

THE ANNALS OF CULLEN.

961-1904.

By W. CRAMOND, LL.D.

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BEING EXTRACTS FROM RECORDS RELATING TO THE AFFAIRS OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF CULLEN—961-1904.

Picked from the wormholes of long vanished days,
And from the dust of old oblivion raked.

—Henry V.

A.D. 139-161.—“ Ptolemy mentions the River Celnus, that is the Cullen. — (Dr Skene). Chalmers (“ Caledonia ”) also identifies the Celnus with Cullen.

(The original Greek text of the “ Geographia ” of Ptolemy is considered by some authorities to have suffered occasionally from interpolation).

The name Cullen may have been derived from the Gaelic *cuileonn*, holly, which thrives naturally and abundantly in the district, as it also does in places of the same name in Ireland. Rev. J. B. Johnston (“ Place Names of Scotland ” 1903) derives it from the Gaelic *cuilan*, “ little nook.”

A.D. 268-270.—A coin of the Roman Emperor Claudius Gothicus found at Lintmill, Cullen, in 1890. The coin is now in possession of Dr Cramond.

961.—The “ Pictish Chronicle ” says : “ *Classi Sumerlidionum occisi sunt in Buchain.* ” “ The later chronicles state that Indulph was slain by the Norwegians at Inverculan, but if this is the same event the ‘ Pictish Chronicle ’ gives no countenance to the statement, and St Berchan distinctly implies he died at St Andrews.”—(Skene’s Celtic Scotland).

“ *Induff Mac-Constantin 9 an. interfectus a Norwagensib. in Inverculan sep. in Iona.* ” (From the Register of the Priory of St Andrews which Innes calls an authentic record of date 1251).

“ *Indulfus, spiculo percussus, interiit prope locum qui Collyn dicitur* ” (Fordun).

Chronicle No. 5 Innes says that Indulfus was slain by Norwegians in Inverculen “ *ad fluminis ostia Collin.* ”

The Danes came (968)

Into Boyne, ane land by Buchquhane cost,
And thair at lasar landit all their oist,
Vpone ane muir besyde ane mont tha met ;
With brandis brycht ilkane on vther bet,
And mony grume la granand on the ground,
And mony ane buir deidlie werkand wound,
The Danis all ilkone that time were keild,
And gude Indulfe than with ane fedderit flane
Throw aventure in that same field wes slane.

—(Stewart's Metrical Version of Boece's History, written in the middle of the sixteenth century).

The Danes, says Buchanan, "*nacti locum idoneum at Collini fluminis ostium*" (having found a convenient place at the mouth of the River Cullen) disembarked their soldiers, who afterwards were panic-stricken by the appearance of Graeme and Dunbar with the Lothian troops in their rear, and some ran to their ships, but the greater part retired to a woody vale.

"In the Battle of Cullen, Dunbar, Thane of Lothian, was a commander."—(Shaw's Moray).

"So early as 961 we find the men of Lothian, under two leaders of the name of Dunbar and Graeme, doing battle against the Danish invaders at Cullen."—(Scottish Nation).

"Indulf was killed in a battle with the Norsemen."—(J. H. Burton).

"Indulph son of Constantine III. succeeded 953. He sustained many severe conflicts with the Danes, and ultimately lost his life after a reign of eight years in a successful action with these pirates on a moor which lies to the westward of Cullen. This victory is known in the tradition of the country as the Battle of the Bauds. This battle took place in 961."—"Brown's History of the Highlands."

Skene says the Danes and Norwegians made their first appearance in 793 in an attack on Lindisfarne. Simeon of Durham says they came with a naval armament to Britain like stinging hornets, and overran the country in all directions like fierce wolves, plundering, tearing, and killing not only sheep and oxen, but priests, levites, and choirs of monks and nuns.

1000.—About this period the district between the Dee and the Spey was annexed to Scotia. Before proceeding to more reliable dates it may be noted that the burial circles, urns, flint implements, &c., with which this district abounds, belong probably to a period anterior to this. Perhaps the most interesting of these finds are the articles that were obtained from the circle at Ley, and now deposited in the Banff Museum, consisting of a bronze pin, silver chain, &c., and considered by some competent authorities to belong to the period of the Sculptured Stones. Remains of burial circles exist at Bankhead, Glassaugh, Ley, Pattenbrangan, &c. A good example of a cup-marked stone is to be seen in the Churchyard of Fordyce. S. Talarican, the patron saint of Fordyce, is supposed to have preached the gospel in the northern parts of Scotland in the sixth century. A general belief in Christianity may have prevailed here since the commencement of the eighth century, and by the commencement of the twelfth century churches were planted along the seaboard of Banffshire practically as the parish churches exist at the present day.

1165-1214.—William the Lion grants a charter to the Burgh. (This statement is made on the authority of Chalmers' Caledonia, but cannot be corroborated). William the Lion grants a toft in the burgh of Invercullan to Richard Bishop of Moray and his successors. (The original deed implies that Cullen was then a burgh, but does not distinctly affirm it so to be. A formal charter was not always necessary to constitute a burgh).

1226, Jan. 20th.—Alexander II. grants a charter to Walter of Innes "apud Inverculan," the witnesses being his Chancellor, Justiciary, &c.

1226.—Alexander, King of Scots, grants to the Church and Bishop of Moray a davach and a half in the forest of "Inverculan apud Calrunleu' et Belethyn," but it is doubtful if this refers to Cullen.

1226.—John Bisset gives to the Church of S. Peter of Rathven for the support of seven leprous persons serving God at that church the right of patronage of the church of Kyltarargy.

1232, October 5th.—King Alexander II. and his court arrive at Inuerculan. On 7th October the King by a charter dated at Inuerculan grants four merks yearly to the Chapel of St Nicholas beside the Bridge of Spey. Witnesses to the charter: William de Bondington, Chancellor, Walter, son of Allan, Steward Justiciary of Scotland, the Earl of Angus, &c.

1236.—A chapel exists at Cullen at this date. Agreement between the bishops of Aberdeen and Moray regarding their jurisdiction of the Church of Forscauen and Inuerculan. The Bishopric of Moray was established about 1115, and that of Aberdeen about 1142. The bishops concerned in this agreement were Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen, who died in 1238, and Andrew, Bishop of Moray, who founded the Cathedral Church of Elgin in 1224.

1249-1285.—Rental of King Alexander III. from the lands of Fynletter 66s 8d, of Castelfelœ 26s 8d, of Petynbruyan 40s, and from the burgh of Invercullan 24 merks 6s 8d. (These were confirmed to the church in 1382). Second tithes were at this period due to the Bishop of Aberdeen from the King's rentals, &c., of Cullen, and from the lands of Fynlette, Castelfelde, and Petnabruynan.

1264.—R. de Strathewan, Sheriff of Banff, expends money on behalf of King Alexander III. on repair of the House, &c., of Inverculan.

1290.—The Abbot of Welbec and Henry of Rye stop at Colane while proceeding to Norway, by order of King Edward, after the death of Alexander III.

1292.—Edward I. directs his chancellor to authorise the keeper of the forest of Alnete on the Spey to give three stags to Alexander Comyn from each of the forests of Collyn and Buthyn.

1296.—King Edward passes the night of 23rd July “a Innercolan manoir.”

1303.—King Edward passes the night of 5th September at Cullen on his way to Kinloss. He was at Banff on the previous day. “His course was marked by smoke and devastation, by the plunder of towns and villages, the robbery of granges and garners, the flames of woods, and the destruction of the small tracts of cultivated land which yet remained.”—(Tytler).

1327-1329.—King Robert the Bruce is said to have granted a charter to Cullen. He endowed a chaplaincy in the Church of St Mary to pray for Elizabeth his spouse, who died here. Elizabeth de Burgh, daughter of Richard or Aymer, Earl of Ulster, and second wife of Robert the Bruce, died at Cullen. She left Prince David, Margaret, Countess of Sutherland, Maud, who died young, and another daughter. King Robert's first wife was Isabell, daughter of the Earl of Mar, who bore to him Marjory, who married Walter, the Grand Steward of Scotland. Fordun gives the date of her death 7th Nov., 1327. Queen Elizabeth was buried at Dunfermline, but “interiora corporis erant eviscerata et tumulata in ecclesia de Culan.” (See Foundation Charter. View of the Diocese of Aberdeen, &c.)

That samin yeir Elizabeth the Quene
King Robertis wyfe of quhome this tyme I mene,
Of euirilk man with mad murning and wo
Scho take hir leif out of this lyfe till go.

“Stewart's Chroniclis.”

1306-1329.—Robert the Bruce when once at Cullen gave some lands in the vicinity of the church of Rathven to maintain the leperhouse, and at the Reformation one Hay, parson of Rathven, secured the lands to his family (Hutton MS.).

1329-70.—Charters by King David II. to (1) Thomas Lipp on the lands of Pettinbruynache with the office of Constable of Culan, (2) William Chalmer of the lands of Castlefield, (3) Margaret Bruce of the lands of Castlefield which Henry Culane resigned, (4) (1366) Robert Sinclair of the lands of Findlater, (5) Richard of Saint Clair of the lands of Fynleter which belonged to Joan of Fynleter, his spouse, which lands she resigned in 1366.

1330.—Charter by the Abbot and Convent of Arbroath to David Duffus, son and heir of John Duffus of a toft or hostilage in the burgh of Invercullen on the north side of the land of the Abbot of Kinloss.

1331.—The issues received by the King's Chamberlain from the burgh of Cullen £12 3s 4d.

1342.—At an inquisition held at Banff regarding the second tithes due to the bishops of Aberdeen the “inquisitores” included Malcolm, son of William, James son of Walter, Henry, son of

James, and Machabaeus Duff, burgesses of Cullane, also Henry Lord of Fynlettir and Geoffry of Fynleter.

1343.—Adam of Buthergask is farmer of the Customs &c., of Cullen.

1358.—The lands of Findlater farmed for the King till about this date. David II. granted to Richard of St Clair the whole lands of Findlater which had belonged to John of Findlater. In 1381 Richard of St Clair, the King's shield bearer, had a renewal of the lands of Findlater, to which were added the "Grieveschip of Cullane." In 1391, John, Earl of Moray, had a charter of the escheat of the barony of Deskford. Sir John Sinclair, who held the barony of Deskford in Robert II.'s reign, had a son and heir Ingram, who was succeeded by a son John, who fell at Harlaw.

1362.—David II. approves the assedation which John de Haya made to John Young, vicar of Fordyce, of the land of "Rove buky in le Awne." [This is the earliest known reference to Buckie.] The name Buckie is said to be derived from the Gaelic lucaidh, "a pimple, a knob." [Johnston's Place Names (1903)]. In this year John Hay of Tillibody (in Clackmannan) obtained a charter of all lands he could bring into cultivation between the Spey and the burn of Tynet.

1366.—Johanna de Fynlater resigns into the hands of King David II. the whole territory of Findlater, and the King grants a charter of these lands to Richard of St Clair and Johanna de Findlater.

1366.—Churches of Farskane and Rathven taxed by the Bishop at 22 merks.

1381.—Robert II. grants and confirms to Richard St Clair the lands of Findlater and of "the Grieveschip of Culane."

1382.—Robert II. grants to "our son, Alexander, the Seneschal, Earl of Buchan," and to Euphemia, Lady Ross, his wife, the lands of Deskford, which belonged hereditarily to Lady Ross, in virtue of her descent from the Comyns.

1390-1406.—Charters by King Robert III. (1) to David Hay of the place of Cullen, (2) to John, Earl of Moray, brother of the King, of the escheat of the Barony of Deskfurde, which had belonged to the deceased Johan of Saint Clair, who had died at the King's horn, and the escheat also of the lands of Fynlettir which had belonged to Richard of St Clair then at the King's horn. The Sinclairs afterwards recovered their lands. Charter to Michael, master of ane annual rent furth of Findlater, Netherdull, &c.

1403, Feb. 5.—Charter by King Robert III. to David Duff and Agnes Chalmer his wife, daughter and heiress of Maud of Muldavate, of the lands of Muldavate and Baldavy, resigned by the said Maud and Agnes. This charter was given in com-

pliment by the Earl of Findlater to Earl Fife in 1759. It was printed by the Spalding Club from a copy said to be in private hands, but inquiry recently made shows that it is not now in the schedule or inventory of the documents belonging to the present Earl of Fife. No particulars are understood to be known regarding its disappearance.

1408.—An indenture made at Fynletter betwixt Sir Thomas Dunbar, Earl of Moray, and Alexander Cumyne, that the said Earl shall give his gude will to the marriage of his sister Euphemia, and twenty merks worth of land to the heirs of the said Alexander and Euphemia.

1408.—Robert, Duke of Albany, grants a charter to David de Haya, son of John de Haya of Tulibothi, confirming all grants and gifts by John Matulan of Netherdale, to the said John de Haya of the lands of Pittenbrigan and office of Constable of Cullen.

1411.—Sir John Sinclair slain at Harlaw.

1420.—John Sinclair, lorde of Deskforde

1435.—Alexander Sinclair renounces in favour of Margaret Sinclair, daughter and heiress of Sir John Sinclair of Findlater and Deskford, all right he can claim under an entail.

1426.—The King granted to Alexander Seton of Gordon and Egidia de Haia, his future spouse, daughter and heir of the deceased John de Haia of Tulibothi, the lands of the forests of Boigne and Aigne and barony of Kilsaurte.

1437.—Sir Walter Ogilvie of Auchleven, second son of Sir Walter Ogilvie of Lintrathen, High Treasurer of Scotland, marries the daughter and heiress of Sir John Sinclair of Deskford and Findlater, who fell at Harlaw. Sir Alexander Ogilvy, Sheriff of Angus, and his eldest son George also fell in the same battle.

1437.—Alexander Sinclair grants a charter to Sir Walter Ogilvie of the lands of Deskford and Findlater.

1439.—The King, for the kindness shown to him and his father, grants to John Aloway, his servitor, four merks rental from the burgh of Cullen for his lifetime, &c.

1440.—The King grants to John Dufe, son and heir of John Duff, the land of Fyndactifeilde, west of the burn of Cullen, which the said John, the father, personally resigned in the Castle of Edinburgh, on payment to the King of one merk annually, saving the rights of the mill of the burgh of Cullen.

1440.—The King confirms to Sir Walter de Ogilvy the lands of the baronies of Deskfurde and Finlettir, which Margaret Sinclair resigned to be held by the said Walter and Margaret his spouse.

1440.—In this year the Abercrombies are said to have excambed Westhall and Pitmedden, re-

ceiving therefor from the Bishop of Aberdeen the estate of Birkenbog.

1442.—John Duff of Muldavit and Craighead receives a charter from King James II. He wadset his lands to James Innes.

1445, Feb. 9th.—Sir Walter Ogilvse obtains the Royal licence of James II. for building towers and fortalices in his Castle of Findlater. [The original deed is in the Charter Room of Cullen House].

1453.—Annual rental in the town of Colane 20d, payable to the Monastery of Saint Thomas the Martyr of Arbroath. (From the Registrum Recentius Cenobii de Aberbrothoc).

1455, March 6th.—Charter granted by King James II. to the burgh of Cullen. The original is lost, but a certified copy of date 1656 was lately recovered among the town's records. The charter refers to £5 granted by King Robert Bruce for the support of a chaplain in the Parish Church of the Blessed Mary of Cullen, for the weal of the soul of his Queen. The bailies and community of Cullen granted 33s 4d in augmentation thereof. Some historical notices of the parish inadvertently give 1445 as the date of this charter. In reference to this charter the Municipal Corporations (Scotland) Evidence 1835 implies that it ratified a charter to the Burgh by King Robert Bruce, but the charter makes no allusion to a charter to the Burgh granted by Robert Bruce.

1458.—Declaration by Margaret Ogilvy, Lady Deskford, that she is not detained against her will in the Castle of Findlater.

1467.—Charter by King James III. to George, Lord Gordon, of the lands of Pettinbrinyeane, Drumnakeith, &c.

1471.—Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford, Provost of Banff.

1472.—Alexander Fordyce, chaplain of Cullen, disposes his lands to James Ogilvie of Deskford.

1473.—The King grants to George, Earl of Huntly, the lands of Hallyards and two acres near the town of Culane, reddendo a red rose in name of white farm.

1479.—The Bailies and Town Council of Cullen grant a bond of manrent to James Ogilvie of Deskford.

1481.—John Hay, Constable of Cullen, disposes the Constabulary of Cullen to James Ogilvy of Deskford. King James III. confirms to Sir James Ogilvy a charter granted by John de Haya, Constable, of the Constabulary of Cullen, with the office and pertinents thereof.

The King confirms a charter of John Duff, by which he sold under redemption to James Innes of that ilk the lands of Mawdavat.

1482.—Charter granted by the Bailies of Cullen to James Ogilvie of Deskford, of the lands of Findochty, Smithston, and Seafeld.

1483.—Cullen does not appear in the Tax Roll of the Burghs. Banff and Elgyn appear. In 1292 Cullen is not mentioned as having a royal castle. Such castles then were at Banff, Elgin, Nairn, and Forres.

1484.—Marriage of the Laird of Grant and Margaret Ogilvie, daughter of James Ogilvie of Deskford. Her tocher was 300 merks.

1490.—The King confirmed to George, Earl of Huntly, Lord of Badyenach, and Elizabeth Hay, his spouse, the lands of the lordship of the Forest of Anze, with the Castle thereof.

1491.—Special service before the Bailies of Cullen by George, Earl of Huntly, Lord of Badenoch, as heir in special to Elizabeth, Countess of Huntly, his mother, in several crofts and pieces of land lying in Cullen, and a piece of land under the Castlehill.

1491.—The King granted to George Ogilvy, son and heir of Walter Ogilvy of Boyne, the lands of the barony and thanedom of Boyne.

1493.—John Duff of Darbruche raises an action against Sir James Ogilvie of Desfurde, for “wrongwis occupationne and manuring of the landis of Fyndachy feilde, and for the upbreking of the said Johnnis compt burdis and spoliatioune of certane charteris.”

Andrew Duff produced a league and band made among the community and burgesses of Cullen, also a charter under the Great Seal of King Robert the second year of his reign, showing that the lands of Fyndachyfeilde in the Sheriffdom of Banff owe to the King one merk yearly.

1497-8.—The King confirmed a charter of George, Earl of Huntly, Lord of Badenoch, and Forester of Aynye and Boyne, by which, for a certain sum of money, he sold and alienated to James Ogilvie of Deskford, knight, and his heirs, the lands of Darchailye, Langmure, and Tulinach, within the lordship of the Forests of Boyne and Aynye. Reddendo, a penny in name of white farm.

1499.—The town of Fordyce erected into a burgh of barony at the instance of William, Bishop of Aberdeen, with a public market yearly at the festival of S. Talarican.

1502.—King James IV. mortifies certain rents (three pounds) out of Findlater, &c., for the Canons of Old Aberdeen to pray yearly for his and Bishop Elphinstone's soul.

1504, June 9th.—The King confirms a charter of James Innes, by which he granted to Andrew Duff the lands of Maldavat, which the late John Duff, grandfather of said Andrew, alienated to said quondam father of said James Innes under reversion. Andrew Duff redeemed the lands.

1505, Feb. 1st.—Death of James Ogilvie, son and heir apparent of Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford

and Findlater. [See his monument in Fordyce Churchyard, one of the oldest tombs in this district.] He married Agnes Gordon, natural daughter of George, second Earl of Huntly. Their eldest son was Alexander, who became Laird of Findlater.

1509, Feb. 13th.—Death of Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford. [See his monument in Fordyce Churchyard. Fordyce was the parish church of the family of Findlater, and inside the church was their burying ground, until Alexander Ogilvie of Findlater erected Cullen Church into a Collegiate Church, and inside this church, under the step of the high altar, Alexander Ogilvie was buried, in the year 1554. His splendid monument is one of the most interesting features of Cullen Church]. Walter Ogilvie of Glassaugh was his fourth son. His fifth son Alexander was killed on Flodden Field. Sir James was succeeded by his grandson Alexander. Alongside the tomb of Sir James is that of George Abercromby, Lord of Ley, whose father, Sir James, fell at Flodden.

1509-10.—The King confirms a charter of M. Alexander Ogilvie of Cardale.

1511.—The rental of the Bishopric of Aberdeen includes from the deanery of Boyne 6s 8d, from Findelatur 16s 8d, from Culane 4s, from Petnabrunngane—and 2s 4d from Castelton.

1511.—Alexander Ogilvie obtains a charter for incorporating the lands of Deskford, Findlater, and Keithmore into one barony called Ogilvy.

1511.—A deed bears to have been signed at Findletter.

1512-13.—The King confirmed to his familiar friend, for his services at home and abroad in France and England, William Ogilvie of Stratherne, and Alison Roule his wife, the lands and barony of Stratherne, the tower of Hawhill, &c.

1516.—Chaplainry founded to the B. V. M. in the church of Fordyce, by Sir Wm. Ogilvie of Stratherne. Sir William's granddaughter married Thomas Menzies of Kirkhill of Nigg. Their son Thomas acquired Durn, built the school, and provided the scholars with a seat in Durn's aisle. Alexander Symsoun, chaplain in the church of Fordyce.

1516.—James Ogilvie, rector of Kinkell, son of Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford, is appointed Abbot or Commendator of Dryburgh by the Duke of Albany. He was the first Professor of Civil Law in King's College, Aberdeen.

1516.—The King confirmed a charter of Sir William Ogilvie of Strathern, his treasurer, whereby, for the weal of the soul of Alison Roull his spouse, he granted to the altar of the B. V. M. within the Parish Church of Fordyce, seven merks annual rental from his lands of Litill Goveny, and

five merks annual rental from the mill and mill-lands of Baldavy, with multures in the barony of Baldavy.

1517.—The King confirmed to Alexander Ogilvie of Deskfurd the lands and baronies of Finlater and Deskfurd, Keithmore, &c., the lands of Castlefield and the office of Constable of Culane, with the castles and fortalices of Finlater and Auchindoun, all which lands the King incorporated into a free barony of Ogilvie, and ordained that the Castle of Finlater be the chief messuage of the same.

1519.—Death of Andrew Duff of Muldavit, who married Helen Hay, the founder of Duff's Aisle in Cullen Church

1521.—The King confirmed a charter of the Earl of Huntly, Lord of Gordon and of the Forests of Bone and Anze, by which he granted to Alexander Ogilvie *de eodem* the lands of Tullynacht, &c., in the forest of Boyne.

1521.—The King confirmed a charter of the bailies, council, and community of the Burgh of Cullen, by which they granted to Alexander Ogilvie *de eodem* their co-burgess, the lands of Fyndachtie, Smythstoun, Wodfeild, and Seafeide, and sea rocks of Seifeilde. Reddendo annually five pounds and three suits at the head courts of the said Burgh.

1521-2.—The lands of Bryntoun alias Fynnachty.

1521-2.—The King confirmed a charter of Alexander Ogilvie of that ilk, by which he granted to Elizabeth Craufurde, for the wrong done to her by him, and for the support of herself and her offspring for her life, the lands of Easter Skeith in the barony of Deskfurde or Ogilvy. The charter is signed at Fyndlettir, 6th Dec., 1520.

Circa 1526. — Dissension among the Clan Chattan. Hector M'Intosh and his men, after invading the Earl of Moray's lands, entered the country of the Ogilvies and laid siege to the Castle of Pettins, which belonged to the Laird of Durnens, one of the families of the Ogilvies, and which, after some resistance, surrendered. Twenty-four of the name of Ogilvie were massacred. The M'Intoshes then roam all over, plundering. The Earl of Moray gets a commission from James V. to repress them. He took 300 M'Intoshes and hanged them. Bishop Leslie says the head of the clan, Lauchlan Mackintosh, had been killed, and his son put under the care of friends to be educated. His uncle the Earl of Moray so put him. The young chief was so well brought up by means of the Earl of Moray and the Laird of Phindlater in virtue, honesty, and civil policy, that he was a mirror of virtue to all the Highland Captains of Scotland. But the young Chief was murdered also.

1527.—Gift of ultimus haeres by King James V. to Mr Alexander Dick, Archdean of Glasgow, of

the crofts and lands in Cullen that belonged to Nicol Chamber.

1528-53.—James Grant, third laird of Freuchnie, had a bond of manrent to Alexander Ogilvie of Deskford, his uncle.

1530-4.—S. Anne's Chapel, Fordyce Church, built. Helen Hay (the founder of S. Anne's Aisle, Cullen Church) buried here (Fordyce).

1531-2.—The King confirmed a charter of Alexander Ogilvie of that ilk, by which he sold to M. Alexander Ogilvie in Glashauch the lands of Ordecowy, Cultene, Ovir Eithinaltry, and Newtown in Desfurde in the barony of Ogilvie.

1531.—Ogilvie of Findlater appears to have resided frequently at Hallhill in Pettie, untill the house of Hallhill was demolished this year in a fray with the Mackintoshes, when twenty-four Ogilvies were slain.

1533-4.—The King confirmed a charter by Alexander Ogilvie *de eodem* by which he sold to George Abercromby of Petmathane and Margaret Gordon his spouse, the lands of Over and Nether Clune. The deed signed at Findlater, 1533.

1535.—Culane pays £41 5s as its quota of 5000 merks to James V.

1536.—Erection of St Anne's Aisle in the church of Cullen. "Elene Hay, Jon Dvffis modir of Maldavat, maid yis ile." The chaplainry was "dotat vt 35 acre gvd croft land in Cvlan and tenementis." The patrons of the prebendary were "Jon Dvf and his aris of Maldavat and faling yarof at gift of ye Balyeis and commvnite of Cvlan." [It is a striking peculiarity in the constitution of this Royal Burgh, and in this respect, so far as the present writer is aware, the constitution or usage was unique in Scotland, that from the earliest times till the year 1833 the Burgh had no Provost. The number of bailies was usually three, and in later times arose a hereditary Preses, who discharged to some extent the duties of Provost. The Collegiate Church had a Provost, as was usually the case, but this was purely an ecclesiastical office].

1539.—The King confirms a charter of William, Bishop of Aberdeen, by which, with consent of the dean and canons of the chapter of Aberdeen, he grants to Alexander Ogilvie and Janet Bard his spouse, the lands of Glassauche with the mill thereof, called the Cragmylne, with the sucken and multures of the said lordship used and went to the said mill, in the time of his predecessors, Thomas, Alexander, Gawain, &c.

1541.—George Gray, chaplain, Cullen.

1541.—The King confirmed to Alexander Ogilvie of that ilk, and Elizabeth Gordon his spouse, the lands and barony of Fynlater, with castle, mills, &c., also the barony of Desfurde, with tower, mills, &c.

1541.—Alexander Ogilvie of that ilk, and Margaret Gordon are infeft in certain lands at the old castle or manor of Echinaltry called the Old Castle thereof.

1542.—William Forbes in Keythmoir acquires from Alexander Ogilvie de eodem half of the west part of Pettinbringzains.

1542.—John Duff of Muldavat, and Elizabeth Abercromby his spouse, present a precept of sasine from Alexander Ogilvie de eodem and Elizabeth Gordon over the lands of Myd Ordingis.

1542.—A deed exists signed at Fyndletter this year.

1542.—Alexander Abercromby in Reidhythe purchases the lands of Nether Skeith lying between the Kielburne and the Stodfauld burn, and George Abercromby purchases the lands of Echinaltery from Alexander Ogilvie of Deskford.

1543.—Fundatio, Erectio, et Dotatio Ecclesie Collegiate Beate Marie Virginis de Culane. (Foundation, erection, and endowment of the Collegiate Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Cullen).

1543.—Alexander Ogilvie of Glassaugh grants to his wife Janet Baird Stevenson's Croft in Cullen, and to their son John the Killrude and twenty other crofts in or about Cullen.

1543.—The Queen ratifies the endowment of five pounds infeft by King Robert Bruce of the burgh roods of the burgh of Cullen, with 3s 4d in augmentation by the bailies and community of Cullen to sustain a chaplain to pray for the soul of Elizabeth his spouse "quhilk deceissit in oure said burgh of Culane, and hir bouallis erdit in our Lady Kirk thair of."

1545.—Alexander Ogilvie of Findlater alienates to his son-in-law, John Gordon, all his lands and baronies of Ogilvie, Findlater, Deskford, Keithmore, Auchindoun, Drumnakeith, Castlefield, Castleyards, office of Constabulary of Cullen and constable lands called Pattenbrigan, with the castles of Findlater, Deskford, and Auchindoun, thus disinheriting his own son, James Ogilvie of Cardell.

1546, Sept 28.—The Queen confirmed a charter of Alexander Ogilvie de eodem by which he granted to John Gordon, third son of George, Earl of Huntly, the aforesaid lands.

1545, May 2.—The Queen confirmed to Alexander Ogilvie of that ilk, and Elizabeth Gordon his spouse, the lands of Ordekow, Cultene, Over Inveraltre, Knowis, Castelfield, and office of Constable of Cullen, &c.

1546, June 8.—The Queen confirmed a charter of date 14th October, 1545, of George, Earl of Huntly, by which in terms of a contract between him and Alexander Ogilvie de eodem of date at

Huntly 20th July, 1545, he granted to his third son, John Gordon, the lands of Ordinhuiiffs and Bogmochlis in the forest of Boyne, with the advowson of five pounds of the Collegiate Church of Culane.

1547.—Bond of reversion by Agnes Gordon and her husband to John Ogilvie alias Gordon, fiar of Ogilvie, of the lands of Bruntown, otherwise called Findochty, &c.

1549.—Alexander Ogilvie de eodem alienates the land of Petglasse by a charter signed at Fynletter.

1550,* Nov. 22.—Charter of alienation by George Duff of Muldavat to John Duff his brother. Charter of confirmation under the great seal in favour of said John Duff, 28th April, 1551.

1551 (?).—Death of George Abercromby, Lord of Ley. [See monument in Fordyce Churchyard.]

1551.—Erection of Sacrament House within the Church of Deskford by Alexander Ogilvie of Findlater, one of the founders of the Collegiate Church of Cullen. The Sacrament Houses within these churches are still in excellent preservation.

1552.—Sir Walter Ogilvy of Boynd is a Commissioner for the Sherifdom of Banff for raising footmen to aid in the wars of the "maist Christin King" in France.

1553.—Excambion betwixt Mr Will am Lawtie, prebendary of St Anne, and Sir Gilbert Davidson, prebendary of St John Baptist, of the crofts called Kirkcrofts.

1554.—Monuments erected in Cullen Church to Alexander Ogilvie of Findlater, and Elizabeth Gordon his spouse. He was buried under the first step of the high altar. His wife died in some subsequent year.

1556.—James Hay in Fyndachtie (who had a tack of the lands of Fyndachtie by the parson of Rathven in 1547) "came in will for treasonably abiding from the Queen's army." About this time the Queen Regent held Justice-Ayres in Banff and other northern burghs, including Inverness.

1556.—Decreet arbitral regarding the claims of Ogilvie and Gordon to the lands of Findlater.

1556.—Gift under the Great Seal of Queen Mary of Scotland to James Ogilvie of Cardell, of a tack of the lands of Findochty, which pertained to John Hay, set to him by the parson of Rathven, 1st May, 1547, and which tack belonged to the Queen by reason of forfeiture of the said John Hay for not attending her lieutenant, the Earl of Athole, against the rebels, 9th January, 1556.

1557.—Culane pays £34 10s as its quota of £10,000 for the expenses of the Queen's marriage with the Dauphin.

1558-9, Feb. 13.—James Ogilvie has a charter

of the lands of Findochty from George Hay, rector of Rathven.

1560, August 10.—George Hay, rector of Rathven, with consent of his brother Andrew, the Archbishop of St Andrews and Bishop of Aberdeen, by their feu charter disposed to John Ogilvie of Glassa and Janet Gray his wife, the lands of Finachty and Farskyne dated at Edinburgh. The reddendo is a certain sum of money and victual, with this condition that the vassal is at all times to receive the Rector hospitably in his house of Faskyn with his train, and to serve the Earl of Erroll and Lord Hay of Slains perpetually. (Rose's MSS).

1560.—The Reformation.

1560.—Feu charter of alienation of Farskane by George Hay, rector of Rathven, and Andrew Hay, rector of Renfrew, his brother german to James Ogilvie of Glassaugh in life-rent.

1561.—Ogilvy of Findlater is one of four commissioners from the Queen to Scotland bearing a commission to some of the chief nobility to summon a Parliament.

