
THE
SALT-FOOT CONTROVERSY,

AS IT APPEARED IN
BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE;
TO WHICH IS ADDED
A REPLY TO THE ARTICLE
PUBLISHED IN NO. XVIII. OF THAT WORK;
WITH OTHER EXTRACTS, AND AN APPENDIX,
CONTAINING SOME REMARKS ON THE
PRESENT STATE OF THE
LYON OFFICE.

— "SI QUIS EST, QUI DICTUM IN SE INCLEMENTIUS,
EXISTIMAVIT ESSE, SIC EXISTIMET,
RESPONSUM, NON DICTUM ESSE—QUIA LÆSIT PRIUS."

TERENT. PROLOG. IN EUNUCH.

THE following subject, however trifling it may appear, involving the descent of the Family of Alanton, and which has received the popular appellation of "The Salt-foot Controversy," has exercised the talents of its present Representative, and of the celebrated Andrew Stewart. The question was first broached by the Baronet in the year 1798, in a Pamphlet entitled "The Genealogy of the Stewarts Refuted," where, he directly attacked the Pedigree of Castlemilk, claimed by the latter in that elaborate Genealogy,—and hence is a fair topic of literary discussion. My attention, however, was more especially attracted to it, by the Letter of Candidus (No. II. of this compilation) published in the fourth Number of Blackwood's Magazine, in answer to certain passages from "The Memorie*

* The meritorious work "The Genealogical History of the Stewarts" published at London in 1798, of which Andrew Stewart is the well known author.

of the Somervilles." That Letter exhibited so many errors and misrepresentations, and, seemingly, such a desire to mislead on points familiar to every ordinary Antiquarian, as, in no small degree, excited my surprise, and impelled me to attempt its refutation. It has revived a dispute, which, either on account of its insignificance, or the utter want of evidence on the side that commenced it, was little worthy, I confess, of the attention of the Public.

J. R.

ERRATA.

Page 87, line 28, for "annualists," read "annalists."

— 102, — 11, for "Head of the House," &c. read "Head of that branch of the House," &c.

The Salt-Foot Controversy.

I.

PASSAGES FROM THE "MEMORIE OF THE SOMERVILLES," INSERTED IN AN ARTICLE IN BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE, NO. 1. FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1817.*

"IT was," says Lord Somerville, (who wrote about the year 1680) "as much out of peike as to give obedience to the act of the assemblies, that Sir Walter Stewart of Allantoune, and Sir James his brother, both heretors in the parish of Cambusnethen, the first from some antiquity, a fewar of the Earle of Tweddill's in Auchtermuire, whose predecessors, untill this man, never came to sit above the *Saltfoot*, when at the Laird of Cambusnethen's (Somerville's) table; which for ordinary every Sabbath they dyned at, as did most of the honest men of the Parish of any account." Vol. 2. p. 394.

It is again observed by the writer of the article, "The same author is indeed so familiar with this

* No. I. of that Publication, p. 34.

usage (sitting above the Salt) as one of every day observance, that he takes notice of it again in speaking of a Provost of Edinburgh:—"He was a gentleman of very mean family upon Clyde, being brother-german to the Goodman of Allanton, whose predecessors never came to sit above the Salt-foot." p. 380. *ib.*

II.

LETTER OF CANDIDUS.*

"SITTING BELOW THE SALT," AND THE STEWARTS OF ALLANTON.

Audi alteram partem.

MR EDITOR,

As it was once my intention to write an account of the antiquities of the midland counties of this kingdom, and as I made some investigations for that purpose, both in the public archives and the repositories of individuals, I was surprised to see, in your useful Magazine for April last, (in a curious disquisition on the ancient custom of "Sitting below the Salt,") a very erroneous account of a family in Lanarkshire, of

* Published in Blackwood's Magazine for the Month of July, same year, No. IV. p. 349.

great antiquity and respectability, I mean that of STEWART of ALLANTON. On looking over a list, which I made at the time, of the most distinguished names in that county, I find this family classed with the Douglasses, the Hamiltons, the Lockharts of Lee, and some others, who, as ancient barons and landholders, had had possessions there from a very remote period.

The passage in the article to which I allude is taken from a book of some curiosity, "The Memorie, or Memoirs of the Somervilles," written by the eleventh Lord Somerville about 1680, and edited two years since by that indefatigable writer, Mr Walter Scott. In this publication, Sir Walter Stewart of Daldowie and Allanton, and his brother, Sir James Stewart of Coltness, are represented to be of a family of Yeomen or Fewars, whose ancestors never had, until their day, (the middle of the seventeenth century,) "Sat above the salt foot." And further, it is stated, seemingly as an extraordinary honour done to them, that they actually did sit above the salt at the table of Somerville of Camnethan, "which for ordinary every Saboth they dyned at, as most of the honest men within the parish of any account." See Memoirs, vol. II. p. 394.

Now, sir, I happened to know, that this family came into Lanarkshire from Kyle and Renfrew, the ancient seat of the Lord High Stewards, as early as 1290, and is lineally descended from Robert Stewart, whose father, Sir John Stewart of Bonkle, (who was killed at the battle of Falkirk, anno 1298,)

bestowed upon him in patrimony the barony of Daldowie, upon the Clyde, near Glasgow: That Sir Allan Stewart of Daldowie (grandson to Sir Robert,) obtained, on account of his valour in 1385, from King Robert II., his father's second cousin, the rank of knight banneret, together with the honourable addition of the lion-passant, or English lion, to his paternal coat armorial:—as also, on the same account, the lands of Allanton, in Allcathmuir, from the church in 1420. Moreover, that I had seen charters and seasines, in the possession of his posterity, from 1460 and 1492 downwards; since which time they have intermarried with some of the first families in the kingdom. Knowing these things as I did, I own I *was* surprised to observe his descendent, Sir Walter Stewart of Daldowie and Allanton, described, in 1650, as “the goodman of Allanton, and of a very mean family upon Clyde”!!! See *Memoirs*, vol. II. p. 380*.

On applying to the worthy and learned Baronet who now represents this family, and inquiring

* On this and other passages, the editor, Mr Scott, observes in a note, (vol. I. p. 169,) that “Remarks escape from the author's pen, unjustly derogatory to this ancient branch of the HOUSE of STEWART, to which he himself was allied by the marriage of Janet Stewart of Darnly with the ancestor of Sir Thomas Somerville.” In this observation I entirely agree with Mr Scott. But he might have added, with equal truth, that neither friend nor foe, neither relative by blood nor ally by marriage, could escape the abuse of this irritable lord, if he only differed from him in religious and political sentiments.

whether he had seen the article in your Magazine, he replied in the affirmative, and laughed very good-naturedly at the account, observing, that it was quite fair from the pen of a Somerville, and as a production of the period. In regard to the pretensions to superior descent assumed by Lord Somerville on the ground merely of *his own* statement, and as an apt counterpart of the above delineation, he reminded me of the well-known dialogue which took place between the lion and the man in the fable, when each contended for the superiority, and which I need not here repeat. It was on this occasion that the former pointed out to the king of the forest, as a conclusive argument in his own favour, a painting, in which was represented a lion in contest with a man, crouching under the stroke, and yielding to the strength of his antagonist.

The learned Baronet, moreover, obligingly communicated to me, from a MS. history of his family, which has been long preserved in it, some amusing anecdotes of the ancient feud that had subsisted between his ancestors and the Somervilles, of the inveteracy of which so many instances are detailed in Mr Scott's publication. And although such anecdotes must appear rather uninteresting in the present day, yet, I trust, you will admit the following few particulars into your useful work. In expressing this hope, I assure you, sir, that I act on no instructions from the gentleman in question; but I think it will not only appear as a proof of that impartiality, for which every public writer aspires to be

distinguished, but as a matter of justice to a family, which certainly is at the head of one of the most ancient branches of the HOUSE of STEWART.

The feud, it seems, which subsisted between the Stewarts and the Somervilles, was of very ancient standing, probably originating in some of those predatory excursions, or personal quarrels, which occupied the leisure, while they inflamed the passions, of a warlike race of men. Sir Walter Stewart and Somerville of Camnethan, it appears, had inherited the antipathies of their respective houses. Unlike each other in temper and pursuits, their animosity was imbittered by their religious prejudices, and by their political and parish disputes. For, while Sir Walter supported, with all his might, the solemn league and covenant * (the popular doctrine of the times),

* [In the Pedigree of Allanton in the New Edition of the History of Renfrewshire, there is also this Anecdote of the Knight taken from the same authority, the MS. History of the Family.

"It is recorded, that Oliver Cromwell, in 1650, after the battle of Dunbar, in his progress through Lanarkshire, halted with a few attendants at Allanton House, where he was hospitably entertained by Lady Stewart, and where he passed the night. Sir Walter, being a royalist, took care to be out of the way. On the Protector's arrival, as it is said, some choice Canary and other refreshments were presented, but he would suffer nothing to be touched untill he himself had first said grace, which he fervently did for more than half an hour, to the great edification of the Lady. He then courteously enquired after Sir Walter, and on drinking the health of the Family, observed that his mother was a Stewart; and that he always felt a kindness for the name!" This and several other characteristic anecdotes of the visit are still preserved. Hist. p. 475.]

Somerville adhered, with no less pertinacity, to the episcopal principles of his ancestors; and no man, who contemplates only the milder influence of religious opinions at present, can in any degree conceive their rancorous character nearly two centuries ago.

When other topics failed, the antiquity of their families supplied a fruitful theme of jealousy and dissention, and was at that time an affair of no small interest as well as amusement to their neighbours. Cannethan (according to Lord Somerville, as well as the Stewart MSS.) was a vain and expensive character, who, by a course of extravagance, had run out his estate. Sir Walter, it appears, had his share of vanity also; but he was frugal, dexterous in the management of country affairs, and had added to his estates by such judicious purchases, that they greatly out-weighed the possessions of his rival. But the *pas*, or precedency, universally given to Sir Walter both in public and private, wounded the pride of Somerville, and induced him to bestow on his neighbour the slighting epithet of the "Goodman of Allanton;" a salutation which Sir Walter never failed to retaliate in kind; so that that of the "Goodman of Cannethan" was as courteously retorted, as often as opportunity offered. But this is a circumstance, which, though carefully recorded in the Allanton MSS., the good Lord Somerville has not thought proper to notice. Both, however, being fond of their pint-stoup of claret, they occasionally forgot these animosities at the

parish change-house, according to the custom of the times, or at their respective mansions; and as Camnethan's residence was in the immediate neighbourhood of the church, it was the fashion of the day to wash down the sermon there, with copious potations of that exhilarating beverage.

It was probably at one of these convivial meetings that Lord Somerville met Sir Walter, and his brother, Sir James Stewart of Kirkfield and Coltness, "with most of the honest men (as he says) within the parish, of any account:" And it was not unnatural in his Lordship to speak, in the *language of the family*, of two of its most inveterate political opponents, and of the only persons in the district, possessed of rank and fortune sufficient to overshadow the consequence of his kinsman. The fact is, that both the vanity and the consequence of Somerville were soon not only overshadowed, but completely eclipsed, in Lanarkshire; for Sir James Stewart, who was a merchant and banker in Edinburgh, and had acquired a handsome fortune in these honourable professions,* actually purchased the greater part of the Camnethan estate, leaving the owner in possession of only the mansion-house, and an inconsiderable space adjoining to it. This

* He became commissary and paymaster-general, anno 1650, to the Scotch army under General Leslie, which was defeated at Duobar by Oliver Cromwell; and, together with the Marquis of Argyle and the Earl of Eglinton, was one of the three commissioners who, on the part of the Scotch, held the conference with Cromwell on Bruntsheld Links.

last portion, a few years after, was also disposed of to an advocate in Edinburgh, of the name of Harper ; and it has since passed, together with other property of greater extent, into a younger branch of the Lee family.

There is another anecdote of these two rival lairds, Sir Walter Stewart and Somerville of Camnethan, which is recorded in the family history above alluded to ; and I shall beg leave to mention it, as illustrative of the characters of both.

When Oliver Cromwell, after reducing Scotland to subjection, directed a valuation to be taken of the landed property of the kingdom (and which constitutes the rule whereby the cess and sundry other public burdens are still paid), the Laird of Camnethan, anxious to exhibit his importance as a landholder, gave in his rent-roll at an extravagant value, and, as it was supposed, greatly beyond the truth. Sir Walter, on the other hand, who would have spilt the last drop of his blood in a contest for superiority on any *other* occasion, when called upon for his return, took care to exhibit a statement as greatly *below* the mark. On this, his neighbours, who knew of their bickerings, did not fail to rally him, for being thus far surpassed by his rival, although well-known to be possessed of a far more valuable estate. But the wily knight, who guessed at the object of the Protector's policy, was resolved to act with becoming moderation on *such* an occasion, and encouraged his brother, Sir James, in the same prudent line of conduct. He therefore only laughed

at the transaction ; quietly observing, that his neighbour's estate was " bonny and bield, and all lying on the Clyde ;" whereas his own (he said) was " but cauld muirland, as every body knew, and naething like Camnethan's." Accordingly, the two properties stand thus taxed and rated in the cess-books, down to the present period.

The bitterness with which Lord Somerville speaks of all his political opponents, and the soreness with which he details his friend's contest with his neighbour about changing the site of the parish church, and Sir Walter's successful application against him to the General Assembly (which, I find, are also given at length in the Stewart MSS.), are a sufficient evidence of his entering with eagerness into all the family quarrels. Hence his anxious desire, on every occasion, to detract from the character, and lessen the importance of both the brothers, Sir Walter and Sir James ; to represent them as fewars, " from some *antiquity*," however, of the Earl of Tweeddale's in Allcathmuir ; to describe them as persons whose ancestors " sat below the salt," &c. &c. ; all of which he himself must have felt, were what Tacitus calls *Ignorantia recti, et invidia*,* the mere ebullitions of party animosity,—of animosity of all others the most likely to go down with the uninformed among his own adherents, that it vilified their adversaries, and contained withal a certain in-

* " Insensibility to merit, and envy of the possession." See Tacit. in Vit. Agricol. sub initio.

termixture of truth. But could Lord Somerville, even in imagination, have anticipated that these his Memoirs were to descend to posterity,—that they were to be edited in a future day, by one of the greatest geniuses of his age and nation, and under the protection of his powerful name, sent forth to pass current with the world,—we may do him the justice to believe, that he would have repressed his envy, and tempered party rancour with greater moderation. He seems, however, in his day, to have been what Dr Johnstone called a “good hater,” although, in the main, a very worthy and honourable man.

In regard to the term *Fewar* or *Vassal*, it must be known to every one, however slenderly versed in feudal history, that it implied merely the condition of him who held an estate under the tenure of “suit and service to a superior lord,” without denoting any personal inferiority, or any degradation of rank. The greatest lords themselves, as well as barons of the first distinction, often held lands of a subject superior, and consequently were *fewars* or *vassals* to that superior, who in his turn, held them of the crown. Further, that a tenure of lands from the church, in that period, was considered nearly as honourable as one under the crown itself. Of both of these holdings numerous examples occur in the course of the Somerville Memoirs. See vol. i. pp. 114, 117, &c. &c.—It appears that Sir Walter Stewart held one of his estates, namely that of Allanton, of the church, by which it was originally granted,

as already mentioned, to his ancestor, Sir Allan of Daldowie. Soon after the Reformation, when the immense property of the clergy came to be parcelled out to the great lords who had interest at court, Lord Yester, the ancestor of the Marquis of Tweeddale, obtained a grant of the whole barony of All-cathmuir, as first vassal under the crown; and the "superiority" was retained by that noble family until a late period. Thus the Somervilles, as it appears, held some of their estates of subjects superior, and therefore might specially be termed their fewars or feudal vassals, with the same degree of justice; although it is certain that the epithet extended in general to yeomen, or persons of inferior degree.

Having now, as I trust, sufficiently vindicated the family honours of a respected friend (who is much more able, had he chosen, to have undertaken the task himself), I shall here close the subject, and take leave of the worthy Lord Somerville, for whose family I entertain the highest respect, and from whose work I have derived considerable pleasure as well as information. Without drawing any invidious comparisons between such distinguished families as the Stewarts and the Somervilles, who may be allowed to stand upon their respective merits, I will only say, with a judicious ancient, *Non historia debet egredi veritatem, et honeste factis veritas sufficit.* I agree, however, with this Noble Lord, and with a much better writer, namely Tacitus, * in thinking,

* In Vit. Agricol. sub init.

that it is a subject of regret, that the lives of virtuous men, and the history of honourable families, however written, have not oftener been preserved. It is not alone the intrigues of the statesman, or the exploits of the warrior, that deserve to be transmitted to posterity: it is much more in the native freshness of narratives such as those to which I allude,—it is in the minuteness of personal detail which they supply, beyond the sphere of history,—that we must look for an acquaintance with the *true character* of past ages. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

CANDIDUS.

III.

REPLY TO THE ARTICLE "ON SITTING BELOW THE SALT, AND THE STEWARTS OF ALLANTON;" VINDICATION OF THE ACCURACY OF THE AUTHOR OF THE MEMOIR OF THE SOMERVILLES; WITH A VERITABLE STATEMENT OF THE ORIGINAL ANCESTRY OF THE FAMILY OF ALLANTON. *

MR EDITOR,

IT is one of the miseries attending any attempts to illustrate ancient facts of Scottish history or manners, that such praise-worthy labours have a tendency to awaken the vexation of those whose forefathers happen thereby, incidentally, to be exhibited in less

* Blackwood's Magazine for the Month of August, No. V. p. 476.

flattering colours than might have been every way pleasing to the vanity and self-love of their descendants. This national foible is less ordinarily associated with those of high, as of obscure descent,—while its victims have an antipathy to every thing degrading, they are sometimes too easily deluded by every idle fiction, extravagantly exalting the rank and importance of, not unfrequently, suppositious ancestry. Though well apprised, by experience, of this propensity, I little imagined, that in our days it was to betray itself in *all* its genuine eccentricity, or that the seemingly harmless and delectable article of the “Salt-vat,” by exciting the animosity of the family of Allanton, or of their allies, was to elicit the strange performance which their *able* apologist, with more zeal than wisdom, *so necessarily obtrudes* upon the public.

Has then Candidus, the devoted friend of the “learned and worthy Baronet,” the admirer of his talents, and more especially of his style, so contemptuously slighted those weighty canons of his “respected friend,” inculcated in a performance of which, at no very distant period, he was the author, facetiously entitled, “The Genealogical History of the Stewarts *refuted*.”

“Of what importance to the public,—of what profit to the general reader, are exhibitions of pedigree, or specification of titles, or proofs of consanguinity?”—(page 158.)

“Should controversy or competition at any time arise (upon such topics), it ought carefully to be confined to *private discussion*.”

—If these ideas be founded upon justice, *what evidence of vanity—what mark of weakness can be figured more indubitable, than to obtrude it (genealogy) on the world?*”—(page 157-8.)

Again, addressing himself to a person afterwards to be more particularly attended to,

“The writer, who imagines that by genealogical histories of *any name*, he is to engage the notice of the world at large, will be speedily undeceived. *A distant prospect of the wide gulph of oblivion will soon convince him that its yawning jaws are never shut, but are ready to swallow up all unprofitable labours.*”—(page 159.)

“*Jam Thebæ juxta et tenebrosa vorago.*”

Stat. Thebaid. L. vii. v. 382 !

Owing to their unquestionable insignificance, an opinion, too, in which the “learned and worthy Baronet” is thus so ready to concur, I at first felt inclined to permit the lucubrations of Candidus to sleep in their unmolested oblivion. Perhaps, after all, this might have been the advisable course—the more especially as they are founded upon mere assertion—without a vestige of any thing in the shape of authority—no doubt a most easy, though not very convincing mode of managing an argument—and impeaching the veracity of a respectable author.—But I have been drawn aside by curiosity, to inquire how far the high pretensions assumed by this family in a contest, which I believe most people will imagine they have stirred, could be borne out by any thing in the shape of real evidence—whether they

themselves might not form a good elucidation of the infatuation which, two centuries ago, had been satirized even by our own countryman, Barelay.*

A better excuse, however, for this investigation—the results of which I am about to state (and in doing so, I no doubt draw largely upon the patience of your readers), may be assigned to a desire of vindicating the veracity of the author of the “*Memorie of the Somervilles*,”—a quality altogether essential in a historian.—For the statement of this writer cannot be corrected, in a matter which must have come under his personal knowledge, without producing any other effect than a little gratification to the vanity of the family of Allanton. The charge of incorrectness will extend its influence to the character of his whole work, and leave a stain upon his reputation, both as a gentleman and as an author.

Somerville, laird of Drum (and, in fact, Lord Somerville), who wrote in the year 1679, has asserted, in his account of his own family, that Sir Walter Stewart of Allanton, Knight, ancestor of the present Sir Henry Stewart of Allanton, Bart. who died not long before the year 1670, was, “from some antiquity, a fewer (that is to say, he and his progenitors), of the Earl of Tweddill’s in Auchtermuire, whose predecessors, until this man (Sir Walter), never came to sit above the salt-foot when at the

* Of the Scotch, he observes, “*Nulli tamen magis memores suæ stirpis—quibus per diversa terrarum quærentibus opes—et ad præconia suæ nobilitatis obstinatis, sæpius audientium risus, quam lacrymæ et fides accessit.*”—*Satyr.* p. 324.

