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THE PARISH OF SPYNIE.





THE  
PARISH OF SPYNIE,

IN THE  
COUNTY OF ELGIN,

AN ACCOUNT OF

ITS CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL STATE, FROM THE EARLIEST RECORDED

PERIOD TO THE PRESENT TIME,

WITH NOTES ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE SUBJECT.

BY ROBERT YOUNG.



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## PREFACE.



THE Parish of Spynie, although small in extent, is of considerable importance from its locality, and has acquired a name from being the seat of the powerful Bishops of Moray for a period of 500 years. No place could have been better chosen for the Episcopal residence than the one fixed upon, close to the margin of an arm of the sea; afterwards converted, by the action of the tidal waters, into a beautiful inland lake. It is said to have been the finest Episcopal Palace in Scotland, and, from its extensive and beautiful ruins, it well supports the character. The site is lofty, and commands an extensive prospect of land and sea. The house combined the strength of a fortress with the conveniences of a private dwelling.

The parish was formerly bounded on the north nearly in its whole length by the lake, which formed a most picturesque object. The drainage of this fine sheet of water has altered entirely the aspect of the country in this direction, and it will take many years before agricultural improvements can be brought to bear upon the drained land, so as to remove the marshy appearance of the ground. What it has lost in beauty perhaps has been gained by improvement to land, much of the soil on the borders of the lake being formerly so wet as to be incapable of growing crops of any kind. The health of the inhabitants has also derived much benefit, fever and ague, formerly so common, having now disappeared.

After the Revolution of 1688, when the Bishops, by the progress of events, were compelled to leave the district, and finally to retire from their magnificent residence, the country suffered much from the change: agriculture languished, population decreased, and the parish, for great part of last century, was in a very declining state. It was only towards the close of it that affairs began to

brighten, but the progress was then rapid. Improvements in agriculture commenced, enclosures were made, extensive plantations carried out, new farm houses with suitable steadings erected, and drainage executed. These have been continued without interruption to the present day. The southern part of the parish, looking towards Elgin, has become part of the Parliamentary Burgh, and the high ground at Bishopmill has been covered within a few years with handsome villas, which are constantly extending.

Some time ago I was requested by a respected friend to write an account of the Parish of Spynie. Having resided there for a period of nearly a quarter of a century, I was well inclined to take up the subject, but materials appeared very scanty. Having, however, made a commencement, information flowed in from various quarters in an unlooked for manner, and the work has grown upon my hands until it has assumed the proportions of a moderately-sized volume. Having been composed at intervals, when not engaged in more laborious duties, I fear it will be found by competent judges very

disjointed and ill-arranged. I pretend to no skill in composition ; but I hope the facts stated may be found tolerably correct : I have been anxious to make them so. I do not profess that it is anything beyond a mere compilation, and to many little new may be found in these pages—indeed, from the very limited extent of the locality, it can only be interesting to a very few persons. It is to be hoped, however, that part of the information may be useful to some more able gleaner in the same field of enquiry. As I have, in the course of my remarks, referred to parties still alive, I have endeavoured to avoid giving any cause of offence to them, and I trust have stated nothing that would hurt the feelings of the most delicate. If it prove otherwise, I shall regret it much.

I have to express my grateful acknowledgments to Lady Gordon-Cumming of Altyre, for the use of various valuable documents, including a fine old map of the Loch of Spynie, and other papers relating to the history of the lake. Her Ladyship has at all times very kindly permitted me to have free access to the extensive and important collec-

tion of manuscripts at Gordonstown House, and I have printed from that source, in the Notes appended, the Crown Charter by King James III., in favour of James Douglas of Pittendriech, dated in 1472.

I have also to thank Captain Dunbar Dunbar of Seapark for a variety of papers relating to the Estates of Gordonstown, Kinneddar, and Pitgaveny, and to the Regality of Spynie, &c., which I have also printed. The Rev. Dr. Kyd, Minister of the Parish, has allowed me to have the use of the Session Records extending back to the early part of last century, for which, and much other valuable information, I have to tender him my best thanks.

If I have in some instances ventured to differ from preceding writers, it has been after careful investigation, and often with much hesitation and doubt, that I have stated my views in opposition to theirs.

ROBT. YOUNG.

MILLBANK, ELGIN, 20th March, 1871.





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## THE PARISH OF SPYNIE.



THE Parish of Spynie is situated in the very heart of the Lowlands of Moray. According to the late Ordnance Survey, it extends in length from west to east five miles and one furlong; its greatest width at the west end is two miles seven furlongs, in the centre opposite Elgin one mile five and a-half furlongs, at the east end opposite St. Andrew's Parish the width diminishes to five furlongs. It is bounded at the west by the Parish of Alves, on the north by Drainy and Duffus, on the south by Elgin and part of St. Andrew's Parishes, and on the east by St. Andrew's, into which latter parish it runs into a point at the extremity of the farm of Spynie; towards the Parish of Elgin it is mostly bounded by the River Lossie, except at the part opposite Elgin, where it crosses the river, and embraces the valuable ground of Burgh Briggs, and perhaps also Harvey's Haugh, the reason of which is that the Lossie formerly ran in a

different course from what it now does, having in ancient times occupied a more southerly bed. It then left its present channel at Blackfriars' Haugh, exactly where Mr. Grigor's house now stands, and flowed easterly towards the end of North Street, near the site of the Episcopal Chapel, from thence towards Mr. Culbard's Tanworks, and still a little eastward, when the river seems to have turned to its present channel. Mr. Grigor's ground used to be called the Bulwark, indicating that the river had at that points been forced from its ancient bed. At what period this took place probably cannot be exactly ascertained, but there may have been two objects to gain by it—first, the drainage of the valuable ground of Burgh Briggs, and, second, the creating a dam and suitable fall of water for the Mill of Bishopmill. In other respects the Lossie forms the boundary between the parishes of Elgin and Spynie westward to Aldroughty, where the line runs into the Moss-towie Canal, in which it continues until it takes a zig-zag line towards the Knock of Alves, at the east end of which the Parish of Spynie terminates.

The parish has lost much of its picturesque beauty at the north side by the complete drainage of the Loch of Spynie, which, when full of water, must have been a very beautiful object; still it has a great variety of scenery, more so than most Lowland Parishes can boast of. On the north side, from Spynie

at the east, to Rosehaugh and Westfield at the west, it has a succession of most valuable estates, containing tracts of very rich land. In the centre it is diversified by a high ridge of land, containing extensive plantations of fir, oak, and larch woods, great part of full growth and maturity, and of much value, through which there are roads and walks in all directions, and many pleasant, romantic, sylvan retreats. On the south side, although the soil is not so rich, yet the land is warm, sunny, and kindly, and, with the shelter of the high ground and woods behind, and the Lossie running in front, no more pleasant district can be found than the range of country extending from Bishopmill to Aldroughty. Perhaps no parish in the County of Elgin has been more improved than this, by draining, enclosing, and planting. It has also been the residence for many generations of proprietors, both lay and ecclesiastical, men of high talent and enterprise in their day, of whom it may be desirable to take some notice in these pages.

It would seem that in former ages there had been a Church at Kintrae as well as at Spynie. The Church of Kintrae is mentioned in various writs—we may notice two—first, Constitution of Andrew Bishop of Moray, in which he refers to "*Ecclesiam de Kintray*," second, Deed of Foundation of a Chaplainry in the Castle of Duffus, in favour of Hugh de Moravia

Chartulary of  
Moray, pages  
94, 273.

Lord of Duffus, by Bricius Bishop of Moray. In this deed the following sentence occurs:—“Assignamus  
 “ eidem Capelle omnes decimas garbarum de terra  
 “ quæ dicitur Aldetoun quæ est inter *veterem*  
 “ *ecclesiam de Kyntra* scilicet a Langaphage per  
 “ sicum qui vadit ex aquilonali parte de le Brin-  
 “ hill usque ad maresium quod est inter *veterem*  
 “ *ecclesiam* et le Aldeton, et sicut maresium illud  
 “ vadit usque ad Blynd Wollis et ita usque ad  
 “ novum fossatum, et per novum fossatum usque ad  
 “ viam quæ vadit *de veteri ecclesia de Kyntra*, usque  
 “ ad castellum.” In this last document, which is dated in the beginning of the 13th century, the Church of Kintrae is three times stated to be old; it may therefore be presumed that it was not a Parish Church, but very probably an ancient preaching station of the Culdees. I do not find evidence of its being used as a place of worship in after ages, although it would have been convenient for the west end of the parish: perhaps the foundation of the Chapel of Duffus, being in the near neighbourhood, superseded it. It is stated that some remains of this old Church, or of a burying-ground in connection with it, continued to exist until within the last forty or fifty years.



## LOCH OF SPYNIE.

THE Loch of Spynie, the grand feature of the parish in former times, although now entirely gone, is well deserving of a few passing remarks—indeed, there is a mystery and romance about its changing history. The appearance of the country as well as tradition lead to the conjecture that within the historical period the sea extended from Burghead on the west to Lossiemouth on the east. The coast of the Moray Firth, now so sandy, was then formed of alluvial mud, in which the oyster flourished and abounded. At what period the change took place, and the great inundation of sand occurred, it is difficult even to form a conjecture; it may have been in the 11th century, as some of our historians state, or earlier. When the Danes occupied Burghead, in the beginning of the 11th century, tradition states that there was an inlet of the sea extending to Roseisle, which, being then a forest, the invaders built vessels at, and compelled the inhabitants to assist them in their labours. If this inlet then existed it probably was in some degree closed up by the inundation of sand which took place at the close of this century. When the loch was shut

at the west, and the current of the sea ceased to flow through it, the bed of it would have a tendency to get more shallow, and gradually to silt up. In these times the River Spey flowed more westerly than now, and brought to the westward quantities of gravel, to which we owe the immense ridges of water-worn stones that occur near Lossiemouth. Tradition states that the River Findhorn flowed at one period eastward to the Loch of Spynie, perhaps the same inundation of sand which closed the mouth of the inlet at Burghead might also have forced the Findhorn into a different channel. The name of Earnside, in the parish of Alves, certainly indicates that the river was there, and flowed eastward. That the loch continued an arm of the sea down to the time of Bishop Alexander Bar, who died in 1397, is proved from the Chartulary of Moray, wherein it is stated that Spynie was a town and harbour, inhabited by fishermen, who sailed from Spynie to the sea, and that boats and nets were kept by the Bishop in the lake for catching salmon, grilises, and other fish, and that he and his predecessors had exercised all acts of navigation therein. In the year 1451, the Town of Spynie was erected into a Burgh of Barony, and, among other privileges, "with power " and liberty of having and holding fishermen there- " in," and in the following year the Barony was erected into a Regality, with right "of harbour and

See Chartulary,  
page 192.

passages." It may be presumed, therefore, that the lake was still connected with the sea at that period; it was, however, closing up gradually at the mouth, and the flow of the tide getting more feeble. Three Scottish historians take notice of the Loch of Spynie, viz. :—Hector Boece, Hollinshead, and John Leslie, Bishop of Ross. Hollinshead is merely a translator of Boece, and professes to be nothing else. Boece was a native of Forfarshire, and born in 1465. His history of Scotland was published at Paris in 1526; it contains the following remarks regarding the loch; we quote from Hollinshead's translation:—"In this  
" region, moreover, is a lake named Spiney, wherein  
" is exceeding plentie of swans. The cause of their  
" increase in this place is ascribed to a certeine  
" herbe, which groweth there in great abundance,  
" and whose seed is verie pleasant unto the said  
" foule in the eating, wherefore they call it swangirs;  
" and hereunto such is the nature of the same, that  
" where it is once souned or planted it will never be  
" destroyed, as may be proved by experience. For  
" albeit that this lake be five miles in length, and  
" was sometime within the remembrance of man  
" verie well-stocked with salmon and other fish, yet  
" after that this herbe began to multiplie upon the  
" same, it became so shallow that one may now wade  
" through the greatest part thereof, by means where-  
" of all the great fishes there be utterlie consumed."

It is quite possible, indeed very probable, that Boece himself, who was educated at Aberdeen, may have seen the lake open to the sea. Leslie, whose history of Scotland was published at Rome in the year 1578, also refers to the loch as having been, at no distant date, stocked with salmon. He writes as follows:—

“ Lacum præterea dulcis aquæ Spynam nomine, olori-  
 “ bus quidem multum frequentem Moravia habet, in  
 “ quo herba quædam rara est, qua quod oleres im-  
 “ pense delectantur, olorinam eam dicimus, ea utique  
 “ hujus naturæ est, ut ubi semel radices egerit, tam  
 “ late se diffundat, ut *nostra memoria* quinque ipsius  
 “ Spynæ milliaria, ubi *prius salmones exundabant*  
 “ radice sua altius evecta penitus vadosum jam  
 “ effecerit. Ad hujus ripam Moravio Episcopo erec-  
 “ tum est Castrum simul et Palatium pulcherrimum.”

Leslie's His-  
 tory, edition  
 1695, page 27.

From these authorities it would seem probable that the lake was open to the sea till the close of the 15th century.

When the lake became shallower, and unfitted for navigation, it would become an object to the Bishops, its then almost sole proprietors, to exclude the sea entirely, reduce its waters, and attempt to gain land by drainage. Art may have therefore assisted nature to convert the shallow arm of the sea into a fresh water lake. We have reason to think that this drainage was not attempted before the year 1480, or it may be 1500. What steps

were taken are not well known. The natural drainage was by means of the River Lossie, which then flowed through the lake, and perhaps amounted to little more than deepening the bed of the river, and increasing the current with some lateral drains. The increase in the flow of the stream would have a tendency to lower the bed of the lake, and all that would have been required to keep the drainage open would have been constant attention to prevent the channel from silting up, which it would be liable to do after every flood. The Bishops certainly did attend to the drainage, and there can be no doubt that at this period the bed of the lake was considerably lowered, and much arable ground gained. It was at this period that a foot-path was made across the lake at its upper end, from the lower part of the lands of Kintrae to North Crookmoor. This was formed by placing large blocks of stone in the water, with flat pavement on the top, so as to make a continuous walk, the water running below. This walk was known by the name of the Long Steps, and was strongly and very substantially built, and continued to exist until the end of last century, although hidden for a long time when the loch, through neglect, was allowed to increase in size. These steps were used as a passage for foot passengers in the public road from Elgin to Covesea.

It would appear that the drainage was pretty

well kept up during the greater part of the 16th century. The Reformation, however, which occurred in 1560, and the death of Bishop Patrick Hepburn, the last of the Popish prelates, in 1573, put an end to the active superintendence which the Bishops kept over the lake and its drainage. Whatever were the faults of Patrick Hepburn (and they were many), attending to his own temporal interest was not one of them, and during his life he looked well after the business affairs of the diocese, and continued to manage them as if they had been his own, and disposed of its lands at his own pleasure, in defiance of the Reformation, and without challenge, up to the period of his death, a fact which shows that the disestablishment of the Romish Church was not followed by its immediate disendowment. After the Bishop's death the temporalities of the diocese, in so far as not dilapidated, fell to the Crown, and in the year 1590 were conferred by King James VI. on Alexander Lindsay, son of the Earl of Crauford, who was then created Lord Spynie, and who held them up to the year 1606. Lord Spynie, however, did not live at the Palace of Spynie, and never had much connection with the North, and, during the time the Crown and he possessed the lands, everything seems to have gone to ruin, and the loch with its drainage was perfectly neglected, so much so that the lands formerly recovered, and in cultivation, were

again submerged by the waters. This was so much the case that in the year 1599 William Sutherland of Duffus, and Archibald Douglas of Pittendriech, then proprietor of the estate of Pitgaveny, entered into a contract, the tenor of which bears—“For sa  
 “ meikill as ye Loche of Spyne hes ourflowd ane  
 “ pairt of ye tounes of Salcottes, Cruikmures, and  
 “ Kirktown of Duffus, and yt ye said loche, sua far  
 “ as men can persaiu, is like to droun mekell mair of  
 “ ye Landis and Barony of Duffus nor is allreddie  
 “ drounit, and yat ye said drounit lands cannot be  
 “ maid dry, and ye Loche of Spyne stoppit fra  
 “ doing of gretar harme to ye saidis lands, except  
 “ ye Laird of Pettindryt his landis of ye Barony of  
 “ Kilmalemnok be cuttit and tirrit for makking of  
 “ dykkis *till outhald ye watter of Lossie from ye said*  
 “ *Loche of Spyne*, and drouning of sundrie of ye said  
 “ Archibald his landis.” Therefore the said Laird of Duffus, in consequence of the Laird of Pittendriech binding himself to execute the necessary works, agreed to convey to him certain portions of land, as a recompence for his trouble and outlay. This is the first notice we find of an attempt to exclude the water of the Lossie from the loch. It is likely it was getting very troublesome, bringing down, in the time of flood, large quantities of sand and gravel, filling up the channel, and making the water regorge on the arable land. To what extent the Laird of

Pittendriech succeeded in fulfilling his part of the contract is not known. From want of skill and proper engineering there is no doubt but he was unsuccessful, and it is certain that the Lossie was not at this time excluded from the lake.

In the year 1606 Episcopacy was restored in Scotland, and Alexander Douglas, minister at Elgin, was appointed Bishop of Moray. He seems to have been a good and able man, and the temporal lands of the diocese being restored to him, so far as they remained after the great dilapidation of the previous century, he would naturally be anxious for their improvement. He held considerable lands, either in property or superiority, upon both sides of the loch. At this time the Lossie, after having its course much in its present channel, past St. Andrew's, Pitgaveny, and the Carse of Leuchars, made a sharp bend to the north-west, and entered the lake above Kay's Briggs. At what point the river made its exit from the loch again is not very apparent, and the country there is so much changed by sand blowing, which has since occurred, that the old channel has been dried up. It probably, however, then entered the sea considerably to the eastward of its present mouth. It was now resolved by the Bishop and other proprietors to make a serious attempt to improve the drainage, and about the year 1609 they called into their counsel David Anderson of Finzeach, Burgess of



Aberdeen, a man of great genius, and one of the most skilful engineers of his time. Mr. Anderson wrote various letters on the subject after visiting the loch (and which were not long ago in possession of a respected gentleman in Morayshire), giving his advice as to what should be done; and it appears he recommended that the Lossie should be excluded entirely from the lake, and turned into a new channel, and that the water should be regulated and kept as far as possible on an equal level by drains carried from the loch into the river. It was certainly at this time that the embankment at Kay's Briggs for excluding the Lossie from the loch was made, and two drains, varying from six to fourteen feet wide each, and four or five in depth, were carried three hundred yards or thereby into the loch, and from thence to the river, the two drains running into one before joining the Lossie. Eventually the road to Lossiemouth was carried in this direction, and a bridge erected over the runlets of the drains. That the river was excluded from the loch about this time is proved by Gordon of Straloch's map of Morayshire, published in 1640, which shows the river running in its own channel, quite clear of the loch, and much in its present course.

On the 20th October, 1636, Sir Robert Gordon, son of Alexander Earl of Sutherland, purchased from Robert Innes of Drainie the lands of Drainie

and Salterhill, and on the 11th November, same year, obtained a charter of resignation and *novo damus* from John Guthrie Bishop of Moray, the superior, of “All and hail the lands of Meikle  
 “ Drainy, with the pertinents; all and hail the lands  
 “ of Newton, the lands of Ardivot, Muirton, and  
 “ Whiteley; and all and hail the lands of Salter-  
 “ hill, otherwise called Little Drainie, with all and  
 “ singular parts, pendicles, and pertinents, *together*  
 “ *with the passage or ferry-boat in the Loch of*  
 “ *Spynie, with the privileges, liberties, profits, and*  
 “ *duties of the same*—all lying in the Barony of  
 “ Kinneddar, Regality of Spynie, and Shire of Elgin  
 “ and Forres.” We refer to this more particularly, because under that charter a claim was eventually made by the Gordonstown family to the whole *solum* of the loch. In the year 1699 Sir Robert Gordon, the third Baronet of Gordonstown, procured a crown charter, wherein, after narrating the Lands and Barony of Gordonstown, is the following clause:—  
 “ Et omnes et singulas terras de Salterhill, alias  
 “ vocat Little Drainy, cum pertinen earund *cum*  
 “ *cymba transportaria super Lacum de Spynie et*  
 “ *privilegiis et portinen ejusd.*”

During the 17th century little progress was made in improvement. More particularly during the fifty years between 1638 and 1688 was this the case. It was a period of civil and religious strife. Sometimes

the Presbyterian party had the upper hand, and at another the Episcopalian party. Neither understood the principles of civil or religious liberty,\* and, as the great satirical poet of that day well expresses, it was a time—

“When civil dudgeon first grew high,  
“And men fell out they knew not why,  
“When hard words, jealousies, and fears,  
“Set folks together by the ears.”

Morayshire had its full share of this strife. The families of Brodie and Innes strongly embraced the popular side, the Earl of Moray and Lord Duffus the opposite one, the Gordons of Gordonstown, with proverbial caution, committed themselves to neither party. These being the proprietors almost entirely connected with the Loch of Spynie at this period, they did not, of course, draw much together, and, except a little clearing of the old drains at Kay's Briggs by the tenantry for self-preservation, it is believed nothing was done during the middle and latter part of this century to prevent the accumulating of the waters. At length the Revolution of

\* Although neither party understood the principles of liberty, it is perfectly clear that the struggles of the Covenanting party in the end brought civil and religious freedom, which, without their aid, would have ended in an arbitrary Government both in England and Scotland.

1688 came, and men, delivered from the dangers of tyranny and oppression, had leisure to direct their attention to their own affairs, and to improvements which had long been neglected; but there was so much to do, and the country was so impoverished by half a-century of troubles and anxieties that it was only by slow degrees that the revival came.

In the autumn of 1694, and spring of 1695, Morayshire was visited with a terrible calamity. The coast of the firth had been long covered with sand, which the current of the tides carried westward, and threw up into large hills between Nairn and Forres, where it got perfectly dry. Public attention had not hitherto been much attracted to this process of nature; but the high winds of these and subsequent years forced the sand eastward, and dissipated it over the rich Barony of Culbin, to its almost total destruction; the river Findhorn was choked up, and forced into a new channel, the sand crossed that river and blew eastward to Burghead, Roseisle, Inverugie, and Stotfield, crossed the Lossie, and desolated the country half-way to Garmouth. The Lochs of Roseisle and Outlet were filled up, and also the small Loch of Keam; the Glennock Burn and its tributaries at Beagrow, Burnside, and Keam, instead of flowing westward as before into the Lochs of Roseisle and Outlet, where there formerly were two mills belonging to Lord Duffus and Sir Robert

Gordon, were closed up, and the water flowed eastward to the Loch of Spynie. Other rivulets took the same course. These added considerably to the sources of the lake, which being also much filled up in its channel by the sand blowing, the water rose on the adjoining lands formerly arable, and did very great damage to the country. The proprietors, however, being mere onlookers, and having no combination among themselves, allowed matters to go on in the course of nature, and appear to have taken little notice of the destruction to their property so rapidly going on.

In the year 1706 it appears the Lossie was threatening to break its banks and resume its ancient course, and a contract was entered into between Sir Harry Innes of that ilk; Sir Alexander Innes of Coxtown; James Sutherland, Advocate, second lawful son of the deceased James Lord Duffus, for himself and the then Lord Duffus' interest; John Innes of Leuchars; George Innes of Dunkinty; Thomas Brodie of Pitgaveny; and Alexander Dunbar of Bishopmill, Sheriff of Moray, heritors of the adjacent lands on the east and west sides of the River of Lossie, below the Church of St. Andrew's, narrating "that they having taken into consideration  
" the great damage they and each of them did  
" sustain in their estates, by their not maintaining  
" of the banks of the river, and confining her to the

“ present course and channel, where she now runs,  
“ and where *she had been put by art and force,*  
“ therefore bind and oblige them and each of them  
“ to other, and their heirs and successors succeeding  
“ to them in their lands and estates, to maintain  
“ and support the banks of the said river with earth,  
“ feal, stone, creels, &c., where need did so require,  
“ but likewise to fill up the breaches already made,  
“ or to be made, within the bounds foresaid.” What  
followed on this important contract we do not know,  
for the proprietors of these times were readier to  
promise than fulfil, and Morayshire was then in a  
very lethargic state.

James Lord Duffus died in the year 1705, in a  
state of great embarrassment. He had previously  
conveyed his estates to his second son, James Suther-  
land, Advocate, the only cautious and wise man of  
his father's family. He did his best, but could not  
save the estates either in Moray or Sutherland. He  
sold the whole Morayshire estates to Archibald  
Dunbar of Thunderton in 1707. These consisted of  
two-thirds of Duffus, Ardgay, Leggat, Kintrae, and  
others. Mr. Dunbar was a man of prudence and  
enterprise, who, being a younger son of an old family,  
had, at a comparatively early period of his life, made  
a considerable fortune by his own unaided efforts.  
On entering into possession of the Duffus estate, he  
found it, in some of its richest parts, covered with

water, and endeavoured to concert measures with the other parties interested for carrying out a system of drainage, but he found a great obstacle in the family of Gordonstown, who now set up a claim to the navigation of the lake, and to the whole *solum* of it. Being baffled in his attempt for a joint drainage, he made an attempt on his own account. About the year 1720 he enclosed the Waterymains with dykes and embankments, and then procured a windmill from the South of Scotland, with relative pumping machinery, to keep the land dry, so as to admit of it being cropped and pastured. The mill and machinery appear to have worked very well for some years, and probably crops were raised, and good pasture procured for the tenants, but, by a violent tempest from the west, the mill and machinery were totally destroyed, and Mr. Dunbar did not thereafter attempt to renew them. The water of the lake returned on the land, but the dykes were found entire at the period of the future drainage.

The proprietors round the loch at this time were—Mr. Dunbar for Kintrae, Crookmuir, and Waterymains; Sir Robert Gordon for Salterhill, Balormie, and Ardivot; Alexander Brodie of Brodie Lord Lyon, for Kinneddar and Aikenhead; Mr. Brodie of Pitgaveny; Mr. James Brodie of Spynie; Alexander Leslie of Findrassie; and Sutherland of Greenhall for Myreside. The Lord Lyon was very anxious for

the drainage of the loch, but he found, from the large claims made by the Gordonstown family, that it could not be carried out without either a protracted lawsuit or an Act of Parliament. He was then Member of Parliament for the County of Elgin, and would have preferred getting an Act for the drainage of the loch, but did not meet with much support from the other proprietors, and the matter again dropped. The Lord Lyon died in 1754, and was succeeded by his only son, Alexander Brodie, who died unmarried in 1759. He was succeeded by his cousin, James Brodie of Spynie, born 1744, who married, in 1768, Lady Margaret Duff, youngest daughter of William, first Earl of Fife. In the year 1765, the estate of Pitgaveny was sold to Mr. James Brander; and, in consequence of family arrangements, to which we need not here refer, Mr. Brodie of Brodie sold his estates of Spynie, Kinneddar, and Aikenhead, along with Monaughty and Aslisk, in the parish of Alves, to his brother-in-law, James Earl of Fife. The Earl, finding his hands rather too full with these extensive purchases, re-sold the lands of Kinneddar and Aikenhead, in the year 1775, to Alexander Brander, Merchant in London. About the same time, Mr. James Brander also purchased from Sir Alexander Dunbar the lands of Waterymains, and part of Crookmuir. The price was from £4000 to £5000 sterling, and, considering



that the rental was little above £100 per annum, it was certainly a large one. Messrs. James and Alexander Brander were brothers, natives of Morayshire, who had left their native country in the days of their youth, and made fortunes—the former in Lisbon, and the latter in London—and returned to enjoy the well-merited fruits of their labours. James Brander married Helen, daughter of Archibald Dunbar of Newton and Duffus, and sister of Sir Alexander Dunbar of Northfield, which bound him, by an additional tie, to the Lowlands of Moray. The Messrs. Brander were both talented and far-seeing men, and there can be little doubt that part of their object in acquiring these lands was the expectation of gaining additional ground by drainage. It was a fair speculation, but they had no prospect of attaining their object without considerable expense, and also protracted litigation, with the Gordonstown family in particular.

We have now arrived at the year 1779, and, as the loch was then at its full height, and was soon to be materially altered in its appearance and dimensions, it will be proper to take a brief survey of it. Its extent at this time was probably not less than 2500 imperial acres. Its length, from the lands of Westfield at the west to Aikenhead at the east, was about five miles; and in the Bay of Balormie, and farther west, not less than a mile in breadth. It

covered the lowlands of Kintrae, great part of South and North Crookmuir, and Waterymains, the Castle of Duffus on three sides, the lowlands of Salterhill, Balormie, and Ardivot, part of Kinneddar and Aikenhead, and the lower part of Pitgaveny, Spynie, Myreside, and Findrassie. Towards the east end, and about the centre of the lake, was the island of Fowl Inch, greatly resorted to by water birds as a breeding place. It lay between the estates of Kinneddar and Pitgaveny, and the water being shallow on the Kinneddar side, during a dry summer cattle could be driven across for grazing, and steps seem to have been placed for persons to cross. These could only be used in very dry weather. Towards the west end of the loch there was a number of small green islets, called holmes. Four of these holmes belonged to Findrassie, and were called the Long Holme, the Lint Holme, the Little Holme, and the Picture Holme. Four belonged to Waterymains, viz.:—the Wester Holme, the Easter Holme, Tappie's Holme, and Skene's Holme. There were a few others. The deepest part of the loch was between Ardivot and the Palace of Spynie, and near the castle, where the old harbour was. The ferry-boat was not here, however, but plied between Salterhill and Myreside, being more in the direction of Elgin, and most conveniently situated. On these islets or holmes there was much long grass, called

star grass, and as the country had then no artificial grasses, this coarse forage was particularly valuable in the summer time. The cattle on the neighbouring estates were carried in boats to the holmes in summer for grazing. There were also other spots on the west end of the loch where this grass abounded, such as the Star Bush of Salterhill, the Star Bush of Balormie, and the Star Bush of Spynie. In the east end of the lake there seems to have been none of this grass. The right to this grass on the shores of the loch, except upon the holmes, was claimed by the Gordonstown family, not without much opposition from the other proprietors and their tenants. The whole navigation of the loch by boats, and the right of killing the water-fowl and fish, were also claimed by the same family, which often gave rise to disputes and litigation. The Gordons, however, carried matters with a high hand and the utmost determination, and few cared to enter the lists with them. The lake at this time, with its long stretch of waters, winding shores and bays, many green islets and banks, and ruined castles, must have been a very picturesque object, pleasing to the eye of every person of taste.

A change was now approaching, and which we shall proceed briefly to narrate. We have stated before that the object of the Messrs. Brander in purchasing these lands was to improve them by

drainage; and the Gordonstown family, on the other hand, being wishful to preserve the loch entire, as an ornament to their own estates, and for fishing and fowling, committed a great mistake in not purchasing Pitgaveny and Kinneddar estates themselves. Had they done so, they would have had the entire command of the outlets of the lake, and could have increased or diminished its waters at pleasure. They had ample means to purchase these properties, and they would have proved excellent speculations, but they lost the opportunity, and it could not be re-called. In the year 1779 Messrs. Brander began their new drain, and they formed it in the line of the old one, which had been made in 1609, but of a very different kind. It ran 800 yards into the body of the loch, and was fifty feet in breadth. This large work was completed at the very moderate expense of £500. Another drain, of smaller dimensions, was made, conducting a part of the water through the lands of Kinneddar, towards the sea. The large drain entered the Lossie at Brigsies, and, in order to allow the water to flow freely, another arch was added to the bridge, and a sluice placed to keep the tide water from entering the loch. The effect was very great; the depth of the lake was immediately reduced, and from 800 to 1000 acres of low land made dry. Sir William Gordon was for some time an onlooker, believing that this effort to

drain the loch would fail, as others had formerly done, but, as in the year 1780, he found that the water had fallen so low as to stop his ferry-boat from plying between Salterhill and Myreside, he was now under the necessity of taking legal steps for the defence of what he considered his own property. He therefore, on 9th August, 1780, applied for and obtained an interdict against the Messrs. Brander from proceeding further with the work, and, rather distrusting his former titles, he applied to the Crown, and obtained a charter of *novo damus* of the whole surface or *solum* of the loch. This charter is dated the 22d July, 1780, and gives Sir William a right to “the whole lake or loch of Spynie, and fishings of the same, with all and singular parts, pendicles, privileges, and pertinents thereof, together with the passage-boat upon the said loch, with the privileges, liberties, profits, and duties of the same.” This charter, so far as the *novo damus* was concerned, and so far as it gave rights inconsistent with previous grants, was clearly *ultra vires* of the Crown, and therefore was inept against the Messrs. Brander. James Brander of Pitgaveny died about this time, and was succeeded by his son John, who was sisted with his uncle, Alexander Brander, as a party to the action. These interim proceedings were followed by a process of declarator, at the instance of Sir William Gordon, for having it found that the *solum* of the

loch, and all benefit from the same, belonged to him; and a counter-action of declarator was raised by the Messrs. Brander, on the 19th July, 1781, for having Sir William's title reduced and set aside. These several actions having come before Lord Braxfield, Ordinary, on 13th December, 1781, his Lordship conjoined them; and, after condescendence for Sir William, and answers for Messrs. Brander having been lodged and considered, his Lordship, by interlocutor, dated 5th March, 1782, allowed Sir William Gordon a proof *pro ut de jure*, "of the facts contained  
" in his condescendence, and all facts and circum-  
" stances relative thereto; and to Alexander and  
" John Brander a proof of the facts contained in  
" their answers; and to both parties a conjunct  
" probation. Granted commission for taking a proof  
" in the country; and nominated and appointed  
" Hugh Kinnaird, landsurveyor at Nairn, to make  
" a plan of the loch and adjacent grounds." A very lengthened proof accordingly took place in the country. Forty-two witnesses were examined for Sir William Gordon, and forty for the Messrs. Brander—Sir William wishing to prove exclusive possession of the *solum*, and the Messrs. Brander the reverse. This proof, extending over 130 closely printed pages, and the relative plan by Mr. Hugh Kinnaird, are extremely interesting documents, and give one a better idea of the Loch of Spynie and its

history from the early part of the last century down to the year 1780, than any other papers we have ever seen. The Messrs. Brander failed in their proof to show that the loch had, during that period, been at a lower level than in 1779; and Sir William Gordon, although he adduced many strong facts to exclusive possession, failed, in the opinion of the Court, to prove a right to the *solum* of the lake. There can be no doubt that Sir William proved a title to the navigation of the loch and to its waters, and it appears strange that the drainage, to such an extent as the Messrs. Brander executed, was permitted. So, however, it seems to have been, for the large drain was not stopped, but completed. The result of this litigation\* must have been very galling to Sir William, for he had planned a new house on the dry ground upon the Silver Hills, overlooking the fine reach of the lake at the Bay of Balormie, which, if it had been executed, and the grounds properly ornamented, would have been one of the finest residences in the North of Scotland. Sir William died in 1796, and with him expired the energetic race of Gordonstown—a family which, for five generations, had produced a set of the most talented, strong-minded men in the country.

\* I have searched among the reported decisions of the Court of Session for this case, but have not been successful in finding it, and I therefore conjecture that no report of it has been published.

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In the year 1798, Messrs. Grant and Leslie published their survey of the Province of Moray, and state that, by the drainage executed by the Messrs. Brander, 1162 acres of the loch had been laid bare, giving a proportion to the different estates after mentioned as follows:—

	ACRES.
Pitgaveny and Kinneddar, . . . . .	800
Gordonstown, in Drainie, . . . . .	104
Duffus Estate, . . . . .	132
Spynie, . . . . .	72
Findrassie, . . . . .	51
Westfield, . . . . .	3

Great part of the above land was, however, only imperfectly drained, and much of it must have had the appearance of a marsh. Indeed, the great gainers, as had been foreseen, were the Messrs. Brander, on their Estates of Waterymains and Kinneddar; it was, indeed, to them a very profitable speculation, executed at small expense. In the closing year of last century, or the beginning of the present one, the Loch of Cotts, extending to about 150 imperial acres, was drained by the late Mr. William Young, who was then tenant of the farm of Inchbroom. This lake was situated in the Parish of St. Andrew's-Lhanbryd, and immediately to the eastward of the Loch of Spynie. It was supplied by two running streams, each of such extent as to work the machinery of a corn-mill.



The particular steps taken to effect this drainage we do not know, but the work seems to have been very well done, and the loch turned into arable land, while the swampy country about Inchbroom, Leuchars, and Innes, was greatly improved and ameliorated. How the tenant was compensated for this great undertaking we cannot discover, but we have heard him state that it was profitable. It is likely he had made an arrangement with the proprietor, James Earl of Fife, who could appreciate such improvements, which were of immense importance to his estate. As Mr. Young left Inchbroom about the year 1806, and was thereafter engaged with the extensive improvements then carrying on upon his own Estate of Inverugie, the works at the Loch of Cotts could not have made him much return from crops within so short a period, unless he had received compensation from the noble proprietor, which, no doubt, to some extent he did.

The successful drainage of the Loch of Cotts was an encouragement to the proprietors of the Loch of Spynie to do something for the farther improvement of that lake. The drains made by the Messrs. Brander, twenty years previous, were much filled up, the soil being not retentive, but very sandy, and which has always been a great drawback to the complete drainage of the Loch of Spynie. Accordingly, many meetings of proprietors were held

to consider what should be done. Sir Alexander Penrose Gordon Cumming of Altyre had succeeded to the Gordonstown Estate, under the settlement of his cousin, Sir William Gordon, and was a talented and energetic man, but cautious as to expenditure of money, and, having a great interest in the matter, was one of the principal advisers. But he died in 1806, at a comparatively early age, before any plan had been agreed to, or arrangement had been made about the drainage. In the year 1807, when the great work at the Caledonian Canal was going on, the proprietors resolved to consult Mr. Telford, the eminent engineer of the canal, who, after visiting the loch, and examining it carefully, furnished the proprietors with a plan, which was ultimately adopted, and a contract was entered into with Mr. William Hughes,\* engineer, to execute the work, which was begun in 1808, and finished in 1812, and consisted of a large canal running through the centre of the loch to the sea at Lossiemouth, extending in length about seven miles, with various connecting side drains, and sluices at Lossiemouth to keep out the sea water. These were not self-acting, but hand

\* We remember Mr. Hughes well. He was a native of Wales —of small stature, sharp, and active, of very considerable talents; quiet, modest, and unassuming in his manners; very much of a gentleman. He lived long at Inverness, where he was well known and much respected.

sluices. The work seems to have been well and ably executed by the eminent engineer who undertook it. It is said the cost was in all £12,740, but this included law expenses, which were very serious. The proprietors disputed about the proportion of expense each was to pay, and the portion of reclaimed land each was to receive, and these points were only adjusted after expensive references made, first, to Mr. Robert Blair, Advocate (afterwards the famous Lord President Blair), and then to Mr. Matthew Ross, the well-known Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, with remits to landsurveyors, and other practical men in the county. At length, after a work of twelve years, the whole was adjusted, and march stones set. In the year 1820, and 1821, a new turnpike road was made to Lossiemouth from Elgin, which was carried through what remained of the loch between Spynie and Ardivot, where the greatest depth had formerly been. It was a work of very considerable labour and expense, and a bridge had to be built over the canal. This road, going direct to Lossiemouth, was a great advantage to the town of Elgin, allowing goods, coals, and other commodities to be carried on a first-rate road, and by a short route, instead of the old circuitous one, and it very much lessened the distance.

In the year 1829, on the 3d and 4th of August, an immense deluge of rain fell on the hills. The fall

was something unnatural. The river Lossie rose to a height never remembered within the life of any then existing person, and there was no record of any similar flood. The river burst its banks, entered the Loch of Spynie by its ancient course, broke into the canal, and carried everything before it to the sea. The sluices for keeping out the salt water were entirely destroyed, and the tide ebbed and flowed through the canal into the lake every day. The proprietors were much discouraged by this very untoward event, and lost heart for many years. Leaving the canal quite open to take care of itself, the consequences were that the loch increased, the large drain silted up, and a good deal of the reclaimed land was either rendered totally useless, or converted into a marsh.

An Act of Parliament was procured in 1846, for making a railway from Elgin to Lossiemouth, and the line was shortly thereafter finished. The railway crossed the loch a little to the eastward of the old Palace of Spynie, having a bridge for the main canal in the centre. It was a very picturesque object crossing the now shallow lake in the steam carriages, and seeing the water fowl, still very numerous, swimming about in all directions, its diminished waters seeming to be no barrier to the occupancy of their ancient domains. The loch was now crossed in three places—by a road at Salterhill, the turnpike

road from Spynie to Ardivot, and, lastly, by the railway line to the eastward of the palace.

By the year 1860, the silting up of the drains, and the extended waters of the lake, had become a serious affair to proprietors and tenants, and much of the land, formerly arable, had been abandoned, and cultivation given up. The tenants therefore petitioned their landlords to take immediate steps for remedying the evil. After many consultations, it was resolved to send a deputation to England to obtain accurate information as to how drainage was conducted there, and to report. This deputation was composed of all parties interested—proprietors, factors, and tenants, with Mr. MacBey, landsurveyor, as engineer. The deputation accordingly set out, made a most careful enquiry, and, on returning home, made a report of the result to their constituents. They recommended the drainage to be carried out either by deepening the drains, and putting up sufficient sluices to keep out the sea, or by a steam engine to pump out the water. The two combined would have done the business effectually, but to include the latter also would have been attended with a great yearly cost, so it was resolved to adopt the first course only in the meantime. The work was a tedious one, and was commenced with erection of walls for the sluices. These were placed in the sea, at the lowest possible level, and the

foundations had to be piled; but, from the sandy nature of the soil, it was with the greatest difficulty that the water, on either side, could be kept from filtering through. After much labour and trouble, very substantial walls, of ashlar work, were built, and cast iron self-acting sluices erected in them, which shut and opened themselves with the slightest pressure of the water, and, when shut, perfectly excluded the tide. The levels were then carefully taken, and the work finished by day labour, under the superintendence of Mr. MacBey, and sub-inspectors appointed by him. It was entirely satisfactory, but executed at a cost beyond what was anticipated. The gain of ground, however, has been great. Much land, some of it of excellent quality, has been brought under cultivation; but the great object is the making perfectly dry the fields formerly destroyed by water. The change is certainly very great, and all parties concerned appear to be perfectly satisfied. Indeed, it is wonderful to see the beautiful crops now growing on the formerly marshy ground, which was previously a nuisance, and perfectly useless. A problem has now been worked out, which occupied the proprietors for many ages, and the loch at last converted into dry land. We trust it may so remain; but it is an enemy to be guarded against, and carefully watched. Constantly clearing of the main canal, and side drains, so as to keep them in

good working order, will be absolutely necessary, and also attention to the sea sluices, and walls on which they are hung, for, from the lesson learned from the great flood of 1829, there is no dependence to be placed on the Lossie, which may again burst into the lake, and undo all that has been done with such care and expense. The danger has been hitherto supposed entirely to arise from the east, but there is one, and possibly a serious one, in the west. Our local historians in the middle and end of last century considered that there was great danger likely to arise to the parishes of Duffus and Drainie, by the inroads of the sea in the Bay of Burghead. There seemed, for a considerable period, a pause in these encroachments, and they ceased to create alarm, but the sea is now again rapidly gaining on the land, and as there are only a few sand hills to protect the land, some of which may be carried away by a heavy tide in a single night, it may soon be necessary for the proprietors to consider what steps they may require to take to prevent the sea from overflowing, and resuming its ancient channel along the base of the Hill of Roseisle, to the Loch of Spynie, and so overwhelming much of the now fertile lands of Drainie and Duffus. What the ocean has done before it may do again, but such a calamity, it is to be fervently hoped, may never take place.

It must have been a pleasant and picturesque

sight to see the tide ebbing and flowing daily through the Loch of Spynie, with vessels and boats plying on its waters, and fishermen moving up and down to and from the sea; but perhaps it was a finer object when it became a large fresh water lake, with its green-wooded banks, numerous islets, and multitudes of birds swimming on its placid waters. All these are passed away, and will be seen no more, and although we may feel regret that such a picturesque landscape should be entirely lost, yet we may congratulate ourselves that much arable land has been gained—large quantities of the finest grain grown where there was none before—the health of the country very materially improved, and the residences of many made dry and comfortable where previously they were wet, damp, and unwholesome. These improvements have, indeed, taken place to an extent that could never have been dreamt of by the most sanguine agriculturists.\*

\* As a specimen of what drainage has done, we may here mention that the House of Gordonstown was formerly very damp and wet, and, within our own recollection, one of the cellars was half filled with water. By the great surrounding drainage, the house is now perfectly dry, and no better keeping place can be found, everything continuing free from mould and decay, and that although the house was originally built in the Bog of Plewland, (no doubt as a place of defence).

It is quite wonderful the drainage which has taken place within a very narrow district of the Lowlands of Moray in the space of less than two centuries. The Lochs of Spynie, Cotts, Keam,



## STATE OF PROPERTY.

THE Parish of Spynie is now divided among four proprietors. The Earl of Fife possesses about one-half in extent—namely, the Estates of Spynie, Quarrelwood, Morriston, Sheriffmill, and Aldroughty; the Earl of Seafield—Myreside and Bishopmill; Hugh Maclean, Esquire—Westfield; and the Trustees of the late James Ogilvie Tod, Esquire—Findrassie. The Earl of Fife is the largest, as well as the most ancient heritor, his ancestors having come into the parish shortly after the year 1700; the Earl of Findlater about the year 1765; Mr. Tod's Trustees, and Mr. Maclean, only very recently. The whole of the old possessors of the soil, some of them settled for many centuries, have been dispossessed of their ancient inheritances. Such is the changing tide of human affairs, and the end of earthly grandeur.

In endeavouring to trace the changes of property from the earliest recorded date to the present time, we would propose to commence at the east end of

Outlet, Roseisle, Inchstellie, and Inverlochty, have all been annihilated, or nearly so. Some have thought that such extensive drainage has tended to increase the desiccation of the district, but, with the sea so near, it is quite impossible that it could have had any such effect.

the parish, beginning with the Estate of Spynie, keeping westward along the north side of the Hill of Quarrelwood, and, after going to the western terminus, taking thereafter a rapid view of the Estates of Bishopmill, Morrison, Sheriffmill, and Aldroughty, on the south side of the hill.

### SPYNIE.

THE name of SPYNIE occurs in the Chartulary of Moray no less than sixty-seven times, which shows of how much consideration it was as the seat of the Bishop. It was probably a place of some importance, and had a Parish Church at a very early date. When Bishop Bricius, in the beginning of the 13th century, fixed on this spot as the Cathedral Church of his diocese, he had strong reasons for doing so. It was most conveniently situated near the town of Elgin; had a communication with the sea, a harbour immediately adjoining, where all commodities could be landed; was a delightful, dry situation, with pure air, and a very commanding view of the surrounding country. There was little arable ground around it at this early period. Looking to the north and west, there was the arm of the sea, with its winding shores; towards the south and east, a considerable quantity of woodland and bare moor, but, under the fostering

care of the Bishops, population would rapidly increase. Their tenants and vassals enjoyed an easy life, compared with those of the military barons around them. They had leisure to attend to their agricultural pursuits, and were not liable to be called into service for war; and, when attacked from without, they had the powerful arm of the Church to rely on. Such advantages, in a very disturbed age, had the tendency of bringing a great increase to the inhabitants of the district, improving the surrounding land, and reclaiming much that was waste. A village also sprang up on the borders of the lake, to the west of the Palace, which was eventually erected into a Burgh of Barony, with merchants and traders, gradually growing in population and importance, until, by an unexpected casualty, the lake ceased to be connected with the sea. This locality therefore became, from the above causes, and long continued to be, the most important part of the Parish of Spynie, and, up to the period of the Reformation, the most highly cultivated part of it. With the Bishop and his many retainers, numerous clergymen and visitors, it was like a little local court, where much money must have been spent, and commodities of all descriptions introduced and sold. The Bishops were proverbially charitable, and hospitality was exercised on the largest scale. The poor and needy were fed with no stinted hand. Before the time of

the Reformation, and after a long interval of 300 years of peace and prosperity, this must have been a highly civilised and improved spot. The year 1560 brought many changes. The then Bishop Patrick Hepburn was highly connected, and if not a moral or religious man, he was a very talented one. He set his house in order, and prepared for the storm. To secure a friend in time of need, he gave some of the finest lands of the diocese to the Earl of Moray, Regent,\* then the most powerful man in Scotland, and the remainder seems to have been left very much at his own disposal. He endowed his own sons, relatives, and friends largely, and dilapidated or spent much of what remained of the once extensive possessions of the Church. After a life of many vicissitudes and changes, he died at a good old age in the Palace of Spynie, in the year 1573. At his death what remained of the lands of the diocese fell to the Crown.†

Bishop Hepburn died on 20th June, and on 12th August of the same year George Douglas, natural son of Archibald Earl of Angus, was appointed the

\* Among other lands, Bishop Hepburn is stated to have given the Earl of Moray Kinneddar, Aikenhead, Birnie, Myreside, Aldroughty, lands at Keith, Dallas, and many others, with fishings and other privileges.

† The lands of Spynie proper were, at the period of the Reformation, occupied by ten tenants. See rental of Barony of Spynie, anno 1565 ; Chartulary of Moray, pages 433 and 434.

first Protestant Bishop of this diocese. He was Bishop for sixteen years, and therefore died in 1589. Perhaps he did not draw the full revenues, nor exercise the full functions of his office, for at that period Episcopacy was in a very doubtful state, and Bishops were frequently appointed under the wing of some great nobleman, to enable the patron to draw the revenues, the nominee Bishop being allowed the title and a small portion of the rental for his support, certainly a very humbling position to occupy. How far it was so in the present instance, we have not data for coming to a conclusion. In the year 1589, Alexander Lindsay, fourth son of David, ninth Earl of Crauford, accompanied King James VI. on his expedition to Denmark, to marry the Princess Anne, daughter of the King of that country. He was a great favourite of the King, who made him Vice-Chancellor, and he advanced 10,000 gold crowns to help to defray His Majesty's expenses on the occasion of his journey. When Lindsay reached Germany he became so seriously indisposed that he could not proceed farther, and, much to his own dissatisfaction, was obliged to remain there, and eventually to return home. The King did not forget him, for he wrote a letter from the Castle of Croneburg, in Denmark, in which he states—"Lett  
" this assure you, on the inviolabill worde of your  
" awin Prince and Maister, that quhen Godd randeris

“ me in Skotland, I sall irrevocablie, and with consent of Parliament, erect you the temporalitie of Murray in a temporal lordshipp, with all honouris thairto appartaining. Let this serve for cure to your present disease.” In implement of this promise, the King, on his return home, gave a charter to Alexander Lindsay, Vice-Chamberlain, of the Lordship of Spynie, and other lands in the counties of Elgin, Banff, and Inverness, formerly belonging to the See of Moray, united into the free Barony of Spynie, with the title of Baron of Spynie to him, and his heirs and assignees, dated 6th May, 1590. Another charter was granted 17th April, 1593, of new erecting these into a temporal lordship, with the dignity of a Peer of Parliament, to him and Dame Jane Lyon, his wife, and the longest liver of them, in conjunct fee, and to the heirs lawfully procreated between them, whom failing, to the nearest lawful heirs male of the said Alexander Lord Spynie, and his assignees heritably. This charter included the patronages of all the churches formerly in the gift of the Bishop, upwards of forty in number. Lord Spynie had little connection with the North of Scotland. His relatives and friends were in Forfar and Fife shires, and neither he nor his lady ever took any interest in their northern possessions. In 1599 he appointed Alexander Innes of Cotts Constable of the Fortalice and Castle of Spynie, and others

See Douglas's  
Peerage of  
Scotland, vol.  
2, page 517—  
Wood's Edition.

Jervise's Land  
of the Lind-  
says, pages  
290 and 291.

within the precinct, with very extensive powers, and that functionary appears to have looked after the temporalities for behoof of his noble employer. The property only continued in possession of the Lindsay family for sixteen years. In 1606, after King James VI. succeeded to the throne of England, it was his determined resolution to restore the order of Bishops, not from any religious feeling, but merely from temporal motives. The Presbyterians, with their General Assemblies, smell't too much of Republicanism, while the Bishops were considered favourable to despotic power, which the Royal Family of Stuart, unfortunately for themselves, always aimed at. The words of King James were—"No *Bishop*, no *King*." It was therefore arranged accordingly, and the temporalities of the Church, so far as possible, were re-acquired by the Crown. Lord Spynie sold to the Crown the lands belonging to the Bishopric of Moray granted to him in 1590, reserving only the patronages of the Churches, which he eventually lost by not exercising his rights. Lord Spynie and the King did not always continue on terms of friendship. On the contrary, they became quite alienated from one another. His Lordship was killed in a street brawl in Edinburgh, by his cousin, David Lindsay of Edzell, in 1607. The cause of this slaughter has been variously stated, and we shall probably refer to the subject again in another part. Mr. Shaw, in his

Lord Lindsay's Lives of the Lindsays, vol. 1, page 386.

Shaw's His-  
tory—Grant's  
Edition—page  
103.

History of Moray, states that Lord Spynie held the temporal lands of the diocese until 1670—and we are unwilling to differ from one so accurate in general—but it is proved by so many authorities that he sold them to the Crown in 1606, that the fact is beyond question. When Episcopacy was restored in 1606, Alexander Douglas, minister at Elgin, was made Bishop, and held the See for seventeen years. He seems to have resided at Elgin, and but little at Spynie, which continued under the management of Innes of Cotts, the Constable of the Palace and Regality. Bishop Douglas is said to have been a good man, and to have conducted himself, in difficult times, with modesty and discretion. He died in 1623.\* He conveyed the lands of Spynie, as well as Morriston and Burgh Briggs, to his son, Alexander Douglas, retaining for himself and his successors only the precinct round the palace. Alexander Douglas, the Bishop's son, is said to have married Mary Innes, and died, when Provost of Banff, in 1669.

See Old Statis-  
tical Account  
of the Parish,  
vol. 10, page  
627.

The Douglasses, who were probably a branch of the Pittendrich family, continued in possession of the

\* Bishop Alexander Douglas was interred in the South Aisle of the Church of St. Giles in Elgin, in a vault built by his widow, who likewise erected a very handsome monument to his memory. It remained entire until St. Giles' Church was removed, when the monument was carried to the Elgin Cathedral, and is now erected on the north enclosure wall, and is in good preservation.



Estate of Spynie until about the close of the century, when they sold it to James Brodie of Whitehill, a cadet of the family of Brodie.

John Guthrie of Guthrie, in Angus, succeeded Alexander Douglas as Bishop in 1623. He was a man of property, and adopted greater style in living than his predecessor. He took possession of, and lived in, the Palace of Spynie, in considerable state. Innes of Cotts resigned his constabulary, and executed a deed at Edinburgh, the 20th November, 1623, by which he renounced the care of the Fortalice and Castle of Spynie, and others within the precinct, “*which umquhil Alexander Lord Spynie, by charter, dated 18th December, 1599, confirmed by charter under the Great Seal, 25th December, 1599, and charter of Alexander Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Chapter, in June, 1607, granted to John Innes of Leuchars, in liferent, and the said Alexander Innes in fee, with fees of the same, privilege of keeping the wood, shaw, or forest of Spynie, with the loch, and slay fishes therein, and to take peats from Laverock Moss, and muirs adjacent.*” Bishop Guthrie continued in the Episcopacy until the period of the famous Glasgow Assembly of the Church in 1638, when he, along with the other Scotch Bishops, were deposed, and Episcopacy declared to be at an end. He resolved, however, to keep possession of the stronghold of

Chartulary of  
Moray, page  
427.

Spalding's  
Troubles in  
Scotland, vol.  
1, page 305;

Shaw's His-  
tory, page 354;

Gordon of  
Rothiemay's  
History, vol.  
3, page 213.

Spynie, which he furnished with ammunition and provisions for a siege, and strongly fortified. He retained the place until July, 1640, when the house, being attacked by General Munro, with 300 musketeers and cannon, the Bishop resolved to surrender at discretion. He then retired to his paternal residence of Guthrie, in Angus, and died there. There was no Bishop until the order was restored by King Charles II., in 1662. The revenues of the diocese were received by the Government of the times.

Murdo Mackenzie, Minister at Elgin, was consecrated Bishop in 1662. He was translated to Orkney in 1677, and died there in 1688, a very aged man. He had been a violent Covenanter, but the offer of the Bishopric of Moray cured him of all Presbyterian propensities. James Aitken, an Englishman, succeeded; he is said to have been a very good man. He was translated to Galloway in 1680. Colin Falconer, of the family of Halkerton, succeeded, and held the See from 1680 to 1686. He was an excellent man—very conciliatory, in difficult times. He died in the Castle of Spynie, and was the last Bishop who inhabited it. Alexander Rose was Bishop in 1687, and translated to Edinburgh in 1688. William Hay was consecrated in 1688, and ejected at the Revolution the same year. Neither of the two last Bishops were ever in possession. After the Re-

volution, the whole revenues of the diocese and the Castle of Spynie, with the precinct, fell to the Crown. The castle was allowed to fall into ruins. The wood, iron work, and finest stones of the buildings were carried away by the country people. The palace and precinct continued in possession of the Crown down to about the year 1840, when they were sold to the Earl of Fife, on the valuation of the late Mr. Peter Brown, at a very moderate price. About fifteen years previous to the sale, the Barons of Exchequer had given orders to preserve what remained of the ruins. They erected a lodge for a keeper, and planted and enclosed the Hill of Spynie with larch and fir wood, which now, after the lapse of forty years, is pretty well advanced, and is a great improvement. Round the palace, the ground has been planted with hardwood, which also has made good progress, and has beautified as well as sheltered the place. The Earl of Fife, we are glad to find, has taken an interest in the palace and grounds, and is caring for and protecting the fine old ruin.

We have stated before that the family of Douglas sold the Estate of Spynie to James Brodie of Whitehill, about the close of the 17th century. There were three successive proprietors of this family, viz.: —1st, James Brodie, the purchaser, who was brother of George Brodie of Brodie; 2d, James Brodie, his son, who was Sheriff-Depute of the County of Elgin;

and, 3d, James Brodie, grandson of the purchaser. This last proprietor was born in 1744. In 1759, by the death of his second cousin, Alexander Brodie of Brodie, he succeeded to the whole Brodie Estates. He married, in 1768, Lady Margaret Duff, daughter of William Earl of Fife. About, or shortly after the year 1770, he conveyed the Estate of Spynie, with Kinneddar, Aikenhead, Monaughty, and Aslisk, to his brother-in-law, James Earl of Fife, and thus terminated his connection with Spynie. The Brodie family possessed the estate for about seventy years. The Duffs have been proprietors for about a century, four Earls of Fife successively having held it. 1st, James, second Earl of Fife; 2d, Alexander, his brother; 3d, the late James Earl of Fife, his nephew; and, 4th, the present Earl, his grand-nephew. The Fife family, as we had occasion to mention previously, purchased from the Crown, about twenty-five years ago, the palace and precinct, with the arable and pasture land, the Hill of Spynie, and extensive plantations of fir and larch upon it, also part of the loch adjoining. This has added much to the value of the property, and it now forms a very compact estate. The land at the east end is the most valuable, being an excellent kindly soil, raising the finest crops; at the west end it is very light and sandy, and requires copious showers of rain during the summer to make it produce abundantly. Since the Fife family have

been proprietors, the estate has been almost entirely occupied as one farm. The tenants during the last eighty or ninety years have been—1st, Mr. Thomas Gordon, who afterwards settled in Ireland; 2d, Mr. James Mellis, who occupied the farm for nearly thirty-eight years, and was well known as an excellent judge of stock, and for his genial and social disposition; 3d, Dr. David Davidson Manson, who died in early life, having not completed a nineteen years' lease; and, 4th, Mr. John Alexander Cooper, the present tenant. At no period of its history has Spynie been better farmed than now. Mr. Cooper is an excellent, enterprising tenant; has the land in the best state of cultivation, and the houses and fences remarkably neat and in good order; everything being conducted in the best possible manner, and with the greatest propriety and regularity.

### MYRESIDE.

THIS was Church land, and, at an early date, was certainly composed almost entirely of moor, marsh, and woodland, and, only by slow degrees, and under the fostering care of the Bishops, was converted partly into arable ground. On the north side it was washed by the waters of the loch, and, on the

Rental  
Chartulary of  
Moray, p. 435.

south, bounded by the lands of Bishopmill. At the period of the Reformation, it was occupied by five tenants. It was a part of the land granted by Bishop Patrick Hepburn to the Regent Earl of Moray, at the Reformation. We find these lands referred to in a charter granted by Alexander Douglas, Bishop of Moray, in favour of James Earl of Moray, after the restoration of Episcopacy, in 1606. They continued in Lord Moray's family probably till near the close of the 17th century, when they were sold to Sutherland of Kinstearry (afterwards designed of Greenhall), and successively held in property by John Sutherland of Greenhall, and his son, Lawrence Sutherland. By the latter they were sold, prior to the year 1770, to James Earl of Findlater and Seafield, in whose family they still continue.

Douglas's  
Peerage, vol. 1,  
page 587.

