

Government's liberal encouragement would be to make the higher branches of education as successful as elementary education had been in the Highlands.

Other toasts followed, songs were sung, and a most successful meeting concluded with the whole company singing "Auld Lang Syne."

8th FEBRUARY, 1893.

At this meeting, Mr Duncan Campbell, editor, *Northern Chronicle*; Mr Alexander Mackenzie, editor, *Scottish Highlander*; and Mr Duncan Mackintosh, secretary, were appointed a committee to draw up a petition to the War Office against the proposed change in the dress of the 79th Cameron Highlanders, according to the resolution carried at the Annual Meeting of the Society held on 31st ult. Thereafter the Secretary read a paper contributed by Mr Charles Fraser-Mackintosh of Drummond on "The Frasers of Guisachan, styled Mac-Huistean." Mr Mackintosh's paper was as follows:—

MINOR HIGHLAND FAMILIES, No. VI.

THE FRASERS OF GUISACHAN (CULBOKIE), STYLED MAC-HUISTEAN.

Just a hundred years ago, William Fraser, then of Guisachan, in consulting counsel as to a portion of the once extensive family estates which he thought might be reclaimed, says—"His predecessors were one of the oldest and most respectable cadets of the family of Lovat, and considerable proprietors in the counties of Inverness and Ross." What the Laird said is true, but it is also unfortunately true that at the present the family is no longer on the roll of landowners in the county of Inverness; therefore, while materials remain, let us endeavour to record the outlines of its history and descent.

The name of Guisachan, in itself a Davoch land of old extent, is first found 1206-1221, in an agreement betwixt the Bishop of Moray and John Bissett. The description of the lands in a family deed of 1797 is thus given—"All and whole the town and lands of the two Guisachans and Frigay, otherwise called Meikle and Mid Guisachans, with the pertinents of the same, viz., Hillton, Ballacladdich, Balblair, Easter and

Wester Achnaheglash, Gortan-nan-nin, Glassach, Alt-garte, and Toilour, lying within the parish of Conventh, Regality of Lovat, and Sheriffdom of Inverness." Achnaheglash denotes possession by the Church, which of old possessed a great deal of lands and fishings in Conventh and Kiltariity parishes. Hilton, euphonious as it is, is but a poor substitute for the ancient "Knockan-na-crew," barbarously spelt, but no doubt "hillock of the tree," and what pleasant scenes are pictured in the "Gortan" frequented by the maidens? No prettier property could be found in the Highlands. It had mountain and valley, wood and water, with a numerous and intelligent people cultivating the rich soil on either side of its river, possessing herds and flocks.

Thomas, accounted by Mr Anderson in his history of the Frasers as 4th Lord Lovat, married, when Master of Lovat, Janet Gordon, niece of the Earl of Huntly, and had three sons—Hugh, his successor; 2nd, William; and 3rd, James of Foynes. This

1. WILLIAM was first of the family of Guisachan, which lands he received in patrimony from his father William Fraser of Guisachan is one of the witnesses to a contract of excambion 'twixt Mackenzie of Kintail and Dingwall of Kildun, of date 20th June, 1543. Of Guisachan spring the families of Kinnairies, Belladrum, Kyllachy, etc., etc.

William Fraser's brothers Hugh, 5th Lord Lovat, and James of Foynes, were killed at the battle of Blair-na-leine, 15th July, 1544. I am unable to say whether William himself fell at Blair-na-leine with his two brothers. The contract of 1546, after noticed, I have not seen, but the few words hereafter quoted from a memorandum made sixty years ago by one in whose possession it then was, would indicate that William was in life at that date. He is certainly dead by 1556. In the year 1815 Glengarry, who had heard that there was an old manuscript of the battle in possession of Culbokie, applied for a perusal. Culbokie's reply, from Balblair Cottage, on the 12th April, says—"Certainly, I do recollect to have seen at Guisachan an imperfect manuscript account of the battle of Blair-na-leine. But really I am much at a loss to know what is become of it, though I think it must be still in the house there, and I am to be up in a very few days, and will make a strict search for it, and if it be found, as I trust, my friend Glengarry will be most welcome to the perusal of it." Again, dating from Guisachan, on the 18th April, he says—"After much search here, as promised in my letter to you a few days ago, I am sorry to say it has defied me to lay my hands on Blair-na-leine. I hope, however, my sisters at Banff [Mrs Macdonell of Scotos, and Miss

Margaret Fraser—C.F.M.], who set even more value on it than I did, may know something of it. I will immediately enquire of them, and, if the manuscript can be found, the chief may be assured he shall have its perusal.”

There the matter rested, and I draw attention to it now, in case this interesting document may yet be found extant.¹ Lord Lovat had sons, and the direct line was carried on; while James of Foynes left an only daughter, Agnes, who married, first, John Glassach Mackenzie of Gairloch, and secondly, Alexander Chisholm of Comar. Through Agnes Fraser the lines of Gairloch and Chisholm were carried on.

