Lord the King at the vassal's expense, but the services of the superior beyond the South Esk at the superior's expense, but within the South Esk, that is in the northern parts, at the expense of the vassal. In 1623 the lands of Auldquhat, Quhitecairns, and Stewinsburne in the Barony of Fedderat, were sold to Alexander Irving of Drum by Alexander Irving of Auldquhat with consent of Anne Irving his wife.

In 1671 Mr William Thompson, who had acquired right by apprising from the Keiths of Ludquharn, Balmuir, and Cocklaw, was infest in the lands of Whythill, etc., by charter from Alexander Irvine of Drum, superior. In 1681 Sir William Keith of Ludquharn was charged to enter heir *inter alia* to the lands of Whythill, Weetingshill, Meikle Auchyeoch, Auchquath and Mill of Auchquath in the Barony of Fedderate held of Alexander Irvine of Drum. They were subsequently sold by Sir Robert Milne, to whom they were then adjudged, to Mr James Elphinstone, W.S.

In 1698 William Lindsay was served heir in the lands of Culsh, the Mill of Culsh, etc., in the Barony of Fedderet. the outsett called Quhytbogue, the pendicle called Standingstains,

### *The Barony of Birness.*

*Birness.*—In 1689 John Udney alias Fowllertown, second son of Robert Udney of Auchterellon, was served heir to his grandfather, Colonel James Fowllertown of Dudwik in the lands and Barony of Birnes comprehending . . . Dudwik with the Manor Place . . . with the Bonny-roes croft and shepherd's croft and other crofts on the Backhill of Dudwik . . . Whyteburne . . . Artrache . . . Ardarge . . . Overtown of Birnes . . . Burnend . . . the dominical lands of Birnes and the Mill . . . in the Parish of Ellon . . . the dominical lands of Pariock with the Manor Place . . . comprehending four ploughs of land, one called the How of Skelmuir, another called the Windfauld, the third called the Stodfauld, and the fourth called Stonkill, with that croft called Vairdhead, also the town and lands of Craighead . . . in the Barony of Kellie and Shire of Aberdeen, as for the principal, and in special warranty the lands and dominical lands of Techmuiry, the lands of Marnock and Burntack, which lands and Barony of Birnes are held in chief of George Bishop of Aberdeen and his

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successors in feu farm, which whole lands and dominical lands of Pariock . . . and Craighead . . . are held in chief of Charles, Earl of Mar, Lord Erskin and Garioch.

### *The Barony of Auchmacoy.*

*Auchmacoy.*—In the "View of the Diocese of Aberdeen" (completed in 1732) it is stated of the Buchans of Auchmacoy:—"This family has possessed Auchmacoy these four hundred years, the first of them having been a son of Cummin, Earl of Buchan, . . . who had got this small estate from his father and did, notwithstanding the almost general rebellion of his whole Clan against Robert I., adhere so faithfully to that Prince that he was allowed to retain his estate (when the other Cummins were forfeited) upon the condition of his taking a new name, whereupon he chose that of Buchan." Robertson's Index to Scarce Charters states that in 1503 James IV. gave Andrew Buchan a new charter and erected his lands into a free Barony. In 1505 Alexander, brother of the late Andrew Buchan of Auchmacoy, was served heir *inter alia* in the lands of Auchmacoy and Oykhorn. In 1507 William Buchan his son was served in the lands of Auchmacoy and Oykorn, and in the same year his son Andrew was served in a half of the lands of Oykhorne in the Barony of Kyneduart held in chief of the Lord of Auchmacoy, the *reddendo* being a penny Scots of blench farm. In 1514 Alexander Buchan was served in the lands of Auchmacoy and Oykorn. In 1556 Alexander Buchan, and in 1581 Alexander Buchan were served heirs in the lands of Mekill Auchmacoy and Oykorn.

In 1672 Alexander M'Ghie was served heir of his father Hugo M'Ghie of Artrochie in the town and lands of Little Artrochie with the mill, mill lands, tithes in the Parish of Logiebuchan, with the hereditary right of casting peats from the Moss of Divieshill, and in special warranty thereof in the town and lands of Auchmacoy comprehending the lands and dominical lands of Auchmacoy, Meikle Auchmacoy, Litle Auchmacoy, and Oikhorne, with the fishings, mill and mill lands, and also in the coble croft of Little Auchmacoy and passage boat of that croft, common pasture, etc., which whole town and lands of Auchmacoy are held of the King in taxed ward. On the same day Alexander M'Ghie was served heir of his brother Hugh

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M'Ghie in the town and lands of Dorbshill in the Barony of Auchmacoy in principal, and in the dominical lands of Meikle Auchmacoy in warrandice.

