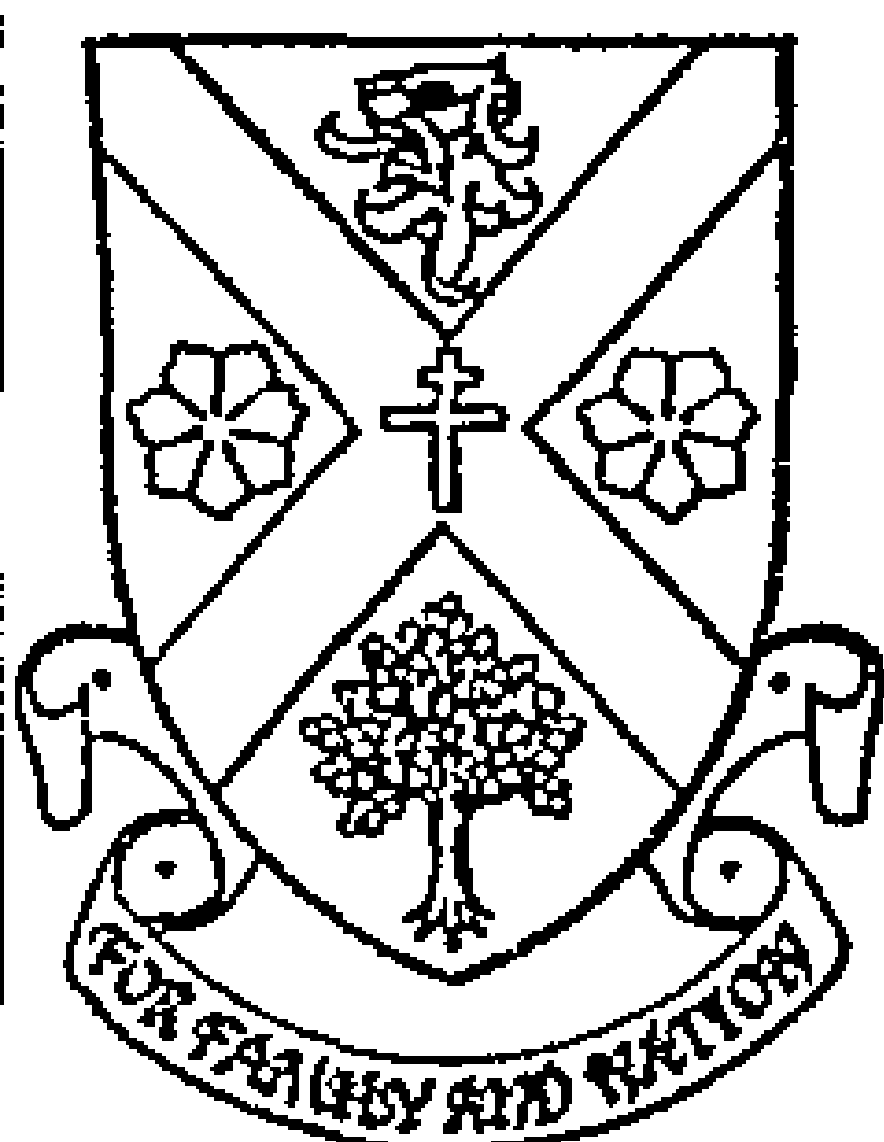


THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGIST

ISSN 0300-337X

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY



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The Society's Library is temporarily closed pending the search for new premises.

SKETCH FOR AN ELPHINSTONE GENEALOGY:

A Background for William Elphinstone (1431-1514) and collaterals

by C.A.J. Elphinston

Introduction

The present study attempts to set William Elphinstone, the bishop and statesman (1431-1514), against a background of his kindred. It has been stimulated by Hector Boece's introductory sentence to his essay, which describes the Elphinstone kindred as 'ancient'. No account which I have yet seen has endeavoured to carry the line back to times previous to the year 1250, except by more or less fanciful conjectures. However, the work of historians specializing in this period has enabled the establishment of sufficient anchor point between which a reasonably probable account may be hung, pushing back the beginning of the story by some three hundred years.

By 1514 the main line of descent had put out offshoots which have had only brief mention elsewhere and these are now indicated, but in this paper the history is carried forward only to the end of the lifespan of those who might have known Bishop William in their youth, i.e. little further than mid-sixteenth century. By this time the kindred in the form of unrecorded younger sons and their offspring had spread widely across central Scotland and was starting to do so in the North-East, so that isolated Elphinstones obtain mention in the registers of the great and privy seals, protocol books and the like whom I have not found possible to fit into the scheme of descent. Such, for instance, as Laurence Elphinstone, whom the Edinburgh Burgh Records tell us compear and was sworn as bailie and officer of guild on 3rd October 1403;

John of Elphinstone, who took part, together with over a dozen others, in a perambulation of the marches between Redpath and Bemersyde on 16th November 1425. If he was not a local landowner, would he have taken part in the exercise? Was he the same man as

John of Elphinstone, Burgess of Edinburgh, who was paid £9:7s:6d for black cloth for the King's use, according to the Exchequer Rolls for 1451? and Ninian Elphinstone, who with other in the service of Malcolm, Lord Fleming, was respited from all civil and criminal actions during absence abroad, as seen in the Privy Seal Register under date of 31st August 1536.

By the end of our period, offshoots may be distinguished and are identified for treatment elsewhere. No attempt is made to show or discuss the descents of the Lords Elphinstone or, later, those of the Lords Balmerino and Coupar, together with Elphinstone of Calderhall, of Inverdovat or of Quarrole, for all these have been dealt with in the work of Fraser. Later sections here cover the families of Elphinston of Glack and Logie, Elphinstone of Selmes, Elphinstone of Blythswood and Gorbals, together with their emigration to France and repatriation to Orkney, and finally, as far as possible Elphinstone of Henderston, the history of the survivors being taken up to the early nineteenth century.

In the charts produced later the successive generations are denoted by Roman numerals onwards from that of Eadwulf of Bamburgh --I--, who according to the chronicle is said to have died in the year 912 or 913. In each generation, brothers are shown in order of seniority reading from left to right. Where a sister appears it is rarely possible to determine her position in such a sequence. If known, dates of birth and death are shown; otherwise conjecturally to the nearest year. For example, consider generation XXI comprising the four sons Alexander Henry, Laurence and William of William Elphinstone of Airth and Pittendreich. It is known that Alexander killed in action at Piperden by Wark on Tweed was, by the standards of times, in his early middle age. The birthdate of the youngest brother William can be fixed almost within months from the St. Andrews University records as late in 1410 or early in the following year; it is reasonable to space the remaining brother over the ten or so years at intervals which allow for the birth of sisters not remarked upon and/or infants of either sex who did not survive birth of early childhood, so we get the respective birthdates of ~1400, ~1402, ~1407 and 1410 for the four brothers.

All such conjectures being subject to the limitations of human physiology. Thus although a high proportion of the dates of birth and death are estimates and may sometimes be seriously wrong, they may nevertheless be used for comparison and they also form a pattern which is likely to be substantially correct.

Acknowledgements

It would have been quite impossible to put this record together without the information, but above all the guidance and encouragement, furnished without stint by Dr L.J. Macfarlane. Professor G.W.S. Barrow kindly answered queries on the northward movement of Anglo-Saxons and Normans, and pointed our further reading. May thanks also be due to Major-General Sir John Swinton of Kimmerghame for helpful discussion on the descent of the Elphinstones from the family of Swinton of that Ilk.

The Elphinstone kindred; its origin to ca. AD1550

'Is in inclyta Glasguensi civitate, et universali schola insigni, natus, ex vetere Elphinstonorum familia habuit originem.'* Thus Hector Boece writing of William Elphinstone (1431-1514) within a few years of his death [Boece, Vitae]. From 1431 the family has been traced back with some degree of certainty merely for six generations - which is no great claim to antiquity - to the Johan de Elfinstone (del Comte de Edeneburgh) and Aleyn de Elfinestone (del comte de Berewyk) who along with some two thousand other landholders or clerics swore unwilling fealty to King Edward at the great round-up at Berwick upon Tweed in August 1296 [Bain, Calendar]. Hector Boece himself came of an Anglo-Norman family - variants Boyce, Boys, del Bois, del Bosco [Black, Surnames] - which among others together with Barclay, Bisset, Fraser, Grant, Laundells, Moubray, Ramsay and Valognes had reached Scotland during the reign of King William the Lion, this particular group arriving not long after the treaty of Falaise (1174) [Kingdom, 331]. Indeed the 'Cancellarius domini Regis' witnessing an instrument cast in the form of a letter dated 11th November 1221 anent a perambulation of marches in the Mearns is William del Bois [ibid, 82].

These, however, were by no means the first of such incomers. Boece's pointed use of the adjective 'vetus', the name of Elphinstone itself, and particularly the three boars heads displayed in the armorial bearings - which may tell as much of the origin of a family as the name - hint broadly at an earlier beginning. And we learn that after the decline and disintegration of the old Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Bernicia which in its heyday had extended from the Forth to the Humber, the rule of its rump, Northumbria, between Tyne and Tweed, had come into the hands of Eadwulf or Eadulf of Bamburgh before the year 878. This period antedates any organised system of heraldry, but the old House of Bamburgh, the Eadwulfings, who regarded at least this reduced territory as their hereditary right and resented being ousted by Danes and Normans, seem to have long adopted the boar as their totem or badge. Thus may be found several families nominally of Scottish descent in the Borders and Lothian - Elphinstone, Nisbet, Rollo, Swinton, Trotter, together with two nowadays thought of as Highland - Chisholm, Gordon - which show a boar or boars on their shields indicating a possible Eadwulfing origin [Fox-Davies].

The name of Elphinstone is found as a placename in a deed of Alan de Swinton, 7th of Swinton, in which he acknowledges to have received from the abbot and monks of Dunfermline a site for a mill on the Esk, referring to the 'homines de Elfinistun' as if they were his men. This deed is confirmed by another under the hand of William, Abbot

*Of the ancient Elphinstone kindred, he was born in the famous city of Glasgow, rendered illustrious by its University.

Footnote: J. Bain, Calendar of Documents
John of E. at Montrose; II, 195 - his seal shown at entry 773
John of E. at Berwick upon Tweed; II, 203
Alan of E. at Berwick upon Tweed; II, 206.

of Dunfermline, and as this abbot died in the year 1238 both deeds must have been executed prior to that date [Reg.Dunfermlyn]. Its provenance is basically Anglian and may be read as Aelfwine's 'tun' - enclosure or settlement. Who then was Aelfwine? The location of the village of Elphinstone close by Tranent is somewhat too far west in Lothian to make it likely that it derives from the earlier phase of Anglo-Saxon incursion in the sixth and seventh centuries and commemorates some otherwise unknown soldier-colonist. The probability is that Aelfwine - or rather his father as will be seen - arrived early in the later phase of settlement from England among these displaced and dispossessed by the Norman invasion.

We know the names of most of those English magnates who survived the three great battles of the year 1066, and at first the Conqueror was content to make use of English officials such as the Earls Edwin, Mercer and Waltheof, but they seem to have disappeared from the political scene. The insurrections, in the west, on the Welsh border, and above all in the north-east, brought fresh calamities to the men they might have protected. Many went into exile, and those who remained found themselves powerless in the face of the new aristocracy ready to supplant them and their downfall was all but complete. Among those who claimed the protection of King Malcolm III and Queen Margaret after the collapse of the successive Northern risings of 1068 to 1071 were the leaders, Earl Gespatric, son of Maldred, Edgar the Atheling, Merleswain, a noble of the northern Danelaw, and the Yorkshire tenn Arkil.

Gespatric was granted wide lands in East Lothian which a century later formed the nucleus of the earldom of Dunbar. Merleswain and Arkil were likewise endowed, and the line of Merleswain may be traced onward in Scotland through three generations, first to the putative grandson, Merleswain mac Colban, who enfeoffed in Kennoway in Fife gave to St. Andrews priory the church of Kennoway together with its endowments about the year 1160. His son, a third Merleswain, was granted Ardross in East Fife for the service of one knight between 1172 and 1184 [Kingdome,288;Duncan,122,138]. Arkil†, as we learn from a charter of King David in favour of Alexander de St. Martin, had been granted land about Athelstaneford. Somewhat before Ardross was granted to the third Merleswain, over the period from ~1128 to ~1155 sixteen of the acts of King David, three of Earl Henry of Northumberland and three of King Malcolm, given at places as far apart as Roxburgh, Cadzow and Banff, were witnessed by Alfwin mac Archill. His identity with Alfwin Renner, i.e. the 'Rannaire' or 'food distributor' to the royal household, is made almost certain by the fact that five of Malcolm IV's acts were witnessed, one by Gillandres the rannaire (reinnerus), the others by Gillandres sone of Alfwin [Barrow,RRS,i].

†It seems safe to assume that this refugee Arkil may be identified as the father of Alfwin. The existence of two notabilities of this English name at the Scottish court and in Lothian is most unlikely. By the charter in question King David grants to Alexander de St. Martin, Alstanefurd and the land which Arkil held, by the boundaries between Haddington and Alstanefurd to be held of the king by the service of half a knight. Early Scottish Charters prior to AD1153, A.C.Lawrie (Maclehose, Glasgow,1905) No.clxxxvi,pp149,404,405.

The responsibilities of the rannaire's office were obviously greater than mere catering and probably exceeded those of a military quartermaster general in later times. They will have included supervision of all renders in kind - the king's 'cain' in the form of food, provender, raw materials such as wool, hides and the like, and their allocation to the kitchens, to the stables, for manufacture, to other dignitaries, to charitable uses, to sale and to store. No evidence of records kept has survived though there must have been tallies of what was expected from and what rendered by the thegns or sheriffs administering each shire [Duncan,159]. It is suggested that Alfwin's tenure of this major office was sustained by what seems to have been a considerable landholding in and round the parish of Tranent, perhaps in more than one parcel from Carberry on the west to Elvingston by Gladsmuir on the east, from the shore of the Forth at Preston towards Cousland to the south. During the same period the manor of Tranent was held by the native Anglo-Scandinavian Thor or Thorold (Durand,Durandus), son of Swain, the earliest known sheriff of Lothian, who had superseded the previous thegns of Edinburgh, Musselburgh and Haddington. He was described as Lord of Tranent, but it seems that he did not possess an exclusive right to the whole parish. His name appears as witness to five of King David's charters from ~1127 to 1144; some six years later he himself granted the church of Tranent together with two houses and two tofts to the abbey of Holyrood, and it is interesting to find among the witnesses to this charter the names of AEdmund son of Forn and AEdmund of Fazeside. The name AEdmund proclaims its Anglo-Saxon origin, and it is likely that both AEdmunds were the offspring of refugees from Northumbria. Moreover it is tempting to equate Fazeside with modern Falside.