Laird of Cambusnethen's table—which for ordinary every Sabbath they dyned at, as did most of the honest men within the parish of any account.”* An assertion which he also makes when talking of his brother, Sir James Stewart of Kirkfield and Coltness, whom he styles “a gentleman of very mean familie upon Clyde, being brother-german to the *goodman* of Allentone (a few of the Earle of Tweddill's in Auchtermuire, within Cambusnethen parish), whose predecessors, before this man, never came to sit above the Laird of Cambusnethen's salt-foot.”†

On the other hand, the Allantons stoutly maintain, that both Sir Walter's immediate, and more remote ancestry, were princely and baronial, forming “one of the most ancient branches of the HOUSE of STEWART,” that had existed as a separate family for no less than five centuries, directly asserting their claim to the following splendid descent :

‡ 1. Sir Robert Stewart, first *baron* of Daldüe, born long before the year 1300, sixth son of Sir John Stuart of Bonkil—which last was lawful brother of James, high steward of Scotland, grandfather

* *Memorie of the Somervilles*, vol. ii. p. 394. † *Ibid.* p. 380.

‡ The descent bestowed upon the family by Candidus, virtually involves the pedigree in the text—most of what he has specifically coodescended upon, and the entire remainder in the text, has been directly acknowledged by “the learned and worthy Baronet,” in his *Genealogical History of the Stewarts refuted*. Vide pages 29, 60, 136, 137 ;—the matriculation of his arms in the Lyon Office,—and elsewhere. [Vid. also Appendix].

of Robert II. He obtained from his father, who died in the year 1298, in patrimony, the *barony* of Daldowie, upon Clyde, near Glasgow—accompanied Sir Allan Stuart of Darnley to Ireland in the year 1315—was present at the battle of Dundalk—and died in the year 1330.

2. Sir Alan Stuart of Daldüe. He married a daughter of Douglas of Douglas, and fell at “the battle of Morningside,” in the year 1385.

3. Sir Alan Stuart of Daldüe, Knight Banneret first of Allanton, which property he obtained from the church in reward of his military services in the year 1420. He got the lion passaut of England, from “*commanding*,” at “the battle of Morningside;”—accompanied Sir John Stuart of Darnly to France in the year 1419;—married at Paris a French lady of distinction. In remembrance of his exploits at a tournament, his representative bears a lance in his escutcheon. He died in the year 1444.

4. James Stuart of Allanton, which now became the principal title, though they still possessed Daldüe. A literary character—he compiled memoirs of his family, still extant, alluded to by Candidus under the name of the Stewart MSS. He married a daughter of Somerville of Cambusnethan, and died in the year 1489. He had two sisters, Margaret and Helen, but these *both died unmarried*.

5. James Stuart of Allanton. He married Janet, the daughter and heiress of Sir James Tait of Ernock. He died in the year 1547, aged 85.

He had a younger brother, Walter, *who died without issue*; also two sisters, Isabella, *who died unmarried*, and Marian, who married, *but her issue are not mentioned*.

6. James Steuart of Allanton. He married Marion, daughter of Sir James Lockhart of Lee, and died in the year 1549. He had two brothers, *who died without issue*, and a sister, whose *progeny are not detailed*.

7. James Steuart of Allanton. He married Helen, daughter of Somerville of Humbie. His brothers were Walter and William, who died unmarried, and another, John, who died without issue, &c. By his wife, Helen Somerville, he had a son, James, which last predeceasing his father, left issue, Sir Walter Steuart of Allanton, the supposed calumniated person—and James, afterwards of Kirkfield and Coltness, Provost of Edinburgh.

The point thus turning upon mere matter of fact, I shall begin to explore, by examining into the authenticity of the more early parts of this imposing pedigree.

That the heroic Sir John Stewart of Bonkill, who died in the year 1298, had any son of the name of Robert, rests solely upon the misconception of a passage from Hollinshed's Chronicle of Ireland, by which a Sir Robert Stewart was most awkwardly substituted for a Sir Robert Lacy.

For the full exposure of this error, we are indebted to the intelligence of the acute Andrew Stewart, author of the well known Letters to Lord

Mansfield in the Douglas cause, whom some, doubtless, will be surprised to find quoted upon such an occasion. In the year 1798, he published his elaborate History of the family of Stewart. On this illustrious stem, however, in the total absence of any authority, he was so uncourteous as to omit ingrafting the stock of Allanton,—*Hinc illæ lachrymæ*;—a procedure which called from the pen of the “learned and worthy baronet,” a feeble pamphlet, under the name of “The Genealogical History of the Stewarts *refuted*.”—The childish futility of the argument is only to be equalled by the shallow pedantry of the composition*—the audacity of the attempt by the utter nothingness of the result. He there complains, among other very singular matter, of the cruel affront; and, as the convenient Candidus is attempting to do upon the present occasion, formally obtruded upon our acquaintance the proud series of his imaginary ancestry.

In the supplement to his History, afterwards published, Andrew Stewart incidentally unfolded the

* “In his refutation of the Genealogical History of the Stewarts, he has called in to his assistance all his old classical friends from the Grecian and Roman territories. In the muster roll of the foreign auxiliaries, there are Pindar, Aristophanes, Virgil, Horace, Sallust, Julius Capitolinus, Statius, &c. &c. Under such circumstances, he can be no other than a great and accomplished scholar.” (Andrew Stewart’s Supp. p. 99.)

But the same author also remarks,—“There is hardly any part of the *splenic* performance in question, and of the classical learning displayed in it, but what might have been *equally applicable to any other person, or to any other occasion*.” (P. 105.) We

clearest evidence of the non-existence of Sir Robert Stewart,—though without making any additional attack upon the remaining links,—accompanied with a calm, dignified, and annihilating, refutation of “the learned and worthy Baronet” upon other topics;—a rejoinder that, down to this day, is unanswered, and, as far as regards the family of Allanton, is unanswerable.* This was, indeed, as all the world saw, a most unequal combat. It is to be regretted that the scene of the contest was so obscure, and the object for which they fought so trifling. We there recognize the perspicuity and force of reasoning of the author of the celebrated Letters, though in the evening of life, which it has become fashionable among some to withhold from their genuine author, and to attribute to the pen of Junius. Perhaps “the learned and worthy Baronet” is alone ignorant of the signal overthrow he then sustained. If, however, he really be aware of his disaster, why, *encouraged by the demise of this formidable antagonist, and the lapse of a few years*, does he encourage or permit Candidus to mock our judgment,

are here almost reminded of the character hit off by Buchanan in the Franciscan.

“Novi ego, qui tantum ter quinque Latina, teneret
Verba, sed ingenii sic dexteritate valebat
Ut *quocunque loco, de re quacunque* parata,
Semper et ad nutum, posita in statione teneret,
Τὰντ' ἀπαυσιόμην;”—

* I am now able to determine the point about which Lord Galloway and Andrew Stewart contended.

by endeavouring to smuggle in upon us such stale and refuted trumpery.

Before Symson,* and those who retailed the fable, as far as I can discover, no one had, in the most distant manner, alluded to this visionary Bonkill descent; nay, it is expressly contradicted by the tradition of the family themselves, which a century ago, surmised that they were sprung from Castlemilk;† an origin which, for reasons probably known to themselves, they have in modern times been at pains to disown. In no record, chronicle, or document, foreign or domestic,—nor can this be contradicted—are there the slightest traces of this pretended Sir Robert Stewart, though there are abundance of other contemporary Stewarts, even of small notoriety. But it is extremely obvious, that, if proved, the fact of his existence would not necessarily indentify him with a Sir Robert Stewart “*Baron*,” of Daldüe; of which last, it only remains to add, that he is also as airy a phantom as ever graced the antediluvian periods of a Welsh pedigree.

In the sequel, too, it will be apparent, that Daldüe could not, until a very long period afterwards, have belonged to the Stewarts.

The succeeding links of the pedigree, down to the James Stewart of Allanton, who is represented to have married a Janet Tait, daughter and heiress of a knightly personage, styled Sir James Tait of

* This Symson published a History of the House of Stewart in the year 1712.

† Dunc. Stewart's Hist. of the Fam. of Stewart, p. 199.

Ernock, rest exclusively upon the evidence of a family manuscript—necessarily a most impartial and unexceptionable authority—of no *great* antiquity; for determining which fact, as well as its general veracity, ample means will be afforded hereafter;—upon some careless assertions of Duncan Stewart, seemingly purloined from it,—and, *most especially*, upon a certain “Historical and Genealogical Tree of the Royal Family of Scotland,” loudly panegyricized by “the learned and worthy Baronet,”* (which, in the year 1792, obtained the sanction and approbation of the Lyon Office, and of the Earl of Buchan,) compiled by a Mr John Brown, hawker of pedigrees, and genealogist to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. By this experienced gardener, the old stock was pruned of its withering branches; scions of a less generous but more advantageous produce were ingrafted on the ancient stem; and the cunning cultivator looked forward, with wistful and expectant eyes, on the prospect of a golden harvest.

——“Nec longum tempus et ingens,

Exiit in cælum ramis fecilibus arbos

Miraturque novos frondes et NON SUA POMÆ.”

But it rather, vexatiously, here again happens, that in no genuine document is there mention of these personages, more than of their visionary predecessor, Sir Robert of Daldüe,—though so high and distinguished. It would be an idle piece of mockery, indeed, to challenge their existence. So circumstanced, thus so fully disproved, this ridiculous ancestry is undeserving of the slightest obser-

* Gen. Hist. of the Stewarts *refuted*, p. 137.

vation or criticism. But its falsity is even independently exposed, by the flagrant absurdities and fictions which it so imprudently proclaims. Four generations are only assigned to two centuries. James Stewart of Allanton aspires to a daughter of Somerville of Cambusnethan, a most desirable match, which, if real, would have obviated the present discussion. The spectre, Sir Allan of Daldue, actually subdues the proud heart of a daughter of the house of Douglas of Douglas! His son, Sir Allan Stewart of Allanton, knight banneret, "*commanded,*" at the mighty "*battle of Morningside,*" against "*the English, in the plains of Auchtermuir!*"

—— IN THE BATTLE OF MORNINGSIDE! ——

—— in campis Gurgustidooiis ;

Ubi Bombomachides Cluinistardysarchides

Erat Imperator summus Neptuni Nepos !"*

Pity that such feats of arms, such unheard-of strokes of generalship, in unknown battles, should only have been confided to Candidus, the "learned and worthy Baronet," and Mr John Brown.†

But "the Banneret" being started, it would be inhuman to withhold his Apotheosis, pronounced by the "learned and worthy Baronet *himself*," over an obscure spring at Morningside, thereby also immortalized,—thus venturously attempted to be transfused into our native language.‡

* Vid. The Boasting Knight of Plautus.—Act. 1. Scene 1.

† Duncan Stewart was so far wise as to omit all mention of it.

‡ The original is as follows :

" D. M.

Allani . Stevart . de . Allanton .

Et . de . Daldue . equitis . Banneretti .

THIS . SACRED . FOUNTAIN .
 IS . DEDICATED . TO . THE . MEMORY .
 OF . SIR . ALLAN . STEUART . OF . AL-
 LANTON . AND . DALDUE .
 KNIGHT . BANNERET .
 THAT . EXALTED . HERO . FLOWER .
 OF . CHIVALRY .
 HE . WHO . BY . THE . RENOWNED *
 BATTLE .
 OF . MORNINGSIDE *
 HAS . RENDERED . HIS . NAME .
 I LLUSTRIOUS . TO . POSTERITY .
 + + +
 HAPPY . IN . DISCHARGING . A . PIOUS .
 OBLIGATION .
 HENRY . STEWART .
 THE . ELEVENTH . IN . THE . ORDER .
 OF . SUCCESSION *
 FROM . THAT . MOST . VALOROUS .
 GENERAL .
 IN . THE . YEAR . MDCCCXIII .
 CAUSED . ERECT . THIS . MONUMENT .†

Vri . egregii . Armis . acerrimi .
 Ejusdem . qui . insigni . pugna .
 Apud . Morningside . clarus . factus .
 Fons Sacer .

x x x
 V.S.L.A. faciund. C. An. MDCCCXIII. H. S.
 XI . Gradus . distans . hic . a . dace . illo .
 fortissimo."

* From this we may form some idea of the justness of the remark of Candidus, that his "respected friend" is much more able, had he chosen to have undertaken the task of "vindicating his family honours."

† Some ordinary contrivance—urn, vessel, &c. &c. for receiving the water.

I may here state, that as little *elsewhere*, in any shape, has the faintest notice been *yet* adduced of the family of Allanton, previous to the sixteenth century.

Hitherto, then, we have vainly attempted to penetrate through the thick veil of obscurity, under which they are so effectually concealed. But I am now to present some original information—for which they are solely indebted to me—of this humble race, who have thus, in the shade,

“Pursued the noiseless tenor of their way.”

The next link, still exclusively resting upon the authority of Mr John Brown and the immaculate manuscript, introduces to our notice a James Stewart, as usual, *of* Allanton, though not a knight—and this is surprising—who is married to a Janet Tait, —the alleged daughter, however, of one,—who died in the year 1547: and I on my part subjoin the following document, the Latin portion of which I have translated in the text, inserting the original in the note.*

* Inventarium Omnium Bonorum, quondam Allani Stewart factum apud Allantoune per os decedentis xij die mensis Julii anno Domini j^mv^cxlviij coram his testibus Willielmo Wallace, Alexandro Robesoune, Domino Johanne Lyndesai, meo curato diversisque aliis.

In primis fatetur se habere quinque boves, Item duas vaccas, Item duo animalia etatis duorum annorum, Item unam lye quy etatis unius anni, Item unum ly stot etatis unius anni, Item unum taurum ly bull etatis trium annorum, Item unum lie stot etatis duorum annorum, Item quatuor ly moderlesse calvis, Item xxxviij

"The Inventory of *all* the goods of the late Allan Stewart, taken down, at Allanctoune, from his *mouth**, on his departure, the xijth day of the month of July, in the year of our Lord j^mv^cxlviij, in presence of these witnesses, William Wallace, Alexander Robesoune, Master John Lyndisai, my parish minister, and sundry others.

"In the first place, he acknowledges that he possesses five oxen—two cows—two animals, of the

oues senes, Item xxij lie hoggis, Item in utensilibus et domiciliis xl^s, Item in avenis seminatis xl b. Item in Ordeo seminato iii b.

Debita que sibi debentur :

Imprimis Allanus Lockhart de lie et Alexander Lockhart in Wicketschaw ix^{xx} mercas monete.

Debita que debentur aliis :

Imprimis Domiuo pro firma terre duas marcas viij^d, Item Andree Cadder xx^d marcas, Item Gavino Stewart lxxx mercas et iii marcas, vulgariter, to rentall him, at my Lord of Glasgui's hand, of fyve merk laad of Daldowe Wester, et xxj s. land in Mosplatt :—Item Joanni Steill xij s :—Item John Scott xx s :—Item Jonete Spier x peccas Ordei :—Item Thome Russel xl s :—Item Williellmo Wallace x s :—Item Alex* Roger vi s :—Item Thome Smyth iiii s.

Cum nichil sit certius morte, nec hora ejus incertius, hinc est, quod, ego Allanus Stewart, sanus mente et corpore, condo testamentum meum in hunc modum sequentem : In primis nempe do et lego animam meam Deo Omnipotenti, Beate Marie Virgini, et omnibus sanctis celestis curie corpusque meum terre, quator d. fabrice Sancti Kentigerni executores meos constituo Elizabet Tait meam sponsam et Jacobum Douglas in Todhallis ut ipsi disponant pro salute anime mee sicuti respondere voluerint coram Summo Judice in die judicii : Similiter do et lego mee sponse ut sequitur in vulgari. [Then follows as in the text.]

* "Est pauperis numerare greges."

age of two years—one “lyc* quy,” of the age of one year—one “lyc stot,” of the age of one year—one “ly bull,” of the age of three years—one “ly stot,” of the age of two years—four “ly moderlesse calvis”—xxxvij old sheep—xxij “lie hoggis”†—*utensils and household furniture to the amount of xls*—in oats sown upon the ground, to the amount of xl bolls—in barley sown, iii bols.

“Debts which are owing to him :

In the first place, Allan Lockhart of Lie, and Alexander Lockhart in Wickitschaw, ix^{xx} merks of money.

“Debts which are owing by him to others :

In the first place, *to the Laird for the rent of the land*, two marks, viii^d : Also, to Andrew Cadder, xx^{ti} marks : Also, to Gawin Stewart, lxxx marks et iii marks, in order, as it is termed in our native language, *to rentall him, at my Lord of Glasgu's hand, of fyve mark land of Daildowie Wester, and xxj^t land in Mosplatt* : Also, to John Steill, xij^t : Also, to John Scott, xx^t : Also, to Janet Spcir, x pecks of barley : Also to Thomas Russel. xl^t : Also, to William Wallace, x^t : Also to Alex^r. Roger, vi^t : Also, to Thomas Smyth, iiiii s. (Including a few more insignificant payments to other obscure people.)

“Seeing that there is nothing more certain than

* The French “le,” usually prefixed to all Scotch terms introduced into our Latin documents,

† Young sheep.

death, and nothing more uncertain than the hour, Therefore, I Allan Stewart, entire in body and mind, make my testament as follows: In the first place, I leave my soul to the Almighty, and to the Blessed Virgin, and to all the Saints of Christ's Church in heaven; and my body to the earth, with four pennies to the Cathedral of Saint Mungo: I nominate my executors, *Elizabeth Tait, my spouse*, and James Douglas in Todhallis, to dispoone for the good of my soul, as they will answer for their conduct to the great Judge at the last day. I moreover bequeath to my spouse, as follows in the vulgar:—

“ I Allane Stewart, intendis, God willing, to pass wyt my Lord Governour and my Lord Zester to ye bordoure, to ye defence of ye Realme: Item, I leyf to my wife *All my Steddingis yat I haif of my Lord Zester in Auhtarmuir*, during hir lyf-tyme, wy' all my guidis, movable and immovable, and to use it to the proffit and utilitie of himself and *effame Stewart, my dochter*, and eufame to abide at ye command and counsall of hir moder; and I Ordain hir to use hir at the comand and plessoure of hir moder, in all maner of sortis: Item, I Ordane Gawane Stewart, my sone, to geyf effame my dochter xx* for geire yat I loup to him in Edinburcht,† and ane gray horse, scho budand at

* Either twenty pounds, marks, shillings, or pence, it is impossible to tell which, a shred of the paper in the original being torn away.

† Yat I loup to him in Edinburcht.—“ To Loup—to change

ye consall and comand of hir moder and hir broyder ;
and as to ye lard of leyse payment, ye contrakkis
beris in yaim self I tak one my saule, I gat nevir na
payment of him, exepte je merkis of money."

[*Confirmed 22d June 1548.*]

Instead then of blazing at tournaments, and of commanding armies, this humble race have only been solicitous to gain a decent livelihood by raising a moderate crop of oats and barley ;—instead of entering into solemn political negociations with neighbouring barons, we find their representative implementing a bargain with a village matron for the sale of a few pecks of his grain ;—instead of richly caparisoned steeds and palfrey, she has nothing in shape of such an animal ;*—baronial castles are transformed into steadings ; circumambient moats into preliminary dunghills, and the daughter of the house, whom we might have fancied noble, and peerless, with a splendid retinue of obsequious knights, and damsels arrayed in magnificent apparel, into possibly some such ordinary garlie-eating winch, (though probably not so dainty in her diet,) as crazed the intellects of the knight of La Mancha ; for whom the damage of certain rejected clothing and accoutrements, transferred by her father to her brother

masters—to pass from one possessor to another ; applied to property."——*Jamieson.*

* Not Allan certainly—it is even doubtful if his son Gawin then possessed one.

Gawin, about to commence his bucolical career, was an ample dower; not to forget the generous donation of the grey steed,—the lordly possessor of hereditary trophies of ancient valour, armour, pennons, and ensanguined banners, won by the illustrious Allantons of departed memory, at the battles of Dundalk, Morningside, and elsewhere, dwindles down into the humble owner of a scanty farm, some stots, and “four moderlesse calvis!”

The rank and condition of the family is easily gathered from the testament without any commentary. It may be only observed, that the entire household plenishing and furniture,—the boards upon which they reposed their hardy limbs, after, in many cases, but a hopeless wrestling with a stubborn and ungrateful soil, where some of the common fruits of the earth never arrive at maturity,—the platters, trenchers, and salt-vats, &c. affording but slender means of appeasing the cravings of an appetite not a little exasperated by the vicinity to the keen air of the Shotts,—clothes, vessels, &c. &c. every thing within the walls of the steading, amounting to the mighty value of forty shillings, at that time the price of the common military implement, a cross-bow, a friar's cloak, or of the homely utensil, a mortar and pestle, adapted for an ordinary family.*

* “Item unum le corsbow, price xl^s; Item ane brasing mortar cum le pestell, price xl^s.” Original confirmed testament of the Vicar of Govan, in the year 1552; where also are noticed,

Contrasted with what these must have been, the goods and chattels in communion, in the well-known ballad of "The Vowing of Jock and Jynny," written at most a very few years after the death of Allan, if not even before it, that were to crown the approaching nuptial felicity of that rustic pair, which Lord Hailes has pronounced ludicrous and wretched,—and which he quotes as a good example of the "*curta supellex*" of the inferior orders of the community of Scotland in the sixteenth century, would nevertheless strike us as luxurious and profuse.