James of Foynes, in the year 1539, had a life-rent right of Drumderfit, and two years before his death got a charter from James V. to him and his heirs male of the lands of Culbokie, Kinkell-Clarsach, Dochcairn, Davochpollo, and Pitlundie, all in the county of Ross. The destination being as above to heirs male, Agnes did not succeed to them on her father's death. James of Foynes does not appear to have been infeft in any land in Inverness-shire.

William of Guisachan had one daughter, Agnes, married in 1546 (contract dated 1st June) to John Grant of Culcabock, known as “Iain-Mor-Tomantoul;” she in the Sasine on Culcabock, dated 7th August, 1546, being termed “honesta mulier Agneta Fraser, filia Gulielmi Fraser de Guisachan,” which would indicate that William was alive. My Glenmoriston Genealogy is erroneous in stating that John married a daughter of Lord Lovat. An apostolic license for their marriage, without distinguishing designations, is in my possession, dated last April, 1544. The Genealogy says there were two sons—Patrick and John, and that Iain Mor subsequently married the widow of Erracht (Ewen, first of the race of the “Boddachs” of Erracht). William left several sons, the eldest,

II. HUGH, through and after whom the patronymic of “Mac-Huistean,” who, designing himself brother's son of James Fraser of Foynes, is served heir male, and in special to his uncle James, in the Ross-shire lands, of date, at Inverness, the last day of July, 1556. From and after this period, the head of the family in English was generally called “Culbokie,” and this continued until the time of the late Culbokie, though well nigh two hundred years had passed since they lost the last of their Ross-shire lands.

¹ In a manuscript history of the Frasers, in the Advocates' Library, there is a full account of the battle, which I have since published. From this it is seen that Culbokie fell in the battle; and that the pride of Foynes led to it.

William's second son, James Fraser, "in Belladrum," brother german to Hucheon of Guisachan, is so described in a Bond of Manrent of 1578, and James' son, Hugh Fraser, was the first of Belladrum, receiving a charter thereof from Simon, 8th Lord Lovat, on 13th June, 1598. From Belladrum came Dunballoch, Fingask, etc., etc.

Hugh, second of Guisachan, married Margaret Munro, of the Milnton Family. In 1561 Hucheon Fraser of Guisachan is found pursuing John Tawachter-vic-Eachin, and Christina, Alexander Mackenzie's daughter, for the wrongous and masterful occupation of an oxgang and a half-oxgang of the lands of Davochpollo. Sir James Buchart, his procurator, appears for him in court, and gets decree in absence. On the 21st March, in the same year, he is defender in a process, at the instance of John Robertson, Treasurer of Ross; and plaintiff in a suit against George Dunbar, Parson of Kilmuir. In the same year Hugh is surety for Duncan-vic-Gillies of Achmounie, and for Catherine, relict of John-vic-Gillies of Achmouie. In 1562 he is fined for not attending to pass as an assizer in the service of Hector Mackenzie to his father, John Glassich Mackenzie of Gairloch. In the same year he is pursuing his tenants at Culbokie, for withholding their rents, and warning them to remove—one Rorie Allanson being a chief delinquent. In 1574 he sold Davochcairn and Davochpollo to Gairloch, and in 1581, the lands of Kinkell-Clarsach and Pitlundie; getting a charter, however, of Culbokie Miln, 1581. In the year 1583, April 23rd, Culbokie and Foyers were in trouble with Lord Lovat, and had to give security that they would not molest his Lordship's woods of Strathglass, nor the Water of Forne, and others, by the slaying of red or black fish, nor kill his deer, as also should follow his standard. Reference is made to Culbokie's sons, William, Allister, and Hucheon. Culbokie subscribes, but Foyers cannot write. He had at least one daughter, Janet, married to Thomas Chisholm, apparent of Comar, and she is infeft, April, 1578, in the Davoch of Wester Invercannich and Miln. This marriage did not long subsist, and, Thomas Chisholm dying without issue, Janet, with consent of her father Hugh, and designing herself "life rentrix of Wester Invercannich," enters into a contract of marriage with Patrick Grant of Glenmoriston, who therein bound himself to infeft her in his lands of Culcabock, etc. The contract was not registered, so that, after Patrick's death, it was found necessary to apply to the Court of Session for that purpose. Steps were taken against John Grant of Glenmoriston, son and heir of Patrick Grant, John "Reoch,"

and James Macculloch, his tutors and curators; and upon 1st August, 1593, the Lords of Council decreed that registration be made in their books. She was served to her terce in Glenmoriston on 31st July, 1587. Janet Fraser was left in peace in her jointure lands of Invercannich by her brother-in-law John Chisholm, and had questions with some of the Glenmoriston tenants. As regards Culcabock, as early as 22nd April, 1583, she, with Lachlan Mackinnon, then her spouse, is called on, as pretended liferentrix of Culcabock, in the Court of Session, to show her right. Here the first, second, and third marriages followed very quickly—1575-1583.