1562.—Sir John Gordon of Deskford ("The hopeful Laird of Finlater, Erle Huntley's gallant son,") under a charge of assailing and mutilating the Lord Ogilvie in a street skirmish in Edinburgh, 27th June, 1562, has broken ward and resisted the Queen's writ. Knox, in his History of the Reformation, written about 1566, says, "Short efter the Convention of the Kirk chanced that unhappy persute quhilk John Gordon, Laird of Finlatar, maid upoun the Lord Ogilvie quho was evil hurt and almost yet abydes mutilat. The occasioun was for certane lands and rychts quhilk auld Finlatar had resigned to the said Lord." On the Queen's returning from Inverness she demanded the Castle of Findlater, which was denied, and so was Auchindoun, which more inflamed the Queen. The Earl of Huntly was charged to cause deliver the said houses under the pain of treason. To show some obedience he caused the keys of both castles to be sent to the Queen, but before this the Queen had sent Captain Stewart "with sex scoir of soldeors to ly about the said place of Finlatar; they lodged in Culane, not far distant from the said place. Upoun a nicht Johne Gordone cam with a cumpany of horsemen, toke the captane, slew certane of the soldeors and disarmed the rest. This fact done (as the quene alledged) under traist so inflamed her and so the said Erle of Huntlie was charged under pain of putting him to the horne to present himself and the said Jhone befor the Quene and Counsaill within sex dayis quhilk charge he disobeyed and so was denounced rebell." Another writer states that the Queen, on her way to the mansion of the Laird of Banff, paused before Findlater House, one of Sir John Gordon's castles, which she summoned

by sound of trumpet and was refused admittance. She had no cannon. Her courtiers told her that Sir John meant to be her husband. Sir John was himself married. On the field of Corriche, on 28th October, 1562, the Earl of Huntly died, and his son, Sir John, having been taken prisoner, was executed as a traitor at Aberdeen, and his estates forfeited. James Ogilvie of Cardell was in the train of the Queen on her journey to the North (Douglas's Peerage).

1562-3, Feb 8.—Charters under the Great Seal to James Ogilvie of Cardell, son and heir apparent of the deceased Alexander Ogilvie of Findlater, of the baronies of Deskford, Findlater, &c. The Gordons continued to claim part of the estates until March, 1566, when differences were adjusted by a solemn decret arbitral by Queen Mary in the submission betwixt George, Earl of Huntly, James and Adam Gordons, his sons, as heirs to John Gordon, third son now deceased, on the one part, and James Ogilvie of that ilk and of Findlater, on the other part. The lands of Auchindoun and Keithmore were adjudged to Adam Gordon, while James Ogilvy received all the other lands. [The Report of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS. contains numerous inaccuracies regarding this decret-arbitral. Queen Mary could not have met the disputing parties and ratified peace before the high altar of the Church of Cullen. The substitution of the date of the previous decret-arbitral, and of the name of the Queen Regent for Queen Mary, would bring the statements nearer the truth]. James Ogilvie of Findlater married Marian Livingstoun, one of the ladies who attended Queen Mary into France. In 1566 Alexander Ogilvy, son and heir of Sir Walter Ogilvy of Boyne, married Marie Beatoun, one of the Queen's "four Maries." In 1567, the Queen having reached full age, ratified her former grant of the lands of Findlater, &c., to James Ogilvie, and the deed whereby she presented him in heritable tenant to the bailies of Culane, of Brunton, Upstracht, Seyfeild, Smythstoun, Wodfeild, and Tochynell, and in heritable tenant to the abbot and convent of Kinloss, superiors of the lands of Clochmacreich in Deskford. 1563, Culane pays £6 10s 8d as its quota of 2800 merks for the Ambassador to Denmark.

1564.—The Lords of Secret Council ordain James Ogilvie of that ilk to deliver to Margaret Gordon, relict of the deceased George Abercromby of Petmeddan, and Alexander Abercromby, her son, infeftments of the lands of Edinaltre and Cottoun, "conform to the auld takand of them."

1567.—James Ogilvie de eodem, Constable of Cullen.

1568.—The Ords entered into possession of Findochty by virtue of a charter by James Ogilvie of Findlater to Thomas Ord in Keithmill of the lands of Findochty with the manor place, port and

customs within the same, with the fishers' lands thereof, the lands of Greenhill, the lands of Scotstown and Carnochan in the barony of Rathven, erected into a Tennendry 4th Oct 1568.

1574.—George Hay, minister of Farsken, Rathven, Dundurcas, and Bellie.

1575.—Alexander Ogilvy of Boyne and Marie Beatoun his wife, register an obligation regarding a yearly payment to be made by them from the estate of Boyne.

1575, July 10.—Charter on the lands of Muldavatt by King James VI. in favour of John Duff. His son John Duff is infeft, 21 Feb., 1610.

1576, Feb 4.—Charter by George Duff of Muldavatt to William Ogilvie, son to John Ogilvie of Glassauch, of the lands called Auchingall, and pertinents with the right of the patronage of St Anne in the Collegiate Church of Cullen.

1578.—Culane pays 6s 8d out of every £100 stented by the Convention of Burghs. It 1591 it was 5s, and in 1594 4s.

1580.—In connection with feuds between the Gordons and the Forbeses, and the slaughters of certain of them, John Gordon of Bukkie, John Gordon of Cluny, John Gordon of Carnbarrow, &c., appear before the Privy Council at Edinburgh.

Circa 1580.—The feufarm of the lands of Frosken (Farskane) set in feu to John Ogilvie of Glassauch extending the year counted to four pounds, 1 boll oats, 12 capons, 1 reek hen, and 1 boll multure. The feufarm of the lands of Findachtie set in feu to Thomas Ord in Cullen for £3 6s 8d in money, with 1 boll oats, 12 capons, &c.

1581-1614.—Culane fined £30 by the Convention of Burghs for non-appearance, and £20 each year for the next two years. In 1587 the Convention "having consideratioun of the povertie of the burgh of Culane and of the exemptioun granted to thame fra Conventionis hes gevin licence to George Moresoun, Commissioner thair of to depairtt and pas hame fra the presentt Conventioun." The same year Cullen was exempted from attendance for three years owing to poverty. 1590, Cullen fined £20. 1591, Cullen fined £20 which is assigned to Banff as relief for their fine for non-compearance. 1592, James Lawtie appears for Culane and obtains exemption for three years. 1593 Culane fined £20. 1595 Culane exempted for three years, and again in 1597 (if they send a ratification of the Acts). In 1597 it is remitted all bygone fines. In 1598 it is fined £20 for not paying the Clerk's and Agent's fees. In 1600 James Lawtie appears for Cullen and the bygone fines are remitted James Lawtie paying to the Agent £6 8s. Exemption is granted for three years and so likewise in 1603 and in 1606. In 1607 Culane is fined £20 for not compearing and £20 for non-payment of clerk's and agent's fees. In 1608 it is fined £20 for not sending its quota to Irvine for prosecuting regretters. It 1609 it is

fined £40 for not sending its Commissioner to the Convention and to Parliament. In 1610 James Lawtie appears for Cullen which is now eximit for seven years. In 1614 it is fined £40 for non-payment of Agent's fees.

1581, Nov. 1.—Charter by the Bishop of Aberdeen to John Ogilvie of Froscan and Jonet Setoun his spouse of the lan's of Glassauche and Craigmiln.

The following notes of charters show how the church lands passed from their old possessors:—

1577, Aug. 8.—Charter made by Mr William Lawtie, Prebendary of St Anne within the Colledge Kirk of Culane with consent of George Duff of Muldavit patron of the said prebendary, and Mr John Duff his son and apparent heir, and also of the provost and prebendaries of the said Colledge Kirk to George Lawtie and his heirs of all and hail (1) a croft called Auld Sinclair's croft extending to two bolls bear sowing, (2) a rood in the sea roods on the west of the Castle Hill extending to two firlots bear sowing. Paying yearly therefor two bolls and 2 firlots bear and 2 firlots in augmentation with "tuelf pultries."

1577, Nov. 13.—Charter made by Sir Alexander Robertson Prebendary of St John, within the Colledge Kirk of Cullane, with the consent of Walter Ogilvie of Fyndletter undoubted patron of the said prebendary, and of the prebendaries of the said Colledge Kirk, to George Lawtie and his heirs of all and hail a croft called the Bern croft, paying yearly 6 firlots bear and 2s at two times in the year with a precept of sasine directed to George Ogilvie and John Ogilvie in Glassauch bailies of Cullen, dated at Fyndletter. Witnesses George Ogilvie and Gilbert Ogilvie in Cullen, John Pilmour in Fyndletter, and Mr Thomas Donalson.

1582, March 2.—Charter made by James Ogilvy Prebendary of Mary Magdalene, within the Colledge Kirk of Cullen, with consent of the Provost president and other prebendaries, to Alexander Hay, Clerk of Register, and his heirs of all and hail the following crofts with houses, &c., (1) Greishaugh, (2) Sinclair's Croft, (3) Croft in Mid Drownars, (4) Constable Croft, (5) a small croft called ——— rood, (6) Wallrood, (7) Thane's rood, (8) Roger's rood, (9) Thane's land, 10 Corsletts, (11) croft in Searoods on the west of the Castle Hill, (12) another croft called Constable Croft, (13) rood in Sandelhauch between the burn and Bedie's myre, in all extending to 12 bolls bear sowing. Paying yearly 13 bolls or 6s 8d every boll, and four dozen and four poultry or 8s 8d for the same, and 6s 8d in augmentation extending in the hail to 7 merks 8s 8d money of this realm. Dated at Cullen. Witnesses George Ogilvie bailie of Cullen, Gilbert and Thomas Ogilvie, Andrew Abercrombie, notary.

1583, April 2.—Charter made by Sir Alexander Robertson, Prebendary of St John, to Alexander

Hay, Clerk of Register, with consent *ut supra* of all and hail the following crofts:—Kirk Croft, Barn Croft, Thane's land, Muriscroft, Croft in Lang Gaderingis, Croft in Drownaris, Thane's land, Kylcroft, Ewattshillock, Heidrig of Langroods, Croft in Langroods, Croft beside Airnemyre, a little croft at Ewattshillock, which extend in whole to the sowing of nineteen bolls two firlots bear to be held in feufarm and heritage paying yearly 19 bolls 2 firlots bear, six dozen and sex poultry, and 6s 8d in augmentation, in hail 11 merks 3s. Witnesses as in preceding charter.

1583.—April 2.—Charter by Andrew Ogilvie, prebendary of Halie Croce to Alexander Hay, Clerk of Register of the following crofts: Sinclair's croft, croft in West of Drownaris, croft in Fieldcrofts, croft under Gallowhill, a little croft under the Castlehill, Thane's rood, Croce croft, croft in the south of the town of Cullen called Kilcroft, croft in Langroods, croft in Sinclair's land, other crofts in Fieldcrofts, a little croft called Evick's (?) croft, a croft in Langroods, a croft in Searoods, other crofts in Sea-roods, Smyth's croft, Claycroft or Smyth's croft, croft in Langroods, which crofts extend to 27 bolls 3 firlots bear sowing, paying yearly therefor 27 bolls 3 firlots bear with 9 dozen and 3 poultry. Same witnesses as preceding charter.

1583.—Charter granted by the prebendaries of the prebends of Mary Magdalene, St. Andrew and of the Holy Cross, in the Collegiate Church of Cullen with consent of the other prebendaries in favour of Alexander Hay, Clerk Register, of Sinclair's croft, of Brand's land and of a croft in the Drownaris. [This entry and the succeeding one are from a note of charters in Cullen House Charter Room. The five preceding entries are from notes of copies of the original charters in the Register House, Edinburgh.]

1586.—William Lesly's Protocol book has as its cover a parchment folio containing part of the Mass of St John the Evangelist beautifully written and coloured in red and blue (In T.C. charter chest).

1586.—The Blessed Virgin Mary's Church at Farskin suppressed probably a good many years prior to this date. George Hay, parson of Rathven, produces a reversion upon the lands of Connage made by John Duff of Muldavit and pays 300 merks therefor. George Hay conveys to his son James the lands of Connage, Rannas, Loanhead, &c

1586, July 14.—Compeared George Duff, burges of Cullen, and Alexander Syme, junior, in name of Marjory Mawar, spouse of said George having a charter of alienation of town of Nether Skeyth to himself and spouse.

1586, Nov. 19.—Sasine to John Abercromby of Skeyth of two crofts in Cullen from John Duff, son of John Duff in Boigs.

1586, Feb. 11.—Alexander Davidson of Dalloch and Janet Abercromby his spouse granted the lands of Leitcheston to Wm. Abercromby of Over Skeith.

1587.—Charter by Alexander Hay of Easter Kennet, Clerk Register, to John Duff of Muldavit of the patronage of the prebend of St Anne, of a croft of Searoods, Gallowhill, and Maxland, Graystone croft, and a croft under the Gallowhill all in the territory of Cullen, for payment of a certain duty yearly to the prebendary of St Anne in the College of Cullen.

1587.—Charter by William Ogilvie, burgess of Cullen, to John Duff of Muldavit on the town and lands of Auchingall.

1587.—Walter Dwne of Ratthe (Dun of Rettie) bailiff of Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater passed to the lands of Smythtoun, Enaltre, and Cotten of Enaltre, Aitthilok, Kirkton of Daiskfurd, Skordieycht, Faichehill, and Ower Blaraycht, and gave sasine to Thomas Fisher (?) of Knokke and Elizabeth Forbes his spouse.

1587, Ap. 18.—Patrick Gordon of Oxhill grants to John Abercromby of Over Skeith the lands of Placegreen in the territory of Cullen.

1587, Ap. 20.—Mr John Duff of Maldavat, assignee to umquhill George Duff of Craighead redeems Hedderhouscroft by payment of 20 merks in the kirk of Cullen.

1587, July 4.—William Ogilvie, burgess of Cullen, disposes to John Duff of Muldavat the lands of Auchingall with the advowson of the prebend of St Anne.

1587.—Marjory Ogilve relict of umquhill Alexander Abercromby of Galcross. John Ogilvy of Glassaugh.

1588.—George Hay, parson of Rathven, sells for 500 merks the lands of Blairshinnoch to Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater.

1588, Jan. 10.—Sasine to Wm. Ogilvie of Over Blairok and Clunehill.

1588, June 3.—Sir Walter Ogilvie redeems for 500 merks the town and lands of Blairshinnoch from Mr Geo. Hay, parson of Rathven.

1588, Nov. 15.—Sasine to Margaret Ogilvie, spouse of Mr Wm. Lawtye, burgess of Cullen, and Jas. Lawtie his eldest son by charter by Alex. Hay, Clerk Register, of several crofts) to Margaret Ogilvie in liferent and to James Lawtie in fee):—Chalmers land, Davidson's land, Scheraris croft, Craiggroft, croft in Drownaris, croft in Langgatherings, croft in Graystane all in Cullen.

1589.—Act passed by the Council that no hous be biggit nearer the gait or calsay than six elnes.

1589.—Among Cautions for the loyalty of a number of northland men appear:—"Mr Johnne Duff of Maldavatt with Sir Walter Ogilvy of Findlatter 2000 merks."

1589-90.—A ship is supplied by Aberdeen joining with Cullen, Elgin, &c., to bring the King and Queen home from Norway.

1590.—John Duff of Muldavat and Margaret Gordon his spouse receive 600 merks from Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater for redemption of the lands of Over Pattinbrangan.

1590, Jany.—Compeared James Duff, son to Mr John Duff of Muldavlat, of the age of XII yeiris or thereby and past to the personal presence of Mr David Hendersone, minister in Cullene, and ther requirit the said Mr David be vertew of ane geift gewin on to him be his said fader, patron of the said prebendare of Saint Anne, to enter and possess him to the said prebendarie efter the tenor of the said geift of the dait at the Craigheid the xxvii. day of May anno 1590 and also efter the command and desyr of Mr Gilbert Gardin, Mr John Kokis, and (Mr) David Gordon, ministers, to geif the said admission for the spece of sewin yeiris efter the dait and that for the sustentation of the said James at the scollis. The said Mr David Hendersone past to the said Iill of Sant Anne and ther geif reall possession thereof to the said James. [The further history of the Prebendary landis is given in "The Church and Churchyard of Cullen."]

1590, Mar. 16. — Compeared Patrick Smith, procurator for Patrick Duff, eldest son of John Duff of Muldavlat and Margaret Gordon his spouse on Sandelheugh to said Patrick by the said Mr John Duff his father.

1591.—James Smout in Brountoun resigns to Muldavlat his tack and possession of the Scheralds.

1592.—Erection of cas.ellated house in village of Fordyce. [Still in good preservation.]

1593-4, Jan. 4.—Registration of Band of Caution by Alexander Ord of that ilk for Walter Ord, burgess of Banff, and Thomas Ord in Findachty in 1000 merks each and for Alexander Ord, son of the latter, Samuel and Mr James Ordis, sons of the said Thomas and others dwelling in the Ord in 300 merks each not to harm William Gordoun of Craig or John Gordoun his apparent heir. Subscribed at Fyndachtie.

1593-1706.—Commissioners to the Scots Parliament from the Burgh of Cullen:—George Duff (1593), James Ogilvie (1617), James Lawtie (1633), George Hempseid (1639-41, 1646, 1648), Alexander Murray (1649), Alexander Murray or William Ogilvie (1649), Jo. Forsyth (1652), Dr Thomas Clarges (1658-59), George Dunbar (1661), John Baird (1669, 1670, 1672), George Leslie (1678, 1685-6) James Ogilvie (1681-89-90-93-95), Sir John Hamilton (1606, 1698, 1700, 1702), Patrick Ogilvie, (1703-6).

1599.—Tack by Mr Patrick Darg, parson and vicar of Fordyce, with consent of the dean and chapter of Aberdeen, to James Ogilvie, son of Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater of the teind sheaves, and vicarage of the kirk of Fordyce, comprehending the kirks of Cullen, Deskford, and Ordi- quhill, for the space of nineteen years after the death of the said James Ogilvie.

1600.—“Upon the xx. day of Mrche 1600 yeiris the Lairdis house in Culane was begun and the grund cassin.” This no doubt refers to the foundation of Cullen House. The family gallery in the Church bears the date 1602 and the arms and monogram of Sir Walter Ogilve of Deskford and Findlater and Dame Mary Douglas his wife, whose initials also appear on the oldest part of Cullen House. About this time the family removed from Findlater Castle to Cullen House.

1601.—Culane pays £22 4s 6d as its share of 100,000 merks to the Sovereign. In 1606 it pays £8 17s 10d as its part of £4444 8s 10d to the King and in 1607 £5 11s 2d as its part of £2777 15s 6d.

1602.—John Duff of Muldavit grants a charter to Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater of the Battlehaugh which is confirmed by the town.

1602.—Alexander Ord of Finachtie desires support of the Convention of Burghs “to the riging of ane herbere quhilk he is of mynd to big in his boundis, the commissioneris contene wis thair ansuer to the said supplicatioun quhill the said conventioun and ordanis ilk commissioner to cum sufficiently instructit thairin and this to be ane heid of the nixt missive.”

1603.—Contract between Sir Walter Ogilve of Findlater and the Magistrates and Town Council of Cullen whereby Sir Walter makes over to the community his fourth part of the common mill of Cullen, and they set to him the multures of his own lands, with power to him to build a mill of his own.

1604.—Tack of the teinds of the parishes of Fordyce, Cullen, and Deskford, by Mr Patrick Darg to James Ogilvie, son of Sir Walter Ogilvie for 38 years from Lambas.

1606.—Adam Abercrombie served heir of William Abercrombie of Over Skeith.

1607.—Culane pays £4 9s as its part of £2222 4s 5d for printing the king's laws.

1610.—Harper's Croft mortified by William Ogilvie of Over Blairrock to two bedemen. And it came to pass, says the Rev. W. Burnett (minister of Cullen 1663-81), after the death of the said William that the said croft of land was challenged to belong to the Knights Templars, or of St John of Jerusalem and the Earl of Melrose having the right of property from the King to appropriate these lands to himself, he received a sum of money to compone it. The mortification was thus nullified. In 1676 John Lorimer got sasine of Harper's Croft. He was grandson of Thomas Lawtie, Town Clerk, and patron of Harper's croft, lawfully constituted by William Ogilvie of Overblairrock. It was situated north of St John Croft.

1610.—John Duff infeft in the lands of Muldavat.

1611.—The balyeis appoyntis to meit within the kirk be aucht houris for ourtaking with the

affaires of the toun and election of thair magistrates. Counsell:—Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater, knight, John Ogilvie of Glassaugh, Walter Ogilvie of Ardoch, &c.

1611.—Constable Courts begin to be recorded. Burgh Courts held in Janet Hendry's house, Alexander Ogilvie's house, and sometimes in William Leslie's house. In 1614 Burghs Courts were held in the Tolbooth, and from 1617 to 1644 in the revestrie (the vestry of the church).

1612.—William Lawtie in Tochenel occupies certain lands next the Malthouse.

1612.—John Duff wounds William Abercromby "with his awin daiger."

1612.—Contract betwixt Patrick Duff and James Lawtie, burgess, with consent of Walter Duff, son of John Duff of Muldavat, present prebendar of Cullen, foundit and erectit in the College Kirk of Cullen, and of the said John Duff, present patron of the said prebendrie, and with consent of Adam Duff, brother german to Patrick Duff, to infest the said James, his aires, &c., in all and hall, the crofts of land pertaining to the said prebendarie.

1613.—Anent keiping the prayers and Weddinsday's preiching Court haldin be the balyies. It is statut and ordanit that the hail inhabitants of the toun speciallie maisters and wyffis sall keip dailie the commoun prayeris befor and esteir none and the Widdinsdayis sermone speciallie gif thay be in the toun, and if found in the toun or in thair housses the time therof thay sall be poyndit as if they wer absent from the sermone on Sunday.

1613.—Stent roll made out to raise taxation for the toun's share of payment on the marriage of Lady Elizabeth, the King's daughter.

1613, July 13.—[The following entry is given in detail as a specimen of what was of frequent occurrence in former times in this county at least. It is given with a view to counteract the popular idea that evictions in olden times were practically unknown.] The Court of Culane haldin in Alexander Ogilvie's hous be Thomas Lauty an i James Duff, bailyies. Action of removing at the instance of Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater, knight, against the persons underwritten for removing from the lands specified. Compeared Mr William Scharp [evidently the father of the Archbishop] procurator in name of the said Sir Walter, and produced a charge with a precept of warning lawfully executed. Compeared the persons following, as they had no title and grantit themselves lawfully removit from the lands and overgave the same to Sir Walter: (1) William Runcie from croft in Searoods and a rood in Searoods, (2) Walter Ogilvie from Claycroft, (3) Elspet Duff, George Chapman, George Duff, Donald Murray, and Margaret Smith from Palyaird's croft, (4) William and George Stevinson from Stevinson's croft and a

croft in Drownaris, (5) Thomas Lautie from Braibner's croft and a croft in Searoods, (6) James and Agnes Braibner from the houses and yairds on Braibner's croft, (7) Margaret Gillan from a house in Maitland's bank, (8) Elspet Reidfurd from a house occupied by her, (9) Alexander Ogilvie from a croft and houses and from the lands of Upstrath and Brunton, (10) James Young from a croft, (11) John Boyne and Thomas Wilson from Arnemyre and Langgatherings, (12) John Hempseid from three firlots bear sowing, (13) Hew Douglas from a croft called Greishauch and several other lands, (14) Willian Abernethie from Claycroft and houses, (15) John Philp from Morison's croft, (16) James Mitchell from Doweis-croft and Nicolson's croft, (17) Patrick Enster, John Adamson, and Alexander Simpson from their houses and from a croft, (18) John Ogilvie of Overblarok from a firLOT bear sowing in Sandelheuch, (19) Thomas Jokson from land before his door, (20) Alexander Rathven from houses and yards, (21) John Smith from four rigs in Brandsland, (22) James and Alexander Gardiners from Smithscroft, (23) John Strachan from Sinclair's croft and from a croft called Ellesonis graive, (24) John Hay from the Kilrood, (25) Thomas Watson from Thaynes Land, (26) Henry Runsy from two rigs and Thomas Runsy from one rig, (27) Thomas Findlay, younger, from three firlots bear sowing, (28) Alexander Runsie from two rigs, (29) John Chalmer from a part of Brandsland and a croft called the Busses, (30) Alexander Hay from a part of Brandsland. "As the fornमित landis, croftis, ruidis, houses, &c., lysis merchit and methit wt. in the territorie of Culane conforme to the said Sir Walteris rychtis and tytles, and thairfoir ar decernit to remove from the fornमित landis ilk ane conforme to thair occupatiounis."

1614, July 17.—Quhilk day the hail counsall, burgesses, and friemen hes promesit to convey with the bailyeis and visseit the marchis and enormities and faltis of the commonteis of this burgh on Wedinsday nixt the 22nd day of this instant. [The leaf recording this Perambulation has been torn out.]

1614.—Actions of removing by James Lawtie, burgess, against the occupiers of five crofts, also by John Duff of Muldavat against the occupiers of three crofts, and by John Ogilvie of Overblarok against five persons.

1614.—John Ogilvie of Glassaugh, Walter Ogilvie of Ardoch, and John Ogilvie of Overblerock each agree to build a house by March next, 25 feet long, "twa hous hight, and to be sleitit."—Sixteen sellers and brewers of ale are now within the burgh.—A person convict of packing and peiling of fishes at the schoir, another for letting his horse to the churchyard.—William Maky, scourgar, holds out of this bounds and

parochie off D skford all stranger beggaris.—Collector of Custom of the boites at the boithyth pays £40 yearly.

1615.—John Gregor confessit his offence done to James Duff, balyie. It is decernit be the bailyies and cunsalle that the said Johne sall stand in the stooll of repentance on Sunday nixt and humelie confess his falt, and thareftir come down and hummell himself to the said James, and crave his pardon for his falt.—George Duffus hes taken upon him to use the tred of ane flesher within this burgh and oblesit him to present his fleschis every Saterdag to the mercat croce and thair to remain fra nine hours till three hours efter noin.

1616.—It is ordanit that aill be sold at 12d and beir at 14d the pynt at the dairest.—Margrat Gillane is ordanit to be poyndit half merk money, for selling off aill in time of preiching.—Mercat to be haldin ilk Saterdag in tyme coming.—Sir Walter Ogilvy created Lord Deskford. William Abercrombie, burges, renunoces Moreson's land in favors of my Lord Deskford.—The bailies ordain the inhabitants to leid stanes to the tolbuyth.—Action of removing by Agnes Gordon, guidwyff of Craighead, (in her husband's absence) against (1) Thomas Imlach for removing from Butts in Burnmonth and a croft in Searoods, (2) John Steinsone from half of Chalmers Croft, (3) William Steinsone and John Hay from a croft in Langroods and a croft above Topplingshauch, (4) John Raffin from a croft under Gallow Hill, (5) John Gardyn and John Strauchin from Chalmers Croft, (6) Elspet Fynnies from hous and yard. The parties appeared and confessed they had no right nor tittle to the said lands and houses, and granted themselves lawfully removed therefra. Agnes Gordon exhibited an instrument of sasine under the subscription of Mr Wm. Lawty, notary.

1617.—John Duff of Muldavatt dispones Claypots to Alexander Abernethy, burges of Cullen, for 200 merks and to number and tell the said sum within thek irk of Cullen.—The counsall convenit in the queir (choir) of Cullen: Walter Lord Deskford, Mr George Leslie, George Douglas, &c. The bailyies and counsall hes ordanit the hail beggeris not being of this congregatioun to be haldin furth of the same.—Na feallis nor dewittis to be cassin within the boundis of the Mekle Moss nather on the edgeis nor sydis of the same nor skirttis thair of and that betuix the narest end of the Binloch and the landendis of Wpstricht and that na peittis &c. be cassin upon na pairt of the auld greinward at the landendis of Brounton and that na feall &c. be cassin on na pairt of thair commonteis on ather syd of the burne and that betuix the Mathous of Findlettir and the Boitt-hauch and that na feall be cassin on the tua hauches besyd the said Mathouscroft.—The

counsell and burgesses ratify and affirm the merching of the Meikle Moss:—(The Greinward to be common pasturage).—Beginnand at the eist at the nuk of Alexander Ogilvyis corne yard dyk in Upstraith within hes new biggit dyk owtwith that nixt the moss to the whilk dyk interruptione is mad be the balyeis and toun and thairfra directly athort the teill rigge endis of Upstraith to the reid land thairof and to the buttis sydis besyd the romling pottis in the land ends of Brouton and dyk at the endis of the same to the wast dyk of Broutoun and lynnallie fra the nuk of the said dyk directlie in the laiche cart get be the said moss syd till the Symddie Hillok as the northe merche of the said moss and tharfra directly athort the end of the Binloche to the nuk of the dyk biggit be the gudmane of Buckie at the Wodsyd as the wast merches of the said moss and comand directly fra the neuk off the said dyk in the laiche cart get narest the said moss betuix the Bynwood and Upstrath as the sowthe merche of the said moss.—The balyeis ordain ilk ane within the freedom of this towne to saw peis this yeir conforme to ane former act maid thairanent.—William Steinson decernit to restore to the towne of Cullane the common firloft and pek theroff. The seemen under the hill accused of casting in the Meikle Mos in this syd of the Smidie Hillock. Comperit William Findlay, William Runsie, Alexander Runse, Thomas Finday, George Findlay, and Beatrix Runsie They band themselves that they nor na seemen under the hill in tym cuming sall not cast fewell, peitts, nor turffs betuix the Binloeh and Cullan under the pain of forty poundis and confiscatione of the said elding. The bailyies order that they nore nane in the town at na time heirefter cast ony turffes, divott or guiding within the Meikle Mos.—The bailyies and counsell hes dischargit that na craftismen in tyme coming brew, within the libertie of this burgh, viz. vobsteris, tailyeouris, cordineris, smythes, litsteris, or merchands except he be a burgess and frieman under the pain of 20 pounds. Town Council consists of Walter, Lord Deskfoord, John Ogilve of Glassauch, Mr George Leslie, Walter Ogilvie, Ardauch, James Lawtie, Johne Ogilvie yr. Glassauch, James Ogilvie yr. Blerock, Johne Duff, John Hempseid, the Bailies (Johne Duff of Muldauet and Johne Ogilvie of Overblerok), Hew Douglas and the Clerk (Thomas Lawtie).—Setterdayes mercatt to be keepit be the cordineris and flesharis. All cordiners discharged to sell schone in tyme coming under the hill —“ Anent the supplicatione given in be the inhabitants of the burgh of Culane craving the helpe and assistance of the commissioners of burroues for redres of certance inormities, oversights, and corruptiones croppin in within the said toun” the Convention appoint commissioners to meet at Cullen and to report and

that the town submit the rental of their common good and common lands and the form of election of their magistrates and Council.

1618, June 8.—Sasine in favours of John Duff and Isobell Allan his spouse on the lands of Muldavat. Dame Marie Dowglas, layde Deskfoord, spouse of Walter Lord of Deskfoord has life-rent interest in Over and Nather Pattenbringzeanes, Castell yeardis, lyand besyd the brughe of Cullane, with the towne and fortalice thairof, the towne and landis of Seefield, Brountoun and Upstraucht &c. She renounces part of her interest therein in favour of James, Master of Deskford and Dame Elizabeth Leslie his spouse.—Walter Schand, smith, and Margrat Fermour his wife having done manifest wrong to George Douglas, minister by slandering him openly the bailies “decernis and ordains the said Walter and his said spous to benoche thame selfis, thair barnes, familie, guidis, and geir furth off this towne in all time coming.” During this year twenty-eight ordinary courts were held by the bailies and one Head or Michaelmas Court. About ninety cases came before these. Constable Courts were also occasionally held for cases where blood was drawn. Commissioners from the Convention of Burghs sit at Cullen, as matters are going on to the utter decay of the same. They complain that there is na decorme in the toune of houses and biggings. Also, there is na sufficient comoun ludging for reseitt of strangeris. The bailyes and counsall promise to supplie this defect according to their habilitie. Also there is na tollbuith nor ward hous for halding of justice and keeping of prisoners. Answer—They haiff already begun ane tollbuith. The Commissioners order an inn and tollbooth to be built under a penalty of £100. Also the tounes comoun lands are not yearly prambulat. The bailyes answer by promising to visit their marches “betuix this and Lambes according to ther auld custom.” Also, the girsinues of the comoun lands are not paid. Answer—They shall see to it. Also, it was giffin in as a greiff that the magistrats are not chosen of metest men and induellaris in the burgh, that they do not meet to dispense justice or manage the burgh affairs and non-residents are elected burgesses. It was answerit that the by-gane oversichts sall be amendit.—Helen Barclay, vagabond, and hir dochter ar banissit out off the hail boundis of this parochie as unlawfull persons with thair owin consentis, and in cace ather of thame beis found within the said parochie in time coming, to be bront one the cheik with ane key and scurgit throw the towne and banissit *de novo* agane and sick that happens to resait her heireftir within the said parochie to pay ten pounds money.—At a court held in the revestrie before the bailies Margaret Skinner is fined four merks for striking Margaret Ogilvy in the flank with her

feitt in the mill of Culane. Beatrix Runcie is fined two merks for dinging of Margaret Ogilvy with her steiket neff on the face. The fines were paid to the said Margaret. Helen Hay is decernit to pay two merks to Margaret Skinner for rying her hair in the said mill.—Several persons are to be pursued for possessing the Common lands of the Burgh.—A croft is bounded by the commontie of the burgh at the west and the gaitt quhilk gangis to the burne called the commoun wynd at the south.—In a contract of marriage between John Duff younger of Muldavat and Isabell Allane daughter of William Allane, burgess, Aberdeen, the following lands of the Muldavat family are referred to :—Orchard Croft, Chalmers Croft, Butts of Burnmouth croft above Tapplingishauch, croft in Searoods, &c.