And yet the age was lavish in furniture, and apparel, or "abulziments" and moveables of all descriptions, to a degree that by a modern person could scarcely be credited, as might easily be proved by the adduction of many contemporary inventories—a mania which descended even to the lowest vulgar.

That Allan was a farmer, or rentaller, and not even a petty fowar, is evident from his allusion to the property which *in any shape he retained*;—to the "*steddingis** yat (he) haid of my Lord

"ane tangis and yrne schwill, price x^s.: three beif tubbis," price xx^s.

These prices are taken from the list of the "gudis and geir" of one "John Gib," burghess of Edinburgh, who died before the year 1570: "an diager, price x^s; *ane hat*, price xl^s; an auld frer's clak, price xl^s; ane plaid, price xl^s; ane irne chimnay, price v^{ll}; ane pair of black hoise, price iii^{ll}." *Edinburgh Commissary Records, 7th April 1571.*

* "Steddyng." A farm-house, and offices.—The farms were

Zester in Auchtermuir;"—and to the lands of *wester Daldüe*, belonging to the Bishop of Glasgow, in which Gawin is to be *rentalled*, and NOT INFERT:* The former, the ancient estate of Allanton, which, according to Candidus, was bestowed in full property, by the Church, upon their immediate vassal, Sir Allan Stewart of Daldüe [whose father was "*second cousin to Robert the Second*,"] in the year 1420, in reward of his *military services*! The other, upon the same authority, that still more venerable possession, or "*barony*," as it is called, "*upon the Clyde*" near Glasgow, that Sir Robert Stewart, the *progenitor* "certainly" of *one of the most ancient branches of the House of Stewart*," had obtained "in patrimony" from his father, Sir John Stewart of Bonkill, killed at Falkirk in the year 1298, to whom it is thus alleged originally to

small, and the *miserable steadings* (the old phrase for a farmhouse and offices) denoted the poverty of the tenants. "P. Alloa Clackmann, Stat. Acc. viii. 603.)"—I am exilit fra my takkis and fra my steddinjis. "Compl. S. p. 191." *Jamieson*.

* The term "*rental*" is abundantly known. Farmers, in these days, were for the most part stationary upon the grounds of their landlord, and hence sometimes came to be styled *native rentallers*.

I admit, that, as now, it was at this period expedient, occasionally, even for absolute proprietors, to rentall, or take in lease, some necessary portion of the territory of their neighbours; but it is extremely obvious, that, without a certain quantity of land *feudally* held, none then could be admitted into the ranks of gentry, or possess the smallest political consideration in the country. The speculations of Candidus upon the term *fewar* are now utterly irrelevant.

have belonged, and not to the See of Glasgow, who, notwithstanding, were the ancient proprietors.

The Family of Yester, or Tweeddale, held all Auchtermuir Blench of the opulent religious house of Arbroath,* upon which, previous to the reign of David II., the high privileges of a regality had been conferred.† Agreeable to the usage that prevailed in such great jurisdictions, the Abbot of Arbroath would, in the event of the general rising of the militia of the country to repel such an invasion as that of the Earl of Hertford, in the year 1547, evidently alluded to by Allan in his testament, have the leading of the men of Auchtermuir, who would necessarily rally under his clerical banner. By various notices, however, in the Chartulary of Arbroath, it appears that the Abbots were in the habit of delegating to their vassal, Lord Yester, the duty of discharging many of their civil rights, such as the office of justiciary, within the limits of Auchtermuir. Hence, they would not fail also to invest him with those of a military nature; and, accordingly, Allan Stewart, along with other peasantry of the muir, is to accompany Lord Yester, acting for the Abbot, to the border.‡

* The Tweeddale family were seated there as far back as the year 1432. Chart^y. of Arbroath, Ad. Lib^y. fol. 39. b.

† Ib. fol. 38.

‡ "Universis pateat per presentes nos David permissione divina Abbatem monasterii Sancti Thome Martiris de Abberbrothock et ejusdem loci conventus—fecisse constituisse et ordinasse—Nobilem et potentem Dominum Johannem Dominum Hay de

Mr John Brown, and that precious family manuscript, have so utterly metamorphosed those early members of the family of Allanton, that it might have defied their own acquaintance to have recognized them,—not to advert to the more obvious disguisements, for whom this personage, Sir James Tait of Ernock, stands proxy, I know not,—but I peremptorily defy any one to prove his existence. They have totally suppressed Gawin and Euphan, but dropt their own offspring into their nests; but these exotics, not agreeing with the change of climate, are all suffered piteously to die away; an expedient indispensable, in order to give the thing a natural appearance, it being rather an odd race that was in the habit of producing only one member at a time. When these authorities are so accurate in modern points, they must assuredly be much more so in those of greater antiquity; and hence, upon their bare allegation, and in the absence of any other evidence, we must believe in the prodigies of Dundalk and Morningside, and all that has been asserted of this unparalleled family. The eventual fate of Gawin and Euphan I have not been able to unravel; these are the only faint glimmerings I have detected respecting them.—I have now tres-

Zester, Johannem Ogilvy de Fingask," &c.—"et eorum quemlibet conjunctim et divisim nostros ballivos commissarios camerarios *justiciarios* infra regalitatem nostram de Abberbrothock et *Ethcarmore*." (5 April 1494.) Chart^r. of Arbroath, fol. 132. b.

There had also been previously a similar commission to John Lord Zester, dated 14 August 1488. *Ib.* fol. 124.

passed sufficiently, for the present, upon the attention of your readers—if their patience be not altogether exhausted, perhaps the residue of “the Historie” may be forthcoming in the course of your next number. J. R.

111, *George Street,* }
9th August 1817. }

P. S.—I see it is inaccurately stated, that “the learned and worthy Baronet” bears in his arms a spear, in commemoration of a tournament in which the Hero of the day of *Morningside* is supposed to have shared.—The fact is, that, on the 21st of December 1815, the present Lyon Depute—who exercises even royal prerogatives—conferred upon him, and certain heirs in remainder, by “Patent,” *a new honourable augmentation*, “a broken spear, surmounted by a helmet, as a *further mark of his* (Sir Allan’s) *gallantry in that engagement;*”—as also the motto, “*Virtutis in bello præmium.*” [Vid. Appendix.]

IV.

PEDIGREE OF THE FAMILY OF ALLANTON, IN THE LATE EDITION OF CRAWFURD’S HISTORY OF RENFREWSHIRE.*

THE best genealogists derive this family from Sir Robert Stewart, sixth son of Sir John Stewart of

* Published at Paisley, in the month of July 1818, inserted at p. 468 of that work.

Bonkle, or Bonkill, the second son of Alexander, sixth Lord High Steward of Scotland, and great-grandfather to King Robert II.* It has been said by some, that it sprung from a younger brother of Darnly and Castlemilk. That is also true; as the Darnly and Castlemilk branches of the name (that is, the Darnly and Dalswinton branches) are descended from the eldest two of the seven sons of Sir John Stewart of Bonkle, whereas the Allanton branch is from a younger son.† Sir John was killed at the battle of Falkirk, anno 1298.‡

I. Sir Robert Stenart was born about the year 1280, and obtained the lands of Daldowie, on the Clyde in Lanarkshire, which he held of the Archbishop of Glasgow. It appears that he accompanied his three brothers, Sir Allan Stewart of Darnly, Sir Walter Stewart of Dalswinton, and Sir Hugh, in the expedition to Ireland, under Prince Edward Bruce, and was present at the battle of Dundalk, an. 1318.§ He was succeeded by his son.

II. Allan Steuart of Daldowie, surnamed "Alnwickster." He early attached himself to the House of Douglas, under the celebrated Sir James, com-

* See Dun. Stewart's Hist of the Stewarts, p. 199. Sir Robert Douglas's Genealogical Table of the House of Stewart, &c. and they have been followed by Brown and others. -

† See the foregoing History, p. 127, where Mr Crawford speaks very vaguely, if not erroneously, on the subject.

‡ Hemmingsford, Tom. I. p. 165. Lord Hailes's Annals, p. 260.

§ Hollinshed's Chron. of Ireland, p. 67, 68.

monly called "the Black Douglas," and married into that family. From his bravery in heading a party, which stormed the castle of Alnwick in Northumberland, he obtained the surname of "Alnwickster.*

An. 1385 (according to the traditional accounts of the family) when Scotland was invaded by King Richard II., Allan, although then past sixty, commanded a chosen body of men, consisting of his own tenants of Daldowie, and others levied in the neighbourhood of Ruthglen, and was marching to join the army, then assembling on the borders, under the Earl of Douglas,† when he encountered, at a place named Morningside, in the moor of M'Morren, a detachment of English horse, which, on account of foraging or plunder, was scouring the country. After a severe conflict, the enemy were routed, but he himself was killed in the action. His remains were deposited in the Chapel of Beuskaig, close by Morningside, a Religious House, dependent on the Abbey of Aberbrothick, the Abbot of which was Lord of the district.‡ He was succeeded by his son, who became

* M. S. Hist of the family.

† Froissart, L. II. Ch. 149, 150. The English army on this occasion consisted of 60,000 men. The Scotch (says Hume) pretended not to make resistance against such a force; but as soon as they entered Scotland, by Berwick, on the east, the Scotch and French, to the number of 30,000, invaded Cumberland and Westmoreland on the west.—Hist. Vol. III. p. 12, 13.

‡ The ruins of the Religious House existed till within the last 40 years.

III. Sir Allan Stewart of Daldowie and Allanton. He seems to have been born about the year 1365; and, having accompanied his father in this expedition, he succeeded, on his death, to the command of the troops, which he conducted successfully to the rendezvous of the army, then about to enter Cumberland. According to the same accounts, at the close of the campaign, he obtained from King Robert II. at Lochmaben Castle, the honour of Knight Banneret, being knighted under the royal standard, together with the addition, to his paternal coat-armorial, of the Lion-passant above his Fesse Chequée. The above tradition is rendered the more probable from the circumstance of the district being from thenceforward named Allcath-Muir, that is, "the Muir of Allan's battle;" and the stream which waters its southern and western boundary, Allcath-water;* also from the names of various other places immediately adjoining, such as Cathburn, evidently Cathkers, &c. all indicating the site of the engagement, and evidently Celtic compounds. Moreover, from Ponts' M. S. (one of the most authentic Heraldic Records) we find the ancient

* *All* is the half of the name of Allan, and *Cath*, in the Celtic, signifies battle. In the same way, "Cathburn," denotes "the Burn of the Battle," or the rivulet where the engagement ceased; "Cathkers," the "field east of the Battle." Spears and Helmets have been found in the adjoining moss, or bog, in which, it is said, many of the English troopers were unhorsed and slain. M. S. Hist of the family.

bearing of Stewart of Allanton to be as above mentioned.*

The existence, however, of Sir Allan Stewart of Daldowie at this period, is proved beyond a doubt, by his being named as one of the witnesses to a charter, by King Robert III. dated 6th December 1393, and third year of his reign, "to Sir Adam Mure of Rowallan, and Dame Janet Danielston, his spouse, in conjunct fee, and so to the heirs to be procreate between them, whom failing to Sir Adam Mure's lawful heirs whatsoever, viz. Sir Reginald Mure of Abereorn, and Godfrey Mure of Caldwell, his grand-uncle and cousin, and their heirs, &c. of the lands of Polnekill, or Polkelly, Green, Dumblay, Ainsoch, Dardarroch, and Balgray, in Ayrshire, and the lands of Nemphlar, in Lanarkshire, to be erected into a barony, and to be holden ward.†

* Nesbit's *Heraldry*, vol. II. pp. 53, 299. It unfortunately happens, that the Lion-office, or Herald's College of Scotland, was burnt about 180 years ago; therefore there are no records to be found there of an earlier age than the beginning of the 17th century.

† See Robertson's *Index to ancient charters*, p. 143. This charter is in the possession of either the Earl of Glasgow, or of Lady Loudon. In a memoir found among the papers of the late Mr George Crawford, (by which it appears that he meditated a history of the House of Stewart on a much more extensive scale than that subjoined to his account of Renfrewshire) we find, that he had collected notices of many families of the name, and of that of Allanton among others, in which the latter appeared as witnesses to charters and seaisins, from the first one here quoted in 1393, down to the time of Sir Walter Stuart in 1643.

and in spite of the superior attractions of Daldowie, he, two years after, fixed the residence of his family, which never afterwards returned to the latter, when Lord Hay of Yester, some years after, became the first military vassal of the Abbot for the whole of this extensive district, Sir Allan of course, held his lands in a similar manner of that nobleman.*

In Paris, he had married a French lady, by whom he had a son, who succeeded him, and was,

IV. James Steuart of Daldowie and Allanton.

He was born about 1400, and surnamed "of Paris," from the place of his birth.† This James was a pacific character, and diligently cultivated his new possessions. When he married is uncertain; he was followed by his son,

V. James Steuart of Daldowie and Allanton, (and II. of that name) on account of his learning,

* When the Reformation took place, Lord Yester came in the room of the Abbot of Aberbrothick, and got a gift of the lands from the crown. Lord Somerville, in his Memoirs, says, that Allcath Muir was named "the Out-barony of Camnethan," and that his ancestor, the first Lord, held it of the Abbey of Kelso, or of Melrose, in which he is obviously mistaken; moreover, that he gave this large district to Sir William Hay of Yester, in marriage with his eldest daughter, Ao. 1427. See vol. I. pp. 168, 169. However that may be, it appears from the chartulary of Aberbrothick, (preserved in the Advocates Library at Edinburgh) that Lord Yester, and others, were appointed the "Baillies, Commissaries, and Justicers," of the Abbots, in the extensive regality of Aberbrothick and Ethcarmuir, as early as the year 1494. Fol. 122.

† MS. Hist. of the family.

surnamed the "Antiquary." He was born about 1433, and educated in France among his grandmother's relations.* He is said to have married a daughter of Somerville of Camnethan. He had two sons; 1. Adam, who died unmarried, and, 2. Allan, who succeeded him; also two daughters. There is a Charter still extant, by Walter Scott of Westlenflar, to Adam, son and heir to James Steuart of Daldowie, of certain heritages at Lanark, dated 16th August 1493.†

VI. Allan Steuart of Allanton. He was born about the year 1485, and married Elizabeth Tait, daughter of Tait of Elington and Little Ernock, or Tait's Ernock, to which estate she succeeded. In an Inquest, held at Lanark, before the sheriff of the county, 19th August 1532, in a proof relative to mails and duties, payable out of the lands of Udston, Tweedie, Hezzledean, we find Allan to have been one of the Jury.‡ Also he attended Lord Yester, and the governor of the kingdom, the Earl of Arran, An. 1547, in the Army which was levied to repel the invasion by the English, under the protector, the Earl of Hertford. There is a will or testament made by him on this occasion.

* MS. Hist of the family.

† In the Charter-chest of Allanton.

‡ The original record of this inquest is preserved in the charter-chest of Lochart of Lee. We find, also, an application to the lords of the council, by this lady and her husband, to protect her in her estate against the claims of the Earl of Arran. See Records of Privy Council, an. 1642, 6th July.

An Inventory is also given of his effects, and is registered in the Commissary-Court of Glasgow, 22d June 1548.*

Allan had two sons, Adam and Gavin, of whom the former succeeded him, and the latter died unmarried; also one daughter Eupham.

VII. Adam Steuart of Allanton, who married Marion, daughter of James Lockhart of Lec.† He had a son, James, who became his successor; and other children, who died in infancy or unmarried. He died An. 1574.

During the time of this Adam and his father, the doctrines of the Reformation had made considerable progress in Scotland, under George Wishart (who was put to death by order of Cardinal Beaton, an. 1546) and other popular leaders. Wishart was a particular friend of the family, and more than once escaped the pursuit of his enemies by concealing himself in Allanton House. The mode of conducting this dangerous but friendly office was curious. There was an apartment in the old tower of Allanton, formed out of the thickness of the wall; and,

* There is an inventory and testament, made about ten years after this period, by Sir Walter Scott of Buccleugh, ancestor to the Duke of Buccleugh, very similar to this curious paper. The debts and effects are inventoried in both in nearly the same simple and homely style, delineating the manners of the times. See Mr Walter Scott's Border History.

† Testament of Adam Steuart of Allanton, in favours of his lady, Marion Lockhart. In the Testament Register at Edin. 25th Sep. 1574.

when a friend or friends were to occupy it, they arrived during the night. A taylor, who was intrusted with the secret, was immediately set to work, with his back to the concealed door. There he mounted guard as long as it was found needful; and thus the prisoners were subsisted, without the knowledge of the servants of the family. The faithful taylor's appetite, of course, seemed gigantic; but it is not recorded that any unlucky discovery was ever made.*

VIII. James Steuart of Allanton, surnamed "of Langside,"† (and 3d of that name). He was born an. 1537. By a precept of James E. of Arran, dated at the palace of Linlithgow, 8th August 1579, we find him designed great-grandson of David Tait, of Ernock; in which last-mentioned lands he was then infeft. There is also a former charter of the lands of Tait's Ernock, granted by the same David Tait, dated 4th October 1484.‡ James married, first, Helen, daughter to John Somerville of Humbie, (a Cadet of the Somerville family) and, secondly, Margaret, daughter to Spens of Edinburgh.

James was an intimate friend of the celebrated John Knox, whose bold character he admired, and whose doctrines he zealously promoted. By Knox he was introduced to the Earl of Argyle, and the Earl of Murray, misnamed "the good Regent." He enjoyed, as it was said, much of his confidence,

* MS. History of the family.

† Id. Ibid.

‡ In the Charter-chest of Allanton.

and, in fact, became one of the most active partizans of that daring nobleman. At the battle of Langside, an. 1568, (where the unfortunate Queen Mary was defeated) James commanded under him with a troop of horse, and by vigorously repulsing the vanguard of the enemy, and gaining, before they could come up, the hill of Langside, he greatly contributed to the success of the action.*

It is unnecessary to quote farther; James was the grandfather of Sir Walter Stewart so pointedly mentioned by Somerville.

V.

LETTER FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE "VINDICATION OF THE MEMORIE OF THE SOMERVILLES," TO SIR HENRY STEUART OF ALLANTON, BART.

SIR,

THE true deduction of your pedigree, published by me in a former number of this Magazine, has not only never been openly challenged, either by you or your Champion "Candidus," but you have even in a private letter expressed your obligations to me for the light I had thrown upon a subject so extremely obscure, and *appeared* at least inclined to acknowledge, that you found yourself under the necessity

* MS. of the family. Dun. Stewart, p. 200. See page 271.

of acquiescing in several of the conclusions which I had elicited from my inquiries. In this state of things, I was willing to abandon a subject in itself of little moment; and, *as it seemed*, already *some-what* elucidated, even by the confession of those who felt most interested in its decision. In a word, I considered the "Salt-fat controversy" as at a close, and the authority of the Lord Somerville as abundantly vindicated and established.

It is *with no small surprise*, then, that I this moment have perceived, in the appendix to a late edition of Crawford's History of Renfrewshire, a *new* statement of the pedigree of what is there styled, "the most extensive *branch of the House of Stewart*,"*—(for it is thus that your family are designated,)—inserted *ex facie*, with your knowledge, if not by your express authority,†—and containing, with

* Page 468.

† The Editor, after hinting at the communications he had received from the Noble Families of the County, adds, "The Genealogy of the many respectable families of the other proprietors, has been continued from Crawford, by materials, *in nearly every case furnished by themselves, or which have been submitted to their inspection, and have met with their approbation.*" Preface p. 6.

[I am blamed, upon an after occasion, for addressing this Letter to the Baronet refuting the new pedigree of Allanton. I, however, have only exercised the right competent to every one of defending himself when *indirectly* attacked, and until the Baronet affirm he did not examine that article previous to its being published, I shall think it unnecessary to take farther notice of this cavil. I may only remark, that it is admitted,

some little variations, occasioned most clearly by my suggestions, a re-publication of that same fantastic lineage of the *Knights and Barons of Dal-due*,—of the feats of MORNINGSIDE,—of valour testified in the *Fields of France and England*,—of literary and antiquarian accomplishments possessed in the 16th, as it would seem, no less than in the 19th century by a Chief of Allanton,—in short, of all the exploded nullities which, as I amagined, I had for ever swept away. An attempt is besides made, *indirectly*, to refute myself; and things are stated which, if well founded, would infallibly convict me of error and misrepresentation. In consequence, therefore, of this publication, I find myself imperatively called upon *to defend what I asserted*, and to resume and complete a business I began in August last, which I have, from that period, allowed to remain unfinished, chiefly from a feeling of compassion and unwillingness to make your pedigree appear more openly absurd than was necessary. You have renewed the contest; if you again wish my forbearance, you shall have it.

