



















RECORDS OF  
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OR FERGUSON

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GENERAL FERGUSSON OF DUNFALLANDY

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RECORDS  
OF THE CLAN AND NAME OF  
FERGUSON  
FERGUSON  
AND  
FERGUS

Edited for The Clan Fergus(s)on Society by

JAMES FERGUSON

AND

ROBERT MENZIES FERGUSSON



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## PREFATORY NOTE

IN June 1894 the Council of the Clan Fergus(s)on Society approved of a proposal that a book of Records of the Clan and Name of Fergusson or Ferguson should be published, and appointed the present editors as a sub-committee to compile, edit, and arrange for the publication of the proposed volume.

This book is now issued as the result of that resolution, and the editors have to express their acknowledgments to many Fergussons and Fergusons, and also to others connected with the name, who have placed much interesting material at their disposal. As originally contemplated, the publication did not propose to supply a full and detailed history of the various families of the name, but rather to place on record materials yet preserved in the recollection of individuals, or in MSS., which might otherwise disappear; to collect scattered notices of the name, and to give a general view of the fortunes of the Clan in different districts of Scotland and elsewhere. The scheme of the work has, of course, rendered it impossible to give the full details of an exhaustive family history in any case, but the courteous and cordial aid which the editors have received from the representatives of practically every family whose charter-chests and family papers seemed likely to afford material of interest, and the information contributed in response to circulars that were widely issued to members of the Clan, have enabled those charged

with its preparation, to make the volume more complete and comprehensive than they had ventured to anticipate. They are especially pleased to state, that in many cases the notices of various families have been actually written for the book by their own representatives; and in others, the narratives have been prepared from papers in possession of the present representatives, and after personal communication with them. In particular, the memoirs of the family to which Professor Adam Ferguson belonged have been written by Mr. Robert N. R. Ferguson, the Treasury, London; the notice of the Raith family was communicated by Mr. R. C. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., and, indeed, written for this volume by Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson; that of the Spitalhaugh family was similarly written by Sir James Ranken Fergusson; that of the Cumberland Fergusons by Mr. Richard S. Ferguson, Chancellor of the diocese of Carlisle; the memoir of Sir Samuel Ferguson by his widow, Lady Ferguson; and the sketch of his family by his niece, Miss D. M. A. Paterson. The chapter on the name in Balquhidder, it should also be stated, was prepared by Mr. R. Menzies Fergusson of the Balquhidder stock, and that on the Aberdeenshire Fergusons by Mr. James Ferguson, Kinnmundy, though the notices of James Ferguson, the astronomer, and Robert Fergusson, the poet, were undertaken by the former, and the thanks of the editors are due to Professor Duff, who contributed the account of his relatives, the descendants of the minister of Glengairn. The Athole chapter (other than Mr. R. N. R. Ferguson's contributions), was mainly prepared from the papers placed at the disposal of the editors by the Dunfallandy and other families, as was the account of the Craighdarroch family in the Dumfriesshire chapter, from the Craighdarroch papers. The attention of the editors was called to the account of the Kilkerran family, written by Lord Hermand, by Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran.

The editors gratefully record their thanks to  
Miss Fergusson of Dunfallandy;  
Captain Cutlar-Fergusson of Craigdarroch;  
Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart.;  
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Andrew Davidson, advocate, Aberdeen ;  
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Walter Severn, London ;  
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George Bayley, W.S., Edinburgh ;  
Thomas Fraser, Dalbeattie ;  
C. Paterson, Moniaive ;  
Rev. Walter MacLeod, Edinburgh ;  
Rev. A. Meldrum, Logierait ;  
Rev. Andrew Keay, Edinburgh ;  
Major P. Chalmers, Blairgowrie ;  
Rev. John M'Lean, Grandtully ;



for the information they have communicated, their responses to inquiries, and the contributions several of them have prepared.

## ILLUSTRATIONS

The editors have also to express their special acknowledgments for the assistance which has enabled them to provide a large number of illustrations. They have to thank Miss Fergusson of Dunfallandy and her relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Fergusson of Baledmund, Mr. Robert N. R. Ferguson, Colonel Ferguson of Pitfour, Mr. Ferguson of Kinmundy, Mr. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., of Raith, Captain Cutlar-Fergusson of Craigdarroch, Sir James R. Fergusson of Spitalhaugh, and Mr. J. C. Colyer-Fergusson of Ightham Mote, for providing the materials and defraying the cost of the illustrations connected with their respective families; Sir James R. Fergusson, Ex-Provost Ferguson, Govan, Mr. Alexander A. Fergusson, Glasgow, Mr. John Ferguson, The Range, Rockhampton, Queensland, and Mr. Malcolm Ferguson, Callander, for special contributions towards the preparation of the complete set of heraldic plates; and Lady Ferguson, Mrs. Fergusson of Middlehaugh, Mr. J. B. Fergusson, Doonholm, the Misses Reidford, Mr. Andrew Wishart, W.S., the Misses Raeburn, and Messrs. J. Maxwell and Sons, Dumfries, for kindly placing pictures, engravings, and photographs at their disposal for reproduction. As to the illustrations, a word of explanation may be interesting.

The frontispiece, *Lieut.-General Archibald Fergusson of Dunfallandy*, is from a picture by Sir Henry Raeburn, hanging at Dunfallandy House.

The illustrations accompanying the memoirs by Mr. R. N. R. Ferguson are all from portraits in his possession. The full-page portrait of *Professor Adam Ferguson* is from Raeburn's picture, and that on page 143 from one by Sir Joshua Reynolds. That of *Mrs. Ferguson* (p. 142) is from her picture by David Martin; those of *Sir Adam*, and *Admiral John M. Ferguson* (pp. 173 and 181) are from their pictures by John Ballantyne. The authors of the portraits reproduced on pages 161 and 167 are unknown. On page 177 is reproduced from the original, which was the property of Mr. R. N. R. Ferguson when the illustration was executed, but has since been acquired by the Scottish National Gallery, Sir David Wilkie's well-known group of *the Abbotsford family*. It was painted in 1817, and exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1818, and in the collection of National Historical Scottish Portraits in 1884, and is described by Lockhart in his *Life of Scott*.

In the centre Sir Walter is seated on a bank; on his left are Captain (afterwards Sir) Adam Ferguson, Mr. Walter Scott (afterwards Sir Walter, Lieut.-Colonel of the 15th Hussars), and Mr. Charles Scott, and behind them is Tom Purdie. On the right, Lady Scott dressed as a cottage matron, with Miss Anne Scott, and in front of the picture is Miss Sophia, afterwards Mrs. Lockhart. Close by her is Sir Walter's famous deerhound, Maida.

The representation of *Lord Pitfour* on page 249 is from a picture at Kinmundy, the author of which is unknown; that of his son, *James Ferguson, M.P.*, from an engraving of Beechey's picture at Pitfour, and that of *Colonel Patrick Ferguson* from an engraving also at Pitfour. Another illustration of Colonel Patrick Ferguson, as an older man, was published in *Two Scottish Soldiers* (1888), reproduced from a waxen bust at Kinmundy. A story is told, that when Beechey was painting old Pitfour, he was greatly disappointed

at finding it impossible to get the proper expression. One day, however, just as Ferguson was starting for his sitting, a Buchan farmer arrived from the north to see him. He took him with him, and more than the hour passed rapidly in discussing north-country news. When at last he rose, Beechey said, 'Be sure and bring your friend back with you. I've made more progress to-day than in all the other sittings.'

The illustrations of *James Ferguson of Kinmundy, his wife and son*, on pp. 268, 269, 271, are specially interesting because they are reproduced from pictures in Indian ink, done by James Ferguson, the Astronomer, and are thus in a double sense 'Fergusons.'

*Captain James Ferguson, R.N.* (p. 285), is from an old painting belonging to the Misses Reidford, formerly of Aberdeen, and at present in possession of their brother-in-law, Mr. Andrew Wishart, W.S.

*Robert Fergusson, the Poet* (p. 295), is reproduced from Alexander Runciman's portrait, at present in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, but belonging to the Misses Raeburn.

*James Ferguson, the Astronomer* (p. 300), is reproduced from an engraving apparently prepared for publication with his life or works.

*General Sir Ronald Ferguson of Raith* (p. 316), is from a full-length portrait by Raeburn, in possession of his descendant.

*Robert Cutlar-Fergusson, M.P., of Craigdarroch* (p. 403), is from a photograph of a picture in the possession of M. Robert de Forçade, Paris, painted about 1830 by Eugène Brocas, a French artist.

*Isle-Tower*, on page 418, has been reproduced, by permission of Messrs. J. Maxwell and Sons, Dumfries, from *Nithsdale Illustrated*.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Bibliography of the name illustrates with much force the varied spheres in which the energies of capable clansmen have found scope. The editors are aware that it must necessarily be imperfect, but it has been prepared after a careful examination of the catalogues of the leading libraries, and in several cases with the personal assistance of the authors.

J.A. FERGUSON.

1895.

R. MENZIES FERGUSSON.

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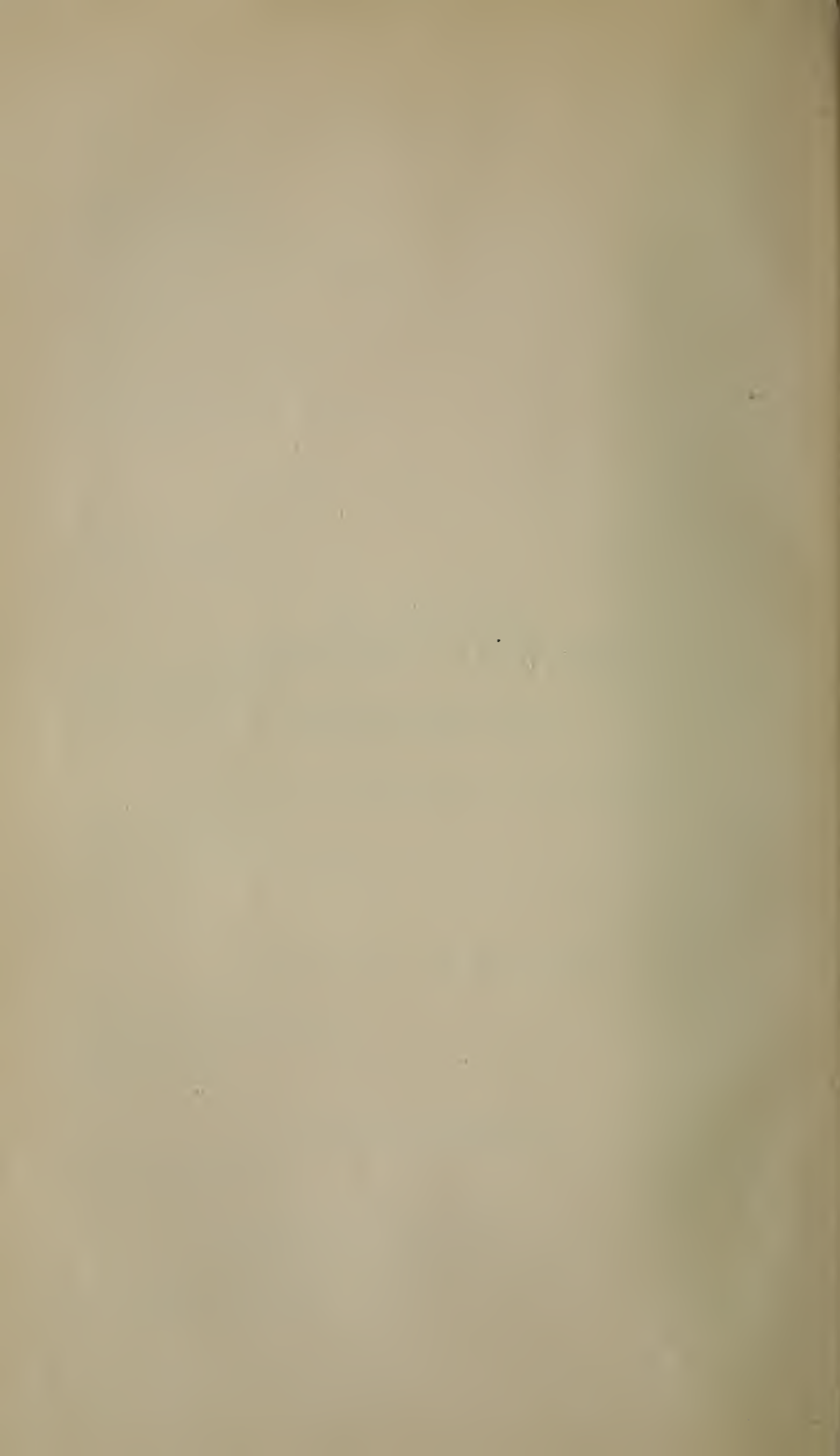
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RECORDS OF  
THE CLAN FERGUSSON  
OR FERGUSON









THE FERGUSSON TARTAN.

## CHAPTER I

### EARLY NOTICES OF THE NAME FERGUS, FERGUSON, OR FERGUSSON

Eireas a Fhearghuis ann 'uis deanas an iorghuill.

Go, now rouse thee up, Fergus, and mingle boldly in the fight.

*Dean of Lismore's Book, 61.*

TRADITION has it that the clan and name of Fergusson or Ferguson is among the very oldest of the Highland septs, and that in conformity with the name the race owed its origin to King Fergus. The traditionary pedigrees of the royal house of Scotland, handed down by the mediæval historians, and associated with the warfare waged with the 'auld enemies of England' by the pen as well as with the sword, place the first Fergus, 'the founder of Scotland's monarchy,' whose legendary death by drowning off the Irish coast gave its name to Carrick Fergus, as early as three hundred years before the coming of our Lord. Modern research has, however, conclusively established that this Fergus is a mythical personage; but it has as certainly confirmed the fact that the first substantial settlement of the pure Scottish race in Scotland was led by a Fergus who was of royal blood, and whose house had for generations enjoyed regal dignity in Ireland, and was destined to produce, in St. Columba, the founder of the Celtic Church of Scotland. The arrival on the Scottish shores of the real King Fergus—Fergus Mor MacEarca—took place in the year 498 A.D. He was the true first of the long line of Scottish kings, the attachment of their people to whom is so quaintly expressed by the old Covenanter Baillie:—'Had our throne been void and our voices taken for the filling of Fergus's chair, we had died

ere any other had sitten down on that fatal marble but Charles alone.' His descendants formed the Cinel Gabran, which, with the Cinel Angus and the Cinel Loarn, the descendants of his two brothers, are described as 'the three powerfuls of Dalriada'—*i.e.* the three pure Scotie tribes. The district of the Cinel Gabran was Cowal and Kintyre. Before many years had passed the Scots had extended themselves beyond Drumalban, but in 560 they were driven back by Bruide, the Pictish king, into the confines of Dalriada. From Dalriada, or Argyllshire, the Scottish race spread outwards, partly into Ayrshire and Galloway, and partly into the regions hitherto solely occupied by the Northern Picts—now triumphing, and now suffering reverses in their racial contests with the Pictish kings, but always adding another to the various elements which, in these centuries, were combining to form the future Scottish nation. Ultimately, in 850 A.D., Kenneth M'Alpin, who blended with his paternal Scottish blood a Pictish royal strain from his mother's house, favoured by the weakening of the Pictish power through the incursions of the Northmen, completed the ruin of the Pictish dynasty, asserted the supremacy of the Scots as the ruling race, and established the national monarchy of ancient Alban.

The tradition which makes the Fergusson clan one of the purest Scotie races, receives some confirmation from the fact that Fergusson families are found in districts which from an early period are associated with the Scottish royal race, or with specially Scottish traditions. The name was, and is, numerous in Argyllshire, which, as Dalriada, was the earliest seat of the Scots in Scotland, and especially in the districts occupied by the Cinel Gabran; also in Balquhiddel, and in Athole, in the neighbourhood of Dunkeld, which succeeded Iona as the chief centre of the early Scottish Church, and which was in the vicinity of the chief seat of the Scottish monarchy at Scone. It is probable that from Argyllshire Scots of the race crossed to Ayrshire and penetrated to Dumfriesshire, where the ancient houses of Kilkerran and Craigdarroch have long 'brooked their possessions.' It is remarkable that Kilkerran in Ayrshire reproduces the old Gaelic name of Campbeltown—*i.e.* the Church of St. Kieran

—and that near Campbeltown is found the name ‘Tirfergus,’<sup>1</sup> or Fergus’s Land. It is probable that either at an earlier period, or in the train of King Robert Bruce, representatives of the race passed over the Mount and settled in Mar and the Garioch, to advance in later years to the Laigh of Buchan and the extreme north-eastern coast.

A second Fergus occurs in the lists of the Dalriadic kings between Fergus, son of Erc, and Kenneth M’Alpin; but the name is also found among the Picts. It is, however, significant that no Pictish sovereign bears the name Fergus, though several are sons of Fergus. Possibly remembering the rule of Pictish succession through the mother, and the frequency of the king being the son of a Pictish princess and a husband of another royal race, we may find in this an indication that the blood of the two races was blended in those cases.

It was an Angus MacFergusa, the founder of St. Andrews, who in 736 inflicted on the Dalriad Scots the heaviest blow they ever suffered, and under which they seem to have lain quiescent for nearly a century. It is remarkable that the sovereign of the Dalriads and many of his race, expelled from their own country by Angus MacFergusa, appear to have found a refuge in Galloway. Angus was succeeded by his brother, Bruide MacFergusa, and at a later period Constantin MacFergusa, and Hungas MacFergusa (brothers, 789-832) are recorded among the Pictish kings.

The term ‘Clan Fergusa’ is found, at a very early period, distinguishing one branch of the descendants of Fergus Mor MacEarca.

Dr. Skene, in dealing with the question,<sup>2</sup> ‘To what family of the Scots of Dalriada did Kenneth (MacAlpin, the vanquisher of the Picts, and founder of the Scottish monarchy of Scone) by paternal descent belong?’ points out that, according to a tradition preserved in the ‘Tract on the Men of Alban’—‘from Eochaidh Buidhe, son of Aedain, the king of Dalriada, inaugurated by Saint Columba, and grandson of Fergus Mor’—whose mother was a British princess of Roman as well as British descent—‘there branched off two clans, the clan Fergusa Gall, son of Eachach Buidhe,

<sup>1</sup> The same name occurs under the form Tirargus in Donegal.

<sup>2</sup> *Celtic Scotland*, i. 322.



or the Gabranaigh, and the clan Conall Cerr, son of Eochaidh Buidhe, who are the Men of Fife in the sovereignty; that is the clan of Kenneth, son of Alpin, son of Aidan.' 'This,' adds Dr. Skene, 'has all the appearance of a genuine fragment which has been preserved from some older source. . . . We may therefore conclude that Kenneth MacAlpin belonged to the Cinel Gabran, but was descended from a different branch than that which had furnished the kings of that race to Dalriada.' Dr. Skene's reference here is to the kings of Dalriada who had succeeded Aidan, and who, a century earlier, under an earlier Alpin, had taken refuge in Galloway when driven out of Argyll by Angus MacFergusa, the king of the Picts in 736.

The Irish 'Tract on the Men of Alban'<sup>1</sup> gives the names of a number of descendants of Fergus Mor:—

'*Fergus Mor* had one son, *Domangart*. *Domangart* had two sons, *Gabran* and *Comgall*, the two sons of Feidlimidh, daughter of Briuin, son of Eachach Muigmedon. *Comgall* had one son, viz. *Conall*. *Conall* had seven sons, viz. Longsech, Nechtan, Artan, Tuathan, Tuitio, Cairbre. *Gabran*, moreover, had five sons, viz. *Aedan*, Eoganan, Cuildeach, Domnall, Domangart.

'Aedan had seven sons, viz. the two Eochos, viz. *Eocho buidhe*, and *Eocho find*, Tuathal, Bran, Baithine, Conaing, Gartnaidh. *Eocho Buidhe*, son of Aedan, had eight sons, viz. *Domnall breac*, and Domnal Donn, and Conall Crandomna, and Conall beg, and *Comnadh Cearr*, and Failbi, and Domangart, and Cucenmathair.

'Echdaigh fin had eight sons, viz. Baedan, Pardan, Pledan, Cormac, Cronan, Feradach, Feidlimidh, Caplin.

'*These are* the sons of Conaing, son of Aedan, viz. Regullan, *Ferchar*, Artan, Artur, Duncan, Domangart, Nechtain, Nem, Cru-mene. Four sons of Gartnait, son of Aedan, viz. two sons of Tuathal, son of Morgan, son of Echdach fin, son of Aedan, son of Gabran.' This last sentence is corrupt, or there is something omitted. The names in italics are those of members of the house who succeeded to the sovereignty. . . . 'The armed muster of the Cinel Gabran three hundred. If the muster, however, is for rowing, twice seven benches of them the sea muster. These are the three powerfuls of Dalriada, viz. the Cinel Gabran, the Cinel Angus, and the Cinel Loarn. . . . The Cinel Gabran, five hundred and threescore houses

<sup>1</sup> *Chronicles of the Picts and Scots*, p. 308.

in Kintyre, the district of Cowall, with the islands. Twice seven benches to each twenty houses their sea muster.'

It is noticeable that while no Fergus is mentioned above among the eight sons of Eochaidh Buidhe, one version of the MS., in giving the list of kings, after mentioning *Donald Breac*, son of *Eachach Buidhe*, adds, 'here branch off the Clan Fergus a Gall, son of Eachach Buidhe, *id est*, the Gabran-aig and the Clan Conall Cerr, son of Eochaidh Buidhe,' being the older fragment alluded to by Dr. Skene. As the father of Kenneth MacAlpin is described as son of Aedan, his ancestor of two centuries before, and as this branch is also called the 'Gabranaigh,' from the father of Aedan, it may be that the designative 'Clan Fergus a' is taken from Gabran's grandfather, who led the Scottish exodus. We shall see, however, that there was also a Clan Fergus among the descendants of King Fergus's brother Lorn.

The name Fergus also occupies a prominent place in the local annals of two of the great divisions of early Scotland. In 1165, 'Fergus Princeps Galwaiae,' the great Lord of Galloway, who had ruled that region almost as an independent sovereign, and whose wife was a daughter of Henry I. of England, and sister of a queen of Scotland, assumed the monastic habit in the church of Holyrood. His descendants known to history are accounted for by one ghastly fratricide on the shore of Loch Ryan, and by subsequent female successions which carried his lordship and manors to the houses of Balliol and Comyn. Local tradition, however, attributes to the Fergussons of Craigdarroch a descent from this greatest Fergus of Galloway tradition. He appears as Lord of Galloway after an interval, 'as to which Galloway history is silent, and, strangely, all clue to the lineage of Fergus is lost.'<sup>1</sup> But the Scots, when driven out of Dalriada, had established themselves strongly in Galloway; and as it was from Galloway that Alpin, the father of King Kenneth, emerged a century later, with special claims, through his Pictish blood, upon the province of Fife and the Pictish throne, while his royal descendants are found fully established in the suzerainty of Galloway

<sup>1</sup> Sir Andrew Agnew's *Hereditary Sheriffs of Galloway*, i. 38.

—and there seems reason to believe that the claim of the Galloway men to lead the van of the Scottish armies in battle had its origin in special services rendered by them to Kenneth in his conquest of Pictland, north of the Forth—it is probable that the blood of the Dalriads and the Picts had been much mixed in Galloway and Carrick, and that the name Fergus points to a Scottish strain not unconnected with the race that produced the Royal House. Nor is it perhaps without significance that when heraldry lends the aid of its testimony, the lion rampant, though in different tinctures, is found as the arms of the kingdom, of the Lords of Galloway, and as the principal charge borne by the house of Craigdarroch.

In the far north, also, the last Celtic Mormaer of Buchan, whose daughter Marjory married the head of the house of Comyn, was Fergus, Earl of Buchan, who died early in the thirteenth century. This *Fergusius* appears in a charter of King Alexander's as *Justiciarius ex parte boreali Scotie*, and a '*Charta Fergusii Comititis de Buchan ante annum Domini M.C.C.X.I. concessa*' of the three davochs of Fedreth—Easter Auchioch, Authetherb, Auhethas and Conwiltes—was engraved from the original many years ago, and bears the attestation of Alexander Brown, *Bibliothecae Facultatis Juridicae apud Scotos Bibliothecarius*, in these words: '*Cum autographo penes Jacobum Ferguson de Pitfour rite concordat.*' The Book of Deer shows that a previous Mormaer of Buchan, Colban, owed his position to his marriage with Eva, daughter of Gartnait, a preceding Mormaer; and, in view of the Pictish customs, illustrated in their royal race, it is not improbable that the occurrence of the name Fergus points to an alliance between a woman of the old Pictish blood and a Scot of the Dalriadic race. Fergus was the grandson of Colban and Eva, and prior to their marriage it would seem that the sequence had 'followed in the main the Pictish law of succession.'<sup>1</sup>

The name Fergus is also associated with the early history of the Scottish Church. It is recorded in the life of St. Mungo that when on his way from St. Serf's, at Culross, to the scene of his future labours in Strathclyde, after crossing

<sup>1</sup> Skene's *Celtic Scotland*, iii. 288.



the Forth he found a holy man named Fergus, who lay at the point of death, and that after his decease St. Mungo carried his remains to Glasgow, where they were laid to rest in the spot on which the Cathedral afterwards rose, and which thus witnessed the first of a long succession of Christian burials.

A parish in Buchan, which, strangely enough, for more than a century has formed part of the estates of the Fergusons of Pitfour, takes its name from St. Fergus, of whom it is recorded that, after having enjoyed the episcopal dignity in Ireland, he came with a few presbyters and clerics—men given to God—to the western parts of Scotland, and settled '*ad confines de Strogeth*,' where he laid the foundations of three churches. He then betook himself to Caithness, where both *consonancia verborum* and *virtutum flagrantia*, he *suaviter attraxit et persuasit* the barbarous people to accept the faith. From Caithness he went to Buchan, where 'in the place now commonly called Lungley, he built a church of new,' which long remained to the honour of this sainted man. From the wind-swept parish on the sandy shore of Buchan, he finally went to Glanis, where he consecrated new *cœnobia* to God and chose the place of his rest. 'The beatified Fergus,' says the Breviary of Aberdeen, 'full of days and years in that new mansion which he had dedicated to God, foretelling the day of his death, and a little inclining his head, slept in God.'

Miraculous powers were attributed to his relics. His head was transferred to Scone; and 'by Sanct Fergus' heid in Scone,' was a favourite oath of one of the Scottish monarchs. His arm, covered with silver and set with precious stones—'of the weight of 18½ ounces, believed to be given by the devotion of the people or rector of Skene or Dyce'—was, down to the Reformation, a precious possession of the cathedral of St. Machar, at Aberdeen. The old church of the parish of St. Fergus is described as situated on 'these pleasant and extensive downs called the Links of St. Fergus.' Among the bishops present at Rome at a council in 721 was 'Fergus the Pict, a bishop of Ireland.' The second abbot of Iona was Fergus Brit, or Fergna Brit—Fergus the Briton; but why he was so called it is impossible to say, as he was, according to Dr. Skene, undoubtedly of the tribe of the patron saint.

The names Fergus, MacFhearghusa, or Fergusson are the same, and down to two centuries ago the forms Fergus and Ferguson were used indiscriminately in some families. The name is sometimes derived from *feargachus*, wrathful, or of a fiery disposition; *fearg* in Gaelic signifying anger or wrath, and *feargach*, one of a bold, haughty, irascible, or imperious temper. It has also been translated 'a strong man.' According to Logan, it is a personal appellation, in its secondary sense implying a hero, but primarily signifying a spearman, being compounded of *fear*, a man, and *gais* or *geis*, a spear, the weapon carried by the *gais geach*, or heavily-armed warrior among the Highlanders. It has been said that 'the Clan Mhic Fhearghuis of Athole, along with the M'Diarmids of Glenlyon, are admitted by all authorities to be the oldest clans known in the Highlands.' 'The name,' says Logan, 'may vie with any in point of antiquity and honour'; and, after referring to the conquest of Dalriada by King Fergus, adds: 'From him, as the first and most distinguished of his name, the Fergusons assert their origin, a descent in which the most noble of the land may glory.' The late Dr. M'Lachlan, an eminent authority on Celtic tradition and literature, once mentioned that he had come across old women of the name living in Highland huts, whose circumstances were of the poorest, but who rejoiced in pedigrees which put to shame not only the best Norman descent, but even the blood of many chiefs of Highland clans.

'Though the Fergusons,' says Smibert in his *Clans of Scotland*, 'may not at any time have been ranked as a proper and separate clan of importance, or even have been generally regarded as at all connected by blood with the Gael, they have always formed one of the septs of note, which lay within the old Highland line, and which adopted, so far, Highland customs. The proper seat of the Fergusons seems to have been on the boundaries of Perth and Forfar-shires, immediately to the north of Dunkeld. . . . The mere name of the Fergusons would indeed lead us to guess that the founders of the family had a Gaelic origin. As has been already mentioned, the term "Fergus" is unquestionably Gaelic, being composed, to all appearance, out of the Gaelic "fearg," which signifies "anger, wrath"; while its derivative

“feargach” means one “bold, irritable, haughty, domineering”; and indeed it is perhaps much the same word with the Teutonic “fierce,” there being many such sympathetic similarities in the primitive languages. It has been conjectured that “fear” (a man) and “ghais” or “gath” (a spear) constitute the Erse roots of the name of Fergus, but we must hold by the less far-fetched term of “fearg” as the radical of the name of Fergus. From Fergus, when it became a pre-name, not to say a Christian name, the generic designation of the “Fergusons,” or “Sons of Fergus,” obviously sprung. At the same time, the Gaelic origin of the word Fergus by no means demonstrates that all bearing it or its derivatives must have been of Gaelic blood. The glaringly anti-Gaelic name of Norman became a favourite, for example, in many purely Celtic families. So that we are only justified in holding, at the most, that the primary Ferguses and Fergusons at least participated in the blood of the Gael, whom they closely adjoined locally. Our general conclusion thus is, that the primitive and proper Fergusons were in part Gaelic.’ ‘The Fergusons,’ he adds, ‘appear as early inhabitants of portions of Mar and Athole, where their proper seat as a clan certainly lay originally. They are named in the Roll of 1587 as among the septs of these regions, having chiefs and captains of their own; and they were at that epoch ranked as at least Highland borderers, if not absolutely as Highlanders.’ In this passage it would seem that the Gaelic origin of the Fergussons is unduly under-estimated. The writer seems to have based his conclusions on the fact that ‘the Fergusson country’ was just within the old Highland line, and on the Highland borders. But the character of that country is as completely Highland as that of the region on the other side of Dunkeld is Lowland. The prevalence of the name in Balquhiddy, and in the Cowal district of Argyllshire is also overlooked, and there is no reference to its survival in Ireland, and the historical data which reveal the footprints of the Dalriad Scots in nearly every region where it was numerous.

General Stewart of Garth, one of the highest authorities on the Highlanders of Scotland, who was intimately acquainted with all the families of Athole Fergussons and their history,

says in his *Sketches of the Highlanders of Scotland*:<sup>1</sup> 'The Robertsons and Farquharsons change the Celtic *Mac* to the Scottish *son*, as the Fergussons have done, although the last is supposed to be one of the most ancient names of any, as pronounced in Gaelic, in which language the modern name Fergusson is totally unknown.' 'I have never yet,' writes a clansman, 'met a Highland Fergusson who did not claim descent from King Fergus, whatever district he came from; they all agree in that.'

There are two interesting old allusions to this ancient tradition. In an interview with King James VI. David Fergusson, the Reformer, was discussing the feuds between the great families. 'If you go to surnames,' said he jocularly, 'I will reckon with the best of you in antiquity; for King Fergus was the first king in Scotland, and I am Fergus-son; but always, Sir, because you are an honest man and hath the possession, I will give you my right.' The joke pleased King James, and he exclaimed: 'See, will you hear him.' Similarly, in 1765, Henry Fergusson, brother of the poet, wrote: 'I am the son of the ancient, the royal Fergus.' This traditionary descent is always alluded to in the old songs on the gathering of the clans, in which the Fergussons are mentioned. For example, M'Gregor in his 'Oran nan Fineachan,' says:—

'Ach com an leiginn dearaid air  
Clann Fhearghuis nan garbh thùrn ;  
Sliochd a cheud Rìgh Albanaich  
A chum air còir 's na garbh-chriochan :  
Mar leomhuim chalma gharga iad,  
'Nuair dh' fhalbhadh iad le sùrd ;  
Clogaid, sleagh 's lurach-mhuallach,  
Sud bhua ac' 'o thus.'

'And wherefore would I now forget  
Clan Fergus of the brave deeds ;  
Descendants of the first King of Alban,  
Who defended our rights to our mountain-land,  
Like a lion strong and fierce are they  
When they march on with glee ;  
A helmet, spear, and coat of mail,  
Was what they had of old.'

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i. p. 98.



Another old bard sings of Clan Fergus:—

‘Sliochd nam fear nach robh cearbach  
Thanaig sios o’ Rìgh Fearghuis,  
A rìghich air Albain ’o thus.’

‘Sons of the men who never were unready  
(with their arms and armour),  
Who descended down from King Fergus,  
The first king who reigned over Alban.’

The Fergussons were also known in Gaelic as ‘the hasty clan’;<sup>1</sup> and that they were a hot-tempered race, with their own share of the *perfervidum ingenium Scotorum*, is supported by more than one old tradition. They are described in 1590 as ‘an unruly clan.’

‘Ferguson or Fergusson,’ says Anderson in *The Scottish Nation*, ‘was the surname of a Highland sept which had its seat on the borders of the counties of Perth and Forfar, immediately to the north of Dunkeld, and the distinctive badge of which was the little sunflower. In the roll of 1587 they are named as among the septs of Mar and Athole, where their proper seat as a clan originally lay, having chiefs and captains of their own.’ ‘The Fergussons,’ says one authority, ‘followed the Dukes of Athole.’ The clan badge has also been said to be the poplar, and also the bog-myrtle, but the ‘Fergusson country’ proper was undoubtedly in the vale of Athole and Strathardle. Of one branch of the clan it may be possible to carry the genealogy very far back indeed. The earliest Fergussons in Strathardle are said to have been a very ancient race, possessing a distinctive patronymic of their own. ‘Each sept or family of a Highland clan,’ writes Mr. Charles Fergusson, ‘generally had a different patronymic. For instance, in the great clan Donald, M’Donnell of Glengarry was “Mac Mhic Allister”; M’Donald of Keppoch was “Mac Mhic Raonuill”; Clanranald was “Mac Mhic Alein,” and Glenco “Mac Mhic Ian,” etc. So amongst the clan Fergus the Dunfallandies were always “Mac Fhearghuis” or Baron M’Fergus (in Gaelic pronounced like “Mac-Kerrash”), while Balmacruchie was “Mac Adie” (M’Ady, *i.e.* M’Adam). Even the families of this sept that

<sup>1</sup> Statement by Rev. Donald Fergusson (of the family of Easter Dulanbreck).

left Strathardle and settled in the vale of Athole under the Dunfallandies were always known as "Mac-Adies." Sir Walter Scott's *Journal* contains an allusion to the Gaelic form of the name here appropriated to the Tummelside Fergussons. Referring to his friend Captain Adam, afterwards Sir Adam Ferguson, and neighbour at Huntlyburn, he describes him as a Highlander whose forebears were known as M'Erries; and in the Introduction to the *Chronicles of the Canongate* it is stated that Scott got much of the information for *The Surgeon's Daughter* from Colonel James Ferguson, brother of Sir Adam, who is himself depicted, disguised as 'M'Erries,' the Celtic form of his name. In more than one case the names of early ministers of the Scottish Church have been handed down alternatively as 'Ferries' or 'Ferguson.' The M'Adie Fergusons of Balmacruchie have been identified by Mr. Charles Fergusson with the 'Clan Aid,' whose genealogy is given in a Gaelic ms. of 1467, which has been the subject of some controversy among Celtic scholars. Assuming the authenticity of the ms., there are somewhat remarkable reasons in favour of the identification. Balmacruchie was in the parish of Kirkmichael. Gillemichel M'Adie and his son Cearmac are famous in Strathardle tradition; and the Chartulary of Moray records<sup>1</sup> that in 1232 Gillemichel, the son of Adam, excambes a davoch of the lands of Pitcarmick in Strathardle with the bishop of Moray for the lands of Dolays Michael in Strathspey, Pitcarmick being the farthest west farm of Balmacruchie.

The genealogy runs thus:—

'Genelach clann Aid anso:—

'Fearchar mhic Imair, mhic Gillachrist, mhic Gilleasp, mhic Gille . . . mhic Gillachrist, mhic Cormac, mhic Gillamitel, mhic Aid, mhic Gallbuirt, mhic Gillacatan, mhic Domnaill, mhic Eogan, mhic Filip, mhic Disiab, mhic Eirdi, mhic Angusa, mhic Finlaeic, mhic Carla, mhic Domnaill og, mhic Domnaill duin, mhic Fearadaig.'

'The genealogy of Clan Aid here:—

'Farquhar son of Ivor, son of Gillechrist, son of Archibald, son of Gille . . . son of Gillechrist, son of Cormac, son of Gillemichael, son of Aid (or Adam), son of Gallbuirt, son of Gillecattan, son of Donald, son of Evan, son of Philip, son of Disiab, son of Eirdi, son

<sup>1</sup> P. 87.

of Angus, son of Finlaeic, son of Carla, son of Donald Og (young Donald), son of Donald Don (brown Donald), son of Fearadaig.'

From other sources<sup>1</sup> it appears that this Fearadaig (Feradach Finn) was son of Fergus, son of Coluim, son of Boetain, son of Ecdach, son of Muredaig, son of Lorn Mor, son of Ere, son of Eachach Muinreair. Consequently, 'if this genealogy be correct the clan Ade are descended, not as most Fergussons claim, from Fergus Mor M'Eirc, but from his elder brother, Lorn Mor M'Eirc.'<sup>2</sup>

The 'Tract on the Men of Alban' says: 'These are the sons of Lorn Mor, viz. Eochaidh, Cathbad, Muredach, Fuindenam, Fergus Salach, Danmaine. Others say that Lorn Mor had only three sons, viz. Fergus Salach, Muredach, and Maine.

'These are the powerfuls of the Cinel Lorn, viz. the Cinel Fergus Salach, the Cinel Cathbath, and the Cinel Eachaidh, son of Muredach. Cinel Fergus, sixty houses. The armed muster of the Cinel Lorn, 700 men.

'Fergus Salaig had five sons, viz. Caeldub, thirty houses to them, and his wife was Crodu, daughter of Dallain, son of Eogan, son of Neill. Fergna, fifteen houses to him. Eogan, five houses to him. Baedan, five houses to him. Muredach, son of Lorn, had two sons, viz. Cathbad and Eochaidh. Eochaidh, son of Muredaig, had five sons, viz. Feradach, twenty houses to him.' Thus while the Cinel Lorn contained a subdivision designed as the Clan Fergus Salach, they were descended from a brother of the progenitor of the line given in the ms. of 1467; but in that line there also occurred a Fergus in the father of Feradach Finn.

Whatever may be the value of these old traditions, and of the Gaelic genealogy quoted, it seems at all events certain that the original stock of the Fergusons was of the unmixed Scottish race,<sup>3</sup> and of what is known in Ireland as the pure

<sup>1</sup> *Chronicles of Picts and Scots*, p. 316.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Charles Fergusson.

<sup>3</sup> It is, however, interesting to notice the fact mentioned in a letter from Dr. R. M. Ferguson, Edinburgh:—'Is there no probability that our name may also be Scandinavian? I was in Copenhagen many years ago, and passing through one of the cemeteries I was struck with the names on the tombstones. Every Scotch name ending in son had a similar Danish name in sen. One name was very common—Börgeson. The B stroked, I was told, sounded like F, and the o modified as in German. When pronounced it

Milesian strain. It may be interesting to quote a passage, giving the characteristics of the three original races of Ireland, which Dr. Skene has transcribed in his *Celtic Scotland*, from O'Curry's *Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish*, in which, again, it was stated to have been 'taken from an old book':—

'Every one who is white of skin, brown of hair, bold, honourable, daring, prosperous, bountiful in the bestowal of property, wealth, and rings, and who is not afraid of battle or of combat, they are the descendants of the sons of Miledh in Erinn. Every one who is fair-haired,<sup>1</sup> vengeful, large; and every plunderer, every musical person, the professor of musical and entertaining performances, who are adepts in all Druidical and magical arts, they are the descendants of the Tuatha de Danaan in Erinn (*i.e.* the Cruithne, or Picts). Every one who is black-haired, who is a tattler, guileful, tale-telling, noisy, contemptible; every wretched, mean, strolling, unsteady, harsh and inhospitable person; every slave, every mean thief, every churl, every one who loves not to listen to music and entertainment, the disturbers of every council and every assembly, the promoters of discord among the people, these are the descendants of the Fir-bolg, the Fir-Gailian of Liogairné, and of the Fir-domnan in Erinn.'

It has been said that in Athole, a country of large, well-made men, the Fergussons were the biggest and the strongest. In other districts of Scotland families of the name can also be found remarkable for the high average of their stature. But it may be hoped that there is not elsewhere a frequent occurrence of the phenomenon gravely communicated to the old *Statistical Account* by the worthy minister of Comrie:—'Colics, too, have sometimes proved fatal, particularly, it is remarked, to those of the name of Ferguson.'

It has been stated by an official of the Scottish Lyon Office—now, alas! no more, who in knowledge of Scotland and of Scottish families stood second to none—that it was the practice of Scottish heralds, when approached in reference to

sounded almost identical with our name. Should we not therefore search for our name among the Vikings instead of among the wilds of Balquhiddy and Athole?'

<sup>1</sup> The red hair of the Caledonian Picts had attracted the attention of the Romans.



grants of arms, to consider carefully the name with which they had to deal. If it was clearly of Saxon derivation, and taken from an occupation, as Baxter or Baker, Webster, Smith, Wright, and many others which can be easily imagined, there was no presumption of a common origin or clan connection with others similarly designed. If, however, it was a clan name, and especially if it were one of the well-known Highland patronymics, there was a presumption in favour of a common origin or such connection as was denoted by the sobriquet of the “Bow o’ Meal” Gordons, recognised by the official guardians of genealogy, and its handmaid, heraldry, in Scotland.

It is necessary to remember that, as pointed out by Dr. Skene,<sup>1</sup> the clans consisted of two divisions—‘the one of the kinsmen or those of the blood of the sept; the other of the dependants or subordinate septs, who might be of a different race.’ The former was well defined. In the Gartmore ms., written in the year 1747, the writer says: ‘The property of these Highlands belongs to a great many different persons, who are more or less considerable in proportion to the extent of their estates, and to the command of men that live upon them, or follow them on account of this clanship out of the estates of others. These lands are set by the landlord during pleasure, or a short tack to people whom they call goodmen (*Duine Uasail*), and who are of a superior station to the commonalty. These are generally the sons, brothers, cousins, or nearest relations of the landlord (or chief). This, by means of a small portion, and the liberality of their relations, they are able to stock, and which they, their children and grandchildren possess at an easy rent, till a nearer descendant be again preferred to it. As the propinquity removes they become less considered, till at last they degenerate to be of the common people, unless some accidental acquisition of wealth supports them above their station. As this hath been an ancient custom, most of the farmers and cottars are of the name and clan of the proprietor.’ ‘The position of the dependent septs,’ writes Dr. Skene, ‘will be best understood by the bonds of Manrent or Manred, which came to be taken

<sup>1</sup> *Celtic Scotland*, iii. 318.

by the chiefs from their dependants when the relation constituted by usage or traditional custom was relaxed by time, or when a new relationship was constituted at a later period.' Of these bonds it was frequently a condition that the name of the superior should be assumed. Thus we find Macgregors binding themselves and their descendants to 'call themselves and to be Gordons.'

From an early period Fergusons are found settled in widely distant parts of Scotland; more especially in Perthshire, Aberdeenshire, Ayrshire, and Dumfriesshire. Between these families no definite link of proved relationship can be established, but interesting traditions and curious coincidences suggest that all may originally have come from a common source. We shall find statements of an old connection between the Aberdeenshire and Athole stocks, one curious tradition that a fugitive from Ayrshire, said to be from Kilkerran, settled in Athole, and another also in Athole, pointing to a connection with Craigdarroch. There was also a tradition among the old Fergusson families of Balquhiddy connecting them with the house of Craigdarroch, whose head, it was said, they looked upon as their chief. On the other hand, Dumfriesshire contributes the remarkable legend, that the twelve sons of a laird of Craigdarroch, seized for their reiving propensities, were sent to various parts of the country, and that one at least was ancestor of the house of Kilkerran.

According to Highland tradition, the Fergusons bore their full share of the fighting at Bannockburn. They are said, along with the Clan Chattan, the Stewarts, the Mackays, and others, to have formed one of the divisions on the Scottish left. This division advanced too far in its ardour, was sorely harassed by a body of 10,000 English archers, and only relieved by the timely charge of the Scottish cavalry under Sir Robert Keith, the Marischal.<sup>1</sup> Whatever may be the historical value of this tradition, it is an interesting fact that more than one Ferguson family has its own special associations with the days of the Bruce.

The Athole clan, the Aberdeenshire stock, now locally

<sup>1</sup> *The Red and White Book of Menzies*, p. 52, and communication from the author, D. P. Menzies, Esq.

represented by the families of Pitfour and Kimmundy, and the houses of Kilkerran in Ayrshire, and Craigdarroch and Isle in Dumfriesshire, all, either by tradition firmly held, or by charter evidence, were established in their respective counties at the era of the War of Independence. In most, if not in all, of these families, tradition connects their fortunes with those of King Robert the Bruce and the national cause. It is perhaps worth remembering in this connection that the Bruce was lord of Annandale in Dumfriesshire, Earl of Carrick in Ayrshire, and the inheritor of the Aberdeenshire estates as well as of the royal descent of David, Earl of Huntingdon and Garioch. To his patronage and policy the royal burghs of Inverurie in the Garioch, and of Lochmaben in Dumfriesshire, alike owed their early prosperity and peculiar conditions which connected families either of small landholders or kindly tenants with each. And, curiously enough, the name of Ferguson has been long associated with both. It is also interesting to note that the Patriot King hunted the deer on the hills of Strathardle, and specially enjoyed the salmon with which the table of the monks of Cupar was supplied from their farms in that valley. Balquhiddy, where Fergussons are numerous, was the scene of some of his most gallant achievements.

Robert I. granted a charter of Ayrshire lands to Fergus, son of Fergus; and Burns sings of Craigdarroch, as

‘A line that have struggled for freedom with Bruce.’

There is, however, charter evidence which suggests that the Fergussons were located in the Glencairn region of Dumfriesshire at least a century before Bannockburn; for two charters dated between 1214 and 1249, to the abbeys of Melrose and Dryburgh are witnessed by Fergus or Fergutianus of Glenkarn. The entry in the Chartulary of Moray, if it refers to Fergussons at all, proves that the MacAdie Fergussons were established in Strathardle at least as early; and the fact that a baron of Derculich had to raise an action to recover his writs in the time of James V., has preserved for us the fact that the house of Dunfallandy had a charter of lands in Perthshire in the time of John Balliol. Duncan, son of

Fergus, witnessed a grant by Malise, Earl of Strathearn, in the thirteenth century.

An esquire of the name is found in the War of Independence in company very different from that with which his name is generally associated. Among the garrison of sixty men, all Scotsmen, under command of Walter Fitz-Gilbert, acting for the owner, Aymar de Valence, who held the castle of Bothwell for the English until after the battle of Bannockburn, occurs the name of *Willelmus filius Fergusii*, described (in 1311-12) as one *sociorum suorum scutiferorum ad arma commorancium in municione praedicta quolibet capiente per diem xii d.* The esquires received the same pay as the governor, that of an archer being *ii d. per diem.* In a list of *Equi appreciati*, the colour of this William Ferguson's horse is preserved. It was a brown charger; and in the Bothwell garrison, with the good Lord James of Douglas anxious for admission into his own house, probably had enough of the stable. '*Willelmus filius Fergusii . . . brunnum badium X. Marc.*' The esquires of the garrison appear, from their names, to have been mostly south-country Scotsmen.

On the other hand, Fergusius de Ardrossan was one of the signatories of the famous letter addressed by the Scots Barons to the Pope in 1320, in which the independence of the realm was so worthily asserted.

Before dealing in more detail with the history of the race in different districts of Scotland, and beyond Scotland, it is convenient to collect a few facts of general interest illustrating the connection of the name with outstanding national events, and indicating how the paths in life of various 'Sons of Fergus,' hailing from widely separated parts of the country, have occasionally crossed. David Fergusson, minister of Dunfermline, a man noted both for his piety and his humour, was one of the leading Scottish Reformers; his grandson, and last male descendant, was minister of Strickmartine at the Revolution, and his feeling of clanship gave a start in life to young Adam Fergusson, afterwards minister of Logierait, and father of the distinguished philosopher. It also prompted an educational foundation at Dundee, which, in the succeeding century, paved the way for the bright but brief and clouded career of Robert Fergusson, the forerunner of Robert



Burns. Professor Adam Ferguson, son of the minister of Logierait, took up his pen to write the first Memoir of the gallant young soldier Patrick Ferguson, son of Lord Pitfour, who fell at King's Mountain. James Ferguson, afterwards Lord Pitfour, as counsel at Carlisle, was successful in obtaining the acquittal of James Fergusson of Dunfallandy—'Baron Fergusson'—when tried for high treason after the last Jacobite rising. The Clan Fergusson of Athole joined Viscount Dundee's army immediately after Killiecrankie, but in that fierce conflict Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch had fallen, and James Ferguson, ancestor of the family of Kinmundy, had been taken prisoner, both fighting under the banners of William of Orange.

In 1727, Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran acted as arbiter in some family transactions between James Ferguson of Kinmundy and his cousin James Ferguson of Pitfour. Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran and William Ferguson of Kinmundy sat together upon a Royal Commission appointed by Lord Beaconsfield's Government; and Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran and George Arthur Ferguson of Pitfour both served with the Grenadier Guards in the Crimea. James Ferguson, the famous astronomer, executed portraits about 1740 of James Ferguson of Kinmundy, his wife and son.

In the Civil Wars of the seventeenth century, the Perthshire Fergussons were doubtless among the gallant Athole men who first rallied to the standard of Montrose when, after the long ride from Carlisle, he appeared in Highland dress to lead the Cavalier clans to Tibbermuir and a long series of subsequent victories, and who remained the nucleus and reserve of his fighting strength. Shortly before, the Marquis of Huntly had made the house of William Ferguson of Badifurrow his quarters when he hoisted the Royal Standard at Inverurie, and after the Restoration his host was present at 'the True Funerals' of Montrose. Sir John of Kilkerran deeply embarrassed his estate in the service of King Charles, was with Montrose at Loudoun hill, and with Alaster Macdonald at Kilmarnock; a Fergusson of Craigdarroch was one of the first to sign the Solemn League and Covenant, and another headed a small body who defeated a largely superior force of Cromwell's army at Glencairn.

The strange career of Robert 'the Plotter' comprised active participation in the bloody battle on Sedgemoor, and passages to the English shores in the little vessel that carried Monmouth to his fate, and in the powerful fleet that bore William of Orange and his fortunes.

John Fergusson of Isle voted against the Union in 1707. Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund was tried for high treason and acquitted at Liverpool after the rising of 1715, and James Fergusson of Dunfallandy, then quite a young man, had similar good fortune after the 'Forty-Five'; while Captain John Ferguson, of the Royal Navy, sprung from the Aberdeenshire stock, was the hottest presser of the chase after the fugitive Prince, and gave manly counsel before the frowning defences of Louisburg. Ferguson of Balmakelly's brigade did their full share of the fighting at Schellenberg and Blenheim; a Perthshire Fergusson fell at Ticonderoga, and American historians point to the action in the Carolinas, decided by the fall of Patrick Ferguson, inventor of the first breech-loading rifle, as the turn of the tide in the war of the American Revolution. Sons of the houses of Raith and Craigdarroch gallantly bore their part in the conquest of the Cape, in the storm of Badajos, and throughout the long struggle in the Peninsula. General Archibald Fergusson of Dunfallandy, wounded at Seringapatam, did long and honourable service as a soldier in India; Aberdeenshire Fergussons bore arms under the banners of the House of Austria and the United Netherlands; and in South America a scion of the Ulster Fergussons had a brief but brilliant career as the right-hand man of the daring Bolivar.

The Bibliography of the name records good work done in various departments of literary effort; and eminence achieved in various fields of energy. The reputation for wisdom in council as well as power in the pulpit enjoyed by the minister of Dunfermline, was inherited, in the succeeding century, by the minister of Kilwinning; and a goodly array of works upon religious subjects attests that the gifts of the latter as an expository writer have descended to later divines of the name. In Robert Fergusson the clan produced a leading Scottish poet who stands only second to Burns as a singer in the Lowland vernacular; but it had also its Gaelic poetess in Christina

Fergusson of Contin, Ross-shire, whose lament for her husband—a Chisholm of Strathglass, slain at Culloden—‘*Mo Run geal og*’ (My loved young fair one), is one of the most beautiful and pathetic poems in the Gaelic language. In Sir Samuel Fergusson it can claim one who has been described as the national poet of Ireland. The profession of the law, the practice of medicine and surgery, the study of architecture and archæology, of botany and of other sciences, have all been pursued with success and devotion, nor is the name unknown in the service of art. It has taken an active share in the public life of Ceylon, pursued its fortunes with credit and success in the last century in Poland, and attained high eminence in philosophic and legal writing in Holland, as well as in the diplomatic service of the sovereign of the Netherlands. Dr. Adam Fergusson records that when he visited Voltaire, the French philosopher ‘saluted him with a compliment on a gentleman of my family who had civilised the Russians,’ referring probably to an earlier Scottish Fergusson whom, in his history of Russia, he describes as helping Peter the Great to calculate eclipses, and as establishing at Moscow schools of geometry, astronomy, and navigation.

In the return of Owners of Land and Heritages (Scotland), published in 1873, the following members of the clan, or their representatives, appear (as landowners of properties, which are clearly larger than glebes or ordinary feus):—

*In Perthshire—*

Margaret Fergusson of Dunfallandy, Pitlochry.  
 Samuel R. Fergusson of Middlehaugh, „  
 Thomas Fergusson of Baledmund, „  
 John Fergusson of Easter Dalnabreck.

*Aberdeenshire—*

William Fergusson of Kinmundy.

*Aberdeenshire and Banffshire—*

Colonel George Arthur Fergusson of Pitfour.

*Ayrshire—*

Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart.  
 John Fergusson of Fulwood, Stewarton.

*Dumfriesshire and Kirkcudbrightshire—*

R. Cutlar Fergusson of Craigdarroch, Moniaive.  
 R. S. D. Fergusson of Isle.

*Fife, Elgin, and Ross shires—*

Ronald Crawford Munro Ferguson of Raith and Novar.

*Kincardineshire—*

Mrs. Jane Ferguson of Altens.

*Peeblesshire—*

Sir William Fergusson, Bart., of Spitalhaugh.

*Lanarkshire—*

James Ferguson of Auchinheath.

*Wigtownshire—*

The Trustees of the Ferguson Bequest Fund.

It is interesting to compare with this return of 1873 the references in the Scottish Acts of Parliament to landholders of the name. There are several in the troublous times of the seventeenth century to the families of Kilkerran and Craigdarroch, of whom the first appear in tribulation before the Restoration, and the latter before the Revolution. James Ferguson, designed of Badifurrow in 1696, and of Pitfour in 1704, appears as a Commissioner of Supply for Aberdeenshire; and Colonel James Ferguson of Kirkmichael or Kirktonhill (*i.e.* Balma-kelly), as a Commissioner for Kincardineshire in 1696 and 1698, his son returning to Aberdeenshire about 1723. A David of Glenshynroche is mentioned in 1587, and a John of Downie in Athole in 1672. Paul of Rochalgreen was a Commissioner of Supply for Perth in 1690; James of Fourmerkland for Dumfries in 1704; and John of Dowalton for Wigtownshire in 1685. John of Barclauchanan was a Commissioner of Militia for Carrick in 1689; and John of Rainstoun appears as a J.P. for Wigtownshire. William, the successor of Thomas of Caitloch, in Dumfriesshire, was fined £1000 and forfeited after the Restoration, but restored after the Revolution; as was also Thomas of Finnarts. Thomas of Finnage, Hew of Mains, and John of Millander, all in Ayrshire, were fined, the two former £600, and the latter £1000, in 1662; and John of Isle voted against the Union in 1707. References are found elsewhere to Fergussons of Trochraigue, of Dalduff, and of Woodhill.

Members of the Clan have represented the following Scottish constituencies in Parliament:—

*In the old Scottish Parliament—*

Inverurie, 1661-1663.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Badifurrow.



Inverkeithing (Robert Ferguson), 1579 and 1587.  
 Dumfriesshire, 1640, 1648-51, 1661-63, 1665, 1667, 1669  
 72, 1678;<sup>1</sup> 1702, 1707.<sup>2</sup>

*In the Imperial Parliament—*

Aberdeenshire, 1790-1820.<sup>3</sup>  
 Banffshire, 1789-1790, 1832-1834, 1835-1837.<sup>3</sup>  
 Ayrshire, 1774, 1790-1796, 1854-1857, 1859-1868.<sup>4</sup>  
 Edinburgh, 1784-1790.<sup>4</sup>  
 Sutherlandshire, 1734-1736.<sup>4</sup>  
 Dumfriesshire, 1715-1722.<sup>1</sup>  
 Kirkcudbrightshire, 1826-1838.<sup>1</sup>  
 Fifeshire, 1806-7.<sup>5</sup>  
 Kirkcaldy Burghs, 1806-1830, 1831-1834, 1837-1841,  
 1841-1862.<sup>5</sup>  
 Haddingtonshire, 1835-1837.<sup>5</sup>  
 Ross and Cromarty shires, 1884-5.<sup>5</sup>  
 Leith Burghs, 1886-1892, 1892-95.<sup>5</sup>

To this list may be added the following English and Irish  
 seats:—

Carlisle City, Parliament of 1852.<sup>6</sup>  
 „ Parliaments of 1874, 1880, and 1885.<sup>6</sup>  
 Manchester, 1885-1895.<sup>4</sup>  
 Nottingham Borough, 1830-1841.<sup>5</sup>  
 Mid-Leicestershire, 1885-86, 1892-95.  
 Londonderry City, Parliament of 1798-1800, 1830-1860.<sup>7</sup>

John Fergus of Strathore represented the Kirkcaldy  
 Burghs in 1835, and Fife in the Parliaments of 1847, 1852,  
 and 1857.

It is interesting to compare the numbers of the Clan with  
 those of other well-known Scottish surnames. The most  
 numerous name both in England and Scotland is Smith.  
 From a rough examination in 1892 of the latest returns  
 at the Register House, it was estimated that the number of  
 Smiths born, during the last year for which they were avail-  
 able, was 1760, of Macdonalds 1000, and of Fergusons 620.  
 In a Report submitted by the Registrar-General in 1869,

<sup>1</sup> Craigdarroch.

<sup>2</sup> Isle.

<sup>3</sup> Pitfour.

<sup>4</sup> Kilkerran.

<sup>5</sup> Raith.

<sup>6</sup> Morton.

<sup>7</sup> The Farm.

some interesting statistics were given of Scottish nomenclature. It was estimated that in 1863 there were 44,268 Smiths. If we compare the Fergusons with four other well-known Scottish names, we find that there were 36,624 Macdonalds, 30,212 Campbells, 14,476 Fergusons, 10,444 M'Gregors, and 9520 Gordons.

The tartan of the Clan is one of the most beautiful of all the Scottish tartans, the *set* being a dark purple blue, traversed by black and green bands and upon the green a *spraingie*, or white stripe edged with black, and two red stripes, one on either side of the white. The *Suaicheantas* or badge given by the books is the little sunflower (or rock rose), *Helianthum marifolium*, or in Gaelic *Ros-greine*. It has, however, been said that the poplar and also the bog-myrtle was used as a badge.

The arms which are always given as those of the Clan are *azure a buckle argent between three boar heads coupéd, or*, the silver buckle and gold boar heads upon a blue field, borne by the houses of Dunfallandy and Kilkerran, and with appropriate differences by the Aberdeenshire families.

'In M'Ian's *Clans*,' observes Mr. Charles Fergusson, 'the figures representing the other clans are dressed in their respective tartans, but M'Ian knew the Fergussons to be so very ancient a clan that he represents their clansman in a helmet (*Clogaid*—the word used in the Gaelic verses above quoted) and in the "*Leine-chroich*" or saffron shirt, "the robe which distinguished a gentleman," one of the "oldest garments peculiar to the Celts."' Logan and M'Ian are, it is to be observed, mistaken in their description of the Fergusson tartan.

A tartan of a different set from that worn by the Athole and Aberdeenshire families was, however, used by the Fergusson families of Balquhidder. In forwarding a specimen of this tartan, sent by his cousin at Muirlaggan, Balquhidder, and made of his own wool, the Rev. R. Menzies Fergusson says:— 'This was considered by my father to be the oldest and most correct tartan, which we all wore as boys. It was also used by our relatives in Balquhidder.' The specimen sent shows a dark blue ground, which is crossed by broad green bands, and midway between them a thin green line. On either side of the broad green bands is a broadish brown line, and mid-

way between these brown bands, and at right angles to the narrow green line, a narrow brown one. Upon the whole are two red lines, equi-distant from either the narrow green line or the brown one which crosses it. These red lines are placed in couples, alternately inside and outside the larger brownish bands. Upon the centre of the broad green band is a narrow black stripe.

While the little rockrose is the badge given in all the books on the Highlanders, the weight of testimony furnished by representatives of various families of the name is to the effect that the poplar was the proper badge.

It is right that a word should be added as to the orthography of the name, as to which both Fergussons who require two *ss*'s and Fergusons who are satisfied with one, are nowadays generally sensitive. In the past, however, the form is found varying in the same families, and instances exist at the present day in which one form is used by one brother and the other by another. Thus, while the Fergussons of Kilkerran and Craighdarroch both adhere to the two *ss*'s, in the matriculation of the Craighdarroch arms in 1673 the name is spelt 'Fergusone'; and in the records of the Faculty of Advocates, three successive heads of the Kilkerran family are found admitted to the Scottish bar as 'Fergusone' or 'Ferguson.' The same occurs in the case of Alexander Ferguson of Isle in 1685, and the last heir-male of this race was buried as a Ferguson. On the other hand, while the families sprung from the house of Badifurrow, in Aberdeenshire, are almost universally content with one *s*; the book plate of one descendant shows his name as 'Willm. Fergusson,' and another also signs with two. The family of Dunfallandy seem, however, to have consistently maintained the spelling 'Fergusson,' which appears to be the oldest, and represents most accurately the translation of the Gaelic. It cannot, however, be said that either form is wrong, or that the presence or absence of the second *s* settles descent, and it may be urged that the pronunciation is better indicated by the form 'Ferguson'; and that Professor Adam Ferguson committed no crime when he dropped his father's second *s*, on the ground that it was unnecessary, and therefore unworthy of a philosopher.

NOTE.—At St. Vigeans near the Red head of Angus is a sculptured stone, the inscription on which has been described as ‘interesting philologically as containing the only sentence which is known to have been left us in the Pictish language.’ The correct reading of the inscription is *drosten: ipe uoret elt forcus*, and it has been deciphered as ‘Drost son of Voret of the family or race of Fergus.’ It has been supposed to refer to Drust the Pictish king who was killed at the battle of Drumdearg Blathmig (Kinblethmont) in the year 729. Other authorities incline to the opinion that the inscription is ecclesiastical and commemorates St. Drostan, the companion of Columba on his arrival at Deer, who was of the Pictish royal race, and St. Fergus. The form Forcus for Fergus is not unknown. It is also interesting to notice that the name Fergus occurs in the earliest Gaelic poetry both in Scotland and Ireland, among the warrior poets of the Feinne. Fergus Filidh was a son of the great Finn MacCumhal, and a brother of Ossian. Professor O’Curry is quoted by Dr. Skene as admitting that there exist in Ireland only eleven Ossianic poems prior to the fifteenth century; seven ascribed to Fionn himself, two to his son Oisinn, one to Fergus Filidh, and one to Caoilte. Two of Fergus Filidh’s poems are preserved in the Dean of Lismore’s Book, and Dr. MacLauchlan considers him the chief poet of the Feinn, even ranking as a poet before his brother Ossian. The ‘Rosg Ghuill,’ or Ode to Gaul, is ‘a very remarkable one, bearing decided marks of genuineness and antiquity.’ Finn and Gaul had fallen out about hunting rights, and Fergus’s intervention resulted in the former conceding to the latter the right to hunt over one third of the ‘wooded territory.’ The other poem relates the death of his nephew Oscar, son of Ossian, at the battle of Gabhra (A.D. 286). Dr. Skene’s conclusion, in his Introduction to the Dean of Lismore’s Book, is that the Feinne really belonged to the race of the Cruithne or Picts, who preceded the Scots or Milesians both in the north of Ireland, and in Scotland north of the Firths of Clyde and Forth. The poem on the death of Oscar ends with the lines,

‘Fergus the bard am I,  
I’ve travelled every land,  
I grieve after the Feinn  
To have my tale to tell.’

In one of the characteristic laments in which old Ossian bewails the disappearance of his kinsmen the mighty hunters, and sings,

‘Tis sad that the hill of the Feine  
Should now by the clerics be held,  
And that the songs of the men of books  
Should fill the halls of Clan Baoisgne,’

the lines occur,

‘I see not Fergus my brother,  
So gentle and worthy of praise.’

Another poem, describing a fierce combat, says :

‘Fergus, Caol and thirty are in the glen,  
Who never more shall see this earth.’

In the poem describing the vengeance of Conall for the death of Cuchullin, among the heads of the slain which he brings home is that of

‘Mac Fergus of Steeds—  
He in extremity so bold.’



## CHAPTER II

### FERGUSSONS IN ATHOLE

#### SECTION I.

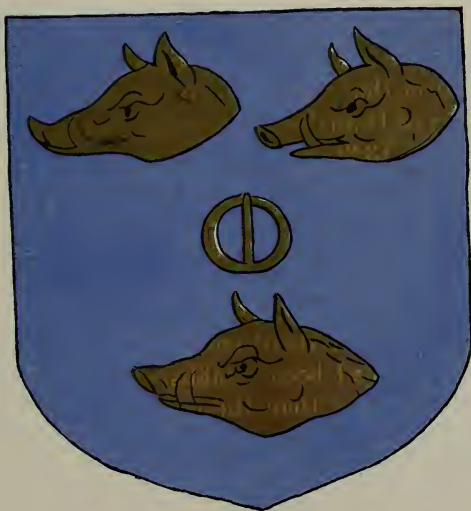
THE chief seat of the Fergussons as a Highland clan was undoubtedly in Athole, where they are placed in the map of the clans, and where was the residence of their recognised chief when the roll of the clans was made up in the year before the Spanish Armada sailed on its great enterprise. The chiefship was in the ancient family of Dunfallandy, for long designed as 'of Derculich,' whose head appears as 'Baron Fergusson,' and as 'the Laird of Fergusson,' in State documents. The vale of Athole 'down by the Tummel,' was the kernel of the 'Fergusson country.' There was Dunfallandy, which seems to have been a very ancient—if not the oldest—possession of the race in the district, though for a time it yielded in importance to Derculich, on Strath Tay; there, too, were Ballyoukan, Bellichandie, and the Middlehaugh of Dalshian, which gave their designations to leading cadet families; and there was the west end of the Haugh of Dalshian, which pertained to the branch of Baledmund, whose mansion near Moulin retains the designation of The Star of Athole. The possessions of the name, however, stretched westwards in the lands of Derculich, betwixt the Tummel and the Tay, and eastwards into Strathardle and Glenshee, while the Clan was also settled in the upper part of Glenisla. The lands of Baledmund comprised the three pendicles of Glenbrerachan, and the Barony of Downy lay partly in Strathardle and partly in Glenshee. In Strathardle lay also the lands of Balmacruchie, or Woodhill, said to have belonged to Fergussons from a very early period,

and undoubtedly in possession of a branch of the Athole stock from about 1575 to 1840. The families of Dunfallandy, Ballyoukan, Baledmund, Middlehaugh, and probably others also, were all held of the Duke of Athole as subject superior; and it may be more than a coincidence that the three districts of Perthshire, in which the name of Fergusson was numerous, each gave a title to the noble house which, among other honours, described its chief as Duke of Athole, Earl of Strathardle, and Viscount Balquhiddier. Some of the lands of the Lairds of Derculich and Dunfallandy must, however, have been held direct of the Crown, as otherwise the designation of Baron Fergusson cannot be accounted for; and a younger branch must also have been in the same position, or they would not have been designed as Barons of Muling.

The original settlement of the Fergussons in Athole is lost in the mists of the distant past. The house of Dunfallandy is undoubtedly of very great antiquity, and is recognised in the district as one of the oldest territorial families. Miss Fergusson of Dunfallandy states that some of her Fergussons were 'soldiers of the Cross,' and an ancestor seems to have had charters of Cluny from John Balliol, and of Cluny and Kynnard from King Robert the Bruce. There is clear evidence dating from 1489 that a previous generation had charters of Derculich and Edradynate. A tradition has been handed down in one of the Fergusson families of the district,<sup>1</sup> to the effect that the common ancestor of their stock, and of the house of Dunfallandy, had fled from Ayrshire to the north in the year 1329, and was of the family of Kilkerran. The Baledmund tradition—although it is understood that this family were cadets of Dunfallandy in the female line, at all events, as representing Baledmund—is that their race were originally of the stock of Craigdarroch in Dumfriesshire. In the male line, as representing Ballyoukan, they seem to be descended from an Aberdeenshire man.<sup>2</sup> But it seems probable that the clan had been established in the district at a much earlier period even than the year of King Robert the Bruce's

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. Robert Fergusson's Memo., Sect. 8.

<sup>2</sup> The Minister of Moulin's MS., Sect. 6.



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This shield is reproduced in facsimile from an old MS. (1603-5), in which it is thought the buckle was erroneously coloured *or* instead of *argent*.





death. In the thirteenth century, as we have seen, Duncan, son of Fergus, witnessed a charter of Malise, Earl of Strathearn; and it was in 1232 that Gillenychel M'Ath, or M'Adc—*i.e.* Gille-michael M'Adam, or son of Adam, the distinguishing patronymic of the old Strathardle Fergussons, exchanged a davoch of the lands of Pitcarmick in Strathardle with the Bishop of Moray for lands in Strathspey.<sup>2</sup> In the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King James v., Robert Fergusson of Derculich had to invoke legal process<sup>3</sup> to recover a large number of charters and other writs which had been retained from him, though he claimed them as heir of his nephew, the baron of Downy, and among these was specified 'a charter of our most noble predecessor King John to Adam Fergusson of the lands of Cluny.' Now the only King John known to Scottish annalists is King John Balliol, and this at once carries us back to the 1200's. If the identification of the Fergussons of Balmacruchie with the Clan Aid of the Gaelic genealogical MS. of 1467 be correct, and the names correspond with these mentioned in the Chartulary of Moray in reference to the excambion of 1232, the connection of the name with the Perthshire Highlands is taken very far back indeed.

'The Athole and Strathardle Fergussons,' writes a clansman,<sup>4</sup> 'have from time immemorial claimed to be the most ancient clan known in the Highlands, a claim which the other old clans of the district have never disputed, the second place being always given to the old M'Diarmids of Glenlyon. The universal tradition is that they are descended from King Fergus the First.' General Stewart of Garth observes that 'the Duke of Atholl possesses a very extensive property in Athole, but the district has been for centuries called the country of the Stewarts, Robertsons, Fergussons, etc.' 'The Clan Fergusson in Athole,' writes Mr. Charles Fergusson, 'were always reckoned the biggest and strongest men in that country of big men. A story is preserved in our family of one of my ancestors, "Semus Mor," or Big James, who, when a mere lad, along with his father accompanied his clan to the north on an expedition against one of the northern clans.

<sup>1</sup> *Liber Insulæ Missarum*, p. xxxviii.

<sup>2</sup> Chartulary of Moray.

<sup>3</sup> Baledmund Papers.

<sup>4</sup> Charles Fergusson, Muir of Ord.

They were successful, and carried off a lot of cattle, among which was a fine black bull which Semus Mor's father had taken after a tough fight, in which he slew its former owner and his five sons. Coming down by the river Tarff, at the head of Glen Tilt, the bull got restive and sprung down on to a ledge of rock overhanging a deep pool. Semus Mor jumped after it and tried to save it; but his father heard a splash and knew the bull had gone over the rock. As he saw his son's head appear coming up the rock, he said, in a sneering tone—"Greim bog Canabh, nam bu mhac le t'athair thu, chum thu do ghreim" ("The soft grip of a baby; if you had been your father's son you would have kept your grip.") To which Semus Mor meekly answered,—“Tha agam na b'hagam” (“I have all I had”), and threw the bull's horn at his father's feet. He had caught the bull by the horn just as it sprang over the rock, and held it hanging by main strength; but the horn broke and the bull fell over, fortunately into deep water, and was safely recovered. When old Fergusson saw the horn and understood how matters stood, he was quite pleased, and said—"Cha deach Chlann Fhearghuis dholaidh fhathaist" ("The Clan Fergus are not spoilt yet.") (Rather—"The Clan Fergus have not degenerated yet.")'

A boulder near Dunfallandy, still called the Bloody Stone, marks the scene of a tragedy characteristic of Scotland's darker days. On the one side of the Tummel lay the lands of a Baron whose only daughter would heir his estate. According to one version of the story, she fell in love with a young Fergusson from the other side of the stream, but her father forbade the match. One morning as he walked by the river bank, an arrow from the opposite shore flew across the stream and pierced his heart. It had been sped by the father of the rejected suitor, who was lurking with his bow amid the bracken and the rocks. He kept his own counsel, was not discovered, and ere a year had gone his son and the heiress were married.<sup>1</sup> According to the other version, the strong-handed laird of the other bank loved the lady, but feared to press his suit in person. A young

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. Robert Fergusson's ms., Sect. 8.

friend—also a Fergusson—whom he employed to plead his cause, succumbed himself to the charms, proved false to his trust, and led her, whom he had undertaken to win for another, to the altar as his own bride. His bliss was short, for the honeymoon was soon terminated by an arrow that flew true to its mark as he sat on the fatal stone; and that very night, it is said, the wronged and the avenger married the new-made widow.<sup>1</sup>

An equally characteristic and more pleasing Highland legend, communicated by Mr. Charles Fergusson, Muir of Ord, tells how the heir of Dunfallandy was stolen by the fairies and restored to his mother. ‘Long, long ago the only son and heir of the Baron Fergusson of Dunfallandy was stolen by the fairies, and, in spite of all endeavours, could not be recovered. At last the lady of Dunfallandy applied to the “Ceard Dubh”—the black tinker—a famous Athole wizard of the day, and a thorough master of the Black Art. After performing some of his uncanny arts, the Ceard informed her that the young chief of M’Fergus was with the fairies in the famous hill of Dunidea, in Strathardle, the headquarters and stronghold of the Athole fairies, but that nothing could be done for his recovery till next Christmas Eve, when the hill would be open only for an hour or two before midnight, when he would try and recover the boy. Accordingly, on the day before Christmas the Ceard Dubh provided himself with a long string with a beautiful red apple tied to the end of it, and also a large bag full of a pungent preparation, dried before the fire and powdered as fine as snuff, and, making his way by Loch Broom and Glen Derby, arrived in good time at the famous hill of Dunidea. He found the hill open and all the fairies dancing to beautiful music, and foremost in the revels he saw the young heir of Dunfallandy. Watching his chance, when the child came near the door, the Ceard rolled his red apple in on the floor, which caught the boy’s eye, and he grasped at it; but the Ceard, pulling the string, drew the apple out, followed by the child till he came within reach of the Ceard, who at once seized him and made off. The fairies soon

<sup>1</sup> See Mrs. Ogilvie’s poem, *infra*.

missed their prisoner, and, like a hive of angry bees, swarmed out, and pursued the flying Ceard and soon overtook him. But just as they reached him he put his hand in his bag, and, taking out a handful of the powder he had prepared, he threw it up and the wind scattered it in all directions. This stopped the fairies, as they had to stay and gather every particle before they could go farther, which delayed them some time, and gave the Ceard another good start. Again as they reached him he threw another handful, and then went on across Strathardle and up Glen Derby, till at last, just as his supply was almost exhausted, he reached the pass of Atholeford, where the head of Glen Derby opens into Athole, and when once he got across the burn there he was safe, as the fairies could not cross running water that divided two parishes. When he got quit of his angry pursuers, the Ceard went on at his leisure by Loch Broom to Dunfallandy, where he safely delivered the young heir to his delighted parents.'

The older Balmacruchie Fergussons in Strathardle were undoubtedly a very old family of the name. As already mentioned, it was in 1232 that Gillemichel M'Ath, or M'Adie, made an excambion with the Bishop of Moray. The Book of Garth and Fortingall<sup>1</sup> records that 'in 1358 the Sheriff of Perth is allowed £12 for deforcement made upon him by Robert, son of Duncan (de Atholia, Duncanson, or Mac-Donachie, the Clan Donachie, or Robertsons of Struan), and Fergus, son of Ade, who failed to give suit for their lands of Balnafert, Ballmacreechie, etc.' The same Fergus appears in the Chamberlain Rolls<sup>2</sup> as 'Fergusium filium Adami.'

These MacAdie Fergussons were great anglers, and a tradition has been handed down<sup>3</sup> that, for services rendered to one of the early Celtic kings of Scotland, an ancestor was told to ask for some great reward. Instead of requesting large grants of land, he is said to have demanded a charter giving him the right to compel all the other proprietors in Strathardle to cut down every tree on both banks of the

<sup>1</sup> P. 118.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. i. p. 306.

<sup>3</sup> Notes communicated by Mr. Charles Fergusson.



river Ardle as far back as he could cast his line; 'a right which his descendants held till they sold the estate.' An Adam Fergusson is said to have held Balmacruchie in 1340, and it was sold by another Adam Fergusson about 1840, who went to America. 'These old Lairds' favourite spot for catching trout was along the Ardle at Dalnabrick, "the Haugh of Trouts," which, of course, was the origin of the name. At Culloden "Niall Mor nam Breac," "Big Neill of the Trouts," was one of the leaders of the Fergusson clan, and one of the few who returned, and his skill in fishing supplied the wants of many of the fugitives when in hiding from the English soldiers.'

It would however appear that the earlier Fergussons, to whom the tradition as to the reward of services rendered to the 'early Celtic kings' appertains, were not the same family as that which, about 1840, parted with the estate. For in the ms. account of his family—that of Bellichandy—written by the Minister of Moulin in 1775, he states distinctly that Balmacruchie was purchased by a brother of his great-grandfather from Maxwell of Tealing about two hundred years before, and it will be seen that the names upon the grave-stones in Greyfriars Churchyard of members of the family of Fergusson of Woodhill correspond with the names of the Rev. Adam Fergusson's descendants given in the continuation of his narrative.<sup>1</sup>

It will be observed that in the Gaelic genealogy previously quoted, and believed possibly to be that of the Mac Adi Fergussons of Balmacruchie, the name of Fergus son of Adam does not occur. But it will be seen that there is a blank in the ms. at the very place where Fergus and Adam should be found. The ms. is so old and injured by damp that much of it cannot be deciphered.<sup>2</sup> It was written about

<sup>1</sup> 'The late Wm. M'Donald of Balnakilly, who was particularly well up in the old lore of Strathardle, in writing of Woodhill, says that the family of the Adam Fergusson who sold it had held it for over five hundred years.'—(Letter from Mr. Charles Fergusson.) 'I am certain,' writes Mr. Charles Fergusson, 'that there were earlier Fergussons in Balmacruchie than the later Woodhills, as they are mixed up in the commonest legends and traditions of the Strath from the earliest times, and all writers on the old lore of Strathardle agree that they were the oldest family in the Strath.'

<sup>2</sup> Notes by Mr. Charles Fergusson.

1450. Five generations are given; then occurs the gap, and three more generations take us to Gillemichael son of Adam, alive in 1232. The gap may very well have contained the name of Fergus son of Adam who flourished in 1358.

An interesting tradition was handed down in Strathardle as to the elder Adam and his son Gillemichael. Adam, it is said, on one occasion found himself in great danger, surrounded by foes, and gave himself and his men up for lost, when a good priest advised him to pray to St. Michael for deliverance. He did so, and vowed that if St. Michael would deliver him he would dedicate his son to that saint. The prayer was answered, deliverance was found, and the boy thus dedicated was called Gille Michael—the servant or disciple of St. Michael. The boy, however, grew up ‘more of a soldier than a saint, and got out of the bargain by giving lands to St. Michael instead of himself.’ Thus it was, according to tradition, that the parish of Kirkmichael, in which Balmacruchie lies, came to be dedicated to St. Michael. The name of Cormack the son of Gille Michael, is also connected by tradition with ‘Fuaran Cormac’—Cormac’s Well—a famous well a few yards in front of Pitcarmick farmhouse. ‘It healed Cormac of some deadly wounds, and he built his dwelling on its brink.’ It was a famous ‘Healing Well’ to which people flocked.<sup>1</sup>

Another tradition of Strathardle is that of ‘Adie Biorrach,’ the Strathardle bowman, thus narrated by Mr. Charles Fergusson:—

‘Long long ago, according to Strathardle tradition, before guns reached the Highlands, the most expert bowman in the Strath was an old man of the Clan Fergusson named “Adie Biorrach”—“Sharp-faced Adam”—who lived on the north side of the river at Inverchroskie. The only one who could come anything near him as a marksman was a neighbour who lived on the other or Dalreoch side of the river. Many were the trials of skill they had; but Adam always came off victorious, which made the other very jealous. They were also very keen cock-fighters, and had the two best fighting cocks in the district. One day Adam was sitting on a stone at the

<sup>1</sup> Notes by Mr. Charles Fergusson.



end of his house engaged in feeding his favourite fighting cock, which was so tame that it would eat out of his hand, when his neighbour, who had been watching him, drew his bow, and sent an arrow across and killed the cock as it fed out of his hand. Adam thought this very sharp practice, but slipped quietly into his house and waited his opportunity. Some time after the slayer of the cock proceeded to thatch his house; and, with the assistance of his wife, the work proceeded rapidly. After the thatching was done he was laying a row of turf along the ridge, and fastening each turf with a wooden pin, and when he was placing a turf in position, and both his wife and himself still had hold of it, Adam, who had been watching the performance, sent an arrow over and pinned the turf to the thatch just where the wooden pin should be. Though startled, the old fellow took it very coolly, and ordered his wife to hand him another turf, which he placed in position, and then asked for the wooden pin to fix it. As she handed him the pin, another arrow from Adam's ready bow dashed it from their grasp. This was too much for him, so he quietly slid down the back of the house, and getting his pet game cock, he despatched his wife with it as a present to Adie Biorrach, along with a pressing invitation to that worthy to come across and spend the evening with him. The invitation was readily accepted, and, according to the custom of the time, a jovial evening was spent; and they mutually agreed that there was no occasion for any more trials of skill in archery between them, and they lived and died in peace.'

In another quaint tradition of the Strath a Fergusson appears as saving his own life and breaking a sorrowful weird at the same time. We are able to reproduce it from Mr. Charles Fergusson's *Strathardle*, and give it in the author's own words.

#### 'THE WICKED LADY LINDSAY'S WEIRD.

'About 1489, as we read in *The Lives of the Lindsays*, Alexander, Master of Lindsay, and his brother John, sons of the fifth Earl of Crawford, quarrelled and fought at Inverquoich Castle, in Lower Strathardle, and Alexander was severely wounded, but

might have recovered, had not his wife helped him out of this world of trouble by smothering him with a down pillow as he lay in bed weak from loss of blood. She was Lady Janet Gordon, daughter of George, second Earl of Huntly, and of his wife, Princess Annabella, daughter of King James I. No sooner had she got rid of Lindsay than she married Patrick, son of Lord Grey. Whether she took the down pillow to him or not history sayeth not, but he departed, and she was soon again married, the third time, to Halkerston of Southwood. Though she thus escaped punishment for a time, yet justice at length overtook her, and, in the year 1500, she was condemned for the murder of the Master of Lindsay to perpetual imprisonment on the top of Craig-an-Fhithiche, the Ravens' Rock, a stupendous cliff that rises about 300 feet above the river Ericht, and here, every day, before she was allowed any food, she had to spin a thread long enough to reach from her prison down till it reached the water of the river, and there she lingered on spinning her daily thread to an extreme old age. So far history goes, and stops, but as usual, local tradition steps in, and draws aside the veil of time, and tells us how—

“Lady Lindsay sat on the Raven's Rock,  
 An' weary spun the lee-lang day ;  
 Tho' her fingers were worn, they aye bore the stain  
 O' the bluid o' her first luvie, the lycht Lindsay,”

till she was over a hundred years of age, and till at last her shrivelled fingers were worn by the constant friction of the thread to mere stumps. At last she died, but still there was no rest for the murderer, for there her ghost was seen to sit and spin, and often the keen angler, as he fished the clear waters of the Ericht, below the Ravens' Rock, was startled by seeing a shadowy thread coming slowly down from above, till it touched the water, when it instantly disappeared, and the scared fisherman knew that the Lady Lindsay's task was over for that day at least. So the thread of time spun on for over two centuries, and still the ghost of the Lady Lindsay, the misguided grandchild of a gallant Stuart king, was seen to spin on, perched on her lonely rock, till at last came the black day of Culloden, when the Stuart cause was lost for ever, and many of the brave Strathardle lads, who had escaped from the Royal Butcher, returned to hide in their native glen. Amongst others came one of the young Fergussons of Balmacrochie—*Niall Mor nam Breac*—Big Neil of the Trouts, so called from his being a very expert angler, like all his race, who were so fond of fishing

that, ages before this, one of them having rendered the king some great service, and when asked what reward he would like, he asked for and got a charter giving him power to compel all the owners of property on both sides of the river to cut down all trees within casting-line length of the river along its course through the strath above Blairgowrie for fishing purposes; a right which this family are well known to have possessed, though perhaps not enforced, down till Adam Fergusson sold the estate and went to America about 1840.

‘But to return to Big Neil. He chose as his hiding-place a hole under some large boulders on the bank of the river a little above the Ravens’ Rock, where he kept himself and some comrades, who were also in hiding close by, well supplied with his favourite trout, and he was safe from the English soldiers quartered in the strath. But another altogether unexpected danger came upon him. A severe thunderstorm had passed over Upper Strathardle, followed by such a deluge of rain that it brought down the river in one breast of water. Neil of the Trouts lay in his den sheltering from the rain, and, no doubt, thinking how it would put the river into good fishing ply, and quite unaware of his danger till the water poured in, and when he got out the rushing torrent of water was so strong that it swept him away down the stream. Just as he gave himself up for lost, the eddy swept him under the Ravens’ Rock, and he saw a thin thread hanging down from the cliff, and as a drowning man will clutch at a straw he grasped it, and to his astonishment it held, and he found it strong enough to bear his weight and check his onward course, and by its help he slowly drew himself to the bank. By the aid of an alder-bush he got ashore, and just as he stepped on to the bank he heard a wild scream of joy overhead, and looking up he saw the Lady of the Rock standing on the top of the cliff with her distaff in her hand, from which hung the thread that had saved his life. In terror he threw his end of the magic thread into the water, when at once she threw distaff, thread and all, down into the raging river, and with frantic signs of joy disappeared from the top of the rock for ever. Her task was done and her punishment over; she had saved the life of a gallant follower of the Stuarts, her own grandfather’s royal race, and so by saving one life made atonement for taking away another life; and the good old people of Strathardle believed that had she not got the chance of doing so, she would still have been spinning her weary thread on the Ladies’ Rock to this day.’

Fergusson of Dunfallandy or of Dereulich, sometimes designed as Baron Fergusson, and as 'the Laird of Fergusson,' was the chief of the clan. The oldest cadets of his house who can be traced seem to have been the barons of Muling (1446-1633) and of Downy (1510-1521). Next apparently came the families of Ballyoukan, Bellichandy—with its offshoot Balmacruchie—Baledmund, Bellizulland, the Haugh of Dalshian, who were all flourishing in the early years of the seventeenth century. It is a curious fact that the earliest deed now existing among the Dunfallandy papers is a sasine of 1612; that the original feu-charter of Baledmund is dated 17th December 1611, and that the first charter of Ballyoukan is also dated 1st January 1612. In the Rentall of 1650 Fergusson of Pitfourie appears, and also Patrick Fergusson of Balmacruchie. In 1603-5 there had been charters to Fergussons (one of them in Wester Dalnabreck) of the lands of Easter and Wester Butters-Calie. There is also mention of Fergussons of Stravith (1508), of Stronymuck (1572), and of Belnacult (1620). In the Valuation of 1835, Dunfallandy, Middlehaugh, and Baledmund then comprehending Pitfourie, are found, while a Miss Fergusson appears as owner of Wester Cally, and in Kirkmichael Adam Ferguson is owner of Balmacruchie and Balintuim, Alexander Ferguson owns a part of Balmacruchie, and Charles Ferguson is owner of Easter Dalnabreck.

The Fergussons appear as an 'unruly clan' in the roll drawn up in 1587, of 'the clannis that hes capitanes and chieftanes quhom on they depend.' In the Act of the same year, by which certain 'landlords and bailies in the borders and in the Highlands, on whose lands broken men dwell,' were ordered to find caution 'that they shall keep good rule in the country, and make themselves and their men answerable to justice,' there occurs the name of 'Baron Ferguson in £3000.' The 'Laird of Fergusson' appears in the roll of 'landit men' drawn up in 1590. On 11th November 1590 caution was given by Sir John Murray of Tullibardin 'for certain men in Athole,' among whom was John Ferguson of Darcloch (Dereulich) *alias* Baroun Fergusson, that they would find the required caution by the 10th December next.



It has been supposed that a Baron Fergusson was executed for taking part in the Gowrie conspiracy of 1600. But this appears to be a mistake, and the true sufferer was M'Duff, the Baron of Fandowie. This gentleman's *aliases* have caused a good deal of confusion, which fortunately his successor, while participating in it, has done his best to clear up. In 1602 'John Fergusson callit Barroun Fargussone, John Fargussone in Cluny, and David, Baroun in Fandowie,' sat together on an assize. The last, when chosen Chancellor, was described as 'David Farguison, Baroun of Fandowie,' but when he came to subscribe the verdict he signed in his own proper name as 'David M'Duf of Fandowy.'

The Clan Fergusson were probably among the gallant Atholemen who followed the banner of Montrose in the Civil Wars, and formed the original nucleus of the victorious Cavalier army. They are stated to have joined Viscount Dundee's army immediately after Killiecrankie, and many allusions in the extracts from public documents and private papers which follow, show that they formed an important part of the fighting strength of the dukedom of Athole and earldom of Strathardle. The Baledmund papers in particular furnish most interesting illustrations of the social conditions of Athole, and of a state of society which was shattered by the result of the first, and swept away after the second of the Jacobite insurrections. In 1605 we find Thomas Ferguson in Wester Balmacruchie and others undertaking to buy from the Earl of Athole and Sir Robert Crichton of Cluny 'such quantity of arms as it shall be found they ought to buy'; and Lord Tullibardine's summons to Baledmund to attend the funeral of John, Marquis of Athole, in 1703, 'bringing alongst with you a pretty man out of each two merkland with his best arms and cloaths,' and the order to meet his Grace at Logierait in June 1714, 'in order to hear sermon,' show how tenacious was the hold which the combination of feudal service and clan attachment, which is found all along both sides of the Highland line, had secured in Athole. A graphic picture of the difficulties and dangers that beset a Scottish gentleman of the days of 'the Fifteen' is found in the documents which record the defence and escape of Finlay

Fergusson of Baledmund at Liverpool after the rout of Preston. The defence was most common at the time,<sup>1</sup> and probably was pleaded by others who had attended their superiors fully armed and with right good-will.

In 1745 the Athole and Strathardle Fergussons went out with Prince Charlie. Among those to whom similar letters were sent by the Duke (the Jacobite duke) of Atholl, ordering them to raise their men to join the Jacobite army, were :

‘ Below ye pass  
 Finlay Ferguson of Baladmin . . .  
 Stratherdail,  
 Jas. Ferguson of Wester Callie ’—

and on January 31st, 1746, the Duke of Athole wrote to Captain Thomas Ferguson of Ballyoukan and Captain James Robertson of Kilichangie ordering them ‘ to march directly to the army with your men, though you should have but thirty of them.’ It is said that the Rev. Adam Fergusson (the minister either of Logierait or Moulin, both being keen Hanoverians) ‘ did all he could to keep the Athole clans from going out with the Prince, especially the Fergussons, but in vain ; for they all went. The only one of his clan whom he could persuade to stay at home for a time was Captain Thomas Ferguson of Ballyoukan, who wavered for a little, but the Duke of Athole sent him a letter which at once brought him out also.’

A letter among the Baledmund papers, apparently from the minister of Logierait, announces the arrest, in the June following Culloden, of the Laird of Dunfallandy, and there are also preserved two letters from ‘ the Baron ’ himself, written from his imprisonment in the gloomy dungeons of Carlisle. There is a touch of pathos in the words that the threatened fever, ‘ if sent, will be a heavy affliction in this miserable confinement,’ in the allusion to ‘ my behaviour in the unhappy tragedy,’ and in the urgent requests for ‘ a certificate of my age, which will be a great mean to save my life.’ The letter of his agent and the formal citations are also interesting, as showing the nature of the efforts made on behalf of the unfortunate

<sup>1</sup> See narrative of Forbes of Blackton in *Two Scottish Soldiers*, etc. ; Aberdeen, 1888.



Jacobites; and it is particularly gratifying to observe that the Scottish counsel who appeared for him, and was successful in securing an acquittal, was James Ferguson of Pitfour.

The Strathardle Fergussons went out along with their Athole kinsmen in the 'Forty-five.' The Athole family, as superiors of Strathardle, claimed for their service one or two men from each estate, according to its size. The Dunfallandy, Baledmund, and Ballyoukan papers all show that, after the rising of 1715, the personal services of hosting, hunting, watching, and warding, were commuted for a money payment in terms of the Act of Parliament of George I., but the Jacobite Duke (the Marquis of Tullibardine, who had been forfeited after 'the Fifteen,' and whose brother had succeeded him) does not seem to have recognised the change, when he returned to his lands during the later rising. A special levy which he ordered from Strathardle consisted of forty-one men, and contained five Fergussons (apart from those who voluntarily went out with the Prince). The names of those who 'marched with Bleatown from Strathardle' on 1st February 1746, were:—

John Fergusson	from the ground of Dalmunzie.
Peter Fergusson	„ Easter Bleaton.
John Fergusson	„ Black Craig.
John Fergusson	„ Whitefield.
Robert Fergusson	„ Ashintully.

In the following pages there are given in detail,—

(1) A series of extracts from public documents and published works of a more or less recondite character relating to the Athole Fergussons, and mostly of a date prior to the Restoration. With the Rental of 1650, the Valuation of 1835 is compared. The owners' names occur so frequently together that it has been thought better to give these extracts in continuous chronological order, instead of attempting to separate those relating to the different families.

(2) Notes from the Derculich Titles and Dunfallandy papers, etc.

(3) Notes from the Middlehaugh Papers.

(4) Notes from the Baledmund Papers.

(5) Notes from the Ballyoukan Papers.

(6) A MS. genealogy by the Rev. Adam Fergusson, minister of Moulin, representative of the family of Bellichandy, written in 1775, with a letter written by him in 1746.

(7) Extracts from a MS. narrative written by the Rev. Adam Fergusson, minister of Logierait, which has unfortunately been lost. Also notices of his son, Professor Adam Fergusson, and other members of their family, contributed by the present representative, Robert N. R. Fergusson, London.

(8) Notes by Mr. Robert Fergusson, Aberdeen, on the traditionary origin of the Dunfallandy family and his own ancestors.

(9) Notes by J. and Alexander Fergusson.

(10) Notices of Perthshire ministers of the name of Fergusson.

To these detailed extracts a few words of introduction in reference to the various families of the name are necessary.

*Fergusson of Derculich and Dunfallandy, otherwise  
Baron Fergusson, or the Laird of Fergusson.*

The descent of the Dunfallandy family can be substantially if not absolutely traced in the extracts which follow from a generation which had passed away before 1489 to the present time. But even at the date when it can first be identified in State documents, it was, according to the local tradition of the district, an old family, and corroboration of this is to be found in the documents to be described.

In 1489 Robert Fergusson obtains a decree for the restoration of a charter of the lands of 'dartull and edd'deduna' (Derculich and Edradynate), a letter of assedation of the kirklands of Mulyne and Strathardill, and a bond, which writs had been 'given in keeping by umquhill Robert Fergusson to the utilitie of the said Robert his son.' The same Robert apparently witnessed a charter in 1493, and in 1537 tried again to assert his rights as heir and successor to umquhill Robert Fergusson of Downy, whose papers were refused to him.<sup>1</sup> Among the papers of which he then sought restitution were, in addition to the later Downy charters and older writs of that estate, a charter of King Robert of the lands of Cluny and

<sup>1</sup> Baledmund Papers.

Kynnard, granted to Adam Fergusson, and a charter of King John to Adam Fergusson of the lands of Cluny. These seem to indicate an ancestor who lived in the days of the War of Independence, and who seems to have done well under Balliol and better under the Bruce.

In 1539 Robert Fergusson was succeeded by his son William.<sup>1</sup>

In 1565 John Fergusson of Derculich appears acting as a curator, and in 1572 James Fergusson of Derculich, *alias* Baron Fergusson, is fined. In 1590 John Fergusson of Derculich, *alias* Baron Fergusson, is found caution for, and in 1602 his lands are harried by the Stewarts of Appin and the Camerons, while in the same year he sits on an assize along with John Fergusson in Cluny, and David M'Duff of Fandowie. He is mentioned along with William Fergusson, his eldest son and apparent heir (fiar of Derculich), in 1607.

In 1611 William Fergusson of Derculich gives security not to commune with James Earl of Athole while unrelaxed.<sup>2</sup>

In 1612 William Fergusson had sasine of Dunfallandy and Dalshian.<sup>3</sup> He is also mentioned in 1615.

In 1616 the Earl of Tullibardine granted to Robert Fergusson, son and apparent heir of umquhill William Fergusson of Derculich, the ward and non-entry duties.<sup>4</sup>

In 1620 Robert Fergusson of Derculich was entered by precept of *clare constat* as heir of his father William Fergusson in the lands of Dunfallandy and Dalshian.

In 1629, and again in 1630, he was served heir of John Fergusson of Dunfallandy, baron of Downy, brother of the defunct Robert Fergusson of Derculich, his great-great-grandfather.<sup>5</sup>

The descent of the lands of Derculich would therefore appear to have been,

Robert, umquhill in 1489.

Robert, 1489 and 1537, brother of John of Downy.

William, 1539, his son.

John, 1565.

<sup>1</sup> Derculich Titles.

<sup>2</sup> Extracts from Public Documents, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Dunfallandy Papers.

<sup>4</sup> Baledmund Papers.

<sup>5</sup> Retours.

James, 1572.

John, 1590 and 1607.

William, his son, 1611, 1612, 1615.

Robert, his son, 1620, 1629.

But as tested by the retour of 1629 there are here two names too many, and therefore there must either have been on two occasions successions of collaterals, or at least one mistake in a name. If the James of 1572 should be John, then the number of generations would correspond.

Robert Fergusson parted with Dereulich before 1650, having granted two feu-charters in 1537.

His son John of Dunfallandy was served heir to him in 1668, having had a charter from him in 1648.

In 1674 he was appointed tutor to James Ferguson, son of Robert Ferguson, his brother,<sup>1</sup> and in 1685 he granted precept of sasine in favour of his nephew James. In 1705 he was succeeded by his own son, James Fergusson, who, in 1744, was again succeeded by his son James Fergusson, who was tried at Carlisle in 1746, and in 1751 married Elizabeth Butter of Pitlochry. He was succeeded in 1777 by his son, General Archibald Fergusson, who died in 1834, and was succeeded by his grandson, Archibald Fergusson of the 79th Highlanders, son of the General's eldest son, William Dick Fergusson, upon whose death the estate passed to his sister, Miss Margaret Fergusson, now of Dunfallandy.

The lands of 'Baron Fergusson' were originally very extensive. According to the minister of Moulin's ms. they comprehended Dunfallandy, the ten pound land of Dereulich, the ten pound land of Dalshian, and the third of Strathairdle and Glenshee.

From the report of a case in the Court of Session in 1874, in reference to the rights to the loch of Dereulich of the surrounding proprietors, who were the owners of the estates of Dereulich extending along the eastern side of the lake and mill of Dereulich, a small property about a mile below, of Edradynate, and of the lands of Clunie and Blackhill, it appears that:—'In the early part of the seventeenth century the whole lands surrounding Loch Dereulich, and extending

<sup>1</sup> *Inq. de Tutela.*



down the burn, and now belonging to the owners of the three properties above mentioned, belonged to a family named Fergusson, whose titles expressly gave them right to the loch. In June 1637 Robert Fergusson conveyed to Adam Reid and his spouse the lands now forming the estate of Edradynate, and on the same day he conveyed Blackhill to Francis Reid, the eldest son of Adam. The lands of Easter Derculich and the mill-lands were held by the Fergussons, and subsequently by a family named Fleming, till 1723.' They had, however, been conveyed to the Flemings prior to 1650.

The following, therefore, appears to have been the succession of the family of the ancient chiefs of the name:—

Adam Fergusson of Cluny (and Kynnard), *temp.* John Balliol and King Robert I.

Robert Fergusson of Derculich (umquhill in 1489).

Robert Fergusson of Derculich, his son (1489 and 1537), brother of John of Downy.

William Fergusson of Derculich, his son (1539).

John Fergusson of Derculich (1565 and 1607-1608), (?).

William Fergusson of Derculich (1607, 1611-1612, 1616), his son.

Robert Fergusson of Derculich and Dunfallandy (1620 and 1665) his son.

John Fergusson of Dunfallandy (1668-1705), his son.

James Fergusson of Dunfallandy (1705 and 1744), his son.

James Fergusson of Dunfallandy (1744 and 1777), his son.

General Archibald Fergusson of Dunfallandy (1777 and 1834), his son.

William Dick Fergusson, his son.

Archibald Fergusson of Dunfallandy, his son.

Miss Margaret Fergusson of Dunfallandy, his sister.

*Fergusson of Downy.*

On 6th May 1510 there was confirmed a charter of William Scot of Balweary, by which he sold to John Fergusson in

Dunfallanty the lands and barony of Downy. In 1511-12 John Fergusson of Downy increased his estate by the addition of other lands in Strathardle; and in September 1512 he settled the whole in fee upon his son, Robert Fergusson, and Janet Wemyss, his spouse. His death seems to be referred to in the record of that of *John Robertson M'Fergus* at Dunfallanti in 1516. Robert Fergusson, the son, did not long enjoy them, and left no issue, for in March 1521-22 they were dealt with as escheat to the king on the ground that John, his father, was a bastard, and he himself had died without legitimate heirs or legal disposition. They were granted first to the Earl of Erroll, and then to Thomas Scott,<sup>1</sup> but the bastardy of John seems to have been disputed by his family, for in 1629 Robert Fergusson of Derculich got himself served heir in the lands of the barony of Downy to John Fergusson in Dunfallanty, brother of the deceased Robert Fergusson of Derculich, his *great-great-grandfather*. His son John was again served heir to him, in 1668, in the lands and barony of Downy. It does not appear whether the lands were at this time in the possession of the Fergussons, and it seems probable that it was only the superiority which was then held. The rights, whatever they were, were made over to the Duke of Athole, for in a charter, confirmed by Parliament in 1672, the lands of Downy appear among the Athole estates as having been acquired upon the resignation of John Fergusson of Downy.

The portion of the barony of Downy in Strathardle consisted of the lands of Over Downie, Middle Downie, Borland, Edmarnothy, Cultalony, Stron-na-muic, part of Pitbrane, and part of Glengennet (now Glen Derby). The remainder of the barony was in Glenshee, and comprised Finnegand,

<sup>1</sup> This Thomas Scott, son of Sir William of Balweary, who was taken prisoner at Flodden, was the Justice-Clerk, of whom Knox records that on the night of his death in Edinburgh the King at Linlithgow saw a vision, and told his courtiers that 'Thomas Scott was dead, for he had been at him with a company of devils, and had said to him these words, "O wo to the day that ever I knew thee or thy service; for serving of thee against God, against his servants, and against justice I am adjudged to endless torment." How terrible voices the said Thomas Scott pronounced before his death men of all estates heard, and some that yet live can witness, his voice ever was "*Justo Dei justicio condemnatus sum.*"'



Inneredrie, Bynan Mor, Bynan Beg, Redorach, Kerrow, Cuthill, Dalmonzie, and part of Glenbeg.

In addition to these, John Fergusson of Downie, in 1512, held Murthly, Inverquhorsky, Dalrulzian, Leourch, Dalmava, (probably the remainder of) Glenganot and Glenbeg, and Kynnard.

*Fergusson of Muling.*

The succession of the Barons of Muling appears to have been as follows:—

1. Duncan Fergusson had a charter of the lands of Muling in 1446.<sup>1</sup>
2. Fergus Duncanson.
3. His son, whose name has not been preserved.
4. James Fergusson, who in 1529 had sasine as heir to umquhile Fergus Duncanson, his grandsire, in the said lands. He died in 1545.
5. Duncan Fergusson, served heir of his father James in 1568, and died in 1579.
6. David Fergusson, who married Christian Duff, who in 1626 surrendered her liferent in favour of her son,
7. Duncan Fergusson, served heir in 1632 to his great-grandfather, James Fergusson, who wadset the estate in 1633.

*Fergusson of Middlehaugh.*

A James Fergusson appears located in the west end of the Haugh of Dalshian in 1598, but this is the part subsequently held with Baledmund.

In 1615, however, John Fergusson of the Haugh was among those fined for resetting the Clan Gregor.

In 1641 Patrick Fergusson, portioner of Dalshian, etc., grants precept of sasine of Middlehaugh, etc., in favour of his eldest son, Donald Fergusson, and Christina Stewart.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Baledmund Papers.

<sup>2</sup> Middlehaugh Papers.

In 1650 Donald Fergusson appears as owner of Middlehaugh, of Dalshian, and Balnacrie.

In 1671 he is tutor to Alexander Fergusson, his son.

In 1677 Donald Fergusson, with consent of Alexander his son, wadsets, and in 1686 disposes, Middlehaugh.

In 1720 Robert Fergusson in Croft-in-loan buys Middlehaugh. It would appear from the minister of Moulin's ms. that there was a connection between his family and that of the previous Fergusson owners. From him the descent of the lands is:—

Robert Fergusson, 1720.

Finlay Fergusson, his son, served heir 1753.

Adam Fergusson, 1763.

James Fergusson, 1819.

James Mure Fergusson, Captain 42nd Highlanders.

Samuel Robert Fergusson, his brother, died 1891.

#### *Fergusson of Baledmund.*

Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund is complained against in 1607, but the original charter of the estate is dated in 1611.

The succession is—

1. Finlay Fergusson, 1607, 1611; married Grizell Bruce in 1619.
2. Fergus Fergusson, his son, retoured 1632.
3. Finlay Fergusson, his son, entered 1681, died 1711.
4. Janet Fergusson, his niece, married James Fergusson of Pitfourie, and disposed to her son.
5. Finlay, their son, tried at Liverpool 1716.
6. Edmund Fergusson, his son, entered 1758.  
Margaret Fergusson, his sister, married, 1747, Thomas Ferguson of Ballyoukan.
7. Alexander Fergusson, their son, born 1748; sold Ballyoukan and succeeded his uncle in Baledmund.
8. James Fergusson, his son, born 1806, died 1887.
9. James Grant Fergusson, his son, now of Baledmund.

The house of Baledmund has been called the 'Star of Athole.' The Glen-brerachan portion of the estate was in

Strathardle, and in the Valuation of 1835 Fergusson of Baledmund is also entered as the owner of Pitfourie.

*Fergusson of Ballyoukan.*

Finlay Fergusson of Ballyoukan died in 1582.

Thomas Fergusson of Ballyoukan is recorded in 1607 as sitting on an assize, and undertakes not to commune with the Earl of Athole in 1611; his son William on the latter occasion being one of the witnesses.

His charter is dated in January 1612, and he is complained against in 1615. He was succeeded by his son William Fergusson, who, in 1641, granted a charter of his lands in favour of Alexander Fergusson, his son-in-law, and Elspet Fergusson, his daughter.

This Alexander was proprietor in 1663. The evidence of the charter of 1641 does not altogether coincide with the statement in the minister of Moulin's ms., which makes the marriage of the heiress subsequent to the death of the father, and seems to describe the husband as Thomas Fergusson instead of Alexander. But probably there is not more discrepancy than is to be expected in a traditionary family account of a century later, and the minister's statement is distinct that the subsequent owners were descendants of a second marriage. In any case the descent of the estate is:—

1. Thomas Fergusson, 1607, 1615.
2. William Fergusson, 1641.
3. Elspet and Alexander, 1663.
4. Alexander, son of the said Alexander, entered 1705.
5. Thomas, his son, entered 1760; married Margaret Fergusson of Baledmund.
6. Alexander, his son, entered 1782. He sold Ballyoukan in 1802, and succeeded to Baledmund.

*Fergusson of Bellichandy.*

The descent of this estate is thus given in the minister of Moulin's ms.:—

4. Fergus Fergusson of Bellichandy, said to have been the fourth proprietor from father to son. (He is recorded as on an assize in 1573.)
5. Adam Fergusson, his son (resetted the Clan Gregor in 1613).
6. John Fergusson, his son.
7. Alexander Fergusson of Bellichandy, his son, who sold the estate prior to 1650, and was father of Adam, the minister of Moulin. According to the minister's ms., Adam, his great-grandfather, had succeeded also to Balmacruchie.

One of the ancestors previous to Fergus Fergusson is recorded as showing quick decision in taking the law into his own hands. In 1510 Baron John Robertson of Straloch 'being killed at Dunkeld by Stewart of Fincastle, his death was immediately avenged on the said Stewart by Fergusone of Balichainduibh.'

*Fergusson of Bellizulland.*

William Fergusson of Bellizulland, along with William Fergusson of Derculich, is mentioned as unrelaxed from a horning in 1615. And Alexander Fergusson appears as the owner of Bellizulein in 1650.

*Fergusson of Pitfourie.*

Robert Fergusson of Pitfourie appears in the Rentall of 1650.

Finlay Fergusson of Pitfourie acts as bailie in a sasine of Middlehaugh in 1706.

Janet Fergusson, apparent heiress of Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, with assent of James Fergusson her husband, disposes Baledmund to their son Finlay in 1711.

James Fergusson of Pitfourie is party in an agreement as to the Mill of Pitlochry in 1734.

His son Finlay succeeds both to Pitfourie and Baledmund.

*Fergusson of Donavoured.*

James Fergusson appears as holding half of Donavoured and Janet Ferguson as holding half for her liferent in 1650.

*Fergusson of Inch.*

In 1613, John Fergusson of Inch was fined for resetting the Clan Gregor.

*Fergusson of Cally.*

In 1512 a quarter of the town of Cally is let by Cupar Abbey to John Fergusson in Cally.

In 1604 Fergus Fergusson of Easter Butteris married.

In 1620 charters are granted to Angus Fergusson, *alias* M'Innes, in Easter Cally, of Easter Butteris-Cally, and to Robert Fergusson, *alias* M'Innes, in Wester Dalnabreck of Wester Butteris-Callie.

In 1650 Cally is not named, but Robert Fergusson holds Butterstales and a quarter of Blackeraig.

In 1746 James Fergusson of Wester Cally is summoned to rise by the Duke of Athole.

In 1835 Miss Fergusson is owner of Wester Cally.

*Fergusson of Balmaeruchie.*

In 1605 caution is given for Thomas Fergusson in Wester Balmaeruchie to buy arms.

In 1650 Patrick Ferguson is owner of part of Balmaeruchie, and Janet Ferguson of part.

In the Valuation of 1835, Adam Fergusson appears as owner of Wester Balmaeruchie, of part of Easter Balmaeruchie, and of Wester Balintuin, and Alexander Ferguson as owner of part of Easter Balmaeruchie. From the minister of Moulin's ms., it appears that about 1575 Balmaeruchie was bought by Thomas Fergusson, a younger son of the Bellichandy family, and that he was succeeded by his elder brother, Adam Fergusson of Bellichandy.



The descent of the estate would therefore seem to be the same as that of Bellichandy till the latter was sold, and to

1. The Rev. Adam Fergusson.
2. Neil Fergusson, advocate, surviving son.
3. Adam Fergusson of Woodhill, advocate, his eldest son.

*Fergusson of Easter Dalnabreck.*

In 1620 Robert Fergusson is mentioned as in Wester Dalnabreck.

In 1835 Charles Ferguson is owner of three-fourths of Easter Dalnabreck.

In 1873 John Ferguson is owner of Easter Dalnabreck.

From the report of a case in the Court of Session in 1875, it appears that in 1855 the Rev. James Ferguson of Easter Dalnabreck disposed the estate in favour of John his brother, and the heir-male of his body; whom failing, in favour of the Rev. Donald Ferguson, also his brother. John Ferguson succeeded, and had two sons, John Maxwell Ferguson and Charles Ferguson. John Ferguson and his descendants are now settled in Western Australia. He spells his name with one s, while his brother, Rev. Donald Fergusson, uses two.

*Fergusson of Crosshill.*

Crosshill, a little property in Strathardle, also belonged to Fergussons, when the Rev. Donald Fergusson was a young man. There was also a family connected with that of Easter Dalnabreck, resident at Milltown of Inverchroskie.

*Fergusson of Claggan.*

A Ferguson held these lands in the end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth centuries.

GENERAL NOTICES FROM PUBLIC RECORDS, 1483-1674.

14th February 1483. Robert Fergusson, Sclereoch Fergusson and others, ordained to make payment for the maills of certain lands in Athole.—(*Acta Auditorum.*)



1st March 1489. Decree by the Lords of Council that David Reoch shall deliver to Robert Fergusson certain charters, evidents, obligations, and acquittances, *i.e.* a charter of John Earl of Athole of the lands of 'dartull and edd'dedunā,' made to the said Robert and his heirs in fee and heritage, by resignation of Silvester Rattray of that ilk, in the hands of the said Earl, with a letter of bailzery of the said Earl's to give sasine to the said Robert, with an instrument of sasine of the same, together with a charter of the said Silvester, with a letter of bailzery of the said lands of Dartuly and Edde-duna, and also a letter of assedation of the kirk and lands of Mulyn and Strathardill, made by a venerable father in God, Adam Abbot of Dunfermline, and likewise an obligation of Neil Stewart of — merks, which letters, obligations, and evidents were given to the said Reoch in keeping by umquhill Robert Fergusson, to the utilitie of the said Robert his son, as was proved by an instrument under the signe of Sir Steven Young, notary-public.—(*Acta Dominorum Concilii.*)

6th July 1493. Robert Fergusoun of Derguly is a witness to a charter granted at Cluny, 6th Jul. 1493, by James Hering of Tuli-bole to his son.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i.* 2165.)

1496, June 16th. Complaint by Robert Aysone of Tulymat, against Fyndlaw Gilbrydson, Donald Fergusson, and others, who had 'spulzeit' from the abbot and convent of Cowpar five score of kye and oxen, price of each 24s., four horses and mares, price of each 40s.,—and requiring that the said persons should keep the complainer skaithless at the hands of the said abbot and convent for the value of the said goods, and of the payment of £20 yearly for eleven years on the same account. The defenders fail to com-pear, and the case is continued to 14th October thereafter, but is not recorded then nor subsequently.—(*Acta Dom. Conc. MS. Record,* vol. vii. fol. 9.)

1508. John Ferguson of Stravith is a witness to Barone Reid's (of Dalquharny) in Strathardill, Band of Manrent to the Earl of Huntly.—(*Misc. Spalding Club.*)

6th May 1510. Confirmation of a charter of William Scot of Balweary, by which he sold to John Fergusson in Dunfallanty, his heirs and assignees, 'terras de baronie de Douny vic. Perth viz. Over D., Middil D., Bordland, Edynarnochty, Cultolony, Stronymuk, Fanyeand, Invereddie *cum molendino*, Bynnanmore, Bynnan-

beg, Randeweyoch, Kerauch, Cowthill et Dalmonge, cum partibus de Pitbrane, Glengaisnot, et Glenbeg:—*Tenend. de rege in feodo.*' At Stirling, 6th May 1510.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i. 3457.*)

20th Jan. 1511-12. 'Rex concessit Johanni Fergusoun de Douny et ejus heredibus—terras de Murthlie, Inverquhorsky, Dalrilezeanis, Leourch, Dalmava, Glenganot, Petbrane, et Kynnard in dominio de Strathardill vic. Perth, quas Dorothea Tulloch . . . sui resignavit: et quas rex pro speciali favore univit baronie de Douny.' Edinburgh, 20th Jan. 1511-12.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i. 3682.*)

4th Sept. 1512. Confirmation of a charter of John Fergusoune de Downy, by which he granted to Robert Fergusoune his son and apparent heir, and Jonete Wemyss his spouse, and their issue, whom failing to the heirs whomsoever of the said Robert, the lands of Over Downy, Cultolony and Stronymuk, and to the said Robert and his heirs the rest of the barony of Downy (described as in the previous charter), reserving to the said John his liferent of the said lands, except Over Downy, Cultolony, and Stronymuk.' Executed at Wemyss 14 Aug. 1512, there being among the witnesses, David Wemyss son and apparent heir of David Wemyss of that ilk, Knight, Fergus son of Angus, and D. Pat. Young, chaplain. Conf. at Edinburgh 4th Sept. 1512.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i. 3769.*)

1516. Death of John Robertson M'Fargus at Dunfallanti.—(*Chronicle of Fortingall.*)

'At Whitsunday 1512 the quarter of the toun of Cally which Wat Spaldin possessed is let to John Ferguson for five years, paying four merks for entry.—(*From the Rental-Book of Cupar Abbey, i. p. 286.*)

21st March 1521-22. Charter to William Earl of Erroll of the lands and barony of Downy (as before specified), 'regi pertinent. ratione eschaete per mertem Roberti Fergussonne ex eo quod quondam Joh. F. pater dicti Rob. qui ei succedere debuisset si legit. procreatur fuisset bastardus obiit.' At Edinburgh, 21st March 1521-22.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. ii. 226.*)

17th August 1537. Charter of the same to Thome Scot, justiciarie clerico.—'regi contingentes per decessum Roberti Fergusoun filii et heredis quondam Johannis F. bastardi tanquam ultimo heredi dictorum Rob. aut Joh.: qui Rob. absque legit. heredibus de cor-

pore procreatis decessit.' At Tantallon, 17th August 1537.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. ii.* 1703.)

In 1586 a bond of manrent was given to the Earl of Huntly by William Scot of Abbotishall and of Downy, 'lyand in Strathardill and Glensche.'

23rd September 1538. Another charter to Thomas Scot of the said lands and barony (including the lacus de Cessirno) on the narrative that they had fallen to the king, and been granted in his minority to the Earl of Erroll on account of the death of Robert Fergusson, son of John Fergusson, a bastard, without legitimate heirs or legal disposition. Linlithgow, 23rd September 1538.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. ii.* 1841.)

18th December 1565. John Fergusson de Darcolych appears as curator of John M'Nair, in a charter granted by Robert Maknair, canon of Dunkeld, and prebendary of Inchemagranoch. (21 April 1564.)—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. iii.* 1686.)