No more is heard of Thor after ~1150; his son William and grandson Alexander were both successively sheriffs of Stirling [ibid,205]. It also seems unlikely that Alfwin survived much after 1160. It may be surmised that perhaps about 1130 he came into possession of land centred some two miles south-west of Tranent which he was able to clear and bring into cultivation. He also held land in West Lothian, maybe in right of his wife Eda. Their grant of the church of Newton (now Kirknewton) in the deanery of Linlithgow to the abbey of Dunfermline was confirmed by Robert, Bishop of St. Andrews, about the year 1150. In the confirmation he appears under the personal name of Elwin, whence it is a very short step to the placename of Elwynystoun, as seen in the earliest surviving Elphinstone charter, which records the conveyance by Peter of Graham of three bovates of arable to the friars of Soutra to be held in perpetual alms. The charter is undated but can be ascribed to the period 1190 X 1238 [Fraser,II,248]; the acquisition of the name by the territory over a generation earlier.

Whereas there is no proof for this assertion that Alfwin mac Archill left his name upon the territory of Elphinstone, it seems not improbable; as yet no other Alfwin sufficiently prominent in the life of the times has been brought to light. It is only fair to mention the Alfwin or Alwin, first heard of as chaplain to Earl David ~1118, then installed as the first Abbot at the foundation of the abbey of Holyrood in 1128. But none of these lands ever went to the abbey, although, it is true, King David granted Carberry, which marches with Elphinstone, to the abbey of Dunfermline ~1143.

The name of Gillandres is no longer found as a witness to documents after ~1155-1160, so that it may be inferred that he died soon after his father Alfwin. A further inference is that there were no heirs; the lands of Alfwin's tun came back to the crown, reverting to royal demesne. The next incomers to the parish appear to have been the Anglo-Norman family of de Quinci from Long Buckby in Northamptonshire where they were tenants of the de Choques, one of a small group of families from French Flanders which had arrived with or in the wake of the Norman conqueror in 1066. Not later than 1160 Robert de Quinci is found in the service of King Malcolm IV and by 1174 he is one of the Justiciars of Lothian, along with fellow-Normans Robert Avenel, Richard Cumin and Geoffrey de Melville [Kingdon, 123, 137; Anglo-Normans, 22 passim]. His first lands were in Lothian centred on Tranent, and it emerges later quite plainly that they included Alfwin's holding. Marriage to an heiress, Orabilis, daughter of Nes, son of William, lord of Leuchars and Lathrisk together with many other lands in Fife and Strathearn, brought him much more. Incidentally, might not Alan, 6th of Swinton, have been one of his bodyguards from ~1174 to 1200 or later? This might explain the numerous occasions on which his name appears as a witness to documents [Burke, Swinton], travelling round with an itinerant court of justice? The services required from Robert de Quinci for his lands, in addition to his judicial duties, do not seem to be known, but if he had not begun the sub-infeudation of his adherents before his marriage, it is likely to have proceeded more rapidly afterwards, in keeping with the increase of his holdings. These landless younger sons would have joined him initially as the bodyguard of a magnat's household, most of them possessing no more than their horse or equipment and possibly even neither. In addition to the incomers from Flanders - Philip de Vermelles, Robert de Bethune, Roger de Orchies, Robert de Carvin, Hugh de Lens and Alan de Courriers - we find Milo Cornet who was afterwards knighted and left his name upon the estate of Myles (the present farm of Myles lying between the village of Elphinstone and Tranent) and perhaps we may add also Alan, 7th of Swinton.

By the turn of the century, Saher, son of Robert de Quinci, whom King John made Earl of Winchester in 1207, had become one of the richest and most powerful barons of Scotland with holdings in both kingdoms. By this period the association of the Swinton and the de Quinci families had grown close and it would have been natural to have strengthened the tie by intermarriage, specifically between Alan, 7th of Swinton and a daughter of Saher de Quinci. This would have been feasible, in that from the scanty evidence it may be deduced that Alan was born about 1180 and in ~1205 would be of an age to marry a daughter born about 1185-1190. Such a date would be consistent with the successive lifespans of Robert, Saher and Roger de Quinci. It may be inferred that the tocher included at least some part of the lands of Elphinstone together with the sheriff mill at Inveresk, which Alan henceforth enjoyed in right of his wife. It must have been not long after that he obtained Collessie and Abernethy in Fife by a charter from the Justiciar, Walter Olifard, which was confirmed by King William the Lion before 1211.

Of the two sons Alan, the elder, inherited his father's lands in the Merse and in Fife, becoming 8th of Swinton. John the younger, acquired the Elphinstone lands as from his mother and adopted them as his territorial designation, maintaining his identity, however, by retention of the Swinton armorial bearings suitably differenced. In the contest of the times these changes of surname were so frequent as not to call for any

special remark. W.P. Hedley [Northumberland Families] cites the occurrence of four such examples among the dozen baronies of Northumberland by failure of male heirs or the like. The seal of their great-grandson whose name John de Elphinstone is on the Ragman Roll for the county of Edinburgh perhaps gives a clue to the location of their dwelling, the legend reading S(igillum) JOHANNIS DE PRESTUN [Bain,op.cit,II,557], and I suspect that this may be the Preston now subsumed and engulfed in modern Prestonpans.

This attempt to explain how some portion of the parish of Tranent and its environs, probably part of an erstwhile royal demesne in Lothian, came to be know as Elphinstone and why John, younger son of Alan, 7th of Swinton, adopted the territorial surname of Elphinstone leans heavily on the published works of

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| G.W.S. Barrow, | The Kingdom of the Scots, Arnold(1973) |
| | The Anglo-Norman Era in Scottish History, OUP (1980) |
| D.C. Douglas, | William the Conqueror: the Norman impact upon England |
| | Methuen (1969) |
| A.A.M. Duncan | Scotland: The Making of the Kingdom |
| | The Edinburgh History of Scotland, I, Oliver & Boyd (1975) |
| W.E. Kapelle | The Norman Conquest of the North, Croom Helm (1979) |
| A.C. Lawrie, ed. | Early Scottish Charters prior to AD 1153 Maclehose, Glasgow |
| | (1905) |

which cite the numerous source references for the facts between which I have spun a tenuous and frail web of deduction. Nevertheless in spite of the many gaps and guesses, this account seems to be more rational than any other so far encountered.

To continue, Alan 7th of Swinton died after the year 1247 and his tomb with recumbent effigy - *Hic jacet Alanus Swintonus miles de eodem* - may yet be seen within the south wall of Swinton kirk. It was the great-grandfather of Alan, namely Ernulf de Swinton, who received from King David I about 1140 two charters in which he is given Swinton 'in feudo et in heredita sibi et heredibus'. These two documents make it clear that the superiority of Swinton had passed from the see of St. Cuthbert to the Scottish crown, it was now royal demesne and the lands of Swinton are conferred on Ernulf and his heirs for ever; any services due to the bishopric being extinguished thenceforward for an annual reddendum of forty shillings. The grandfather of Ernulf has been said to be Liulf of Bamburgh and Swinton, Sheriff of the Northumbrians, who is mentioned in a Coldingham charter granted by King Edgar about 1098 as holding Swinton before that date [Burke,Swinton]. The father of this Liulf, namely Edulf, was alive in the year 1080 and is known to have slain Walcher, the Lotharingian bishop of Durham who had bought and was then administering the earldom of Northumberland, on the 10th May of that year. In the chart pedigree of the family of Swinton of that ilk a recession of seven generations from this Edulf takes us back to Eadwulf the first lord of Bamburgh who died in the year 912.

It is on this Edulf that the Swinton descent trips and falters, and we may note that W.P. Hedley [op.cit] could not accept the sequence Edulf (Rus) - Liulf of Bamburgh, 1st of Swinton - Udard/Odard of Bamburgh, 2nd of Swinton, remarking 'Ligulf de Bebbanburch who had been joint sheriff of Northumberland with Aluric of Corbridge in the early year of Henry I has been identified as the father of Odard, vicecomes de Babenburch, on the strength of two Swinton charters of doubtful authenticity' - but see the Appendix which gives brief translations of each. 'In any case they refer to Liulfus filius Edulfi et Vdardus filius suus and there is no reason to presume that Liulf son of Edulf was the same person as Liulf.' And also 'We can be quite satisfied that whatever the parentage of Odard he was a Norman-French sheriff and not of native ancestry. In contrast to his English predecessor a Norman-French sheriff had to be the social and territorial equal to the strongest local baron if he were to maintain the king's authority.' However this objection may be outweighed by the identification of Liulf son of Edulf with Liulf of Bamburgh, as first suggested. No other Edulf is known who could have founded an Anglo-Saxon line of hereditary vicecomites so soon after the Norman conquest. Liulf son of Edulf or any early twelfth-century Bamburgh family would have had a difficult time administering turbulent Northumberland had they not belonged to the popular old Edulfing house which had already slain three alien administrators.

Latterly, as seen from the final remarks of the Appendix, Lawrie withdrew much of his objection to the authenticity of the two Swinton charters, but the connection between Ernulf confirmed in Swinton by King David I and the Bamburgh family of Eadwulfings remains an unresolved question.

We have already noted that Alan, 7th of Swinton, left along with his heir Alan, 8th of Swinton, another son John, who, it has been suggested, is identifiable as the John de Elphinstone, the first of the name, who witnessed a grant by Roger de Quinci to the monks of Dryburgh of the wood of Gladswood about the year 1250; he also witnessed a donation by Gilbert de Haya to the abbey of Coupar in the same year [Fraser,I,1]. The identity was suggested by Captain George S.C. Swinton when March Pursuivant by reason of the marked similarity to the armorial bearings. Thus Swinton of that Ilk display a chevron or between three boars heads erased argent on a shield sable; the arms of Elphinstone, of the middle ages prior to later additions, show a chevron sable between three boars head erased gules on a shield argent [ibid,II,112]: the designs are identical and differ only in the metals and colours. Swinton, adopted as a surname by a Berwickshire family of Northumbrian origin, seems like the placename of the 'tun' or some erstwhile Scandinavian Svcn or Sweyn who was dispossessed. So if the suggestions set down here supported by the somewhat scanty circumstantial evidence may be accepted, it is more than likely that the John de Elphinstone, the third of the name, who swore allegiance to King Edward I at Montrose on 11 July and at Berwick upon Tweed on 28th August of 1296 from whom the Elphinstones undoubtedly trace their descent is to be identified as a great-grandson of Alan de Swinton, 7th of that Ilk.

Between the years 1250 and 1296, in addition to the two grants already mentioned, a grant by Sir Fergus Cumyne, lord of Gorgyn, to the abbey of Holyrood of the milldam of Salchton on the water of Leith was witnessed by Mr John de Elphinstone, the grandson of Alan, 7th of Swinton. The charter is undated but can be ascribed to ~1265 [ibid,II,219].

The designation Mr is perhaps an honorific to signify that somehow he had obtained a rather more literate education than his neighbours, instead of its usual indication of a priest with a masters degree.

In the summer of 1296 it is probable that the third John was a young man in his late twenties, for on 1 September 1321 he witnessed a charter by James, lord of Douglas, to Roger of Moray of the lands of Fala [ibid,II,218] and some seventeen years later he appears as a witness to a donation by Sir William Livingstone, lord of Drumry, to the abbey of Newbattle dated 3rd March 1338 [ibid,II,220;Reg.Newbattle]. it is unlikely that he survived much after 1340. He had married Marjorie Erth, the heiress of Erthbeg or Little Airth in Stirlingshire; they left a son Alexander (~1295-1362) whose name appears on the garrison roll of Stirling castle from 26th October 1336 to 30th June 1337 [Bain,op.cit,III,124]. He obtained about 1341 a charter from Sir Thomas Airth of Wauchton granting to him as son and heir of a certain John of Elphinstone all the lands in the holding of Airthbeg with their pertinences including fishing rights and pasturage for six horses in the 'isle of Erth' possessed by his late mother Marjorie which she had resigned to the superior on the death of her husband [HMC,9,185;Spalding Misc.V,317;Fraser,II,221]. This charter is undated but the style of charters of King Robert I (1329-1340), indicating that it was issued before 1340 or not long afterwards. The name of Reginald More 'tunc camerario Scotie' appears among the numerous witnesses. Alexander had also received from Sir Godfrey Ross the lands of Kythumbre (Kittymuir) in the barony of Stonehouse, Lanarkshire. His son also named Alexander (~1320-1362), is tyled 'dominus ejusdem' - of that ilk - in a charter of King David II dated 9th June 1363 [DavidII;Fraser,II,221,222]. This confirms that previous to that year he had granted to Alexander More, son of the late Sir Adam More, the lands of Kythumbre possessed by his late father Alexander Elphinstone in excambion for a further portion of Airthbeg. He was succeeded by his son William (~1340-1396), who first appears in the records as baillie of John (Lauder) of Haltoun (Halton,Hatton) in a document dated 13th July 1377 [HMC,5,611]. The reference shows the complete transaction for a land sale comprising a document in which William together with Adam de Glendellbyne (?Glendelvine) are made procurators for resigning the lands of Haltoun to the King (Robert II) as superior, the issue of a precept to William as baillie to give sasine to the new heritor Sir Alan Lauder, the charter of the 'said lands by the said John to the said Sir Alan', the royal chancery precept for giving sasine to Alan 'of the toun and lands of Haltoun' and finally a royal charter of resignation of the said lands to the said Alan. It is perhaps surprising to realize that all this documentation and the associated legwork was completed within two weeks at a time when the King and the itinerant portion of the chancery were moving from Kinkell to Braemar. William continued to act as bailie and factor for other magnates, for twenty years later Sir William Lindsay of the Byres directs to his bailie of the lands of Pittendreich, Stirlingshire, namely his dear kinsman Sir William Elphinston of that ilk, a precept of entail of the lands of Pittendreich first upon William and his heirs male, quibus forte deficientibus, then seriatim to his brothers Alexander, Norman and James and their heirs male, all of whom failing to the lawful heirs of William whomsoever. The precept is dated 6th September 1397 [Spalding Misc,V,316,317]. It is noteworthy that William Lindsay had but recently acquired Pittendreich, held previously by Thomas Fraser, from William de Keith 'Mariscallus Scotie' in excambion for the lands of Dunnottar; the charter covering this transaction [ibid,319] is undated but must have been executed prior to September 1397.