The main position of my paper was a very simple one; viz. *that your family was scarcely emerging from obscurity after the beginning of the 16th cen-*

he furnished materials,—and the Editor intimates in the above passage, that the Genealogies were revised by “the many respectable *families* of the other proprietors” (of the county) in which class, I conceive, that of Allanton, is included, if they really, (as they have alleged,) be lineally descended from the High Stewards—the Barons of Renfrew.

tury. Your position is evidently as hostile as possible to mine. You have given to the world a pompous pedigree, "stuffed full of matter most portentous strange"—a long bead-roll of doughty Stewarts, *of* Daldüe, who, if we are to believe the statement, must have been in the 14th and 15th century as notorious and conspicuous in feats of arms and chivalry, in the interior of Scotland, as even the Douglasses and Percies were upon the border. The personages in your vision, like those which glided before the eye of Macbeth,—“Come like shadows, so depart,”—but each of them bears upon his brow some laurel wreath with which the grateful imagination of his descendants has invested him. Each bears some proud addition to his name. How would it surprise the honest yeomen *in* Wester Daldüe, or *in* Alcathmoor, could they hear themselves described in a fine quarto History of Renfrewshire by the magnificent cognomina which are lavished on their names? “ALLAN ALNWICKSTER,”*—“JAMES OF PARIS,”—“JAMES† THE ANTIQUARY,” &c.

* Hist. Stat. p. 469.

† Alnwickster. Alan the HERO OF MORNINGSIDE, so sur-named from another great exploit of his, namely, “*the Storming of the Castle of Alnwick in Northumberland;*” an achievement of which, as of the aforesaid battle, *no trace whatever is to be found*, save only in the invaluable MS. of Allantoun. In relating the old story of King Robert II. conferring the honour of knight banneret on Alan, the son of this Alnwickster, at the Castle of Lochmaben, the historian of the House of Allantoun takes occasion to make the following sage remark: “The above tradition,” i. e. the fable of Morningside, “is rendered the more probable

look very well in print; and so does the story of the zealous Calvinist, *the tailor*;" but I confess I should like to see some better authority for the existence of these famous persons than that of the "*MS. History of the Family. Once more I request you to substantiate the existence of these ancestors by any thing in the shape of EVIDENCE.*" The family MS. itself has never been seen by me, but a copy of it once fell into my hands, and I pronounce it to be palpably *a thing of modern date*, replete in almost every page with anilities and fictions. If you think better of it, submit it to the public inspection, and let the matter be so decided. You appeal to a *new* authority, indeed, for the existence of "Sir Allan the Bannet in 1392,

from the circumstance of the district being thenceforward named Alcaith-Muir; that is, 'the Muir of Alan's battle,' and stream which waters its southern and western boundary, Alcaith-Water: also, from the names of various other places immediately adjoining, such as Cath-hurn, Cathkers, &c. all indicating *the site of the engagement*, and evidently *Celtic compounds*!" Celtic compounds indeed they are; and that circumstance alone is sufficient to prove the absurdity of the whole matter. What would Mr John Pinkerton (ὁ Γολκωττας) say, should he hear of Celtic compounds framed in the parish of Shotts at the end of the 14th century, in the reign of a Stuart king, by the contemporaries of his favourite JOHN BARBOUR? But the Allantonian champion, who permits himself so many anachronisms in regard to *men*, may easily be excused for using a little of the same license in regard to *words*. Dean Swift's etymology of the word MARS is not more exquisitely amusing, than this derivation of Alcaith-Muir; a district which probably bore that name many centuries before any portion of it came into the family of Allanton.

(I mean either yourself or the framer of your statements,) alleging that,

*“The existence of Sir Allan Stewart of Daldue is proved beyond a doubt, by his being named as one of the witnesses to a charter by King Robert the Third, dated 6th December 1393, and the third year of his reign, ‘to Sir Adam Mure of Rowallan, and Dame Janet Janielston, his spouse, in conjunct fee, and so to the heirs procreate between them, whom failing, to Sir Adam Mure’s lawful heirs whatever, viz. Sir Reginald Mure of Abercorn, and Godfray Mure of Caldwell, his grand-uncle and cousin, and their heirs, &c. of the lands of Polnekill, or Polkelly, Green, Dumbly, Aiosoch, Daidauoch, and Balgray, in Ayrshire, and the lands of Neuphlar in Lanarkshire, to be erected into a Barony, and to be holden ward.’”**

Now I maintain, that whoever intimated to you this discovery, has either laboured under the strangest misconception, or fallen into as sad a misrepresentation as can well be imagined. For, in what manner is this confident allegation attempted to be upheld?—by the fallacious reference, “See Robertson’s Index, p. 143.” Where, I ask, in the whole compass of that page, or indeed in any part of the work, is there the faintest allusion to the valorous knight, who, it seems, was *the favourite of his cousin Robert the Second*,†—*a commander in the “Gens d’armes Eccossois,”*—and (can it be credited) the hero of “*Bauge*,”‡ and *Agincourt*.

There may be mention of *a Mure*, though very little to the above effect, but there is none whatever of the visionary “Banneret,” or of any of the name

* Hist. Stat. p. 470.

† Ib. ib.

‡ Ib. ib.

of Stewart, excepting Sir William Stewart of Jedworth, *Lord Galloway's* ancestor, from whom, unless you have entirely changed your ground, you cannot most certainly pretend to derive your descent.

What, again, are we to think of this other assertion, *That George Crawford meditating a history of the House of Stewart, "on a much more extended scale, had collected notices of many families of the name, and of that of Allanton among others, in which the latter appeared as witnesses to Charters and Seasines, from the first one here quoted in 1393, down to the time of Sir Walter in 1643."**

Why cannot you, then, exhibit some authentic extracts, if not the originals, of *one* at least or more of the earliest of these singular documents, which, by some strange fatality, have been so long secreted, and not a surmise of them imparted to any but the author of the statement? But *merely* to quote, as authority, the loose jottings of *Crawford the Peerage Writer*, (even allowing them to be as represented,) *whose errors, at other times, you are so anxious to expose,*†—what does this argue but the extreme weakness of your case, which has seldom been paralleled by many such in the world? And this is all you can adduce, in behalf of your brilliant au-

* Hist. Stat. p. 471.

† In order to falsify the theory of *that same Crawford*, of your being sprung from Castlemilk, you say in the first note to page 649, "See the foregoing history (of Renfrewshire) p. 127, where Mr Crawford speaks very vaguely if not erroneously on the subject."

cestry! For there is nothing else under this head deserving of a moment's attention.

I need not here again insist upon the complete taciturnity of our records and national annals of all descriptions, a fact which, of itself, so irresistibly disproves the existence of the heroes whose achievements you expatiate upon with so much complacency.

Having thus a second time cleared away the superfluous rubbish, I come to your undoubted ancestor, whom, after disclaiming, you are happy to receive from my hands, and admit into the bosom of your family.—“*Læta domus nato post sæcula longa recepto!*” This is Allan the rentaller,—the author of the noted testament in 1548,—the husband of Elizabeth Tait, daughter of Sir James the imaginary knight, who is at last discarded.* You style this Alan the son of a James Stuart of Daldue, (which last still labours under the miserable infatuation of supposing himself the spouse of a daughter of the Somervilles), and the brother of a certain Adam Stuart of Daldue: *I have indeed met with one “Adam Stuart IN Daldue,” about that period;* but that Alan was the son or brother of any one termed *of* Daldue, in other words, feudal proprietor of that small property, I absolutely deny. He could have been no other, as indeed will be ere long

* She was the daughter of an inconsiderable Feuar, “David Tait,” of whose land neither she nor her descendants could *secure* the possession. She attempted a litigation for that purpose, without success.

manifest, than the offspring of some honest though moderate individual, who rentalled of the Prelate of Glasgow the pendicle of "Daldue Wester," and was the first of your race of whom much, or indeed any thing, is known.

Τίς ; πόθεν ἔς ἀνδρῶν ; πόθι τοι πτόλις ἡδὲ τοκῆις ;

His testament in 1548, which some enemy has told you is "*very similar to that of Sir Walter Scott of Buccleugh*," published by Walter Scott in his *Border History*!"* has already appeared in

* I certainly observed, with no little surprise, the quotation of this will, by the Historian of the House of Allanton. It is a document with which I had long been acquainted, and which indeed, I myself, some years ago, pointed out to the illustrious Editor of the *Border History*. Since, however, you insist on instituting a comparison between Sir Walter Scot of Branxholm, or Buccleuch, and Allan Stewart, let it be so. I suspect one result of the investigation may be, regret on your part, that you should have put such a weapon into my hands. Let the rival chiefs move "*pari passu*" down the column.

WILL OF SIR WALTER SCOTT
OF BUCCLEUCH, KNIGHT,
1574.

WILL OF ALLAN STEUART IN
ALLANTON, 1540.

"In the first, the said umquhile Walter had the gudis, geir, &c. under the management of his servants, upon his Domains of Bellanden, Buccleuch, Newart, Catslake, Branxholme, &c.

"In the first, the said umquhile Alane had the gudis, geir, &c. upon Auchtermuire.

Twentie ane Queyis,
Twentie sax Stottis,

ane Quey,
tua Stottis,

this Magazine; (Blackwood's Magazine, No V. p. 480) and bears, in my humble opinion, no more likeness to that document, than the homely and rustic appearance of the worthy yeoman of Alcath-

Twentie sax oxin,
Three bullis,
Threttie sax ky, wyt sever-
ale calvis,
Eight hundrethe ande fourte
ane hoggis,
Threttine hundrethe ande nine-
tie siven schiep,
Twa Stirks.

Item in utencilis and domi-
cilis, to the soume of ane hun-
dretre pundis.

Item the said umquhile Wal-
ter had in his girnals of Hissin-
dene, Hawick, Branhholme,
Quhytlaw, &c.

j^cxv bollis of meale, j^ciii bol-
lis of bier, liii bollis of meale,
v pekkis of meale, xxv bollis xi
pekkismalt, j^clxxiv bollis aittis,
lxxxiv bollis of beir, lxxxiv bol-
lis of aittis, xxxix bollis aittis,
xvi bollis of peis.

five oxin,
ane bull,
tua ky, wyt foure mudyrlesse
calvis,
Twentie tua hoggis,
Threttie siven schiep,
Tua animales of tua yeirs,
Item in domicilis and uten-
silis, tua pundis.

In aittis sawin upone the
grunde, xl bollis,
In barley sawin, iii bollis.

"Followis the dettis awing to the deid:"

Imprimis—thair was awand
be Williame Douglas of Ca-
varse, for ye rest of ane thous-
ande merks, four hundrethe and
threttie three pundis vi^s viii^d.—
Item be Christiane Douglas,
Lady Trowne, xi bollis victuale,

Imprimis—Alan Lockhart of
lie, and Alisaundrie Lokert in
Wickitshaw, ix^{xx} merkis, of
quhilk I tak one my saule I get
never na payment of him ex-
cept j^c merkis.

muir probably did to the splendid arms and caparisons of the chivalrous hero of the borders.

Χρύσια χαλκίωσι, ἑκατόμοσι ἑνεαοσίωσι.

It really affords, I fear, but too clear an insight into the status in society of this imaginary descend-

half beir half malt, as for ye compositione of hir tiendis.

Item by William Fawsyd, for the fermes and teindis of ye barony of Ekfuirde, fourteine bollis vittale, half mele half beir, besides other rents payed by Tenants of that Barony, as well as by those at Hawick, Lempetlaw, Crukskelshiel, &c. &c. &c.

Soume of ye dettis awing to the deid.

j^m j^cxxxix^{li} xii^s iiiid.

Soume of the Inventor wyt the dettis,

v^m viiiflxxvii^{li} xii^s iiiid.

Soume of ye dettis awing to ye deid,

lxxx merkis.

Soume of ye Inventor wyt the dettis, besides the stocking on Auchtermuire not valued,

lxxx merkis and xls.

Followis the Dettis awand be the deid :

Item to ye Laird of Pharny-hirst, for ye rest of his tocher gude, ane thousande pundis.

Item ye Larde of Johnestoune, for ye rest of his tocher gud, ane thousande and foure hundrethe merkis.

Item to Sir John Stevinsoune, Vicar, Pensionar of ye forest kirke, for his pensoune of certane preceeding, lxxx merkis.—
Item to Mr Thomas Westoune,

In the first place, to the Laird, for the reot of the Land, twa markis,—Also, to And^w Cadder, xx markis,—to Gavin Stewart, lxxx markis, and iii markis to rentale him in Dail-dowie Wester, and Mosplat,—to Steill, xij^s,—to John Scot, xx^s,—to Janet John Spier, x pecks of barley,—to Alex^r. Roger, vi^s—to Thomas Smyth, iii^s, (including a few more insignificant

ant of Bannerets and Kings—as well as but too just an estimate of the good things of this life dispensed to him by providence; to it, therefore, I

as his particulre compte aucht payments to other such individuals.)
 hondrethe and fourtie score pund.—Item to Williame Morison, tailzeoure, for clathis making, xxxv^{li} iii^s.—To Thomas Scot, tailzeoure in Edr. xlj^{li},—to Janet Studemao in Hawick, for furnessing of ye plate, ane hondrethe twentie tua pundis,—To Hector Smyth in hawick, for schone to the lardis horse, sex^{li} xvij^s vi^d.—to Johne Hart, cuke in Edr. for his fie, twelf pund xii^s,—to James Linlithgow, gries, xliii^{li} vii^s viii^d,—to Adam Achesoune, Porter, aucht pundis,—to ye Gardner, sex^{li} xiii^s iii^d.

Item to YE GUDMAN yat is ye malt maker, and his Mao, twentie pundis,—to ye tasker (with a great number payments to other servants, workmen, and dependants).

Soume of the dettis awing be the Deid,

jiii^m iii^c lxxxvij^{li} iii^d.

Restis of frie geir, dettis deducit,

j^m iij^c lxxxv^{li} iii^s

Soume of the dettis awing be the deid,

xv^{li} viii^d and j^c xxviii^{li} viii^d.

Restis of frie geir, dettis deducit,

Nathing.

Followis the Legacie and latter will:

“ At Hawick, the ellevint day of Aprile (1574) the quhill “ I, Allan Stuart, appoint Elizabeth Tait, my wife, and

will not recur, though I cannot repress a smile at the attempts to counteract its baneful effects, and even to make it subservient in establishing the greatness and consideration of Alan.* I shall now, however, leave you in full possession of the precious muniment, happy, as your historian, in reconveying it to its indubitable possessor.

We are now arrived at the very modern epoch of the middle of the sixteenth century ; and after the strenuous and widely-extended researches, both public and private, which, ever since the date of my unhappy article, you have incessantly enforced, could it have

day Walter Scot of Braxholme, knight, maid constitut, and ordanit, James Erle of Mourtoune, Regent, to our soverane, &c. tutor, governore, and gidar, to his barnes and wife ; and failzeing him, Archibald, Erle of Angus ; and under thame, Johne Johnestone of that ilk, and John Cranstoune of that ilk, and als maid,—Margaret Douglas, (of the Angus family, and nearly related to the Regent,) his sponse, and his Barne, Margaret Scot, his executaris, testamentaris," &c.

James Douglas in Todhallis, my executaris.—Item I leyf to my wife my steddings that I haif of my Lorde Yeyster, &c. wyt all my gudis, movabill and immovabill, to be useit to the proffit and utilitie of herself, and Eflame Stewart, my dochter.—Item I ordane Gawyne Stewart, my sone, to geyf Eufame, my dochter, xx^{li} for geire yat I coupet to him in Edinburcht, and ane gray horse," &c. &c.

* He (Allan) attended Lord Yester, and the governor of the kingdome the Earl of Arran, anno 1547, in the army which was levied to repel the invasion by the English, under the Protector the Earl of Hertford.—Stat. p. 472.

Soon after Crawford's Peerage was published, there came out a " Letter to Mr George Crawford, (*the same already discussed*)

been imagined that, again mislead by romance, you should have pressed into your service a supposititious progenitor, *solely* to be commemorated in the singular episode that follows.

After Allan, you claim as your next ancestor, an "Adam Stewart,"

"During whose time, and that of the former (his father), the doctrines of the Reformation had made considerable progress in Scotland under George Wishart (who was put to death by order of Cardinal Beaton), and other popular leaders. Wishart was a *particular friend of the family*, and more than once escaped the pursuit of his enemies *by concealing himself in Allanton House*. The mode of conducting this dangerous, but friendly office, was curious. There was an apartment in the old tower of Allanton, formed out of the thickness of the wall; and when a friend or friends were to occupy it, they arrived during the night. A taylor, who was entrusted with the secret, was immediately set to work, with his back to the concealed door. There he mounted guard as long as it was found needful; and thus the prisoners were subsisted without the knowledge of the servants of the family. The faithful taylor's appetite, of course, seemed gigantic, but it is not recorded that any unlucky discovery was ever made."

"He had a son," continues the narration, "James, who became his successor." (Hist. Stat. p. 473.)

How, I repeat, are these facts ever to be instructed? You here force me again to enlighten

concerning his book, entitled the *Peerage of Scotland*, in which is this passage:

"Where you have discovered certain persons concerned in affairs of moment with the Douglasses, Hamiltons, &c. though some snarling persons may think it was in much the same way as *Rob Roy* at *Perth*, or some of the *Voluntiers* of the *Butter-Guard of Edinburgh*, you ingeniously place, and mention them in the same list, with those uncontroverted great persons, and thereby render them equally august and respectable."—Sett. p. 2.

you as to your family, and accordingly I shall disclose the real descendants, and their condition in life, of the much misrepresented Alan. I may only here remind you, that the latter made his will in 1548; and besides Euphame, left a son, Gavin, to whom he bequeathed eighty-three marks, "to rentale him at my Lordis Glasguis' hand of five merk land of Daildowe Wester (ans) xxj. schilling in Mossplat."

BARONY COURT OF GLASGOW, held by James the Archbishop, 14th of July 1553.

Here follow the names of those who were entered as *rentallers* upon the books of the Barony.*

* * * *

"GAWENE STEWART, SONE TO UMQUILE ALANE STEWART, is rentailit in three lib. vj. schilling viii. penny land in Daldowye vacande be ye deceisse of his forsaid father, last possessor thareof."

[Then follow other obscure individuals, who take this opportunity of renewing their leases, among the

* "Jacobus Archiepiscopus. Sequuntur nomina Rentellatorum in Baronia de Glasgow, decimo quarto Julii, 1553." The rest in our native language, as in the text. The parcel, or pertinent of Doldowy, as also Mossplat (which the family did not continue to rentall), were let of to several tenants. *Rentall-book of the Barony of Glasgow.*

rest "Ninane Haddok, in xij schilling vi. penny land in Westir Daldowye, be ye consent of Mergret haddok his sister, quha wes rentailit yeruntill," &c. &c. &c.]

* * * *

Again, Court of the Barony of Glasgow, &c. 22 April 1558.

* * * *

"Is rentailit JAMES STEWART, in vij. lib. viij. d. land in Daldowy vacand be decess of GAWIN STEWART, HIS FATHER, MARIOUNE LOKERT, HIS MOTHER, brukand conforme to ye licence grantit oure to him be ws off befor."

[Then, as formerly, the names of the other rentallers, &c. And, upon 3 January, 1563, Walter Scott, by consent of Ninain Haddock, is rentalled in xvj. schilling land there also.*]

By these notices your family obviously were increasing in their means: for, instead of a five, or something more than a six merk land, they now aspire to a seven pound land.

Farther, that this last James, *the "intimate friend of the celebrated John Knox,"*† (though Dr

* It is inaccurately stated in my other article, that, "the eventual fate of Gawin and Eupham" was uncertain, this remark of course being only applicable to the latter.

† "James was an intimate friend of the celebrated John Knox, whose bold character he admired, and whose doctrines he zealously promoted. By Knox he was introduced to the Earl of Argyle and the Earl of Murray, misnamed "The Good Regent." He enjoyed, *as it was said*, much of his confidence, and, *in fact*,

McCrie is unfortunately ignorant of the circumstance) as his *suppositious* father had been of the great Wishart,—was not an only son, as is alleged in your statement, but had a brother Alan also, a rentaller entirely suppressed, is proved by a retour still preserved on record, dated 25 of October, 1608, finding Alan Stuart in Garbat Hill, *Brother German* of the deceased James Stewart IN Allanton, nearest agnate, and consequently lawful tutor, to Elizabeth, his infant daughter.” *

An era, however, is at length to dawn in the person of James, no longer *rentaller*, but now *feuar* of Daldue Wester. “ This event occurred upon the 22d of December, 1598, when a Royal Charter, (the first expedé by your family,) passed the Great Seal, giving, granting, and disposing to him and Helen Somerville his spouse, in liferent, and to his eldest son James, and the heirs male of his body, IN FEU the five merk land of Daldowie, lying in the Barony of Glasgow; in return for which he is to pay annually to the Crown the sum of 57 shillings, four bolls, two firlots astricted multure of oats, one firlot astricted multure of wheat, two bolls and two firlots as horse-corn, &c. &c. and, in this charter, these

became one of the most active partizans of that daring nobleman. At the battle of Langside, ann. 1568, (where the unfortunate Queen Mary was defeated,) James commanded under him a troop of horse, and, *by vigorously repulsing the van-guard of the enemy*, gaining, before they could come up, the Hill of Langside, *he greatly contributed to the success of the action.*

* Register Office. Inq. de Tutel, No. 134.

lands are said formerly to have been OCCUPIED by him.*

Likeways in the "rentale of the temporalitie of Kirkland's," enumerating the various feu-duties payable by the new feuars, it is stated, that the lands of "Daldoue Wester" were in that very year "set in feu" to him for 57s. 6d. &c.