It may be here remarked that the Findlater family had no property in Morayshire prior to the middle of last century. Their acquiring estates in that county, so far as we can judge, seems to have proceeded from political motives. The Fife family, by constant perseverance, had gained the ascendancy in Banffshire, and were now threatening to do the same in Morayshire. In 1735, Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant married Lady Margaret Ogilvie, eldest daughter of James fifth Earl of Findlater and Seafield. This created a very intimate connection between the Grant and Findlater families, and their

interests flowed in the same channel. James Lord Deskford, the brother of Lady Grant, afterwards sixth Earl of Findlater and Seafield, was a very talented and far-seeing man, warmly interested in the progress of the country in agriculture, commerce, and all liberal arts. During the latter part of his father's life he took the management of the estates, and it was by his advice that the land now possessed by the family in Morayshire was purchased. In 1758, the Baronies of Rothes, Easter Elchies, and Edin-villie, were purchased from John Grant, Baron of Exchequer, and between that date and 1770, the Estates of Birnie, Main, Linkwood, Bishopmill, Myreside, and Burgh Briggs, were acquired by the Findlater family. Doubtless other purchases would have been made, but James sixth Earl of Findlater and Seafield, died at Cullen House in November, 1770, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, a very premature death for himself and his country, and with him the farther acquisition of land in Morayshire ceased. His son and successor, James seventh and last Earl, lived abroad, and took little interest in his Scotch estates.

In the year 1772, a very considerable improvement was made, partly on Myreside, and partly on the Bishopmill lands, by planting about 150 acres with Scotch fir. It was moorland, and very bleak, producing no pasture, and only a covering of short,

Mr Isaac Forsyth's remarks in the Farmers' Magazine, 1812.

dry heath, and did not bring in a farthing of rent. The plantation was made at very small expense, and the thinnings soon repaid the outlay. The droppings of the needles of the fir enriched the soil, and, after the lapse of thirty years, an experiment was made in attempting the improvement of a few acres. It was found that the ground made tolerably arable land. From time to time this has been repeated, until almost the whole wood has been removed, and converted into good arable ground, at a moderate expense. The farm of Newfield has been partly made out from the ground covered with wood, and that of Woodlands entirely so, and both, in a favourable season, when rain abounds, yield good crops of corn, turnips, and grass. The wood grown was of excellent quality, and not only amply repaid expenses, but gave a good return in the way of rent to the proprietor. In the progress of events, part of the farm of Myreside has thus been added to Newfield and Woodlands, and the boundaries with the adjoining Estate of Bishopmill have been considerably changed.

During the latter part of last century, the lands of Myreside were tenanted by Mr. Lawrence Sutherland of Greenhall, the person who sold the property to the Earl of Findlater, thereafter by Mr. Hugh Tod, both well-known men. Since that time, the farm has been well enclosed with substantial stone



dykes, and formed into neat and convenient lots adapted for modern husbandry, and the land is well farmed by Mrs. Russell, the present tenant.

### FINDRASSIE.

THIS Estate, anciently called FYNROSSY, stands on the west side of Myreside, and is bounded by it on the east and south, by Quarrelwood on the west, and by the now dry bed of the Loch of Spynie on the north. In ancient times it was principally grass and woodland, with a little corn land on the north side. It was washed by the sea when the loch was salt water, and when it became fresh there was abundance of coarse star grass on the marsh beside the water, and on the four holmes or islets belonging to the estate. Being on the north side of the hill, it is not so sweet and sunny as upon the southern slopes, but still it is a pleasant retired residence. It was Church land, and even after it was feued out by the Bishop of Moray it still held of him as the superior, and, in some measure, claimed his protection. The first mention of the property is in a dispute between Walter de Moravia and Andrew Bishop of Moray, about the use of the wood and moor of Spynie, and "Fynrossy," which appears to have been amicably

Registrum  
Moravieuse,  
page 132.

Registrum,  
page 113.

Registrum,  
page 182.

Registrum,  
page 370.

Registrum,  
page 406.

settled by agreement, on the 10th October, 1226. It is again referred to in a dispute on the same subject between Simon Bishop of Moray and Friskinus Lord of Duffus, in 1248. The lands were feued out by Alexander Bishop of Moray to John Forbes of that ilk, and Margaret Forbes, his spouse, for good and faithful service and assistance, on 18th July, 1378. They were resigned again into the hands of the Bishop by John Flathson, Mair-General of the diocese, in the year 1395. A charter of feu farm was granted by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Chapter, to James Innes of Rothmakenzie, and Katherine Gordon, his spouse, dated at the Cathedral Church, 6th November, 1540, at a feu-duty of fifteen merks, one mart, one sheep, two dozen capons, two bolls of oats, with fodder, and forty shillings for six bolls of dry multure. Another charter was granted to the same James Innes on 7th April, 1545, and a charter, confirming a sale by Alexander Innes of Crombie, with consent of Elizabeth Forbes, his wife, to George Sinclair, son of George Earl of Caithness, reserving the Bishop's Moss, otherwise the Laverock Moss, dated at the Palace of Spynie, 26th May, 1569. In the latter part of the 16th century, the estate was in possession of Robert Leslie, second son of George Earl of Rothes, by Lady Margaret Crichton, his first wife, only daughter of William Lord Crichton, by the

Lady Cicely, his wife, second daughter to King James II. of Scotland. Robert Leslie was the immediate younger brother of the gallant Norman Leslie, Master of Rothes, and when his brother was forfeited as accessory to the murder of Cardinal Beaton, Robert should have succeeded to the earldom, but his father, for some reason, passed him over, and, with consent of the Crown, got the title and Estate of Rothes settled upon Andrew Leslie, his son by a second marriage—a most unjust proceeding.\* All that Robert got in lieu of it was Findrassie, and some other lands in Moray and Ross. The reason of Robert being deprived of the Estate and titles of Rothes arose probably from the fact that Andrew Leslie, his half brother, married Grizzel Hamilton, daughter of Sir James Hamilton of Evandale, natural brother of the Duke of Chatelherault, then Regent of Scotland, by whose influence the succession both to the Estate and titles of Rothes was settled upon Andrew Leslie and Grizzel Hamilton, to the deprivation of the family of the first marriage. The succession is as follows:—

1. Robert Leslie of Findrassie, the son of the Earl of Rothes, married Janet, daughter of Robert

\* For particulars of this curious transaction, see Nisbet's *Heraldry*, volume 2, appendix, page 141. Crauford's *Peerage*—edition 1716—page 429. Douglas's *Peerage*—Wood's edition—volume 2. page 428.

Lord Elphinstone, by whom he had Robert, his successor.\*

2. Robert Leslie married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Dunbar, Dean of Moray, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, in the reign of King James VI., ancestor to Dunbar of Grange, and had, 1st, Robert; 2d, John.

3. Robert Leslie married Isabel Forbes, daughter

\* Robert Leslie, the first of Findrassie, and his wife, Janet Elphinstone, were interred in the north aisle of St. Giles' Church, in Elgin, which was long afterwards the burying place of the family. The aisle, which was called "Leslie's Aisle," becoming ruinous, was entirely removed from the Church, with the monument, about the year 1820, and the ashes of the dead scattered to the winds, but the following inscription is preserved in Monteith's Theatre of Mortality, published in the year 1704 :—

Robertus Lesly, comitis qui filius olim,  
 Rothusie fuerat, simul et suavissima conjux,  
 Elpstonii soboles herois, conduntur in antro,  
 Hoc licet obscuro, celebres pietate supersunt.  
 Hos quondam, binos Hymenaeus junxit in unum,  
 Corpus, et his vivis semper fuit una voluntas ;  
 Unus amor, domus una fuit, nunc lumine cassos,  
 Una duos iterum condit libitina sepultos.

Tho' Robert Lesley, Earl of Rothes' son,  
 With his sweet wife, daughter of Elphinstone,  
 Heroick blood, lie in this grave obscure,  
 Their shining graces ever do endure.  
 Those, sometime two, did Hymen join in one,  
 Body and mind, in life's conjunction ;  
 They had one love, one house, and, now when dead,  
 Them here one grave and tomb has covered.

to Abraham Forbes of Blackton, sixth son to William Lord Forbes, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and one of the two co-heiresses of Sir William Keith of Inverugie, by whom he had two sons, George and Abraham.

4. George succeeded, and married Mary, daughter of Bannerman of Waterton, but died without issue.

5. Abraham succeeded, and was served nearest heir male to his brother George, 5th April, 1692. He died also without issue, and was succeeded by John Leslie, his grand-nephew, descended from John Leslie, second son of Robert Leslie, 2d of Findrassie. The above John, second son of Robert Leslie, 2d of Findrassie, married Janet, daughter of Nairn of Cromdale, and had a son, John, who married Grizzel, daughter of John Douglas of Tilquilly, a cadet of the family of Morton, and had—

See Abreviatio,  
Retornatarum,  
head Elgin and  
Forres.

6. John Leslie of Findrassie, who married Margaret, daughter of Charles Gordon of Glengerrack, and by her had three sons—Alexander, Abraham, and Charles. John died before the year 1744. His wife, Margaret Gordon, died 26th December, 1764.

7. Alexander succeeded his father, and had a charter, under the Great Seal, of the lands of Findrassie, Ethie, Muirhead, and others, in the Shires of Elgin and Ross, dated 3d July, 1753. He had an extensive estate, viz.:—Findrassie, in the Parish of Spynie; Middleton, Gedloch, and Conloch, in the

Parish of Birnie, being about one-fourth of that parish; and the lands of Raddery, Ethie, and Muirhead, in the Parish of Rosemarkie, and County of Ross.\* He was succeeded by his son, John.

8. John Leslie of Findrassie died before the year 1786, without issue, and was succeeded by his uncle,

9. Abraham Leslie, who was served nearest lawful heir of line, and of provision, to his nephew, John Leslie, on the 17th June, 1786. He was a Doctor of Medicine, and was about thirty-five years abroad—in North America first, and afterwards in China. He died 26th May, 1793, without male issue.

See Tombstone  
in the Church-  
yard of Spynie.

10. Charles Leslie succeeded his brother, Abraham, but seems to have made up no titles for several years. He was served heir to his brother by special service at Edinburgh, the 26th December, 1806. He was then a very old man. He was married to a Margaret Macandrew, who predeceased him on 11th July, 1796, without issue. He conveyed his estates in the Counties of Elgin and Ross to his niece, Dame Caroline Jemima Leslie, wife of Sir John Leslie, Baronet, and the heirs male of her body, by disposition, dated 28th July, 1806. He himself died that year.

\* In the year 1644, the lands of Robert Leslie, then of Findrassie, in the Parish of Rosemarkie, are valued at £1607 6s. 8d. Scots money of yearly value, which probably might be equal to a rental of nearly £2000 sterling per annum in the present day.

11. Dame Caroline Jemima Leslie succeeded, and obtained a charter, under the Great Seal, of these estates, dated 3d February, 1807. The lands in Birnie had been previously sold to the Earl of Findlater, and she sold the Estates of Ethie and Muirhead,\* in the County of Ross, to Evan Baillie of Dochfour, in February, 1808. Lady Leslie died before the month of July, 1816.

12. Sir Charles Abraham Leslie, Bart., succeeded his mother, Lady Leslie, and was served nearest lawful heir male to her on 9th July, 1816. About the year 1817, he sold the Estate of Raddery, in the County of Ross, to Mr. Fowler, and about the year 1825, he sold the last of his estates, Findrassie, to Colonel Alexander Grant, a native of Forres, who had made a fortune in the East Indies, thus closing the connection of an old and respectable family with Morayshire, which had subsisted for two hundred and fifty years, and leaving nothing of an estate, (which if entire would have been worth about £3000 per annum), but their burial place in the Churchyard of Spynie. Such is the mutability of all human affairs.

The family of Leslie were considerable improvers, and appear to have done a good deal in that way

\* The Estates of Ethie and Muirhead now belong to Mr. Fletcher of Rosehaugh.

both in Moray and Ross, particularly in the way of planting. These improvements were executed in the time of Abraham Leslie, who was a man of enlarged mind, had seen much of the world, and who had the means of doing so. The moors of Findrassie were planted with Scotch fir. The trees have now reached maturity, and, being of fine quality, yield a rich return to the present proprietors. On the Estate of Ethie, in Ross-shire, large plantations of Scotch fir were made also, and which, having reached maturity, were cut by Mr. Baillie of Dochfour, the next proprietor. The stumps of the trees now only remain, and the place has been left exceedingly bare and desolate, a state of matters which the present enterprising and sagacious owner, Mr. Fletcher, will soon likely remove.

The present mansion-house of Findrassie has the appearance of having been erected about a century ago, and was certainly built by Abraham Leslie. It is a commodious dwelling of the old Scotch style, which could easily be improved by giving it a new front. The garden is large, and bears great crops of fruit, and is well walled. The grounds are well laid out, and pretty extensive. After the death of Mr. Charles Leslie, in 1807, the estates, both in Moray and Ross, were soon disposed of by his successors, and, in the short period of eighteen years, the whole were sold, and the family landless.



During Colonel Grant's occupancy of the estate, a period of about ten years, considerable improvements were made by planting and embellishment, and some new fields added on the west side of the Duffus road, by grubbing out the fir trees, and converting the ground into arable land. Also a good deal of draining and fencing took place. Colonel Grant died about the year 1835, and his Trustees sold the estate in June, 1836, to James Ogilvie Tod, Esquire, who had been in the Civil Service in India, and had then lately returned with a fortune. Mr. Tod did not long enjoy the property, having died the following year, and left the estate in the hands of Trustees, for behoof of his only child, Helen Tod, now Mrs. Forster. The property has been well and judiciously managed by the acting Trustees—first, the late Mr. Alexander Brown, and, for the last sixteen years, by Mr. James Geddes. The farms have been let to industrious tenants, and the wood, in particular, has been carefully looked after by Mr. Geddes, who has shown much judgment and care in the management of it, for, although large sums of money have been realised by the sales which have taken place every year, its value has not been materially diminished, and the estate is still well covered with the trees, which have not the appearance of being too much thinned. The management of the Trustees will continue during the life of Mrs. Forster.

QUARRELWOOD, NOW CALLED  
QUARRYWOOD.

THIS estate, in its present bounds, is much more extensive than it was in ancient times. It now comprehends Quarrywood, Loanhead, Kintrae, Rosebrae, Leggat, Rosehaugh, and other farms, and extends to the top of the hill bounding Morrison, Sheriffmill, and Aldroughty, at the south. In old writings it is written "Querelwode," "Correilwod," and "Quarelwode," and, as it had this name before there were quarries in the hill, it may be somewhat difficult to ascertain the meaning of the word. The word "Quarrel," in old writings, sometimes means a quarry of stones; it also sometimes stands for *game*, or the engines by which game is killed. The name may therefore mean either the Quarrywood, by which it is now known, or the wood of game, or in which game is killed. It sufficiently answers to either of these appellations.

It is probable that the whole, or greater part, of this estate, in ancient times, formed part of the Earldom of Moray, as some of the farms continued to do until a very late date.

The first proprietor of Quarrelwood, of whom we have any distinct account, is Sir Robert Lauder, or

Lavedre. His father, also Sir Robert, was Justiciary of Lothian, and Ambassador to England, in the time of King Robert Bruce, and engaged in similar service for King David Bruce. Both father and son seem to have been present at the battle of Halidon Hill, in 1333, after which fatal event the younger Sir Robert, being Justiciary of the North, hastened to occupy the Castle of Urquhart, on Loch Ness, one of the few fortalices which held out against the power of Edward of England. It is supposed that at this time he acquired the lands of Quarrelwood, Grieshop, Brightmony, and Kinsteary, which continued to be possessed by his descendants, in the female line, for many generations. He designates himself as "Robertus de Lavadre, Dominus de Quarrelwood, in Moravia." This Robert Lauder obtained a charter from John Pilmore, Bishop of Moray, for good services, of the half davoch lands of Aberbreachy, and the lands of Auchmunie, within the Barony of Urquhart, for payment of four merks yearly, dated at Elgin, in the feast of St. Nicholas, 1333. He founded a chaplainry in the Cathedral Church of Moray, at the altar of St. Peter, out of his lands of Brightmony and Kinsteary, and mill of Auldearn, for his own soul, and those of his ancestors and successors, and in particular for the soul of Hugh Earl of Ross. The deed is dated at Dunfermline, the 1st May, 1362, which gift is confirmed by a writ

from King David Bruce, dated at Elgin, the 10th May, in the thirty-eighth year of his reign. Sir Robert Lauder is said to have had a family of sons and daughters. One daughter was married to Sir Robert Chisholm, and her father conveyed to her, or her husband, in her right, the lands of Quarrelwood, Kinstearry, Brightmony, and others.\*

The foundation of the chaplainry in the Elgin Cathedral was among the last acts of Sir Robert Lauder's life. Sir Robert Chisholm, his successor, was of the family of Chisholm, on the English border, and the founder of the still flourishing family of Chisholm of Strathglass. He seems to have been a man of action and spirit. He is mentioned in a document relative to a settlement of mills and multures, from Alexander Bar, Bishop of Moray, dated in 1369; a declaration about the Church lands

Registrum  
Moravieuse,  
pp. 169, 184, 205.

\* From the above Sir Robert Lauder, or Lavedre, are descended the families of Lauder of Bass and Fountainhall. Sir John Lauder of Fountainhall, the celebrated Scotch lawyer, and second baronet of that family, who flourished in the end of the 17th century, came to be the male representative of the founder. He was a Lord of Session, by the title of Lord Fountainhall. His delightful diary, to which we may have in the sequel to refer, is the best account of the times in which he lived. He was the great-great-grandfather of the late accomplished Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, Baronet, of whom Morayshire may be proud, as the author of many works connected with it. By his marriage with Miss Cumin of Relugas, and his long residence at that beautiful place, Sir Thomas was himself more than half a Morayshire man.

in Badenoch; a charter of the lands of Abbreachy, by the same Bishop, in favour of Alexander Stewart, Earl of Buchan, commonly called the “Wolfe of Badenoch,” dated at Elgin, the 3d February, 1386; and he is one of a jury in the service of John Sibbald, as heir to his father, Robert Sibbald, in the lands of Aldroughty, at the Bishop’s Mill, the last day of August, 1393. He had a daughter, Janet, married to Hugh Rose of Kilravock, to whom he conveyed various lands in Strathnairn. He is supposed to have had no heir male of his own body, and to have been succeeded by his brother, John Chisholm, who was again succeeded by his son, Robert, who had a daughter, and only child, Morella, proprietor of the lands of Quarrelwood, Brightmony, Kinsteary, &c.—the heir male of the Chisholms succeeding to the paternal Estate in Strathglass. Morella Chisholm married Alexander Sutherland, third laird of Duffus, of that name, who thereupon added to his armorial bearings a boar’s head erased, being part of the arms of Chisholm.\* Of this marriage there were born, 1st, Alexander, whose only daughter and heir, Christian Sutherland, married William Oliphant of

Douglas’s  
Baronage,  
page 454, and  
Contract of  
Marriage,  
anno 1364,  
there referred  
to.

Shaw’s  
History  
edition 1827,  
page 193.

Douglas’s  
Peerage,  
Wood’s edition  
vol. 1, pp. 445,  
446.

\* There is an ancient tombstone in the Churchyard of Duffus with the following inscription:—“Hic jacet duo nobili, Alexr. Sutherland, olim, Dominus de Duffus. ————— Chisholm, Domina de Quarrelwood, ejus sponsa qui obiit 12th October, 1479.” It would be difficult to know whether this inscription applied to husband, or wife, or both.

Berridale, in Caithness; 2d, William, and a daughter, Isabella, married to Sir Alexander Dunbar of Westfield. William Sutherland, the second son, inherited his mother's lands of Quarrelwood, and left a son, William Sutherland of Quarrelwood, who, on the death of his uncle, Alexander, took possession of the Barony of Duffus, of the lands in Caithness and Inverness, and Strabrok,\* in Linlithgow, on the ground that Christian, his uncle's daughter, was illegitimate. Legal proceedings ensued, both in Scotland and at Rome, in which he was successful, and he got a charter of the barony, 18th June, 1507. He was killed at Thurso by the clan Gunn, 1529. He married Janet, daughter of Alexander Innes of Innes, and had issue, William, his successor, and Alexander, Dean of Caithness. The Estates of Quarrelwood and Duffus thus came to be united. In the year 1588, the lands of Duffus, Quarrelwood, Grieshop, Brightmony, and Kinsteary, were all erected into the Barony of Duffus, by Crown precept in favour of William Sutherland, then of Duffus, dated at Falkland, 2d August, that year. Alexander Sutherland, the grandson of the last mentioned laird, was created a Peer by the title of Lord Duffus, 8th December, 1650. He was four

Papers at  
Duffus House.

\* The lands of Strabrok, long in possession of the Duffus family, were sold about this time to Crichton, ancestor of the Earl of Dumfries. (Douglas's Peerage, Wood's edition, page 448.)

times married—1st, To Lady Margaret Mackenzie, eldest daughter of Colin first Earl of Seaforth, relict of John Master of Berridale; 2d, To a daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Innes (by neither of these ladies had he any descendants); 3d, Lady Margaret Stewart, second daughter of James fifth Earl of Moray, by whom he had a son, James second Lord Duffus, and two daughters; and, 4th, Margaret,\* eldest daughter of William eleventh Lord Forbes, who had no issue. Alexander Lord Duffus died 31st August, 1674. In the year 1631, Alexander Lord Duffus purchased from William Earl Marischal the third part of the Barony of Duffus, and other lands, which had belonged to the Keith family for nearly three centuries, and in 1653 he acquired from Alexander Earl of Moray, his brother-in-law, the lands of Ardgay, Newton of Ardgay, the lands of Kintrae, Newlands of Kintrae, and Rosehaugh, with the Earl's house in the Burgh of Elgin, afterwards called Duffus House, and Thunderton House. He was succeeded by his only son, James, second Lord Duffus, who married Lady Margaret Mackenzie, eldest daughter of Kenneth, third Earl of Seaforth, by whom he had four sons, 1st, Kenneth, who succeeded him as third Lord Duffus; 2d, James, afterwards Sir James Dunbar of Hempriggs, from his

\* This lady was afterwards the first wife of Sir Robert Gordon, the *Warlock* Baronet of Gordonstown.

marriage with the heiress of that estate ; 3d, William designed of Roscommon ; 4th, John ; one daughter, Henrietta. At the time of the succession of James Lord Duffus the estate was a very large one, embracing two-thirds of Duffus, Ardgay, Quarrelwood, Newton,\* Rosehaugh, Kintrae, and other lands, with the mansion-house in Elgin ; Kinstearry and Brightmony, in Nairnshire ; Skelbo, Strathfleet, Pronsie, and others, in Sutherlandshire. Whether the estate was then clear of debt we do not know ; from the extensive purchases of the previous lord, it may not have been so entirely. James Lord Duffus was an unfortunate man. He killed Ross of Kindeace in the year 1688, under great provocation, and was for some time in concealment. He took the wrong side in politics, being opposed to the Revolution settlement, and trained up his family in Jacobite principles (except James, the second son, who was a cautious man, and took his own way, and who made a good family connexion for himself). He was expensive in his habits, and a bad manager of his affairs, and during the period of thirty years he possessed the estate he contrived to bring it to ruin. By the close of the 17th century, the properties were drowned by wadset rights. In the year 1702, a marriage took place between the Honourable William Sutherland,

\* The lands of Newton being then in possession of the Dunbars, Lord Duffus had only a right of superiority.



third son of James Lord Duffus, and Helen Duff, eldest daughter of William Duff of Dipple,\* then carrying on a large business at Elgin and Inverness as a merchant and private banker. Mr. Duff was among the very few then in the country who, to any great extent, had the command of ready money, and he lent it out principally on mortgages or wadsets. Previous to this marriage, Mr. Duff had been making large loans on wadset to Lord Duffus, and the connexion between the families was much increased by that occurrence. Difficulties accumulated on Lord Duffus, and about this time he conveyed to Dipple, irredeemably, in part payment of the debt due to him, the lands of Quarrelwood, part of Leggat, Kinttrae, and other subjects, which have continued to be the property of the Duff family to the present time. James Lord Duffus died in 1705,† having, in the previous year, conveyed the remainder of his estates to his second son, James Sutherland, afterwards Sir James Dunbar of Hempriggs, with the view of extricating his affairs, which, however, was found impossible.

Disposition to  
Hon. James  
Sutherland,  
dated 12th  
August, 1704.

After the death of his father, the Honourable

\* The Contract of Marriage is dated at Elgin and Inverness, the 20th and 22d October, 1702.

† According to an old manuscript at Duffus House, James Lord Duffus “died 24th September, 1705, about three o’clock in the afternoon.”

James Sutherland, finding it impossible to meet the burdens on the estate, made an arrangement with Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton for a sale of the whole Morayshire Estate to him. In implement of this transaction, in the month of March, 1708, he executed a disposition in favour of Mr. Dunbar, excepting Quarrelwood, and part of Leggat, and Kintrae, sold previously to Duff of Dipple. Mr. Dunbar kept possession until the year 1729, when he sold to the Duke of Gordon Ardgay, in Alves, and the parts of Leggat and Kintrae, in Spynie parish, belonging to him, with various other lands. The Duke retained the property until the year 1777, when he exchanged Ardgay, Kintrae, Leggat, Newton, and the Lordship of Urquhart, with the Earl of Fife, for his Lordship's lands and fishings in the Parish of Speymouth. Shortly after this arrangement, Mr. Rose of Belivat, then Commissioner for the Earl of Fife, purchased for his Lordship the small Estate of Rosehaugh, which gave the Earl the whole western division of the parish, thus bounding the Estate of Quarrelwood with Westfield at the north, Bishopmill, Morrison, and Aldroughty at the south—a most valuable and compact estate. Since that period extensive improvements have been carried out by draining, fencing, planting, and many excellent steadings and farm houses have been built. The farms are now occupied by industrious and

enterprising tenants. The farm of Rosebrae, to which I believe Leggat has now been added, has long been tenanted by Mr. Eric Gilzean, a skilful agriculturist, and very worthy man, a representative of the old family of the Gilzeans of Coltfoot, in the neighbouring Parish of Alves.\*

The small farm of Hill of Quarrywood, or Laverock Loch, tenanted by Mr. Alexander Lawson, is curiously situated, in the midst of the extensive fir wood on the hill. Although within two miles of the town of Elgin, it is a spot of extreme solitude, and has the appearance of a clearance in an American forest. The eastern part of the farm is the bed of an old morass. In the time of the Bishops, it was a moss, attached to Spynie, and called the Laverock Moss. When the peats were all dug out, it became a shallow lake, on which the young men of Elgin used to skate in winter. By the growth of long grass in it, the loch was converted into a mere marsh, which was drained by Mr. Lawson some years ago, and is now converted into an arable field of some extent, in which all kinds of crops are grown.

\* I find that John Gilzean was served heir to John Gilzean, portioner of Cotfield, his grandfather, in the eighth part of the town and lands of *Cotfauld*, in the Regality of Kinloss, 17th January, 1633. Thomas Gilzean is entered in the valuation roll of the county as a proprietor in Alves in 1667; and John Gilzean is entered in the valuation roll of 1744 as proprietor of part of Coltfoot. The date of sale I have not exactly discovered.

Abbreviatio  
Retornatarum  
—Elgin and  
Forres.

## WESTFIELD.

THE Estate of Westfield consists of the lands of Inchbrock, Inchaggarty, and Westfield proper. The two former point to a period when the sea ebbed and flowed in the Lowlands of Moray, and when the lands of Westfield were submerged in the waves. The time when the sea receded from Westfield is uncertain, but it must have been within a comparatively recent period, and when the Saxon or English language had taken root in the land. Previous to that time, Inchbrock and Inchaggarty had been islands of the sea. The former the Isle of Brocks, or Badgers, and the latter the Priest's Island, deriving its name from being the residence of some solitary Culdee Priest, who spent his time in contemplation and devotion, issuing occasionally from his retreat to preach the pure word of life to a savage people. A late ingenious Elgin scholar was of opinion that the word Inchbrock signified the Island of Beavers, and not Badgers, as from its wet situation it was quite unfitted for the habitation of the latter animal. But if the beavers were ever in Scotland, it must be remembered that they did not like salt water, but preferred the banks of a running

stream of pure fresh water, well clothed with timber, where they could, by their own ingenuity, form a suitable dam, and build their houses or burrows in their own peculiar way. The Estate of Westfield is described in the titles as follows:—"All and whole  
" the towns and lands of Westfield and Inchag-  
" garty, with the manor place, houses, biggings,  
" yards, orchyards, mills, mill lands, parts, pendicles,  
" and universal pertinents of the same, lying within  
" the Parish of Spynie, and Sheriffdom of Elgin and  
" Forres: As also all and whole the town and lands  
" of Inchbrock, with the houses, biggings, yards,  
" orchyards, tofts, crofts, parts, pendicles, and uni-  
" versal pertinents thereof, as the same were formerly  
" occupied and possessed by the deceased James and  
" George Dunbar of Inchbrock, lying within the  
" Parish of Spynie, Regality thereof, and Sheriffdom  
" of Elgin and Forres, aforesaid, together with the  
" teinds, parsonage, and vicarage, of said several  
" lands, and the whole seats and lofts, and the  
" burial-place belonging to the said lands in the  
" Kirk of Spynie." The lands of Inchbrock were Church lands, and continued in possession of the Bishops until the period of the Reformation, when that great dilapidator of the Bishoprick, Patrick Hepburn, feued the same, with consent of the Chapter, for a sum of two hundred merks, to Alexander Anderson, in Wester Alves, and Alexander Ander-

son, Burgess of Elgin, his son, and Bessy Gordon, his son's wife. The lands seem to have been previously possessed by Alexander Anderson, the father, as tenant. The feu-duty stipulated for was £3 17s. 10d., with the fourth part of a mart, one sheep, one lamb, one fowl, one dozen of capons, one boll of oats, with fodder, and 13s. 4d. for two bolls of dry multure. The charter is dated 16th February, 1562. Alexander Anderson, Burgess of Elgin, the son, sold the lands shortly after to George Dunbar, in Wester Alves, and Margaret Anderson, his wife, to be held from the Bishop on the same conditions as he himself held the same. This alienation was confirmed by charter from the superior. The Dunbars continued to possess Inchbrock until the close of the 17th century as a separate estate. I find George Dunbar was served and retoured as eldest son and nearest heir male of James Dunbar in these lands, holding feu of the Crown, as coming in place of the Bishop, on 27th February, 1694. This family of Dunbars seem then to have fallen down in the world, for Inchbrock was purchased at a judicial sale by Sir James Calder of Muirton, and conveyed by him thereafter to James Dunbar of Westfield, on 15th November, 1703. The property has since been united to Westfield, and has followed the fortune of the larger estate in its many changes which have since ensued.

Westfield was never Church land, and the earliest

accounts we have of the estate is that it belonged to the Earldom of Moray. Sir Alexander Dunbar, only son of James fifth Earl of Moray, by his wife, Isabel Innes, daughter of Sir Walter Innes of Innes, was unjustly deprived of the Earldom, on the ground that his mother was a second cousin of his father's, and so within the forbidden degrees under the canon law. His father died before a dispensation could be got from the Pope. His half-sister, Lady Elizabeth Dunbar, was married to Archibald Douglas, third son of James seventh Earl of Douglas, and, by the great interest his family then possessed, obtained the Earldom, which, however, he forfeited in a few years, by joining his brother's rebellion. Although Sir Alexander was deprived of the Earldom, he got from the Crown a large estate. He also got from Archibald Douglas Earl of Moray, and Elizabeth Dunbar, Countess thereof, a charter of the lands and Barony of Westfield, and other estates, in the year 1450. In this charter he is called brother of the Countess of Moray. In another charter from the Countess, in 1455, he is called Sheriff of the County, and her beloved brother. He had large estates besides Westfield. He had the lands of Carnousie, Conzie, Durris, Tarras, Belnageith, part of Fochabers, Clunies, Moyness, Clava, Golford, and others. He married Isabella, daughter of Alexander Sutherland of Duffus, and by her had six sons and one daughter—1st, Sir

James, his heir; 2d, Sir John, who married Margaret, second daughter of Patrick Dunbar of Cumnock and Mochrum; 3d, Alexander Dunbar of Conzie, of whom Dunbar of Mochrum is descended; 4th, Gavin Dunbar, Bishop of Aberdeen; 5th, David Dunbar of Durris; 6th, Patrick, Chancellor of Aberdeen. His daughter, Isabel, married Sir William Keith of Inverugie. From the above Sir James Dunbar, eldest son of Sir Alexander, first of Westfield, the estate descended in the male line to Ludovick Dunbar, who succeeded in 1721. He married Margaret, daughter of Ross of Braelangwell. He sold the heritable Sheriffship of Moray, which had been nearly 300 years in the family, to Charles Earl of Moray, and conveyed the estate to Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Dunbar, fifteenth laird of Westfield, by his wife, Margaret Calder, daughter of Sir James Calder of Muirton. He himself died without issue in the year 1744, and in him ended the whole male line of Sir James Dunbar of Westfield, eldest son of the first Sir Alexander Dunbar, Sheriff of Moray, who was only son of James Dunbar, fifth and last Earl of Moray of the name of Dunbar. Elizabeth Dunbar succeeded to the Estate of Westfield, and married Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs, by whom she had one daughter, Janet, heir of line of the ancient family of Westfield. She married Captain Thomas Dunbar of Grangehill, and had issue two sons and a



daughter.\* They sold the estate to Sir James Grant of Grant on 1st June, 1769. Sir James did not keep the property long, having sold it to Joseph Robertson, Merchant in London, on 17th June, 1774. Joseph Robertson sold it to Francis Russell, Advocate, 24th October, 1781. Francis Russell conveyed it to Mary Bannerman, his wife, 30th January, 1803. Mrs. Russell sold it to Thomas Sellar, Writer in Elgin, 2d May, 1808. Mr. Sellar died in 1816, and was succeeded by his only son, Mr. Patrick Sellar, who was served and retoured heir to his father, 16th February, 1818, and the Trustees of Mr. Patrick Sellar, after his death, sold it to Hugh Maclean, Esquire, now of Westfield, by disposition, dated the 5th, 6th, 12th, and 13th days of May, 1862. In less than a century the estate has changed proprietors no less than six times. When Mr. Thomas Sellar purchased the estate in 1808, it must have been in a very neglected and impoverished state, having been used by the three preceding proprietors principally for political purposes, and with no idea of improvement. He did a great deal during the short period he possessed it, and his son, Mr. Patrick Sellar, continued the improvements by draining, planting, and enclosing. An immense extent of

\* The family of Dunbar, until latterly, never resided at Westfield, but, being Sheriffs of the County, had their residence in the Castle of Forres.

hedges, with belts of wood, were planted, and the fields entirely remodelled, the small holdings done away with, and the estate put into four farms. Mr. Sellar kept the Mains Farm in his own hands until the time of his death, and his Trustees after him until the period of the sale to Mr. Maclean, so that it was then in the best possible condition, and highly farmed. The thorn hedges, however, owing to some peculiarity in the subsoil, have not succeeded so well as might have been expected, as they seldom do in Morayshire. During the seven years Mr. Maclean has had possession of the property, improvements have been carried on to a marvellous extent, and everything done for the estate that money, agricultural and scientific skill could devise. The drainage has been made perfect; steadings, on the most approved plans, erected; the mansion-house extended and improved; garden walls built; the hedges all put into the best possible order, and wire fences, of the best and most substantial description, put up in all directions where required. Roads have also been made of the most useful kind, and best materials, and kept in high order. Mr. Maclean has taken into his own hand about 380 acres of the estate, which he farms in the most approved and scientific manner, with all the latest improvements in machinery and implements. In short, the estate is a model one, and no property in Scotland can be in

better condition, or more highly improved. The only other farm on the estate is the large one, called Inchbrock, occupied by the heirs of Mr. James Robb, although it comprises much more land than was contained in that estate. It is well farmed, and Mr. Maclean has made very considerable improvements on it also. It is let at a rent of £500.

We should have wished to have entered more particularly into the state of the improvements made on Westfield, but, in a small work like the present, we have no space for any extended narrative, and leave the subject, with a recommendation to other proprietors to do as Mr. Maclean has done. Money cannot be better expended than in the permanent improvement of the country, and the person who makes "*two blades of grass grow where only one grew before*" is deserving of the highest respect and gratitude of his country.\*

Having now taken a survey of the estates on the north side of the hill, we cross over to the south side, beginning at the east end of the parish, with the Estate of Bishopmill.

\* Accounts of the improvements on the Estate of Westfield appeared in the *Banffshire Journal* of 21st June, 1864, and in the *Elgin Courant* of 24th of same month and year, both very interesting. The improvements were not then completed, and it is hoped one or other of these able writers may favour the public with an account of the completion of these works.

## BISHOPMILL.

THE small property of Bishopmill\* has been so mixed up latterly with the improved lands of Myreside, that it is now impossible to separate them. It was originally very small, comprising the ridge of land overlooking the Lossie, and extending only a little way back. It now forms a kind of semicircle, running back nearly three quarters of a mile between Deanshaugh at the east, and Morriston at the west.

It is probable a mill was erected on the Lossie here as early as the time when Bishop Bricius settled at Spynie, in the year 1203. When the Episcopal seat was fixed there, the convenience of a mill must have been a matter of great importance. The first particular mention of it, however, does not occur until the year 1393, when there seems to have been a small village there, perhaps a few houses. It is stated to be near the town of Elgin. In the rental of the Bishoprick, in 1565, the lands are let to six tenants, at the gross rent of four pounds, three quarters of a mart, three sheep, four dozen of capons, three lambs, three fowls, three bolls of oats, with

\* This estate seems to have been known in ancient times by the name of Frankoklaw.

fodder, nine bolls of dry multure, for grassum, and other services; a small croft at twenty-five shillings, six capons, one fowl, and 8s. 8d. of *mart silver*; four small houses, being the extent of the village, at twelve shillings, and twelve capons; the mill, with knaveship, and outsucken, at four pounds, one dozen capons, one pig, and the support of the mill. In the year 1566, Bishop Patrick Hepburn granted a charter of feu farm of the town and lands called "The Bischopis Mylne," with the corn mill, the lands called "The Acris," and four houses, called "The foure Cott Housis," in the same town, to James Innes of Drainie, and Catherine Gordon, his wife, in liferent, and Robert Innes, their son, and Helen Ross, his future spouse, in fee, with liberty of digging turfs or peats in the moor called "The Laverok Moss," *alias* "The Bischopis Moss,"—reserving to the Bishop, and all passing, the common road which goes from the Palace of Spynie to Elgin, and also the other road which goes by the cultivated land and the moor, towards "Bischoppis Mylne," near the hill called "Cuthilbyrnye Hill."\* In the following century we find Bishopmill in possession of Alexander Dunbar, son of Robert Dunbar of Burgie. He married a Margaret Ayton, but had no issue, and, dying in 1723, he left his estate to his nephew, John Dunbar

\* This name, "Cuthilbyrnye," appears to be now entirely lost. It would be difficult to say where this spot is.

of Burgie, Advocate, who died about the year 1750. His son, John Dunbar, sold the estate, with the Dean's House\* in Elgin, to James Robertson, Provost of Elgin. I find Mr. Robertson enrolled as a freeholder, under the title of "James Robertson of Bishopmill," in the list of freeholders of the County of Elgin for the year 1760. Mr. Robertson did not retain the estate long, having sold it to the sixth Earl of Findlater, prior to the year 1770. The property has continued in his Lordship's family ever since, with the exception of the mill and mill croft, which, for some time, belonged to Mr. James Miln, Banker in Elgin, but were acquired by the Earl again in the early part of the present century, and has lately been feued out, by the present proprietor, the Earl of Seafield, to Mr. John Allan, who carries on a large business at the mills in flour and meal.

Shortly after the Earl of Findlater purchased the estate, his Lordship planted a considerable extent of moor ground, belonging to Bishopmill and Myreside, with Scotch fir trees. These have since grown to maturity, and the soil, which was originally very

\* The Dean's House in Elgin, now called the North College, is the handsome residence of Alexander Robertson, Esquire, grandson of Mr. James Robertson, and has been lately renovated and embellished by him. It embraces within its grounds six of the old Cathedral manses, viz. :—Botary, Inverkeithny, Treasurer, Croy, Chancellor's, and Dean's Manses; is adorned with many fine old trees, gardens, and orchards, and has a pleasant sweep along the river bank.

poor, has been so improved and ameliorated, that it has now been converted into tolerably good arable land. Part of this improved land has been allotted to the villagers of Bishopmill, and part has been added to the farm of Newfield, where a good stead-  
ing of offices has been built, and the land well enclosed with substantial stone dykes, at least thirty years ago. Another good farm has been lately made out, partly on Bishopmill and partly on Myreside, by grubbing out the fir trees, and trenching the ground. Mr. Smith, the tenant, has done the work well—enclosing the ground with stone fences, and erecting a handsome steading, with suitable dwelling-house. He has got a lease of the land for thirty-eight years—the first nineteen years at a nominal rent, and for the remainder of the lease at a moderate yearly sum. This is a very great improvement, ably and carefully carried out.

In the year 1798, a village was laid off by the Earl of Findlater on the brow of the hill looking towards Elgin, and now part of the Parliamentary Burgh. I shall give a description of this village in a future part of this work, and therefore do not farther refer to it, except to mention that it has materially increased the value of the Estate of Bishopmill, tended to its improvement, and brought a very increased rental for its soil, great part of which is light and poor.

Old Statistical  
Account, vol.  
10, page 635.

To the eastward of Bishopmill is the small property of Deanshaugh, belonging to Mr. Longmore, Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh. I have great doubts, however, whether it is within the bounds of the Parish of Spynie, but rather in St. Andrew's.\* As, however, it is generally reckoned in Spynie, it may be described briefly. In the end of last century these subjects belonged to Mr. John Ritchie, Merchant in Elgin, who erected on the Lossie a mill for the manufactory of tobacco, a waulkmill, a flaxmill, and bleaching machinery. This trade was carried on with considerable success. After Mr. Ritchie's time, the property was sold to Mr. John Forsyth, Banker in Elgin, who left it to his only daughter, wife of the late Mr. Adam Longmore, of the Exchequer, and it now belongs to his son, Mr. Longmore, W.S. The manufactory of tobacco, flax, and bleaching, have, with the changes of the times, passed away, and the only work now carried on is a sawmill. Mr. Longmore has erected a very neat villa on the ground, and has planted a number of ornamental trees, with a variety of shrubs, and the place is kept in the greatest order and neatness by his present tenants.

\* The Parish of Elgin, perhaps, has the best claim to Deanshaugh, with the low lands adjoining, for it is perfectly apparent that at no very distant period the Lossie had flowed to the eastward of it, and that it was then embraced in the Cathedral grounds.



## MORRISTON.

THIS Estate was Church land, and belonged to the Bishop of Moray. It is bounded on the south by the Lossie, on the east by Bishopmill, on the north by Quarrelwood, and on the west by Sheriffmill. It is so blended now with the Earl of Fife's other lands that its ancient boundaries can hardly be known. It consists of a haugh, of considerable extent, lying along the Lossie, of a light gravelly soil, with a considerable extent of hill ground. On the slope extending from the fir plantations to the road passing to Bishopmill, this hill ground had probably, at some distant date, been improved from the moor. The dwelling-house is very pleasantly situated on a rising ground, near the river, a fine, dry, warm, and sheltered situation, having some young plantations, and a few old trees about it. The name of the property is written variously—"Murrastoun," "Morristoun," and "Murraystoun."\* The first notice we have of it is contained in a charter granted by David Bishop of Moray to William, the son of Adam, the son of Stephen, Burgess of Elgin, of the half davoch land

\* The property is also called Middlehaugh. Auchter Spynie, or Sheriffmill, was called Upperhaugh, and Burgh Briggs, Westerhaugh. (See Old Statistical Account, vol. 10, page 628).

of "Medilhalch," which lies between the land of Wthyrspyny (Sheriffmiln), on the one part, and the land of Frankoklaw (Bishopmiln), on the other part, on the north side of the water of "Lossyn." This charter is dated at Elgin, the 23d March, 1309, and the reddendo is four shillings annually, one-half payable at the feast of Pentecost, and the other half at the feast of Saint Martin, with other services, and the payment of the usual multure at the mill of Mallathy (supposed Bishopmill). The next charter is from William de Spyny, Bishop of Moray, without date, but supposed to be at or prior to the year 1400, in favour of Megota de Moravia, daughter of John de Moravia, proprietor of these lands, on her marriage with John de Dolas. It is probable that from this family of Moray, or de Moravia, that the name of Moraystoun had been given to the property. The estate was in the following century possessed by Innes of Crombie, as a vassal of the Bishop of Moray, and it is contained in the rental of the Bishoprick in 1565. We find a charter of confirmation by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, dated at the Palace of Spynie, 21st March, 1570, confirming a sale by Alexander Innes of Crommye, with consent of Isabella Forbes, his spouse, in favour of John Annand, Provost of the Burgh of Elgin, and Janet Cumming, his spouse, of the lands of "Murrastoun," which lie between the lands of Uchter Spynie,

now called "Scherefemyln," at the west, and the lands of "Frankoklaw"\* at the east, on the north side of Lossie, with the piece of land called Burrow Briggs, on the south side of Lossie. After the above description, the following words occur:—

"Reservand to me and my airs, ye haill hill callit  
 "the Hill of Murrastoun, as ye merche stanes sall  
 "be set in at ye end of the lang riggis descendand  
 "nort and sowt, except the quarrel thairof, and  
 "stances to be win yairin, quhilk I will to stand in  
 "commountie to ye said Jhone and his airs." The feu-duty payable to the Bishop is four pounds sixteen shillings. In the year 1606, when Episcopacy was restored in Scotland, the lands of Morriston seem, by some means, to have been recovered by Alexander Douglas, Bishop of Moray, and in the year 1609 conveyed to Alexander Douglas, his son, and Mary Innes, his spouse, along with Spynie and Burgh Briggs. From Alexander Douglas the estate passed to Gavin Douglas, perhaps his brother, who had a great deal of property in Elgin. John Douglas, his son, succeeded. I find John Douglas was served heir to his father, Gavin, in a great variety of burgh lands, before the Magistrates of Elgin, in 1654, and he was also served heir to his father, before the Sheriff of Elgin, in the half davoch land

Old Statistical  
 Account, vol.  
 10, page 627.

\* This name, Frankoklaw, is now entirely lost.

of Middlehaugh, or Morriston, on 28th December, 1655. On 23d October, 1665, John Douglas wadset these lands to Robert Martin, Writer in Edinburgh, for 8260 merks, and in 1668 he discharged the right of reversion, and Mr. Martin became absolute proprietor. His right was confirmed by charter from Murdo Mackenzie, Bishop of Moray, the superior, dated 22d October, 1672. Mr. Martin also acquired about the same time great part of the Douglas burgh lands, in and about Elgin.

Mr. Robert Martin was a very remarkable public man in his day, and, as little is now known of his history, I shall here endeavour to state what I have found out about him. He was the son of Robert Martin, Burgess of Elgin, and received a liberal education from his father, who seems to have been a person of some substance. The date of his birth may have been about the years 1615 or 1620. Being bred to the law, he went to Edinburgh in early life, and, after having finished his education, he commenced business there as a writer. He married a lady of the name of Jean Porterfield, well connected, and whose relations must have been influential. It is probable that by this marriage he acquired some fortune. Being a person of talents and very active business habits, he was early taken notice of, and attached himself to the extreme Presbyterian party, then in the ascendant, with whom he continued to

act faithfully, and with the utmost sincerity of purpose, until the close of his chequered life. With the leaders of that party, Johnston of Warriston, the Marquis of Argyll, and others of the same class, he was on terms of intimacy, and entrusted with all their secret plans. Through the influence of these leaders he was promoted to the important office of Clerk of the Court of Justiciary, a most difficult post in these days of unceasing trials for treason and crimes. He acquired a considerable estate, and was possessed in property, or wadset, not only of the lands of Morrison, but also Kirktoun of St. Andrew's, Easter and Wester Caldcots, part of Barflathills, Kirkhill, Aikenway, Collie, Whitewreath, salmon fishings on the Spey, with Baxter's Croft, and other lands in or near the Burgh of Elgin. He had also a right to Ladyhill from the Earl of Moray, and on the sunny side of that hill he erected his mansion-house, at the west end of the Burgh of Elgin, which, with gardens and stables, must have extended from Lady Lane downwards to near Auchry's old Bead-House. A very beautiful spot it must have been before the present ugly, dirty lanes and closes were erected on the ground. There are still some remains of the house of the Martin family to be seen, consisting of old foundations. Mr. Martin was an enthusiast, and an ardent lover of civil and religious liberty. Up to the year 1660,

when the restoration of the Stuart family to the throne took place, he had liberty to act as he thought best, according to his own views, and, no doubt, discharged the duties of his office well. But when the Episcopal party got the entire ascendancy, in 1662, and the Presbyterian side entirely put down, he must have become a marked man, and deprived of his public situations. After this period he spent his time partly in Edinburgh, attending to his own business, and to the interests of his party in Church and State, and he was also a good deal at his residence in Elgin, looking after his properties in the North. He was a great friend of Lord Brodie, and was occasionally at Brodie House. In the diary of Lord Brodie we find many notices of Mr. Martin, of which we shall extract a few—

“1671, *May* 17.—I heard that Torwoodlie was sickli of an excess. I did visit him at Leathen. He and Mr. Rt. Martin, and his wyf, cam heir with me at night.”

“1672, *September* 28.—Mr. R. Martin, and divers others, cam heir at night. I heard of the Act that a master in his famili should not pray, if ther wer mor than 4 strangers in it.”

“1673, *April* 17.—Mr. Robert Martin cam from Edinburgh, and told me the Parliament of England was rais'd quhen they wer passing some Acts.”

“*April* 26.—Mr. Robert Martin, at Elgin, told me that Cromarti said to Robert Douglas that I had been seiking to be on the Session again, and that the President hinderd. I leav my vindication to God. He knows how fals it is, and that it never entered in my mind to desir it. Lord! look to thes men that delight in lies, and mak them asham’d.”

“*September* 18.—This day I ended my shearing. Efternoon I went to Greiship to sie in what cace ther corns wer in, and met Mr. Rob. Martin. I heard from him, and from my brother, the trouble that honest peopl wer in at Edinburgh. That Mr. Andro Wedderburn was imprisoned for having mor than 5 at his famili exercis.”

“*September* 22.—Mr. Rob. Martin went thenc towards the South. I writ by him to my brother, anent Laitherdail.”

“1676, *May* 26.—I saw a lyn from Mr. R. Martin, to my brother, which informed him that I was ill reported at Court, and my famili greatli taken notic of, and that for conventicles highli.”

“1679, *August* 11.—Grange cam heir, and told me they had not made the address for the indulgenc, becaus others had com no speid. Ther was danger in seiking it. They had sent up Mr. Martin, and Calder, and Innes staid on advertizement and incouragement.”

I have no means of knowing whether Mr. Martin was in any way connected with the fight at Pentland in 1666, but he was accused of being concerned with the rising which terminated in the skirmish at Drumclog, in 1679, and the unfortunate battle at Bothwell Bridge, the same year. This may be doubtful, for he seems to have been long a cautious man, and to have rather endeavoured to obtain the good of the country by constitutional means, and only in the end driven with his party to desperate measures; but it was the fate of the Royal House of Stuart to go from bad to worse, until they ruined their own cause and family entirely, and lost the throne and kingdom. In the diary of James Brodie of Brodie we have the following notices:—

“1680, *September* 1.—Mr. Robert Martin was heir with us this night. I heard of their forwardness anent absents from the host. It did not appear that I will be frie of troubl. Lord fit me for it.”

“1681, *June* 29.—Had letters from my uncl, Robert Martin, Polwart, &c.”

“1682, *April* 12.—I was dispatching letters South to my aunt, to William, and Robert Martin.”

“*May* 8.—I was writing letters to Edinburgh, to Mr. Martin.”



In the year 1683, Mr. Martin seems to have been much engaged in the conspiracy between Lords Russell and Essex, the Duke of Monmouth, Algernon Sidney, and others, in England, and the Marquis of Argyll and other malcontents in Scotland, for altering the succession to the throne. In the same year occurred the Rye House plot in England, which had for its object the assassination of King Charles II., and his brother, James Duke of York. Mr. Martin was accused of being concerned in this business, and, it is believed, very unjustly; but it is quite true that he continued actively employed as a commissioner between England and Scotland, and did all in his power to promote a rebellion in both countries, with a view to setting aside James Duke of York from the throne—a cause for which Lord Russell, and Algernon Sidney, in England, and Robert Baillie of Jerviswood, and many others, suffered death in the year 1684. In the autumn of that year, Mr. Martin escaped to Holland, being in danger of his life by continuing in Britain. He was reported to have died at that time. As early as the month of June, 1684, there is the following entry in the diary of James Brodie of Brodie:—  
“I heard formerly of the death of Mr. Robert Martin, and som other passages of Providence anent his children.” This entry was, however, premature.

Brodie Diary,  
page 491.

King Charles II. died in February, 1685. Mr.

Martin was then in Holland; and in the spring of that year the Earl of Argyll made preparations for his ill-fated expedition to Scotland, which sailed on the 1st May, and ended in ruin and defeat, and Argyll's being brought to the block. On the 17th March, that year, Mr. Martin, having been frequently cited to appear before the Court of Justiciary, and, failing to do so, to answer for his being accessory to the Rebellion in 1679, and the Rye House plot in 1683, was, with others, declared a rebel and fugitive, but the Act was not to be extracted until 16th May following. Mr. Martin died either in April or May, in Holland, being exhausted by weakness, disease, and increasing years, and the troubles of these distracted times. Sir John Lauder has the following entry in his notes:—"Mr. Robert Martin, plotter, is dead before 22d May, 1685." Wodrow writes as follows, under date 22d May, 1685:—"That same " day, in the afternoon, the ditty read and found " relevant against Polwart (Sir George Hume), Tor- " woodlee (Pringle), and the heirs of Mr. Robert " Martin. The Register read the Act of Parliament " relating to forfeiture for treason in the predecessor. " As to the heirs of Mr. Martin, the probation was " voted good, and sentence passed, at which the " Bishops renewed their motion, and did not vote, " and doom was pronounced as in the forenoon."

Wodrow's His-  
tory, Glasgow  
edition, vol. 4,  
page 230.

Fountainhall's  
Notes, quarto  
edition, p. 131.

Wodrow, vol. 4,  
pp. 276 and 277.

The same sentence is recorded by Fountainhall, on the same date.\* Fountainhall,  
page 131.

We may place Mr. Martin in the same category with Russell, Sidney, Baillie, and the Earl of Argyll. Although in humble life he was their coadjutor; and, had he been taken, he would assuredly have perished on the scaffold. He died from the effects of toil, weariness, and incessant labour, in the cause for which they suffered, and we may therefore safely pronounce him a martyr for the rights and liberties of his country.

Mr. Martin's estates were all forfeited to the Crown; but his wife, Jean Porterfield, had the influence, through her friends, to procure a gift of the lands of Morriston in favour of herself, which is dated at Whitehall, the 9th November, 1686.

By the 18th Act of William and Mary, the forfeiture was rescinded, and John Martin, the eldest son of the family, made up a title as heir to his father, by retour dated 1st December, 1691. John Martin would appear to have executed a conveyance in Acts of Scots  
Parliament,  
vol. 3, edition  
1731, page 300;  
First  
Parliament of  
William and  
Mary, cap. 18.  
Abbreviatio  
Retornatarum,  
vol. 1, head  
Elgin and  
Forres.

\* Sir John Lauder's very curious notes are the best and most impartial account of these distracted times. They commence in 1680, and end in 1701, and, being the testimony of an eyewitness, are particularly valuable. If any person is inclined to look back to these times, as the good old days of the Royal Stuarts, they will find nothing but hanging, quartering, tortures, and every evil which a high-handed arbitrary Government could inflict on a down-trodden nation.

favour of his mother in 1691, and probably died in 1692. Mrs. Martin, his mother, was infested in 1696, and was a party to a contract of marriage between her son, William Martin, Writer in Edinburgh, and Margaret Lockhart, only daughter of Mungo Lockhart of Harwood, dated 4th March, 1704. Mrs. Martin, by that deed, disposes to her son the lands of Aikenway, with salmon fishing; the lands of Collie, Hillfold, and Whitewreath; the lands of Kirktown of St. Andrew's, Kirkhill, Easter and Wester Calcots, Middlehaugh, or Morrison, Lady Hill, crofts and roods of land about Elgin; and Margaret Lockhart disposes to William Martin, and herself, and the longest liver of them, in liferent, and the heirs male or female of the marriage, the lands of Little Harwood,\* Cowhill, and Dybog. The Martin family were not prosperous. By the year 1750, the most of their lands had been sold, and what remained, viz., the Estate of Harwood, in the West of Scotland, and Morrison, with part of Barflathills, Baxter's Croft, and some other crofts about Elgin, were drowned in debt, and a process of ranking and sale having been brought by the creditors, the lands were sold by the Court of Session, and Morrison was purchased by William Earl of Fife, in the year 1756. In his Lordship's

\* Harwood is said to be in the West of Scotland.

family the property has remained ever since, and makes an excellent addition to their lands in this parish, having a fine frontage towards Elgin.

At the time of the sale there were six small tenants on the estate, paying in cumulo a rent of seventy-six bolls of grain and seventy-four fowls.

They were—

	BOLLS.	FOWLS.
John Spence, . . .	14	14
David Forsyth, . . .	14	14
John Russell, . . .	20	20
Do.,* . . .	12	12
James Naughty, . . .	2	0
James Duncan, . . .	14	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	76	74

In the year 1764, the small tenants were removed, and the farm was let for nineteen years to Mr. William Donaldson. He was a descendant of the family of Macdonald of Glencoe. His grandfather escaped from the massacre in 1692, and, having settled in the lowlands, changed his name to Donaldson. Mr. William Donaldson was three times

\* John Russell, tenant at Morriston, was the father of the Rev. John Russell, minister, first at Kilmarnock, and afterwards of Stirling, who has been immortalised by the graphic pens of Robert Burns and Hugh Miller—a good man, but having very marked peculiarities of character. He was also the grandfather of our townsman, Major-General John Alves, a monument to whose memory has been lately erected in the west entrance hall of the Parish Church of Elgin.

married, and had a very large family. His first wife was Margaret Tod. Among other children by her he had a son, William, who married, in 1776, Sarah Shaw, daughter of the Rev. Lauchlan Shaw, Minister of Elgin, and historian of the Province of Moray. By her he had a numerous family, of whom one son, Mr. Lauchlan Donaldson, late Mayor of St. John, New Brunswick, born 1786, is still alive, at the age of eighty-three, and last year visited his native land, hale, active, and vigorous, and left in Elgin various substantial marks of his regard for the place of his birth. By his third marriage, with Jane Allan, Mr. William Donaldson had a daughter, who was married to the late Colonel Robert Ray, Bishopmill. Mr. Donaldson's lease expired in 1783, and the farm was taken by Mr. James Duncan. Both in Mr. Donaldson's and Mr. Duncan's time, it was principally worked as a dairy farm, and to good account, being quite in the proximity of Elgin, and more connected with the town then than now, there being a road across the Lossie, by a shallow ford, near Mr. Grigor's hedge, for carts, and a slight foot-bridge for passengers, which united both sides of the river. Mr. Duncan occupied the farm till his death, some time in the early part of the present century. He had an only daughter, Margaret Duncan, a young woman of great beauty. She had many wooers, and eventually married James Rose of Geddes and

Flemington, heir male of the family of Kilravock, by whom she had three daughters. The eldest, Margaret, was married to the late Mr. Hugh Watson of Keillor, the eminent agriculturist, and great judge of stock; the second daughter, Elizabeth, married a relative of Mr. Watson's, went abroad with her husband, and died there; the third, Mary, died unmarried. After Mr. Duncan's death, the farm was taken by the late Mr. John Lawson, Oldmills, in whose time the fields were all enclosed with substantial stone fences. Mr. Alexander Lawson now occupies it, but, from its being so adjacent to his farm of Oldmills, he works it from thence, and the steading at Morriston has been almost entirely removed. The dwelling-house, although old, has always been kept in good repair, and, from its pleasant situation, with lawn and well-stocked garden, has always commanded very respectable tenants.

On the east end of the property of Morriston, the Earl of Fife, about the year 1819, feued out some acres of ground, extending from the banks of the Lossie northwards, on the march of the Bishopmill Estate, to the late Admiral Archibald Duff, on which the Admiral erected a large substantial dwelling-house, looking towards Elgin, with commodious offices and stabling. The situation is a very pleasant one, dry and healthy, with a very extensive view, having the river Lossie for a boundary at the

south. With a moderate outlay, it might be made very beautiful, having a fine slope to the river, but its capabilities have been neglected. It now belongs to Admiral Duff's successor, Mr. Gordon Duff of Drummuir.