### *The Barony of Ardgrain.*

*Ardgrain.*—In 1527 John, Earl of Buchan, granted to Robert Innes of Innermarky the lands of Argrayne and Cauldwellis lying in the Earldom of Buchan, the *reddendo* to him and his heirs Earls of Buchan being a silver penny at the Mount of Ellon at the Feast of Pentecost. In the following year the Earl of Buchan resigned these lands in the King's hands and James V. created and incorporated the foresaid lands of Ardgrane and Caldwellis into one free Barony *abinde*, to be called the Barony of Ardgrain, and delivered them for behoof of Robert Innes. In 1534 Robert Innes granted to Alexander, his second son, his lands and Barony of Ardgraine, Cauldwillis, and Pettauchie. In 1580 Robert Innes of Innermarkie confirmed to William Hay of Delgatie his lands and Barony of Ardgraine, Caldwallis, and Pettochie to be held of the King in fee and heritage.

### *The Barony of Arnage.*

*Arnage.*—Arnage was for long one of the estates of the Cheynes. Originally apparently part of the great Barony of Slains it appears later as a separate Barony.

In 1377 King Robert granted to William Marescalle, son of Malcolm Marescalle, the lands of the tenement of Essilmonthe and of the tenement of Greater Arnynche in *Buchania* which Malcolm had resigned. The lands passed by marriage to the Cheynes.

In 1692 David Rickart was served heir to his elder brother George Rickart, eldest son of the deceased Mr George Rickart of Arnage in . . . the dominical lands commonly called the Maines of Arnadge and the old dominical lands with the Manor Place . . . and pertinents thereof, Cardenonhill, the Old Cultercrofts, and Adamhill with . . . the other hills, parts and pendicles thereof . . . the town and lands of Cowie with the tower fort . . . Cairntyssie, Cairndalzie, . . . the Upper and Lower Ardquhardlish, with the Upper Meal Mill, the Over Corne Mill of Arnadge, the lands of the Milltown, the Mill Lands, etc., of old called the Fuller's

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Mill of Arnadge . . . Lammermuir . . . with the special privilege, liberty and power of a free Barony and pit and gallows, lying in the Parish of Ellon. The tenure was taxed ward according to charter granted by Charles II. to the said deceased Mr George Rickhart.

### *The Barony of Drumwhindle.*

*Drumwhindle.*—In 1677 Jean, daughter of William Barclay of Auchredie, was served as nearest heiress of Patrick Barclay of Auchredie, her grand-uncle, in the town and lands of Auchrydie in the Parish of Ellon, Barony of Drumquhyndle and Sheriffdom of Aberdeen . . . held in chief of the lairds of Towie . . . in free blench farm for yearly payment of one penny.

### *The Barony of Hilton, Rosehill or Turnerhall.*

*Hilton now Turnerhall.*—In 1692 John Ross was served as nearest heir of his father John Ross of Rosehill in the lands and Barony of Hiltowne ("now called Rosehill") comprehending the town and lands of Hiltown with the dominical lands and Manor Place thereof, etc., Kinnarrachie, Mill of Kinnarrachie, mill lands, etc., . . . as said lands of Hiltowne of Kinnarrachie . . . are bounded according to the old rights and infestments, the salmon fishing in the Water of Ythan, pertaining to the said lands of Kinnarrachie . . . the tithes rectorial and vicarage, all lying in the Parish of Ellon, and also the rest of the said lands and Barony of Hiltowne, viz., . . . Blinburne with the liberty and privilege . . . of winning . . . sods, etc., in the mosses of Tullidask . . . Kirkhill . . . Milltowne of Arnadge and Lower Meal Mill thereof commonly called Doupmill, with the mill lands, etc., . . . Little Arnadge, Corsehill, Whytehillock, Alehousecroft and lands called Procurator's Croft with the Fuller's Mill of said lands . . . the meal mill of Little Arnadge with the mill lands, etc., . . . in the foresaid Parish of Ellon, . . . erected into one whole and free Barony called the Barony of Hiltowne . . . which foresaid lands, Barony, mills, . . . etc., are all now united into one whole and free Barony . . . to be called the Barony of Rosehill by charter by Charles II. to the foresaid John Ross of Rosehill and Margaret Udnie his spouse, of 8 December, 1682.