Soon afterwards, their interest in Daldue passed away into other hands. Hence, of this pretended "BARONY of Daldue,"—this actual pertinent or parcel of the barony of Glasgow, which has been "more than 300 years in the family"†—which "Sir John Stewart of Bonkill bestowed upon Sir Robert, his son, before the year 1298,"‡ your family never possessed, in any shape, more than the pendicle Daldue Wester.

Somerville then, upon the whole, I should imagine, has been *pretty* correct in his delineations of your family. Nor is he singular in his opinions. You would have obtained much the same information from old Duncan Stewart (occasionally quoted by you when it suits your argument), who not very inaccurately says, that "*Allan Stewart*" was the first who settled in Auchtermure, upon lands which he "IMPROVED THERE."§ When the former, there-

* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 42. No. 224.

† Hist Stat. p. 476.

‡ Candidus, Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, No. IV. p. 439.

§ Duncan Stewart's Hist. p. 199.

fore, talks of Sir Walter Stuart of Allanton (the grandson of the last James) as descended from ordinary *feuars* (a milder term, surely, than he might have employed,) it is with as great justice as when, upon another occasion, he styles him “ the GOODMAN of Allanton ; *for this actually was his appropriate designation*, and not, as Candidus has assumed, equally applied to the Somervilles, as the Parliamentary Records of the age, the best of all authorities, indisputably evince. In no one instance is Somerville of Drum there otherwise alluded to than as “ Drum,”* or “ Simmervell of Drum :”† but who figures upon the committee of war for the county of Lanark, 24th of July 1644, but the worthy knight, under the special epithet of the “ GOODMAN OF ALLANTON ? ” and almost immediately after, one of the last of the old line of the barons of Cambusnethan, “ Sir James Somerville.”‡

I have now, I conceive, established my position. The genealogy of your family, subsequent to 1500, is abundantly clear ; all previous is involved in obscurity. You have not a vestige of an authority to

* Recinded Acts.

† Ib. 2d. Feb. 646.

‡ Ib. From Sir James the younger brother of Sir Walter Stuart of Allanton, descended the knightly family of Coltness and their cadets ; men who, as Andrew Stewart has justly observed, “ would have reflected honour upon any line of ancestry.” They have opened up and enlarged various spheres of useful knowledge, and proved, in many great and public situations, eminently serviceable to their king and their country.

connect them with the house of Bonkill, as little to authenticate Sir Robert, the hero of Dundalk, or the numerous worthies his successors.

Much of the enlivening anecdote that embellished the lucubrations of Candidus is very judiciously retrenched in the new statement: the scene in the change-house of Cambusnethan, with its "exhilarating claret;"* the fable of "the lion," &c.—though we have in their place the story of "the Tailor," and an interesting anecdote of Oliver Cromwell.† But what are we to think of the assertion (though now rather hesitatingly persisted in), that "Sir Allan, the banneret," acquired, after 1421, directly from the house of Aberbrothock, and not from the Hays of Yester, "*lands to a considerable extent*" in Athcote-mure; or that he had made the acquisition before that noble family had come thither; and that it was not until *Lord Hay* of Yester, some years after, that is, subsequent to 1487 (for they were only then ennobled), became the first military vassal under that religious institution, that your ancestors began to hold of him, and were then, forsooth, precipitated to the level of his tenantry.‡ In refutation of which, I shall only quote one single authority.

* Candidus, Mag. N. V. p. 350. Ib. p. 349. Ib. p. 51.

† Hist. Renf. Stat. p. 475.

‡ Ib. p. 471, note.

maben Castle, of the lion passant to Allan the banneret, as an honorary augmentation,*—"the Irish expedition,"—and the feeble attempt to prove the existence of the "BATTLE OF MORNINGSIDE," now, however, dwindled into a mere foraging skirmish, &c. &c.,—I must indeed, for the present, wave their discussion, because, to use the words of your old antagonist, "I am really tired of PURSUING (your subject) THROUGH SUCH A VARIETY OF ERRONEOUS STATEMENTS AND UNFOUNDED CONJECTURES."* To every person who has the smallest knowledge of history, antiquity, or law, I feel abundantly satisfied, the point is self-evident. I have proved, that all your claims of connexion with the house of Bonkill, and all the achievements of the earlier ancestors, of whom you are pleased to suppose yourself the descendant, are "baseless as the fabric of a vision:" that of them, and all their doings, every record and every tradition is silent, excepting only one modern record of modern traditions, one garrulous compilation—the *MS. History of the Family*. The whole superstructure which has been erected, resembles that gorgeous but unsubstantial palace in the Oriental tale, which was raised

* *Ib.* p. 470. *Candidus*, Mag. No. IV. p. 351.

† *And. Stew. Supp. to Gen. Hist of Stew.* p. 106. The editor of the *History of Renfrewshire* describes the article of Allanton as one "much more perfect and curious than is usually to be found amidst the inherent sameness of genealogical disquisition," p. 476.

by the power of the African necromancer, and which, on the first application of the more effectual magic of THE LAMP, vanished into thin air, and left the site of its flimsy splendours in all the original nakedness of the uninhabited desert. Should I feel disposed to take any farther notice of this unpromising subject, the recent matriculation and notices of your family in the Lyon Register might supply me with abundant materials; and a few remarks upon the present practice of that court might furnish no inapt termination to such a disquisition as the present. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. R.

*Edin. 111, George Street,)
July 6, 1818. }*

VI.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR OF THE HISTORY OF RENFREWSHIRE,
ON THE LETTER FROM MR J. R. TO SIR HENRY STEUART OF
ALLANTON, BART.*

MR EDITOR,

By a letter in your Magazine for July last, addressed to Sir Henry Steuart, Bart. and subscribed

* Blackwood's Magazine for the Month of September, No XVIII. p. 709.

J. R., I find that that gentleman is much "surprised" that I should presume to publish (without first asking his permission, I suppose), in my account of the House of Steuart, a genealogical deduction of the Steuarts of Allanton, Coltness, Goodtrees, Allanbank, and others, a subject, it seems, which he has thought fit to interdict to all writers except himself. This no doubt is abundantly dictatorial. But I, on the other hand, am surprised that he should not have written directly to myself, who am alone responsible for my publication, instead of addressing a gentleman who has nothing to do with it, although he undoubtedly assisted, along with others, in furnishing me with the materials from which the article is drawn up. Moreover, I am surprised that, when Mr J. R. did write, he did not do it with greater accuracy, considering the lofty pretensions which he makes to that necessary qualification in a genealogist.

On inquiring of the Honourable Baronet, to whom the letter is addressed, whether he meant to reply to it, he said, "Certainly not—that about twenty years ago he had a genealogical dispute with a gentleman now deceased—that he had then resolved never to have another, and having ever since adhered to that resolution, he had not the slightest intention of departing from it on the present occasion."

For this reason I feel myself unavoidably called upon to offer you a few observations on the letter of Mr J. R.

In the accounts which I have given of the many ancient and noble families in the late History of Renfrewshire, authenticity and candour have been my principle objects. In all these accounts, I have quoted charters, where charters were to be found; and I have referred to tradition, or family history, where other documents were wanting, leaving it to the candid reader to judge for himself; and give or withhold his assent, as he might see cause, or might feel inclined. What, I would ask, is the chief ground on which accounts of early ages of almost all families rest, when we go back only three or four centuries? Unquestionably tradition; that is, the narratives of early annalists, or local and domestic historians. How is the descent of the noble families, for instance, of Hamilton, of Douglas, of Cathcart, of Ross, and many others, for the first two or three hundred years supported? By tradition. How is that of Walkinshaw, of Whiteford, of Houston, of Achirnames, &c. some of them for two, and some of them for nearly three centuries? By tradition. How are the wide chasms in the genealogy of these, and of almost all ancient families filled up? Still by tradition. I mention these few examples in my own work, and I could add innumerable instances from the works of others, to shew that no genealogist, any more than myself, ever dreamed of being able to authenticate, by charters, *every* link in a chain of ancient descent, or that any candid reader ever doubted the general truth of a genealogy, because a "charter, with seals appended," could not in *every*

instance be quoted, History, and private memoirs, and local names, and circumstances, are often found, when *taken together*, to furnish as satisfactory proofs as charters themselves. If this were not the case, what would become of the bulky tomes of Archdall and Dugdale, of Crawford, of Douglas, or of Wood, in respect of the early ages? It is plain, that they would soon be reduced to the size of a single pamphlet.

There are two circumstances that have together concurred in occasioning a want of evidence respecting the more early ages of our Scottish families. The first is the general sweep which was made of the archives of the nation by Edward I. of England, in his insidious policy to annihilate the very remembrance of Scottish independence. The second is the little attention that our ancient barons paid to the preservation of their family papers. *Their charters were their swords.* "By these we gained our lands, and with these we will defend them," was their spirited reply to one of the most energetic of their monarchs, who made inquiry as to their title-deeds. This anecdote itself is traditional, and there is no direct testimony of it preserved, to satisfy the fastidious critic. Even where families have been fortunate enough to preserve some of their most ancient charters, it is still a difficult task to arrange them in succession, and properly to identify the different individuals. This must be apparent to any one who reads attentively the genealogical deductions of the families of the Peers

and Barons of Scotland, although given with all the care and acuteness of the above mentioned genealogists.

All this Mr J. R. knows as well as I do; and he further knows, that there is not, in the great mass of genealogies recorded in the Renfrewshire History, probably half a dozen that are better authenticated than the one which he has been at so much pains to vilify and refute. But he seems to have been resolved, at all events, to make the attempt, however little creditable it might be to himself; for instead of that fairness and candour, to have been expected from a gentleman and a scholar on such a subject, we meet with little else than captious remarks, dogmatical assertions, and vulgar petulance; and, above all, with an over-weening self-sufficiency, that pervades the whole. In fact, it seems to be a *genealogical persecution*, set on foot before this time, and still kept up, against the Honourable Baronet, in a style the most virulent and illiberal, and at times even ludicrous, as in the attempt to stigmatise his ancestors for the great offence of being cultivators of the Shotts Moors; a district, by the bye, which none of them ever inhabited.

But, sir, how stands the fact? The Steuarts of Allanton, Coltness, Goodtrees, Allanbank, and their cadets, I must maintain, are one of "the most ancient and respectable branches of the House of Stuart; and, next to the descendants of King Robert II. they are perhaps the most extensive branch of that great family. According to most

genealogists, they are descended from the sixth son of Sir John Steuart of Bonkle; and, according to others, from a younger branch of the house of Darnly; either of which origins is sufficiently illustrious. I have distinctly proved, and by charters too, that they have held lands in Lanarkshire for more than 400 years back—that no fewer than four baronetages have been conferred on them, and three of the number above a century ago—that since the above period, they have intermarried with some of the first families in this kingdom, producing men who, according to the acknowledgement of Mr J. R. himself, “have opened up and enlarged various spheres of useful knowledge, and proved, in many great and public situations, eminently serviceable to their king and their country.” See Mag. No XVI. p. 445.

Having said thus much on the subject in general, I shall now proceed, shortly, to notice a few instances, in which this gentleman has either misconceived or misrepresented my account. Thus, in the *continuation* of the History of Renfrewshire, p. 477.—not the *appendix*, as Mr J. R. calls it,—I have the following note: “The account of the early ages of *this* most extensive branch of the House of Steuart is not so fully or correctly given, as the editor would have been enabled to do, had some very important documents from a respectable quarter arrived in time to be introduced into this account.”—On this passage Mr J. R. makes the following remark (see Mag. No XVI. pp. 438, 439): “It is with no small surprise,” says he, “that I this mo-

ment have perceived, in the *appendix* to a late edition of Crawford's History of Renfrewshire, a new statement of the pedigree of what is there styled 'the most extensive branch of the *House of Steuart*,' for it is thus that your family are designated, &c. &c.; in short, all the exploded nullities which, as I imagined, I had for ever swept away." —Now, independent of the ludicrous self-sufficiency implied in supposing that no one is to presume to state a fact which he has called "a nullity," I have said nothing like what is here alleged. I have said merely, that the family in question is a *most* extensive, that is, a *very* extensive branch of the House of Steuart, which is entirely a different thing. 'To misquote a man first, and then to reprehend him for saying what he never said, is an old but rather a stale trick in controversy, which I could scarcely have expected Mr J. R. to have been so weak as to have had recourse to.

At the same page, 439, in the foot-note, what is quoted from me there does not apply to the Stenarts at all, but "to the proprietors of the county of Renfrew," among whom I do not understand that there ever was a single Steuart of the house of Allanton. This trick is pretty nearly of the same complexion as the preceding.*

Respecting the Celtic compounds supposed to be connected with the conflict of Morningside, Mr J. R. asks, with an air of triumph, "what would

* [This has already been adverted to in the previous article. J. R.]

Mr John Pinkerton say, should he hear of Celtic compounds framed in the parish of Shotts at the end of the fourteenth century?" Here he gets into his favourite haunt of the *Shotts* again, in which parish not one foot of the places mentioned exist. As to Mr Pinkerton, that learned writer knows very well, if Mr J. R. does not know, that it is not easy to determine at how late a period Celtic compounds may have been framed for the names of places, and that these may have been framed for many places, even in the low country, after the fourteenth century.

At p. 440, Mr J. R. accuses me of making a fallacious reference to Robertson's Index to Ancient Charters, p. 143. "Where, I ask," says he, "in the whole compass of that page, or indeed in any part of the work, is there the faintest allusion to the valorous knight," Sir Allan Steuart of Dal-dowie? But I maintain, that the fallacy here lies solely in his own objections. Who, let me ask in return, ever thought of looking into an index for the *contents* of a charter? But the Index is quoted to shew that such a charter *existed*, and that it was seen, and had passed through the hands of Mr Robertson, a most accurate man, at the time the Index was compiled; and it is immediately added, that it is to be found in the possession of either the Earl of Glasgow or Lady Loudon, as the lands in question belong now to one or other of those noble persons. An appeal is further made to a memoir found among the papers of the late Mr Geo. Craw-

furd, by which it appears that he, as well as Mr Robertson, had seen the charter in question; and as they both are writers of character, and both take notice of it without any concert with each other, it affords the fullest proof of the existence of the charter, and, by consequence, of Sir Allan Steuart of Daldowie, in 1393. See Hist. of Renfrewshire, p. 470.*

There is a gentleman in Edinburgh, by name John Riddel, Esq. advocate, supposed to be an accurate inquirer, and with whom Mr J. R. is perhaps acquainted, who drew up the genealogy of Lord Ross for my book, (see p. 513) and in that article this gentleman very properly makes use of the same sort of evidence with respect to the Rosses, as indeed is done by all genealogists,

“They,” says he, “*certainly* had fixed themselves in Ayrshire, as vassals of the Morvilles, soon after the middle of the twelfth century. For Sir James Dalrymple expressly says, that *he had seen a charter* by Richard de Morville, constable of Scotland, ‘Henrico de Sancto Claro,’ of the lands of Hirdmonston; which charter,” he adds, “must have been granted in the beginning of Richard de Morville (’s time), who succeeded his father, Hugh, in 1162. Among the witnesses are, Robertus fillius Warnebaldi, the first of the family of Glencairn, and Godpidus de Ros. Crawford, the author of this history, being the same author whom I have quoted, also *affirms* in his M.S. baronetage, that Godfrey de Ros, Reginald de Ros, and James his brother, *test* another grant of the same personage to the ancestor of the family of Loudon, in the reign of King William the Lion. The existence of these individuals,” Mr Riddel adds, “and of two more named by him, may be found by other evidence.”

* [Here, indeed, is a notable piece of ignorance, and what is

But he, of course, thinks it quite superfluous to produce any other, after such *satisfactory* testimony. Thus, then, the same kind of evidence which is found to be satisfactory and conclusive by John Riddel, Esq. advocate, when drawing up, without prejudice or partiality, an account of the family of Ross, is loudly objected to, and held wholly inconclusive by Mr J. R. in the fulmination of his spite against the Steuarts of Allanton, predetermined, right or wrong, to deny their very existence at this particular period of history!

In page 443, Mag. there is notice taken of the only real error I have fallen into, and which, though not very surprising, in so extensive a deduction of generations, Mr J. R. fastens upon with great avidity. He knew it was the only thing which could be *fairly* reprehended in the whole article, and thence his supercilious triumph becomes truly amusing. "You here," says he, "*force me to enlighten*

best, Mr G. R. founds materially upon a *palpable mistake*. Mr Robertson never saw more than the *Title of the Charter*. He was merely, as is notorious, the Editor of an old Roll or *Index* in which that Title and *nothing else* is contained. *The Charter* is no longer extant. Even supposing Mr Robertson to have seen it, what would that have proved? (for it will be particularly observed, it is *not* affirmed, in the text, that "Sir Allan of Daldowie" is *there mentioned*.) Because, forsooth, he and Crawford happened to cast their eyes upon a document that passed in the year 1393, that "*by consequence*," (affords the *fullest* proof of the existence) of "Sir Alan Steuart of Daldū" at the same period!! Most cogent reasoning truly, it must be allowed.—J. R.]

you (Sir H. Steuart meaning) as to your family, and therefore I shall disclose their *real* descendants, and the condition in life of the much misrepresented Allan."—And what is the result of this grand disclosure? From the pompous annunciation that introduces it, I began to conceive that my entire statement was to be overturned, and a new and more authentic one substituted in its place. But to my surprise I found, that in stating (in p. 472, Ren. Hist.) the sons of Allan Steuart of Allanton, Adam and Gavin, I had merely put the one for the other, and said that the *former* succeeded his father, and the *latter* died unmarried. Whereas, I probably ought to have said, that "Allan had two sons, Gavin and Adam, of whom the former got Daldowie, and the latter Allanton; that Gavin married Marion Lockhart of the Lee family, and died before 1558; and that, on the decease of Adam without issue, in 1574, James, the son of Gavin, succeeded to both properties." That Adam married a Marion Lockhart, also of the Lee family, is sufficiently clear from his registered testament, quoted in note, p. 472 of my book.*

* [As these points turn merely upon matter of fact, I deem it more advisable to notice them in this place. The information I communicated was important, and I certainly should have expected more gratitude in return; formerly a legal connection could only be instructed with James, the first feuar; but now, in consequence, a service (no doubt, partly through Rentallers) might be expedite even before the Sheriff of Edinburgh, up to Alan the Rentaller—a period of more than three centuries. The fact is, that most certain of all Records, the family MS. had made the

In p. 444, Mag. Mr J. R. says, that the name of Allan Steuart in Garbethill, brother to James Steuart of Allanton (the third of that name), is suppressed, this James being stated, as he asserts, to be "an only son." Here is another instance of this accurate critic misquoting me first, and then correcting *what I never stated*. I have expressly said, that James's father had "other children who

son and heir of "James" i. e. this Alan, a "James Steuart." He, however, had lately been discharged, and there was substituted an "Adam Steuart," a progenitor equally fictitious, of whom, this sybilline volume had even begun to promulgate anecdotes. I then adduced undoubted evidence that *Gawin* was the "righteous heir"—the same who, in the new Pedigree, is said to have "*died unmarried*." (Hist. Renf. p. 472.) Here, to be sure, a mistake is acknowledged—"THE ONLY REAL ERROR," *it seems, that has been committed!* but, how does my opponent account for it? that to his surprise, in stating the *sons* of the above Alan, Adam, and Gawin, (of whose very existence this accurate MS. was ignorant,) he "had merely put the one for the other," whereas he supposes he should have said, that he had two sons, "Gawin and Adam, of whom the former got Daldue, and the latter Allanton." *Most unfortunately, however, for this Theory, there is, as yet, no evidence of any son of the name of Adam:* There was, indeed, a certain Adam Stuart, the person here alluded to, who married a "Marion Lockhart," perhaps (for I do not speak confidently), Gawin's relict, who held steadings in Aochtermure; in all probability some near connection, who was little known, and who died without issue.

The assertion that his testament (still extant among the Commissary Records in Edinburgh), proves him to have married one of the Lee family is quite erroneous, there being nothing in it to that effect; neither is it yet established, that such a match had been contracted by Gawin. J. R.]

died in infancy or unmarried" (see p. 472, *Ren. Hist.*); and I did not consider it necessary, in the account of this family, more than of any other in the work, to notice *every* unmarried descendant.

In the same page, another notable example occurs of the style of reasoning of Mr J. R. It is stated in page 473, that James Steuart of Allanton was a friend of the celebrated John Knox. This, it may very easily be conceived, might have been the case, and it is given on the authority of the MS. history of the family, which there is no reason to doubt. Mr J. R. however, at once *proves*, that the statement is altogether unfounded, "because," says he, "Dr M'Crie, *who wrote 250 years after*, is unfortunately ignorant of the circumstance!"—This, after all, might be meant as a display of wit; and as there is but a very scanty display of that article in the whole letter, it shall be allowed to pass.