### BURGH BRIGGS.

THIS property, called also Westerhaugh, is the only part of the Parish of Spynie situated on the south side of the River Lossie. It consists of a fine piece of flat land, of rich alluvial soil. From its situation, close to the town of Elgin, it is of great value, but not adapted to building purposes, on account of its low position, being frequently flooded by the river. Tradition states that it was formerly on the north bank of the Lossie, but I have seen no record of this, and if so, it must have been prior to the year 1570, for it is then stated, in a charter of Bishop Hepburn, to be on the south side of the river, and is described as follows:—"Pecia terræ vocata Burrowbriggis ex australi parte de Lossin." This land, with the adjoining Haugh of Morriston, and part of Oldmills, has all the appearance of being the bed of a lake at some remote period; indeed, until lately, there was much water on it, and several small lakes, and



it is only by the more perfect drainage of a recent date that it has been kept clear of water. The word "briggs" means ridges of land, and the name evidently arises from the fact that at one time the high parts of the land had been alone cultivated, with intervals of water between. It was formerly connected with the Estate of Morriston, and considered one property up to the time when Morriston was sold to Robert Martin, since which time they have been separated. Prior to the Reformation, the land was held in feu from the Bishop of Moray by Innes of Crombie, and, about the year 1570, was sold to John Annand, Provost of Elgin. The sale was confirmed by Bishop Hepburn, by charter granted that year. In 1606 the property was re-acquired by Bishop Alexander Douglas (when Episcopacy was restored), and in 1609 granted by him to his son, Alexander Douglas of Spynie. In the possession of the Douglas family it remained until the close of the 17th century, when it was acquired by John Sutherland of Greenhall, a cadet of the family of Duffus. He was succeeded by his son, Lawrence Sutherland, who sold Burgh Briggs, along with Myreside, to the Earl of Findlater, about or shortly after the year 1760, and it now belongs to his Lordship's successors, the Earls of Seafield. The old divisions between the Parishes of Elgin and Spynie being totally obliterated, the lands of Burgh

Registrum  
Moravieuse,  
page 414.

Old Statistical  
Account, vol.  
10, page 627.

Briggs are now united with the ground pertaining to the Blackfriars' Monastery, the history of which is very obscure, but it seems to have stood upon a higher part of the ground, in the Parish of Elgin, and the building was probably erected as early as the time of King Alexander II. No remnant of it now remains, and of the form and size of the building nothing is known. There is some appearance of an old run of the river in a direct line eastward from Mr. Grigor's ground, at Blackfriars' Haugh, and turning gradually a little south till it reaches where the Episcopal Chapel now stands. If this is correct, and tradition points to it, some part of Mr. Grigor's ground must be in the Parish of Spynie, although his titles bear that Blackfriars' Haugh is entirely in Elgin. The wording of titles is, however, no correct criterion, and we may therefore, with justice, claim the north-east angle of his property, with the offices, and the "weeping elm," reckoned one of the finest specimens of its kind in the kingdom, with the thriving *Wellingtonia* plant, to belong to the Parish of Spynie—the line of the river passing near the north end of Mr. Grigor's house. This is the tradition of the country, but, as I have already stated, I have seen no written record on the subject. The river has changed its course considerably during the last forty-five years. In Clark's view of Elgin, published in 1824, the river, after leaving Black-

friars' Haugh, ran a little more westerly than now, and there was a shallow ford in the stream between Burgh Briggs and Morriston, and a small island in the centre, while the eastern bank formed a large green. The river has gradually forced itself easterly, and the green on that side has, in great part, been carried away, while the island is now on the west bank, and has been planted by the Earl of Fife, although the old water course is still quite distinguishable. The river, at this point, instead of being fordable, is now very deep, and can only be passed by the handsome suspension foot-bridge, which was erected a few years ago by public subscription. For carriages and horses there is now no passage here.

The land of Burgh Briggs has been much improved by drainage, and is now comparatively dry to what it was some years ago; but, to perfect the drainage, the fall would require to be carried through the Grant Lodge park, and allowed to pass into the river near Deanshaugh. If such an improvement were made, it would increase the value of the land much.

About the year 1820, a part of this property, on the west side, but almost entirely in the Parish of Elgin, was given off to the two ministers of Elgin for a glebe, in lieu of the former glebe at Harvey's Haugh, the latter being more convenient for the Earl of Seafield, as adjacent to his house of Grant

Lodge. There was then a fine row of old ash trees on the west side, which Lord Seafield cut and sold before making over the land to the clergymen. One solitary tree, on his own ground, was reserved, but that one, as if wretched in its solitude, soon sickened and died. The land has, for some time, been well farmed by its present tenant, Mr. William Culbard, who, having an unlimited command of manure, raises very rich crops on the kindly soil.

Before closing these remarks, we may state that the Earl of Seafield, about fifteen years since, gave off about two acres of ground on the east end of Burgh Briggs, as a recreation ground to the inhabitants of Elgin, in lieu of a right of foot-path which the people of the town formerly had at the back of Grant Lodge garden. This small park is used principally as a cricket green for the young men of the town, and for other amusements, and has also a pleasant footpath leading to the river, and is found very convenient and useful, and conducive to the health of the town's people.

## SHERIFFMILL.

THE lands of Sheriffmill are beautifully situated, having the Lossie for their boundary at the east and south, Aldroughty on the west, and the fine oak forest at the north, sheltering it from the cold northern blasts. It has a light gravelly but kindly soil, and, with abundance of summer showers, it produces good crops of all kinds of grain. The old name of the property is Auchter or Uchter Spynie, and it has also been called Upperhaugh. The first notice we have of this property is contained in a grant from Andrew Bishop of Moray, to Walter de Moravia, Lord of Duffus,\* of a site for a mill on the Lossie, dated the 6th of the Ides of October, 1237. The words of the charter are—“Dedisse et concessisse et hae carta nostra confirmasse Waltero de Moravia, et heredibus suis, unum situm Molendini super Lossy, in terra nostra de Uchterspyny.” The mill was accordingly erected by the family of de Moravia, and until nearly our own time continued a

Registrum  
Moraviense,  
page 133.

\* The descendants of the family of Moravia are still the highest in rank in Scotland. Among others, are the ducal houses of Sutherland, Athole, Hamilton, and Buccleuch, and the late Dukes of Douglas and Queensberry, and many nobles of less rank.

Registrum  
Moravieuse,  
page 145.

separate estate from the lands, as we shall have occasion to show hereafter. The mill is also mentioned in a charter by Archibald Bishop of Moray, to William de Fedreth, and Dame Christiana de Moravia, his wife, who had rights to it, as proprietors of the third of Duffus. This charter is dated at Kinneddar, in Moray, on the Sabbath day next before the feast of All Saints, in the year 1294. With regard to the lands. The earliest notice of the lands is contained in a charter by David Bishop of Moray, dated at Elgin the 23d March, 1309, in favour of William, the son of Adam, the son of Stephen, Burgess of Elgin, whereby he confirms to him the whole land of Wtyrspyny, in excambion for the lands of Qwytford and Innerlothy\*, the mill of Innerlothy and Milton, but reserving the site of the mill, which is called the mill of the Sheriff of Elgin, upon the water of Lossyn. This is the first notice of the name Sherifmill, which may have arisen from the family of de Moravia being Sheriffs of the shire of Elgin, and of their successors, the Cheynes, being Sheriffs of the shire of Banff. In a charter by Bishop Hepburn, in 1570, the lands get the name of Uchterspynie, but are there said to be now called "Scherefemyln." In the rental of the Bishoprick, in 1565, the pro-

\* The lands above referred to are probably Whitefield and Inverlochty. If there was a mill at Inverlochty, the fall of water in these days must have been much greater than now.

prietor, or vassal, is called "Alexander Urquhard," Provost of Forres, perhaps Urquhart of Burdsyards. In the year 1639, Sheriffmill was purchased by Thomas Calder, Merchant in Elgin, a descendant of Calder of Assuanlie, a cadet of the house of Calder. He was Provost of Elgin in 1665 and 1669. He was succeeded by his son, Sir James Calder, who acquired the Estate of Muirton, in Kinloss Parish, and who was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia, in 1686. Either he or his father erected the fine old turreted mansion in the High Street of Elgin, exactly where North Street and the Assembly Rooms now stand, which, with its extensive gardens behind, must have been a very handsome residence.

Sir James Calder, and William King of Newmiln, carried on a very large foreign trade from the port of Findhorn, exporting barley, malt, hides, tallow, cured beef, salmon, and other commodities, and importing wines, brandy, tobacco, sugar, spices, dried fruits, and various other articles, in return. The business must have been a large one, and the export of malt, in particular, was great, previous to the union with England. Sir James Calder was succeeded by his son, Sir Thomas, who married, in 1711, a daughter of Sir John Scott of Ancrum, by whom he had a family. His father had left the estate much embarrassed, and Sir Thomas was unable to keep it. William Duff of Dipple, father of William first Earl

of Fife, acquired the estate in the beginning of last century, and it still continues the property of the Earl of Fife. The mill of Sheriffmill has gone through many more changes. Being a part of the Estate of Duffus, on the failure of the family of de Moravia, it fell, in the proportion of two-thirds, to Reginald Cheyne, and one-third to William de Fedderet. In the end of the 15th century, the proprietors of the mill were—the Earl Marischal, Douglas of Pittendreich, and Sutherland of Duffus. In 1631, Earl Marischal sold his third to James Sutherland, Tutor of Duffus, and in 1659 Alexander Lord Duffus purchased from Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstown, the successor of Douglas of Pittendreich, another third, so that the whole mill and mill lands then belonged to the Duffus family, and continued in their possession until 1707, when, with the rest of the Duffus Estate, they were sold to Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton. His successor, Archibald Dunbar of Newton, sold the mill to William Lord Braco, in 1740, who settled it upon Arthur Duff of Orton, his youngest son. The late Sir Archibald Dunbar re-purchased the mill formerly pertaining to the Duffus Estate, from Mr. Arthur Duff, about the end of last century, and sold it to the late James Earl of Fife, on 22d June, 1818. The mill and adjoining estate are, since that date, one united property, belonging to the Fife family.



In the latter part of last century, the farm of Sheriffmill was occupied by James Walker, Doctor of Medicine, a very eccentric person, who had been a practitioner in Elgin of the old school. He had married the dowager Lady Westfield, and settled at Sheriffmill. His mode of farming was to keep the land exceedingly clean, to drill the crops, and use no manure. In the Old Statistical Account of the parish, we find the following statement regarding Dr. Walker's farming:—"It will not be deemed improper  
 " to take notice of the cultivation of the farm of  
 " Sheriffmill, rented by James Walker, Esq., M.D.  
 " This gentleman, in the early part of his life,  
 " entered, with all the ardour of enthusiasm, into  
 " the horse-hoeing husbandry, on the plan of JETHRO  
 " TULL, in which he has ever since persevered with  
 " unfailing steadiness, raising crops of wheat, barley,  
 " and beans, without a particle of dung, always fol-  
 " lowing the intervals (about three feet) for each suc-  
 " ceeding crop, and thus completely demonstrating  
 " the effect of cultivation without the use of manure.  
 " Although every operation has been performed with  
 " the nicest accuracy, and in its proper season, and  
 " though the soil of Sheriffmill seems to be well  
 " calculated for this kind of husbandry, being light  
 " and sandy, yet the result has not been such as to  
 " encourage imitation. The corn is indeed superior  
 " in quality to any in the country, but the quantity,

Old Statistical  
 Account, vol.  
 10, page 631.

“ by the acre, much less than is raised in the broad-  
“ cast way, on the same kind of soil, well ploughed  
“ and manured.”

Dr. Walker died about the end of last century, or beginning of the present one, and was interred in the Elgin Cathedral, not far from the west gate, on the right hand side of the entry. His tombstone was very small, with the simple words, “James Walker, M.D.,” on it. The stone has been removed, and some other occupant has seized the ground, and so the worthy doctor has now nothing to mark where his ashes were laid. Since his time, more than one tenant has possessed the farm. Latterly it has been occupied, along with the mill, by the late Mr. John Lawson, and now by his son, Mr. Alexander Lawson. By the late Mr. Lawson the farm has been entirely enclosed with substantial stone dykes, and laid off in neat and regular fields. The land is now laboured from the adjoining farm of Oldmills, and the steading here is not required. The old farm-house, the mansion of the estate, was long occupied by respectable tenants. The last of them was the late Mr. James Mellis, long tenant of Spynie, who died here some years ago, at a very advanced period of life. Since his death the venerable dwelling has been entirely removed, and all vestiges of it carried away.

On the west end of the Estate of Sheriffmill, and not far by the road from the lower mill, although,

by the windings of the river, at a considerable distance, for the stream here takes a most tortuous course, stands Scroggiemill. It is only an oatmeal mill. It is well situated, with a great command of water, but seems now to be of little use or value. I have not found out when this building was erected. It has no appearance of any great antiquity, and perhaps is not older than the early part of last century. It was likely built by the Earl of Fife, for the accommodation of his tenants, before he acquired Sheriffmill. The removal of this mill would be a great improvement to the country. On the bank, above the mill, there are beautiful situations for small villas. The ground looks due south, warm, and sunny; protected from the north winds by the Quarrywood plantations, and having a delightful view of the windings of the river. It is wonderful that such pleasant sites have not long since been eagerly purchased, or taken on feu.

## ALDROUGHTY.

THIS is the most westerly Estate in the parish, being bounded partly by the Lossie, and partly by the lands of Inverlochty and Mosstowie, at the south, Sheriffmill at the east, Quarrelwood at the north, and the Parish of Alves at the west. It consists of a long narrow field, extending along the river, at the east side, of light sandy land. At the west side the land is of a rich alluvial soil, and bears excellent crops, but liable to be flooded in wet weather. The name Aldroughty, or, as it was written of old, "Aldrochty," is said to mean the mischievous burn. This is not very applicable to its present state, for there is now no burn here; but it may have meant the Lossie, which, in ancient times, running on a higher level, and with a stronger current, may have both flooded the lands, and cut its banks more than now, or the water of Lochty, now entering the Lossie farther up, may have, in days of old, done so here, or some of the Mosstowie burns may have then terminated their course at this spot. In short, with so many changes, it is useless to conjecture what the origin or cause of the name may be. The house of Aldroughty is pleasantly situated, on a high bank

above the river, and is a conspicuous object from a considerable distance.

This estate was Church land, and part of the Bishoprick of Moray. It seems, however, to have been early feued out, and in the 14th century was held of the Bishop by a family of the name of Sibbald. An inquisition was held at Bishopmiln, on the penult day of August, 1393, before the Bishop, and a jury of sixteen, among whom we find the names of Sir Robert Chisholm, John de Dolles of that ilk, and Alexander Innes of Innes, by which it was found that Robert Sibbald died vest, and seised, as of fee, in the lands of Aldroughty, with the pertinents. The Bishop must, however, have afterwards resumed possession of this estate, for I find that Bishop Patrick Hepburn, with consent of the Chapter, on the last day of March, 1554, granted an assedation of "Meikle Innerlochtie and Auldrochtie," in favour of David and Thomas Hepburn, in liferent, for payment of £4 13s. 4d. yearly, in money, besides grain and other rents. After the Reformation, this property, with many others, was conveyed to James Earl of Moray, Regent of Scotland, by Bishop Patrick Hepburn, by which he secured his own comfort and safety, and a right to dispose of the remaining lands of the diocese as he thought fit. In a charter of feu farm and *novo damus*, granted by Alexander Douglas, Bishop of

Moray, in favour of James Earl of Moray, Lord Doune and Abernethie, about the year 1606, we find, among a long list of estates, the lands of Auldrochtie thereby conveyed, the feu-duty payable annually being £4 13s. 4d. of money, three quarters of a mart, two sheep, two lambs, two geese, twelve capons, two bolls of oats with fodder, three bolls of barley for dry multure, and £1 11s. 1½d. for grassum, every three years. About half a century after this, Aldroughty seems to have come into possession of Lord Duffus's family, perhaps in the year 1653, when Lord Duffus purchased Ardgay and other lands from the Earl of Moray. In the latter part of the 17th century it was in possession (along with Mosstowie, which it joins), of the Honourable William Sutherland of Roscommon,\* third son of James second Lord Duffus. This gentleman married, in the year 1702, Helen Duff, eldest daughter of William Duff of Dipple, and sister of William Earl of Fife. He was an imprudent man, like his father, and most of the family. He joined the Rebellion in 1715, and his estates were forfeited. Previous to this time he was largely indebted to his father-in-law, Dipple. I find the following securities granted:

\* This place, Roscommon, appears to be lost, but it was probably some part of the Estate of Roseisle, then belonging to Lord Duffus, which he conveyed to his third son.

1. Heritable bond, for £1800 Scots money, by William Sutherland, to William Duff of Dipple, on the lands of Aldroughty, dated 19th January, 1710.
2. Heritable bond of relief, for 5300 merks, dated 10th May, 1711.
3. Heritable bond in the lands of Aldroughty and Mosstowie, for £14,000 Scots, dated 8th January, 1714.

On these securities Dipple was infest, and, as early as the year 1713, had entered on possession of the estates, and drawn the rents. I have now before me a rental of Mosstowie, contained in an account between Duff of Dipple and James Anderson of Linkwood, Commissary Clerk of Moray, his factor and agent, to which the following note is attached:—“The rents of Oldroughtie, for 1713 and 1714, were payed to James Anderson, and discharged by Diple.” After the Rebellion of 1715, we hear little more of the Honourable William Sutherland. He must have left the country, and, if he did return, it was as a ruined, broken-hearted man. There is a tradition that he was harshly treated by his father-in-law, and there is an old rhyme, which I have heard repeated by a friend, long since dead, whose knowledge of ancient times exceeded that of any other I ever knew. I give it from memory—

Aldroghty\* will get his winding sheet,  
 And Braco† will get nae mair;  
 Better sit at hame at your ain fireside,  
 Than greet and gather gear.

Mr. Sutherland seems to have died shortly after this time, and left no family. His widow, Helen Duff, better known by the name of Lady Roscommon, was well cared for by her father, and by her brother, William Lord Braco, afterwards Earl of Fife. She had the mansion-house or Castle of Quarrelwood for her residence, and a suitable allowance from her husband's estate, and was much respected. From what tradition reports of her, she had much of the strong sense of her father's family. She was alive in 1736, and may have lived many years after that time. After her death the Castle of Quarrelwood was permitted to go to decay, and was at last converted into a quarry, its materials being used for erection of farm-houses and other buildings. The foundations were only finally removed about thirty years ago.

Duff of Dipple, having large securities on Aldroghty and Mosstowie, claimed, from the Commissioners of the forfeited estates, to be put in possession

\* Aldroghty is meant to represent Mr. Sutherland.

† Braco is intended for Duff of Dipple, who succeeded as heir of entail to his nephew, William Duff of Braco, in 1719, and himself died in 1722.



of these properties, under the deeds which he held from his son-in-law, William Sutherland, and I find special instructions given by him to his agent, Mr. Ludovick Brodie, Writer to the Signet, to that effect, on 4th June, 1717. Dipple made good his rights, and got possession of both Mosstowie and Aldroughty, which continue to be the property of his descendant, the Earl of Fife, to the present day.

Mr. Shaw, in his History of Moray, states that Aldroughty, for generations, belonged to a family of the name of NAIRN. After the most anxious search, I can find not the least trace of such a family, and, if there was, they must have been only tenants. A family of the name of Hepburn had Aldroughty, either as tenants or feuars, under the Bishops and Earl of Moray, during the end of the 16th and part of the 17th century. They were also proprietors of the adjoining lands of Inverlochty, of the lands of Tearie, in Dyke, and part of Birnie. They were illegitimate descendants of Bishop Patrick Hepburn. The male part of this family eventually settled in the south of Scotland; but in the female line they have still many representatives in the North. They were respectable people, and attained a considerable position in the country. Eventually Inverlochty, as well as Aldroughty, was acquired by the Duff family.

In the latter part of last century, the farm of Aldroughty was tenanted by Mr. Alexander Donald-

son, the eldest son of Mr. William Donaldson, at Morriston. He married a sister of the late Mr. John Lawson, at Oldmills, and had three sons and a daughter, all dead long since. In the present century it has been occupied by Mr. William Murdoch, who had been in Calcutta. He left it in the year 1829. It was then tenanted by Mr. George Taylor, who erected the present handsome house, at a very considerable expense; planted trees and shrubberies, and laid off a fine early garden, of excellent soil, sloping pleasantly to the river, of which we have many agreeable recollections in by-gone days. Mr. Taylor gave up the farm in 1841, and it was taken by Mr. William Turnbull, who possessed it until 1864, when he died. Mr. Turnbull, although not a native of the parish, had spent the years of his boyhood and youth there, under care of his relative, the Rev. Alexander Brown, minister of Spynie, and was much attached to it. He was educated for a surgeon, and went into the service of the East India Company. After serving his full time in India, he returned to his native land, in vigorous health, but for some years had no settled home. He eventually took up his abode at Aldroughty, where he spent the last thirteen years of his life. He was an excellent scholar, a great reader, and kept himself well informed in the best literature and the new publications of the day.

He was a lively, pleasant person, social in his habits, enjoyed the society of his friends, and was very hospitable; in short, a fine specimen of the East India gentleman of the old school, most of whom have now passed away. The farm is now tenanted by Mr. George Leslie, Sheriff-Clerk of Elginshire, who keeps it in great order and high condition, and has, at considerable expense, and with great skill, completed the drainage.

We have stated before that the house is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Lossie, which, being dammed up by the mill of Scroggiemill, immediately adjoining Aldroughty, gives the river the appearance of an extensive lake. It is indeed a very beautiful sheet of water, and, having such a fine stretch of woodland all along the north side of it, no more pleasant spot can be found in the country. It has all the advantage of being near the town of Elgin, while, at the same time, it is quite secluded from it, and it forms a most romantic, retired residence. Up to the year 1830, the old road from Elgin to Forres passed at the back of Aldroughty, and not only cut up the fields, but brought a number of stragglers to the place. The shutting up of this useless road has been a great advantage, and has added to the beauty and seclusion of the place.

There is a small retired farm immediately to the westward of Aldroughty, situated in an opening of

the wood, at the foot of the Knock of Alves. It is a very pretty retired spot. According to the Ordnance Survey, this is now reckoned in the Parish of Spynie, but I have great doubts whether it should not be in the Parish of Alves. I believe the Ordnance Surveyors have fixed on the Burghead turnpike as the boundary between Spynie and Alves, and it no doubt would prove a most convenient division; but this would throw a part of the Estate of Newton into Spynie, which is quite incorrect, the whole of Newton being in Alves; while it would, lower down, throw a small portion of Westfield, which crosses the Burghead road at one point, into Alves Parish, and this also would be incorrect, Westfield being entirely in the Parish of Spynie.

Having now taken a survey of the whole estates in this parish, although in a very imperfect way, we will, in their order, take up various other subjects, and, in the first place, we would turn to one of the most prominent features of the parish.

## THE PALACE OF SPYNIE.

THERE have been much difference of opinion and many learned controversies as to the time when Episcopacy was introduced into Scotland. It is not probable the point will ever be cleared up. It is certain, however, that Diocesan Episcopacy was not settled, nor the Romish Hierarchy introduced, before the reign of Malcolm Canmore, say the close of the 11th century, and it was not in full vigour until the reign of David I. The Culdee Church owes its ruin to Margaret, wife of Malcolm Canmore. She laboured, during her own life, for the introduction of Romish prelates and monks, and, although she had perhaps slight success, she impressed her principles so strongly on her sons, Alexander and David, successively Kings of Scotland, that they carried them fully out. Margaret was a Saxon Princess, and was a great admirer of the Romish system (of which she had seen much in England), and of the ascetic life which many of the clergy of that Church professed to follow. In Scotland, everything was different. The Culdee clergy were married; the sons frequently succeeded their fathers in Church

livings, and it had, in many instances, become a hereditary priesthood. This had a bad effect on the clergy, and there can be no doubt that there was a great decline in the ancient Church. The question may be asked, therefore, was the change to the Romish Church a right and prudent one? We are loath to answer in the affirmative, but we fear it must be stated that it was a prudent resolve at that particular period. It substituted a strong Church for a weak one; it created a counterpoise to the power of the nobility, and it raised up a protection to the poor man against the rich and great. The tenants of the clergy had peace and comfort under the wing of their masters, and much charity and hospitality were exercised in the land. The Culdee clergy, however, struggled hard against the change, and the Government did not venture to put them down with the strong hand. It was only by slow degrees, and after the lapse of more than a century, that they disappeared. Some traces of the ancient Church even appear down to the time of King Robert Bruce. The Roman Catholic Church had therefore undisputed authority in Scotland for a period of only 350 to 400 years.

Bishop Keith states that the Bishoprick of Moray was founded by King Malcolm Canmore. There is no trace of its existence, however, and even then a very feeble one, until the reign of Alexander I.,

about the beginning of the 12th century. Of the first three Bishops—Gregory, William, and Felix—we know almost nothing. The fourth Bishop, Simon de Tonei, was a monk of Melrose, and is supposed to have been an Englishman. He lived at Birnie, which was then the Cathedral Church, and died, and was buried there, in the year 1184. The fifth Bishop, Richard, is said to have died at Spynie, where probably there was some kind of residence, in the year 1203, and was buried there. He was succeeded by Bricius, the sixth Bishop, a son of the great house of Douglas, whose mother was of the family of de Moravia, to which connection perhaps he owed his appointment. This Bishop was a man of talents, and had more ambitious views than his predecessors, who, perhaps, led rather a migratory life, sometimes at Birnie, Kinneddar, Spynie, and elsewhere within the diocese, and making little pretensions to dignity and style of living. Bricius, during his time, added much to the revenues of the Bishoprick, and took a high position in the country. He went to Rome to attend a Council in the year 1215, and had a safe conduct from the King of England. He procured the Cathedral, formerly undefined, to be fixed at Spynie, and founded a Chapter of eight Secular Canons, giving to the Cathedral a constitution, founded on the usage of Lincoln, which he ascertained by a mission to Eng-

Keith—Russell's Edition—  
pp. 135, 136.

Keith, pages  
136, 137.

land. He brought with him five brothers into Moray, for whom he made provision by donations of land, or Church benefices. He may be said to have been the founder of the great house of Douglas, hardly known previously in history. He died at Spynie, and was buried there, in 1222. The Cathedral Church erected at this time seems to have stood where the Parish Church was, a warm, sunny spot, looking to the south, and remarkably well situated. It certainly was of no great size. Whether Bishop Bricius was the founder of the Palace, on the north side of the hill, we do not discover, but the probability is that he was so, and, if such was the case, the choice of situation does credit to his taste. The loch was then connected with the sea, and the situation must have been very grand—the tide washing the north foundations. It is well described by Shaw, as “situated on a rising ground, upon the south bank of the Loch of Spynie; in a pure air; a dry and warm soil; commanding a view of the loch, and of the fertile plains of Kinneddar and Duffus, to the north and north-west, and of the plains of Innes, and the winding of the river Lossie, to the east and south-east; within a mile of the Cathedral; in view of, and but two miles from the sea.” The Palace of Spynie seems to have been built on a regular plan, but perhaps was the work of successive Bishops. It formed nearly a square, fifty yards in



length, by forty-four in breadth. It had four towers. On the north side there was a postern gate, entering on the loch, from which persons could go by water to the opposite side, or, at an early period, to the sea. The gateway was particularly handsome, fronting the east, and the remains of it are still striking. It is supposed to have been erected by Bishop John Innes, who was consecrated at Avignon, in 1406; his arms and initials were upon it. It was fortified by an iron portcullis. The great tower was built by Bishop David Stewart, between the years 1461 and 1475. It is said to be sixty feet in height, upwards of fifty feet in length from north to south, and nearly forty in breadth from east to west. The north, west, and south walls of the great tower are fully ten feet thick, and on the east side, looking towards the inner court, where defence was less required, the wall is only four feet thick. In the vaulted rooms below, the wall was pierced for cannon; above were the state rooms, in successive stories, with an easy winding stair to the battlements. The chapel stood on the south side; the stables and offices on the east wall; and the north, and part of the west sides, had bed-rooms, cellars, and store-rooms. The court was very spacious, as it still shows. The precinct is said to have contained ten acres, and was enclosed with a high wall, and within it gardens, having the finest fruit trees imported from foreign countries, with

extensive pleasure grounds and walks. The two eastern towers were also mounted with cannon, which commanded the entrance gate. When finished, it must not only have been a very strong fortress for these times, but the most magnificent Episcopal residence in Scotland. The great tower, even in its present ruined state, is a most imposing object. The Castle or Palace was inhabited by the Roman Catholic Bishops of Moray up to the period of the death of Patrick Hepburn, which took place on 20th June, 1573. Notwithstanding the Reformation, in 1560, he had the influence to retain the most of the temporalities during his life. After his death, the Palace was possessed by George Douglas, the first Protestant Bishop, who was consecrated 5th February, 1573. He is said to have lived for sixteen years, and died about 1589 or 1590. In 1590, Alexander Lindsay, fourth son of David ninth Earl of Crauford, was created Lord Spynie, and got a grant of the Bishop lands, and among others, of the Palace of Spynie. He never resided there, and committed the charge to John Innes of Leuchars, and Alexander Innes of Cotts, as his Constables. In 1606, when Episcopacy was restored, the Crown re-purchased the lands of the Bishoprick and the Palace, and which were made over to Alexander Douglas, the new Bishop, who continued the Constabulary in the hands of Innes of Leuchars and

Cotts. This management continued until 1623, when John Guthrie of Guthrie, having succeeded to the diocese, Innes of Cotts resigned the Constabulary, as appears by a renunciation executed by him at Edinburgh, 20th November, 1623. John Guthrie was deposed by the General Assembly, 1638, and left the Palace in 1640, not to return, for he died at his own house of Guthrie, in Forfarshire. In 1660, it was restored to Murdo Mackenzie, minister of Elgin, then appointed Bishop, and was held by him, and his successors, until the Revolution of 1688. The last Bishop who occupied it was Colin Falconer, who died 11th November, 1686, and who was among the best of his order in Scotland. Although he had two successors, they never entered into possession, and the Revolution put an end to Episcopacy as the established religion.

Having already stated, in a preceding part of this narrative, under the head of the Estate of Spynie, what has since occurred to the Palace, we have only farther here to express our regret that such a magnificent building, among the finest in Scotland, should have been permitted to be demolished by the country people, without an effort made to save it by the Crown. It would have been an excellent residence for any nobleman or gentleman, and, from its proximity to Elgin, and situation in so fine a locality, would have been most convenient.

It is hoped that the present noble proprietor, who has begun to preserve the ruins, will go the length of putting a roof on the great tower. It might even be re-floored, and fitted up internally, made useful for many purposes, and preserved to future generations, as a splendid monument of our Episcopal architecture.

## THE REGALITY OF SPYNIE.

A REGALITY was a grant from the Crown in favour of individuals or corporate bodies, of regal jurisdiction within a certain specified locality, both in matters civil and criminal. The Lord of Regality could re-pledge or withdraw any person residing within his own limits from trial before another court, for whatever crime he might be there indicted, except in the case of treason against the Sovereign. It is very strange how the Kings of Scotland could have granted such dangerous powers to any subject, and yet it was so lavishly given away that a great part of the kingdom was converted into Regality, and so the Crown was stripped of its highest authority. It gave a power of life and death to the Lords of Regality, and made them, in a great measure, arbitrary Sovereigns within their little territory. When a tenant or vassal of a Lord of Regality was brought before another court, such as the High Court of Justiciary, or a Sheriff Court, for murder, theft, or other heinous crime, his over lord, on proof being given that he was his tenant, vassal, or indweller within the bounds of his estate, could at once claim him to be tried by

himself, but, if he did so, he was bound to try him for the crime within twelve months. These grants were given freely both to temporal and spiritual lords. The learned Editor of the Miscellany of the Spalding Club thus expresses himself on this subject—"It was in favour of the Church that these " high and dangerous jurisdictions were first granted, " and it may be matter of surprise that it was not " before the middle of the 15th century that a prelate " of such influence as the Bishop of Moray obtained " the erection of the temporality of his wealthy see " into a regality. In 1451, King James II. created " the whole lands of the Church of Moray into the " Barony of Spynie, and in the succeeding year the " same monarch erected the barony into a full or free " regality or royalty, in favour of the Bishop of " Moray, and his successors." The jurisdiction extended over the Bishop's lands in the shires of Elgin, Nairn, Inverness, Ross, Banff, and Aberdeen, and comprehended, among other lands, no fewer than nine baronies, viz. :—Kinneddar, Spynie, Birnie, Rafford, Ardclach, Keith, Kilmylies, Strathspey, and Minmore. The powers of regality were usually exercised by a Bailie, who also issued brieves for service of heirs. The civil jurisdiction was in all respects equal to the Sheriff, but the criminal powers were greater, for the Bailie of Regality could judge in the four pleas of the Crown, whereas the Sheriff

Miscellany of  
Spalding Club,  
Editor's  
Preface,  
vol. 2, page 47.

Erskine's  
Institutes,  
Book I.,  
Title 4th,  
sections 7, 8, 9.

was competent to none of them but murder. We have no records of how the Regality Courts of Moray were conducted, except for a short period after the Reformation, when Lord Spynie got the temporality of the Bishoprick, and Innes of Leuchars was Bailie of Regality. There is an old register still extant of the proceedings of the Court, commencing 8th January, 1591, and ending 5th June, 1602. The Courts were sometimes held upon the water-side of Lossie, in the Churchyard of Elgin, and in the Chapter-House of the Cathedral. This dangerous jurisdiction was continued more or less through the 17th and first half of the 18th century, and contributed much to keep up feudal rights, and the lawlessness of the country. It appears, however, that after the Reformation, Churchmen were not allowed to exercise the powers of Lords of Regality; but, being heritable rights, they were allowed to sell them to laymen, which they generally did. The office of hereditary Bailie of the Regality of Spynie eventually came into the possession of the Dukes of Gordon, and was sold, in the year 1723, by Alexander Duke of Gordon, to Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton, for 2000 merks. The disposition is dated 23d August, 1723, and infestment followed, in Mr. Dunbar's favour, on the 30th of same month and year. In 1747, when the hereditary jurisdictions were abolished by Act of Parliament, the Duke of Gordon, who still seems

to have retained some interest in the Regality of Spynie, claimed £2000 sterling for the value of it, but he was paid only £500. Since that time these judicatories have entirely ceased, with much advantage to the country.\*

\* Besides the Regality of Spynie, there were various others in the country, but of much less extent, such as Kinloss, Pluscarden, Grant, Huntly, Lovat, Grangehill, and others. At the trial of the famous James Macpherson, and Donald and Peter Brown, for robbery and oppression, before the Sheriff of Banff, on 7th November, 1700, a claim was put in on behalf of the Laird of Grant, as Lord of Regality, for re-pledging the two Browns as his vassals, and subject to his jurisdiction. After a long discussion, the Sheriff repelled the claim of the Laird of Grant, and sustained himself judge, notwithstanding the offer to re-pledge, and remitted the case to an assize. Macpherson was condemned to death, and the Browns also, but Macpherson alone suffered. The Browns escaped probably through the influence of the Laird of Grant, their over lord. There was a great feeling in favour of Macpherson, who was condemned principally for being an Egyptian, vagabond, and oppressor, on very slight evidence, which would be now-a-days entirely rejected. There was a feeling against the Laird of Grant for not exerting himself to save Macpherson, and hence the satirical rhyme—

The Laird of Grant, that Hi'land saunt,  
Of nicht and majestie,  
He pled the cause for Donald Brown,  
And let Macpherson dee.

For an account of this curious trial, see *New Statistical Account of Scotland*, volume 13, pages 22, 23, 24, 25, and *Chambers's Domestic Annals of Scotland*, volume 3, pages 233, 234, 235, and 236. Macpherson has been immortalised by the fine ode of Robert Burns. The Laird of Grant here referred to, and dignified with the name of "Saint," was Ludovick, the seventeenth



## PARISH CHURCH OF SPYNIE.

THE subject of Parochial Churches in Scotland is involved in considerable obscurity, and even the time when the country was lotted off into parishes is doubtful. It is supposed that about the reign of Alexander I., between the years 1107 and 1124, the parochial system was first established, although not completed until the reign of his successor, David I., and even later. There were certainly no parishes in Scotland in the time of the Culdee Church, which seems to have consisted of various central establishments, such as Iona, Abernethy, Dunkeld, Brechin, Deer, Monymusk, and others, under the headship of

chief of the family. He succeeded to the estate in the year 1663, and married Janet Brodie, only daughter of Alexander Brodie of Lethen, by whom he had a large family. He lived through the trying times of the Covenanters and the Revolution, and took a distinct stand for liberal and constitutional principles. He and his wife were both pious, excellent people. In the year 1685, he was fined in the sum of £42,500 Scots, for holding strict Presbyterian views. He joined the Revolution in 1688 with hearty good will, and, with his clan and followers, contributed to bring about the conclusion of the war which followed that event. He was proprietor of the estate for the long period of fifty-four years, and, after witnessing so many changes in Church and State, he died at Edinburgh, in the year 1717, at a good old age.

Wodrow's  
History,  
vol. 4,  
pages 193, 194.

an Abbot, who sent out missionaries to preach the gospel, in different directions, without any regular settlement. The churches of these days were generally built of wood, or with stone and clay of a very temporary nature. Parishes were therefore not in existence until the time when the Romish Hierarchy was established in Scotland, in the 11th and 12th centuries. The arrangement of parishes is very curious. They seem to have been lined off in the most capricious manner, without regard to compactness or convenience, but according to the arbitrary wishes of the resident proprietors or ecclesiastics of the day. Spynie does not differ in this respect from other parishes, for, although pretty regularly laid off at the west end, at the east it runs into a mere angle, quite narrow. At what period the Parish Church was first erected we have no trace. It very likely was long before the time of Bishop Bricius, and it perhaps was at first a wooden building, or a clay-wattled house, very common at that time. When the Bishops had no fixed seat, but moved about from Birnie to Spynie, and from thence to Kinneddar, as their necessity required, and had an occasional residence at Spynie, it is likely that a stone church, similar to Birnie, may have been erected, and which was called the Church of the Holy Trinity. When Bishop Bricius fixed the Cathedral at Spynie, and obtained the consent of

the Pope to that effect, a church of some size must have been built; but so far as we know there is not now existing any document containing an account of the style of building, of the size, or nature of the architecture. It must have been in some degree ornamental, and likely was erected on the present site of the churchyard, than which no better place could be found, having a fine southern exposure, looking towards Elgin. When the Cathedral was removed to Elgin, in the year 1224, Spynie would again fall to the level of a Parish Church; but as it continued to be the seat of the Bishop, and as the population around it long continued to be large, and consequently a considerable attendance, it must have been kept up in rather a superior style. Whether the Cathedral Church fell into ruins at the Reformation, and was re-placed by a simple Presbyterian one, there is no record. All that remained of the old Parish Church was a gable, in the Gothic style of architecture, which, not being kept in repair, fell about twenty years ago, and all trace is now lost of the building to which it appertained.\* Mr. Shaw states there was an exhorter of the Protestant faith here in 1570, but, as the last Popish Bishop only

\* The old Parish Church was seventy-four feet long, and thirty-five broad, or 2590 square feet, including walls. The belfry was erected in 1723, and it, as well as the cut stones forming the doorways of the old church, were removed to the new church.

died in 1573, this is improbable. Dr. Scott, who is perhaps more accurate, writes that the first Protestant minister was Andrew Young, who was settled here in 1574. The population at the east end of the parish having gradually declined in numbers, a movement was made shortly after the year 1730 to have the place of worship removed to Quarrywood, where there were not only a number of small tenants, but two villages, viz., Quarrywood and Dykeside, containing great part of the population of the parish. Mr. William Dougal, being then minister, was anxious to have the Church removed, and he was seconded in this by Ludovick Dunbar of Westfield, one of the elders, and by Mrs. Sutherland of Roscommon, then living at the Castle of Quarrelwood, both persons of great influence in the parish. It met, however, with great resistance from parties living near the old church, and the matter was not consummated until the year 1736, when the minister entered the new church and manse. The church then erected is a very plain building, in the old Scotch style, strict economy being followed, as was the practice of that day; it has no ornament on it, except a dial placed on the south side, by one of Mr. Dougal's sons, who had a turn for mathematics.\* The church looks due south,

\* The dial has a margin of four inches all round. On the upper part, on the curve, is engraved "Johannes Dougall, fecit, 1740."

and has a back aisle to the north. It may hold about 400 people. The manse was a good old-fashioned house, in the Scotch style, without any ornament. On the lintel of the front door were cut the letters "W. D., 1736, K. K.," being the initials of the minister and his wife. Falling into decay about thirty years ago, the heritors, rather than repair the old one, erected a very commodious and substantial new manse in the year 1840. The garden round the manse is large and good. Although the church and manse were removed to Quarrywood, the glebe, for some time, continued at Spynie; but, as this arrangement must have been very inconvenient for the minister, it was long since removed to Quarrywood, and a glebe designed there. It consists of six acres. The minister's stipend is ninety-one bolls of meal, ninety-one bolls of barley, with £5 8s. 3d. for vicarage, and £8 yearly as allowance for a grass glebe. As the population of the parish has again receded from Quarrywood, and is mostly on the south side of the hill, it is probable that at no distant period a demand will be made for a new church, in a more central and convenient situation, and better adapted for the wants of the population, the inhabitants of Bishopmill being compelled, on account of the distance from the Parish Church, to attend at Elgin.

Various sums have been mortified by charitable

individuals, at different times, for the poor of the parish. These are—

1. A mortification by Mary Bannerman, Lady Findrassie, of about £50, to the general poor, which had accumulated, in 1798, to £111 2s. 6d. It was under charge of the Magistrates of Elgin, and the proprietors of Bishopmill, Westfield, and Findrassie. This mortification fell to the Parochial Board of the parish, under the Poor Act, and was extinguished.

See  
Leslie & Grant's  
Survey of  
Moray,  
page 131.

2. Bequest by William Duff of Dipple, of £1000 Scots, for poor of Pluscarden, in Elgin Parish, and Quarrywood and Dykeside in Spynie, dated 7th May, 1720, registered 30th October, 1722.

3. The Rev. William Dougal, minister of the parish, bequeathed 300 merks Scots; one-half of the interest for the poor, and the other half to purchase Bibles for poor children.

4. Katherine Dougal, daughter of the Rev. William Dougal, by will dated 14th August, 1793, bequeathed to the parish the sum of £20 sterling, for the purpose of educating two girls successively entering school at the age of six or seven years, and to be two years taught in English reading, writing, and the common rules of arithmetic, and other two years in knitting stockings and sewing white seam. The girls to be lawful children of Presbyterian parents, and instructed in Presbyterian principles.

Session Record.

The charge of the donation to be with the minister and Kirk-Session, to settle the money in some proper way, that the annual rent be forthcoming for the foresaid purpose, and she desired that the part of her will relating thereto be registered in the proper records of the parish.

5. George M'Cummins or Mackimmie of Blackheath, in the County of Kent, who died the 16th June, 1800, by testament, dated 20th September, 1796, left to the poor of Spynie the sum of £200, in three per cent. Consols, to be held in trust by the minister and elders, and the clear yearly interest to be used for the relief and benefit of such poor persons residing within the parish, and not receiving alms thereof, and in such parts, and at such times, as the minister and elders for the time being shall direct and approve.

Session Record,  
30th May,  
1803.

The funds of No. 2 are under charge of the Kirk-Session of Elgin; those of Nos. 3, 4, and 5, are administered by the minister and elders of Spynie.

There have been fifteen ministers settled in this parish since the Reformation, giving an average of nearly twenty years to each incumbent. Some of them have, however, been very short, while others have had long periods of incumbency. In the present century there have been five different ministers. The longest incumbencies have been the Rev. Samuel

Tulloch, from 1660 to 1706, and the Rev. William Dougal, from 1721 to 1760.

The bell of the Parish Church was brought from the old church. It bears the following inscription:—

“This Bell—For the Pearis of Spynie.

“Me Fecit, 1637. Soli Deo Gloria.

“Michael Borgertwys.

From the maker's name, it is supposed the bell had been cast in Holland, the great commercial country of that period. It is ornamented round the edge. This bell is said to have been the gift of John Guthrie, who was Bishop of Moray from 1623 to 1638. He was deposed by the famous Glasgow Assembly of the latter year, along with the other Scotch Bishops, but remained in the Castle of Spynie until 1640, when he was forced to surrender it to Colonel Munro, the Covenanting officer sent against him. There is a tradition that the bell was not set up until after the Bishop left Spynie, never to return, so that the worthy prelate got no benefit from his own gift to the parish.

The area of the old Churchyard of Spynie is  $1\frac{1}{8}$  of imperial acres. The dimensions of the great door-way of the church were as follows:—



			FEET.	INCHES.
Height of Door Posts,	.	.	5	5
Do., to top of Arch,	.	.	7	10
Axis of Arch,	.	.	2	5
Width of Door,	.	.	4	8

The above door was in the west wall of the old church. In the south wall there was another door, having a window above it, of the following dimensions:—height under window, five feet eight inches; breadth, two feet ten inches; whole height of door and window together, eight feet five inches. The stones of these doors now form the entrance of the present church.

## PARISH SCHOOL.

IN Roman Catholic times there were few Parish Schools in Scotland, and yet it cannot be said that the Romish clergy were opposed to education, for we owe to them the foundation of three of our Universities, viz., St. Andrew's, Glasgow, and Aberdeen, and also the most of the Burgh Schools in Scotland. It was left to the Reformers, however, to institute Parish Schools, and it was one of the first matters which engaged their attention. We cannot trace any school in the Parish of Spynie of an early date, and perhaps from its proximity to Elgin, where there were schools of standing and repute, it may have been thought unnecessary. None of the Bishops of Moray, whether Romish or Protestant, although some of them had considerable talents, seem to have been great promoters of learning in their diocese. Perhaps therefore there was no school here previous to the passing of the Act of the Parliament of Scotland, in 1696, cap. 26, whereby the heritors in parishes where no Parochial School had before been established, were ordered to provide a school-house, and to modify a salary to the schoolmaster not under

£100, and not above 200 merks, Scots, to be proportioned according to the valued rent of the parish. The heritors were very slow in every case to perform their statutory duties, and the school and schoolmaster's house were generally of the most miserable description, uncomfortable, and ill-aired. Spynie seems to have been in no way different in this respect from other parishes—the schoolmaster having a poor school and residence. With some exceptions, many of the parish teachers of former times were not very learned, and yet they did much good by conveying to their pupils the knowledge of reading, writing, and arithmetic, with some Scripture information, and contributed to raise the character of their countrymen for intelligence throughout the world. The present schoolmaster's residence in this parish was built in 1811, and served both for a school-room and dwelling-house, the former being on the ground floor, and the latter above. In 1844, a new school-room was erected, which is thirty-three feet in length, twenty-three feet in breadth, and eleven feet four inches in height. Previous to 1811, the schoolmaster had very wretched accommodation; the house stood due north from the church. It consisted of a straw-thatched building, of one storey, having two apartments, on the end of which stood the school, also thatched with straw, and facing the south-west. We find the following parochial teachers here:—

Alexander Sutherland,	.	.	.	.	1721
James Walker,	.	.	.	.	1732
James Watson,	.	.	.	.	1736
William Shepherd,	.	.	.	.	1743
John Anderson,	.	.	.	.	1751
James Taylor,	.	.	.	.	1753
Alexander Gray,	.	.	.	.	1757
Alexander Collie,	.	.	.	.	1767
Daniel Duff,	.	.	.	.	1778
John Mackimmie,	.	.	.	.	1791
Peter Murray,	.	.	.	.	1827
William Ogilvie,	.	.	.	.	1844
John Skene,	.	.	.	.	1853
William Smith,	.	.	.	.	1864
John Thomson,	.	.	.	.	1868

The branches taught are—English (including reading, grammar, and composition), writing, arithmetic, mathematics, geography, history, and Latin. The number of scholars are—Boys, thirty-seven; Girls, thirteen; total, fifty. The teacher's emoluments are:

Heritors' Salary,	.	.	.	.	£50
Registrar of Landward part,	.	.	.	.	7
School Fees,	.	.	.	.	20
Government Grant,	.	.	.	.	18
Dick Bequest,	.	.	.	.	30
					<hr/>
Total,	.	.	.	.	£125

There is also a female school, with an average attendance of forty girls.

## TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

THE villages in this parish, and the population, have been very fluctuating. In early times, when the Bishops resided at Spynie, and when the lake was salt water, a large population sprang up about the palace, consisting partly of seamen, and fishermen, and partly of tradesmen and shop-keepers, who must have had a considerable trade from the Bishop, and his many dependents and visitors, both of clergy and laity. The town or village of Spynie stood upon the flat ground near the lake, to the westward of the palace. In the year 1451, the town of Spynie was so extended that it was erected by King James II. into a Burgh of Barony. It had then reached its utmost limits, and in the early part of the following century, by the closing up of the connection of the lake with the sea, the population and trade must have begun to decay. This was much accelerated by the Reformation of religion in 1560, when the power and influence of the Roman Catholic Bishops ceased, and their residence at the palace was at an end. The Protestant Bishops succeeded, but their revenues and resources were small, and accordingly

Charter, dated  
24th July, 1451.

we find that the town of Spynie gradually declined, and that by the time of the Revolution of 1688, it was entirely at an end. The population of the parish seems then to have moved westward, to Quarrywood and Westfield, and two villages sprang up, viz., Dykeside and Quarrywood—the former about the farm of Rosebrae, and the latter at Quarrywood. This change of population was no doubt the principal reason for removing the church to the west end of the parish, in 1736. The village of Dykeside has, in course of time, entirely passed away, and Quarrywood is fast hastening to the same condition. This may be partly owing to the almost entire conversion of the small farms into large ones, and the less demand for labourers and crofters, for it was people of that class who inhabited these rural villages. It is cause of regret that the diminution of that useful class of the community should have taken place to so large an extent.

The village of Bishopmill is quite modern. There was a mill here as early as the year 1309, which more than once is called the mill of “Malathy,” on the Lossie. In the year 1565, it is referred to as having four houses, called “The Foure Cott Houssis.” In Slezer’s view of Elgin, which was taken before the year 1679, although only published in 1693, and which seems to have been sketched from the high ground where the house of Millbank now stands,

there is only seen a miserable looking meal mill, with the small fulling mill immediately below, which last till lately existed. The meal mill appears to have stood more easterly than the present stance of the mill. In the year 1716, a dye-house was erected by Alexander Black near the fulling mill, and which still remains, in tolerable preservation, bearing the initials "A. B.," and "E. A.," supposed to be husband and wife, the date, 1716, and a sheep shears for a coat armorial. This Alexander Black, from tradition, as well as writings, appears to have been a mighty hunter and fisher, and devoted as much time to these stirring occupations as to his own peculiar craft, keeping a boat on the Loch of Spynie for fowling and fishing.

In 1752, the Earl of Findlater, having purchased Bishopmill, erected a large granary shortly thereafter, of very substantial masonry, and well slated. From its size, it must have contained a prodigious quantity of grain, the rents being then almost entirely paid in kind. No other houses seem to have been erected until nearly the close of the century. The Findlater family, for several generations, had a great fancy for erecting villages, and certainly no better site could have been chosen than Bishopmill, lying high and dry, with a fine southern, warm exposure, and commanding a pleasant view of Elgin and the surrounding country. The late Pro-

vost Brown received directions from Lord Findlater's Commissioners to prepare a plan for the village, about the year 1795, and it was completed, and buildings begun, in the year 1796. The plan consisted of a frontage of building lots looking towards Elgin, with a street leading northward, and two streets bisecting it at right angles. There were few slated houses put up at first; indeed, the whole were poor, miserable, thatched cottages, with the exception of a dwelling-house of two stories, erected by Provost Brown himself, fronting the river, a miller's house, and one erected by the Rev. Alexander Brown, minister of the parish. New meal and flour mills were erected in the early part of this century, of good materials, and well slated. In the year 1821, a new turnpike road was made through the village, from Elgin to Lossiemouth, which considerably altered, and at first much disfigured the village, a deep cutting having been made through it, so that the High Street had to be connected by a bridge thrown across the new road. Gradually houses were built along this road, and it assumed a better appearance. Matters continued on the same footing until 1846, when a set of handsome villas began to be erected, fronting the south, and looking towards Elgin. These have been gradually completed, and the village has a handsome appearance on that side. From the march with Morriston Estate at the west,



to the East Neuk at the east, these villas look remarkably well. In particular, we would notice the villa of Hythehill, erected by Hugh Maclean, Esq. of Westfield, with its terraced gardens, hot-houses, and green-houses, and the Knoll, now belonging to Miss Fuller Maitland. Mr. North (to whom the Knoll formerly belonged) has spared no labour nor expense in carrying out his improvements, and he has made a beautiful slope towards the river, by carting thousands of loads of rubbish and earth into the hollow. He has also converted the former unseemly, gravelly, and sandy channel of the Lossie into a small lake, by making a dam across the stream, over which he has thrown a light cast-iron foot-bridge, supported on metal pillars, thus making an elegant approach to his house for foot passengers. A new street has been formed to the north, on the line of the Lossiemouth turnpike, of substantial stone-built houses, well slated. At the end of this street, the Union Poor-House has been built, a large, airy, substantial building, where the poor enjoy every comfort and care in their declining years. It has accommodation for 150 inmates, but is only at present licensed for eighty-four; the average number being about sixty. It has an excellent kitchen, a large dining-room, which is also used for a chapel; drawing-rooms, for men and women separate; a great extent of bedroom accommodation; besides Governor's rooms, and

business apartment, all scrupulously clean. There is a large garden attached, the whole enclosed with a substantial stone wall, and there is a porter's lodge at the gate. The whole is maintained at considerable expense, and the care of the poor contrasts much with the squalor and disease to which they were exposed before the introduction of the Poor-laws. It may be doubted, however, whether they are now happier than when located in their own humble cottages, and the old feeling of independence, which formerly subsisted in Scotland, is now much diminished, if not entirely extinguished. On the west side of North Street, an excellent school-room and teacher's house were erected in 1857, by the exertions of the Rev. Dr. Kyd, the minister of the parish, at a cost of £559 6s. 10d., of which sum Government paid £288 11s. 4d. The school-room is fifty-eight feet long, twenty-two broad, and fourteen feet in height. The number of scholars presently attending are 170 boys, and fifty-one girls. The present teacher is Mr. Robert Horne.\* The branches taught are English (including reading, grammar, and composition), writing, geography, arithmetic, mathematics, history, and Latin. The teacher's emoluments are—

\* Since writing the above, Mr. Horne has been removed to Milne's Institution, Fochabers.

General Assembly's Grant, . . .	£10	0	0
Voluntary Contributions, . . .	11	10	0
School Fees, . . . . .	60	0	0
Government Certificate, value . . .	21	10	0
Allowance from Government, for Three Pupil Teachers, . . . . .	12	0	0
Total, . . . . .	£115	0	0

The present female teacher is Miss Anne Duncan. Her duties are to teach sewing and knitting one hour per day. The schoolmaster's house is thirty-six feet long, by twenty-six feet broad, and two stories in height. On the ground floor it contains kitchen, scullery, pantry, and parlour, with three bed-rooms above. This school has been a great blessing to the village and the country round, and the teachers have successively discharged their duties well. It is most creditable to the energy and zeal of the parish minister in the cause of education. There is a garden attached to the school-house ground, which consists only of one rood (Scotch measure) in whole, far too little for the purpose. It is held under a feu charter from the Earl of Seafield, dated 23d July, 1855, at a nominal feu-duty of sixpence per annum. The trustees are the Earl of Seafield, and the minister and Kirk-Session of the parish.

Mr. Brownlow North has recently purchased the large granary, formerly belonging to the Earl of Seafield, and converted part of it into a church, which,

from its substantial walls, it was quite capable of being made. It will hold nearly 300 sitters, and is a great advantage to the village, where there is no place of worship. At the west end there is a large, comfortable room, with a fire-place, for prayer meetings, and other useful, charitable, and religious purposes. The buildings are vested in the name of trustees, for evangelical objects. The works have been lately finished.

The old thatched houses in the village are fast disappearing, and it is hoped, in time, will give place to a superior and more substantial class of dwellings. Being now part of the Parliamentary Burgh of Elgin, Bishopmill may be said to be a suburb of the town of Elgin.

We cannot close these remarks without adverting to the improvements lately made on the village, more particularly in the matter of roads, by Mr. Craig, Factor for the Earl of Seafield, and to the attention paid in the carrying out of these improvements by Mr. Craig's active and intelligent assistant, who resides on the spot. We understand farther improvements are now in contemplation.

## ROADS, BRIDGES, &c.

IN ancient times the accommodation in the way of roads and bridges must have been wretched in the extreme; but as there were no wheel carriages, the want was less felt. It is difficult now to understand in what manner heavy loads were carried in those days, more particularly building materials of stone and wood. The state of roads in this parish differed little from the surrounding district. Being near Elgin, perhaps the thoroughfares leading from the head burgh may have been rather better maintained. In the time of Bishop Bricius there was a road at the west end of the parish, passing the old Church of Kintrae, to the Castle of Duffus. As this church stood on the lands of Inchbrock, upon the Estate of Westfield, it must have wound round the head of the lake, and formed a very circuitous route. When the lake receded, another road was formed, in connection with Bishopmill, commencing at the mills, where it crossed Lossie by a ford, passing at the east end of the Laverock Loch, on to Kintrae and the Loch of Spynie, where foot passengers crossed the shallow water on large steps, and carts and horses, proceed-

ing a little westward, found a road to Duffus and Covesea. Another road diverged from Bishopmill, passed through Myreside to the lake, where passengers crossed by a ferry-boat to Salterhill, and from thence the road continued to Gordonstown. A third road went from Bishopmill and Elgin, past Kay's Briggs, by the east end of the lake, to Lossiemouth, Kinneddar, and Stotfield. Very little of this road is in the Parish of Spynie. Another road from Elgin to Forres passed through this parish. It started from the west end of the town of Elgin, where it was called the Bullet Loan, or old King's Highway. It crossed the Lossie to the west of Gallowhill, then proceeded due west by Scroggiamill and the lands of Aldroughty to the Knock of Alves, and from thence to Forres. This was then the great north road from Elgin to Inverness, and continued so until the beginning of the present century. In the year 1630, the Magistrates of Elgin erected a stone bridge over the Lossie, near Morriston. This was the first substantial bridge ever erected on the river. It consists of one arch, and is founded on rock on both sides. It was five years in building, and bears the following inscription:—  
“Elginum condidit. Ibi concordia fiat. Foundit 1630, finishit 1635.” The south side of the bridge is in the Parish of Elgin, and the north in Spynie. This bridge must have been of great importance to the town of Elgin, and surrounding country, giving

a safe passage at all times, whereas previously, in time of floods, the river must have been quite impassable. Being erected in a spot where the river is still and deep, and not exposed to currents, the foundations have never given way in the very least, even during the greatest floods. After this bridge was built, roads were made eastward through the Estate of Morriston towards Bishopmill; northward across the Hill of Quarrywood to Duffus; westward past Sheriffmill to join the Forres road, near Scroggiemill; and southward by Oldmills to Elgin, thus establishing a great and safe thoroughfare. After standing 150 years and upwards, it was still the only stone bridge on the Lossie, showing the very slow progress of improvement in those days. In the year 1789, being found unsuitable for the increased traffic of the district, owing to its steepness, the arch was lowered and rebuilt at the expense of the County of Elgin, when the following addition was made to the inscription upon it:—"Rebuilt by the County, 1789, in four months." This somewhat vain assertion is clearly incorrect. The rebuilding amounted to no more than an alteration on the arch, for the foundations, side walls, and approaches, are all the original work, as may be seen from the style of the masonry. The bridge has stood for the last eighty years without any farther alteration, and almost without any repair, and promises to stand erect, and give a passage across the river, for many centuries

to come, while more modern erections have been swept away by impetuous floods, thus showing the solidity of the old structure, and the care with which it was built.

In the beginning of the present century the great turnpike road to the North was made through the County of Elgin. It is a magnificent road of an uniform breadth of thirty feet. It passes through the Parish of Spynie, from Sheriffmill at the east to the Knock of Alves at the west. To connect the Parishes of Elgin and Spynie, a stone bridge of two arches was erected over the Lossie at Sheriffmill, which has stood, after a narrow escape from destruction in the great flood of August, 1829, for a period of seventy years, and still is a substantial fabric. About the year 1814, a stone bridge, of two arches, was erected over the Lossie at Bishopmill. It was a substantial structure; but, being built at a part of the stream very much exposed when the river is high, and in a rapid current, it was carried away in the flood of 1829, having only stood for fifteen years. It was replaced by a cast-metal bridge, having stone abutments, which, having abundant water way, has stood for forty years. It is now proposed to be removed, and to be re-placed by one more suited for the increased traffic. In the year 1821, a new turnpike road was made from Elgin to Lossiemouth. Commencing at North Street, Elgin, it passed the bridge



of Bishopmill, thence through the village, crossed the canal of the Loch of Spynie by a bridge, and there entered the Parish of Drainie. This road has been a valuable and direct communication from Elgin to Lossiemouth, avoiding the old circuitous route by Pitgaveny and Aikenhead. It has always been kept in the best order and condition, although now much superseded by the Morayshire Railway, which passes but slightly through the Parish of Spynie. Since the above date no new roads of importance have been made in the parish; but several country roads have been much improved, particularly on the Estates of Westfield and Findrassie, on both of which the thoroughfares are in the highest order and repair.

Since the passing of the new Road Act, in 1863, the turnpike gates have been removed, and both the turnpike and commutation roads have been placed on an equal footing, and kept in very good order and repair. The roads passing through Bishopmill are much frequented, and, owing to the great traffic to the quarries, woods, and mills, are maintained at a very considerable expense. The bridge over the Lossie at Bishopmill being narrow, the traffic great, and conveyances of all kinds very numerous, a foot-bridge for passengers is very much required, and must soon be erected for the public safety, if an entirely new bridge both for wheel carriages and foot passengers is not put up.