1619.—The rental of the common guild of Cullane :—Item, our common landis and common mill payis of yeirly few dewtie to the town sevin score ten merks ; item, the custome of the boittis 40 pounds ; item, the ruid maillis ten merks. Summa tua hundreth ten merks. Debursit to the Cheker 40 merks ; to the minister 40 pounds ; to the maister of scooll three scoir pounds ; to the court clerk ten merks ; to the thesaurer 4 pounds ; to the commissioneris ilk yeir to keip the conventioun of borrowis 40 merks. The common landis of Cullen :—Item, the Preistfeild 40 bolls ; the mill 32 bolls ; the Crowattis 8 bolls ; Topplingishauch 10 firlotts ; the Shereff Lon 1 boll.—Names of fishermen at this date : Hay, Runcie, Paterson, Findlay, Clerk, Bruce, Duncan, &c.—Anent the 29th act of the last Generall Convention comperit Maister George Leslie, commissiouer for the said Burgh of Culane, and producit his diligence in writt anent euerie heid of the premissis quhilk beand sene and considerit be the saidis Commissioners of burrowis, they find the said burgh of Culane to haif vsit no diligence, and thairfore to haif incurrit the vnlawis contenit in the said Act, quhairwith they dispens at this tyme, and ordanis the said burgh to [conform to the Acts in the election of magistrates, to cause the burgesses make residence, to roup the common good and lands, and produce a more perfect rental and account, and not to feu lands of new,—all as provided for in the Act passed last year] as also to send with their said Commissioner ther principall chairtor of their hail lands to be sene and considerrit be the saids burrowis that sum guid ordour may be taiken for supplie of the said toun in tyme ; as also ordanis the said burgh to continew in repairing and bigging of the said tolbuith and streittes, and to produce thair diligence anent euerie ane of the premissis to the nixt generall convention of borrowis vnder the pane of ane hundreth pundis. Anent the supplicatioun given in be the burgh of Culane craving support

and help to the bigging of ane tolbuith newlie foundit be theme, with thair assistance for re-payring of thair decayit herbarie, the saids Commissioners of Burrowis ordanis the said burgh to continew and proceid in thair saids works, and according to the diligence to be vsit be them thairin, the saids burrowis will putt to thair helping hand to thair further furtherance in thair saids works, and thairfore ordanis ilk burgh to send thair Commissioners sufficientlie instructit to the nixt generall convention of burrowis to geve ansuer to the said supplicatioun vnder the pane of xx pundis.

1620.—Anent the 29th Act of the last Generall Conventioun . . . the Commissioners of Borrowis find the burgh of Culane to haif vsit no diligence, no point, nor heid requyrit of theme be the said Act, and thairfor decernis thame in the said vnlaw of ane hundred pundis, and ordanis the agent to uplift the same; and ordanis the said burgh of Culane to produce better diligence to the nixt Generall Conventioun of Borrowis of the haill heids abonewritten, vnder the payne of ane hundred pundis; and in respect of thair not diligence abonewritten, the saids Commissioneris refuses to grant anie help or support to thair saids common warks vntill the tyme they sall satisfie the haill heids of the missiwe requyrit of them, and for their better furderance thair ordayne thair agent to concur and assist with thame and seik out the ald registers upon the common expensis of the borrowis.

1621.—The Commissioners of Borrowis findis the burgh of Culane to haif vsit no diligence anent the heides committit to theme, and thairfore to haif incurrit the vnlaw contenit in the Act, and yit a request of George Douglas, thair minister, and vpon houp of sum farder amendment, they dispens thairwith at this tyme, and as of before ordanis the said burgh of Culane to produce to the nixt Generall Conventioun of Borrowis the forme of the electioun of thair magistrattis, counsall, and vthers officeris vsit be theme at Michaelmes last, and to proceid thairintill conforme to the actes of Parliament and borrowis; as lykwayis to produce ane perfytt rental of thair commoun guid and commoun landis, togidder with thair diligence in rouping, imploying, and putting of the same to the highest availl; as also to produce the forme of the setting furth of the saids commoun landis, the persones naymes setters thair of, together with thair naimes to quhome the saids landis were sett, and for quhat dewtie, together with the principall chairtour of the samin landis; and last to produce thair diligence in repairing of thair tolbuith and commoun streitts, vnder the payne of ane hundred pundis.

1622.—Instructions given to the burgh of Culane, as at last Convention of Burghs.

1622.—James Hay of Rannes presents a precept of sasine from the Earl of Melrose over the whole Templar land containing two roods having Beidland or Harper's croft on the north. The Earl of Melrose also claimed and obtained Harper's croft although it had been mortified in 1610 to two bedemen.

1623.—Instructions given to the burgh of Culane as at last Convention. The Commissioners of burghs recommend to ane particular commission the burgh of Culane, quhairby they cannot bot be iustlie greived seing his Maiestie is lyik to lose a burgh and they ane member, earnestlie to interceid with the saids lordis that since thair hes bein so manie lands givin theme, which are now taiken from theme, that sum remeid wer fund out for repairing of that breache. Greivance givin in be the commissioneris of borrowis to the commissioneris appointit be his Majestie:—Forsamikle as the burgh of Culane is vtterlie ruined and almost alto-gidder left desolate be ressoun that the commoun guid of the said burgh, and landis appertening thairto, ar sett in few to gentlemen throw the cuntrey for such small dewtie as the samin ar alto-gidder vnprofitable, and thair is nothing remaining to intertein the chairges belonging for sustentatioun of the commoun burdeins incident to the said burgh, it micht thairfore pleas your Lordships, since the burgh is both auncient in situatioun and plaice, verie usefull to the cuntrey, and hes patrimonie sufficient for repairing of the ruins thereof, if the samin wer taiken out of the handis of the vniust possessouris; that sum course micht be fund quhairby they micht be restorit to thair owne landis, and the burgh to the former beauty. Answer maid be the Lordis of his Majestie's Com-missioun:—The lordis findis that thai haif no warrand by their commissioun to cognose vpone men's heretable tytillis, nor to call theme to that effect.

1623.—Thomas Abercromby of Neither Skeith is served heit to his deceased father John Abercromby of Nether Skeith. The said John inherited these lands from William Abercromby, rector, who held them in 1586. In 1586 George Duff presented a charter of alienation of the lands of Over Skeith in favour of William Abercromby.—The lands of Findochtie, now called Brountoun.

1624.—The Commissioners, considdering that the burgh of Culane is licklie to cum to ane vtter decay, and perish furth of thair number by setting furth of ther saids commoun landis and commoun guidis, and therby are maid vnabill to sustein anie common burdein, thairfore, and for supplieing of the necessities of the said burgh, and to prevent in tyme if possible, maybe, the vtter ruine thair of, ordainis the Commissioneris of Borrowis to tak to thair consideratjoun the estait of the said burgh, and to consult and conclud upone the best meanes

thai can find for prevening of thair said decay, and restoring the same to their former integritie, to quhome the saids Commissioneris givis thair full powar and commissioun to doe quhad they sall think maist meit and expedient for the weill of the said burgh. The burgh of Culane ordanit to produce to the nixt general conventioun ane perfyte rentall of thair commoun guid and common landis together with the persounes naymes to quhome the saids lands were sett and for what dewtye &c., and to produce thair diligence in repairing thair tolbuith and commoun streittis vnder the payne of ane hundred pundis.

1624.—Lord Deskford dispones the lands of Leitchestoun, Clune, Smithstoun, and Dytach to Robert Leslie of Findrassie (Morayshire) for £5000 Scots.

1625.—The Convention of Burghs “ordanis the burgh of Abirdeen to tak tryell of the landis that appertenet and does appertein to the burgh of Culane, and how the samin were disposit and for what dewtie.”

1625.—Two merchants are ordained to sell salt and iron no dearer than in Banff, under pain of “tynsell of their freedome burgeschip.”

1627.—Gilbert Andersone and James Andersone milvaris at the New and Auld Milnes became bound to have sufficient locks and doors on their milnes to hald out of their milnes all insufficient boyis and lounes, and nawayis snffer them enter thairin under penalty of half a merk.—A harvest fee is £4 with ain pair of new schoin and ane pair of auld schoin.—George Braibner brak furth the tolbuith but was brought back.—Peter Braibner fined £8 for assault. The person assaulted “bestowit muckle geir upou ane leitche to cuir him of his hurt.”—Muldavit sold by John Duff to James Hay of Rannes (May 25). The Charter of alienation confirmed by King Charles I., 6th March, 1628. John Duff served heir as eldest son to his father John Duff sometime of Craighead.

1627.—Prebendary lands of Mary Magdalene, St John the Baptist, St Andrew, and Holy Cross mortified to the minister of Deskford.

1627, June 22.—It is ordanit be the bailyeis and counsall that the hail inhabitantis of this burgh and pendicles thair of conveyin at this burgh vpon Wedinsday the 27th of this instant to accompanie the bailyeis for ryding and viseting the landmerches and commonteis of this burgh. Ilk absent sall pay 40s penaltie. [If the perambulation took place it is not entered in the Council books.]

1628.—Alienation of Farskane by John Logie, rector of Rathven, to Walter Ogilvie of Ardoch and James Ogilvie of Netherblerack.

1629.—Charter of alienation of Farskane by James Ogilvie of Netherblerack, with consent of Walter Ogilvie of Ardoch, to Henry Gordon of Auchanassie.

1629.—Charter by James Hay of Rannas to James Hay his second son.

1630, March 31.—Sasine in favour of John Duff of Orchyard of the lands of Auchingall, as heir to John Duff of Muldavit his father. March 31.—Sasine in favour of James Hay of Rannas of said lands proceeding on a feu charter of the Bailies of Cullen to the said James Hay, which proceeded on the resignation of John Duff, elder, and younger, of Muldavit in favour of said James Hay.

1631.—Na person of Farskan, Seton, Bromton, Castelfield, or Maldavit to cast peitts in the Meikle Moss.—John Steinson fined 100 merks for stealing William Runsie's cornes. The fine given to help to build the tolbooth.

1631.—Lord Deskford with Lords Gordon and Ogilvie and several barons and gentlemen meet at Fren draught, the Commission consisting of the Bishops of Aberdeen and Moray &c., to investigate the circumstances that led to the burning of the Tower of Fren draught. They examine the burned Tower and vaults and communicate their opinion to the Privy Council that the fire could not have been accidental. (The Viscount of Aboyne, the laird of Rothiemay, English Will, Colonel Ivat (Wat), one of Aboyne's friends, and two other persons perished in the flames.) Local tradition has it that Lord Deskford intended to join the company at Fren draught that fatal night, but his horse refusing to proceed when on the way he was compelled to return home.

1632.—Whatsomever persones within this town takis mair, efter Mounday nixt, nir ten pence for the pynt aill and tualff pence for the beir, the burges to tyne his freedome, and gif it be any strawenger, to pay five pounds.

1633, Nov. 29.—Mr William Sharp, Sheriff Clerk of Bamff, [father of Archbishop Sharp] is creat and admittit Clerk of the said burgh of Cullen for geving saisine to Alexander Ogilvy, notar publict, ordiner Clerk of the said burgh and Marie Gairdin his spous of certain crofts &c.

1634.—The Protocol Books of Mr George Duncansone, notary public, are referred to as being at this date in the hands of John Ogilvie of Overblarok. One of these books (of date 1541-44) is now (1904) among the Burgh records. Mr George Hempseid deponed that he knew that "Mr George Duncansone was scroll clerk of Banff and that he was notar publick, and haldin as ane honest and famous notar publick, and that the said prothogall buik was in his hand-wreit."

The counsall being havelie meanit and sensible considerit to thair great regrait that dyvers few dewteis, maills, stallenger siluer and yeirlye rentis of thair commoun gude ar restand awand dyvers yeiris bypast, wherbe thay ar compellit to faill in payment of ther dewis to the exchacer, minister, and schoolemaister, and to all uther thair com-

moun works to thair great hurt and hinderance of all gude warkis necessarie within this burgh.

Convenit balyeis, minister, &c., anent the thecking of the kirk. Thomas Kuik fined 40s for receipt of ane stranger in his service without ane testimoniall, contrare to the Act.—It is ordanit that there be daikering till harvest be done, and that two men watch nichtlie, frae ye sone going to sone rying, in the over end of the town, and two in the nether, taking turns.

1635.—Sasine Alexander Ogilvie of Glassaugh on a large number of crofts within the liberties of the burgh. Price of “pultrie fowles, 2s for ilk foull.” All hors and meares having the mortiecheane or scab to be removit out of the town or keepit in their hous under pain of ten pounds. If found in feilds &c., the samen horss or meares salbe takkin and cassin ower ane craig till thay be dead, and that but ony perrell or danger of law.

1636.—Isabel Paterson steals John Duff’s coru. She offers to remove out of the parish, and if she returns “she is content to be taken and brunt with ane key upon the cheeke, and to be banest this parochie thereafter.”

1637.—George Hempseid appointed schoolmaster, and to read in the kirk and take up the psalm every Sabbath, as use is, and to be painfull and diligent in teiching the bairnes.—George Lawtie promises to pay to the town the by-run feu-duties of prebendary of St Anne.—All horses &c., going on the minister’s bog of Castlefield to pay 4s if by day and 13s if by night. It is forbidden that horses eat in “the hie gaites and balkis.” It is ordanit that no persone nor persones within this burgh presumes to tak in any cornes at thair awin hand, but ane license of the teyndmaister. Thomas Anderson at the New Milne is convict in £10 for casting up the commontie and burn green above and beneath the New Milne. About this date peats are cast in the “Moss of Davie’s Castle.”

1638.—Ordainit by the balyeis and Counsall that the banks and braes be roupit on Soneday nixt efternoone eftir the sermon, that said banks and braes be sett to them quha will give maist for them. The banks nixt the sea and Castle Hill be devydit in four pairtes to serve four honest men. Some pairt of the bankis of Toplinshaugh are fallin down and brokin be the storme. The Castle Hill and seabanks next Castlehill let to four men for 20s each a year.—Ordainit that 40 pennies Scots be paid for ilk beast, cow, or hors trespassing; 16 pennies ilk sheep; 6s 8d for ilk back beirer of other men’s peittes, elding, &c.; swine, ane or mae, trespassing to be slain by the owners or occupiers of the land, but ony danger of law. All who have land in the burgh must sow peas, ane firlot of peas for ilk 8 bolls labouring under paine

of £5. The Lord Deskfurde about this time was maid Erll of Fyndlater, wheriat the Lord Ogiluy took exceptlon, being narrest the stock, to wit, the laird of Purie—Ogiluy and nobilitat before him. (Spalding.)

1639.—“It is statut and ordanit in respect of the great and extraordinar feis socht in the tyme of harvest be men and women servandis, that nane of them can be feeit or had but great loss and damnage to the inhabitantis of this burgh, therfor every sufficient man hand sall have onlie £4 money for all thing that can be askit or cravit be him, and every sufficient woman four merks of fie.” None allowed to fee outside the burgh, and if they do so, each man to be fined £4, each woman four merks, and if “that they be not responsail, sallbe baneist the town thairefter.”—All found among other men’s peas to be fired 6s 8d if in day time, and 13s 4d in night.—All to pay 6s 8d if passing in time of corn growing with hors or ky betuix the Gallow hill gett and the Braid gett.

1640.—The Counsall convenit, and eikit and admittit to the Counsall George Lorimer, &c. Ilk persone having foules oncruiffit sall pay ane pek of victuall for ilk fowle that beis sein or fund amongst uther mennis cornes, and that to the awners of the saids cornes.—The Lord Gordon hoists sail at Nether Buckie and proceeds to England, escaping from Major Monro who was watching for him at Aberdeen during the Troubles. Harry Gordon of Glassaugh narrowly escapes with his life from Monro’s soldiers. His place of Glassaugh is plundered, it is said, at the instigation of the Earl of Findlater. The Earl of Findlater by command of the Committee takes up the haill rents and living of the Laird of Banff (Sir George Ogilvie) out of the tenants’ hands “for mentainance of the good cause.”

The haill swyne within the town to be taken be the officers and put in furance in ane lock fast house till orders be tane with thame or then that the said swyne be slain and gevin to the poore folkes.

The pint of ale ordained to be sold at 10d and beer 12d.

1641.—James and George Duffus and George Stevinson convict by the Kirk Session in break of the Sabboth for playing at the golff, efternoone in time of sermone, and therfor ar ordayned, evrie ane of them, to pey halff a merk, and mak ther repentance the next Sabboth.

1642.—No scheip to be keipit or hirdit within this burgh at no tyme coming efter 3 May called the Rude day under pain of 40s. All persons haveand swyne within this burgh must put them away within 24 hours next heirefter under pain of 40s ilk ane.—The fishers are disobedient in paying their dues to the Earl of Findlater. They ar ordaint to pay ilk day boates goes on upon the sea

two dissoun fishes, and the skipper to be comptable for the same. "The four skippers nder the hill pertaining to the Earl of Findlater"—from this it appears there were then only four boats belonging to the port of Cullen. Anent up-putting and edifeing the tolbuith, Bailie George Hempseid is to collect contributions fra all and everie gude Christianes pleiss to give thairto.—It is statut and ordainit that a weekly mercat be kept on frydday at the mercat cross of the said burgh now standing besyd the Tolbuith. Four Seatown fishers (Andrew and Alexander Pirie, Alexander Collie, and John Donald) fined 13s 4d each for taking fish to Carnock to sell when this toun being long so scant and indigent of fishches.—The surname of Skaekell and Scaidkill occurs in the records. In 1613 occurs Thomas Skadkill.

1643, Nov. 26.—The Solemn League and Covenant subscribed by all the parishioners after the forenoon sermon.

1643, May 12.—Henry Gordon of Glassauch served heir of Henry Gordon of Glassauch, his father, in the lands of Glassauch and Craigmynes and multures of the same in the lordship of Fordyce. Extent £9 with 5 merks in augmentation, also in the lands of Pethadelies commonly called Over and Nether Pethadelies and the third part of the Muir of Pethadelies, with the common pasture over two-thirds of the said Muir of Pethadelie and over the Hill of Fordyce with the white fishings, 10 bolls oats. Elspet Anderson, spouse to John Philp at the Kirk Style, has enacted to sell no drink at onseasonable tymes, especially in tyme of divyne service under the pain of 20s.

1644.—The Green Gait is a green above Taplinshaug and the Butts of Burnmouth.—It is statut and ordaint that na fischeris whatsumever be admitted heirefter to the moss of this toun callit the Meikle Moss to cast or win ony peites or truffes in tyme coming on na termes nor upon ony conditions, and that no persone or persones sall sell thame ony peites out of the same nor admit thame to cast ony there under the pain of five pounds, and ordaines that sick peites as they sall happin to cast therein heireftir to be led and takin away from thame and disponit otherwayes.

1645.—Many superstitious persons go out of Fordyce, &c., to wells and chapels (beyond Spey, &c.)—In 1638 the Earl of Findlater was appointed by an Act of Council to require subscriptions to the King's Covenant. In 1639 Montrose was for the Covenant and Findlater for the King, but both soon changed sides. Spalding says:—"The Earl of Findlater coming through Turreff took occasione to have some commoning with Montrose and his pairtye and being a man of a peaceable temper and one who was knowne to have no stomache for warre, he tooke occasione to mediate peace betwixt Huntly and Montrose." In March 1645 the town

of Cullen plundered "without mercy" by the Farquharsons of Braemar unber the orders of Montrose. The House of Cullen also "pitiably plundered of its valuable contents and nothing trussable left" and only saved from being burned to the ground by the intercession of Lady Findlater (Lord Findlater being then in Edinburgh), who obtained from Montrose a respite of 15 days for the ransom of 20,000 merks, of which she instantly paid down 5000 merks. Hurry encamps about Over and Nether Buckies, where the Earl of Findlater, the Laird of Boyne, &c., join him. He plunders the Enzie and encamps here from about 20th April to 2nd May with 1000 foot, 200 troopers, and 400 dragoons. Hearing of the approach of Montrose he crosses the Spey.—May 9. The Covenanters defeated by Montrose at Battle of Auldearn. The Earl of Findlater, "a grite Covenanter," present in the Covenanting army. Sir Alexander Abercrombie of Birkenbog "a main Covenanter" also present under Major Hurry. In May of this year the town of Cullen is "reduced to ashes" by Montrose when on his march through Banffshire after the Battle of Auldearn. Montrose quarters himself and some of his troops at Birkenbog.

1646, Oct. 8.—Towne of Cullen. The quhilk day thair wes ane letter given in by my Lord Findlater representing the distressed estate of the towne of Cullen, which wes vtterlie brunt be the rebelles; as also a recommendation from the estates of Parliament and Commissionaris of the General Assemblie desiring that a collectione might be given for the rebuilding of thair houses. The Assemblie recommendes to the severall Presbetries that thei have the first two dayes collection through everie kirk of this province (Minutes of Synod of Fife).

1646.—Alexander Hay of Monkton served heir of Sir Alexander Hay of Quhytbrugh once designed Alexander Hay, son lawful of Alexander Hay, Director of the Chancery his father in the Manse and the acres of land called Clerk's Croft and the rood of land called Rood Rig with the tithes in the lordship of Fordyce. Old extent 10s 8d. New extent 32s.

1647.—Aug. 10.—It is ordainit that the hail fowles shall be cruiffet betuix the dait heiroff till the winning and intacking of the cornes.—The hail Castell Hill and the gres thereabout and seabanks set for aught pounds. Thomas Gray hes acceptit the lytle peice gres commonlie callit the Green Gait for ane yeir for 12s. The peice hauch and brae beyond the burne beneth Alexand. Philp in Claypottis qlk William Ogilvie possessit is declarit to be frie commontie and everie man to pastour thereon as they pleas.—It is ordainit that naine of the inhabitantes being honest men and burgesses shall sett any houses to any persone

without testimonialls or then find caution that they shall leive honestly vpoun ther awin vertious industrie and be not prejudiciall to ther neighbours. And it is ordainet that any servands boith men or women that is withowt ane maister shall ather fie thame selffs with ane sufficient maister or els that they goe owt of the parochie and libertie. The Earle off Findlater hes demittit in favours of the balyies counsell, and commounitie of the burghie off Cullen in all tyme coming Mid-sommer and St Johne's Faire provyding that the customes of the said marcatis to belong and appertein to the said noble Earle his aires and successors and ordaines the same to be proclamit that the saids marcattis shall stand and be in this instant yeir of God 1647 yeirs and so furth yeirly to contenev in tyme cuming as said is at ther ordinar tymes as thay stand at the kirk of Deskfoord.

1648.—The Session order that no mills grind in this parish on the Lord's Day either in the morning before day or at night after dark.

1649.—“Covenant of Cullen” drawn up and signed “with hand and heart” by several of the burgesses who bind themselves to protect the burgh lands from being seized by neighbouring proprietors. October 2.—The bailyies with consent of the Counsell present hes ordanit that the haill quirnes within the burghie of Cullen be liftit and tack up and keipit till the balyies and counsell's pleisour.—Henry Gordon of Glassaugh heir of Henry Gordon of Glassaugh his father in the lands of Forskan.

1650.—John Lawtie, burgess, mortifies a house and croft to the poor. James Lawtie, minister of Fordyce (1747-91) was great-grandson of George Lawtie in Tochieneil, to whom and his heir John Lawtie bequeathed his mortification. The mortifier was the son of James Lawtie, Tochieneal.

1652.—Deed executed between the minister of Cullen and the Earl of Findlater to annex the lands of Brunton, Portknockie, Farskan, Pattenbringan, and Smithston to Cullen judicially when the commission for planting churches should sit. The annexation was never completed.

1654.—Cullen is excused for three years from sending a commissioner to the convention of burghs “in respect of inhabilitie to furnisch out thair comissioner,” and a similar exemption for three years is granted in 1656.

1654.—Cullen is said to consist of only one street above half-a-mile in length and its harbour is ruinous and decayed. The town is “vix mediocris vici nomine digna.” (R. Gordon.)

1654.—James Davidson is fined £5 Scots for casting peats in the Common Moss of Cullen called the Eli Moss without leave asked or given.

1655.—July 12.—It is inactit and ordainit that all the houses wnder the Castlehill of the said

burgh not presentlie possess be boatmen vnder the said hill and present killers of fishe be all tyme cumeing throwne downe to the ground or els sett for the common good of the said burgh to honest and sufficient men or vomen able to keep peat stack and keall yaird and not to be in any of theas prejudiciall to any member of the said burgh or ther owne nighboures.

1656.—Cullen is granted exemption for three years from attending the Convention of Burghs.—Chosen Councillors of the Burgh :- James Earl of Findlater, Mr John Abercrombie of Forskan, &c.—George Levny having beat a woman is fined £4 Sc. to the common good and 20s to the party wronged. Charles Steinson is fined £50 Sc. for blooding and beating Alexander Levny.—July 29th.—Court of the burgh of Cullen.—The said day in reference to horrible and execrable swearing and cursing and taking of the name of the Lord in vaine by many prophaine persounes within the said burgh the bailies with consent of the counsell have appoynted and nominat Johne Lorimer, Androw Duff, James Ogilvie, William Steinsone, and Johne Syme, honest and judicious men, burgesses and inhabitants of the said burgh to take notice off all who heirefter they sall heir curse or swear or to prophane the name of the Lord within the said burgh and to delate them to the saids magistrats that they and ilk ane of them so offending may be severlie punished (according to the nature of ther offence) whereby vyce may be curbed and the Lord glorified. The said day John Runse, younger, and Johne Findlay, elder, are appoynted overseirs of the hail fisher toun vnder the hill to the effect forsaid.—The said day it is inactit and ordainit that ilk burges of the said burgh stallingers, men servants less or mair, the tennents of Bruntoun, Seafield, Woodfield, Achinga, Tochineill, Malthouscroft, Smythstoun, Cruats, Upstrath, and ther servands be summondit to meit at the hauch abone Birdsbank his hous vpon the eight of Agust nixtocum be sevin houres in the morning for ryding of the marches of the said burgh, according to the consuetude and custome therof and the law of burrowes within this natioun, ilk burges vnder the paine of the loss of his friedome and ilk vther vnder the paine of ten pounds Scots, to be payit without courtisie or favoure. [For the Perambulation see "Inventory of Cullen Charters" published by the present writer.]

1657.—Death of William Lawtie of Myrehouse (Gamrie) who mortified a house and land for building and upholding an hospital in Cullen and entertaining certain poor persons.—John Runsie, younger, for beating and dinging his father, an old man, is ordained to stay in prison during the bailie's pleasure and pay £20 Scots. James Reid, for contravening the Acts of Parliament, in being

an idle man, is ordained to stay in prison till he pay 10 merks Scots. For ane mutual pley George Duff is ordained to pay £50 Sc. and John Duff £10 Sc.—June 19th.—In respect of severall abuses committed by the people of Raphan and parishe theroff by casting up the common moss of the said burgh the saids bailyies with consent of the haill counsell have inactit and ordainit that all within the said burgh and pendicles theroff (havand horses, peatcreills, and carts) sall meit at the Balgreyne of Cullen upon the 25th day of this instant Junij be eight houres in the morneing ther to convoy the saids bailyies to the saids mosses, and ilk persone to lead home to ther owne severall houses the peats castin by the saids people of Raphan and parishe in the said moss of Cullen.—June 19.—Anent servands taking more fee in harvest than is due and others privately giving more fee than ordinary against all equity and reason, it is enactit that the best man huick sall have onlie in tyme of harvest £5 Sc. money with ane pair of shooes, the second man huick £3 with do., the best woman huick £3 with do., the second woman huick 40s with do. All transgressing this act, by giving or taking more, to pay £20 Sc., and all accustomed to shear in harvest or salbe able so to do sall make offere of themselves to the said burgh before they fie with any uther within the shyre.—George Duff of Arberyards tries to stop access to Cuttackis well, between Cook's croft and Arberyards. The Bailies enact it a common well.—Oct. 1.—The court of the burgh of Cullen holdin in the tolbuith theroff be William Lesly and John Ogilvie, bailyies. The said day the complaint givin in againes the back bearers of fishe under the hill of the said burgh, for buying and carieing of the fishes taken and brought in to the shoar of the said burgh to the great prejudice of the inhabitants thereof. Thairfor it is inactit that no seaman at the said shear sall sell any fische to any back bearer at the said shoar, and that no back-bearer sall buy any till first the inhabitants of the said burgh be served under the paine of fyve pounds Scots money to be payit to the common good of the burgh.

1658.—James, third Earl of Findlater, succeeds his father.—James Duff of Deiplack, burgess of Cullen, sells Dovecroft to John Lorimer.—The fine for wounding a man with a dirk is £50 Sc. Two persons are fined £50 Sc. each for blooding and beating each other. Willian Leslie of Birds-bank is heritor of the Old Milne.

1659.—The Court inactit that if any fisher within the burgh of Cullen shall happin to goe to sea for killing of fische and not to returne to the boathythe of the said burgh but goe to ane wther shoar for selling of ther fishes wnles stress of weather dryve them, that then and in that caice the skipper of any such boat sall pay four pounds

Scots money and ilk buksman £3 Sc., and furdur punished at the arbitrimint of the Magistrats.—Anent the adultery of James Duff of Derpslack and Helen Hay, the Bailies fine James Duff £100 and Nicol Hay, father of Helen Hay, £100.

1660.—The act of 1657 as to cadgers and back bearers buying fish at the shore is re-enacted.—The officers wer ordained to have the custome of the fish boats for their fie yeirlie aught pennies for everie lod and 4 pennies for everie burding of fish.—Mr George Dunbar of Castellfield be common voice of the bailyes and councell was elected to be Commissioner for the said burgh att the Parliament in Edinburgh and to have threttie shilling Scots ilk day for his charges.

1661.—The Haugh att the head off the toune before Johne Mitchel's dor from the cairt gaitt of the Broxie burn was sett in take the gress theroff to the Earle of Findlater for 10s Sc. yeirlie.—Nov. 22.—The bailyes with consent of the Councill have statute and ordanit that in all tyme cuming that no bailies bearing office within the said burgh sall have the benefit of any fynes or un-lawes appropriat to their use, but that the same shall be furth coming to the common good of the said burgh.—Mr James Chalmer, minister at Cullen, received payment of his bygane steipands extending to fourtie pundis money yeirlie, and did bestow the same yeirly theirefter during his abod as minister att Cullen, in favoures of the school of the said brughe for helping the man-tinence of ane schooll maister for educatione off young childring.

1662.—Findlater Castle now "deserta arx."—The Earl of Findlater receives the piece of gress called the Gowell in the head of the Greissshaugh as t nent to the toune for the peying of 10s Sc. yeirlie.—William Douglas unlawit in 40s Sc. and ordaint to stand 24 houres in the stocks for giving opprobrius speiches to James Ogilvie, bailye. He is also unlawit 33s 4d for drawing ane durk on the Sabbath day.—A croft called the Battell hauch *alias* the New Mill Croft. Town Council:—Herie Gordoune of Forskane, Mr James Hay of Muldavet, Captain Alexander Ogilvie of Logie, Mr George Dunbar of Castellfeild, George Lawtie of Tocheinell, &c.

1663.—The bailies and Councill subscriyve the tounes rental extending to £145 17s 8d.

1664.—The gress betuixt the butts on the other syd of the burne is sett to Mr Wm. Burnet, minister, for peying of two merks yeirlie.—It is ordanit that the hail inhabitants within the said burgh sall conveyin on Tuisday nixt for rouping of the common gress and that everie persone that bids most sall have possession of the gress.—The ward at the head of the toune is sett to my Lord Findlater for peying of 24s money yeirlie. John Ogilvie bailye took the commontie hauch anent

Isobell Robertstone's in Malthouscroft for peying off 12s Sc. yeirlie, George Lantie the peice of gress at the head of the ward sett to my lord peying 12s Sc. yeirlie, Robert Innes and George Troup for the Crooked Stock 40s Sc yeirlie, Thomas Ewin, George Androw, John Walker, James Stevinsone, for the Battell haugh 40s Sc. yeirlie, and James Ogilvie for the crown off the Castell Hill 5 merks and the rest off the Castell Hill sett to everie persone at tuo merks six shillings aught pennies everie peice therof.—Elizabeth Lawtie, spouse to Mr George Dunbar of Castellfield took oath she was not compelled to sign renunciation of the lands of Ramoir (wherein she was infest) in favour of the Earl of Findlater.—It is ordanit that no persone within the burgh that peyes teynd corns sall midle with any uther corne without license had from John Ogilvie teyndmaister under the pain of five punds.—A party is fined £50 for making an uproar in the town with his wife and with James Ogilvie and his wife.—It is statute that the weniall betuixt Crocroft and Palzeards Croft be keeped open for the use of the inhabitants.—The Councill ordain George Duff, smith, to make ane patent way to Cuttack's Wall, under the pain of £10.