This Hugh, second of Culbokie, alienated all his Ross-shire lands, with the exception of Culbokie, between the years 1574 and 1584, and died in May, 1587, survived by Margaret Munro, who, on 29th May of that year, is served to her terce in Culbokie.

III. ALEXANDER FRASER, the eldest surviving son (he being second in order in the Bond of 1583 before referred to) succeeded, and on 16th April, 1588, is served heir to his father Hucheon in Guisachan. On 10th June, 1589, he is retoured to Culbokie, and infett, on a Precept from Chancery, on 23rd May, 1590. Alexander married, and had one son, Hucheon, and other sons, from one of whom, according to family tradition, I am descended. Alexander having sons, the family transaction now to be disclosed was highly discreditable. Made to describe himself as of "facile" temper, Alexander put himself, on 17th April, 1588, under the care of friends as his guardians and interdictors, viz., Thomas Fraser of Knoockie and Strichen; James Fraser in Belladrum, his uncle; Andrew Munro of Newmore, and others, and granted, at Milnton, 2nd June, 1590, a disposition of his whole estates to his younger brother, Hucheon Fraser, who afterwards got his title confirmed by James VI., 2nd February, 1593. A more cruel and barefaced impetration, sanctioned by relatives, cannot be quoted. Alexander, thus wiped out of his inheritance, is still described as "Alexander Fraser of Guisachan" in the service of John Chisholm of Comar to his father Alexander, on 19th December, 1590. We come next to his brother,

IV. HUGH. When advanced in life, this laird and his cousin Hugh Fraser of Belladrum added considerably to their estates. The Lairds of Mackintosh had been, since the year 1524, proprietors of the whole Barony of Drumchardiny in Kirkhill, and of parts of the Barony of Aird, including the half davoch of Kinnairies, and the lands of Easter Eskdale in Kiltarlity. Kinnairies was for nearly a century, from 11th May, 1569, under

wadset to the Chisholms. The well-known Colonel Hugh of Kinnairies is said by some to have been a younger son of this Hugh, while others say he was grandson of Alexander, the third Culbokie. In the year 1616, Sir Lachlan Mackintosh, from necessity, in his struggles with Huntly and Lochiel, was obliged to part with all his Aird estates. This coming to the ears of Lord Lovat, he desired Culbokie and Belladrum to bargain for him with Mackintosh. In place of doing so they bargained for themselves, to Lovat's deep annoyance. Culbokie took Drumchardiny, getting a Crown charter, 20th December, 1616, while Belladrum took Holm, now called Lentrán, getting a charter same day. Upon 6th October, 1608, he is on the Jury in the service of Simon Lord Lovat. In 1620 Phopachy is said to have been mortgaged by Lovat to Culbokie. Hugh's name is embodied in the agreement of 1628 for the protection of game amongst some of the Inverness and Ross Lairds, but he does not sign, while that of his son and successor, William of Drumchardiny, though not named, is appended. Hugh is one of the Jury in the general service of Simon Lord Lovat to his great grandfather, 9th July, 1629. To Hugh's credit or discredit it has to be recorded that he disinherited his brother, and circumvented his chief.

V. WILLIAM FRASER, styled at different times "of Guisachan," "of Culbokie," "of Drumchardiny," eldest son of Hugh, succeeded and got a charter to Guisachan, Kingillie, Kyllachy, Groam, etc., from Lord Lovat, on which he was infeft, 23rd May, 1634, and on 26th May he is served heir to his father in the lands held of the Crown, viz., Culbokie, Drumchardiny, etc. He is a juryman, 26th July, 1640, in the special service of Hugh, Master of Lovat, to his brother, and again, on 30th March, 1647, in the special service of Hugh, Lord Lovat, to his father. William had, at least, one brother (Alexander), referred to in 1636, and according to the Glenmoriston Genealogy, was first married to a daughter of John Doun, 5th of Glenmoriston, and afterwards married Christina Chisholm, apparently sister to Alexander Chisholm of Comar. In 1636 Hugh, Lord Lovat, disposes the lands of Comar, Croy, to Culbokie, who was infeft and had a Crown charter of confirmation; yet, it is obvious that the purchase was for Chisholm, seeing that little more than a year thereafter Culbokie, with consent of his wife and his son Hugh, disposes to the Chisholm, and it still remains part of the Chisholm estates.