## WOODS AND PLANTATIONS.

LIKE other parts of Scotland, this parish was much wooded during its early history, before agricultural improvements took place. The moors and hilly ground were then part of the primeval forest. The Oak Wood, which still covers the southern brow of the Hill of Quarrywood, and which shows roots of an extreme age, perhaps then extended over the whole hill; and the moors of Myreside and Spynie, with the shores of the loch, must have also been more or less covered with trees and brushwood. Gradually these woods were cut down, and used for domestic purposes, or for fire. In a country like Morayshire, where there was little fuel, the waste of plantations must have been very great, and, as nothing was done to replace what was cut down, by the middle of last century little remained but the oak coppice on the hill, which probably was preserved on account of the bark, valuable for tanning purposes. The parish therefore became very bare, and must have presented, in its whole length in the centre part, a very dreary appearance, from the moor of Spynie to the Knock of Alves.

The first improvement made in the way of planting in this parish was by James Earl of Findlater and Seafield, who, in the year 1772, enclosed and planted, on the moor of Myreside, 120 Scots acres. The ground was poor and bleak, and perfectly useless. The plantation consisted entirely of Scotch fir. The trees throve well. The droppings of the needle foliage enriched and fattened the soil, and the thinnings of the trees sold well for paling and firewood. In the year 1811, a few acres were cut down to try and cultivate them, when it was found that the wood brought £20 per acre, when only forty years of age, and the enriched soil gave twenty shillings per acre for rent. Gradually this wood has been nearly all cut, converted into arable ground, and well enclosed, and, between sales of wood, and handsome return of rent, has been a very profitable undertaking for the noble proprietor.

About the year 1784, James Earl of Fife, who had a great taste for planting, and a keen eye for profitable improvements, planted the whole Hill of Quarrywood with Scotch firs, putting in also a few birches and larches. This extensive plantation covers an extent of 1000 acres or thereby,\* and embraces part of the Estates of Quarrelwood, Morriston, Sheriffmill, and Aldroughty. The plantation throve

\* The exact extent I have ascertained to be 1075 acres, 2 roods, and 33 poles.

amazingly, and produced most valuable timber. After the lapse of upwards of eighty years, some of the trees have grown to a large size. It is now much thinned, and part on the north side entirely cut down. Still it continues to embellish the country, and, after large sums of money have been realised from it, there remains a great quantity of wood still to be disposed of. It is hoped, however, that there will be no farther cutting for a considerable time, as the wood is a great ornament to the surrounding country, and particularly to the town of Elgin, the amenity of which would be much deteriorated if the hill were laid entirely bare. This extensive plantation, with its fine sheltered walks, and sylvan scenery, having the Lossie at one point almost in sight, affords a most delightful place for exercise and recreation, both in summer and winter, and it is only justice to Mr. Lawson, Factor for the Earl of Fife, to notice, as we have pleasure in doing, the very judicious manner in which he has managed these woods, and, while he has taken a large sum of money from the sales of timber, for the benefit of the proprietor, he has, at same time, preserved much of the beauty and amenity of the scenery, thus continuing a great boon and gratification to the public.

The Estate of Findrassie consisted for a long period in a great measure of bare moorland, extending towards Myreside and Bishopmill, and continued

so until the latter part of last century. Alexander Leslie, who was proprietor of the estate from 1739 to 1783, was a man of weak intellect. Nothing was done for the property; everything seems to have gone to wreck, both on the Morayshire and Ross-shire Estates. His brother, Abraham, succeeded to him, but did not get possession until 1785. He had been abroad for thirty-five years; had seen much of the world, and his mind was enlarged by mixing with men of all classes. Although arrived at the mature age of sixty-five, he immediately set to the improvement of the property; built a new mansion-house, and planted the whole barren ground, principally with Scotch firs, which, in those days, were considered the only trees that would grow on Scotch moorland. Abraham Leslie only lived eight years after getting possession, having died in 1793, but he seems to have completed his improvements. These plantations have thriven well, and have, after the lapse of eighty years, reached maturity. Although they yielded little or no return to Mr. Leslie and his immediate descendants, their successors in the estate have derived from them a rich harvest. Little has been added to the plantations since Mr. Abraham Leslie's death, except some hardwood beltings, and a few ornamental trees; but for many years past large sums have been drawn from annual sales of timber, and the management of the wood has been

so judiciously conducted by Mr. Geddes, the acting Trustee on the estate, that the annual returns from the sales promise to be good for many years to come. Indeed, the plantations on this estate have yielded almost as good a return as the arable land. The woods embrace a surface of 346 imperial acres.

The Hill of Spynie, immediately above the Bishop's Palace, was long a bare spot, and was of little value, except for rough pasture, being covered with whins, broom, and boulder stones, with rock. It was part of the precinct land belonging to the Crown, and the Crown lands were then much neglected. In the year 1826, the Barons of Exchequer, principally it is believed through the influence of the late Mr. Adam Longmore, then an Exchequer official, gave orders for enclosing the Hill of Spynie with a substantial stone dyke, and in that, or the succeeding year, the enclosed ground was planted with larch and Scotch fir. This plantation, according to the New Statistical Account of the parish, contains seventy-three acres. It is now forty-four years of age, and, although it has not thriven so well as some of the other woods in the parish (particularly the part on the north side of the hill), owing to its exposed situation, still it has beautified the country, and given it a clothed and much improved appearance.

The land on the Estate of Westfield, being entirely arable, is too valuable for planting on a

large scale, but it has been beautified and sheltered by the judicious formation of hedgerows, beltings, and clumps, in all suitable situations.

## QUARRIES.

No Parish in the North of Scotland more abounds in the finest building stone than Spynie. The high ridge of ground, extending from the east to the western boundaries, is composed of the best sandstone, of different colours and variety. At an early period in its history, it is probable the boulder stones, lying profusely about, had been used for building. When these failed, the ground would be broken up to procure the necessary materials for erecting dwelling-houses, but, previous to the middle of the 12th century, there were few buildings of stone and lime in the country. The oldest quarry is perhaps what is called the Hospital Quarry. It is stated by tradition that the Cathedral was partly erected from materials obtained from it, and if so, perhaps also the old Church of St. Giles. After being long worked, it seems to have been given up entirely, and lay neglected for many centuries, the large heaps of rubbish being covered with heather, coarse herbage, and bushes, latterly with fir trees. It lay in that state until the year 1816, when it was reopened for the erection of Gray's Hospital. A great



many public buildings in Elgin have since been erected from it. Among others, we may mention, besides Gray's Hospital, the handsome Parish Church, the Assembly Rooms, the Free South Church, the Royal Bank, &c., &c. It is a very beautiful stone, almost pure white, and, when carefully selected, keeps its colour well, and resists the weather, as may be seen in the Parish Church and Gray's Hospital, the latter of which has stood fifty-four years. There is a quarry on the north side of the hill, called the Millstone Quarry. It is a remarkably hard, well-coloured stone, and resists the weather. It was much worked, both for mill stones and building stones; but, having a rather difficult access, it has been given up for a long time. On the Hill of Spynie, and not very far from the palace, there is an excellent quarry. It is a pale grey stone, of a fine equal colour, and well adapted for all building purposes. It is likely the palace and great tower were built from this quarry. It was extensively worked about twenty-five years ago; but, perhaps owing to the depth to which it had to be carried, and the consequent great expense of working, it has ceased to be used. There are two quarries near Bishopmill, which have been extensively worked for more than thirty years. They both lie on the east side of the Duffus road; one on the Bishopmill Estate, and the other on Morrison. Many buildings

have been erected from these quarries, and, when carefully selected, very good blocks can be got. The stone has a vein of iron running through it, which creates a slight blemish. There has been a quarry largely worked on the west side of the Duffus road, and quite close to it. From the immense quantity of rubbish, and extent of excavation, it must have been used for a long period, but for a good many years all work has been dropped in it. At Newton, near the boundary line of Alves and Spynie, a quarry was opened about twenty-five years ago. It is a hard, substantial stone, of a pink colour, and resists the weather well. The Caledonian and North of Scotland Bank branches in Elgin have been built of this stone. It is evidently a very lasting stone, but somewhat liable to be discoloured by the smoke and dust of the town. Near Laverock Loch, about ten years ago, a quarry was opened. It was a beautiful cream-coloured stone, and well adapted for being polished for monuments and the finest ashlar work. Various buildings have been erected from it; but, whether the finest vein has been exhausted, or from other difficulties which have occurred, it has for some time ceased to be worked. On the whole, no district can be better supplied with the finest stone, and the entire hill, extending for a distance of five miles, is really one mass of the best freestone rock, of great value, and quite inexhaustible.

## ANTIQUITIES.

ON the head of antiquities little can be said. The only ancient building now remaining in the parish is the Palace of Spynie, to which we have so frequently referred in the preceding pages, that we have left no space for farther remarks. It is an ornament to the country, and is the finest ruin of an Episcopal Palace in Scotland, and we hope the present noble proprietor will preserve and protect the venerable building, and, as he has already done something for its improvement, that he and his successors may continue to watch over it, and preserve it from farther decay. We have also referred to the Castle of Quarrelwood, a building long pertaining to an ancient family, and occupied by a noble lady down to the middle of last century. It is much to be regretted that it should have been neglected, and allowed to be carried away, so that no one now knows the appearance, style of architecture, or anything about it. Although entirely gone, the site may still be traced, and it has all the appearance of having been an extensive erection. The only other piece of antiquity is a fortified entrenchment or camp, situated on the top of the

Quarrywood Hill, and commanding an extensive view, both to the north and south. Like other similar works, it has been called Danish, but it is possibly of native origin, and much older than the invasion of the Danes. No better site could be chosen than this for an outlook, as from all quarters the view is extensive, more particularly looking to seaward, where invaders principally came from, and if a beacon fire had here been lighted up it would be seen from a great distance, to call the scattered natives to arms, to guard their homes and families. In the Old Statistical Account of the parish, it is thus described—“The remains of a Danish Camp  
 “ are still very conspicuous on the Hill of Quarrywood.  
 “ It would appear that those Danes who inhabited  
 “ the Burgh (Burghead), in this neighbourhood, had  
 “ erected it as an asylum for their families. It com-  
 “ mands a view of the whole county, and a pleasant  
 “ prospect into the Counties of Caithness, Suther-  
 “ land, Ross, Inverness, Nairn, Banff, and Aberdeen.  
 “ It is worthy of Lord Fife, and becoming his taste,  
 “ in beautifying the county, to renew this monument,  
 “ and perpetuate its antiquity.” While we can only very partially agree with the rev. author in the above remarks, for we have great doubts of the correctness of his information, it is much to be regretted that the Earl of Fife should have planted the site of this camp and fortification. The doing so has obliterated,

Old Statistical  
 Account,  
 vol. 10, p. 636.

in a great degree, the slight remains of a work of extreme antiquity. Such spots should be left entirely bare. The growth of trees and bushes tends, in a great measure, to destroy all works of this kind.

## THE POOR.

IN Popish and Episcopal times the poor were maintained by the Bishop and clergy, more particularly in the neighbourhood of the Bishop's seat. It is handed down by tradition that at a certain hour daily the poor in this parish assembled near the Palace of Spynie, a bell was rung, and a postern gate opened, and bread, soup, and other viands supplied with no stinted hand. After the Revolution of 1688, matters changed, and the minister and Kirk-Session could only dole out a little charity to the poor, from the church-door collections, and the interest of funds mortified by charitable and benevolent persons. We have not seen the session records prior to the year 1721. On the 30th May that year the poors' funds were allocated. There were fifteen poor on the roll, and the sum divided was £17 5s. 8d. Scots money. On 17th July, 1722, there was a division of poors' funds. There were seventeen persons on the roll, and the sum divided was £19 9s. Scots. In 1723 there were eleven persons on the roll, and the sum divided was £16 4s. 2d. Scots. In 1724 there were twenty-eight on the roll, and the division was

£21 10s. 4d. In 1729 there were thirty on the roll, and the sum divided was £40 4s. Scots. After the year 1732, we find no further entries in the Session Records about the church-door collections, and they were likely noted in a separate book, there having been a new Session-Clerk appointed that year.

In the Old Statistical Account of the parish, published in 1794, we have no account of the management of the poor, and the rev. author perhaps did not consider such an every-day matter worth recording. He observes, however, that “the people  
“are industrious and frugal, possessing also other  
“virtues, not so much the necessary consequence of  
“their situation; being in general honest, benevolent,  
“and friendly, and entertaining a high respect for  
“the ordinances of religion. The dress of the poorer  
“tenants and day labourers is of the cheapest kind,  
“chiefly of home manufacture.” In the New Statistical Account, published in 1835, the following remarks occur:—“The average number of persons  
“receiving parochial aid is twenty-eight. The  
“average sum allotted to each yearly is 18s. The  
“annual amount of church collections is £20.  
“The annual amount of interest for money lent out  
“from the poor’s fund is nearly £11. There is an  
“independent disposition among the poor, restrain-  
“ing them from seeking parochial relief while they  
“are healthy and able to work, but when old age or

“distress comes upon them they do not consider it  
“as degrading to apply for relief.”

The unfortunate breaking up of the Church of Scotland, in 1843, caused a great change in the state of the parochial management. The church-door collections, small as they had hitherto been, fell off largely, and it was generally felt over Scotland that an assessment for support of the poor must be levied. The Act of 8 and 9 Victoria, cap. 83, was therefore passed in August, 1845, and was soon after adopted in this parish. In the year 1850 the number of poor on the roll was forty-seven, and the amount of assessment was £200, the allowance to each being from 1s. to 4s. per week. The rate of assessment on houses above £10 of annual value was five per cent. payable by proprietor, and five per cent. payable by tenant; on land, and houses under £10 of annual value, two and a-half per cent. charged on the proprietor, and two and a-half per cent. on the tenant, and a deduction of ten per cent. on rental, allowed proprietors of houses for repairs. In 1852 the assessment was £225; the charge, tenpence per pound on proprietors of houses above £10 of annual value, and tenpence per pound on tenants; on land, and houses under £10 of annual value, fivepence per pound on proprietors, and fivepence per pound on tenants. In the year 1863 the assessment had doubled itself, having risen to £459, and the rate on



houses above £10 of annual value was, on proprietors, 1s. 1½d. per pound, and 1s. 1½d. on tenants. On proprietors of land, and houses under £10 of annual value, 8d. per pound, and 8d. per pound on tenants. In 1869 the yearly assessment amounted to no less than £542 17s. 11d., and the number of poor on the roll, fifty-three, thus giving an average allowance of about £10 annually to each person. The rate is as follows:—On owners of houses, shops, lands, &c., 10d. per pound; on tenants of land, 7d. per pound; on occupiers of shops, mills, and quarries, 1s. 2d. per pound; on occupiers of dwelling-houses, 1s. 9d. per pound; so that if a proprietor of a house is also the occupant he pays one-eighth of the yearly value for poor-rates. This is an extraordinary change of matters within a period of thirty-four years. In 1835 the poor of the parish were supported on the church collections, amounting to about £25 annually, and the charity of their neighbours, voluntarily given, and were contented and happy. They are now maintained at a cost of £542, being twenty-two times the amount, and are far from contented.\* “The independent spirit restraining the poor from seeking parochial relief,” referred to by the rev. author of the New Statistical Account of the parish,

\* The Assessment for the year from Whitsunday, 1870, to Whitsunday, 1871, is about £570, and the rate is proportioned as last year.

is now entirely gone, and every one seeks a share in the assessment as his or her legal right, trying who shall get the most in the scramble. The state of matters is very serious, and if the assessment goes on increasing at the present rate, great part of the rental of the parish will, ere long, be absorbed in the support of the poor. This is a very alarming question in Scotland, and one of the worst signs of the times, the rapidly increasing expense of supporting the poor, and is worthy of the attention of statesmen and philanthropists. If a change in the Poor-law is not made, or some other means devised for checking the increase of rates, the boasted independent spirit of Scotland runs a great risk of being destroyed, and private charity and benevolence will entirely be put an end to. It is hoped the Government of the country will, ere long, turn its attention to this subject. It is admitted universally that the parochial system is capable of great improvement, much of the money raised by assessment being spent in expensive litigation on the subject of the settlement of paupers, and the liability of the respective parishes for their support, which might be saved by wholesome legislation.

## POPULATION.

It is evident that the population of this parish was as large, if not more so, in mediæval times than now. In the 15th century there was a large number of inhabitants in the Burgh of Spynie, and besides the Bishop's retainers about the palace must have been numerous. The farms and crofts were small, and each little holding had its own family, with servants, labourers, and cottars. In the rental of the Diocese of Moray, for the year 1565, the number of small tenants is very great. In Spynie there were ten tenants; in Bishopmill seventeen tenants; and in Myreside five tenants. Even so late as the year 1757, there were six tenants in Morryston, and four in 1764. Afterwards it was let to one tenant, and has continued to be so occupied ever since. Owing to the increase of large farms, the population last century diminished very much. In the year 1755 it was 865. In 1794 the population was as follows:—

Males, . . . . .	289
Females, . . . . .	313
	<hr/>
Total, . . . . .	602

Showing a diminution, in the short space of thirty-nine years, of 263 persons.

By the formation of the village of Bishopmill, in 1795, the population began to increase, and the census of the parish, during the four first decennial periods of the present century, is as follows:—

In 1801,	.	.	.	.	.	.	843
„ 1811,	.	.	.	.	.	.	816
„ 1821,	.	.	.	.	.	.	996
„ 1831,	.	.	.	.	.	.	1121

The author of the *New Statistical Account* of the parish, published in October, 1835, observes—“The population has evidently been increased by the building of the village of Bishopmill, which contains 621 inhabitants, while the rest of the parish only contains 500. In several parts of the parish a number of crofts have been long ago converted into farms, which has greatly diminished the population in the country.” The same writer gives the following table of statistics, applicable to the year 1835, which is worth recording:—

*New Statistical Account,*  
vol. 13, page 97  
—Shire of  
Elgin.

The yearly average of Births for the last Seven Years is . . . . .	24
The yearly average of Marriages for do., do.,	8
The number of Families is . . . . .	259
Do., of Inhabited Houses, . . . . .	207
Do., of Uninhabited Houses, or now Building, is . . . . .	4

Number of Families chiefly employed in Agriculture, . . . . .	50
Number of Families chiefly employed in Trade Manufacture, and Handicraft, . . . . .	81
In 1841, the Population was . . . . .	1164
In 1851, do. do., . . . . .	1341
Of which there were in Bishop- mill Village, . . . . .	897
On Landward Part, 93 fami- lies, consisting of 220 Males, and 224 Females, 444	
Making, as above, . . . . .	1341

In 1861, the population was as undernoted—

	FAMILIES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Landward District, 107	107	261	257	518
Bishopmill, . . . . . 278	278	502	580	1082
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	385	763	837	1600

It may be expected, from the number of new houses built lately in Bishopmill, that there will be a considerable increase to its inhabitants when the census of 1871 is taken, whereas the landward part will probably be stationary. There is a tendency in the present times to keep the rural population down, and to drive the poor and labouring class into towns and villages, which is growing to be a serious evil, creating a want of country labourers, and a diminution of a most useful and industrious class in the community. It is quite clear that if the village of Bishopmill had not been erected the population of the Parish of Spynie would be more than a third less than it was a century ago.

## GENERAL REMARKS

*On the Original Population, the Changes which have taken place, and the Progress of the District.*

THE history of the earliest inhabitants of Scotland, and of the state of the country, would be a most interesting study, but, unfortunately, there are no materials to form even a conjecture as to the races who first inhabited the land, their habits, and mode of life. It is very probable that the aborigines were a savage race, perhaps no better than the inhabitants of the South Sea Islands, or the Patagonians of South America. They lived in the meanest habitations, or burrowed in the ground. There are even some indications that they may have been cannibals. Those who are learned in such subjects, and who have examined the ancient tumuli, are of opinion that the skulls of the aboriginal inhabitants of Scotland are differently shaped from those of the succeeding races, and indicate a very low state of intellectual talent. (See Wilson's Prehistoric Annals of Scotland, 1st edition, chapter 9.)

The Celtic nations, at a comparatively early period

in the world's history, were crowded round the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, and gradually extended themselves to the Atlantic and German Oceans, occupying the best countries in Europe, including Italy, Spain, and France. The traditional history of Ireland, and our own old chronicles, bear that the Scoto-Celtic races, which became the leading population of that island, emigrated from the Spanish Peninsula several centuries before the birth of Christ, being driven out perhaps by the Roman and Carthaginian wars, which long devastated Spain, thus seeking a quieter home by proceeding westward, and subduing before them the feebler inhabitants of their newly-found abode. The Scots became the leading race in Ireland, and for a long period gave their name to that country. There is a great difference of opinion as to the time when the Scots first appeared in the country now called Scotland. Our old historians assert, without much division, that it was 300 years before the birth of Christ when the first Scotch colony landed in Argyle. This was reckoned to be true history, and was universally believed until last century, when enquiring minds began to doubt the authenticity of our annals. There has perhaps in latter times arisen a too incredulous spirit, throwing doubts on all ancient chronicles, and thus matters have gone from one extreme to another. Whatever may be the truth

about the period when the first Scots colony settled in the West of Scotland, there seems little doubt, from the proximity to Ireland, that there was a settlement made shortly after if not before the Christian era. Even Pinkerton, a most unfriendly writer, admits that they were settled as early as the year 258. It is generally admitted that this colony was expelled from Argyle about the middle of the 5th century, and again returned in the year 503, under the leadership of Fergus, the son of Erc, the founder of the line of Dalriadic Princes, from whom the present Royal Family of Britain is descended. The Scotch were never again expelled. They had a severe contest to maintain their ground against their powerful neighbours the Picts, but, after varying fortune, through conquest or succession, partly perhaps through both, Kenneth Macalpin, King of the Scots, in the year 843, succeeded to the kingdom of the Picts, and, gradually extending themselves, the Scottish nation acquired the whole country north of the Tweed.\*

Pinkerton's  
History,  
vol. 2, page 60.

\* In the chronicle of the Scots and Picts, lately published by authority of the Lords of the Treasury, the following account of these transactions is given:—"Fergus, filius Eric, ipse fuit primus  
" qui de semine Chonare suscepit regnum Alban, id est, a monte  
" Brunalban usque ad mare Hibernie et ad Inchevall. Deinde  
" reges de semine Fergus regnaverunt in Brunalban sive Brunhere  
" usque ad Alpinum filium Eochal. Kined (Kenneth), filius hujus  
" Alpini, primus Scottorum, annos xvi. in Pictinia feliciter regnavit."



If we know little of the early history of the Scots, that of the Picts, who were the greater and more ancient nation, is involved in almost total darkness. Where they came from, their origin, history, and even language, have all been the subject of fierce and doubtful disputation. That they were the powerful nation who, under the name of Caledonians, maintained a severe contest for their independence against the power of the Roman Empire, and were successful in that contest, seems now to be generally admitted by all writers. While Tacitus, Dio Cassius, and other Roman historians, make mention of the Caledonians, and even give the speech of their leader, Galgacus, at the battle of Mons Grampius, they do not, unfortunately, tell us what language was spoken, whether it was Celtic or Teutonic, although they must have known it well. A single word as to the spoken language of the Caledonians would have settled the dispute of the origin of the nation at once and for ever. That they had some degree of knowledge, and acquaintance with arts and science, appears from the many sculptured stones all along the East Coast of Scotland, and also from the fact that they were acquainted with metals, and in their wars with the Romans used large, well-tempered swords and spears of steel.

During last century, and the early part of the present, the Picts were generally supposed to be of

Teutonic or German extraction, and no one supported this view more vigorously than John Pinkerton, in his enquiry into the early history of Scotland, published in 1789. With immense learning and application, he spared no pains, labour, or research in supporting his arguments, but he carried on his disputations with so much heat and ferocity that he could view no subject with a calm and dispassionate spirit, and he had a particular ill-will to the Highlanders, and everything of Celtic origin. Happily this class of writers has passed away, and another has arisen within our time who, with greater advantages, more resources, and in a dispassionate spirit, have studied and elucidated this subject. Among these, we may particularly enumerate Mr. William Forbes Skene, who, in his work on the origin, history, and antiquities of the Highlanders, has thrown much light on a very obscure subject, and if he has not quite proved, he has at least given very cogent reasons for supposing that the Picts were truly a Celtic people, and that the Highlanders of the present day represent them.

The recent publication of the Book of Deir shows that in the 9th century the Celtic language was both spoken and written by the inhabitants of the Aberdeenshire Coast. That the people who dwelt on the East Coast of Scotland were Celts, is clearly proved by the important fact that all places of note,

and of the least claim to antiquity, from Inverness to Berwick-on-Tweed, have Celtic names. All that country was possessed by the Picts, and from them the names came.

In the 6th century, Scotland was possessed by five nations. First, the Saxons, who had conquered the country to the south of the Firth of Forth, and joined it to the kingdom of Northumberland; the Britons, who had the kingdom of Strathclyde, in the West; the Irish Scots, who had Argyle, Cantyre, and Islay, with some part of the Western Isles; the Southern Picts, who had Fife, Angus, part of Perthshire, &c.; and the Northern Picts, who had the whole country north of the Grampians. It seems highly probable that the Picts, Scots, and Britons all spoke dialects of the Celtic language, and were intelligible to each other. The Picts, although nominally in nations, were divided into clans, who held districts of country, and were governed by hereditary chiefs, called "Maormors." According to Ptolemy, in early times a section of the Northern Picts, called "Vakamagoi," inhabited the County of Elgin, Strathspey, Strathavon, Braemar, and Strathardle. The capital city of the Northern Picts was Inverness, where their King resided. The divisions so explicitly given by Ptolemy were altered and modified in the course of time, and tribes were removed, by change of circumstances, from one district to another. In

843, as we have stated before, the Scots became the foremost race in Scotland, and the name of Picts gradually disappears from history.

The nations which inhabited Scotland in 843, being admittedly Celtic, and speaking that language, how does it happen that by the middle of the 12th century, that is within 300 years, we had a Saxon or Teutonic language spoken by the people on the East Coast of Scotland? The causes for this great change are various, and we shall briefly state them. 1st. In the middle of the 9th century the Norwegian or Scandinavian sea kings began to infest the coasts of Scotland. They conquered the Orkney and Shetland Islands, and the eastern part of Caithness so effectually, as not only to expel the greater part of the old inhabitants, who fled to the mountains and fastnesses of Sutherland, where they could not be followed, but also extirpated the language, introducing in its place the Norse or Gothic tongue. After being firmly settled in their new abode, the Norsemen moved to the south side of the Moray Firth, and, having the complete command of the sea, they could wander at their will. As early as the year 894, the northern counties of Scotland were conquered by Sigurd, Earl of Orkney, and Thorstein, his ally, but, in consequence of the death of Sigurd, the possession of the country was short. A considerable number of the inhabitants of the coast

were then driven out, and replaced by the invaders. In the end of the 10th century, and early part of the 11th, the Norsemen invaded Scotland in greater force, and not only had possession of the whole of the northern counties, but extended their ravages as far as the Tay. Their possession of the North is stated to have lasted thirty years, and to have terminated only by the death of Thorfinn, Earl of Orkney, in the year 1064. During this period of possession many of the old inhabitants were driven out, and a new race took possession of their lands. 2d. Malcolm Canmore, who was long resident in England, succeeded to the throne of Scotland, in the year 1057. Being assisted by the Saxons in the recovery of his dominions, he had a great affection for them, which was increased by his marriage with Margaret, a Saxon Princess. He introduced the Saxons into the country by tens of thousands, and when the Norman conquest took place, in the year 1066, many of the inhabitants in the North of England fled to Scotland for shelter and protection, where they were all well received and settled by the Scottish monarch. These new subjects helped Malcolm much to consolidate his kingdom, and enabled him to subdue the Norwegians, and also the remains of the Pictish nation. This King had a long reign of nearly forty years, and from his time the true history of the country commences. His sons, Edgar, Alexander,

Skene, vol. 1,  
page 120.

and David, successively Kings of Scotland, followed in their father's footsteps, continued to introduce English subjects, and latterly Norman barons, so that by the middle of the 12th century the Saxon language, and Saxon inhabitants, were firmly fixed on the East Coast of Scotland. That such a change was needed, and that it greatly promoted the prosperity and progress of Scotland, no one can doubt.\*

It has been regretted by many that the Celtic inhabitants and their language should be in danger of being finally lost, as no doubt they will be; but when it is considered that the mixture of Scotch-Irish, Pictish, Norwegian, Danish, Saxon, and Norman blood has contributed to raise up one of the

\* A recent writer makes the following intelligent and correct remarks on this subject:—"With the accession of David, son of Malcolm and Margaret, a new era began in Scotland, and our northern district shared in the changes which then took place. These changes, which were almost all for the better, were manifold in their character, affecting the laws, the religion, and the language of the people, and introducing a new race into the ancient territory of the Picts. What has been called the Anglo-Norman colonisation of Scotland, was the work of David and his descendants. The general history has yet to be written, but its local progress may be traced in the pages of the chartularies. New usages were adopted from the South; the Scottish Church was assimilated to the ecclesiastical condition of the rest of Christendom; burghs were founded; and the feudal institutions were gradually established in the Lowlands.

"There is now no dispute as to these points, or as to the extensive immigration from England and the Continent; but it was formerly a common opinion, and it is still maintained by a

finest races of men which the world has ever seen, and given the people of Scotland such a high rank among the nations, it cannot be a subject of regret that the Celtic name and language should thereby perish.

The hereditary chiefs, or Maormars, of the province of Moray, occupied a high position in the country, and were nearly allied to the Royal Family of Scotland. Skene gives us the names of several of them, viz. :—Malcolm King of Scotland seems to have been raised from Maormar of Moray to the throne. Ruari, his son Finlay, his son Macbeth, and after him Lulach, were Maormars of Moray, and possessed of immense power. The character of Macbeth has

Skene's  
Highlanders,  
chap. 5,  
pages 107, 119.

“ few, that there was no real change in the great body of the  
 “ population of the north-eastern counties. This can only be held  
 “ on the theory that the Picts were a Teutonic, not a Celtic race,  
 “ but that theory is opposed to the evidence both of chronicle and  
 “ charter, and to the information derived from the latest dis-  
 “ coveries, such as the Book of Deir. The language of the whole  
 “ Scottish nation north of the Forth, in the reign of Malcolm  
 “ Canmore, was Gaelic. Before the death of Alexander III., a  
 “ change had been effected. All along the Eastern Coast, from  
 “ the Frith of Forth to the Moray Frith, a Teutonic tongue super-  
 “ seded the Gaelic. The ancient race and language receded  
 “ farther to the West, and finally the very name of the old Scots  
 “ was transferred to the new people and language which had come  
 “ in their place. When Archdeacon Barbour wrote his national  
 “ poem of the Bruce, the language in which it was composed was  
 “ spoken in all the low country of Aberdeenshire and Banffshire.”  
 Grubb's Preface to Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banff, pages 43, 44.

been much maligned by the old chronicles, and which has been increased by Shakespeare, who copies from Hollinshead. The truth appears to be that Macbeth, as well as King Duncan, was a grandson of Malcolm II., and probably, by the Tanist law, which then prevailed among the Celts, was the nearest heir to the throne. He was supported by the Picts and Norwegians in the contest. King Duncan and he met in battle in the plains of Moray. The former was mortally wounded, and was carried to Bothgowan, in Alves, where he died. The murder, therefore, is perhaps a mere fiction. Macbeth reigned for eighteen years, and, had it not been for the assistance given to Malcolm Canmore by a Saxon army, he would have left the kingdom to his posterity. It was well ordered otherwise, for in Malcolm, and his immediate descendants, Scotland enjoyed the best race of Kings the country ever had.

Excepting the last century, which has been one of wonderful progress, the time of Scotland's greatest prosperity was from the succession to the throne of Alexander I., in 1107, to the death of Alexander III., in 1285, a period of nearly two centuries. During that time royal burghs were founded, commerce fostered, agriculture advanced, waste lands cultivated, new races introduced, churches built over the land, justice strictly administered, and violence repressed. It was a time of comparative peace, and



the country advanced from barbarism to civilisation. Had events continued to go on in this manner, Scotland would have early taken a high place among the nations of Europe. Such was not the fate of the country. The long wars which succeeded the death of Alexander III. ruined the nobility and gentry, impoverished the land, threw it back into comparative barbarism, and when, after a century of bloodshed, Scotland emerged from the contest, independent and free, it was to find itself comparatively without commerce, agriculture, or arts. The succession of the House of Stuart, the violent deaths of most of the Sovereigns, the long minorities of their children, and the immense power of the nobility, with their constant wars, allowed little improvement to take place. Then followed the Reformation, the unfortunate reign of Queen Mary, the religious wars of the Covenanters in the following century, and the oppressions of the later Stuarts. These all retarded, nay totally prevented, improvements. The Union with England followed, but even from that little benefit was felt at first, for the Rebellions of 1715 and 1745 ensued, and it was not till the middle of last century that the country was finally delivered from its troubles, and peaceful progress permitted to a long distracted land.

The earliest inhabitants of Moray, as we have

seen, were Picts, and of course Celts. In the 9th, 10th, and 11th centuries they got largely mixed up with Norsemen. They were a fierce and warlike race, and, under their Maormars, or hereditary governors, repeatedly rebelled against their Sovereigns. These rebellions occurred in the reign of Malcolm III., Alexander I., and Malcolm IV. In the latter reign, after the rebellion was crushed, it is stated that a great proportion of the Moray men were transported into the midland and southern counties of Scotland. This is borne out a good deal by the fact that the name of Moray or Murray is rare in this county, while it abounds in Perthshire, and on the English border. The race of men now inhabiting the plains of Moray are very different both from their neighbours in Banffshire, and those adjoining them at the West.

The appearance of Moray in the 10th and 11th centuries must have been very different from what now prevails. The Picts were not an agricultural race, nor did they raise much corn. They lived mostly on flesh, milk, and such like fare, as the ancient Britons did, of whom they were likely a branch, or a kindred people. They therefore kept herds of cattle and sheep, and must have moved about as pasture abounded. The population of the country was not great. The plains of Moray were

covered partly by the sea, which ebbed and flowed in the large Lake of Spynie, while there were many smaller lakes, such as Cotts, Roseisle, Inchstelly, &c. There being no drainage, there must have been much stagnant water, gathered into pools, from which there was no exit, except by evaporation, from the heat of summer. The rivers Spey, Findhorn, Lossie, and many smaller streams, poured out their waters in torrents from the mountains, and, having no embankments, wandered at their will through the low country, sometimes in strong currents, and occasionally in still water, bringing down immense deposits of gravel, and again covering these deposits with rich alluvial soil. From this circumstance no doubt arises the great inequality of the soil of the plains, where in some localities the most wonderful variety of ground will be found in one field. The low country must also have been much covered with natural and primeval forests, as may be discovered from the large oak and fir roots occasionally dug from the soil, and the land could only have been gradually cleared as agriculture and cultivation increased. It is not probable that much agricultural improvement took place in Moray until the establishment of Popery, and of Diocesan Episcopacy, in the reign of Alexander I. The Churchmen of that period had a sharp eye for fruitful lands, and placed themselves in great strength on the plains of Moray.

Besides the Bishoprick, we had the great Abbey of Kinloss in the west, and the Priories of Pluscarden and Urquhart in the east, all richly endowed, with many smaller establishments. These religious bodies occupied much of the fertile lands of the county, and their tenants and vassals being, in a great measure, exempt from military service, progress was very rapid, and in the course of a century and a-half, by drainage improvement and good tillage, this county produced large quantities of wheat, barley, and oats, and the upper classes lived in abundance and luxury; no doubt the poor were straitened enough, and, except from the benevolence of Churchmen, had perhaps little relief. Even during the long wars with England, Morayshire perhaps suffered little in comparison with the southern counties, being remote from the scenes of strife. The progress of improvement, particularly under the Churchmen, must therefore have been here pretty continuous, for Buchanan, writing in the 16th century, states—“So abundant  
“ is this district in corn and pasturage, and so much  
“ beautified, as well as enriched with fruit trees, that  
“ it may truly be pronounced the first county in  
“ Scotland.” The Reformation, in so far as agriculture, plantations, and gardening were concerned, brought a great change in Moray for the worse. The ecclesiastical buildings were destroyed, their fine orchards and gardens broken up, and the land

generally under much worse management, and so it continued until the general improvement of last century took place.

The Parish of Spynie, to which we now return, after a long digression, being the seat of the Bishop, had a peculiar advantage, the great proportion of it being church lands. It may rather appear strange, however, that the Bishop had not the best land in his possession, but seems to have preferred the light soils on the sunny side of the hill, such as Bishop-mill, Morriston, Sheriffmill, &c., the rich lands of Kintrae, Quarrywood, and Westfield, being in possession of lay proprietors. The whole parish, however, would appear to have been tolerably well cultivated at an early date, and supported a numerous body of inhabitants. The Reformation brought no improvement as to temporal affairs. The removal of the Bishops from the Castle of Spynie, and the want of the support which they gave both to agriculture and the poor labourers of the soil, must have acted with a deteriorating influence, and although the Protestant Bishops succeeded, they had but limited power and means, compared with their great predecessors of the Roman Catholic faith. The last Bishop who lived at Spynie was Colin Falconer, who died in 1686, and whose death was mourned by all classes as a public loss. The Revolution deprived the Bishops entirely of their lands and revenues, and

this parish must have felt much the change of circumstances. There were some resident proprietors, however, who lived in the parish, and spent what little revenues they had in it, such as Dunbar of Westfield, Leslie of Findrassie, and the Honourable Mrs. Sutherland, at Quarrywood. In the middle of last century the parish was in a poor state. There were no plantations, no enclosures, no regular rotation of crops; artificial grasses and green crops were unknown. The land which would bear cropping was laboured, and put under grain crops, being manured with farm-yard manure year after year until exhausted, when it was allowed to lie in natural pasture grass, until it had recovered strength for fresh labouring and cropping. Drainage was almost unknown. The ground was generally in the hands of small tenants, and their houses and offices were of the most miserable description; money payments were almost unknown, all rents being paid in kind, the grain being delivered and measured at the proprietor's granary. Between the years 1770 and 1780, progress began to commence, and since that time it has been carried on in the most unflagging manner. Plantations, on the most extensive scale, were planned and carried out; new farm steadings erected; the fields enclosed with substantial stone dykes; dwelling-houses for tenants built; drainage, where necessary, begun and completed. With-

out making invidious comparisons, we may notice the farms of Spynie, Rosebrae, Rosehaugh, Morriston, Sheriffmill, Aldroughty; the Estates of Fin-drassie and Bishopmill; and, above all, the Estate of Westfield. On this property the Messrs. Sellar, father and son, did very much in the way of drainage, embellishment, and enclosing with hedges. This has now been completed in the most finished manner by the present proprietor, Hugh Maclean, Esq., who, in addition to the former enclosures, has erected wire fences on a most extensive scale, so that the whole estate is now completely enclosed. The enclosures on the lands of Morriston and Sheriffmill are entirely the work of an active and energetic tenant, the late Mr. John Lawson. Those on the Estates of Myreside and Bishopmill were mostly at the expense of the proprietor, the Earl of Seafield. In short, it is believed that no parish in the North of Scotland is in a better condition as to the state of the land, houses, enclosures, and plantations, and none can have better laid off fields. Every acre of land in the parish has either been improved or planted, and, during a period of ninety years, the progress has been wonderful. We have now arrived at a period when farther improvement can hardly be looked for; we may, however, indulge the hope that there will be no retrogression, but that, after so long a period of progress, continued attempts may be made even to

excel those who have preceded, and that future generations may continue to follow the excellent examples that have been given them. Are there no dark clouds in front, and evils in prospect that should be avoided? There certainly are, such as the increasing luxury and expensive habits of the age, the system of rack-renting the land, the immense increase in taxation, and particularly in poor-rates. These are great and increasing evils, and will require to be seriously considered, and endeavoured to be guarded against, by some practical measures, and by the good sense of the community.

It is to be hoped and prayed that the same kind Providence who has watched over us and our country in times bygone, will continue to protect us, and those who are to follow us, and that religion, morality, and every practical improvement may be fostered, and flourish in the land.







## NOTE.

As I have in some instances omitted to give authorities for statements made, I may here mention generally that in the progress of this work I have consulted for information among others the following books, viz.:—*Registrum Moraviense*, or *Chartulary of Moray*; *Hollinshead's Chronicles*; *Buchanan's History of Scotland*; *John Leslie, Bishop of Ross, De Rebus Gestis Scotorum*; *Nisbet's Heraldry*; *Douglas's Peerage of Scotland*, Wood's edition; *Crawford's Peerage*; *Douglas's Baronage of Scotland*; *Lord Fountainhall's Chronological Notes*; *Lord Lindsay's Lives of the Lindsays*; *Jervise's Lands of the Lindsays*; the *Old Statistical Account of Scotland*; the *New Statistical Account*; the *Thanes of Cawdor*; the *Diary of the Lairds of Brodie*; *Brodie's Family Trees of the Brodies*; *Miscellany of the Spalding Club*; *Chambers's Domestic Annals of Scotland*; *Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen*; *Pinkerton's History*; *Skene on the Origin, &c., of the Highlanders*; *Chronicles of the Picts and Scots*, published by authority of the Lords of the Treasury; *Wodrow's Church History*; *Skinner's Ecclesiastical History*; *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ*; *Burton's History of Scotland, from 1689 to 1748*; *Keith's Historical Catalogue of Scottish Bishops*; *Colonel Leslie's History of the Leslies*; *Laurus Lesleana*, by the Jesuit Fathers; *Gordon's History of the Family of Gordon*; *Bishop Burnet's History of his Own Times*; *Spalding's History of the Troubles in Scotland*; *Gordon of Rothiemay's History*; *Leslie and Grant's Survey of the Province of Moray*; *Shaw's History of the Province of Moray*.



NOTES:

CONTAINING CHARTERS, AND OTHER DEEDS  
AND WRITINGS, FAMILY HISTORIES,  
STATISTICS, &c., &c.,

RELATING TO

THE PARISH OF SPYNIE,

AND SURROUNDING DISTRICT.



## NOTES.



### I.—CHURCH OF KINTRAE.

THE subjoined charter was granted by Bishop Bricius in the beginning of the 13th century, and proves that the Church of Kintrae was then old. It probably was therefore connected with the previous Culdee establishment, then decayed. This church stood on the Estate of Westfield, and on the lands of Inchbrock. When it fell into entire decay we do not know, but the churchyard around appears to have been long used as a burial-ground. Perhaps from its nearness to the Castle of Duffus, where there was a chapel, and a chaplain constantly officiating, may have done away with the necessity of the Church of Kintrae, as we hear little more about it after this period. The last remnants of this venerable fabric appear to have been only removed at a very late date.

BRICIUS, Dei gratia Episcopus Moraviensis, universis sancte matris ecclesie filiis, eternam in Domino salutem. Noverit universitas vestra nos concessisse et hac carta nostra confirmasse Hugoni de Moravia, Domino de Duffus, et heredibus suis ut habeant liberam capellam suam in Castello suo de Duffus, et ad

Registrum  
Moraviense,  
page 273.

sustentationem capellani in eadem capella deservientis, per voluntatem et consensum ejusdem Hugonis et Andree filii sui et persone de Duffus, assignamus eidem capelle omnes decimas garbarum de terra que dicitur Aldetoun, que est *inter veterem ecclesiam de Kyntra*, scilicet a Langaphage per sicum qui vadit ex aquilonali parte de le Brinhill usque ad maresium quod est inter veterem ecclesiam et le Aldeton et sicut maresium illud vadit usque ad Blynd Wollis, et ita usque ad novum fossatum, et per novum fossatum usque ad viam que vadit de *veteri ecclesia de Kyntra* usque ad castellum. Assignamus similiter eidem capelle per voluntatem et consensum eorundem omnes decimas garbarum de tota terra que est inter predictam viam et divisas de Kyntraye ex parte australi strati australis quod vadit de castello de Duffus ad salinas australes, cum omnibus oblationibus in eadem capella factis. Volumus etiam et concedimus ut predictus Hugo et heredes sui imperpetuum cuicumque voluerint predictam capellam concedendi et de eadem tanquam de libera capella sua disponendi liberam habeant facultatem. Cenedimus etiam et presenti carta confirmamus predicte capelle libertatem et immunitatem perpetuam ab omni exactione et servicio et consuetudine tam in episcopalibus quam in omnibus aliis ad nos vel ad successores nostros pertinentibus. Volumus igitur et concedimus quod prenominata capella omnes predictas decimas garbales et oblationes cum libertatibus et immunitatibus omnibus supradictis habeat et possideat perpetuo adeo libere, quiete plenarie et honorifice sicut aliqua libera capella aliquas decimas et oblationes liberius, quietius, plenius et honorificentius tenet et possidet. Cuicumque etiam capellanus predicte capelle deserviet et faciet servitium pro fundatoribus capiendo unam specialem collectam, videlicet, *Deus qui vivorum dominatur simul et mortuorum*. Testibus magistro Gilberto de Moravia Archidiacono Moraviensi, Joanne de Moravia fratre ejus, Archibaldo de Douglas, Alexandro et Henrico Canonicis de Spyny, fratribus nostris, magistro Henrico, Thoma capellano nostro, Roberto clerico nostro, Michaele pincerna, Stephano de Hedinhaym, Archibaldo de Moravia, et Willelmo fratre ejus.



Referring to the old Church of Kintrae, a recent writer, who does not give his name, but whom, if we mistake not, we know well, expresses himself as follows:—“The reference to the days when the  
“ greater part of Westfield may have been the  
“ bottom of the Loch of Spynie, calls to mind the  
“ circumstance that the name of Chapelfield, given  
“ to one of the parks on the home farm, seems to  
“ indicate that it was the site of the ancient Church  
“ of Kintrae. In a charter of Bricius, Bishop of  
“ Moray, of date 1203-1222, founding the chaplainry  
“ of the Castle of Duffus, mention is made of the  
“ old Church of Kintrae in the following terms:—  
“ ‘Ad viam quæ vadit de veteri Ecclesia de Kyntra.’  
“ Lambert, Chaplain to William the Lion, was rec-  
“ tor of this church, and appears under the designa-  
“ tion of Parson of Kintrae, as witness to a deed  
“ executed between the years 1187 and 1203. The  
“ Churches of Kintrae and Spynie, however, were  
“ united by Andrew Bishop of Moray, prior to 1242,  
“ and not a vestige of the old Church of Kintrae  
“ now remains, nor of the churchyard, which seems  
“ to have been connected with it, and which was  
“ preserved until comparatively a recent date. The  
“ site of the churchyard, however, is still clearly to  
“ be seen, in the centre of a field, on the south-west  
“ corner of Westfield, and it has been remarked that  
“ it has scarcely ever grown anything to reward the  
“ agricultural enterprise that desecrated it with the  
“ ploughshare.”

## II.—LOCH OF SPYNIE.

1. The following agreement or contract, between Sutherland of Duffus, and Douglas of Pittendreich, relative to the lands overflowed by the loch, dated in 1599, will be interesting to the reader. It has been referred to in the text. The family of Douglas were then proprietors of Pitgaveny, and other lands bordering on the loch, and Sutherland of Duffus was the principal owner of the property on the north and west sides. The other proprietors perhaps took little interest in the matter:—

### *Contract anent the Drowned Lands and makking of Dykkis—1599.*

AT ELGIN, the——day of——, the zeir of God Jayvc fourscoir nyntein zeirs, It is aggreit, endit, and finallie condescendit betwix honourable perties, to wit Willa Suyrland of Duffous, on ye ane pt, and Archibald Douglas of Pettindryt on ye uyr pt, in maner, form, and effect as efter followis. That is to say, forsameikill as ye Loche of Spyne hes ourflowd ane pt of ye townis of Saltcottes, Cruickmuris, and Kirktown of Duffus; and yt ye said loche, sua far as men can psaif, is lyke to droun mekell mair of ye landis and Barony of Duffus nor is all reddie drownit; and yat ye saids drownit landis can not be maid dry, and ye Loche of Spyne stoppit fra dowing of gretar harme to ye saids landis, except ye Lard of Pettindryt, his landis of ye Barony of Kilmalemnok be cuttit and tirrit for makking of dykkis till outhald ye watter of Lossie from ye said Loche of Spyne, and drouning of sundrie of ye said Archd., his landis. Herefoir ye said Wm. Suyrland of Duffous for

ye recompans of ye said Archibald, his loss in to ye premisses, and for cost and expenses to be maid be the said Wm. in makking of dykkis, casting of slewcis, and makkin of yir inbankments propir for drying of ye saids drownit landis, be yir pnts, sellis, disponis, and annaleis to ye said Arch. Douglas and his aris, heratable and irredemable, his pt of all and haill ye landis befoir specefeit, lyand wtin ye boyndis befoir specifeit, and sherifdom of Elgin and Forres, and sherifdom (*sic*) forsaid, quhylk pertinis to him, ye said Wm., be vertew of his heritable infestment of ye said Wm., his third pt landis of ye Barony of Duffous as Laird of Duffous, be vertew of ony richt he hes or may pretend to haif to ye Erle Merchalis third pt landis of ye said barony yt lies wtin ye boyndis following. To wit, beginand at ye sowtermast pt of ye said Barronie of Duffous at ye said Loche of Spyne, and ascending westwart as ye said landis of Duffous merchis wt ye lands of Findrassie and ye Erle of Moray's landis of Kintrey, till ye said merche be dereklike betwix ye cottar housses of Findressie, standing vpon ye merche of Corriwood and Findressie, and tua hawthorn bussis growing vpon ye syd of ye stank of ye weit meadow of Duffous, qlk bussis ar growand vpon ye sowtwast pt of ye orchart of Duffous, and sua directlie northwast to ye said tua hawthorn bussis. And fra ye saidis tua bussis gangin about ye said wite meadowis as ye stank gangis till ze willing tre dyk, and along ye said dyk to ye narrowist pt of ye landis ptening to ye guidman of Drany; and fra thyn, distending as ye stank destendis, qlk dewidis ye guidman of Drainie's lands and ye lands of ye Barony of Duffous, till ye said stank enter in ye Loche of Spyne. OFF quhilkis landis, lyand wtin ye boundis befoir specifeit, the said Wm. Suyrland of Duffous binds and obleisses him, his aires and assiyms, to transfer and mak to ye said Archibald als guid and sufficient ryt yrof as he him self hes pntlie. AND in caice he acqyre ony better ryt heirof at ony tym, bindis and obleisses him, his aires and assiyms, to transfer ye samyn in ye pson of ye said Archd. or his airis quhen evir he beis requirit heirto. FFOR the quhilks don and to be done be the said Wm. Suyrland of Duffous, the said Archd. Douglas of Pettindryt binds and obleisses him and his airis yt he and yai sall mak trawell and wair expenses vpon ye drying of ye drownit landis qlks lyes wtin ye boynds befoir specifeit, and sall do his diligens to stope ye said Loche of

Spyne from dowing of gretar skeyt, and yat wtin ye space and tym of four zeiris. And giff ye samyn can not be maid . . . . . ye said Ard. binds and obleisses him and his airis to bestow vpon ye drying of ye saids landis ye sowm of ane thousand pundis vsuall mone of yis realme, wtin ye said space of four zeiris; so in athir of ye qlk cais it is condescendit be the said Wm. Suyrland of Duffous yt the land lyand wtin ye boynds above wretten remains wt ye said Archd. Douglas of Pettindryt or his airis till he negligent in drying of ye saidis drownit lands wtin ye said space of four zeires, sua yt yai nather dry ye saidis landis, nor bestow ye said sowm of ane thousand pundis money vpon ye said wark, then and in yt cais ye said Ard. Douglas is content and contents yt ye said Wm. Suyrland of Duffus and his airis sall haif als fre ingres and access to ye said landis as giff ye samyn had nevyr bein disponit nor annaleit; and binds and obleisses him, himself, and his airis in yt caice to mak renunciation of ye saids landis quhan they sall happin to be requerit heirto. AND for ye mair and better sequeritie heirof, bayt ye sadis pteis ar content yt yer pnt contract be insert and regrat in ye commissar buikis of Moray, and to haif ye forc and effect of ane decret, wt execun to pass heirvpon in form as effeirs, and to yat effect ye said Wm. Suyrland of Duffous makks and constitutis for him, as his procurators,—————, and ye said Ard. Douglas constitutis for him—————, his prors, to compeir before ye said Commissery, for ye effect forsaid, seyn and scrivit. In witness herof, bayt the saids pteis hes subscriyvt yiss contract at yr handis, day, yeer, and place forsaid, befor yr witnesses—JAMES DOUGLAS, GEORGE HAY, Servants to ye said Ard. Doglas; JON LAW, and ALEX. SUYRLAND, Servitors to ye said Wm. Seyrland; WM. MACKENZIE, in Elgin; WM. DOUGLAS, Writer, Notar Public, writtar hereoff.

W. SUYERLAND off Duffus.  
ARCHIBALDE DOUGLAS.

ALEXANDER SUTHERLAND, Witness.

JAMES DOUGLAS, Witness.

GEORGE HAY, Witness.

WM. MACKENZIE, Witness.

WM. DOUGLAS, Witness, Assr.

J. LAW, Witness.

## LOCH OF SPYNIE.

2. We have referred in the text to David Anderson of Finzeach, Burgess of Aberdeen, having been called upon as an engineer to give his opinion on the subject of reducing the waters of the loch, in the early part of the 17th century, and have again to express regret that his letters, which were in existence so lately, have been irretrievably lost, otherwise they would have thrown much light on the state of the drainage at that particular period, when the Lossie, for the first time, was shut out, and carried to the sea by a separate channel. David Anderson was perhaps the most eminent engineer of his time in the North of Scotland, and was also a famous architect. His native city, Aberdeen, was very proud of him. His brother, Alexander Anderson, was Professor of Mathematics in Paris, where he published six different works connected with these studies, and where he seems to have spent the most of his life. David Anderson possessed an extraordinary genius for mechanical science. In the year 1618, he removed an immense rock, called Knock Maitland, which lay in the middle of the entry to the Harbour of Aberdeen, and was a dangerous obstruction to shipping. The expense of the instruments and apparatus for the undertaking was 300 merks, which were contributed by the shipmasters, the burgesses of guild,

Council Record  
of Aberdeen,  
vol. 48, page  
469.

Kennedy's  
Annals of  
Aberdeen,  
vol. 1, page 269.

and the corporations of trades of the town. He was also architect at constructing the steeple of St. Nicholas Church, and placed the weather cock upon it with his own hand. Mr. Anderson was married, but had no sons. His daughters, however, made good marriages, and some of their descendants were among the most illustrious Scotland has produced. Marjory Anderson, his daughter, married Andrew Jamieson, Burgess of Aberdeen, and was mother of George Jamieson, the famous painter, called the Scottish Vandyke, the pupil of Rubens, perhaps the best painter Scotland ever has produced. His portraits are still very numerous, and highly valued. Although chiefly eminent as a portrait painter, he also applied himself to miniature, historical, and landscape painting. A modern writer states "That every subject which passed under his pencil had all the life, proportion, and delicacy which are requisite to establish the reputation of an artist." Another daughter of David Anderson, Janet, married the Rev. John Gregory, Minister of Drumoak, and was mother of James Gregory,\* the great mathematician and philosopher, the friend and contemporary of Sir Isaac Newton, Professor of Mathematics at St. Andrew's and Edinburgh, and David Gregory of Kinnairdie, also an eminent mathematician. Of their descendants were—James Gregory, Professor of Medicine in Aberdeen, son of the great mathematician; John Gregory, Professor of Medicine in Edin-

\* James Gregory married his cousin, Mary Jamieson, daughter of the great painter, a very talented woman.

burgh, his grandson, who died in 1773; James Gregory, the eminent physician, and Professor of Practical Physic in the University of Edinburgh, his great-grandson, who died in 1821; and the two sons of the last mentioned gentleman, Dr. William Gregory, Professor of Chemistry in Edinburgh, and Donald Gregory, Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries, author of several learned works, who both died in our own time, cut off in their early prime. The descendants of David Anderson, from whom the family talent seems to have come, have thus flourished for two centuries, and only expired within our own recollection.

The widow and daughters of David Anderson appear to have been very worthy, religious, and charitable people. In his own lifetime Mr. Anderson had purchased, from George Earl Marischal, the manse, barn, and yard of the Dominican Friars, in Aberdeen, and it is recorded that after Mr. Anderson's death Jean Guild, his widow, and his daughters, having succeeded to this property, bestowed it, along with a considerable sum of money, as a fund for a permanent provision for the education and maintenance of ten indigent orphans, male or female, of the town of Aberdeen, by a deed of mortmain, dated 15th and 17th March, 1642. The Magistrates and Council are trustees and managers of the fund under that deed.

Council  
Register of  
Aberdeen,  
vol. 53,  
page 208.

Kennedy's  
Annals,  
vol. 2, page 72.

### 3. GORDONS OF GORDONSTOWN.

THIS family, although they had no land in the Parish of Spynie, yet were so much connected with the loch, and eventually claimed the whole solum of it, that it would have been desirable to have here inserted some account of them, but having done so in another work, it would only be a repetition of the same subject, so we shall content ourselves with giving a few notes of the different periods when they acquired their lands, or the greater part of them.

Notes on  
Burghead.

#### *Drainie.*

The lands of Drainie were granted by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Chapter, on 16th May, 1545, to James Innes, and Katherine Gordon, his spouse. Robert Innes of Drainie, great-grandson of the above James, sold his paternal estate, including Salterhill, on the 20th October, 1636, to Sir Robert Gordon, son of Alexander Earl of Sutherland.

#### *Names of the Inneses of Drainie.*

1st, James; 2d, Robert, his son; 3d, James, his son; 4th, Robert, his son, who sold the estate.

NOTE.—From the family of Innes of Drainie were descended the Inneses of Drumgask, Balnacraig, and Ballogie, in Aberdeen-



*Salterhill.*

The lands of Salterhill, formerly called Little Drainie, were granted by Patrick Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Chapter, 24th January, 1547, to Patrick Kinnaird. His grandson, Patrick Kinnaird of Salterhill, sold the lands, in the year 1615, to James Innes of Drainie, whose son and successor sold his paternal estate to Sir Robert Gordon, as mentioned above.

Inventory of  
Titles signed by  
Sir Robert  
Gordon and  
Robert Innes of  
Drainie.

*Ettles and Covesea.*

“The lands of Ettles and fyshing, called the Coissey,” were granted by Patrick Bishop of Moray to Thomas Innes of Pethnick, and Elizabeth Norie, his spouse, and to the heirs-male of the said Thomas. The charter is dated at Elgin and Drainie the 8th and 18th May, 1561, and is signed by the Bishop and twelve of the Canons of the Cathedral, their seals being also appended. Thomas Innes of Pethnick, grandson of the above Thomas, sold the lands and fishings on the 17th September, 1638, to Sir Robert Gordon.

Inventory of  
Titles of Ettles  
and Covesea  
signed by Sir  
Robert Gordon  
and  
Thomas Innes.

shire. They were strict Roman Catholics, and many of them priests. Of this family was Thomas Innes, a priest, born 1662, died 1744, the learned author of a critical essay on the history and antiquities of Scotland, published in 1729, and of a civil and ecclesiastical history of Scotland.

*Names of the Inneses of Pethnick.*

1st, Thomas; 2d, Alexander, his son; 3d, Thomas, his son, who sold Ettles and Covesea.

*King's Third of Duffus.*

The changes of proprietors on this estate will be best shown by the following titles:—

1. Charter of alienation by Archibald Douglas of Pittendreich, in favour of Alexander Gordon of Sydra (Sidderay in Sutherland), and Margaret Keith, his spouse, of the third of Duffus, dated 21st May, 1603. The sasine following thereupon is dated 24th May same year.

2. Charter granted by Archibald Douglas of Pittendreich, in favour of Alexander Keith, lawful son of Mr. John Keith, Rector of Duffus, of the third of Blackgate; third of Starwood; third of Inchkeil; third of Roseisle, with the milns thereof; third of Burghsea; third of Bagro; third of Burnside; third of Over and Nether Crookmuirs; and third of Sheriffmill, with the astricted multures thereof, dated 24th May, 1603. The seisin following thereon is of same date.

3. Bond of alienation, Alexander Gordon of Sydra, and Margaret Keith, his spouse, in favour of Sir Robert Gordon, of the third part of the Kirktoon of Duffus, Crosslots, and Saltcots, dated 2d June, 1629. The seisin following thereupon is dated 6th June same year.

4. Minute of sale, dated 11th June, 1647, at Inverurie, by Alexander Keith of Midbeltie, son of the deceased Alexander Keith, portioner of Duffus, in favour of Sir Robert Gordon, of his share of the King's Third of Duffus, and third of Sheriffmill, and of the Outletmill.

Documents and  
Inventory in  
Charter-room at  
Gordonstown.

5. Contract of sale betwixt Sir Ludovick Gordon, his son, and Robert Sutherland in Burghsea, whereby, for £2830 Scots, they dispone the lands of Easter Inchkeil, and third of the Burgh, to the said Robert Sutherland, 9th March, 1670.