1665 —The Commissioners of Burghs dispense with all former unlaws due by the burgh of Cullen on account of their poverty, and grant exemption from attending conventions for three years.—June 7th.—Fast for the naval success against the United Forces of the Netherlands.—It is statute and ordanit that no persone within this burgh sall presume to pasture or put his beasts, hors, nolt, or sheep on his neighbour's gress till the 20th September yeirlie, in all tyme heirefter.—It is ordanit that no inhabitant or any uther within the jurisdiction off this burgh sall permitt their servants to have Saturnedays fraughts under the pain of fyve punds money, conform to former acts, and that no back bearers sall carie any peits on their backs under the pain of 20s money. Lykvayes that no persones liveing within the said burgh that vill sheare in hervest for fie sall offer themselves or sall serve any persone vithout the same till first the inhabitants be servit in hooks under the pain of 3 libs money.—George Dunbar of Castlefield died this year. [See his tombstone in the Churchyard.] His widow, who had been provided in 10,000 merks Sc. in life rent conform to her marriage contract, now renounces £1000 of this sum, and is satisfied with 8500 merks wodset and impignorat on the lands of Castlefield and Ramoir of which she had the life rent.—The hail inhabitants within this burgh or in Craighead, Forskan, or Castellfield are discharged from pretending any proppertie in any pairt of the comon moss of Cullen, be any right of possession they hade in tyme by past.—Mr William Burnet minister att Cullen admitted Counciller of the said

burgh.—Appointment of Robert Skene as school-master. William Leslie of Birdsbank is to pay him 10 bolls beir as yearly rent of 1000 merks mortified by him ; the minister Mr William Burnet sall pay to him £20 out of the first end of the £40 which is payable yearly to the said minister by the bailies and council ; the Bailies and Council to pay to him 20 merks out of the common good, and Mr George Lawtie of Tochieneill to pay to him as precentor 20 merks.—It is statute and ordanit that no persone within this burgh or jurisdiction theroff sall presume to shutt any doues with gun or pistell within the said burgh and ane mile round about under the paine of £50. Margaret and Janet Lumsdealds are unlawed in five merks money everie on of them for stealing of some hemp from John Hay and ordained to be poyned therfor presentlie and to remove from the toune within 20 dayes under the pain of banishment

1666.—Fast for naval success.—Special retour in favour of William Hay as heir of James Hay of Muldavit his father.—The bailyes of the burgh haueing conveined as Justices of the Peace have ordained that no idle persones either men or women servants that are out of service shall remain within the said burgh after Wittsonday next, but sall take themselves to service again the said term under the pain of five pounds. Jan 12.—The bailyes ratify a former act that no person pursue another before the Sheriff Court of Banff or Commissary Court of Aberdene in any claim within the sum of £40. The said day George Duff, smith, unlawed in £40 for chargeing some persones before the Sheriff Court of Banff for small debts and was discharged of his freedom.—The town's rental is £155 7s yearly.—George Leslie, son of William Leslie of Birdsbank, admitted burgess.

1667.—Marie Ogilvie spouse to Herie Gordoune of Forskane renounces all conjunct fee, life rent right, and all other right she has to the lands of Forskan, Crowatts, and Greine Castell, with manor place of Forskane, liberty and priviledges of white fishing within the harborie of Cullen &c, lying within the parish of Raphen in favour of William Gordou of Inveres, Huntlie. She also renounces her right to certain lands in Oyne parish in favour of Mr John Campbell of Moy. James Thomson, maister meason, is unlawed in £50 by the burgh Court for blooding of Marjorie Allan to be peyt to the Constaple, my Lord Findlater, and in £20 to be peyt to the toune for oppressing the said Marjorie, and disturbing the peace theroff with £12 of sythment to the partie wronged. Lord Findlater becomes cautioner for him to keep the peace, under the pain of £100.—Alexander Boyne, mason, oblidged himself to build ane sufficient stair at the tolbooth door and to wolt the pitt.

1668.—Alexander Milne in Bruntoun ves unlawed in 10 pounds money for blooding of William Richardson his wife, with 24 shilling to the fiscal, and William Richardson ves unlawed in 10 pounds money in respect his vyfe bled Alexander Milne, with 20 shilling to the fiscal. David Bruise in the parochin of Dunett in Kathnes unlawed in £12 for selling and copeing of bear meall and malt at Cruiked Heaven to unfrie persons, not haveing made any offer of the said victuall to the Burgh of Cullen and den of gild thairof, conforme to the order used in such caices and wes aristed till he fand caution for payment of the same.

[The following is a specimen of a Constable Court entry]:—

Ane Constable Court holden in the tolbuith of Cullen upon the 10 of Julij 1668 be the right noble Earle James Earl of Findlater, constable of the said burgh, Alexander Murray bailie theroff, being bailie to the said constable. The said day Mariori Smith, ane poor woman in the Seatoune of Cullen gaive in ane complaint against James Thomsonsone, merchant, burges of the said burgh, Elspet Gray his spous, Johne Strachan his sone-in-law, Alexander Boynd, meassone, father-in-law to the said James, and Johne Gray, brother-german to the said Elspet, showeing that the said Mariori her sone Jo. Findlay was serving the said James Thomsonsone, being weill and in health at night, when she lost him being in his company on Saint John's day at evening in the foresaid year of God, and that he vas removed before the morning she knew not where and, as she alleged, was murdered and destroyed be the forsaid persons haveing made ane pley with them, and beate him at night. Thairfor the said Mariori pleaded, with many tears, upon her knees, that the said Judge would doe her justice and make search and triall for her said sone, Johne Findlay, whether he was dead or alive, and that for God's cause, and deseired that the fornamed persons might be tried and examined in the said mater, according to justice, whilks wes granted and the saids persones ordained to be summoned again the next Constable Court.

1669.—Ane Constable Court holden in the tolbooth of Cullen upon the 23rd of Januarij, 1669, be Alexander Murray, Constable bailie. Helen Gray, spous to Thomas Ewin was unlawed in ten libs money for beating and blooding of Thomas Fauch in Deskfuird. [The aggressive tendencies of females, as revealed in the older records of the Kirk Session and Burgh Courts of this district, is one of the most noticeable features of said records.] William Gordone of Forscane and Nicolaus Dunbar in Castelfield and Johne Innes of Edingight admitted burgesses. June 18.—Katharine Duffe is ordained to goe to Robert Innes service for this halfe yeare ensueing and to stay in prisone till she fand caution to give him sufficient service.—The

toune's grass on the hauch under Alexander Runseis craig set at 6s 8d.—John Lorimer, toun clerk, havng received no clerk's fees since he entered as clerk ten years ago "in respect the toune's common good is exhausted, and the said burgh is not able to pay him," the Council agree to give him the benefit of a year's purchase of all forstallers and composition for making burgesses. October 2nd.—The Head Court of the Burgh of Cullen holden in the Church Ile thereof be George Lealy and Alexander Murray, bailyies.

1670.—In the tax roll of the Burghs the proportion of Cullen is two shillings in the hundred pounds.—The whole horses off the toune wer ordayed to give ane yok and to led stones and clay to the tolbooth.—The whole persons within the liberties off the burgh of Cullen wer ordayned to give ane yocking off ther horse for helping to carry home yearly to the minister Mr William Burnet his peits vnder the pain off sex shilling off every yocking and ane yockin off their ploughs yearly under the paine of ane merk for every plough. August 9.—Ane Court holdin in the burgh of Cullen. Te said day ane just copie and transumpt off the inscriptions written on the syleing off the south ile off the Church of Cullen, in presence of William Lesly off Burdsbank, Mr John Lesly, his sone, James Ogilvy, sone to James Ogilvy in Cullen, James Thomsons, meson tner, as folloves :— Pray for Helen Hay and hir bairnes yt bigged this Ile and feft ane cheapland yrto doted wt a good croft land and tofts in Cullen yt shall vphald this isle and ornaments of it. Pray for King James the 5 and his foundors. At gift off hir sone John Duf of Muldavid and his aires and failzeing theroff at the gift and presentatione off the bailyes and communitie off Cullen for ever as the erection thereof registrat in Aberdeine reports anno 1539. Disce mori. [For a correct copy of the inscription see "The Church of Cullen."] Ane just copie of ane act of sessione past at Cullen, Mr George Leslie, minister of Cullen, vith consent of my Lord Findlater and elders present as follows :—Upon the 3 of March 1639 conventit with the minister and elders and my lord of Findlater. The said day in respect that the ile call'd the Duff's Ile neidit some reparatione and becaus these who is buired therein pretend immunitie and that they should not pay for their buiriall and it being in some measure disputable whos part it is to repaire and wphold the same seing the present possessors of the lands of the prebinder first given out for that end refused to repair or maintaine the same alledging that the patraine therof should mantaine and wphold it and seing the patronage of the sail Ile is fallane in the hands of the bailyies and counsell of Cullen who haiv no moir intrest therein bot the beare presentatione of the prebender, thairfor it is

statut and ordanit be unforme consent and voce of the minister and elders of the said sessiione with the speacell advyse and express consent of the said noble Earle that the said ile sall be maintained, repaired, and wpholdin at the charges of the Kirk's common good, then and in that caice ewrie on who sall be buired therein sall pay proportionally for the said buirealls as sall be payed for the buirealls of such as are buried in the bodie off the church.

1671.—The haill horses within the toun are ordained to bring in ane yocken of stones to the churchyard to help to build my Lord Findlater's part thereof.—It is ordained that no person goe into my Lord Findlater's well within his yaird under the pain of fourtie shilling.—Jean Abercrombie spouse to John Gordon younger off Thornebank renounces her liferent right of the lands of Overskeith, Crabstoun, Over and Neither Tillabreedles, in favours of the Earl of Findlater.

1672.—It is statut that the haill toun heritors, tradsmen, brewers, and others within the sam shall be stented in the soum of ten merks for bringing hom milstons to the Old Milne of Cullen, whensoever the sam is needfull.—William Ord renounces the lands and houses called St John's Lands.—Margaret Duff is decerned to pay to Thomas Ewin 20s for a pint of aquavitey.—It is ordained that all back bearers of peets out of the Mosse of Cullen are hereby discharged from doing the same hereafter under the paine of being imprisoned and fined at the judges' will, and thereafter banished out of the said town, and evrie person ordained to hire horses to bring home their peets in all time heirafter.—Admitted burgesses:—James Hay of Ranas, James Hay of Craighead, William Ord of Findachtie and George Ord his brother. The Earl of Findlater of his good will and kindness remits to the burgh all blood fines due to him as constable preceding this date.

1673.—John Lorimer, toun clerk, bequeaths Dovecroft to educate a boy at the School of Cullen. Value (1887) of the bequest about £10 yearly.—Collection in the Church to build a bridge over the burn of Cullen, £5.—Several persons decerned to pay to the beidmen their rents due for William Lawtie's beidhous and beidland.—29th Dec. The said day Alexander Murrey renounced his possession of ane free tack in Cullen qlk belonged to Mr Alexander Ogilvie in favours of the broad world.

1674.—Proclamation read in the Church against Conventicles.—William Gall and James Gait wer unlawed in ten merks ilk on of them for breaking law borrows to another. Patrick Milne decerned to pay to Helen Gray 7 libs of candle at 5s per lib.—John Menie, pror.-fiscall, produced ane band resting be George Lawtie of Tochineell to the Earle of Findlater, containeing the principall

soume of £40 7s 4d, with ane assignatione granted therupon be the said noble Earle to William Richardson and John Philp, beidmen in William Lawtie's beidhousse in Cullen and their successors.—Janet Pirie unlawed in 40s for stealling of peitts out of the Moss of Cullen.—Elspet Hay unlawed in 5 libs. money for taking in corne unteynded.—It is inacted that no person within this burgh shall have libertie to cast feall within or about any comon loaning dyckes or comon vynds wt. in the same, but that the samen shall be keeped free wt. out casting for everie heretour for upholding the loneing dyckes on everie side, being divyded equallie betuixt them and that under the paine of 40s.—Aug. 28.—It is ordained that the officers within this burgh shall take up the kurnes yearlie and putt them in tollbooth at the first of Julij to be keeped there, the over curne stone to the last of 7ber yearly in respect the cornes of the said burgh are much damnified by corne steallers in matter of corn and strae by the said kuirnes.—George Stewinson agreed for the common hand bell of the said burgh for payement of 30s Scots. yearly.—27 Nov.—John Baird recaved allouans from the toune of 7 pound 4s for going south with my Lord a pairt of the way to attend Lawderdail's Parliament.

1675.—The 28th Agust. The said day Andrew Wilson was appoynted hangman for my Lord Findlater and the toune, and is ordained to have ane fish out of ewry screel of ewry fisher ewry day they goe to sea, and is to have thrie pounds money out of the common good to buy ane suit of cloaths to him yearly, and is to have ane peat and peace of firre out of ewry wendibill load of peats and firre that is sold within the tonne.—The balyies ordained George Lawtie and William Ord to stent the hail townne for paying of William Leslie twentie pounds for thrie milnstons to the Old Milne of Cullen. The Earl of Findlater wt. the balyies and counsell frequently conweined have ordained that the hail fishers and seamen wt. in this burgh shall bring their fishes at all tymes to the publick markat crosse of the same to be sold, and that they shall sell none in the Seatowne nor at the shore to no person under pain of ane merk money, and if they obey the tenor of this act they shall be free of all cess and publick burdain. At a Constable Court Janet Anderson was inlawit in four pounds money for blooding of Cristan Black with 40s of sythment. John Runcie, Hillocks, was unlawit in £50 for blooding of Margret Peirie, with four pounds to the toune and twelf shillings to the fiscall. William Anderson at the Old Milne was decerned in ane firlott victuall and ane grice (pig) to be payed to James Hay for skaith he had done him with his beasts. The Laird Ruid, merchant, was unlawed in £50 Scots for blooding of Margaret Clark.—The hail inhabitants within this burgh ar ordained to

put on servant ewry night to mak up four persons of nightly watch to watch the cornes in herwest, and whosoewer refuses to doe the same sall pay ane merk for his absence and the officears ar ordained to put out the saids persons nightly along the hail tounne.—Sasine of Countess of Findlater in life rent of the lands of Seafield, Constable Croft (or the Green), Bridgend (or the Park), &c.

1676. — William Lawtie's Bedehouse not yet finished. Next year the walls were built, but even in 1680 it was not altogether finished. Jan. 15.— The Court holden be George Lawtie and John Baird bailyies. The said day the Earle of Findlater with the bailyies and counsell subscribed the renunciatione of the Solemne League and Covenant, qik renunciatione was made in Miltoune's Parliament — Oswell Grein in Skirdustand admitted burges. — Sept. 8. — Edict from Chancellarie desiring that Janet Duff be served nearest heir of line to John Duff her gudair sometime of Muldavit in the lands wherein he died last vest and saised : Orchard Croft, Rigg possessed by Margaret Smith, Butts of Burnmouth, Rood in Searoods, &c. Also croft called Gallowhill, Maleson's rigg, Ivot's hillock, Chalmers' croft, &c. An Assise declares her nearest heir of line to her guidsher, and ordained heretable state and seisin to be given her thereon. George Andersone did take the Wakmilne of Cullen with the land and grass beyond the dame for three years for payment of ten poundes be year.— Elspet Gray was unlawed in 5 poundes money for stricking of Marie Ogilvie, servant, upon the High Street.—John Lorimer, Town Clerk, is served heir to the deceased Thomas Lawtie, sometime Clerk of Cullen, his grandfather, and to the right he had to the patronage and presentation of a beidland and beidhouse called Harpaires croft, alias Robertson's land, conform to a mortification registered in the Town Court Books. John Lorimer protested that the possessors of the said beidland, to wit the deceased John Ogilvie and his heirs should be countable for the rent of the same at four bolls victual per annum thir 24 years bygone since their wrongous possession thereof, conform to the mortification of the same an i conform to a decret to two poor beidmen, John Donald and Androw Farmer, was once living thereupon granted to them by the baillies of Cullen, which was produced in judgment.—Elspet Leslie, spouse to Alexander Barclay of Tillenaught, renounces her life rent in the lands of the east part of Badinspink in favour of James, Earl of Findlater.—John Gordone of Buckie was admitted burges gratis and Alexander Geddes his servant at the shore of Buckie, and the said Alexander hes promised to pay 24s per annum for defraying of publict burdens. Alexander Smith in Neither Buckie admitted burges. James Greame, merchant in Fettercairne, George Wat, in the paroshin of Garwock, and John

Black in Fetterkairne were admitted burgesses and payed in £20 and promised ewrie on of them 24s yearlie of cess to the towne for defraying of publick burden.—John Lorimer protests in the Court Books that his moss having been spoiled yet the bailie “refused to grant me the meanest favour of justice within the King’s burgh, being a burges and heretor in the same, for *sic volo sic jubeo* is not the law of Cullen.”—Retour of James Dunbar of Inchbroock, heir of Mr George Dunbar of Castlefield his brother in the lands of Castlefield, with tithes within the parish of Rathven.

1676.—Discharge, the Earl of Findlate, to John Lorimer dureing his service as Clark to us thir 11½ years bygone, preceding 1673, in holding of our courts, and discharging other duty incumbent to ane Clark betuixt us and our wassells and tenants, his yearly salary being six lolls bear.

1677.—The Dean of Guild gives in a complaint of several persons “macking of muck middings and building of there peitt stacks upon the hie street.”—William Leslie of Birdsbank complains upon the hail brewers of aill, bear, and aquavitie, that they goe abone his milne with ther malt, meale, and other graine belonging to them to other adjacent milnes, although they be bundsucken to him and his milne, so he is wanting of his multer —The Town Council determine that no man nor woman servant fee without the towne till the town is first servit on penalty of £4. In 1679 the penalty is increased to £10 “by and attour banishment of there persones out of the towne.”—Margaret Maspherson murdered her child, two years old, in the lands of Muldavat. The case referred to the Sheriff, as this is without the jurisdiction of the Burgh Court.—Copy in Council Book of William Ogilvie of Blerock’s mortification to two poor people whilk was misimproven by John Ogilvie, sometyme of Over Blerock, and sold be him in wodset to George Duffes for ane hundreth poundis, and from him to Hery Gordon elder of Glessoch, and from him to his son, and from said son to John Ogilvie, late bailie, Cullen. “8th Jan. 1611.—The hospital land called Robertson’s land alias Harper’s land to remain and be occupied as ane hospitall to the end of the world.” Witnesses, Andrew Lawtie of Inaltrie, Mr William Sharp, servitor to the Laird of Findlater.

1677.—Nicolas Dumbar in Castellfield being oft tymes called and not compeirand at the instance of John Menie, pror. fiscall, for disturbing the peace of the towne in stricking of James Ogillvie as was alleged was unlauded in ten pounds money for his contumacie.—The brewers within this burgh were ordained to sell ther ale at 12 penies the pynt of sufficient drink. James Ord and Walter Ogilvie ordained cunsters.—Ewrie heritor and frieman wt. in this burgh are ordained to have ane sword and gun under the pain of ten poundes money,

and that ewrie burges that shall be admitted heir-after shall giwe ane musket to the towne or pay fywe poundes money.

1678.—The hail seamen and indwellers under the hill unlawed in four pownds each of them for stealling and carrieing off peitts upon ther backs out of the moss of the said brughe, to be peyit in to the phiscall for the town's behaiff—William Hall, burgess, fined £4 for eating James Lawtie of Tochieneill's pease.—Ane general bill of complaint given in be the hail inhabitants against the websters and shoemackers for not charging according to the Acts passed by the burgh authorities. Every webster is fined 40s and every shoemaker 60s.

1679.—Proclamation read from the pulpit for all heritors and freeholders to wait upon the Earl of Kintore at Striveling Bridge against the rebels now in arms

1680.—William Hay infest as heir to his father James Hay of Muldavat in the lands of Auchingall.

1681.—Death of John Lorimer. Sasine of the lands of Cruats and Green Castle of Portknockie to William Gordon of Forskan.

1685.—George Leslie of Birdsbank, Commissioner of the Burgh to Parliament, is allowed 24s Scots daily while there, and for four days in going thereto and for four days in returning therefrom. May 26.—The militia men of the burgh being ordered to be immediately in readiness to serve his Majesty's service, sufficiently provided with armour, sufficient coats, hats, cravats, shoes, and stockings, George Philp one of the Council is ordered to go immediately to Banff, or other place where litted cloth may be had and shoes, &c., and procure them. June 12.—The magistrates ordain that all heritors, feuars, wadsetters, and other burgesses and tradesmen fencible, provide themselves with guns or muskets, picks, denseaxes, or pail axes and swords within ten days. June 26.—The hail fencible men within the borrow rhudes to muster upon the haugh upon the second day of Julie with sufficient airmes, to attend his Majesty's service, and defence of the town and country from sorners and robbers. Ilk absent to be lyable in payment of £4 Sc.—George Leslie of Burdsbank as heritor of the Old Milne of Cullen, to which mill the most part of the liberties of the burgh is astricted, applies that heritors, tenants, &c., send men and horses to lead stones out of that part of the burn betwixt the Killcraig and the intack to the said Mill and for carrying home slates to slate the mill out of the "Sklaite Heugh of Findlater or David's Castell." Granted. The Council grant four roods of the common pasturage to James Shand to build a house, which after a certain time shall fall into the Council's hands.

1686.—The Counsell appoynts four men to be nominat and cognose and consider who possesseth the yeards in the Seatoun formerly possess be the seamen in Portknokie. — The Counsell appoynts yearδες to be distinguished for the use of the seamen and the rest to be improven for the comone interest of the toune.—The common grass of the burgh set for £50 Sc.—James Lawtye of Toche-neill promises to pay a certain few duties to the Schoolmaster, viz., 20 merks. — The Counsell allowes sex pennyς Scots to be onlie payable by all traidismen to all persones that hyres horses for leiding of ther peits from the moss of Cullen to this toun for each hors from any pairt of the said moss be-east the Grein myre.—Sept. 25.—A letter received from the Earl of Perth, as Chancellor, prohibiting any election of a new Council or bailies. “The Counsell and bailzies wer continewed as abefoir according therto.”—The hail burgesses and inhabitants are charged to attend the head Michaelmes court upon the 14th October, and that all day all of them be in readiness in airmes to attend the magistrats in comemoratione of His Sacred Majesty’s birthday, under the failzie of £5 from ilk persone deficient.—John Scott engaged as drummer to beat the drum every morning, when dry, at five o’clock and at night at eight o’clock, at £8 Sc. of salary, and a free shop or booth or 40s Sc.

1687.—The harbor at Shoir of Cullen is lyke to ruine by not dighteing and clearing the samen of sand and stones and repaireing of the bullwark thereof. My Lord Findlater allowes ane hundreth workmen to help to clear the shoir and bulwark. The Counsell apoynts the shore to be cleared and admitted William Wulsone, skippar of the good bark called The Flying Heart, of Arbroth, burgess gratis.—The moss and turf ground of the hills properly belonging to the republic of the said burgh having been abused and dug and cast up by the possessors of the lands of Farskan, Rotenshillock, Upstraith, Castlefeild, and Craighead, and other lands lying adjacent to the said mosses and hills, the said burgh not being obliged to furnish to them a liberty of fuel or pasturage, therefore transgressors to be punished. If the inhabitants of Burntoun, Cruets, Greencastle, or other lands holden of the said burgh, sell any peats or cast more than serves their own fires, they also to be fined.—Matthew Hay, merchant in Sandend, admitted burgess.—List of feu-duties, forret-maill, &c, payable to the burgh of Cullen :—By Earl of Findlater £20 15s; by Lesley of Burdsbank £58 12s 10d; by James Laytie of Tochieneill £8 8s 6d; by William Gordon of Forskan, for feu duties of Cruitts, Greincastle and Portknockies £13 6s 8d, &c.

1688.—The burgh send out five soldiers (Thomas Anderson, Alexander Anderson, William Smith,

John Rathven, and John Cumming), armed with three muskets and two pikes. Next year 65 persons in the burgh are provided with sufficient firelock guns, and as many of the other inhabitants as possible with swords and densaxes (Danish axes).—Duncan Fraser, Christen Fraser, his mother, and others, for theft, to be scourged from the north end of the toun to the south end therof.—Owing to the danger and invasion of papists ane nightlie watch of ten men appointed with a burgess to command them. Proclamation read, ordaining the militia, heritors, and others to march to Brechin, and there await furdur orders from His Majesty.

1689.—The Bailies and Counsell agrie to send in ane weeklie post to the Post Office at Banff for intelligence and for that effect the Counsell allowes to the said post foure shilling Scots weeklie, and allows to the postmaster his servant foure shilling Scots money for transcryveing of letters of intelligence weeklie.—William Leslie of Birdsbank mortifies £40 Scots for the benefit of the Schoolmaster of Cullen.—No ail, bear, or uther liquor allowed to be sold or vented efter the setting of the guard any night heirefter, under the failzie of £40 Sc.—The Town Council finding it necessary that the inhabitants be trained up under arms resolve to divide the hail fencible men within the burgh and privileges into five squads of twenty foure men, under the command of five counilloirs, to exercise weekly. —Mar. 1.—The Town Clerk produced a proclamation and commission directed to him by His Highness the Prince of Orange.—Mr James Ogilvie, son of the Earl of Findlater, chosen Commissioner for the Burgh to Parliament.—The bailies having received ane letter from Mr James Ogilvie, advocat, desiring if they had any grievances to present to the Parliament, or Lords of Exchequer, in pursuance wheroff the Bailies and Counsell concludes to send ane letter to the said Mr James Ogilvie, to supplicat the Lords of Counsell, Exchequer, or Parliament, as he shall find expedient, craving thereby ane voluntar contribution for repairing of the bullwork of this burgh, and also desiring him to attend lest ther be any alteration of the taxt rolls of burrows, and that this burgh be not prejudged therby, and apprehends it expedient to putt him in memorie of all uther there grivances.—August 19.—The Counsell apoynts the guard of this burgh to be exactly and nightlie kepted according to ther sevairall devisiones. Absent commanders to be fined £40 Sc. and all others 40s Sc.—Sept. 14.—The Counsell apprehends it expedient to discharge the tounes post and tounes watch until furdur consideratione and use therefore.

1690.—The Council find themselves obliged to send ane pioneer with the forces under Major General M'Kay in his march against the rebels,

for casting of trenches and fortifications. John M'Kenzie to be sent as pioneer to Strathbogie or Huntly Castle upon 18th June with a sufficient guard of two men, the pioneer to get half a dollar, and half a dollar to the guard for their expenses.—The north booth under the tollbooth roused at £4 Sc. per annum.—Walter Ogilvie of Ardoch admitted burghess.—The Counsell seing it is alwayes necessary that the inhabitants of the burgh be alwayes in readienes with men and horses for carrying of the armies amonitione and provision towards the east and west, conclude that all wilfully absenting themselves shall incur the failzie of 40s Sc. for ilk absent horse and man.—Feb. 10.—In terms of a Proclamation by Their Majesties the Council intimate that seamen enlisting in the Navy shall receive 40s Sterling advance money, a letter read to the Town Council from the Earl of Crawford, President of Their Majesties' Privy Council, requiring the Magistrates to make intimation for levying seamen within the towns of Rathven, Buckie, Garmouth, and Sandend. John Shand and William Lamb, in Garmouth, compear, and enlist, and receive their levy money.—Feb. 15.—The Counsell ordain the hail inhabitants and fencible men within the burgh to be alwayes in readienes with there best armes at all occasions necessary for defence of the toun and country from the invasion of Highlanders, and that they appear in armes on the nynteint of this instant at the Cross be ten hours precisly, and that they convene, and be exercised once everye moneth.—Supplication to the Town Council by John Urquhart for ane parcell of ground from of the comontie for building of ane kaill yeard and for libertie to erect ane new house upon the toaft at the Burnsyde, last possesset be Janet Layng.—Reference is made to “Mr Patrick Ogilvy of Pittinbringand.” [Two inscribed stones, now on the top of the Castle Hill, were, perhaps, removed from his house.]—June 14.—An order produced from Sir Thomas Livingstone, Colonel of the old Regiment of Dragoons, whereby all heritors within the parishes of Fordyce, Deskford, and such lands within the parish of Cullen as do not hold of the town of Cullen, have four score horses and sacks at Gordon Castle, the 17th day of June, for carrying provisions for Their Majesties' army. The Council find there are no lands within the parish of Cullen but such as are holden of the burgh.—The Council allow Sir James Ogilvie, advocate, son of the Earl of Findlater, as their Commissioner for attending the Convention of Estates, and for attending the Parliament and Convention of Burghs, £100 Sc. in satisfaction of his expenses.—The Council write Sir James Ogilvie to supplicate the Privy Council for a supply from all other Royal Burghs and persons “for re-edifying and erecting of ane bullwark and making up of ane harbour at this burgh.”

1691.—The Council write a letter to George Lesly of Birdsbank anent the recovery of the levy money.—The Earl of Findlater pays of feu-duty £16 15s, Birdsbank £51 19s 6d, James Lawty of Tochieneill £8 8s 6d, William Gordon of Forskain for Crowats, Green Castle, and Portknockies £13 6s 8d, Thomas Anderson for the Walk Miln £10 13s 4d, William Duff for Orchard and Downies Croft 12s, William Lawtie's mortified lands £3 4s 2d, John Lorimer for Dowcroft 1s, the town's money grass £24, the custom of the boats £5, in all, feu-duties, &c., £150 12s 8d Sc. The public burdens and debts due by the burgh amount to £311 6s 8d Sc.—John Mackay and Katharine Ross, two scandalous persons, are banished from this parish by the Session, the Magistrates concurring.

1692.—The Earl of Findlater, Lord Constable of the burgh, elects John Ogilvie Constable Bailie.—Lord Boyne asks the Town Council for men “to dight out the harbour of Portsoy.” Twenty men are sent and more afterwards.—Aug. 27.—Walter Buie appointed by the Town Council to go to Semarivisfaire to collect the dues of burghesses lately admitted.—The Council appoint John Ogilvie, bailie, to take up lists of seamen in terms of the King's Proclamation anent voluntary enlisting in His Majesty's service. He finds “in Garmouth 59 fresh water men, in Gollachie ane boatt, belonging to Charles Gordoune of Gollachie, of sex fisher men, and to George Gordoune of Neather Buckie three boatts of eighteine fisher men, and to Adam Gordoun, tutor and chamberlane to Over Buckie, ane boatt of sex fisher men, and William Gordon of Forskan two boatts of twelve fishermen, and lykwayes to James, Earle of Findlater, at Cullen, three boatts of eightein fisher men, and to Sir James Ogilvie of Churchhill, (son of the Earl of Findlater) at Sandend, three boatts of eightein fishermen.” This list to be sent south.—The Council set to George Collie . . . roods of ground, beyond the burn, belonging to the town, for a house and yard, the tack to continue during his lifetime.—Mar 28.—At the town of Garmouth-upon-Spey and the fisher towns of Gollachie, Buckie, Portknockies, Cullen, and Sandend, James Ogilvie, bailie, and the Town Clerk intimate the King's Proclamation for levying 1000 seamen in Scotland.—Expenses of the town in sending out the seamen to Their Majesties Service with a captain and guard of eight men £146 13s 4d Sc.—John Ogilvie, bailie, sent as Commissioner to the Convention of Burghs, held at Dundee, and receives £31 10s 8d Sc. as part of his expenses and salary allowed him therefor. He afterwards receives £11 3s 4d. On his return he reports (1) that he had received an act of exemption to the burgh for three years to be free from sending a commissioner, (2) that he had got the third penny of the stent

roll of the burgh taken down, and (3) that he had got the affair betwixt the burgh and Banff concerning the market of Hallow Fair referred to Sir James Ogilvie.—The Council grant a tack to John Urquhart, for his life, of 4 roods of grounds upon the burn side, for a house and yard, for yearly payment of 20s Sc.—The Council decline to allow George Leslie of Burdbank to cast divots on a part of the commonty of the burgh.

1693.—At a meeting of Justices of the Peace it is enacted that no man or woman capable of service shall keep themselves free from service under the paine of imprisoning their persones, and the constables are ordained to send the saids persones who are guiltie to the next prisone house. The saids judges, having found that many men servants have taken themselves to trades, without consent of the saids Justices whereby the husbandmen in the countrie are now rendered destitute of their servants, therefore, whosoever are so engaged are hereby ordained to return from their trades, under the faillzie of imprisonment, and to be fyned at the arbitrimt of the saids judges for their contumacie.—[1675.—We, David Ross and James Thomsons, measones, grants us to have receawit from George Leslie of Burdbank, and Johne Baird, bailie of Cullen, the sowme of fiftie lib. money as the first termes payment of ane contract of measonrie past betuixt them and the saids bailies for building ane cross within the said burgh.]—The Council ratify the bargain made by the magistrates with William Dick, masone in Elgin, for the stones for the cross for setting up the Kinge's and tounes armes and ane standert, &c. In 1695 a contract made between the baylies and Lauchlan M'Petter, masone in Cullen, anent the building, finishing, and perfyttng the cross of the said burgh. In 1696, May the ninth, the magistrats and counsell having mett anent the puting up and compleating the cross of the said burgh, in order wherunto they ordain that this week, with all convenient diligence, ther be ane sent to Elgine for lead, and lykewayes that lime, stone, and vthers necessary be immediatly provyded, and ordaines five horses to be sent to New Miln of Keith for dails to be scaffolding, and Walter Ogilvie having promised to furnish quat more shall be necessar, and ordains Baylyie Saunders to conduce and agree with some seamen in Banff for coming to this place, in order to give their advyce theranent. [After remaining there above 120 years, the cross was removed to the Castle Hill. It remained there about 50 years and was re-erected in the Square in 1872 at a cost of £160. The "Kinge's armes" are still on the Castle Hill.] It is ordained that no man shall be admitted free-man and burges of this burgh hereafter without giving in ane sufficient firelock to the Treasurer.—There being a caption taken out against the

Magistrates for their bygone Equie, they send an express south with the said Equie, having taken £41 Sc. out of the charter chest.