Over twenty-five years later, a charter by Murdac, Duke of Albany, 'gubernator Scotie', confirms the charter granted by Sir William Lindsay of the Byres to his dear kinsman William Elphinston son and heir of the late Sir William Elphinston 'militis nostri' i.e. his vassal 'for his homage and service and undeviating loyalty all the days of his life'. It repeats the entail of the Lindsay charter and is dated at Edinburgh 4th March 1423 [Fraser,II,226;Spalding Misc,V,317,318]. There has also survived the marriage contract between Elizabeth Elphinston, the only known sister of the four brothers and Heliseus of Kynnynmonth 'son and heir of the late Alexander of Kynnynmonth' in which she is designated not as daughter of Sir William Elphinston but as niece of Sir George Leslie of Rothes who appears as her sponsor. The contract is dated 26th April 1397 at Cupar in Fife [Fraser,II,222;HMC,9,185]. This may indicate that her father was unable to act and that her eldest brother was not yet of full age. The Lindsay precept and its confirmation also show that there was some kinship relationship between the Elphinstones and the Lindsays but the degree of consanguinity is not known.

Passing now to the generation fathered by the younger William (~1372-1424) we have knowledge of four sons Alexander, Henry, Laurence and William. Alexander the first-born was killed in action, at Piperden by Wark-on-Tweed, in the pursuit of a large-scale English raiding expedition on 9th September 1435. He had married and left an only daughter Agnes who, it seems probable, was already contracted to marry Gilbert Johnstone of the Johnstones of Annandale. Henry as the next heir male succeeded to the Elphinstone inheritance, but serious dispute arose over her tocher and further expectations as only child of the presumptive heir after the death of her grandfather. The litigation between the two families was prolonged, extending for more than thirty years until finally a settlement was reached by an arbitration which allotted the Elphinstone lands in Lothian to Agnes and Gilbert, and the more recently acquired Airthbeg and Pittendreich to Henry [Fraser,I,14]. Incidentally it was the Johnstones of Elphinstone who about the turn of the fifteenth/sixteenth centuries built the so-called Elphinstone tower† of which the vestiges may yet be seen by the village of Elphinstone near Tranent [Tranter].

Henry married Jean Cunningham of Polmaise, the daughter of a neighbour laird. The Alexander Cunningham of Polmaise who appears as Sheriff of Stirling in the year 1500 may have been her nephew or great-nephew. The recorded issue of Henry and Jean consisted of three sons James, John and Patrick, of whom later. Henry appears in the records on 12 October 1439 [Darrow PB] when he was the subject of an inquisition regarding his half-share of his father's lands of Lequhan in the barony of North Berwick and was found to be the legitimate heir; then on 6th September and 6th November 1477, after the death of his son James when he resigned various lands to his grandson John which see later.

†Since Tranter described the tower there has been further collapse - perhaps the effect of mining subsidence as well as weathering - and the remains of the structure were demolished in 1960.

In the past there has been some doubt whether the third brother Laurence belongs in this generation. But Hector Bocce [op.cit] definitely identifies him as the uncle of the future bishop William who generously financed his legal studies at the Universities of Paris and Orleans during the years 1465 to 1471. Like his father he was factor and bailie on a number of Douglas estates and first appears as Laurencius de Elfynstoun who witnessed a retour by James Douglas, Earl of Avandale, in favour of Sir William Douglas, the second laird of Drumlanrig† and Hawick, as heir to his father in the East Main of Hawick, on 28 November 1437 [Macfarlane, op.cit, 17]. Some thirty years later he is found as bailie to James Douglas of Robertson [Morton papers]. In the meantime it may be inferred that he has taken on an increasing number of his father's commitments, which may have led to his acquisition of the estate of Selmes in the barony of Calderclere. This may well have been one of the many holdings sequestrate to the Crown as a consequence of the Douglas and Hamilton insurrection of 1452-1455, in the administration of which he had been no less effective in service to the crown as to the Douglasses. His marriage to Margaret Hamilton [Young PB, 323, 324] resulted in three sons Nicholas, Alexander, Andrew and a daughter Janet. He seems to have been active in various affairs until 1485 or thereabouts, a protocol book reference of 1486 [ibid, 30] quoting him as deceased. His life overlaps that of an elder Laurence, sworn as a bailie of the burgh of Edinburgh and officer of guild on 3 October 1400 [ed. Records] and is followed by that of his grandson and namesake, a benefactor of Kings College in the early years of the next century. This also has led to confusion.

By contrast, the birthdate of William the youngest of the four brothers can be fixed almost within months as late in 1410 or early in 1411. He had graduated B.A. at the University of St. Andrews in 1428 and as licentiate (or M.A.) in 1430, appearing on the list as Dominus Willelmus de Elfynston, indicating that by this time he was in minor orders [Dunlop, St A]. As a fourth son with his way to make in the world it seems likely that he had embarked on an ecclesiastical career with the intention of acquiring a professional education then only obtainable in Scotland through church patronage, probably with a view to following in his father's footsteps, along with his brother Laurence. We may suppose that he met the young Margaret Douglas of Drumlanrig [Macfarlane, op.cit, 17], the putative mother of his son William - if not already acquainted - some time in the late summer or early autumn of 1430; then, backed by her brother, the second laird, he supplicates Rome for the rectory of Ashkirk and a canonry at Glasgow Cathedral which were reserved for him late in April of the following year. Whereas it has been suggested that the child was born early in April 1431, it seems that a date nearer midsummer would be more likely. At any rate, it looks as if the infant had been put out to nurse and his mother back again in her brother's care at what time the father had sped on his way from Scotland to matriculate in the law schools of the University of Louvain in October of the same year [ibid, 17]. Certainly in the context of the age the marriage of a feudal magnate's grand-daughter to a landless younger son would have been quite unthinkable.

†The lands of Drumlanrig 'lay to' those of Hawick. The Black Tower of Drumlanrig, the principal messuage and once an ancestral home of the Douglas family, is now (1988) being restored under a local redevelopment scheme. Its construction antedated that of Drumlanrig castle in Nithsdale by some two hundred years.

After his return to Glasgow, presumably in 1434, he found that there was no immediate requirement for his legal training; still worse, the canonry and rectory for which the Vatican had been supplicated in April 1431 had been withheld pending the resolution of an apparent irregularity and he had to wait until March 1437 for confirmation. From this time onwards he was increasingly active in his canonical and prebendal duties at the Cathedral, where he is found as witness to episcopal acts and involved in litigation over benefices. His friend William Turnbull was provided to the See of Glasgow on 27th October 1447 and from then on he was drawn closely into the affairs of the infant University, being elected as the first dean of its Faculty of Arts in August 1451 [MAUG,p178]. In September 1453 he went to Rome, ostensibly on pilgrimage, but more probably to secure for himself the canonry of Dunkeld which he had been granted that July and to supplicate for the parish of Kirkpatrick Fleming which he had been promised. In 1479 he obtained the parish of Ancrum, became archdeacon of Teviotdale in 1482 and died on 30th June 1486. His life is a good illustration of the contemporary scramble for benefices of a cleric who none the less did good service to his church and to his country.

Of the next generation, Agnes Elphinstone, the daughter of Alexander (~1400-1435) and her husband Gilbert Johnstone have already had brief mention. The second brother Henry (~1402-1480) fathered three sons namely James, John and Patrick. The first-born James was married to Isabella Bruce of Culmalindie and left issue; he left no specific record and we hear of him only from documents which relate primarily to his father or his sons. He died not later than the year 1476, thus predeceasing his father. The second son John, born probably about 1427, had settled in Glasgow. There is some confusion between him and his eldest son, also named John, but it is probable that it was the father who is on record as burgess and bailie of Glasgow, who had been elected by the inmates of the leper hospital as their procurator by 30th June 1485. He was married to Elizabeth Douglas [RMS,OO,1662] - the connection is interesting - and disappears from the records by 21st December 1496. It is unlikely that he was by any means the first of the Elphinstone kindred to have settled in the little city.

The third son of Henry, namely Patrick, of Airthbeg, was born perhaps between 1430 and 1435. He appears in the records from 1472 to 1497; thus he was first leased and then given outright the lands of Airthbeg by his father Henry on 11th February 1472 [Darrow PB,p48]. In 1479 he rents some of the land of Glensax, Peeblesshire, with more of the same in 1486 [Ex.Rolls,IX,320,419]. On 16th March 1491 he takes sasine of the lands of Strickfield (?recte Stirkfield), Peeblesshire, on renunciation of the rights thereto held conjointly by Sir David Lindsay, his mother Isabella, Lady Ruthven, and grandmother Elizabeth Levington [Young PB,412,413]. He last appears on 11th April 1497 as witnessing an instrument in Edinburgh [ibid,894]. He was killed in the Autumn of the next year by a kinsman, John son of David Elphinston, who obtained a precept of remission [RSS,I,288] dated 14th November 1498, leaving a son William of whom later. His wife's name has not survived.

Coming now to the children of Laurence, it would seem that he married Margaret Hamilton when he was in middle age - she may perhaps have been the successor of a lady who died young and left no record or children - because the three sons Nicholas, Alexander and Andrew together with their sister Janet all look to be markedly younger

than their first cousin William. May it be surmised, as it was not until 1465 when he had been reading canon law at Glasgow for three years, that his uncle Laurence found it practicable to subsidise his further studies in France for six years? By this time Laurence would have been not far short of 60 years of age, and in the absence of the exiled 9th earl of Douglas, is likely to have been in full charge of the estates ravaged and sequestered in the rising and its aftermath of 1452-1455, with his studies at their most extensive and most lucrative. Whence it is not unreasonable to infer that having made provision for his own family he then felt himself at liberty to assist his nephew†. Birthdates in the decade 1445-1455 would accord with what is known of their lives. In particular a birthdate of 1455 for Janet would agree well with her marriage to the lay graduate Richard Lawson of Hieriggs, later justice-clerk and provost of Edinburgh, who sat with the Lords of Council along with William Elphinstone and his fellow Auditors of Causes during the period 1478-1485 [Macfarlane,op.cit,98,99].

Whereas William was translated from the See of Ross to that of Aberdeen in 1483 he was not consecrated until five years later and during this time he was much employed on affairs of state at home and abroad. For this period the diocese was without a bishop, disordered and sadly in need of reform. Thus soon after his consecration he started to collect around him a group of his kinsmen consisting of four clerics appointed to cathedral prebendaries on whom he might rely to support his policies in chapter and elsewhere, and two lay first cousins - Nicholas and Andrew - available to forward the temporal business of the see. Nepotism was a word not to be found in any contemporary dictionary; the life of the age could not have been carried on without such kinship networks which demonstrated that the loyalty of the known exceeded that of the unknown and confirmed that blood was thicker than water

Laurence was deceased by December 1485 and was succeeded in Selmes by his eldest son and heir Nicholas, who, it may be, followed him in his office of bailie to James Douglas. Theirs may have been an uneasy relationship; certainly after a quarrel with his brother Andrew over their property in Edinburgh in 1489 [Young PB,264-266,275,276] he resigns Salmes on 22nd February 1490 to the superior the Earl of Morton [ibid,313,314] who forthwith gave the lands to Andrew reserving liferent to Nicholas with a terce - third share - to his wife Margaret Griffert. He and Andrew indulge in other deals in property in Edinburgh throughout 1490 [ibid,323-325,381] and he finally resigns his tenement on the north side of the High Street to Thomas Cochrane on 3rd June 1495 [ibid,865]. This is all that is recorded of him about Edinburgh and we hear no more until he obtains a charter from the bishop and chapter of Aberdeen of the estate of Glack, previously held by his brother Andrew, on 13th November 1499 [Glack inventory]. Margaret Griffert must have died some few years before this date as Nicholas marries as his second wife Elizabeth Abercromby and they leave issue William and Symon born about 1503 and 1505. It seems likely also that he was the father of the 'John of Elphinstone, bastard sone to Nicoll Elphinstone' for whom

†Of course this is mere guessing. But whatever the reasons for the circumstances, Boece [op.cit.] is quite definite that Laurence decided to send him to France at his own expense to continue his legal training.

a precept of legitimation was issued at Edinburgh on 29th October 1497 [RSS,I,152]. To anticipate somewhat, if John was a babe in arms or a tot at this time, he may well be identifiable as the delinquent John Elphinstone rector of Invernocht who appears in Pitcairn's Criminal Trials [1,pt ii,356] under date of 5th November 1550.

For some reason Alexander the second son of Laurence, although his name is found in the records from 1485 to 1493, has not appeared in any Elphinstone genealogy so far seen [Young PB,30,275,381,491,568]. The last entry is an instrument of resignation and sasine narrating that 'Robert Hamiltone, procurator of Mr. Alexander Elphinstone, sone of the deceased Laurence Elphinstone of Selmis resigned in the hands of Robert Hamilton of Fingalton the rock, gynalhous, mansion houses and garden pertaining to his saltpan lying among the salt pans of Saltpreston...' Thus the translation in the transcript which note however, that in the original text the words 'et heredis' after 'filii' have been deleted. The correction makes Alexander the second-born, not the first; the designation 'Mr'.. 'Magistri' indicates that he might have been in orders. Nevertheless an entry in the John Foular protocol book dated 7th February 1520 describes the land and tenement held by himself and his wife [Foular PB,II,167]. He appears to have died in the early spring of 1526.

The reference to Andrew the third son of Laurence are numerous and extend from October 1488 to March 1528, but it appears that these subsequent to 1512 pertain to his third son and namesake who, again to anticipate, was seized of Selmes in 1515 after the deaths of the eldest son Laurence in 1512, of his father Andrew in the same year and of the second son Willima in 1514 or 1515. Reverting to the elder Andrew, who was born about 1453, it is evident that he was active in the legal and business life of Edinburgh as attorney and procurator. It is likewise plain that, as the diocese of Aberdeen had been effectively without guidance for the five years prior to the consecration of Bishop William in 1488, its affairs spiritual and temporal were in some disorder. In this year he initiated and pursued patiently for the next decade or more a program of recovery of the financial rights of the bishopric which had been allowed to lapse or been assumed by others, during a period when he was frequently absent from his cathedral on affairs of state at home and overseas and while he was yet striving for the appointment of his own candidates to fill the more important posts in the chapter. In these conditions the assistance of an energetic layman to drive and oversee the management of the lands and other temporal endowments of the diocese, who moreover was fully conversant with all the legal procedures involved in pursuing actions through the courts would have been a godsend. It is legitimate to accept that this need was fulfilled by Andrew.