*Ogston and Plewland.*

The lands of Ogston and Plewland are the particular part of the Estate of Gordonstown where the venerable mansion-house stands. Before the Gordons purchased the estate, it was called the Bog of Plewland, and no doubt was a fortalice, built in the marsh for defence. The estate was long held in property by the Hogstouns, or Ogstons, of that ilk; from them it passed to the Inneses of Innes and Balveny, thereafter to the Marquis of Huntly, and from the Marquis was purchased by Sir Robert Gordon, on 13th September, 1638. The following curious inventory of titles, as well as the references to the other portions of the Estate of Gordonstown, were communicated to me by a friend, to whom I am indebted for many similar favours:—

The Inventor of the wrytes of Hogstoune and Plewlands, delyverit be Robert Innes, then of Innermarkie, nowe of Balveny, to ane nobill and potent Lord George, Marquis of Huntlye, at Plewlandis the 7th of Februar, 1616 yeiris.

IMPRIMIS, Ane charter given be Marjerie Countess of Murraye, to Jhon Hogstoune of that ilk, sone and lawfull air to Sir Rannald Hogstoune, his father, daitit at Bamf, 6th May, 1417.

ITEM, Ane precept of seasing of Allexander Hogstoune of that ilk, given to James Innes of that ilk, upon the landis of Hogstoune, of the dait, at Aberdeen, 29th December, 1473.

ITEM, Ane reversion given be the said James Innes of that ilk, to the said Allexander Hogstoune of that ilk, of the dait forsaid.

ITEM, Ane license given be the King to Allexander Hogstoune of that ilk, fra him and his airis, all and hail, the lands of Hogstoune, to whatsoever persone he pleasis, to be halden of himselffe.

ITEM, The gift of nonentrie, given to Alexander Livingstoune of Dunnipeass, upon the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, of the dait at Pearth, 15th March, 1527.

ITEM, Ane seasing of James Innes of that ilk, given to Alexander Hogstoune of that ilk, upon the landis of Hogstoune, dated 12th Jannuar, 1473.

ITEM, Ane seasing of Elizabeth Lady Hogstoune, upon the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, given upon ane precept, dated 8th Jannuar, 1501.

ITEM, Ane resignation, in the Kingis handes, of the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, be Elizabeth Hogstoune, with consent of hir husband, Adam Habroune, daitit at Edinburgh, 11th Maij, 1501.

ITEM, Ane instrument, wher Adam Habroune was requyrit to enter Robert Innes of Innermarkie in the landis of Hogstoune, daitit 6th May, 1509.

ITEM, Ane precept of seasing, given out of the Chancellrie, to Robert Innes of Innermarkie, and Elizabeth Stuart, his spouse, in lyfrent, and to Robert Innes of Monikebback, his sone, appeirand air heritabillie of the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, united in one barrony, daitit at Dundee, 1st September, 1539.

ITEM, The charter of union, whereupone the forsaid precept was given under the Grayt Seall, of the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, of the dait of the said precept.

ITEM, The seasing following upone the said charter, of the dait 4th November, 1539.

ITEM, The service of Adam Habroun's three daughters, Janat, Helein, and Isobell, before the Shirreff of Elgin, daitit the penult of Februar, 1527.

ITEM, Ane charter of Andro Oliphant of Berridel, sone and air of umqll. Christen Suderland of Berridel, given to William Suderland of Duffus, of the third part of the landis of Plewlandis, of the dait at Edinburgh, 10th November, 1528.

ITEM, Ane precept of seasing, passit thereupone.

ITEM, Ane instrument taine be Robert Innes, in the handis of Mr. William Jamisone, notar, daitit 1st September, 1539.

ITEM, Ane resignation of Elizabeth Habroune, eldest daughter, and ane of the heiris, of Adam Habroune of Craigies, and spouse

to Mr. Alexander Livingstone of Dunnipeass, of the landis of Hogstone and Plewlandis, in the Kingis hands, in favours of Robert Innes of Innermarkie, and Elizabeth Stuart, his spouse, and to Robert Innes of Monykebock, their sone and appeirand air, daitit at Inglismaldie, 15th August, 1539.

ITEM, Ane sasine given be Robert Innes of Innermarkie, and his spouse, Elizabeth Stuart, and his son, of Monykebock, upon the landis of Hogestoun and Plewlandis, under the subscription of Mr. William Jamisone, notar, daitit 4th November, 1539.

ITEM, Ane saising of Robert Innes of Innermarkie, guidisir to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, of the landis of Hogstone and Plewlandis, under the subscriptione of Mr. Alexander Dowglasse, notar, daitit 29th Maii, 1553.

ITEM, Ane instrument of saising to Robert Innes, father to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, upon the landis of Hogestoun and Plewlandis, under the subscriptione of James Guthrie, notar, 21st Maij, 1586.

ITEM, The Kingis confirmatione and ratificatione of ane charter of alienatione, maid to Jeane Barclaye, Lady of Innermarkie, to Robert Innes, her sone, upon the landis of Plewlandis and Hogestoune, daitit at Edinburgh, 1607.

ITEM, The King's confirmation, containing ane novo damus upon the landis of Hogstone and Plewlandis, and Kirkhill of Longbryde, to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, and Barbara Burnet, his spouse, daitit at Edinburgh, 21st Februar, 1607.

ITEM, Ane tack of the teinds of Plewlandis and Hogstone, given be George Douglass, Bishope of Murraye, with consent of the Dean and Chapter, to Robert Innes of Innermarkie, father to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, daitit at Spyny, the first and last of Maij, 1585.

ITEM, Ane tack of the teind sheaves of Hogstone and Plewlandis, sett be Allexander Douglass, Bischope of Murraye, to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, and to Barbra Burnet, his spouse, in lyfrent, and nynteen yeir thereafter, daitit at Elgin, 10th Marche, 1607.

ITEM, Ane extract of ane proper contract between the Laird of Innermarkie and the Laird of Innes, on the landis of Hogstone and Plewlandis, and heirschipe of Innes, daitit at Edinburgh, 9th Marche, 1635.

Which haill wrytes, according to the inuenter foresaid, subscribit be us, George Marquis of Huntlye, and Robert Innes of Balvenye. We, George Marquis of Huntlye, grant us to have receavit fra the said Robert, and bindis and oblissis us, and our aires and successoures, to make patent and furthecomminge to the said Robert, his aires and successoures, for defence of the saidis landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, as the said Robert and his forsaidis sall be persewit for warrandice of the said landis. In witness wherof we have subscribit thir presents, at Plewlandis the 17th of Februar, Jm vic and sixteen yeires, befor thir witnes, ALEXANDER GORDON, Fiar of Strathawon ; Mr. WILLIAM GORDON of Tilligrigie ; JAMES GORDON, in Letterfurie ; and Mr. ALEXANDER INNES of Dalliestennie.

(Sic subscribitur),

HUNTLYE.

ROBERT INNES of Balvenie.

A. GORDON, Witnes.

J. GORDON, Witnes.

The original document is at Gordonstown, and the minute of contract of sale by which the Marquis of Huntly sold these lands to Sir Robert Gordon, dated 13th September, 1638, is also there. The Marquis subsequently sold to Sir Robert the lands of Balormie, which his Lordship seems to have purchased in 1615 from the Douglasses of Whittingham.

On a rising ground, immediately to the eastward of the House of Gordonstown, stood the Parish Church of Ogston, with its old churchyard. The parish was joined to Kinneddar in the year 1642. The new church was built at Drainie, and the united parish was called Drainie.\*

On the site of the old Church of Ogston, in the

\* See Note on next page.

year 1705, Dame Elizabeth Dunbar, widow of Sir Robert Gordon, the Warlock Baronet of Gordons-town, erected an elegant mausoleum to the memory of her husband, who had died the previous year, and to his predecessors in the estate. This is one of the finest buildings of the kind in the North of Scotland, a most pure imitation of mediæval Gothic. The internal arrangements are also in good keeping with the external building, and the whole forms a pleasing object to the admirers of monumental works. The mural tablet to the memory of the Gordon family is worth recording, and we give it entire on the following page :—

NOTE.—The date on the belfry of the Church of Drainie is 1675. Michael Cumine was the first minister of Drainie. The inscription on his tomb is—“In memory of that faithful and laborious  
“servant of Jesus Christ, Michael Cuming, who labored in the  
“gospell at Kinneddar twenty-nine yeirs, and was very instru-  
“mental in erecting this edifice. He died in the Lord, February  
“20th, 1698, aged fifty-eight yeirs.”

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Here's a register of the age and death of the most considerable persons of the family of Gordonstoun here interred— Dame Genewieu Petaw, the daughter of Gideon Petaw, Lord of Mault, in the Isle of France, widow of John Gordon, Lod. of Glenluce and Dean of Salisbury, & ye mother-in-law of Sr. Robert Gordon of Gordonstoun, died Decr. 6th, 1643, in the 83d year of her age.—Sr. Robert Gordon of Gordons- toun, son to the Earle of Sutherland, by my Lady Jean Gordon, daughter to the Earle of Huntley, died March, 1656, aged 77 years.—Dame Lucia Gordon, his Lady, daughter to John Gordon, Lod. of Glenluce and Dean of Salisbury, by D. Genewieu Petaw, died 7ber, 1680, aged 83 years.— Mrs Katharin Gordon, daughter to Sr. Robert Gordon of Gord., and spous to Collonel David Barclay of Urie, died March, 1663, aged 43 years.—Mr Charles Gordon, son to Sr. Rt. Gordon of Gord., died —, 1674, aged 43 years.— D. Jean Gordon, daughter to Sr. Rt. Gordon, & spous to Sr. Alexr. McKenzie of Coul, died 1676, aged 43 years. Mrs Lucia Gordon, daughter to Sr. Rt. Gordon, died befor her Father, unmarried, about ye 18 year of her age.—Sr. Lodovick Gordon of Gordonstoun, son to Sr. Rt. Gordon, by D. Lucia Gordon, died Dcr., 1688, aged 63 years. D. Eliza- beth Farquhar, his first Lady, daughter to Sr. Robert Farqu- har of Munie, by D. Elizabeth Buck, died Nor., 1661, aged 38 years. Mrs Anna Gordon, daught. to Sr. Lodovick Gordon, died unmarried.—Alexr. Gordon, son to Sr. Lodo- vick Gordon, died 1660.—Benjamin Gordon, son to Sr. Lodovick Gordon, died 1662. Lodovick Gordon, son to Sr. Lodovick Gordon, died Sber, 1696, aged 43 years.—Sr. Robert Gordon of Gordon, son to Sr. Lodovick Gordon, by D. Elizabeth Farquhar, died 5 of Sber, 1704, aged 57 years. —D. Margaret Forbess, his first Lady, eldest daughter of my Ld. Forbess, by Mrs Jean Campbell, died Apr., 1677. —William Gordon, son to Sr. Rt. Gordon, by D. Elizabeth



Dunbar, daughter to Sr. William Dunbar of Hempriges, died 18 March, 1701 years. Mrs Margaret Gordon; daughter to Sr. Rt. Gordon, by D. Elizabeth Dunbar, died 26 March, 1703, aged 10 years.—Mrs Katharin Gordon, daughter to Sr Rt. Gordon, by D. Elizabeth Dunbar, died 18 March, 1705, aged 3 years. Mrs Elizabeth Gordon, daughter to Sr. Rt. Gordon, by D. Elizabeth Dunbar, died Decr., 1705.—Lucy, daughter of Sir Robert Gordon and Dame Elizabeth Dunbar, married David Scott of Scotstarvet.—Sir Robert Gordon, son of Sir Robert Gordon and Dame Elizabeth Dunbar, born 1696, died 1772; married 1734, Agnes, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Calderwood, Baronet. Dame Agnes Maxwell, died at Lossiemouth, 11th March, 1808.—Sir Robert Gordon, eldest son of Sir Robert Gordon and Dame Agnes Maxwell, born 1736, died unmarried 2nd June, 1776. He was succeeded by his brother, Sir William Gordon, born 1738, died in Edinburgh unmarried 5th March, 1795.—Lewis and John, younger sons, left no issue.—A daughter, Christian, died young.

Dame Elizabeth Dunbar, widow of Sir Robert Gordon, third Baronet of Gordonstown, who erected the above monument, was the only child and heiress of Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs. She married, for her second husband, the Honourable James Sutherland, second son of James second Lord Duffus, by whom she also had a family. He assumed the name of Dunbar, and was created a baronet, and the large estates of the Dunbar family in Caithness were settled on the heir-male of the second marriage. There are various monuments in the mausoleum besides the above, the Altyre family having been interred here since the death of Sir Alexander Penrose Gordon Cumming, great-grandfather of the

present Baronet, in 1806. It would be foreign to our subject, however, to refer to these, farther than to remark that the monuments lately erected by Lady Gordon Cumming are particularly ornamental and tasteful, and that the whole building has, by her Ladyship, been put into the most complete order and repair, and a careful examination of it would well repay a visit to the admirers of architecture and art.

#### 4. SUTHERLAND OF DUFFUS, AND DUNBAR OF THUNDERTON AND DUFFUS.

THE families of Sutherland of Duffus, and Dunbar of Thunderton and Duffus, were both connected with the Parish of Spynie, and particularly with the loch, and we should have been much inclined here to give an account of both; but, although we have the most complete materials, having given an account of both families in Notes on Burghead, we must refer to that work on the subject. We must, however, correct an error there stated, in which it was observed that the Estate of Thunderton was in the Parish of *Lonmay*, while it is properly in the Parish of *Longside*, in the County of Aberdeen. In the Poll Book for the County of Aberdeen, of the year 1696, Parish of Longside, the following entry occurs:—“List of  
“ poleable persones within the lands of Thundertone,  
“ pertaineing to Robert Dunbar of Newtoun, who is

“ living in Murraye, which land is valued to £133  
 “ 6s. 8d., the hundreth pairt therof payable be the  
 “ tennents, £1 6s. 8d.” The Estate of Thunderton  
 came into possession of John Falconer, Warden of  
 the Mint, and Archibald Dunbar, eldest son of James  
 Dunbar of Newton, on 27th October, 1654. James  
 Falconer of Phesdo, eldest son of the above John  
 Falconer, disponed his half of the estate to the above  
 Archibald Dunbar, on 23d August, 1683. Robert  
 Dunbar of Newton having succeeded, sold Thunder-  
 ton to his brother, Archibald Dunbar, afterwards of  
 Duffus, who again sold it to Gordon of Buthlaw, on  
 17th September, 1712. The estate therefore be-  
 longed to the Dunbars, partly or wholly, about  
 fifty-eight years. It lies about four miles from  
 Peterhead, and consists of three farms, the rents of  
 which amount to about £400 per annum.

Poll Book,  
 vol. 1, page 598.

## 5. THE ESTATE OF PITGAVENY.

THE Estate of Pitgaveny is situated in the Parish of St. Andrew's, but has been frequently referred to in the preceding pages, and is closely connected with the Parish and Loch of Spynie. It may be therefore interesting to devote a short space to consideration of the deduction of the different proprietors who have possessed it. This estate was undoubtedly church land, and was situated in the Barony of Kilmalemnock. It does not appear in the Rental of

the Bishoprick in 1565, and was therefore alienated before the Reformation, but it still pays to the Crown a large grain feu-duty, as coming in place of the Bishop. The property was early in possession of the family of Douglas of Pittendreich, and continued with them down to about the year 1630, when it was purchased by Alexander Brodie of Lethen, who, with consent of his eldest son, Alexander Brodie, by disposition, dated in July and August, 1657, conveyed the property to David Brodie, his second son, and the heirs-male of his body, whom failing, to return to the said Alexander Brodie, his father, and his heirs-male, and others succeeding to him in his heritable estate. David Brodie succeeded, by the death of his elder brother, to the Estate of Lethen, and executed a procuratory of resignation on 2d August, 1697, whereby he resigned the lands of Pitgaveny to himself in liferent, and to Thomas Brodie, lawful son to James Brodie, his brother-german, in fee, and the heirs-male of his body, whom failing, to himself (the said David Brodie), and his heirs and assignees. Thomas Brodie succeeded to the estate, and married Mary Haldane, daughter of Patrick Haldane of Lanrick, and by contract of marriage, dated 13th March, and 1st and 23d April, 1697, he obliged himself to resign the estate in favour of himself, and the heirs-male of the marriage, whom failing, to his heirs-male by any future marriage, whom failing, to the heirs of tailzie, mentioned in the disposition granted by David Brodie to him. Thomas Brodie had by this marriage one son, David Brodie, and four daughters, viz. :—Ann, married to

the Rev. Alexander Irvine, Minister of Elgin; Agnes, married to the Rev. George Gordon, Minister of Alves; Jean, married to Robert Leslie, Merchant in Elgin; and Margaret. David Brodie of Pitgaveny married Barbara Gordon, daughter of Gilbert Gordon, Merchant, and Bailie of Inverness, and by contract of marriage, dated 29th April, 1735, he provided the estate to the heirs-male of the marriage; whom failing, to the heirs-male of any subsequent marriage; whom failing, to his nearest heirs or assignees. He died without issue, and his sisters procured themselves served nearest and lawful heirs-portioners and of provision to their brother, on 28th October, 1746. This service was attempted to be reduced by Alexander Brodie of Lethen, Charles Brodie, his brother, and Thomas Brodie, Writer to the Signet, who claimed the estate for the Lethen family, as heirs-male, and of tailzie, under the original destination. The Court, however, after a full hearing, found that the original destination was effectually altered by the contract of marriage of the last David Brodie, and that his sisters had right to succeed as heirs-portioners. The decree is dated 9th January, 1750. Previous to the date of the decision, the heiresses-portioners had exposed the estate to public roup, and it was purchased by Alexander Brebner, Merchant in Portsoy, for £33,000 Scots (£2750 stg.), but under deduction of £4800 Scots, as the value of the liferent of Barbara Gordon, widow of David Brodie of Pitgaveny. The date of the sale was the 6th October, 1747; but, in consequence of the lawsuit, the price was not paid, nor the disposition

granted to the purchaser, until 31st July, 1751. Mr. Brebner did not keep the estate long. He got embarrassed in his circumstances, and granted securities over it, and on 29th April, 1765, with consent of Margaret Brown, his wife, for her liferent right, he sold the property to Alexander Brander, junior, Merchant in Elgin (afterwards Provost), for behoof of James Brander, Merchant in Lisbon, second lawful son to John Brander, Merchant in Elgin. The price paid was £4185 10s. sterling, being a rise of more than £1400 on its value from the time Mr. Brebner bought it in 1747. On 31st January, 1775, Mr. Alexander Brander, Merchant in London, elder brother of Mr. James Brander, purchased from the Earl of Fife, then proprietor of Kinneddar and Aikenhead, these estates, for £10,500 sterling. Kinneddar and Pitgaveny lay contiguous to one another, and thus the two brothers got command of the outfall of the Loch of Spynie, which enabled them to execute the extensive drainage of the loch they carried out a few years after this period, as narrated in the text. The Estates of Kinneddar and Pitgaveny became united in a few years after the purchase, in the person of John Brander, son of James Brander of Pitgaveny, and nephew of Alexander Brander of Kinneddar. John Brander died about the year 1824, and was succeeded by his son, Colonel James Brander, who, dying without issue, was succeeded by his sister, Mary, wife of Sir Archibald Dunbar, late of Northfield, Baronet, and on her Ladyship's death, in 1869, she was succeeded by her son, Captain James Dunbar Brander, now of

Pitgaveny. The present family have possessed Pitgaveny 105 years, and Kinneddar 95 years, from the respective periods of purchase. It may be mentioned that Mr. James Brander, after his purchase, erected a very handsome house on the Estate of Pitgaveny, in the modern style of architecture, which, after the lapse of a century, still stands entire, and in good order, and there are few better or even equal to it in the country.

6. We have referred in the text to the contract entered into between the proprietors on the banks of the Lossie for preventing the river from overflowing and damaging their lands, in the neighbourhood of the Loch of Spynie, in the year 1706. Since the time these remarks were written, we have procured a full extract of the contract, which is chiefly valuable for containing the names of the proprietors, and the state of the drainage of the river at the time. It is as follows:—

ATT ELGIN, the second day of May, one thousand seven hundred and seven years, in presence of Thomas Tulloch of Tannachie, Commissar of Murray, compeired personally James Craig, Writter in Elgin, as procurator law'ly constitute for Sir Harie Innes of that ilk; Sir Alexr. Innes of Coxtoun; Master James Sutherland, Advocat; John Innes of Leuchars; George Innes of Dunkinty; Thomas Brody of Pitgavenie; Alexander Dunbar of Bishopmilne; and gave in the contract underwtn; desiring ye same to be insert and registrat in ye said Commissar his court books, conform to ye clause of registration yrein contained, which desire the said Commissr. thought reasonable, and therefore decerned and ordained the same to be insert and registrat in his said books; interponed, and interpones his decret and authority

thereto, to the effect forsaid, whereof the tenor follous :—“ WEE, Sir Harrie Innes of that ilk ; Sir Alexander Innes of Coxtoun ; Master James Sutherland, Advocat, second lawfull son to the deceast James Lord Duffus, for myself and the now Lord Duffus his interest ; John Innes of Leuchars ; George Innes of Dunkinty ; Thomas Brodie of Pitgavenie ; Alexander Dunbar of Bishopmilne, Shereff of Moray, hereters of the adjacent lands on the east and west sides of the River of LOSSIE, from below the Church of St. Andrew’s and downward, taking to our consideration the great loss and damage wee and each of us sustain in our estats, by our not maintaining ye banks of ye said river, which our predecessors in the said lands were in use to doe, and confining her to ye present course and channel, where now she runs, and wherein she has been put by art and force, which has occasioned an overflowing of our adjacent lands at severall places ; AND WEE being now resolved, from the feme of our former loss, to maintain ye banks of ye sd. river, for our mutual preservatn. of our estats in time coming, do hereby bind and oblige us, and each of us, and others, our heirs, and successors succeeding to us in our said lands and estats, NOT ONLY to maintain and support ye banks of the said river on each sid thereof, from below the sd Church of Saint Andrew’s, and downward, where our or either of our estates doe lye contiguous thereto, by raising and ffortyfyng the banks yrof with earth, feall, stone, crealls, &ca., &ca., where need doeth so require, BUT LIKE, WAYES to fill up the breaches alreddie med, or to be made, within the bounds aforsaid, and for that effect we bind and oblige us, and our forsaid, to concurr with one anoyr, and contribut our assistance with men and horses, for perfecting and maintaining the said work, as occasion shall require, and hereby gives and grants full power and liberty to cast feall and turff, and to cutt green wood (not enclosed) for making of creells, on our respective estats, nixt adjacent to ye place so to be ffortified, maintained, and repaired, within the bounds aforsd., and that of such timber and ground as the heretors of the adjacent lands and wood shall condescend on. The ground to be cutt not being above one hundred spaces distant from the place to be fortified, or thereby, and that under the penalty of ffyve hundred merks usuall Scots money, to be payed by the partie failling, to the partie performin, or willing to performe, by and attour performance thereof, and reparin of the



damnages to be sustained therethrow. And for ye more security we are content and consent that thir presents be insert and registrat in the books of Councill and Sessione, or any oyr competent judicatory books within this kingdom, therein to remain for preservation, or if neid beis, that all exectun necessar pass hereon, in forme as effeirs, and to that effect constitut JAMES CRAIG, Writer in Elgin, our Prors. In witness whereof thir presents, wten by Alexr. Dunbar, serviter to James Wiseman, Wter in Elgin, are subd wd our hands at Elgin the twenty-eight day of May, Jmviijc and six years, before these witnesses, to the sub'tiene of the sd Sir Harie, John, and George Innes, and Thomas Brody of Pitgavenie, viz.:—Lodovick Dunbar of Grange ; Captain Robert Urquhart of Burdsyards ; Ludovick Brodie, and John Innes, Wters in Edr., and the said James Wiseman, with George Brodie of Ashleisk, and Colonel William Grant, also witnesses to the subscriptione of ye said Alexr. Dunbar of Bishopmilne, and to the subscriptione of the said Sir Alexr. Innes, Doctor Jonathan Forbes, and the sd James Wiseman. Sic subscribitur—Harie Innes ; John Innes : Tho. Brodie ; Geo. Innes ; Alexr. Dunbar ; James Sutherland ; Alexr. Innes ; Rob. Urquhart, Witness ; Lo. Dunbar, Witness ; Geo. Brodie, Witness ; Lud. Brodie, Witness ; Ja. Wiseman, Witness ; Jo. Innes, Witness ; Will. Grant, Witness ; Jon. Forbes, Witness.

Extracted by me,

(Signed) JAMES ANDERSON, Clk.

The family of Innes, which, in the preceding century, had very extensive possessions in the North, having, either by the chief or cadets of the house, large estates in Banff, Moray, Ross, and Caithness, was now in a very declining state, still the head of the house, and three cadets, subscribe the above bond, showing that they were still powerful in the Lowlands of Moray. In the course of the next half century they had nearly lost all their estates.

### III.—ESTATE OF SPYNIE.

1. THE following document bears the date of 1782, and throws considerable light on the history of the Estate of Spynie and surrounding country. It is copied from the original verbatim, and without alteration as to spelling or otherwise. The paper is docqueted in the handwriting of Provost Alexander Brander, of Elgin, as follows :—

#### *Memoriall relative to the Barrony of Spynie—1782.*

1451.—King James the 2d, by his charter on Record, granted to John Winchester, the Bishop of Moray, the many lands of that see, erected them into a Barrony, called the Barrony of Spynie, containing, inter alia, the Port and Harbour of Lossie, and Fishing of the same.

The same year the town and village of Spynie was erected into a free Burgh of Barrony, with liberty of mercates and merchandizes, as ample as any Burgh of Barrony in Scotland.

Patrick Hepburn, Commendator of Scoon, and Bishop of Moray, finding the Reformation approaching, feud out a great deal of the Patrimonies of that Bishopric.

1565.—In those days the Bishop's Estates were known by different Barronies, and his rent rates made up as such. In the Advocates' Library there is an exact rentall, whereby the Barrony of Spynie is composed of the following lands :—Town of Spynie ; the Lands and Miln of Bishopmiln ; the Lands of Myreside ; Auldrechtie ; Panns ; Inchbroke ; fishings of Lossie ; Saltcotts ; Baxter's Croft ; and some houses and crofts in and near Elgin, and Boyle's Yards there.

The Barrony of Kinneddar consisted of the lands of Kin-

nedar, Gardens, and Palace thereof; Ardivatt; Muirtown; Whiteley; Oakenhead; Meikle Drainy; Little Drainy, alias Salterhill; Ettles.

1568.—In this year he feu'd, with consent of his Chapter, to James Earl of Moray, Regent, the Lands of Kinnedar; Miln and Lands of Oakenhead; Harbours of Stotfield, and many others, for payment of certain feu-duties, and this Charter was confirmed by James the 6th, 24th Febry., 1620, as appears by Public Records.

1592.—After the Reformation, the whole Patrimony of the Bishop did fall to the crown, and in the year 1590 the same was erected into a temporal Lordship, in favours of Mr. Alexander Lindsay, Lord of Spynie, by Charter confirmed by Parliament, dated the 6th May, 1590. This Charter contains the Barrony of Spynie—cum castris, turribus, Fortaliciis, molendiniis, multuris et eorum sequelis, *Lacis*, parcis, wardis, pratis, forestis, Lacubus, salmonum Piscationibus, aliisque piscationibus quibuscunq̄, partibus, pendiculis, annexis, villis ac austis, tenen, tenand terrarum libere earundem, et omnibus suis pertinen jacen infra vice de Elgin et Forres, cum privilegiis jurisdictionibus et immunitatibus ejusdem, totas et integras terras, Dominium et Baroniam de Kinnedar; and then follows specially the whole other lands, with castles, Towers, woods, *lakes*, wards, meadows, forrests, salmon fishings, &ca.

This Charter excepts the subaltern rights of the said Lands. Lord Spynie was in use to exerce his right at large, by disposing of Lands, Tiends, and Patronages.

Particularly the said Alexander Lindsay, Lord Spynie, by contract, 8 June, 1602, and Charter of this date, sold, annailzied, feued, and dispon'd, with consent of Alexand. Master of Spynie, and Jean Lyon, Countess of Angus, his spouse, to and in favour of Alexander Dunbar of Cumnock, Sheriff of Moray—totum et integrum, nostrum castrum, Lacum, turrem et fortalicium de Spynie, uno cum veridaris ejusdem, vulgo lie Green, cum domibus, ædificiis, columbariis, hortis, pomariis ac omnibus suis pertinentiis, una cum sylva de Spynie ac hereditario fundali jure proprietatis super quo fundo, sylva eadem crescit, cum plena potestate et libertate cedendi, vendendi et disponendi omnes et singulas arbores, in

dicta silva crescen, eademq postea conservare, seu alias fundum ejusd labere, dicto Alexandro suisque predict, maxime videbitur expediens, una etiam cum Lacu de Spynie, et suis pertinen, jacen infra regalitatem de Spynie, et vicecomitatum de Elgin et Forres.

This contract is registrate in the Books of Council and Session, 6 Janry., 1603, upon which infestment follow'd the last of August, 1602, under the subscription and sign of George Sutherland and James Low, Notaries Publick, and registrate in the Secretairies Register of Elgin and Nairn, the 2d October, 1602.

Episcopacy was restored by Act, 1606, chap. 2d, and Bishops endued with their Benefices.

1607.—Alexander Bishop of Moray confirms the above rights, but in it the Castle and Loch is not comprehended.

1609.—The same Alexander Douglas, Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Dean and Chapter, confirms the foresaid right to the Lands of Kinnedar to James Earl of Moray, and grants a novo damus thereon.

1658.—Alexander Earl of Moray having contracted great debts, for discharge thereof he wadsetted the Lands of Kinnedar, and afterwards, by Disposition the 1 February, 1658, as Heir serv'd and retour'd to James Earl of Moray, his father, narrating the wadsetts, and receiving a full price for the Reversion, discharged the power thereof, and of new disponded the Lands specially numerated, which Disposition will be found on record in the Books of Council and Session, 14th June, 1708; and a Charter thereupon, under the great seal, will be found in favours of Alexander Brodie of that Ilk, 10 March, 1658, whereupon infestment followed, and is registrate in the particular Register of Sasines, 26th August, 1658.

*Lord Spynie.*

2. WE have mentioned in the text that Alexander Lindsay, fourth son of David, ninth Earl of Craufurd, was created a peer by the title of Lord Spynie, on 17th April, 1593. He had previously received a Crown grant of the temporalities of the See of Moray. He was long a favourite of King James VI., and, through the King's influence, was married to Jean Lyon, daughter of the Lord Glammis, and widow of the Earl of Angus. By this lady he had two sons, viz., Alexander, second Lord Spynie; Honourable John Lindsay, who died young; Honourable Anne Lindsay, married to Sir Robert Graham of Innermay; Honourable Margaret Lindsay, married to John Erskine of Dun. He and his lady seem to have taken no interest in their northern estates, but committed the charge of them to their Baron Bailies, Innes of Leuchars and Cotts. Indeed the Spynie Estate did not long remain in the family, having been re-purchased by the Crown, in 1606. Lord Spynie was unfortunately killed in the street of Edinburgh, in July, 1607, under the following circumstances:—The Earl of Crawford having assassinated his kinsman, Sir Walter Lindsay, Sir David Lindsay of Edzell, nephew of Sir Walter, collected an armed force to avenge the murder. The parties met in Edinburgh, when Lord Spynie, interposing

Douglas' Peerage,  
Wood's edition,  
vol. 2, page 518.

between them, was inadvertently killed by Edzell. His death was much regretted for the many good qualities he possessed, and the hopes his friends entertained of his being able to revive again the ancient house of Crawford to its former splendour. A curious traditional story prevails in the country that the death of the first Lord Spynie occurred from the circumstance of his having seduced a sister of Lindsay of Edzell, and that her brother murdered him to avenge the family disgrace. The story, however, seems a pure romance. Lord Lindsay gives the following account of it:—"Edzell had two sisters, " both of them, I believe, left early motherless. The " eldest, named Margaret, remembered in tradition " as the 'Proud Lady of Edzell,' and married to " Watson of Aitherny, the representative of an " ancient and opulent family in Fifeshire, which was " ruined through her extravagance. The youngest, " Janet, a lovely and graceful girl, whose fate throws " a shade of still deeper sadness over the darkening " fortunes of her house. She fell a victim to the " arts of the younger son of a noble Scottish family, " who ruined and deserted her, and her story has " been commemorated in the following ballad, or " rather in the accompanying legend, in which the " dim memory of tradition has mixed up her fate " with the feud between the houses of Edzell and " Crawford in 1607, confounding her brother with " David the young Laird of Edzell, who attacked " the Master of Crawford in the High Street of " Edinburgh, and her lover with the Lord Spynie, " who was inadvertently slain on that occasion."

Lives of the  
Lindsays, vol.  
2, page 262.

The ballad is as follows :—

LORD SPYNIE, ye may pu' the rose,  
And spare the lily flower,  
When ye gae through the garden green,  
To woo in lady's bower.

And ye may pu' the lightsome thyme,  
And leave the lonesome rue ;  
For lang and sair will the lady mourn  
That ye gae there to woo.

For ye will look and talk of luvè,  
And kindly, kindly smile,  
An' vow by grace, and a that's gude,  
And lay the luring wile.

Tis sair to rob the bonnie bird  
That makes yon melodie ;  
Tis cruel to win a woman's luvè,  
An' no hae luvè to gie.

I wadna hae your wilfu' hand,  
Though a' the earth were thine ;  
Ye've broken many a maiden's peace,  
Ye've mair than broken mine.

I wadna hae your faithless heart,  
Tis no your ain to gie ;  
But gin ye ever think o' heaven,  
Oh ye maun think o' me.

Lord Lindsay adds—“ A daughter was the fruit of  
“ this ill-omened love, of whom descendants still  
“ exist in England, and the faithless lover left the  
“ country, and was killed at the battle of Almanza,  
“ in Spain.”

Alexander, second Lord Spynie, succeeded his father in 1607. He had charters of the Lordship of Spynie, with the title of a Lord of Parliament, 16th July, 1621; of the lands of Careston, 19th March, 1623; of Leyes, in Forfarshire, 29th April, 1624; and of the Barony of Finhaven, 22d January, 1631. He served under Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, in the German wars, and had the character of a gallant officer. He died in March, 1646. By his first wife, Joanna Douglas, he had no issue. By his second marriage, with Lady Margaret Hay, only daughter of George, first Earl of Kinnoul, he had—

1. Alexander, Master of Spynie, who married Lady Magdalene Carnegie, second daughter of John first Earl of Northesk.
2. George, third Lord Spynie.
  1. Daughter, Margaret, married to William Fullarton of Fullarton, and had issue.
  2. Daughter, Anne Lindsay, died unmarried.

George third Lord Spynie was served heir to his father and brother 12th June, 1646. He was a great supporter of King Charles I. in his wars, and ruined his estate in the service. He accompanied Charles II. to England, and was engaged in the battle of Worcester; was there taken prisoner, and sent to the Tower of London. On the death of Ludovick, fourteenth Earl of Crawford, the male representation of that family devolved on Lord Spynie, who was served heir-male of David ninth Earl of Crawford, 8th November, 1666. He died without issue in 1672.

After the death of George, third Lord Spynie,



the representation of the family, in the female line, devolved on Margaret, his sister, wife of William Fullarton of Fullarton, near Meigle. Their only son married a daughter of Carnegie of Boysack, near Arbroath, and was grandfather of Colonel William Fullarton of Spynie, who married his own cousin, Miss Carnegie, heiress of Boysack. Their son, in right of his mother, and according to the deed of entail, assumed the name and title of Lindsay Carnegie of Spynie and Boysack, and by his wife, descended of the family of Strachan of Thornton, he had several children. James, their eldest son, died in North America, in 1814. William, the next son, who was an officer of artillery, and served in Portugal and the West Indies, succeeded to the estate, and married a daughter of the Earl of Northesk. He was Convener of the County of Forfar, and heir of line and representative of the Lords of Spynie. He died some years ago, and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Henry Alexander, born 1836. The seat of the family is at Kinblethmont, near Arbroath.

Jervise's Lands  
of the Lindsays  
page 292.

The peerage of Spynie was claimed in 1785 by the great-grandfather of the present proprietor, and fully heard in the House of Lords; but the claim was rejected, on the supposed ground that the title was only granted to the male descendants of the first Lord Spynie. It is probable if the claim had been made at a later date that it would have been sustained, as the evidence to bear upon it could now be made more complete, and would show that the title descended to females.

The family have now no connection with the Parish of Spynie, except that they hold the patronage, and have presented the last three parochial clergymen.

*Family of Brodie of that Ilk.*

3. THIS family is of undoubted antiquity, and probably was of the stock of the ancient Moravienses, or of that which was introduced in place of the Moray men, in the reign of Malcolm IV., when the great migration took place. They carry stars in their coat armorial, as do the other old families of Moray and Innes. The name of Brodie is purely local, so we presume all persons of the name in every part of the world owe their origin to the parent stock in the Parish of Dyke. Although the family have thus been long located in the Province of Moray, less is known of their history than of almost any other of similar antiquity. This has been accounted for by the fact that all their papers and charters were destroyed when Brodie House was burnt by Lord Lewis Gordon, in 1645. It does not, however, explain entirely the almost entire want of information about them, and it may therefore be presumed that their estate was not large, nor were they much known as having taken a share in public affairs until the middle or close of the 16th century, when they somewhat suddenly take a prominent part in the

county, and so continue down to our own time. The Brodie family were proprietors of the Estate of Spynie for about eighty years, and of the lands of Kinneddar and Aikenhead, in the adjoining Parish of Drainie, for about 125 years. They were thus connected with the Loch of Spynie both on the south and north sides, and had the command of the out-fall of the water. The race of Brodie is deduced as follows :—

1. Malcolm Thane of Brodie, in the reign of Alexander III. He died in 1285, and had a son,
2. Michael Filius Malcolmi, Thanus de Brothie and Dyke. He is said to have had a charter from King Robert Bruce in 1314.
3. Joannes de Brothie is mentioned in 1376 as in attendance on the Earl of Mar, and also in the Chartulary of Moray, 1380.
4. Thomas de Brothie, also mentioned in Chartulary, 1386.
5. John de Brothie.
6. Richard de Brothie and his wife, buried at Dyke, 16th September, 1446.
7. John Brothie of that ilk. Granted a thirlage of the Estate of Brodie to the Prior of Pluscarden, 1466. Assisted the Mackenzies against the Macdonalds at the battle of Blair-na-path.
8. Alexander de Brothie of that ilk is mentioned in a warrant of the Lords of Council, 1484.
9. John Thane of Brothie. Is mentioned in the Chartulary of Moray, 1492. He was succeeded by his son,
10. Alexander Brodie of Brodie married Janet Douglas. Had a charter from William Hay of Lochloy to himself and spouse, 1514. Sat on the service of Hugh Lord Lovat, 10th January, 1524.
11. Thomas Brodie of Brodie married Agnes Schaw. Signed a grant of thirlage to the Prior of Pluscarden's mill, 1540. Sat on the service of Archibald Campbell of Calder, 1546. Had a charter under the Great Seal to himself and spouse, 1547.
12. Alexander Brodie of Brodie succeeded in 1550. Married,

Genealogy of  
Brodie Family,  
by  
William Brodie,  
Eastbourne,  
Sussex.

1553, 1st, Marjory, daughter of Robert Dunbar of Durris, by whom he had one son, David. His first wife died before the year 1569. He married, 2d, Margaret, daughter of John Hay of Lochloy and Park, widow of Dunbar of Bennagefield, by whom he had five sons and five daughters. He died in 1583. His second wife died in 1609. An attempt was made by the relatives of the second wife to disinherit David, the son of the first marriage, in favour of George, the oldest son of the second marriage, but it was not successful.

13. David succeeded his father in 1583. He was born in 1553. He married, 1584, Janet, youngest daughter of John Hay of Lochloy and Park, sister of his own stepmother. By her, who died in 1607, he had seven sons, viz. :—first, David, who succeeded him; second, Alexander, who purchased Lethen, Pitgaveny, &c.; third, John, Minister of Auldearn, and Dean of Moray, ancestor of Whitewreath; fourth, William, in Tearie, afterwards of Coltfoot; fifth, Ninian, in Calsayford; sixth, Francis, in Leylands, afterwards of Milntoun and Inverlochtie; seventh, Joseph, minister of Keith, afterwards of Forres, ancestor of Muiresk. The sons were all able, talented, and well-doing men, and by them the fortunes of the family, both in its chief and cadent branches, were laid deep at this time. David, the father, died in 1626.

14. David, born 1586, married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Dunbar of Grange, Dean of Moray, by whom he had Alexander, his successor. David, born 1620, died without issue, 1653. Joseph of Asleisk, who married, 1st, Christian Baillie, a daughter of Jerviswoode, by whom he had one daughter; and, 2d, Isabel, daughter of Dundas of Duddingston, by whom he had a son, who carried on the line of this family. William, who died without issue. Grizel, married to Walter Kinnaird, Younger of Culbin, and Elizabeth, married to Colin Campbell of Braichlie and Ardersier, second son of Sir John Campbell of Calder. David Brodie of Brodie died 1632. His widow married Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, Sheriff of Moray.

15. Alexander, born 1617, succeeded his father, David Brodie. He married, in 1635, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Innes, Baronet, and widow of John Urquhart of Craigs-ton. She died in 1640, and left one son and a daughter, viz. :—

James, who succeeded his father in the estate, and Grizel, born 1636, married to Sir Robert Dunbar of Grangehill. Alexander Brodie was sent to England for his education in 1628, and returned in 1632, the year of his father's death. In that and the following year he was a student at King's College, Aberdeen. He had very early religious impressions; was a Covenanter, and followed the strictest Presbyterian rules. His connection with the family of Innes confirmed him in his religious sentiments. In 1646 he had the misfortune to have his House of Brodie burnt, and all his papers destroyed, by Lord Lewis Gordon, son of the Marquis of Huntly, a follower of Montrose. He was Member of Parliament for the County of Elgin in 1643; and, as a ruling elder, was returned to the General Assemblies of the Church, which then exercised great power. He, along with the Earl of Cassillis, and other two, were sent Commissioners to treat with Charles II., at the Hague, in 1649. On his return he was appointed a Lord of Session, but, in the distracted state of the times, the Court sat very little. He was again appointed a judge by Cromwell in 1658, along with the English lawyers who then took charge of the Court of Session, but the restoration of Charles II. deprived him of office, which he had taken very unwillingly. After this time he lived very much at Brodie, taking an active share in local business, and also engaged in religious matters. His diary, which begins on 22d January, 1655, is continued with some breaks up to 16th April, 1680. Among much religious meditation, it contains a deal of information on the history of the times, both public and local, and is an interesting work. Part of it was published in Edinburgh in 1740, and a complete edition of all that remains of it was published by the Spalding Club, under the able editorship of Mr. David Laing, of Edinburgh, in 1863. Although greatly occupied with religious and political matters, Lord Brodie was not inattentive to his private affairs, and was possessed of abundance of ready-money. It is probable that at this time the lands of Monaughty were acquired. The fine Estate of Kinneddar was purchased from James Earl of Moray, first upon wadset, in 1648, and afterwards absolutely, in 1658.\* Lord Brodie after this

\* I have before me, while I write the above, the original contract of wadset

period seems to have led a life of considerable anxiety and trouble. After the restoration of the Royal House of Stuart, in 1660, he was a marked man, and considered as opposed to the Government, both in civil and ecclesiastical affairs. He appears, however, to have walked with great prudence and circumspection in a very distracted and troubled period—bemoaning in his diary the evil times in which his lot was cast. In his latter days his health was

between James Earl of Moray and Alexander Brodie of that ilk, dated 9th September, 1648, which proceeds as follows :—

“ATT ELGIN the nynt day of September, the yeir of God Jajvjc and furtie-aught yeirs, It is appoyntit, contractit, faithfullie oblist, agriet, and endit, betwixt ane nobill and mightie Lord James Erle of Murray, Lord Doune and Abernethie, on the ane pairt, and Alexr. Brodie of that Ilk on the othir, in manner, form, and effect as after followes :— THAT is to say, the said nobill Lord grants him to have receivit in borroweing from ye said Alexr. all and haill ye summe of twentie-nine thousand markis usuall Scottis monie, qrof ye said nobill Lord holds him weill contentit satisfied in paymt, and for him, his airs, exrs., and assigneys exonerit, quit, claimed, and dischairgit ye said Alexr. Brodie, his airs, exrs., and all utheris qusomr it may concern, of ye said summe, renouncand by thir presents ye exceptione of non numerats mony, and all othir exceptiones yt may be objectit to ye contrair ; FOR securitie of payment, and redemptione of ye said summe of twentie-nine thousand markis monie forsd, ye said nobill Lord has sauld, annalziet, and dispon'd, and be ye tenorre herof, sellis, annalzies, and disponis to ye said Alexr. Brodie, his airs-maill, assigneys, and successoures quhatsomever, all and haill ye toune and landis of KINNEDDAR, wt ye cunnigers, meaddous, yairds, ruinous Pailis, pairtis, pendicles, and pertinentis yrof, all lyand within ye Barrony of Kinneddar, Regalitie of Spynie, and Sheriffdome of Elgin and Forres— . . . . wt ye Harbour of Stotfauld, priviledges and commodities yrof, and pertinentis, all lyand as saidis—

The testing clause is as follows :—

In witnes qrof thir prs., written be Andrew Young, Wrter in Elgin, and subscriyvit be haill ye saids parties, day, zeir, and place above wtin, before thir witnesses—Sr. Robert Innes of yat Ilk, Knicht Barronet ; Alexr. Brodie of Lethen ; Mr John Hay, Commissy of Murraye ; Francis Brodie, in Ballivat ; Mr David Stewart of Newtoun ; James Dunbar, in Ester Innes ; and Andrew Young, Wrter, forsaid.

(Sic subscribitur),

MURRAY.

AL. BRODIE of that Ilk.

ROBERT INNES of that Ilk, Witnes.

ALEXANDER BRODIE of Lethen, Wittnes.

DAVID STEWART, Witnes.

JHON HAY, Witnes.

JAMES DUNBAR, Witnes.

ANDREW YOUNG, Wrter, and Witnes.

The Earl of Moray seems at this period to have been in a very depressed state. He sold to his son-in-law, Lord Duffus, the lands of Ardgay, Legat, and Kintrae, and the fine old mansion-house in Elgin.

very bad, and he suffered much from pain and sickness. The last entry in his diary is on the 16th April, 1680. He there records—“I heard read Job 15-20,” &c. He died on the following night. His son, on the 17th April, writes—“This night, betwixt 12 at night and 2 of the morning, being Sabbath morning, dyed my precious, worthie, and dear father.” Being born in 1617, he had reached the age of sixty-three. He was truly a good man, and his memory is blest. Diary, p. 425.

16. James, only son of the preceding laird, was born 1637. He married, in 1659, Lady Mary Kerr, fifth daughter of William third Earl of Lothian, by whom he had nine daughters, viz. :—Anne, married, 1679, William twelfth Lord Forbes, she died 1710; Katharine, born 1663, married, 1682, Robert Dunbar of Grangehill, her cousin-german; Elizabeth, married, 1686, Alexander Cumming of Altyre; Grizel, married, 1685, Robert Dunbar of Dunphail; Emilia, married, 1692, George Brodie of Asleisk, her father's cousin-german, and successor in the estate; Vere, born 1672, married, 1694, Joseph Brodie of Muiresk, she died 1698; Margaret, born 1673, married, 1698, James Brodie of Whitehill, brother of George Brodie of Asleisk; Lillias, born 1679, married, 1st, Patrick Cumming, Chirurgeon in Inverness; 2d, in 1708, Alexander Chivaz of Muirton; Henrietta died before the year 1717, unmarried. James Brodie continued his father's diary from 17th April, 1680, to 1st February, 1685. He was fined £24,000 Scots for refusing the Test Act, but it is doubtful if he paid it. He makes the following entry in his diary on the subject :—“One of thir days also I was fynd in two thousand pound sterlin, or 24,000 lib. Scotts. The world has bein my idol, and the love of it and covetousnes the root of much evil, and the Lord justlie may punish in this.” He purchased the Estate of Penick, and was a good manager of his affairs. He was a good, religious man, but had not the talent of his father, and was much inferior to him in every way. He sometimes indulged too freely in the convivialities and excesses of the table, then so prevalent, when thrown in the way of pleasant company—a backsliding from the path of duty which in his diary he frequently bewails. He died in 1708, and his wife, Lady Mary Kerr, died the same year, only a day or two before her husband.

17. George Brodie of Asleisk, grandson of David Brodie, fourteenth Laird of Brodie, and cousin-german and son-in-law of James sixteenth laird, succeeded his father-in-law, in 1708, having, as stated before, married, in 1692, Emilia, fifth daughter of the last laird. Of this marriage there were born—1st, James, who died 1720; 2d, Alexander—both in succession Lairds of Brodie; Joseph, born 1699; William, born 1700—both died without issue; Henrietta, married, 1714, John Sinclair of Ulbster, died 1754; Anne, born 1701, married George Munro of Novar; George Brodie of Brodie died in the year 1715.

18. James, his eldest son, died in the year 1720, without issue.

19. Alexander, brother of the last mentioned laird, born 1697; married, 1724, Mary Sleigh, daughter of Major Sleigh, by whom he had two sons—George and Samuel, who predeceased their father; Alexander, born 1741; Isabella, Mary, and Henrietta, who all died unmarried, and Emilia, born 1730, married John Macleod, Younger of Macleod. He held the then unfortunate situation of Lord Lyon of Scotland, from 1727 till 1754. He was Member of Parliament for the County of Elgin, and afterwards for the Inverness Burghs, from 1721 to 1754. He purchased from the family of Hay of Lochloy, then in a declining state, the lands of Lochloy and Park, and died in 1754. His body was embalmed, and buried at Dyke. In his time the family of Brodie reached its greatest height of prosperity, being then possessed of the Estates of Brodie, Lochloy, and Penick, in the Parishes of Dyke and Auldearn; the fine Estate of Kinneddar and Aikenhead, in Drainie; the lands of Cloves, Monaughty, Asleisk, and others, in Alves.

20. Alexander, his son, born 1741, succeeded, a delicate youth. He died unmarried at the Hot Wells of Bristol, in 1759, where he had gone for his health.

21. James Brodie of Spynie succeeded as heir-male. He was descended from Joseph Brodie of Asleisk, second surviving son of David the fourteenth Laird of Brodie, as follows:—

1. Joseph Brodie of Asleisk.

2. James Brodie of Whitehill, Coltfoot, and Spynie, married, 1698, Margaret, daughter of James sixteenth Laird of Brodie, died 1742.



3. James of Spynie,\* Advocate, Sheriff-Depute of the Counties of Elgin and Nairn. Married Emilia Brodie. Died at Elgin, 1756. Had four sons and five daughters.

4. James of Spynie, who succeeded to the Brodie Estate, as above, was born 1744.

He was only fifteen years of age when the succession to the whole of these fine estates opened to him, by the death of his cousin, the twentieth laird. He married, 6th March, 1768, Lady Margaret Duff, seventh daughter of William Earl of Fife, by whom he had two sons and three daughters, viz. :—James, born 1768, in the Civil Service of the East India Company; married Anne, daughter of Colonel Story; he was accidentally drowned at Madras, in 1802. William Douglas, born 1769; died at Madras, unmarried, 1826. Jane Anne Catherine, born 1770, died, unmarried, 1842; Margaret, born 1776, married Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun Grant; Charlotte, born 1777, married Lieutenant-Colonel Matthew Macalister. Lady Margaret Brodie was accidentally burnt to death at Brodie House, 24th April, 1786. Mr. Brodie, shortly after his succession to the estates, through his brother-in-law, the Earl of Fife, sold the lands of Kinneddar and Aikenhead to Alexander Brander, Merchant in London, for £10,500. He also conveyed to the Earl the Estate of Spynie, and his fine property in the Parish of Alves. The lands of Brodie and Lochloy were eventually entailed. Mr. Brodie was Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Nairn, and for some time Member of Parliament for the County of Elgin. He died 17th January, 1824.

Douglas' Peerage, vol. 1, page 578.

William Brodie's Genealogy.

Burke's Peerage, year 1870, page 443.

22. William Brodie, now of Brodie, son of James Brodie, who was drowned at Madras, and grandson of the preceding proprietor, was born in 1799, succeeded his grandfather in 1824, and was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Nairnshire the same year. Married, in 1838, Elizabeth, third daughter of Colonel Hugh Baillie of Redcastle, M.P., by whom he has had four sons, viz. :—George Gordon, born 1839; Hugh Fife Ashley, born 1840; Caithness, born 1842; William Douglas Reynett, born 1845. The eldest and

\* The third son of James Brodie of Spynie was Alexander Brodie of Arnhall and the Burn, born 1748, died 1818. He made a large fortune in India; was M.P. for the Elgin District of Burghs, and the father of Elizabeth, late Duchess of Gordon.

youngest sons of the family are both since dead, and the heir-apparent is Hugh Fife Ashley, who married, on 1st January, 1868, Eleanor, daughter of the late Earl Ducie, by whom he has issue.

The arms of Brodie are—

Argent, a chevron gules, between three mullets azure. Crest—a right hand holding a bunch of arrows, all proper.

Supporters—Two savages, wreathed about the head and middle with laurel, each holding a club resting against his shoulder.

Motto—"UNITE."

## IV.—MYRESIDE.

1. WE mentioned before that the Earl of Findlater had no estate in Morayshire prior to the year 1758, when he purchased the Baronies of Rothes and Easter Elchies. Within a period of twelve years thereafter the family purchased Birnie, Mayne, Linkwood, Bishopmill, Burgh Briggs, and Myreside. Their object in doing so appears to have been entirely political, and with the view of supporting their near relatives, the family of Grant, against the rising influence of the Fife family, an object which, after a severe struggle, they eventually succeeded in attaining. These estates all continue to be possessed by their successors to the present day. The Earl of Seafield is therefore a large heritor in the Parish of Spynie, and, with the exception of the Fife family, is now the oldest in possession, having acquired their estates about a century ago. It would be useless to insert here any account of so well-known a family as that of Findlater and Seafield; but we cannot resist noticing that excellent man, James sixth Earl of Findlater, and third Earl of Seafield, better known perhaps as Lord Deskford. He was born in 1714, and, being an only son, had the best education that could be procured, and travelled to France, Italy,

and other foreign parts. He made the acquaintance of the celebrated Horace Walpole, at Rome, in the year 1740, who, writing to General Conway, on 23d April, that year, refers to Lord Deskford as “a “mighty sensible man; few young people have so “good an understanding.” He seems to have early turned his attention to the improvement of agriculture, and established a model farm. He sent many of the tenants’ sons to the South of Scotland and to England to study farming. He gave long leases to tenants, binding them to enclose and improve their lands. He introduced turnip husbandry, draining, fencing, and the use of artificial grasses. It was during the latter part of his father’s life, when Lord Deskford had the direction of affairs, and during the few years when he was Earl himself, that the Morayshire Estates were purchased. He was appointed one of the Commissioners of Customs in Scotland, in 1754, which office he retained until 1761. He was one of the trustees for the improvement of fisheries and manufactures, and for the management of the forfeited estates, and attended to the business of these boards with great assiduity. He succeeded his father, James fifth Earl of Findlater and second Earl of Seafield, in 1764. For several years before his death he resided constantly at Cullen House, engaged in the improvement of agriculture, trade, manufacture, and all kinds of industry. In particular, he took a great interest in advancing the linen manufacture, and was the means of having many villages erected for bringing the people together to engage in the linen and woollen business. The

Old Statistical Account, vol. 19, page 306.

Souter’s View of the Agriculture of Banffshire, pp. 72, 73, 74, and 314.

Old Statistical Account of Scotland, vol. 12, pp. 145, 146.

writer of the Peerage of Scotland makes the following just remarks on his Lordship :—“ Ever solicitous  
 “ to fill his high station with real dignity, and to  
 “ qualify himself to be more extensively useful to  
 “ society, the sole object of his ambition, he con-  
 “ versed much with and greatly honoured men of  
 “ letters, and persons of ingenuity in all professions,  
 “ always endeavouring to convert whatever know-  
 “ ledge he by these means acquired to the benefit  
 “ and improvement of his country. His natural dis-  
 “ position was calm, placid, and serene ; his senti-  
 “ ments generous and enlarged ; his understanding  
 “ solid and manly, and his integrity unshaken, being  
 “ a fixed and persevering enemy to jobbing, cabal,  
 “ and every species of faction in private life. As a  
 “ friend and companion, those who had the honour  
 “ of his acquaintance well knew, and will long re-  
 “ member the pleasing, sensible, and amiable figure  
 “ he made in that capacity. To the rest of his fel-  
 “ low-subjects, suffice it to say that in him they lost  
 “ one of the most honest, intelligent, and public-  
 “ spirited of our nobility, whose example gave life  
 “ and vigour to national improvements of every sort  
 “ within the sphere of its influence.”

Douglas Peer-  
 age, Wood's  
 Edition, vol. 1,  
 page 588.

The Earl of Findlater chose his factors and men of business with great discrimination. On the Banffshire Estates he appointed Mr. John Wilson, who discharged the office of factor and commissioner for about half a-century, and whose nephew, and grand-nephews, were also factors on the estate, and performed their duties so much to the benefit of their noble constituent, and to the country and tenantry

generally. On the Morayshire Estate he appointed Mr. Peter May, who was succeeded by his nephew, Mr. George Brown, and he again by his son, Mr. Peter Brown, all able and skilful men of business.

His Lordship married, 9th June, 1749, Lady Mary Murray, second daughter of John first Duke of Athole, and by her, who died at Banff Castle, 29th December, 1795, had two sons—

1st, James seventh Earl of Findlater.

2d, Honourable John Ogilvie, who died young, in the year 1763.

His Lordship died at Cullen House, on the 3d November, 1770, in the fifty-sixth year of his age—a premature death, and an irreparable loss to the country.

2. The following excerpt is from a contribution to the *Farmers' Magazine* by my late revered friend, Mr. Isaac Forsyth, dated Elgin, 12th January, 1812, and shortly refers to the planting of the moor ground at Myreside, now almost entirely converted into arable ground:—“Near Bishopmill, on the property of the Earl of Findlater, in the year 1772, there was planted an enclosure of 120 Scots acres. The moor was very bleak, yielding no pasture, and only a carpet of dry, short heath. The whole space did not produce one penny of rent. For several years back the weedings have returned considerable sums, and last year it was deemed advisable to grub out by the roots a few acres, by way of experiment, for the purpose of cultivating the soil.

“ The wood brought £20 per acre, and the ground it  
 “ covers lets at 20s. per acre. The sole expense to  
 “ the proprietor was for grubbing out the wood,  
 “ which cost £3 5s. per acre. As the weedings produce  
 “ much more than the original expense of enclosing  
 “ and planting, it is obvious the proprietor now  
 “ draws a clear rent of 40s. per acre for what, in  
 “ its previous state, never produced a penny, while  
 “ the country was embellished by the appearance of  
 “ the wood, and the farmers much accommodated  
 “ with paling, and a variety of other useful purposes,  
 “ for which the weedings were a cheap substitute.”

In the Old Statistical Account of the Parish of Cullen, the following remarks occur on the plantations made by the Earl of Findlater, prior to the year 1794 :—“ It may not be improper from Cullen,  
 “ the principal seat of the Earl of Findlater and Old Statistical Account, vol. 12, pp. 150, 151.  
 “ Seafield, to take a general view of the immense  
 “ plantations of trees made by that family. Before  
 “ the year 1744, little in that way was done. The  
 “ whole country, and even about Cullen House, was  
 “ naked, and destitute of cover or ornament from  
 “ trees. Since the above period it appears, by at-  
 “ tested lists before the writer, that the Earls of  
 “ Findlater have planted upwards of 8000 Scots  
 “ acres about Cullen, and in their other estates in  
 “ the Counties of Banff and Moray ; and if we allow  
 “ 4000 plants as usual for every Scotch acre, the  
 “ number originally planted will exceed the amazing  
 “ sum of 32,000,000 trees. All these plantations,  
 “ which at first were generally planted with common  
 “ firs, have been, with great care and attention, pro-

“perly filled up with larch, and great variety of  
“hardwood plants, suited to the different soils, and  
“all this upon ground which never returned one  
“farthing of rent to the proprietor.”



## V.—FINDRASSIE.

SINCE I wrote the text, I have had an opportunity of perusing the account of the Leslies of Findrassie in the work of the late Colonel Leslie of Balquhain, who, since his recent publication, is dead. Although his statements differ in some respects from mine, I do not intend to make any alterations on my observations. I have, in one respect, an advantage over Colonel Leslie, that I have had an opportunity of examining the titles of the estate for nearly 120 years back. Had space permitted, I would have made some extracts on the subject from Colonel Leslie's lengthened account of the family, but I cannot venture upon it. His work, and the Kirk-Session records of the Parish of Spynie, give a melancholy account of several members of the family during a considerable part of last century—indeed the only bright spot is during the short period when Abraham Leslie was the proprietor, viz., from 1785 to 1793. During that short space the present substantial mansion-house was built, and much of the improvement in planting executed. He was a well-educated man, careful of his means, and had seen much of the world. After his death the estate was badly managed, and the family very extravagant, so

that within thirty years of his death the whole properties in Moray and Ross were spent and sold.

The following extract from Nisbet's Heraldry, relating to the Leslie of Findrassie, is perhaps the best and most authentic account of the family :—

*Leslie of Findrassie.*

Nisbet's  
Heraldry, vol.  
2, appendix,  
page 141.