In page 441, *Mag.* in the foot note, where those two very curious documents, the wills and testaments of Sir Walter Scott of Buccleugh, and Allan Steuart of Allanton, are introduced and compared, Mr J. R., in his anxiety to vilify the latter, observes, that some *enemy* must have said, that the one was similar to the other, and that there may be regret that such "a *weapon* should have been put into his hands" (meaning Mr J. R.) Now I am of opinion that it must rather have been some *friend* who observed the similarity of the two documents; and as to *regret*. I feel none at all on the subject,

as it has turned out to be a *very edgeless weapon* in his hands. Whoever will take the trouble to bring the accounts of the "geir and dettis" of the two parties into fair comparison, will find that the Laird of Allanton, in those times, ranked, in all probability, nearer, in regard to wealth (the only point in question), to the Knight of Buccleuch, than their respective representatives do to each other in the present day. For though, in one view of the account, there "restis of frie gier, dettis deducit,—nathing" on the part of Allanton, yet, it is expressly stated, that the stocking in Auchtermuir "is not valued;" besides which, there are the testamentary bequests to his wife and daughter afterwards specified. On the other hand, on the part of the "unquile Walter" of Buccleugh, after all the splendid enumeration of his guidis and gier, there rests only of frie gier, dettis deducit," £1385, 0s. 4d. Scots, equal to only £115, 8s. 8d. I am much mistaken if the present Baronet of Allanton would not thank Mr J. R. very much if he could bring the "guidis and gier" of the two families *now* to the same proportional equality.

In the same spirit of detraction, at p. 444, Mag. he again brings forward the appellation of "Goodman" as an appropriate, and, as he means, a degrading name for Sir Walter Stewart of Allanton. Now, I can readily admit, that in the present time, it is seldom applied to any one above the rank of a husbandman or country farmer, and perhaps Mr J. R. may flatter himself that it may go down with

the general mass of his readers, as admitting of no other interpretation in ancient times. But this gentleman must be aware (or he must be much less informed than he professes to be) that, at the period in question, and long after, this appellation was appropriately bestowed on landed proprietors of very considerable rank. Thus, an instance occurs in the Continuation of the History of Renfrewshire, p. 301, where, at the meeting at Chitterfall in 1666, there was present, among other respectable landlords, "the goodman, younger of Caldwell Wester, or of that ilk," representative of a family of considerable eminence, and whose estate was considerably the largest of the two Caldwells, as may be still seen in the valuation roll of the parish of Nielstoun. Neither will it be difficult to shew, that in those ancient times the term "Goodman" was applied to persons of a higher rank still. Even the ancestors of nobility at present in the highest rank were so designated, and at a time too when their importance in the state was as great, or greater, than their descendants now enjoy, whilst their wealth was little, if at all less; but one example, in particular, must be still more conclusive than any, as it is of a proprietor contemporary with the Goodman of Allanton, namely, Sir James Hamilton of Broomhill, father to the first Lord Belhaven, who is styled "*the Goodman of Broomhill*," by the accurate and authentic Lord Somerville himself. See Mem. vol. ii. p. 406.

The smallness of the *valued rent* of the Allanton

by the charter quoted; it is stated by me, Hist. of Renf. sh. p. 472, that there is a charter still extant, by Walter Scott of Wesclenfar, to Adam, son and heir to James Steuart of Daldowie, (*Ade Steuart, filio et heradi Jacobi Steuart de Daldowe,*) of certain heritages at Lanark, dated 16th August 1493. For the authenticity of this document I can confidently vouch, having myself inspected it. Now, supposing this Adam to have been not older than one and twenty when the charter was granted in 1493; and further, supposing his father James, the second of that name, to have died in the very same year, at the moderate age of 60, that would prove the *existence* at least of the family in 1433, even allowing this last mentioned gentleman to have had neither father nor grandfather at all!—and thus the main position of Mr J. R. *is completely annihilated*. But I believe that I shall soon have put into my hands far older charters than this, whereby will be distinctly shewn, that the family possessed the same lands from a much earlier period, and before 1393.

Upon the whole, I presume to think that I have now pretty satisfactorily answered all the captious objections of this doughty critic, and have certainly detected some misrepresentations and even fallacies.—Not that I impute designed falsity to him, but that, in the blind impetuosity of his zeal to vilify this family, he has overstretched the boundaries of sober reason, and unwillingly, it may be, even of truth itself.

Were I again to give an account of this ancient,

respectable, and "most extensive" branch of the House of Steuart, for any thing that has been brought forward by him against its genealogy, I could alter little or nothing, far less suppress what has already been given. It might, however, be advantageously enlarged and illustrated, by introducing into it a full detail and comparative statement of the two testaments and inventories of the "gudis and geir belonging to the Knight of Buccleugh, and the Laird of Allanton, and they might be made to move *pari passu* down the column," in the same manner as Mr J. R. has so obligingly pointed out.

To my late History of Renfrewshire, in spite of this gentleman's impotent attack, I take the liberty to consider the article in question as a most valuable addition; and I believe better judges than he is, and certainly more candid critics, are of the same opinion. It is with genealogical as it is with every other species of *intolerant persecution*; it only brings its objects into greater repute, and procures for them a greater share of the public partiality. Ten persons will now be attracted to read the fair and impartial account which is given of this distinguished branch of the Steuarts in this work, to one that would have read it, had he abstained from his injudicious censure; I therefore feel personally indebted to him in so far, for having contributed to bring my book into greater notice than it otherwise could have acquired by its own merit. I believe, too, that the honourable Baronet should feel indebted to Mr J. R. for labouring to expose the errors

of *Candidus*, who seems to have been but imperfectly informed on the subject, and for inducing himself as well as others of his family, to collect the ample and authentic materials from which my late account was drawn up.

G. R.

Bower-Lodge, Sep. 8. }
1818.

VII.

REPLY TO THE REMARKS.

THE Honourable Baronet has then declined to take up the gauntlet, an intention he has publicly announced through the medium of his learned advocate, Mr G. R.

“ On enquiring of the honourable Baronet, (says the successor of *Candidus*,) to whom (my) letter is addressed, whether he meant to reply to it, he said “ certainly not—That about twenty years ago, he had a genealogical dispute with a gentleman now deceased,* that he had then resolved never to have another, and having ever since adhered to that resolution, he had not the slightest intention of departing from it on the present occasion.”

Without penetrating into the motives for this step, it might possibly surprise us that he who, in his attack upon the House of Castlemilk, and its

* Andrew Stuart, I presume.

able defender, so irrelevantly started the question of his birth, should be first to forsake it when seriously menaced,—and leave its fates and fortunes in the hands of a stranger.—I have only to add, if he ever feel inclined to resume a contest which, at least, *ostensibly*, he has quitted, I shall be happy at all times to attend his summons; though certainly with no anxiety or apprehension as to the result.

In regard to my new opponent, I conceive he has lamentably failed in the task he has undertaken. Amid the invective that is poured upon the supposed enemy of the House of Allanton, there is no new fact,—no single argument, that can alter the original complexion of the case; I am only required to expose statements which often carry with them their own refutation.

Seemingly aware that the descent from the “sixth Son of Bonkill,” the existence of the Knight of “Morningside,” the Knight Banneret, and the early ancestry rest solely on some very modern and idle rumour, he would fain liken to tradition, he commences his feeble and desultory remarks with a pathetic eulogium in favour of that species of testimony—“what, I would ask, is the chief ground on which accounts of early ages of almost all families rest, when we go back only three or four centuries? *unquestionably tradition*; that is, the narrative of early annualists, or local and domestic historians—How is the descent of the noble families, for instance, of Hamilton, of Douglas, of Cathcart, of Ross, and many others, for the first two or three

hundred years supported? by *tradition*. How are the *wide chasms* in the genealogy of these, and of almost all ancient families filled up? Still *by tradition*,"—"History and *private memoirs*, and local names and circumstances, are often found, when taken together, to furnish as satisfactory proofs as charters themselves."*

Now, not adverting to the absurdity, and falsity of these assertions, and the *high compliment* paid to some great and noble families, I contend he is here signally unfortunate, for if the case were to be tried by this test he proposes, it would clearly be irretrievably ruined: the only tradition transmitted to us having declared, that the family of Allanton are sprung, not from the sixth son of Sir John Stuart of Bonkill,—but from *Castlemilk*.

1st, Intimation by Crawford in his History published in 1710 that they were "*Cadets*" of *Castlemilk*.†

2dly, Matriculation, in the Lyon Register in 1695, bearing, a Walter Stewart in London to be descended of Allanton, "And that again of *Castlemilk*."

3dly, "*For by their own traditional account, (Allanton's) their predecessor was an immediate younger Brother of Castlemilk.*‡

* Remarks, p. 70.

† Hist. Renf. New Edit. p. 127.

‡ Dunc. Stewart's Hist. published in 1739, p. 150. If so; all the *lawful* branches being minutely accounted for by the industry of Andrew Stewart in his History of the Stewarts, it

Even had it been favourable, it were indeed rather humiliating, after the confident claims to better evidence, to supplicate its aid; Independantly of being falsified by the *very instances brought to support it*,* the credit of tradition has long sunk in points of fact, and genealogy, and has been rejected by men of the greatest talents and discrimination. "Much faith," says Dr Johnson, sneeringly, "is due to tradition."—"Popular tradition, (observes Lord Hailes,) is the most inaccurate of all histories, it records in Angus every particular of the last days of Macbeth, and it points out the very spot where the fabled Hays turned the chance of the imaginary

would seemingly be through an *illegitimate* channel. I do not however, look upon these authorities as of much weight—I only quote them to prove the fact of the tradition—They certainly infer a descent, *de facto*, from the *branch of Castlemilk*. The quibble at p. 37, is not worth noticing; nay, *in fact*, it is a palpable Iricism.

* The tradition certainly too of some antiquity, and even mentioned by our national historians of the descent of the Hamiltons from Sir Gilbert the English Exile, and the assassin of the Spencer, is completely fabulous, and has long been exploded. In like manner, that of the Douglasses from the imaginary Sholto.—As to the families of Cathcart and Ross, there is nothing of the kind strictly applicable to them, and all that can be asserted with accuracy of any of their Pedigrees, or indeed of those of our ordinary barons, may be found (for our Records are not so defective) in legal documents, such as charters, seaisines, and other instruments, and extracts from the Chartularies of religious Houses. For centuries backwards, their pedigrees may thereby be instructed, without any of those *wide chasms*, as G. R. has pretended.

Battle of Luncarty. By tradition, Wallace has been degraded into a hero of Romance, a Giant, and a combater of evil spirits, and, indeed, he is scarcely known to the vulgar under any other character.*—I cannot resist the temptation of quoting one other observation inculcated by the same eminent Antiquarian, singularly apposite on this head, "That if—persons are not satisfied with a——Pedigree, proved by *authentic instruments*, they must believe in *flattering and ignorant fictions*, and that if they *scorn* to wait for the *dawn of record* to enlighten their descent, they must bewilder themselves in *dark and fabulous Genealogies*"† This subject, however, is just what was to be expected from the apologist of such a cause; and is nobly backed by the story of the Scottish Barons, a *fable* imported from England, and retailed by *Hector Boetius*. ‡

But "all this," including the extravagance about tradition, "(it seems,) Mr J. R. knows as well as I do; and he further knows, that *there is not, in the great mass of genealogies, recorded in the Renfrewshire History, probably half a dozen that are better authenticated than the one he has been at such pains to vilify and refute,*" &c. &c. § Now, I honestly must inform him, that Mr J. R. knows no such

* Hailes' Ann. Vol. 3. p. 61.

† Ib. p. 59.

‡ Dug. Bar. Vol. 1. p. 79.—Boetius, 14. f. 305. Hailes' Ann. Vol. 2. p. 109.

§ Remarks, p. 72.

things. He will only believe what may be agreeable to Sir Henry Stenart upon two conditions.

1st. That he produce evidence of the existence of "Sir Allan the Banneret"—more especially an authentic extract, if not the original, of the charter in 1393, *demonstrating him to be there.*

2dly, That he publish the family manuscript with a fact simile of the hand writing, by which it shall appear not to be of modern date. If Mr G. R. can engage the Honourable Baronet to accede to this request, he will then most readily, without any further scruple, swear to the truth and accuracy of every link of his pedigree.

He afterwards proceeds, in his usual manner, to beg the question, asserting that the family of Allanton are one of "the most ancient and respectable branches of the House of Stewart," and, according to Genealogists, descended either from the sixth son of Sir John Stewart of Bonkill, or a "younger branch of the House of Darnly—(*So at last, some doubt is entertained of the first origin!*) that he has distinctly proved, *and by charters too*, that they have held lands in Lanarkshire *for more than four hundred years back!*" and, on these assumptions, which he converts into facts, charges me with illiberality, injustice, and wilful misrepresentation!*

"But now (says he) comes the 'main proposition' of Mr J. R., including the whole pith, sum, and sub-

* He here, (Remarks, p. 72.) talks of a "*Genealogical persecution*," which, it seems, has been *long* instituted against "the learn-

stance of his argument.* Therefore, I shall state it fully in his own words;—‘ your family (Allanton’s) was scarcely emerging from obscurity after the beginning of the 16th century,’ See p. 439. Again, more precisely, p. 445, ‘ The genealogy of your family, subsequent to 1500, is abundantly clear, all previous, is involved in obscurity.’ Again, Mag. No V. p. 480, ‘ I may here state, that as little elsewhere, in any shape, has the *faintest notice* been *yet* adduced of the family of Allanton *previous* to the 16th century’—This proposition, I must observe, is not only, as he calls it, ‘ a very simple one,’ but what is worse, *it is not true*.—Besides, the existence of Sir Allan Steuart of Daldowie in 1393, which is clearly proved by the charter quoted; it is stated by me, Hist. of Renf. p. 472, that there is a charter still extant, by Walter Scott of Wesclenfar, to Adam, son and heir to James Steuart of Daldowie, (*Ade Steuart filio et heredi Jacobi Steuart de Daldowie*)† of certain heritages at Lanark, dated 16th August 1493. For the authenticity of this document I can confidently vouch, having myself inspected it; now, supposing this Adam to be not older than one and twenty, when the charter was granted, in 1493; and, further, supposing his father James, the second of that name, to have died in the very same year, at the very moderate age of sixty,

ed Baronet;” what this is, I cannot comprehend, I should certainly have wished him to have been more explicit.

* Remarks, p. 83.

† Until I see *this original charter*, I must be permitted to doubt the quotation.

that would prove the *existence* at least of the father in 1433, even allowing this last mentioned gentleman to have had neither father nor grandfather at all! and thus, the main position of Mr J. R. is *completely annihilated*."

Would it not be imagined that there was at least some foundation for all this superstructure?—But what is the fact? I said in my *first* article*—"I may here state, that as little elsewhere, in any shape, has the faintest notice been *yet* adduced of the family previous to the 16th century." This is strictly correct—Even the supposed charter in 1493, (which I have not seen) had never been alluded to, until quoted in the subsequent Edition of Renfrewshire—I was therefore, certainly at the time,—and am *yet*, well founded in the assertion. As to the existence of Sir Alexander Steuart of Daldue in 1393 being instructed, it is in vain to harp upon that string in its present state. The *more modern* quotations, "your family were scarcely emerging from obscurity after the beginning of the 16th century—the genealogy of your family, subsequent to 1500, is abundantly clear—All previous is involved in obscurity,†" are equally just, for, even allowing there was such a charter as that in 1493, (a thing quite immaterial,) where an Adam Steuart is called son and heir of James his father; how does that shew they were *not obscure*?—*And then there is this slight circumstance carefully slurred over, that no rela-*

* Vid. p. 26.

† pp. 49. and 64.

tionship is yet established between these unknown worthies, and the family of Allanton !

This hasty attack, therefore, recoils upon the head of the accuser, who has snatched at an imaginary success by undue assertions, and transposing the order of my allegations. I must, however, advert to other instances of misrepresentation, not indeed as bearing very directly upon the case, but chiefly as exhibiting a pretty tolerable specimen of the style and character of no inconsiderable part of the remarks. I shewed in substance, that James Steuart, *in* Daldowie Wester, had settled, with his landlord, the Archbishop of Glasgow, for a renewal of his lease, and had ventured upon more land, than had ever previously been laboured by his predecessors. This was all I insinuated, and it was strictly correct.* I entered into no discussion about old extents or freehold qualifications, and had not even an opportunity upon such subjects of exposing my ignorance. Yet it is asked—"Can this profound critic, perhaps learned in the law, also, be ignorant, that in those days even a forty shilling land of old extent, as now called, was of equal importance with a four hundred Scots valuation of more modern times; even a six merk land, so scornfully thrown in their teeth, might now be equal to two freehold qualifications!"† Again, "In another page, another example occurs of the style and reasoning of Mr J. R.; it stated that Mr James Steuart of Allanton was a friend, (he should have said an

* Vid. p. 61.

† Remarks, pp. 92—3.

‘intimate’ friend) of the celebrated John Knox,* a fact it seems *might* have been the case, and it is given on the authority of the manuscript history of the family which there is *no reason to doubt*,†—BECAUSE, says he, Dr M’Crie is unfortunately ignorant of the circumstance.”‡ *This I have not said*, I only sarcastically remarked—“THOUGH” and not “because” “Dr M’Crie was unacquainted with it. The story appeared to me so absurd and ridiculous, that I thought the bare statement its best refutation, and therefore, restricted myself to it alone.§

What is all this but committing the very fault of *misquoting a man first, and then to reprehend him for saying what he never said; an old, but rather a stale trick in controversy?* &c.||

After the utter nothingness of what has thus been exposed,—such glaring errors and falsities—such palpable misrepresentations—and more espe-

* By whom he was introduced to the Earl of Argyle, and the Earl of Murray,—he enjoyed, as *it was said*, much of their confidence, because one of the most active partizans of that daring nobleman—*greatly contributed* to the success of the action, (the battle of Langside) &c. p. 45.

† “The mode of proving the fact above stated, is by asserting that there can be *no doubt* that these facts happened. It is not easy to answer this mode of appealing to facts declared to be indubitable; but it would have been rather more satisfactory to have appealed to some proofs.” And. Stuart, Supp. Gen. Hist. Stewart, p. 65

‡ Remarks, p. 80

§ Compare also what I have said about the term “Goodman” and the Shotts, pp. 64 and 31, with his remarks upon them, at pages 72, and 81.

|| Remarks, p. 74.

cially the high tone affected to be held in the rejoinder, it will, no doubt, seem extraordinary that there should only be two more subjects meriting any consideration—"Sir Alan, the Banneret,"—and that of the wills. In respect to the former, I really conceive, that, as far as can be inferred, his existence (which, at any rate, *is a fable*) is as yet merely attempted to be proved by the title of a charter (that of 1393,) *where he is not mentioned*. Let us examine what has been advanced in his behalf:*

1st, "Charter by King Robert III. dated 6th December 1393, and 3d year of his reign, to Sir Adam Mure of Rowallan, and Dame Janet Danielston, his spouse, in conjunct fee, &c. &c. of the lands of Polnekill or Polkelly, Green, Dumblay, Ainsoch," &c. &c. referring to Robertson's Index, p. 143, where we find, "Carta to Adam More of Rowallan, and ——— Danielstoun, his spouse, of the lands of Polnekill, Grey, Dumblay, Clunche, Clony, Herber, Derlache, Balgram in the barony of Cuningham, vic. Air; the lands of Ayntslare; by resignation of Janet Danielstoun,"†—*no mention, then, of "Sir Allan of Daldowie."*

2d, Assertion that "Sir Allan of Daldowie" was a witness to it,—*no proof for this*.

3d, Assertion that it was "*either*" in the possession of the Earl of Glasgow, or of Lady Loudon,—a reference obviously worth nothing.

The point, then, I should imagine to be extremely clear. A vague intimation, no doubt, is added,

* Vid. p. 40

† As has already been observed at p. 76—7, in the note, Mr Robertson never saw the Charter, he merely published its title.

that Crawford,* meditating a new history of Renfrewshire, had collected "*Notices*," in which the family figure as witnesses to charters and seasines "*from*" the charter in 1393 down to 1643;—but it is not even expressly affirmed, that he had ever seen the charter †, a thing of no moment,—far less—the only important point, that "Sir Allan of Daldowie" was a witness to it!—If this be not a fair statement of the matter, why not publicly exhibit these inestimable "*Notices*?" We will then see whose they are, and more especially what they may contain.‡ But, even *supposing* Crawford to have sworn to his appearance in the Charter,—for it is not yet shewn he had even a surmise of the fact, I should hold such attestation, however elsewhere it might be regarded, insufficient in a case that was any way contested; at the most, the evidence would be defective, and in this state of things, it is unnecessary to say more about the Banneret.

Yet it is maintained, that "the existence of Sir Allan Steuart of Daldowie in 1393" "*is clearly proved by the charter quoted.*"§ He must have a very mean opinion of the judgment of the public,

* Vid. p. 40.

† In the New Edition of Renfrewshire, where the proofs are detailed; it is no doubt asserted in the Remarks, that Crawford had seen it, but no authority is given. Vid. p. 76.

‡ Can he really have mistaken "Sir Alan Stenart, of Ughle-tree an Ayrshire Baron, or some other cotemporary "Sir Alan Stewart" for "Sir Alan Stewart of Daldüe?"

