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L U C E O                      N O N   U R O .

THE EARLS

OF

CROMARTIE

THEIR KINDRED, COUNTRY,

AND CORRESPONDENCE,

BY

WILLIAM FRASER.

· IN · TWO · VOLUMES ·

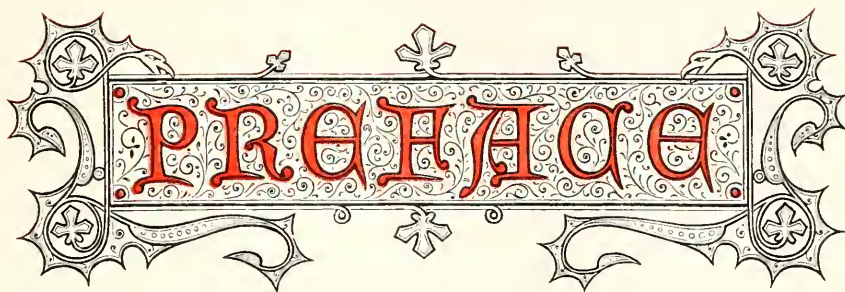
VOL. I.

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*H. 2. 4. 1. 2 vols.*

**T**HIS BOOK of the EARLS OF CROMARTIE owes its existence to the liberality of their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. Her Grace was created, in 1861, Countess of Cromartie. As the representative of the Earls of Cromartie, and heiress of their estates, Her Grace inherited a large collection of the Correspondence of her distinguished ancestor, George first Earl of Cromartie, a statesman who exercised great influence during a long life. He was born in the year 1630, in the reign of King Charles the First, and died in the year 1714, in the reign of King George the First. He thus lived in the reigns of seven sovereigns. Six of these he served faithfully in high judicial and political offices, and he was, when he finally retired from public life, the oldest servant of the Crown, having been for the long period of sixty years in the active service of his country.

Although much of his correspondence has been lost, owing to the forfeiture of his grandson, the third Earl of Cromartie, in 1746, a large portion of it is still preserved, embracing the period from the Restoration of King Charles the Second to the death of Queen Anne.

The Cromartie Correspondence and Charters came under my notice some

years ago. Judging that the Collection contained ample materials for an interesting Book, similar to other Family Books which have recently been arranged for several of the Historical Houses, I took the liberty of suggesting that a selection of the Letters and Charters should be printed, along with a comprehensive Memoir of Lord Cromartie. This proposal was readily assented to, and the work intrusted to me. It is a satisfaction to me that, amidst many interruptions and hindrances, this Family Book is at last added to a rather long list of others for which I am already responsible.

The regions of Ross and Cromartie, to which these volumes chiefly relate, are of great historical interest.<sup>1</sup> Cromartie was the cradle of Macbeth. Ross was the scene of the repeated rebellions of Donald Bane, who, in the time of King William the Lion, possessed himself of the whole Earldom of Ross, and afterwards aimed at the conquest of the kingdom. But King William, with his brother, Earl David, advanced with a large army and succeeded in cutting off the rebel. The Castles of Dunscaith, near Cromartie, and Ethir-dover, or the Redcastle in Killearnan, were then built, and still remain as monuments of the progress of the Lion King.

Between the years 1496 and 1513, King James the Fourth made seven pilgrimages to the shrine of St. Duthac, who was satirically styled "the Demigod of Ross." The last of these pilgrimages of the gallant King was made within a month of his death at Flodden. The King's Causeway, or Bridle Road, at Tain, is still pointed out.

<sup>1</sup> While on his memorable journey to the Hebrides, Dr. Samuel Johnson passed through Glenshiel, part of the country of the Mackenzies of Seaforth, with great mountains on each side, forming, as he said, a scene of as wild nature as he could see. Sitting on a bank for an hour, waiting his horses feeding

on the grass of the glen, he first conceived the thought of writing his "Journey." The Doctor and his fellow-traveller amused themselves with a formal distribution of halfpence, tobacco, and wheat-bread amongst the "wild Macraes," who inhabited that part of the country. They had not previously seen any wheat-bread.

After the forfeiture of the ancient Earls of Ross, the district furnished new titles, under the old names, to members of the Royal Family. James Stewart, second son of King James the Third, was created, in 1487, Duke of Ross, Marquis of Ormond, Earl of Ardmnanach, and Lord of Brechin and Navar. The Duke did not long hold the territorial Dukedom of Ross. On the 15th of May 1503, having obtained the rich Abbey of Dunfermline, he resigned the Dukedom of Ross into the hands of the King. The Duke reserved for his life the Hill of Dingwall beside that town, for the style of Duke, the hill of Ormond for the style of Marquis, the Reidcastle of Ardmnanach for the style of Earl, and the Castlehill of Brechin, with gardens, etc., for the name of Lord of Brechin and Navar. The Duke of Ross died in 1504. It was said of him by Ariosto, as translated by Hoole—

“The title of the Duke of Ross he bears,  
No chief like him in dauntless mind compares.”

The next creation of the title of Duke of Ross was in favour of Alexander Stewart, the posthumous son of King James the Fourth. The Duke was born on 30th April 1514, and died on 18th December 1515. In the reign of Mary Queen of Scots John Earl of Sutherland acquired from Mary, the Queen-Dowager, a certain right in the Earldom of Ross, which might ultimately have joined in one family both Sutherland and Ross. Lord Darnley, on the prospect of his marriage with Queen Mary, was created Earl of Ross, a title by which he is little known, as it was only given to him a short time before he obtained the higher titles of Duke of Albany and King of Scotland.

A history of the ancient Earls of Ross and the Lords of the Isles is a desideratum. In the year 1850 there was printed for private circulation “Ane Breve Cronicle of the Earles of Ross.” The original manuscripts of that work are at Balnagowan and Pitcalnie. The “Cronicle” is very imperfect ; but the notices of original Charters which it contains are valuable.

The CROMARTIE CORRESPONDENCE now printed occupies the largest portion of this Book, there being in all 520 letters. Those in the first volume, 253 in number, embrace the period from 1662 to 1705 ; and those in the second, 267 in number, extend from the year 1706 to the year 1774. The greater part of the Correspondence consists of letters addressed to the first Earl of Cromartie, or letters written by him. It is of a very varied character, including letters from eminent divines, authors, statesmen, and men of science : amongst others, from John Tillotson, archbishop of Canterbury, James Sharp, archbishop of St. Andrews, William Carstares, principal of the University of Edinburgh and for a long period secretary to King William the Third, and Robert Barclay of Ury, author of "An Apology for the True Christian Divinity," preached by the people called "Quakers."

One of the most valuable sections of the Correspondence is that between John Earl of Mar and the first Earl of Cromartie. The Earls were cousins, Lord Mar's grandmother having been Lady Mary Mackenzie, daughter of George second Earl of Seaforth, while Lord Cromartie's mother was Margaret Erskine, daughter of Sir George Erskine of Innerteil, brother of the Earl of Kellie. From that connection Lord Mar called Lord Cromartie an "Erskine's bairn," and Lord Cromartie, in the same way, called Lord Mar a "Mackenzie's bairn." Besides this family relation, the two Earls had an official connection. Lord Mar succeeded Lord Cromartie as Secretary of State for Scotland, and the outgoing and incoming Secretaries carried on a very active correspondence on the then ruling subject of the Union between Scotland and England. Lord Cromartie's letters in favour of the Union are of very great interest.

Another correspondent of Lord Cromartie was Sidney Lord Godolphin, Lord High Treasurer of England. Lord Godolphin's correspondence was inherited by the family of Godolphin Osborne, Duke of Leeds. In the year

1869 a large collection of autograph letters belonging to them was dispersed by public sale in London. In the catalogue of the fourth day's sale there are the following entries of letters from Lord Cromartie :—

- “ Lot 623.—Mackenzie (Sir George), when Viscount Tarbat and Earl of Cromartie, distinguished Statesman, Lawyer, and Writer. Thirty holograph letters, two to Queen Anne, and the others to Lord Godolphin, from May 27, 1703, to July 14, 1705, with four others signed only when Earl of Cromartie, together 34. A most interesting and valuable series, relating principally to the proceedings of the Scotch Parliament during this eventful period.”
- “ Lot 624.—Mackenzie (Sir George), Lord Tarbat, a letter signed, 1 page 4to, to Queen Anne, 16th July 1703.”
- “ Lot 625.—Mackenzie (Sir George), Lord Tarbat and Earl of Cromartie. Sixteen autograph letters to (Lord Godolphin), and three other papers unsigned, very interesting, July 1703 to November 1706.”

On inquiring in London it was ascertained that the lots 623 and 625 were purchased by M. Labussierre, a dealer in manuscripts, who retailed them soon afterwards without retaining the names of the purchasers. The letters could not be further traced.

Another section of the Correspondence here printed consists of the letters of Anne Duchess of Buccleuch and Monmouth to the first Earl of Cromartie, who, on his second marriage with her half-sister, Margaret Countess of Wemyss, became the brother-in-law of the Duchess. Her Grace confided much in the wisdom and advice of Lord Cromartie and his son, Lord Royston, as to the management of her extensive estates in Scotland. The greater number of the letters from the Duchess are subscribed by her A. B. C., for Anne Buccleuch and Cornwallis. In her own right she was Anne Duchess of Buccleuch. After her marriage with Lord Cornwallis, she usually signed “A. B. C.” She assures Lord Tarbat how acceptable his letters are, and that her friendship for him, which began in childhood, would not alter with age. In another work I printed a collection of thirty letters addressed by the Duchess to Sir James Mackenzie, Lord

Royston,<sup>1</sup> and also added a short Memoir of the Duchess.<sup>2</sup> Her Grace was the lady to whom Sir Walter Scott made his "Last Minstrel" recite or sing his famous "Lay." The allusion in the Introduction to the kindness of the Duchess to the aged minstrel is very touching:—

"The Duchess marked his weary pace,  
His timid mien, and reverend face,  
And bade her page the menials tell,  
That they should tend the old man well:  
For she had known adversity,  
Though born in such a high degree;  
In pride of power, in beauty's bloom,  
Had wept o'er Monmouth's bloody tomb!"

In another Family Book with which I have made some progress, I hope to be able to give a Memoir of the sagacious Duchess.

The Correspondence of the third Earl of Cromartie includes many letters written during the Insurrection of 1745-6, by Sir Thomas Sheridan and Colonel John O'Sullivan, who attended Prince Charles Edward. These letters throw much light on the operations of the Highlanders in that ill-fated expedition.

The letters of Simon Lord Lovat contain several new touches of that versatile genius, although his correspondence is already well known from the previous publication of many of his letters. The present Collection affords good specimens of his Lordship's peculiar style of epistolary correspondence, which is usually characterised by extravagant protestations of friendship, flattery, and servility. At the conclusion of his letters, Lord Lovat was to his correspondents often a "faithful slave," while to Duncan Forbes, whom he addressed as his "Dear General," as figurative of his high official position, Lovat, in mock humility, subscribed himself as his "devoted Corporal." Yet with these faults, there is often a copiousness of language, as well as a learning and originality that mark a vigorous mind and bespeak the scholar. Writing

<sup>1</sup> The Red Book of Grandtully, vol. ii. pp. 301-319.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* vol. i. p. ccxxi.

to the Earl of Cromartie in 1743, on his recovery from an illness with which he was seized after a visit to Lord Lovat at Beaufort, his Lordship says :—

“Since I had the use of reason, I never received two letters that gave me so much joy, so much pleasure, and so much comfort, as the two letters that I had the honour to receive from your lordship this day. . . . As my fears and concern were beyond expression when I was acquainted with your lordship’s illness, so, I thank God, my satisfaction and joy are now complete in finding your lordship recover’d : . . . and I wish from my heart and soul that your lordship may be restor’d to perfect health, and live at least for as many years as your grandfather did. I do assure you, my dear Earl, that I wish this as much as I do my own health and life ; and I wish I may have no life the day that I am not faithfully attach’d to your lordship’s person and interest.”<sup>1</sup>

The year 1745, which was so eventful and disastrous both to Lovat and his correspondent, was begun with warm congratulations by his Lordship :—

“Allow me, my dearest earl, on the beginning of this new year, to assure your lordship and the worthy Countess of Cromarty, and all your most lovely family, of my most humble, most affectionate, and everlasting respects. May God preserve your person, and the worthy Countess of Cromarty, in perfect health, and with all manner of prosperity, untill at least you see your great-grandchildren, which you may do without being so old as your great-grandfather, who retained his vast judgment and reason to his dying hour.”

In the same letter, Lovat refers to the contemplated changes in high quarters. He pretends not to understand them, and says that they are as incomprehensible as the greatest mysteries of nature and religion. But he adds that though honest men should turn knaves, he is determined to preserve his integrity till the conflagration.<sup>2</sup>

In April of the same year a daughter was born to Lady Cromartie. That event afforded Lovat an opportunity of congratulating the Countess in his best style. He said that he honoured and respected her beyond all the Countesses in Scotland, and “I wish your lordship joy, with all my heart, of this new infant, as an additional beauty to your lordship’s lovely family. It is certain that your lordship’s family is already the most beautiful in the King’s dominions.”<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Vol. ii. p. 300, No. 512.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 305.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 308.

This praise of beauty was not without foundation. Isabella Gordon, the Countess of George third Earl of Cromartie, was popularly styled "Bonnie Bell Gordon," and it was the beauty of her family that Lovat extolled so highly. Nor was it only in that generation that beauty appeared. The features of the second Earl of Cromartie, as shown in his portrait, are certainly very handsome, and his second sister, Lady Elizabeth Mackenzie, who was wife to Sir George Broun of Coalston, in East Lothian, was so very beautiful, that whenever she appeared in the streets of Edinburgh crowds of people actually followed her, in admiration of her beauty. She was the Lady Coalston, who is reported, out of feminine curiosity, to have bit out a part of the famous Coalston pear, and thereby caused the loss of a portion of the Coalston property, which was previously held intact by the supposed charm of the celebrated pear of fabulous antiquity.<sup>1</sup>

In another letter to Lord Cromartie, Lord Lovat says—"My son has taken a military freak: he is going, whether I will or not, with all of the name of Fraser that are fitt for it, to join the adventuring Prince. You may be sure, my dearest earl, this must affect me, because my son is the hope of my family, and the darelng of my soul."<sup>2</sup>

In a notice of the "Culloden Papers" which appeared in the "Edinburgh Review," in February 1816, Lord Lovat is represented as a "feudal savage," "a brutal provincial tyrant," and a "monster." These are strong expressions from the pen of a writer so graceful as Lord Cockburn, to whom the notice is attributed. It is difficult to believe that this was the true character of Lord Lovat, as his neighbours and friends in the highest position joined with him in cordial intimacy and social friendship. His best biographer says that he was a laced courtier welcomed by the first circles in Europe; and as a specimen of the different opinions formed of Lovat by his contemporaries,

<sup>1</sup> Information by Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. ii. p. 313.



he quotes the letter of a gentleman who lamented the death of Lovat as one of the ablest men, of the soundest head, firmest mind, and best heart that our country has at any time produced.<sup>1</sup> The "Culloden Papers" above alluded to, and in which several letters of Lord Lovat are printed, contain an amusing instance of the alarm of so good a man as Duncan Forbes at the general use of tea, and the injury that would happen to the agricultural interest by that drug, as he called it, superseding the former beverage of ale made from malt. He thus states the evil as he thought it:—"The cause of the mischief we complain of is evidently the excessive use of tea, which is now become so common that the meanest families, even of labouring people, particularly in burroughs, make their morning meal of it, and thereby wholly disuse the ale which heretofore was their accustomed drink; and the same drug supplies all the labouring women with their afternoon's entertainments, to the exclusion of the twopenny."<sup>2</sup> The Lord President further enlarges on the absurdity of cobblers and their wives gravely sitting down to drink tea. He characterises in his paper the tea-drinkings as "villanous" and "rascally" practices. The worth and wisdom of the Lord President Forbes are much and justly extolled. But his tirade against

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Burton's life of Lord Lovat, vol. i. p. 267.—Highland chiefs were supposed to have omnipotent authority over their Clan, and Lord Lovat is one who is often quoted in corroboration of this. But the incautious remark of the young chief of Clanronald, who was brought up as a foster son in the family of Lord Lovat, was a remarkable exception. A profuse slaughter of Highland cattle having been made on the coming of age of young Clanronald, he remarked that a few hens would have been sufficient. This irritated the Clan, who speedily dethroned the "Hen-chief," as he was called.

The Clan Mackenzie also forcibly compelled their Chief Seaforth to desist from his purpose

of pulling down his family seat of Brahan Castle. In the History of England by Lord Mahon, afterwards the late Earl Stanhope, he notes that in the expedition for the invasion of Scotland in 1719, according to "San Phelipe, Lord Seaforth went to Braçaam. But what place he means by Braçaam is beyond my skill to divine." Lord Stanhope might have learned that Brahan Castle was obviously alluded to, and that the various spellings, even in the title-deeds of that estate, such as "Brawine," etc., differ more from the present mode than the one which he quotes from San Phelipe.

<sup>2</sup> Culloden Papers, p. 190.

tea, under the plea of promoting ale, raises the idea that he was afraid of his own famous Ferintosh whisky, of which, it is stated in the "Culloden Papers," more was made than in all the rest of Scotland, and that it yielded the President an annual income of about £18,000.

One of the noblest letters in the entire collection of the Cromartie Correspondence is that which was written to the third Earl of Cromartie by his son, Lord Macleod, announcing his intention of going into foreign service to push his fortune as a soldier.<sup>1</sup> The "poor boy," as his uncle, Sir John Gordon, called him, when he went abroad, had not sufficient means for his outfit, which had to be supplied by his friends. After his successful, chivalrous, and even romantic career abroad, he returned and was able to raise the popular regiment named after him, the Macleod Highlanders.

The FIRST VOLUME, in addition to the Correspondence, contains the MEMOIRS OF THE TARBAT OR CROMARTIE BRANCH OF THE MACKENZIE FAMILY, with an INTRODUCTION ON THE ORIGIN OF THE MACKENZIES, a subject which has caused much discussion. The Memoir of the first Earl of Cromartie comprehends the whole of his official and domestic life, with an account of his numerous literary works, and he is necessarily the most prominent figure in the book. The memoirs of his immediate ancestors, his father, Sir John, and his grandfather, Sir Rorie Mackenzie, are given comprehensively, as well as the memoirs of his immediate successors, the second and third Earls of Cromartie, and of the eldest son of the latter, John Lord Macleod.

The SECOND VOLUME, besides the Correspondence already mentioned, contains a selection of ancient Charters, chiefly connected with the Earldom of Ross, Patents of Honour, also notices of the Grandvale and Cromartie and

<sup>1</sup> Vol. ii. p. 226, No. 443.

Royston branches of the Mackenzies, and two Narratives written by John Lord Macleod. One of these gives an account of the Insurrection in Scotland in the year 1745-46, and the other, which is written in French, of the first campaign in 1757 of the Seven Years' War in Germany. Both in the Insurrection in Scotland and the campaign in Germany, Lord Macleod, although then a young man, took an active part, and his Narratives have all the freshness of description of a participator in the events which he describes.

The story of the Rebellion of 1745-46 has been so often told by historians, and the subject so much exhausted, that it is now difficult to discover anything new and original about it. But Lord Macleod's Narrative has never been published, and it, as well as his other Narrative, was unknown to the family until I found them among a number of Tarbat papers. Facsimiles of two portions of the Narrative are given. These contain an account of the first interview between Prince Charles Edward and Lord Macleod. The first of the Narratives is a new contribution to the history of an Insurrection, in which the third Earl of Cromartie and his son, Lord Macleod, were deeply engaged, and for which the Earl forfeited his honours and estates. That forfeiture caused a long eclipse of the family till the estates were graciously restored to Lord Macleod for his meritorious services in the army. After the lapse of nearly a century, new honours, with nearly the old names, have been conferred on the present representative of the family.

The letter which was written by Prince Charles Edward to George third Earl of Cromartie on his landing at Boradale in August 1745, inviting his Lordship to join the Royal Standard, which was to be set up at Glenfinan on the 19th of that month, had also been overlooked amongst useless papers at Tarbat. It is printed, with a lithograph, in the Memoir of the third Earl.

The first Earl of Cromartie, while Sir George Mackenzie, wrote a history of the Mackenzie family, which is titled "A genealogie of the Mackenzies

preceding the year 1661, wreattin in the year 1669, by a Persone of Qualitie." The original manuscript of that history is not known to exist, but many copies are preserved, particularly in families of the name of Mackenzie. From one of these an impression of fifty copies was printed in the year 1829, in quarto (16 pp.), by Mr. John Whitefoord Mackenzie, W.S., a great lover of books, and the possessor of one of the choicest libraries in Edinburgh. The last paper in the Second Volume is another History of the Mackenzies, also written by Lord Cromartie. It is much longer than that of 1669. The original manuscript of the larger history was also lost, and had been for many years out of the family repositories. After the present work had been arranged, and the greater part of both Volumes printed, this manuscript was recovered. It is imperfect and incomplete. Lord Cromartie appears to have dictated portions of the History to an amanuensis who was not familiar with the names, and had apparently often misunderstood what his Lordship said. The manuscript thus contains many clerical errors. In printing it, the original has been adhered to, but where such errors are obvious, corrections are generally indicated by brackets. The History ends abruptly. But during a careful search at Tarbat House, I was unable to discover any more of it. The fragment now printed, although incomplete, is a valuable addition to the history of the numerous Clan Mackenzie.

Another History of the Mackenzies is that of Dr. George Mackenzie, which was written about the year 1725. The Doctor was also the author of "The Lives and Characters of the Most Eminent Writers of the Scots Nation," a work of great research, in three volumes, folio, which were published successively in 1708, 1711, and 1722. He was a son of the Honourable Colin Mackenzie, second son of the second Earl of Seaforth. His History of the Mackenzie Family was never published, but copies of it are found in the libraries of several of the Mackenzies.

The other Historians of the Family of Mackenzie were John Mackenzie of Fairburn, John Mackenzie of Applecross, Mackenzie of Redcastle, and Hector Mackenzie, 1710. None of these Histories has ever been published, with the exception of a portion of that by Applecross, which was printed at the office of the "Dingwall Advertiser," in the year 1843, pp. 19, folio. That print also included the short History by Lord Cromartie, written in the year 1669; but not having been distinguished from the Applecross portion, which chiefly refers to the branches of the Mackenzies, the whole is called by the name of the History by Applecross.<sup>1</sup>

The two places or properties of the same name of Cromartie require a word of explanation. The barony of Cromartie, which is situated locally at and around the town, and in the parish and county of Cromartie proper, was originally the Crwmbawchty of which Macbeth was reputed Thane before he became King of Scotland. The spellings of the name of Cromartie were very various:—Crumbathyn, Cromarte, Cromardy, etc. etc. Fordun says that the Northern or Crombathy Firth, by reason of the excellence of its holding ground, gets the name of Zikirsount from seamen. In the thirteenth century the family of Mouat, then *de Monte Alto*, were the owners of Cromartie, and in the beginning of the following century Cromartie had accrued to King Robert the Bruce, probably from the Mouats submitting to Edward of England. Bruce granted Cromartie to Sir Hugh Ross, eldest son of William Earl of Ross. The Earl of Ross gave Cromartie to Adam Urquhart, and with his descendants it remained for many generations.

<sup>1</sup> Amongst the documents produced in the service of Mr. Mackenzie of Allangrange, as the heir-male of the Earls of Seaforth in 1829, was one described as "an original MS., bound in parchment cover, belonging to Alexander

Mackenzie of Woodside, entitled, 'Genealogy of the Chiefs of the name of Mackenzie since their coming into Scotland, containing 136 pages, with one index of 15 pages.'

William Urquhart of Cromartie, who was the representative of the family in the time of King James the Third, received from the King the following warrant to build a castle on the Moot Hill of Cromartie :—

“*Jacobus, Dei gracia Rex Scotorum, omnibus probis hominibus tocius terre sue, clericis et laicis salutem. Sciatis nos dedisse, concessisse et hac presenti carta nostra confirmasse dilecto nostro Willelmo Vrcharde de Crummaty militi, pro suo fideli seruicio nobis impenso et impendendo, le mote et montem mansionis de Crummaty, jacentes infra vicecomitatum de Crummaty : Tenendas eidem Willelmo et heredibus suis de nobis et successoribus nostris in feodo et hereditate imperpetuum, et adeo libere et quiete sicut dictus Willelmus, aut predecessores sui, aliquas terras siue annuos redditus in burgagio infra burgum nostrum de Crummaty, retroactis temporibus, tenuit seu possedit, tenuerunt seu possederunt. Insuper concessimus ac tenore presencium concedimus dicto Willelmo de Vrcharde militi et heredibus suis nostram licenciam et facultatem specialem turrim siue fortalicium super dicto le mote et monte de Crummaty edificandum et construendum, ac dictam turrim in altum erigendum, portisque ferreis cum le machcoling et bermking firmandum, et in summitate eiusdem apparatus bellicis et defensiuis preparandum ; et omnia alia et singula facienda et perficienda que ad consummacionem et edificacionem dicti turre siue fortalicii necessaria fuerint siue opportuna, absque obstaculo seu reuocacione nostri vel successorum nostrorum quorumcunque. In cuius Rei testimonium presentibus literis nostris magnum sigillum nostrum apponi precepimus. Apud Edinburgh, sexto die mensis Aprilis, anno domini millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo, et Regni nostri decimo.”*<sup>1</sup>

Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromartie was a celebrated Knight. He was the son of Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromartie and the Honourable Christian Elphinstone, daughter of Alexander fourth Lord Elphinstone, and was born in the year 1613. Amongst the other gifts of Sir Thomas, the son, was that of a great genealogical genius. He traced his family from Adam and Noah in an unbroken line of descent. When he was questioned about the accuracy

<sup>1</sup> Original Warrant, Seaforth Forfeited Estate Papers, Register House. The above notice after the chapter on the Castle and barony of Cromartie had been printed. interesting warrant only came under my

of his pedigree, which was considered but *lusus ingenii*, Sir Thomas was wont to remark that the present age would mock that genealogy, the succeeding age would doubt it, and the third would be heavily inclined to believe it.

The other property of Cromartie is that which was inherited and formed by the first Earl of Cromartie, separate from the original Crombathyn or Cromartie above referred to. The Cromartie-Mackenzie estate consisted of Tarbat, Castleleod, Strathpeffer, Coigeach, and other lands in Ross-shire, which were disjoined from the shire of Ross and annexed, by Act of Parliament, to the shire of Cromartie. With the exception of Tarbat and some others which were sold, these estates are still known by the name of Cromartie, and the proprietors are designated of Cromartie in the same way as the proprietors of the other estate are also designated of Cromarty, the only difference being that the latter call their property *Cromarty*, while the final termination of the other is *tie*. Both are *idem sonans*, and the difference is very small after the great variations which have occurred since the Crwm-bawchty of Macbeth.

Two persons of the same name, as well as the two properties, also require a word of explanation. These are Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Tarbat, afterwards Earl of Cromartie, and Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate to King Charles the Second. Being of the same Christian and surnames, both connected with Ross-shire, and contemporaries in the public service, they have been frequently mistaken, the one for the other.

Lord Tarbat was born in 1630, six years before his kinsman the Lord Advocate, whom he survived for twenty-two years. They were frequently associated in the public transactions of the reign of King Charles the Second, and the subscriptions of their names are to be found alongside each other in public documents. The following woodcuts afford a specimen of these. The

first signature is that of Sir George Mackenzie the Lord Advocate, and the second is that of Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Tarbat.

It will be observed that the signature of the former of the first half of his surname is Mac in full, while the latter is Mc. This difference is one way of identifying these two public officers of the same name.

The profession of the law has often been a favourite and successful one with persons of the name of Mackenzie. Besides the two Sir George Mackenzies now mentioned, Roderick Mackenzie, Lord Prestonhall and Lord Justice-Clerk, and Sir James Mackenzie, Lord Royston, were both younger sons of the Tarbat branch. Within my own time I have known three Lords of Session under the title of Lord Mackenzie. The first was Joshua Henry Mackenzie, an able, upright, and amiable judge, with much of the mildness of manner of his father, the author of the "Man of Feeling." The second was Thomas Mackenzie, author of "Studies in the Roman Law," and an able lawyer.<sup>1</sup> The third was the late Donald Mackenzie, a very accomplished judge and genial gentleman, whose too early removal has been much lamented.

<sup>1</sup> Lord Mackenzie, when at the Bar, was a very successful pleader. On one occasion, when debating a Bill Chamber Case before Lord Dundrennan, in his own house in George Street, Mr. Mackenzie was opposed by another eminent pleader now on the bench. Both

the counsel pleaded their respective cases with energy, and made a good fight. Lord Dundrennan complimented them in more homely than judicial phrase by the remark that they were a "couple of capital terriers."



The advanced age of the first Earl of Cromartie has been mentioned. In the course of my researches into the history of the Mackenzie Family, I have found notices of great longevity amongst them. Alexander Mackenzie of Saintfield died at Belfast, in Ireland, in the one hundred and twentieth year of his age, leaving a widow only four years younger than himself.<sup>1</sup> Katharine Mackenzie died at Fowlis Castle, Ross-shire, on 24th December 1758, in the one hundred and eighteenth year of her age. She was a servant there for one hundred and three years.<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Mackenzie of Kildonan, Ross-shire, died there on 14th December 1805, aged one hundred and nine years, retaining her faculties to the last.<sup>3</sup> George Mackenzie of Inchcoultter died at his seat in Ross-shire, on 1st April 1760, aged ninety-eight years. He was a nephew of Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Advocate.<sup>4</sup>

Besides the assistance which I have received from the Historians of the Mackenzies already mentioned, I must acknowledge my deep obligations for the valuable aid which has been accorded to me by many of those who are interested in this work. The noble owners of the Cromartie Muniments placed them at my service without reserve, and with the most generous confidence. His Grace the Duke of Sutherland heartily promoted the excavations at the Cromartie monument at Dingwall, which resulted in the discovery there of the grave of George first Earl of Cromartie, as explained in his memoir.

Following the good example of his father, the late Mr. Loch, M.P., who, during his long and honourable connection with the noble family of Sutherland, promoted several literary works, his son and successor, the present Mr. Loch, Q.C., has promoted this Book, and assisted in the progress of it in every form, with great cordiality.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Scots Magazine, vol. xvi. p. 155.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* vol. xx. p. 661.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* vol. lxxviii. p. 78.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* vol. xxii. p. 158.

<sup>5</sup> The ancestors of Mr. Loch, as owners of the estate of Drylaw, were neighbours of the first Earl of Cromartie, when he was resident at Royston. Drylaw and Royston have both

Mr. Colin Mackenzie, W.S., who has so many connections with Ross and Cromartie, and knows so much of their history, has been very patient under my repeated requisitions to him for information, which he has always readily communicated to me.

The Rev. Dr. Joass of Golspie, who is well known for his great learning in connection with the history and antiquities of the northern counties, has rendered me great service in the revisal of many of the proof sheets.

Mr. Murray of Geanies greatly assisted in my inspection of the parishes of Tarbat and Tain, and he placed at my service his ancient Charters. One of these disclosed the fact that his property of Seafield was originally called Wester Tarbat. That name had been so long disused that it was unknown, except through the Charters.

Mr. Kenneth Matheson, younger of Ardross, has taken much interest in this work, and has been always ready to assist me with his knowledge of the Kintail country.

Captain Mackenzie of Findon and Mountgerald allowed me the use of the genealogical collections of the Mackenzies in his possession.

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Major Monro of Fowlis also assisted me with much information about the County of Ross, with which his family have been so long connected. On a house of a Monro near Delny, where the ancient Earls of Ross had one of their prin-

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the sale was nearly broken off. Next year, being the first of his acquisition, the purchaser realised £4000 from the Craigleith quarry as the price of blocks for the London docks. Since then the greater part of the houses in the New Town of Edinburgh have been built out of the quarry, which helped to enrich the owners, the Ramsays of Barnton.

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Mr. Gunn, the factor on the Cromartie-Mackenzie estates, and Mr. Andrew Smith, Solicitor in Dingwall, both greatly facilitated my inquiries in Ross-shire, and furnished me with much information about the Barony of Coigeach, and its early owner, Sir Rorie Mackenzie, the Tutor of Kintail.

The assistance of Mr. Dempster, late of Skibo, now of Ormiston Hall, requires my special acknowledgments. When he parted with his Highland home in 1866, after having possessed it for fifty-six years from his succession in 1810, he was the oldest landed proprietor in the four counties of Sutherland, Inverness, Ross, and Cromartie. He had seen every estate in these counties change hands by sale or succession at least once, and in very many cases oftener. From his intimacy with the Sutherland, Seaforth, Cromartie, and other families, he knows much of their history, and has communicated to me his information in the most generous manner.

The originals of the Mar letters already mentioned form part of the valuable collection of the Earl of Mar and Kellie. When engaged in the recent successful claim made by the Earl of Kellie to the title of Earl of Mar, the Cromartie Correspondence in that Collection came under my notice. It was placed at my service for the present work by the Earl of Mar and Kellie in the most liberal manner. The Dukes of Buccleuch, Argyll, Montrose, and Athole have also allowed me to draw upon their respective collections.

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triumphs, including the popular History of his own House, has, with his usual courtesy, readily responded to my inquiries on the origin of the Mackenzies of Kintail and Seaforth, of whom he is the heir-general.

These prefatory remarks may be fitly concluded by a reference to the changes on the Estate and Mansion of Royston, now Caroline Park, which was the Lothian residence of the first Earl of Cromartie. The present noble and patriotic owner of Royston, looking upon it probably as the Lord High Admiral of England did in the time of Queen Mary, as a place for a safe anchorage, has constructed there the magnificent harbour of Granton. That great undertaking has necessarily changed the character and complexion of Lord Cromartie's estate of Royston, and of his mansion there, which he adorned with his classic taste, and moulded in some aspects into a miniature Tuileries. That retreat, which in his correspondence with the Earl of Mar he showed so great anxiety to have secured as a permanent official residence for the Lord Chancellors of Scotland, has recently been converted into offices in connection with the manufacture of printing ink in the adjoining grounds. The very letters which Lord Cromartie wrote at Royston, called in his Latin inscription there his little cottage, the Memoir of himself, and, indeed, this entire work, have been printed with the Royston ink. The claims of commerce in connection with the great harbour have led to Royston House being the abode of manufacturing chemists instead of Lord Chancellors, as desired by Lord Cromartie. But this is only one of the many changes which are disclosed in these CHRONICLES OF THE EARLS OF CROMARTIE.

WILLIAM FRASER.

EDINBURGH, 32 CASTLE STREET,

*June 1876.*

## Contents of Volume First.

	Page
TITLE-PAGE, WITH ARMORIAL SHIELDS OF THE MACKENZIES AND MACLEODS.	
PREFACE, . . . . .	i
GENERAL TABLE OF CONTENTS, . . . . .	i
PEDIGREE OF THE MACKENZIES, EARLS OF SEAFORTH, . . . . .	v
PEDIGREE OF THE MACKENZIES, EARLS OF CROMARTIE, . . . . .	vii
HISTORY OF THE EARLS OF CROMARTIE.	
Introduction.—Origin of the Mackenzies, . . . . .	ix
The Tarbat or Cromartie Branch, . . . . .	xxv
Sir Rorie Mackenzie of Coigeach, Knight, grandfather of the First Earl of Cromartie, 1574-1626, . . . . .	xxv
Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat, Baronet, father of the First Earl of Cromartie, 1608-1654, . . . . .	liv
Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, First Earl of Cromartie, 1630-1714,	lxvii
Chapter First, 1630-1660.—His birth and education—the Earl of Glencairn's Expedition, . . . . .	lxvii
Chapter Second, 1660-1678.—The Restoration in 1660—Made a Lord of Session—Act of Indemnity and Billeting—Retirement, . . . . .	lxxvii
Chapter Third, 1678-1685.—Return to Public Employment, 1678—Made Lord Justice-General—Lord Clerk-Register 1681—Chief Manager of Scottish Affairs, 1678-1685, . . . . .	cii
Chapter Fourth, 1685-1688.—Made Viscount of Tarbat, 1685—Revolution of 1688, . . . . .	cxii
Chapter Fifth, 1688-1703.—Employments under King William—Death of Ann Viscountess of Tarbat—Marriage with Margaret Countess of Wemyss, 1700, . . . . .	cxxxviii
Chapter Sixth, 1703-1707.—Made Earl of Cromartie, 1703—Death of Coun- tess of Wemyss and Cromartie—the Union, . . . . .	cxlvi
Chapter Seventh, 1707-1714.—Death of Lord Cromartie in 1714, . . . . .	clviii
Chapter Eighth.—Character and Works of Lord Cromartie, . . . . .	clxxx

HISTORY OF THE EARLS OF CROMARTIE— <i>continued.</i>	Page
John, Second Earl of Cromartie, 1656-1731, . . . . .	cxcv
George, Third Earl of Cromartie, 1702-1766, . . . . .	ccxi
John Lord Macleod, Count Cromartie in Sweden, 1727-1789, . . . . .	ccxxxvi
Successors of John, Lord Macleod, in the Cromartie Estates, . . . . .	cclix
Armorial Bearings, . . . . .	cclxii
THE CROMARTIE CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE YEAR 1662 TO THE YEAR 1705—( <i>continued in Volume Second</i> ), . . . . .	1-314
ABSTRACT OF THAT CORRESPONDENCE, . . . . .	315-354

## ILLUSTRATIONS IN VOLUME FIRST.

## I.—PORTRAITS.

SIR RORIE MACKENZIE OF COIGEACH, Knight, . . . . .	<i>between</i> xlviiii <i>and</i> xlix
SIR JOHN MACKENZIE OF TARBAT, Baronet, . . . . .	liv <i>and</i> lv
GEORGE, FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE, . . . . .	lxvi <i>and</i> lxvii
ANNE SINCLAIR, his wife, . . . . .	" "
JOHN, SECOND EARL, . . . . .	cxciv <i>and</i> cxcv
HON. MARY MURRAY, his wife, . . . . .	" "
GEORGE, THIRD EARL, . . . . .	ccx <i>and</i> ccxi
ISABEL GORDON, his Countess, . . . . .	" "
JOHN LORD MACLEOD, . . . . .	cclviii <i>and</i> cclix
MARJORY FORBES, LADY MACLEOD, . . . . .	" "
EDWARD HAY-MACKENZIE OF CROMARTIE, . . . . .	cclx <i>and</i> cclxi
HON. MRS. MARIA HAY-MACKENZIE, his wife, . . . . .	" "
JOHN HAY-MACKENZIE OF CROMARTIE, . . . . .	" "
HER GRACE ANNE HAY-MACKENZIE, Countess of Cromartie, Duchess of Sutherland, . . . . .	" "
LADY ELIZABETH MACKENZIE, afterwards BROWN OF COALSTON, . . . . .	cxl <i>and</i> cxli



ILLUSTRATIONS IN VOLUME FIRST—*continued.*

## II.—CASTLES, ETC.

ELLAN DONAN CASTLE, the residence of the Barons of Kintail, <i>between xxiv and xxv</i>	
CASTLE LEOD— <i>two Views,</i> . . . . .	xlii and xliii
THE CROMARTIE MONUMENT AT DINGWALL, . . . . .	} clxxiv and clxxv
Plan and Section of the Graves, . . . . .	
LEAD COFFIN OF GEORGE, FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE, . . . . .	
LOCHSLYNE CASTLE, . . . . .	lxviii and lxix
TARBAT HOUSE, formerly the residence of the Earls of Cromartie,	clxxii and clxxiii
THE PRESENT MANSION-HOUSE OF TARBAT, . . . . .	cclvi and cclvii

## LETTERS.

Sir Rorie Mackenzie to Sir John Grant, 2d March 1624, . . . . .	xxvi and xxvii
Mary Queen of Scots to Torquil Macleod, 24th July 1563, . . . . .	xxxiv and xxxv
George Viscount of Tarbat to Margaret Countess of Wemyss, 2d March 1700, . . . . .	cxlii and cxliii
Prince Charles Edward to George, Third Earl of Cromartie, 8th August 1745, . . . . .	ccxii and ccxiii
John Lord Macleod to his father, 18th April 1749, . . . . .	ccxlii and ccxliii
James Sharp, Archbishop of St. Andrews, to Sir George Mac- kenzie, Lord Tarbat, 21st November 1674, . . . . .	18 and 19
Robert Barclay of Ury to the Same, 8th of the 7th month, 1684,	32 and 33
Mr. William Carstares to the Same, 8th October 1684, . . . . .	42 and 43
Kenneth, Earl of Seaforth, to Colonel Hill, 30th May 1690, . . . . .	64 and 65
John Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury, to George Viscount of Tarbat, 24th September 1692, . . . . .	88 and 89
John Lord Macleod to his father, 8th July 1705, . . . . .	286 and 287

ILLUSTRATIONS IN VOLUME FIRST—*continued.*ARMORIAL SEALS. *Woodcuts of—*

Colin Mackenzie of Kintail, 1585, . . .	p. xviii
Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail, 1597, . . .	xviii
Sir Rorie Mackenzie of Coigeach, 1624, . . . . .	xxvii
Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, 1674, . . . . .	cclxii
George Viscount Tarbat, . . . . .	cclxiv

ARMORIAL SHIELDS OF THE COUN-  
TESSES OF CROMARTIE, ETC.

Mackenzie of Kintail, . . . . .	p. ix
Macleod of Lewis, . . . . .	xxv
Erskine of Innerteil, . . . . .	liv
Sinclair of Mey, . . . . .	} lxvii
Countess of Wemyss, . . . . .	
Gordon of Aboyne, . . . . .	} cxcv
Murray, Lord Elibank, . . . . .	
Fraser, Lord Lovat, . . . . .	
Gordon of Invergordon, . . . . .	ccxi
Forbes, Lord Forbes, . . . . .	ccxxxvi

SIGNATURES. *Woodcuts of—*

Sir Rorie Mackenzie of Coigeach, 1624, p. liii	
Margaret Macleod, his wife, . . . . .	liiii
Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat, . . . . .	lxvi
Margaret Erskine, his wife, . . . . .	lxvi
Anna Sinclair, Viscountess of Tarbat, . . . . .	clxxxix
Margaret, Countess of Wemyss and Viscountess of Tarbat, . . . . .	clxxxix
George, First Earl of Cromartie, etc., . . . . .	cxci
John, Second Earl of Cromartie, etc., . . . . .	ccx
Elizabeth Gordon, Lady Tarbat, . . . . .	ccx
Anne Fraser, Countess of Cromartie, . . . . .	ccx
George, Third Earl of Cromartie, etc., . . . . .	ccxxxv
Isabella Gordon, Countess of Crom- artie, . . . . .	ccxxxv
John Lord Macleod, etc., . . . . .	cclviii
Marjory Forbes, Lady Macleod, . . . . .	cclviii
John, First Earl of Middleton, 1662, . . . . .	3
Sir John Fletcher, Lord Advocate, 1662, . . . . .	8
James Sharp, Archbishop of St. Andrews, 1665, . . . . .	14
James Gregorie, Professor of Mathe- matics, Edinburgh University, 1675, . . . . .	21

## PEDIGREE OF THE MACKENZIES, EARLS OF SEAFORTH.

I.—COLIN FITZGERALD (COLINUS HIBERNUS). Married a daughter of Kenneth Macmahon or Matheson, 1263.

II.—KENNETH, married Morba Macdowal, daughter of Alexander Lord of Lorn. He died 1304.

III.—KENNETH MACKENNETH (MACCHAINNICH, MACKENZIE), married Margaret, daughter of David de Strathbogie, Earl of Athole. He died 1323.

IV.—KENNETH MACKENZIE OF KINTAIL, married Fynvola, daughter of Roderick Macleod of Lewis.

V.—MURDOCH MACKENZIE, married Isabel, daughter of Murdoch MacAula. He died 1375.

VI.—MURDOCH MACKENZIE, married Fingalla, daughter of Macleod of Harris. He died 1416.

VII.—ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, married, 1st, Lady Agnes Campbell, daughter of Colin Earl of Argyll; 2d, Margaret Macdougall, a daughter of the House of Lorn. He died 1488.

VIII.—SIR KENNETH MACKENZIE. Was knighted by King James the Fourth. He married, 1st, a daughter of the Earl of Ross, by whom he had a son, Kenneth, who was killed at Torwood; 2d, Agnes Fraser, daughter of Hugh Lord Lovat. He died *circa* 1506.

HECTOR,  
ancestor of  
the Mackenzies  
of Gareloch.

DUNCAN  
of Hiltoun.

IX.—JOHN MACKENZIE. He married Isabella daughter of John Grant of Grant, and died *circa* 1556.

ALEXANDER, ancestor  
of the Mackenzies of  
Davochnaluak, and  
others.

RODERICK, ancestor  
of the Mackenzies  
of Achilty,  
Fairburne, etc.

KENNETH,  
ancestor of the  
Mackenzies of  
Suddy, Ord, etc.

AGNES.  
CATHERINE, married  
Hector Monro of  
Foullis.

X.—KENNETH MACKENZIE. He married Lady Isabel Stewart, daughter of John, second Earl of Athole. He died 1568. His eldest son Murdoch predeceased him.

JANET, married Roderick  
Macleod of Lewis.

XI.—COLIN MACKENZIE, married, 1st, Barbara, daughter of John Grant of Grant; 2d, Mary, daughter of Roderick Mackenzie of Davochnaluak. He died 14th June 1594.

RODERICK, ancestor  
of the  
Mackenzies  
of Red-  
castle, etc.

JANET, married,  
1st, Alexander  
Macdonell of  
Glengarry;  
2d, Alexander  
Chisholm of  
Comar.

AGNES,  
married  
Lachlan  
Macintosh  
of Dunach-  
tane.

MARGARET,  
married  
Walter  
David Innes  
of Balna-  
gowan.

ELIZABETH, married  
Walter Urquhart  
of Cromartie.  
MARJORY, married  
Robert Monro  
of Foullis.

XII.—KENNETH MACKENZIE. Was raised to the Peerage by King James the Sixth in 1609, by the title of Lord Mackenzie of Kintail. He married, 1st, Anne, daughter of George Ross of Balnagowan; 2d, Isabel, daughter of Sir Gilbert Ogilvy of Powrie. He died in 1611.

SIR RODERICK  
MACKENZIE of  
Tarbat, ANCES-  
TOR OF THE  
EARLS OF CRO-  
MARTIE. (*Vide*  
Pedigree of  
them.)

COLIN,  
of whom  
Kennock  
and Pitlun-  
die are de-  
scended.

ALEXANDER,  
ancestor  
of the  
Mackenzies  
of Kilcoy.

ALEXANDER,  
son of second  
wife, ancestor  
of the  
Mackenzies  
of Applecross,  
Coul, etc.

MARGARET, married  
to Simon Lord  
Lovat.  
——, married  
Lachlan Maclean  
of Dowart.  
MARY, married  
Donald Macdonald  
of Slate.

XIII.—COLIN, SECOND LORD MACKENZIE. Was created Earl of Seaforth in 1623. He married Lady Margaret Seton, daughter of Alexander, Earl of Dunfermline. He died without male issue in 1633.

JOHN of Loch-  
slyne, married  
Isabel, daughter  
of Alexander  
Mackenzie of  
Gareloch. He  
died without  
male issue.

ALEXANDER.  
Died 1614.  
KENNETH,  
*s.p.*

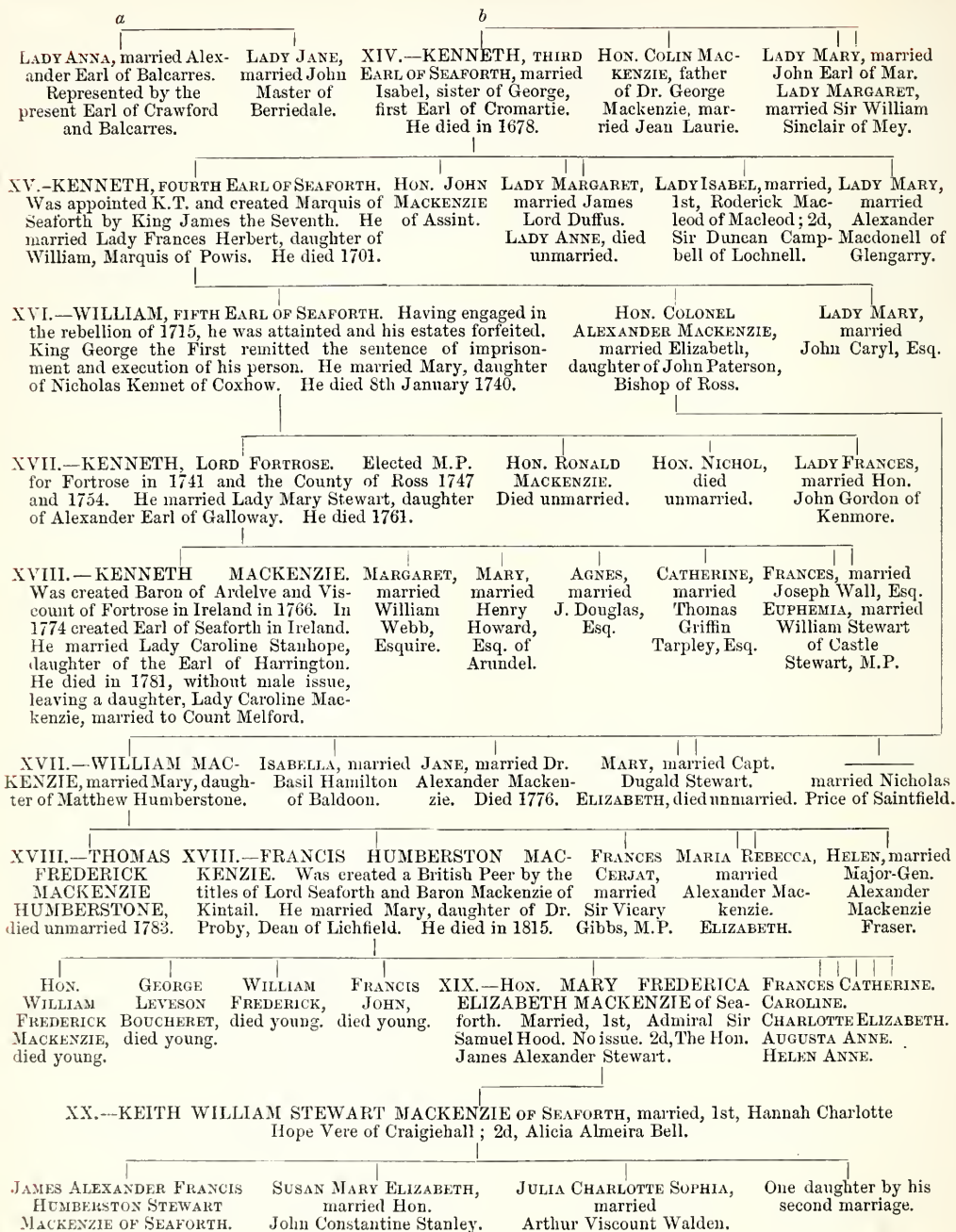
XIII.—GEORGE,  
SECOND EARL OF  
SEAFORTH, married  
Barbara, daughter  
of Arthur Lord  
Forbes.  
He died 1651.

THOMAS of Plus-  
carden.  
SIMON of Loch-  
slyne, father of  
Sir George  
Mackenzie of  
Rosehaugh. He  
married Eliza-  
beth, daughter of  
Dr. Bruce.

BARBARA, married  
Donald Lord Reay.  
JANET, married Sir  
Donald Macdonald  
of Slate.  
SIBYLLA, married  
John Macleod  
of Macleod.

a

b



## PEDIGREE OF THE MACKENZIES, EARLS OF CROMARTIE.

I.—SIR RODERICK MACKENZIE of Coigeach and Tarbat, Knight, second son of Colin Mackenzie of Kintail, and brother of Kenneth, first Lord Mackenzie of Kintail, was ancestor of the Earls of Cromartie. He married Margaret, daughter of Torquil Macleod of Lewis. He died in September 1626.—[*Vide* Memoir of him, vol. i. pp. xxv.-liii.]

<p>II.—SIR JOHN MACKENZIE of Tarbat was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia by King Charles I., 21st May 1628. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir George Erskine of Inner-teil. He died 10th September 1654.—[<i>Vide</i> Memoir of him, vol. i. pp. liv.-lxvi.]</p>	<p>KENNETH, first of Seatwell, married—1st, Margaret, daughter of Sir Robert Monro of Foulis, 2d, Janet, daughter of Walter Ross of Invercarrou. He died 3d March 1662. He was ancestor of the Mackenzies of Seatwell, Findon, etc.</p>	<p>COLIN of Tarvey, married widow of John Mackenzie of Lochsline. ALEXANDER of Ballone, married widow of Kenneth Mackenzie of Inverlawl. He died 1645.</p>	<p>CHARLES, married 1629. JAMES, died unmarried 1647.</p>	<p>MARGARET, married Sir James Macdonald of Slate, Baronet. Had issue.</p>
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<p>III.—SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE. Born in 1630; succeeded his father in 1654. Made a Lord of Session 1st June 1661; Lord Justice-General of Scotland, 16th October 1678; Lord Clerk-Register in 1681; created Viscount of Tarbat 15th April 1685; Earl of Cromartie, 1st January 1703. Married—1st, Anna, daughter of Sir James Sinclair of Mey. 2d, Margaret, Countess of Wemyss. He died 17th August 1714, aged 84.—[<i>Vide</i> Memoir of him, vol. i. pp. lxxvii.-cxciv.] Besides his eldest son Roderick, who was living in 1665, but died young and unmarried, his children by his first wife were</p>	<p>JOHN, died at London 1662, <i>s.p.</i></p>	<p>RODERICK of Preston-hall. Admitted Advocate in 1666, appointed Lord-Judge-Clerk in 1702, and Lord of Session in 1703. He married—1st, Mary, daughter of Archbishop Burnet. 2d, Margaret Halyburton, widow of Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate. Lord Preston-hall died 4th January 1712.—[<i>Vide</i> Memoir, vol. i. p. lxiii.]</p>	<p>ALEXANDER of Ardloch and Kinnellan. KENNETH, married Isobel Auchinleck. JAMES, died unmarried.</p>	<p>1. MARGARET, married—1st, Roderick Macleod of Macleod; without issue. 2d, Sir James Campbell of Lawers. 2. ANNE, married Hugh Lord Lovat. Issue. 3. ISABEL, married Kenneth Earl of Seaforth. Issue. 4. BARBARA, married Alexander Mackenzie of Gareloch. Issue. 5. CATHERINE, married Sir Colin Campbell of Aberuchil, Bart. Issue.</p>
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<p>IV.—JOHN SECOND EARL OF CROMARTIE. He married—1st, Lady Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of the Earl of Aboyne. 2d, Hon. Mary Murray, daughter of Patrick Lord Elibank. 3d, Hon. Anna Fraser, daughter of Hugh Lord Lovat. He died 20th Feb. 1731.—[<i>Vide</i> Memoir of him, vol. i. pp. cxcv.-ccx.] Issue by his 2d and 3d wives.</p>	<p>SIR KENNETH MACKENZIE of Grandvale and Cromartie. Created a Baronet in 1704, with his father's precedence. He had six sons, Sir George, Colin, Campbell, Gerard, James, Sir Kenneth, and several daughters. He died in 1729.—[<i>Vide</i> Memoir, vol. ii. p. 412.]</p>	<p>SIR JAMES MACKENZIE of Royston, created a Baronet in 1704, made a Lord of Session, 1710. Lord Royston married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh. He died at Edinburgh in November 1744. Issue one son and one daughter. The son George died 15th May 1744, and the daughter Elizabeth married Sir John Steuart of Grandtully, and had issue.—[<i>Vide</i> Memoir, vol. ii. p. 420.]</p>	<p>LADY MARGARET, married David Bruce of Clackmannan, <i>s.p.</i></p>	<p>LADY ELIZABETH, married Sir George Brown of Coalstown. Had issue.</p>	<p>LADY JEAN, married Sir Thomas Stewart of Balcaskie. LADY ANNE, married John Sinclair, brother of the Earl of Caithness. Issue.</p>
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- V.—GEORGE, THIRD EARL OF CROMARTIE, born *circa* 1702, joined the Rebellion of 1745. He was forfeited and sentenced to death, but afterwards pardoned. He married Isabella Gordon of Invergordon. Died 28th Sept. 1766. —[*Vide* Memoir of him, vol. i. pp. cxxi-cxxxv.]
- CAPTAIN RODERICK, was a Lieutenant in the Royal Dragoons, 1740, and was sent to Flanders in 1745. Issue one son.
- KENNETH MACKENZIE of Cromartie, succeeded on the death of Lord Macleod in 1789 to the Cromartie-Mackenzie estates. He married Jane, daughter of Charles Petley of Riverhead. He died in 1796, and was succeeded by his cousin, Lady Elibank.
- WILLIAM, also a military man.
- PATRICK, became a merchant.
- GIDEON, died 1714.
- JAMES, died young.
- NORMAN, was an officer in the army.
- HUGH, the same in 1757.
- All died *s.p.*
- LADY MARY, died in May 1726.
- LADY ANNA, died unmarried.
- LADY AMELIA, married Archibald Lamont of that ilk.
- LADY HELEN, living 1714.
- VI.—JOHN LORD MACLEOD, born in 1727. Joined the Rebellion of 1745, and was condemned for treason, but was pardoned. He entered the military service of the King of Sweden, and was created Count Cromartie in Sweden. He raised Lord Macleod's Highlanders. Married, 4th June 1786, Marjory, daughter of Lord Forbes. No issue. Died 2d April 1789. —[*Vide* Memoir, vol. i. pp. ccxxxvi-cclviii.]
- WILLIAM, died in December 1736, aged 7 years.
- GEORGE, a Lieut.-Col. of the 71st Regt. of Foot, died in India in 1787, *s.p.*
- LADY ISABELLA, born 30th March 1725, married in January 1760, George sixth Lord Elibank. She succeeded to her cousin Kenneth in the Cromartie estates in 1796. Died 28th Dec. 1801, aged 77.
- LADY MARY, married—1st, in 1750, Captain Clarke; 2d, in Aug. 1757, Mr. Drayton, a Councillor in South Carolina; 3d, John Ainslie, Esq.
- LADY ANNE, married—1st, Hon. Edmund Atkin; 2d, Dr. Murray.
- LADY CAROLINE, married—1st, Mr. Drake; 2d, Walter Hunter of Polmood.
- LADY JANE.
- LADY AMELIA, died young.
- LADY MARGARET, married John Glassford of Dougalston. Had issue.
- LADY AUGUSTA, married Sir William Murray of Ochertertyre, Bart. Had issue.
- VII.—THE HONOURABLE MARIA MURRAY HAY-MACKENZIE of Cromartie, married Edward Hay of Newhall, brother of the Marquis of Tweeddale, who became Edward Hay-Mackenzie of Cromartie. She died on 8th Oct. 1858. Issue one son and three daughters.
- THE HON. ISABELLA MURRAY.
- VIII.—JOHN HAY-MACKENZIE of Cromartie. He married Anne, third daughter of Sir James Gibson-Craig of Riccarton, Baronet. He died 9th July 1849. Issue one daughter.
- DOROTHEA, married, 2d July 1813, Sir David Hunter Blair. Had issue.
- ISABELLA, married, 1st Nov. 1817, John Buckle, Esq., and had issue.
- GEORGINA, married James Earl of Glasgow, *s.p.*
- IX.—ANNE HAY-MACKENZIE OF CROMARTIE, DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND. Her Grace was created Countess of Cromartie, Viscountess Tarbat of Tarbat, Baroness Macleod of Castle Leod, and Baroness Castlehaven of Castlehaven, by Patent dated 21st October 1861. She married, on 27th June 1849, George Granville William Marquis of Stafford, now third Duke of Sutherland, K.G., and Premier Peer of Scotland.
- X.—GEORGE GRANVILLE, CROMARTIE, Marquis of Earl GOWER, born 27th July 1850, died 5th July 1858.
- STAFFORD, M.P., born 21st July 1851.
- LORD FRANCIS, Viscount Tarbat, born 3d August 1852.
- LADY FLORENCE SUTHERLAND LEVESON-GOWER.
- LADY ALEXANDRA SUTHERLAND LEVESON-GOWER.



# THE EARLS OF CROMARTIE.

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## INTRODUCTION.

THE ORIGIN AND DESCENT OF THE FAMILY OF MACKENZIE OF KINTAIL, THE ANCESTORS OF THE EARLS OF SEAFORTH, AND OF THE EARLS OF CROMARTIE.

**T**HE Mackenzies of Tarbat, who were ennobled as Earls of Cromartie, are a branch of the Mackenzies, Earls of Seaforth, an ancient, powerful and distinguished clan, long in possession of the barony of Ellan Donan, including Kintail and other properties in the county of Ross, commonly called the Seaforth estates.

The history of the clan of the Mackenzies is a subject of interest not merely to the members of the clan themselves, but to all who are connected with the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. For centuries the Mackenzies played there a very prominent part; and in the feuds and conflicts of the clans fought many a bloody battle with the Macdonalds, Monros, Macleods, Mathesons, Macleans, and MacNeills, to maintain their position in the ancient Earldom of Ross. The clan has produced many brave men, distinguished statesmen, accomplished scholars, and learned authors and historians.

Their own origin and early history, however, are involved in great obscurity, and have formed the subject of much discussion. Previous to the

fifteenth century, the history of the Mackenzies is but imperfectly known. On the fall of the ancient Earls of Ross, the Mackenzies obtained part of their extensive estates in Strathconan, Strathgarve, and Strathpeffer; and amidst the conflicts of the clan Macleod of Lewis, the Lords of Kintail became the owners of the Island of Lewis, and many of the other Macleod territories. Writing of the possessions of the Mackenzies, soon after the Union, the first Earl of Cromartie states that their interest in the shire of Ross is, at least, as four to one with the rest, and that they are amongst the oldest and most numerous clans, so faithful to the Crown that they always acted for it, and suffered with it, nor to this day did they ever need a remission.<sup>1</sup>

Previous to the sale of large portions of the Seaforth and other Mackenzie estates, it was said of them that they had extended their numberless branches over a great part of the north, and possessed an extent of territory to which few families can exhibit a parallel.<sup>2</sup> But even dismembered as the Seaforth estates have been from time to time by the sale of the Lewis, Kintail, and other lands, the properties of Brahan, and others still remaining, are of considerable value. The Cromartie-Mackenzie estates have also undergone diminution since the time of Sir Rorie Mackenzie, who originally acquired them, but are still of great extent.

As to the origin of the Mackenzies there are two theories: The one, which has been frequently given in histories of the family, is that their first known ancestor was Colin Fitzgerald, a scion of the distinguished Norman family of Fitzgerald in Ireland. This view is founded on a fragment of the records of Icolmkill, and a Charter by King Alexander to Colin Fitzgerald, called Colinus Hybernus, of the lands of Kintail. In the former it is stated that among those who fought in the battle of Largs, was a distinguished Irish stranger of the family of the Geraldines, who, having been driven from

<sup>1</sup> Original MS. of 4 pp. folio, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Skene's *Highlanders*, vol. ii. p. 242.



Ireland, was kindly received by the king, and had hitherto remained at the court.<sup>1</sup> And, again referring to this Colin who fought in the battle at Largs, the record states that he afterwards fought bravely against the Islanders, and was left among them with a garrison.<sup>2</sup>

The charter is said to have been granted in 1266 by King Alexander the Third. The original is in Latin, and the following is a translation :—“Alexander, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to all good men of his whole land, churchmen and laymen, greeting. Know all men, present and to come, that, for the faithful service rendered to me, both in war and in peace, by Colin the Irishman, I have given, and, by this my present charter, have granted to the said Colin and his successors, the whole lands of Kintail, to be held of us and our successors in free barony, with ward. Rendering forinsec service, and fidelity. Witnesses—Andrew bishop of Moray, Walter Stewart, Henry of Baliol, chamberlain, Arnold of Campan, Thomas Dorward, sheriff of Inverness. At Kincardine, the 9th day of January, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our lord the king.”<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The original record is in Latin, and is as follows :—“Peregrinus et Hybernus nobilis ex familia Geraldinorum, qui proximo anno ab Hybernia pulsus apud Regem benigne acceptus, hucusque in curia permansit, et in praefato proelio strenue pugnavit.”

<sup>2</sup> The words in the original record are “de quo supra in proelio ad Larges, qui postea se fortiter contra Insulanos gessit, et ibi inter eos in praesidium relictus.”

<sup>3</sup> The following is the exact text of the original charter :—“Alexander Dei gracia rex Scottorum omnibus probis hominibus tocius

terre sue clericis et laicis salutem. Sciant presentes et futuri pro fidei servicio michi navato per Colinum Hybernum, tam in bello quam in pace, ideo dedisse et hac presenti carta mea concessisse dicto Colino et ejus successoribus, totas terras de Kintaille: Tenendas de nobis et successoribus nostris in liberam baroniam cum guardia: Reddendo servicium forinsecum et fidelitatem. Testibus Andrea episcopo Moraviensi, Waltero Stewart, Henrico de Baltho, camerario, Arnolde de Campania, \* Thoma Hostiario vicecomite de Invernes. Apud Kincardine, ix die Januarii anno regni domini Regis xvi.”

\* Other persons of the same name witnessed charters in the reign of King Alexander the Second, Waltero Campan. is a witness to an obligation by the Lord of Carrik in 1225, and Dominus R. de Campan. is present at an agreement between Henry de Eschirche and Alexander his brother, 1214-1249. [Registrum Episcopatus Glasguensis, Nos. 139 and 148.]

Both the charter and the fragment of the record of Icolmkill now quoted, are included in "The Genealogie of the Mackenzies preceeding the year 1661, written in the year 1669, by a Persone of Qualitie."

The author thus described is well known to have been Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, afterwards created Earl of Cromartie; and although the original manuscript of that work is not now known to exist, many copies of it, nearly contemporary, are treasured in Mackenzie collections, where it is always known as Lord Cromartie's History of the Mackenzies. The fact of his being the author is put beyond all question by another and ampler edition of the same work, which consists of 55 folio pages. It is chiefly in the handwriting of the secretary of the first Earl of Cromartie, being apparently made from a draft by his Lordship. The manuscript contains corrections in the handwriting of the Earl, and words are filled in with his own hand, particularly words in Latin, and names of persons and places which the copyist had been unable to decipher.<sup>1</sup>

As to the acquisition of Kintail, Lord Cromartie, in his History now described, thus explains it:—"The lands of Kintail wer at that tyme posest for the most part by MacMahon, which commonly is Englished Mathesones, and descended of the Vrsines or Fitzursils, and wer of the ancient inhabitants of Ireland. He had an only daughter, who married to this Colin, comander of the fort [Eilandonan], brought to him and his successors that heritadge of Kintail: this our tradition never doubted nor contraverted, but ever held as a true account from generation to generatione."

The editor of the "*Origines Parochiales Scotiae*" prints the charter from a copy of the seventeenth century, said to be in the handwriting of the first Earl of Cromartie, and he remarks:—"If the charter is genuine, it is not of Alexander the III., or connected with the battle of Largs (1263).

<sup>1</sup> Original History in MS. at Tarbat House.

Two of the witnesses, Andrew Bishop of Moray, and Henry de Baliol, chamberlain, would correspond with the sixteenth year of Alexander II.”<sup>1</sup>

The copies of the charter which exist differ in several particulars; and it is possible that in the frequent transcription, not always by skilful hands, errors have crept in, and thus led to suspicion of the original.

In Crown Charters of the thirteenth century, the regnal year is given as the date. The Christian year is rarely stated. When two sovereigns having the same Christian name reign in succession, and about the same number of years, and only date their charters by the years of their reign, it is not wonderful that the mistake occasionally occurs of attributing a charter of the one sovereign to the other. Even in the reigns of sovereigns much later than the Alexanders, especially of the Stuart Kings, five of whom of the name of James succeeded each other, charter scholars in our own day have sometimes fallen into error as to the sovereign by whom particular charters were granted, attributing a charter to one King James while it was granted by another of the same name. In the middle of the seventeenth century, when Lord Cromartie wrote his history, the means of ascertaining, by the names of the witnesses, and otherways, the true granter of a charter, and the date, were not so accessible as at present. The mistake of attributing the Kintail charter to King Alexander the Third, instead of King Alexander the Second, cannot be regarded as a very serious error in the circumstances.

The authenticity of the charter, however, has been questioned by Mr. Skene in his “Highlanders of Scotland,” on the ground that no one has ever declared that he has seen the original, and that it is a forgery of later times.<sup>2</sup>

With reference to the statement that no one has ever declared that he had seen the original charter, Mr. Skene appears to have been unaware of the

<sup>1</sup> *Origines Parochiales Scotiae*, vol. II. Part ii., p. 391.

<sup>2</sup> *The Highlanders of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 234.

fact that the charter is given *ad longum* by Lord Cromartie in his History of the Mackenzies. His Lordship says—"The first chartour of Kintaille is given by this King Alexander to this Colin, anno 1266. It being the first, I shall here relate its full tenor." He then quotes the charter as already given, thus specially taking his stand upon it as the foundation charter of the family in Kintail.

George Crawford in his "Peerage of Scotland," which was published in the year 1716, states that the original charter by King Alexander to Colin was then in the hands of the Earl of Seaforth, and was kindly communicated to him (Crawford) "by that noble lord and excellent antiquary the Earl of Cromarty." From these statements it seems clear that both Crawford and Lord Cromartie had in their possession what they believed to be the original charter; and the declaration of two such eminent charter scholars to that effect appears quite sufficient to obviate Mr. Skene's objection that the original charter had never been seen. Mr. Hector Mackenzie, in his history of the Mackenzies, states that he had seen and read the charter by King Alexander in "ane Register stile book doubled by unquhile Coline Mackenzie of Dalcoig, with many other charters belonging to that Family and Estate of Seaforth."

The Earl of Cromartie and George Crawford were both charter scholars, and well qualified to judge of the authenticity of an ancient charter. Many early Scotch charters had been studied by the Earl as Lord Clerk-Register, and also as a historical writer, and by Crawford as an explorer of charter repositories with reference to his county and family histories of Renfrewshire, his Peerage of Scotland, and his Lives of the Officers of State. Had the charter been such a "palpable forgery of later times" as represented by Mr. Skene, Lord Cromartie and George Crawford would doubtless have detected it. That they did not suspect its authenticity is shown by their having commenced their respective histories of the Mackenzie family with Colin Fitzgerald,

referring to the charter as their authority, and quoting its terms. These two witnesses to the existence of the charter in their day are as competent and unexceptional witnesses as could be adduced for the truth of such a fact.

That the charter of King Alexander, as well as the two unsuspected charters, the one by King David the Second in 1360, and the other by King Robert the Second in 1380, both referred to afterwards, are not now amongst the Seaforth muniments, is not surprising. A family who have had their muniments scattered by forfeiture, and who have been unable to retain their cherished inheritance of Kintail and the Lewis, might not be very solicitous for the preservation of the mere parchments of these estates. It is not private collections of charters alone that become impaired through loss or neglect: even the great public and national collections of Scotland, with all the advantages of officers and buildings, specially appointed for their proper preservation, have from time to time been lost, to such an extent that the mere catalogue of these missing charters fills a printed volume.

The other theory as to the origin of the Mackenzies is of a different character, and is based on a genealogical MS. of Highland families, now in the Advocates' Library in Edinburgh. It is a very old record, having been written in Gaelic about the year 1450, by an anonymous author, but supposed to be a member of the Maclachlan family, merely from the fuller notice of that family than any other in the MS. The part of the MS. referring to the Mackenzie family is thus translated—"The genealogy of the clan Kenneth: Murdoch, son of John, son of Kenneth, son of Angus, son of Christian, son of Adam, son of Gilleoin og, son of Gilleoin of the Aird."

Colin of the Aird, the progenitor of the Earls of Ross, who must have lived in the tenth century, and his son Colin, the younger, are represented as the ancestors of the Mackenzies of Kintail, who would thus have a native origin, and be a branch of the tribe of Ross. This supposed origin, if not so dis-

tinguished as the descent from the Fitzgeralds, is yet of high antiquity, as the Earls of Ross were among the most ancient of the Earls of Scotland. According to either of the conflicting theories, therefore, the Mackenzies have a very ancient and distinguished lineage.

Mr. Skene has urged very sweeping objections to the charter of King Alexander, and to the record of Icolmkill. His chief objection to the charter is that it merely grants the lands of Kintail to "Colinus Hibernus,"—the word Hibernus, he adds, having at that time come into general use as denoting the Highlanders, in the same manner as the word "Erse" is now frequently used to express their language. But to show how unsatisfactory such an objection is, reference may be made to a charter granted to an Irishman, as the owner of a large barony in another part of the Highlands, in the century following that of King Alexander. In the year 1342, King David the Second granted a charter, confirming one previously made in 1336 by Duncan Earl of Fife, to "John of Yrelande," Baron of Murthly, in the county of Perth. The Earl also granted a precept to the same John, who is called in it "John de Hibernia,"<sup>1</sup> just in the same way as his countryman Colin Fitzgerald, in the previous century, is called Colinus Hibernus in the charter of King Alexander. The Murthly charter is a very striking instance of an Irishman being indifferently styled of Ireland and Hybernus at the same time. The Gaelic manuscript on which Mr. Skene so much relies is in many respects quite fabulous. It is very meagre, and refers to no proofs. And, while it may be said to show the traditional descent of the Mackenzies at the early date at which it was written, its authority will be acknowledged with some hesitation when it is remembered that in tracing the descent of the Macdonalds, their genealogy is gravely carried back to Adam.

If the doctrine of *falsum in uno, falsum in omnibus* were to be strictly

<sup>1</sup> The Red Book of Grandtully, by William Fraser, 1868. Vol. i. pp. 1-2.

applied to such a document, it must be rejected as unreliable; and indeed Mr. Skene himself regards the earlier portions of it as apocryphal. "We may conclude," he says, "that previous to the eleventh century the MS. of 1450, and the Irish genealogies of the Highland Clans, are of no authority whatever."<sup>1</sup> That arbitrary line excludes Colin of the Aird as the Mackenzie ancestor.

Mr. Skene's opinion on a question of Highland genealogy is of high authority, and we desire to treat his theory with due respect. But we think that he dismisses the record of Icolmkill and the charter of King Alexander on insufficient grounds, and sets up as against them an anonymous Gaelic manuscript, a great part of which he proves to be fabulous.

Armorial bearings often assist in questions as to the origin of families, from the similarity of one coat to another; but in the case of the Mackenzies, the armorial bearings do not throw any light on the question of origin. The stag's head, which has been carried by the Mackenzies as early as can be traced, was no part of the Geraldine cognisance, nor of that of the Earls of Ross, of whom Colin of the Aird is said to be the progenitor. Lord Cromartie, in his *History of the Mackenzies*, thus accounts for the adoption of the stag's head:—

About the time of the granting of the charter of King Alexander, at Kincardine-on-the-Dee, the King was hunting in the forest of Mar. A hart pursued his Majesty, and would probably have injured him, if Colin Fitzgerald had not killed the animal with an arrow. For which cause the King granted to Colin a deer or hart's head passant, bleeding from a wound in the forehead, for his coat armour, supported by two greyhounds; the head in a field azure: which all descending from him have ever since carried.<sup>2</sup> In the second edition of his *History*, Lord Cromartie adds that the deer's head

<sup>1</sup> *The Highlanders of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 40.

<sup>2</sup> *History*, printed 1829, p. 3.

is corrupted by turning the wound to a star, and the blood to a tusk.<sup>1</sup> Engravings of two of the earliest armorial seals of the Mackenzies which have been found are here given. These are the seals of Colin Mackenzie of Kintail in 1585, and his son, Kenneth of Kintail, in 1597.



The royal hunt in the forest of Mar, and the incident of killing the stag at the critical moment for King Alexander, form the subject of a large picture, painted by Sir Benjamin West for Francis last Lord Seaforth. The painting is on a large scale, one of the "immense sheets of canvas" on which that eminent artist preferred to work. The canvas, indeed, nearly covers a wall of the drawing-room of Brahan Castle. The original sketch for the painting by the artist is also at Brahan.

For about a century after Colin Fitzgerald, little is known of the members of the Mackenzie family. The charters next in date are one by King David the Second in 1360, and another by King Robert the Second in 1380, both granted to Murdoch, the son of Kenneth of Kintail. The originals of these charters are not now known to exist. But the terms of them, as quoted in the early

<sup>1</sup> History MS., p. 3. Tusk is probably the Gaelic *duiseag*, a forelock.



histories of the family, are consistent with either theory of the origin of the Mackenzies, whether descended from Colin Fitzgerald or Colin of the Aird. Murdoch, the son of Kenneth of Kintail, is admitted to have been in possession of Kintail at the dates of these two charters.

The earliest charter now in the Seaforth Charter-chest in favour of a Mackenzie of Kintail, bears date 10th March 1525. It was granted by King James the Fifth, in favour of John Mackenzie of Kintail and Isabella Grant, his wife, of the lands of Fodarty, Strathgarve, and Killyn, in the earldom of Ross. From the Register of the Great Seal it appears that in 1509 James the Fourth granted a charter of Kintail to John Mackenzie, son of Kenneth Oig, who was the son of Alexander Mackenzie, owner of Kintail in 1463.

Colin Fitzgerald, by his wife, a daughter of Kenneth Macmahon or Matheson, had a son Kenneth, named after his maternal grandfather. The descendants of Kenneth, the son, were called by the Highlanders Macchainnichs, using the patronymic of Macmahon or Matheson, his mother, in preference to his father, Fitzgerald, whom they esteemed a stranger; and the name of Macchainnich was gradually softened to Macchennie and Mackenzie.<sup>1</sup> The fate of the valiant Colin, the strenuous armiger, was very unfortunate. Being a new settler in Kintail, the nearest kin of the Macmahons envied his succession to that old heritage, and attacked and killed him at a place beside the loch of Auchnahinach, called to this day Glac Chailein. In the middle of this loch there still remain the foundations of the old tower of the Mathesons. But the garrison of Ellan Donan, consisting chiefly of the Macraes and Maclellmans, valiantly defended it for their young master, and retained it for him.<sup>2</sup>

The first of the Mackenzie family who was raised to the Peerage was Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail, who, on 19th November 1609, was, by King

<sup>1</sup> This name has been very differently written: M<sup>c</sup>Canzie—M<sup>c</sup>Kanzie—Makkenze—M<sup>c</sup>Canze—M<sup>c</sup>Kenze—Makeainzie, etc.

<sup>2</sup> History by Lord Cromartie, printed, p. 4, MS. do., p. 3.

James the Sixth of Scotland, and then the first of England, created LORD MACKENZIE OF KINTAIL. He survived his creation for little more than a year, having died in the Chanonry of Ross, on penult February 1611, and it is quaintly recorded that he was buried in the Chanonry Kirk "with great triumph." He was succeeded by his eldest son, Colin, second Lord Mackenzie of Kintail, who, on 3d December 1623, was by the same sovereign created EARL OF SEAFORTH,<sup>1</sup> with limitation to him and his heirs-male. He was called Ruadh, or the Red Earl. He had no sons, but two daughters, by his wife, Lady Margaret Seton, daughter of the Lord Chancellor Dunfermline. The elder daughter, Lady Anna Mackenzie, was the Countess successively of Alexander second Earl of Balcarras, and of Archibald ninth Earl of Argyll. From her first marriage is descended the present Earl of Crawford and Balcarras, who is the heir of line of the Earls of Seaforth. Lord Crawford published, in 1868, an interesting memoir of his ancestress, Lady Anna Mackenzie.

To the Red Earl of Seaforth his brother George succeeded as second Earl, and on his death in 1651, the title of Seaforth was successively inherited by his son, the third Earl, and his grandson, Kenneth, fourth Earl. The latter followed King James the Second into France, and was created by him MARQUIS OF SEAFORTH. The Marquis died at Paris in January 1701, and was succeeded by his eldest son, William fifth Earl of Seaforth, who, having engaged in the Rebellion of 1715, was attainted by an Act of Parliament, and his estates forfeited to the Crown. Four years thereafter, the Earl of Seaforth returned to Scotland with a party of Spaniards, and made an attempt on behalf of the exiled Royal family of Stuart. He was wounded at the battle of Glenshiel, fought in a valley of that name, near Kintail, in

<sup>1</sup> Seafort was the original name, derived from a fort at the head of Loch Seafort, in the south-east of the island of Lewis, which then

belonged to the Mackenzies of Kintail. In Gaelic the loch is frequently spelt Shi-phoirt, which means harbour of refuge.

June 1719, but escaped abroad along with William, Marquis of Tullibardine, the Earl Marischall, and others.<sup>1</sup> King George the First was pleased to remit part of this attainder to the extent of relieving him from imprisonment and the execution of his person; and King George the Second also extended to him further concessions. He died in Lewis in the year 1740, having been supported by his faithful tenants and vassals from the rents payable by them, which could not be safely collected by those acting for the Government. In the year after his death, the Crown sold the Seaforth estates, including the barony of Ellandonan and others, for £25,909, 8s. 3½d., under burden of an annuity of £1000 to Frances Countess Dowager of Seaforth. This purchase was for the benefit of the Earl's eldest son, Kenneth, styled LORD FORTROSE, who, in the Rebellion of 1745, gave all his support to the Government. After his death in 1761, his only son, Kenneth Mackenzie, who was called the Little Lord, obtained from the Crown a Charter of the Seaforth estates.<sup>2</sup> For his loyalty, in 1766, he was created BARON OF ARDELVE,<sup>3</sup> in the county of Wicklow, and VISCOUNT OF FORTROSE in Ireland. In 1774 he was advanced to the dignity of EARL OF SEAFORTH, also in Ireland. Dying in 1781, without male issue, his titles became extinct. By an arrangement with his cousin and heir-male, Colonel Thomas Frederick Mackenzie Humberstone, the latter acquired, in 1780, the Seaforth estate for £100,000. Colonel Mackenzie Humberstone died unmarried, in the year 1783. He was succeeded by his brother, Francis Humberstone Mackenzie of Seaforth, who, on 26th October 1797, was created a British Peer, by the titles of LORD SEAFORTH and BARON MACKENZIE OF KINTAIL. He was an able and accomplished man, and did good public service as Governor of Barbadoes, and otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> At Brahan Castle there is a pen-and-ink sketch of the battle of Glenshiel, dated 1719. It is evidently by a Hanoverian hand, as it prominently represents the "Highlanders

running over the hill."

<sup>2</sup> Charter, dated 10th December 1763, at Brahan.

<sup>3</sup> There is an Ardelve in Lochalsh.

Lord Seaforth's four sons all died young, and he was succeeded by his eldest daughter, the Honourable Mary Frederica Elizabeth Mackenzie of Seaforth, who married, first, Admiral Sir Samuel Hood. Her second husband, the Honourable James Alexander Stewart, eldest son of Admiral Keith Stewart, third son of Alexander sixth Earl of Galloway, assumed the additional surname of Mackenzie. While residing at the Castle of Brahan, an ancient seat of the family, Mrs. Stewart Mackenzie exercised almost unbounded hospitality. Her eldest son is Keith William Stewart Mackenzie, now of Seaforth.

A sensational story, under the title of the Fate of Seaforth, appeared in a popular work,<sup>1</sup> in connection with Isobel Mackenzie, sister of the first Earl of Cromartie and Countess of Kenneth third Earl of Seaforth, and Kenneth Oure, the seer of the Mackenzies. The story, as told by the Ulster King of Arms, but without quoting any authority, is that the Earl of Seaforth had occasion to visit Paris, where he stayed longer than his lady liked. On consulting the seer as to her lord's occupations in Paris, she was told that he was enjoying himself with a fair lady of France. This so enraged the Countess that she immediately ordered the poor seer to be hanged. At his execution he foretold the downfall of the Mackenzies when a chief was born both deaf and dumb. But the actual execution by Isobel Mackenzie, Countess of Seaforth, of the prophetic warlock is as apocryphal as many of his own predictions. The loss of a million of money which the Seaforth family claimed to have undergone in the cause of King Charles the First did them more permanent injury than the predictions of their railing seer. Still many believed that one of those was fulfilled in the time of the last Lord Seaforth, who was deaf and dumb. Part of his gift land had to be sold, and about the same time the last of his four sons, William Master of Seaforth, a young man of talent, died suddenly at Warriston, near Edinburgh, in the autumn

<sup>1</sup> *Vicissitudes of Families*, by Sir Bernard Burke, 1863, pp. 268-281.

of 1814. Lord Seaforth himself, bereaved and broken-hearted, lingered till the month of January following. And thus the prophecy of Kenneth Oure (Gael. *Odhar, dun*) was supposed to be fulfilled,—

“Of the line of Fitzgerald remained not a male  
To bear the proud name of the Chief of Kintail.”

The Seaforth estates, as already mentioned, devolved on Lord Seaforth's eldest daughter, Lady Hood, who, according to her intimate friend Sir Walter Scott, had many of the qualities of a chieftainess. Alluding to her succession, on the death of all her brothers, Sir Walter says—

“To thine ear of affection how sad is the hail  
That salutes thee the heir of the line of Kintail.”

The remainder of Kintail, including Tullochard, or the burning mountain of the Mackenzies, has lately passed, by purchase, to a fortunate clansman, who is now Mackenzie of Kintail.

On the death of Lord Seaforth in 1815, as already mentioned, the male representation of the Mackenzies was claimed by George Falconer Mackenzie of Allangrange, who, on 15th October 1829, in virtue of his descent from the Honourable James Mackenzie of Lochsline, third son of Kenneth first Lord Kintail, was served heir-male, 1st, of Kenneth first Lord Kintail; and, 2d, of Colin first Earl of Seaforth.

The principal castle on Kintail was Donan, or Island Donan, an ancient fortress originally erected to resist the invasions of the Danes, and known on that account as the “Danting Isle.” It is situated on the western extremity of the parish of Kintail, and commanded Loch Duich and Loch Long, thus securing the country against attack by sea. At full tide, Donan is surrounded by the sea and formed into an island; but at low water it is

connected with the mainland. In his Cronykill, Wyntoun narrates that Randolph Earl of Moray, the Warden of Scotland, caused fifty rebels to be put to death, and their heads placed on the top of the castle walls.

In the year 1539, Donald Gorm Macdonald of Sleat, who claimed the Earldom of Ross and Lordship of the Isles, besieged the Castle of Donan. He was killed by a barbed arrow from the walls, and his followers were dispersed. Two years thereafter, in 1541, a remission was granted by King James the Fifth to the accomplices of Donald Gorm for their treasonable burning of the Castle of "Allanedonnane," and of the boats there.<sup>1</sup>

Donan was the rendezvous of the clan of the Mackenzies for war, the signal being given by lighting a bonfire on the lofty hill of Tullochard. And when the approach of an enemy has been announced, and the bagpipes have resounded to "Tullochard" or "Seaforth's Gathering," the hill-sides have been peopled with the "plaided warrior armed for strife."

After the battle of Glenshiel in the year 1719, the Castle of Donan was dismantled, and it still remains a ruin. Originally the castle is supposed to have consisted of seven towers. One side of a tower or keep, which was 80 feet high, remains, along with the ruins of the older buildings. Ellan-donan is now the property of Alexander Matheson, Esq. of Ardross, M.P. for the counties of Ross and Cromartie. His ancestor, John Matheson of Lochalsh, was constable of the castle, under the Baron of Kintail, when it was besieged by Donald Gorm in 1539. The defender of the castle was killed, as well as its besieger. Mr. Matheson has kindly furnished a photograph of a drawing of the ruins by Kenneth Macleay, R.S.A., from which the engraving here given has been made.

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 47.



ELLAN DONAN CASTLE,  
THE RESIDENCE OF THE BARONS OF KINTAIL.  
DEMOLISHED AFTER THE YEAR 1719







## THE TARBAT OR CROMARTIE BRANCH.

SIR RORIE MACKENZIE OF COIGEACH, KNIGHT, GRANDFATHER  
OF THE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE, 1574-1626.