For the clearing more fully and effectually the right of primogeniture the Leslies of Findrassie have to the family of Rothes, and setting that matter in a clearer light than it hath hitherto appeared, it will be proper to observe that the noble family of Rothes were not raised to the honour and quality of Earls by letters patent, erecting their lands into an earldom, or *comitatum*, and therein specifying and appointing what set or species of heirs were to succeed to the dignity and estate, but by cincture and investiture in Parliament. For by several authentic vouchers, which we have seen and perused, it is plain and evident that George Lord Leslie, upon Leven, as he is called in several deeds, was, by the special favour of King James II., created and raised to the honour of Earl of Rothes, in the year 1459,\* by cincture of a sword, and the other rites and solemnities then usual, so an honour after that manner established devolves for ever to heirs-male of the first patentee, in exclusion of heirs of line, if some act and deed of the sovereign, the fountain of honour, do not intervene, altering the succession from heirs-male to heirs-female, as was the case in the family of Rothes; for, in the year 1667, John, then Earl of Rothes, afterwards Duke of Rothes, having no heirs-male of his body, that he might disappoint the succession of the heirs-male of George, the first Earl of the House of Rothes, and exclude them from any title they might have had to the estate, resigned both the title, honour, dignity, rank, and precedence of Earl of Rothes, in the hands of His Majesty, King Charles II., in favour of his heirs-female, in failure of the heirs-

\* Charta in publicis archivis.

male of his body, whereupon a charter was expedite under the Great Seal,\* in virtue whereof Margaret, Countess of Rothes, succeeded the Duke, her father, in the title of Earl of Rothes, on his death, in the year 1681.

But to return to George, the first Earl of Rothes. For the clearing the succession, and bringing down the line of the family of Findrassie, we must observe that this noble Earl, by Christian, his wife, daughter of Sir Walter Halyburton, Lord of Dirleton, and Andrew, stiled Master of Rothes, who, in the lifetime of his father, married Janet, daughter of William, the first Earl Marischal, by whom he had two sons, viz. :—George, who was his grandfather's successor in the honour; but he, dying without issue (male), was succeeded by his brother, William Earl of Rothes, who was slain at the battle of Flodden, leaving his son young at his death, George, commonly called the Great Earl of Rothes. This Earl married, first, the Lady Margaret Crichton, only daughter of William Lord Crichton, by the Lady Cicely, his wife, second daughter to King James II. of Scotland. She was not a natural daughter of the Lord Crichton's, as some insinuate, but the Lady Cicely, the King's daughter, was his lawful wife, and it is plain that he was not forfeited for his indecent correspondence with the lady before her marriage, but for joining with the Duke of Albany in his unnatural rebellion against his brother, King James III., anno 1483.†

The family of Rothes then being low, Earl George married this Lady Margaret Crichton, then the widow of one Mr. Paular, of the town of Montrose. She was a great fortune, and her vast estate in money contributed not a little to relieve the family from the great burden it was under, and put it in that condition of lustre it still continues. But this lady being much above the Earl in years, he commenced a process of divorce against her; but it is certain it could never proceed upon the disparity of their age, for that was a reason could never have been sustained by the Canonists. It must have proceeded upon a nullity in the marriage *ab initio*, and that upon the score of consanguinity that had not

\* In the Public Records.

† The process is extant in the Registers of Parliament, and it proceeds upon his having stuffed, that is, fortified his Castle of Crichton against the King.

been dispensed with by a bull from the Court of Rome, or from the delegates of the Apostolic See. However, in these cases, where there was a marriage *de facto*, there never failed a clause in these divorces, and a *salvo* reserving the legitimacy of the children procreated betwixt the parties, even though the marriage was declared void and null from the beginning, because they were born *bona fide*, and the defect could not be in reason imputed to them. The Earl, however, we are certain, proceeded to a second marriage, with Dame Nicolas Somerville, dowager Lady Fleming, daughter of Sir John Somerville of Cambusnethan, by whom he had Andrew, afterwards Earl of Rothes. After the death of this lady, he married next the Lady Dowager of Crawford, who was a daughter of the House of Lundie, and after that a daughter of the Lord Gray, who was widow both to the Lord Glamis and the Earl of Huntly; but these ladies living very short, while, from a conviction, it seems, of the injustice he had done to his first lady, Lady Margaret Crichton, he married her canonically, according to the rules of the Church then in being, and made her, all impediments being removed, his lawful wife, as she is designed, and “Comitissa de Rothes” in a charter under the Great Seal, in the year 1542, which is in the public records.\* And so much is certain, that the children procreate betwixt the Earl of Rothes and the Lady Margaret Crichton, were so far considered as lawful that their eldest son, Norman Leslie, was stiled and designed in all public acts and deeds Master of Rothes, and fiar of the Earldom of Rothes.† This Norman was a noble, gallant young man, but all these excellent qualities and endowments he was possessed of were miserably sullied by his imbruing his hands in the blood and murder of Cardinal Beaton, Archbishop of St. Andrew’s, in the year 1546, for which he was forfeited, and the father, by some Act or deed of the Crown, that I have not seen, came to be fully invested in the estate of the earldom himself, and had it in his own power to dispose of it to any of his sons of his different marriages he had a mind. His younger son, Robert Leslie, by Lady Margaret Crichton, was the first of the Leslies of the House of Findrassie, who had these lands in patrimony from his father, while Norman,

\* In the Writs of the Privy Seal.

† This is vouched both from the public archives, and the histories of the time.

Master of Rothes, his elder brother, was alive, and who was of the full blood with himself. It is strange he did not succeed his father in the Earldom of Rothes ; but it is plain it was not from any impediment in his birth, but, as Bishop Leslie tells us, from the special favour of the Duke of Chatelherault, while he was Regent of Scotland, in the minority of Queen Mary, that the fee of the estate and the heritable offices of the family came all to be vested in the person of Andrew Leslie of Kilmeny, as he is designed, and the Earl's second son, by charters under the Great Seal, on the surrender and resignation of the Earl, his father, and to whom, by virtue of these investitures, he succeeded, both in the estate and honour, at his death, on the 10th of November, 1558. The only reason why that Robert Leslie of Findrassie, who was, as we have said, the son of George Earl of Rothes, by Lady Margaret Crichton, could not quarrel, in point of law, his brother Andrew's succession, was that the investiture of the estate was the rule of regulating the succession to the estate, as well as the descent of the honour in those days, and these were all ratified and confirmed to him by charters passed and expedite under the Great Seal many years before his father's death. For in those days it was no singular case in the family of Rothes to divert the succession from the right channel to heirs more remote. For about this very time David, then Earl of Crawford, disinherited his own son, and resigned the fee of the Earldom of Crawford in favour of Sir David Lindsay of Edzell, who accordingly succeeded, at the Earl's death, both to the estate and honour of the House of Crawford. The reason of all this high degree of favour shown by the Duke of Chatelherault to the Earl of Rothes's son, Andrew Leslie, by dame Nicolas Somerville, was that he had married Grissel Hamilton, his niece, daughter of Sir James Hamilton of Finnast and Evandale, his natural brother, to whose memory he had, during his whole administration, shown the highest regard. For, immediately upon his accession to the Regency, he reduced his forfeiture in the Parliament, 1543, and got his son restored to his estate, and his daughter married to the Earl of Rothes's son, and the succession both of the estate and the honour settled on them and their heirs.

Robert Leslie of Findrassie, the Earl of Rothes's son, married

Janet, daughter of Robert Lord Elphinstone, by whom he had Robert, his successor.

Robert Leslie of Findrassie, who married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Dunbar, Dean of Murray, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, in the reign of King James VI., ancestor to Dunbar of Grange, and had Robert and John, of whom the present Findrassie. This Robert married Isabel Forbes, daughter to Abraham Forbes of Blackton, sixth son to William Lord Forbes, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter, and one of the two co-heirs of Sir William Keith of Inverugie, by whom he had George, his eldest son, who died without succession, and Abraham, the second son; which George married Mary, daughter of ——— Bannerman of Waterton, but died without issue. Abraham succeeded his brother, and died without issue, and was succeeded by his great-nephew, John Leslie, now of Findrassie, second son to Robert Leslie, the second Laird of Findrassie, which John married Janet, daughter of ——— Nairn of Cromdale, and had John, his son, who married Grissel, daughter of John Douglas of Tilliquihilly, a cadet of the family of Morton, even since the house of Lochleven succeeded to that honour and dignity, and had John Leslie, now of Findrassie, who married Margaret, daughter of Charles Gordon of Glengerrack, and had Alexander, his son and heir.

As to the coat of arms given to George Leslie of Findrassie, by Sir Charles Erskine, the Lord Lyon, I cannot say, but it was a very proper cognizance he took from the family of Rothes. For, to be sure, the bordure *chequé* was a distinction too remote for an immediate son of the house; but it is plain the *chequé* bordure has been taken to keep up the memory of his descent from the Royal Family of Stewart, of which he had the honour to be descended so nearly by his predecessor's grandmother being the second lawful daughter of King James II., just as we find the Maxwells of Calderwood carry the paternal coat of Maxwell within a bordure *chequé*, *azure* and *argent*, by reason that the first of the family of Calderwood was Sir Robert Maxwell, second son of Sir John Maxwell of Pollock, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir James Lindsay, Lord of Crawford, and of the Lady Edgidia, his wife, daughter of Walter, Great Steward of Scotland, and sister to King Robert II.; so that as the first Sir Robert Maxwell

of Calderwood assumed the *chequé* as his cognizance, to show his descent from the Royal Family, so did the Laird of Findrassie the same to show that his predecessor's grandmother was of the Royal Family, who, we know, was the Lady Cicely, the second lawful daughter of King James II., and, next to the House of Hamilton, the nearest descendants of the Royal House of the Stewarts, that are not descended of King James VI., the first Monarch of Great Britain."

In the work called "Laurus Leslæana," published by the Jesuit Fathers of the Scotch Mission, on the Continent, in the year 1692, and dedicated to James Count Leslie, Baron of Balquhain, there is an account of the four first Lairds of Findrassie, and, as the book is now very rare, we may give an extract from it—"Primus Dominus de Finrassie Robertus, tertio  
 "genitus Georgii Comitis quinti de Rothes, ut videre  
 "est numb. 22, vulgo cognominatus Legitimus Rothes  
 "(the Righteous Rothes), ut pote natu major An-  
 "drea, qui ob causam superius num. 23, allatam in  
 "comitatu successit, conjugio sibi sociavit Joannam  
 "Elphinstone, filiam Dynastæ de Elphinstone, quæ  
 "ei peperit prolem masculam ternam, et filias binas,  
 "Robertum nempe Georgium; cujus mentio fit num.  
 "41, et Joannem, qui thori consortem habuit N.  
 "Cockburne; et exea filium Jacobum, qui accepit in  
 "conjugem Saram Affleck, matrem ex eo Roberti de  
 "Tarrie, mariti N. Andersone, quæ ei genuit Jacobum,  
 "cujus uxor Anonyma Ramsay, filia Baronis de Bo-  
 "main, unicam ei filiam reliquit. Filias Roberti  
 "quod attinet natu maxima Joanna maritata fuit  
 "N. Durrhame, Domino de Grange, in Angusia;  
 "secundo genita Agnes in consortem cessit N. Mel-

“ drum, Domino de Seggie, in Fifa. Robertus hic  
 “ paterna præter dominia, alias itidem possessiones  
 “ de Guglia, nempe Ethrie et Rosmarkie sibi adjecit.

“ Secundus Dominus de Finrassie, et ipse Robertus  
 “ dictus matrimonium contraxit cum Margarita Dun-  
 “ bar, filia Alexandri Baronis de Grange, supremæ  
 “ curiæ senatoris; ex qua suscepit tres mares, et  
 “ totidem fæminas. Primogenitus erat Robertus,  
 “ secundo genitus Joannes de Milltoun, qui duxit  
 “ Elizabetham Narne, filiam Thomæ Domini de Crom-  
 “ dell, et ex ea progeniuit ternam sobolem masculam,  
 “ Joannem, Georgium, et Walterum; filias itidem  
 “ ternas, Margaritam, scilicet nuptui traditam Patritio  
 “ Grant de Delay, alteram Roberto Grant de Del-  
 “ more, ultimam Alexandro Barclay de Tillynacht.  
 “ Tertio genitus Roberti, filius Georgius de Rayfleet,  
 “ conjugio sibi sociavit Ægidiam Dunbar, filiam Alex-  
 “ andri de Boyth, ex qua natus est ei Alexander,  
 “ filius, et filiæ quinque. Filias Roberti, quod con-  
 “ cernit natu majorem Margaritam Joanni Gordone,  
 “ Equiti Aurato de Embo, minorem Catharinam,  
 “ Jacobo Douglas Domino de Pendreich, minimam  
 “ Jacobo Cuthbert Domino de Drayckes, ille in con-  
 “ jugem dedit.

“ Tertius Dominus de Finrassie Robertus contracto  
 “ matrimonio cum Isabella Forbes, filia Domini de  
 “ Blacktoun, ex ea tres mares, et filias sex procrea-  
 “ vit. Primogenitus Joannes, (qui adhuc cælebs  
 “ e'vivis excessit) alter Georgius, ultimo loco natus  
 “ Abrahamus nominabatur. Filiarum prima Joanna  
 “ maritum nacta est Walterum Innes Dominum  
 “ de Innerbrackie; secunda Isabella Robertum Dun-



“ bar de Burgie ; tertia N. Robertum Gordon de  
“ Embo equitem auratum ; quarta Catharina Jacobum  
“ Andersone de Westertoune ; quinta Helena Hu-  
“ gonem Munroe primogenitum Georgii Equitis  
“ aurati ; postrema Barbara Patritium Dunbar de  
“ Sydray in maritum accepit.

“ Quartus Dominus de Finrassie Georgius thori  
“ consortem habuit Mariam Bannerman, filiam Baronis  
“ de Elsik ; sed nullum ex illa hæredem reliquit, ad  
“ quem post ejus obitum Dominium de Finrassie  
“ fuerit devolutum ; compertum non habemus.”

## VI.—QUARRELWOOD.

*Family of Duff.*

THE Estate of Quarrelwood has, within the historical period, been possessed by four families, viz. :—the Lauders, Chisholms, Sutherlands, and Duffs. The three first were all connected together, and may be said to have been of the same kindred and blood. The Duffs have possessed it since the fall of the ancient family of Sutherland of Duffus, in the beginning of last century, and have thus been heritors in the Parish of Spynie for nearly 170 years. By the extinction of the families of Sutherland, Dunbar of Westfield, and Leslie, they are the oldest proprietors in this parish, and the largest. It is therefore incumbent to notice at some length this very remarkable family, which had the most rapid and wonderful rise of any other in the North of Scotland, perhaps in the whole kingdom.

The rise of the family of Duff is owing to various reasons. In the first place, for five or six generations, it was, without exception, composed of the most shrewd, calculating, long-headed men, who turned everything to the greatest advantage, and lost no opportunity of improving their position. They turned their attention to merchandising and

trading at a very eventful period in the history of the country, and had the command of ready-money when very few in the North had it. The country was exhausted by the long civil wars of the 17th century. The nobility and gentry were generally poor, were anxious to get loans, and to mortgage their lands. The long succession of bad harvests, in the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century, also depreciated the value of land, and the unfortunate Darien Scheme nearly ruined Scotland. In these various depressing circumstances there was a fine opportunity for acquiring land, and the Duffs did not lose the chance. They dealt largely in wadsets and other mortgages, which were never redeemed, and they readily foreclosed them, or purchased up the rights of reversion for very small sums, and entered into absolute possession. Much of their lands were acquired by wadset rights. There was nothing unfair in this. It was the order and practice of the day. The Duffs made their money by merchandise, agriculture, private banking, money-lending, and other arts of industry and peace, pursued for a long period of time, and with every favourable advantage, and thus acquired an enormous estate by fair trade. They offer a favourable contrast to most of the ancient families in the North, who gained their estates generally by war and bloodshed, and preying on their weaker neighbours. The rise of most of the old families of Scotland is a painful history, and the Duffs need not fear to contrast their actings and acquisitions with any others, for they will bear a close inspection. They were men of good conduct,

just in their dealings, honourable (some of them religious), and strictly fulfilled all their engagements. Such conduct, unswervingly followed for many generations, and under so favourable circumstances, could not fail to attain its object.

The Duff family claim descent from Macduff, Thane of Fife, and from the Earls of Athole, who long held Strathbogie. This, however, is supported only by traditional tales, and there are no charters or writings to prove the assertion. Yet the family have stuck to it with wonderful tenacity, and it is always alluded to in their pedigree. I do not mean to enter into the subject. They have a most respectable and well-proved descent for 500 years, without the assistance of tradition.

That the family was settled in Banffshire as early as the reign of King David Bruce, or about the middle of the 14th century, there can be no manner of doubt. The first I can find any trace of is—

JOHN DUFF, who was proprietor of the lands of Muldavit, near Cullen. That he was a person of considerable importance is shown from the monument which was erected to his memory in the Parish Church of Cullen. It consists of a person dressed in complete armour, and is very handsome. He died in the year 1404. The monument bears the following inscription :—

“Hic jacet Johannes Duf de Muldavit—Baldavi—obiit 7  
“ Julii 1404.”

Around the margin of the stone is written—

“Hic Jacet Johannes Duf de Muldavit, Baldavi, qui ope et  
“ opera, virtute ac frugalitate, alto consilio et intrepido corde  
“ paternos limites ampliavit, ob inecor<sup>m</sup> mentem invi<sup>m</sup> fid<sup>m</sup> precl<sup>m</sup>  
“ obt 1404.”

This monument was removed from the aisle of the Church of Cullen to the mausoleum at Duff House, in the year 1790.\*

2. David Duff of Muldavit was probably a son of the preceding John Duff. He obtained a Crown charter in the year 1404, in favour of himself and Mary Chalmers, his wife, of the lands of Muldavit. He had also the lands of Craighead, Baldavie, Auchingall, and others.

3. John Duff, his son, succeeded, and lived in the reign of King James I.

4. John Duff of Muldavit and Craighead succeeded, and had a Crown charter from King James II., "Johanni Duff, filio et "heredi Johannis Duff," of various lands, dated 12th February, 1442. He wadset his lands of Muldavit to James Innes of that ilk, under redemption.

5. John Duff, designed Burgess of Cullen, son of the preceding, confirmed his father's wadset of the lands of Muldavit to the Laird of Innes, who obtained a Crown charter thereon in 1481. He left a son,

6. Andrew Duff of Muldavit, who redeemed the property from the Laird of Innes, and got a Crown charter thereon, dated June, 1504, to "Andreæ Duff, de omnibus et singulis terris de Maldavit, "in vice comitatu de Banff, quæ fuerunt Joannis Duff, avi dicti "Andreæ." He married Helen Hay, grandchild of John Hay, Lord of Forest of Boyne, Enzie, &c. After the death of her husband, this lady built an aisle on the south side of the Church of Cullen, which was long called the Duffs' Aisle. Andrew Duff left two sons—1st, John, his heir; and 2d, George, who was a Churchman. He himself died in the year 1519.

7. John Duff succeeded, and was infeft on Chancery precept as heir to his father, Andrew, 16th May, 1520. He had two sons,

1st, George.

2d, John.

8. George Duff, who never married. He resigned his lands to his brother John.

\* The mausoleum at Duff House was erected where a chapel to the Virgin Mary stood, said to have been built by King Robert Bruce, in the year 1324. An engraving of the monument of John Duff of Muldavit is given by Cordiner in his views of ruins, &c., in North Britain, published in the end of last century.

9. John Duff of Muldavit and Craighead\* got a charter under the Great Seal, 26th November, 1550—"Johanni Duff, fratri germano Georgii Duff de Maldavit, terrarum de Maldavit, cum "molendino," &c. He died about the year 1580.

10. John Duff, son of the preceding, succeeded. Got a charter under the Great Seal, previous to his father's death, as heir-apparent, 10th July, 1575, which was renewed 24th February, 1610. He married Agnes Gordon, by whom he had a son, John, with whose consent, and that of his wife, he sold the Estate of Muldavit to James Hay of Rannes, in the year 1626. He died in the year 1627.

11. John Duff succeeded his father, and married, first, Isabel Allan, by whom he had a son, John; second, Margaret, daughter of John Gordon of Cairnburrow, by whom he had a son, Adam Duff of Clunybeg, and a daughter, Margaret, married to John Meldrum of Laithers.

12. John Duff, eldest son of the last John Duff, was a Merchant in Aberdeen, and had a charter—"Johanni Duff, mercatori "burgen burgi de Aberdeen, dimidiato terrarum de Boghall." He died in the reign of King Charles II.

13. John Duff, son of the preceding, was an Advocate in Aberdeen, and much respected as a man of business, and also privately. He died, without issue, in the year 1718, and in him ended the succession of John Duff of Muldavit (No. 11), by his first wife, Isabel Allan.

14. Adam Duff of Clunybeg, son of John Duff (No. 11), by his second wife, Margaret Gordon, was born in 1598. He settled at Clunybeg, in the Parish of Mortlach, and became a great farmer, merchant, and trader, dealing in all country produce. He was a man of great sense, shrewdness, and sagacity, and began the foundation of the wealth of the family. He was fined by the Covenanting party, in the year 1646, in 500 merks, as a supporter of the Royalist side, to which he was attached. He married Beatrix Gordon, daughter of John Gordon of Birkenburn, by whom he had six sons and two daughters, viz. :—Alexander, his

\* Craighead was the place of residence of the family. According to Gordon of Straloch's map it stood on the high bank above the burn, nearly opposite Cullen House.

heir; John, ancestor of the Duffs of Corsindae, died 1696, aged seventy-three; William,\* a Merchant in Inverness, ancestor of the Duffs of Drummuir and Crombie, died, October, 1715, aged eighty-three; George, married, and had issue. Two other sons died unmarried. Two daughters, Jean and Helen, were married. Adam Duff of Clunybeg died in April, 1674, aged seventy-six.

Alexander and John, the two eldest sons of Clunybeg, in their early days supported the Royalist cause, and fought under Montrose in his wars. They were both bold, daring men, particularly John, who was taken prisoner by the Covenanters, and would certainly have perished on the scaffold, if he had not contrived to make his escape from an escort of soldiers, who were conveying him to Edinburgh for trial.

-15. Alexander Duff, eldest son of Adam Duff of Clunybeg, obtained from the Marquis of Huntly a wadset of the lands of Keithmore, in Mortlach, which long continued to be the residence of the family, having only been redeemed in the following century. He was a very prudent, careful man; had abundance of money, and an extensive wadsetter and purchaser of land. He acquired the extensive Estate and Lordship of Balvenie, either in wadset or by purchase, and also the considerable property in Glenrinnnes, belonging to the Cumings of Lochtervandich, with many other estates. He was a great farmer and money-lender. He married Helen, daughter of Alexander Grant of Allachie, brother of Archibald Grant of Ballintomb, ancestor of the family of Monymusk. By this lady it has been stated he got 100,000 merks of tocher, more than £5000 sterling, a very large sum for those days. She was a most prudent, industrious, and very hospitable person, and much of the future prosperity of the family proceeded from her. By this lady Keithmore had three sons and four daughters, viz.:—

1. Alexander of Braco.
2. William Duff, Merchant in Inverness and Elgin, afterwards of Dipple and Braco.
3. Patrick Duff of Craigston, ancestor of Hatton.

\* William Duff's son, Alexander, was Provost of Inverness, and married Katherine, daughter and heiress of Adam Duff of Drummuir. The Duffs of Drummuir are an old family. I have not seen their pedigree; but the estate was small, and was enlarged to its present dimensions by the money made by the Duffs at Inverness.

1715  
83  
—  
1632  
  
1674  
76  
  
1696  
23  
  
623

1st daughter, Margaret, married to James Stewart of Lesmurdie.

2d. Jean, married to George Meldrum of Crombie.

3d. Mary, married to Andrew Fraser, Physician in Inverness ; secondly to Thomas Tulloch of Tannachy, County of Elgin.

4th. Elizabeth, married to a brother of Sir James Calder of Muirton.

Keithmore died in the year 1700, aged seventy-six. His wife, Helen Grant, died 1694, aged sixty. They were interred within the Parish Church of Mortlach, where a monument, with the following Latin inscription, is placed to their memory :—

Douglas' Barons-  
age, page 139.

Old Statistical  
Account of  
Scotland, vol.  
17, page 432

“ Hoc conduntur tumulo, reliquiæ Alexandri Duff de Keithmore  
“ et Helenæ Grant, uxoris suæ charissimæ. Qui quadringinta  
“ annos et ultra, felici et fæcundo connubio juncti, vixerunt.  
“ Uterque quidem ingenue natus, ille ex nobilissimis Fifæ Thanis  
“ per vetustam familiam de Craighead, paulo abhinc superstitem  
“ proxime et legitime oriundus : illa ex splendida et potenti Gran-  
“ teorum familia, eodem quoque modo originem trahens ortu non  
“ obscuri, suis tamen virtutibus illustriores ; opibus affluerunt, et  
“ liberis ingenue educatis, florere pie, juste et sobrie vixerunt, et  
“ sic in Domino mortem obiire. Illa anno Domini 1694, ætatis  
“ suæ sexagesimo.”\*

The arms of the Duffs at this period were—Vert a fess daunzette ermine, between a buck's head cabossed in chief, and two escalops or.

16. Alexander Duff of Braco succeeded his father, Keithmore, but did not long survive him. He was a man of great talents, and, along with his father, purchased many estates in the County of Banff, particularly in Mortlach, Aberlour, Keith, and Grange Parishes. He was reckoned a hard, grasping, and rather unscrupulous man, more so than any other member of his family. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir William Gordon of Lesmore,

\* This monument being placed within the ancient and venerable Parish Church of Mortlach is still quite entire, and in excellent preservation ; but the lower part of it is quite concealed by the sittings of the Church.



Bart., by whom he had one son, William Duff of Braco, and three daughters, viz. :—

1. Margaret, married to Gordon of Glengerrack.
2. Helen, married William Gordon of Farskine.
3. Mary, married to Alexander Abercrombie of Tullibodie, Advocate.

He was Member for the County of Banff to the Scots Parliament, and supported strongly the party opposed to the union with England, of which the Duke of Hamilton was the leader. He died in the year 1705, two years before the union, not much above fifty years of age, and was buried in the aisle of the Parish Church of Grange, where a monument was erected to his memory.

17. William Duff of Braco, only son of the preceding, was an amiable and accomplished gentleman, of very different tastes from his father ; liberal and generous in his nature, and very kind to his numerous tenantry. He had travelled much abroad, and seen a great deal of the world. He married Helen Taylor, a female in humble life, but a very excellent person, by whom he had one daughter, Margaret, married to Patrick Duff of Premnay. His marriage, perhaps, and other incidents contingent upon it, brought on a continued melancholy, and he died at Balvenie Castle, in January, 1718, a young man, much regretted by his tenantry and friends. The succession fell to the heir-male, in virtue of the settlements of the estates, and the uncle of this proprietor, and the nearest heir-male, was

18. William Duff of Dipple. This gentleman was second son of Keithmore, and had a very limited patrimony from his father—a sum of 10,000 merks Scots, or something more than £500 stg., and with this small allowance, and a promise of succession to his father's wadset of Keithmore, he began the world. He was born about the year 1654, and, when arrived at a suitable age, was bound apprentice to his uncle, William Duff, Merchant in Inverness, then largely engaged in trade, with whom he eventually became a partner. He was a prudent, sagacious, careful man ; very honourable in his dealings, and greatly esteemed over all the North of Scotland for integrity and justice in all his transactions. He acquired a very considerable fortune, and, like the rest of his

family, lent largely on wadsets. His only purchases of land were in Morayshire, to which he was much attached. He acquired there the Estates of Dipple, Pluscarden, Oldmills, Coxton, Quarrelwood, Aldroughty, Mosstowie and Sheriffmill, Inverlochty, and others. He married, first, Helen Gordon, daughter of Sir George Gordon of Edinglassie, by whom he had one son, William, afterwards Lord Braco and Earl of Fife, and four daughters, viz. :—

1st. Helen, married to the Honourable William Sutherland of Rosscommon, third son of James Lord Duffus, by whom she had no issue. This lady long survied her husband, lived in the Castle of Quarrelwood, and was known by the name of Lady Rosscommon.

2d. Catherine, married to Alexander Duff of Hatton.

3d. Elizabeth, married to Thomas Donaldson of Kinnairdie.

4th. Isabella, married to Alexander Mackintosh of Blervie, to whom she had twenty-two children. Numerous descendants of this marriage still exist over the North of Scotland.

William Duff of Dipple married, second, Jane, daughter of Sir William Dunbar of Durn, Baronet, by whom he had one son, Alexander, who died in 1721, aged five years, and four daughters, viz. :—

1st. Anne, married to William Baird of Auchmedden.

2d. Janet, married to Sir James Kinloch of Kinloch, Baronet.

3d. Mary, married to General James Abercrombie of Glassaugh.

4th. Henrietta, a very excellent, charitable person, who died unmarried.

During the last nineteen years of his life Mr. Duff lived in Elgin, where he carried on his business, principally as a private banker, lending on mortgage and wadsets. He is said to have had his place of business in that old house on the north side of the High Street of Elgin, near the Little Cross, still in good repair, and there is no doubt he lived himself in the house, also on the north side of the High Street, which he purchased, along with the Estate of Coxton, from Sir George Innes, and which still exists, although in a very dilapidated state, bearing on the eastmost win-

dow a star, for Innes, and the date, 1677. It was sold by Lord Braco, in 1747, to Robert Anderson, Sheriff-Substitute of Morayshire, who had married his Lordship's niece, Elizabeth Mackintosh. Mr. Duff died in the year 1722, but the place of his burial I have failed to discover. He had previously, in 1718, by the death of his nephew, William Duff of Braco, succeeded to the whole estates of the principal branch of the Duff family, which he is said to have left all clear to his son, besides £30,000 sterling in ready-money, a very large sum for that period. He was about sixty-eight years of age at the time of his death.

19. William Duff, only son of the preceding, succeeded his father in his large estates. He was Member of Parliament for the County of Banff in 1727; created a Peer of Ireland, by the title of Lord Braco of Kilbride, on 28th July, 1735, and Earl of Fife and Viscount Macduff, 26th April, 1759—the patent being limited in both cases to him and the heirs-male of his body. He was a careful manager of his affairs, and purchased considerable estates in the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Moray. In the last county he acquired Milton, Blervie, and other estates, so that with what his father left him he had a very fine estate in Morayshire. He married, first, Lady Janet Ogilvie, second daughter of James fourth Earl of Findlater, and first Earl of Seafield, Chancellor of Scotland, and widow of Hugh Forbes, Younger of Craigievar, by whom he had no issue. He married, second, Jane Grant, daughter of Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, by whom, who died, 16th January, 1788, in the eighty-third year of her age, he had seven sons and seven daughters, viz. :—

1. William, who died unmarried in London, 26th March, 1753, in his twenty-seventh year.

2. James second Earl of Fife.

3. Alexander third Earl of Fife.

4. Patrick, who died young.

5. George, long Convener of the County of Elgin—a most worthy, estimable gentleman. He died at Elgin, at his residence, South College, 23d November, 1818.

6. Ludovick, who died at Blervie, without issue, 19th November, 1796.

7. Arthur, Advocate, Member of Parliament for the County of Elgin, 1774 ; died unmarried at Orton, 26th April, 1805. He was long Comptroller of Excise for Scotland.

The Earl of Fife left his third son, Alexander, the Estate of Echt, in Aberdeenshire ; to George, his fifth son, the Estates of Milton, Inverlochty, and Barmuckity, in Morayshire ; to Ludovick, his sixth son, the Estate of Blervie ; and to Arthur, his seventh son, the Estate of Orton.

1st daughter, Lady Anne, married to Alexander Duff of Hatton, and died in Edinburgh, 5th June, 1805. She had an only child, Jane ; married, 4th January, 1763, to Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet.

2. Janet, married, first in 1745, to Sir William Gordon of Park, who engaged in the Rebellion that year, was attainted, and died at Douay, 3d June, 1751. By him she had two sons, born abroad. She married, second, George Hay of Mountblairy, and died at Carnousie, 3d March, 1758, aged thirty.

3. Lady Jane, married, 25th October, 1753, to Keith Urquhart of Meldrum, by whom she had issue—James Urquhart of Meldrum, long Sheriff-Depute of Banffshire ; a son, Lewis ; and two daughters, Anne and Mary.

4. Lady Helen, married, in 1764, to Robert Duff of Logie and Fetteresso, Vice-Admiral in the Royal Navy, by whom she had three sons and one daughter, viz. :—Robert William Duff of Fetteresso and Culter ; Adam Duff, Sheriff of Forfarshire ; James Alexander Duff, an Officer in the Army ; and Jane, married to James Clerk of Chesterhall.

5. Lady Sophia Henrietta, married to Thomas Wharton, Commissioner of Excise, by whom she had the late Richard Wharton Duff of Orton, and two daughters, Jane and Mary.

6. Lady Catherine, died, unmarried, 25th April, 1765.

7. Lady Margaret, married, at Edinburgh, 6th March, 1768, to James Brodie of Brodie, and died, at Brodie House, 24th April, 1786 ; leaving two sons, James and William, and three daughters, Jane Anne Catherine, Margaret, and Charlotte.

William Earl of Fife, while a great economist, had a taste for

magnificence and fine buildings. Shortly after his succession, in the year 1724, he built the new Castle or House of Balvenie. The family having taken a dislike to the fine old castle, allowed it to go to decay, and between the years 1740 and 1745, he erected the grand building of Duff House, at a cost of £70,000, an immense sum for those days. His Lordship died at Rothiemay, on the 8th September, 1763. A monument is erected to his memory, and that of Jane Countess of Fife, his wife, in the mausoleum at Duff House.

20. James second Earl of Fife succeeded his father. He was born 29th September, 1729. He was elected Member of Parliament for the County of Banff in 1754, 1761, 1768, 1774, and 1780; and for the County of Elgin in 1784. He was a man of great talents, and nearly doubled the property of the family by judicious purchases of estates. He planted about 14,000 acres of barren ground, and was a great agriculturist, and a most extensive improver of land. His Lordship has had the name of being rather a hard man; but this perhaps arises from the fact that he was very exact and precise in all his accounts and transactions. For, to do him all justice, it must be recorded that in the year 1783, which was a season of famine, he gave his tenants in the Highlands a reduction of twenty per cent. from their rents, and sold his own grain, and imported cargoes from England, which he disposed of to the poor, at a personal loss of £3000. He was kind and hospitable to his tenants, and entertained the more respectable of them very frequently at his own table, when he visited his different estates. He was a man of immense political power in the North, and is said, in the year 1784, to have returned the Members for the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Moray. His purchases of land in Morayshire were great. In 1767 he purchased from the family of Innes of that ilk the extensive and beautiful Estate of Innes, and from cadets of the same family he shortly after acquired the Estates of Inchbroom, Dunkinty, and Leuchars. In 1777 he acquired, by excambion, from the Duke of Gordon, the Lordship of Urquhart, and the lands of Ardgay, Leggat, and part of Kinttrae, in the Parishes of Alves and Spynie. Shortly thereafter he bought from the family of Brodie the Estates of Spynie, Mon-aughty, and Aslisk. He also purchased the Estate of Rosehaugh,

in Spynie Parish. In his own and his father's time the large estates in the Parish of Glass, and Glenbucket, Delgaty, and Braemar, were acquired, and by the death of his brother, Lewis, he succeeded to the Estate of Blervie. His Lordship was Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Banff, and was created a British Peer by the title of Baron Fife, with limitation to the heirs-male of his own body. He married, 5th June, 1769, Lady Dorothea Sinclair, only child of Alexander ninth Earl of Caithness, by whom he had no issue. He died at his house in Whitehall, London, on 28th January, 1809, in the eightieth year of his age, and was interred in the mausoleum at Duff House. His British Peerage became extinct. His estates, held in fee simple, he left in trust for certain purposes, and the entailed estates and Irish titles descended to his immediate younger brother, Alexander Duff of Echt.

21. Alexander third Earl of Fife, born 1731, succeeded in 1809, was a member of the Faculty of Advocates, being admitted in 1754. He married, at Careston, 17th August, 1775, Mary, eldest daughter of George Skene of Skene and Careston, by whom he had—

James fourth Earl of Fife.

Alexander, a General in the Army, father of the fifth Earl.

Lady Jane, married, on 2d December, 1802, Major Alexander Francis Tayler, of the 26th Regiment of Foot, by whom there was issue.

Lady Anne, married, at Duff House, 16th October, 1809, Richard Wharton Duff, Esq. of Orton, by whom there was also issue.

His Lordship died 7th April, 1811, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

22. James fourth Earl, born 6th October, 1776. His Lordship married, at London, 9th September, 1799, Maria Caroline Manners, second daughter of John Manners of Grantham Grange, and sister of Louisa Duchess of St. Alban's, who died 20th December, 1805, without issue. He entered the Spanish Army, and was wounded at the battle of Talavera, in 1809, and again severely at the storming of Fort Matagorda, near Cadiz, in 1810. He was a very kind, benevolent nobleman; exceedingly popular with all classes, and a general favourite; a great friend and companion of King

George IV., who created him a Peer of the United Kingdom, by the title of Baron Fife, 27th April, 1827. He was a Knight of the Order of St. Ferdinand of Spain, and of the Sword. Like the rest of his family, his Lordship was a great politician, and it will be remembered with what consummate tact he managed to carry the representation of the Elgin Burghs from his opponents, in the year 1821. He succeeded his uncle, Mr. Skene of Skene and Careston, to these fine estates in 1827, a great addition to the fortune of the family. After mixing much in the world, and seeing society in all its ranks and grades, he, in his latter years, lived at Duff House, in a very retired way; died there the 9th March, 1857, and was buried at the mausoleum.

23. James fifth Earl of Fife, nephew to the preceding Earl, and eldest son of General Sir Alexander Duff of Delgaty, succeeded. His Lordship was born 6th July, 1814; is Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Banff, and long represented the same county in Parliament. He was created a Peer of the United Kingdom, by the title of Baron Skene, in 1857. He married, 16th March, 1846, Lady Agnes Georgiana Elizabeth Hay, daughter of William George seventeenth Earl of Erroll, and has issue—

Alexander William George Viscount Macduff, born, 10th November, 1849.

1st daughter, Anne Elizabeth Clementina, married, 17th October, 1865, to John Villiers Stuart, fifth and present Marquis Townshend.

2d. Ida Louisa Alice, married, 3d June, 1867, to Adrian Elias Hope, Esquire, and has issue.

3d. Alexina, married, 1870, Henry Aubrey Coventry, Lieutenant, 10th Hussars.

4th. Agnes Cecil Emmeline.

The Countess of Fife died on the 18th December, 1869, and was buried in the mausoleum of Duff House.

His Lordship's brother, the Honourable George Skene Duff of Milton, for some time represented in Parliament the Elgin District of Burghs, and is now Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Elgin.

I may remark that since the death of James

second Earl of Fife, in 1809, there has been no increase to the family estates of much importance, with the exception of the great succession to the Skene and Careston Estates, in 1827. The Estate of Auchintoul, in Banffshire, and Westerton, in Morayshire, have been bought, and Blervie and Ardgay, in the same county, have been sold, thus leaving matters much as they were before.

Burke, in his Peerage for 1870, page 443, gives the armorial bearings of the family as follows;—

Quarterly: first and fourth, or, a lion rampant, gules, for Macduff; second and third, vert, a fesse dancette, ermine, between a hart's head cabossed in chief, and two escallops, in base, or, for Duff.

Crests—First, a horse in full gallop, argent, covered with a mantling, gules, bestrewed with escutcheons, or, each charged with a lion rampant of the second; on his back a Knight in complete armour, with his sword drawn ppr., on his sinister arm a shield, charged as the escutcheons; on the helmet a wreath of the colours, thereon a demi-lion, rampant, gules; second, a demi-lion, rampant, gules, holding in the dexter paw a broadsword proper, hilted and pomelled, or.

Supporters—Two savages, wreathed about the head and waist with laurel, and holding in their exterior hands branches of trees over their shoulders, all proper.

Mottoes—“DEO JUVANTE.” Over the second crest—“DEUS JUVAT.” Under the shield—“VIRTUTE ET OPERA.”\*

Since writing the foregoing lengthened account of the family of Duff, Major Duff of Drummur has

\* The above account of the Duff family is not arranged in correct genealogical order. Although twenty-three names are recorded, there are only eighteen generations; brothers in some cases succeeding brothers, and nephews uncles. But it shows, without going into dark and traditional history, that the Duffs are an ancient and most respectable family, which I desired to prove.



very kindly (at my own request) sent me a copy of the genealogical memoirs of the Duffs, composed by Mr. Baird of Auchmedden, about a century ago, and printed at Aberdeen in the end of the year 1869, for private circulation. I had previously made a hasty perusal of the volume, and extracted a few notes from it. On a more careful examination of its contents, I do not find very much to alter or amend in my narrative, which is confined to the leading branch of the family, while Mr. Baird brings in also the most of the cadets flourishing in his day. I cannot help stating, however, that these memoirs of Mr. Baird are among the best family histories I have ever seen. They seem very honest and faithful, and, while there is an evident leaning to his relatives, he does not conceal their faults and foibles. It is a work which should be made available to the general public.

## VII.—WESTFIELD.

*Family of Dunbar.*

THE family of Dunbar of Westfield was long the leading one in this parish. I am sorry there are but very slight materials for an account of them. They have been long extinct, and their extensive estates are now in other hands. They cannot, however, be passed over, and I shall endeavour to give a short and concise narrative, and, as there will doubtless be many errors, these must be excused.

The settlement of the Dunbars in the North of Scotland did not occur until the 14th century, and was purely accidental.

1. Patrick tenth Earl of March, married Agnes Randolph, daughter of the great Thomas Randolph, Earl of Moray, a lady worthy of her noble father. On the death of her two brothers, she succeeded to the Earldom of Moray. She had by the Earl of March two sons and three daughters, and among these,

2. George eleventh Earl of March, who had two sons, viz. :—first, George, his successor, and second, John, progenitor of this family.

3. John Dunbar, married Lady Marjory Stewart, eldest daughter of King Robert II., by whom he was created Earl of Moray, and by her had two sons—first, Thomas Earl of Moray, whose only son, Thomas Earl of Moray, died without issue; and second, Alexander Dunbar of Frendraught.

4. Alexander Dunbar of Frendraught.

5. James Dunbar of Frendraught, who, on the death of his cousin, Thomas Dunbar, without male issue, succeeded to the

Earldom. He married, first, Isabella Innes, daughter of Sir Walter Innes of that ilk, by whom he had a son, Alexander Dunbar; but his wife having been considered by the canon law to be within the forbidden degree of propinquity, being a second cousin, and no dispensation got from the Pope before her death, the son was held to be illegitimate. He married, second, Lady Jane or Janet Gordon, daughter of Alexander Earl of Huntly, by whom he had two daughters—

1. Lady Janet, married to James Lord Crichton, who, through her, acquired the Estate of Fren draught.

2. Lady Elizabeth, married to Archibald, third son of James seventh Earl of Douglas, who, by the immense influence of his family, contrived to get Alexander Dunbar, the only son of the first marriage, set aside, on the score of illegitimacy, and Janet, the eldest daughter, was also deprived of the succession. Such conduct had its just reward. Archibald Douglas joined in rebellion with his brother, the Earl of Douglas, against his Sovereign, and was forfeited, and the Earldom annexed to the Crown, in the year 1455.

6. Alexander Dunbar, only son of James fifth Earl of Moray, of the name, although unjustly deprived of the Earldom, got a handsome estate, was knighted, and created heritable Sheriff of Moray. He got a charter from Archibald Douglas, Earl of Moray, and Elizabeth Dunbar, Countess thereof, of the lands and Barony of Westfield, in the year 1450, and he is there designed brother of the Countess. Besides Westfield, he got the lands of Conzie, Durris, Tarras, Moyness, Clunes, Clava, Golford, Belnageith, Fochabers, Carnousie, and others, and had nine charters from King James II. He married Isabella, daughter of Alexander Sutherland of Duffus, of which marriage the principal families of Dunbar in Scotland are descended. By her he had six sons and one daughter, viz. :—

1. Sir James, his heir.

2. Sir John, who married Margaret, second daughter of Patrick Dunbar of Cumnock and Mochrum, whose male line is said to be extinct.

3. Alexander Dunbar of Conzie and Hillinack, of whom Dunbar of Mochrum is descended.

4. Gavin Dunbar, who was Dean of Moray and Bishop of Aberdeen.

5. David Dunbar of Durris, of whom the Dunbars of Grangehill were descended.

6. Patrick Dunbar, Chancellor of Aberdeen, ancestor of the Dunbars of Bennagefield, in the County of Ross.

His daughter, Isabella, married to Sir William Keith of Inverugie.

He was succeeded by

7. Sir James Dunbar, second of Westfield, and Sheriff of Moray. He married Euphemie, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Patrick Dunbar of Cumnock. By her he got the Barony of Cumnock, in the County of Ayr. He got a grant from King James IV. of the mansion-house of the Castlehill of Forres, by charter under the Great Seal, in 1498, with all the fees and emoluments of the Sheriff of Elgin and Forres. By his wife, Euphemie Dunbar, he had one son and three daughters, viz. :—

Sir James, his heir.

1st daughter, Janet, married Keith of Inverugie.

2d. Christian, married Alexander Innes of that ilk.

3d. Elizabeth, married Ogilvie of Strathern.

This Sir James Dunbar had large estates in the shires of Moray, Nairn, Aberdeen, Sutherland, and Ayr, and was very opulent. He died in the year 1505.

8. Sir James Dunbar of Westfield and Cumnock, Sheriff of Moray, succeeded his father, and on resignation of his mother, had a Crown charter of the Barony of Cumnock, in the County of Ayr, in the year 1507. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford, by whom he had two sons—

1. Sir Alexander, his heir.

2. James, who died without issue.

Sir James died 1535, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

9. Sir Alexander Dunbar of Cumnock and Westfield; was a bold and able man. By his first marriage he had—

1. Sir Patrick, his heir.
2. Norman, who died without issue.

By his second marriage, with Janet Leslie, daughter of John Leslie of Parkhill, he had a son, John Dunbar of Moyness, and a daughter, Margaret, married to Robert Munro of Fowlis. He had Crown charters in 1561 and 1564, and died 1576.

10. Sir Patrick Dunbar. He married Jean, daughter of Alexander Master of Sutherland, sister of John fourteenth Earl of Sutherland, and by her had issue two sons, viz. :—

1. Sir James, his heir.
2. Patrick Dunbar of Boghall.

He only lived one year after his father, having died in 1577, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

11. Sir James Dunbar of Cumnock and Westfield, hereditary Sheriff of Moray. He married Janet Carmichael, by whom he had one son, Sir Alexander, his heir, and three daughters,

1. Dorothea, married to her cousin, Alexander Dunbar of Boghall, afterwards of Westfield.
2. Janet, married to William Dunbar, brother of James Dunbar of Tarbat.
3. Marjory, married to Robert Dunbar, son to John Dunbar of Moyness.

Sir James disposed his whole estates (excepting the Sheriffship) to his three daughters, failing issue of his son's body. He died in 1588, and was succeeded by his son,

12. Sir Alexander Dunbar of Cumnock and Westfield, who died, without issue, in 1603, when the representation devolved on his cousin, Alexander, son of Patrick Dunbar of Boghall, above referred to.

11. Patrick Dunbar of Boghall, second son of Sir Patrick Dunbar of Cumnock and Westfield (No. 10), got from his father

the lands of Boghall, and was tutor-at-law to his nephew during his minority. He married a daughter of Dunbar of Grange, by whom he had four sons, viz. :—

1. Alexander, his heir.
2. John, who succeeded his brother.
3. James, who died unmarried.
4. Thomas of West Grange.

Patrick Dunbar of Boghall had the misfortune to be killed, along with the Earl of Moray, by the Earl of Huntly, at Donibristle, in the year 1592.

12. Alexander, eldest son of the preceding, succeeded his father in the lands of Boghall, 1592, and on the death of his cousin, Sir Alexander Dunbar of Cumnock and Westfield, became hereditary Sheriff of Moray. He served himself heir to his grandfather and great-grandfather, and married his cousin, Dorothea, eldest daughter of Sir James Dunbar, his uncle. He got possession of her third share of the estates. He afterwards acquired more of the lands from his sisters-in-law, and obtained charters in 1606 and 1611, and would probably, had he lived, recovered the whole estate; but was unhappily killed, by Alexander Dunbar of Kilbuiak, at Forres, in June, 1611. Having no issue, he was succeeded by his brother,

12. John Dunbar, designed of Cumnock and Westfield, hereditary Sheriff of Moray. He married Elizabeth Fraser, daughter of Hugh sixth Lord Lovat, by whom he had one son, Alexander, his heir. He sold the Barony of Cumnock, and died in 1622.

13. Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, hereditary Sheriff of Moray, had a charter of his office under the Great Seal, 1634. He married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Dunbar of Grange, and widow of David Brodie of Brodie; but died without issue, 1646, and was succeeded by his uncle, Thomas Dunbar of West Grange, who was fourth son of Patrick Dunbar of Boghall, second son of Sir Patrick Dunbar of Westfield (No. 10).

12. Thomas Dunbar of Westfield, married Margaret Spence, daughter of Spence of Kirkton, in Alves, by whom he had two sons, viz. :—

1. Robert, his heir.
2. Patrick of Belnaferry.

He died 1653, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

13. Robert Dunbar of Westfield, Sheriff of Moray. He married Barbara, daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Innes, by whom he had two sons, viz. :—

1. Robert, his heir.
2. Alexander Dunbar of Moy.

He died in 1661, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

14. Robert Dunbar of Westfield. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstown, by whom he had one son.

15. Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, Sheriff of Moray, succeeded his father. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir James Calder of Muirton, by whom he had two sons and one daughter—

1. James, his heir.
2. Robert, who succeeded his brother.

A daughter, Elizabeth, married to Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs.

He died in 1702.

16. James Dunbar of Westfield, a very promising young man, highly educated; died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother,

16. Robert Dunbar of Westfield, who also died unmarried.

14. Alexander Dunbar, second son of Robert Dunbar of Westfield, by Barbara Innes, acquired the lands of Moy. He married Lucy, daughter of Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstown, widow of Robert Cumming of Altyre, by whom he had one son, Ludovick Dunbar.

15. Ludovick Dunbar of Moy, on the death of his cousin, Robert Dunbar of Westfield, succeeded to the estate. He married Margaret, daughter of Ross of Braelangwell, by whom he had no children. He sold the heritable Sheriffship of Moray to Charles Earl of Moray, and conveyed his estate to Elizabeth, daughter of

Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, by Margaret Calder. He died, without issue, in the year 1744,\* and in him, it is supposed, ended the male line of Sir James Dunbar of Westfield, eldest son of the first Sir Alexander Dunbar, Sheriff of Moray, who was only son of James Dunbar, fifth and last Earl of Moray of that name.

16. Elizabeth, only surviving child of Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, Sheriff of Moray, by Margaret Calder, married Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs, to whom she had only one child who came to maturity.

17. Janet Dunbar succeeded her mother, and married Captain Thomas Dunbar of Grangehill, by whom she had two sons and one daughter, viz. :—

1. Alexander.
  2. William Henry.
- A daughter, Elizabeth.

The Estate of Westfield was sold in 1769 by Mrs. Dunbar and her husband to Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, as is stated in the text. The Estate of Grangehill, in the Parish of Dyke, had been previously sold, in 1749, to Sir Alexander Grant of Dalvey, who changed the name to Dalvey, which it still continues to hold. After this time I lose all trace of the Westfield family. Eventually they seemed to have settled in Caithness, and the last heir-of-line is supposed to have been the late Mr. Dunbar, who was tenant of the Crown lands of Scrabster, near Thurso. He died about twenty-five years ago, without issue, and was said to have been a very respectable, excellent gentleman. The nearest

Social Life, first series, pages 82, 83, 84.

\* It would seem, from correspondence published by Captain Dunbar Dunbar, that Ludovick Dunbar of Westfield died from the effects of an accident, and that in 1724 there was an heir-male to Westfield alive, viz. :—Thomas Dunbar, D.D., Vicar of Little Bustead, Essex.



known heir-male of the Westfield family is supposed to be Sir William Dunbar of Mochrum, in the County of Wigton, Baronet, who is descended from Alexander Dunbar of Conzie and Kilbuiak, third son of Sir Alexander Dunbar, first of Westfield, Sheriff of Moray.

The arms of Dunbar of Westfield are—

Or, three cushions pendant within a double tressure, flowered and counter-flowered, gules. Supporters—on the dexter a greyhound, argent, collared, gules ; on the sinister, a boar proper.

Motto—"SUB SPE."

The above armorial bearings are taken from Sir Robert Douglas. Nisbet, in his *Heraldry*, edition 1722, gives a plate of the arms of Westfield, and states them differently from Douglas, as follows :—

First and fourth, gules, a lion rampant, argent, within a border of the last, charged with eight roses of the first for Dunbar ; second and third, or, three cushions within a double tressure, flowered and counter-flowered, gules, for Randolph. Crest—a right hand *pamme*, proper, reaching to two Earls' coronets tied together, with the motto "Sub Spe." Supporters—two lions, argent, standing on a compartment whereon are these words—"Precipitatus attamen tutus."

## VIII.—BISHOPMILL.

THE Dunbars of Bishopmill are said to be descended from Grange, and I insert here appropriately the contract of marriage between Alexander Dunbar of West Grange, and Catherine Reid, niece of the celebrated and excellent Robert Reid, Abbot of Kinloss, and Bishop of Orkney. The Bishop was a luminary in a dark age; a person whose name deserves to be always mentioned with gratitude and respect by his countrymen, a lover of learning, a man of piety, an able lawyer, skilled in diplomacy, and entirely devoted to the interests of his country. He died in the year 1559, on the eve of the Reformation, to which he was much opposed, and two years before his niece's marriage.

*Extract Registered Contract of Marriage, betwixt  
Mr. Alexander Dunbar of West Grange, and  
Catharine Reid, his spouse.*

*Recorded, 17th August, 1562.*

AT Edinburgh ye tent day of Februarye, zeir of God Jmvelxi yeiris, It is appoyntit, aggreit, and finallie contractit, betwixt honorable psons. That are to say—Walter, Abbot of Kinloss, and ewfame Dundass, relict of umqhl. Alexr. Adamson, burges of edinbur., for yaire selfis and for Catharine Reid, dochter to ye said ewfame, and sister-german to ye said Abbot, on yat ane pairt, and

Maister Alexr. Dunbar of West Grange on yat oyr pairt, in manner, form, and effect as efter follows: That is to say, ye said Maister Alexr. Dunbar will (God willing) tak to his spousit wyff ye said Catharine, and sall contract and solemnizat m'iage wt her, in ye face of ye holie congregation, betwix yis and ye fest of Whitsounday nex to cum, and at ye contracting of ye said m'iage, or if before, ye said Abbot sall infest, or cause to be infest sufficientlie, ye said Catharine in feu ferm, and ye airs to be gotten betwix ye said Maister Alexr. and hir, whilks failzieing, to ye said Katherine's airs quhats'mever, in all and haill ye lands of ye West Grange, wt ye myln yairof, lyand wtin ye Barony of Kinloss, and Sh'fdome of Elgyne and Forres, to be halden of ye Abbot and c'nvent y'of, or of ye gevars of ye said infestment, to the said Catharine for payment of the yeirlie dewtie in ye feu charter granted be ye Abbot and convent to the fewaris of ye said landis; and als ye said Abbot sall gif to ye said Maister Alexander, at ye contracting of ye said m'iage, in name of tocher-gude, ye soume of fyve hunder m'ks, and sicklyk ye said ewfame sall gif to ye said Maister Alexr., in name of tocher-gude, wt ye said Katharine, ye tyme above specifit, ye soume of fyve hunder m'ks, and yt by and aftr ye soume of ane thousand m'ks ye qylk ye said Katherine hes ellis in hir awin hand left to tocher by ane reverend fader in God, umqhl. Robert Bischop of Orkney, her fader brither, whilk haill soumes, extending all togidder to ye soume of twa thousand m'ks, sall be gevin as said is to ye said Maister Alexr., bot to be laid upon land to the utilitie and proffut of the said Maister Alexr. and Katherine, in all gudlie and possible haist. The quhilkis lands lieand coft wt ye said tocher, ye said Maister Alexander and Katherine, sall be infest in conjunct fee to be bruikat heritable be yame, and ye langest levand of yame twa, and ye airs to be gotten betwix yame; qlks failzieing, to ye said Catharine's airs quhatsowr. For ye qulks causs the said Maister Alexr. bindis and obliss him be yir p'nts yat he sall infest ye said Katherin in conjunct fee wt himself, and the airs gotten or to be gotten betwix y'm, in all and sundrie landis yat it sall happen ye said Maister Alexr. to by, conquest, or oyrwise heritable obtain, and sicklyke in all and sundrie fischeingis, tackis, lyfrentis, yat he byis or otherwaies purchases, yat he put ye said Katharine yrin wt him to be bruikat be yame

con'intlie, and be her in cais sche happen to leif after him, and fryr bindis and obliss him be yr p'nts to assist wt his kin, friendis, and allyas yat will do for him to the said Abbot for ye defence and maintenance of his lands, benefits, guidis, and gear, and to defend him in all his causs and debats in the law, and by the law, and to resist to all yame yat in vaidis, aidis against, or persewis ye said Abbat, his friendis, servandis, guidis, or gear, or onywise molestis or troublis him, and sall continue wt ye said Abbot wt all his tyme and diligince, wt all his friendis, yat he may procure or will do for him to ye weill furthsetting, defence, and maintenance of ye said Abbat, his servandis, and friendis, as against all invaders or troublaris, and for observing, keeping, and fulfilling of all and sundry ye premises be bayth ye saidis parties to the oyers, for yr pairts, they haif subscrievit yir prits wit yar handis, in manner underwritten, day, zeir, and place foresaid, before yir witnesses—Maister Robert Rilsendrown, Thesourer ; Mr. Alex. Syme, Advocat ; Alexr. Acheson of Gosford ; Mr. Peter Galbraith, Notary Publics ; and als baith ye saidis prts, for ye mair observing and keeping of yir premises, are content and consents yat yir pnts be insert in ye buiks of Counsale, and haif ye strength of ane decret of the Lords yairof, vit executorials to pass yaireupon in form as effeiris, and for inserting of ye said, maks and constituts bouth persons—Maisters David Borthwick, Alex. Sym, Alex. Skene, yeir undoubted prourators, gevin, grantin, committin to ym yer power to compeir before ye Lordis of Counsale foresaid, and to consent in yeir names for inserting of ye samen in ye said buiks. Sic subscribitur—ALEXR. DUNBAR ; WALTER, Abbat of Kinloss.

## IX.—MORRISTON.

1. THE following inventory of titles of the estates belonging to the Douglasses and Martins of Morriston is copied from an old inventory, which appears to have been produced in the process of ranking and sale of the estates of William Martin of Harriewood, in the Court of Session, about the middle of last century, at which period Morriston was bought at the judicial sale by the Earl of Fife. It is a document of some importance, and throws considerable light on the families who possessed this property during the 17th and part of the 18th centuries, and may therefore be considered as worth preserving :—

*Progres of Martine of Harwood's Estate, in the  
Shire of Murray.*

1. Special service of Mr. John Douglas before the Shirreff of Elgin, of the half-davoch of land of Middlehaugh, alias Morieston, lying as therein described, which held formerly of the Bishop of Murray, and now of the Protector, for payment of 16s. 3d. Scotts yearly, and doubling the feu-duty at the entry of each heir. Dated 28th Decer., 1655.

2. Seasine which proceeds on a precept furth of the Chancelary on the said lands of Murrayston, in favour of the said Mr. John Douglas, dated 18th Octor., 1656. The precept is not produced, but the seasine takes it in verbatim, and directs security to

be taken for 32s. 3d., as the duplication of the few farm, being the entry of ane heir.

3. Original charter, granted by the Magistrates of Elgin, in favours of the s'd Mr. John Douglas, of that piece of land compassed with the water of Lossie, and rin flowing from the said water to the Milns of Elgin, and from them to the said water again, as the same divides the said pieces land from the lands of Loomsheugh and Oldmilns at the west, and the Miln Croft at the south, and the lands of Morrieston at the north and east parts, for payment of 30s. 3d., as the feu farm duty, and twelve dies in augmentation of the rentall. Dated 28th March, 1659.

4. Seasine following thereon. Dated 2d Aprile thereafter.

5. Precept of clare, by Murdoch Bishop of Murray, superior of the lands of Murraystoun, in favours of the said Mr. John Douglas, of the saids lands of Murraystoun, for payment of the foresaid yearly feu-duty. Dated 11th March, 1664.

6. Seasine following thereon, dated 25th March, s'd year, and regrt. 29th of s'd month in the particular register of seasines.

7. Seasine in favours of the said Mr. John Douglas, of all and haill that hill, commonly called the Castlehill, or Ladyhill of Elgin, proceeding on a contract betwixt Alexander Earle of Murray, and the said Mr. John Douglas. The seasine dated 8th May, 1666, and registrat in the general register the 14 June thereafter.