1568, 27th April. Duncanus Fergusson hares Jacobi Fergusson de Muling patris in terris et baronia de Muling in parochia de Strathurde. A. E. 40s.; N. E. £10.—(*Retours Perth*, 22.)

[The precept of sasine following on this Retour states that the ancestor had been dead twenty-three years, and that his widow's name was Marion Campbell. The MS. *Liber Responsionum* in the Register House, which states this, also gives precept of sasine of the lands of Muling to David Ferguson, 9th May 1591, the lands having been in non-entry for twelve years. In 1632 the deceased David Ferguson, of Muling, father of Duncan Ferguson, then of Muling, is mentioned, and on Duncan's resignation in 1638—17th December—the lands of Muling were granted to the Earl of Tullibardin.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* Not yet printed. Note communicated by J. G. Maitland Thomson, Esq.)

3rd February 1572-3. James Fergusson of Dirlullych, *alias* Barroun Fergusson, was fined for non-appearance of certain persons, and Patrick Fergusson of Stronymuk, for non-appearance of others who were charged with the slaughter of umquhill Robert Inglis in Medoheid.—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, i. p. 39.)

15th February 1573. Fergus Fergusson of Bellechandie appears as one of an assize on 15th February 1573, referred to in a grant of annualrent (?) out of the lands of Fascalyie to Andrew Earl of Erroll, dated 9th April 1574.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. iii.* 2225.)

1587, 1590. 'The Roll of the Clannis that has Capitanis, Cheiffis and Chiftennis, quhomeon they depend oftymes aganis the will of thair Landis-lordis alsweill on the Bordouris as Hielandis, and of sum special personis of branches of the saidis Clannis.

Highlands and Islands . . . . . Fergussonis.  
Landit Men . . . . . Fergusson . . .'

(*P. C. Reg.* iv. p. 782.)

Among those ordered on 16th December 1590 to find caution within fifteen days under pain of rebellion, is "Baron Fergusoun in £3000."—(*P. C. Reg.* p. 803.)

Sir John Murray of Tulliebardine finds caution for certain men in Athole, including Johne Fergusoun of Darcloch, *alias* Barroun Fergusoun, in 1000 merks each, that they will find caution by 10th December next.—(*P. C. Reg.* p. 813.)

22nd April 1592. Caution by Sir John Murray of Tullibardine for Sir Thomas Stewart of Garntullie in 5000 merks, and for . . . Johne Fergusoun of Derculie . . . all in 500 merks each, that they shall not reset or intercommune with Frances sometime Earle Bothuile, or his accomplices, or his or their resetters, and that they shall not reset, or suffer to pass through their lands, any thieves, sorners, or broken men of the Highlands, or reset within their bounds such goods as shall be stolen by such, and also that they shall assist the king's good subjects in following and rescue of goods reft or stolen, and for apprehending the malefactor according to the general band. Perth, 22nd April 1592.—(*P. C. Reg.* iv. p. 743.)

19th June 1595.—David Fergusoun of Muling, principal, and other parties, give caution 'not to harm Sir Patrick Creichton of Strathurd.'—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 654.)

8th October 1595. Registration of band by certain Stewarts for David M'Duff of Fandowie, and David Fergusone of Mouling, £1000, each, not to harm certain M'Duffs.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 665.)

James Fergusone in the Hauch of Tullymet accompanies William Stewart of Kinnaird in an attack upon the bailie of Dunkeld.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 282.)

21st December 1598. 'Complaint by Williame Blair of Bagillo, master of John Pyet in Nether Balmyll, as follows:—Upon 27th March last Donald Fergusoun in Pitnazair, Fergus Fergusoun his



brother there, Johne M'Innes in the Coill of Balduchane, James Fergusson in the west end of the Haugh of Dalcheane, Allaster Stewart, son of Williame Stewart of Belnakily, and James Crokat younger, came at night to the dwelling-house of the said Pyet where he was in peacable manner taking the night's rest, "and violentlie tuke him furth of his house, caryed him as captive and presoner with thame a grit space, of purposis to have transported him to the Hielandis, and thair to have detenit him in miserie quhill he had redemit himself be a grit ransom: quhilk they had not faillit to have done had he not promiseit to thame a grit soume of money for his libertie; lyke as at that same tyme thay violentlie reft and awaytuke the hail insicht plennesching and movabillis of his house, and boistit, threatnit, and minassit to cutt of his heid with swordis." The complainer appearing personally, all the accused for not appearing are to be denounced rebels.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 504.)

1602. 'Complaint by Johne Fergusson of Dercullych that Donnald M'Eane Dowy V'Allaster M'Eane Alrich, Duncan Stewart of Appin's man, with his accomplices, came to the pursuer's "Month" of Dercullych five years ago, and reft four mares worth £20 each. The prisoner appearing by Johne Schaw his procurator, Stewart, for neither appearing nor having entered, his said man is to be denounced rebel.'—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 463.)

1602. 'Complaint by Johne Fergusson of Dercullych as follows:—Allan M'Coneill Duy, chief of the Clan Chamroun, Allaster M'Allaster Camrone of Glenaves Soirll Moir M'Coneill V'Allane Camrone, Malcolme and Donald his sons, had been ordained by a decree of the Council and Session to restore to the complainer "Sex score ten ky and oxin with xxxv ky and oxin" stolen by them from him and his tenants furth of his lands of Dercullych and Downikane, within the bounds of Atholl, with divers horses, mares, and plenishing, extending to great values and quantities. For not satisfying the said decree they had been put to the horn, at which they still remain. Pursuer had complained to his Highness at the last Convention held at Perth, and the complaint had been then remitted to Sir Patrick Murray that he might "travell" for redress with the Marquis of Huntley as the landlord of the said persons. The pursuer and the Marquis appearing, the Lords find that the Marquis should enter the said rebels and assign him 3rd May next for that purpose.'—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 495.)



1602. Complaint against the servants of David Fergusoun, baron of Muling, and others, for attacking with bows and arrows the late William Dow in Auchtergaven, Muling. Lawers, and Tullibardine, not having entered their servants decerned to satisfy pursuer for the said skaith, extending to 1000 merks.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. 414-415.)

1602. Further process at instance of Sir Johne Murray of Tullibardine.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 465.)

1602. 'The baron of Muling having neglected the charge to appear this day and present Johnne Bell in Muling, his tenant,' to answer a complaint, is to be denounced rebel.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 486.)

Further reference.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 744.)

*July 3rd*, 1602. There sat upon an assize 'Johne Farguisone callit Barronne Farguesoune, Johne Farguesone in Cluny, and David Barroune in Fandowie.' Of the last it is observed in a note, 'This person's name affords an instance of the difficulty and uncertainty of genealogical inquiries, and the immense research necessary for tracing family pedigrees, especially in the north of Scotland. He is here described as "David Barroun in Fandowie." When chosen Chancellor of the Assize he is designed "David Farguison, Barroun of Fandowie," and he subscribes the verdict of the assize "Dauid M'Duf of Fandowy."—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, ii. p. 394.)

John M'Duff *alias* Barroun was condemned, with two others, to death for the Gowrie conspiracy.—(*Ibid.* ii. pp. 153-155.) And on 22nd August 1600 there were executed in Perth three of my Lord Gowrie's servants—'ane callit Barroun.'—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, ii. p. 246.)

1605. Caution given among others for Thomas Fergusoun in Wester Balmaeruchie, . . . 'to buy from Johne Earl of Atholl and Sir Robert Crichtoun of Cluny such quantity of arms as it shall be found they ought to buy, under the pain of £50 for each stand.'—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 581.)

*3rd Nov.* 1606. James Fergusone in Inche of Logyrait was among armed men—'hieland men having a bagpipe afoir them,'—who, on 3rd Nov. 1606, came to the abbey of Couper, forcibly broke up the doors, removed the Commendator and his family,

intromitted with his whole goods therein, 'streekit thair pleughis in his yairdis and orchardis within the precinct,' and continued to hold the said abbey as a house of war.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 15.)

On June 27, 1607, Thos. Farguisoun of Bellewchane sat on an assize.—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, ii. p. 528.)

1607. Finla Fergusoun of Baledmount, complained against by Andrew Lord Stewart of Uchiltrie as remaining unrelaxed from a horning of 20th June last for not paying him certain sums of money.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 449.)

11th August 1607. Thomas Fergusoun of Belleyuikan is witness to a bond subscribed at Dunkeld.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 686.)

14th August 1607.—'George Carny of Pitcastell for Johne Fergusoun, called Baron Fergusone, and William Fergusone his eldest son and apparent heir (fiar of Darcullych), £1000 each not to harm Patrick Stirling, Commendator of Coupar.'—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 685.)

1607. 'James Nasmith of Invar for Johne Fergusone of Darcullych, 2000 merks not to harm Duncane Menzies of Comrie.'—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 682.)

1st March 1608. John Fergusoun of Darcullie and Thomas Fergusoun of Belliewchane appear on an assize on 30th Dec. 1607, referred to in a charter of the Mains of Invermay, etc., granted to Henry, Commendator of Sanct-Colmes-Inche, on 1st March 1608.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* v. 2044.)

1610. Johne Fergusoun in the Hauch of Dulsche, and Donald Ferguson in Petegrie, and Donald Fergusoun in the wood of Edradour appear, the former as unrelaxed and the last as denounced rebel in 1610.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. pp. 429, 430.)

11th Jan. 1611. 'Sir James Stewart of Balliachin as principal, and Johne Stewart of Graniche as surety for him, *et vice versa*, and William Fergusoun of Derculych as principal, and Thomas Ferguson in Belliyeacone as cautioner for him, *et vice versa*, 1000 merks each, not to reset or intercommune with James Earl of Athoill while unrelaxed from the horning against him for escaping from Walter Lord Blantyre, to whose custody he had been committed by his Majesty's special direction. Among the witnesses is

William Fergusoun, son of Thomas Fergusoun of Belleyecone.' At Edinburgh, 11th January 1611.—(*P. C. Reg.* ix. 668, 669.)

15th Sept. 1613. The following Fergussons were fined for resetting the Clan Gregor:—Adam Fergusson in Drumfernet, 100 merkis; Allaster Fergusson in Ballivullane, 200 merkis; Donald Fergusson in Indendour, £100; Johne Fergusson of the Hauch, £50; Thomas Fergusson of Ballieyukan, 500 merkis; Adam Fergusson of Ballichandie, 300 merkis; John Fergusson of Inche, 50 merkis.—(*P. C. Reg.* x.)

1615. Complaint by Donald Neisch, servitor to William Earl of Tullibardine, that Thomas Fergusoun of Ballizocan as principal, Alexander Robertson of Inchmagranoch, William Fergusson of Dercullych, and William Fergusoun of Bellizulland, as cautioners, remain unrelaxed from a horning of 1st December last for not paying to pursuer 500 merks of principal and £50 of expenses. Order to Captain of the Guard to apprehend defenders, seize their houses, and inventory their goods for the King's use.—(*P. C. Reg.* x. p. 383.)

21st Dec. 1615. Similar complaint against Thomas Fergusoun of Ballizoukane and William Fergusoun of Derculich by Robert Kirkwood, W.S.—(*P. C. Reg.* x. p. 431.)

1618. Fergusoun of Mulyn and others to find caution for keeping the peace in respect of the unhappy slaughter of the Toshach of Monyvaird by young Bruce of Cultmalindie.—(*P. C. Reg.* xi. 439.)

On July 26, 1620, Johne Fergusone of Belnacult in Stralochie was unlawed in 100 merks for not entering certain persons accused of carrying off a 'simple pur man' to the castle of Blair, where he met with a miserable end.—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, iii. p. 491.)

16th March 1620. Confirmation of a charter (of 19 Nov. 1603), by which the late Andrew Hering of Glasclune, David Hering, feuar of Glasclune, his son and apparent heir, and Andrew Hering of Caleis, second son of the said Andrew senior, granted in feu to Angus Fargusone, *alias* M'Innes, in Eister-Butteris-Callie 'quarteriam terrarum (et ville) lie Eister Butteris-Calie (intra bondas specificatas) cum moris, piscationibus, lie girsinggis et schealingis (per eum occupat)' *vic.* Perth.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 2157.)

16th March 1620. Angus Fergusson is witness to a similar charter to James Robertstone, *alias* Reache.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 2158.)

16th March 1620. The same parties, by charter dated at Glasclune et Calie 6th and 9th Nov. 1605, granted in feu to 'Robert Fergusson, *alias* M'Innes, in Wester Dalnabreck (afterwards in Calie) 'solarem tertiam partem terrarum et ville de Wester-Butteris-Calie per currentem rigam cum ejus moris, piscationibus, lie girssingis et schealingis (per Finlaum Bell occupatam) v. Perth.

Among the witnesses was James Fergusson 'in monte de Caleis.'—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 2156.)

16th March 1620. The same parties also granted to John Makain Vic'inlay and Jonete Fergusson, *alias* M'Innes, his wife, the west third part of the lands and town of Wester Butteris-Callie.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 2159.)

March 7th, 1629. Robertus Fergusson de Derculyth *haeres* Joannis Fergusson in Dunfallanty *fratris* quondam Roberti Fergusson de Derculyth *abavi*, in terris baroniæ de Douny viz. Over Douny, Middill Douny, Bordland, Edmarnohty, Culcolany, Stronymuk, Fanzeand, Inneredre *cum molendino*, Bynnanmoir, Bynnanbeig, Randeveyois, Keranich, Couthill, et Dalmonge, cum partibus de Pitbrane, Glengaius et Glenbeig eisdem pertinentibus. A. E. £8; N. E. £32.—(*Retours, Perth*, 367.)

Jan. 23rd, 1630. Robertus Fergusson de Derculiche *haeres* Joannis Fergusson de Dunfallanding, Baro de Douny *fratris abavi*.—(*Retours, General*, 1721.)

Jan. 21st, 1632. Fergusius Fergusson de Belledmond *haeres* Finlayi Fergusson de Belledmond *patris*—in 40 solidatis terrarum de Balledmond, cum 3 pendiculis de Glenbrerachan, ex orientali parte de Geirdaharvie, nuncupatis solaris rinrig de Tomquhewlan:—aliis 2 pendiculis vocatis orientalis pars de Glen vulgariter appellatis the east end of the Glen, ac lie Schealingis appellatis Ruichragan, Bincraig Wreck et dimidietate de Badinturk: 26 solidatis 8 denariatis terrarum de West end de Hauch de Dalschean cum silva quercina salmonum piscatione et pratis lie meddowis omnibus in tenandria de Logyrait. E. £13, 6s. 8d.—(*Retours, Perth*, 407.)

August 11th, 1632. Duncanus Fergusson de Mulling *haeres* Jacobi Fergusson de Mulling *pro-avi*, in terris et baronia de Mulling in baronia de Strathurd.—(*Retours, Perth*, 413.)



Oct. 7th, 1668. Joannes Fergusone de Drumfalnidies *haeres* Roberti Fergusone de Derculyt *patris*, in terris et baronia de Dounie viz. Ovir Dounie, Midle Dounie, Boirland Edmarnochtie, Cultoloney, Stronymuk, Fanzeand, Inneridrie cum molendino, Bynnanmoir, Bynanbeg, Randeneyock, Kerauch, Cuthill et Balmoig cum partibus de Pitbrane, Glengaisnet, et Glenbeg.—(*Retours, Perth, 782.*)

Dec. 8th, 1671. Donaldus Fergusone in Hauch de Dalshiane propinquior agnatus id est consanguineus ex parti patris Alexandro Fergusone ejus filio.—(*Inquisitiones de Tutela, 970.*)

Jan. 26th, 1674. Joannes Fergusone de Drumfadlawes propinquior agnatus id est consanguineus ex parte patris Jacobo Fergusone filio Roberti Fergusone fratris dicti Joannis Fergusone de Drumfadlawes.—(*Inquisitiones de Tutela, 987.*)

1650. The Rentall of the County of Perth, made up in 1650 in accordance with an Act of the Scottish Estates of 1649, shows that at that date the following Fergussons were landowners in the county:—

*Logierait*—

Robert Fergusone for Wester Dunfallandie	£163	6	8
Donald Fergusone for Middle Haugh of Dalshian, and Balnacie . . . . .	98	0	0
James Ferguson for his half of Donavourd . . . . .	24	0	0
Janet Fergusone for her liferent land of Donavourd . . . . .	24	0	0
Alexander Fergusone for Ballizukan . . . . .	112	0	0
(Bellichandie appears as the property of John Robertsons, valued at £97.)			

*Moulin*—

Robert Fergusone for Pitfourie . . . . .	£66	13	4
Fergus Fergusone for Balledmont . . . . .	133	6	8
Alexander Fergusone for Bellizulein . . . . .	90	0	0

*Blairgowrie*—

Robert Fergusone appears as portioner of Butterstalles and owner of a quarter of Blackcraigs.

*Kirkmichael*—

Patrick Fergusone for his part of Balmacrochie	£24	0	0
Janet Ferguson for her part of Balmacrochie . . . . .	36	0	0



The Earl of Tullibardine appears as owner of Mulzing in Redgorton parish, and Robert Fleming as owner of Moneis and Dercullie, valued at £445, in Dull parish.

1835. In the Valuation of 1835 the following Fergusons appear as landowners in Perthshire :—

*Logierait*—

Heirs of General Archibald Ferguson, Wester Dunfallandy, . . . . .	£191	0	0
Lieut. James Muir Ferguson, Middlehaugh . . . . .	39	10	0

*Moulin*—

‘Balledmund,’ Pitfourie . . . . .	£65	14	4
James Ferguson { M. Pirie’s lands . . . . .	50	12	0
{ Balledmund with Athole’s feu . . . . .	132	16	5
{ Drum of Pitlochry . . . . .	53	16	8
{ with Ballechin’s feu . . . . .	2	10	0

*Blairgowrie*—

Miss Ferguson appears as owner of Wester Cally.

*Kirkmichael*—

Adam Ferguson, part of Easter Balmacruchie . . . . .	£34	0	0
Adam Ferguson, Wester Balintruin . . . . .	24	0	0
Charles Ferguson, three-fourths Easter Dalna- breck . . . . .	37	17	6
Alex. Ferguson, part Easter Balmacruchy . . . . .	15	0	0
Adam Ferguson, Wester Balmacruchy . . . . .	46	13	4

The following short extracts are from a MS. collection of notes relating to the name Ferguson, made by Alexander Deuchar, genealogist, Edinburgh, and now in the possession of John Ferguson, Esq., The Hermitage, Duns :—

*a.* From the Particular Register of Sasines, Perth—

1604. 31 *March*. Eliz. Syme married to Fergus Ferguson of Easter Butteris.
1619. 12 *Dec*. Finlay Ferguson of Baledmun married to Grizell Bruce, daughter of William Bruce of Pitcarnie.
1620. 10 *June*. John Ferguson in Dulschyane.

b. From the Edinburgh Commissariat Testamentary Records—

1584. 27th July.

Finlay Ferguson of Ballyoukan = Isabel Nairne.

+ 1582

Beatrice.	Cath.	Christian.	Isabel.	Sibella.	



DUNFALLANDY HOUSE

## SECTION II.

### FERGUSSON OF DERCOLICH AND DUNFALLANDY

*Extracts from the 'Titles of the old Estate of Derculich.'*<sup>1</sup>

1514.—Charter of Resignation by John Earl of Atholl, in favour of Robert Fergusson and Marjorie Sinclair, his spouse, dated 8th December 1514 :

'Omnes et singulas Terras de est Dercole cum pertinent.'

1539.—Precept of Sasine, John Earl of Atholl, in favour of William Fergusson, son of Robert Fergusson, dated 8th October 1539 :

'Omnes et singulas terras de Darcollicht cum insulis lacus ejusdem cum pertinen. Ne non omnes et singulas terras de Eddirdagwinocht cum superioritate terrarum de Darcollyt cum pertinent.'

1620.—Instrument of Sasine in favour of Robert Fergusson, dated 22nd December 1620, and recorded in the Particular Register of Sasines for Perthshire, 4th February 1621, pro-

<sup>1</sup> From Appendix to the Record in the case Stewart's Trustees v. Robertson.—Session Papers, 1874, No. 67.

ceeding upon Precept of Clare Constat by the Earl of Atholl in favour of the said Robert Fergusson, dated 11th December 1620 :

‘*Omnium et singularum dict. terrarum de Dercullyth cum insula et lacu eorundem Molendinis granorum et fullonum terris Molendinariis multuris sequelis sylvis nemoribus et suis pertinent. Necnon omnium et singularum dict. terrarum de Eddragwynyt cum pertinen. ut supra jacent.*’

1637.—Feu-Charter by Robert Fergusson of Dereulich in favour of Adam Reid of Eastertyre, and Cristine Stewart, his spouse, dated 18th June 1637.

From titles of defender James Stewart Robertson :

‘*Totas et Integras Terras meas de Lurgan Balnalt et Schennwell extendn. ad sex decem solid. et octo denariat. terrarum ex antiqui extentus cum tiguriis lie schellingis hujusmodi nuncupat. lie Rychois et Rinolatterich omnibusque aliis tiguriis ac lie schellingis ad hujusmodi spectan. ac cum communitate lie of fewall feall and divot ac communi pastura in omnibus bondis solitis et consuetis ac cum domibus edificiis hortis hortisque pomariis edificatis et edificandis singulisque aliis suis partibus pendiculis et pertinentiis ad prædictas terras spectan. et pertinen. cum piscationibus tam salmonum quam aliorum piscium in aqua de Taya prout dicte terre sex bondantur et limitantur juxta dictam aquam orientaliter occidentaliter ac cum silvis tam quercinis quam aliis silvis crescen. et cretura infra bondas omnium præfatarum terrarum jacen. in Comitatu Atholiæ et infra vicecomitatum de Perth illud lie schelling nuncupat. riesparding mihi dicto Roberto Fergusson heredibus meis masculis pro pastura animalium Manerie de Dunfallandie tantummodo salvis exceptis et reservatis.*’

Instrument of Sasine in favour of Francis Reid, eldest son and heir-apparent of Adam Reid of Eastertyre, dated 9th August, and recorded in the Particular Register of Sasines at Perth, 6th September 1637, proceeding upon Feu-Charter by Robert Ferguson in his favour, dated 18th July 1637.

From titles of defender, Mrs. Helen Stewart Hepburn :

‘*De et super Totis et Integris Terris de Douchrocene ex-*

tend. ad octo solidat. et octo denariat Terrarum ex antiqui extentus cum Tiguriis lie sheillingis ad h'mo'j spectan. (Cum com'unitate lie of fewall feall) nuncupat. lie Cragandorie omnibus aliis Tiguriis lie sheillingis ad h'mo'j spectan. cum com'unitate lie of fewall feall and deviot, cum com'uni pastura in omnibus bondis solitis et consuetis ac domibus edificiis hortis pomariis edificatis et edificandis singulisq. aliis suis partibus pendiculis et p'tinen ad prædictas Terras spectan. et p'tinen. cum dimidietate piscationū super lacu de Dertullyt ac cum silvis tam quercuus quam aliis silvis crescen. et cretura infra bondas omniū præfatarū terrarum jacen. in comitatu Atholie infra vicecomitatū de Perth illud lie sheilling nuncupat riesparding dicto Roberto Fergusone heredibus suis masculis pro pastura animalīū manerie de Dunfallaney tantumodo salvis exceptis et reservatis.

1667.—Instrument of Sasine in favour of John Fergusson, son of the said Robert Fergusson, dated 19th, and recorded in the said Particular Register, 26th April 1667, proceeding upon a receipt of Clare Constat in favour of the said John Fergusson by John Earl of Atholl, dated 6th April 1665:

'Omnium et singularum dictarum terrarum de Derculich cum insula et lacu ejusdem molendinis granorum et fullonum terris Molendinariis multuris sequelis silvis nemoribus et suis pertinen. Necnon omnium et singularum dict. terrarum de Edderaginnich cum pertinen. ut supra jacen.'

On 3rd January 1688 the Marquis of Atholl granted an Instrument of Sasine proceeding upon a charter of apprising, in favour of Thomas Fleming of Moness of 'All and haill the lands of Derculich . . . lying within the parochin of Dull and Sheriffdom of Perth.'

Excerpt from Report of the Sub-Commissioners for the Valuation of the Teinds of the Presbytery of Dunkeld, given in by them at Edinburgh, 29th July 1635:

'*Pa. Logyrait*—

'Ffindis the landis of Wester Dercullyt pertening to Robert fergussonne is worth and may pay of zeirlie rent of stok and teind of silver deutie . . . vij<sup>xx</sup>. libs.



‘ And payis to the titular of the teindis of silver zeirlie xxv. libs., and to the minister for the viccarage teindis v. libs.’

NOTES FROM THE DUNFALLANDY TITLES AND PAPERS.

The following is a memorandum compiled from the papers in the Dunfallandy charter-chest, compared with other Dunfallandy papers in the possession of Charles Gibson, Esq., Craigdhu, Pitlochrie :—

1612, April 13th.—Sasine granted in favour of William Fergusson of Dercullich of the ‘quattuor libratas terrarum de Wester Dunfallandie,’ ‘dimidietatem de Easter Dunfallandie extend. ad viginti solidat terrarum.’ ‘Sex libratas terrarum de Dalshian,’ containing (?) ‘quadraginta solidatas terrarum of the Haugh of Dalshian,’ etc. This Sasine is backed ‘William Fergusson of Dercullich, of the Ten-pound Land of Dunfallandy, and Six-pound Land of Dalshian.’

The Bailie who granted Sasine was Adam Ferguson in Easter Dunfallandie, and among the witnesses to the recited Precept of Sasine, is ‘Wmo Fergusson, filio diet. Willielmi Fergusson de Bellazecone.’

1620.—*Clare Constat* by Marquis of Tullibardine in favour of Robert Fergusson of Dercullich of the five-pound land of Dunfallandy and six-pound land of Dalshian, as nearest lawful heir of his father, William Fergusson of Dercullich.

1648.—Charter by Robert Fergusson of Wester Dunfallandy in favour of John Fergusson (*neum filium*) his lawful son.

1671, 3rd May.—Contract of Alienation between said John Fergusson and Robert Fergusson, his half-brother, and Margaret Reid, his spouse. (Sasine following.)

1674, 23rd November.—Charter by Marquis of Atholl in favour of John Fergusson of Dunfallandy.

1685, 13th April.—Precept of Sasine granted by John Fergusson in favour of James Fergusson, his nephew, son of his half-brother, Robert Fergusson. John Fergusson held the superiority of the Mains of Dunfallandy, in which James’ father had been infest, and James made up his title by the sasine following on this precept.

1685, 3rd June.—Instrument of Sasine following thereon, dated 18th April, and recorded 3rd June 1685.

1705, 29th December.—Precept of *Clare Constat* by Duke of Atholl in favour of James Fergusson as heir of his father, John Fergusson.

Instrument of Sasine following, dated 18th January, and recorded P. R. Perthshire, 8th February 1706.

1722, 30th April.—Disposition and Assignation of Thirlage granted by John Reid of Pitnacree in favour of James Fergusson of Wester Dunfallandies.

1723, 7th October.—Agreement between Duke of Atholl and James Fergusson anent personal services on payment of £28, 6s. 8d. Scots. He was freed and relieved from hunting, watching and warding, and from all services in securing the peace of the Highlands.

1744, 20th October.—Precept of *Clare Constat* by Duke of Atholl in favour of James Fergusson as heir of his father, James Fergusson.

1751.—Marriage Contract between James Fergusson of Dunfallandy and Elizabeth Butter of Pitlochry.

1777, 26th November.—Precept of *Clare Constat* by Charles Robertson in favour of Archibald Fergusson, dated 24th and 26th November 1777, as heir of his father, James Fergusson.

(Charles Robertson was Commissioner for the Duke.)

1777, 15th February.—Trust-Disposition by Archibald Fergusson in favour of Henry Butter of Pitlochry, Henry Balneaves of Edradour, Adam Fergusson, Minister of Moulin, and Edmund Fergusson of Baledmund.

1816, 27th March.—Disposition granted by said Edmund Fergusson in favour of Major-General Fergusson.

1816, 24th October.—Disposition by Duke of Atholl in favour of said General Archibald Fergusson.

1820, 19th September.—Charter of Confirmation by General Fergusson in favour of himself.

1820, 19th September.—Procuratory of Resignation by General Fergusson.

1827.—Deed of Entail by General Fergusson, by which he settled the estate on Archibald Fergusson, his grandson, the son of his son, William Fergusson.

General Fergusson was succeeded by his grandson.

On 24th January 1739 a contract was entered into between Thomas Bisset, Commissar of Dunkeld, and John Butter, portioner of Easter Dunfallandies, on the other part, by which Bisset undertook to obtain from 'Charles Black, baker in Queensferry, as heir, served and retoured to the deceast James Fergusson in Easter Dunfallandies,' a disposition of 'the said James, his wadset right from the late Baron Fergusson, of the said Baron's half of Easter Dunfallandies,' with the burden always of Elspet Cameron, relict of the said James, her liferent use of the half of the said wadset right.

On 8th December 1677 a contract was entered into between Alexander Reid of Pitnacrie and Fergus Fergusson, portioner of Easter Dunfallandies.

It would thus appear that the lands of Dunfallandy had been divided between two branches of the family, and that there had been a subdivision of Easter Dunfallandy. The estate was again reunited. When Archibald Fergusson succeeded in 1777 the family fortunes were at a low ebb, and they were restored by his exertions. The following extracts from a letter addressed to his mother by the chief when serving as a young lieutenant in the '3rd Battalion Sepoys, Bengal establishment,' are interesting. It was written from Jallasore on 3rd October 1780 :—

'He (Mr. Butter) and the rest of my dear friends in Athol will, I make no doubt, take as good care of my affairs in that country as possible till I can, if it pleases God, return with a fortune to retrieve, if possible, the old remains of Dunfallandy and more. At present my prospects are a little distant. However, I expect if I have health in this baneful climate, to see my native country with a fortune at least sufficient to buy off what debts I and my family owe in Scotland. I have, thank God, as yet enjoyed a very good state of health. . . . I am mostly sent on commands at a very great distance

from the Presidency, and often in an enemy's country, where I can have no conveyance for letters to Calcutta. . . . You will undoubtedly, before this can reach you, have heard of the present war in the Carnatic. Hider Ally, a very powerful Prince, has taken the field some time gone with a very large army. He is likewise assisted by the French. I am afraid that he will turn out a very formidable enemy to my Honble. Masters. He has, since he took the field, met with some success. A detachment of 700 Europeans, a company of Cadets, and 6000 Sepoys, or country troops, that was sent out against 30,000 of his army, that was within 15 miles of Fort St. George, were surprised and cut to pieces. For further particulars I must refer you to the public newspapers. General Sir Ayre Coot, Commander-in-chief of India, leaves Calcutta in a few weeks with a detachment of 1000 Europeans, 3 companies of Artillery, and 8000 Sepoys for the assistance of the Madras troops against Hider Ally. And I hope, with this assistance, that they will soon extirpate him and his whole race out of the Carnatic. We are very quiet in Bengal since the commencement of the present war in Europe, but we will, I daresay, have our own share before all is over. . . . I am truly happy that my brother Harry is well, and an officer. I hope, before the end of the war, that he will be a Lieutenant at least. . . . Jane writes me that my brother Tom is still at Mouline School. I hope he is by this time far advanced in his education. I need not, my dear mother, tell you how necessary it is to keep him close to his education. I do assure you that I regret very much the many idle days I have spent at the different schools I was at, and beg of you to keep him as close as possible at Moulin School till he can be sent to some other.'

The following letter, addressed to the young Laird of Dunfallandy when just beginning his career, from his guardian, Mr. Butter, is also interesting:—

‘CORPARK, Feb. 10, 1777.

‘DEAR ARCHY,—Your favour of the 12th Decr. I received, and would have wrote you sooner but expected some particular Recommendations for you, which, after waiting for these some weeks past, has not come to hand. You may



believe that any Recommendations I can procure for you will be forwarded to you at Bombay with the first opportunity. I am in expectation that Professor Fergusson has made interest with some of the East India Directors in your favours; and I hope that our worthy friend, Mr. M'Pherson, who has been so friendly and obliging, will give you the most effectual recommendations for your interest. I esteem myself under particular obligations to him on your account, and your grateful thanks ought to be paid him in the best manner you can express yourself, and when you can do it more effectually it's your duty, which I hope you will be always mindful of. Whatever directions and advices he is pleased to give you I trust that you will follow and endeavour to perform. I very much approve of your attending the academy during your short stay in England, and hope that you will feel the good effects of it, as you had great occasion to know something of the several Branches taught there. It would have been lucky had you been at the academy a year sooner. But you know the encumbered state of your affairs prevented it. I begged of Mr. M'Pherson to take the trouble of ordering whatever was proper for your Equipment. Eighty pounds has been advanced to his order, and whatever more will be necessary I shall advance it in the same manner, as it is requisite to fit you out Properly for your Destination, whatever the expense may be. I hope it's the last that you will burden the small embarrassed Estate left you, and I flatter my self with the expectation that in time you will, under the Blessing of Providence, be able to clear the Incumbrances affecting it, and acquire a fortune equal to the support of yourself and the helpless family of Brothers and Sisters you leave behind. You may be assured that every proper attention will be given by me and the other Trustees in the management of your affairs in Scotland in order to preserve, if possible, your Paternal Inheritance in the view of your return with honour to your self and your friends. The Trust Deed you will Sign as directed by Mr. MacDonald, and send it under Cover to him when you have signed it. Your Success in the way of life you are now destined for will very much depend on your own behaviour. I know many



who have gone in your line, and with as little Recommendations, that have come home with genteel fortunes. It will now take a longer time than formerly, and therefore you must not repine at the several slow steps you may perhaps go through. Do every thing that you ought to do with the spirit of a gentleman resolved to Recommend himself by his merit, and be always ready, active spirited, and observing, and endeavour by every means in your power to Recommend yourself to the notice and Countenance of the Leading Persons in the appointment you go to. The warm climate in India will be apt to make you lazy and slothfull. Be particularly on your guard against that fault, and be always active, well mannered and complaisant, and never say a low thing, nor do a dirty action, and endeavour to avoide every vice. You are to remember that a cowardly, dirty, low action will make you despised, and you can never recover the Infamy of it. The Different methods of making money you will learn of course from the Management of others in the like Situations, and you ought to keep yourself within the line that is called Lawfull in that Country.

‘It will give me pleasure to hear from you every opportunity from India, and write me when you are leaving England. I do not grudge to pay Postages. May God bless you and give you health and success. You have my best wishes, and if you behave properly you will always meet with due regard from me and your friends here; and be assured it will always make me happy to hear good accounts of you, as I am, Dear Archy, your affect<sup>te</sup>. uncle,

‘HENRY BUTTER.’

The following order shows the young subaltern of 1780, thirty-two years later, in command of a battalion in a high state of efficiency:—

‘ALLAHABAD, *Sept.* 8.

‘His Excellency the Commander in Chief arrived here at two P.M. on the 2nd current, and on the following morning Reviewed the 2nd Battalion of the 7th Regiment, Com-manded by Colonel Archibald Fergusson. After the Review His Excellency was pleased to express his approbation of this excellent Corps in the following terms:—

## “GENERAL ORDERS BY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

“HEAD QUARTERS, ALLAHABAD, 3rd *Sept.* 1812.

“The appearance and performance of the 2nd Battalion 7th Regiment Native Infantry, under the Command of Colonel Fergusson, at the Review this morning far exceeded even the high expectations which its established character for excellence of discipline had led the Commander in Chief to entertain.

“The state of the arms and accoutrements, the dress and appearance of the men, individually and collectively, were such as to denote at once the attention that is habitually paid to those essential objects in this valuable Corps.

“The various movements were executed with an accuracy and promptitude that could only be produced by the most correct knowledge and constant application of the just principles of formation and movement, joined to the most willing attention in Officers and men.

“Although the whole of the manœuvres and the firings were executed in a Style which deservedly obtained the unqualified approbation of the Commander in Chief, His Excellency could not but remark with peculiar commendation the uncommon precision and order with which the march in echelon to the left, the formation into line on the march and subsequent advance, as well as the long continued advance in line at the close of the Review, were effected.

“The Commander in Chief requests Colonel Fergusson will convey His Excellency’s thanks to the Officers and men of the Battalion under his Command, and that Colonel will accept them himself for the successful example he has afforded, that the zeal and assiduity of a Commanding Officer, intent on his own duty, can maintain a Corps, however variously and constantly employed on detachments, guards, and escorts, in the highest order and efficiency.

“(Signed) G. H. FAGAN, *Adjt.-Gen.*”

NOTES REGARDING THE FAMILY OF FERGUSSON OF  
DUNFALLANDY.<sup>1</sup>

‘The oldest title-deed in the Dunfallandy Charter-chest is a Sasine in favour of William Fergusson of Derculich, of the ten-pound land of Dunfallandy and six-pound land of Dalshian, dated 1612, which followed upon a Precept of Clare Constat by the Marquis of Tullibardine in his favour, and it would appear from this that long before that date the lands of Dunfallandy had been in the possession of the Fergussons. Part of the estate, known as Easter Dunfallandy, belonged to the Butters of Coilvoulin until 1751, at which time Mr. James Fergusson of Dunfallandy married Miss Elizabeth Butter of Pitlochry. The eldest son of this marriage was Major-General Archibald Fergusson, who died at Dunfallandy on 29th November 1834, aged 79 years.’

*Extract from an old East India Paper.*

‘MAJOR-GENERAL ARCH. FERGUSSON (Bengal Establishment).—This officer was appointed a Cadet on the Bengal Establishment in 1776; Ensign, December 25, 1777; Lieut., September 5, 1778; Capt., July 11, 1795; Major, July 31, 1799; Lieut.-Col., December 26, 1802; Col., June 4, 1811; Col. 4th N. I., November 5, 1812; and Maj.-Gen., June 4, 1814. He served in the 3rd N. I. until promoted to a Company, and fourteen years as Adjut. He commanded the 2nd battalion 7th N. I. for several years; and from 1812 commanded the 18th Regiment and Station of Barrackpore, which he left in December 1814, on his return to Great Britain. Few Corps in the Bengal Army were more employed on field service, on frontier duty, and in command of different posts than the above during the periods of this Officer’s command. He was promoted to the rank of Lieut.-General some time after his return home. The forehead of the Raeburn portrait of General Fergusson hanging on Dunfallandy walls bears the mark of the scar, the result of a sabre wound during the taking of Seringapatam. Baron Fergusson was chief of his clan, and a very exemplary man in every sense of the word. He died at Dunfallandy on the 29th November 1834, aged 79 years.’

<sup>1</sup> Communicated by Hugh Mitchell, Esq., Solicitor, Pitlochry.

Captain Henry Fergusson (a younger brother) also served in the Hon. East India Company's service.

The present proprietrix of Dunfallandy is a grand-daughter of General Fergusson.

James Fergusson of Dunfallandy, who married Elizabeth Butter, had issue four sons and four daughters :

1. Archibald, General Fergusson.
2. Henry, died unmarried.
3. Peter,        "        "
4. Thomas,     "        "

Jane m. Neil Robertson, and had issue three sons and four daughters.

Elizabeth m. Duncan M'Diarmid of Kynachin.<sup>1</sup>

Major-General Archibald Fergusson had, with other issue, two sons :

1. William Dick Fergusson, who married Margaret, daughter of Charles Gibson, Esq., and had issue :
  1. Archibald, 79th Highlanders.
  2. Margaret, now of Dunfallandy.
2. James.

The following marriages with daughters of the house of Dunfallandy are recorded in the pedigree of the Athole Robertsons :—

*Extract from Robertsons' Book.*

'Neil Robertson married Jane, daughter of Baron Fergusson of Dunfallandy, chief of his name, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Butter of Pitlochry and Fascally, and had issue three sons and four daughters. The second son, Alexander, a captain in the 33rd Regiment, married Jane, daughter of Lieut.-General Fergusson of Dunfallandy, and had issue two sons and three daughters.'

The following ballad, entitled 'Dunfallandy' in Mrs. D. Ogilvie's *Highland Minstrelsy*, preserves one version of the legend of 'the Bloody Stone.'

It differs from the narrative so graphically told in Mr. R. Fergusson's communication, which we give later on,

<sup>1</sup> Middlehaugh Memo.



in describing the assassin as a wronged suitor, and in making a 'gentler race' subsequently hold the 'lairdship of the mount,' which still belongs to the progeny of Baron Fergusson. 'The story of Dunfallandy, or "the Bloody Stone,"' says the Introduction to the ballad, 'is characteristic as a record of the past. Its date lies so far back that the former name of the estate has passed away, and the peasants of the vicinity are unable to supply any failing links in the tradition. . . . The modern house of Dunfallandy is plain and unadorned; it crowns a green terrace above the river Tummel, and looks down somewhat contemptuously upon the low haugh on the level of the stream, where in former days dwelt the Laird of "Middlehaugh" whose ruthless style of courtship has given rise to the ballad.'

## DUNFALLANDY.

In the good old stirring time  
 Celt and Saxon lived at feud,  
 Oft their hands in foulest crime  
 By that variance were imbrued.  
 Passions then were falsely large,  
 Love impulsive, fierce desire,  
 Hate bequeathed in dying charge  
 To the children from the sire.  
 Life was cheap and vengeance stern,  
 Death familiar presence wore,  
 Softer was the Druid's cairn  
 Than the warrior's heart of yore.

Then the heather and the broom  
 Clothed from head to foot the strath;  
 Few were gardens trim in bloom,  
 Shaven turf or gravelled path;  
 Poor the crops along the haugh,  
 Wild the pastures on the hill,  
 And the burn knew not the law  
 Of the life-supporting mill.  
 Then with Autumn's yellow leaves  
 Swept the creagh through the glen,  
 And the Saxon's choicest beeves  
 Vanished with the Highlandmen.



## CLAN FERGUSSON

Then in pride of silken dress  
 Walked the dames of high degree,  
 Those of homelier comeliness  
 Garbed in simple housewifery.  
 Maids untochered, maids were left,  
 While the heiress richly dowered,  
 Oft was from her parents reft,  
 And by outrage overpowered.  
 When at deadeft of the night,  
 On her fleep the fuitor broke,  
 Bore her off in friends' defpite,  
 Forced into the bridal yoke.

Yonder houfe that glaring white,  
 Crowns the bank of moffy green,  
 Standing like a beacon bright  
 Far adown the valley feen ;  
 Tame, profaic, tho' the look  
 Of its unromantic pile,  
 Yet its walls are as a book  
 Where I read of blood and guile.  
 Long before its ftones were placed,  
 Long before our grandsire's fure,  
 Yon fair hillock was difgraced  
 By a murder ftrange and dire.

Vague and garbled is the tale  
 Shown by faint tradition's gleam,  
 How an heiress ruled the vale  
 From that mount above the fream ;  
 How a Laird of Tummelfide,  
 Dwelling on the farther fhire,  
 Houfe and holm afpiring eyed  
 With an envious heart and fure.  
 If he loved the maiden's felf,  
 Story hath forgot to tell,  
 But he loved the maiden's pelf,  
 Lands and rental paffing well.

Then he fought a neighbour friend,  
 Spake him fair in loving guife,—  
 'Unto me affiftance lend,  
 For I know thee good and wife !  
 Muireal, Queen of Tummelfide,  
 I have loved with love intense,  
 Win that maiden for my bride,  
 Rich fhall be thy recompense !

I am rude of speech and look,  
Thou hast clerkly wit at will ;  
Thou art sweet-voiced as a brook,  
I am mute as yonder hill.'

Forth went Donald, soft of tongue,  
To the lady of the mount,  
And his suit auspicious sprung  
From his breast's o'er-welling fount.  
Words of love, her face so fair,  
Words of hope, so kind her tone,  
That the youth's impassioned prayer  
Wooded her for himself alone ;  
Wooded and won her, all forgot  
How the silent suitor waited,  
Till was tied the marriage-knot,  
And his ardent passion sated.

One forgot—the pleasure-crowned,  
One remembered—the betrayed,  
Night and day he watched the mound,  
Hidden in a bushy glade ;  
Crouching, by a huge grey stone,  
Armed, he breathless long had stood,  
When the bridegroom passed alone  
From the dwelling to the wood.  
Proud of heart and step he came,  
Gloating on the peaceful scene,  
While his foe took deadly aim  
From the covert's rocky screen.

Did the widow wail and shriek ?  
Did she rouse her vassal kern ?  
Ah ! too oft is woman weak,  
When her ire should fiercest burn.  
Mayhap 'twas a wanton heart,  
Mayhap terror crazed her mood,  
Mayhap force might have its part  
On her helpless womanhood.  
Ere the evening's twilight died,  
Ere the corpse was stiff and cold,  
Ere the murderer's hand was dried,  
She was wedded in its hold !

Now oppressor and oppressed  
Both have gone to their account,  
And a race of gentler breast  
Hold the lairdship of the mount.

## CLAN FERGUSSON

Rooted up as noxious weeds  
 Have the traces passed away,  
 Nor like many barbarous deeds,  
 Chant they this in barbarous lay.  
 Now on Tummelside the farm  
 Thickly has its produce sown,  
 You may sleep and fear no harm  
 E'en beside 'the Bloody Stone.'

So it is with human deeds,  
 Too ephemeral to last,  
 Bounteous loves and lustful greeds  
 Intermingle in the past.  
 So confused the records stand  
 Of this crime-traditioned glen.  
 When the Gael had Ishmael's hand  
 Raised against his fellow-men ;  
 Nought remaineth but the name,  
 Spectre-like that clings to thee,  
 Handing down thy gory fame,  
 Hill of blood, Dunfallandy,  
 From the good old stirring time !

The stone behind which the assassin lurked, or on which the victim was resting when struck down, is still shown at Dunfallandy, and there are existing near the house the remains of a very old chapel, which appears in the twelfth century under the form Dunfolantyn. It is the burying-place of the Fergussons of Dunfallandy.

The monument there erected to General Fergusson bears the family crest and coat of arms, and has this inscription :—

SACRED  
 TO THE MEMORY OF  
 ARCHIBALD FERGUSSON, ESQ.  
 OF DUNFALLANDY  
 LIEUTENANT-GENERAL IN THE SERVICE OF  
 THE HON. EAST INDIA COMPANY  
 WHO DIED AT DUNFALLANDY ON THE 20TH NOVEMBER 1834  
 AGED 79 YEARS.  
 THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED BY HIS AFFECTIONATE DAUGHTERS  
 TO PERPETUATE THE REMEMBRANCE OF HIS  
 MANY VIRTUES AND THEIR OWN REGRETS.

Dunfallandy appears in the Legend of St. Triduana, recorded in the Aberdeen Breviary, which narrates that Triduana along

with two other virgins led a heremital life in a desert place at Rescoby in Forfarshire. The tyrant Nectanevus, prince of that neighbourhood, pursued her, whereupon she fled to *Dunfallad* in Athole. There his ministers coming to her and telling her that the beauty of her eyes had attracted the prince, she plucked them out and gave them to them. Tri-duana then devoting herself to prayer and fasting in Lestalyrk (Restalrig) in Laudonia, passed into heaven.



MONUMENT TO GENERAL FERGUSSON OF DUNFALLANDY

There is also facing the monument to General Fergusson a very fine sculptured stone; the notice of which, given in Stuart's *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, is as follows:—'The Cross at Dunfallandy, locally called "The Priests' Stone," is

erected at the ruins of an old chapel near Killiecrankie. It is of black slate, about six inches in thickness. The figures are sculptured in relief, except the tools at the bottom, which are incised, and may be a recent addition, although there are similar figures on the stone at Abernethy which have no appearance of being of more recent date than the other sculptures on the stone.' The Dunfallandy stone shows on one side a beautiful Celtic cross, with many figures of animals, angels, etc., in compartments on either side. On the other side is a strange device of serpents, a small cross, two throned figures, an equestrian figure, the crescent sign, the spectacle sign, etc., and the incised tools.

The chapel of 'Dunfoluntyn' was one of the five chapels belonging to the kirk of Logierait (anciently Logymached), which was one of the eleven kirks pertaining to the Abbey of Scone.

Over the porch of Dunfallandy House is a stone with the inscription:—

A.D.

1818.

ARCHD. FERGUSSON.

The present house was built by the General in 1818 to take the place of the old House of Dunfallandy, which was thatched, and had been burnt down.





MIDDLEHAUGH HOUSE

### SECTION III

#### FERGUSSON OF MIDDLEHAUGH

*Memorandum compiled from papers belonging to Mrs. S. R. Fergusson (of Middlehaugh).*

THE earliest of the Middlehaugh papers is a disposition in 1628 by Robert Fergusson of Derculich, with consent of Agnes Dundas his spouse, in favour of Alexander Stewart, of the lands of Balnacree in the tenandry of Logierait, and of the lands commonly called Balnasams (?) of Easter Derculich, Middill and Nether — thairof.

On 10th February 1641 Patrick Fergusson *alias* M'Adi, underwritten (or Dow M'Clerie ?), portioner of Dalshian, and hereditary feuar of the other lands, in implement of his part of a contract of marriage between Donald Fergusson, *alias* M'Adi, his eldest son, and Cristina Stewart, daughter of John Stewart of Shierglas, granted a precept of sasine in fee of the

lands of Middill Haugh of Dalshian, and of the half merk land of Ballintaple (?).

In 1677 sasine was given to Alexander Stewart of Urchlebeg, and Alexander Stewart in Rochsoles, of the lands of Middlehaugh of Dalshian, following upon a contract dated 18th April 1677, by which Donald Fergusson, portioner of Middlehaugh of Dalshian, with consent of Alexander Fergusson, his son, wadset and alienated these lands.

In 1691 the Duke of Atholl ratified and confirmed a disposition of these lands made by Donald Fergusson, portioner of Dalshian, and Alexander Fergusson, his son, in favour of Mr. George Stewart, formerly in Urquhilbeg and now in Dalschian, dated 29th and 30th March 1686.

On 19th January 1706 sasine was given to Isobell Fergusson, spouse of Mr. George Stewart, portioner of Dalshian, in security of her bond of provision, of the lands of Middill Haugh of Dalshian, Finlay Fergusson of Pitfourie being the bailie upon the occasion, and there being among the witnesses Finlay Fergusson in Cull of Balyoukan, and Finlay Fergusson, lawful son to the said Finlay Fergusson in Cull of Balyoukan.

On 7th November 1711 the Duke of Atholl granted a charter of *clare constat* in favour of James Stewart, portioner of Dalshian, as son and heir of his father George Stewart, in the lands of Middlehaugh of Dalshian; one of the witnesses being James Fergusson of Dunfallandie.

On 17th February 1719 sasine was given of these lands in favour of Finlay Robertson and Isobel Young, his spouse, as creditors under a heritable bond.

On 14th March 1720 sasine was given, in terms of the Duke of Atholl's precept of 1711, to James Stewart, 'James Fergusson of Dunfallandie' acting as Baillie, and Laurence Fergusson in Pitcastle being one of the witnesses.

On the same day, 14th March 1720, sasine was given to Robert Fergusson in Croft-in-loan, in terms of a disposition in his favour by James Stewart of Middlehaugh, of the same

date, of 'All and hail the Town and Lands of Middlehaugh of Dalshian, being a sixteen shilling eightpenny land of old extent, with the hail outfields, etc. '; one of the witnesses being Finlay Fergusone in Coull of Ballyoukan.

It does not appear from the titles whether this Robert Fergusson was the representative or a relative of Donald and Alexander Fergusson, the previous proprietors of Middlehaugh of Dalshian.

On 9th January 1722 the Duke of Atholl as superior ratified and confirmed the disposition of 1720 by Stewart to Robert Fergusson of 'All and hail the town and lands of Middlehaugh of Dalshian, being a merk land of old extent, with these six Ridges, commonly called the Ackers, being a fourtie penny land extending in all to a sixteen shilling eightpenny land, with the hail outfields thereto belonging, and with the shealing of Rieinluig and other grassings, shealings, houssis, biggings, yeardis, mosses, muirs, meadows, woods as well of oak as of other woods growing or to grow on the said lands, fishings as well of salmond as of other fishes upon the water of Tummel, and with the teinds both great and small, and hail other pertinents within the parish of Logierait, regality of Atholl, and shire of Perth.'

On 2nd June 1729, David Master of Stormont, titular of the teinds of Logierait, disponed to Robert Fergusson, now heritable proprietor of Middlehaugh, the teinds of his lands.

In an agreement dated 21st December 1734, between Archibald Butter of Pitlochrie and the heritors within his miln thirll, there appear among the heritors, Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, Finlay and Robert Fergussons of Middlehaugh, and James Fergusson of Pitfourie.

On 21st November 1735, there was registered by Alexander Fergusson, Younger of Ballyoukan, as procurator for the Duke of Atholl, Robert Fergusson of Middlehaugh and others, an agreement, dated at Dunkeld and Killievoulin, 12th and 23rd September 1727, between the Duke of Atholl and other heritors, including Robert Fergusson of Middlehaugh, and Archibald Butter of Pitlochrie, proprietor of the mill thereof, 'to which the ten pound Lands of Dalshian is restricted,' as

to the erection of a new mill at Killievoulin. Among the witnesses were Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, and Alexander Fergusson of Balyoukan.

On 17th December 1753 the Duke of Atholl granted a precept of *clare constat* for infesting Finlay Fergusson of Middlehaugh as heir of his father, Robert Fergusson of Middlehaugh.

On 30th January 1755 sasine was given to the said Finlay Fergusson in terms of the Duke of Atholl's precept of 1753, James Fergusson in Middlehaugh acting as Baillie; and on the same day sasine was given in favour of Elspet M'Lagan, spouse of the said Finlay Fergusson (second daughter of William M'Lagan of Donavoured), in security of the provision for her in their marriage contract, dated at Donavoured, 17th December 1753, to which one of the witnesses was James Fergusson in Middlehaugh, who now acted as her procurator, while Finlay Fergusson was represented by David Fergusson in Middlehaugh as his Baillie.

From an inventory of Middlehaugh papers, other than the above, it appears from their contract of marriage, dated 8th January 1748, that Janet Fergusson, second daughter of Robert Fergusson of Middlehaugh, married John Douglas in Drumain.

The father—James Fergusson—of the late Samuel R. Fergusson of Middlehaugh, after returning from the West Indies, built the present house about eighty years before the property was sold after his son's death in 1892. He married a Miss M'Diarmid of Kynachan, whose mother was a sister of General Fergusson of Dunfallandy. Mr. Samuel R. Fergusson married Janet, daughter of Hugh Watson of Keillor, whose (Mrs. Fergusson's) great-grandmother on the father's side, Janet Ferguson, was a sister of Professor Adam Ferguson, and daughter of the minister of Logierait.

The tradition of the Middlehaugh family does not record any other connection between their family and that of Dunfallandy, than that through the M'Diarmids, which would rather point to the earlier and later Fergussons of Middlehaugh being of different origin.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> But see the Minister of Moulin's MS.



The descent of the estate of Middlehaugh, from the foregoing papers and a memorandum evidently jotted from them, appears to have been as follows :—In 1677 it passed from the Fergusson family who had hitherto possessed it, and who were probably cadets of Dunfallandy, to Stewarts, one of whom, however, married an Isobel Fergusson. In 1720 it was acquired from the Stewarts by Robert Ferguson. In 1753 Robert was succeeded by his son Finlay, who married



S. R. FERGUSON

Elspet M'Lagan. The memorandum contains the name of an Adam Fergusson, with the date 1763. He was probably the father of James Fergusson of Middlehaugh (1819), who married Elizabeth M'Diarmid, and had issue two sons and two daughters. The eldest son, James Mure Fergusson, captain in the 42nd Highlanders, died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother, Samuel Robert Fergusson, who



married Janet Watson, and died in 1891, leaving two sons, Samuel Mure and Hugh Archibald, and three daughters, Charlotte, married to David Davidson (of the family of Muirhouse), Margaret Rose, and Elizabeth Amy.

The eldest son, Samuel Mure Fergusson, married a daughter of Francis Offley Cramp of Beckenham, and has issue two sons—1. Neil Mure; 2. Nigel Hugh.

In connection with the Dunfallandy and Baledmund pedigrees, it is interesting to note that Mr. Balneaves of Edradour, great-great-grandfather to Mrs. Fergusson of Middlehaugh, had, with other issue, two daughters, one of whom married Mr. Fergusson of Baledmund, their daughter again marrying Mr. Fergusson of Ballyoukan. The other married Mr. Butter of Pitlochry, and had with other issue a daughter, Elizabeth, who married James Fergusson of Dunfallandy. Their daughter Catherine married Duncan M'Diarmid, and her daughter Elizabeth married James Fergusson of Middlehaugh.

There is an old chapel at Dalshian, mentioned by Pennant in 1772, on the summit of a little hill in an area of a hundred and sixty feet diameter, called St. Catherine's chapel, now a ruin. On the accessible side of the hill is a ditch of great depth. This place seems to have been a British (or Pictish) fort, and in after times the founder of this chapel might prefer the situation on account of the security it might afford to the devotees in a barbarous age. (*Logierait Parish Magazine*.) Its original Gaelic name was 'the fort of the night watchers.' This chapel was the burying-place of the Middlehaugh family, and was retained, with about three acres of wooded knoll, when the estate was sold.



BALEDMUND HOUSE

#### SECTION IV

#### FERGUSSON OF BALEDMUND

##### *Memorandum on the Baledmund Papers.*

THE Baledmund charter-chest contains a large number of papers not only directly connected with the fortunes of the Baledmund family, but also throwing light on the history of other Perthshire Fergussons, especially those of Dereulich and Dunfallandy.

The earliest paper in which a Fergusson is concerned appears to be an original charter, dated 2nd October 1510, by which William Scott of Balweary disposed to John Fergusson of Downy his lands of Glendowok, in warrandice of the lands of Downy, which are described as including 'Over Downy, Middill Downy Bordland, Edinarnochty, Cultolony, Stronymuk, Faynzeand, Inneridrie with the mill, Bynnanmor, Bynnan-beg, Randevooyoch, Kerauch, Cowthill, and Dalmonge, *cum partibus de Pitbrane Glengaisnet and Glenbeg.*' [In 1672 these lands of Downy appear among those granted to the Duke of Athole by charter ratified in Parliament, and as

having passed 'upon the resignation of John Fergusone of Downy.']

The next is one in which, in the time of King James v., Robert Fergusson of Derculich asserts his right to restitution of certain documents. It is in the form of Letters under the Signet charging one James Halkerston to deliver the writs in question, and proceeds upon the narrative that Robert Fergusoun of Derculy was air and successor to umquhile Robert Fergusoun of Douny, his brother's son; that his said brother's son had in keeping, in a kist in the charterhouse of St. Johnstoun (Perth), the evidents under-written, viz. :—

A charter of confirmation under the great seal of the lands and barony of Cluny (Downie?) made to William Scot of Balwery, knight by resignation of Robert Cunningham of Polmaise.

A charter of confirmation of John Fergusoun of the lands of Downy made by the said laird of Balwery.

A charter of our most noble predecessor's King Robert of the lands of Cluny — and Kynnard granted to Adam Fergusoun.

A charter of confirmation of John Fergusoun of the lands of Downy — Glenganot, Pitbrane, Kynnard.

A charter of the barony of Douny given by the said Laird of Balwery to John Fergusoun.

A charter of Robert Fergusoun of the lands of haugh (?) of Cluny.

A charter of John Fergusoun of the lands of the — of Cluny.

A charter of the brae of Cluny made by — Fergusoun.

A charter of John Fergusoun of the lands of Culterlony.

A charter of our most noble predecessor King John to Adam Fergusoun of the lands of Cluny.

A precept of sasine of the barony of Douny given by the said Laird of Balweary to John Fergusoun.

An instrument of sasine of the lands of Douny of John Fergusoun.

An instrument of resignation of Douny made by the procurators of Polmaise to Balwery.

An instrument of sasine of —.

An instrument of the lands of Downy to William Scot of Balwery.

A precept of \_\_\_\_\_ of the barony of Downy.

A procuratory of Resignation of the Laird of Polmaise to the Laird of Balwery.

A procuratory made of the half of Downy be John Astray (?) to Balwery.

A precept of sasine of Robert Fergusoun of the lands of Cluny.

An instrument of sasine of ester — and wester —

An instrument of resignation of the lands of Downy, . . .

An obligation of . . . to — Fergusoun of xl (?) sterling.

Out of the which kist umquhile Patrick Butter of — spouse of umquhile Janet Lindsay, 'spulzeit and tuke ye saidis evidentis and diveris sums of money,' and she granted, the having of the said evidents in keeping in the burgh of Perth after she was examined thereupon by Master John Scot as his hand-writ testifies, and she being now deceased, James Halkerston, her spouse, gat and withholds from the said Robert Fergusoun the said evidents pertaining to him.

The letters are dated at Edinburgh, 9th April, in the 25th year of the Reign.

1588. On 12th December 1588 a tack was granted by John, Earl of Athole, of the lands of Pitzir to Thomas Fergusson, presently occupying the same by himself and his subtenants.

1611. The original Feu-charter of Baledmund is dated 17th December 1611, and by it Sir Archibald Stewart of Synnart, knight, conveys all and whole the forty-shilling land of Baledmund with the three pendicles of Glenbrerachan on the east part of Edraharvie, called the funny runrig of Tomquhollan, and other two pendicles called the east part of the Glen, vulgarly the east end of the Glen, and the shielings called Ruichragan, Ruicheraicvreckie, and the half of Ruibaslintuirk, and siclike all and whole the twenty-six shilling eight-penny land of the west end of the Haugh of Dalshian, with the oaken woods, salmon fishings, etc., within the tenandry of Logierait, in favour of Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, his



heirs and assignees. Sasine was taken on 16th January 1612.

1616. On 16th December 1616 William Earl, of Tullibardine, as superior, granted to Robert Fergusson, son and apparent heir of umquhile William Fergusson of Derculich, his heirs and successors, the ward and non-entry maills, and also the marriage of the said Robert Fergusson, etc.

1627. In June 1627 a receipt is granted to Fergus Fergusson of Baledmund.

1631. On 11th May 1631 Fergus Fergusson, lawful son and heir, at least apparent heir of Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, granted two charters (one *a me*, and one *de me*) of the two-merk land of the west part of the haugh of Dalshian, in favour of Duncan Fergusson in Balziecone his heirs and assignees.

In April 1632 there is a receipt granted in favour of Fergus Fergusson of Baledmond for the taxation of the forty-shiling land of Baledmond, and the two-merk land of west end of the haugh of Dalshian, for the years 1621-1629 and 1631.

In December 1634 there is a similar receipt.

Of date 8th September 1638 there is an inventory of the writs of the lands of Mulling, in which the following deeds are mentioned:—

An old service of umquhile Duncan Fergusson eldest son of umquhile James Fergusson his father of the lands of Mulling, 27th April 1568.

A charter by James, king of Scotland, comprising a grant by William Blair of Ardblair of the lands of Mulling to Duncan Fergusson, William Blair's writ being dated 15th July 1446.

A deed dated July 1546.

A sasine granted by James Fergusson as heir . . . to umquhile Fergus Duncanson his grandsire, to the said lands, dated 13th May 1529.

An instrument, apparently an acquittance, by George, Earl of Erroll, for the ward of Duncan Fergusson of Mullin, dated 22nd September 1568.

A judicial Bond whereby Christian Duff, spouse of David



Fergusone of Mullin surrenders her liferent of the said lands in favour of Duncan Fergusson her son, dated April 1626.

Our Sovereign Lord's gift of the non-entry of the said lands to John Fergusson, 21st July 1632.

Procuratory of Sasine in favour of Duncan Fergusson now of Mulling as heir to James Fergusson his grandsire, 5th December 1632.

Sasine following thereon.

An instrument conveying right to the teinds of the said lands.

A contract of wadset between Duncan Fergusson and James M'Duff, dated 28th February 1633.

1642. On 1st May 1642 the Duke of Atholl granted a precept of *clare constat* in favour of Fergus Fergusson as heir to his father, Finlay Fergusson.

1644. A receipt was granted by William Moray, younger of Ochtertyre, in name of Agnes Moray his sister, granting him to have received from Robert Fergusson of Dunfallandie the sum of 78 merks, and that for his proportion of two troopers' horses, the one for this year, and the other for the year 1643. At Logierait, 26th-1644.

1651. Of date 3rd February a letter relating to a bill is extant, signed 'John fergusone.'

1669. On 25th April 1669 John Drummond of Pitkellonie grants a receipt in favour of Fergus Fergusson for a sum of money (amount lost through paper being torn) as his proportion of money imposed, and due to Drummond as leader of a horse (troop (?)) of his Majesty's Militia for his lands in Mullion parish.

1680. Findla Fergusone of Balledmond appears among the vassals to whom a missive letter is addressed by the Marquis of Atholl, on 31st January 1680, in reference to certain oppressions and encroachments upon his vassals and tenants in Muling parish.

1681. On 19th May 1681 the Marquis of Atholl granted a precept of *clare constat* in favour of Finlay Fergusson as

nearest and lawful heir of Fergus Fergusson his father, and Finlay Fergusson his grandfather, for infesting him in Baledmund and the west end of the Haugh of Dalshian.

1703. The following letter of 1703 addressed to Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund is interesting:—

DUNKELL, *May ye 14th, 1703.*

‘ASSURED FRIEND,—I desire your presence at this place on Munday the seventeenth instant at eleven o’clock to attend the funerall of John Marquis of Atholl my dear father bringing alongst with you a pretty man out of each two merk land with his best arms and cloaths.—I am your assured friend,  
‘TULLIBARDINE.’

*By John, Duke of Atholl.*

1707. ‘Thes are allowing Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund fredome in our fforest for four pairs of horses, and discharges any of our fforesters to medle with them, and this shall be his warrand. Given under our hand. At Blaire Castle the 23rd of Junii 1707 years. ATHOLL.’

1711. On 12th September 1711 a disposition was granted by Janet Ferguson, apparent heiress of Finlay Fergusson her father’s brother, with consent of James Fergusson of Pitfourie, her husband, to Finlay Fergusson of Pitfourie, his heirs and assignees, of Baledmund, and the said two merks in the haugh of Dalshian, and on 19th November the Duke of Atholl granted a precept in her favour as nearest and lawful heir of the deceased Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, her uncle.

#### PAPERS RELATING TO THE RISING OF 1715.

The following papers cast an interesting light on the social condition of Athole and the fortunes of the unfortunate Highland gentlemen who followed Brigadier Mackintosh across the Forth, and were taken prisoners at Preston.

LOGIERAIT, *June 20th, 1714.*

‘SIR,—My Lord Duke came to Dunkeld last night. I immediately received an express from His Grace ordering me to acquaint you that His Grace is to be this day at twelve

o'clock here, and that you and your tenants meet him here in order to hear sermon. I am, sir, your humble serv<sup>t</sup>.

JAMES FERGUSSON

N. MACKGLASHAN.'

OF DUNFALLANDIE.

'*Baledmund's Deposition, anno 1716,*' (original on stamped paper).

'Finlay ferguson late of Mulling in that part of Great Brittain called Scotland, maketh oath, that upon the late Rebellion in Scotland this Dep<sup>t</sup> was ordered by his master the Duke of Atholl with many others his vassals, to come armed to the castle of Blaire where his Grace then resided, in order as this dep<sup>t</sup> believes, to defend the country and his own person ag<sup>t</sup> the Lord Marr and the party he was then gathering, and this dep<sup>t</sup> in obedience to his s<sup>d</sup> master's commands went armed to this s<sup>d</sup> castle of Blaire accordingly. That presently after the Marquis of Tullibardine and the Lord Marr sent out their proclamations and fiery crosses ordering this dep<sup>t</sup> and others of that clan under paine of fire and sworde to repair to their camp, which was then at Mulling, the place where this dep<sup>t</sup> lived. That notwithstanding these threats of the Lord Marr, this dep<sup>t</sup> continued firme in his duty to his said master the Duke of Atholl, and staid with His Grace until the Lord Marr removed his camp from Mulling to Logyrait, at which time the Marquess of Tullibardine came with a party of horse in the night time to Blair Castle where this deponent was, and carryed this dep<sup>t</sup> and many others away prisoners to Logyrait, and from thence both this dep<sup>t</sup> and those who were made prisoners with him were carryed to Perth with Marr's army, where Tullibardine offered this dep<sup>t</sup> a Lieutenant's commission, which this dep<sup>t</sup> refused to accept; and offered and endeavoured to goe home, upon which the said Marquis threatned that if this dep<sup>t</sup> made such attempt to make this dep<sup>t</sup> a publick example to all the army; that from Perth this dep<sup>t</sup> was forced to goe over the Firth with Mackintosh, and soe forward to Preston. But all the whole way this dep<sup>t</sup> utterly refused to doe any duty whatsoever that belongs to a soldier. Notwithstanding many offers were made to prevaile upon this dep<sup>t</sup> soe to doe: and

this dep<sup>t</sup> saith that Patrick Robertson, Rob<sup>t</sup> Steward, and Alexander Fergusson, who this dep<sup>t</sup> is informed are now prisoners at Chester, and are very material witnesses to prove the premises, as this dep<sup>t</sup> verily believes.

FFINLAY FFERGUSSON.

*Jur. 25th, die Jan<sup>r</sup>is. 1715.*  
*Coram THO. BURY.*

*Discharge. The Keeper of the Jayle of Lancaster to  
 Baledmund, 1715/16.*

‘These may certifie all officers, civill and military, and others whom it may concerne, that the bearer hereof ffenlow ffergusson of the Parish of Mulling and County of Perth in North Britain, Received his tryall at Liverpool Assizes in the County of Lanca<sup>e</sup>, where he was found by the verdict of the court Not Guilty of the Treason whereof he stood accused, and was accordingly discharged the Court upon payment of his ffees, which has been since done accordingly. As witness my hand the 22nd day of february 1715/6.

‘WM. BRIDSWORTH,  
 ‘Keeper of his Maj<sup>tie</sup>’s Gaole the  
 Castle of Lancaster.’

*Undocqueted. [Com. Lanc.]*

‘I, Charles Rigby, Esq<sup>r</sup>, one of his Majestie’s Justices of the Peace and Quor<sup>m</sup> in and for the said county do hereby certifie whom these may concern That the Bearer ffenlow fferguson, a Scottisman (after having been some time a prisoner in the Castle of Lancaster, his Majestie’s gaol in and for the said county, on suspition of High Treason in joining or aiding the Rebels lately in arms in the said County) Hath since that been removed to Liverpoole in the sd. county, and on his Tryal there before his Majestie’s Justices of Oier and Terminer in that Behalfe appointed for the said offense was duly acquitted thereof and discharged from his Imprisonment, and being now on his journey to Mulling in the County of Perth in North Britain. He ought to be permitted quietly to pass on his way to Mulling aforesaid.



He behaving himself as becometh. Given under my Hand and Seal at Lancaster in the said County the Twenty-second day of february. Anno Regni Regis Georgii Magnae Britanniae, etc., secundo, Annoque dom. 1715:6.

‘CHA: RIGBY.’

*By John, Duke of Atholl, Lord-Lieut. and Sheriff  
principall of Perthshire.*

‘Whereas finlay ferguson of Baledmund having been tryed for high treason at Liverpool in England, and acquitted by the judges there, We therefore take off and loose all arrestments laid on his effects and Rents within our Regality of Atholl, and ordains any of the officers to intimate the same to the Tennants and others concerned. Signed at Huntingtower, the 8th of March 1716.

ATHOLL.’

*By John, Duke of Atholl.*

‘Whereas there was an arrestment at our Instance layd on the Rents of Balleyoukan’s lands till we were satisfied for his undutifulness to us during the late Rebellion, These are loosing the said Arrestments and allowing the Tennants of the said lands to pay their respective duties due at Martinmas last to Katherine Butter his spouse. Given at our house of Dunkeld, the 4th of December 1716 years.

‘ATHOLL.’

There is at Baledmund an old Irish bible, with the following inscription in Finlay Fergusson’s writing:—‘This Irish bible was gifted to me by John Stewart, writer, Edinburgh, ninth day of March 1716, as I came home from Liverpool in England, and Tryed therein on suspicion of High Treason, the twenty-sixth day of January one thousand seven hundred and sixteen years.

FINLAY FERGUSSON.’

1721. On 14th April 1721 a contract was made between the Duke of Atholl and Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, proceeding upon the Act 1 Geo. I., entituled, ‘An Act for the more effectually securing the peace in the Highlands,’ whereby the personal services of hosting, hunting, watching, and warding were commuted for a money payment.



1723. Alexander Fergusson of Ballyoukan is charged on 19th December 1723 to make payment of a mason's account. The receipt on the back is in favour of Thomas Fergusson now of Ballyoukan, eldest lawful son and heir to the within designed Alexander Fergusson, and is dated 29th February 1767.

1731. By feu-contract, dated 10th February 1731, Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund acquired from the Duke of Atholl the lands of Drum of Pitlochry.

PAPERS RELATING TO THE RISING OF 1745.

1. *The Summons by the Marquis of Tullibardine forfeited for his share in the previous rising, and elder brother of the then Duke of Atholl.*

‘GENTLEMEN,—Yesterday I had the honour to arrive here in company with his Royall Highness the Prince, to assert his Majesty’s undoubted right, and as you have ever continued to act as Loyall subjects and Lovers of your country, It leaves me no room to doubt that you will on this occasion manifest to the world your zeall and attachment to the royal family by appearing immediatly in arms with all the men you can get together to join the royall standard. I shall be heartily sorry that your delay to appear should oblige me by his Highness’ orders to use more disagreeable methods. Therefore I hope you’ll by no means fail to join our Army with all speed, and I am, your most affect. hu<sup>ll</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>,

‘ATHOLL.’

*From the CAMP AT BLAIR,  
the 1st Sept. 1745.*

2. *Letter evidently from Mr. Adam Fergusson, Minister of Logierait. Unaddressed.*

LOGIERAIT, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1746.

‘James Fergusson yesternight seized by a party and sent this day to Perth, the Commissar is going there to-morrow early, and wishes you or your agent (?) or both to goe along to try what can be done for his Liberation and the recovery

of Elspet Camron's cattle carried off with him. I am, health serving, to be early with the Commissar, and expecting you at his house, am, Sir, your most humble servant,

'ADAM FERGUSSON.'

*Letters indorsed 'Missives, Baron Fergusson to Baledmund,' and addressed—'Mr. ffinlay ffergusson of Balledmen, near Dunkeld, North Britain.'*

*Haste.*

'I am at present in a bad state of health. I have been blooded but am no better, and a feaver is threatned, which if it be sent will be a heavy affliction in this miserable confinement. Yesterday I was served with Inditement, and am to be tryed the 9th of next month. I have given my sollicitor a list of witnesses to prove my behaviour in the unhappy tragedy, and that I had no arms, the witnesses are the two James Fergussons, who I hope you will further to be here in time as my Life is at stake. Pray apply to the Reverend Mr. Adams for a certificate of my age, which will be a great mean to save my life.—I am, with great esteem, Sir, your very humble serv<sup>t</sup>.

JAMES FERGUSSON.'

CARLISLE CASTLE, 21st August 1746.

'LOVING SIR,—These are to acquaint you I am recovered a little of my sickness. You'll send here James Ferguson, son of William Ferguson in the Mains of Dunfallandie, and James Ferguson, son to Robert Ferguson in Ball Luck, to witness I never beer'd arms. Our Traylls comes on ye ninth of September, for which they must not lose time. My Lawers are Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Parrot ane Englishman, and Mr. M'Lude my sollicitor. I received from Mr. M'Lude halfe a guinea, being scant of money. Therefore you are to remember him and oy<sup>r</sup> things if he calls for doing me service I want the Minister's baptism for my age, and how long since I came from the scooll. No more, as I am your assured friend,

'JAMES FERGUSSON.'

CARLISLE, 25th Aug. 1746.

*Letter indorsed 'Missive Ro. M'Leod, Writer, and Baron  
Ferguson, about the Baron when in Carlisle Prison in  
1746.'*

EDINR., 25th Aug. 1746.

'SIR,—The enclosed comes from your friend and namesake James Ferguson, son to Baron Ferguson, now prisoner at Carlisle, and against whom a Bill of Indictment has been found, and who is to be tryed upon the 9th of next month. When his tryall was intimate to him he made choice of me for his sollicitor, and as he has some Defences which, if proven, may happen to save his life, he has desired that two witnesses whom he names in his letter to you may be cited for him to prove his defences. In order to their being cited I here send you a subpœna and two coppies. The manner of citing them is by presenting the subpœna and delivering them the printed coppie and a shilling, and informing them that they must answer the subpœna under the penalty of £100 ster. He requests that you will remove any difficulty or scruples the witnesses may have against going, and that you will furnish them with what may be necessary to carry them to Carlisle, which can be no great sum, and when they come there you'll order them to call for me or for Mr. Andrew Burnett, writer to the Signet, at Mrs. Pattinson's, at the sign of the George, or if they come soon here to call for either of us at our houses here, which any street cadie will direct them to. I have writt to Peter M'Glashan, vintner in Blair of Atholl, concerning some witnesses to be cited for a neighbour of his, and if you and he can cause one man serve all your subpœnas it will be the best and properest way, as it's proper the person who serves the subpœnas should goe to Carlisle. You'll return me the printed (?) subpœnas, if possible, by this express. As your friend is like wayes under age it were proper that a certificate of his age were sent, signed by the Session Clerk of the parish where he was born, as I presume his name would be included in the Register of baptisms of that parish, and that certificate should be compared with the register by the same person who executes the subpœna, that he may be able to depone upon its being a good Certificate before the Judges there. As your friend's

life is at stake you'll surely not grudge a little trouble to use the necessary means to save him. In case of any needs I have sent another subpœna and two copies to Peter M'Glashan for your friend's accompt. I'll expect a return from you per bearer, and am, Sir, your most humble Servant,

‘ ROD. MACLEOD.

‘ Direct for Roderick MacLeod,  
Writer to the Signet, Edr.’

*Writ of Subpœna.*

‘ George the Second, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, To . . . Greeting, We command you and every of you, that, all other things set aside and ceasing every Excuse, you and every of you Be and Appear in your proper persons before our Justices and Commissioners at our Special Sessions of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery to be held by Adjournment at the City of Carlisle, in and for the County of Cumberland, on Tuesday the ninth day of September next, by virtue of the Statute in that case made and provided to testify the Truth betwixt us and James Ferguson, late of the City of Carleisle in the County of Cumberland, Gentleman, and this you shall in nowise omitt under the penalty of One Hundred pounds apiece. Witness Sir Thomas Parker, knight, at the City of Carlisle the Twelfth day of August in the Twentieth year of our reign.

‘ KNO. HERTON.’

*Printed Citation.*

‘ By virtue of his Majesty's Writ of Subpœna now to you shewn, to you and others directed, you are commanded, That all other things set aside and ceasing every Excuse, you be and Appear in your proper Person before the Justices and Commissioners of our Sovereign Lord the King at the Special Sessions of our said Lord the King, of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery, to be held by Adjournment at the City of Carlisle in and for the County of Cumberland, on Tuesday the ninth day of September next by virtue of the Statute in that Case made and provided to testify the Truth betwixt



our said Lord the King and James Ferguson, late of the City of Carlisle in the County of Cumberland, Gentleman, on the Behalf of the said James Ferguson. And this you shall in no ways omit under the Penalty of one Hundred Pounds. Dated the Twelfth Day of August in the Twentieth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and forty six.

‘ROD. MACLEOD,

‘*Solicitor by Special Appointment.*’

1756. A Finlay Fergusson signs a stated account of Robert Menzies, writer in Coshiville, of his Intromissions with the value of Effects sold by Roup and other ways belonging to the deceased Mr. Fergus Fergusson, Minister of the Gospel at Fortingall, which is docquetted ‘Stated Account betwixt the children of the deceased Mr. Fergus Fergusson and Robert Menzies, factor for them.’ (The Rev. Fergus had a son Finlay.)

1758. On 13th November 1758 the Duke of Atholl granted a precept of *clare constat* in favour of Edmund Fergusson of Baledmund as heir of his father, Finlay Fergusson.

Edmund Fergusson, who had no children, married Mary Robertson, sister of George Robertson of Fascallie. He survived to \_\_\_\_\_, and had been baptized on 29th July 1738, his mother being Helen Balneaves. His sister Margaret had, on November 3rd, 1747, married Thomas Fergusson of Balyoukan, and the estate of Baledmund passed to her descendants.

The Baledmund papers contain the following note:—

Thomas Fergusson, Esq., and Margaret Fergusson, married 3rd Nov. 1747. Children baptized to them:—

Alexander, Aug. 23rd, 1748.

Finlay, March 6th, 1750.

Finlay, May 20th, 1751.

Thomas, Jan. 2nd, 1753.

James, Aug. 30th, 1754.



Edmund, April 22nd, 1756.

Helen, April 30th, 1758.

Henry, Nov. 30th, 1759.

Archibald, Nov. 10th, 1761.

Patrick, Mar. 9th, 1763.

Robert, June 25th, 1766.

Alexander Fergusson, Esq., and Isabella Watson, married August 27th, 1796. Children baptized to them:—

Isabella, Oct. 1st, 1797; *d.* 27/9/65.

Margaret, March 6th, 1799; *d.* /18

Thomas, May 29th, 1800; *d.* 11/6/24.

Alex., Nov. 5th, 1801; *d.* 6/31.

Edmund, May 21st, 1803.

Jean, Jany. 27th, 1805.

James, Aug. 4th, 1806; *m.* 12/3/38; *d.* 21/12/87.

Mary-Jane, May 1st, 1808.

Helen, Feby. 24th, 1810; *d.* 9/34.

Henrietta, Feby. 22nd, 1812; *d.* 25/12/52.

Elisabeth Joanna, March 21st, 1813.

Catherine, 2nd July 1814; *d.* 11/11/40.

Augusta, Aug. 28, 1817; *d.* 25/1/56.

Georgina, March 8, 1819.



BALEDMUND NEW HOUSE

James Fergusson, Esq., and Jane Robertson, married 12th March 1838. Children baptized to them:—

Jane (deceased).

Isabella Henrietta, *m.* 1/2/65 (deceased).

Augusta Margaret.

Edmund Alexander, June 18th, 1843 (deceased).

Elizabeth Joanna, *m.* 27/10/69.

Jemima Catherine (deceased).

James Grant, June 1st, 1850.

Thomas, Feb. 15th, 1853.

Flora Georgina.

Alex. Dawson, *Jas. Ed.*, April 5, 1857.

James Grant Fergusson married Mary, daughter of Rev. William Davidson, D.D., 18th June 1884, and has issue:—

Mary Grizel Jean.

Henrietta Margaret.

Edmund James, born 13th December 1891.

The following is the 'Roll of Fencible men supplied by Baledmund in the years 1705 and 1706,' from a note furnished by the Duke of Athole to Mr. Fergusson of Baledmund.

1705.

Finlay Ferguson of Baledmund.

Alex. Duff, servant, armed.

John Ferguson, servant, armed.

Robert Ferguson, tenant, armed.

John Anderson, tenant, armed.

Alex. Stewart, servant, wants arms.

Robert Robertson, tenant, wants arms.

William Stewart, tenant, wants a sword.

1706.

Finlay Ferguson of Baledmund.

William Stewart.

John Anderson.

John Drummond.

John Drummond.

John Caddel.

John Ferguson.

Donald Fleming.

Robert Ferguson.

James Ferguson.

The following is a copy of the Balyoukan Roll for 1705, also in possession of the Duke of Athole:—

- Alexander Ferguson of Balyoukan, armed.
- Duncan Robertson, his servant, armed.
- Patrick Robertson, tenant, armed.
- Alexander Ferguson, his servant, armed.
- Alexander Campbell, tenant, armed.
- John Campbell, a young man, wants a gun.
- John Peebles, tenant, weaver, wants arms.
- Finlay Ferguson, smith, armed.
- Robert Ferguson, his son, armed.
- Donald Fleming, his servant, excused.
- James Robertson, a young man, armed.
- Donald Keir, his servant, absent.
- Thomas Reid, cottar, merchant, excused.
- Thomas Menzies, cottar, wants arms.
- Robert Douglas, miller, wants arms.
- John Keir, his servant, a miller, wants arms.



BALLYOUKAN HOUSE

## SECTION V

### FERGUSSON OF BALLYOUKAN

THE Ballyoukan papers in the possession of Mr. Fergusson of Baledmund, the representative both of the Baledmund and of the later Ballyoukan Fergusson family are not numerous.

Thomas Fergusson, Laird of Ballyoukan, who in 1747 married Margaret Fergusson the heiress of Baledmund, predeceased his wife, who granted a power of attorney as his widow in favour of Alexander, her eldest lawful son, Finlay being dead, on 1st May 1781. Ballyoukan was sold to Butter of Pitlochrie in 1802. The titles of the estate clearly show the descent of the Fergusson family from the date of the feu-charter in 1612, to the sale of the estate 190 years later. It passed by marriage in the middle of the seventeenth century from one Fergusson family to another, who, in the middle of the eighteenth century by marriage also acquired right to the future inheritance of Baledmund. While however the first heiress seems to have left no issue of her own,

and the estate to have passed to her husband,<sup>1</sup> on the second occasion, the subsequent owners were the direct descendants of the previous owners of both properties.

1612. On 1st January 1612 Sir Archibald Stewart of Fynnart granted a charter in favour of Thomas Fergusson in Ballyoukan, disposing to him and his heirs and successors, All and whole the 40/ land of Ballyoukan, the 40/ land of Ballameanoch, and the Miln of Pittagir, Mill lands and sequels of the same, with the Thirlage to the said Miln of the 40/ land of Ballachandie, 40/ land of Pittchastle, 40/ land of Pittnaragaren, *alias* Ballagowan, and the 40/ land of Pittagir, with the use of the Loch of Lochbroon and privilege of drawing water therefrom for the use of the said Miln, with the liberty of carting turfs and peats, etc., Together with all and sundry salmon fishings upon the water of Tummel and Lochbroon used and wont, with all and sundry meadows, oaken and other woods within the bounds of the lands of Ballyoukan and Ballameanoch, lying within the parishes of Moulin and Logierait, regality of Athole and shire of Perth. To be held in feu of the granter.

The instrument of sasine following is dated 14th January 1612.

1613. On 23rd November 1613 the said Thomas Fergusson of Ballyoukan granted a charter of the aforesaid lands, mill, and others, in favour of William Fergusson, his son and apparent heir.

On 13th December 1613 William, Earl of Tullibardine, superior of the said lands, granted a charter of Resignation in favour of the said William Fergusson and his heirs, on which sasine was taken on 23rd December.

1641. On 7th December 1641 the said William Fergusson granted a charter of the said lands, etc., in favour of Alexander Fergusson, his son-in-law, and Elspeth Fergusson, his daughter, and the longest liver of them in liferent, and the heirs to be procreated between them in fee, on which sasine was taken 8th December 1641, and which was confirmed by charter of the Earl of Athole 19th May 1642.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Minister of Moulin's MS.



1663. On 13th March 1663 the said Alexander Fergusson acquired from David, Viscount of Stormonth, the teinds of the lands of Ballameanoch and mill lands of Pittagir.

1705. On 22nd June 1705 John, Duke of Athole, Marquis of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathtay and Strathairdle, Viscount of Balquhidder, Glenalmond, and Glenlyon, Lord Murray Balvanie and Gask, granted a precept of *clare constat* in favour of Alexander Fergusson as heir of his father, Alexander Fergusson of Ballyoukan, on which sasine was taken on 20th July 1705.

1747. In the contract of marriage, dated 7th October 1747, between Thomas Fergusson, yr. of Ballyoukan, eldest lawful son of the foresaid Alexander Fergusson of Ballyoukan, and Margaret Fergusson, only lawful daughter of Finlay Fergusson of Baledmund, the foresaid lands of Ballyoukan, etc., were devised by the said Alexander Fergusson to the said Thomas Fergusson and the heirs-male of his body, under burden of certain provisions for his brothers, James and Archibald, etc., upon which sasine was taken on 16th February 1750, the procurator being Robert Fergusson, in Cull of Ballyoukan.

1760. On 19th January 1760 the Duke of Athole granted a precept of *clare constat* in favour of the said Thomas Fergusson, as heir of the said Alexander Fergusson, his father, the lands to be held on payment of the previous feu-duties, and of £4, 10s. Scots in lieu of the services of hosting, hunting, watching, warding, and personal attendance formerly prestable, on which sasine was taken on 20th June 1769.

1782. On 16th November 1782 the Duke of Athole granted a precept of *clare constat* in favour of Alexander Fergusson, as heir of Thomas Fergusson of Ballyoukan, his father, on which sasine was taken on 1st January 1783.

1802. By disposition dated 28th December 1802 Alexander Fergusson sold the estate of Ballyoukan to Lieut.-Col. Archibald Butter of Pitlochry.

#### BALLYOUKAN BRANCH.

Henry Fergusson, a younger son of Thomas Fergusson of

Ballyoukan, born in 1759, was an eminent surgeon, who practised in London, and was a court doctor. Dr. Fergusson returned, when an old man, to Ballyoukan, and was held in high repute as a skilful physician. During an epidemic of smallpox he was in much request, and inoculated the people in the year 1808, as appears from his case-book. Dr. Fergusson died in 1811. His portrait in oil and that of his wife are in the possession of his grandson, Henry Fergusson, Pitlochry.

Alexander Fergusson of Ballyoukan granted a lease to Henry Fergusson, dated 8th July 1802, for eighteen years. The Doctor resided at Aldanrorie, and was brother to said Alexander. In Dr. Fergusson's case-book he has entered, under 1st February 1805, visits to 'Mrs. Fergusson, Dunfallandy.' Under year 1808 are many entries of inoculation. He must have been among the first to introduce it into Scotland, as Dr. Jenner introduced vaccine inoculation in 1799, though he had discovered its virtue in 1796. Dr. Fergusson, on his return from London about 1802, would bring the new notions and practices with him.

Under date 1810 he has an account for attendance on Ann Fergusson, Middlehaugh.

*5th April* 1802. There is a letter from James Robertson of Lude inviting Dr. Fergusson, Easthaugh, to the funeral of his wife. On the back is the Doctor's reply, regretting he cannot go, owing to attendance on a patient.

The most interesting letter, however, is one dated 12th December 1797, from Lady Elgin, addressed to Mr. Fergusson, at Genl. Bruce's Lodging, Exeter. In it she refers to the bad news about her son, whom the Doctor was attending, and who was dying. She gives directions about the coffin, and suggests a vault may be got through Dr. Courtney, Bishop of Exeter, as her desire was he should be buried there.

*Note.*—Communicated from the papers of Henry Fergusson, Esq., Pitlochry.

## SECTION VI

FERGUSON OF BELLICHANDY AND BALMACRUCHIE OR WOODHILL  
AND FERGUSON OF EASTER DALNABRECK

*Genealogical Narrative by the Rev. Adam Fergusson,  
Minister of Moulin. 1775. With addition.*

THIS narrative was sent in 1892 to Mr. James Ferguson (Kinnundy) by the late A. Dingwall-Fordyce, an Aberdeenshire gentleman resident at Fergus, Ontario, Canada. The ms. is a copy 'made by himself from the original (many years since) of the minister of Moulin's<sup>1</sup> narrative.' The addition detailing his children must have been added by another hand, and appears to have been added to the copy, possibly at a later date.

1775.

(The following narrative was written by the Rev. Adam Fergusson, minister of Moulin, and addressed to his sons for their information and amusement, giving an account of their descent, relations, and connections.)

'Your Parents were *Adam Fergusson*, Minister of Moulin, and Emily Menzies, sixth lawful daughter to Captain James Menzies of Comry, Tutor of Weem, by Anne Campbell.

'*Paternal*.—Your father, Adam Fergusson, is son to *Alexander Fergusson* of Bellechandy and Magdalen Ogilvy. Bellechandy he sold when I was a child, to pay debts affecting it. He had an elder brother, Adam, who died unmarried: two younger—Thomas who married, and had children, but none of them married, and David, who left the country unmarried, and no accounts of or from him, except that Charles, eldest son to Mr. Adam Fergusson, Minister of Logierait,

<sup>1</sup> For notice of the author, from the *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ*, v. *infra*, sect. x.

mentioned in a letter to his father, forty years past, from Jamaica, that he had seen an uncle of mine there. *John Fergusson's* wife, my grand-mother, was Margaret Scott, daughter to Scott of Glenerbart, who had an estate reckoned considerable in those days. The mother of Donald Duff, merchant in Dunkeld, Donald Campbell, first husband to my sister, his brother and sisters, and several other yeomanry persons in Strathbraan and Glenalmond, are my relations in that connection. Margaret Scott's mother was Miss Robertson, sister to Auchleeks, a branch from the stem which the Laird of Lude represents. A sister of hers was wife to Stewart of Urrard. James Stewart of Urrard, who died at Cluny in December 1745, and my father, were the grandsons of two sisters. The wife of *Adam Fergusson*, my great-grandfather, was Miss Butter, daughter to Butter of Easter Dunfallandy. John Butter, who a few years ago sold it, and his sons, were my relations. Adam, I see by a marriage-contract, married a second wife, daughter of Cudbert of Clochatt. I do not see nor have I heard that either my grandfather or great-grandfather had any brothers who had issue. I see by a contract of marriage that my great-grandfather had a daughter married to Cardney of Pitcastle, in Strathtay, her tocher 500 merks, not inconsiderable in those days: a family then in repute, but since decayed, and now no remains of them. My great-great-grandfather, *Fergus Fergusson* of Bellechandy, married a daughter of Baron Reid in Strathairdle. He had two brothers, Thomas, Portioner of Balmyle, in Strathairdle, and Alexander, master of a merchant vessel of Dundee. The said Thomas did, near or about two hundred years past, purchase the lands of Wester Balmacruchie from David Maxwell of Tealing, and Hugh, his son and apparent heir; which the said Thomas takes disposed to himself and the heirs-male of his own body; whom failing, to Alexander and his heirs-male; all whom failing, to Adam Fergusson, son to Fergus Fergusson of Bellechandy, brother-german to the said Thomas and Alexander, and to his heirs and assignees; and as Balmacruchy came to Adam, my great-grandfather, the last institute in the tailzie, it appears that neither Thomas nor Alexander had male issue; whether they had



daughters I do not know. Tradition says that the said Fergus was the fourth proprietor of Bellechandy from father to son.

‘Baron Fergusson, whose ancestors had extensive lands, viz., Dumfalandy, the Ten Pound land of Derculich, the Ten Pound land of Dalshian, and the third of Strathairdle and Glenshee, is *our stem*. Fergusson of Ballyoukan was a son of his, and another son, predecessor to the branch of which Professor Adam Fergusson, Finlay of Middlehaugh, and others are, and said to have sprung from the stem at the same time. Bellechandy is said to have been a son of the first Ballyoukan, and if not a son he was certainly a brother. Professor Fergusson is your relation, not only as springing from the same stem, but also by a later connection; as it is an uncontroverted tradition that a daughter of Bellechandy was wife to one of his ancestors, but I do not know at what period, nor how many steps from him and me. I have been told too that a daughter was at some period married to a Fergusson of Cowal, and my father, when in Argyleshire in 1685, was told the marriage contract was then extant.

‘Ballyoukan that now is has no relation to the Baron, unless you suppose Thomas Fergusson of Aberdeenshire to be from that stem; which, though it has often been said, and may be true, cannot, I believe, be instructed. When my grandfather was a boy, Ballyoukan died leaving a daughter an only child. At a meeting of friends, as my grandfather was not of an age to marry, and his own estate somewhat encumbered as well as Ballyoukan, it was resolved and settled, That any suitable young man of the name who had money equal to the debts upon Ballyoukan marrying the heiress should have the estate settled upon himself and his heirs, failing heirs of the marriage. The grandfather of Ballyoukan that now is, a son to the Minister either of Crathie or Glenmuick,<sup>1</sup> had the money, married the heiress who had no children to him that survived herself; he married another, and their grandson now enjoys the estate.’

The ms. then proceeds to trace other families whose blood flowed in the veins of the Rev. Adam Fergusson, through his

<sup>1</sup> See chap. iv.



mother, Margaret Ogilvy. The writer mentions that the wife of David Ogilvy, merchant in Leith, and second cousin to his mother, 'was daughter to a Mr. Fergusson, a minister in Aberdeenshire.' 'You have,' he concludes, 'no cousin-german in your Paternal line, as I have no one nephew or niece, and indeed scarce any near relation.' The ms. then deals with the descent of the author's wife, Emily Menzies. Another hand has continued it, and given the following additional particulars of the family:—

'The venerable author of the preceding narrative died in 1785, in his 81st year. He had been a widower for many years. Of his Family four sons and two daughters grew up. John, his eldest son, had attained the rank of captain in the military service of the East India Company, with a very high character as a soldier. After a temporary visit to his native land, in his voyage out at the Cape of Good Hope he was basely assassinated by an infamous fellow of the name of Roche, who had been expelled from the Captain's Table on Board at Captain Fergusson's suggestion, on account of improper conduct. John was on this occasion accompanied by Adam, his youngest brother, who had obtained an appointment in India, and was very soon cut off by a fever after reaching his destination. James, the second son, was a man of very superior literary acquirements: He followed no particular profession, but lived much on the continent, where he travelled for some years with Lord Bruce, son of the Earl of Aylesbury, and also with the present Earl of Morton. He died in middle life at Bath. Neil the third became an advocate and died Sheriff-Depute of Fife. Ann, the eldest daughter, married the Rev. Dr. Bisset, minister of Logierait; and Vere died at advanced age unmarried. Of the sons, Neil alone left issue. He married Agnes, second daughter of Sir George Colquhoun of Tillyhewen, Bart., then widow of Maurice Trent of Pitcullo, who settled his estate upon her having no issue. Ann left one son, Robert, who distinguished himself by the *Life of Burke* and several other able productions; he married a Miss Robinson, and died in London, leaving two daughters. Neil left three sons and three daughters—Adam, John, James, Rebecca,

Amelia Ann, and Hannah Harriet. The eldest son, Adam, was also called to the Bar; he married Jemima, the posthumous child of Major James Johnston of the East India Company's Engineers: her mother the eldest daughter of John Blair of Balthayock, and now the representative of that Family from the death of her brother, Major Blair, also of the East India Company's service. Amelia Ann, the second daughter, was married to John Fraser, Esq. of Farraline, advocate: the others are yet unmarried.'

Upon the stone in Greyfriars' Churchyard, Edinburgh, marking the burial-place of Neil Fergusson, Esq., are recorded the following:—

Neil Ferguson, Esq., Advocate, of Woodhill, died 3rd July 1803.

Anne Colquhoun, his wife, died 7th August 1812.

George, their son (aged 8 months), died 22nd September 1786.

Vere, sister to Neil Ferguson, died 16th November 1818.

Jemina Johnston Blair, wife of Adam Ferguson of Woodhill, Advocate, died 14th April 1824.

Margaret Agnes Patricia, eldest child of Adam Ferguson of Woodhill, died 11th February 1823.

John Ferguson, Esq., died 30th June 1847, aged 56.

James Ferguson, W.S., died 19th May 1850, aged 57.

It is interesting to note that in the *View of the Political State of Scotland in 1788* Neil Ferguson, Advocate, appears among the 'Votes of Mr. Ferguson of Pitfour,' in Banffshire. He must have been a Jacobite, for the note after his name is 'Will not swear.'

The following letter<sup>1</sup> was written by the minister of Moulin on 3rd February 1746, to Colonel Robertson of Drumachine, of the Athole Highlanders:—

'SIR,—I had information from two different hands about 4 or 5 weeks since that a party was to be sent to my house from Blair or Logyrate to search or raffle at large: the informers could not distinctly assure which or if both. I would not allow myself to believe the last, and had nothing to object to the narrowest search. Nor could I have excepted

<sup>1</sup> *Jacobite Correspondence of the Athole Family*, No. cc.

to the foregoing of Horse, Arms, Horse furniture or things of that sort as being a suspected person. But nothing happened till yesternight about 8 o'clock that a party of a serjeant and 11 or 12 men who first called themselves Brae Athole men but afterwards acknowledged they were Camerons came from Blair Athole where they have been for 2 or 3 days before alledging a written order for violence against my person and effects. And indeed they exercised it upon both. They did not indeed shew any order and I cannot believe they had any such one as they executed. They plundered and carried off my silver watch, all the money I had (qu<sup>h</sup> was but little), some of the most valuable of my wife's silks and other clothes, all the best and finest of our table Linnen, Bed Linnen and Body Linnen, of all which we were very well provided. We have not had time yet to draw out a note of the particulars: only in general my wife says they have carried off to the value of between £30 and 40 pounds sterling. If it is possible they have had (I don't say orders) but even allowance of any general officer for this behaviour I have nothing to say and will not complain, and if they had not I hope it will not be impracticable to order and enforce restitution of the most valuable effects, and this I presume will be the easier effectuated, that they have I am told returned to Blair. If they had contented themselves with what cheese, Beef, Honney, Ale and Whiskey they consumed and carried off, or even with Body Linnen, Shoes, Stockens it might have been thought tolerable, but to go to the length they did showed an evil rapacious disposition, and is what I am well convinced Locheill would as little allow of or approve as any man alive. I am much of opinion that no Protection would have availed anything with people in their way. But as they have begun violence not only against my effects but person, I believe I must apply and shall be obliged to you for a pass to travel out of the country to where I may be more safe till the present troubles be at an end. It is like if I am out of the way my wife and children may meet with some indulgence upon the score of her friends, and that they will look more after her safety. Whatever happen I hope I have hitherto felt that God who in his wise and good Providence sees meet

to measure out to me some share of suffering will enable me to bear them with Christian patience and resignation.

‘I beg you make my compliments acceptable to Mrs. Robertson whom I heartily wish well. My wife who goes to make her moan to the Duke of Athole and you will deliver her own to your Lady, and I am with sincere esteem and affection, Sir, your most humble servant,

‘ADAM FERGUSSON.’

MOULIN, *Feb. 3rd*, 1746.

‘*P.S.*—There was upwards of 10 ells uncut Cambrick and several other things not named carried off in the plunder.’

*Fergusson of Easter Dalnabreck.*

It has been seen that a Robert Fergusson was ‘in Wester Dalnabreck’ in 1620. In 1744 Thomas Fergusson in Perth, son of Donald Fergusson ‘in Easter Dalnabreck,’ was served heir of his brother Donald.<sup>1</sup> The following particulars as to the family of Easter Dalnabreck have been taken down from the Rev. Donald Fergusson, formerly minister of the Free Church at Leven, Fife, and resident in 1895 at Glencairn House, Crieff.

The first of the stock, afterwards ‘of Easter Dalnabreck,’ was a Donald Fergusson (great-grandfather or great-great-grandfather of the Rev. Donald Fergusson), who is said to have quitted his own country, near Pitlochry, on account of ‘a rather too free use of the dirk,’ and to have settled at Ennoch, on the lands of the Blackwater, in Glenshee. Either he or another Donald was the father of Charles Fergusson who acquired the property of Easter Dalnabreck. His son, also a Charles Fergusson, had six children.

1. May, married James Reid, and had issue.
2. James Fergusson, a clergyman in London, died unmarried.
3. Bathia, died unmarried.
4. John Fergusson.
5. William Fergusson, died unmarried.
6. Donald Fergusson.

John *Fergusson*, the second son of Charles *Fergusson* of

<sup>1</sup> Notes by the late R. R. Stodart.



Easter Dalnabreck, settled in Western Australia, and became Government Medical Officer at Perth. He married Isabel Maxwell, and has, with other issue:—

1. John Maxwell Fergusson, who married his cousin, Grace Ogilvie Fergusson, daughter of the Rev. Donald Fergusson.
2. Charles Fergusson, resident at Horton, near Perth, Western Australia, and has issue.

Donald Fergusson, the youngest son of Charles Fergusson of Easter Dalnabreck, for long minister of the Free Church at Leven, married, first, —, daughter of Colonel William Balfour, 82nd Regiment, of the family of Balfour of Trenaby, and has, with other issue:—

1. Charles Balfour Fergusson, resident in Calcutta.
2. William Balfour Fergusson, M.D., Painswick, Gloucestershire, married, and has issue.
3. John Moore Fergusson (so called owing to a connection through his mother with Sir John Moore, the hero of Corunna), minister of the English Presbyterian Church, Woolwich, married, and has issue.
4. Grace Ogilvie, married her cousin, J. M. Ferguson.

The Rev. Donald Fergusson married, secondly, in 1882, Marie Wilhelmina Henrietta Pauline, elder daughter and co-heir of Colonel Louis von Corvin Wierbitzkij,<sup>1</sup> Prussian Royal Artillery, and Pauline, his wife, *née* Baroness Knobelsdorff, and widow of the Rev. Robert Lundin Brown, minister of the Free Church at Largo, Fife.

<sup>1</sup> This Prussian family boasts a unique descent. Sprung through soldiers who fought at Waterloo and Kollin, from a branch—settled in Poland after the persecutions of the early Reformation—of the great Hungarian house of Corvin, which produced John Hunyadi and King Mathias Corvinus, the national heroes of the Magyar race, it carries its traditionary origin through the Roman governors of the Danubian provinces to the patrician *gens* which owed its surname to the classic combat of Marcus Valerius Corvinus with the Gallic Goliath who had challenged the chivalry of Rome, in B.C. 358. Its shield combines the horseshoe, granted by John Sobieski to the knights who rode with him to the succour of Vienna against the Ottoman infidel, with the raven that records the winged aid sent by the gods of Rome to equalise the odds in favour of the gigantic barbarian. Mrs. Fergusson's only sister married Eberhard von Leukanos, Lord of Schrine, in Silesia, and has issue.



## SECTION VII

### FERGUSON OF DRUMACHOIR

*Rev. Adam Fergusson, Minister of Logierait, Professor  
Adam Ferguson, and their descendants.*

ANOTHER branch of the Perthshire Fergussons was that descended through the minister of Logierait from the parent stock of Dunfallandy, which claims as its own the strong Scotch character, the philosophic mind, and the literary genius of the historian of the Roman Republic. In a letter written by Sir Adam Ferguson in 1848, he states that his grandfather, 'the Minister of Logierait, was a younger son of the Laird of Dunfallandy (styled Baron Ferguson) also in Athole.' The connection, however, with 'the stem' of Baron Fergusson appears, both from the minister of Logierait's and the minister of Moulin's MSS., to date much further back.

On account of the eminence in the learned world and the famous circle of Edinburgh men of letters of Professor Adam Ferguson, and the close association of his family with the home life of Sir Walter Scott at Abbotsford, a special interest attaches to this branch of the 'sons of Fergus.' Through the assistance of its present representative, Mr. Robert N. R. Ferguson of the Treasury, we are enabled to give some most interesting extracts from their correspondence, and a series of delightful short biographies of his 'forebears' written for these Records by himself. The account of this family will therefore embrace—

1. A brief Genealogy, compiled from a Genealogical Table prepared by Mr. R. N. R. Ferguson.
2. A Notice of and Extracts from an Autobiographical MS. written by the Minister of Logierait.



PROFESSOR ADAM FERGUSON



3. Mr. Robert N. R. Ferguson's Memoirs of—
1. Professor Adam Ferguson.
  2. His elder brother, Robert.
  3. Robert (Bob), son of No. 2.
  4. Capt. Joseph Ferguson, second son of the Professor.
  5. Sir Adam Ferguson, and the family at Huntlyburn.
  6. Robert Ferguson, M.D.
  7. Letters from the Huntlyburn Family.

*Genealogy of descendants of Rev. Adam Fergusson  
of Logierait.*

- I. Adam Fergusson (1672-1754), minister of Logierait, married, in 1705, Mary Gordon of Hallhead, and had issue—
1. Mary, born 1706. She married, in 1726, Duncan Stewart of Blackhill (ninth in descent from John Stewart of Fothergill and Garth, 1455), second son of the Reverend Robert Stewart, minister of Killin, 1679-1729. Their son, Adam Stewart, married Helen, daughter of John Hepburn of Coquhalzie, and *their* daughter, Helen Hepburn, married James Stewart of Edradynate, grandson of Robert Stewart of Derculich, younger brother of the said Duncan Stewart of Blackhill.<sup>1</sup> Mary Fergusson or Stewart died at Coupar-Angus.
  2. Charles, born 1708; died 1743, at Port Royal, Jamaica.
  3. Anna, born and died 1710.
  4. Alexander, born 1711; left two daughters, who lived at Coupar-Angus.
  5. John, born 1713, died 1724.
  6. Janet, born 1715; married Thos. Wilkie (of Foulden). Their daughter, Janet Wilkie, married William Watson of Auchtertyre, and *their* son, Hugh Watson of Keillor, was father of Janet Watson (great-grand-daughter of Janet Fergusson), who married S. R. Fergusson of Middlehaugh.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Note communicated by James Stewart Robertson, Esq. of Edradynate.

<sup>2</sup> Note by Mrs. Fergusson of Middlehaugh.

7. Patrick, born 1717, died 1747, at Port Royal, Jamaica.
  8. Robert, 1719-1797.
  9. Adam, 1723-1816.
- II. Robert Ferguson, the eldest surviving son, resident in America, and latterly at Perth, left a son,
- III. Robert Ferguson ('Bob'), who died in 1830, having had three children—
1. Robert Ferguson, M.D.
  2. Mary Anne, married, first, Mr. Edge, and second, Rev. Alex. N. C. Dallas, leaving issue by both marriages.
  3. Catherine, married James Cary, D.D., son of the translator of Dante, and left issue.
- IV. Robert Ferguson, M.D., born 1799, died 1865, married, first, Cecilia Labalmondière, by whom he had no issue, who died in 1842; and second, Mary MacLeod (of MacLeod), daughter of MacLeod of MacLeod. She died 1884. Their children are—
1. Mary Roma. Married Col. H. C. B. Farrant, Loyal North Lancashire (81st) Regiment, and has issue.
  2. Robert Norman Ronald.
  3. Marion Cecil, unmarried.
  4. Harold Stuart.
  5. Robert Henry Bruce, born 1854, unmarried.
- V. Robert Norman Ronald Ferguson, born 1848, married Rose G. Cumberbatch, daughter of Laurence Cumberbatch, M.D., and has issue—
1. (vi.) Ronald Torquil.
  2. Roma.
  3. Rachel.
- V. Harold Stuart Ferguson, younger son of Robert Ferguson, M.D. (iv), born 1850, married Isabel Maxwell, niece of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, and has issue—
1. Robert.
  2. Stuart.
  3. Adam.
- II. Adam Ferguson, younger son of the Rev. Adam Ferguson of Logierait, Professor of Moral Philosophy in the



University of Edinburgh, married Katy Burnet, who died 1795, and had issue—

1. Sir Adam Ferguson, born 1770, Depute-Keeper of the Regalia of Scotland, married Margaret, daughter of John Stuart of Stenton, had no issue and died in 1854.
2. Joseph, died in 1799 unmarried.
3. Col. James Ferguson, died in 1859 unmarried.
4. Admiral John Ferguson, R.N., deceased.
5. Margaret, died unmarried.
6. Isabel, died unmarried, 24th December 1830.
7. Mary, died unmarried, January 1829.

III. Admiral John Ferguson, R.N., youngest son of Professor Adam Ferguson, born in 1784, and died 1855, married Elizabeth Lauder Guild, who died in 1894. They had one son,

(iv.) Captain Adam Ferguson (42nd Royal Highlanders, the Black Watch), born 1836, and died unmarried 1865.

*MS. Narrative by Rev. Adam Fergusson, Minister of Logierait.*

In 1867 there was extant a MS. memoir, written by the Rev. Adam Fergusson, minister of Logierait, whose son Adam became the distinguished professor, philosopher, and historian. It was referred to and extracts given from it in an article on Professor Adam Ferguson, which appeared in the *Edinburgh Review* of January 1867, and is thus described by the author of that article:—‘Old Mr. Fergusson at a very advanced age drew up a little memoir of his life, rambling and garrulous to the last degree, but full of interest, not only from the family information which it supplies and the indications which it affords of hereditary peculiarities, but from the light it casts on the social condition, and in one or two instances even on the public history of Scotland, in the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth century. A copy of this curious autobiographical morsel formed part of the valuable MS. collection of the late Principal Lee, to whose son we are indebted for its use. . . . The sturdy truth-

fulness of the son's character is apparent in every line the father has written . . . and the discovery of this humble ms. is a positive gain for the history of many questions which still agitate public opinion in Scotland. In anticipation of its publication, which we understand is contemplated, we shall cull a few extracts.' Every effort has been made by communication with the relatives of Principal Lee, with Mr. David Douglas, in whose hands the ms. at one time was, and who has confirmed the statement that its publication was intended, but recollects that it was sent to a member of the author's family, then resident in London, and with Mr. R. N. Ferguson, now the representative of Professor Adam Ferguson, to trace this ms. with the view of including it *verbatim* in this volume. Unfortunately these efforts have not been successful, and it only remains to reproduce the extracts and account of the ms. fortunately preserved in the pages of the *Edinburgh Review*.

In Small's Memoir of Professor Adam Ferguson (printed in the *Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh*, vol. xxiii. p. 599), it is stated that 'His father was descended from an old and respectable family in Athole, to whom the estate of Dunfallandy yet pertains; and his mother was the daughter of Mr. Gordon of Hallhead, in the county of Aberdeen.' In the female line, Ferguson traced a connection with the noble family of Argyll, thus referred to in a letter addressed to him by Dr. Carlyle of Inveresk: 'I am descended from the Queensberry family by two great-grandmothers, much at the same distance as you are from that of Argyll.' We now proceed to give the extracts from the minister of Logierait's ms., preserved in the *Edinburgh Review*. He speaks of himself throughout in the third person, and spells his name with a double s, whereas his son only uses a single. He dropped the other on the ground that it was unnecessary, and therefore unworthy of a philosopher.

'He was born,' writes the minister of himself, 'of poor but honest religious parents at the Bridge-end of Gernoch, near Faskelie in the parish of Moulin in Athol, upon the 4th day of August 1672; being the third child of Laurence Fergusson and Janet Fergusson. . . . In a year or two after his

birth his parents being through a dearth then prevailing unable to pay their rent did remove to Moulin, where his father's predecessors lived for several generations, practising the smith trade in very good reputation ; the first of whom was called John, son of Fergusson of Drumachoir, who was at the battle of Pinkie, and relieved Stuart of Balnakeilie from five Englishmen that were assaulting him, and gave occasion for great friendship between their posterity.'

Among youthful sins with which the old minister reproached himself were 'Sabbath profanations, staying from ordinances, and following diversions,' in connection with which he tells this anecdote.

'Having one Lord's day dressed up a stick in imitation of a fiddle, and rubbing the strings with a bow for his diversion while his parents were at church, his sister Janet, a prudent discreet girl about twelve years of age, did challenge him that it was wickedness that ought not to be done, entreating him to forbear it. He scornfully replied that he would not forbear, because he never could get his fiddle to play so well on any other day. The religious girl assured him that the reason of that was because the devil unseen did assist him to sin against God: which had deep impression on him, so as he never forgot it.'

The future minister records that he was 'given to lying to excuse his ill-natured tricks, swearing and cursing to frighten his school-fellows with whom he was often in quarrels and blows.' Being however, when a student at St. Andrews, invited to the house of one of the regents one Sunday morning, a conversation took place about classes and bursaries, when:—

'At the time of this communing, Mr. David Magill (the Regent) took out of his pocket a large piece of roll-tobacco, and called for (as) his servant one of the students, and ordered him to the kitchen to dry and grind it to snuff. This was a great offence to Adam, who thought his own illiberal father a better christian than Mr. Magill who was a preacher, because he had seen his father frequently refuse to take sneezen from persons that he suspected to have prepared it on the Lord's day.'

Adam was sent to the parish school at Moulin. His first teacher 'possessed no skill of the Latin tongue further than the declinations and conjugations, at which he was very deficient,' and from his description of the punishments inflicted, Dr. Lee was able to infer—'it appears that in 1680 little boys wore breeches in that part of the Highlands.' However, 'About the beginning of November 1683 Mr. William Balneaves, the minister of the parish, having got notice that one Duncan Menzies, an Apin of Dull lad, who had passed his course of philosophy in the old town college of Aberdeen, was in the family of Gordon of Abergeldie in Mar, sent express for him, and he was admitted schoolmaster at Moulin. Adie out of curiosity going on a day to see his old comrades at school, who had been two years before at other schools out of the country, one of them said to him "*Discumbe*" which he did not understand; and this begot in him an eager desire and resolution to go to school again, which he did communicate to his father, who, with a frown told him he ought not to think of that, being too far advanced in years to begin to learn Latin. But the boy would not be diverted. His father allowed him to enter the school of Moulin the first Monday of the year 1684, where he soon went through the declinations and conjugations of which he had some knowledge before. Duncan Menzies advanced him according to his capacity, and in the month of May following he came up with those who for two years before were at other schools to learn Dispanter's grammar. Thus he continued at the Latin for four years, in the last of which Lord George Murray, youngest son of the Marquis of Athole, was sent to the school of Moulin: with whom Adie contracted great familiarity, treating him with more regard than any other scholar, which procured him envy and hatred from his former comrades. But to compensate that disadvantage he got great benefit from Lord George's familiarity by learning from him to speak the English language, which he understood from his mother, who was daughter to the famous Earl of Derby. Lord George was a healthy sprightly boy. They both in an afternoon in a very private place made signs with their hands and fingers for all the letters of the alphabet so exactly, that by



spelling words they could communicate their thoughts in company without the perception of any other, which was very prejudicial to Lord George's studies. For when the master examined him, Adie was sure to stand opposite to him, and with his fingers spelled the answer to be given to every question, which made him neglect to read his lesson.'

To procure for his master the certificates which were necessary to enable him to graduate at St. Andrews, 'Adie' made a journey on foot to Aberdeen in 1687, of which he says:—

'He was much caressed by the honest women in whose houses he had occasion to lodge, who reckoned his mother unnaturally hard-hearted for suffering so young a boy to go such a journey. In all the way he paid nothing for meat, and very little drink sufficed him; all his charges in going three-score and four miles was 11/ Scots, and in his return his charges were scarce as much, which gave him a very favourable opinion of the people of that country, and made him treat them in a friendly manner whenever he had occasion to meet with any of them.'

The following year he again went to Aberdeen to compete for a bursary, carrying two letters of recommendation, one from Mr. Balneaves, the minister, to George Halyburton, Bishop of Aberdeen, and the other from Mr. Menzies to Mr. Alexander Mitchell, one of the ministers whom the bishop had ejected from his living for refusing to take the Test. Mr. Mitchell 'entertained him at his house all the time he stayed in Aberdeen, performing such parts of trial as were prescribed to him,' but declined to introduce him to the bishop: 'Yet the worthy man was so kind as to accompany him to Old Aberdeen, got Mr. George Fraser the sub-principal to introduce him to the Bishop, who was then at Aberdeen keeping a Synod, where he observed King James VII.'s birthday on the 14th of October in a very pompous manner, going from the divine worship at church to the bonfire at the cross, singing psalms all the way, which gave great offence to serious tender-hearted christians, and was indeed the last parade that profane prelate appeared in at that place; for in April thereafter the Convention of Estates, having declared



for the Prince of Orange, did set him and all other Scotch prelates aside for a very flattering address they sent to King James in November before.'

Fergusson failed to obtain the bursary, and was ultimately sent to St. Andrews.

'His attempt at Aberdeen (he says) made him talked of among his father's acquaintances, by which means Mr. Patrick Balneaves, merchant in Dundee, and brother of Mr. Balneaves minister at Moulin, did take occasion to recommend him to Mr. David Fergusson, minister at Strathmartin in Angus. He was great-grandchild to David Fergusson, minister at Dunfermline, in King James the Sixth's time, and had a considerable stock in money, but had no child to enjoy it except a brother's daughter; and being very clannish, he was much inclined to be beneficial to any of the name of Fergusson that was thought capable of a liberal education, especially after his only son was lost on the ice in the North Loch at Edinburgh.'