SIR Roderick, or Sir Rorie Mackenzie, the first of Coigeach, was the second son of Colin Mackenzie of Kintail, and next brother of Kenneth first Lord Mackenzie of Kintail. The mother of Sir Roderick was Barbara Grant, daughter of John Grant of that Ilk and of Freuchie. From having acted for his nephew Colin, the second Lord, in his minority, Sir Roderick was commonly called the Tutor of Kintail, under which designation he is still well remembered in Ross-shire, and better known in history than by any of his territorial designations. He was successively designated of Culteleod, now Castleleod, Coigeach, and Tarbat.

Sir Rorie Mackenzie was the founder of the Tarbat branch of the Mackenzie family, afterwards Earls of Cromartie. The landed estates which he acquired still form the principal properties of the representative of the Cromartie family. On that account, and also on account of the main line of the ancient race of Macleod of Lewis being represented by Sir Rorie, and a large portion of their estates inherited by him through his marriage with the heiress of the Lewis, it is thought necessary to give some detail of the personal history of Sir Rorie himself, and of the family of Macleod.

Sir Rorie was probably born in or about the year 1574, as it is stated by

his grandson, Lord Cromartie, that he died in the year 1626, in the forty-eighth year of his age. The place of his birth has not been ascertained, but it was probably at one of the Kintail Castles then belonging to his father. Neither has the place where Sir Rorie was educated been ascertained. It is probable that it was at the University of Aberdeen, where several of the Mackenzie family were educated; but at whatever university he studied, he received a good education. Although from his position as an extensive proprietor in Ross-shire, and also in his capacity of Tutor of Kintail, as well as Tutor for the families of Macdonald and Maclean, it is certain that he must have had an extensive correspondence, only a single letter written by himself has been discovered. But that letter alone is sufficient to show that he was highly educated, and expert in business. The letter is addressed to his maternal uncle, the Laird of Grant, and is as follows:—

RICHT HONORABIL and Lowinge eime, my commendatiounes remembered, I merwell nocht a litle that ze suld preis to disapoint me of the gift of M<sup>c</sup>Intoisiche his ward and mariage, so far as the samyne extendis to the wedsett landis I haif of the barronerye of Culloddin, since ze knave werrie weil that it was zour vmquhill father that ingagit me in this bargane, for releiwinge of vmquhill M<sup>c</sup>Intoisiche out off the eminent danger my lord Enzie haid abone his heid, as ze and his haill freindis knawis; also ze promiseit to my lord Chancellor and my lord of Mar, in tym of the passinge of the Ward and mariage, that I suld be preferrit to my awin pairt therof, induring the nocht redemptioun of the landis, as my lord off Mar schewe zowe abefoir, and nowe hes wrettin to zowe be his letter, quhilk pleis receaue heirwith; Luikinge that accordinge to the desyr thairof, and to the trust that I haif in zowe as my freind, ze will let me haif assignatioun to my pairt of the waired, induring the nocht redemptioun of the wedsett landis, and to that effect subscriuwe the assignatioun I left with zour man, John Donaldsone, othervayis give ze do it is moir than I luikit for at zour handis, for as I haif schowin John Donaldsone, I will mak sum moir chairges to secure me alsweill be the richt that is in zour persone of the waired, as give the samyne wer in my awin. Bot all that ze will mak me deburs in this earand wilbe vpoun M<sup>c</sup>Intoisiche



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Ten Great George Street  
London

1850  
13

expenssis : bot I luik, sir, ze will, boith for M<sup>c</sup>Intoisiche his weill and myne also, nocht put me to this troubill. Sua to zour ansuer in the premissis committing zour worschip to God, I hairtlie taeck my leiwe, remaininge

Your worschipsis Lowing Eme, to be commandit,

S. R. M<sup>c</sup>KENZIEY of Cogaich.

Auldeirne, 2 Marche 1624.

[To my] Lowing Eme, Sir John Grant of Freuchie, knicht—theis.<sup>1</sup>

His armorial seal is still preserved on the letter, and represents the well-known *Cabar Fci* (Cabar Feidh), stag's horn, of the family, an engraving of which is given. While yet a young man, Sir Rorie obtained from his father the lands of Culteleod, in the parish of Fodderty. After obtaining these lands, Sir Rorie had the territorial designation of Culteleod, and the castle which he subsequently erected there in the year 1616 was one of his favourite residences. Culteleod includes within its bounds the lofty Ben Wyvis, the highest mountain in Ross, with its fabulous tenure of rendering to the Crown a snow-ball at Midsummer, as well as the beautiful valley of Strathpeffer, now crowded in the summer and autumn months with visitors, for its spa and its salubrity.



Through his marriage with Margaret Macleod, heiress of the Lewis, Sir Rorie obtained the barony of Coigeach in Lochbroom, and he was thereafter known under the territorial designation of Coigeach.

In ancient times Coigeach was famous as a deer forest. In the most ancient map of Great Britain, which was made before 1300, there is shown, in the north-west of Scotland, a district named Colgarth. A facsimile of that map, on a reduced scale, is given in the National Manuscripts of Scotland, Part III. No. 2. The early geographer indicates in the most general way the chief Earldoms of Scotland,—Mar, Buchan, Moray, Sutherland, Caithness, and Ross. Colgarth is represented as mountainous, and a stag is shown to

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter at Castle Grant.

betoken hunting, with the words "Hic maxima venatio," as in the engraving annexed. Mr. Innes, the editor, remarks that Colgarth is "without doubt



Coigeach." In reference to the deer and another marking on the map, "Hic habundant lupi," the editor states that the wolves are gone within the memory of man, but Coigeach can still boast of its red deer. The wolves, however, refer to Sutherland and not to Coigeach. Locally, Coigeach forms part of the Earldom of Ross, and from its position on the map it is almost certain that Colgarth cannot be identified with Coigeach, and Colgarth probably represents one of the Garths in Perthshire. Coigeach is at present chiefly in sheep farms, although there is still the considerable forest of Rhidorach. Formerly the family also possessed the neighbouring forest of Fannich, which was sold under the authority of a private Act of Parliament, obtained by the Honourable Mrs. Hay Mackenzie of Cromartie.

In the year 1502, a commission was granted by King James the Fourth to Alexander Earl of Huntly and others, to let the lands of Cogeach, Assent, and other lands that belonged to Torquell Makloid of Lewis, which were then in the King's hands through his rebellion. In 1508 the same King granted

to Odo Makky in Strathnavern, the lands of Assent and Ladocchogith, forfeited by Torquell Macloid for treason. In 1511 he granted the same lands and others, erected into the barony of Lewis, to Malcolm Makclode, son of the deceased Rory Makclode of the Lewis. On the 9th March 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ , the Lords of Council pronounced decree, finding that the lands of Coygach belonged to Eupham Countess of Ross; but as she resigned the Earldom of Ross into the hands of Robert Duke of Albany, Governor of Scotland, and received a new charter to herself and the heirs of her body, whom failing, to return to the Crown, and as the Countess left no heirs of her body, the Earldom became the property of the Crown.<sup>1</sup> In 1538 King James the Fifth granted to Rory M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd, heir of Malcolm deceased, the non-entry and other dues of the barony of Lewis, Wattirnes, Assent, and Coidgeach, from 1511 to a year following the date of the grant. In 1541 the King granted to Rodoric M<sup>c</sup>Loid of Lewis, and Barbara Stewart his affianced spouse, the barony of Coigeach and others, erected into the free barony of Lewis. In 1572, Rodoric Makclloyd resigned the barony of Cogeauch and his other lands, which King James then granted to his son and apparent heir, Torquil M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd, and his heirs-male, with remainder to Gillecillum Garwe M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Raisay, and his heirs-male, whom failing, to Torquil's heirs-male whomsoever; reserving the liferent to Roderick, on condition that neither he nor Torquil should commit any crime against the King.<sup>2</sup> In 1596 Torquil Macleod received from King James the Sixth a charter of Assint, Coigeach, Lewis, and Waternes, to him and his heirs, also on condition of remaining faithful to the King.<sup>3</sup>

Not long before his death in 1626, Sir Rorie acquired the lands and barony of Tarbat; but he very rarely adopted the designation by that estate,

<sup>1</sup> Acta Dom. Con., Lib. xxiv. fol. 186.

<sup>2</sup> Origines Parochiales, vol. ii. p. 409.

<sup>3</sup> Reg. Mag. Sig., Lib. xli. No. 145, dated at Falkland 10th August.

which became the territorial title of his son Sir John, and also the judicial and peerage designation of his grandson.

The marriage of Sir Rorie and Margaret Macleod, the heiress of Lewis, took place in the year 1605. The formal contract for the marriage was made at Dingwall on the 6th of May of that year.<sup>1</sup>

The parties to the contract are Rorie Mackenzie of Culteloid and Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail, his brother, on the one part, and Margaret Macleod, eldest daughter of Torquil Macleod of Lewis, on the other part. Rorie Mackenzie and his wife, Margaret Macleod, were cousins through a previous marriage of the Mackenzies and Macleods, namely, Ruari Macleod and Janet Mackenzie, daughter of John Mackenzie of Kintail, who was thus the common ancestor of Sir Rorie Mackenzie and his wife Margaret Macleod. With consent of Kenneth Mackenzie, his brother, as superior of the lands, Rorie Mackenzie became bound to infest Margaret Macleod, his promised spouse, in liferent in three quarters of the davoch lands of Ouchterneid, and in the half davoch lands of Inchvanie, and in the lands of Balmulloche and Little Usie.

Later in the same year Rorie Mackenzie obtained from Kenneth of Kintail, his brother, a charter to himself and Margaret Macleod, his spouse, of the lands and barony of Coigeach, reserving the liferent to Torquil Macleod and Margaret Nyne Angus Macallister, his spouse. And in the year 1608, Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail granted another charter to his brother Rorie of the lands of Coigeach, Culteleod, Inschrorie, and others; and that charter was confirmed by a Crown Charter under the Great Seal, dated 17th November 1609.

Torquil Macleod Connanach, the father of Margaret the heiress, had by his wife Margaret Nein Angus Macallister, who was a daughter of Macdonald of Glengarry, two sons and two daughters. The elder son was John, who

<sup>1</sup> Original Contract at Tarbat House.



was killed in the feuds as to the Lewis by Rorie Oig, one of his illegitimate uncles. The younger son Neill died of a burning fever at Coigeach. Both these sons dying without issue, their two sisters, Margaret and Elspet, became the heiresses of their father, Torquil Macleod Connanach.

Kenneth Lord Mackenzie of Kintail, the elder brother of Sir Rorie, did not long survive his elevation to the peerage in the year 1609, having died in March 1611, leaving a large family in minority, and his affairs in embarrassment. At considerable risk Sir Rorie undertook the office of tutor to his nephew, Colin, second Lord Mackenzie, and with great personal trouble succeeded in extricating his affairs, and handing the estates over to his nephew at his majority in a very flourishing condition.

The conduct of Sir Rorie as tutor to his nephew is thus extolled by his grandson, Lord Cromartie, in his history of the Mackenzie family :—

Rorie finding his brother's fortune under much debt, and the family necessarily involved in feuds and wars with Glengarry and the rebels in the Lewes, fearing that he should not overcome those difficulties, was loth to engage in the Tutory. But when all others refused to undergo the charge, he set resolutely to the work. The first he did was to assault the rebels in the Lewes, which he did so suddenly after his brother's death, and so unexpectedly to them, that what the Fife adventurers had spent many years and much treasure in, without success, he in a few months accomplished. For having, by his youngest brother, Alexander, chased Neil, the chief commander of all the rest, from the Isle, pursued him to Glasgow, where, apprehending him, he delivered him to the council, who executed him immediately. He returned to the Lewes, banished those whose deportment he most doubted, and settled the rest as peaceable tenants to his nephew, which success he had with the more facility, because he had the only title of succession to it by his wife, and they looked on him as their just master. From thence he invaded Glengarry, who was again re-collecting his forces, but at his coming they dissipat and fled. He pursued Glengarry to Blairy in Moray, where he took him : but willing to have his nephew's estate settled with conventional rights rather than legal, he took Lowcountrie men surety for Glengarry's peaceable deportment,

and then contracted with him for the reversion of the former wadsets which Colin of Kintail had acquired of him, and for a ratification and new disposition of all his lands formerly sold to Colin, and payed him 30,000 merks in money for this, and gave him a title to Laggan Auchindrum, which till then he possessed by force. So that Glengarry did ever acknowledge it as a favour to be overcome by such enemies, who over disobligements did deal both justly and generously.<sup>1</sup> Rorie employed himself thereafter in settling his pupil's estate, which he did to that advantage, that ere his minority past he freed his estate, leaving him master of an opulent fortune, and of great superiorities, for he acquired the superiority of Trouternes, with the heritable stewartry of the Isle of Skye to his pupil, the superiority of Rassay, and some other isles. At that time Macleod, partly by law, partly by force, had possessed himself of Sleatt and Trouternes, a great part of Macdonald's estate. Rorie, now knighted by King James, owned Macdonald's cause as an injured neighbour, and by the same mediums that Macleod possessed Sleatt and Trouternes, he recovered it from him, marrying the heir of it, Sir Donald Macdonald, to his niece, sister to Lord Colin, and caused him take the lands of Trouternes holden of his pupil.

From this explanation it will be seen how much of the old Macleod property of the Lewis and other baronies came to the Mackenzie family. Lord Cromartie valued his descent from the ancient race of Macleod; and when he was raised to the Peerage as Viscount Tarbat, and again as Earl of Cromartie, he took in both patents the baronial designation of Lord Macleod. His eldest son was styled Lord Macleod, and the eldest son of the third Earl of Cromartie was also styled Lord Macleod. Some account therefore of a race so closely connected with the Mackenzies is necessary in this memoir of one who, both by marriage and property, came to represent the ancient Lords of Lewis.

<sup>1</sup> The feud between the Macdonalds of Glengarry and the Mackenzies was of long standing. In the course of this feud, in 1603, in a raid of the Clanranald of Glengarry into Brae-Ross, occurred the burning of the church of Kilchrist, with the whole congregation in

it. While the church was burning, the piper of Glengarry marched round the building playing a pibroch, which has ever since been known, under the name of Kilchrist, as the family tune of the Clanranald of Glengarry.

The Macleods of Lewis and the Macleods of Harris were the two principal families of the surname. Both claim descent from Leod, son of King Olaus, and brother of Magnus, the last King of Man and the Isles of that Norwegian Royal race. Torquil was the ancestor of the race of the Island of Lewis, and Tormod of that of Harris. They were called Macleod, as the sons of Leod. Torquil's descendants inherited the Lewis for many generations; and the contest for the possession of that island, which was ended during the tutory of Sir Rorie Mackenzie, as related by Lord Cromartie, arose in this way.—Roderick or Ruari Macleod, Lord of Lewis, married Janet, daughter of John Mackenzie of Kintail, and Elizabeth Grant, his wife. The Laird of Kintail was the great-grandfather of the first Lord Mackenzie of Kintail. In the histories of the Mackenzie family it is stated that the wife of Ruari of the Lewis was Agnes Mackenzie, sister of the above John of Kintail; but it is proved that she was his daughter, from her son Torquil Macleod Connanach being called “oy” [grandson] of John Mackenzie.<sup>1</sup> Of that marriage there was issue one son, Torquil Macleod. He resided chiefly with his mother's relations at Brahan Castle, in Strathconnan, and came thus to be called Torquil Connanach. Around this Torquil there centres considerable romance; and the conflicts which ensued in reference to his paternity and his rights were as fierce as any on record of the many feuds between contending clans, or between different members of the same clan.

Janet Mackenzie, the mother of Torquil, is differently represented by the family historians. One report has it that she was ill-used by her husband, against whom she raised a suit of divorce, and that when she was escaping to Coigeach, her husband sent a large birlinn in pursuit of her, which ran down her boat, drowning herself and all the passengers.<sup>2</sup> Other historians represent

<sup>1</sup> Acts and Decrees of Session, vol. x. fol. 201.

<sup>2</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.

that the Lady of Lewis eloped with Gillechallum of Rasay,<sup>1</sup> and being married to him, had a family, and that her son Torquil was really the son of the Breve or Celtic judge of the Lewis, and was thus disowned by his father.<sup>2</sup> It is difficult, from these conflicting authorities, to extract the real truth.

Ruari Macleod of Lewis afterwards, in 1541, married Barbara Stewart, daughter of Andrew Lord Avandale, Lord Chancellor, who bore him a son, also Torquil, and surnamed Oighre, or the Heir, as he was designated to be, according to the wishes of his father. But the intentions of the father were frustrated by the accidental drowning of Torquil Oighre in a storm, when he was sailing from Lewis to Skye, in the year 1566.

Three years before this sad event, when Torquil the heir-apparent was probably about twenty-one years of age, and solicited in marriage to a daughter of one of his neighbour island chiefs, Queen Mary was induced to interest herself in reference to his marriage, and she desired him not to engage himself without her previous consent. One of the reasons adduced by the Queen was, that he had the honour to be of the Stewart blood. This, of course, refers to his mother, Barbara Stewart of Avandale. The letter was written from Inveraray, where the Queen was on a visit to the Earl of Argyll. It is in the following terms :—

Torquill M'Cloyd, we grete you wele. We ar informit that sum of the Ilis ar desirous to haue you allyat to thame be mareage. And becaus ye haue that honour to be of the Stewartis blude, we thocht expedient to gif you aduertisment that it is our will and plesour that ye allyat yourself to na party in mareage without our avys, and quhill we declair our opinioun and mynd to your self thairanent. Subscriuit with our hand at Inueraray, the xxiiiij of Julij 1563. Marie R.

The Queen interested herself not only in the marriage of the heir to the Lewis, but also in that of Mary Macleod, the heiress of Harris, the other

<sup>1</sup> Gregory's *Western Highlands and Isles*, and authorities referred to, pp. 210, 211.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Robert Gordon's *History of Sutherland*, p. 267.

Torquill m'clloyd now gone. You write, you are informed that some of the  
 friends are desirous to give you allyage to become be marriage. And to cause  
 you to have that you be not of the Stewart's blood. We have provided  
 to give you allyage that it is to be well. And please that you  
 accept your self to be allyed in marriage. Without to be allyed  
 and we are desirous of opinion to be allyed to you self to be allyed  
 Subscribed at Inveraray the 24th July 1563

MARY R



line of the Macleods,—the Siol Tormod, or Macleods of Harris. In 1562 Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail, by command of Her Majesty, delivered Mary Macleod, daughter and heiress of William Macleod of Harris, to the Queen. Mary Macleod was one of the maids of honour to Her Majesty from 1562 to 1565, although this is not generally known, and she is not mentioned in the popular but modern ballad of “The Queen’s Marie.”

The Earl of Argyll ultimately became the guardian of Mary Macleod, the heiress of Harris, and she was married to his kinsman, Duncan Campbell, younger of Auchinbreck.

Sir Rorie Macleod, the heir-male of the family of Harris, and cousin of Mary Macleod, the heiress, entered into a peculiar contract of fosterage for his son Norman. This contract is written in the Gaelic language, and being a specimen of a writing in that language, and of a contract of that nature, which is rare, it is here inserted:—

23 ʒo an t-achd aʒur an ceizal aʒ aʒpail maʒeoid aʒ taʒhaid  
 aʒhuc iodhon toʒmoid deom maʒ me Caʒmizh aʒur aʒe ʒo an t-achd  
 aʒ aʒpail ʒe aʒ aʒpail ʒe aʒ eom iodhon an leaʒaʒmh do bech aʒa  
 mhadao no ʒo ceizaidh ʒi ʒem ʒeap . ma ʒe eom iʒ ʒiʒiʒa ʒaʒhail . aʒhd  
 ʒeapmaʒhd ʒul m lemmh do bhech aʒ Alonʒhuc maʒ me Caʒmizh m  
 ʒad abhaid ʒi ʒan ʒheap da taʒhaid aʒur eomhlaʒch aʒur abheap  
 ʒeap h an leaʒaʒmh aʒ Alonʒhuc ʒem oʒm amaʒch leaʒ bheo ʒem aʒur  
 maʒh he abhaidap iodhon Domhail maʒ me Caʒmizh iʒ ʒaide ʒaʒhail  
 an diaʒh Alonʒhuc . aʒa m leaʒaʒmh aʒ Domhail maʒ m ʒeeʒa .  
 aʒur aʒa eud duʒe chlomme do dhilab aʒ maʒ leoid ʒo ʒe ʒiʒiʒ  
 iodhon e ʒem aʒur a maʒ eizhuc iodhon Eom maʒ ʒhe leoid aʒur  
 toʒmoid m daʒeap Eom maʒ ʒhe Caʒmizh aʒ Eom aʒur aʒ Alonʒhuc  
 maʒ ʒhe Caʒmizh aʒur aʒ Domhail maʒ ʒhe Caʒmizh aʒur aʒ  
 da maʒ Domhail ʒhe ʒiʒeaidh iodhon ʒuaidʒu aʒur ʒiʒeaidh  
 aʒur aʒ da maʒ Domhaidh ʒhe Domhail iodhon Eom aʒur Domhail

Ազար ար Երբան մաւ Գիւ Գիւրեծհաւի Նար ար Զիւլլեհաւան Գիւ  
 Չրբիւրբան Նար ԱՅ թո ան տրեւնի ծո շար Եոմ մաւ Գիւ Ըանուի  
 ար թիւն ան Լեմուի Եոբուս լոնոն շարիւ Լարաւա Նար և շարիւ  
 Եիւ ծո շար Գիւ Լեոն ար և թիւն Լե շար տր Լարաւա ծո Զիւլլ Թե  
 ծո անուի ծոնիւ Թե մաւ սիւն Ե Նար շարիւ Նար թարաւի թիւ նա  
 թարիւ Լարաւա թիւ տիւ Գիւ Լեոն ծոն Լարաւա լեւիւ ԱՅ Եոմ Գիւ  
 Ըանուի ծա շար ար Երբաւ ծա ծաւա Նար շարիւ Նար թարաւի  
 թիւ նա շարիւ Լարաւա տիւ Եոմ Գիւ Ըանուի ծա ծաւա լեւիւ ԱՅ  
 Գիւ Լեոն ծա շար ար Երբաւ ծո մար Ե շարիւ Նար ԱՅ թո նա  
 թարաւա ծա արիւ լոնոն Գիւրիւր Եոն Գիւ Գիւրիւր Եոն Գիւ Գիւրիւր  
 ծարաւուր Նար ծարաւ Գիւ թար Երբաւ Նար Եոմ Գիւ Ըանուի  
 Եոն Երբաւ Նար Եոմ Երբաւ ծարաւուր Եոն Երբաւ ծարաւուր Եոն  
 Երբաւ ծարաւուր Եոն Երբաւ ծարաւուր Եոն Երբաւ ծարաւուր Եոն

S 11 Գիւրեւոն

Եոմ Երբաւ ծարաւուր

մար թարաւուր

M<sup>r</sup> Ewin Mcquein witnessJo<sup>n</sup> McColgan witness

Donald Macquein witness

The following is a translation of the above Contract :—

This is the condition and agreement on which Mac Leod is giving his son namely Norman to John the son of the son of Kenneth, and this the condition on which he is with John, namely, if so be that John die first, the child to be with his wife until she get a husband for herself, but the guardianship of the child to belong to Angus son of the son of Kenneth so long as she is without a husband, and so soon as a man marries her, the child to be with Angus himself from that time forward during his life, and if his brother, namely Donald the son of the son of Kenneth be the longer liver after Angus, the child shall be with Donald in like manner; and Mac Leod has a son's share of the stock during the lifetime of three, namely himself, and his son the heir, namely John the son of Mac Leod, and Norman this foster-child of John the son of the son of Kenneth, against John and against Angus son of the son of Kenneth, and against Donald son of the son of Kenneth, and against the two sons of Donald the son of Murdoch, namely Roderick and Murdoch, and against the two sons of Duncan the son of Donald,



namely John and Donald, and against Brian son of the son of Murdoch : and against Gillecillum Mac Pherson : and this is the stock which John son of the son of Kenneth put in possession of the child Norman, namely four mares, and other four which Mac Leod put in his possession, along with three which he promised to him when he took him to his bosom ; and the charge and keeping of these seven mares which Mac Leod gave to the child shall be with John son of Kenneth, in order to put them to increase for his foster son ; and the care and keeping of the four mares which John son of Kenneth gave to his foster son shall be with Mac Leod to put them to increase for him in like manner ; and these are the witnesses to this, namely Mr. Ewen M'Queen minister of Diurinish, Donald son of black Paul, and John M'Colgan minister of Bracadale, and Turlough O'Morissy, now the eighth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and fourteen.

S. R. MACLEOD.

Turlough O'Morissy  
as witness.

Mr. Ewin M'Quein, witness.<sup>1</sup>

John M'Colgan, witness.

Donald M'Quein, witness.

After the death of Torquil Oighre, the heir-designate, without issue, his elder half-brother, Torquil Connanach, took up arms to maintain his rights as son and heir-apparent of his father. He was supported by his kinsmen, the Clan Kenzie. He was, however, stoutly resisted by his father Rorie and his followers, the Siol Torquil, or Macleods of Lewis. They were assisted by the Clandonald, under Donald Gormeson, who claimed to be the heir of the Lewis, in default, as he alleged, of lawful heirs of Rorie Macleod of Lewis. This claim was made by Donald in 1566. In the course of the feud, the old chief of Macleod was seized by his son, Torquil Connanach, and kept four years a prisoner. While in captivity, he was brought before John Earl of Mar, then regent, and compelled to take a new destination of his whole estates, including the Lewis, Assint, Coigeach, etc., to himself in life-rent, and to Torquil Connanach, as his son and heir, by a Crown Charter

<sup>1</sup> National MSS. of Scotland, Part III. No. 84.

under the Great Seal.<sup>1</sup> On Rorie's release he immediately revoked all he had done on the ground of coercion. The new regent, Morton, and the Privy Council effected a reconciliation between old Rorie Macleod and his son, whereby the son received the district of Coigeach and various other lands during his father's lifetime.

Rorie Macleod survived his second wife, and married, thirdly, a sister of Lauchlan Maclean of Dowart. Of that marriage there were two sons, Torquil Dubh and Tormod. Of bastard sons he had also several, Donald, Ruari Oig and Neill, Tormod Uigach and Murdoch, all come to man's estate. He again disowned and disinherited Torquil Connanach, and named Torquil Dubh as his heir.

After this ensued a contest for the possession of the Lewis, which was only terminated in 1613 by the Tutor of Kintail. In the course of that conflict father fought against son, brother against brother, and ruthless cruelties were perpetrated on either side. In the course of the contest John Macleod, son and apparent heir of Torquil Connanach, was killed by Ruari Oig, his bastard uncle, at Stornoway; Coigeach was ravaged by Torquil Dubh, who was himself betrayed into the hands of Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail, who caused him to be executed in 1597. In that year the island was forfeited to the Crown; and to complicate matters still further, in 1599 the King granted the island for colonisation to certain gentlemen of Fife, known as the Fife Adventurers. But Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail purchased from Torquil Connanach in 1605 all his lands, with reservation of the liferent to him and his wife. Kenneth of Kintail also arranged with his brother Rorie Mackenzie, who at that time married Margaret Macleod, Torquil's eldest daughter, to get Coigeach and certain other lands; and in like manner he purchased the rights of the Fife Adventurers, and obtained from the Crown a charter to

<sup>1</sup> Charter dated 14th Feb. 1571. Great Seal Register.

himself of the Lewis and other lands belonging to Torquil Macleod. Through that arrangement, Kenneth of Kintail ultimately succeeded in obtaining possession of the island. On 19th July 1610, Kenneth, then Lord Mackenzie, got a commission against the Lewismen, and speedily reduced them, with the exception of Neill Macleod, one of the natural sons of old Rorie of the Lewis, and a few of his followers, who carried on a desultory warfare till they were finally expelled by Sir Rorie Mackenzie, in his capacity of Tutor of Kintail, as already explained in the history by his grandson, Lord Cromartie.<sup>1</sup> The Island of Lewis continued to form part of the Seaforth estates till recent times, when it was sold by the Honourable Mrs. Stewart Mackenzie of Seaforth to Sir James Matheson, Baronet, who takes his territorial designation from the old Macleod inheritance of Lewis.

An interesting picture of the state of the islanders of the Lewis at a later period is contained in a letter by Mr. Zachary MacAulay, the Gaelic bard.<sup>2</sup> The letter refers to the collection of the rents in the Lewis, which the loyal tenants were still partly in the habit of paying to their former master, the forfeited Earl of Seaforth, in the same way as the tenants of Kintail had done. The letter is in the following terms :—

Stornova, February 22d, 1721.

GENTLEMEN,—Yours of the 16th January I received upon the eight of February. It's not practicable to convene the tennents of the Lewes att such a season as this ; but I shall take care that the contents of your letter be communicated to them all att their respective dwellings. I beleive yee know, without my information, that my Lady Dowager of Seafort meddled with cropt one

<sup>1</sup> Neill Macleod was executed in 1613. On 14th September 1614, Sir Rorie and Colin Mackenzie of Kintail got a licence for them and the vassals of Kintail to stay at home from assisting the Marquis of Huntly against Lochiel, then an outlaw, that they might use their whole force against the rebels of the

Lewis.—*History of the Mackenzies*, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.

<sup>2</sup> MacAulay is the author of "Iorram na Truaighe," a poem written in honour of Mackenzie, the laird of Kildun ; and of "Gliogram Cas," the air of which, under the name of Liggeram Cosh, was a favourite with Burns.

thousand seven hundred and fifteen, and Collonel Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie with cropts one thousand seven hundered and sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, and nineteen, either by himself, or his doers. None has meddled with cropt one thousand seven hundred and twentie.

For the ordinary method of payment of the Lewes rents, please know that the rental consists of four branches (whatever mistake Glenkindy might have been in), viz., money, meal, butter, and mutton. The three last branches were punctually received in their seasons. As for the money branch, ther was very little of it payed in cash. But in the monthes of October and November, cowes were raised and slaughtered, and the beefe sent to such mercats as the manadgers thought fit. Then in January, February, etc., aquavity was received for a considerable pairt of the money rent. In short, there was hardly anything the ground produced but was received in its season, and after all, a Whitsonday clearance, even for one cropt, was never yet gotten in the Lewes.

I know no effects now in season (or that can be expected before May or June) but meal or some aquavity, and for the meal, being it's a little dangerous to leave it in the hands of the tennents, and that others more responsible may need it, I'll make bold to raise as much of it as the tennents may handsomely spare, and be answerable att a day for it. The aquavity they may delay to your own arrival. The nixt product is milk cowes in the month of May. These for the most pairt may be sold within the Island. Therafter, in June and July, driving cowes. How to dispose of them, yee know much better than I.

As for resistance or disobedience, ther is no danger att all, ther being no spot of ground in Great Britain more effectually disciplined into passive obedience than the poor Lewes Island. But I can assure yee shall find one rugged hag that will resist both King and Government, viz., Poverty.

It's possible that this account from a person in my circumstances may seem disingenuous; but I only intreat that yee intertain no wrong impression that way, but suspend your judgements till time and your own experience determine the matter, and accordinglie pass your verdicts upon the report of

Gentlemen, your humble servant,

ZACHARY M<sup>c</sup>AULAY.<sup>1</sup>

To Mr. William Ross of Easter Ferne and Mr. Robert Ross, Bayly of Tane.

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Seaforth Forfeited Estates Papers in Register House, Edinburgh.

The rebellion of Sir James Macdonald as to the Island of Islay occurred in the year 1615. In the beginning the leaders were Coll M<sup>c</sup>Gillespie and Malcolm M<sup>c</sup>Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Leod, a son of Ruari Oig, one of the natural sons of Rorie Macleod of the Lewis. In these troubles the Tutor of Kintail was relied on to uphold the Government in the North Isles, as appears from the following entry in the Register of Privy Council:—

Apud Edinburgh, xvij Februarii 1615.

The quhilk day Sir Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Cleud of Hereis and Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Cogach, Tutour of Kintail, comperand personalie befor the Lordis of Secrete Counsell, promise that thay sall send present adverteisment and directioun, viz., the said Sir Rorie to his countreis landis and possessionis, and the said Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie to the Lewis, that nane of the rebellis of Yla, especialie Coill M<sup>c</sup>Gillespick and Malcolme M<sup>c</sup>Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Cleud, salbe ressett in the saidis boundis; and yf the saidis rebellis salhappin to come thair, that they sall hunt, followe, and persew thame with fyre and sword, as rebellis and traytouris to God, thair King and countrie. Lyk as thair was delyuerit to the said Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie ane proclamatioun prohibiting the ressett, supplie, and intercommvning with the saidis rebellis, and ane missive letter direct from the Lordis of Secrete Counsell to Donald Gorme of Slaitt, willing him to keepe his countrie and boundis clene and frie of the saidis rebellis, quhilk proclamatioun the said Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie promiseist to caus publishe, dewlie and ordourlie at the marcat croce of Inuernes and vtheris placeis neidfull in the north; as alsua he promiseist to send the missive foirsaid to the said Donald Gorme with diligence.<sup>1</sup>

During the time that Sir Rorie Mackenzie acted as Tutor of Kintail, he had intercommuned with the clan Gregor, then outlawed; though to what extent or in what form Rorie Mackenzie assisted them does not appear. But he was fined in the sum of £4000, on the 31st July 1613, "for his ressett, supplie, and intercommuning with the said Clangregour." This fine was paid by him, as appears from the discharge<sup>2</sup> granted to him by com-

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Sec. Conc. Acta penes Marchiarum et Insularum ordinem, 1608-1623, p. 148.

<sup>2</sup> Original Discharge, dated at Edinburgh 15th January 1614, at Tarbat House.

missioners having power under an Act of the Lords of Privy Council, dated 22d July 1613, to receive fines imposed for intercommuning with any of the clan Gregour. The discharge was to have the force of a free pardon, and is sealed with the Earl of Argyll's seal, as His Majesty's lieutenant against that clan.

Eleven years after his marriage, Sir Rorie Mackenzie built the mansion of Castleleod, which to this day still forms such a prominent feature in the beautiful landscape of Strathpeffer. The castle stands on the west side of the Strath, near the foot of a fine round-topped hill. The castle is five stories in height, exclusive of the attics. There are three bartizans on the south or front, and east and west sides. Above the principal entrance are three armorial stones, which still bear traces of the family arms having been carefully carved on them, although they are now much decayed, and in many parts so defaced by time as to be illegible. Two windows on the north side have initials and dates over them; the one R. M. K. 3 Agvs. and the other M. M. C. 1616. These stand for Roderick Mackenzie and Margaret Macleod, 3d August 1616, and show that the castle was erected by Sir Roderick. Like most old baronial keeps, its walls are of great strength and thickness, in many parts from seven to eight feet. It has four turrets, and numerous loopholes. The hall, which is of considerable height, has a fireplace upwards of ten feet long by five feet high, with stone seats at each end. The whole is built of red sandstone. Sir Rorie's will, which was made just before his death, is dated at Cultealeod.

Sir Rorie, who had now been knighted by King James the Sixth, with whom he was in much favour, having in the six years during which he continued tutor to his nephew managed his affairs with so much dexterity and success, that he left him in quiet and peaceable possession of a great estate, settled and quieted the Lewis, and ended the inveterate feud with Glengarry, next turned his attention to the settlement of the conflict between the



CASTLE LEOD.







CASTLE LEOD.



Macleans of Dowart and the Earl of Argyll, and also to subdue Macneill of Barra, who had been a source of great annoyance to the Government. Lord Cromartie in his History thus relates these matters :—

Shortly after that, he took the management of M'Lean's estate, and recovered it from the Earle of Argyll, who had fixed a number of debts and pretences on it. So by his means all the isles were composed and accorded in their debates, and settled in their estates, from whence a full peace ensued amongst the Islanders, M'Neill of Barray excepted, who had been an hereditary outlaw. Him, by commission, Sir Rorie reduced, took in his fort of Kisemull, and carried him prisoner to Edinburgh, where he procured his remission. The King gifted his estate to Sir Rorie, who restored it to M'Neill for a sum not exceeding his expense, and holding it of himself in feu. This Sir Rorie, as he was beneficial to all his relations, establishing them in free and secure fortunes, he purchased considerable lands to himself in Ross and Moray, besides the patrimony left him by his father, the lands of Coigeach and others, which, in lieu of the Lewes, were given him by his brother.

According to the account of the Historian of the Family, Sir Rorie captured Macneill by a stratagem common at that time.

The King being informed that Rorie Mackenzie was one of the most bold and resolute men in the north, and had the greatest management of the Highland chieftains, he resolved to try him. His Majesty received a letter from Queen Elizabeth complaining that one of his subjects, MacNeil of Barra, was constantly infesting her subjects in Ireland by his frequent piracies and robberies upon that coast, and therefore desiring that he would punish him according to his deserts. The King was pleased to honour Rorie with a letter, wherein he told of the complaint made by his sister, the Queen of England, against MacNeil of Barra, who, by his frequent piracies upon the coast of Ireland, very much incensed her; and if he could get him apprehended, and bring him a prisoner to Edinburgh, he should not only be rewarded, but likewise have his royal favour.

This was another opportunity for Sir Rorie to display his valour on behalf of the Crown. He provided a small bark, and having put on board a supply of wine, and a few men well armed and of approved valour, he sailed straight to MacNeil's house. An old writer gives the following description of MacNeil's island castle :—

“ The little isle of Kismul lies about a quarter of a mile from the south of this isle of Barray. It is the seat of MacNeil of Barra. Ther is a stone wall round, two stories high, reaching the sea, and within the wall is an old tower and an hall, with other houses about it. There is a little magazine in the tower to which no stranger has access. I saw the officer called the cockman (whose office is to stand on the top of the tower, and to give notice of all ships, barques, or boats that are comeing, and to bring a report from what port they came, and where they were bound). When I bid him ferry me over the water to the island, he told me he was but an inferiour officer, his business being to attend in the tower ; but if, says he, the constable, who then stood on the wall, will give you access, I'll ferry you over. I desired him to procure me the constable's permission, and I would reward him ; but haveing waited some hours for the constable's answer, and not receiving any, I was obliged to return without seeing this famous fort. But neither MacNeil nor his lady's being at home was the occasion of this.”<sup>1</sup>

The narrative of the expedition to Barra is thus continued :—

“ Mr. Rory being arrived at this island with his barque, he appeared in the habit of a skipper, attended only with a few seamen, keeping all his other men concealed under the hatches. The cockman being sent to bring the skipper to MacNeil, he most willingly obeyed the message, and, being brought befor him, payd him all manner of respect, and told him that he had come from Norowj and was bound for Ireland, and that in his voyage he had met with a French ship, from whom he had bought some brandy and wines, as good as ever came from France, and that if his honour would be pleas'd to come on board of him to taste them, so that he might satisfy himself, he might command what he pleas'd. The proposal was accepted, and MacNeil went on board with his ordinary guard, for ther only appeard on board of the ship two or three mariners, and some ship boys, being what was only necessary to sail the ship. When they were on board

<sup>1</sup> Description of the Western Islands, by Martin, as quoted by Dr. George Mackenzie.

he entertain'd them for some time in the cabine with the tasting of the liquors ; but at length, upon a signal, the hatches were open'd, and his men rushing in upon them, made them all prisoners, and the ship being immediately put under sail, he carryd him straight to Glasgow, and from thence to Edinburgh, where he presented him befor the King. The whole Court were enamour'd with him, for he was a very tall, well-favour'd man, haveing a long gray beard reaching to his middle, and of such a reverend aspect as challeng'd a due respect from all that saw him. Being examin'd, amongst other things the King desird Mr. Rory to ask at him, for he could speak no English, what moved him to commit so many pyracies and robbrys upon his sister, the Queen of England's subjects in Ireland, since he was a gentleman that had a sufficient competency in the world to sustain him and his family ? He answered to this, that he never thought that he could have offended his Majesty by creating all the trouble and uneasiness he could to a woman who had murdered his mother ; which being reported to the King, he rose up and said, 'The devil take the carle. Rory, take him with you again, and dispose of him and his fortune as you please.' And accordingly he sent him home to his own house, only he obliged him to hold his lands of him as his superior, and to pay to him, as such, 40 pounds per annum, and a hawk, if requir'd, and the assistance of his men, when required, in any extraordinary occasions. And this Mr. Rory and his son kept all their lifetimes, but the late Earl of Cromarty transferred it to Sir Donald Macdonald of Slate."<sup>1</sup>

Sir Rorie obtained a Crown Charter of the lands of Torresay, etc., which formerly belonged to Hector Maclean of Dowart, erected into the barony of Dowart 11th April 1617. In the beginning of the same month Rorie Mackenzie received a commission from King James the Sixth and the Privy Council, stating that whereas the King had granted him infetment of the lands and Isles of Mull, Morverne, and Terey, that formerly belonged to Hector M'Clayne of Dowart, and that he must now be answerable for the inhabitants of the same, and make them obedient to law, order, and justice, and understanding "that it wilbe a mater verie hard and difficle for the said Rorye to reclayme the saidis inhabitantis fra these barbarous, rude, incivile,

<sup>1</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.

and godles formes whairin thay haiff levit thir mony yeiris bigane," unless he were authorised with a warrant and commission; and also, understanding "the goode dispositioun and inclinatioun of the said Rorye, and how that he is most willing to bestow his panes, trawellis, and best endevoiris to establishe religioun, peace, justice, and quietness within the saidis boundis," and therefore appointing him commissioner and justice within these bounds; to resort thereto with a sufficient force, make acts and ordinances, apprehend criminals and put them to assize, and if convicted, minister justice on them, etc. And in case of any insurrection being made "aganis our souerane Lord and his auctoritie, or aganis the said Rorye himself, to frustrat and hinder his Maiestie's seruice committit to the said Roryis chairge," with power to him to convocate the lieges in arms, to hunt, follow, and pursue with fire and sword the authors of the rebellion, till it should be finally settled and suppressed, to besiege strengths and houses, "and to raiss fyre, and vse all kynd of force and weirlyke ingyne that can be had for wyning and recouerie thair of." Dispensing with whatsoever "slaughter, mutilatioun, fyre raising, or vtheris inconvenientis that salhappin and fall oute in the executioun of this commissioun." The commission, dated 3d April 1617, was to last for a year.<sup>1</sup>

With his usual success in reducing the disobedient islanders to peace, Sir Rorie Mackenzie, in the short space of less than two years, brought the unruly inhabitants of Mull, Morverne, and Tiree to be loyal subjects, and more than that, he generously restored to the Macleans the right in these islands, which had been granted to himself, having resigned them in favour of his nephew, Hector Maclean, apparent of Dowart.<sup>2</sup> Sir Rorie also resigned, in the hands of the Bishop of the Isles (of the patrimony of which bishop the lands of the abbacy of Iona formed a part), the lands of Schabbay, and

<sup>1</sup> Reg. Sec. Conc. Acta penes Marchiarum et Insularum ordinem, 1608-1623, p. 228.

<sup>2</sup> Extract Procuratory of Resignation, dated 12th August 1623, at Tarbat House.

others in the Island of Mull, and also the isle of Iona, in favour of Hector Maclean, son of Hector Maclean, sometime of Dowart.<sup>1</sup>

Besides acting as tutor for his nephew, the Earl of Seaforth, Sir Rorie was also tutor for the families of Macdonald and Maclean, and in these offices he displayed a great capacity for business.

In the latter part of his life Sir Roderick acquired many lands. He obtained a Crown Charter of the Island of Barray on 16th July 1621. In 1623 he purchased the lands of Easter Aird, Easter Tarbat, Downielarne, and Meikle Tarrell from George Monro of Tarbat, eldest son and heir of George Monro of Meikle Tarrell, for 110,000 merks. Downielarne was to be held of the Earl of Rothes, for payment of £2 Scots and two hunting dogs, and the keeping of them so often as the Earl should go to hunt with the King within Ross.<sup>2</sup> Tarbat had been only a short time in possession of Monro of Tarrell, who acquired them from the old possessors, the Dunbars of Tarbat. On 31st March 1610, George Monro of Meikle Tarrell obtained a charter of the lands of Easter Tarbert, and fishings thereof, from James Dunbar of Tarbert. Sir Rorie obtained a decret from the Lords of Session, on 17th July 1624, against James Dunbar, grandson of the deceased James Dunbar of Tarbert, for delaying to resign in his favour the north half of the lands of the davoch of Easter Tarbert, whereby the Lords decern the defender to resign the lands. James Dunbar, fiar of Hemprigs, is charged by letters at the instance of Sir Roderick M'Kenzie of Coygeach, to enter his person in ward within the Tolbooth of Edinburgh, to remain there at his own charges till order should be taken with him touching his presenting "ane hagbuit" at the said Sir Roderick. That charge was given under the Signet, 1st August 1623. But whether the assault complained of had anything to do with the

<sup>1</sup> Procuratory of Resignation, dated 12th August 1620, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Extract Registered Disposition, dated at Nairn 17th May 1623, at Tarbat House.

acquisition of Tarbat from the Dunbars does not appear. The lands of Tarbat consist of Easter and Wester Tarbat, in the parish of that name. Easter Tarbat now belongs to Mr. Macleod of Cadboll, and Wester Tarbat, which is commonly called Seafield, is the property of Mr. Murray of Geanies.

Sir Rorie had a dispute with George Monro of Tarrell as to the marches between the lands of Coigeach, etc., and Drumvaich and Breinletter, belonging to Monro. That dispute was amicably settled by contract in 1618; and the contract is renounced by Monro in Sir Rorie's favour in 1625, he having bought the lands of Drumvaich and Breinletter.

In the latter part of his life Sir Rorie had a difficulty with his ward, now considerably past his majority. In 1625 he raised a summons against Colin Earl of Seaforth, narrating the disposition by Kenneth M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Kintail in favour of Sir Rorie (then of Culteleod) of the lands of Inchveandie and Ochterneid, and mill called Tympanmill, and two other contracts between the said parties, charging the said Colin to compear before the Lords of Council to see these contracts registered in the Books of Council and Session, that Sir Rorie might have action against him for implement of the same.<sup>1</sup>

According to a contemporary authority, although Sir Rorie Mackenzie made great exertions to preserve the Lewis for his nephew, Lord Mackenzie, he had ultimately desired to possess the island himself, in exchange for his barony of Coigeach. But this was refused by his nephew, who retained the Lewis.<sup>2</sup>

Sir Rorie is still remembered in Ross-shire as a man of great bravery, and many anecdotes are told of him. His valour is extolled by Simon Lord Lovat, who was his great-grandnephew, in a letter to the third Earl of Cromartie. Lord Lovat promised a visit to the Earl at Castleleod, and to bring with him the

<sup>1</sup> Summons, dated 8th November 1625, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Supplement to the History of the Feuds and Conflicts among the Clans.





SIR RORIE MACKENZIE OF COIGEACH, KNIGHT.  
BORN 1574 — DIED 1626.



triumphing sword of his great and worthy ancestor, and his own great-grand-uncle, Sir Rorie, Tutor of Kintail. Lord Lovat had the sword ready to go along with him. He designed to brush and dress it up, but he was advised to keep it in the old rusty dress it was in till he put it in Lord Cromartie's hands.<sup>1</sup>

The following tradition of Sir Rorie and his sword is current in Ross :—

The Tutor had occasion to visit Edinburgh in the interest of his ward, Seaforth, and, while passing with his retinue through Athole, he was challenged by a band of Athole men for doing so without leave from the lord of the land. The Tutor dismounted, and quietly proceeded to look out for a smooth stone, on which he began to sharpen his claymore. The Athole men kept at a safe distance, and their spokesman interrogated him what he was doing there. "I am going to make a road," was the ready answer. "You shall make no road here," was the defiant rejoinder. "Oh, I don't seek to do so, but I shall make it between your master's head and his shoulders if I am thus hindered from pursuing my lawful business." The Athole men sought no further parley, but retired; and on reaching their Lord they recounted what had occurred, when he remarked that they must have encountered one of two personages—the devil, or the Tutor of Kintail. "Let him have a free path by here for ever."

The following proverb is also still current :—

There are two things worse than the Tutor of Kintail : frost in spring, and mist in the dog-days—*Reothadh chéitwin agus ceo 'san iuchar.*

By his marriage with the heiress of the Lewis, Sir Rorie had six sons and one daughter :—

1. Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat, who succeeded him.
2. Kenneth Mackenzie of Scatwell, in the parish of Contin, who married, first, a daughter of Sir Robert Munro of Fowlis, by whom he had

<sup>1</sup> Letters, vol. ii. p. 284.

one son and three daughters. Secondly, Janet, daughter of Walter Ross of Invercarron, by whom he had several sons and daughters. He died in Kinlochluichart, the 3d of March 1662, and was buried at Dingwall. A descendant of Kenneth was created a Baronet, and the present representative of the Scatwell branch is Sir James John Randoll Mackenzie, Baronet. His heir presumptive is Captain Mackenzie of Findon and Mount Gerald, in the county of Ross.

3. Colin Mackenzie of Tarvey, in the parish of Contin, who married Alexander Mackenzie of Gairloch's eldest daughter, widow of John Mackenzie of Lochslin, by whom he had two sons and three daughters. He died at Kinellan, and was buried at Dingwall.
4. Alexander Mackenzie of Ballone, in the parish of Lochbroom, and county of Ross, who married the daughter of Hugh Fraser of Culbockie, widow of Kenneth Mackenzie of Inverlawl, and had issue. His son Alexander succeeded him in Ballone. His eldest daughter, Jean, married Simon, second son to Simon Mackenzie of Lochslin. The contract of marriage is dated December 1663.<sup>1</sup> His youngest daughter married Master Rorie Mackenzie of Kilmuir. He left a natural son called Colin, who was chamberlain to the Lord Tarbat. As fourth son of Sir Rorie Mackenzie of Coigeach, Alexander granted a disposition to Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat, of Auchadaschaid, 24th June 1637. This Alexander died at Munloch in 1645, and was buried at Dingwall. Alexander Mackenzie of Ballone was served heir of Alexander Mackenzie of Ballone, his father, who died in March 1726, in the superiority of Cullnichmeanoch, etc., in the earldom of Ross, on 28th June 1733 [Cromartie Writs]. The estate of Ballone was sold by the Mackenzies, and it now forms part of the estate of Braemore.
5. Charles, who died unmarried at Chanoury in 1629, and was buried at Dingwall.
6. James, who died unmarried at Inchrorie, in the year 1647, and was buried at Dingwall.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Original Contract at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> History of the Mackenzies, by John Mackenzie of Applecross.

Sir Rorie had one natural son, called Mr. John Mackenzie, archdean of Ross, whose

sons were Rorie, Colin, Kenneth, George, Alexander, and James, and a daughter married to Murdo M'iver in Leckmelme. Mr. John Mackenzie died at Tarrel in 1666, and was buried at Tarbat.

Sir Rorie's daughter, Margaret, married Sir James Macdonald of Slate. Their contract of marriage is dated 23d February 1633, and Sir John, her brother, gave her a tocher of 15,000 merks.<sup>1</sup>

Dame Margaret Macleod, Lady Coigeach, survived her husband, Sir Rorie, many years. She married, secondly, Thomas Fraser of Strichen, ancestor of the present Lord Lovat, before 15th July 1643. Dame Margaret Macleod, sometime spouse of the deceased Sir Rorie M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Coigeach, Knight, and now relict of Thomas Fraser of Strichen, granted an assignation to her grandson, George M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, son of Sir John, of 800 merks, payable to her yearly during her life, by Sir John M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Tarbat, Knight Baronet, furth of Kenneth M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Scatwell's rents, conform to contract in her favour.<sup>2</sup> Dame Margaret Macleod was living on 10th March 1651, when she entered into a contract with her eldest son, Sir John.

Sir Rorie Mackenzie, having fallen into fatal illness, made his latter will and testament on the 22d September 1626, in the following terms :—

#### LEGACIE.

Seing thair is nothing moir certane nor deathe, and nothing moir wncertane nor the hour thairof, I, Sir Rodrick M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Cogaich, knicht, being waik and sick in body, bot haill in spreit, sensis, and memorie, committis my sawill to the omnipotent God, and my bodie to be bureit in the kirk zeard of Dinguall, at the eist gewill of the kirk thairof. Att whilk place I ordaine Johne M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, my eldest sone and appeirand air, and Dame Margarat M<sup>c</sup>Claud, my spous, to caus build ane lairge and fair Iyle or chappell, weill wowitz abone, and theckit with hewin stoine. Item, I nominat and ordaine the said Johne M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, my said sone and appeirand air, my only executour testamentar, and vniuersall intromitour with my haill goodis and geir ; and ordaines the said John M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie and the said Dame Margarat M<sup>c</sup>Claud, my spous, to giue wp the just and perfyt Inventar of my haill moueabill goodis and geir whilk is left furth out of this my testa-

<sup>1</sup> Extract Contract of Marriage at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Original Assignation, dated 22d September 1647, at Tarbat House.

ment. Item, mair, I nominat, leawe, and ordaine Maister Collene M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Kinnoek, Mr. Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Culcowy, and Johne M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Fairburne, tutouris testamentaris to Kenneth, Collene, Alexander, Charles, James, and Margarat M<sup>c</sup>Kenzies, my bairnes. Item, mair, I leawe to the said Dame Margarat M<sup>c</sup>Claud, my spous, the haill scheip and goat in my possessioun, togidder with the number of tua bowis of ky. Item, mair, I leaw the vse of all the insicht and plenishing presentlie standing within my duelling place of Tarbat, to the said Dame Margarat M<sup>c</sup>Claud, my spous, to be vseit be hir duiring all the dayes of hir lyf tyme, schoe finding sufficient caution and souertie that the samen salbe furthcumand to the aires lauffull gottin betuix me and hir, whensoeuer thay pleis requier the samen, efter hir deceas, when it sall happin. Exceptand and reserwand alwayes out of this nominatioun, the haill boirdis, dressouris, formes, copal moreis [large cupboards], standing beddis, and vther fixit wark within my said duelling place.

Debtis awand to me, the said Sir Rodrick M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, be the persones efter following :—

Item, in the first, restand awand to me wpone band be Duncane M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, lauffull sone to Hectour M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Wester Fairburne, the sowme of tuelf hundreth markis mone.

Item, mair, restand awand to me, conforme to ane vther band (maid in favouris of Archibald Elliot, serwitour to the eirll of Melros, whais name was borroweit thairto) be Hectour M<sup>c</sup>Lean, younger of Dowart, the sowme of four hundreth markis mone.

Debtis awand be me, the said Sir Rodrick M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie to wtheris :—

Item, in the first, restand awand be me, conforme to ane obligatioun to Sir James Reid, knicht, the sowme of saxtene thousand pundis mone.

Item, mair, restand awand be me, conforme to ane vther band to James Dunbar of Boigis, the sowme of ten thousand markis mone.

Item, mair, restand awand be me, conforme to ane vther band to James Rea, merchand, burges of Edinburgh, the sowme of ten thousand markis mone.

Item, mair, restand awand be me, conforme to ane vther band to Margarat M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, my eldest lauffull dochtter, the sowme of ten thousand markis mone.

Item, mair, restand awand be me, conforme to ane vther band to Mr. John M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, my naturall sone, the sowme of thrie thousand markis mone.

This was done att Cultealeod, wpone the tuentie tua day of September J<sup>m</sup> vj<sup>c</sup> tuentie sax zeires, in presens of Johne M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Ord, Murdo M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Mellabost, Ronald Bayne, burges of Dinguall, Kenneth Bayne, burges of Dinguall, and Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Ley, notar publict, wrytter heirof, witnessis heirto, askit and requeirit.

Sir Rodrick M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, with my hand lead at the pen be the notar vnder-writtin, specialy requeirit be me heirto, becaus I can not wryt my self, in respect of my waiknes in body. De mandato dicti domini Rodorici M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie scribere nescientis, vt asseruit, ego Alexander M<sup>c</sup>Ley notarius publicus in premissis requisitus subscribo. Johne Mackenzie of Ord, vitnes; Ranald Bane, burges of Dinguale, vitnes; Kenneth Baine, vitnes. [Original will at Tarbat House.]

Soon after making his will, Sir Rorie died at Castleleod, in the forty-eighth year of his age, and he was buried at Dingwall. Though so young a man, we are told by his grandson, Lord Cromartie, that his death was regarded as a great public calamity.

*His will was made of equity*

*HIC*



SIR JOHN MACKENZIE OF TARBAT, BARONET, FATHER OF THE  
FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE, 1608-1654.

ON the death of Sir Rorie Mackenzie in 1626, he was succeeded by his eldest son, John Mackenzie, who took the designation of Tarbat. He was then under age, as he had tutors in August 1628.

The hereditary title of Knight-Baronet was first instituted by King James the First in 1611, for England, and was extended to Ireland in 1619, for the purpose of promoting the plantation of Ulster. The order was extended to Scotland by King Charles the First, on his accession in the year 1625, with the view of furthering the plantation of Nova Scotia.

Two years after his succession to his father, and on his attaining majority, the young Laird of Tarbat was created a Knight-Baronet of Nova Scotia by King Charles the First, in 1628, and was thereafter known as Sir John Mackenzie, Knight-Baronet, of Tarbat. As Sir John was then a young man, and had not yet had an opportunity of gaining distinction for himself, it is presumed that the honour was conferred on him for the services rendered by his father, Sir Rorie, in quieting and civilising the Northern Highlands and Islands.

Part of the arrangement made on the creation of the earlier Baronets of Nova Scotia was, that along with the honour of Knight-Baronet, they also received a grant of territory in Nova Scotia, which was erected into a barony generally corresponding in name to one held by the grantee in Scotland.





SIR JOHN MACKENZIE, FIRST BARONET OF TARBAT.

BORN 1608 — DIED 1654



Sir John Mackenzie received a Royal grant of a tract of land in the new colony, extending to 16,000 acres, situated on the north of the gulf of Canada, to be called the BARONY OF TARBAT. That grant is dated 21st May 1628, and he was infeft in it at the Castle of Edinburgh, the place appointed for infeftments in the Baronies of Nova Scotia, on 13th February 1630. It is in favour of Sir John and his heirs-male and assignees.<sup>1</sup>

The grant of the lands to Sir John Mackenzie proceeded upon the resignation of Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, afterwards Earl of Stirling, secretary of state for Scotland to King Charles the First.<sup>2</sup> The Earl was the chief promoter of the colonisation of Nova Scotia, and received from the King a large tract of country there, for the plantation of Nova Scotia; and portions of it were given off to the Baronets as they were created.

In 1629 Sir John married Margaret Erskine, younger daughter and co-heiress of Sir George Erskine of Innerteil, in the county of Fife. Sir George was a younger son of Sir Alexander Erskine of Gogar, brother of John, the first Erskine Earl of Mar, Regent of Scotland. The elder brother of Sir George was Thomas first Earl of Kellie. Sir George Erskine was educated by George Buchanan, the famous classic scholar, along with King James the Sixth. In 1617 Sir George Erskine was made one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and he took the judicial designation of Lord Innerteil. He continued on the Bench till his death in 1646. By the contract of marriage of Sir John and Margaret Erskine, which is dated 25th July 1629, Lord Innerteil gave his daughter a tocher of 20,000 merks.

Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat entered zealously into the early measures taken against the policy of Archbishop Laud in imposing the Service-book on the Scottish Church by the King's prerogative. Even in his own parish

<sup>1</sup> Sasine, recorded in General Register of Sasines 15th March 1630, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Original Resignation, dated 27th September 1628, at Tarbat House.

there was a miniature contest going on, which serves to illustrate the apparently simple causes that afterwards resulted in the conflicts of the civil war. The Court of High Commission was established in 1634, the chief end of which was to put down all opposition to the Episcopal establishment, and the further changes contemplated by the King and his ecclesiastical advisers. One of the members of that Commission was Mr. Thomas Mackenzie, minister of Tarbat, afterwards Laird of Inverlawel, in Ross. In the following year, 1635, the minister of Tarbat was forced to desert his cure, from the opposition of his parishioners to his introducing the Liturgy. In this opposition Sir John Mackenzie appears to have concurred with the rest of the parishioners. In the famous Assembly of the Church of Scotland, held at Glasgow in 1638, Sir John was one of the ruling elders for the Presbytery of Tain. Sir John was a Covenanter; and the Mackenzies are mentioned, along with Forbeses, Frasers, Grants, M'Cayes, Macintoshes, M'Laines, Macdonalds, Irwines, Innices, and all the Campbells to a man, as being zealous subscribers of the Covenant.<sup>1</sup> The lay elders at this Assembly numbered about 100, and the ministers 140. Among the laymen were the Earls of Home, Lothian, Cassillis, Eglinton, Rothes, Montrose, and Wemyss. It was at that Assembly that Archibald Lord Lorne made his first appearance, and, his father having died during the Assembly, he became Earl of Argyll. He boldly assisted the cause of those who continued the proceedings of the Assembly. Sir John Mackenzie took a considerable share in the business of the Assembly, and especially in the measures for abolishing the order of bishops in the Church.

In the fifth session of the Assembly, which was held on Monday the 26th of November, Mr. Thomas Mackenzie, who had been translated from Tarbat to Killearnan, came with a commission from the Chanonry of Ross.

<sup>1</sup> Letters and Journals, by Principal Robert Baillie, Letter dated July 22, 1638.

It was rejected, on the protest of Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat against it. On the rejection of his commission, Mr. Thomas Mackenzie next gave in a protest against ruling elders, affirming them to have no warrant in Scripture, example of antiquity for 1500 years, without any ground or reason, in respect of their ignorance and insufficiency for such an office. Both the Royal Commissioner Hamilton and the Earl of Rothes craved instruments of the protestation. At the reading of Mr. Thomas Mackenzie's protest, Mr. Andrew Ramsay got up, as an old writer says, "like a little cock on a form," opposite the Commissioner, and with great confidence undertook to prove by Scripture, reason, antiquity, practice of foreign and reformed kirks, and of the Assemblies of the Scottish Kirk, the lawfulness and practice of the office of ruling elder. The protest was rejected, and Lords Rothes and Lothian protested in respect of the infamous calumnies on the nobility and gentry. Mr. Thomas Mackenzie was ultimately deposed by the Assembly on a libel charging him with drunkenness and other sins. Baillie says he was a most vicious fellow, and another historian adds that he was of a very litigious temper. He subscribed the bishops' declinature, and had to leave the country for Ireland, but afterwards returned, and was reappointed to one of his charges at the Restoration.

The admission of laymen as elders was one of the objections to the Assembly afterwards urged by such of the bishops as declined to be judged by the Assembly. The question was fully argued, and decided in the affirmative. The Commissioner, after having withdrawn the Service-book and High Commission, and offered other concessions to the Assembly, on finding them resolute to proceed to try the bishops, withdrew, and the Assembly proceeded to abolish Episcopacy.

The part taken by the Baronet of Tarbat in this Assembly has been thus described by the historian of the Mackenzies :—

“ Upon the first breaking out of the Rebellion he joyn'd the Covenanters, and

was one of the lay elders in the famous Assembly of Glasgow in the year 1638; and in an anonymous History of that Assembly which I have, wrote by one of themselves, I find in the 8th session, which sat down upon the 29th of November, he is nominate one of the Comitee appointed by the Assembly for examining the lybels given in against the bishops, in order to their deprivation. And in the 15th session, which sat down upon the 7th of December, he is one of the sworn witnesses against the Bishop of Ross; and in the 17th session, which sat down upon the 10th of December, he witnesses that he saw Mr. David Lindsay, Bishop of Ross [should be of Edinburgh] bow to the altar. But I was told by his son, the late Earl of Cromarty, that he left them long befor he dyed, and was a faithful adherer to the King's interest."<sup>1</sup>

The Committee of which Sir John was a member on 29th November 1638, was one of those appointed to prepare in private the chief weighty affairs to come before the Assembly. The Committee on which Sir John sat had, as their special duty, the preparation of the libels, processes, and proofs against the bishops, preparatory to their deposition.<sup>2</sup> Baillie says, "Our folkes had not been so diligent as need had been, to have their prooffes in readiness for the particular crymes they had lybelled against the bishops' lives; so that Committee proceeded the more slowlie." From Baillie's Letters it appears that, contrary to Dr. Mackenzie's statement, it was during the seventeenth session, Monday, 10th December, that both Dr. David Lindsay, Bishop of Edinburgh, and Dr. John Maxwell, Bishop of Ross, were deposed and excommunicated. As Sir John Mackenzie was a principal witness against both, it may be noted that the charges against the Bishop of Edinburgh comprised breaking the caveats, pressing the late novations, urging the liturgy, bowing to the altar, wearing the rotchet, elevating the elements at communion, etc.; while Dr. Maxwell's libel comprised reading the liturgy, bowing to the altar, admission of fornicators, companying with

<sup>1</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.

<sup>2</sup> Baillie's Letters and Journals.

papists, carding on Sunday, that instead of going to thanksgiving on a communion day, he called for cards to play at the Beast, robbing his vassals of above 40,000 merks, declining the Assembly, and fomenting the troubles in Church and State. Baillie adds, "Of his excommunication no man made question."<sup>1</sup>

Sir John Mackenzie took also an active share in politics during the troubled reign of King Charles the First. In 1633 he was commissioner for the barons and freeholders of Inverness to the Parliament convened by the King; and again, in the important Parliament of 1639, he represented the same shire,<sup>2</sup> along with Thomas Fraser of Strichen, the second husband of his mother, Dame Margaret Macleod, the heiress of the Lewis. In that Parliament a supplication was presented by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, which bears to be anent the profanation of the Sabbath day and other matters. The part of the supplication anent the discharge of going of mills and salt-pans upon the Sabbath, was read, voted, and passed in Articles: And for the salmon-fishings, before the Articles would give answer thereto, the Earl of Dumfermline, Sir John Mackenzie, and others having interest, were to be advertised and heard thereupon. The rest of the petition, which referred to the hiring of shearers upon the Sabbath day, was referred to a consultation among the burghs, and with the Laird of Wauchtoune and other "understanding gentlemen."<sup>3</sup>

In the continuation of the same Parliament in 1641, Sir John Mackenzie became caution for young Glengarry under the following circumstances:—

<sup>1</sup> With Patrick Lindsay, Bishop of Ross, the predecessor in office of the deposed Bishop Maxwell, the Baronet of Tarbat had a misunderstanding about the tithes of Meikle Tarrell, in Tarbat. James Cuthbert, provost of Inverness, sometime proprietor of Lochsline, built an aisle on the north side of the kirk of Tarbat. Sir John Mackenzie acquired right to that aisle in 1634, to be used by him

and his heirs as a burial-place, or for building of desks, and the aisle still remains as a part of the church, having engraved on it the arms of Cuthbert and Leslie, who was apparently the wife of Cuthbert.

<sup>2</sup> Original Commission, dated 1st August 1639, at Tarbat House.

<sup>3</sup> Acts of Parliament, vol. v. p. 253.

The Laird of M'Intosh and his brother had given in a supplication to the Parliament on 27th August, with a complaint against the Laird of Glengarry, stating that in August of the year last bygone, some of the Laird of Glengarry's friends and kinsmen had taken a creagh and spreath from Kilravock. In following up the chase, it happened that two of Glengarry's men were slain. Upon this young Glengarry was greatly enraged; and three of old Glengarry's sons, with four or five score of the clan, bodin in feir of war, "with gunnis, pistoles, bowis, dorlaches, swords, targes," etc., invaded the burgh of Inverness on Sunday the 15th August 1641, and set upon Lauchlan M'Intosh, with nine or ten of his kin, and killed two of them, and were near taking the life of Lauchlan himself. Young Glengarry was required to find caution not to remove outwith a mile about the town till deciding of the bill, and for keeping the king's peace, under the pain of 10,000 merks, and M'Intosh to do the like. The Laird of Dunvegan, who had been first caution for Glengarry, craved to be free of his cautionry, and Sir John Mackenzie took his place as cautioner on 28th August 1641. On the 31st he was freed of his cautionry, Glengarry having presented himself in face of Parliament; but he being again required to find security, and declaring he could find none, but was content to act himself, Sir John Mackenzie again became caution for him that he would appear before the Parliament when required, and not go out of Edinburgh or one mile round about till the conclusion of the Parliament by riding or prorogation.

In the early part of the civil war, Sir John Mackenzie acted with the Estates or Covenanters, and against the Royalists. In 1643 he was appointed one of the commissioners for loans for Inverness, to raise money to pay the army acting in England; and about the same time was appointed one of the colonels of foot for the same shire, along with the Earl of Seaforth or his brother, Pluscarden, and Sir James Fraser and others. In the Parliament of



1645 he was again commissioner for Inverness, and the following year was one of the committee of war for that shire. In 1647 he was again on the committee of war for Inverness, and on the committee for revaluation of the shire. On the 26th of March of that year, an Act was passed in favour of Sir John Mackenzie, in consideration of his supplication for reparation of his losses and exemption from public dues in the meantime till his losses and sufferings were repaired. That Act freed him from all payment of bygone maintenance and other public dues resting unpaid preceding January 1647, for his lands in Murrayland, with reservation to the Lord Humbie of his act, and payment of his super-expenses of his Scots accounts. But though Sir John Mackenzie acted on behalf of the Estates, there is evidence about this time that some of his clan were favourably inclined to the Royalists. On 2d January 1647, on a supplication given in by Kenneth M'Kenzie of Gairloch, Rorie M'Kenzie of Dachmalonak, James M'Kenzie, brother to the Laird of Tarbat, Colin M'Kenzie of Tarvie, and Rorie M'Kenzie, servitor to the Laird of Tarbat, the Estates discharged the justice from giving out criminal letters against them for their acts during the rebellion only, at the instance of the King's advocate, and Donald M'Claud, elder of Assint, and Donald M'Claud, younger, his son, acting for themselves and their tenants, and Mr. John Ros, minister at Assint, for certain crimes of hostility committed against them by the said Mackenzies. In this inroad the castle or fortalice on the Isle of Assint was besieged by the Mackenzies, and defended till the siege was abandoned on the return of peace. On the 25th of the same month of January, Major-General Middleton granted passes or pardons to all the persons named in the complaint.

In the year 1648 two commissions were presented from Inverness, one to Sir James Fraser and Colonel Fraser, and the other to Sir John M'Kenzie of Tarbat and Hew Ross of Kilravock. The Estates rejected both com-

missions, and ordered a new election to be made for the shire. They gave special directions as to who were to be allowed to vote.

In the events of 1648, both Sir John Mackenzie and his eldest son, George Mackenzie, younger of Tarbat, took an active share. They were both colonels of foot and on the committee of war for Inverness, having entered into the Engagement the main aim of which was the delivery of King Charles the First. But on the defeat of the Scottish army, under the Duke of Hamilton, and the change of Government that ensued after that defeat, and the Whigamores' raid in 1649, the commissions for levying forces that had been granted to the Earl of Seaforth and Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat are repealed among the other Acts of the Parliament of the foregoing year. Nor did the matter end there. Sir John is named in the list of persons from whom money was to be borrowed, and they to be fined, along with Thomas Mackenzie of Pluscardin, Mackenzie of Coull, and others. That list was prepared by the Laird of Lawers. The clan of Mackenzie had been specially noted in the Engagement, for at the end of the list of those who are to be fined occurs the following sentence :—" Ane generall citatioun for the name of M'Keinzye, Fraser, and Munros, and vthers that ar jointit to this late rebellious, iff they be ether oblischt to lenne or be fynnit."<sup>1</sup>

Along with attachment to the Presbyterian form of Church government, Sir John Mackenzie cherished an unflinching loyalty. Like many of those who were the first movers in the troubles, he subsequently supported the royal cause, and took the part of those called Engagers and Resolutioners, from their resolutions to admit those who had joined with Montrose. Among the members of this party were such men as Baillie and Douglas, and also James Sharp, afterwards Archbishop of St. Andrews. Sir John's loyalty seems to have caused his imprisonment under Cromwell. In Brodie's Diary

<sup>1</sup> Acts of Parliament, new edition, vol. vi. ii. 710 a. 9th March 1649.

occurs the following entry :—[1653] 2 July.—I received a letter from Tarbat desiring me to interpose for his liberation.<sup>1</sup>

As the writer had then a letter from Cromwell asking him to go to London for his service, it is likely Sir John was imprisoned for opposition to the Commonwealth, although no other record has been found bearing on the subject.

By his wife Dame Margaret Erskine, Sir John Mackenzie had six sons and five daughters :—

1. Sir George Mackenzie, afterwards Earl of Cromartie.
2. John, who died at London, on his return from his travels, in 1662.
3. Roderick Mackenzie of Prestounhall, in the county of Edinburgh. He became a member of the Scottish bar in 1666, and was appointed Lord Justice-Clerk in succession to Lord Pollok in 1702, and he continued to hold that office till the year 1704. He was appointed one of the ordinary Lords of Session in 1703, and took the designation of Lord Prestounhall. He resigned that office in favour of his nephew, Sir James Mackenzie of Royston, in 1710. He married, first, Mary, daughter of Alexander Burnet, Archbishop of St. Andrews, on 28th April 1674,<sup>2</sup> and had several children. Elizabeth, baptised 9th August 1675;<sup>3</sup> John, baptised 27th July 1678;<sup>3</sup> George, baptised 25th January 1681.<sup>3</sup> The eldest son, Alexander Mackenzie, in 1702, married Amelia, eldest daughter of Hugh tenth Lord Lovat. He assumed the surname of Fraser, and was designed of Fraserdale, apparently a new name for the ancient estates of Lovat, which he claimed in right of his wife. He engaged in the Rebellion of 1715, and was attainted, and his liferent of the Lovat estate was forfeited. He died at Leith, 3d June 1755, aged seventy-two. His son, Hugh Fraser, on the death of his mother, assumed the title of Lord Lovat, and died at Edinburgh, on 9th November 1770, aged sixty-seven. The Lovat dignities and estates were, after a keen competition between him and Simon Fraser of Beaufort, the heir-male, ultimately awarded to the latter.

Lord Prestounhall married, secondly, Margaret Halyburton, daughter

<sup>1</sup> Diaries of the Lairds of Brodie, Spalding Club, 1863, p. 60.

<sup>2</sup> Register of Marriages for Edinburgh.

<sup>3</sup> Register of Baptisms for Edinburgh.

of the Laird of Pitcur, in Angus, widow of Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate to King Charles the Second, without issue. Lord Prestounhall died on 4th January 1712.

4. Alexander of Ardloch and Kinellan, whose male line inherited the baronetcy.
5. Kenneth, who had by his wife, Isobel Auchinleck, one son, Kenneth, baptised 22d December 1674,<sup>1</sup> who died without issue.
6. James, who received the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Rheims, where he studied, and died unmarried, on his return from his travels.

His daughters were—

1. Margaret, married, first, Roderick Macleod of that Ilk, without issue ; secondly, Sir James Campbell of Lawers, in the county of Perth.
2. Anne, married, at Tarbat, in July 1659, Hugh ninth Lord Lovat, and was mother of the tenth Lord.
3. Isabel, married Kenneth third Earl of Seaforth, and had issue. There is a portrait of her at Brahan Castle. Allusion has been made in the introductory chapter to the sensational story of this lady having caused the execution of Kenneth Oure, the seer of the Mackenzies.
4. Barbara, married Alexander Mackenzie of Gareloch, and had issue. The contract of marriage is dated at Culteleod, 4th March 1670.<sup>2</sup>
5. Catherine, married Sir Colin Campbell of Aberuchil, Baronet, a Lord of Session, and had issue. The contract of marriage is dated at Inverteill, 19th August 1667.<sup>3</sup>

Sir John Mackenzie died at his Castle of Ballone or Castlehaven, in Tarbat, on 10th September 1654, and was buried in his father's vault at Dingwall. He was survived by his wife, who married, secondly, Sir James Foulis of Colinton, a Lord of Session, whom she also survived, Sir James having died in 1688. The contract of marriage between her and her second husband, which was dated 1st June 1661, gave rise after his death to a good deal of litigation between her and Lord Colinton, Sir James' son and heir by his former marriage. In the course of the litigation she was defeated

<sup>1</sup> Register of Baptisms for Edinburgh.

<sup>2</sup> Original Contract at Tarbat House.

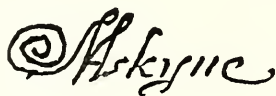
<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

in the Court of Session, but, being an Erskine, and the heiress of a judge of that Court, and thinking that she inherited from him a knowledge of law and justice, she resorted to the strong step of appealing to Parliament against the Session. The question arose from a clause in the marriage-contract, which bore that in case Sir James, during the marriage, should acquire any sums of money, lands, or heritages, or receive payment of sums of money, he should employ the same, and take the rights and securities thereof in favour of himself and her, in conjunct-fee or liferent. She complained that Sir James had employed a considerable part of her estate to entertain his son's family, and to pay his former debts. The Lords of Session decided that he could employ sums acquired during his second marriage in paying off debts contracted before it, by which she was put out of her liferent; nor could she have the rents of land he had in this way freed of mortgage. She therefore besought the Lord High Commissioner and Parliament to consider the contract in the plain sense and just effect thereof, and decern Lord Colinton to pay her the interest of what money his father received during the marriage, belonging to him, for all years since his father's death, and during the petitioner's life. Her petition was presented to the high commissioner and Parliament in 1690, and Parliament adjudged in her favour, and reversed the decision of the Lords of Session.

This was altogether a remarkable contest; a lady, probably nearly ninety years of age, fought single-handed, and actually conquered, the Court of Session, in the Parliament of Scotland. But though Lady Castlehaven was successful in her application to Parliament, it turned out a barren victory. A note on the back of her petition, written by her son Lord Cromartie, bears that the information was drawn by herself, and that on it the Parliament reduced the decret against her, but that neither she nor her heirs got a groat by it. In the petition she is styled Lady Castlehaven, probably from

being provided to the liferent of the castle of that name, which is part of the barony of Tarbat.

The date of her death is not known, but she was living in June 1693, when the last remit by Parliament in the above litigation was made in her favour. As she was married in 1629, or sixty-four years previously, she must have reached a great age. Lady Castlehaven rejoiced in the advancement of her distinguished son. In a letter written to her son, shortly before her death, she says, "I put no question bot ye have enamies, bot giue God be your frind ye neid not cair. I haue sent you your legasie befor I dy. I wold not have you giue this gold away, onles it be at a strat. I got it from your father, and I think I cannot bestow it better then on yourself. This with my blisen." [Letter 59, *infra*.]







GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE.

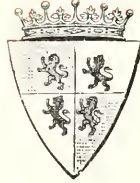
BORN 1630 — DIED 1714.





ANNE SINCLAIR — VISCOUNTESS TARBAT.





SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE OF TARBAT, BARONET,  
FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE, 1630-1714.

CHAPTER FIRST.

HIS BIRTH AND EDUCATION — JOINS THE EARL OF GLENCAIRN'S EXPEDITION, 1653—  
SUCCESSION TO HIS FATHER, 1654.

THE eldest son of the marriage of Sir John Mackenzie and Margaret Erskine was Sir George Mackenzie, the subject of the present memoir.

To this distinguished man tradition has assigned three different birth-places. One tradition is that he was born in the Castle of Lochsline, situated in the north-east of the parish of Tarbat, near a lake variously named Locheye, Lochlin, and Lochsline, which of old belonged to the Abbots of Fearn. That castle was for ages the residence of the family of Vaus. The castle is now a picturesque ruin, consisting chiefly of two towers, 60 feet high, and respectively 38 and 20 feet square.

The tradition of the birth of Sir George Mackenzie at the Castle of Lochsline has been recorded by an author closely connected with Cromartie, who was a very popular writer, both on science and literature in general.<sup>1</sup> Although the tradition of Lord Cromartie's birth at Lochsline Castle must have been current, it is obviously incorrect. The castle, at the time of the

<sup>1</sup> Scenes and Legends of the North of Scotland, by Hugh Miller. Ed. 1835. p. 192.

birth of Lord Cromartie in 1630, belonged to the Honourable Simon Mackenzie, the father of Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate. Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh is reputed to have been born in the year 1636 in Dundee, a place which, according to another tradition still current in Ross-shire, has been also assigned as the birthplace of Lord Cromartie. In considering these traditions, it appears somewhat remarkable that Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat should have been born at Lochsline, while it was the property and residence of the father of the other Sir George Mackenzie, to whom another birthplace was assigned. The real birthplace, however, of Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat was Innerteil, in the parish of Kinghorn and county of Fife. At the date of Sir George's birth in 1630, Innerteil was the residence of his maternal grandfather, Sir George Erskine, Lord Innerteil; and it was very natural that Sir George's mother should be residing with her own mother on the occasion of the birth of her first child, and that the child should be named George after his maternal grandfather. But the fact of Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat having been born at Innerteil does not depend upon mere tradition: in the History of the Mackenzies by Dr. George Mackenzie, who was a contemporary of Lord Tarbat, it is stated that Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat was born at Innerteil, in the year 1630.

Sir George Mackenzie received his education at the University of St. Andrews. At that time, according to Dr. Mackenzie, the metaphysics of Aristotle, Averroes, Oviedo, Arriaga, Suarez, Vasques, and others of the schoolmen, were in great repute at that University; and their speculations had such an influence upon Sir George's mind that they remained with him till his death. Indeed, his theological essays can be well understood only by one versed in the quiddities and speculations of the schoolmen.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.



LOCHSLYNE CASTLE, TARBAT.



Sir George Mackenzie completed his education at King's College, Aberdeen, where he graduated as a student in the year 1646.<sup>1</sup> That University seems to have been a favourite one with the Mackenzies. His Chief of Seaforth, and many others of the clan, received their education there. The young laird of Tarbat excelled as a scholar, especially in classics. His mastery of the Latin language was very complete, and he retained it to the last. The papers and letters written by him contain ample evidence of this. Very few of them are found without some Latin quotation or classical allusion. It will be seen in the sequel, that even in his love-letters when courting his second Countess, at the age of seventy years, he indulged in Latin, of which the lady required explanation. One letter of his, still preserved, shows that he occasionally corresponded entirely in that language. The letter does not bear the year in which it was written, but it is apparently a juvenile production, written to a neighbouring laird, Sir John Urquhart of Cromartie, then owner of that estate which, in after years, was to become the property of the young laird of Tarbat, and was ultimately to furnish the title of his Earldom. The letter was probably written on his return home from one of the sessions of the University, and it may here be given as a specimen of his early Latinity :—

Laus Deo. 2<sup>o</sup> Nouembris.

Charissime frater,—Huc redi incolumis, nec quid desideratum deest, excepta vestra presentia. Enimvero, non est quod, hanc ob causam, nimium afficiet, quum sciam localem distantiam non impedire consortium caeleste; et si quid impuritatis terrestris ita nostrum adhuc inficiat, comprecor immortalem Deum, ut hoc removet, renovando nostros affectus et eorum effectum, ut tali ejulemus consortio quod neque corrumpi nec interrumpi poterit. Hec ut faxit, et omnia alia necessaria adjiciat, vovetur enixe a

Tuo plus quam fratre,

For Sir Jhone Urquhart of Cromarty—these.

G. M. K.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fasti Aberdonenses, Spalding Club, 1854, p. 468.

<sup>2</sup> Letter at Tarbat.

*Translation.*

DEAREST BROTHER,—I have returned hither in safety, and lack nothing that I long for, except your presence. But truly there is no reason why I should be too much afflicted on that ground, since I know that distance in place does not hinder celestial fellowship; and if anything of the impurity of earth still affects ours, I beseech the everlasting God to remove it, by renewing our affections and their effect, that we may rejoice in such a friendship as can neither be corrupted nor interrupted. That He may grant this, and add all else that is needful, is the earnest prayer of

Your more than brother,

G. M. K.

Lord Tarbat's second son, Kenneth Mackenzie, afterwards of Cromartie, was also educated at the same University of Aberdeen, where he entered as a student in the year 1679, under Mr. George Fraser, Regent, who was a frequent correspondent of his father.

Sir George Mackenzie was one of the commissioners appointed by King Charles the Second for visiting the Universities of Aberdeen in 1661. He thus returned to the university in a different capacity from that in which he had attended it as a student, fifteen years before his appointment as commissioner.

Even in his youth Sir George Mackenzie was a zealous Royalist. In his fourteenth year he was made captain of a troop of horse; four years later, in 1648, he was made colonel of a regiment of dragoons, to be raised in furtherance of the Engagement; and in 1650 he accompanied young Lord Kintail, afterwards Kenneth Earl of Seaforth, to the Highlands, in order to raise all the men they could for King Charles the Second's service, and went along with them to the King's camp at Stirling.<sup>1</sup>

While a young man, Sir George Mackenzie was observant of any remarkable events which occurred, and having a retentive memory, could describe them a great number of years after they happened. In a letter to Mr. Boyle, in the year 1699, Sir George Mackenzie, then Viscount Tarbat, relates several instances of the second sight, of which he says that he heard very much,

<sup>1</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.



but believed very little. He adds that, being obliged to reside in the north of Scotland by the English usurpers, in the year 1652, he was induced to make inquiry concerning the seers. He mentions several instances of the second sight which came under his own observation. A servant working in a field in Lochbroom, told him, on 4th May 1653, that he had seen an army of Englishmen leading off horses, coming down the hill; and gave particulars of their proceedings. This was thought a foolish vision at the time. But in the beginning of August thereafter, the Earl of Middleton, then lieutenant for the King in the Highlands, sent a party towards the place referred to by the seer, where they really acted in several ways as he had predicted. In the same letter Lord Tarbat relates other striking instances of the second sight which had occurred within his own knowledge, and also states others from information furnished to him by Sir Norman Macleod and other gentlemen.<sup>1</sup>

When he was in his twenty-fourth year, and shortly before his succession to his father, Sir George Mackenzie married Anna Sinclair, daughter of Sir James Sinclair of Mey. Their contract of marriage is dated at Lochsline, on 6th July 1654. Sir William Sinclair, the brother of the bride, gave her a tocher of 12,000 merks.<sup>2</sup> It will afterwards be seen that the marriage subsisted for the long period of forty-four years, when it was dissolved by the death of the lady in 1699.

At the time of Sir George Mackenzie's succession to his father, in 1654, Scotland was under the rule of Oliver Cromwell, the head of the Commonwealth of England. General Monck was the Commander-in-chief of the English army in Scotland. Monck then resided at Dalkeith, having been intrusted by Cromwell with the charge of Lady Mary Scott, the young Countess of Buccleuch. We shall afterwards see the connection between

<sup>1</sup> Pepys' Diary, vol. v. p. 360.

<sup>2</sup> Original Contract at Tarbat House.

General Monck and Sir George Mackenzie in reference to the origin of the proposal for the restoration of King Charles the Second.