One of the key figures in the cathedral administration was the treasurer, responsible for the upkeep of all the furnishings, interior equipment, vestments and treasures of the cathedral church as well as its heating and lighting; his prebend was supported by the parish of Daviot, a small parish of somewhat over 3000 acres which contained the estate of Glack, lately recovered by the bishopric from the Glaister family. To provide Andrew with a base and background local income - for be it remembered that Nicholas was heir to Selmes - Bishop William persuaded the chapter to settle Glack upon him and Andrew was infeft by a charter dated 7th September 1493 [Glack inventory] to be held of the bishop and his successors for the service of three suits yearly to the bishop's head court, etc. We have no knowledge of the frequency of Andrew's visits to Glack and it is

unlikely that he was ever there for any protracted period. From Aberdeen he was dealing in wool and salmon, not only from the bishopric estates and fishings but also on his own; in the ledger of Andrew Halyburton, the conservator of privileges of the Scottish nation in the Netherlands, his account extending from October 1497 to April 1500 occupies as much space as that of Bishop William for the two years October 1497 to October 1499. Payment for Andrew's exports was made mostly as credits but occasionally by coin sent to Aberdeen. It is possible that he may have gone to Flanders and France on his own account; certainly he and Bishop William were made members of a Confraternity of the Holy Spirit (based in Rome) in 1496, an organisation which, inter alia, facilitated foreign travel and provided lodging for its members when on church business [per L.J. Macfarlane, 20, 3.84]. The records of the period show that he was still active in private practice in Edinburgh, and it seems likely that Glack had now lost whatever attraction it once had. So much so that Andrew and Nicholas agreed to exchange their properties. Thus whenas Nicholas had resigned his lands of Selmes to the superior the Earl of Morton, with reservation of a liferent and a terce to Margaret Griffert, 'the said Earl gave the said lands to Andrew Elphinstone brother of the said Nicholas' on 22nd February 1490 [Young PB, 313], he obtained from the bishop and chapter a new charter for the estate of Glack on 13th November 1499, as mentioned above. It may be that the death of Margaret Griffert had triggered this move; we hear no more of her after 1495 and Nicholas married again about the turn of the century.

Andrew in the next few years starts to buy up parcels of lands in Aberdeenshire and alienate them in favour of Kings College, and he also made various gifts. He was active on royal business - he was one of the five sheriffs who infefted Alexander, later first Lord Elphinstone, in the lands of Invernocht and that portion of the earldom of Mar gifted to him by King James IV in 1507 and 1508. And on his own account; in 1507 he paid £100 for a five-year lease of the salmon custom of Aberdeen. This did not prove a profitable speculation, as he was £22:18s in arrears in 1508. Finally on 24th March 1510, he obtains a precept for a letter authorising him to build a fencible tower house at Selmes [RSS, I, 2034]. He seems to have died in the year 1512; later references to Andrew of Selmes, and they are plentiful, pertain to his namesake and third son who was seized of Selmes in 1515 after the deaths of his elder brothers Laurence and Mr William.

Little has come to light regarding the only known sister Janet except her marriage to Richard Lawson of Hieriggs, justice-clerk general at the turn of the century, who appears to be deceased by 1509 [RMS, II, 3455]; she outlived him by several years.

The last of this generation - the grandchildren of William of Airth and Pittendreich (1372-1424) - is William (1431-26.10.1514), the bishop and statesman whose life has been recorded in depth with a wealth of scholarship by L.J. Macfarlane, and needs no more mention here. We may however turn an enquiring eye upon Adam Elphinstone, rector of Invernocht, archdeacon of Aberdeen 1494-1499, Bishop William's factor in the Netherlands and at the Papal curia, who died in Rome in the year 1499, and upon Arthur Elphinstone, rector of Inverboyndie, who was concerned in the negotiations leading to the transfer of the assets of the hospital of St Germain, Tranent, to the infant university of Aberdeen at its first major endowment. It has been suggested that not one but both of these kinsmen were brothers of Bishop William.

The evidence now available in the Glasgow University records [MAUG] shows that Adam and Arthur were close contemporaries in the years 1485-1489, and some forty years younger than Bishop William. Adam went on to Paris for further studies; the Vatican Archives show that he wrote to Rome in the summer of 1494, mentioning that as far as he could tell he was in his 23rd year, for a dispensation (which was granted) for his bastardy as the son of a priest and an unmarried woman. It is conceivable that William Elphinstone (~1410-1486) might have seen his father, but that he could have been any closer than stepbrother to Bishop William seems a very remote possibility. As for Arthur, too much has been made of a letter of presentation, dated 22nd September 1493, to the church of Banff addressed to Bishop William by the Abbot of Arbroath in which he writes '...dominum Arthurum Elphinston paternitati vestre...presentamus...'. Which means no more than 'we are presenting A.E. one of your kinsmen. Paternitas vestra was the usual formula descriptive of a presentee whose surname was the same as that of the addressee of the letter.'

Passing now to the next generation, and first to the issue of James of Airth and Pittendreich, John the eldest was born about the year 1450. On 6th September 1477 he is granted a charter by John, Lord Lindsay of the Byres as superior which shows that he is to succeed to Pittendreich as heir of his grandfather Henry on the latter's resignation, his father James being deceased before this date. Two months later on 6th November 1477 the same Lord Lindsay gives John the lands of Airthbeg, and a third charter of the same date conferred on John and his wife Euphemia and their heirs male 'all my lands of Arikshaw in the barony of Chamberlane Newton and shire of Roxburgh', whom failing to the heirs male of his grandfather [Spalding Misc.V,318]. There are numerous other references relating to him over the next twenty-five years, of which may be mentioned specifically the charters of entail of 1497 and 1502. The former is a royal confirmation [RMS,II,2341] dated 1st February 1497 of a charter of John, Lord Lindsay of the Byres, conceding the lands of Pittendreich and part of Airthbeg to be held by John and his heirs, or his brother Alexander, or Andrew of Selmes or his cousin John citizen of Glasgow. The latter dated 27th August 1502 confirms the sale by John, Lord Sempill, of various lands of Craigrossy in Strathearn to John and his heirs, or Alexander and his heirs, as above, but John the Glaswegian is now particularized as *filius avunculi* - son of the uncle - of the entailer [RMS,II,2662]. These two chapters have enabled several relationships in the family to be unravelled. A royal charter of 21st November 1498 concedes the lands and barony of Airth to John Elphinstone of Pittendreich, the king's armour-bearer, which lands have been resigned by Patrick, Lord Lindsay [RMS,II,2468]. And on the 4th January 1504, John was confirmed by King James IV in all the lands and barony of Erth Chamberlain, Pittendreich and Craigforth (now

*See for both Adam and Arthur, *Munimenta Almae Universitatis Glasguensis*, ed C. Innes,II,pp99-101 (Maitland Club, Glasgow,1854).
for Adam

Vatican Archives: Registrum Latinum; 966 fos44r-46;1051 fos159,160
(Calendar of Entries in the Papal Registers relating to Gt Britain & Ireland, vv XIV,XV,XVI)

Craigforth) for free and faithful service which lands are now erected into a free barony of Elphinstone, the village of Airth to be known henceforward as Elphinstone [Spalding Misc.V,318]. One is led to wonder if these were transfers of Lindsay lands on account of failure of male heirs, insolvency or possibly as more less remote consequences of the magnatial resentment which has surfaced at Lauder in 1482 and came to a head with the slaughter of King James III at Sauchieburn in June 1488.

John was thrice married, first to Euphemia Hepburn who appears to have died before 1495. On 2nd April 1498 he and his second wife Margaret Oliphant are suing her brother Walter, a burges of Perth, for the return of a gold cross and chair lent by Margaret, before Bishop William [ADCC,167]. And thirdly to Elizabeth Oliphant, sister of Margaret, under a papal dispensation obtained by Bishop William. John died about the year 1512 leaving issue Alexander and Thomas, of whom later.

It seems probable that John's young brother Alexander was born about 1453. He may be identifiable as the layman Alexander Elphinstone who accompanied Bishop William on the embassy to England which negotiated in London the Anglo-Scottish treaty of 3rd July 1486 [Rot.Scot.II,472]. He appears in the records from July 1486 as above until March 1514. His name is first in the entail after his brother John in the royal charter of 1st February 1497 [RMS,II,2341] and is seen as a witness to the charter by which the king conceded to his brother the barony of Airth [RMS,II,2688] of 28th January 1502. We have to wait until 1503 to learn from an entry in the protocol book of John Foular [Nos.194seq,p170-173,11 Feb] that he was to be married to Agnes Tweedie 'of Scottistoun', whose mother was Margaret Levington, perhaps the sister of Elizabeth Levington, the wife of Andrew Elphinstone of Selmes who witnesses the instrument. In 1514 the Exchequer Rolls,xiv,477 tell of the termination of his lease of 9 bovates (or 117 acres) of the Halls of Airth. The entry also tells of his second son, also Alexander. This is the only indication yet found that Alexander and Agnes had children. On 24th March 1514 he witnessed an instrument of sasine of part of the Livingstone lands [Binns Papers,p9]. This is the last we hear of him; it is likely that he was dead before 1520.

The third brother of John and Alexander was Mr William, rector of Clatt and canon of Aberdeen, with a probable birthdate 1455-1460. He was a graduate of Glasgow and had been brought into the diocese of Aberdeen about 1493, succeeding Duncan Scherar in his rectory about 1503. Scherar may well have taken part in the compilation of the Aberdeen breviary and there is some evidence that this William carried on the work after Scherar's death [Macfarlane,op.cit,p221,241]. In September 1513 he was appointed one to the tutors to the infant Alexander, 2nd Lord Elphinstone, after the death of his father at Flodden, but gave up the charge in March 1518 to his kinsman Mr Robert Elphinston rector of Kincardine O'Neil [ADCpublic,xxxii,131]. He made various gifts, to the house of the Observant Friars in Aberdeen, furnishings for Kings College chapel, and an endowment in favour of the vicars choral [Macfarlane,op.cit,p335,340]. His obituary is dated 23rd July 1528 [Necrologia].

There are four Glaswegians that we know of, sons of John Elphinstone and Elizabeth Douglas, in this generation. The first-born John may be dated at about 1450; he was married to Agnes Forsyth, and appears in the records from 1485 to 1509. He was the second of a series of three, and the references are so scanty that it is difficult to relate

them to individuals. Agnes when first heard of was the wife of one Patrick Hamilton and presumably the widow of John Elphinstone. In 1506 she life-rented a tenement on the east side of the High Street, stated two years earlier to belong to 'Patrick Hamilton alias John Elphinstone'. On 19th May 1506 she conveyed to John Elphinstone her son and heir a chamber situated above the kitchen of her tenement to be possessed by him during her lifetime, on condition that he should build and give to her the liferent use of a house near at hand in which she could completely brew and bake bread for her own family and strangers [Hist.Glasgow,p299]. Which shows that her former husband was dead by this date.

It is probable that Patrick Elphinstone, rector of Erskine and canon of Glasgow was a brother. Born about 1452, his name occurs almost yearly in the records of the infant university of Glasgow as bursar or dean from 1482 to 1496 [Liber CND,MAUG]; in the diocesan register he appears as Canon of Glasgow from 1505 to 1511 and rector of Erskine from January 1504 to July 1513 [Diocesan Reg]. His death may be set as not later than the autumn of that year. His will is dated 29th June 1507 and his nephew John who fell at Flodden on 11th September 1513 is named as one of the two executors.

The third brother William, also a priest, may be assigned a birthdate of ~1455. He is named as the brother of John and as attorney for Mariota Maxwell on 18th December 1509. It may also be he who was given sasine of Duntreath Stirlingshire in 1506 or 1507 [Ex.Rolls,xii,712]. On 6th June 1507 we learn that he was recommended for the office of minor sacrist of Glasgow cathedral by Canon Patrick Elphinstone, which was witnessed in their brother John's house in the High Street, but although the campaign went on for the next three years all efforts to obtain this minor benefice were unavailing [Diocesan Reg]. Also about this time a Mr William Elphinstone is shown to be 'Chaplain of St. Laurence, Stirling'; these two may be the same man.

Finally the fourth brother (or half-brother) also christened John but for distinction known as Jock appears so long after the previous three that doubt has been cast on his legitimacy. He emigrated to France and was able to take service in the Garde Ecossais of the French monarchy, a Jehan Alphinstone (as near as he himself gave it) being found on the muster-roll from 1494 to 1498 [Forbes-Leith,II]. His year of birth may thus be assumed as 1475 plus a year or two, i.e. twenty years after William. Perhaps and alternatively his mother may have been a second wife acquired after the death of Elizabeth Douglas. Jock married, in France, Katherine le Noble about the year 1500; he was dead by 2nd May 1552, having fathered five children [APAE Claim].

We may pass now to the offspring of Nicholas, initially of Selves, but of Glack from November 1499. It is likely that he is identifiable as the Nicholl Elphinstoun who obtained a precept of legitimation for 'John of Elphinstoun, bastard sone of Nicholl' from the Privy Seal office at a date inferrable as 29th October 1497 from adjacent entries in the register, and if obtained for an infant it would fit in with later events [RSS,I,152], as already remarked. The right of presentation to the church and living of Invernocht was conferred on Alexander 1st Lord Elphinstone and his wife Elizabeth Barlow by a Great Seal charter of 12th August 1513 [RMS,II,3875], so that the way would have been clear for him to obtain this benefice. He seems to have succeeded Alexander Elphinstone, of the Henderston family, as rector of Invernocht about 1530 or 1535. It

was not until 1550, however, that the bishop of the diocese instituted proceedings to investigate his scandalous behaviour for the previous ten years [Pitcairn, I, ptii, 356], but there is no record whether the case was heard in full. He had fathered a son William whose precept of legitimation is dated 27th March 1554 [RSS, IV, 2607]. He was succeeded in the rectory by John, the second son born 4th June 1536, of Alexander 2nd Lord Elphinstone, who was installed in 1560 [Fasti Ab.], but left the cure soon after, and though replaced by readers and eventually the Protestant minister James Elphinston in 1581 nevertheless continued to be known as parson of Invernochry' until his death at Stirling.

There is no record that Margaret Griffert brought Nicholas children, but from his second wife Elizabeth Abercromby there came two sons William (born ~1503) and Symon (~1505), followed by a daughter Mallota - this rather odd name is perhaps a misreading of Mariota. Both sons appear to have practised as notaries and attorneys, their names appearing as witnesses to instruments and the like throughout the middle years of the century in the protocol book of Sir John Christison. They were involved in an affray resulting in the death of William Calder in Old Aberdeen on 20th November 1533. This had occurred on church property and was thus within the jurisdiction of the bishopric. At the hearing before the bishop's commissary the brothers offered to make pilgrimages to the three chief shrines of Scotland and 10 merks 'kinboit' in composition for the slaughter. No more appears to have been heard of the case [Ant. Ab. & Banff, 3, 467]. The name of their sister Mallota appears only in an instrument [Christison PB, 430] narrating the election of a parish clerk for Daviot, dated 23rd April 1550, which also shows Elizabeth Cromme, lady of Glack, as a parishioner. Whence it may be inferred that Elizabeth Abercomby, the mother of William, Symon and Mallota, together with William's first wife Isobel Forbes of Tolquhon, are deceased. William outlived Elizabeth Cromme to marry Janet King of Blairoak as his third wife and died in the year 1585 or 1586.