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### *The Barony of Auchterellon.*

*Auchterellon.*—In 1507 the King granted to John, Earl of Crawford, the lands and Barony of Uchteralloune, Newpark of Kelle, Tullibralloche and Tulynahilt in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen which previously pertained to the said John as immediate Lord of the same, and recognosced to the King on account of the alienation of the greater part without his consent, and which the King has of new united and incorporated into one free Barony of Uchtralloune. Tenure, ward, relief and marriage and one attendance at the head Court of the Sheriffdom at Aberdeen.

### *The Barony of Gight or Schivas.*

*Gight or Schivas.*—The history of these lands is somewhat obscure for the fortunes and connection of the Maitlands and the Gordons of Gight with them alternated and commingled. Prior to 1497 they belonged to the Maitlands, and on Sir Patrick Maitland of Gight's death, embarrassed by "unwary securities given to creditors," leaving two daughters, the second Earl of Huntly got the gift of the ward of their marriage. His second son William not being able to marry either of the heiresses, the Earl provided them with portions and husbands with whom he transacted for the lands of Gight and Shivas, and they resigned their father's property in his favour in 1467. The Earl gave Gight to his second son William, the ancestor of the Gordons of Gight, described by Fraser, the author of the Wardlaw's MS. as "In effect the wickedest family of that name."

The Maitlands, however, retained or recovered a connection with the estate, which emerged after the Gordons had suffered from their activities in the Civil Wars. In 1672 they had a charter of infestment from the King. In 1674 Sir Richard Maitland of Pittrichie, a Senator of the College of Justice, and his son sold to Charles Earl of Aboyne the lands or Barony of Gight or Schivas, and Charles II. granted to the Earl a charter of the lands and Barony of Gight in 1675. In 1678 Sir Richard Maitland the younger was served heir to his father *inter alia* in the shady third part of Newtown of Schivas, with the pertinents called Skillmanee held immediately in chief of Sir George Gordon of Gight and Robert Irvine of Fedderet. In 1681 Charles Maitland was served heir to his brother Sir Richard in the lands and Barony of Gight alias Shevis, with the tower, fort, Manor Place, etc., and tithes . . . comprehending . . . the

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dominical lands of Gight, the lands of Millbrecks, Brackhillock, Sannford, Fadounhill, Little Gight, Meikle Ardoch, Mill of Ardoch, Mill Lands, etc., . . . Little Ardoch, Auchincrieve, Monlettie, Newton of Shevis, Chapelton of Shevis, the Mill, mill lands, etc., Skelmanee, Balnageats, Balquhathie Mill, mill lands, etc., Middle Moor . . . Cairncrie . . . Newseat, Mill of Gight, mill lands, etc., Stonehouse of Gight and Cottown . . . Fetterletter, Munkshill, Lethintie, Bruckillseat, the dominical lands and Manor Place of Schevis, Newseat, Burneside, the old mill and new mill, mill lands, etc., . . . Oldtown, Leyes, Broadwards, Quilquax, and Killmachily with the vicarage tithes . . . all lying in the Parishes of Fyvie and Tarves . . . incorporated into one whole and free Barony to be called the Barony of Gight, the Manor Place of Gight being ordained the principal messuage of said Barony according to the Royal Charter of 1672. Tenure taxed ward.

In 1712 Mary Gordon, heiress of Gight, married Alexander Davidson of Newton of Culsalmond. In his settlement of 1777 the last Laird of the Gordon line (grandfather of Lord Byron) described his lands and Barony of Gight as comprehending Mains of Gight, including Potts, Millbrecks, Blackhillock, Sannford, Faudonhill, Little Gight, Meiklearde, Middle Arde, Middle Muir, Balquhynachie, Mill of Ards, Corn and Waulk Mills of Gight, Stenhouse of Gight, Coaltown thereof, Fetterletter, comprehending Ardlogie and Woodhead, Windiehills, comprehending Blackhills, Lethentie, Bruckleseat, Newseat, Coaltown, Little Folla with the Mill of Balquhynachie, erected into one free Barony called the Barony of Gight, as also the Burgh of Barony of Woodhead of Fetterletter lying within the said lands and Barony of Gight. The Estate was sold to the Earl of Aberdeen in 1787.