The Royalists, who adhered to King Charles the Second, and declined to live peaceably under Cromwell, were, at the time of the succession of Sir George Mackenzie to his father, engaged in a rising on behalf of the exiled King, which is known as "the Earl of Glencairn's Expedition." The Earl, in the year 1653, raised the royal standard in the West Highlands in the month of August. Young Mackenzie, in the ardour of his loyalty, having had some military experience in his youth, wished to assist in the expedition, and solicited from King Charles a commission to raise forces in his favour. He obtained that commission, and succeeded in raising a considerable force, with which he immediately joined the expedition. After Glencairn had held the command for some time, General John Middleton, who fought bravely for King Charles at Worcester, and escaped to him from the Tower, returned to Scotland, with full power from the King as the General of his forces. Glencairn resigned his command to Middleton. The army was then at Dornoch, the county town of Sutherland, the head-quarters. On assuming the command, Middleton entertained the officers there. The Earl of Glencairn, in return, invited Middleton and his general officers and colonels to dine with him at the house of the Laird of Kettle or Cuthil, now part of the estate of Skibo, four miles south of Dornoch. Glencairn gave them as good a dinner as the place could afford, and plenty of wine. In the course of the circulation of the bottle, Glencairn, addressing Middleton, said—"You see what a gallant army I and these noble gentlemen with me have raised out of nothing." Sir George Monro of Culrain, one of the party, who had been made lieutenant-general, in place of Glencairn, who naturally looked to have been at least made second in command, immediately rose, and interrupting Lord Glencairn, said—"By God, the men you speak of are no other than a

pack of thieves and robbers. In a short time I will show you other sort of men." Glengarry started up, thinking himself most concerned, but the Earl of Glencairn stopped him, and said—"Forbear, Glengarry, 'tis I that am levelled at;" and directing himself to Monro, told him he was "a base liar." A challenge was that night given by Monro, and it was agreed, as the nights were short, that the parties should meet by grey day-light. They were both well mounted; each of them was to have one pistol, and after discharging them, they were to fight with broadswords. The pistols were fired without doing hurt; the combatants then engaged with their swords. After a few passes, the Earl wounded Sir George severely in his bridle hand; Sir George then cried that "he was not able to command his horse," and offered to continue the combat on foot. "Ye carle," says the Earl, "I will let you know that I am a match for you either on foot or horseback." Whereupon they both alighted, and at the first round the Earl gave Sir George a severe stroke on the brow, about an inch above his eyes, which bled so much that he could not see. His Lordship was to thrust him through the body; but John White, his man, pushed up his sword, and said, "You have enough of him, my Lord." His Lordship, in a passion, gave John a stroke over the shoulders, then mounted his horse, and rode to his quarters.<sup>1</sup>

This duel led to a more fatal one. Captain Livingston and a gentleman, James Lindsay, quarrelled on the merits of the case. They fought in the morning on the links of Dornoch, where, at the very first bout, Lindsay thrust his sword through Livingston's heart, who soon expired. Lindsay was immediately taken. Lord Glencairn dealt earnestly with General Middleton for Lindsay's release; but nothing could prevail with him. He immediately called a council of war, who sentenced Lindsay to be shot at the cross of Dornoch before four that afternoon, which was accordingly done.

<sup>1</sup> Account of the Earl of Glencairn's Expedition. Edinburgh, 1822. Pp. 176-178.

One of the early steps taken in the Earl of Glencairn's expedition was his ordering a proclamation to be read at the cross of Dumbarton, in December 1653, threatening confiscation against all who afforded supplies to the garrison in the castle, then held by Cromwell's soldiers. After his duel with Monro, Glencairn left the main body and returned to Dumbartonshire, whither also Middleton gradually marched for the purpose of recruiting his forces. On reaching the Castle of Rossdhu, the residence of Sir John Colquhoun of Luss, an active Royalist, the army of Middleton was recruited, but not in sufficient numbers to prevent the defeat which they sustained at Lochgair, on the 26th of July 1654.<sup>1</sup> Glencairn continued the war for a few weeks, and snatched an advantage by a surprise at Dumbarton of Monck's forces, while quietly seated at dinner. Monck, on hearing of this disaster, arranged for the completion of a treaty with Glencairn, which was formerly begun, and it was carried into effect at the foot of the Castle rock of Dumbarton, on the 4th of September 1654. The conditions were that the Royalist officers should be secured in their lives and fortunes, and allowed their horses and arms; that the soldiers should be allowed their horses, but not their arms, for which, however, they were to receive full value, and that all claiming the privilege should receive passes to carry them back to their homes.

One of the most active officers in that expedition was Archibald Lord Lorne, the eldest son of the Marquis of Argyll. The Marquis himself had submitted to Monck, and resolved to live peaceably, although still at heart a Royalist. Middleton reported to the King the zeal of Lord Lorne, and the King addressed to his Lordship the following letter of thanks for his services:—

Collen [Cologne], December 30, 1654.

MY LORD LORNE,—I am very glade to hear from Middleton what affectione and zeall you show to my service, how constantly you adhere to him in all his

<sup>1</sup> The Chiefs of Colquhoun, 1869. Vol. i. p. 267 *et seq.*

distresses, and what good service you have performed upon the rebels. I assure you you shall finde me very just and kinde to yow in rewarding what you have done and suffered for me, and I hope you will have more credit and power with those of your kindred and dependants upon your familie to engage them with you for me, than any one else can have to seduce them against me; and I shall look upon all those who shall refuse to follow you as unworthy of any protectione hear-after from me, which you will lett them know. This honest bearer M. will informe yow of my condition and purposes, to whom you will give credit, and he will tell yow that I am very much your very affectionat freind,

CHARLES R.<sup>1</sup>

Two letters from General Middleton to Lord Lorne also show the assistance which he had rendered. One of them, which is dated at Dunvegan, 31st March 1655, urges Lord Lorne to “losse no tyme in taking such course for his safetie . . . by treatie and agreement or capitulatione as he shall judge most fitt and expedient for the good of his persone, familie, and estate.” The letter contains a flattering eulogy on the conduct of Lord Lorne during the war. He is credited with enlivening the troops, and being one of the chief and first movers. His deportment in relation to the enemy and the late war is characterised as “beyond all parallel.”<sup>2</sup>

On reaching Paris, General Middleton wrote again to Lord Lorne on 17th April 1655, extolling his services, and expressing great regret at not having seen him before leaving Scotland, to settle a method of correspondence. “I should,” he adds, “been plaine in everie thing, and, indeed, have made your Lordship my Confessor.”<sup>3</sup>

But while Lord Lorne was thus receiving the royal thanks, his services had laid him open to attack from Monck, who made him enter into a bond to keep the peace for the future, under a penalty of £5000 sterling.<sup>4</sup>

On the defeat of General Middleton by General Morgan, Sir George

<sup>1</sup> Copy Letter, Argyll Archives.

<sup>2</sup> Argyll Archives.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> The Chiefs of Colquhoun, vol. i. p. 269.

Mackenzie, with Lord Balcarras, Sir Robert Moray, and others, fled to the Castle of Island Donau. Afterwards, as Dr. Mackenzie relates, Sir George Mackenzie and Sir Robert Moray travelled through many of the Western Isles, observing the tides, and fluxes and refluxes of the sea, the natural products of the Isles, and whatever else they could observe for the advancement of Natural Philosophy. While so amusing themselves, they wrote several letters to Rome, to Athanasius Kircher, then esteemed one of the greatest philosophers and mathematicians of the age, who returned answers to their queries. One of these letters is published by Kircher in his *Mundus Subterraneus*.<sup>1</sup>

Sir George Mackenzie's taste for natural philosophy continued all his life; and the observations he made at this time are recorded by him in his philosophical writings. When Sir Robert Moray, at the Restoration, formed the project of the Royal Society of London for the promotion of Mathematical and Physical Science, Lord Tarbat was one of those whom he consulted. He became an early member and a contributor, as appears from a list of his works appended hereto. Henry Oldenburg, the first secretary to the Society, wrote to Lord Tarbat, thanking him for his contributions, and requesting him to continue his communications.<sup>2</sup> Professor Gregorie, the inventor of the reflecting telescope, corresponded with him at the same time on the theory of winds.<sup>3</sup>

During the rule of the Commonwealth, Sir George Mackenzie also applied himself to the study of the laws, in which he made such progress, that during the Usurpation he was of great use to his country and friends in their private animosities and quarrels, these being generally referred to him, and his decisions adhered to by both parties.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Athanasii Kircheri *Mundus Subterraneus*.  
Amsterdam, 1678. Tom. i. cap. vii. disq. vi.  
p. 154.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 20.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, dated May 24, 1675, vol. i. p. 22.

<sup>4</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by  
Dr. George Mackenzie.

## CHAPTER SECOND.

SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE'S POSITION AND PROMOTION AT THE RESTORATION IN 1660 ; HIS CONNECTION WITH THE ACT OF INDEMNITY AND THE BILLETINGS UNDER IT ; HIS DISMISSAL FROM PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT, AND RETIREMENT TILL 1678.

AT the close of the previous chapter, Sir George Mackenzie was left at his philosophical and legal studies.

During the six years which still intervened till the Restoration of King Charles the Second, Sir George had little opportunity of taking an active part in public affairs. But his time for activity was fast approaching.

At the Restoration, the Earl of Middleton was appointed the King's Commissioner in Scotland, and was intrusted with the management of Scottish affairs. Having had ample experience of the abilities of Sir George Mackenzie, the Earl made him his principal adviser, and he was considered a rival to the Earl of Lauderdale. On the reconstitution of the Court of Session, in June 1661, Sir George Mackenzie was nominated one of the Lords of Session, the Earl of Glencairn was made Lord Chancellor. Sir John Gilmour was appointed Lord President ; and the other Lords then nominated were Sir Archibald Primrose, Sir Robert Moray, Sir Archibald Stirling of Garden, Sir James Foulis of Colinton, Sir James Dalrymple afterwards Lord Stair, and others. Sir George Mackenzie adopted the judicial title of Lord Tarbat.<sup>1</sup>

Having been made the principal confidant of the Royal Commissioner, Lord Tarbat was called on to take a very active and prominent part in all proceedings at the Restoration. Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord

<sup>1</sup> Books of Sederunt, vol. vi. pp. 1, 2, 4th June 1661.

Advocate, has given a very minute account of these proceedings in his History of Scotland; and as that was considered necessary in a general history of the country, so a summary of these proceedings appears to be necessary and appropriate in this memoir of Lord Tarbat.<sup>1</sup>

At the Restoration of King Charles the Second, in 1660, the Lord Chancellor Hyde was made the chief minister of State in England. He was himself a keen cavalier, and attached to Episcopalian principles. In his opinion, none but those holding principles similar to his own were worthy to be intrusted with office under his Majesty. It was by his advice that the Earl of Middleton was made Commissioner in Scotland.

Middleton was bred a soldier, and was considered a brave officer; but it was soon found that he had not an equal talent for the high offices of State. The Earl of Rothes was made President of the Council, all parties approving. Newburgh became Captain of His Majesty's Guards. The Earl of Crawford was continued Treasurer. Marischal was made Lord Privy Seal, in room of the Earl of Sutherland. Bellenden was Treasurer-Depute. Sir John Fletcher was made Lord Advocate. Being junior in his profession to many others, his appointment created dissatisfaction, and his keen prosecution of several of those whom Middleton had marked as victims, fixed on him the name of Inquisitor-General.

In the bestowal of the other principal Scotch offices, Lord Chancellor Hyde had considerable influence. But his intentions were frustrated respecting the office of the Scotch Lord Chancellor, which he wished to be bestowed on the Earl of Lauderdale, on the pretence of rewarding him for his sufferings on behalf of the King. His real motive however was to prevent Lauderdale from holding the office of Secretary of State for Scotland, which involved

<sup>1</sup> Memoirs of the Affairs of Scotland, by Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh. Edinburgh, 1824. Pp. 1-29, 63-135.



constant attendance on his Majesty; and Lauderdale preferred this post, with the chance of governing all the other Ministers, to that of Chancellor, which removed him from constant access to the King. The Earl of Glencairn was made Chancellor. Lord Tarbat was much consulted by Middleton, and the public business was chiefly transacted by them. The offices being thus settled, the King desired that the nobility and others should meet for the appointment of a Privy Council and other institutions in Scotland. At that meeting it was carried by the Presbyterians, being then in the majority, that the Committee of Estates, which was nominated by the Parliament at Stirling in the year 1650, should manage all affairs till the assembling of Parliament. Lord Tarbat, however, opposed this view with great energy. He contended that the Parliament of 1650, from which the Committee of Estates derived its authority, was not a legal Parliament. All those who had served under the Marquis of Montrose were excluded from it; and it was in effect but a continuation of the late rebellion, and, therefore, after his Majesty's restoration, none authorised by them should be intrusted with the Government. This overture gave great dissatisfaction, and led to much disputation.

Glencairn, in whose house the meeting was held, succeeded in arranging that all the nobility and gentry in town should be consulted on such an important point. The meeting, when held, was equally divided. It was agreed that both sides should be equally represented in bringing the subject before his Majesty by seven of their number. Lord Tarbat had been thanked by his Majesty for the interest which he had manifested in the case; but though the King had promised that he would adopt Lord Tarbat's views, yet, through the influence of the Earls of Lauderdale and Crawford, that promise was not kept, and the Committee of Estates was allowed to meet. The non-fulfilment of the promise was owing to a representation made by Lauderdale and Crawford to this effect, that if his Majesty disowned the

authority of the Committee, the far greater part of Scotland would believe that their destruction was imminent. This was the first breach between Lauderdale and Lord Tarbat, and they remained unreconciled for many years.

Parliament met on the 1st of November 1660, when a sermon was preached by Mr. Robert Douglas. On the Parliament proceeding to choose Lords of Articles, Lord Tarbat opposed that institution. He maintained that as there was no law for appointing Lords of Articles, it was therefore optional to the Parliament to continue them or not; and he further maintained that it was unreasonable they should be continued, as the Parliament was thereby prelimited in its judgment by the vote of the Lords of the Articles. Yet it was carried to elect Lords of Articles; although many eminent lawyers were of opinion that these Lords should only prepare measures for the consideration of Parliament, without themselves voting for them.

Lord Tarbat, although not always successful in Parliament, continued his activity unabated. His kinsman of the same name, Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Advocate, says that he was a passionate cavalier, and resolved to rescind all the Parliaments since the year 1640, because they were all rebellious. Lord Tarbat's argument was, that in the year 1637 Scotland began to extirpate Episcopacy, and raised an army to accomplish their design. When confronted by King Charles the First and his army on the Borders, in the year 1639, they succeeded in forcing the King, at the Birks, in Berwickshire, to agree to summon a Parliament. The Covenanters having established the Covenant by a special Act against his Majesty's negative voice, the Earl of Traquair, as Commissioner, adjourned the Parliament. At the Parliament which was held in the year 1641, the same party forced upon his Majesty, who was present, the passing of an Act for Triennial Parliaments, and they continued to assemble in pretended Parliaments till the year 1650. Lord Tarbat further contended that all these Parliaments had their origin in force and usurpation.

The Commissioner at first opposed the overture of Lord Tarbat; but as he urged that they could never secure his Majesty's prerogative in summoning and dissolving Parliaments without rescinding the illegal Parliaments, it followed that the Parliaments which sat after the King had dissolved them, and without his Commissioner, must be declared unlawful. Middleton ultimately yielded so far to these arguments of Lord Tarbat, that Sir Mungo Murray,<sup>1</sup> the brother of John, then Earl of Athole, afterwards created Marquis, was despatched to Court to consult his Majesty on the business.

The Lord Chancellor, Hyde, took the same view of the question as Lord Tarbat. Hyde sent an express to Middleton, ordering him to pass the Act at once, as most conducive to the interests of the King, and blaming the Commissioner for his scruples in passing it. Many objections were made to the passing of the Act Rescissory, and even by several moderate Cavaliers. They deemed it dishonourable to the memory of King Charles the First to rescind the Acts of the Parliament of 1641, in which the King was present; and also a bad precedent, as the people were made to believe that a Parliament, in which the King was present, and which was countenanced by him, was warranted and beyond question.

To satisfy these scruples, a clause provided that all persons who had obtained private rights or securities from these Parliaments should be secure, unless they were called in question before the Act of Indemnity. But this salvo was not to apply to the Parliament of 1649.

The second session of Parliament met on the 8th of May 1662. An Act was passed re-establishing Episcopacy; and another ordaining a de-

<sup>1</sup> The Honourable Sir Mungo Murray was M. P. for Perth, and Lieutenant of King Charles the Second's Guards at the Restoration. He died, unmarried, at Edinburgh, on 5th December 1670, and was buried in Saint

Giles' Church there.—[Letter from Thomas Steuart to John Steuart, younger of Grandtully, dated Edinburgh, 6th December 1670, at Murthly.]

claration to be taken by all persons in public trust against Leagues and Covenants. The great design of the second Act was to incapacitate the Earl of Crawford from being Treasurer, and the Earl of Lauderdale from being Secretary. The latter, however, laughed at the contrivance, and said that he would sign a cartful of such oaths rather than lose his office. Crawford was dismissed, and Middleton aimed at being his successor, but unsuccessfully, and he was disappointed at the want of success of his scheme of the oath.

Lauderdale pressed for the passing of the Act of Indemnity. Middleton made another attempt under it to incapacitate Lauderdale for holding any public office. As Lauderdale, Crawford, and several other keen Presbyterians, opposed all that was arranged for the establishment of Episcopacy, Middleton resolved to ask the King to except some persons from being capable of holding office under him. In June 1662, a meeting was held in the house of the Lord Chancellor Glencairn, which was attended by the Lord Commissioner, the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Register, and the Lord Advocate. They resolved on sending Lord Tarbat to the King, with instructions anent the Act of Indemnity. On acquainting Lord Tarbat with their resolution, he earnestly declined acting as envoy in the business; but being charged by them with want of courage, or fidelity to his friends, he did at last consent to be their envoy. He was sworn a Privy Councillor on the same afternoon, and set out for London on the following morning with written Instructions. The Instructions are signed by the Commissioner Middleton, and are said to have been dictated by the Lord Clerk Register, Primrose. The original Instructions are in the Cromartie Charter-chest, and are printed in full (probably for the first time) in this volume.<sup>1</sup>

A double of the Instructions in the Lauderdale Correspondence in the

<sup>1</sup> Instructions, vol. i. p. 1.

British Museum has been collated with these. The only differences are, "*into places of publick trust,*" instead of "*into publick trust,*" and "*commissioner and parliament*" instead of "*commissioner,*" both in Instruction 4. The double is attested by Lord Tarbat thus: "This is the just double of my Instructiones, written at Holyrudhouse the i of July 1663."

It was not surprising that a young man, as Lord Tarbat then was, hesitated about undertaking such a mission to his Majesty, when he would be confronted with the powerful opposition of Lauderdale, whose exclusion from office was aimed at under the disqualifying clause in the Act of Indemnity. On arriving in London, Lord Tarbat waited on the Lord Chancellor, Hyde, and was admitted to kiss the King's hand before Lauderdale was aware of his arrival. This roused the jealousy of Lauderdale. The King considered the Instructions given to Lord Tarbat, and had much consultation with him on the subject. The King requested a meeting with his Council for Scotland. Previous to the meeting, Lord Tarbat waited upon Lauderdale, and informed him of his mission, delivering to him, at the same time, a copy of the Act of Indemnity, without the clause of exclusion of persons from public trust.

At the Council Lord Tarbat told his Majesty that his commissioner in Scotland had passed the Indemnity to that nation, but that he felt it necessary to consult his Majesty thereon. Hence he had sent a copy of the Act to his Majesty, together with special Instructions. Both were read, and when Lauderdale found reference to excepted persons, he inveighed, with much passion, against Lord Tarbat for his disingenuousness, since the Act presented to him had no clause referring to such persons. Lord Tarbat calmly replied that the Secretary was not to know his Instructions, as they were private for his Majesty, and that the Secretary only desired a copy of the Act of Indemnity, which he had delivered to him as a private person.

Lauderdale having, as he conceived, exposed Lord Tarbat, argued warmly against the clause of exclusion. The Earl of Crawford supported the arguments of Lauderdale, he being also aimed at by the Act of Exclusion. Lord Tarbat replied to Lauderdale and Crawford. He said that the whole nation was now involved in so much guilt, that none could allege he was unjustly dealt with when his life and fortune were secured, though he was not allowed by his Majesty to serve in a public capacity, and that legal trials were not necessary, as his Majesty might remove his own servants without a process, nor was his Majesty's prerogative infringed by this overture, as the exception was to be made by his Majesty's authority; and in this instance he only delegated to his Parliament to ascertain the present condition of his servants, and who were fittest to serve him; and those who had been loyal to him would give him faithful advice. This course would relieve him of the odium of removing such as were unfit.

These arguments of Lord Tarbat had considerable influence with His Majesty, who expressed himself favourable to his Lordship's proposals; and the Duke of York, the Lord Chancellor, Ormond, and others, also expressed themselves in favour of them.

The whole English Court, weary of Lauderdale's overbearing conduct, assisted Lord Tarbat, and magnified all he said and did. It was Lord Tarbat's design to raise Lauderdale to such a passion as to render him ridiculous, and in that object he succeeded.

His Majesty commanded the recalling of remissions passed in favour of private persons, granted warrant for excepting any twelve persons from public trust, and desired a new Council to be called, with whom he might devise how to establish five persons at London, by whose advice all Scottish affairs should be managed. But before the appointed diet, a new incident intervened: Archibald Lord Lorne, eldest son of the late Marquis of Argyll,

wrote a letter to Lord Duffus, informing him, that for £1000, a certain great man on whom Middleton depended might be removed; and adding (after some expressions concerning Parliament),—"And then the King will see their tricks." This letter was intercepted, carried to Middleton, and laid before Parliament. The words quoted were viewed as a reflection on Parliament; and they entreated his Majesty to send down Lord Lorne to be tried. In their letter they recommended Lord Tarbat as a person of ability and known loyalty, to whom they had intrusted their address. This letter coming to Lord Tarbat, he requested his Majesty to send down Lord Lorne as a prisoner. Lauderdale, who was connected with Lorne by marriage, opposed this in the Council, but Lord Tarbat pleaded that this was treason, and so not bailable. Lauderdale pressed to be caution for him, an offer which was accepted. It was arranged that Lauderdale, Newburgh, and Tarbat should intimate to Lord Lorne his Majesty's pleasure, and particularly ascertain from him the name of the person referred to in his letter as a briber. Lorne was astonished, and said that he would mention it only to his Majesty. This was permitted, but only by letter; and this letter was shown to Chancellor Hyde, whose favour was ever after lost by the person named. Thereupon the King, instead of overturing for five Scottish Councillors to reside at Whitehall, wrote an order to that effect, without acquainting Lauderdale, and left the nomination of the persons to the Commissioner; and also ordered that twelve persons should be excepted from public trust in the Act of Indemnity.

The Earl of Glencairn, in a letter to Lord Tarbat, dated Edinburgh, 8th July, congratulates him on the success of his mission, as follows:—

My Lord—I haue receaned nou 3 of yours, the last with Da. Ferguson. I haue seine all yours to the Comissioner, with no litle satisfacione to all of us for your prudent and prosperous management of so great ane affaire. All nou that is

wished [is] that yee may be dispatched tymlie, that our parliament may not be out-wearied with attendance. I assuir you all honest men heir are als much exalted as others are struck in amaze to sie thair hope of a neu partie at once dashd. I hop in this you hau servd the King, and preservd the royall interest, which they had alreadie begunne to shake. Yee may assure all those noble persons, especi-allie my Lord Chancellor, that all his Maiesties condescendencies will be no farther mad use of then to establish a lasting obedience to his authoritie, and with so much moderation as that his Maiesties interest singlie, and no personall interest or prejudice sall appeare in our publick actings. Our greatestt business are yet to doe, and his Maiesties countenancing his parliament's procedure will not a litle encourage them to goe thorough without faintinge. I hop yee will present my service to my Lord Chancellor, whois seasonable interposings is of no small value toward his Maiesties seruice in this kindome. I beseech you plead my excuse for not wreatting to my Lord Neuburgh, hauing sitt all this day in parliament, and ame wearie enough. All I sall say more is that I ame, most hartlie,

Your affectionatt humble servant,

GLENCAIRNE.

I hane docketted your signator long agoe; I wish it fare not the worse at som mens hands.

For the right honorable The Lord Tarbett, at the Whytt Suan, in Kingstreett, Westminster, aboue Oxyard, at London.<sup>1</sup>

In the course of these negotiations and contentions at Court, Lord Tarbat addressed the following letter to Lord Lauderdale :—

Hampton Court, 18th July 1662.

MY LORD,—If I had been despatched heer so soone as I exspected, I had waitid on your lordship to have received your commands this day, but fearing that the King's goeing to sea may prevent me of that honor to-morrow, lest I misse these letters, I have sent this bearer to cary them to me, with what other service your lordship will favour me with; for albeit ther may be some mistakes concerninge these thinges I have been employed in, yett I hope I have caried so, and

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter at Tarbat House.



shall indeavor to deport myself for the future in all things relative to your concerns as that I may exspect yett to be esteemed by yow,

My Lord, your most humble servant,

GEO. M<sup>c</sup>KENZIE.

For the right honorable the Earle of Lawderdale, sole secretary to his Majesty for the Kingdome of Scotland.

[Indorsed]: July 18, 1662, Sir Geo. M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Tarbat to Lord Lauderdale.<sup>1</sup>

Lauderdale was now brought so low, that his Majesty excluded him from his presence at times that he admitted Lord Tarbat. On Lord Tarbat's return to Scotland, in a meeting at the Abbey, he proposed that the persons excepted should be billeted, that is, Members of Parliament should give a private paper or billet containing the names of those whom they desired to be excepted from office. A plurality of votes was to be decisive in every case. Such a proposition was new, and seemed fraught with mischief, but after reasoning it passed. Among others, Lauderdale, Crawford, and Sir Robert Moray were billeted. Bishop Burnet asserts that emissaries were sent to every Parliament man, directing him how to make his list, so that these three might be in the number of the incapacitated. But Dr. Mackenzie strenuously argues that Sir Robert Moray was not one on Lord Tarbat's list; for there was always great friendship and amity between Lord Tarbat and Sir Robert Moray, and that he had often heard the Earl of Cromartie mention him with the greatest respect imaginable, as his learned and worthy friend; and Dr. Mackenzie had heard the Earl of Balcarras, who was no friend to the Lord Tarbat, and to whose aunt Sir Robert was married, say that there was always a great friendship and love between them, and when that learned gentleman, upon the Restoration, formed the project of the Royal Society for propagating of Natural Philosophy, Lord Tarbat was, as already

<sup>1</sup> British Museum. Additional MSS. 23, 249, fol. i.

stated, one of those whom Sir Robert consulted in it, and was one of the first members.<sup>1</sup>

The sensation created by the passing of these Acts soon came to the knowledge of Lauderdale, who asked the King "What if they billet me, sir?" The King answered that the billeters could not meddle with his servants. But Lauderdale told the King that he was actually billeted, and that the Act was passed by the Commissioner without consulting his Majesty. The Duke of Lennox, the Earl of Dumfries, and Lord Tarbat were sent to his Majesty with the Act of Indemnity and the Acts of Billeting and Fining. When these reached the King he threw the Act of Billeting into his cabinet, declaring that he could not follow their advice, but at the same time would not disclose their secret. Lord Tarbat, finding his Majesty much dissatisfied, protested that his only design in all this business was the royal interest, the suppression of discontent among his servants, and the prevention of that ruin which the Cavaliers of Scotland were likely to suffer through Lauderdale's influence. After an assurance from the King that he would not believe any statement of Lauderdale's to his prejudice, Lord Tarbat was allowed to kiss his Majesty's hand, and returned to Scotland.

Middleton, after the Parliament was adjourned, proceeded to the western shires to let them see the authority which they had so much opposed; and having held a Council at Glasgow, on 1st October 1662, it was resolved to discharge all ministers from preaching who had no lawful presentations from the patrons, and would not receive collation from the Bishops. This Act threw out at once 200 ministers, and was blamed by all wise and good men as tending to irritate a country which was attached to its ministers, and joining all in a common discontent.

While Middleton was in the west, Lord Tarbat returned from London,

<sup>1</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.

and advised him to hasten to Court to maintain his declining cause. Thither he hastened, and when a Council was called, he gave account of all his proceedings in Scotland. Lauderdale made a lengthy speech in opposition. Among other things he complained of Lord Tarbat for having given him first one copy of an Act of Oblivion, and then another differing from the former, the one only excepting as to fines, the other from public trust, and that at that rate he might present more, differing from one another. That Lord Tarbat owned his last copy, and said he would answer for it. That he then objected to Tarbat, that from the words it appeared that all who were to be fined were to be incapacitated from holding office, and that Lord Tarbat answered that Parliament intended only to incapacitate a small number of the most guilty, not exceeding twelve. In the Council, Lauderdale used very vigorous language against the Billeting Act and its author, Lord Tarbat. He said billeting "is a stranger engine than white gunpowder, which some fancy, for sure this shoots without any noise at all. But, blessed be God, this dreadful engine was never known as to punishments amongst any people, heathen or Christian, who had the blessing to live under monarchy. Some republics use the billet, or the ballot, in giving places, but I never so much as read of anything like it as to punishment, except the Ostracism amongst the Athenians, who were governed by that cursed Sovereign Lord the People, and by their oystershell billeting."

In his answer the Earl of Middleton entered at great length on a vindication of his conduct, and among other things admitted that Lord Tarbat was sent by him to his Majesty, having in his hands the Act of Indemnity, and was further instructed that it was the Parliament's desire that some persons should be excepted from public trust.

This discussion took place in Council on 5th February 1663; and Lauderdale's charges and Middleton's answers were afterwards extended in

writing, and submitted to the King. At the end of five weeks thereafter the King recalled Middleton's commission, and bestowed his place of General and Captain of the Castle of Edinburgh on the Earl of Lauderdale.

Thus, while Middleton desired to supplant Lauderdale, the latter succeeded in supplanting Middleton. John Earl of Rothes was chosen Commissioner. To ingratiate himself with the King, Rothes and his sister, Lady Margaret Leslie, offered her daughter Anna, Countess of Buccleuch, the greatest heiress of her day, in marriage with the King's eldest-born son, James, created Duke of Monmouth in England, and, after the marriage, also created Duke of Buccleuch in Scotland.

At the entry of Rothes, as Commissioner, into Scotland, great multitudes met him on the Border. The Chancellor, who loved Rothes but hated Lauderdale, scarcely knew how to act; but, to satisfy formality, went to Edgebucklingbrae, attended by all his own friends and those of Middleton.

Lord Tarbat and the new Commissioner were old allies. The Earl of Rothes had befriended Lord Tarbat on the Restoration, and was instrumental in restoring him to his place as a Lord of Session. Notwithstanding that Rothes, as Commissioner, was the nominee of Lauderdale, with whom Lord Tarbat was at feud, his Lordship deemed it his duty to wait on the Commissioner.

This change at Court was so great a surprise that it confounded Middleton's adherents, and distracted with joy the dependants of the two new favourites,—a change which astonished even such as were indifferent.

After the Parliament assembled, the Earl of Lauderdale produced a letter from the King to the Chancellor, dated at Whitehall, 4th June 1663, which inveighed against the Act as to billeting, in terms similar to the speech of Lauderdale in presence of the King. The letter is printed at length in the Acts of the Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Vol. vii. p. 459.

A committee was appointed to examine witnesses on the whole business of the billeting. The committee consisted of John Earl of Lauderdale, his Majesty's Secretary; John Earl of Hadington; Sir John Gilmour, President of the Court of Session; Sir James Lockhart of Lee; Sir Robert Moray, Provost of Edinburgh; and Alexander Wedderburn, Provost of Dundee,—four to form a quorum. In the examination by the committee, the questions put to Lord Tarbat, and his answers, are thus recorded:—

INTERROGATORS PUT TO THE LORD TARBET.

Whither brought you to his Maestie tua draughts of ane act of pardon and oblivion, the one excepting only as to fynes, the uther excepting also as to incapacities from publick trust.

Whither did you publictlic oun this last to be the desyr of the parliament.

Whither did you lykewys earnestly press, in the name of the parliament, his Maiesties consent to the incapacitating of some few of the most guiltie, not exceeding tuell.

ANSWERS BE SIR GEORGE M<sup>c</sup>KENZIE.

MY LORDS,—To the first: I did cary with me two draughts of the act of indemnity to Hampton Court, on wherof wanted the exception of incapacity from publick trust; and I was desyred by the Kings commissioner to indeavour to procure his Maiesties allowance of a draught with that exceptioun, and to offer the other if that were refused; accordingly I presented on with that exception to his Majesty in Councell. The other, upon my lord Secretaries desyre, I did give to him some tyme before that, nor knew I, nor did I intend it should have been showne to his Majesty.

To the other two questiones: I doe declare that the E. of Midlton, then his Maiesties commissioner, did instruct me to represent it to his Majesty as a thing desyred be the parliament, and, in the sense of honest men, necessar for his Maiesties service, that some dangerous persones, not exceeding the number of fourteen, should [be] excepted from publick trust: And accordingly I did represent the samme from the commissioner to his Majesty: And albeit I doe exceedingly regrate my misfortune in negotiating a matter which hath so much offended his sacred Majesty, yett at that tyme I conceaved my self bound to obey the Commis-

sioner (he being delegat with royall power) in any imployment he putt on me : And I beleaved his instrucciones and commands sufficient warrand for me to rehearse and represent what he desyred, since I spoke in no capacity but as his messenger sent by him, and so dared nether mixe my owne knowledge nor judgment with his commands, my trust being to obey in relating quhat he commanded : My lords, upon my Lord Commissioners command, I have shewed to his Grace my Instrucciones for that effect, and given to him a double of that Instruction, as I doubt not his Grace will inform your lordships that he finds I had warrand therby, as is abovesaid. At Edinburgh, the 1 July 1663. GEO. M<sup>c</sup>KENZIE.<sup>1</sup>

Lauderdaill, I.P.C.

The full declaration made by Lord Tarbat as to his share in the passing of the Act relating to Billeting explains more clearly his proceedings. His declaration, as reported by his namesake, Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Advocate, is in the following terms :—

“ I do declare that the first time I ever heard of the billeting those who were to be excepted from public trust was thus :—I came in accidentally to a room in the Abbey, where were several persons, particularly the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Newburgh, Sir James Middletoun, Sir John Urchart, Sir John Strachan, and several others, with two or three servants, and I found them discoursing of excepting persons from public trust ; and the Duke, asking of me what order should be observed by the Parliament in that vote, I told the same that we did in choosing the Lords of the Articles,—the clerk should mark what names had maniest votes, and that every member would write his twelve in a paper, and read them out of it. But, says the Duke, we have been here speaking of this way,—that every one should give in his twelve in a paper to the Clerk of Register, without reading them out, and that he should, in face of Parliament, read them all, and mark who had maniest votes ; for by this means, said he, every one will give such names as he thinks fit, without fear or hazard, which, perhaps, they will not do if they read out the names themselves. Upon this, some discourse passed, but without any conclusion, or any secrecy spoken of ; and this was ten or twelve days before it was spoken of in the Committee of Parliament.

<sup>1</sup> British Museum. Additional MSS. 23, 249, fol. 9.

The next time I heard of it, I think, was the next day thereafter, when the Commissioner told me some had spoken to him of excepting the persons by billets given in silently, which I found he was altogether against, and said he would not admit it; and thereafter I did not hear of it till one night very late, I think the night before that overture was proposed in the Committee, I was sent for to the Abbey, and came to the Duke's chamber, where he told me that severals had been speaking to the Commissioner for that way of billeting, and that they had, at least, obtained his leave to propose it to the Committee. Thereafter the proposition was brought in to that Committee appointed for fines, where all the members were under oath of secrecy, so I dare not relate anything that passed there; but some of your Lordships were members of that court, and do no doubt remember what passed. But since I hear some have said that I proposed it, I do confidently deny, and I do humbly entreat, that this may be examined; and I humbly propose that the Chancellor, to whom all speech was directed, and the Clerk of Register, whose office puts him to special attention, may be examined if I did propose it or not. Twice, I think it was, before the Committee at last allowed it, and appointed it to be brought in to the Articles. Thereafter, I do not doubt but severals employed themselves in soliciting the Members of Parliament, in order to persons to be excepted; and I was invited by the Duke of Richmond to dine with him one day at Mortoun's, where, after dinner, proposing that we might resolve unanimously in the excepting of persons, I craved his Grace and the rest pardon, that I found I could not meddle in that; since my employment differenced me and them, in respect of my late attendance upon his Majesty. Whereupon I went away immediately, neither speaking nor doing any thing in order to that, which motive likewise kept me from consulting of any, or offering advice in that affair; and if it had been so, it is too probable I had been as active as any, as the humour then run: but because of that, I never meddled in it, nor did I write my own billet, till I came into the house for giving in our billets, where, at the desire of a gentleman that sat by me, I shew him my billet, he having first shewed his to me; and except that, I never shew my billet, nor declared my opinion in order to persons to any.

“Now, my Lord, I do expect, as in all my steps in this matter, to meet here also with some addition of misfortune; and that thus the beginning and carrying on of this was of so little contrivance, and indeed so foolish in its method, that I doubt I shall be believed in this account. But that inconvenience must not be

my director : I am sworn, and upon the hazard of my soul declare it to be truth ; so I humbly refer it to a charitable consideration."

Besides Lord Tarbat, other ten persons were examined on the subject of the billeting, and each of them stated in his deposition the particular part which he had taken. With one exception, these witnesses do not appear to have implicated Lord Tarbat as the actual author of the scheme of billeting. The single witness referred to deponed that he saw Lord Tarbat's billet, with the name of the Earl of Lauderdale ; and Lord Tarbat said that it was the King's pleasure that twelve should be incapacitated.

The following is the speech which Lord Tarbat delivered in the Parliament of 1663, in his own defence :—

"I am not only sorry for my misfortune in being employed to negotiate an affair, the result whereof hath offended his Majesty, but I likewise confess that my age, unacquaintedness, and unfitness every way for acting in so great affairs could not but produce both escapes and errors in my actions and discourses ; and in so far as what is in his Majesty's royal letter doth concern me, either in reproof or censure, I do most humbly acquiesce under it : nor would I have adventured on a vindication had not his Majesty graciously appointed inquiry, which imports an allowance of defence ; and in order thereto, I offer thir things to consideration. But before I build the defence, I shall crave leave to lay first two positions for a base, which all the rational world have concluded unmoveable truths. One is, that when words are capable of various interpretations, the circumstances give restriction to their exposition ; for if by time, place, person, and coherence, one sense be rendered morally impossible, then, by moral necessity, they must be understood in that other sense whereof they are capable. The other position is, that whatever envoys or deputies say in message, their words are both spoke and understood *in personam mandantis ; et quamvis loquitur per se, non tamen a se* : for so law and lawyers difference him from a procurator. They say further, that *est quasi epistola, et nunquam obligatur ; solummodo ejus superior tenetur in syndicatu*.

"From the first I infer, that albeit what I said or proposed to his Majesty as the desire or mind of the Parliament, when this is nakedly spoke, it may import the desire of a Parliament by their public vote, or their mind and sense made



known by private conference, or such other ways as a Commissioner or Officer of State ought to take for trying the temper of a Parliament, thereby the better to know how to manage their trust: yet when it is bound by these circumstances that the proposition was not for a thing already past,—for then I had presented it under the Chancellor or Clerk of Register's hand, as I did at that time all that was then past in that session of Parliament,—nor as a matter voted by the Parliament, for that had implied a contradiction, since the thing desired was that his Majesty should allow it to be voted, and spoke by me, the Commissioner's envoy, it doth evidently exclude the first sense of a public desire; and therefore I humbly think that it was necessarily understood in the other, of a desire such as a Commissioner, and none but he and the Council might know and inform his Majesty thereof; and since in law *regulariter creditur nuntio deponenti de officio*, I do declare I understood the words so, and spoke them in that sense: therefore I did not abuse the Parliament, since it was not for me to know or search into this the Commissioner's desire. I might presume, and by presumption it appears, the Parliament did desire it, since unanimously they voted to it; and so at least did not think it unfit, else their oath of Parliament should have withdrawn their consent. This for the employment.

“The next is for the person employed, and my defence I found on the second position. I was a messenger, sent by the King's Commissioner by a writ under the Great Seal; I was commanded to obey him; in obedience to him, I had a warrant for me of a *ratihabemus*, so I dared not disobey; obedience was my duty, for I obeyed the King's Majesty in taking this employment of a messenger; for in law *qui jubet per alium, jubet per se*. Now, none will controvert but that a messenger's duty is to deliver his message faithfully, to represent what my superior commanded me; but to represent if the advice or desire was good or bad, it was not my duty; to debate that was the proper consideration of him who sent me, and of him to whom I was sent. Nay, further, had I mixed my own judgment or knowledge with the trust, I had been indeed criminal; had I offered my opinion in contradiction to my command, I had been untrue; had I refused to accept employment till my superior had convinced me of the truth or fitness of the matter, I had been disobedient and indiscreet. Did obedience depend on the convictions of the judgment of the obeyer, authority were at a period. There could be no secret; every envoy behoved to have as much trust and knowledge as his superior. If the Commissioner did more, or contrary to his trust, that was

neither my fault nor my trust ; his employment, by its nature, put that above my doubts. When the King's Majesty did trust a kingdom to him, it was my duty to cast myself and my trust on his command, and to represent his words, to whose care more than that was committed by my King. This implies an instance against what, without good reason, may be urged by some, that I was a member of Parliament, and so knew what the Parliament did. I answer, I was not a member of Parliament in that employment ; I had no other capacity in that affair but as the Commissioner's messenger ; my charge was to carry his advice, his discourse, to the King ; my words were his, proffered by him, at a distance, as by a letter or so ; and had I attempted ought, under any other consideration of myself, then, as such, I had been both unjust and foolish. The proof of this defence is not only notour, but fully asserted for me in his Majesty's royal letter, where he says I was sent by his Commissioner, and had credit from him ; so whatever abuse hath been imposed upon his Majesty, or done to his Parliament, is neither by me nor of me.

“ And for a subsidiary defence : Since the Parliament is so dear to his Majesty for their many good acts and services, and that I have the honour not only to be a member of it, but not the last in testifying my zeal and affection to my Prince's service ; and since, in all these good services, I will not say *pars magna* (that were exorbitant vanity), but *pars saltem fui*, wherein I needed not attest the Parliament, they have prevented my desire, and in a public letter testified it to his Majesty already ; so I humbly hope one fault shall be covered with these endeavours. For albeit good and ill are not to be confounded, yet with a Prince, whose royal clemency hath made him famous both over and above all the world, I hope that grace, whereof many perverse enemies have shared abundantly, shall not be grudged to an erring, penitent, but loyal servant. My actions cannot but have faults ; but that I committed any which law can interpret either of malice or intention, I positively deny : but whatever become of me I resolve to follow and practise my principle, which is to obey his Majesty's sacred commands, to submit to his will and acquiesce under his censure ; and I pray God grant him a long and happy reign.’<sup>1</sup>

The Parliament transmitted the deposition of Lord Tarbat and the others

<sup>1</sup> Memoirs of the Affairs of Scotland, by the speech, holograph of Lord Tarbat, in the Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, *at supra*, Cromartie Charter-chest. pp. 124-128. Collated with a MS. copy of

to the King, with a letter in the most obsequious terms, promising to follow out his Majesty's wishes in reference to the Act of Exclusion by Billeting. The letter is printed in the Acts of the Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

In self-justification, Lord Tarbat founded upon the Instructions which he had received from the Commissioner Middleton on the billeting. In canvassing his conduct, some thought that Lord Tarbat should not have produced these Instructions, as, while they vindicated Lord Tarbat, they implicated Middleton. But Middleton himself specially authorised Lord Tarbat to found upon the Instructions, as appears from his letter to him in the Correspondence.<sup>2</sup>

But the letter did not save Lord Tarbat. He was deprived of his seat on the bench on the 16th of February 1664, in terms of a letter from the King, dated on the 9th of that month. The King's letter and the proceedings of the Lords are thus recorded in the Books of Sederunt:—

16 Februarii 1664.

The which day the Lord Chancellour produced, in presence of the haill lordis, an letter from his Majestie, wherof the tenor followis : FOR our right trustie and weilbelowed cousin and counsellour, to our right trusty and weilbef[lo]wed counsellouris, and to our trustie and weilbelowed, the Erle of Glencarn, our chancellour, Sir John Gilmour, knight, president of our Colleg of Justice, and to the remanent senatouris therof, Charles R. : Right trustie and weilbelowed cousin and counsellour, right trustie and weilbelowed counsellouris, and trustie and weilbelowed, we greit yow weil. Wheras our parliament in ther last session did, efter examination of the contryvance and careying on of the bussines of billeting, transmit to ws the originall depositions of these who wer examined concerning that wholl mater, subscryved with the deponentis hands, to the end we might declair our further pleasour : We, calling to mynd how that both we and our parliament wer abused in that affair, and weil remembring what wes the cariage of Sir George M'Kenzie of Tarbet therin, and having considerit his depositions and confessions vnder his awin hand, have thocht fit to lay him asyde from these publict

<sup>1</sup> Vol. vii. p. 460.

have been altered from a 3, which is clearly the true date.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 18. The date on the original is June 16, 1668 ; but the 8 seems to

trustis he did enjoy in that our kingdom. Therfor we requyre yow to declare his place in our Colleg of Justice to be void, which we sall spedilie supply. And so we bid yow fairwell. Given at our Court at Whythall, the nynth day of Februarii 1664, and of our rigne the 16th yeir. By his Majestie's comand. Sic subscribitur Lauderdaill.

Which letter being red in presence of the haill lordis, they ordained the sam to be recordit in the bookis of Sederunt; and, conform to the comand therof, declaired the place of the said lord Tarbat in the Session to be vaicand.<sup>1</sup>

After the inquiry by the Committee, Parliament, on 9th September 1663, repealed the two Acts passed on 9th September 1662, the one for excepting persons from public trust, and the other for voting the same by billets.<sup>2</sup>

After the formal repeal of the Acts, and the depriving of Lord Tarbat of his seat on the Bench, Lauderdale resolved on affronting Lord Tarbat in plain Parliament. As a preliminary to this, Lauderdale threatened to produce several letters which were written to him by Lord Tarbat while he was proceeding with the billeting against Lauderdale—in which letters, it was said, Lord Tarbat professed great kindness for Lauderdale.

The Commissioner, Rothés, as the friend of Lord Tarbat, repeated this threat to him; and Lord Tarbat threatened in return, for Lord Lauderdale's kindness, as he called it, that he would produce in Parliament the letters which Lauderdale addressed to the Parliament of Scotland when he was President of the Committee of both Kingdoms, in the year 1647, as these letters persuaded them to deliver up the King, with many severe reflections upon the King's person. This had the desired effect of counteracting the threat of Lauderdale to expose Lord Tarbat, as his Lordship in turn appeared to be able to expose Lauderdale more effectually.

At a personal encounter these two antagonists were very well matched; but the practical victory remained with Lauderdale, as he retained his office

<sup>1</sup> Books of Sederunt, vol. vi. p. 131.

<sup>2</sup> The Acts of the Parliaments, vol. vii. p. 471, No. 30.

of Secretary, and really ruled the King for many years. Lord Tarbat, being attached to the cause of the Earl of Middleton, shared the misfortune of his fall. Besides being deprived of his seat as a Lord of Session, he was kept out of all official employment for many years.

Shortly before he was deprived of his seat on the Bench, Lord Tarbat was required by the Lords to appear and take the Declaration against the Covenant. The following letter from him, and the relative proceedings, are thus recorded in the Books of Sederunt :—

10<sup>mo</sup> Februarii 1664.

The sam day the lord chancellor exhibeit in presence of the hoill lordis an letter fra the lord Tarbet, in ansuer to an letter sent to him be the lordis of Session (of the sam tenour with the letter recordit vpon the 8th Januarii last, sent to the lord Arnistoun<sup>1</sup>): which, being red, the saidis lordis ordanit to be ingrost and recordit in the bookis of Sederunt. Wherof the tennour followis : For the right honorable the Erle of Glencarn, lord chancellour of the kingdom of Scotland, 30 Januarii 1664. Right honorable, your lordships of the fyft, I have receaved this last of January, wherby his maiestie's pleasour is signified for my appeirance at Edinburgh, in ordor to the taking or refusing of the declaration against the Covenant. The shortnes of tyme makis my obedience impossible, albeit I had no other impediend, bot besydis that, the present condition of my health will not allow me, without manifest danger of my health, to attempt a journey. My lord, I never ballanced my bodie nor estat with my dewtie of obedience to my prince's command, nor wold I now, if the exigent could not admit of this excuse. For, my lord, I have alredie subscrievd to that declaratione in parliament, and my opinion for that declaratione wes almost alsweill knowne as my self; so that your lordship, I know, wilbe just to me by notifying, if it be

<sup>1</sup> 5th January 1664.—Letter from his Majesty recorded, requiring the Lords of Session who had absented themselves, to give in their subscription to the Declaration against the Covenant, and to be informed of their obedience or refusal. The Lords thereupon written to are, Arniston, Stair, Bedlay, Tarbat. The last is required to come in 2d February.

8th January 1664.—The letter sent to James Dundas, Lord Arniston, requires him either to sign the Declaration concerning the Covenant, or have his place declared void. Lord Arniston states in reply that he had sent in his demission some weeks ago, and that therefore he was incapacitated from obeying their Lordships.

requisit, the trew caus of my absens, and my alredie performance of dewtie in ordour to that declaratione, which I salbe willing to reiterat als oft as autoritie calls me to it, in what station quhatsoever. And trulie, my lord, my necessitat absence from this occasion from my king and countrey's service, and your lordship's noble and good company, is of werie much truble to, my lords, your most humble servant,

GEORGE M<sup>c</sup>KENZIE.<sup>1</sup>

To a young man of so much promise as a rising statesman as Lord Tarbat, with powers equal perhaps to those of his successful rival, his entire exclusion from all public employment must have been very galling. He continued to represent his native county of Ross in the Parliament of Scotland, and he took an active part in the general business of the Parliament, being frequently nominated a member of important committees.

Although out of office, Lord Tarbat was not inactive in any measure which tended to the public good, and particularly that of the Highlands. In a letter to the Earl of Rothes, the Commissioner, dated 10th October 1665, Lord Tarbat, in their "old familiarity," offers his advice as to the best mode of suppressing the Highland robberies and insurrections. He proposed that the Earls of Murray and Seaforth, the two Sheriffs of the largest Highland counties, should receive a commission of lieutenancy of all the broken Highlands to hold courts, and to hold chiefs and landlords responsible for all under them.<sup>2</sup>

One of the principal correspondents of Lord Tarbat was James Sharp, Archbishop of St. Andrews. After ten years of exclusion from every office, the Archbishop appears to have been the first to pave the way for the restoration of Lord Tarbat. In a letter from the Archbishop, dated London, November 21, 1674, in which, after alluding to the great loss which Lord Tarbat sustained in the public charges, he refers to a

"Conference with my Lady Dutchess of Lawderdale, at Ham, when I might,

<sup>1</sup> Books of Sederunt, vol. vi. p. 129.

<sup>2</sup> Contemporary copy letter at Tarbat House.

without impertinency or seeming desigu, make tryall how her Grace might be disposed towards yow. After some discourse about your sone-in-law, Clackmannan,<sup>1</sup> and then of yourself, I sayed that to her which found such acceptance, that her Grace gave me commission, at my return to Scotland, which then I expected would have been soon after, to give [assur]ance of her inclinations to doe you all the good offices in her power; and when she should see yow and Clackmaunan, who, she thinks, has of late carryed somewhat strangely to her, yow should find her endeavours friendly. This is the summe of what passed then; the circumstances and particulars I cannot in this way signifye to yow. Twice since that tyme I had occasion to mention yow to my Lord Duke of Lawderdale, and spoke of the apprehensions you might be under, that through mistakes intertained of yow, prejudice might be done by confyning and sending yow to the North; to which he sayed he knew no cause, and nether he nor any else heir meant yow hurt; and, by any collection I can make, I shall say freely, I could wish, whyl I were here, your conveniency could have allowed your making a journey for seeing your Prince and your freinds of this Church, and that yow knew my reasons for such a wish, when probably yow might find matters in a more hopefull tendency to your satisfaction then when yow were heir some years agone, and perceive that some now see it ther interest to own the Church, who formerly did not. Yow may remember that I have professed to yow, as I have done to other freinds, when I had occasion to speak of that head, that the measure of my freindship and service, if it can signify to any man, is according as I find them affected and concerned for the Church as now constituted, and may say I have done every man right who has been so, and shall doe for the future, however persons may change towards me. I doe not mistake if I beleve I know on what side you are to be found, and desire yow may beleve that, wherin I can be of use to yourself and your interest, I will employ my best endeavours in much sincerity.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lady Margaret Mackenzie, the eldest daughter of Sir George Mackenzie, married Sir David Bruce of Clackmannan, without issue.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. pp. 19, 20.

## CHAPTER THIRD.

RESTORATION OF SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT IN 1678—  
CHARACTER OF LAUDERDALE—PROCEEDINGS OF SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE  
DOWN TO HIS CREATION AS VISCOUNT OF TARBAT IN 1685.

THESE conferences between the Archbishop of St. Andrews and the Duke and Duchess of Lauderdale appear to have paved the way for the restoration of Sir George Mackenzie to public life, although it was not until the lapse of other four years that an opportunity occurred of appointing him to office. On the 16th of October 1678, he was appointed to the high office of Lord Justice-General of Scotland; and on the following day, King Charles the Second made a grant to him of a pension of £200.<sup>1</sup> A letter from King Charles the Second, dated on the 27th of the previous month, restoring him to the King's favour, was recorded in the Books of Sederunt on the 12th of November 1678; and is as follows:—

Duodecimo Novembris 1678.

His Maiestie's letter vnderwritten, direct to the saids lords, being reade, was ordained to be recorded in the Bookes of Sederunt. Of which letter the tenor followes:—

CHARLES R.

Right trusty and welbeloued Cousin and Councillor, Right trusty and welbeloued Cousins and Councillors, Right trusty and welbeloued Councillors, and trusty and welbeloued, Wee greet you well. Whereas by ane Act of the third sessioun of our first Parliament, intituled, *An Act Rescinding tuo Acts past in the last Session of Parliament*, our Estates their conueened did testify their dutifull and just resentment of the injury done unto us and our faithfull minister by the insolent endeavours of some then intrusted by us, in that extravagant

<sup>1</sup> Original Grant, Bundle 3 N, No. 1, of Cromartie Papers.



novation of Billeting: By which Act it is lykewayes referred to us what should be determined concerning the principall actors in that abuse: In pursuance wherof, Wee, remembring that Sir Georg M<sup>e</sup>Keinzie of Tarbett, Knight-Barronett, was not only accessory thereto, but that he had been singularly employed therin, Wee did, by our letter dated the

day of

1663, remove him from some employments he had from us. Bot now, considering how befor that, and even in the worst of times, he had on all occasions evidenced ane intire loyalty and fidelity to us, and that since, he hath not only shewed a dutifull acquiescence to our will, and his greife for the wronge he had committed in that affaire, but also that he hath laid hold on all fitt opportunities to demonstrate his constant duty and loyalty to us, and affectioun to our Minister whom he had injured; and upon narrower search in his deppartment finding that, in the fault committed by him, he was not only induced, bot commanded to it by our then commissioner, and severalls of our principall officers, as the Instructions given unto him, and other authentick papers, have evidently made appear unto us. Wherefor wee think it fitt not only to pardon whatever the said Sir Georg M<sup>e</sup>Keinzie of Tarbett hath done in all that affair, bot also to excuse him, and to receive him again into our royal favour. And it is our express will and pleasure that what he hath done therin be not objected against him, directlie nor indirectly, in judgement, or without the same, heirefter. And in respect that our forementioned letter is registrated in your Book of Sederunt, it is our Royal pleasure that this also be insert and recorded therin, and extracts therof given as a memoriall of this our clemencie and favour unto him. And wee doe heerby declare this to be our furdere and full determinatione as to him, according to the reference made unto us by the forementioned act of Parliament, and so wee bid you heartily fareweel. Given at our Court at Whitehall, the 27th day of September 1678, and of our reigne the 30th year.

By his Maiestie's command,

Sic subscribitar, LAUDERDALE.<sup>1</sup>

The office of Great Justiciar, or Justice-General, to which Lord Tarbat was now appointed, was placed next to that of the Lord Chancellor. Originally the Justice Court was the only Sovereign Court of the kingdom. Even after the erection of the Court of Session, much civil business came before the

<sup>1</sup> Books of Sederunt, vol. vii. f. 120.

Justice Court; but by several statutes the jurisdiction was restricted to criminal causes only. By a new constitution of the court in 1672, it was made to consist of the Lord Justice-General as president, the Lord Justice-Clerk, and five of the ordinary Lords of Session, who were constituted the supreme judges in matters criminal. The office of Lord Justice-General was long held as a heritable office by the Earls of Argyll. In 1628 the Earl of Argyll surrendered his hereditary right, and the appointments to the office have since been made by gifts under the Great Seal. James Duke of Montrose, who was appointed to the office in 1795, held it for the long period of forty years, and on his death in 1836, the duties of the office were conjoined with those of the Lord President of the Court of Session, who is now styled Lord Justice-General and Lord President. Lord Cromartie remarks on the smallness of the salary attached to the office in his day, but it appears from the laws of King Malcolm that the salary was then only £5 for every day of the justice-ayre. The office is a very ancient one, and the names of the Lord Justices are traced back to a very early date.

On the 11th of November 1678, Lord Tarbat was admitted a member of His Majesty's Privy Council for Scotland. Once restored, his promotions increased rapidly.

By patent dated on the 16th of October 1681, he was appointed to the office of Lord Clerk-Register in room of Sir Archibald Primrose, who was appointed Lord Justice-General; and on the 10th November following, Lord Tarbat was admitted one of the ordinary Lords of Session.

As Lord Clerk-Register, Lord Tarbat was provided with the lodging in the Palace of Holyrood, which was for some time occupied by the Earl of Roscommon. This appears from a warrant by the Duke of Hamilton, as hereditary Keeper of the Palace, dated September 1682;<sup>1</sup> and, on 26th Febru-

<sup>1</sup> Original Warrant, Bundle 2 D, No. 195, of Cromartie Papers.

ary 1685, Lord Tarbat received from King James the Seventh a grant of a pension of £400 in consideration of the expense to which he was subjected by living constantly in Edinburgh in attendance on His Majesty's service. The grant was to endure during the King's pleasure.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Tarbat's scholarship and great care and method in transacting business eminently qualified him to perform the duties of custodian of the National Records. He performed the duties in person, and personally inspected and examined all the existing registers. He was the means of recovering many important documents and Acts of Parliament, and he also recovered the warrants of many of the records which were taken away by Cromwell to England. He obtained an Act of Parliament establishing minute-books of records, which have proved of the greatest service in searching and ascertaining their contents, especially where these are voluminous. While in office, Lord Tarbat wrote a paper which explains very succinctly the duties of Lord Register, the emoluments of the office, and the services which he himself rendered in recovering lost records.<sup>2</sup>

Previous to the appointment of Lord Tarbat as Lord Clerk-Register, his old antagonist, Lauderdale, had been superseded in the office of Secretary of State. He displeased the Duke of York on several important questions, and made an enforced resignation of his office.

Some account of one who was brought into direct personal collision with Lord Tarbat, in an early part of his career, may not be inappropriate in this memoir of one of the rivals. Bishop Burnet, who was intimately acquainted with Lauderdale, has drawn this striking portrait of him:—"The Earl of Lauderdale, afterwards made Duke, had been for many years a zealous Covenanter; but in the year forty-seven he turned to the King's interests,

<sup>1</sup> Original Grant, Bundle 3 N, No. 5, of Cromartie Papers.

<sup>2</sup> Original in the Cromartie Charter-chest.

and had continued a prisoner all the while after Worcester fight, where he was taken. He was kept for some years in the Tower of London, in Portland Castle, and in other prisons, till he was set at liberty by those who called home the King. So he went over to Holland. And since he continued so long, and, contrary to all men's opinions, in so high a degree of favour and confidence, it may be expected that I should be a little copious in setting out his character, for I knew him very particularly. He made a very ill appearance; he was very big, his hair red, hanging oddly about him; his tongue was too big for his mouth, which made him bedew all that he talked to; and his whole manner was rough and boisterous, and very unfit for a court. He was very learned, not only in Latin, in which he was a master, but in Greek and Hebrew. He had read a great deal of divinity, and almost all the historians, ancient and modern, so that he had great materials. He had with these an extraordinary memory, and a copious but unpolished expression. He was a man, as the Duke of Buckingham called him to me, of a blundering understanding. He was haughty beyond expression, abject to those he saw he must stoop to, but imperious to all others. He had a violence of passion that carried him often to fits like madness, in which he had no temper. If he took a thing wrong, it was a vain thing to study to convince him: that would rather provoke him to swear he would never be of another mind: he was to be let alone; and perhaps he would have forgot what he had said, and come about of his own accord. He was the coldest friend, and the violentest enemy I ever knew. I felt it too much not to know it. He at first seemed to despise wealth, but he delivered himself up afterwards to luxury and sensuality, and by that means he ran into a vast expense, and stuck at nothing that was necessary to support it. In his long imprisonment he had great impressions of religion on his mind, but he wore these out so entirely that scarce any trace of them was left. His great experience in affairs, his

ready compliance with everything that he thought would please the King, and his bold offering at the most desperate counsels, gained him such an interest in the King, that no attempt against him nor complaint of him could ever shake it, till a decay of strength and understanding forced him to let go his hold. He was in his principles much against Popery and arbitrary government; and yet, by a fatal train of passions and interests, he made way for the former, and had almost established the latter. And, whereas some, by a smooth deportment, made the first beginnings of tyranny less discernible and unacceptable, he, by the fury of his behaviour, heightened the severity of his ministry, which was liker the cruelty of an inquisition than the legality of justice. With all this he was a Presbyterian, and retained his aversion to King Charles I. and his party to his death.”<sup>1</sup>

Bishop Burnet admits that he was a sufferer at the hands of Lauderdale, and in return the hand of the Bishop was laid heavily on his persecutor in portraying his character.

Lord Macaulay, in his History, follows suit with the Bishop in his description of Lauderdale, who, “loud and coarse both in mirth and anger, was perhaps, under the outward show of boisterous frankness, the most dishonest man in the whole cabal. He had been conspicuous among the Scotch insurgents of 1638, and zealous for the Covenant. He was accused of having been deeply concerned in the sale of Charles the First to the English Parliament, and was, therefore, in the estimation of good Cavaliers, a traitor, if possible, of a worse description than those who had sate in the High Court of Justice. He often talked with noisy jocularly of the days when he was a canter and a rebel. He was now the chief instrument employed by the Court in the work of forcing Episcopacy on his reluctant countrymen, nor did he in that cause shrink from the unsparing use of the sword, the halter, and the

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Burnet's History of his Own Time. Vol. i. pp. 101, 102. Ed. 1724.

boot. Yet those who knew him knew that thirty years had made no change in his real sentiments, that he still hated the memory of Charles the First, and that he still preferred the Presbyterian form of Church Government to every other.”<sup>1</sup>

The same eloquent historian afterwards refers to Lauderdale’s corrupt gains in office, and his tenacity of place-keeping, in which, however, he was not singular in his age. “ In the seventeenth century, a statesman who was at the head of affairs might easily, and without giving scandal, accumulate in no long time an estate amply sufficient to support a dukedom. . . . The gains of the Chancellor Clarendon, of Arlington, of Lauderdale, and of Danby were enormous. . . . The more than Italian luxury of Ham, with its busts, fountains, and aviaries, were among the many signs which indicated what was the shortest road to boundless wealth. This is the true explanation of the unscrupulous violence with which the statesmen of that day struggled for office, of the tenacity with which, in spite of vexations, humiliations, and dangers, they clung to it, and of the scandalous compliances to which they stooped in order to retain it.”<sup>2</sup>

According to Lauderdale’s own account, his holding of office so long was against his own wish, and by the express command of the King; and that at last he was, on his own solicitation, relieved of his office with joy. In a letter written by Lauderdale, dated at Ham, 13th September 1680, he writes :—  
“ Having now, at last, by God’s blessing and the King’s goodness, after long and earnest pressing, obtained his Majestie’s leave to demitt my office of Secretary, and his Majestie having been pleased to fill that place with a most worthy, loyall, and able man (the Earl of Morray), you may be sure my mind is, God be thanked, very much at ease.”

This, and the subsequent portion of the same letter, which earnestly

<sup>1</sup> History of England, 10th Edition, 1854, vol. i. pp. 213-214.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 309.

beseeches an exoneration for all actings while in office, are in the handwriting of a secretary. But the conclusion of the letter is holograph of the Duke himself, in a feeble and tremulous scroll—"It was my right arme, wher I was bled this day, which makes (me) use another hand."<sup>1</sup>

The bodily ailments here alluded to were aggravated by his retirement, and they proved to be the beginning of the end. Lauderdale lingered on in disappointment and chagrin for two years, and died in August 1682.

Alexander, sixth Earl of Morray, who is alluded to by Lauderdale as his successor in the office of Secretary, was on terms of intimacy with Lord Tarbat. In a letter to his Lordship, dated 15th September 1684, Secretary Morray writes that he values the correspondence of the latter as much as he can express, and that he loves him, and desires to serve him; and that the King and Duke were extremely pleased with the accounts which Lord Tarbat had given concerning Spence and Carstares.<sup>2</sup>

Lord Tarbat had the chief management of the business of Scotland during the remainder of the reign of King Charles the Second, and during the reign of King James the Second. He was very active in opposing the invasion of Scotland by the ninth Earl of Argyll. One of the measures adopted by the Government for crushing that ill-fated expedition was the appointment of the Marquis of Athole as Lord Lieutenant and Justiciary of the county of Argyll. Several letters written by Lord Tarbat to the Marquis are printed in this collection.<sup>3</sup> In a letter, dated 6th September 1684, Athole is informed of the proceedings of the Privy Council. It is stated that "Argyl's letters, now discovered, show a plaine, open, violent intended rebellion both in

<sup>1</sup> Original letter in Invermay Charter-chest. A Prince of the House of Brunswick once bluffly asked an Earl of Lauderdale if he was descended of that great b—kg—d, the Duke of Lauderdale? No, was the cool reply, but

of his grandfather, the Chancellor, who was a greater.—[Riddell's Peerage Law, 1842, vol. i. p. 217.]

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 42.

<sup>3</sup> Vol. i. p. 33, *et seq.*

England and heer. Spence's help hath opend all the letters plainly. Carstairs is just now coming to a confession also. When he hath deponed, by the next your Lordship shall know what it is."

Spence here referred to was a servant and follower of the Earl of Argyll. He was put to the torture first by the boots, and afterwards by the thumbkins,—a small vice, which, with the screw, was capable of inflicting severe torture on the hand. Carstares was also put to the same torture of the thumbkins. It is related that when he afterwards showed to his master, King William, one of these instruments, his Majesty was impressed with the idea that it could not inflict such pain as was reputed. Carstares asked the King to make trial of it. At a few turns of the screw the pain was so severe that the King cried out in agony, and said that, under such an instrument, a sufferer might be made to confess anything.

During his imprisonment at Stirling, Carstares wrote to Lord Tarbat, complaining of his ill-usage there, and beseeching his Lordship to obtain for him more liberty. He had but one room for himself, his wife, and maid. He hoped to be liberated on bail, and promised to appear when called on.<sup>1</sup>

King Charles the Second died on the 6th of February 1685. Between the removal of Lauderdale from office in 1680, and the King's death, Lord Tarbat had been intrusted with many of the affairs of Scotland. Exactly ten days after the death of the King, his successor, King James the Second, on the 16th of the same month, wrote the following letter from Whitehall to the Duke of Queensberry, then Lord Treasurer of Scotland, with whom James corresponded on Scotch affairs for many years, both before and after his accession to the throne:—

“ Whitehall, Feb. 16, 1685.

“ I have received yours of the 10th by the flying pacquet, and have only now

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 43.



tyme to tell you that the change of my condition has made no alteration in kindnesse to you, having the same esteeme and consideration for you I had before, which I am sure you will give me no reason to alter, so that you may be at quiet in your mind, and shall find I have the same trust and confidence in you I had, and am sensible none has served me better and more faithfullie than you, and do rely on the continuance of it. As to other things, you will know my pleasure from the letter I have signed, and what the Secretarys will say to you.

“J. R.

“For the Lord Treasurer of Scotland.”<sup>1</sup>

In another letter, the King writes to the Lord Treasurer of certain steps taken by him to carry on the Government. This letter alludes to Lord Tarbat, and is as follows :—

Whitehall, Feb. 25, 1686.

By that tyme this getts to you, you will haue the Lord Tarbot with you, who I haue charged to tell you the reasons which moued me to put the Tresury againe into Commission. I haue also discoursed at large upon the same subject both to Lord Rochester and your sonne, and assured them, as I now do you, that nothing but my being satisfyd, upon long and mature considerations, that it is absolutly necessary for the good of my service could haue obliged me to do it. And to lett the world, as well as yourself, see I do it upon no other account, I make you President of the Councell, and put you into the Commission of the Tresury, in both which stations, as well as in that of the Sec. Com., you may haue the oportunity of serving me as well and as usefully as in the former station you were in. As to my putting the command of the Castel of Edenburgh into the Duke of Gordon's hands, I thought that necessary at this tyme, to make that towne haue more regard for my commands, and civiler to the Catholiks, by seeing it in the hands of one of that persuasion, who, I am sure, never thought of asking for it, nor dos he know yett I intend it him. I shall end as I began, with assuring you I haue done all this upon no other consideration then what I already sayd; and as I expect the same service from you which I always did, so you may be sure of my kindnesse and protection to you and yours.

J. R.

For the Duke of Queensberry.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Queensberry Correspondence, at Drumlanrig.

<sup>2</sup> Original Letter in Queensberry Correspondence, at Drumlanrig.

## CHAPTER FOURTH.

THE CREATION OF SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE AS VISCOUNT OF TARBAT IN 1685, AND HIS PROCEEDINGS IN THE REVOLUTION OF 1688.

TWO months after his accession to the Crown, King James was pleased to create Sir George Mackenzie a Peer of Scotland, by the titles of Viscount of Tarbat, Lord Macleod and Castlehaven. The patent of creation is dated at Whitehall, on 15th April 1685. It recites the very many signal services performed by Sir George Mackenzie as Lord Register, and in many other public trusts confided to him by King Charles the Second; and also his unshaken fidelity during the Usurpation. The dignities were granted to the patentee, and the heirs-male of his body.<sup>1</sup>

During the whole reign of King James the Second, Lord Tarbat enjoyed the office of Lord Clerk-Register, and was also an ordinary Lord of Session. Besides the business strictly applicable to those offices, he took part in the political business of the country. During that period, as well as towards the close of the reign of the late King, he received many applications from all classes of subjects. Robert Barclay of Ury, the author of an "Apology for the Quakers," applied to Lord Tarbat in reference to a proposal for joining East New Jersey to New York as a part of that Government, and so share in it by sending their representatives to the Assembly at New York. King James the Second, while Duke of York, obtained rights in East New Jersey under a special grant.<sup>2</sup> The application of Robert Barclay was brought under the notice of the King, who wrote the following letter on his relations with the Quakers:—

<sup>1</sup> Patent, vol. ii. p. 348.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 32.

“ Whithall, July 16, 1685.

“ Tho’ I have not great reson to be well satisfyd with the Quakers in generall, yett I look on this bearer, Rob. Barkley, to be well affected to me, so that I would have you shew him what countenance is reasonable, and not lett him suffer for the faults of others of his persuasion, which is all I shall say now.

“ For the Lord Treasurer of Scotland.”<sup>1</sup>

The Duke of York, in virtue of his right to lands in New Jersey, on 14th March 168 $\frac{2}{3}$ , conveyed to James Earl of Perth, Robert Barclay of Ury, and others, a tract of land in New England, in America: the said tract of land being then called New Caesarea, or New Jersey. The lands were to be held of the Duke of York and his heirs, for yearly payment of ten nobles in the Middle Temple Hall, London.<sup>2</sup>

Although engrossed in public affairs, Lord Tarbat was not unmindful of the poor people on his estates. On the 18th September 1686, he executed a deed of mortification, which provided that thirty-six bolls of bear from his quarter lands of Wester Geanies should be given yearly for the help, sustenance, and entertainment of poor and indigent persons living on his lands of Easter Aird, etc., in the parish of Tarbat; Meddat, etc., in Logie and Kilmuir parishes; Park, Kinetties, etc., in the parish of Fodderty; with preference to decayed tenants, and their wives when widows. The gift was to be administered by the minister and elders of the parish of Tarbat; and during the life of his wife, Ann Viscountess of Tarbat, so much of it was to be given to poor persons in the parish of Fearn. The mortification was made in thankful acknowledgment of God’s mercies, spiritual and temporal, bestowed on him; and the recipients were to be such as were of good life, and were to pray for the King, the Bishop of Ross, the donor, his lady, and their children, and were to attend the church.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Original holograph letter in volume of Queensberry Correspondence at Drumlanrig.

<sup>2</sup> Grant in Bundle 3 E, No. 515, of Cromartie Papers, at Tarbat House.

<sup>3</sup> Copy Deed of Mortification at Tarbat House.

While holding the offices successively of Lord Justice-General and Lord Clerk-Register, Lord Tarbat was admitted a burghess of several of the royal burghs of Scotland, including those of Haddington, Dunbar, and Montrose.<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding his constant occupation with official and State affairs at this time, Lord Tarbat found leisure for attending to field sports. The Honourable Alexander Melville, afterwards Lord Raith, eldest son of Lord Melville, writes to him from Monimail, in September 1687, to let him know when he (Lord Tarbat) came to Fife, that he might come and hawk with him; assuring him that his hawk is very good, and that if his Lordship could bring a good spaniel, fair sport might be expected.<sup>2</sup>

The active position into which Lord Tarbat was forced at the period of the Revolution in 1688 has been graphically told by a contemporary writer:—

When the Prince of Orange was preparing to invade England, Lord Tarbat was not only Clerk-Register, but one of His Majesty's Privy Councillors, and one of the Secret Committee of the Council, which consisted of seven persons:—the President, the Marquis of Athole, the Earl of Perth, Chancellor, the Earl of Balcarras, the Viscount of Tarbat, Paterson, Archbishop of Glasgow, and Sir George Lockhart. This Secret Committee had the ordering of most of the affairs of the nation.

The King being informed that there was great discontent amongst his subjects in Scotland, sent a warrant to the Chancellor, the Earl of Balcarras, and Lord Tarbat, as three of the Secret Committee, to inquire of all the Officers of State, Judges, and officers of the army, their opinion and obtain their

<sup>1</sup> Extracts from the Records of these burghs in 1679, 1683, and 1684, 3 N. Nos. 2, 3, and 4 of Cromartie Papers.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. pp. 53, 54. A powder-horn, having engraved on it the monogram of Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, was described by Mr. James Drummond, R.S.A., to the So-

ciety of Antiquaries in April 1872. It is made of common horn, but beautifully carved, and has on it an attempt at Sir George's portrait in a rude way. He is represented with his gun on his shoulder, and wearing this powder-horn and the belted plaid.—[Report in *Scotsman*, 10th April 1872.]

consent for taking off the penal laws and tests; and though most of them consented to it, yet it augmented their fears and jealousies more than ever.

In September 1688, the King acquainted the Secret Committee that he expected an invasion from Holland; but his enemies gave out that this was only a sham to get the army together to enable him to forward his designs for establishing the Roman Catholic religion. A short time, however, undeceived them in that, and the King, being afraid of some insurrections that were rumoured as ready to break out in the North of England, sent orders to the Secret Committee to concentrate his forces in Scotland with the view of marching into England. Lord Tarbat, plainly seeing how much this would encourage his enemies in Scotland, by leaving the country at their discretion and encouraging them to think that he was in danger from his English subjects, proposed that an express should be sent to the King to show him the inexpediency of withdrawing the army from Scotland, and to urge on him the formation of an army out of the few regular forces that were in the country, with the modelled militia, and a detachment of Highlanders, amounting in all to 13,000 men, and that this army should be furnished with a half-year's pay, and be stationed either on the borders of Scotland, or in the North of England. That would keep the north of England and the whole of Scotland in peace; and if he had further use for them, they would be always ready to serve him in either nation. This was agreed to by the Council, and an express was despatched to acquaint the King with it. But instead of following this advice, the Earl of Melfort sent an order in the King's name, but not subscribed by his Majesty, that the army should immediately march; and that if any of the King's friends were afraid of the mob, they might march along with the army. They began their march about the beginning of October, and left the country exposed to the mercy of a furious and incensed mob.

The Council, finding themselves in this danger, ordered the modelled militia to be brought to Edinburgh, and some of them to be quartered in the suburbs, under the command of Sir George Monro, then an old man, who had served under Gustavus Adolphus. But the army had no sooner passed the Borders than great numbers of the discontented noblemen and gentlemen came into Edinburgh, where they kept frequent meetings; and although the Council, by their spies amongst them, got notice of all their proceedings, yet they overlooked what they had not power to suppress.

One of the first things they took into their consideration was how to hinder all correspondence between the King and Council, which Sir James Murray of Philiphaugh<sup>1</sup> undertook to do, and did it so effectually that few packets escaped them; yet some came through till the rising in the northern counties of England under the Earl of Derby and Lord Lumley; then all packets were opened, and only such suffered to pass as they thought fit. At length an express came to the Council with an account of the landing of the Prince of Orange, and that the King was gone to meet him. Upon this the Chancellor, with advice of the Council, resolved to send an express to the King to receive his further orders, and to know how affairs were going in England. The Viscount of Tarbat recommended Bailie Brand, a merchant in Edinburgh, as the most proper person for this, he being accustomed to travel that road about his own affairs, and so less liable to be suspected. This was agreed to, and the Bailie was despatched with the Chancellor's account to the King of the bad state of the nation since the calling away of the forces, and that the Presbyterians had all declared against him. But the Bailie betrayed his trust, and went straight into the camp of the Prince of Orange, and was introduced by Dr. Burnet. He delivered to the Prince the letter intended for the King, and told him that he was

<sup>1</sup> Sir James Montgomerie, according to the Balcarras Memoirs, p. 13.

sent by several to offer his Highness their service. This becoming known, Lord Tarbat was suspected of having contrived the scheme, and of being one of those who had commissioned Bailie Brand to make an offer of service to his Highness. But my Lord Balcarras, who was no great friend to Tarbat, vindicates him in regard to this; for, he says, "I am convinced that he had not at that time any correspondence, for there was no man in the nation in such apprehensions of danger after he read the Prince of Orange's declaration, and saw by it he intended to sacrifice all to serve the Presbyterians, and these rebels that came over with him, and who were for the most part the Viscount of Tarbat's personal enemies."

The Council, after this disappointment with Bailie Brand, ordered three of their number to wait upon the King,—the President of the Council, Tarbat and Balcarras. The two first excused themselves as not being able to ride post, so Balcarras went up alone.

The news being brought that the King's army had deserted him, and that he had returned to London, Tarbat, not doubting that the Prince of Orange would prevail in whatever he designed, began now to provide for his own safety; and knowing he had a great many enemies about the Prince, and that some others were in a fair way of being likewise brought into his favour, and that amongst the last of these none stood fairer than the Marquis of Athole, he made it his business to gain him to be his friend, and having got Sir John Dalrymple to act in concert with him, they managed the business so dexterously, that they became his sole counsellors and advisers; and whatever was done in Council was attributed to the Marquis, who had the vanity to be pleased with the name of it, whereas the whole nation knew that these two were the springs of all his actions, while if he succeeded, they were sure of a reward, and if not, the whole odium of failure would fall upon him.

The first thing they advised was to get rid of the Chancellor, Lord Perth. This proposal was most agreeable to the Marquis, both on account of a family pique, and because it would enable him to get the Government into his own hands, which fell to him, as being the next Officer of State. In order to this, they proposed the disbanding of the forces, for they knew that they would stand by the Chancellor; and although they were not much worth, yet some of the Earl of Dumbarton's inferior officers, who had come down for recruits, had put them in tolerable order, and they were better than any that could be brought against them. So this being agreed to, Lord Tarbat, in open Council, proposed the disbanding of them, as an unnecessary charge upon the Government, since he believed there would be no more to do with soldiers, and the Prince of Orange had stated in his declaration the illegality of keeping up forces in time of peace.

The Earl of Perth, who was willing to do anything to please them, not seeing through their designs, and seeing some whom he took to be his real friends earnestly urging it, agreed to it; and the next day they were all dismissed, except some companies of foot, and two troops of horse for bringing in the public money.

So soon as they had got them dismissed, the Marquis of Athole and the rest of the Councillors that were of his party came to the Chancellor's lodging and told him that they thought themselves no longer in safety to meet in Council with him and several others incapacitated by law, but if he and they would retire, it would be seen how vigorously they would act in the King's service, and get all the rabble pacified and the discontented meetings dismissed; but before he gave them any positive answer, he retired into another room, where the Duke of Gordon and all the other Roman Catholic councillors were met upon the noise of this advice of the Marquis of Athole; and having told them all that had passed, they unanimately advised him to



be gone, and that it would look better to do it voluntarily than to be compelled, as certainly he would be. So he returned to the Marquis and the other Lords that were with him, took leave of them, and retired into the country.

But the discontented party, who were now headed among the citizens by George Stirling, an apothecary, and one William Menzies, made another handle of it, for the forces were no sooner disbanded than they caused beat drums through the city, and when the inhabitants came running to know what the matter was, they had their friends and emissaries posted in all quarters of the city to tell them that all the townsmen that were Protestants should immediately gather together for their own defence, for they were certainly informed that a great number of Papists were in the town and designed to burn it that night. This made such an alarm through all the town that few stayed in their houses; and when they had once got thus together, and saw no appearance of anything, several were for returning home again; but the agents of the party, who were dispersed amongst them, told them that it were a pity that so many honest men should meet together without doing something worthy of themselves, and that they could not do a more acceptable work to God than to pull down that idolatrous chapel in the Abbey. It was no sooner proposed, than, as it ordinarily happens in mobs, who never reflect either upon the reasonableness of the proposals made to them or on the shamefulness of their actings, they all cried out, " Approves, approves," and marched straight down to the Abbey, accompanied with great numbers of boys, who are commonly fond of such occasions. Captain John Wallace, who had been put in by the Council with a guard of six score of men, in case of any attempt of this nature upon his Majesty's palace, was no sooner informed of their design than he sent a serjeant to them to desire them not to come near, otherwise he would be obliged to do his

duty. But notwithstanding this, they were animated more with blind zeal than courage. They marched on, and Captain Wallace, finding that they resolved to insult him, ordered his men to fire upon them, and about a dozen of them were killed, and thrice as many wounded. After this they ran through the town like distracted people, spreading everywhere, as they came, that Captain Wallace had massacred all the boys, and there was no family of any consideration in the city but were said to have had their children killed. Upon this all the inhabitants armed, and nothing was talked of amongst them but of the Papists' joining of Wallace to make an universal massacre. But as they were going down again to the Abbey, one of them suggested that what they were going about might some time or other be challenged, and therefore he was of opinion that a warrant should be had from the Council, and the magistrates required to assist them ; and one of the then councillors gives the following account of their proceedings :—

“ The advice,” says he, “ was thought very reasonable, and deputies were sent to the Marquis of Athole, who immediately sent for the Earl of Breadalbane, the Viscount of Tarbat, and Sir John Dalrymple. These four signed a warrant to the Magistrates of Edinburgh that they should go down in their robes, and, with the help of their trained bands, militia regiment, and town company, should assist the rabble against Captain Wallace, and force him to deliver up the house ; and likewise that they should carry down the King's heralds, and trumpeters in their coats, to summon Captain Wallace in the King's name to give up the house.

“ The Provost of Edinburgh, a timorous poor man, though very honest, obeyed their order, and went down so soon as their affairs could be in readiness. First marched the town company, commanded by Captain Graham, who, a day before this was turned out of his employment, but, on his offer of service on that occasion, he was restored ; next, the discontented gentlemen. The chief of these were Sir James Montgomerie of Skelmorlie, the Laird of Houstoun, the Laird of Greenock, the Laird of Mochrum, Mr. William Lockhart, the Laird of Riccarton Drummond, William Drummond, clerk to the artillery ; Lord Mersington, the fanatic judge, with a halbert in his hand, as drunk as ale or brandy could make him ;

next, the Provost and Magistrates, with a mob of two or three thousand men. When they came within distance of shot, the trumpeters and heralds were sent before to command him to surrender. Captain Wallace told them he was put in by the Council, and would never deliver it up without the King's or Council's command. The order was then produced, but not signed by a quorum of the Council, so he absolutely refused to obey, at which they began to fire straggling shots at one another, which made all the magistrates draw down to stairs and lairs, and left Captain Graham, the trained bands, and his company, with the rabble, to dispute the matter. Captain Wallace had been certainly able to defend the house if he had kept his men within the court and fired out at the windows, but he left the house and posted himself in the outer court, which, when Captain Graham perceived, he marched out at the town-post with his company, and came in by the back court, and so got behind him, which, when Captain Wallace heard, he slipped aside, without telling his officers or soldiers, and left them to shift for themselves. When they knew he was gone, they laid down their arms and begged quarters. The gentlemen and rabble, when they saw all hazard over, ran in upon them, killed some, and made the rest prisoners, and sent them to prison, where several of them died for want and of their wounds. Then all the rabble rushed into the house, pulled down everything they could find in the private chapel and in the Abbey, which was furnished only some days before. Next they fell upon the house where the Jesuits lived, and almost pulled it down. Then they broke into the Earl of Perth's cellars, and made themselves as drunk with wine as they were before with zeal. For two or three days thereafter they rambled up and down the town, searched and plundered what Roman Catholic houses they could find, which were very few, except some Catholic ladies, whom they used villainously; nor did the Council anything to hinder their disorders."<sup>1</sup>

And these were the consequences that followed upon this signed warrant for which Lord Tarbat and his colleagues were so much blamed; and, indeed, no apology can be offered for them, but that they were under such terrible

<sup>1</sup> Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh's MS. of a Baronage of Scotland, which he had undertaken, being in the hands of Father Hay, a canon regular of St. Geneviève, fell into the hands of this mob and was burnt, with several

other books belonging to Father Hay himself. But copies of the MS. being in other hands, escaped.—[Dr. Mackenzie's History of the Mackenzies, MS. Preface.]

apprehensions of being mobbed themselves, that they durst refuse nothing they desired, and which was entirely owing to the disbanding of the forces.

Not long after this Lord Tarbat went to London, where he had several meetings with the noblemen and gentlemen that flocked up at that time in great numbers; but so strong and general was the feeling of aversion towards him and several of his party among those in the Prince's interest, that, at one of their grand meetings Menheer Bentinck was deputed to the Prince to desire him to incapacitate for ever from all public employment the Earl of Balcarras, the Viscount of Dundee, Lord Tarbat, Sir George Mackenzie, and the Duke of Queensberry. The Prince, however, refused to do it, being resolved to put nobody into despair till he knew how they intended to behave for his interest.

In the beginning of January 1689, the Prince called a meeting of the Scottish nobility and gentry in London, to have their advice how to secure their religion and liberties. They proposed the calling of a convention of the three Estates of Parliament, to meet at Edinburgh on the 14th of March, and the Prince of Orange to take the administration of the Government upon him in the meantime.

In the Convention, King James's friends, finding themselves outvoted in all that they designed for his service, for the most part left the Convention. At length a proposal was made that the throne should be declared vacant, and the Prince of Orange proclaimed King. To put a stop to this, Lord Tarbat set a project on foot of having first a union declared between the two Kingdoms, and sent to all the King's friends to persuade them to return to the Convention. King James being then in Ireland, there could be nothing so much for his interest as the gaining of time, and if this proposal did not go on, the Government would be presently settled; whereas if it went on, several months would be spent, and the King's affairs be better adjusted.

Lord Stair went likewise into this project of a union, for he thought nothing could be more serviceable to the interest of the Prince of Orange than such a union. But the Jacobites trusted neither of them. The Duke of Hamilton opposed it with all his power; and the Presbyterians, who were afraid of their church by a union with England, struck in with the Duke of Hamilton's party. The project was dropped, having never come to a public hearing. They voted that the King had forfeited the Crown, and the Prince of Orange and Princess Mary were proclaimed King and Queen.

About this time there was one Mr. Brodie, who was sent over from Ireland by King James with letters to his friends, wherein he ordered them to be quiet till he should send further orders, and till 500 foot and 300 horse, which he had in readiness, should be landed. Mr. Brodie had told all his business to one Mr. Thomson, who came over with him from Ireland, on purpose to betray him. Upon their landing, Mr. Thomson informed the Duke of Hamilton of it, upon which Mr. Brodie was seized and searched, but they found nothing upon him, all his letters being hid in a false bottom of his valise. Being timorous, Brodie, when threatened, told all that he knew; but the letters not being directed, they only conjectured by the contents to whom they were designed, and orders were issued for apprehending several suspected persons. Lord Tarbat was arrested in his lodgings in the Parliament Close; and seeing that they designed to ruin him for ever with King William, he made his escape in the night-time, posted to London, and before any information came up against him, he had gained that Prince's favour to such a degree that he trusted more to him than to any of them.