Three of the four sons of Andrew of Selmes (~1453-1512) have been mentioned briefly, namely Laurence the first-born who predeceased his father, so that Selmes on the death of Andrew late in 1512 came to the second son Mr. William, provost of the collegiate church of Bothwell in 1513. He did not live long to enjoy it as we learn that the third brother Andrew was seized of Selmes in 1515. By this time Andrew had fathered three boys out of wedlock, thought to be brothers, William, Thomas and Nicholas for whom a precept of legitimation was obtained by their grandfather, which is dated at Edinburgh 30th January 1508 [RSS, I, 1591]. Only if we translate 'nepotum' in the usual formula of 'bastardorum ac nepotum' as grandsons can the facts be satisfied, the only closer relative their father Andrew being not yet in possession of Selmes. We are left wondering why so important a matter as their legitimation had to be sponsored by their grandfather and not their father. All three boys appear on the roll of Edinburgh burgesses for 1516-1517 [Ed. Burgesses].

Next to nothing is known of the fourth brother Mr. Alexander. He might be identifiable as the graduate of Glasgow, later rector of Cruden who appears to have played some part in the compilation of the Aberdeen Breviary [Macfarlane, op.cit, 241].

To round off, let us revert to the brothers Mr Robert (born ~1462) and Mr Alexander Elphinstone (~1464), the rectors of respectively Kincardine O'Neil and Invernochty. It seems likely that they were brought into the diocese by Bishop William, not long after his consecration in 1488. Robert was bishop's commissary, archdeacon of the diocese by 1499 and treasurer of the cathedral by 1510. He became one of the tutors of Alexander, 2nd Lord Elphinstone, in March 1518 and retained the appointment until the latter entered his twenty-second year on 22nd May 1532; he died some few years later in 1538. The younger brother Alexander is found as rector of Cruden and then of Invernochty after the incumbency of Adam Elphinstone, and prior to the induction of the delinquent John Elphinstone. Robert and Alexander had a nephew George, whose name appears in the instrument [Christison PB,7] dated 7th August 1521 narrating that 'the parishioners of Kincardine O'Neil unanimously elected George Elphinston, nephew (sic) by a brother (nepotem ex fratre) of Mr Robert Elphinston, rector of Kincardine, as parish clerk of the said parish, and appointed him to enjoy that office with all emoluments, when it shall become vacant by the decease of Mr Thomas Sympil, then parish clerk...'.

Before proceeding further, we should note that these three belonged to the family of Elphinstone of Henderston. Much of the rather scanty evidence of its origin and descent was collected in support of Lt. Colonel A.P.A. Elphinstone's claim to the baronetcy of Scotland and Nova Scotia conferred on William Elphinstone in June 1628. This is based largely upon a 'bore-brief' - or birth certificate - prepared for Pierre Alfeston of Chalons-sur-Marne in March 1610 to show that he was of gentle blood and was thus exempt from the taxes and services which then lay upon the commons in France, and upon transcripts of two MS genealogies compiled in the eighteenth century which are now lost.

It is tempting to imagine that the Elphinstone of Henderston derived from that Alan de Elphinstone 'del comte de Berewyk' who appears on the Ragman Roll of 1296 but there is not a scrap of evidence in support of this aspiration. We have no idea of the origin of John of Elphinstoun who witnessed a perambulation of the marches between Redpath and Bemersyde on 16th November 1425 [Dryburgh Liber,p276], nor do we find any definite connection of Elphinstone with the lands of Henderston until we learn that George Elphinstone was given sasine of 'Henryston' in 1446 and again in 1448 [Ex.Rolls,ix,659,660]†.

Henderston was one of the more considerable estates in Peeblesshire though in recent times reduced by sales. It covered much ground in the parish of Peebles [Peebleshire,Inventory]. It is said to have been acquired by Cuthbert Elphinstone on his marriage with a Gifford heiress of the property stated to be a 'cousin to the Lord Gifford of Yester and to the Giffords of Sheriffhall' [APAE Claim], which may be true,

†These references are found as entries in the 'Index in Libris Responsionum' and run respectively as

'Sa.Georgii Elphinstoun t. de Henrystoun, Peblis (1446)'

'Sa.Georgii Elphinstoun t. de Henrystoun et aliarum (1448)' all other relevant documents having long gone missing.

but the anonymous compiler of the bore-brief states that Cuthbert was the third-born nephew of Alexander Elphinstone killed in action at Piperden 10th September 1435. Whereas there is no direct evidence to establish the birthdates of his three known nephews James, John and Patrick it may be inferred that they fall within the decade 1425-1435. Interposing Cuthbert between John and Patrick would give him a birthdate of 1432 or 1433 which is quite inconsistent with the infestment of George Elphinstone in Henderston in 1446. If in fact Cuthbert was the father or uncle of George, he belongs to the next previous generation, or more probably from further back in the past, not springing from the line of John de Elphinstone, but from that of his brother Alan, as suggested above, but this is merely guessing.

The evidence for George and David, probably his cousin, perhaps his brother, though scanty is at least factual as distinct from our futile speculation about their putative ancestor Cuthbert. After the Exchequer Rolls entries above, we find they witnessed a charter at Peebles [RMS,II,2532] on 15th June 1462 and on 15th December 1473 George, together with others, is mentioned as patron of the gift of an altar in the parish church of St. Andrew [Peebles Burgh Records,p20-25]. Prior to 1463 the chaplaincy of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Peebles was held by Sir John Elphinstone (a priest, not a knight) who was certainly a kinsman but how related is unknown. From 1460 there is frequent mention of the election of George Elphinstone as bailie who is certainly identifiable as George of Henderston. As a rough approximation it is assumed that George and David were born within the decade 1405-1415.

There now follows a twenty-five year gap in the records until the Privy Seal Register [RSS,I,283] shows issue of a precept of remission on 7th November 1498 to 'John Elphinstoun dwelling in Howcleuch for art and part in the refassing of Christiane Hoip against her will...' and likewise on 14th November 1498 [RSS,I,288] of a precept of remission for 'John Elphinstoun, son to David Elphinstoun, for the slaughter of umquhile Patrick Elphinstoun committit on suddente...'. It is likely that these two entries refer to the same man. The next reference mentions a later John Elphinstoun 'of Henrystoun' who had married Elizabeth one of the three daughters of John Dickson of Smithfield and was litigating with the Dicksons by the year 1500, possibly over the share of the Dickson lands allotted as tocher. By November the case had reached the Lords of Council who on 27th November 1500 bound over and obliged John Elphinstoun of 'Henrystoun' and Ninian Dickson to wait upon the counsel of William (Elphinstone), Bishop of Aberdeen, and others [ADCC,449]. In August 1511 he is distrained in 80 merks as ward and marriage duty on part of the lands of Crookston [RMS,II,3620], which he failed to pay so that all his lands were appraised and sold to the King. On 9th August 1511 he witnesses an instrument in Edinburgh anent Leslie Young [Foular PB,I,731]; this incidentally confirms the existence of his son and heir George, and of his brother Robert, the rector of Kincardine O'Neil. By 6th April 1513, however, he had redeemed his lands and on this day resigned his lands of Henderston to George [RMS,II,3826]. In May 1519 he and George witness an instrument [YHW,p122] and the Yester House Writs also show him as a witness on 20th February 1524.

Turning back two generations, less is known about George's cousin - or brother - David. One date survives, namely 23rd July 1511, when half the lands of Glensax in Etrick forest were gifted by the King to David Elphinstone and his wife Elizabeth (surname not stated) in life rent and to Thomas their son and heir, and their heirs in fee for £12 yearly [RMS,II,3591]. The other half of Glensax, extending to a £10:10s land had been granted in 1510 to John Elphinstone, son of John Elphinstone of Stirkfield [RMS,II,3442]. Etrick forest was royal demesne until early in the sixteenth century. The former tenants of the lands have not been traced with the exception of Patrick Elphinstone who was in occupation in 1479, who paid a grassum of £20 [Ex.Rolls,viii,10] and was slain by John, son of David Elphinstoun, in 1498. Over a generation later, in 1537, the Stirkfield portion had passed to Ninian Elphinstoun and from him to John Elphinstoun of Whitehope. The Henderston portion was acquired in 1564 by Dionysius or Denys Elphinstone on a precept of sasine by John Elphinstone of Glensax [RSS,V,1727].

From the lives of the brothers Mr. Robert and Mr. Alexander, it is possible to supply an approximate birthdate of --1460 for the John Elphinstone who married Elizabeth Dickson. It is not unlikely that she was dead shortly prior to 1500 and that the will was in dispute. It also seems likely that John married again to leave two sets of sons, namely George and Thomas from Elizabeth, together with Denys and Michael from the second wife.

And here we may draw a line across the chart of the Henderston family and of this covering narrative, for by this time the birthdates of its later members are too recent to have allowed face-to-face acquaintance of Bishop William. Moreover, the relationship of the Henderston branch of the Elphinstone kindred for this period and indeed onwards are so scanty and confused that one would most gladly be perplexed with more facts. However and nevertheless, what is offered here is the nearest to the events, it is hoped, that may be drawn from the information so far assembled.

Appendix

The two Swinton charters questioned by A.C. Lawrie: his brief translation and comments.

It is plain that Hedley drew much of his objection from the views of A.C. Lawrie and it is worth quoting the latter's comments on the two dubious charters at length. He gives the Latin texts in full in 'Early Scottish Charters prior to 1153 (Glasgow, 1905)', together with notes and comments pp79;80,341-343. He remarks "The originals are in the Treasury at Durham. They were printed by Anderson, Independence of Scotland, p54. No C was printed in Douglas 'Baronage', p127. Both were printed by Raine, N. Durham, App.pp3,4, Nos xii,xiii. There are facsimiles in the National MSS of Scotland - Genealogist,xv,p133.

I have given too early a date. Earl Duncan, a witness, did not succeed to the earldom before 1136."

His brief translations follow:

No. C "David, King of Scots, and Henry his son, addressing all the sheriffs and all the barons, French and English, announces that he has given to this fellow, Hemulf his soldier, Swinton in feu to him and to his heirs with all the men and their property, to hold as freely and honourably as any of the King's barons hold, and by the same right as Liulfus the son of Edulf and Udard his son held, of St. Cuthbert and of the King, paying forty shillings to the monks of Durham without any other services."

No. CI "David, King of Scots, addressing all his earls, barons, sheriffs, officers, and all his lieges, cleric and lay, announces that he has granted to that fellow Arnulf, his soldier, the whole land of Swinton with the cattle and men, etc, in feu and heritage to himself and his heirs as freely and honourably as Udard the sheriff held it, by the same service to the monks of Durham as Udard performed."

"Of the nine witnesses to No. C four are witnesses to No. CI. The first was granted at Haddington, the second at Traquair.

I am not sure that these charters are genuine. I suspect that they were forged by the monks to support the claims of the church on the land of Swinton. Swinton was granted to Durham by King Edgar by charter (xx,p17) in terms which imply that the monks were not be merely the overlords: they were to possess, and twenty-four oxen were given to them to cultivate the land; but it is plain that in the reign of Alexander I the right of the monks was disputed (charters xxvi,xxvii,xxix,xxx ante pp21-23). King David confirmed the rights of Durham in Swinton, and Earl Henry specially confirmed King Edgar's charter (clxxvii,p138), so that it seems strange that by these charters King David should grant Swinton in feu to Hemulf. It may be that Edulf, Lieulf, Edard and Hemulf all held Swinton under the Priory of Durham, and that these two charters C and CI are confirmations of grants by the church, though I doubt whether they can be so read. If Hemulf held, adversely to the monks, as the heir of Udard, it would have been to the advantage of the priory to have charters from the King, nominally in Hemulf's

favour, which contained a distinct obligation on him to hold under the church. The monks must have considered these charters as confirming their right, else why were they kept at Durham? Indeed, how came they to have them? If genuine, the charters should have been in possession of the grantee. It strikes me as suspicious that there are two charters with certain differences, as if the monks had made two experiments in forgery. Having expressed this doubt, I must treat these charters as genuine. They are granted to Hemulf and Arnulf, who were certainly the same man. He is somewhat contemptuously spoken of 'huic meo militi' and 'isti meo militi'. By 'miles', I think, is meant a soldier, not one on whom the honour of knighthood had been conferred - he was probably one of the King's drengs.

Sir George Sitwell drew attention to the expression 'sibi et heredi suo' as meaning a lease for two lives; but that is not the meaning in Scottish law: a grant to a man and his heir is not limited to the first heir, but extends to heirs forever; and in the charter CI the grant is to Arnulf 'in feu et in hereditate sibi et heredibus'.

There has been much discussion as to whether Hemulf was a son of Uda and grandson of Liulf; it is not certain that he was related to them. Genealogists have taken for granted that Hemulf was the ancestor of the family of Swinton of that Ilk, but there is not sufficient evidence for that assertion. The descent of Sir Alan de Swinton (who lived in the end of the twelfth century) from Hemulf has not been proved; it was not until the fifteenth century that Sir John de Swinton, the ancestor of the family, acquired the barony, half of it by purchase from the daughter and heiress of Henry de Swinton and half by charter from the Priory of Coldingham. It is probable that Sir John was one of the old family; but he possessed by purchase, not by inheritance.

Liulfus filius Edulfi et Udardus filius suus, and in the CI charter Udardus vicecomes. I am unable to concur in identifying Liulf son of Edulf with Liulf of Bebbanburgh and I think that it is not proved that 'Udardus vicecomes' was sheriff of Northumberland."

Later, Lawrie retreated somewhat from this extreme position. In an obituary review [G. Neilson, *Scottish Historical Review*, xix, 241ff] the author remarked 'few of his judgements on authenticity were challenged, but some may be noted here. He had condemned, although with hesitation, two Swinton charters (Nos C and CI)'... "The outcome of the defence discussions was that in the case of the Swinton deeds his doubts were heavily undermined, and in his private interleaved copy of his book he deleted on page 343 the words "but there is not sufficient evidence for that assertion" - the assertion, namely, that Hemulf was the Swinton ancestor.'

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LYON OFFICE RECORDS

by Sheila Pitcairn

The Lord Lyon King of Arms, in addition to being a Judge, also has administrative functions in relation to Armorial Bearings. The Lord Lyon makes decision concerning Armorial Bearings and has responsibility for Scottish heraldic and certain related matters.

The records of the Court pertain to:

- 1660: The Register of Admissions of Heralds and Pursuivants, begins 1660, but is blank from 1726-1759.
- 1672: The Public Register of all Arms and Bearings in Scotland.
"An Ordinary of Arms" Vol. 1 1672-1902, by Sir J. Balfour Paul.
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- 1727: The Register of all Genealogies and Birthbriefs began 1727, but is blank from 1796-1827.
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NOTE: Lyon Office has a very fine private library of source material which can only be consulted by appointment. Search fees are charged for searches in the Public Registers.