### *The Barony of Fyvie.*

*Fyvie (or Fermartyn).*—Fyvie, of old a Royal Castle, was the principal messuage of the great Thanage of Fermartyn, which corresponded in area with, but was not the same as, the modern district of Formartine. The ancient Celtic Thanage included Fyvie Castle and the lands of Gight and Monkshill, which being on the north of the Ythan are now part of Buchan. Modern Formartine embraces the rest of the old Thanage, with the smaller Thanage of

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Belhelvie, and the northern portion of the Thanage of Kintore, thus comprehending the whole territory between Ythan and Don from the sea on the east to the confines of the Garioch and Strathbogie. In 1286 the Thanage of Fermartyn was held as *Firmarius* by Reginald Cheyne, Sheriff of Kincardine, and Chamberlain of Scotland. King John Balliol gave by charter to John Comyn, Earl of Buchan, all the lands of the Thanage of Fermartyn and Derlaye, except the Burgh and Castle of Fyvie. After the forfeiture of the Comyns it passed through various hands to the Prestons about 1390, and on the death of Sir Henry Preston in 1433 one part of it passed with his daughter Mariote to Sir John Forbes, the ancestor of the House of Tolquhon, while the other part, including Fyvie, went with the other heiress to Alexander Meldrum. In 1596 Fyvie was sold by the last owner of the Meldrum line to George Seton afterwards Lord Urquhart, Lord Fyvie, and Earl of Dunfermline. Upon the forfeiture of the fourth Lord Dunfermline after the Battle of Killiecrankie it passed through several hands to the second Earl of Aberdeen, from whom the Gordons of Fyvie were descended.

In 1306 King Robert I. granted to Mary Comyn, spouse of the late Edward Comyn, the land of the two Cullenachys, and of Salchope with the mill within our Thanage of Fermartin, that she might recover her terce, saving the Scottish service in our army.

In 1390, two years after the Battle of Otterburn, King Robert granted to Henry of Prestoun, Knight, for the redemptioun of Sir Radulph de Percy, an English Knight, all our lands of the Barony of Fermartyn, the town of Fyvie with the Castle of the same, the lands of Mykilgurdnes and five mercats of the lands of Parkhill, which had been resigned by James of Lindsay, Knight, to be held as one free Barony of the Crown. Between 1390 and 1397 James of Lyndesay, Lord of Buchan and of Crawford, granted to Sir Henry Preston and Dame Elizabeth Lindsay, his spouse, sister of the granter, all his lands of Mekill Gurdness and five mercats of the lands of Parkhill lying in the Barony of Fermartyn. In 1403 Margareta, one of the heirs and elder daughter of the late Sir James of Lindsay, Lord of Buchan, and spouse of Thomas Colville, lately deceased, and Henry of Preston, Lord of Fermartyn, submitted their differences about the right and ownership of the Castle and Burgh of Fyvie to the determination of Sir William of Keith, Marischal of Scotland, who decided in favour of Preston. In 1405 King Robert

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confirmed a charter by John Herys of Trareglys and Eufamia his spouse, by which they sold to Henry of Preston and Dame Elizabeth his spouse, their whole part of the Lordship and Barony of Fermartyn.

In 1502 William Meldrum of Fyvie resigned the lands of his Barony of Fermartin, the Castle, and fortalice of Fyvie with the Burgh, the lands of Mekle Gourdess with the Mill, Blaichrie and Badichail, the lands and forest of Kynnavell and Woodend, Little Gourdes, Comoloun, Haldawe, Derley, Petty with the Mill le Shaitht with the smithy, the half of the lands *lie* Park of Fivye, the lands of Jakstown, Estirtown, and Sauchak with the Mill, and in 1503 King James granted these lands to George Meldrum, his son, the tenure being three attendances at the head Court of the Sheriffdom at Aberdeen, ward relief and marriage. In 1505 William Forbes of Tolquhun was served heir to 60 *perticatas* of land in the Burgh of Barony of Fyvie.