In 1640 he acquired further rights to the lands of Kingillie, now incorporated into Newton estate. He represented the county

of Inverness in Parliament, in the years 1649, 1650, 1651; and in 1658 he is still found as proprietor. One of his daughters, Magdalen, according to Mr Mackenzie's History, married, in 1633, John Mackenzie, second of Ord. Another daughter, Agnes, appears to have been married three times; first to Kenneth Mackenzie of Inverlaul, according to Mr Mackenzie, but this marriage is not recorded in my Culbokie Genealogy; secondly, in 1629, to Alexander Mackenzie of Ballone (brother to Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat), with issue, Alexander, Jane, and Margaret; and thirdly (contract dated Kingellie, 12th January, 1650), as his second wife, the Honourable Simon Mackenzie of Lochslyne, youngest son of the first Lord Kintail, and first of the Allangrange family. Jane Mackenzie married, secondly, Alexander Mackenzie, 4th of Loggie, above mentioned, having married Simon Mackenzie, second of Lochslyne, son of the above Honourable Simon Mackenzie, by his first marriage, it followed that Agnes Fraser was both mother-in-law and stepmother to Simon Mackenzie, second of Lochslyne. Margaret, Agnes' second daughter, married (1st), in 1670, Sir Roderick Mackenzie of Findon, with issue, and (2nd) Colin Mackenzie of Mountgerald, without issue. William was succeeded by his son,

VI. HUGH, erroneously called "James, younger of Culbokie," one of the attenders at the funeral at Holyrood, of Hugh, Master of Lovat, May, 1643, who was served heir to his father in the lands held of the Crown, 12th April, 1670. He married Agnes Fraser of Struy. In his time and during part of his father's, involvements, cautionary and otherwise, of a serious nature took place. The whole estates in Ross and Inverness were adjudged by Sir Roderick Mackenzie of Findon and others. It was not difficult for the powerful Mackenzie, whose wife Margaret was Culbokie's niece, to dispossess Culbokie of his Ross-shire estates, which, accordingly, from and after 1672, remained with Findon, passing through the eldest daughter, Lillias, who married Sir Kenneth Mackenzie of Scatwell, into that family. In 1673, Hugh gave a long lease to his brother, Alexander, of Kyllachy, a detached piece of land lying in the parish of Kiltarlity. The manner in which this quarter land of Kyllachy was reclaimed, more than a hundred years after, will be mentioned later on. In 1676, Hugh is infeft in the lands formerly belonging to Mackintosh. Alexander Fraser, then of Kinnairies, and James Fraser, first of the Dunballoch family, in the years 1676 and 1677, adjudicated the Barony of Drumchardiny and the lands of Kingillie, etc., but Hugh Fraser retained actual possession of

Guisachan, dying at Kingillie in the month of June, 1678; Kinnairies and Dunballoch received charters of adjudication, and all these lands, like Culbokie, now fell away from the family for ever. Hugh Fraser was succeeded by his eldest son,

VII. WILLIAM, who, in 1683 described as "son and heir of the late Hugh Fraser of Guisachan," had a most precarious hold on Guisachan, the only remaining part of the estates. Kinnairies and Dunballoch in 1699 transacted their respective interests in the former Culbokie lands, and Kinnairies raised a loan, wherefor his heir being unable to pay when the money was repayable, all interests were in 1711 adjudged. A charter of adjudication following, was the foundation of the right whereby Thomas Fraser, second of Dunballoch, sneeringly described by Culbokie as "bred a vryter in Edinburgh," and by Simon Lord Lovat in his memoirs as a "little knave of a Fraser," entered into possession of what is known now as the Newton Estate. Had Culbokie been in a position to redeem or purge the adjudication, the amount would be a trifle compared to the value of the share of the estate, even at that period. Alexander Fraser of Kinnairies, who had then got into difficulties himself, behaved well to Culbokie, considering the disinheritance of 1590, for he disposed Guisachan to William Fraser, eldest lawful son of William Fraser of Culbokie, to which he had right by Charter of Resignation, on the narrative of "the love and favour I have and bear to William Fraser, son and heir of William Fraser of Culbokie, as the apparent stock of the family whereof I am descended, and the vigorous inclinations I have to raise and uphold that family," by disposition dated at Lovat, 6th April, 1706, in presence of David Polson of Kinmylies, Hugh Fraser, his son, and John Chisholm of Knockfin. There is a curious reservation of half the woods so long as Kinnairies or his heirs male held any lands in the county, assignees, however, being excluded.

William Fraser was one of those involved in 1698 as being art and part in the Lady Lovat outrage. Among the Athole papers is a letter in May of that year, signed "S. Fraser," to the Marquis of Athole regarding Culbokie, from which the following is an extract:—"Since I wrote last to your lordship, Culbokie has made application to the Governor of Beaufort, and he, upon security of his appearance at Dunkeld, or wherever your lordship will be pleased to call him to, has granted him protection. He seems to be very sensible of his error, and faithfully promises in time coming to be very steadfast to my Lady Lovat's interest. He gives a very dismal account of his Highland friends."

This William Fraser was succeeded by his son, also named
VIII. WILLIAM, who was one of the heads of Highland families who signed the address to George the First, the non-delivery or acknowledgment of which was one of the great causes of the rising of 1715. He it was who received a charter of the lands of Kinnairies, as before mentioned, in his father's lifetime, of date 6th April, 1706. He took measures to redeem the position of the family, and paid off a wadset over Mid-Guisachan to Knockfin, which had come by progress to Fraser of Kinnairies, and also acquired Kinnairies' lands of Fanellan. By 1741, Alexander Fraser of Kinnairies was dead, and his only son, Hugh, was also dead, without issue, survived by sisters only, when the direct male line of Kinnairies became extinct.