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3. Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths from (1855-).
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10. War Deaths Registers: South African War (1899-1902)
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14. Foreign Marriages from (1947).
15. Census Returns from (1841-1891).
16. Miscellaneous Records: includes Baptism, Proclamations and Burial records etc.
M.R. Manuscript Records
M.P. Manuscript Photocopies
M.T. Manuscript Transcripts
17. Library Catalogue: Groups of Records: Includes large collections of Monumental Inscription and Genealogical search aids.
18. Room 28... Old Parish Registers and Census Searches
Library... Statutory Registers Searches
Dome... Inclusive Search

NOTE: 7,8,9,10,11,12,13 and 14 can all be found in the minor records on the fiche index.

Aberdour O.P.R. - Baptisms (401/2).

December 19th 1768.

Born to andrew Aitken a mistake for David Aitken a son Bap. and called Andrews.

Aberdour Kirk Session Minutes - CH2/3-5

12th July, 1842

The Session taking into consideration the age and infirmities of John Livingston their present Beadle (who had filled the Office since 15th May, 1820) and the same having been lately noticed at a meeting of Heritors and Kirk-Session, and it being now quite evident that he is no longer able to fulfil the Several official duties of that department the Session did and hereby do appoint Hugh Livingston, youngest son of John Livingston to the said Office, with a right to all the emoluments pertaining to the same. And the Session also agree to deliver over to the said Hugh Livingston the Advertisement Bell, having the names of "Earl Morton" and "Earl Moray" as Superiors of the Village engraved in brass round the handle, and to lay an Extract of this Minute in so far as respects these appointments, before the Heritors of this Parish at their first meeting in the view or their confirming the same.

The Session finding that they cannot at present enter into other details connected with the said Office, agree to adjourn their meeting to Thursday the 14th Curr. to be held in the School House at 8 o'clock, evening.

14th July, 1842.

In reference to Minute of 12th Curr. the Session authorize Mr. Kennedy, one of their number, to call on John Livingston their late Beadle, and to receive from him and to hand over to Hugh Livingston the different articles belonging to the Kirk-Session and to take an Inventory of, and a receipt from Hugh Livingston for the same - and to report to the Kirk-Session at their next meeting.

The Session thereafter took into consideration the Salary and dues paid hitherto to the Beadle for discharging the various duties of his Office, which by minute of 15th May 1820 they found to be at the following rates:

For house rent per annum	£2. 0 . 0
For two pairs of shoes annually	£0 . 18 . 0
For money payable at Communion	£0 . 14 . 4
	£3 . 12 . 4
Dues at Proclamation of Banns	1/- each
Dues at Baptisms	-/6d each
Inviting inhabitants to Funerals	1/- not extending beyond village
Mortcloth dues in town /6d	in Country 1/-
Posting notices on board at Church -/2d	

The Session also authorize Hugh Livingston to call advertisements through the Village with the aforesaid hand-bell (previously submitting such advertisements to a member of Kirk-session, if doubtful as to their propriety) at the following rates - viz.

By the inhabitants of the Parish -/6d. By strangers -/8d each. Provided always, that the advertisement shall be called from the West to the East end of the Village including Seaside feus; and the Notice to be repeated ten times at least.

21st July, 1842.

Mr Kennedy stated that he had received from the Session Clerk a List of the different Articles belonging to the Kirk-Session signed by John Livingston but that he had not yet fulfilled the instructions given him at the last meeting, of calling upon him for the receipt of the same as Hugh Livingston previous to his being installed into the Office of Beadle, was desirous of having permanent employment in or near the Village he being at present engaged at Dalachy Quarries.

The Scssion agree to take the matter into special consideration at a future meeting and meantime resolve that John Livingston the late Beadle by reason of old age (he being in his 79th year) and past services for the period of 22 years receive 3/- per week.

1st December. 1842

In reference to minutes of 12th, 14th and 21st July last respecting the appointment of Hugh Livingston as Beadle and Kirk-Officer, the Session instructed their Clerk to submit the same to the Heritors at their meeting here on Monday next, the 5th Curr.

9th Nov. 1846.

It being formerly recommended by the Heritors and Kirk-Session to Hugh Livingston, Beadle and Kirk-Officer to furnish them with a statement of what he should consider to be a fair remuneration or Salary due to him pr. annum including the necessary utensils for cleaning the church etc. and keeping every part of these in proper order.

Hugh Livingston being called in, stated, upon the above being read to him, that he would bind and oblige himself to do all the work required inside and outside of the Church, together with the furnishings as above, for the Annual Salary of £10 stg. to be paid him half yearly at the terms of Whit Sunday and Martinmas, commencing from this term of Martinmas 1846.

The Session agreeing to this Statement recommended the same to be submitted to the Heritors at their first Meeting for their approval and sanction.

7th Feb. 1847

The Moderator stated that, as certain current reports affecting the character of John Laing, a married man and Christian West, unmarried, had gone forth to the prejudice of their Christian character and conversation, the Session agreed that Christian West be cited to attend a meeting of Session to be held on Sabbath next, immediately after Divine Service in the Afternoon, to receive her statement, as also that John Laing be ordered to attend.

14th Feb. 1847

In reference to the last Minute in the case of John Laing and Christian West, the Session after mature consideration resolve, that John Laing, now present, be interrogated as to his profanation of the Sabbath, in as much as that on one Sabbath in August last, he and others had gone in company to Burntisland, where they had liquors. - That Christian West was with them - That he was worse of liquor and on returning to Aberdour, Christian West was the only person accompanying him home to Aberdour but who left him at mid-way and raised a clamour that he made an attempt to be guilty with her.

Being fully interrogated as to these points in question John Laing acknowledged the former part as to his being worse of liquor, but absolutely denied that of the latter.

The Moderator solemnly exhorted him to repentance, and the Session agreed that he attend on Thursday next, being the Sacramental Fast-day, after Divine Service in the Afternoon, and that Christian West be cited also to attend she not having made her compearance this day although cited and required to do so.

18th Feb. 1847

Christian West having compeared was interrogated if she remembered being in Burntisland one Sabbath afternoon in the months of August last? - Answered - That she went to Burntisland in the Morning of a Sabbath of that Month, alone and that on returning home in the evening, she met John Laing and Thomas Morris his Father-in-law (now dead) on their way to Burntisland about 6 o'clock in the evening, - that they urged her to turn with them to Burntisland, which she did, and spent about two hours with them in a Public house where they were drinking - That, thereafter she returned with Laing alone - his Father-in-law having gone on before - That all along the road Laing urged her to take his arm which she declined doing, being apprehensive of violence being offered to her - That, just as they were about the foot of the road leading to Dalachy Quarry, John Laing seized hold of her, declaring that decency must be laid aside and that if she did not yield he would take her life. - That after wrestling for some time she made her escape back to the Toll near to Starlyburn and that he followed her a short distance. - That the toll keeper accompanied her nearly home to Aberdour, and that she then saw no more of Laing that night.

John Laing being called, compeared and the declaration of Christian West being read over to him, acknowledged that he, as stated by her, asked her to take his arm in conducting her home, but denies making any attempt to do her violence.

Parties having expressed their contrition for their guilt of the Sabbath profanation and their resolution in forgiving each other, the Moderator with the concurrence of the Kirk-Session solemnly exhorted them to serious repentance, rebuked and absolved them from the Scandal.

22nd June 1849

The Kirk Session do unanimously elect Mr. John Pearson (Assistant Teacher of the Parochial School) to the Office of Session Clerk. Mr. Pearson accepted the Office at the modified salary of £2 stg. per annum as lately fixed per Minute of Kirk Session 20th February 1849 together with the usual Registration and Proclamation Fees, which are as follows, viz.

Proclamation in order to Marriage three several times	One Sabbath 10/6
	Two Sabbath 7/6
	Three Sabbath 6/-

Registration of Births & Baptisms 1/6d of which 6d. to the Beadle.	
Extracts of Marriages, Births etc. 1/-	Parish Certificate, single /6d.
	Parish Certificate, double 1/-

It being understood that after Martinmas term ensuring no portion of Proclamation dues be allowed to the Beadle.

Lethnot & Navar: Mort Roll or Register of Burials from 1750 - 300 1/2

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1755 Mar 25 | Agnes Tod, aged near a hundred, a Cottar's wife in Wilton whose sight even on her Death bed continued so strong that she could see to thread a needle, also retaining memory and other senses unimpaired to the last.
Interred at Lethnot. |
| 1755 Sept 6 | George Tosh in Fynnoch buryd also in the Kirk beside his wife.
(footnote: The above George Tosh and his forefathers had a series of years continued in possession of the Farm of Fynnoch successively from father to son so long as memory of man would reach, which farm at his Death, his children being under age, Devolved to other hands). |
| 1756 Jan 2 | Margaret Bowman a Cottar's widow in Blairmo aged near 100 retained her memory & other senses to the last. She had never been taught to read but remembered the Battle of Bothwell Bridge, etc.
Interred at Navar. |
| 1785 May 7 | John Smart supposed to have a hand in his own death, was buried on Warren. |

Letters from Edinburgh 1774-1775 - by Edward Topham.
Facsimile of the 1776 edition published by James Thin, Edinburgh, 1971.

December 15th 1774

In a short tour that I lately made to the Highlands ... One day a storm drove me to seek shelter in a small cottage, which I by chance espied in a deep valley at the foot of one of their mountains; and on entering I saw a venerable old woman, with another about thirty, and five or six pretty infants, which, by their resemblance, I easily discovered to be her children; all employed in some domestic concern, and waiting the return of the master of the family, who, I afterwards found, was gone to provide fish and other necessaries, from a small town on the banks of the neighbouring lake.

When they perceived me at the door, the mother of the little ones came immediately to meet me, and, with a countenance full of benevolence and hospitality, saluted me in the Earse language; which, though I did not understand it, seemed to welcome me to whatever they could afford, or I could expect to find there. She then reached me a stool, which was made of rushes, seeing I did not comprehend her tongue, and was pointing to me to sit down by the fire, when I addressed myself to the old lady in the corner, and demanded whether she could speak English; but they all shook their heads, and were silent.

I then unloaded my game-bag, which contained a white hare, and some ptarmigan, and began to court their good opinion, by presenting them to the children, and endeavouring to divert them, by shewing them my shooting implements, and other things which I had in my pocket, and which seemed to give them much delight; The woman in the meantime, making signs to me to pull off my wet cloaths, and holding out a plaid which they had warmed by the fire. On my seeming to refuse their kind offices, they shook themselves, and looked sorrowful; which meant, as I since learnt, if I did not change my dress, I should catch an ague; a disorder to which they were extremely subject.

As the weather continued to threaten, and night was not far off, I sat myself down by the hearth, and amused myself by pulling off the feathers of one of the birds, which I made them comprehend would be very acceptable, as I had eat nothing almost the whole day; and just as I was preparing to broil it, the highlander opened the door, and, expressing his surprise at finding a stranger had taken possession of his household goods, in a free and good-natured tone of voice, in the Scotch language, begged of me to proceed in my employ; and enquired the reason of this visit; adding, with a smile, 'that I must have entertained his wife and mother extremely well during his absence, to become so familiar with them; especially as they did not understand me, and had never in their lives beheld the face of any human person, except a few of their own Clan, who inhabited the other side of the hill'.

When I had told him my story, and entreated pardon for the freedom I had taken, he embraced me with the highest degree of rapture, and ordering the others to do the same, told me, 'the gentleman with whom I had been, and to whose house I wished to return the next day, was the head of his Clan; that he respected him, and would die for him;

and since I was a visiter to the Laird, I claimed from him every kind of hospitality and convenience, which his poor pittance could supply: though," he added, 'as a stranger who had lost my way, I had a right to civility and assistance from every man.'

When I had finished my ptarmigan, of which they would none of them partake, he produced on the table some dried fish, cheese and oat-cake, of which they all eat with an appetite that discovered their poverty, and that brought to my remembrance the saying of the philosopher, that "He that eats with an empty stomach, needs no variety of food; he that drinks only for thirst, desires least change of liquor; and he that wants least, comes nearest to the Gods." On our being satisfied, he gave some to the infants, and said a grace in the Presbyterian form, praising God with more fervent devotion than ever I met with in an English bishop at the administration of the sacrament.

The rest of the night we spent in conversation, whilst they plied me heartily with whisky; and I answered a number of questions which were demanded of me by the women, through him as interpreter; till at length, overpowered by fatigue, I reposed myself in a plaid by the fire; and enjoyed as sound a slumber as if my head had been pillowed on down, "Under a canopy of costly state."

The morning arose, and I took farewell of my kind hostesses; who parted with me with many expressions of friendship; and, if I may judge from their countenance, wished that the stormy weather had continued, that I might have been detained longer. The highlander accompanied me across the mountains in my progress homeward, cheating the dreariness of the way by his entertaining discourse, concerning the antiquity of his family, and the ancestors of his Laird; whom he had followed in the rebellion, and under whose banners he had ventured his life and fortune. We had now arrived within sight of the house of my friend, when he wished me health, and success through life, and that I might never go further out of my right way, than when I wandered to his habitation. I paid his kindness with all the coin I was then master of, and parted with a thousand thanks and gratitude for his civilities.

January 2nd, 1775

Edinburgh, which has been for a long time without trade or company, a mere mass without spirits, seems to be animated with new life. The classes in the College are sitting, the terms are begun, the scenes of diversion are opened, and all in business, pleasure and confusion.

This metropolis is said to be very gay; and, if I may judge from the little specimen I have already had of it, reports say nothing but the truth. The concerts have received the assistance of a new singer from London, the assemblies are opened for the reception of those who choose to dance, and the theatrical heroes have already opened their campaign. As yet, I believe, they have had but few spectators, as the genteel people here fix one day for beginning to partake of their amusements, and are so very polite, that they never go before that day on any account.

The present Theatre is situated at the end of the New Bridge in the New Town, and on the outside is a plain structure like most others of the same nature. It was built by the subscription of a certain number of gentlemen, who let it originally to a manager for four hundred pounds a year. Mr. Ross was the first person who took it, and his name was inserted in the patent, which made him manager as long as he chose. A few years ago plays were not in that repute at Edinburgh as they now are. The ministers, zealous for the good of their flock, preached against them, and the poor players were entirely routed; they have now, however, once more taken the field, and the clergy leave them to their ungodliness.

During these contests, Mr. Ross found, that the benefits of the theatre did not answer to the expenses of it, and retreated in good time. Our modern Aristophanes, who imagined he had wit enough to laugh the Scotch out of their money, took it of Mr. Ross at the same price that was originally paid for it. He brought on all his own comedies successively; but as most of the humour was local and particular, few people here understood it. Now and then, indeed, a very civil gentleman was so kind as to explain what he had been told in London. Such a joke alluded to; but as jokes always lose their strength in travelling, nobody was the wiser for the explanation.