1694.—Population of Cullen, including the part said to be annexed, 806.—The Council considering the expense they were at quarterlie in sending south an express with their cess and Equie and other public burdens and finding how they may be freed from the same they appoint an Agent in Edinburgh, who will advance these burdens.—The Council appoint a letter to be sent to John Forbes, printer in Aberdeen, with a list of the common markets to be insert in the Prognostication, and ordains the Treasurer to send in a red-dollar to him with the said letter. The names of the markets are as follows:—Midsummer Fair, to be holdin upon the second Tuesday of June, Saint Seres Fair, upon the third Tuesday of July, and Mary Fair upon the third Tuesday of September, which fairs are to be custom free for five years.—The Council considering that this burgh hath wanted ane knock, which would be very commodious and give great satisfaction to the inhabitants, give power to their clerk to search for, or cause make, ane sufficient knock, not exceeding 400 merks at furthest.—Nov. 10.—This day fiftie sex pounds ten shilling Scots putt up in the Charter Chist.—The School of Cullen declared vacant by reason of Mr Robert Sharp, schoolmaster, not taking the oaths to Government.—William Forbes, merchant, Neather Buckie, admitted burgess.

1695.—Act of Parliament got for voluntary contributions through all the churches in the Kingdom to erect and rebuild the ruinous decayed harbour of Cullen. £1312 Sc. collected. Inverkeithing contributed £5 13s 4d, Botriphnie £3, Boharm £2, Skirdustan £3, Gamrie £20, St Fergus £2 7s, Rothiemay £2 2s, Alva £6 2s, Forglen £4 1s, Monquhitter £5 2s, &c.—Mr Alexander Watt, who was appointed schoolmaster the previous year, but on condition that he should not apply himself to the study of preaching, under the hazard of immediate deprivation from his office, is obliged to say public prayers in the Church every evening and morning. The Council having taken to their consideration that in respect the town payed yearly fourtie pounds Scots money to the minister of the said burgh, which fourtie pounds was formerly bestowed be the saids ministers upon the schoolmasters there for saying prayers publickly every morning and evening in the Church, and the present minister of the said burgh and his predecessor only having abstracted the said money from the schoolmaster, being but for the space of twelve yeares only, be reasone of which the saids schoolmasters have ommitted the foresaid dewtie of publick prayers, and the inhabitants of the burgh are at a great loss thereby, and the Magis-

trates and Council, finding that the foresaid dewtie of publick prayers is so necessare a point of God's worship and that the Schoolmaster's sallarie is otherwayes mean, therefore, they, with unanimous advice and consent abstract the forsaid fourtie pounds from the minister of the said burgh, presently being, or shall happen to be in tyme comeing, and appoint the same to be payed to the Schoolmaster of the said burgh who shall discharge the forsaid dewtie of publick prayer, except the same shall be found due to the minister only by law. A few months later, the Town Council resolve to pay the said sum yearly to the minister.—A grievie appointed for the moss, who shall receive 6d Sc. for ilk spade the day, and who shall have power to apprehend all stealers of peats, or who cast potts or holes.—28th Sept.—At a Burgh Court, Sir James Ogilvie of that Ilk, knight, His Majesty's Solicitor, protested that the former election of Council was illegal, in respect the Earl of Findlater, the said Sir James Ogilvie, and others were not advertised of the said meeting. 30th Sept.—The Council meet for a new election.—Nov. 30.—A party of dragoons having come to the town for local quarters, the hail inhabitants are ordered to assist with quarters.

1696.—George Cobban, thief, ordained to be scourged, throughout the whole street of the burgh, by the hand of the common hangman, and to be banished the said burgh and liberties theroff for ever, under paine of death, in caice he shall ever be found or apprehended therein, and all who shall hereafter give him reception or entertainment within the burgh shall be liable in £50 Sc. and be repute in all time hereafter as infamous and dishonest persons.—Christian Gallant, servitrix to A. Eassone, taylzour, prosecuted for stealing and theevishly awaytaking her said master's meall, bear and uther goods, and disposing of the same. The baylyie adjudges the said Christian Gallant to be publicly scourged by the hand of the common hangman, burnt on the cheek, and banished in all tyme comeing the said burgh and liberties thereof, with certification to all such as shall give her resett, intertainment, and harboury shall be fyned in fifty pounds Scots money.—Elspet Davidson, being a scandalous and infamous person, unworthy any Christian, civil society, is ordained by the magistrates to depart from the said burgh, and any inhabitants giving her harbour or entertainment to be liable in payment of £100 Sc.—Three servitors to My Lord Secretary Ogilvie admitted burgesses.—James Abercromby appointed Schoolmaster on the condition that he "behave himselfe as becomes one that shall not apply himself to the studdy of preaching under the penalty of immediat deprivatione of said office."—Alexander Bremner in Cullen admitted burgess on payment of £6 Sc. and William Shearer in Bucky on payment of 8 merks.

1697, Oct. 13.—Given to John Ord and James Tawes for goeing to Banff for the marshall to execute—Forbes, by order of the Bailies at the Counsell table £1 Given to John Ord to pay the ale he was by the road 10s Given to Thomas Gordon for makeing the gibbit by order £3. Given to Walter Ogilvie for ane leder to the gibbit £1. Given to the marshall for doing his office £6 13s. Given to James Ord for fyve fathom of ropes 15s. Given to Alexander Bowie and Donald M'Gregore for goeing to Banff £1. Given to ane bearer for goeing for the parsons of Fordyse to pray for F. 3s. Given to the three officers efter the execution by order of the bailies 13s. Given to James Smith for going for Thomas Gordone to make the gibbit. Given to George Cobband, marshall, £2. Given to him at ane other tyme £2. Payed for tuo treis to the gibbit £1 6s 8d. [The Records being somewhat defective, few executions are recorded. One took place probably in 1695, for in that year the following payments were made:—For ane fir tree, to help the gallowes ledder 6s. For sex dozoun double and two dozoun single nails, for helping the ledder and gallowes 9s. Other executions took place in 1699 as the following shows:—Given to ane bearer for goeing to Portsoy for toues 3s. Given for the saids ropes 17s. Given for meat and drinke to the prisoners befor they were execute 16s. Given for ane gill of waters to the marshall befor the execution 3s. Given to the officers efter the executiones 12s.]—The magistrates order the horss within the town and liberties to lead sklaits to Myrehouse Hospital.—The harbour at the shoir of Cullen is lyke to ruine by not dighteing and cleareing the samen of sand and stones therein and repairring of the bulwark theroff. My Lord Findlater allowes 100 workmen to help to clear the harbour.—John Hay, grandson of James Hay of Muldavit, infest in the lands of Auchingall. He disposed of the same to the Earl of Findlater 29th October, 1717.—George Syme, now prisoner in the Tolbuith of Cullen, and John Ritchisone in Mains of Bracco, are accused before the Sheriff of stealing from the Kiln and Kilnbarn of Inaltrie, Deskford, “ane lead of oats and two panfulls of sowens,” “which being confessed by, or proven against, you, you have incurred the payne of death, and your goods ought, and should be, escheat and inbrought, conforme to the laws, acts of Parliament, and daylie practise, of this Kingdom inviolably observed in lyke cases.” William Hay of Muldavit petition to be infest in the lands possessed by his father John Hay of Muldavit.—Precept of Clare Constat by James Hay of Rannas in favour of John Hay of Muldavit, as heir to Mr James Hay of Muldavit his grandfather 1st May. Infest 8th November.—The magistrates and Council, considering the necessity the burgh has for some woman sufficiently qualified

for educating young women and little children, allows Barbara Grant, a young gentlewoman, who offers to serve in the said place a free house and yaird not exceeding £8 Sc yearly, with two spades casting of peats in the common moss of the burgh and ordains the town's horses to lead the same. Retour of George Innes, heir of James Innes of Oathillock, his father in the annual rental of £40 from four bovates of land of Oathillock in the parish of Deskford.

1698.—James M'Andrew, late servitor to Walter, Lord Deskford, is banished the burgh for attempted housebreaking, and meanwhile he is to be scourged by the hand of the common executioner from the north end of the burgh to the market cross, to which his ear is to be affixed by a nail and from thence scourged to the south end of the same.—A woman for theft is ordained by Nicolas Dunbar, Sheriff-depute, to be taken by the common executioner and scourged from the one end of the burgh to the other, and thereafter her ear to be nailed to the cross, and further, that she be banished from the shire of Banff for ever upon pain of death, without any further sentence. Retour of Alexander Hay of Ardinbath, heir of Alexander Hay of Ardinbath, his father, in Overseith and Bognagath, also in Little Skeith and in 18 acres of Squairdoch with the priviledge of taking the limestones from Kerstoun. Retour of Alexander Abercromby of Glassauch, heir of Alexander Abercromby of Glassauch, his father, in Glassauch, Craigmynes, manor place of Glassauch, lands of Paithedlies with third part of the moor of Paithedlie and pasturage over the hill of Fordyce in the Bishopric of Aberdeen and parish of Fordyce. New extent £16.—Given to William Baird, treasurer of the Chartour Chist ane unce and ane halfe of bullione extending at 3 lib. 4s per unce to the soume of four lb. sextein shilling Scots, item 8s Sc. small money.—Alexander Andrew, son to John Andrew, Town Clerk of Banff, and Wm. Dunbar, eldest son of Nicholas Dunbar of Castlefield admitted burgesses. As the town sustains great prejudice by stealing of corn, kail and peats by the people of the town, who are not in capacity to maintain themselves, it is ordained that the inhabitants shall be liable for the damage done by those they receipt and that none be receipted unless they can prove to the magistrates they can live by themselves without prejudging their neighbours, and each landlord shall be liable to pay £10 Sc, who harbours any person who has not a sufficient testificate from the minister and elders where they last lived.—The Council ordain the Dean of Guild to attend the market of Hallow Fair as formerly attended by the town's deacon of shoemakers and officers and to follow the method concerted at the last market betwixt the last magistrates of Cullen and Banff exactly.

1699.—Helen Smith, spouse to George Taylor, sometime in Foux ordained by the Sheriff to be scourged by the hand of the common executioner from the one end of the burgh to the other and banished the shire for ever, two stolen sheep having been found in her house. She pleaded that her husband brought them in and she quitted the house the time of their killing.—George Cobban, common executioner of the burgh of Cullen arraigned for stealing a wedder and for being generally airt and pairt of several other complicate crimes. The charge found not proven, but his being *mala fama* was sufficiently proved. He had been formerly punished and banished the burgh for theft. He is now decerned to be transported to the burgh of Banff and there scourged through the same by the hand of the common executioner and immediately after banished the sheriffdom for ever, under the pain of immediate death if he return.—James Gray, in Durn, hanged on the Gallows Knowe of Deskford for stealing a cow. His uncle in whose barn the cow was killed was whipped about the gibbet and his ear nailed thereto and he was thereafter banished the shire.—The Session recommend to the magistrates to banish Margaret Taws as there is a vehement presumption of her scandalous carriage with Captain Murray's dragoons.—July 10.—The Session give 15s to the bedall "for burying severall poor who dyed through famine and were brought dead into the churchyard." Aug. 7th.—Given to the officer 6s "for burying some poor objects who dyed through scarcity."—George Leslie of Birds-bank sells his lands to the Earl of Findlater along with the Old Mill and several crofts.—Rent of Brankanentham and Thomaswell 18½ bolls meal and 20 bolls bear. In 1705, rent of Broom 29 bolls meal and 30 bolls bear.

1700.—Trial at Banff, before Nicholas Dunbar of Castlefield and a jury, of James M'Pherson and James Gordon for lawlessness. M'Pherson, at least, was hanged on the Gallowhill of Banff. George Milne, in Keith, confessed stealing a peck of shilling from the Laird of Glengairrock's mill, &c. The Sheriff finds this crime deserves death, but in respect the panel undertakes the office of marshall of the burgh of Cullen, he is appointed thereto.

1701.—The son of James, third Earl of Findlater, is created Earl of Seafield.—The Council enact that all guilty of oaths, cursing, and execrations which tend to the dishonour of God, the scandal of religion, and offence of this people shall be liable to pay 6s Sc. for each transgression and this for persons of the meaner sort and capacity, but the punishment to be greater from persons of greater rank and esteem.

1702.—All the inhabitants to send their horses to lead stones to rebuild the church.—James Ord,

bailie, sells Rosewood and other crofts to the Earl of Findlater.

1703.—Paul Keith, master of the Music School, Banff, imprisoned in the tolbooth of Cullen for debt, but liberated, as aliment refused.

1704.—The church sklaited at 14 merks the rude.—James Ogilvie deponed that he had no chartour concerning the burgh except ane double and transcript of ane chartor of confirmation granted by King James the Sext confirming the originall charter granted in favour of the said burgh by King Robert Bruce. This he delivered up. Walter Sanders confessed to him that he hade the principall chartour wherof the above produced transcript is a copie. Robert Sharp, late dean of gild, declared that he saw and read the said principall chartour in the custody of the deceast Patrick Sanders, late bailie. The Bailies are to make funder search. In 1725, James Stewart, merchant, Cullen, stated before the Council that a person in his shop said Mr W. Ker W.S. had the Town's Bounding Charter, and would give it up for £15 sterling. He never saw it himself. Copy of the 1455 charter was lately recovered.

1705 —Bridge of two arches built over the Burn of Cullen at the Crooked Stock for £250 Scots, the mason to be furnished with materials and barrow-men.—James Lawtie, only son of James Lawtie of Tochieneal, appointed schoolmaster.

1707.—Paid for a boull of punsh 32s. Given to Glasach's servant when he brought the neves of the Unione 7s. Sep. 29.—The election of a new Council postponed till 7th October, the Council considering the present bussines all or most hes at present upon the account of ther harvest.

1708.—James Lawtie, schoolmaster, resigns "in respect Providence has provyded him in ane uther way of liveing mor suitable to his present inclinations."

1709.—Decreet of sale of lands of Boyne.—A school appointed to be built in some convenient place within the churchyard.—Several persons alledged to be ill-affected to the Government, summoned before the Court for putting on a bonfire of peats and coal and firing pistols at the bonfire on 10th June, it being the birthday of the pretended Prince of Wales. A servant, Christian Mathieson, came and carried off the fire on a girdle. Some of the witnesses said that it was Patrick Sharp, a child 7 or 8 years of age, that put it on.

1710.—The Right Hon. Mr George Ogilvie, second son to James, Earl of Seafield, John Lorimer, servitour to James, Lord Deskfoord, George Watson, servant to James, Earl of Seafield, and James Ogilvie, principall servant to James, Earl of Findlater, made burgesses.—Consideration as to building a bridge over the Coalpotts near

Tochieneill, and whether a bridge with an arch or bow, or a wooden bridge should be built.

1711.—James, third Earl of Findlater dies.—Staircase addition on east side of Cullen House made about this time.—James Abercrombie, second son of Alexander Abercrombie of Skeeth, admitted burghess.—Town Council elected:—James, Earl of Findlater, James, Earl of Seafield, James, Lord Deskfoord, Nicolas Dunbar of Castlefield, William Gordon of Forskan, John Grant of Tochieneill, and thirteen others. Sett of the burgh: The Council consists of three bailies, ane Dean of Guild and Treasurer, and 21 Councillors, being heretors, merchants in all, and tradesmen, and each of the Council yearly lists two and the whole Council by vote choseth one of these two to be upon the new Council till the number be full. After qualifying and receiving the new Council, the Bailies make their list which is in number four persons, listed by each of them, making 12 in all, out of which 12 the bailies, dean of guild, treasurer, and council, old and new, choose six, out of which six the three magistrates for the ensuing year are elected.

1712.—Battle Haugh (Sc. baittle, meaning short, rich pasture) and the brae above let by the Town Council in all time coming to Lord Seafield for £9 Scots yearly. The haugh has the dyke from the strype at the foot of the big brae to the Burn of Cullen on the south, the burn on the east and north, and a large morass or ditch from end to end at the west. At the south of the brae is a dyke from the lands of Dustcroft, which is part of Castlefield.—Agreement for a tack between the Earl of Findlater and the two beedmen, present possessors of the hospital and land belonging there to mortified by William Lawtie sometime of Myrehouse, the Earl being about to build a park for his conveniency, and the accommodation and maintenance of his horses and cattle, and finding a parcel of the said land which lies most contiguous and convenient for being enclosed with the rest of the ground to be imparked by the said Earl.

1713.—The magistrates agree with William Raphen to build ane bow bridge at Tochieneill, with arch of six foot wide for £24 Scots and to give ane chalder of lime and 200 load stones, but no more materialls, and to give £6 more if the work is well done.—Third election of M.P. for the Burghs. Held at Cullen. Hon. James Murray elected.

1715.—Lord Deskford imprisoned as suspected of Jacobite leanings.—Rev. James Smith of Norwich, whose daughter Anna married Robert Sharp, Schoolmaster of Cullen, mortifies a rood of land for educational purposes. Present value 28s yearly.—September 11.—Paid to express in the night time to Fochabers to know if the Clan Chattan were there, 12s.—Sept. 14.—Given to

another express to Fochabers to learn when the Earle of Huntly was to march, 8s. [On September 6th the standard was raised by the Earl of Mar.]—Action by Mr Alexander Irvine, minister of Cullen, against his debtors for vicarage.—The Council sanction three persons to put up houses upon a part of the town's liberties at the head of the burgh, on terms to be agreed upon.—The whole inhabitants within this burgh and liberties are ordained not to put any horse or cattle, sheep or fowls upon the corn or common grass of the burgh after 1st March, being about the beginning of seed time, nor in harvest, till the whole corn be cut down and safely within dykes, under the penalty of 40s Sc.—Owing to a complaint by the Earl of Findlater that the inhabitants of the burgh go over his Lordship's parks and inclosures and destroy the sheep and lambs and take away the grass, it is enacted that no person shall travel through the said parks under the penalty of £3 Sc. whether masters or servants, and that they shall keep no other dogs except small sheep dogs, that cannot do harm, under the penalty of £10 Sc.—John Scott fined at a Constable Court £50 Sc. for wounding and blaë giving to Walter Walker, burgess.

1716.—It is ordained by James, Earl of Findlater, Constable of the Burgh, and by the Magistrates that no person put out their horse, nolt, sheep, or cattle upon any of the corn or grass within the burgh and liberties, and that no fowls be put out upon the said corn.—Brigadier-General Alexander Grant of Grant marches to Banff and receives the surrender of Sir James Abercromby of Birkenbog, George Gordon of Buckie, and others. [Sir James Dunbar of Durn and James Gordon of Letterfourie delivered themselves up afterwards.] As Lord-Lieutenant of Banffshire the Brigadier appointed arms to be brought in under the Disarming Act. At Cullen there were delivered up 136 guns, 74 pistols, 9 barrels of guns, 236 swords, 33 dirks, a steel cape and three calivers. These arms were placed in the custody of the Magistrates of Cullen. At Banff were delivered up 66 guns, at Keith 634 swords, 396 guns, &c.—Collection in the church to help to build a bridge at the upper end of the town £15.—April.—Paid to Mr Robert Blenchart for cumming from Keith to wreat Burgess Acts for Generall Cadogan and his followers. £7 4s.

1717.—Payd Mistress Thompson for wines, &c., spent when the Justiciary Lords and servants were made burgesses £6 14s. Payd Mrs Thompson for wines, &c., spent on King George's birthday £6. Payd Mrs Thompson the day of the election of the magistrates for wine, &c., spent that day £8 10s.—Oct. 29th.—Disposition by John Hay of Muldavit to James, Earl of Findlater, of the lands of Muldavit, comprehending

Craighead, Shirrals, Mains of Muldavit, Glenmill, with woods, &c., in the parish of Rathven, Barony of Curfaiittie (?); also the house, biggings, yards, &c.; also the lands of Auchingall in the Parish of Rathven and territory of Cullen; also several crofts and rigs in Cullen.

1718.—Payment made to John Lorimer “for searching the Regesters for the town’s Charter.”—William Fordyce receives £334 for upputting of the steeple and tolbooth and bell and public clock.—Bridge at the south side of the town ruined by the spaitt of water to be repaired.—Complaint given in by the Fiscal against possessors of land on the east and west sides of the road from the north end of the town to the green gate towards the Sea-town. It used to let two carts pass and to be $4\frac{1}{2}$ ells Sc. in breadth. The march stones now put in again to the former breadth.—Paid 6s Sc. to the officer for charging the inhabitants to Castlefield’s burial. [Nicolas Dunbar of Castlefield.] For charging them to Tochieneill’s burial 6s Sc.—The town’s grass set for £71 16s.—Paid for liquor spent in Mrs Thomson’s at the Election £6. For do. at making Mr M’Neill burgess, £3 6s. Paid to Walter Taws and the pyper for going through the town proclaiming the keeping the Town’s grass 4s Sc.—Warrant by the Council to Elspet Strachan to erect a house at Townhead upon the liberties of the town. Granted. The house is 12 ells in length and 5 ells in breadth. The whole tenement is $4\frac{1}{2}$ roods.—It is proposed that with the Earl of Findlater’s concurrence the town’s liberties should be perambulate in the beginning of October, and in order thereto the Council appoints the Town Clerk to get from Thomas Murray the old Council book wherein the last Perambulation of the liberties are recorded.—The Earl of Findlater nominates James and Robert Innes burgesses of the burgh, which the hail magistrates and Counsell consented to. [The first recorded instance of the kind].

1719.—The Council agrees with James Robertson, a pypper, to goe thorrow the town with his pyps, playing at each morning at five and at night at eight aclock, and for which they are to give him eight pound Scots yearly, with two pair of shoes and a coat yearly.—Collection in the church for a bridge at Burnmouth, and bridge at upper end of the town (£22).—The Council send £150 to Aberdeen for a bell—Mr Gellie, founder—for the town’s use, to be put in the tolbooth and steeple, and the Earl of Findlater provides horses for sending for said bell. Horse hire for bringing her from Aberdeen £9 10s. John Reid, watchmaker in Roshartie, was employed by the town to go to Aberdeen to buy a bell. It cost £154 (154 pounds weight at 20s per lb). The timber for jacking the tolbooth is got by buying an old boat at Portknockie for 12s Stg. The magistrates

appoint a moss griever and appoint that none pouk or pott the mosses or cast up the lairs or cut the briggs of the moss, and that none cast above two spades casting in the common moss or Chamar Slack without liberty from the fiscall under a penalty of £5 Sc., and that none cast leet peats in the common moss except in the moss appropriated for the same.—The Magistrates appoint that none eat any of the town's grass or pasture except the inhabitants and those who bear a share of the public burdens under the failzie of £5 Sc. for each beast.—The Council agree with James Innes, wright, for upputting the roof of the steeple of the tolbooth, and to put four storm windows in the roof with two jambs for hanging the bell and to put up a mounting post for a weather cock, for which he is to receive £20 Sc. besides half a crown of dead earnest. Paid 1000 slates from Darbreich £2 6s 8d. Got a boat load of slates from Findlater. Sent a letter to Banff anent blue slates. Nine cartfulls of fog used in slating the steeple. Whole expenses connected with tolbooth, steeple, bell, &c., about £1100 Sc.—The Council are advertised by Mr Philip, their Agent at Edinburgh, that a party is like to come on the town for the bygone cesses.—Agreement with Alex. Murray, slater, to slate the steeple and tolbooth for £45 Sc. He is to furnish himself with a barrowman, bed, and diet, and the town is to furnish him in slates, fog, &c.

1720.—William Gordon, second son, succeeds his father in the lands of Farskane.—Butchers must bring their flesh to the public mercate, and to bring no flesh without the hyd and skin, and to sell no flesh in the markatt even on Fryday morning before eight a'clock, and country butchers to sell in the town only on the market day.—For liquor and peats spent by the Council at solemnizing King George's birthday £7 15s. For ale and brandy at stenting the Lambas cess 15s. For eight bottles at granting tack to tenants in Townhead 8s. To liquor spent when the town sent money south with Mr Ross for their cess £2 11s.—Paid to Sergeant Byres when he quartered on the town £7 4s. Paid account at setting the marches in the north end of the town towards the sea 23s. Paid 2s to John Reid for being guide to the soldiers to Raffan. Paid green bear to General Wightman's horses £9 16s. Postage of a letter from London 11. to Edinburgh 4s.

1719-20.—Land cess of the Burgh.—The Earl of Findlater 226 bolls 1 f. Other heretors 279 bolls. Among the latter are included Farskin for Cruetts and Greencastle 8 bolls, Laird Thomson's land 1 boll, Laird Sim's land 1 b. 2 f., Laird Mitchell's land 2 b. 2 f. Drummuir's land 14 bolls, tenants of Achingall 11 bolls, James Sinclair for Malthuscroft 4 bolls, Alexander Grant for Tochineill 11 bolls and for Smithstoun 14 bolls,

John Kemp and four others for Bruntoune 80 bolls, Alexander Strachan for Upstrath 16 bolls, John Robertson and George Morison in Seafield 43 b. 2 f. each, &c. Rental of the feu-duties of the burgh payable at Martinmas, 1719, £97 15s 2d (Myre-house mortification £3 4s 2d. The Earl of Findlater for his lands holden of the burgh £20 15s, do. for the lands of Burdbank and Old Mill £58 12s 10d Sc.) Rental of the forrett mails and feu-duties payable at Whitsunday, 1720, £72 13s 4d (including William Gordon of Farskin for Cruets and Greencastell £13 6s 8d, the Earl of Findlater for Battelhaugh £9, the ship under the tolbooth £3, Elspet Strachan for her house and yard £3, custom of the boats and handbell £12, the School Rig £8). Rental of the grass of Cullen as set for crop 1720 to about 32 persons £71 6s (including the following lots—the strype of the Corfhouse, the Dirthouse Den, east side of Castle Hill, west side of Castle Hill, the Sea braes in five parts, the Green Gait, Haugh of Taplin Braes, the Taplin Braes in five parts, the Little Wynd End, Banks of Burngreen, the Nether Crooked Stock, the Upper do., the Fallen Brae and grass below, the Meikle Wynd End, the Broad Haugh, the Mill Haugh, the Wards of Burdbank, Haugh at Old Mill, Haugh at Malthousecroft, Cloth lair at Newmill); also the cloth lair at the head of the town, &c

1720.—James Hay, butcher in Cullen, decerned to pay 19 merks for a cow and 15s Sterling for 5 sheep bought of James Wilkie in Barnyards of Findlater.

1721.—Alexander Abercrombie of Skeith sells his lands to the Earl of Findlater.—Act made that none keep bestial in the summer without a visible way for their maintenance, and against gathering weeds, &c., amongst others' corns under the failzie of £4 Sc.—A woman put in prison for stealing, then put on the cockstool an hour, then put back to prison, and then banished out of the town by tuck of drum.—John Watson, Edinburgh, bequeaths £60 for the education of a boy at Cullen School.—The bailies fine William Taws and George Coull £10 Scots for disturbing the peace, and 40s Sc. for their being drunk, and fine William Taws 40s for cursing, and fine George Gerrie 20s Sc. for being so long in company with the said parties in the alehouse.—The bailies fine Helen Mortimer and Janet Shoe, married women, each £50 Sc. for bleeding each other, and £10 Sc. for breach of peace.—Claim by David Sutherland, chirurgeon, against William Addison, seaman, for curing his arm when broken £12 12s Sc., and against Anna Leslie for bleeding her twice 2s Stg.—In an action William Gordon of Farskin against George Wood in Portknokie his tenant, who has taken up a brewery and sells ale and other excisable liquors, and it being usual for such persons to

pay brew tallow to the merchant of the ground but he refuses. The Bailies decern him to pay £8 yearly to the complainer in respect that by the said brewing he consumes and destroys a great deal of fuel.—Walter Brands, bailie, petitions the Council for liberty to erect two gravestones, each of three foot breadth, and lay them on the lair where his children are buried, and to affix at the head of these two stones a cut stone of about six foot long in the Churchyard dyke on the west side of the Churchyard. Granted. [The stones are still (1887) in the same position].—William Cook and James Richardson nominated burgesses by the Earl of Findlater, Constable of the Burgh, according to custom.—Michaelmas roll of vassals liable to answer the Head Courts contains 128 names.—Letter from Town Clerk of Elgin:—8 Feb. 1721, eight a'clock at night. The inclosed came to our hands about six a'clock this afternoon, the contents wherof is of such concern to all the countrie that wee doubt not you will, upon receipt, dispatch it to the Burgh of Banff to be forwarded by that Burgh to the next, &c. Note thereon by Town Clerk of Cullen:—The inclosed was a letter from Inverness annent a ship that was come to Chanry Head on the 7th current from the Bay of Biscay, and is lying there.

1722.—James Craib for stealing a coat, linen apron, &c., consents to his banishment from this burgh and shire never to be seen therein thereafter under pain of death.—£109 6s 6s Sc. contributed for repair of the tolbooth, steeple, clock, and bell. Earl of Findlater gives £12 12s, Lady Braco his daughter £6, William Gordon of Farskin £6, Bailies Brands, Thomson, and Dumbar £3 each. Action by Drummuir against the occupant of the houses of Orchard's Croft and land belonging to Drummuir.—Action by William Gordon of Farskin against ten fishermen in Seatown (William and John Hay, Alexander and James Ogilvie, John and George Runsie, William Kay, John Cadger, John Gardiner, and James Walker), for their custom of fish and oil extending to 18s 4d to each one of them for five years preceding 1715. Decree obtained.—Action by Farskin against 17 fishers at Seatown of Cullen. He for twelve or fourteen years back has received their great cod-fish and paid them. They used his great duty salt for salting and curing their ling, small cod, commonly called Rattray cod, and haddocks for seven years successively, although he had no concern with these three kinds, they being all sold in the south firth or at home.—List of the inhabitants of the Burgh of Cullen who subscribed not for the voluntary contributions for the tolbooth, steeple, clock and bell, nor has paid anything thereof, among whom are John Ogilvy, late Bailie, the tenants of Seafield and Brunton, and the seamen of Portknokie, &c.

1723.—For stealing a web of cloth William Gerrie is banished the town, with his wife and children, and his goods confiscated.—The bedall gets 8s yearly for ringing the tolbooth bell at 5 a.m., and 10 p.m., each day.—Peter Wiseman fined 20s Sc. for keeping eleven unringed swine.—Thomas Reid, servant to Thomas Murray, Town Clerk, was put in the tolbooth, but he said he ryled the daill of the foot of the door with his hands and crap out from below the door. The Bailies finding him obstinate, he had to stand in the joggs every day from 9 a.m., till 3 p.m., then to return to prison, where he is to lie in the stocks all night, till he would tell who aided him in stealing. He escaped a second time by unloosing the ropes and tows he was fastened with, and got out of the stocks and came out at the same hole as before. After lurking three days, he was caught and imprisoned, tied, and kept in the stocks with a guard of four men nightly over him, as he seemed to have had assisters. The Bailies being informed that one Mr Reid, merchant in Aberdeen, had dealings with those who sent some persons as he to Virginia and the Plantations, resolve to write to Mr Reid. He was then banished, by his own consent, from Banffshire, and if he returned “death would be inflicted on him without process of law.”—John Ord of Findochtie built houses and furnished them to the white fishers to fish for him, and furnished them with boats “as other heritors are in use to doe,” and John Ord, being to sell the lands of Findochtie to James, Earl of Findlater, the fishers agree to serve the Earl at the Brodhyth of Findochtie. There were in all thirteen men and four boys (Flett, Campbell, Smith, &c).—The magistrates and Town Council having met to deliberate on some speedy method for removing the party from the town who intimate their quarters for a year’s cess, raise the money and send it with the Banff post with a letter to Alexander Aberdeen, merchant in Aberdeen, to transmit the same to Edinburgh.—Oct. 27.—The Council appoints their Dean of Guild to attend the market of Hallow Fair at Fordyce, Tuesday and Wednesday next, and survey the market in conjunction with the Dean of Guild of Banff.—The Commissioner to the Royal Burghs is instructed to get the tax reduced owing to the decay of trade and several persons removing, and to get the burghs of barony, Portsoy, Fordyce, and Keith and the neighbouring parishes to bear their share of the burdens.