William acted as judicial factor in the ranking and sale of the remainder of the Kinnairies estates. As factor, he is excused accounting for the rents of Fanellan and the quarter lands of Kiltarlity for years 1744 and 1745, in respect that "the multures of the Miln of Fanellan were, during the time of the late rebellion, for the said two years, as well as the hail rents, carried off and destroyed."

A younger son, Simon, described as "in Crochel," is found in 1746. One daughter is believed to have married Fraser of Auchnacloich, and another, Fraser of Aigas. His eldest daughter, Margaret, married Robert Fraser, younger of Muilzie—contract dated Guisachan, 23rd August, 1751. Among the witnesses are Hugh Fraser, son to Hugh Fraser of Muilzie, and Simon Fraser, son to Kilbockie. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

IX. WILLIAM FRASER, who, on 1st July, 1755, is served heir male of line, and of provision in general to William Fraser, late of Culbokie, his father, eldest lawful son of the deceased William Fraser of Culbokie. Upon 10th December, 1756, he received a Crown Charter (the Lovat family, the former superiors, being under forfeiture), containing not only Guisachan, but also the lands of Lurg, and Bridaig of Fanellan, in Kiltarlity, whereon he was enrolled as a freeholder. In the year 1825, William Fraser, then of Culbokie, was applied to for information as to his family, and his reply has been preserved. From it I make the following extract:—
"The fact is thus—My father, when very young, was engaged with his unfortunate chief in the ill-advised and miserably terminated adventure of the 1745. The consequence was that in the remorseless and unjustifiable spirit of those days, though my grandfather was still alive and not implicated, he being possessed of the property, still the family mansion was burnt, and with it

all the family papers, manuscripts, etc., were destroyed. The family, thus depressed, and my father—though after the Act of Indemnity and his father's death left in possession of this property—had not much turn for genealogy, so that nothing of what was lost was recovered or reinstated; and you are aware I passed my early days abroad, so that I am quite in the dark."

William Fraser, "younger of Culbokie," is included in the Lists of Insurgents to be prosecuted, his accusation, "Captain of the Frasers under Inverallochie," and the witnesses to give evidence against him were William Fraser, tenant, and Simon Fraser, *alias* Miller, and Peter Gow, *alias* Smith, gardener, all residing in Beauly, who, I trust, were unwilling witnesses. The Culbokies, father and son, were homeless; yet, I cannot but think that the younger man, though a fugitive, from his knowledge of the country, must have given great help, and, perhaps, afforded companionship to Prince Charles. On 23rd July, 1746, Charles Edward was in the Braes, between Glenmoriston and Strathglass; 24th, in a cave, where he was found by the Glenmoriston men; August 1st, in the woods and sheilings of Strathglass, till the 7th; and on the 18th, at Fasnakyle. It is not a little singular, considering the minute details we have of his wanderings in the West and Islands, how little is known of his sojourn in the Braes of Strathglass.

To give a vote to the Honourable Archibald Fraser of Lovat, Culbokie granted a feu charter to Thomas Fraser of Auchnacloch, and a Wadset Disposition to Archibald Fraser, in the year 1760, redeemable at Whitsunday, 1772, which remained unrecalled for 37 years. On his death-bed Culbokie was anxious to get these deeds cancelled, and his son enrolled. Probably the last letter he wrote was on this subject, dated Guisachan, 29th July, 1797, dying two days after. The Lovat Estates being restored in their entirety, the Superiorities revived, and the succeeding Culbokie had to purchase his Superiority, when the great sale of the Lovat Superiorities took place in the beginning of the century. Before this time, wood had become in demand; the natural firs of Strathglass deservedly possessed a high reputation, and none more than Guisachan, as demonstrated by the name.

In 1796 Culbokie entered into a fifteen years' contract of the woods with Thomas Stevenson, junior, merchant in Oban, at a rent of £160 a-year. As the woods were described as situated not only possible, but convenient for floating, the contractor, after trial of the Diag, got out of his bad bargain, alleging that he might as well have purchased "a forest in the internal parts of America."

Later floatings during floods from the Chisholm and other estates created such damage to the river banks of the Strathglass owners that they became frequent subjects of dispute in the Courts of Law.

William Fraser married Mary Macdonell of Ardnabie, of a handsome race, herself a lady of singular beauty and accomplishments, known as the "pride of Glengarry," daughter of John Macdonell, wadsetter of Ardnabie, and Mary Macdonell of Glengarry. This family held a good position, for I find Angus Macdonell of Ardnabie as early as 1643, the wadset not being extinguished until the year 1807. The families were formerly connected; for the Glenmoriston MS. Genealogy states that of the daughters of John Douu the fifth, one was Mrs Fraser of Culbokie before-mentioned, wife of William, the fifth Culbokie, another Mrs Macdonell of Ardnabie.