...The Theatre is of an oblong form, and designed after the manner of the foreign ones. I do not know its exact dimensions; but at three shillings (which is the price of admittance into the pit and boxes) it is capable of containing about one hundred and thirty pounds. The pit seems considered here as the 'Parterre' in the French theatre, into which the gentlemen go who are not sufficiently dressed for the boxes. On very crowded nights the ladies sometimes sit here, and then that part of it is divided by a partition. The ornaments are few, and in an unaffected plain style, which, on the whole, has a very elegant appearance. It is lighted with wax, and the scenery is well painted; though they do not excel in those 'jeux de theatre' which please and astonish the common people in London. The whole of their machinery is luckily very bad; and, therefore, much to the credit of their understandings, they have seldom any Harlequin entertainments: I have only seen one or two since I came here; but the 'deceptio vifus,' if such it could be called, was so miserable, that the poor players themselves seemed ashamed of it.

The upper galleries, or as they obligingly term them in London, 'the Gods,' seem here very compassionate Divinities. You sometimes hear the murmurings of displeasure at a distance; but they never rain down oranges, apples, etc. on the heads of the unfortunate actors.

December 25th, 1774

...It is impossible at Edinburgh to be concealed or unknown: for though you enter into the City a mere traveller, and unacquainted, you cannot be there many hours before you are watched, and your name, and place of abode, found out by the Cadies. These are a Society of men who constantly attend the Cross in the High street, and whose office it is to do anything that anybody can want, and discharge any kind of business. On this account it is necessary for them to make themselves acquainted with the residence and

negotiation of all the inhabitants; and they are of great utility, as without them it would be very difficult to find anybody, on account of the great height of the houses, and the number of families in every building.

This Society is under particular regulations, and it requires some interest to become a member of it. It is numerous, and contains persons for every use and employment, who faithfully execute all commands at a very reasonable price. Whether you stand in need of a 'Valet de place,' a pimp, a thief-catcher, or a bully, your best resource is to the fraternity of Cadies. In short, they are the tutelary guardians of the City; and it is entirely owing to them, that there are fewer robberies, and less house-breaking in Edinburgh, than anywhere else.

December 30th 1774

...The youths in this country are very manly in their exercises and amusements. Strengths and agility seems to be most their attention. The insignificant pastimes of marbles, tops, etc. they are totally unacquainted with them. The diversion which is peculiar to Scotland, and in which all ages find great pleasure, is golf. They play at it with a small leathern ball, like a fives ball, and a piece of wood, flat on one side, in the shape of a small bat, which is fastened at the end of a stick, of three or four feet long, at right angles to it.

The art consists in striking the ball with this instrument, into a hole in the ground, in a smaller number of strokes than your adversary. This game has the superiority of cricket and tennis, in being less violent and dangerous; but in point of dexterity and amusement, by no means to be compared with them: However, I am informed that some skill and nicety are necessary to strike the ball to the proposed distance and no further, and that in this there is a considerable difference in players. It requires no great exertion and strength, and all ranks and ages play at it. The instruct their children in it, as soon as they can run alone, and grey hairs boast their execution.

As to their other diversions, they dance, play at cards, love shooting, hunting, and the pleasures of the field; but are proficient in none of them. When they are young, indeed, they dance in the manner of their country, extremely well; but afterwards (to speak in the language of the turf) they train off, and are too robust and muscular to possess either grace or agility.

November 20th 1774

...Tradition says, the Cowgate, two hundred years ago, was the polite part of the town; and in it were the houses of the Nobility, and the Senators of the College of Justice; but at present, the buildings are much inferior to those on the top of the hill. The original town has been fortified, is surrounded by a wall, and has nine ports. The buildings are all of them of stone of a brown cast, and those in the high street extremely elevated, especially behind, where some of them are ten or twelve storeys; and one, I think, is said to be thirteen, as they all formerly were, before a conflagration, which happened A.D.1690. The reason the buildings are so much higher behind than towards the street, is on account that they are situated on the edge of the hill, in order that the street might be wider, and take up the whole of the ridge, which is about thirty yards across.

The buildings are divided by extremely thick partition walls, into large houses, which are here called lands, and each story of a land is called a house. Every land has a common stair-case, in the same manner as the inns of court in London, and houses in Paris; from whence, it is most probable, this custom was taken. As each house is occupied by a family, a land, being so large, contains many families; that I make no manner of doubt but that the high street in Edinburgh is inhabited by a greater number of person than any street in Europe.

The ground-floors and cellars are in general made use of for shops by the tradesmen; who here style themselves Merchants, as in France; and the higher houses are possessed by the genteeler people. The merchants here also, as in France, have the horrid custom of painting on the outside of their houses, the figure of the commodity which is to be sold within; which, in this place, makes the oddest appearance you can conceive; for each story, perhaps, from top to bottom, is checquered with ten thousand different forms and colours; that the whole resembles the stall of a fair, presenting, at one view, the goods of a variety of shops. They are likewise remarkably fond of glaring colours; as red, yellow, and blue, on which the figures are painted in black. You would laugh to see a black quartern loaf directly over a black full-trimmed perriwig of a professor, with a Cheshire cheese, and a rich firkin of butter, displayed in black greasiness under stays, petticoats, and child-bed linen.

OLD PARISH REGISTERS: OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF SCOTLAND: 1553-1854

Centralized in New Register House, Edinburgh.

All records on Microfilm: Filmed by the Mormon Church.

Index on Fiche

Indexes by County available (at March 1990) for: Aberdeen, Banff, Caithness, Dundee, Forfar, Inverness, Kincardine, Moray or Elgin, Nairn, Orkney, Ross & Cromarty, Shetland, Sutherland, Glasgow, Angus, Clackmannan and Kinross.

Use:

It is strongly recommended that index to old parish registers notes on format be read for all counties at start of index. Use with care and watch for various spellings of surnames. The user is cautioned that the index is not purported to be either totally accurate or complete and omissions may occur due to missing or damaged pages. Stained, blotted, faded or illegible hand writing, misspoken, misheard or misunderstood transcriber's errors.

Index includes birth, baptisms (christenings) and marriage registers, also some kirk session records of the established Church of Scotland prior to 1855. Deaths and burials in source registers are not included, however records are routinely searched for names of children buried as being unbaptized, unnamed or stillborn and whose father's name is also stated in the entry, such names are extracted and included as live births (lived for a time of hours or days).

Note: Film and fiche can be purchased from New Register House, Edinburgh.

GENEALOGY WITH PRIMARY 5 AND 6 AT NEWCASTLE SCHOOL GLENROTHES

Sheila Pitcairn L.H.G.

No: they did not know what genealogy was. However, one girl knew that it was to do with her genes, not a bad start, into the subject that I was not only discussing with the children, but also their teachers - a few ladies and the school's headmistress.

First of all I showed them an introductory film slide show, whetting their appetites into playing detective, along with a step by step approach on how to extract information from their families, as well as photographs, and how to do some simple charting, etc.

I am sure that the adults were most impressed by the interest the children expressed about their ancestry. I decided it was time to ask them for any questions, and no sooner said so, when up went a hand from a girl in the back row, 'I would like to know more about my granny, but you see she was cremated'. This took me into my favourite area of death records, coffins with hinges, mortcloths, large, middle and small graveyards; and oh! what a lovely time we had.

Next the ladies looked up some of the children's surnames in the book which I had brought for that purpose. Master Dunn discovered that one of his ancestors had hanged himself for stealing books from the church, but that did not seem to put him off one bit. Belonging to a particular Clan was of great interest to them, and they particularly wanted to know which tartan they were entitled to wear. Relationships and identity did not seem to pose any problem at all to them.

I now feel that there are quite a few more families in Fife that will have found out that they have quite nosey children, asking lots of questions from their elders about their families, ancestors and their heritage. A few more skeletons in the family cupboards may be exposed, but not to worry; decorum was taught, so no blackmail should be going on.

I say 'good hunting to all' at primary 5 and 6 at Newcastle Primary School, Glenrothes, and look out Kirkcaldy library; you may have a few more students at your monthly genealogy workshop soon.

REVIEW

Echoes of the Past - Vera Stammers - pp.134 - Regency Press Paperback £5.95

This book by Mrs. Stammers traces back both her father's and mother's ancestry to the mid-18th century. Her father, George Ridley Douglas, is believed to be descended from the Kinmonds, weavers in Kirriemuir, and the John Douglas who escaped as a youth from Culloden and took refuge in Sunderland. Her mother traced her ancestry to William Henry Surtees, a brassfounder, and the Millbanks, of whom Ralph fled from the Court of Mary Queen of Scots, where he was the Queen's cupbearer.

The descent is carefully traced and the narrative is given life by photographs of the various relatives referred to as well as of relevant documents such as Marriage Banns, Depositions and Masters Certificates. Credit must be given for the zeal of the Author in searching out and recording so many details of those related to her, but it is questionable whether the book will be of much interest except to those interested in the families with which she claims relationship. It does, however, give a picture of the social conditions in which they lived, and it is interesting to read that in 1986 her aunt was living in a house which had 'one cold tap' and a 'pull-string' loo though electricity had been installed some years before.

Croft History, Sheshader, Isle of Lewis, by Bill Lawson.

Card covers. A-4. 87pp. Northton, Isle of Harris, the author. 1989. £15+£1 postage (U.K.) Library No. ISBN 1 872598 00 5.

This Croft History book written of Sheshader Isle of Lewis, tells the histories from pre-crofting times, the pattern of crofting, fishing, sheilings, education, communication and houses. Pages of Individual croft histories, brought alive with photographs. A wonderful record for posterity and an absolute treasure.

In the preface it is highly recommended by Donald Whyte, Vice-President of the Scottish Genealogy Society.

With the interest in genealogy in the Outer Hebrides growing this book is a most welcome and valuable contribution and it is hoped that we see many more like it.

QUERIES

- 1604 OLIVER/CHAMBERS - Thomas Mather Oliver, b.1838 Newcastle upon Tyne, m.Mary Patterson 1862/b.1841 (Hand Dyer). Siblings - Thomas 1865, Hellen(Nellie), 1870, Clara 1875, Wilhelmina(Minnie), 1878 at 26 Leith Walk Edinburgh,m.Arthur Chambers 1901 in Edinburgh, Thomas - ?Captain Merchant Navy, ?Supt. Leith Docks, information sought - Miss S.A. Chambers, 7 Meridian Place, East Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs B60 2NL.
- 1605 MOIR - Robert Moir(More), journeyman weaver from Aberdeen, m.(20 May 1758) in Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh, Elizabeth (d.12 Jan 1816, aged 80), dau of John Murray, weaver of Cranston. Robert, once of Ormiston and later of Fisherrow, Musselburgh. Where and when was his birth and death? Colonel C.M. Moir, 17 Sunbury Place, Dean Village, Edinburgh, EH4 3BY.
- 1606 MACBEATH/MOR - Elizabeth Macbeath or Macbeth of Edinburgh, b.1762 (Where?), d.31 Aug 1842 aged 80, m.2 Apr 1796 at Inveresk, Musselburgh, Robert Moir, son of Robert and Elizabeth above. Information wanted. Colonel C.M. Moir, 17 Sunbury Place, Dean Village, Edinburgh, EH4 3BY.
- 1607 MUIRHEAD/CLEGHORN - James Muirhead, apothecary in Edinburgh 18 June 1697 and Editor of "Scots Courant" 12 May 1710, waulker, elected deacon of Crafts 1715, merchant and Master of Muirhead's Coffee House at entry to Writers' Court, died before 17 June 1742, m.Catherine Campbell, alive 17 June 1742. Their son, John, owner of that Coffee House, was alive in 1758. Was this John the father of James, writer, printer and B & G of Edinburgh, who m.Ann(e) Cleghorn and d.22 Mar 1843 aged 86? Was she a dau of John Cleghorn, Pastor in Edinburgh in 1813? Colonel C.M. Moir, 17 Sunbury Place, Dean Village, Edinburgh, EH4 3BY.
- 1608 FENTON/HUSBAND - Bailie (Burgess) Thomas Fenton had a dau Isobel(la)(b.c.1710) m.Paul Husband of Logie(Caputh) c.1740? Their dau Emilia m.(1765) Rt Hon. Thos. Elder of Forneth (1737-99), Lord Provost of Edinburgh. What was Bailie Fenton's DOB and who was his wife? Colonel C.M. Moir, 17 Sunbury Place, Dean Village, Edinburgh, EG4 3BY
- 1609 HOWDEN - William Howden, farmer of Lawhead, Prestonkirk, m.(1742) Magdalane Dudgeon. Information wanted. Colonel C.M. Moir, 17 Sunbury Place, Dean Village, Edinburgh, EH4 3BY.
- 1610 MOYES/MUIR - Joseph Moyes, m.Betsy Muir 1781 at Auchtertool, Fife, d.1832 Auchtertool. Their son, David Muir, a farmer, b.1794, m.Mary Ross 1824 Aberdour, d.1868 at Auchtertool, whose son, Joseph Moyes, toll keeper (b.1828 Auchtertool), m.Margaret Wilson 1856 at Dundee, d.1903 Bonfield, Strathkiness, Fife. His son, David Moyes, forester/stonemason, (b.1866 St. Andrews), m.Jessie Thorogood 1893 at Strathdon, Aberdeenshire, d.1949 at Milnathort, Kinross-shire. Earlier ancestry wanted and origin of name Moyes. Miss S.A. Chambers, 7 Meridian Place, East Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs. B60 2NL.
- 1611 THOROGOOD/McDONALD - John Thorogood m.Margaret McDonald in London and had a daughter, Jessie, b.1864 at 7 Homer Row, Marylebone, who was reared by her McDonald aunts in Inverness. Information wanted about family. Miss S.A. Chambers, 7 Meridian Place, East Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs, B60 2NL.