But the Jacobites had the same fate in the first Parliament, which was called by King William on 15th April 1690, that they had in the Convention of States, for they were outvoted in everything they designed, and deserted by many of the Club Party, so that some of them left Parliament, and those

that stayed were of no manner of use. For several days there was no mention of Presbytery by either party; although it was the general inclination of the whole, yet both were afraid to mention it. Sir James Montgomerie, however, in a set speech, declared what they generally wished, wherein he told them that he knew there were instructions for settling religion, and that he thought it was a shame to that meeting that it was not yet done. He said that some were for one kind of Government and some for another; some were for a sort of Presbytery called Erastianism, like that of Holland. But he told them there ought not to be, and could not be, any in Scotland but Presbytery as it was established in 1648, which was not only according to the Word of God, but best fitted to curb the extravagant power of kings and arbitrary government, under which they had groaned for so many years. The Jacobites were extremely surprised to hear him make this speech, but he excused himself to them by telling them that there was no better way of keeping the party, and that it would signify nothing, since he knew that Lord Melville never durst pass it, though it came to be approved. So a committee was appointed to receive all the forms of government that should be brought before them, and to report their opinion of them; and till this was ready, the Parliament adjourned for some days.

When the Parliament met again, Sir James's proposal of settling of Presbytery, upon the footing of 1648, was approved, and Lord Tarbat was ordered to draw up the Act, which he did with a very rigorous narrative, so that he was spoken of as being one of the worst of men—always professing himself to be an enemy to Presbytery, and yet establishing it upon the most rigorous conditions that could be imagined. But the narrative was so violent that neither party reflected upon his omitting that, upon excommunication, the former power of the Church as to the escheats of the excommunicated persons was excluded. For, in the former times of Presbytery, when persons

were excommunicated, which often happened, their escheats fell, which made the nobility and gentry perfect slaves to them ; and since Presbytery was to be established, he could not have done the country a better piece of service, and he patiently suffered himself to be abused by both parties till the Act was touched by the sceptre ; and then he told them, that since they would needs have Presbytery, he could not help it, but that he had taken the sting out of it. For although in this Act, which passed upon the 7th of June 1690, there is an order for punishing of contumacious ministers who did not submit, yet there was none against any others. He likewise outreached them in the Act for abolishing the King's supremacy in ecclesiastical matters, for they were very well pleased with the narrative ; but when they came to consider it, they found that only the Act which was made in 1669 was rescinded, while all the other Acts that asserted the supremacy to a degree entirely inconsistent with the prerogatives of their kirk were kept in force and unrepealed.

During these transactions in Parliament in the settling of Presbytery, Lord Tarbat was secretly negotiating with the Highland Chieftains to submit to the Government, and the small assistance that King James had sent them from Ireland, notwithstanding of Melfort's great promises to the contrary, made most of them some time before this very willing to hearken to capitulation, till old Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, who had great influence with the most of them, told them that in King Charles the Second's time he had been reduced to far greater straits than ever they had been, and that he would never capitulate till he got the King, his master, and the General's orders for doing it, and that for his own part he was resolved never to capitulate or hearken to any conditions without the King's warrant, and that it would be a scandal to them to think of capitulating as long as the King was in Ireland at the head of an army, and had so many friends in Great Britain that were

willing to join them upon the least success that his Majesty should obtain over his enemies—in which case they would also certainly be reinforced with further supplies, either from Ireland or France. Upon this they resolved, that until the season of the year was a little farther advanced, and the seed thrown into the ground, they should defer their general rendezvous in the fields, that their friends in the Low Countries might have the opportunity of joining them, and that in the interim Major-General Buchan should have a detachment of twelve hundred foot to go down to the borders of the Low Country to amuse the enemy, and to fatigue their troops by alarming them in several of their quarters.

This put the Lord Tarbat into great perplexities, for he had promised to King William to bring in the Highland Chieftains, and the King himself was very desirous to have it done before he embarked for Ireland. The Earl of Breadalbane was applied to for his assistance. He was told that if he could prevail with the chieftains to submit to the Government, they should have as much money as would defray the damages they had sustained by the war, and his Lordship, for his trouble in bringing them to it, should have £5000 sterling. But Lord Breadalbane would not engage to do anything in it without advising with King James's friends, and finding them generally averse to it, he most generously rejected the offer; and Lord Balcarras says, that besides the £5000, he had other considerable rewards proffered to him. But not long after this, General Buchan being surprised and defeated by Sir Thomas Livingston at Cromdale, the Jacobites began to repent of having rejected the offer of Lord Tarbat's negotiation, and they prevailed with Breadalbane to bring on the treaty again, that they might gain at least so much time as to put the Highlanders in a posture of defence, which he did, and went straight to London to obtain King William's consent to it; but that Prince was gone before his arrival, having embarked for Ireland upon



the 11th of June, and landed at Carrickfergus upon the 14th. And upon the 1st of July the battle of the Boyne was fought, where, the Irish having deserted King James, King William gained an easy victory, and the Highland chieftains received an order from King James to make the best terms they could. Lord Tarbat being willing to have something done before King William returned, the terms betwixt them were soon agreed to, including King William's indemnity. A proclamation was published by King William, inviting all the Highlanders who were in King James's interest to come in and lay down their arms before the 1st of January 1693, and they should have his Majesty's pardon; but what money was distributed amongst them, and how much came to each of their shares, remains as yet a secret in history. However, the chieftains of the clans gained a great deal of honour by it, since so great a hero as King William was willing to buy his peace with them. Lord Tarbat, upon his return to Court, so well satisfied King William with all his proceedings, that in the year 1692 he was again restored to his old place of Lord Clerk-Register, and continued in that Prince's favour till his death.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.

## CHAPTER FIFTH.

FROM THE REVOLUTION OF 1688 TO THE CREATION OF LORD TARBAT AS EARL OF CROMARTIE IN 1703 ; NOTICES OF THE DEATH OF ANNA VISCOUNTESS OF TARBAT, AND OF THE VISCOUNT'S MARRIAGE TO MARGARET COUNTESS OF WEMYSS.

GEORGE Lord Melville was made Secretary of State for Scotland in 1689, and held office till 1690, when the Master of Stair was appointed. Between Lord Melville and Lord Tarbat there was frequent correspondence while the former was secretary. The original letters of Lord Tarbat are at Melville House. They are printed in the volume of Leven and Melville Papers, which was presented by the late Honourable William Leslie Melville to the Bannatyne Club in the year 1843. Several of these letters are very important, and bear upon the position of Lord Tarbat at the time of the Revolution, so that some notice of them in this memoir seems very appropriate on that account, as well as on account of the relationship between the families of Melville and Tarbat.

In the Leven and Melville Papers, and in Sir Walter Scott's *Tales of a Grandfather*, a graphic account is given of the escape of Lord Melville to Holland, on a hint given by his cousin, Lord Tarbat :—

“ The year after [1680], when the Duke of York had got the ascendancy over the King, and the Duke of Monmouth became popular, all those who were supposed to be enemies to the Duke of York's measures had reason to be apprehensive. That year Lord Melville sent over his gentleman, Duncan Macartar, from Fife to Edinburgh about some private business. This Macartar was a man of a pretty good family in the North, an old faithful servant of Lord Melville. Coming up the Canongate, he saw a great many of the chief people going to the Abbey, where they met, and had conversed with several people, who confirmed him in believing that something extraordinary was going on. At last he met with Lord Cromarty, the Lord Justice-General, who was always an intimate friend of

Lord Melville's, though of different principles. Lord Cromarty says to him, 'You Highland dog' (a name he was in use of giving him), 'how does my Lord? What brought you here?' Says Duncan, 'He is very well; he has sent me over about some private business.' Says my Lord, 'You had better go home again directly.' 'No, faith,' says Duncan; 'not till my business is done.' 'I say,' says my Lord, 'you Highland dog, go home as fast as you can,' and so left him. Duncan began to think that my Lord had some meaning in his being so earnest for his returning to his Lord, and accordingly went instantly back to Leith. When he came there he found all the boats pressed, and Lord Balcarras's troop of dragoons ready to embark for Fife. He knew the cornet, and made all possible inquiry where they were going, but he told him they knew nothing of their rout, and nobody knew but the commanding officer. He hired a yawl for Kinghorn, and by three o'clock got to Balbirny Bridge, where he met Lord Melville and Lord Leven going to pay a visit to the Wemyss. My Lord was surprised at Duncan's speedy return, but was not alarmed for himself at first; but his son, from all the circumstances of the story, prevailed on him to go directly to the ferry, and wait there till they heard what became of the dragoons, and Duncan went to Melville to give them information. About eleven that night the party came to Melville, and showed their warrant for apprehending my Lord and his son, and, on missing them, they carried off some arms and some horses."<sup>1</sup>

Lord Melville succeeded in escaping to London, and thence to Holland. His estates were forfeited on the death of King Charles the Second in 1685, and given to the Earl of Melfort, but were restored at the Revolution. The attainder proceeded chiefly on the charge of intercommuning with the rebels before Bothwell Bridge; but in the proceedings for the reversal of the forfeiture, Lord Tarbat said that both the King and the Duke of Monmouth had several times told him that they had employed Melville to persuade the rebels to lay down their arms, and that he wrote instructions which the King signed and delivered to Monmouth in his presence, to the same effect.

The following exoneration by King William to Lord Tarbat was granted on the 25th of April 1689:—

<sup>1</sup> Leven and Melville Papers, pp. xiii-xv.

“ Whereas we have thought fit to put the records of our Kingdom of Scotland into the hands of \_\_\_\_\_ untill we shall have considered how to dispose of the same ; and finding that our right trustie and well beloved George Lord Tarbat hath readily offered to deliver the said records upon oath, in the accustomed manner, and understanding that the said Lord Tarbat hath not only exercised that charge faithfully and diligently, but done similar service to the Crown and Kingdom, in putting the principal evidences in order and method, and in recovering many considerable evidences which were missing to many of our liedges, do therefore exonerate and discharge him of his said trust and office, and approve his service therein ; and in consideration thereof, and of his long services, we do further, of our grace and by our royal power, give to him our good will, favour, and protection, and do secure him from all danger in his person or estate, notwithstanding of any actings, writings, councils, speaches, or any crimes committed by him, in any of his public capacities or services, before the day of this instant ; and we promise to pass an ample remission to him, under our great seal thereupon ; and because of his age and weakness by sickness, we dispense with his attendance at public meetings of any sort, unless we, by our special mandate, call him on any occasion ; and we will this to be as valid to him in all respects, and to all effects, as if this discharge and remission were expressed in full form, and had passed our seals, quherewith we dispense in ample manner, and fullest interpretation of our royal favour and good will towards him. Given at our Court at Hampton Court, the \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ 1689.<sup>1</sup>

The following letter from the King to Lord Melville was sent to the latter with the exoneration to Lord Tarbat :—

MY LORD,— . . . Since you think my Lord Tarbat can be serviceable in quieting the North, I hope you will encourage his going thither, and to that end I have sent you his discharge in the form it is desired, which you make use of or not, as you see opportunity. A distribution of money among the Highlanders being thought the likeliest way to satisfy them, I have given orders for 5 or 6 thousand pounds to be sent to Major-General Mackay for that purpose, as also for 2 Frigates to cruize on the north-east coast as you desire, and hope, in sometime, our affairs will be in so good a posture that we shall not apprehend an invasion from Ireland, but

<sup>1</sup> The Leven and Melville Papers, pp. 14, 15.

rather be in a condition to send over some sufficient force to support the British interest there.—April 25th, 1689.<sup>1</sup>

It appears from a letter, supposed to be by Sir James Stewart, Lord Advocate, dated 24th May 1689, that there was a prospect of the Duke of Queensberry and Viscount Tarbat being brought again into the Government. Some, indeed, thought that Lord Tarbat would either be Lord Chancellor, or have his own place of Lord Clerk-Register.<sup>2</sup>

On the other hand, the Duke of Hamilton wrote to Lord Melville, on 1st June 1689, that the Privy Council, on the information of General Mackay, had resolved on securing in prison the Lords Tarbat and Lovat; for on what General Mackay had reported, they thought they could do no less.<sup>3</sup>

In a letter from Lord Tarbat to Lord Melville, supposed to be dated 1st June 1689, he says that he did wish, and would have endeavoured that all the King's enemies should have submitted to him, and that all the worthy ecclesiastics in the nation might have owned him and their duty, that so he might not be the King of a party, nor want a great part of the hearts and hands of Scotland.<sup>4</sup>

In another letter, marked as of the same date, Lord Tarbat at great length expresses his good wishes for his Majesty's success, on which he says, he is convinced depends not only the happiness of Scotland, but, under God, the true security of our reformed religion.<sup>5</sup>

The tactics which were pursued by Lord Tarbat and his friends in the famous Billeting Act, for excluding their opponents from office, were threatened to be turned against him and his friends by those now in power. This is indicated in a letter from the Earl of Crawford to Lord Melville, dated 11th June 1689, in which he says that those aimed at are the Duke of

<sup>1</sup> The Leven and Melville Papers, p. 15.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 23, 24.

<sup>3</sup> The Leven and Melville Papers, p. 33.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 35.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* p. 37.

Queensberry, Lord Tarbat, Lord Stair, the Master of Stair, and Sir George Mackenzie, late Lord Advocate.<sup>1</sup>

Sir Patrick Hume of Polwarth in a letter indicates a feeling against giving office to Lord Tarbat, which raised an objection to Lord Melville himself.<sup>2</sup>

In a series of letters, eight in number, and several of them of considerable length, Lord Tarbat makes many suggestions to Lord Melville as to the best mode of carrying on the business of the Government. In these letters the writer shows much shrewdness and experience, both in civil and ecclesiastical affairs, as well as in the abstruse subject of the coining of money, the currency, exchanges, etc. The range of subjects discussed by his Lordship is very extensive, and includes the herring fisheries, the multiplicity of lawyers, etc.<sup>3</sup>

At the same time Lord Tarbat wrote a separate memorial in relation to the Church, the object of which appears to have been the recognition or establishment of Episcopacy as well as Presbytery.<sup>4</sup>

Notwithstanding the exoneration, formerly quoted, given by King William to Lord Tarbat as Clerk-Register, a commission was afterwards granted by the King, in January 1690, to take his Lordship's oath that he had not embezzled the registers. The Lords of Session appointed several of their number to inspect the registers, in the same way as was done when Sir Thomas Murray of Glendoik succeeded Sir Archibald Primrose as Lord Register. The Lords suggested that the King might give exoneration to Lord Tarbat, and make an Inventory of those portions of the registers which had been received since the former Inventory was made, and which had been recorded in the Books of Council and Session for convenience of reference. The former ignorance of the registers, it is added, was the

<sup>1</sup> The Leven and Melville Papers, p. 53.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 95.

<sup>3</sup> The Leven and Melville Papers, p. 108,

*et seq.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 125.

cause of much expense to many who were obliged to give great compositions for finding out and extracting ancient writs.<sup>1</sup>

The warrant which was granted by King William to Lord Tarbat to pacify the clans is in the following terms :—

“William R.—We doe by these comand and authorize yow, G[eorge] V[iscount] T[arbat], to treat with the Highlanders who are in rebellion against us in Scotland, viz., with Sir Donald M'Donell, M'Lean, the Captain of Clanranell, Glengary, Lochiell, M<sup>r</sup> Colline M'Kenzie, unckle to the Earl of Seafort, and others there associats, dependers and followers, for bringing them in to submit to our Royall authority and lawes, and secure there obedience to us : And for that end to treat and comune with them, ether by word or writt, by himself, or such others as he thinks fitt to employ ; and wee not only authorize and impower the said Viscount so to doe, but wee by these secure him and those employed by him from all danger, hurt, and inconvenience whatsoever, that he may incurr by treating or comuneing with these rebels, or any of them, quether they be forfaulted, outlawed, or declared fugitives. And for incuradging those Highlanders to return to there duty, wee doe heerby impower the said Viscount to offer, in our name, such honor under that of Earle, and such summes of money, not exceeding £2000 sterling, to any on cheeff and tribe of these above mentioned ; as also to secure them in all they possess be law, or were secured in by gifts from our royall vnckle King Charles, under his Great Seall of Scotland, and to indemnify them, and evry on of them, who shall come in and submitt to us and our lawes in maner forsaid, against all accusationes, punishment, and danger, from all crimes and deeds committed by them, preceeding there submission ; and wee promise to perform what the said Viscount shall undertake in our name in the matters, according to what is above said.—Whithall, the 25 March 1690.”<sup>2</sup>

It appears from Lord Tarbat's letters to Lord Melville that this Commission was attended with much trouble. He complains of the evils of the Highland war and robberies.<sup>3</sup>

King William and Queen Mary were, however, so sensible of the services

<sup>1</sup> The Leven and Melville Papers, p. 373.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 551, *et seq.* *Vide* also pp. 82, 83, *infra.*

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 422-423.

rendered to them by Lord Tarbat that they granted him in 1690 a pension for life of £400, payable yearly out of the feu-duties and casualties of the Earldom of Ross and Lordship of Ardmanach.<sup>1</sup>

After having been much occupied with many matters for several years, subsequent to the accession of King William, Lord Tarbat was employed under that sovereign, by reappointment to his former office of Lord Clerk-Register. His patent is dated 3d March 1692, and he continued to hold that position for four years, when he resigned in 1696. On his retirement, he received from the King a pension of £400 per annum.

In 1693, the year after he had accepted his former office of Lord Register, there are indications in the correspondence that it was coveted by others. In a letter to him by John first Earl of Breadalbane, dated from London, December 7, 1693, he refers to the scheme for laying Lord Tarbat aside, specially for the sake of his post, although that was not encouraged by the King.<sup>2</sup> The same writer, in a subsequent letter, dated London, March 8, 1694, again refers to contemplated changes. He says that he is clearing his baggage to be ready at the King's return from Winchester, and when he met Lord Tarbat they would resolve whose turn it should be next.<sup>3</sup>

In the following year, 1695, Lord Tarbat was in correspondence with Mr. William Carstares about his position as Lord Clerk-Register. His Lordship refers to the temper of the hot party. He asks Mr. Carstares to represent to his Majesty that he is not afraid of his adversaries, for he is not guilty of a thought prejudicial to him, nor wearied of serving him. But if the King think it either fit or easy to please a party with allowing Lord Tarbat's wish for a private life, he is willing to resign a beneficial office to serve him, as they can trouble his Lordship until they obtain it. He pro-

<sup>1</sup> Original grant, Bundle 3 N., No. 7 of Cromartie Papers.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 102.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 105.



mises to be as zealous for the person and interest of the King when in a private, as if he were in the highest station.<sup>1</sup>

In another letter Lord Tarbat asks Mr. Carstares to procure for him a general remission, because he saw that faults were fished for in others on no great grounds. He asks that it may contain treason, perduellion, and a general remission of all crimes, though on all that's sacred, his Lordship said, he did not know himself guilty, nor did he fear anything on this side of Irish witnesses or evidence.<sup>2</sup>

Lord Tarbat further refers to his proposed retirement in another letter to Mr. Carstares. He also complains of the ill usage of his friend the Earl of Melville, who was attacked by the hot party in the church, and was put from the secretary's office without an exoneration. His juniors were preferred to him for presiding in Council and Parliament; his son's regiment was taken from him; he and his son were left out of the commission for auditing of accounts; a deputy was forced on his son in the castle; and all who came from the Court made it their work to lessen him. Notwithstanding this long array of grievances, Lord Tarbat did not see a probable way for the King to manage the true Presbyterian party but by Lord Melville's family, who, he alleged, if they were countenanced by the King, could do more by their finger than others can do with both their hands.<sup>3</sup>

In the same letter Lord Tarbat reminds Mr. Carstares that the King is too long in filling his post, as that would allay some, and put others from their foolish expectations, for they "roar and gape" in hopes of it. He wishes a sober, faithful, and able man to succeed him. But he says that his opponents will put a beast's skin on every one that is not of their club, and then hound at him.

From former experience, Lord Tarbat found the necessity of asking the

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 111.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 112.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 113.

King for an exoneration of his acts as Lord Register. His Lordship, in a letter to Lord Melville, dated 8th November 1690, alludes to some complaint which had been made against him while he formerly held the same office. He writes that he is much taken up in defending himself, as late Register, from Alexander Munro, before the Commission; the pleadings being to be printed and published perhaps in two languages.<sup>1</sup>

A more serious charge, however, was made against Lord Tarbat by Mr. Secretary Johnstoun. A letter from him to Mr. Carstares, dated from Edinburgh, May 16, 1699, is printed in the State Papers and Letters of Mr. Carstares.<sup>2</sup> The date 1699 is evidently a misprint for 1693. The letter refers to Lord Tarbat then acting as Lord Clerk-Register. He did not hold that office in 1699, but he did so in 1693, and the letter is printed between one dated May 11, 1693, and another dated 19th of the same month and year. It is plain, therefore, that the date of 16th May 1699 is a mistake for 16th May 1693. In that letter Secretary Johnstoun shows a bitter feeling against Lord Tarbat. He says, there have been no reflections in Parliament, except that Lord Tarbat had been taxed and "caught" grossly malversing in his office as clerk, both in public and private business in Parliament; and that it was only to prevent noise that he was not suspended from his office. The Secretary also refers to Lord Tarbat falsifying the minutes, and to the case of Lord Collington having declined Lord Tarbat as clerk, for emitting an order in the name of the Parliament, which order they never gave, in a private process depending between Lord Tarbat's mother and Lord Collington. Secretary Johnstoun then refers to a negotiation begun by Lord Tarbat with the Secretary, through a friend, for the sale of his office for 50,000 merks.

In another letter, dated from Edinburgh, May 19, 1693, being three days

<sup>1</sup> The Leven and Melville Papers, p. 567.

<sup>2</sup> State Papers and Letters addressed to William Carstares, 1774, p. 170.

after the former letter, Secretary Johnstoun writes to Mr. Carstares that Lord Tarbat had intimated to Lord Collington that he would not be clerk in his process, and thus prevented the cloud. The Secretary adds that Lord Tarbat threatens to complain of him to the King. But the Secretary thanks God that Lord Tarbat cannot accuse him either of perjury or murder, as Lord Shaftesbury said the Duke would neither call him fool nor papist. Secretary Johnstoun then explains the irregularity said to be committed by Lord Tarbat. Letters of Lady Largo had been discovered sufficient to warrant her being put to the torture if she had been a man. The minutes of Parliament were sent to London before they were revised and allowed by Parliament. The Secretary produced these minutes, and challenged the clerks in Parliament. He had, at the same time, the Parliament's letter to the King, printed at London before the King received it, though the orders were that no copy should be given, but one by the Secretary, to be sent to the Queen. The Secretary explains further, that an hour or two is lost every day by these minutes, and that the design is plain to ridicule Parliament by ridiculous minutes. Minutes, printed by Lord Tarbat's order, were produced in Parliament, in which, after it is declared that the Chancellor, by the Commissioner's order, had adjourned the Parliament, it is represented as continuing to act on as if still sitting.<sup>1</sup>

These are serious charges, particularly by one Officer of State against another. But it must be observed that while Secretary Johnstoun and the Lord Register Tarbat were acting in the same Government, under the same Sovereign, they appear to have belonged to a different class of politicians. Secretary Johnstoun was a younger son of Archibald Johnstoun, Lord Warriston, who was beheaded at the restoration of King Charles II. for his active proceedings against his father. James Johnstoun was keen for

<sup>1</sup> Carstares' State Papers and Letters, pp. 180-181.

Revolution principles, and was made Secretary for Scotland in 1692. But upon the passing of the bill for establishing the African Company in the Scottish Parliament, he was dismissed from all his offices, and never restored by King William. Queen Anne made him Lord Register in 1704, but he retained the office for one year only. As it was then the most lucrative office in Scotland, Secretary Johnstoun seems to have been aiming at it while making the charges in his private letters to Mr. Carstares against the official proceedings of Lord Tarbat. From the minuteness with which these charges are detailed, it is quite possible that a sharp, critical eye like that of Mr. Johnstoun, whose father had been Lord Register, may have detected some irregularities in the proceedings of Lord Tarbat and his subordinates in office. But these may have arisen from a difference of opinion between the two officials as to the proper mode of transacting the public business, and not from any criminal forging or falsifying of documents. So far as appears from the Carstares Correspondence, no notice seems to have been taken by King William of the charges privately made in the letters from his public to his private secretary. Secretary Johnstoun is described as honest, but something too credulous and suspicious.<sup>1</sup> Whether his charges against Lord Tarbat arose from credulity and suspicion, or from any other cause, they cannot be held, while unsubstantiated, to affect the character and official integrity of Lord Tarbat, who retired from office with the approbation of the King, and a pension for life of £400 per annum. The Duke of Queensberry, in writing to his Lordship, thus alludes to this grant :—“ If his Majestie’s servants there ” (London) “ are not sensible of the value of my dear Tarbat for their master’s interest, I am sure that I have an advantage over them in knowing his worth. The small things that were procured to your Lordship from the King, I doe assure you, were very readily granted ; and he expresses

<sup>1</sup> Carstares’ State Papers and Letters, p. 93.

himself on all occasions with great satisfaction in your service, and a personal esteem of you.”<sup>1</sup> And we shall see that by the succeeding sovereign he was afterwards recalled to high office, and raised also to higher honours. These facts appear to be inconsistent with the charges of the credulous and suspicious Secretary. It is probable that Lord Tarbat never even heard of these private charges of Secretary Johnstoun, because, in a letter to Queen Anne, he mentions that he never was accused of any misconduct officially except by one miscreant, whose criminality in making a false charge against him was only pardoned by the grace of the Queen.<sup>2</sup>

Retiring from the office of Lord Register in 1696, Lord Tarbat continued in a private station during the remainder of the reign of King William. His correspondence during that period, however, showed that his attention was still turned to matters of public interest. In a letter from him to Lord Chancellor Marchmont, dated 1st May 1699, he brings under his notice several matters then occurring in his own remote part of the country, which he thought concerned his Majesty’s interest and the quiet of the Government.<sup>3</sup> Lord Tarbat says, that when he retired to the north he saw all people in great quiet, only the Highland robbers were injuring many of the peaceable subjects. He reminds the Chancellor of the suitable remedy which he formerly submitted to him as to the five northern shires and a part of Nairn. He wishes that the posting of some 80 or 100 of the forces, from April to December, between Invermoriston, at the east, and the head of Lochuirn, at the west sea, may be ordered. That would save these shires, who now repine that the soldiers, who live in sloth and idleness, are not doing this good office to a considerable part of the nation, who give their money as frankly as any does for pay to these forces.

Besides other matters, Lord Tarbat, in the same letter, refers to the posi-

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 149.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* vol. ii. p. 140.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* vol. i. p. 136.

tion of the Episcopal clergy, who, after qualifying to King William, showed their loyalty by their peaceable inclinations in the country, where they are considered as a satisfying branch of the ministry. The clergy, however, were afraid that the General Assembly might interfere with them, and so cast them out. But these fears were removed by the rising of the Assembly without any motion towards that design; yet it was rumoured that proceedings were only forborne lest they should encounter opposition on so public a theatre as the General Assembly, and that the scheme was intended to be prosecuted in the several presbyteries with more secrecy and greater precipitancy, where blows might be given especially in remoter places. Lord Tarbat confidently believed that such a course could not be intended by the charity of the kirkmen, nor permitted by the wisdom of the Government; but in that he was mistaken, and he gives an instance of the proceedings of a presbytery against Mr. Forbes, in the parish of Kilmuir, in Ross, who had been summoned to appear before them to preach on a text prescribed by them; thus to bring him, an old-established minister, to be a probationer, as it were, before them, who were of very short standing in the ministry,—one only of them excepted, who, it is said, was not with them. Lord Tarbat then informs the Chancellor that Mr. Forbes is to be libelled as an Arminian, though he is very far from it, and for some private scandal; but that the true cause, his being of the principles of the Church of England, will not be mentioned.<sup>1</sup>

In the year 1699, Anna Viscountess of Tarbat became seriously indisposed, and Lord Tarbat was in anxious correspondence with Dr. Archibald Stevenson and Dr. Archibald Pitcairne, both then celebrated medical practitioners in Edinburgh, on the subject. The letters are preserved and printed in this collection. Several of the prescriptions recommended may be interesting to medical men. The famous drops of King Charles are

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 138.



LADY ELIZABETH MACKENZIE OR BROUN, OF COALSTON.





mentioned in them ; also Lady Colston's plaster, which Mrs. Pitcairne always made for her. It is the *emplastrum de minio eum sapone*. The Nuremberg plaster is said to be better, being an improvement of the other.

In a letter, dated September 1699, Dr. Pitcairne mentions that he is in haste going out of town, to be assistant at the death of James Borthwick of Stow, last male of the royal line of the surgeon-apothecaries.<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding the care of these eminent physicians, and their anxiety to save their patient, Lady Tarbat did not survive this attack of illness, having died in September or October 1699. Her Ladyship, as already stated, was Anna, daughter of Sir James Sinclair of Mey, Baronet, ancestor of the later Earls of Caithness, and Elizabeth Leslie, second daughter of Patrick Lord Lindores. The marriage of Lord Tarbat with Anna Sinclair took place in July 1654, a few weeks before he succeeded to his father as the second Baronet of Tarbat. The contract for the marriage is dated at Lochsline, on 6th July 1654. His father, Sir John Mackenzie, is a party to the contract, along with his son George ; and Sir William Sinclair of Canisby, Baronet, is also a party for his sister, to whom he agrees to give a tocher of 12,000 merks ; and Anna Sinclair was to be infert in Meikle Tarrell.<sup>2</sup> Lord and Lady Tarbat had a family of four sons and four daughters, whose names are all given in the pedigree.

In all the Peerage books, it is stated that Lord Tarbat had three sons, John, Kenneth, and James ; but it appears that he had another son, Roderick, who was his first-born son. In a signature or warrant for a charter by King Charles the Second, the name of Roderick Mackenzie appears. The signature is in favour of Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, Knight Baronet, in liferent, and Roderick Mackenzie, his eldest lawful son, and the heirs-male of his body ; whom failing, to John Mackenzie, his second son, and the

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 143.

<sup>2</sup> Original contract, Bundle 3 K, No. 14, at Tarbat House.

heirs-male of his body ; whom failing, to return to the said Sir George Mackenzie, of the lands of Inchrory, etc., in the shire of Ross. That signature is dated 9th June 1665.<sup>1</sup>

Roderick Mackenzie was the eldest son of Lord Tarbat, who was married in 1654, or eleven years previously, and may have been about ten years of age at the date of the signature in 1665, in which he is named for the first time. He had probably died soon afterwards unmarried, and under age, as no other mention of him has been found in the family muniments. John Mackenzie, who is named as the second son in the above signature, is in documents of a subsequent date called the eldest son. The sons of Lord Tarbat appear to have been named, successively, Roderick, after Lord Tarbat's own grandfather ; John, after his father ; Kenneth, after his chief, Kenneth Earl of Seaforth, his uncle by marriage ; and James, after his maternal grandfather, Sir James Sinclair.

In a letter from Lady Ann Stewart to Lord Tarbat, dated 16th October 1699, reference is made to the death of Lady Tarbat, and to her Christian virtues.<sup>2</sup>

The next letter in the collection shows that Lord Tarbat did not long remain a widower. His sister, Isabella Mackenzie, Countess of Seaforth, writing to him on 9th September 1700, refers to his marriage.<sup>3</sup> The second wife of Lord Tarbat was Margaret Countess of Wemyss, a Peeress in her own right. She was herself a widow, having married Sir James Wemyss of Burntisland, who was created Lord Burntisland for life. He predeceased Lady Wemyss in 1685. The mother of Lady Wemyss was Lady Margaret Leslie, sister of John Duke of Rothes. Lord Wemyss was her third husband. Her first husband was Alexander Lord Balgonie, son of the first Earl of Leven. Of that marriage the noble family of Leven and Melville is de-

<sup>1</sup> Original signature, Bundle IX., No. 9, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 145.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 146.

Madam

I cannot refuse to write, when you  
command ~~me~~, but on the contrary, as to be commanded  
is my honour, and to obey, is my duty; so in both  
I have an extraordinary satisfaction; my fear  
is, that I fail in writing as I should; and so you  
may have the trouble of reading with more pains  
& less profit; but if my obediences be acceptable to you  
that is a happiness which I covet ~~for~~ all that God  
or I am: And your Ladyship will crown all your  
great favours to the full that I desire on earth  
1<sup>st</sup> of Jul. If you have to give what is so much desired by.

Right Honourable

Yours, or <sup>less</sup> little better than nothing  
I

2<sup>d</sup> March 1700

I shall explain the few  
Latin words when I cast  
the happiness to write on you



scended. The second husband of Lady Margaret Leslie was Francis second Earl of Buccleuch. Of that marriage there were two daughters, Mary Countess of Buccleuch, and Anna Duchess of Buccleuch and Monmouth, from whom the noble house of Buccleuch is descended. Lady Margaret Leslie was thus the common ancestress of the three noble houses of Leven and Melville, Buccleuch, and Wemyss. The Duchess of Buccleuch was the sister uterine of Margaret Countess of Wemyss and Cromartie. Owing to that connection, the Duchess was a constant correspondent of Lord Tarbat, and also of his son, Lord Royston. Many letters from her Grace are printed in the present collection.

The marriage of Lord Tarbat and the Countess of Wemyss, the one being a widower of seventy years, and the other a widow, much younger—she having been born at the Castle of Wemyss, 1st January 1659—and both having children and grandchildren, caused much amusing talk among their friends.

A love letter from Lord Tarbat to Margaret Countess of Wemyss, relates to the negotiations for marriage then going on:—

2d March 1700.

MADAM,—I cannot refuse to write, when you command it; but, on the contrar, as to be commanded is my honour, and to obey is my duty, so in both I have an extraordinary satisfaction: my fear is, that I fail in writting as I should, and so you may have the trouble of reading with more pains then profit; but if my obedience be acceptable to you, that is a happiness which I covet in all that I doo or am; and your Ladyship will crown all your great favours that I desire on earth to the ful, if you hast to give what is so much desired by,

Right honourable, yours, or else little better than nothing,

T.

I shall explain the few Latin words when I have the happiness to wait on you.

The following distich specially refers to the marriage:—

“Thou sonsy auld carl, the world has not thy like,  
For ladies fa’ in love with thee, though thou be ane auld tyke.”

The marriage of Lord Tarbat and the Countess of Wemyss was celebrated

in April 1700,<sup>1</sup> or about six months after the death of his first wife, which occurred in September or October preceding. The formal contract of marriage made by Lord Tarbat and Lady Wemyss is dated at Elcho and Edinburgh, on 26th April and 24th June 1700. They thereby accept each other as husband and wife. Lord Tarbat's youngest son, James, is a consentor to the contract, for his interest in the barony of Roystoun, which, with other lands, is thereby provided to the Countess of Wemyss in liferent.<sup>2</sup> They scarcely announced their marriage to some of their nearest relatives. The Duchess of Buccleuch, sister of the bride, thus alludes to the marriage in a letter to Lord Melville:—"Tarbat wrott a bantering letter to me, and I writt just such another to him, but my sister did not naim him in her letter to me, so I shall mak no serious answer to him till he owns it, for I think it should have bene from herself that I should first have heard of it. Every body here that knows them both laughs at it."<sup>3</sup>

In another letter from her Grace she writes:—"At last I had a letter from my sister Wemyss, dated the 28 of Aprill. The last line of it was she belived she should be married to-morrow or next day. A hansom warning for a sister of a thing of that consequence! It shews such kindness to me: but I shall hear the busines is over befor I wish joy. I did answer all letters he" (Lord Tarbat) "wrott of it to me, but I sopus he did not lick my letters, so say'd they miscarey'd."<sup>4</sup>

In a note holograph of Lord Cromartie, he mentions that the Countess of Wemyss, being young at the time of her first husband's death, for the good of her family she would not marry for above seventeen years, although incited by all possible motives.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cramond Parish Register.

<sup>2</sup> Contract of Marriage, Bundle 3 L, No. 9, at Tarbat House.

<sup>3</sup> Original Letter, dated 28th March [1700],

in Leven and Melville Charter-chest.

<sup>4</sup> Original Letter, dated 9th May 1700, in Leven and Melville Charter-chest.

<sup>5</sup> Original note at Tarbat House.

In the same note, Lord Cromartie states that Lady Wemyss was very kind to her children. Before her son was major, she procured for him the greatest match in the kingdom. This refers to the marriage of David Lord Elcho and Lady Anne Douglas, eldest daughter of William first Duke of Queensberry, and sister of the second Duke, and of the first Earl of March—a union which ultimately resulted in the inheritance of the March or Neidpath estates, in the county of Peebles, by the Earl of Wemyss and March. Lord Cromartie also notes that Lady Wemyss had given a considerable tocher to her eldest daughter, Anne Countess of Leven, who was married in 1691. Four years after the marriage of Lady Leven, her mother writes to her in 1695 :—“ I long to hear if you be grown bige yet, and if you keep your meat well. I hope you will grow stronge, and be better and better with every child till all your twenty be born that you used to wish for.”<sup>1</sup>

Although Lord Tarbat was seventy years of age at the time of his second marriage, his Lordship carefully provided for the eldest son who might be born of the marriage, by arranging that the lands of Lochsline should be disposed to him as soon as he existed.<sup>2</sup>

The death of King William, and the accession of Queen Anne, brought Lord Tarbat again into official life, although he was now far advanced in years. He was appointed Secretary of State for Scotland, by patent dated 21st November 1702,<sup>3</sup> and soon afterwards he was created Earl of Cromartie.

<sup>1</sup> Original letter in Leven and Melville Charter-chest.

at Royston, 27th July 1700. Bundle 2 N, No. 300, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Obligation by Mr. Roderick Mackenzie of Prestonhall, then owner of Lochsline, dated

<sup>3</sup> Original Commission, Bundle 3 N, No. 11, at Tarbat House.

## CHAPTER SIXTH.

FROM LORD TARBAT'S CREATION AS EARL OF CROMARTIE, IN 1703, TO THE UNION IN 1707, INCLUDING NOTICE OF THE DEATH OF THE COUNTESS OF WEMYSS AND CROMARTIE IN 1705.

AS a reward for his long public services, Queen Anne was pleased to advance Lord Tarbat to the dignity of Earl of Cromartie, Viscount of Tarbat, Lord Macleod and Castlehaven, by patent dated 1st January 1703. The patent recites the constant fidelity and affection of Lord Tarbat to the Queen and her Government in the many offices and appointments intrusted to him by five of the Queen's royal predecessors. The new dignities were given to him and his heirs-male and of tailie.<sup>1</sup> In reference to this grant of honours to heirs of tailie, and to an entail of them, made by the grantee, a late learned author remarks that—

“ In the entail made June 24, 1714, by George first Earl of Cromarty, ‘ his honours and dignities’ (that had been created in 1685 and 1703), according to an old form, as we have seen, are put on the same footing with the lands and family representation, being carried together, and specially included in the irritant and resolute clauses fettering the heirs. It may be superfluous to observe that this nobleman was a most competent authority in the matter, having been a Lord of Session in 1661, Justice-General in 1678, and afterwards Lord Register and Secretary of State, besides an able and experienced statesman. He had been, further still, a warm promoter of the Union, with whose articles and bearings, in all their phases, he must have been well acquainted, having both largely written and descanted upon the subject, and hence would have been the last to have thus attempted what was confessedly nugatory in every view, if the proposition I maintain had been unfounded. The entail affecting the honours in the above case, however, appears to have been in virtue of their last limitation in 1703, ‘ hæredi-

<sup>1</sup> Patent, vol. ii. pp. 351-353.



bus musculis, et talliæ,' before the Union, which will be kept in view in reference to that of Stair, to be afterwards stated. In like manner, William Earl of Glencairn, by his entail, dated October 15, 1708, conveyed his 'title of honour,' created as early as the reign of James IV., his 'arms and surname' in favour of a *new* series of heirs, by whom they were to be forfeited on infringement of its terms; and, independently of these, there are other instances."<sup>1</sup>

On his appointment to the office of Secretary, which had been formerly so long held by his old antagonist, the Duke of Lauderdale, Lord Cromartie received many warm congratulations from his friends. Robina, Countess of Forfar, thought it fortunate for the nation that so great and wise a man should be in such a post, although he could not expect to raise his character higher than it already stood.<sup>2</sup>

The Archbishop of Glasgow also warmly congratulates Lord Cromartie on his promotion as Secretary of State, in which he can so well serve the Queen and the country.<sup>3</sup> He and other Bishops were much pleased to see his Lordship in office, as he had always endeavoured to protect them and forward their interests.

Lord Cromartie was soon engaged in an extensive correspondence with many persons on subjects connected with his office, as well as on many matters of a more personal nature. He urged the young Marquis of Montrose, afterwards Duke, to come into public life. He said that his quality might pretend to any service under the Crown, and his age would give him a fair entry. Lord Cromartie, as an old grammarian, quoted a Latin adage,—*est post occasio calva*. He added, that there is very little room and very many pretenders, and albeit few give the stakes to keep to such as desire them too earnestly, yet they are seldom given to those who shun to be concerned.<sup>4</sup>

His cousin, Lord Melville, appears to have been superseded in office

<sup>1</sup> Riddell's Peerage Law, p. 270.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 158.

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 159.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 168.

somewhat unceremoniously, and a correspondence ensued between him and Lord Cromartie. Lord Melville took his affront easily, and coolly remarked that he was too old to take the “dorts,” which seldom did a “pettit bairn” good.<sup>1</sup>

Amongst many pressing letters for favours at his hand, both by laymen and churchmen, particularly the latter, Lord Cromartie was solicited by the Earl of Tullibardine for the title of Duke of Athole for his father, the Marquis of Athole. The Earl writes (February 11, 1703),—“As for the title of Duke, my father is very sensible of the Queen’s goodness and favour in granting it.” For the narrative of the patent, Lord Tullibardine suggests a statement that the first of the family of Athole of which they were descended, was James Stuart, called the Black Knight of Lorn, who married the relict of King James the First. Their son, John Stuart, was created Earl of Athole by his brother on the mother’s side, King James the Second: and for the family of Tullibardine, their antiquity and loyalty are remarkable. There are charters to them from King William and King Alexander, in the year 1100.<sup>2</sup>

Notwithstanding that Lord Tullibardine urged despatch in completing the creation, that others might not pretend to the same, the Marquis of Athole died before the patent was completed, and the creation of Duke was made in favour of the Earl of Tullibardine himself as his son and successor.

The bishops of the Episcopal Church relied upon the friendship of Lord Cromartie. The Bishop of Edinburgh sent him a “Memoir,” for the purpose of getting an increase to his allowance, owing to the expense of living in Edinburgh, which is represented by the Bishop as by far the dearest place for living within the kingdom.<sup>3</sup>

The second Duke of Queensberry, the Union Duke, was on very intimate terms with Lord Cromartie. While playing at cards with Lord Renfrew, his Grace sent Lord Cromartie an offer of his coach to be at his command;

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 178.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 185.

<sup>3</sup> Original Memoir at Tarbat House.

and if he would come to his Grace that night, he was promised a little broth, a glass of good wine, and half-an-hour's laughing. He adds an old saying, that it is easier to keep old friends than to make new ones.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Cromartie, while attending to his duties in London, suffered a severe bereavement in the death of his second wife, the Countess of Wemyss, which occurred at Whitehall, London, on 11th March 1705.<sup>2</sup> Their marriage was a very happy one, and it appears from her letters that they were much attached to each other.<sup>3</sup> When she was absent from him on visits to her daughters, she seems to have been unhappy till her return. She writes to him—"The Lord send us a happy meeting! My dearest love, be carfull of the best parte of me, and do not fast long, nor sitt up late. There is great care taken of me here, but I fear there will be some tears att parting, tho none from me, my dear."<sup>4</sup>

Soon after the death of the Countess of Wemyss and Cromartie, Lord Cromartie entered into agreements with several artists for monuments in memory of his beloved Countess. In 1705 he made a formal written agreement with Robert Kidwells, of the parish of St. Margaret's, Westminster, to erect and finish a monument of good white vein marble, according to certain specifications. The Earl agreed to furnish the artist with the picture of the face of the deceased lady, and the inscription and coat of arms, in their proper colours.

The following Latin inscription was written by Lord Cromartie for his Countess:—

O spectantium quicquid est, attendite tam verendo æri.

Margarita Comitissa hæreditaria de Weems antiquissimis M<sup>c</sup>Duffis Fifensibus

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 210.

<sup>2</sup> Her body was transferred from Whitehall to Leith Roads, for interment at the burial-place at Wemyss, under the care of George Prestone, Surgeon-Major to her Majesty's

forces, who received £25 for his trouble. [Discharge dated 6th June 1705, vol. viii., No. 198, Cromartie Papers, at Tarbat House.]

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 201.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 207.

oriunda : quæ vere Margarita Christiana, omnibusque tum animi tum corporis dotibus præ aliis ornata : Pia, proba, prudens, provida ; parentum tum spes tum solamen ; utriusque marito decus et solatium ; liberis et natura et cura, mater ; rei familiaris autrix notabilis ; sacrorum antistitum, alumna et nutrix ; pauperum, asylum et tutamen : Ut cognatis suis ita et omnibus enatis deliciæ, quibus vita prius grata.

Mors vero, ultra citraque gentem, perditæ deplorata. Sed perditissime fieri consorte a deplorabili, Georgio Comite de Cromartie vicecomite de Tarbat : salvo tamen ejus certissimæ beatitudinis gaudio, et futuri et interminabilis felicisque congressus spe.

Quo non, dum fueras, fuerat felicior alter ;  
Fecisti juvenem ; sed moriente, senem.  
Hoc קבר mœrens posuit tibi pignus amoris,  
Nec debitos luctus comprimet ille suos.

Lectissima et delectissima fœminarum, nata ad Castrum de Weems Calend. Jan. ann. 1659. Denata quinto Id. Mart. 1705 ad regiam Whitehall. Wemisiannæ familiæ per filium David ex priori marito, Jacobo domino Barone de Bruntisland ; Leviniaæ vero et Noressciæ per filias Annam et Margaritam, fortunata mater.

*Translation.*

O all ye beholders, regard this statue so much to be revered.

Margaret, hereditary Countess of Weems, sprung from the ancient MacDuffs of Fife. Truly she was a Christian Pearl (Margarita), adorned in an extraordinary degree with every gift of body and mind : Pious, upright, prudent, provident ; the hope and comfort of her parents ; an ornament and solace to each of her husbands ; a mother to her children both by nature and her solicitude ; a remarkable manager of her domestic affairs ; a benefactress and liberal support of the holy clergy ; a refuge and protection to the poor ; the delight of her relatives and of her offspring, to all of whom her life was dear.

Her death, moreover, was deeply deplored both within and beyond the nation : but most deeply to be lamented by her spouse to be pitied, George Earl of Cromartie, Viscount of Tarbat : the joy arising from the assurance of her blessedness being nevertheless left to him, and the hope of a future and never-ending happy meeting.

Whilst you lived, there was not another more blessed than he.  
 Living, you made him young, but, by your death have made him old.  
 He mourning has raised this tomb to you as a pledge of love,  
 Nor will he restrain the grief due to you.

This choicest and most delightful of women was born at the Castle of Weems 1st January 1659. Died 11th March 1705, at the Palace of Whitehall. The happy mother of the Wemyss family, by her son David, of her first husband, James, Lord Baron of Burntisland; of the Leven and Northesk families, by her daughters, Anna and Margaret.<sup>1</sup>

In the year 1710 another agreement was made with Josias Iback, of the parish of Saint Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, figure-maker, who agreed to make and finish the statue of a woman lying along, five and a half feet in length, to be cast in lead, with an angel at the foot standing two and a half feet high, with a lion next to the foot, all of lead.

Next year an additional agreement was made with the same artist, to cast an angel in hard metal, after the pattern in St. James' Church over the font.<sup>2</sup>

Although Lord Cromartie had erected for himself, in his lifetime, a stately monument at Dingwall, and was afterwards really buried there, he was anxious, after the death of the Countess of Wemyss, to have it arranged that on his own death his body should rest beside hers. This appears from an obligation granted on 30th May 1705, by her son, David Earl of Wemyss.

“ Be it knowen to all men be these presents, us, David Earle of Wemyss, doe bind and oblidge us, our airs and successors, upon our faith and honour, to allow the body of George Earle of Cromerty to lye in our buryingplace at Wemyss next to, or as near as possible, to the body of Margaret Countess of Wemyss and Cromerty: And likeways I bind and oblidge me and mine, in manner forsaid, not to allow any grave to be made that may hinder the said Earle of Cromerty's

<sup>1</sup> Original Inscription, Cromartie Papers, vol. xxi. No. 116, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Three agreements, vol. i. Nos. 84-86 of Cromartie Papers, at Tarbat House.

coffin to be as near as possible to the said Countess, and that under the penalty of five hundred pound sterling. In witness whereof, I have written and subscribed thir presents with my own hand att Edenbrugh, the thirtieth day of May 1705.

“WEMYSS.”<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding this formal arrangement, it will afterwards be seen that it was not carried into effect. When Lord Cromartie died in the year 1714, he was buried on the south side of his monument at Dingwall, and close to the foundation.

At the time of his bereavement Lord Cromartie was seventy-five years old. He had shortly before felt that the active duties of Secretary of State were rather too arduous for his advanced age, and had resigned the office, obtaining in exchange that of Lord Justice-General,<sup>2</sup> the duties of which were more easily performed, and from former experience, quite familiar to him. On resigning his office of Secretary of State, Lord Cromartie addressed the following letter to Queen Anne. It is without date, but the terms of it leave no doubt that it had reference to his change of position from Secretary of State to Justice-General:—

I am now goeing from beeing near to your Majesty, and it's probable I am not to be much longer whither I am goeing, for I am now ane old man, and I doubt if any Prince hath many older servants, and this late sad stroak from God hath render[ed] me much older: in which God was just, and I deservd it, for I have been ane unfaithfull servant to God, and to your Majesty a very useles one. This is ane additional trouble. But I will be so bold as to say that my conscience does not accuse me of infidelity in less or more in your Majesty's service.

I have now served the Crown above 54 years, and in that tyme I never

<sup>1</sup> Original obligation, vol. iii. No. 171 of Cromartie Papers.

<sup>2</sup> His commission as Lord Justice-General is dated 17th October 1704; and, on the same date, he obtained a pension of £600.—[Original Commission and Grant, Bundle 3 O, Nos. 1, 2, of Cromartie Papers, at Tarbat

House.] On the 13th of May 1704, Queen Anne appointed Lord Cromartie Sheriff of Cromartie and Justiciar of Tarbat, with all the privileges of these offices.—[Original Commission, Bundle 3 N, No. 13, of Cromartie Papers, at Tarbat House.]

plunged into any faction, nor ever changed my principles, which kept me poor, when others, by other methods, have doubled their estates ; but I envy not those.

I did hope when I was called up from a resolved retreat from the publick, that this my last schen sould have been the happiest.

I hop'd the vnion of the 2 Kingdoms, and tho' it hath as yett faild, I still wish it, and I doe still think that, and that only, will both redress and prevent several great evils which threatn Brittain, and I will, whilst I breath, wish it, and (if I can) will concur to it.

The other thing I hop'd was a restauration of the monarchicall principall and party in Scotland, but the measurs aimed at did soon alter : in that I submit my little judgment. But allow me to say, in humility, I fear your Majesty may wish it had been otherwayes, for now if a fanatick party in England shall attempt to react 1641, Scotland's assistaunt is readier for them then it was then, and the true monarchicall party will be impotent. But I pray God that your Majesty may never feell it. I hope I shall not see it. As to my present post, I shall be glad of the honor to die in your Majesty's service. I shall be surly faithfull, and I should know the station [as well] at least as another, haveing formerly served in it without reproach. But, [your] Majesty, I hope not to be put to dependance on a faction for it, especially a W[higgish] one. I never did and cannot now learn to depend on any but my Sovereign. And if any accusation be made, I hope your Majesty will heare me before you trust, and more befor your Majesty judge.

If allowd to writ, if I be wrongd, and then to tell of my memoriall, and to leave it for memorie.

In the office of Lord Justice-General, Lord Cromartie had more leisure to prosecute the Union between Scotland and England, on which he had so intently set his heart. He supported the measure for the Union in his place in Parliament, and he also wrote and published essays in favour of the Union. His private letters on the subject are very remarkable. He was succeeded in the office of Secretary of State by John Erskine, Earl of Mar, the hero of the insurrection on behalf of the Stuart family in the year 1715. Lord Cromartie being also an Erskine through his mother, and Lord Mar being a Mackenzie through his grandmother, Lady Mary Mackenzie, eldest

daughter of George second Earl of Seaforth, there was a close friendship, as well as a Scotch cousinship, between the ex-Secretary and his successor. They maintained a continuous correspondence from the time of the accession of Lord Mar, as Secretary, down to the time when he ceased to be Secretary, in the year 1714; although for several years after the Union Lord Mar held another office than that of Secretary for Scotland, till he was appointed one of the Secretaries for Great Britain. Lord Cromartie had great confidence in the friendship of Lord Mar. He writes to him,—“I can much rely on the Earl of Marr, because that family hath been so long right that I confide in its honesty, as having acquired a thrid and new habit of honesty. The schools know none but what’s infused, or acquired by reiterated acts; but that family hath a naturall habit to right, unless some unhappy man interrupt it.”<sup>1</sup>

The letters addressed by Lord Cromartie to Lord Mar must have been very numerous, and a large collection of them is still in the Mar Charter-chest. They came under the notice of the Author in the course of his investigations connected with the claim of the late Earl of Kellie to the Mar peerage, and his Lordship generously placed the correspondence at his disposal in connection with the present work. A considerable portion of them is printed in this collection. On a reference to these letters, it will be seen how vigorously Lord Cromartie supported the Union. Writing to Lord Mar in 1705, his Lordship says, that a man without doors can say little to purpose of the public transactions, and he never was, nor would he then begin to be an intruder,—that being odious to the General Assembly, and against both Claim of Right and Act of Parliament. He adds, “Yet I may say over ane old prayer of mine: God send a solid Vnion in, and of, Brittain!—for I am sorly afraid, and firmly perswaded, that such will, only will, secure Brittain, and deliver old Scotland from its many complaints. If England will give

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 15.



us free trade with them and theirs, and take of the act of navigation, at least if they extend it to ships of Scots-built, in so farr I should be pleased, for I hate a ruptur or division with England more than I doe other greevances on us. But I will not hope thes two untill England give me sure grounds to hope so. As to factions, animosities, emulations, the itch of place and pension, dissimulation, false calumnies, small and great pox, feavers and consumptions, both in nobility and the other two states, I cast my account, and patienza!"<sup>1</sup> Writing on the 1st of January 1706, he says—"On this new year many happy years are wished by him to an entire union with England in substantials, that both head and body might be one politic body." He quaintly adds—"Unless wee be a part each of other the vnion will be as a blood puddin to bind a catt, *i.e.*, till one or the other be hungry, and then the puddin flies. God give all of yow prudence, wisdom, and honesty, and Brittish minds. May wee be Brittain, and down goe the old ignominious names of Scotland, of England. Scot or Scotland are words not known in our native language; England is a dishonorable name, imposed on Brittain by Jutland pirats and mercinaries to Brittain, usurping on their Lords. Brittain is our true, our honorable denomination. But of this more, perhaps, heerafter."<sup>2</sup>

Only a fortnight later Lord Cromartie recurs to his favourite topic of the Union, and urges it with his usual earnestness; and as he thinks the Union a great measure, he prays for it, if it be by way of federation, so that it be good and sure, or an incorporating, which he thinks can hardly be bad or unsure, so that it effects a solid peace, affection, and proportionable advantages by peace, trade, or war, to all parts of the island.<sup>3</sup> Only three days afterwards his Lordship again urges on Lord Mar the important question

<sup>1</sup> Letter, dated 17th November 1705, vol. i. p. 296.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 1, 2.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 3, 4.

of the Union. He says he is always the same, *i.e.* for a full and incorporating Union, as against what he calls the romantic federal union, and he gives many cogent reasons in support of his views.<sup>1</sup>

A few months afterwards Lord Cromartie again recurs to the question of the Union, in his correspondence with the Earl of Mar. He writes to Lord Mar that he wishes the Union, and a true, effectual, and no sham Union, established. He hopes that though prudence and honesty should make all Britons for it, yet if they fail, necessity and foresight of danger, by disunion, will force it over the tricks of self-designing opponents. He says that if he were beside the Duke of Marlborough, he would venture to tell his Grace that, though nobody thinks with more honour of all his great actions, not one of them—no, not Blenheim itself—can be of so great advantage to all Britain, if he contribute to make all that one. Lord Cromartie adds that whatever party be for the Union, he shall be of that party. He even adds that he will be of that party though it consisted of his private enemies.<sup>2</sup>

In another letter, Lord Cromartie assures Lord Mar of his satisfaction that so many in England are for an incorporation of Britain. Federation is not worth the pains, and will be an Egyptian reed, and the mother of future dangers and discords on some unhappy occasion. In the same letter, after discussing other topics, he again repeats that he is taken with the incorporating Union, because he is old, and in long experience of slavery; and he wishes to leave the nation free of the first, and at least in the road to leave the other. He says he is no slave to his present sentiment, but ready to leave its command when he sees a better fellow. But he must see him before he loves him.

Another nobleman with whom Lord Cromartie corresponded about the Union was David fourth Earl of Northesk, who was the husband of his

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 5, 6.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 14.

stepdaughter, Lady Margaret Wemyss. Lord Northesk himself was also a strenuous supporter of the Union. In a letter written by Lord Cromartie, apparently to Lord Northesk, shortly before the Union, he enlarges on his favourite subject of the prosecution of herring and other fishings. The letter contains several practical suggestions on the subject, and the views of the writer are enforced in a variety of forms to show the value of prosecuting the fishings. It is clear from this letter, and the other productions of Lord Cromartie, that he had studied the subject very carefully.<sup>1</sup>

Besides advocating the Union in his extensive correspondence, Lord Cromartie also supported it by his speeches in the Parliament of Scotland. Two of these speeches are preserved in manuscript. They enforce very earnestly his views for a full and incorporating Union between Scotland and England, and reprobate a mere Federal Union, which he considered to be dangerous to both countries.<sup>2</sup>

In the first election of the sixteen representative Peers for Scotland after the Union, Lord Cromartie was not elected. The Government could not make room for him in the crowd of claimants. He was not well pleased, as Lord Mar wrote to the Earl of Stair, but he was so generous as to do the Government no harm. He only named four, whom he called his own children, Mar, Wemyss, Leven, and Northesk; and because he named not sixteen, he was protested against, but it signified nothing.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Original Copy Letter at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Original Copy Speech, *ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Original Letter, dated 20th June 1708, in the Mar Charter-chest.

## CHAPTER SEVENTH.

FROM THE UNION IN 1707 TILL THE DEATH OF LORD CROMARTIE IN 1714.

WHEN the Union was at length accomplished, Lord Cromartie wrote to Lord Godolphin, High Treasurer of England, a long letter on the subject, and as his Lordship thought that this might probably be his last letter to the Treasurer, he bespeaks his indulgence while offering him his candid opinion after an employment of fifty-six years in public affairs. He says that buying of servants in Scotland, by enlarging their salaries, had seldom made any of them better servants, but made many others worse subjects. He suggests the abolition of useless offices, and several other measures for the purpose of carrying out the Union.<sup>1</sup>

Before the British Parliament assembled under the Union, Lord Cromartie wrote to Lord Mar his opinion on various subjects, and he alludes to his wish to serve Lord Mar and his family, which he says may partly lie in Erskine, partly in Mackenzie blood,<sup>2</sup> an expression which may be readily understood from the explanation already given, that Lord Cromartie's mother was an Erskine, and Lord Mar's grandmother a Mackenzie. He beseeches Lord Mar to adhere to his fondness for the Union, for he is persuaded that it was, and is, the chief politic good of Britain. Lord Cromartie adds:—  
“ I laboured (and with as much heat somtymes as discretion) in it for 40 years, through good report and ill report. I was often scornd by some who now glorie in it. I am farr from repenting it : it hath in it the true nature of good : it is good in its worst view. But no sublunary thing is at first perfect. It is ane infant as yett, and needs a nurse. It was exposed as a Moses, in

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 27-30.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 36-38.

a flotting baskett, recovered unexpectedly, and by a king's daughter ; and now more then that, I pray God shee may pitch on good nurses." His Lordship deprecates divisions which might again make the united nation look like two. He also urges very earnestly the prosecution of fishing, on which he thinks the richest trade and power are founded. He demonstrated this to King Charles in a debate in his closet with Mr. Slingsby so early as the year 1662, and he could do so again ; and he beseeches Lord Mar to work with as great zeal and constancy for establishing both herring and cod fishings in Scotland, by Scotch hands and English direction, and British stocks, as Lord Cromartie himself did for the Union, and he dared prophesy that no potentate in Europe could hinder them from the greatest and best-founded trade in it. He did not think to live to see it—seventy-five years old being too low for that—but while he lived he would wish it, and endeavour it, as far as a wearied age could act. He says that a vigorous fishery is a better mine for Scotland than the Indies can afford, for theirs will never grow, while ours do every year. Meat never wants market, and so can never want vent or vendition, and to fell two dogs with one stone, set up Rome and cause Carthage to fall, by fairly taking off the base on which it did rise, and yet without hindering the Dutch from the claim of their greatest man and greatest lawyer (Grotius), viz., *Mare liberum*. For though they fish with us, they can never equal us, if English purses, Scots hands and provisions, and Britain's strength join cordially and prudently.

Lord Cromartie, in a note holograph of his Lordship, thus refers to his exertions for the Union. "Now for 46 years under my five crowned masters, for my tyme was little, and my service under King Charles, and who was my seventh master, was short, and my capacity wanted all experience, which now makes the best part of what I have."

In another paper on the Supreme Civil Courts, Lord Cromartie refers

to his constant services of forty-seven years, in one or other notable station.

Lord Ross of Halkhead having made an attempt to obtain a grant of the Earldom of Ross, which would have made him the feudal superior of many of the heritors of the shire of Ross, Lord Cromartie was indignant at the idea of being made a feudal vassal of a nobleman who had no connection with the family or Earldom of Ross, and wrote a memorandum on that subject for the Earl of Mar, then Secretary of State. He asked the Secretary to inform her Majesty that he was an old and faithful servant to the Crown, and to her Majesty, longer than any in her dominions.

Lord Cromartie also pleaded for consideration as Justice-General. He said,—“With submission I humbly think that the Justice-Generall, who is president to the first-court of law in the kingdom, and, indeed, the court which hath the most immediate relation and jurisdiction to the Crown in all its concerns, except in its revenue, should have its sallary at least in proportion with the presidents of other courts, which hath only the judgement of private causes; and the rather because the Justice Court will by the Union have double the trouble and double the use that it had formerly, when a privie councill, having little els to doe, did take up itself in the causes that did naturally belong to the Justice Court, and most now again fall under their care and cognizance.”

The writer also reminds Lord Mar that he had a liferent right of the admiralty from the Duke of Lennox, of all the bounds from the mouth of Spey, upon the east sea, round by Pentland Firth, and all the west coast, to the head or Cape of Ardnamurchan, and of all the adjacent isles, except the Orcades. He adds that his title from Lennox is good, and is her Majesty's own title by a particular bargain with the Duke of Lennox (which her

Majesty may be pleased to remember, was a bargain both proposed and concluded for her Majesty's service).<sup>1</sup> Lord Cromartie thus continues :—

I never sought a donative of land rent or few-duty from her Majesty or her predecessors, when others were getting them in very considerable numbers and quantities.

If her Majesty will be pleased to dispone to me my few-duties of a peice land and miln called the davachland of Meddat, the few-duty whereof may be about 50 lib. sterling per annum, and if she will be pleased to honour me with granting it as a token of her Royall favour for my service in the Union, I will have it rather than any other onerous cause whatsomever. I will quitte my admirality, for I would be sorry to have any occasion of debate with your Lordship, and far less with his Royall Highness; and I will thank your Lordship if you will remember him of me, his most humble and faithfull servant, and a little chief of the only Norvegian family remaining in Scotland, viz., the race of Olaus, one of the last Royalets of Man, and of his son Leodus, who was heritor of the Island of Lewes, and this little matter also I intreat you.

As to the claim of Lord Ross, Lord Cromartie says :—

“All the fidling of this hot-headed fool (whom I did but too much obleidge) is that, having made of late a new kind of purchass in Ross of a reversion of David Ross of Bellnagowan lands, on which he dreamed him self some fantastick great thing, he would needs have him and his elected for the representative of five shires and seven burghs in the north, and severall others in the south.

“One thing has turned his head round since ever he midled with Bellnagowan, that he being call'd Ross, and having a reversion of a peice land in Ross, he must therefore be successor to and will needs be Earle of Ross, who is indeed one of the first Earles in Scotland, and hade great superiorities: but unluckily, my Lord, who is indeed ane old west country laird, knowing nothing of the Earledome of

<sup>1</sup> Lord Cromartie, then Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, was appointed by James Earl of Newburgh, Vice-Admiral of Scotland, to be Admiral-depute within the north seas of Scotland, benorth the water of Spey, east and west sides thereof, 29th December 1662.

The Deputation was confirmed by Charles Duke of Lennox and Richmond, for life, at Whitehall, 19th March 1663.—[Extract from Admiralty Books, where it is registered 31st July 1712. Cromartie Papers, vol. xxi. No. 26, at Tarbat House.]

Ross, of the Earles, of their rights, of their rise or fall, and having no more relation to them, directly or indirectly, than the milner of Carstairs has to the Prince of Parma. He does not know that the Earles of Ross were never above 200 yeares Earles of Ross; that in that tyme there was two of them of the name of M<sup>c</sup>Donald, two of the name of Lessly, and three before that of no sirname, but that they were called Gulielmus or Hugo de Rosse, as being Earles of Ross: he might have known, had he read any of our history, that these few were in frequent rebellions, that they were very early forfeited, that the Earldome was annexed to the Crown in perpetuitie, and that by a precise and solemn Act of Parliament it is statute that the King shall never dispone it to any but to a second son, and that it should be always a tittle to the second son, and that it was so with all the Scots kings when they hade second sons.

“It was foolish in my Lord to think that the Queen’s servants were ignorant in those things as himself: but to discover the further impudence of his project, it is fitt that her Majesty and her servants know that very considerable families have parts of this Earldome of Rosse, some of which would be so vain as to think my Lord but a little man either in Scotland, Brittain, or in himselfe. Such are the Earle of Seaforth and severall other considerable heritors of that name, the Earle of Cromerty, Rosehaugh, S[c]atwall, Gerloch, Coul, Redcastle, Culcoy, Fowles, Culrain, Kilravack, Cadboll, Fairburn, Tullach, M<sup>e</sup>Leod of Lewes, M<sup>c</sup>Donald, Aple Cross, Davachmoluag, Suddie, manie of which does not think my Lord Ross fitt to be their superior; and it does not seem probable that her Majesty or her Councillers will allow the interposition and the constituting of any new man, or other man, to have superiority, not over persons, but over so many clanns and considerable ones. [Original Memorandum at Tarbat House.]

Two yeares later Lord Cromartie wrote another paper on the state of the Shire of Ross, and also referring to the attempt of Lord Ross to obtain a grant of the Earldom. The opposition of Lord Cromartie to the wished-for grant of the Earldom of Ross was successful, as Lord Ross never obtained any such grant of that ancient Earldom.

Lord Cromartie continued to hold the office of Justice-General till the year 1710, when he was in his eightieth year. And having served the public in that, and various other important offices, for the long period of



sixty years, he now finally resigned that office, and retired into private life. His salaries and pensions were not paid with that exemplary punctuality which the officers of the Crown can reckon upon at the present day. In the time of Lord Cromartie, there were frequently great contentions and scramblings for the payment of salaries and pensions. In his correspondence with Lord Mar, he often alludes to the non-payment of the money due to him. In a letter to the latter, dated 23d October 1705, Lord Cromartie reminds him—" *Ex officio*, the intrant secretary should assist the exeant to be payed of his bygones. I want £1100 sterling of my very dues. I have her Majesties letter for my self and all succeeding secretars payments to be made *ante omnes*; and in justice it should be so, for he most advance it, which all the other officers needs not doe, besides many other reasons." <sup>1</sup>

Lord Cromartie frequently recurs to the subject of his arrears of salary. He writes to Lord Mar on the injustice of not paying salaries which are over due, especially where, by the Queen's express appointment, the secretaries should be paid *primo loco*, and yet others are preferred long before them. He feelingly alludes to his having too long served the Crown unchallenged of failure, except of having over zeal, for which he suffered, to be now either guilty or condemned unheard.<sup>2</sup>

He subsequently wrote to Lord Mar that unless his arrears of salary were paid, he was thinking of taking refuge in the sanctuary of the Abbey of Holyrood; and he complained of the injustice of paying the salaries of other ministers in preference to his own, which was promised by the Queen to be paid before all others. Lord Cromartie wishes Her Majesty to be informed that he is "barbarously used," and declares that if he deserved no riches, he never deserved such unusual hardship from the Crown or Royal Family.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. pp. 289, 290.

<sup>3</sup> Letter of 22d Nov. 1705, vol. i. p.

<sup>2</sup> Letter of 17th Nov. 1705, vol. i. p. 295. 298.

Lord Mar was stirred up to make provision for the arrear of Lord Cromartie's salary, although he pleads the poverty of the Treasury as an excuse for not paying the salaries to live on, and reminds his correspondent that the writer is a Mackenzie, and their interest would not suffer where he could help it.<sup>1</sup> Lord Mar here refers to his grandmother, who, as already stated, was Lady Mary Mackenzie, eldest daughter of George second Earl of Seaforth.

Still pursuing the subject of the arrear of his salaries, Lord Cromartie says he hears he is to have no payment till the Commissioners of Treaty from the Parliament; and if so, he will study to borrow as much as will carry his own bones up to complain, *vale que vale*, as Squire Meldrum said.<sup>2</sup>

He also complained to the Lord Treasurer, the Duke of Queensberry, specially of the non-payment of his salaries. He says that his old salary was £600 per annum, and that he never was an adviser for too large salaries for Scotch ministers, these having, during his long memory, been the great motives, if not the great causes, of factions and the disquiet of the Court. He begs the salary of his office for its honour, although, from his age, he cannot expect to enjoy it long, and his stock, which was never increased by the public, cannot now be much so. In allusion to the length of his letter to the Treasurer on this subject, Lord Cromartie adds, "I am like these impertinent visiters who, being seldom admitted, doe revenge themselves by staying too long."<sup>3</sup>

He writes to Lord Mar:—"If I thought old Tarbat or new Cromarty were worth your nottice, or his litle concerns capable to be favoured, I would adventur to mind the Earle of Marr of them. But I suspect old springs gives no price."<sup>4</sup>

Wearied out with vain applications, Lord Cromartie at length appealed

<sup>1</sup> Letter of 28th Nov. 1705, vol. i. pp. 299, 300.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 45.

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 63-66.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 85.

directly to Queen Anne on the subject of his arrear of salary. His two letters to her Majesty are printed in the second volume.<sup>1</sup> These letters were written only a few months before the death of Lord Cromartie, and they are very interesting, as they recount many of the services which were rendered by his Lordship during the long period of sixty years. One very important fact is mentioned by him which is not generally known, that it was he who advised General Monck to attempt the restoration of King Charles the Second, and that he had advanced £1000 to Monck to assist him in the enterprise. It was for the money so advanced that King Charles the Second awarded a pension to Lord Cromartie.

In one of his letters to Queen Anne, his Lordship maintains that he had served faithfully in all his stations, and never failed in his duty to his Prince. Nor did ever any man accuse him, except one miscreant, who, with his accomplices, could only have been pardoned by her Majesty's clemency. Lord Cromartie adds, that in place of pardon he holds sufficient approbations; nor did he ever fear the want of pardon, so bold is innocence even in its low situation.<sup>2</sup>

Even to the close of his long life Lord Cromartie retained his original vigour and terseness in writing. He also maintained his cheerfulness, as appears from his correspondence with his step-son-in-law, the Earl of Northesk.

Two letters, which were written to Lord Northesk by Lord Cromartie shortly before his death, show his happy and cheerful state of mind in his old age. The first is as follows:—

MY DEAR LORD,—It is now very near to eight years since that Fellow, ordinarily call'd Good-luck, did, with a severe gripe, shake hands with me; and I think never to meet untill the randevouze at the valley of Jehosophat, where I hope to

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 139 *et seq.*

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 140.

meet with good friends and good company. I would not have you in the same indifference with me, either as to the publick affaires or private interests on the earth, but leave you in these to your better conduct, than by experience I have known mine to be : witness all who love me, and all who laugh att me. Plots and parties I ever abhorred; projects I have sometimes been upbraided with : but now I say to all of them (whether they had effect or no effect),

Sterilesque valete Camœnæ.

I shall willingly give them a pass and recommendation to the shipwright at the signe of the South Sea ; and, if he please, let him add them to the South Sea cargo. Perhaps they will make a return of a Highland militia, or a Chancellor, or so, and may be penishing, either for use or ornament, in his closet.

But, my Lord, I deal not so with the fishery which you recommended to me. Receive herewith one of these Bastards. I cannot give it a name, for I could never as yet find a Godfather who would give them a godbairne's gift ; and I was so poor myself, having no mettale, but some gold from the philosopher stone, which the smiths of my acquaintance said always that it could not bide the anvil, tho' I alleadg'd that either they never tryed it, or that they wanted fire and hammers. But if that Brat, now sent to you, can be brought to thrive, I shall be glad of it. A coathouse in Auchmuty, with a twenty or thirty Tune Bark, and a fishing-yole or two to attend her, is all the patrimony I do propose for him ; and if he will not thrive at that, it is but to send him to the shipwright, and 100 to 1 he may make something of him, though it should end in nothing, which is an omen which I am far from wishing or expecting from his manufactory. But if your Lordship have a furnace by you, pray try the mettale of this letter in it ; but as to the print, read it and use it or not as you please ; it may have many staines. But I think that if it be scured for half a year in the deepest water near Redhead, it may be made a clean, clear cloth. If I be disappointed, yet a good intention may have some merit, as our Sister Church of Rome says. If you stay any while at Edinburgh (as I wish your Lordship may), we may speak more fully on these serious matters.

Valeat quantum valere potest  
Ast valeas Tu, Tuique. Amen.<sup>1</sup>

To E[arl of] N[orthesk] 1 October 1713.

<sup>1</sup> Contemporary Copy Letter at Tarbat House. Original at Ethie.

The second letter of Lord Cromartie to Lord Northesk referred to is as follows :—

MY LORD,—I am now here, and going aboard (God willing) for Cromartie ; and the best farewell or legacy that I can give you is my blessing, and to pray for God's on you and yours. I assure you they are and will be dear to me. I have taken leave of all publick affairs ; my wishes for them is, that they may be well and serene. I wish it strongly, but my fears are stronger. I say with Sir John Scot, God make all well ; but as the children say, so do I think, ill stuf to make it of, God make it better. It's like I may see Reidhead this day, but with deep regrait of not seeing those who lay near it ; yet, as old Buckingham jested with Prince Rupert, I in good earnest do say,—

I hope to live to see, if I die not,  
The Palatinate, the Pala-Tinat.

My Lord, my kindness wishes that you might visit all the north ; for I did, and I do, think our nobility defective in not knowing their own country. But my discretion smothers my wish, for indeed it arises from self-love. I leave this with the good and very kind Lord Haddo. Would I did live near you both ! I would neither envy the statesmen at Edinburgh, nor representatives at London. I did not hinder, but, as I could, did rather premove your essaying to be in the publick affairs ; but I will not advise a pertinacy in essaying. Martha was gently employed in many things, but Truth itself has told that Mary did chuse the better things. My Lord, my motive for this indifference is from my certain perswasion that there is no great use for great estates, or of those things which perish in the using. They may tickle our fancy, but wee will get to our own proper use meat and cloaths. Wee may foolishly enough make it our delight to be stewards to others what wee cannot make use of for ourselves, and perhaps get the divell to our thanks at the hinder end. But, on the other hand, there are goods which are truly useful for us, and if wee bestow our time and our care for acquiring of these, they will certainly make us happy, and that eternally ; and I hope, even then, to be, my Lord, everlastingly your friend and servant,

CROMARTIE.<sup>1</sup>

The Right Honourable The Earle of Northesk.

One of Lord Cromartie's sons, apparently the eldest, either actually left

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter at Ethie.

the Protestant communion, in which he was educated, or proposed doing so, and embracing the Roman Catholic religion. This caused considerable anxiety and regret to Lord Cromartie, who wrote the following letter to his son on the subject :—

DEARE SONNE,—Albeit my haveing educat yow in a true religion, and my indeavours to perswade your continuance in it have hitherto failed of the expected successe, yett my duty to yow as your father, and the superaddition of a solemn vow, wherby I am bound to instruct yow in our true Catholick faith, oblige me uncessantly to doe what lyes in me for so good ane end ; nor can I despair but that some good meane shall, by God's blessing, dissipat your clouds of passion, or clear up your mistakes, which the false argueing of the Romish emissaries have ledd yow in, and I will ever pray that it may be so. I am not now to fall in argueing against there so oft and so fully defeated sophisms, wherwith they made many people of the earth drunk. I did profer to yow and desyr that, or yow determined your change, yow wold hear me and other to reasone against any motives which yow could offer for to induce in yow to change your religion. I feared (what now I find) that these prevaricators would not easily allow yow to stopp the carrear downward into which they had secretly puld yow ; but there shameless doctrine prohibiting there converts, and all there flocks, to try and examine there doctrines and tenets, should, methinks, raise true groounded suspitions against tenets which these doctors propose to be taken on trust. Those preachers, whom God sent to preach against the corruptions of a church who had farr surer and clearer documents for their being God's visible and true church, and farr stronger divine statutes oblidging the people to take the law from there mouth, under severer paines then the Roman Church can pretend to, did call ther hearers to search in the old way, in the law and the testimony, and to examine ther religion. Our blessed Saviour, tho' God man, and who could and did confirm his holy truths with evident miracles, did yett desyre his hearers, in order to there religion, to search the Scriptures, and he submits his great self to there testimony : how much then should yow and all men suspect, at least, [those] whose cheeff (and indeed most sheltering) doctrine is to search none, to examine none, especially by that dark thing the Scripture, which is useless as Christ and his Apostles preached it, untill it be drest up in there gloss. I leave all the grosse absurdities and damnable consequences, which most be produced by this mother error, to

more tyme and particular tryall, if yow will be so just to yourself as to take it. I shall now only, in the name of a father, who have been ever indulgent to yow, and (which is farr more weighty), in the name of the great God, desyre yow earnestly to consider that, as the religion is the greatest thing under God, so to choose, and yett more to change it, is of the highest importance to yow. To change from error is a glory, but to change till the utmost tryals be made by yow is a shame; to conclude in naturall and politick matters on short veiues and unexamind app[e]arence is foolish, but in religion it is impious. I'm sure yow have whole numbers of means for tryall unessayed; yow have read litle, conversed with learned men on both sides litle, and with me, who am your parent, yow have never consulted the pretences wherby yow are now ledd, and, alas! deceived: yow have given too litle tyme to that which deserves long and serious consideration; and tho' no tyme should be lost from religious duties, yett I know not if any on can be more so then what our Saviour calls His converts too, viz., to search the Scriptures, and to examine His doctrines by them. The noble Bereans did so. Dear child, it will be no disgrace for yow to obey him, and imitate them. What needs precipitation? Yow are in duty whilst yow hover to try. The matter is weighty: wisdom cald aloud to consider what yow leave, what yow goe to. To illustrate these would require a volumn: it is not my designe to illustrate ether in this letter: this is to begg that yow would give tyme to search for truth in both. I shall be plaine in very few words, and lay before yow my request: it is that yow would consider that I describe the religion which yow are designing to leave to be that religion which is contained in plain and express scripture, conformed to the rule which wee beleve, and Rome dare not deny to be God's rule; other rule wee doe not acknowledge. A call to leave this rule cannot but sound horridly in any Christian eare. The symbol of our Church, or Confession of our faith, is that which wee know, and Rome confesses, was handed downe to us from the blessed Apostles of our Saviour, and ever owned as such by the Catholick Church: this religion then most appear truly Catholick. It's hard, if not worse, to leave those whom all most confess to owne divine and Catholick truths, to pretend that wee are not a true Church who owne not on error in all our Confession. And we declare that this is the confession yow are intreated to retain. If there be other truths alleadged and ingrost with these by others, that will not make ours fals; and when they are found true by the samne rule, and by as catholick consent, wee will not hinder nor disswade

there admission, but lett the prooff goe before the conclusion; and, however, all that wee say is true, and our resolution to admitt all tryed truths is just; no reasone then to leave us; and no Christian prudence will allow the ingrossing of other tenets into the Christian symbol without exact and very exact tryall of them by our rule; so what yow are now to leave is to the Romish Church demonstratively good; but, on the other hand, think whither yow goe. I doe not love severe expressions, nor anything that may restrict allowable charity; but I'm sure I am no scolder when I forwarn my child that yow are going to joine with a society who have added such doctrines to the Christian faith as the greater part of the Romish Church are ashamed to owne, tho' they dare not repell, but partake in and of these impieties, and whose morals have renversed these in the Gospell, and shaken Christianity as weell as mankind into confusion. May yow not be frightened to leave a church which ownes only to be guided by the oracles of God and confest by all to be His oracles, and to joine a church who ownes that there cheeff tribunal is above these oracles in so farr as they teach it as the first and principall doctrine of ther religion, that this rule cannot instruct so weell as what they give, that Christ either could not or did not preach so plainly, nor what could be so effectually to convert to Christianity, as they doe. If the Temple of God be the place of teaching, and the Roman Church pretend to be in it, then if they be not that which was fortold to sitt in the Temple of God as God, and to exalt themselves above God in exalting there rule of religion above his, I doubt it will be hard to find this evill on. Bot, however, my sonne, this should fright yow from a hasty conjunction with so ill ane appearance, and perswad yow yett to delay at the call of a father who thinks he can fully clear this, and if he cannot, others both can and will. Especially I perswade my self this will hinder yow from that new impiety of abjuring a religion which ownes truth, and nothing but truth, for our rule and symbol: tho' yee might lawfully beleeve more then wee doe, yett why abjure that which yow most againe beleeve? It will be hard to shew a Christian primitive practise that evne heathens at there entry to Christianity did make any other vow then that of baptism; yow have that upon yow already, and the Romans dare not deny that your baptisme stands good (tho' that concession destroy most of there great boastings, and is inconsistent with there beeing the sole true Church). Vows are not to be multiplied without necessity. If the baptismall vow was enough to enter a pagan, a worshiper of the divell, to Christianity,



what needs more to yow who was not in so remote a state from the doctrine of Christ? Allow me to say I know not another society who requires such a solemnity on this side of the witches, as is said; but if evry oath should be made in truth and with judgment, so cheeffly that wherin so high a subject as the Gospell and Apostles' Creed, or a Church who ownes them, is abjured. I conjure you, in the name of the blessed Jesus, to evite that horrid act. The Donatists' error and condemned herisy was but to have ane oath or vow renewed at the receaving of penitents, how farr grosser most it be not only to renew, but to abjure, your former truths, for companies sake only, with alleadged errors? Dear sonne, lett these and the feare of the God of Truth prevail with yow to stopp to consider, to examine and re-examine, and to acquaint me with any thing that induces yow to leave us, or yow consumate it, since in that delay (as I said at first) yow are in a religious duty comanded by Christ and practised by his saints. That this may be the more welcome to yow I have sent it by the hand yow love best in the world, whose greeff for your course should add to the perswasion both for your delay and consideration, and it is againe desyred by your affectionat and greeved father."<sup>1</sup>

In connection with the matter of the letter now quoted, it may be noted that Lord Cromartie wrote short essays on particular subjects in religion. A short essay by him may here be given :—

*Secret Rocks in the Christian Voyage.*

IN CREDENDO. In beleeving beware of beleeving too litle, for that is a defect in faith,—a reflection on what God reveals, a branch of atheism. To conclude your judgment on that silly thing, human reasone, and not on God's veracity, is on the matter to give the ly to God, and so is a dreadfull sinne, tho' oftymes litle adverted to. By it yow extend the limits of the invisible church, since yow allow these to be such who beleeve not the articles necessare, which is a conditionall charecter of church membership in the invisible church which none can dispence with, and is Antichristianisme. Beware also of beleeving too much, *i.e.* ought with a divine faith, as unfallible, but what God hath revealed t<sup>o</sup> yow, for that were to sett reasone, or man's authority and veracity on a levell with God's: it is Antichristianisme to give such legislative power to any but God, and it narrowes

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter, holograph (without date), at Tarbat House.

the invisible church by prescribing more conditionall charecters then God hath determined; and therefore the extending of confessions of faith to articles not of infallible divine authority, or to cutt off fundamentall articles, are equally dangerous, both founded on implicit atheism,—the one on bold presumption, the other on foolish superstition. Such was, “yow may eat a forbidden fruit, why it’s a triviall transgression, and yow will find it may have pleasant effects, and such a triviall cannot reasonably be judged a fundamentall article and condition of God’s favour, so cut it of from the category of the necessarily credenda.” Such also was, “offer your children to Moloch,” *i.e.* to what yow beleeve to be God; for it will shew much love, zeal, and respect to God so to doe: tho’ he hath not expresly comanded it, yett reason sayes it should be acceptable, a good effect of a devot temper, and therfor wee should seriously examine if what yee put in the catalogue of things to be beleeved or practised, on the cer[t]ification of damnation to our selfs, or on the exclusion of others from the comunion of saints, or church-membership, be things infallibly revealed or comanded by God; if they be, then place them in the memoriall of your undoubted duties, and, above all humane dispensation; if they be not, but are only asserted such by logicall undemonstrative inferences, or by human authority, whither be practise or precept, then they may be lawfull, they may be laudable, they may be fitt, but not so adopted as to bind in among the necessar divine truths and comands, and so no ground to cutt of a member of Christ’s body from the so much praised and comanded vnity by charity among all the members; for this were to sett thy owne reason, or fallible authority, or example, on equall foot with the Eternal—a dreadfull sinne.

By this I wish wee examine if modes of worship, which differ in evry nation, disciplin, and church government in evry point, that is not expresly comanded by God, and wherin all churches in all tymes and all places doe differ each from other; and so, if true church membership, or to be members of Christ’s mysticall body, depend on church discipline or church governments in things and points which are so farr from being expresly comanded that all the churches of Christ have differed in, it were ane uncharitable position, and fals under the evil of beleeving too much; wheras these tolerable and lawfull opinions may be practised safely, but most be pernicious if joined to the conditions and qualificationes of Christian vnion and comunion.

By this also wee should bound our opinion concerning the Sabath, for a tyme is comanded for God’s peculiar worship by the primitive law of nature, a specifi-



TARBAT HOUSE,  
THE RESIDENCE OF THE EARLS OF CROMARTIE.  
DEMOLISHED AFTER THE YEAR 1745.



cation of the seventh day of every week by Moses law, the first day of ilk week by apostolick and ecclesiastick practice. Calvin thought that the specification of the day, tho' lawfull, by coming to be judged necessar and a condition of Christian unity, was become a superstition, and therefore he wisht that it might be changed to another day of the week, that so a tyme, according to the law of nature and end of . . . [end].<sup>1</sup>

Worn out with long and assiduous service in many important offices, Lord Cromartie retired to his native county of Ross, where, in the ancient castle of Milnton, the former seat of the Monros, and which had been created by him into another New Tarbat, he died, on Friday, the 27th of August 1714, in the 84th year of his age. In a contemporary letter, which mentions the event, it is stated that upon hearing of the death of the Queen he shut himself up in his closet for three hours, was very melancholy when he came out, went to bed, and never rose again. He had become extremely weak before.<sup>2</sup>

Lord Elibank writes that everybody will regret the death of Lord Cromartie who was so happy as to be acquainted with him; and the Earl of Mar heartily condoles with the second Earl of Cromartie on the loss of his good friend.<sup>3</sup> The Earl of Seaforth, the chief of the Mackenzie family, expresses his regret for the death of his cadet, who was also his granduncle.<sup>4</sup>

Dr. George Mackenzie, who afterwards became the historian of the Mackenzie family, thus expressed himself on the death of Lord Cromartie, in a letter, without address, but written apparently to the second Earl:—

Edinburgh, September 27, 1714.