1724.—Thomas Murray, Town Clerk, draws up a testament of William Ord’s wife, at Findochtie. [This was probably within the Castle still standing].—Lands of Findochty sold by John Ord to the Earl of Findlater.—Brandy is 17s per pint.—“There is a place called the Castle Hill but no house or rubbish of any appearing.” [Written by William Ogilvy in 1724].—Complaint given in

against the manufacturers and whiteners of linen, that they use lime, pigeon dung, or other stuff in bleaching and whitening the linen, so that when it comes to London to be printed it falls out in holes, and the linen-draper cannot be persuaded to buy it at any price. The Council are to supervise the work. The weavers in this burgh and liberties being cited, thirteen appear and are ordered to report all giving ill or insufficient yarn.

1725.—An ox got in to a garden and ate forty stocks of kell. The Court cause the owner of the ox to pay sixpence for the kell.—Coats to be bought for the town's officers—5 ell broad reed cloath, 9 ell mixed sarge for west coats and breeches, 10 ells lynning, 2 pair course stokin.—All idle persons flocking together about the sea-side on Lord's day afternoon to be fined 20s Scots.—Claim given in by John Ogilvy against William M'Lachlan, wigmaker. John Ogilvie had agreed for a wig of human hair for his son, but William M'Lachlan made it of mixed hair, of goats', horse, and bleached hair. This being returned he made a second wig, which was worse than the first. John Ogilvie kept both wigs till his guinea should be restored. The Court order the wigs to be restored and the wigmaker to return 16s. The wigmaker is also fined £10 Sc. for running off with one of the wigs when before the Bailie.—No fleshes to be killed but on Thursday—the day before the market, except by warrant of the magistrates.—Christian Abernethie is decerned to George Shepherd his service, in respect he was the first who claimed her service.—The Earl of Findlater represents to the Council that he has inclosed and intends to inclose several parts of the lands of Muldavat and Castlefield, the dykes of which cannot be so regular without taking in some of the meadow grass belonging to the community, and lying to the Doucat of Muldavat and below the brae belonging to the lands of Muldavat, the yearly rent whereof and rather more his Lordship is most willing to pay. The barleymen fixed the yearly value to be a merk Scots, the boundaries being :—From the water run coming from the park dykes at the heads of the mill floods of the lands of Muldavat, and running from that straight eastward, and from that east point straight northward to the Doucat of Muldavat. The Earl agrees to give 20s Sc. yearly rent, receiving a tack of 99 years.—John Moir and Alexander Hay for “having the impudence to bring to the publick markatt and sell a lepper swyn or sow,” also a cow that “dyed of some ill desease,” are fined 50 merks betwixt them, and they are ordained “to remain in prisone for twentie-four hours, and to burry what of the said unwholsom fleshes” remained.—Elspet Mitchell having feed on 1st March (prior to the time fixed by the J.P. Acts), she is decerned to serve George Reid, in Broom of Find-

later, who reported her untimeous feeing, and who is in want of a woman servant. Several other female domestic servants who intended to remain unengaged are compelled by the J.P.'s to go to service.—Janet Cuthbert for horrid cursing and abusing her neighbours and offering to burn James Steinson's house, the Bailies banish her from the town and liberties, and no person to receipt, harbour, or entertain her under the pain of £10 Sc., and the fiscal and officer to go and take the door off her house and carry it off, and her plenishing to be thrown out.

1726.—John Thomson escapes from the Tolbooth.—William Gordon of Farskin craves entry to his lands, and presents in Council a charter on his lands in favour of William Gordon his grandfather of date 1669, also a charter granted by the town on the said lands in favour of Mr John Abercrombie sometime of Farskin of date 1651. Farskin's application is delayed till the Earl of Findlater come home and a Head Court be called, and till there be a visitation of that march that leads from the harbour of Portknockie to the arable lands of Cruets. After consulting with Mr George Ogilvie, Advocate, the Council send for a summons of reduction and improbation against Farskin.—Inventory of the books and papers belonging to the town found sealed up in the cabinet of Thomas Murray, late Town Clerk:—eight books, including an old register and court book in the time of James Forsyth and John Lorimer, town clerks, &c., also ten papers, including mortifications by William Lesly and James Smith, Acts of Convention of Burghs in favour of Cullen 1698 and 1699.—Act of Council in favour of William Whyte for a seat in the Church, where the servants of the deceased John Hay of Muldavit used to sit, the fabric of which old seat undoubtedly belongs to the Earl of Findlater, but the ground or room where it stands belongs to the Magistrates and Council, as patrons, overseers, or managers of the Isle, called the Duff's Isle, where the said old seat stands.—William Wood, a stranger, having got drunk and disturbed the peace, he is let off on condition of leaving the town and not returning for seven years.—The town pay 10 merks Sc. yearly for bringing home millstones to the Old Milne.—Paid for School rig £3 Sc.—Paid for dighting the clock and oyling her 3s Stg.—A boat load of flags got from Dickie Hair for Towhead Bridge.—Postage of two letters to Edinburgh 8s Sc.—To 8 bottles white wine £4 16s Sc. 2 bottles claret £1 12s when Lords Justice Clerk and Poltoun were in town £6 8s. To cash spent when Farskan's charters were Englished 12s. To 5 bottles claret when the Marquess of Annandale's servants were made burgesses £4. To 4 bottles white wine when the Earl of Hoptoun and his servants were made burgesses.

—Debursed on the Bow Bridge, at agreeing with the masons, 2 pints ale 4s. Paid £6 14s Sc. for liquor spent when Bailye Sym in Bamf, Shiref Depute, came to the place annent the opening of Thomas Murray's cabinetts, when the pappers were sealed, and at makeing the said Bailye Sym, Mr James Hay, brother to Rannes, and Mr Alexander Tulloch, sone to Tannochie, burgesses. —Paid to Adam Wood in Portknockie £4 Sc. for ale spent in his house att visiting the marches betwixt the town of Cullen and Farskin.—Paid 3 bottles white wine 3s 9d stg. 1 bottle claret 1s 6d, 5 chappins punch 4s 2d 3 pints ale 6d. [Entries similar to the above fill a large part of the records, about, and for long after, this period.]—Paid to John Heddal, a poor blind man, 6d to help to cearie him on his road home. To a widow with sundry fatherless children 6s Sc. Paid 3s Sc. for 8 ells, linen cloath for the town's officer's wife's dead lining. To Patrick Fraser, a dumb gentleman, 12s Sc. To a brocken seaman, who had his arm cut off leatly at Elgin, 6d. Paid 2s stg. to George Livie, seaman, in Whythills, his wife having brought furth three children at one birth and hes nothing to manten them.—The lands of Muldavit disponed to the Earl of Findlater.—The Bede House on John Lorimer's mortification of Dovecroft now ruinous, and worth only £6 Sc.—Heds of families exhorted to restrain their children and servants from rambling on the streets on the Sabbath day, as also not to allow the bringing in burdens of water to their houses on the Lord's day, otherwise the transgressors to be processed, when discovered, before the Session.

1727.—The Council allow John Ord, merchant, to put up a seat in the church in that room betwixt Drummuir's seat and Thomas Murray's, in respect no person claims right thereto.—John Philp, Edinburgh, intimates—9th June—he has insert in the publict newspapers account of the solemnity performed by the burgh on his Majestie's birthday and paid 3s stg. for it.—Paid 1s to four wrecked seamen.—To cash given the Banff post for staying till the letters, &c., were ready 2s.—For 16 bottles ale, drunk with Logie and others, at takeing up the town's papers from Mr Blenshell 16s.—Pay to George Philip the sum of £2 9s 6d Sc. for liquor spent by the Town Council with him at clearing accounts.—3 stg. spent for 3 bottles of wine, spent at makeing Mr Hamilton, factor in Burdeaux, burgess of this burgh.—William Grant from Inverurie received 1s stg. being poor and having a son to be cut of the stone [a common disease in this district in former times, but now rare] for which he must give £50 Sc. to a chirurgeon.

1728.—The hail weavers summoned to hear the Act of Parliament read. There were six in Cullen two in Portknockie, one in Brunton, one

in Seafield, one in Craighead, one in Bridgend, and two in Shirralls—William Cook, Hallyards, Fordyce, convict of stealing bear. He is allowed to banish himself from the shire of Banff, and in case he shall return thereto he shall suffer the pain of death, to which he voluntarily subjects himself.—Jan. 20.—A ship of 170 tuns bound from Amsterdam to Stockholm, loaded with tobacco, salt herring, and Spanish salt, fine silk, paper, oynions, apples, nutmuggs, raisins, and severall other valuable commoditys, was driven by the east storm at sea upon the rocks near Portknockie, called the Scarr noss or Bowfiddle and in fifteen minutes was broke in wrack as small as if she had been hewen with axes. There was aboard twelve men and a boy, all of which saved their lives, except the captain, who perished. All the crew say that their captain was wrong in the head four days before they were cast away. But some people suspect there is something more than ordinary in it. The wreck of the ship is cast in upon that part of ground Forskan holds of the town. There has been some protestations taken by Forskan against the town, and they against him, about the wreck. However, Forskan is taking care to catch all he can and promises to be accountable. He has gott one box, in which is twenty-four webs of fyne flowered gairden silks, and severall other things. The seamen say that all that was betwixt decks are cast in but that the second deck and hulk of the ship is sunk in which lyes 30 last of herring and severall other things. The whole of the crew are Dutch and Sweddish. The supercargo and haille loading belonged to Stockholm. The eleven men and boy were miracullously preserved for they were thrown upon a rock so steep and inaccessible that it was thought that a cat could not hold feet where they travelled and had not one of the crew brought to the rock with him a pice of a small roap, all of them had perished; but by God's providence, and the small roap, the first man drew up all the rest from the bottom to the top of the rock, and so were saved. It is said that Forskan will make a dale of money by this ship. (Extract of letter to Earl of Findlater.)—James Lawtie, minister of Cullen, is grandson of George Lawtie of Tochenail, a near relation of William Lawtie of Myrehouse, who made a mortification in 1657 for two poor persons. He appointed that 700 merks, resting to him by Violet Forbes, Lady Boyne, be appointed for building and upholding an hospital and entertaining certain poor persons. The said George Lawtie agreed (1664) with George Duff for the sale of certain crofts in the burgh called one eighteen part of Priestfield for behoof of said mortification. John Ord of Findochtie claims to be the nearest lineal descendant of William Lawtie of Myrehouse.—The Commissioners of Supply for

the County grant £20 sterling towards building a bridge over the burn of Cullen.—John Low, Banff post, having got four pund Sterlin at Turreff to take in to Aberdeen with him, and putting the same in a bagg, which he putt in a vallet and tyed it on his horse with other baggag, had the misfortune that the vallet was stollen of his horse in the Oldtown of Aberdeen, being under night and dark. The Town Council of Cullen give him £3 Sc. towards repaying it—Given to the tutor of Rannes' wife in necessity, half-a-crown. Paid £3 Sc. for securing the east arch of the Bow Bridge. Paid 55s 6d Stg. for liquor at makeing Mr William Davisone, merchant in Rotterdame, burgess of the town. Spent 14s 1d Stg. for liquor at making the Master of Deskfoord, burges of Cullen. Paid for pointing the tolbooth and Duff's Isle £8 12s 6d. Oct. 30th. Spent with the town's people when they went to meet Skeith's buriel 16s.

1729.—George Ogilvie, schoolmaster, resigns, as "resolved, God willing, to follow some other employment than the teaching of the School of Cullen."—The east arch of the Bow Bridge at the north end of the town damnified by the late speats.—The Earl of Peterbrugh and Monmouth, General of His Majesty's Marines, K.G. and one of the Privy Council, admitted burgess, together with His Grace the Duke of Gordon, and General Gordon, with 14 or 15 other gentlemen of distinction, at which time the Earl of Findlater was present, and after their entertainment in the Town-house by the Council the Earl of Peterbrugh, to show his goodwill and favour to this burgh made it a present of £10 10s, out of which sum was given £5 5s to Mr Adams, architect, for his advice anent the harbour. At making the Duke of Gordon and Earle of Peterborough burgesses ten bottles strong claret £9, 6 bottles of other claret £4 10s, 4 bottles whyte wyne £2 8s. A pynt of brandy in punch £2 8s, ale 12s, total £18 18s. To 6 bottles claret at 15s per bottle £4 10s. To 8 bottles claret and one bottle white vine £6 12s. To 2 pints ale 6s. Total £11 8s. The above spent with Mr Adams, architect, after goeing two severall times to view the harbour and giving his advice thereanent. To 2 bottles white wine at meaking my Lord Polton's sone burges 24s. To 1 bottle white wine at meaking my Lord Ormonstone's sone burges 12s.—Paid to the officers 18s Sc. for two night's and two day's attendance of a mad woman and putting her out of the town. Paid 8s Sc. to Mr John Reid, weaver, for going express to Banff with letters to the Earl of Findlater. Paid for making intake of the burn at the Neither Bow Bridge £13 8s 6d. The workmen receive 6d a day.

1730.—James, 4th Earl of Findlater dies. He was Solicitor-General, Secretary of State for Scotland, High Commissioner to the General Assembly,

and Chancellor of Scotland.—For cutting down and taking off an ash tree, ten or twelve years old, in the Cranny Haugh of Muldavit, Alexander Smith is fined £20 Sc. In regard there is no proper person for whipping or chastising him in the burgh he is imprisoned till the next day at ten o'clock, then carried to and put on the cockstool, to stand there two hours with a placard affixed to a board, on which his offence was written, then returned to prison till he found caution for keeping the peace for two years. The cockstool is to be repaired, with aid of the minister and kirk-session, to whom it belongs, and at whose charge it was first erected, that it may be safe for the panel to ascend and remain there. He is also fined £50 for the riot, that is, breaking the peace by cutting the tree.—Paid £2 5s Sc. for liquor at making burgesses:—John Erskine yr of Dun, Esq., Mr John Fraser, his governour, Alexander Bruce, his servant, James Farquharson of Balmorell, and Thomas Leslie, macer to the Justice Court.—Feb. 11.—Given 1s Stg. to a boat's crew driven by storm from Caithness to Portknockie.—To 4 candle 2s, 6 pipes, 1s, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb leaf tobacco 4s for William Andrew, officer, his funerals, total 7s. For ale drunk by the Council when they inspected the Bridge at the Townhead £1 Sc. The Commissioners of Supply gave £30 Stg. towards this bridge. Repairing the old bridge below the town £30 19s Sc.

1731.—The Council agree with the Raffans to lay the stones for keeping the burn from encroaching upon the tenement in the Townhead belonging to the Burgh.—Sept. 25.—The Council of the Burgh meet within the Council House for the election of a new magistracy and Council. The Earl of Findlater and Seafield, heritable constable of the burgh present, and the present magistrates and Town Council. Elected:—James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield, James, Lord Deskford, Mr George Ogilvie, Advocate at Edinburgh, Mr John Philp, Auditor in Exchequer, and nineteen others. Thereafter the Council elected Walter Brands, William Ord, and Alexander Ord, Bailies, Alexander Baird, Dean of Guild, and John Ord, treasurer, and the Earl continues William Ord as Constable Bailie.

1732.—The Town's Grass set to the inhabitants for the year for £70 12s.

1733.—The Constable, Magistrates, and Council, ordain that a proper shambles be erected betwixt the public gate of the church and the foot of the Tolbooth stair.—Inconveniences having happened through the want of a proper person to inspect the casting of peats in the moss of this Burgh, and the Common Moss having been much abused and peats cast by the inhabitants, either in the mosses belonging to their respective tenements and lands, or in the common moss, having been stolen, there-

fore the Constable, Bailies, and other Councillors appoint William Taws as Moss Grieve, and that he receive one penny sterling for each spade's casting. No person to cast in the Common Moss who has a moss appropriated to the tenement wherein he dwells except by licence from the Council, the Constable, and two of the bailies being present and consenting. The Earl of Findlater, Constable of this Burgh, has declared that he is to preserve certain mosses belonging to him, viz., the moss at the west of the moss of Cullen, adjacent to the moss of Carnoch, appropriated in ancient time for the use of the Constables of this place, the moss called the Greenmyre, the mosses of Seafield and Muldavid, and part of the mosses of Burdsbank, and, as the Earl's prosecution of his said intention may, in future generations, be of great use to this incorporation the Council appoint that these mosses be closely watched by the moss grieve, as the casting of green turf on moss ground is a great prejudice to the moss, by preventing the growth thereof, and as the inhabitants of this burgh have the advantage of several other places within its dependencies, where they may cast turfs, therefore the Council enact that each man that needs turfs shall cast them on the Hill of Bads, which is within the commonty of the said burgh, or on the Little Bindhill, or other muirs belonging to the said town under the penalty of 40s Sc. Persons stealing peats to be fined a groat for each back creel and 1s Stg. each horse load of peats by and attour confiscation of the creels and graith so employed, and such corporal punishment as the magistrates shall think fit.

1734.—Alexander Baird, the Commissioner of the Burgh in the ensuing Convention of Royal Burghs is appointed to repair thereto upon the Town's charges.—Several of the inhabitants representing to the bailies that they were often summoned before the Sheriff of Banff and Commissary of Aberdeen upon frivolous charges, and great expense occasioned, the Bailies order that all cases competent for decision by them be brought before them, under a penalty of £10 Sc., with an additional penalty.—It being represented by the Earl of Findlater that it was absolutely necessary for his convenience in living in this place to shut up the courts of his stables, barns, and other office houses and entry to his house by a proper gate and that the common high road to the New Mill and to the moss would be fully as convenient by the Wynd, and the said Earl offering to make a draw-well at the side of the street betwixt the stable yard and William Forsyth's barn, for those who used to go to the Coble well, the Magistrates and Council give their sanction thereto. Confirmed by a Head Court of the Burgh.

1735.—John Nicol, ship-carpenter in Broadhyth

of Findochty, is imprisoned in the tolbooth of Cullen for debt.—Oct. 15.—William Gordon of Forskane, eldest son of the late William Gordon of Forskane and Helen Duff, produced a charter of Novodamus granted by the Magistrates and Councillors of the burgh of Cullen upon the lands of Crewats, Greencastle, and Portknockie, with the fishings and fishing boats of Portknockie to his father. Twenty merks Sc. due to the Burgh for his entry, besides the feu-duty payable by him.—William Gordon disposes Farskane, Crewats, Portknockie, Greencastle, &c., to the Earl of Findlater.

1736.—Five and a half guineas paid to Mr Adam, architect, for making out a plan of the harbour. This sum to be paid out of the fore end of the ten guineas received from the Earl of Petterburrow.—The Council appoint Friday (being the weekly market day) for selling meal to the inhabitants, and no meal to be sold to any person but upon said day.—The custom of the boats and hand bell let for £34 Sc.

1737.—The Council, considering the disadvantage this burgh is at for want of a schoolmistress, appoint Mrs Petrie, Elgin, at a salary of £24 Sc. a year and ane free house, which they have agreed for at £10 Sc. a year.—Captain James Abercrombie, as nearest heir male of Mr John Abercromby, his great grandfather, returned in the lands of Upstrath.—The whole inhabitants of the burgh who have any cattle to subsist are appointed to appear at a Head Court and instruct how they are capable to maintain the same.—The Council, taking to their consideration the benefit that may redound to this place by the ploughs made by Mr Lummies, and he having undertaken to instruct James Crookshank and Alexander Dunn for to make the Rothnan plough to as good purpose as the ploughs he brought to this place, they appoint to pay him ane guinea for his trouble, and by acceptation hereof J. C. and A. D. oblige themselves not to make any plough without the town and liberties to any person but by consent of the Council.

1738.—John George, fifth Lord Banff, born 1717, was drowned 29th July, 1738, when he went with Lord Deskford, afterwards sixth Earl of Findlater, to bathe, after dinner, at the Black Rocks, near Cullen. After swimming some minutes Lord Deskford proposed to return, which they accordingly did, and Lord Deskford began putting on his clothes. Lord Banff went in again for a few minutes, and then came on shore, but unfortunately stepping in a third time and beginning to swim a surge threw him down, and though he gave a signal he perished before assistance could be afforded. His Lordship was a very fine young nobleman, and had been a very short time before married to Mary, daughter of Captain James

Ogilvy (*Edinburgh Register and Douglas Peerage*).—William Maclackland, wigmaker, Cullen, is decerned to pay to William Stodhart, merchant in Keith, £43 Sc. as the price of a horse.—Compeared before the Burgh Court Mr James Lawtie, Minister of the Gospel at Cullen, and craved that Margaret Laing, an idler, might be decerned to enter home to his service, and serve him for this current half year. She is ordained accordingly.

1740.—The Constable, Magistrates, and Town Council of Cullen grant liberty to George Gordon of Buckie, their good neighbour, and his tenants in Woodside, to win and carry away marl and clay for the improvement of the lands of Woodside, out of their marl pits adjoining a ditch drawn by the said George Gordon upon the march between their common muir and his lands of Woodside, as said march was settled (1736), and which ditch goes from the road that leads from Cullen to Rannas and Fochabers through the said common muir and lands of Woodside, down to the Binloch or any other marl or clay pit on their common muir, adjacent to the lands of Woodside.

1741.—Tenth election of M.P. for the burghs. Held at Cullen. Sir James Grant of Grant elected. The Magistrates, taking to their serious consideration the straitening circumstances of their poor, and that through scarcity and dearth of provisions of all kinds the several adjacent royal burghs have banished vast numbers of idle people not in capacity to subsist, and maintain themselves in these scarce times, ordain that no person harbour any such persons so banished under pain of prosecution.—The Council, considering the disorders that frequently happen by the tumultuous convocations of the town's people by riding of the stang, and that that practice is made handle of to affront any person they have prejudice against rather than to discountenance immoralities, ordain that no person convocate in any tumultuous way under pain of a fine besides being corporally punished and immediately thereafter banished the place.

1742.—The Council, considering that the town is much oppressed by vagabonds and sturdy beggars frequenting this town, after being set off from other places empower James M'Rob, piper, to go in quest of such vagabonds, and in case he find any turn them out of the town, and if they turn obstreperous to call for assistance from the town's officers or inhabitants, for which he is to receive a crown from the town and 4s from the Kirk Session, to be paid quarterly.—The Town Council receive £5 10s Stg. from the effects of Mackraw, a stranger, who died here, apprehending themselves to be proprietors thereof, as *ultimus hæres*.—The petty customs with the boats and hand bell roused at £30 10s. The hand bell in the town paid 6s Sc., without the town 12s, the

big-bell in the town 18s, without 30s. The tackman receives a meal firloft, peck, and haddish cog, a trone stone weight, and large balk and broads.—Alexander Syme, merchant, rents a leper house for £2 Sc. that belonged to Patrick Sanders, bailie.

1743.—Charles Stuart, dyster, petitions the Council for a tack of the Walkmiln, as the life of Thomas Anderson, the present tacksman, is despaired of by every person who has seen him, the tack to commence at the next term after the decease of the said Thomas.—The Council grant the desire of the petition.—The Council appoint the Treasurer to furnish wood for making a wooden horse.—George Watson and John Strachan, Town Councillors, can sign only by initials.—School fees at Cullen raised from 1s per quarter for all scholars to the following scale which is lower than at Fordyce or Banff:—Writing, Church Music, and English Reading 1s per quarter; the preceding with Arithmetic 1s 6d per quarter; the preceding with Latin, 1s 8d per quarter.

1744.—Cullen House Bridge built by James, fifth Earl of Findlater and Sophia, Countess of Findlater. The bridge is 84 feet wide and 64 feet high.—Michaelmas Head Court, 3rd Nov.—The Constable, Magistrates, and Town Council of the Burgh of Cullen, taking to their consideration the great benefit that may arise to such of the inhabitants as are possessors of corn or grass ground by winter herding, and that thereby particularly lands sown with wheat in September or October, and parcels of ground sown with grass seeds may be preserved from damage, as also that the grass belonging to the common good of the burgh by being eat with some regularity in winter and spared more early in the spring, may become more valuable, as also that all sown land may be preserved from being potched in the spring as formerly it has been, and the cattle brought regularly home at night and saved from many dangers to which they have hitherto in winter and spring been exposed, and that the harm arising to the land from the holing of swine may be sufficiently remedied, Do Enact that the magistrates shall nominate and appoint two common herds, whose duty it shall be every morning from the time that teinding is finished to the 25th May yearly, to bring out all the cattle in the town and to drive them to one place in the fields, and thereafter one of them to attend the said cattle throughout the whole day, and in the evening both of them joining together to drive back the cattle to the several houses to which they belong. 2ndly. To take care that the cattle never pasture or trample upon ground sown with wheat or grass seeds, nor upon any land after being sown or harrowed. 3rdly. That after 1st February they do not pasture or trample upon the grass ground belonging to the common good nor any ground

left by for grass. 4thly. That in the course of winter and spring pasture the beasts are to be driven from day to day to such places in the fields or moors as the magistrates shall direct. 5thly. That every day after the cattle are driven to the place intended one of the herds shall carefully walk through the field with a sufficient dog and catch any swine they may happen to find holing therein, and put them up in the low pit of the tolbooth until another poind fauld be made and detain them locked up without provision until the owners shall pay 6d Stg. for each swine so caught, the 6d to belong to the herds, and if the owners shall not redeem their swine within the space of 36 hours they are to be sold by roup for the benefit of the common good. 6thly. As winter herding is to be practised by all the farmers in the neighbourhood, the herds are not to drive the town's cattle to any of the neighbouring farms, and if they shall find any cattle, swine, or sheep belonging to neighbours on the corn or grass grounds of the town, they are to poind such cattle, &c., and keep them until they are paid for by the owners, not less than 6d Stg. for each and 1d Stg. for each sheep. 7thly. The herds are during the summer to walk through the fields and to preserve the peas from being stolen, and the corn and grass from straying beasts and all abuses to the utmost of their power. Besides the perquisites above mentioned, each herd is to have (blank) merk paid him yearly in name of fee and maintenance, and the (blank) merks for the two herds is to be levied by a stent on all the possessors of land or grass within the burgh, each boll's pay of land rent and £5 pay of grass rent paying alike, but enclosers not to be liable in this stent.—The Bin Hill planted with trees.

1745.—John Cope at Cullen, 7th September, having left Elgin two days before.

1746, April 8th.—The Plundering of Cullen House by the Rebels, and property destroyed to the value of £8,000.—The Earl of Findlater distributes 200 guineas among the Duke of Cumberland's troops when passing through Cullen (11th April).—The twenty-one white fishers in the three fishing boats at Findochty appear before the Court of Regality of Ogilvie to pledge themselves not to ingadge in bad practices with the rebels or disaffected persons, and to fairy no person whatever to sea other than the crew belonging to the boat, and upon no consideration to go on board any ship at sea, and all of them depone that they cannot write but the two initial letters of their names. Compeared before the Court the 35 fishermen in the five fishing boats at Cullen and the 42 fishermen in the six boats at Portknockie and enacted themselves in similar terms. 66 of these sign by initials only, and 9 write their names in full. Of the Cullen fishermen 10 are named Runcy, 12

Hay, 1 Gardner, 2 Edieson, 4 Ross, 2 Bruce, 2 Findlay, 1 Forbes, 1 Grant. Of the Portknockie fishermen 11 are named Wood, 8 Mair, 6 Slaiter, 4 Wilson, 4 Pirie, 2 Anderson, 2 M'Kentosh, 2 Bruce, 1 Smith, 1 Sutherland, 1 Falconer.—“On 26th March, while His Royal Highness was at Aberdeen, a party of the Rebels' foot and horse came to this place and forced payment of all the public money, viz., Cess, Aque, Excise, and Postages, by taking us [Town Council] and office-bearers prisoners, and using many threats and menaces against our persons and effects.”—Dec. 16, 1745.—Paid for 3½ lb. candle to the Macleods £1 4s 6d. Dec. 17.—Do. Mar. 17, 1746.—Paid 6 sheets papers writing billets 1s 6d. To Glenbucket's men keeping guard here 2½ lb. candle 17s 6d. To do. 1 cart peats 8s. June 11.—Value of 4 lb. 8 candle from May 27th at 10 candles to the pound and 7s per lb. £1 13s 6d. Various payments for candle &c., to Captain Stuart's troop keeping guard from May 4th till Sept. 30th.—June 6th—To ½ lb. white sugar to making Captain Stuart burgess 12s.—June 11.—To 21 pints ale to the soldiers £2 2s. To one pint aquavite 30s. Aug. 17.—Captain Fitzgerald's Company comes to the town. Total to the guard 153 cart loads peats and 50 lbs. candles, £40 3s 10d.—No meetings of Town Council recorded from 22nd Oct. 1745 to 19th July 1746.—The Council elected on 26th September 1745 did not take the oaths to His Majesty till 19th July.—Sept.—The town being in arrear for Cess and Aque to the Exchequer to the amount of £11 5s Stg., and there being word that the town will be brought to great trouble and expense seven of the inhabitants “out of sympathie with the towne” advance the said sum in loan.

1747. - Eleventh Election of M. P. for the Burghs. Held at Cullen. William Grant of Prestongrange, Advocate, is elected.—The Council, considering that they have right by law to hold three markets in the year, and that it was the ancient custom of the burgh to do so, and that the disuse thereof has been a great detriment to the trade of the town and the country in the neighbourhood, enacts that henceforward a fair shall be held yearly on the second Tuesday of October at the Gallow Hill and land northward, and on the last Tuesday of April and third Tuesday of June upon the haugh below the New Mill. Intimation to be sent to all the parish churches betwixt Spey and Divorn. The said fairs to be custom free for the first three years. The Council also enacts that every second Friday of the month, at the weekly market then held, encouragement be given to country people to bring in leather shoes, harn, linen, yarn, and woollen manufacture, such as stockings, stuffs, plaiden, &c., and timber and iron, butter and cheese, but that flesh, meal, malt, shall on these extraordinary weekly markets pay custom as usual.

—The Constable names James Coull and George Davidson, weavers, his Lordship's burgesses.

1748.—Linen and damask manufacture introduced here by the Earl of Findlater.—The following lands are perpetually disposed to the Earl of Findlater in accordance with the Acts of Parliament and Acts of Convention of Royal Burghs, "without any manner of reversion, redemption, or regress whatsoever":— (1) Haugh at Malt-house Croft, (2) Ely Moss, (4) Wards of Burd-bank, (4) Margaret Henry's haugh and houses, (5) St. Andrew's yards and houses and Cuthbard's yards and houses, (6) Houses and yards lately possessed by Alexander Raffan in Townhead and by Walter Herd, (7) Old Mill Haugh, (8) The Cloth Lairs at the New Mill, the Fallen Braes, the New Mill Haugh, Broad Haugh, Upper and Netner Crooked Stocks, (9) Meikle Wynd End, Banks of Burngreen, Little Wynd End, Taplin's brae and haugh, Seabraes, Castle Hill, Dirthouse Den, and Fallen Braes, (10) Corfhouse Strype, (11) The Green Gait, (12) The Walk Mill of Cullen and haugh, (13) Tenement of houses in Town head and School rig belonging thereto, (14) A house and yard upon the brae near the Old Mill of Cullen. The said Earl is to pay for the whole of the said lands and houses £10 1s 7d Stg. yearly, being £1 additional on the former rental. Next year these lands are included in the charter to Lord Deskford.—George Sim and James Brands, merchant, Cullen, pursue William Mair, skipper in Port-knockies for suffering their goods, which he brought from Aberdeen, to be wrecked and damnified at Portknockies. The boat contained Flemish, white, and bound lint to the value of £413 Sc., 91 hides lucken leather (£830 Sc.) 100 lbs. lint (£33), Ginger bread £18, paper, leather, &c., £182. The merchants demand payment from William Mair of £1828 7s 6d Sc. (including profit, charges, &c.)—Alexander Grant, factor to the Earl of Findlater and Seafield, gave in a representation to the Magistrates and Town Council, making mention that as no exact registers had been kept of the proceedings of the Council and Burgh Courts, the petitioner had been obliged to call the Council in order to declare the powers of the said Earl as Heritable Constable of the Burgh, and in what matter his Lordship's predecessors had executed the same during the time of the Council their remembrance. The said Alexander Grant also requested the Council to examine several old men anent their knowledge thereof. [For their evidence &c., see separate paper on "The Constabulary of Cullen"].—The Council pay 10s Stg. for encouragement to Helen Watson, schoolmistress, for educating the young children of the place.—Town Council consists of the Earl of Findlater and Seafield, Preses, [This is the first occurrence of the title Preses in the records],

Lord Deskford, Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, Mr John Philp, Auditor in Exchequer, Mr James Philp, advocate at Edinburgh, John Ord of Findochty, Alexander Grant, Chamberlain to the Earl of Findlater, William Dunbar, Chamberlain, Estate of Boyne, George Nicholson, gardener, Cullen House, Patrick Coull, merchant, and ten others.—28th Nov.—The Earl of Findlater and Seafield presents before the Council a Charter upon the common grass of the town, tenements of houses, and others therein mentioned in his favours, which are holden of the Magistrates and Town Council, superiors thereof, and desired they might subscribe the same as there was an additional duty of £12 Sc. to be paid by his Lordship to said burgh for some privileges mentioned in said charter. The said charter was instantly signed. Nov. 28. —A Head Court approved of the said charter.