William, this laird, 'twixt 1750 and 1760, built the very substantial, suitable mansion-house of Guisachan, which was much admired, and was for so many years the abode of a talented family. Mrs Fraser, celebrated for her knowledge of Gaelic and music, had made a collection of Gaelic manuscripts and music, which were, unfortunately, carried to America in 1773 by one of the family possessed of similar tastes, and through his misfortunes as a Loyalist in the wars his home was wrecked and the papers have long since disappeared. Culbokie's sons were—Major Archibald Fraser; John, described in 1774 as Captain John, thereafter of the Island of Dominica, who died in Edinburgh; and Captain Simon. The daughters were—Annie, married in 1788 to Eneas Macdonell, younger of Scotos and great grandmother of the present Glengarry; Margaret, who died unmarried; Jean, third daughter, who, on 4th September, 1792, married John Chisholm of Knockfin; Mary, the fourth daughter, died unmarried. Margaret Fraser was long on terms which would have probably ended in marriage with Dr John Fraser, R.N., described "as descended of the family of Culbokie," but who, unfortunately, happened to be serving on the war ship "Queen Charlotte" when the vessel blew up. Dr Fraser in his will, dated 17th May, 1798, and drawn up by himself, left several bequests, and as regards the residue, which was of some value, he uses these words:—"And from the respect and esteem I have and bear to and for the family of William Fraser, late of Culbokie, I give, devise, and bequeath all the rest, residue and remainder, of my property and estate of every kind and nature wheresoever situated, unto Miss Margaret Fraser, second daughter of him, the said William Fraser of

Culbokie, to be *payable on the day of her marriage, and then settled upon herself and her issue.*"

One of the executors, the well known Mr Alexander Fraser of Lincoln's Inn ("Sandy Leadclune"), insisted that until Miss Fraser married she could derive no benefit, and the lady at this time (1802), though she would probably have married her old flame, was long past all thoughts of marriage otherwise. This incident, an illustration of the awkwardness and danger of making one's own will, was solved by an agreement with Miss Fraser's, Scotos nephews and niece, the beneficiaries in contingent remainder.

William Fraser, who had long been in feeble health, survived his wife, and died at Gnisachan on 31st July, 1797, aged 74. The obituary notice is ordered to contain nothing except that he is "deeply regretted." He was so ill in February that his daughter, Mrs Macdonell of Scotos, could not leave him to see her sister-in-law, poor "Katie" Scotos, who had been visiting at Erchless Castle, and died of what was formerly called "a galloping consumption" at Inverness on 29th January. The younger Culbokie ordered she should be interred in the Culbokie ground at Kirkhill, near her brother Æneas Scotos. The funeral was on 1st February, Mr Æneas, afterwards Bishop Chisholm, officiating, and attended amongst others by young Culbokie, Captain Simon, his brother, and Hugh Fraser, afterwards of Eskadale (see with reference to this young lady, described as exceedingly handsome, "Minor Families, No. 3). She was almost a stranger in Inverness, but a few friends looked after her carefully, and her youth, beauty, and forlorn condition, excited the warm sympathy of the town's people, and I gladly place on record this testimony—"The well-known humanity of the better sort of the inhabitants of this place was well exemplified in their attention to her." This description of the people of Inverness is contained in a letter of date February, 1797. Culbokie was succeeded by his eldest son.

x. WILLIAM FRASER, who, with consent of his father, married Sarah, third daughter of Colonel James Fraser of Belladrum, contract dated Guisachan and Belladrum, 25th and 26th April, 1797. He had been originally in the army, and, prior to his marriage, engaged in business in the West Indies, and was on the way to St Vincent when his father died. Writing on the 8th June, 1798, from St Vincent, he says—"You may be sure I have the utmost anxiety to bid this quarter of the world adieu. I have now every inducement to incline me to return home, yet, I am sorry to say,

I cannot make this out so soon as I expected, without making a sacrifice which my circumstances cannot afford, and which my best friends might censure."

This Culbokie was, perhaps, the best known and had the greatest influence of any of the family. He was a capital man of business, of active and energetic habit, and, I think, for some time Convener of the County. Well would it have been for him and his posterity had he remained, like his father, quiet and content to stay on the paternal estate. The rental of Guisachan in the year 1800 may be given, and contrasted with the Valuation Roll of 1892-1893. By the latter, the total rent is £1596 8s, whereof tenants, in the ordinary acceptation of the term—*nil*.

RENTAL IN 1800.