MY LORD,—I cannot express how much I am grived for the loss of your Lordship's father, my noble and worthy friend; but if it please God that I live but a few years, I am hopeful to make known to the world the grateful acknow-

<sup>1</sup> Original, holograph of Lord Cromartie, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Letter of 2d September 1714, vol. ii. p. 154.

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 155.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* p. 157.

ledgements that I owe to his memory by rankeing him amongst the other worthy persons that deserved so well of our nation; and if your Lordship, amongst his peapers, can feind any thing worthy of his memory that deserves to be communicated, either in relation to his own public transactions, or to what concerns the commonwealth of learning, I doubt not but you will favour me with a copy of them. In the meintime the bearer of this has shown me his thoughts upon this occasion, and I am of the oppinion that though they be far short of what he deserves, yet it may give many people a better idea of his worth then what is vulgarly known of him, and that it will recommend the bearer to your Lordship's protection and goodness, and I am hopefull that he will acquite himselfe so as to deserve it; and I hope you will believe me to be,

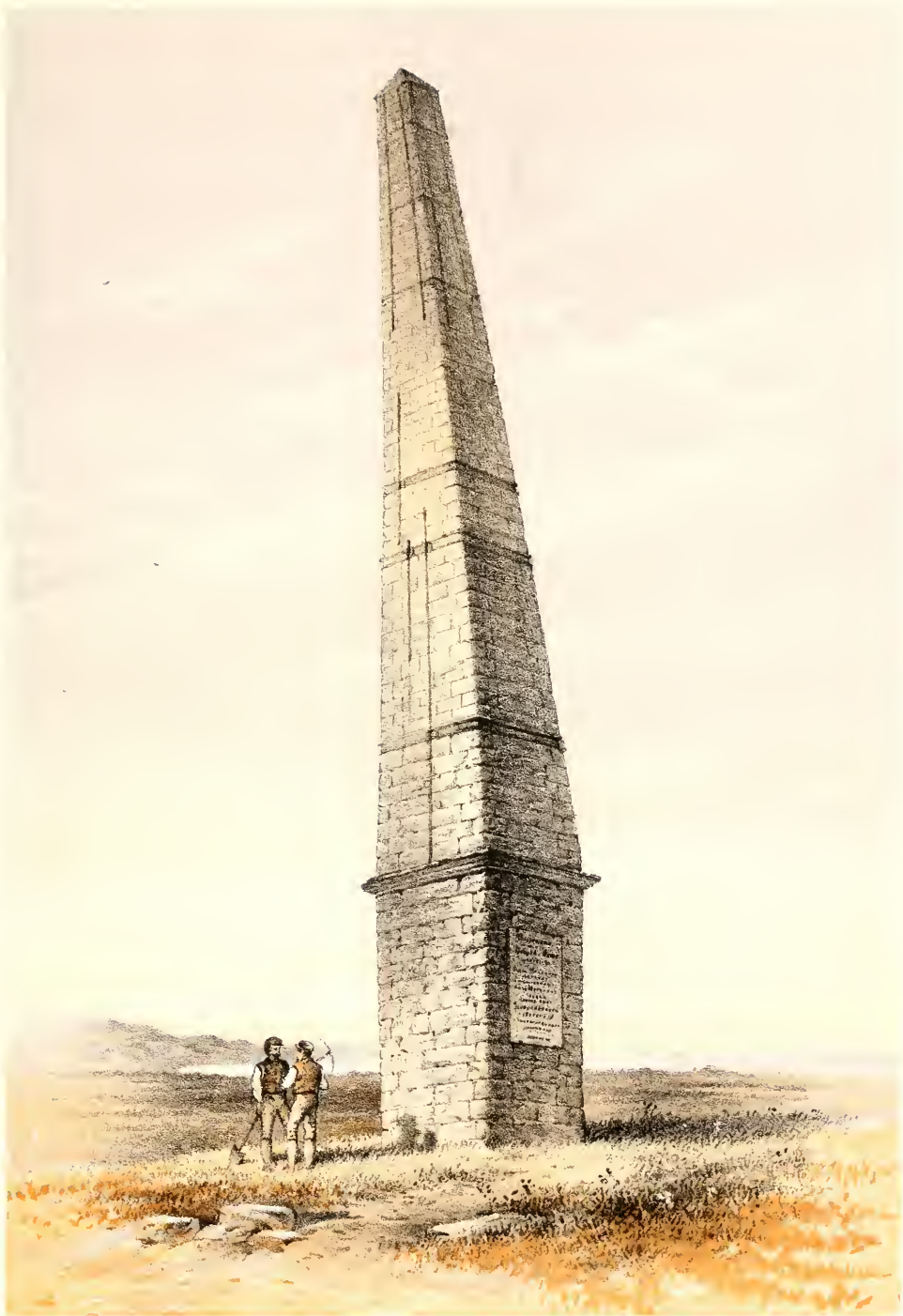
My Lord, your Lordship's most affectionat and most humble servant,

GEORGE MACKENZIE.<sup>1</sup>

In a preceding chapter it has been shown that on the death of Lord Cromartie's second wife, Margaret Countess of Wemyss and Cromartie, in the year 1705, it was arranged between his Lordship and her son, the Earl of Wemyss, that on Lord Cromartie's own death his body should be laid next to that of his late Countess in the burial-place at Wemyss. This arrangement was reduced to a formal written obligation by Lord Wemyss, which has been given in a previous chapter. Notwithstanding the anxiety which Lord Cromartie then showed to have his burial-place beside his Countess, his wish was not ultimately fulfilled. He had in his lifetime enclosed about two-thirds of an acre of ground near the church and churchyard of Dingwall, in which his immediate ancestors were interred. In the centre of that ground there was also erected a pyramid six feet square at the base, and which rises to the height of fifty-seven feet. This is popularly known as Lord Cromartie's monument.

There being no trace of the interment of Lord Cromartie at Wemyss in terms of the written obligation before quoted, and there being no record of

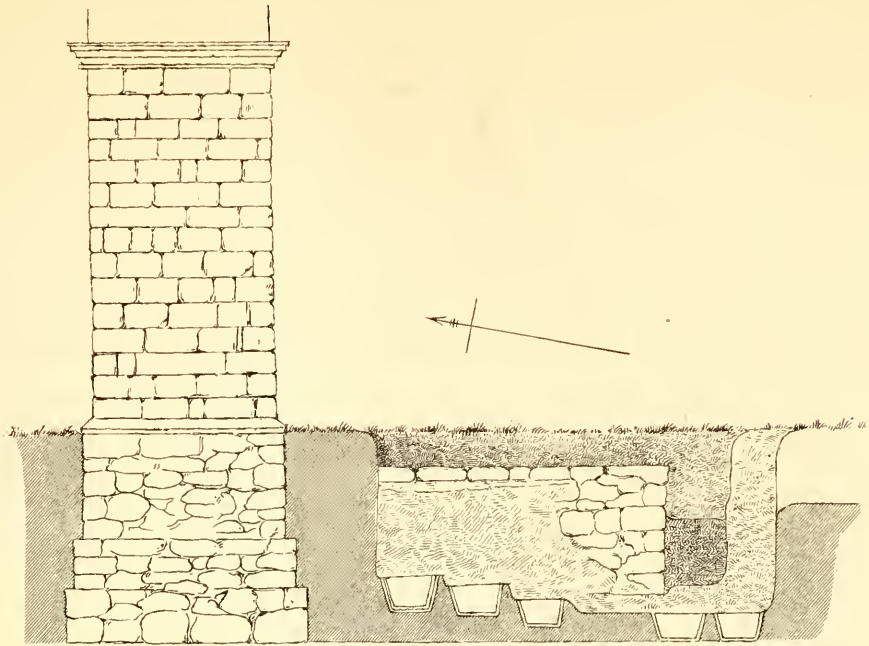
<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Cromartie Correspondence at Tarbat House.



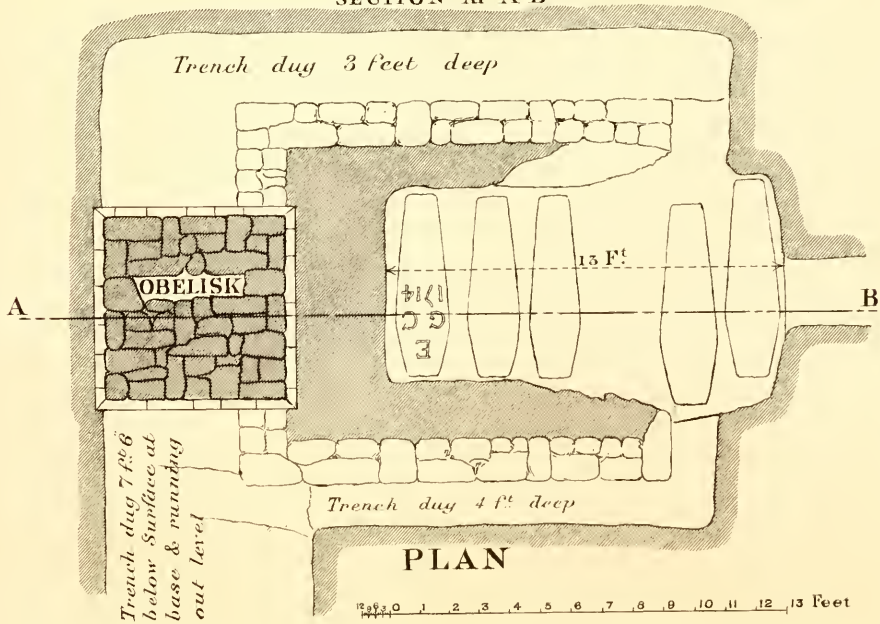
THE CROMARTIE MONUMENT AT DINGWALL.







SECTION AT A-B



PLAN

PLAN & SECTION OF GRAVES AT THE CROMARTIE MONUMENT DINGWALL.





LEAD COFFIN OF GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE AT HIS MONUMENT IN DINGWALL .



his interment at Dingwall, doubts arose as to the real last resting-place of his Lordship. These doubts were completely cleared up in the month of August 1875 when excavations were made in the enclosed ground at Dingwall. Many traditions were current in Dingwall in reference to this pyramid. The oldest inhabitants believed that Lord Cromartie was buried in a vault on the west side of the pyramid, and pointed out the exact spot, as they thought, where he lay. They described the vault, the actual number of steps which led to it, and the iron gate by which it was guarded. That gate does not now exist. Its removal was accounted for by an incident very generally repeated, that a poor boy having fixed his head in the bars of the gate, a blacksmith had to be sent for from Inverness to extricate him—no Dingwall tradesman having been equal to the task.

These traditions were so very precise and plausible, that the excavation of the vault was considered advisable, and a trial made on the spot so distinctly indicated by the aged people. But after a careful exploration, no trace of any grave or vault, or roadway leading to it, was found; and the fulfilment of the original obligation as to the burial of the Earl of Cromartie at Wemyss seemed to acquire confirmation. But as only one of the four sides of the ground around the pyramid had been explored, it was thought possible that Lord Cromartie's remains might have been interred on one of the other three sides. The whole surface of the ground around the pyramid was exactly alike, quite level, without the slightest indication of a grave by a raised mound, railing, or tablet; nor, on the pyramid itself, was there any inscription to indicate that the ground had ever been used as a place of sepulture. The second excavation was made on the south side. Four wooden coffins, containing bodies, were successively discovered, and also a leaden coffin, with the initial letters G. E. C., for George Earl of Cromartie, and the date 1714, the year of his death. The leaden coffin contained two wood coffins, and

the velvet on these was in many places quite entire. The inscription identifies the remains as those of the first Earl of Cromartie, and proves that he was buried beside his ancestors, and not alongside Lady Wemyss at Wemyss, as arranged for at the time of her death.

From the time of the discovery of the graves, on 19th August 1875, they were carefully guarded; and, on Friday the 10th of September following, the whole were inspected on behalf of the noble family interested in them. Lord Cromartie's body was found to measure six feet two inches, which agrees with the contemporary descriptions of his personal appearance as tall and handsome. His skull was carefully measured, and found to be much beyond the ordinary size. All the graves were restored to their original condition.

The following inscription has been engraved on a stone inserted on the south side of the monument:—

ERECTED BY  
 GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE,  
 VISCOUNT OF TARBAT,  
 LORD MACLEOD AND CASTLEHAVEN,  
 WHO DIED AT TARBAT HOUSE  
 ON THE 27TH OF AUGUST 1714,  
 IN HIS 84TH YEAR;  
 AND WAS BURIED ON THE  
 23RD SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING,  
 IN THE GROUND  
 3 FEET 6 INCHES SOUTHWARD HEREOF.

◆  
 THE LEADEN COFFIN,  
 CONTAINING HIS REMAINS,  
 WAS FOUND ON 19TH AUGUST 1875.

OTHER FOUR BODIES, LYING NEAR,  
 WERE FOUND AT THE SAME TIME.

Since the above was in type, very careful search has been made at Wemyss for the tomb with the Latin inscription, said to have been erected to the memory of Margaret Countess of Wemyss and Cromartie, by Lord Cromartie. That inscription is referred to, and two lines of it quoted, by Mr. Wood in his edition of the Peerage of Scotland, which was published in the year 1813. The two lines quoted by him run thus :—

“ Pulchra Venus, Pallas sapiens, et casta Diana,  
Trina sub hoc uno cernitur ære Dea.”

But after the most careful search in the burial-vault at Wemyss, no monument to the Countess can now be found, nor can the site of her sepulchre be ascertained. Amongst the Cromartie Papers at Tarbat House, there is a poem for a bronze statue of the Countess in the Hall of Wemyss, written by a person signing with the initials K. C., in which the above two Latin lines occur. It is probable this was an inscription for one of the statues cast by Josias Iback, statuary, London. The whole poem is in the following terms :—

In Statuam Aeneam Nobilissimæ Margaritæ de Weemys comitissæ in Aula  
Wemysensi.

Margarita nitet Dufforum gemma coronæ,  
Stella nec ætherio pulchrior orbe micat.  
Macbethi domitore satos ornatque tyranni,  
Dum Lapidem Duffi Regia Fifa colit.  
Principe sublato Duncano morte cruentâ,  
Restituit sobolem Duffus, et ultor erat.  
Illius hinc soboles Lapidis sibi gaudet asylo,  
Quem reus attingens crimine liber abit.  
Virtutis pretium dedit hoc Rex pignus in ævum,  
Debuerat Duffo quod diadema suum.  
Magna quidem res est regno cum laude potiri,  
Major at est populi Marte creare ducem.

Margarita sui proavi nil indiget arâ ;  
 Immunis sceleris non nisi Diva fuit.  
 Quisquis es impurus Statuam ne pollue dextrâ,  
 Non dabit æs veniam, si dedit antè Lapis.  
 Ectypus hic sacer est, procul hinc absiste profane,  
 Aut præsta similem te pietate bonæ.  
 Pulchra Venus, Pallas sapiens, et casta Diana,  
 Trina sub hoc uno cernitur ære Dea.  
 Pars ejus melior vivitque perennior illo,  
 Mens ea cælestis jam super astra regit.  
 Corporis effigiem posuit Cromertius heros,  
 Nupta fuit mæsto nam dea trina Viro.

K. C.

Quid tua fata fleat ? Tu cœlo jure recepta.  
 Vivere se sine te non sine jure dolet.  
 Spes tamen una manet, mox tecum vivet, et optat  
 Mens ut conjugio spiritus unus erat.  
 Emeriti natura parens miseretur honesta,  
 Vir sex lustra tuus præteritque decem.

K. C.

To the Right honorable the Earl of Cromarty, These  
 are humbly presented by the Author.

The investigations at Wemyss furnished an explanation why Lord Cromartie was not buried there. A mortification for behoof of a catechist at East Wemyss, by Lord Cromartie, has come to light, and fully explains it. The deed states that whereas Margaret, heiress and Countess of Wemyss, his dearest wife, is now to be buried in the burial-place of Wemyss with her ancestors, and in which burial-place, " at my destination and earnest desire, and with consent of David, now Earl of Wemyss, and in consonance to our said dearest wife's desire, whilst on earth, I am (God willing) to be buried, if I shall dy, in any place besouth the water of Northesque, which runs betwixt



the shyres of Augus and Mearns, and since on several accompts the said burrial-place of the Wemyss cannot admit of a tomb to be built for hir as there are none for any of hir ancestors," therefore the Earl, as a small token of his great affection and honour to her pious memory and unparalleled virtues, though very unproportionable to either, determined to pay to the church of Easter Wemyss the sum of a hundred merks Scots yearly, for founding a salary to a catechist for catechising and instructing the colliers and salters of the lordship of Wemyss in the method of catechising in their families, to be paid in yearly to the kirk-session of the Wemyss under the direction of the Earl of Wemyss and minister of the parish. The payment was to be made yearly on the 1st day of January, that being the birth-day of that illustrious Countess. The bond is dated 1705, and recorded in the Books of Council and Session on the 16th of April 1707. As Lord Cromartie's death took place in the shire of Cromartie, north of the water of Esk, he was buried at Dingwall with his forefathers.

*Anna Tarbat*

*M. Wemyss & Tarbat*

## CHAPTER EIGHTH.

## THE CHARACTER AND WORKS OF LORD CROMARTIE.

HAVING been a member of so many different ministries, and having warmly supported the Union between Scotland and England, Lord Cromartie did not escape misrepresentation by those who expected that he would have opposed that measure. In particular, George Lockhart of Carnwath, in his *Memoirs of the Affairs of Scotland*, has drawn the following character of Lord Cromartie :—

“The Satyrist, in his lampoon, speaking of George Viscount of Tarbat, since Earl of Cromarty, uses these words—

Some do compare him to an eel,  
Should mortal man be made of steel !

and certainly this character suited him exactly ; for never was there a more fickle, unsteady man in the world : he had sworn all the contradictory oaths, comply'd with all the opposite Governments that had been on foot since the year 1648, and was an humble servant to them all, 'till he got what he aim'd at, tho' often he did not know what that was. He was full of projects, and never rejected one, provided it was new. Since the Revolution (tho' he had a large share in carrying it on) he pretended to favour the Royal Family and Episcopal Clergy : yet he never did one action in favour of any of them, excepting that when he was secretary to Queen Anne he procured an Act of Indemnity, and a letter from her recommending the Episcopal Clergy to the Privy Council's protection ; but whether this proceeded from a desire and design of serving them, or some political views, is easy to determine, when we consider that no sooner did Queen Anne desert the Tory party and maxims, but his Lordship turn'd as great a Whig as the best of them, join'd with Tweedale's party to advance the Hanoverian succession, in the Parliament 1704, and was, at last, a zealous stickler and writer in favour of the Union. He was certainly a good-natur'd gentleman, master of an extraordinary gift of pleasing and diverting conversation, and well accomplish'd in all kinds of learning ; but, withall, so extremely maggoty and unsettled that he was never to be much

rely'd upon or valu'd ; yet he had a great interest in the Parliament with many of the northern members. Tho' his brother, Mr. Roderick Mackenzie of Prestonhall, was not altogether so chymical as his Lordship, yet in their politicks they seldom differed ; but he still pretended a greater zeal for the service of the Royal Family than his Lordship did, tho' both proved alike faithful at the latter end." <sup>1</sup>

Lockhart's lives of Scottish statesmen who entertained opinions different from his own are all drawn in unfavourable colours. He was as much opposed to the Union as Lord Cromartie was favourable to it ; and this divergence of opinion on so vital a question was enough to induce Lockhart to misrepresent Lord Cromartie. The long experience of the Union has proved that Lord Cromartie's views about it were more sound than those of Lockhart, who entertained the opinion that the Treaty of Union would be repealed. The latter was an uncompromising Jacobite, and as Lord Cromartie did not continue to act with that party after the abdication of King James the Seventh, but took office under his successors, these acts were enough to insure a caricature from so keen a Jacobite as Lockhart.

He was supposed to be engaged in the plot for an invasion of Scotland on behalf of King James in the year 1708. In a letter to the first Duke of Montrose, Lord Cromartie suggests the best course for opposing the threatened invasion ; and of all that he then writes, he says that he did, by a second sight, forewarn the Duke of Marlborough in a letter above fourteen days previously. He concludes his letter with a poetic verse upon the supposed author of the plot :—

“ But out stept ane old knight,  
 Call'd Lockhart of the Lie ;  
 And he did swar—  
 A step he would not flee.” <sup>2</sup>

The satirical portion of Carnwath's character of Lord Cromartie is easily explained by the antagonistic positions which they occupied, and the keen

<sup>1</sup> The Lockhart Papers, edition 1817, vol. i. pp. 74-5.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 62.

party spirit in which Lockhart misrepresented all those who were opposed to him. His character of John first Earl of Stair may be referred to as an example of this. He is represented as the author of the barbarous massacre of Glencoe, and the main plotter to cut off the chief of the Cavalier and country parties, for which he is compared to Catiline. He is also accused as the chief author of the Union, for which he is called the Judas of his country. He and his family are represented as having perverted justice, and as being the most dreaded and detested of any in the kingdom; as having risen but lately from nothing; and he himself as false and cruel, covetous and imperious, altogether destitute of the sacred ties of honour, loyalty, justice, and gratitude.

After painting Lord Stair as black as he could, the artist seems to have recoiled from his own work, for he immediately adds that this Catiline and Judas combined was extremely facetious and diverting company in common conversation, and, setting aside his politics, good-natured.<sup>1</sup>

His unfriendly aspersions on the character of Lord Cromartie are also counteracted in a similar strain. He is represented as the master of an extraordinary gift of pleasing and diverting conversation, which rendered him one of the most entertaining companions in the world.

In the characters of the Nobility of Scotland, by John Macky, Lord Cromartie is described in terms similar to the favourable part of his character by Lockhart. Macky says that Lord Cromartie is a gentleman of very polite learning and good parts; hath a great deal of wit, and is the pleasantest companion in the world; a great master in philosophy, and much esteemed by the Royal Society of London. He hath been very handsome in his person; is tall, fair-complexioned, and now past seventy years old.<sup>2</sup> A contemporary

<sup>1</sup> The Lockhart Papers, vol. i. p. 89.

William, Queen Anne, and King George the First. London, 1733, p. 188.

<sup>2</sup> Memoirs of the Secret Services of John Macky, Esq., during the Reigns of King

satire on the Earls of Breadalbane, Lithgow, Drumlanrig, Lord Tarbat, and others, deals thus with the last :—

“ But then George Lord Tarbet, thin plain honest man,  
Never plots nor works mischief, let say it quho can ;  
Cares as much for age as for Mahomet’s pigeon,  
Yet can talk like old wives of the French and religion.”<sup>1</sup>

With such qualifications, admitted even by such a satirical opponent as Lockhart, it is not surprising that Lord Cromartie was a member of several learned and other societies.

He was a member of the Royal Company of Archers for many years ; and, on the 3d March 1679, he was elected Lieutenant in place of Sir Charles Erskine of Cambo, knight, Lyon-King-of-Arms, who died shortly before. Lord Tarbat was then Lord Justice-General. He continued to hold the office of Lieutenant, till, on the death of the Marquis of Athole, who was Captain-General of the Company, Lord Tarbat was appointed to succeed the Marquis in that office on 17th May 1703. The minute of the Company of that date bears that “ the Council and other officers of the Royal Company of Archers, having met and taken to their consideration that the office of Captain-General of the said Company is now become vacant through the death of the Marquis of Athole, and likeways, considering that the Right Honourable the Viscount of Tarbat, now Principal Secretary of State for the Kingdom of Scotland, hath been a member of that Society ever since the erection thereof, and that long since he did them the honour to accept of the office of Lieutenant of their Company, they did all, with one voice nominate, elect, and choice the said Noble Lord George Viscount of Tarbat to be Captain-General, with all powers and privileges that ever any captain could claim or pretend to.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A Choice Collection of several Scots Miscellanie Modern Poems, MS.

<sup>2</sup> Records of the Royal Company of Archers.

Lord Tarbat accepted the office of Captain-General, and he was received in person by the Company at a meeting held in August 1703. Under the command of Lord Tarbat as Captain-General, the Company commenced a course of prosperity. A largely-attended general meeting of the Company was held on the 4th of September 1703. The minutes bear that the new Captain-General was the successful competitor in the ancient sport of shooting for the goose prize. "They went to the butts, where a living goose was fixed a convenient distance from the north butt, and nothing but her head in view. The same was shot through by the Captain-General, the arrow entering the left eye and going out a little behind the right eye, above four inches quite through, so as she never mov'd after she receiv'd the shot. Then returning to John Monro's, the whole company was nobly entertained by their Captain-General."

After the noble entertainment, a Council of seven members was elected by signed lists,—a mode of election similar to the billeting proposed by Lord Cromartie at the Restoration. The Captain-General signified to them the great respect which he bore to the Royal Company, and how much he was inclined to encourage and propagate the use of ancient arms, of bows and arrows. And as he promised fidelity to the former Council at his reception to his office, so he now heartily renewed the same in presence of the new councillors. He then signed the laws, and the Council elected the other officers. The Captain-General proposed that, for the better managing of the Company, four brigadiers should be appointed, which was agreed to. John, Master of Tarbat, was one of the four who were chosen.

Soon afterwards the Earl of Cromartie obtained from the Queen a warrant, or signature, for a charter in favour of the Archers, which bears date the 31st of December 1703. The charter which followed under that warrant is still the regulating charter of the Company. In a letter, dated 29th January 1704,

the Council gave their Captain-General great praise for obtaining the charter, which they acknowledge with the cheerfulness and respect due to so valuable a gift. It gives his Lordship, they add, a just title to be called not only the restorer but (under her Majesty) the founder of a society which, it is hoped, in a short time, by his Lordship's conduct and patronage, will revive the ancient exercise of bows and arrows, so much of late neglected, though of great use to this nation in time of our warlike progenitors.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Cromartie maintained his interest in the archers to the last. Even when he was eighty-three years of age he wrote to the Council, "I am much in hopes to be tolerably fit for a try at butts, though scarcely for a journey at rovers. Meanwhile I wish a merry sederunt, and pray accept the will for the deed, for no captain can be more desirous to serve a company, nor hath any better reason for being so."<sup>2</sup>

Soon after the date of that letter, the first known public march of the archers was made. It is recorded that the Company "marched in order through Leith, with the Ensign (Earl of Lauderdale) at their head, and Marchiston, one of their briggadiers, in the rear, and received from the guard the usual honours, to the place where they dined, and were there attended by their Captain-General and Magistrates of Edinburgh."<sup>3</sup>

On the occasion of shooting for the Musselburgh arrow, on the 4th of August 1713, Lord Cromartie wrote to the Council the quaint letter excusing his non-attendance, which is printed in this collection. The letter was also a practical resignation of his office of Captain-General. But it was not accepted, and Lord Cromartie held the office till his death in the following year.

Exactly two months previous to his death, Lord Cromartie was able to

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in the Archives of the Archers.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Archives of the Archers.

attend a very imposing array of the Archers, on the 14th of June 1714, on the occasion of shooting for the Edinburgh arrow on the Links of Leith. The Earl of Cromartie, as Captain-General, was upon the front, and in their march through the streets of Edinburgh and Leith, all arrayed in their new uniform, they received military honours from all guards and others. His letter of resignation before referred to is so characteristic that the following extracts from it may fitly close this notice of Lord Cromartie and the Archers:—

He writes,—“ If your generosity will not cutt me of, yet I think discretion obliges me to slip of, so that for and in place of dissatisfaction, I may have the pleasure to see you have a captain general worthy of so great an honour. . . . My great esteem of this noble station I have evidenc'd in demitting many, whilst I keep'd this. . . . I need not tell you that, tho' absent, yet with a friend or two this day I will remember you; for indeed you cannot be forgott by him who is att once your old captain, your faithfull friend, and most humble servant.”<sup>1</sup>

The Earl of Cromartie was also a benefactor to the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. In June 1685 the Viscount Tarbat, as Clerk to his Majesty's Parliament, Council, Registers, and Rolls, signed a ratification of the privileges granted to them by their charter of 1681. In 1707, Lord Cromartie presented to their library several volumes of the manuscripts of his maternal grandfather, Sir George Erskine of Innerteil, chiefly on Alchemy, in which Sir George was well versed, and held in great repute for his knowledge of the occult sciences. An inscription by Lord Cromartie on one of the volumes, gives an account of the way in which it came into the possession of his ancestor.

I haveing found, by letters directed from one Dr. Politius (a Polonian or Silesian) to my grandfather, Sir George Areskine of Innertile, brother to the Earle

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 131.



of Kellie, and grandchild to the Earle of Marr, a Senator of the Colledge of Justice, and Privy Counsellor to King James the 6th and to King Charles 1st, who was a great student of naturall philosophy, evn to a considerable advancement in the Hermetick school, and had a correspondence in very remote parts with the sonnes of Hermes, and of whose fruits of his expensive and secret correspondence with them I have depositat some volumns of manuscripts, mostly of his own handwritt.

This was sent to him by the Society at Hess, and directed under the convoy of the said Dr. Politius, who, by his letters to Sir George, declares that, by direction of that Society, his chief errand to Scotland was to confer with him. And I judged it a monument not unworthy to be consigned to the Honourable Colledge of Physitians at Edinburgh, both for its conveyance and matter, evn tho' perhaps much of it may be, or is now, in print; but being long or it was, [it] is to print as ane *αυτογραφον*, and hath more by much than is printed, and many authors not mentioned in the print.

To the Royal Colledge of Physitians this volumn, and several other volumns, is affectionately and humbly offered, on the nynteen of June, Anno Christi 1707,  
by  
GEO. CROMERTIE.<sup>1</sup>

It is probable that Dr. Politius was one of the missionaries sent abroad by the Rosicrucians of Germany to propagate their tenets, among the chief of which was the search for the Philosopher's Stone.

Lord Cromartie was one of the original Fellows of the Royal Society, and was considered one of the ablest members of that learned body. In the present collection several letters are printed from Professor James Gregorie, the inventor of the reflecting telescope, on scientific subjects.<sup>2</sup> There is also a letter from Henry Oldenburg, Secretary of the Royal Society, conveying to his Lordship their thanks for his contributions to their Philosophical Magazine, and requesting a continuance of them.<sup>3</sup>

Lord Cromartie complied with this request, and the Philosophical Transactions show that the following papers were contributed by that "ingenious

<sup>1</sup> Original in the Library of the Royal Colledge of Physicians, Edinburgh.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. pp. 20, 23.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 22.

knight," as he was styled in the early Transactions of the Society, before his creation as a Peer :—

Remarks on the Transactions of April 1675.<sup>1</sup>

Account of an obelisk thrown down, and woods torn up from the root, by a violent wind ; of an extraordinary lake in Stratherrick, which only freezes before February, when in one night it is frozen all over ; of Lake Ness, which never freezes ; and of a petrifying rivulet in Glenelg, which turns holly into a greenish stone, which serves for a mould for casting balls, etc.<sup>2</sup>

Observations on Natural History made in Scotland,<sup>3</sup> dated from Tarbat, July 9, 1675.

Account of the Mosses in Scotland, in a letter to Dr. Hans Sloane, Secretary of the Royal Society, November 15, 1710.<sup>4</sup>

Bishop Nicolson mentions a copy of the continuation of Fordun's Scotichronicon in the handwriting of Lord Cromartie, whom he calls a judicious preserver of the antiquities of his country.<sup>5</sup>

Lord Cromartie was also author of the following literary works, copies of many of which are in the Library of the Faculty of Advocates, Edinburgh. They are here arranged nearly in their chronological order, viz. :—

1. A Memorial for His Highness the Prince of Orange in relation to the affairs of Scotland, together with the address of the Presbyterian party in that Kingdom to his Highness, and some observations on that address by two persons of quality. [Anon.] 4to. London, 1689. Pp. 30.

2. A Vindication of King Robert the Third from the Imputation of Bastardy by the clear proof of Elizabeth Mure (daughter of Sir Adam Mure of Rowallan), her being the first lawful wife of Robert the Second, then Steward of Scotland and Earl of Strathern, by George Viscount of Tarbat, etc., Clerk to His Majesty's Councils, Registers, and Rolls. Edinburgh, 1695. 4to. Second edition printed in 1713.

<sup>1</sup> Transactions, x. 305; abridged, ii. 104, 321.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* x. 307; abridged, iii. 603.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* x. 396; abridged, iii. 539.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* xxvii. 296; abridged, iv. 2, 253.

In the letter to Dr. Sloane, Lord Cromartie states that in the year 1651 he was then about nineteen years old.

<sup>5</sup> Scottish Historical Library, p. 20.

3. The mistaken advantage of Raising Money discovered in a Letter to a Friend. Edinburgh, 1695. 4to. Pp. 26.

4. Parainesis Pacifica; or, a Perswasive to the Union of Britain. [Anon.] 4to. Edinburgh, 1702. Pp. 22, with General Preface, 4 pp.

5. A few Brief and Modest Reflections perswading a just Indulgence to be granted to the Episcopal clergy and people in Scotland. [Anon.] 4to. 1703. Pp. 7.

6. A continuation of a few Brief and Modest Reflexions perswading a just Indulgence to be granted to the Episcopal clergy and people in Scotland. Together with a postscript vindicating the Episcopal doctrine of passive obedience and the Archbishop of Glasgow's Sermon concerning it. [Anon.] 4to. 1703. Pp. 12.

7. The Speech of George Earl of Cromartie, Lord Secretary, to the Parliament of Scotland, on Tuesday, July 11, 1704. Edinburgh, 1704. Fol. 3 pp.

This speech, and the speeches of the Lord Commissioner and Lord Chancellor, followed upon the Queen's Letter to the Parliament. Lord Cromartie, in his speech, praises the Queen that her time, her care, her pleasure, her leisure, her treasure, yea, her very health and life, are sacrificed every day, and almost every time of the day, to actual exercise of devotion to God or administration of government to her people.

8. A Bundle of Positions, partly self-evident, partly problematick, raised from occasional meditations. [Anon.] Svo. London, 1705.

A second title-page is, "A Right Use of Reason against Atheists, Deists." On the back of the first title-page is pasted the book-plate of "The Honourable Archibald Campbell, Esq<sup>r</sup>., 1708." The book is lettered on the back "E. of Cromarty's Essays." The other Essays are, On the Nature of a Church; On the Nature of Christian Societies called Churches; On the Light of Reason; The Fountains of the Natural or Moral Law. It has not been ascertained if Lord Cromartie was the author of all these Essays. On the fly-leaf the following note is written:—"Given me in sheets by the Right Honble. The Earle Marischall of Scotland, at London, June, 1708. Ar<sup>d</sup>. Campbell."

9. A Letter from E. C. [Earl of Cromartie] to E. W. [The Earl of Wemyss] concerning the Union [And] a second letter on the British Union. 4to. 1706.

10. A Letter, dated 4th December 1706, to a Member of Parliament, upon the 19th Article of the Treaty of Union between the two Kingdoms of Scotland and England. [Anon.] 4to. 1708. Pp. 8.

11. Trialogues. A Conference betwixt Mr. Con., Mr. Pro., and Mr. Indifferent, concerning the Union. [Anon.] To be continued weekly. 4to. 1706. Pp. 15.
12. A Friendly Return to a Letter concerning Sir George Mackenzie's and Sir John Nisbet's Observation and Response on the Matter of Union. Dated 22d August 1706. And the other Letter, dated 26th August 1706. Pp. 29. Also Letter third and Letter fourth. Pp. 7. Edinburgh, 1706. 4to.
13. Synopsis Apocalyptica, or a short plain explanation and application of Daniel's Prophecy, and of St. John's Revelation, in concert with, and consequential to, it. Edinburgh, 1707. 4to. Pp. 50 and 72.
14. Vindication of the Reformation of the Church of Scotland, with some account of the Records, with addition dated 16th January 1708. Printed from the original MS. in the possession of the late Mr. Constable, bookseller, Edinburgh, in the Scots Magazine of August 1802, pp. 633-642.
15. Several proposals conducing to a farther Union of Britain, and pointing at some advantages arising from it, and a Caveat against the Endeavours for dissolving the Union of Britain; by proposals for a security in a farther more compleat Union. [Anon.] 4to. Lond. 1711. Pp. 22.
16. Historical Account of the Conspiracies by the Earls of Gowry, and of Robert Logan of Restalrig, against King James the Sixth. Edinburgh, 1713. Octavo.
17. A Vindication of the Historical Account of the Conspiracies by the Earls of Gowry from the mistakes of Mr. John Anderson, preacher at Dumbarton, in his Defence of Presbytery. Edinburgh, 1714. 8vo. Pp. 47.
18. An Account of Hirta and Rona, two Islands, Hirta being of all the Isles of Scotland lying furthest out into the sea: Given to Sir Robert Sibbald, by the Lord Register, Sir George M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Tarbat: Reprinted in *Miscellanea Scotica*, 1818. Vol. ii. p. 79.

The literary works of Lord Cromartie are now very rare. But copies of them are found in several of the large libraries.

Dr. George Mackenzie mentions that he had by him two of Lord Cromartie's Manuscripts, never printed. In the one, Lord Cromartie endeavoured to prove the antiquity of the Scottish nation, and their early

settlement in Britain, from the antiquities of Ireland, which, Dr. Mackenzie says, shows Lord Cromartie to have been a great master in Irish antiquities; though the labours of Bishop Usher prove, to any unbiassed reader, that their antiquities, as well as those of other nations, are involved in fables and inextricable difficulties. The other manuscript was a Geographical Description of the Kingdom of the Picts and the Ancient Pictish Families.<sup>1</sup>

Of the harmony between the churches of England and Scotland, at the Reformation, Lord Cromartie, in the *Vindication*, No. 14, gives an instance quoted from the Records of the Church of Scotland, which he describes. On 27th December 1565, the General Assembly allowed John Knox to go to England to officiate for some time there as a minister of that church, and sent with him a supplication to the Bishops of England to deal gently with such of the clergy there as scrupled at some of the ceremonies.

Lord Cromartie was instrumental in preserving some of the Records of the Church of Scotland. An Act of the General Assembly, dated 16th April 1707, nominates a committee to wait on the Earl of Cromartie, to receive by his own free offer the Register of the General Assembly from 1560 to 1610. An Act of the Commission, dated 21st and 22d January 1708, appoints the Moderator and other members to wait on the Earl, and, in the Commission's name, heartily to thank him for the "singular favour" he had done the Church in giving up the Register of the General Assembly, beginning 31st December 1562, and ending 27th April 1593, etc. An Act of the Assembly, dated 22d April 1708, in terms similar to the preceding, appoints members to wait on the Earl with thanks for the donation of the foresaid Register, and earnestly to entreat his Lordship to do what he could to recover the other volume or volumes of the Register which were once in his hands.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> History of the Mackenzies, MS., by Dr. George Mackenzie.

<sup>2</sup> Extract Acts, vol. xii. Nos. 31-33, of Cromartie Papers, at Tarbat House.

Lord Cromartie dedicated to Lady Margaret Wemyss, Countess of Northesk, his step-daughter, his work entitled "Synopsis Apocalyptica," or a short plain explication and application of Daniel's prophecy, and of St. John's Revelation in concert with it, and consequential to it, by G. E. of C. Edinburgh: printed by James Watson, in Craig's Closs, on the north side of the Cross, MDCCVIII. 4to., pp. 72. The dedication is as follows:—"Dedicated to the Right Honorable Lady Margaret Wemyss, Countess of Northesk and Ethie, Baronness Rosehill and Lour, by your Ladyship's most obedient servant, and most affectionate father, Cromarty." A copy of that work is in the library of Ethie House, belonging to the present Earl of Northesk, and there are several corrections in the handwriting of the author.

Lady Northesk, in her correspondence with Lord Cromartie, eulogises his book, and does honour to the motives which had prompted him, at his advanced period of life, to withdraw himself from politics, and to give his chief attention to more serious subjects. She expresses her satisfaction that the Union does not take up his time so much but that he can find leisure to study a better subject. During his visits to Ethie, Lord Cromartie investigated several matters of historical interest connected with the county of Angus, especially in the district of Ethie and Arbroath; and in allusion to his inquiries, he is asked by Lady Northesk, when promising her a visit at Ethie, to bring his Cartulary of Arbroath with him. It is almost unnecessary to remark that the same district, in another century, furnished many of the scenes and incidents for Scott's inimitable novel of "The Antiquary."

Lord Cromartie's History of the Gowrie Conspiracy was published in the year 1713, the year before he died. In June 1713, Lord Cromartie presented a copy of this treatise to Queen Anne. His letter accompanying the presentation is printed in the second volume.<sup>1</sup> He eulogises, in no ordinary terms,

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 136-139.

King James the Sixth of Scotland, and the First of Britain, who, he says, crown'd in it, did crown it with more glory, peace, and riches, by far than any; yea (nor is it a great hyperbole to say), almost then all that former kings had done. Lord Cromartie also alludes to the aspersions which were cast upon King James, as if he had been the plotter in this tragic scene. He says, that though they could not kill, they at least would defame; but he refers to the judicial processes, and the verdicts of juries composed of persons of undoubted truth and honour, and many of whom were near relatives of the Earl of Gowrie, as complete refutations of these aspersions. Still, however, the rebels in the time of the first and second Charles reiterated the charges against King James; and, he adds, that in their music, or rather alarums of their warlike trumpet, no tune was more frequent than the roundelay of Gowrie's murder.

Lord Cromartie, in his letter to the Queen, next refers to the state of the public records when he held the office of Lord Clerk-Register, and to the injury which was done to them by two Englishmen, King Edward and Oliver Cromwell. The records were also in great confusion by their being carried from one repository to another for their preservation in times of rebellion. This made Lord Cromartie's task the greater, but he searched the stricter. In that search the first considerable thing that occurred to him was the records and papers which demonstrated that Elizabeth Mure was the first and lawful wife of King Robert II., thus disproving the statement to the contrary. Lord Cromartie adds, that he published that vindication of the Royal Family from the stain cast on the Crown, and on all the other crowned heads in Europe. He says he did not print many copies, and that he had then ordered a second edition to be printed.

In his letter to Queen Anne, Lord Cromartie explains that the next thing which occurred in his office of Lord Register was the papers printed by him

on the Gowrie Conspiracy. He had intended to print the papers when first discovered. But the "hissing serpents" shrank into their caverns, frightened by other weapons than paper ones. Hearing some months before his publication that this Cadmus was reviving, by virtue of some preternatural heats which would warm them into life again, he thought he could not better employ his present repose, which he enjoyed by her Majesty's favour in relief from all public service, than in exposing the little fruit of his former labours as useful antidotes against the poisonous weeds when they seemed to bud.

Besides the works which were printed and published by Lord Cromartie, he left essays on the Coinage, on Fishings, and on Teinds, which apparently were never published by him. These unpublished essays, like all his other writings, are short, clear, and terse, and never tedious.

Geo. Mackenzie

Tarbat

Cromartie







JOHN SECOND EARL OF CROMARTIE.  
BORN C. 1656 — DIED 1731.



THE HONOURABLE MARY MURRAY,  
SECOND WIFE OF JOHN SECOND EARL OF CROMARTIE.





## JOHN SECOND EARL OF CROMARTIE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

BORN *circa* 1656 ; DIED 1731.

*First Wife.*—LADY ELIZABETH GORDON (OF ABOYNE), 1685.

*Second Wife.*—THE HONOURABLE MARY MURRAY (OF ELIBANK), 1701.

*Third Wife.*—THE HONOURABLE ANNE FRASER (OF LOVAT), 1717.

ON the death of the first Earl of Cromartie, on the 27th of August 1714, he was succeeded in his titles of honour and landed estates by his eldest surviving son, John, then Lord Macleod. He was born about the year 1656, and he was then, and during the lifetime of his elder brother Roderick, the second son of his parents. On the death of Roderick, young and unmarried, he became the eldest surviving son, and ultimately the successor of his father.

The second Earl had a much shorter and less distinguished career than that of his father. He only possessed the dignity and estates for about seventeen years, and the principal events of his life occurred previous to his succession as Earl of Cromartie ; yet his history is not devoid of incidents, although these, unfortunately, are not always of the most pleasing kind. He was early suspected of treason to King William ; he was involved, although innocently, in the death of a French officer ; he was embarrassed in his pecuniary affairs, and his estates were sequestered. He was also obliged to divorce his first wife, who was one of the gay Gordons of Aboyne. These incidents will now be referred to in the present memoir.

After his father's creation as Viscount of Tarbat, the young laird took the designation of Master of Tarbat, and generally subscribed his name as "John Tarbat," a facsimile of which signature is appended to this memoir. On the creation of his father as Earl of Cromartie, the Master of Tarbat took the courtesy

designation of Lord Macleod. The first Earl was partial to the name of Macleod, which he represented through his grandmother, the heiress of Lewis. In a letter referring to his ancestors, he distinctly states that he was the representative of the ancient chief Leod, the last royalet of Man, as already mentioned in our memoir. On the succession of the third Earl of Cromartie to his father, the question of the courtesy title to be used by his eldest son was carefully considered, and the title of Lord Macleod was finally adopted, under which designation Lord Macleod is still well and favourably remembered throughout the county of Ross. While his courtesy title was under consideration, his uncle, Lord Royston, expressed his opinion of the honourable descent of the Macleods.<sup>1</sup>

When Sir George Mackenzie was created Viscount of Tarbat in 1685, his eldest surviving son, John Mackenzie, was Member of Parliament for the county of Ross. The Parliament resolved that, as the eldest son of a Peer, the Master could not continue a Member of Parliament, and a writ was issued for a new election, which took place on 23d April of that year. Although he was thus incapacitated from sitting in Parliament, the Master of Tarbat took much interest in the Parliamentary representation of the county of Ross. In a letter to his father in regard to the election of Members for the county, he gives a particular account of the state of parties. The Whig party, he wrote, wished to choose the Lairds of Balnagown and Foulis, but the Viscount of Tarbat's interest was found to outweigh both their interests, and two Mackenzies were returned. Munro of Foulis was so teased for his vote, that at last he "fell in tears, which made our barbarous muntaniers laugh, particularly Fairburn, who bid Fouls go home to his mother and his ministers, which sett both him and Bellnagoun better then to be members of parliament."<sup>2</sup>

At the Revolution, John Master of Tarbat was suspected of hostility to King William and Queen Mary, as his father was, but, as we have shown in the memoir of the latter, without good grounds. The Master was arrested by order of Major-General Mackay, Commander of the Forces in Scotland, under the following order, which we quote at length, as it incidentally affords information about the Master's religious principles:—

You are order'd to take with you fiftie well-mounted dragouns, and passing over to the shire of Rosse, shall labour to seize the person of the Master of Tarbot, with his two priests, and Popish servants, as also all the armes which shall be found in his custody, whether his

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 179.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. pp. 276-9.

own, or belonging to the publique; and the Lairds of Balnagoun and Foulis yonger are lyckwyse order'd to be assisting to you herein, whether for right information of maters, or junction of their men,—you judging it necessary: for which this shall be yours and their warant.—Given at Invernesse the 11 May 1689.

H. MACKAY.<sup>1</sup>

For his Majesties speciall service to Major Aneas Mackay.

The Major shall also seize the Master of Tarbot's serviceable horses, and take a vene of his papers, in presence of the forsaid lairds, or one of them, and bring me such of them as relates to the present conjuncture of affaires.

H. MACKAY.<sup>1</sup>

Major-General Mackay at the same time wrote to the Viscount of Tarbat that on information that his son, the Master, was very suspect if there were a party sufficient to secure him, he had sent his nephew to secure him, and kept him now at Inverness, not so close as others were kept at Edinburgh. In the same letter he complains that none of the Mackenzies had come near him but Coul and Redcastle passing through.<sup>2</sup> The Master of Tarbat remained under surveillance for some time, and was under the special care of the laird of Balnagowan, who was then governor of Inverness. In December following, an Act by the Privy Council ordained John Master of Tarbat to be set at liberty, in respect that he had given his parole of honour to live peaceably.<sup>3</sup>

From the terms of the order to seize the Master of Tarbat, with his two priests and Popish servants, it seems probable that he was the son to whom Lord Cromartie addressed the anxious letter before quoted, dissuading him from leaving the Protestant and joining the Roman Catholic communion.<sup>4</sup>

John Master of Tarbat had the misfortune to be concerned in the death of Elias Poirer, Sieur de la Roche, a French Protestant refugee and gentleman of the King's Guard, who was killed in a scuffle in a vintner's in the Kirkgate of Leith, on the 8th of March 1691. So serious was that affair considered, that the Master of Tarbat and his associates were actually charged with the crime of murdering the Frenchman.

The indictment was at the instance of George and Isaac Poirers, Sieurs de la Roche, Frenchmen, Protestant refugees, and gentlemen of his Majesty's troop of Guards, and of Sir William Lockhart, Solicitor-General, and it charged the prisoners, John Master of Tarbat, Ensign Andrew Mowat, and James Sinclair, Writer in

<sup>1</sup> Cromartie Papers, vol. xxi. No. 86, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, dated 20th May 1689, vol. i. pp. 62-3.

<sup>3</sup> Extract Act, dated 24th December 1689, Cromartie Papers, vol. xii. No. 16, at Tarbat House.

<sup>4</sup> *Vide* Letter, p. clxviii.

Edinburgh, with entering into the bed-chamber of George Poiret, one of the pursuers, while he lay sleeping in bed in the house of John Brown, vintner, Kirkgate, Leith, in which house he was quartered, and giving him wounds to the effusion of his blood : and it further stated that on being removed out of the room they returned, and endeavoured to break open the door, upon which George rapped on the ceiling of his room for his two brothers, who slept in the room above, to come to his assistance, who came accordingly, half clothed, and totally unarmed ; and the prisoners, all of whom were armed, did violently assault them, gave them many wounds, and run the deceased Elias Poiret through the body with a sword, of which he instantly died.

The prisoners, on the other hand, presented an indictment, charging the Sieurs de la Roche with assassination and murder. The indictment against them set forth that the Master of Tarbat, Mowat, and Sinclair, on the night libelled, were obliged by a heavy storm to take shelter in John Brown the vintner's house. While they were sitting quietly at the fireside in the hall, George, Isaac, and Elias Poiret, and another Frenchman, James de la Massie, having formed a conspiracy to murder them, came into the hall with cocked pistols in their hands and swords under their arms, the Master of Tarbat and his companions being totally unarmed. That they fired two pistols loaded with ball at the Master of Tarbat, and then attacked the company with drawn swords, who were wounded by parrying the thrusts with their hands ; and in the scuffle, there being little light in the room, the Sieurs de la Roche did murder the deceased Elias Poiret, their own brother.

The Court, after long arguments, sustained the libel against the Master of Tarbat, Mowat, and Sinclair, but found the defences relevant to set aside the indictment against the Frenchmen. A jury was empannelled, and the case went to trial.

From the evidence of the witnesses it appeared that the Master of Tarbat, seeing a coach at the door of John Brown, vintner, Kirkgate, Leith, asked of Christian Erskine, the servant, if it was to hire, and to whom it belonged, who answered it was the Laird of Mey's, and that he was in the house. The laird, being a kinsman of the Master, he said he desired to see him, and also Ensign Mowat, who he learned was in the house, and was accordingly shown into the room. The coach being gone, and the night rainy, and late, he resolved to stay all night and sleep with Mey,—Brown having no other bed unoccupied. The Master of Tarbat ordered his servant to go to his lodgings and tell that he was



not to be at home, and he and Ensign Mowat had laid aside their swords in the room where they were to lodge. Christian Erskine deposed that the Master of Tarbat went into George Poiret's room after twelve o'clock, and she, hearing a noise in the chamber, went in with a candle, and saw the Master of Tarbat standing at George Poiret's bed-side and the said George sitting up in bed, and a little drop of blood on his cheek. They were speaking together angrily in French. She went for Ensign Mowat, who was sitting in the hall, whom she thought the soberest of the party, though she could not pronounce any of them drunk. When Mowat and another person came into the room, Poiret took down his sword, which these two and the Master of Tarbat forced out of his hand. At her entreaty Mowat took the Master of Tarbat and the other person out of the room, the other person, who was none of the prisoners, carrying Poiret's sword with him out of the room into the hall. Mowat desired the witness to keep the door close, and none of them should come back again. None of them had arms when they were in the Frenchman's room except the sword which they wrested from him. Jean Thomson deposed that when Mowat was thus carrying the Master of Tarbat and another person out in his arms, the Master said *he would go back and crave the gentlemen's pardon*. Christian Erskine further deposed that on Mowat's taking them out of the room, George Poiret got up and rapped with the tongs on the roof of the room to alarm his brothers. Soon after, the Master of Tarbat, as she supposed, came back and rapped at the door, saying he would be in, to which she made no answer. Presently the Frenchmen above, having thrown on a few clothes, came to George Poiret's chamber-door and spoke French to him, but did not enter his room, and then went to the hall. The witness then heard a noise in the hall and some folk speaking Scotch, and immediately after heard the shot of a pistol and saw the smoke, but knew none of the people save Isaac Poiret, whom she thereupon pulled back, and found him with a drawn sword in his hand, his hand streaming with blood, and his little finger almost cut off. As she was coming back with Isaac Poiret she found a man on the floor, who turned out to be Elias Poiret, lying dead. She saw a drawn sword or two in the company, but could not specify who used them. She did not see the prisoners wound any of the Frenchmen or kill the deceased. The evidence of this witness was corroborated by a fellow-servant. Ensign Mowat was suspected of having dealt the deadly blow. Another witness deposed that Mowat's sword was naked, much bent, and bloody both in blade and hilt.

The witness was present when the surgeon compared this sword with the hole in the deceased's coat and with the orifice of the wound. It corresponded with the hole in the coat, and the surgeon said it did the same with the wound. Mowat had a wound on his right hand. Andrew Fairburn deposed that when Mowat heard that a man had been killed he desired to see the body, and on seeing it Mowat said, "God knows who has done it;" and there was no emotion or paleness visible on his countenance. When the Master of Tarbat was carried prisoner to the commandant, he was so apprehensive of bodily harm from the Frenchmen that a stronger guard was sent for to protect him from their fury. Robert Brown, surgeon, deposed that the hole in the coat corresponded with the sword produced, but as for the wound he could not say, for the dimensions of wounds alter and contract after ten or twelve hours.

The jury found none of the crimes proved, and acquitted the prisoners.

An account of this unfortunate affair was given by Lord Cromartie at the time in a letter to Lord Melville, in which it is explained that the Master of Tarbat acted against the Frenchmen purely in self-defence. The following is the letter referred to:—

“ 29 August 1691.

“ MY DEARE LORD,—I did trouble your Lordship with a confused note the night that the jury assoiled my sonne and Andrew Mowat, on as cleare and undoubted evidence of a forct and most dangerous self defence as ever was adduced before that Court; for it was so evidently proved that there was nothing on my sonnes side but a pure mistake of entring half naked, without weapon or any thing but bare hands; that there did not 4 sentences passe betwixt him and George Piozet [Poiret]; that Mr. Mowat immediatly parted them with all the civility in the world to the French man; that they were fairly parted; and after an intervall of tyme the French man and 3 more, with swords and pistols, went in to their room to search for them, fyred at them, and wounded all of them, not on of them haveing a sword, but that they did take two from the French *en passant*, and so escapt. This was proven both by witnesses and evident demonstrationes of the fact; so that, my Lord, I cannot but be glad that all I said for my sonne, or against them, and more, was true, which will be no disadvantage for my freends who spoke for me, as weell as for my self, to make known to their Majesties and others, because of the great clamours which was made on base falshoods. Mr. Mowat was dismiss from the barr; but on witnes has (tho not to the lybel nor purpose) told that my sonne

said he owned that he was for King James, albeit this accusation was given in by petition to the Secrett Councell be the Frenchmen; and the Councell refusing to order a process on hasty dubious words, spoke in rage and drink, unless one would signe ane information; yett the Justices were so kind as, in place of dismissing my sonne from the barr in ordinar form, to order him back to the Castle; albeit he was prisoner under baile to compear, tho he had been dirmist in form, and this was told, yett to the Castle he was sent, and the Councell ordered the sollicitor to persue him for treasone, tho few wanted faulting relations. But this oblidged me to produce his Majestie's remission, and to pass it in Exchecker; and so this day he is released on pardon, and at freedome. And I am glad I had occasion to publish the remission, for the King's sake, because it shews so great a wariness in remitting blood, since the narrative binds the remission to the innocence of self defence, which I thank God is now proven; and the words are the lowest crime he pardoned since he was King."<sup>1</sup>

Lord Cromartie's official duties required his frequent residence in Edinburgh, and he appears to have intrusted his eldest son with the oversight of some of the improvements which he was making on his estate in Ross-shire. In a letter, Lord Tarbat gives his son directions about the building of Tarbat House, the superintendence of which was left in the Master's hands.<sup>2</sup>

In a letter to his father, dated 26th February 1714, Lord Macleod, after an account of his management of various matters intrusted to him connected with the estate, gives a striking account of the state of the country, shortly before the rising of the Earl of Mar in 1715. He says:—"I must acquaint your lordship that we have frequent reports of the passes of the Grampion being infested with robbers; therefore I'll expect your lordship's particular order anent the method of remitting the crown rent. . . . The other newes of our countrey is a warlike preparation of your neighbours in East Ross. The house of Fowlis and Inverbreakie have been garrison'd since Christmass last; and this day I'm inform'd that your neighbour, Lady Ann Stuart, has done the like, and has sent the commander of the garrison, Mr. Donald MacKiligan, Invernes, to buy ammonition."<sup>3</sup>

While the country was in that unhappy state of feeling, Lord Macleod succeeded his father as second Earl of Cromartie. The Earl of Mar, his cousin, when

<sup>1</sup> Leven and Melville Papers, pp. 643, 644.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, dated 16th January 1688, vol. i. pp. 55, 56.

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 146.

congratulating him on his succession, expressed a hope that he would succeed his father in the Tory party as in other things, and concur in the measures for returning representatives to Parliament.<sup>1</sup> Although the cousin and correspondent of Mar, the second Earl of Cromartie did not take any active part in the insurrection which soon after broke out, headed by the former. He was, notwithstanding, suspected of being favourable to Mar, and appears to have been incarcerated by the authorities. On that occasion, Simon Lord Lovat acted as his friend; and as usual took full credit for what he did, assuring Lord Cromartie that he had acted for him as for his own brother, and had prevailed with Major-General Wightman to write for his Lordship to General Cadogan, to get his permission for Lord Cromartie's release from confinement on bail, or parole of honour, as there was no actual rebellion proven against him.<sup>2</sup> Neither did Lord Cromartie take any part in the landing of his chief, the Marquis of Seaforth, with his Spanish auxiliaries, at Glenshiel, in 1719, or in the disastrous battle which then ensued.

A few years later, the state of the shire of Ross, both civilly and ecclesiastically, gave much trouble to the Government, as appears from a letter of the Lords Justices, apparently to John Earl of Cromartie, in 1723. They state that the Commission of the General Assembly had represented to them the restless endeavours of Popish emissaries in perverting many to the errors and superstitions of the Church of Rome and withdrawing them from their duty and allegiance to his Majesty, and the industry of others who called themselves Protestants, to promote the interests of a Popish pretender, and erecting meeting-houses wherein the preachers neither pray for the king nor have taken the oaths; and they order him to suppress Popish schools and seminaries within his bounds, to apprehend trafficking priests or Jesuits, to see the letters of orders of preachers or pastors who held meeting-houses within his bounds duly recorded, and to punish those who were not qualified by law.<sup>3</sup>

If that letter was really addressed to Lord Cromartie, as seems probable, although the address is wanting, and if his Lordship entertained the Popish opinions indicated by his priests and Popish servants, he must have felt himself in an awkward position in complying with the orders of the Lords Justices, which had chiefly in view the extirpation of Popery.

The first Earl of Cromartie and Lord Macleod had much trouble with their neighbouring lairds in the county of Ross, who were alleged to be of a litigious

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 156.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 283.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* pp. 175, 176.

disposition. The latter, writing to his father in 1714, complains of that litigious spirit, and adds that they will never be rid of some pleaing laird or other in Ross. Like the hydra, when one head's cut off, two starts up.<sup>1</sup> Even of his own nephew, the Marquis of Seaforth, the first Lord Cromartie appears to have had cause to complain, and five-and-twenty Mackenzies interceded with Lord Cromartie to be reconciled to the Marquis. The petition was sent to his Lordship by his own sister, Isabella Countess of Seaforth, and the terms of her letter indicate that her son was the aggressor.<sup>2</sup>

Like his father and grandfather, the second Earl of Cromartie took an interest in the prosecution of the fishings, which form one of the staple industries of both the east and west coasts of the North of Scotland. In a letter to his father, dated 30th June 1714, Lord Macleod mentions what he had done as to the fishing in Gairloch, Lochew, and Torridon.<sup>3</sup> The second Earl made a contract, in 1721, with Thomas Robertson, a merchant in Inverness, whereby the Earl set to him all his fishing-boats for fishing of cod, herring, and other white fishes, within the bounds of Lochbroom, Coigeach, and all the other lands belonging to the Earl in the Highland country upon the west seas, to the number of between thirty and forty boats: also the boats for fishing of cod, herring, and other white fishes, within the bounds of Milntoun, Tarbat Ness, Wilkhaven, and other lands in Easter Ross, for eight, nine, or ten years from 1st June 1721. The Earl also agreed to sell to Robertson all the fish caught by the boats at a price to be arranged.<sup>4</sup>

Although the second Lord Cromartie possessed the estates for the comparatively brief period of seventeen years, from his father's death in 1714 till his own in 1731, he was embarrassed in his pecuniary affairs. The large burdens on the estate were a source of anxiety; and when his son, Lord Tarbat, was married to the daughter of Sir William Gordon, who was a wealthy London banker, Sir William promised to lighten the burdens. In announcing the betrothal, he says, — "The disposition which your Lordship has had the goodness so often to express in his favor, and your family, give me a very hopeful prospect of success to the endeavors which shall be us'd for retrieving the present weights and intri-

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 145. Balnagowan and the Master of Tarbat, although near neighbours, appear to have been on no very friendly terms. The former was charged in 1694 for not attending funerals for fear of

the Master of Tarbat; but this Balnagowan denied.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. i. pp. 125, 126.

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 148.

<sup>4</sup> Original Contract at Tarbat House.

cacies under which it labors.”<sup>1</sup> Alexander Lord Elibank, writing to Lord Tarbat, afterwards third Earl of Cromartie, mentions the debt that his grandfather left the estate encumbered with as one of the chief burdens.<sup>2</sup>

The estate of Cromartie was sequestrated in the year 1724, and John M'Bean, writer in Inverness, was appointed factor to collect the rents. In the year 1730, John Earl of Cromartie and George Lord Tarbat gave in objections to the auditors of the accounts against the accounts of John M'Bean, as factor on the Earl of Cromartie's estate. Among other objections, it is stated that he employed unnecessary messengers and concurrents, as pretending to be in danger of their lives, whereas Easter Ross was as accessible as Midlothian; and that on many occasions after they have, as they pretend, been thus barbarously used and deforced, they have dwelt several days on the memorialist's lands in company with some of the tenants, and making entertainments with music, which does not look like ill-usage.<sup>3</sup>

When about thirty years of age, the second Earl of Cromartie, then Master of Tarbat, married, first, in January 1685, Lady Elizabeth Gordon, only daughter of Charles first Earl of Aboyne. The contract of marriage is dated 2d and 10th January 1685, and it is registered in the Books of Council and Session on 15th July 1697. Her father being then dead, the contract was made with the consent of James Earl of Perth, Lord Chancellor, George Duke of Gordon, cousin-german to Lady Elizabeth, and Patrick Earl of Strathmore, her uncle. Lady Elizabeth assigned to the Master of Tarbat, her husband, a bond of provision to her by her late father for eighteen thousand merks; and she was provided by her husband in liferent to the lands of Easter Aird, Ballone or Easter Tarbat, etc.<sup>4</sup>

Lady Elizabeth Gordon and her husband, the Master of Tarbat, had not a happy wedded life. After their marriage, they appear to have resided for some years at the Castle of Ballone, in Tarbat. In 1693 they went abroad, and visited Brussels, Amsterdam, and other places. It was while on the Continent that Lady Elizabeth fell into those acts of infidelity to her husband which ultimately led to her being divorced from him. At first he complained that she

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 177.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, dated 26th July 1722, vol. ii. p. 174.

<sup>3</sup> Memorial, Cromartie Papers, vol. xxi. No. 156, at Tarbat House. The Edinburgh residence of John Earl of Cromartie in the year 1722 was in Carrubber's Close, which is on

the north side of the High Street, below the Tron Church. This appears from a Messenger's Execution, dated 17th May 1722. [Original Execution, per Captain Dunbar.]

<sup>4</sup> Extract Registered Contract of Marriage, Bundle 3 L, No. 6, of Cromartie Writs, at Tarbat House.

deserted him without any provocation on his part. She contracted debts in his name "for meat, drink, cloaths, abulziments, rings, bracelets, and jowals of great value;" and this extravagance on her part induced her husband to raise letters of inhibition to prevent her incurring these debts. The inhibition bears date 16th April 1696;<sup>1</sup> and the extravagance complained of by her husband may have contributed to his own pecuniary embarrassments. Nor was her contracting of heavy debts the worst part of her conduct. She proved unfaithful to her husband, who sued for a divorce, which was granted by the Commissaries of Edinburgh on the 28th July 1698.

The decree of divorce bears that the action was raised at the instance of John Master of Tarbat against Lady Elizabeth Gordon, lawful daughter to the late Charles Earl of Aboyne, who were married at the kirk of Glamis by Dr. Halyburton, Bishop of Aberdeen, in January 1685, for alleged infidelity on her part with Monsieur Lavallette, a Frenchman, on several occasions in Brussels, Amsterdam, London, Edinburgh, and other places, in the years 1693-7. It was urged in defence, that the Master of Tarbat had contracted debt at Brussels, and that his wife had to remain in pledge until her husband returned to Britain, and that her position had been misconstrued. Proof was led on both sides, and the Court granted the divorce.

An action of improbation at the instance of Lady Elizabeth Gordon against John Master of Tarbat ended in decree of absolvitor in favour of the latter.<sup>2</sup>

Of this unhappy marriage there was no issue.

A book which treats so largely of the history and habits of several of the northern counties of Scotland, might be considered incomplete without a good *ghost story*. Lady Elizabeth Gordon, the mistress of Tarbat, being partly the cause of one, the following account of it may be quoted from a manuscript in the Cromartie repositories at Tarbat House. It may be explained that the parties concerned in that story were the Viscount of Teviot, his wife the Viscountess of Teviot, and the Lady Elizabeth Gordon, the divorced mistress of Tarbat. Sir Thomas Livingstone, of the family of Kilsyth, being a distinguished soldier, King William the Third appointed him Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Scotland, and on December 4, 1696, created him a Peer by the title of Viscount Teviot. His wife was Macktellina Walrave de Nimmeguen. An action was brought by

<sup>1</sup> Letters of Inhibition, Cromartie Papers, vol. xii. No. 90, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Commissariat of Edinburgh, Consistorial Decrees, vol. i. p. 305.

the latter against her husband in the Court of Session on December 14, 1703, concluding for £500 sterling for debts contracted since he withdrew from her, and an aliment of £400 sterling yearly for the time coming. Lord Teviot resisted the claim, and asserted in his defence that any want she fell under was due to her own restless unaccountable humour, whereby she refused to settle at Rippon, which he had appointed for her, but would "vaig" and wander from one place to another. Among the answers it was queried, "Is it not maltreatment if the husband's affection be withdrawn by criminal rivals?" The Lords thought a wife was to be regulated by her husband's orders as to residence, but, in respect of the special circumstances of the case, recommended to some of their number to deal with the Viscount to pay her bygone debts, and settle somewhat on the lady yearly.<sup>1</sup>

While these sheets are passing through the press, an original letter by the Viscount of Teviot has accidentally come under notice. The Viscount refers to his relations with his lady in no very flattering terms, as will be seen from the following extract from his letter. Judging from his indifferent spelling, the writer had been a better soldier than a scholar:—

Rippen, 20 Apryl 1701.

. . . I ame this lenth in order to remoeve my furniture from this plasse, and thereafter I come and wait upon your Lordship, if in Scotlant, wher I hope to be about the middel of nixt month. I have been necessitat to send the women your Lordship see heer, when you did me the honour of a visit in this country, back to her one clymat again. I hade given that creature a great deal of liberty, and aloned her to cale her self what shee pleased, but by the advyse of some meddeling weemen heer, and her one foly, became insolent, and to take upon her, so I was forcet to make her troop, and reduce her to her former statioun again.<sup>2</sup> . . .

The following narrative is signed by Robert Keith,—probably the well-known writer, Bishop Keith, author of the *History of the Church*, and other works:—

The following narration I had from my Lady Teviot's own mouth, viz. :—

That her Ladyship felt herself very heavy and uneasy for two or three days preceding Sunday the 14th of January 1711. In the morning of which day she awoke out of sleep at three a clok, which she heard strike both on the Trone Church and Nether-Bow; at which time also the fire in her Ladyship's room was pretty clear, and the lamp on the press opposite to the windows of the room was still burning, as she perceived by the reflexion of the light.

A little space thereafter, she heard upon, or about, the pillow whereon her head lay, such a noise as the ticking of a watch, which by reason of her former indisposition she reckoned to be a warning to death; and accordingly turned herself with her face upward and prayed to

<sup>1</sup> Fountainhall's Decisions, vol. ii. pp. 199, 200.

<sup>2</sup> Original letter at Raehills.



Almighty God for pardon of her sins; and farther made such suitable ejaculations as she thought the occasion required. And while her Ladyship was so doing, she felt an exceeding great weight seize the whole left side of her body, which confirmed her still more that death was in all likelihood approaching. This weight had not continued long, when she heard an audible voice repeat three times distinctly, *Forgive, Forgive, Forgive*: and on hearing thereof she cried out, *Lord, Thou knowest I forgive all that ever offended me; but, Lord, have mercy upon me, and forgive me all my sins* [for she still thought that the voice was sent as a forerunner of her own death]. And when she had thus said, the weight immediately left her, and tumbled by the foot of the bed into the floor, with such a motion and noise as she reckoned a big dog might excite if he was tumbling in the floor. Upon hearing of this, she began to doubt whether there might not be thieves in the room; and therefore her Ladyship drew by the curtains on the fore-side of the bed, where, to her terrible surprise, she saw her husband, the vicecount of Teviot, standing, very ghastly to behold, his face appear'd black and oily like, and a mighty alteration about him by what his usual form was. This struck her into a dreadful consternation, so that she cried out, *Lord Jesus*. But he presently vanished out of her sight in the very place; whereupon there followed such a noise in the room, as if chairs and everything else had been broken and thrown together. Her Ladyship could not, she said, express to another the horror she was in; she called loudly upon her woman, but no body made her answer. She was therefore obliged to lye still till break of day, but says she doubts not but that she fainted, and lay for some time in that condition, tho' she cannot be positive therein; only she does not conceive how she could be able to lye in her right wit till morning, if some such stupifying fit did not overtake her.

How soon the least glimpse of light appeared, her Ladyship arose and called to her woman, who, upon seeing her, said, *God bless me, Madam, yow look ill, what is the matter?* Her Ladyship answered that *she had had a sad dream*, and asked whether she did not hear her calling in the night time; but she denied that she heard any such thing, and so also did the gentlewoman in whose house her Ladyship lodged, tho' she was out of bed all night over watching a sick child of her own; nor did any of the family own that they heard any noise at all. My Lady concealed from all of them what she had heard or seen, but the next day her Ladyship committed the whole to writing, and finding herself very much out of order, she went to Mr. David Rankin, an Episcopal Minister, with a design to discover to him the matter; but there being company at his house, she went to visit the late Bishop of the Isles his Lady, and burden'd her mind to her, as being a good acquaintance. Her Ladyship continued all that week very thoughtful and apprehensive still of her own death, till Sunday thereafter, the 21 January, on which day a friend of her Ladyship, viz., the wife of Mr. Charles [torn], Writer to the Signet, came to her betwixt sermons, being sent by her husband to communicate to her Ladyship the account which he had just then read in the newspapers from London, that her Lord, the Vicecount of Teviot, dyed the Sunday before, being the 14th instant, early in the morning, at London. Then, and not till then, she perceived that the foregoing apparition had only regard to his death.

*N.B.*—All this my Lady Teviot told me with tears in her eyes, proceeding from a sort of

horror at the remembrance of it, and affirmed that, as she must answer before God, it was all true, and again, that it was truth as God was in heaven. And, for my own part, I know the Lady so well, and her relation of the fact was made with such an air of sincerity, that I believe it equally as if I had seen and heard it all myself. ROBERT KEITH, Edinburgh.

*N.B.*—My Lord Teviot had treated his Lady very ill, had forsaken her, and lived with Lady Betty Gordon, who was married to, but divorced from, my Lord Cromarty, and was supposed to have poisoned my Lord Teviot. And 'tis certain that at his Lordship's death he did appear with the same ghastly countenance wherewith he appeared to his Lady.

*N.B.*—My Lady's left side, on which she felt the weight, was for some time thereafter discoloured. The hair of her head also, from that night forward, turned gray or whitish.

*N.B.*—Since the death of my Lady Teviot, which happen'd Tuesday the 2d December 1729, a gentlewoman, who knew not that I had the preceding account from my Lady, or indeed any account of the matter at all, told me that two ladies had assured her that they chanced to pay a visit to my Lady Teviot the very day after this strange apparition, and that upon perceiving her Ladyship much out of order, they took notice of it to her Ladyship, and discreetly enquired what might be the matter with her. To which my Lady replied she had seen a surprising apparition the night before, and narrated to them the whole story as above; but was still ignorant of her husband's state of health, and so knew not what to make of it.

Three years after having divorced his first wife, Lord Cromartie, still the Master of Tarbat, married, secondly, on 25th April 1701, the Honourable Mary Murray, eldest daughter of Patrick third Lord Elibank, who was then in her twentieth year, having been born on 28th August 1681. The terms of a letter from the Master show that this marriage was a very happy one.<sup>1</sup> Lady Macleod was in very bad health in the year 1714, as appears from letters from Lord Macleod to his father; and she died before the year 1717. Of that marriage there was issue, George third Earl of Cromartie, a memoir of whom is afterwards given, and other children. Of these, CAPTAIN RODERICK was intended for the navy. Being in the fleet in the Bay of Gibraltar in the year 1726, he obtained leave to join the land forces that were thrown into the garrison, and remained there during the siege. He got a pair of colours, and in 1740 a Lieutenancy in the Royal Dragoons; and, in 1745, while his brother, the third Earl, joined the standard of Prince Charles, he was sent with a detachment from Ireland to join the British army then in Flanders. Captain Roderick Mackenzie always proved himself a gallant officer. The regiment, in which he was eldest Captain, was reduced at the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle. WILLIAM also betook himself to a military life, and was first in the service of the States of Holland in the

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. i. p. 150.

Scotch Brigade, and afterwards got a commission in the East India Company's service in the year 1737, and perished in a violent hurricane, with the whole expedition that were going against Angria. PATRICK became a merchant. The names of the other children are given in the pedigree.

John second Earl of Cromartie married, thirdly, the Honourable Anne Fraser, second daughter of Hugh tenth Lord Fraser of Lovat. Both parties had previous experience of wedded life, this marriage being the third to each of them, Lord Cromartie having been twice a widower, and his third wife also twice a widow. Her first husband was Patrick Fotheringham, younger of Powrie, and her second was Norman Macleod of Macleod. Lord Cromartie, by their contract of marriage, which is dated at Edinburgh, 23d October 1717, provided her in liferent in an annuity of 2000 merks Scots, and also in the house, offices, and mains of Cultaleod, then called Castleleod.<sup>1</sup>

Anne Fraser, Countess of Cromartie, was the niece, by her mother, of John first Duke of Athole, who heartily congratulated Lord Cromartie on his marriage, and wished them both much joy and happiness. His Grace also assured his Lordship that since there was now so near an alliance between their families, his Lordship might depend on all the service that it was in the power of the Duke to do him.<sup>2</sup>

Of this marriage there were three sons and one daughter. Anne Fraser, Countess of Cromartie, survived her third husband also, and was alive on 14th December 1733, when, as tutrix-dative to James, Hugh, Norman, and Lady Amelia Mackenzie, she made an assignation of their provisions under her marriage-contract. Of these James died young; Norman became an officer in the Scotch Dutch, and perished at sea when taking recruits from Scotland to Holland. Hugh was also an officer in the Scotch Dutch. On the formation of the 78th or Montgomerie's Highlanders, in 1757, by Major the Honourable Archibald Montgomerie, son of the Earl of Eglinton, he raised one of the companies and became a Captain in the regiment, with which he served in America in the campaigns against the French and the Indian tribes. Lady Amelia Mackenzie married Archibald Lamont of that Ilk, in the county of Argyll.

John second Earl of Cromartie died at Castleleod on 20th February 1731, when he was succeeded by his eldest son, George, as third Earl. Lord Royston wrote to him that he was justly affected with his dear brother's death; adding

<sup>1</sup> Original Contract, Bundle 3 L, No 11, of Cromartie Writs, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 169.

that his vigour promised a much longer life, but the distemper which carried him off commonly attacks the strongest. There is a half-length portrait of the second Earl at Tarbat House, of which an engraving is here given. It will be seen that he possessed a very fine expression of countenance, though wanting the crisp sharpness of his father, the first Earl.

John Tarbat

MacLeod

Cromartie

Esq: Tarbat

J. Cromartie





GEORGE THIRD EARL OF CROMARTIE .

BORN CIRCA 1702 - DIED 1766 .



ISABELLA GORDON COUNTESS OF CROMARTIE.







## GEORGE THIRD EARL OF CROMARTIE.

BORN *circa* 1702 ; FORFEITED 1746 ; DIED 1766.

ISABELLA GORDON (OF INVERGORDON), HIS COUNTESS,  
BORN 1705 ; MARRIED 1724 ; DIED 1769.

IN the lifetime of the first Earl of Cromartie, his grandson, George Mackenzie, had the courtesy title of George Master of Macleod, as the eldest son of Lord Macleod. On the succession of the latter in 1714 as Earl of Cromartie, his eldest son took the courtesy title of Lord Tarbat, and on the death of his father in 1731, Lord Tarbat succeeded to his landed estates, as well as to his title of honour. The most important event in the life of the third Earl of Cromartie was the part which he played in the great events of the years 1745 and 1746 in favour of the exiled family of Stuart. Joining heartily in their cause, he shared in its disasters, and suffered the forfeiture of his life, lands, and titles of honour. His life, however, was spared, and his lands, though long held by the Crown, were ultimately restored; and the whole titles of honour have been happily revived in his descendant and present representative, Her Grace Anne Duchess of Sutherland and, in her own right, Countess of Cromartie, but in a higher degree, as she is a Peeress of the United Kingdom.

From his infancy the Earl was educated and brought up in the principles of the Established Church of Scotland, to which he was warmly attached. On several occasions he received the thanks of the General Assembly for the substantial proofs he gave of that attachment.<sup>1</sup>

In the lifetime of his father, Lord Cromartie, then styled George Lord Tarbat, married, on 23d September 1724, Isabella Gordon, eldest daughter of Sir William Gordon, Baronet, of Invergordon, in the county of Ross. That lady was a celebrated beauty, and was commonly called "Bonnie Bell Gordon." At the time of

<sup>1</sup> Hargrave's State Trials, vol. x. Appendix pp. 186-S, where is printed the Case of the Earl of Cromartie as presented to the king in 1746.

the marriage Lord Tarbat was about twenty-two years of age, and Miss Gordon was in her nineteenth year. Her father, when intimating to Lord Cromartie that Lord Tarbat was a bridegroom, expressed the highest esteem for him, and the great expectations that he had formed of him.<sup>1</sup> Their contract of marriage is dated at Edinburgh, 27th June 1724; and Sir William Gordon paid to Lord Tarbat, in name of tocher with his daughter, twenty thousand merks.<sup>2</sup> In the printed Case above referred to, Lord Cromartie states that he had married into a family noted for their zeal for the Protestant succession, and who had proved it in the year 1715. This second alliance between the Cromartie and Gordon families was in marked contrast with the first. Notwithstanding the calamities which befell the Earl and Countess of Cromartie after the events of 1745 and 1746, their marriage was a very happy one.

George Lord Tarbat succeeded his father as third Earl of Cromartie in 1731. He asked his uncle, Lord Royston, whether the title of his eldest son should be Lord Tarbat or Lord Macleod. Lord Royston wrote to his nephew that, upon his grandfather's death, he was of opinion that the title of Tarbat was preferable, because it was the original title of the family, by which it was longest known, and to which that of Viscount is annexed. On the other hand, as Lord Cromartie was the representative of Macleod of Lewis, an honourable and ancient family, and certainly the chief of that clan, it would be full as honourable to keep that title as that which was but the cadet of another family. Lord Royston thought that either title might well be used, both being in the patent of honour.<sup>3</sup> The title of Lord Macleod was finally adopted; and we shall afterwards show, in the memoir of Lord Macleod, the high reputation which he acquired as a Swedish and a British officer under that designation.

The letters from Simon Lord Lovat to the third Earl of Cromartie, which are printed at length in the second volume, show that a very close friendship was maintained between these cousins. The letters of Lord Lovat are singularly characteristic and interesting, and furnish many details of the state of the Highlands at the time. A curious picture is given in one of the letters as to the cateran of the Highlands. The depredations committed by a noted cateran of that day, named Alaster Scholar, in the Mackenzie country, led Lord Lovat, in writing to the Earl of Cromartie, to express a wish that he had the robber by the neck that he might send him to his Lordship. Lord Lovat in his correspondence expresses the utmost friendship and affection for the Earl, his Countess, and all his family, who proved

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 176-7.

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 179.

<sup>2</sup> Original Contract, Bundle 3 L, No. 13, of Cromartie Writs, at Tarbat House.

Borndel Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1745

Having been well inform'd of y<sup>r</sup> Principles and Loyalty, I cannot but expect y<sup>r</sup> assistance at this juncture, that I am come with a firm resolution to restore the King my Father's just perith in y<sup>e</sup> attempt. I know the interests you have amongst y<sup>e</sup> Name, and Depend upon you to exert it to y<sup>e</sup> utmost of y<sup>e</sup> Power. I have some reasons not to make any application to y<sup>e</sup> Earl of Northumb<sup>r</sup> without y<sup>e</sup> advice, w<sup>ch</sup> I should desire you to give me privately. I intend to set up the Royal Standard at Gloucestre on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> instant, and should be very glad to see you on that Occasion. If time does not allow it, I will depend upon your joining me with all convenient speed. In y<sup>e</sup> mean time you may be assur'd of the particular esteem and friendship I have for you.

Charles P. R.

For the Earl of  
Cromarty.

themselves indeed worthy of the encomiums of his Lordship, during the period of adversity which befell them after 1745. Lord Lovat also mentions the severity of the winter of that year, the great snow that lay on the Strath of the Aird, and the distress amongst the people,—a circumstance that may have rendered the humbler clansmen readier to follow the standard of Prince Charles.

The likelihood of a rising in the Highlands on behalf of the Stuarts, in case of an invasion, had been foreseen for some time. William Earl of Sutherland, writing to Sir John Cope, on the 24th of March 1744, stated that he could raise a considerable force for his Majesty in the shire of Sutherland, and that from the neighbouring county of Caithness he could depend upon 400 effective men of the name of Sutherland who would follow him as their chief. He recommended that a lord-lieutenant should be appointed to assemble the militia and arms provided to be distributed. The country had been disarmed, but those who were supposed to be disaffected were well armed.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Cromartie was not one of the seven noblemen and gentlemen that entered into the concert of 1740 engaging to rise in arms on behalf of the Stuart family if competent aid were sent from abroad. These were the Earl of Traquair, the Duke of Perth, Lord Lovat, Cameron, younger of Lochiel, and others. When Prince Charles landed at Boradel on his romantic enterprise, he addressed letters to those noblemen in the Highlands who were supposed to sympathise with his cause; and the following letter was addressed to the Earl of Cromartie:—

Boradel, August the 8th, 1745.

Having been well inform'd of your principles and loyalty, I cannot but expect your assistance at this juncture, that I am come with a firm resolution to restore the King, my father, or perish in the attempt. I know the interest you have among those of your name, and depend upon you to exert it to the utmost of your power. I have some reasons not to make any application to the Earl of Seaforth without your advice, which I therefor desire you to give me sincerely. I intend to set up the Royal Standard at Glanfinnen on Monday the 19th instant, and shou'd be very glad to see you on that occasion. If time does not allow it, I still depend upon your joyning me with all convenient speed. In the mean time you may be assured of the particular esteem and friendship I have for you.

CHARLES, P. R.

For the Earl of Cromarty.

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 184-5.

The original letter is still preserved in the Cromartie Charter-chest. The text of the letter is in the handwriting of Sir Thomas Sheridan, who was Secretary to the Prince. It is subscribed and addressed with the Prince's own hand. This will be seen from the facsimile of the letter which is here given. Many letters were addressed, during the progress of the insurrection, by Sir Thomas Sheridan and Colonel O'Sullivan, who also attended the Prince, to the Earl of Cromartie; and these letters are printed in the second volume.

The Earl did not at once join the army of Prince Charles. While the Highland army was marching into England, an army in behalf of the Government, under Lord Loudoun, was mustering at Inverness. This army was organised chiefly through the exertions of the Lord President, Duncan Forbes of Culloden. The President received twenty blank commissions from the War Office, for 20 companies of 100 men each. One of these commissions was offered to Lord Macleod, in a letter to his father, dated 23d September 1745, which his Lordship declined, in a letter, dated the 26th of the same month.<sup>1</sup> The Commission was, as stated in the Case referred to, declined by Lord Cromartie, because the appointment of subalterns was given to Lord Fortrose, instead of to Lord Macleod. In the next month Lord Cromartie began to enrol his men on behalf of the Prince. He wrote to the Lord President, on 19th October, that when he had last seen his Lordship at Culloden, it was agreed he should look out for some men, to have them in readiness, and that he had taken some measures to that end, but was misconstrued.<sup>2</sup> Lord Lovat wrote, on 17th October 1745, that his son had taken a military freak, and that he was going, whether his Lordship was willing or not, with all the name of Fraser that were fit for it, to join the adventuring Prince.<sup>3</sup> This was just the day after a large party of Lovat's clan, under some of his subalterns, had made an unsuccessful attack on Culloden House with a view to seize the person of the President. In the last letter from Lord Lovat in this collection, dated 26th October, he refers to a night's merriment he and Lord Cromartie and Lord Macleod had at Brahan, the seat of Lord Seaforth, and also alludes to a gentleman of consequence having come from the south with news of his friends. In a letter from Lord Lovat to the Lord President, dated 6th November, he tells how the Earl of Cromartie and Lord Macleod had come to Beaufort, on their way to join the Prince; and adds, "So your Lordship sees that the wise and worldly people of the M'Kenzies are infected, so that it's no wonder that

<sup>1</sup> Letters, vol. ii. pp. 186, 187.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 189.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 313.

the Frasers, that were never thought worldly or wise, should be infected with a contagion, tho' never so foolish and dangerous."<sup>1</sup>

Lord Cromartie and his son, Lord Macleod, entered heartily into the insurrection. With about 400 of their clan they joined the second army that assembled at Perth, while Prince Charles was in England. The Mackintoshes and Farquharsons had arrived a few days before Lord Cromartie's regiment, and their arrival was opportune, for the night before, some of the people of the town had tried to force the town-house where the arms were kept, but were repulsed. A few days later, while the clans were in expectation of an attack from Stirling, there was an alarm one evening in consequence of a great noise and blowing of horns being heard in the country round about. It was feared this was an attack about to be made by General Blakeney's troops from Stirling. The people of the neighbourhood were also hostile, and, according to Lord Macleod's narrative, would willingly have contributed to the destruction of the Highland army. Measures of precaution were taken both against the mob of Perth and the enemy. The alarm, however, turned out to be groundless, being caused by a number of boors going home from their work and blowing horns to amuse themselves.