Adam Fergusson then gives an account of the manner in which the influence of Mr. David Fergusson was exerted on his behalf, and adds:—

'The regent under whose inspection Adam happened to be, was one Mr. John Row, son of the minister at Ceres, who was grandchild by his mother to David Fergusson, minister at Dunfermline. He did reckon Adam his relation in that way, and was kind and careful about him. Under him Adam made good proficiency in the parts of philosophy that he taught, and was with great applause honoured with the degree of Master of Arts upon the 21st day of July 1693.'

He also mentions that when he entered the Greek class, which was 'taken up that year by Mr. William Conrie, Regent of St. Leonard's College, whose mother was of the name of Fergusson,' he too on that account 'was very careful about Adam who by his pains and diligence pleased him well.'

The ms. shows that the principal at St. Andrews dined daily in the hall, and that the students wore their gowns at table, and preserves an anecdote, 'characteristic in other respects of the Scotland of these days.'

The natural son of Mr. Nairn of Kirkhill had been presented to the bursary Fergusson's friends were trying to procure for him, and they remonstrated with the principal.

'The same day when the principal came to the hall to dinner he came and took hold of Thomas Nairn by the neck of his gown, and with a stern countenance said, "Rise up, you Babylonish child, and let Adam Fergusson, the lawful child of an honest man, sit in that place," which was immediately performed. Yet he gave Thomas Nairn a better place, making him his own portioner, and the students called him "Tom Babylon."'

In the summer of 1690 all the masters of the colleges 'adhering to King James his interest except Mr. John Munroe in St. Leonard's College, were deprived and turned out; and masters of the Presbyterian party were settled in their place.'

After taking his degree Adam Fergusson succeeded Duncan Menzies as parish schoolmaster of Moulin—to which time must probably be referred Small's statement that 'he was long remembered with gratitude for having sheltered in his *Manse of Crathie (sic)* some of the unfortunate Macdonalds on their flight from the treacherous massacre of Glencoe.' It is also interesting to note that he was tutor in the family of Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwellton, whose daughter, 'Bonnie Annie Laurie,' married Fergusson of Craigdarroch, and on 25th September 1700 was ordained Minister at Crathie in Braemar. He thus accounts for one change of residence:—

'The school (at Moulin) being numerous he was obliged to undergo a vast fatigue, by which he was brought so low that he was threatened with a decay to which the following event did greatly contribute. He happened to fall into the acquaintance of a young beautiful widow, and had frequent opportunities to converse with her as a person much inclined to piety, which had such effects that he became deeply in love with her. He saw the folly of it and used his reason against it. But the passion stifled reason and was fed by her entertaining it, though he never told her anything about

it, and she discovered her affection for him by frequently advising him to apply to his studies, and make haste to pass trials for the ministry. But blind as he was, he saw that such an affair ought to be pursued from other motives and from another end than taking a wife, though never so much beloved. Finding himself entangled he saw there was no way to evite death or ruin by continuing (if he continued) in the country. He therefore resolved to remove at (to) some distance from his beloved widow; and to excuse his resolution to the parish of Moulin, he pretended that he was to be provided for in a more easy station, and fitter for making progress in his studies. Yet upon Mrs. — asking whither he was to go when he was taking leave of her, he plainly told her that “he did not know where he was going, —that he was like Jacob going over Jordan with a staff in his hand depending on the direction of Providence.” Then she being of a lively and religious temper did quickly embrace him, “The God of Jacob take care of you,” and so left. His friends and the parish were most unwilling to let him away, and offered to raise a salary for him. But he vigorously resisted that snare, though he was very uneasy for leaving his passionately beloved widow, who soon after was married to a gentleman who had an income to make her live. Yet Adam retained an honourable affection for her for the space of sixty years.’

At Crathie Mr. Fergusson ministered for 14 years with ‘comfortable success,’ and was then translated to Logierait on the presentation of the Duke of Athole, having previously stipulated to obtain a call, or at least a letter, from heritors and people to declare their inclinations to have him to be their pastor. ‘Though,’ says Dr. Lee, ‘at the period of his induction the parishioners were almost universally hostile to Presbyterian principles he speedily secured the respect and admiration of all ranks.’

A portion of the ms. is here wanting, and it is left unfinished. But the concluding pages contain an interesting account of a conversation with the Earl of Mar, leader of the rising of 1715. In September 1715 Mar left his army at Moulin and came to Logierait to meet the Earl of Breadalbane.

‘ While he was there he called for Mr. Fergusson, being of his acquaintance while he lived in Mar. He applauded him for his prudence for not leaving the place on his coming to it, as some of his brethren had done in other places, and told him that in England there was a full design to call home the King, that Lord North and Grey was at the head of 10,000 horse, that loyalty was hereditary in his family, and that none of his predecessors was more inclined to it than himself, although the state of affairs did not allow him an opportunity to declare it till the present time, that offered so fair to break the union with England and get other grievances oppressive to Scotland redressed. To all this Mr. Fergusson replied that he did wish his family well, but was doubtful the means he was to use would in no way contribute to its support. As he was going away the Earl told him since he had the King’s commission for being general of his forces in Scotland (which was not the case) he would not allow him to preach the next day, nor be his hearer, unless he would promise to pray for the King. Mr. Fergusson assured him his lordship should not have occasion to be absent from the public worship on that account, since he always prayed for the King. Then the Earl told him he meant King James. Mr. Fergusson replied he did not know any such King. Then his Lordship said that he was our natural Prince, and that he had no orders from him to use any rigour to the Presbyterians, but on the contrary to assure them that it was in their power to secure the continuing of the government of the Church of Scotland. To which Mr. Fergusson said that he believed that might be on the condition that they would countenance his undertaking. Just so, saith he. Then Mr. Fergusson assured him that all Presbyterians in Scotland were so deeply engaged on the opposite side, that he believed, yea was sure, they would venture their all upon it. Then the Earl said they were great fools and would certainly ruin themselves; and said he would employ another to preach next day in the kirk of Logierait who should pray for the King and success to his arms. To which Mr. Fergusson replied that that was in his power, because he had armed men to assist him; but he hoped he would employ the



Lord's day as religiously as possible, which he did by going to Moulin where he preached.'

The ms. terminates in 1715.

The following extracts from the Kirk Session Records of Logierait have been kindly communicated by the Rev. Mr. Meldrum, present minister of the parish:—

*Jan. 5, 1640.* 'The Elders of the Parochine were chosen, 17 in number, etc. In the number is "W<sup>m</sup>. Fergusone of Balleuchane."'

1650. In a list of Elders on the fly-leaf of an old Register in this year are the names—'Robert Fergussonne of Dunfallandies; Donald Fergussonne, portioner in Dalshian; Alex<sup>r</sup>. Fergussonne of Belleuchane.'

*N.B.*—'Balleuchane or Belleuchane' is at the present day spelt 'Ballyeuken.'

1757, *Dec. 4.* In a list of Elders of this date is 'Finlay Fergusson of Middlehaugh.'

1773, *May 16.* . . . 'James Fergusson in Dunfallendie.'

At Heritors' Meetings in the middle of last century 'Baron Fergusson of Dunfallandy' was either present or represented by an agent.

The Rev. Adam Fergusson, formerly at Crathie and Braemar, was inducted Minister of Logierait on 22nd Novr. 1714, and died July 30th, 1754. He left a legacy of 300 merks for the Poor of the Parish—the Session's 'Security for which is Contained in a Clause of the Principle Disposition of the lands of West Miln.'

1775, *Nov. 5.* 'The minister (Mr. Bisset) gave in to the Session a missive from Mr. Fergusson of West Miln acknowledging his Father's Mortification of Three hundred Merks.'

1715, *Sep. 25.* 'No sermon: y<sup>e</sup> minister being at Moulin, and Mar's armie camped here.'

1715, *Nov. 20.* 'No sermon: the minister being with His Grace the Duke of Atholl at Blair.'

*Memo.*—'The min<sup>r</sup> being kept prisoner by a partie of Mar's Armie for some days, made his escape in the night upon the fyfth of December, and continued at Blair Castle



w<sup>t</sup> his Grace the Duke of Atholl for eight weeks, untill the troubles of y<sup>e</sup> nation were quieted.’

1719, 26th April. ‘No sermon: the minister being with the Duke of Atholl at Huntingtower.’

1724, 22nd November. ‘No sermon here: the minister being at Huntingtower preaching to the Dutchess of Atholl and family, after His Grace the Duke dyed. He left an hundred pounds to y<sup>e</sup> poor of our parish, and dyed on Saturday, the 14<sup>th</sup> Current, at Eight in y<sup>e</sup> morning, uttering these remarkable words as his last farewell to his family,—“I command and charge that all my house after me fear and worship the Lord as I endeavoured to do.”’

‘Mr. Adam Fergusson,’ Mr. Meldrum adds, ‘must have been an able and accomplished cleric, gaining the good will and lasting gratitude of his parishioners. He must have been their prophet and priest—their guide, philosopher, and friend. His method and industry are amply indicated in two volumes of the Kirk-Session Records, which were carefully and neatly written out under his own hand.

‘He was the first Presbyterian Minister of Logierait after the Revolution. His predecessors were Mr. James and Mr. Mungo Moray (father and son) of the family of Ochtertyre—who served the cure from 1650 to 1714—their service being after the Episcopal order. On the death of Mungo Moray the Duke of Atholl’s patronage rights were contested by the Earl of Mansfield, whose nominee was an Episcopalian, Mr. George Robertson, of the Robertsons of Killiechangie. The Duke, however, succeeded in asserting his right to present to the Parish, which was given to Mr. Fergusson.’

The Rev. Adam Fergusson’s<sup>1</sup> connection with Crathie and friendship with the Deeside Farquharsons is commemorated by educational endowments open to lads of the names of Farquharson, Ferguson, and Macdonald, and his influence is said to have been effective in dissuading the Laird of Invercauld from taking part in the Jacobite rising, and thus saving his family from the disaster that overtook so many of his gallant

<sup>1</sup> For notices of his ministerial life, from the *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ*, see *infra*.

clansmen. Strong in his own attachment to the established order, Adam Fergusson was able to do much in favour of his many Jacobite friends, whose adherence to the unfortunate cause rendered the good offices of a friend of Government very necessary to them. An indication of this is found in the letter (in the Baledmund Papers) in which he announces the arrest of his own chief, the young Laird of Dunfallandy, and it is also borne witness to by the traditions of Deeside. He took an active part in ecclesiastical affairs, and was the leader in the Synod of Perth of the party opposed to the Erskines at the time of the First Secession. He survived to 30th July 1754.

The following delightfully quaint record was copied by Mary Ferguson, widow of Robert Ferguson, M.D., from a manuscript of the old minister of Logierait, in the possession of Mrs. Hepburn, at Colquhalzie, about the year 1870 :—

‘ Upon the 25th of December 1705 Mr. Adam Fergusson, Minister of Crathie, and Mary Gordon, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Halhead,<sup>1</sup> were maryed at Halhead by Mr. James Robertson, minister at Glenmurthly, and had children as follows :—

‘ Upon Saturday ye second day of November 1706 Mary was born between three and four a cloak in ye morning, and was next day baptized by Mr. James Robertson, minister at Glenmuick, in presence of ye whole congregation of Crathie, it bein ye Lord’s day.

‘ Upon Saturday, ye                      day of August 1708 Charles was born about ten of ye cloak at night, and was upon ye sixteinth baptized by Mr. Alexander Toask, minister at Tarrland, befor witnesses, it being Monday. Died at Port Royal, Jamaica, Oct. 1743.

‘ Upon Wensday, ye thirtieth and first day of May 1710,

<sup>1</sup> Now Wolrige-Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont. The mother of Mary Gordon above mentioned was Isabella Byres, daughter of Patrick Byres, Laird of Eastercoates, near Edinburgh [afterwards of Tonley, in Aberdeenshire], who was son of Sir John Byres, Knight, sometime Lord Provost of Edinburgh. Mary’s sister, Isabella, was married to Mr. Black, a rich wine merchant of Bordeaux. Their daughter married Mr. Burnett, a merchant of Aberdeen, and Burnett’s daughter, Katy, married her cousin, Professor Adam Ferguson, youngest son of the minister of Logierait, in 1766.—*Note by R. N. R. F.*

Anna was born at Bauemor, betwixt nyne and ten of ye cloak at night, and upon Munday ye fyfth day of June was baptised at Crathie by Mr. James Robertson, minister at Glenmuick befor witnesses, and dyed upon ye ii day of September thereafter.

‘ Upon Thursday ye twentie seventh of December 1711 Alexr. was born Balomore, about two of ye cloak in ye morning, and was next day baptized by Mr. James Robertson, minister of Glenmuick.

‘ Upon Friday, ye twentie first of August 1713 John was born at Balomore, about twelve of ye cloak at night, and was baptized befor ye Congregation at Crathie upon ye twentieth and third of that month by Mr. James Robertson, minister of Glenmuick, and dyed of a decay in a very desirable fram ye 22 July 1724.

‘ Upon Munday, ye twentie eight day of September 1715 Janet was born at Logierait, about five of ye cloak at night, and was upon Saturday ye first October, baptised by Mr. James Stewart, minister at Moulin.

‘ Upon ye Lord’s day ye twentieth and seventh day of October 1717 years Patrick was born at Logirait, betwixt eleven and twelve of ye cloak at night, and was upon Tuesday yrafter baptis’d by Mr. James Stewart, minister of Mouline, being ye twenty nynth day. Died in Port Royal in Jamaica 18 March 1747.

‘ Upon Monday ye 30th day of November 1719 years Robert was born at Logierait, half an hour after seven in ye mornin’, and was baptised ye second day of December yrafter by Mr. James Stewart, minister of Mouline.

‘ Upon Thursday ye 20 day of June 1723 Adam was borne at Logirait, about 6 in ye morning, and baptised on ye next day by Mr. James Stewart, minister at Moulin.’

## PROFESSOR ADAM FERGUSON

*Born 20th June 1723 at Logierait, Perthshire; died at St. Andrews, 22nd February 1816. Aged 92.*

The following account<sup>1</sup> of this most distinguished man, the youngest son of the old minister of Logierait, is given in the *Edinburgh Review* for January 1867 (vol. cxxv.):—

‘If we were asked to name a single Scotchman who should be typical of the whole race in appearance, character, tastes, and fortunes, we should not hesitate to pitch on Adam Ferguson. Hard yet kindly, hot tempered and outspoken, but very prudent and judicious, old Adam had many claims besides his professed stoicism to be regarded as a Scottish Cato. Do but look at him in that picture which hangs in the vestibule of the University Library at St. Andrews. He is ninety years old, but except that time has still farther sharpened and deepened the lines of his shrewd and somewhat scornful face, he is just as Lord Cockburn described him twenty years before, when he was “a spectacle worth beholding.”

‘His hair was silky and white; his eyes animated and light blue; his cheeks sprinkled with broken red like autumnal apples, but fresh and healthy. His lips thin, and the under one curled. A severe paralytic attack had reduced his animal vitality though it left no external appearance, and he required constant artificial heat. His raiment therefore consisted of half-boots lined with fur, cloth breeches, a long cloth waistcoat with capacious pockets, a single-breasted coat, a cloth greatcoat also lined with fur, and a felt hat commonly tied by a ribbon below the chin. His boots were black, but with this exception the whole coverings, including the hat, were of a Quaker grey colour or of a whitish-brown; and he generally wore the furred greatcoat even within doors. When he walked forth he used a tall staff, which he commonly held at arm’s-length out towards the right side; and his two coats, each buttoned by only the upper button, flowed open below and exposed the whole of his curious and

<sup>1</sup> Contributed by R. N. R. Ferguson.



venerable figure. His gait and air were noble. His gesture slow, his look full of dignity and composed fire. He looked like a philosopher from Lapland. His palsy ought to have killed him in his fiftieth year, but rigid care enabled him to live uncrippled in body or mind nearly fifty years more.' (*Memorials*, p. 49.)

The general outlines<sup>1</sup> of the singularly complete and, for a man of letters, exceptionally eventful life that had painted itself with such bold touches on the external aspect of the octogenarian are well known. The spirited young chaplain of the 'Black Watch' who disobeyed orders that he might fight in the front ranks at Fontenoy (11th May 1745—he was then twenty-one),<sup>2</sup> the predecessor of Dugald Stewart in the Chair of Moral Philosophy at Edinburgh (held from 1764 to 1785), the secretary (in 1778) to the Commission that was sent to make the last effort at conciliation during the First American War, the historian of Rome (1782), the friend of Adam Smith, and Hume, and Blair, and Robertson, and Gibbon—no wonder, when he had outlived his great contemporaries, that his face read like a history, and his whole aspect was weird-like to the next age.

Adam's history for eighteen years after Fontenoy (1745) may be dismissed in a few words. He remained chiefly as chaplain with his regiment at home and abroad till about 1754. At this period his father's death occurred, and the Church of Logierait, which was in the gift of the Seventh Duke of Athole, and in which he had hoped to succeed his fine old parent, was not offered to him. It is said he was too proud to ask for it. He felt the slight very keenly, retired to Holland, and finally abandoned the clerical profession. Writing to Adam Smith from Groningen, in October 1754, he requests him to address him in reply without any clerical titles, 'for I am a downright layman.'

In 1757, Adam succeeded his friend David Hume in the librarianship of the Advocates' Library, which he gave up in

<sup>1</sup> These memoranda are compiled mainly from Professor Lorimer's article in the *Edinburgh Review* and the *Dictionary of National Biography*, with family papers.

<sup>2</sup> In a burges ticket of the city of Perth, dated 3rd September 1757, he is designed as *Capellanum Regimini Monticularum*.



no long time on undertaking the education of Lord Bute's sons. In this year arose the well-known controversy over the publication of *Douglas*, by John Home.<sup>1</sup>

Ferguson took part in this controversy by writing a pamphlet *On the Morality of Stage Plays*, which he defended as indirectly sanctioned by scripture and directly by the Fathers of the Church. It is even said (though the story is probably apocryphal) that at his mature age of thirty-three he acted 'Lady Randolph' in the famous rehearsal of *Douglas*, in which Dr. Blair, the minister of the High Church, is represented as having also taken a female part, and duly appearing in petticoats as 'Anna,' the maid.

In July 1759 he was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. The class was to meet in October, and in the brief interval Adam acquired a sufficient knowledge of physics to discharge his duties satisfactorily, a feat which led David Hume to pay him a somewhat ironical compliment on his extraordinary genius. It was during the five years that he held this appointment that he was mainly instrumental in converting the 'Select Society' which Allan Ramsay had established some years before into the more famous 'Poker' Club, to which nearly the whole of the celebrities of Edinburgh belonged. The name was suggested by Ferguson as having for the club members an obvious meaning, enigmatic to others.

In 1763 two of the sons of the Earl of Warwick, Charles and Robert Greville, were entrusted to Adam (then forty years old), and the tutor he employed to superintend their studies was a stalwart young Highlander, called John Macpherson, son of the minister of Sleat in Skye, then one of

<sup>1</sup> Home, 1722-1808, educated at the University of Edinburgh, where he was the friend and companion of Robertson, Adam Ferguson, and Alexander Carlyle. He was made a probationer of the Kirk in 1745, and in 1747 became a minister in East Lothian. In 1755 his tragedy of *Douglas* was rehearsed in Edinburgh, and on the 14th December 1756 was publicly performed, and enthusiastically received. However, the Kirk resented the publication of a play by a minister as an outrage. Alexander Carlyle, then a minister, who was present at the play, was prosecuted by the Kirk, and Home was cited to appear before the Presbytery of Haddington. This he would not do, and eventually he resigned the Kirk in June 1757. He died at Merchiston in September 1808.

his own students, and subsequently Sir John Macpherson<sup>1</sup> (in June 1776), who succeeded Warren Hastings as Governor-General of India (February 1785 to September 1786). Of all his pupils Macpherson was the most loving and devoted. 'The life of this remarkable man,' says the Edinburgh Reviewer, 'was a positive romance, the ideal life of a Scoto-Indian, and it is strange that it has attracted so little attention.'

1764 was a great year in Adam's life. In it he was appointed to the Chair of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, which he had long coveted. His lectures, as might have been expected, where to the ripe wisdom and learning of the philosopher were joined the experiences of the soldier and the man of the world, were exceedingly popular with the students, and were attended by many non-academical members of the upper classes of Edinburgh society, and by the most distinguished men of the country.

<sup>1</sup> John Macpherson was not only the constant correspondent of the Professor through life, but the kind and good friend of all the family. The Professor's youngest boy (Admiral Ferguson) was his godchild. It was Macpherson who procured for my grandfather, 'Bob,' the Professor's nephew, a start in India. He was not less kind to my father, Robert Ferguson, M.D., who has left it on record that 'I lived much with him in my boyhood.' We find him in his old age writing thus to my grandfather, from Farm, near Tunbridge-Wells, on the 23rd January 1815:—'I was glad to receive your good and friendly letter of the 15th, and to learn that your son [my father, then aged fifteen], who is a real and justly esteemed favourite of mine, is doing so well. I will be happy to recommend him to Sir Robert Wigram and Sir William Fraser, etc. . . . My godson Captain Ferguson [then aged thirty] has been in Scotland for some months. I have had late good accounts of his worthy father's [the Professor's] health and good spirits. I ought to be thankful for the state of my own health. . . . I have closed my seventieth year . . . believe me, with my best good wishes for your health and happiness, and the prosperity of all good Fergusons, yours most sincerely,  
JOHN MACPHERSON.'

In another of his letters (Brompton Grove, 23rd March 1816), we find my father setting the shocking schoolboy precedent of refusing a 'tip.' Sir J. writes to my grandfather, 'your excellent son was with me here, and I was quite pleased with his conversation and good conduct in all respects. When I offered him a little cash present, he said he did not wish to accept any, as his father gave him liberally all he could have occasion for.' My father describes Sir John as '6 feet 4 high, and called "the gentle giant."' His portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds is in my possession. The face is in the highest degree attractive. This part of the painting is still in good preservation, but the rest is a sad wreck. Sir John died unmarried in Brompton Grove, on the 12th January 1821.

But an exceedingly important event in his career was impending, and in 1766 Adam, at the somewhat mature age of forty-three, married Miss Catherine Burnet of Aberdeenshire, the niece of his first cousin, great friend and colleague Joseph Black.<sup>1</sup>

I feel sure that all the readers of these Records will be interested by the letters which passed in connection with the engagement. It is pleasant to relate that the marriage was an exceedingly happy one, and that Adam and his wife lived together for thirty years.

I. *To Miss Katy Burnet, at Mr. James Burnet's, Merchant, Aberdeen.*

EDINBURGH, *September 1766.*

MY DEAR MISS KATY,—A letter from me may possibly surprise you. I was very sorry to be obliged to leave Aberdeen without preparing you more gradually for the subject of it; but I hope that you will overlook every circumstance in the manner, for the sake of the very sincere good intention

<sup>1</sup> Jos. Black, M.D. (1728-1799) was born at Bordeaux, the son of John Black, a wine merchant, by a daughter of Robert Gordon of the Gordons of Hallhead in Aberdeenshire. He was a friend of Montesquieu. He was a medical student at Edinburgh in 1750 or 1751; appointed to the Chair of Medicine at Glasgow in 1756; in 1766, Professor of Medicine and Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh. During more than thirty years he inculcated the Elements of Chemistry upon enthusiastic and continually growing audiences; and attendance on his lectures became even a fashionable amusement. Black was a prominent member of the intellectual society of Edinburgh, among his intimates, besides Adam Ferguson, being Hume, Hutton, A. Carlyle, Dugald Stewart, Robertson, and Adam Smith. Though grave and reserved, he was gentle and sincere, and it is recorded of him that he never lost a friend. His countenance was placid and exceedingly engaging. He died on the 6th December 1799 under very curious circumstances. 'Being at table,' Ferguson relates, 'with his usual fare, some bread, a few prunes, and a measured quantity of milk diluted with water, and having the cup in his hand when the last stroke of the pulse was to be given, he appeared to have set it down on his knees which were joined together, and in the action expired, without spilling a drop, as if an experiment had been purposely made to evince the facility with which he departed.' Fourcroy called him 'The Nestor of the chemistry of the eighteenth century;' Lavoisier acknowledged himself his disciple. He was a member of the Paris and St. Petersburg Academies of Sciences, and of the Society of Medicine of Paris, as well as of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and of the Royal College of Physicians. He was, besides, first Physician to His Majesty for Scotland.

from which I act. The esteem and the love with which I am seized to you make me earnestly desire a much more near relation than that which has produced me the happiness of your acquaintance. If the tremendous name of Husband does not alarm you, that is the cousinship which I wish to bear to you. I would willingly carry this request to Aberdeen myself, but you will perhaps rather answer a letter than a verbal proposal, especially if your answer be such as I should be sorry to find it. My happiness very much depends on your allowing me to hope that I may see you before winter, and return from Aberdeen, I would fain wish, in your company, with a heart as full of joy as it was of regret at my parting with you last. If this proposal be disagreeable to you, I shall be most sincerely afflicted; if otherwise, do not torment me with reserve, where frankness would endear you to me so much.—I am, with a very solicitous expectation of your answer, your most affectionate and most humble servant,

ADAM FERGUSON.

II. *To the same.*

EDINBURGH, *September 18th, 1766.*

MY DEAR MISS KATY,—I am just now returned from Glasgow, where I have seen your uncle the doctor,<sup>1</sup> and hope that what he writes to you will favour my request. I had written to your father before I set out from hence, and am very anxious to know his mind. Is it not possible to reckon me too among the number who have a great affection for you and a great concern for your happiness? I would fain hope that I shall be able some time or other to make my title to a place in that list very clear. Meantime, I can only have the pleasure of writing to you and assuring you of a tenderness which I had rather that my actions than my words should express. I have barely time to overtake the post, and conclude with the most earnest request that, whatever these gentlemen may think, you will pay some regard to the sincere affection with which I am, your most humble servant,

ADAM FERGUSON.

<sup>1</sup> Professor Black.



III. *To the same.*EDINBURGH, *September 20th, 1766.*

MY DEAR KATY,—I have received a letter from your father, and am happy that no difficulty, either real or imaginary, has cast up on any quarter. It is with the utmost tenderness and joy that I think of you now as my own, and the happiest acquisition I ever made. As many circumstances at present make time very valuable to me, I venture to write to your father about every particular, and request him to settle matters so as to suit my present engagements. My mind is greatly to abridge formalities and points of ceremony. I like them not on any occasion, but when the heart is most of all affected and moved, they are impertinent to a degree of abomination.<sup>1</sup> I will write no more at present, as I find I have my words to seek for.

I have been in the country all day, and have hurried to town in order to write your father. I only desire that you will make no difficulties about trifles.—I am, with the most affectionate regard, my dear Kate, yours,

ADAM FERGUSSON.

IV. *To Mr. James Burnet, Merchant, Aberdeen.*EDINBURGH, *September 20th, 1766.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I have been in the country all day, have barely time to write what I wish you to know by this post, in answer to a letter with which you have made me so happy. I will think no more of doubts or difficulties of any kind. Kate is mine. You have a numerous family of children—I hope that she is among those that will need your assistance the least. I am averse to all solemnity, I would not even have you think of going to the expense of new cloths for her on this occasion.<sup>2</sup> I make no change in my house till she comes, and then she may change it as she pleases. I spoke something about Interest in my last; my meaning was that you should consider of a paper in which I may secure all I die

<sup>1</sup> He had written 'Lothingness' but erased it, perhaps feeling a little unhappy about the etymology of that word.

<sup>2</sup> It seems a little doubtful whether the lady would appreciate this bit of generosity.



possessed of to Kate and her children in case she survives me. I am in too great a hurry to explain this at present, but will send you a memorandum of it by next post, and you may have the writing ready to be signed when I get to Aberdeen. Doctor Black is ready to attend me whenever I call for him. My situation requires the decency of some forms, such as being called in church, and married by a minister of the Established Church. If Doctor Campbell is at hand to perform this office, it will be very agreeable. I hope that the ceremony of proclamation can be got over at Aberdeen in less than three Sundays. I can at a day's warning get a certificate of my being proclaimed here, and I hope you can get through that affair so as to satisfy Dr. Campbell in much the same manner. If this can be done, I think you may get this letter and write an answer naming a particular day, so as that Dr. Black and I may be at Aberdeen by the end of the first week in October. My time will only allow me to get to Aberdeen the day before and leave it the day after our ceremony. Your own family is company enough for me on the occasion. If Mr. A. Gordon from Hallhead could without inconvenience be there, it would be pleasant, or anybody else that Kate chooses. This letter is the longer for being written in a hurry; but I hope it is to be understood and that it will procure from you, by the first post, the nomination of a day in the first week of October, or at furthest in the second. Dr. Black and I will be there the day before.—I am, your most obliged and affectionate servant,  
 ADAM FERGUSON.

V. *To Miss Katy Burnet, at Mr. James Burnet's,  
 Merchant, Aberdeen.*

EDINBURGH, *Sept. 22, 1766.*

MY LOVELY KATIE,—Your letter is the most pleasant I ever received. Doctor Black and I shall be at Aberdeen the second of October in the forenoon. In the evening, about five or six o'clock, I expect that you will be ready with a clergyman to put over our ceremony, that I may not be detained in the place where you are without seeing you.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This seems to have been the etiquette of those days.

I was to have written your father about some particulars either forgotten or not explained in my last. Be so good as tell him that my residence here is in the West Kirk parish ; that is the designation to be put in any certificate of proclamation. Let him read this, that he may write me in what parish my dear Katie lives, if there be any distinction of parishes at Aberdeen. I will send him a scroll of the paper I mentioned in a post or two, for it requires so much time, it seems, to draw it up. I shall write to Doctor Black by this post to fix his coming



MRS. ADAM FERGUSON

here, and I hope that we shall keep our appointment most punctually. Till then and for ever more, my dear Kate, I am passionately yours,  
ADAM FERGUSON.

VI. *To the Same.*

EDINBURGH, Sept. 24, 1766.

MY DEAR KATIE,—You have a paper enclosed which I should have sent to your father, if it were not for the incli-

nation I have to correspond with you. Please deliver it to him; he will easily understand what forms remain on your part and his, and if there is anything amiss, it can be set to rights when we meet. It is such as a man of business here has scrolled for me. I have a line from your uncle the Doctor<sup>1</sup> this morning. He is to dine here on Sunday next, and we set out on Monday morning for Aberdeen. I told you what was proposed in my last. We may be at Aberdeen on Wednesday evening, but I at present think it will be



PROFESSOR ADAM FERGUSON

pleasanter on the road than there, unless I am permitted to see you, and we shall probably ly (*sic*) at Stonehive and go in to Aberdeen on Thursday the second of October, in the morning, to meet that afternoon, and I hope not to part again in a hurry. You will not be surprised at my proposing to leave Aberdeen again sometime on Friday the third of

<sup>1</sup> Professor Black.

October; I have much to do here. But there or here, or wherever you are will be Paradise and every inn on the road a palace. Pray write to me, that I may know you have received my last and this, that there is no mistake, and that I may have the pleasure of receiving what comes from you.—I am, my dear Kate, most passionately yours,

ADAM FERGUSON.

We must imagine the pair now happily wedded and living an honourable and useful life in Edinburgh; the famous Professor, we will hope, not always in such a desperate hurry as to find it necessary to abridge domestic enjoyment as much as he did the hymeneal preparations. In 1770, on the 21st December, their firstborn son made his appearance, and was christened Adam—that Adam who was the faithful and loving friend of Sir Walter Scott, and was called by him the Merry Knight. Other children were born as time went on—namely Joseph, whose early death I shall have to chronicle; James, the Colonel, born in 1784; John, the Admiral; and three daughters celebrated in Lockhart's *Life* and in the *Scott Journals and Letters* as the Huntlyburn family.

The following letter, written by one of these daughters, Isabella,<sup>1</sup> in her youthful days, is interesting both as a young lady's letter of the last century and as a glimpse into the family circle of the distinguished philosopher. It was addressed to her cousin, Janet Wilkie. The original is in the possession of Miss Janet Anderson, whose mother, Janet Anderson (*née* Watson), was a grandniece of the Professor. Miss Anderson is the last surviving member of her family. The delightful spelling will amuse the reader:—

'ARGYLS SQUAR, Tuesday.

'MY DEAR JEANNY,—We are very much surprised that we never hear from any of you and mamma is very anxious to know how you all are. She wrott my dear Annt some weeks ago and acquainted her of my dear Pappes illness, and it was natoral to expect you would have maid some inquiry about him, but not a scrape from you or uncle Robert all this time, which makes us very uneasy. Pappa is continouing greatly better but still confined to the house, except going out in a

<sup>1</sup> The 'Miss Bell' of Sir Walter's *Journals*.



chase two three miles every other day. The Doctors is resoveld to send him to Baith (Bath). So my dear Jenny he my mother and your humbell servent sets out in about a fortnight, which will be no easy matter to leave the Dear Bears, but if it gives dear Pappa heilth and strength that is nothing. We are all very busy preparing for this great jurney. We shall see the ceity of London before we return. Mary has been out at Musselburgh staying with Mrs. Carlyle and is to remain their till we return. Adam, Joseph, and Jeamy stays hear with Anny. We expect to hear from you when ever you get this. I wish you may can Read it as I am half asleep, ever yours,

ISABELLA FERGUSON.'

In the year of his marriage (1766) Ferguson published his *Essay on Civil Society* and was made an LL.D. of Edinburgh University, and in 1772 he published his *Institutes of Moral Philosophy*.

In 1778 he went to Philadelphia, and acted as secretary to the commission sent out to endeavour to negotiate a settlement with the American Colonies, as already stated. One of the commissioners was that strange character, George Johnstone (1730-1787), known as 'Commodore' and 'Governor' Johnstone, whose affection for and veneration of Adam were shown to the end of his life both by his friendship and his letters.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Writing from Taplow to Lord Macartney (then Governor of Madras) on behalf of 'Bob' Ferguson, my grandfather, on the 23rd September 1785, Johnstone says: 'My dear Lord,—Although I am so weak I can hardly hold my pen, yet I cannot refrain trying my strength and trying my influence with you in favour of Mr. Ferguson, who goes to India as a "free mariner," by my nomination, in the ship which carries General Campbell.' [He went out under this name to enable him to go to India at all.] 'This young gentleman is nephew to Dr. Adam Ferguson, who was with me in America, who is not exceeded in wisdom or virtue by any of his race. I daresay your lordship has received and read his last publication of the *History of the Roman Republic* [1782], which throws a new light on these transactions, notwithstanding all that has been said and all that has been written on the subject. Young Ferguson places his chief dependence on Macpherson, and in this I am persuaded he will not be disappointed, as I have always considered Macpherson a worthy pupil of so great a master, and I know that he venerates Ferguson and his blood with a Mahommedan zeal! . . .'

The Professor, writing from Edinburgh on the 16th April 1785 to Sir John Macpherson [who had by then become Governor-General of India, February 1785], says: 'The son [Bob], by the unalterable kindness of G. Johnstone



About the Professor's fiftieth year paralytic symptoms showed themselves. Under Professor Black's advice Adam became a vegetarian and a total abstainer. 'Wine and animal food' (says Lord Cockburn) 'henceforth besought his appetite in vain, but huge masses of milk and vegetables disappeared before him. I never heard of his dining out except at his relation Dr. Joseph Black's, where his son, Sir Adam, the friend of Scott, used to say it was delightful to see the two philosophers rioting over a boiled turnip.'

In 1782 he published his *History of the Progress and Termination of the Roman Republic*, a work spoken of by Carlyle as 'particularly well worth reading.'

Three years after this, at the age of sixty-two, Ferguson resigned the Chair of Moral Philosophy in favour of his friend and pupil, Dugald Stewart, because he found 'its duties pressed on his health and spirits.' In reference to this the Edinburgh Reviewer says: 'Of the value attached to his teachings by those of his pupils who in after life had opportunities of testing it on a great scale, he received about this time a striking proof in the shape of an offer from Sir John Macpherson to place a considerable sum of money at his disposal. The letter is too long for quotation, but if nothing else remained either of pupil or master, few would doubt that both of them were noble fellows.'

and his insuppressable fervour in behalf of honest men, has obtained leave to go to India, though without any destination or appointment. . . .'

It is very curious to contrast this 'insuppressable fervour in behalf of honest men' with the very unfavourable account of this man and his career written by Professor J. K. Laughton in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. Johnstone was the fourth son of Sir Jas. Johnstone of Westerhall, Dumfries, by Barbara Murray, daughter of the fourth Lord Elibank. Professor Laughton chronicles his repudiation as a Commissioner by Congress on the ground of a written attempt to win over one of the American members of the commission, and his retirement from the Commission, and comments with much severity on (*inter alia*) his 'shameless and scurrilous utterances' in Parliament (1767), where 'his total want of fear and his adroitness with the pistol made him a useful addition to his party.' He was Governor of West Florida (1763-67) and Commodore, R.N. (1779). 'He used to be commonly styled Governor, though with very little reason; he is even now sometimes described as a politician with less: that he was commodore and had command of a squadron is unfortunately true. He seems to have had courage, but was without self-restraint, temper, or knowledge.' Sir Henry Raeburn's pictures of him and his wife, Miss Dee, are now in my possession.—R. N. F.

In the winter of 1786-7 the young Walter Scott met for the first and last time the poet Burns at Ferguson's house.

In 1792 he set off in a strange sort of carriage, with no companion except his servant James, to visit Italy for a new Edition of his Roman History. He was then sixty-nine years old, and he had (says Lord Cockburn) to pass through a good deal of war. His correspondent on this occasion was the ever faithful Macpherson, and his letters are wonderfully fresh and spirited.

Since his retirement from the chair Ferguson had occupied a villa at 'the Sciennes,' near the Grange, in the suburbs of Edinburgh; but the loss of his wife in 1795, and his growing distaste for general society, led him to seek still further seclusion, and he fixed his affections on the romantic castle of Neidpath, on the Tweed. It was then, as now, almost a ruin, and would have been a strange choice in any other man of seventy-two. As long as summer lasted he was charmed with his abode. 'The woods and hills are Elysian,' he wrote, 'and the atmosphere all composed of vital air.' But the winter brought trials which were almost too much even for so hardy a plant, and Ferguson's stoicism for once failed him. 'If anybody think me a philosopher, he is grievously mistaken. I have done nothing but *pest* and scold inwardly' [perhaps outwardly also, if Lord Cockburn may be believed] 'for three or four weeks, not to say months.' Eventually he removed to Hallyards, a sweet rural spot near Peebles, where he lived in the enjoyment of excellent health and much quiet felicity for the next fourteen years, farming with all the ardour of a young agriculturist.

Amongst the younger generation, on whose society, like other older men, he must now have been mainly dependent, one of his most frequent visitors was Scott, the companion of his son Adam, who on one of these occasions, as is well known, made the acquaintance of the Black Dwarf. Ferguson's letters from Hallyards are admirable for their sedate playfulness and the quiet and gentle resignation which they exhibit to the growing infirmities of age.

'What can I write from this post, at which my prime consolation is that I have nothing to do but to wait quietly

till my time comes. . . . I have in my view a most delightful kirkyard, retired and green, on the bank of a running water and facing a verdant hill, . . . to me it gives the idea of silence and solitude away from the noise of folly; and so I fancy myself laid there, with a stone to tell the rustic moralist. . . . "I have seen the works of God, it is now your turn; do you behold them and rejoice."

In 1808 Ferguson began to feel that the infirmities of life rendered it desirable that he should live in a town, so he took up residence at St. Andrews, the place of his own education,<sup>1</sup> and that of his father, the old minister of Logierait.

During the last eight years of his life his relish for the society of the Professors at the University and his other friends and neighbours was as hearty as ever, and his exultation in 1815, when he received the news of the battle of Waterloo, 'left no doubt of the truth of the assertion of his friend Morehead, that "still burned a Roman soul in Ferguson."'

In February 1816 he died, but (says the Reviewer) 'His last words, as narrated to us by one who knew him, are amongst the most remarkable on record. Turning to his daughters, who surrounded his deathbed, he exclaimed, "There *is* another world!"'

The following letter from his son Captain (afterwards Sir) Adam Ferguson will be found of interest. It is addressed to Robert Ferguson (Bob), his cousin, then at 15 Clarence Place, Kingsdown, Bristol, and is dated

ST. ANDREWS, 19th March 1816.

'MY DEAR ROBERT,—On my arrival here a few days ago from my regiment in Ireland my sisters showed me your excellent letter condoling on the loss of our late dear Father, whose departure from this life was as calm and tranquil as the whole course of it had been upright, pure, and benevolent. I was much gratified to find my sisters as composed and well as could have been expected after such a loss, and had great satisfaction to find that every arrangement that the

<sup>1</sup> He was educated partly at home, partly at the Parish School of Logierait, afterwards in the Grammar School at Perth, and in his sixteenth year he went to St. Andrews University, where he took an M.A. degree in July 1742.

warmest friendship could suggest had been made by Mr. Cleghorn and other kind friends here.

‘The repositories were yesterday opened in presence of Mr. Cleghorn and Drs. Lee and Robertson, and everything, as might have been expected, was found in the best and most regular order. A will was found leaving to my 3 sisters the house and garden here, with what little property he had in the funds, which, with sums in the Banker’s hands and a Bond for £1000 will, including their pension of £200, leave them a clear income of £500 p. a., a sum perfectly sufficient to answer all their moderate wants, poor girls, from the long and uniform plan of œconomical management to which they have been from their earliest years accustomed.

‘The will in question appoints yourself and 9 other friends Trustees for the purposes of it. The names of the others are—Sir John Macpherson; Col. Burnett; Mr. Campbell of Kailzie; Professor James Russell; Lord Chief Commissioner Adam; Jas. Fergusson, Advocate; Col. M’Gill; Mr. Cleghorn; and Mr. Daniel Robertson; any three of these accepting to be a quorum. The business of the trust will be perfectly simple, and can be easily managed by the 3 Trustees resident here, viz., Col. M’Gill, Mr. Cleghorn, and Dr. Robertson; but I will thank you to send me a few lines declaring your acceptance of the trust, to enable the lawyer to enter on the necessary proceedings for realising the funds thus put under it. I am most happy to say that my dear father has bequeathed to you his gold repeater watch as a slender mark of his affectionate regard and attachment. This is safe in sister Bell’s custody; and the sum of £1095, 16s. 2d., being the reversion of your father’s estate,<sup>1</sup> is lodged in the hands of Ramsays and Bonar, Bankers, Edinburgh, which, along with the 65 Long Annuities, will be without loss of time conveyed to you regularly by the acting Trustees as soon as matters are put a little in train. Neither my brothers John, James, or myself have any bequest, and, under the will, only the reversion of that of which our dear sisters have so justly got the life rent. Should you wish a copy of the will sent you it shall be done as soon as possible. . . . As to my own

<sup>1</sup> See the terms of old Robert Ferguson’s will, page 158.



concerns I am sorry to say that I have been for 4 months past suffering from a bad complaint in the joint of my right knee, which renders me unfit for any active duty, and will, I am afraid, compel me to retire from the service on half pay for a year or two to come. This is of the less consequence as, in the present temper of the country, no chance of promotion appears likely to be held out for a considerable time to come, and thank God I have a comfortable home and 3 of the kindest and most affectionate of sisters, whose warm hearts cannot be more gratified than by my being with them. This is more than many poor fellows of the cloth at present set adrift have got to say. The many warm friends of my late Father and my brothers are all heartily disposed to assist in making some sort of provision for the latter part of my life, so that I bear up under my misfortunes as becomes the son of such a departed father.<sup>1</sup> . . . Always yours most affectionately,  
 ADAM FERGUSON.'

The following is Sir John Macpherson's letter to 'Bob,' relative to the Professor's death:—

BROMPTON GROVE, 23rd March 1816.

'MY DEAR SIR,—Your letter on the loss of our inestimable friend does honour to you as his nephew. It is one of the most interesting I ever received, and I will keep it with his own letters, which I have regularly preserved and which contain treasures of friendship, philosophy, and wisdom. He sent me two years ago his valuable manuscripts. I shall take care that the public shall benefit by their contents. . . . I consider him, from his publications and my perfect knowledge of him and correspondence with him from the year 1765, as the Caledonian who has rendered the best services to his native country and the age in which he lived.

'I have invariably, as my letters to him progressively testify, attributed to his instruction the success of the public measures which I had the good Fortune to carry through in India. His ideas and those of the great Montesquieu were my constant guides.

<sup>1</sup> He went on half pay in the following October, and in 1817 became, mainly through Scott, Keeper of the Regalia of Scotland, so that his money troubles were over thereafter.



‘I have had most interesting letters from Mr. Colquhoun at St. Andrews, and expect more soon, relative to the affairs of our late friend. I will accordingly get a frank and write to you about their contents before long. . . . Believe me, my dear friend, yours most faithfully, and with my best wishes for your health and prosperity, JOHN MACPHERSON.’

This article may fittingly conclude with the following words of Robert Ferguson, M.D. He writes:—

‘Professor Adam Ferguson was greater in his moral than even his intellectual life. His everyday influence was such that even his children never found it common and familiar, and I knew from one and all of them how deeply they revered his nature. Most of his celebrated contemporaries—Robertson, Hume, Adam Smith, Home, Carlyle, etc., whatever, if any, their mental superiority over him, had some strong foible; my grand uncle, none. His judgment, therefore, on men and measures, exhibited in his *Roman Republic*, are those of a lofty nature, and nothing shows this more than his views of Cæsar.’

Professor Adam now sleeps well in the romantic old churchyard of St. Andrews, and the epitaph which Sir Walter wrote upon him records the virtues of one who served well his fellow-men in his day and generation, and was both a great and a good man.

#### ROBERT FERGUSSON, 1719-1797.

In a letter dated 16th April 1785, from Professor Adam Ferguson to Sir John Macpherson, he speaks of Robert, his elder brother, the subject of this little memoir, as ‘one of the honestest men that ever lived,’ and he adds, with regard to the old man’s son, ‘Bob,’ that he has reason to believe that the latter ‘inherits part of his father’s sense and worthiness.’

The following graphic account of honest old Robert, written in 1845, has been left on record by his grandson, Robert Ferguson, M.D.:—

‘My grandfather was one of, I think, 18 children’<sup>1</sup> [of the old minister of Logierait]. ‘He ran away from the paternal manse and entered as cabin boy to some privateers, and

<sup>1</sup> There were only nine.—R. N. F.

ultimately became himself a noted sailor and adventurer. He was a man of iron nerves; powerfully built though barely above the middle size. My father used to entertain me whole evenings with anecdotes of my grandfather, which he himself gathered by stealth, for it appeared he never dared communicate frankly with him; and from these I infer that in those days of slaving, largely encouraged by Government, and of privateering, he was a man self taught in the midst of a hazardous and buccaneering life, in which he was noted for an extreme independence which would not permit him to accept the usual courtesies of society but most sparingly.

‘He amassed a large fortune and purchased with it plantations in America, where he settled until the war of Independence drove him without a regret to his native land, a comparative beggar until a pension was obtained for him.<sup>1</sup>

‘He never, or almost never, spoke to any one, but none the less he was a welcome guest to his few friends, at whose houses he was most solicitous never to outstay his welcome.

‘Himself most energetic, he despised the want of it in others. He was feared and respected by his brothers, especially by the historian Adam; but it was a rule among them never to believe that there was anything irregular (*i.e.* unusual) in him. He hated enquiry and they feared to make any. He came and went equally silently.’ [It is amusing here to recall the allusion made by old Robert to his brother the Professor, in a letter to Bob of 24th March 1787:—‘I know nothing of his worldly circumstances, he is not very communicative nor inquisitive.’ Apparently there was good reason for Professor Adam’s want of curiosity.]

We get a delightful glimpse of old Robert in a letter from Captain James Fergusson,<sup>2</sup> Deputy Governor of Greenwich Hospital (dated Greenwich, 7th February 1788), to Bob Fergusson in India.

‘Your worthy father was well when I last heard from him. You know he is settled at Perth and has been twice in London since he settled there. The last summer he was at

<sup>1</sup> From allusions in his letters I infer that Professor Adam must have had a good deal to do with procuring this pension for his brother.—R. N. F.

<sup>2</sup> See Chapter IV.—‘Fergussons in Aberdeenshire.’

my house some days, well and hearty, but so delicate in giving trouble, as he calls it, that I could not prevail on him to pass a few weeks with me. . . . You know he is a philosopher, thinking what is best, always seemingly content. He told me he was happily lodged in a comfortable house, and being the tennant (*sic*) of a wealthy batchelor, they joined their pence, sent to market, and eat and drank to their liking. We correspond together. He every now and then sends me relishers of salmon or trout, and in return I send him a cheese, as I know he enjoys it when on his holiday excursions, which he makes more than 3 times a week, if fish can be taken with a fly.'

But to a person of old Robert's temperament a double ménage was a somewhat risky experiment, and as a matter of fact it did not last, and Robert eventually set up in another house on his own account. 'There,' says his grandson, 'he remained alone. In the evenings he was always seen leading an old pony to the pond himself, followed by a crowd of young urchins who left their play and looked on silently, and fearfully day after day. My father told me the effect on himself was the same, and that he never dared ask a question, and that all his father's commands were in few and authoritative words, or by a simple gesture.' Dr. Robert adds, 'My father groaned under his discipline when a full-grown man, unable to resist his more confirmed power of will.'

Poor Bob! the same parental imperiousness under which he suffered so grievously in America and at Perth, before he sailed to India in 1785, is amusingly evident in old Robert's letters to his son after the latter had arrived at Calcutta. Bob himself was twenty-five or twenty-six years old when he set out for the East. He had held a sort of civil-military appointment with the English army during the American War (1775-82), involving, young as he then was, considerable responsibility, and at one time the provisioning of a whole garrison. He was by no means lacking in brains, he was a man of good principles, he had powerful friends; and at his time of life and with his active experiences he may not unreasonably have thought that he was tolerably capable of walking alone now, without being treated like a child, and

without being addressed in letter after letter in the spirit of 'the young man's counsellor.' But this was evidently not the father's opinion, and one can imagine the unfortunate son wincing and groaning as he read letters which, in the midst of all the strong affection which evidently appeared in them, told him to be 'tractable, faithfull, and diligent,' that his father 'expects' that he will remain contented with his present situation till his own good behaviour points out a further line of promotion for him—that he ought to save half his income—that 'it is my wish that you would rather depend on your own integrity and diligence than on anything which can be done for you by letters'—that it is rather too early in life for him to be talking about competency and independence, and that his 'business' is to be 'patient and diligent' in his present station—that he must be more cautious in future in putting his money 'into the hands of idle youngsters,' and finally that his father trusts in God he will never be guilty of the crime of forgery.

Nor was stout old Robert quite the man to appeal to for soft sympathy on the subject of aches and pains. Bob has evidently become rather sorry for himself, and has written an account of his sufferings to his father, with the result that he is told (July 1788), 'you should not alarm yourself too much about the pain in your breast. I have been afflicted with the same almost all my life and am now in my sixty-ninth year.' Bob tries again in 1795, and is told (March 1796) 'I am sorry to find that you still labour under a troublesome pain in your breast. All the consolation that I can give you on that head is that from my infancy I have had the same complaint, with a frequent spitting of blood which alarmed me much in my younger days, but now that I have outlived almost all my former acquaintances I think very little about it,' and then the worthy old fellow gives Bob, who has probably been suffering many things at the hands of physicians, a practical hint, the value of which will be appreciated by every one who reads this and has tried it. 'I always find more relief from moderate journeys on horseback than from any prescription of the Faculty.'

Short as these letters are, and few in number, the pictures



they give us of the old ruined buccaneer's life and character are truly delightful. I proceed to quote from some of them. He dates from Perth:—

*March 1787.* 'There is no alteration in my own affairs since you left me. I can recover nothing from America. New England is all in confusion and under arms; my allowance of £90 a year from Gov<sup>t</sup> still continues, which not only furnishes me with what I call a comfortable subsistence, but also enables me to assist some poor relations.' . . .

*July 1788.* 'My £90 still continues to me, nor have I anything further to expect from that quarter nor indeed from any other, but I am still contented, nor am I a shilling indebted to any man. Should you remit any money to England during my life I shall endeavour to lodge it in the funds for your use, as I may probably rubb (*sic*) through the short remainder of my life without being burdensome to any of my friends.' . . .

*Nov. 1788.* 'I enjoy my ordinary state of health, nor am I discontented. It is a considerable addition to my happiness to learn from all your letters that you are doing well. My brother, the Professor at Edinburgh, enjoys better health than he has done for several years past.'

*May 1790.* 'My brother at Edinburgh is very infirm, disabled by an apoplectic stroke. I enjoy tollerable health for a man at my time of life, being now turned of 70 years. I pray for the continuance of your health and prosperity.'

*March 1791.* 'There is no alteration in my own affairs. I am now upwards of 70 years of age, enjoy tollerable health, live very recluse, take all the exercise I can, my wants are but few and I am contented.' . . .

*Aug. 1791.* 'Although I hope that you will never have occasion for any trifle that I may leave behind at my death, I, about 2 years ago made a will in your favour, and failing of you in favour of my brother the Professor and his eldest son Adam, whom I have appointed my executors, at the same time allotting most of the interest towards the support, during their lives, of a brother and sister who are older than



myself, and whom I at present supply with nearly half my income; my own wants being but few.'

*Oct. 1793.* 'I have to lament the death of our worthy friend, Duncan Stewart, who died at London some weeks ago. Fewe or none of my old friends are now remaining. I have enjoyed better health last summer than in some years past, but whether or not I shall rub through the winter is very uncertain.' . . .

*Oct. 1794.* . . . 'I am happy to learn that you are verging towards a state of independency. You say that it will be 4 or 5 years before you can leave India. I do not expect to live to see you, which is of very little consequence providing you are well and happy. Passages during the present bloody war are extremely dangerous and precarious. . . . As for myself I have enjoyed tollerable health last winter and this summer, and am much easier in my circumstances than when you left me, partly owing to the cheap living in this place, and partly owing to some remittances that I have received from Newport (America). Adam is studying the law at Edinburgh. His father (the Professor) is lately arrived in good health from Italy where he spent the last winter. This is a very pleasant place during the summer, and the winter much milder than at Newport. We have very fine walks along the riverside, which is as clear as cristal and abounding in salmon and trout.'

*March 1795.* 'I have enjoyed better health this winter than for some years past at the same season, although the winter has been the severest that has been felt in Europe since the year 1740.'

*Nov. 1795.* 'I am still going about and enjoy tollerably good health. I continue to receive some small remittances from Newport. As most of my acquaintances are gone I lead a recluse life without being uneasy. My fishing rod diverts me in summer and a book or newspaper in winter.'

But the end was not far off now, and he writes on *5th March 1796*:—

'I have enjoyed tollerable health this winter but am fre-

quently troubled with a giddiness, a weakness in my eyes and a feebleness in my limbs, which are often the attendants of old age. . . . I hope that the next campaign may put an end to this most horrid and bloody war, and that you may have a safe passage (home) free from any apprehension of an attack from the enemy.'

*8th Aug.* 1796. . . . 'I have been struck with a paralytic stroke which has disabled me much. A recovery at my time of life is not to be expected, but as the fever which attended it is much abated, I may perhaps stagger along some moneths (*sic*) longer, but whether I shall rub through next winter is very doubtfull. The warr (*sic*) still continues, and this country is become extremely expensive; every article of life is double the price when you left it. The Professor and his family I am told are well. I have not heard from Newport for 18 months, nor do I expect any further remitt<sup>ces</sup> from there.'

This is the last letter in the collection. In February 1797 this truly noble old man died, and Professor Adam writes to Bob from Hallyards on the 1st March 1797:—

'MY DEAR SIR,—I am sorry to acquaint you of your worthy father's departure from this life. At his age the event is not a matter of surprise, and he met it with great calmness and in the full possession of all his faculties to the last, though under much suffering and bodily distress. In the course of last year he had a paralytic stroke from which he in a great measure recovered; but in winter he became dropsical, and suffered so much from a stifling in his breast that for many weeks before his death he could not be laid in a bed. I enclose for your satisfaction copies of his will executed some years ago, and of a codicil subjoined during his last illness, in both of which he has with great humanity attended to the necessities of poor and deserving relations, by allotting certain annuities for which I make no doubt his funds are sufficient, although I have not yet received a particular state of them. This my son is now making out from the papers which are in his hands, and of which we shall transmit a copy to you. It was difficult to save much from the wreck of a fortune which was on the losing side of a great revolution; but there is

reason to believe that he recovered as much as could be expected, and he lived in this country with but little expense besides some of the charities which he has continued in his will.

‘I reproach myself frequently for not more regularly acknowledging the letters with which you have favoured me. Not being much a man of business my habits have been during great part of my life to defer and procrastinate letters, till there was a danger of their being forgotten altogether; and as most of my friends know this failing, and that I would not neglect any matter of consequence, they were ever ready to forgive me, which I hope you will also, and not discontinue to me the satisfaction of hearing of your welfare.

‘I send this little packet to my friend Sir John Macpherson, who I hope will forward it and direct it properly. As I have taken to a country life at this place you will please direct your letters accordingly to me at Hallyards. . . . Most affectionately yours.

ADAM FERGUSON.’

The codicil above referred to, dated 4th January 1797, I think worth quoting almost entire:—

‘Know all men by these presents, I Mr. Robert Fergusson, presently residing in Perth. Whereas I sometime ago executed a deed or later will which is not at present in my custody, by which I appointed my brother, Professor Adam Ferguson, and Adam Ferguson his son to be my executors for behoof of Robert Ferguson my son, and being now resolved to make a codicil thereto, I do hereby appoint, bind, and oblige my said executors and son to consent to pay to each of my nieces aftermentioned, but whose names I do not at present recollect, a yearly free annuity of £10 sterling during each of their lives. . . . The nieces I allude to are the 2 daughters of my brother Alexander Ferguson, now in Coupar Angus; Miss — Wilkie, at present unmarried, daughter of my sister, Janet Ferguson, relict of the deceased — Wilkie, in Coupar Angus; and the daughters, either 3 or 4 I think, of my said brother, Professor Ferguson at Edinburgh. But it is hereby declared that in case the interest of my free funds and effects which I shall die possessed of, after my debts and funeral expenses are

deducted, shall not be sufficient for answering the amount of the said annuities, then they are to be restricted to such a sum as the said interest will afford to pay; but whatever the interest may arise to, the annuities are not to exceed the sum of £10 sterling to each of my nieces above mentioned. And further, I appoint my said executors and son immediately after my death to deliver to the said Professor Adam Ferguson, my brother, my watches, silver spoons, a small pocket telescope, and a gold-headed cane, and to his son, the said Adam Ferguson, my set of gold waistcoat buttons, with any other little trinkett he may chuse. And I request my nephew Adam Stewart of Blackhill to accept of one of my fowling-pieces and an African gold head of a cane which will be found in my desk. And I appoint my small Galloway horse [one can picture the old man leading the animal himself daily to water] with my old saddle to be given to my friend and acquaintance William Wright, merchant in Perth. And further, I bequeath to my brother Alexander Ferguson and my sister Janet Ferguson above named the whole of my household furniture, bed and table linen, and my whole wearing apparel, excepting a tent bed and mattrass, which I order to be given to the youngest daughter of my nephew Adam Stewart of Blackhall, and two pieces and a half of unmade linen, which I appoint to be given to the daughters of my brother Professor Ferguson . . . in witness whereof these presents are written and upon stamped paper by Alexander Burnett, writer in Perth, and subscribed by me at Perth, the 14th Jan<sup>y</sup> 1797 years, before these witnesses, Robert Stewart, merchant in Perth, and the said Alexander Burnet.

‘(Signed)      ROBERT FERGUSSON.’

Adam<sup>1</sup> writes to the old man's son on the 25th April 1800 as follows:—

‘Though I had not the satisfaction of performing the last melancholy duty of closing the eyes of your good father, I was with him for some time about a week immediately preceding his death. He often mentioned your name with much tenderness and affection, and said his chief regret at

<sup>1</sup> Afterwards Sir Adam.



quitting this life was that he had not had the satisfaction of seeing his "boy" before departure. During the three last weeks of his life he suffered much bodily pain, which he bore with the utmost patience and resignation. It is almost unnecessary for me to inform you that he died universally regretted and in the highest estimation with his fellow-citizens of Perth.—I am, my dear sir, yours very affectionately,

‘ADAM FERGUSON.’

So lived and so died Robert Ferguson; and if to bear with equal mind great prosperity and the buffets of adversity, to endure bodily suffering with manly resolution, to think little of self and much of others; to manifest gratitude to benefactors,<sup>1</sup> and a truly splendid generosity on most limited means; to endeavour so to live as to be a burden to none, to owe no man a shilling, to set his child and his fellow-men the example of an honest, righteous man, taking the days as they came, and making the best of the fate which God was pleased to appoint to him—if such things as these are the test of true greatness of soul and of real worth in man, then in this stern, silent, simple-living, loving-hearted philosopher we have one more of the many many proofs of the truth of Henry Taylor’s famous line—

‘The world knows nothing of its greatest men.’

It is interesting to learn from his grandson’s MSS. that when the latter visited Perth in 1820, twenty-three years after Robert had laid down the burden of the flesh, the house this fine old man had inhabited was still pointed out as that of ‘Captain Ferguson.’

‘BOB’ FERGUSON

*Died 1830. Son of Mr. Robert Ferguson (1719-97)*

Robert Ferguson, M.D., Bob’s son, gives the following graphic account of his male parent:—

‘In his person my father was not tall, but exceedingly handsome.<sup>2</sup> In his mind acute, thoughtful and cautious,

<sup>1</sup> He journeyed all the way to London to thank Sir J. Macpherson for his kindness to Bob his son.

<sup>2</sup> This is amply borne out by a beautiful half-length portrait of him now in my possession, taken when he might have been sixty years old or more, and by an equally beautiful miniature in the possession of my sister Marion. A



the stern affection of my grandfather appeared to me to have made him reserved, grave and very shy. He said little, but had the power of putting as much pith and satire into that as I ever knew. I never dreaded anything so much as his merciless comments on anything I did. I have laughed and cried more from his biting ridicule than from all the buffetings and jokes of all the rest of the world. He was a capital adviser, and treated me as a man when I was a child, gave



MR. ROBERT FERGUSON

me his *pros* and *cons* without reserve, and generally told me in a few words that if I did so and so I should go to the Devil—and he left me the full choice of doing so. He never influenced me directly in anything. I was to choose my path—a great error, for a parent should have given his son the benefit of his own worldly experience.’ I do not know very small but pleasant little picture of him is in the possession of the Misses Labalmondière, the sisters of my father’s first wife, Cecilia—now of 61 Montague Square, Hyde Park.—R. N. F.

the year of Bob's birth. His own account of his early life is given in an undated letter to Lord Cornwallis, then Governor-General of India, written from America some time subsequent to 1801. 'My father settled in this country (America), and I was born and educated in it. It was the scene of my early public service, having been employed in various stations with the British Army from the capture of Rhode Island until the close of the American War (1782). When Count D'Estang entered that harbour with thirteen sail of the line, and the Americans effected a landing, though at that time very young, as Clerk of Issues in the Commissary Department, I had charge of the provisions of the whole garrison. At the evacuation of that island I was induced to accept an appointment in the Civil Branch of the Royal Artillery. I remained at New York only a few months, when I embarked with the reinforcement which was ordered against Calcutta. I was present at the siege, took my tour of duty in the lines to see that the batteries were supplied with ammunition and the guns with their necessary side-arms, and at the capitulation of the garrison, on the 12th May 1780, and as a civil officer attached to the Royal Artillery, and appointed for the purpose of taking an account of the Ordnance and Military stores, I had the honour to march in the rear of the detachment of British Grenadiers that took possession of the Horn work. The Peace (1782) put a stop to my half civil and military career, and ultimately through the friendship of the late Commodore George Johnstone, I went from England to Bengal' (in 1785).

We have already seen how Bob's father was ruined by the American War, and how he returned to England a comparative beggar. What Bob was doing between the Peace and 1785 we have no means of knowing. On the 16th April in that year Professor Ferguson, his uncle, writes as follows to Sir John Macpherson<sup>1</sup> on his behalf:—

'EDIN., 16th April 1785.

'MY DEAR SIR,—Since your last to me I have ventured to give some introductory letters to oblige my friends here, and I am sensible that I ought to spare you a trouble which your

<sup>1</sup> At that time Governor-General of India (February 1785), though the Professor, of course, was not aware of this, and addresses him as a member of the Supreme Council of Bengal.

situation will draw upon you most abundantly; but the bearer of this has too strong a claim upon me to be resisted. He is the son of my brother, one of the honestest men that ever lived. He was born in America, and I have never seen him, but am certain he will not disgrace your protection. His father and he are refugees from that lost continent, and partake in the distress which a rooted affection to this country has brought upon many. The son, by the unalterable kindness of G. Johnston,<sup>1</sup> and his insuppressable favour in behalf of honest men, has obtained leave to go to India, though without any destination or appointment. I have reason to believe that he inherits part of his father's sense and worthiness, and is qualified for business, and hope you will find protection and good offices for him without interfering with pupils of more expectation. His name is Robert Ferguson, and so I present him to you.

'We are here nearly in the same state as when you heard of us last. The children all well; your namesake John' [afterwards the Admiral, but at this time only nine months old] 'particularly thriving, though he is not yet apprised of his relation to you. The mother and I frail and useless, with little object but that of keeping ourselves alive till the others can do for themselves. In all this I hope you will not perceive any touches of melancholy, for my spirits play very easily upon a Gentoo diet without being tied down to the formalities of any caste or exposed to the caprice or rapacity of any master, whether Christian or Moor. . . . I am, my dear sir, your most affectionate and humble servant,

'ADAM FERGUSON.'

The following letter was sent on Bob's behalf to Lord Macartney, Governor of Madras, by Captain Ferguson, Deputy-Governor of Greenwich Hospital:—

'4th July 1785.

'MY LORD,—Though not entitled to ask favours of your Lordship, as the honour of your acquaintance was but short at Granada' [of which Lord Macartney had been Governor],

<sup>1</sup> See 'Adam Ferguson,' p. 145, note, where Johnstone's letter of introduction for Bob is quoted from.

‘ when I commanded His Majesty’s ship *Venus*, yet from the attachment I have to the bearer, Mr. Robert Ferguson, I cannot help soliciting your countenance to him, as his Father is a most worthy man (and brother of Mr. Adam Ferguson, author of the *Essay on Civil Society*), who by the unfortunate war with America is from great affluence reduced to the small pittance Government are pleased to give him, so that the son is obliged to go look for bread in a foreign land. He has been bred to figures, and gave great satisfaction to the Ordnance Board in his accounts, being employed in that branch in America, and from the knowledge I have of him he is all I could wish. Any little favour you may confer on him shall be most gratefully acknowledged by him who has the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship’s most obedient and most humble servant,

JAS. FERGUSSON.’

Sir J. Macpherson’s kindness procured Bob a place almost immediately. He was made ‘ Superintendent of the French Salt’ at Ishera—that is, he had the control and storage of the salt landed by French traders at that place; and it was by his advice that the system of permits was introduced, by which an excess of French coast salt was thereafter avoided. He was at one time in a position of extreme difficulty owing to the decision of the then Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis, that the salt was to be stored in the vicinity of Calcutta, where no proper provision for its reception had been made; but by energetic action he succeeded in surmounting all obstacles and carrying out the order of the Governor.

It was during this time that poor young Joseph Ferguson, his cousin, landed in India, and received great kindness and attention from Bob till the lad’s health broke down and he returned to Edinburgh in 1792-3.

In 1793 Bob’s tenure of office appears to have expired, though for what reason I do not know; and he was only in temporary employment in connection with the salt-work. He laid his case before Lord Cornwallis, who said that ‘ the least he could do’ was to aid him to a place. Such a place was soon forthcoming. The Board of Trade of India took over the Salt Department in 1793, and on the 11th April in that



year he was appointed 'Keeper of the Company's Salt Golas (or houses) at Sulkie,' at a salary of 300 rupees a month and 100 rupees a month for house rent. This appointment he held till his resignation of his office and departure from India for America in 1801.

But while holding the merely temporary employment he ventured on an exceedingly risky experiment. He made representations to Lord Cornwallis of the importance of having one place for landing all the coast salt, and in anticipation of the decision he procured at his own risk all the material for building golas and a house for the superintendent. The place was approved, but for some reason which is not apparent from the correspondence, the East India Company flatly refused to compensate him for his outlay; thus providing him with a grievance which lasted him all the rest of his life. 'These golas,' writes his son, 'were the only subject on which he prosed and bored me to death.'

Bob's place at Sulkie seems not to have been a bed of roses. He writes to Lord Cornwallis: 'The difficulties I had to contend with were by no means small. I had scarcely taken charge of my office before numerous complaints were preferred by the agent for the contractor against the servants of that station; the hired golas were burnt down and the Company's property lay exposed to pilferage and the weather. This I had to secure. I had other golas to build for the reception of the salt that was daily arriving . . . and from exertion under exposure to the sun I lost my health. . . . Mr. Cotton can inform your Lordship that Sunday, which is a day of rest to most men employed in the public service in India, was to me a day of labour, and that the salt received on those days frequently amounted to 10,000 maunds. That gentleman can also inform your Lordship that the office which I held under the Board of Trade was frequently vexatious and harassing on account of the vanity of the tempers of those with whom I had to transact the public business, and I hope that he may be also able to add' (he says quaintly) 'that on such occasions I have generally preserved mine.'

In 1799 occurred the sad death of young Joseph, which had so deep an effect on Bob that he was utterly broken



down, and found it necessary to throw up his place. However, after a while he resumed it, though he had to use much interest to get it back.

In the same year his son Robert (M.D.) was born, and in the following year, 1800, his daughter Catherine, afterwards married to James Cary, D.D., son of the translator of Dante, whose body lies in Poets' Corner, Westminster Abbey. In 1801 he set off for America, probably to see whether anything could be made of the wreck of his father's property there.

After this the actual records of him are scanty. He had saved money in India, as so eagerly desired by his father, and eventually he appears to have realised a large fortune. He came home to England and settled there, living at Bath and Bristol, in constant correspondence with his Ferguson relatives, who loved him heartily, and in 1816 we find him one of the trustees of Professor Adam Ferguson's will, and giving an account of the Professor's death to Sir John Macpherson. He lived on to 1830; but, as with his father before him, misfortune fell heavily upon him, and his money was almost wholly lost, mainly, it is believed, through investments made in Spanish Bonds. The great crash occurred in 1823. In the later years of his life he chose to be as much as possible alone; occupied a lodging at 22 Judd Place, New Road, and then at 15 Southampton Place, New Road, London, where he dwelt reclusely, and died suddenly in the month of October 1830, two days after his son's marriage to Cecilia Labalmondrière.

He was buried in the churchyard of St. George's, Bloomsbury, but in 1881 the churchyard was closed and the grave-stones transported to the open space in Henrietta Street, near Brunswick Square, now a recreation ground. Of his stone no trace now exists.

#### CAPTAIN JOSEPH FERGUSSON

*Second son of the Professor, died 1799.*

The sad story of this young man's life and early death comes now to be told.

The Professor's original intention had been that Joseph should be bred an advocate, but it was not so to be. The lad

had set his heart on the army, and in 1791 arrangements were made for him that he should go out to India as a cadet of Artillery. His uncle, old Mr. Ferguson of Perth (1719-1797), the Professor's elder brother, describes him at this time as 'a modest and promising youth,' and his cousin Adam states that his 'qualities were of the most amiable kind, joined to much personal spirit and gallantry.'

The boy accordingly left his home, which was at this time



CAPTAIN JOSEPH FERGUSON

'The Sciennes,' near the Grange, in the suburbs of Edinburgh, and started for India, the intention of his friends being that he should, on his arrival, be looked after and cared for by the Professor's brother-in-law, Captain Burnett. Old Mr. Ferguson wrote on his nephew's behalf to his son 'Bob' at Calcutta. 'I need not repeat to you,' says the fine old fellow, 'the many obligations that both you and I lie under to his father, and therefore I expect you will receive him as a

brother and supply him with such necessaries or money as he may want until such time as he is provided for. His father will re-imburse you if necessary. I know that I need not press you on this head, and that you will be happy in this young man's acquaintance.' [The cousins had not yet met.]

Professor Ferguson wrote at the same time to his nephew Bob as follows:—

‘LONDON, 19th March 1792.

‘MY DEAR SIR,—The bearer, Joseph Ferguson, my son, carries a letter from his Father to you which might be sufficient for every purpose, but I cannot let him depart without some expression of my affection for you and full confidence that as far as you have opportunity you will be as a brother to him. His uncle, Captain Burnett, will, I hope, be in Bengall (*sic*) to receive him at his arrival and be his parent there; but in his absence I shall rely on you and gratefully repay any supply that may be necessary to him. He has many letters: one in particular to Colonel Ross,<sup>1</sup> in which I remind him of my thanks for good offices to you, of which I shall be glad to know the continuance. It will be obliging to drop me a letter with the return of ships from India with accounts of yourself and this young person on his joining the corps to which he is appointed.—I am, my dear sir, your most affectionate and most humble servant,

‘ADAM FERGUSSON.’

It might have well been hoped that this ‘fine gallant young man,’ as (Sir) Adam calls him, was now fairly started on an honourable career, and that with such friends and such influence behind him he might rise high in the Indian army; but it appears that his health broke down in the East, and in a letter dated Perth, 13th October 1793, we find old Robert Ferguson writing as follows to Bob in India:—

‘Joseph, your cousin, is arrived at Edinburgh some weeks ago. I had a letter from him thanking me for your kindness to him, and acquainting me that his return was for want of health. He must have been sent out at a very considerable expense both of interest and money, and I suppose that his

<sup>1</sup> Secretary to Lord Cornwallis, who was Governor-General of India, 1786-1793.

Ensigncy might have been obtained at home at less than a quarter of the expense. His father (the Professor) has gone for (*sic*) Italy to spend the winter, and I believe that he met Joseph in London. I know not how he relished his returne.'

In spite of this unhappy failure, young Joseph's heart was still with the army, and on the 4th October 1794 old Mr. Ferguson writes from Perth to 'Bob' that the lad is now a 'Lieutenant of Grenadiers in a new raised marching regiment; I know not whether in Britain or the continent at present.' In 1796 Joseph had become 'a full captain' in the 78th Regiment (Seaforth Highlanders).

The following is an extract from the Professor's letter to 'Bob' about his boy Joseph's return to the East:—

'HALLYARDS, NEAR PEEBLES, N.B., 1st March 1797.

' . . . Before this will have come to hand you will, I trust, have heard of the arrival of your friend, my son Joseph, again in India. He goes at the head of a Company. May his health continue better than it was when he left you (1793). The lot of a military man is to go where he is ordered or to quit the service. My blessing to him and you. There will be a letter for him from this family by the same conveyance with this.— I am, my dear sir, most affectionately yours,

' ADAM FERGUSON.'

In the course of the summer of 1795 the Professor had lent Joseph a sum of £1000 at 5 per cent. Robert, the cousin in India (Bob), must have told the Professor that Joseph was fretting and worrying about the repayment of this money, and that the lad was anxious to secure his own life for repaying it. Like the loving-hearted old father he was, the Professor writes to Bob as follows:—

'HALLYARDS, 2nd Sept. 1798.

' . . . I cannot enough express my obligation to you on his (Joseph's) account, and your readiness to assist him in getting forward in his line of preferment. It gave me some pain to hear of his anxiety to secure his debt to me by ensuring his life. The proposal when first mentioned to me I rejected, and signified so much to his correspondent at London; but it seems too late to prevent the Ensurance for one year being paid. I have



since authorised my son Adam to forbid it altogether, and hope it will not be repeated. If there is to be an insurer, let me be the person. If there were to be a loss, that of the money would be the least. And I mention the subject to you, trusting you will be so good as to relieve his mind of all anxiety on this account. . . . I am commissioned by more than one person in this family to thank you for your letters, for if Joseph have reason to complain of our silence, we have you and Mr. A. Johnston of Calcutta to thank for the only account we have had of him for above 18 months.—I am, my dear sir, yours most affectionately,

‘ADAM FERGUSON.’

In 1799 it is evident that the lad's health had broken down again. In November of that year he died. He drew up a will on the 18th of that month, which runs as follows:—

‘I beg to leave behind me these few memoranda for the arrangement of my little affairs. My resignation of my Company in order to procure its sale is in the hands of the best of human beings, Colonel Alexander Mackenzie. His honour and truly godlike beneficence of character, I think, ensures to me that he will, when I am no more, make the best of it, and do his utmost in procuring what he can for the benefit of my beloved brothers and sisters, amongst whom I desire that the amount of it, together with any other sums that may accrue to my estate (after the payment of my just debts) may be equally divided. I love no one of them better than another. They will receive it only as the testimony of my affection for them. I wish it had been more. I am a Bond debtor to my father for £1000, bearing interest from the 15th July 1795 at 5%. The cash of mine which is now in the hands of my much beloved cousin, Robert Ferguson, will nearly amount to that sum. It is partly lodged in 10 and partly in 8%. I trust to him to pay it to my father, and thereby cancell the Bond. Its double interest of 10 and 8% will probably make up that which is due for the years past. . . .’

The poor lad then gives some details of small debts in rupees, and proceeds:—



‘. . . Amongst my papers will be found lists of my effects and cloaks. Of those sold at Cawnpore the list is with Lt. Roderick Mackenzie. Excepting one week’s pay to three boys of the Band of my Company, I owe nothing to my Company to the best of my knowledge. I owe to my Pay-Sergeant upwards of 400 rupees, for which I gave him an order for the same amount, of a balance due to me by Major Adams of which there stands a mem<sup>m</sup> in his books.

‘JOSEPH FERGUSON.’

Robert’s cousin, (Sir) Adam, writes to him about the dead man on the 25th April 1800, from 84 Chapel Street, Edinburgh:—

‘EDINBURGH, 84 CHAPEL STREET,  
25th April 1800.

‘MY DEAR SIR,—You will no doubt be surprised at being thus familiarly addressed by a person in a great measure a stranger to you, but though from the difference of our local situations we have not as yet had an opportunity of forming a personal acquaintance, yet to your goodness I am no stranger.

‘Your kindness and attention at all times to my poor deceased brother Joseph, claims the warmest gratitude of his family, and we hope ere long to have it in our power to make our acknowledgements to you in person. You may easily guess the dreadful shock our family sustained on being informed of the loss of such a fine gallant young man. You well know with us that his qualities were of the most amiable kind, joined to much personal spirit and gallantry. Had it pleased the Almighty to have spared him he would have done credit to his profession, and been an ornament to his family. I hope you will pardon this effusion from one who was the early companion of his youth, and flattered himself with the hope of having the comfort of his brotherly advice and assistance through life. My father (the Professor) and sisters, though still much indisposed, are, I am happy to say, in some degree relieved from their first load of affliction.

‘You must by this time have come intimate with my

brother James' [See No. 3, Colonel James Ferguson]. 'If it may not appear saying too much, he is certainly a most exact resemblance in every particular to the poor fellow who is no more. He is a tender-hearted lad, and his brother's death must have hurt him much. I am glad, however, to hear that he has behaved with manly fortitude upon this trying occasion. . . . I remain, my dear sir, very affectionately yours,

ADAM FERGUSSON.'

Robert Ferguson examined into poor young Captain Joseph's affairs, and a memorandum of account, dated 21st December 1799, on the back of the copy of the will, shows that all the debts were fully paid off out of the estate, and more than £1100 sent home, independent of such money as might be received for the sale of the commission. Colonel Mackenzie applied to the Duke of York for leave to sell the commission, which His Royal Highness granted.

Such was the short life of Joseph Ferguson, of whom Robert Ferguson, M.D. writes: 'If he resembled his picture, he must have been a very handsome man.'

*The 'Huntly Burn' Family.*

1. Sir Adam Ferguson.
2. Admiral John Macpherson Ferguson.
3. Colonel James Ferguson.
4. Dr. Robert Ferguson's account of the Huntlyburn Family, including the three sisters.
5. Dr. Robert Ferguson's account of Lockhart's ménage at Chiefswood.

SIR ADAM FERGUSSON. 'THE MERRY KNIGHT,' 1770-1854.

*(An Introductory Note to my father's account of him.)*

Sir Walter Scott in his Autobiography, writing of the year 1788, when he was seventeen, says: 'The persons with whom I chiefly lived at this period of my youth were (*inter alios*) Adam Fergusson, son of the celebrated Professor Fergusson, who combined the lightest and most airy temper with the best and kindest disposition.' In the journals (Oct. 1827),

he calls Adam, then fifty-six, 'the merry knight,' and (March 1829) 'the gayest man I ever knew.'<sup>1</sup>

'Adam, the eldest son of the Professor, was born on the 21st Dec. 1770, and after his experiences as an Edinburgh collegian, was put into training for the law. Legal studies, however, appear not to have jumped much with his humour,



SIR ADAM FERGUSON

<sup>1</sup> In the *Life*, chap. xii., Lockhart quotes Scott's description of the Captain (Adam) to Lord Montagu:—

'The Captain is a very singular fellow, for, with all his humour and knowledge of the world, he is by nature a remarkably shy and modest man, and more afraid of the possibility of intrusion than would occur to any one who only sees him in the full stream of society.'

Writing to Southey on 23rd March 1818, Scott says:—'I have also with me an old and faithful crony from the day we carried our satchels to school together, Captain Adam Ferguson, the son of the historian. With the unceasing good spirits which find subject for exercise in the most trifling passages of human life, of which he is the most acute observer I have ever seen, he has borne and parried a world of misfortunes, which must have crushed any one possessed of less elasticity of spirit.'—*Familiar Letters*, 1894.

and about 1800, at the age of 29, he joined the 58th Regiment, in which, says Lockhart, 'after various chances and changes' he became a Captain. His military tastes and patriotism had already been shown by his joining the Edinburgh Volunteers.

Previous to this, in 1793, Adam accompanied young Walter, then aged 22, on a tour through Perthshire and the Highland border scenes, which Scott afterwards described in his poems and romances. The longest stay made was at Meigle in Forfarshire, and (says Lockhart) 'I have often heard them . . . dwell on the thousand scenes of adventure and merriment which diversified that visit.'

In 1797, after the rising of the Court of Session, Scott set out on a tour of the English lakes, accompanied by his brother John (who died in 1816) and Adam Ferguson. Their first stage was Hallyards in Tweeddale, to which the old Professor, then 74, had retired, and there Scott had his first and only interview with David Ritchie, the original of 'the Black Dwarf.' It was on this tour that Scott saw and fell in love with Charlotte Margaret Carpenter, whom he married during the following Christmas recess.

Adam was now a full soldier (1800). In 1808 he appears to have joined the 101st Regiment, and writing to Scott from Lisbon on the 31st Aug. 1811, he says: 'I was so fortunate as to get a reading of *The Lady of the Lake*, when in the lines of Torres Vedras, and thought I had no inconsiderable right to enter into and judge of its beauties, having made one of the party on your first visit to the Trosachs. While the book was in my possession I had nightly invitations to *evening parties*, and, I must say, that though not conscious of much merit in the way of recitation, my attempts to do justice to the grand opening of the stag hunt were always followed by bursts of applause, for this canto was the favourite among the rough sons of the fighting 3rd Division. At that time supplies were scanty, and in gratitude I am bound to declare that to the good offices of "the Lady," I owed many a nice slice of ham and runner of hot punch.' Lockhart adds, 'The gallant and gastronomical Captain (who did not, by the way, escape suspicions of having been a little glanced at in *Dalgetty*)



was no less heartily regaled on the arrival of *The Vision*, a present from the author, Scott.' He again writes: 'What particularly delighted me were the stanzas announcing the approach of the British fleets and armies, and I can assure you that the Pats are to a man enchanted with the picture drawn of their countrymen and the mention of the great man himself. Your swearing in the true character of a minstrel, "shiver my harp and burst its every chord," amused me not a little. Should it be my fate to survive, I am resolved to try my hand on a snug little farm either up or down the Tweed, somewhere in your neighbourhood, and on this dream many a delightful castle do I build.' Lockhart adds:—'I must not omit a circumstance which Scott learned from another source, and which he always took great pride in relating. In the course of the day when *The Lady of the Lake* first reached Fergusson, he was posted with his Company on a point of ground exposed to the enemy's artillery. The men were ordered to lie prostrate on the ground. While they kept that attitude, the Captain kneeling at their head, read aloud the battle of Canto vi., and the listening soldiers only interrupted him by a joyous huzza whenever the shot struck the bank close above them.'

Adam was taken prisoner during Wellington's retreat from Burgos in 1812, and was not released till the peace of 1814.

The following letter, written to my mother in 1849, gives an amusing experience of this period:—

'27 GEORGE SQUARE, EDINR.  
4th May 1849.

'MY DEAR MRS. FERGUSON,—Your last agreeable note followed me here from Huntly Burn this day. It was certainly a sad forget in my last not to acknowledge the receipt of the King's Plain Snuff, which arrived some time ago in ample quantity and of first rate quality; from which latter property it seems likely to share the fate of 600 francs which a kind relative of ours sent up to me from Bordeaux to the Auvergne, where, in 1814, I was with many others of my countrymen (prisoners of war) and in a starving condition.



The carrier who brought the money sent the Town Crier with his bell through the town, so the whole dépôt was made aware of my good fortune, and away went my 600 francs in *loans*, something like those, the definition of which is given by Dr. Samuel Johnson, "Lend me a sixpence *not to be repaid*." So my Snuff, from its excellence, is borrowed at all hands by starving noses! You say nothing in your last about my country house. I think if you saw it you could not resist becoming its tenant. There is one tree which must be as old as our good King Jamie VI., under the impenetrable shade of which I have often read the live long day, and (like the Cockney under his mulberry tree on the Bagnigge Wells Road) "no one was the wiser for it!" My Cara Sposa begs to join in kind love to Robert and yourself, and sends kisses apiece to the two darlings [Mary Roma, born 1847, and the writer of this—born 1848].—Yours very affect<sup>ly</sup>,

'ADAM FERGUSSON.'

In February 1816 Adam's father, the Professor, died at St. Andrews, aged 92, and under the sketch of his life (page 148) will be found Adam's letter to his cousin, Bob Ferguson, then at Bristol, in which, *inter alia*, he relates the fact that nothing but a reversion has been left either to himself or his brothers, but speaks in the most loving way of his three sisters, who have 'so justly' got the liferent of such money as there was. He speaks somewhat gloomily of his own condition, and dwells on the necessity of his having shortly to go on half pay. This he did in the following October (1816).

In 1817 he accompanied Scott in an excursion to the Lennox, and in the following year he and his sisters took up their residence at the mansion house of Toftfields, which Scott had recently purchased, and on which Scott, at the ladies' request, bestowed the name of Huntly Burn. In the autumn of this year Adam, chiefly through the exertions of Scott, was made 'Depute-Keeper of the Regalia of Scotland,' then recently discovered, and about this time Sir David Wilkie executed for Scott the picture in which Scott and his family are represented as a group of peasants and Ferguson as a gamekeeper or poacher.

In 1819, at the age of 48, he accompanied Scott's friend, the Duke of Buccleuch, then in declining health, to Lisbon, and in April 1821, aged 50, he married the widow of George Lyon, daughter of John Stewart of Stenton. Scott gives a comical account of the marriage ceremony. The happy couple settled at Gattonside House, in the same parish as Huntly Burn.

On the occasion of the visit of George IV. to Edinburgh, Adam received the honour of Knighthood, on 29th August 1822. Mr. Skene, in his reminiscences, says of Tom Purdie, the ex-shepherd and general factotum to Scott, that 'when Sir Walter obtained the honour of Knighthood for Sir Adam



WILKIE'S PICTURE

upon the plea of his being Custodier of the Regalia of Scotland, Tom was very indignant, because, he said, "it will take some of the shine out of us," meaning Sir Walter.'

In Lockhart's *Life*, and Scott's own journals, we get many charming peeps at jovial Adam, capping all the merriment at Abbotsford by singing 'The Laird of Cockpen'; spending with Scott and Wilson and Lockhart a joyous evening at Torwoodlee, and making the kind old host's sides sore with laughter; acting as croupier at the Abbotsford Hunt annual dinner; helping in the yearly 'St. Ronan's

Border Games'; 'predominating' at the festa at Will Clerk's, 'dancing what he calls his merryandrada in great style'; spending the evening with Scott, and being 'in all his glory,' so that 'the nicht drave on wi' sangs and clatter': 'in high fooling, so that we had an amazing deal of laughing'; taking a long walk with Sir Walter when the latter was 'haunted with gloomy thoughts'—'it was a charity' (writes Scott), 'and his gaiety rubbed one up a little';—dining with Scott and laughing and talking his sense of gloom and oppression away. Never surely were two dearer friends, nor two men better suited to enjoy one another's brilliancy and wit and humour and intellectual powers.

Adam long outlived his friend, who, as all the world knows, died on the 21st September 1832.<sup>1</sup>

Adam himself was called away on Christmas day 1854, aged 84, and was followed three years later by his wife.

Husband and wife lie in a vault in the churchyard of the Old Greyfriars, Edinburgh, with the following inscription over them:—

IN MEMORY OF  
CAPTAIN SIR ADAM FERGUSON, KNIGHT  
DEPUTE KEEPER OF THE REGALIA OF SCOTLAND  
ELDEST SON OF  
DR. ADAM FERGUSON  
PROFESSOR OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY  
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH  
BORN 21ST DECEMBER 1770  
DIED 25TH DECEMBER 1854

AND OF  
DAME MARGARET FERGUSON  
HIS WIFE  
DAUGHTER OF  
JOHN STUART OF STENTON  
BORN 15TH MAY 1770  
DIED 4TH DECEMBER 1857.

I will conclude this notice of Sir Adam with the following invitation in verse from Sir Walter to the Merry Knight, most kindly supplied to me by Mr. George Bayley of 7

<sup>1</sup> For some most interesting letters of the two friends to each other, and for various allusions to Sir Adam, see *Familiar Letters of Sir Walter Scott*, 1894.

Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh, Lady Ferguson's grand-nephew.

The manuscript of it, which is autograph of Sir Walter Scott, and now in Mr. Bayley's possession, contains an invitation to Adam Ferguson, then residing at Gattonside House, on the other side of the Tweed, to dine at Abbotsford. There is no date on the ms., but in Lockhart's *Life of Scott* it is mentioned that the estate of Gattonside was sold about 1824, and in a letter of Sir Walter's, dated 14th April 1824, to Lord Montague, he says: 'We are threatened with a cruel deprivation in the loss of our friend Sir Adam, the best of men. A dog of a Banker has bought his house for an investment of capital, and I fear he must trudge. Had I still had the Highland Piper in my service, who would not have refused me such a favour, I would have had him dirked to a certainty—I mean this cursed Banker. As it is I must think of some means of poisoning his hot rolls and butter, or setting his house on fire, by way of revenge.'

### COME OWER THE TWEED, ADAM ;

BEING AN EXCELLENT NEW SONG TO THE OLD TUNE OF

'COME OWER THE SEA, CHARLIE.'

Come ower the Tweed, Adam,  
 Dear Adam, Sir Adam,  
 Come ower the Tweed, Adam,  
 And dine with us all.  
 We'll welcome you truly,  
 And stuff you most dully,  
 With broth, greens, and boullie  
 In Abbotsford Hall,  
 Come ower the Tweed, Adam.  
*Da capo.*

Bring here your dear lady,  
 For friendship so steady,  
 The welcomest tread aye  
 That visits our Hall.



Bring your guests too and spare not,  
 For numbers we care not,  
 In especial Miss Arnot <sup>1</sup>  
 So comely and tall,  
 Come ower the Tweed, etc.

With wine we'll regale ye,  
 We'll draw punch and ale ye,  
 And song, verse, and tale ye  
 Shall have at your call.  
 'Twill be worth a gold guinea  
 To hear Mrs. Jeannie <sup>2</sup>  
 Lilting blith as a queanie  
 In Abbotsford Hall.

Then come ower the Tweed, Adam,  
 Dear Adam, Sir Adam,  
 Come ower the Tweed, Adam,  
 And gladden us all.

ADMIRAL JOHN MACPHERSON FERGUSON ('THE SKIPPER').

*A memorandum preliminary to my Father's account of him.*

John Macpherson Ferguson, the youngest of the great Professor's four sons, was born in Edinburgh on the 15th August 1784, and on the 16th April 1785 we find the Professor writing as follows to Sir John Macpherson, godfather to the boy, who had in the previous February succeeded Warren Hastings as Governor-General of India:—'We are here nearly in the same state as when you heard of us last. The children are all well; your namesake, John, particularly thriving, though he is not yet apprised of his relation to you. The mother and I frail and useless, with little object but that of keeping ourselves alive till the others can do for themselves.' The Professor had passed his sixty-first year when John made his appearance in the world. He had published his Roman History in 1782, and in 1785 he resigned

<sup>1</sup> *Miss Arnot.* Daughter of David Walker Arnott of Arlary, and married (1) Edward Bayley, Lieutenant R.N.; (2) David Arnot, D.D., Minister of the High Church, Edinburgh.

<sup>2</sup> *Mrs. Jeannie.* Miss Jane Jobson of Lochore, who married 3rd February 1825 Sir Walter's eldest son.



his Chair of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh into the hands of his friend, Dugald Stewart.

The childhood of young John was passed at Hallyards, near Peebles, where the Professor settled, but at the early age of twelve years and a few months the boy left home (December 1796), and entered the Royal Navy as a 'first class volunteer.' Mr. R. D. Awdry, C.B., the Assistant-Secretary to the Admiralty, has kindly furnished me with



ADMIRAL J. M. FERGUSON.

the following information as to John's naval career, taken from O'Byrne's *Naval Biography*. It will be seen how splendidly Johnny, whom the Professor always called his 'little seaman,' bore himself in the service of his country, although he suffered a very great misfortune in the loss of his ship in 1811.

'This officer entered the Navy in Dec. 1796 as first class volunteer on board the *Cesar*, so employed for 3 years at the

blockade of Brest. He removed as midshipman, 1800, to *La Loire*, then he joined the *Aurora*, then the *Victory*, 100, bearing the flag of Lord Nelson' (under whom, according to family tradition, he took part in the famous battle of Copenhagen, April 1801). 'On 13th January 1804 was confirmed to a Lieutenancy in the *Superb* (Captain Keats), under whom, after pursuing the combined fleets of France and Spain from the Mediterranean to the West Indies, he assisted in Sir John Duckworth's action off St. Domingo, 6th February 1806. Being appointed on 20th October 1806 to the *Redwing* (Captain Ussher), stationed in the Straits of Gibraltar, Mr. Ferguson, who continued in that vessel for a period of 20 months as her First Lieutenant, bore a conspicuous part in a multitude of very dashing exploits. On the 20th April 1807 he ably supported Captain Ussher in a spirited engagement with a division of Spanish gun boats and several batteries near Cabritta Point; and on 7th September 1807 he commanded the boats and displayed much gallantry in an attempt made to destroy several vessels under a most galling fire from the town of Calassel. The day after the latter event he obtained the highest praise of his captain for his bravery in boarding a Polacre ship, whose yard-arms nearly touched the castle of Benidorme, and for his conduct throughout a stiff action which terminated in the destruction, near Jovosa, of 3 privateers, mounting altogether 20 guns. On the 7th May 1808 he further contributed by his unsurpassably cool and determined conduct to the utter defeat of 7 armed vessels, carrying in all 22 guns and 270 men, of whom 240 were killed, drowned, or taken prisoners (*vide Gazette*, 1808, p. 735); subsequently to this he again commanded the boats at the capture and destruction, on 1st June 1808, of a mistico and 2 feluccas in the bay of Bolonia, where he also landed with Captain Ussher, stormed a battery, and blew up a magazine. Being rewarded for these services by promotion (13th July 1808), Captain Ferguson, on 22nd October 1810, obtained command of the *Pandora* sloop (18). On 31st December 1810 he captured *Le Chasseur*, privateer, 16 guns and 36 men. On the 13th February 1811 he had the misfortune to lose his vessel on the Skarve reef off the coast of Jutland, and

in consequence of this misadventure he became a prisoner for some time in the hands of the Danes.

‘His next appointment, 27th August 1815, at the age of 31, was to the *Nimrod* on the Leith station, where he continued until posted (1st January 1817). He afterwards commanded the *Mersey* (26) in South America from 1823 to 1827. He retired in October 1846.’

In 1808 the Professor had retired to St. Andrews at the age of eighty-five, and it was there, three years after, that he received the news of the loss of his son’s ship. The story is touchingly related by a lady who contributes it to the account of Adam Fergusson’s life, given in the *Edinburgh Review* for January 1867, vol. cxxv. The old Professor ‘had the entire newspaper read over to him every blessed day by a good-natured Divinity student, named Charlie C——. When his son John’s ship was wrecked—him that he calls his little seaman—and when coming on the notice unexpectedly good Charlie’s voice faltered, old Adam simply said, “Go on, read that again.”’

Lockhart calls Johnny ‘a favourite lieutenant of Lord Nelson.’ (*Life of Scott*, ch. x.)

It will have been seen from the above account that John, then aged thirty-one, was on the Leith station from August 1815 to January 1817. In the interval his illustrious father died, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Andrews.

From 1817 to 1823 John was out of employment, and in 1818 he became one of the famous Huntly Burn family so frequently spoken of in the *Life* and the *Journals* of Sir Walter. Lockhart gives an amusing account of him in that year helping Lady Scott in Sir Walter’s absence to entertain two impertinent and intrusive bores of Americans.

John, then aged forty-two, reappears at Abbotsford after the termination of his command (1823-27) of the *Mersey*, on the South American Station. Scott writes in the *Journals* (March 19th, 1827): ‘Set about my labours, but enter Captain John Ferguson from the Spanish Main, where he has been for three years. The honest tar sat about two hours, and I was heartily glad to see him again. I had a general sketch of

his adventures which we will hear more in detail when we can meet at kail-time.'

One of the honest tar's amusements at this period was to try to follow the hounds. His attempts in this direction clearly afforded great enjoyment to his friends, and it is evident that he took their chaff with much good humour.

On February 25th, 1829, Scott writes: 'This morning I corrected my proofs; we get on, as John Ferguson said when they put him on a hunter.'

One last reference I may make from the *Journals*.—December 24th, 1830. 'This morning my old acquaintance and good friend, Miss Bell Ferguson, died after a short illness. . . . A bitter cold day. Anne drove me over to Huntly Burn to see the family. I found Colonel Ferguson and Captain John, R.N., in deep affliction, expecting Sir Adam hourly.'

On the 22nd March 1836, at the age of fifty-one, John married Elizabeth Lauder Guild, by whom he had one son, Adam (Addie), who was born on the following 27th December. Addie joined the Black Watch, but died on the 14th September 1865.

Addie was only nineteen when his father died on the 8th June 1855, aged seventy.

The mother lived on to the year 1894, having spent the whole of her widowed life of thirty-nine years at No. 2 Eton Terrace, Edinburgh.

May the writer of this memorandum be allowed to bear his loving testimony to the beauty of her character and the saintliness of her life. She was paralysed and speechless towards the end of it, but the writer will never forget her words, when on one occasion, before the stroke that laid her helpless, he visited her sick-bed. 'Aunty,' he said, 'isn't it dull and lonely for you here?' to which the reply was, 'My dear, I've just *the one thing* to think of, just *the one thing*.' Her whole heart and thoughts were in Heaven.

Father, mother, and son now sleep peacefully in the vault under the shadow of the Old Greyfriars Church in Edinburgh, side by side with Sir Adam, 'the Merry Knight.'



## COLONEL JAMES FERGUSON.

I regret that I am unable to give the year of Jamie's birth, or any particulars of his youth and early training. The first notice I find of him is in (Sir) Adam's letter to his cousin Robert in India, dated 25th April 1800, on the death of their poor brother, Captain Joseph. 'You must by this time have become intimate with my brother James. If it may not appear saying too much, he is certainly a most exact resemblance in every particular to the poor fellow who is no more. He is a tender-hearted lad, and his brother's death must have hurt him much.'

Jamie joined the Honourable East India Company's service as a cadet in the army in 1798, and saw some active service, in which, as will be seen by my father's memorandum that follows this, he distinguished himself by cool valour. Of that service some details will be found in his letter of August 6th, 1821.<sup>1</sup>

He is very frequently mentioned in Sir Walter Scott's *Journals* (1826-32), appearing first there on the 26th March 1826. A sad little entry on the 7th May 1826 records that 'Sir Adam and the Colonel dined here, so I spent the evening as pleasantly as I well could, considering I am so soon to leave my own house, and go like a stranger to the town of which I have been so long a citizen, and leave my wife lingering, without prospect of recovery, under the charge of two poor girls. *Talia cogit dura necessitas.*'

On September 16th, 1827, occurs the following entry. 'The ladies went to Church; I, God forgive me, finished the *Chronicles* (of the Canongate) with a good deal of assistance from Colonel Ferguson's notes about Indian affairs. The patch is, I suspect, too glaring to be pleasing; but the Colonel's sketches are capitally good. . . .'

In the following October (27), Sir Walter writes: 'This morning went again to Huntly Burn to breakfast. There picked up Sir Adam and the Colonel, and drove down to old Melrose to see the hounds cast off upon the Gateheugh, the high rocky amphitheatre which encloses the peninsula of

<sup>1</sup> See p. 187.



old Melrose; the Tweed pouring its dark and powerful current between them. The galloping of the riders and hallooing of the huntsmen, the cry of the hounds and the sight of sly Renard stealing away through the brakes waked something of the old spirit within me. "Even in our ashes glow their wonted fires."

April 23rd, 1829. 'The Colonel and Miss Ferguson dined with us. I think I drank rather a cheerful glass with my good friend.'

The intimate and affectionate terms on which he stood with Sir Walter are evident from Scott's own records, and this may well have been so, for apart from Jamie's soldierly courage and his charm of manner, there were two things about him of which the tradition survives in the Ferguson family, namely, his unselfish amiability, and the *insouciant* and Spartan heroism with which he bore severe bodily pain and other ills of life. Listen to Lockhart as he refers to some heavy money loss which the Colonel has had in 1834. He is writing to my father:—

'ROKEBY, GRETA BRIDGE,  
September 28th, 1848.

' . . . At Edinburgh I saw Colonel James F., as gay as ever. He told me he was what folks call ruined, with the calmest smile and evidently unshaken. . . . '

Here is an extract from a letter of his to my mother in 1848:—

'6 DUNDAS STREET,  
5th January 1848.

'MY DEAR MRS. FERGUSSON,—I was quite delighted with your letter, and accounts of your welfare. . . . I am myself still attached to my *chair* ami—crutches even not available without danger of a fall . . . like your baby (Mary Roma) carried up and down stairs, but with rather more dignity, I flatter myself; three being employed about it. The dear baby, "plump as a partridge": I repeat it so often to myself that I begin to wish it were 5 o'clock, when I am to become acquainted with one sent by my old friend James Mackenzie. . . . I daresay Robert, when he comes home fagged in the evening, thinks more of his *Cara Bella* than the dinner-bell, but don't let him spoil her; if he does, I am off—no engage-

ment. I am glad you are going into a larger house, where I shall have room to swing my crutches in a gallop with the young lady . . . ever yours affectionately,

‘J. FERGUSON.’

With this little notice of tender-hearted Jamie I will leave the description of him to my father, who knew him so well personally.

The following is my father’s (Robert Ferguson, M.D.) account of *Sir Adam, Colonel Ferguson, and Admiral Ferguson, and their three sisters.*

ABBOTSFORD, HUNTLY BURN, CHIEFSWOOD.

‘When Walter Scott determined to settle on the borderland, the scene of all his studies which formed his mind, he persuaded his old schoolfellow and friend, Sir Adam Ferguson, to become his tenant of a small farm house refitted, just under the Eildon Hills, and amid the traditions of Thomas the Rhymer.

‘The tenants of Huntly Burn, as the estate is called, were three brothers, bachelors, and three maiden sisters, all in middle age, and all of very salient characteristics of mind or person. The three brothers had all embraced the military profession, had therefore seen much. They had been separated from each other almost from early youth, and when they at last met they were new to each other in every respect, save in a strong family attachment. Sir Adam had served in the Peninsula, and had there been made prisoner and sent to France. Colonel Ferguson had gained his honours and a moderate competency in India; and Admiral Ferguson, who had served under Nelson, remained afloat almost without intermission during the Napoleonic wars.

‘Each of these men was 6 feet and upwards, bony, spare, and powerful. Each had his own peculiarity. The Admiral, who was really a handsome man, encouraged the bluntness of expression and the demeanour of the sailor of that day, but united with it a deep religious feeling. The Colonel was the most inveterately imperturbable being I ever knew. He was cheerful under every possible infliction or affliction; not from indifference, but apparently from constitution. He

had been hit in battle, and kept whistling and fighting till he fainted. He was in later life tormented with rheumatism, but though his strong frame was twisted and cramped in all its movements, at last so as to confine him to his room, there he was as cheerful and as busy with his books, his pursuits and plans, as if the terrible spring winds of the East Neuk of Fife had never chilled a vein or twisted a sinew. He never attended to himself or his pains, but always welcomed the visitor as when he was no sufferer. This was his strength, and few went away from him without the lesson learnt of how to bear. Like most Highlanders, he resolutely shut the book if the page was unpleasant and slipt over to the next.

‘Sir Walter Scott, who got hints from every thing and person, obtained from him much that he valued and used in his description of Indian scenes; just as he based the nautical part of the *Pirate* on information extracted from the Admiral. The Colonel, however, had the advantage over his younger brother, the Admiral, of being a most graphic penman.

‘But the real friend and much loved companion of Scott was Sir Adam Ferguson, the eldest brother; his schoolfellow and playmate.

‘Shrewd, joyous, a *bon-vivant*, an unrivalled observer, an unparalleled narrator, Scott always said that could Adam print his face with his stories he need not have written. Scott, himself abounding in every kind of anecdote, never spoke in Sir Adam’s company but to draw him out. If he took a walk with you, he would relate things which he observed, and which you missed. He had every quality of a great dramatist. He seized on the essence of things. He was equally apt for fun or for wit. He could make you roar or weep. His anecdotes were full of the marrow, pith, sap of human nature. They were endless; for he had no repertory to be produced in driblets and for chosen occasions. Breakfast, dinner, or supper; morning, noon, and night; with us alone, or with a company, and at a feast, he never failed and never bored. No one ever feared his wit or tired of his humour, for his simple and excellent manners and tact made

him appreciate others and draw them out. But few chose to talk if they could evoke Sir Adam. Besides the power of vividly bringing the scenes and sentiments of his stories before you, he had a thousand methods of suggesting thoughts which kept the dullest imagination alive. Thus he could by pithy descriptions and a modulation of voice make you believe you heard the distant huzzas of a large body rushing to the combat. So too it was with the tramp of cavalry gradually approaching with its distant thunder; and so also with the chattering (as Napier calls it) of infantry fire.

‘I have seen Sir Walter listening entranced as Adam Ferguson was describing some trait of battle witnessed by himself; and as the interest gathered he has jumped up from his chair, and joined the imaginary host in the *mêlée*, clapping his hands and shouting and stamping about with prodigious vigour.’<sup>1</sup>

‘This power of raising and fixing the imagination in man he could somehow use to animals. The excellent and quaint Lord Eldin (John Clerk) had a favourite jackdaw, which was permitted whenever there was company to come to dessert and to walk up and down the table and pick for himself. Adam Ferguson volunteered to make him talk, and began instanter to utter certain sounds which very speedily withdrew the bird from his food, and produced from him a counterblast, to the exquisite delight and astonishment of the host, who shouted, “Eh! Adam kens the Daw langige—he kens the Daw langige”; the colloquy continuing

<sup>1</sup> Writing of his first visit to Abbotsford, in October 1818, Lockhart says: ‘I had never before seen Scott in such buoyant spirits as he showed this evening, and I never saw him in higher afterwards, and no wonder, for this was the first time that he, Lord Melville, and Adam Ferguson, daily companions at the High School of Edinburgh, and partners in many joyous scenes of the early Volunteer period, had met since the commencement of what I may call the serious part of any of their lives. The great poet and novelist was receiving them under his own roof, when his fame was at its acme, and his fortune seemed culminating to about a corresponding height, and the generous exuberance of his hilarity might have overflowed without moving the spleen of a cynic. Old stories of the *Yards* and the *Crosscauseway* were relieved by sketches of real warfare such as none but Ferguson, or Charles Matthews, had he been a soldier, could ever have given.’



till the laughter of the guests silenced both the actors. Sir Adam then gave us the substance of their talk, much after the fashion of those ancient ballads so common and so characteristic in Scotland—like “The Twa Corbies.”

‘To the few who lived in those days and have survived to recall the early manhood of Lockhart and the splendid group of which he was last, the influence of Adam Ferguson on the elaboration of the Waverley Novels needs not to be told. It is true that Scott, like Shakespeare, could fill up the meagrest outline with soul and body,<sup>1</sup> but Adam Ferguson’s hints were neither few nor lean. Sir Dugald Dalgetty, as far as shrewdness and aptitude in conforming to life and making life conform to himself, was a sketch for which the knight himself sat. The mercenary soldier was due to the necessities of artistic figures in the drama, and had no application to Adam.

‘Some of the traits of Monkbarns, the Antiquary, the especial favourite of Sir Walter (who, by the way, drew largely from himself in depicting that most finished of his finished characters) were given by Sir Adam. That *tour de force* in the *Fair Maid of Perth*, where fear, the most abject of passions, is so skilfully used and depicted in the character of the young chieftain as to excite the deepest commiseration, was worked out from an incident in the Peninsular War which Sir Adam saw, and which they who ever heard Adam narrate it will never forget. Till Scott gave us this picture, I believe that this precise conflict of passions and duties has never been attempted by any modern or ancient author.

‘However, Adam Ferguson, though the first of observers and narrators, was not the only one who kept the great unknown supplied by all kinds of hints and traits, to be wrought up by a prodigious capacity of memory and imagination into whatever the author choose.

<sup>1</sup> This creative faculty was so intense in Scott that I have known him read day after day, the veriest trashy novels with intense interest, laughing and chuckling over them as much as he would over a choice page of Fielding or Swift. A moment’s conversation with him proved that while reading he was re-weaving the warp and woof of the tissue, filling up the characters, and thoroughly enjoying his own creations, which, as in a dream, he had fancied were another’s.—*MSS. of Dr. Robert Ferguson.*



‘Indeed, all Tweedside in those days seemed to jump into the humour of the Laird of Abbotsford, and whether with Adam Ferguson or with Lockhart, a morning among the small farms and roadside cottages ended in many a “crack” with some specimen of the Dandie Dinmont or Andrew Fairservice species. The ladies of Abbotsford found ample amusement with the daily visits of the old ladies of Huntly.<sup>1</sup> Gentlewomen by birth and education, they became eccentric from the long habit of seclusion in which they had lived during their father’s (Professor Ferguson) retirement at St. Andrews. Lockhart, too, delighted in their originality of thought and demeanour, and much admired the quaint, rich, and copious Doric in which they revelled. I think both Scott and Lockhart had more delight in listening to this “gentle” dialect as spoken by Lord Cockburn at the Bar, with overwhelming effect on a jury, than in any attempts of

<sup>1</sup> The ‘Three Weird Sisters.’ Scott describes the three to Lord Montagu—*Margaret*, he says, is extremely like her brother (Sir Adam) in the turn of thought and humour, and he has two other sisters who are as great curiosities in their way. The eldest (*Isabel*—known as Bell) is a complete old maid, with all the gravity and shyness of the character, but not a grain of its bad humour or spleen; on the contrary, she is one of the kindest and most motherly creatures in the world. The second, *Mary*, was in her day a very pretty girl; but her person became deformed, and she has the sharpness of features with which that circumstance is sometimes attended. She rises very early in the morning and roams over all my wild land in the neighbourhood, wearing the most complicated pile of handkerchiefs of different colours on her head, and a stick double her own height in her hand, attended by two dogs whose powers of yelping are really terrific. With such garb and accomplishments she has very nearly established the character in the neighbourhood of being *something no canny*—and the urchins of Melrose and Darnick are frightened from gathering hazel nuts and cutting wands in my cleugh for fear of meeting *the daft lady*. With all this quizzicality, I do not believe there ever existed a family with so much mutual affection, and such an overflow of benevolence to all around them from men and women down to hedge-sparrows and lame ass colts, more than one of which they have taken under their direct and special protection.’ *Bell* died on December 24, 1830: Scott calls her ‘an old friend, and a woman of the most excellent condition. The last two or almost three years were very sickly.’ He attended her funeral on December 29: ‘In a cold day I saw poor Bell laid in her cold bed.’ *Mary* had died in January 1829. ‘Alas,’ writes Scott; ‘my poor innocent friend *Mary* is no more. She was a person of some odd and peculiar habits, wore a singular dress, and affected wild and solitary haunts, but she was at the same time a woman of talent and even genius. She used often to take long walks with me up through the glens. . . .’

trimmed English of any of their legal contemporaries; for Lockhart has remarked in *Peter's Letters* that the Scotch that was then spoken was learnt from the highest grades of society, while that which is now spoken is the vernacular of the lower caste, bearing the mark of a differing cultivation.

‘The three families of Abbotsford, Huntly Burn, and Chiefswood were really but one.’

*Account by Robert Ferguson, M.D., of Lockhart at Chiefswood, and Sir Adam Ferguson's visits there.*

‘This romantic little cottage was placed in a small oval field surrounded by hills, of which the three Eildons were the most remarkable. A burn not three feet broad ran through the little domain; a tree or two studded the plateau, which was belted by a beech and other wood, stretching up to Huntly Burn, the residence of Sir A. Ferguson, the Rhymer's Glen, losing itself in the bare downs. . . .

‘On a summer morning Lockhart was sure to be found in dressing-gown and cap, always chosen by his wife (Scott's daughter) with a view to the picturesque, sitting or walking up and down, writing materials and the terrors of a forthcoming *Blackwood* before him. Johnny, his first-born, then a beautiful fair-haired boy, never left his side, urging him to romp, and never in vain. Through the lattice of the bay window “Sophia” was always to be seen, and always ready to relieve the *author* when the parent was overpowered by the importunities of the child. A dog or two of the “Pepper” or “Mustard” kind, however, were useful in performing this welcome duty, and undertook to distract the boy not unwillingly by an invitation to a scamper. Many a pungent page of sound scholarship and criticism was put forth under these influences.

‘A little before mid-day a tall, gaunt, soldier-like figure, with a weather-beaten face, emerged from the wood at the bottom of the meadows—a most welcome visitor, Sir A. Ferguson—and then all work was up, and the fun began, the lattice was thrown open, and a merry ringing laugh within kept up as chorus to the peals and shouts which were going on outside.

‘Abbotsford was then the resting-place of every pilgrim from every part of the world, whose conduct and conversation often afforded the richest treat to both Lockhart and Ferguson. They who know the men need not be told that while no trait of the ridiculous could pass unnoticed, both enjoyed fun far too much to dwell or enlarge upon what could call forth an unkind feeling; indeed, Lockhart never associated with or spoke of those whom he disliked. Everything about him was touched with fun. The children’s donkeys were designated by names which made their delinquencies fatal to all gravity, as the stalwart “Dawvid” announced, with the most unconscious seriousness, that “Hannah Moore had broken through the fences, and been wi’ the meenister a’ the nicht.”

‘At 3 or 4 Sir Walter generally joined the circle, welcomed by a shout from the boy, and the caresses of the doggies which never quitted him. Then came the histories of the past day, and the plans of the morrow, with a thousand tales and illustrations, and a few rebukes to the pungent commentaries of Lockhart.

‘Anne, and Lady Scott, called in the carriage to take Sophia to dinner or a drive, while Lockhart always joined the circle at Abbotsford later.’

ROBERT FERGUSON, M.D., 1799-1865.

It is hoped, at no very distant date, to publish a Memoir of this remarkable man, founded in great part on his own diaries and correspondence, so far as they can properly be given to the world. It is not proposed, therefore, on the present occasion, to do more than outline briefly the salient features of his life, with the aid of the account given of him by the *Medical Times and Gazette* of the 1st July 1865.

Robert was born in India on the 15th November 1799. His father, Robert Ferguson, of the Indian Salt Department, resigned his position in 1801, and set off for America, where old Robert Ferguson of Perth, the grandfather, had had property; and little Robert and his two sisters were sent to England to be under the care of relatives. His father returned in very good circumstances to England after no very long stay in



America, but lived principally at Bath and Bristol, so that young Robert never had a true home. He was fortunate, however, in being much under the care of Sir John Macpherson, formerly Governor-General of India, a friend of the Ferguson family of more than forty years' standing.

Robert was educated at Dr. Crombie's at Croydon. His own wish had been to join the army, but the state of his father's affairs rendered it necessary to give up that plan, and eventually he decided to adopt the medical profession, and accordingly entered as an assistant in the Marylebone Infirmary. After some time spent there he went abroad, and became a student at the University of Heidelberg, returning to this country at the end of 1822, and studying then at the University of Edinburgh, where he took his degree in 1823.

His earliest years of professional life were diversified by travel as medical attendant with various families in high life. Thus he travelled in Greece and the Ionian Islands with a son of Sir William Forbes, and resided some time in the family of Sir Francis Burdett. At this time strikingly handsome, gifted as a linguist, able to sing well and accompany himself on almost any stringed instrument, there can be little wonder that he became very popular in society; but at the same time he was drawn into the closest intimacy with whatsoever there was most intellectual in the world of letters or of physic. He enjoyed the friendship of Sir Walter Scott and his family, and especially of Scott's son-in-law, Lockhart, with whom till his death he maintained the most constant and affectionate intercourse. Washington Irving, Wordsworth the poet, and Newton the painter were amongst his intimates. Amongst his professional friends were reckoned Dr. Watson, the President of the College of Physicians, Brodie, and especially Dr. Goch, that brightest and cleverest of intellects, after whose steps he endeavoured to shape his own course. With such associates he was naturally occupied with a good deal of literary work. He was a frequent contributor to the *Quarterly Review*, and wrote a history of Insects for the *Family Library*, instituted and published by John Murray. But whilst these were the diversions of his leisure hours, he was steadily working his way into practice. The nucleus, so

to say, of his patients consisted partly of families to which he was introduced by Dr. Gooch, and partly of that highly-gifted set of whom Sir Walter Scott and his son-in-law, Lockhart, were the chief. At any rate, by the year 1830, when he was thirty years old, he had attained an income of £1000 per annum.

About this time King's College was opened for the express purpose of combating the too liberal and, as it was thought, perhaps irreligious or revolutionary tendencies of the London University. The Chair of Midwifery was accepted by Ferguson, who had for his colleagues Herbert Mayo, Joseph Henry Green, J. F. Daniell, Bissett Hawkins, Francis Hawkins, and Partridge. He had been previously elected Physician to the General Lying-in-Hospital in the York Road, where he gathered materials for his work on puerperal fevers, which was published by Murray in 1839.

He was now fully occupied in the busiest and most lucrative practice, and found it expedient to resign his professorship, in which he was succeeded by Dr. Arthur Farre.

Soon afterwards he was appointed 'Physician Accoucheur' to the Queen, and in that capacity assisted at the births of all the Royal children.