In 1526 George Meldrum received sasine at the principal messuage Manor Place fortalice and castle of Fyvie of the whole lands and towns of the Barony of Fyvie, and in 1563 Queen Mary instructed the Commendator and Convent of the Monastery of Arbroath to infest George Gordon of Scheves and his spouse Elizabeth Gordon in the lands of Monkishill, the ecclesiastical lands commonly called the Kirklands of Fyvie, the Mill of Fyvie commonly called Brewhouse of Fyvie, and the lands of Ardlogie lying in the Barony of Fyvie within the Regality of Arbroath, which had previously been held of the Abbey by George, formerly Lord Gordon, and had fallen to the Crown by his escheat, without prejudice to their superiority.

### *The Barony of Balquholly (now Hatton).*

*Balquholly.*—In 1698 Jean Ross was served heir in the town and lands of Little Colp, lying in the Barony of Balquhollie and Parish of Turreff.

### *Lands in the Barony of Kelly.*

*Kelly (now Haddo).*—The Castle of Kelly in Formartine beyond the Ythan was one of the seats of the Comyn Earls of Buchan. In 1261 Alexander Earl of Buchan at Kelly founded a hospital at

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Newburgh, in 1272, also at Kelly, one at Turriff, and in 1287 granted a half mark of land included in his Park of Kelly to the Monastery of Arbroath. The Barony comprehended lands in Buchan which passed with it into the possession of the Erskines, Earls of Mar.

*Parcock or Skelmuir*.—In 1487 Sir Gilbert Keith of Inverugy granted to his youngest son Gilbert Keith the lands of Parcock (Skelmuir) in the Barony of Kelly, which, with those of Ludquharn, had been granted about 1350 by Sir John Menteith, Lord of Arran, to Sir Edward Keith and his wife, daughter of the granter, but had been afterwards alienated by Thomas Lord Erskine and his wife Dame Janet Keith, Sir Edward's heiress, to Duncan of Wemyss. In 1699 John Udny or Fullerton was served heir to his grandfather, Colonel Fullerton, in *inter alia* the lands of Parcock including Howe of Skelmuir, Windfauld, Stodfauld, Stonkill, Vairhead, and also Craighead in the Barony of Kelly, held in chief of Charles Earl of Marr, Lord Erskine and Garioch.

*Knaven*.—In 1444 King James confirmed a charter by Robert Earl of Mar, Lord of Erskine and of the Barony of Kelly, by which he granted to Andrew de Culane his lands of Knaven in the Barony of Kelly.

*Laskgownie*.—In 1433 Robert of Erskine, Lord of the same and of the Barony of Kelly "*in Buchania*" granted to Sir William Forbes, Knight, all his land of Laskgowny lying in our Barony of Kelly. In 1436 he granted Laskgownie in similar terms to Gilbert Menzies, Burgess of Aberdeen, the charter granted in the following year narrating that they had been resigned by Sir William Forbes of Kynaldi. But in 1439 Forbes granted an obligation to Menzies for a sum of money received "upon my lands of Lask." In 1451 Robert of Erskine, Lord of Kelly, granted to Gilbert Menzies, an annual rent due to him out of Gilbert's lands of Laskguyounie. In 1473 John Menzies sold to his uncle Alexander and Elizabeth Lesley his wife, one half of the third part of his lands of Laskguyunie lying in the Barony of Kelly in the Earldom of Buchan within the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen. In 1474 Arthur Forbes, spouse of a noble lady and Countess Beatrice, lady of Erole, constituted Alexander Menzies, Burgess of Aberdeen, his assignee, to redeem and retain the lands of two parts of the lands of Laskguyen in the Barony of Kelly from the hands of Robert Culane. In 1483 John Menzies resigned in the hands of Thomas Lord Erskine and Baron of the

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Barony of Kelly, his lands of Laskguyeon in the said Barony, and Lord Erskine gave to Alexander Menzies and Elizabeth Leslie his spouse, all the lands of Laskguyeon lying in Buchan in the Barony of Kellie. John Menzies was son and heir of the late James Menzies, Lord of Laskguyeon, and had sold the lands to his uncle Alexander.

### *Lands in the Regality of St Andrews.*

*Ellon.*—In 1265 “Alexander Cumyn de Buchan” leased from “*Gamelino Episcopo Sancti Andree terram suam de Elon in Buchan quam Scoloci de Elon tenent,*” undertaking to make the forensic service, and conceded the said lands of Elon by their rightful bounds “*sicut Scoloci eam nunc tenent*”—to the Bishop and Church of St Andrews. In 1387 an inquisition was made before the Bishop of St Andrews at the Church of Ellon as to the ecclesiastical lands of Ellon which are called *le Scologlandis*, which included Estir Elon, Candallan, and Ferley. The lands of Ardgeith and Carmuck lying “*in Scolaria de Ellon*” were held of the See of St Andrews and were associated with the office of the Constabulary of Aberdeen long possessed by the Kennedys of Kermuck.