1749. - Whereas the Earl of Findlater has set up within this town and Portknockies schools for teaching the children of the *lower sort* erased common people to learn to read and knit stockings for nothing which will be a great advantage to the country in general and the children in particular that are so taught. The magistrates therefore enact and ordain that every fisher, labouring man, and tradesman having sons betwixt eight and eleven years old should send them to the said schools, and if they neglect they shall be punished in the manner authorised by law in such cases, and appoint the Act to be read by the reader from the lectern next Lord day, immediately after divine service.—The Earl of Findlater makes resignation of all the lands, crofts, &c., belonging to the said Earl, within the territory of Cullen, in favour and for new infeftment of the same to be made to James, Lord Deskford. The Earl of Findlater having paid £77 19s Sc. “for the reparation of the South isle of the Kirk of Cullen which is the property of the said Council” the same is deducted in reckoning with the Council.—The custom of the boats, handbell, &c., carried at £34 10s Sc.

1750.—Fourteen plaids lent by the inhabitants and others in Inaltrie, Ardicow, Neither Blairrock, Cluinhill, Leitcheston, Neither Cluin, and Over Cluin to the soldiers presently lying in Cullen.—Anent winter herding the Council resolve to put the Act of Head Court, 1744, into execution and that two herds be appointed forthwith and a poynd fauld erected.

1752.—Bleachfield established at Deskford by Lord Deskford. He planted on the estate 32 millions of trees.—Bell erected in the Old Town House. It was the church bell for many years prior to the erection of the present bell.

1753.—The Magistrates as Commissioners of Supply appoint assessors for surveying and numbering the lights and windows of all houses subject to duty. Messrs Rannie, Baird, Anderson, Brown,

and Grant, having 14 windows each pay 3s 6d each as duty, Mrs Lawtie, 13 windows, pay 3s 3d. Total for the burgh for the half year £1 0s 9d sterling. Paid Equé £21 12s 8d Sc. or £1 16s 0d and eight-twelfths Stg. for the burrow mails of the said burgh, conform to the grant made of old by the King's Majesty to the community of the same in fee.—To candls, straw, and peits to the gard from 29th September to 20th Oct. £1 14s.

1754.—By order of the J.P.'s Mrs S., Seatown, appears in church with a label on her breast denoting her crime as a common and customary swearer and is rebuked. Paid to Thomas Murray, town officer, 3s Stg. for going through and gathering up the herd money and poynding the inhabitants. He was six full and compleat days going throw the town.—Paid to James Raffan, an indweller in Cullen, 18d being long in a gravel.

1755.—The Burgh Court orders a person not to pasture on the south side of the Lonander strype.—The town gives a bounty of 25s to every seaman enlisting in the navy, "to promote His Majesty's service" and the magistrates offer a reward of 20s Stg. to any person who shall discover any able-bodied seaman that may be lurking within this town and liberties thereof so that they may be apprehended and secured for H.M.'s service.

1756.—The Magistrates in consequence of an Act of Parliament authorizing Magistrates of Royal Burghs to give out licenses for retailing ale, beer, and other exciseable liquors of British growth give licences to twelve vintners in Cullen, they paying one guinea each.

1757.—Much dearth and scarcity in the district.

1758.—The Earl of Findlater purchases the estate of Rothés and Easter Elchies. John Coul and William Leitch got £4 Sc. for going to Glenlivet and bringing back John Stuart Bain who had made an elopement from this prison.—Paid to William Steinson a shilling Stg. for carrying a prisoner from Cullen to Banff.—Paid for taking down, cleaning, &c., the clock, 20 days' work at 6d a day—10s.

1759.—The Town Council consists of Earl of Findlater, Preses, Lord Deskford, Sir L. Grant of Grant, Mungo Rannie and John Bald, manufacturers, Alexander Grant, Tochieneal, and thirteen others.—The bailies considering that several of the inhabitants within this burgh, from a commendable spirit of industry, have begun of late to lay down their fields with grass seeds and winter crops, but they are still greatly oppressed by their neighbours throwing loose their cattle after harvest and in winter, who stroll in herds, and destroy the winter crops and grass seeds, therefore enact and ordain the whole inhabitants to join with one another and provide herds for their cattle within twenty days under the penalty of 5s Stg., or that they keep their cattle close in the house, and

attend them when they are driven to the water. The owners of straying cattle to be fined 6s 8d Sc. for each beast.—William Philp, wigmaker, craves the Council that as there was no use made at present of the Pit he might have it for two years for putting on a new door, &c., Granted.

1760.—Elspet Lorimer dies, aged 98, the oldest person recorded in the old churchyard.—Paid 3 lbs shuggar 3s.—Anna Watson charged with throwing stones and using opprobrious language to John Bald, manufacturer, appeared in Court and confessed. She then went directly from Court to bring in witnesses for proving a claim she had against a merchant, but did not return, her mother having locked her into the house, and gone off with the key. The bailies appoint her to be carried to the tolbooth, and appoint the town officer and a blacksmith to break open the door of her mother's house.

1761.—Margaret Murray, at the shore of Buckie, fined and imprisoned for selling yarn "very ill told and deficient in some of the cuts." She is made to burn it at the market cross with her own hand. Her fine is 2s Stg. for each spindle.—Death of Lady Sophia Hope, Countess of Findlater and Seafield.

1763.—Rate of Customs : For each beef sold in the Shambles 3d, each mutton 1d, each veal, $\frac{1}{2}$ d, for each pair of brogues sold at the cross one-sixth penny, each pair of double-soled shoes $\frac{1}{2}$ d, each fisher boat 2s 6d, hand bell 6d, big bell 1s 6d, each travelling chapman 6d, each stage player 1s a day, each quack doctor 1s a day.—The Magistrates and Town Council considering the necessity for a proper sewing mistress in the place, and Mrs Lumsden being properly recommended, they allow her a salary of 20s Stg. per annum.—The Council order the Poind Fold to be repaired.—New Shambles built. Butcher meat to be exposed for sale only in the said Shambles.

1764.—James, 5th Earl of Findlater, Vice Admiral of Scotland, dies, and is succeeded by his only son.—14th Jan. James Peterkin and his son Arthur are accused of debauching the morals of the inhabitants, particularly by playing cards for money with schoolboys, and running them into debt for gingerbread and otherways, which, without stealing, boys could not pay. They are committed to the tolbooth, therein to be kept till 16th curt., then released and publicly carried from one end of the town to the other, with the town officer and drum at their back, betwixt twelve and one mid-day, having labels upon their breasts with these words in large characters, "A Receiver of Stolen Goods and Corrupter of Youth," and that they shall during this course have their hands tied behind their backs, then banished for ever from the town. If they return, to be publicly whipt and imprisoned.—Dr William Lorimer's mortifica-

tion, establishing two bursaries, which now yields £35 annually, founded.—Burgh charges :—Missive dues £8 14s 8d, Eight months Supply, £104 16s, Equie £30, School Rig £3 6s 8d, Drawing a millstone £6 13s 6d.

1765.—The Earl of Findlater, Chancellor of King's College, Aberdeen, purchases for £650 the patronage of Redhythe Bursaries.—The inhabitants all aid in cassawayng the street. It was 'calsayed' before in 1685.—Jaames Grant, Schoolmaster at Shoar of Buckie, qualifies himself to His Majesty King George, by taking the oaths prescribed, before Alexander Grant of Tochinie J.P.—The magistrates and Town Council, considering the pernicious tendency and evil consequences of so many people's selling and retailing spirituous liquors within this burgh to the wasting of the substance, and debauching the morals of the inhabitants, they enact that no person keep gin shops or retail any kind of spirituous liquors without being properly authorized. Seven persons get licenses to sell drink in Cullen, three in Portknockie, two in Seatown, and one in Findochty.—The magistrates fix the following rates of hire :—For each horse and cart with turf or peat from the moss of Aultmore 4s Sc. to do. from Cullen moss beyond the Heathery Hillock 2s Sc. and on this side the Heathery Hillock 1s 6d Sc., from Shore of Cullen with a load of coal, stone, wood, &c., 1s Sc., for one yoking dung in creels 3s Sc., for each yoking of a plough with four horses 14s Sc. for each horse and cart with a load to and from Portsoy 6s Sc., to or from Fochabers or Banff 16s Sc. Each cart to be 40½ inches long 28½ in. broad and 19 inches high all inside measure. All carts of smaller size to be publicly burnt at the Cross. The inhabitants and hirers are prohibited from giving or receiving either meat or drink additional to these hires under the penalty of 5s Stg.

1766.—William Tomkins, Landscape Painter, Fellow of the Artists' Society of Great Britain, and Alexander Wilson, Factor for the Earl of Findlater, admitted burgesses.—The magistrates having occasion to look into the charter chest find the same in great disorder, without any inventory, and the appearance of a great number of useless papers in it.

1767.—William Stitchells, retailer of meal, declares he is perfectly satisfied with the justice of the sentence pronounced by the Baillies, in fining him £10 Stg. for using false and irregular weights and acknowledges their lenity in not inflicting any corporal punishment or banishing him from the burgh.—Mr William Ogilvie of Pittinsur, Professor of Humanity in King's College, Aberdeen, admitted burgess and guild brother and thereafter elected a councillor of this burgh. He continued Councillor almost uninterruptedly till 1791.—The Earl of Findlater purchases the estate of Link-

wood.—The walls of the Tolbooth are slender and insufficient for a prison. The lower part is of two vaults, one a meal house, the other a prison for criminals. Both are damp, with no fireplaces. The doors are both insufficient. The wall is slapt to make a slit to give air to the criminal prison, and built up so that one could easily get out. The upper part of the Tolbooth has two rooms, one generally used as a guard room, the other a prison for debtors. The outer door is quite rotten and useless, the inner not fit for a prison. There are iron grates on the outside of the window, but they can be easily pushed out. The two upper rooms are not vaulted, and any prisoner has access to the roof, the wooden part whereof is rotten, so that any prisoner can escape without difficulty.

1769.—Nine persons in Cullen receive licenses to retail ale, beer, &c., John Haughty [father of Admiral Oughton (?)] is one of them. Also three persons in Portknockie, &c. They pay 20s 0½d each. William Robertson and Alexander Grant as J.P.'s give licenses to two persons in Rothen-sloch, one at Mill of Rathven, one in Findochty, and one in Buckie.—Estimate of repairs for the Tolbooth and Steeple of Cullen £25 6s 4d.

1770.—James, 6th Earl of Findlater, distinguished as a scholar and agriculturist, dies, and is succeeded by his only surviving child. He introduced the rotation of cropping, and was the first to sow turnips in the fields as a regular crop.—Eggs 14 for 1d; hens 4d each) beef 1d to 2d a lb.; haddocks, 1d to 2d a dozen. Twenty-five years later these prices were 2d, 7d, 4d, and 7d respectively. The Council appoint the Magistrates to correspond with Mr Andrew Stuart, W.S., in respect to the delict paid by them on account of John Cowie, who broke the prison of Cullen, and to recover as much as possible out of a tenement of houses belonging to the said Cowie in Fochabers.

1773.—Dr Johnson, passing from Banff to Elgin, breakfasts at Cullen (26th August).—Paid 1s for six thatch sheaves for the 67th Regiment going west, also 8d for four thatch sheaves for the 32nd Regiment going west, also 1s for two nights' fire to a regiment going south.

1774.—Eighteenth election of M.P. Held at Cullen. Colonel S. L. Morris clected.

1775.—Advanced to the officer for keeping off the beggars, to be recovered from the inhabitants £2 10s.—All butchers must begin to kill feshes not sooner than Wednesday weekly, and begin to sell on Friday at 10 a.m., at the ringing of the town's bell. Meat to be sold in the Flesh Market only.—Various inconveniences arising from the very great number of stranger beggars that resort to this district in the summer months, the Council resolve to grant the Town Officer £5 Sterling annually to constantly patrol along the street of Cullen, and to be careful never to suffer any beggar

to call or halt in the town; and as often as he shall observe any beggar coming towards the burgh, to conduct him by the nearest road out of the burgh; and if any beggar shall be abusive or obstinate, to throw the said beggar into prison.

1776.—Mr George Hendry, marble cutter in London, admitted burghess.

1780.—Cordiner (“Antiquities”) says that three rows of ramparts are still seen on the declivity of the Castle Hill, also much vitrified stuff among the rubbish of buildings at the top. In Findlater Castle the plastering remains entire at many places. Conspicuous vestiges of a double rampart are seen 100 yards from the isthmus, and within the ramparts are remains of several stone buildings, probably store houses, stables, &c.

1782.—The Town’s customs set for £1 17s 6d Stg.—The town’s people want both the tolbooth and kirk bell rung as the last bell on Sabbath. At Cullen the linen manufacture is briskly carried on. A manufacture of loom stockings is also carried on. “Part of a wall on the north of the entry to the modern House (of Cullen) is left standing, as a specimen of the old House. The stones are very small, few of them larger than one’s fist, but so firmly compacted by the cement that they can scarce be separated.” (*Douglas’s Tour*).

1784.—Admitted burghesses:—Mr Alexander Duncan, surgeon in Cullen, Mr Wm. Mead, Mr David Clark, and John Conoly at Cullen House, Thomas Rannie, son to Mr Mungo Rannie, Adjutant James Steenson, and Lieut. James Haughty of the Royal Navy.

1786.—Paid Miss Annie Stewart £2 Stg. as her salary for teaching a school for a year.

1787, September 6th.—Burns passes the night at Cullen during his Highland tour.

1788, Dec. 14.—Sir James Clark, Bart., M.D., born in Cullen House, where his father was butler.

1789.—Address of congratulation sent by the Burgh to His Majesty on the recovery of his health. [This is the first instance of an address of congratulation, condolence, &c., that appears in the records. Even when the Constable of the Burgh died no notice was taken of it in the minutes of Council.]

1791.—Ordination in Cullen Church of Rev. George Donaldson, Kinnethmont, as minister of Rathven, the Presbytery being compelled to betake themselves thither from Rathven, where the men were armed with bludgeons, and the women with lapfuls of stones, shouting:—

Wi’ bloody wounds we’ll crack their crowns,
And kill them in a crack, sirs.

1792.—The magistrates, considering the dangerous and fatal consequences that the number of mad dogs that are said to be in the country may be attended with, order all the inhabitants to

shut up their dogs from this date, and offer a reward of 1s Stg. for every dog killed that was found at large. Nine shillings paid at sundry times for killing nine dogs found at large after intimation being made at the Kirk of Cullen for the inhabitants and others who had dogs to confine them for the space of three weeks.—Walter Adam in Seafield and John Wilson in Brangan admitted burgesses, and thereafter Councillors. Removal of ancient stone effigy *now* bearing the date 1404, erected to the memory of John Duff of Muldavit, from the Church of Cullen to the Mausoleum of Duff House, with the sanction of the Earl of Findlater. No record exists that the sanction of the Town Council, &c., was obtained to its removal.

1793.—Three persons in Cullen and one in Portknockie receive licenses for selling exciseable liquors, paying 30s 6d for each.

1794.—Population of Cullen, 1719, (Cullen, 1214, Rathven part 504). In 1734 the population, including the Rathven part, was 1040. Seven fishing boats now at Cullen and seven at Portknockie each of six men. Sixty-five looms for linen, and seven stocking looms now in operation.

1795.—The “Tosh Rant.” Several of the young men concerned therein fled from Cullen, and ultimately passed through the Peninsular war.—The Council appoint the magistrates to prosecute the instigators or promoters of the riot, whereby assault was committed upon the persons of Mary Grant and Isobel Macintosh. This was a violation of an Act passed by the Council in 1741.—March 28.—For fire and candle to Lord Broadalbin’s Fencibles during their stay in Cullen when upon guard—to 93 nights att 3d per night, £1 3s 3d, and four thatch sheaves of straw to the Black Hole 1s. Total, £1 4s 3d.

1796.—Lieut. George Smith of H.M. ship the *Terrible*, John Brown, son to Mr George Brown at Linkwood, and Alexander Wilson, son to John Wilson in Brangan admitted burgesses.—Paid to Arthur Ramsay, vintner, The Boar’s Head, Cullen, for entertainment at election of maistrates:—To 15 bottles Oporto, £2 12s 6d. To Zerry, 10s 6d. To—mutchkins punch, £2 16s 6d. To—mugs porter, 10s 4d. To drams, 6s. To entertainment, £1 16s. Total—£8 11s 10d. Paid for fruit at election of magistrates, 12 lb vine grapes at 1s—12s; also 6 dozen pears at 6d—3s. Total, 15s.

1797.—To candles settled upon the guard from the first day that the Duke of Argyle’s Fencibles came to Cullen, 10th Oct., 1797 to 24th May, 1798—18s 9d. To 24 peats in each day settled upon the guard from 18th November 1797 to 24th May 1798—£2 7s.—Postage of a letter from Cullen to York, Leeds, Birmingham, Manchester, or Cambridge, 1s 2d; Bristol, 1s 7d; Falmouth, 1s 8d; Jersey, 1s 9d.—Sept. 26th.—The minister collects £40 as voluntary contributions to Government for

defence of the country.—Thomas Rannie appointed captain and James Smith first lieutenant in the Cullen Company of Volunteers.

1799.—The magistrates inspect the shambles, and find it in a very ruinous state, as well as improper for slaughtering and breaking out meat, and altogether impossible to keep meat clean. The magistrates solicit my Lord Findlater's Commissioners to repair said house, also to repair the passage from the High Street to the shambles.—James Thomas Grant in the E. I. Company's service, and Lieut. Col. Francis W. Grant, sons of Sir James Grant of Grant, admitted burgesses.

1800.—£8 paid to the poor by Lord Seafield, being the price of trees cut down in the Churchyard.

1802.—Election of M.P. for the Burghs (the twenty-third). Held at Cullen. Colonel F. W. Grant elected.—School fee for Latin in Cullen School fixed at 5s per quarter, Arithmetic and Writing 3s, English 2s.—Regulations passed by Town Council as to the sale of butcher meat:—No cattle to be slaughtered before Wednesday of each week. Quarters or more of meat to be removed from the Shambles on the Thursday afternoon, but no smaller pieces to be sold before Friday at the ringing of the town's bell at ten o'clock.

1803.—Alexander Stables, writer in Keith, appointed Town Clerk in room of James Glashan, Keith, deceased. Mr Stables resigns 1814, and is succeeded by William Gordon, Keith. George Grant, writer, Portsoy, appointed 1818.—A new stent roll made up, which is to be the rule for collecting the stent within the Royalty in all time hereafter, until it is found necessary to add to, or diminish, the stent.—Price of meal, 18s per boll; tea 6s 8d per lb.; sugar 9d per lb.; black rappee, 2s 8d per lb.; common twist, 2s 7d per lb.; whisky, 4½d per gill; molasses, 4d per lb.; mutton, 6d per lb.; cotton 1s 3d per yard.

1804.—Cullen window duty, £119 4s 6d; house duty, £8 4s. Population 1076. Banff window duty, £317 7s 6d; house duty, £78 14s 8d. Population, 3571. Subscription by Town Council towards putting up a bridge near the Brickwork, 6s 1d.

1805.—John Taylor in Brunton and Alexander Marquis in Farskane admitted burgesses, and thereafter Councillors.—Land tax, Cullen, £3 18s. Banff, £39. Elgin, £40 6s.

1806.—“The houses of Cullen are in general mean and ill-built, and the streets have an irregular and dirty appearance. Notwithstanding its situation on the sea coast no vessel can enter into or deliver a cargo for want of a harbour which a few hundred pounds would erect and render tolerably secure.”

1807.—Right Hon. Archibald Colquhoun, Lord

Advocate, admitted burges. — The brig *Mary* of London lost with all hands near the Scar Nose on the night of 7th September. (Burrish Lyons, captain and owner.)

1808.—Dinner bill at election of Magistrates, £13. Seventeen persons dined. The dinner itself cost £2 2s 6d; 36 bottles port at 5s 6d—£9 18s; 24 bottles porter, 12s. In the same year the public burdens amounted almost to a like sum. Cess for burgh, £3 18s; Eque dues, £2 10s; Missive dues, 5s; Minister's stipend, £3 6s 8d; procurator-fiscal and quarter-master's salary, £1 13s 4d; town officer's fee, £3 1s. Total, £14s 14s.

1809.—Election dinner bill, £12 2s. (Dinner, £3 8s; porter, 8s 6d; whisky, 2s 11d; 2½ dozen port and sherry, £8 5s; servants' entertainment, 8s; 3 bottles port returned, 16s 6d; waiter, &c., 6s 1d.)

1810.—Dinner at election of a delegate from the burgh to Inverury, £9 12s 6d (dinner, £2 2s; 2 dozen port and sherry, £6 12s; brandy, 5s; porter, 6s; servants, 7s 6d.)—Right Hon. William Dundas admitted burges.

1811.—James, seventh Earl of Findlater, and fourth Earl of Seafield, dies, and with him expires the earldom of Findlater and Viscounty of Seafield. He is succeeded by his cousin, Sir Lewis Alexander Grant, Bart., as 5th Earl of Seafield.

1812.—Colonel F. W. Grant elected preses of the burgh, and so yearly till 1832.—First mail coach started from Aberdeen to Inverness.

1814.—Election dinner bill, £13.—William Gordon, writer, Keith, and William Anderson, Clerk at Cullen House, admitted burges.

1815.—John Fraser at Castle Grant admitted burges, and next year Thomas Duncan, R.N.—Election dinner £11 14s, (Port wine, 9 bottles, £2 14s, Sherry, 3 bottles, 19s 6d, Whisky toddy, 6 bottles, £2 8s, &c.)—Customs of the town let for £2 10s per annum.

1816.—The Presbytery sanction the surrender of the minister's moss, which was then about to be cultivated, on payment of £100 Sc. annually in all time coming.

1817.—Election dinner bill, £14 5s 1d. Nineteen gentlemen, 49 bottles of wine, &c.

1818.—Election dinner bill, £15 17s 6d. (Twenty gentlemen sit down to dinner).

1819.—Col. F. W. Grant represents to the Council that, viewing with concern the inconvenience and disadvantage which the town of Cullen and surrounding country laboured under by want of a harbour, he had been induced to lay out considerably over £4000 Stg. in the erection of a harbour, whereof one half was defrayed by him on the part of his brother the Earl of Seafield, and the other by the Commissioners for Highland Roads and Bridges. The Council sanction the table of dues he forwarded.—“There are no Cor-

porations either of guildry or craft in the Royal Burgh of Cullen, under any Corporate style or description."—Election dinner, £13 12s 6d.

1820.—Amount of the last bill paid from the Burgh Funds for dinner at election of Magistrates and Town Council, £20 9s. (To 26 gentlemen's dinners at 4s, £5 4s, to 3 and eight-twelfths dozen bottals win, £13 4s, to $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. ale, 6s, to $2\frac{1}{2}$ doz. porter at 8s £1, to $2\frac{1}{2}$ doz. beer, 10s, to waiter 5s, total £20 9s.)—The old bridge over the burn at Cullen sold for £3 16s as a new stone one is to be built.—Last election held at Cullen of M.P. for the Burghs, (the thirtieth election since the Union). Great excitement and discussion. Mr J. Ivory (afterwards Lord Ivory) appears for General Duff, and Mr J. H. Mackenzie (afterwards Lord Mackenzie) for Mr Farquharson of Finzean. Protests were lodged by the Delegates of Banff, Elgin, Inverurie, &c., against the right of Cullen to vote, "as the said burgh of Cullen is virtually in a state of disfranchisement, being now, and having been, at least since Michaelmas election, without a legal magistracy and Council.—The sett of the said burgh declares the Council consists of three bailies, one dean of guild and Treasurer, and 21 Councillors, whereas at last Michaelmas election there was elected neither a dean of guild nor Treasurer, or at least these offices were illegally combined in the person of the same individual, who had been elected as, and who now performs the functions of one of the bailies of said burgh, and, further, instead of 21 Councillors being elected, as required by the sett, there were elected at the last Michaelmas election no more than 13 Councillors. Both the magistracy and Council have from the beginning and are now incomplete in their numbers, in other words there has never been in any legal sense either a magistracy or council at all, and the election which is pretended to have taken place at the last Michaelmas was nothing better than a mere nullity. It was also objected that whereas by the set the Council shall be composed of "heritors, merchants in all, and tradesmen" within the burgh, but in this Council not one is heritor, and the great majority farmers and others living in the country. One and all of the present magistracy and town Council are mere honorary burgesses, while no mere honorary burgesses can form part of a magistracy or Council in Scotland, therefore the election of a commissioner for Cullen, the right of its clerk to be clerk of the meeting, and all proceedings connected therewith are null and void. The Provost of Elgin appeared and reported that Bailie Taylor, chief magistrate of Elgin, and Robert Dick, Councillor, had been forcibly seized and carried off to Sutherland to frustrate the proceedings. George Garden Robinson, delegate for Banff, proposed General Duff. C. L. Cumming of Roseisle, delegate for

Cullen, proposed Archibald Farquharson of Finzean. The delegate for Banff protested that Finzean was ineligible, as he had been guilty of bribery in all the said burghs, and a party to the conspiracy at Elgin. Cullen and Kintore voted for Finzean, Banff and Inverurie for Duff, while Elgin in its peculiar circumstances sent two delegates, one of whom was in favour of Duff, the other in favour of Finzean. Finzean is elected M.P. (The proceedings fill upwards of 100 pages of the Council Book).—Oldest house in the new town of Cullen built. This house became the property of Mr J. Thomson, shipowner, and was demolished to make way for the railway arches on the east side of Seafield Street. The initials of the founder of the house (W. Paterson) and the date of foundation are to be seen on a wall adjacent to the old Schoolhouse. The next oldest house, built by Mr Thomas Cuthbert, was almost wholly demolished a few years ago by Mr A. Grant, Druggist, Grant Street, to make way for a new dwelling-house and shop. The house next built is that occupied by Mr John Allan, Registrar. It was built in 1821 by Mr Alexander Duncan, founder of Duncan's Bequest, and was afterwards considerably enlarged. The oldest house now standing, as built, is that occupied by Mr W. Gammie, which was built in 1821 by the late Mr John Lawrence, house carpenter.

1821-30.—Removal of Old Town of Cullen to its present site; building of the New Town; diversion of the Toll Road; erection of the Town's buildings, the Temple, the walls at base of Castle Hill, &c. The Town Council minute books contain not the slightest reference to the removal of the town, no more than if such an event had never occurred. The earliest allusion after the event is in 1851.

1821.—Paid for tar barrels, whisky, porter, &c., on the day of His Majesty's coronation, £11 7s 6d (1 hhd. of porter £5, 20 pints of whisky £4).

1822.—The first steamer, the Brilliant, seen in the Moray Firth.—“The Earl of Seafield, with a very trifling exception, is the sole proprietor in the burgh.”—Address presented to His Majesty from the Burgh on the occasion of his visit to Scotland.

1823.—Subscription from the Burgh Funds to aid in erecting an equestrian statute of King George IV., £10 10s.—The Council petition the House of Commons to repeal the tax on stone and slate carried coastwise, as it leads to stones of inferior quality being used, and thatch for slate and “entirely prevents the importation of stone and slate into this burgh and neighbourhood.”

1824.—Salary of Miss Peterkin (teacher of Female School) £5 5s. Mary Sutherland's salary for teaching the Sewing School £2 Stg. Salary paid by the Town Council to the precentor in the Church £2 10s Stg.

1825.—In reference to the Stent Roll seven fishing boats in the Seatown paid 9s each. With the exception of one boat, the others were deficient in crews, and 1s 6d per man was collected from them, thus giving 4s 6d, 1s 6d, 6s, 1s 6d 3s, 3s. There were therefore 14 boats then in the Seatown.

1826.—Paid for fitting up the school bell, £2 6s 8d.

1827.—Rent of petty customs and stall rents in the shambles, £13.—Cullen House is considered one of the most princely mansions in the North of Scotland. (Chambers's Picture of Scotland.)

1829.—Paid £34 9s 3d being one-fourth of the outlay for Imperial weights and measures for the county.—“The town of Cullen afforded us most excellent accommodation for the night at an inn, especially remarkable for its neatness and regularity.” *Tour in Highlands*.—Ordination of Rev. George Henderson, LL.D., as minister of Cullen, the longest holder of the office since the Reformation.—New cemetery opened.—Destruction of Cullen House flower garden and the old Hermitage by the Floods.

1830.—Destruction of Bridge of Burnmouth by a flood.

1831.—The Town Council petition Parliament to preserve the Burgh's right to tender its vote for a member of Parliament by delegate instead of *per capita*, as it would virtually disfranchise the burgh being conjoined with the populous town of Elgin.

1832.—“Cullen enjoys a circle of genteel society, consisting of persons of moderate income, who are attracted by the cheap living.”—(*Chambers's Gazetteer*.)—Preses of the burgh elected for the last time—(Hon. F. W. Grant of Grant.) Eldest bailie, 1771-8, William Robertson; 1779-86, Alex. Wilson; 1787-1812, John Wilson; 1813-16, Alex. Wilson; 1817-32, John Fraser. Provost 1833-48, John Fraser; 1849-55 James Sinclair; 1855-64, William Longmore Taylor; 1864-67, William Ross; 1867-72, William Smith; 1872-77, George Davidson; 1877, George Will.—Death of Rear-Admiral Oughton.—£10 voted out of the Burgh Funds to the fund about to be raised by the Board of Health for prevention or mitigation of the cholera morbus.

1833.—Missive dues payable:—Cullen, 5s; Banff, £2 10s; Elgin, £2 11s 8d. In 1841, Cullen, 15s; Banff, £3 15s; Elgin, £3 15s.

1835.—A large white (quartz?) stone buried in the centre of the walk leading to the Castle Hill, where the brae commences. This done when the avenue was being planted.—Revenue of Burgh:—Rents, 11s 8d; Feu-duties, £20 10s 3d and ten-twelfths; Cess on lands, £6 5s 3d; Customs and Market Dues, £11; Burgh Stent and Cess, £21 12s 6d; interest on money lent, £13 0s 4d and nine-twelfths. Total—£73 0s 1d and seven-

twelfths. Expenditure :—Salaries, £12 3s 5d and eight-twelfths ; Stipends and School Salaries, £13 1s 8d ; Land tax, £3 18s ; Burgh Mails, £2 10s 1d and eight-twelfths ; Rent of Shambles, £8 ; Feu-duty, 5s 6d and eight-twelfths ; Repairs of property, £2 5d 1d. Total—£42 3s 11d. [The power of taxation is said to extend over the royalty, under which a district of some miles round the burgh is supposed to be comprehended, but the exercise of the power has been confined to the town of Cullen and the lands immediately adjoining.] Number of Councillors—26.

1837.—Paid £3 6s for entertainment of special constables, appointed to preserve the peace of the Burgh at the election of a member of Parliament, 8th and 9th August.—Millstone money—11s 1d annually, payable by the Burgh to the miller at Mill of Cullen—paid this year for the last time.—June 26th—Sheriff Pringle came to Cullen, and at ten o'clock forenoon proclaimed the Queen.—The Council petition the Postmaster-General as it is the fourth day till London letters are received.

1838.—Paid for porter, ale, and spirits, furnished to the inhabitants by order of the Magistrates and Council on the day of the Queen's coronation, £7 7s 4d.—Rates of postage in Great Britain :—To a place at any distance from the Post Office where the letter shall be put in, not exceeding 8 miles, 2d ; 8 to 15 miles, 4d ; 15 to 20 miles, 5d ; 20 to 30 miles, 6d ; 30 to 50 miles, 7d ; 50 to 80 miles, 8d ; 80 to 120 miles, 9d ; 230 to 300 miles, 1s.

1840.—Francis William Grant-Ogilvie succeeds his brother as Earl of Seafield.—Paid for whisky furnished to the inhabitants on 10th February, to celebrate the Queen's marriage, £2 17s 6d, and for ale, £1 16s.—June 26th.—Loyal Address to Her Majesty congratulating her on her late Providential escape from danger.—The Council resolve to have a Police Officer for the burgh ; John Rose appointed Town Officer and Police Officer.

1841.—Gas introduced into the Burgh. The Council give £350 in loan to the Gas Company at interest.

1842.—Constituency of Cullen, 38.—Town Council consists of :—John Fraser, Provost ; John Wilson and John R. Munro, Bailies ; James B. Minty, treasurer ; Thomas Duncan, Alexander Anderson, Alex. Duncan, John Smith, William Wilson, William Kemp, William Forsyth, Alex. Desson, George Lobban, John Allan, John Gadie, Alex. Jack, James Thomson, James Ross, John Duffus (Mr John Allan, Town Clerk Depute is (1888) the sole surviving representative of the Town Council of that year.)—Address from the Council to Her Majesty congratulating her on her escape from the late treasonable attempt on her life.

1845.—Alexander Duncan bequeaths his property (Hall, shop, and dwelling-houses) for educational purposes. In 1887 forty-three scholars have all their fees and school books paid by the Bequest.

1846.—County prison Board established of eight members—six Commissioners of Supply, and one each from the burghs of Banff and Cullen.