And now came a bold and hazardous, but well-designed and entirely successful movement in his professional career. He dropped the special 'midwifery' department of his practice, and announced himself a physician in the largest sense. This decision was attended with complete success. Society accepted him as one of the greatest medical authorities. He became 'Physician Extraordinary' to the Queen, and thenceforward the amount of his occupation was only limited by his power of undertaking it. 'He was more consulted perhaps' (says the *Medical Times and Gazette*) 'than any other living man in all the weightiest cases of the world. No physician was so well known, not merely to all the great families of this Empire, of whatever side in politics, bishops, lords, dignitaries of every grade, but to the crowned heads of Europe.' A remarkable instance in illustration of this last statement is his visit to Paris in the year 1856, in consequence of an intimation made to him through M. de



Persigny, the French ambassador at this court, that the Emperor Napoleon III. desired to consult him as to the state of his health. Of this visit one of the diaries contains a full and deeply interesting account, as it does of the curious case of the Prince de Moskowa, a son of Ney, the famous French marshal.

Dr. Ferguson took an unusually keen and intelligent interest in the foreign and domestic politics of his time, a study which his intimate acquaintance with some of the leading statesmen of his own and foreign countries gave him exceptional opportunities of pursuing. His private diaries give ample evidence of the care with which he watched passing events, and of the important information which was given him by those who were taking an active part in the affairs of Europe.

As often happens in the medical profession, Ferguson's success was fatal to him. In trying to save others he lost his own life. In 1861 he was summoned to the bedside of a great northern prelate, a member of a family with which he had always been on more than a usual footing of familiarity. Four rapid journeys to Durham, with the fatigue, loss of sleep, and anxiety in which professional and personal regard for his patient were mingled, and the harassing nature of his ordinary work as well, were too much for him. His heart gave way. He lightened his work and removed to a smaller house; spent much of his time out of town and was for a while better. But the enemy came at last. He was walking in the garden of his country seat, Ascot Cottage, Winkfield, near Windsor, about one o'clock on Sunday, June 25th, 1865, when he was seized with his last attack. He lay almost lifeless for some hours, and life ebbed away so slowly that those about him hardly knew the minute of his decease.

His first marriage took place in 1830 to Cecilia, one of the ancient and noble French family of Labalmondière. She died in 1842. There were no children by this marriage.

In 1846 he married again, his wife being Mary Macleod of Macleod, sister of Macleod of Dunvegan in Skye. She outlived him nineteen years, and died in 1884.

He has left five children, all still living:—

(1) Mary Roma, born 1847; married to Henry C. B. Far-

rant, Colonel of the 81st Regiment (Loyal North Lancashire).

- (2) Robert Norman Ronald, born 1848; married to Rose Geraldine, second daughter of the late Lawrence Cumberbatch, M.D. (a Clerk in the Treasury since 1867).
- (3) Marion Cecil, born 1849; unmarried; a sculptor.
- (4) Harold Stuart, born 1850, late Royal Artillery, now second in command of the Nair Brigade of the Rajah of Travancore; married to Isabel Julia Maxwell (niece of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, V.C.), daughter of the late Colonel Hamilton Maxwell of the Bengal Staff Corps.
- (5) Robert Henry Bruce, born 1854; is in the Police Service of the Rajah of Travancore; is unmarried.

SOME LETTERS FROM THE HUNTLY BURN FAMILY, 1818 TO 1823.

*(Sir) Adam Ferguson to his cousin Robert (Bob),  
c/o Messrs. Coutts, London.*

‘EDINBURGH, 3rd June 1818.

‘MY DEAR ROBERT,—My 3 sisters, brother Jack [the Admiral, then Captain], and self are here on our flight from St. Andrews to our new rural retreat near the banks of the Tweed, about a mile and a half from the renowned village and abbey of Melrose; and we leave this to-morrow per coach, bag and baggage. . . . How is Robert [M.D., Bob’s son] getting on now? I was rather surprised to hear that he had come to the resolution of studying for an M.D. I thought he was set upon ‘sporting the red rag,’ as it is technically termed.<sup>1</sup> . . . As for myself I continue vegetating on half pay, but my friends have proposed me as a candidate for the situation of Keeper of the Scottish Regalia, which were lately discovered in the Castle here. There are several competitors in the field. It will, I suppose, have a salary attached to it of between £200 and £300 a year, and it would form a most comfortable addition to my present income, which does not exceed £70 p.a.

<sup>1</sup> My father’s disappointment at being unable to enter the army was extreme.

This, you will allow, for a person of my "figure and fashion," is a little circumscribed. . . .

*Captain John (the Admiral) to Bob, c/o Messrs. Coutts, London.*

‘HUNTLY BURN, BY MELROSE, 25th Aug. 1818.

‘MY DEAR ROBERT,—We have been fixed in our new residence for upwards of 2 months, and am happy to say perfectly delighted with it; a most beautiful part of the country, a snug little house and garden, with as much ground as to feed a cow and 3 horses. Our good landlord, Walter Scott (Old Scotia’s pride), is only a mile and a half from us; it will tempt me to stay at home. . . . You have no conception how much better the damsels are since they came here. We have several old friends in the neighbourhood. I wish you could make out a trip next spring to see it. The country, etc., is well worth seeing, I can assure you. Adam and Walter Scott are away upon a visit to the Duke of Buccleuch just now. . . .’

*Captain John to Bob.*

‘HUNTLY BURN, 7th Oct. 1819.

MY DEAR ROBERT,— . . . Here we are, jogging on in a quiet way. Adam and I have been running about a little, shooting; we were in the Highlands for a fortnight not far from Logirate (*sic*), but had not very good sport. Things are going on here very well, and we have had a most delightful season for the first year of the farm. Our landlord (Sir Walter), I am happy to say, is once more in the best of health. . . .’

*(Sir) Adam to Bob, at 16 College Green, Bristol.*

[Sir Adam on Quacks.]

‘HUNTLY BURN, 15th Aug. 1820.

‘ . . . Brother Jack had yesterday, I am happy to say, very favourable accounts of our friend, Sir J. Macpherson, who seems to be rallying again in a wonderful manner; a providential occurrence having rid him of the apothecary and his draughts, his appetite, and along with it bodily strength, have both returned. But for his having been reared in the

air of Skye he must long ago have been in the other world after such a lengthened discipline in the Æsculapian school; I should rather say that of downright empirics. I trust you will never get into the hands of quacks, and as I certainly shall not, we may both live to eat many more dinners together at the comfortable shop in Covent Garden. Kindest remembrances from all the spinsters and the skipper. . . .’

*James in India to Bob, c/o Messrs. Coutts, London.*

[James’s love for his family, in spite of his neglect of letter-writing, and their love for him, are beautifully shown in this and following letters.]

‘DIHLEE, Aug. 6, 1821.

‘MY DEAR ROBERT,—Although you have not had a letter from me for so long a period, the enclosed Bill [for £1500—a gift] may probably first attract your notice; so I shall explain the intention of it before I give you any account of myself. I have myself to blame for not having had any letters from home since 1816. One letter from my sister Margaret gave an account of our beloved father’s [the Professor’s] last days, but without making any mention of the situation in which they and my dear brothers were left by the event of his death. It is curious that a publication of that time in some degree supplied the deficiency. From it I observed that his daughters had the means of living comfortably and respectably in the mansion at St. Andrews. It is likely, I have thought, that Adam’s situation in the army would by my father be conceived a sufficient provision, and whatever he had to bequeath would be left to my sisters. The object of the present remittance is to enable Adam to buy a majority if he has not left the army, or by an annuity to supply what the advanced rank would afford in addition to his income. I trust to his affection that he will accept it. My affection for him is as warm, and I may say exactly of the same kind, as when I left home, mingled as it was with respect for an elder brother; and I cannot endure the idea of his not sharing in this small part of my better fortune. I make the amount payable to you, as I know how it will find you in London; in short (I know) that you will have the kindness to be agent



for Adam and dispose of it in any way he likes best. If it adds to his comfort it will be my happiness.

‘Now I shall tell you by what course of good fortune I happen to have the means of sending the enclosed after all my own wants are provided for. Two persons who are held in highest estimation in this country have accidentally but greatly befriended me; I mean Sir David Auchterlony and Mr. Metcalfe. During the Ghoorka war in 1814 I got the command of a kind of militia corps of 1200 men, and when the war was ended gave it up to be an assistant to the Resident. Sir D. Auchterlony commanded the Rajpootana Division of the army in our last war against the Pindarees, and he took me with him as an extra aide-de-camp, and likewise to do a little in the way of business, having political combined with his military duties. At the end of the war he was appointed Resident with the Rajpoot States, and asked Government to appoint me his first assistant. It happened, however, that an old first assistant who had been thrown out of office by the new territorial arrangements, was first to be provided for, and I continued with Mr. Metcalfe at Dihlee. I have had, however, no reason to regret it, for in the course of 12 months Mr. Metcalfe was appointed political secretary to Government, and Sir David Auchterlony succeeded to the Residency here under a new arrangement, the judicial and revenue affairs being conducted by a civil commissioner, who got all the assistants of the Residency (being Civil servants) attached to his office; and I, your unworthy cousin, became first assistant to the Resident, who had the political affairs under his charge, and as Major-General commanded the Division. The arrangement has never been correctly given in the Calcutta Register; and I daresay you look into it sometimes to see how your old friends succeed in life. You know that I might about the end of this year retire on the full pension of my rank; but as the majority is near at hand, I must now stay until November 1822. It gives an addition of £100, and then I shall be able to retire with at least £600 a year; as much as can be required for every purpose of comfort and happiness. No one who has been 22 years in this country can boast of a liver perfectly sound,

and mine is a little troublesome, particularly when I have to attend his Majesty the Great Mogul to the mosque, and the thermometer is up at 99 ; otherwise I have pretty good health. I hope you enjoy pretty good health, and that we shall pass many happy days together in the smoke of London. I shall expect to arrive early in the summer of 1823. We enjoy profound peace in this country, and I am at all times an enemy to war ; otherwise I could almost wish it for John's [the Admiral's] sake. He must be sadly tired of a land life. [It will be remembered that from 1817 to 1823 John had no employment.] . . . We have had little correspondence. It is not through want of affection, and I can assure you I am, my dear Robert, as ever, your affectionate cousin,

J. FERGUSON.'

*(Sir) Adam to Bob, at 16 College Green, Bristol, about  
James's Letter.*

[It will be remembered that in April 1821, then aged fifty, he married Mrs. Lyon, and settled at Gattonside House, near Melrose.]

' 6 DUNDAS ST., EDINBURGH, 16th Feb. 1822.

' MY DEAR ROBERT,—You may guess that I received your kind letter of the 10th inst., with its inclosure, with no small delight. What a most gratifying letter from James, and how consoling to us all to find, notwithstanding all appearances to the contrary, that he is the same kind and affectionate fellow that ever he was. I transmitted his letter yesterday to the good spinsters at Huntly Burn, and I am certain that for many a day past they have not received so joyful and welcome a communication. The idea that he is coming home for good and all in comparatively good health to spend the rest of his days amongst us is not the least pleasing circumstance of the whole. I believe the regular ships of the season for Bengal are all sailed, but Colonel Burnett's eldest son, James, is about to proceed in a private ship to Calcutta, and he will take charge of a letter for James, which he may receive before he quits the country in November next. My

wife and I will come up to London in spring 1823 to meet him on his arrival. . . .

‘As to the contents of the bill for £1500, you have done perfectly right in employing it in the purchase of Exchequer Bills, and so it may remain invested till James’s arrival. As the purpose for which he kindly intended it, viz., my promotion in the army, cannot now be fulfilled, and as my circumstances, in consequence of my marriage and other events, are in a better condition than James could have conceived, I feel a delicacy in appropriating any part of this his most generous remittance. No doubt the first year of my matrimonial life has been a more costly one than I could have wished, what with travelling and buying furniture; and £100 or £200 might have been not altogether unacceptable, but I hope I shall be able with care and management on my own part and that of my wife to bring all things round in the course of the ensuing year and have a little to spare. However, there is a way in which a part of this money might be employed in a most satisfactory manner to James. Brother Jack [afterwards the Admiral] is now in London looking after his interests at the Admiralty, and has a pretty good prospect of getting a ship, though perhaps not immediately. Now you know the outfit of a frigate is attended with serious expense, and I have no doubt £100 or £200 would be of material service to him when he is put in commission; and as you are the guardian of the money in question, I hereby authorise you, in so far as I am concerned, to make offer to Jack of any sum that he may require for the purpose above stated. He is in lodgings at 4 Warwick Street, Charing Cross. . . . My spouse and I have come in here for a few weeks to make some visits to friends and relations. . . . She begs her kindest regards to you. She has, I am happy to say, agreed wonderfully well with a country life, and has got plump and rosy. . . . When you write I wish you would mention what your last accounts of Robert<sup>1</sup> are.

<sup>1</sup> Bob’s son, R. F., M.D., then aged twenty-three.

*Captain (afterwards Admiral) Ferguson to Bob, at  
16 College Green, Bristol—in praise of James.*

‘ 4 WARWICK STREET, CHARING CROSS,  
22<sup>nd</sup> February 1822.

‘ MY DEAR ROBERT,—I have just had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 21st. . . . I have also a letter from Adam, making mention of the money. A copy of Jamie’s letter has been sent me from Huntly Burn. I see he is the same warm-hearted good creature he ever was. Oh, what a blessing. The damsels at Huntly Burn will be quite daft. . . .’

*Sir Adam on his new honours—to Bob, at 16 College Green,  
Bristol.*

‘ GATTONSIDE HOUSE, BY MELROSE,  
8<sup>th</sup> January 1823.

‘ MY DEAR ROBERT,—This comes in name of spouse and self to wish you many happy returns of the season. We hear from brother John that you are enjoying your quiet and retired mode of existence in your snug retreat at Bristol. This is the first letter I have addressed to you since I became *a person of rank and title*, and I trust it will be received by you with all the deference and respect befitting its author. I have no doubt, however, that you grinned a good broad grin when you heard that I had been dubbed by His Majesty, and that you thought that I had just as much use for knight-hood as a cart has for a third wheel, to use a homely phrase, and so, between you and I and the post, so thought I; though it was not to be expected that *My Lady* was to reason in the same philosophic manner. However it is, as the saying goes, an ill wind that blows no one good, for it will enable you to acquire additional respect in the eyes of your eating-house chuns on College Green, your being enabled to quote your cousin, Sir Adam! However, joking apart, the honour in question came upon me both unasked and unlooked for, and as it was understood that, from the high situation I held as Keeper of the Crown of Scotland, some mark of Royal favour was to be bestowed on me, so was I anxious to have that



conferred in the shape of an additional step of military rank ; but the regulations of the Horse Guards, I being on the retired list, stood in the way of this ; and the other was hit upon as the only step which suited my official dignity. . . . Bob [my father, R. F., M.D., then aged twenty-three] was out here for a week during the height of our holiday festivities, and was a general favourite, having from his various talents and accomplishments made a great addition to our rustic society. He says he is hard at study, but whether he will actually ever become an M.D. is matter of speculation. . . .’

*Sir Adam to Bob (c/o Messrs. Coutts), on Bob's daughter Kitty's marriage to James Cary, son of the Translator of Dante.*

‘ GATTONSIDE HOUSE, BY MELROSE,  
25th July 1823.

‘ MY DEAR ROBERT,—I am about to step into a carriage on a little expedition with my wife and James. . . . My spouse joins in kindest congratulations to you on the late happy event, and best wishes for the health and happiness of the young pair, to which also accede spinsters over the way and Jamie. . . .’

*Sir Adam to Bob (c/o Messrs. Coutts).*

‘ GATTONSIDE HOUSE, BY MELROSE,  
21st February 1824.

‘ MY DEAR ROBERT,— . . . Brother James and I have been absent on a visit to our old landlord, Mr. Campbell of Kailzie, in Peeblesshire, where we spent a very pleasant week, and visited all our old haunts in the neighbourhood of our former abode of Hallyards. And now as I know that you are not a person that relishes fine flummery speeches or high-flown oratorical flights, I will content myself with saying that the snuff-box which you have had the kindness to present to me has been much admired on all hands ; and a few friends having dined here yesterday, the health of the donor was drunk in a bumper of good whisky punch, and the box shall descend among my nearest of kin as an heirloom along with

my late excellent father's gold-headed cane, etc. . . . and now to enhance the value of your present, suppose you put your foot on a steam packet some three or four months hence, and come down and let us have a crack and a pinch, washed down with a bowl of best Glenlivet.

'I am glad to find that your inherent and hereditary philosophy has never left you during all the season of gloom which has overcast the countenances of most holders of Spanish Bonds;<sup>1</sup> indeed, to judge from the size of the elegant sneeshin mull in question, I had almost come to the conclusion that you had also become a Mexican mineholder. So there is a piece of wit for you, as I know you love a joke.

'Jamie talks of being with you in April, but he is so comfortable where he is that it will not be an easy matter to get himself under way.

'So with best love from my wife, and from your spinster cousins over the way, to yourself and Dr. Bob, I remain, my dear Robert, yours most aff'y,  
ADAM FERGUSON.'

<sup>1</sup> The reader will not miss the allusion to that fine old Spartan philosopher, Bob's father (1719-97). It was investment in these which was in great part the cause of poor Bob's ruin.

## SECTION VIII

THE M'ADI FERGUSSONS. TRADITION AS TO DUNFALLANDY.

*Mr. Robert Fergusson's Memorandum.*

*Notes on the History of the Branch of the Fergussons of Dunfallandy and others, as gathered from time to time from my Father, Donald Fergusson, who died at Moulin, Perthshire, in May 1860, aged 84 years. Communicated by Mr. Robert Fergusson, Aberdeen.*

IN the year 1329, when King David the Second ascended the throne, which year was extraordinary with heavy floods, so the Highland people called the King Dai-an-uisge (David of the waters or flood), there came Adam Fergusson with his family from Ayrshire, supposed to be Kilcherran, and squatted at West Haugh immediately west of the present Middle Haugh and at east end of Poldour, a long pool on the Tummel, and about a mile east of Pitlochry ; in fact it used to be cast up to my father that it was not for building kirks that his forefather fled from his own country. And being from the sea coast and accustomed to sails he did not wait to build a house, but set up a tent of canvas, which was spun from tow and woven by the natives and used by them on the floor between their barn doors to winnow their corn by the wind, and called by them in Gaelic a *Cannaib*, and the thing being so new to the Highlanders they called Adam Adi-na-Cannaibaig, or Adam of the Canvas. Immediately opposite West Haugh, on the south side of the Tummel, lived also a Baron Stewart of Dunfallandy, called by the natives a 'Baran Maol' (the bald Baron). He had an only daughter, his heiress, and after some years Adi-na-Cannaibaig's family grew up, and Adam, his oldest son, courted Miss Stewart, but the old Baron would not give his consent, though the lassie was favourable ; the Baron held that the Fergussons were new comers and nobody knew of their antecedents. However,

some time after, on a fine morning the Baran Maol was about the south side of the Tummel, and old Adi-na-Cannaibaig among bushes on the opposite side, and the old fox let drive an arrow at the baron and killed him. Of course nobody knew who did the deed, and the baron was buried. No inquests in those days. In about a year after young Adam was married to Miss Stewart, hence the Dunfallandy Fergussons; three generations of them produced six generals in the army. The late General Fergusson of Dunfallandy, father to the late Wm. Fergusson and grandfather to the present Miss Fergusson, and my father used to shoot together, and the kindred discussed and agreed to. Some time after Adi-na-Cannaibaig died the family was ousted, being squatters, and Alexander, the 2nd son, migrated up the country to a place called Tigh-mor-Bohespick on the north side of the Tummel, about half way between Loch Tummel and Loch Rannoch, and squatted there till absorbed by the Duke of Atholl. My father descended from him as well as other two families who are now extinct, so far as I know. They were all distinguished from all other Fergussons by the addition to their names of Mac-Adi, or Adam's posterity. My great-great-grandfather was Robert Macadi F., my great-grandfather was Alexander Macadi F., my grandfather was Robert, and my father Donald, all Macadies, and in fact I was called the same up till I was 20 years of age, when I left the country for Aberdeen.

ROBERT FERGUSSON,  
*Late Granite Merchant.*

41 FOUNTAINHALL ROAD, ABERDEEN,  
11th July 1894.

The above tradition was told to Mr. Robert Fergusson by his father, who was tenant of Fouruick, and afterwards at Balrobie, on the Tenandry estate. When Mr. Robert Fergusson was a boy he attended a school in Strathardle. Woodhill or Balmaeruchie then belonged to Fergussons, and there was another family of the same name a little further up than Woodhill, and two or three in Glenshee still represented. His father, however, 'would not admit that any of the Perthshire families belonged to his kind except the Dunfallandy and a younger branch he had descended from.'



## SECTION IX

THE following statement has been communicated by Mr. J. Fergusson, Richmond Road, Cardiff, and his brother, Mr. Alexander Fergusson, 300 Duke Street, Glasgow.

Mr. J. Fergusson, who left Athole forty-three years ago, adds that he remembers his grandfather Thomas Fergusson well, having been when a child sent down to him from Rannoch to the place where he lived opposite Dunfallandy House, and that his father was for about forty years tenant on the estate of the late General Sir John M'Donald, who insisted on him competing in his seventy-fifth year at a ploughing match on the home farm, when, in spite of his years, he was awarded third prize:—

‘I, Alexander Fergusson, Live Stock Agent, 300 Duke Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow, born at Inverhadden, Rannoch, Perthshire, on the 11th day of January 1822, son of John Fergusson, born at Lagreach, near Pitlochrie, in the year 1790 or 1791.

‘He was taken from his parents (Thomas Fergusson and Christina Douglas) when a child by General Fergusson of Dunfallandy, and educated there at his expense, he being considered the nearest male heir to the head of the clan.

‘Why he never became so I cannot say. He left Dunfallandy shortly after leaving school, and learned the building trade under his father.

‘In the year 1820, when he was building Muir Lodge (his first contract after his apprenticeship), he made the acquaintance of Christina, eldest daughter of Alexander Macgregor, Inverhadden, ruling elder of the Established Church, Kinloch, whom he subsequently married in the end of February or the beginning of March 1821. He died at Balmore, and was buried in the Churchyard of the Established Church at Kinloch-Rannoch.

‘ My father (John Fergusson) had three brothers and two sisters; the names of the sisters were Jane and Mary, and of the brothers Donald, William, and Adam.

‘ Donald and William went to Baltimore, America, and Adam went to Keputh on the Tay, where he died. He was a blacksmith to trade. As far as my great-grandfather is concerned, I know nothing about him, further than that his name was Adam Fergusson.

‘ ALEXANDER FERGUSSON,  
*300 Duke Street, Glasgow.*

‘ J. FERGUSSON,  
*Cardiff.*

‘ *Mar. 23/95.*’

## SECTION X

### NOTICES OF MINISTERS OF THE NAME IN ATHOLE, ETC.

(From the *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ.*)

#### *Moulin (Dunkeld).*

1736. Adam Fergusson, trans. from Killin Pres. by James, Duke of Athole, in Oct. 1735, and adm. 3rd Feb. after; being appointed to intimate the sentence of the Commission in November 1733 declaring Mr. Wilson of Perth no longer a min. of the Church in the pulpit of Perth, he was prevented doing so by a tumultuous multitude who met him at a distance from the city, and forcibly resisted his entrance. He took a considerable interest and share in the business of the Church, and was elected Moderator of the Gen. Ass., 21st May 1772, in opposition to Dr. John Erskine of Edinburgh, by a majority of 120 to 93. Died 12th Dec. 1785, in 81st year and 58th min. Married 31 Oct. 1735 Amelia Menzies, who died 3rd May 1758, and had three sons and a daughter, Neil, Adam, James, and Vere. Publication—*The Leading Characters of the Church of Rome*, a sermon, Edin. 1750. 8vo.—[*Pres. and Syn. Reg. New Stat. Acc. x. Acts of Ass. 1734. Ferrier's Mem. of Wilson, etc.*]

#### *Killin (Weem).*

1728. Adam Fergusson, licens. by the Presb. 28th Dec. 1726, pres. to Kirkmichael by the Laird of Asintully in April 1727, which was not carried out; called to this parish 25th June and ad. (ass. and suc.) 11th Sept. 1728; trans. to Moulin 6th Jan. 1736.—[*Presb. Reg. New Stat. Acc. x.*]

#### *Logierait (Weem).*

1714. Adam Fergusson, A.M., trans. from Crathie, pres. by John Duke of Athol in June and adm. 22nd Nov.: he was

pres. to Blair-Athol by his Grace in Nov. 1716, which he declined to accept. It was proposed in 1729 to make Logierait the seat of a new parish, but it did not take place. Mr. F. was the original mover in the Synod of Oct. 1732 against Mr. Eben. Erskine for his expressions in the Synod sermon which led to the secession from the Church in the following year. He continued discharging his sacred duties with faculties distinct and unimpaired till his death, 30th July 1754, in 54th min. In appearance he is stated to have been rather below the middle stature, round and stout made. He married Mary, daughter of Mr. Robert Gordon of the family of Hallhead, Aberdeenshire, and had a numerous family, of whom the Rev. Dr. Adam F., Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, was the most distinguished and best known.—[*Pres. and Syn. Reg. New Stat. Acc. x. Ferrier's Memoir of Wilson. Ferguson's Tracts, etc.*]

*Fortingal (or Fothergill) (Weem).*

1722. Fergus Ferguson, A.M., studied at St. Leonard's College, and grad. St. And. 21 May 1713; called 31 Aug. 1721, and ad. 8th May foll.; died 14 Dec. 1753 in 32nd min. Married, 29 Dec. 1726, Henrietta Menzies, who died 26 Nov. 1751, and had two sons, Finlay and John, and two daughters, Eleonora and Ann.—[*Act. Rect. Ass. St. And. Pres. and Test. Reg. (Dunkeld), etc.*]

1857. *Fortingal.* Samuel Ferguson.

*Rhynd (Perth).*

1722. Francis Fergusson, A.M., studied Old College, St. Andrews, grad. 31 May 1711, lic. Pres. of Kirkealdy, 28 Aug. 1718, called 12th Dec. 1721, and ad. 5th April succ. Died of love for a daughter of Moncrieff of East Rhynd, though he had neither informed the object of his affections nor any of her relations. When the young lady heard of it, she bade him live, and gave hope to him; but the disease by that time was too deeply seated to be removed, and he died 9th April 1729, in 8th min.—[*Act. Rect. St. And. Pres. Reg., etc.*]



*St. Stephen's Church, Perth.*

1835. John Ferguson, appointed schoolmaster of Kilninver in 1821. Licen. by Pres. of Lorn 1st March 1831, elected unanimously 9 Oct. 1834, and ad. 25 March foll., trans. to Kilninver 16 Feb. 1838.—[*Presb. Reg., etc.*]

*Monivaird (Auchterarder).*

1835. John Ferguson, lic. 7 Sept. 1830, pres. by Thos. Robert, Earl of Kinnoul, in March, and ad. 9th June 1835. Joined Free Church, and adm. to Free Church, Bridge of Allan, 1844. Married, 1838, daughter of Rev. John Dempster of Denny. Publications—*Account of Monivaird and Strowan* (*New Stat. Acc. x.*), *Lecture xxi.* (*Free Church Pulpit*, iii.).—[*Presb. Reg. New Stat. Acc. x., etc.*]

## CHAPTER III

### FERGUSSENS IN BALQUHIDDER AND ARGYLLSHIRE

AN important branch of the clan Fergusson (*clann Mhic Fearghuis*) has been settled in the parish of Balquhiddel<sup>1</sup> for at least the last six centuries.<sup>2</sup> It is a somewhat curious circumstance that in all parts of Scotland where branches of this clan have been long established their early settlement is connected with King Robert the Bruce. Whether this is the case with the ancient families in Balquhiddel it is difficult to say; but Bruce took shelter here in 1306, after the battle of Dalree.<sup>3</sup> It is impossible to discover whether this branch

<sup>1</sup> *Balquhiddel* signifies 'the town at the back of the country'—*Baile-chul-tir*.

<sup>2</sup> 'The more ancient clans inhabiting Balquhiddel were the clan Laurin or M'Larens, the M'Intyres, the Buchanans, and the Fergussons, and more recently the M'Gregors and the Stewarts. There was also a family of the name of Alpynsone, at Auchtow, as appears from the *Ragman Roll*, where we have "Duncan Alpynsone de Aughtunaghes" mentioned as one of those that swore fealty to Edward 1.'—Rev. Samuel Fergusson in *The Queen's Visit*, p. 178.

<sup>3</sup> 'Bruce, in his retreat from Dalree, entered the Braes of Balquhiddel, pursued by his victorious enemies (MacDougall of Lorne and the Macnabs of Glendocharde). Himself last to retreat, and covering the retreat of his men, he is said to have taken post when hotly pursued on a large piece of rock in Loch Voil, on its northern shore and near its western end. On this rock the Bruce was fiercely assailed by the few who were bold enough to follow so far. His weapon, ever ready at his hand, flashed in its terrible sweep as his assailants fell in heaps beside the rock, and not until the last of them bit the dust, or pressed the waters of oblivion, did the King follow his men, who had retreated to the wild and inaccessible recesses of what has ever since been known as the King's rock (Craig-ree). In a cave in this mountain fastness the King remained in safety for a few days, the Laird of MacGregor, his staunch supporter and warm adherent, doing all in his power to procure fitting supplies for the King and his exhausted followers. 'The cave is still pointed out to the inquiring traveller, and the stone in the lake still marks the spot where the Bruce kept his own against all comers till his men were safe from pursuit.'—*Queen's Visit*, p. 163.

originally came from Athole or not. Some of the Athole Fergussons are found here; but as to the more ancient families tradition is silent. To show the important place occupied by the clan one has only to look at the churchyard and the old Parish Registers. There are still (1895) some fifty graves pertaining to the families of the name of Fergusson; and the representatives of the oldest family in the district have a present right of burial in some twenty-five lairs in the western and southern portions of the churchyard. This very old family<sup>1</sup> has long been known as the ancient family of Ardandamh.<sup>2</sup> The oldest-dated gravestone (flat) in the churchyard of Balquhidder belongs to this family, and bears the date 1663, and the initials A. F. It is a long rough stone, lying recumbent on one of the graves situated in the western portion, and must, with the other stones of a like kind, have marked the burying-place of the Fergussons for many generations previous to the year 1663. Another stone adjoining bears the initials D. M. F. and M. M., with the following inscription:—‘Here lies in hope of a blessed resurrection the remains of Duncan Fergusson in Laggan of Strathire, who died in the year 1784, aged 44 years. Being of the anchant family of Artandamh. This stone was erected by Peter Fergusson his son.’ Then follow these verses:—

‘How loved, how valued Once, avails thee not,  
By whom remembered, Or by whom forgot,  
A heap of dust alone remains of thee,  
It is that thou art, It is all the proud shall be.’

One section, in direct descent, of this ancient family, who appear to have been so long resident at Ardandamh and Immervoulin<sup>3</sup> on Loch Lubnaig, went to Carnlia<sup>4</sup> on Loch

<sup>1</sup> The direct representatives of the ancient family of Ardandamh are Mr. Robert Fergusson, Muirlaggan, the Rev. R. Menzies Fergusson, M.A., minister of Logie, Stirlingshire, and their immediate relatives.

<sup>2</sup> *Ard-an-damh*, signifies ‘the height of the stag’; it lies to the east of Laggan, on Loch Lubnaig.

<sup>3</sup> *Immervoulin*, *iomair mhuileain*, mill-ridge. Sir Herbert Maxwell, in his book, *Scottish Land-Names*, says: ‘Iomaire (emery) is an obsolete word signifying a ridge or hill-back, surviving in the name Immervoulin, in Perthshire.’

<sup>4</sup> *Carnlia* is the grey cairn, *carn liath*.

Earn, and thence to Murlaggan,<sup>1</sup> on Loch Voil. The Fergussons of Carnlia and Murlaggan were directly descended from the family of Ardandamh on the female side, and from the family of Immervoulin on the male side of the house.<sup>2</sup> Ardandamh House was considered the best of its time in Balquhidder, and the fine oak joists of this old house were removed by John Fergusson<sup>3</sup> (known as Tomnadrochig) to Murlaggan and built into the new house there. Donald of Carnlia and his son Robert (Rob Mor) assisted at the removal from Ardandamh.<sup>4</sup> In the present house of Murlaggan there is built into the gable above one of the doorways a rudely carved half-length statue of a man in stone, which had been brought from Carnlia at the time of the migration of the family. This stone figure, which stood near the roadway at Carnlia, was commonly known as *the bodach* (old man), and was often the favourite mark for little Highland stone-

<sup>1</sup> *Murlaggan*, the big hollows, *mor lagan*.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Fergusson of Carnlia married Isabella MacVean, and had issue:—Donald (of Carnlia), who married Isabella Fergusson and had issue—(1) Robert (Rob Mor of Murlaggan), born 7th November 1784, died 7th April 1868, aged 84 years; (2) Mary, born 30th April 1786; and (3) Duncan, born in 1789, died 16th November 1873, aged 84 years. Rob Mor was unmarried. Duncan married Grace M'Laren of Ardveich (whose family had been there in direct succession for six centuries) and had issue seven sons and one daughter, viz. (1) John, (2) Donald, (3) Duncan, (4), Robert, (5) Alexander, (6) Samuel, (7) Peter, and (8) Isabella. The fourth son, Robert, succeeded his uncle, Rob Moir, at Murlaggan, and died in 18 ; he is now succeeded by his only son Robert. The eldest son, John, left a family, of which the eldest, Duncan, resides at Brig o' Turk. The second, Donald, died unmarried; the third, Duncan, left two sons, Duncan and Peter, and one daughter, Isabella; the fifth, Alexander, has three daughters; the sixth, Samuel, became minister of Fortingall parish, and died 27th September 1869, leaving five sons; the eldest, Duncan, a distinguished medical student of Glasgow University, was accidentally drowned while bathing in Loch Voil in July 1876, and is buried in Balquhidder churchyard; another, Robert Menzies, is minister of the parish of Logie, Stirlingshire; a third, Henry, is in Canada; the fourth, Samuel, is an M.B., C.M., practising in Alloa; and the youngest, Donald, is assistant minister in the parish of North Leith.

<sup>3</sup> John Fergusson was uncle of Rob Mor and Duncan mentioned in preceding note.

<sup>4</sup> A cousin of Donald of Carnlia, named John, who was married to Isabella Fergusson, had a son John, born 12th September 1784, and at the same time was pressed into the army. He never returned; but the representatives of his child John are supposed to be about Forfar.



throwers as they passed along. A broken nose and chin bear evidence to this rough usage of former days.

Previous to the coming of the Ardandamh and Carnlia Fergussons to Murlaggan there were eight families resident there, of which four were lairds and four cottars. The lairds, who were named MacIntyre, were portioners of Murlaggan, and related to the Fergussons, their successors. In their burying-ground in Balquhidder churchyard is one tombstone on which is inscribed, under their coat of arms, the following:—

‘Erected in memory of John MacIntyre, Portioner of Muiraggan, who died in 1791, and Janet MacIntyre<sup>1</sup> his spouse, and John, Cathrine, Janet, Mary, their children, and Peter MacIntyre, Portioner of Muiraggan, who died in May 1806.’

Another stone runs:—

‘In memory of Malcolm MacIntyre,<sup>2</sup> Portioner of Muiraggan, who died the 8th Feb. 1811, and Margaret M’Nie and Margaret MacIntyre, his spouses, and Donald and Janet MacIntyre, his parents.’

From the late Mr. Robert Fergusson, Stirling (a native of Stronvar, Balquhidder), we received the following note:—

‘As Athole is claimed as the cradle of the clan, the inference is that they came originally from that district. It is well known that the Rev. Finlay Fergusson, parish minister of Balquhidder during the time of Dugald Buchanan, the Gaelic poet, came from Athole; and it is natural to suppose he came to occupy that position through the influence of his clansmen in Balquhidder—that influence being all the greater if, as is very likely to have been the case, they originally belonged to the same district as himself.<sup>3</sup>

‘I can give no information regarding “the anchant family of Ardandamh.” The probability is that one family of the clan found its way into Balquhidder, and then through that family, one after another, with the pluck and push of the

<sup>1</sup> Her maiden name was Janet Fergusson, and according to the Baptismal Register they had a son Patrick or Peter, born June 7, 1747, who died in 1806 as above.

<sup>2</sup> This Malcolm was uncle to Peter Fergusson in Muiraggan, who was known as ‘Big Peter,’ being 6 ft. 7 in. high.

<sup>3</sup> This is, however, somewhat fanciful.

true Scotsman, soon spread and made room for themselves all over the parish ; for we find them in all parts of it. Now, according to this idea of one family coming first and the others following, it is probable that "the anchant family of Ardandamh" was the first family of the name that settled in Balquhidder, and so is entitled to be called "the anchant family."<sup>1</sup> There is one mark of its being an ancient family which has occurred to me. At the place called Ardandamh there is a splendid row of beech-trees, but no vestige now, as far as I remember, of the ruins of a house.<sup>2</sup> Now it is evident from the grandeur of the trees that the house to which they long ago gave shelter must have been far above an ordinary one, and that the family occupying it must have been in a good social position ; and hence, mayhap, the distinctive title they assume,—“the anchant family of Ardandamh.”

‘It will be of interest, I have no doubt, to know something of the unique position held by the clan in the western part of the parish—that part of it in which is the Parish Church and the churchyard, in which lie the remains of the famous Rob Roy.<sup>3</sup> One son of the Rev. Finlay Fergusson, already mentioned, became proprietor of Stronvar, which is now in the possession of Mr. James Carnegie, and while proprietor there he would have none but Fergussons as tenants under him. At the present time, more than a hundred years since then, the clan is represented in strong force in the same district still, there being no less than six families of the name of Fergusson within a short distance of one another. What will be of no little interest to the Clan Fergusson Society is that at least six members of the Council are Stronvar Fer-

<sup>1</sup> It is very doubtful if this is the case. The family of Immervoulin appears to be equally ancient, and if Mr. Fergusson’s theory about the Fergussons coming from Athole is to hold, there must have been earlier traces of the name nearer the northern parts of the parish.

<sup>2</sup> There is the trace of the ruins still.

<sup>3</sup> ‘He died at Inverlochlarigbeg in the Braes of Balquhidder in 1733, and was interred in the chancel of the ancient church of Balquhidder. His last resting-place is marked by a blue rudely sculptured stone, with a sword in pale and without inscription.’—*Queen’s Visit*, p. 172. An ornamental railing in bronze, designed by Mr. D. Macgregor Ferguson, sculptor, Glasgow, now surrounds the graves of Rob Roy, his wife Helen, and son Colin, with appropriate inscriptions.

gussons. This proprietor of Stronvar, or, as he was familiarly known by his clansmen and countrymen as *Rob a Mhinisteir* (the Minister's Robert), was a great legal luminary. It is told that on one occasion he took a case all the way to what was called the Green Table in London, and won it, which was considered in those days the most wonderful feat in the law line. Hence the people of Balquhiddy looked up to him with awe and reverence. When any of them happened to quarrel and bethought them of going to get the matter settled by the lawyers at Dunblane, the laird of Stronvar soon settled it for them without going so far, and so saved them much trouble and expense.<sup>1</sup> From this may be gathered the depth of meaning in the speech which the chief of the M'Nabs delivered over the grave of *Rob a Mhinisteir*. As the people (almost all the parish was there) were gazing at the newly closed grave, M'Nab thus briefly addressed them: "Men of Balquhiddy, you may well look at that grave, for ere twelve months will have passed over you, you will be ready to give the teeth out of your heads if you could call him back again whom you have this day laid in the dust."

On 11th February 1772 the lands of Drem, in East Lothian, were bought from the daughters of the Hon. John Hamilton by John Ferguson of Stronvar.

#### THE REV. FINLAY FERGUSSON, A.M.

The Rev. Finlay Fergusson, A.M., above referred to, was a native of Athole. He studied at St. Leonard's College, and

<sup>1</sup> The following anecdote is current in the district. Some eighty years ago two sheep-farmers on the *Braes* had disputed respecting a matter of boundary, and each resolved to get the matter settled at law. Both farmers went to Dunblane to engage a lawyer, and, curiously enough, each fixed upon the same one. The case of the first who waited upon him the lawyer undertook; but he had no sooner done so than the other presented himself to solicit his services. He offered him a note of introduction to a brother in the profession, and wrote thus:

'Twa fat sheep frae the Braes o' Balquithy;  
Fleece you the ae sheep, I'll fleece the ither.'

With true Scottish caution the Highlander inspected the note before proceeding to deliver it, and observing its contents returned home to communicate them to his neighbour. The differences were forthwith adjusted without legal interposition.

had his degree from the University of St. Andrews, on 6th May 1713.<sup>1</sup> The Presbytery of Dunkeld licensed him as a preacher of the Gospel on 28th March 1721. He was called to Balquhiddel on 25th June, and ordained 16th September 1724, in succession to the Rev. James Robertson, A.M., translated to Luss on 29th October 1723. The Presbytery of Dunblane at this meeting ‘appoint their brother, Mr. Archibald Napier, to write unto his Grace the Duke of Atholl and Collonel Campbell of Funab, acquainting them of the premisses and showing them that the main thing which moved the Presbytery to cause Mr. Robertson’s volation from the parish of Balquhiddel was the grievances laboured under, and that they may see to have the same redressed.’ At the meeting on January 28th, 1724, of the Presbytery of Dunblane the following is recorded:—‘This day was presented and read a letter from his Grace the Duke of Atholl, wherein he is pleased to show his satisfaction with the Presbytery’s procedure in transporting Mr. James Robertson, and desires they may invite Mr. Finlay Fergusson, probationer in the Presbytery of Dunkeld, to preach in their bounds, and particularly in the parish of Balquhiddel, which the Presbytery considering, they have appointed their moderator to return answer to his Grace’s letter, signifying their compliance with his desire, and begging that his Grace may use his interest for redressing that grievance which Mr. Robertson lay under, and which principally determined the Presbytery to go in to his transportation, viz., his neither being able to obtain the Decreet of Locality from Mr. Stewart,<sup>2</sup> late incumbent there, nor payment of his stipend conform thereunto: and to write to the said Mr. Finlay Fergusson, inviting him unto their bounds, and that he bring extract of his Licence and other

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Fergus Fergusson, A.M., minister of Fortingall, obtained his degree at St. Andrews in the same year. He left two sons, Finlay and John. He was probably related to the minister of Balquhiddel.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Robert Stewart, A.M., from Blair Atholl, a brother or nephew of Patrick Stewart of Ballochan, having supported King James and joined his army at Killiecrankie, was summoned before the Privy Council, 15th August 1689, to answer the charges laid against him. He did not appear, was ordered to be denounced, and deprived of his benefice. He was discharged from preaching, or exercising any other part of the ministerial function within the parish.



credentials along with him, and desiring him to preach before them at their next meeting here this day month.' Mr. Finlay Fergusson accordingly appeared before the Presbytery upon the 25th February 1724, and preached from 'Gal. 4. 5 verse, viz. to redeem them that were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. He also produced a letter signed and dated at Mouline the 18th of February 1724 by Adam Fergusson, James Stewart, and Alexander Stoddart, ministers of the Presbytery of Dunkeld, shewing that they had received this Presbytery's letter anent Mr. Finlay Fergusson, and that they could have no meeting of Presbytery where he might have extract of his Licence and testimonials as this Presbytery desire; and signifying that his behaviour in his station has been most agreeable and that his licence shall be transmitted at their first meeting; which was read and this note of it ordered to be recorded; and they appoint Mr. Fergusson to preach at Lecropt Sabbath next, and at Balquhiddier on Sabbath come eight dayes.' Mr. Finlay Fergusson having supplied Lecropt and Balquhiddier, is appointed to supply Balquhiddier any two Sabbaths he most conveniently can. 'The Presbytery this day received a letter from his Grace the Duke of Atholl with relation to Mr. Finlay Fergusson, showing his Grace's inclination to know from the presbytery, in a reasonable time, both theirs and the parish of Balquhiddier's good inclination toward Mr. Fergusson; and promising to cause try if the Decreet of Locality of the Stipend of Balquhiddier be in Mr. Robert Stewart's hands, and to endeavour to get it up by employing some person to speak to him thereanent, he being such a person as his Grace does not converse with for some years past; which was read and the presbytery resolve to return answer to it in due time.'

On 15th April 1725 the Presbytery's minute records:— 'They appoint their moderator to write a letter to his Grace the Duke of Atholl acquainting him that the presbytery have received a letter from some of the Heritors and elders of the parish of Balquhiddier, signifying that parish's satisfaction with Mr. Finlay Fergusson, probationer, who hath by the appointment of this Presbytery for some time been preaching in that congregation.'

On 2nd June 1724 the minute runs :--' This day a letter from his Grace the Duke of Atholl ; shewing his satisfaction with the people of Balquhidder being well pleased with Mr. Fergusson, and that he is acceptable to the Presbytery of Dunblane, was laid before the presbytery, likeways showing that he leaves it to the presbytery to appoint such a day as they shall find expedient for moderating a call to one to be minister of Balquhidder, as also a letter from Colonell Campbell of Funab to the same purpose, together with a petition from the elders of the said parish earnestly intreating the presbytery would send one of their number to moderate in a meeting for electing of and calling one to be their minister. In compliance with the desire of the said letters and petition, the presbytery have appointed their brother Mr. John M'Callum to preach at Balquhidder on Sabbath come eight days, and after forenoon's sermon to make intimation to Heritors, Elders, and Heads of families of the said parish to meet at the church of Balquhidder on Thursday the 25th day of June next, in order to elect and subscribe a call to one to be minister of the said parish ; as also to moderate in the said meeting, and appoints their moderator to write letters to all non-residing Heritors and others of the said parish, acquainting them of, and desiring their presence at, the said meeting, or to signify their mind in the said matter by their letters. They appoint Mr. Finlay Fergusson to supply Balquhidder with preaching as oft as he can betwixt and next meeting, and that he preach for Mr. M'Callum the Sabbath he preaches at Balquhidder, and appoints their clerk to give warrand to Mr. M'Callum for the effect foresaid.'

On June 30th, 1724, John Buchanan and John Carmichael, commissioned from the heritors and elders of the parish of Balquhidder, appeared before the Presbytery and reported that a meeting of heritors, elders, and heads of families was held in the Kirk of Balquhidder on 25th June, and that they had unanimously elected and subscribed a call to Mr. Finlay Fergusson, probationer for the ministry, to be their minister. The said call and the commissions of those appearing were laid before the Presbytery. The call was subscribed by eleven heritors, twelve elders, and a good many heads of families,

and attested by Mr. John M'Callum, moderator to that meeting. The call was approved; Mr. Fergusson was called in and his trials appointed. On 25th August 1724 Mr. Fergusson delivered his trial discourses, which were sustained. The edict for his ordination was ordered to be served, and he was ordained on 16th September 1724. Mr. Archibald Napier, minister at Kilmadock, preached the ordination sermon, 'and did by solemn prayer and imposition of the hands of the presbytery set apart and ordain the said Mr. Finlay Fergusson, minister of Balquhiddier, gave him the right hand of fellowship, and thereafter received him a member of this presbytery.'

These extracts are given as being interesting in themselves, and also as they show how patrons, like the Duke of Atholl, exercised their rights of presentation one hundred and seventy years ago.

Mr. Fergusson died on 20th February 1772, in the forty-eighth year of his ministry. His wife was Henrietta Buchanan, by whom he had issue:—Margaret, born 3rd March 1729; Henrietta, born 8th May 1736; John, born 2nd April 1738; —, born 15th June 1741; Robert, born 1st April 1743. This son, Robert, became proprietor of Stronvar, and his name appears in the Presbytery books as a heritor in the parish.—[*Act. Rect. Univ. St. And. Presb. and Syn. Reg., etc.*].

#### DUGALD BUCHANAN, THE GAELIC POET.

Dugald Buchanan, the Gaelic poet, to whose memory a fountain was recently erected at Strathyre, through the instrumentality of Mr. Robert Fergusson, Stirling, was born at Strathyre in 1716. He was a son of John Buchanan and Janet Fergusson, who, according to the Parish Register, were proclaimed and married on 22nd May 1711. The poet's mother belonged to the family of Ardandamh, and a wooden cupboard made by himself is now in the possession of the Fergussons of Murlaggan.

Another man of some note in Strathyre was Thomas Fergusson, who resided at Tayness. He was in the 75th

regiment,<sup>1</sup> and was present at the battle of Seringapatam, the hero of which was Sir David Baird, to whose memory a conspicuous monument was erected by his widow in 1832, on the top of *Tom-a-chastle* (the Castle hill), between Crieff and Comrie. The father of Thomas Fergusson, John, came from Atholl along with the Rev. Finlay Fergusson, and married a sister of Duncan Fergusson of Carnlia, who came to Murlaggan on Loch Voil, and was thus cousin to Rob Mor of Murlaggan. At the Disruption Thomas refused to sign the Deed of Demission, and took up a strong position of opposition to the Free Church party in 1843. His sword is still preserved at Murlaggan. One of his sons entered the army and succeeded well, but died early.

#### THE PARISH REGISTER.

Glancing at the Baptismal Register of the parish of Balquhidder<sup>2</sup> we find that a large proportion of the yearly baptisms is of the name of Fergusson. This can be shown by taking a few instances here and there. In the year 1735 there were 58 baptisms recorded, and of these 14 were Fergussons. A similar number occurs in 1745; and in 1758 out of 48 baptisms 16 were the children of Fergussons. In

<sup>1</sup> The 75th regiment was ordered to be raised in 1787, the colonelcy of which was conferred on Colonel Robert Abercromby of Tullibody, afterwards Sir Robert Abercromby of Airthrey. According to a practice then prevailing, the headquarters of the regiment about to be raised was fixed in the neighbourhood of the Colonel's residence. The town of Stirling was thus appointed for the embodying of the 75th, where it was regimented in June 1788, and, being immediately ordered for England, embarked for India. The regiment took the field in 1790, under the command of Colonel Hartley, and in the two following years formed part of the force under Major-General Abercromby on his two marches to Seringapatam. The regiment took part in the assault of that capital in 1799, and was subsequently employed in the provinces of Malabar, Goa, the Guzzerat, etc., and in 1805 was with General Lake's army in the disastrous attacks on Bhurtpore. It was ordered home in 1806, and although a Highland regiment, in 1809 there were scarcely a hundred men in it born north of the Tay. It is now the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders.

<sup>2</sup> The baptisms date from 1696 to 1819, and the marriages from 1710 to 1724. The book is in the General Register House, Edinburgh. The greatest number of souls in the parish, so far back as can be traced, was 1592; by last census (1891) the population was 758.



1770 there were 12 out of 63; in 1786 there were 16 out of 47; in 1795 there were 13 out of 45; and in 1799 there were 11 out of 32. These figures are a sufficient indication of how numerous were the families of the name in this parish during the eighteenth century.

Among the places where these families resided are the following, with the derivation and meaning of the words:—

Achloghine, *Ach* and *Loine*, gen. of *Lòn*, meadow, field of the meadow.

Ardandamh, *Ard-an-damh*, the height of the stag.

Auchleskine, *Ach-le-sgain* (?), field belonging to Scone; but a simpler meaning is from *Achadh-le-sgaineadh*, 'the field with the cleft,' referring to the large mountain cleft behind the house.

Ardoch, *Ard*, *achadh* or *mhagh*, high field.

Auchtow, *Ach*, *dubh*, black field.

Auchra, *Auch*, *rath*, field of the fort. It has also been rendered 'the field at the ford'; but the correct meaning is likely 'the field by the beach or shore (*traigh*),' as there is a level promontory jutting out into Loch Earn.

Bailfoil, or Ballyfoil, *Baile*, *phuill*, the town of the pool.

Balinluig, *Baile*, *an*, *luig*, the town of the hollow.

Balvoir, *Baile*, *mor*, big town.

Balmenoch, *Baile*, *meadhonach*, middle town.

Balchnoik,<sup>1</sup> *Baile*, *cnoc*, gen. *chnoic*, the town of the hillock.

Bra of Ardveich, *Braigh*, head of the glen, or the height of Ardveich; e.g. Braes of Balquhidder in Gaelic = *Braigh Bochuidir*.

Ardveich, *Ard*, *bheithich*, birchy height.

Carnlia, *Carn*, *liath*, the grey cairn.

Craigruic, *Creag*, *righ*, the King's rock.

Cuilt, *Cuil*, a nook. In local pronunciation the *t* is silent.

Craggan,<sup>1</sup> *Creagean*, the crags.

Creagan, *Creagan*, a little crag.

Castran, *Castaran*, quarter (of land).

Criganbeg, *Creagean*, *beag*, little crags.

Corlavrich, *Coire*, *labhrach*, the noisy corrie.

Dalin-laggan,<sup>2</sup> *Dal*, *an*, *lagan*, haugh or level plain of the hollow.

<sup>1</sup> Of Edinchip.

<sup>2</sup> Of Glenbuckie.

Dalveich, *Dal*, *bheithich*, birchy haugh.

Edinample, *Aodann*, *teampuil*, the place of worship on the face of the hill. This, however, is a doubtful derivation; it may be from *Aodann* and *phuill*, the face of the hill by the pool.

Gartnafuaren, *Gart*, *fuaran*, the enclosure of the springs.

Glenogle, *Gleann*, *oghuidh*, the terrific or awful glen; or *Gleann òg*, *thuille*, glen of the young or newly-started floods; or it might be *high glen* (*üchel*, Welsh) = *ochil*.

Immer-coin, *Iomair*, *coin*, the ridge of birds.

Immeriach, *Iomair*, *liath*, grey or mottled ridge.

Immervoulin, *Iomair*, *mhuileain*, mill-ridge.

Innernenty,<sup>1</sup> *Inbhir 'n abhain*, *duibh*, confluence of the black river.

Ishagearb, *Inniseag*, *carb*, little plain of the roe-deer.

Kyp, *Chip*, gen. of *Ceap*, a last or block; applied to the top of a hill.

Kirktown, the town beside the church.

Laggan, *Lagán*, a hollow.

Ledreioch, *Leathad*, *crioch*, the slope of the march.

Lochearnhead,

Lianach (Glenbuckie), *Lian*, a meadow; *lianach*, adj. meadowy.

Monachylebeg, *Monadh*, *choille*, *beag*, little hill wood.

Monachylemore, the big hill wood.

Mainab, *Magh*, *an*, *ab*, field of the abbot.

Murlaggan, or Muirlaggan, *mor*, *lagan*, big hollows.

Ruskachan,<sup>1</sup> *riagach*, marshy lands.

Strathyre, *Srath fheoir*, grassy strath.

Stronlany, *Sron*, *leana*, the point of the meadow.

Stronvar, *Sron*, *bhar*, the pointed promontory.

Strone, *Sron*, the point or promontory.

Stronyre, *Sron*, *tir* or *thir*, promontory of land. It is pronounced *hìr*.

Tayness, *Taobh*, *an*, *nis*, beside the waterfall.

Tomnadrochit (Stronvar), *Tom*, *na*, *drochaid*, the hillock of the bridge.

Tulich, *tulach*, a hillock.

Tighannock, *Tigh*, house; *an*, *ac*, of the acts.

In many of the above places representatives of the old families still reside.

<sup>1</sup> Easter.

*From the Exchequer Rolls.*

In 1480, Colin Fergusson was Crown tenant of Stank in Strathgartney (vol. ix.). His name is repeated in 1483, 1486, 1487, 1490, and 1492 (vol. x.). In 1499, Cathrine, relict of Colin, and Patrick Fergusson, her son, were Crown (kindly) tenants of Stank (vol. xi.). Their names appear again in 1502 (vol. xii.). In 1510, under Balquhidder, Innertewing is feued to Patrick Fergusson (vol. xiii.).

*From Privy Council Registers.*

In 1612, Duncan Fergusson in Strathyre is complained of and put to the horn for destroying deer in the Forest of Glenfinlas 'with hagbuts, bows, and utheris ingyris.'—(*P. C. Reg.* ix. p. 457.)

On 14th July 1613 the following Fergussons were fined for resetting the clan Gregor:<sup>1</sup>—Murdo Fergusson in Drapan, £20; Donald Fergusson in Miltown, iiiij li.; Donald Dow Fergusson in Lagan, £10; Donald Roy Fergusson there, £6; Fergus Fergusson there, ten merkis; Murdo Bayne Fergusson in Bayd, £10; Duncan Bayne Fergusson there, 80 merkis; Donald Fergusson in Innerecho, 10 merkis; Alex. Fergusson in Innermule, 10 merkis; Robert Fergusson there, £10; Johne Fergusson in Anny, 100 merkis; Finla M'Ianes *alias* Fergusson in Tombeg, 20 li.—(*P. C. Reg.* x.).<sup>2</sup>

Balquhidder has been called the MacGregor country, and their possessions were at one time very extensive, reaching

<sup>1</sup> 'As a race they have been distinguished for an indomitable spirit of bold independence, for heavy misfortunes, long-continued persecutions, severe and grievous wrongs. Warrants to attack, imprison, and slaughter the MacGregors were issued as early as 1563. An Act of Parliament of 1603, followed by others in 1613, 1617, and 1633, authorised a war of extermination against the clan, who had this one great misfortune to lament, that at Court they had no one able or willing to stand out in their behalf or to tell their side of the story. They had thus to suffer from the calumnies, the exaggerations, and the wilful misrepresentations of their enemies. Acts of Privy Council, proclamations, and commissions of justiciary were issued from time to time against the devoted clan; and the Privy Council agreed to give a specified sum of money for every head of a MacGregor that might be brought to Edinburgh in virtue of these bloodthirsty edicts. At the Restoration, in 1661, the Acts against the MacGregors were repealed, and their family name, with other privileges, restored; but former Acts were reinforced by the Revolution Parliament in 1691.'—*Queen's Visit*, p. 169.

<sup>2</sup> Also Robert Fergusson in Callender.

from Taymouth to the head of Glen Lyon, including Glendochard and embracing Glenurchay. In the words of John Hill Burton:—‘It was not until the year 1775 that the opprobrium thrown on the name of MacGregor was removed by an Act of the British Parliament. Since that day the once dreaded name has been sounded with respect at drawing-room doors, in levees, in bank parlours, and on the hustings. It has fallen to the lot of many eminent and worthy men; and, singularly enough, the only Highland clan which strives to keep its ancient ties, and assemble together in a body, is that same clan Gregor, to whom it was prohibited to convene in numbers exceeding four at a time.’

#### OLD PULPIT BIBLE.

The old Gaelic Pulpit Bible of Balquhiddel, in Irish characters, which was presented to the parish in 1685 by the Hon. Robert Boyle, came into the possession of the Rev. Samuel Fergusson, minister of Fortingall, and is now in the keeping of his son, the minister of Logie. Regarding this volume, Professor Mackinnon, of the Celtic Chair in the University of Edinburgh, writes:—‘The Irish N. T. was published in 1603, and thereafter in 1681. Bedell’s O. T. was published in 1685 and copies of it sent to the Highland Parishes by the Hon. Robert Boyle, with suitable inscriptions. It is a good bulky 4to in Irish characters, and contains the O. T. alone. The Rev. Robert Kirk, minister of Balquhiddel, published in 1690, in small 8vo, the Irish translations of both O. T. and N. T., but in Roman alphabet with contractions extended, and a small vocabulary appended. It would be interesting if the copy you possess was the Balquhiddel copy of Bedell, as it would have been the copy used by Kirk. These Bibles were presented to the ministers of the parishes “and their successors in office.”’

There is no doubt that this is the copy of Bedell used for generations in Balquhiddel parish church. At the end of the Book, on the last page, there is written in the clear quaint hand of the period the inscription, ‘The Church Bible of Balquidder, 1688.’ At the end of the Book of Exodus, p. 128, is the following: ‘Presented to Samuel Fergusson by Miss



Janet Fergusson of Corlarach, Balquhidder, on this the 23rd day of August 1847.' There is also another inscription at the end of the Book of Haggai, on p. 1126, which says that 'Janet Fergusson, Corlarach of Stronvar, is the right owner of this Book.' How this Bible came into Miss Janet Fergusson's possession I have not yet been able to discover.

It is doubtful whether, as Professor Mackinnon says, Mr. Robert Kirk used the Bible when minister of Balquhidder, as he was translated to Aberfoyle in 1685. Mr. Kirk wrote also the famous *Secret Commonwealth of Elves, Fauns, and Fairies*, published in 1691, reprinted in 1815, and re-issued under the editorship of Mr. Andrew Lang in 1893. His first wife, Isabel, daughter of Sir Colin Campbell of Mochester (now Lawers), died in December 1680, and is buried in Balquhidder churchyard. Mr. Kirk cut out with his own hand on a flat gravestone the following epitaph to her memory:—

ISABEL CAMBELL

SPOUSE TO MR. KIRK, MINISTER.

DIED DEC. 25, 1680.

SHE HAD TWO SONS, COLIN AND WILLIAM

HER AGE 25.

Stones weep tho' eyes were dry :

Choicest flowers soonest die.

Their sun oft sets at noon,

Whose fruit is ripe in June.

Then tears of joy be thine,

Since earth must soon resign

To God what is divine.

Nasci est aegrotare. Vivere est saepe mori.

Et mori est vivere. Love and live.

The church bell, which still hangs in the belfry of the ruins of the old church, bears the following inscription on it:—

M. Robert Kirk, for Balquidder Chvrch, 1684.

Love and Live. Live and Love.

REGISTER OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF DUNBLANE, 1662-1688.

At the meeting of Synod held at Dunblane on the 14th October 1668, during Robert Leighton's bishopric, an entry in the minute of that day reads, 'Duncane Fergisone in

Balquhidder, ane poor man, was referred to the charity of the severall ministers within the Diocese for supplie.'

At the meeting of Synod held on 14th April 1669, another entry declares: 'Itt is ordained that noe indigent persone within the boundes of the Synod be referred to the Synod for supplie without consent of the Presbyterie within which the persone duelles.' This appears to affect general cases, and may not have any reference to the above case.

The Synod of 30th September 1673, when Bishop Ramsay succeeded Leighton, has a reference from the Presbyterie Book of Dunblane in connection with 'Duncan Fergison in Balquidar, lyeing under the horrid scandall of adulterie.' 'So as all citaciounes and admoniciounes being slighted be him, and he wanteing nothing but the sentence of excommunicacioun from God's people to be denounced, theirfore the Bishop and Synod ordaines faire means to be used for reclaimeing the foresaid delinquent, and to desyre him, for the favour of God and the good of his owne soule, to com before the Presbyterie of Dunblaine at their nixt dyet; and then, if there he confess the fact, or doe according to the Presbyteries ordinance, that he shal be admitted unto publiq repentance; and if he obey not, the dreadfull sentence to be denounced against him.'

At the Synod meeting of 14th April 1674, 'The Bishope did enquire at Mr. Robert Kirk, minister at Balquhidder, what he had done anent Duncane Fergison, adulterer in that paroch, againes whom the sentence of excommunicacioun was to be denounced. The minister declared that he had not as yet put the sentence in execucioun, but was dealling with him to bring him to repentance, who now hes promised either to acknowledge the guilt or to clear himselfe by oath verie shortly,—which if he does, the processe ceases; and if not, that the Act of the former Synod take effect.'

In Dr. Scott's *Fasti*, it is stated that Alexander Fergie, or Fergusone, was minister of Logie in 1567, having Clackmannan also in charge, with j<sup>e</sup> li. (£8, 6s. 8d.) of stipend. He removed from Logie and was presented to Kilmadock by James VI. on 30th November 1571. In 1574 Kincardine, Lecrope, and Logie were also in the charge, with v<sup>xx</sup>xvj li.

v. s. vj<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>d. (£9, 13s. 9½d.) of stipend. He was a member of Assembly, April 1581, and one of the three nominated by the Privy Council, 6th March 1589, for the maintenance of true religion in the Stewartries of Stratherne and Menteith, with the Diocie of Dunblane. He removed to Logie again about that time, 1590, and continued until 7th March 1591, but died in 1592.—(*Reg. Min. and Assig., Presb. Reg. Wodrow Miscell. Booke of the Kirk. Evid. on Ch. Patronage. New Stat. Acc.*)

John Fergusson, a native of Cowal, studied divinity at the University of Glasgow, was called to be minister of the parish of Port of Menteith, 24th and 25th August 1725, and was ordained 27th July 1726. He died, 2nd October 1768, in the forty-third year of his ministry. He was proprietor of the estate of Craigholl.<sup>1</sup>—(*Presb., Syn., and Test. Reg. (Dunblane). Mun. Univ. Glasg. iii. New Stat. Acc. x.*)

#### MALCOLM FERGUSON.

Mr. Malcolm Ferguson was born at Morenish, on Loch Tay near the village of Killin. His parents, though of humble station, were highly respected and esteemed for their consistent and exemplary lives. Although compelled, through no fault of their own, to remove from their native homestead and quit dear Breadalbane, they enjoined their children to lay their remains beside their kith and kin in the churchyard of Killin. Young Malcolm received his education first at Morenish and afterwards at the parish school of Killin. For some time after leaving school he acted as tutor to the young family of the late Mr. Ferachar MacKerachar, at Benmore, Glendochart. On coming to Glasgow Mr. Ferguson entered the service of Messrs. John Brown and Co., then the largest public storekeepers in the city. For many years he occupied the position of head storekeeper, and by and by set up in business for himself. In 1855 he formed the well-known and respected firm of Messrs. Malcolm Ferguson and Co., Glasgow.

<sup>1</sup> At this time Gaelic was the common language of the parishioners of Port, and they made application to the Earl of Buchan, then proprietor of the estate of Cardross, and patron of the parish, who, acceding to their wishes, appointed the Rev. John Fergusson.

His first attempt at authorship was *A Tour through Orcadia and the North of Scotland* (1868), the result of a trip made that year to the Orkney Islands. This book has been followed by a number of other works of more than local interest. In 1869 his *Tour through the Highlands of Perthshire* appeared. His next volume, *Rambles in Skye*, was issued in 1883, followed two years later by the *Tourist's Guide to Killin, Loch Tay, and the Land of famed Breadalbane*. In 1886 *Rambles in North Knapdale* was the fruit of some fishing experiences. His other books are an excellent *Tourist Guide to Callander, the Trossachs, etc.*, *Rambles in Breadalbane, Fishing Incidents and Adventures*, and a *Trip to Staffa and Iona*. In all his books Mr. Ferguson shows a keen appreciation of the humorous side of things, and writes in a style which is both interesting and instructive. 'The author possesses,' says a writer in the *Celtic Monthly*, 'not only an observant eye for the beauties of nature, and the ability to convey his impressions to his readers, but he has also the faculty of being able to seize and depict the peculiarities of characters with whom he comes in contact in his wanderings. He can tell a capital story, and, what is not common, can narrate it with the greatest gusto when it tells against himself.'

Mr. Malcolm Ferguson is a thorough Highlander, and devoted to everything Celtic. Through his instrumentality a donation of £500 was obtained for the Glasgow Perthshire Charitable Society, from the estate of a cousin who had left a considerable sum for such purposes. The erection of the Jubilee Cairn on the summit of Ben Ledi was the work of this gentleman, and through his means a cairn was erected some time before upon the top of Ben Lawers. He now resides at the charming village of Callander, and signified his interest in that place by recently presenting a handsome town clock, which finds an appropriate home in the spire of the parish church.

Eastwards along the shores of Loch Earn to the village of Comrie, and northwards to Killin, many old families of the name can be traced. These undoubtedly were closely con-



nected with the Fergussons of Balquhiddel, as the old marriage and baptismal registers can still testify. The farm of Derrie, on the north shore of Loch Earn, belonged at one time to a family of the name, from which the late Rev. John Fergusson of Monzievaired was descended. Among the places identified during the last three centuries with the name of Fergusson, in the parish of Comrie, are the following :—

- Aberuchil, *Aber ruadh thuil*, the confluence of the red flood.
- Ardtrostan, the abode of Drostan.
- Ardveich, *Ard bheith*, the height of the birch.
- Auchnashealach, *Achadh seileach*, the field of the willows.
- Blairchonzie, *Blàr caoin*, the plain of weeping.
- Carstown, the town of the level.
- Comrie, *Comh-ruith*, confluence.
- Cuilt, *Coillte*, the woods.
- Cultebragan,
- Dalains,
- Dalchruine, *Dal Cruinn*, the round haugh.
- Dalraunich, *Dal raineach*, the ferny haugh.
- Derrie, *Doire*, the oak coppice.
- Drumchosh, *Druim shuas (hosh)*, the upper ridge.
- Dundurn, *Dun duirn (dorn, gen. durn)*, the fort of the fist-shaped hill.
- Glenartney, *Gleann ard'n fheidh*, the glen of the heights of the deer.
- Glentarkin,
- Laggan, *Lag-an*, a hollow.
- Maillor, *Meall odhar*, the dun height.
- Maillermore, the big dun hill.
- Portmore, the big port.
- Tullibanachar, *Tulach beinn chiv*, the hillock of the crested hill.

THE REV. SAMUEL FERGUSSON, MINISTER OF FORTINGALL.

The Rev. Samuel Fergusson, author of the *Queen's Visit and other Poems*, was born at Dalchonzie, near Comrie, on the 2nd of January 1828. His father, Duncan, was the son of Donald Fergusson of Carnlia on Lochearn, and descended from the ancient families of Ardandamh and Immervoulin on Loch Lubnaig side in Balquhiddel. Early destined by his

parents to 'wag his pow in a poopit,' he was educated at the University of St. Andrews, numbering amongst his college friends the Rev. Dr. MacGregor of St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, the Rev. Dr. Gray of Liberton, the Rev. Dr. Duke of St. Vigean, and others who have come to the front since then. Licensed as a probationer of the Church of Scotland by the famous Presbytery of Auchterarder in 1854, he acted as assistant in the parish of Dull, and as Royal Bounty missionary at Strathloch, in the parish of Moulin. In 1857 he was presented by Sir Robert Menzies, Bart., to the parish of Fortingall, where he laboured with much energy and acceptance until the year 1865, when, his health breaking down, he retired in favour of an assistant and successor, and went on a voyage round the world in the hope of procuring restored energy. While a member of the Presbytery of Weem he acted in the capacity of clerk to the Presbytery. On the voyage home he was a passenger in the ill-fated steamship *London*, which, the very next time she sailed from the port of London, foundered in the Bay of Biscay, and went down with two hundred and twenty souls aboard. The heroic conduct of the captain, crew, and passengers is commemorated in one of his poems. *The Queen's Visit* was published in 1869, and on the evening of the day of its issue, the 27th of September, its author, mistaking his way in the dark and boisterous night, walked into the Tay near Perth harbour, and was drowned. He left behind him a widow and five sons, the eldest of whom, a distinguished medical student, was drowned while bathing in Loch Voil, Balquhidder, in July 1876.

The Rev. Samuel Fergusson was well known as a ripe Celtic scholar, and wrote Gaelic poetry much superior to his English verse. He was a member on the Committee on the Revision of the Gaelic Scriptures, and wrote an account of Dugald Buchanan and his poetry, which has never been published. Many of his Gaelic poems were published separately, but none of them in book form. Shortly before his death he had begun a History of Perthshire, having been advised thereto by his friend the late Very Rev. Principal Tulloch and others. The historical notes appended to the

six cantos of his principal poem, *The Queen's Visit*, are of great value, and show accurate scholarship and intimate acquaintance with the local history of the places brought under review. He was an ardent Highlander, and while a student at St. Andrews conducted a public class of Celtic literature, which was well attended by a large number of the students. In recognition of his efforts the Celtic Society of the University presented him with *The Highland Society of Scotland's Dictionary of the Gaelic Language*, in two volumes, a writing-desk, Cruden's *Concordance*, and other works, on the 21st March 1854.

The Rev. Samuel Fergusson was married to Miss Margaret Anderson, daughter of Henry Anderson of Burnside, Stanley, 11th July 1855, and had issue:—

1. Duncan, born 24th May 1856, died July 1876.
2. Henry Anderson, born 3rd August 1857, died 7th August 1858.
3. Robert Menzies, born 12th April 1859.
4. David Anderson, born 20th July 1860, died 23rd June 1865.
5. Janet Amelia, born 2nd August 1862, died 6th September 1864.
6. Henry Charles, born 10th March 1864, M.R.C.V.S., 1884.
7. Samuel, born 27th October 1865; graduated, Edin. M.B., C.M., July 1889.
8. Donald, born 22nd March 1870; graduated, Edin. M.A., 1891; licensed Preacher of the Gospel, May 1894.

The Rev. R. Menzies Fergusson, graduated (Edin.) M.A. 1881, licensed May 1884, ordained at Logie 2nd April 1885, married Isabella Fergusson, daughter of John Haggart, Stanley, 13th January 1886.

#### MR. ROBERT FERGUSSON, STIRLING.

Mr. Robert Fergusson, Douglas Street, Stirling, the well-known poet and patriot, died on Sunday morning, 10th February 1895, after a sharp attack of pleurisy, at the age of seventy-six. Mr. Fergusson came to Stirling in the early 'Forties,' and laboured at his profession as a teacher with

much success, several prominent public men in Stirling at the present day having been his pupils.

The following sketch of his life, from the pen of the Rev. R. Menzies Fergusson, M.A., of Logie, appeared in the *Celtic Monthly* for November 1893:—

‘ Robert Fergusson, now of Stirling, was born in 1819, at East Stronvar, Balquhiddel. He is what would be considered an old man; yet though his locks are white his heart is young, and his nature buoyant and simple as that of a youth. Age cannot wither nor custom stale the infinite variety of his ways for promoting things Highland. A poet, he loves the music of the Gael, and learned early to sympathise with nature, as he roamed amid the hills and beside the mountain torrents of his native glen. The parish school—at that time close to the churchyard—received him as a faithful scholar, quick to learn, and well acquainted with the Gaelic tongue, which was taught him by his father. In the competition in that language in 1834 he gained the first prize. His education was continued in Stirling, the grey “City of the Rock,” and in 1856-7-8 he passed through the Free Church Training College in Edinburgh. His profession of a schoolmaster was, however, begun at Dalveich, Lochearnside, in 1836, where Mr. Fergusson had the honour of having two future poets as his pupils—the late Rev. Samuel Fergusson of Fortingall, author of *The Queen’s Visit and other Poems*, and Mr. Donald M’Laren, Ardveich, whose songs and poems are all in Gaelic. For some time Mr. Fergusson taught the school of Strathyre, hallowed with memories of Dugald Buchanan, the Cowper of the Highlands, whose Spiritual Songs are well known to all lovers of Gaelic poetry, and in whose memory the subject of our sketch was instrumental in raising a memorial fountain, which has its site near to the railway station. From 1842 to 1846 he was a teacher in Stirling, and in the neighbourhood of Dunfermline from 1846 to 1856, where his love for song and poetry was greatly fostered through intercourse with D. K. Coutts, his then school assistant, and afterwards master of Dr. Bell’s School, Leith. In this school he was again favoured with another poet in one of his pupils—Mr. J. Millar, now of London, author of *Zigzag* and *My Lawyer*,



etc. From 1858 to 1868 Mr. Fergusson acted as a teacher in a mission school connected with the Free Church, near Fording Station. During this time he occasionally acted as local preacher, and officiated in almost all the Free Church pulpits within the Presbytery. The close of Mr. Fergusson's active career as a schoolmaster was spent in the little village of Raploch, which nestles under the steep grey crags of Stirling Castle. He has now retired, and having celebrated his jubilee, is well entitled to do so. His time is chiefly occupied in doing what he can to further the cause of Celtic literature and the continuation of the Gaelic language. As an ex-president of the Stirling Highlanders' Society, he has no small influence in fostering Celtic sentiment, and the Clan Fergusson Society has in him one of its original promoters. "His poetical productions," says Mr. Edwards, in his *Modern Scottish Poets*, "possess a remarkable roundness and completeness of thought, and while graceful in their simplicity, and set in smooth and musical words, they ever manifest buoyancy and spontaneity of flow, and occasionally quiet pathos."

Mr. Fergusson was interred amongst kindred dust in the picturesque churchyard of Balquhidder, where representatives of all classes paid their last tokens of respect to one who was widely known and sincerely loved for his genial character, patriotic sentiments, and truly Christian spirit.

#### FERGUSSONS IN ARGYLLSHIRE.

For many centuries representatives of the name and clan have found a home in the county of Argyll. Very probably the early progenitors of the present race first crossed the West Highlands on their way from the north of Ireland, whence the old Scots came, and some of them settled there. It is no easy matter to trace their early history. In the Cowal district there were many old families of the name, and in the churchyard of Strachur is to be found a little tombstone, on the back of which is cut in relief a well-executed representation of 'the arms of the Hon. Fergussons of Kilcarran.' The stone bears the date 1774, and is in good preservation. The

arms, crest, and motto, as there represented, are the same as those of Sir James Fergusson, Bart., of Kilkerran, Ayrshire. In all likelihood the original Fergussons of Kilkerran came from Argyllshire, as the name of their Ayrshire estate is the Gaelic form of Campbeltown. St. Ciaran, one of the 'Twelve Apostles of Ireland,' landed in the sixth century at Dalruadhain, and spent much time in a cave, still known as *Cove-a-Chiaran*. After this the name of the place was changed to *Chille-a-chiaran*, or, in modernised form, *Kilkerran*. It passed into the possession of the MacDonalds, who called the town *Kinlochkerran*, and latterly of the Campbells, by whom the present name of Campbeltown was bestowed.

## CHAPTER IV

### FERGUSONS IN ABERDEENSHIRE, *Banffshire, and Kincardineshire*

THE name, though not numerous in the county, has long been rooted in Aberdeenshire. Tradition carries back the connection of the family now represented by the Fergusons of Kinmundy and Pitfour with Inverurie to the time of King Robert the Bruce. His son, King David, confirmed a charter of the lands of Auchtererne, in Cromar, granted by Thomas, Earl of Mar, in 1364, '*Egoni filio Fergusii*,' who with his descendants, according to Dr. Joseph Robertson, 'possessed the estate of Auchtererne (Watererne) in Cromar, from the reign of David II. to that of James V., when it would seem they (as proprietors) became extinct.' The estate was in 1506-7 apparently divided between the husbands of the last owner's daughters, but a tradition, preserved in a little volume entitled *Deeside Tales*, published in 1872, 'has it that the last proprietor was the father (?) of the Rev. Mr. Fergusson of Crathie,' who was minister of that parish in the earlier half of the seventeenth century, and whose daughter, Agnes Fergusson, married James Farquharson of Inverey, and became the ancestress of the Farquharsons of Auchindryne and Tullochcroy. It has also been suggested that this Rev. Mr. Fergusson was an ancestor of Robert Fergusson the poet, but there appears to be no possibility of definitely establishing this. The poet was the son of a William Fergusson, book-keeper in Edinburgh, to which city he had emigrated about the year 1746 from Aberdeen, having removed to Aberdeen from Cromar, which was his native place, in that or the previous year. The poet's mother was Elizabeth, daughter of John Forbes, tacksman of Templeton, Hillockhead, and

Wellhead, a cadet of the family of Tolquhon, and as a boy he was frequently told by his parents that his great-grandfather by the father's side had been a clergyman of the Church of Scotland. It is thus not improbable that he was a descendant of the earlier Fergusson, minister of Crathie.

In 1700 Mr. Adam Fergusson, afterwards of Logierait, was settled at Crathie, where he remained to 1714, and the memory of his friendship with the Laird of Invercauld is preserved in a bursary which has long 'afforded much valuable assistance, both in maintenance and education, to deserving lads of the name of Farquharson, Ferguson, or M'Donald.'

In the latter half of the seventeenth century a John Ferguson was minister of Glenmuick, Glengairn, and Tullich. He left descendants, a notice of whom will be found in the following pages.<sup>1</sup>

The Records of Aberdeen contain references to a burghess family or families of the name, one of whom purchased in 1600 the lands of Kirkhill, in the northern part of Kin-cardineshire.

James Ferguson, the famous astronomer, was the son of a cottar near Keith, in Banffshire; and Donald Ferguson, a famous piper from Corgarff, in Mar, was a cheerful volunteer in the Jacobite army in 1745. When a party of the Government troops were made prisoners at Keith, Donald was thrown in the skirmish off the bridge into the Isla, but kept blowing with vigour, and his inflated bag sustained him till he was rescued. He used afterwards to say that so long as he could blow up his muckle pipes he should neither die nor drown.

#### THE FERGUSONS OF BADIFURROW, PITFOUR, KINMUNDY, ETC.

The most widely spread family of the name in Aberdeenshire was the one which is first to be traced in the Garioch, and of which the surviving branches are still located in Buchan. It is in the middle of the seventeenth century that the family of Badifurrow, from which came those of Pitfour,

<sup>1</sup> See pp. 292-94.



Kinmundy, and others, is first recorded as acquiring landed estates of substantial extent, and its members can be individually identified. But tradition, confidently held in various branches of the family, and supported by the public records of the Royal Burgh of Inverurie, asserts that they had continuously possessed a considerable and apparently the largest holding of land within the limits of that burgh for a previous period of time which runs back to the era of the War of Independence, and associates this Aberdeenshire family, who at one time used the names Fergus or Ferguson indiscriminately, with the fortunes of King Robert I., as similar traditions do other Fergusons in the centre and south of Scotland. In the eighteenth century the descendants of William Ferguson of Badifurrow, who was member for Inverurie in the Scottish Restoration Parliament, were numerous in seven different lines. All these lines, except two (Kinmundy and Pitfour), are now believed to be extinct in the male line, though male descendants of his youngest son, Walter, may still exist in Poland and in Ireland. Mr. George Ferguson, Lumphart, and the Rev. John Ferguson, Dean of Moray, are also understood to be descendants of the Inverurie family, though apparently not of the Laird of Badifurrow who sat in the Restoration Parliament.

The ms. account of these families, which forms the backbone of the following notes, is printed from a ms. in the possession of William Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy. It is attributed to Thomas Ferguson, W.S. (1768-1828), second son of James Ferguson of Kinmundy and Elizabeth Urquhart, and from internal evidence must have been written about the year 1820. There is at Kinmundy another copy of the same narrative in the hand of Thomas Ferguson's son, James Ferguson (Aberdeen, now represented by his son, James William Ferguson, 3rd Dragoon Guards), which contains a little additional information of later date. There is also at Kinmundy another ms. of a similar character, which, though in many respects imperfect as compared with the ms. of 1820, of which it forms the basis, affords a little information not embodied in it. It is clearly of much earlier date, and appears to have been written about 1760. A fourth ms.,





substantially the same as that of 1820 with the later additions, though occasionally differing in verbal expression, is in the possession of the Reverend Canon Bruce, Dunimarle, Culross, great-grandson of Captain William Ferguson, R.N., grandson of Janet, daughter of William Ferguson of Badifurrow. Other copies substantially the same are also in existence. The Kinmundy ms. of 1820 has been collated with the others, and where they afford additional information of interest it has been inserted in ( ) parentheses. Explanatory and additional information from other sources has been denoted by [ ] brackets. It is believed that fuller information as to the earlier history of the family would have been available if the house of Kinmundy had not been plundered in 1745, and if the Pitfour papers had not been destroyed by fire in 1820, when a large number of valuable mss. perished.

In the old churchyard of St. Polnar's<sup>1</sup> Chapel, on the banks of the Don above Inverurie, and below Badifurrow, are three or four stones with letters and dates supposed to record members of the Ferguson family:—

W.F : AF 1662 : E.F. 1662 : P.F. 1666  
 16  
 59

The old church of Deer, one of the oldest ecclesiastical ruins in the north, has since early in last century been a place of sepulture for the Fergusons of Pitfour and Kinmundy who succeeded the Keiths (Earls Marischal), whose 'isle' it had previously been. The remains of the church itself, with the niche for the holy water, the piscina, and the niche for the sacred elements still in perfect preservation in the grey granite, form the Kinmundy burying-place, that family having been the owners of the land on which the kirk and village are built when they first had occasion to use it. Outside, on the north, is a stone let into the wall with the Keith coronet and arms, and the words, '*Georgius Comes Mariscallus Dominus Keitheus Altreus et Patronus.*' On the south side is a granite stone with the Ferguson of Kinmundy arms impaling those of Deans, which must date prior to 1751. There has recently been

<sup>1</sup> *i.e.* St. Apollinaris.



placed inside, against a bare piece of wall, a grey granite slab with the family arms and the inscription :—

IN MEMORY OF  
 MAJOR-GENERAL JAMES FERGUSSON  
 OF BALMAKELLY  
 COLONEL OF THE CAMERONIAN REGIMENT  
 1693-1705  
 D. 1705. B. IN ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, BOIS-LE-DUC  
 THE NETHERLANDS

OF  
 JAMES FERGUSSON OF BALMAKELLY AND KINMUNDY  
 1699-1777

OF  
 JAMES FERGUSSON OF KINMUNDY  
 1734-1787

OF  
 JAMES FERGUSSON OF KINMUNDY  
 1759-1816

OF  
 JAMES FERGUSSON OF KINMUNDY  
 1789-1862

OF  
 JAMES FERGUSSON, YR. OF KINMUNDY  
 1819-1841

B. IN NECROPOLIS, GLASGOW

AND OF  
 OTHERS OF THEIR FAMILY WHO REST HERE.  
 ERECTED BY WILLIAM FERGUSSON OF KINMUNDY  
 1892.

In what appears to be a later annexe built on to the remains of the church, is a little enclosure with an iron railing, and the date 1731, in which are stones with inscriptions to the memory of James Ferguson, first Laird of Pitfour, and his wife, Ann Stuart of Crichtie. Lord Pitfour and his sons were buried in a family vault in the Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh, which bears the inscription, '*Jacobus Ferguson de Pitfour sibi, conjugi, posterisque fecit. A.D. 1775.*' Admiral Ferguson erected a mausoleum amid the ruins of the Abbey of Deer, within the grounds of Pitfour. Tradition records that when the first stone church was being built in Deer

to succeed the less solid erections of St. Columba and St. Drostan, another site was chosen, but the builders each morning found their previous day's work undone, till at last a supernatural voice was heard to repeat—

‘ It is not here, it is not here  
That ye sall big the kirk o' Deer,  
But on Tap Tillerie,  
Where mony a corp sall eftir lye.’

GENEALOGY OF THE FERGUSON FAMILIES ORIGINALLY  
CONNECTED WITH INVERURY.

*The Kinmundy MS. (collated with others).*

The origin of the Fergusons of Inverury is now altogether unknown, though it appears by the public records they had been the principal people in that town and neighbourhood for several hundred years. Their name was not originally Ferguson, but Fergus, and continued so till about a century and a half ago, when they adopted the name of Ferguson, from an opinion, perhaps, that it was more significant.

The first of the name now remembered, or whose descendants can be traced, was one

I. William Fergus or Ferguson, who lived at Crichtie, near Inverury.

[Sources of information not accessible to the writer of the ms. indicate that this William Ferguson was the son and heir of another of the same name. In his *Memorialls of the Troubles*, Spalding records that when the Marquis of Huntly mustered the northern cavaliers and hoisted the Royal Standard at Inverurie, on 11th April 1644, he stayed ‘ in umquhil William Fergus his hous.’ A week later he was there again staying in Bailie William Ferguson's house. In 1619 William Ferguson had been censured for adding to and building out his house ‘ farder nor the rest of the toune, contrar to the law of burrows, and lykewise for disobeying of the bailzies command, being inhibit.’ On 6th June 1608 ‘ Wm. Fergus, ane horseman sufficientlie in arms conform to the proclamation,’ was one of the few mounted men present at a wapinschaw, and the name occurs throughout the early Records of Inverurie. Many years afterwards, upon the occasion of a visit to Edinburgh of a

descendant in the third generation of a grandson of William Ferguson who had settled in Poland, a curious document was prepared by James Cumming, a member of the Society of Antiquaries, and an official in the Lyon Office, which bore to be founded upon 'certain undoubted and assured writings and instruments.' It exhibits a curious mixture of correct statement and error as regarded later generations, but contains the following passage:—

'That a very ancient Family name among the Scots from Fergus, and which it was the custom anciently to write Fergus, was lengthened about the beginning of the former age into Ferguson. By the same documents it appears that there was a very noble chief of this name of a family in the northern part of the Barony of Crichtie in Aberdeenshire, which Walter of Crichtie received hospitably in his own house the great avenger of his country, King Robert Bruce, setting out into that part of the kingdom to curb the rebels, and with his three sons and dependants in the memorable battle of Inverurie in the year 1308 afforded ready and manly aid: on account of which distinguished assistance King Robert gave him ample possessions of the adjacent lands of Inverurie: which lands have hitherto been perpetual, and are now also held by the chief. From the above-mentioned Walter, baron of Crichtie, by eight paternal descents, was sprung the noble William Ferguson, himself also a baron of Crichtie, who flourished with military reputation in the seventeenth century, nor with less devotion toward the King, as Colonel of a squadron of horse, did he stand in battle for King Charles I. against the impious and rebellious citizens in 1648.' The statement is clearly embellished, and there is evident exaggeration in the reputation attributed to the William Ferguson who lived 'in Crichtie' in 1645 and 1655, became Laird of Badifurrow in the latter year, and was also the owner of a house and considerable holding of land within the extensive limits of the Royal Burgh of Inverurie, which according to family tradition—uncontradicted, and largely corroborated by the local records—had then been in the possession of his family for over three hundred years. But as he had received Lord Huntly in 1644, and there is a tradition that he also

acted as host to the Marquis of Montrose, it is very probable that he was engaged on the Cavalier side in the Civil War. He is found at the Restoration the representative of Inverurie in the Scottish Parliament, signing as such an address to King Charles II., and is recorded as one of those who took part in the ceremony when the remains of the Marquis of Montrose and Sir Wm. Hay of Dalgety were exhumed and re-buried in the Church of St. Giles. There is a tradition that one of the family had fought at Harlaw in 1411, and it is undoubtedly the fact that immediately before the battle of Inverury King Robert was lying sick at Crichtie, where his camp is pointed out, or on the haugh of Ardtannies immediately adjacent thereto, among the vassals and followers resident on his own Garioch estates.

On 12th April 1655 a charter was granted to William Ferguson in Crichtie of the town and lands of Badifurro, with the manor-place, etc., the salmon-fishing in the water of Don, and the lands of Woodhill, both sunny and shadow. The fee of this estate at all events he very soon settled upon his second son, William. William Ferguson, the M.P. of 1661 and 1663, seems to have survived till 1699, when his grandson, James, obtained letters charging his uncle, Robert, to enter heir to his deceased father. He had three brothers, Robert, John, who lived for some time at Stonehaven and afterwards settled in Poland, and James, who was a notary, and Town Clerk of Inverurie from 1645 to 1673.]

He [*i.e.* William Ferguson, proceeds the ms.] was married to Janet Black (Clerk), by whom he had six sons—

II. *Robert, William, James, George, John, and Walter*, and one daughter, *Janet*. From these seven proceed a numerous race of Fergusons, of whom we shall now endeavour to give some account, placing conspicuously and beginning with

I. *Robert*, the eldest son. He, after receiving a liberal education, went to England, and about the Restoration was created a Bishop. By his intermeddling with public affairs and acting under the cloud, he got the appellation of Robert the Plotter. He was married in England, and had two daughters, but it is uncertain to whom he was married or what became of his issue.



[The ms. is of course erroneous in making the Plotter a Bishop. At the Restoration he held the living of Godmarsham in Kent, and perhaps the imaginary mitre is to be accounted for by a story that if the Duke of Monmouth had become king, he was to have been Archbishop of Canterbury. He was the author of three able theological works, was for some time assistant to Dr. John Owen, the famous Non-conformist divine, and was the intimate associate of 'the false Ahitophel'; indeed, 'Shaftesbury died in Ferguson's arms in Holland.' One of the most prolific and vigorous political writers of his time, he was the author of several pamphlets that actively affected events, and of two that rank in the forefront of political writing in their influence on the making of history, for one launched the Duke of Monmouth's claim to the inheritance of the Crown, and the other embroiled Dutch William and the Scots Estates. The discovery of his own Record 'concerning the Rye Plot' among the State papers has solved some mysteries, and established that his management of the nine ruthless spirits saved the Whig party from the stain of a great crime. He was the closest adviser of the unfortunate 'Protestant Duke,' and the draughtsman of his 'Declaration.' Returning from exile with William of Orange, he soon became dissatisfied with the results of the 'glorious revolution,' and his later years were passed as a High Churchman and Jacobite, in confidential correspondence with the exiled monarch at St. Germain, and gifted with a special faculty for showing up Whig ministers for the despotic abuse of power. In the quaint words of a contemporary—'He was commonly reckoned a man by himself, and of as odd a make and mixture as this age has produced. A true history of his life would have disclosed a great many secrets. For a full account of the extraordinary career of 'the Judas of Dryden's great satire,' with its hairbreadth escapes, its untiring energy, misdirected enthusiasm, and flashes of Aberdonian wit, reference must be made to his biography, *Robert Ferguson the Plotter, or the Secret of the Ryehouse Conspiracy and the Story of a Strange Career*, published by D. Douglas, Edinburgh, 1887.]

## FERGUSON OF PITFOUR



PITFOUR

II. *William*, the second son, after Robert's departure becoming as it were the heir, his father purchased for him the estate of Badiefurrow, a few miles distant from Inverury. He was twice married. First to Jean Elphingston, sister to Sir James Elphingston of Logie, by whom he had one son, *James*. In his second marriage, with Lucretia Burnett, he had three sons, who all went abroad.

[The 'List of Pollable Persons in the Shire of Aberdeen' notes as living at Badiefurrow in 1696, Lucrece Burnett, relict of the deceased William Ferguson of Badiefurrow, and her children, Patrick, Walter, and *Mary*, the 'heritor' of Badiefurrow being then 'out of the kingdom.' He died after 4th March 1694, the date of a Great Seal charter in favour of William Ferguson of Badiefurrow in liferent, and his son Mr. James Ferguson in fee.]

III. *James*, his son by the first marriage, being bred to the law, commenced Advocate before the Court of Session. He sold the estate of Badiefurrow and purchased that of Pitfour in

Buchan. [The estate of Pitfour appears originally to have consisted of 'the lands and barony of Toux and Pitfour, comprehending the lands commonly called Toux and Pitfour, Mill of Leggat, mill lands, astrict multures and sequels . . . Cairn-orchies, Drumies, Braikieshill, Dumbmill, Teitswell, Gachinwivis, with the manor place of Pitfour, the whole houses and pertinents lying in the parish of Deer and shire of Aberdeen, united and incorporated into one barony called the barony of Pitfour . . . which lands and barony of Pitfour are held of the King in fee and heritage perpetually' (description in service of 1700, shortly prior to the purchase by James Ferguson of Badifurrow). To these lands were subsequently added the Earl Marischal's estates of Inverugie, etc., in the parish of St. Fergus, extensive lands in Longside, and the lands of Bruxie and others in Old Deer. The lands in Old Deer and Longside south of the river Ugie were afterwards sold by Admiral Ferguson.] He was married to one of the family of Stuart [*i.e.* Anne, sister of Captain Stuart of Crichton in Buchan], and had a son, *James*, and a daughter, Elizabeth. She died unmarried [on 20th March 1781, at the age of 83. James Ferguson was appointed Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeenshire in 1710, and died when on a visit to Slains Castle on New Year's Day 1734. Ramsay of Ochtertyre has this allusion to him: 'He purchased at different times the estate of Pitfour. He was a man much respected in that country for his public spirit and worth. But having been an adventurer in the South Sea, he would have been a ruined man had it not been for his son's exertions.']

IV. *James* [Lord Pitfour] was bred to his father's business, which he pursued with the highest character. He was one of the Senators of the College of Justice and Lords Commissioners of Justiciary in Scotland. He was married to Anne Murray, daughter of Alexander Murray, Lord Elibank, and had three sons, *James*, *Peter*, and *George*, and three daughters.

[Lord Pitfour was born in 1700, became Dean of Faculty in 1760, was raised to the Bench in 1764, and died on 25th June 1777. His wife died on 2nd January 1793. He was counsel for the Jacobites at Carlisle in 1746, where he and

Lockhart found the English juries ready to hang any man who wore the tartan. It is said that the advocates resorted to a novel device, had their servant dressed in Highland garb, managed to slip him in with the next batch of prisoners, and then, by putting each other into the box, proved conclusively that he had been with them throughout the rising and could not possibly have been out. The incident is said to have had a most salutary effect in the trials which followed.



JAMES FERGUSON, LORD PITFOUR

Lord Pitfour combined sound legal ability and high character with much dry humour. Ramsay records that before he received his gown 'all men wondered that he had not been made a judge, for in his hands it was said men's lives and properties would be safe.'

Two characteristic observations of his upon a bad decision and a doubtful doctrine have been recorded. 'This case,'



runs a note by him, 'was not fully pleaded at first, and some judges are like the old Bishop, who having begun to eat the asparagus at the wrong end, did not choose to alter.' '*Servate terminos quos patres vestri posuere* is Lord Pitfour's answer to doubts suggested on the point.' Lord Hailes, after reporting Pitfour's statement as to a certain case, 'Erskine had a feeble antagonist in myself and yet was unsuccessful,' adds, 'This affected modesty is disgusting, for every one knows that Lord Pitfour is a great lawyer, and that he is zealous beyond measure in support of his own opinions.' In an important case in which the authority of their opinions was appealed to, Lord President Blair referred to Pitfour and Lockhart as 'two of the greatest lawyers that ever did honour to this Court, men who stood long unrivalled at the head of the bar, and whose character was equal to their legal knowledge.'

Pitfour always wore his hat on the bench on account of weak eyesight, and the *Court of Session Garland* pictures him as citing cases in illustration

'With a wink and his hat all agee.'

He is said to have owed his judgeship to the 'astute management' of Lord Mansfield in spite of Jacobite proclivities. 'The king asked whether he was not objectionable on political grounds, and Lord Mansfield in reply said, in a matter of course way, that the Duke of Argyll, who was present, would vouch for Mr. Ferguson's loyalty. The Whig Duke, deprived perchance of presence of mind by the unexpected appeal, merely bowed.'

'James Ferguson, afterwards Lord Pitfour,' writes Ramsay of Ochtertyre, 'was one of the greatest and most popular lawyers of that period, and also a man of probity and amiable disposition. . . . Though his small shrill voice and awkward person prevented him from being an elegant speaker, yet so deeply learned was he in the philosophy of the law, and so well acquainted with the springs that actuate the human heart, that few barristers were heard with more satisfaction. His metaphysical turn combined with common sense enabled him to set every subject in a new and striking point of light.'

The candour and caution with which he explained his way in dark involved cases, and the diffidence with which he urged arguments of a novel cast, got him the favour of the judges and sometimes staggered his opponents. He had none of the Aberdeenshire brogue, for though he did not affect to speak English, he was perfectly intelligible to any South Briton. His manner of pleading was better suited to the Court of Session than to the Justiciary, where it is necessary to carry juries by surprise or by a blaze of eloquence. As his conscience would not allow him to go unwarrantable lengths, so his pleadings were too refined for most jurymen. But when nice points of law occurred in a criminal trial recourse was often had to him, his ingenuity and skill being confessedly great. . . . As a chamber counsel he gave universal satisfaction. In advising his clients he displayed a comprehension and foresight which would have become a Chancellor of England. Instead of flattering their wishes and prejudices, or of adding fuel to the angry or interested passions, he spoke his sentiments with honest plainness, stating the difficulties they had to encounter and the chances against them. In a word, for a number of years people were unwilling to proceed in any business of moment till they had Pitfour's opinion to sanction them. A series of his opinions would be a treasure of information to men of business, as well as a truly honourable monument to the head and heart of this amiable and able man. Nor did his law papers give less satisfaction to the judges and his clients. . . . It may be thought strange that a man of such parts and virtue should not have been called to the Bench till past his prime. But he was long considered a disaffected man, whom it would be improper for a Whig administration to promote. It probably originated from his being an Episcopalian, like most of the northern gentry of those times. . . . He submitted to the established government, and took the oaths prescribed by law, a sacrifice which a man of his honour and sense would not have made had it been against his conscience. . . . He was surely partial to the persons of his Nonjuring friends, whose private virtues he respected. And as he sincerely compassionated many of the unhappy sufferers in that cause,

he was always ready to give them the aid of his professional skill in their law business. That was sufficient, in times when party spirit ran high, to make him be suspected by the Whigs. The active hand he took in setting up a qualified chapel at Old Deer shows that he was not satisfied with the politics of the Nonjuring clergy. . . . On the occasion of his appointment Lord Mansfield applied for an audience of the king, and said to him, "Sir, your reign begins to be clouded with faction. The best way of blunting its face is to keep the channels of justice clear by placing men of parts and virtue upon the bench. Mr. Ferguson is confessedly the first man at the Scottish bar, and all the world speaks well of him." . . . As a criminal judge he was accused of leaning in general too much to the side of the prisoners, a fault which could not with justice be found in most of his brethren. It was alleged that, in some cases, he went great lengths to get the culprits acquitted when the evidence was very strong. But even malevolence durst not ascribe his conduct to political or personal considerations, for whilst he sat on that bench the voice of party was not heard in Scotland, and the people who excited his commiseration were low friendless creatures. His great humanity, joined to the indignation he had felt when at the bar when he saw the Judges over zealous for the Crown, made him perhaps incline more to the other side than was proper or decent. At a very pleasant dinner at Stirling in 1772, on the last day of a Circuit, in a small but select company, when Lord Pitfour gave the Court of Justiciary, Lord Kames, who was that day in high glee, said: "Ay! Pitfour here is our hanging Court, of which you are a most unworthy member; for if you got your will nobody would ever be hanged. You would have been a rare judge to the Empress Elizabeth of Russia." He entertained us with a laughable account of his friend's courtship. In entertaining the company that waited on him Lord Pitfour observed a middle course. As his manner was courteous and humble, his face was such as became the dignity of his place. If he had not the convivial talents of some of his brethren in entertaining large and mixed company, nothing could be more delightful than his supper-parties, when he liked the

company. . . . When a lawyer it was his rule to do no business on Saturday (Sunday ?); but though a man of unostentatious piety he was no Puritan. He thought it no sin to entertain a few friends at dinner or supper, when they were delighted with the philanthropy, the animation, and the knowledge of their host. . . . He breathed his last, coming to his grave in a full age, like "as a shock of corn cometh in in its season."'

The following letters from Lord Pitfour are interesting. In the first, addressed to 'James Ferguson of Kinmundie, Esq., at his lodgings in Paterson's land, below the Canongate Cross, Edinburgh,' he announces the solemnisation of his marriage :—

'DEAR COUSIN,—I came here yesternight, where I have obtained the completion of the happiness I have been long intending. We come in upon Tuesday's night, and will take it very kindly if you and your Lady can come up and sup with us betwixt 7 and 8 at night. My Lord and my lady and all this family come in with us, and severall of our other friends are to meet us in town. I shall add no more but my most humble service to your Lady, and am your most affectionate cousin and humble servant,

'JAMES FERGUSON.

'BALNACRIEF, *Feb. 4, 1733.*'

The other is addressed to his young kinsman, who had just followed the fashion of his generation by making a run-away marriage :—

'SIR,—I am sorry to hear of your taking a step of this importance without your Father's consent. You will no doubt make it your chief concern to obtain his forgiveness. I doubt if I can have any weight in it at this distance. I think it would be proper to apply to Drum, who is a man of honour, and will propose nothing but honourable terms. It will give me great pleasure to hear that you succeed in obtaining a Reconciliation with your father, which is the only thing that can ensure future happiness to you and Mrs.



Ferguson. I most heartily wish it, and am, Sir, your most affectionate cousin and humble servant,

‘ JAMES FERGUSON.

‘ EDIN., *Novr.* 11th, 1756.’

For further details as to Lord Pitfour, his father and son, reference may be made to an article headed ‘Three Generations of the Scots Bar,’ published in the *Scottish Journal of Jurisprudence* in March 1886, and to Ramsay of Ochtertyre’s *Scotland and Scotsmen.*]



JAMES FERGUSON OF PITFOUR, M.P.

V. *James*—[‘the Member’]—the eldest son, having studied the law, commenced Advocate before the Court of Session in 1757. He made very great and valuable additions to the estate of Pitfour. He was elected Member of Parliament for the County of Aberdeen in 17[90], and continued its representative till his death, which

took place at London in September 1820. He was never married.

[James Ferguson, 'the Member,' was noted for his dry Aberdeenshire wit, for his silence in the House of Commons, and for his active interest in the agricultural development of his estates. He was born in 1735, and Ramsay mentions that 'Monboddo had a very idle quarrel with David Hume, because he thought young Mr. Ferguson of Pitfour might be much better employed than in reading Eustathius's Commentaries on Homer.' 'In several important causes he proved himself not unworthy of his illustrious father,' but his ultimate interests lay in London and Aberdeenshire. He was defeated in his first contest for Aberdeenshire in 1786, when Mr. Skene, the nominee of the Fife interest, was successful by ten votes. An election ballad of the time describes the contest with spirit, and indicates that 'the Lord of the Protestant mob' had thrown his influence on the opposite side from most of his name:—

'And there were the Gordons of every degree,  
As stately and gentle as Gordons should be.

And there were the Duffs all arranged on one side,  
All true to the Dun Cow whate'er might betide :

And a joyful day it was, to be sure,  
For the victuals were good and the claret was pure,  
While the rabble roared out,—such roaring was never,—  
"For Skene and Lord George, beef and porter for ever."

After sitting for Banffshire—in a detached part of which a large part of his estates lay—Pitfour carried Aberdeenshire in 1790, and though more than once assailed, held it till he died, 'the Father of the House of Commons.' In 1806 Lord Melville wrote:—'Our friend Pitfour has had a hard struggle against the whole power and efforts of Government, but we have carried it, to his great joy and to the great annoyance of his opponents.' He was an intimate personal friend, as well as steady supporter, of Pitt and Dundas, to whose memory he erected a simple monument of Aberdeenshire granite at the

gate of Pitfour, the inscription on which can scarcely be surpassed for its laconic felicity :—

MEMORIAE  
GULIELMI PITT  
ET  
HENRICI DUNDAS  
VICECOMITIS MELVILLE  
PRISCAE VIRTUTIS VIRORUM  
EX INDIGENIS MARMORIBUS DURISSIMIS  
AT QUIBUS ILLORUM FAMA PERENNIORE  
DONUM DEDIT  
JACOBUS FERGUSON  
DE PITFOUR  
ANNO SALUTIS M.D.CCC.XVI.

Lord Sidmouth has preserved this anecdote of Pitfour, whom Lord Stanhope describes as a 'noted humourist.' One day Ferguson, with several other members, was dining in the coffee-room of the House of Commons, when some one ran in to tell them that Mr. Pitt was on his legs. Every one prepared to leave the table except Ferguson, who remained quietly seated. 'What,' said they, 'won't you go to hear Mr. Pitt?' 'No,' he replied, 'why should I? Do you think Mr. Pitt would go to hear me?' 'But indeed I would,' said Pitt, when the circumstance was told to him.

Pitfour, it is said, used to assert that the Government ought always to choose a tall man for Lord Advocate. 'We Scotch members,' he said, 'always vote with the Lord Advocate, and we require therefore to see him in a division. Now I can see Mr. Pitt, and I can see Mr. Addington, but I cannot see the Lord Advocate.' It was said of him that he was never present at a debate and never absent from a division; but this is inconsistent with the statement, also attributed to him, that he had heard many speeches which changed his opinion but never one that changed his vote, and with his own declaration that he 'had never voted against Mr. Pitt but twice, and both times, on reflection, found he was wrong and Mr. Pitt right.' It is said that his only speech in the House was to move that a window behind where he sat should be mended; but it is also reported that on one

occasion he rose, and the unexpected treat of a speech from one whose wit was well known in the precincts was greeted with loud shouts of 'Hear hear.' He paused a moment, looked round, then said, 'I'll be d——d if you do,' and sat down.

Of 'old Pitty' and his servant John not a few stories linger in the north. John was a great character, and 'Pitt, Pitfour, and I' were the favourite subject of his conversation. In the days of the witty and beautiful Duchess of Gordon, Pitfour, it is said, received many invitations to Gordon Castle, which, for reasons of his own, he would neither accept nor answer. It has indeed been said that he had at one time been engaged to the future Duchess, and that there lay the secret of his confirmed bachelordom. At last the Duchess wrote to John: 'Dear John, come to Gordon Castle, and bring your master with you.' John went in perplexity to Pitfour for advice as to the reply. 'Answer as you're addressed,' said Pitfour. 'If she begins "Dear John," you must reply "Dear Jean."' Another incident has only been partially preserved by Dean Ramsay. One night Pitfour and a friend were deeply immersed in a game of chess, when the door opened and John announced, 'Laird, the supper's on the table.' 'All right, John; we'll be there presently.' Quarter of an hour or so passed, and the game was not finished, when John appeared a second time, with some asperity in his tone: 'I was saying, Laird, the supper's ready.' 'We'll be down in a minute, John.' Another quarter of an hour elapsed, and then the door was flung open, and John, marching straight up to the board, swept all the pieces off it with the words, 'Come awa to yer supper when ye're bid.' 'John,' said Pitfour, 'this will not do; you and I must part.' 'Aweel, Laird, we'll see aboot that in the morning; come you to your supper the noo.' When morning came, John was ready. 'Whaur's yer honour gangin'? Whaur'll ye be sae comfortable as in yer ain hoose, Laird; for I'm no gaein' awa: *I ken ower weel when I'm weel aff.*' John had at one time fancied he could better himself by setting up in business. After the lapse of a year or two he wrote a long letter to his old master detailing all his miscarriages, and asking to be



taken back into his service. Pitfour, who hated trouble, sent back the letter, writing at the bottom, 'Accepts with thanks.—J. F.'

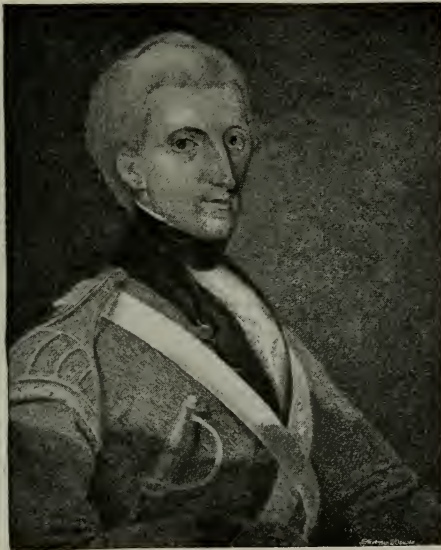
The Duchess of Gordon's riddle upon 'old Pitfour' is worth quoting:—

'My first is found upon the banks of Tyne,  
My second is scarce quite the half of nine ;  
My whole a Laird of Aberdeenshire race,  
An honest fellow with an ugly face.'

On no occasion was he given to lavish expenditure of words. His laconic reply to an inquiry as to the extirpation of rooks was, 'Shoot the fools that shoot the crows,' and his doctrine of the three profits of agriculture was pithily expressed in the words, 'Ane to saw, ane to chaw, and ane to pay the rent witha'.' On one occasion he so answered a number of silly questions put to him by a London lady, intensely ignorant and inquisitive about Scotland, that she went away believing 'Scotland to be a country containing neither corn nor trees nor grass, but covered all over with long coarse hair.' A local writer thus describes his 'patriotic labours' in the improvement of his native district:—'He has built several extensive and thriving villages: has conducted a canal through a considerable part of his property: has introduced by his influence fine turnpike roads throughout the greater part of Aberdeenshire: has promoted by liberal encouragement the most improved systems of husbandry among his tenantry: has planted many hundreds of acres which promise to rescue the district of Buchan from the reproaches of future travellers: has enclosed whole farms with hawthorn hedges, and granted leases to all his tenants on terms peculiarly liberal. . . . Mr. Ferguson's attachment to Buchan, which is almost proverbial, and his enthusiastic delight in planning and executing schemes to promote the happiness of his tenantry: in fine, the general tenor of his whole life—have justly entitled him to the venerable appellation of the Father of his People.']

V. *Patrick*, James's second son was born in 1744, and having early chosen the life of a soldier, was sent to finish his education at a military academy in London. His first commission

was purchased for him at the age of fourteen, in the Royal North British Dragoons, and during his short but glorious career he served in the 70th and other regiments. He united in his character the calm judgment and exalted abilities of his father, with the vivacity and genius of his mother's family. He attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and was killed in the action at King's Mountain, South Carolina, 7th Oct. 1780 (unmarried).



LIEUT.-COL. PATRICK FERGUSON

[Patrick Ferguson was the inventor of the first breech-loading rifle used on service, for which he took out a patent in 1776. On one occasion Washington owed his life to his chivalrous forbearance; and American authors point to King's Mountain, where he commanded the Loyalist force, and where the battle was decided by his death, as the turning-point of the Revolutionary War. His distinguished biographer, Professor Adam Ferguson, says of him, 'Ferguson was the friend of every man's merit, and had no enemy to his own,' and has preserved this characteristic passage from

one of his letters:—‘The length of our lives is not at our own command, however much the manner of them may be. If our Creator enable us to act the part of men of honour, and to conduct ourselves with spirit, probity, and humanity, the change to another world, whether now or fifty years hence, will not be for the worse.’ ‘He possessed,’ says General Stewart of Garth, ‘original genius. . . . By zeal, animation, and a liberal spirit, he gained the confidence of the mass of the people. . . . Directing the conduct of men unaccustomed to strict discipline, he led them step by step to accomplish the duties of experienced soldiers. At King’s Mountain he was overpowered by numbers, and fought and fell like a Spartan.’ For a full account of his most interesting career, with its incidents of chivalrous daring, reference must be made to his life in *Two Scottish Soldiers* (D. Wyllie and Sons, Aberdeen, 1888), and the Biographical Sketch by Professor Adam Ferguson. A Life of Colonel Patrick Ferguson is also in course of preparation in America, by G. A. Gilbert, Danbury, Conn.]

V. *George* [‘the Governor’], James’s youngest son, was for many years Governor of the Island of Tobago, and succeeded his brother James to [*sic*] his extensive estates of Pitfour, etc., on his death in September 1820, and died on the 29th December 1820.

[Chambers in his *Traditions of Edinburgh* preserves one or two interesting reminiscences of Governor Ferguson and his eldest brother:—‘Between the heads of the Advocates’ and Don’s Closes, in the Luckenbooths, and bearing the number 333, stands a land of no great antiquity or peculiar appearance, but remarkable for containing the house of Lord Pitfour, whose two sons continued to reside in it till their deaths in 1820. . . . This is remarkable for having been the last house in the old town inhabited by a gentleman of fortune and figure. . . . There never existed a greater difference between two brothers in personal appearance than between James and George Ferguson. James was a remarkably fat and easy-looking old man, with a good-humoured gentlemanly face; while George was tall, slim, erect, and nimble,

with a face expressive of a sharp and lively temperament.' Governor Ferguson was supposed to be the W—— of *Peter's Letters to his Kinsfolk*. He was noted for his hospitality and taste in wine; and when his stock was sold after his death, one parcel marked "My mother's wine" brought a great price on account of its supposed age, but after all it turned out to be nothing better than a manufacture of the good lady's own, distilled from the humble Scottish gooseberry.']

V. *Jane*, James's eldest daughter, died unmarried.

V. *Elizabeth*, the second daughter, married Mr. Wedderburn of Birkhill, but has left no issue.

V. *Anne*, the third, died unmarried.

[George Ferguson 'the Governor' left the estate of Pitfour to his son,

VI. Admiral George Ferguson, R.N.—'the Admiral'—who married, first, in 1812 Elizabeth Holcombe, only daughter and heiress of John Woodhouse of Yallon Court, co. Hereford. They had one daughter, who succeeded to her mother's property, and married the Rev. Thomas Taylor Lewis, Incumbent of Bridstow. Admiral Ferguson married, second, the Honourable Elizabeth Jane, eldest daughter of Clotworthy, first Lord Langford, and niece of Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington, and left by his second marriage (with other issue) one son, George Arthur. Admiral Ferguson was M.P. for Banffshire 1833-37, and died in 1867. He was succeeded by his son,

VII. George Arthur (born 1835), Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel Grenadier Guards. He married the Hon. Nina Maria Hood, eldest daughter of Alexander, first Viscount Bridport of the United Kingdom, and Duke of Bronté in the kingdom of Italy, and grandniece of Admiral Earl Nelson, and has issue,

VIII. Arthur George, (born 22nd June 1862), Captain Rifle Brigade, A.D.C. to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught during his command in India.

Francis William (born 29th July 1863), served as a volunteer in the Matabele War, 1893-94.



Rev. Edwin Augustus (born 24th September 1864), Rector of Bulwick, Wansford, North Hants, married Madeline Master, and has issue.

1. Madeline Jane.
2. Dora.

Charles Alexander, born 21st Oct. 1873.

Edith Rosa,

Mary Georgina, .]



PITFOUR HOUSE—SIDE VIEW

## FERGUSON OF KINMUNDY



BRIGADIER FERGUSON

II. *James* [‘the Brigadier’], the third son, entered into the army when very young, and having signalised himself in an especial manner, was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. He served in four reigns—King Charles, King William, Queen Mary, and Queen Anne’s (*sic*)—still maintaining the character of a brave, valiant, and prudent officer, till his fame raising envy in the heart of the then commanding officer, he was cut off by very sinister means. He left one son James [and a daughter Elizabeth, who died unmarried, being the children of his first marriage with Helen, daughter of James Drummond of Cultmalindie], and a daughter, [Anna Elizabeth, only child of his second marriage with Hester Elizabeth Hibelet, a Dutch lady of

Bois-le-Duc], who being born in Holland, continued there. [She married M. Gerard Vinck. Brigadier Ferguson in 1695 acquired the estate of Balmakelly and Kirktonhill in the Mearns. He had first served in the Dutch Scots Brigade, came over with William of Orange; was taken prisoner at Killiecrankie, commanded the expedition to the West Coast, which commenced the construction of Fort-William, was transferred to the Cameronian Regiment after the battle of Steinkirk, and commanded it for twelve years. He 'led up the first line of foot' in the attack on the Schellenberg, and commanded a brigade at Blenheim. He was in command of the British troops at Maestricht for some weeks previous to the march into Germany, and there, immediately before his Brigade moved as the rearguard, he made his will, which was written by Mr. James Ferguson, Advocate, the Laird of Pitfour, who managed his affairs in Scotland for him. He was selected for the responsible service of conveying the French prisoners to Holland after Blenheim, and his second marriage was solemnized on his arrival at Bois-le-Duc. His gravestone in the Cathedral of Bois-le-Duc, where he died suddenly the following October, when in command of the garrison there, 'having,' says Blackader, 'just come from Court, where he had been sent for that he might be raised a step higher for his services,' bears the inscription:—

DE H. ED. GESTR. HEER,  
 JAMES FERGUSSON,  
 BRIGÂD.-GENERAL,  
 OBIIT XXII. OCT.  
 MDCCV.

His name, however, appears in the lists of the British army as Major-General.

General Mackay, in a letter to King William III., described him as '*personne de probité et d'honneur comme aussi fidèle et affectionné au service de votre Majesté.*' Marlborough, in announcing his death, wrote: '*C'était un officier de mérite pour lequel j'avais beaucoup d'estime et que je ne puis assez regretter: le public y a une grande perte aussi bien que sa famille;*' and in a letter of his own, speaking of his regiment, which then had several Fergusons among its

officers, he uses words which would have made a fitting epitaph on his own tombstone: 'We have our good service to plead for us, and that we have been honest and loyal from the beginning, and will continue so to the end.'

For details of his career, see Memoir in *Two Scottish Soldiers*, Aberdeen, D. Wyllie and Son, 1888. (For arms, see ch. xiii.)]

III. *James* [1696-1777, known colloquially as 'old Bomy,' from Balmakelly or Bomakellie, his first territorial designation] had the estate of Kinmundy purchased for him, [situated in the same Aberdeenshire parish as Pitfour. 'The lands and barony of Balmakelly, comprehending the lands of Kirktonhill, Marykirk, mill and mill-lands thereof, and the other towns contained in Colonel Ferguson's charter under the great seal,' were sold in April 1723, and in the same year those of Kinmundy were bought from Gordon of Pitlurg.