The forces at Perth consisted of the Mackintoshes, Farquharsons, Mackenzies, Macdonalds of Glengarry, of Clanranald, and Glencoe, with a battalion of the Camerons and Barisdale's regiment; and the Frasers were coming up by companies. The army was commanded by Lord Strathallan. Lord John Drummond landed at this time at Montrose with a body of French troops, about seven or eight hundred strong, with a number of battering cannon, and joined the second army that was gathering at Perth. After his arrival, Lord John took the command-in-chief upon himself. Among the plans discussed in the council of war at Perth was a proposal that Lord Cromartie should be sent north to dissipate Loudon's army. This was agreed to, but never put in execution. This army lay at Perth and at Dunblane to guard the Ford of the Frews, till it joined Prince Charles's army at Bannockburn on his return from England. Lord Cromartie's regiment, commanded by Lord Macleod, formed part of the detachment that lay at Dunblane. Lord Cromartie was employed at this time in uplifting the public moneys in the shire of Fife for the behoof of the Prince. On the 31st December 1745, orders were sent to him to send back to Dunblane the 30 men of Irish and Royal Scotch that he had under his command, and to return thither himself as

<sup>1</sup> Culloden Papers, p. 242.

soon as his business in Fife was ended. The Prince was coming to Stirling to besiege the castle in person.<sup>1</sup> To conduct the siege, it was necessary that the French artillery, which Lord John Drummond had brought with him, should be transported across the Forth. Alloa was fixed on as the best place to cross. Lord Cromartie's regiment of Mackenzies were appointed to superintend the passage. Lord Macleod, who had returned from a visit to the Prince at Glasgow, had the command, and succeeded in getting a ship and transporting the artillery across the river, notwithstanding attacks from the British sloops of war lying in the Forth. On an express being sent by Lord Macleod that the enemy had debarked at Kincardine, Lord Cromartie and Lord John Drummond rode over to Alloa, and Lochiel with the Camerons crossed the river. The artillery was safely transported up the river, and landed at Polmaise, whence it was drawn to Stirling.

Lord Cromartie and his son, Lord Macleod, were both engaged in the battle of Falkirk, and had command of a brigade, consisting of the Mackenzies, the Mackintoshes, and the Farquharsons. The Highland army had marched from Bannockburn, crossed the Carron at Dunipace, and were met by Halley's forces on the rising ground beyond. The day was cold and rainy. After repulsing the enemy, the Highlanders, in pursuing, got into confusion, and broke their clans, so that the pursuit was ineffectual. Lord Cromartie and his brigade ran, like everybody else, in pursuit of the enemy, till he came to the foot of the hill, then rallied his brigade and waited for further orders; but receiving none for some hours, and seeing that all the rest of the army was marched away, he at last marched into the town, about ten o'clock at night. A report went abroad that he was wounded, but this proved incorrect. This rumour had been told by the Prince to Lord Macleod, who was much concerned for the safety of his father. On making search for Lord Cromartie in the town of Falkirk on the following morning, Lord Macleod found him in a house close by the one in which he was himself lodged. This happy meeting afforded great joy both to the father and the son. After the battle, Lord Cromartie's brigade was cantoned between Falkirk and the Torwood. Many of the Highlanders deserted after the battle of Falkirk. On the 11th of February Lord Macleod was directed by Lord George Murray to have his brigade assembled at the head of the Torwood, where, being joined by the troops from Falkirk, he began the retreat to the Highlands. The regiment went to Polmaise. A retreat was formally resolved on in a council of

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 191.



war, held at Bannockburn House. The brigade under Lord Cromartie marched coastwise, with the column under Lord George Murray, while the Prince's column took the Highland road to Inverness. In the retreat, Lord Cromartie had the command of a brigade. Lord George Murray, on 10th February 1746, gives him orders for the march from Aberdeen. He was to march early in the morning, with his own brigade and Glenbucket's battalion, for Old Meldrum, where he was to quarter all that night, and next night at Strathbogie; and was to march in the van himself, and his son in the rear, and be careful that the division kept close together, and that there were no stragglers.<sup>1</sup> Having taken the town of Inverness, the Prince despatched Lord Kilmarnock, with a large force, into Ross in pursuit of Lord Loudoun. The Prince fixed his headquarters at Culloden House. On Lord Cromartie reaching that place, the Prince ordered him to go and take the command of the forces under Lord Kilmarnock. Lord Cromartie's own clan, led by Lord Macleod, were sent on the same expedition. Lord Macleod halted about half an hour at Culloden to pay his duty to the Prince; and the regiment halted an hour or two at Inverness, and then marched that night to Beaulieu, where Lord Cromartie took over the command of the Earl of Kilmarnock's troops, communicating to him the Prince's orders. Lord Kilmarnock immediately gave up the command, and returned the same night to Inverness. Next day the march was continued to Dingwall, and a day or two afterwards towards Tain, against the Earl of Loudoun; but on reaching the Bridge of Anas (now Alness) intelligence was received that Lord Loudoun had crossed over into Sutherland with his troops. Lord Cromartie marched that night to his residence of Tarbat House with part of his troops, and ordered the rest to follow; but presently orders came from the Prince to send back part of the troops to Inverness, and to wait with the rest at Dingwall for further orders. Lord George Murray had taken part in this movement against the Earl of Loudoun. He returned to Inverness, and thence made his expedition into Athole, while Lord Cromartie remained as commander-in-chief north of the river Beaulieu.

It having been resolved to disperse Loudoun's forces, several regiments were sent to reinforce Lord Cromartie, and the latter received orders to march from Dingwall to Tain. The Duke of Perth took the direction on himself, though Lord Cromartie kept the name of commander-in-chief. Lord Cromartie and Lord Macleod went home to Tarbat House, accompanied by some Irish and other officers. Boats

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 191.

had been sent over from the coast of Moray to Tain to transport the troops over the Firth, for the enemy had carried off all the boats there. The army got safely over, aided by a thick fog. Upon their landing, Lord Loudoun's army retired; the county militia went home; the Earl of Sutherland crossed the Firth of Moray to join the Duke of Cumberland's army that was advancing; the Earl of Loudoun, President Forbes, Sir Alexander Macdonald, and the Laird of Macleod, retired to the isle of Skye; most of Lord Loudoun's own regiment were made prisoners of war. The news of this success was very cheering to Prince Charles. Sir Thomas Sheridan, writing to Lord Cromartie, states that he is ordered by his Royal Highness to wish him joy of his late success, and hopes he will continue to make the most of it, and particularly by raising what money he could in Sutherland.<sup>1</sup> The Earl of Perth returned to Inverness, and Lord Cromartie was left to command in Sutherland.

The following letter from a Royalist to the Earl of Sutherland gives a graphic account of the proceedings of the Duke of Perth's force at Dunrobin Castle:—

Invergordonness, aboard the "Hound" Sloop of Warr,  
27th March 1746.

MY LORD,—In less as half an houre after your Lordship took boat, the rebels, 300 of them, came to Dunrobin that night; some of them came to the place in less as half an houre where your Lordship took boat, commanded by M'Donald of Clanronald. They were that night in your Lordship's castle and the tennents' houses thereabouts; I had 40 of them under command of two officers. My wife intertained them; but my brother and I went to the hills. Nixt morning the rebels went back to Dornoch, they being alarm'd that Lord Loudon were to attack them. They took away all your Lordship's ryding horses, and Sir Harry Innesses, only my Lady Sutherland's Irish Galloway, and, at there commander's sight, put into the house of Dunrobin to prevent these rabbles takeing him away. They entered all the rooms in the castle, took away all the arms and amonition there, and the arms your Lordship got from the Gouernment, tho' put under ground. They instantly upon their arrivall went to the very place, as if themselves had put the arms, etc., there. The rabble took out of Dunrobin only small things from the servants there, which nixt day the Duke of Pearth ordered to be left at Ferrgoon's till his furder orders. One of their officers had a durk to my Lady Sutherland's brest, to get account where your Lordship was, and arms, to which he got noe satisfactory answer. Some other officer, seeing the durk drawn as above, with his hand pushed it by my Lady's brest; the edge touchted her skin, as if done by a small pin: not in the least the worst of it, and tho' her Ladyship prepared all good intertainment for them, they made a stable of your dyning room, stole one of the silver snuffers, but took none

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 211.

more of the pleat away. My brother and I, by accident, gote a boat Sunday last, and forced to land in Helmsdale, and Munday night gote aboard Captain Fawckner's sloop of warr, then opposite to Spye. Nixt day the "Hound" sloop of warr came there, who gave orders to Captain Fawckner to goe to the Firth of Forth. My brother went with him to get his ship at liberty by the letter he gote from Lord Laudon to the Duke's secretary; and I came aboard this sloop, commanded by Captain Dove, who gives a full information, and sent by the bearer, Mr. Tolmie, who instantly returns to the Duke with all the information could be had since I came aboard to this minute that severall gentlemen are come aboard; and I was to be landed with it by one of the sloops of warr this night, or to-morrow, besouth Spye, had not Mr. Tolmie, by meer accident, com'd aboard this sloop of warr, as she entered Cromarty Road, be eight this morning. If any intelligence of consequence, I will be the nixt to land after the bearer to give your Lordship for the Gouverment's service, to inform the Duke of it. Lord Cromarty and Barisdale went last Munday to ryse all Caithness.

This sloop of warr came up here about ten this morning, being inform'd that the rebels were crossing here, etc., and this day all the gentlemen in Ross-shyre were commanded to attend at Tayne to pay £5 sterling out of every £100 Scots of valuation, besides cess, crown rent, and bishop rents. This shyre, and your Lordship's country, is ruined. I most remain here if I get noe commands to goe to land safely for the Gouverment's service, which I am here ready to doe for that purpose on a minute's warning. May God send the Duke of Cumberland and his armie, your Lordship, forward with great success to relive us from these hellish enemys of our happy constitution. The captain here salnte your Lordship, as docs with great submission,

My Lord, your Lordship's most oblig'd, most faithfull, humble servant, while,

HUGH MONRO.<sup>1</sup>

After the Duke of Perth's departure, Lord Cromartie, at Skelbo, received orders from the Prince to march himself into Caithness, or to send Lord Macleod into that county to raise the militia, and to take up the public revenues for his service. The county of Caithness being mostly possessed by the Sinclairs, who were in general well affected to the Stuart family, and some of whom had offered the Prince at Inverness to rise if the Duke of Perth or Lord Cromartie were sent to them, it was thought that a body of troops might be raised. The Prince made choice of Lord Cromartie, who, thinking it necessary for the Prince's service that he should remain in Sutherland, where the militia of the county were still in arms in the mountains, sent Lord Macleod into Caithness; but, though he went as far as Thurso, he was unsuccessful in raising troops, and had to make his way back to Ross.<sup>2</sup> The Royalists of Sutherland did not remain inactive. On the 15th of April, the day before the Battle of Culloden, Lord Cromartie was surpris'd at Dunrobin

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter at Dunrobin Castle.

<sup>2</sup> Narrative by Lord Macleod.

Castle, apart from his men, by a party of the Earl of Sutherland's militia, under command of Lieutenant Mackay. The Earl of Cromartie's men being attacked and defeated, many were killed and 178 taken prisoners. The Earl himself and several friends were that evening taken by stratagem while conferring with the assailants regarding offers of surrender. The particulars of his capture were as follows:—On the return of Lord Cromartie's force from Caithness, he and his followers entered Dunrobin Castle. A belief had been entertained that they would not attack Dunrobin, as they had passed it going north, and because there was a friendship between the families of Sutherland and Cromartie. Instead of strengthening the castle, some cannon were sent thence to Dornoch, where an attack was dreaded, and placed on the Gallows Hill. But, on their return, Lord Cromartie and his followers entered Dunrobin, and the latter cut and destroyed the paintings, and set fire to several old books. The county militia were speedily assembled, and summoned Lord Cromartie to surrender, and when the Earl saw that the castle would be attacked, he marched off privately. When near the church of Golspie the Sutherland men attacked him abruptly, and with such effect that the Earl and his principal officers retreated to the castle of Dunrobin, while his men ran in confusion towards the Little Ferry. They made a stand there, but were quickly overwhelmed. Finding only a single boat, the fugitives crowded into it, others clung to the edge of the boat; but the boat being overloaded began to sink, till the fugitives inside cut off the fingers of their companions who clung outside to the boat. Several were thus drowned, and others who attempted to cross the Fleet below Skelbo also perished. Lord Cromartie and most of his officers shut themselves up in Dunrobin Castle; and when they refused to open the gates to the militia returning from the fight at the Little Ferry, entrance was obtained either by force, or over part of the court wall, by a detached company of the Sutherland men, commanded by Lieutenant Mackay. The Earl of Cromartie, however, at first was not to be found. The Countess of Sutherland, unwilling that a friend and neighbour should be taken in her house, and being, it is said, secretly Jacobite in feeling, like other members of the Wemyss family, thinking the most likely place to escape search was her own bedroom, put him into it and locked the door, while she went to meet the Sutherland men. Mackay, however, ordered the door to be broken open, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Countess. Lord Cromartie cast himself for concealment under the hanging cover of a large easy chair, such as was then a common article

of furniture, but was betrayed by one of his feet, which was visible beyond the edge; and the Earl was dragged out so roughly by Mackay that the latter incurred the resentment of Lady Sutherland for his rudeness to a nobleman in distress, and she afterwards caused him to be removed from the estate. From that incident the room in Dunrobin Castle is called the Cromartie Room.<sup>1</sup> It is one of the apartments of Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland, and Countess of Cromartie, who is the representative of the Earl who was so unfortunately captured in it.

In addition to the description given in the letter by Hugh Monro, above quoted, of the proceedings of Lord Cromartie's men at Dunrobin Castle, more minute information of what actually took place there is afforded by the following depositions of the servants and others at Dunrobin. The testimony of those who gave evidence shows that Lady Sutherland was suspected by her own husband as a protectress of the rebels, while the refusal of others "to swear" is significant of the inference that they were unwilling to implicate her Ladyship:—

Dunrobin, 21 Aprile 1746.

Being informed that there are effects belonging to the rebels lodged within this house, these are empowering yow to make a narrow search, and swear for the same, of whatever kind, to be secured in your hands till our return, which is your warrand from your friend, and,

SUTHERLAND.

To John Gun of Braemore, and Dugald Gilchrist, our factor.

*Queries.*—Whether any money, arms, or other effects belonging to Lord Cromarty, or those in his companie, or any other of the rebels, is lodged with or in her keeping; or if they had any, or how disposed off? Or whether they know of any such lodged in the hands of any other in this country; or have any suspicions that there is?

Dunrobin, 24th April 1746.

In presence of Hugh Gordon of Carroll, Sheriff-Depute of the shire of Sutherland, compared Mrs. Barbara Sutherland, who being solemnly sworn and interrogate whether any

<sup>1</sup> The account of what occurred at the capture of the Earl of Cromartie at Dunrobin Castle is contained in a letter to the late James Loch, Esq., M.P., by the late Mr. George Sutherland Taylor, dated Dornoch, July 1, 1833. The writer of that letter states that, when a youth of fifteen, he had often heard the account of the capture of Lord Cromartie from his grandfather, Captain John Sutherland, who

died at an advanced age, and who at the time of the occurrence resided at Golspie Tower, and was present at the fight at the Little Ferry, and the taking of the prisoners in Dunrobin Castle.—[Original Letter at Dunrobin.]

In a letter of the third Earl of Cromartie in 1754, he severely blames his brother, Roderick Mackenzie, for basely betraying him and giving him and his other friends up for £1000.—[Letter at Tarbat House.]

money, arms, or other effects belonging to Lord [Cromartie] or servants, or any other of the rebells, were lodged with her or in her keeping, or if she had any such, and how disposed off, or whether she knows of any such lodg'd in the hands of any other in this country, or has any suspicion that there is?—Depones negatively, only heard the money and some arms were lodged with the Countess of Sutherland.

BARBARA SUTHERLAND.

HUGH GORDON.

Mrs. Butler being sworn and interrogate as above, depones *cum precedente in omnibus*.

SARAH BUTTLER.

HUGH GORDON.

Mrs. Dott, being sworn and interrogate as above, depones negatively, that she [has] no money, arms, or other effects belonging to the rebells in her keeping; that she had a silver-hilted broadsword, which she got from the Countess and deliver'd to my Lord Sutherland; that she got a pistoll from George M'Kenzie, Lord Cromertie's servant, which she delivered to Wm. Murray; that she also got from the Countess a silver watch and a guinea, which she delivered to the owner, Lord Cromertie's servant; and further depones, that she heard the Countess own that she had a five hundred pound, which she believes was not delivered up, and suspects that there is some money and arms still in her Ladyship's custody, but is not certain.  
*Causa scientiæ patet.*

JANNET DOTT.

HUGH GORDON.

Mrs. Jean Sutherland being called upon, refuses to swear.

HUGH GORDON.

Anne Fraser, being solemnly sworn and interrogate as above, depones negatively, and this is truth, as she shall answer to God; and depones she cannot write.

HUGH GORDON.

Christian Mackay, being sworn and interrogate as above, depones negatively, and that she cannot write.

HUGH GORDON.

Margaret Bellie, being sworn and interrogate as above, depones that she has nothing in her custody except some cloaths which she was desired by John M'Kay, ensign, to keep.

MARGARET BELLIE.

HUGH GORDON.

Anne Grant, being sworn and interrogate as above, depones negative, only that she got the lock of a gun from John Sutherland, brewar, to keep, which she afterwards delivered to him, and saw a pistoll with a boy, Willie More, which he has in keeping; and cannot write.

HUGH GORDON.

Anne Dawson, being sworn and interrogate, depones negatively, only that she saw, a day or two after the engagement at Golspy, one or two pistolls and a gun under Adam Black's bed in the lodge, and a pistoll with John Lamb, on which the pretended Prince's name was engraven, which is truth; and depones she cannot write.

HUGH GORDON.

Robert Collie, being sworn and interrogate as above, depones negatively.

ROBERT COLLIE.

HUGH GORDON.

Wm. Ross, being sworn and interrogate as above, depones negatively, only that he has a broadsword, which he got from John M'Culloch, which is truth; and depones he cannot write. Further depones that Arthur Ross, cunninger, had two gusns.

HUGH GORDON.

Adam Black, being sworn and interrogate as above, depones that he got one of Lord Lowdon's fuseses from Daniell Watson, at Morvich, for which he paid three shillings, and got two holsters with a broadsword from Lord M'Leod's servant, and has a powder horn and two targes, which is all he has or knows off.

ADAM SUTHERLAND.

HUGH GORDON.<sup>1</sup>

The prisoners taken at Dunrobin Castle were carried in a sloop of war to Inverness, the second day after the battle of Culloden. A pass was granted by command of the Duke of Cumberland to permit the Countess of Cromartie and the ladies Isabella, Mary, and Anne Mackenzie, her daughters, to pass to London by sea or land. On the same day William Earl of Sutherland ordered a guard of twenty-four men of the Sutherlandshire militia as a safeguard for the mansion-house of New Tarbat. The order is dated at Tarbat House. Lord Cromartie was sent prisoner to London in the "Hound" ship of war, along with Lords Balmerino and Kilmarnock, and they were all committed prisoners to the Tower. His devoted Countess also took up her abode in the Tower, being eager with hopes of saving her husband's life. Lord Macleod was not sent up in the same ship with his father, but in one that sailed later, as appears from one of Walpole's Letters, where he says, "Old Marquis Tullibardine, with another set of rebels, are come, amongst whom is Lord Macleod, son of Lord Cromarty, already in the Tower. Lady Cromarty went down *incog.* to Woolwich to see her son pass by, without the power of speaking to him: I never heard a more melancholy instance of affection."<sup>2</sup>

Bills of indictment were found by the grand jury of Surrey against the Earls of Kilmarnock and Cromartie and Lord Balmerino. The indictment of Lord Cromartie was laid against "George Earl of Cromartie, late of the Town of Perth, in the shire of Perth," and charged him with entering into and taking possession of the town of Perth, levying war against his Majesty, etc. They were thereafter tried by the House of Peers on the 28th of July 1746. Lord Chancellor Hardwicke acted as Lord High Steward, or president of the Assembly. Mr. Adam Gordon, at his own request, was appointed solicitor for Lord Cromartie. Lord Cromartie pleaded guilty, and recommended himself to the king's mercy. Lord Kilmarnock also pleaded guilty.

When the Court met again on the 30th, the Lord High Steward made a speech to the prisoners, and asked each of them if he had anything to offer why judgment of death should not pass against them? In answer, the Earl of Cromartie, after

<sup>1</sup> Original Depositions at Dunrobin.

<sup>2</sup> Letters of Horace Walpole, vol. ii. p. 30, ed. 1857.

expressing his attachment to the present happy establishment, both in Church and State, and his remorse that he had been seduced from his loyalty "in an unguarded moment by the acts of desperate and designing men," concluded with an eloquent appeal for mercy. "Nothing now, my Lords, remains," said he, "but to throw myself, my life, and fortune upon your Lordships' compassion. But those, my Lords, as to myself are the least part of my misery: I have involved an innocent wife (no party to my guilt), and with her an unborn infant, to share its penalty; I have involved my eldest son, whose infancy and regard to his parent hurried him down the stream of rebellion; I have involved also eight innocent children, who must feel their parent's punishment before they know his guilt. Let them, my Lords, be pledges to his Majesty, let them be pledges to your Lordships, let them be pledges to my country for mercy; let the silent eloquence of their grief and tears, let the powerful language of innocent nature supply my want of eloquence and persuasion; let me enjoy mercy no longer than I deserve it; and let me no longer enjoy life than I shall endeavour to efface the crimes I have been guilty of. Whilst I thus intercede for your Lordships' recommendation to his Majesty for mercy, let my remorse for my guilt as a subject, let the sorrows of my heart as a husband, let the anguish of my mind as a father speak the rest of my misery. Your Lordships are men, you feel as men; but may none of you ever suffer the smallest part of what I suffer. But, after all, if my safety shall be found inconsistent with that of the public, and nothing but my blood thought necessary to atone for my unhappy crimes; if the sacrifice of my life, my fortune, and family are judged indispensable for stopping the loud demands of public justice; if, notwithstanding all the allegations that can be urged in my favour, the bitter cup is not to pass from me, not mine, but Thy will, Oh God, be done!"<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding this eloquent appeal, on the 1st of August sentence of death was pronounced against the Earl of Cromartie, and his honours and estates were forfeited. As in the case of the other Lords, the sentence of death would have been executed but for the heroic and devoted affection of his wife, and the interest of his friends, together with some favourable circumstances in his case.

In this extremity, while her husband was lying in the Tower under sentence of death, the Countess of Cromartie wrote the following letter to the Honourable Mrs. Poyntz, preceptress to the family of the Duke of Cumberland:—

<sup>1</sup> Hargrave's State Trials, vol. ix. p. 611.



MADAM,—I designed to have done myself the honour to have waited upon you this day with the narrative of my unhappy husband's conduct, which you were pleased to desire a sight of. But I find I have not strength of body to bear fatigue, for the little I have undergone yesterday and this day has quite exhausted me; and yet, good God, when can I be easy or think of rest, while my mind is tortured as it is? Were I able to wait upon you myself, I could not presume to trouble you with a letter, but I am unable to do it, and still more unable to delay giving you the information that through tender-heartedness you desire. Not days alone, but hours, nay, moments, may be most precious; but, believe me, Madam, nothing but the insupportable distress of a miserable wife for the best of husbands should embolden me to address you this way. My most unhappy situation, which can better be imagined than described, and must, I dread to my misfortune, be inconceivable to any but those who feel it, is my only excuse. Think, Madam, what is the distress and anguish of her who fears to lose a most affectionate and indulgent husband, on whose life depends all her earthly happiness or misery. How shall I, in my present circumstances, with child, bear the dreadful shock before me, or how bear the thoughts of such a number of young immortal orphans being left exposed, as they will be, by their father's death, to suffer for a cause which they have been educated in an utter abhorrence of. Allow me, Madam, to entreat you, for the Lord's sake, to take compassion on me, and to indulge your own humanity and good nature, so far as to use your interest in behalf of one labouring under the greatest load of trouble that is possible to be conceived, and who would totally have sunk under it, were it not for his Majesty's known clemency, of which he has of late been most generously pleased to give so remarkable an instance. Mercy is a glorious attribute, by which the eternal God has delighted to distinguish Himself. Were it as much the prerogative of kings on earth to search the heart, I am fully satisfied that, tho' my unhappy husband's crime is of the most heinous nature, yet his early sense of it, and his continued grief, remorse, and shame are so sincere, that his Majesty would see him a proper subject of his mercy.

Your character, Madam, leads me to flatter myself you will not despise the affliction of the afflicted. God has promised the merciful shall obtain mercy, which I shall ever pray you may find when appearing before that great and awful tribunal, before which all the world must plead guilty.

I am, Madam, your most obedient and most humble servant,

J. CROMARTIE.

From the Tower, Sunday evening,<sup>1</sup>

In devotion to her husband, exertions for his safety, and all but the final intrigue for his escape, Lady Cromartie acted like Lady Nithsdale, whose heroic exploits on behalf of her husband after his death-sentence, in 1716, must always command the admiration of mankind.

After the sentence was pronounced, Lady Cromartie went and delivered peti-

<sup>1</sup> Contemporary Copy Letter in the possession of Mrs. Murray of Dollerie, Perthshire, who, as Miss Georgiana Murray of Ochtertyre, is a granddaughter of the writer of it.

tions for mercy to all the Lords of the Cabinet Council ; and on the next Sunday she went in mourning to Kensington Palace to petition the King. When the lady's condition is considered, it must be allowed she adopted a powerful mode of intercession. She took her station in the entrance through which the King was to pass to chapel, and on his approach falling on her knees before him, presented her supplication. This presentation of a petition for pardon was in imitation of the course adopted by Lady Nithsdale with King George the First. But the second George was more courteous to Lady Cromartie than the first George was to Lady Nithsdale, who was spurned from the royal presence, and rudely treated by the attendants. King George the Second raised Lady Cromartie up with his own hand, and, taking the petition, gave it in charge to the Duke of Grafton, who was in attendance, and desired Lady Stair, who accompanied Lady Cromartie, to conduct her to an apartment where care might be taken of her, but at the same time declined to give her any hopes. Lady Cromartie swooned away as soon as he was gone. Gray, in a letter to Wharton, mentions Lady Cromartie's intercession with the Prince and Princess of Wales. He says "Lady Cromartie, who is said to have drawn her husband into these circumstances, was at Leicester House on Wednesday, with four of her children. The Princess saw her, and made no other answer than by bringing in her own children, and placing them by her ; which, if true, is one of the prettiest things I ever heard."<sup>1</sup> Several courtiers also interceded with his Majesty on the unfortunate Earl's behalf.

The account now given of the presentation of the petition to the King appears the most reliable ; but there are other notices of it which vary in some details. Thus Horace Walpole, in a letter dated 5th August, says that "Lady Cromartie presented her petition to the King last Sunday. He was very civil to her, but would not give her any hopes. She swooned away as soon as he was gone. Lord Cornwallis told me that her Lord weeps every time anything of his fate is mentioned to him."<sup>2</sup> Mr. Chambers says that Lady Cromartie fainted at the King's feet. Stewart, in his "Sketches of the Highlanders," mentions that the Countess of Cromartie, accompanied by ten children, presented a petition to the King, and that the family threw themselves on their knees before the King, and the mother, pointing to them, said, "These are your Majesty's humble petitioners for the life of their father."<sup>3</sup> But this dramatic scene was impossible, for the younger

<sup>1</sup> Gray, Works by Mitford, vol. iii. p. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Letters of Horace Walpole, vol. ii. p. 45.

<sup>3</sup> Stewart's Sketches of the Highlanders, vol. ii. p. 84.

members of the family remained in Ross for some time after these events. There is a like diversity as to whose intercession really saved Lord Cromartie's life. Horace Walpole says, in a letter dated August 11, 1746, "Lord Cromartie is reprieved for a pardon. If wives and children become an argument for saving rebels there will cease to be a reason against their going into rebellion." And again, on August 12, "Lord Cromartie is reprieved: the Prince [of Wales] asked his life, and his wife made great intercession." And on August 21, "The Prince of Wales, whose intercession saved Lord Cromartie, says he did it in return for old Sir William Gordon (Lady Cromartie's father) coming down out of his death-bed to vote against my father [Sir Robert Walpole] in the Chippenham election. If his Royal Highness had not countenanced inveteracy like that of Sir [William] Gordon, he would have no occasion to exert his gratitude now in favour of rebels."<sup>1</sup> A Sutherlandshire tradition bears that the King asked the Earl of Sutherland to name a favour he could bestow on him for his eminent services to the Government on the occasion of the insurrection, and the Earl asked that Lord Cromartie's life should be spared. The King, although disappointed at the request, granted it, but with the express condition that his successors should never restore the title of Earl of Cromartie. There was certainly a close friendship between the families of Sutherland and Cromartie, and the Earl of Sutherland frequently visited Lord and Lady Cromartie in the Tower, and no doubt used all his influence in Lord Cromartie's favour.<sup>2</sup> There was a general feeling that the life of one of the three condemned lords should be spared. As Lord Balmerino refused to plead guilty, the choice lay between the Earls of Kilmarnock and Cromartie; and there is little doubt, notwithstanding Walpole's sneer, that the circumstances of Lord Cromartie's wife and family naturally made the decision turn in his favour. Walpole's account of the intercession of Frederick Prince of Wales is corroborated by a letter from Lord Macleod to his father, in which he says, "Lord Elibank and Mr. Murray advise me to present a memorial to the Prince of Wales asking his consent to my going into foreign service, and giving those assurances of attachment to his Royal Highness's service, which are certainly due to his so great goodness."<sup>3</sup> The fact of the successful intercession of the Prince of Wales for sparing the life of Lord Cromartie is distinctly stated in the petition of Lord Macleod for the restoration to him of the forfeited estate of Cromartie. There is, at Tarbat House, a portrait of Frederick

<sup>1</sup> Letters of Horace Walpole, vol. ii. pp. 47, 49, 55.

<sup>2</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 221.

<sup>3</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 223.

Prince of Wales, said to have been given to the Countess of Cromartie as a mark of his friendship. The Prince was the son of King George the Second, and father of King George the Third. He predeceased his father in the year 1751.

In the Case of the Earl of Cromartie, referred to before, it is stated on behalf of the Earl that he had waited on Sir John Cope at Inverness, and made him a tender of all his power and influence to suppress the rebellion; that, after Prestonpans, application was made to President Forbes for a company to Lord Macleod; that subalterns were appointed to levy the men, and levies were made, but that it became known that the subalterns were to be appointed by Lord Fortrose; that Lord Cromartie, while smarting under this slight, was beset by designing men, who used all their arts and cunning to seduce him from his duty, but that no reason could have had this effect if he had not been taken unawares after some merriment, and that on coming to himself he reflected with horror on what he had done; that, when at Perth, he was chiefly in company of the king's officers who were prisoners, and sought to mitigate their condition; that, as to his levying the cess in Fife, he did intimate his orders upon pain of military execution, but returned to Perth without getting a shilling, and gave up the command not to be an actor in the severities he saw were unavoidable; that he had command laid on him to raise men in Ross and Sutherland, and levy money by contribution, and use military execution; but that he was averse to violence, and granted protections, and preserved the house of Sir Robert Munro and his brother Cullcairn, which the rebels had particularly doomed to destruction, and had used the same tenderness and care towards the house and family of the Earl of Sutherland, for which he appealed to that noble Lord.

Lord Cromartie received a respite on 9th August 1746, but the Lords Kilmarnock and Balmerino were executed. He was permitted to leave the Tower, and to lodge at the house of a messenger, 18th February 1748. In August following he received a warrant for his discharge out of the hands of the messenger, and enabling him to reside at Layhill, in Devonshire. The Lords Justices approved of his residence there, and granted £200 for the expense of his removal. A pardon in favour of his Lordship passed the Privy Seal on the 4th of October 1749, with the condition that he should remain in such place as should be directed by the King.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Copy Pardon, Bundle 3 O, No. 18, Cromartie Writs, at Tarbat House.

Lord Cromartie resided but a short time at Layhill, removing thence to Northcote, near Honiton, which he found more convenient and agreeable. But his Highland heart wandered in imagination to his beautiful Strathpeffer at the foot of Ben Wyvis, as appears from the following letter :—

Northcote, 5th November 1748.

SIR,— . . . My chief reason for writing to you now, is to let you and our other friends know that we are very well, as well as we can be while in this parte of the world. There were so many inconveniencys attending our living at Leahill, that I quited it above six weeks [a]go. We finde this place more agreeable. It is in the heart of a very fine country, and within a short walk of Honiton, a very good market town ; but for all that, I would much rather live at the foot of Peenouish, and be better pleased with an oaten cake, and the produce of the Strathpeffer of Milntoun bear then with the finest bread, the finest cyder, and all the other necessarys of life which this county is remarkable for beyond any in England. . . .

I am, your assured and sincere friend,

CROMERTIE.<sup>1</sup>

During the twenty years which Lord Cromartie survived his forfeiture, having a large family to provide for, with very slender means for their support, and precluded by his position from any professional or other active exertion on their behalf, the state of his family was often very distressing. His principal correspondent was John Mackenzie of Meddat, whose residence was close to Tarbat House. Mr. Mackenzie was the medium of communication between Lord Cromartie and his friends in Ross-shire, who afforded his Lordship occasional supplies of money. Mr. Mackenzie did many kind offices to Lord Cromartie and his family. He purchased from the Barons of Exchequer the furniture in Castle Leod and Tarbat House for behoof of Lord Cromartie, who gave directions as to the portions of the furniture which were to be sold. In the midst of their distress Lord and Lady Cromartie had the misfortune to lose one of their daughters, Lady Amelia Mackenzie, who, with her two sisters, Ladies Jean and Pegie, were left at Tarbat House in charge of Mr. Mackenzie of Meddat when Lord Cromartie was removed to the Tower of London. The poor child, Lady Amelia, was playing with her sister in the room, when she fell and fractured her thigh. Small-pox supervened, and soon carried her off, on the 3d of May 1748.

On the forfeiture of the Earl of Seaforth, in the year 1715, the scattered tenants of his wide domain contrived to remit their rents to the exiled Earl, and

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter at Tarbat House.

to make it hazardous for the Government factor to visit them for the rents. After the forfeitures of 1745, the Government were more strict as to the management of the estates which were then forfeited to the Crown. The rents of the Cromartie estates were collected for the Crown. Mr. John Baillie, W.S., Edinburgh, was appointed collector of the rents of the forfeited estate of Cromartie. He offered Mr. Mackenzie of Meddat a deputation as collector under him. In his visits to the estates, Mr. Baillie stipulated for a room or two to lodge in both at Castle Leod and New Tarbat; and for maintenance, he said, "We must use freedom with some of the custom hens, etc."<sup>1</sup> Lord Cromartie was often in great straits for money, and he was glad to have sent to him in London portions of the furniture from Tarbat House to be used in his London house or converted into cash for pressing supplies. A number of his clansmen occasionally contributed money for his assistance, but such supplies were very scanty, and did not materially aid his Lordship. He wrote, in 1751, that "we are most excessively pinched for want of money." In 1759, Lord Cromartie writes, "We were never more put to it than at present. Every year grows worse and worse for us, as every year increases the load of our debts." And again, "We feel daily the miserable situation we are in. I am afraid we shall be put to the utmost extremity soon, perhaps not to have a house to go into or a bed to lie on, and no hopes of any amendment in this our very distressed situation for some time."<sup>2</sup> This adversity was bravely endured both by the parents and children. In all his misfortunes Lord Cromartie himself kept a cheerful spirit. In a letter to Mr. Mackenzie of Meddat, dated London, March 9th, 1751, he says, "With what we have here, and what will remain there, we should have more than sufficient. I wish I had as many real friends as I could, with them, lodge and entertain. A little house, or a little part of a great house, will serve me wherever I live; as I never will hereafter keep an open house, which is submitting to all the inconveniences of a publick inn-keeper, with this difference, that he do's it for gain, and I at a great expence of health and money, and have mett with most ungrateful returns from many of them I have so entertained. This I have learned by experience, and tho' it is dear bought, it is a great satisfaction to me to know who are my real friends and who are not."<sup>3</sup>

The eldest son, Lord Macleod, disdaining to be a burden to his parents, went

<sup>1</sup> Letter at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Letters, *ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Original Letter, *ibid.*

forth as a soldier of fortune and had his reward. George, the second son, entered the army, at first in the Royal Scots as an ensign, the commission for which was bought for him by his uncle, Hugh Mackenzie, and he served at first in America,<sup>1</sup> and his after career is mentioned in the memoir of Lord Macleod. The eldest daughter also, Lady Isabella Mackenzie, was not ashamed to toil for a time in the performance of the humblest offices for the comfort of her parents and their younger children, and she also had her reward. She was, like her mother, a second "Bonnie Bell," and much admired. One day in company, when some discussion arose about the beauty of the gloves she wore, a lady beside her said that if her Ladyship would excuse the remark, she would say that the hands and arms were sufficient to make any gloves look well. "Ah! madam," replied Lady Isabella, then Lady Elibank, "let us never be vain of such things; these hands and arms at one time washed the clothes and prepared the food of a father, mother, and seven other children."

Of the marriage of Lord and Lady Cromartie there were a family of three sons and seven daughters, whose names are given in the pedigree. The daughter who was unborn at the date of his Lordship's forfeiture was Lady Augusta Mackenzie, who married Sir William Murray, Baronet, of Ochertyre, in the county of Perth. Lady Augusta was born with the mark of an axe upon one side of her neck, with three drops of blood, which was supposed to have been impressed by the imagination of her mother. After suffering many hardships for twenty years, with much resignation and even cheerfulness, Lord Cromartie died at his house in Poland Street, St. James's, Westminster, London, on 28th September 1766.<sup>2</sup>

A royal warrant was issued on 26th February 1749, authorising the Barons of Exchequer in Scotland to pay a yearly pension of £200 to Isabella, late Countess of Cromartie, out of the rents of the forfeited estates in Scotland. The Barons did not pay this owing to the want of means, as they represented in a memorial to the Treasury. In answer to that memorial, the Lords of the Treasury addressed a letter to the Barons of Exchequer on 26th February 1750, in which it is stated that "We think it reasonable, in regard to the distresses of herself and family, which have been represented to us to be very great, on account of the non-payment of the said pension, that the same should be

<sup>1</sup> Letter from Earl of Cromartie to Mr. Mackenzie of Meddat, dated August 11, 1761, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Scots Magazine, 1766, vol. xxviii. p. 558.

forthwith paid.”<sup>1</sup> In July of the following year Lady Cromartie presented a petition to the Lords Justices, representing the straits she and her family suffered, and praying to have a grant of the house, gardens, and mesnes of Castleleod, and others, to which she was provided by her marriage-articles, stating that her husband had been seduced from his allegiance by the arts of designing persons, and engaging that for the future he would be one of his Majesty’s most dutiful and grateful subjects.<sup>2</sup> Apparently in answer to that petition, a royal warrant, of date 10th July 1751, after mentioning the difficulty that was represented to have hitherto prevented the payment of the pension, by reason of the uncertainty of the extent of the claims upon the forfeited estates, and expense of their management, orders the payment of the pension to be made out of the arrears of feu-duties from the lands of the late Earl of Cromartie, which were a preferable burden upon the rents of the estate.<sup>3</sup> In a letter dated 11th August 1761, Lord Cromartie mentions that the King had been pleased, out of his royal goodness, to augment their allowance of £200 to a pension of £400 per annum.<sup>4</sup>

The similarity of action between the Countesses of Nithsdale and Cromartie in preserving the lives of their respective Earls has been alluded to. Another phase may be noticed. Lady Nithsdale secured the Charter-chests of the Nithsdale and Herries families by burying them in the gardens at Terregles. The furniture at Tarbat House, after the forfeiture of Lord Cromartie, having been purchased for his Lordship by Mr. Mackenzie of Meddat, Lady Cromartie, anxious for the safety of the family muniments, contrived to get some of the Charter-chests carried away as articles of furniture. This led to an investigation by order of the Court of Exchequer, in whom was vested the management of the forfeited estates. Mr. John Gorry, Commissary of Ross, was summoned to Edinburgh in the month of January 1758, to answer interrogatories to be put to him by the Lord Advocate in relation to the late Earl of Cromartie’s Charter-chests. Mr. Gorry, after his examination, presented a petition to the Barons of Exchequer for the expenses of his journey from Ross to Edinburgh. In this petition he shows the difficulty of a winter journey across the Grampians at that time. He says, “that your petitioner, to the great danger of his life, crossed that large tract of mountains that are interjected betwixt the shires of

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter, Bundle 3, Papers of the forfeited estate of Cromartie.

<sup>2</sup> Copy Petition, Cromartie Papers, vol. xix. No. 222.

<sup>3</sup> Original Warrant, Bundle 3, Papers of the forfeited estate of Cromartie.

<sup>4</sup> Original Letter at Tarbat House.



Inverness and Lothian, and was in many places obliged to wade thro' deep wreaths of snow where it was impossible, with any degree of safety, to ride ;" and on his return he had to hire a chaise and go coastwise, to shun a part of the storm. At the end of his petition is the following note :—"Since the lodging of this petition, Mr. Gorry's council is authorised to averr to your Lordships, that the Lady Cromarty had obtained a protection from his Royal Highness for her house, furniture, and movables, and, in consequence of this protection, published at his Royal Highness's command by Sir Everard Faulkener, a party of the Sutherland militia were obliged to restore several particulars which they had seized as lawful prize, and therefore the petitioner could not be justly blamed for receiving a box whereof the contents might have consisted of those very particulars that fell under his Royal Highness's protection. It is humbly hoped the notoriety of the fact will supersede the necessity of a proof ; if not, the petitioner will undertake to prove it to your Lordships' satisfaction."<sup>1</sup>

Isabella Countess of Cromartie survived the Earl for three years, and died at Edinburgh on 23d April 1769. Her remains were interred in the churchyard of the parish of Canongate, at the head or entry on the east side. Her son, Lord Macleod, was afterwards interred there, and a monument was erected to them, with the following inscription :—"Here lieth the remains of Isabella Gordon, Countess of Cromartie, who departed this life, 23d April 1769, in the 64th year of her age ; also the Right Honourable John Lord Macleod, Major-General in the British Service, and Colonel of the 71st regiment of foot, Count Cromarty, and a Commandant of the Order of the Sword in the Kingdom of Sweden ; died 2d April 1789, aged 62."

Shortly after his succession to his father, the following poem was addressed to Lord Cromartie by Mr. John Colme, a schoolmaster of learning. The original poem is amongst the Cromartie Papers (vol. xix. No. 186), at Tarbat House. Making allowance for the overpraise of a patron, the poem must still be considered as showing the favourable opinion entertained of this Earl of Cromartie by men of letters.

<sup>1</sup> Original Petition, Bundle 3, Papers of the forfeited estate of Cromartie. In a letter from Mr. Leonard Urquhart, W.S., Edinburgh, to the Earl of Cromartie, dated 7th

August 1760, he writes, that John Gorry's daughter is married to the young Laird of Gareloch.—[Letter at Tarbat House.]

Illustrissimo, nobilissimo et potentissimo Comiti de Cromartie, etc., natalium splendore, multifariâ doctrinâ, et omnigenâ virtute longè lateque conspicuo, etc., literarum et literatorum omnium fautori eximio, Mecænati suo summopere colendo, etc.

S. P.

Corporis atque animi virtus, faciesque decorâ  
 Majestate nitens, mens sine labe mali,  
 Ingenium solers, animi constantia summa  
 Egregie charum te genuere virum,  
 M'Kenzæ gentis, Comes illustrissime fulgens,  
 Et patriæ, et generis splendida gemma tui.  
 Gignuntur fortes ex fortibus, atque paternam  
 Virtutem sequitur sæpe propago suam.  
 Tu virtute tuâ splendes, virtute tuorum,  
 Unde tibi merito sanguinis auctus honos.  
 Immortale decus ducens ab utroque parente  
 Evincis morum nobilitate genus.  
 Te ditant quæcunque aliis optare solemus,  
 Stemmata, vis, virtus, gratia, candor, opes,  
 Linguarum, Sophiæque Sciens, Martisque Minervæ  
 Dotibus ornatus, propositique tenax :  
 Corporis, atque animi cunctis virtutibus auctus,  
 Naturâ strenuus, pulcher et ore micans :  
 Macte animo Heroo ! semper majora capescens,  
 Seroque sed tandem cœlica regna colas.  
 Pauperis interea ne despice vota poetæ,  
 Sæpe ipsi grata est victima parva Deo.  
 Dona tamen si parva putes, majora remitte,  
 Sic non vis nostri criminis esse reus.

Gratulabundus posuit dominationis tuæ humillimus cultor in Aytonensi, et Duddingstoniensi Scholis Literarum Humaniarum quondam professor ; nunc vero senio confectus, ad incitas redactus, et per multos retro annos proh ! dolor, exactoratus.

M. JO. COLME.

Datum Edinburgi 19<sup>no</sup> Junii 1731.

## TRANSLATION OF THE FOREGOING POEM.

To the most illustrious, noble, and mighty Earl of Cromartie, etc., far and wide distinguished by splendour of descent, diversified learning, and every kind of virtue, an eminent patron of letters and all men of learning, and his much to be honoured Maecenas, most hearty greeting :

Worth of body and of mind, and a countenance beaming with beauty and majesty, a soul without a stain of evil, a shrewd understanding, and the utmost steadfastness, have rendered you singularly dear, most illustrious and renowned Earl of the Mackenzie Clan, and splendid gem of your country and of your kind. The brave are begotten by the brave ; and oftentimes the offspring follow their forefathers' virtuous example. You shine gloriously by your own virtue and that of your kindred ; and thereby the honour of your blood is deservedly increased. While you draw immortal renown from either parent, you surpass your race by the nobility of your behaviour. You are enriched with all things that we are wont to wish for to others,—birth, power, gallantry, grace, courtesy, wealth ; with a knowledge of tongues and of wisdom, adorned with the gifts of Mars and of Minerva, and stable of purpose ; strengthened with every virtue of body and of mind, hardy by nature, handsome and beaming in countenance. Go on with heroic heart, always aiming at greater deeds ; and later, but yet at length, may you enjoy the celestial kingdom. Meanwhile, scorn not the offering of a poor bard : a little victim is oftentimes pleasing even to a god. Nevertheless, if you deem this gift little, return a greater, so as you do not wish to be accused of my fault.

A most humble admirer of your Lordship presents you with this, with good wishes and congratulations ; who was formerly a professor of humanity in the schools of Ayton and Duddingstone, but now stricken in years, and reduced to straits, and for many years bygone, alas ! dismissed from service.

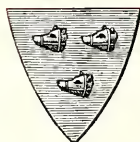
Mr. Jo. COLME.

At Edinburgh, the 19th day of June 1731.

Tarbat

Cromartie

J. Cromartie



JOHN LORD MACLEOD,  
COUNT CROMARTIE IN SWEDEN.

BORN 1727 ; MARRIED 1786 ; DIED 1789.

MARJORY FORBES (AFTERWARDS DUCHESS OF ATHOLE).

JOHN LORD MACLEOD, eldest son of George third Earl of Cromartie and of Isabella Gordon, Countess of Cromartie, was born in 1727. It does not appear from the family papers at what University Lord Macleod was educated. He had three successive preceptors, who all became ministers of the Church of Scotland, and his education was carried on under the eye of his uncle, Mr. Dundas of Arniston, afterwards Lord President of the Court of Session. He was instructed in principles favourable to the establishment in Church and State, as appears from the pleadings by his father for mercy from the King after the failure of the Rising in 1745.<sup>1</sup> His education, if completed, could only have been so a few years before the insurrection which occurred on behalf of the exiled royal family of Stuart in the year 1745, as he was then about the age of eighteen years. Yet young as he was, he entered heartily into that stirring contest. He took an active part in it from the very beginning. His genius for a military life was displayed in his anxiety to be engaged in several of the famous battles, including that of Falkirk, which were successfully fought by Prince Charles. He led the regiment composed of his own clan of the Mackenzies on several occasions, in which he showed military skill, much prudence, and great bravery. He wrote an account of the Rising from its commencement to the proceedings at Thurso and other places in the shire of Caithness. His Narrative unfortunately

<sup>1</sup> Case of George Earl of Cromartie, Hargrave's State Trials, vol. x. Appendix, p. 186.

ends abruptly with his account of the Raid to Caithness. The original Narrative is holograph of Lord Macleod, being all written in his bold distinct hand on sheets of foolscap paper of unequal length, and extending to thirty-eight pages. Although incomplete, Lord Macleod's Narrative is a very valuable fragment of the history of the events of the year 1745, and it contains several important particulars which are not recorded in any of the other histories of the great popular rising. The interviews between Prince Charles Edward and Lord Macleod are narrated with great modesty; and the chagrin which the Prince felt on learning from Lord Macleod when at supper at Glasgow, that Seaforth, the chief of the Mackenzies, was against him, was expressed to the French minister in the forcible words, "*He, mon Dieu, et Seaforth est aussi contre moi!*"

The Narrative of Lord Macleod is printed at length in the second volume of the present work, from the original at Tarbat House. It will be seen from it how very actively Lord Macleod was engaged at the head of the regiment formed of the Mackenzies.

President Forbes of Culloden, on the part of the Government, made an unsuccessful attempt to induce Lord Macleod to accept a commission in the army of the Government. But both Lord Macleod and his father declined that service, as appears from their correspondence with the President on the eve of the insurrection.

Shortly after the Mackenzies, under Lord Cromartie and Lord Macleod, had arrived at Perth to join Lord Strathallan's army, Lady Stonebyres, the grandaunt of Lord Macleod on the mother's side, who was a zealous Whig, knowing that Lord Macleod had been educated on other principles, visited him, to try to induce him to retire to Edinburgh, as his friends wished him to do. Lord Macleod, however, complained bitterly of the conduct of the Government towards him, and would not abandon the cause.<sup>1</sup>

Prince Charles had appointed Mr. Macgregor of Glengyle to be governor of Doune Castle, which was a place of consequence in order to a secure passage by the ford of the Frews on the river Forth. To protect the Castle against General Blakeney, who had received a reinforcement of two regiments of foot and two of dragoons from Berwick, a body of Highlanders marched from Perth on the 17th

<sup>1</sup> "Good Lady Stonebyres" died in September 1760.—[Letter from Leonard Urquhart, W.S., Edinburgh, at Tarbat House.] "1760, Sept. 10: at Edinburgh, Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, widow

of Captain Daniel Vere of Stonebyres."—Scots Magazine, vol. xxii. p. 503. She was akin to Lord Macleod through Sir William Gordon's marriage with Miss Henderson of Fordell.

of December 1745 to Dunblane, where they lay till the Prince's return from England. Lord Macleod, who, along with Lochiel the elder, had command of this detachment, was told by Lord John Drummand that he depended most on him for what was to be done. He took possession of the Bridge of Allan, and placed sentinels so that none could cross the Forth from Stirling without being seen by them; and he was assisted in this by some French officers. A few days after, Lord Macleod returned on a visit to Perth, and found that his father, Lord Cromartie, was gone with some troops into Fife to raise the public revenues. He stayed only one day at Perth, but on returning to Dunblane, found that his clan, thinking he was not to return to them, had marched out of the town on their way back to Ross; their officers, however, prevailed on them, although with great difficulty, to return to their duty. Dr. Cameron, an aide-de-camp of the Prince, having come from Glasgow, where the Prince then was, to Dunblane to see his lady, Lord Macleod, from the great desire he had to see the Prince, returned with him to Glasgow on the 12th of January. He went the same evening to pay his respects to the Prince, and found him at supper. Lord George Murray introduced him to Prince Charles, whose hand he had the honour to kiss, and he was ordered by the Prince to take his place at table. After supper he followed the Prince to his own apartment to give him an account of the situation of his affairs in the north. Nothing surprised the latter so much as to hear that the Earl of Seaforth had declared against him; and when Lord Macleod told him that he had sent 200 men to Inverness on the side of the Government, and had hindered many gentlemen of his clan from joining the Earl of Cromartie, he turned to the French minister with some warmth, and used the expression already quoted.

The Prince, after staying eight days in Glasgow, marched for Stirling on the 17th of January 1746, intending to besiege the castle. The column under Lord George Murray marched to Falkirk to cover the siege. The column led by the Prince went by Kilsyth, he himself having fixed his headquarters at Bannockburn House. The Prince marched on foot from Glasgow to Bannockburn, and Lord Macleod marched along with him. His Lordship on returning to Dunblane found that his father's regiment had gone the day before to Alloa to cover the French artillery and ammunition on their way from Perth to Stirling, which was to be taken across the Forth there. Next day his Lordship joined the regiment. A ship was seized further down the river by a detachment of the Duke of Perth's army, and brought to Alloa to Lord Macleod to transport the artillery. Some of

the King's sloops that lay not far from where the ship was taken endeavoured to retake her, and sent their long-boats for that purpose. But Lord Macleod, on the first alarm, marched down his regiment to the river side, and the enemy retired; on their return, however, they burnt some other ships that lay at the place from which the ship had been taken. The ship was scarcely loaded, when intelligence arrived that the enemy were come up the river in transport ships and were lying at Kincardine. Lord Macleod sent out spies and patrols to bring in intelligence, and despatched an express to Dunblane with news of the enemy having come to Kincardine, and asking reinforcements. Next morning Lord Cromartie and Lord John Drummond came to Alloa. That night the enemy attempted to set fire to the ship, and for that purpose sent up a long-boat full of men, but being discovered in time they were repulsed. Next day they disembarked troops at Kincardine to attack by land; but Lochiel and the Camerons crossed the Forth to join Lord Cromartie's force. Lord John Drummond and the Earl of Cromartie, on riding forward to observe their motions, found them returning to their ships, they having seen the Camerons crossing the river. That same evening the ship sailed up the river with as much of the artillery and ammunition as she could carry, and landed them at Polmaise. Lord Cromartie and Lord John Drummond returned to Bannockburn. The ship returned next day to Alloa and took away the remainder of the artillery, but the tide failing soon, they cast anchor two miles above Alloa. Lord Macleod then marched the regiment up the river side to protect the ship, should an attack be made. That night Lord Macleod and Lord John Drummond, who had returned, went to a gentleman's house in the neighbourhood, hoping to get some rest and sleep after so much watching and fatigue, but Lord Macleod was awakened by an express from Secretary Murray ordering him to cross the Forth and join the army, as a battle was expected. Lochiel and Lord Macleod's regiment began crossing early in the morning, but as there was only one boat, the day was advanced before Lord Macleod got over. The regiment was left to guard the artillery; but his Lordship, wishing to see the battle, went forward on horseback, and found the army advancing with the Prince at their head. But news being brought that General Halley had halted at Falkirk, the army returned to Bannockburn. Lord Macleod rejoined his regiment at Polmaise. The Highlanders, from a superstitious notion that it would be of good omen, wished to fight on the field of Bannockburn. On the 28th of January Lord Macleod was sent with his regiment to the head of the Torwood to oppose the enemy if he appeared.

Lord Macleod took part in the battle of Falkirk that ensued ; and after the battle he rescued an officer of the King's army whom some Highlanders were threatening to kill, after he had been taken prisoner. He conducted the officer to Lord George Murray, who sent him to the rear-guard. Lord George Murray had a value for Lord Macleod's advice, and followed it in drawing up the men in line, without regard to clans or regiments, in the confusion of the pursuit, when a new attack was feared. Lord Macleod joined the Irish pickets, and remained with them till after dark. He then mounted his horse and went to seek the Prince. He found him in a little hut on the top of the hill, sitting by the fire-side, and with him Sir Thomas Sheridan, Adjutant-General Sullivan, and others. On word being brought that the Highlanders had taken possession of Falkirk and the enemy's camp, the Prince and his suite mounted and rode to the town, where shelter was eagerly sought owing to the heavy rain. Lord Macleod had the honour to sup with the Prince in the evening, who asked him about his father, who was reported to be wounded. Lord Macleod, after supper, went through the town in search of him, but got no account till next day, when he found the report erroneous.

After the battle of Falkirk, a great number of the Highlanders deserted. In the retreat to the north Lord Macleod went along with his father's regiment, and continued with his father for the rest of the campaign.

Under the Prince's orders, Lord Macleod was sent by his father into Caithness with his regiment, to raise that shire for the Prince's service and take up the public revenues. On his arrival at Wick, Lord Macleod wrote circular letters to all the gentlemen of the county, requiring them to meet him on a certain day at Thurso. He went thither himself, and was joined by the men from Lochbroom of his clansmen, the Mackenzies of Ballone and Dundonell. On the day after arriving at Thurso, Lord Macleod sent Mr. Mackenzie of Ardloch with a party to the Orkneys to take up the public moneys, and try if he could raise any men. Several gentlemen of Caithness appeared at Thurso, and after dinner Lord Macleod made a speech, exhorting them to take up arms for the Prince Regent. They all seemed very hearty for the cause ; and his Lordship named a day when he would set up the Royal Standard. Meantime he busied himself in gathering in the public money. Lord Macleod marched with his regiment to the place appointed, being a hill near Thurso. Two or three gentlemen of the shire went along with him, but only one met them, with twenty or thirty men, who made but an indifferent figure. Lord Macleod gave them leave to return home ; and shortly afterwards



he left Caithness for Ross-shire, but his force was intercepted by the Sutherland militia at the Little Ferry.

The circumstances attending the capture of Lord Cromartie at Dunrobin Castle have been stated in his memoir ; but it does not appear where or in what manner the capture of Lord Macleod was effected. He was, however, apprehended and carried to London. Sir John Gordon, his uncle, presented a petition for him, representing that he had resolved to plead guilty, and requesting that he might be allowed to remain in the Tower till the day of trial, instead of being committed to the jail in Southwark, which was crowded with prisoners, and dangerous from fevers and other distempers incident to jails. The King was favourable to this request, and referred it to the Attorney-General, who granted the prayer of the petition.<sup>1</sup> A true bill was found against him at Saint Margaret's Hill, London, on 23d August 1746, and at his trial, which took place on 20th December thereafter, he pleaded guilty, to the great surprise of the judges, court, and jury, who expected that his extreme youth would have been pleaded in alleviation of his crime ; but he wished to throw himself altogether upon the mercy of the king and country. He thus addressed the Court :—" My Lords, I stand indicted for one of the most heinous of all crimes, that of rebellion and treason against the best of Kings, and my only rightful lord and sovereign. Would to God, my Lords, I could not plead guilty to the charge. But as I cannot, I beg leave to assure your Lordships my heart never was consenting to the unnatural and wicked part I then acted. Remember, my Lords, my youth, and that I am in that state of life when an unhappy father's example is almost a law. But my heart is full from the deep sense I have of his miseries, and my own ; and I shall only add, that as I must and do plead guilty to the charge, if, on your Lordships' kind representation of my case, his Majesty shall think fit, in his great goodness, to extend his compassion to me, what of future life and fortune I may ever have shall be entirely devoted to the service of his Majesty, on whose mercy I now absolutely throw myself." <sup>2</sup>

Lord Macleod was not attainted, but was promised a free pardon, which the king was pleased to grant to him thirteen months after he had pleaded guilty ; but under the condition, that within six months after attaining his twenty-first year, Lord Macleod should convey to the crown all right and claim which he had

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 215-218.

<sup>2</sup> Peerage of Scotland, by J. P. Wood, vol. i. p. 400.

to any of the estates of the late Earl of Cromartie, so that the Crown might possess them the same as if he had been attainted of high treason.<sup>1</sup> This condition Lord Macleod complied with.

In the following year, and in the changed fortune of his family, Lord Macleod formed the spirited resolution of going abroad in quest of military service. He left Devonshire, where his parents then resided, without acquainting his family with his purpose, but on reaching Bridport addressed the following letter to his father, giving the reasons that had led him to take the step :—

Bridport, April 18th [1749].

MY LORD,—You will perhaps be surprized to find by this letter that I am set out for London, without having acquainted you with anything of my design ; but when I have informed you of my motives for taking this step, I flatter myself you will approve of the principles on which I act, and do justice to the sincerity of my intentions. It cannot but be very disagreeable to me to find that there are some of my relations in Scotland who make it their bussiness to carp at everything I do ; and all this because I wou'd not follow the scheme of life which they had laid down for me. They not only dissapprove of every visit I make, but my going into any company, however mixed ; my being at the most publick places, however indifferently frequented by people of all parties ; and my very cloaths are offences of the highest nature. As this fully convinces me that they are resolved to dissapprove of every step I can take, I was affraid that, if you was acquainted with my design, they might attribute a part of this other imaginary offence to your share. It is to prevent any bad consequences of this nature that has determiued me to act as I have done ; and I declare before God that the above reason is my only inducement for so doing. As I have ever made my duty to my parents the inviolable rule of my conduct, so I shall always continue in the same sentiments, and shall with pleasure embrace every opportunity by which I can show it.

As idleness is certainly very detrimental to everybody, so it is likewise very shameful for a young man—especialy for one in my situation—to loiter away his time when he ought to be pushing his way throw the world. This has determin'd me to offer my service to some of the Northern Powers, where the approaching war offers a favorable opportunity to such as are determin'd to make a figure in the world, or fall in the attempt. I have as much money as will carry me to town, and if I can get as much there as will carry me over the watter, it will do very well. If not, I still think it better even to beg my bread over, and afterwards to carry a musket, then to continue any longer a burden to you. I shall write again from

<sup>1</sup> Pardon, under Privy Seal, dated 22d January 1748, Cromartie Writs, Bundle 3 O, No. 16 ; and copy Petition by Lord Macleod to the king, for a grant of the Cromartie estates, *ibid.* vol. xix. No. 248.

My Lord

Bridport. April 18<sup>th</sup>

You will perhaps be surprized to find by this letter that I am set out for London without having acquainted you with any thing of my Design; but when I have informed you of my motives for taking this step, I flatter myself you will approve of the principles on which I act, and do justice to the sincerity of my intentions — It cannot but be very disagreeable to me to find that there are some of my relations in Scotland who make it their business to carp at every thing I do, and all this because I wou'd not follow the scheme of life which they had laid down for me; they not only disapprove of every visit I make, but my going into any company however mixed, my being at the most publick places however indifferently frequented by people of all parties, and my very cloaths are offences of the highest nature. As this fully convinces me that they are resolved to disapprove of every step I can take, I was affraid that if you was acquainted with my Design, they might attribute a part of this other imaginary offence to your share, it is to prevent any bad consequences of this nature that has determined me to act as I have done, and I declare before God that the above reason is my only inducement for so doing — As I have ever made my duty to my Parents the inviolable rule of my conduct, so I shall always continue in the same sentiments, and shall with pleasure embrace every opportunity, by which I can show it.

as Idleness is certainly very detrimental to every body, so it is likewise very shameful for a young man, especially for one in my situation to loiter away his time when he ought to be pushing his way thro' the world, this has determin'd me to offer my service to some of the northern Powers where the approaching war. offers a favourable opportunity to such as are determin'd to make a figure in the world or fall in the attempt— I have as much money as will carry me to Town, and if I can get as much there as will carry me over the water, it will do very well; if not, I still think it better even to beg my bread over and afterwards to carry a musket, than to continue any longer a burthen to you— I shall write again from London where I propose to stay but a few Days. I offer my most affectionate Duty to my Mother, and my aff: compliments to my Sisters.

I am  
My Lord  
your most affectionate and  
Dutiful Son. MACHOD

The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
The Earl of Cromartie

London, where I propose to stay but a few days. I offer my most affectionate duty to my mother, and my affectionate compliments to my sisters.

I am, my Lord, your most affectionate and dutiful son,

MACLEOD.<sup>1</sup>

To the right honourable the Earl of Cromertie.

On reaching London, Lord Macleod consulted his friends, and ultimately adhered to his resolution expressed in the foregoing letter. He sailed for Hamburg on the 7th of May. In a letter addressed to his father the day before, he says that he was sorry Lord Cromartie and his mother had any pain on his account, and that it was to prevent anything of that nature that made him leave Devonshire in the way he did, and adds, "I pray God that you and my sisters may soon enjoy that happiness to which we have all for some time been strangers. Whenever I am so happy as to hear of any change of this sort, I shall no longer think myself unfortunate, but that any hardships to which my wandering throw the world may expose me are then fully compensated."<sup>2</sup>

Lord Macleod landed at Hamburg after a passage of fourteen days. When there he called on Mr. Cope, son of Sir John Cope, who was the commander-in-chief of the forces in Scotland for the Government, when Lord Macleod was engaged in the army of the Prince. Lord Macleod was very civilly received by Mr. Cope.<sup>3</sup> Thence he proceeded to Berlin. Through the recommendation of Field-Marshal Keith he was favourably received at the Court of Sweden, whither he next proceeded. On the 16th of January 1750, old style, Lord Macleod, writing from Stockholm, mentions that in a few days he was to get his commission as captain in the regiment of foot commanded by Major-General Baron Hamilton, and that Baron Hamilton, the elder brother of his colonel, and High Chancellor of Sweden, was his zealous friend. He mentions in the same letter that a great number of the Swedish nobility are originally Scots, instancing the Counts Fercen, who are Macphersons, and the families of Douglas, Stuart, Spens, and M'Dugal.<sup>4</sup>

Writing on 10th March following, Lord Cromartie mentions that besides the company which Lord Macleod had got in the Swedish service, the King of Sweden had been pleased to grant him a pension till he was better provided for.<sup>5</sup> On the recommendation of Lord George Murray, the Chevalier de Saint George sent Lord Macleod the necessary means for his military equipment.

<sup>1</sup> Letter, vol. ii. pp. 226-8.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 229.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* p. 230.

<sup>4</sup> Letter, vol. ii. p. 233.

<sup>5</sup> Original Letter at Tarbat House.

Lord Macleod continued in the service of the Swedish Crown for the long period of twenty-seven years, and with distinguished success. From his correspondence it appears that he was in various places with his regiment, amongst others at Malmoe, Barsebeck, and Helsingfors. Lord Cromartie, in a letter to John Mackenzie of Meddat, dated 23d February 1754, says,—“I have not heard lately from my eldest son; he is now frozen up in Finland; I expect to hear from him soon.”<sup>1</sup>

His Lordship lost no opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of the art of war. He visited Denmark to see the manœuvres of the Danish troops. On the breaking out of the Seven Years' War in Germany, he joined the Prussian army as a volunteer, and went through the first campaign in the year 1757. His aim in doing so was to get a recommendation from the Court of Prussia to that of Great Britain. He wrote an account of the campaign, similar to his narrative of the Insurrection in Scotland in 1745-6.

The manuscript, written in French by Lord Macleod, describes the first summer campaign of the celebrated “Seven Years' War,” commencing in April 1757. After a brief statement of the intention of King Frederick of Prussia (Frederick the Great) to anticipate the Austrians, he mentions the general disposition of the Prussian army, the division under Prince Maurice of Anhalt-dessau being sent west towards Egra; that of Marshal Schwerin, composed of Silesian troops, ordered to move forward, whilst the Prince of Brunswick Bevern entered Bohemia with a column of 16,000. From the 21st of April, onwards, the movements, manœuvres, and battles of each day are particularly chronicled, with all the circumstantial minuteness of an eye-witness. Thus he says:—“On the 22d we entered into Bohemia and encamped at Nollendorf, Lieutenant-General Kyon following us the next day with the heavy cavalry.” Amongst the officers mentioned appear the names of Marshal Keith, Lieutenant-General Seton, and Lieutenant-General Smettan, the first especially as holding a distinguished position and taking a leading part in the campaign. The narrative ends on 16th August 1757, at which date Lord Macleod describes the position of the army in all its divisions, and concludes thus:—“Such was the situation of the Prussian army on the 16th of August when I left it to return into Pomerania. These five corps might muster then about 70,000 men. I tried to get information, before leaving, as to the Prussian loss during the campaign in Bohemia, and several of their officers assured me that

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter at Tarbat House.

it amounted to 80,000 men, the half of that number having been killed, wounded, or made prisoners, and the other half lost by desertion." The original manuscript is holograph of his Lordship, and extends to twenty-four pages folio.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Macleod took an honourable position in the service of the Swedish Crown. In a letter by his father to the same correspondent, dated 30th January 1762, he states that Lord Macleod had been created a Knight of the Order of the Sword and North Star, the most honourable Order in Sweden, and in the same letter expresses his satisfaction that Lord Macleod and his brother George had obtained freehold qualifications in Ross and Cromarty, and had thus again acquired a footing in the country. In the army he rose from captain to the rank of colonel, or, as other accounts state, to that of lieutenant-general. He was aide-de-camp to the King of Sweden, and he had the honour of being created a Count of Sweden, with the title of Count Cromartie.

On the recommendation of the Queen of Sweden, King George the Third granted to Colonel John Mackenzie, in the service of the Crown of Sweden, as heir to the late Earl of Cromartie, the interest of the surplus price of the estate of Roystoun, which amounted to £4813, 17s. 9½d., and belonging to the Crown, through the decease of Sir Kenneth Mackenzie of Grandvale and Cromartie, and the attainder of George Earl of Cromartie. The gift passed the Privy Seal 9th August 1766. Sir John Goodricke, the British envoy at Stockholm, was directed to assure the Swedish Queen that the King would show all the favour, consistent with the laws of the kingdom, to a person who had the happiness to be recommended by her.<sup>2</sup>

A letter from Leonard Urquhart, who was the legal solicitor in Edinburgh of Lord Macleod, dated Edinburgh, 8th March 1774, addressed to him as Earl of Cromartie, then at Gottenburg, informs him that a petition was brought up in the Parliament from General Fraser (of Lovat), which Lord North informed the House had been shown to his Majesty, and strongly recommended by him. This petition, Mr. Urquhart states, it was thought would be carried through, and he hoped that the rest of the noblemen and gentlemen whose estates had been annexed, would have the same favour shown them. In another letter from the same correspondent, dated 19th May of the same year, he says that it gave Lord

<sup>1</sup> Original Narrative, Cromartie Papers, No. 165; and Copy Petition regarding it, vol. xxii. No. 100.

vol. xix. No. 247.

<sup>2</sup> Copy Gift, Cromartie Papers, vol. xxi.

Macleod's friends in this country great pleasure to learn that he meant to pay them a visit on his return from Finland, and that it was hoped he would bring recommendations from the Court of Sweden to that of Great Britain, and that he might get and long enjoy his old estates.<sup>1</sup>

General Fraser, the eldest son of Simon Lord Lovat, having obtained from King George the Third, in 1774, a grant of the forfeited estate of Lovat, Lord Macleod was induced to make application for a similar gift to himself of the forfeited estate of Cromartie. He presented a petition to the King, and applied to Lord North and others for their influence. His letter to Lord North is as follows :—

MY LORD,—Tho' I have not the honour to be personally known to your Lordship, I take the liberty of addressing you in this way, encouraged thereto by your Lordship's character of humanity and benevolence.

Soon after General Fraser had obtain'd a grant of his father's estate, I came over to this kingdom from Sweden, in hopes that, the ice being broke, the same favour might be shewn to me as to General Fraser, encourag'd thereto as I had offer'd at different times during the last war to raise a corps of Highlanders for his Majesty's service, tho' it was my misfortune not to succeed, and more particularly as my family had the honour to be patronis'd and protected by his Majesty's royal father. On my arrival in this country I was advis'd to follow General Fraser's line of conduct, and endeavour to reconcile the leading men of different parties to the measure before I troubl'd your Lordship with any application. I follow'd this advice, and only beg'd the Duke of Buccleugh to speak to your Lordship, and to give you a copy of my case, which his Grace told me he had done the end of January. Having been more successful with the heads of opposition than my most sanguine hopes had been, Mr. Stuart Mackenzie<sup>2</sup> was so good as to inform your Lordship of that circumstance the 4th of last May ; and from what he told me next morning, I have reason to hope that your Lordship approves of my application to Parliament, and will honour me with your protection. Mr. S. Mackenzie having told me soon after that your Lordship had desir'd to see my intended petition to the King, a copy of it was immediately sent to Mr. Robinson, who was so good as to promise to lay it before your Lordship. The public business has probably prevented my having heard since from Mr. Robinson.

The peculiarity of my situation, my not having bread in this country, and the necessity I am under of returning to Sweden early next spring, will, I flatter myself, plead my excuse for intruding on your Lordship at this time, to beg being allow'd the honour of waiting on you when it is convenient.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, my Lord, your Lordship's, etc.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter at Tarbat House.

<sup>3</sup> Draft Letter, undated, but 1775, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Stewart Mackenzie was the brother of the Earl of Bute, some time Prime Minister.



The petition to King George the Third, above referred to, prays that the estates which had belonged to the late Earl of Cromartie might be restored to him. Lord Macleod states the early age at which he had joined the Rebellion, his education in principles of attachment to the Protestant succession, the services of his great-grandfather at the Revolution, and the sparing of his father's life by the intercession of his Majesty's father; that he had entered the Swedish service, and served as a volunteer in the Prussian army during the late war, and had formerly offered to raise a body of Highlanders to serve the Crown. Lord Macleod urges the similarity of his circumstances to those of General Fraser, and prays for the like consideration.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Macleod and his friends were desirous that, following the example of General Fraser, he should raise a regiment of Highlanders, in the hope that thereby he might ultimately have the estates restored to him. Such a scheme had been tried before, during Lord Macleod's visit to Britain after the Prussian campaign. Lord Cromartie, in writing to Mr. Mackenzie of Meddat, on 31st March 1759, says,—“We have, from time to time, had hopes of some thing better being don, but hitherto disapointments have allways succeeded our hopes, and a recent disapointment of a scheme that has been in agitation for my son, and which scheme, at least the hopes of succeeding in it, was the cause of his coming over from Sweden, redoubles our distresses upon us. Yet I hope there is a time coming when we shall meet with more favour.”<sup>2</sup> But circumstances were now more favourable; and as new levies were to be raised in 1777, Lord Macleod's claim was favourably entertained. The following letter shows the first step taken for Lord Macleod's recall to his native country, and employment in the British service :—

*Private.*

3d December 1777.

MY DEAR SIR,—Under the present circumstances, I cannot help supposing that new corps may be thought of. Permit me to mention the name of Lord Macleod. You know all the hardship of his case, considering it in the civil line.

In the military line, he was, during the greatest part of the last war, a volunteer with the King of Prussia, afterwards, upon the King's special recommendation, enter'd into the Swedish service, where he is now an old colonel. He miss'd raising a regiment in our service last war (when General Fraser raised one) by the wrong judgement of his uncle, Sir John

<sup>1</sup> Copy Petition, Cromartie Papers, vol. xix. No. 248.

<sup>2</sup> Original Letter at Tarbat House.

Gordon,<sup>1</sup> it being offer'd to him, under Mr. Pitt's administration, and might then, with the utmost ease, have been raised.

If leave cou'd now be obtain'd to raise a regiment in the north of Scotland, to be commanded by Lord Macleod, I have no difficulty in making myself answerable (in every pecuniary sense) that it shall be ready with the earliest corps that can be raised, upon such terms as may be prescribed by Government, and that Lord Macleod will, upon the first notice, quit the Swedish service and devote himself to the fulfilling the engagements enter'd into by his friends.—I am ever, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

R. ATKINSON.<sup>2</sup>

[John Robinson, Esqre.]

Henry Dundas of Melville, afterwards the first Viscount Melville, and chief manager of the affairs of Scotland under Mr. Pitt, was the cousin-german of Lord Macleod. Anne Gordon, wife of the President Dundas of Arniston, was the sister of "Bonnie Bell Gordon," Countess of Cromartie, and the mother of Lord Melville. Distinguished for his favour to his friends and countrymen, Henry Dundas greatly aided his cousin, Lord Macleod, in the recovery of the Cromartie estates. The following letter, addressed to Mr. Atkinson, appears to have been written in reference to the letter of that gentleman:—

SIR,—I wrote the letter to Lord George Germain in the terms I proposed. I have seen his Lordship since, and altho' I believe there is no decision formed, I rather believe new levies are in contemplation, and I should suppose Lord MacLeod wou'd not be forgot in that event; the chief difficulty wou'd be as to his rank, and not being at all in the army.

I have talk'd to some military people, who do not think more wou'd be granted than that of major-commandant. But if only that and a corps of 500 men was to be granted, I shou'd be for accepting, the after civil establishment, and not any military prospect, being the object Lord Macleod wou'd have chiefly in view.

<sup>1</sup> Sir William Gordon, Baronet, the father of Sir John Gordon, was first designated of Dalfolly in the county of Sutherland, from his holding these lands under a right of wadset. Sir William was a banker in London, and was one of the few persons who made money out of the South Sea Bubble. His residence in Sutherland was at Uppat, near Dunrobin, where, on the mantelpiece of one of the rooms, the armorial bearings of himself and his wife, a Henderson of Fordell, in Fife, are still preserved. Sir William had considerable influence with the Earl of Sutherland, and

many of the other northern proprietors. Sir William acquired Inverbreakie, which he called Invergordon. He was created a Baronet on 8th February 1704, with limitation to his heirs-male. Sir William died at Chelsea in June 1742. He was succeeded by his son, Sir John Gordon, on whose death, without issue, the Baronetcy was not taken up by any heir, although it is understood that the late Mr. Joseph Gordon, W.S., claimed to be the heir-male. There is a good portrait of Sir William Gordon, by Highmore, at Melville Castle.

<sup>2</sup> Copy Letter, at Tarbat House.

Nay, if the corps with the rank of major-commandant was granted to his brother George, who is now a captain in the 42d regiment, I shou'd esteem that a martial [material] point in the view of forwarding what is my great object with regard to the final establishment of Lord Macleod in his own country.

I thought it proper to mention to you these particulars, that you may have your eye upon the bussiness if there is any prospect of its going forward; and I shall expect to hear from you for the regulation of my conduct both here and in Scotland. It would be proper that Mr. Mackenzie wrote to Lord Macleod to inform what has been done respecting him. It is a pity he had not been in the country.—I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HENRY DUNDAS.<sup>1</sup>

London, 12th December 1777.

The difficulties alluded to by Mr. Dundas as to Lord Macleod's rank, were got over, in all probability greatly by his exertions. Mr. Atkinson, in replying to this letter on the following day, points out that the pretensions of Lord Macleod, a soldier from his youth and a colonel in foreign service, to the rank of a colonel are equal to those under which General Fraser was taken from the Bar and placed in the same rank.

Only six days thereafter Lord Macleod received a Commission, under the hand of King George the Third, which bears date 19th December 1777, for the special purpose of raising a new Highland regiment. Such was the respect for Lord Macleod's family and name in the north, that 840 Highlanders were enrolled in a very short time and marched to Elgin. In addition to these, 236 Lowlanders were raised by the Honourable John Lindsay, son of the Earl of Balcarres, David Baird, afterwards Sir David Baird, James Fowlis, and other officers, besides 34 English and Irish enlisted in Glasgow. They amounted in all to 1100 men, and under the name of Macleod's Highlanders, or 73d regiment, were embodied, and inspected by General Skene, at Elgin, in April 1778. They were a hardy, well-principled body of men, and fit for any service. Under other Royal Commissions, dated 18th July and 24th September 1778, a second battalion was raised to the regiment in the end of that year. The following is Lord Amherst's letter to Lord Macleod, directing the formation of the second battalion :—

Whitehall, 25th September 1778.

MY LORD,—That a moment's time may not be lost in forwarding the raising of a second battalion to your Lordship's regiment, his Majesty has been pleased to approve of the following gentlemen, proposed by your Lordship through Mr. Atkinson, to be field officers in it, viz.,

<sup>1</sup> Copy Letter, at Tarbat House.

Major George Mackenzie of your Lordship's regiment, to be Lieut.-Colonel, and Captains Hamilton, Maxwell, and Norman Macleod of the 71st, to be Majors. I have the King's command to inform your Lordship that his consent to this quick promotion of Major Mackenzie is given only on account of the necessity which it has been represented there is for his being placed at the head of the intended battalion, and that it is not his Majesty's intention that he shall hereafter avail himself of a step so obtained to the prejudice of the numerous list of Majors who are at this time his seniors in the army.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,  
AMHERST.<sup>1</sup>

The second battalion thus raised under the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel George Mackenzie, the younger brother of Lord Macleod, embarked at Fort George, landed at Plymouth, and was sent thence to Gibraltar, where they landed on the 18th January 1780, and took part in the celebrated siege of that fortress, which lasted three years. In May 1783 the battalion returned to England, and marched soon after to Stirling, where it was reduced,—allowance being granted to officers regimentally senior in rank to join the first battalion in India.

Lord Macleod, now restored to the British service, was graciously received by his Majesty, King George the Third, by whom, in his Commissions after the first, he is courteously styled Lord Macleod. The King invested him with the order of Commandant of the Sword and North Star on 9th December 1778, in compliance with the request of his Swedish Majesty. Lord Macleod's battalion was immediately ordered for service in India. It was removed to Jersey, and thence to Portsmouth, and embarked there in January 1779. Lord Macleod received secret orders and instructions to take possession of the Island of Goree, on the coast of Africa, on his way to India, with the forces under his command, assisted by the fleet.<sup>2</sup> In May 1779, Lord Macleod and the Admiral wrote a summons to the Governor to surrender. The following is extracted from Lord Macleod's official despatch announcing the capture of Goree :—

“Atlas” East Indiaman, Gorée Bay, 10th May 1779.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to inform you that, in obedience to his Majesty's orders, I proceeded to the Island of Gorée, in concert with the squadron under command of Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, and came to an anchor in this bay the 8th instant. We found the island evacuated by the French, who had retired to Senegal sometime before our arrival.

<sup>1</sup> Copy Letter, at Tarbat House.

King George the Third, dated 9th December 1778, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Secret Orders and Instructions, signed by

The last officer abandon'd the fort upon our appearance off the island, leaving four small vessels in the road, laden with guns, stores, brandy, etc., bound for Senegal, and which the Admiral immediately took possession of.

I have garrison'd the island with the four companys of the 75th, or Prince of Wales's regiment, and the detachment of artillery, ordnance stores, etc., under command of Lieut.-Col. Rook of the 75th, whom I have appointed to act as governor till such time as his Majesty's pleasure shall be known.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Macleod, in his despatch, further informs Lord George Germain, Secretary of State, to whom the despatch is addressed, that he had ordered Lieut.-Colonel Rook to put the island in the best state of defence, and to cultivate friendship with the natives. He sends a return of military stores, guns, etc., found on the island, together with a view of it taken by Mr. Hodges, the same ingenious gentleman that accompanied Captain Cook in his discovery of Otaheite, now called Tahiti. He also ordered Captain Wall, of the African corps, with the part of that regiment under his command, to proceed to Gambia, under convoy of his Majesty's ships the "Vengeance" and "Actæon," together with the "Ætna" and "Vesuvius" bombs; but in case Senegal was held by a superior French force, he was to make the best of his way to the Leeward Islands, and put himself under the command of the commander-in-chief of the forces there.

The young and untried Highland regiment, raised by Lord Macleod, landed at Madras in January 1780. They suffered severely from the want of an hospital and the smallness of the barracks, which were meant for 400 or 500 men, while the first battalion of the 73d amounted to above 1000.

They were soon engaged in active service. The very year of their landing there occurred the invasion of the Carnatic by Hyder Ali, reputed to be the ablest general in India, at the head of 80,000 men. An army of 6000 men was gathered at Madras, the command of which was first offered to Lord Macleod, but was afterwards given to Sir Hector Munro. On taking the field the army marched to Conjeveram. A detachment was sent to meet Colonel Baillie, a gallant officer from Inverness-shire, who was advancing from the Northern Circars to join the army. The detachment reached Colonel Baillie's army, but next day, on the march towards Conjeveram, they were surrounded by the masses of Hyder's army at Perimbancum, and almost cut to pieces. The behaviour of the grenadiers extorted the admiration of the French officers in Hyder's army. After the blow-

<sup>1</sup> Duplicate of Despatch, at Tarbat House.

ing up of the ammunition the black troops were panic-struck, and fled; and the Europeans stood without a shot to fire, but with their bayonets kept their foes at bay, till artillery was brought to bear upon them. The two flank companies of the 73d were in this gallant band. The troops at Conjeveram had to beat a hasty retreat to Madras.

The following is Lord Macleod's official account of these events:—

Fort St. George, the 10 October 1780.

SIR,—I have the honour to inclose yow returns of the first battalion of his Majesty's 73d regiment for six months, taking up all occurrences since the last returns I sent you by the fleet, which sail'd from Madras the 7th of April of the present year.

You will see the heavy loss the regiment has sustain'd since last returns. Although the change of climate must have occasioned the death of some men, yet I attribute the great mortality from the regiment, which consisted of above a thousand Europeans when landed here, being crowded into barracks which were never meant to contain above 400 or 500 men at most.

Another very great cause, in my opinion, of the seekness, was the want of an hospital.

Tho' the battalion's destination was known to the Government here above a year before we landed, and Poonamallee was allotted from the beginning for our quarters, yet the battalion was actually their on the spot above six weeks before the fundations of an hospital were laid, which then was orderd on my repeated complaints and remonstrances.

The 5 officers, 7 sergeants, 4 drums, and 117 rank and file, whom you will find taken up as missing in the return since the 9th of September, are the two flank companies of my regiment. They were sent together with two European companies of grenadeers of the E. I. C.'s troops, 10 companies of the Sepoy grenadiers, and a company of marksmen, on the evening of the 5th of September, from our camp at Conjeveram to join Lieut.-Col. Baillie, who was advancing from the Northern Circars with 3 battallions and six companies of Sepoys, above 200 Europeans, and 10 field-pieces, to join us. Lt.-Col. Fletcher commanded the detachment from the camp at Conjeveram, and made good his junction the 9th of September, in the morning, with L.-C. Baillie.

The 10th of September, in the morning, Colonel Baillie's corps was attack'd by Hyder Ali with his whole army, and cut to pieces. We have certain intelligence that the misfortune was in great measure owing to some of our tumbrils blowing up, which distroy'd the little ammunition that was left, and occasion'd a great confusion, of which the enemy's cavalry took advantage, and broke into the line.

I have pretty certain, tho' not official, intelligence that Lieutenants A. G. Mackenzie and Gun were kill'd in the action of the 10th September, and that Captain Baird and Lieutenants Lindsay and Melville were wounded, and that Captain Baird is since dead of his wounds at Arnee.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Captain Baird, afterwards Sir David Baird, was taken prisoner, with other officers, to Seringapatam. Sir Walter Scott, in a letter to his

The European infantry stood firm as a wall while they had a shot left, and were almost all kill'd or wounded. I do not expect to see many of the latter belonging to my regiment, as I am told they die daily from want of proper care, and from harsh usage.

I hope, by the next ships, to get a good recruit, as otherwise I am afraid we will in a short time not be able to guard our coullours.

As I am ordered by the King's instructions to inform you, when opportunities offer, of what occurrences happen, I think it my duty, in obedience to his Majesty's commands, to acquaint you of the present situation of this country, so far as is within the reach of my own knowledge, and no further.

About the 20th of July, advices arriv'd here from different quarters that Hyder Ali had invaded the Carnatic with a powerful army, but no attention was paid by the people in power to this intelligence, which they treated with contempt.

The 23d of July I took the liberty to tell the Governor that perhaps Hyder's invasion might be true, and that I thought at all events they ought to take some measures to oppose him. His answer was, What can we do? We have no money. He then added, we mean, however, to assemble an army, and you are to command it. That evening put, however, the invasion beyond a doubt, even with the Government here; for certain intelligence was then receiv'd that Porto Novo, on the sea-coast, and Conjeveram, not 50 miles from this capital, had been plunder'd by the enemy.