§ Remarks, pp. 83—4.

indeed, who, in the face of the above facts, may imagine they will be mislead by such an assertion. And I again ask, Is this *miserable effort* all he can do to authenticate a person, according to him, of such distinguished merit and reputation? The only one of that splendid ancestry whose existence seems now to be insisted upon!*

* "When Sir John Stewart of Dernely embarked for France in 1419, it appears that he was accompanied by a considerable number of friends and kinsmen, as well as a most respectable body of military retainers. His brother, Sir William Stewart of Jedworth, and his cousin *Sir Allan Stewart of Allanton* (*Sir Allan of Daldue the Knight Banneret*), were, *without doubt*, among the number of those who engaged in the expedition. It is likewise *believed*, and with *considerable probability*, that both the sons of the former took up arms in the same cause." *Genealogical History of the Stewarts Refuted*, p. 58.

Observation by Andrew Stewart.—"I, in common with many others, accustomed to legal evidence and correct proofs, have the misfortune of not being completely convinced by this mode of stating facts. It would have been esteemed a particular favour if the author of the above indubitable assertions had been so good as to have indicated any book or record where it is said, or even insinuated, that Sir William Stewart of Jedworth ever accompanied Sir John Stewart of Dernely to France, or where it is mentioned that *Sir Allan Stewart of Allanton* was of the party; for I do declare, that in all my researches I have never found any real authority, either in French or English records or books, for either of these facts. As to the last of them, it is a matter of no consequence; only as it is the first time that *this new personage Sir Alan Stewart of Allanton*, has been united to the French expedition, I have a little curiosity to know by what means, and for what purpose *this Sir Alan Stewart* has been brought into the field," &c. &c. *Supp. Gen. Hist. of Stewarts*, p. 65.

As to the intimation, that the parallel between the two wills is favourable to Allan,* “IN,” *and not OF*, Allanton, it strikes me as one of the most ludicrous, perhaps, ever hazarded in any controversy. The *steadings* in Auchtermure, including their miserable appendages, and the more immediate “testamentary bequests,” namely, £20, and a grey horse to his daughter, constituted the *full amount* of his “Frie geir,” and though an agriculturist, his stocking, not adverting to the great dispreponderance in other respects, is yet so monstrously exceeded by that of an ordinary baron, who probably retained little more land † than supported his household and dependents. The family of Buccleugh, it may be remembered, were not then ennobled, and held but a very small part of their present enormous estate.

The remainder of the Reply contains nothing but petty cavils, and trivial, and, for the most part, unfounded objections; and, as if purposely to embarrass the subject, urged with extreme and unnecessary diffuseness,—a striking feature, indeed, of the whole performance. Even granting them to be correct, they have no influence on the main question, and might, in this view, be dismissed without the smallest comment or criticism. I have styled, it seems, the supplement or addition to Crawford’s

* Vid. Remarks, pp. 80 and 83.

† There is no mention in the will of many of the other estates of the family, such as those of Hallbarn, Appletreecross, Merebank, Santercroft, &c. &c. Vid. Register of the Great Seal for the period.

history, the *Appendix*, instead of the Continuation—erroneously asserted the author of the new pedigree to have called James in Allanton the “only son of his father;” (though I rather imagine Allan in Garbathill was one I introduced to his relations,*) and still more culpably, that Allanton lay in the quarter of the Shotts; but I find, upon turning up the map, that it is actually separated from that parish by something better than a rivulet.

To these weighty charges I certainly plead guilty, and much good may the admission do the argument of my opponent. He is not quite so fortunate, however, on another occasion, when he so grievously complains of my having substituted “*the*” for “*this* most extensive branch of the house of Stewart” (Allanton), a casual error,—phrases, according to him, of different import;† for he himself has elsewhere called it “perhaps *the* most extensive branch after the descendants of King Robert II.”‡ Hence, the male line of that Monarch having long failed, and all the existing Stewarts having sprung previous to his accession, he here pretty nearly makes it *the* most extensive branch, refutes his own cavil, and thus, in a great measure, proves them to be synonymous. As little in his instances to exalt the signification of “*goodman*,” that degrading epithet

* He had never, as far as I can learn, figured in any pedigree previously.

† Vid. p. 73.

‡ p. 72.

applied to Sir Walter, a term of Gallic origin,* and certainly never with us a baronial designation, "*the goodman of Broomhill*," being a direct descendant of an adulterous bastard, and *father-in-law to the "goodman of Allanton* ;† and who ever numbered a laird of Caldwell-Wester among the baronial characters of the kingdom? To authenticate the BATTLE OF MORNINGSIDE, he still clings to his favourite absurdity, sagely inculcating, that names of places might be framed from a language that had long become obsolete, &c. &c. with other trifles and crudities, which it would be a waste of time and patience to expose.

It has gravely been objected, however, though not in the remarks, that I have been guilty of misquotation, because I called Allan the rental-

* "On dit le BON HOMME pour dire le PAYSAN." Albert Nouv. Dict.—"BONI HOMINES vocantur apud anglos *villici alii-que rustici* quibus est familia—eadem acceptatione nostri dixerunt *les bonnes gens*—Et se ly Seigneurs le veult recevoir a Wally, les *Bones gens* lui portent. Du Cange.—"The being a Heritor of land *doth not nobilitate* in all cases, even though the Heritage be very considerable ; for else a rich man might ennoble himself, but these 'feuda' only render the possessor noble which are bestowed by the prince.—And this remembers me of a custom in Scotland, which is gone lately in desuetude, and that is, that such as did hold their lands of the Prince were called *Lairds*, but such as held their lands of a subject, though they were large, and their superior very noble, *were only called Goodman* from the old French word *bonne homme*, which was the title of the Master of the Family."—Sir George Mackenzie, vol. II. p. 583.

† Vid. Mem. Som. vol. ii. p. 406. Somerville is thus fated always to be correct.

ler, the “*imaginary descendant of Bannerets and KINGS.*” This evidently is unfounded—but, further, I hold it not even to be a misrepresentation, for, though neither Candidus nor Mr G. R. have, as yet, sported this brilliant idea, yet, in a late matriculation in the Lyon Register, dated 15th April 1813, it is expressly affirmed, that his representative, (I quote the very words) “IS THE THIRTEENTH IN LINEAL DESCENT FROM SIR JOHN STEUART OF BONKILL OR BONKLE, BY SIR ROBERT STEUART OF DALDUE, HIS SIXTH SON, GRANDFATHER TO SIR ALLAN STEUART OF ALLANTON, AND WHO IS AT THE HEAD OF THE HOUSE OF BONKILL—WHICH JOHN WAS SECOND SON OF ALEXANDER THE SIXTH LORD HIGH STEUART OF SCOTLAND, AND GREAT GRANDFATHER OF KING ROBERT THE SECOND AFORESAID, THE FIRST PRINCE OF THE STEUART LINE, WHICH ALEXANDER WAS LINEALLY DESCENDED IN THE THIRTEENTH GENERATION FROM KING KINNETH THE SECOND WHO SUBDUED THE PICTS AN. 839 AND BECAME THE FIRST SOVEREIGN OF ALL SCOTLAND!!

This has also been supposed a misquotation, that “Sir Allan of Daldüe” (the Knight Banneret) was a commander in the “*Gens d’armes Eccosois*,” and (can it be credited) the Hero of *Bauge and Agincourt*,”* but the only words here quoted are “Gens d’armes Eccosois” and “Bauge;”—and it is besides, only stated in the new pedigree, that “he passed over to France in the time of King Robert VI. then Dauphin, and served in the Gens d’armes Eccosois of that

* Vid. p. 51.

Prince. He probably bore a part in the disastrous wars in which the French and Scotch were then united against the English, in the same period in the battles of Azincourt and Bauge ; which last was confessedly gained by the valour of the Scotch under the Earls of Buchan and Douglas, and were the first that turned the tide of success against the English arms." I have stiled him the *favourite* of his cousin King Robert the Second.*—This is no misrepresentation whatever,—the term is even *below* what I should have used, for, after the BATTLE OF MORNINGSIDE, having "conducted successfully (his division,) to the rendezvous of the army then about to enter Cumberland, at the close of the campaign, he obtained from King Robert II. at Lochmaben Castle, the *honour of Knight Banneret, being knighted under the royal standard, together with the addition to his paternal coat-armorial of the Lion-passant above his Fesse Chequée.*† High tokens of royal approbation!—and the last a most superlative mark of favour indeed, for the like cannot be proved to have been conferred upon any existing favourite, or courtier, excepting himself. I need not here add that special grants or honorary augmentations, the most transcendant honours of heraldry, and invariably, granted by the sovereign alone, only became common in this Island about the time of the battle of Flouden,—and with us, they were of much recenter introduction. By the way, I must observe how marvellously this special con-

* Vid. p. 41.

† Ibid. p. 39.

cession in the Coat of Allanton resembles the identical one granted by royal mandate to the gallant Earl of Surry, the chief of "all the Howards," for *real* and not imaginary conduct in the above fatal action. Dugdale tells us that "this Earl had *there-upon a special grant* from King Henry (the VIII). of an honourable augmentation to his arms, to bear the upper half of a Red Lion, depicted, as the arms of Scotland are, pierced through the mouth with one arrow."* Now, the former, it must be allowed, has some how or other contrived, with the assistance of a *late addition*, to imitate this pretty successfully, for, according to the Lyon Register it displays "a Lion passant guardant, or pierced with a dart proper, being a special grant of the *English Lion* from King Robert the Second, (to the Banneret) on account of the BATTLE OF MORNINGSIDE, *at which he commanded against the English?*" Hence additional evidence of its credit and authenticity.

Any recapitulation then would be unnecessary. The existence of Sir Allan the Banneret is not established—as little that of the Knight of Morningside, the early ancestry, or the original descent from Bonkill. The main position is still unaffected, namely, that the family were emerging from obscurity after the commencement of the 16th century, at which period, and even later, they unquestionably were rentallers—and not *seuars*, as Lord Somerville politely has termed them†. Here, then, the matter

* Dug. Bar. Vol. II. p. 263. † Vid. p. 1.

rests, and until the honourable Baronet personally come forward, or material evidence be recovered, there will be little occasion to recur to the discussion. My opponent has stated, "he believes he shall *soon have put into his hands, far older charters than the one in 1489, wherby it will be distinctly shewn, that the family possessed the same lands before 1393.*" This, however, he again must allow me to question. But until they be produced it would be superfluons to say more.

I no doubt have met with another notice of the first progenitor, the quondam son-in-law of Sir James Tait—and maker of the will, but it merely instructs a litigation in the year 1518 affecting the said Allan there designed "*IN Cathburn,*"—Elizabeth Tait his wife—a certain "*John Mauchane* (not one surely of the "*ingentia nomina*") *IN Ernock,*"—his brother-in law, being spouse of Janet his lady's sister, a villager in Hamilton; for some oats, "extending be guid estimation to xviii Bollis, pryce of y^e Boll wy^e y^e foder xiii s. iiii of usuale mony quhilke was sawin upon the landis of Murrayis croft land at y^e west end of y^e Towne of Hamilton, &c. &c."* Of this Allan, I repeat, that such as he is, the learned Baronet must be contented to terminate his pedigree in him as the ultimate founder of his family. Like Cain, he was "*a tiller of the ground;*" but here, the analogy ends, for Cain was a gentleman who farmed his *own* laud, and could count, at least, one generation, whercas, Allan not

* Acts. Dom. Conc. Lib. 32. fol. ii.

only did not possess the property of the glebe he rented, but he was as to his paternity a mere "Terræ Filius," or as the Apostle hath it, of Melchisedec "without father, without mother, and without descent;" or in the words of Juvenal:

Cujus nemo potuit Patriam monstrare Parentis.——

For in genealogy, as in the more exact sciences, the maxim of the schools holds true, that "de non videri, eadem est ratio, ac de non esse."—Upon the whole, I should imagine it must strike any one with surprise, who may be at the labour of casting his eyes upon the above pages, to observe the confidence and pertinacity with which it is attempted to defend fables not only disproved by solid evidence, but often, even by the feeble adminicles upon which it is attempted to fasten—against which, every rational presumption and probability conspire—and where, as already has been said, every tradition is silent, "*excepting only one modern record of modern tradition—one garrulous compilation—The MS. history of the family,*"—in an age when so many additional opportunities are afforded for detection, and when they are consequently so much more liable to be exposed. Were there one single fact of moment or plausible inference, allowance might be made for the characteristic vanity of the nation, and such extreme bigotry be pardoned. But how can it be palliated, in a case where, as I conceive, not an atom of the kind has been caught at; and unmeaning verbosity, and unfounded assertion, and contradiction, supply the place of genuine argument.

Yet, in this utter absence of all shadow of proof, more especially of any pedigree anterior to the above Allan, and in contempt of every actual evidence of the *kind* of pedigree subsequent to that ab-original progenitor, it is really delectable to observe the very spirited indignation which the Honourable Baronet, vents, through his forespeakers, against any ignorance or scepticism as to the length and character of his genealogy.* This confident and conscious dignity insensibly calls to our recollection the haughty answer of a “high-minded scion of ancestral kings” to an inquiry corresponding to our own;—we allude to the rejoinder of Psicharpax to the question of Limnocherus—Heroes immortalized in the well known poem of Homer:—

Τίπτε γένος ταύμλον ζητῆς, φίλε, δῆλον ἅπασιν
 Ἀνθρώποις τίς θεοῖς τε, καὶ οὐρανόις πετεινοῖς;
 Ψυχάρπαξ μὲν ἐγὼ κίχλησμαι ἔμει δὲ κοῦρος
 Τρωξαρταὸ πατὴρς μεγαλήτορος, ὃς δὲ νῦ μνητὴρ
 Λευκομήλη θυγάτηρ Πτερυγοτρῶκτου βασιλῆος.

J. R.

Edinr. 111, George Street.

P. S.—I feel it incumbent upon me to notice a personal attack. I am accused at p. 77, of inconsistency, because, in a deduction of the family of Ross, in the new edition of the History of Ren-

* Vid. the article of Candidus, p. 5, and the Appendix.

frewshire, I gave credit to the same evidence, (Crawford's,) I am stated to have rejected in the case of "Sir Allan of Daldowie." To this I reply, it is not true in point of fact; for, in the first place, I certainly did not reject it, none such, as far as I can discover, being yet offered;*—and, secondly,—I maintain, the evidence on each side is *manifestly* different.

To establish the *contested, if* NOT REFUTED, point of his existence, there is merely an allusion to a notice of a charter, in which he is not as yet shewn to be mentioned.

To prove the uncontested point of the Ross pedigree, there is a direct attestation by Crawford, that he had actually seen several charters in the possession of the Earl of Loudon, in which their early ancestry appear; the authority of Sir James Dalrymple, a well-known antiquarian, founded upon charters; and "*other evidence*," including charters in the possession of private persons, chartularies, documents in public libraries, intimations of antiquarians and historians, &c.

If it be asked why I did not specify the "*other evidence*,"—(an objection, I confess, I little expected to be urged from such a quarter)—I beg leave to state, that the above, and one of another family, were all I contributed. After the latter had been dispatched, *fully instructed by authorities*, with an injunction that no part should be suppressed, I was informed, that such extended performances were not suited

* Vid. p. 97.

to the plan of the work,* and I was obliged to permit it to be inserted in the very curtailed and imperfect manner in which it now stands. In consequence of this, I gave myself less trouble with the remaining article of Ross, which I had long delayed through vexation and disappointment; and though it be accurate, and have several vouchers, it is much compressed, and certainly far less documented than otherwise would have been the case. All this, if necessary, I could substantiate by parole testimony.

* This is intimated in the very book itself, in a note upon another pedigree, (Vid. New Edit. Hist. Renf. p. 295.) where we are told that it "is an abridgement of a more detailed narrative, wherein all the facts are established on the authority of public records, private charters, cotemporary historians, &c. and then it is added, "*It has, however, been found necessary to abstract the Genealogy, as the History and authorities would here occupy too considerable a space,*" and, accordingly, only *one specific authority* (Vid. same page,) has been retained.

Appendix.

AUTHORITIES REFERRED TO AT PAGE 17, FROM "THE GENEALOGY OF THE STEWARTS REFUTED,"*

"NEXT to the writers, Sir, (addressing himself to Andrew Stewart) who have treated this subject (the *Pedigree of Castlemilk*, I should recommend, to your attentive perusal, the Tables which the *best genealogists*, and particularly *Sir Robert Douglas*, and *Mr John Brown*, have compiled on the name of Stewart. Of the former the accuracy is well known, and justly applauded; although from the confusion of names, (as, for example, in the case of *Jedworth*) he may inadvertently have fallen into some errors.—"In regard to *Mr Brown*, his work is, without doubt, one of the most ample and correct views of any surname ever delivered to the Publick," (It is here added in a note "This Table is handsomely engraved, and was published at Edinburgh, with a very numerous list of subscribers, 1797.") Here, in particular, the delineation of the House of Bonkill is executed with great impartiality and precision, and is every way consistent with existing documents. No generations in the Darnley line, are invected or annihilated; nor is there an unaccountable omission (which in your Table is conspicuous) of *Sir Robert the*

* The Work already mentioned of which the Honourable Baronet was the anonymous Author, published in the year 1799. p. 136—7.

6th son of *Sir John Stewart of Bonkell*, whose descendants form one of the most extensive branches of the Stewart race. After those gentleman, I would venture to suggest to your notice *my own genealogical labours*. They are contained in the Sketch of the descent of the House of Bonkill which you will find subjoined to the present Letter.* It is true this delineation is not like your Table, elegantly engraved, nor are the corners decorated with valuable fac-similies of the seals belonging to the Lord High Steward, or of any of the race of Castlemilk. Yet it will be found to comprise an impartial view of the different heads of families descended from the Lord High Steward, &c. &c. Again,† “Before I (*Sir H. S.*) filled up the place of the 6th son of the House of Bonkill, in my Genealogical Sketch, I thought it proper to apply to the person at the head of that branch of the name (*Mr Stewart of Allanton*) in order to learn why the existence of a race (*that of Allanton*), so uniformly recorded by every genealogist since the time of Symson, was at length arbitrarily suppressed by the author of the Genealogical History of the Stewarts? (*Andrew Stewart*) the gentleman just now mentioned, after producing to me *very satisfactory documents* of his descent from *Sir Robert Stewart who was designed of Daldue*,” made answer nearly to the following purport: “The question, Sir, which you put, I know “not if I can well answer; as, ever since I saw Mr Andrew “Stuart’s book, the circumstance has puzzled myself. I “cannot conjecture why the author of that (work in which “no labour of *investigation* seems to have been spared) did “not, on the point in question, prefer a more to a less obvious source of intelligence, and direct application to my-

* The same as the Pedigree stated at p. 17.

† *Ib.* p. 137.

“ self (which he never made) to the lower office of retailing
 “ the ignorance of Synison, or the ambiguities of Duncan
 “ Stewart. The only reason I can conceive is, that perhaps
 “ he thought the descendants of *a sixth son of the House*
 “ *of Bonkill* were beneath the notice of an ambition, which
 “ was endeavouring to grasp at the honours of the first.
 “ Or, perhaps, his opinion may have been, that the highest
 “ merit consists in the most remarkable *singularity*, and,
 “ therefore, in his (Andrew Stewart’s) invasion of the rights
 “ of Lord Galloway, as he had advanced a theory peculiar
 “ to himself, so another opportunity, like the present,
 “ might not easily occur, for evincing how completely he
 “ differed from every writer of established credit. As you,
 “ Sir, have undertaken, on the part of the noble Earl, to
 “ refute the *dogmas of a self-deluded genealogist*, I shall take
 “ it kind if you will adopt some method of entering this my
 “ protests against the usurpation of *a self-created dictator*.”

I hope the above gentleman, who has certainly some cause for complaint, will think that I have not been neglectful of either the one or the other of these objects; and that I have reported his protest with due fidelity.”—

MATRICULATION IN THE LION OFFICE 9 FEB. 1815, ALSO
 REFERRED TO AT PAGE 17, AND AT PAGE 36.

Sir Henry Stewart, &c. “ who is the Thirteenth in the lineal descent from Sir John Stewart of Bonkle or Bonkil, by *Sir Robert Stewart of Dalduie, or Daldourie, his sixth son, Grandfather to Sir Allan Stewart of Allanton*; and who is at the head of that Branch of the House of Bonkle. Which Sir John was the second son of Alexander the sixth Lord High Steward of Scotland, and Grandfather to King Robert the second, the first Prince

of the Stewart line. Bears or, a fesse cheque azure and argent surmounted of a bend gules charged with three buckles of the field; ON A SINISTER CANTON GULES A LION PASSANT GUARDANT OR pierced with a dart proper (being a special grant of the English Lion from King Robert the second to Sir Allan Stewart of Allanton and Daldue on account of THE BATTLE OF MORNINGSIDE, at which he commanded against the English in the year 1385) and in base a broken spear surmounted by a helmet both proper as a further mark of his gallantry in that engagement; Or, as it is expressed, in another Matriculation, 15 April 1813, "as a further mark of that victory: over all the badge of a Baronet, &c. On a compartment whereon is this motto,—*Virtutis in Bello Præmium*, are placed for Supporters two Lions, &c." Crest, issuing out of an Earl's Coronet complete argent a dexter hand, &c. &c.