A charter of the barony of Kinmundy then resigned for new infestment, dated 1728, confirmed to James Ferguson of Kinmundy and his heirs All and Whole the lands and barony of Kinmundy, comprehending the town and lands of Over Kinmundie, with the dominical lands and manor place of the same; the town and lands of Deurie, and the lands of Milnbreck, with the mill, mill-lands and astricted multures of the same; the town and lands of Milnhill, the town and lands of Pettymarkhouse, the town and lands of Smallburn, the town and lands of Kinknockie, comprehending the town and lands of Oldtown of Kinknockie, Westertown, *alias* Westerstrype, *alias* Pittendreachseat, and Backhill, *alias* Barrackseat, with all houses, buildings, gardens, orchards, mosses, moors, marshes, etc., pertaining thereto, lying in the parish of Old Deer, incorporated and erected into one whole and free barony called the barony of Kinmundy, and likewise all and whole those parts and portions of the lands and barony of Old Deer, viz. the town and lands commonly called the dominical lands of Aden, and the pendicle of the same, commonly called Bridgehouse, with the pendicle of land commonly called Clerkhill, together with the mill of Aden, the mill-lands, astricted multures, sucken sequels, and knaveships of the same, and also the town and lands of



the Kirktown of Old Deer, and all the riggs, acres, and particles of land lying in and around the same, with the right of superiority of the whole feus there lying, together with the whole feu-duties and other casualties due and paid from the same, and also the town and lands of Biffieraw of Biffie, and Parkhouse of Biffie, with the whole houses, buildings, gardens, orchards, etc. . . .; and also All and Whole the two annual markets or fairs held annually within the said Kirktown and parish of Old Deer, which are commonly called the Fairs of Aickie and Dusten, with the weekly markets held within the said Kirktown of Old Deer, together with the whole tolls, customs, casualties, emoluments, privi-



KINMUNDY HOUSE

leges, and arising from the same or pertaining to the said annual fairs and weekly markets, together with the feu-duties and casualties paid by the said feuars, together also with the whole teinds as well greater as less, as well rectorial as vicar's of the whole foresaid lands last above mentioned, which are parts and portions of the said barony of Old Deer.'

Some years later, in 1744, the lands of Coynach, contiguous to the barony of Kinmundy, were acquired; but in 1758 those of Aden and Old Deer, described in the charter of 1728, were sold to Alexander Russell of Moncoffer.]

He was married first (on 30th December 1727) to Elizabeth

Deans, by whom he had one son James, and a daughter Marjory. In his second marriage (3rd February 1752) with Margaret Irvine (of Artamford) he had no issue. [He seems to have been in the army while quite a child, for there are among the Kimmundy papers allusions to 'our pupil's pay as ensign,' and the following curious receipt:—

'SIR,—I have received six recruits from William Johnston servitor to James Ferguson of Pitfour to Brigadier Preston's regiment [the Cameronians], which is raised by me for brigadier ferguson sone who is ensign of the above regiment.

' W. DRUMMOND.

'EDR. 7th Apr. 1711.'

The foundation-stone of the house of Kimmundy, discovered some years ago in executing alterations, bears the inscription:—

J. FERGUSON, ESQR., &  
E. DEANS, &  
THEIR SON.  
JUNE  
1736.

The house was plundered and almost burnt by Gordon of Glenbucket's Highlanders in the 'Forty-five,' and only saved by the presence of mind of 'the Lady Kimmundy,' whose husband was absent, and whose young son had been hurriedly despatched to a neighbouring farmhouse concealed in a clothes-basket. She sent a message to the officer in command to the effect that it was strange conduct on the part of a gentleman so to treat a lady's house; that she had just been preparing some refreshment for his men when they set fire to the part of the house where it was to be served, and that if they wanted their dinner they had better put the fire out. The same good lady on another occasion, when a recruiting party were forcibly impressing the young men around, and some of them asked protection, is said to have put the house in a state of defence, and answered the summons to surrender the fugitives with the reply, 'Her people had come there for safety, and safety they should have, and before they were got the house must be knocked down.'

Tradition, supported by an old door with a deep sword-cut in it, says that on one occasion at least there was a fight; and a story is told that once when the Jacobite cause was in the ascendant, a party of horsemen arrived to seize the Laird, who was in hiding in the house of one of his tenants in the moss. The horsemen asked a half-witted fellow if he could guide them to where the Laird was. He replied 'he could do that fine,' and led them into the middle of a



JAMES FERGUSON OF KINMUNDY, C. 1745.

deep morass, where horses and men were soon floundering. After laughing at them from a piece of solid ground, he made off, but the tradition as locally handed down specially records his report that 'they just d——d extraordinar.'

The strong Presbyterian convictions and Hanoverian sympathies of 'the Lady Kinmundy' led her to take an active part on the Government side; and Glenbucket's 'rude civilities' were repaid by her active co-operation with Lord Mark Kerr's dragoons and the Campbell militia who carried out the orders

for the destruction of the non-juring places of worship in Buchan. Whether or not the story be true that she watched from the hill of Coynach the flames of the chapels at Old Deer and Longside, which is inconsistent with another which records the interchange of repartees with the Rev. Mr. Skinner at Longside on the same occasion, it is certain that when she heard the former edifice was being rebuilt on her husband's lands at Old Deer, she promptly rode over with some of her



ELISABETH FERGUSON, 'LADY KINMUNDY,' c. 1745.

people and demolished it. A local minister warned his correspondent to remember in writing letters to Old Deer 'that the Lady Kinmundy hath given it the name of Dear William'—an appellation which fortunately never took hold;—and the well-known song 'O Logie o' Buchan,' written by the Jacobite schoolmaster on whose head the Duke of Cumberland set a price for having written 'Awa, Whigs, awa,' originally began with the line

'O woe to Kinmundy, Kinmundy the Laird,'



an aspiration which was probably stimulated by the fact that in legal pleadings of the time it was stated that 'the said James Ferguson is a person publicly known to be well affected to us, our person, and Government.' His uncle had been 'the Judas of Dryden's great satire,' and in some of the Jacobite lampoons an elaborate comparison was drawn between his wife and Jezebel.

The first Mrs. Ferguson died in Edinburgh on 23rd January 1751, and was buried in the Canongate churchyard. On 3rd February 1752 the Laird married *en secondes noces* Margaret, 'eldest daughter of William Irvine of Artamford, and the deceased Isobel Keith his spouse' (Marriage Contract). He died on 20th January 1777.]

IV. *James* [born 12th December 1734, died 17th February 1787] was married [14th October 1756] to Elizabeth Urquhart (of the family of Byth), [daughter of Thomas Urquhart, Esq., and Isabella, daughter of William Forbes of Blackton], by whom he had three sons, James, Thomas, and William, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Isabella, and Margaret.

[He was the recipient of the letter from Lord Pitfour previously quoted, and the unfortunate result of his runaway love-match was the sale of the Aden portion of the Kinmundy estates. There are not a few humorous touches in the family correspondence of the time, for all his friends were not so stern as the future judge. 'I imagine,' wrote Dingwall of Culsh, 'the ground of the present quarrel is that you have chosen a wife for yourself. Time will make that subside unless ye differ upon matters of interest. As Meldrum is your lady's relation, and shows himself friendly to you, he is a sensible honest gentleman, and may be of very good use to you.' Eighteen years later the *Aberdeen Journal*, in announcing Mrs. Ferguson's death, added, in the quaint diction of the age, 'In every station of life she was an example of those virtues which render the female sex truly amiable.' The following interesting allusion is preserved in a letter written in 1778 by her father to his eldest grandson, whom he had just conveyed to college in Edinburgh: 'Twixt Laurencekirk and Stonehaven on this side Drumlithie I made the driver stop to let me see Glenbervie, as

my grandmother Heneret Douglas was a daughter of Douglas of Glenbervie, and the house lies in a Glen.' The house of Glenbervie were the descendants of that gallant son of old Archibald Bell the Cat, whose brave effort to win the bridge over the Till and cover the Scottish retreat from Flodden field with the two hundred men he had held together, drew from the Earl of Surrey the quick inquiry, 'What banner is that?' 'That is the Douglas banner,' was the reply. 'Then,' said the English general, 'the victory is not ours till that



JAMES FERGUSON, YR. OF KINMUNDY, C. 1745.

banner too is taken;' and he despatched an overwhelming force against the little band, who fought so well, that of the two hundred, only sixteen left the fatal field, and among those who lay dead was their leader, Sir William Douglas, the first of Glenbervie.]

V. *James* [known as 'the lame laird,' born 12th November 1759, died 20th November 1816] succeeded his father in the estate of Kinmundy, and married [in 1787] Isabella Brown [daughter of the Rev. William Brown of Craigdam], by

whom he had five sons, James, William, Thomas, John, and Alexander, and one daughter alive, Isabella. [She died unmarried.]

Mr. Ferguson, whose family had adhered to the Secession Church, though living a retired life in the country, took a deep interest in the controversy on the question of the national recognition of religion, which led to its Disruption in the early years of the nineteenth century. His brother-in-law, Mr. Aitken, his son's father-in-law, Mr. Chalmers, and the latter's son-in-law, Dr. M'Crie, were all among the four who originally formed the Constitutional Presbytery in maintenance of the old principles of the Secession and of the Church of Scotland, in regard to the relations of Church and State, when the acceptance of 'French principles' converted the majority of the old religious Seceders into political Dissenters. He was frequently consulted by his friends, and their correspondence shows the great reluctance with which they accepted the necessity of division from their former ecclesiastical associates, a reluctance as great as that with which his grandmother had felt bound to face 'the evil of separation from my parish kirk.' Though it was waged in a small arena, the principles involved in that controversy were those on which ever rests the relation between Church and State, and it rehearsed in principle the wider conflict of the century as to the maintenance of national religion.]

VI. *James* [J.P. and D.L. for the county of Aberdeen, born 21st November 1789, died in May 1862] succeeded his father in the estate of Kinmundy, and married [August 1817] Emily Chalmers [daughter of the Rev. Robert Chalmers of Haddington], by whom he had two sons, *James* [who died in 1841, being accidentally killed at Glasgow while serving a practical apprenticeship as a civil engineer, and having volunteered to take another man's place when the work on which he was engaged appeared to be dangerous] and Robert [who died young. Subsequent to the writing of the ms. were born *William*, now of Kinmundy, and Thomas.]

VII. *William* (born 20th December 1823, J.P. and D.L. for the county of Aberdeen; Captain 17th A.R.V. Corps,

1867-1873, F.R.S., F.G.S., etc.; Chairman Great North of Scotland Railway Company from 1879), third and eldest surviving son of James of Kinmundy (vi.), succeeded his father in the estate of Kinmundy; married, on 22nd July 1856, Eliza, daughter of Andrew Williamson, Esq., Ayr (who died 19th February 1881), and had three children; James, Andrew Williamson (born 7th October 1858, died 1st January 1864), and Agnes Adair.

VIII. James (born 28th July 1857); called to the Scots Bar 1879; Advocate-Depute, February-August 1892, re-appointed, July 1895; Captain and Hon. Major (V.D.) 3rd (the Buchan) Vol. Batt. Gordon Highlanders; Honorary Secretary, National Union of Conservative Associations for Scotland (Central Office), 1882-92; married (25th March 1885) Georgina Anne, eldest daughter of Captain John de Courcy Andrew Agnew, R.N., of Dacre Lodge, Cumberland, and granddaughter of Sir Andrew Agnew, 7th Baronet of Lochnaw, Wigtonshire, and has issue—

IX. James (born 20th February 1886), John de Courcy Agnew (born 2nd March 1887)].

V. Thomas [1768-1828], second son of James [(iv.) and Elizabeth Urquhart], a W.S.; married Catherine Cummine, by whom he has a son, James, and a daughter, Marjory: [she died unmarried.

VI. James (1807-1880), son of Thomas Ferguson, W.S. (v.), married, in 1868, Anne, daughter of the Rev. Charles Macpherson, minister of Tarland, and sister of Colonel (Macpherson) Farquharson of Corachrie, and had five children—

VII. James William (born 1869), Lieutenant, 3rd Dragoon Guards; Mary (died unmarried), Catherine Cumine, Anne, Marjory (died unmarried).]

V. William [1771-1843], residing at Clola [Kinmundy, who died] unmarried.

V. Elizabeth, married Rev. D. Meek.

V. Isabella, married Rev. J. Aitken.

V. Margaret, [died] unmarried.



IV. Marjory, only daughter of James, first of Kinmundy, married James Cummine of Kininmonth (a gentleman of an ancient family and a neighbouring estate to her father's), and left two daughters—

V. Margaret, married Alexander Russell of Aden, by whom she had seven sons and three daughters.

V. Catherine, married Thomas Ferguson above mentioned.

[VI. William (1792-186 ), second son of James of Kinmundy (v.), was a merchant in Leith, and died unmarried.

VI. Thomas (1794-1831), the third son, was a W.S. He married Barbara Hutchison, a descendant of his ancestor Brigadier Ferguson's sister, but died without issue.

VI. John (1797-1857), the fourth son, lived at Brae of Coynach, and was factor on his brother's estate. His son,

VII. John (died 1879) married Mary, daughter of Rev. Charles Macpherson, Tarland, was factor on his cousin's estate, and second Colonel of the 3rd Aberdeenshire Volunteers, or Buchan Rifles. His widow married Dr. Robert Murray Garden, Aberdeen.

VI. Alexander (1804-1857), the fifth son, married Agnes Maitland, and had three children—

VII. William (1851-1874, died unmarried), Margaret, Agnes married (1892) John Nicholson, Esq.

VII. Thomas (born 1828), younger son of James of Kinmundy (vi.), lived for several years at Alton of Coynach, and now resides in Aberdeen. He married (21st February 1867) Agnes, daughter of Robert Whyte, Esq., and has issue—

VIII. Robert (born 5th February 1869), M.B., C.M.; William (died unmarried), James (died unmarried), Thomas (born 22nd April 1877), Agnes Emily.]

[Among the Kinmundy papers are the following :—

*Commissions of Major-General Ferguson.*

1. 12th June 1677 (Dutch), Quartermaster in Colonel Macdonnell's Regiment.

2. 9th September 1678 (Dutch), Vendrighe in Captain Züylen's Company.
3. 21st February 1682 (Dutch), Lieutenant in Captain Cunningham's Company.
4. 10th June 1685 (Dutch), Lieutenant in Captain Middleton's Company.
5. 1st April 1688 (Dutch), Captain, both from the Prince of Orange and the States of the United Provinces.
6. 22nd May 1688 (Dutch), Captain of Captain George Hamilton's Company.
7. 1st August 1692 (English), Lieutenant-Colonel in Munro's Regiment (the Cameronians).
8. 1st January 1698 (Dutch), Captain of a company in his own regiment.

*Burgess Tickets.*

Glasgow, 7th May 1690. In favour of 'James Ferguson, Major of the Regiment of Colonel Lauder.'

Edinburgh, 30th October 1691. 'Major James Ferguson.'

Montrose, 9th November 1698. 'Collonell James Fergusone of Balmakellie.'

Brechin, 28th February 1722. James Ferguson of Balmakellie.

Montrose, 23rd April 1723. Jacobum Ferguson de Balmakellie.

Aberdeen, 14th July 1732. Jacobus Ferguson de Kinmundy.

(Although the ticket has not been preserved, it appears from a note that the freedom of Aberdeen was conferred upon James Ferguson, Younger of Kinmundy, son of the recipient of the three tickets last mentioned, on 18th October 1756.)

The following election letters are of some interest:—

'HALF MOON STREET, LONDON,  
15th August 1761.

'SIR,—I have been to blame in not returning you thanks for your obliging letter and kind congratulation on my success in the election sooner, but the great hurry I have been

in, and the very short space I have till now been able to stay in one place will, I hope, plead my excuse. I was exceedingly obliged to Kinmundy and by Kinmundy, and no less so to Miss Ferguson. If ever it lie in my power to return the favour to any of their or your concern, I shall esteem myself happy in doing so. I sincerely wish you all well, and with my kind comp<sup>ts</sup> to your Lady and family, and to friends at Kinmundy,—I ever am, with regard and esteem, d<sup>r</sup> Sir, your most faithful and obliged humble servant and friend,

‘ AD. GORDON.

‘ Pray remember me kindly to Mrs. Betty Ferguson, Pitfour, and to all friends.

‘ *To James Ferguson. Esq., Yr. of Kinmundy.*’

Lord Adam Gordon was then M.P. for Aberdeenshire.

The following is Pitfour’s election address of 1790 :—

‘ EDINBURGH, 17th June 1790.

‘ DEAR SIR,—As Parliament is now dissolved, I take this early opportunity of offering myself as a candidate to represent the County of Aberdeen, and of soliciting the support of your vote and interest at the coming Election.

‘ Should I have the good fortune to attain a situation so truly respectable, I shall endeavour by every means in my power to show my gratitude to those gentlemen who honour me with their support; and to forward with unremitting attention what appears to me to be the true interest of the County and of the nation at large.—I have the honour to be, d<sup>r</sup> Sir, your most obed. and most hu<sup>l</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>, J. FERGUSSON.

‘ *My dear Cousin,—I hope earnestly for your attendance.*’

Stray passages in old private letters are often eloquent of national events and the public spirit of the time. Two sentences from ones addressed to Mr. Ferguson of Kinmundy may be quoted, one of which rings with the confident patriotism of the time, and the other illustrates a philosophy which never evaporates. On 18th July 1805 a correspondent

writes : ' We have now fine warm weather, and must ensure a fine crop of everything, and in a day or two we shall have great news from Lord Nelson.' The other is from one who lived a quiet country life. ' It seems Mr. Pitt is dead : great changes are still taking place. ]



DOORWAY, KINMUNDY



## GEORGE FERGUSON AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

II. *George*, the fourth son. He lived and died in Old Meldrum, a village distant about four miles from Inverurie, and seventeen and a half from Aberdeen. [He and a friend are recorded as having in the famine of 1696 undertaken to purchase 1000 or 1200 bolls of bear to sell to the people in the north at a price to be fixed by the authorities, they 'having no desire of profit, but allendarly the keeping of the poor in the said shire from starving.' They applied to the Privy Council for protection for their cargo from French privateers.] He was married first to Jane Forbes, by whom he had four sons—Robert, John, William, and George, and five daughters, Jean, Janet, Mary, Christian, and Magdalene.

III. Robert, John, and George all died unmarried. The two eldest entered into the army, and after having attained to good stations, died.

[Among the officers of Brigadier Ferguson of Balmakelley's regiment—the Cameronians—in 1699-1700, were a Lieutenant John Ferguson, Adjutant, and John and Robert Ferguson, Ensigns. A Lieutenant John Ferguson was present, and Lieutenant Robert Ferguson was wounded at Blenheim, and, in a state of the regiment, made up 'after the two actions in Germanie, 1704,' the roll of the Brigadier's own company was signed by Robert Ferguson, who must have been his subaltern, and was probably his nephew.<sup>1</sup>

III. William, the third son, lived at Mill of Insch, and, being a man of sound judgment and quick penetration, went commonly by the name of 'the Judge.' He was married to Mary Panton, and had two sons, George and John, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary.

IV. George lived at Kilmory, and was married to Margaret Tulloch, a daughter of one of the Tullochs of Tannachy, a very ancient family in the county of Moray, by whom he had one son,

[V.] William, a merchant in London, and one daughter,

<sup>1</sup> Kinmundy Papers.

Mary, who died unmarried. [For arms see chapter xiii. Sir Walter Scott's Note-book contains the following:—

'Salutation of two old Scottish Lairds. "Ye're maist obedient hummil servant, Tannachy-Tulloch." "Ye're nain man Kilspindie."']

IV. John, his brother, was in 1764 a captain in the navy. He was married and had issue, but it is not known to whom he was married or what became of his issue.

(He was married to Lydia Cumber, and had four children :

1. John, a captain in the navy.
2. William, a captain in the army.
3. Lydia, who married —— Sheridan.
4. Marion, who married Dr. Smith.)

[Lydia Fergusone, afterwards Sheridan, appears as an authoress in the printed catalogue of the British Museum.]

[This John was the 'black captain' of the 'Forty-five,' and a most active officer. Several anecdotes of him have been preserved. He is said, on arriving off the coast of Skye, to have got into conversation with a dairymaid from Kingsburgh house, and to have had her shown over his ship, when the girl let out the important secret by saying 'she had seen many nice gentlemen, and the Prince was at her master's house night before last, and was a very nice gentleman, but not half so kind as Captain Ferguson.'

The Jacobite writers describe him as 'a most active emissary of the Hanoverian party,' and as 'a fitting tool for William the Cruel.' He more than once narrowly missed capturing the fugitive Prince, who on arrival both at Morar and Boradale found the houses 'burned by Captain Ferguson.' It is recorded as an instance of second sight that the arrival of his ship on the coast of Skye on the hot scent of Prince Charles was foreseen by a Highland seer: it was to that ship that Flora Macdonald was taken on her arrest, and a combined party of sailors from it and Campbell Militia secured only a lesser prize in the seizure of Lord Lovat.

The following notice of Captain John Ferguson is given in Charnock's *Biographia Navalis*:—

'This gentleman in the early part of the year 1746 was commander

of the *Furnace* bomb, then employed as a cruiser off the coast of Scotland. (He "seized 800 stand of arms at M'Donald of Barrasdale's house, in the isle of Rasay.") He rendered himself so conspicuous on that station by his activity, diligence, and general conduct, that he was, on 6th October in the same year, promoted, it is said in consequence of the express interference and recommendation of the Duke of Cumberland, to be captain of the *Nightingale*, a new frigate just then launched. During the ensuing year we believe him to have been principally employed as a cruiser, and in the month, either of September or October, he again distinguished himself by the capture of a French ship of somewhat superior force, called the *Dauphin Royal*, carrying 22 guns and 150 men. The enemy made a very obstinate though running fight, and was not overpowered till after a contest of ten hours' continuance. No further mention is made of him till the year 1753, when we find him commanding the *Porcupine* sloop on the coast of Scotland, and very actively employed in scouring that quarter, and preventing the return of the rebel chiefs, many of whom, after having escaped to France, it was then rumoured, were on the point of attempting to repair again to their native country, in the hope of inciting some fresh insurrection. (He was not long afterwards appointed regulating officer on the same station.)

'We have no account of him after this time till the year 1758, when he was captain of the *Prince of Orange*, a fourth-rate of 60 guns, one of the ships sent on the expedition against Louisburg, under the command of Mr. Boscawen. He remained in the same station during a considerable space of time, but neither himself nor his ship are again noticed till the year 1762, when the *Prince of Orange* was one of the Channel Fleet under the orders of Sir Edward Hawke and his Royal Highness the late Duke of York. In both the services last mentioned, as well as every other in which he was employed during the war, he appears to have unfortunately had no opportunity of increasing either his fame or fortune. After the conclusion of the war he was appointed to the *Firme*, a fourth-rate of 60 guns, as he afterwards was to the *Prince of Orange*, a ship of the same force. He died on 13th June 1767.

'An anecdote is related of this gentleman in Entick's *History* which we think it would be an act of injustice to him to suppress. The coast in the neighbourhood of Louisburg was so extremely well fortified, both by art and nature, that it was generally deemed almost an impracticability to effect a landing; the admiral took the

advice of each captain separately, and, to use the historian's own words: "It coming to the turn of Captain Fergusone, an old, brave, and experienced officer, whom Mr. Boscawen had requested from the lords of the admiralty to attend him in this service, and in whose opinion and conduct in the most trying occasions he could place great confidence, this captain having delivered himself in the most respectful terms in regard to the opinion of his brethren whose reasons the admiral ingenuously related to him, and despising the arguments drawn from the danger of the service, for proving an impracticability without an actual attempt to land, and to force the enemy's forts with all the art and strength in their power, he advised the admiral for his own honour and the glory of his country to exert that power with which he was invested, and not to leave it to the uncertain resolutions of a council of war, which had been so fatal at Minorca, at Rochfort, and even at Halifax, to the disgrace of all concerned, and to the extreme loss of the nation."

'The admiral acquiesced in the justness of the captain's observation on councils of war: resolved to call no council, but strictly to adhere to his instructions, which were to land the troops on the island of Cape Breton.'

For his arms, see chapter xiii.]

IV. Elizabeth, their eldest sister, was married to Mr. Jardine, an officer of excise (son of Sir A. Jardine of Applegarth, Dumfriesshire),<sup>1</sup> and had three sons and one daughter.

IV. Mary, Elizabeth's sister, or William's youngest daughter, died unmarried.

Now as to George the fourth son's daughters:

III. Jean, Janet, Christian, and Magdalene, his first, second, fourth, and fifth daughters, all died unmarried, but Mary, the third daughter, married John Milne, a merchant in Old Meldrum, and had two daughters.

In George's second marriage, with Christian Steven, he had three daughters, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Isobel. The two eldest died unmarried, and the youngest was married to a Mr. Murdoch, a gentleman in Old Meldrum, but had no issue.

<sup>1</sup> Older Kinmundy ms.



## JOHN FERGUSSON AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

II. *John*, the fifth son, was married to Bathia Carr, and lived and died in Inverurie. [He purchased Stonehouse, or the southern part of the Inverurie Roods, in 1676.] He had three sons, William, James, and George.

III. *William* was married to — Keith [He sold Stonehouse to William, second Earl of Kintore], and resided at Millbreck, a town [*i.e.* farm] very near Kinmundy, and had one son, Alexander, and five daughters, Henrietta, Margaret, Catherine, Bathia, and Isobel.

IV. *Alexander*, William's only son, died a captain of a trading vessel.

IV. Henrietta, his eldest daughter, was married to Mr. Ryon, an officer of excise, and had two sons, both in the navy, and one daughter.

IV. Margaret and Catherine died unmarried.

IV. Bathia was married to — Gordon, and had one daughter.

IV. Isobel, the youngest daughter, was married to Mr. Gray, a gentleman in Edinburgh, but had no issue.

III. James entered into the Emperor of Germany's army, but it is not known if he married or had issue. (By last accounts he was in a very good station there.)<sup>1</sup>

III. George, John's youngest son, died in his youth.

<sup>1</sup> Older Kinmundy MS.

## WALTER FERGUSON AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

II. *Walter*, the sixth son, lived and died [in 1728] in Inverurie, in the house where his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather were born; in fine, a house where his progenitors had been for upwards of 300 years. He was married to Margaret Panton, and had four sons, James, William, John, and George, and five daughters, Margaret, Janet, Mary, Barbara, and Bathia. [His father, who survived to 1699, disposed the old house and large holding of the Burgh Roods to him in 1680.] (Walter's second and youngest sons went abroad to Poland, since which no notice has been had of them.) [So says the oldest copy of the genealogy extant; but after nearly a century of silence, the son of William reappeared in Scotland, having carved out fresh fortunes for himself and his children in the East of Europe. William Ferguson had in 1714 married Catherine Concordia Tepper, sister of Peter Tepper of Warsaw. They had a second son, Peter, the eldest being called William, who in 1767 was adopted by his uncle, who had no issue. He married Mary Philippine Valentine, and in 1779 obtained the royal licence in London to take the additional name of Tepper, having then four sons and five daughters. For his arms, see chapter xiii. on Ferguson Heraldry, and for further details, chapter xii. on Fergusons Abroad. Walter's third son, John, was a wine-merchant in Bath, and died without issue; and there was a fifth Walter. Margaret married George Scott, and Janet, Alexander Paterson.]

III. *James* [Walter's eldest son, 1681-1753] was married to Isobel Scott, daughter of George Scott, Town-Clerk of Inverury, and had four sons, Walter, James, John, and Anthony, and three daughters, Margaret, Mary, and Janet. [Three other sons, George, William, and Charles, died young.]

IV. *Walter* [1714-1797] was a writer in Edinburgh. He married Lord Swinton's sister, but had no issue. [He is designed as Walter Ferguson of Kinnaird in the document vouched for by Mr. Cumming, F.S.A., which was prepared in connection with the visit to Scotland of his Polish cousins,

and as such registered arms in 1761. (See ch. xiii.) He owned land upon which part of the New Town of Edinburgh was built, and was the last holder of the old property in Inverurie. 'The ancestral seven Lower Roods and one-sixteenth Common Lands,' says Dr. Davidson in his *Inverurie and the Earldom of the Garioch*, 'were the last remaining link of the family to Inverurie.' For some time Walter Ferguson had cherished the idea of building either a good house for himself or a public building creditable to the town upon them, but in 1796 he wrote to the parish minister: 'I am determined to part with all my lands in Inverurie immediately. . . . It is a thing I never intended to do after the land has been about five hundred years in my family from father to son.' The sale was completed by his widow, the Earl of Kintore purchasing the Common Lands.]

IV. James [1723-1793] was a Captain in the Navy, and afterwards Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

[His brother Walter, in a letter of 3rd August 1780, mentioned that 'Admiral Rodney paid him a very high compliment for his behaviour in the last action.' Among 'the votes of Mr. Ferguson of Pitfour' in Banffshire in 1788 occurs the name of Captain James Ferguson, late of the *Romney*. The *Scots Magazine* of 1784 noted 'Captain James Ferguson, late commander of the *Terrible* and *Egmont* men-of-war, is appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital. This promotion was granted him spontaneously without solicitation.'

The following account of his career is taken from Charnock's *Biographia Navalis*:—

'James Ferguson was a gentleman of Scottish extraction, who, having entered into the Royal Navy, was on the 15th of November 1756 promoted to the rank of lieutenant, and after a remarkably short continuance in the intermediate one of commander, was advanced, on 6th June 1763, to that of post-captain, being appointed to the *Romney*, of 50 guns, the flagship of the lord Colville, on the North American station. (He went to sea, in the first instance, as a petty officer on board the *Leopard*, and was afterwards recommended to Lord Colville, who promoted him to be a lieutenant, but he was not confirmed for a long time, owing, as is

said, to his lordship having neglected some other recommendation given to him from Lord Anson.) He continued in the same employment during the two succeeding years ; but after that time we do not find him again in commission till after the commencement of the dispute with the North American Colonies, when, in 1776, he was appointed to the *Brune* frigate, of 32 guns, and ordered out to New York, we believe, with a convoy in the month of June following. In the several progressive attacks and debarcations made before the end of the year on the different parts of York



CAPTAIN JAMES FERGUSON, R.N.

Island, Captain Ferguson having been very particularly and distinguishedly employed by the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Viscount Howe, conducted himself through the whole of a most intricate and difficult service, so as not only to attract his Admiral's highest notice and regard, but to procure the highest encomiums on his behaviour and good conduct.

(“In my report to their lordships on these several transactions,” wrote Lord Howe in his despatches, “particular notice is due to the ability testified in the direction of many difficult and fatiguing



services which Captain Ferguson of the *Brune* was charged with, preparatory to, and in the progress of the various movements of the army, from the time of the first descent on York Island.”)

(‘In the month of March 1777 he commanded the naval part of an expedition sent up the North river to demolish an American magazine at Peek’s Hill, a service that was very completely and successfully executed.)

‘On quitting the *Brune*, as we believe him to have done in the West Indies, whither he was ordered in 1779, he was appointed to the *Venus*, of 36 guns, one of the ships then employed on the same station, where he also distinguished himself at the time of the encounter that took place, in the month of April 1780, between the fleet commanded by Sir George Rodney and the Count de Guichen. He acquitted himself no less honourably than he had done under Lord Howe, and is most distinguishedly mentioned by the Commander-in-Chief in his despatches. “When night came on,” says he, “I formed the fleet in a line of battle ahead, and ordered the *Venus* and *Greyhound* frigates to keep between his Majesty’s and the enemy’s fleet to watch their motions, which was admirably well attended to by that good and veteran officer, Captain Ferguson.” Immediately after the foregoing event this gentleman was appointed to the *Intrepid* as successor to Captain St. John, who was killed from that ship. He afterwards removed into the *Terrible*, of 74 guns, one of the line-of-battle ships employed on the same station. He accompanied the admiral to North America on the approach of the hurricane months, but nothing sufficiently memorable to demand our notice took place during the time he was absent there, or indeed after his return to the West Indies, till the capture of St. Eustatia. This too being effected without any resistance on the part of the Dutch, is to be mentioned merely as an occurrence. In the month of April following he was present, under Sir Samuel Hood, at the encounter with the French fleet off the island of Martinico, but the action, owing to the extreme caution of the Count de Grasse and his wish of avoiding the contest, having been extremely partial, the *Terrible* was one of the ships which was very trivially, if at all engaged. Captain Ferguson resigned his command, and returned to England very soon after this time, nor do we believe him ever to have taken upon him any subsequent one till the month of June 1782, when he was appointed to the *Egmont*, one of the ships then under equipment for the main or Channel fleet. He accompanied Lord Howe in this ship to Gib-

raltar in the month of September following, and on the encounter with the combined fleets on the 20th of October was stationed as one of the seconds to Rear-Admiral Sir Alexander Hood, who commanded the second division of the centre squadron. On that occasion he was not materially engaged, having had only one of his crew killed. The *Egmont* on her return to England was ordered to be re-equipped for the West Indian station ; but peace taking place immediately afterwards, Captain Ferguson resigned his command.

‘In the month of January 1784 he was, on the decease of Captain Broderick Hartwell, appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital, a station in which he continued till the time of his death, which happened on 14th February 1793. This gentleman, among some eccentricities, possessed also many excellent qualities, and the shades of the former were not in any degree capable of obscuring the brilliancy of the latter. The latter years of his life he unfortunately passed almost in a state of childhood, in consequence of a paralytic stroke which befel him about the year 1786, and, increasing in its effects, reduced him ere long to the pitiable situation in which we have just represented him.’]

IV. John [1725-1751] died a Lieutenant in the army. He was not married. (He was a lieutenant in Brigadier Halket’s Regiment in the Dutch service.)

IV. Anthony [born 1730] was a merchant in Edinburgh. He had one son,

V. Hugh, who was an eminent physician in Dublin.

[IV. Janet, their sister, married Mr. Robert Lock, and was the mother of Admiral Walter Lock, and grandmother of Colonel Andrew Lock, 50th, and Colonel Henry Lock, 108th Regiments.]

## JOHN AND JANET FERGUSSON AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

II. Janet Ferguson, William's only daughter, was married to her own cousin, John Ferguson, a Polish merchant, and brother's son of her father's, and they had three sons, John, Robert, and Alexander, and three daughters, Janet, Mary, and Jane. The daughters all died unmarried [except Janet, who married John Wishart, Old Meldrum, and died in 1732, leaving issue. The only girl among six brothers, Janet, the elder, was known in the family for the strength of her character and the vigour of her temper as 'gentle Janet.' It is said that a friend of her cousin's conveyed his addresses through him as an intermediary, but the ambassador received the answer, 'Gin ye wad speak for yersel, ye nicht hae mair chance.']

III. John went to Poland with his father, and remained there in the mercantile way.

III. Robert also accompanied his father to Poland, but returned and settled at Peterhead. He married Jane Smith, by whom he had two sons, Alexander and William, and one daughter, Jane, who died unmarried.

IV. Alexander was captain of a trading vessel, and had three sons. It is not at present known, however, to whom he was married, or what became of his children.

(He married Elizabeth Clark, and had three sons, William, Robert, and James. James was captain of a West Indian ship, married, and left one daughter.)

IV. William, Robert's second son, was both in the navy and merchant service. He was married [January 16th, 1752] to Isabella Arbuthnot, and had three daughters, Jane, Margaret, and Christian. [Captain William Ferguson left the navy in deference to his wife's Jacobite feelings, but re-entered it after the death of Prince Charles Edward. In 1756 he commanded H.M.S. *Prince of Wales*, when he received the freedom of Montrose. In the same year, as

lieutenant of H.M.S. *Solebay*, commanded by his kinsman Captain John Ferguson, he received the freedom of the city of Aberdeen, and in 1759 that of Dundee. He was Captain of the Peterhead Artillery Volunteers (1795), and died at the age of eighty-nine the year after Trafalgar. In 1800 he contributed to the first volume of the *Highland and Agricultural Society's Transactions* a paper on the Fisheries of Scotland.]

V. Jane is married to Mr. James Hutchison, merchant, Peterhead, and has one son and five daughters [one of whom married Thomas Ferguson, W.S. Among Jane's descendants are Thomas Hutchison, Cults, Aberdeen, and Mrs. Kane, who resides in Captain William Ferguson's old house, the Brae, Peterhead].

V. Margaret, William's second daughter, was married to Alexander Bruce, Supervisor of Excise, and has four sons. [Among her descendants were, and are, William Bruce, M.D., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets; the Rev. Canon Bruce, Dunimarle; and James Bruce, W.S., Edinburgh.]

V. Christian, William's third daughter, remains unmarried.

III. Alexander, Janet's youngest son, was a merchant in Aberdeen. He, as we have already mentioned, was married to Margaret Scott. He had fifteen children, of whom only . . . [Here ends the ms. written by Mr. Thomas Ferguson, W.S. The copy in the handwriting of his son, James Ferguson, continues thus.] . . . He had fifteen children, of whom only one son, Alexander, and two daughters, Mary and Ann, grew up.

IV. Alexander (born 1744) was a writer in Edinburgh. He married Jane Legrand, of the family of Bonnington, and had five sons and four daughters, of whom there are now alive one son, Smith (who subsequently died unmarried), and three daughters, Margaret, Agnes, and Jane (all unmarried). One of his sons, Edward Legrand, was a surgeon in Edinburgh, but died unmarried (in 1822). Another, John, went to Rio Janeiro, and died unmarried.

III. Mary, Alexander's eldest sister, married James Black in Aberdeen, and had three daughters.



III. Ann, her sister, married [John] Forbes [of Forbesfield], Aberdeen, and had three sons and — daughters. [Among whose descendants were, or are, Bailie James Forbes of Aberdeen, Messrs. James and Alexander Forbes, Mr. John Forbes, Q.C., Recorder of Hull, and Alexander Forbes of Morkeu.]

*Inverurie Fergusons, represented by Mr. George Ferguson, Lumphart, Aberdeenshire, and Rev. John Ferguson, Dean of Moray.*

THE only other descendants of the Ferguson families, so long connected with Inverurie, that can be traced, are the family now represented by Mr. George Ferguson, Lumphart, Aberdeenshire, and his brother, the Very Reverend John Ferguson, Dean of Moray. The precise connection between them and the families to which the foregoing ms. relates unfortunately cannot be given; but Dean Ferguson writes that the late Dr. Davidson, parish minister of Inverurie, with whom the Dean had communicated after the publication of Dr. Davidson's work on *Inverurie and the Earldom of the Garioch*, informed him that he had succeeded in tracing out the connection, and that it would appear in a future publication, which Dr. Davidson did not live to carry out. The Dean's family probably branched off before the date of the acquisition of Badifurrow, but 'till within a few years ago they held land in Inverurie—the infestments running back over 200 years.' They were tenants of the farm of New Craig, Daviot, for a very long period, and had a family tradition that they were descended from the Crichton Fergusons.

In 1667 George Ferguson was proprietor of lands on which the present Methodist chapel of Inverurie stands.

In 1727 John Ferguson was proprietor.

In 1730 William Ferguson in New Craig was served heir to his grandfather, George Ferguson, burgess, Inverurie.

In 1744 William Ferguson in New Craig was served heir to his father, William Ferguson.

'My grandfather,' writes Dean Ferguson, 'William, died early in this century, and probably succeeded the above, and held the Inverurie land. My father, George Ferguson, succeeded my grandfather in the farm of New Craig, but handed it over to a younger brother, whose son holds it now. My father, after he left New Craig about 1833, held the farm of

Mains of Mounie, and afterwards that of Mains of Glack, where he died, leaving three sons—my elder brother, George, now holding the farm of Lumphart, and my younger brother, living in Old Meldrum. All these farms are in the parish of Daviot.’

George Ferguson has two sons and four daughters; Dean Ferguson has one son—MacNeill Ferguson, now in India—and three daughters, all married; and William Ferguson two daughters.

*Descendants of Rev. John Fergusson, Minister of Glengairn in 1651 and 1674.*

‘A branch of the Fergusons, which has contributed several of its members to the learned professions, is that descended from “John Ferries or Fergusone,” A.M., minister of Glenmuick, Glengairden, and Tullich, in Aberdeenshire. He took his degree at King’s College, University of Aberdeen, in 1642, and in the middle of the seventeenth century was minister of Glengairn (*Fasti Eccl. Scot.*). He married one of the Erskines of the family of Mar, and Erskine was retained as a middle name by his male descendants, Dr. Andrew Erskine Fergusson and Rev. William Erskine Fergusson, who were born at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

‘It is interesting, as an example of the persistence of traditions in a family, that his only surviving descendant in Great Britain who bore the name, Mrs. Helen Fergusson or Wight, can vouch for the fact that her ancestor was a good preacher in Gaelic; that his pastorate was one of great trouble and personal danger owing to the turmoils of the times; and that the minister, profiting by his own experience in the country, determined that any sons of his should be brought up to a town life without a University education. His preaching in Gaelic is confirmed by the fact that Gaelic still lingers in the upper reaches of the Dee, and the Gaelic variant of the minister’s own name (Ferries) would suggest that his knowledge of both Scots and Gaelic had been taken into account in appointing him. Ample confirmation of his descendants’ remembrance of the difficulties besetting his

ministry "by reason of the loose men in the country," may be found in the *Fasti Eccl. Scot.* Services had often to be held in safer parts of the district, at Glenmuick instead of Tullich, as on 3rd March 1667, or at Crathie instead of Glenmuick, as on 6th April 1673, "in respect of the Micrayes who lyes near the parochin in force." The pastor was not easily daunted, however; for it is recorded that he afterwards "catechised a part of the people of Micray."

'The minister's resolve concerning the future of his children is shown by the fact that, on 4th July 1678, Alexander Ferguson, "son to Mr. John Ferguson, minister at Glenmuick," is bound to Patrick Chrystie, elder, merchant in Aberdeen, as an apprentice for five years, and one year for meat and fee.

'The family throughout the eighteenth century had representatives (chiefly "Jameses" or "Johns") among the cooper burgesses of Aberdeen. This connection, however, was severed when, towards the close of the century, the brothers, John and Andrew Fergusson, made a departure in the direction of medicine. John became a druggist; Andrew a doctor.

'John Fergusson [b. 1768, d. 1810] had a family of seven, some of whom died young. His eldest son, Andrew Erskine Fergusson, was a medical graduate of Marischal College, and practised for long in Birse, Aberdeenshire. John Fergusson's fourth child, William Erskine Fergusson, studied Arts at the University of St. Andrews, and, besides other distinctions, was a prizeman in 1820 in the class of Logic and Rhetoric under Professor Winter. He afterwards studied divinity, was licensed as a preacher, and applied his logical ability to theology by writing *The Layman's Preservative against Popery*, published in Aberdeen by George King in 1831. The author subsequently emigrated to America. In 1860 he was missionary at Indian lands for the Presbytery of Gengarry, Canada. He settled subsequently at Chesterville as Inspector of Schools for Co. Dundas, and died in 1880. Of his children, one, Alexander Fergusson, became a doctor in America.

'The fifth child of John Fergusson, Helen Fergusson, was born in 1808, and married John Wight, Woodside, Aberdeen. Their third son, John Wight, M.D., became proprietor of



Viewfield, near Aberdeen, and in 1888 bequeathed several thousands to the University for medical bursaries. Their sixth son, Alexander F. Wight, is an advocate in Aberdeen, and laird of the estate of Camphill, Lumphanan, on Deeside. Their fifth child, Sarah Fergusson Wight, married in 1865 William Duff, brassfounder, Dundee; and her son and daughter, John Wight Duff and Williamina Fergusson Duff, are the only representatives among the younger generation of this whole family of Fergussons. Mr. J. W. Duff is a graduate of Aberdeen and of Oxford, and an *alumnus* of Leipzig; he acted for two years as Assistant-Professor of Greek in Aberdeen, and is Professor of Classics in the Durham University College of Science, Newcastle.

‘Returning to Dr. Andrew Fergusson, senior, who practised in Aberdeen in the earlier part of the century, we find him mentioned by Smiles, in his *Life of a Scotch Naturalist* (1876 ed., p. 45), as the doctor who encouraged the youthful Thomas Edward in his biological tastes by purchasing the boy’s specimens. “Big grubs, piebald snakes, dragonflies, and yellow puddocks,” so lovingly collected by “Tam,” found a market at Dr. Fergusson’s dispensary in the Green. When the doctor retired from practice, he removed to London to pursue a taste for painting which he possessed. He died at Kentish Town, November 24th, 1851.

‘Dr. Fergusson’s eldest son graduated at Edinburgh, and became rector of Rutgers’s College, New Brunswick, and latterly superintendent of public schools at Lockport, State of New York. He was a noted chess-player, and died in his 84th year in 1888.

‘The second son of Dr. Fergusson, Andrew, became a doctor in the army, and succumbed to yellow fever at Kingston, Jamaica. He had married an Irish lady, and his son, Bingham Fergusson, was, until a comparatively recent date, proprietor of Dunmarklyn, co. Cork, Ireland.’

(Contributed by Professor J. Wight Duff,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.)

## ROBERT FERGUSSON, THE POET

Robert Fergusson was born in Edinburgh on the 5th day of September 1750. His father, William Fergusson, a clerk in the service of the British Linen Company, originally came from Tarland in Aberdeenshire. His mother, Elizabeth, was the youngest daughter of John Forbes, tacksman of Templeton, Hillockhead, and Wellhead of Kildrummy, Aberdeenshire, a cadet of the family of Tolquhon. Young Fergusson was a



ROBERT FERGUSSON, THE POET

somewhat delicate child, and was not sent to school until he was seven years old. His mother, however, had begun his education at home, and after six months' tuition under Mr. Philp, in Niddry's Wynd, he entered the first Latin class of the High School. At this time his inquiring turn of mind was often puzzling to his elders. It is told that when about eight years of age he was much given to poring over the

Bible, and the Book of Proverbs appeared to be a special favourite. One day he came to his mother in tears and asked her to 'whip him.' Such an unusual request demanded an explanation, which was given by the little fellow, who sobbed out, 'O mother! he that spareth the rod hateth the child.' After four years' study at the High School he passed to the Dundee Grammar School, whence, at the age of fourteen, he proceeded to the University of St. Andrews. His father had obtained for him, through Lord Findlater, a presentation Fergusson Bursary, which had been founded by the Rev. David Fergusson, minister of Strathmartine, and which entitled him to a free course in the Faculty of Arts. The four years he spent in this ideal University city were, doubtless, the happiest in his brief life. His poetic temperament and amiable disposition made him somewhat regardless of hard study, but a distinct favourite with both students and professors. John Hogg, the College porter, in whose memory he penned a pithy Elegy, spoke of young Fergusson as a 'tricky callant,' but 'a fine laddie for a' that.' On one occasion he undertook, for a wager, the rôle of a street ballad-singer, a character for which his tuneful voice rendered him well fitted. In his elegy upon John Hogg he refers to those student days:—

'Say, ye red-gowns, that aften here  
 Hae toasted cakes to Katie's beer,  
 Gin e'er thir days hae had their peer,  
     Sae blithe, sae daft ;  
 Ye'll ne'er again in life's career  
     Sit half sae saft.'

During his undergraduate days Fergusson indulged his poetic genius principally in composing skits at the College authorities. His studies, however, were not neglected although he held frequent intercourse with the 'nine faire ladyes that dwelle on y fok'd hille'; but unfortunately all these occasional pieces have perished except his 'Elegy on the Death of Gregory.' Besides being a good classical scholar he was also proficient in Mathematics, and must have attended to the work of the Natural Philosophy class, as he enjoyed the esteem and regard of Professor Wilkie, to whose memory he

wrote an Eclogue. At the close of session 1767-68 he left St. Andrews, 'and like Cowper on leaving Olney, he inscribed his name behind the window-shutter of a small back room in the College.'

His father died in 1767, and so the young poet returned to Edinburgh to his widowed mother. The circumstances of the family were at this time rather narrow, and the pressure of poverty was making itself felt. Robert had to abandon his thoughts of entering the ministry and turn his abilities to some practical use. With this object in view he went to Aberdeen to his uncle, John Forbes, hoping through his influence to find some suitable employment. With this relative he stayed about six months, but the object of his visit seemed no nearer realisation, and when the rude Aberdonian taunted him upon his idleness and threadbare appearance, the high-strung nephew, filled with indignation, quitted his house and set out on foot for Edinburgh. The result of this dispiriting journey was a severe illness, which told heavily upon his delicate constitution. On his recovery he wrote the poem on 'The Decay of Friendship,' which is the only instance of repining at the hardness of his fate. He assumes the pastoral guise of Damon, and laments that

'No healing slumbers tend my humble bed,  
 No friends condole the sorrows of the poor.  
 'And what avail the thoughts of former joy!  
 What comfort bring they in the adverse hour!  
 Can they the canker-worm of care destroy,  
 Or brighten fortune's discontented lour?'

Back in Edinburgh Fergusson found employment as an engrossing clerk with Mr. Charles Abercromby, then Commissary-Clerk. The drudgery of office-work was little calculated to soothe the fine feelings of a budding poet, but poverty made it a necessity. He also spent two or three months at the Sheriff-Clerk's office. The monotony of clerking must have been distasteful to him, and one can hardly wonder that he found congenial surroundings in certain taverns in the society of several players and musicians, whose acquaintance he had made. He had even little time to devote to poetical pursuits, and the fruits of his genius



exhibit haste and lack of finish. Fergusson seems to have been anxious to get to the end of whatever he had on hand, and did not trouble about careful revision. This is seen in the most artistic of his poems, 'The Farmer's Ingle.' From 1771 to his death, four years later, he produced the most of the pieces which now form his works. At this time (1771) he contributed a number of English poems to Ruddiman's *Weekly Magazine of Edinburgh Amusement*, among his first pieces being the pastorals, 'Morning, Noon, and Night.' Notwithstanding the commendatory notice which preceded these, our poet's English poems are much inferior to those in Scots. The poet was far from pleased himself with such pieces, and felt that the stirrings of his soul could only find adequate expression in his native Doric.

'The conviviality of club-life after business hours,' says J. Logie Robertson, 'was the rule in Edinburgh all through the latter half of last century; and the mysteries of *Hy-jinks*, as elaborately described by Ramsay and dramatically presented by Scott, were in general and almost of nightly practice among citizens of every grade and degree of respectability. And yet poor Fergusson, because, falling in with the universal custom, he had the misfortune to succumb to it—partly from a generous excess of social sympathies, and partly from a too delicate constitution—has been held up to point the moral as a principal sinner and a prime offender. He certainly paid more dearly for his indulgence, but it is questionable if he was any worse than hundreds of respectable citizens of the time. He was a dutiful son, an affectionate brother, and, in the words of a correspondent of Burns who knew him well, "an inestimable friend, whose rich conversation, full fancy, and felicitous manner made him much sought after." A volume of his poems, first collected and published in 1773, came into the hands of the youthful Burns, and won for Fergusson's memory, from the greatest genius and warmest heart of his country, a wreath of mingled admiration, love, and regret.'<sup>1</sup>

The publication of his poems drew the attention of the

<sup>1</sup> *For Puir Auld Scotland's Sake*, by Hugh Haliburton. Edinburgh: W. Paterson, 1887.

reading public, and the good folk of Edinburgh gladly welcomed the pieces which came from his pen. His personal qualities—good-nature, vivacity, sincerity, strong intellect—made him a favourite with many. Outside the capital many people of standing took an interest in the young poet, and we find him a guest at Broomhouse, North Belton, and Balledmund.

There are many stories told of innocent escapades in which he indulged to the great enjoyment of his companions. His impulsive nature led him further than he should have gone with such a delicate constitution, and his free and easy life told upon his health. He began also to turn his mind to religion, and to lament the many follies of which he had been guilty. His unpublished MSS. were committed to the flames, while he consoled himself with the reflection, ‘that the only consolation which the recollection of his poetry afforded him was, that it never had been prostituted to the service of vice or irreligion.’ Among his attentive friends at this period of gloom was the Rev. Dr. Erskine of Greyfriars. His mind became deranged, and the last months of his short life are too painful to be dwelt upon. It is a sad story. He died in Darien House, to which such unfortunate cases as his were sent, on the 16th October 1774, having only shortly completed his twenty-fourth year. His remains were interred in the Canongate Churchyard. To his grave Robert Burns came, long after, to pay his tribute to the genius of his ‘elder brother in the muses.’ He found only the ‘green mound and the scattered gowans,’ and was moved to tears as he thought of the young life of promise cut off in the morning of its existence. Burns erected a plain, touching tombstone in memory of his brother poet, and inscribed it with the well-known epitaph:—

‘No sculptur’d marble here, nor pompous lay,  
No storied urn, nor animated bust!  
This simple stone directs pale Scotia’s way  
To pour her sorrows o’er her poet’s dust.’

The inscription runs:—‘By special grant of the Managers to Robert Burns,—who erected this stone,—this burial-place is ever to remain sacred to the memory of Robert Fergusson.’

The names of Burns and Fergusson are thus linked together, and the admiration of the former for 'the glorious dawning' of the latter's genius was not more pronounced nor less genuine than his heartfelt regret for his unfortunate end.

JAMES FERGUSSON, THE ASTRONOMER

Few biographies are so full of interest as that of James Fergusson. The son of humble parents, he rose, by means of



JAMES FERGUSSON, THE ASTRONOMER

the native genius of his character, to be one of Britain's most famous experimental philosophers and astronomers. Shortly before his death he wrote his autobiography, which is such a beautiful example of simplicity and frankness that we cannot do better than give part of it here.

'I was born in the year 1710, a few miles from Keith, a little village in Banffshire, in the north of Scotland; and can with pleasure say that my parents, though poor, were

religious and honest; lived in good repute with all who knew them; and died with good characters.

‘As my father had nothing to support a large family but his daily labour, and the profits arising from a few acres of land which he rented, it was not to be expected that he could bestow much on the education of his children: yet they were not neglected; for, at his leisure hours, he taught them to read and write. And it was while he was teaching my elder brother to read the Scottish Catechism that I acquired my reading. Ashamed to ask my father to instruct me, I used, when he and my brother were abroad, to take the Catechism, and study the lesson which he had been teaching my brother; and when any difficulty occurred, I went to a neighbouring old woman, who gave me such help as enabled me to read tolerably well before my father had thought of teaching me. Some time after, he was agreeably surprised to find me reading by myself: he thereupon gave me further instruction, and also taught me to write; which, with about three months I afterwards had at the Grammar School at Keith, was all the education I ever received.

‘My taste for mechanics arose from an odd accident. When about seven or eight years of age, a part of the roof of the house being decayed, my father, desirous of mending it, applied a prop and lever to an upright spar to raise it to its former situation; and to my great astonishment I saw him, without considering the reason, lift up the ponderous roof as if it had been a small weight. I attributed this at first to a degree of strength that excited my terror as well as wonder: but thinking further of the matter, I recollected that he had applied his strength to that end of the lever which was furthest from the prop, and finding on enquiry, that this was the means whereby the seeming wonder was effected, I began making levers (which I then called bars); and by applying weights to them different ways, I found the power gained by my bar was just in proportion to the lengths of the different parts of the bar on either side of the prop. I then thought it was a great pity that, by means of this bar, a weight could be raised but a very little way. On this I soon imagined that by pulling round a wheel, the weight might be raised to



any height by tying a rope to the weight, and winding the rope round the axle of the wheel, and that the power gained must be just as great as the wheel was broader than the axle was thick; and found it to be exactly so, by hanging one weight to a rope put round the wheel and another to the rope that coiled round the axle. So that in these two machines it appeared very plain that their advantage was as great as the space gone through by the working power exceeded the space gone through by the weight. And this property I also thought must take place in a wedge for cleaving wood; but then I happened not to think of the screw.'

The young mechanic wrote out a short account of these machines, sketching figures of them with a pen, thinking that it was a fresh discovery he had made. A friend pointed out that it had all been discovered before, and gave him a book upon mechanics, which proved of great service to the ardent learner. At this time James was sent by his father to herd sheep, and it was while engaged in this occupation that he began to study the stars.

'I then went to serve a considerable farmer in the neighbourhood, whose name was James Glashan. I found him very kind and indulgent; but he soon observed that in the evenings, when my work was over, I went into a field with a blanket about me, lay down on my back, and stretched a thread with small beads upon it, at arm's-length, between my eye and the stars, sliding the beads upon it till they hid such and such stars from my eye, in order to take their apparent distances from one another, and then laying the thread down on a paper I marked the stars thereon by the beads, according to their respective positions, having a candle by me. My master at first laughed at me, but when I explained my meaning to him, he encouraged me to go on; and that I might make fair copies in the daytime of what I had done in the night he often worked for me himself. I shall always have a respect for the memory of that man.'

The Rev. John Gilchrist, minister of Keith, to whom the young shepherd had been sent with a message, on seeing his star papers gave him some further information about the

shape of the earth and the use of maps. From this gentleman he obtained maps to copy, in which work he was greatly assisted by his master, who often took the threshing-flail out of his hands and worked himself, while the young astronomer was busy with compasses, ruler, and pen.

Through his friend the minister, young Ferguson was introduced to Thomas Grant, Esq., of Achoynaney, whose butler, Cantley, was a bit of a mathematical genius. Mr. Grant offered to take James Ferguson to live with him in order that he might receive the benefit of his butler's tuition. This he agreed to do on completing his term of service with his present master. This butler was no ordinary servant, as may be seen from the astronomer's autobiography, in which he says, 'Mr. Cantley, the butler, soon became my friend, and continued so till his death. He was the most extraordinary man that I ever was acquainted with, or perhaps ever shall see, for he was a complete master of arithmetic, a good mathematician, a master of music on every known instrument except the harp, understood Latin, French, and Greek, let blood extremely well, and could even prescribe as a physician upon any urgent occasion. He was what is generally called self-taught, but I think he might with much greater propriety have been termed God Almighty's scholar.'

Under this well-qualified instructor he made rapid progress in decimal arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. At this time, when he was becoming proficient, his teacher, to his inexpressible grief, left Mr. Grant and went to the Earl of Fife's, which was several miles away, and young Ferguson, though pressed to stay, returned to his father's house. The butler on leaving presented him with a copy of Gordon's *Geographical Grammar*, which was greatly treasured by him. 'There is no figure of a globe in it, although it contains a tolerable description of the globes and their use. From this description I made a globe in three weeks at my father's, having turned the ball thereof out of a piece of wood, which ball I covered with paper, and delineated a map of the world upon it, made the meridian ring and horizon of wood, covered them with paper and graduated them; and was happy to

find that by my globe, which was the first I ever saw, I could solve the problems.'

He had, however, to think of his bread and butter, and so engaged himself to a miller, thinking he would have some spare time for study. But the miller, who was too fond of tipping at an alehouse, left him to do all the work, and almost starved him into the bargain. At the end of a year he returned home in a weak state of health. After recovering strength, he went to serve with a doctor who was also a farmer, expecting to get some insight into the practice of physic, but in this he was disappointed. He was kept so hard at work that his health again failed, and after three months he was obliged to leave in a very infirm condition. While in this state he turned his attention to the mechanism of timepieces and made a wooden clock, which kept time fairly well. Sir James Dunbar of Durn, seeing the mechanical genius of the youth, employed him to clean his clocks, and at such work he was able for a time to make some money.

'During the time,' he says, 'I was at Sir James's hospitable house, his sister, the Honourable Lady Dipple, came there on a visit, and Sir James introduced me to her. She asked me whether I could draw patterns for needlework on aprons and gowns. On showing me some, I undertook the work, and drew several for her; some of which were copied from her patterns, and the rest I did according to my own fancy. On this I was sent for by other ladies in the country, and began to think myself growing very rich by the money I got for such drawings, out of which I had the pleasure of occasionally supplying the wants of my poor father.'

At the same time he did not neglect his astronomical studies; but this gift of drawing became the turning-point in his career. Through the influence of Lady Dipple he was sent to Edinburgh to receive instruction in the art of portrait painting, and he followed this new profession for twenty-five years with considerable success.<sup>1</sup>

The following reference in a letter from Horace Walpole to Ferguson the Astronomer's paintings (or possibly to some of W. Gouw Ferguson's) is interesting:—

<sup>1</sup> For specimens of his portraits see pp. 268, 269, and 271.

On February 21st, 1764, the author of *Royal and Noble Authors* wrote to Rev. Henry Zouch:—

‘You are exceedingly obliging, sir, to offer me one of your Fergusons. I thank you for it as I ought; but in truth I have more pictures than room to place them.’

During his two years’ stay in Edinburgh, Ferguson ‘took a violent inclination to study anatomy, surgery, and physic, all from reading of books, and conversing with gentlemen on these subjects.’ This turn in his studies led him to think of becoming a doctor. On revisiting his father, however, he found the practice of physic did not become a paying one in his hands, and so he once more returned to his favourite subject of astronomy. Having discovered the cause of eclipses, he drew up a scheme to show the motions and places of the sun and moon in the ecliptic on each day of the year. This Astronomical Rotula, on being submitted to Professor Maclaurin, Edinburgh, won for him the assistance and friendship of that gentleman. In the beginning of 1743 he made a very neat orrery, of which all the wheels were of ivory, and in May of that year he took it with him to London, and sold it to Sir Dudley Rider.

Ferguson was soon brought into public notice by the President of the Royal Society. In 1747 he published a dissertation on the phenomena of the harvest moon, with the description of a new orrery, in which there are only four wheels. Next year he began to deliver public lectures, and amongst his hearers was King George III., then a boy. Regarding some of the astronomical machines which he made he says: ‘The best machine I ever contrived is the eclipsareon, of which there is a figure in the thirteenth plate of my *Astronomy*. It shows the time, quantity, duration, and progress of solar eclipses at all parts of the earth. My next best contrivance is the universal dialing cylinder, of which there is a figure in the eighth plate of the supplement to my *Mechanical Lectures*.’

He was soon elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, the usual fees in his case being remitted. He died on 16th

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. MS. Com.*, 13th Report, App. Part VII.



November 1776. In his whole career he presents a wonderful instance of unwearied application to study, a benevolent and meek disposition, simple urbanity of manner, and a gentle Christian piety. Mr. Capel Leoft in his 'Eudosia, a Poem on the Universe,' thus writes of the astronomer:—

' Nor shall thy guidance not conduct our feet,  
 O honoured shepherd of our later days !  
 Thee, from the flocks, while thy untutored soul,  
 Mature in childhood, traced the starry course,  
 Astronomy, enamoured, gently led  
 Through all the splendid labyrinths of heaven,  
 And taught thee her stupendous laws ; and clothed  
 In all the light of fair simplicity,  
 Thy apt expression.'

It was truly said of him—' He was a man of a very clear judgment in anything that he professed, and of unwearied application to study ; benevolent, meek, and innocent in his manners as a child ; humble, courteous, and communicative ; instead of pedantry, philosophy seemed to produce in him only diffidence and urbanity—a love for mankind, and for his Maker.'

The following are the notices in the *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ* of Fergusons who have been parish ministers in Aberdeenshire :—

*Crathie and Braemar.*

16—. Alexander Ferries or Ferguson, adm. before 1st November 1633 : he was recommended to Parliament, by the 30th July 1649, for the reparation of his losses, by whom an act was passed in his favour the day following : continued 21st October 1662. He married Christian Auchterlony, who was alive in 1671, and had a daughter Agnes, who married James Farquharson of Inverey.—[*Spalding Miscel.* iii. ; *Reg. Old Dec.* ; *Kirk Pap.* ; *Acts of Ass. and Parl.* vi. ; *Syn. and Test. Reg.* (*St. And.*) ; *Douglas's Baronage.*]

1700. Adam Fergusson, A.M., descended from the house of Dunfallandy ; educated at the parish school of Weem ; obtained

his degree at the University of St. Andrews, 22nd July 1693; licensed by the Presbytery, 24th July (the first on the record) 1700; called by them *jure devoluto* 11th, and ordained 25th September same year; translated to Logierait in 1714.—[*Act. Rect. Univ. St. And.*; *Presb. Skye Presb. and Syn. Reg.*; *Fergusson's Tracts*; *Assembly Papers*; *Lee's Memorial*; *Chambers's Biogr. Dict.* ii; *New Stat. Acc.* xii.]

*Glenmuick, Glengairden, and Tullich.*

16—. John Ferries or Fergusone, A.M., obtained his degree at the University and King's College, Aberdeen, in 1642; adm. previous to 21st October 1651. He preached at Glenmuick instead of Tullich, 3rd March 1667, 'by reason of the loose men in the country,' and 16th March 1673, 'because of the extremitie of the waters of Muick and Dee.' The communion should have been celebrated 7th April 1672, but was stopped through the 'stormie day, and through the trouble in the country by Highlanders.' His turn of supply falling to Glenmuick, 6th April 1673, the minister 'preached at Crathie in respect of the Micrayes who lyes near the parochin in force,' and afterwards 'catechised a part of the people of Micray': continued 22nd June 1681.—[*Fasti Aberd. Syn. and Sess. Reg.*; *Reg. Old Dec.* ii., etc.]

1869. *New Pitsligo (Deer) q.s.* John M'Gregor Fergusson, A.M.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES OF FERGUSONS IN ABERDEENSHIRE.

1364. Confirmation by David II. of a charter by Thomas, Earl of Mar, 'Egoni filio Fergusii,' of the lands of Huchtirerne, in Cromar.

At Kildrummy, 9th Sept., in the thirty-sixth year of the king's reign.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, fol. vol.)

1465. Robert Ferguson, vicar of Logie (Coldstone), a witness to a charter of Henry Forbes of Kinellar.—(*Sp. Club, Ant. of Ab. and Banff*, iii. 241, and iv. 401.)

1494. Alexander of Fergusson appears as sub-tenant of John of Gordoun in the lands of Kindrochit, in the barony of Kynedwart.—(Sp. Club, *Ant. of Ab. and Banff*, ii. 393.)

1507. John Uchtirarne retoured as heir-male 'quondam Egonis Fergusone, domini de Ouchtirarne.'—(Sp. Club, *Ant. of Ab. and Banff*, ii. 12.)

1506-7. Charter by the king to the daughters of John Ochtirarn and their husbands, John Skene and Alexander Coutts, of the lands of Auchtirarn, with the Black Mill, 'que regi pertinere direte sunt tanquam comiti de Mar et ultimo heredi, ex eo quod. date fuerunt per quond. Thomam com. de Mar quond. Egoni filio Fergusio et heredibus masculis ejus de corpore legitimis procreatis, et nullus ejusdem heres masc. superfuit cognitus.'

Edinburgh, 18 Feb. 1506-7.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* 3063 and 3064.)

7th August 1594. Bond by William Douglas of Glenberrie for William Fowlair and James Mowat, not to harm certain burgesses and inhabitants of Inrowrie, including Robert, James, James (elder), and Thomas Fergus.—(*P.C. Reg.* v., p. 631.)

8th July 1600. Confirmation of a charter by which Thomas Mezies de Durne sold to David Fergusson, burges of Aberdeen, and Marjorie Buchan, his spouse, in liferent, and George Fergusson, son of the said David, in fee, the lands of Kirkhill, in the parish of Nigg, Kincardineshire.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*)

1609. Action by William Fergus, burges of Inverurie, and others, against James Arbuthnot, apparent of Lentusche, for remaining unrelaxed from a horning of 24th June 1606, for not finding caution for their indemnity.—(*P.C. Reg.* viii.)

1610. William Fergus and others in Inverurie are given caution for 'to answer before the Council on 26th July next to the complaint of Johne Mortimer, burges of Aberdeen, for their alleged pursuing him with hagbuts and pistolets for his life.'—(*P.C. Reg.* ix.)

1610. They were put to the horn for not answering, but the said horning was suspended at their instance.—(*P.C. Reg.* ix.)

July 1610. Complaint of assault against Walter Fergus in Enrowrie.—(*P.C. Reg.* xi. p. 64.)

30 Jan. 1619. Confirmation of a charter to John Urquhart of Craighfintry in liferent, and Patrick Urquhart, his son, of Lethintie, which M. Duncan Forbes, formerly of Lethintie, then of Balnagask, and John F., his eldest son, with consent of Marjorie Fergusone, his spouse, had resigned in fulfilment of a contract made at Aberdeen on 13th Nov. 1618.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, vi. 2046.)

March 14, 1637. Georgius Fergusson heres Roberti Fergusson burgensis de Abirdein patris.—(*Retours.*)

Sept. 6, 1644. Patricius heres Patricii F. mercatoris burgensis in Abirdene.—(*Retours.*)

12th April 1655. Confirmation of a charter to William Ferguson in Crichtie of all and haille the town and lands of Badifurro, with the manor place, etc., the salmon-fishings in the water of Don, and the lands of Woodhill, both sunny and shadow, with multures and power to build a mill, lying in the parish of Inverurie, barony of Fintray, and regality of Lindores.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, MS.)



## CHAPTER V

### FERGUSONS OR FERGUSSONS IN FIFE AND FORFAR

THE name, though not very numerous, has had its representatives in Fife and in Angus, whose history contributes incidents of interest. From Dundee came David Fergusson, the Reformer, to labour in Dunfermline, and his male line ended in the person of an Angus minister, who is linked by kindly ties, which were a poor substitute for a lost son, to other famous men of the name. A Robert Fergusson represented Inverkeithing in the Parliaments of 1579 and 1587; and from a letter to King Charles II., preserved among the mss. in the British Museum, it appears that in 1675 a David Ferguson was representative, or Provost, of the Burgh of Kirkealdy. There seem to have been three generations of David Fergusons then connected with Kirkealdy, for in December 1679 David Ferguson was served heir of Master David Ferguson, student of divinity, his father. Sarah Bessie, and Mary Fergusons were served heirs of David Ferguson, their brother, in March 1680; of David Ferguson, lately Provost of Kirkealdy, their grandfather, in March 1699; and heirs-portioners of Mr. David Ferguson, divinity student, only son of David Ferguson, formerly Provost of Kirkealdy, their father. Mr. David Fergusson, a youth of great promise and a native of Kirkealdy, 'was snatched away by an early death.' He published a small volume, dedicated to John, Duke of Lauderdale, entitled *Epithalamium Mysticum sive Analysis Critico-practica Cantici Cantorum*, printed at Edinburgh in 1677, of which the original ms.,

bearing the date 1673 and marked *Ex dono Authoris*, is preserved in the University Library.

The family of Raith is traced to a James Ferguson, who was Bailie of Inverkeithing in 1689, whose son, Robert, purchased Raith, it would seem, after his father's death in 1721.

One family shows an interesting succession of parish ministers, running practically from the Revolution to the Disruption. In 1716, David Fergusson was called *jure devoluto*—i.e. by the Presbytery in face of local opposition, probably based on Episcopalian sympathies—to the parish of Farnell. In 1751 his son, David Fergusson, was admitted his assistant and successor, and he survived to 1793. His son Andrew became minister of Maryton, or Old Montrose, in 1795, after having been assistant to his father at Farnell; and his son, David Scott Fergusson, became minister of Strachan in 1835. Both father and son 'went out' in 1843.

#### THE FERGUSONS OF RAITH.

The following account of the family of Raith, has been communicated by Mr. R. C. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., of Raith and Novar:—

'Raith has been inhabited by the Fergusons since 1723, when it passed out of the hands of the first Earl of Melville, whose family had possessed it several hundred years, into those of Robert Ferguson, the eldest son of James Ferguson, who in 1689 was Bailie of Inverkeithing.

'Robert acquired a large fortune in the East India trade, but he must also have inherited considerable wealth, as he was only thirty-six when he purchased Raith. Later, he also bought the estate of Arrochar on Loch Lomond. One of the circumstances which probably attracted him to Raith was the near neighbourhood of his sister, who had married Dundas of Bogie, a place adjoining Raith. He does not seem to have had much taste for a country life, and most of

his days were spent in Austin Friars, London, where in 1725 he married Miss Townsend of Honington at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. He brought his wife, however, to see his northern possessions, and it is recorded that, on her first visit, she entered Raith riding on a pillion behind the oldest tenant of the estate. They are both represented at Raith in two portraits by Kneller.

He had no sons, and the estate passed at his death to his nephew, William Berry, who then assumed his name and arms. William was younger brother to the father of the Miss Berrys, so well known in London society. These ladies were the intimate friends of Horace Walpole, who, as he himself says, offered "his hand and his heart" to Mary Berry, and "his hand and his coronet" to Agnes, but unsuccessfully in both cases. The two sisters remained single to the end of their long lives. In London they were the centre of a circle which included most of the intellectual and political people of the day, and every evening their drawing-room was open to their friends, who gathered there certain of always finding interesting and entertaining company. Among their *habitués* were Macaulay, Sydney Smith, Thackeray, Lord John Russell, Lord Lansdowne, Mrs. Norton, and many others. Their portraits by Zoffany and Swinton, and their books—many of them given by Horace Walpole—are now at Raith.

William Ferguson, "the usurper," as he was considered by his more famous nieces (to whom, however, he and his successors made a generous and lifelong allowance of £1000 a year), was devoted to Raith. It was he who laid out most of the park, made the lake, and planted the woods. He was also considered one of the leading men of his day in agriculture, and gave much consideration to the improvement of his farm-land. At Raith he is also commemorated by certain erections known as "follies," which crown the various eminences of the park. He lived to a good old age, and it is said that when seventy he was warned that he would die if he continued to drink claret; so he took to toast and water, and survived for fourteen years. There is a picture by Zoffany at Raith which represents him in his more festive days entertaining his friends on the occasion of his succeeding

to the estate. They are gathered round a table bearing materials for health-drinking, while Zoffany has painted himself sitting at the table and joining in the celebration. The hospitality of Raith in his days is recorded in the reminiscences of a friend, who "minded the day when eleven hogs-heads of one particular kind of claret came to the port of Leith: and ten of them went to Raith." Raeburn painted two portraits of William and one of his wife—Miss Craufurd of Restalrig—with her two children. These are all at Raith.



RAITH HOUSE.

‘He was succeeded by Robert, his son, who was born in 1770, and who married in 1808 (after the dissolution of her marriage with the seventh Earl of Elgin) Mary, the only daughter and heiress of Hamilton Nisbet of Beil and Archerfield. He was a man of literary and scientific tastes, and made a fine collection of books, pictures, and minerals. These tastes were cultivated during his enforced stay in France as a *détenu* at the time of the war, where he made friends with Cuvier and collected minerals, discovering one which was named after him. He was released through the intervention



of Fox with Napoleon. He was Lord-Lieutenant of Fife, and during his time Raith became a centre for the intellectual and interesting society which in those days existed in Edinburgh. Sir David Wilkie, the celebrated painter, calls Raith "the Holland House of Scotland," and the stray glimpses to be gathered from old letters and *mémoires* give a delightful idea of the society which assembled there. One of these is to be found in a little book entitled *Mystifications*, by Miss Graham of Duntrune, a representative of Claverhouse, who was celebrated for her marvellous impersonations of Scottish characters. She says: "From Tulliallan we removed to Raith to bring in the New Year. A very brilliant party was assembled. The gentlemen enjoyed the pleasures of the battue in the mornings, and we sat down to dinner upwards of twenty every day." She then proceeds to give an account of one of her successful impersonations. Among other interesting people who stayed at Raith was Landseer, who has left a charming souvenir of his visit in the shape of two sketches of a Scotch and a French pig, in which the latter is very unfavourably contrasted with the former.

'Robert Ferguson was, like all his people, a strong Whig, and nightly toasted a picture of Fox by Opie which hung in his dining-room. Whigs not being popular at that time in Scotland he had some difficulty in finding a seat in Parliament. He was, however, elected in 1806 for Fifeshire, sat afterwards for Kirkcaldy, and in 1835 was returned for Haddington. A story is told of him that, being asked by George IV., "Have you ever heard a speech that has changed your opinion?" he replied, "My opinion often, sir; my vote, never."<sup>1</sup> He died in 1840. A memorial tablet was placed in the kirk at Abbotshall by his Raith tenantry, and a statue was erected to his memory at Haddington.

'He was succeeded by his brother, Sir Ronald, who, however, only survived him a few months. Sir Ronald was born in 1773, and entered the army in 1790. He served his country in almost every quarter of the globe. At the taking of the Cape of Good Hope he commanded the flank corps; and he

<sup>1</sup> A similar declaration is attributed to James Ferguson of Pitfour, a Tory.

was present, in command of the Highland Brigade, at its recapture in 1810. He was second in command at Cadiz, and in 1814 in Holland. In the battles of Roliça and Vimiera in 1808 he exhibited proof of such high military talents, and such great personal intrepidity, as to gain the commendation of his commander, Sir Arthur Wellesley, and to call forth a flattering eulogium in the vote of thanks from the House of Commons conveyed to him on this occasion.

‘In the debate on the vote of thanks, January 25, 1809, Mr. Adam said that he “knew from the best authority that Sir Arthur Wellesley had asserted that the intrepid gallantry and conduct with which General Ferguson had led on his troops to the charge was the finest thing he had seen in his military services.” Mr. Whitbread said that he “agreed most cordially with the honourable gentleman in the sentiments he had expressed with regard to General Ferguson. He was satisfied that Sir A. Wellesley and General Ferguson must be handed down to posterity as the most distinguished heroes of Vimiera.” On February 6 General Ferguson attended, and the Speaker read the resolution which had already been adopted: “That the thanks of the House be given to Major-General Ferguson for his skilful and gallant exertions against the enemy in the battles of Roliça and Vimiera, by which he reflected so much lustre on His Majesty’s troops.”

‘Major-General Ferguson replied that, “Having ever considered that the greatest reward which a soldier can receive is the approbation of his country, the thanks of the House must be received by him with gratitude and pride. He was well aware, however, that he owed this honour not to his own merit but to his singular good fortune in commanding such officers and such men as were placed under his immediate orders, and in being himself under the orders of a General whose talents, decision, and bravery justly secured to him the confidence of every man in his army. Could anything in his mind enhance the value of the thanks of the House, it would be the very handsome, but too flattering, terms in which the Speaker had been pleased to convey them.”

‘Wellington’s regard for General Ferguson is proved by his having insisted on appointing him to a military post when the King desired to give it to a nominee of his own. The story is that one day George IV. said to the Duke: “Arthur, there is a regiment vacant. Gazette Lord —— to it.” “It is impossible, please your Majesty,” Wellington replied. “There are generals who have seen more service now advanced in



GENERAL SIR RONALD FERGUSSON OF RAIETH.

life, whose turn should first be served.” “Never mind that, Arthur; gazette Lord ——,” said the King. The Duke bowed; and, going to London, he gazetted Sir Ronald Ferguson, whose services entitled him to the vacancy. It should be added that at the time Sir Ronald was in the House, voting constantly with the Whigs, while the Duke of Wellington

was leader of the Tory party. Sir Ronald also received the G.C.B.

‘Himself a soldier, he married the daughter of another distinguished General, Sir Hector Munro, who, while Commander-in-Chief in India, won the battle of Buxar, and wrested Pondicherry from the French. A beautiful ivory and gold jewel-box, which had belonged to Hyder Ali, one of the trophies of Sir Hector’s Indian career, was brought by his daughter to Raith.

‘Sir Ronald entered Parliament as Member for Nottingham, which he represented for many years. He was said to be one of the handsomest men in the army, and three beautiful portraits of him in his youth were painted by Raeburn. There is also a portrait of him in later life by Colvin Smith, and a full-length miniature by Cosway.

‘Lord Cockburn has left an entry referring to the two brothers in his journal. He says : “18 April 1841. Robert Ferguson of Raith died in December last, and his brother, General Sir Ronald Ferguson, died on the tenth of this present month : two admirable Scotch Whigs. These two men showed what good may be effected by mere steadiness of principle and its honest exhibition, for without any superiority of knowledge, talents, or original influence, public principle alone, fearlessly but temperately enforced on proper occasions, and softened by agreeable manners and very amiable acts, enabled them powerfully to advocate the Scotch cause at a time when political independence had few attractions, either for military officers or for country gentlemen. The General had a safe English seat, and, after the peace of 1815, he and Lord Archibald Hamilton were the two most strenuous defenders of Scotland in the House. The Parliamentary struggles of this manly and disinterested soldier, unadorned as they were by eloquence and consequently prompted by no ambition of display, and cheered at that time by very little hope of success, but proceeding solely from the impulse of right opinions and a gallant spirit, did honour to the whole army. Nothing could be more beautiful than the mutual affection of these handsome, gentleman-like, and popular brothers, whose patriotism, indeed, was more graced by their private virtues



than it could have been by any splendour of ability. The importance of two gentlemen of their character and situation to the side that they espoused can only be understood by those who acted in Scotch affairs before the Reform Bill emancipated the country."

'Sir Ronald was succeeded by his son Robert, born in 1802. He was also a soldier, and at one time commanded the 79th Highlanders. After leaving the army he sat in Parliament as Liberal from 1841 to 1861. For the greater part of that time he represented the Kirkcaldy Burghs, defeating on one occasion Mr., now Sir William, Harcourt, who stood as a Radical, after a stiff contest in which the Raith miners took part as preservers of order. He, however, was not an active politician, and devoted most of his time to the care of his estates—those of Novar, Muirton, and Culcairn having become his on the death of Mr. Munro, the owner of the celebrated Novar collection of pictures. Colonel Ferguson married late in life the granddaughter of Mr. Mandeville, a diplomatist, and was succeeded in 1868 by his son Ronald, the present proprietor, then a child of eight. Mr. Munro-Ferguson served for five years in the Guards, and then resigned his commission to enter Parliament. He sat for Ross-shire in 1884, but was defeated in 1885. In 1886 he was returned for the Leith Burghs, which he has since represented. He married in 1889 Helen Hermione, daughter of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava.

'Raith House stands on a hill 500 feet high, said to have been the site of one of Macduff's castles. It commands a fine view of the Forth, with Edinburgh in the distance, the Pentland Hills, the Lammermuirs, and the Bass Rock on the horizon. The park is beautiful from the lie of the ground, and has been embellished by the plantations of successive proprietors, and by the formation of an artificial lake at the foot of the hill on which the house stands. The house itself has not much architectural merit. The central portion bears the date 1694; the two wings are later, but not more artistic additions.

'There are several places of historical interest at Raith; one, the ruined tower of Balwearie, said to have been the

actual residence of Michael Scott, the Wizard of the North; another, the farm of the Grange, once the home of that intrepid soldier, Kirkcaldy of Grange, who defended Edinburgh Castle in the interests of Queen Mary, and was one of the assassins of Cardinal Beaton. The Raith gardens were also the site of the country-house and fish-ponds of the abbots of Dunfermline, after whom the parish of Abbotshall is named; and on a field just outside the park was fought the last political duel that took place in Scotland, between Sir Alexander Boswell and Stuart of Dunearn, which resulted in the death of the former.'

We add the account of the family given in Burke's *Landed Gentry* (1894):—

'The Fergusons of Raith are of good standing in Fife, and have possessed the estate from which they derive their designation since the death of the first Earl of Melville, to whom it belonged up to 1707.

'James Ferguson, Bailie of Inverkeithing in 1689, *m.* Agnes Stewart, and had issue—

Robert, his heir.

Barbara, bapt. at Inverkeithing, 19th Nov. 1689.

Elizabeth, bapt. at same place, 5th Jan. 1694, *m.* John Dundas of Wester Bogie, co. Fife, younger son of John Dundas of Manor, and *d. s.p.*

Agnes, *m.* David Berry, of Edinburgh, merchant, and had issue—

Robert Berry, *m.* the daughter of John Seton, Esq. of Parbroath (sister of Isabella, Lady Cayley, wife of Sir Thomas Cayley, fifth Baronet of Brompton), and had two daughters, Mary and Agnes Berry.

James Berry.

William Berry, of Austin Friars, London, who assumed by royal licence, dated 12th Jan. 1782, the surname and arms of Ferguson on succeeding to the estate of Raith.

Katherine, *m.* 26th Sept. 1764, Rev. Alex. Spears, of Kirkcaldy, and *d.* 9th Nov. 1813.

‘The only son,

Robert Ferguson of Raith, bapt. at Inverkeithing, 16th Dec. 1690, was served heir of his father, 21st June 1731, and purchased Raith, in the parish of Abbotshall, co. Fife. He married at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, 11th March 1725, Mary, daughter of Joseph Townsend, and *d. s.p.* 18th Dec. 1781, when he was *s.* by his nephew,

‘William Ferguson, Esq. of Raith, *m.* Jane, daughter of Ronald Craufurd, Esq. of Restalrig, and sister of Margaret, Countess of Dumfries, and was *s.* at his death by his eldest son,

‘Robert Ferguson, Esq. of Raith, M.P., and Lord-Lieutenant of the co. of Fife, *m.* Mary, only child and heiress of William Hamilton Nisbet, Esq. of Dirleton, co. Haddington (her previous marriage with Thomas, seventh Earl of Elgin, having been dissolved by Act of Parliament 1808), but by her had no issue. Mr. Ferguson died 3rd Dec. 1840, and was succeeded by his brother,

‘General Sir Ronald Craufurd Ferguson, G.C.B., M.P. for Nottingham, who then became of Raith. This gallant and highly distinguished officer, who was *b.* at Raith House 1773, entered the army in 1790 as ensign in the 53rd Foot, and served his country in almost every quarter of the globe. He commanded the flank corps at the taking of the Cape of Good Hope, and was present at its re-capture at the head of the Highland Brigade. In 1810 he was second in command at Cadiz, and in 1814 in Holland. At the battles of Roliça and Vimiera (1808) he exhibited proof of such high military talents and such great personal intrepidity as to gain the commendation of his commander, Sir Arthur Wellesley, and to call forth a flattering eulogium in the vote of thanks from the House of Commons conveyed to him on these occasions. Sir Ronald *m.* Jean, daughter of General Sir Hector Munro, K.C.B., of Novar, co. Ross, and dying 10th April 1841, aged 72, was *s.* by his son,

‘Col. Robert Munro-Ferguson of Raith, co. Fife, and Novar, co. Ross, M.P. for the Kirkcaldy Burghs from 1841 to 1861, and Lt.-Col. commanding 79th Highlanders, *b.* 20th Aug. 1802, *m.* 7th May 1859, Emma, daughter of the late James Henry Mandeville, Esq. of Merton, Surrey, and had issue,

‘Ronald Craufurd Munro, now of Raith and Novar.

‘Hector Munro, *b.* 2nd Feb. 1866.

Robert Henry Munro, *b.* 8th June 1867.

Alice Edwina Munro, *m.* 1886 Alexander Luttrell, eldest son of G. F. Luttrell of Dunster, and has two sons.

Emma Valentine Munro.

Edith Isabel Munro.

‘He succeeded to the estates of Novar, Ross-shire, and Muirton, Morayshire, in 1864, on the death of the late Hugh Andrew Munro, Esq. Colonel Ferguson *d.* 28th Nov. 1868, when he was succeeded by his eldest son,

‘Ronald Crawford Munro Ferguson of Raith, Novar, and Muirton, *b.* 6th March 1860, late Lieut. Grenadier Guards, M.P. for Ross and Cromarty 1884-5, elected M.P. for Leith 1886, *m.* 31st Aug. 1889 Lady Helen Hermione Blackwood, eldest daughter of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava.’

#### REV. DAVID FERGUSSON, THE REFORMER, AND HIS FAMILY.

The kingdom of Fife was the home, even if Dundee was the birthplace, of the distinguished Scottish divine, the Reverend David Fergusson, minister of Dunfermline (to which charge he was appointed in 1560), one of the leading Scottish Reformers. He describes himself as ‘one of the six who first put their hands to the work.’ He was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1573, and again in 1578, and is said to have been remarkable for his combination of sagacity, firmness, and knowledge, with a pleasant and humorous disposition, which made him a useful representative of the kirk in negotiations with the court. He is said to have begun the *History of the Church of Scotland*, which was carried out by his son-in-law, Row, and the perusal of a sermon of his by John Knox upon his deathbed, produced the quaint and emphatic recommendation from the old Reformer—‘John Knox, with my dead hand but glad heart praising God that of His mercy He leaves such light to His Kirk in this desolation.’ David Fergusson was not a voluminous writer, but he has left some ecclesiastical publications, which have been printed by the Bannatyne Club. He was the author of the first collection of *Scottish Proverbs*, for which he had a great liking, and it was said that he both spoke and preached in proverbs. It is, however, by his wise and witty observations, especially those



dropped in Royal interviews, that he is best known. It was he who gave to the bishops appointed, while the revenues of the sees were drawn by laymen, the name of 'Tulchan Bishops,' and who answered King James, when he asked why the Master of Gray's house shook during the night,—'Why should the Devil not rock his ain bairns?' He described the proposal for the reintroduction of Episcopacy, as like 'the busking up of the brave horse' for the overthrow of Troy, and declared that 'he would, with the brethren who had given good warning, cry "*Equo ne credite Teuceri.*"' In an interview with the King, referring to the feuds that were prevalent, he observed that it was the surnames that made all the commotion. 'If you go to surnames,' he said, jocularly, 'I will reckon with the best of you in antiquity, for King Fergus was the first king in Scotland, and I am Fergus-son; but always, sir, because you are an honest man, and hath the possession, I will give you my right.' This, it is said, put King James in a good humour, and he exclaimed,—'See, will you hear him!'

The account of this interview exhibits a remarkable combination of plain speaking with a tact on Fergusson's part, which diverted the discussion into a humorous vein, complimented the king on his metrical version of the 110th Psalm, or checked his colleagues when they appeared to be 'going too far' in their 'severe remarks.' Yet while Fergusson showed a proper respect to his sovereign, he did not hesitate to speak wholesome truths to some of the royal favourites. Turning to Colonel Stewart he exhorted him to beware what counsel he gave to the King; 'for assure yourself,' he said, 'if you counsel him to place and displace the nobility as you please, they will not bear it at your hands who is but a mean man.'

Row thus records a conversation between Fergusson and King James VI., on bishops:—'David,' said James VI. to him one day, 'why may not I have bishops in Scotland as well as they have in England?' 'Yea, sir,' replied Fergusson, 'ye may have bishops here—but, remember, ye must mak' us all bishops, else will ye never content us; for if ye set up ten or twelve loons over honest men's heads (honest men will not

have your anti-Christian prelacies), and give them more thousands to debauch and misspend than honest men have hundreds or scores, we will never all be content. We are all Paul's bishops, sir—Christ's bishops; haud us as we are.' 'The de'il hait ails you,' replied the King, 'but that ye would all be alike; ye cannot abide ony to be abune ye.' 'Sir,' said the minister, 'do not ban' (swear.)

'Fergusson,' says Anderson, in the *Scottish Nation*, 'is supposed to have been descended from a respectable family of that surname in Ayrshire.' There seems to be no evidence of this, and it would rather appear that he was a native of Dundee, as he and others within the burgh of Dundee were summoned in 1558 for disputing upon erroneous opinions, and eating flesh during Lent. He was originally a glover by trade, a fact not lost sight of in the attacks of the Romish controversialists; but, according to Wodrow, 'gave up business and went to school' in order to qualify as a preacher.

'Having on one occasion presented to the King and Council a petition for augmentation of stipend, he was mortified by having it returned to him endorsed with the unpromising words, *Sicut ante*. Some time afterwards the King, passing through Dunfermline, saw the old minister going through the ungraceful process of dressing hides, and asked somebody if he had lost his wits: whereupon Mr. David overhearing the question, promptly replied that he was endeavouring to fulfil his Majesty's commands by returning to his original trade, and thus gaining his bread *Sicut ante*—"as before." James is said to have engaged to have his petition more favourably backed when it next came before him.'

Though apparently never at a university, he was well acquainted with Latin and Greek, and his vigorous, sententious, and lively Scottish style was illustrated by classical allusions.

Ferguson was probably born before 1525. In 1560, when the first appointment was made of Reformed ministers, he was selected for Dunfermline, and he sat in the first General Assembly, held in December of that year. He usually served on all important commissions, and for many years was one of the assessors to the moderator, who prepared matters for

the Assembly. He was one of the ministers who waited on Morton before his execution in 1581. His published works consist of *An Answer to the Epistle of Renat Benedict to John Knox and the rest of his Brethren*, a most able and vigorous statement of the position of the Scottish Reformers; of a 'Sermon preached before the Regent and Nobilitie at Leith, in 1572,' which contains an eloquent and straightforward expostulation on the subject of the Church's right to the teinds, and has been described as 'a remarkable specimen of vigorous composition in the vernacular Scotch'; and the collection of Scottish proverbs which was published after his death. The first edition in 1641 was entitled: 'Scottish Proverbs gathered together by David Fergusone, some time Minister at Dunfermline, and put *ordine alphabetico* when he departed this life, anno 1598.' Other editions were published in 1659, 1675, 1699, and 1706; the latter bearing the title, 'Nine Hundred and Forty Scottish Proverbs, the greater part of which were first gathered together by David Ferguson, the rest since added.' He also left a diary containing a record of the principal ecclesiastical events of his time, which has been lost, but is probably to a large extent incorporated in his son-in-law, John Row's, History.

In 1598 Fergusson was described as 'the auldest minister that tyme in Scotland.' James Melville thus records an address delivered to the Synod of Fife in May 1596. 'And sa David Fergusone, Pastor of Dunfermline, a reverend father, spak verie pleasandlie and comfortablie of the beginning and success of the ministrie: namelie, how that a few number, viz. onlie sax, whairof he was ane, sa mightilie went fordwart in the wark, but feir or cair of the world, and prevalit, when thar was na name of stipend hard tell of; when the autoritie baith Ecclesiastik and Civill opponit themselves, and skarslie a man of name and estimatioun to tak the cause in hand.' He was, says Principal Lee, 'one of the boldest, most sagacious, and most amiable of the Reformers of the Church of Scotland.' Spottiswood says that 'he was a wise man and a good preacher,' and that 'he was jocund and pleasant in his disposition, which made him well regarded in Court and country.' 'By his pleasant and

facetious conversation,' writes Wodrow, 'he often pleased and pacified the King when he was in a fury'; and his sound judgment and courteous manners were, throughout his life, constantly relied on by the Church in her negotiations with the Crown.

Fergusson's answer to the Epistle of Renat Benedict was reprinted by the Bannatyne Club from the only copy known to exist, belonging to the University of Edinburgh. This was a small volume of forty-four leaves in black letter, with the title-page and last leaves supplied in manuscript from another copy. From the following note in the ms. Book of Donations it appears to have been presented, along with an original portrait of the author, which, unfortunately, cannot now be traced, to the University by one of his descendants.

'24 April 1701.—Mr. John Row, Professor of Philosophy, gave to the library the picture of Mr. David Fergusson, Minister of Dunfermling and chaplain to King James VI., done on timber of a small oval form: he died 1598. Also a book of his writ in defence of the Reformation, in answer to ane Epistle of ane Renat Benedict, a French Doctor: it is printed at Edinburgh, 1563, in 12mo.'

David Fergusson, soon after he became minister of Dunfermline, was married to Isobel Durham, by whom he had nine children—five sons and four daughters.

1. Margaret, born 31st May 1562, who on June 18th, 1581, married Master David Spens, minister of the Gospel at Orwell.
2. William, born Sept. 10th, 1564.
3. Patrick, born June 23rd, 1566.
4. Robert, born Oct. 3rd, 1568.
5. Janet, born Sept. 4th, 1570; married David Ramsay in April 1598.
6. David, born Jan. 21st, 1572-3.
7. John, born May 19th, 1574.
8. Grizzell, born Feb. 19th, 1575-6; married in 1595 the Rev. John Row, minister of Carnock, son of John Row the Reformer.
9. Isobell, born Feb. 24th, 1579-80.

Of the sons, only William survived his father, who died on



23rd August 1598, but it has been suggested that Robert may have been the Robert Fergusson who represented Inverkeithing in Parliament in 1579 and 1587. His age makes this quite inadmissible. William Fergusson, the eldest son was an M.A., but not a minister, for while his father left him his books on natural history, he left all his 'buiks of theologie and human history' to his two reverend sons-in-law ordaining them to 'satisfie' their brother-in-law, David Ramsay, who appears to have been a layman. This William Fergusson has been identified with Mr. William Fergusson, physician and bailie in Dundee, whose name occurs as a member of the General Assembly in 1600 and 1601. An inscription exists which appears in part to commemorate a visitation of the plague, and is as follows:—

'To Mr. William Ferguson, Physician and Bailie in Dundee, and Euphemia Kinloch his dearest parents: also to seven brothers and sisters german, who died by the disturbed order of nature: likewise for himself and Helen Duncan, his lawful wife, the surviving William Ferguson, merchant, raised this monument to their pious memory. Mr. William Ferguson died 25th March 1627, aged 64 years, and Euphemia Kinloch died 6th June 1603 (1623) aged 57 years.'

There seems, curiously enough, to have been another William Fergusson, also a doctor of medicine and bailie in Dundee, at the same time. He is identified by the name of his wife, who was Catherine Wedderburn, and whose name appears in a charter of the lands of Balbeuchlie granted to him in February 1615. He seems to have survived till May 1663, when his daughter Magdalene, spouse of John Duncan the younger, burgess of Dundee, was served heir to him.

Whether or not William Fergusson, physician and bailie, and William Ferguson his son, merchant in Dundee, were the links in the chain, it is certain that Mr. David Fergusson, minister at Strathmartin or Strickmartin in Angus, was the great-grandson of the Reformer. He registered his arms between 1672 and 1678,<sup>1</sup> and was one of the Episcopal clergy whose cases were dealt with after the Revolution, though he appears to have been continued in his benefice.

<sup>1</sup> See chap. xiii.



(I 1)



(I 5)



(I 8)



(II 1)





Adam Fergusson, afterwards minister at Logierait, records<sup>1</sup> his obligations to this Mr. David Fergusson, who, having no nearer relative than a niece, 'and being very clannish, was much inclined to be beneficial to any of the name of Fergusson that were thought capable of a liberal education, especially after his only son was lost on the ice in the North Loch at Edinburgh.' Mr. David Fergusson, writer, was thus drowned on 11th February 1682. The Rev. David Fergusson died in 1696, and in 1699 Barbara Fergusone, spouse of Alexander Grahame of Kincaldrum, was served heir to him as his niece. The following account of one of his benefactions is preserved in a memoir published along with one edition<sup>2</sup> of Robert Fergusson the poet's works:—

'Through the influence, it is understood, of Lord Findlater his father had obtained a presentation in favour of Robert to a mortification or bursary by the Rev. David Fergusson of Strathmartine, which provided for the "maintenance and education of two poor male children" of his own surname at the Grammar School of Dundee and the College of St. Andrews. The deed appoints and ordains that "the two children of the quality foresaid, from the saide age of nine years untill they attain to fourteen years compleat, be maintained, educate, and brought up at the Grammar School of Dundee, and be *boarded with one of the surname of Fergusson*, in case there be any that can do the same, and failzing of that in any other honest house within the said burgh of good repute, and that at such rates and prices yearly or quarterly as the said patrons and administrators shall think fitt; and be furnished (the saids children) with sufficient cloaths and necessaries for their bodies, head, and feet; their coats being always of a grey colour lined with blue sleeves.'

#### FERGUSSON OF BALBEUCLIE.

It has already been noted that on 7th February 1615 William Fergusone, Bailie of the Burgh of Dundee, had a charter of the lands of Balbeuchlie, in Forfar, in which his daughter was served heir to him in 1663.

<sup>1</sup> See chap. ii. p. 126.

<sup>2</sup> 1851.



## FERGUSSON OF ETHIE-BEATON.

Robert Arklay Fergusson, Esq. of Ethie-Beaton, Forfarshire, is eldest son of the late Robert Fergusson, Esq., by Matilda, daughter of Robert Arklay, Esq. of Ethie-Beaton; born 1851; succeeded his uncle, Robert Arklay, Esq., 1892; married, 1882, Dora Maud Carleton, daughter of J. A. Allan, Esq. of Kingston, Canada.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES FROM PUBLIC SOURCES.

1373. David filius Fergusii, collector of the contributions of the quarter of Brechin.—(*Exch. Rolls*, vol. ii.)

David Fergusson, minister of Dunfermline, suspends the master of the grammar school of the burgh: disallowed.—(*P.C. Reg.* ii. pp. 288, 289.)

Complaint against Rev. David Fergusson.—(*P.C. Reg.* iii. pp. 209-10, 237.)

18 July 1611. Wm. Fergisoun, doctor of medicine in Dundee, and Catharine Wedderburn, his spouse.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 536.)

2 Jul. 1613. Mr. Wil. Fergusson, burgess of Dundie, on an assize.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 881.)

12 and 13 June 1612. M. Will. Fergusson, ballivo de Dundie, witness to a charter.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 1018.)

7 Feb. 1615. Confirmation of a charter by which James Scrymgeour, feuar of Fardill, sold to William Fergusone, bailie of the burgh of Dundee, and Catherine Wedderburn, his spouse, the lands of Balbeuchlie, with fortalice manor, mill, mill lands, etc., the Templar land adjacent, with the teinds, rectorial and vicar's, which never were in use to be separated, in the barony of Dunkeld. Vic. Forfar.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 1177.)

May 31st, 1663. Magdalena Fergusone, sponsa Joannis Duncane, junioris mercatoris burgensis de Dundie, *hæres* Magistri Gulielmi Fergusson de Balbeuchlie *patris* in terris de Balbeuchlie—terris templariis eisdem terris contigue coadjacentibus cum decimis in baronia Dunkeldensi.—(*Retours*, Forfar, 214.)

Jan. 2, 1663. Elizabetha, Joneta et Isobella Fergussones, heirs-portioners of their mother, Katherine Page, in half of the fullers' mill of Gaitmilk, and 4 acres annexed, parish of Kinglassie, regality of Dunfermline.—(*Retours*, Fife, 931.)

Dec. 24, 1679. David Fergusone, *hæres* Magistri Fergusone, studentis Divinitatis *patris*.—(*Retours Gen.* 6173.)

March 19, 1680. Sara Besseta et Maria Fergusones *hæres* portionarii Davidis Fergusone fratris.—(*Retours Gen.* 6191.)

March 9, 1698- . . . Davidis Fergusone nuper præpositi burgi de Kircaldie *air* ex parte patris.

Aug. 24, 1699. Sara F., sponsa Thomæ Oswald, senioris nautæ burgensis burgi de Kircaldie, Besseta F., sponsa Archibaldi Arnot, apothecarii chirurgi in Kircaldie, et Maria F., h.p. Magistri Davidis Fergusone, Studentis Divinitatis in Kircaldie, unici filii Davidis Fergusone aliquando præpositi Kircaldie *patris*.

(*Gen.* 8101.) May 20, 1699. Barbara Fergusone, sponsa Magistri Alexandri Grahame de Kincaldrum *hæres* Magistri Davidis Fergusone, ministri verbi Dei apud Strathmartine *patru*.—(*Retours Gen.* 8101.)

#### NOTICES OF MINISTERS OF THE NAME.

(From Scott's *Fasti Scoticana Ecclesie*.)

#### FIFE. *Dunfermline.*

1560. David Fergusone, a native of Dundee, nominated by the Lords, etc., 19th July: he was a member of thirty-nine Assemblies, from 25th June 1563 to 10th May 1597; in two of these, 6th March 1572 and 24th Oct. 1578, he was elected Moderator. In 1567 Rossyth was also under his care; in 1574 Carnock and Baith, Rossyth being excluded. In 1576 he was appointed Visitor of the Bounds from Leven to Cambuskenneth, the kirks of the Diocese of St. Andrews from Forth to Tay on both sides to Newburgh, and from that west, on the south side of the Ochils, the kirks of St. Andrews and Dunkeld. He died Father of the Church, 23rd August 1598, in advanced age. Though he had not been educated at a university, yet from his good taste and lively fancy, joined to his piety and integrity, he was highly useful in improving and enriching the Scottish language, and was a favourite with all classes. Beside the active share which he took in ecclesiastical affairs, he left a Diary, or Observations, which has not been preserved, but may have been the foundation of the History written by Row, his son-in-law. 'The utencils, etc., by the airship

were estimat at xx. li. He was awand for his housemaill, *anno* 1598, and sindrie terms preceding, xx. li. For the last half-year he had three women servants. His buiks of natural history he bequeathed to his son Mr. William, and all his books of theologie and human history, estimat to j<sup>c</sup> li., to his three sons-in-law, Mr. David Spens, Mr. John Row, and David Ramsay, ordaining the two former to satisfie the latter, "because the buiks cannot be profitable to him." He married Isobel Durhame, and had five sons and four daughters: William, physician, Dundee; Patrick, Robert, David, John, Margaret, married Mr. David Spens, min. of Kirkcaldy; Janet, Grisell, married Mr. John Row, min. of Carnock, and Isobell.

*Publications.*—'An Answer to ane Epistle written by Renat Benedict the French Doctor, Professor of God's Word, to John Knox and the rest of his brethren, ministers of the Word of God.' Edin. 1563, sm. oct. 'Ane Sermon preichit before the Regent and Nobilitie upon a part of the 3<sup>io</sup> chapter of the Prophet Malachi in the kirk of Leith. Sanctandros, 1572, sm. oct. 'Scottish Proverbs, gathered together.' Edin. 1641, quarto. 'Tracts' (printed for the Bannatyne Club, 1860). —[Spottiswood, Row, Keith, and Calderwood's *Hist. Book of the Kirk, Sess. and Test. Reg., Reg. Min., Assig. and Deeds* xxxiv., *Excheq. Buik*; Wodrow *Miscell.*; Melville's *Autobio.*; Scott's *Reformers*; M'Crie's *Knox and Melville*; Fernie and other *Hist. of Dunfermline*; Henderson's *Proverbs*; Thomson's *Dundee*, etc.]

*Beath (Dunfermline).*

1815. James Fergusson, a native of Blair-Athole, lic. St. Andrews 1809, ord. Dalkeith, ass. at Inveresk 1813, pres. by Earl of Moray 1815; D.D. Glas. Un. 1848, and died 19th March 1866 in his 85th year and 53rd min. Married, 3rd Feb. 1814, Catherine Mackie, who died 11th April 1866. *Publication.*—'Account of Parish' (*New Stat. Acc.* ix.)—[*Pres. and Syn. Reg.*, etc.]

FORFAR. *Strathmartin (Dundee).*

1664. David Fergusson, A.M., great-grandson of David Fergusson, min. of Dunfermline, grad. St. Andrews 1648, adm. prior to 18th May 1664, continued 6th Feb. 1689. After his death

church declared vacant, 29th July 1696. He mortified in 1695 vj<sup>m</sup> merks for two boys to be maintained at school, and, if capable, as bursars in St. Leonard's College, St. Andrews, for four years. The patronage is vested in the Provost of Dundee, David Graham of Fintry, Sir James Kinloch of Kinloch, his niece Barbara Ferguson, wife of Mr. Alexander Graham of Kincaldrum, and their heirs and successors.—[*Act. Recl. Un. St. And.*; *Pres. and St. Andrews Syn. Reg.*; *Evidence on Un. iii.*; *Fergusson's Tracts*; *MS. Account of Min.*, 1689; *Reg. Gen. Ass.*, 1692; *Inq. Ret. Gen.*, 810; *Thomson's Dundee.*]

*Dunnichen (Forfar).*

1763. Griffith Ferguson, lic. Pr. of Dundee, 1st Oct. 1760, pres. by George III. June, and ord. 1st Sept. 1763. Died 22nd July 1787, in 24th min. He marr., 30th March 1764, Cecilia Ronald, who married again 25th Nov. 1795.—[*Pres. and Syn. Reg.*, etc.]

1837. Donald Ferguson,<sup>1</sup> pres. by William IV. and ord. (ass. and suc.) 25th Aug. Joined Free Church. Subsequently F.C. minister at Liverpool, Kilmadock, and Leven. Married 5th March 1846. *Publications.*—'Covenanting with God. Two Discourses. Dundee, 1844. 'A Pastor's parting prayer for his people.' Lecture xii. (*Free Ch. Pulpit*, iii.)—[*Presb. Acts of Ass.*, 1843, etc.]

*Arbroath.*

1699. James Ferguson, A.M., trans. from Roberton near Hawick, adm. 20th April. As an indemnification for his losses in the Darien Expedition he got the gift of a house and a piece of ground from the Exchequer, and died in May 1737, aged about 82, in 41st min. His eccentricity of manner and freedom of speech, even in the pulpit, and his homely and personal illustrations, sometimes gave great offence. He raised an action against the magistrates for payment of lxxx. merks as house rent, for which the Lords of Session, 22nd January 1715, found them liable in all time coming. He also had a gift from William III., 9th May 1701, of the yard or orchard in the abbey, which belonged formerly to the

<sup>1</sup> See chapter ii.—'Fergusson of Easter Dalnabreck.'



Bishop of Brechin, in room of his glebe at Robertson. He married in August 1705, Margaret, daughter of James Dougall of Nunlands.—[*Presb. Syn. Edin.* (Marr) and *Test. Reg.* (St. And. and Edin.); Bruce's *Decisions*; *Tombst. Reg. Sec. Sigill.*; *Scots Mag.* 88; *New Stat. Acc.* xi.; Dougald's *East Coast*; Jervise's *Memorials.*]

*Farnell (Brechin).*

1716. David Fergusson, licensed by Presbytery of Dalkeith, 15th March 1714. Called *jure devoluto* and ordained 4th October 1716. His house was robbed by a gang of housebreakers and robbers, 11th February 1747, and a silver watch, about £10 in cash, and other things carried off: died 14th August 1751, in 35th min., leaving a son who succeeded to the benefice, and four daughters, Margaret, Jean, Janet, and Katherine.—[*Presb. Syn. and Test. Reg.* (Brechin); *Scots Mag.* ix.; *Tombst.*, etc.]

1751. David Fergusson, son of the preceding, licensed 2nd May 1750; pres. by George II. in April, and ord. ass. and suc. 25th July 1751. Died 4th December 1793 in his 70th year, and 43rd min. He married, 8th May 1755, Janet Mitchell, who died 8th November 1796, and had two sons—Andrew, minister of Maryton, Mr. Patrick, and a daughter Anna. *Publication.*—Account of the Parish (*Old Stat. Acc.* iii.) [*Presb. and Syn. Reg.*, *Tombst.*, etc.]

*Maryton, or Old Montrose (Brechin).*

1795. Andrew Ferguson, A.M., son of Rev. David Ferguson of Farnell; graduated, Aberdeen 1787; ordained as assistant to his father, 16th October 1793; pres. by George III. 1795. Joined Free Church; died 24th October 1843 in 75th year and 51st min. Married, 27th December 1800, Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. William Bruce of the Episcopal Church, Arbroath, and had a son, the Rev. David Scott Ferguson, minister of Strachan. *Publications.*—Account of Parish (*New Stat. Acc.* xi.). Articles in Brewster's *Edinburgh Encyclopædia.*—[*Degrees Maris. Coll.*; *Pres. and Syn. Reg.*; *Tombst.*, etc.]

KINCARDINESHIRE. *Strachan (Kincardine O'Neil).*

1836. David Scott Fergusson, son of Rev. Andrew Fergusson of Maryton, lic. Brechin, 1831; pres. by Sir James Carnegie of Southesk, 1835, and ad. 10th June following. Joined Free Church; married 21st June 1836. *Publication.*—Account of the Parish (*New Stat. Acc.* xi).—[*Presb. Reg.*; *Acts of Ass.*, 1843, etc.]

## CHAPTER VI

### FERGUSSENS IN AYRSHIRE

IN Ayrshire, and especially in Carrick, the Fergussons are an old, and have been a numerous race. The ancient house of Kilkerran claims descent from Fergus son of Fergus, who obtained a charter of lands in Ayrshire from Robert I., and, like other Scottish baronial families of high standing, it is found surrounded and supported by cadet branches who took rank among the landholders of the district. In 1466 Fergus Fergusson and Joneta Kennedy, his spouse, were infeft in the lands of Auchinsoull during the lifetime of his father; and when, in 1483, Fergus had to claim his 'heirship moveables,' it throws an interesting light on the social habits of the time to find that they consisted of '12 silver spoons, a pot of a gallon, a ring of gold, a croce of gold, and a gray horse.' Lairds of Kilkerran and their kin appear engaged in the feudal brawls that were common throughout Scotland, but in which Ayrshire at one time almost enjoyed a pre-eminence, and in which the brother of the Laird of Threave, known as 'Davie the Devill,' must have been a good kinsman to have at hand. Sir John of Kilkerran appears as a Cavalier in the civil wars, in a country where Covenanting strength was overwhelming, and indeed had to admit that 'he was in Kilmarnock with Alaster,' and with Montrose at Loudonhill. The difficulties in which the estate was involved through the burdens incurred in loyal service to the king, led to the transfer of the lands in 1700 to the able representative of a younger son, the Fergussons of Auchinblain making over the estate to John, son of Simon of Auchinwin. Upon the extinction of the elder branch, his family became the lineal representatives, and he had a distinguished and fortunate career at the Scottish bar. In 1703 he was created a baronet, and his son, Sir

James, followed his profession with even greater distinction. He became member for the county of Sutherland in 1734, was the compiler of Kilkerran's Decisions, and was raised to the bench as Lord Kilkerran, being regarded as one of the ablest lawyers of his time. One of his sons also became a judge as Lord Hermand. He it was who insisted on reading aloud a passage from *Waverley* on the bench, and he was certainly one of the last of the old race of Scottish advocates. His vast store of anecdotes and amusing stories, with a vein of dry caustic humour peculiarly his own, rendered his society most fascinating. His elder brother, Sir Adam Fergusson, represented Ayrshire for eighteen years, and the city of Edinburgh for four; and in the present head of the family the name of Fergusson has been represented, not only in Parliament, but in the Government of the Queen.

The leading cadet families of the name seem to have been those of Dalduff, on the south bank of the Girvan water, whose names appear from about 1550 to 1650; of Auchensoull, which seems to have had a separate existence from about 1564 to 1781; of Threave, which started with a feu-right from the Commendator of Crossraguel in 1581; of Letterpyn, one of whom was at Bothwell Bridge; of Finnart, settled at Glenapp for more than two hundred years, and now represented by Fergusson-Kennedy of Bennane; of Millenderdail, apparently an offshoot of the seventeenth century; of the Craig, who also appear in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; and of Castlehill, apparently also now represented by Fergusson-Kennedy of Bennane. There have also been the Fergussons of Bank, Crosshill, Monkwood, and Trochraigue, with their descendants, Fergusson-Hume of Bassendean and Fergusson-Pollok, from whom came James Fergusson, the author of useful books on certain departments of Scottish law, James Fergusson, the writer on architecture, and John Fergusson of Doonholm, an enterprising Indian merchant, who left a bequest which was the germ of the Ayr Academy. John of Barclauchanan was Commissioner of Militia for Carrick in 1689, and John of Rainstoun appears as a J.P. for Wigtonshire. Thomas of Finnarts was forfeited after the Restoration, but restored after the Revolution, and with Hew of



Mains was fined £600, while John of Millander was mulcted in £1000 in 1662. The families of Auchensoull and Threave would appear now to be represented by the Rev. William Fergusson,<sup>1</sup> until lately minister of the Free Church at Ellon, Aberdeenshire, son of Lieut. James Hamilton Fergusson, 57th Foot, and grandson of James Fergusson of Littleton. In the following pages notices of these different families in county histories are collected, and supplemented by extracts from other public sources, relating to them and to other individuals of the name connected with Ayrshire.



KILKERRAN HOUSE.

## FERGUSSON OF KILKERRAN.

The following account of the family of Kilkerran is taken from volume viii. of Playfair's *British Family Antiquity*, published in 1811, containing the 'Baronetage of Scotland.' Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran informs us that it was 'written or revised by Lord Hermand, and contains practically all that is known of the early history of his family. Its phraseology bears evidence of the Judge's hand, and it may therefore be accepted as an original narrative from the most authoritative source.

<sup>1</sup> See his Memorandum, *infra*.

## FERGUSSON.

After much inquiry and investigation it has not been found possible, from any documents now extant, to ascertain the origin of this family. That it is of great antiquity there is no doubt. Certain it is that there is no tradition in the country, nor, as far as has been discovered, any vestige, either in the public records or in the charter-chest of any private family, of the lands of Kilkerran having ever belonged to any other name or family. The old castle of Kilkerran—a building almost entire, and of cut stone—appears, from the form of its architecture, to have been built at least as long ago as the thirteenth or fourteenth century, and is one of the most curious remains of that kind of work in Scotland: but by whom it was built it is now impossible to ascertain.

[Kilkerran<sup>1</sup> is a district in the parish of Dailly, in Ayrshire, through which runs the water of Girvan. The whole parish is one immense valley, exhibiting as great a variety of surface as any part of equal extent in the kingdom, consisting of gentle and irregular slopes, interspersed with knolls, glens, and meadows, thickly studded both with natural and artificial woods, and contrasting finely with the bleak and barren moors which occupy the summits of the surrounding hills. The most romantic part of the parish is that district immediately round Kilkerran, which is now likely to become an object of curiosity to the tourist, as the good taste of the present possessor has made its beauties more accessible by a path of considerable length cut along the verge of the precipice, and overlooking the dashing torrent, and also added to them by the judicious distribution of modern planting. This is still called the 'Lady Glen,' from an ancient chapel, now mouldering into dust, at the lower extremity of this wild and romantic dell.]

The want of information from the public records of the descent of this family is probably owing to the lands composing the barony of Kilkerran—though now, and for a long period of time, held of the crown—having been formerly held of the Earls of Cassilis: and the whole of the old writings of that

<sup>1</sup> [Passages in brackets are notes in original.]

family having been lost and destroyed by neglect, the information that might have been had by inspection of the chartularies of that family is not now to be obtained.

Mr. Nisbet mentions a charter from King Robert I. of some lands in the shire of Ayr, 'Fergusio Fergusii filio,' for which he refers to Haddington's Collection; and there is no doubt that such a charter is there mentioned. But though there neither is, nor is known to have been, any family in that county that has so fair a claim to be considered as having a connection with that charter, yet as the lands mentioned in it are not known to have belonged to the family of Kilkerran, there is no absolute evidence of the family being descended from the person in whose favour that charter was granted.

The first clear and undoubted charter of the family that we have met with is dated the 21st of April 1466, and is granted by King James III. 'Fergusio Fergusson et Janetæ Kennedy sponsæ suæ terrarum de Auchinsoul et duarum mercat. Terrarum jacent. prope Castrum de Keirs, et duarum mercat. terrarum prope Lochspallander.' This charter, which is in the 6th Book, No. 64 of the Public Register, proceeds upon the resignation of John Ferguson of Kilkerran, and contains the following clause: 'Tenendo dict. terras, cum pertinent. de nobis et heredibus et successoribus nostris, adeo libere quiete, etc. Sicut ipse Joannes et predecessoribus nostris ante dict. Resignationem nobis inde factam, liberius tenuit seu possidit, tenuerunt seu possiderunt.' It is plainly a family settlement by the above John Fergusson of Kilkerran, probably in favour of his son; and it provides that, failing heirs of the marriage of Fergus and of Janet Kennedy, the lands shall return to the nearest heirs of John whatsoever.

Duncan Fergusson of Kilkerran is a witness to a charter by James Kennedy of Blairquhan to Archibald Mure of the lands of Burnfoot and Merkland of Carnwhin, dated the 9th of February 1547. This charter is in the hands of John M'Fadyen of Carnwhin, who holds these lands of Burnfoot and Carnwhin by charter from Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart.

Bernard Fergusson of Kilkerran, probably the son of

Duncan, grants a charter to James Ross of the ten-shilling land of Clenreoch, to be held of himself. This charter, which is dated the 5th of January 1566, is in the charter-chest of the family of Stair. There is, in the charter-chest of Kilkerran, a letter of reversion by Adam Boyd of Penkill of a wadset granted to him by Bernard and Simeon Fergussons, elder and younger of Kilkerran, dated the 13th of January 1589. In the same repository is a bond of wadset of the Merkland of Maldonach by Simeon Fergusson, the younger of Kilkerran, to Quintin Kennedy of Drummelland, for three hundred merks, dated the 7th of February 1586.