- 1612 WILSON - Margaret Wilson b.Strathkiness 1832, d.Claremont Couage, St. Andrews 1888. Information wanted. Miss S.A. Chambers, 7 Meridian Place, East Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs, B60 2NL.
- 1613 DUNSMORE - Penuel Dunsmore, b.1845, m.James Barr on 5 July 1861 at Auchinleck, Ayrshire. They had a son Thomas, b.7 Mar 1862. Were there any other issue? Mrs. Penuel Ellis-Brown, "Weald Chase", The Street, Bolney, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 5PF.
- 1614 PENUEL - John Baillie, labourer/gardener till 1823, then spirit dealer, m.Margaret Meek, who worked for Lady Penuel Campbell (?) who had no children and wanted her name continued. Their daughter was Penuel, b.1817 in Airdrie and the name has passed down through Dunsmore, Ross, and Johnstone to me, Penuel Smith, whose family lived in Lanarkshire and Ayrshire. What is the origin of the name Penuel? Is it Quaker? Interested to hear from other Penuels. Mrs. Penuel Ellis-Brown, "Weald Chase", The Street, Bolney, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 5PF.
- 1615 PITCAITHLY - Robert Pitcaithly, stone cutter, b.c. in Scotland 1775, arrived in America c.1800 naturalised in April 1807 in New York City and m.Janette Jones (b.2 Oct 1785 in Wales, d.1873 in Brooklyn, NY) probably 1807, d.1854 in Brooklyn. They had six/seven children, of whom two were Sarah E (b.1825 New York City, m.John N. Webber, stone cutter from England) and Jane Ann (b.1823 New York City, m.Thomas H. Wright, b.1823 in Ireland). Interested in location and family of Pitcaithly. Fred M. Wright, 3925 48th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105, USA.
- 1616 BIRRELL - Henry Birrell, b.1807 at Falkland, m.Mary Rovertson at Leslie 1828. Their son, Henry, b.1832 at Leslie, m.Mary Kirk at Dunfermline (?) had two sons - James b.1867 at Dunfermline who went to Australia in 1886, and Thomas b.1873 at Colinton. The family worked at Prinslaw Mill. Information wanted about them. M.R. Birrell, "Marakiri, 8 Lefoes Road, Bli Bli, Nambour 4560, Australia.
- 1617 MALTMAN - John Maltman m.Catherine Jamieson in 1794 in Lanarkshire and had two sons - James (m.Mary Shearer in 1832 in Lanarkshire) and John (m.Margaret Shearer). Their children were Janet Bain Maltman and Catherine Jamieson Maltman. John Maltman b.1832 worked as an apprentice at Hutcheson and Mitchell, Soap Manufacturers of Glasgow, and came to Australia in 1863 with two brothers who died. The family was related to Strangs, Hutchesons and Whiteheads. Information wanted. M.R. Birrell, "Marakiri, 8 Lefoes Road, Bli Bli, Nambour 4560, Australia.
- 1618 GRANT - Charles Grant, lithographic printer, had a daughter Annie Frances Grant (b.3 Jan 1869 in Ayrshire, Dumfriesshire or Inverness-shire). She moved to Middlesex in late 1880's with her mother (remarried to Mr. Sewell?) and married Bartholomew Joy in Shoreditch in 1890. Details of birth and ancestry wanted. Mrs. Shiel Andrew, 6 Berry Road, Edington, Westbury, Wilts. BA13 4PN.
- 1619 ROBERTSON - Captain Lewis Robertson, RN, b.1744 in Fingal Country, near Dublin, m.Margaret Kelly of Kelly, Devon, d. in action 2 July 1794 at Fort Pellow, West Indies, leaving four daughters and one son serving in the Navy. Information wanted. Mrs. Prudence M. Buckle, 2245 Kedge Anchor Road, RR3 Sidney, British Columbia, Canada V8L 3X9.

- 1620 **ANDREWS -D.A.** Andrews of Dundee painted portraits about 1830, including those of John and Christian Langlands. What other portraits did he paint? Dr. Ian Langlands, 60 Campbell Street, East Kew 3102, Victoria, Australia.
- 1621 **McLEOD/McIVOR(ER)** - Donald McLeod m.Peggy (Merran or Margaret) McIvor (daughter of Kenneth and Barbara McIvor) in Clashnessie, Assynt, in 1848 and emigrated to Canada before 1852, settling in Bruce Country, Ontario, and raising 11 children. Information on ancestors, relatives or descendants appreciated. Robert McLeod, 314 Winchester Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3J 2E6.
- 1622 **GORDON** - George Gordon, Captain 8th West India Regiment, a native of Cabrach, b.c.1769 and an Episcopalian, served as QM Sergeant 92nd Highland Regiment and is included in the first Muster Roll. Details in entry 523 of "Gordons under Arms" Volume III of House of Gordon. Wish to know his origins. Frank Gordon, Gorbyrne, Longden Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 7HW.
- 1623 **GORDON** - Cosmo Charles Gordon, Colour Sergeant, Scots Fusilier Guards, son of Captain George Gordon, a native of Cabrach, married and served in the Crimean campaign, d.1854 from wounds sustained at Inkerman. Where and when was he born? Frank Gordon, Gorbyrne, Longden Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 7HW.
- 1624 **RONALD MANUSCRIPT** - A history of the Gordons in the Cabrach was compiled by William Ronald, MA 1822, schoolmaster at Cabrach from the New Spalding Club publication, House of Gordon Volume I by J.M. Bulloch and others. Grateful for information about location of manuscript. Frank Gordon, Gorbyrne, Longden Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 7HW.
- 1625 **PAISLEY of Westerlea** - Robert Paisley, minister of Careston, Angus, m.Amy Taylor on 25 June 1884 and had a son, Thomas Paisley, writer in Glasgow, who married Margaret Amelia Brownlee on 2 April 1915 and had a son, Thomas Brownlee Paisley, b.7 March 1916 in Glasgow. Robert Ninian Paisley, b.27March 1926 was a first cousin of Thomas. Information wanted about family. Betty L. Paisley, Rhu na Craig, Rowan Road, Collin, Dumfriesshire.
- 1626 **PAISLEY/WARNOCK** - Ninian Paisley (b.3 Oct 1776) and Katherine(C) Warnock m. in Kilmarnock and had eight children: William, b.5 May 1793, Anne, b.20 March 1797, Ninian, (b.30 April 1799, m.Jean Barclay, 14 Feb 1823 and had a daughter, Margaret, b.9 June 1832), James, b.15 Sept 1803, Elizabeth, b.22 Aug 1805, Catherine, b.30 March 1808, Robert (b.17 July 1801, m.Margaret Henderson and had a daughter, Margaret Robertson). Information on ancestors of Ninian and Katherine or descendants appreciated. D.S. Paisley, 64 Tower Hill, Williton, Somerset, TA4 4JR.
- 1627 **PHEE** - Henry Gault Phee, mine manager, first at Plean Colliery, Stirling and after 1911 at Aberdare Colliery, New South Wales, b.1859 at Airdrie(?), had by his first marriage John, Mary (b.1884) and Margaret (b.1886). He married (2) Janet Russel Square or Morgan and had 7 children, of whom Harold G and William W were killed at Ypres in 1917, Janet d.1922, and Helen M visited Scotland with her father in 1942. Information wanted on issue of Mary and Margaret, and about "Home of Rest" at Alva in 1905. Mrs. Margaret Phee, 205 Hudson Parade, Clareville Beach, NSW 2107, Australia.

- 1628 **RANKINE/GORDON** - David Rankine b.8 May 1819 at Slamannan, Stirling to John Rankine and Janet Forrest, m. in 1853 to Margaret Gordon (b.1835 in Bathgate to William Gordon and Isabella Waugh). David was schoolmaster and registrar in Bathgate. Information wanted about descendants of their children, John b.1855, William Gordon b.1856, Margaret Forrest b.1858, Isabella Gordon b.1860, David Forrest b.1862, Catherine Forrest b.1864, Peter b.1866. Any information appreciated. D.F. Rankine, 1704-2010 Islington Avenue, Weston, Ontario, Canada M9P3S8.
- 1629 **HENDERSON** - Robert (Atkin?) Henderson, Master Mariner, and Janet (Jessie) Meikle had a son, Robert Atkin Henderson, b. at Anderston, Glasgow in 1850. He also had a son Robert Atkin Henderson, born in New Zealand. What is the origin of the middle name Atkin or Atkinson in the family? Mrs. Isabella Riddle, Hodges Road, R.D.I. Whitianga, New Zealand.
- 1630 **McCANDLISH** - Robert McCandlish came to Virginia, USA, c.1760 from Wigtonshire and married Elizabeth Coleman. Information wanted about Robert and about Thomas Coleman and Mildred Bird Richards who lived about 1730. David McCandlish, 181 Burlington Avenue, Rochester, NY 14619, USA.
- 1631 **CONCERT AT SOUTH QUEENSFERRY, EDINBURGH** - On Friday 9 November (year unknown) a concert was held in the Burgh Schoolroom, South Queensferry, of songs, duets and glees, including Scotch and Irish comic songs in character by Mr. Peattie from the Dundee Concerts. The band was conducted by Mr. Meikle and tickets were obtainable from Mrs. Mason (Stationer), Mr. Broomfield (Baker), Mr. Brash (Grocer), Mr. Gibson (Grocer), Mr. Fangie (Grocer) or Mr. Hutton (Baker). Does anyone know the year of such concert or anything about the people referred to - particularly Mr. Meikle? Mrs. Isabella Riddle, Hodges Road, R.D.I. Whitianga, New Zealand.
- 1632 **BRONSTRING - CAMPBELL** - John Bronstring, Steam Ship Steward, born 1847 at Enkhuizen, Holland and Jane Campbell, born c.1859, daughter to Duncan Campbell and Mary Rose Campbell, M.S. Forbes, m.15th May 1885 at Govan, Scotland. Their daughter Mary Bronstring b.2nd Jan 1887 at 35 McLean Street, Govan. Information about family or descendants appreciated. E.H. Joosten, Zaanenlaan 45, 2023 SJ, Haarlem, Holland.
- 1633 **SOMERVELL/SOMERVILLE** - Information sought about the parents or siblings of Dr James Somervell, b.c.1693, d.15th Feb. 1750/51 at Calvert Country Maryland; a Jacobite captured at Battle of Preston and transported from Liverpool to Maryland on the Godspeed in 1716; his father's name was probably John; according to family tradition he was descended from Hugh Somervell of Spital in Lanarkshire. Angus Mitchell, 20 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5BS.
- 1634 **McADAM** - William McAdam, b.c.1680 somewhere in Scottish Lowlands, had a son Peter. Information about either appreciated. David B. Macadam, 32 West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3BG.

SCOTTISH INFLUENCE IN JAMAICA

by J.E. Russell

I can add a little to Colin Campbell's comment on Duncan Campbell in Jamaica. I had an uncle of an ancestor, one William Paterson, attorney in Kingston, Jamaica, who in addition to his law business owned a plantation called Muirhouse (named after a property near Kilmarnock). He was the son of Robert Paterson, factor to the Earl of Loudon and Dumfries and sheriff substitute of Renfrew.

Robert Paterson died in 1781. His will mentions two bonds, one by Duncan Campbell of Jamaica.

William Paterson died in 1832, leaving a Jamaican will and a Scottish will. His Jamaican will states that he left his plantation to three grandchildren of the late Duncan Campbell of Knapdale, in Jamaica, Ann and Margaret Fraser and the Rev. Robert Hawthorn of the parish of Trelawney in Jamaica. He also left an annuity to Duncan Campbell's widow Ann Brodber and to three of her children, Neil Campbell, Harriet Campbell and Mary Campbell.

There was an excellent programme on the history of Jamaica about ten years ago on the television. Somewhere in any story of Scots influence in Jamaica must be mentioned Oliver Cromwell, who sent some 1200 Scottish prisoners of war there in 1656, of the survivors of Darien who settled there, and of the Royal Africa Company.

6TH AUSTRALASIAN CONGRESS ON GENEALOGY AND HERALDRY Launceston, Tasmania, May 9-12 1991

This Congress caters for both amateur and advanced genealogists, covering information sources, research techniques, local and social history, use of computers in family history, conservation of records and publication of research. Details of Congress from the Congress Convener, P.O. Box 60, Prospect, Tasmania 7250.

CARAHER FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

With the issue of the August Newsletter the Society, which gives information about the grant of Corporate Arms for the name of Caraher and its variants by the Office of Arms in Dublin, comes the sad news of the return to the USA of Doreen Caraher-Manning who has been the founder and inspirer of the Society. Because of ill-health and at the insistence of her family she leaves Scotland after 17 years and is returning to live in Georgia. Her address will be c/o Hon. Treasurer, Caraher FHS, 643 Fleming Road, Hinesville, GA 31313, USA. Her diligent work in writing the Newsletters and researching into Caraher origins will be greatly missed.

The Society, however, will continue, and for the present those interested should contact the Honorary Treasurer, Mrs. Alexandra R. Leishman, 643 Fleming Road, Hinesville, Georgia 31313, USA. Mrs. Caraher-Manning intends to continue her enthusiastic promotion of the Caraher Family Society's affairs from the address in the USA as soon

as new Headquarters can be found and files have been transferred there. Members of the Scottish Geneology Society wish her a complete recovery of health and every success in reorganising the Family Society from her new American base.

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THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

1. The objects of the Scottish Genealogy Society are:—

To promote research into Scottish Family History.

To undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish Genealogy, by means of meetings, lectures, etc.

2. The Society consists of all duly elected Members whose subscriptions are fully paid. An Honorary President and up to four Honorary Vice-Presidents (who will be *ex officio* members of the Council) may be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

3. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a council consisting of Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Editor, Honorary Librarian, *ex officio* Members, and not more than ten ordinary Members. A non-Council Member of the Society shall be appointed annually to audit the accounts.

4. Office Bearers shall be elected annually. Ordinary Members shall be elected for a period of three years and shall not be re-elected until the lapse of one year. At meetings of the Council a quorum shall consist of not less than six members. The Council may appoint a Deputy Chairman from their members.

5. An Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on a date to be determined by the Council, at which Reports will be submitted. Nominations for new Office Bearers and Members of Council shall be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary at least one calendar month before the meeting, a nomination being signed by the Proposer, Seconder and Nominee.

6. Members shall receive one copy of each issue of The Scottish Genealogist, but these shall not be supplied to those subscribers who are in arrears.

7. Institutions may be elected to affiliate membership of the society. The subscription payable by such affiliate members shall be fixed from time to time by the Council. Affiliate members shall be entitled to receive 2 copies of each issue of The Scottish Genealogist. Their members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Society and to borrow books from the Society's Library (but not to send such books overseas). They shall not, however, have any vote at meetings of the Society, nor shall they be eligible for election to membership of the Council.

8. The Council shall have power (in brief) to employ persons to carry on the work of the Society, to publish magazines and pamphlets, to appeal for funds, to hold property and raise money on security of it.

9. Property

The title to all property, heritable and moveable, which may be acquired by or on behalf of the Society shall be vested in the names of the Convener, Vice Convener (where appointed), the Secretary and Treasurer for the time being *ex officio* or in the names of the Trustees of a Trust established for that purpose.

10. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made except at an Annual General Meeting of the Society when a two-thirds majority of members present and voting will be required for an alteration to be passed.

11. Dissolution

If the management of the Committee by a simple majority decide at any time that on the ground of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Society, it shall call a special general meeting of the Society, of which meeting not less than 21 days' notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed thereat) shall be given. If such decision shall be confirmed by a two-third majority of those present and entitled to vote and voting at such meeting, the management committee shall have power to dispose of any assets held by or on behalf of the Society. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable organisation or organisations having objects similar to the objects of the Society, as the management committee may determine.

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

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