The 27th of July I receiv'd orders from the Select Committee to march with the troops assembling at Poonamallee, consisting of the first battalion of my own regiment, a battalion of Sepoys, and the artillery with 2 field-pieces, amounting in all to about 1650 men, to Conjeveram and to Eioncollam, where I was to be join'd by a weak battalion of Europeans from Vellore, and was then to march to Wandewash, where Col. Brathwaite was to join me with another weak battalion of Europeans, and 3 battalions of Sepoys from Pondichery. This order occasion'd my writing a letter to the Select Committee on the 31st of July, of which I have the honour to inclose you a copy.

The 1st of August I receiv'd orders from the Select Committee to march early next morning towards Conjeveram, Eioncollam, etc., provided the provisions and stores shou'd arrive in camp that night; but they did not arrive that night, nor are they yet arriv'd. The same letter inform'd me that the Select Committee had appointed Sir Hector Munro to command the army, and that Sir Hector wou'd join me next day, or the day following, on the march.

By order of the Governor and Select Committee, I march'd, the 17th of August, in the evening, from Poonamallee to St. Thomas's Mount, where I arriv'd and encamp'd the troops

son, then serving under Sir David Baird in Ireland, dated May 1821, says, "I remember a story, that when report came to Europe that Tippoo's prisoners (of whom Baird was one) were chained together two and two, his mother said, 'God pity the poor lad that's chained to *our Davie*.'" After Lord Mac-

leod's return from India, he made a special application by letter, dated 21st January 1784, to Lord Sidney, as Secretary of State, on behalf of Captain David Baird, then senior Captain in the 73d regiment, in the hope that justice might be done to that deserving officer.—[Copy letter at Tarbat House.]

the 18th, in the morning. The 24th, in the morning, I was join'd by Col. Brathwaite, with his corps from Pondichery. The 25th, in the evening, Sir Hector Munro arriv'd in camp and took the command of the army. Next morning we march'd towards Conjeveram, where we arriv'd the 29th August, and continu'd in that neighbourhood till the 11th of September, in the morning, waiting for Lieut.-Col. Baillie.

The events of the 8th, 9th, and 10th have been already mention'd in part; I have only to add, that on the 9th the General gave orders for all the tents to be struck at 8 o'clock that evening, and to be sent off, together with the baggage, to Conjeveram Pagoda, which was accordingly done, the General declaring it, at the same time, to be his resolution to march at 10 o'clock that evening to join Col. Baillie. The reasons or intelligence which afterwards induc'd the General to alter this resolution were, I make no doubt, very solid, but are unknown to me. Between 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning of the 10th, a cannonade was hear'd from Col. Baillie's quarter, which lasted near an hour, and then all was quiet on that side, but a great noise was hear'd all night from Hyder Ali's camp. The 10th, at 7 in the morning, we march'd by our right to join Col. Baillie. After marching 10 or 11 miles, the line fac'd to the right about, and return'd to Conjeveram. The General had then probably receiv'd advice of Col. Baillie's defeat. In the evening the army arrived at Conjeveram, where they rested on their arms a few hours; and the 11th, at 2 o'clock in the morning, begun their retreat to Chingleput, where we arriv'd the 12th, in the morning. The troops suffer'd very much on this march from the length of it, the excessive heat of the weather, and the want of victuals for 2 days. We lost likewise a great deal of our baggage, and suffer'd much from desertion of Sepoys, besides the loss of many, both Europeans and Sepoys, who were cut down by the enemy's horse. The 13th, in the evening, we march'd from Chingleput, and arriv'd at the Mount next day. The 15th, the remains of our army march'd to Marmelon, a few miles nearer to this place, where they still continue encamp'd. Hyder Ali, who had rais'd the siege of Arcott on our approach to Conjeveram, has renew'd it since the 16th of last month, and by all accounts his progress has hitherto been very slow.

I have never been able to get an exact account of Hyder Ali's force. In a letter he wrote to me the 15th of last month, in answer to one I had wrote to him, desiring him to take care of the officers and soldiers of the King's troops who were prisoners with him, and promising to refund what money he shou'd advance them, etc., he tells me that he had 100,000 horse. That is certainly a gasconade; the best accounts seem to agree that his whole force, at the time of the invasion, amounted to 85,000 men of every kind.

I have the honour to be, etc.

To the Right Honorable Charles Jenkinson, Esq., Secretary at War, etc.<sup>1</sup>

Private letters from officers in the 73d regiment confirm the correctness of Lord Macleod's judgment in declining to march with so small and ill equipped a force against Hyder Ali; and that the letter which Lord Macleod wrote on the

<sup>1</sup> Holograph draft letter at Tarbat House.



occasion would do honour to the King of Prussia. These private letters also condemn the generalship of Sir Hector Munro, and allege that it was only Lord Macleod's conduct that saved the remains of the army.

Shortly after, Lieutenant-General Sir Eyre Coote, Commander-in-chief arrived from Bengal with a reinforcement, and took command of the Madras army.

For his services in the campaign, Lord Macleod was made Major-General in the army, in the East Indies only.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Jenkinson, afterwards Earl of Liverpool, Secretary at War, wrote to Lord Macleod with his own hand, specially congratulating him on that mark of His Majesty's favour. In a subsequent letter from Mr. Jenkinson, he says,—“It does great credit to the corps to find that they stood firm until they had not a shot left, and were almost all killed or wounded.” He informs Lord Macleod that 200 recruits were to be sent for his battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Sir Eyre Coote appointed Lord Macleod President of a General Court-Martial, to be held at Fort St. George on 12th December 1780, for the trial of Brigadier-General Stewart.<sup>3</sup>

In a letter to the Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor-General of India, dated Fort St. George, August [1781], Lord Macleod writes,—“I beg leave to enclose for your perusal a copy of the late correspondence between Sir Eyre Coote and myself on a point of military etiquette, as it will explain my reasons for retiring from the army.” The correspondence with Sir Eyre Coote has not been seen; and the point of difference between him and Lord Macleod is not known. Lord Macleod resolved on returning to Britain. Sir Eyre Coote granted his Lordship leave to do so, by a letter, dated Headquarters, Choultry Plain, 16th August 1781. Sir Eyre Coote writes,—“I cannot help expressing my concern that your Lordship should have experienced a necessity for coming to the resolution of going home upon the principle your Lordship has mentioned.”

Lord Macleod was promoted to the rank of Major-General in the British army in 1782. The letter of Sir George Yonge, informing him of his promotion, dated War Office, 26th November 1782, is addressed to Lord Macleod, East Indies.<sup>4</sup> His Lordship returned to England, but always retained his interest in his brave Macleod Highlanders.

<sup>1</sup> Commission, dated St. James, 1st June 1781, at Tarbat House.

<sup>2</sup> Triplicate of letter from War Office, 29th May 1781, at Tarbat House.

<sup>3</sup> Appointment at Tarbat House.

<sup>4</sup> Letter at Tarbat House.

The regiment served long in India after Lord Macleod's return, and took part in many battles against Hyder Ali's forces. The number of the regiment was changed in 1786 to the 71st. The Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel George Mackenzie, brother of Lord Macleod, joined it in the year 1785, and he died at Madras in 1787, much lamented both by the officers and men. He was interred in the burying-ground of Fort St. George, at Madras, where the officers of the regiment erected a monument, with the following inscription:—"Sacred to the remains of the Honourable George Mackenzie, second son to the late Earl of Cromarty, Lieutenant-Colonel of his Majesty's 71st Regiment, Colonel of his Majesty's army, Commander of the Forces on the Wallajabad Station, who departed this life the 4th of June 1787, aged 46 years. In tribute to his much esteemed memory and great worth the officers of the 71st Regiment (Lamenting their gallant Commander), and his nephew and name son, George Mackenzie of the 75th Regiment, who has fought and bled by his side, have caused this monument to be erected."<sup>1</sup>

Lord Macleod was elected member for the shire of Ross to the new Parliament that was summoned to meet at Westminster on 31st October 1780. His election electrified Ross with joy. A contemporary paper reports that "A general satisfaction appeared in every countenance on this occasion. The town of Tain was illuminated, the bells set aringing in the evening, and a large bonfire at the cross. The country for many miles round was all in a blaze. Yesterday there was a ball given to the ladies and gentlemen of the eastern district of the county, who made a very fine appearance. The fervent prayer of the whole country is, the safe return of Lord Macleod to his native land, and the prosperity of his family. The greatest harmony, festivity, and unanimity subsisted among the company during both days. And, on Friday next, there is to be another ball given at Dingwall to the ladies and gentlemen of the western district of the county. In short, it is believed no election can give more universal satisfaction than that of Lord Macleod has done to this and the neighbouring counties."<sup>2</sup>

On the 18th of August 1784, after Lord Macleod's return from India, an Act of Parliament was passed whereby the Cromartie forfeited estates were restored to his Lordship on payment of £19,000 of debt affecting them. In support of the

<sup>1</sup> Cromartie Papers, vol. xxi. No. 180.

ber 6, Lord Macleod and John Mackenzie of

<sup>2</sup> "The Edinburgh Evening Courant," Saturday, October 21, 1780. Under date Septem-

Applecross are given as candidates for Ross. The latter must have withdrawn.



TARBAT HOUSE — ROSS SHIRE.



bill for the restoration of the forfeited estates, Lord Balcarres made a speech in the House of Lords, from which the following eloquent passage is taken :—

“ Banished their country, their properties confiscated, and impoverished in everything but their national spirit, they offered their services to foreign princes, in whose armies they were promoted to important commands and trusts, which they discharged with fidelity ; but the moment they saw a prospect of return to their friends and restoration to the bosom of their country, there was not a man of them that hesitated ; they resigned those high stations, and from being general officers and colonels, accepted companies, and some even subaltern commissions in our service. They were indeed returned to their friends, and received with open arms, nor, in the course of those twelve years, was there a man who had abandoned his chief because he was poor, or had deserted him because the heavy hand of adversity hung over his head. A few more years promoted them to commands in the British service ; and, at the beginning of the late war, we again see armies rushing from the Highlands, but not with the same ideas that formerly animated them. They had already fully established their attachment to their sovereign, and a due regard to the laws of their country. They had repeatedly received the thanks of their King, and of the two Houses of Parliament, but they now found themselves impelled by a further motive—they saw themselves commanded by their former chieftains—they hoped that, by the effusion of their blood, by the extraordinary ardour and zeal they would show in the service, they should one day see their leaders legally re-established in their paternal estates, and be enabled to receive from them those kindnesses and attentions which they had so generously bestowed upon them in their adversity. It was this hope and these ideas only that put a stop to those emigrations which had almost depopulated the northern parts of the kingdom.”

Sir John Gordon left his estate of Invergordon to his nephew, Lord Macleod. There is a family tradition that he meant at one time to leave it to his other nephew, Henry Dundas, but was generously overruled by the latter, from friendship for his cousin, Lord Macleod, who was the son of the eldest sister of Sir John, while Mr. Dundas was son of a younger sister. Lord Macleod sold Invergordon to Mr. Macleod of Cadboll, whose family had previously acquired the Baronies of Tarbat and Tarrell.

On the restoration of the estates, Lord Macleod began to renovate the family estates of Tarbat, which during the forfeiture had been much dilapidated. He

extended and enclosed the policy, planted many thousands of forest and fir trees, and built a new mansion-house upon a modern plan. The present comfortable mansion of Tarbat House may be said to owe its existence to his Lordship. It was founded by him, but was not quite finished at the time of his death. His cousin and successor, Kenneth Mackenzie, carried out the building and other plans of Lord Macleod where these were not completed by himself.

When he was fifty-nine years of age, Lord Macleod married, in 1786, Marjory Forbes, eldest daughter of James Lord Forbes. By the contract of marriage, in which he is styled John Mackenzie, commonly called Lord Macleod, he became bound to infest his spouse in life, in the event of her surviving him, in the lands and barony of Coigeach, lands of Culteleod, and others. The contract is dated 3d June 1786. Lady Macleod survived her husband, and, five years after his death, on 11th March 1794, became the second wife of John fourth Duke of Athole. She had no issue by Lord Macleod, and by the Duke she had one son and one daughter. Her Grace survived the Duke, and died on 3d October 1842.

Lord Macleod died in Edinburgh on Thursday night the 2d of April 1789, and was buried in the Canongate Churchyard, at the head or entry on the east side, where a monument was erected to him and his mother, with an inscription, which has been already given.

Portraits of Lord and Lady Macleod are at Tarbat House. The features of his Lordship, as there portrayed, show manliness and sagacity, and those of Lady Macleod are most pleasant to look upon.

*Macleod, Cromertie*

*M. Macleod*

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MARJORY FORBES - LADY MACLEOD.





JOHN LORD MACLEOD,  
COUNT CROMARTIE IN SWEDEN.

BORN 1727 — DIED 1789.



THE SUCCESSORS IN THE CROMARTIE-MACKENZIE ESTATES  
SUBSEQUENT TO LORD MACLEOD.

KENNETH MACKENZIE OF CROMARTIE. 1789-1796.

IN the year after the Crown grant of the Cromartie-Mackenzie Estates to Lord Macleod, his Lordship, on 3d May 1786, made an entail for the better preservation of his lands and estates, and to regulate the succession after his death. That entail is recorded in the Register of Entails on 27th June, and in the Books of Council and Session on 21st July in the same year. By the destination of the entail, the heirs named after his Lordship, and his own heirs-male and female, are his brother-german, Colonel George Mackenzie; then Kenneth Mackenzie, his cousin, only son of Roderick Mackenzie, brother of George late Earl of Cromartie, and the heirs-male of their bodies; whom failing, the heirs-female of his brother George; whom failing, to Lady Isabella Mackenzie, his eldest sister, relict of George Lord Elibank, and her heirs male and female; whom failing, to Lady Mary Mackenzie his second sister, relict of Middleton, Esquire; whom failing, to Jabez Mackenzie or Clark, a captain in the service of the East India Company, only son of the Lady Mary Mackenzie, by Clark, Esquire, her first husband, and his heirs-male and female; whom failing, to Thomas Drayton, only son of Lady Mary, by Drayton, Esquire, her second husband, and his heirs-male and female; whom failing, to the other heirs-male or female of the body of the said Lady Mary Mackenzie; whom failing, successively, to Lady Caroline Mackenzie, wife of Walter Hunter, Esquire of Polmood, his third sister, Lady Jane Mackenzie, his fourth sister; whom failing, to James and Isabella and Euphemia Glassford, children of Lady Margaret Mackenzie, also sister of Lord Macleod, and John Glassford of Dougaldston, Esquire, she being now deceased; whom failing, to Lady Augusta Mackenzie, his youngest sister, wife of Sir William Murray of Ochertyre, Baronet, and the heirs-male or female of the heirs of entail before mentioned; whom failing, to the heirs-female of the said Kenneth Mackenzie, his cousin; whom failing, to his own nearest heirs or assignees whomsoever, the eldest heir-female and her descendants always excluding

heirs-portioners, and succeeding without division, etc. Lord Macleod having no children, the succession, on his death in 1789, in terms of his entail, opened to his cousin, Kenneth Mackenzie, who was the only son of his uncle, Captain the Honourable Roderick Mackenzie, brother-german of the third Earl of Cromartie. Kenneth Mackenzie adopted the territorial designation of Cromartie. He possessed the Cromartie Estates for seven years, during which he completed the building of the new mansion-house, which was commenced by Lord Macleod, and made several improvements near it, to fulfil the intention, as he said, of his late worthy cousin.

Kenneth Mackenzie married, on 30th April 1792, Jane, youngest daughter of Charles Petley, Esquire of Riverhead, in Kent, without male issue. She survived him and married, secondly, Donald Macleod of Geanies, in the county of Ross. Kenneth Mackenzie of Cromartie died in 1796, and in him ended the last legitimate male descendant of his great-grandfather, George first Earl of Cromartie. He was succeeded in the estates by his cousin,

LADY ISABELLA MACKENZIE, DOWAGER LADY ELIBANK. 1796-1801.

Lady Isabella Mackenzie, dowager Lady Elibank, was the eldest sister of Lord Macleod. She was born on the 30th of March 1725; married at Ballincrieff, in January 1760, George sixth Lord Elibank, to whom she had two daughters, Maria and Isabella. Lady Elibank succeeded to the Cromartie-Mackenzie Estates in 1796, and possessed them for five years till her death, which occurred at Tarbat House, on the 28th December 1801, aged 77. A brief notice of the devoted attachment of this lady to her parents and her brothers and sisters in their distress, after the forfeiture in 1746, has been given in the memoir of her father, George third Earl of Cromartie. She was succeeded by her elder daughter,

THE HONOURABLE MARIA MURRAY HAY-MACKENZIE. 1801-1858.

EDWARD HAY, ESQUIRE OF NEWHALL.

She married, on 3d May 1790, Edward Hay, Esquire of Newhall, brother of George seventh, and uncle of the present Marquis of Tweeddale; and, in terms of Lord Macleod's entail, Mr. Hay assumed the additional surname of Mac-





EDWARD HAY MACKENZIE  
OF CROMARTIE.



MARIA MACKENZIE , WIFE OF EDWARD HAY MACKENZIE .









JOHN HAY MACKENZIE OF CROMARTIE.



*Hetherland  
romantic*



kenzie, and was known and styled Edward Hay-Mackenzie, Esquire of Cromartie. Like a true Tweeddale, Mr. Hay-Mackenzie was a large, strong-made man, while his wife was a lady of small stature. Mrs. Hay-Mackenzie died at No. 10 Royal Circus, Edinburgh, on 8th October 1858. Mr. Hay-Mackenzie predeceased her on 5th December 1814. Their children were one son and three daughters: (1.) John Hay-Mackenzie; (2.) Dorothea, married, 2d July 1813, Sir David Hunter Blair, and died 22d May 1820, leaving issue; (3.) Isabella, married, 1st November 1817, John Buckle, Esquire, and had issue; and (4.) Georgina. The latter married James Earl of Glasgow, without issue. On the death of the Hon. Mrs. Hay-Mackenzie, she was succeeded in Cromartie by her only son,

JOHN HAY-MACKENZIE, ESQ. OF CROMARTIE AND NEWHALL.

His mother conveyed the fee of the Cromartie estates to him in 1822 and 1828. He married, 23d April 1828, Anne, third daughter of Sir James Gibson-Craig of Riccarton, Baronet. Mr. Hay-Mackenzie died at Cliefden on 9th July 1849. He was survived by his wife, who died at Castle Leod on 8th September 1869. The remains of Lady Elibank, and her daughter, and also of her grandson and his relict, were all placed in the Cromartie aisle, in the parish church of Kilmuir Easter, in which parish the family mansion of Tarbat House is situated. The remains of Edward Hay-Mackenzie were interred in the Tweeddale family vault, near Yester House. Mr. Hay-Mackenzie was succeeded by his only child,

ANNE HAY-MACKENZIE, HEIRESS OF CROMARTIE,

NOW COUNTESS OF CROMARTIE, DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND, ETC.

She married, on 27th June 1849, George Granville William, Marquis of Stafford, now third Duke of Sutherland, K. G., and PREMIER PEER OF SCOTLAND. Her Grace was created Countess of Cromartie, Viscountess Tarbat of Tarbat, and Baroness Macleod of Castleleod, and Baroness Castlehaven of Castlehaven, by patent dated 21st October 1861. Her Grace's second surviving son, Lord Francis Sutherland Leveson-Gower, VISCOUNT TARBAT, is the heir-apparent to the Earldom of Cromartie and the Cromartie-Mackenzie Estates, in terms of a new entail of them made by Her Grace on 16th October 1861, under the authority of a special Act of Parliament.

## ARMORIAL BEARINGS.



Seal of Sir George Mackenzie, 1674.

IN the Introduction it has been shown from Lord Cromartie's History of the Mackenzie Family how the cognisance of the Stag's Head was originally granted to them ; and two armorial seals are there given showing the Stag's Head and the star between the antlers. No other armorial bearings have ever been traced as having been borne by the Mackenzies, and their arms are quite different from those of the Geraldines and the Earls of Ross, from both of whom descent is claimed for them. Sir Rorie Mackenzie of Coigeach, as the founder of the Tarbat or Cromartie family, bore the same arms as his Chiefs of Kintail, as appears from his seal, which is printed in his Memoir, page xxvii. After his marriage with Margaret Macleod, heiress of Lewis, he is said to have quartered her arms with his own, and the armorial stones above the principal door of Castle Leod, which was built by Sir Rorie, appear to have been those of himself and of his wife. These stones are now so much defaced that it is impossible to read the charges which had been originally carved upon them.

Sir John Mackenzie, as the son and successor of Sir Rorie Mackenzie and Margaret Macleod, inherited their armorial bearings. Sir John having married

Margaret Erskine, who was, like his mother, an heiress, he had no doubt adopted the arms of the Erskines of Innerteil. But no armorial seals of Sir John have been found.

His son and successor, Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, along with his own paternal coat, also inherited the armorial bearings of his mother and grandmother. Sir George obtained from Sir Charles Erskine of Cambu, Knight-Baronet, Lyon King-of-Arms, a patent of arms, dated 28th October 1674, which is still preserved at Tarbat. The arms are thus blazoned :—

Parted per pale or and azure, in the dexter a mountain of the second, inflamed, as being heir by progress to Macleod of Lewis. In the sinister a deer's head cabossed of the first, as lineally descended of a brother of the Earl of Seaforth by the name of Mackenzie ; and over all, dividing the saids two coats, a pale sable charged with an imperial crown proper, as being a cadet of the Earl of Kellie by his mother, who was heretrix to Sir George Erskine, brother to the said Earl, with the badge of Nova Scotia, as being Baronet. On an helmet befitting his degree, mantled, gules, doubled argent, and torse of his collours, is sett for his crest, a mountain inflamed as the former : Supported on the dexter by a naked savage bearing on his shoulder a baton proper, and the sinister by a greyhound argent collared gules. The motto in an escroll above—*Luceo non Uro*.

In the same year in which that patent was granted, Sir George Mackenzie had a large armorial seal engraved, of which an impression is given on the preceding page, from a woodcut now made.

In his history of the Mackenzies, Lord Cromartie states the origin of the burning mountain to have been the two fire beacons which the former owners of the Lewis were obliged to keep during a portion of the year, one in Lewis, and the other in Skye, for directing the Norwegian ships in their navigations on those coasts. Lord Cromartie also states that the ancient Kings of Man carried for armorial bearings “Sol, three men's legs Luna chained Saturn.” [History, vol. ii. pp. 510-511.]

There is no matriculation of arms of Sir George Mackenzie after his creation as Viscount of Tarbat and Earl of Cromartie. But there is a large armorial seal which he had made after his creation as Viscount Tarbat, and in it the arms are thus arranged :—

Quarterly, first, or, a rock in flames proper, for Macleod of Lewis ; second, azure, a buck's head, cabossed, or, for Mackenzie ; third, argent, three pallets sable, the centre one charged with an imperial crown proper, with a border of fleur-de-lis for Erskine of Innerteil ; fourth, gules, three legs of a man armed proper, conjoined in the centre at the upper part of the thighs, flexed in triangle, garnished and spurred. Crest, the sun in his splendour ; supporters, two savages wreathed about the middle with laurel, holding batons over their shoulders proper. Motto, *Luceo non Uro*. An engraving of that seal is printed at the end of this Note.

After the creation of Viscount Tarbat as Earl of Cromartie he appears to have used the same armorial bearings as Earl, and they were continued by the Second and Third Earls of Cromartie until the forfeiture of the latter.

The arms were restored to his granddaughter and successor, the Honourable Mrs. Maria Murray Hay-Mackenzie of Cromartie, by a patent from the Lyon King-of-Arms, dated 30th August 1849, in which the arms are thus blazoned :—

Quarterly, first, or, a mountain azure in flames proper, for Macleod of Lewis ; second, azure, a buck's head cabossed, or, for Mackenzie ; third, gules, three legs of a man armed proper, conjoined in the centre at the upper part of the thighs, flexed in triangle, garnished and spurred, or, for the Isle of Man, formerly belonging to the Macleods ; fourth, argent, on a pale sable an imperial crown proper, within a double tressure flowered and counterflowered with fleurs-de-lis gules, for Erskine of Innerteil. These arms were to be borne by the patentee in a lozenge, and in the event of the heirs-male succeeding, there is to be placed above the shield a helmet befitting their degree, with a mantling gules doubled argent, and upon a wreath of their liveries is to be set for crest, the sun in his splendour, and in an escroll over the same, this motto,—*Luceo non Uro*.

When Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland was created Countess of Cromartie in 1861, a patent of arms was granted by Sir Charles George Young, Knight, Garter, principal King-of-Arms, on 25th March 1862, in which her armorial bearings are thus blazoned :—

Supporters on the dexter side, a wild man wreathed about the loins with oak, holding a club resting on the exterior shoulder proper, and on the sinister side a greyhound argent collared gules, and the arms are: Quarterly, first, or, a mountain in flames ; second, azure, a buck's head cabossed ; third, gules, three legs of a man armed proper, conjoined in the centre at the upper part of the thighs, flexed and triangle, garnished and spurred, or, for the Isle of Man, formerly belonging to the Macleods ; fourth, argent, on a pale sable, having an imperial crown in the centre within a double tressure, flowered and counterflowered with fleur-de-lis, gules, for Erskine of Innerteil.



Seal of Viscount Tarbat.



THE  
CROMARTIE CORRESPONDENCE.

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1. INSTRUCTIONS by JOHN FIRST EARL OF MIDDLETON, Commissioner of King Charles the Second in Scotland, to LORD TARBAT, on his special mission to the King [5th June 1662].<sup>1</sup>

INSTRUCTIONES FOR MY LORD TARBATT.

1. Yee shall give his Majesty ane accountt of the proceedings of this parliament, particularly of the Act of restitution of bishops ; how frequent and cheerfull the parliament was at the doeing of it, and who were the few unclear and dissenting persones.

2. Yee shall acquaint his Majesty how vnanimous the parliament were in ther thanks for the restauration of the House of Huntly ; and how earnestly (and upon what good grounds) in the recomendation of these people who were oppressed be the late Marquiss of Argyle, and of others his creditors : and yee shall use all diligence and instance with his Majesty to hearken to the just desyre of his great Councell therin.

3. Yee shall acquaint his Majesty how much disaffected persones are encouraged, and ther party increased thorow the country, by the favours

<sup>1</sup> The great object of Middleton in these instructions was to obtain the consent of the King to the celebrated clause of exclusion in the Act of Indemnity. But he was unsuccessful, and the proposal ultimately led to the

exclusion of Middleton himself, and also of Lord Tarbat, for several years, from all public employment. The Instructions are apparently in the handwriting of Lord Tarbat. They are said to have been dictated by Primrose.

which his Majesty bestowes on people of these principles; and how prejudiciall it is, by discouraging the honest and loyall subjects: especially how much all honest men are unsatisfied, and rogues insolently lifted up, be the remission past to the Brodies. Yee shall represent the ill deeds of these persones, ther undeservings of favour, and inconsiderablnes as to good or ill service; and what a prejudice the noise of so ample a remission to such persones, and dureing the sitting of the parliament, hath occasioned to the King's affaires. Yee shall therefore earnestly desyre, that by a letter, or instruction to his Commissioner, it may be recalled, and so to satisfy the Parliament by leaveing them to their censure, as others are.

4. Yee shall represent to his Majesty, that ther be some persones who were most active in the rebelliones against his father and himself, doe still continue in ther bad principles; and are hopefull, the Act of Indemnity being once past, to screw themselves into publick trust, and to overturne what was done these two last yeares in this kingdome, and to ruine those who caried on the samme. It is therefore much desyred by the parliament (and it is the sense of honest men that nothing can be of more use nor security to his Majesties interest then), that such should be excepted from publick trust. Yee shall therefore urge that this exception in the Act of Indemnity be allowed by his Majesty; and that he warrand his commissioner and parliament, either by a letter, or by ane instruction under his royall hand, to except from publick trust such as they know to have been most active and malitious in the late rebelliones, and are yett discerned by them to continue on these bad principles, not exceeding the number of fourteen persones.

5. Yee shall shew how much his Majestie's service suffers by the absence of some of our prime country men at Court, it being generally beleaved that they absent themselves on purpose, so[as] not to have accession to what is passing in this parliament, and therby raise new hopes in fanatickes; and were it

not for this, and that it is conceaved some about the King are dissatisfied with publick proceedings, and who procure favours to disaffected persones, and doe discountenance honest men, no discontent would appeare heer.

6. Yee shall represent the present state and condition of the kingdome to his Majesty; and what hazard may arise to prince and people by the misrepresentation of persones and effaires at such a distance, if all conveyance and councill be in the hand of on servant; and therfor shew his Majesty how necessar it is that Scots effairs may be putt in such a channell at Court as may be for the good of his service, and the security of those who cary it on. Press therfor, that his Majesty may call some of his Scots councill to a constant attendance with his Majesty, by whose advise he may ordor and dispose of their effaires in evry thing.

7. Yee shall communicat these Instructiones to his Highnes Royall the Duik of York, and to the Chancellor of England, and Lord Leivtenant of Irland; and yee shall crave their advice and assistance in all your prosecutiones of these effaires.



2. JOHN FIRST EARL OF MIDDLETON to JAMES FIRST EARL OF NEWBURGH, and SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, LORD TARBAT, or either of them.

Edinburgh, June 22, 1662.<sup>1</sup>

MY LORD,—I did receive on from yow befor yovr going to Hampton Court, the receipt of which by my last I did acknowledge. Since that time

<sup>1</sup> The original date of this letter, still distinctly visible, was 1662; the last figure has been altered, however, probably not long after the letter was written, so as to make the date read as 1663. The former is obviously the correct one; but it is difficult to understand

I have had nothing, thogh I was fvll of expectatione to have had, att least, some accompt of yovr receptione att Court by the last post; bvt I presvme yovr stay att Hampton Court heas been longer then yow expected, which heas occasioned yovr missing of the post. I did by my last informe yow how little Lorne deserved his Majestie's favovr. I did leckwayes desire yow to vse yovr best endeavors with the King, that nothing might be done for him, till I might have time to acqvant his Majestie of his merit. I doe agean renewe my desire, for I cannot send yow a fvll informatione till the parliament meet, which will be Twesday next, the 24 instant. The thing meanly concerneth the parliament, so the parliament will give his Majestie ther hvmblesense of it. I shall only say, that ther is so mvch of weight in the mater as will deserve his Majestie's consideratione befor he determine anie thing in Lorns bvsiness. Nowe that yow may sie with what indvstrie Lorne persueth his bvsiness, and how hopefvll he is to accomplish his desires, I have sent yow the two inclosed, written with his owne hand thogh not signed. I dovbtt bvt his hand is weill known to yow, bvt wee can prove the writ to be his by other papers written and signed with his hand. Yow will perceave by the inclosed his descretion, and how vnworthie he is of anie honest man's favovr. I will leave the macking vse of the inclosed letters to my Lord Newbrogh's discretione and yovrs. Shvre I am some worthie person is mvch abvsed by him, as will verie cleerly appear to yow by his letters. Wedensday morning nixt I shall send yow by another express the informatione concerning him. My Lord, all I can say is, that all indvstrie is vsed for keeping and macking wp a wicked damned peartie, which will prove significant or insignificant, as his Majestie

why an alteration so clearly wrong should be made upon the date of a letter referring to events so well and widely known. The letter

of Middleton, immediately following, written after Lorne's conviction, will explain the half obscure references contained in this.

is pleased to bestowe or withhold his favovrs. My lord, my opinion is that no vse be made of the inclosed papers bvt by my Lord Chancellors advyse. Yow may returne the bearer immediatly, being yow will have another, Saturday nixt the 28 instant. This is all but that I am,

My Lord,

Your most affectionat servant,

MIDDLETON.

This most serve Newbrogh and yow.

For the Earle of Newbrogh and my Lord Tarbitt, or ether of them.

3. JOHN FIRST EARL OF MIDDLETON TO SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, LORD TARBAT,  
a Lord of Session.

Edinburgh, June 25, 1662, clock 2 afternoone.

MY LORD,—I have nowe sent yow my Lord Lorn's letter drect to my Lord Duffvs.<sup>1</sup> The parliament haveing nowe seen it, and vpon serious consideratione of the things therin contained, have (with my allowance and permission), offered ther humble thoghts of it to his Majestie. The principall letter is in my Lord Advocat's keeping, and this dvble is atested by him. Ther is no doubt but the originall is Lorn's, and all written with his owne hand. It is no wonder that strange reports are made concerning this king-

<sup>1</sup> The letter was to the effect that Lord Lorne had convinced Lord Clarendon of the injustice done to Lord Lorne's father by his execution in 1661, for complicity in the murder of King Charles the First, and subsequently to Lord Lorne himself. The letter was intercepted and communicated to the Earl of Middleton, who brought it before the

Parliament on the 24th June 1662, as a libel on their proceedings. Lord Lorne was afterwards tried for leasing-making, and sentenced to be beheaded, but was pardoned when Middleton lost his power in 1663. Lord Clarendon declared the sentence to be so unjust that he would get out of the King's dominions as fast as the gout would let him.

dome, as if it ware rent with devisions and discontents, when a person in the conditione he is in dare writt so to a privie cunseller. Least yow be not provided with acts of parliament, I have sent yow some, that Lorns gvilt may the better appear. I doubt not but it will be cleer anevgh to his Majestie, that he heas trangressed against those. I could have sent yow more acts of this natvre, for ther is not anie crime that heas so manie standing lawes against it as this ; and that vpon most excellent and solid grovnds : for if ther be not a good vnderstanding betwixt his Majestie and his people, it wold be a sad misfortune ; so that all fomenters of jealousies, misinformers, and lyers, are strongly provyded against by ovr lawes. That letter of the parliaments concerning the favovrs done by his Majestie to the familie of Huntly, and ther hvmbble desire relating to the creditors of the late Marqvis of Argyll, is that which Lorn mainly aims att, when he says the King is not weill satisfied. That which he says of me (thogh I be not named), is, that I vse the King's name on trvst to mack men beleeve it wold be acceptable to the King to be his ennemie ; and then his inference is, that the parliament most derect the King. He is vncivill, giveing the lye to that which was a cleer trvth, as yow know ; for no man spoek on word against that ; only my Lord Lothian desired that Lorn might be recommended to the King leckwayes, which was all. But the blowing over of this storm, as he calls it, can import no less then a dissolveing of this parliament, and that vpon the worst of accompts, for tricks : which yow know is the most significant way in ovr langage to express the height of rogrie and willanie. Reallie I most say Lorne is a stout man, and bold things may be expected from him, if he come to that conditione which he seems to be verie confident of. His letter is verie plain, and needs no commentarie. It was weill vnderstood by the parliament, and indeed was loocked vpon with astonishment, for svch a paper in a time of pace heas not been seen in this kingdome : and his

Majesties jvstice to his parliament is humbly expected, as it is humbly exprest in ther letter to his most sacred Majestie. The parliament in ther letter leaveth much to yovr informatione, because yow can say more then a letter of this natvre to the King. Be pleased to receive a dvble of the parliaments letter to the King, that yow may the better vnderstand ther sense. Be pleased to delyver my Lord Chancellors letter ovt of yovr owne hand, that yow may give him a full accompt of bvsines; for I have remitted all to yow. Yow most wait vpon the Dvck of Yorck, and present him with this letter, and give him a full accompt; for his letter is generall. This is all, bvt that I am, my Lord, your most affectionat hvnble servant,

MIDDLETON.

For Sir Geo. M'Kenzie.

4. SIR JOHN FLETCHER of New Cranstoun, Knight, Lord Advocate, to  
SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, LORD TARBAT.

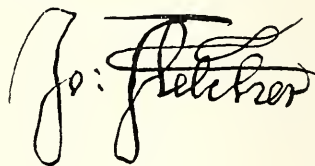
Holyrudhous, 25 June 1662.

MY LORD,—That you the more clearlie may perceave what laws and acts of parliament the wreatter of that letter (whereof you haif ane trew copie in so farr as relates to the King's Majestie and parliament) hes contraveined, I haif sent you the dowbles of three mainlie relaiting to the busines; butt thair be verie manie more: for in none of our King's tymes will you find that the parliaments haif bein wanting to guaird aganst the making or fomenting anie misvnderstanding betuixt the King and his subjects, or such as should misconstruct his Majestie's proceedings or deprave his lawes. And besyd that act sent in King James' tym, thair be three more, as parl. 8, cap. 134, parl. 14, cap. 205, parl. 8, cap. 2, which you may, if you can find acts thair (as

I beleive you may with Mr. Jhon Lokhart), pervse at your leisour, from which zow will find ground eneuch to heighten the guilt to its proper pitch ; which is looked vpon here as verie transcendant from such ane person at such ane tym, when he cannot expect subsistance butt from his Majestie's favour, and when he cannot butt acknowledge that never parliament in this kingdom hath ever givin such testimonies of loyaltie and zeale for anie king as this hes for his Majestie's service in all things relaiting to his autoritie, prerogative, and other interests, all which I dowt does not please persones of his principles. It was, you know, the engyn of the first troublers of our peace to reproche the King's evell counsellors and officers of State, butt to deprave and defame a quhole (and such a) parliament is boldnesse above expression, and vnheard of in this kindome. . . .

My Lord, I haif no more to say, butt wishes you all happinesse in your employments, and ane speedie succesfull return, with fulness of health, to your freinds, with all which none shal be more satisfied then, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most reall freind and servant, without chang,



For my Lord Tarbet—theas.

5. JOHN FIRST EARL OF MIDDLETON to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, LORD TARBAT.

Edinburgh, September 25, 1662.

MY LORD,—How I shall be ever able to retvrne your great kyndness I know not, but I will say no man shall be jvster in a fvll acknowledgmet.



My Lord Chancellor and ovr other freends are as yow left them, verie franck and honest, and will be most readie to doe evrie thing that becommeth good and dewtiefvll svbjcts, not only in serveing the King in ther owne stations, bvt in telling ther jvdgments frielie concerning the misdemeanors of others. I did expect little better receptione at first then yow writt of, bvt I am hopfvll things will be better vnderstood yet. It is thoght absolvtlie necessar that yow stay yet till more of the bvsiness be knowen, for I perceave when none of ws are ther wee are still att a losse. A short time will doe it, therfor pardon me in keeping yow from a contentment (I know) yow long mvch for. I have been kept in this towne abovt the settleing of the magistrats for the ensveing year, and to morrow morning I goe west. I long to hear from yow, and am, my Lord, yovr most affectionat hvnble servant,

MIDDLETON.

For my Lord Tarbitt.

6. WILLIAM EARL OF GLENCARNE, Lord Chancellor, to LORD TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 23 November [1662].

MY LORD,—I could not let this noble bearer goe without giuing you some trouble fearing the cuntrie life's sueitnes may aither haue prevaild to make you too much in love with it, or the hard rencontres yee haue mett with in your first appea[ra]nces in the world may persuade you in too greate a despondencie. At my returne hither I was surfeitted with the solemne and extraordinarie kindness our great ones receved at their first arryvall, which greue to that height that the Chancellar of England was comanded to medle no more in Scottish affairs, and all meittings of the Scotts Councell thair prohibited. This was enough to presage all future events; bot I was a litle

comforted by a letter from Dumfreis sheuing also greatt confidence as ever, and that the Chancellar is nou over all mistaks and fixt in his Majeste's favour. This securd my dispondencie, while yesterday my Ladie Wemis was with me, and she confirms all that Dumfreis wreatt, and assurs me that her brother is to returne the nixt month; and, upon his returne, I ame to be sent for, and then, upon my coming up, a full examination of all busines is to be taken by the Kinge; and other business relating to English deportment will then likwyse be sett a foote; and hou desyrus I must need be, yea, and hou necessarie it is, that yee be heir befor I goe (which Dumfries assurs me will be about Christmas), yee may easilie conjecture. Whairfor my earnest desyre is, that yee will precislie be over against the first of Januarie; for, if my hops and my oune hart doe not deceive me, wee will yet hau a happie issue of all our difficulties. Thair hath beine much talking heir of neu freindships betuixt my [lord] the Archbishop, the Lord Treasurer, and my Lord Midlton, bot thir things are yet so groundles that I rather looke upon them as that some men are at a stand and beginning to look about them whair to fixe againe. Our Archbishop is allarumd with information giuen against his negatiue voice, bot this week he takes journey. Tueddall is to be ane extraordinare Lord of the Session, and indeed is the only man hath gott thanks in the Duke of Monmouth's behalfe. I sall say no mor, bot wishing with all my harte to sie you heir, and I hope against then to giue you better neus, and in the meane tyme non sall mor endeavour to deserve your guid esteme then, my Lord,

Your lordship's most humble servant,

GLENCAIRNE.

For his verie honorable guid Lord, my Lord Tarbett,  
on of the Senators of the Colledg of Justice.

7. [JAMES FIRST EARL OF NEWBURGH] to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,  
LORD TARBAT.

February the last [1663].

MY LORD,—I have very little to say to yow by this post, all thinges being att a stand, which I impute much to the great business wee haue here, which, thankes be to God, is gone so well as that neither papist nor presbiter will haue much reason to brag. In a word, the Act of Vniformity wil be preserued, and I doubt not but you will see the parliament here and our parliament of Scotland to go vpon one and the same grounds. Lauderdaill, I now see, had more then himselfe for condemneing the Act against the Covenant, for the same thing was heighly pressed in the parliament here; but thankes be to God, without success, as I doubt not his in conclusion will proue so; and I must tell you, that I am not att all displeasid with our delay, being confident that in the end we shall be no losers.

I do expect a black box from the Chancellor to morrow, and I doubt not but he has done as becomes himselfe and a man of honour.

My humble service to him and the rest.

I am faythfully yours.

For my Lord Tarbett.

Indorsed by Lord Tarbat : “ E. Newburgh, Feb. 1663.”

8. JAMES SHARP, Archbishop of St. Andrews, [to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,  
LORD TARBAT.]

St. Andrews, September 2, 1665.

MY LORD,—By a letter from the Bishop of Ross, last night, I was so surprysed, that I resolv'd to give yow the trouble of this account of it. He

wreates that after he had thought that all differences about the dues of his see had been by your and the Bishop of Murreyes interposing amicably settled, the Earle of Seaforth, accompanied with your self and the laird of Cromartye and above a score of gentlemen of note more, came to his howse; and yow were pleasit, in great heat, publickly to discharge all freindship, correspondence or respect to him, alleadging that he had wreat a letter to me challenging my Lord Seaforth, your self, and Cromartie, of disaffection to the Church Government. If that be the cause of this strange usage, I must bear testimony to the Bishops innocency, he not having wreat a letter to me bearing any complaint of the Earl of Seaforth or any other in Ross, in the poynt of ther disaffection to the Government, but a relation of the condition of that countrey and of his sense of it, to the same purpose with the letters wreat by the Earl of Seaforth and your self to my Lord Commissioner which his Grace was pleasit to shew to me. I have been told, indeed, that it has been observed that, since my Lord Seaforth his last coming from the Sowth, the Bishop hath not been used with that kyndnes and respect which formerly he had, which is very grevous and discouraging to him, and caused admiration in me, my Lord Seaforth having, when he did me the honour to see me, givin me those assurances of his freindship to the settled order, and assistance to the Bishop of Ross, that I did wreat to London and caused represent to the King how necessary it would be for the good of his service that the Earl of Seaforth be encouraged and inabled by a speciall fruit of his royall bountie; for which purpose I did sollicit my Lord Commissioner his favour, to which he was most inclyned; and that as the Earl of Seaforth and his freinds interest in that countrey was great, so I made no doubt of his resolution and affection to improve it for the publick peace and the good of the Church. By the relation I had from the Archbishop of Glasgow, I cannot say that our humble motion on my Lord Seaforths behalf

was without some effect ; but now, my Lord, I confess I am at a stand what to think of this odd usage putt so publickly upon the Bishop, with whose carriage and oblidging dealing towards those who hold of his see I have heard you speak with much commendation. This putts me in mynd of an expression which stuck with me yow had in freedom of discourse to me upon a night in my chamber at Edinburgh about two years agoe, that yow did prognosticat I would hear complaints from some northern Bishops of the contempt and injuries would be cast upon them. I shall not judge what hath been the instigation to this, or what is designed by it, or what is at the bottom where such smoak brakes forth, but am sorrye that such essayes and shrewd experiments should be first attempted in Ross, whence it was least expected, which will give matter of various descanting to freinds and adversaries in this conjuncture of affaires ; and I leave it to be considered by yow how it will be construed that, upon a causeles suggestion, a Bishop, who is commissioned by the King and by the law of God and of the land, is intrusted with the inspection of the clergy and layety in that precinct, should be by the chief persons in the diocess, publickly in presence of the most of the gentry, contempuously interdicted from respect, freindship, and correspondence of those whom the law hath put under his charge, which is a sort of excommunication I know not where or when heard of befor in the Christian Church, where respect to the lawes and publick settlement is not disclaimed, and doeth upon the matter import a menacing and ignominious dryving of him out of his diocess, where the Earl of Seaforth and his freinds enmity is knowin to be so significant. We are not yet brought to that pass as to brook a precarious authority upon these termes. If his Majesty and those intrusted by him will be satisfied we be thus usit, after representation made of our case, we shall the more patiently digest such bafflings, which are litle better then the throwing of stones or castocks by the rable ;

but so long as the lawes are in force, and our gracious Sovereign in condition to protect us, till a rebellion be commenced of new, we hope it will not be expected that we will be terrifyed from our endeavouring, by lauffull and Christian meanes, that the authority of Christ and the King, with which our office is invested, doe not suffer in our persons and be thus exposed to such ill boading beginnings, whatever lott we shall be cast upon therby. I have wreatin to the Bishop of Ross, that immediatly he come south, because we have use for his service in the publick concernes of the Church this winter, and have usit this freedom with your Lordship, which I desire yow may construe to have proceidit from that value I bear to yow, and freindship which yow shall alwayes have, if yow will leave to

Your very affectionat freind and servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. H. Andrews." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the main text block.

I shall desire my service may be presented to my Lord of Seaforth and to Sir John Urquhart, who I hope are persons more generous and wise then, after better consideration, to judge it fitt for them to be the first in giving example and to lead in casting indignities upon the order which they did own, and injuring persons who never disoblidged them, but were ready upon all occasions to serve them and may yet be of some use to them.

[Address wanting.]

9. SIR JAMES MACDONALD of Sleat, Baronet, to [SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,  
LORD TARBAT].

December 15, 1666.

MY LORD,—If I had Hews papers by me, I wold have sent them; since I will not alter ani of the childreins bounds, being I despair of ani guid I can doe to this famalie. I know no reson whey the poor innosent childrine should suffer for the extrawagancie of on person that did, and does daylie, destroy himself and fortune. I did oft tymes, both be word and wreat, admonish your Lordship of this, thinking ye wold have mead him forbear his wayes; but no souner wold yee see him but ye wold credit him, and he, imagining that he did satisfie your Lordship, wold be carles of his owne weil notwithstanding he was contious to himself that he wasted all. This now hes mowed me to call here a number of our freinds from all places, that the world may see his wayes at hom (as what he did abrod, tho now cum to light more as ever was knowen befor); yet had he caried rightlie heir, sum hopes wold be leaft that bussines might be taken sum course with, that people might have a breathing tyme to doe dewtie. And since wee have alwayes had a dependancie on our freinds ther, and espetiallie on your Lordships famali, I have thought best to call Coull and Duvachmuloack and Reidecastle, and heir I have mead choise of the Captaine of Clanranald and sum others. These when they meit will inform all freinds of the miscariages heir; without the lyk of this it wer impossable to ani people living at a distance to know our behaviour. I did conceive be your lettres to me, that ye feard that in regard my sonne was still disoblissing me that that wold have mead me tak sum course prejuditall to the famali, ellis that it wold have mead me

negligent in doeing that which I might have done. Allace, my Lord, I was never that foolish or base as to omitt ani guid I could doe, albeit I was not leating him know of it. I not only imployed my rent to the relieffe of the famali, but I advanced monej that I had by me, and monej that was resting me, and contracted not a sexspence since my sonnes homecuming; whar as to the contrar, I will mak it apeir, that ther is debt contracted be him, nothing payed, but almost all levisslie put away, projects brok and willepended. My Lord, it is great confidence to me to alledg this befor freinds meit, iff it shall be found heirefter to be ane wntreuth. My Lord, if I be short in not making cleir everie thing that I have wreatten heir to yow, ye sall heirefter luik wpon me as ane wnfamous man to whom no credit should be given. As for my sonnes deportment to me, suirlie, iff ye knew it aright, ye wold pitie me that is the sufferer, or him that is so foolish as so to miscarie to ane indulgent father. For me, I thank God I can hold my head abowe the water, tho he wold offer to doe moir; but certainli ther is eneuch offered.

I know my sonne is now gon to wait wpon your Lordship, since he heirs that ye intend to goe wher he may not have occatione to see your Lordship in heast. Ther was a tyme that it wold be thought I wold not be short of my dewtie, or behind with ani man to serve yow or yours, and yet I know your Lordship wishis my famalie weill, but I fear it is in ane other mans person, as Argyll said to Ardeattan; but since I am contious to my self to bee free of ani thing that might justli offend yow, I will the rather tell that ther is non of your relationes that loves both your person and famalie so weill as I doe, and is so much greived for your present resolutione, if it be that is told ws, yea, tho ye had given me just occatione [of] offence, it wold not have altered my resolutione. Let God be witnes to the integritie of my hart in this.



I intreat your Lordships patience till the returne of the freinds. If it be mead out what I heir have wreaten relating to my sonne, I will be the moir bold to goe kisse your hands. Wishing your Lordship and yours all happiness, I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordships cussen and servant,

S<sup>r</sup> J. M<sup>c</sup>DONALD of Sleatt.

I know my sonne will alledg that he offred to doe dewtie, and he was redie to heir freinds and willing they should meit. I pray your Lordship notice nothing of what he sayes in that kynd ; your Lordship will find them but sillie discourses and superfuges to see iff it will clock westrie and mis-deminours. Remember, my Lord, that albeit I have not manie qualificatione, yet that I am so censable as that I wold wreat in this kynd if it wer not trewth.

I pray your Lordship hinder Scattuell and Arbo from offering to abuse themselves, not me ; which, iff it cum to light, will maik them perpetuall wnfamous. It was wpon your Lordships accompt and your famalies that I spared Scattual for severall things he owes me. God knows I wold honor the meinst of them, so far as I could,—I meine your Lordships famali, not Arbo. This now that Scattuell wreatts of is old bounds that Scattualls father had, which I sent him when he was taking course for me in Ross in your fathers absence in publick bussiness. Scattuell himself sent me lettres, desyring me to send for them since they wer taken course with othervayes ; and this sam Scatuall sent me word he had them to be sent me. Indeed, the last yeir, I was willing that Arbo should tak Scatuall for what I thought was wnpayed of the four thousand mark bonnd, which was all that ever Arbo could ask or creiv, or could creiv.

[Address wanting.]

10. JOHN FIRST EARL OF MIDDLETON to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,  
LORD TARBAT.

London, June 16, 1668.

MY LORD,—I have in my papers fvlle jvstified yow in evrie thing yow did in the imployment I trvsted yow with, and by this express I doe declare that yow did nothing bvt according to yovr instrvtions. I hope no misfortvne that heas or can befall me can render me vnvorthie of the esteem of honest men ; nor shall I ever condemne anie innocent person for excvseing anie escape in me. Yow have manie wittneses of yovr fathfull and loyall deportment, and if my testimonie be of anie weight, I will never be [wan]ting to give it in all places wher yow are [concer]ned, being with much affection,

My Lord,

Your most fathfvll servant,

MIDDLETON.

For my Lord Tarbitt.

11. JAMES SHARP, Archbishop of St. Andrews, to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,  
LORD TARBAT.

London, November 21, [16]74.

MY LORD,—This is to pay my acknowledgment of the favour of yours of the 7th which I received last week under my brothers covert. The observation I made of your way, ever since I had the happines of your acquaintance, possessed me with a strong beleef that, from principle and inclination, you had just measures relating to the Church, King, and Countrey, and accordingly I found your endeavoures bent, when yow were stated in capacity, to serve these publick interests, from which no temptation of the infelicity of your being incapacitated for many years hath been able to make yow swerve ;

My Lord

London Novemb. 21.

74.

This is to pay my acknowledgments of the favour of yours of the 7th which I received last week under my  
brothers robot. that obligation I made of your way, ever since I had the happiness of your acquaintance, just-  
ified me with a strong belief, that from principle and inclination, you had just measures, relating to the  
Growth, being and substance, and accordingly I found your endeavours but, when you were stated in regard  
to some these publick interests, from which no imagination of the infelicity of your being interparitied  
for many years had been able to make you swaver; and though to the Churches great loss your share  
was great in publick changes, yet my value of your well, and good wishes for your well-being, I can  
say she did and shall keep steady, though I stand signify little to your service. from this notice the  
first opportunity I could lay hold upon, was after my Lord of Glasgow had gone from England, in her  
favour with my Lady Dutches of Londonshire at Ham, where I might without impertinency or seeming  
design. make by all her her Grace might be directed towards you: after some discourse about your  
course in Lord Clarkmanan, and then of yourself, I said that to her, which found such acceptance, that she  
gave me permission at my return to Scotland, which then I repeated words have been soon after, to give  
an account of her inclination to do you all the good offices in her power, and when she should see you  
and Clarkmanan, who she thinks has of late ranged somewhat strangely to you, you should find her  
endeavours friendly. this is the summe of what passed then; the circumstances and particulars I  
can not in this way signify to you; but since that time I had occasion to mention you to my  
Duchess of Londonshire: & spoke of the opportunities you might be under, yet though mistakes intertained  
of you, prejudice might be done, by entyming & sending you to the well; to which he said, he knew  
no remedy, and what he saw any else for me and you just; and by my relation I can make I shall say  
fully, I said wish, what I saw here, your contentment with her allowed you making a journey for some years  
to your and your friends of this Church, and if you have my reason for such a wish when possibly you  
might find matters in a more hopeful condition, to your satisfaction, than when you were here some years  
ago, and provide that some new way it you might to own the Church, who formerly did not, you may re-  
member, if I have proposed to you, as I have done to your friends, when I had occasion to speak of that head,  
that the measure of my friendship and service if it can signify to any man, is according as I find them  
afflicted & concerned for the good as now constituted, & may say I stand ordinary man right also has  
been so, & shall do so for the future, however persons may change towards me; I do not mistake if  
I believe I know on what side you are to be found, and desire you may believe, that when I am be-  
of use to yourself and your interest, I will employ my best endeavours in my sincerity as  
my Lord

I will not allow that any thing by this expressed  
be made known to any person, save to my  
Lord of Glasgow.

Your assured true friend and hand to Robert

J. Andrews.

For

My Dear Farwell

at Edinburgh

—  
—

and though to the churches great loss your share was great in publick changes, yet my value of your worth and good wishes for your wellbeing I can say ever did and shall keep steady, though I could signify litle to your service. From this motive the first opportunity I could lay hold upon was after my Lord of Glasgow had gone from England, in conference with my Lady Dutchess of Lawderdale at Ham, when I might without impertinency, or seeming design, make tryall how her Grace might be disposed towards yow : after some discourse about your sone-in-law Clacknannan, and then of yourself, I sayed that to her which found such acceptance, that her Grace gave me commission at my return to Scotland, which then I expected would have been soon after, to give [assur]ance of her inclinations to doe yow all the good offices in her power, and when she should see yow and Clackmannan, who she thinks has of late carryed somewhat strangely to her, yow should find her endeavours friendly. This is the summe of what passed then ; the circumstances and particulars I cannot in this way signifye to yow. Twice since that tyme I had occasion to mention yow to my Lord Duke of Lawderdale, and spoke of the apprehensions you might be under, that through mistakes intertaind of yow, prejudice might be done by confyning and sending yow to the North ; to which he sayed he knew no cause, and nether he nor any else heir meant yow hurt : and, by any collection I can make, I shall say freely, I could wish, whyl I were here, your conveniency could have allowed your making a journey for seeing your Prince and your freinds of this Church, and that yow knew my reasons for such a wish ; when probably yow might find matters in a more hopefull tendency to your satisfaction then when yow were heir some years agoe, and perceive that some now see it ther interest to own the Church who formerly did not. Yow may remember that I have professed to yow, as I have done to other freinds, when I had occasion to speak of that head, that the measure of my freind-

ship and service, if it can signify to any man, is according as I find them affected and concerned for the Church as now constituted, and may say I have done every man right who has been so, and shall doe for the future, however persons may change towards me. I doe not mistake if I beleeve I know on what side you are to be found, and desire yow may beleeve that, wherin I can be of use to yourself and your interest, I will imploy my best endeavours in much sincerity as,

My Lord,

Your assured true freind and humble servant,

SCOT. ANDREWS.

I will not allow that any thing by this expressed be made known to any person safe to my Lord of Glasgow.

For my Lord Tarbett at Edinburgh.

12. MR. JAMES GREGORIE, Professor of Mathematics, Edinburgh University,<sup>1</sup>  
to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, LORD TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 27 January 1675.

MY LORD,—If in any thinge I can be serviceable to yov in this place, ther is non more obliged, and without all complement more willing to serve your Lordship than I. Yea, I will esteem myself happie, if yee will grant mee the opportunity of testifying that I am not vnsensible of your favors.

It is no easie mater to give a satisfactorie theorie of winds. Without question subterraneous stems have a great influence on them, which the

<sup>1</sup> Professor Gregorie was the celebrated inventor of the reflecting telescope. He was appointed professor at Edinburgh in 1674. In October of the following year, after being

engaged in pointing out to his pupils with a telescope the satellites of Jupiter, he was suddenly struck blind. He died in the course of three days thereafter, in his 37th year.

terrene west or north-west wind (according to your observation) doeth manifest in the late storme. I could wish yee had had an baroscope: for I have always hitherto observed, that in great storms the mercurie falls extremly low, and consequentlie the aire is much lighter. I doe fancie from this, that heavie aire is able to keep vp in it heavie and thick clouds and dampes, which (the aire becoming lighter) falls with violence, and causeth storms and winds. This alteration in the weight of the aire (for it is an mater of fact) may come from the mixture of subterraneous stems, which ar agitated by severall degrees of the heat of the sune, other celestial influences, and perchance ewen some changes made by men on the surface of the earth.

I doe not hazarde (not being there my self) for an telescope above 9 or 10 foot longe, which may be had for 50s. or at most £3 sterling; it may magnify the object in lenth or breadth betwixt 60 or 70 times. The concave glasse for your sight may be had for 4 or 5 shillings set in an ivory frame; sealed glasse tubes for barrowmeters may be had for [ ] shillings a peece or litle more; an wheelbarrowmeter may stand 6 shillings or perchance some more; the thermometers hermeticallie sealed may be some cheaper.

If yee will writte to Hector Mackenzie to draw the money, I sall give instructions to his correspondent, and write to the workmen with whom I am acquaint to doe ther work well and to tak no more than they did from mee; and if I can doe any more, in that also I sall strive to acquite my self,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obliged servant,

*J. Gregorie*

For the right honorable my Lord Tarbot—these.

13. HENRY OLDENBURG,<sup>1</sup> Secretary to the Royal Society, to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, LORD TARBAT.

London, May 24, 1675.

SIR,—The communications concerning the contry where you have an interest, imparted by you to the learned Mr. James Gregory, and by him conveyed to me, and by me exhibited to the R. Society, were so well received by that illustrious body, that they commanded me to return you their very affectionat thanks for your care and concern in contributing to that Philosophical Magazin they are about to lay in, in order to make in time such a structure of Natural Philosophy as may be more solid in the theory and more beneficial for practice and the uses of human life. They entertain great hopes, Sir, that as you have begun this good work, so you will continue and pursue it, by communicating to them whateuer shall occur further to you belonging to the natural history of that contry, and the economy of the inhabitants thereof; not doubting but all such observations shall be preserved in our Register-books with great care, and with due respect to your person and merit, as well as it shall be always duely acknowledged with all ingenuous gratitude.

We doubt not, Sir, but as the observations you make yourself are exact, so you take care that such as you receive from others may come from judicious and veracious persons, as well attested as may be, to the end that we may lay vp nothing in our philosophical storehouse but what is supported

<sup>1</sup> Oldenburg was the friend and correspondent of Milton and of many other eminent men.



by truth. Whateuer you judge me capable of to serve you in these parts, you may freely command,

Sir,

Your very humble and faithfull servant,

HENRY OLDENBURG, Soc. Reg. Secret.

For Sir George Makenzie, knight, at Edinburg—These.

Recommended to the care of Mr. James Gregory.

14. MR. JAMES GREGORIE, Professor of Mathematics, Edinburgh University, to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, LORD TARBAT, with the preceding letter from the Secretary of the Royal Society enclosed.

Edinburgh, 8 June 1675.

MY LORD,—This is onlie to convoy the enclosed to your Lordship from the Secretarie of the R. Society, by whose letter to mee I perceive they ar verie desirous to entertein a correspondence with yov. I have received verie cordial thanks for these letters yov wer pleased to honour mee with, and am intreated by them to be as instrumentall as I can in continuing this correspondence which they have begun. I need not use any motive with your Lordship for this effect, seeing yov know much better than I can tell yov what advantage learning may reape by such correspondence, which in thes is the only aim of,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obliged servant,

J. GREGORIE.

For my Lord Tarbot at Tarbot in Ross—these.

15. [SIR JOHN CAMPBELL of Glenorchy<sup>1</sup>] to the LAIRD OF CROMARTIE.

Balloch, May 18th, [16]77.

SIR,—By Conadge servant this day I receavd yours, but was sorie to see it with ane other hand, which maiks me aprehend yow ar groun lasie ; yet I know your stile,—the voyce is yours. But that yow suffer prejudice on my accompt surpryses me, for I know no quarrell any hav to me, nor vpon my accompt to my freind, and if without on they will be so injust, I hop God will disapoynt them. You must be the mor fortunat, for although I avow the being your freind as much as you can be mine, yet therby hav I suffered noe damage. Conadge his wreat to me of the Mr. of Rheas oblidging desyr, which I accept with all my heart, and I did to that purpose wreat to him from Edinburgh, but had noe return ; I sought him therfor first, as reason uer, and shall continow. I may and I will serv him if he allow me, but its easier for me to doe it by not disoblidging my freinds in Caithnes then otheruayes. I think I may serv both, and you can not contriv the links of that chaine so as therwith to vnite your self and your freinds with me, but I will be content to be bound with it. I know yow will desyr nothing to my prejudice, which uer to vntyte what yow desyr to hav made firme, for, the mor considerable my freindship be in that cuntree, the more able will I be to serv you and such as will be pleasd to accept of my freindship. What further I hav to say I hav recomended to Conadge. I find the Caithnes men blame you much for the disapoyntments they hav met with, and they expect my assistance for redress. Its hard for me how to cary in the wholl matter, but if uhat Conadge hes to say might hav place, then I uould be doubted

<sup>1</sup> This letter is not signed by the writer, but it is holograph of Sir John Campbell of Glenorchy, who was created Earl of Breadalbane.

by nather, nor uould ather of the pairties except against my actions, and what particular cement uer to be made uer fitt to be done or that cause come in again which I desyr. Untill then you may order the Mr. of Rhea taik not ill my actions, for as ther are endeouers to render me jealousd by the Caithnes men, so I doubt not but ther will be persons to increase the Masters recentments against my moderat way of representing that affair to the Lords of the Session. I hop its not ther desyn to maik vse of your pouer over me to lay me aside in this cause, and ther after they ar at libertie how to oun me; but the lyk hes been so often practisd in the uorld abroad amongst princes that no marvell subjects taik example uhen ther is noe nearer obligation. I hope to be north in September, and uhatever uill be told you, or they see or hear, of me, I will cary myself as on that beleeuvs my self to be in good freindship with my Lord Rhea and his familie; and on of the best services at present I can doe him is to endeavour ane imposing vpon both pairties ane accomodation of soe chargable and dangerous ane process as the event of this one may prove to ather, if not to both the pairties, and nather of these doe I think my intrest. Wherfor I judge myself oblidged to prevaine it, and therby the sport others uould maik of it. I am glaid you so influence the Master of Rhea, and I think I hav some pouer with the other pairtie, and I imagine may get them to refer it to us tuo; but if ther be great expectations on the Masters side I uill not medle in it, seing I can not serv him therin. I leav the uhall matter befor you, and expects your constant continoued correspondence in this league untill you accomplish it, and I uish the duration of it to be longer then that of the triple league.—I am,

Sir,

Your most affectionat freind and humble servant.

For the Laird of Cromartie.

16. MURDOCH MACKENZIE, Bishop of Orkney, to ANNE SINCLAIR,  
LADY TARBAT, *circa* 1677.

RYCHT HONORABLE AND MY (DEAR) MADAME,—I had the honore of your Ladieship's letter, in absence of your (wageing) Lordship, wharvith I was much refreshed, haveing found therein much kyndness, pertinencie and discretione, werie lyek the compliet subscriber : and I can not bot much applaud the happyness of that honorable husband whom God has blest vith such ane perfect consort, to be the mother of his hopfull familie, and supply his absence, so as I find nothing vantage but his Lordships personall charecter. I pray God be his chief councillor, to direct his courses soundly and saiffly in this nick of time and crisis of publict affaires, wharein (to speak efter the dictione of this countray) vind and tide seemes to goe contrare ; and then ther is a great sea which callis for ane skilfull, steddie steirsman. He is nowe, I believe, sailing (as we say) in the streitis. The Lord retourne him to youe, to his worthy familie, and poore friendis, in saiftie, loadened vith precious commodities : and if it should happen vtherwayes (which God forbid), I am perswaded he can not lay the blame in the leist vppon his worthy Ladye's wisdom, prudence, and circumspect warrines in thir times : which may conuince him (thogh ther var not too manie argumentis besides), that the good Gode heath granted him ane Lady fitted to be his helper. Your Ladyship was pleased to recommend the conditione of Mr. Colline Dalgleish to my care ; and although (Madame) ther war noe vther consideratione to press that business, your Ladyships favour to him shall obtain for him all my respectis, whenever anie fitt occation shall be offered for his accomodatione ; which for the present does not occur in my diocess. Madame, if your Ladyship's best conueniencie can allow me ane line anent my good Lord your husbandis

southerne good aspect vnder the superior orbes, and your hopfull familie's weelfare (whoe are happy, as weell as honorable, in haueing youe for ther mother), it will werie much refresh me in this sequestrat corner of the world; and oblidge me yet more (if more can be) to subscribe my selff, Madame, your Ladyship's most humble seruant,

MURDO, Bishop of Orknay.

Madame, my selff with my whole familie ar in good health since our arriwal to this place, blessed be God; but my eldest dochter, Jean, tackis not weell with this climat, which is werie wake and moistie.

For my Lady Tarbote—theis.

17. DONALD MACDONALD, and eleven others of the name of MACDONALD,  
to LORD TARBAT.

Portrie, the 2 February 1678.

MY LORD,—When wee, though bot a few of the branches of the familie of M'Donald (yet the nearest), does consider and weigh with ourselves, that through the discrepances arysing dayly betwixt Sir James and Sir Donald his son,<sup>1</sup> ther has been little or no progress at all made in the payment of ther wast debts, wee find it no less then our dewtie and concerne, both for ther owne and our preservation, to put on a resolution, as now we are resolved to doe, to seperat, with your Lordships advice and concurrence, the estate from them both, except so much as in reason may be a competencie to eatch of them. Wee have too long been dormant, and leaned too

<sup>1</sup> The Sir James and Sir Donald here referred to are apparently Sir James Macdonald of Sleat, Baronet, and his eldest son, Sir Donald Macdonald, who, on the death of Sir

James in December 1678, succeeded him as the third baronet, and also to the ancient family inheritance of Sleat.

farr upon promishes that produced noe performance, and we know ther has not a few been made of them to yourself, as well as to ous; and all wee suppose to the same effect. Therfor, my Lord, let ous intreat you, as the principall pillar this familie leans most on, that yee concur and joyne with ous, in the preservation of it; and what your grandfather did happily begin wee hope yee will putt a close to it: since our endeavors will not be wanting to second yow, be the hazard newer so great of our lives and fortunes. Bot if, my Lord, at this werie instant, this be not adwerted to, wee sie inevitably the ruine of it, as this on consideration wee offer yow will infallabilly demonstrat. What if Sir James (which God forbid) shortly dy, his Ladyes joynture, the great provision of her son, and the patrimonies of the first mariage, the wast debts owing without them, the necessitie of the present education of the air of the family and the rest of the children God has blest Sir Donald with: if all these should at once fall on, as it would in this cace, what would become of the air and of all of ous, that through the decay of the stock could not bot wither as branches? When, my Lord, you have pondered these things, wee hope you will not think it unfit, that wee come now to practice what for the most part before has been bot in the theorie.

Therefore wee have made this adress to your Lordship, that yee may send ous, as wee hear yee and Pitcarlie was noblie resolved befor, a power be law to wairand ous to goe about this waigtie affair. Wee fear little if we have (as we doubt not) your patronage in this; and dreads the less our success that wee have gained Sir Donald to our purpose: and wee will doe him this justice, that from the werie beginning he alwayes prest this methode; which if followed, things had not come to this sad pass. Wee will not reflect on that method led at Edinbrough, bot this much with fridome wee will say, that if wee followed but the same the work wold be endless, and a dwyning disease would be put upon the family, of which at last it could not but dy;

on would have too much, the other little or nothing at all. Bot the methode we intend to take is, to consider the urgent debts, and to lay asyd as much as can be of the fortune towards its defrayment, and to destribut amongst themselves the rest as they are severally burdened. We hope, my Lord, as this sutes with reason, it will with your opinion also; and therfor wee intreat, that wee may be claide with a power to intromet with all the estate. Ther is another thing wee desyre as much as this, that all handes may be tyed up, that it may not be in any of ther power to undoe what wee are going about and mak our endeavours fruitless, and it is this, that the convoyance be presently put a close to; els, if it be in ther capacitie to contract and add more debt, all comes to nothing, and the work infinit. Bot since self-preservation is naturall to all, your Lordship will not think it strange that wee desyre in the bosome of it, wee bee particularly preserved, as the estate stands severally ingaged to ous; els wee ly by; and it wer unjust to expect of ous anie service or concurrence to advance a familie that would ruine ourselves. My Lord, wee haue reasons to ward this blow, since it was aimed at ous before. We haue wretten to Pitcarly and your brother, Master Rorie, to the same purpose; and has sent on of the bearers your way, that your Lordship may wret to Pitcarlie and your brother to accelerat the convoyance and our power of intromission, and what els your Lordship thinks fit to this purpose, since the tyme of seting the land is so near. The other boy wee have sent to bring a return of this wretten be

My Lord, your Lordship's most humble servants,

J.A. MACKDONALD.

H. M'DONALD.

H. M'DONALD.

RA<sup>p</sup>. MACKDONALD.

A. M'DONALD.

DONALD M'DONALD.

AR. M'DONALD.

DONALD M'DONALD.

JAMES M'DONALD.

ALEXANDER M'DONALD.

H. M'DONALD.

A. M'DONALD.

For the ryght honorable my Lord Tarbet—these.

18. KENNETH, THIRD EARL of SEAFORTH, to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,  
LORD TARBAT.

Brahan, the 7th Agust 1678.

MY LORD,—Haueing occasione of my Lord Duffus, I could not bot wryt, tho I haue not muche to say bot to congratulatt the kyndnesse ye haue from the Duke of Lauderdaill. I know your meritt will bring yow to preferment, and if ye gett any title of honour, I hope will not interfier with me. Thatt which makes me use this freedome is the damned wullgar report, who sayes more then I will wryt, and I swear 20 tymes more then I will beleieue, for I ame of the same resolutione, and it is hard to know how soon I may giue a testimonie of it, that I was still, which is to trust yow be any on breathing with all that concerns

Your affectionatt brother and servant,

SEAFORT.

For my Lord Tarbart—thes.

19. DONALD M'DONALD of Moydart, Captain of Clanranald, to SIR GEORGE  
MACKENZIE, Lord Clerk Register.

Castelltirholme,<sup>1</sup> 8 Junnii 1682.

MY WERIE NOBLE LORD,—Yowrs I receaved of the daitt the 20th of Maij lastt, wherby I find yowr Lordships cair, kyndnes, and favowrs, unrequytttable. I thowghtt to have had the honor as to have kistt yowr Lordships hands befor the Duikis comeing to Scotland, bott I was stormestedd in Uistt ever

<sup>1</sup> "Castle-tirrum" was the principal messuage of the barony of that name. The barony included Moydart, Arresack, Benbecula, Eigg,

and many other lands. [The Acts of Parliament, vol. viii. p. 546.]



since the 8 of Appryll untill this tyme. Bott I find yowr Lordship hes done alseweill as give I had bein presentt, whilk I wishe God may revard yow and yowrs for yowr being the instrumentt of releiveing of me and myne from the thralldome and slaverie we were bound to vtheris. Itt deserves to be chronickled upon yow and yowr familie, and shall be in perpetuall remembrance be me and myne sua long as we live, and our posterittie eftir us. All the money due be me to Argyll was onely the lastt years few dewtie. My Lord, as to the cautionrie, I hoope yowr Lordship will doe all yow can to see me fred thereof as yow have writtine. As to whatt is betuixt us, I have ordored yowr Lordship ane thowsand powndis Scottis, whilk is to litle, bott yowr Lordship knowes how I am used with Grahame, whom I took to be mostt sufficientt; bott, whittler I live or dye, yowr Lordship shall be both verie honesttly and tymeously satisfied of the restt. I hoope yowr Lordship will take all in good pairtt and putt ane period to thatt affair, for I have none under God to recomend or trustt my affairs to bott yowr Lordship: therfor I committ them quhollie unto yow. I restt, my verie noble Lord,

Yowr Lordships humblestt servantt quhile I live,

D. M<sup>c</sup>DONALD of MOYDART.

For my verie noble Lord, my Lord Register of the  
kingdome of Scotland.

20. JOHN WERDEN to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, Lord Clerk Register.

St. James's, 4th January [16]<sup>82</sup>/<sub>3</sub>.

MY LORD,—I should haue answered your Lordships of the 21st December sooner, but that I haue wayted a good opportunity to make the proposall mentioned in your letter about the east part of New Jersey.

And now I am to desire a little further explanation of what is aymed at

in this proposall, that is, whither the proprietors of East New Jersey designe to joyne that to New Yorke (as heretofore) as a part of that Governement, and soe share in it by sending their representatives to the assembly at New Yorke (in such number as may be agreed on, if it be thought fit), and contributeing to the publicke chardge in proportion, etc.?—or else, whither haueing their Governement in East New Jersey, holden by charter from his Royall Highnesse immediately rather than by transmission from their authors (as your letter expresses it), and being under the Dukes protection, be to be understood only of the Dukes confirmation of their rights and possessions there as they are derived unto them from Sir G. Carteret or his heires by vertue of the Duke's graunt heretofore to him and them? Moreouer, for the ease of negociateing this affayre, I desire your Lordship will appoint some one (well instructed) impowred to answer such objections as may be started by His Royall Highnesses commissioners here, when this is layd before them; for Mr. Barclay is not heir, and I haue noe knowledge of any one concerned herein besides your Lordship, to whom I with perfect truth subscribe myselfe,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most faythfull humble servant,

JO. WERDEN.

For the right honourable the Lord Register in Edenborough.

21. ROBERT BARCLAY of Ury, Author of "Apology for the Quakers,"  
to SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, Lord Clerk Register.

Ury, the 8 of the 7th month, 1684.

DEAR FRIND,—According as the Chancelor desired me and thy self adviced, I wrott to Calder, and have since had opportunity to meet with him,

Dear friend

My the 8 of the 17th  
Mo: 1689

According as the chancelor desired me and thy self advised  
I wold to Calder's have bin had opportunity to meet with  
him; and find him very inclinable to doe yt, which he himself  
has of a long time desired, but there are some things pertinent  
thereto wherein he expects thy advice and assistance, & therefore  
is to send a bearer express to thee I hope I need not solicit thee  
to be at some place to answer his desire whom thou knowest  
to be so much thy friend & who expects some as having a particular  
reliance upon thee, nor will thou be lesse zealous in it yt it is  
also in behalf of thee by thy affectional friend

Barclay

Since it is now certain yt Mr let me is in Gods place  
I wold then wold recommend to him our affair of justice & I shall  
order W Rockman to wait upon him to give him full information

For  
The Lord Register

Thine



and find him very inclinable to doe that, which he himself has of a long time deseined; but there are some things previous thereto wherein he expects thy advice and assistance, and therefore is to send a bearer expresse to thee. I hope I need not solicit thee to be at some paines to ansuere his desire, whom thou knowes to be so much thy frind, and who expects thine, as having a particular relyance upon thee, nor will thou be lesse zealous in it that it is also intreated of thee by thy affectionat frind,

R. BARCLAY.

Since it is now certain that Midletone is in Godolphins place, I wish thou would recommend to him our affair of Jersey, and I shall order W. Dockraw to wait upon him to give him full information.

For the Lord Register—These.

NINE LETTERS FROM SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT, TO JOHN FIRST MARQUIS OF ATHOLE, Lord Privy Seal, chiefly in reference to his proceedings as Lord Lieutenant of Argyllshire.<sup>1</sup>

22. FROM SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE AND OTHER LORDS OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

28 August 1684.

MY LORD,—The Committee rather have Ardkinlas at Glasgow then Stirling, because he most be sent hither, with a strong guard. As to the gentlemen who were to be secured, wee cannot so weell know who are most dangerous as your Lordship being on the place, and therefore wee refer to your Lordship to pitch on these who are of greatest importance and most suspect, and that yow send those with guards hither, together with what probation

<sup>1</sup> The originals of these nine letters are in the Athole Charter-chest.

can be had of any crime or guilt against any who shall be so taken, that wee may the better know how to deall with them.

We are, my Lord,

Your humble servants,

PERTH.

J. DRUMMOND.

QUEENSBERRY.

GEO. MACKENZIE.<sup>1</sup>

DA. FALCONAR.

GEO. M'KENZIE.<sup>2</sup>

For my Lord Marquis of Athole, Lord Privy Seall  
for the kingdome of Scotland.

23. From SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE and other Lords of the Secret Committee.

Edinburgh, 6 September 1684.

MY LORD,—Wee are very weell satisfied with your Lordship's procedures, and are glad of your successe as to the chartor chest. Wee look on the band as on good expedient for secureing these people; but when there late cheeff intends so much mischeeff, all men most excuse the King's servants to take all rationall methods for preventing him. It will be fitt that the writts be sent to Edinburgh and put ther in publick custody. As to the allowing of the country people to cary armes, wee dare not adventure on it at present, untill your Lordship try further in ther temper, and untill some further resolutions be taken for securing against Argyle's desigus. By what is discovered in Argyl's papers since your parting, ther is grovnd for the more and more vigorous prosecuting what may break of his hopes, and wee are confident your Lordship will continue to end what yow have so weell begunn. I have acquainted the Duke by the secretar of what is done by yow. We shall

<sup>1</sup> Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate.

<sup>2</sup> Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Tarbat.

examine Arkinlas as yow desyre; meane while try what probation as weell as information can be had of his roguery. Goe on against the indulged ministers; and your Lordship would indeavour to find out honest men to plant in these churches, to recomend them to the bishop for these paroches wherof he is patron, and such as are the King's, acquaint the Lord Treasurer with those persones you judge fitt for them. In the band there are two things to be amended, viz., the obligation most be to the Lord Treasurer and not to the Councell for the failie, and the citation of 10 dayes most be at the paroch kirk, and the kirk exprest in the band. All we have to add further is, to acquaint your Lordship that the Earl of Midlton is made Secretar for England in place of Godolphin, who is president of the Treasury in place of Rochester, who is president of the Councell.

Wee are, my Lord,

Your most humble servants,

PERTH.

J. DRUMMOND.

QUEENSBERRY.

GEO. M'KENZIE.

DA. FALCONAR.

My Lord, its absolutly necessare that Mr. Bannerman be hasted heer as soon as is possible, for his presence is necessare.

Argyl's letters now discoverd show a plaine, open, violent intended rebellion both in England and heer. Spence's help hath opend all the letters plainly. Carstairs is just now comeing to a confession also; when he hath deponed by the next your Lordship shall know what it is.

Since the writting of the letter, Arkinlas is examind. He acknowledges that there was 50<sup>lb</sup> sterl. collected for the late Argyle in the end of the yeare 1682. Dugall Campbell of Saddell, bayly of Kintyre, gave 8<sup>lb</sup> ster., the Captaine of Denoon 5<sup>lb</sup> ster. Dugall Campbell in Kintyre, brother to Car-

dell, gave 50 merks, and about 300 merks out of Ila and Kintyre, but he knowes not the persones. The Comittee desyres that those three, or any other your Lordship can have information of in this crime, be apprehended and sent to Edinburgh, and that all inquiry be made of this or any other contribution.<sup>1</sup>

24. FROM SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE, Secretary to the Secret Committee.

17 September [16]84.

MY LORD,—Your letter dated the 10th, sent hither by Mr. Bannerman, I read to the Secret Committee. They resolve to forbear meddling any further with Arkinlas, or to ordor any thing concerning the houses, till your Lordship and they meet. Yours of the 14 came just now to hand. The Chancellor is gone, the Councell adjourned, the Commissioners all home to fitt themselves for ther expedition, but I shall show your letter to the Lord Treasurer. In my owne opinion, haveing taken those appointed to be taken, with such others as yow know guilty or dangerous, your Lordship may returne, but lett them know yee will speedily return to keep them in fear of the fleuett. The plott for riseing in Scotland is now fully discovered; many more are guilty nor wee imagind, and it is a great danger which God deliverd this nation from. The whole confession of severals of the conspirators are sent up to the King. Many are apprehended; but severals guilty who were conscious, kept them selfs out of our grips. Philiphach's ingenuity, I hope, will safe him, but he was deeply in. Since some of Argyle's papers are found, I wish all were. I am going to speak the Treasurer in Arkinlas intelligence, and so cease writting till I see what shall be done. Wee have examind, and find all as your Lordship informs of Arkinlas intelligence, tho'

<sup>1</sup> The address is wanting. The letter is holograph of Lord Tarbat.



it appears he be no very honest man himself. So lett your Lordship look out for all that are guilty in that contribution.

The Secret Committee comanded me to writt that of all things your Lordship should press, by such mediums as yow think fitt, to see if the shyre, at least the suspected in the shyres of Argyle and Tarbat, will consent to pay a company to stay constantly ther, to prevent the farr more troublsome way of having forces sent still amongst them ; and during the standing of that company they will have no other quartering, and also be free of ther owne militia, which cannot but be expensive to them if they [be] oft called out with provisiones, as certainly they will be. This all the committees are to indeavour in the severall districts. Lord Neill Campbell is heer with us, and consents for his owne part, and promises to be active in it with others. Its no matter tho they condiscend to it but for a yeare, to bring it on. On this account he is allowed to goe home. My Lord, the confusion wee are in allowes me to say no more but what you know, that I am your servant,

GEO. M'KENZIE.

For my Lord Marquis of Athole, Lord Leuvtenant of Argylshyre.

25. [FROM GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Edinburgh, 22 May 1685.

MY LORD,—The Lord Commissioner and Earl Dumbarton will tell yow that all busines goes on heer as yow left them, and the ammunition is ordered to be sent to Balqhidder. No stir in the least appears in England. I pray God send yow a fair opportunity, for if Argyll fix in Argyle, he is twixt yow and the ships. Pray acquaint the ships to beware of fyreships and Argyle's knacks, for I feare these litle ships may be some such. Hast on by some way to forwarne them ; nothing can be fitter for all effects then frequent

intelligence. The magistrats of Stirlin are ordored to have posts ready to come and goe, but spare not expresses. The Lord Commissioner and Committee hath nothing to say, and so yee will excuse not writting. Spare your meall weell. Adieu.

For my Lord Marquis of Athole, Lord Leivtenant of  
Argyle and Tarbatt.

26. [FROM GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Edinburgh, 27 May 1685.

MY LORD,—Since the publick letter caries all the good news from England, I shall not repeat what was there exprest. I writt this to tell your Lordship that the least mischance to your party would be of prejudice. I writt not this for your sake only, but for the King's interest. What your strength is or the enimies I know not, but contemn no enemy, especially if they be numerous and weell armed. On the other hand, if ye withdraw, the rebels may fall downe on Stirlin, or passe thorough to the western shyre, where he may lurk and hover amongst the mosses, till the rebels convocat in multitudes to him : so if yee fight him and beat him, that is best of all ; and next to that is, if yee manadge so as to draw out the rebels from the coast, so as the army from Glasgow may move towards and after him, without the hazard of Argyl's beeing in case to ship over to the west coast ; then put him once betwixt yow, I will think him in a bad state. But if he fortify in Tarbat or any other strong place, I know not how untrained men will at first attack forts. Yett yee can keep him in if yee have but meat. But the L. Generall dare not divide any of the standing force untill they be out of hazard of Argyl's goeing over to the west ; but if once the ships were in the seas about Kintyre, especially were cruising within veiw of Kintyre and the

west, then at your desyr I presume the Comander in cheeff heer on your desyre will, in that case, send you some standing forces of the foot and granadeers, to the effect yow may force that fort. My care for yow makes me writt thus, tho all I can say is only on conjectur. I recomend yow heartily to God's care, and hope for those news which I hope may produce honor to yow and something els to Lord Charles.

For my Lord Marquis of Athole, Lord Leivtenant of  
Argyll and Tarbat.

27. FROM GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 5 June 1685.

MY LORD,—Wee have account that the Mermaid, on of his Maiesties frigats, went in by the sound of Mull ; if there were two or three of them in the seas, on of them would doe weell to cruise on the back of Kintyre.

I am, my Lord, your faithfull servant,

TARBAT.

For my Lord Marquis of Athole, Lord Leivtenant of  
Argyll and Tarbat.

28. FROM GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 24 June 1685.

MY DEARE LORD,—If yow want meall I have lost labour and care, for I never omitted to pouse it to be sent evry way. I am hopefull to see yow heer shortly, and will referr all history till then, and then there will be a tale of two drinks. I heare my sonne and many others are neare yow, and

are altogether in want of bread. It is not possible for to say any thing till I see yow, and therefore nothing shall be said by,

My Lord, your faithfull humble servant,

TARBAT.

For the Marquis of Athole, Lord Leivtenant of  
Argyll and Tarbatt.

29. FROM GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 6 Agust 1685.

MY LORD,—Yow should justly challenge me if I had heard any thing of so much importance to yow as what is in your Lordship's letter, ether from Lochiell or any other, and not acquaint yow. But I assure yow, my Lord, I never heard any thing like it. Lochiel, if he spok such things to another, he was so discreet as to speak farr otherwayes to me, for he regrated exceedingly that yow accused him, or was angry at him, and all that ever I heard him say, was, that as to intelligence or correspondence with the rebels he would defy the world, and that he was sure you would witnes his earnestnes to be at them; and, as to busines of the party which he comanded, that Argyle was crost neare be the tyme he was sent out from yow, and long or he could come at them, that his not overtaking them he counted his greatest misfortune. He blames the disobedience of severall of those he comanded and the guide which yow gave him; but for a word reflecting on yow I never heard of him. The Treasurer hath writt to yow of his goeing up, and hopes to see yow. I did not know of it till the letter allowing it came to the Secret Committee yesternight. I shall leave other litle stories till meeting, since he makes me hope for it.

For the right honorable the Marquis of Athole,  
Lord Leivtenant of Argyle and Tarnat.