Simeon Fergusson married Christian Forrester, daughter of — Forrester of Carden. This lady, after the death of her husband, was married to Gilbert Ross, Provost of the Collegiate Church of Maybole, the son of which marriage had a daughter, Margaret Ross, married to the Viscount of Stair.

Sir John Fergusson of Kilkerran, son of Simeon last mentioned and Christian Forrester, was possessed of a large estate in the shire of Ayr, and also of property in Galloway; but having by his adherence to the interest of Charles I., for which he got no other compensation than the honour of knighthood, contracted large debts, the lands of Kilkerran were adjudged from his eldest son, Alexander, by James Sydserf; and the adjudication was transferred by him to the Lord Bargany.

[By his attachment to the loyal cause, this Sir John incurred all the malice of the opposite party: in the eighth article of the charges against the Duke of Hamilton he is also brought forward in a most extraordinary manner, but which, even if true, must be considered as redounding highly to his credit for his constancy and consistency in the cause which he had adopted and faithfully adhered to.

‘One particular omitted above is not amiss to be here inserted: at what time the business of the Scottish Covenant was at the greatest height, a distressed gentleman of Scotland, Sir John Ferguson, desired the loan of some money from Sir John Hamilton of Broomhill (whose relation and interest every way to the Duke are known to every one who knows them both), who answered him in flat terms he would



neither give nor lend him a penny, except he and his sons would bind themselves to go home and sign the Covenant, upon which condition he offered to lend him what he sought.'

It is needless in this place, so far as regards the Duke, to expatiate on the absurdity of such a charge; but the Duke in his answer to it expressly declared that for his part he knew nothing of any conversation which might have passed between Sir John Hamilton and Sir John Ferguson, nor did he consider himself accountable for what others, whatever their dependence on him might be, had spoken; and then concluded with saying, 'he knows not whether Sir John Ferguson ever took the Covenant or not; but this he knows well, that he did recommend him to His Majesty as one that suffered much for adhering to his duty to His Majesty, and did procure several marks of His Majesty's favour for him'—a testimony too honourable to be omitted here.]

This reverse in the fortune of the family, in addition to other misfortunes, is the apparent cause of the loss of most of the old writings of the estate, which, if extant, might have led to more accurate information respecting the earlier history of the family. This Sir John Fergusson married Helen Kennedy, daughter of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, second son to Gilbert, the third Earl of Cassilis, which Helen was widow of — Mure of Auchendrain. Of this marriage there were four sons—Alexander, who succeeded his father; James and John, who were both captains in the army during the Civil Wars, and died unmarried; and Simeon, who was the proprietor of the lands and estate of Auchinwin.

[This Alexander married Margaret Sydserf, daughter of — Sydserf, first Bishop of Galloway, afterwards translated to the See of Edinburgh; by this marriage he had two sons—Alexander, and James, who became a clergyman in England. Alexander married Catherine, daughter to Sir William Weir of Stonebyres, by whom he had three sons—1. John, married Margaret, daughter of David Crawford of Kerse, but died without male issue, leaving a daughter only; 2. William, married Agnes, eldest daughter and co-heiress of John Kennedy of Auchinblain, a grandson of — Kennedy of

Knockdon ; and 3. Alexander, died at the unfortunate settlement of Darien. We are further informed by Nisbet that John, the eldest son, and Alexander his father, sold the lands of Kilkerran to Sir John, the first Baronet, in the year 1700 ; he also adds that he saw a separate writ signed by Alexander the father, and the sons John and William, by which they cheerfully renounce all interest and title they in any manner of way pretend to the above lands, and wish a happy enjoyment thereof to the said Sir John and his. ‘ Yet still the primogeniture and right of blood, as heir-male, is in the person of William Ferguson of Auchinblain.’]

Simeon Fergusson, who acquired the lands of Auchinwin and other parts of the estate of Kilkerran by adjudication led at his instance against his brother Alexander, married Jean Craufurd, daughter of — Craufurd of Balsarroch, by whom he had a son,

John, afterwards Sir John Fergusson, Bart., who, having applied to the bar at which he was eminently successful, did, with the concurrence of Alexander Fergusson, son to his uncle Alexander, and of John Fergusson, son to the said Alexander, advance the money necessary for clearing off the adjudication of the lands held by Lord Bargany. And Alexander, with his sons John and William, having by a formal declaration in his favour renounced all right, title, and interest which they could pretend to the estate, or to the reversion thereof, Sir John assumed the title of Fergusson of Kilkerran, of which family, upon the extinction of the male issue of Alexander Fergusson and his sons, his descendants became of course the lineal representatives.

In the year 1703, Sir John Fergusson was created a Baronet by patent from Her Majesty Queen Anne to him and the heirs-male of his body. In the year 1680 he married Jean Whitefoord, daughter of James Whitefoord of Dinduff, by — Blair, daughter of Sir Adam Blair of Blair, and sister to Sir Adam Whitefoord of Blairquhan, Bart.

In the year 1729 Sir John died, leaving two sons—Sir James, who succeeded him ; and Adam, a major in the army, died in 1770 ; and one daughter—Jean, married to Alexander M'Dowall of Garthland.

Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart., who succeeded his father, Sir John, was an eminent lawyer, and in 1749 became a Judge both of the Court of Session and Court of Justiciary.

[His title was 'Lord Kilkerran,' and his patriotic exertions were not confined to the judicial department alone, as he paid great attention to the agricultural improvement of his native country. His attention to planting acted powerfully as a stimulus to his neighbours, and the plantations on the Kilkerran estate by himself and his son, Sir Adam, amount to upwards of four hundred acres.]

He married Lady Jean Maitland, the only child of James, Lord Maitland, eldest son of John, Earl of Lauderdale, by Lady Jean Sutherland, eldest daughter of John, Earl of Sutherland. Of this marriage there were nine sons—1. John, 2. James, 3. Adam, 4. William, 5. a second James, 6. Archibald, 7. Charles, 8. George, and 9. a third James; and five daughters—1. Jane, 2. Margaret, 3. Helen, 4. Elizabeth, 5. a second Helen—in all fourteen. Of the sons only five attained the age of manhood—viz. John, who had entered into the army, but died in the twenty-second year of his age unmarried;

[He was Cornet in Sir John Mordaunt's Dragoons, and was a youth of great hopes. In a character given of him at the time he is described to have been blessed with a happy genius and good education, and to have acquired a stock of knowledge uncommon for his years; his benevolent disposition, and the sweetest natural temper, joined to a life of strict virtue, left the happiest impressions of his character, and he died much lamented.]

Adam, who succeeded to his father; Charles, a merchant in London, who in 1764 married Miss Fordyce of New Broad Street; George, who applied to the bar, and is now a Lord of Session and Justiciary; and James, who died in the island of Tobago in 1778, having settled upon an estate purchased for him in that island. Of the daughters, two died young; Jean and Margaret died unmarried; and the youngest, Helen, was married to Sir David Dalrymple of Hailes, Bart., Secretary of the College of Justice, and Lord of Justiciary. Sir James

Fergusson sat in Parliament for Sutherlandshire from 1734, and died the 20th January 1759, aged seventy-one. He was succeeded by his third son, Adam, above mentioned, now Sir Adam Fergusson.

Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart., LL.D., was for two-and-twenty years a Member of Parliament—viz. from 1774 to 1796—having for eighteen of these years represented the County of Ayr in three Parliaments, and for four years sat for the County of Edinburgh.

[On an impartial retrospect of his parliamentary life we feel disposed to confess that there never was a Member of the Lower House who displayed a spirit of patriotism less influenced by party. . . . Since this period he has lived in dignified retirement, but still continuing his exertions as a private country gentleman.]

Upon the death of John, Earl of Glencairn, in 1796, Sir Adam Fergusson entered a claim to the House of Lords for the titles of Earl of Glencairn and Lord Kilmaurs, as lineally descended from, and heir-general to Alexander, created Earl of Glencairn in 1488, and to Alexander, Earl of Glencairn, who died in 1670, whose eldest daughter, Lady Margaret Cuninghame, was the wife of John, Earl of Lauderdale, and mother of James, Lord Maitland, Sir Adam's grandfather.

It does not belong to a work of this kind to enter into points of law. The judgment of the Lords was: 'That Sir Adam Fergusson has shown himself to be heir-general of Alexander, Earl of Glencairn, who died in 1670, but had not made out the right of such heir to the dignity of Earl of Glencairn.'

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The following account of the Kilkerran family in Paterson's *History of Ayrshire Families*,<sup>1</sup> affords some additional particulars to those given in Lord Hermand's narrative:—

'The Fergussons of Kilkerran are an old family in Carrick. The first of them mentioned is—

'I. Fergus, son of Fergus, who obtained a charter of certain lands in Ayrshire from Robert I.

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i. p. 390, heading—'Parish of Dailly.'



‘II. John Fergusson of Kilkerran resigns a part of his estate in 1466 to

‘III. Fergus Fergusson, his son, and Janet Kennedy, his spouse.

‘IV. Duncan Fergusson of Kilkerran. During the lifetime of his father he had the “place of Barnefute.”

‘V. Barnard Fergusson of Kilkerran. In 1564 he, along with his brothers Thomas and David, and fifty-one others, were delatit for invading the Laird of Camlarg in a fenced Court of the Sheriff of Ayr. He married Jonet Ritchie, by whom he had a son,<sup>1</sup>

‘VI. Symon Fergusson of Kilkerran, who seems to have succeeded to the property before the death of his father, whom he also predeceased. He is mentioned as having appeared before arbiters in a case between him and Duncan Crawford, son and heir of the late John Crawford of Camlarg, in 1588. He married Cristiane Forester, and had issue John, his successor, and another child. He died in 1591. (By his will,—quoted,—he nominated Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, Ninian Adair of Kilhilt, and Gilbert Fergusson of Dulduff, tutors to his son, and left “in legacie to ye said Cristiane, his spous, his hors and his naig.”) He was succeeded by his son,

‘VII. Mr. Johnne Fergusson<sup>2</sup> of Kilkerrane, so styled in the testament of John Davidsoun of Pennyglen, near Maybole, in 1614. He is mentioned in the same way in similar documents in 1616, 1618, and 1621. He was succeeded by his son,

‘VIII. Sir John Fergusson of Kilkerran, who heartily espoused the cause of Charles I. in the Civil Wars. His name, as well as that of his son, is mentioned in the list of disaffected in Ayrshire who gave countenance to Montrose in 1645. For so doing he was summoned before the Presbytery of Ayr, and had either to express contrition for the offence or submit to excommunication. He admitted “that he was in Kilmarnock with Alaster” (*i.e.* Alexander Macdonald), that he had been with Montrose at Loudoun hill, but “was never myndit to follow Montrose his cause,” and submitted himself to censure. Such was the power of the Church. His submission, however, did not prevent him from continuing to aid the royal cause. He contracted large debts to raise men for the service of the King, and had his estates sequestered by Cromwell. He retired abroad during the Commonwealth; and, returning home at

<sup>1</sup> But see extract from *Com. Records, infra.*

<sup>2</sup> This John Fergusson does not appear in Lord Hermand’s account.

the Restoration, died soon afterwards. "Honourable mention," says Nisbet, "is made of him in the Bishop of Sarum's *Memoirs of the Dukes of Hamilton* as one who had firmly adhered in his duty to the king, and who had received several marks of his Majesty's favour." Sir John married Helen Kennedy, daughter of Sir Thomas Kennedy of Culzean, and by her had four sons—Alexander and James and John, both Captains in the King's service during the Civil Wars, and Simon of Auchinwin. He was succeeded by

'IX. Alexander Fergusson of Kilkerran, who was retoured as heir of his father, John Fergusson of Kilkerran, *Militis*, in 1650, then alive. He married Margaret Sydserf, daughter of the first Bishop of Galloway, who was afterwards Bishop of Edinburgh. He had two sons—Alexander, who succeeded, and James, a clergyman in England. (He, it has been suggested,<sup>1</sup> may have been ancestor of Ferguson of Londonderry, Bart.)

'X. Alexander Fergusson of Kilkerran, his son and successor, married Katherine, daughter of Sir William Weir of Stanebyres, and had three sons:—

- '1. John, of Barclanachan (and Underwood), who married Margaret, daughter of David Craufurd of Kerse, but died without male issue. He left a daughter by a second marriage (with Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Wm. Boswell of Knockroon).<sup>2</sup> He had two sons, Adam and William, born respectively in 1693 and 1696, who seem to have died young.
- '2. William, married Agnes, eldest daughter and heir-portioner of John Kennedy of Auchinblain, a grandson of Kennedy of Knockdon.
- '3. Captain Alexander, died at Darien.

'In 1700 Alexander, and John his son, sold the estate of Kilkerran to

'XI. Sir John Fergusson, son of Simon of Auchinwin, who, having studied for the Scottish bar, became an advocate of much reputation, and amassed considerable wealth. He advanced money to clear off the debt on the property, and in this way acquired the estate from the elder branches of the family. "Alexander, the father," says Nisbet, "and John and William, the sons, sign a

<sup>1</sup> Mr. R. R. Stodart's MS. Pedigree, Lyon Office.

<sup>2</sup> Lyon Office MS. [This daughter, Margaret Ferguson, b. 1690; m. John, second son of David Boswell of Craigston, co. Ayr.]

separate writ which was in my hands, by which they cheerfully renounce all interest and title they in any manner of way pretend to the above lands, and wishes a happy enjoyment thereof to the said Sir John and his." He was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia in 1703. He was agent for the town of Ayr in 1704. Sir John married Jean, daughter of James Whitefoord of Dinduff, and was succeeded, at his decease in 1729, by his eldest son,

'XII. Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran. Like his father he studied law and pursued it as a profession, with high reputation. He was an advocate in 1717. In 1733 he acted as an arbiter in the dispute between Kennedy of Baltersan and the Town of Ayr respecting the Doon fishings. In 1741 (1735) he was nominated a Judge of the Court of Session, and in 1749, also, a Judge of the Court of Justiciary, under the titular designation of Lord Kilkerran. His lordship married Jean, only child of James, Lord Maitland, and granddaughter of John, Earl of Lauderdale, and his wife, Lady Margaret Cunninghame (eldest daughter of Alexander, 10th Earl of Glencairn), by whom he had nine sons and five daughters. Of the former four attained maturity, viz. :—

- '1. Adam, who succeeded.
  - '2. Charles, who married Anne, daughter of John Fordyce, Esq. of Aiton, and was father of James, who succeeded as 4th Baronet. He was admitted a burges of Ayr in 1757.
  - '3. James, who died upon his estates in the island of Tobago.
  - '4. George, Lord of Session and Justiciary, under the title of Lord Hermand; died 1827.
  - '5. Helen, born in 1741, and died in 1810.
- 'Two other daughters also attained a considerable age.

'XIII. Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran, LL.D., who represented the county of Ayr in Parliament for eighteen years and the city of Edinburgh for four—in all from 1774 to 1796. Burns, in his "Earnest Cry and Prayer," thus compliments Sir Adam :—

"Thee, aith-detesting, chaste Kilkerran."

[He was served heir in 1785 to his uncle, Major Adam Fergusson.] In 1786 he was appointed by Government Substitute-Admiral between Troon Point and Ballantrae. Upon the death of John, Earl of Glencairn, in 1796, Sir Adam Fergusson preferred a claim before the House of Lords to the honours of that noble family as lineal descendant of, and heir-general to Alexander, created Earl of Glencairn in 1488; and to Alexander, Earl of Glencairn, who

died in 1670, through the latter nobleman's eldest daughter (Sir Adam's great-grandmother), Lady Margaret Cuninghame, wife of John, Earl of Lauderdale, and mother of James, Lord Maitland; but the Lords decided "that although Sir Adam Fergusson has shown himself to be heir-general to Alexander, Earl of Glencairn, who died in 1670, he hath not made out the right of such heir to the dignity of Earl of Glencairn." Sir Adam dying 23rd Sept. 1813, aged 81, without issue, the title devolved upon his nephew, Sir James Fergusson.'

The subsequent history of the family of Kilkerran is thus given by Sir Bernard Burke in the *Peerage and Baronetage* (ed. 1894):—

'(XIV). Sir James, b. 20 Oct. 1765; m. 1st Oct. 1799 Jean, 2nd dau. of Sir David Dalrymple, Bart., Lord Hailes, by Helen, his wife, dau. of Sir James Fergusson, Bart., Lord Kilkerran, and by her (who d. 6 May 1803) had 1. Charles Dalrymple; Helen, deceased, and Anne. He m. 2ndly, 5 Dec. 1804, Henrietta, 2nd dau. of Admiral Viscount Duncan, and by her (who died 14 May 1850) had—

'1. Adam Duncan, R.N., b. 8 Aug. 1806; d. Aug. 1843.

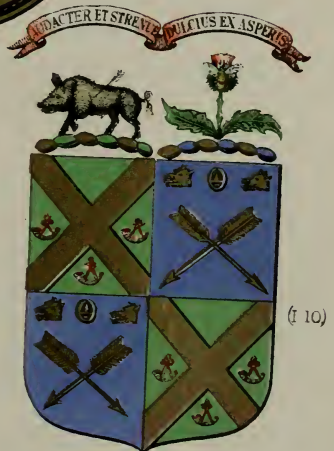
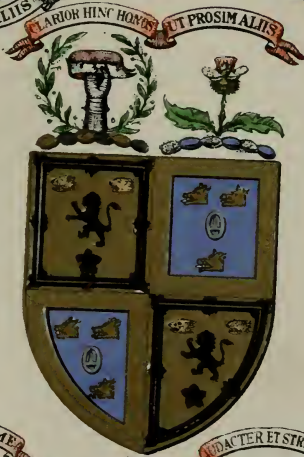
'2. George Hermand, b. 22 Aug. 1810; m. 1839 Jane, dau. of Little-Gilmour, Esq. of Craigmillar, and relict of Major Gordon of Hallhead, which lady died s.p. Dec. 1844. He married 2ndly, 28 July 1857, Georgina Grace, dau. of Archibald Buchanan, Esq. of Auchentorlie, and d. 27 April 1870, leaving issue George, Capt. 3rd Batt. Royal Scots Fusiliers, b. 1862; m. 1886 Grace, dau. of Claud Hamilton, Esq., and has issue; and Mary, m. 1878 James Creagh Scott, of Crevagh, co. Clare.

'3. James Alexander Duncan, b. 30 July 1812; late in the 6th Bengal light cavalry; served with distinction in the Punjab campaign of 1848; a lieut.-col. in the army; m. 15 Nov. 1844 Margaret, dau. of James Hope, Esq., W.S., and d. 8 Nov. 1864, having had a daughter, Alice Jane, m. 1872 to Col. Montagu Browne, late 3rd Dragoon Guards.

'4. Robert Duncan of Cassilis House, Ayrshire; Major, Royal Ayrshire and Wigtown Rifles; b. 16 Sept. 1813; m. 1st, 30 Jan. 1852, Helen, 2nd dau. of John Blackburn, Esq. of Killearn, co. Stirling, and by her (who d. 21 July 1863)



- had 1. Harry James, Major, late Rifle Brigade, formerly Military Secretary and A.D.C. to Gen. Sir J. Ross, commanding the troops in Canada ; b. 18 Dec. 1852. 2. John Blackburn, LL.B., barrister-at-law, b. 3rd Dec. 1855 ; m. 27 July 1880 Effie Mary Ramsay, only daughter of Andrew Blackburn, Esq., and has Robert Duncan, born 21 Aug. 1881 ; and 1. Lucy Jane, m. 1st, 9th Nov. 1877, to Hon. Arthur Hay David Fraser, Capt. Scots Guards, youngest son of Alexander, 17th Baron Saltoun. Capt. Fraser d. 27 Jan. 1884. She m. 2ndly, 25th April 1887, Francis John Stuart Hay Newton, Esq. Major Robert Fergusson m. 2ndly, 25 May 1886, Margaret Eliza, widow of John Hay Newton, Esq. of Newton, and d. 15th February 1878.
- ‘5. Henry Duncan, W.S., Edinburgh, b. 30 Sept. 1816 ; m. 16 June 1846 Anna, dau. of R. Nasmyth, Esq., F.R.C.S.E., and died 22nd Oct. 1866, leaving 1. Robert Henry Duncan, b. 17 Dec. 1849 ; m. 27 Sept. 1877 Mabel Frances, dau. of Robert Balfour Wardlaw-Ramsay, Esq. of Whitehill and Tillicoultry, and has Robert Arthur, b. 1878, and Irene-Hilda ; 2. Henry Cornelius Coventry, b. 20 Aug. 1854 ; Henrietta, d. 16 June 1863 ; and Georgina Frederika, b. 2 Nov. 1852 ; m. 30 Sept. 1879 to Charles N. Orbell, Esq. of the Levels, Timaru.
- ‘6. Hew Dalrymple Hamilton, E. I. Co.’s Civil Service (retired) ; b. 6 Dec. 1817 ; m. 11 Sept. 1838 Louisa, dau. of Gen. C. Godby, C.B., A.D.C. to the Queen, and has 1. James, C.I.E., born 18 Sept. 1840 ; m. 9 Nov. 1887 ; Annie Gillespie, dau. of William Gillespie Mitchell of Carwood, co. Lanark ; 2. Charles Robert Kennett, b. 25 Sept. 1842 ; m. in 1872 Eleanora Dalrymple, daughter of Duncan Davidson, Esq. of Tulloch, by Eleanora his wife, daughter of Sir James Fergusson, 4th baronet, and has Muriel Catherine and Sybil Henrietta.
- ‘7. Robert Dundas Octavius, b. 23 Sept. 1819 ; m. 1841 Amelia, dau. of Capt. Macdonald of Australia, and died having had issue : 1. George Adam Duncan Camperdown, b. 1847 ; m. 16 Jan. 1883 Marianne M’Donald, widow of Alfred Stephens, Esq., Bridport, and dau. of Henry Paul, Esq. of Topsham, co. Devon ; 2. Charles Dalrymple, b. 1849 ; 3. Robert Dundas Arthur Graham, b. 1851 ; m.





1877 Mary Rachel, dau. of Major Francis Whitworth Russell, and has a dau., Alice Mary; 4. Hew Dalrymple, b. 1861. 1. Henrietta Sarah, m. 1868 to Rev. Joseph Richards, M.A., rector of Shelley; 2. Julia, m. 1876 to the late George James Macdonald, Esq.; 3. Jane Roberta, and 4. Edith Jemima.

'8. Frederick William Brown Gustave, late Major, Ayrshire Militia, b. 30 March 1826; m. 17 Oct. 1871 Alice Wilhelmina Mary, 2nd dau. of John Stuart Hay Newton, Esq. of Newton.

'1. Henrietta Duncan, d. in 1845.

'2. Jane Dalrymple-Hamilton, m. in 1848 to Robert Bruce, Esq. of Kennett, co. Clackmannan, who d. 13 Aug. 1864; their only son, Alexander Hugh, is the present Lord Balfour of Burleigh.

'3. Catherine, m. 17 Jan. 1838 to Henry Ritchie, Esq. of Busbie, Craigton, and Cloncaird, who died 6 Nov. 1843.

'4. Eleanora Dalrymple, m. to Duncan Davidson, Esq. of Tulloch, co. Ross, and died in 1845.

'5. Mary Jemima Dundas Adamina, m. in Nov. 1845 to Andrew Buchanan, Esq. of Auchentorlie, who d. 1886.

'Sir James died 14 April 1838, and was succeeded by his son,

'(XV.) Sir Charles Dalrymple, b. 1800, who m. 1829 Helen, daughter of the Right Hon. David Boyle, and by her (who died 26 June 1869) had surviving issue,

'1. James, present baronet.

'2. David Boyle, b. in 1836, d. in 1841.

'3. Charles Dalrymple of New Hailes; created a baronet 1887; M.P. for Bute 1868 to 1885, and for Ipswich since 1886. Junior Lord of the Treasury, 1885-6. B. 15 Oct. 1839; m. 7th April 1874 Alice Mary, dau. of Sir Edward Hunter Blair, 4th baronet of Blairquhan, and by her (who d. 2nd Sept. 1884) had

David Charles Herbert, b. 29 March 1879.

Christian Elizabeth Louisa.

Alice Mary.

'Sir Charles, on succeeding to the estates of Hailes in East Lothian, and New Hailes in Midlothian, assumed the name and arms of Dalrymple.

'4. John Adam, Major, Rifle Brigade; b. May 1846, m. 13th July 1871 Sarah, 2nd dau. of Joseph Gilbert, Esq. of



Pewsey Vale, South Australia, and has Gilbert Charles Dalrymple, b. 1874 ; Catherine Helen ; Anna Mary ; Edith Nora ; Jean ; Olive ; and Margaret Agnes.

- '1. Elizabeth.
- '2. Jane, d. in 1835.
- '3. Helen Anne, d. 12 Oct. 1889.
- '4. Henrietta Duncan, m. 5 Dec. 1852 Right Rev. George Wyndham Kennion, D.D., Bishop of Adelaide.
- '5. Catherine, d. 21 Sept. 1867.
- '6. Mary Dalrymple, m. 28 Dec. 1866 to Walter Severn, Esq.
- '7. Eleanora Charlotte Dalrymple, m. 31 Aug. 1871 to the Rev. David Robertson, M.A., rector of Hartlebury, youngest son of the Hon. Lord Benholme. Sir Charles d. 18 March 1849, and was succeeded by

'(XVI). The Right Honble. Sir James Fergusson, Bart., P.C., G.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., C.I.E., of Kilkerran, M.P. for Ayrshire 1854-1857, and 1859-1868, now M.P. for N.E. Manchester ; Under Secretary of State for India, 1866 to 1867, and for the Home Department, 1867 ; Governor of South Australia, 1868 to 1872 ; Governor of New Zealand, 1872-1874 ; Governor of Bombay, 1880 to 1885 ; Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, 1886 to 1891 ; and Postmaster-General, 1891-92 ; m. 1st, 9 Aug. 1859, Lady Edith Christina, 2nd dau. and co-heir of the 1st Marquis of Dalhousie, and by her (who died 28 Oct. 1871) has issue,

- '1. Charles, Lieut. and Adj. Grenadier Guards, b. 17th Jan. 1865.
- '2. James Andrew, Lieut. R.N., b. 16 April 1871.
- '1. Susan Georgiana, m. 10 Nov. 1880 to John George Baird, Esq., M.P., late 16th Lancers, of Adamton and Muirkirk.
- '2. Edith Helen (C.I.).

'He married 2ndly, 11 March 1873, Olive, C.I., youngest daughter of John Henry Richman, Esq. of Warnbunga, South Australia, and by her (who died 8 Jan. 1882) had issue,

- '3. John, b. 12th Oct. 1874, and died the same day.
- '4. Alan Walter John, b. 16 Aug. 1878.

'He married 3rdly, 5 April 1893 Isabella Elizabeth, widow of Charles Hugh Hoare, Esq. of Morden, Surrey, and dau. of the late Rev. Thomas Twysdon, formerly rector of Charlton, Devon.

'Sir James, who served with the Grenadier Guards in the Crimea, was wounded at Inkerman. He was some time Hon. Colonel, 4th battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers.'

EXTRACTS FROM PUBLIC RECORDS, ETC. RELATING TO THE  
KILKERRAN FAMILY.

21 Ap. 1466. Rex concessit Fergusio Fergusoun et Jonetae Kennedy ejus sponsae terras de Auchinsoulde ac duas mercatas terrarum prope castrum de Keris et duas mercatas prope Loch Spaladar in comitatu de Carric v. Are:—quas Joh. Fergusoun de Kilkerane resignavit, etc.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i.* 872.)

19th Feb. 1483. Decree that effric M'dowell shall pay to Fergus fergusoun, as heir to umquhill his fadr John Ferguson, the goods of heirschip, or the avail of them, as he may prove before the sheriff: that is to say, 12 silver spoons, a pot of a gallon, a Ring of gold, a croce of gold, a gray horse.—(*Acta Auditorum.*)



KILKERRAN HOUSE—SIDE VIEW.

10th Oct. 1483. Step of process in action by Thomas Campbell of Skeldoun, against Fergus Fergusson, son and heir to umquhill John Ferguson of Kilkerran.—(*Acta Auditorum.*)

1483. Sa. Fergusii Fergusone to Lybrik (Wigtoun).—(*Exch. Rolls, ix.*)

13th Aug. 1488. Fergus Fergusone of Kilkerran appears as witness to a pursuivant's execution.—(*Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, i.* p. 10.)

1488. Sasine of the lands of Conray and Machirmore to Fergus Ferguson (Ayrshire).—(*Exch. Rolls*, x.)

10th March 1490. The Lords of Council assign to Fergus Fergusoun of Kilkerran the 15th day of June next to come, with continuation of days, to prove that John Makke of M'toun, wrongously took up, introritted, and withheld 20 bolls of victual in man<sup>r</sup> of tribute of the lands of lybrik, and to prove the taking of the 40 kye and oxen from the said Fergus, out of his lands of Auchinschoule, and the avail of them.—(*Acta Dominorum Concilii*.)

28th Feb. 1492. Decree that Quitene Mure of the Ard shall pay to Fergus Fergusone of Kilkerran 40 marks, of the rest of a mare sum owed by the said Quitene for contract of marriage of times by past, as was proved by his obligation under his seal and subscription manual.—(*Act. Dom. Con.*)

26th Jan. 1498. Joh. Fergusoun, filio Fergusii Fergusoun de Kilkerran, is a witness to a charter by Andree Adunnil de Dalquhowane.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*)

1508. John Schaw of Kerise was admitted to compound for forethought felony done to Duncan Fergusoun, young Laird of Kilkerran, in coming to his Place of Burnefute and throwing down and breaking into the houses of the said Place, and for keeping the lands of Burnefute waste for the space of one year.—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, i. p. 58.)

1512. Sa. Duncano Fergusoun to Librek (Wigtoun).

„ Sa. Duncano Fergusoun to Conray, Machirmor, Auchinseoill, Balmerloch, Findach, Burnefute, Lochland.—(*Exch. Rolls*, vol. xiii.)

28 Oct. 1541. Grant to Duncan Crawford of a charge on the lands of Librek *vic.* Wigtoun, which belonged to Duncan Fergusoun of Kilkerane, with power to said D. F. and his heirs to redeem within 7 years.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* i. 2494.)

3 Ap. 1542. Grant to Duncan Crawford and Isobella Fergusoun, his spouse, of several lands—*i.e.* Conray, Auchinsowill, Machirmore, Balmerloch, Findauch, Burnefute, and Lochland, which had been in the hands of the superior for 29 years from the decease of Fergus F. of Kilkerran, with power to Duncan F. of K. to redeem within 7 years.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* i. 2634.)

28 Jan. 1544. Duncan Fergusoun of Kilkerane, Wil. Fergusoun,

son of said Duncan, and Tho. Fergusoun in Auchinsowle, are members of an Assize.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i. 3025.*)

2 Nov. 1544. Duncan F. of K. is a witness to a charter of Queen Mary.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i. 3025.*)

15 Nov. 1544. Charter to Duncan Crauford of Camlair of the '24 solidatas 10 den. terrarum antiqui extentus de Libreik . . . in parochia de Kirkyunner vic. Wigtoun, quæ fuerunt Duncani Fergusoun de Kilkerane,' with power to D. F. to redeem within 7 years.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. i. 3032.*)

28th June 1554. Tho. Fergusoun of Kilkerane, Hector Fergusoun in Dalduff, and Gilb. Fergusoun in Balcamy are on an Assize.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. iii. 943.*)

Dec. 12, 1564. Barnard Fergusoun of Kilkeran, Thomas and David, his brothers, and fifty-one others, including among other 'pannels of note,' Thomas Fergusone in the Traif, Hector F., spouse to Agnes Crawford; Niniane F., his son; William F. of Auchinsoull, Duncane F. of Glenbowar, were accused of an invasion of the Laird of Camlarg, etc., in a fenced Court of the Sheriff of Ayr. Thomas F. and William of Auchinsoull were discharged *simpliciter*; the Earl of Cassilis, as Baillie of the Regality of Crossrawgall, unsuccessfully sought to replegate Thomas in the Traif: Hector, Thomas, and Barnard Fergusoun were 'Fylit of arte and parte of the Convocatioune.' Continued as to the rest. Camlarg and his party were also 'Fylit for the same crime.'—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, i. p. 457.*)

Jan. 17, 1580. Simon Fergusoun *hæres* Elizabethæ Adair *sponsæ* Bernardi Fergusoun de Kilkerrane *matris*.—(*Retours, General, 8327.*)

1590. 'Kilkerane' in roll of 'Landit men.'—(*Privy Council Reg. iv. p. 787.*)

10th April 1590. Caution in £1000 by John Kennedy of Carlok, as principal, and Symon Fergusoun of Culkerrane, younger, as surety for him, that S. and W. Johnstounis shall be harmless of the said principal.

Caution to the same purpose in £500 by S. F., yr. of K., for Q. Boyd of Auchrocher.—(*Privy Council Reg. iv. p. 475.*)

Feb. 21, 1600. Bernard Ferguison of Kilcairren, charged with abiding from the Earl of Angus's Raid at Dumfries, was discharged



by the Treasurer in respect of his age, with consent.—(Pitcairn's *Crim. Trials*, ii. p. 106.)

13 Jul. 1615. Confirmation of a charter, 'M. Joannis Fergusone de Kilkerrane,' in which, in implement of a contract between them, with consent of Cristine Forrester, his mother, and Gilbert Ros (?), 'prepositi ecclesie collegiate de Mayboll,' her husband, and of Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff on the one part, and Duncan Crawford, formerly of Auchinsoull, then of Nather Skeldoun, and John Crawford, his son, on the other, he let in feu farm to John Crawford and his heirs the lands of Machremoir, Balmerloch, and Fontanoch, with the mill of Bermerloch, Burnefute, and Lochspallender.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 1288.)

On 19th July 1621, the Prince granted to M. John Fergusson of Kilkerrane and Helene Kennedie, his spouse, 10 solidatas terrarum de Daltomie, 2 mercat. de Dalcoppok, 10 sol. de Auchlewane, 20 solid. de Auchaltitie et Aultakeyth, 4 mercat. de lie Maynes de Kilkquhenzie cum turre,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mercat. de Dalcour cum molendino, terris molendinariis, etc., 20 solid. de Auchinayn, 20 solid. de Tornbrok antiqui extentus in parochia de Mayboill, comitatu de Carrik, vic. Ayr.' And also, to M. John Fergusson of Kilkerrane 40 solidatas terrarum, de lie Mekill et Littill Broklochis, 3 librat. de Over Auchinsowll cum piscationibus, moris, etc. in comitatu de Carrik, etc.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, 1620-1633, 730 and 731.)

On 31st July 1629, John Fergusson of Kilkerran is mentioned as a consenting party to a resignation of the lands of Littill Schallochmuck in Girvan.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, 1620-1633, 1478.)

April 11, 1650. Alexander Fergusson de Kilkerrane *heres Domini Joannes Fergusson de Kilkerrane militis patris*, in terris de Knockrocher, Ferding Machrinkill, Chappelland, Clenreoch, Kennediestoun, Cladoich, Cubbiestoun-Holme, Balbeg et Park, nuncupatis 4 mercatis terrarum juxta locum de Kilkerrane antiqui extentus in comitatu de Carrik: reliquis terris de Kilkerrane extendentibus ad 11 mercatas terrarum continentibus terras subscriptas, viz. Balcemie, Dobbinstoun, Meldinch, Carniston *alias* Dalfarsand, Pinblawat Restoun, Glengie, Murastoun, Daltangan, Pelzeoche nuncupatas in integro 10 libratas terrarum antiqui extentus de Kilkerrane. A.E. £10, N.E. £40. Terris de Dalmortoun comprehendentibus  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mercatas terrarum de Schaven;  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mercatas terrarum de Glenachie; 3 mercatas terrarum de Meikle Schalloch; 3 mercatas terrarum de Trostan et Knoclay; 32 solidatas terrarum

de Clongill; mercatam terrarum de Knokonner; 2 mercatas terrarum de Knockska; 2 mercatas terrarum de Risk; 32 solidatas terrarum de Dalmortoun; 16 solidatas terrarum de Balbeg; 16 solidatas terrarum de Lentow in parochin de Straitoun; 5 mercatas terrarum de Laynferne in balliatu de Carrik; A. E. £20, N. E. £80, 10 solidatis terrarum de Daltowne; 2 mercatis terrarum de Dalcoppock; 10 solidatis terrarum de Auchlewane; 20 solidatis terrarum de Auchaltatie et Ault-a-keth: 4 mercatis terrarum de Maynes de Kilehinze; dimidia mercata terræ de Dalcur; 20 solidatis terrarum de Auchinvyne; 20 solidatis terrarum de Thornebrock antiqui extentus in parochia de Mayboll et comitatu Carrick; A. E. 12½ m., N. E. 50 m., 3 libratis terrarum de Nether Auchinsoull; terris de Machremore et Barmerloche (vel Balmerloche) cum molendino de Barmerloch; 2 mercatis terrarum de Lochspallender et 2 mercatis terrarum de Burnefute antiqui extentus in dicto comitatu de Carrick; A. E. £10, N. E. £40, 5 mercatis terrarum de Crochbae, comprehendentibus Drumbae, Knockmule, Barncruik, Chappeltoun, et Litle Auchingairne: A. E. 5 m. N. E. 20 m.: Terris de Capenoch; 2 mercatis terrarum de Knockbreck; mercata terræ de Craigfin, infra dictum balliatum de Carrik A. E. 3½, N. E. 14 m.—(*Retours, Ayrshire, 446.*)

Note from Deuchar's MS. Collections:—

1585. 11 May.

Isabel (?) Adair + 1568.	=	Bernard Ferguson	=	Agnes Shaw + 1576.
Symon.		W <sup>m</sup> .		James.
		(Ed. Com. Test. Records.)		

#### FERGUSSON OF DALDUFF.

(*Parish of Maybole.*)

‘The Fergussons of Dalduff—“a small stone house, with ane orchard and good corne fields about it,” situated about three miles from the mouth of the Girvan, on the south side of that stream—were a direct branch of the Fergussons of Kilkerran, from whom they appear to have originally rented the lands of Dalduff. The first of the family, we presume, was,

'I. Hector Ferguson in Dalduff, who had a Crown charter of the lands of Riddilston, 10th February 1557. He was succeeded by his son,

'II. Gilbert Ferguson, "filio Hectori Ferguson in Dalduff," had a Crown charter of the lands of Blair and Knokgillo 20th September 1585. His father was alive at this period. He must have died, however, before 1591, in which year Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff was appointed, in the testament of Symone Fergusson of Kilkerrane, one of the tutors to his children. He had not only succeeded his father at this time, but become proprietor of Dalduff. He had a Crown charter of the lands of Dalquhane, Corsehill, etc., dated 29th June 1610. He had another charter of the lands of Knokbray and Craigfin, the *penult* of April 1613. Gilbert was alive in 1614, in which year he is mentioned in the testament of "Johnne Daidisoun" of Pennyglen. He does not appear to have been much mixed up with the feuds which prevailed so violently in Carrick during his time. His name only once occurs in the *Historic of the Kennedyis*, where he is described as being in the company of Hew Kennedy of Garriehorne, "quha was ane striker off the Laird of Bargany," when met by the Laird of Auchindraine and his son at the townhead of Ayr, where a short conflict ensued.

'III. John Fergusson of Dalduff was served heir of his father, Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff, October 31, 1615. . . . (See service, p. 357, for description of property.) The property seems to have been soon afterwards disposed of to the Cassilis family, as it occurs in the service of John, Earl of Cassilis, in 1622; and the "stone house" of Dalduff has long been levelled, or nearly so, with the cornfields by which it was wont to be surrounded.'—(Paterson's *History of Ayrshire Families*, ii. p. 369.)

10th Feb. 1557-8. Grant to Hector Fergusson in Dalduff of the lands of Reddellistoun under redemption.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iii. 1252.)

20th Sept. 1585. Confirmation of charter by which G. Kennedy of Balmaclennochane sold 'Gilberto Fergusson, filio Hectoris Fergusson in Dalduff,' '40 solidat. terrarum de Blair et

Kirkingilloch (Knockingilloch) . . . infra terras de Balmaclennochane com. de Carrick vic. Ayr.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iv. 887.)

15th June 1600. Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff cautioner for Johne, Earl of Cassilis, to keep Ninian Adair of Kinhilt skaithless of his cautionry.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. 652.)

1st Sept. 1601. Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff again cautioner for John, Earl of Cassilis.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. 693.)

25th Oct. 1602. Gilbert Ros, Provost of Maybole, for Gilbert Fergusoun of Dalduff, George Fergusoun of Thraif, in 300 merks, not to intercommune with William, brother of Adam Boyd of Pinkhill, now at the horn.

27th April 1604. Caution for and by Gilbert Fergusoun of Dalduff.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. p. 549.)

8th Sept. 1608. Caution for Gilbert Fergusoun of Dalduff not to reset Al. Kennedy.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 671.)

Caution by Gilbert Fergusoun of Dalduff for John, Earl of Cassilis, not to harm Thomas Hay of Park.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 678.)

29th June 1610. Charter to Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff of the lands of Dalquhane (or Dalquheane), Corshill, and Drumhill (or Drumquhill), cum Manerie, in the parish of Kirkmichael, county and bailiary of Carrick . . . and Crochba, Drumba, Capanoch, Knockmoill, and Lyttill Auchingrane (or Auchingarne), in the parish of Maybole (formerly held by Kennedy of Crochba, and incorporated in *liberam tenandriam de Crochba*).—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 816.)

29th April 1613. Charter to Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff of the lands of Knockbrax and Craigfyn in the bailiary of Carrick.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 813.)

20th January, 1614 and 28th August 1616. Commission of the Peace to Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff.—(*P. C. Reg.* x., pp. 204 and 619.)

31st Oct. 1615. Joannes Fergusson de Dalduff *hæres* Gilberti Fergussonne de Dalduff patris, in 2 mercatis terrarum de Knockbrax; mercata terræ de Craigfyn; 5 mercatis terrarum de Dalquhouand, Corshill, Drumquhill; 5 mercatis terrarum de Crochba, Drumba, Calpanoche, Knockmoill, et Littil Auchingarine antiqui extentus in comitatu de Carrick; A. E., £8, 13s. 4d.; N. E., £34, 13s. 4d. Mercata terræ de Dalduff antiqui extentus in parochia



de Mayboill et comitatu praescripto: E., £3. Dimidia mercatis terrarum de Dalair in comitatu praedicto, E. 30s.—(*Retours, Ayrshire*, 132.)

4 July 1616. John Ferguson of Dalduff on an assize.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. vi.* 1482.)

29 Aug. 1616. Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff is mentioned as donatar of the liferent escheat of D. Jo. Kennedy of Banelluines, Knight.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. vi.* 1519.)

6th March and 18th June 1618. John Fergusson, then of Dalduff, son and heir of the late Gilbert Fergusson of Dalduff, and Gilbert Ros of Millanderdaill, are mentioned as persons to whom certain lands in Wigtown were granted in 1614 and 1615, and John Fergusson as having sold his part to Gilbert Ros, and Cristine Forester, his spouse. A charter is granted to Gilbert Ross of Millanderdaill and Cristine Forester, his spouse.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. vi.* 1788, 1789, and 1847.)

20th May 1619. John Fergusson of Dalduff appears as witness to a deed.—(*P. C. Reg. xi.* p. 578.)

On 10th September 1523 there was granted to Quinten Shaw, merchant in Stratoun, '40 solidat. terrarum de Knokbrek, 5 mercatas de Dalhowan, 2 mercat. de Drumbae in balliatu de Carrick, quae fuerunt Joannis Fergusone de Dalduff,' and had been appraised.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, 1620-1633.)

Dec. 1, 1625. Hugo Fergusone, *haeres* Archibaldi Fergusone, *fratris germani*, and *haeres* Hectoris Fergusone, *fili legitimi* Gilberti Fergusone de Dalduff, *fratris germani*.—(*Retours, General*, 1239 and 1240.)

Dec. 6, 1653. James Fergusone, heir of Gilbert Fergusone of Dalduffe, his father.—(*Retours, General*, 3865.)

Dec. 8, 1563. James Fergusone, heir of Johne Fergusone, his brother.—(*Retours, General*, 3868.)

#### FERGUSSON OF AUCHINSOUL.

##### *Parish of Barr.*

William Fergusson of Auchinsoul was engaged with his chief, Barnard Fergusson of Kilkerran, in the attack on the Laird of Camlarg in the fenced Court of the Sheriff of Ayr

in 1564. In 1689 Fergusson of Auchinsoul was excommunicated by the Church for contumaciousness, having paid no attention to the various sentences of the Presbytery for several years previously. Upon this he fled to Drummore, Ireland, with the object of his illicit affection, Janet Martin; but he felt glad in 1711—such was the influence of the Church—to make ‘due repentance’ and be relieved from his sentence. William Fergusson of Auchinsoul was a Commissioner of Supply in 1758. In 1781 Lieutenant James Fergusson of Auchinsoul was admitted a burgess of Ayr. His successor, Fergusson of Littleton, sold the property to John M’Kie (before 1797).—(Paterson’s *History of Ayrshire Families*, p. 258.)

27th March 1593. Grant to Jonete Crawford, relict of Hector Fergusson in Auchinsoul, in life rent, and William Fergusson, her son, of ‘20 solidat., 40 solidatarum terrarum antiqui extentus de Kirkbrek (Knokbrek) ex parti occidentali earundem (per dictum Jon. et prius per dictum Hect. occupatas) in p. de Calmonell, com. de Carrik’—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iv. 2263.)

In a charter of 21st Dec. 1620, the lands of Knokbrek are mentioned as occupied by William Fergusson in Auchinsoul.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, 1620-1633, 720.)

#### FERGUSSON OF THREAVE.

##### *Parish of Kirkoswald.*

24th Feb. 1580-81. Confirmation of charter by the Commendator of Crossraguel by which ‘ad feudi-firmam dimisit Thome Fergusson in Thraiff et Jonet Greir ejus sponse . . . 6 mercat. terrarum de Thraiff,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mercat de Dallikilling (per dictum Thom. et ejus subtenentes occup.) cum manerie hortis pomariis, silvis, antiqui extentus in parochia de Kirkoswald com. de Carrik, reg. de Corsraguall vic. Ayr.’—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iv. 121.)

[The estate of Threave belonged in 1847 to Mr. Torrance.]

February 1602. George Fergusson of Thraif was among those absolved, along with John, Earl of Cassilis, ‘for convocation of his hienes’ liegis, and beiring and weiring of hacque-buttis and pistol-ettis, breking of his hienes’ peace.’—(*P. C. Reg.* v. 347, etc.; Pitcairn’s *Crim. Trials*, iii. p. 172.)

22nd Feb. 1610. Complaint by David F., brother of George F. of Thrave, that George Corrie of Kilwood and others came to the place of Thrave at four A.M., broke up the doors, entered David's chamber, and would have slain him, 'but for his own better defence and the help of others.'—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. pp. 422 and 819.)

1st March 1610. Complaint by George Corrie, etc., as not lawfully charged.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 432.)

23rd Feb. 1610. Caution for Corrie, etc., by James Kennedy of Culzeane.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 720.)

18th June 1612. David Fergusson in Thraif witness to charter of J. Kennedy of Blairquhan at Maybole and Ayr, Jan. 1612.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 670.)

29th July 1613. Complaint against David, brother of George F. of Thraif and others, for attacking Alexander Kennedy of Crago and others in Mayboill.—(*P. C. Reg.* x. p. 117.)

10th Sept. 1617. Complaint by the King's Advocate, and Alexander Barclay in Maybole. 'Mr. Johne Fergusoun of Kilcarrane and Cristeane Forester his mother, have conceived a deadly hatred against pursuer, and the former has made "divers unsetis" upon him. On Sunday — August last, while pursuer was "returning hame" from Stratoun to his parish kirk at Mayboill upon a little "sommer naig," David Fergusson, brother of George F. of Thraif, *alias* "Davie the Devill," with armed accomplices sent out by the two defenders, came spurring after him, and rode alongside him for three miles, and at the parting of the highways at Kirkmichael, assaulted and wounded him,' and almost every day since the said Mr. John and David F. have openly carried hagbuts and pistollets.—(*P. C. Reg.* xi. p. 234.)

Counter-charge by the Lord Advocate and David F., that Barclay and another came out from a hiding-place with pistollets, as Fergusson was going to the kirk of Kirkmichael, presented a 'bend pistollet' at him, and fired through his hat 'hard be his head.'—(*P. C. Reg.* xi. p. 235.)

Dec. 15th 1657. Thomas Fergusone of Thrave, heir of George Fergusone of Thrave, his father, in the 6 markeland of Thrave: E. £6 and 6s. in augmentation:—The half-markland of Dalielung, within the parochine of Kirkoswall, earldome of Carrike, and

regalitie of Corseraiguell, E. 15s. and 8d. in augmentation.—(*Retours, Ayrshire*, 496.)

Aug. 22 1668. Georgius Ferguson *haeres masculus*, Thomae Fergusone de Thraiff *fratris germani*, in the same lands.—(*Retours, Ayrshire*, 557.)

#### FERGUSSENS OF LITTLETON (AUCHINSOUL, THREAVE, ETC.)

*Note communicated by the Rev. William Fergusson, M.A., for upwards of forty years minister of the Free Church at Ellon, Aberdeenshire, and now residing at Shannaburn, Maryculter, Kincardineshire.*

Although born in Aberdeenshire, in the parish of Peterculter, Mr. Fergusson is descended from an old Fergusson family in Ayrshire—now, he believes, only represented by the family of his father, Lieutenant James Hamilton Fergusson, of the 57th Regiment of Foot, son of James Fergusson of Littleton, in the parish of Kirkoswald, Ayrshire, whose father, William Fergusson, left him in addition to Littleton, the following properties: Auchensoul,<sup>1</sup> the two Threaves,<sup>2</sup> Slowbracken, and Basalloch, after having disposed of the lands of Crossraguel, near Maybole, which he inherited from his father, Francis Fergusson. The said William Fergusson studied theology, became a licentiate of the Church of Scotland, but never undertook a settled charge. He is said to have been a man of remarkable personal piety; held regularly family worship three times every day—morning, noon, and night. There was a current legend as to the hearing of strange music at the window of the room, when and where he was passing away full of peace and happiness. His son, the said James Fergusson of Littleton, resided there till he sold it and the other above-named properties possessed by him when he removed to Maybole, where he died and was interred in the old burying-ground there, which his grandson, Rev. William Fergusson, Ellon, having occasion in 1858 to be in Ayrshire in prosecution of a call to the Rev. Samuel Kennedy, Stewarton, from the Free Church congregation of Cruden, visited, and

<sup>1</sup> See p. 358.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 359.



copied from the tombstone, then in an excellent state of preservation, the following inscription:—‘To the memory of James Fergusson, Esq., late of Littleton, who died at Maybole 22nd April 1824, aged 70 years.’ He also visited Littleton, and had confirmed to him all the information furnished by his father, the above-named Lieutenant J. H. Fergusson, who was born there in February 1795, and died at Parkhill Cottage, Peterculter, in February 1876. He received the middle name Hamilton from his mother’s family, being connected with Professor Hamilton, of some celebrity in the Edinburgh University. He was a younger son. His eldest brother William, being in delicate health, emigrated to a warmer climate, and died abroad unmarried. The said William agreed to his father disposing of one estate after another in order to pay off all the liabilities which he had incurred through becoming security for a son-in-law and others. Lieutenant Fergusson heard for the first time of the sale of the family properties by being asked, at a public dinner in Aberdeen, ‘why his father had sold a certain beautiful estate?’ An unmarried sister who lived in Ayr, having predeceased him, the said Lieutenant Fergusson considered himself the last survivor of his family, which he was in the habit of characterising as one of the oldest, if not the oldest, of the Fergussons of Ayrshire. He frequently repeated the statement that the whole of the land from Maybole to the sea belonged to an ancestor who was offered Ailsa Rock, opposite Littleton, but declined it.

His son William, as stated, minister of the Free Church at Ellon, when he visited Palestine in the spring of 1880, had the pleasure of meeting there Mr. Hamilton, Town Clerk of Kilmarnock; and, on his return home, found waiting him a letter announcing his appointment as an evangelistic deputy of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland to the said town, whither accordingly he went in the autumn of the same year, and had the opportunity of renewing acquaintance with the said Mr. Hamilton, who showed him a deed, dated 26th July 1723, stating that the Rev. Alexander Fergusson,<sup>1</sup> minister of the Gospel at Kilwinning, was the eldest lawful son of

<sup>1</sup> See p. 373.

William Fergusson of Auchinblain, from which it is inferred that the Rev. James Fergusson of Kilwinning,<sup>1</sup> author of *Commentaries on some of the Lesser Epistles of the Apostle Paul*, must have been related to the same Fergussons.

The Rev. William Fergusson, M.A., born 11th November 1828, ordained as minister of the Free Church at Ellon on 27th April 1854, married (first) on 18th May 1854 Margaret Lumsden, daughter of John Lumsden, Esq., Dee-Mouth, Aberdeen, who died in 1875. Issue:—

1. William Fergusson, M.D., medical practitioner, Banff, who has two sons, William Manson and John James Lumsden.

2. Son who died in infancy.

3. The Rev. John James Foote Lumsden Fergusson, M.A., Presbyterian minister in New South Wales, who has a daughter, Margaret Wilsie, and son, Maurice Cameron.

4. Helen Margaret Fergusson, sent by the Free Church to establish Female Mission Institution at Impolweni, Africa; had to return on account of her health, and is now head-mistress of a long-established boarding-school in Southampton. The Rev. William Fergusson married (second) in 1877, Mary Gordon Heron Thomson, widow of Thomas Croil, Esq., Balmory, Bute. Granted a colleague by the General Assembly of the Free Church in May 1894, and now retired to Shannaburn, Maryculter, Kincardineshire, which was purchased by his wife in 1893.

#### FERGUSSON OF LETTERPIN, *Parish of Girvan.*

18th June 1601. The King for himself and as administrator for his son, Henry, Prince and Steward of Scotland, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, grants

Hugoni Fergussonne in Pynmirrie commoranti in vitali reddito et Hectori Fergusson ejus filio legitimo heredibus ejus et assignatis quibuscunque—50 solidatas terrarum vocat. Latirpyn cum mansione silvis et piscationibus in parochia de Girvan, comitatu de Carrick, vic. Ayr.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* v. 1195.)

15th July 1612. Hugh Fergusson, Younger of Letterpin, sat on an assize.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 711.)

Robert Ferguson of Letterpin was among those in arms at Bothwell Bridge.

<sup>1</sup> See pp. 368 and 372.

FERGUSSON OF FINNART, *Parish of Ballantrae*,  
 NOW FERGUSSON-KENNEDY OF BENNANE.

‘This family have been settled at Glenapp for more than two hundred years, and at first occupied the estate, of which they subsequently became proprietors, as “kyndlic tenants” of the Kennedies of Ardmillan, who held the lands under the Lairds of Culzean as their superiors. We find that James Kennedy of Culzean made over the lands in 1609 to Thomas Kennedy of Ardmillan, who afterwards sold them to Thomas Fergusson. The disposition in his favour by “Ardmyllane,” with consent of “James Crawford of Baidland,” is witnessed by his two relatives, “Alexander Fergusson of Kilkerran” and “James Fergusson of Millenderdale.”

‘One of the Lairds of this family brought himself into serious trouble during the reign of Charles II. He had been heavily fined by General Middleton; and afterwards, although he did not, from his advanced age, appear at Bothwell, having been suspected of supplying money to the insurgents, he was compelled to leave the country, and in his absence was forfeited. He took shelter in Ireland, and remained in the county of Antrim from 1683 till the Revolution. During all this time the rents of his estate were kept from his family, his wife and children driven from their home, and his house occupied by a Captain Seton. The Laird was at first in considerable distress, and, being anxious to remain in concealment, he entered the service of Mr. Gilleland of Collin, a gentleman who lived in a remote district in the north of Ireland, and whose grandfather had himself been forced, in the preceding reign, to flee from his property in the neighbourhood of Dundonald. Finnart’s disguise was soon penetrated, and the greatest kindness shown to him by the family at Collin. After the Revolution, when Finnart had his lands restored to him, one of his daughters was married to Mr. Gilleland’s eldest son, and ever since a warm friendship has existed between the descendants of the two families.

‘I. Thomas Fergusson of Finnart had as his wife Helen Mure, but it is not known of what family, as the present proprietor cannot discover the marriage-contract. He was succeeded by his son and heir,

‘II. Hugh Fergusson of Finnart, who married Janet, daughter of David Kennedy of Bellimore, grandson of Gilbert Kennedy of Barclanochan, now Kilkerrane.

‘III. David Fergusson of Finnart succeeded his father, and married Mary, daughter of Hew Kennedy of Bennane. Issue—

1. Robert, who succeeded.
2. Agnes, who married her cousin, Hew Kennedy of Bennane.
3. Mary, married to John Forsyth of Balliston.

‘IV. Robert Fergusson of Finnart succeeded his father. After a life of much vicissitude, he died at Glenapp, unmarried, in 1796, leaving his estate by deed of settlement to his sister’s son, David Kennedy, younger of Bennane.

‘The mother of Hew Kennedy, husband of Agnes Fergusson, was Margaret, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Fergusson, then of Castlehill. David Kennedy predeceased his father, but left a son, Hugh Fergusson Kennedy, now of Bennane (1847).’—(Paterson’s *History of Ayrshire Families*, p. 250.)

(See also chapter xiii. on *Ferguson Heraldry*.)

In a letter addressed (apparently) to the Earl of Marchmont by Hugh Cathcart of Carleton, dated Ayr, 1st June 1697, the Chancellor was informed of a complaint to the Ayrshire Commissioners of Supply by Hugh Fergusson of Finnart, in the Parish of Ballantrae, in the mouth of Loch Ryan, on the borders of Galloway, ‘a place much haunted by privatiers,’ giving an account of ‘ane cruell and barbarous treatment he mett with from a French privatier, who came into that place upon Sunday last. They stripped himself naked, beat and wounded him, took him prisoner, tyed him naked as he was, threatned to carie him to France, pillaged and robbed his house, and left him nothing therein, no not soe much as ane cloath to wrap his poor young children in, left nothing about the house, but used severall wther acts of crueltie to himselfe, his wyfe, and familie.’—(*Hist. ms. Com.* 14th Rep., App. Part iii.)



FERGUSSON OF MILLENDERDAILL, *Parish of Colmonell.*

‘The five shilling land of Millenderdaill belonged to the Grahames of Knoekdolian in 1606. It was subsequently acquired by a branch of the Fergussons of Kilkerran. James Fergusone of Millenderdaill, heir of his father, John, was retoured in the lands in 1677. It is now (1847) the property of David Dalton Kennedy of Craig.—(Paterson’s *History of Ayrshire Families*, p. 315.)

May 10, 1677. Jacobus Fergusone de Millenderdaill *heres* Joannis Fergusone de Millenderdaill *patris*, in 5 libratis terrarum de Millenderdaill et Pinjorie infra parochium de Calmonell et comitatum de Carrick. A. E. £5. N. E. £20.—(*Retours*, Ayrshire, 606.)

FERGUSSON OF THE CRAIG, *Parish of Colmonell.*

‘These lands were acquired from the Kennedies of Kirkhill by a branch of the Fergussons. John Fergusson of Craig died 1st October 1667, aged 55. He was married to Janet Lynn, who died 1st November 1689, aged 69. James Fergusson their son died 1st September 1701, aged 49. His spouse was Marion Gemmell. The tablet on the outer wall of the Churchyard of Colmonell bearing this inscription was erected by Robert Fergusson, probably the grandson of John Fergusson of Craig. From the Fergussons the lands passed to a family of the name of Hutchison.’—(Paterson’s *History of Ayrshire Families*, p. 312.)

## FERGUSSON OF CASTLEHILL.

Oct. 31, 1700. Magister Robert Fergusone minister verbi Dei apud Calmonell *heres* Joannis Fergusone de Castlehill, scribæ, in Ayr, *patris*.—(*Retours*, *Gen.*, 8253.)

(See chapter xiii. on *Ferguson Heraldry*, and also p. 371.)

## FERGUSSONS OF MONKWOOD, TROCHRAIGUE, CROSSHILL, ETC.

The territorial designations of this family are a little puzzling. James Ferguson of Bank—a member of a family

long connected with the town of Ayr, another of whose members, John Fergusson of Doonholm, an enterprising Indian merchant, left a bequest which was the germ of the Ayr Academy—acquired by marriage the property of Monkwood. His son, James Fergusson, an advocate, legal writer, and Principal Clerk of Session, is designed both as of Monkwood and of Crosshill, and at one time was owner of Trochraigue. He sold both Trochraigue and Monkwood to his brother, Mr. John Hutchison Fergusson. James Fergusson of Crosshill's eldest son, Major John Hutchison Fergusson, acquired by marriage the estate of Bassendean in Berwickshire, and took the additional name of Home.<sup>1</sup> His fourth son, William Fergusson, in consequence of a marriage with the heiress of Pollok of Pollok Castle, took the additional name of Pollok.<sup>2</sup>

*Fergusson of Monkwood.*

'James Ferguson of Bank, writer, married Miss Hutchison of Monkwood, and by that union became proprietor of that property. They had issue—

1. James, who succeeded, married and had issue.
3. John Hutchison, of Trochraigue, married and had issue.
2. William, M.D., of Windsor, married and had issue (see p. 368).
4. Anne, married to Dr. Dunlop, and had issue.

The late James Ferguson of Monkwood, advocate, sold the estate of Monkwood to his brother, the late John H. Ferguson of Trochraigue, which has since been alienated, and now (1847) belongs to William Paterson of Monkwood.—(Paterson's *History of Ayrshire Families*, ii. p. 371.)

*Fergusson of Trochraigue.*

'Trochrig, or Trochraigue, was acquired upwards of forty years ago (*i.e.* forty years prior to 1847) by the late James Fergusson of Monkwood, advocate, and by him sold to his brother, the late Mr. John Hutchison Fergusson. It is now (1847) possessed by his son, John H. Fergusson of Troch-

<sup>1</sup> See chapter xiii. *Ferguson Heraldry*.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

raigue, at present residing in Calcutta.'—(Paterson's *History of Ayrshire Families*, ii. p. 380.)

*Fergusson of Crosshill.*

'From 1807 to 1822 the lands of Nether Barr belonged jointly or wholly to James Fergusson of Crosshill.'—(Paterson's *History of Ayrshire Families*, ii. p. 258.)

From the town of Ayr and family of Monkwood came two distinguished men of the name. *William Fergusson, M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals* (1773-1846), brother of James Fergusson of Monkwood, was born at Ayr, 19th June 1773, of a family of note in the burgh.' 'His father's family,' writes his son, 'had long been one of the most influential of his native place, and had filled the principal municipal offices when these were objects of ambition to the upper classes of provincial towns, and when the whole parish belonged in common to the burgh.' After serving as assistant-surgeon in the army in Holland, the Peninsula, and elsewhere, he practised in Edinburgh and subsequently in Windsor. His *Notes and Recollections of a Professional Life* were brought out after his death by his son *James Fergusson* (1808-1886), the eminent archæologist and writer on architecture.

*James Fergusson, Minister of Kilwinning*<sup>1</sup> (1643-1667), author of several commentaries on the Pauline Epistles, was sprung from the house of Kilkerran, and is described as a man of eminent piety, 'much admired for his great and singular wisdom and prudence, being reckoned one of the wisest men of the nation, most fit to be a counsellor to any monarch in Europe.'

*James Ferguson of Cairnbrock* (1787-1856), the founder of the Ferguson Bequest, was born at Irvine, and was the son of William Ferguson, a shipmaster of that port. His mother was the eldest child and only daughter of John Service of Holms of Caaf, a small property near Dalry, in Ayrshire. 'The Fergusons belonged to the neighbourhood of Irvine, having been tenants of Craixland, a farm in the parish of

<sup>1</sup> See p. 372.

Dundonald, for at least three generations. The memory of Mr. Ferguson's grandfather was long cherished in the district as that of a cheerful Christian. He was an elder in the parish church during the ministry of Mr. Walker (extending from 1732 to 1780) . . . who—an earnest evangelical minister—was sometimes cast down in spirit, and on these occasions the farmer of Craixland was often sent for to converse with and cheer him. Mr. Ferguson's father was bred a sailor, and in course of time became owner of a small vessel which traded between the coast of Ayrshire and the Clyde. His probity was such that he usually went by the name of the honest skipper.' John Ferguson as a young man spent four years in America, and after returning to this country ultimately succeeded to the fortune acquired by his maternal relatives. In 1828 he purchased the lands of Cairnbrock, in the parish of Kirkcolum, Wigtonshire, to which the adjoining lands of Airies were added in 1854. He had previously (1821) purchased the farm of Whitelee, in the parish of Stewarton. Of his large fortune of £1,247,514, he left personal legacies to the amount of £681,000, devoting the rest to religious, educational, and philanthropic objects. For the details of these, reference must be made to the exhaustive report made by Mr. Tait to the Trustees of 'the Ferguson Bequest Fund,' giving a 'narrative of the formation and past operation of the Trust, with some particulars of Mr. Ferguson's family,' which was published in 1883.<sup>1</sup>

### *Fergushill.*

*Fergushill* was the surname of an old family, now extinct, who possessed the lands of Fergushill in Ayrshire. John Fergushill, an eminent minister of the seventeenth century, whose life was left in ms. by Wodrow, was the son of David Fergushill, merchant, and for some time Provost of Ayr. His name occurs twice in the matriculations of the University of Glasgow—in March 1605, and again in 1611. Licensed about the end of 1616, he became minister at Ochiltree. In March 1620 he was cited before the Court of High Commis-

<sup>1</sup> *Universal Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. xviii.



sion for nonconformity to the Perth articles. He was appointed minister of Ayr in 1639, and died in 1644.

James Fergusson, minister of Kilwinning, 1643-67, has been identified by the editor of Baillie's *Letters* with a Mr. James Fergushill mentioned in them. A similar interchange of the names Ferguson and Fergushill has been noticed by the Rev. John Ferguson, minister of Aberdalgie. While Scott in his *Fasti* gives John Fergushill as minister of Ochiltree dealt with by the Court of High Commission in 1620, Calderwood in his *History* (iii. p. 428), gives an account of 'The Proceedings of the Hie Commission against Mr. Johne Fergisone, sett down by Himselpe, at Glasgow, the 28th March 1620,' and says, 'Mr. John Fergisone was ordained to enter in waird in Perth.' In Scott's *Narrative of the Kirk* the name is also given as Ferguson.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

1489. Arthur Fergusson appears as tenant of Cuttiswra, Stewarton, Ayrshire.—(*Exch. Rolls*, x.)

1517. Part of Cuttiswra let to Robert Fergusson and Isabella Dunlop.—(*Exch. Rolls*, vol. xiv.)

1465. Sa. Johannis Fergusoun to Nynflaris, annualrent tharof (Lanark).—(*Exch. Rolls*, iv.)

1605, John Fergusson de Cromgart mentioned in a charter of 3rd Dec. to Alan Cathcart of Carloun.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* i.)

28th April 1613. Thomas Fergusoun in Glenhead, along with John Kennedy of Blairquhan and others, complained of for attacking John M'Ivaine, y<sup>r</sup> of Grummett, while 'reposing himself' in sober manner within the Kaitechepoole of Mayboill.—(*P. C. Reg.* x. p. 42.)

1630. Hector Fergusson in Penmyrrie was served heir of Hugh, *alias* Hucheon, Fergusson in Peinmyrrie, his father.

Dec. 9, 1686. Thomas Fergusone, incola in Enterkine Mains, p. agn. id est, c. cx. p. p. Margaretæ Fergusone, filiae Joannis Fergusone, qui fuit filius Jacobi F., portionarii de Milneburne.—(*Inq. de Tutela*, 1096.)

Jan. 28, 1687. Margareta Fergusson, filia Joannis Fergusson, portionarii de Milnburn, haeres Jacobi Fergusson, portionarii de

Milburn, *Air*, in mercata terræ antiqui extentus de Milburne, infra dominium de Kylesmuir et *Barnemuir*.—(*Retours, Ayrshire*, 645.)

Jan. 20, 1698. Robertus Fergusson, hæres Joannis Fergusson, junioris, portionarii de Auchintiber, *fratris germani*.—(*Retours, General*, 7990.)

NOTES FROM DEUCHAR'S MS. COLLECTIONS

1595, 25 Nov.

Thomas Ferguson of Erreaff- = Janet Grierson.  
multers (?), Ayr + 1593.

George James (i.) James (ii.) Thomas David Elizabeth Margaret Janet

1595, Dec. 17.

Janet Blair and Lady =  
Grennan, Ayr.

David Dunbar of = Marian Ferguson Janet Ferguson.  
Daldan (?)

NOTICES OF MINISTERS OF THE NAME IN AYRSHIRE.

(From the *Fasti Scotiæ Ecclesiæ*.)

*Colmonell (Presbytery of Stranraer)*.

1698. Robert Fergusson, son of John F. of Castlehill, writer, Ayr: studied at the Un. of Gl.; licens. by the Pres. 31 May 1698, called in June and ad. Sept. foll.; died in 1735, in 37th min.—[*Inq. Ret. Gen.* 8253; *Mun. Univ. Gl.* iii.; *Pres. Syn. and Test. Reg. (Glas.)*]

1735. Robert Fergusson, A.M., grad. Gl. 1st May; licens. by Pres. 3rd May 1734; called 23rd June, and ad., 25th Sept. 1735; trans. to Ayr, 2nd charge, 13th Sept. 1758.—[*Mun. Univ. Glasg.* iii.; *Presb. and Syn. Reg.*]

*Barnwell (Ayr)*.

1616. John Fergusson, son of William F., burgess of Glasgow, pres. by James VI., 21st July; served nearest agnate to children of Robert Fergusson, commissary-clerk of Lorn, 4 April 1634; continued 4 Aug. 1639, and died subsequently. A son, Alexander, was a student at the University of Glasgow

in 1647.—[Wodrow MSS.; *Reg. Sec. Sigill. and Pres.*; *Ayr Sess.*; *Test. (Glas.)*, and *Edin. Reg. (Bap.)*; *Inq. Ret. de Tut.* 508, 509; *Syn. Roll*, 1642; *Mun. Univ. Glas.* iii.]

*Ayr (Second Charge).*

1758. Robt. Ferguson, A.M., trans. from Colmonell; died 17 Nov. 1760, in 26th min. Married, 29th Aug. 1737, Margaret, youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Osburn, min. of Tarbolton. She died, 9th Aug. 1769, and had two sons, Robert and Hugh, captain in the army, and four daughters, Janet, Elizabeth, Mary, and Henrietta.—[*Presb. and Test. Reg. Glasg.*]; *Tombst.*, etc.]

*Kilwinning (Irvine).*

1643. James Ferguson, A.M., of the family of Kilkerran, grad. Gl. Un. 1638; pres. by Alex. Earl of Eglinton, and ad. in June 1643; member of Ass., 1648, and received calls both from Edinburgh and Glasgow, but remained; and died, 13th March 1667, in his 47th year and 24th min. Esteemed for his great piety and learning as 'a most wise, gracious, and able man,' who scorned to accept a bishopric when it was offered. He had lying money xl. li.; insight, etc., j<sup>c</sup>xxx. li. vi. s. viiid. Frie geir, j<sup>m</sup> li. lix. li. xvi. s. iid. He married Jean Inglis, who died, 4th Jan. 1687, and had two sons, James and Hew, and a daughter, Mary, who married Robert Christie, merchant, Edinburgh.

*Publications—*

- 'Exposition of the Epistles to the Philippians and Colossians.' Edin. 1656; sm. oct.
- 'Exposition of the Epistles to the Galatians and Ephesians.' Edin. 1659; sm. oct.
- 'Exposition of the Epistles to the Thessalonians.' Glas. 1675; sm. oct.
- 'Refutation of the Errors of Toleration, Erastianism, Independency, and Separation.' Edin. 1692; sm. oct.

Several Sermons.

An Essay on Singing of Psalms, in MS., never published.

[*Refutat. New Stat. Acc.* v.; *Presb. Edin. (Man.)* and *Test. Reg. (Glas.)*; *Reg. Old Dec.*; *Baillie's Letters*; *Kirkton and Wodrow's History and Correspondence*; *Acts of Ass.*; *Mem. of Eglintown*, ii., etc.]

1721. Alex. Fergusson, A.M., Un. Glas.; licens. by Pres. of Ayr, 31 March 1718; called, 2nd Nov. 1720, and ad. 14 March foll. Being disabled by age and infirmity from official duty, he was assisted in succession by five respectable probationers, to whom he generously gave the whole of his stipend. Suspected of holding opinions which were afterwards known in Ayrshire as 'the New Light,' he was libelled by James MacConnell, a town-drummer in Beith, whom the Presbytery held to be 'not immediately concerned and illiterate,' and therefore took the case into their own hands, and, having appointed a committee to meet with him, they received such satisfaction as warranted their recommendation that the affair be dismissed, which was accordingly done, 8th Aug. 1769. He died, 16 Feb. 1770, in his 81st year, and 49th min. Publication—'Letter from one Clergyman to another' (*Scots Mag.* xxix.).—[*Mun. Un. Glas.* iii.; *Presb. Reg.*; *Scots Mag.* xxix. xxxi.; *New Stat. Acc.* v., and *Morrison's Digest*, etc.]

*Dreghorn (Irvine).*

1652. Archibald Fergusson, A.M., grad. St. And. 1642; studied theology, Glasg.; lic. there, 29th Jan. 1645; ad. about April foll. as min. of the Presbyterian congregation at Antrim. He was commissioned by the Gen. Ass., 1649, that their interest might be procured towards promoting with the civil government protection and safety for himself and his Presbyterian brethren. After his supplication had been made he returned, but, with several others, was obliged to leave in 1650 on account of the persecution.

He probably returned to his former charge in Ireland, and died in Dec. 1654, aged about 33, in 10th min. His wife, Janet Cunninghame, died in June 1652.—[*Mun. Un. Glas.* iii.; *Act. Rect. Un. St. And.*; *Balfour's Hist. Works*, iii.; *Test. Reg. (Glas.)*; *Reid's Ireland*, ii.]



*Fenwick, or New Kilmarnock (Irvine).*

1836. Robert Ferguson, A.M., grad. Edin. 1828; pres. by Earl of Glasgow; trans. to St. David's, Edin., and adm. 16 May 1843. Joined Free Church. Died at Gracefield, Dumfriesshire, 18th Dec. 1866, 'having been a faithful and successful minister, in whom there was much of the scholar and the gentleman.' Married, first, 10 Oct. 1836, Agnes Lidgate, who died 30 Nov. 1853; second, 3rd April 1856, Elizabeth Black, who survived him. Publications—'The New Creature,' a Sermon: Edin. 1844; 'Account of the Parish' (*New Stat. Acc.* v.).—[*Edin. Grad. Pres. Reg.*; *Proceedings, Free Church Ass.*, 1843, etc.]

*Kilmaurs (Irvine).*

1734. Samuel Ferguson, A.M., grad. Glas., 1 May 1724; lic. Pres. of Ayr, 1730; called, 19th Dec. 1733, and ad. 27th March; died 1735, aged about 31.—[*Mun. Un. Glas.* iii.; *Presb. Reg.*; *New Stat. Acc.* v.]

## CHAPTER VII

### FERGUSSENS IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

THE name of Fergusson is undoubtedly of great antiquity in the south-west. It has indeed been said that the Fergussons of Craigdarroch are the oldest family in Scotland, and they have in any case held an honourable position as land-owners, from father to son, for many centuries. Various other families are either known, are reported, or may be presumed to be cadets of Craigdarroch; and it is an interesting fact that the name should be found so firmly established at an early period in a region which, though so far south, was so distinctly Celtic in character as Galloway. The physical features of the region south of the Picts' Dyke, which runs from Loch Ryan to Sanquhar on the Nith, have perhaps more in common with the districts north of the Forth and Clyde than with the rest of the southern Lowlands, the place-names are kindred to those of the north; and while in its Pictish substratum the population was akin to the race that peopled Fife and Fortrenn, Athole and Angus, Mar and Buchan, it undoubtedly received a very large Scottish element from Dalriadic Argyllshire, and formed at one time a place of refuge for the dynasty of Fergus.

The principal cadet branches of the House of Craigdarroch were those of Isle and of Caitloch. One of the family of Isle represented Dumfriesshire in the last Scottish Parliament, and a Fergusson of Caitloch was a fugitive in Holland, while his family suffered great hardships prior to the Revolution. There were also Fergussons of Over M'Kilstoun, Chapelmark, Corrochdow, Fourmerkland, Brekansyde, and Auldgarth; and references occur to 'the gudeman of Blaikistoun,' 'Sandie of Knokhachill,' and a turbulent Nithsdale fugitive known as

‘Davie in the Riggis.’ There was also for long connected with the burgh of Lochmaben the Fergusson family, now of Spitalhaugh in Peeblesshire.

We are able, through the courtesy of Captain Cutlar-Fergusson of Craigdarroch, to print an interesting MS. account of his family, which bears to have been written in the reign of Queen Anne, and gives an extremely clear and well-vouched narrative of its descent for several generations. This will be supplemented by further materials selected from the Craigdarroch papers, and by information collected from other sources relative both to the Craigdarroch and other families of the name in the south-western counties.

‘There is hardly a country churchyard in the district,’ writes Mr. G. T. Fergusson, ‘without the name appearing more or less frequently on the tombstones. The Fergussons of Dumfriesshire have always been noted for the uprightness and integrity of their character, for moral rather than intellectual qualities—perhaps I should say that while the intelligence was of a high order, the morality was even higher. To this, a disposition to oblige, to crack a joke, and to help a friend in need, might also be added. The Fergussons were not rolling stones so far as this country is concerned. They stick to their last, and can always be depended on to do their duty in whatever sphere their lot happens to be cast.’

## FERGUSSON OF CRAIGDARROCH.



CRAIGDARROCH HOUSE.

The earliest notices, which very probably refer to the Fergussons in the district, are found in two charters, one granted between 1214 and 1249 to the Abbots of Melrose, in which one of the witnesses is Fergus of Glencairn, and the other a charter of the Abbot of Dryburgh, dated 1222, where *Dominus Fergutianus de Glenkarn* is also a witness.

*The Craigdarroch MS.*

‘John Crawford of Balmakane grants a charter of confirmation to Jonkyne Fergusson, Lord of Craigdarroch, for the four merk worth land of Jargbruch and mill of Balmakane, dated the sixth of July 1398, which is the oldest I find bearing date. Tho’ there is another granted by John Crawford, son to the Laird of Dalgarn, to John Fergusson of Craigdarroch for the mill of Balmakane, which would appear to be older, but the date and some of the body of the charter is not legible. There is also another, *anno* 1484. John Fergusson of Craigdarroch, as son and heir of Matt: Fergusson of Craigdarroch, is infest in the lands of Craigdarroch, etc., and others mentioned in the two sasines under the hand of Tho:



Lockhart, N.P., dated the last of April 1484. Thomas Fergusson, son and heir to John Fergusson, is infest in Jerbruch, etc., Nov. 6th, 1514, in the 3rd year of Pope Leo x. He obtained a charter from Robert, Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, Lord of the Barronie of Crawfordston, to Jerbruch *pro suis gratitudinibus bene meritis mihi multipliciter impressis*, dated May 14th, 1508. Robert Fergusson is infest as son and heir to the said Thomas, by precept of *clare constat* granted by Edward, Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, in the lands therein ment, and sasine thereupon, 28th Feby. 1563. And Will: Master of Glencairn, with consent of Cuthbert, Earl of Glencairn, his father, grants a charter to the said Robert and Janet Cunningham, his spouse, of the lands of Caitloch, etc., May 8th, 1534. John Fergusson, son and heir to the said Robert, is infest in his estate upon a precept of *clare constat* granted by James, Earl of Glencairn, Lord Killmares, Kilmarnock, etc., dated 18th Oct. 1587, and upon another precept granted by Robt. Lord Crichton, etc., dated at Edinr. 1589, May 27th. Robert, son and heir to John Fergusson of Craigdarroch, his father, enters by precept of *clare constat* granted by William, Lord Kilmares, dated at the Castle of Glencairne, 5th Sept. 1612 years, and sasine under subscription of Cuthbert Cunningham of the date foresaid. He married Catherine Cunningham, and had by her John and William, Edward, Thomas, and Robert. John, by virtue of precept by Will., Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, enters heir of John Fergusson, his grandfather, dated 27th June 1615. Infest July 7th. The said John, by another precept from Wm., Lord Kilmares, enters heir to Robert Fergusson, his father, 23rd Nov. 1613. Infest 15th February 1614. John dying without issue, William Fergusson enters to John, his brother, by virtue of a precept by Will., Lord Crichton, dated at Doncaster, in England, March 18th, 1628, upon which he is infest 5th April following. King Charles I., by his charter of erection, dated at Edinburgh the 4th day of July 1636 (*et anno regni 12*), erects the village and lands of Monyive into a free burgh of Barronie (to be called the Barrony of Monyive, in favours of William, Earl of Dumfries, Viscount of Ayr, Lord Sanquhar, etc., his heirs and successors,

etc., in the burgh of Barrony of Glencairne, then and in all time coming, with free power to make Baillies and other necessary officers of the said burgh, granting to the burgesses thereof all powers and priviledges belonging to the burgesses of any other burgh of barrony, as is more fully exprest in the said charter, with a weekly market every Tuesday and two fairs in the year, being one upon the sixteen day of June, called the Midsummer fair, and the other the last day of September, called the Michaelmas fair, each to last three days. The said William, Earl of Dumfries, etc., by his charter dated Edinr., 9th July 1636, for several causes and considerations moving him thereto, gives, grants, and confirms to William Fergusson of Craigdarroch, his heirs, executors and assignees whatsoever, heritably, all and hail the ten pound land of old                    of Caidzlauch, Blairoch, Stroneba, Benbuy, Corrockdows, and Camanell, *jacentia infra baronia de Glencairne et vicecomitatu de Dumfries una cum burgo baroniae de Moneyive forum hepdomadarium*, etc., with all other liberties, priviledges, and immunities contained in the foresaid charter of erection at length. I find an authentic double of the National Covenant among the archives of this family direct to this Gentleman, with the principal subscriptions subscribed by several nobility, particularly, Rothes, Montrose, Cassilis, Hume, Fleming, Lindsay, Balcarres, Forrester, Dalhousie, Balmerino, Johnstoun, Loudoun, Drumlangrig, Boyd, Yester, Eglintoune, Burghly, Fraser, etc., and severals of the gentry, as Dalyell, Dundas of that Ilk, Gibson of Durie, Sir David Murray of Stenhop, Wm. Scott of Harden, Gab: Hamilton of Raploch, W. Elliot of Stops, Arbuthnot of that Ilk, etc. This William Fergusson married Sara Grierson, daughter to Sir William Grierson of Lag, by contract dated at Rockell the 9th day of May 1621, to be perfected betwixt and the first of July then next to come. She bore to him Robert, his heir and successor, Nicholas Fergusson, contracted to Alexr. Gordon of Knock-gray, the 7th Novr. 1646, to be perfected betwixt and the 1st January thereafter; Sara Fergusson, married to Adam Newall of Barskeoch, by contract dated Craigdarroch, 29th Nov. 1665, who bare him several children, all deceased. The said Robert Fergusson,

by precept from the Earl of Queensberry, 4th August 1647, enters to Wm., his father, and married Margaret Chalmers, Relict of David Crawford of Kerse, the contract dated at Kerse, the 20th day of August 1668. He married Eliz: Grierson, Relict of umquhile Robert Maxwell of Tinwall, and daughter of Sir Robt. Grierson of Lag, by contract dated 22nd July 1653. Witnesses, Ja: Earl of Queensberry, consentor thereto, Sir Jo: Grierson of Lag, his brother, James Douglas of Mouswall, etc. The said Elizabeth Grierson<sup>1</sup> bare to him John Fergusson, his heir, and Anna Fergusson, married to Matthew Hairstanes of Craigs, who bare him one son, John, who died without issue; and, last of all, he married Agnes Douglass, daughter to Alexr. Douglass of Baitfoord, and relict of John Hairstanes of Craigs, April 15th, 1676, who bare to him Robert Fergusson of Baitfoord, who died without issue, and Isobel Fergusson, who succeeded to her brother, and married Col: Thos., third son to Sir Robt. Dalryell of Glenae, who hath borne to him Jean and Thomas. The said Robert Fergusson dying, devolved the estate upon John, his son, who married Eliz: M<sup>c</sup>Ghie, daughter to Alexr. M<sup>c</sup>Gie of Balmagie, May 1682. She bare him three sons and two daughters, viz. Robert, William, and Eliz. who died young, Alexander Fergusson, now of Craigdarroch, and Grissel, who, Anno 1710 (without the advice or knowledge of her friends), married James Lothian, Cornet to the royal browns, commanded by the Earl of Stair, in the sixteen of her present Majesty Queen Anne, and hath no children at the writing hereof. This Gentleman was of an excellent spirit, and had he been spared to come of years, would been inferior to none of his Ancestours. He was called by the States, after the Abdication of K. Ja: 7th, to serve the Government in the station of Lieut.-Collonel of the regiment of foot commanded by the Viscount of Kenmure, in which post he behaved with a suitable prudence and valour. But through the perfidy of his servant, who carried off his horses, was killed at Gille-

<sup>1</sup> Before he married this lady he had Grissel Douglas, daughter to James Douglas of Mortoun, his first spouse, who bare to him William Fergusson, designed in his contract with the Lady Tinwall his only son and heir-male, where mention of the daughter, of the first marriage. 1st, Grissel Douglas; 2nd, Lady Tinwall; 3rd, Lady Carse; 4th, Lady Craigs.



crankie in July 1689, about the 28th year of his age, his death being yet lamented by all who knew his worth. His Lady married Capt. Walter Johnston, Captain of Dragoons in Coll: Jo: Cunningham's regiment, brother german to Sir John Johnston, and son to Sir James Johnston of Westerhall, who dying, she was married to Major William Ogilvy, son to Sir Francis Ogilvie of New Grange, brother to the Earl of Airly, who being wounded at the battle of Janies, died eleven days after of his wounds, at Brussels, being Sept. 11th, 1709. and thereafter she returned to Craighdarroch, where she is at present. Alexr. Fergusson, born 3rd Novr. 1685, succeeding to his father in the lands and estate of Craighdarroch, married Mrs. Anne Laurie,<sup>1</sup> daughter to the deceast Sir Robt. Lawrie of Maxwelton, upon Aug. 29th, 1709, who bore him Jean, their eldest daughter and child, upon Tuesday, 29th May 1711.

'The Coat Armoriall given to the said Robert Fergusson of Craighdarroch for his Atchievement and ensign armorial, and extracted furth of the Register of Sir Charles Arskine of Cambo, Lyon King of Arms, is blazoned thus: The said Robert Fergusson of Craighdarroch for his atchievement and ensign armorial bears:—Argent, a Lyon Rampant azure on a chief gules, a Mollet betwixt a cross crosslet; *Sheveron* (?) on Dexter, and a rose on the sinister of the Shield. Above the shield an helmet befitting his degree, mantled, gules, doubled Argent. Next is placed on the *torse* (?), for his crest a dexter hand grasping a broken spear in bend, proper. The Motto, in an Escroll: *Vi et Arte*. Dated Edin<sup>r</sup>., 4th Dec. 1673.'

*Recommendation from the Parliament to the King's Majestie  
in favour of the Lady Craighdarroch.*

'At Edinburgh, the eleventh day of July 1690 years, anent the petition given in and presented to their Majesties' High Commissioner and the estates of Parliament by the Lady Craighdarroch for herself and her children, showing that where the petitioner's deceased husband was killed at Killiecrankie in his Majestie's service, and for defence of the kingdom against the Rebels, and that besydes his Life he lost also about 6000 merks in gold and silver. Likeas by his death the whole lands and estate (saving a small piece of

<sup>1</sup> Bonnie Annie Laurie.



land that holds ward of the king's Majestie) are fallen in ward to the Duke of Queensberry, superior thereof, which ward being to endure all the space of the petitioner's son's minority, not yet above five years of age, and there being also a considerable debt upon the estate, will of necessity bring ruin upon the minor and his father's family, there being no estate free to pay a rent,<sup>1</sup> which in that space must run up and would infallibly exhaust all, and yet tho' the petitioner be in terms to compone for the ward, yet that composition would only make a greater accession to the debt, and prove a load upon a burden, which things being so pressing in the petitioner's case, they in all humility put their Majestie's Commissioner and Estates of Parliament in mind of the old laws and Acts of Parliament made and almost constantly respected upon like occasions, as by King James 4th, anno 1513, King James 5th, anno 1522, Queen Mary 1551, and King James 6th, 1571 years. By all which it is expressly provided, That if any man be slain or hurt to the death in the host or army against the King's enemies or Traytors, The heirs of them that are slain shall have their waird's relief and marriage in all manner provided in the said Acts, which albeit they have been construed (?) whole, and been temporary, and to respect the war only that then was, yet the Act King James 5th, parl. 2, caput. 3rd provides expressly in the case of war, moved or to be moved, and the constant repeating of the said laws as said is, with the inserting thereof in the printed Acts seems to import that the same should be in force in all times: At least it is beyond all doubt that the high and honourable courts of Parliament will still regard the petitioner's case with all the favour that these Acts import, especially it being presumable that if the said favour had been desired a year ago for the encouragement of such as were to venture their lives in their Majestie's service, it had certainly been granted, and the petitioner's husband therein comprehended: Therefore seeing the condition of the petitioner's son and family is deplorable, and that all the ancient laws are so favourable, and that the petitioner's only relief under God depends upon the Estates of Parliament, Therefore humbly craving that

<sup>1</sup> Annual rent (?).

their Majesties' High Commissioner and Estates of Parliament in consideration of the premises would declare that the said waird and all other damages that the petitioner hath sustained in manner above mentioned shall be fully satisfied, and to appoint such a fund for that effect, either out of the first and readiest of the present Forefaultors or any other way their Majesties' Commissioner and the said Estates of Parliament should find most reasonable and effectual as may completely repair the same, and save a poor family from being ruined as the said petition fully bears; which petition being upon the day and date hereof read in Parliament, and they having heard and considered the same, humbly recommended and do hereby humbly recommend the petitioner to his Majestie's grace and favour: And the Estates of Parliament aforesaid entreated, and do hereby entreat the Lord Commissioner's grace to transmit the said petition to his Majestie. Extracted forth of the Records of Parliament by me.'

*Act in favours of the Lady Craigdarroch.*

'At Edin<sup>r</sup>. the eighteenth day of March 1691 years. His Majesty's Letter underwritten direct to the Lords Commissioner of their Majistie's Theaurie was presented and read, and ordained to be booked, whereof the tener follows *ut supra scribitur*. William R. Right trustie and well-beloved cousins and counsellors, we greet you well. Whereas Elizabeth M<sup>c</sup>Gie, Lady Craigdarroch, having given in a petition for herself and children to our parliament of our ancient kingdom of Scotland, shewing that John Fergusson her husband was killed at Killiecrankie in our service, and that his lands and estate (except a small part thereof) did fall in ward, which (with debt due by him) will bring ruin upon his heirs and family, by which petition she did put our said parliament in mind of the several Acts of Parliament made by King James the fourth, King James the fifth, Queen Mary, and King James the sixth, all which proved, That if any man be slain in the army against the King's enemies, that their heirs shall have their waird's relief and marriage, and thereupon humbly craved that our said Parliament would declare that the value of the said Ward and other damages foresaid

should be satisfied, and to appoint a fund for that effect either out of forfeitures or any other way they should find most reasonable and effectual to save her family from ruin, whereupon the said Estates of Parliament did recommend the petitioner to our grace and favour, and we being certainly informed that the estate is under considerable debts, That Grissel Fergusson, the said John Fergusson's only daughter is unprovided, and that the said Lady has disposed of or burdened her Joynture for satisfying the compositions payed for the said ward, and we having a kind respect for and tenderness toward the widow and children of those who losseth their lives and goods for us or in our service, have resolved to show some mark thereof. It is therefore our will and pleasure, and we do hereby authorize and require you to pay, or cause to be payed, with and under the reservation after specified, to Alexander and Grissel Fergussons children of the deceast John Fergusson, equally between them and their heirs, executors, and assignees, and failing either of them by decease before the child so deceasing be major or married. Then the said child's half to fall, accresce, and pertain to the other child surviving, and failzing both the said children before they or any of them be married or attain to the age of twenty-one years complete, then both these halves to the said Elizabeth M<sup>c</sup>Gie their mother, all and hail the soume of ten thousand marks, Scots money, and that out of the first Best and readiest of the maills, fermes, duties, casualties, tynds, and the rents and profits of the Bishoprick of Galloway, reserving always to the said Eliz. M<sup>c</sup>Gie her liferent of the said Grissel her half above specified of the s<sup>d</sup> soume, for doing whereof this shall be your warrand, and so we bid you heartily farewell. Given at our Court of Kensington, the 29<sup>th</sup> day of December 1690 years, and of our reign the second year. By his Majesty's command (*sic subscriptur*),

‘MELVILL.’

‘The Lord Commissioners of their Majestie's Thesaurie having considered the above written letter of his Majesty, and that the rents of the bishoprick above specified for crompt 1689 is already disposed upon, except an inconsiderable part thereof, which is llyable to several incumbrances, as also that



his Majesty has gifted the rents of the whole Bishoprick croft and year 1690 to the Presbyterian Ministers; so that until the rents and duties of the croft and year 1691 be due and payable, no payment can be made to the above-named Lady Craigdarroch of the above-specified sum of ten thousand merks; yet, nevertheless, the said Lords to show their willingness to give obedience to his Majesty's commands, do therefore hereby ordain Sir Patrick Murray, Receiver of their Majesties' Rents, or any others for the time being, to pay unto the said Lady, as Tutrix Dative to her children above named, the forementioned soume of ten thousand merks out of the first and readiest of the said rents of the Bishopric of Galloway, due and payable of the croft and year 1691, and in time coming. The terms of payment thereof being first come and bygone, and that how soon as the said rents shall come in to the said Sir Patrick, or any other for the time being in his office, and which soume is to be applyd in manner and for the use above mentioned (*sic subscribitur*). Raith Thes<sup>er</sup>. Dep<sup>t</sup>. Crawford, Cassills, Exeter. (*Sic subscribitur*), 'THO. MONCRIEFF.'

John of Crawford, son to the Laird (*Dominus*), of Dalgar-nock (by his charter of alienation, without date), grants, gives, and confirms to his beloved cousin, John Fergusson (*Domino de Craigdarroch*), his mill in Balmakane in Jargbruch, and to his heirs and assignees, etc., with room to build a mill-house with free ish and entrie thereto, etc. There is another very old charter by the same person to John Fergusson in an old hand, without date, at least not legible, *Ut in primario hujus libelli*. John Crawford of Balmakane, by his charter, dated Feby. 6th, 1398, grants a charter of confirmation of the four merks worth of land of Jarbruch and the mill, and confirms to Jonkyne Fergusson, his son, right to the mill of Jarbruch, etc.

The said Robert having erected a bridge at Minnyive at his own charges, he obtains an act of Parliament in his favours (dated at Edinburgh, third day of August 1661) whereby his Majesty, with advice and consent of the estates of Parliament, ordains the said Robert Fergusson to be payed of twelve pennies Scots for each head of nolt, and two shillings



Scots for every twenty sheep passing through the said town of Minnyive, and empowers him to exact the same accordingly, and ordains him to repair and uphold the said bridge therewith in all time coming. Exd. by A. Primrose, *Cl. Reg.*

*Nota.*—Morton Castle, 16th April 1657. William Johnston of Forhead, with consent of James Johnston his father, contracts in marriage with Janet Douglass, lawful daughter to the deceast James Douglass of Morton, with consent of W. Duke (*sic*) of M. (her) brother-german, and Robert Fergusson of Craigdarroch, her brother-in-law. William Douglass of Drumlangrig is witness to a charter granted by William Cunninghame, Master of Glencairne, with consent of Cuthbert Earl, his father, to Jo. F. of Craigdarroch. Edward L. Crichton grants a charter to Craigdarroch; John Wilson, yr. of Croglan witness to a sasine, Sept. 5, 1612.

*Note of Pedigree communicated by Captain R. Cutlar-Fergusson of Craigdarroch.*

1. Mathew Fergusson.
2. John Fergusson, succeeded in 1484.
3. Thomas Fergusson, *m.* daughter of the Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, about 1508.
4. Robert Fergusson, *m.* Janet, daughter of the Earl of Glencairn about 1534.
5. John Fergusson, *m.* Margaret Dalziell, daughter of Lord Carnwath.
6. Robert Fergusson, *m.* Katharine Cunningham, daughter of the Earl of Glencairn.
7. William Fergusson, *m.* Sara, daughter of Sir William Grierson of Lag, 1621.
8. Robert Fergusson, *m.* *First*, daughter of Lord Douglas of Morton.  
*Secondly*, Elizabeth Grier, Lady Tinwald, his cousin, being a daughter of Grierson of Lag.  
*Thirdly*, Margaret Chalmers, widow of David Crawford of Cars.  
*Fourthly*, to Douglas, Lady Craig.
9. John Fergusson, *m.* Elizabeth, daughter of John Makghie of Balmaghie.

10. Alexander Fergusson, *m.* (1709) Annie Laurie, daughter of Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwelton.
11. James Fergusson, *m.* *First* (1743), Euphemia, daughter of Sir John Nisbet, Bart. of Dean and Dirleton.  
*Secondly*, Eleanora, daughter of the Honourable George Dalrymple of Dalmahoy (afterwards Lord Stair).
12. Alexander Fergusson, *m.* Deborah, daughter of Robert Cutlar of Orroland.
13. Robert Cutlar Fergusson, *m.* Josephine, daughter of General Auger.
14. Robert Cutlar Fergusson, *m.* Ella, only daughter of Sir Archibald Alison, Bart.
15. Robert Cutlar Fergusson, *m.* (1889) Rose, daughter of J. Grant Hodgson of Cabalva, Herefordshire.

## SELECTIONS FROM THE CRAIGDARROCH PAPERS.

Among the Craighdarroch papers are the marriage-contract and the will of 'Annie Laurie'; an order by 'Richard, Lord Protector,' for the payment of the rents and arrears of the Chapel Royal to David Drummond; and the following interesting letters relating to the risings of 1715 and 1745. In the latter year James Fergusson, yr. of Craighdarroch, was acting as Commissioner for the Duke of Queensberry. He retained copies of his letters, and the extracts given are therefore from his own letter-book. This Laird also kept a large book of detailed accounts connected with his own estate, to which he prefixed a note of his family, and a quaint and characteristic statement which gives interesting indications of the antiquity of his house, and the character of himself and his forebears.

## RISING OF 1715.

*Copy of a letter from the Duke of Argyle, dated 15th September 1715, and of a writing indorsed on the back of said copy.*

EDENBRUGH, 15th September 1715.

GENTLEMEN,—Finding the Lord Luetennant of your County is not yet come down, nor has appointed Deputy Luetennants to settle matters as his majesties service requires, and being informed since

my arrival here that the brugh of Drumfries had a considerable number of well-armed men redy to serve his majesty, to whom they have shewed themselvs so well affected, I must loose no time in praying you would forthwith send what number of men you can gett together to Stirling, with such officers as you shall think fitt to intrust the command of them to: This will be of infinite service to His Majesty and the country, and will not fail of being acknowledged as such.

I most farther inform you that by all the accounts I received from different parts of the kingdom, the disaffected Highlanders are actually gathering together, so that it will be highly for his majesties service that all well-affected men that are armed about your country should hold themselves in a rediness to march, and even begin to assemble. The reason I am obliged to call you out first is that I judge the Burroughs to be the rediest, the country people being at present so much taken up with the harvest. I desire you would send with your armed men what ammunition you can. I have sent the like request to the rest of the well-affected Burroughs.—I am, Gentlemen, your most faithfull and obedient servant,

‘ ARGYLE.’

Upon a Counsel of well-affected gentlemen in the Southern and Western parts of Scotland, a meeting was kept at Dalmelinton, March 18, 1714, when were present—Baillie Miller, from Glasgow; Baillie \_\_\_\_\_, from Jeburg; Sr Wm. Cuninghame of Cuninghamehead; Porterfield of Duchell; L.-Col. Wm. Maxwell of Cardoness; Alexr. Fergusson of Craigdarroch; Thomas Gordon of Earlston; Capt. John Campbell in Paisley (?); J. Ma<sup>c</sup>kadam of Waterhead; with someoyr to ye number of 12 or fourteen.

#### RISING OF 1745.

*Letters of James Fergusson to the Duke of Queensberry.*

#### I.

*Sept. 2nd, 1745.*

MY LORD,—The Invasion in the North of Scotland, which has been for some weeks talked of as a matter of little consequence, seems now more serious. We have many uncertain Reports every day, but by the best accounts its now past doubt that the young Adventurer landed near Fort-William several weeks ago; that a good many of the Highlanders have joined him. Their numbers are yet uncertain. Some say 2000, others 3000; that General Cope,

with twixt 2000 and 3000 regular troops, is gone in quest of them, and was on Tuesday the 27th August within two days' march of them ; and that they are much alarmed at Edinburgh and Glasgow, and are putting themselves as fast as possible in a posture of defence. These Accounts we had here on Saturday last, and may be depended on as true. This day we were informed by letters from Edinburgh that General Cope had gone towards Inverness, and that the Highlanders had taken a nearer way over the mountains and come further South ; that the Marquis of Tullibordine had come with a part of them as far as his Brother the Duke of Athole's house, and had sent orders before him to the Duke's Factor to prepare dinner for him and his Attendants. Upon which the Duke came off for Edinburgh ; and that the Inhabitants of Perth were greatly alarmed and were removing all their valuable Effects. These Accounts came by Express to Edinburgh on Saturday. That night Hamilton's Regiment of Dragoons lay upon their arms in the King's Park, and were to march early on Tuesday morning for Stirling, where Regiment now is. There was this day a meeting of the Justices of the Peace and Commissioners of Supply here, occasioned by a pressing letter from the General Receiver of the Land Tax at Edinburgh demanding payment of the arrears of this Shire without delay. After having settled that matter, the Gentlemen turned their conversation upon the present situation of the Kingdom and the defenceless state of this Shire in particular, and agreed to write to the Justice Clerk the good inclinations of the people and their desire to have arms put in their hands out of the public Magazines, as there were few in the County, and to ask his advice how to behave in the present emergency, whether to rise or wait orders for raising the Militia. A letter to that purpose was sent by express this evening to Edinburgh, and in the meantime it was agreed to make an enquiry without delay what arms are in the Shire. I thought it my duty to give your Grace the above information. I go to Drumlanrig to-morrow, and as the post does not go from this till Wednesday, I have left this with Commissary Goldie, that if anything further occur twixt and then, he may add it.

## II.

*Decr. 18th, 1745.*

MY LORD,—Upon Monday last there was a meeting at Dumfries of the Gentlemen and Clergy, when we received intelligence that the Duke of Cumberland had come up with y<sup>e</sup> Rebels near Lancaster ; y<sup>t</sup> his vanguard had beat a Party of y<sup>m</sup> and driven y<sup>m</sup> into



y<sup>t</sup> town, where he had y<sup>e</sup> main body enclosed ; y<sup>t</sup> the Duke of Perth, with 110 horse, among y<sup>m</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Pretender's son and a good many of y<sup>e</sup> Chiefs were said to be, had got away and were come upon Saturday night last to Shap ; y<sup>t</sup> an express was come to Penrith on Sunday morning from the Duke desiring the country might rise and take care of y<sup>e</sup> stragglers, and that he would take care of y<sup>e</sup> main Body. This Account, y<sup>t</sup> was confirmed by several letters, determined y<sup>e</sup> meeting to agree to raise a considerable body of the best men in this Shire and the neighbouring parishes of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, to secure all the passes in the County. The Presbytery of Penpont are to meet at Thornhill tomorrow, when I intend to make up a Company of at least 100 men out of your Grace's Tenants in y<sup>e</sup> Parishes of Kirkconnel, Sanquhar, Durisdeer, and Morton ; these, I believe, will be sufficient at present, and are as many as I can get any way armed.

A subscription was set on foot last week by some people at Dumfries for raising a sum of money to levy men for six months for recruiting y<sup>e</sup> Regiment now in Scotland at y<sup>e</sup> expense of £4 bounty money to each man. It was proposed to me to write to your Grace concerning it. I declined y<sup>t</sup> till y<sup>e</sup> scheme should be approved by a public meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Gentlemen, and indeed I thought altogether unnecessary to give you the trouble of a letter concerning it, as the time fixed by y<sup>e</sup> proclamation, vizt. to the 25th inst., for enlisting men to be discharged at the end of six months, must be elapsed before any return from your Grace could be expected. I own I also disapproved the Scheme—*First*, Because I saw no probability of getting even y<sup>e</sup> small number which were proposed, being 120 men, to enlist in a place so thinly inhabited, and where there are so few manufactures as in this County ; *2<sup>ndly</sup>*, because I thought it would take to enlist even y<sup>t</sup> number a sum y<sup>t</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> present scarcity of money could not well be spared here in case y<sup>e</sup> militia should be ordered to rise ; and *3<sup>rdly</sup>*, because I thought y<sup>e</sup> service yrby done to His Majesty would be very inconsiderable in comparison of the expense, and it would weaken our hands much in case of any such emergency as y<sup>e</sup> present. I found, however, on Monday last, when I was at Dufs., y<sup>t</sup> some Gentlemen who were extremely kean upon this project had procured a good many subscriptions and listed about half a score of men, and wrote to y<sup>r</sup> Grace concerning it without waiting for y<sup>e</sup> meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Gentlemen and Clergy y<sup>t</sup> was appointed to be on Monday last.

To explain this conduct to your Grace, I must inform you y<sup>t</sup>

when y<sup>e</sup> Rebels past y<sup>e</sup> Forth y<sup>e</sup> Gentlemen of y<sup>e</sup> shire had appointed a Committee of a few of y<sup>r</sup> number about Dumfries to procure intelligence and call yem together by Circular letter upon any emergency. Y<sup>e</sup> Clergy also appointed a Committee of y<sup>r</sup> number to take such measures as was thought proper, and call y<sup>m</sup> together if necessary. A very few of yese two Committees took it in their heads without calling any meeting to contrive y<sup>t</sup> a letter should be wrote to the Lord Justice Clerk, which was accordingly done, and subscribed by a few of y<sup>e</sup> Gentlemen, setting forth y<sup>e</sup> zeal of y<sup>e</sup> Country, and y<sup>t</sup> if orders were given for y<sup>t</sup> purpose a great many men would enlist in terms of y<sup>e</sup> proclamation allowing £4 bounty money to each man who would enlist, to be discharged at y<sup>e</sup> end of 6 months, or when y<sup>e</sup> rebellion should end. Unluckily they blundered in this by confounding two proclamations together, vizt., one offering £4 bounty money to men of a certain age who would enlist in the Guards, and another offering freedom at y<sup>e</sup> end of six months, or when y<sup>e</sup> rebellion should end, to any who would enlist, but y<sup>ch</sup> mentions no bounty. The Justice Clerk in his Return to them commended y<sup>e</sup> zeal, but pointed out the blunder, upon y<sup>ch</sup>, y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> scheme might not altogether be abortive y<sup>ch</sup> they had thus taken upon y<sup>m</sup> to contrive, they set y<sup>e</sup> above project on foot.

As I found they had wrote y<sup>r</sup> Grace, but did not know in what terms, I thought it my duty to take y<sup>e</sup> first opportunity to give you y<sup>e</sup> real and true history of y<sup>e</sup> matter.

At the meeting on Monday, when the above news came and y<sup>e</sup> project of raising y<sup>e</sup> Country was agreed upon, it was likewise y<sup>t</sup> part of the money subscribed should be applied to buy ammunition and pay such men as could not afford to come out on y<sup>r</sup> own charge, as I believe we are all truly zealous to serve His Majesty K. George. I thought it would be very imprudent to say or do anything which might tend to disunite us at this time, so I joined in the subscription with others, tho y<sup>e</sup> first project of enlisting was not quite conjusive (*sic*), in case more money could be got than to answer y<sup>e</sup> present exigency. My present view, and which I flatter myself your Grace will approve of, is to have nothing to do with that money in paying y<sup>e</sup> above number of men y<sup>ch</sup> I propose to raise. Upon y<sup>t</sup> emergency, I expect a good many will come out on their own charge, and to y<sup>e</sup> rest I propose to give 8d. per day, y<sup>ch</sup> will amount to no great sum, as I don't suppose we can be long together, nor would it indeed be proper we should, as we have no person of authority to conduct us.—I Rem., etc.

## III.

*28th December 1745.*

MY LORD,—Since I wrote your Grace the 18th of this, the face of affairs is much changed here. Upon Friday the 20th the Highland Army crossed Esk, and part of them came that night within 8 miles of Dumfries. The 21st the greatest part of them came to Dumfries, the rest having gone to Moffat, and a few came that night within 8 miles of this. The 22nd a few came to Thornhill, but most of them remained in Dumfries. The 23rd they came all here and to the adjacent villages. The 24th they left this and went to Douglas; only some part of them lodged that night in Lead Hills and Wanlockhead and some near Sanquhar. The 25th 40 of them entered Glasgow and demanded quarter for their whole Army in the kirks, meeting houses, and other publick buildings, and said they would not go into private houses. I have yet heard nothing further of their route. At Dumfries they behaved very rudely, strip'd everybody almost of their shoes, obliged the town to give them £1000 and a considerable quantity of shoes, and carried away Provost Crosbie and Mr. Walter Riddell, Merchants, as hostages for £1000 more, which was yesterday sent them to relieve these gentlemen. I was at Thornhill the 21st, in the morning (when I heard of their approach), with a Company of 100 men, which I mentioned in my last, and about 50 Seceders. I retired here and keep'd them together till the evening, when I had certain advice the greater part of the Highland Army was in Dumfries, and that everybody had laid down their arms; upon which I dismissed the people and desired them to secure their arms and horses. The 22nd, in the morning, I left this with all my family, except 9 servants, by day-break, and went to my Father's house at Craigdarroch. The 23rd, about seven in the morning, two letters from Murray, their Secretary, and another from one Riddell, a Fife gentleman and an acquaintance of mine, who is with them, were brought here, and sent from this by express to Craigdarroch, where they found me about ten. The contents were telling me their Prince was to lodge here that night, and requiring me to provide quarters for their whole Army in this house and the adjacent village. They neither mentioned their numbers nor directed me what quantity was to be got, but only desired I would kill a great number of black cattel and sheep, and provide a great quantity of meal. I retired immediately into the Galloway hills about 8 miles further, without giving them any answer, and carried the person who brought me the letters



with me. When they came here they laid straw in the whole rooms for the private men to lye on, except your Grace's bedchamber (where their Prince lay) and a few rooms more. They killed about 40 sheep, part of your Grace's and part of mine, most of them in the vestibule next the Low dining room and the foot of the principal stair, which they left in a sad pickle, as they did indeed the whole house. Under the gallery they kept several of their horses, which they made a shift to get up the front stair. They have destroyed all the spirits and most of the wine in your Grace's Cellars, of both which there was a considerable stock and very good, which has been laid in gradually since I came here ; a good deal of hay and what corn they could get, ale and spirits, and other provisions. They have broken several chairs and tables, melted down a good deal of pewter by setting it upon the fire with their victuals, carried away a good deal of linen and several other things which I have not yet time to know particularly. I returned the 25th, about eleven at night, and found most of the house worse than I could possibly imagine before I saw it. I got as much time on the 21st as to secure all papers in my custody, and the best of the bed and table linen, and some other things of value which escaped undiscovered. I directed the servants to conceal as much wine as possible upon the 22nd after I went off, which they managed so well as to save, I think, above two hogsheads. The Charter Room was not broken open, the servants having assured them the key was not in my custody, and that nothing was in it except papers ; but not having patience till the servants brought the keys of every other place, they broke up many of the doors. They would have done much more mischief, as the servants tell me, at least plundered the whole house, had not the Duke of Perth stayed till most of them were gone. He took sheets and blankets from several who were carrying them off and returned them to the servants, and Mr. Riddell, above mentioned, directed the servants to go through the house all night to prevent fire. Several of them said to the servants, if they had got me here I should have paid £1000 before I had been released ; the others pretended they would have given me no trouble. However, as I was declared a Traitor by their Proclamation requiring all Sheriffs, etc., to attend them and put their Accounts for money in, I have thought best all along to keep out of y<sup>r</sup> hands. May God grant there may never again be any such guests here. By the nearest computation I can make, at least 2000 were lodged in this house and stables. Drink money,



10 guineas (?). Upon the 25th, in the evening, before I came here, upon hearing His Royal Highness the D. of C<sup>nd</sup> was come to Carlisle, I wrote him in case he intended to march any part of his army this way. I waited his commands to do all the service in my power for forwarding it. This, I told H.R.H., I looked upon to be my duty as a faithful subject to His Majesty King George, and as knowing it would be perfectly agreeable to your Grace, the care of whose affairs I had in this place. Upon the 26th 8 men and 5 women who had stragled from the rear of the Highland Army were brought here prisoners. The afternoon before they were plundering near Durisdeer, and were attacked by 14 country people, 7 of whom only were armed; they fired upon the people, but did no execution, upon which those who had guns returned their fire and wounded most of the Highlanders, and before they had time to draw their swords ran upon them and knocked them down. I have sent a party of the people who seized them to H.R.H. along with them. They lye this night at Thornhill, and go on to-morrow. I have not yet heard of the armys being come further than Carlisle. By the best accounts I can have, about 500 men are left in that Garrison. I have sent this by Dumfries, as I see no danger now of letters being intercepted while H.R.H.'s Army is about Carlisle. The Highlanders paid for scarce anything in this country; they eat up poor Howit and Bow House, and paid nothing.

With the greatest regard and esteem, I am.

IV.

*January 7th, 1745.*

MY LORD,—I wrote your Grace the 28th December an account of the behaviour of the Highlanders here. I observe, since, they have quite defaced several of the pictures in the gallery by throwing a liquid of some kind or other upon them. I mentioned in my last that I had wrote the 25th Decbr. to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, offering to do everything in my power for forwarding his Army should it come this way, and that I waited his orders. I sent him inclosed the two letters I got from the Highlanders requiring me to provide quarters for them here. Mr. William Kirkpatrick, Sir Thomas' Brother, and my Father, who were then with me at Craigdarroch, wrote another letter to the same purpose to His Royal Highness. We sent them by Mr. William Moody, Minister of Glencairn. He was very civilly

received by Lord Cathcart, Aid de Camp to His Royal Highness, who told him our letters were very acceptable, and that he would be glad to have seen ourselves. Upon hearing this we thought it our duty to wait upon the Duke, and accordingly Mr. Kirkpatrick and I went to Carlisle the 1st of this. It was late before we got there, and as His Royal Highness was to set out for London next morning by three, we could not see him. He sent his thanks to us by Lord Cathcart, who used us with great civility, and told us it was resolved none of the troops were to come this way, but y<sup>t</sup> our letters were sent to General Hawley in case he should have use for them while in Scotland. Having heard that several of the Gentlemen who had gone to Carlisle from this Shire and the Stewartry of Kirkeudbright had waited on General Inglethorpe, and assured him of the good affections of the Country to His Majesty's Government, and that everybody would be ready to take arms on whatever shape they should be desired, and hearing among other things the raising of a Regiment, for six months or till y<sup>e</sup> Rebellion should be over, of the Gentlemen and people in this Country had been talked of, we took occasion upon the 2nd to wait on the General with Mr. Heron, late Member for the Stewartry, who joined with us in confirming what had been said by others with regard to the affections of the County, but took the liberty to assure him that any scheme of putting this Country in arms would be abortive unless some person of authority to whose directions people of all ranks would cheerfully submit, and in whom they would confide, was proposed to put it in execution, and that none would be so agreeable as your Grace to both these Countys, that under your authority we doubted not but they would make as good a figure, but that it was only deceiving the Government to raise their expectations concerning these Countys in any other view, as most other persons concerned in them upon whose affections to the Government the people should depend were so much upon a level that it could not be expected any one would have authority enough to direct them so that any scheme which they might attempt must necessarily run into confusion by various and contradictory opinions. The General treated us very civilly, and seemed to take what was said extremely well. For my own part, by the few months experience I have had of the present confusion, I am so sensible of the truth of the above observation that except under your Grace's direction I am resolved to have no further concern in raising the people in arms unless the

Militia are called out in a legal manner, and I can assure your Grace several of the Gentlemen here in whose power it is to do most service in that way, have the same intention. Many people who make a bustle and noise about their good affections to the Government have evidently their own private interests so much in view, and are so intent upon having the merit of anything that is done for its service in the Country where they live, that there's no end of proposals, many of which are Idle and no chance of any being right executed otherwise than in the way I have mentioned. Such, I can venture to affirm, is the present situation of the County, and I think it my duty to write plainly to your Grace in this and every thing in which you are so much concerned. May God long preserve you and give you the Return of Many Happy years, and put it in your power to be an instrument of delivering your Country from the present dismal situation in which it is. People of all Ranks here have shown so much their zeal to serve His Majesty King George, that if the Rebels return this way I fear what we have already suffered will appear a trifle in comparison of what we must yet expect.

About 400 private men and 40 officers were made Prisoners at Carlisle. Seven were hanged on the 2nd, and five some days before, of those who had been with General Cope, and had listed with the Rebels. None of the Officers taken were people of any note.

*Communication addressed to the Duke of Cumberland by James Fergusson.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,—Being informed just now of your Royal Highness' approach towards this Country, in pursuit of the Rebels who were at His Grace the Duke of Queensberry's house at Drumlanrig Thursday's night last and left it yesterday morning at 10 o'clock, intending, so far as I can learn, to be at Douglas that night. In point of duty as a faithful subject to His Majesty King George, and as knowing it to be perfectly agreeable to His Grace the Duke of Queensberry, the care of whose affairs I have in this place, I have presumed to send this by Mr. William Moody of Glencairn, to let your Royal Highness know that if any part of your army is to move this way, by Drumlanrig, I only wait your orders to contribute everything in my power which this Country can afford for forwarding your Army, which shall be cheerfully and readily obeyed In whatever your Royal Highness

shall direct by,—Your Royal Highness' most faithful and most obedient Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

Upon the Rebel Army's approach towards Drumlanrig I left it open the day, monday morning. I received y<sup>e</sup> now inclosed letters which, according to my duty, I send your Royal Highness. They were left Monday morning at Drumlanrig, and brought to me that day at 10 o'clock by a servant from there, whom I kept with me till I heard the Rebels were gone.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,—We beg leave to congratulate Your Royal Highness upon your safe arrival with your Army to this Country, and at the same time presume to assure you that nothing shall be wanting on our part to contribute towards the easy march of your troops through this Country, and that we will most cheerfully, and with all expedition that is possible, obey what orders you are pleased to send for that purpose.—Being with the greatest Respect.

*Note of Births, etc., prefixed to Book of Accompts, etc., kept by James Fergusson of Craigdarroch.*

James Fergusson of Craigdarroch was born the tenth day of January One thousand seven hundred and thirteen. Was married upon the Seventeenth day of January jm vii c and forty-three, at the House of Dean, to Euphemia Nisbet, Daughter to Sr John Nisbet of Dean, Barronet.

By her he had one son, born the sixth day of September jm vii c and forty-six at Drumlanrig, and named Alexander after his Grandfather.

And upon the thirteenth day of the same month, that best of women departed this life jm vii c.