8. Contract of wadsett betwixt the said Mr. John Douglas and Robert Martine, Writter in Edinburgh, whereby, for security of 8260 m'ks resting by the said Mr. John Douglas to him, he wadsetts and dispones the said half-davoch of land of Middlehaugh, alias Murraystoun, redeemable for payment of the said sum. The term of redemption suspended for five years. Dated 23d October, 1665.

9. Instrument of seasine following upon the precept of seasine contained in the said contract, dated 26th October, 1665, and registrat in the general register the 6th Nover. thereafter.

10. Discharge of the reversion by the said Mr. John Douglas to the said Mr. Robert Martine, narrating the forsaid contract, and ratifying and approving thereof, discharging the reversion conceived in his favours, and declaring the lands to pertain to the said Mr. Robert Martine, and his forsaid, heritably and irredeemably.

Dated 22d October, 1668, and registrat in the generall register 10th Nover. yrafter.

11. Extract speciall service of the said Mr. Robert Martine before the Baillies of Elgin, 7 May, 1663, finding and cognoscing him heir to Robert Martine, Burges of Elgin, his father, in the particular lands, rents, and others therein specially described.

12. Seasine in favours of the said Mr. Robert Martin, proceeding on a precept of clare constat, granted by the Bishop of Murray, superior of the lands called Baxter's Croft, and Roust's Croft, finding the said Robert Martine, Burges of Elgin, his father, dyed last vest therein, and ordaining him to be infeft. The feu-duty payable out of Baxter's Croft is 13s. 4d., and out of Roust's Croft, £2 3s. 4d., with the astricted multures of the lands to the Miln of Bishopmiln, and giving suit and presence at the Bishop's three head courts, and doubling the feu-duty at the entry of each heir, and goeing with the Bishop and his Baillies sufficiently accoutered to the King's wars. The precept is dated 2 June, 1663, and the instrument of sasine the 6th of the said month and year, and registrat in the general register the 27 of the said month of June.

13. Charter of confirmation by Murdoch Bishop of Murray, in favours of the said Mr. Robert Martine, ratifying the contract of wadsett past betwixt Mr. John Douglas and him, and seasine thereon, with the renunciation and discharge of the reversion, and confirming the same in the heall heads and contents. Dated 22d Octor., 1672.

14. Decreet of adjudication, at the instance of the said Mr. Robert Martin, against Agnes, Margaret, and Barbara Douglasses, lawfull daughters and heirs-portioners of the said Mr. John Douglas, who was served and retoured heir to the said deceast Mr. Gavin Douglas, and Robert Douglas, Burges of the Burgh of Elgin, broyr-german and heir-male of the said Mr. John Douglas, and against Mr. William Burnet, Minister at Cullen, husband to the said Agnes, and Mr. Robert Skeen, Schoolmaster at Elgin, spouse to the said Barbara, for their interests, adjudging from them the whole lands and rents contained in Mr. John Douglas speciall retours and seasines mentioned. Two aughteen parts of the Greweship lands of Elgin, ane 18th part of Bareflathills, and ane 18th part of the haugh thereof, to pertain to him and his

heirs, for payment of the accumulate sum of £11,421 Scotts money, and a rent from the term of Martinmas, 1674. The det. of adjudication is dated 22d January, 1676, and the abbreviate recorded the 4 March thereafter.

15. Charter granted by the Magistrates of Elgin upon the for-said decret of adjudication of the houses and tofts of the old and new Milns of Elgin, and of the piece of land compassed with the water of Lossie. The two aughteen parts of the Greweship lands of Elgin; the aughteen part of the town and lands of Bareflat-hills, and 18th part of the haugh thereof. Dated 9th Octor., 1676.

16. Seasine upon the forsaid charter. Dated 12th Octor., said year, but not registrat.

17. Seasine in favours of the said Mr. Robert Martine, proceeding upon a charge of horning given in virtue of the forsaid decreete of adjudication to the Magrts. of Elgin, upon the severall burrow roods, aikers, &c., within the town of Elgin. Dated 12th Octor., 1676.

18. Disposition by Margaret and Barbara Douglasses, daughters and heirs-portioners of the said Mr. John Douglas, and grandchildren and heirs-portioners of Mr. Gavin Douglas, in favours of the said Mr. Robert Martine, narrating that he was to satisfy and pay the debts of their saids predecessors therein specially enumerate, and that the said Mr. John Douglas was tutor dative to the said umqh. Robert Martine, and did middle and intromitt with, at least ought to have intromitted, with severall sums of money, resting to the said umqh. Robert Martine (a blank left for these debts). Therefore, and for certain sums of money, they dispone the hail lands contd. in the forsaid decret of adjudication, and ratify the adjudication. Dated 1st May, 1675.

NOTE.—Betwixt this time and the 1685, Mr. Robert Martine was forfieted, and Jean Porterfield, his wife, gott the gift of forfeiture, and there are five precepts taken out from the Chancery, directed to the severall superiors of the lands, for infesting her; but no seasine was taken, because the doom of forfeiture was rescinded by the 18th Act of King W. & Q. M. Parliament, entitled, Act Rescinding Forfietures and Fines past since the year 1665, in which Act Mr. Robt. Martine, Clerk of the Court of Justiciary, is expressly named, and John Martine, his eldest son, made up his titles to his father.



19. Two coppies of the speciall retour of John Martine as heir to the said Mr. Robert Martine, his father, in the lands of Kirk-toun of St. Andrew's, Easter and Wester Coldcoats, with the tiends, the lands of Middlehaugh or Murrayston, with severall other lands yrin ennumerate, upon a service before the Macers. Dated 1st Decr., 1691.

NOTE.—The precept from the Chancery for infesting in the lands holding of the Crown is not produced, but is narrated verbatim in the seasine aftermentioned.

20. Seasine in favours of the said John Martine, in the saids lands of Kirk-toun of St. Andrew's, Kirkhill, Easter and Wester Coldcoats, Murraystown, and Baxter's Croft. Dated 14 May, 1692, and registrat 7th June thereafter.

21. Precept from the Chancellary, directed to the Magistrates of Elgin, for infesting the said John Martine in that piece of land which is surrounded with the water of Lossie, and in the Two Aughteen parts of the Greewship lands of Elgin, with the common pasturages, grass land, and moss ward pertaining thereto, and in the aughteen part of the town and lands Bareflathills, and 18th part of the haugh thereof. Dated 9th January, 1692.

22. Precept from the Chancery, directed to the said Magtrs., for infesting the said John Martine in the severall roods, aikers, rents, and others therein particularly enumerate. Dated 9 Janry., 1692.

NOTE.—There appears no infestment to have followed on these two precepts.

23. Registrat disposition by the said John Martine, in favours of Jean Porterfield, his mother, relict of the said Mr. Robert Martine, of the lands of Aikenway, and salmond fishing thereof; the lands of Collie, Freefield, and Whitwrea; the lands of Kirk-toun of St. Andrew's, and Kirkhill; Easter and Wester Coldcoatts; Middlehaugh, or Murrayston; Lady Hill; with the haille houses, biggings, milns, woods, fishings, tofts, crofts, roods, and aikers of land, lying within the Burgh of Elgin, which pertained to the sd. umqh. Mr. Robert Martine, as the samen are designed in his rights and infestments, and all oyr heretages, tennements, and rents which pertained to him by heretable bond, apprising adjudication, or otherways containing a pro'ry for serving him heir to his fayr,

and for resigning the lands in the hands of his superiors, for heritable and irredeemable infeftments to be given her, containing absolute warrandice, assignation to the maills and duties, and a precept of seasine. Dated 12th August, 1691, and regrt. in the books of Session 11th August, 1692.

24. Instrument of seasine, following upon the precept of seasine contained in the forsaid disposition, in favours of the said Jean Porterfield. Dated 29th Septr., 1696, and registrat in the generall register 26th Nover. thereafter.

25. Contract of marriage betwixt William Martine, Writer in Edinr., lawfull son of the said deceast Mr. Robert Martine, and Margaret Lockhart, only daughter of Mungo Lockhart of Harwood, wherein the said Jean Porterfield, mother of the said William Martine, proprietor of the lands above mentioned, dispones, in favours of the said William Martine, the haill lands, rents, and others contained in John's speciall service, with all right and title which she had thereto, whether as donator to her husband's forfeiture, or by the dispos'n from her son, above mentioned, dated 16 June, 1699; and the said Margaret Lockhart, heretor of the lands underwritten, and as being infeft on a charter from James Lord Torphichen, superior, 21st Decr., 1698, dispones to the said William Martine and herself, and the longest liver of them two, in liferent, and to the heirs-male or female to be procreat of the said marriage, and a long substitution of heirs, the lands of Litle Harwood or Commonbrea, the lands of Cowhill and Dyebog.

2. I have mentioned in the text that after the death of Robert Martin of Morriston, his estates were forfeited to the Crown, on 22d May, 1685, and his widow, and family of eight children, left in deplorable want and destitution. Mrs. Martin, whose maiden name was Jean Porterfield, had the influence in the following year, 1686, to obtain a gift from the Crown of the Estate of Morriston, and, considering the very prominent part her husband took against the Government, this gift must be considered an act

of very great liberality for these times. The following is a copy of the deed :—

JACOBUS, dei gratia magnæ Britannæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ, Rex, Reverendo in Christo patri, miseratione divina Moraviæ Episcopo, et suis successoribus in dicto officio superiori terrarum aliarumque subscript, et balivis suis, salutem. Quia totum et integrum dimidium davatæ terrarum de Middlehaugh, alias Morristoun, cum pertinentibus infra vicecomitatum nostrum de Elgin et Forres jacent, quodque dimidium davatæ terrarum de Middlehaugh, alias Morristoun, cum debitis monetæ summis et obligationibus quibiscunque unacum molendinis, sylvis, piscationibus, partibus, pendiculis, et pertinentibus earundem ad dictas terras pertinentibus ut profertur jacentibus, ad quondam Magistrum Robertum Martin, aliquando curiæ nostræ justiciarii clericum pertinuerunt per ipsum de te Moraviæ Episcopum tamquam superiore earundem immediate tent., et nunc in manibus nostris, et ad nostram donationem, et presentationem devenerunt, et incumbent ob processum sententiæ, et forisfacturæ contra dictum Magistrum Robertum Martin, Parlamenti nostri ordines juste pronunciatum vigesimo secundo die mensis Maii, millesimo sexcentesimo octogesimo quinto, pro quibusdam criminibus læso majestatis et perduellionis, per ipsum commissis, prout in decreto et sententia forisfacturæ debite deduct., latius continetur : et nos perpendentes deplorabilem conditionem Jeanæ Porterfield, relictæ quondam dicti Magistri Roberti Martin, cum bona ejus conversatione, et amore erga regimen nostrum, et ea innata nostra clementia gratiose commiserantes miserabilem conditionem dictæ viduæ, et octo ejus pupillorum per dictum demortuum suum maritum relictorum, et nolentes de Moraviæ Episcopum superiorem antedictum in superioritate tua dicti dimidii davatæ terrarum de Middlehaugh, cum pertinentibus prædictis præjudicari, sed potius tibi sufficientem tenentem earundem providere ; Igitur nos cum avisamento et consensu prædilectorum et confisorum nostrorum consanguineorum et conciliorum Jacobi Comitis de Perth, conciliarii hujus regni nostri Scotiæ ; Joannis Marchionis de Athol, nostri secreti sigilli custodis ; Gulielmi Ducis de Hamilton ; Georgii Vicecomitis de Tarbat ; et Gulielmi Vicecomitis de Strathallan, Propræfecti

copiarum nostrarum in dicto regno, necnon reliquorum scaccarii dicti nostri regni commissionariorum præfatam Jeanam Porterfield, ejusque heredes et assignatos quoscumque immediatos hereditarios tenentes tibi . . . . . Moraviæ Episcopo et successoribus tuis in dicto officie superiori dictar<sup>m</sup> terrarum aliarumque prædict. cum pertinent præsentavimus tenoreque presentium cum consensu prædict. presentamus; requiren igitur te . . . . . Moraviæ Episcopum et successores tuos in dicto officio superiores prædict. terrarum de Middlehaugh, alias Morriestoun, prædict. cum pertinent. quatenus præfatæ Jeanæ Porterfield, ejusdem heredibus et assignatis dicti dimidii davatæ terrarum de Middlehaugh, alias Moriostoun, cum molendinis, piscationibus, et pertinent., recipias eiisdemque, sufficientia hereditaria infeofamenta desuper conficias et adeo libere de te et successoribus tuis tenendas sunt dictus quondam Magister Robertus Martin, in easdem terras aliaque prædicta cum pertinent antedict foris facturam tenuit et promittimus in vestro principio presentem hanc nostram donationem, dispositionem, et presentationem in proximo nostro Parlamento ratificari eandemq. Parlamento nostri ordinibus in hunc effectum sufficiens fore warrentum ordinamus. Et preterea Literas per te vivas et intellectas latori reddetis. Datum sub testimonio nostri sigilli magni apud aulam nostram de Whythall, nono die mensis Novembris, annoque nostri regni secundo, 1686.

Jean Porterfield, wife of Robert Martin, was connected with a respectable family in the West of Scotland. George Porterfield was Provost of Glasgow, at or before the year 1660; Alexander Porterfield of Falwood, Alexander Porterfield of Quarrelton, John Porterfield of Duchal, and William Porterfield, all suffered severely for the Covenant by fine, imprisonment, forfeiture, &c. Porterfield of Duchal was condemned to death, but seems to have escaped the final sentence. (See Wodrow's History.)

## X.—AUCHTERSPYNIE, OR SHERIFFMILL.

1. CHARTER, Andrew Bishop of Moray, to Walter de Moravia, for the site of a mill at Uchterspyny, now called Sheriffmill, dated 1237—

UNIVERSIS sancte matris ecclesie filiis has literas visuris vel audituris, Andreas permissione divina Moraviensis Episcopus eternam in domino salutem: Noverint universi nos de consensu et voluntate capituli nostri dedisse et concessisse et hac carta nostra confirmasse Waltero de Moravia et heredibus suis, unum situm molendini super Lossy, in terra nostra de Uchtyrspyny, ex orientali parte rogi qui est in eadem terra. Quare volumus et concedimus ut dictus Walterus et heredes sui habeant in loco predicto molendinum suum et possideant jure perpetuo ad molendinum bladum suum et hominum suorum, adeo libere quiete et honorifice plenarie sicut aliquis Baro in Moravia, liberius, quietius, honorificentius et plenarius molendinum suum habet et possidet. Reddendo nobis et successoribus nostris, nomine recognitionis singulis annis ad festum Pentecostes unam libram piperis et aliam libram cumyni. Ut autem hæc nostra concessio perpetuo stabilis maneat firma et inconcussa appositione sigilli nostri cum subscriptionibus quorundem canonicorum est roborata. Actum anno gratiæ millesimo ducesimo trigesimo septimo, sexto die Idus Octobris. Testibus Domino David de Strathbolgyn; Magistro Willielme Agno; W. de Suthyrland; fratre Nicholao; fratre Alano; Monachis; Laurentio; Roberto; Bartholomeo Capellanis; Simone de Rogheis, Magistro Gregorio Comentario; Ricardo, vitreario; et multis aliis.

After the death of Friskinus de Moravia, the mill was held by his daughters' husbands *pro indiviso*, viz. :—two-thirds by Reginald Cheyne, and one-third by William de Fedderet. On the failure of the heirs of Fedderet, his third went to the Crown, and when the male line of the Cheynes died out, the daughters of the family, two co-heiresses, carried their shares to Keith of Inverugie and Sutherland of Duffus. The mill was therefore divided into three parts, and so continued as the joint-property of three families until the middle of the 17th century, when Sutherland of Duffus acquired the whole.

At what period the family of Douglas of Pittendreich settled in the North, is uncertain, but there is a great probability that it took place in the early part of the 13th century, when Bricius was Bishop of Moray. In any event, the family of Pittendreich was a very ancient and honourable branch of the great house of Douglas, and eventually became Earls of Angus. In the middle of the 15th century, they had a considerable estate in the Lowlands of Moray, having, besides Pittendreich, one-third of the Parish of Duffus, with the third of Sheriffmill, and an extensive property in the Parish of St. Andrew's and elsewhere. The original charter of the third part of Duffus, and of the third of the Mill of Sheriffmill, in favour of James Douglas of Pittendreich, is preserved at Gordonstown, and is in fine condition—remarkably neatly written, and a beautiful specimen of old penmanship. It is dated at Edinburgh the 14th August, 1472. Having been kindly permitted to have the use of it, by Lady Gordon Cumming, I

here insert a correct copy from the original, and am pleased to have the opportunity of preserving so valuable a document. It is a matter of much regret that the old family of Douglas of Pittendreich, the last landed proprietors of the name in the North, should be now extinguished. I may observe that this charter, although it proves that the Douglas family had the third of Duffus in 1472, yet it does not follow that they may not have possessed it at a much earlier date—

2. JACOBUS, dei gratia Rex Scottorum, omnibus probis hominibus, tocius terre sue clericis, et laicis salutem sciatis me dedisse concessisse, et ad feodifirmam dimisisse, et hac presenti carta nostra confirmasse dilecto, et fideli nostro Jacobo de douglas de Pettindreth, totam et integram terciam partem nostram terrarum de duffhous, cum pertinentiis ac terciam partem nostram molendini vulgariter muncupati lesseff myln (le shereff myln), et totam et integram terciam partem nostram terrarum de saltcotis, cum pertinentiis, Jacentia infra vicecomitatum nostrum de Elgin, tenendam et habendam totam et integram dictam terciam partem terrarum de duffhouss, ac terciam partem dicti molendini, et terciam partem terrarum de Saltcottis, cum pertinentiis dicto Jacobo de douglas, et heredibus suis de nobis heredibus, et successoribus nostris in feodifirma, et hereditate imperpetuum per omnes rectas metas suas antiquas, et divisas prout jacent in longitudine et latitudine in boscis, planis, moris, maresiis, viis, semitis, aquis, stagnis, rivolis, pratis, pascuis, et pasturis, molendinis, multuris, et eorum sequelis, aucupationibus, venacionibus, piscationibus, petariis, turbariis, carbonariis, lapicide, lapide et calce, fabrilibus, brasinis, brueriis, et genestis, cum curiis et earum exitibus, herezeldis, bludewitis, et merchetis mulierum, cuniculis, cuniculariis, columbis, columbariis, silvis nemoribus, hortis, pomariis, ac cum omnibus aliis et singulis libertatibus, commoditatibus, et asiamentis, ac justis pertinentiis quibuscunque, tam non nominatis, quam nominatis, ad dictam terciam partem de duffhous, prefati molendini, et terrarum de saltcotis, cum

pertinentiis spectant seu quovismodo juste spectare valent in futurum, libere, quiete, integre, honorifice, bene et in pace, sine aliquo retinemento, aut revocaciana quacunq̄ue. Reddendo, et soluendo annuatim dictus Jacobus de Douglas, et heredes sui nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris, pro totis et integris predictis terciis partibus terrarum et molendini viginti duas libras, et decem solidos usualis monete regni nostri ad duos anni terminos usuales pentechostis, et sancti martini in hieme, per equales porciones, ac Reverendis in Christo, patribus episcopis moraviensi annuatim triginta quatuor solidos, et quinque denarios prefate monete ad terminos prescriptos nomine annui Redditus dictis Episcopis de prefata tercia parte terrarum de Saltcotis, et dicti molendini debiti et etiam soluendo nobis et successoribus nostris ad dictum terminum sancti martini, in hieme, annuatim, octo celdras ordei contigue consuete measure nomine feodifirme tantum. In cujus rei testimonium presenti carte nostre magnum sigillum nostrum apponi precepimus. Testibus Reverendis in Christo patribus Willelmo Episcopo moraviensi, nostri secreti sigilli custode; Henrico Episcopo Rossensi; discretis consanguineis nostris Andrea domino Avondale cancellario nostro; Colino comite de Ergile domino Lorne, magistro hospicii nostri; Jacobo domino Hammiltoune; Willelmo domino Monypenny; Johanne de Culquhone de eodem milite; magistris David de Guthre, de eodem clerico rotulorum nostrorum, et Registri; Johanne Layng, Rectori de Newlandis, nostro thesaurario; et Archibaldo de Quhitelaw, Archidiacono Laodonie, nostro Secretario; apud Edinburgh, decimo quarto die mensis augusti, anno domini millesimo quadringentesimo septuagessimo secundo, et regni nostri decimo tercio.\*

\* On farther consideration, I am inclined to be of opinion that the family of Douglas acquired the third part of Duffus, lands in the Barony of Kilmalemnock, with other estates in the North of Scotland, through the marriage of Archibald the Grim, Earl of Douglas, with Joan, grand-daughter of Sir Andrew Moray, Lord of Bothwell. Perhaps in the same way the estate of Pittendrich was acquired, but this is not so apparent. Archibald Earl of Douglas conveyed these lands, with many others, to his brother James, who was afterwards seventh Earl of Douglas. Mr Cosmo Innes, in a foot-note to his Sketches of Early Scotch History, page 398, remarks as follows:—"Archibald Earl of Douglas granted to his brother-german James of Douglas the Barony of Petyn (Petty), the third of Doufhous (Duffus), &c., and all the lands lying within the *Thaynedomeis*, in the Lordship of Kylmalaman (Kilmalemak), in the Sheriffdom of Elgin, confirmed by crown charter of James I., anno regni twenty-one, 1426." See also Douglas' Peerage, volume 1—Head, Douglas Family.



3. The following disposition of the third part of Duffus, third of the Mill of Sheriffmill, and other subjects, in the year 1631, proves the date when the Marischal family sold their estates in Morayshire, long possessed by them, to the Sutherlands of Duffus. It is granted by William Earl Marischal in favour of James Sutherland, Tutor of Duffus, then acting as guardian for his nephew, Alexander Sutherland, afterwards the first Lord Duffus. It discloses the curious fact that the Earl Marischal's lands in Duffus, like his Estates of Inverugie, in Buchan, were all considered to be in the County of Banff. It was a period of decline with the Keith family, a prelude to their entire fall, nearly a century later, when, in an evil day, they embraced the cause of the Stuart family, and fatally joined the Rebellion of 1715, not only entailing a great loss to themselves, but to their country, for two finer men than George, the last Earl Marischal, and his brother, Field-Marshal James Keith, never left their native land:—

AT Fettiresso & Abirden, the aught and nynt days of Junii, the zear of God Jay vjc and threttie ane zeires (1631), it is ap-  
 poyntit, agriet, and ffinallie contractit betwixt the pairties follow-  
 ing, to witt, ane noble & potent Erill, William erill of Merschell,  
 Lord Keith and Alterie, on the ane pairt, and James Sutherland,  
 tutor of Duffus, on the other pairt, In maner, forme, and effect as  
 efter followes:—That is to say, fforsameikill as the said James  
 Sutherland hes publiclie, at the dait heirof, reallie, and with effect  
 contented, payit, and delyverit to the said noble Erill, ane certane  
 great sowme of money, ffor performing and accomplishing of cer-  
 tane of his necessar affaires and bussiness: Quhairof the said  
 nobill erill haldis him weill content, satisfeit, and payit, and for  
 him, his aires, excers., and assignayes, Exoneris quyt clames, and

simpliciter discharges the said James Sutherland, his aires, execrs., and assigns., and all utheris quhom it effieris, of the same, for now evir renouncand the exceptione of not numerat money, and all othur exceptionnes of the law quhatsoever that may be proponit or alledgit in the contrair. Thairfor the said noble erle hes sauld, annaleit, and disponit, and be the tenor heirof sells, annalies, and dispones ffra him, his aires, and successores, to and in favors of the said James Sutherland, his aires and assignayes quhatsoever, heritable and irredeemable, but ony maner of reversion, redemption, or regres, bond, promise, or condition of reversion or redemption quhatsoever, All and haill the said nobill erle, his third pairt of all and sundrie the landis of Duffus, with the housses, biggings, zairdes, toftis, croftis, outsetts, insetts, annexis, connexis, dependancies, tenents, tenandries, and service of ffrie tenents of the same, pairtis, pendicles, and pertinentis thairof quhatsoever, lyand within the Shereffdome of Elgin and Forres, and be annexation, within the Sheriffdome of Banff, and Lordschippe of Inverugie, together with the third vice and turne of the patronage of the Kirk of Duffus, and personage teindis thairof pertaining of auld to the said nobill erle and his predecessors, and with the advocacion, donation, and right of patronage of all chaplaneries of the said third pairt landis, and siclyk the advocatioun, donatioun, and right of patronage of the vicarage of the said parochin of Duffus, lyand as said is ; And also All and Haill the third pairt milne of Auchterspynie, alias Sherfmilne, with the shilling hill, miller's landis, and utheris necessarie, pertaining to the said milne, situat uponn the water of Lossie, within the boundis of Auchterspynie, Shrefdome foresaid, and regalitie of Spynie. Lykeas the said nobill erle bindis and oblisses him, and his aires, with all convenient diligence, to dewlie and sufficientlie infest and seas be charter and sesing, *titulo indorso*, in dew and competent forme, the said James Sutherland, his aires-maill, and assigns forsaidis, heritable and irredeemable, as said is, In all and sundrie the foresaid third pairt landis, milne, and right of patronages respective forsaidis, be severall and doubill infestmentis, ane yrof to be halden of the said nobill erle and his forsaidis in few ferme and heritage, ffor the zeirlye paymt. of the soume of ffourscore merkis money of this realme, at tua termis in the zeir, Witsonday, and Mertinmes in winter, be equall portiones, in name of feu ferme, and doubling the said few ferme dewtie the first zeir of the

entrie of ilk air, as use is of few ferme allenerlie, and with this speciall provisioun and conditioun, that the not payment of the said few ferme dewtie be the space of tua termis enacted together sall be no caus of nullitie or reduction of the said Infestment, notwithstanding of quhatsoever names, actis, or constitutiones maid, or to be maid, in the contrair, and siclyke, provyding that it sall nawayes be leisum to the said nobill erle or his forsaidis to poynd or distremzie the guidis and gear being upon the ground of the landis, nather to apprys the propertie of the same ffor the said few ferme dewtie, nor of na reall executioun yairfor; but onlie sall have personall executioun against the said James Sutherland and his forsaidis allenerlie for payment of the same, and the other of the saidis infestments to be halden fra the said noble erle and his forsaidis, as imediat lawful superiors imediatelie, To witt, the said third pairt, milne, milleir's landis, schillinghill, and pertinentis yairof, to be halden of ane Reverend father in God, John bischop of Murray, superior yairof, siclyke, and als frielie in all respectis as he haldis the same himselff; and the saidis third pairt landis of Duffus, with the third vice of the patronage yrof forsaid, and right of patronage of all uther chaplanries yrof, and vicarage of the same, with the pertinentis yairof above specifuit, to be halden of our soverane lord, and his hieres successors, be service of ward and relief, paying zeirlie, during the tyme of waird, the soume of ffourtie merkis money, with the proportionable pairt of the taxt waird dewtie, conteint in the said nobill earle his infestment of the said Lordschippe of Inverugie forsaid, and the soume of tua hundreth merkis money for the marriage of the air, and the proportionable pairt of the taxt marriage conteint in the said infestment, and that ather be resignation or confirmatn., as best sall pleis the said James Sutherland and his forsaidis to desire, provyding the said superiors then consent to the receiving of the said Resignatioun, or granting of the said confirmatioun, be purchasit, procurit, and exped to the said James Sutherland be his awin moyan, and upon his awin proper chairges and expenses; and for the better obtaining of the said Infestment of Resignation, the said nobill Erle hes maid, constitute, and ordainit, and be the tenor herof makes, constitutes, and ordains . . . . .  
. . . . . or any of y<sup>m</sup> conjunctlie and severallie, his very laull, undoutit, and irrevocabill prors, &c.

*Here is inserted a variety of other clauses, peculiar to the ancient and intricate forms of conveyancing; and then the testing clause, as follows:—*

And for the mair securitie, baith the saidis pairties ar content that thir presentis be insert and registrat in the buikes of counsall, to have the strength of ane decreit of the Lordis yairof, that ltres and execution of horning and utheris needful may be direct heir-on, on ane simple chairge of six days onlie, and for that effect constitutes Mr. James Keith and David Heriot thair lawfull pro'rs, promitten die rato. In witness qrof, baith the saidis pairtes hes subscriyvit thir prsts., day, zeir, and place forsaid, befoir thir witnesses—James Ramsay, John Skein, and David Rob'tsone, Servitors to the said nobill Erle; John Bruce and Alexr. Smith, Servitors to the said James Sutherland; Patrik Gibsone of Kinminite, and William Dalgarno of Creiche.

(Sic subsr.)

MARISCHALL.  
J. SUTHERLAND.

J. RAMSAY, Witnes.

JOHN SKENE, Witnes.

DAVID ROBERTSONE, Witnes.

JOHN BRUCE, Witnes.

WM. DALGARNNO, Witnes to the subscriptioun of James Sutherland.

PATRIK GIBSONE, Witnes to James Sutherland's subscription.

ALEXR. SMITH, Witnes as saidis.\*

\* It will be observed that the name of the writer is not in the above deed; but, as it was executed before the last statute was passed regarding the testing of deeds, it perhaps was not then absolutely necessary to insert the name of the writer, or the number of sheets, which is also omitted.

4. *The Family of Calder of Sheriffmill and Muirton.*

THE family of the Calders were long connected with, and took a prominent part in the affairs of the Burgh of Elgin, and were merchants and traders in the town. They were also, for great part of a century, proprietors of the lands of Sheriffmill, in the Parish of Spynie. They were a branch of the Calders of that ilk, and, before any of them settled in Morayshire, had the Estate of Assuanlie, in heritage. Their lineage can only be briefly stated—

1. Robert Calder, who was proprietor of the lands of Assuanlie in 1555, and had two sons. The younger son was James Calder.

2. James Calder, above noted, settled in Elgin, and is supposed to have been a merchant there.

3. Thomas Calder, his son, purchased the lands of Sheriffmill in 1639, and was Provost of Elgin in 1665 and 1669. He seems to have been a Bailie of the Burgh as early as 1647, as he is one of the magistrates who subscribe a letter to Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstown, on 14th February, that year, asking his advice and assistance, in consequence of a threatened raid on the town by Lord Lewis Gordon.

*Social Life in Former Days, second series, page 54.*

4. James Calder succeeded. Either he or his father built the fine old house on the north side of High Street, Elgin, where the Assembly Rooms and North Street now are placed, and which was long the family residence, and perhaps one of the finest houses of its kind ever in Elgin. It was only removed about the year 1820.

He was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia, 5th November, 1686, and purchased the Estate of Muirton, in Kinloss. He was engaged largely in trade with William Duff of Muirton, Provost of Inverness, his nephew William Duff of Dipple, and William King of Newmill, and being associated with such careful and prudent men, he should have made a large fortune, as his partners did. He may have been extravagant. At all events, he died in an embarrassed state, and left his estate much encumbered. He married Grizel Innes, daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Innes, Baronet, by whom he had several children. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

Social Life in  
Former Days,  
first series,  
page 145.

William Baird's  
Memoirs of the  
Duffs, page 61.

5. Sir Thomas Calder, born in 1662. He found his father's estate much embarrassed, and, after making great exertions to recover it, he found it impossible. He disposed of Muirton in 1710, and it eventually came into possession of the Roses of Kilravock. About the same time, Sheriffmill property was sold to William Duff of Dipple. Sir Thomas had considerable burgh property in Elgin also, but it went all from the family about this time, or shortly after. He married Christian, daughter of Sir John Scott of Ancrum, by whom he had a son, James, and various other children. A great intimacy appears to have subsisted between Sir Thomas, his lady, and the famous Henrietta Duchess of Gordon, a very talented and clever woman, and although Muirton was sold, they continued to live there down to the year 1723 at least, perhaps later.

6. Sir James Calder. The family, either in his time, or in the latter period of his father's life, settled in England. Sir James married Alice, daughter of Admiral Robert Hughes, by whom he had—

1. Henry.

2. Robert, born 2d July, 1745, an eminent naval commander; attained the rank of Admiral, and was created a Baronet, 1798. He married Amelia, daughter of John Mitchell, Esquire of Bayfield, Norfolk, and died without issue, 31st August, 1818.

A daughter, Alithea, married Admiral Roddam of Roddam, County of Northumberland.

7. Sir Henry Calder, a Major-General in the army. Married,

first, Miss Earle of Beestone, in Norfolk, but by her had no issue ; second, Louisa, daughter of Admiral Osborne, by whom he had one son, Henry Roddam. He died in 1792.

8. Sir Henry Roddam Calder, born 1790 ; married, 1819, Frances Selina, fourth daughter of Edmund Henry first Earl of Limerick, and by her, who died 11th June, 1855, had—

1. Henry Edmund Innes, born 4th October, 1820 ; died November, 1824.

2. William Henry Walsingham, present Baronet.

3. Cecil Henry Francis, born 31st August, 1822 ; died October, 1838.

4. Edmund Henry George, born 13th June, 1824 ; died January, 1846.

5. Charles Augustus Henry, born 13th March, 1831 ; died October, 1853.

One daughter, Louisa Alice Frances, married, 11th November, 1856, to Charles Fox Webster, second son of the late Sir Henry Webster ; and secondly, 22d April, 1867, to John Coupland, Esq. of the Rookery, Cheshire.

Sir Henry died 13th August, 1868.

9. Sir William Henry Walsingham Calder, Baronet, born 14th September, 1821 ; succeeded his father, 13th August, 1868, as sixth Baronet. He married Julia, eldest daughter of Julius Hutchinson of Manor Villa, Tunbridgewells, in the year 1842.

The arms of Calder of Muirton are—Or, a hart's head, cabossed, sable, attired, gules. Crest—a swan swimming in a loch, bordered with flags.

Motto—"VIGILANS NON CADET."

The family has had no connection with the North of Scotland for more than a century.

The Calders of Assuanlie and Muirton derive their descent from Donald fifth Thane of Calder, who flourished between the years 1405 and 1442. Hucheon, or Hugh Calder, son of this Thane, became

Thanes  
of Cawdor,  
page 13.

a retainer of the Earl of Huntly, and was present at the battle of Brechin, on the 18th May, 1452, between the Earls of Huntly and Crawford, when the fortune of the day went against Crawford. Calder, who had fought valiantly through the day, pursued the Earl of Crawford so fiercely that he was separated entirely from his own friends, and was compelled, for safety, to join himself with the enemy's forces, and so entered the Castle of Finhaven, Crawford's residence, along with the crowd. He sat at supper in the great hall along with the others, when an alarm having been raised that Huntly was upon them, all started to their arms, and in the confusion Calder made his escape, carrying off with him Crawford's silver goblet, which he presented to the Earl of Huntly at Brechin, as a voucher of his wonderful adventure. This cup continued in the Calder family until after the year 1745, when, having been pledged for a debt, it came into possession of James Gordon of Cobairdy, and is said to be now, or lately, in possession of Mrs. Alexander Gordon, daughter of the late Sir Ernest Gordon of Park and Cobairdy. For his gallant service on this occasion, Hucheson Calder got the lands of Assuanlie, in the Parish of Glass, from the Earl of Huntly, which continued in the family until last century, when an extravagant laird put an end to the family possessions. In the year 1696, I find George Calder of Assuanlie, and John Gordon of Cairnborrow, were commissioners for making up "the Roll of the Pollable Persons within "the Parochin of Glass, lyand in Aberdeenshyre." (See Poll Book of Aberdeenshire, volume 2d, page 455).

Gordon's History of the Gordons, vol. 1, pages 69, 70.

Lord Lindsay's Lives of the Lindsays, vol. 1, pages 137, 138.

Nisbet's Heraldry, Appendix, vol. 2, page 230.

Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff, vol. 2, page 183.



## XI.—ALDROUGHTY.

1. THE following service of John Sibbald, as heir to his father, Robert Sibbald, is the oldest writing I have discovered relating to Aldroughty. It is called—

Registrum  
Moraviense,  
page 205.

*Inquisitio Super Terris de Aldrochty (1393).*

HÆC Inquisitio facta est coram Domino Episcopo Moraviensi, apud villam molendini ejusdem juxta Elgyne, penultimo die mensis Augusti, anno Domini millesimo tricentesimo nonagesimo tertio; per reverendos, et discretos viros quorum nomina sunt hec:—Robertus de Cheshelme, miles dominus ejusdem; Johannes de Dolas, dominus ejusdem; Alexander de Innes, dominus ejusdem; Willelmus de Chisholme; Willelmus Hage; Willelmus Wyseman, senior; Willelmus Wyseman, junior; Reginaldus de Innerlochty; Willelmus Vaws; Willelmus, filius Michaelis; Thomas de Pilmor; Thomas de Kirkton; Johannes Walker; Andreas Fawconer; Johannes, filius Cristini, et Johannes, filius Willelmi; qui jurati magno juramento dicunt quod Robertus Sibald, pater quondam Johannis Sibald, obiit vestitus, et sasitus ut de feodo de terra de Aldrochty, cum pertinentiis, et quod dictus Johannes est legitimus, et propinquior hæres dicti quondam Roberti patris sui de eadem terra, sed non est legitimæ ætatis, ymmo infra annum tertium, et quod dicta terra valet per annum de antique extento, xl. solidos, hiis autem diebus xx. solidos, et quod tenet urin capite de Episcopo, et ecclesia Moraviensi, solvendo annuatim Domino Episcopo Moraviensi sex solidos, et octo denarios ad terminos Pentecostes, et Sancti Martini, in hyeme per equales portiones, et inveniando singulis annis tantum ter carucam suam, et ter in anno

hericiam suam, et ter carrum suum, et semel in Autumpno sex bene metentes, et faciendo forinsecum servitium pertinens ad dimidiam davatam terræ, et sequendo molendinum dicti Domini Episcopi, et quod dicta terra debet prædicto domino Episcopo wardam, et relivium . . . . . evidencias que ad-huc ostenduntur, et quod in nullo deliquit erga dominum Episcopum vel Ecclesiam Moraviensem propter quod hereditatem suam de jure recuperare non debeat. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum . . . . . de Urchard, tunc ballivi dicti domini Episcopi Moraviensis, unacum sigillis domini Roberti de Chishelme; Johannis de Doles; Alexandri de Innes; Reginaldi de Innerlochty; Willielmi Vaus; Willelmi, filii Michaelis; qui dictæ inquisitioni facte interfuerunt huic presenti scripto est appensum loco, die mense, et anno quibus supra.

2. William Sutherland of Roscommon, third son of James Lord Duffus, married Helen Duff, eldest daughter of William Duff of Dipple, in 1702. In the years 1710, 1711, and 1714, he had granted considerable securities over Aldroughty and other lands to his father-in-law, and in 1715 he joined the Rebellion for restoring the Royal House of Stuart. Dipple himself was well inclined to the Stuart cause, as were his father and grandfather; but, with characteristic prudence, he would not risk his estates and fortune in the cause, and, like a wise man, staid at home. His son-in-law, William Sutherland, was forfeited and ruined, as a matter of course, and Dipple, in the year 1717, brought forward his claims before the Commissioners for the forfeited estates. The inventory of writs then produced I give on the next page—

Inventar of the interest and writtes produced for William Duff of Diple, in the proces of forthcoming Ld. Harcourt, master, and his Factor, agt. The Lord Duffus, Sutherland of Roscommon, his Brother, &c.

1. PRINCL. Heretable Bond, Mr. William Sutherland of Roscommon, to William Duff of Diple, over the lands of Aldroghty, for £1800. Dated 19th January, 1710.

2. ITEM, Instrum<sup>t</sup>. of seasine following thereon, under the sign and subscription of James Anderson, Nottar Publick, dated the 9th day of July, 1712; registrat in the particular register of seasines, within the Shyres of Elgin and Nairn, upon the 10th July, 1712.

3. ITEM, Hrere<sup>ll</sup>. Bond of relief, be Roscommon to Diple, for 5300 merks. Dated 10th May, 1711.

4. ITEM, Instrument of seasine following thereon, under the sign and subscription of James Anderson, Nottar Publick, dated the 9th July, 1712; regrat<sup>t</sup>. in the partlar. register of seasines, within the Shyres of Elgin and Nairn, 12th July, 1712.

5. ITEM, Princ<sup>ll</sup>. hrere<sup>ll</sup>. bond be Roscommon to Diple, on the lands of Auldroghty and Mosstowie, for £14,000 Scots, dated 8th January, 1714.

6 & 7. ITEM, Two instruments of seasine following therupon, under the sign and subscription of James Anderson, Nottar Publick. The one of the saids seasines on the lands of Auldroghty, the other on the lands of Mosstowie, Greens, and Muirs thereof, both dated 15th Janry., 1714, and regrat in the particular register of seasines, within the Shyres of Elgin and Nairn, upon the 16th January, 1714.

After much legal proceedings, Duff of Dipple eventually acquired both Estates of Aldroghty and Mosstowie, which his descendants hold to this day. Whether he paid to the Crown any sum beyond the securities he held, I have no access to procure information.

## XII.—PALACE OF SPYNIE AND BISHOPS.

ANY account of the Parish of Spynie would be quite incomplete without full lists of the Bishops of the Diocese. These have been given both by Shaw and by the learned Editor of the Chartulary of Moray; but I feel rather inclined to give an account of them from the catalogue of Bishop Keith, which is more full than any other, and had the advantage of being revised by a very competent and able hand—I mean William King of Newmill, Sheriff-Depute of the Shire of Elgin, who, in his early days, was a strict Episcopalian, although latterly he became a Presbyterian, finding that Episcopacy in his time was tantamount to being a Jacobite. Robert Keith, the Bishop, was born on the 7th February, 1681, and was the son of Alexander Keith of Uras, in the Shire of Kincardine, by his wife, Margaret Arbuthnot. His father died when he was a child, and his mother removed to Aberdeen for the education of her family. He was instructed in the highest school of Episcopacy, and in the divine right of Kings. Being nearly connected to the Earl Marischal's family,\* he was appointed, in 1703, tutor to George Lord Keith, and his brother James, afterwards the famous Marshal Keith, and instilled into them those

\* The Keiths of Uras were the nearest cadets of the Marischal family.

principles of attachment to the House of Stuart which drove them into the Rebellion of 1715, and proved the utter ruin of the ancient family of Keith Marischal.\* For this he has much to answer. He continued tutor in this family up to 1710. In that year he was admitted to the order of Deacon, by Bishop Haliburton, of Aberdeen, and became Chaplain to Charles Earl of Errol, with whom he travelled on the Continent. In 1713 he was admitted to Priest's orders by the Bishop of Aberdeen, and consecrated Bishop on 18th June, 1727, and had the superintendence of Caithness, Orkney, and the Isles. At the same time he had a congregation in Edinburgh, where he had his principal residence until the end of his life. In 1733 he (in addition to his other duties) was appointed to take the superintendence episcopally of the district of Fife, which he resigned in 1743; and on the death of Bishop Rattray of Edinburgh that year, he was elected Primus. He took a considerable share in the unseemly controversies of that time, which threatened to rend the small Episcopal Church of Scotland in pieces, and did bring it to the verge of ruin. In 1752 he left his residence in the Canongate, Edinburgh, and fixed his abode on a small property called Bonnyhaugh, near Leith, where he died, on the 20th January, 1757, in the seventy-sixth year of his age, and was interred in the Canongate Churchyard, where a plain tombstone was erected to his memory. Bishop Keith's

\* It may be right to state that the mother of these young men was Lady Mary Drummond, eldest daughter of James Fourth Earl of Perth, who, being a Roman Catholic, had no doubt a share in driving her sons into the Rebellion.

principal works are—"The History of the Affairs of Church and State in Scotland, from the beginning of the Reformation, in the reign of King James V., to the Retreat of Queen Mary into England;" and "The Catalogue of the Scottish Bishops," which was published in 1755, and is still very popular. It was dedicated to the famous James Marshal Keith, then in the military service of Frederick the Great of Prussia, and a copy transmitted to him at Berlin.

In giving a list of the Bishops of the Diocese of Moray, I shall take Bishop Keith for my text, following him pretty closely, but making alterations and abbreviations when I consider it necessary—

### *Bishops of the See of Moray.*

Keith—  
Russell's  
Edition—page  
135.

1. GREGORY, Bishop of this See, is mentioned in the reign of King Alexander I., as witness in a charter to the Priory of Scone, and in the time of King David I. he is also mentioned as witness to his charter to the Abbey of Dunfermline.

2. WILLIAM was Bishop in the time of King David I., also under King Malcolm IV.; and, in the time of Pope Adrian IV., he went to Rome to complain of the usurpation of the Bishop of York over Scotland, and returned as Legate from the Pope. He died the 9th of the Kalends of February, 1162.

3. FELIX is a witness in a charter by King William, between the years 1162 and 1171.

4. SIMEON DE TONEI became Bishop in the year 1171. He was a Monk of Melrose, and before that had been Abbot at Cogshall, in the County of Essex, in England, of which kingdom he had probably been a native, as there were some of that name who came over with William the Conqueror. He was contemporary with Simeon, Matthew, Andrew, and Gregory, Bishops of Dunblane, Aberdeen, Caithness, and Ross, in the time of King William, and a co-witness with Robert de Quincey and Philip de Valoniis.

He died anno 1184, and was buried in the Church of Birnie, then the Cathedral of the Diocese.\*

5. RICHARD, one of King William's Clerici, was elected next Bishop, and was consecrated the Ides of March, 1187, at St. Andrew's, by Hugo, Bishop there. He was contemporary with Joceline, Hugo, Turpin, Andrew, Bishops of Glasgow, Dunkeld, Brechin, and Caithness, and with Matthew, Bishop of Aberdeen, and also in the time of William elect of Glasgow, Chancellor to the King, and of John elect of Aberdeen. He is witness to King William's confirmation of a donation to the Abbey of Kinloss, and a co-witness to each is H. Cancellarius, between the years 1189 and 1199. During this Bishop's time the King was very beneficent to this see. He ordered all revenues granted by his ancestors to be punctually paid, and made over to the Bishoprick a toft in the towns of Kintore, Banff, Cullen, Elgin, Nairn, and Inverness; also the teinds of all the King's rents, ordinary and extraordinary, within the Diocese of Moray, which had not formerly been set apart for the church there. He died at Spynie, in the year 1203, where he was buried.

6. BRICE or BRICIUS, a son of the family of Douglas, Prior of Lesmahagow, which was a cell in Clydesdale, belonging to the Abbey of Kelso. His mother was sister to Friskinus de Kerdal, on the River Spey, as appears by a charter of the Church of Deveth, granted by Bricius for supporting the fabric of the Church of Spynie, then the Cathedral—"ad instantiam et petitionem Friskini de Kerdal, avunculi nostri." He was the first who, by application to Pope Innocent III., got the Cathedral fixed at Spynie. He founded the College of Canons, eight in number. He went to Rome to a Council, in 1215, as appears by a safe conduct from the King of England. He had four brothers, viz.:—Henry, Alexander, Archibald, and Hugo de Douglas. The Bishop was the first great man of the house of Douglas, and seems to have been a person of high talent. He died in the year 1222, Rotuli Scotiæ. and was buried at Spynie. Mr. King's MS.

7. ANDREW DE MORAVIA or MORAY, a son of the family of Duffus, succeeded. The exact year of his consecration is not

\* Shaw mentions Andrew as Bishop here in 1184-85, but I don't find his name in any other authority.

known. It was probably 1223. He laid the foundation of the magnificent Church at Elgin, on the banks of the Lossie, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and ordained to be the Cathedral Church of Moray for ever. The solemnity was performed on the 15th (or, as some say, the 19th) July, 1224, by the Bishop of Caithness and Dean of Ross, by authority of Pope Honorius III. To the eight canons established by Bishop Bricius he added fourteen more; and having, with great prudence and piety, exercised his Episcopal duties for nearly twenty years, he died in the year 1242, and his remains were interred in the south side of the Quire

Mr. King's MS. of the Cathedral, under a large blue stone, which still remains entire, although the brass work on it has been removed.

8. SIMON, who had previously been Dean from 1232 to 1242, was chosen Bishop, and continued in office for nine years. He died anno 1253, and was interred in the Quire of the Cathedral.

9. ARCHIBALD, Dean of Moray, was consecrated Bishop thereof in the year 1253. He built the Palace of Kinneddar, where he mostly resided. During his incumbency William Earl of Ross committed an outrage in the Church of Petty, and, as an atonement for his crime, he gave to the Church of Moray the lands of Cadboll, and other lands in the Shire of Ross. He died the 5th of the Ides of December, 1298, and was buried in the Quire of the Cathedral.

10. DAVID MORAY was consecrated Bishop of this see at Avignon, in the time of Pope Boniface VIII., on the vigil of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 1299. He founded the Scots College at Paris, 1325, which foundation was confirmed by Charles le Bel, King of France, in August, 1326. This Bishop was a determined opponent of Edward I. of England, and an ardent supporter of King Robert Bruce. He died 20th January, 1326, and was buried in the Quire of the Cathedral.

11. JOHN PILMORE, son of Adam Pilmore, Burgess of Dundee, was consecrated by the hands of Pope John XXII. He finished the Scots College at Paris, begun by his predecessor, which always continued to be administered by the Bishops of Moray until the Reformation. He was Bishop for thirty-seven years, and died in the Castle of Spynie, on the vigil of St. Michael the Archangel, 1362.



12. ALEXANDER BAR, Decretorum Doctor, et Licentiatus in Legibus, was consecrated at Avignon, on the Saturday before Christmas, 1362, by Pope Urban V. He is witness to several charters in the reign of King Robert II. He was much harrassed by Alexander Earl of Buchan, the King's son, commonly called the "Wolfe of Badenoch," who, in June, 1390, burnt the Cathedral Church, part of the town of Elgin, the Hospital of Maisondieu, St. Giles' Church, and eighteen manses, for which he was excommunicated. He afterwards, on his repentance, and making amends to the Church, was absolved by the Bishop of St. Andrew's. Bishop Bar died 15th May, 1397, and was interred in the Quire of the Cathedral.

13. WILLIAM SPYNIE, Chantor of Moray, and Decretorum Doctor, was consecrated Bishop by Pope Benedict XIII., on 16th September, 1397. He died in the Chanonry, 2d August, 1406, and was buried in the Quire of the Cathedral.

14. JOHN INNES, Parson of Duffus, and Bachelor of Laws, was consecrated by Pope Benedict XIII. 23d January, 1407. He died 25th April, 1414, and was buried at the foot of the north-west pillar which supported the great steeple. The monument erected to his memory, and the inscription on it, are gone, but the latter is preserved in Monteith's Theatre of Mortality, published in 1704, and is as follows:—"Hic jacet Reverendus in Christo Pater, "D.D., Joannes de Innes, hujus ecclesiæ quondam Episcopus "Moraviensis, qui hoc notabile opus extruxit, et per septennium "Episcopale munus tenuit." Before electing a successor to Bishop Innes, the Chapter met, and solemnly swore that whoever should be elected should set apart one-third of the revenue of the see for repairing the Cathedral destroyed by the Wolfe of Badenoch in Bishop Bar's time.

Monteith's  
Theatre of  
Mortality,  
page 251.

15. HENRY LEIGHTON, Parson of Duffus, and Chantor of Moray, of the family of Usan, in the County of Forfar, was consecrated on 8th March, 1415. He was translated to the see of Aberdeen 1425, and died there about the year 1441.

16. DAVID was Bishop of Moray in the year 1429.

17. COLUMBA DUNBAR, descended of the Earls of Moray, was Dean of the Church of Dunbar, and Bishop of Moray, 17th January, 1430. He had a safe conduct from the King of England

Rymer's *Fædera* to pass through his dominions, with a retinue of thirty servants,  
 —Spottiswood. on his way to Rome, in 1433; also, another, dated 10th May, 1434, to go through England to the Council of Basil. On his return home, he died in the Castle of Spynie, and was buried in the Aisle of St. Thomas the Martyr.

18. JOHN WINCHESTER, an Englishman, came to Scotland with King James I.; was chaplain to the King, and Prebendary of Dunkeld; afterwards Provost of Lincluden, and Lord Register. He was consecrated Bishop of Moray in 1437. He was employed in various embassies into England during the minority of King James II. In his time the town of Spynie was erected into a Burgh of Barony. He died in the year 1458, and was interred in St. Mary's Aisle, within the Cathedral.

18. JAMES STEWART, of the family of Lorn, was first Dean of this see, afterwards Lord Treasurer, and, upon the death of Bishop Winchester, was advanced to the Bishoprick. He only lived two years, and was buried in St. Peter's and St. Paul's Aisle, on the north side of the Cathedral.

19. DAVID STEWART, brother of the preceding Bishop, and parson of Spynie, was, according to Mr. King's MS., Bishop of Moray in 1461. He erected the great tower of the Castle of Spynie, which is still called by his name. He was much troubled by Alexander Earl of Huntly, who refused to pay the feu-duties due to the Bishoprick for lands in Strathbogie, and also threatened violence to the Bishop. The Earl was excommunicated; but at length matters were made up by mediation of the Abbot of Kinloss and Prior of Pluscarden. This Bishop was a prudent and judicious man, and governed the diocese for fourteen years. He was buried in St. Peter's and St. Paul's Aisle of the Cathedral, beside his brother.

20. WILLIAM TULLOCH, formerly Bishop of Orkney, and keeper of the Privy Seal, was translated to the see of Moray, in the year 1477. He was Bishop here for five years, and died about the year 1482. He was buried in St. Mary's Aisle, in the Elgin Cathedral.\*

\* In Bishop Tulloch's time, the old family of Tulloch of Tannachy settled in the Parish of Forres, and continued to flourish up to the latter part of last century.

21. ANDREW STEWART, third son of Sir James Stewart, called the Black Knight of Lorn, by Jane Queen-Dowager of Scotland, widow of King James I., succeeded in 1482. He was previously Sub-Dean of Glasgow; Rector of Monkland; also, Provost of Lincluden. In a charter of confirmation, by King James III., in his favour, he is called—"Nostrum avunculum Andream Episcopum Moraviensem." He died in 1501, and was interred in the Quire of the Cathedral.

22. ANDREW FORMAN, son of the Laird of Huttoun, in Berwickshire, was promoted to this see in 1501. Shortly after his settlement, he and Robert Archbishop of Glasgow, and Patrick Earl of Bothwell, were sent to England, to treat for a marriage between King James IV. and Margaret, eldest daughter of King Henry VII. In 1510 he was again sent on an embassy to England. In 1514 he was translated to the Archbishoprick of St. Andrew's. He died in 1522, and was buried at Dunfermline. He was a man of great talents, and one of the ablest politicians of his time, but is said to have been very deficient in literature.\*

23. JAMES HEPBURN, third son of Adam Lord Hales, and brother to Patrick first Earl of Bothwell, had been previously Rector of Partoun, afterwards Abbot of Dunfermline, and Lord Treasurer. In 1516 he became Bishop of Moray, and resigned the office of Treasurer. He died in the year 1524, and was buried in St. Mary's Aisle, near the Earl of Huntly's tomb.

Mr. King's  
MS., quoted  
by Bishop  
Keith.

24. ROBERT SCHAW, a son of the Laird of Sauchie, in the Shire of Stirling, was elected Abbot of Paisley, 1498, and advanced to the see of Moray, 1524. During his incumbency he was an ambassador to England. He bears the character of having been a good and virtuous man. He died in 1527, and is buried near the sepulchre of Bishop Andrew Stewart.

25. ALEXANDER STEWART, son of Alexander Duke of Albany, by Katharine Sinclair, daughter of William Earl of Orkney and Caithness, succeeded. He was first Prior of Whithorn, then

\* There is a story told of Andrew Forman, Bishop of Moray, that being at Rome, and at the Pope's table, with many other prelates and great men, he was asked to say grace, which was always in Latin, but in which he was so deficient, or so unaccustomed to say grace, that he stuck in the middle of it, which created a great laugh against him. As a politician and man of business, he had few equals.

Abbot of Inchaffray, and Abbot of Scone; became Bishop of Moray in 1527. He died in 1534, and is said to have been buried in the Monastery at Scone.

26. PATRICK HEPBURN, son to Patrick first Earl of Bothwell, was educated by his uncle, John Prior of St. Andrew's, and succeeded him in that Priory, 1522. He was advanced to be Bishop of Moray in 1535, and at same time held the Abbey of Scone in perpetual commendam. He was a man of talents, but of unscrupulous and licentious habits. It was an immoral age. Notwithstanding his vow of celibacy, he formed a morganatic connection with a daughter of Cumming of Erneside, a family of considerable standing in the County of Elgin, and had a large family. Noting the signs of the times, and the approach of the Reformation, he feued out almost the whole lands of the Bishoprick, which he had found in good order, to his own friends and supporters, including his own family. Some of the best lands he granted to the Earl of Moray, and received in return the support of that powerful nobleman, then Regent of Scotland. After the Reformation, he continued to live in the Castle of Spynie, where he died, the 20th June, 1573. He was the last Popish Bishop of Moray. Many of his descendants still reside in the North of Scotland.

### *Protestant Bishops.*

1. GEORGE DOUGLAS, natural son of Archibald Earl of Angus, became Bishop, and was consecrated 1573. He was Bishop of Mr. King's MS. Moray sixteen years, and died about the year 1589 or 1590, and was buried in the Church of Holyrood House. After his death the remaining lands of the Bishoprick were erected into a temporal lordship, in the person of Alexander Lord Spynie, and so continued until 1506, when Episcopacy was again restored.

2. ALEXANDER DOUGLAS was Minister of Elgin about seventeen years, and was promoted to the see of Moray in 1606. He died at Elgin in 1623, and was buried in the south aisle of the

Church of St. Giles, in a vault built by his widow, who likewise erected a handsome monument to his memory in that church.\*

3. JOHN GUTHRIE was first minister at Perth, and afterwards at Edinburgh; was consecrated Bishop of Moray 1623, where he continued until deposed by the Glasgow Assembly, in 1638. He lived in the Castle of Spynie until 1640, which he fortified; but was obliged to surrender it to Colonel Munro that year. He then retired to his own Estate of Guthrie, in Forfarshire, where he died before the restoration of the house of Stuart.

4. MURDOCH MACKENZIE was descended from a younger son of the Laird of Gairloch. Is said to have been born in the year 1600, some authorities give an earlier date; was a chaplain in one of the regiments of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden; afterwards Minister of the Parish of Contin; then of Inverness, and afterwards of Elgin. He was a keen Presbyterian, and an ardent supporter of the Covenant; but when the restoration came, and he was offered the Bishoprick of Moray, he made no scruples about accepting it. He became Bishop of the See of Moray on 18th January, 1662, and was translated to Orkney in 1667. He died at Kirkwall, in February or March, 1688. According to Bishop Keith, he was, at the time of his death, in the 88th year of his age; but Dr. Barry, in his history of Orkney, states that he was in his 100th year. The probability is that Bishop Keith is the more accurate of the two.†

\* When the Church of St. Giles was removed, in 1828, Bishop Douglas' monument was taken to the Elgin Cathedral, and is now built into the enclosing wall, on the north side of the churchyard, where it makes an imposing appearance. The inscription on it is as follows:—"Hic dormit in domino Reverendus in Christo, pater M. Alexander Douglas, Præsul vigilantissimus quia summa cum laude huic urbi pastor, totique Moraviæ Episcopus profuit, et præfuit 41 annos. Obiit ætatis suæ anno 62, et Christi 1623, Maii 11. Relictis Alexandro, et Maria liberis, uxoreque gravida femina non minus vere religiosa, quam generosa, cujus sumptibus hoc mausoleum structum est.

B. M. A. D.  
1623.  
O death, quhar  
is thy sting?  
O grave, quhar  
is thy victorie?

"Semper vigila ut si nescias quando veniet, paratum te inveniat, beati morientes in Domino, hæc corruptia induet incorruptionem."

† Various stories are told of Bishop Murdoch Mackenzie. When he accepted office as Bishop, it is said he assembled his clergy, informed them of his appointment, and preached a sermon from Jeremiah, vi. 16—"Stand ye in the ways, and see and ask for the old paths, *where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls,*" meaning that Episcopacy was the good way. His arguments appear to have been convincing, for few or none of them had the hardihood to make the reply, stated by the prophet, in the same verse—"We will not walk therein."

5. JAMES AITKENS or AIKEN, son of Henry Aiken, Sheriff and Commissary of Orkney, was born at Kirkwall, and educated in Edinburgh; was chaplain to the Marquis of Hamilton, when Commissioner to the famous General Assembly of 1638; was afterwards Minister at Birsay, in Orkney. Having had some communication with the Marquis of Montrose, at the time that nobleman landed in Orkney, and a warrant having been issued for apprehending him, he fled to Holland. In 1653 he returned to Scotland, and lived in Edinburgh until the Restoration, when he was appointed by the Bishop of Winchester to a living in Dorsetshire, where he remained until 1677, when he obtained the See of Moray. He was reckoned a pious, respectable, and moderate prelate, and kept his diocese in peace. He was translated to the Bishoprick of Galloway in 1680, but had little pleasure there in these stormy times. He died at Edinburgh, 28th October, 1687, aged seventy-four years, and was buried in the Church of the Greyfriars there. Upon his coffin was affixed this epitaph—

“ Maximus Atkinsi, pietate, et maximus annis,  
 “ Ante diem, invita religione, cadis  
 “ Ni caderes nostris inferret forsitan oris,  
 “ Haud impune suos Roma superba deos.”