In 1690 Alexander Cumming of Crimond, son of Mr Alexander Cumming, some time of Brunthill, afterwards of Birness, was served in the lands of Borrowley, the dominical lands of Cairnmucks, Mill of Cairnmucks, Cuttieshill, Clayhills, riggs, woods, tenements, acres, etc., in and about the town of Ellon, the lands called Fyvielands of Ellon now called Clayhills, with the tower and fort of Ardgight, gardens, etc., of the same, with the town and lands of Knockorthie, which whole lands, etc., were lately held of the Archbishop of St Andrews in feu farm for yearly payment of 8s Scots at the Feast of St Martin for the sustentation of two clerical singers in the Parish Church of Ellon with 8d Scots in augmentation of rental according to the retour of Thomas Forbes now of Watertown.

### *Lands in the Regality of Arbroath.*

*Priorylands of Fyvie.*—The Priory of Fyvie was founded by King William the Lion who, between 1189 and 1196, gave the Church of Fyvie with its Chapels, lands, etc., to God and the Church of St Thomas of Abirbroth and the Monks there serving God. In

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1285 Reginald le Chen gave to the Monastery of St Thomas the Martyr of Abirbrothoc and the Monks of the said Monastery dwelling in the religious house constructed on the lands of Ardlogy near the Church of St Peter of Fyvie all his lands of Ardlogy and Liuchendy.

In 1563 the Commendator and Convent of Arbroath were ordered by Queen Mary, without prejudice to their right of superiority, to infest George Gordon of Sheves in Monkishill, the ecclesiastical lands called the Kirklands of Fyvie, the Brewhouse of Fyvie, and the lands of Ardlogy lying in the Barony of Fyvie.

### *Earldom of Buchan.*

*Lands of the Earldom.*—The whole overlordship, and the proprietorship of a great portion of the area of Buchan, to which perhaps the lands of the Cheynes may have been the most important exception, though they probably held under the Earl, appear to have belonged to the Comyn Earls of Buchan as the heirs of Fergus the last purely Celtic Earl or Maormer of Buchan. Upon the forfeiture of the Comyns their rights were divided, and the great separate Baronies were probably formed out of which the smaller Baronies in time developed. What extent of the old lands of the Earl were left thus undisposed of and remained to support the new grants of the Earldom to the Stewarts it is difficult to ascertain. The most of the possessions of the Stewart Earls in the region from which they took their title were held not as Earl of Buchan but as Baron of Kinedward.

In a few cases lands are found described simply as *in comitatu*—in the Earldom of Buchan—without reference to any other Barony, and in one or two the Barony is further described as within the Earldom of Buchan. In the case of Ardgrain and Coldwells in 1527, which is a grant by John Earl of Buchan of the Stewart line, the lands being described as *in comitatu Buchanie*, the *reddendo* is to be given “to me, my heirs and assignees at the Mount of Ellon.” In 1477 James III. had granted to his uncle James Earl of Buchan and Lord of Auchterhouse “*terras comitatus Buchanie et comitatum hujus modi infra vice comitatum de Abirdene.*” It was in 1490 that he granted to him the Barony of Kynedward.

When Fergus, Earl of Buchan, granted to John, son of Uthred, about 1200, the 3 davochs of Fedreth in excambion for the lands of Slany and Crudan, the *reddendo* was the free service of one archer