He was again married upon the eighth day of January jm vii c and fifty-one, to Elenora Dalrymple, Daughter to The Honourable George Dalrymple of Dama Hoy, one of the Barons of His Majesty's Exchequer in Scotland, in her mother's house in Edinburgh.

By her he had a son named George, after her father, who was born at Dumfries the first day of June jm vii c and fifty-two, and died at Drumlanrig the sixteenth day of July that year.

By her he had another son, named Charles, after His Grace The Duke of Queensberry, who was born at Dumfries The Twenty-eight day of August jm vii c and Fifty-three, and died at Drumlanrig the Twenty-ninth day of March jm vii c and Fifty-four.



By her he had another son, named John, after Capt. Dalrymple of Stairs, her brother, who was born at Drumlanrig the Sixteenth day of February jm vii c and Fifty-five.

By her he had a daughter, named Euphemia, after her mother Mrs. Dalrymple, who was born at Drumlanrig the Fourteenth day of January jm vii c and Fifty-seven.

By her he had another daughter, named Ann, after his mother, who was born at Drumlanrig the twenty-third day of October m vii c and Fifty-nine.

By her he had another son, named Robert, after his Great Grandfather, his brother, and Robert Riddell of Glen Riddell, his brother in Law, who was born at Craigdarroch the thirty-first day of July m vii c and Sixty-two.

By her he had another daughter, named Elizabeth, after her sister Mrs. Bland, widow of Lieutenant General Bland, who was born at Craigdarroch the Twelfth day of April m vii c and Sixty-five.

By her he had another daughter, named Margaret, after her sister Miss Dalrymple, who was born at Craigdarroch the Twenty-seventh day of February m vii c and Sixty-eight.

By her he had another daughter, named Jean, after his sister Mrs. Riddell of Glen Riddell, who was born at Craigdarroch July twenty-eighth, m vii c and Seventy-one.

His son Alexander was married August 1769 to Deborah Cutler, Daughter of Robert Cutler, Merchant in Dumfries, by whom he had a son, named James, after his Grandfather. Born July 6th, 1770, at Edinburgh.

James Fergusson of Craigdarroch died at Stenhouse of a pleuratick Fever upon the 19th of December 1771.

*Excerpt from Book of Accompts and States as to Craigdarroch kept by Ja. Fergusson, beginning 1st December 1749.*

The Estate of Craigdarroch in my possession, at least the greatest part thereof, has been possessed by my Ancestors in a Succession, for the most part Lineal, from father to son, upwards of Two hundred and sixty-five years, as appears by a connected progress of Charters and Sasines, from the last of April 1484, when John Fergusson was infeft in the Lands of Craigdarroch, etc., as heir to Matthew Fergusson of Craigdarroch, his father, to this day: And tho the connected progress from heir to heir does not appear further back, yet there are in my custody documents of a

very old date which show the lands of Craigdarroch were possessed by Fergussons (and who were then people of some Rank) above Three hundred and fifty years ago, particularly a Charter in the year 1398 of the lands of Jardbrugh, granted by Crawford of Dalgarno to Jankine Fergusson, who is therein called Lord of Craigdarroch.

From what appears from the papers of the family, from the Tradition of the Country, and from the common observation that riches dishonestly acquired soon take wings and fly away, it would seem that the estate has been honestly acquired. The proprietors of it have been always esteemed lovers of God and of their country, and men of honour, probity, and personal courage.

When I mention these things, I mean them not as boasting and vanity, but as incitements to myself and posterity to tread in the paths of our Ancestors, to use our honest endeavours, by the blessing of God, to preserve this estate in our family, and to pray that the Supreme Being may enable us to love and fear Him and serve our country to latest generations with contented and thankful hearts for the Station in which He has placed us in this world, and for preserving our Estate for so long a tract of time.

This Estate was brought under considerable debts in the times of confusion and trouble in the days of Robert Fergusson, my Great Grandfather, and John Fergusson, my Grandfather, who was killed in the year 1689 at the Battle of Killycranky, where he served as a Lieut. Colonel in King William's Army, and left Alexander Fergusson, my father, an infant. During his minority the Estate was ill managed and the affairs of the family neglected, so that the debts were increased and the Estate put into his possession, when he became of Age, under very great burdens. Providence never threw any opportunity in his way to lessen these; but though he served in the British Parliament as a member of the House of Commons during the first parliament of King George the first, and always maintained the honour and credit of his family, he has not greatly increased the family debts, when it's considered that he made many considerable and expensive improvements on the Estate, particularly upon the lands of Craigdarroch and those therewith inclosed, purchas'd the lands of Terrarran, and built a handsome house. His strict honour and probity gained and preserved his money credit, so that tho he got the Estate and left it under great burdens, he never was obliged to sell any part of it, but left it entire when he died, upon the

eighth day of March last, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, much regretted by his friends and Country.

Notwithstanding my father's straitned circumstances, he was particularly careful to give me a liberal education, one of the chief dutys which parents owe to their children, and which he so faithfully discharged to me that so far as I did not profit thereby it was my own fault. I have been thereby, by the blessing of God, qualified for the business I have had for some time past, by which, God willing, I propose to maintain my family, and apply all the excrescent Rents of my Estate (after paying annual rents and publick burdens) to extinguish the debts thereon, which, at the same time, as they are very considerable in proportion to the Estate, cannot probably be greatly lessen'd thereby, during my life, unless God in His providence shall give me greater opportunity to extinguish them.

My present situation (with which, I thank God, I am content) makes industry and frugality indispensably necessary. So far as these will go, I think it my duty and honour to endeavour to preserve and relieve my Estate and transmit it entire, if God will, to my posterity. But mean and sordid avarice, and all dishonest and dishonourable ways to acquire riches I hate from my heart. I pray God I may ever do so—may continue to be content with my present condition (which is much better than I deserve)—and that whatever situation of life He in His providence shall place me in, I may be enabled to act such a part as my Duty to God and my Country requires.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have written and subscribed this and the two preceding pages at Drumlangrig, where at present I reside, upon the first day of December One thousand seven hundred and fourty-nine years.

‘JA. FERGUSSON.’

It is interesting also to find among the Craigharroch papers a letter from James Fergusson, afterwards Lord Kilkerran, dated from Kilkerran on 24th March 1729, and containing detailed advice as to the purchase of lands, addressed to Alexander Fergusson of Craigharroch. He commences: ‘Dear Sir, the Bearer has been detained for some days by my absence, having only returned on Saturday's night from my Lord Eglinton's burial, q<sup>n</sup> I found yours q<sup>h</sup> he had left for me. I was pleased to find by it y<sup>t</sup> you are now

building and purchasing land at the same time. I asked Will<sup>m</sup> q<sup>t</sup> kind of mealins they are; he told me they were two of y<sup>e</sup> best grounds in Galloway, marching with your-self, q<sup>ch</sup> is no small encouragement to y<sup>e</sup> purchase.' After discussing the legal aspects of the matter in detail, he continues, 'Were I to make the purchase myself, I'd take y<sup>e</sup> assistance of anoyr of my brethren, and I'd rather risque lessning your opinion of me y<sup>n</sup> offer you a positive advice q<sup>n</sup> I was doubtful'; and concludes, 'You'll, from q<sup>t</sup> I've said, observe how many different views cast up in this case, q<sup>ch</sup> shew y<sup>e</sup> reason of a deliberate advice qh<sup>n</sup> ye are to enter upon this bargain. I have offered you qh<sup>t</sup> at present occurs to me, and shall always be fond of any oportunity of shewing myself, D. Sir, your affectionate well-wisher and obedient, humble servant, Ja. Fergusson.—All here join with me in our compliments to your Lady and daughter.'

Among a large number of burgress tickets<sup>1</sup> are the following:—

Whithorn, 29th Dec. 1703, in favour of Alexander Fergusson of Craigarroch.

Edinburgh, 2nd March 1715, in favour of Alexander Fergusson of Craigarroch.

New Galloway, 10th Dec. 1823. Henry Fergusson.

Kirkcudbright, 3rd July 1834. Robert Cutlar Fergusson of Craigarroch.

'The Fergussons of Craigarroch,' wrote Captain Riddell of Glenriddell,<sup>2</sup> 'are of very great antiquity: they are generally considered as chief of their name in Scotland, and trace their descent from Fergus, Regulus (Prince, or Lord) of Galloway.' Lord Alan of Galloway, a descendant and successor of Fergus, and Fergus of Glencairn, were both witnesses to the charter granted to the monks of Melrose in Alexander II.'s reign.

One of the stones of the house of Craigarroch bears the date 1609, with the initials T. F. and J. M. Another stone bears the initials A. F. and A. L., recording the marriage of

<sup>1</sup> For a fuller list see Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> Glenriddell MS., quoted in *Dumfries Herald*, 25th May 1892.



Alexander Fergusson with 'Bonnie Annie Laurie.' On others are carved the arms and the motto, 'God send grace,' which invocation a lady of the house applied by giving the name Grace to her daughter. In the year 1508 John Fergusson of Craigdarroch and his son Thomas were engaged, with Lord Maxwell and Sir William Douglas, Baron of Drumlanrig, in an attack on Lord Sanquhar, Sheriff of Nithsdale, whom they drove from Dumfries. In this 'grate feicht,' as Sir James Balfour calls it, 'Lord Sanquhar was overthrown and many of his friends killed.' The victors were tried in Edinburgh, but acquitted.

A Fergusson of Craigdarroch, at the head of a troop of horse of the gentlemen of Nithsdale, defeated a party of Cromwell's troops when the army of the Commonwealth invaded Scotland.

A Laird of Craigdarroch was one of the Commissioners appointed, after the battle of Rullion Green, to inquire into the charges of malversation and oppression against Sir James Turner, then commander of the forces in Dumfries, and was a curator to Robert Grierson of Lag, whose name afterwards became so notorious. The next Laird, John Fergusson, is said to have been a devoted Covenanter. 'Tradition has preserved accounts of several narrow escapes which he made, particularly his spirited leap over the flooded Cairn, at the spot since called Gaps Mill—a name associated by tradition with that incident—where the pursuing troopers dared not follow. He just lived to see the Orange dynasty enthroned: being slain at the battle of Killiecrankie.<sup>1</sup> The saddle on which he rode to battle is one of the treasured heirlooms of the family, and a curious piece of workmanship it is, full of cunningly contrived pockets and receptacles for various articles required during the campaign. The Fergussons of Caitloch, a closely

<sup>1</sup> According to tradition the Laird of Craigdarroch lost his life owing to his servant making off with his horse, when the Lowland ranks broke before the fierce rush of Highlanders. It is said that when

'Toom hame cam' the saddle  
But never cam' he,'

the widow, with the hot spirit of her Pictish blood, turned on the unfortunate groom and cursed him in the words: 'May you and yours never see a horse again'; and that from that day to this total blindness, or serious defect of eyesight, has affected all his descendants.

allied branch of the family, were also sufferers in the cause of religious liberty. Wodrow tells of the harsh usage of "Lady Kaitloch" and her children, who were allowed to retain possession of their home for some time after the husband and father had been driven into exile and his estate declared forfeited, but who were afterwards (in 1683) evicted by the soldiery.' Alexander Fergusson, husband of Annie Laurie, maintained the loyalty of his house to the new dynasty, and raised a



R. C. FERGUSSON, M.P.

company for its support in 1715. In 'Major Fraser's Manuscript' mention is made of him being at Dumfries in that year, and associated with Kirkpatrick of Closeburn and others in the defence of the town. The will of his wife, the heroine of the song, is preserved at Craigdarroch. It is a brief holograph document, in which she constitutes her husband sole legatee, and in which her name is spelled 'Anna.'

'The Whistle,' sung of by Burns, and won by their grandson, Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, a distinguished lawyer, remains in the possession of the family. The most eminent of their descendants was Robert Cutlar Fergusson, one of the earliest advocates of Parliamentary Reform, who was tried in 1798, along with the Earl of Thanet, on the charge of aiding one of the prisoners charged with sedition, and for whom he was counsel, to escape. He subsequently went to India, where he became Attorney-General; and, after his return, sat as member for the stewartry of Kirkcudbright till his death, being successful in eight elections. He held the post of Judge-Advocate-General in Earl Grey's and Lord Melbourne's administrations, and was conspicuous for his advocacy in Parliament of the cause of Poland. In 1832 the Polish refugees struck a medal in his honour which 'bore upon one side Mr. Fergusson's profile in high relief—a noble face, strikingly expressive of decision and force of character—and on the other a Latin inscription, of which this is a strict translation: "To Robert Cutlar Fergusson, the pure and steadfast defender of the rights of man, Poland, beaten down by force, surviving her day of prosperity, has made this dedication." Around the portrait also is inscribed a Latin legend which may be thus rendered: "There shall not be wanting some to remember me." It is curious to note that Lairds of Craigdarroch have sat in seven of the old Scottish Parliaments, and in exactly the same number of the Parliaments of the United Kingdom.'

'The larches on the Craigdarroch property,' writes the Rev. John Menteith, author of *The Parish of Glencairn*, 'are among the finest in the country. They were presented by King George II. to a former proprietor of Craigdarroch on their first introduction to Scotland.'

Glencairn, in which Craigdarroch is situated, is the scene of Dr. Walter Smith's 'Boreland Hall,' and it is to Craigdarroch that the following lines refer:—

'Far at the end of the valley open three narrow glens,  
 Each with its own marked features character'd clear as men's;  
 Each with its own fair water finding its fitting way,  
 Rough o'er the rocky channel or still by the bonny brae,

That to the left is rugged : one side a bare bleak hill,  
 With a cataract, rugged, with stones down-rushing as if they would fill  
 The glen with grey desolation ; and halfway down a thorn  
 Seems as it stayed the torrent, and was bent with the weight and worn.

‘ Only that thorn on the hillside grapples the stones with its root,  
 Only some scraggy hazel-bushes straggle about its foot,  
 Only the curlew wails there, and the grouse-cock crows at morn,  
 Only the goat and the coney poise on those stony heaps,  
 Only the parsley fern along their barren spaces creeps ;  
 And far below in the hollow a stream goes plunging on  
 From the rocky steep to the rocky pool, and the rumbling boulder-stone.

‘ The middle glen is wooded : there the ancient lords of the land  
 Leaving their high-pitched eyrie, built a stately house and grand,  
 Right under the Murrough Crag, pine-clad up to the top,  
 And they belted the woods all round them, and bade the highways stop,  
 And they made them a goodly forest, stocked with the wild red-deer,  
 And they drew the stream into fish-ponds, and swept with their nets the  
 mere.

The wild deer bound in the woodlands now, but there is none to care  
 And the trout are fat in the fish-ponds, and the water-lily is fair.

‘ Fair is the glen to the right, in its pastoral beauty still,  
 Green in its holms and hollows, green to the top of each hill ;  
 A line of alder and drooping birch marks where its river flows,  
 But in its bare upper reaches only the juniper grows.  
 The stream comes out of a tarn on the hill whose oozy edge  
 Is fringed with a ring of lilies and an outer ring of sedge ;  
 And there is no road beyond that, only a mountain high,  
 And a cairn of stone where the withered bones of the three brave brothers  
 lie.’

‘ The Fergussons of Craigdarroch,’ says Nisbet, ‘ seem to be of very old standing in the parish of Glencairn and sheriffdom of Dumfries, and that without claiming the antiquities of other families into which they are either thrown by accident or purchase, and have been numerous in their descendants, several families deriving their originals from them ; and notwithstanding of the depredations from the Border to which that Place was frequently liable, and the burning of the house of Craigdarroch, I have seen some old remains of its antiquity : The first is a charter that is extant in the hands of the present Laird of Craigdarroch, which is granted



by John of Crawford, son to the Laird of Dalgernock, to John Fergusson, Dominus de Craigdarroch, his cousin, *pro suo consilio et auxilio*, of the mill of Dalmacallan and Jedburgh, in the barony of Glencairn, in the shire of Dumfries; which charter is without date, but the witnesses, who are all very well known, give us a very near view of the time: the witnesses being thus inserted in the charter; Sir John Stewart, father, Laird of Dalswinton, Sir Walter Stewart, Sir John Stewart, Sir Alan Stewart, his sons. It is agreed by historians that this John Stewart of Dalswinton lived in the reign of David Bruce, and that he was taken prisoner with him at the battle of Durham in the year 1346, and that the foresaid Walter Stewart's only daughter and heir was in the year 1396 married to John Stewart, son of Sir Walter Stewart, sheriff of Tweeddale, descended of the house of Darnly. It is to be observed that this charter is backed by a hand above a hundred years old, and the figure 25 is marked upon it, which seems to infer that twenty-four preceding papers have been lost. The next is a curious old charter in English, granted by John Crawford of Dalmacallan in Glencairn, to Jonkine Fergusson, Laird of Craigdarroch, confirming two other charters, viz., one granted by John Huchchanson of Crawford, cousin to the foresaid John Crawford, of the four merks worth of land of Jedburgh to the said Jonkine Fergusson, and another charter, granted by John Crawford, the foresaid John Crawford's son, to the said Jonkine Fergusson of the mill of Jedburgh: which charter is backed by the foresaid old hand, and figured twenty-eight; and in the 12th of January 1727 it has been in the hands of that great antiquary, Sir James Dalrymple of Killoch, and was registrated at that time as a probative writ. The next is a sasin under the hands of Thomas Lockhart, notar-public, for infesting John Fergusson of Craigdarroch as son and heir to Mathew Fergusson of Craigdarroch, dated the last day of April 1484. From which John Fergusson of Craigdarroch I have seen a complete progress from father to son to the present Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, who was married to Anne Laurie, daughter to Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwelton, and Jean Riddell his lady: with which Anne Laurie he has

these children, James, Robert, and Jean Fergussons. The said Alexander was chosen member of Parliament in the year 1717: by the contracts of marriage it appears they have been honourably married to the families of Glencairn, Morton, Lag, Gadgirth, and Balmaghie, and that oftener than once.'

Nisbet also notes: 'I am certainly informed that the same arms as in the Lyon Register, together with the arms of Katherine Cunningham, daughter to the Earl of Glencairn, are above the door of the old house of Craigdarroch.'<sup>1</sup>—(Nisbet's *Heraldry*, ii. Appendix, p. 91.)

The Fergussons of Craigdarroch are, according to the author of *The Parish of Glencairn*, 'the most ancient family in Glencairn whose representatives are still living. It is impossible accurately to determine its antiquity. It was probably of Scoto-Irish extraction.' About the Restoration 'the property possessed by the Fergussons appears to have comprised the whole lands between the Dalwhat and Castle-fairn waters, besides the lands of Jedburgh.' During the Civil War, 'when James, second Earl of Queensberry, was on his way to join Montrose after the battle of Kilsyth, Craigdarroch and the leading men of Glencairn intercepted and took him prisoner.' In 1715 the Duke of Argyll, Commander-in-Chief for King George, wrote to Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 'as the leading loyalist in Nithsdale,' a letter (of which the following is a part), dated Edinburgh, 16th September 1715:—'Your Lord-Lieutenant not yet being come down to give orders for drawing out such other of the well-affected people as should be thought necessary, and I being convinced of your zeal and good inclinations to serve our King and country, and looking upon you as my particular friend, I apply to you on this occasion, and desire you would forthwith come to Stirling with what number of well-armed men you can get together to join the King's regular forces. This will be of infinite service to his Majesty, and will not fail to be acknowledged as such.' M'Dowall, in his *History of Dumfries*, adds:—'If Argyle had suspected the existence of serious danger in the south, he would not have summoned

<sup>1</sup> Nisbet was correctly informed. The arms referred to are now (1895) on the wall of Craigdarroch House.

Mr. Fergusson to Stirling; and that gentleman not thinking that his services would soon be pressingly required at home, proceeded to Keir Moss, Penpont, with about sixty well-armed recruits raised in the parishes of Glencairn and Tynron. . . . After patriotic addresses from Mr. Fergusson and Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, many more volunteers were obtained for the King's Army. . . . The company he brought to Stirling proved a valuable acquisition to Argyle; but hearing soon afterwards of the Jacobite movement in Dumfriesshire, Mr. Fergusson, at the Duke's instance, retraced his steps that he might defend the King's interests in his native county.'

'There are many traditions,' writes Menteith, 'connected with this family. It is said that the Jonkyne Fergusson alluded to in the first charter lived at Jerbruck, and had twelve sons. They were freebooters, whose principles were summarily comprehended in the well-known lines:—

"That they should take who have the power,  
And they should keep who can."

On one occasion, when practising archery on the Moat of Ingleston, with which there was said to have been underground communication from Jerbruck, they were surprised, and, with one exception, taken prisoners. They were sent to various parts of the country. One of them was sent to the water of Girvan, where he became the ancestor of the Fergussons of Kilkerran. Another was sent to Dalswinton. This Fergusson while there, having risen early one morning, observed that the river was flooding the country. He ran and told his master, Comyng of Dalswinton, who said to him that the part which was surrounded with water should be given him. Hence the "Fergussons of the Isle." Another was sent to the west of Scotland, and became the ancestor of the Fergussons of Beith.'

There are several traditions relating to the Covenanting times. 'It is said that several attempts were made to seize the Laird, who favoured the Covenanters. On one occasion, as he was quietly riding along the road to Moniaive, near Gapps Mill, a body of troopers made their appearance at the bend of the Cairn below the present Crawfordton House. At



the place where they met there was an opening in the wall, and the commander of the troopers having recognised the Laird, cried, "Guard the gap." "I'll guard the gap," replied the dauntless Laird; and, turning his horse's head, dashed through it, followed by his enemies. The river Cairn, which at the time was swollen with rain, intercepted his progress; but the Laird, giving his good steed the spur, cleared the water with a bound, and landed safely on the opposite bank. This tradition is, however, not agreeable to other narratives apparently more authentic. Again, it was at Craigdarroch House that John Stevenson, the Ayrshire Covenanter, was hidden. His wife, who was nurse to Craigdarroch's child, was greatly esteemed by her mistress, and for her sake her husband was admitted into a private apartment of the house. There is a story told by Simpson which has a stronger appearance of probability than the tradition just mentioned. It relates to the capture of a party of Covenanters at Ferguson's of Caitloch. The dragoons seized a number of persons at Caitloch, among whom was Alexander Ferguson of Threeriggs. This little band of captives was conducted to Moniaive to undergo an examination before the authorities. Ferguson had in his pocket a number of musket-balls, which he scattered unnoticed among the thick grass, that he might divest himself of anything suspicious. It happened that the Laird of Craigdarroch was among the examiners when the prisoners were introduced, and, seeing the son of his friend of Threeriggs among the rebels, was greatly distressed. He was fully aware that the slightest evidence of his being a Covenanter would ensure the ruin of the fine young man who stood before him, and perhaps the ruin of the whole family. Craigdarroch did not seem to recognise him as a kinsman, nor did Ferguson take any notice of the Laird. They knew that anything like a mutual recognition would be received in an unfavourable light. Meanwhile, Craigdarroch was devising means for the rescue of his friend. He was sitting apparently at his ease and casting a careless look at the prisoners, when suddenly, as if surprised, he raised his voice in a loud and indignant tone, and addressing Ferguson as if he had been his shepherd, exclaimed, "Sandy, what



business have you here? How came you to leave the sheep on my hill without my permission? Begone, sir, instantly, and attend more carefully to your flock." Ferguson took the hint and stole away, as if ashamed, without any interruption. Some time after this Craigdarroch met him, and, congratulating him on his escape, said, "I am as warmly attached to the cause as you are, for it is the cause of liberty and religion. I have been successful in effecting your escape this time, but should you happen to be taken again it will not be in my power to save you. Therefore, my young friend, look to yourself." The caution, however, was of no avail. The Fergusons of Threeriggs espoused the Covenanting cause. They were declared rebels, and their estate was given to their neighbour, the Laird of Glencresh.

'The Fergussons sustained very heavy losses through the failure of Douglas Heron and Co.'s Bank in 1772. They were among the largest shareholders of that ruinous concern, having £1500 worth of shares—a large sum in those days. In order to meet the calls that were made upon him, the proprietor of Craigdarroch had to part with large portions of his estate. Much has since been bought back, but the Craigdarroch property is not now half the size it once was.

'On one occasion Lord Brougham was paying a visit to Fergusson of Craigdarroch. During his visit a public dinner took place at the inn at Moniaive. After dinner, Brougham took out a cigar which he was about to light, when one of the company objected to his smoking at the table. Brougham persisted. Thereupon the objector seized a wine-glass, and shied it at Brougham's head. Brougham sent another back. Then followed a decanter from each combatant; and in a short time the table might have been cleared of every available missile, had not one of the company, a tall and powerful man, at this stage of the conflict risen from his seat, went up to Brougham, lifted him as if he had been a child, carried him downstairs out of the house, and deposited him safely in the courtyard.'

'The Fergussons,' says M'Dowall, in his *History of Dumfries*, 'another Celtic family, existed very early in Dumfriesshire; but whether they belonged to a sept of that name

which had its chief seat to the north of Dunkeld, or were descended from some earlier settlers in the south, is not known. Early in the fourteenth century John of Crauford, son of the Laird of Dalgarnock, granted a charter of lands in the parish of Glencairn to his cousin, John Fergusson, "Dominus de Craigdarroch," and it is believed that the estate so called—which is owned by them till this day—had been at that date in their possession for several generations. Not a few members of the Craigdarroch family acquired distinction as soldiers and lawyers; one of them in recent times figured as the hero of Burns's ballad, "The Whistle," on gaining which trophy he was thus addressed by the bard:—

"Thy line, that have struggled for freedom with Bruce,  
Shall heroes and patriots ever produce :  
So thine be the laurel and mine be the bay,  
The field thou hast won by yon bright god of day."

'A branch of the family, the Fergussons of Isle, resided for many centuries in the neighbouring parish of Kirkmahoe: their house, a fine specimen of a Scottish gentleman's domicile during the Middle Ages, is still to be seen entire, though untenanted, overlooking the patrimonial acres, and other ground full of historical and poetical interest—Dalswinton, Friars Carse, the lands of Lag, and Ellisland—on which we must not pause to dilate.

'The Fergussons are literally "the sons of Fergus"; and in like manner another ancient Dumfriesshire family, the Griersons, are "the sons of Gregor," those of them who settled in Lag tracing their descent from Gilbert, second son of Malcolm, Dominus de Macgregor, who died in 1374.'

The following is an account of the Craigdarroch family, given by Sir Bernard Burke in his *Landed Gentry* (1894):—

'The Fergussons of Craigdarroch are of very ancient standing in the Sheriffdom of Dumfries, and the name is familiar to all who are acquainted with the minute history of Scotland. A Fergusson of Craigdarroch was one of the first that signed the Solemn League and Covenant; another headed a small handful of men who defeated a portion of Cromwell's army at Glencairn, 1500 strong, in 1651; and a third fell at the battle of Killiecrankie. From

John Fergusson of Craigdarroch, son and heir of Matthew Fergusson of Craigdarroch, living in 1484, derived

‘Alexander Fergusson, Esq. of Craigdarroch, chosen M.P., 1717, m. Anne, daughter of Sir Robert Laurie of Maxweltown, and was direct ancestor of

‘Right Hon. Robert Cutlar Fergusson, Esq. of Craigdarroch, son of Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, a distinguished Scottish advocate, the hero of Burns’s song, “The Whistle.” Mr. Cutlar Fergusson, who was born 1769, the representative of two very ancient houses, the Fergussons of Craigdarroch and the Cutlars of Orroland, was called to the English Bar, 1797, and for about twenty years practised with great success at Calcutta. Returning to his native country, he was elected M.P. for Kirkcudbright, 1826. In 1834 he was appointed Judge-Advocate-General, and at the same time sworn of the Privy Council. He m. 17 May 1832, Marie Josephine, daughter of General Auger, in the French service, and by her (who m. secondly, the Vicomte de Prangy, and d. in Paris, 1 Sept. 1858), had issue

‘Robert Cutlar, of whom presently.

‘Adelaide, m. Mons. de Forcade, half-brother of Marshal St. Arnaud, Commander-in-Chief of the French Army in the Crimea, and died 25 Dec. 1889.

‘Mr. Cutlar Fergusson died at Paris 16 Nov. 1838.

‘His son and successor,

‘Robert Cutlar Fergusson of Craigdarroch, co. Dumfries, and of Orroland, in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, J.P., born 3 Dec. 1836; m. 26 Sept. 1854, Ella Frances Catherine, only daughter of Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., and by her (who m. 2ndly, 8 Oct. 1861, Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. Sir James Charlemagne Dormer, K.C.B., General commanding Madras Army, who died from the effects of the bite of a tigress 3 May 1893) had issue—

‘Robert Cutlar, now of Craigdarroch.

‘Archibald William Cutlar, late Lieut. Rifle Brigade, b. 3 Aug. 1856.

‘Alexander Edward, b. 28 Nov. 1857; d. 20 June 1859.

‘Mr. Fergusson died 6 Oct. 1859.

‘Robert Cutlar Fergusson of Craigdarroch, late Captain Scots Guards, b. 26 July 1855; [served as A.D.C. to his uncle, General Sir Archibald Alison, G.C.B., in Egypt]; m. 5th Feb. 1889 Rose, elder daughter of John Grant Hodgson, Esq. of Cabalba, co. Hereford, and by her (who d. 1890) has issue—

‘Ella, } twins, b. 12 Oct. 1889.’  
 ‘Esmé, }



(I.13)



(I.15)



(I.16)

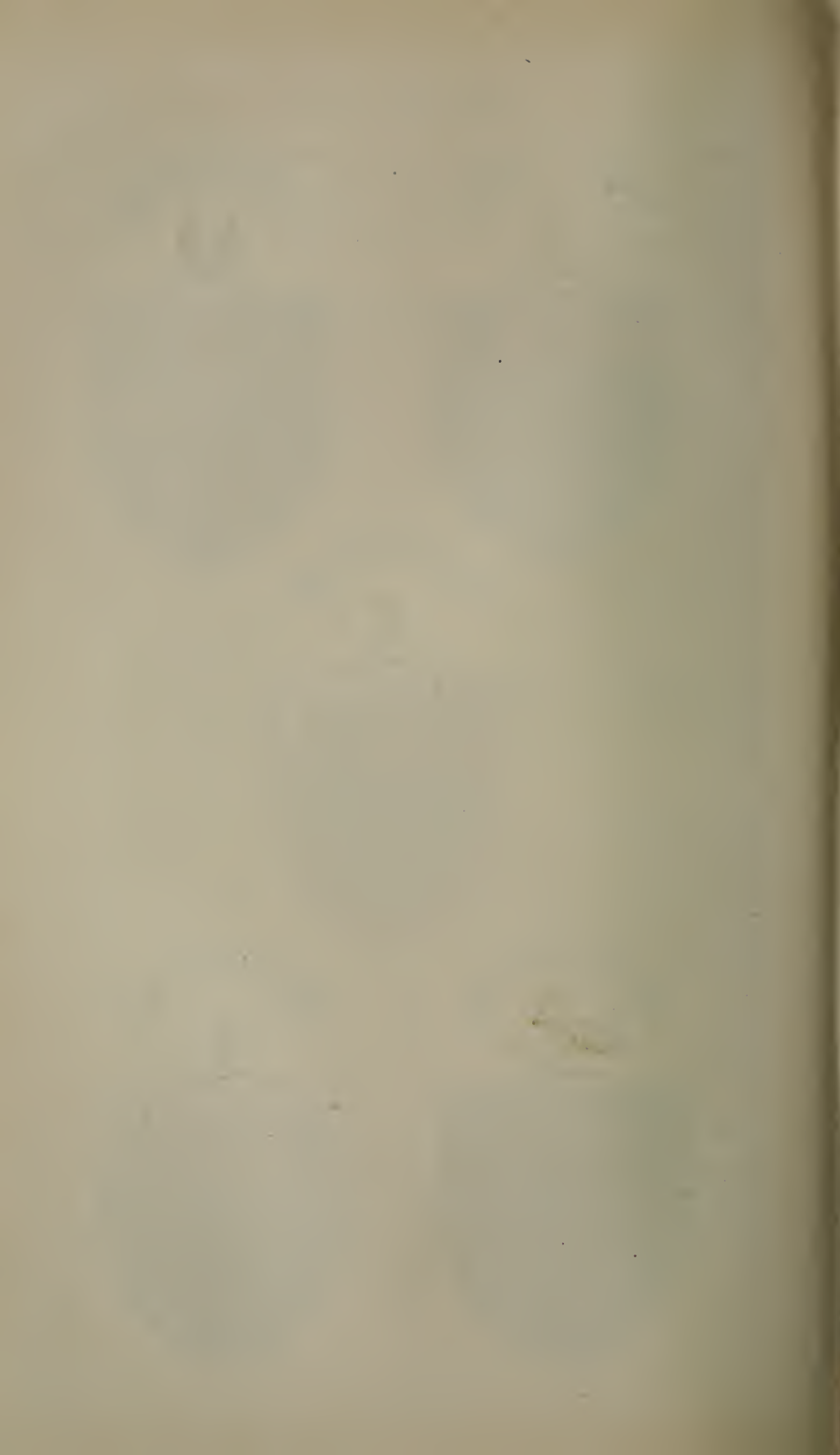


(I.14 & II.2)



(I.17)





From the family of Craigdarroch descended *General James Fergusson, G.C.B.* (1787-1865), who was the son of Charles Fergusson by his cousin, daughter of Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch. He entered the army in 1801, was soon transferred to the 43rd Light Infantry, and served with distinction throughout the whole Peninsular war. 'Who,' says Napier in narrating the siege of Badajos, 'can sufficiently honour the hardihood of Fergusson of the 43rd, who, having in former assaults received two deep wounds, was here, his former hurts still open, leading the stormers of his regiment; the third time a volunteer, the third time wounded.' After Salamanca he was promoted Major into the 79th Regiment. After serving in others, in 1825 he became Lieutenant-Colonel of the 52nd, one of the old Light Division Regiments, at the head of which he remained for thirteen years. He was appointed A.D.C. to King William IV.; was Commander-in-Chief at Malta; was publicly thanked by the Secretary of State for his services there during the Crimean campaign; and was subsequently Governor and Commander-in-Chief at Gibraltar. General Fergusson died at Bath on 4th September 1865. (For arms see ch. xiii.)

## EXTRACTS FROM PUBLIC RECORDS, ETC.

Sept. 30, 1512. William Douglas of Drumlanrig, Johne Fergusson of Cragdarroche, Thomas Fergusson, his son, and their complices, accused as art and part of the slaughter of Robert Crichton of Kirkpatrick, were discharged because the said Robert was a rebel at the horne, Fergy Fergusson and Robin Fergusson being, however, excepted from this discharge.—(Pitcairn's *Crim. Trials*, i. p. 79.)

Dec. 16, 1528-9. John Fergusson of Cragdarauche was among those denounced rebels for their abiding from the King's host and army at Tantallon.—(Pitcairn's *Crim. Trials*, i. 150.)

Dec. 6, 1536. Thomas Fergusson of Cragdarroch had a remission for all crimes committed prior to this date.—(Pitcairn's *Crim. Trials*, i. 248.)

7th July 1542. Tho. Fergusson de Cragdarroch is a witness to a charter of James Douglas of Drumlanrig.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* ii. 2718.)

10 Feb. 1574-75. Letters of legitimation to Robert Fergusson, natural son of the late Thomas F. of Cragdarroch.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iii. 2359.)

13th April 1585. 'Fergusson of Craigdarroch' is among persons charged to appear before the King and Council 'to have underlyne sik ordour and directioun as suld have bene gevin to thame for the weill and quietnes of the cuntrey.'—(*P. C. Reg.* iii. p. 735.)

'Fergusson elder of Craigdarroch' is among persons ordained to find caution—he in 3000 merks—to 'obey the King, his Lieutenant and Warden in the pursuit of Lord Maxwell and his rebellious adherents, and for their entry before the Privy Council or the justice when required.'—(*P. C. Reg.* iii. p. 736.)

28th Nov. 1587. Letters raised by Johne Fergusson, son of Archie Fergusson in Glencorshe, stated that he had obtained a decree before the Sheriff of Dumfries against Thomas Fergusson in Scruba, son of Williame Fergusson in Catloche, decerning the said Thomas to have done wrong in ejecting the complainer from the lands of Scruba in February 1577, and occupying the same himself ever since that time. He had obtained authority to poind, and on the 14th Oct. last the Messenger had 'apprehendit' on the lands of Scruba 18 score sheep and 14 old and six young nolt belonging to the said Thomas; but as they were driving them to Sanquhar, 'Robert Fergusson in Benbray, Johne Fergusson in Comrik, . . . Thomas Fergusson in Scruba, . . . Malcolme Fergusson in Kaitloch, Robert Fergusson, son of John Fergusson of Craigdarroch, with their accomplices, "bodin in feir of weir," all hounded out by John Fergusson of Craigdarroch, "wrangously, maisterfullie, and be force reft, intromittit with, and away tuke the forsaidis hail guidis fra the saidis officiaris and deforceit thame.'" The accused, with John F. of C. and Robert, his son, having failed to appear, were ordained to be denounced rebels.

On 20 Dec. caution was given for them that they would appear by John Maitland of Auchingassil and Archibald Wauchope of Niddrie.—(*P. C. Reg.* iv. 231 and 236.)

1590. Craigdarroch appears in the roll of 'Landit men' upon the borders.—(*P. C. Reg.* iv. p. 786.)

April 30, 1591. John Fergusson of Craigharrauch was Chancellor of an Assize in a case of parricide.—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, i. p. 241.)

27 Jan. 1592-3. R. F. apparent of Craigdarroch, cautioner for John Maxwell of Mocquhanrig.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. 580.)

16 May 1594. R. F. of C., cautioner for 'Laird Lauchlison.'—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 620.)

20 Feb. 1594. R. F. of C., cautioner for Griersons, elder and yr. of Barjarg.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. 645.)

7th April 1597. Caution in 2000 merks by Johne Fergusoun of Craigdarroch that he, and all for whom he is answerable, shall keep the peace and redress all 'attemptattis' that shall happen to be committed by him or them.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 743.)

17 June 1597. Robt. F., app. of C., cautioner for Robt. Fergusoun in M'—, not to harm Andrew, Lord Stewart of Uchiltry.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. 685.)

17 April 1600.—John F. of Craigdarroch, R. F., his son and apparent heir; John F. in Corridow, Thomas F., son of James F. in Chapelmark, appear in answer to a Sheriff-officer's complaint touching their 'allegeit persute and invasion of him with gunis and pistolettis, and hurting and wounding of him in divers partis of his body.' Protest.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 103.)

21st July 1600. John F. of C. as principal and John F. of the Yle as surety, 1000 merks, not to harm Cuthbert Greer of Dalskairth or John M'Call in Glendan.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 658.)

13th June 1601. John F. of the Yle for Johne F. of C., £1000; Robert F., his son and app. heir, 1000 merks; Thomas F., also his son, John F. in Blaroch . . . 500 merks each not to harm Thomas F., son of James F. of Chapelmark.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 687.)

22nd June 1601. Caution in 500 merks for Thomas F., son of James F., now in Glencryse, not to harm John F. of C.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 688.)

20th July 1604. Robt. F., yr. of C., witness to a bond.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 645.)

23rd Jan. 1605. Caution for Robt. F., app. of Craigdarroch, in £1000 not to harm Johne Greirsoun, son and heir of the late Cuthbert G. of Dalskairth. Among the witnesses are 'Andro Fergusoun, clerk at Glencarne Kirk; John F. in the Kirkland of Glencarne; James F. in Shankeschiell.'—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. p. 584.)

2nd Oct. 1606. Caution by Gilbert Gordon of Schirmeris for



John F. of C., Robt. F., yr. of C., and Thomas F., son of said John, not to harm A. Menzies of Enoch, etc. Bond written by Thomas F. at Schirmeris, and signed before John F., son of the said Robert, etc.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 674-5.)

29th Sept. 1608. Bond by Sir Robt. Douglas of Coshogill for A. M. of E. not to harm the above.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 673.)

13th Oct. 1608. Complaint by Adam Menzies of Enoch that John F. of Craighdarroch, Robert and Thomas F., his sons, John F., son of the said Robert, John Fergusoun in Correchdow, Thomas F. in Pymbey, Robert F. of Macalstoun, Johne F. of Over Inglishtoun, Ninian F. in Knoknaplait (Knokaskit), and John F. of Blairochy, alleging that the complainer molests them, had charged him to find lawburrows in £1000.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 178.)

15th Nov. 1608. Complaint by John F. of Craighdarroch, R. F., yr. of C., and Thos. F., son of said John, against A. M. of Enoch, etc.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 193.)

4th Aug. 1608. Caution for the above.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 664.)

16 March 1609. Petn. of John F. of Craighdarroch for lawburrows against Thomas Fergusoun in Chappel Mark, etc.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 789)

17th Sept. 1609. R. F., yr. of Craighdarroch, witness to a bond.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 710.)

24 May 1610, and 20 June 1610. Robert Fergusone of Craighdarroch recorded as a member of assize on the first date, and Alexander Fergusone of Braikinsyde on the second.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 320.)

1614. Thomas Fergusone, son of the late . . . F. of Craighdarroche is mentioned as present at a transaction relating to the lands and barony of Glencarne on 16 August 1614. In the same the lands of Lochur are mentioned as having been granted to William Welsche of Colliestoun and Mariota Fergusone, his spouse, on 28 Nov. 1564.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 1546.)

20 Feb. 1617. Grant to Thomas Fergusoun, brother of Robert F. of Craighdarroch, of the lands of Arnetosche (Arnelosche?), Cubbox, and Dalcharnachan, in the parish of Balmaclellane and lordship of Galloway, and the lands of Glensyntoun, with the fishings in the parish of Partoun and Stewartry of Kirkeudbright.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 1590.)

1st Aug. 1627. Confirmed a charter dated 12 Sept. and 21 Dec. 1626, by which George Rig, granted to William Ferguson of Craighdarroch,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mercatas terrarum de Dunreggane, in the parish of Glencairn and County of Dumfries, Thos. Fergusson of Catloch being a witness, and John Fergusson of Blakstoun a notary.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* 1620-1633, 1129.)

26 March 1630. William Fergusson of Craighdarroch is referred to as one of the curators of Agneta, Jeanna, and Nicola Griersones, heirs-portioners of James Grierson of Bracoche.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* 1620-1633, 1569.)

Jan. 3, 1685. Joannes Fergusson de Craighdarroch *heres* Roberti Fergusson de Craighdarroch *patris*.—(*Retours, General*, 6605.)



ISLE TOWER.

FERGUSSON OF ISLE.

‘The Fergussons of Isle, represented by Robert G. D. Fergusson, are also a family of ancient date. The property has been in their possession from the days of Robert the Bruce, and probably the lands were a grant from that great monarch for some important service rendered in the war of Scottish independence.’<sup>1</sup>

The Isle burying-place is in the old churchyard of Dunscore. Over the door is the following inscription:—

‘In memory of ROBERT FERGUSON of Isle, Esquire, a most worthy gentleman and warm friend, who died, the last heir-male of that ancient and respectable family, on September XVII., MDCLXVIII., in the LXIX. year of his age.

‘This monument is erected by Mrs. Isobel and Henrietta Fergusons, two of his sisters-german. ‘A.D. MDCCLXX.’

It is noticeable that in this inscription the name is spelt with one s. Many Fergusons are buried in Dunscore. A Laird of Isle is said to have married a sister of ‘Bonnie Annie Laurie.’

The following is the account given by Sir Bernard Burke (1894) of the Fergussons of Isle:—

<sup>1</sup> *Dumfriesshire Courier*, August 24, 1875.

‘This is a branch of the ancient family seated at Craigdarroch.

‘John Fergusson of Isle had a charter, 20 Dec. 1580; his son,

‘Alexander Fergusson of Isle, in 1602, had a remission for killing Gilbert Wallace; bought Ferdingwell in 1612; had issue—

‘Alexander;

‘Robert, who, with Agnes Graham, his wife, has sasine of the lands of Lago, etc., 1665.

‘The eldest son, Alexander Fergusson, Esq. of Isle (who is said in Douglas’s *Peerage* to have married a daughter of Sir John Dalzell of Glenae, son of the Earl of Carnwath), had a precept of *clare constat*, 1659. He married Elizabeth Maxwell, and left Agnes, m. 1685, John Maxwell of Baltersan,<sup>1</sup> and a son,

‘Alexander Fergusson of Isle, advocate, M.P. for Dumfriesshire, 1704-7, who had precept as heir to his father, 1699; added to the family estate by purchase, and died, 21 Feb. 1719, aged 67. He married first, Agnes, daughter of John Crichton, Esq. of Crawfordton, co. Dumfries, and had

‘Robert, his heir;

‘Janet, m. 12 March 1706, Captain George Chalmers, of the Earl of Drumlanrig’s Regiment of Foot in the Dutch service, who died at Helvoetsluys, 16th February 1756. He was eldest son of Thomas Chalmers, advocate, who m. 16th January 1679, Mary, daughter and co-heir of Sir John Cooper of Gogar, co. Edinburgh, and grandson of James Chalmers, advocate, a second son of the family of Ashentrees. Mrs. Chalmers d. at Gibraltar, 12th January 1739, leaving

‘John Chalmers, of whom presently;

‘Jane Chalmers, b. 11th June 1725; m. Lieutenant Francis Pringle, brother of Robert Pringle of Edgefield, a Senator of the College of Justice, and had two sons, Thomas and Henry, who d. unm., and Anne Pringle, m. James Fowler Baker, M.D., and had a daughter, Jane Mary Baker, who m. 1808, Joseph Gillon Fergusson, Esq., and left a son,

<sup>1</sup> On 27th March 1697 John Maxwell of Baltersan executed a bond at Isle to which one of the attesting witnesses was William Fergusson, brother-german to Mr. Alexander Fergusson of Isle.



‘Robert Don Gillon, who succeeded to Isle, 1831.

‘Alexander Fergusson, m. secondly (contract, 29 May 1693), Agnes, widow of Robert Gordon of Shirmers, co. Kirkcudbright, daughter of Sir Robert Laurie of Maxweltoun, Bart., sister of ‘Bonnie Annie Laurie,’ and had

‘Isabel, d. unkm.;

‘Henrietta, d. unkm.;

‘Mary, d. unkm.;

‘Agnes, m. James Maxwell of Steilstoun, co. Dumfries, d. *s.p.*

‘Jean, m. (contract, 27 April) Robert Fergusson, Esq. of Fourmerkland, co. Dumfries, and had issue.

‘Alexander Fergusson, m. thirdly, 2 December 1712, Margaret, daughter of John Brown, Esq. of Braid, co. Edinburgh, widow of Joseph Marjoribanks of Leuchie and of Thomas Edgar, surgeon in Edinburgh. His eldest son,

‘Robert Fergusson of Isle, entailed his estate, 23 July 1768, and d. *s.p.* 19 Sept. following. His sisters, Isabel, Henrietta, Agnes, Mrs. Maxwell, and Mary, had a liferent interest, which they in June 1772 renounced in favour of their nephew,

‘John Chalmers of Camelon, co. Stirling, captain, R.A., b. 14 Oct. 1709, who assumed the name of Fergusson. He m. Anne, daughter of William Comrie of Comrie, Perthshire, and d. 6 July 1780, leaving an only child,

‘Johanna Fergusson of Isle. She m. first, Michael, son of Sir Michael Bruce of Stenhouse, Bart.; and, second (contract, 4th June 1798), Selkirk Stewart, captain, 4th Fencibles, who assumed the name of Fergusson. Mrs. Fergusson died, 10 May 1831, without issue, and was succeeded by her cousin,

‘Robert Don Gillon-Fergusson of Isle, b. 5 July 1812; m. 18 November 1842, Agnes, daughter of James Curle of Evelaw, co. Roxburgh, and d. 16 September 1879, leaving one son, now of Isle, and a daughter, Isabella Romanes.

‘Joseph Gillon-Fergusson of Isle, b. 24 January 1848; m. 24th January 1882, Edith Mary, daughter of James Scott Elliot of Blackwood, co. Dumfries, of the family of Elliot of Larriston, and by her (who died 1890) has issue—

‘1. Robert Don, b. 17 November 1884.

‘2. James Scott Elliot, b. 1 November 1885.

‘3. Joseph Chalmers, b. 31 May 1888.

‘4. Isobel May.’

EXTRACTS FROM PUBLIC RECORDS.

18th Nov. 1580. Charter to Rob. Maxwell of Cowhill, confirmed cum precepto sasine directo Jo. Fergusson de Ile.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iv. 43.)

3rd May 1593. Complaint by Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, against Johne Fergusone of the Yle, and Alexander Fergusone his son, *inter alios* for making ‘an unlawful band and league.’—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 74.)

9th April 1594. Caution by Sir A. Stewart of Garlies, for J. F. of Ile, in 1000 merks, and A. F. his son, in 300 merks, not to harm Closeburn.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 617.)

May 29th 1601. Johne Fergusone of the Yle sat on an assize.—(*Pitcairn’s Crim. Trials*, ii. 355.)

August 1st 1601. He acted as chancellor of an assize.—(*Pitcairn’s Crim. Trials*, ii. 355.)

21st Feb. 1604. Alexander F. of the Yle, cautioner for Peter Macdougall of Machrimore.—(*P. C. Reg.* vi. p. 816.)

8th July 1605. Caution for Al. F. of Ile.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 607.)

1606. John F. of the Yle mentioned.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 252.)

Alex. F. of Ile mentioned, 24th Sept. 1606.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 655.)

24th Sept. 1607. Alexander F. of the Ile mentioned.—(*P. C. Reg.* vii. 443.)

1607. Alex. F. of Isle mentioned.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 13.)

2nd Nov. 1607. Al. F. of Ile mentioned as at the horn.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. p. 631.)

25th Feb. 1608. Complaint by Alex. F. of Ile, that R. Grahame of Reidkirk remains unrelaxed from a horning of 7th June 1606, for not restoring him 27 kye, 10 oxen, and a grey horse.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 57, 58.)

15th Feb. 1610. Precept of sasine directed to John Fergusson of Iill.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 243.)

June 5th 1612. Alexander Fergusone of the Yle and others were delatit for contravening the Proclamatioun in abyding fra the Raid of the Yles in anno 1608. On the same day the same charge was passed from as regards James Fergusoun of Crochedow, proved to be sick. The prosecution was ultimately dropped.—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, iii. 225.)

16th July 1612. Complaint of Alex. F. of Yle against Wm. Johnston, yr. of Graitney, for not restoring certain kye and oxen.—(*P. C. Reg.* ix. 411.)

17th Dec. 1616. Tho. Fergusone of Ketloche, Joh. Fergusone of Carrochdu, and Alex. Fergusone of Ile appear as members of an assize.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 1258.)

Sept. 30th 1679. Magister Alexander Fergusone de Yle *hæres* Alexandri Fergusone de Yle *patris*.—(*Retours, Gen.*, 8720.)

#### FERGUSSON OF CAITLOCH.

‘This family,’ writes the Rev. John Menteith in *The Parish of Glencairn*, ‘was a branch of the Fergussons of Craigdarroch. It possessed at the close of last century the property of Dunreggan as well as Caitloch. It was a family conspicuous for its favour to the Covenanters. The name of Thomas Ferguson of Caitloch appears in the list of the committee of gentlemen in Nithsdale who supported the Covenanters. Caitloch House was a well-known place of refuge for them. It was to Caitloch that Mr. Blackadder betook himself for safety when ejected from Troqueer in May 1662. A party of the King’s Life-Guard of Horse, commanded by Byte-the-Sheep Turner, reached Caitloch in search of Blackadder the very day he had left it for another place of safety. He also stayed a night there in 1678. The property seems to have passed from the Fergusons in the early part of this century.’

‘Act in favours of Mr. William Fergusone of Kaitloch.—Anent the petition given in and presented to their Majesties’ High Commissioner and their Estates of Parliament be Mr. William Ferguson of Kaitloch, shewing, That where the petitioner was forefaulted, and the gift of his forefaulture

granted to Coll. Ogilthorp with whom his son and friends did compeone for the soume of 9000 merks, for which repetition is provided by the General Act reducing forefaulters, but without any benefit to the petitioner. In respect that the said Collonel is a stranger, having neither residence, estate, nor effects in Scotland, so that he can expect nothing that way. Lykeas beside the payment of the said Compositioun, the petitioner was thrust out of his estate worth £1000 Scots yearly for the space of eight years, without having access to uplift one farthing of his Rent, but on the contrary was constrained to fly with his wife and family to Holland, where he remained a banished man the forsaid whole eight years, In the which space lykeways his house was turned to a garisone, and not only spoiled and almost ruined within, but the whole planting and policy cut down and destroyed without: And seeing that through these the petitioner's troubles he has been brought to great distresses, and that the burden thereof is still so heavy upon his family that restitutione to him can avail him little without his Grace the Commissioner and Estates of Parliament their particular consideratione and assistance. Therefore craving it might please his Grace their Majesties' Commissioner and Lords of Parliament, In consideratione of the premises to Recommend his case and sufferings to their Majesties' for such a just and gracious reparatioun, and in such a manner as they shall be pleased to grant and determine, and that without any further necessity of taxing the petitioner's said sufferings to any liquid soume seeing that his said case and conditione is notour and speaks plainly for itself, and that he therein refers himselfe intirely to their Lo. justice and their Majesties' goodness and equity. Which petitione being this day heard and considered by his Majestie's high Commissioner and Estates of Parliament, and they being sufficientlie convinced of the truth of what was therein represented, They doe recommend the Petitioner's case to their Majesties' gracious consideration, That their Majesties may be pleased to determine such reparatioun to the petitioner as in their Majesties' wisdome and goodness They shall thinke fitt.'—(*Scots Acts*, 1690, c. 64.)



Sept. 9th, 1665. Thomas Fergusone *filius* Magistri Willielmi Fergussonne feoditarii de Ketloch *haeres* Margaretæ Strang *matris*.—(*Retours, Gen.*, 4935.)

Nov. 7th, 1676. Gulielmus Fergusone *haeres* Nicolæ Strang sororis germanæ Margaretæ Strang sponsæ Magistri Gulielmi Fergusone de Caitloch *amitæ*.—(*Retours, Gen.*, 5949.)

Nov. 30th, 1698. Gulielmus Fergusone *haeres* Magistri Gulielmi Fergusone de Caitloch *patris*.—(*Retours, Gen.*, 8040.)

#### FERGUSSON OF OVER M'KILSTOUN.

12th Dec. 1592. Ratification of infeftment of, *inter alios*, Robertum Fergusson de Over M'Kilstoun in 1 mercat de Over M'Kilstoun, baronie de Erlistoun, senesc. Kircudbrigcht.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iv. 43.)

1597. Caution in 500 merks by Robt. Fergusone of Over M'Kilstone, not to harm Lord Ochiltree.—(*P. C. Reg.* v. p. 686.)

March 15th, 1611. Robert Fergusone of M'Killiestoune was among those dilated for abiding from the Raid of the Isles, but acquitted on the ground that they had furnished sufficient able men to the King's Lieutenant, and had his Licence to abide at home themselves.—(*Pitcairn's Crim. Trials*, iii. 118.)

#### FERGUSSON OF CHAPELMARK.

16th Jan. 1506-7. John Fergusson appears as holding the Chapelmark in a charter to Rob. Lord Crichton of Sanquhar.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* i. 3025.)

Oct. 6th, 1612. Joannes Fergusson *haeres* Jacobi Fergusson de Chapelmark *patris*, in 1 mercata terræ de Nether Myingryle antiqui extentus in baronia et parochia de Glencarne:—A. E. 13/4<sup>d</sup>, N. E. £4. 1 mercata terræ antiqui extentus de Chapelmark in baronia de Craufordstoun. E. £13: 8: 4<sup>d</sup> feudifirmæ: 2½ mercatis terrarum antiqui extentus de Corrochdow in baronia de Glencarne, E. £13: 8: 4<sup>d</sup> feudifirmæ.—(*Retours, Dumfriesshire*, 387.)

#### FERGUSSON OF CORROCHDOW.

29th Jan. 1610. Caution not to harm John F. of Corrodow, Thomas F. in Benboy, or John F., son of the late Thomas F., brother of John F. of Craigdarroch.—(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 718.)

25 April 1618. Caution not to harm John F. in Corrochdow.—  
(*P. C. Reg.* viii. 727.)

Jul. 22. 1647. *Jacobus Fergusoun haeres Joannis Fergusoun de Corrochdow patris, et Jacobi Fergusoun de Corrochdow avi.*—  
(*Retours, Gen.*, 3327.)

#### FERGUSSON OF FOURMERKLAND.

May 11, 1694. *Agneta Maxwell, sponsa Jacobi Fergusson de Fourmerkland, haeres Quintigerni Maxwell de Fourmerkland avi, in 3 mercatis terrarum de Fourmerkland antiqui extentus: E. £4: 6: 4 feudifirmae; 10 solidatis terrarum de Newtoun: E. 23/8<sup>d</sup> feudifirmae; 10 solidatis terrarum in Newtoun lie Skeochthorne nuncupatis antiqui extentus: E. 24/8<sup>d</sup> feudifirmae: 40 denariatis terrarum de Langlands: E. 10/ feudifirmae; molendino fullenario lie Waulkmilne nuncupato in parochia et baronia de Holywood, E. 20/ feudifirmae.*—(*Retours, Dumfriesshire*, 339.)

‘There is, at Fourmerkland, a tower of small extent. It was built by R. Maxwell in the year 1590, and is still in part inhabited. This tower is the oldest inhabited building in Holywood. It is nearly square, 24 feet by 19, having three storeys, and built of red sandstone with blue boulders interspersed. It has projecting turrets in the east and west corners, and is covered with ivy. From the appearance of the ground it seems to have been surrounded by a fosse filled with water. There was a draw-well, which has been removed.’

On 9th April 1719 Agnes Maxwell, with consent of her husband, James Fergusson, granted a disposition in favour of Robert Fergusson their eldest son. On 27th April 1719 a marriage contract was entered into between the said Robert Fergusson and Jean Fergusson, eldest daughter of the deceased Alexander Fergusson of Isle, with consent of Sir Walter Laurie of Maxwelton, her mother’s brother. In 1737 Alexander Fergusson is retoured heir to his father, the said Robert. On 1st January 1750 Jean Fergusson, spouse to Andrew Beveridge, minister of Caerlaverock, is retoured heiress of Alexander Fergusson her father. On 2nd June 1757 Mrs. Beveridge, with consent of her husband, disposed the lands to their son Andrew and his heirs, and failing them to their other children. On this disposition

sasine was recorded, on 3rd May 1844, in favour of James M'Millan, Denniston, as heir of his granduncle, Andrew Beveridge (son of Jean Fergusson). He sold the lands to Alexander Maxwell of Glengaber.<sup>1</sup>

#### FERGUSSON OF BREKANSYDE.

19th Oct. 1479. Compeared Vedast Grersone of the Lag, summoned at the instance of Robert Fergusson of Brekansyde, and protested for the said Robert's coming not to follow him.—(*Acta Auditorum.*)

#### FERGUSSON OF AULDGARTh.

18 Aug. 1531. Rex concessit Johanni Fargussoun nepoti et heredi apparenti, Brisii F. de Algarth, et Jonete Kirkpatryk ejus sponse 3 marcatas terrarum antiqui extentis viz. unam marc. de Algarth unam marc. de Blakerag, unam marc. de Fyrach in parochia de Dalgarnok vic. Dumfreis quas dictus Bris. resignavit, etc.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. ii. 1060.*)

22 March 1536-37. The lands of Aulgarth, 'quas Joh. Fergusson de Auldgarth in manibus cancellarii resignavit,' are granted to John Maxwell, burgess of Dumfries.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig. ii. 1652.*)

#### FERGUSSON OF HALHILL.

Thomas Fergusson of Halhill, and Susan Maxwell his spouse, are mentioned in 1687, and Thomas Ferguson in 1701.—(M'Kerlie's *Lands and their Owners in Galloway.*)

In a notice of the parish of Kirkpatrick-Irongray,<sup>2</sup> it has been stated that 'Halhill was originally a separate property. The family of Fergusson, a branch of the Craigdarroch Fergussons, possessed it for many generations. Thomas Ferguson of Halhill, the first that has come under our notice in connection with it, appears as proprietor towards the close of the seventeenth century. On a fly-leaf of a very old and interesting kirk-session minute-book is the following note of baptism:—

“Robert, son to Thomas Ferguson of Hallhill, was baptized Feb. 23rd 1690 by Mr. James Alexander.”

<sup>1</sup> Notes by Mr. G. T. Ferguson.

<sup>2</sup> *Dumfries Courier*, 6th Nov. 1877.

'The name Thomas Ferguson of Hallhill frequently occurs in the sederunts of heritors' meetings, from 1712 to 1722. He died 12th February 1722 aged 64. Robert succeeded his father. He died in 1757 at the age of 67, and was succeeded by his brother Alexander, who died in March 1763 aged 70. At this time the estate passed from the family.'

The kirk-session records also state:

'Thomas Ferguson of Hallhill, younger, before his child was baptized, was rebuked before the congregation for taking the test, and promised to make further satisfaction if required.'

#### FERGUSON OF DOWALTON.

In September 1686 Captain John Fergusson of Dowalton had sasine of Bardiestane in Anwoth parish, of Barholm in Kirkmabreck, and of St John's Croft, Gourlay's Laggan and Laggan-Mullan. On 21st June 1694 John Fergusson of Dowaltoun acquired the superiority of Laggan-Mullan. On 8th March 1697 Captain John Fergusson disposed the superiority of Barholm, etc., to John M'Culloch of Barholm.—(M'Kerlie's *Lands and their Owners in Galloway*.)

#### FERGUSON OF CRAIVOCH.

John Ferguson of Craivoch had sasine of Blackmark and Craiglour in Dalry parish, Kirkeudbrightshire, on 7th Sept. 1671. He was succeeded by his son, James Ferguson, who had sasine on 8th April 1676.—(M'Kerlie's *Lands and their Owners in Galloway*.)

#### FERGUSON OF KERROCH.

James Ferguson of Kerroch had sasine of Dalshaugan, parish of Carsphairn, in Sept. 1686. On 5th June 1706 James Ferguson of Kerroch had sasine of Kerroch, Craiglour, Blackmark, etc., and on 9th April 1795 John Ferguson of Cairoch, and Isobel Gordon his spouse, had sasine.—(M'Kerlie's *Lands and their Owners in Galloway*.)



## FERGUSSON OF BARFILS.

‘Helen, third daughter of Robert Maxwell of Hazlefield, married Robert Ferguson of Balefils (?), as shown by contract of marriage dated 27th January 1747. They had issue an only daughter, Helen, who married Robert, only son of John Welsh of Craigenputtock (Dumfriesshire). — (M’Kerlie’s *Lands and their Owners in Galloway*.)

## FERGUSSON OF KILQUHANITY.

Robert William Fergusson, Esq. of Kilquhanity, Kirkeudbrightshire, is eldest son of John Fergusson, Esq. of Kilquhanity, who died 1886, by Susan Whitehorn, daughter of George Whitehorn Laurence, Esq. of Largnean, co. Kirkeudbright, born 1858. Is a J.P. and C.S. for Kirkeudbright (Kilquhanity, Dalbeattie, N.B.); married 1894, Charlotte Georgina, youngest daughter of the late Joseph Honner, Esq., Clerk of the Crown for co. Tipperary.

## JOHNSON-FERGUSON OF SPRINGKELL AND WISTON.

Mr. Jabez E. Johnson-Ferguson, M.P. for the Loughborough division of Leicestershire, is proprietor of Springkell in Dumfriesshire, and Wiston in Lanarkshire. Mr. Johnson-Ferguson’s paternal name is Johnson, and his connection with, and possession of the name of Ferguson arises from his marriage with the niece and heiress of the late Mr. James Ferguson of Wiston and Auchinheath, in Lanarkshire.

## FERGUSON OF AUCHINHEATH AND WISTON.

‘*John Ferguson*, the first of this family of which there is any record, came from Ayrshire to Glasgow towards the middle of the eighteenth century. There he acted for a time as manager of Dickson’s Iron-works, afterwards moving to Muirkirk in Ayrshire, where he was employed in the same capacity.

‘*John Ferguson*, his son, was born in Muirkirk in 1784 and followed his father’s avocation. He was greatly interested

in geology and kindred studies, and was awarded by the Highland Society, in the year 1835, a service of silver plate. He married a Miss Annie Weir of Kilbarchan, and died in 1859, survived by four sons and three daughters.

‘*James Ferguson*, eldest son of the above, was born at Muirkirk in 1812. Educated as a mining engineer, at the early age of twenty he acquired the lease of the gas-coal-field at Auchinheath, in Lanarkshire, which was then little known and very inefficiently worked. Under his management the Lesmahagow cannel coal became celebrated all over the world; he acquired a large fortune, while, during the forty years of his connection with the Auchinheath Gas Coal Works, disputes with his workmen were unknown. He became proprietor of Ellen Bank, Lesmahagow, Auchinheath Cottage, which he enlarged to the dignity of a country house, and, later on, acquired the lands of Wiston, in the upper ward of Lanarkshire. He married Miss E. Simpson of Avondale, and died in 1872, leaving no issue.

‘*John Ferguson*, brother of the above, died in middle age, unmarried.

‘*William Ferguson*, brother of the above, was born at Muirkirk in 1823, and also educated as a mining engineer. He married Miss Janet Cooper of Larkhall, and died at Kilmarnock in 1868, leaving two daughters, the elder of whom, Eliza Grier, survives; married in 1884 James Paterson, R.S.W., Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.

‘*Allan Ferguson*, brother of the above, born at Muirkirk in 1835 (?), married Elizabeth Williamson, a native of Shetland, and emigrated to Canada, where he resides at Pictou, Nova Scotia. He has issue three sons and five daughters.

‘*Anna Ferguson*, sister of the above, married William Cunningham, Banker, Manchester, and left issue two daughters, Anna Maria, and Wilhelmina Margaret Ellen. The former married Edward Donner, merchant, Manchester, the latter, Jabez Edward Johnson, son of Jabez Johnson of Kenyon Hall, who on his marriage assumed the additional name of Ferguson. Mrs. Johnson-Ferguson inherited from her uncle, James Ferguson, the properties of Auchinheath and Wiston, and her husband has recently acquired the

estate of Springkell, Dumfriesshire. They have issue one son, William Alexander James.

'*Margaret Ferguson*, sister of the above, born 1815, married first a Mr. Milligan, and on his death, John Reid, merchant in Glasgow. Mrs. Reid still survives (1895), but has no family.

'*Eliza Ferguson*, sister of the above, married Dr. Davidson of Newmilns; both are deceased.'

#### OTHER DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY FERGUSONS.

'The line of railway,' writes Harper in his *Rambles in Galloway*, 'passes close to Loch Skerrow with its islets of birch and alder trees, almost the only specimens we see betwixt New Galloway and Dromore. A short distance west of the loch is Auchencloy Martyr's Monument, situated in a level mossy plain amongst the hills. In the *Statistical Account* we find it stated that "Graham of Claverhouse in 1684 surprised six persons who were concealing themselves at Auchencloy, Loch Skero, and instantly shot four of them. One of them from Nithsdale was buried on the spot where he fell, and a humble tombstone, lying flat on the ground, was subsequently erected to his memory, bearing the following inscription :

" *Memento Mori.*

"Here lies Robert Ferguson, who was surprised and instantly shot to death on this place by Graham of Claverhouse, for his adherence to Scotland's Reformation, Covenants, National and Solemn League, 1684."

'In 1835 a sermon was preached, and collection made for erecting a more suitable monument, "an object since accomplished by means of this collection and public subscription."'

In the year 1773 a melancholy accident took place on the river Nith, by the capsizing of a ferry-boat, when six out of thirteen persons were drowned, and among them, James Ferguson, farmer, Glenwhargen, a man remarkable for his personal strength.

The family to which Mr. G. T. Ferguson, Maxwelton,

Dumfries, belongs, are descended from a Ferguson who came from the north fully three centuries ago. Mr. Ferguson possesses a Bible dated 1590, which belonged to his forefathers. Two brothers originally came, it is said, from Aberdeenshire to the neighbourhood of Moffat, about 1590, one of whom returned after a few years, while the other settled in the south. About a century ago a branch migrated to Closeburn.

The following notices of a family remarkable for their services to education have been communicated by Mr. George T. Fergusson. They appeared in a notice of the parish of Morton, in the *Dumfries Courier*, May 5th, 1874 :—

‘ *George Ferguson, A.M., LL.D.*—Dr. Ferguson, though a native of Tynron, having been born about 1798, properly belonged to Morton, where he received his education at the parish school from Mr. Hamilton, who was a distinguished teacher in the early part of the century. He was appointed to the parish school of Dunscore in the year 1816 or 1817, which he retained for some time; but, proceeding to the University of Edinburgh, he distinguished himself so as to attract the attention of the late Professor Pillans. By his recommendation he became tutor in the family of Mr. Loch, M.P. for the Wick Burghs, and in 1824, when the Edinburgh Academy was instituted, he was appointed one of the Classical Masters. There he continued till 1847, when he succeeded to the Professorship of Humanity in King’s College, Aberdeen; and on the union of King’s College with Marischal College he retired on a pension. He died in 1866. Dr. Ferguson was a distinguished classical scholar, and edited many school-books, which have proved by their scholarship so useful that they have never yet been superseded.

‘ His elder brother, *Alexander Ferguson, A.M.*, was also an eminent teacher, having commenced his career at a small school at Burnhead, in the parish of Dunscore, in 1814. In 1818 he was elected parochial schoolmaster of Mouswald, and in 1828 he was transferred to the parish school of Dryfesdale, at Lockerbie, where he continued till 1873, thus completing fifty years’ service in that parish. In 1868 a Jubilee enter-



tainment was given to him by his old pupils to mark their high appreciation of their obligations to him.

‘His third brother, *Robert Ferguson, A.M.*, became minister of Fenwick, in Ayrshire, and in 1843, leaving the Established Church, was appointed to St. David’s Free Church, Edinburgh. He died in 1866.

‘His fourth brother, *James Ferguson, M.D.*, received the earlier part of his education at the parish school of Morton, and afterwards at the Edinburgh Academy, under his brother. He entered the Edinburgh University as a medical student, and after completing the ordinary course took the degree of M.D.; but not liking the medical profession, and being an excellent classical scholar, especially in Greek, he started a classical seminary in Aberdeen, known as the West End Academy, and for many years was very successful. He died when comparatively a young man, in 1864. He edited the first and second books of Xenophon’s *Anabasis*, with vocabulary, which is still popular among teachers. He published also *Grammatical Exercises on the Moods and Tenses and Syntax of Attic Greek*, with vocabulary.

‘His younger brother, John, is now Free Church minister at Barr, in Ayrshire.’

The following inscription marks the family burying-place:—

IN MEMORY OF

WILLIAM FERGUSSON, FARMER,

who died at Gracefield, Keir, 1st March 1853, aged 83 years.

Also, MARY JOHNSTONE, his wife, who died at Gracefield,  
10th March 1867, aged 94 years.

Also, AGNES FERGUSSON, their daughter, who died at Green-  
head, Morton, 12th April 1818, aged 17 years.

Also, WILLIAM FERGUSSON, their son, who died at School-  
house, Dryfesdale, 13th December 1835, aged 16 years.

Also, MARION FERGUSSON, their daughter, who died at Man-  
chester, 21st February 1858, aged 53 years.

Also, JAMES FERGUSSON, M.D., for many years Headmaster of  
West End Academy, Aberdeen, who died at Gracefield, 16th  
May 1864, aged 52 years.

Also, GEORGE FERGUSON, A.M., LL.D., their son, for many years one of the Classical Masters, New Academy, Edinburgh, and latterly Professor of Humanity, King's College, and University, Aberdeen, and died there, 14th July 1866, aged 67 years.

Also, the Rev. ROBERT FERGUSON, A.M., their son, who died at Gracefield, 18th December 1866, aged 63 years. He was for more than 23 years Minister of Free St. David's, Edinburgh, and for nearly 7 years previous to the Disruption he was Minister of the parish of Fenwick, Ayrshire.

Also, ALEXANDER FERGUSON, A.M., their son, who died at Lockerbie, 19th August 1879, aged 83 years. For 5 years he held the office of schoolmaster in the parish of Mouswald, and for 52 years the same office in the parish of Dryfesdale.

Also, ELIZABETH FERGUSON, their daughter, who died at Dumfries, 24th September 1882, aged 75 years.

Alexander Fergusson, called Sandie of Knokhachill, is a witness to a charge executed on 17 Feb. 1579, upon Thomas Grierson, brother of Lag.—(*P.C. Reg.* iii. 768.)

9 Jul. 1587. David Fergusson in Glenshimmerhauch appears on an assize as to lands in Balmaghie, Kirkcudbright.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* iv. 1472-74.)

7th April 1606. Among the Nithisdail fugitives from the Court held by the Commissioners over the late Marches in Dumfries, was 'Davie Fergusone in the Riggis.'—(*P.C. Reg.* vii. p. 725.)

4th Feb. 1608. Complaint by John M'Kinney in Little Dempertoun that, 'upon 8th Nov. last, Niniane Fergusson in Knok-auchy, and John Fergusone called the goodman of Blaikistoun, with others, came at night to the complainer's house, lured him forth under a pretext of friendship, and then with drawn whingers "maist fearslie" set on him, and gave him "twa deidlie woundis, the ane in his schoulder, and the uther in his body," so leaving him for deid. They then leapt on their horses and "over-raid the said compleanaris spous and barinis, trade thame undir thair horse feit, and sua brisit the said compleanaris said spouse, that scho is yit lyand bed-fast.'"—(*P.C. Reg.* viii. p. 46.)

1611. Caution for James Fergusson in St. Johne's Clauchane.—(*P.C. Reg.* ix. 675.)

22 May, 1616. Eliz. *alias* Bessie Fergusson, widow of John

Maxwell of Moquhanrick, mentioned as having occupied the lands of Cuslugis, in Holywood parish, Dumfries.—(*Reg. Mag. Sig.* vi. 1436.)

29 Feb. 1644. Isobella Morison, spouse of James Fergusson, merchant, burgess, Dumfries, served heir to Janet Morison, her sister.—(*Retours.*)

NOTES FROM DEUCHAR'S MS. COLLECTIONS.

(a) *From Edinburgh Commissariate Testamentary Records.*

1579. 29 August. Agnes Kirkpatrick, spouse of John Fergusson, yr. of Craigdarroch.

1577. 16 Dec. Cuthbert Ferguson, Correckdow, Glencairn; Malcolm Ferguson, Chapelmark.

1588. 20 April. Robert Ferguson of Craigdarroch.

1594. 7 Dec. Gielles Maxwell, sp. of Rob. Ferguson of Craigdarroch.

1595. 2 August. John Ferguson = Jonet Ausleunne.  
in Jerbrugh  
+1594.

Ferguson =  
James F., oy.

Among the witnesses are John F. of Craigdarroch and Rob. (?), yr. thereof. There are legacies to 'the wee (?) Laird of Craigdarroch,' and Marion F., the testator's oy.

(b) *From Dumfries Commissariate Testamentary Records.*

1657. 23 Nov. John Ferguson in = Janet Robson.  
Croichmuir,  
+ 1657.

John. Robert. Jean.

1657. 25 Nov.

John Ferguson in = Barbara Maxwell.  
Fourpart (?) of  
Dalswinton, +1657. Nicolas. Maria.

Alexander Ferguson of Ile, and Rob. F., his brother, Tutors.

1682. 10 Oct. Agnes Graham = Rob. Ferguson of Hawhill.

Thos. F., only son. Agnes.

1687. April 20.  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{John Ferguson} \\ \text{Rob. Ferguson of} \\ \text{Craigdarroch.} \end{array} \right\} =$   
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Wm.} \\ \text{Sarah.} \end{array} \right\}$

1702. Robert Ferguson of Craigdarroch and Agnes Douglas, his spouse.

1723. Jan.  $\text{Alex. Ferguson of Isle} =$   
 Advocate, + 1719.  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \text{Rob. F. of Isle.} \end{array} \right\}$

NOTICES OF MINISTERS OF THE NAME IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY.

(From Scott's *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiae*.)

*Johnston (Lochmaben).*

1673. Archibald Fergusson, A.M., son of Will. F., in Dirletoune, to whom he was served heir, 27th August 1698; grad. Ed. 1st August 1662; licens. by George, Bishop of Edinburgh, 20th April 1669; trans. to Kirkpatrick-Juxta about 1682.—[*Inq. Ret. Gen.* 8014; *Edin. Grad. Reg. Collat.*; *Test. Reg.* (Dumf.)]

*Kirkpatrick-Juxta.*

1682. Archibald F., translated from Johnston; ousted by a rabble of men and women in 1689, who attacked him in the manse, beat him on the head and legs, and tore off his clothes in the presence of his wife who was far gone in pregnancy.—[*MS. Account of Min.*, 1689; *Rule's Sec. Vindication.*]

In 1698 he was served heir of William Ferguson in Dirltoun, his father.

*Kirkmichael (Lochmaben).*

1684. James Ferguson, A.M., a native of Aberdeenshire, took his degree at Un. and King's Coll. there, 9th July 1668.—[*Fasti Aber.*; *Test. Reg.* (Dumf.)]



*Tundergarth (Lochmaben).*

1761. Joseph Ferguson, lic. Edin. 27th June 1759; pres. and ad. 1761. Died 18th January 1791, in 73rd age and 30th min.—[*Presb. and Syn. Reg.*; *Tombstone*; *Sinclair's Stat. Acc.* xix.]

*Kelton (Kirkcudbright).*

164—. James Fergusson, A.M., laured at Gl. Un. 1631; was here at time of pestilence, 23rd November 1648; and was, according to Wodrow, deprived on the establishment of Episcopacy, which seems doubtful. Died at Edinburgh, 1667, aged about 64.—[*Mun. Un. Gl.* iii.; *Dumfries Presb. Reg.*; *Wodrow's Hist.*; *Edin. Un. Inst., N.S.* iii.; *Com. Committee of Kirkcudbright.*]

*Buittle (Kirkcudbright).*

1645. Robert Fergusson, A.M., brother of Mr. James F., min. of Kelton, grad. Un. Gl. 1638; Member of Commission of Assembly, 1649; continuing with others to hold meetings of the Presbytery after they had been discharged, 9th January 1662, he was carried to Edinburgh in June following, yet speedily returned, but was deprived on establishment of Episcopacy, and called before the Privy Council, 24th February 1663. Died at Edinburgh, 1667, aged 59.—[*Mun. Un. Gl.* iii.; *Dumfries Presb. Reg.*; *Wodrow's Hist.* and *MSS.*; *Acts of Ass.*; *Edin. Un. Ins.* iii.]

*Sorbie (Wigtown).*

16—. Alexander Ferguson, A.M., acquired his degree at the Univ. of Glasgow in 1650; deprived by the Acts of Parliament, 11th June, and Privy Council 1st October 1662. He was accused before the Privy Council, 24th February thereafter, of 'still labouring to keep the hearts of the people from the present Government in Church and State.' He left for Ireland, and got charge of a congregation in co. Down.—[*Mun. Un. Gl.* iii.; *Wodrow's Hist.*; *Reid's Ireland*, ii. etc.]

*Inch (Stranraer).*

1788. Peter Fergusson, lic. 27th April 1785; pres. by George III., and ordained 1788. Died 11th May 1835, in 80th year and 47th min. He married, 19th November 1798, Marion Murray, who died 26th December 1847, and had Dr. Thomas, St. John's, Antigua; James, who succeeded to the benefice; Robert, merchant, Glasgow; John, surgeon, Stranraer; and Elizabeth, who married Rev. John Lamb, Kirkmaiden, etc. Publication—Account of the Parish (Sinclair's *Stat. Acc.* ii.)—[*Pres. and Syn. Reg.*, etc.]

1822. James Fergusson, A.M., son of preceding, born 3rd November 1800; licen. by the Presb. 6th February 1822; pres. by George IV. and ord. (assist. and suc.) same year. Died 1st January 1862, in 62nd year and 40th min. Married Agnes T. Guthrie. Publications—'Thoughts on the Clerical Office, a Sermon:' Glasgow, 1828. Account of the Parish (*New Stat. Acc.*)—[*Pr. and Syn. Reg.*]



SPITALHAUGH.

## CHAPTER VIII

### FERGUSSENS IN PEEBLESSHIRE

#### FERGUSSON OF SPITALHAUGH.

THE following notice of his family, which, though now located in Peeblesshire, traces its origin to Lochmaben, Dumfriesshire, has been contributed by Sir James Ranken Fergusson, Bart. of Spitalhaugh:—

#### *Fergusson of Spitalhaugh.*

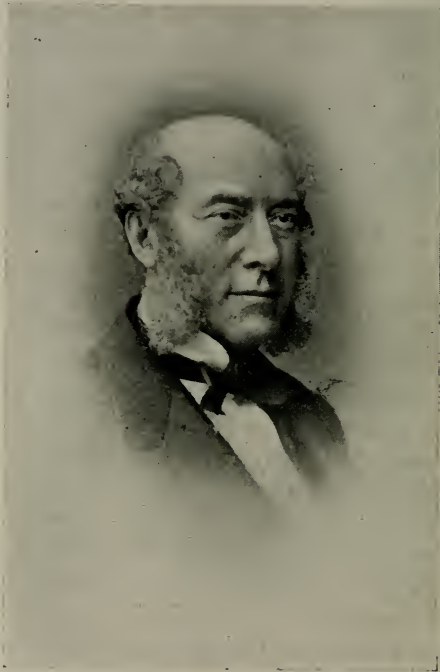
The above family owe their territorial designation to the marriage of William Fergusson with Helen Hamilton Ranken, who, on the death of her brother, Charles Hamilton Ranken, in 1839, became heiress of the lands of Spitalhaugh.

Charles Hamilton, born 1696, died 1776, second son of Hamilton of Gilkerscleugh, an old family in Lanarkshire, purchased Spitalhaugh and Bordlands from Richard Murray of the Blackbarony family, in 1738, and Helen Hamilton was his great-granddaughter.

William Fergusson was born in 1808 at Prestonpans. His father, James Fergusson, was the representative of a family that had held property in Lochmaben, Dumfriesshire, for many generations—traditionally, from the days of Robert the Bruce; and the family are supposed to have been connected with the Craigdarroch Fergussons in the same county, to whom Burns alludes in his poem of 'The Whistle': 'Thy line that have struggled for freedom with Bruce.' William Fergusson was educated at the Grammar School, Lochmaben, and then at the High School and University of Edinburgh. He was originally intended for the law, but his tastes led him to the study of surgery; and, giving up legal training, he became a pupil of the celebrated Dr. Knox, devoting himself to his work with such zeal and industry as to lay a solid foundation for his future fame. Many sketches of his career have appeared. There is one in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, another in *Fifiana: or Memorials of the East of Fife*. Its appearance in Fifeshire biography is accounted for by reason of his father's marriage with Elizabeth Hodge, of a family that lived at Crail. A brief notice of various important steps and promotions is all that is required here. At the early age of twenty-seven he was appointed one of the surgeons to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, and five years later, in 1840, he was elected to the Chair of Surgery in King's College, London. His fame soon became established, and he was regarded as one of the most shining lights of his profession. Robert Liston died in 1848; and, soon after, another great surgeon, Aston Key, passed away. These deaths opened a wider field to Fergusson, and his reputation and practice steadily increased. His principal literary work was *Practical Surgery*, which has passed through many editions in this country and also in America. He was the author of many papers and addresses which appeared in the medical journals. He also delivered 'Lectures on the Progress of Anatomy and Surgery during the Present Century' at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, of which Institution he was President in 1870. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of London and also of Edinburgh; held many honorary appointments, and also was Fellow of many foreign



societies. On the death of Aston Key he was appointed, in 1849, Surgeon in Ordinary to H.R.H. the late Prince Consort; in 1855 he became Surgeon Extraordinary to the Queen; and in 1875 Sergeant-Surgeon. In 1866 a baronetcy had been conferred on him. It is worthy of note that a very complimentary notice of William Fergusson appeared in the *Medical Times* of August 2, 1845, which commences thus:



SIR WILLIAM FERGUSSON, BART.

‘Come, W. Fergusson, F.R.S.E. — Sir William Fergusson, Bart.—the head of surgery *that is to be.*’ The writer proved a true prophet. Sir William Fergusson died in February 1877 at his house, 16 George Street, Hanover Square, London, and was buried in the Spitalhaugh family ground in West Linton churchyard, Peeblesshire. The removal of the body from the house to the railway station at Euston Square

was the occasion of a great and touching demonstration; a large concourse of medical students, of friends and admirers, attending to show their respect. His wife, Helen Hamilton Ranken, had predeceased him in 1861, leaving a family of three sons and three daughters. Sir William was deeply attached to his Peeblesshire home, and under his hands the modest, unpretending old house of Spitalhaugh, built in 1677, was transformed into the imposing structure, beautifully situated, which now adorns the banks of the Lyne, about two miles below West Linton. Sir William added the small farms of Noblehall, Broomlee, and Damside to the acreage of Spitalhaugh; and in 1877 the present Baronet purchased the estate of Bordlands, originally acquired with Spitalhaugh by Charles Hamilton in 1738, but which had been sold in 1805.

Sir William Fergusson's family consisted of James Ranken, now second Baronet, born 1835, educated at King's College, London, and Christ Church, Oxford; called to the Bar, Lincoln's Inn; published a volume of poems and ballads in 1877, the ballads treating mostly of Scottish history; member of the Royal Company of Archers, Queen's Body-Guard for Scotland; J.P. and D.L. for Peeblesshire. Married first, 1862, Mary Ann Somes, daughter of Thomas Colyer, Esq. of Wombwell Hall, Kent. She died 1868, leaving two sons; the elder died in 1873; the younger, Thomas Colyer, born 1865, is now the owner of Wombwell Hall, Gravesend, Kent, and also of the very interesting old house of Ightham Mote, near Sevenoaks, Kent. He was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1889; married in 1890 Beatrice Stanley, daughter of Professor Max Müller of Oxford, by whom he has three children—Max Christian Hamilton, born 1890, the name Christian being given in consequence of the Princess Christian being his godmother; Mary Adelaide Somes, and William Porteous (born 1893).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ightham Mote is an interesting specimen of domestic architecture, dating back to the fourteenth century. The latest additions belong to the Tudor period. The house is built round an open quadrangle, 76 feet by 53 feet, and is surrounded by a moat of running water, which is crossed by three bridges. Ightham Mote takes its name, Mote, from having been the meeting-place of the Eighthams, or hamlets, of which the village of Ightham is composed. It is situated on the high ground above the Weald of Kent, and is about six miles

Sir James married, secondly, in 1877, Louisa, second daughter of William Forbes of Medwyn, Peeblesshire. She died 1878, leaving a son, Louis Forbes, now at Harrow.

Sir James married, thirdly, 1886, Alice Fanny, daughter of the late John Price Simpson, and there is issue of this marriage, two sons and two daughters—Margaret Alice Hamilton, Helen Hamilton, James Adam Hamilton (1892), Charles Hamilton (1894). A request in a will of a daughter



IGHTHAM MOTE.

of Charles Hamilton, dated the end of last century, that the name of Hamilton should be continued by all owning the estate of Spitalhaugh accounts for the use of the name in the above cases. The name Adam is used on account of

from Sevenoaks. It has passed through numerous hands, and was bought in 1889 by Thomas C. Colyer-Fergusson, who has done much to restore it. Among the more noticeable rooms are the lofty dining-hall, 30 feet by 20 feet, and 35 feet in height, which was built in the fourteenth century, and the chapel, built about 1520-30 by Sir Richard Clement; this contains an almost unique waggon roof, painted with various heraldic designs.—(T. C. C.-F.)

Lady Fergusson's great-grandfather being the celebrated Dr. Adam, Rector of the High School, Edinburgh.

William Ranken, born 1837, died 1864; educated at Haileybury; was in the East India Civil Service.

Jane Porteous.

Katherine Hamilton.

Helen Seymour.

Charles Hamilton, born 1849; educated at Harrow; joined the 72nd Regiment (Seaforth Highlanders); served in Afghan campaign, 1879-80 (medal with two clasps), and in Egyptian campaign 1882 (medal and bronze star); was severely wounded at the entry to Cabul, a bullet destroying his right eye and grazing the bridge of his nose; has retired, and now is Brevet-Major. He resides with his sisters at Broomlee, West Linton.

An uncle of Sir William Fergusson is worthy of being mentioned. General William Fergusson was younger brother of Sir William's father, and entered the Royal Marines, receiving his Lieutenant's commission in 1798. He was Colonel-Commandant at Plymouth when he retired in 1851, and during his long career had seen much service. In 1800 he was on board the *Queen Charlotte*, which was burnt off Leghorn, and was one of the very few survivors of that catastrophe; he was for three hours in the water eighteen miles from land, and received a severe wound from part of the wreck. He served with Sir Ralph Abercromby in Egypt in 1801, and was actively engaged for many years after. He was a genial old man, and had many stories of old life in Dumfriesshire, in which county he took much interest and had many friends, whom he used to visit whenever opportunity granted. Sir William Fergusson had much respect for him, and owed much to him in his early days. He was appointed Lieutenant-General 1857; he had the medal for services in Egypt; was a Knight of the first class of the Turkish Order of the Crescent, and was also a Knight Commander of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. He took the deepest interest in his nephew's career and family; died unmarried in London in 1861, at the age of 83, and was buried at Kensal Green.



The following additional particulars as to the descent of the Spitalhaugh family are taken from a pedigree communicated by Thomas C. Colyer-Fergusson, Esq. of Ightham Mote:—

*Edward Fergusson*, resident in Lochmaben, married Janet Kerr, and had a brother, James Fergusson, burgher in Lochmaben, who married Agnes Kerr and died *s.p.* Agnes Kerr or Fergusson died in December 1690.

Edward Fergusson had a son, *James Fergusson*, also resident in Lochmaben, and a daughter Mary, who married William Bell of Balgray.

James Fergusson, the son of Edward, had a son, *John Fergusson*, who was a Bailie in Lochmaben, and married, 18th December 1762, Janet Bell (of Dumfries), who died 1st Oct. 1819. He was born in 1729, and died 27th August 1785. He had issue—

John, born 9th March 1764.

*James*, resident in Prestonpans, married (1793) Elizabeth Hodge (of Anstruther Easter); was born 7th January 1766, and died 17th June 1834, leaving issue—John, born 1798, died 1843; William, afterwards *Sir William Fergusson, Bart.*, and Jean Bell, married Thomas Melville, and died 1834, leaving two children, who died unmarried.

Robert, born 1st July 1768.

George, born 6th May 1770.

Thomas, born 15th April 1773; married (22nd Sept. 1798) Jane Frances Waylett, and was lost at sea, leaving one son, Samuel Frederick Fergusson.

Alexander, born 22nd March 1776.

William, born 8th February 1778; died 26th December 1861; Lieut.-General and Knight of the Order of St. John.

Charles, born 24th February 1781.

Jean, born 24th June 1783.

On 23rd December 1672 James Fergusson, merchant, was made and admitted a burgher of Lochmaben, for his ample

counsel and other good work done and promised; and on 11th January 1788 James Fergusson, son of the late John Fergusson, was received Burgess, Freeman, and Guild-brother of Lochmaben, and gave his oath of fidelity to our Sovereign Lord the King and the Burgh. The following is the Latin text of the Ticket of 1672:—

## BURGESS TICKET OF JAMES FERGUSSON.

33rd Decr. 1672.

Apud Lochmaben vigesimo tertio die mensis Decembris anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo septuagesimo secundo. Quo die Jacobus Fergusone, mercator, jactus et admissus est burgensis dicti burgi pro suis ampleo consilio et aliis bene meritis inpensis et impendendis Qui juravit fidelitatem d n et dicti burgi.

Extractus de libris consilii dicte burgi per me clæricum ejusdem subscriben(tem).

WILL. MURRAY, Clæricus.

—(*Burgess Tickets among Spitalhaugh Papers.*)

## CHAPTER IX

### NOTICES OF FERGUSON FAMILIES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

ONE or two notices occur of Ferguson families in other parts of Scotland. There seem to have been one or two burghess families of the name in Edinburgh. In 1577 John Ferguson, burghess of Edinburgh, was surety for the conduct of merchants in Chester. In 1609, the Privy Council being 'informed that there are some coffers and kistis pertaining to certane jesuitis and trafficking papistis' in the house of Andro Ferguson in the Canongait, gave orders for their transportation to the Palace of Holyrood, and for their being opened there. A family connected with Ayrshire seems to have had its dwelling-place at Canonmills. In 1611 Robert Ferguson was served heir of Janet Wilson, his mother, relict of the late Cuthbert Ferguson, *incolæ vici Canonicorum*. In 1661 Andrew Ferguson in Pinmor succeeded to John Ferguson in Canonmills, his brother; and in 1662 Gilbert Ferguson, eldest son of Thomas Fergusson in Carrick, was served heir of John Fergusson in Cannonmylnes *patrui immediati senioris*. In 1584 there was a James Fergusson, burghess in Edinburgh. In 1646 William Fergusson, *vestiarius burgensis* of Edinburgh, was served heir of David, his father, also a *vestiarius burgensis*. In 1679 George Ferguson, dweller at the Water of Leith, was heir of William Ferguson, *vestiarii burgensis* of Edinburgh, son of the brother of his grandfather; and in 1678 William Ferguson, son of Mr. William, was served heir of Thomas Ferguson, son of the said William Ferguson, his brother.

In 1605 there was confirmed a charter by which Robert Logan of Restalrig granted in feu to John Ferguson, son of

the late Andrew Ferguson in Restalrig, and Elizabeth Bickerton, his affianced spouse, four *bovatas terrarum ville de Restalrig cum mansionibus (prius per dictum And. tunc per Geo. F. ejus fratrem occupatas)*, in the barony of Restalrig, county of Edinburgh.

In 1664 Archibald Ferguson was served heir of James Ferguson, merchant in Haddington, his brother. In 1621 Robert Ferguson and Janet Ferguson were served as heirs of John Irving, burghess of Perth, uncle of John's mother, and of Janet herself; and in 1617 letters of remission were granted to Adam Somervell, burghess of Renfrew, for the slaying of Robert Ferguson, burghess of Renfrew, in the month of May, or about that time, in 1590.

In 1633 Samuel Fergusson, eldest lawful son of the late Robert Fergusson, Clerk of the Commissariat of Lorn, was served heir of Mary Fergusson, his sister; and in 1696 Alexander Fergusson was served heir of James Fergusson, eldest lawful son of the late Donald Fergusson in Pittendrymie.

There was also a family of the name in Ross-shire, who first appear as burghesses of Tain, and in the seventeenth century were proprietors of the estate of Balblair.

In 1578 William Fergusson, surgeon, appears witnessing a deed at the Chanonry of Ross.

Thomas Fergusson in Tain is mentioned in 1584.

David Fergusson, merchant (Tain ?) appears as taking part in a foray with broken men, kin of George Ross of Balnagoun, in 1594 (1592 ?).

1599. 5th May. Caution, £500, given for, and by, John Ferguson, burghess of Tain, not to harm David Urquhart of Inverathrie.

April 25, 1643. Margaret Forrester, Baseta Forrester, and John Urquhart, son of Henry Urquhart in Bellacherrie, were served heirs-portioners of John Ferguson, younger legitimate son of the late John Ferguson, burghess of Tain, their uncle, *in terris de Balblaire cum brasina et crofta ejusdem*.

Jan. 15, 1658. Basie Fergusone, Margaret Forrester, John and Grisell Urquharts, sister, sister's children of Mr. John Fergusone, younger, were served as heirs-portioners in the town and lands of



Balblair, with the Ailhous and Ailhouse crofts within the Abbacie of Ferne, new barronie of Gaynes, parochie of Tarbit.

In Deuchar's ms. Collections there are references, mainly taken from the *Testamentary Records*, to the following:—

James Ferguson in Cousland (1620); George Ferguson, His Majesty's Trumpeter (1636); Archibald Ferguson in Tanttallon (1637); William Fergusson, Craiglockhart (1678); John Ferguson of Dulquhathead (158 $\frac{2}{3}$ ); David Ferguson of Milldamis (1656, Fife ?); David Ferguson in Bracklauch (1628); John Ferguson in Ballachneil (1633); John Ferguson in Pollockshaws (1633); Gilbert Ferguson in Knockermite (1635); Thomas Ferguson in Craigantoun (1631); William Ferguson in Ferdinrock (1631); Robert Ferguson of Garnakston (1666); Thomas Fergusson in Barbour (1627); William Ferguson in Methil (1603); Robert Ferguson, Blackcraig; his wife, Margaret Bryce, and his son Patrick, in 1606. The Register of Sasines for Argyllshire shows a Daniel Ferguson of Glenshellert (?) in 1774; and an Andrew Ferguson of Dyke, near Slamannan, had a lawsuit with another of the same name in 1794.

The following notices of other ministers of the name are taken from Scott's *Fasti Scoticanæ Ecclesiæ*:—

*Drymen (Dumbarton).*

1648. Alan Ferguson, A.M., trans. from Strathblane; called 31st August, and adm. 28th November. He took the side of the Revolution in 1651, and died of a loathsome and lingering disease in Glasgow, in April 1663, aged about 60. He had certain books estimat worth ij<sup>c</sup> li.; insicht, etc., ij<sup>c</sup> li. Frie geir, dd. ix<sup>c</sup>xliiiij li. x.s. He married, 11th November 1638, Christiane Nicoll; secondly, Katherine Edmonstone, who died in February 1666, and had a daughter, Mary.—[*Presb. Edin. (Man.) and Test. Reg. (Glas.)*; Baillie's *Letters*; Wodrow's *Hist.*]

*Strathblane.*

1632. Alan Fergusson, grad. Gl. 1623, and on the exercise at Paisley, 14th December 1626 (helper); gave xx li. towards erecting the Library in the said University; was a member

of Commissions of Ass., 1646, 1647; trans. to Drymen, 14th November 1648.—[*Mun. Un. Gl.* iii.; *Pres. Reg.*; Baillie's *Letters*; *Acts of Ass.*]

1843. Muckhart (Kinross). Alex. Moorhead Ferguson.

1849. Blairingone (Kinross). William Ferguson.

1854. Fossaway (Kinross). William Ferguson.

*Whitburn (Linlithgow).*

1798. John Ferguson, schoolmaster of Inverary; licens. by that Presb. 19th Sept. 1785, and ord. by them as chaplain to the 74th Foot, 19th Feb. 1788; pres. by David Stewart, Earl of Buchan, and adm. 1798. Died 14th Dec. 1835, in 77th age and 48th min. Married Enea Fisher, who died, 1st Dec. 1858, in her 88th year, and had Angus, Duncan, William, John—his successor in the benefice—Archibald, Jessie, and Liliast.—[*Pres. and Syn. Reg.*, etc.]

1824. John F., jun., son of preceding, studied at Un. of Edin.; licen. by Pres. 24 Sept. 1823; pres. by Earl of Buchan to be ass. and succ. Dec. fol., and ord. 29 April 1824; deposed 19th June 1838; went to Australia and engaged in agriculture.—[*Pres. and Syn. Reg.*, etc.]

1843. St. David's (Edinburgh), q.s. Robert Ferguson, A.M.

1855. Edgerstoun (Jedburgh), q.s. John Ferguson.

*Dolphinton (Biggar).*

1773. James Ferguson, a native of the parish; stud. at Unit. Coll. and grad. St. And. 1763; lic. 20th Oct. 1768; pres. by Arch. Douglas of Douglas, Sept. 1772; ad. 7th April foll.; trans. to Pettinain, 22nd Feb. 1780.—[*St. And. Un. and Presb. Reg.*; *New Stat. Acc.* vi.]

*Pettinain (Lanark).*

1780. James Ferguson, A.M., trans. from Dolphinton; pres. by John, Earl of Hyndford, in 1779, and adm. 9th March foll.; LL.D. St. And. 14th Sept. 1796; and died, 18 May 1803, in 57th age and 31st min. 'Much esteemed for his literary abilities.' Publication—Account of the Parish (*Old Stat. Acc.* xii.).—[*Presb. Reg.*; *Tombst.*]

*Tobermory (Mull).*

1828. Alexander Ferguson, teacher at Mountgerald; lic. by Pres. of Dingwall, 1813; ad. 1817; missionary at Alva and Kilfinichen; rem. to Salen and Tobermory, 1824; pres. to this charge by George IV., 1828; died, 4th June 1833, aged 44, in 16th min.—[*Pres. Reg.*, etc.]

*Kilmaglass, (now) Strachur, and Stralachlan (Dunoon).*

1827. James Ferguson, lic. St. Andrews, 1803; ad. Dunkeld, 1807, as missionary at Rannoch; pres. by Rob. Maclachlan of Maclachlan in Sept. 1826, and adm. 22 Feb. foll.; died, 7th March 1847, in 74th age and 41st min.; married, 17th Nov. 1829, Margaret, daughter of Mr. Charles Douglas, merchant, Perth. Publication—Account of the Parish (*New Stat. Acc.* vii.).—[*Presb. Reg.*, etc.]

*Kilninver and Kilmelfort (Lorn).*

1838. John Ferguson, trans. from St. Stephen's, Perth; pres. by John, Marquis of Breadalbane, and adm. (ass. and succ.), 1837 and 1838; died, Oct. 1841, in 7th min. Publication—Account of Parish (*New Stat. Acc.* vii.).—[*Presb. Reg.*]

1847. Bower (Caithness). John Ferguson.

## CHAPTER X

### FERGUSONS IN IRELAND

THE old Irish pedigrees, in common with Scottish tradition, attribute to the race of Ferguson a descent from the ancient royal house of Ireland and of Scotland. They, however, deduce the Irish clan from the uncle of the Fergus who founded the Scottish monarchy of Scotland.

In Hart's *Irish Pedigrees*, 'the stem of the "Ferguson" family' is thus given:—

'Fearghus, a son of Eoghan, who is No. 88 on the O'Neill (of Tyrone) pedigree, was the ancestor of MacFhearghusa—Anglicised MacFearghus, Fergus, and Ferguson.

- ' 88. Eoghan, son of Niall Mor, the 126th monarch of Ireland.
89. Fearghus, his son.
90. Aodh, his son.
91. Laoghaire, his son.
92. Forannan, his son.
93. Fioghal, his son.
94. Culena, his son.
95. Fearghus, his son.
96. Cinaedh, his son.
97. Maolcaoch, his son.
98. Branagan, his son.
99. Maolpadraic, his son.
100. Ceallach, his son.
101. Maolcomghal, his son.
102. Colgan, his son.
103. Ceallach, his son.
104. Mathghamhan, his son.
105. Fearghus ("fear," Irish, a man; "gus," strength), his son; *a quo* MacFhearghusa.
106. Aodh MacFhearghusa, his son.'



The Irish pedigrees make Fergus Mor Mac Earca, the conqueror of Scottish Dalriada, a brother of Murchertach or Murtogh Mor Mac Earca, the 131st monarch of Ireland, and son of Muredach, son of Eoghan, from whom the Ferguson stem is traced, and who was son of Niall Mor, or Niall of the Nine Hostages, the 126th monarch. The first Fearghus of the stem would therefore be the uncle of the Scottish King.

The Hy-Niall Septs (of Ulster, Meath, and Connaught) included not only those descended from Niall of the Nine Hostages, but others descended from his father, Eochy Moyvane, the 124th monarch. Among these were the Hy Fiathrach, descended from Fiathrach, brother of Niall Mor; and among the families of the Hy Fiathrach is first mentioned the Clann Fhearghus or Fergus. In the Tir-owen district of Ulster, which took its name from Eoghan, the son of Niall Mor, there are included (by Hart, in narrating the principal families of Ulster) among 'the Irish chiefs and clans,' as No. 14 of these, 'O'Cooney, and O'Bailey (Bayly or Bailie), chief of Clan Fergus'; and in the Brefney district are included as a clan in the county Leitrim, 'MacFerghus, who were hereditary *erenachs* of the churches of Rossinver, and whose name has been Anglicised "Ferguson."'

'Many representative families of the name,' says Logan in the *Scottish Gael*, 'are found in Antrim and the counties which formed the ancient Dalriada.' But, as in other cases in Ireland, the name denotes both an ancient Irish sept and a stock of sturdy Ulstermen who trace their descent to the Scottish settlers of the seventeenth century. As there was a native Irish race, the hereditary bards of the O'Neills, whose name, O'Gnieve, has been Anglicised as Agnew, in the same form which the old Norman Agneau assumed in Scotland, while the Scottish house of Lochnaw and its cadets also acquired broad lands in Ulster, so that it can hardly be affirmed whether the Celt or the Norman gave its name to Agnew's Mountain, which on a clear day can be discerned from the shores of Galloway. So likewise the Irish Fergusons consist of the descendants of the old native clans and of representatives of those who shared in King James's plantation of Ulster, or came over in the army which the Scottish

Estates sent to the aid of their fellow-Protestants in the troubled times of the Great Rebellion.

'The Fergussons, Baronets of Farm, Tyrone,' it has been said, 'went there from Scotland 280 years ago,' and the family of Fourmileburn in Antrim also represent settlers from Scotland. These families carry the boars' heads and buckle as their ensigns armorial, but a coat closely resembling that of Craighdarroch is depicted in an Irish work of authority as that of 'the ancient and honourable family of the Feargusons.'

The Ferguson families of the north who came from Scotland early in the seventeenth century believed themselves to be of the Clan Mhic Fhearghuis of Athole. Their crest and motto, however, rather suggest a descent from the house of Kilkerran in Ayrshire; and a document of 1668 clearly shows a financial, and thus suggests a family, connection with the ancient Dumfriesshire stock of Craighdarroch. There was a constant intercourse between the south-west of Scotland and the north of Ireland in the seventeenth century, and as the Fergusons are found appearing in Ulster along with Agnews, Adairs, and other well-known names from Galloway and Carrick, the probability is that those who sought their fortunes in Ireland at that time were offshoots of the two chief Ferguson families of southern Scotland. We now proceed to give—

1. A sketch of the Fergusons in Ireland, communicated from Dublin by Miss Paterson.
2. A short notice of a distinguished soldier of the race, also communicated by Miss Paterson, his grandniece.
3. A short notice of Sir Samuel Ferguson, the distinguished poet and antiquary, contributed by his widow, Lady Ferguson.
4. A more detailed genealogy of the family of Scottish descent from which Sir Samuel Ferguson was descended.
5. Notice of Fergusons of Burt House and the Farm.
6. Short notices of other Irish Fergusons.

## NOTES UPON THE FERGUSONS IN IRELAND.

(Contributed by Miss D. M. A. Paterson, Dublin.)

The government of James I. passed an act in 1605 to encourage Scottish and English gentlemen to buy land in the province of Ulster, and settle there in order to drive out the ancient Irish.<sup>1</sup>

The names of the original holders of land under this act are preserved in the Carew manuscripts.

Many of the younger sons of the nobles and Scottish families availed themselves of this opportunity of improving their fortunes,<sup>2</sup> and there are to be found among these names the following: Heron, Hamilton, Douglass, Hepburn, Stewart, and Drummond. The name Ferguson does not occur in these manuscripts; but as it is a family tradition of long standing that the first of the Fergusons came over at this time, we believe that they came in the train of some family more powerful than themselves, and received land on tenure, or in return for services rendered to the original holders.

In 1641 a number of Scottish gentlemen came over as officers with the army that Charles I. collected,<sup>3</sup> and among the names are those of Ferguson, Gilliland, Agnew, Adair, and Baird. The Owens and Williamsons came later, probably in the reign of William III.

It does not seem (so far as I have been able to ascertain) that the Fergusons, from whom the family in Ireland claim descent, had any connection with Ireland earlier than the sixteenth century. There is an old paper,<sup>4</sup> bearing date of 1660, in which it is stated that an Edward Ferguson paid a subsidy on land to the value of £1, 12d., and that in 1666 a James Ferguson owned the estate of Muckamore, co. Antrim, and had to pay a subsidy of £5. In the Record Office, Dublin, there is the will of a James Ferguson of Muckamore,

<sup>1</sup> *History of Ireland*, by C. G. Walpole.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibidem*, and an historical note of the parish of Donegore, co. Antrim, published in Belfast in 1882.

<sup>4</sup> Notes from MSS. by Sir S. Ferguson, copied from papers in Record Office, in possession of Lady Ferguson.

proved 1672, dated 1668,<sup>1</sup> presumably the same as above, in which, after it duly sets forth all the testator's bequests, etc., there is an addition or codicil signed by the testator as follows:—

'It[em] dewe to the defunk, ane bond in Scotland by Robert Fergussonne (ffergussonne), laird of Craigdarroch, of five hundereth merks munny of Scotland, whereof disposed by the defunk two hundereth merks Scots munny, *videz.*: to Captaine Edward fergussonne, on hundereth merks Scots munny, and to his sone, John Fergussonne, fiftie merks Scots munny. It[em] for his brother dochter, fortie merks Scots munny.

his  
 'James  $\overset{\text{his}}{\text{F}}\underset{\text{mark}}{\text{f}}$  fergussonne.'

This is the only reference made directly to a Scottish Ferguson by the Irish branch of the same family that is known of; if the 'Laird of Craigdarroch'<sup>2</sup> can be identified, it is probable that the Scottish branch from which the Irish family sprang can be determined.

According to family tradition,<sup>3</sup> the first of the Fergusons to come over were from Ayrshire, and although in early ages before the Christian era there are legends of kings of Ireland who bore the name *Fergus*, the present holders of the name seem to be of pure Scottish descent. Sir S. Ferguson<sup>4</sup> has in his poems one on the legend of 'King Fergus Wryemouth,' who was such a good king, that when his face suddenly became distorted,<sup>5</sup> his people all conspired to keep the news from him. How they succeeded, and the way he became cured, are the burden of the poem.

Also in the 'Legend of the sons of Usnach,' the nobleman under whose safe-conduct they travel, is named Fergus, and he is a knight of the Red Branch,<sup>6</sup> a famous band of warriors whose fame has been carried down to us by the bards.

<sup>1</sup> *Ibidem.*

<sup>2</sup> A Robert Fergusson appears in the pedigree of the Craigdarroch family at a date corresponding, and was father of the Laird of Craigdarroch who fell at Killiecrankie.

<sup>3</sup> Family recollections.

<sup>4</sup> Poems of Sir S. Ferguson, and Irish history.

<sup>5</sup> Any physical deformity, according to the views of the age, was a disqualification for the kingly office.

<sup>6</sup> Poems of Sir S. Ferguson, and Irish history.



These details are of course very uncertain, as they refer to the mythical portion of Irish history.

Cromwell, when engaged in subduing the Irish, narrowly escaped coming into collision with the Presbyterians of Ulster.<sup>1</sup> He actually drew up and signed a list of names of gentlemen who, for their loyalty, were to be transported to Connaught, and their property confiscated as a punishment. One of the names is Lieutenant Robert Ferguson of Fourmileburn.

This Fourmileburn seems to have been the home of the Fergusons for many generations; it is situated in the valley of the Sixmilewater river, near the eastern shore of Lough Neagh. From the Robert Ferguson of Cromwell's day, we have no reliable information as to the names of the representatives of the family, or their places of residence, but in the earlier part of the eighteenth century, a John Ferguson of Fourmileburn married an Ellen Gilliland, *circa* 1750.<sup>2</sup> They had three sons, John, Samuel, and Hugh. The eldest, John, inherited Fourmileburn, and had two sons; from the second son, Henry, the Fergusons of Belfast are descended, also the sons of the late Francis Ferguson of Glasgow. In a letter to Sir S. Ferguson in 1880, the late Dr. Henry Ferguson speaks of the old mansion-house of Fourmileburn, at which he remembered hearing his great-grandfather lived, so it seems as though there was no doubt the family had been seated there from the days of Cromwell.

The second son of John the elder was Samuel of Standingstone and Belfast. He was a merchant, and died in 1793;<sup>3</sup> married an Owens, and had six sons and one daughter. He left separate estates to each of his six sons at his death; and from the second of these sons, John, the families of Conway Grimshaw Ferguson of New York, and Sir Samuel Ferguson, are descended.

From the third son of Samuel of Standingstone, Thomas Ferguson of Tildarg, co. Antrim,<sup>4</sup> are descended William John Ferguson and his son Thomas, who resides in Italy,

<sup>1</sup> Historical notice of parish of Donegore, co. Antrim.

<sup>2</sup> Family mss.

<sup>3</sup> Wills in Record Office, Dublin.

<sup>4</sup> Family mss. and Recollections of Lady Ferguson.

and William John, who married Miss A. Agnew, and has issue.

The third son of the old John of Fourmileburn (Hugh), seems to have settled at Drumcondra, co. Dublin.<sup>1</sup> William Bates Ferguson, barrister-at-law in London, is descended from this Hugh, who was his great-grandfather. The immediate progenitor of Sir S. Ferguson was John Ferguson of Ballinderry. He married Miss Agnes Knox, an Irish lady. On his death in 1845 his wife went to live with her youngest son, then practising as a barrister; she died at his house in 1861.

John Ferguson,<sup>2</sup> the second son of the John of Ballinderry, went to South America, and was near Caracas when his eldest brother, Colonel William Owens Ferguson,<sup>3</sup> was killed. He was sent for by Bolivar, who gave into his hand Colonel Ferguson's medals, orders, etc.;<sup>4</sup> he also had the painful task of breaking the news to his brother's *fiancée*, a Spanish lady of Irish descent. John Ferguson returned to Ireland, and married a Miss O'Donnell of Belfast, a descendant of the old princes of Tyrconnell. He was British Consul<sup>5</sup> at Venezuela for some time, but later he returned to Ireland again, and finally settled in Liverpool, where (his first wife having died, leaving him seven children), he married a second time, a lady of Spanish family, by whom he had two children, a son and a daughter.

*Collaterals.*—Of his four sons by his first wife, the three elder are dead—one only having married, and leaving no issue—the fourth, Conway Grimshaw Ferguson, lives at present in New York. He and his little son, born 1887, are the only representatives of this branch, with the exception of the son, Francis Samuel, of the second wife, who lives in Liverpool with his mother.

The four daughters, Mary, Matilda, Margaret, and Rosita married respectively Wilfred Houghton, Warham Boston (deceased), Thomas Paterson, and John Owen.

Mrs. Owen died in 1885, leaving one daughter.

Donegore graveyard, co. Antrim, has been for generations

<sup>1</sup> Family MSS. and Recollections of Lady Ferguson.

<sup>2</sup> Family MSS.

<sup>3</sup> See notice, p. 458.

<sup>4</sup> Family Papers.

<sup>5</sup> Her Majesty's Warrant.

the burying-place of the Ferguson family, and Sir Samuel was buried there in 1886.

The Fergusons were nearly all Presbyterians; and on this account, in the Parish Registers there are very few Fergusons, so that it is somewhat difficult to trace the family.

*N.B.*—Some of the land of Fourmileburn is still in the possession of the family of the late Dr. Henry S. Ferguson of Belfast, but there is now no 'mansion-house' as he described.

D. M. A. PATERSON.

14th November 1894.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE MILITARY CAREER OF COLONEL W. O.  
FERGUSON.

(Contributed by Miss D. M. A. Paterson, Dublin.)

William Owens Ferguson, born 1800, the eldest son of John Ferguson, Esq. of co. Antrim, was a high-spirited youth, impatient of control, and with a longing for adventure.

When only sixteen he volunteered for military service under General Simon Bolivar, the Liberator of the Spanish States in South America.

His chief, recognising the force of character and daring spirit of his young officer, soon promoted him, making him one of his personal aides-de-camp, and he rapidly rose to the rank of Colonel.

Ferguson was successful in many expeditions requiring energy and military genius, one of the most remarkable being his forced march from Lima to Caracas. Bolivar, in great straits by the insurrection of the Northern Provinces under one of his subordinates, General Paez, sent Ferguson with a band of one hundred and twenty men as advance-guard to influence the surrounding country till he could come up with his army then in Peru.

Ferguson describes his adventures, on this forced march across the Andes, in a journal which is greatly prized by his family.

He took ship from Lima to Guayaquil, and there found his battalion to be a mere band of recruits, badly armed and shoeless.

When near one of the largest disaffected towns he found his troop so completely knocked up by fatigue he was compelled to leave them to rest. Ferguson rode on alone, and went boldly to the governor's house. He found this functionary sitting over his wine surrounded by his staff; and, to Ferguson's astonishment, he informed him he was to consider himself a prisoner. Colonel Ferguson assumed a most important air, informed them that his forces were but a few leagues distant; he reminded them that Paez would only make them his dupes, and let fall, as if by accident, that Bolivar was following him close with an army 5000 strong. He advised them to throw off all connection with Paez, and read to them General Bolivar's proclamation, and they finally were won over. During a subsequent conversation he learned, to his dismay, that at daybreak the following morning there was to be a review of troops in Barquisemeto, a town five leagues to the north, and that Paez was then to be publicly acknowledged as leader; also that all the ammunition was there.

Ferguson persuaded twenty-five officers to accompany him, and rode all night, only halting once to refresh the horses and get breakfast.

Early next day they dashed into the market-place at Barquisemeto. There was there assembled a group of gentlemen unarmed, whom by their bearing he guessed to be men of importance, and he at once proclaimed them prisoners.

He found they were the officers in command of the troops to be reviewed that day.

The town's-folk, as Ferguson expected, ran away, and he guessed they would make for the magazine, but where it was he did not know. He galloped after them, leaving twelve of his force guarding the prisoners. He found the people had dragged one of the big guns into the gateway of the barracks, but being unprepared to fire, they gave way at once before the band of armed officers.

Having left some of his troop as guard over the guns, etc., Colonel Ferguson next rode to the market-place, proclaimed Bolivar, and ordered the mayor to provide rations and quarters for three squadrons of hussars.



All this took place before the levies from the surrounding country had arrived for the review.

It so overawed the populace, who saw Ferguson's companions were all officers, that they took them for the reconnoitring party of a large army, though a tired troop of 120 men was the only army within sixty leagues.

When Colonel Ferguson proposed that they should save themselves by signing Bolivar's manifesto, they complied without a murmur.

At the end of an hour the whole town was compromised.

To quote his own journal: 'The bells rang a merry peal, and having published a proclamation with all due formality, the battalion volunteered, the artillery was got in readiness, a squadron of well-mounted volunteers presented itself, and deputations went off full tilt to every town in the neighbourhood to give the news. At ten o'clock I had 1000 infantry and 200 cavalry, with four field-pieces in complete order, and a magazine with arms and ammunition sufficient to equip an army.'

He subsequently effected a junction with Bolivar at Caracas, where he received his warm thanks for the services he had rendered.

Colonel Ferguson lost his life on the 28th September 1829, aged twenty-nine, heroically defending his chief in a military revolt at Bogatá. Being mistaken for Bolivar, whose staff-uniform he wore, the soldiers fired on him, and he fell mortally wounded. After his death the people honoured him with a public funeral, and buried him in their cathedral (an unusual honour to a Protestant), and erected a handsome monument, which bears a grateful inscription to—'COLONEL GUILLERMO FERGUSON.'

SIR SAMUEL FERGUSON, Q.C., LL.D., DEPUTY-KEEPER OF THE  
PUBLIC RECORDS OF IRELAND.

*(Contributed by Lady Ferguson, author of 'The Irish  
before the Conquest,' etc.)*

Sir Samuel Ferguson (1810-1886), Q.C., LL.D., Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records of Ireland, and President of the

Royal Irish Academy, was youngest child of John Ferguson, Esq., and his wife, Agnes Knox. He received his education at the old Belfast Academy and at the Belfast Academical Institution and in Trinity College, Dublin. He was called to the Irish Bar in 1838, and became Queen's Counsel in 1859. He retired from the practice of his profession in 1867 to become the first Deputy-Keeper of the Records of Ireland. In 1874 he was elected Member of the Society of Antiquaries,



SIR SAMUEL FERGUSON.