Our Scottish Lyon Depute, has then officially conferred "A SPECIAL GRANT"—Concession, or Augmentation* of THE ROYAL LION OF ENGLAND—a principal ensign in the Arms of the Nation, and of the Sovereign, upon a family who, as far as I can learn, by no one tittle of evidence, can be proved to have borne it previous to the date of this Matriculation, or Patent. And thus the highest Honour in heraldry, worthy even of a Nelson, or a Surry, has been converted into a reward for IDEAL SERVICES, in a BATTLE COMPLETELY FABULOUS!! The Allantons, like many other families, had previously exhibited a plain unassuming red Lion, armed agreeably to the usage of that fantastick science, with claws of a blue colour†; but it seems, it has been a stranger in disguise—and now, for

* Not arms given in the first instance to those who had none before, but remarkable additions to armorial bearings already obtained, as the recompence of extraordinary services.

† "Stewart of Allanton, or a fesse cheque azure and argent in chief a Lion passant gules, armed azure. Pont's M. S." ap. Nisbet's Heraldry, Vol. i. p. 52. the same authority (vid. p. 39.)

the first time, by the magical interference of the Depute, it stalks forth *all resplendent in gold*,—no other than that superb creature the ROYAL LION OF ENGLAND!

This strange metamorphosis (not alluding to the grant of the canton) has been effected without any warrant or authority either of the Prince Regent, or any Sovereign of Scotland, or Great Britain; *and indeed, without any authority whatsoever.** If I here misrepresent the Lyon Depute, if after all, he really have any such warrant either directly, or indirectly, it will be extremely easy for him to confute this assertion, and I shall be happy at all times to retract it: but if he cannot, I must contend that HE ALONE has given the FIRST grant of the English Lion, and as I am now to prove, has thereby committed a flagrant Heraldick error—independantly of having shewn himself a very inadequate distributor of honour and nobility.

“Since I am now speaking of *Arms of Concession* (says our best national authority,†) I must distinguish betwixt *general*, and SPECIAL CONCESSION. By the first, I understand those which the principal herald is *empowered* to grant, by virtue of a general clause for that end, in many of the patents of our nobility: which ordinarily runs thus, &c. Mandamus (we the king) Leoni nostro armorum ut tale additamentum armorum præsentibus insigniis præfati Domini &c. ut in talibus casibus usitatis det, et præscribat. Arms again of SPECIAL CONCESSION, are *particularly* mentioned and blazoned in the Diplomas, letters patent, or grants of the Sovereign, and are ordinarily OF SOME PART OF THE SOVEREIGN’S ENSIGNS OR REGALIA, WHICH CANNOT BE ALLOWED OR GIVEN BY THE PRINCIPAL HERALD, —WITHOUT A SPECIAL WARRANT FROM THE SOVEREIGN!

so much lauded in the New Pedigree. I have met with *no later* account of their arms than that mentioned in the text.

* Will the Family MS. be here appealed to?

† Nisbet in his Heraldry, Vol. 2. p. 61.

Both these arms of general and special concession are commonly called *coats of augmentation*, because they *augment the bearing*.

(Again) "*Arms of Special Concession*, are those granted by princes and free states, not only to their subjects, but also to strangers, by a particular grant or patent, containing the blazon of such a coat, made up of *some part of the figures* of the Sovereign's Ensign or regalia, to be added to the receiver's own proper arms*."

"It is *only* sovereign princes and republicks that can make such concessions of their publick ensigns, *being more sacred than those of subjects*†."

"Arms of Special concession are the ensigns of Sovereignty, or *pieces of them*, WHICH CANNOT BE GRANTED *by Herald*s WITHOUT A SPECIAL WARRANT FROM THE SOVEREIGN.‡

Astle, a well known English antiquarian, says, "Arms of concession are augmentations granted by the Sovereign of *part* of his ensigns or regalia, to such persons as he pleaseth to honour therewith. Many instances might be given of our sovereigns manifesting their favour by arms of concession, &c. and Menestrier informs us that such practice had for a long time generally prevailed through Europe. *On this head it may be observed THAT ARMS OF SPECIAL CONCESSION CANNOT BE GRANTED OTHERWISE THAN BY WARRANT FROM THE SOVEREIGN* ||.

The same Menestrier observes. § "*Il n'y a que les Princes et Republiques Souverains que puissent faire DES CONCESSIONS.*"

But it would be idle to accumulate authorities upon so plain a point, I shall here only add one more, that of

* Ib. p. 64.

† p. 67.

‡ Ib. p. 73.

|| Preface to Edmonstone's Heraldry, Vol. i. p. 181.

§ Orig. des Ornamens des Armoiries p. 295.

said publication, to bring or send an account of what arms, or Signs armorial they are accustomed to use, and whether they be descendants of any Family, the arms of which Family they bear, and of what Brother of the Family they are descended; with testificats from Persons of Honour, Noblemen, and Gentlemen of quality anent the verity of their having and using those Armes and of their descent aforesaid, to be delivered either to the Clerk of the Jurisdiction where the persons dwell, or to the Lyon Clerk, at his office in Edinburgh, at the option of the party, upon their receipts gratis, without paying any thing therefore, which Receipt shall be a sufficient exoneration to them from being oblidge to produce again, to the effect, that the Lyon King of Arms *may distinguish the saids Arms with congruent Differences*; and may matriculate the same in his Books and Registers, and *may give arms to virtuous and well deserving persons*, and Extracts of all Arms expressing the blazoning of the Arms under his hand and Seal*."

He has then only, I conceive, the more humble duty to discharge, of giving arms, in the first instance, to persons who had none previously—to matriculate what have been already conferred; and to grant marks of difference, determining the seniority, and juniority of branches of the same family,—nothing, even most indirectly, is whispered about "*special concessions*"—or augmentations—(with which he can in no wise interfere)—or rewarding the descendants of heroes who may have shone at national conflicts, such as Dundalk, Morningside, or Trafalgar;—not a word even *touching Supporters*—ANOTHER SUBJECT OF ABUSE which has arisen within these few years † I have

* Act, Charles II. 1672. c. 21.

† It is admitted in the New Pedigree, p. 39, that the former Arms of Allanton, were a fesse cheque with a *red* Lion in chief. These then are the proper Arms of the Family, most probably matriculated at some remote period. In terms of this act the De-

now, therefore, I flatter myself, fully established that by the laws of every nation, the Lyon Depute has here *incompetently* authorized the assumption of not merely *parts*,—but of the *whole* of the Royal Lion of England; a glaring deviation indeed, and one of the greatest solecisms and absurdities in Heraldry that can be well imagined!

The enormity, however, if we may so call it, does not rest here—had the English Lion *only* been granted, that, by practice, would more especially have denoted an honourable augmentation of relationship, to the Royal Family of England, as in the case of Rutland*—such a concession no doubt, would have been much beyond any

pute, I should think, is only empowered to add to these, some more expressive difference to distinguish them from other Families of the name of Stewart.

* The noble family of Rutland were allowed by Henry the Eighth to carry in their shield the entire Lion of England, *because they were descended from the sister of Edward the Fourth*. Such a grant implied a high honour indeed! In some cases, but *very rarely*, it was specially conferred for very eminent military services. Sir John Walpole, in recompence for his prudence and courage at the battle of Newberry, and Naseby, &c. received from Charles the 2nd, an honorary augmentation the same as that of Allanton, with the exception of being differently placed, “*A Canton guless charged with the Lion of England*.” Guil: p. 436. Most ordinarily in such events, *parts* of the Royal insignia only were given, Nisbet (Vol. i. p. 427.) informs us that Lord Whar-ton, for defeating “the discontented Scots at Solway Moss”—“got an augmentation added to his arms, viz. a bordure or, charged with eight couple of Lion’s paws (those of Scotland, I presume,) saltier-ways, erased gules.” The crest of the illustrious House of Brunswick, the star, is an honourable augmentation of *part only* of that of Austria, for military services rendered by them to the Emperor Maximilian against the Duke of Bavaria. Very frequently indeed, augmentations for services were given in Cantons. Sir Stephen Fox, a loyal gentleman, &c.—obtained from Charles II. *a Canton azure charged with a flower de luce* (a part of the arms of England) Nisb. vol. i. p. 187. Lord Maderty, with us, in like

thing yet attempted, and had nearly filled up the climax of all that is absurd and ridiculous.—But the Depute has even, if possible, gone a step farther, and to mark the gallantry of Sir Allan, in the *DAY OF MORNINGSIDE*, he has ventured to transfix with the dart of that Knight, this sacred emblem of Royal Authority. He has thus not only derogated from the military character of the English nation by insisting upon the fable; but he has also perchance, offered an indignity to the Prince Regent, in the person of a predecessor—by awarding arms *which indicate in Heraldry, that a King of England was either conquered and killed—or taken prisoner, in THAT SANGUINARY ENGAGEMENT, by this irresistible General Sir Allan Stuart of Allanton!*

In proof of which, I have merely to repeat, that, virtually, the very same augmentation, “*mutatis mutandis*,” was given by Henry the Eighth to the Earl of Surry and to his heirs, to keep in remembrance, that he had conquered James the 4th of Scotland at the Battle of Flodden, where the latter was killed by an arrow.

“For which memorable service, (says Dugdale) this Earl had thereupon a special grant from King Henry to himself and the heirs male of his body, of an honourable augmentation to his arms; to bear—the upper half of a red Lyon depicted as the arms of Scotland are, pierced through the mouth with an arrow.”*

The augmentation in the coat of Allanton may also indicate with peculiar propriety, *that the Banneret had taken the King prisoner, in THAT STUPENDOUS CONFLICT*: for says Guillim “if a man being no gentleman of blood or Coat Armour,† else being a gentleman of blood and Coat Armour shall captivate or take prisoner, in any law-

manner, obtained a *Canton* charged with the *head* crested of the Lion of Scotland, &c. &c. &c.

* Dug. Bar. vol. ii. p. 268.

† p. 436.

ful wars, any gentleman, great Lord or *Prince*, (as says Sir John Ferne) he may bear the shield of that prisoner and enjoy it to him and his heirs for ever."—" *The vanquisher may bear the arms of the vanquished*," and then, he condescends upon examples;—adducing that of the Earls of Flanders, who bore a *Lion* in their shield, *because they had won it from their enemy, Philip of Alsace*—and more especially the following one, just equally as much in point, as the instance of Surry above mentioned. Sir John Clarke, in the reign of Henry the VIII., took, in lawful war, Lewis de Orleans, Duke of Longville. In memory of which, he obtained "*by special commandment from the King, who sent his warrant to the Heralds*," parts of the arms of that Prince namely—two fleur de lis (being sprung from the French Royal Family;) in the middle, a *'deni-Ram* surmounted by a bendlet, *which were ordained to be carried exactly as in the case of Allanton, in a CANTON SINISTER*.*

The Lion Depute then, I should imagine, has committed four irregularities.

1. In lending his official name to authenticate the veriest fable ever coined,—THE BATTLE OF MORNINGSIDE !!
2. In having taken upon himself, generously, to remunerate the prowess of the fictitious Sir Alan in that battle, by the grant of the Spear, and the Helmet: —"and in base a broken spear surmounted by a helmet—as a *further* mark of his gallantry in that engagement,"—MORNINGSIDE ! †
3. In unduly interfering with Royal Prerogatives, being the first to authorize to his Representative—the special concession of THE LION OF ENGLAND.
4. In adding the dart.

The transcendant prerogative of conferring special grants must in every Kingdom, fall directly "inter regalia"

* Vid. other authorities to the same effect, Nisb. vol. ii. p. 72.

† Vid. p. 113.

where they deserve, with as much propriety to be classed as the very analogous rights of creating nobility, and dispensing the various orders of knighthood. Any contrary practice, it is manifest, would be preposterous in the extreme, not to add highly injudicious, and inexpedient. The present state of things, seems indeed, to call for redress,—a Royal authority has been assumed by a gentleman filling comparatively an inferior department of the law.—*HE FORSOOTH IS TO BE THE ARBITER OF MERIT!*—and the atmosphere of George's Square is more congenial to the growth of Nobility—than even Carlton House, or Whitehall!

The extraordinary forbearance and laxity of our practice in matters of arms and pedigree has long been a subject of complaint, and may, to the extent to which it has now arrived, be assuredly deserving of some reprehension. No statutory enactment either, has succeeded that of Charles the Second in the year 1672, which is now nearly obsolete; and hence—independently of other circumstances,—the greatest anarchy prevails in all that is connected with the rudest principles of “Honour.” Without entering more deeply at present into a point which I have promised at some future period to discuss, and certainly without intending any particular reflection, I cannot help in general remarking, how singularly our policy, on this head, is contrasted with the stern and rigorous ordinances of other countries. By them, offences have been made serious, which the milder genius of our laws has not only abstained from visiting with the most lenient correctives; but even wholly overlooked, if not indirectly promoted. The following is taken from the very recondite, “*Meditationes ad Pandectas*” of the celebrated Leyserus, SP. DCXV. *de falsis quæ vulgus ignorat* m. XXXVIII. “*FALSARIUM SUNT qui insignia sibi, nobilitatem, vel antiquitatem generis, arrogant. Nihil frequentius est, quam insignia sibi propria*

auctoritate sumere, cognomini suo istam nobilitatis notam *con* præponere, vel si quis recenter nobilis creatur, antiquitatem generis fingere, et in priscam familiam sese asserere. Atque tamen, qui hoc faciunt **FALSarii MANIFESTI SUNT.** *L. 13. pr. L. 27. § ult de L. Cornel de Falsis.* Etsi vero Germania nostra hujusmodi falsariis abundet, negari tamen non potest, in Gallia uberiores adhuc eorum proventus esse, aut fuisse certe. Spero enim, defuncti Regis Ludovici XIV. severissimis edictis repressam aliquantulum esse incredibilem illam Gallorum in fingendis natalibus libidinem. Nam si tempora superiora spectes, parum abfuit, quin integra Gallia comitibus, marchionibus, abbatibus, equitibus imaginariis completeretur. Festive admodum *S, Eremond in Operum suorum tomo 2. p. m. 89.* marchionem talem, de Bousignac dictum, loquentem inducit. *Quoi? de ces formalistes! je ne m'accorde pas de ces gens là. Vous creveriez, morbleu! plutôt que de leur arracher le mot de Marquis, à moins qu'ils ne soient assurés du Marquisat.* Et quum alter, cum quo colloquitur, mirabundus quæreret: *Vous n'avez donc point de Marquisat?* ipse respondet: *Vous venez de l'autre monde: apprenez, que les Marquisats ne sont bons que pour les vieux Seigneurs de Province, qu'on ne voit pas dans les Cabinets. Pour nous autres Marquis de Cour, BEAU PRIVILEGE DE LA NOBLESSE FRANCOISE! NOUS FAISONS NOUS MEMES NOTRE QUALITE, SANS AVOIR BESOIN DU ROI POUR CELA!*

Some fanciful antiquarian might, perhaps, hence derive the "**BEAU PRIVILEGE,**" currently arrogated to themselves by many of the mobility of our nation, "*insignia sibi propria auctoritate sumere;—antiquitatem generis fingere, et in priscam familiam sese inserere*"—from the similar consuetude of "*our ancient allies.*"

This other quotation from the same authority, may shew that the vocation of Genealogists in Germany—though perhaps, as elsewhere, sometimes attended with gain,

was not altogether without peril; and that but a slight distinction was legally established between them, and the purchasers of their brittle commodities.

“*FALSUM COMMITTUNT viri docti, qui hominibus de plebe nobilitatem, insignia & antiquitatem generis adfingunt.*

PÆNA EORUM AD ULTIMUM SUPPLICIUM EXTENDI POTEST!
 Declamavi contra eos, qui insignia sibi, nobilitatem vel antiquitatem generis arrogat. Quod falsi genus aperte damnatur in *L. 13. pr. & L. 27. § ult. de L. Cornelia de falsis*. Parum tamen isti falsarii proficerent, ni adjutores haberent, doctos magnæque in republica literaria auctoritatis viros. Hos scilicet mercede conducunt, ut sibi stemma, nomen, genus, familiam, majores ex penitissima antiquitate eruant & adfingant. Nec difficiles eos hac in re inveniunt. Plerique enim ex his literatoribus cum egestate conflictantur. Igitur, ut cum poëta loquar: *Græculus esuriens in cælum, jusservis, ibit.* Verumtamen dici non potest, quantopere operarii hi publico noceant, fidem omnem historicam pervertant, & vera etiam ac certa monumenta incerta reddant. Oportebat igitur hos alienorum falsorum fabricatores, gravius etiam, quam qui eos conducunt, puniri. Interest inter utrosque, quod inter assassinos et assassinatores, quorum illi secundum *Carpzovium in Quæst. crim. 19. n. 15. et 19. ROTA, hi GLADIO*, puniuntur. Et potest profecto debetque mercenariorum illorum pœna tunc, quum reipublicæ valde per eos nocitum, atque fides monumentorum et historiæ turbata est, *AD ULTIMUM SUPPLICIUM PROFERRI!*”

It would be easy, if that were worth the trouble, to prove, that, in most countries in Europe, the pains of death were by law inflicted, as well upon those who prostituted for gain their heraldic and gentilitial erudition in the fabrication of imaginary pedigrees, as on others who ventured to confer upon themselves the privileges of birth and nobility. The following history may, indeed, sufficiently evince that the “ART NOBLE” was not always a

mere matter of amusement, fancy, or ridicule, but that results deeply tragical have sometimes arisen from its abuse and profanation. Under the mild authority of the Sovereign Pontif Gregory the XIII was the papal thunder directed against the impious mortal who dared, with unhallowed hands, to pollute the sacred mysteries of chivalry and arms. In this land of liberty, and self-created gentlemen, some of our *modern* Barons—compared with most of whom the Honourable Baronet is thrice noble—may tremble at the thought of what might have been their fortune in times of purer aristocracy!

This fearful example is recorded in the *Censura* of Leo Allatius, in his “*animadversiones in Inghirami Antiquitates Etruscas*,” afterwards collected in the curious treatise of Burchard Struvius, which I recommend to the reader’s notice, “*de doctis impostoribus*,” § 31. *in fine*.

“*Cicarellus pecunias congerens, familiarum stemmata digerrere adgressus est, quæ, ut spectabiliora faceret, ad antiquissimam originem referebat: et cum ex historia non suppeteret series, ex capite ipse suo Majorum nomina fingere, inter quos et summos Pontifices per vim trahere, et Cardinales, qui nunquam fuerunt, pro libitu, creare;—urbium, et terrarum dominos,—copiarum ductores statuere,—dictisque suis fidem comparans, Imperatorum ac Pontificum diplomata ac privilegia componere; quibus familiarum nomini, et quos ipse sonuiarat, heroibus, robur addebat:—ac tandem ne historicorum testimonia deessent, auctoribus, qui jam erant, multa de suo addere, multa decurtare:—historias etiam hæc eadem pertractantes ex integro componere, illisque, ne sine nomine vilescerent, nomen adpingere; quibus sua dicta ejusmodi confirmaret.—Ipse Cicarellus, cum postea ob falsi crimen captivus fieret, in libello supplice, ad judicem italice dato, omnia hæc confitetur quidem,—ast excusare conatur.*”

“*Confitetur enim, se multa hausisse ex libris apocryphis:—sed licere in favorem ecclesiæ elicere veritatem non solum ex veris et canonicis libris, sed etiam ex apocryphis.*

“*Confitetur, se nonnulla Imperatorum demortuorum privilegia composuisse;—id vero molitum se ad decorem familiarum.*

“*Confitetur, se libros aliquot antiquos sine nomine habuisse;—non tamen sibi vindicasse, ut alii soleant, sed aliorum nomina inscripsisse.*

“*Confitetur, se multa ingenii sui monumenta sub aliorum auctorum nomine edidisse;—id vero falsitatem non arguere putans.*

“*Confitetur, se nonnullas genealogias ad modum transumptorum confecisse, eruisse,—tamen eas ex auctorum adprobatorum libris.*

“*Confitetur, se in nonnullis libris aliqua addidisse;—sed hæc fuisse vera.*

“*Confitetur denique, se multas multarum familiarum nobilium, et nonnullarum Italiæ urbium historias conscripsisse, multumque conjecturis indulsisse;—verum hoc ad exemplum aliorum historicorum.*

“*Sed cum hæc non sufficerent, &c.—in custodiam sub Gregorio XIII. adducitur. Et cum crimen non negasset, FALSITATIS REUS AD SUPPLICIUM DUCITUR, EUMQUE CARNIFEX, PRIUS EXCISA MANU, AD PALUM ADLIGATUM LAQUEO PREFOCAT, ET EXANIMATO IGNEM SUPPONIT.”*

Struvius, when he recites this case in his treatise already mentioned, “*de doctis impostoribus,*” adds the following very sapient and incontrovertible commentary: “*Sane, si pro gravitate delicti pænas imposturæ suæ luerent similes, minime dubitandum; tam frequens illud imposterum non fore.”*

* * There are several typographical errors in the First Articles, which it has been deemed proper not to alter in this Republication.