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to him and his heirs and three attendances at his Court of Ellon, with the forensic service of our Lord the King. In 1476 service of the Earldom was given to James Stewart "super montem de Ellon," the Moot Hill on which in older days the Earl sat to dispense justice. "The eminence came afterwards to be known by the name of Earl's Hill, and its possession continued to be anxiously claimed by the Lords of Buchan when of all that great inheritance little or nothing remained with them but the name and dignity of Earl." In 1519 John Stewart was served "in the Earldom of Buchan and Earlshill thereof." He resigned them in favour of his son John in 1547, whose daughter Christian was similarly served in 1551. In 1574 a charter of the Earldom and the Earlshill was granted to Robert Douglas and his wife, the Countess Christian, and their granddaughter Lady Mary Douglas was in 1615 served heir to the Countess Christian in the Earldom of Buchan, and *monticulo nuncupato Erlshill*. In 1617 a charter of the Earldom *ac etiam monticulum vocatum Erlshill* was granted to her and her husband James Erskine, son of the Earl of Mar. In 1642 John, Earl of Rothes, was served heir to his father in one half of the lands and Earldom of Buchan *cum monte vocato Erlshillock*, which passed to the Maules, and in 1663 George, Earl of Panmure, was served to the half of the lands which formerly belonged to the Earldom of Buchan "*et monte vocato Erlshillock*." The other half passed to the house of Glamis. In 1648 Patrick Earl of Kinghorn was served in the half of the lands and Earldom of Buchan *cum monte vocato Erlshillock*, and in 1695 John, Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn, was served *in reliquo comitatus et praedii de Buchan* comprehending "the Earleshillock."

There has now been completed a general survey of the old Baronies of Buchan, so far as they can be traced from accessible material. A glance at the names on a modern map will show that it practically covers the whole area of Buchan, and it is interesting to note that the map showing the estates of the eastern part of Aberdeenshire which was prepared in 1858 when the Buchan and Formartine Railway was promoted, shows some of the estates as still retaining the area and limits of the old Barony of the name, while in many others the boundaries of the properties are to a large extent coincident with part of the boundary of the great Barony of which they all formed part.



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The importance of the Barony as a social institution disappeared with the abolition of the feudal system in Scotland accomplished by the legislation that followed the Jacobite risings. The Act of 1748 destroyed the heritable jurisdictions, and swept away the universal obligation of national military service, and any slight vestiges that were left of the old Baron Courts soon fell into complete desuetude. The century and a half that followed are distinguished by the development of the arts of Peace no less in the agriculture of the country than in the manufactures of the city. Among the pioneers of agricultural improvement in Buchan several descendants of the old Baronial families took a prominent part; and there remains one beneficial survival from feudal times in a specially cordial relationship where old names are still associated with the old lands.

There is a tendency to look on the centuries with which the survey has been concerned as wholly consisting of clan feuds, bloody struggles and oppression. This is, however, an erroneous and imperfect view. It is the picturesque and the exceptional events which get most certainly recorded, and the amount of time actually occupied by them represents but a small proportion of the years or of the life of a nation. When Harlaw was fought, while the feuds of families, so characteristic a feature of Scottish history, were being waged, the ordinary life and avocations of the inhabitants were disturbed, but did not cease. The Barony was a great social entity and had its peaceful and continuous life. The Baron was sometimes a local tyrant or oppressor, but more often and more continuously he was the kindly judge, the friend and the protector of his vassals, themselves the lesser proprietors of the soil, and of the tenants on the land of which he retained both the *dominium directum* and the *dominium utile*. The anxious references in the charters to corn mills, fulling mills, smithies, and ports indicate that the arts of peace did not slumber. The Barony had its mill and not infrequently its Church, although in Scotland the Barony was not so closely correspondent with the Parish as the Manor in England. The lesser justice was economically and not unfairly dispensed in the Baron Courts which were under strict supervision by those of the Sheriff or Justiciar, and the cultivation of the soil went on, as the enumeration of the comprehended lands in the charters shows, on holdings which in many cases closely correspond with the names of the present day farms. In Buchan, probably more happily than in the South of

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Scotland harried by "the auld enemies of England," more securely than in the Lowland regions near the Highland line exposed to frequent visits from "the caterans," and more quietly, even in the days of the Civil Wars, than in Mar and Garioch which bore the brunt of "the Troubles," the local Baronage dwelt among their people, a happy and industrious life went on, indicated by the kindly customs and genial salutations that long survived, and, primitive though the appliances were, husbandry was conducted with no small amount of individual skill, by a persevering and laborious peasantry. Upon the foundations of peace and settled rule laid by the Comyn Earls were raised the lower courses of the masonry of civilised progress, to be followed by the great development of agriculture that marked the estate management of the 18th and 19th centuries after "the land had rest" from Civil War, and before the fires were stirred for the infernal brew of class hatred and social disintegration.

# LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE BUCHAN CLUB

(Formerly Buchan Field Club).

- Anderson, R., 12 Belvidere Street, Aberdeen.  
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