Scotland, and received the honour of knighthood in 1878. In 1881 Ferguson was elected President of the Royal Irish Academy, and was made a Brehon Law Commissioner in 1884. In that year he received the degree of LL.D. from the University of Edinburgh, *honoris causâ*, having previously—in 1865—received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Trinity College, Dublin.

But it is as a poet, a man of letters, and an archæologist

that Sir Samuel Ferguson's fame chiefly rests, in addition to his practical work in assembling the records of his country from their scattered repositories and placing them under one uniform system of arrangement and reference.

He was a poet from early manhood. His 'Forging of the Anchor' appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine* in 1832. 'Willy Gilliland,' 'The Fairy Thorn,' and 'The Forester's Complaint,' as well as his translations from the Irish included in his papers on 'Hardiman's *Irish Minstrelsy*,' and ballads contained in his series of historical tales, 'Hibernian Nights' Entertainments,' were published in *Blackwood* and the *Dublin University Magazine* in 1833 and 1834. Most of the ballads and poems were included by him in the *Lays of the Western Gael*, published in 1864. The epic of *Congal* appeared in 1872, and a later volume, *Poems*, in 1880. In the *Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy* his latest poetic work, a version of St. Patrick's 'Confessio' and 'Epistle to Coroticus,' with a dissertation on the Patrician Documents, may be found, which, with the permission of the Academy, Lady Ferguson has since his decease published in an accessible form under the title, *The Remains of St. Patrick, Apostle of Ireland* (Sealy, Bryers, & Walker, Middle Abbey Street, Dublin, 1888). This firm have also brought out, in three volumes, a reprint of the *Hibernian Nights*, and a second edition of the *Lays of the Western Gael*, 1888, and of *Congal*, 1893.

Sir Samuel Ferguson died at Howth on the 9th of August 1886, in his seventy-sixth year. On the 12th the funeral cortège, most numerous attended, left his residence, 20 North Great George's Street, Dublin, for the National Cathedral. Here the Archbishop of Dublin, at the conclusion of the service in St. Patrick's, spoke from the pulpit of the deceased as a poet, archæologist, scholar, patriot, as well as of his domestic virtues and God-fearing life. From the cathedral the honoured remains were conveyed to the county of Antrim, and on the 13th of August were interred amid kindred dust in the churchyard of Donegore, the service at the grave being conducted by the Lord Bishop of Down, Connor and Dromore, the Right Reverend William Reeves, an intimate and lifelong friend.

GENEALOGY OF THE FERGUSONS OF FOURMILEBURN,  
CO. ANTRIM, IRELAND.

*Prepared from pedigree communicated by Miss D. M. A. Paterson, granddaughter of John Ferguson, Esq., and grandniece of Sir Samuel Ferguson, Q.C., LL.D., M.R.I.A.*

I. John Ferguson of Fourmileburn, co. Antrim, who died c. 1750; married Ellen Gilliland of Collin, co. Antrim, and had issue—

1. John Ferguson.
2. Thomas Ferguson, died young.
3. Samuel Ferguson of Standingstone.
4. William Ferguson, died unmarried.
5. Hugh Ferguson.

II. John Ferguson of Fourmileburn, eldest son of John F. I., married Ellen Shaw, and had issue—

1. John, Major of Marines, died unm.
2. Mary, died unm.
3. Henry Ferguson.

III. Henry Ferguson, only surviving son of John F. II. of Fourmileburn, married Jane Burne of Flowergrove, co. Dublin; died in 1837, and was buried in Donegore Churchyard, co. Antrim. He had issue—

1. James, who married Margaret Delaney, and died *s.p.*
2. Henry.
3. Francis John.
4. William, married Kate Forsyth (deceased), now living in London, *s.p.*
5. Margaret (died 1894), married Hugh Baird of Glasgow, and had issue.
6. Helen, married C. Livingstone, and had issue.

IV. Henry Ferguson, second and eldest surviving son of Henry F. III., M.D., Belfast, *d. c.* 1891, having married his cousin, Alicia Gunning, and leaving issue—

1. Henry.
2. Godfrey, living in Belfast, 1894.
3. Ellen.



4. Mary.

5. Alice, married 1893, Garrett Campbell, and has issue.

V. Henry Ferguson, eldest son of Henry F. IV., living in Belfast in 1894.

IV. Francis John Ferguson, third and second surviving son of Henry F. III., married Elizabeth Nimmo, who died at 34 Windsor Terrace, Glasgow, *c.* 1892; he died at Glasgow in 1871, and left issue—

1. Henry.

2. William, *m.* Julia —, resident in Canada; has issue.

3. James Burne, *m.* —, resident in Canada; had issue.

4. Francis John, burned so much as to cause death at a great fire in Valparaiso, S.A., when trying to save the life of a man, *c.* 1883.

5. Hugh, *m.* —, resident in India; has issue.

6. George Gunnis, M.B.C.M., living at Hampstead.

7. Jane Burne, *m.* Rev. John Watson, minister of Sefton Park Church, Liverpool, and has issue.

8. Elizabeth Stewart, resident at Hampstead.

9. Isabella Byrne, *m.* Basil Adam, M.D., resident in Australia.

V. Henry Ferguson, eldest son of Francis John F. IV., *m.* Kate Wilson, resides in Manchester; and has issue—

1. Muriel.

2. Frances Dorothea Innes.

II. Samuel Ferguson of Standingstone and Belfast, third and second surviving son of John Ferguson I. of Fourmileburn, married Hester Owens of Holestone, co. Antrim. He died in 1793, having had issue—

1. William Ferguson of Thrushfield, co. Antrim, who died unm.

2. John of Ballinderry.

3. Robert, died unm., leaving Pebble Cottage to his nephew John, son of John, his brother.

4. Thomas of Tildarg.

5. James, who married Mary Graham, and had one daughter, Mary, who married James Orr, and had issue.

6. Samuel, M.D., died unm.
7. Ellen, *m.* Thomas Gunning, and had issue.

III. John Ferguson of Ballinderry, second son of Samuel Ferguson II. of Standingstone, married Agnes Knox, and died in 1845. His wife died in 1861, and was buried at Donegore. He had issue—

1. William Owens Ferguson, born 1800; died unm. 1829, colonel in the Bolivian army (for Memoir, see p. 458).
2. John.
3. Samuel, Knight, Q.C., LL.D. of Trinity College, Dublin, and of Edinburgh, and at his death President of the Royal Irish Academy; born 1810; married Mary Catherine Guinness, and died *s.p.* 1886 (for Memoir by Lady Ferguson, see p. 460).
4. Hester, *m.* Archibald MacElkeran, and had issue.
5. Mary Eliza, *m.* John Cowan, and had issue.
6. Ellen (*d.* 1841), married William Haughton, Moorefield, co. Dublin, and had issue.

IV. John Ferguson, second son of John Ferguson III. of Ballinderry, married first, Matilda O'Donnell, who died 1853; second, Carmen Perrin. He died in 1868, and had issue—

1. William Owens Ferguson, died unm. 1891, aged 53.
2. Robert Charles, *m.* Ellen Brunner, and died at Buenos Ayres in April 1894.
3. Wilfred John, died unm. 1885.
4. Conway Grimshaw.
5. Frank Samuel, resident in Liverpool.
6. Mary, *m.* W. Haughton, and has issue.
7. Matilda Georgina, *m.* Warham Boston, B.L. (*d.* 1892) and had issue.
8. Margaret Alice, *m.* 1871, Thomas Paterson, and has issue.
9. Rosita, *d.* 1885; *m.* J. Owen, C.E.

V. Conway Grimshaw Ferguson, fourth son of John Ferguson IV., married first, Johanna Lynnott; second, Florence Herbert; resides in New York, and has issue—

1. Herbert.
2. Ethel.
3. Eileen.

VI. Herbert, son of C. G. Ferguson, born 1887.

III. Thomas Ferguson of Tildarg, co. Antrim, fourth son of Samuel Ferguson II. of Standingstone, married Rachel Owens, and died 1880. His widow died in 1872, aged 91, and was buried at Donegore. He had issue one son,

IV. William John Ferguson, who married Rachel Ferguson, and died at Belfast 1879. His widow died in Devon, 1889. He had issue,

1. Thomas Ferguson, unmarried, resident in Italy.
2. William John, of Wrafton.

V. William John Ferguson of Wrafton House, Wrafton, North Devon, second son of William John IV.; married Annie Agnew of Larne, and has issue—

1. George Smyth.
2. Bessie.
3. Theus.

VI. George Smyth Ferguson, son of William John, V., of Wrafton.

II. Hugh Ferguson of Drumcondra, co. Dublin, fifth and third surviving son of John Ferguson I. of Fourmileburn; b. c. 1730; married Rachel Dobbyn, and had issue—

1. William Ferguson, *d. s.p.*
2. John, d. unm.
3. Thomas, d. unm.
4. Hugh.
5. Ellen, d. unm.
6. Rose, d. unm.
7. Bess, d. unm.
8. Catherine, *m. J. Dunne*; and *d. s.p.*

III. Hugh, son of Hugh Ferguson of Drumcondra, had issue three sons, one of whom left a son,

Pearson Ferguson, who married Miss Bates, and had issue, William Bates Ferguson, Barrister-at-Law, London, married, and has issue one daughter.

Samuel Ferguson of Standingstone left to his six sons estates in the vicinity of the Sixmilewater which falls into Lough Neagh, near the town of Antrim. On the lands of

Thrushfield, the estate of the eldest son William, stands the little town of Parkgate. Of the poetry of his descendant, Sir Samuel Ferguson, Aubrey de Vere says that it belongs to 'the great style of poetry, that style which is characterised by simplicity, breadth of effect, a careless strength full of movement and passion, imagination, vigour, an epic largeness of conception, wide human sympathies, vivid and truthful description.' Mr. W. B. Yeats describes him as 'the one Homeric poet of our time.' Mr. Alfred P. Graves asserts that 'Ferguson has reached heights which justly entitle him to rank as the National Poet of Ireland.' Mr. T. W. Lyster writes of 'the large clear genius of the great Irish poet of our own century, who, moreover, is not merely Celtic-Irish, but Anglo-Irish,—poetry revealing in all its traits a nature of high distinction.' The Fergusons in Co. Antrim were originally Presbyterians; and Sir Samuel, in his ballad of 'Willy Gilliland,' included in *Lays of the Western Gael*, tells the story of a Covenanting ancestor who came to Ireland at the time of the persecutions in Scotland. Ellen Gilliland, who married John Ferguson, father of Samuel of Standingstone, and was great-grandmother of Sir Samuel, was descended from this hunted Covenanter. The burying-place of the family is at Donegore in Antrim; and the arms used by Sir Samuel Ferguson were the three boars' heads, and the buckle, the crest, a thistle with a bee, and the motto, *Dulcius ex asperis*.—(Notes by Lady Ferguson. For recorded arms of Irish Fergusons, see chap. xiii.)

## FERGUSONS OF BURT HOUSE AND THE FARM.

*Ferguson of The Farm.*

'This family formerly resided in Scotland, but settled 250 years ago at Burt House, County Donegal. Sir Andrew Ferguson, son of John Ferguson of Londonderry, and grandson of the Rev. Andrew Ferguson of Burt House, was created a Baronet in 1801. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Alexander, Esq. of Broom Hall, co. Londonderry, sister to the late Bishop of Meath, and niece to James, Earl of Caledon, and had issue—



- ‘1. Robert Alexander.  
 1. Anne, *m.* to Lt.-Col. William Blacker of Carrick.  
 2. Sarah, *m.* to the Rev. William Knox, son of the Hon. and Rev. Lord Bishop of Derry; and has issue, William, Andrew Ferguson, and Thomas.  
 3. Jane, *m.* to John Montgomery, Esq. of Benvarden, co. Antrim; and has issue, Hugh, Barbara, Harvey John, James Robert, and Isabel.  
 4. Harvey, *d.* in June 1824.  
 5. Eliza, *m.* in August 1828 to John George Smyly, Esq., barrister, of Upper Merrion Street; and has issue.

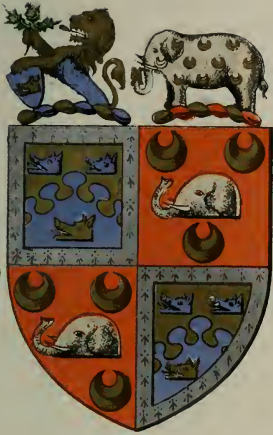
‘Sir Robert Alexander Ferguson of The Farm, County Londonderry, and Derg Lodge, County Tyrone, born 26 Dec. 1796; was Lord-Lieutenant of the City and County of Londonderry; M.P. for the City of Londonderry since 1830, and Colonel of the Londonderry regiment of Militia.’ He died in 1860.—(*Burke’s Peerage*, ed. 1860. For arms see chap. xiii.)

*Ferguson of Burt House.*

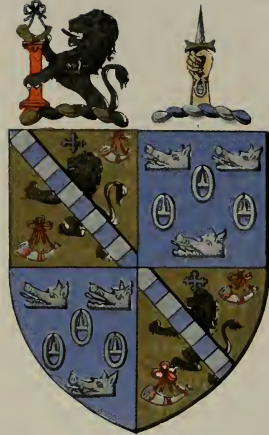
In 1843 John Magennis of Burt House had his arms exemplified on assuming the name and arms of his maternal uncle, Andrew Ferguson of Burt House. (See chap. xiii.)

In a letter, dated 27th August 1784, from Lord Charlemont to Dr. Haliday, the following allusion occurs to the exertions of a Ferguson in the famous volunteers of the North of Ireland. ‘You ask me how I found matters in the Episcopal city. As well as possible. . . . Ferguson behaved excellently well, and I think I may venture to say that I have left Derry nearly as Derry ought to be. . . . At Derry I dined with the Mayor, and almost got drunk with old Protestant toasts.’—(*Hist. MS. Com.*, 13th Rep., App. Part viii.)

The Ferguson referred to was John Ferguson, commander of a company of the Londonderry Volunteer Association. Along with the Earl of Bristol, the Bishop, Colonel the Right Hon. Thomas Conolly, Colonel Edward Carey, and Captain Lackey, Captain Ferguson was a delegate from Londonderry to the



(II.4)



(II.5)



(III.1)



(III.2)





National Convention of Volunteer Delegates of Ireland in November 1783. 'The bishop arrived in Dublin with a parade not very suitable to his ecclesiastical state, escorted by the Derry Horse.'—(Letter of Mr. Secretary Pelham.)

Among the mss. of the Duke of Hamilton is a letter from W. Fullartonne at Portpatrick, dated 28th July 1689, stating that in obedience to orders he had sent for intelligence from Ireland to one Dr. Ferguson, who had returned the answer enclosed, had desired the writer to warn the cruisers of some vessels in Carrickfergus Lough, and had also offered to meet them and give an account of affairs. The enclosure is long, and not very legible. It refers to the state of the Scottish forces, whom the Irish look upon but as men only in appearance, beardless boys, silly souls, etc. That all the forces, militia, etc., were known to the Irish. He then refers to Derry, and expresses surprise at the delay of the English in relieving the town. He gives some particulars as to the movements and numbers of the Irish forces, estimating them at 40,000 men, levies being ordered of 25,000 more. He concludes by urging greater expedition on the part of the English forces. (Friday, 26th July 1689.)—(*Hist. MS. Com.*, 11th Rep., App. Part vi.)

#### OTHER FERGUSON FAMILIES IN IRELAND.

##### *Ferguson of Garryduff.*

Robert Joseph Ferguson of Garryduff, co. Limerick, is eldest son of his Honour, Judge Robert Ferguson, Q.C., of Garryduff, who died 1892, by Mary Anne, only daughter and heiress of Nicholas Costello, Esq. (she *d.* 1890); *b.* 1858. Mr. Ferguson, who was educated at Trinity College, Dublin (B.A. 1879, L.L.B. 1879, M.A. 1889), and was admitted a solicitor in 1881; is a magistrate for co. Limerick (Garryduff, Newcastle West).

Heir Pres. his brother, Nicholas Charles, Surgeon-Captain, Medical Staff; *b.* 1862.



*Ferguson of Edenderry.*

Thomas Ferguson of Edenderry, co. Down, is son of the late Thomas Ferguson of Edenderry; is a J.P. for co. Down.

*Ferguson of Blackwood.*

Chaworth Joseph Ferguson of Blackwood, co. Westmeath, is the only son of the late Joseph Ferguson, Esq. of Prospect, by Anne, daughter of Rev. Chaworth Browne; *b.* 1832, *m.* 1856 Mary Anne, second daughter of Rev. Thomas Smyth of Ballynegall, co. Westmeath, and has with other issue, William James Smyth, Capt. King's Dragoon Guards; *b.* 1864, *m.* 1888 Una, eldest daughter of Henry M. Anketell Jones, Esq. Mr. Ferguson, who was educated at Trin. Coll., Dublin, and called to the Irish Bar 1855, is a J.P. for co. Westmeath, and Revising Minister for the city of Dublin.

*James Frederick Ferguson*, Irish antiquary, 1807-1855, was the son of Jaques Frederic Jaquemain who left France during the Revolution, and assumed the name of Ferguson in 1793. He did valuable service in the arrangement of the Irish Records, in the recovery of ancient Irish documents from Suabia, and in various papers on historical and antiquarian subjects.

## CHAPTER XI

### FERGUSONS IN ENGLAND

#### CUMBERLAND.

THE following notices of the families of the name settled in Cumberland have been contributed by Richard S. Ferguson, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese of Carlisle, the senior representative of a stock honourably associated with the public life of the district, and distinguished for the services it has rendered in the investigation of the local history and archæology of the region.

The Fergusons of Carlisle, Harker, Morton, and Houghton Hall, in Cumberland, are all descended from Richard Ferguson, who married his cousin, Mary Ferguson, in 1746, and started the cotton-spinning industry in Carlisle. He was son of John Ferguson of the Bush-on-Lyne, in Cumberland, the third in direct succession at that place; the first of whom, Adam, died in 1642. She was daughter of Joseph Ferguson, the third in succession at Harker and Cringledyke, near Carlisle, of whom the first, Richard, is styled yeoman in a bond dated 1668. The family is supposed to have come from Galloway to Cumberland.

#### *Ferguson, Carlisle, co. Cumberland.*

Richard Ferguson, Esq. of Carlisle, son of John Ferguson of the Bush-on-Lyne, *m.* his cousin, Mary Ferguson of Harker, and *d.* 1787, leaving issue—

1. John.
2. Richard.
3. Robert, of Harker. (See Ferguson of Harker, Ferguson of Morton, and Oliphant-Ferguson.)
4. Joseph.
5. George, of Houghton Hall. (See Ferguson of Houghton Hall).

Mary, *m.* Peter Dixon, Esq. of Carlisle.

John Ferguson, Esq. of Carlisle, J.P., *b.* 14 Oct. 1748; *m.* 1787

Elizabeth, dau. of Michael Beck, Esq.; and *d.* 25 July 1802, having by her, who died 14 May 1802, had issue—

1. Richard, Capt. 2nd Dragoon Guards; *d.* unm. 1832, and was buried in the Royal Chapel at Holyrood.
2. John, J.P., *d.* unm. 1867.
3. Joseph.
4. George, *d.* unm. 1871.
5. Robert, M.D.; *d.* unm. 1820.

Mary, *d.* unm. 1876.

Elizabeth, *m.* 1815 W. Nanson, Esq., and died 1834, leaving issue.

Catherine, *m.* W. Norman, Esq., and *d.* 1818, leaving issue.

Anne, *d.* 1818.

Alice Jane, *d.* 1828.

Joseph Ferguson, Esq. of Carlisle, the third son, J.P. and D.L.; *b.* 25 Oct. 1794; *m.* 8 Sept. 1835 Margaret, dau. of Silas Saul, Esq. of Carlisle, J.P., who died 2 Nov. 1841. He died 13 June 1880, and had issue—

1. Richard Saul.
2. Charles John, of Cardew Lodge, Cumberland, J.P., F.S.A.; *b.* 14 Feb. 1840, *m.* 1872, Alice, dau. of John Slater, Esq. of Carlisle, J.P., and has issue—
  1. Basil.
  2. Philip.
  - Sybil.
  - Violet.
  - Frances.

Richard Saul Ferguson, Esq. of Carlisle, J.P. and D.L. for Cumberland, and J.P. for Carlisle; Chairman of Quarter Sessions for Cumberland since 1886; Chancellor of Diocese of Carlisle; M.A. Cam., LL.M., F.S.A.; twice Mayor of Carlisle; author of *Cumberland and Westmoreland M.P.'s from the Restoration to the Reform Bill*; *History of Cumberland*, and several other works. He is President of the Cumberland and Westmoreland Antiquarian and Archæological Society. He was born 28 July 1837; *m.* 8 Aug. 1867, Georgiana Fanny, dau. of Spencer Shelley, Esq., and had issue,

1. Spencer Charles, Lieut. 5th Fusiliers, born 13th Aug. 1868.
- Margaret Josephine.

*Oliphant-Ferguson of Broadfield and Burgh, Cumberland.*

George Henry Hewitt Oliphant, of Broadfield House, Southwaite, Carlisle, and Burgh-on-Sands, Cumberland, who assumed the title of Oliphant, on succeeding to the property of his cousin, married, 23rd October 1815, Sarah, daughter of Robert Ferguson, Esq. of Harker, and by her, who died 27th February 1855, had issue—

1. George Henry Hewitt, now of Broadfield House.

Anne, married Peter James Dixon of Houghton Hall, Cumberland, and died 1888.

Mary.

Sarah Ferguson (deceased), married the late John Cowley Fisher, Esq. of Woodhall, Cumberland.

George Henry Hewitt Oliphant-Ferguson, of Broadfield House, Cumberland, J.P. and D.L.; educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; called to the Bar 1844; born 6th June 1817; married, 1st October 1867, Cecilia, fourth daughter of the late John Labouchere, Esq. of Broomhall, Dorking, and brother of the late Lord Taunton, and by her has issue a daughter,

Mary Beatrice.

He assumed, by Royal Licence, the name and arms of Oliphant-Ferguson on succeeding in 1860 to a portion of the property of his uncle, Richard Ferguson, Esq. of Harker.

*Ferguson of Harker, Cumberland.*

Robert Ferguson of Harker (see Ferguson of Carlisle), married, 27th December 1782, Ann, daughter of John Wood of Maryport, and had issue—

1. Richard, of Harker.
2. John, died unmarried, December 1829.
3. Joseph, of Morton.

Mary, died unmarried.

Sarah, married George Henry Hewitt of Burgh (see Oliphant Ferguson).

Elizabeth, died unmarried.

Robert Ferguson died 14th November 1816, and was succeeded by his son, Richard Ferguson, J.P. and D.L., born 20th May 1784; High Sheriff in 1835; married, 25th May 1809, Margaret, third daughter of Captain William Giles, and died without issue, 1860. He was an eminent agriculturist.



*Ferguson of Morton, Cumberland.*

Joseph Ferguson of Morton (see Ferguson of Harker), married Maria Isabella, daughter of late John Clerk, Esq. of Bebside House, Northumberland; Mayor of Carlisle 1836; M.P. for Carlisle 1852-57; died 1863, leaving issue—

1. Robert.
2. John Clerk, married ———, died without issue, author of two books of poems.
3. Richard William, married ———, died without issue.
4. Joseph Selby, died unmarried.

Elizabeth, died unmarried.

Ann, married first, Major Banner, 92nd Highlanders; second, Edwin Guest, LL.D., F.S.A., Master of Caius College, Cambridge.

Maria Isabella, married Edward Chance, and has issue.

Robert of Morton, born 1817. Twice Mayor of Carlisle; M.P. for Carlisle 1874-86. Author of *The Northmen in Cumberland and Westmoreland*, *River Names of Europe*, *Surnames as a Science*, and several other works.

*Ferguson of Houghton Hall.*

George Ferguson of Houghton Hall (see Ferguson of Carlisle), married first, Mary Addison, and by her had a daughter, Mary Addison, who died unmarried, 1824; second, Anne, daughter of Rev. Thos. Pattinson, rector of Kirkclinton, and had issue—

1. George.
2. Richard, rector of Darley, born 1814, married 1859, Louisa Phale Chance, and died without issue.
3. Thomas Pattinson, rector of Shenfield, born 1815, married an Italian lady, who died in the year of her marriage. He died without issue.

Frances Mary, died unmarried.

Ann Eliza, died unmarried.

Elizabeth, married James Timmins Chance, and has numerous issue.

Anne Georgina, married Samuel Herrick Macaulay, rector of Hodnet, and has numerous issue.

George Ferguson of Houghton Hall, died 1821, and was succeeded by his son George Ferguson, Captain 23rd Fusiliers; he married Elizabeth Hill of Halifax, N.S., and has issue—

Anne Russell.  
 Mary Howard.  
 Frances Cromwell.

Captain George Ferguson died at Montreal in 1846.

YORKSHIRE.

*Ferguson-Fawsitt of Walkington Hall.*

Daniel Ferguson, Esq., had issue—

1. William.
2. James.
3. Thomas.
4. Daniel.
5. John.

The fourth son, the Rev. Daniel Ferguson, B.A., J.P. and D.L., Rector and Patron of Walkington, Yorkshire, married the only daughter and heiress of T. Booth, Esq. of Killerby Hall and Warlaby, Yorkshire. He died in 1860, having had issue,

1. Daniel.
2. Thomas.
3. William James.
4. Donald Robert, Capt., 3rd Battalion East York Regiment.
5. John Daniel, Major, 3rd Battalion East York Regiment.
6. Richard Leopold.
7. Fergus.
8. Douglas, the Rev., born 1823; Rector and Patron from 1860 of Walkington; J.P.; Private Chaplain to the Duke of Cleveland.

Thomas Ferguson, eldest surviving son of the Rev. Daniel Ferguson, had issue—

1. Richard Booth.
2. Joseph Daniel.
4. Cutler.

William James Ferguson, the next son, had issue one son,  
 Daniel William.

Major John Daniel Ferguson, the third surviving son of the Rev. Daniel Ferguson, born 1810; married 1866, Annie Eliza, eldest daughter and co-heir (died 1882) of late J. Fawsitt, lord of the manor of Hunsley, co. York; assumed name of Fawsitt by Royal Licence, 1866; late Major 3rd Battalion

East Yorkshire Regiment; J.P. and D.L., E.R. York. Residences, Walkington Hall and Hunsley House, Beverley.—[*Note communicated by Major Ferguson-Fawsitt.* For arms see chap. xiii.]

## DEVONSHIRE.

*Ferguson-Davie of Creedy Park.*

General Sir Henry Robert Ferguson, first baronet (1846), born 1797; married 1823, Frances J., only sister and heiress of Sir J. Davie, ninth baronet of Creedy (whose name he assumed in 1848), J.P. and D.L., Devon; J.P. Somerset; M.P. for the Haddington district of burghs 1847-78. Colonel of 73rd Foot from 1865. He died 30th November 1885. He had issue,

1. Henry Davie, Rifle Brigade, born 1825; died 1850.
2. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Davie Ferguson-Davie, present baronet, born 1830; married 1857, Edwina A., daughter of the late Sir J. Hamlyn Williams, Bart., late Captain Grenadier Guards. M.P. for Barnstaple, 1859-1865.

He had issue one daughter, Mary Fanny, who died in infancy.

3. William Augustus, of Stokeleigh, Weybridge, born 13th April 1833; married, 4th September 1862, Frances Harriet, fifth daughter of Sir William Miles, Bart., and has

William John, born 17th June 1863; Captain Border Regiment; married, 2nd April 1891, Phina, daughter of the late Thomas Nelson, Esq. of Friar's Carse, co. Dumfries.

Henry Augustus, born 22nd August 1865.

Arthur Francis, Lieutenant Indian S.C.; born 11th July 1867.

Edward Cruger, born 19th November 1868.

Herbert George.

Walter Christie, died February 1878.

Eleanor Harriet.

Mary Francis.

4. Charles Robert, M.A., Rector of Yelverton, Norfolk, born 20th June 1836; married, 2nd August 1866, Anne Clarissa, only child of Biggs Andrews, Esq. of Heavytrees House, Devon, Q.C., and granddaughter of Sir

James Gibson Craig, Bart., and by her (who died September 18th, 1889), has issue—

Francis Andrew, late Lieutenant, the Black Watch, born 15th July 1867.

Henry Herrick, born 26th June 1869; married 1891, Eleanora, daughter of William Schultz, Esq.

Charles James, Lieut. 4 Vol. Batt. Suffolk Regiment, born 1872.

Anne Helen.

Harriet Anne, married 1851, General the Hon. Robert Rollo, C.B.

Caroline, married 1847, the Chevalier Charles Santi, and has issue.

Fanny Julia, married, 16th June 1857, to Colonel White Thomson, C.B., of Broomford Manor, co. Devon, and has issue.

(Creedy Park, Crediton, Devonshire; Bittescombe Manor, Wiveliscombe, Co. Somerset.)—*Burke's Peerage and Baronetage*, 1894.

#### OXFORDSHIRE.

##### *Ferguson of 'The Folly.'*

The following notice of a family of Scottish descent, for long settled in London and Oxfordshire, is compiled from information contributed by one of its members, J. M. Ferguson, Esq., 81 Chancery Lane, London:—

I. In the year 1780 James Ferguson was married, at the church of St. Clement Danes in London, to Elizabeth Croker. They had four children—two sons and two daughters—the three youngest of whom died without issue. James Ferguson died in 1809.

II. His eldest son, William, was twice married, and had four sons and four daughters by his first wife, and four daughters by a second marriage. Two sons survived him, and at his death in 1856 he was proprietor of an estate called The Folly, in Oxfordshire, where he resided. His surviving sons were—

III. William Henry Ferguson, resident at Reading, where he died, in his 86th year, on 15th April 1895; married, and had issue—



- (IV.) 1. William, married and has issue; and  
2. Francis James, married and has issue.

III. John Mansfield Ferguson, who died in 1862, leaving issue.

IV. John M. Ferguson (A.R.I.B.A.), married and has issue. Mrs. Ferguson died on 17th April 1895.

The family have always believed themselves to be of Scottish descent, and their tradition is to the effect that an ancestor fled from his home more than once owing to political troubles, and eventually found refuge in London. It is also remembered that one member of the family, named Alexander, met his death by a fall from his horse. Mr. William Henry Ferguson, who at one time served as Mayor of Wokingham, has in his possession a coat of arms and crest handed to him by his grandmother, who died about 1830 at the age of eighty-one, with the statement that it was the crest and arms of his family. The crest and arms appear to be precisely those of the family of Craigdarroch, and this would indicate a descent from the Dumfriesshire Fergussons. It was also understood that some ancestors had lived in Clerkenwell, and the Registers of St. James's, Clerkenwell, contain the following entries:—

*Marriages.*

Dec. 23rd, 1669. James Ferguson and Elynor Steevins,  
by banns.

*Baptisms.*

January 7th, 1724. James, son of Henry and Elizabeth  
Ferguson.

*Marriages.*

June 16th, 1740. Paul Sharlong and Dorothy Ferguson.  
Banns.

Curiously enough, in the same Register the Rev. James Fergusson<sup>1</sup>—believed to be the clergyman of that name of the Kilkerran family—is mentioned as officiating at the marriage of Henry Fisher and Alice Laurence on May 28th, 1719.

On the other hand, 'a remarkable resemblance' has been traced between the portraits of William Ferguson, who died in 1856, and the description of Robert Ferguson, 'the Plotter,'

<sup>1</sup> See p. 340.

given in the proclamation of outlawry in 1683. The Perthshire, Aberdeenshire, Ayrshire, and Dumfriesshire Fergusons, however, all had their vicissitudes arising from political troubles.

The following notice of Mr. William Henry Ferguson appeared in the *Berkshire Chronicle* of 20th April 1895:—

‘We have to record the death of Mr. W. H. Ferguson, head of the firm of Messrs. Ferguson and Sons, brewers and wine and spirit merchants, Broad Street, Reading, at the ripe old age of eighty-five years.

‘Mr. Ferguson was born at Woodcote, Oxon, in the year 1809. Although an Oxfordshire man, his whole time in business was spent in Berkshire—namely, at Abingdon, Wokingham, and Reading. For some years he was a partner with his father in business in the Market Place, Reading, trading as Messrs. Ferguson and Son; and for many years he was a regular traveller by train every day to and from Wokingham to his business. Under the old close Corporation at Wokingham he served the office of Chief Magistrate as Alderman of the borough. His year of office was marked by close attention and devotion to his duties. He reinstated, at his own cost, the Fire Brigade, and hospitably carried out the duties and upheld the honour of the office of Alderman of Wokingham. In the year 1863, on retiring from the active management of his business in Broad Street, Reading, he returned to his home at Woodcote, and enjoyed the pursuits of farming life on the Oxfordshire hills to the great advantage of his health, since which time the business has been carried on by his two sons (Mr. Wm. Ferguson and Mr. F. J. Ferguson), both of whom are following in the footsteps of their revered father by taking a share in public and other duties, with advantage to the town and credit to themselves. On the death of Mrs. Ferguson, six years ago, the late Mr. Ferguson came to reside with his daughter (Mrs. Hodges), at Prospect Rise, where on Easter Monday he quietly and peacefully passed away. He was one of our oldest inhabitants, respected and beloved by all those whose privilege it was to know him.’

When Mr. Ferguson’s will was opened it was found that he had left a legacy to every employé who had been in the service of his firm.

## CHAPTER XII

### FERGUSONS ABROAD

#### I. FERGUSONS IN HOLLAND.

IN addition to General Ferguson of Balmakelly, who served for several years prior to the Revolution in the Scots Brigade in the service of the Netherlands, and whose regiment, the Cameronians, was for some time after the peace of Ryswick, in 1697, in Dutch pay, the Military Records at the Hague preserve the following names of Fergusons in the army of the States:—

1689. In a pay-list occur Jacob Ferguson and Cornelis Ferguson.

1704. William Ferguson receives a commission as *vaan-drig* (ensign) in the Regiment of Murray. (20 November.)

1705. Cornelis Ferguson receives a commission as *vaan-drig* in the Company of Captain van Beck in the regiment of Colonel Zoog. (9th January.)

On 13th January 1663, a Jacob Ferguson received a commission as clerk to the Secretary of the Council of State (*Raad van State*).

A Johan Jacob Ferguson was the author of a book, or rather collection of figures, entitled 'Tables showing the amount each of the seven United Provinces must contribute to a given sum,' published in Dutch at the Hague in 1675. He had, in 1673, published another book of Tables, apparently showing the incidence and result of a particular tax.

For more than a century a Ferguson family has been settled in Holland, one of whose members has risen to high distinction, both as a legal and philosophical writer, and in the diplomatic service of the Netherlands, having been for

many years Dutch Ambassador at Peking. He had previously served in the Royal Navy of the Netherlands.

The great-grandfather of M. Jan Helenus Ferguson was born at Kelso in 1735. He had two brothers. One of them, by name James, went to America, and his son became Lord Mayor of Philadelphia. The other, John, went to the British Indies.



FERGUSON, MINISTRE DES PAYS-BAS EN CHINE.

M. Jan Helenus Ferguson had, in 1887, four sons:—

1. George, born in 1863 at Curaçoa; formerly a midshipman in the Dutch navy, but then in the Dutch army quartered in the East Indies; married, and had two children.



2. James Constantine Helenus, born at Arnba 1867, then qualifying for the Dutch consular service, and subsequently in San Francisco.
3. Thomas T. Helenus, born at Arnba 1871.
4. Jan Willem Helenus, born at Hong-Kong 1881.

*William Gouw Ferguson* (1633 ?-1690 ?), a painter of still life, who is said to have studied Art in his own country, and then travelled in France and Italy, settled in Holland. In 1660 he was residing at the Hague, where he hired a house; and in 1668 he was still there, it being a part of the contract that he should paint a picture every year for the proprietor of the house. In 1681 he was residing in the Batavier Graat, Amsterdam, and on 28th June he was betrothed to Sara van Someren of Stockholm. He is said to have died in London, but this is uncertain; 1695 is said to be the latest date on his pictures, but this is doubtful, and the date of his death is unknown.

## II. FERGUSSONS IN POLAND.

In the seventeenth and early portion of the eighteenth century, there was a close connection between the northern parts of Scotland and Poland. The Scottish merchants in Poland sent a contribution of £10,000 to the resources of Charles II., when in exile in France; and Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries, the future vanquisher of the Strelitzes, records how he and other Scots from the loyal north took counsel together to inflict summary retribution on Cromwell's ambassador to Muscovy, whom they mistook for Bradshaw the regicide. Among the kindly Scots from whom Gordon received Aberdeenshire hospitality in Posen was a James Ferguson. A brother, a nephew and daughter, and four grandsons of William Ferguson of Badifurrow are recorded as having gone to Poland. Of these William, second son of Walter,<sup>1</sup> founded a flourishing family. The following extract from the *Scots Magazine* of 1786 gives the history of the recognition of each other by the Scottish and Polish branches.—'July 5. The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of Edinburgh conferred the freedom of the city on Philip

<sup>1</sup> See chap. iv.

Bernard Ferguson-Tepper, Esq. of Warsaw. The history of this gentleman is a little curious. His grandfather, when a boy, went from Aberdeenshire to a relation in Poland in 1703, and died 1732, leaving a son, Peter, a few months old, who being bred a banker with Mr. Tepper, his mother's brother, the uncle left him a very considerable estate, on condition he added Tepper to his surname of Ferguson. In June 1779 he had his arms matriculated in the Herald Office, London, and obtained permission to use the surname and arms of Tepper jointly with the surname and arms of Ferguson (*vide* our *Magazine*, 1779, p. 342). The father's writings being destroyed during the civil war in Poland, the son did not know from what part of Scotland his father came; and his Scots relations not having heard from Poland for near fifty years, believed their friend in that country had died without issue; but the above paragraph in our *Magazine* roused them to make inquiry, when with equal joy they discovered other; and in a few months thereafter Mr. Ferguson-Tepper came to Edinburgh to see them, and this summer has sent his son to learn the English language. Mr. Peter Ferguson-Tepper, of Warsaw, is supposed to be the second banker in Europe. Mr. Walter Ferguson, writer in Edinburgh, and he are brother's children.'

Writing on 3rd August 1780 to an aunt in the north, Mr. Walter Ferguson gives the following account of his cousin, which it may be interesting to quote as an illustration of the fortunes of the Scot abroad:—

'I was most agreeably surprised last Monday evening by the arrival of your nephew, Mr. Peter Ferguson-Tepper, from Poland. He had been indisposed for some time, and had gone to drink the waters at Spa, where by a letter from his wife he had heard of my dangerous illness, and posted here on purpose to see me. On Tuesday he, Pitfour, Sandy Ferguson, etc., dined with me at Whitehouse, and yesterday he set off again post for London, being obliged to be in Poland by the first of September to attend the Diet, which is something like our Parliament, which is 1600 miles distant from this.

'He is the perfect picture of my father both in face and size, extremely warm-hearted, and clannish to a very high

degree. He inquired particularly about you, and if it pleases God to spare him, he proposes to return here in the month of May next, and bring with him two of his sons, to be left in Scotland for their education.

‘He has ten children alive, four sons and five daughters. Two of them are very honourably married last winter—one to the Russian ambassador at Warsaw, and the other to the son of a Councillor of War to the King of Prussia at Bresslau. His eldest son is to follow his own business, his second son is a lieutenant in the Russian Guards. His third son is intended for the Law. His fourth son is only seven years of age, and his youngest son, who was born in November last, is named after your father and me. He is as yet undetermined whether to place his sons at Aberdeen or Edinburgh. He inclines much for Aberdeen, being his father’s native country. But he flatters himself that my oversight may be useful at Edinburgh. However, as he is to be at Aberdeen himself when he returns, he will probably not determine this point till then.

‘Some time ago I sent a present of a few books to his boys, and put into the box a copy of the plan of St. James’s Square, which belongs to me, which pleased him so much that he caused make a plan of his own house and office-houses at Warsaw, which he brought along with him, and is a palace fitter for a king than a subject. He told me it had cost him above £30,000 sterling, besides building a church near it for Protestants, of which religion both he and all his family are. He also showed me the plan of an estate which he purchased last year in Prussia, which cost him £85,000, and a letter from the King of Prussia to him upon occasion of that purchase, conceived in the most honourable terms for your nephew, granting to him and his posterity considerable privileges, and that he had ordered a charter to be made out for that effect.

‘He is a Knight of Malta, the only Protestant that has had that honour, and wears the badge of the order at his breast. This is the most extraordinary thing in his history, because it is contrary to the long-established rules of that order to admit a married man, one that could not prove his descent for so many generations from nobility, and who is not a

Roman Catholic. In short, my dear aunt, he is a very great honour to our family in particular, and to the name of Ferguson in general; for, besides his honours and riches, he is in every respect a valuable, good man, which not only I see from a number of letters to myself, but by the character he universally has from those who have been long acquainted with him, and at whom I have been at particular pains to make inquiry.'

Along with the foregoing letter there has been preserved a copy, in the same writer's handwriting, of one addressed to him by Mr. Ferguson-Tepper, which is in these terms:—

'DEAR SIR AND COUSIN,—It is about a month ago that I returned safe and well in the arms of my dear family, who I had the pleasure to find likewise so.

'The same cause (the present Diet) which obliged me to hurry away from you has prevented me from employing the first moments as inclination and duty desired it. I mean to testify how much I am indebted for your kind and friendly reception, and your affection shown for me when at Edinburgh. Accept then now, my dear sir, my best and warmest thanks for all your favours, of which I shall for ever retain the highest sense of.

'I hope that by this time you will have received the case family pictures sent you by my wife, and accepted them as a mark of her particular esteem and affection for you.

'This country in general affords very little worth sending to others save good Hungary wine. I have taken the liberty to send you, by way of Dantzick, two cases M. W. F., Nos. 1 and 2, each containing four dozen of that wine. Do me the favour to accept them with as friendly a heart as given, and to consume the same in the cheerful society of our relations, drinking our health here as we generally do yours.

'When I came home and showed to my wife the snuff-box she snatched it from me, and bathed it with tears for joy. Since that time she keeps it amongst her most valuables, and does not choose to part with it again. I own myself that this particular mark of your affection has given me more pleasure than I can well express.



‘On my return I found likewise a letter from your brother the Captain, which gave me a most agreeable surprise. I have had the honour of showing it to the King, who esteems the English much, and your brother as a gallant officer. At the very first opportunity I shall answer him, under your cover; but should you write him sooner, pray mention having received his letter, and the pleasure it gave me.

‘My dear uncle I found likewise cheerful and well, anxious to hear all about you. On the 11th of this month he entered his 79th year. Please God to spare him many more for all our comfort; however, I find old age and infirmities begin to creep upon him.

‘The Diet employs me so much that even I must have recourse to a foreign pen, and defer giving you all particulars myself after it is finished, which may be in five or six weeks’ time.

‘My wife, uncle, and rest of my family join in their best compliments to you and yours, and remain, with unfeigned truth and sincerity, and warmest wishes for your welfare, dear Sir and Cousin, your most affectionate Cousin,

‘P. FERGUSON-TEPPER.’

‘WARSAW, *ye 14th 8bre 1780.*

‘Your godson sends his duty thro’ me; he is growing a charming fine (boy?), and begins to walk already.’

The Records of the College of Arms, London, supply a little further information in regard to the Polish Fergusons. Certain documents were recorded there when the arms were registered in 1779 (for arms, see chap. xiii.). The King of Poland’s letter, the baptism of Peter Ferguson (1732), and the marriage of William Ferguson to Catherine Tepper in 1714, are there set forth, and the following summary of their contents has been communicated:—

1. Grant from Stanislaus, King of Poland, to Peter Ferguson to take the name of Tepper. Dated at Warsaw, 10th June 1767.

This grant states that Peter Tepper, merchant of Warsaw, having no issue, has adopted Peter Ferguson. But adoption cannot be without assent of the supreme power. Assent given. (Picture of the Seal of Warsaw.)

2. Act of 22nd January 1779, introducing,

3. Act of 21st March 1713, of admission to Civil Law of William Ferguson, 'Artis Mercatoria, socium de Eavenin civitate in Scotia Calvinum, ad recommendationem Famatorum Gulchelmi Forbess et ejusdem nominis Jhamsen,' etc.

4. Certificate of Baptism of Peter Ferguson, 27th April 1732. In German.

The father appears to be Samuel (?) Wilhelm Ferguson, burger, etc., and the mother Catherine Concordia *born* Tepper. Several witnesses.

5. Certificate of marriage, 15th August 1714, of Wilhelm Ferguson, Burger und Kaufman in Posen, and Catherine Concordia Tepperin, daughter of Peter Teppers, etc.

(Examined with the originals, 15th July 1779, by Isaac Heard (Norroy) and Fras. Townshend (Rouge Croix).)

6. Warrant from King George III., dated 3rd June 1779, stating the parentage of Peter Ferguson, second son of William Ferguson, formerly of Earenin, in North Britain, by Catherine Concordia Tepper (other son, William); that the Petitioner has married Mary Philippine Valentin, by whom he has four sons and five daughters; that the Petitioner has been adopted by his uncle, Peter Tepper, etc. The King therefore grants licence to take the surname and arms of Tepper conjointly with the surname and arms of Ferguson.

7. Warrant to the Kings of Arms by Thomas, Earl of Effingham, Deputy-Marshal, 9th June 1779.

8. Grant narrating the fact of the Royal Warrant by Thomas Brown, Garter, and Ralph Bigland, Clarencieux, granting and exemplifying arms to Peter Ferguson-Tepper and his issue. (See chap. xiii.)

Peter Ferguson-Tepper (as appears from a letter of his cousin, Walter Ferguson) died in 1794.

### III. FERGUSONS IN CEYLON.

A Ferguson family, who owe their origin to Ross-shire, have taken an active part in the public life and social development of Ceylon. This family are said to have settled in Wester Ross

under the Mackenzies of Seaforth, and, according to an old tradition, a Ferguson at Brahan was mintmaster, or coiner of silver, to Prince Charlie in 'the Forty-Five.' Another tradition records that a family of the name of Mackerras were originally Fergusons, and owed their origin to a Ferguson who was prescribed for participation in 'the Forty-Five.' These Mackerras simply adopted an Anglicised form of the Gaelic Mac Fhearhais, and one of them is understood to have become a Professor in Canada.

The first to settle in Ceylon was Alastair Mackenzie Ferguson, of whom the notice which follows was written by his nephew, Mr. John Ferguson. He married a Miss Mackerras, from Glasgow, who was his first cousin, and he and his two sons, Messrs. Alastair Mackenzie Ferguson, younger, and Donald William Ferguson, have contributed largely to the literature of their adopted island, as will be seen from the bibliography which follows.

'*Alastair Mackenzie Ferguson* was born in Wester Ross in the north of Scotland early in 1816, and would have completed his seventy-seventh year had he lived to the 23rd January 1893. With no exceptional advantages in education, his natural endowments and literary ability early manifested themselves, some of his youthful poetical writings receiving insertion in the *Inverness Courier* from so good a judge as Dr. Carruthers (the editor of Chambers's *English Literature*) at a time when some of those of Hugh Miller were rejected. These writings attracted the attention of "Seaforth," the Right Hon. J. A. Stewart-Mackenzie (after a member of whose family A. M. Ferguson was named), a distinguished statesman, under whose auspices he came up to London, and afterwards, on his being appointed Governor, out to Ceylon. Mr. A. M. Ferguson landed at Colombo on November 7th, 1837, and he was fond of describing the woefully deserted and depressing appearance of the open Colombo roadstead, with its few native dhonies and perhaps one "sailer" at that time, as compared with the wonderful development twenty and fifty years later under the influence of the planting enterprise, and still more with

the picture presented by Sir John Coode's magnificent break-water, the big mail and commercial steamers, and the manifold signs of trade and prosperity in the present day. From 1837 to 1846, Mr. A. M. Ferguson had a varied experience of the island, in business, as a planting pioneer in Uva, and as a Customs Officer and Acting Magistrate at Jaffna. In 1844, his marriage took place there with Miss Mackerras, who had come out from home, and who died in August 1890, their married life extending over some forty-six years. Mr. Ferguson from the day of his arrival in Ceylon had been a frequent and esteemed contributor to the *Colombo Observer*, then owned and conducted by Dr. Elliott, and the latter, in 1846, invited him to become his assistant editor. With the career and development of the *Observer*, from that year onwards, his name has been inseparably associated. He continued as co-editor up till 1859, when Dr. Elliott, becoming Principal Civil Medical Officer and head of the newly-created Government Department, sold the *Observer* to his colleague. The death soon after of his long-tried friend, the Doctor, the best-loved man in Ceylon, tried Mr. Ferguson very seriously, a severe attack of fever nearly carrying him off—this being almost his only serious illness during fifty-five years in Ceylon, until the last. We came out and joined our relative as assistant editor in November 1861, and enabled him to take his first holiday outside of the island in March 1863. Mr. Ferguson had then been nearly twenty-five and a half years in Ceylon without a change—he had never seen a railway, the first of the London suburban lines being under construction towards Blackwall as he left in November 1837, while Mr. Faviell and his staff arrived in Colombo to begin the line to Kandy, a few days after his holiday commenced. He went home *viâ* Bombay, making his first railway trip over the Bore Ghaut. While in England, where he remained a year, he lost his eldest daughter suddenly, whom he had expected to bring out, his eldest son having died there two years before. Returning to Ceylon, after some years of work he was able to revisit the old country in 1867 and bring out his *Souvenirs of Ceylon*, a handsome oblong volume with illustrations, as a gift-book, giving a popular account of much



connected with the island. A further visit was made in 1871, and it was then that, in consequence of a threatened breakdown, Sir William Gull advised him not to venture back to England, at any rate save in summer, as his constitution was evidently thoroughly acclimatised to the tropics. We must hurry on, however, to refer to Mr. Ferguson's labours as Ceylon Commissioner to the Melbourne Exhibition of 1880-81, for which he was chosen by universal acclamation, while his services were acknowledged by his fellow-colonists with a purse of R.10,000, a gold watch and service of plate, followed from Her Majesty, on the recommendation of the Governor, by the honour of C.M.G. It is not for us to say how well deserved these tributes to good work were, or how his exertions on behalf of Ceylon tea in Melbourne bore the good fruit in increasing exports which has gone on to the present day. No more visits were paid to Europe, but Mr. Ferguson made several trips to India—to the Nilgiris and to Darjeeling, as well as other parts—in connection with his promotion of the cinchona and tea-planting enterprises, which he did so much to develop by his example as well as by his writings. In this connection it may be mentioned how heartily he welcomed the appearance of *The Tropical Agriculturist*, which we had started during his absence in Victoria, a stranger bringing a copy under his notice before our first issue and advice had reached him. In the same way each successive *Handbook and Directory* and each *Planting Manual* from our press excited in him the liveliest interest and satisfaction, while to many of them, of course, he made valuable contributions. His own first *Commonplace Book and Directory* appeared in 1859, and it was peculiarly interesting for its "Planting Gazetteer" which we have often wished to revise and republish. Directories were continued in 1860 and onwards, but they were small volumes until developed into the larger *Handbook and Directory* so well known of recent times. From 1879 onwards Mr. Ferguson had been spared the necessity of coming to his desk in the *Observer* Office, but he was always reading or writing in the public interest while in Colombo, and when at Abbotsford his letters "From the Hills" were very regular. The illness

of his wife in 1889 necessitated another trip to Australia, and her removal in August 1890 made a great blank; but he made himself happy with sons, grandchildren, and nieces in the intervals of his occupations. He was, as is well known, never happier and never more his natural self than when on Abbotsford. He loved every hill and stream, knoll and dale, ay, almost every tree on the property which he had seen changed from original forest into fields of coffee and cinchona and tea, and of useful and ornamental trees. Until quite an old man, up to and over his seventieth year, he was accustomed to take such walks on the plantation, a long and steep one, and into the jungle, as often tried the mettle of far younger men. Indeed, it became a proverb in the neighbourhood that "old Ferguson" could walk the most muscular young planter off his legs, while all the time keenly enjoying the vegetation and the scenery, the distant hills and cloud effects, or the note of birds and the flower of a striking or new plant close at hand, and at the same time pouring out information intermixed with shrewd inquiry and keen observation. Nothing afforded him greater pleasure than taking visitors over Abbotsford—his readiness and enjoyment in this way equalling that of his great prototype (if we may so say) Sir Walter Scott in the Abbotsford home he had created by the Tweed, in the early part of the century.

'And now of Mr. Ferguson's character and work as colonist and journalist for fifty-five years in this island, what need of us to speak? In a little notice which we left behind us by request in London, to appear with an engraving in one of the monthly magazines, we believe we spoke of our relative as the oldest British editor in Asia, and so he was by a long way. He belonged to the old school of journalists, who were far more literary and descriptive writers than politicians and busy social critics, ready to watch and develop any turn of public opinion. The comfort of the good old days when there was only a fortnightly mail, with ample time to digest all its news, was much more to our senior's liking than the hurry and worry of more recent years, and his power and taste lay far more in descriptive writing than in editorial work. He has never been excelled in his description of the

natural beauties of Ceylon, and his was a poet's prose, for he had the poetical Celt's imagination highly developed, and some of his writings of "the fifties," describing visits to the Dumbara Valley, to Kellebokka, to the Matale hill ranges, etc., have only been equalled as word-paintings by the wealth of language which in later years he lavished on Upper Dimbula, Nuwara Eliya, Hakgala, and the surrounding panoramas. An accomplished Australian journalist—now editor of one of the leading papers—told us, after a year's observation in Ceylon of our senior, that his was one of the most interesting personalities he had ever met from Carlyle onwards—unique and picturesque in his journalistic and book writings, but scarcely intended for the constant and trying duties of "daily" editor. And yet never was there one more ready or determined to defend the right, as he saw it, against all odds—never a public writer more ready to stand up to and denounce mistaken autocrat or wrongdoer, whether Governor, civil servant, planter, merchant, or native. There could be no tampering with conscience in his case, and especially where his religious convictions were concerned, was he immovable, so that of him at his best, in his fullest powers, it were surely apposite to quote the Laureate's lines on one of England's greatest and most honest sons:—

"O good grey head which all men knew,  
O voice from which their omens all men drew,  
O iron nerve to true occasion true,  
O fall'n at length that tower of strength  
Which stood four square to all the winds that blew."

"Such was he whom we deplore." And yet great injustice would be done to a man of whom the public too often only saw the stern fighting side, if we did not dwell on the other and softer phase of his character. His was one of the kindest and most generous hearts that ever beat, when one came to know it—full of fun and humour. A poor speaker, so that he could only stammer out halting sentences when we came to Ceylon, in the sixties, after his visits to Europe he developed into by far the readiest and happiest public speaker in the colony. Indeed, he appeared far too seldom in this capacity, as we often told him. Had he gone to planters' and

other meetings, after his retirement from active editorial work, he would have become far better known to, and appreciated by the younger generation of colonists. He especially made his mark in Victoria as a speaker, and at the various Exhibition banquets it was declared again and again, that the Commissioner for little Ceylon was the most notable man amongst them when on his legs. He was more than once asked to go into the Legislative Council, notably by Sir Arthur Gordon, but it was to take an "acting" appointment, and having contended on principle that there should be no acting appointments, he was far too consistent to accept an offer which, in reality, would have led on to the permanent seat a few months later. He prided himself in the early days on being the means of securing cheap newspaper postage for Ceylon, of freeing printing paper from customs duty, and of securing the simplification of our tariff, at a time when it was more cumbersome even than at present. His good work in connection with the Carrier Pigeon Service of the *Observer* will not be forgotten: it extended over seven years; but no one welcomed telegraphs, railways, or other modern improvements more heartily. How he urged Harbour Works and Railway Extension for years, is well known. In respect of social and general legislation, he did much by his writings, supporting the abolition of Polyandry, opposing the loose Muhammadan Marriages Registration Bill, criticising in a long State Paper for Sir Arthur Gordon's benefit, the Buddhist Temporalities measure; while the consistent stand he took in opposing the Paddy rents abolition, while retaining the Customs rice tax, is fresh in everybody's memory. But all this, and much more, belongs to the record of a life which, if written in detail, could not fail to offer much of instruction to the youth of this island.'

Mr. A. M. Ferguson's brother, William Ferguson, F.L.S. (1820-1887), passed his career in the public service of Ceylon, and was distinguished as a botanist and writer on natural history. His son, Mr. John Ferguson, prepared for press-work in Inverness and London, 1859-61, became assistant-editor of the *Colombo Observer* in November 1861; acting editor 1867-68, and 1871-72 and co-proprietor and editor of the



*Ceylon Observer* in 1877. He has also been a prolific writer. In the preparation of statistics on coffee cultivation, he travelled all over the Ceylon planting districts in 1868-69. He started a Mission Extension Fund for Church, Wesleyan, and Baptist missions in 1873, originated and commenced the *Tropical Agriculturist* in 1881, and has edited the *Ceylon Handbook and Directory*, the most complete statistical compilation in any Crown colony, and lectured on 'Ceylon, its attractions for visitors and settlers,' before the Royal Colonial Institute in April 1892, and on 'Tropical Products, their cultivation in different Countries,' before the London Chamber of Commerce in July 1892.

## CHAPTER XIII

### FERGUSON HERALDRY

THE arms carried by the various families of the name are of two classes. The one class are those which have—either plain or properly differenced—the silver buckle and the three gold boars' heads upon an azure field. In the other class the principal charge is a lion rampant, azure on a silver field, with subordinate charges, on a chief of which the tincture varies. The first class are borne by the Aberdeenshire, Ayrshire, Irish, and Polish families, and by custom, if not by official authority, by the Athole families, and by the Dutch family; the second by those who trace their origin to Dumfriesshire and by the family of Raith in Fife, and would seem to have been borne by custom, though not by official authority, in Balquhiddel, and by an 'ancient and honourable family of the Feargusons' in Ireland. There exists an old tradition associated with the boars' heads, the dagger crest, and the motto *Arte et Marte*, and it is perhaps not a mere coincidence that the arms of the old lords of Galloway, one of whom bore the name of Fergus, were *azure, a lion rampant argent, crowned or*.

There are no Ferguson arms in Sir David Lindsay's ms. of 1542. In the ms. of Sir David Lindsay the younger (1603-1605) the arms of Ferguson are depicted as *azure, a buckle between three boars' heads, coupéd or*, and appear to have been attributed to Robertson of Struan.<sup>1</sup> It seems a legitimate conclusion that this was a mistake for Fergusson of Dunfallandy, and that the buckle was also erroneously coloured *or* instead of *argent*, as in all Scottish cases the two metals invariably

<sup>1</sup> R. R. Stodart's *Ancient Scottish Arms*.

occur, and Miss Fergusson of Dunfallandy states that her family bore the buckle *argent*. In his *System of Heraldry*, Nisbet mentions as families bearing the boars' heads and buckle, the Fergussons of Kilkerran, and of Auchinwin and Auchinblain (I. pp. 402-403), and the family of Craigdarroch as carrying the lion rampant (I. p. 289).

The following are the whole entries of Ferguson arms in the Records of the Scottish Lyon Office, the English College of Arms, and the Irish College of Arms, Dublin. In the case of arms taken from the Scottish Register, they have been classified under the heads,

- A. Families bearing the boars' heads and buckle.
- B. Families bearing the Lion Rampant as principal charge.
- C. Families bearing other ensigns armorial.

Subject to this, and to the three Registers being separately dealt with, the entries are arranged in order of date, and of the relative antiquity of the various coats. It should, however, be observed that in the case of an old Scottish family of long standing and recognised territorial position, the date of entry in the Lyon Register is not decisive of the antiquity of the arms, and that there are families which have borne coat-armour for many generations, and whose *gentilitas* is above suspicion, which have never registered the armorial ensigns actually carried on many a stricken field. This is, or was, the fact in the cases of some of the oldest Scottish houses, both Highland and Lowland. It may be so in that of the Fergussons of Derculich and Dunfallandy, who were the chiefs of the Highland clan, and this seems all the more probable when we find the simple Fergusson arms in one of the early MSS. which preceded the Lyon Register, erroneously attributed to another well-known Perthshire family whose 'country' was in the immediate vicinity of that of the Fergussons.

## I. ENTRIES IN THE LYON REGISTER.

(A) *Families bearing the Boars' Heads and Buckle.*

## I. 1672-1678.

MR. DAVID FERGUSONE, MINISTER AT STRICKMARTINE.

Bears.—*Azur on a chevron argent, betwixt three boars' heads coupéd or, a mullet of ye first.*

*Above ye shield ane helmet befitting his degree, mantled gules and doubled argent.*

Motto.—'Audaces fortuna juvat.'

This Mr. David Fergusson 'was great-grandchild to David Fergusson, minister at Dunfermline in King James the Sixth's time.' He left no surviving male descendants.—See Introduction to *Tracts*, by David Fergusson, minister of Dunfermline, 1563-1572. Bannatyne Club, 1860.

## II. 1691.

FERGUSON OF BALMAKELLY AND KINMUNDY.

Major James Ferguson in Colonel Lauder's Regiment.

Bears.—*Azure, a buckle argent betwixt three boar-heds coupéd or, within a bordure embattled of the third. On an helmet befitting his degree, mantled gules and doubling argent and torse of his colours, is set for his Crest, a dexter hand issuing from a cloud, grasping a broken spear in bend proper.*

*The Motto in an escroll,—'Arte et Animo.'*

Dec. 21. 1691.

Major James Ferguson, then serving in Colonel Lauder's Regiment of the 'Scots-Dutch' Brigade, was third son of William Ferguson of Badifurrow, Aberdeenshire, M.P. (Scots Parliament) for Inverurie, 1660. He was Laird of Balmakelly and Kirktonhill in the Mearns, and died in 1705, having attained the rank of Major-General. From 1694 to 1705 he was Colonel of the Cameronian Regiment. His only son sold his Kincardineshire estates, and acquired instead those of Kinmundy and Coynach in Buchan. See *Two Scottish Soldiers*. D. Wyllie and Son, Aberdeen, 1888.



## III. 1719.

## FERGUSSON OF KILKERRAN.

*Azure, a buckle argent, between three boars' heads, coupéd or, with the badge of knight-baronet in the dexter chief canton.*

Crest.—*A bee upon a thistle proper.*

Motto.—'Ut prosim aliis.'

3rd June 1719.

The Kilkerran arms were again matriculated in 1880, as follows:—

*Quarterly, First. Azure, a buckle argent between three boars' heads coupéd or, for Ferguson. Second. Or, a lion rampant, coupéd at all joints gules, within a double tressure flory counterflory azure, for Maitland. Third. Argent a shakefork, sable, for Cunningham. Fourth. Or, on a saltire azure, nine lozenges of the first, on a bordure of the second eight mullets, and as many boars' heads erased, argent, for Dalrymple.*

Crest.—*A bee on a thistle proper.*

Motto.—'Ut prosim aliis.'

12th April 1880.

On 26th November 1880 licence was given to place the motto 'Ut prosim aliis' below the shield, and to use above the crest, 'Dulcius ex asperis.'

## IV. 1734-1755.

## FERGUSON OF PITFOUR.

Mr. James Ferguson of Pitfour, Advocate.

*Azure, a buckle argent, between three boars' heads coupéd or, all within a bordure of the second.*

Crest.—*A crescent or, rising from a cloud proper.*

Motto.—'Virtute.'

James Ferguson of Pitfour—afterwards Lord Pitfour—in whose time these arms were matriculated between 1734 and 1755, was grandson of William, second son of William Ferguson of Badi-

furrow, who represented Inverurie in the Restoration Parliament. William succeeded his father in Badifurrow, the elder brother being Robert Ferguson, 'the Plotter.' His son James parted with Badifurrow (now Manar, in the Garioch) and acquired the lands of Pitfour in Buchan. See Article, 'Three Generations of the Scots Bar.' *Journal of Jurisprudence*, March 1886.

## V. 1757.

CAPTAIN JOHN FERGUSON,

Commander of one of the ships in his Majestie's Navy.

Bears.—*Argent, a ship of war under sail proper, and on a chief azur, Three Boars' heads coupéd or.*

Crest.—*A dexter hand grasping a broadsword proper, and in an escroll above, this Motto, 'Pro rege et patria.'*

28th January 1757.

Among the notices of appointments in 1756 is found:—'Commanders of men-of-war—Captain John Ferguson (of the *Porcupine* sloop) of the *Solebay* of twenty guns.' In a burgess ticket of Aberdeen, given on 13th May 1756 to William Ferguson, afterwards resident in Peterhead, he is described as 'Generosus vir Gulielmus Ferguson, locumtenens Navis Bellicae S. D. N. Regis vocat. *Solebay* Honorabili viro Joanne Ferguson Duce.'

This Captain John Ferguson had served on the West Coast during the Jacobite rising of 1745-46. He nearly captured Prince Charles Edward, and did capture Flora Macdonald on her return, and Lord Lovat. He was known as 'the black captain.' He was second son of William, son of George, fourth son of William Ferguson of Badifurrow (M.P. for Inverurie, 1660), and left two sons, John a captain in the army, and William a captain in the navy.

His lieutenant was grandson of John Ferguson, nephew, and Janet Ferguson, daughter, of William Ferguson of Badifurrow (M.P. for Inverurie, 1660).

## VI. 1761.

WILLIAM FERGUSON, ESQ., LONDON.

Bears.—*Azur, a buckle argent betwixt three Boars' heads, coupéd or, armed and langued proper, within a bordure of the third, charged with four cross-crosslets fitchéd gules.*

Crest.—*A dexter arm, from the shoulder in armour, holding a broken lance, all proper.*

Motto.—‘True to the end’ (*Fidus ad Imum.*)

24th September 1761.

This William Ferguson (a merchant in London) was son of George, elder brother of Captain John Ferguson, R.N., and great-grandson of George, fourth son of William Ferguson of Badifurrow (M.P. for Inverurie, 1660). His mother was a Tulloch of Tannachy, and the crosses-crosslet added as a difference are taken from their arms. He left no issue.

### VII. 1762.

WALTER FERGUSSON OF KINNAIRD.

Bears.—*Azure, on a chevron argent, betwixt three boars' heads coupéd or, armed and langued proper, a buckle betwixt two falcons of the first.*

Crest.—*A demi-lion gules, armed and langued azure.*

Motto.—‘Virtus Sibi Praemium.’

2nd November 1762.

This Walter Ferguson (a writer in Edinburgh) was grandson of Walter, sixth and youngest son of William Ferguson of Badifurrow (M.P. for Inverurie, 1660). He married Catherine, sister of John Swinton of Swinton, Lord Swinton, and the chevron adopted as a difference, may not improbably have been suggested by the chevron betwixt the boars' heads of the Swinton arms. He left no issue. His younger brother, Captain James Ferguson, R.N., was Governor of Greenwich Hospital from 1786 to 1793. Another brother, John, was lieutenant in Brigadier Halket's Regiment in the Dutch service.

### VIII. 1785.

JAMES FERGUSSON, ESQUIRE, MERCHANT IN LONDON.

*Azure, on a chevron between three Boars' heads coupéd or, a buckle gules, between two stars of the field.*

Crest.—*A palm-tree proper.*

Motto.—‘Sub onere crescit.’

13th Sept. 1785.

It has been found impossible to identify the family to which this James Ferguson belonged. The arms suggest a connection

with the Aberdeenshire, Athole, or Ayrshire families, and the crest commercial enterprise in the East.

## IX. 1860.

## FERGUSON-HOME OF BASSENDEAN.

‘Major John Hutchison Fergusson-Home, formerly Major John Hutchison Fergusson of Bassendean, in the county of Berwick, the patentee, the eldest son of the late James Fergusson, Esq. of Crosshill, in the county of Ayr, Advocate, one of the principal Clerks of the Court of Session, by Mary, his wife, daughter of John Home, Esq. of Bassendean, and only surviving sister of the late Lieutenant-General John Home Home of Bassendean aforesaid, Colonel of H.M.’s 56th Foot.’

Bears.—*Party per bend vert and argent, in chief a lion rampant of the second, armed and langued gules, and in base three papingoes of the first, beaked and membered of the third, on a chief or a buckle between two boars’ heads coupéd azure.*

Crest.—*Upon a chapeau gules turned up ermine, a lion’s head erased vert.*

Motto, above.—*The ancient war-cry, ‘A Home! A Home!’ and below, ‘True to the end.’*

26th Oct. 1860.

## X. 1886.

## FERGUSON-POLLOK.

‘William Fergusson-Pollok, fourth son of the late James Fergusson of Monkwood and Crosshill, Ayrshire, Advocate (P.C.S.), who was eldest son of James Fergusson of Bank, Ayrshire, and was maternally descended from the family of Hutchison of Monkwood.’

Bears.—*Quarterly, 1st and 4th. Vert, a saltire or between three hunting horns in flank and base argent, garnished and stringed gules, for Pollok. 2nd and 3rd, azure, a buckle between two boars’ heads coupéd in chief and two arrows in saltire, points downwards, in base or, for Fergusson.*

Crests, upon the dexter side.—*A boar passant shot through with a dart proper, and over it the Motto, ‘Audacter et*



strenue,' for Pollok; and on the sinister side, on a Thistle leaved and flowered, a Bee proper.

Motto.—'Dulcius ex asperis,' for Fergusson.

21st January 1886.

### XI. 1887.

#### DALRYMPLE OF NEW HAILES.

Sir Charles Dalrymple of New Hailes, Bart., second surviving son of the late Sir Charles Dalrymple-Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart.

Bears.—*Quarterly, 1st and 4th. Or, on a saltire azure nine lozenges of the field, on a bordure of the second eight mullets and as many boars' heads erased argent, for Dalrymple. 2nd and 3rd, azure, a buckle argent between three boars' heads coupéd or, for Fergusson.*

Crest.—*A Rock proper.*

Motto.—'Firme.'

13th July 1887.

### XII. 1890.

#### FERGUSSON-BUCHANAN OF AUCHENTORLIE.

George James Fergusson-Buchanan, formerly G. J. Fergusson, of Auchentorlie, Dumbartonshire, Captain 3rd Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers, only son of the late George Hermand Fergusson and Georgina Grace, his wife, daughter of Archibald Buchanan of Auchentorlie, George Hermand Fergusson being the second son of Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran, 4th Baronet.

Bears.—*Quarterly, 1st and 4th. Or, a lion rampant sable between two otters' heads, erased in chief proper and a cinquefoil in base of the second within a Royal tressure, flory counterflory of the last, for Buchanan. 2nd and 3rd, azure, a buckle argent, between three boars' heads coupéd or, a bordure of the last, for Fergusson.*

Crests, on the dexter.—*An armed dexter hand coupéd, holding up a cap of dignity purpure, faced ermine, within two laurel branches disposed in orle proper. Motto.—'Clarior hinc honos,' for Buchanan; and on the sinister, a bee on a thistle proper. Motto, 'Ut prosim aliis,' for Fergusson.*

1st May 1890.

(B) *Families bearing the Lion Rampant as principal Charge.*

XIII. 1673.

FERGUSON OF CRAIGDARROCH.

Robert Fergusone of Craigdarroch.

Bears.—*Argent, a lion rampant azure, on a chief gules, a mullet between a cross-crosslet fitchéd in the dexter, and a rose in the sinister of the field.*

Crest.—*A dexter hand grasping a broken spear in bend.*

Motto.—‘*Vi et Arte.*’

4th Dec. 1673.

The Fergussons of Craigdarroch now quarter with their paternal arms those of the Cutlars of Orroland, and bear as supporters two lions.

XIV. 1725.

FERGUSON OF RAITH.

Alexander (Robert ?) Ferguson of Reath.

Bears.—*Argent, a lion rampant azure, between three buckles gules, and a cheiff chequy of the first and second.*

Crest.—*A demi-lion proper holding between his paws a buckle gules.*

Motto.—‘*Virtuti fortuna comes.*’

16th March 1725.

XV. 1788.

FERGUSON OF ISLE.

‘*Johanna Fergusson of Isle, in the county of Dumfries, daughter and heiress of John Chalmers Fergusson of Isle, Esquire, by Ann, daughter of William Comrie of Comrie, Esq., which John was son and heir of George Chalmers, Esq., by Janet, eldest daughter and heiress of Alexander Fergusson of Isle, Esquire, which George was son and heir of Mr. Thomas Chalmers, Advocate, descended from the family of Auchinbraes by Mary, daughter and heiress of Sir John Cooper of Gogar, Baronet, and his lady, Margaret, daughter of — Inglis of Otterstoun, Esquire.*’

Bears.—*Quarterly, 1st and 4th. Argent, a demi-lion rampant sable issuing out of a fess gules between two stars in chief, and a fleur-de-lys in base azure, all within a bordure engrailed of the last, for Chalmers of Auchinbraes. 2nd, Argent, a lion rampant azure within a bordure gules, on a chief engrailed of the second a star between two cross-crosslets fitchéd or, for Fergusson of Isle. 3rd, Argent, a chevron gules charged with a chevronel ermine, between three triple-leaved slips of laurel proper, for Cooper of Gogar.*

Crest.—*An increscent, or.*

Motto.—‘*Growing.*’

8th July 1788.

#### XVI. 1860.

GENERAL SIR JAMES FERGUSSON, K.G.C.B.

General Sir James Fergusson, K.G.C.B., Colonel of 43rd Foot, only surviving child of the late deceased Charles Fergusson, Esquire, by Ann, his cousin, only surviving daughter of James Fergusson, Esquire of Craigdarroch, in the county of Dumfries, by his second marriage with Eleanor Dalrymple, niece of John, second Earl of Stair, which Charles was the only surviving son of Robert Fergusson, Esq. of Crawfordton, Dumfriesshire, brother-german of the said James Fergusson of Craigdarroch aforesaid, whose paternal great-grandfather, Robert Fergusson of Craigdarroch, obtained a matriculation of his arms in the public register of all arms and bearings in Scotland, of date 4th December 1673.

Bears.—*Argent, a lion rampant azure, on a chief gules, a mullet between a cross-crosslet fitchéd in the dexter, and a rose in the sinister of the field, all within a bordure of the third for difference.*

Crest.—*A dexter hand grasping a broken spear, both proper.*

Motto. ‘*Vi et Arte.*’

22nd August 1860.

#### XVII. 1866.

FERGUSSON OF SPITALHAUGH.

William Fergusson of Spitalhaugh, Peeblesshire, and of George Street, in the parish of St. George's, Hanover Square

in the county of Middlesex, Esquire, one of Her Majesty's Surgeons Extraordinary, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.S.E., only surviving son and heir of James Fergusson of Lochmaben, in the county of Dumfries, by Elizabeth Hodge of Crail, in the county of Fife, his wife, and grandson of John Fergusson of Lochmaben, aforesaid, and Janet Bell of Conheath, in the said county of Dumfries, his wife, all deceased; whose ancestors have been resident in the county of Dumfries for several generations, and are traditionally said to be descended from the family of Fergusson of Craigdarroch.

Bears.—*Argent, a lion rampant azure, armed and langued gules, on a chief engrailed of the last, a mullet between two cinquefoils of the first.*

Crest.—*A dexter hand grasping a broken spear in bend, all proper.*

Motto.—'Vi et Arte.'

11th January 1866.

(C) Families bearing other ensigns armorial.

XVIII. 1837.

FERGUSSON-KENNEDY OF BENNANE.

Hew Fergusson-Kennedy of Bennane, in Ayrshire, Captain H.M. Service, only son of David Fergusson-Kennedy of Finnart, by his cousin-german, Mary, daughter of John Forsyth, then of Bellieston, Antrim, Ireland, and Mary Fergusson, daughter of David Fergusson of Finnart, and Mary Kennedy, daughter of Hugh Kennedy of Bennane; which David Fergusson-Kennedy was the only son of Hugh Kennedy of Bennane by Agnes Fergusson, his cousin-german, daughter of the aforesaid David and Mary of Finnart; which Hew Kennedy was eldest son of Hamilton Kennedy of Bennane by — Fergusson, daughter of — Fergusson of Castlehill, in the county of Ayr.

Bears.—*Quarterly, 1st and 4th. Argent, a chevron gules between three cross-crosslets fitchéd sable. 2nd and 3rd. Azure, three fleur-de-lis or.*

Crest.—*A fleur-de-lis or, issuing out of two oak-leaves proper.*

Motto.—'Fuimus.'



Supporters.—*Dexter side, a female attired in the costume of the sixteenth century; and on the sinister, a wyvern proper.*

10th January 1837.

## II. ENTRIES IN THE RECORDS OF THE COLLEGE OF ARMS, LONDON.

### 1. FERGUSON-TEPPER—1779.

Grant and exemplification of arms to Peter Ferguson-Tepper and his issue. 9th June 1779.

*Quarterly, 1 and 4. Argent, a lion rampant gules, in the dexter paw a mullet of six points azure. For Tepper.*

*2 and 3. Azure, a buckle argent between three boars' heads coupéd or. For Ferguson.*

*Crest.—Issuant from a ducal coronet or, the figure of a woman proper habited of the first, mantle flowing over the left shoulder purpure; on the dexter hand a bird perched proper, and in the sinister a mullet as in the arms.*

(No Motto is depicted.)

### 2. FERGUSON (LATE BERRY)—1782.

On 11th January 1782 the Royal Licence was granted to William Berry of Austin Fryars, London, and his heirs of the body, to take and bear the name and arms of the late Robert Ferguson of Raith, on the narrative that Robert Ferguson was the petitioner's uncle, and by a certain testamentary disposition, dated 3rd November 1768, gave to the petitioner certain lands in Scotland under a direction that he assume and take the surname and arms of Ferguson.

The arms exemplified were:—

*Argent, a lion rampant azure, between three buckles gules. A chief chequy of the first and second.*

*Crest.—On a wreath a demi-lion proper: in the paws a buckle, as in the arms.*

### 3. FERGUSON-DAVIE—1846.

On 9th February 1846 the Royal Licence was granted to Henry Robert Ferguson of Wilton Crescent, Belgrave Square,



(III 1)



(IV 2)



(I 18)



(IV 3)



(II 3)



and of Creedy, near Crediton, County Devon, Colonel in the Army, and Frances Juliana his wife, daughter of Sir John Davie of Creedy, Bart., to take the surname of Davie after Ferguson and bear the arms of Davie, the said Frances Juliana being sister and heir of the late Sir Humphry Phineas Davie of Creedy.

The arms exemplified were:—

*1st and 4th.* *Argent, a chevron sable between three mullets pierced gules.*

*2nd and 3rd.* *Azure, three cinquefoils, two and one or, upon a chief of the last a lion passant gules. And each quartering charged for distinction with a canton sable.*

Crests.—1. *Upon a wreath of the colours a Paschal lamb regardant argent.* 2. *Upon a like wreath of the colours a halcyon or kingfisher, wings elevated proper, holding in the beak a branch of olive vert, fructed or. Each Crest charged for distinction with a cinquefoil sable.*

(The distinctions would be dropped by the descendants of Mrs. Ferguson-Davie.)

#### 4. OLIPHANT-FERGUSON—1860.

On 29th September 1860 the Royal Licence was granted to George Henry Hewett Oliphant of Broadfield House, in the parish of Hesket, Co. Cumberland, to take the surname of Ferguson after Oliphant, and quarter the arms of Ferguson with his family arms, he being the son of George Henry Oliphant of Broadfield House, and Sarah his wife, sister of Richard Ferguson, late of Harker, in the parish of Rockcliff, Co. Cumberland, deceased, who by his will, dated 18th April last, devised the Harker Lodge Estate, etc., to petitioner and his sons in tail-male.

The arms granted on 20th Nov. 1860 were:—

*1st and 4th.* *Per chevron nebuly, or and azure three boars' heads coupéd counterchanged, a border ermine, for Ferguson.*

*2nd and 3rd.* *Gules, an elephant's head coupéd between three crescents or, for Oliphant.*

Crest of Ferguson.—*On a wreath of the colours a demi-lion per chevron or and azure, holding in the dexter paw a*



*thistle slipped proper, and resting the sinister upon a shield also azure, charged with a boar's head coupéd or.*

Crest of Oliphant.—*On a wreath of the colours an elephant statant proper, semé of crescents or, and holding in the trunk a millrind, also or.*

#### 5. FERGUSON-FAWSITT, FORMERLY FERGUSON—1866.

On 19th December 1866 the Royal Licence was granted to John Daniel Ferguson of Barton-Constable, in the parish of Swine, in the East Riding of the County of York, Captain in the East York Militia, who was about to marry Ann Eliza Fawsitt of Beverley, elder daughter and co-heir of John Fawsitt, late of Hunsley House, in the parish of Rowley, in the said county, to take the surname of Fawsitt after Ferguson, and bear the arms of Fawsitt quarterly with those of Ferguson.

The arms granted (*on 21st Feb. 1867*) were:—

*Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Fawsitt.—Or, a lion rampant pean debruised by a bandlet gobony argent and azure, between two bugle-horns stringed gules. For distinction, in the centre chief point a cross-crosslet azure.*

*2nd and 3rd. Azure, three buckles chevron-wise between as many boars' heads coupéd argent, for Ferguson.*

Crest of Fawsitt.—*On a wreath of colours a demi-lion pean supporting a pillar erect gules, thereon a bugle-horn or, stringed azure; the lion charged on the shoulder for distinction with a cross-crosslet or.*

Crest of Ferguson.—*In front of a cubit arm proper, grasping a dagger erect also proper, pomel and hilt gold, a buckle argent.*

(The distinction would be dropped by the issue.)

### III. FROM THE RECORDS OF THE IRISH COLLEGE OF ARMS, DUBLIN.

#### 1. SIR ANDREW FERGUSON—1801.

*Azure, a buckle argent between three boars' heads coupéd or.*

Crest.—*On a wreath of the colours a thistle proper with a bee alighting thereon, or.*

Motto.—'Dulcius ex asperis.'

Confirmed by Sir Chichester Fortescue, Ulster, on 20th August 1801, to Andrew Ferguson, of the City of Londonderry, Esq., on his being created a baronet.

## 2. FERGUSON OF BURT HOUSE—1843.

*Azure, a buckle or, between three boars' heads erased argent.*

Crest.—*On a thistle proper, a bee or, winged azure.*

Motto.—‘*Dulcius ex asperis.*’

Exemplified by Sir William Betham, Ulster, 9th Jan. 1843, to John Magennis of Burt House, Co. Donegal, Esq., on his assuming, by Royal Licence, the name and arms of his maternal uncle, Andrew Ferguson of Burt House.

The following arms are also noted in Burke's *General Armory*:—

## IV

1. FERGUS.—*Arg. a lion rampant, gu.*

Crest.—*A demi-lion ppr. crowned with a mural crown, or.*

2. FERGUS.—(Confirmed 1742 to MacRath Fergus, Esq. of Fallbower, Co. Mayo.)

*Az. a fess between a star of eight rays in chief and a lion rampant in base, or.*

Crest.—*A naked hand coupéd below the elbow holding the upper part of a broken lance ppr. headed, or.*

3. FERGUS (the island of Montserrat, 1783).—*Arg. a lion rampant gu., on a chief az. a crescent between two mullets of the first.*

4. FERGUS-HILL (Scotland).—*Arg. an eagle with wings expanded, gu.*

## COATS OF ARMS, AND CRESTS IN USE BY LEADING FAMILIES OF THE NAME, BUT NOT MATRICULATED.

The arms already described exhaust those matriculated in the official Heraldic Registers of the three kingdoms.

The arms of the Fergussons of Dunfallandy were the plain

shield with the buckle and the three boars' heads ; the crest, a hand holding a dagger ; and the motto, *Arte et Marte*. Miss Fergusson of Dunfallandy states that the arms were understood to commemorate the fact that the last wild boar in Scotland was killed by a Fergusson.

The Fergussons of Middlehaugh and Baledmund carry as their crest a hand holding a dagger, with the motto, *Arte et Marte* ; and the book-plate of the late Mr. S. R. Fergusson of Middlehaugh shows the azure shield with the three boars' heads and the buckle, surmounted by this crest, and with this motto below. We are indebted to Mr. Fergusson of Baledmund for the communication of a tradition that the dagger crest, and motto, *Arte et Marte*—'By Skill and Valour'—commemorate the slaying of a fierce wild boar in the days of King Fergus, who gave his daughter in marriage to a gallant youth of the same name who destroyed the savage animal with a skene or dagger, and from whom the Fergussons took their descent. The historian of the House and Clan of Mackay, thus records a later legend which has been similarly associated with the motto, *Arte et Animo*—'By Skill and Courage'—of General Ferguson of Balmakelley and his descendants, the family of Kinmundy:—'This Major James Ferguson was a distinguished officer under the Duke of Marlborough. . . . When in Flanders, he had on one occasion volunteered to go with a small party to guard a great number of prisoners to a place at a considerable distance, after others had signified a wish to decline the service as being too hazardous. For the greater safety he cut the latchets of the prisoners' small-clothes, which obliged them to march with one hand behind to hold them up.' The *Arte* of the motto has been associated with this device, but the arms of Brigadier Ferguson were registered many years before he was selected for the responsible service of conveying the large body of 12,000 French prisoners down the Rhine to Holland after the victory of Blenheim.

According to the late Mr. S. R. Fergusson of Middlehaugh, the badge of the Athole Fergussons was the bog-myrtle. According to others connected both with the Athole and Aberdeenshire families, it was the poplar, while that given

by the books on clan tartans and badges is the little sun-flower or rock-rose.

Logan, after observing that 'the armorial bearings vary in different families of the name,' states that 'Fergus bears *Argent a lion rampant gules; Crest, a demi-lion proper, crowned with a mural diadem or*, which is believed to denote the royal descent.'

In Laing's *Scottish Seals* the seal of a John Fergusson, Burgess of Edinburgh, is given as 'a chevron between three mullets in chief, and a fleur-de-lis in base. Above the shield the initials I. F.'—(A.D. 1594, Southesk Charters.)

There are also one or two other references to Fergusson arms in old heraldic mss. Thus the Kilkerran arms, blazoned as subsequently recorded in 1719, are given in Pont's ms. c. 1630. In Fraser's *Funeral Escutcheons* (c. 1700) the arms of Fergusson of Auchinsoul are represented, apparently as *or*, a buckle between three boars' heads *azure*. If this reading of the pen-and-ink drawing be correct, the Auchinsoul arms are differenced from those of the head Ayrshire family by the omission of the silver tincture, and the reversal of the tinctures generally employed for the field and charges. This method of differencing and altering the tincture is not unknown, though uncommon, in Scottish Heraldry. Another example of what is apparently differencing by variation of tincture is found in a ms. *Manual of Gentlemen's Arms* of a date subsequent to 1628, preserved in the Lyon Office. Unfortunately, the territorial designation of the family had been forgotten by the depicter of the coat. The heading is 'Fergusone of . . .' and the arms are given as '*Argent*, a buckle *azure* between three boars' heads coupéd *gules*.' In Fraser's *Funeral Escutcheons* the Craighdarroch arms are given as '*Azure*, a buckle *argent* between three boars' heads *or*'; but this is evidently a mistake for those of Kilkerran.

There are in the possession of Mrs. Fergusson, wife of the Rev. R. Menzies Fergusson, Minister of Logie, two interesting and quaint old coloured plates of arms, one of which can be traced four generations back in the possession of a Fergusson ancestor from Balquhiddar. The drawing is extremely spirited, and the blazon is, *Or*, a lion rampant *azure*, on a



chief *gules* a mullet between a cross-crosslet fitchée on the dexter, and a rose on the sinister of *the field*. *Crest*—a hand grasping a broken spear. *Motto*—*Vi et Arte*. The bearings are thus exactly the same as those of Craigdarroch, with the exception that the field is tinctured *or* instead of *argent*. The painting originally belonged to a Duncan Fergusson (great-grandfather of Mrs. Fergusson), who occupied the farm of Lawers on Loch Tay, whose father John is said to have come there from Balquhidder. The family resolved to emigrate to Canada; but on reaching Perth remained there, where Isabella, a daughter of Duncan Fergusson, married in 1815 Daniel Haggart, whose family occupied for generations the Forty-shilling Land, now the Breadalbane Home Farm. Isabella Fergusson, according to family tradition, ‘had a great deal of what is commonly known as Highland pride of family, and brought with her the plate of arms and other interesting old things. Her father was much interested in matters connected with his own family.’ Although no definite conclusion can be drawn from it, the existence of this old plate in the last century in Balquhidder is of great interest in connection with the tradition of a Craigdarroch origin in that district, and also in view of the use of a tartan different from that worn in Athole. An English family also possess an old drawing of arms said to have been those of their Scottish ancestors, and identical with those of Craigdarroch.<sup>1</sup>

The other plate belonging to Mrs. Fergusson, Manse of Logie, shows an impaled coat. On the dexter side are the arms of Nairn (apparently of Sandford). Party per pale *argent* and *sable*, a wreath (or chaplet) ensigned with four trefoils all counterchanged, within a bordure also counterchanged. *Crest*—a martlet volant. On the sinister side is the following coat:—*Argent*, a lion passant *gules*, langued *azure*, on a chief of the third a boar’s head coupéd *or*, between two mullets (spur rowels) *argent* (or proper). *Crest*—a mullet (a spur rowel) proper. Below the two crests are respectively the letters N. and F. No tradition is extant as to the history of this painting.

M. Jan Helenus Fergusson of the Hague, for several years

<sup>1</sup> See p. 503.

Ambassador of the Netherlands in China, uses as arms, crest, and motto the plain shield, with the three boars' heads and the buckle, the bee upon the thistle, and the words, *Dulcius ex asperis*. An elderly cousin of his had in her possession (in 1886) a coat of arms painted on wood, which 'her father had bought at a sale, as he recognised its resemblance to his, and hoped to restore it to any relations afterwards.' 'The shield,' wrote M. J. H. Ferguson, 'is the same as ours, but the crest is the helmet with arm and broken lance, and the motto is *Cedat vis Arti*.'

The arms used by the family of the late Sir Samuel Ferguson (Ireland) are:—'On a field *azure* a buckle *or*, between three boars' head *or*. *Crest*—a Scotch thistle with a bee sucking honey out of it *ppr*.' (Letter from Lady Ferguson.) The motto is *Dulcius ex asperis*. Mr. Francis Ferguson, Glasgow, descended from another branch of the Fergusons of Fourmileburn, placed the buckle between the two boars' heads in chief, and added a chevron *or*, with the same crest and motto. (Notes by Miss Paterson, Dublin.)

In Keating's *General History of Ireland*, among the plates showing 'the coats of arms of the ancient Irish,' is one entitled 'The Ancient and Honourable Family of the Feargusons.' The arms are, 'Or, a lion rampant *sable*; in chief a cross-crosslet between a mullet on the dexter and a rose on the sinister (tincture not given—printed as *argent*). *Crest*—a hand in armour grasping the shaft of a broken spear.' These bearings show a remarkable similarity to those of Craigdarroch; and it is certainly curious that the two sets of bearings, so distinct from each other, both of which are found both in central and in south-western Scotland, should both also be represented in Ireland.

## APPENDIX

### I.—BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE NAMES FERGUS, FERGUSON, AND FERGUSSON

*In a catalogue of Scottish writers, printed in 1833 from a MS. belonging to the Faculty of Advocates, occur the entries:—*

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- ‘Fergustus seu Pergnotus Pictorum Episcopus et Sedulii Junioris Socius, Consilio Romano interfuit sub Gregorio Tertio, ac Pontificia Edicta Approbavit Subscriptione (*Vide Madg. Cont.* 8, chap. 10, p. 827).

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FERGUS (II.), king of Scotland.—(*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*, p. 336.)

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2. Observations upon the proposed Reform in the Administration of Civil Justice in Scotland. Edinburgh, 1807.
3. Reports of some recent Decisions by the Consistorial Court of Scotland in actions of Divorce, concluding for Dissolution of Marriage celebrated under the English Law. Edinburgh, 1817.



4. Observations upon the provisions of the Bill presented to Parliament, relative to the trial, in a separate Tribunal, of issues of fact arising in actions instituted before the Supreme Civil Court of Scotland. Edinburgh, 1824.
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  2. Case of imperforate Anus, where the child was saved by an opening into the bladder. Edinburgh, 1831.
  3. Lectures upon Cholera Morbus, with Observations upon Contagion . . . and disinfecting Fumigations. London, Windsor, 1832.
  4. Testimonials in favour of. Edinburgh, 1834.
  5. Thoughts and observations upon Pauperism, Poor Laws, Medical Relief, and the Prevention of Crime. London, Windsor, 1838.
  6. Account of the Dissection of a Patient in whom the sub-clavical artery had been tied for Axillary Aneurism, with . . . remarks. Edinburgh, 1841.
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  11. On the Treatment of Aneurism by Manipulation. London, 1857.
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FERGUSON, WILLIAM, M.D. (Inspector-General of Military Hospitals, 1773-1846?)

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  2. A Letter to the Managers of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. Edinburgh, 1818.
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FERGUSON, WILLIAM. (F. C. Minister, Ellon.)

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1. Letter to Lord Stanley on the Dearth of Cotton, and the capability of India to supply the quantity required. London, 1863.
2. A Reply to the Address of the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury and others to the Right Hon. Sir Charles Wood, on the proposed Law of Contract for India. London, 1863.

FERGUSONE, LYDIA. (Mrs. Sheridan.)

(See Catalogue of British Museum.)

## II. MEN OF THE NAME WHO HAVE BELONGED TO THE FACULTY OF ADVOCATES AND THE SOCIETY OF WRITERS TO THE SIGNET.

(Taken from the Minutes of the Faculty, and the History of the W.S. Society.)

The Records of the Faculty of Advocates contain the names of the following members of the Clan who have become members of that distinguished body:—



- FERGUSONE, JOHN, son to Symon of Auchninyin (11th December 1680); afterwards Sir John Fergusson of Kilkerran (Baronet, 1703).
- FERGUSON, JAMES, eldest son to Sir John Ferguson, Advocate (18th February 1711); born 1688; M.P. for Sutherlandshire, 1734-35; raised to the Bench as Lord Kilkerran, 7th November 1735; Lord of Justiciary, 3rd April 1749; died, 20th January 1759.
- FERGUSON, ADAM, son of Sir James Ferguson, one of the Senators of the College of Justice (20th December 1755), of Kilkerran; born 1732; succeeded his father as third Baronet in 1759; LL.D.; a Commissioner of Trade and Plantations; M.P. for Ayrshire, 1774-84 and 1790-96; for Edinburgh City, 1784-1790; died, 23rd September 1813.
- FERGUSSON, GEORGE, son of the deceased Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran (14th December 1765); raised to the Bench as Lord Hermand, 11th January 1799; Lord of Justiciary, 4th August 1808; resigned, 1826; died, 9th August 1827.
- FERGUSSON, CHARLES DALRYMPLE, eldest son of Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran (6th July 1822), grandson of Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran, Advocate; born 1800; succeeded his father as fifth Baronet, 1838; died, 18th March 1849.
- FERGUSON, ALEXANDER, of Isle (20th December 1685); M.P. for Dumfries Sherifffdom and Stewartry of Annandale, 1702-7; died, 21st February 1719.
- FERGUSONE, JAMES, of Badorro (23rd January 1697), son of William Ferguson of Badifurrow, and grandson of William Fergusson of Badifurrow, M.P. for Inverurie in 1661; afterwards of Pitfour; Sheriff-Substitute of Aberdeenshire, 1714; died, 1734.
- FERGUSON, JAMES, son to James Ferguson of Pitfour, Advocate (17th February 1722); born, 1700; eldest son of preceding; Dean of Faculty, 24th June 1760; raised to the Bench as Lord Pitfour, 14th June 1764; Lord of Justiciary, 9th July 1764; died, 25th June 1777.
- FERGUSON, JAMES, younger of Pitfour (30th July 1757); born, 1735; eldest son of preceding; M.P. for Banffshire, —90; for Aberdeenshire, 1790-1820; died, 1820.
- FERGUSON, JAMES, eldest lawful son to Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch (23rd January 1734); died, 1772.
- FERGUSSON, ALEXANDER, eldest son of James Fergusson, Esq. of Craigdarroch (30th July 1768); died, 1796.

FERGUSON, NEIL, third son of Rev. Adam Fergusson, Minister at Moulin, afterwards of Woodhill (19th December 1772); born, 1750; Sheriff-Depute of Fife and Kinross, 17th June 1799; died, 1803.

FERGUSON, ADAM, eldest son of the late Mr. Neil Fergusson, Advocate, of Woodhill (26th May 1804); died, 1862.

FERGUSON, ROBERT, eldest son of William Ferguson, Esq. of Raith (3rd June 1791); M.P., Fifeshire, 1806-7; Kirkcaldy Burghs, 1831-34; Haddingtonshire, 1835-37; Fife Burghs, 1837-40. Died, 3rd December 1840, aged 72.

FERGUSON, JAMES, eldest son of James Ferguson, Esq. of Bank (2nd July 1791); of Monkwood; died, 3rd May 1842.

FERGUSON, JAMES, only son of William Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy, Aberdeenshire (18th July 1879); Advocate-Depute, Feb.—Aug. 1892 and July 1895.

The names have been given as spelt in the Faculty Records. A James Fergusson, admitted in 1737, is noted in an old almanac, but his name is not found in any extant Minute of Faculty.

The following have been members of the Society of Writers to the Signet, the names being taken from the list appended to the History of the Society:—

FERGUS, JAMES (4th July 1769). Apprentice to William Fraser; son of John Fergus, merchant in Edinburgh; killed by the falling of the North Bridge, 3rd August 1769. Married Susan Freebairn.

FERGUSON, SIR ADAM, Knight (23rd November 1795). Apprentice to (1) Lawrence Hill, and (2) Harry Davidson; son of Adam Ferguson, Professor of Moral Philosophy; born, 21st December 1770; married, 16th April 1821, Margaret, daughter of John Stewart of Stenton, and widow of George Lyon of Bucklersbury; Collector of Widows' Fund, 1803-5; Captain, 101st Foot, February 1808; served in Peninsula; knighted, 1822.

FERGUSON, JOHN (28th January 1836). Apprentice to David Welsh; son of James Ferguson, residing at Bonnington; born, 24th March 1814; died, 8th Nov. 1865, unmarried.

FERGUSON, THOMAS (16th June 1807). Apprentice to James Thomson; second son of James Ferguson of Kinmundy, Aberdeenshire; born, 17th April 1768; died, 28th May 1828. Married, 9th September 1802, Catherine, second daughter of James Cumine of Kininmonth

- FERGUSON, THOMAS (22nd June 1819). Apprentice to Thomas Ferguson, his uncle; third son of James Ferguson of Kinmundy; born, 21st July 1794; died, 30th January 1831. Married, 6th October 1828, Barbara, second daughter of James Hutchison, merchant, Peterhead.
- FERGUSON, WELLWOOD ROBERTSON (16th July 1888). Apprentice to William Ferguson and J. C. Junner; son of William Ferguson, W.S.; born, 25th April 1865.
- FERGUSON, WILLIAM (11th March 1818). Apprentice to William Gracie; only son of Walter Ferguson, candlemaker in Edinburgh; born, 2nd September 1786; died, 15th March 1849. Married, 18th August 1815, Margaret, daughter of William Cruchie, Edinburgh.
- FERGUSON, WILLIAM (17th July 1851). Apprentice to Smith and Kinnear; son of William Ferguson, W.S.; born 25th January 1829; died 25th January 1887. Married, 21st August 1855, Elizabeth Robertson, daughter of Rev. William Glendonwyn Crosbie, minister of Parton, Kirkeudbrightshire.
- FERGUSON, HENRY DUNCAN (15th February 1844). Apprentice to Walker, Richardson, and Melville; sixth son of Sir James Ferguson of Kilkerran, Bart.; born, 30th September 1817; died, 22nd October 1866. Married, 16th June 1846, Anna, daughter of Robert Nasmyth, F.R.C.S., Edinburgh.
- FERGUSON, JAMES (7th June 1797). Apprentice to Alexander Keith; son of John Fergusson, coppersmith in Edinburgh; died, 26th May 1811. Married, 12th January 1800, Isabella Anderson.
- FERGUSON, JAMES (24th May 1814). Apprentice to Joseph Cauvin; third son of Neil Fergusson of Woodhill, Perthshire, Advocate; born, 1793; died, 19th May 1850, unmarried.
- FERGUSON, JOHN (6th June 1707). Died, 1726.
- FERGUSON, JOSEPH GILLON, of Isle (16th November 1871). Apprentice to Alex. Maconochie Hare; son of Robert Don Gillon Fergusson of Isle, Dumfriesshire; born, 14th January 1848; married, 24th January 1882, Edith Mary Scott, daughter of James Scott Elliot of Blackwood, Dumfriesshire.
- FERGUSON, SAMUEL ROBERT, of Middlehaugh (24th June 1835). Apprentice to James Hope; son of James Fergusson of Middlehaugh, Perthshire; born, 29th May 1812; died, 26th September 1890. Married, 21st April 1852, Janet, second daughter of Hugh Watson of Keillor, Forfarshire.

III. NOTICES IN THE OBITUARY OF THE *GENTLEMAN'S  
MAGAZINE*, 1731-1780.

- Ferguson, Captain, Whitehall, 1735 ; p. 107.  
 Ferguson, Captain, *æt.* 26, executed at Execution Dock, 1771 ;  
 p. 43.  
 Ferguson, Captain, at Cape of Good Hope, 1774 ; p. 286.  
 Ferguson, Major Adam, at Ayr, 1770 ; p. 190.  
 Ferguson, Captain Alexander, of the Barbados trade, 1780 ; p. 395.  
 Ferguson, Charles, 1745 ; p. 52.  
 Ferguson, Grenville, *æt.* 78, 1780 ; p. 154.  
 Ferguson, Hugh, of Antigua, 1771 ; p. 46.  
 Ferguson, Sir James, Bart. of Kilkerran ; near Edinburgh, 1759 ;  
 p. 94.  
 Ferguson, Captain James, on his way to India, 1774 ; p. 94.  
 Ferguson, James, Lecturer on Natural Philosophy, 1776 ; p. 531.  
 Ferguson, James, son of Sir James, Bart. ; at Tobago, 1778 ; p. 45.  
 Ferguson, James, *æt.* 78, a Scotch Factor, 1790 ; p. 394.  
 Ferguson, John, *æt.* 23, son of Lord Kilkerran, cornet in Sir John  
 Mordaunt's Dragoons, 1750 ; p. 380.  
 Ferguson, William, of Dooholm, 1769 ; p. 380.  
 Ferguson, James, of Pitfour, Scotland, 1777 ; p. 351.

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IV. LIST OF BURGESS TICKETS, ETC., PRESERVED  
 AMONG THE CRAIGDARROCH PAPERS.

1. Dumfries.—To Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1708.
2. Annan.—To Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1715.
3. Lochmaben.—To Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1715.
4. Sanquhar.—To Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1715.
5. Dumfries.—To James Fergusson, younger of Craigdarroch,  
 1721.
6. Falkland.—To James Fergusson, junior of Craigdarroch, Advoca-  
 cate, 1732.
7. Kirkcudbright.—To James Fergusson of Craigdarroch, Advoca-  
 cate, 1740.
8. Lochmaben.—To James Fergusson, younger of Craigdarroch,  
 Advocate, 1740.
9. Lochmaben.—To James Fergusson, younger of Craigdarroch,  
 1747.



10. Diploma of the Old Revolution Club to James Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1755.
11. Burgess Ticket of the Town of Dumfries to Alexander Fergusson, younger of Craigdarroch, 1766.
12. Burgess Ticket of the Burgh of Ayr to James Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1769. The Provost in office being David Fergusson.
13. Sanquhar.—To Robert Fergusson, merchant in Edinburgh, 1773.
14. Edinburgh.—To Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1715.
15. New Galloway.—To Henry Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1823.
16. Commission by Earl of Galloway to Robert Cutlar Fergusson of Craigdarroch and Orroland, as Deputy-Lieutenant of Kirkcubright, 1828.
17. Freedom Ticket, by the Incorporated Trades of the Burgh of Kirkcubright, to Robert Cutlar Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1831. Granted by Peter Fergusson, Deacon of the Squarmen, and present Deacon Convener of the hail Incorporated Trades.
18. Burgess Ticket of the Burgh of Kirkcubright to Robert Cutlar Fergusson of Craigdarroch, 1834.

#### V. POEMS BY FERGUS FILIDH, OR FERGUS THE BARD.

*(From the Dean of Lismore's Book, to which reference must be made for the Gaelic original.)*

*'The author of this here is Fergus the Bard.*

'High-minded Gaul,  
 Who combats Finn,  
 A hero brave,  
 Bold in assault,  
 His bounty free,  
 Fierce to destroy.  
 Beloved of all,  
 Gaul, gentle, brave,  
 Son of great Morn ;  
 Hardy in war,  
 His praise of old,  
 A comely man,  
 King, soldierly, free,  
 Of no soft speech,  
 No lack of sense,  
 Cheerful as great :

In battle's day  
He moved a prince ;  
Though soft his skin,  
Not soft his deed,  
Of portly mould,  
A fruitful branch,  
His heart so pure,  
He trains the young,  
'Bove mountains high,  
Rises in victory,  
We ever fear  
When he assails.  
I tell you, Finn,  
Avoid the man,  
Terror of Gaul  
Should make you quail :  
Soothe him rather,  
Better than fight.  
Skilful and just  
He rules his men,  
His bounty wide,  
A bloody man,  
First in the schools,  
Of gentle blood,  
And noble race,  
Liberal, kind,  
Untired in fight,  
No prince so wise,  
Brown are his locks,  
Marble his skin,  
Perfect his form,  
All full of grace,  
Fierce to exact  
When aught is due,  
In vigour great,  
Of fairest face,  
No king like Gaul.  
I tell thee, Finn,  
His strength as waves  
In battle's crash,  
Princely his gait,  
Comely his form,  
Gaul's skilled fence—  
No play when roused,

Ready to give,  
Dreadful his strength,  
Manly his mould,  
Soldierly, great,  
Ne'er could I tell  
His grace and power :  
A fearful foe,  
Ready his hands,  
Concealed his wrath,  
A cheerful face.  
Like murmuring seas,  
Rushed to the fight,  
A lion bold,  
As great in deed,  
Powerful his arm,  
Choice amidst kings,  
Joyful his way,  
His teeth so white.  
'Tis he that wounds  
The greatest foe.  
His purpose firm,  
A victor sure,  
Desires the fight,  
In history learned,  
Warrior bold,  
Sharp is his sword.  
Contemptuous Gaul,  
Plunders at will,  
A fearless man,  
Wrathful he is.  
Dreadful in look,  
Leopard in fight,  
Fierce as a hound,  
Of women loved,  
A circle true  
E'er by him stood.  
He hurls his dart  
No gentle cast,  
Soft are his cheeks  
In blossom rich,  
Of beauteous form,  
Unchanged success,  
No stream so swift  
As his assault,

Mac Morn more brave,  
 Than any told,  
 Of powerful speech,  
 It far resounds,  
 He 's truly great,  
 Liberal, just,  
 Does not despise  
 Yet firm resolves,  
 Gentle yet brisk,  
 Forsakes no friend,  
 In fight of kings  
 No powerless arm.  
 There fierce his mien,  
 And strong his blow,  
 When roused his wrath,  
 He 's third of the chase.  
 Noble Mac Cumhail,  
 Soothe and promise,  
 Give peace to Gaul,  
 Check wrath and guile.

During my day,  
 Whate'er it be,  
 I 'd give without guile,  
 A third of the chase.

Let 's hear no more,  
 Soft dost thou speak,  
 Finn's love to Gaul,  
 And third of the hounds.  
 Gaul, leave thy wrath,  
 With us have peace,  
 Now without grudge,  
 Thou 'st of Finn's forest third.

That will I take,  
 Fergus, dear friend,  
 My wrath is gone,  
 No more I ask.

Friend without guile,  
 Lips thin and red,  
 Bounty and strength  
 Shall win thee praise,  
 High-minded Gaul.



*'The author of this is Fergus the Bard.*

Tell us now, Fergus,  
Bard of Erin's Feinn,  
How did fare the day  
In Gawra's furious fight.

Not good son of Cumhail,  
The tidings from Gawra's fight,  
Dear Oscar lives no more,  
He who bravely fought ;  
Caoilte's seven sons are gone,  
With the commons of Alvin's Feinn.  
The youth of the Feinn have fallen  
All in their warlike robes.  
Mac Luy too is dead,  
With six of thy father's sons.  
Fallen are the youth of Alvin,  
Dead are the Feinn of Britain,  
Lochlin's king's son is dead,  
Who came to give us aid,  
He of the manly heart,  
And arm at all times strong.  
Tell them now, O Bard,  
My son's son, my delight,  
How it was that Oscar  
Hewed the helmets through.  
It would be hard to tell,  
'Twould be a heavy task  
To number all that fell,  
Slain by the arms of Oscar.  
No swifter is a cataract,  
Or hawk in sweeping stoop,  
Or rapids rushing fast,  
Than in that fight was Oscar.  
You saw him last of all,  
Like leaves in windy weather,  
Or like a noble aspen,  
When hewers strike its stem.  
When Erin's king he saw,  
Still living midst the fight,  
Oscar swift approached him,  
As waves break on the strand.  
When Cairbar this observed,  
He shook his hungry spear,

And through him drove its point.  
 Chiefest of all our griefs!  
 Yet Oscar did not quail,  
 But made for Erin's king,  
 With force he aimed a blow,  
 And smote him with his sword.  
 Then Art Mac Cairbar fell,  
 Struck with the second blow.  
 So 'twas that Oscar perished,  
 With glory as a king.  
 Fergus the bard am I,  
 I've travelled every land,  
 I grieve after the Feinn,  
 To have my tale to tell,  
 Tell.'

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## VI. GAELIC ETYMOLOGY OF PLACES ASSOCIATED WITH THE NAME.

The following notes as to the Gaelic etymology of places in the Athole district and elsewhere, associated with the Ferguson name, may be interesting:—

- Dunfallandy = Hill or Fort of Fallandy, or Pallandy.  
 Derculich = *dearg, tulach*, the Red Hillock, or Dargo's Hillock.  
 Dalshian = Haugh of the Fairies—*Dal, shian*.  
 Baledmund = Town of Edmund.  
 Ballihandie = *Baile, shandie*, Town of Alexander.  
 Dalmheanach = Middlehaugh.  
 Fonab = *fonn, ab*, District of the Abbot.  
 Dalkeppon = *Dal, ceap*, the Haugh of the Little Promontory, or the Little Knoll.  
 Donavourd = *Dun, bhuid*, the Table-land Fort.  
 Aldanrorie = the Burn of Roderick.  
 Edradour = (Welsh), Between two Waters.  
 Edradynate = (Welsh), Between two Hollows.  
 Killiehangie = the Wood of the Archdruid (?).  
 Dalnabrick = *dal nam breac*, the Haugh of the Trout.  
 Clunie = Green Pasture, *chuan*.  
 Raith = *rath*, the Round Fort.  
 Kilkerran = St. Kieran's Cell.  
 Craigdarroch = the Oakwood Rock.  
 Kinmundy = the Head or Top of the Moss.  
 Pitfour = the Cold Croft.

## ERRATA

- Page 28, line 4—*omit* 'were.'
- „ 57, par. 2, line 5—*for* 'prisoner' *read* 'pursuer.'
- „ 61, par. 5, line 2—*for* 'Dunfallanding' *read* 'Dunfallandiny.'
- „ 87, below portrait—*for* 'S. R. Ferguson' *read* 'S. R. Fergusson.'
- „ 91, last par., line 3—Sir Archibald Stewart's territorial designation was deciphered here 'Synnart.' It is thought it ought to be 'Fynnart.' See p. 107.
- „ 92, par. 9, line 1—*for* 'comprising' *read* 'confirming.'
- „ 116, par. 5, line 6—*for* 'on the lands of the Blackwater' *read* 'on the banks of the Blackwater.'
- „ 246, line 19—*for* 'nine' *read* 'more.'
- line 31—conclude quotation after word 'secrets.'
- „ 252, line 4 from bottom—*for* 'face' *read* 'fare.'
- „ 273, line 1—*for* 'F.R.S.' *read* 'F.L.S.'
- „ 358, par. 6, line 1—*for* '1523' *read* '1623.'
- „ 448, line 25—*for* 'Revolution' *read* 'Resolution.'
- „ 506, on Heraldic Plate (Arms of Fergus)—*for* 'III. 1' *read* 'IV. 1.'

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## ADDENDUM

SINCE the sheets went to press, an additional fact has been mentioned to the Editors, indicating a connection between different families of the name. Mr. Ferguson of Kinmundy recollects a relative of his belonging to a previous generation stating that there was a connection between their family and the Farquharsons of Inverey. This indicates that the Rev. Alexander Ferguson, minister of Crathie and Braemar (pp. 238 and 306) in the seventeenth century, was of the same stock as the Badifurrow family. Either he or the Rev. John Ferguson, minister of Glenmuick and Glengairn (pp. 292 and 307), was the father of the Aberdeenshire Ferguson who married the heiress of Ballyoukan in Athole, as mentioned in the Minister of Moulin's MS. (p. 112), and of whom it was frequently said, though in the eighteenth century it could not be proved, that his ancestors came from the stem of Baron Fergusson.

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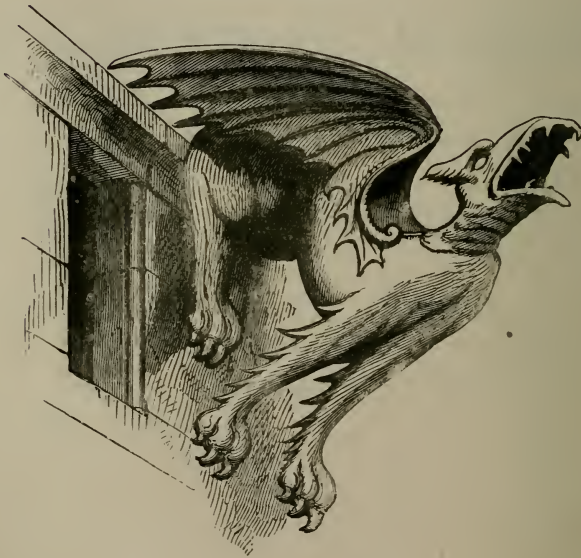
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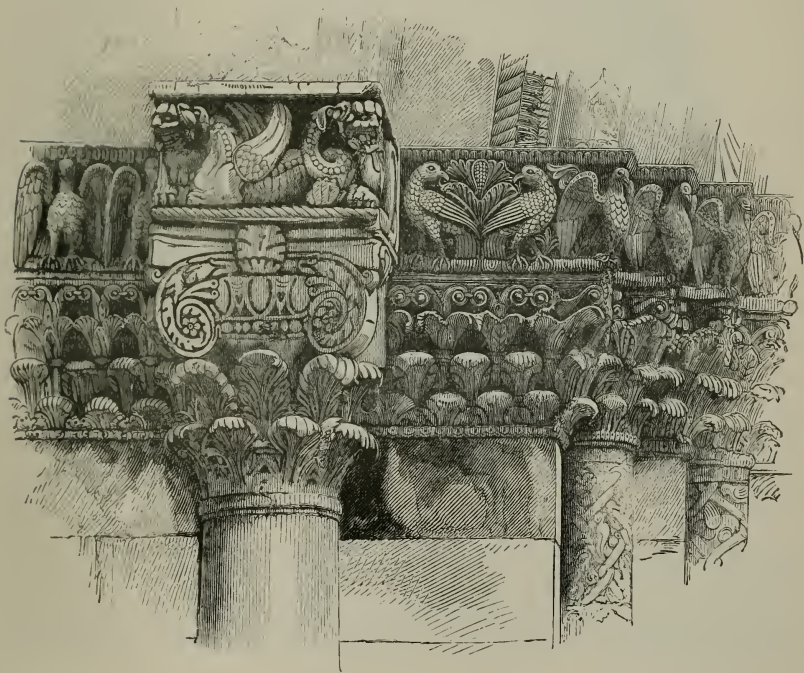
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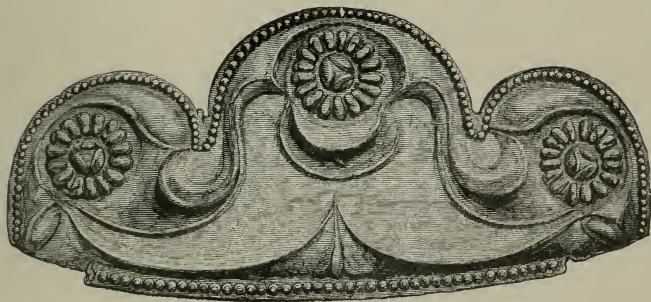
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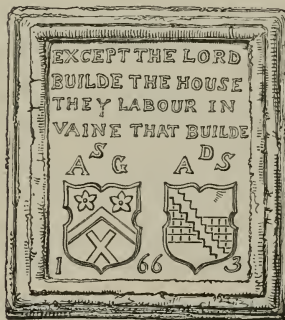
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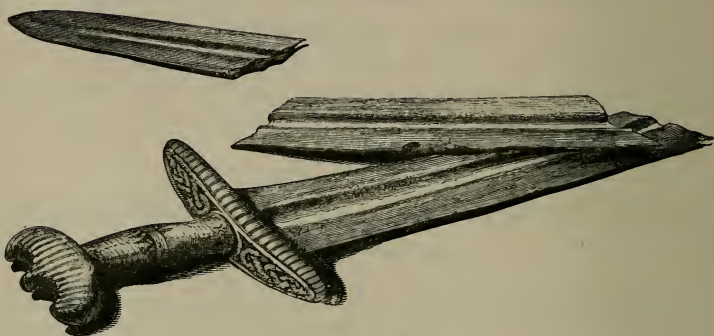
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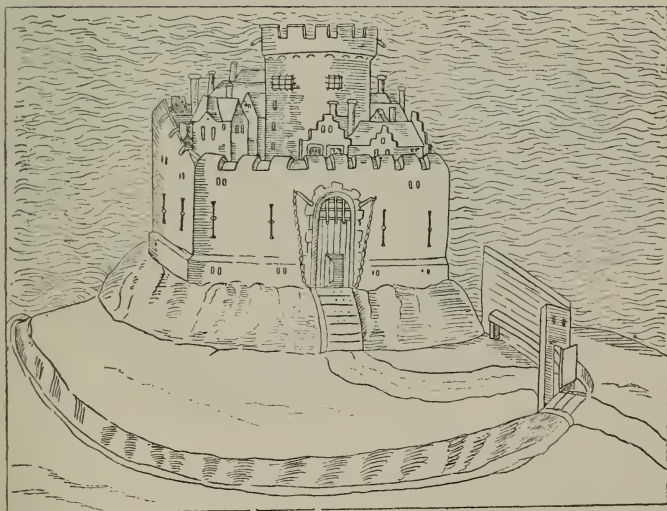
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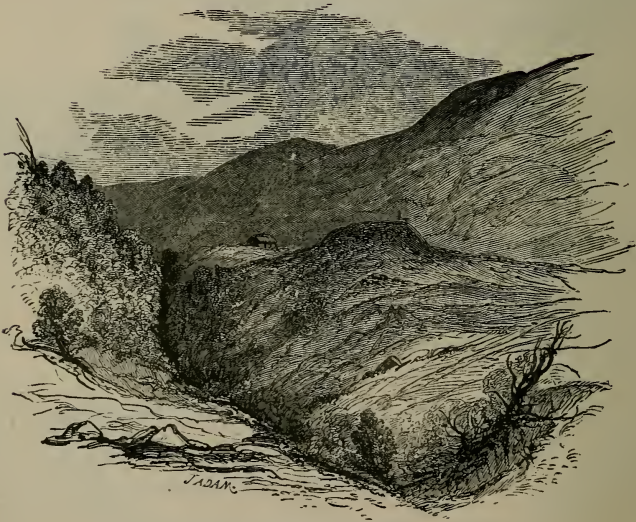
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