1847.—Expense of New Jail, £247.—Subscribed in the town in aid of the destitution in the Highlands, £43 5s 4d.—The Town Council resolve that the following suggestions be adopted with a view to improving the present mode of conducting funerals. (1) That the hour appointed be strictly adhered to (2) That the practice of offering refreshments to the company be altogether abolished (3) That instead of meeting in the house of mourning the company assemble in the immediate vicinity, and that the devotional exercises be conducted privately in the presence of the immediate relatives and friends of the deceased, and (4) That the Clergyman make these resolutions known.

1848.—The Council confer with Mr James Lawtie, farmer, Towie, who claims to be Patron of Lawties' Mortifications. By decree of declarator, 1729, the nearest relation of the founder of the name of Lawtie is entitled to the patronage. Mr James Lawtie, minister of Cullen, in 1728 presented William Lawtie, Summerton, which presentation the Lords of Session sustained.—The salary (£2 10s) payable by the Burgh to the Precentor of the Church of Cullen paid for the last time this year, the Town Council having found that the precentors in Banff, Elgin, and Inverury are not paid from the Burgh Funds.

1849.—Custom leviable for stance at markets, except St John's Fair, 1d per yard.

1851.—Number of Parliamentary voters in Cullen at present on the Register is 37. (Number in 1886—313). By the census of 1841 the population within the parliamentary burgh was 1500, but the population over which the magistrates have jurisdiction is about 3000 (including Bauds of Cullen and village of Portknockie).—William Rhynas, late of the Preventive Service, is appointed Town and Police officer at a salary of £15 per annum, with the usual perquisites.

1852.—Excambion of Dovecroft or Scholarscroft under Lorimer's Mortification. Dovecroft lies adjacent to Cullen House, and is surrounded by Lord Seafield's lands. It contained 1 ac. 2 r. 25 falls Scots., 2½ ac. given in exchange. The new land has the land road, 18 feet broad, and the planting along the Banff approach to Cullen House on the north side, measuring from the west side of the ditch the boundary of Lawtie's Mortification.—James Gordon appointed Town Officer and Police Officer in a salary of £20 per annum

with a coat and cap, the coat to be similar to the coats worn by the rural police, with the letters B.C.P. on the collar, and the cap blue with yellow band. In 1854 he receives a temporary advance of £2, owing to the high price of provisions.

1853.—John Charles Grant-Ogilvie succeeds his father as Earl of Seafield.—Paid £2 12s to 26 constables for acting at last county election, and 14s to seven constables on the day of May market.—Sep. 20.—The magistrates order all houses, &c., to be cleaned in consequence of the prevalence of cholera in the country. In June, 1854, the Sanitary Committee, in view of the progress of cholera in various parts, examine the condition of the town—The Council petition Her Majesty that a Secretary of State for Scotland be appointed for the management of the legislative and administrative public business of Scotland.

1854.—November.—William Gillespie Bryson, Esq., appointed Factor at Cullen for the Earl of Seafield. He had acted for the Earl of Seafield at Grantown from December 1849 till this date.—Mr James Young, teacher, appointed the first Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.—In connection with the Burgh Boundaries (Scotland) Bill the Town Council memorialize the Lord Advocate to have the boundaries of the royalty fixed as the boundary of the burgh. The represent that the magistrates exercise jurisdiction over the whole ancient royalty and all the lands within the boundaries of the royalty hold burgage of the burgh and pay cess and other burgh burdens. When the Parliamentary boundary of the burgh was fixed under the Reform Act for the purpose of forming a Parliamentary constituency, for reasons unknown to the Town Council, the greater part of the royalty was cut off, and the Parliamentary boundary extends but a short way beyond the site on which the New Town of Cullen is built. Even the site of the Old Town is without the Parliamentary boundary. Nearly one-half of the population of the Royalty are without the Parliamentary boundary, and are thereby excluded from exercising municipal votes, &c. In 1851 the population within the royalty was 3258, while that within the Parliamentary boundary was 1697. Great complaints are made by persons outside the Parliamentary boundary that they are denied the exercise of municipal votes for Councillors, while they are liable for Burgh burdens.

1855.—Public demonstration on 25th July to welcome the Earl and Countess of Seafield on their arrival.—The Martinmas market altered from the second to the first Friday of November.

1856.—Two cannons presented to the burgh by George Skene Duff, Esq., M.P. Paid their freight from London 11s 10d.—The Council petition the Postmaster-General anent transmitting the South mails from Huntly by omnibus.—Assessment

under the Stent Roll to make up deficiencies arising in former years on the Burgh accounts £35 18s 4d, also for Prisons £13 10s 6d (being 1½d per £), also £10 16s 4d Land Valuation Act, also £8 2s 3d Registration of Births, &c. Paid Missive dues £1, Burgh Mails £2 10s 1d, Land Tax £3 18s.—May 29.—Subscribed to the rejoicings here for the peace concluded between the Allies and Russia £3 3s.

1857.—A Committee of Council appointed to wait on Mr Bryson, Lord Seafield's factor, in reference to the unsatisfactory position in which the Burgh is placed with regard to the Town Buildings. When the Old Town was removed and an inn and new buildings were erected by the Earl of Seafield in the New Town, the Council were put in possession of a Council Room, a Court Room, and a jail or lock up in these buildings, and the site of the Town's Buildings in the Old Town was taken into the Cullen House grounds, and nothing more appears to have taken place.—Collected in the Burgh by voluntary subscription for the Indian Relief Fund £30 7s 5d.

1858.—Extensive alterations and additions to Cullen House. Mr D. Bryce, architect.—The Burgh resolves to merge in with the county for police purposes.

1859—Railway opened to Portsoy.—Streets first lighted with gas.—Opening of Cullen Library and Newsroom —£5 5s voted for a timepiece to the Council Room.—John Goodbrand appointed town officer at a salary of 52s per annum.—The Council appoint a man of business to examine into the rights of the burgh.

1860, (November).—Cullen Artillery Volunteer Company formed. Subscription from the Burgh Funds to Cullen Artillery Corps £21.—Deputation of Council appointed to meet Hon. T. C. Bruce, the Earl of Seafield's Commissioner, regarding certain rights and privileges of the Burgh.—June.—£2 2s subscribed to purchase powder to salute the Channel Fleet on its passage to Cromarty, but as the Fleet did not come so far north the money is returned to the subscribers.—The Council recommend to their fellow-citizens to close their places of business on 20th Dec. in grateful commemoration of the benefits conferred on the nation by the Reformation.—Dec. 15.—Paid for advertising the Tricentenary of the Reformation at the two churches and the chapel 6d. Salary payable by the Burgh to a schoolmistress (£5 5s) paid for the last time.

1861.—Deputation of Council appointed to meet Hon. T. C. Bruce, the Earl of Seafield's Commissioner, regarding certain rights and privileges of the Burgh. The deputation subsequently report that Mr Bruce disclaimed any legal obligation, but that Lord Seafield was willing out of friendship to the town to give up the Town's Buildings,

also to build a cistern for the town and supply certain pipes, &c., also to pay cess for the lands of Cruats in the proportion mentioned in the title deeds of these lands. The Council feel they cannot give up the right to the streets and lanes of the Old Town, without calling a public meeting of the inhabitants, and they desire a conversion of the present tacks of the tenants into feu rights. Further consideration deferred. In 1862 Mr Bruce declines to make any further addition to his offer for a compromise of the Town's claims. The Council resolve to consult the Solicitor-General and their Edinburgh Agents.—Dec. 27.—The Magistrates and Council present to Her Majesty a loyal address of sympathy and condolence on the death of H. R. H. the Prince Consort.—“Cullen Monument (Alexander Ogilvie's)—a large and much ornamented one of late date in Second Pointed Period.” (*Muir's Characteristics.*) Cullen is given by Muir in a list of churches “Some of which unquestionably are, while others of the number may possibly be, either of Norman or First Pointed origin.”

1862.—Paid to law agents, £49.—Railway proposed from Portsoy to Portgordon. A Committee of Council appointed to correspond as to the site of the station at Cullen.—March 10.—Public rejoicings on Prince of Wales's marriage, a bonfire on the hill of Seafield, fireworks on the Square. A hogshead of porter broached on the Square, that all may drink to the health and happiness of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

1863.—Amount of Stent Roll for the year, £40. The stent now ceases to be collected, some of the inhabitants having objected to it.—Collected for relief of distress in Lancashire, £58 10s 5d.—The Council present a congratulatory address to the Earl of Seafield on his successful opposition to the scheme of the Scottish Universities Commission in reference to the Redhyth Bursaries.—The Council resolve to oppose the conversion of their jail into a lock-up.—“The Church of Cullen is an interesting old fabric, and contains a fine canopied tomb, but the history of which is unknown.” (!) (*Black's Guide to the Highlands.*) “The Parish Kirk of Cullen is a most interesting old building, containing some curious inscriptions and a fine tomb to Ogilvy of Findlater.” (*Black's Guide to Scotland.*)

1864.—Paid law account connected with burgh matters, £44 13s 8d.

1865.—Collected to the Seafield Prize Fund, £26 15s 3d.—Main Drain from Rannes to Cullen completed after upwards of six years' labour. The length of the conduit is 1630 yards, the length of the open drain 2505 yards, and the greatest depth of the cutting 20 feet. Total cost about £10,000.—In reference to a petition regarding the Churchyard, that appeared in the *Banffshire*

Journal, the Council wait on Mr Bryson to ascertain what is intended by the movement. Thereafter the Council consider it necessary for the interest of the community to take steps to be heard before the Sheriff anent said petition. At a subsequent meeting a Committee of the Council is appointed to wait on Mr Bryson to ask his consent to an arrangement that would admit to the Churchyard in future all husbands whose wives are buried there and similar relations. On the following evening a public meeting of the inhabitants was held in Duncan's Hall to consider the whole matter connected with the Churchyard.

1866.—The Walter Frederick lost in Cullen Bay with all hands—The Council recommend the Magistrates to put a stop to boys playing at the club on the public streets and to endeavour to procure playground outside the town for them.

1867.—The old Churchyard closed by Interlocutor of Sheriff Gordon. Ann Gaudie the last person buried in it.—Life Saving Brigade organized, the Council subscribing £5.

1868.—August 11.—First telegraphic message transmitted between Cullen and Portsoy.—Horticultural Society instituted.—Mr John Allan resigns as Councillor and is appointed Town Clerk Depute.—June 9.—The Council pass a cordial vote of thanks to Mr M. E. Grant Duff, M.P., for the prompt action he took on hearing the notice of a motion in the House of Commons, having for its object the disfranchisement of this burgh, and for the interest he showed in maintaining the ancient rights and privileges of this burgh. It was further resolved that the town's flags be hoisted during the whole of to-morrow, and that the volunteers fire a salute with the town's cannons to manifest the feelings which the Council and the community entertain towards Major Cumming Bruce's motion in the House of Commons and its merited fate.

1869.—Paid Earl of Seafield feu-duty of the School rig for the last time, 5s 6d and eight-twelfths.—Numerous entries in the Town Council minutes testify to the unsatisfactory state of Lawtie's Mortification. The Town Council and Parochial Board resolve to join in raising an action against Mr John Lawtie, Towie.—A last Will and Testament of Miss Helen Lobban, of date 1867, is submitted to the Council, appointing the residue of her estate to be applied for providing coals to poor women and other purposes. Mr William Whyte, carpenter, having a Disposition and Settlement of date 1869 opposes the former. Counsel give it as their opinion that this alleged Settlement is reducible and ineffectual.

1870.—The inhabitants of Seafield district agree to amalgamate with the parish of Cullen for burial purposes.—The Council resolve to adopt certain parts, sections, and clauses of the General Police

and Improvement (Scotland) Act, 1862, the operation of said Act to be limited to the portion of the Burgh comprehended within the Parliamentary boundaries.—Collected for sick and wounded in the war, £13.

1871.—Population of Cullen 2056, and of Seafield district 1755 —Agreement between Lord Seafield and the Town Council to introduce a better supply of water into the burgh, to give over the Town's Buildings to the burgh, and to erect the old cross in the Square, the Town Council renouncing all claims against Lord Seafield. The formal deed executed 1874. Lord Seafield gives £100 to the town in terms of the agreement.—The Council approve of a draft agreement for the further management of Wm. Lawtie's Mortification between the patron Mr John Lawtie, Towie, and the Magistrates and Town Council.—A gold watch presented by the Town Council to Mr John Millar, Cullen House, for his trouble in connection with the Water Works.—Aug.—The town flag displayed it being the Centenary of the birth of Sir Walter Scott.—The schoolmaster of Cullen sets in tack for the period of his incumbency to the Earl of Seafield, the Schoolmaster's Croft, mortified by James Smith of Norwich, for a yearly rent of £1 8s 1d.

1872.—Public rejoicings on majority of Lord Reidhaven. The Banffshire tenantry present his Lordship with a silver salver, and on it four £100 bank notes, "to be appropriated by his lordship for the foundation of a bursary in the University of Aberdeen, to be designed the Reidhaven Majority Bursary." Paid for band, £5, half-hogshead of ale, £2 6s 6d, &c.—Paid burgh maills, £2 10s 1d; missive dues, 10s; land tax or cess, £3 18s.—The Town Council considering that there is no Burgh School within or belonging to the Burgh, unanimously resolve to petition the Board of Education to include the Burgh in the area of the parish for educational purposes.

1873.—First election of a School Board.—Extension of the new cemetery by an addition of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Cemetery walls erected at a cost of £297.—Fourteen new seats provided for the Town Hall at a cost of £13 18s 6d, being proceeds of a concert for that purpose.

1875.—Paid law expenses, £27 14s 9d.—Received from Mr G. M. Robertson, London, £20, the interest of which is to be applied towards keeping in good order, in all time coming, his father's burying ground in the old churchyard.—Expenses of last municipal election, £30 4s 6d.—The Town Council resolve to take steps to raise an action at law against Mr Lawtie, Towie, to compel him to give a satisfactory statement of his intromissions with William Lawtie's mortification.

1876.—Public School of Cullen built at a cost of

£2500. The two former schools were erected in 1713 and 1821 respectively.

1877.—Collected in aid of the sufferers from famine in India, £36 2s 11d.

1878.—Petty customs let for £3.

1879.—Earl of Seafield invested by Her Majesty with the Order of the Thistle.

1880.—The Court of Session, on a petition by the Town Council, appoint Mr John Allan, Town Clerk Depute, as Judicial Factor on William Lawtie's Mortification.

1881.—Feb. 18.—Death of John Charles, seventh Earl of Seafield, aged 65. He made extensive improvements over all his estates and planted upwards of sixty million trees.—Visit of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh to this burgh.—Mr William Duffus elected Provost.

1883.—Subscription by the Burgh to Portknockie Harbour Fund, £4 4s. Bazaar in Cullen in aid of Portknockie Harbour. £466 realised.—The Town Council proceed to Banff to meet H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.—Agreement between the Town Council and Earl of Seafield for transference of the Harbour to a Board of Management.

1884.—Petty customs £2.—Jan. 3.—The Earl of Seafield receives the Freedom of the Burgh of Cullen, "for the singular favour and regard the Provost and Magistrates bear to his Lordship." March 31.—Death of Ian Charles, eighth Earl of Seafield, aged 32 years.—Rev. A. M. Porteous ordained to U. P. Church.—Bazaar in aid of the Harbour realized £746.—Rev. W. T. P. Macdonald ordained assistant and successor to Rev. Dr Henderson.

1885.—Subscribed for Links Improvement £37 17s 6d.—Considerable improvements in the church of Cullen, at the sole expense of the Countess-Dowager of Seafield, the church reseated and fitted up with heating apparatus and the Seafield marble monuments rearranged.—Rev. Alexander Soutar ordained to Free Church.—Died:—Rear-Admiral Oughton, 1832; John Fraser, Commissioner, 1848; Lieut. Duncan, R.N., 1848; John Wilson, Factor, 1852; George Grant, Town Clerk for about half a century, 1868; Provost Smith, 1872; William Anderson, 1875; Dr Watson, R.N., 1876; Dr Sharp, 1877; Ex-Provost Taylor, 1879; Dr Henderson, minister of Cullen for 56 years, 1885; William Sinclair, 1885.

1886.—May.—Public Demonstration in honour of the opening of the railway to Cullen. Vote by the Council thereto and for children's trip by rail to Elgin, £12 12s.—Silver service of Communion plate to the Parish Church of Cullen by Mr W. G. Bryson.

1887.—Celebration of Jubilee of the accession of the Queen.—Considerable alterations and improvements on the Harbour at a cost of about £4000. — Town Council: — Alexander Grant,

Provost ; Bailies, Alex. Skakel and George Seivwright ; Dean of Guild, Joshua Roberts ; Treasurer, J. F. Grant ; Councillors : George Findlay, James Hay, W. A. Morrison, William Rumbles, John Brown, John Cheyne, and Alex. Hendry ; Town Clerk, Alex. Sim.—Dec. 29.—Christmas tree in aid of Links Improvement. Upwards of £80 realized.

1888.—Jan. 5.—Landslip at the Railway Viaduct between Seafield and Castle Streets, and subsequent fall of two arches for which an embankment was substituted. Great energy displayed by the Railway Company in restoring communication, a large staff of workmen being employed continuously night and day.

1888.—Jan. 31.—Cullen fishing boat zulu, BF. 662, George Findlay "Den" skipper, wrecked at Buckie. Feb. 17.—New hall for F.C. congregation in Portknockie opened. 14th March.—Lady Seafield paid back the sum of £475 12s 6d which the Town Council had paid to Lord Seafield in 1883 in connection with the harbour. May 10.—Mr W. G. Bryson, who acted for nearly 40 years as cashier at Cullen House and as factor on the Seafield estates in Banffshire, resigned. Mr (now Dr) James Campbell succeeded him. Mr Charles Logan, of Messrs Mackenzie, Innes, & Logan, Edinburgh, also succeeded the Hon. T. C. Bruce as commissioner over the Seafield property. May 29.—The ketch Whim, Green, master, for Cullen from Sunderland, struck on the Kaple Rock half a mile east of Cullen. June 5.—The Earl of Seafield, proprietor of Mayne, near Elgin, died. He was succeeded in the title by Francis William, Viscount Reidhaven. Oct. 30.—Rev. Mr Soutar accepts a call by Glasgow Presbytery to form a congregation at Springburn.

1889.—April 25.—Mr James Fortune, accountant, North of Scotland Bank, entertained at a banquet on the occasion of his leaving Cullen for the service of the National Provident Life Assurance Society at Manchester. June 21.—Resignation of Rev. Mr Porteous, Cullen U.P. Church, on the occasion of his leaving for Old Calabar. Aug. 21.—Annual exhibition of the Cullen Horticultural Society, held near the Grand Entry. Nov. 13.—Induction of Rev. W. H. Stonebridge to the Cullen U.P. Church.

1890.—April 11.—Mass meeting held near Cullen Harbour to protest against the magistrates having granted a transfer of a licence for the Royal Oak. April 15.—Petition presented at Banff Sheriff Court by Mr Alex. Sim, at the instance of the Town Council, to have John Allan, registrar, Cullen, removed from his office of registrar because of weak health.—June 2.—At a Police Court Provost Grant and Bailies Skakel and Rumbles fined Councillor George Clyne, fishcurer, £50 for having a noxious oil factory in the burgh. June 20 and 21.—Exciting eviction scenes in

Cullen, when Mr Alex. M'Gregor, sheriff officer, was deforced when endeavouring to carry out an eviction in the Seatown. On the 21st he required a large body of police to protect him from the fury of the mob while carrying out the eviction, and had to break down the door before he could effect an entrance to the house, inside of which a solitary woman made a bold defence. The eviction was carried out at the instance of Mr George Harthill, Blantyre Street, and the evicted parties were James Mitchell, carter, and his wife. Mrs Mitchell became tenant of the house through a former husband, a son of Mrs Harthill. At the Licensing Court both Mitchell and Mrs Harthill applied for a transference of the licence which had been held by Mrs Mitchell's previous husband. Both applications were refused. It was generally understood that Mrs Harthill's deceased son desired that his widow should retain the public-house as a means of support for her and their four children. Mrs Mitchell had now a fifth child, and the fact that she had some claim to the house through her deceased husband enlisted the sympathy of the Seatown population on behalf of the children, and they considered they were justified to a considerable extent in resisting the eviction. Twenty-two persons were proceeded against in connection with the riots, and the Sheriff imposed sentences varying from 60 days down on accused. Nov. 11.—A considerable part of the surface of the northern face of Cullen railway embankment slid down, carrying the wire fence along with it.

1892.—January 3.—Cullen fishing boat belonging to Mr James Donn wrecked at Portsoy Harbour. January 10.—Death of Mr William Strachan, saddler, who took a great interest in public matters, having been for upwards of 40 years a member of the Parochial Board of Cullen, and for several years a member of Cullen Town Council. He was also for a number of years gas manager and harbourmaster. He had been 59 years in business. January 26.—Rev. A. M. Porteous, M.A., B.D., formerly of Cullen, died at Ikorifon, Old Calabar. Feb. 2.—Contracts for the erection of the Parish Church hall accepted. April 12.—At the Licensing Court—Provost Skakel and Bailies Smith and Gregor presiding—the licensed premises in the burgh were reduced to the Seafield Arms Hotel. Petitions against licences were before the Court from the public and various organisations. May 3.—Cullen licences renewed at Banff Quarter Sessions. May 13.—Death of Dr Alex. Hendry, Cullen, at the age of 38. Deceased was a son of Mr Alex. Hendry, postmaster, Buckie. July 21.—Record closed in Cullen Commercial Hotel case in Court of Session—Mrs Emma Rebecca Stannard or Day against William Solomon Stannard. Nov. 1.—Provost Skakel died. He had been a member o

the Town Council for nearly 30 years. Nov. 19.—Freedom of Banff presented to Dr Cramond, Cullen, at a cake and wine banquet held in the Council Chamber, Banff.

1893.—May 15.—Banquet in Council Chamber, Cullen, to Mr John Thomson, who had completed 50 years' service in the Seafield Estates Office, Cullen. July 6.—Celebration of the wedding of the Duke of York and Princess May, including public banquet and decorations. Sept. 5.—Baillie Bennett died at his residence in Deskford Street, consequent on an injury sustained the previous Wednesday at Sandend harbour works, for which he was contractor. Sept 19.—Marriage of Rev. John Hall, F.C. minister, Cullen, to Miss Stuart, Inverness. Rev. Mr Hall was presented with a gold watch and Mrs Hall with a silver tea service. Oct. 20.—The Church of Scotland Commission on Religion met the Presbytery of Fordyce and the elders from the whole of the parishes within the bounds at Cullen. Nov. 18.—Loss of the Cullen fishing boat *Glide* (Adam Addison, skipper), in a gale. Dec. 14.—Complimentary dinner by the Presbytery of Fordyce in Seafield Arms Hotel to Rev. James Mackintosh, formerly minister of the parish of Deskford. Dec. 27.—Marriage of Provost Smith, Cullen, to Miss Jane Murray, Bogside of Eden.

1894.—January 17.—Call to Rev. John Hall, F.C., to Paisley Road Free Church, Glasgow. March 16.—In Banff Sheriff Court Cullen Gaslight Company sued the Commissioners of Cullen for £45 18s 11d, being the cost of lighting up the streets for 1892-3. Verdict was given for pursuers, with expenses. June 22.—Sudden death of Provost Smith at the age of 35. June 21 and 22.—Evidence led in Banff Sheriff Court in the appeal against Sheriff Grant's decision in the action by the Gaslight Company against the Police Commissioners. June 30.—Conference of office-bearers and workers of the Church of Scotland in connection with the Presbytery of Fordyce in the Church Hall, Cullen. July 4.—A demonstration of the Buckie lifeboat was held at Cullen in aid of the funds of the Institution. July 5.—Election of Baillie Gregor to the Provostship. July 18.—Call to Rev. W. Ross, M'Cheyne Memorial Church, Dundee, to Cullen F.C. July 20.—Sheriff Grant decerned against the defenders for £21 0s 2d, with expenses to defenders, modified to half in the Cullen gas case.

1895.—January 9.—Presentation of purse of sovereigns to Mr C. Y. Michie, forester, Cullen House, as a token of esteem. May 25.—Presentation of silver salver and album in the Council Room to Mrs Falconer on the occasion of her leaving the Seafield Arms Hotel. May 29.—Some workmen, while cutting a drain at the west end of Seatown, found the skeleton of a man in a good

state of preservation—probably the remains of a seaman cast ashore in early times. June 20.—Bequest of 76 silver and 183 copper coins to the Town Council by the late Mr J. W. Stuart, merchant. October 22.—Cullen boat, *Star of Bethlehem*, wrecked on the Middle Cross Sand at Lowestoft. The crew were saved. November 6.—Rose of Cullen Lodge of the British Order of Ancient Free Gardeners Friendly Society formed. November 27.—The schooner *Gem*, of Tain, went ashore at the mouth of the Cullen Burn, and was totally wrecked. Mr Stuart, blacksmith, bought the wreck for £32. December 13.—The rains raised the Cullen Burn higher than it had been for twenty years previous.

1896.—January 10.—Public meeting against reopening of Moray Firth. January 20.—The point of the pier at the harbour subsided, the whole extremity of the pier being cracked and sunk. January 25.—A blacksmith, named James Smith, found dead in the police cell. February 2.—Messrs D. & C. Stevenson inspected the harbour. February 28.—In celebration of the Lords' decision reclosing the Moray Firth, a demonstration of 300 fishermen and fisher girls marched to Cullen House and through the principal streets of the town. April 11.—Lady Seafield subscribes £300 to a fund to be raised to meet the expense of repairing the east breakwater. April 30.—Fishery Board intimated a grant of £1400 towards the repair of the harbour. June 27.—Ex-Provost Alex. Grant died. July 10.—Golf club-house plan adopted. December 18.—Formation of Mrs Bryson's coal fund.

1897.—February 26.—Presentation of case of drawing instruments to Mr George Ross, surveyor, on his leaving for Clydebank. March 10.—While cutting the track for new waterpipes, the workmen discovered two urns containing charred bones. March 13.—Banff and West Aberdeenshire District Lodge of Good Templars formed at a conference in Cullen. June 22.—Enthusiastic celebration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. September 22.—New water supply to Cullen House and the burgh of Cullen were opened. September 29.—A petition to the Postmaster-General was extensively signed, urging an improvement in the arrangements for the Sunday delivery of letters. October 27.—New drill-hall formally opened with a concert.

1898.—January 15.—Captain George Steinson, of Cullen, died in Newcastle. January 20.—New sewerage scheme begun. January 25.—Proof led in Court of Session action against Cullen postmaster (*Ingram v. Robertson*) February 22.—Death of Mrs Campbell, wife of Dr Campbell, Old Cullen. June 21.—The vessel, *Colonel Moir*, left Cullen for Leith with 30 tons of small shells, got at Logie Head, and used for poultry. October 11.—Mr James W. Gordon appointed burgh surveyor

by the Town Council. December 19.—Mr C. Y. Michie, forester, died.

1899.—May 13.—Provost Gregor accompanied the North Sea deputation to interview Lord Salisbury in London. Dr Campbell, on this occasion, acted as chief spokesman for the deputation. August 9.—Bazaar held in aid of the funds for the erection of the new Free Church. Total sum raised during the two days, £555.

1900.—January 20.—Special intercession service for success in the war was held in the Parish Church, the volunteer company being present. March 7.—Mrs Smith, wife of Mr Smith, The Gardens, Cullen, died suddenly at a concert in Cullen, held by the Musical Association. March 12.—First instalments on the contracts for the erection of the new Town Hall, amounting to £320 paid. March 28.—Miss Jessie Ann Reid, daughter of Mr Reid, Swailend, Deskford, appointed post-mistress of Cullen. April 12.—Transvaal War Fund closed; amount collected, £26 17s 7d. April 19.—The Town Council, on the motion of Bailie Seivwright, planted a row of ornamental trees on each side of the road leading from the Volunteer Hall to the cemetery. This was at a later date supplemented by a gift of trees from Bailie Seivwright. June 7.—Celebrations in honour of the fall of Pretoria. July 18.—The fishing boat Dayspring, of Cullen, BF. 1125, (Wm. Taylor, skipper) wrecked at Lerwick. The crew were saved. July 24.—Translation of Rev. W. Macdonald, Parish Church, to Plean, Stirlingshire. July 31.—Duke of Fife opened abazaar in aid of the Volunteer Hall. The drawings totalled £270. August 29.—The new Free Church opened by Principal Fairbairn. Sept. 15.—First trip of the recently purchased pleasure launch, Maz-i-vara. October 12.—Polling took place for the Elgin Burghs election between Mr Asher, (1853 votes) and Mr Moffat (1187) Cullen recorded 160 votes out of 239 on the roll. October 31.—New Town Hall formally opened with a *conversazione* and ball given by the Town Council. December 14.—Death of Mr John Wiseman, merchant. He resided in Cullen, 44 out of his 75 years. December 23.—Rev. W. Ross, U.F.C., Cullen, preached his farewell sermon prior to leaving for St John's Church, Leith. December 29.—Dr Campbell, Old Cullen, gave a donation of £3000 (afterwards increased to £4000) for the erection of the Campbell Infectious Diseases Hospital for the lower district and burghs therein at Portsoy.

1901.—January 3.—Rev. W. G. G. M'Lean, Boddam, elected parish minister. January 10.—Rev. Mr Jack, McCheyne Memorial Church, Dundee, appointed minister of Seafield U.F. Church. January 23.—Day of mourning on account of death of Queen Victoria. February 2.—Joint memorial service held in the Parish Church for the Queen's

funeral. March 23.—Steam drifter Glengairn, manned by a Cullen crew, was burnt at sea and sank a few miles east of Orkney. The crew were saved. June 6.—New bell, gift of Dr George Duffus, fitted up in the tower of the Seafield U.F. Church.

1902.—February 23.—New organs placed in Parish Church and Parish Church Hall. April 2.—Death of Miss Drummond at 79. She was teacher of the infant department of the Cullen school. July 2.—Formal opening of new bowling green and tennis court. August 6.—Bazaar held for the bowling green realised £380. August 9.—Coronation celebrations including ball and banquet. December 9.—Public meeting of ratepayers to consider position of the harbour in regard to old debts and new schemes.

1903.—January 16.—Death at Hillocks Cottage of John Graham, for long a servant of Lady Seafield. February 6.—Wreck of the Cullen boat, Palm, BF. 1936, (George Addison, skipper) at Portnaguran Bay. The crew were saved. March 13.—Aberdeen University conferred the degree of LL.D. on Mr Campbell, Old Cullen. April 7.—Lady Seafield improved the newsroom and library at a cost of about £180. April 29.—Complimentary dinner in Seafield Arms Hotel to Dr Campbell and Rev. James M'Intyre, Portknockie, the latter on his semi-jubilee. June 28.—Rev. J. L. Martin preached his farewell sermon in Reidhaven U.F. Church. June 30.—Lady Seafield distributed the prizes in Cullen School. July 19.—Death in Edinburgh of Rev. John Mackay (88), senior minister of Cullen U.F. Church. August 18.—New Nursing Association formed. October 21.—New Reading and Recreation Rooms formally opened by Dr Campbell. November 25.—The Cullen owned boat Succeed, BF. 1972, burned at sea off Lowestoft. The crew were rescued. December 2.—Presentation to Bailie Seivwright on the occasion of his retiring from the superintendentship of Seafield U.F. Church Sunday School.

1904.—March 19.—Reidhaven U.F. manse exposed for sale ineffectually. It was afterwards sold privately to Mr Reid, C.A., Aberdeen, for £510. March 25.—Cullen Town Council attended the funeral of Lady Buchanan at Grantown. May 29.—Formal closing of Reidhaven U.F. Church by Rev. Mr Macfarlane, Keith. June 23.—Dr Campbell, Old Cullen, presented with his portrait, painted by Sir James Guthrie, P.R.S.A., in recognition of his numerous public services. June 25.—First issue of the "Cullen Record" published by Bailie Seivwright. July 6.—Presentation by the congregation to Mr William McLeod, organist, Parish Church. July 11.—Mr D. Ramsay Sime, solicitor, appointed burgh collector. August 8.—Letter read by Town Council from the Secretary for Scotland, intimating that the election of Coun-

cillors will take place on the second Tuesday of December after this. August 18.—Dr Gordon Stables spent a week at the Links on his caravan tour. September 7.—New school scheme approved of by the Education Department. September 8.—The Seafield U.F. Church Session declared their adherence to the U.F. Church of Scotland. September 28.—Agreement arrived at between the School Board and Dr Cramond, that the latter should retire on 31st December following, on a retiring allowance. October 8.—The Cullen fishing boat *Expedient*, (William Runcie, skipper), in collision off Lowestoft with the foreign barque *Magnus Lagaboter*. The crew were rescued. October 10.—Mr William Reid resigned his appointment as procurator-fiscal, having obtained an appointment abroad. December 7.—Two days' bazaar opened in Cullen in aid of the Harbour Fund, which realised a total of £570.