6. COLIN FALCONER was the only son of William Falconer of Downtuff, and Beatrix Dunbar, his wife, a daughter of Dunbar of Bogs. His father was fourth son of Alexander Falconer of Halkertoun (ancestor of the Earl of Kintore), and Elizabeth Douglas, daughter of Sir Archibald Douglas of Glenbervie. Colin Falconer was born in the year 1623, and studied at the University of St. Andrew's. He married, 24th July, 1648, a daughter of Rose of Clava. He was ordained Minister of the Parish of Essel in 1651, and translated to Forres in 1658, where he remained twenty-one years. He was promoted to the Bishoprick of Argyle on 5th Sep-

When translated to Orkney, a friend said to him he was going to eat a fat goose, the benefice of the See of Orkney being then one of the best in Scotland. The Bishop replied—“A goose is all the better of being a fat one.” Dr. Barry states of him as follows:—“His exemplary piety, meekness of spirit, gentleness of manners, prudence, moderation, benevolence, and charity, procured him the esteem and affection of the people within his charge.” There is a very beautiful carved stone, containing the initials and armorial bearings of Bishop Mackenzie, near the high altar of the Elgin Cathedral.

tember, 1679, and in February, 1680, became Bishop of Moray. He was the most popular of all the Bishops of Moray. Being a native of the county, he knew the habits of the people well, and was a promoter of peace, and a ready arbiter in all disputes. Bishop Keith truly says—"He was a hospitable, pious, and peace-able prelate; being remarkably happy in reconciling differences, and in removing discords and animosities among the gentlemen of his diocese." He died at the Castle of Spynie, 11th November, 1686, in the sixty-third year of his age, and was the last Bishop who lived there. His body was deposited in the south aisle of St. Giles' Church, in Elgin, at the bottom of the tower or steeple, towards the east. His funeral was largely attended, and his death much regretted. The author of the Old Statistical Account of the Parish of Spynie quaintly remarks, "that the whole country, gentle and simple, attended his funeral." When the old Church of Elgin was removed, in 1828, the ashes of Bishop Falconer, like many others, both high and low, were scattered to the winds. In the year 1812, the late Sir Hugh Innes of Lochalsh and Coxton, a descendant of Bishop Falconer, erected a tablet to his memory, of white marble, on the wall of the Chapter-House of the Elgin Cathedral, with the following inscription :—

Keith—  
Russell's  
edition—p. 154.

Old Statistical  
Account,  
vol. 10, p. 628.

"Sacred to the memory of Colin Falconer, son of William Falconer of Downduff, and Beatrix Dunbar, who was the daughter of J. Dunbar of Bogs, in the County of Moray, and grandson of Alexander Falconer of Halkerton, and Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Archibald Douglas of Glenbervie. He was born in the year 1623, and was married, in 1648, to a daughter of Rose of Clava. He was elected to the See of Argyle 1679, and in 1680 he was consecrated Bishop of Moray. He died 11 November, 1686, and was buried in the Aisle of St. Giles' Church of Elgin.

"This monument was erected by Hugh Innes, Esquire of Lochalsh, M.P. for the County of Ross, anno 1812, his g. g. grandson."

7. ALEXANDER ROSE, descended from the family of Kilravock; studied divinity at Glasgow, under Dr. Gilbert Burnet, afterwards the famous Bishop of Salisbury. He was Minister at Perth, and afterwards Professor of Divinity at Glasgow. In 1686 he was appointed Principal of St. Mary's College, St. Andrew's. On 8th March, 1687, a royal mandate was issued for consecrating him Bishop of Moray; but he never seems to have taken possession, and the same year was translated to the See of Edinburgh. He

outlived the Revolution nearly thirty-two years; and died at his sister's house, in the Canongate of Edinburgh, 20th March, 1720. Keith, p. 65. Bishop Keith states—"He was a sweet-natured man, and of a "venerable aspect." He farther adds that he was one of his presbyters in the City of Edinburgh, from Pentecost, anno 1713. He was the last survivor of all the Scotch Established Bishops.

8. WILLIAM HAY, of the family of Park, was born 17th February, 1647. He was educated at Aberdeen, and ordained by Bishop Scougal. He was first Minister at Kilconquhar, in Fife, and was made a Doctor of Divinity by Archbishop Sharp. From Kilconquhar he was removed to Perth, and was consecrated Bishop of Moray in the early part of the year 1688. The Revolution, which occurred the same year, expelled him from his diocese, and he died at his son-in-law's house at Castlehill, near Inverness, on the 17th March, 1707.

### *The Disestablishment Bishops.*

These had no connection with the Parish of Spynie, and never lived there; but as their history is but little known, I shall state it briefly.

Bishop Russell,  
page 541.

Skinner's  
Church  
History, vol. 2,  
pages 693-697.

1. From the death of Bishop Hay, in 1707, there was no Bishop here until 1727, when WILLIAM DUNBAR, who had been Minister at Cruden, in Aberdeenshire, and deprived at the Revolution, for not taking the oaths to William and Mary, the new Sovereigns, was chosen by the Episcopal Clergy of Moray to be their Bishop, and he was consecrated at Edinburgh, on the 18th June, 1727, by Bishops Gadderar, Millar, and Rattray. He was first appointed to the district of Moray and Ross, and afterwards, on the death of Bishop Gadderar,\* to that of Aberdeen, where he died, in the year 1746.

\* James Gadderar, the predecessor of Bishop Dunbar at Aberdeen, was born at Cowfords, in the Parish of Urquhart, and County of Moray, which appears to have belonged to his family. He was originally Minister at Kilmaurs, in the County of Ayr, where he had made himself obnoxious to the people by his very High Church



2. WILLIAM FALCONAR is supposed to have been a great-grandson of Colin Falconar, Bishop of Moray. He was son of Alexander Falconar, Merchant in Elgin, by his wife, Jean King,

principles, and at the Revolution was rabbled out by the furious multitude. He retired to England, where he joined the nonjuring party, and was consecrated at London, on 24th February, 1712, by Bishop Hicke, a nonjuror, and by Bishops Falconar and Campbell, two Scotch Bishops. He lived in London, with Bishop Campbell, one of the Argyle family, and a person of congenial principles, till the year 1724, at which time he became Bishop at Aberdeen. He was a man of great abilities and learning, but of an obstinate and determined spirit, and was the leader of the party in the Scotch Episcopal Church for the introduction of primitive usages, and the re-organisation of the Church—subjects which created the most acrimonious disputes, and rent the clergy in pieces. Bishop Gadderar, however, succeeded in his plans, and although this is not the place to enter on the subject, it may be permitted to me to state that perhaps no person has left his impress more on the Scotch Episcopal Church than he has done. He died in February, 1733. His brother, Alexander Gadderar, was Minister at Girvan, in the County of Ayr, and settled there in the year 1674. Like his brother, the Bishop, he was a very High Churchman, and being in a part of the country where the population was composed mostly of Covenanters, he made himself so disagreeable that an attempt was made on his life, shortly after his settlement, when going to preach, of which he complained to the Privy Council. He was rabbled out by the people in 1689, and retired to his native County of Moray, where he lived privately, and is said to have followed farming pursuits for a livelihood. He was twice married; first, to Elizabeth L'Amy, of the family of Dunkenny, in Angus; and second, to Anna Cook. His family, who were buried in the Elgin Cathedral, seem to have died before him, except one son, John, who was a Surgeon in London. Mr. Gadderar died in the year 1714, at the age of seventy-one, and was buried in Urquhart, his native parish, where a monument was erected to his memory, which still exists, and the inscription is said to have been composed by his brother, Bishop Gadderar, and is as follows:—

“In spem B. Resurrectionis. Hic requiescit vir Reverendus et eruditus, Mr. Alex. Gadderar, Paræciæ Girvan, qui prefuit ad annum, 1688, ecclesiæ et regno Scotiæ Antiquis faustum, in Diœcesi Glascuensi. Pastor canonicè ordinatus, cum ille una cum trecentis circiter aliis, sacris ordinibus regniq. legibus munitis, contra jura omnia divina humanaq. tumultuantibus in apostolicum ecclesiæ regimen conjuratis, gregem et reditum, vi armata amissere esset coactus. Tandem rediit in Comitatum hunc Moraviensem, natale solum ubi predicationi, Dei verbi, administrationi S. Sacramentorum, necnon cultui Divino, ut obtinet in Ecclesia Anglicana seipsum feliciter Dedit. Propriis sumptibus, populo ut prodesset, S. ministerio fungebatur. Erat filius natus maximus Gulielmi Gadderar, vir inclutus probitatis, ex antiqua familia de Cowford, orti ex Margareta Marshall. Herede agrorum in ditone Urquhartensi ex avitis patribus sibi devenientium. Supersunt illi ex Imo matrimonio cum Catherina L'Amy, filia antiquæ familiæ de Dunkenny, in Angusia, filius uni genitus Joannes Gadderar, A.M., Londini Chirurgus Medicus; et duæ filiæ, Anna et Isabella, ex 2do matrimonio cum Anna Cook, Moraviensi, susceptæ. Obiit xxix. Quintil, anno Dominico Incarnationis MDCCLXIV. Ætatis suæ 71.”

“Beatus vir qui suffert tentationem, quoniam cum probatus fuerit, accipiet coronam vitæ, quam repromisit Deus diligentibus se.—*Jacobus i. 12.*”

See Stephen's and Skinner's Church Histories;

Burton's History of Scotland, from the Revolution to 1748, vol. 2, pp. 349 to 357, where the subject is ably treated;

Lockhart Papers.

Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ, vol. 2, page 117.

Monteith's Theatre of Mortality, Glasgow edition, p. 248.

daughter of William King of Newmill, Provost of Elgin. He was Minister of an Episcopal Chapel at Forres, and in 1741 was consecrated at Alloa, by Bishop Rattray, Bishop Keith, and Bishop White. He was the same year appointed to the charge of Caithness, and the following year to that of Moray. He was elected Primus in 1761, and was translated to Edinburgh in 1776, where he died in 1784. He bears the character of being a very judicious, sensible man, and conducted the affairs of his Church with great wisdom, in difficult times, when it was in a state of great depression.\*

3. ARTHUR PETRIE was Minister of a Chapel at Meiklefolla, in Aberdeenshire, and was consecrated at Dundee, Bishop-Coadjutor of Moray, in the year 1776, by Bishops Falconar, Rait, Kilgour, and Rose. Next year he was appointed Bishop of Ross and Caithness, and in 1777 had the sole charge of Moray. He only lived ten or eleven years after his consecration, having died in 1787.

4. ANDREW MACFARLANE, Presbyter at Inverness, was consecrated at Peterhead, on 7th March, 1787, by Bishops Kilgour, Petrie, and Skinner. Bishop Petrie having died the following month, Mr. Macfarlane succeeded him as Bishop of Moray, as well as of Ross and Argyle, all which districts were united. He died in the year 1819.

5. ALEXANDER JOLLY was Minister of a congregation at Fraserburgh, where he officiated to the close of his long life. He was born 3d April, 1755. He was consecrated at Dundee, the 24th June, 1796, by Bishops Drummond, Macfarlane, and Strachan, and, on the resignation of Bishop Macfarlane, was appointed to the charge of Moray. He was a very learned, pious man; much venerated, and respected by all classes of the community. He died the 29th June, 1838.

6. DAVID LOW, Presbyter at Pittenweem, was consecrated at Stirling, on 14th November, 1819, and elected as their Bishop by the clergy of Ross and Argyle. On the death of Bishop Jolly, in 1838, he succeeded him in Moray. He died in the year 1850.

\* I have in my possession an original letter of Bishop Falconar, dated 7th December, 1764, written on the occasion of the death of his uncle, William King of Newmill.

7. ROBERT EDEN, third son of Sir Frederick Morton Eden, Baronet of Fruir, in the County of Durham, was born in London, 2d September, 1804; educated at Westminster School, and at Christ Church, Oxford; ordained Deacon and Priest in 1828, in Gloucester Cathedral, by the Right Rev. Dr. Bethel, Bishop of Gloucester; held the curacy of Weston Subedge, in the Diocese of Gloucester, and the curacy of Messing and Peldon, in the County of Essex, and Diocese of London, until the year 1837, when he was presented to the living of Leigh, in the County of Essex, by Dr. Blomfield, Bishop of London, and at the same time was appointed Rural Dean. He held the living of Leigh till the year 1852. He was consecrated Bishop of Moray and Ross in St. Paul's Church, Edinburgh, in March, 1851, by Bishops Skinner, Terrot, Trower, and Ewing, and subsequently had Caithness added to his charge. It would be unbecoming to make remarks on a Bishop now alive, but we may be allowed to state that he has been very active and zealous in the discharge of his duties, and in promoting the interests of his Church, and most affable and agreeable with all persons brought into contact with him in business, or any other matter, whether they belong to his own Church or not; and, as a token of his great exertions, we may point to the new magnificent Cathedral at Inverness, which owes its existence entirely to Bishop Eden. He was elected Primus of the Scotch Episcopal Church in 1863.

## XIII.—REGALITY OF SPYNIE.

THE following is a copy of the charter of erection of Spynie into a Regality, dated 15th August, 1452:—

1. JACOBUS, Dei gracia, Rex Scotorum, omnibus probis hominibus tocius terræ suæ, clericis, et laicis, salutem. Sciatis nos ad laudem, et gloriam beatæ Trinitatis exaltationem Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Moraviensis, et ob grata obsequia per reverendum in Christo patrem Johannem Episcopum Moraviensem, consiliarium nostrum quondam genitori nostro recolende memorie per ipsum multipliciter impensa, et nobis fideliter continuata; nec non pro salute animæ nostræ, et Marie Reginae, consortis nostræ, animabusque antecessorum, et successorum nostrorum; concessisse, et presentis cartæ nostræ tenore concedimus dicto Reverendo in Christo, patri Johanni Episcopo Moraviensi, et successoribus suis Episcopis Ecclesiæ Moraviensis, baroniam suam de Spynie, ac burgum de Spynie cum universis et singulis suis pertinentiis, dependentiis, et annexis in meram et liberam regalitatem seu regaliam. Tenendam, et habendam præfatam baroniam ac burgum predictum cum suis pertinentiis, dependentiis, et annexis, dicto Johanne Episcopo Moraviense, et sui successoribus Episcopis Ecclesiæ Moraviensis, de nobis, et successoribus nostris in meram puram, et liberam regalitatem, seu regaliam, in feodo et hereditate inperpetuum, cum universis commoditatibus, et proficuis dictis, Baroniam, et Burgo pertinentibus; cum libera foresta et varena, feodis et forisfactoris—custumis, et advocationibus Ecclesiarum; cum itineribus, et curiis justiciarie camerarie, et viecomitatus ac ipsorum itinerum, et curiarum predictarum finibus, amerciamentis, exitibus, et eschaetis; cum portibus et passagiis, ac cum omnibus aliis et singulis libertatibus, commoditatibus et asiamentis, ac justis pertinentiis suis

quibuscumque tam non nominatis, quam nominatis, ad regalitatem seu regalia spectantibus, seu quovis modo juste spectare valentibus in futurum, et adeo libere, quiete, plenarie, integre, honorifice, bene et in pace, in omnibus, et per omnia sicut aliqua Regalitas seu regalia cuicumque ecclesiæ, aut personis ecclesiasticis quibuscumque in regno nostro liberius, quietius, aut honorificentius, conceditur seu donatur. Reddendo inde annuatim nobis, heredibus, et successoribus nostris, dictus Johannes Episcopus Moraviensis, et sui successores Ecclesiæ Moraviensis Episcopi, unam rosam rubeam ad festum nativitatis beati Johannis Baptiste, apud Burgum nostrum de Invernes, nomine albe firme si petatur, et orationum suffragia devotarum tantum pro sectis curiæ ac omni alio onere exactione, questione, demanda, aut servitio seculari quæ de dictis baronia, et burgo exegi poterint vel requiri. In cujus rei testimonium presenti carte nostre magnum sigillum nostrum apponi precepimus. Testibus reverendis in Christo patribus—Jacobo et Willelmo, Sancti Andree, et Glasguensis ecclesiarum episcopis; carissimo consanguineo nostro Georgio Comite Angusie; Willelmo Domino Crychtoun, nostro cancellario et consanguineo predilecto; dilectis consanguineis nostris Willelmo Domino Somyrwele; Patricio Domino Glamis; Andrea Domino de Gray; Magistris Johanne Arrous Archidiacono Glasguensi, et Georgio de Schoriswod, Rectoro de Cultyr, clerico nostro. Apud Edinburgh decimo quinto die Mensis Augusti, anno Domini millesimo quadringentesimo quinquagesimo secundo, et regni nostri decimo sexto.

2. I have mentioned in the text that the Regality of Spynie eventually came into possession of the Dukes of Gordon, and was sold by Alexander Duke of Gordon, on 23d August, 1723, to Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton. I have procured the original deed of conveyance, a copy of which is as follows:—

BE it known to all men by these presents—Us, Alexander Duke of Gordon, Marquis of Huntly, &c., heretable proprietor of the jurisdiction aftermentioned—FORASMUCHAS Mr. Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton has instantly paid and delivered to us, All and

Hail the sum of two thousand merks Scots, as the full and true price agreed and condescended upon betwixt us, for the heretable and irredeemable right of the jurisdiction after specified, wherewith we hold us well contented, satisfied, and payed, and for us, our heirs, and ex'ors, exoner and discharge the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar, his heirs, ex'ors, and all others whom it effeirs, of the samen, renouncing the exception of not numerate money, and all other exceptions and objections of the law proponeable to the contrair, for now and ever:—THEREFOR, witt ye us to have sold, annalzied, and disponed, likeas we by these presents sell, annalzie, and dispone to, and in favours of the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar, his heirs, and assignees whatsoever, heretably and irredeemably, All and Hail the heritable Jurisdiction and office of Balliarie of the Regality of Spynie, with haill pertinentes, privileges, and immunitys thereto belonging; Together with all right, title, interest, claim of right, property, and possession, as well petitor as possessor whatsoever, whilks we, our predecessors, and authors, heirs, and suc'ers had, have, or anywayes may have, claim, or pretend thereto. And we bind and oblige us, our heirs, and successors, duely and sufficiently, to infeft and seise the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar, and his fors'ds, heretably and irredeemably, in the forsd. heretable Jurisdiction, and office of Balliary of the Regality of Spynie, and that by two severall infeftments and manners of holding, the one thereof to be holden of us, and our fors'ds, for payment of a penny Scots money yearly, att the term of Whitsunday, in name of Blanch farm, if the same beis asked allenarly, and the other of the saids infeftments to be halden from us, and our fors'ds of our immediat lawfull superiors thereof, sicklike, and as freely in all respects as we held, or may hold, the same ourselves; and that, either by resignation or confirmation, in the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar, his option (the anoptation of the one to be nowayes prejudiciall to the other), And for that effect to make, grant, subscribe, and deliver to the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar, and his fors'ds, sufficient dispositions, containing pro'ries of resignation, charters containing precepts of sasine, and all other securitys requisite and necessary thereanent for infefting him and his fors'ds thereuntill, and for the better obtaining of the fors'd infeftment by resignation, but prejudice of the other infeftment above written,

WE, by thir presents, make, constitute, and ordain . . . . .  
. . . . . and ilk ane of them, con'llie and se'allie,  
our very lawful, undoubted, and irrevockable pro'rs, actors, factors,  
commissioners, and speciall eirand bearers to the effect under-  
written, giving, granting, and committing to them, and ilk one of  
them, con'llie and sea'llie, as said is, our very full, free, plain  
power, express bidding, mandate, and charge, for us, in our name,  
and upon our behalf, to compear before our immediat lawfull  
superiors of the said Jurisdiction and office of Balliarie, and their  
Commissioners in their name, having their power and commission  
to receive Resignations, and thereupon to grant new infeftments,  
and that any day lawfull and convenient, and there with all rever-  
ence and humility, as becometh purely and simply, by staff and  
bastion, as use is, to resign, surrender, overgive, and deliver, likeas  
we, by these presents, Resign, surrender, overgive, and deliver, all  
and hail the fors'd heretable Jurisdiction, and office of Balliarie of  
the Regality of Spynie, with the hail pertinent, priviledges, and  
immunities thereto belonging, Together with all right, title, in-  
terest, claim of right, property, and possession, as well petitor as  
possessor, which we, our predecessors, or authors, heirs, and suc'ers  
had, have, or anywayes may have, claim, or pretend thereto, in  
the hands of our immediat lawful superiors, or their commissioners,  
ab. mentioned, In favours, and for new Infestment and Investiture,  
to be made, given, and granted to the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar,  
and his fors'ds, heretably and irredeemably, in such due and com-  
petent form as accords, acts, instruments, and documents, one or  
more, as use bees, to ask and raise, and generally all other things  
to do, use, and exercise as freely in all respects as we might do  
therein ourselves if we were personally present, promising to hold  
firm and stable whatsoever our saids pro'rs lawfully do in the pre-  
mises, and whilks Infestments re'xive above written, likeas now, as  
if the s'ds Infestments and either of them were already made and  
past, and then, as now, We, by these presents, bind and oblige us,  
and our for'sds, to warrand, acquitt, and defend to the said Mr.  
Archibald Dunbar, and his fors'ds, from all alienations, and others  
grounds of eviction, and from all and sundry perills, dangers, and  
inconveniencies, as well not named, as named, that may stop, hin-  
der, or impede the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar, and his fors'ds,

from the peaceable joycing, brooking, and possessing the said Jurisdiction and office of Balliarie at all hands, and agt. all deadly as law will ; Providing always that if any action of eviction be intended, that the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar and his fors'ds make lawfull intimation to us and our fors'ds thereof, att least before litis contestation be made in the cause, to the effect we may compare, concurr, and defend, and make the writes and evidents of the Jurisdiction now dispooned by us to the sd. Mr. Archibald Dunbar, forthcoming to him and his fors'ds for that effect, and for obtaining the better and more ready access to such of the writes and evidents of the fors'd Jurisdiction as are not in our custody, We hereby assign to the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar, and his fors'ds, all processes raised, or to be raised, at our instance, thereanent, with all power to him and his fors'ds to pursue and insist therein, in his own name or ours, as he shall think fitt ; and the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar and his fors'ds, their entry to the fors'd Jurisdiction and office of Balliarie is hereby declared to be and begin immediately from and after the date of thir presents, and thereafter continue in all time coming, with full power to the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar and his fors'ds to appoint Deputes and other Members of Court in the said Jurisdiction, and to intromitt with, uplift, and receive all emoluments and oyr casualitys arising therefrom, and to do what else we as proprietor might have done therein ourselves att any time before the granting of thir presents ; and for the more security, We consent to the Registration hereof in the Books of Councill and Session, or others competent, that letters of horning, and all oyr exc'ns needful, may pass hereon, all as effeirs ; and to that effect we constitute . . . . . our pro'rs. Atour to that effect, the said Mr. Archibald Dunbar and his fors'ds may be immediately infeft, vest, and seased in the fors'd Jurisdiction holden of us, and be constitute and ordained, and by thir presents make, constitute, and ordain . . . . . and ilk ane of them, con'llie and severally, our Ballies in that part, requiring that this our precept seen they pass to the ground of the said Jurisdiction of the Regality of Spynie, and there and then give herlt. state and seasine, actuall, reall, and corporall possession of the said Jurisdiction, by tradition to them, or their certain attorney in their name, bearers hereof, of earth and stone, or any



other symbol used and wont in siclike cases, of the ground of the said Jurisdiction, as use is, and this in nowayes ye leave undone ; The whilk to do we commit to you, and ilk ane of you, con'llie and sea'llie, our full, free, plain power, express bidding, mandate, and charge by this our precept. In witness whereof we have subscribed this and the five preceding pages, written on stamped paper by Walter Hamilton, our servant, att Duffus, the twenty-third day of August, one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three years, before these witnesses—Mr. Archibald Dunbar, Younger of Thundertoun, and the said Walter Hamilton, witnesses also to the marginal note on this page.

(Signed) GORDON.

(Signed) ARCHIBALD DUNBAR, Witness.  
WAL. HAMILTON, Witnes.

30th August, 1723, about twelve o'clock forenoon, Sir Thomas Calder of Muirtoun, as Baillie ffor His Grace the D. of Gordon, gave seasine to Thundertooun, before wittnesses—Mr. John Dunbar of Burgie ; Wm. King of Newmiln ; James Wiseman and George Cumming, Writters in Elgin ; William Sutherland of Tomshill, Mert. in Elgin ; and Alexr. Grant, Servitor to the sd. George Cuming.

*Account—Thundertoun to Alexr. Smith,\*  
Writer in Elgin.*

To passing and extending your seasine upon the Jurisdiction of the Regality of Spynie, . . . . .	Scots Money.
	£6 00 00
To a sheet stamped parchment for writting the seasine on, . . . . .	1 11 00
To registration yrof, . . . . .	4 12 00
To my servan's Drinkmoney for writting, . . . . .	0 18 00
	<hr/>
	£13 01 00
	<hr/>

\* Alexander Smith was Town-Clerk of Elgin in the early part of last century. He was a person of very convivial habits, of whom many anecdotes are preserved, and it is to be supposed there was a hard drink on the occasion of passing Thunderton's infetment in the Regality of Spynie.

3. We have mentioned before that when the family of Innes of Leuchars were Bailies of the Regality of Spynie, a Baron Bailie Book was kept, which gives a very curious and interesting account of how justice was administered in these semi-barbarous times. The sentence was generally either acquittal or death, which latter was the punishment for the most trivial crimes. We have only room for two extracts, one of acquittal and the other of death. The sentence was immediately executed in all cases, no time being allowed to the poor criminal to make his peace with his Maker.

THE Court of the Lordship and Regalitie of Spynie, haldin within the Chepdour of the Cathedrale Kirk of Murraye, be John Innes of Leuchouris, bailye therof, the tuentie day of Januar, the yeir of God Jmvc fourscore twelf yeirs, the suittis callit, the Court lauchfullie fensit and affirmit, as use is—

Miscellany of  
Spalding Club,  
vol. 2, p. 119.

The said day, Alexander Man enterit in pannell, and being accusit for the alledgit cruell slauchter and murthour of umquhile Johnne Cuming, in Pittendreiche, committit and done be him in the moneth of November last by past, or thereby, refusit the samen, and offerit him to the tryell of ane assyse thereof; and the assyse eftermentonat being lauchfullie summondit to that effect, and present in judgment, comperit Archimbald Douglas, partie persewar in the actioun within uretin, and allegit that the assyse eftermentonat was not lauchfullie summonit, becaus he, being pertie persewar, and having craiffit lang of before the bailye forsaid to put the said Alexander Man to ane assyse for the alledgit slauchter of the said John Cuming, his servitour, alledgit that the summondis suld haue beine directit to him, and at his instance, as partie pursewar, to the effect he micht haue caus't ane officiar of the said regalitie summond ane unsuspect assyse, according to the practic and forme usit be the justice in criminale caussis, quha

giffis the summondis to the partie pursewar and to na uther, sua that the assyse summonit to this day, being summonit by the knowledge of the said Archinbald, partie persewar, can be na lauchful assyse, and thairfor yit, as if befor, desyris ane precept to be direct at his instance, as parte persewar, to summond ane assyse. To the quhilk it is answerit be the said John Innes of Leuchouris, bailye forsaid, that he haiffing alredy detenit the said Alexander Man in his keping in formance be the space of nyne houkis, or thairby, for art and parte of the alledgit slauchter forsaid, and knawing of ne pertie persewar, causit be his officiar and precept summond ane condigne number of assyse of the four halfis about ——— Quha being callit upone the thretten day of this instant, at the desire of Hew Douglas and Tiberius Vinchester, Servitour to the said Archinbald Douglas of Pettendreiche, alledging his command, desyrit continuation of this matter to the tuentie of this instant, quhilk the judge grantit. *Ex adverso*, comperit the said Archinbald Douglas of Pettendreiche, and denyit mandat, command, or procuratorie, giffin be him to that effect nor knowledge of the mater, as than, and sua yit as if befor, desyris ane summondis at his awin instance to summond ane unsuspect assyse, as likevais alledgis that the judge can nocht pretend ignorance but he vas partie persewar, for in presens of my Lord of Spyne and divers gentellmen he crawit Alexander Man to be put to the tryell of ane assyse, for the cause forsaid. It is alledgit be Thomas Hepburne, prolocutour for the said Alexander Man, that the continuatioun being accordit to the said Archinbaldis servitouris, and the samin cumand to his knowledge upon the said thretten day of this instant, quhilk the said Archinbald confessit that it came to his knowledge, but nathing of the names of the assyse. In respect of quhais confession, the judge remittit the said Alexander to the knowledge of the assyse eftermentationat—

VALTER KINNARD of Cubin.

THOMAS GRANT in Birney.

JAMES INNES in Elgyn.

JAMES MAN in Birney.

JOHNNE NAUCHTE in Mostowye.

HENRYE VINCHISTER in Stotfauld.

JOHN GORDOUNS in Mostowye.

JAMES VYSMAN, Elder.  
 JAMES STEWART in Balormye.  
 MARTENE PETRE in Corsley.  
 HENRIE RAG in Mostowy.  
 JOHN ROBERTSOUN in Kinedvart.  
 WILLIAM INNES in Kinnedwart.  
 JOHN VINCHISTIR thair.  
 JAMES WYSMAN, Younger, thair.

Quhil assyse passand furth of judgement, and being veill and ryplie advysit with the dittay forsaid, eftar thay war admittit and sworne, and returnand in judgement, be the mouthe of Walter Kinnard of Cubin, Chancellor of the said assyse, pronuncis the said Alexander acqyite of the alledgit slauchter and murther forsaid, quharupone dome was giffin. Quharupone the said Alexander requerit rolment of Court, and ane absolvitour to be giffin to him in forme of testimoniaie, quhilk the judge admittit; quharupone he tuik act, and the said Archinbald Douglas of Pettindreiche protestit that the dome forsaid suld be nul, in respect that the alledgit deid forsaid is ane foul murthour, committit under clud of nycht, and consequentle ane causs of tressone, upon the quhilk na judge may sit without ane commissioun, except the Justice, and thairfor protestit in manner forsaid, quharupone he tuik act.

THE Court of the Lordship and Regalitie of Spynie, haldin upon the Vatersyd of Lossie, besyd Bischopmiln, be ane honorable man, JOHN INNES of Leuchouris, bailye principal thairof, the twelf day of May, 1601 yeiris, the suittis callit, the Court lauchfullie fensit and affirmit, as use is.

*Intrant in Pannell, William Chayne.*

WILLIAM CHAYNE, thow art indytit and accusit, on thy lyf, for the cuming, under silence of nycht, to Androw Branderis hous, in Langhill of Meftis, and thair brak up ane kist of Johne James, and efter the breking of the said kist, thifteouslie staw, and away

tuik threttie schillings silver, with ten quarteris quhyt clayth, quhilk thow can nocht deny.

ITEM, For the cuming to James Wyssmanis, elderis hous, in Kynnedour, upone Setterday last, and thair, under silence of nycht, at xii houris at midnycht, and thair shoite the said James hall dure, and thairout thifteouslie stae twa gray pladdis, twa coittis, twa pair of brekis, ane pair of schort hoise, ane pair of schene, with twa beltis and durkis, quhilk thow hes instantlie in thy possessioun, quhilk thow can nocht deny.

ITEM, For the thifteous steling furth of Stotfauld, fra James Robertsons thairof, ane scheip, for quhilk thow vas attachot and convict, and, in houp of amendament, put to libertie, and for satisfacioun of the deed thow gaif thy plaid.

ITEM, For the cuming to Bischopmiln, upone Fryday last, at midnycht, and thair thifteouslie stae away the twa pikis of the miln, quhilk thow can nocht deny.

ITEM, For the thifteous cuming to James Cumingis hous, in Aberlinkvod, and thifteous steling furth thairof of twa scheittis, quhilk thow can nocht deny.

ITEM, For ane commoun theife and vagaband.

The dittae above vrettin being red, confessit the samin, and offerit himself to the tryell of ane assyse.

### *Nomina Assisæ.*

ALEXANDER CUMING in Kinnedour.

ALEXANDER STRONOCHT in Ardewat.

JOHN VINCHISTER.

JAMES WYSMAN, Younger.

RICHERT VYSMAN.

ALEXANDER RUSSELL.

WALTER RUSSELL.

JOHN RUSSELL in Newtoun.

THOMAS GRANT in Hilltoun.

THOMAS HEPBURN.

ALEXANDER ALWES in Ardewat.

WILLIAM FARQUHAR in Birnay.

JAMES MAN thair.

WILLIAM MAN thair.

ALEXANDER THOME in Quhytley.

Quhilk assyse being admittit and sworne, and passand furth of judgment, and being advysit with the dittae forsaid, and returnand againe in judgment, be the mouthe of Alexander Cumin, Chancellor of the said assyse, convictis the said William in the pointis of dittay forsaid.

The judge ordainis the said William Chayne to be had to the gallous, and thair to be hangit quhill he be deid, quharupone dome was giffin.

## XIV.—PARISH CHURCH OF SPYNIE.

THE Parish Ministers of Spynie, as given in the edition of Shaw's History of Moray, published in 1827, are as follows :—

JAMES PHILIP, Exhorter in 1570.

ALEXANDER RALPHSON, Minister in 1579, and in 1603.

ALEXANDER WATSON, Minister in 1614.

THOMAS CRAIG,\* Minister in 1624 ; died in 1639.

ROBERT INNES, from Ogston, admitted 28th September, 1640 ; translated to St. Andrew's, 1646.

WILLIAM CLOGGIE, admitted 21st January, 1647 ; died December, 1659.

SAMUEL TULLOCH, ordained 27th June, 1660 ; died in November, 1706.

ROBERT BATES, ordained 6th September, 1707 ; died in October, 1719.

WILLIAM DOUGAL,† from Birnie, admitted March 7th, 1721 ; died 12th October, 1766.

ROBERT PATERSON, admitted 18th June, 1767 ; died 31st July, 1790.

ALEXANDER BROWN, admitted 12th September, 1793 ; died 8th January, 1814.

\* Thomas Craig came from the South of Scotland, and was the progenitor of many families of that name resident in Elgin and the neighbourhood.

† Mr. Dougal is said to have come from the North of Ireland. He was the father of two well-known physicians—Dr. Dougal of Keith, and Dr. Dougal of Elgin, of whom many anecdotes still exist. They were a worthy, respectable family, now extinct.

GEORGE MACHARDY, admitted 22d September, 1814; died September 15, 1817.

THOMAS CANNAN, admitted 17th September, 1818; translated to Carsephairn, 7th September, 1826.\*

ALEXANDER SIMPSON, ordained and admitted 2d November, 1826; died 9th January, 1852.

JOHN KYD, P.D., ordained and admitted 9th September, 1852.

The Rev. Dr. Scott of Anstruther Wester, in his *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ*, gives a slightly different version of the ministers of this parish. His work, so far as the Synod of Moray is concerned, has not yet been published,† but he has very kindly sent me an abstract of the list prepared by him, which is probably fully as accurate as the preceding, and I subjoin it—

1574—ANDREW YOUNG, to 1576.

1579—ALEXANDER RANSON, to 1621, or 1622.

1614—ALEXANDER WATSON (says Shaw), I think a misnomer.

1624—THOMAS CRAIG, to 1639.

1640—ROBERT INNES, to 1646.

1647—WILLIAM CLOGGIE, to 1659.

1660—SAMUEL TULLOCH, to 1706.

1707—ROBERT BATES, to 1719.

1721—WILLIAM DOUGAL, to 1766.

1767—ROBERT PATERSON, to 1790.

1793—ALEXANDER BROWN, to 1814.

1814—GEORGE MACHARDY, to 1817.

1818—THOMAS CANNAN, to 1826.

1826—ALEXANDER SIMPSON, to 1852.

1852—JOHN KYD.

\* See Note next page.

† Since writing this, Dr. Scott's work has been published.



NOTE.—Mr. Cannan was a clear, distinct preacher, and had a remarkably pleasant, silvery voice. After the lapse of fifty years, I have a distinct recollection of his preaching—particularly of three sermons delivered in the Parish Church of Elgin, from the following texts:—Jeremiah, viii. 20—“The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.” The same chapter, 22d verse—“Is there no balm in Gilead, is there no physician there?” Isaiah, xxxv. 1—“The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.” He was a delicate man, and did not live long after being translated to Carsephairn, having died the 19th December, 1832, in his forty-second year. It is stated that he regretted leaving Spynie, and that the colder climate of Galloway did not suit his weakly constitution.

XV.—VALUATION OF LANDS IN THE  
PARISH OF SPYNIE, 1667.

					RENT.
					SCOTS MONEY.
Sheriffmiln,	.	.	.	.	£163 15 4
Myreside, .	.	.	.	.	199 16 2
Finrassie, .	.	.	.	.	327 5 2
Spynie, .	.	.	.	.	286 11 8
Inchbrock,	.	.	.	.	51 3 10
Morristoun,	.	.	.	.	97 9 4
Kintrea, .	.	.	.	.	473 4 6
Quarrellwood,	.	.	.	.	582 7 10
Westfield, .	.	.	.	.	437 12 4
Bishopmiln,	.	.	.	.	265 4 8
Auldrochtie,	.	.	.	.	87 15 0
Borrowbriggs,	.	.	.	.	82 7 10
					£3054 13 8

*Valuation of the Parish of Spynie in 1744, with  
Proprietors' Names.*

			RENT.
			SCOTS MONEY.
Leggat, . . . . .	The Duke of Gordon, . . . . .	. . . . .	£278 4 2
Part of Kintrae, . . . . .	The Duke of Gordon, . . . . .	. . . . .	251 17 6
Quarrywood, . . . . .	Lord Braco, . . . . .	. . . . .	304 3 8
Part of Kintrae, . . . . .	Lord Braco, . . . . .	. . . . .	63 12 8
Sheriffmiln, . . . . .	Lord Braco, . . . . .	. . . . .	163 15 4
Auldrochty, . . . . .	Lord Braco, . . . . .	. . . . .	87 15 0
Westfield, . . . . .	Sir Wm. Dunbar, . . . . .	. . . . .	437 12 4
Inchbrock, . . . . .	Sir Wm. Dunbar, . . . . .	. . . . .	51 3 10
Bishopmiln, . . . . .	John Dunbar of Burgie, . . . . .	. . . . .	265 4 8
Spynie, . . . . .	James Brodie, . . . . .	. . . . .	286 11 8
Myreside, . . . . .	Laurence Sutherland, . . . . .	. . . . .	199 16 2
Borrowbriggs, . . . . .	Laurence Sutherland, . . . . .	. . . . .	82 7 10
Findrassie, . . . . .	Alexander Leslie, . . . . .	. . . . .	327 5 2
Rosehaugh, Kintrae, . . . . .	Robert Grant, . . . . .	. . . . .	157 14 4
Morristoun, . . . . .	Robert Martin's Heirs, . . . . .	. . . . .	97 9 4
			<hr/>
			£3054 13 8
			<hr/> <hr/>

## VALUATION OF THE

*From Valuation Roll of the County of*

Description of Subject.	Proprietor, including Lessees of Lands and Heritages of more than twenty-one and of Minerals of more than thirty-one years.	
Woods in Spynie Parish, . . . . .	Trustees of the Earl of Fife, . . . . .	
Bridge and Machinery connected with drainage works of Loch Spynie, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Rents under £4, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Rosebrae Quarry, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Spynie, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Shootings of Spynie Farm, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Rosehaugh, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Croft of Knock, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Croft at Loanhead, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Shootings at Rosehaugh, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Rosebrae, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Kintrae, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Laverock Loch, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Sheriffmill, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Part of Farm of Morriston, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Meal Mill, and Sheriffmill, and Scroggie-mill, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Shootings of Quarrywood, &c., . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Aldroughty, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Croft at Rosehaugh, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Kintrae, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Quarrywood and Loanhead, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Croft at Rosehaugh, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Do. . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Kintrae, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Dwelling-House, Home Farm, Orchard-field, Farm, and Offices, with Shootings of Westfield, . . . . .	Hugh Maclean, Esq. of Westfield, . . . . .	
Woods of Westfield, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Farm of Surradale, . . . . .	do. . . . . do. . . . .	
Woods, . . . . .	Trustees of the late James O. Tod, Esq., . . . . .	

## PARISH OF SPYNIE.

*Elgin, for the year 1870-71.*

Tenant and Occupier.	Yearly Rent or Value.
Said Trustees of Lord Fife, . . . . .	£35 0 0
do do. . . . .	9 5 0
Various, . . . . .	6 5 0
Representatives of Eric Anderson, Oakbank, Bishopmill, .	50 0 0
John A. Cooper, Spynie, . . . . .	566 0 0
do do. . . . .	6 0 0
John Cruickshank, Rosehaugh, . . . . .	281 0 0
do do. . . . .	18 0 0
James Duncan, Loanhead, . . . . .	5 0 0
J. Lyon-Fraser, Esq., Elgin, . . . . .	7 0 0
Eric Gilzean, Rosebrae, . . . . .	336 0 0
Mrs. Gilzean, Kintrae, . . . . .	118 0 0
Alex. Lawson, Braelossie, . . . . .	34 0 0
do do. . . . .	91 0 0
do do. . . . .	90 0 0
do do. . . . .	83 0 0
do do. . . . .	7 10 0
George Leslie, Sheriff-Clerk, Elgin, . . . . .	154 0 0
George M'Intosh, Rosehaugh, . . . . .	12 0 0
Alex. Petrie, Kintrae, . . . . .	130 0 0
John Reid, Loanhead, . . . . .	169 0 0
Widow Ross, Rosehaugh, . . . . .	4 0 0
John Tulloch, do. . . . .	8 10 0
William Walker, Kintrae, . . . . .	355 0 0
Said Hugh Maclean, . . . . .	640 0 0
do do. . . . .	5 0 0
Representatives of James Robb, Surradale, . . . . .	500 0 0
Said Trustees, . . . . .	16 0 0
Carried over, . . . . .	£3736 10 0

## VALUATION OF THE

Description of Subject.	Proprietor, including Lessees of Lands and Heritages of more than twenty-one, and of Minerals of more than thirty-one years.
Bridge and Machinery connected with drainage works of Loch Spynie, .	Trustees of the late J. O. Tod, Esq.,
Part of Farm of Mains, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Home Farm of Findrassie, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Farm of Eastertown and Midtown, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Farm of Westertown of Findrassie, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Forester's Lodge, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Bridge and Machinery connected with drainage works of Loch Spynie, .	The Right Hon. the Earl of Seafield, . . . . .
Woods, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Rents under £4, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Bishopmill Stone Quarry, Western Division, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Croft, Moor of Myreside, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Bishopmill Stone Quarry and Land, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Part of Farm of Newfield, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Land at Bishopmill, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Part of Farm of Newfield, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Part of Farm of Newfield, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Land at Bishopmill, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Part of Farm of Newfield, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Land at Bishopmill, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Farm of Lochside, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Part of Farm of Deanscrook, . . . . .	Representatives of John Priest, Lochside, . . . . .
Farm of Myreside, and part of Newfield, Woodlands of Bishopmill, and part of Newfield, . . . . .	The Right Hon. the Earl of Seafield, . . . . .
Mansion-House, Garden, and Offices of Findrassie, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Policy Parks of Findrassie, . . . . .	James Smith, Bishopmill, . . . . .
House, Garden, &c., Oakbank, . . . . .	Mrs. Helen Tod or Forster, Findrassie, . . . . .
House and Garden, Bishopmill, . . . . .	do. do. . . . .
	Representatives of Eric Anderson, Oakbank, . . . . .
	Beatrice Falconer, . . . . .

## PARISH OF SPYNIE—(Continued).

Tenant and Occupier.	Yearly Rent or Value.
Brought over, . . . . .	£3736 10 0
Said Trustees, . . . . .	3 17 0
John Brown, . . . . .	141 2 0
Donald Fraser, . . . . .	93 0 0
William Grigor, Midtown, . . . . .	243 12 0
James Robb, Westertown, . . . . .	93 10 0
William White, Forester, Findrassie, . . . . .	2 0 0
Said Earl of Seafield, . . . . .	6 0 0
do. do. . . . .	4 10 0
Various, . . . . .	8 17 0
Unlet, . . . . .	15 0 0
Mrs. Janet Adam, . . . . .	31 0 0
Representatives of Eric Anderson, Oakbank, Bishopmill, . . . . .	37 10 0
W. Bannerman, . . . . .	21 0 0
Widow Barron, Bishopmill, . . . . .	6 15 0
W. Culbard, . . . . .	46 19 0
P. MacBey, . . . . .	10 0 0
J. Mackenzie, . . . . .	6 17 0
Wm. Morrison, . . . . .	12 0 0
James Murray, . . . . .	26 8 0
Said Representatives of John Priest, . . . . .	72 17 0
John Robertson, . . . . .	11 0 0
Mrs. Russell, Myreside, . . . . .	289 3 0
Said James Smith, . . . . .	91 0 0
Said Mrs. Helen Tod or Forster, . . . . .	60 0 0
Donald Fraser, . . . . .	30 0 0
Said Representatives, . . . . .	18 0 0
Miss Falconer, . . . . .	6 0 0
Carried over, . . . . .	£5124 7 0

## VALUATION OF THE

Description of Subject.	Proprietor, including Lessees of Lands and Heritages of more than twenty-one, and of Minerals of more than thirty-one years.
House and Garden, Bishopmill, . . .	William Fraser, . . . . .
Do. do. . . . .	Heirs of John Innes, Bishopmill,
Do. do. . . . .	do. do. . . . .
Manse and Glebe of New-Spynie, . . .	Rev. John Kyd of New-Spynie,
House and Garden, Bishopmill, . . .	do. for G. A. School,
Do. do. . . . .	do. for School Com-
	missioners, . . . . .
Machinery of Meal Mill of Scroggiemill,	Alex. Lawson, Braelossie, . . .
Machinery of Bone Mill of Sheriffmill,	do. do. . . . .
House and Garden, Bishopmill, . . .	Charles Macdonald, Mason, . . .
House, Garden, and Workshop at New-	James M'Gillivray, Blacksmith
ton Road, . . . . .	there, . . . . .
House and Garden, Bishopmill, . . .	George Melvin, . . . . .
House, Garden, and Workshop at New-	Wm. Munro, Carpenter, Newton,
ton Road, . . . . .	
House and Garden, Bishopmill, . . .	Wm. Morrison, Bishopmill, . . .
Do. do. . . . .	Peter Noble, Grieve, Kintrae, . . .
Tileworks at Lochside, . . . . .	Wm. Priest & Co., Lochside, . . .
House and Garden, Bishopmill, . . .	John Sutherland, Leith, . . . . .
House and Garden, New-Spynie, . . .	John Thomson, Parochial Teacher,
	New-Spynie, . . . . .
Buildings and Reservoir at Bishopmill,	Elgin Water Company, . . . . .
Buildings of Poor-House, with Gover-	The Directors of the Elgin Com-
nor's House, Office, Lodge, &c., . . .	bination Poor-House, . . . . .
Croft, Easter Starmoss, . . . . .	Sir A. Dunbar, . . . . .

## ABSTRACT.

Amount of Landward part of Parish, as above,	. £5412 6 0
Amount of Burgh part of Parish, . . . . .	. 1897 16 0
	<hr/>
	£7310 2 0
	<hr/>



## PARISH OF SPYNIE—(Continued).

Tenant and Occupier.	Yearly Rent or Value.
Brought over, . . . . .	£5124 7 0
Said Wm. Fraser, . . . . .	8 0 0
Mrs. Innes, . . . . .	7 0 0
James Harrywood, Bishopmill, . . . . .	7 0 0
Said Rev. J. Kyd—Manse, £20 ; Glebe, £10, . . . . .	30 0 0
Robert Barron, . . . . .	4 0 0
William Duncan, . . . . .	4 0 0
Said Alex. Lawson, . . . . .	12 0 0
do. do. . . . .	3 0 0
Said Charles Macdonald, . . . . .	7 10 0
Said James M'Gillivray, . . . . .	3 0 0
James Young, Mason, . . . . .	7 10 0
Said Wm. Munro, . . . . .	4 0 0
Said Wm. Morrison, . . . . .	10 10 0
Said Peter Noble, . . . . .	7 10 0
Said Wm. Priest & Co., . . . . .	20 0 0
Charles Symon, . . . . .	10 0 0
Said John Thomson, . . . . .	10 0 0
Said Water Company, . . . . .	7 19 0
Said Directors, . . . . .	120 0 0
William Rhind, Starmoss, . . . . .	5 0 0
Amount of Landward part of Parish, . . . . .	£5412 6 0

NOTE.—The Burghal part of the Parish is too long for insertion, as it contains the names of the householders, and it sufficiently answers the purpose in view to state the gross amount.

## XVI.—SPYNIE BURIAL GROUND.

THE old Churchyard of the Parish is a pleasant, sunny spot; has a beautiful situation, lying on the southern slope of the hill, and commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. It is well enclosed with a substantial stone wall, and there are some thriving trees about it; but in the interior it is sadly neglected, and the ground is covered with nettles and other noxious weeds, with quantities of rubbish lying about, probably the remains of the old Parish Church, the last remnant of which only fell about twenty years ago. At a trifling expense the place could be cleaned up, a few walks made, and the grass kept well trimmed and neat. The most of our country churchyards in Scotland are no better, and that it should be so is a reflection on the national character. There were several Bishops of the Diocese interred here, and perhaps by digging about the site of the old church their monuments might still be found among the rubbish. The other monumental tablets are not of great age, nor of any very great interest; but it may be proper to notice a few of them, as throwing some light on parochial history. None of the old landed families of the parish appear to have had their burial place here. The Leslies of Findrassie had for a long time their place of inter-

ment in the North Aisle of St. Giles' Church in Elgin, and only used the Churchyard of Spynie latterly. Their tomb is in a very neglected state; but the monumental tablets on the walls are still entire and legible; some of them on the floor are much covered with dust and earth, and illegible.

*Leslies of Findrassie.*

Hic dormiunt in Christo, Duæ Nobiles Robertus Leslie, Dominus de Findresy, ejusque conjunx Joneta Elphinstone, ille obiit 22nd Sept., anno 1588. Illa Æ. R. O.

Grip Fast—Disce mori—Causa causit.

Robertus Leslie, Comititis, qui filius olim,  
Rothusiæ fuerat simul, et suavissima conjunx  
Elphinstonii soboles herois, conduntur in antro,  
Hoc licet obscuro celebres pietate supersunt;  
Hos quondam binos Hymenæus junxit in unum  
Corpus, et his vivis semper una voluntas,  
Unus amor, domus una fuit, nunc lumine lasso,  
Una duos iterum condit libitina sepultos.

---

“SUP SPE.”

Here lyes the bodie of Mistress Isabella Leslie, Ladye Burgie, who departed this life the 10th of Januarie, 1688.

NOTE.—She was the second wife of Robert Dunbar of Burgie, who died in 1690, and the second daughter of Robert Leslie, third Laird of Findrassie, by his wife, Isabel Forbes, daughter of Abraham Forbes of Blackton.

---

Here lyes the bodie of Mistress Margaret Ayton, Lady Bishopmiln, who departed this lyfe the ninth day of September, 1714, aged 56 years.

NOTE.—She was wife of Alexander Dunbar of Bishopmill, and connected with the Leslies through her husband.

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Here lyes ABRAHAM LESLIE, Esquire of Findrassie, who was heir-male of George 4th Earl of Rothes, his Lordship being father of Robert Leslie, the first of the family of Findrassie. He died at Findrassie House, 26th May, 1793 ; and to the memory of an affectionate husband this monument is erected by Mrs. Jean Leslie, his widow.

---

This stone is erected by Charles Leslie, in memory of his mother, MARGARET GORDON, lawful eldest daughter of Charles Gordon of Glengerrack, and relict of John Leslie of Findrassie, who died 26th December, 1764, aged 67, a lady who was esteemed in life, diligent and active in her friendship, generous and disinterested, a tender and affectionate parent, benevolent and liberal to all, and at death a pattern of patience, fortitude, and resignation ; and her children, MARGARET, who died in the 7th year of her age ; and MARGARET, who died the 5th year of her age ; and JEAN, who died also in the 5th year of her age ; JAMES, who died in non-age. Also in memory of the above CHARLES LESLIE, and his spouse, MARGARET MACANDREW.

---

Erected by Charles Leslie, Esquire, in token of respect to the memory of MARGARET MACANDREW, his spouse, who died 11th July, 1796, aged 79, a woman of solid sense, simple manners, sincere piety, and virtuous conduct.

“ Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.”

---

On a flat stone in the Findrassie Tomb is the following inscription :—

Here lyes Mrs. MARGARET LESLIE, aunt of Sir John Leslie of Findrassie and Wardes, Baronet. She departed this life at Findrassie House, on the 13th of May, 1811, aged 86 ; and this monument is placed here to her respected memory by direction of her Nephew.

---

In an old tomb, at the east end of the church-yard, are the following inscriptions :—

Hic jacet in spem beatæ resurrectionis, vir vere pius et probus R.D.M. Samuel Tulloh, Spyniensis Ecclesiæ, vigilantissimus quondam pastor; qui placidissime in Christo, obiit II. die Nov'bris, circiter hor. 12 merid, ann. Dom. MDCCVI., æt LXXV., et officii ibid fideliter administrati XLVI., nec non pia et pudica Elizabetha Gordon, unica ejusd. conjunx chariss. cum tribus eorund. filiabus virginibus Agneta, Marjoria, et Joanna.

In quorum omnium piam gratam memoriam, hocce monumentum ab ipso præstruct. memoralia ut e hac inscriptione denique exarand. ejusdem, et monument circumdat extruend, curavit Alexr. Tulloh predict. Samuel et Elizab. filius unicus.

---

In spe beatæ resurrectionis, hic deposuit Reverendus vir, Presbyter pius, probus Magister Robertus Tulloh, qui ut pie vixit, decessit 13 Novembris anno 1720, ut et Anna Tulloh, uxor ejus charissima, quæ animam deo reddidit 20 Julii, 1715, et eorum filii Alexr. Tulloh, qui obiit Januarii 18, ann. 1731, et Thomas, qui obiit 24 Junii, anno 1715.

Sand Glass.      Cross Bones.      Death's Head.

---

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. ALEXANDER BROWN, late Minister of Spynie, who died on the 8th January, 1814, in the 53d year of his age, and 21st of his ministry. Also of ISABELLA ORD, his spouse, who died on the 11th of August, 1834, aged 70 years; and of Williamina, their infant daughter, who died on the 4th Decr., 1807, in the 3d year of her age.

---

To the memory of the Rev. GEORGE MACHARDY, Minister of the Gospel at New Spynie, who died 15th Septr., 1817, aged 42. This stone is erected by his affectionate Widow, Margaret Smith.

SACRED  
TO THE MEMORY OF  
WILLIAM TURNBULL, Esq.,  
LATE SURGEON IN THE H.E.I. COMPANY'S SERVICE,  
Who Died at Aldroughty the 8th of April, 1864,  
Aged 71.

The above tomb has upon it the following mottoes :—On the south side—“Death Pursueth ;” on the west side—“Time Fleeth ;” on the north side—“Conquer Eternity ;” and on the east side—“Mynd Mortality,” with the usual emblems, viz. :—Skeleton, Bell, Coffin, Sand Glass, Knife in Hand, Crown, Skull, and Cross Bones.

On a tomb, with a handsome railing, about the centre of the churchyard, are the following inscriptions :—

1. On a flat stone on the floor of the tomb—*Hic requiescunt reliquæ piæ castæque KATHARINÆ KING, uxoris Mri. Gulielmi Dougall, ecclesiæ Spyniensis Novæ pastoris, quæ obiit 26 Septembris, anno Domini MDCCLIV., ætatis suæ LXV. Atque eorum filia Elizabetha, quæ obiit Martie XIII., MDCCXXVI. ætatis suæ mense XVI. Ipse autem obiit Octobris die XII., MDCLXVI., ætatis suæ anno LXXXIII.*

On five monumental tablets, upon the wall—

HEU ! quanto minus est eum reliquis  
Versari, quam vestrum meminisse.

Within this tomb lie interred the remains of the late Reverend Mr. ROBERT PATERSON, who was twenty-two years Minister of this Parish, and died upon the 31st July, 1790, in the 56th year of his age. He was eminent for the faithful discharge of his pastoral office, and as a husband and father he was nearly as perfect as human nature will admit.

Here also lie the remains of ALEXANDER PATERSON, his third son, who survived his father only nine months, having died upon

the 13th April, 1791, in the 17th year of his age, after having finished his academical studies. He was snatched from this transitory life, to the inexpressible grief of all his relations.

---

Here lie interred the body of MARGARET COLLIE, spouse of Mr. Robert Paterson, Minister of New Spynie, and only child of Mr. William Collie, late Minister of Drainie, and Margaret Mackenzie, his spouse. She was a dutiful wife, an affectionate mother, an exemplary Christian. Her soul has been early removed from this earth to bear only felicity, and her body rests in hope of the promised resurrection. This monument is erected to her memory. She died July 23, 1782, in the 34th year of her age.

---

Consecrated by the Revd. James Paterson, Minister of Birnie, to the memory of his brothers—Mr. WILLIAM PATERSON, who died 5th April, 1829, aged 59; and Doctor ROBERT PATERSON, H.E.I.C.S., who, after twenty years' service in India, and when on the eve of returning to his native country, died at Calcutta on the —— of December, 1829, in the 48th year of his age. Also sacred to the memory of the Revd. JAMES PATERSON, Minister of Birnie, whose benevolent life adorned the doctrines which he taught. Born 13th April, 1778; died 23d February, 1840.

---

In this tomb lie interred the remains of the Revd. JOHN PATERSON, who was Minister of the Gospel at Auldearn from 1794 till 1813, when he died in the 41st year of his age, an accomplished scholar, and an eloquent preacher. His character was adorned by integrity, candour, and benevolence, still more than by those attainments.

Here also, in the grave of her parents, lies his sister, HELEN, spouse of the Revd. Thomas Macfarlane of Edinkillie, who was endeared to her friends by every amiable virtue. She died on the 7th April, 1810, in the 34th year of her age.

This stone is placed by their brother, Dr. Robert Paterson, of

the Bengal Medical Service, as a memorial of their virtues and of his affection.

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The Rev. James Paterson, late Minister of Birnie, removed this stone from Drainie in 1839, for preservation, the old church being ruinous—

In this church lie interred Mr. HUGH ANDERSON, long Minister of this place, and MARGARET MUNRO, his spouse; as also Mr. WILLIAM COLLIE, his immediate successor, and 27 years Minister, who died April 29, 1768, in the 73d year of his age; and MARGARET MACKENZIE, his spouse, who died April 27, 1773. Of these valuable persons it may truly be said that they acted in their several stations as faithful Ministers of the Gospel, good members of society, and upright Christians.

This monument is erected to their memory by Margaret Collie, only child of the two last named, and spouse of Mr. Robert Paterson, Minister of New Spynie.

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On a neat upright stone, near the centre of the churchyard, is inscribed—

In memory of JOHN M'KIMMIE, Esquire, late Provost of Elgin; born 4th October, 1789, died 26th February, 1856.

---

Near the above is a flat stone inscribed thus—

This stone is placed here by Archibald Mellis, Farmer in Kinttrae, in memory of his spouse, ANN FALCONER, who died 7th December, 1797, aged 44 years. In memory also of JANE MELLIS, his eldest daughter, who died 8th August, 1791, aged 17 years; also of ALEXANDER and JANET MELLIS, his children, who died in their nonage.

NOTE.—The above stone, I suppose, refers to the mother, brother, and two sisters of the late Mr. James Mellis, long tenant of the farm of Spynie.

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In a tomb, towards the east end of the church, is a tablet to the memory of the late Reverend Alexander Simpson, Minister of the Parish, and his wife, as follows :—

Sacred to the memory of ELIZABETH PATULLO, spouse of the Revd. Alexander Simpson, Minister of New Spynie, who died on the 10th April, 1848, aged 61 years. Also in memory of the Revd. ALEXANDER SIMPSON, who departed this life on the 7th January, 1852, aged 65 years, and in the 26th year of his ministry, having been ordained Minister of New Spynie in the year 1826.

---

The site of the churchyard is well chosen, airy, and pleasant, and if we could fancy the River Lossie restored to its channel at the foot of the hill, and rushing on to join the lake at the east end of the palace, it would in many respects realise the description of a resting place for the children of mortality, as described by one of the most elegant of our Scottish poets—

Let vanity adorn the marble tomb  
With trophies, rhymes, and 'scutcheons of renown,  
In the deep dungeon of some Gothic dome,  
Where night and desolation ever frown.  
Mine be the breezy hill that skirts the down,  
Where a green grassy turf is all I crave,  
With here and there a violet bestrewn,  
Fast by a brook, or fountain's murmuring wave,  
And many an evening sun shine sweetly on my grave.

#### NOTE.

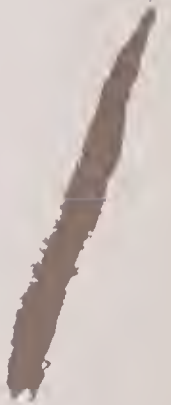
I have stated, at page 136, the improbability of there having been any Protestant Minister at Spynie prior to the death of Bishop Patrick Hepburn, which happened in 1573. On examination of various documents, however, I find there was an Exhorter or Missionary here as early as 1570, at a salary of fifty merks per annum, although no regular Parish Minister was settled until 1574.



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c/k

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