Mid Guisachan—Sheep Farm	...	...	£70	0	0
Cougy—A Black Cattle Farm	...	...	175	0	0
Mains of Guisachan—Do.	...	...	25	0	0
Ballacladdich—Do.	...	...	64	0	0
Achblair—Do.	...	...	38	0	0
Wester Achnaheglash—Do.	...	...	29	0	0
Easter Achnaheglash—Do.	...	...	15	0	0
Tomich—Do.	...	...	18	0	0
Glassach—Do.	...	...	10	0	0
			<hr/>		
			£444	0	0

The following is a list of the tenants about the year 1810:—

Balcladdich and Grazings of Cougie—Peter Grant, John Macdonald, Alexander Fraser, John Macrae, Angus Scott.

Achblair—Archibald Fraser, Donald Chisholm, Roderick Chisholm, Widow Macdonald.

Tomich—Alexander Cameron.

Easter Achnaheglash—John and Donald Macdonald.

Wester Achnaheglash—John Fraser, Widow Anne Macdonald, James Fraser, John Fraser.

Knockan-na-Crew or Hilton—Alexander Macrae.

Wester Guisachan—William Macrae, Alexander Macrae.

Being nineteen heads of families, with numerous cottars, about 200 souls in all.

During his long possession, Culbokie is always complaining that his tenants never pay rent regularly, that they are addicted to smuggling, and the "Moulin Dhu" always at work.

In one letter, early in this century, he does not know how to act, finding, on an unexpected arrival from his ordinary residence of Achnagairn, that all his servants were maudlinly intoxicated. They had meanly broken into a still some distance off, which they had ascertained would be closed and unwatched at a certain hour, and carried off in "piggys" a large quantity of spirits. No honour, he says, even among smugglers; and meantime he had to content himself with swearing at large and smashing the jars, though his own property. He would not settle at Guisachan, but rented the house of Achnagairn. In 1806, he writes that he leaves Achnagairn for Guisachan, from July to Christmas. Then he built and improved, without proper precaution for refundment, the house of Balblair, formerly called Donaldston, meliorating and improving greatly its surroundings. He was also tenant of the farm of Fanellan. Culbokie was able to redeem a portion of the former estate called Kyllachie, first mentioned in the year 1496, under rather curious circumstances. The description of Kyllachy ran thus:—"All and whole the Town and lands of Kyllaugh or Kyllachie, extending to one quarter or one-fourth part of a davoch of lands of old extent, with the Multures, sequels, houses, buildings, and other parts and pertinents lying within the Barony of Aird, Lordship of Lovat, and Sheriffdom of Inverness."

Upon 15th March, 1673, Hugh Fraser of Culbokie gave a lease of Kyllachie for an undefined number of years, in respect of money borrowed, to his brother Alexander. No title was made up, but simple possession had by Alexander Fraser and his heirs until 1742, when Hugh Fraser, dealing with the subjects as heritage, disposed them in favour of Isobel Fraser, his wife, in life-rent, and himself in fee, on which infestment followed. Entering into a second marriage, Hugh Fraser made a similar grant to Grizel Fraser, his wife, in life-rent, in 1769. Being in difficulties, Hugh Fraser disposed onerously the subjects in 1774 to one William Fraser of St Vincents, whose brother and heir, Thomas, conveyed to Culbokie in 1797.

It will be recollected that Kingillie was adjudged by Dunballoch, first, from Culbokie, and afterwards from Kinnairies, the Dunballoch title standing in the Charter of Adjudication of 1711 before noted. Fortified by actual possession, their title became unassailable as regards the lands situated in Kirkhill parish. About 1790, Fraser of Newton, who had dropped the title of Dunballoch, to which place his family had only a redeemable right, took proceedings to oust Grizel Fraser, life-rentrix of Kyllachie, before mentioned, who had by this time remarried.

Defences were given in for her, and her husband and William Fraser of St Vincents, to the effect that Newton or his authors never having been in the natural possession of Kyllachy, which was detached from Kingillie, and situated in another parish, nor received rent nor other duties, he lost his right to reclaim, and although it was admittedly within his charter, still there had been possession on another title. The process, at Newton's instance, was dismissed with costs. As Newton threatened to try the matter in another form, Culbokie, who had now become proprietor, found it necessary to fortify his title by serving heir to his grandfather's grandfather, Hugh the 6th, the granter of the lease of 1673. This was carried out in 1800, a Crown charter following. The witnesses of propinquity were William Fraser, tenant in Crask of Easter Crochel, aged 75, cousin german on the father's side, and Alexander Grant, tenant in Guisachan, aged 74, cousin german on the mother's side to the claimant's father (William, 9th Culbokie).

A hint was also conveyed to Newton that if he moved further in regard to Kyllachy, his possession under the charter of adjudication of his Kirkhill estates would be challenged. So, as regards Newton, the matter dropped. Culbokie, however, some years after, in 1813, had to defend himself from a process of eviction at the instance of William Fraser, commonly called "William Kyllachy," son of Alexander Fraser, and nephew and heir-at-law of Hugh, the last leaseholder, who tried to carry on a process by means of admittance to the roll of "poor" litigants, but, to use a common expression, this William had not a leg to stand on.

Kyllachy has for many years belonged to Lovat, and I have been informed by Mr Peter that most of the lands have been planted, forming part of Boblanie Woods, and that the old arable land is tenanted by William Fraser, Kinnairies, the roofless remains of some of the old buildings being still visible, situated not far from Loch Bruiach on its eastern side. Though Kyllachy has disappeared as an independency, its story will remain.

The Honourable Archibald Fraser of Lovat harassed most of the gentlemen of his clan in various ways, and Culbokie and his successor considered themselves ill-used about Balblair. He took his chief's death calmly, merely writing on 11th December, 1815, from Balblair—"I am come to this quarter to witness the last duties to the remains of my late chief;" not a word of comment, regret or sympathy. His views as to the "new family," the "Aberdeen folks," to use his expressions at various times, may be

best gathered from the following extract from a letter dated Guisachan, 9th February, 1816.—“As to the Aberdeenshire good folks, they seem to have entirely cut with me, and I shall take care that they shall have no difficulty in so doing, though I cannot comprehend the slightest cause for it. However, I conceive myself as independent of them at present, as they are of me, and it will be my endeavour to keep so, nor will I be over-ready to make or receive future advances, as I conceive they have behaved very unpolitely at least towards me. They certainly will have law enough in hand. I understand the two ladies [Mrs Fraser of Lovat and Mrs Fraser of Strichen—C.F.M.], are very thick and great apparently. Mark the end of it. Mrs Fraser, Strichen, thought proper as she was leaving Inverness on the return eastward to write a polite letter to my wife, as if to keep a show of terms.”

Culbokie was evidently much huffed, but it was got over shortly, and before Mrs Fraser of Lovat's death, he in return for attention shewn, did, according to the story common among old people in the Aird, put a strong spoke into the wheel of the Welsh Lovat Claimant of that period, 1815-1819. Culbokie was deeply mixed up in West Indian affairs, and got involved in executorships, cautionary obligations, etc., insomuch that in 1833 his creditors were gathered. They received a very large dividend; but matters continued unsettled, and harassed the old man up to his death. The last paper of his I have seen is dated in October, 1842, not long before his death, and he died at Guisachan, 3rd July, 1843.

He left two sons, William Fraser, W.S., and James, who entered the East India Company's service. Culbokie survived his wife and eldest son, who properly, therefore, ought not to be counted in the list, but I place him as

XI. WILLIAM FRASER. He married, in 1826, Margaret, elder daughter of David George Sandeman, of Perth, and died suddenly while on a visit at Bught on 6th January, 1829, leaving a son and posthumous daughter, Anna Jane, born in March, 1829, who married Mr Parker.

XII. WILLIAM FRASER succeeded in minority to his grandfather, and to an estate embarrassed, but by no means desperate. It was well administered by Eneas Ronald Macdonell of Scotos and Captain Kyle of Binghill (who had married Helen, Scotos) and did something to repay the kindness shewn to the Scotos family by their uncle, Culbokie. That the young gentleman, who was very carefully brought up, and is well spoken of by Mrs Sandeman in

her interesting memoirs, did not, on his accession, in the strength of youth and health, find it incumbent and a high duty to preserve the estate—"come weal, come woe"—must be a source of regret to all well-wishers of the ancient and honourable house of Mac-Huistean.

Lord Lovat received, on his majority the other day, an address signed by upwards of 700 Frasers. The clan flourishes—said to number 25,000—but where are the heads of the cadet families? Remnants are still found in Knock Voire, but the great districts of Kilmorack and Kiltarlity know them not; and any of their descendants who may visit the Aird, contemplating the past, may echo what was expressed hundreds of years ago:—

"Come, Ossian, come, this is no
Place for us. Strangers now dwell
In the Halls of the Fathers."

22nd FEBRUARY, 1893.

At this meeting the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society, viz.:—Professor Strachan, Marple, Cheshire; Mr Alex. Fraser, City Editor, *Toronto Mail*, Toronto; Mr Robert Dey, M.A., Berryhill Public School, Wishaw; Mr Duncan Macgregor Crerar, 93 Nasseu Street, New York; and Mr W. S. Roddie, Music Teacher, Inverness. The paper for the evening was contributed by Mr John Mackay, J.P., Hereford, on "Sutherland Place Names—Parishes of Loth and Clyne." Mr Mackay's paper was as follows:—

SUTHERLAND PLACE NAMES.

PARISH OF LOTH.

This parish is the smallest in extent in the county, comprising only 18,042 acres, of which 430 are foreshore, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ water. It lies along the south-east coast, and the Duke of Sutherland's railway traverses it throughout its whole length of 7 miles. A range of steep hills, whose loftiest summits attain altitudes of about 1900 feet above sea level, extends along its inland boundary nearly parallel with the sea coast, and forms over all its extent, the water shed-line. The surface from this summit-line seaward is first, a steep uncultivable declivity, and next, a plain or nearly