30. FROM GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT. *Circa* 1685.

MY LORD,—Your letter to the Earl Dumbarton most ether be on mistake or misinformation, or which [is] as bad a rule as ether, on conjecture; for when your Lordship said yee would have none with yow but your owne and the Macleans and Broadalbin, I advised that Lochiels and the Brae men and Glengarie might be called, which yow were for, and accordingly they were writt to, viz., Lochiell, Keppach, Glengarie. The rest benorth were at the samne tyme writt to rendevouz at Lochness; and in Huntlie's letter he was desyred ether act with the whole there, if occasione offerd, or to send such parties as your Lordship should judge fitt to desyre. I apprehend yow will rather have too many then too few, for provisiones most be scarce, and necessity of dissipating for want of bread is what I feare most, unless Argyl's printing press mak men as weell as pasquils; but I apprehend he will over to Carrick or to Glasgow, in which case no doubt yow most follow; and the other body with Duke Gordon to move to Argyle to prevent his return, if your Lordship and the army press him in the low country. Pray, my deare [lord], consider matters or yee grow angry at them, and beleeve not evry litle representation till yow see the bottome; and as yow nobly writt in your letter, doe what is proper at present. It will be done. I wish it fall in your hand, and I hope it will, if he goe not over to Carrick.—I am,

My Lord,

Your faithfull humble servant,

TARBAT.

Beleev it, if yow call more men as yee can provyd, yow break. M'Intosh said he had no men, and so only desyrd a comission to call such of his kinn as others left, viz., Earl Murray and Duke Gordon.

For the Marquis of Atholl, Lord Leivtenant of Argylshyre.

31. ALEXANDER SIXTH EARL OF MORAY to [SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE,  
LORD TARBAT].

Winchester, September 15, [16]84.

MY LORD,—Your kynd letter I reseaved on Setirdays night by the flyeing packet, as acceptable to me as at any time befor. Your kyndnes and correspondence I vaeluie as mutch as I can express, which I besitche yow taek for no complement, but from the sincearest intentions of on that loues you, and desires to serve you. I haue bine verry ill this week past, and am not now able to uryt what I uould; but shall verry speedily returne a particular anssuer to yours. The Kinge and Dwke ar extremly pleased withe the accounts you haue giuen conserninge Spence and Carstaers. His Majesty will send a letter of thanks to the Secret Commity for ther diligence and good service, which all good men doe highly esteame.—I am, withe great sincerity, my Lord,

Your fathfull servant, as you haue known me many years agoe,

MORRAY.

32. MR. WILLIAM CARSTARES to the LORD REGISTER, [LORD TARBAT].

Stirling, October 8, 1684.

MY LORD,—The scruple made by the Captain of the Castle about the meaning of the letter sent to him for the receiving of me prisoner hath made me presume to give your Lordship this trouble, which I doe with the greater confidence, because of the allowance your Lordship was pleased to grant me at parting, of troubling you with my concerns. I doe not doubt, my Lord, but both your selfe, and the other Lords, who signed the order for my free prison, did design it should be as full as might be, consistent with a

My Lord

The scruple made by the Captain of the  
Castle about the meaning of the letter sent to him for the recei-  
ving of my prisoner hath made me presume to give your Lo.  
his trouble which I doe with the greater confidence because  
of the allowance ~~that~~ your Lo. was pleased to grant me at part-  
ing of troubling you with my concerns: I doe not doubt My Lo.  
but both your selfe and the other Lords who signed the order for  
my first prison did designe it should be as full as might be consist-  
ent with a restraint; but the Commander in this place not think-  
ing himselfe sufficient to warrant by what was writt to him  
about me, to allow me what libertie I had in the Castle of Edr.  
and what I am confident was design'd for me by your Lo., hath thought  
fitt to restrain me from walking within the Castle walls unless  
attended by a Sergeant or some of the souldiers of the garrison  
by which your Lo.'s favour is almost rendered useless and I in some  
manner still a close prisoner, being thus deprived of any retirement  
having but one room for my selfe, wife and maid; I doe therefore  
My Lo. humbly beseege the favour of your Lo. that by satisfying Capt.  
Stuarts doubts I may enjoy the libertie which I know your Lo. thinks  
I doe deserve it shal be; I must also My Lo. take the freedom to  
tell your Lo. that the kindness I have already met with from  
your Lo.'s selfe and My Lo.'s Secretary doe make me presume  
to request that I shal through the endeavours of your Lo. have  
in a little time my remission and libertie upon bail and can if thought  
necessary promise to appear when called, which favours if then  
granted it shal be my endeavour so to improve as neither his Ma<sup>ty</sup>  
may have cause to repent of what he bestowes on me nor your Lo. of  
your kindness to

Stirling Decr. 8.  
1684.

My Lord  
your Lo.'s most humble  
and faithfull servant  
W. Carstares

*My Lord Register.*



restraint: but the commander in this place, not thinking himselfe sufficientlie warranted by what was written to him about me, to allow me what libertie I had in the Castle of Edinburgh, and what I am confident was designed for me by your Lordship, hath thought fitt to restrain me from walking within the Castle walls, unlesse attended by a serjeant, or some of the souldierie of the garrison, by which your Lordship's favour is almost rendered uselesse, and I in some manner still a close prisoner, being thus deprived of any retirement, haveing but one room for my selfe, wife, and maid. I doe therefore, my Lord, humble begg the favour of your Lordship, that by satisfieing Captain Stuart's doubts, I may enjoy the libertie which I know your Lordship thinks I do alreadie share of. I must also, my Lord, take the freedom to tell your Lordship, that the kindnesse I have alreadie mett with from your Lordship's selfe and my Lord Secretarie, doth make me presume to exspect that I shall, through the endeavours of your Lordships, have in a litle time my remission and libertie upon baill, and (if thought necessarie), I promise to appear when called: which favours, when granted, it shall be my endeavour so to improve, as neither his Majestie may have cause to repent of what he bestowes on me, nor your Lordship of your kindnesse to, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and faithfull servant,

W. CARSTARES.

For my Lord Register.

33. ALEXANDER SIXTH EARL OF MORAY to the EARL OF PERTH, lord high  
chancellor of Scotland.

Whitehall, 11th November 1684.

MY LORD,—I am commanded by his Majestie to let you know that the Lord Melvill being shortly to be (if he is not already) declared a rebell or

fugitive from his Majestie's laws, it is his will and pleasure that, in the Lord Treasurer's absence, you, and all others concerned, connive at his Lady her possessing the whole moveables, untill his Majestie shall think fitt to declare his further pleasure in that affaire.—I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and faithfull servant,

MORRAY.

For the right honourable the Earle of Perth, lord high chancellour of Scotland.

34. JOHN FIRST EARL OF BREADALBANE to the LORD COMMISSIONER  
[WILLIAM FIRST DUKE OF QUEENSBERRY].

Balloch, May 20, at 6 afternoon, [*circa* 1685].

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—I hav these 2 dayes attended the Marquis of Atholl about issueing orders for the shyre of Perth, and for provisions. I am just now aryved at this place, and am ordering my men in Breadalbine to meet me the morow at night, at Strafillan, which is 24 mylls uestuard from this towards Argyll shyre, uher I am to randevouze all that in so short time I can bring together, which I think uill be about 7 or 800. I resolv to march uith them imediatly into Argyllshyre, and ther mak a head for such Highlanders as uill appear for the King, that non may any longer pretend but that they shall hav a post to come to, which is in Glenurchy, near a strong castle which is uasht by Lochow on 3 syds, and the 4th is a peninsula, befor uich ther is a plane of a mile of lenth and half a mile broad, invirond on 2 sids uith deep rivers, and a ditch and trench befor it. It is a large meadow, so inclosed, able to containe severall thousands, and saif on all sids, if the boats vpon Lochow be secured, as I heard the Marquis say he had ordered John M<sup>c</sup>Nachtan to doe. But if they be in the possession

of the rebels, this place uill not ansuer altogether my designe, which is to bring provisions from all quarters within half a dayes march about that loch ; as also to attack Achinbreks house, if I may, if it be in ther possession, it being but 3 myls from that loch. So that, if I hav boats, I am sure to mak them very vneasie in the continent of Argyll shyr, uherin I shall (as I hav good reason) do my outmost endeavour intill my Lord Marquis come vp, and then I shall receav his orders. This designe may bring the seat of trouble to be in my oun land ; but that, and all I hav, shall be sacrificed for so just a King as uee hav to serv. My Lord, it's fitt your Grace and the counsell do send me presently a comission to rease the caditts of my familie, ther tennents and inhabitants in this shyr of Perth, although some of them be in my lord chancelor's jurisdiction, and others in the Earl of Murrayes ; for such fall not under the Marquis of Atholls livtennentry : so that if by a comission I call them not out, they ar to stay at hom, which uill discourage others. I hav in the mean time presumed to call for them to heast, night and day, to me, which I hope your Grace and the counsell uill approv, although it be anterior to the dait of my comission. Be pleased also that the comission contain a remission and approbation of what shall be don by me, or those under my comand, in prosequation of this service ; for ther uill be mor done, I conceav, then I did when I was put to ansuer for it, and ther may ryse a chanceler that knew not Joseph, which is necessar for me to gaird against.

I intend to cary all the meall I can provyd be the uay with me, to keep our men togather intill the Marquis bring mor with him. On of my motifs to heast to that cuntree is, that I may give sure intelligence, which I perceav hes not been given from thence to the Marquis these tuo dayes bypast. For Balechan and his pairty, I hear now, ar saif, and come from Illa to Kintyr befor the ships came befor the Illand, and from thence they ar coming vp Lochfyn to Innerarae, which I am very glayd of vpon many accompts. The

ships uer then on the contrarie syd of Kintyr to Lochfyn, uherby it was saif enough for Balechan to mak his escape by sea, as his sone hes done be land through Argyllshyr and this cuntree, and is now in Atholl.

I continow still of the opinion I uas of, that the rebells uill not stay on the coast of Argyll, for fear of the King's ships, but uill heast to ther apoynted port; and may be Mr. Charles Campbell, and such as he can get to joyn him, uill endeavour to stay in that shyre so long as they may, which I trust uill not be long. I can giv no information as yit if that shyre, or any considerable person therin, hes joynd or not; but I sent thither ane express from Stirling yesterday, uho the morow will bring me trew and late intelligence of the state of that effair, uich shall thereafter be immediatly transmitted to your Grace. In caice your Grace and the counceill think fitt to comand my men in the south to come home, I hav sent the inclosed order to ther officers, to be perved by your Grace, to allow, or disalow, as it consists uith your missurs of the King's service; and I humbly offer if they may not now be mor vsfull in Argyllshyr then with the standing forces, which I altogather do uith dew submission to your Grace's judgment. I am hopfull, if I wer once in Argyllshyr, to keep the gentrie, and even many of the comons, from joyning uith rebells, or else they ar farr changed vpon me; for I hav made them lasie to ryse when that late Earle had a mor legall cause then now he hes, and less dangerous to them. I pray God send us good neus from England, and I am not at all affrayd of the success of rebells in this kingdome.

I humbly offer it to your Grace's consideration, if it uer not fitt that some able pen should draw a proclamation against the rebells, narating that treasonable declaration of the late Earl of Argyll, and vndeceaving the simple, jealous, zealous, comon people, of that sham trick of mentioning the quarrell to be the danger of popry, a trick that began all our mischeif in King Charles the

First time, and now they ar again at it ; a cloak to all the rebellions that hes been these 40 years, ather in France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Brittain, and Irland ; uheras it's conspicuous to the world, that the heads of these rebels in all these kingdoms minded nothing less then any religion, but meerly out of discontents, or to cary on ther own privat interests, all which might be cited. And I am sure, if Earl Argyll had gott his uill of Mull and all his own estate, ther had not been on uord in his head of the protestant religion, and his conscience uould hav been lyk other folks', which uas large enough to ruine his vassals ; and I uonder that he uho pretends to sett vp for tender conscience, uill only except out of that libertie our King, whois conscience, I am sure, is as strick, and dictats to him uhat is just to be done, as much as the consciences of any protestant in his dominions. And I hav seen that late Earle as familiar uith persons of that persuasion as ever I see him uith any, although he now rails at them beyond uhat uee say of Jeus, or Turks ; wherin he sheus very litle charitie. I should not think it amiss, that somthing uer sayd to this purpose, to please the people ; but whither be uay of pamphlet, or by authoritie, I submitt to your Grace's uisdom. This is but a continoued track of treason, as appears by his printed letter, although he pretends his quarrell to be only with this King. I am, with all respect, may it please your Grace,

Your Graces most obedient and most faithfull servant,

BREADALBANE.

For his Grace my Lord Comissioner.

35. JOHN EARL OF MELFORT to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

London, 9th July [16]85.

MY LORD,—I uas surprised to see it from Scotland this day, that the Earl of Morray had ureaten to you, that I uould not joyne uith him to represent

uhat ye desired in Lord Melvill's behalf. I never refused, but, on the contrary, pressed it. But to sho the falsness of that accusation, I uent to Earl Morray befor Collonell Maxuell, and inquired if he had said so ; for if he had, he kneu he had injured me. He suore, as he should ansuer to God, he never wreat any such thing to you in his lyfe : nor could he, for I uas ready, as I am upon all occations, to serve you. I shal make no further observations, but that I am, mor then any who dare say the contrary, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble servant,

MELFORT.

Monmouth is tane at Dorset shire ; inquire at my brother.

For the right honorable the Vicount of Tarbat, at Rowstoun, Scotland.

36. DONALD M'DONALD OF BENBECULA to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT,  
Lord Register.

Muidortt, 25th July 1685.

MY VERIE NOBLE LORD,—Since the Capitane's death, I am informed he allowed to yowr Lordship ane thowsand merks of his drove the lastt year, quherof yowr Lordship hes nott as yett gott payment, or if yow have itt was with much dificulattie and trowble to yowr Lordship to gett thatt areistmentt loosed. Bott as yowr Lordship hes ever beine a freind to our familie, soe have yow bein in thatt affair, quhilk, with yowr former favowrs, aughtt nott to be forgott, and shall never be forgott by me dureing my presentt statione or therefter. My Lord, if thatt money quhilk was arreistted be gott up, yowr Lordship may be pleased to call nott onely for yowr thowsand merks, bott for the hail fowrscoir fowr pownd sterling, and if itt be nott as yett gottine up, yowr Lordship may cawse John M<sup>c</sup>Farlane use all legall cowrse for recoverie therof be yowr Lordship's

advyce; and quhen recovered, your Lordship may call for itt in pairtt of paymentt of whatt is resttting yowr Lordship. And if itt shall altogither feall (as itt hes once done were nott yowr Lordships cair therof) I shall, God willing, be cairfull sua farr as in me lyes to see yowr Lordship satisfied sua shoone as possible I may and this esttattt allow, for of any creditors yowr Lordship aughtt nott to be posttponed. I have writtine a lyne to this effectt to John M<sup>c</sup>Farlane.—I restt, my verie noble Lord,

Your Lordship mostt humble servantt,

D. M<sup>c</sup>D., of Benbeculla.

For the verie honored my Lord Regisstter of Scotland.

37. DR. J. GORDON, London, to GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

London, 24 May 1687.

MY LORD,—The preservation of a person so knoweing, and so usefull, not only to the state, but also to the comonwealth of learneing, should be werie considerable to all concern'd in both or either; and tho my pretensions can ryse no heigher then to be a welewish to the mathematickes, as the proverbe goes, yet the particulare esteeme I haw for your merite makes me offer my advyse in case the troublesom ague should attacque your Lordship againe. To passe by the fyn speculations of Joanes,<sup>1</sup> Sacchius,<sup>2</sup> and of some late French wrytters concerning the materiall cause of this distemper, its loudgment, the various steps of its progres in formeing the paroxismes, with ther neatly contryw'd genealogie of all the symptomes, as not being a

<sup>1</sup> Joannes: three authors of this name wrote on medical subjects. One of these is known as author of a commentary on Aristotle's *Physics*, published at London in 1588; the second wrote on fevers; the third, surnamed *De Mediolano*, edited the "*Schola Salernitana*," a curious work in Leonine verses,

said to have been composed by the physicians of Salerno, for the instruction of Richard the First.

<sup>2</sup> Sacchius: probably Pompeius Saccius, the author of a "*Novum Systema Medicum*," and other medical treatises published at Venice in 1685 and 1686.

fitt subject for a letter, and that I find the result of the practicall part does not ansuer the promises of the theorie,—I give your Lordship an account of my practise, grounded (as my constant exsperience confirms) on solid reasons; and, because the minera morbi loudges in the stomak guts and their appendices, if ther be no counter indications, befor I give any specifickes, I vomite and purge my patients till I make the first region of the bodie wery cleane. If ther be a plethorie, I mak a proportion betuixt the masse of the blood and the cavities of the wessells, and then goe on securelie with specifickes without the feare of any subsequent paroxismes or hazard of a relapse. I give the womiter sex houres befor the fitt: if it work not downeward, quhen its operation is ower, I cause give a swinging glistier; and immediatly quhen it hes done, I give this bole (altering the doses according to all the circumstances of the patient):—℞. diascordii theriace Venete ana. ℥j; salis volat. succini bechii mineral. ana. ℥ss.; lad. opiat. gr. iij. mis.

I tryst the giving of this bole so, that the patient may fall asleep befor the fitt com. Quhen the sweat is ower, I purge off quhat the forgoeing womiter hes loused, and the sweatter wrought in to the internall cavities; and quhen the operatione of the purge is ower, I give ane ounce of sirup de meconio mix'd with two ounces of aq. cardui. to quyet the blood againe. Then quhen the minera morbij is thus dislougded, I ordaine the followeing bole every fourth houre in a quotidiane, ewerie sext hour in a tertian, ewerie eight in a quartan, for foure or fyw dayes; ℞. quinq. ℥j, sal. centaurij gr. x. cum sirup. gariophill. fi. bol. to each night bole; and to each bole befor the tym the fitt used to com, I ad one, two, or three gr. of lad. op. or mor, according [to] the condition and circumstances off my patient; and for som tym thereafter I obleidge my patients to tak three glasses a day of the tincture of quinq. made in strong claret, quhich I use quhen children and



persons of fyn pallates are concern'd who will not take boles. If the circumstances of my patients obeidg me to stop the feaver befor the cause be remou'd, I mak use of the tincture ; for I find quhen the first region off the body is full of tuff phlem and such humores, the bark beeing given in the substance, is not mastered by the ferment of the stomake, but loudges ther beeing inviscat by those wiscid recrements, and so procures werie troublesom symptoms. How soone I get the ague quyeted in such persons and they get som strenth, I remoue the minera morbi as formerlie ; and each night quhen the operatione of the medicin is ower, I give this bole ; R̄. quinq. ʒj, lad. op. gr. iij, cum sirup de meconio. fi. bolus. It's the falt of the phisitian, if purging medicines given after the use of the quinquina, in substance or tincture, cause any aiguishe paroxismes retoure. This method newer failes me, and Mr. Dumbarre will informe your Lordship how and how soone I cur'd him of a double tertian, after he was long in the hands of others in this place. Iff your Lordship would cause mak a dyet ale for your ordinarie drink, of the bitter herbes, such as dandilyon, fumiter, litle centaurie, carduus, wormwood, juniper berries, angelica, mace, and millipedes, it would contribute much to sweeten the blood. And if yow please to infuse in shirrie, zedoarie roots, gentian roots, calomus aromaticus, wormwood, litle centaurie, and the guallow of the rinds of oranges, and tak a glas of it in the morning, another be foure a clock in the afternoone, another goeing to bed, you will find advantage by it. But abow all, yow must keep the first region of your bodie cleame, els all alteratives ar to no purpose : so once a weeke, or at least once a fortnight, yow should scoure the keechie of all those humores or excrements may hinder good chilification and vitiat the chile, by some gentle medicine agrees best, and the drinking som tymes wyper wyn would not be inconvenient. I have sent the 9 doses of quinq. by Sir William Paterson, and quherin I can serve yow in this place non shall be mor

willing, and if your health receawe any advantage by my directions, it will procure extreame satisfaction to, my Lord, your Lordships most humble servant,

J. GORDON.

For preventing your ague, infuse in a chappen of good claret ane ounce of quinq. wele pudered, and after yow haw purg'd gently, tak twyse a day a glas of this tincture, for a weeke or two.

For the right honorable the Vicount off Tarbett.

38. HUGH DALLAS, Writer, to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Cantra, 3d June, 1687.

MY GOOD LORD,—This day in the afternoon, and at this place, my brother St. Martines did let me see your Lordship's letter to him, and not till then. The cause off that was fra the time he gott the letter till yesternight I had not occasion to see him, tuixt his being in Sutherland and the Aird. . . .

As to your Lordship's rights from the dignities, I mean your tacks off teinds, your Lordship shall have such as I have off them, and my brother the deane, your own kind freind and servant, will send you his tack, and referr the compositione to your selff. He never gave a tack to the late Cromartie, whatever he did to me; and for that ye and I will agree. . . .

I wrait to your Lordship since, that I made a further scrutinie [of the progress of Cromartie], and spok to Newhall, Drynie, and Hugh Baillie, and I find each of them have part. The first tuo gott them from Jonathan, and the last had ane essentiall paper, viz., the irredimable right and dispositione made be the magistrats, counsell, and comunitie off Cromartie, to Sir John, off the propertie, superioritie, few, and blensch dutie off all the burrow lands, roods, and tenements, to be holden *a me et de me*, gott be him in wmqhile Alexander

Davidson's chist, who was Cromartie's clerk, who I doubt not but had seine more off Cromartie's papers, but Hugh Baillic sayes he has no more. . . .

God be with your Lordship. I am, your Lordship's most humble, and most affectionat servant,

HUGH DALLAS.

Iff my health serve me, I will (God will[ing]) see yow this summer, but iff not I cannot help it. Yet I will do all I can at home for your Lordship; and send me information, and answer my letters from time to time. My brother had terrible cross vexation and stay wp in that Aird, among that averse hetroclite folk. What that may produce I know not; but I am sure your Lordship will hardly have logick to persuad him to goe there againe.

For the Vicecount Tarbat, Lord Register—These.

39. THE HONOURABLE ALEXANDER MELVILLE, afterwards LORD RAITH,  
to GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Monimail, September 14, 1687.

MY LORD,—I hear from my aunt, my Lady Wemyss, that her mother has both writt to yow and expects yow over to confirm her in her opinion of keeping the church, and expects yow will condemne my aunt for hearing Presbeterians, which I hope yow will not be rash in doeing, for reasons I shall acquaint your Lordship at meeting, but shift any such discourse with this, that persons ought not to be prest in matters of conscience. If yow doe otherwise, it will be a disobligation to my aunt; therefore I thought my self obliedged to advertise yow, for many of the present ministers have taken advantage of my ladies being failed to give a bad character of both her daughters, so that she is scarce in speaking terms with my mother, and my aunt has a very uncomfortable life with her. I pray yow let me know when yow come over, that I may come and hawek with yow, and learn yow the way

to Monimaill, and I shall tell yow my reason of this. My mother this night had a letter from my father, discharging her to writt any more, because he wold be come away or it came to hand. All here give their humble service to my lady and yow, and I am ever your affectionat, A. M.

My mothers letter being dated 21 August, I am hopefull he may be here or you be in Fife. I am sure this will incite yow to come over, and I hope moderate exercise will doe yow good. Your hauck is very good, and, if yow could get a good spaniole, I hope we shall have good sport; but I am scarce of them. For the right honorable the Viscount of Tarbatt.

40. JOHN EARL OF MELFORT to GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT. *Circa 1687.*

MY DEAR LORD,—I had the honor of your Lordships; and in the first place I most tell you that I made the uses your Lordship designed of all the peapers ye sent me, and shal endeavour to serve your Lordship to the best of my skill in uhat is hinted at in this—but no mony no cure; if no mony can be had, your Lordship shal not hav the truble of a journey hither upon that accompt. As for the joyneing of the lands, the King had no anger at you that I sau, nor uas there reason for it; but he apprehended the precedent, and my Lord Pouis was zealous in the mater. Ye hav done valiantly, with great truble to you, mor to the country, litle to the army; and all to God belongs the prayse of this warr; and I hope the King uill reuard you, for I kno that life, having bein in some such circumstances my self: and if it uer in my pouer I uold not injure the King, and yet lett the uorld kno, that it is a good thing to serve the King well. May God in his oun time sho the King uho are his best servants, and preserve poor old land of kakes from all that's ill! The 3 Scots regiments uer seen by the King yesterday, and this day he is so fond of them he uold see them againe, and bring the Queyn with

him. Officers and soldjeurs look nell and briske. I hope they shal not returne to Holland in haste. Our rebellion is dying as it began, all the rebells disperseing of themselves, without fighting; so that nou ther forces are reduced from 10 or 12 thousand rable to 4 or 5000, and they robbing the country wher they come; for at first they uer payed. If any neus come this night, I shal send it. Your Lordship has always bein my freind, and God knous if I could hav served you, I uold hav done it. Tell me playnely uhat this is ayles my Lord Thesaurer at me, for I fancy his Grace is much mistaken in many things, taking things for my designes that are not so, as he uill find; but if you uill be so kinde as to lett me kno, I uill assure your Lordship, that, directly or indirectly, I shal not on my part use uhat you say otheruays then your Lordship commands me. If ye doe not this, yet I cannot hinder myself from being with all cincerity imaginable, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and most faithfull servant,

MELFORT.

41. GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT to his son JOHN, MASTER OF TARBAT,  
16 January 1688.

DEARE SONNE,— . . . As to the building, I find it very expensive both their and heer, and am weary of it; but to put the house of Tarbat to some period in its shell, see what is to be done ther for provision of stone, and I shall send lyme. I exspected that there was timber enough at Tarbat for jeasts and rooff and windowes; but now that much of that is gone, cast up what will be necessar for floors and rooff, and try if yee can be provided of all att home ether be Bellnigown, Inercharron, or Alexander Ross, and at what rates. Yee will find it troublsome to cary them from Tainè, so advise whither yee will oblidge the sellers to deliver them at Tarbat or at Taine, for if yee think to gett cariage to draw them over, it were weell; for carying about

in a float seldome misses mischance : but as to the deals, bargan for them to be delivered at Tarbat. Or yee conclud, try if Sir James Calder will furnish yow ; perhaps he may, both better and cheaper.

The quality of the timber I will have as followes : the jeasts a foot in evry wall, and at least ten inch of good wood at the small end ; the rooff of good wood, and at least eight inch at the small end, for good timber is the strength of a building. Deals for sarking yee may have there, but I fear yee will not gett sufficient clean deals for flooring. I would not desyre them broad, but the longer the better, tho it were to 20 foot ; so try what length can be gott. I intend to box it all, at least the best part of it, with wanscott, and to make the windows sash, so that the timber for that most be provided from Holland, and I fear the carpenter from this. I likewise desyre to know as true a measure of the grounds, for yairds, avenues, and orchards, as can be, as I writt to you formerly ; and with all these I would have yow take a very short start to speak with me in the very begining of March, that I may speak with yow in all our concerns. And because your debts will trouble you heer (and that it is not in my power to pay them because my owne stresses me above what I can), I would meet yow in Balcasky, and goe over quietly, at the day yow will assure me, and 3 dayes will doe our busines. Of this none heer knowes, and none needs to know ther, but your wife, but as you were come to meet some body at Elgin. If yee find any occasion at Inernes or Cromarty in Februar of a vessel comeing to Leeth, send me as many willow stakes for planting as you can, and a deall of privet sach ; and with the first post send me grafts of pearlie and pitriach out of Lovitt. Your letters have fallen by my hand, so that I cannot find them, and therefore it's like I may have forgott to answer some particulars ; but that m[ay b]e amended heer-after. Adieu.

[Address wanting.]

42. J. M'DOUGALL of Dunolich, and thirteen others of the name of M'DOUGALL, to GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Dunollich, the — day of Apryll 1688.

MY LORD,—Our freind Duncan M'Dougall haveing come heir some weeks agoe, and haveing given ws ane accompt of your Lordship's continved kyndnes to Dunollich in matters befor the Exchequer, we could not with him bot give your Lordship our sense of it, and as we aeknowledg your Lordship to have beine the onlie instrument, wnder God, of keiping that familie from being extinct, and ws of his name desolat, soe shall we reckon our selves of all men the most vngrate, if on all occations we give not such sutabell returnes as in some measure may answer the great things your Lordship hes done for ws.

We ar told that ther is ane new stop to that signature your Lordship was pleased to procur wnder his Majesties royall hand to Dunolich, and that Blair Drumond hes occasioned it, on the accompt of ane pretended debt dew be some of Dunolich's prediccursors, and whervnto Blair hes now right. All we can say to it is that Dunolich was ever most willing to have satisfied all his just debt to creditors, soe far as his mean estat could allow, and that such rationall offers hes been mead to Blair himselfe as might have satisfied the justnes of his clame, bot yett rejected; and nothing will please him wnles Dunolich harken to his demands as ar not possibell for him to performe. And since your Lordship hes beine pleased to concern your selff for Dunollich and his familie hitherto, and that it's by your selffe, and not by him or any of ws, that soe great ane mark of his Majestis favour is confered wpon that familie, we doe therfor humblie intreat your Lordship wold be pleased to look to the pasing of the signature, and, if neid be, againe to recomend ws to such at court

as may, by your Lordship's intercession, procur a new letter from his Majestie for its dispatch: which, with your Lordship's former acts of kyndnes, shall be ane constant tye wpon ws ever to continew,

Your Lordship's most humbell and faithfull servants,

J. M<sup>c</sup>DOUGALL, Dunolich.

A. M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL, wncle to Ardincaple.	Co <sup>l</sup> . M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL, Tuttor of Ardin-
Jo. M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL of Ardmor.	capell.
ALEXR. M <sup>c</sup> DOWGALL of Kilmurie.	ALEXR. M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL, Tutor of
ALEXANDER M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL of Barnabok.	Gallanich.
HEW M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL, feir of Barnabock.	ALEXR. M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL of Corilorne.
ALLAN M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL of Cregainch.	ALLAN M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL of Soroba.
Jo. M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL, Dunaich.	DUN. M <sup>c</sup> DOUGALL of Knipuch.

My Lord, we have desyred Georg M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, on of the clerks of Exchequer, to wait wpon your Lordship, and to give your Lordship such informatiounes as may be requisit in our affair.

For my Lord Viscount Tarbot.

43. COLONEL JOHN HILL to [GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Belfast, 19th August 1688.

RIGHT HONORABLE AND MY VERY GOOD LORD,—I haue (by the hand of my very good freind Andrew Monro) been made happy in the honour I had by your Lordship's most kind and condisceing letter, of the 27th July, which gives me soe many fresh intimations of the continuance of your wonted fauour and goodnes. It is noe litle satisfaction to me, that a person of your honour and worth should soe far (in my declineinge dayes) owne your soe much obliged servant for your freind, and were I in proper circumstances to be justly cape-



able of that honour, I would not doubt to acquit myselfe (in some measure) answerable to the title your Lordship is pleased to grace me with.

This country, my Lord, is *bona terra*, but generally *mala gens*, which detracts from the sweetnes of it; and tho' sometyne of late in a condition of growing opulent, yet now inclineing to poverty. The trade (which formerly supported us), being abated, the commoditys of the country lye dead upon the peoples hands by reason they can get noe valluable price for them; by which meanes the rents (which formerly were wont to be well paid) are now either obtain'd with great difficulty (and that many tymes but partly), or in danger to be wholly lost, a great deal of land being forsaken by the tennents, and turned wast vpon the Landlords hands, and more like to vnderly the same fate. The government endeavors to make people of all perswations easie, saueinge what the fear of future events may lessen it: this is in short the sum of our present condicion. My Lord, I haue still a true love and freindship for your country, (because allwayes kind and civill to me), and could with all my heart lay my bones amongst them, had I but such gentle supports in that country as might render me easie and acceptable; for I presume not to ambition great matters (small being more suiteable both to my person and desires.) I thanke God I am as healthy as euer, and not much any wayes declin'd, (tho' years will bespeake themselues.)

I should doe yow wronge to beg your pardon for this trouble, since I know your generosity such as to pardon greater faults; only giue me leaue to assure your Lordship that as I allways was (since I had the honour to be knowne to yow) your obliged servant, now you haue bored my ear to your doore, and I am your servant for euer, and therefore give me leaue to subscribe, my Lord,

Your Lordship's faithfull, obedient and most humble servant whilst

JO. HILL.

44. J. M'DOUGALL, Dunolich, and nine others of the name of M'DOUGALL,  
to GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Dunollich, the 15 September 1688.

MY LORD,—I offer your Lordship the trouble of this, that I may hold out the trew sense I have of your Lordship's kyndnes to me and my famely, particularlie in that affair of ours befor the Exchequer; and as your Lordship was pleased to give the first ryse to that gift, soe I am told your Lordship hes not beine wanting in any thing that might hasten the perfyting of it, which shall be ane constant ty on all concerned in me to serve your Lordship and your noble familie after yow. It's littell els I can doe your Lordship at the tyme, bot to trouble yow with such fant expressions, which I beg your Lordship to accept of wntill providenc put me in a condition to doe greater things. Your Lordship knowes the state I and my name ar brought too by the practises of wicked men, soe that we cannot doe that for your Lordship which might be expected from such large sharers of your goodnes. Yett I assure your Lordship, the notice your Lordship hes had of ws at the tyme may make the generation after ws be of wse for your Lordship and your noble successors. This hes the subscriptions of

Your Lordship's humble and obedient servants,

CO<sup>LL</sup>. M'DOUGALL, tutor of Ardin-  
capell.

DUN. M'DOUGALL of Kneipoch.

ALEX<sup>R</sup>. M'DOUGALL of Corilorn.

HEW M'DOUGALL of Barnabock.

JO. M'DOUGALL of Ardmoir.

J. M'DOUGALL, Dunolich.

ALLAN M'DOUGALL of Cregainch.

JO. M'DOUGALL, Dunaich.

ALEX. M'DOUGALL, tutor of  
Gallanich.

A. M'DOUGALL of Soroba.

For my Lord Wiscunt of Tarbert—thes.

45. KENNETH FOURTH EARL OF SEAFORTH to his uncle, GEORGE,  
VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh Castle, October 25 [*circa* 1688].

MY LORD,—I hav receav'd both yours; and as your asistance in my present trouble is what I expected, and allways relay'd most on, so you may [assure] your self it meets with a just resentment, and that no body's advice shall weigh more with me, tho for this time I haue delay'd writing to Portland, having nither acquaintance nor interest with him. I judged my friends in that place speaking to him might be as succesfull; and for the petition, I doubt not but my brother Montgomrie, as he was desired, hes advised and comunicat it with your Lordship before this time, so that now remains only your concurrence with my friends ther to effectuat the affair; which I shall not press you to by arguments, since you kno so weel how much my circumstances requer it, and that nothing can be a greater obligation on,

My Lord,

Your affectionat nevoy, and oblidged servant,

SEAFORT.

For the right honourable the Vicecount of Tarbat—Thes. London.

46. MAJOR-GENERAL HUGH MACKAY to [GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Elgin, the 8 May 1689.

MY LORD,—According to your desyre, I have wryten to the Earle of Portland that you apprehended that you might be misrepresented to the King, assuring him that I never discover'd in your Lordship<sup>s</sup> but a most fervent zeale and desyre to see the Government of this Kingdom establish'd in the persons of their Majesties; and in short, that his Majestie cannot

doe better then hold himself to the testimony of my Lord Melvill, who is so attached to his Majestie's service and the interest of the protestant religion, that he wold not recommend his son, if he thought him capable to act against those principles: adding further, that I did commit to your direction and prudence the management of the difference betuixt the Highland clans and Argile, who was the first mover of it. I pray you then, my Lord, loose no tyme to gain Locheyl, assuring him from me of the King's favour and consideration if he shew himself active in breaking the Highland combination. I doe not beleeve the newes of a French fleet vpon the English coasts, because by this tyme both the Dutch and English are at sea. It is good that I cam to this countrey, for otherwyse I have raison to beleeve that the most parte of those northern shires wold by this tyme, willingly or forcedly, have been in armes against vs,—the mater of seven or eight hundred of the Macdonalds having joynd with Dundie by Invernesse, which made me march 25 mile in one day with the feu forces I had by me, to be at Elgin before them, where I have till now waited the arryvall of the hors which I left at Brechen. This day I march to Fores, and so to Invernesse, where (if they stay) I doubt not but wee shall have som action, but I apprehend they will betake them to the hills. I shall put a sufficient garison at Invernes before I leave the north, to free those partes (together with Grant's Regement, which they tell me shall be presently complect) from the lyck attempts hereafter. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant,

H. MACKAY.

47. The SAME to the SAME.

Invernesse, the 20th May 1689.

MY LORD,—Vpon som informations that your son, the Master, was very suspect if ther wer a party sufficient to secure him, I sent my nephew to

seize his person, so that I keep him now at Invernesse, not so close as others were kept at Edinburgh. As to Ballnagowen's pretension to the shirifdom of Rosse, 'tis certain som body ought to have it vpon whom wee may relye; for none of the name of Mackenzie came neare me, but Coule and Red Castel passing through. Men's too much policie may as readily ruine as precipitat resolutions sontymes; for God catcheth the wyse in the snares they laye. I wish all were of a disposition to doe things now as in the presence of God, to whom wee must shortly answer for all that wee shall doe in the flesh, whether good or bad; and I am sure that no indifferencie will content the papist party, if by a judgement of God (though it be not apparent as to humane vnderstanding as maters stand), they should have the beter of vs. Your Lordship ought to wryt earnestly vpon the head to them all, and presse it home vpon their consciences, being sure that one convinceing pas that you shall make in th'advancement of the present service shall plead more for your justification to the King against any your accusers (if such there be) then all that I can say or doe, though most inclined to shew my self allwayes and vpon all occasions, my Lord,

Yours,

H. MACKAY.

48. KENNETH FOURTH EARL OF SEAFORTH to his uncle, GEORGE, VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

January 17th [*circa* 1690].

MY LORD,—When my relations wrot to you from Fortrose, my reason of not joining with them was your shuning to see me as you went south, and no backwardness or aversion to what they proposed. As to thos things your Lordship complains so much of in me, as misinformation maks you

belive them, I am persvaded on a free comuning tvixt us, you'd be convict how much I'm wrongd in them; which I hop shortly to doe, since I'm just going south on the acount of the hard measur is threatned my bail, tho this tvel weeks bygon, I hav not been in condition to put on my cloaths. Most of the bail being your Lordship's friends, I doubt not but you'l prevent ther trouble as much as you can.—I am,

Your Lordship's affectionat nevoy and humble servant,

SEAFORT.

For the right honourable The Vicecount of Tarbat—Thes.

49. KENNETH FOURTH EARL OF SEAFORTH to COLONEL JOHN HILL.

May 30, 1690.

SIR,—Whilst I was in Irland, my good friend, the Earle of Langford, did aquant me of the great kindness you still expresst for my father's memory; and since my coming hear, I understand from all hands the proofs you've giv'n of it, not only towards my friends and relations, but also to my own privat concerns; which you may be sure I am very sensible of, and shall on all occasions indeavour gratfully to return. For which purpose I have sent this bearer express your lenth, that he may, by word of mouth, give you my particular acknoledgments: Therfor you may credit him as from

Your oblidged friend and servant,

SEAFORT.

For Collonell John Hill at Inverness—Thes.

50. COLONEL JOHN HILL to KENNETH FOURTH EARL OF SEAFORTH. [Copy.]

19th June 1690.

MY LORD,—My old kindnes to your family presses me to advise yow of any injury that may attend yow, and to request your Lordship to haue a care

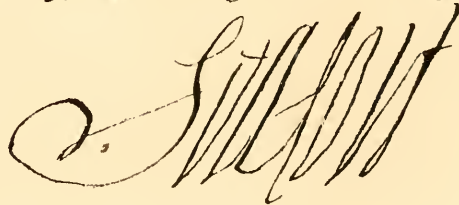
315

whilst I was in Ireland my good friend the Earle  
of Langford did acquaint me with the great kindness  
you still express for my father's memory and  
since my coming hear of understand from all  
hands the proofs you've given of it not only to  
wards my friends and relations but also to my  
own privat concerns which you may be sure I am  
very sensible of and shall on all occasions endeavour  
gratfully to return for which purpose I have sent  
this bearer express your letter that he may by  
word of mouth give you my particular acknowledg-  
ments therfor you may credit him as from

your obliged friend  
and servant

May 30

For



Colonel John Hill

Weg at Inverness





how yow joyne any of those who are now in armes in the hills against the King and Queen, or suffring them to come to yow ; for I finte, if yow doe, yow will be looked on as an enemy, and proceeded against accordingly, by the destruction of your country and interest, and to the great injury of your freinds ; for which I should be very sorry, for I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble servant,

J. H.

[The following copy is on the same sheet as the above, No. 50.]

19 June 1690.

MY LORD,—I haue your Lordships by Sir Thomas Southwell, to whom (on your Lordship's account as well as his owne) I will shew all the respect and kindnes I know how to expresse. I haue used (as hee will tell yow) all the freedom with him imagineable, and as becomes your true freind and servant. And for any thing that lookes like a greivance to yow, I hope to get it all remoued, aboute which I haue writen both to my Lord Comisioner and your vnclie my Lord Tarbat, this night, from whom I had a letter assuring me that the sherifdome of Rosse would soone be taken out of the hands it now is in ; and for your house at Brawne, that will, I hope, soone be remoued. For the souldiers presently quartered at Chanory, they are very civill men, and will be as respectfull to your Lordship as can be desired ; but they are shortly to be remoued ; and I doe assure your Lordship noe parte of the army hath been or is designed against your Lordship or country, euen before your resolucion was knowne,—for that I took care of. And because the former letter I writ to Majour Ferguson seemed to be limited to a tyme, I haue sent another to him more indefinite, in case hee should returne that wayes ; as alsoe a passe for your Lordship and retinue to come to Chanory, this towne, or any other parte in Rosse (which may be made use of as your Lordship sees cause), tho

I thinke Chanory the fittest place, as most safe and free from suspition, till all be settled to your satisfaccion (which I hope will quickly be); for, my Lord, your stay where yow are may render yow suspicious in these tymes of jealousie, and giue advantage to your opposites, and here yow shall hau all the civillity and freedome in the world, and nothing shall affect yow more then your enemyes shall be suffred to hurt yow. And therefore I pray your Lordship, as soone as this reacheth yow, to come from that place, where yow are neither soe safe nor soe convenient. . . .

My Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most humble servant.

51. ISABELLA COUNTESS OF SEAFORTH to her brother, GEORGE VISCOUNT OF  
TARBAT.

Chanry, 28 Jun 1690.

DEAR BROTHERE,—Befor I can meit with my sone, the day will be elapsed to which I am limeted, and my tutor, Hewgh, will not let me meit without a writen warant; so I beseich yow get mee on to the end of Jully or soom day in Agust. I hop ther neids be no scrupll in giuing it, for, God be thanked, all is peasabll hear. I sent up to see how he was, and to know if he wad com doun a pairt of the way to meit mee. I sent him a sight of your leter to me. His answeare to me is, that he imbrates your kynd offer and expects a proof of it. In the first plase, I wish ye wad get the garison remooued from Brahan, and get this plas freied from qwartering of sojers, which if don, I am in hops he will com doun and liue; for ye know his unhappy perswastion may mak his seruants and them fall foull. I wad wish all that might be shund. Any other thing for his safety and aduantag I neid not writ; ye can beter doe it your self, and I hop the comistioner will not be auerse. On

thing I most mynd and desyr, if posibill, that soom tym may be giuen me to prouyd the four mounths cess presently apoynted to be payed. Ye know at this tym of year no mony is to be had of our rent, and the last years rent is not yet efectuall, nor is it to be got hear to borrow; so that I most send to the Lewes and try if I can get so much on way or other, which will reqwyre soom tym. So I intreat yow procure a munths forbearanc or mor. This is enewgh of trubll at on tym from your affectionat sister and seruant,

ISOBELL SEAFORT.

I am so weary with my jurny that I could not think of going up the contry yet. I wish my [son] John wad be alowed to com hom, for I can get no mony to send him. I pray yow giu him your aduys in the mean tym.

For the Viscount of Tarbat—thes.

52. ANN SINCLAIR, VISCOUNTESS OF TARBAT, to her HUSBAND.

Castalleoud, the 21 of Juli [*circa* 1690].

MY DEAR LOVE,—I recued the horses, coues, and all as you wrot, uery will. I am uery sori of the disapoyntments you haue mett with. By the account I haue sene from Sir Georg Sinclair, Maye's moni was long ago redi, and I hope or this tyme you haue recued it. I am told ther was a ship of gret burdin brok to pices as she entered the Sutures, which I wonderd much att, lodend with irne and I know not what els. The men are all safe, and I hear they got uery good peniwortes of it; but nather my son, nor any ther, aquanted me any thing conserning hir; bot so sone as Iohn M'Leod come from the hilandes, which was the wery day I furst heard of it, I sent him ther to se what truth was in it and to secure the anker and best rop. I heard

the Invernes men boght op all at a uery shep rat. When John returnes I will send you a trow acount. I lykwayes sent him to se if any moni could be had for melle, or any thing els I had, for the litl uitwall that you and I sold, you know, ther day is nott comed; and I lykwayes sent to Chanri to see if Heow Bellr could send any. The litl moni I had I allwayes was giueing of it to the wark men. I had seuen or eght that behoued to haue payment euery Seterday. Its trow it was bot litl, but many smaes mackes a gret. I haue only ten or twelw pound to send, and if Iohn can get me any, I shall be seor to send it when he returnes. If I could get moni for butter or chies, I want not that. I haue giuen out a gret deall of chise for the neow crop—a ston of chis for a firlof of bear. This is as all my nighbores does, bot I can get non almost sold at marketes, for it giues small prise, ther is so gret plenti of it this year. Our wark goes on bott sloly. You know M<sup>c</sup>gumeri is not ouer suift, bot he is ioging on; I hope it will shortly be redi. I am iust going about to cut turff for laying the grines. I know not bot you may be angri, seing I had no derection wher to cut. We know no place bot ether from the syd of the moure as we goe to church, or in the wood about the hous. Dason is doeing on; and now that I haue horses, I hop something may be done, bot slades is the thing that kiles our horses, for cartes will not goe wher the stones ar. Dauet is busi skliting the turrets. I am only now waiting for a litl more lyme, which is uery ill to be had; for John nides for Tarbet, who is indid a uery good griue and becomed a uery frugale man. To tell the truth, ther is litl ealle drunk in his house or myne, not that we want it to any that comes, bott uhay is uery plenti, and when he stayes with me he drinks nothing bot uhay, except in the morning, and that uery litl, and it agries uery well with him. I browed only once since you uent from this. You know I had uery good aelle in the hous, which I botteled, and it keipes uery well; and I beliuie the wine is uery good to, for oght I know, for

we haue not gret us for it. Once we drunk a fiow botteles, when my sister Sefort come to dyne with me with her chaplen and brother in laue. I am told they fish preti will att Conen iust now. I resolue to send ouer and se how it goes with theme, when John returnes. I hear Wil Sinclair is married doun in Tarbat with Ann Doneldson, my woman. She uent from this without tacking liue, with chyld to him, and stayes with John to wash his linin and mack his bed. Tho she parted in that fasion with me, you know uery will ther is no obligation will oblidg you to pay Willem Sinclairs debt, or any thing he will say he took one my behalf, without they haue my hand-writ for it; uther wayes ill seruants, as he was on, might wrong masteres in a gret deall of moni. I left no accounts unpayed or giuen tikit for, as Jeames Linsay knowes, and Ann Menizes. You writ me no account of my sones wife. They tell me she is broght to bed of a doghter. I know not if it be so: I get neuer a letter from any of my doghteres, tho I writ many. I know not what you haue done with Jeames Sinclair and my thre fiue gini pises. This is anoff [at this] tyme. God preserue you and mack me thankfull for your recouery and helth you now haue. I am

Your faithfull

A. TARBAT.

For the Viscount of Tarbat.

53. JOHN FIRST MARQUIS OF ATHOLE to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

18 August, [circa 1690.]

MY DEAR LORD,—I received yours, 14 instant, concerning my Lord Lovett's business. You write my Lord Kinarde is very pressing about his money. If troubles had not falln out, I had certainly paid what I owe my Lord Lovett ere now; but the truth is, I am in noe better condition to

doe it then your Lordship is. I haue gott a summons from Megins and some others, for pretended fines. My estate is ruind, and if I must pay those fines, I must resolue to goe to prison and suffer any thing, for I am not able to doe it. Notwithstanding of my condition, it being just of it self, I am content to giue what securitie I am able to Mr. Yeaman or Liuetenantt Collonell Murray: and your Lordship will thinke what way to satisfie the rest thats oweing to my Lord Kinard, when you goe north. As for that of my Lady Wemes, I doe not well understand her claime; and if your Lordship whoe knowes it thinke fitt that Breay, or any other, will transact it as easie as can be on termes to pay it, for ought I know it may be a great advantage to my Lord Lovett. I writt in my last to entreat I might see your Lordship before you goe north; if you pleas, at Kinross, or to let me know where you woud haue me meet with you,—I shall not faile to waite on you; the sooner the better, for we are all like to be undon with those Highlanders. Tho you shoud make a starte and goe back againe, I shoud earnestly entreat that favour; and you woud be pleasd to cause Fleming, my servant, to giue me notice, that I might be advertised in time to waite on you. I am goeing tomorrow to Atholl, for all the paines that can be is takeing to debauche those people: but though I goe there, it shall not hinder my meeting with your Lordship where you will apoint. I am sory for the chase Master of Forbess has gott, for I am afraide soe long a chace may doe him hurt, and bring the diseas upon him the army brought out of the Highlands.—I am,

Your most faithfull humble servant,

ATHOLL.

For the Viscount of Tarbott.

54. ANN DUCHESS OF BUCCLEUCH and COUNTESS OF CORNWALLIS, and CHARLES LORD CORNWALLIS, to DAVID THIRD EARL OF LEVEN and GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Westminster, the 16th September 1690.

MY LORDS,—Wee being informed that by a late Act of parliament taking away patronadges, the heritors and church session are authorized to give a call to such persons as they shall thinke fitt to be there ministers ; and seeing wee live at such a distance from our estait in that kingdome, it can not be supposed that wee should have any knowledge of the fitness or abilitys of any persons to be preachers in any paroches,—therefore wee doe earnestly recommend to you to informe yourselves of persons that are qualifyd by law and fitt for the particular churches that they shall be called to, where our interest is concerned ; and for that end write to our chamberlens and others of your acquentance who live in these paroshes that are vacant, that they may doe there utmost dilligence for provideing ministers well qualifyd to such vacant paroches wherin any of our interest leys, and particularly to the paroshes of Hawick, Castletoun, and Canobie, the first being the most considerable mercet toun upon our grounds, the other two leying neer the bordors ; therefor require men of prouidence, as well as of piety and learning. Your caire herein will add to the favours done to,

My Lords,

Your Lordships most humble servants,

ANN BUCCLEUCH AND CORNWALLISS.  
CORNWALLIS.

To the Earle of Leven and the Lord Viscount of Tarbat—These.

## 55. HUGH LORD LOVAT to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Invernes, the 22 November 1690.

MY LORD,— . . . My Lord Kinairde is truly too long unpeyed, who had been satisfied er now had not these troublesome tymes fallen out, quhich putt me to great expenss by leiveing at Edinburgh, consumeing that which was appoynted for a parte of my Lord Kinairds payment, and quhat more money I could gett thir tuo years bygane. I have written to my Lord Atholl to give my Lord Kinairde satisfacione for what his Lordship owes me as my tocher, which is yet intire in his hands; and for what will be found over, that I am willing to give localities till Kinarde be payt. This is all that is possible for me to doe, and I hope your Lordship will endeavour with Kinairde to stop till I gett my Lord Atholls returne, and persuade him to be as easie to me as he can till my circumstances be better. . . . I add no more, but that I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordships affectionat nephew and humble servantt,

LOVETT.

For the right honorable the Viscounte of Tarbatt.

## 56. COLONEL JOHN HILL to [WILLIAM FIRST DUKE OF QUEENSBERRY].

Fort William, the 25th December 1690.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—Through the goodnes of God I am againe gott into a sedate posture. Captain Forbes brought from Edenburgh 1000 lib., with which I paid all the present officers and souldiers here a monethes pay;



and, by good providence, at the same tyme came in the ship from Greenock with 500 bolls of meal, which much rased my heart. And now the worst men I haue, Ewen Grant's men, are vnwillinge to leaue the place, and by bringing one or two to the gallowes they are much reformed, yet I know whom to keep (upon reforming the regiment), and whom to let goe.

The propose that Locheil and Keppoch made to the associates to lay downe and submit, hath had this effect, that they haue appoynted a day for all the associate gentlemen to meete, and then to put it to the vote; and then (these say) they are sure to carry itt, notwithstanding some of [them] will haue expectacions of assistance from France (who vndoubtedly will giue us all the diversion hee can). They haue had ill success of late with their releifes from Ireland; for one ship with amunicion and proviissions went in at Larne, in Ireland, neere Bellfast, and then surrendred, and in her were letters for Seafort and others; and a French frigot, with forty guns, bound for the highlands and isles, was cast away neere the Isle of Jura. The master of the ship that is now here, sayes he took the captain of the said French man of warr as hee came ashoar, and delivered him to the captain of the Fanfan, who for money let him goe. All this side of Lochabbor haue met, and put all the people to an oath amongst themselves, neither to steal nor receiue stollen goods; and last weeke Locheil hanged a man for stealing. The people are very glad of the chartour for Marybarrow, and of the expectacion of the school for their children. I will get seuerall in the spring to set up houses, and they say they hope neuer to see this countrey want the garrison againe, for twas neuer well with them since they wanted it. They seeme much designed for peace, and I find out all methods to spur them to itt, and hope to prevail. Could I get some way for Keppoch to make him liue, hee would be a very usefull man; and let any man say what he will, tis the setling this midle parte of the highlands (where all the mischeife is usually hateht, and

who are the most active men) that must do the worke. Doe this, and all the rest must follow. I feare I haue been too tedious, but willing to giue some account.

I am, may it please your Grace,

Your Graces most obliged, humble, and obedient servant,

JO. HILL.

[Address wanting.]

57. HUGH LORD LOVAT to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Phaneallan, the 26 December 1690.

MY LORD,—I received your Lordships kynd letter and wholesome advyce, which I intend (God willing) to prosecut, and accordinglye haw wretten to my Lord Marques of Atholl anent my Lord Kinhard's affair; and I hop your Lordship will speak to my Lord Kinhard in my nam, and see what localitie he will be content to take yeerlie for the rest of his money over what my Lord Marques is to satisfie, for I intend to sequestrat for his peyment all that my vther pressing debts will allow of, and what I shall condescend too or can spair will be mad verie effectuell yeirlic.

My Lord, the frequent impositiones, continuall thefts, and someinges vpon thir countries incapacitatts the people, soe that rents are not mad effectuell. I haw sent with the bearer, Relict, severall receipts and ordours for meall that was taken from me this yeer and the last, to see giv I can gait peyment or allowance therof, wherin I hop your Lordship will be assisting. Your Lordship verie weill knowes how my lands was over valued: and ther being a revaluation this yeer in the shyre, wherby I am som what eased, the Laird of Calder and some vtheris intends to brangle it; and to this purpose hes citted seueralls of the comissioners of this shyre befor the councell, wherof Relict is on. I intreat that your Lordship would be pleased to put too your helping

hand to keep the revaluatione inteir. The Laird of Grant will mainlie concerne himself in this affair, and the bearer will inform your Lordship of the stat of it at lenth.—I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionat nepheu and verie obleidged servant,

LOVETT.

For the ryht honorable the Viscount of Tarbett.

58. MARGARET ERSKINE,<sup>1</sup> widow of SIR JOHN MACKENZIE, to her son, GEORGE  
VISCOUNT OF TARBAT. *Circa* 1690.

Edinburgh, this Wedinsday, lat.

LOUING SONE,—Since I can not come to sie you, and it seims ye haue not leasour to come sie me, I mast tell you ar very onkynd, and litle concerned in your mother, when I am abused with a litle pitifull Seson Lord, aganst both reson and jusstis. What ever I suffered in my husbands time is wealenugh knowen, and what onjustice I got from that bench ; bot what he got I did bear it with als great patience as I think ever women did. I thought him worth more then I had to giue him ; bot I am sure I owe no kyndnes to his mein sprited sone. His wife wreat very imperiously to this same felow, to bring hir over my meall ; and now he wreats, to bring him my bear. The very last words of that decreit his father got, giues him onlie the adminstration of that rent, and apounts it for his alimint, and myn ; how he

<sup>1</sup> This lady was the second daughter of Sir George Erskine of Innerteill, in the county of Fife, and his co-heiress with her elder sister Anne, wife of John, third Lord Melville of Raith. Sir George was younger brother of Thomas first earl of Kellie, and in 1617 Sir George was appointed a Lord of Session, with the title of Lord Innerteill, and he retained his seat on the bench till his death in the

year 1646. His daughter Margaret, lady Mackenzie, survived her first husband, and married afterwards Sir James Foulis of Colinton, in the county of Edinburgh, who was appointed a Lord of Session in 1661, and Lord Justice-Clerk in 1684. He died in 1688.

This letter and the following one are holograph.

comes in for the thrid hand after his fathers death to seik my rent, I doe not onderstand. I pray you, giue you can get so much time, ax him and his advocats a reson for it. After this I intend never to make any agriment with him, bot take what the law will giue me. I know ther goodwill alredie, and how they can strech both reson and justice, and I mynd to haue another spring to the same tune. Recaeue the leter he sent over, and tak some cours to stop ther indiscretion, or els I miscall them very ill.

I rest your louing mother,

M. ASKYNE.

For my Lord Tarbitt.

59. THE SAME to THE SAME. *Circa* 1690.

MY DEIR GEORGE,—Your trouble is no small trouble to me; bot I hope ye ar so wise as to tak that befals you from God Almightye, and nothing hath befallen you but what is comen to men: and giue it war not for the ofending God Almightye, it wold bot trouble me litle; for thes thinges is inevitable, when young men and men in drink qwarles together. I put no qwestion bot ye haue enames, bot giue God be your frind ye neid not cair. I haue sent you your legasie befor I dy. I wold not haue you giue this gold away, onles it be at a strat. I got it from your father, and I think I can not bestow it beter then on your self. This with my blisen.

I rest your affectinat mother,

M. ASKYNE.

The lat Erle of Lithco<sup>1</sup> wold haue given me 36 pound sterling for it, to haue giuen the Duk of Yorrk, when he was heir. It is Lamormour gold.

For the Viscount of Tarbitt.

<sup>1</sup> Apparently George third Earl of Linlithgow, who died on 1st February 1690.

## 60. ANDREW FLETCHER of Saltoun to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, the 17th of April 1691.

MY LORD,—I confess I waghered Mons should be relived; but since that is now over, nixt after your son's affairs at court, I must have you to mynd myne. Thes are, that you would informe your self of all the new improuvements in husbandry, and buy the books of that kynd for your self and for me. Particularly, I would be informed what way land is to be used, when converted from arable into grass, for the first thrie or foure years, and what grain it is to be sowed with the last year that it is arable; in which you would mynd that if it be barley, we sow ours in summer, and the English theirs in winter. Let me know lickways if (those who, after the new way, take the bark of the trie in sommer, because then it comes best off, and lets it stand till winter befor it be cutt down, that so it may prove firme timber), if thy cutt off the head of the trie to gett the barke more easily of the branches in summer, and leave only the naked boll standing till winter; and what instruments thy make use of for getting the bark of the boll while it is still standing. But if I wer to recommend you the affairs of any of my friends, it should be that you should use your endeouers that my Lord Newbattel might have the regment of which he is lieutenant-collonell, and which would veray much oblige, my Lord,

Your most humble servant,

A. FLETCHER.

I can not thinck but you might have some satisfaction to look after the late progress of the Arrian oppinion, and the . . . relating to it.

For the Viscount of Tarbet.

## 61. ROBERT MACKAY TO GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Achrim, the 13 July 1691.

MY LORD,—My last to informe your Lordship was of Athlones being cary'd by a vigorus storme, and these of a more then ordinary defeat of our enemies. Since yesterday, being the 12 of this month, we gaue battel at Achrim, 14 miles from Athlone, in the countie of Gallaway, and from Galloway 21 miles. The enemy were at least 8000 men stronger then we, and most advantageously posted, for we attacqued them in there camp, haueing marched from Ballnislow in order of battell. I may ashure your Lordship that the Irish neuer fought any thing like to this since the conquest, both the armies haueing 48,000 men ingadged at once, both pretending the victory for at least 2 howres together. Our army was in several places repulss'd, as veal be the currence as number of owr enemies. At last my uncle, who had the honour to command the right ving of our army, composed of English and Scots, charging one the heade of 2 regiments of horss and one of dragoones, did cast the ballance after he receiued there charge, which oblidged them to retreat in great confusion, so that our left wing flancking there right, as did our right ther left. The slaughter was great, and the victory no less glorious. There French generall, St. Ruth, is kill'd, with two other brigadeers; the most of all there nobility are kill'd ore taken; two of there major generalls are taken, be names Dorrington and Hammilton. Brigadeer Gordon Oniel is kill'd, with a great many of ther best officers taken ore kill'd, to the number of 23 colonels. There were at least kill'd one the spot ods of 7000, for the field of battel is cowered with there dead, and three myles beyond it, or nearer fowr. We were masters of all there camp, both gunes, tents, armes, amunition, provisions; and just befor we ingadged, the general was pleas'd to giue me the honour of a lieutenant colonels command one a regiment, which, as he was

pleas'd to say, rendred some good service in the battel. We haue Major Generall Holstable kill'd, the Prince of Hesse wounded. My Lord George Hammilton, whose person and regiment behaved brauely, is slightly wounded in the leg by a ball; my Lord Cutts slightly wounded, with some other officers kill'd and wounded. We hade but 400 men kill'd at most. We took 24 paire of culleres and 6 standardes, two of which were of King Jamees guards. All owr troopes fought veal, tho there was never a victory more narrowly obtined.

Your Lordship will be pleas'd to send this account to my Lord Lewin, since I haue not tym to wret any more, being continually in motion night and day. I finde a great deal of civility from all owr generals, nor was there any of them but recommended me to the generall, Monsieur Ginckle. Being much oblidged, you will finde me with the greatest respect, my Lord,

Your most obedient and faithful servant,

ROB. MACKY.

Be pleas'd to giue my best respects to my Lady Tarbat and her order. I vish your Lordship good night, for its tym I sleep a litle, being 48 houres without any.

Lord Viscount Tarbat.

62. ELIZABETH DUCHESS OF GORDON to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Gordon Castle, the 16 of July [16]91.

MY LORD,—I am still soe much obleedged to your Lordships favour, that altho my designe now is to returne you thankes for your former one as to our parke, without the designe of giuing you new troubles, yet the nesesity and season of the yeare will not alow me to be sylent in sufering any longer

the abuses in Badenoh, both by the comander Captain Hewgh M'Kay and garison, who are become extreamly troblesome not only by their seuerall opretions in other things, but in particular that of their wasting the forests, and espetiall that of Gaik, being near them; [they] are soe imperious that the forester dares neither opose or find fault with the doers. The particular informations I refer to Sir James Grant, to whom they are sent to informe your Lordship off, and shall only add in this leter, that I am ashamed to be soe troblesom in the beging your asistance in geting redress; if not, I must take methods of my owne will not be soe pleasing as the only making a complaint, which [I] love not to doe without a cause, since noething can soe much incoradge me to it but the hauing by that an oportunity of telling your Lordship how much I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships humble servant,

ELIZA. GORDON.

For the right honorable my Lord Tarbett, at Edinburgh.

63. [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF MELVILLE to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.]

London, 25 July 1691.

MY DEARE LORD,—I have yours of the 16, and on two three dayes ago of an old daite by Mr. Gregory, whom I have not gott spoke to particularly, for ther wer severall company with me in the tyme, and he slipt away. I am not apt nor should misconstrue your not wretting often, being apt to fall in that same fault. All the construction I put on it was, that my ansuer to yours I had after your comeing had dissatisfied you, for you seemed in it to be displeased, though I thinke you had not reason, all things considered; and if you dowbt of my kindness, you are in the wrong.

I medle as litle now with publike concerns as any, and am a stranger to



all these late transactions, which I am glade off they ar out my reach. Bredalbin is gone to Flanders. I should thinke he deserves no less reward from another airth. Wee here this night that Galloway is taken. For the churchmen, they neither seeke nor have taken much of my advice, but I shall be sory if they doe any thing not allowable or to ther own prejudice; but I see you and I are not like to agree altogether upon that head as yett, and wee ar too great a distance to reasone the matter. I wonder wher the stike the passing your letter should be, nor knows what service I can doe you in it, till the King return. I know that I shall then; but to wrett about that now, I am affraied, wer the way to marr it, as matters stand. I know not, if pressing do it, why you should delay. I am confident Allexander will doe you all the kindnes he can.

I am yours,

M.

64. DR. DAVID GREGORIE, Professor of Mathematics, Edinburgh University, afterwards Savilian Professor of Astronomy, Oxford, to GEORGE VIS-COUNT OF TARBAT.

London, 27 August 1691.

MY LORD,—I could not take a fitter time to thank your Lordship for the favours I have found by the letters you wer pleased to give me, than on the arrivall of the wellcome news of the Master's being judicially acquitte. I heartily congratulate the justice done to your Lordships family and the nation by this process. My Lord Mellvill hath always, since I delivered your letters to him, been very kind to me. I sent your Lordships other letter to the Master of Stair to the camp in Flanders, and I make no doubt that he will, upon your Lordships recommendation, doe me all kindness. The profession of astronomie in Oxford is not yet disposed off, nor will it be untill the King

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return, which will be the first occasion of the electors being in town. I have, my Lord, two competitors. The city mathematicians declare for the one, and against the other, and Oxon University declares for the other against the first. The determining votes will be these of my Lord of Canterbury and the Earle of Nottingham, whom the rest will follow. I have had many compliments made me by the patrons of both contending parties, and characters given of me by them to the electors, which I can only wish to deserve, but still *salvo jure* of the man they wer recommending. Ther are none intirely for me without reserve, but Mr. Newton of Cambridge.

My Lord, wer it not for grievances that I need not tell to your Lordship, I should not be fond of changing, tho it wer in my choice; and since all I have done in it is by giving others occasion to talk of it by my being heir, and by being acquainted with the *virtuosi* of the city and universities, I shall not be concerned what may be the event, but shall still reckon my self happie if I continue to have the honour of your Lordships countenance and protection.—I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obliged servant,

D. GREGORIE.

The right honourable my Lord Viscount of Tarbat.

65. COLONEL JOHN HILL to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Fort William, 28th December 1691.

MY LORD,—My Majour hath acquainted me with the continuance of your Lordships favour to me, which still doth more endeare me and oblige me to all manner of thankfullnes.

On the 25th Locheil came in to me, and is gon to the Sherife to take the oath appoynted by the King's proclamacion, and soe straight for London to

assure the King of his fidelity and resolutions for the future to serve his Majestie to the vtmost of his power ; and I belecue hee will be able to bring in Keppoch, M'Laine, and Appin (if incouraged thereto). I pray your Lordship assist him in any of his affaires. If the incouragement hee gets may the better prevail with others to doe as he has done, I looke upon the worke as done, the ice being now broken. It were well some allowance of tyme were giuen beyond the first of January, to the end they may haue tyme to setle. I expect more shortly to come in ; but wee shall neuer get the countrey setle till wee haue a sherifdome as formerly, and all the sober people are longing for itt. As more occurs, your Lordship shall haue account thereof from, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble servant,

JO. HILL.

I find orders giuen for men to come to this place, which will be exceeding troublesome : and since Locheil is come in, and all the gentlemen [of] his name haue sworne before not to rise in armes against the King and Queen or Gouernment, there will [be] nothing to doe here ; and all Duke Gordons tennents of the M'Donalds in the Brae haue submitted, as doth also Badenoch ; soe that ther is none hereabouts to take course with but Keppoch, and the men that follow him of M'Intosh tennents, and Glengary ; for there is noe marching to Modiert and Knodiert or the Isles at this tyme. If Glengary would haue been wise in tyme, hee might haue done well, but the forti-fieing and keepeing out his house will ruin him ; but they are all upon his toes for settlement, but [he] very imprudently let the tyme elaps. Glencowe men wee can easily be alike with ; and the Appin people, except the laird and a few of the broken men, are all for settlement ; but the ordors I haue I shall obserue.

For the right honorable the Lord Viscount Tarbat.

## 66. SIR JOHN MACLAINE to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

30 March 1692.

MY LORD,—I had a letter last night from my Lord Argyle, by which he shewes me he used all the endeavoures he could to facilitate my business at Court, and that he had hitherto delayed doing himself right, wayteing to give me an opportunity to procure favour; but that now he was ordered to use all expedition in reducing the house off Dowart and fort of Kernburg, if I did not instantlie deliver them; and that he had no further commission to treat but in the said termes. I writte to your Lordship formerly, as alsoe to the Earle Breadalbane, sheweing my designe to submit to the Government, which putt me out of apprehension of being putt to further difficulties till I had some returne, which as yet I had not. I have writte to my Lord Argyle to allowe me a competent tyme to addresse to the King, and that I may have safe conduct to wayte on the King myself, and in the meane tyme delay all acts off hostilitie, which could have no other effect then putting me to unnecessary straights, and the publick to needless expence, when by delayeing a litle both may be shuned. I have sent this to let your Lordship knowe my circumstances, and to have advyce accordingly, and I leave it to your Lordship to take what methode yow thinke fitt to extricate me out off this difficulty. I have ever had such evident proofes off your Lordships extraordinarie care of my concernes, that you may easily beleeve I'll lay hold firmlie on whatever your Lordship advises, and shall wayte with impatience to heare from your Lordship. There is also an order, as I understand, for quartering on my estate for all the publick dewes since this revolution, which, if exacted, will of itself ruine the country, being already impoverished by the violent courses they of it have been trysted with, a greate part of it being layde waste this

good tyme by past. I have given Mr. Alexander Macleoid a full account of this, not to give your Lordship further trouble, but that I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships ever oblidged pupill and humble servant,

J. MACLAINE.

67. From ROBERT MACKAY [Address wanting].

Genope, the 9 July 1692.

MADAM,—Believing so greate a distance from what we most esteem ane evill no less deficult to be express'd then supported, I vill not presume to trouble your patience with the iteration; conjuring you only to belive that I feel the persecution of being so long depriv'd the felicity acquir'd be the admirable society of your noble person and family (so wery grivous), that my present thraldom will scarce admitt the idea of my former freedom without those piercing reflections most attend, that I ought not to pretend what I never deserved. But, Madam, men of my imploy desire always to be overcome be those of greatest merite, and since I most acknowledge fortune has extended its perfection in this respect, I cold haue vish'd all of you joy of a more deserving victory, and me only of my former freedom. I always indeawor to keep the best fellowship both of men and women of quality the cuntry I travell in doth afoord, and laying aside my particullar dutie (and high esteem), I most declare I newer inbrac'd any that cold aryve to that perfection of decency and discretion in adress and intertainment that your splendid family afoords. In this cuntry of Flanders, espetically in Ghent (where I stay'd most befor I came to the fields), they are mightly oblidging to strangeres, of ane agreeable conversation, pleasant in thier addresses, and novise cockquett. They haue houses a purpose, where men and ladies of the best quality do meet from seven to 10 at night, where they play freely, such

as please, and others converss ; in fyn all conforme to their fancy : and they are so very civill as sometimes to leave of play, one purpose to intertine a man that delights in their conversation. They have a particullar talent for advancing ane intrigue among others, being once of their acquaintance, by a smooth delivery of a pleasant raillery ; yet in particullar favoures much more indulgent to those of there own countrey then strangeres, which we cannot say in England, nor yet of Scotland, but more of Irland. I hade writt more frequently to your Ladiship, but that I am always indispos'd since we came to the fields with spitting of blood, which came by the vehement motion I hade with the regiment in hott veather, by which some vaine is stress'd. For this, Madam, and my impatience of seing from under your sweet hand the most acceptable newes of your selfe and order, I do humbly beg your receipt ; yet I'm fully persuaded the happy sight of so ravishing objects can only cure to perfection this bleeding breast of, Madam,

Your most faithfull, most obedient, and humble servant,

ROB. MACKAY.

I am so much a humble servant of all my noble cousenes, that the idea of there perfections bears always the deepest impression upon a constant lower.

68. MARGARET COUNTESS OF WEMYSS to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Leith, the 15th Jully [16]92.

MY LORD,—The occasion of my giving you this trouble is to informe you how the state of the calling a minister to South Leith is now contraverted. I shall in the first place intret your Lordship to be pleass'd to read the petition, which will informe you better then I can do by a letter, of this affair ; only this I most say, if Mr. Wishart be sent away, or rather forced away, from

this people, it will be the strangest thing ever was done of this kinde, for he has a call from the wholl elders and majestrats of Edinburgh and Leith, and from the major part of the heritours. And altho there is a call for one Mr. Gray to the parish of South Leith, yit this gentleman, Mr. Wishart, has much law and reason upon his side; and the other being a meer stranger to all this people, at lest to most of them, it is imposible that my good friend, my Lord Tarbat, can refuse so just a desire as to disoune Mr. Key and his pretended illegell session; and in your Lordships favouring this poor people here with your concurring to Mr. Wisharts call, your Lordship will extreamply oblige, my Lord,

Your most faithfull servant and affectionat cousin,

M. WEMYSS.

[Address wanting.]

69. [JOHN, MASTER, afterwards EARL, OF STAIR], to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF  
TARBAT.

Genep, July 17, 1692.

MY LORD,—Yow can not beleiv how different your opinion of the trew cure of our disseas is from that others uho hav mor influence hav of our affairs. The bringing in any that wer not *jure divino*, that wer ill toolls in former goverments, and not sur to this bot to mischeiv it, thats the caus our affairs ar ill feebly manadged by thos who have nothing so remarkable as ther skill to driv when they please. Shortly ther must be som things determined by the King, bot the far greatest must ly over till his return. I see not weill how any thing don by the Stats or ther grand committy, whither impoured to thes speciall matters or not, can be taken in consideration by the counsell. I think it's necessary to stop forder procedurs contrair to the

command of the King's letter. Bot for the givin releifs, even wher they may be just, I wish it may be as slow as can be, and I do not consider the difference at this tim of sentences by civill or ecclesiastick courts; for all the pouer the presbiterians hav to judge thes whom they will not allow to be a part of them, must be asscribed to the Act of Parliament impouring them to judg the maners and doctrin of the episcopall clergy, who otherwys could not bein subject to ther censur, not bein of ther church. I see that ther ar great apprehensions of alterations of measurs, and that the addressing clergy will be neglected and left to the others mercy, and that yow new incombers to the Stat will either be throuen out again or rendred insignificant; bot I knov no ground for thes phansys. I see weill enuch such things ar desingned, but whatever retardments thes projects make to busines, yett I never saw the King chang his sentiments or resolv on courses so contrair to his interest, on the reiterat assurances he hath givin to thes uho had applyed to him for his protection. All the whispers thats transmitted heir do alwys stat my father ranked with yow new intrants, and yett yow see hes as much to wash the black as can be. I wish my colleag may be satisfied of the reception he has with you, and that he may hav a fair trew light of the interest of the nation, and of the capacitys and inclinations of the partys in it. I must tell yov that the miscariadg of a letter from Duke Hamilton, daited the 3 of March, directed to my Lord Portland, hath bein the only caus that his conduct in the tim of danger was not as might hav bein expected. Thers nobody mor willing to giv a bredg or help his Grace with a shift to cover what no man can justify then I, if he had not layd the sham excuse to much upon me, for he complains that Mr. Elphistoun, the Master of Stair's deput, gott this letter from him; bot I am so much convict Mr. Elphisstoun wold not hav presumed such a thing, that I, with many mor, do not at all beleiv ther was any letter miscaryed; nor can that either



Lambeth house. 7. m<sup>br</sup> 24<sup>th</sup>. 1692

My Lord,

I received yo<sup>r</sup> Lop<sup>s</sup> very kind Letter, together with the inclosed  
Declaration which is such wild incoherent stuffe that I am amazed to  
find that after above fifty yeares experience men should continue  
still possess'd with the same Frenzie: But I hope the number of these  
senseles <sup>people</sup> is not great, and that a very little time will put an end to them  
I am very sorry to understand from so good a Judge of yo<sup>r</sup> affaires as yo<sup>r</sup>  
Lop<sup>s</sup> that they are so much out <sup>of</sup> order, which makes me afraid that  
things are not in so good a disposition & preparation for a new Parliament  
as were to be wish'd. But I hope that time & the good conduct of the wisers  
among you may bring things to a better temper. God grant that both here  
and with you we <sup>may</sup> know the things of our Peace in this our Day, before they  
be hid from our eyes: For if we do not come in a very little while to a  
better understanding and agreement among our selves there is one stander by  
and looks on who waits for the opportunity to swallow us up: which God avert.  
I entreat yo<sup>r</sup> Lop<sup>s</sup> to give my very humble service to my L<sup>d</sup>. Chancell<sup>r</sup>,  
the D. of Queensberry & my L<sup>d</sup>. Lithgow. I am with great respect,

My Lord, yo<sup>r</sup> Lop<sup>s</sup> most faithfull  
and humble servant

Jo. Cant



excuse or justify the conduct, tho it wer trew. Your letle freind hath bein so unnecessarily uneasy to herself for the danger of the campain, that she nather eat meat nor converst, whereby she is extreemly low. I present my humble duty to my Lady Tarbat. My dear Lord, adieu.

For my Lord Viscount of Tarbatt.

70. JOHN TILLOTSON, Archbishop of Canterbury, to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF  
TARBAT].

Lambeth house, September 24th 1692.

MY LORD,—I received your Lordships very kind letter, together with the inclosed declaration, which is such wild incoherent stuffe, that I am amazed to find that, after above fifty yeares experience, men should continue still possess'd with the same frenzie. But I hope the number of these senseles people is not great, and that a very litle time will put an end to them. I am very sorry to understand, from so good a judge of your affaires as your Lordship, that they are so much out of order, which makes me afraid that things are not in so good a disposition and preparation for a new parliament as were to be wish'd; but I hope that time and the good conduct of the wiser among you may bring things to a better temper. God grant that both here and with you we may know the things of our peace in this our day, before they be hid from our eyes. For, if we do not come in a very litle while to a better understanding and agreement among our selves, there is one stands by and looks on who waits for the opportunity to swallow us up, which God avert. I entreat your Lordship to give my very humble

service to my Lord Chancellour, and the Duke of Queensberry, and my Lord Lithgow. I am, with great respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and humble servant,

JO. CANT.

[No address.]

71. JOHN MARQUIS OF ATHOLE to THE SAME.

Dunkeld, 23d January [16]93.

MY LORD,—I have written to my Lord Kinnaird since I received yours, and I have had a returne from him. I find him very civill and discreett. He desyres four or fyve hundred pound sterling at Whitsunday next, and the rest within a year or tuo after. I am resolved to doe the one, and give him security to his satisfaitone for the rest; and he is to be with me affter Candlesmess, soe I hope that affair your Lordship is soe anxious about is now att ane end. Soe yee may see I have done as much as I cane for your Lordships ease and Lovetts good; and I hope yee will use noe further diligence against Lovett, which will doe noe good to your Lordship, but ruine his credditt. For I expect, since this is att ane end, yee will doe all yee cane for the standing of his familly, as yee have done formerly. His servant, Mr. Robertstone, will give your Lordship ane accompt of all this. I had almost forgott to tell you that your brother, Prestonehall, hes given the Lord Lovett a summons, tho Lovett knowes not for what; soe it seemes all his freinds are conspireing to his ruine. I will not trouble your Lordship with what useage I have mett with from your brother in assigneing my bond, and givinge me a charge of horning, without soe much as acquainting me. Your Lordship knows the bussines very weill, for yee was concerned in it. It will

be very harde to make me pay for a litle writting, since I gott noe good of that estate, it being taken away by ane act of parliament. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships faithfull humble servant,

ATHOLL.

For the Viscount of Tarbatt.

72. WILLIAM FIRST DUKE OF QUEENSBERRY to [THE SAME].

Sanquhar, 23d February [16]93.

MY DEAR LORD,—This is to aknowledge yours of 18 current, and doe conclude that, befor this tyme, the last resolutions about our parliaments sitting, what's to be done, and who ar to be comissioner, ar known wher yow ar; whereof I expect account from thence with great impatience, and doe heartily wish that such measurs be taken as may continue us in peace and quiet, which is all I'm concern'd in. I heard lately from my sone Drumlangrig, bot I find, that letters being soe frequently open'd, and soe bad use made of discoveries, that he does not wreat what he knowes. Howiver, I hope he shall be here verie soon, for which I long extreamly. I'm not resolv'd to be at Edinburgh till nieds I must, which short tyme will now determine. The uncertainty of my sone Georges health<sup>1</sup> does not a little disturb me, as I'm apprehensive it may disappoint his late designes touching the disposall of himselfe, for he tells me that his posting down brought all this upon him, and he dare not hazard to returne that way, bot is to goe in coach, which makes me conclud the King will be over befor he can be there.

<sup>1</sup> Lord George Douglas, here referred to, was the third son of the Duke. He died at Sanquhar, in the month of July after the date of this letter. The Duke presented the books which belonged to Lord George to the

Faculty of Advocates in Edinburgh; and in their library the presses containing the books are appropriately inscribed as the gift of the Duke.

Mr. James Smith is not yet come here, and what stays him I cannot imagin, for I'm told he parted from Edinburgh on Munday last. It's possible that his advice may be as dear to me, as they say the inseeing parliament will prove both in the busness of sess and excyse, and tho' I sufficiently know the madness of this magitt, yet I cannot resist it; and heireof James will give yow an account at his returne. Soe, my dear Lord, adiew, and have the justice to consider me, without possibility of change,

Your Lordships most faithfull and humble servant,

QUEENSBERRIE.

[Address wanting.]

73. JAMES SECOND EARL OF AIRLIE TO THE SAME.

Banffe, 13th Maii 1693.

MY LORD,—Since ever I had the good fortune of your acquaintance, I ever found your favour in all my concernes, which makes me give yow this trouble, intreating yow may be pleased to interpone with my lord commissioner, my lord chancellour, and the rest of the members of parliament, to have me excused for my absence in respect of my imbicility and old age. For the truth is, all this winter I have had a defluctione in my eyes, and hes never gone furth to my owen gardine this spring unsupported, wher I sat in a chair to take the aire. Excuse this borrowed pen, which the trouble of my eyes hes occasioned, which you may beleive for a truth from, my Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionat humble servant,

AIRLIE.

For the right honorable the Viscount of Tarbet, lord register—these.

## 74. JAMES FIRST VISCOUNT OF STAIR to THE SAME.

Stair, July 17, 1693.

MY LORD,—I received yours by Mr. Gibson. I am very sorry for the loss of his father, who was so fitted for his place. There is now non alyve of thes wer set on the binch at King Charles restitutione bot year selfe and I; and non of the then clerks remaine. I am so intangled in bussines, after ten years' absence, that I can not goe east at present; bot I have wrytten to my son David, to move Fowntanhall and others of the lords in towne to give a meetting for receaving Mr. George. I doe weell approve of year choice, and am confident he hath therby full right to that place. Yet, seing Mr. Jone M<sup>e</sup>Enzie was entred in the vacance, I thinke it may prevent importunitie to doe the lyke. If I could have so much tyme, it would only be at the next counsell day; bot that needs mak no delay of calling a meeting of the Lords. I sall say no mor at present, bot that in all sincerity I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordships faithfull freind and most humble servant,

STAIR.

For the right honorable the Viscount of Tarbet,  
clerk register.

## 75. [JOHN, MASTER, afterwards FIRST EARL, OF STAIR,] to THE SAME.

London, July 20, 1693.

MY LORD,—I hav yours by my brother. When I consider all, I think the tricks so gross, and so plainly desingned to distroy ther Magestys interest, that I phansy it can not fail to open the blindest eyes. Bot when I consider who advised the meeting of parliament, who will sustean and palliat all thats don, then I must fear matters may pase as formerly, and that the

litle displeasur will go over without a sufficient amendment. Already the Bishop of Salisbury is com, to run thoro the wordle with the admiration that his cusin had so great address and interest with the presbiterians as to bring them to the act which now maks the comprehension certain, if the episcopall clergy be not to blaim, and if ill men hav not to much pouer to keep them off. Be assured the King hath frie plain viewes of all the procedurs ther; and I do not see that he hath yett mad any steps to allow or follow them. If all be intyr till his return, it's wele. Trust me, the wanting of papers by the drowning of the packett bowt was another sham. I hav learnt nothing of the consultation at Kinneell. I beleiv it was to take measur how to justify ther procedurs, for they ar advertized of all that lyed to ther charg. I doubt not yow will hav intelligence of what pases at Glasgow to. Time draws neer they will deny every thing, as they do ther protestation taken ther. I think thers no body els now in toun.—My dear Lord, adiew.

For my Lord Viscount of Tarbatt.<sup>1</sup>

76. PATRICK THIRTEENTH LORD GLAMMIS, afterwards EARL OF STRATHMORE  
and of KINGHORN, to THE SAME.

Castle Lyon, Agust 14, 1693.

MY LORD,—When I waited on you at Royston, I gave you ane account of my brothers amour. Wee then thought your son-in-law would have been consulted in it, but I fear he has not, for I am confident Lord Balcaskie would have been freindly to us, and the rather since your Lordship knowes the thing is more then equall on my brothers part. However, very unexpectedly, my brother had a letter yesterday from his freind, young Pourie,

<sup>1</sup> This letter is not signed. It appears to have a seal bearing the Stair arms, with a label of three points.  
be holograph of the Master of Stair, and it



with on inclosed in it from his aunt, the old Lady Ady, wherein she declines the proposition, and sayes she do's it upon many considerations. Whither it be upon preference of som other, or upon malevolous information, I know not. The first would be a new thing, for att first she declared to Pourie that her daughter was not ingadged; and for the last, I cannot imagine whence it proceeds, except it be from these overruling phanaticks that are about the old lady. My brother indeed do's not pretend to be on. We have no diffidence of Pouries fidelity, and Balnomoon also pretends very fairly. Now, albeit my brother has writtne back to young Pourie that he shall be very easilie discharged, yet a given over play was never won, which makes me give your Lordship the trouble of this; and, if you please, to acquaint my Lord Balcaskie with it, and to try if it will please him to endeavour to give this affair a turn. If your son-in-law com to this countrey, I hope he will doe us the favour to come here. I wish his freindship may sett this affair right, and by your Lordship I shall expect ane answer. I wish it were speedily gon about; it will be very oblidging to all of us, and particularly to, my Lord,

Your most humble faithfull servant,

GLAMMISS.

For the right honorable the Viscount of Tarbatt.

77. JOHN M'KENZIE to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Brussils,  $\frac{\text{August 28,}}{\text{September 7,}}$  [16]93.

MY LORD,—This letter containes the sad story of Collonel Munros death, and the present unhappy circumstances of your Lordships neece, the most sorrowfull, disconsolat widow that ever I knew. After escapeing without wounds in the late unhappy action at Landen, it pleased the almighty dis-

poser of all things that he should contract a fever in the camp of Lewbeck, neare Hall, upon the 13 day of this current August, which obledged him to come to town next day; yet the season being so sickly that it forc'd many hundereds of officers and thousands of souldiers to do the same, we thought nothing of it. A physitian was called to cure him of the aigue, as we thought, but the truth is, as the doctor still complains, he was very backward in takeing what was prescribed. In few dayes his distemper grew so rageing, that his fitt, which lasted sometimes longer than twelw hours, brought him very low. However, dureing his intermission, he was somewhat calm, but very weake; yet then he would not let his lady believe that he was a dyeing, but would perswad her to the last that he would live and overcom it. However, we began to fear what came to pass, and call'd another doctor besides the ordinary, the most famous in all the town. But alas! for four or five dayes before he dyed, and I may say all along, his fever was so rageing, haveing fix'd in his head, that he was unable to hearken to any advice, or to speak sensibly, except to call for a drink by half wordes; which, as it was the most unhappy circumstance of his death, so it left us all in the dark concerning the state of his affaires, of which his lady or friends know very litle yet, except papers do cleare it; and that too I ame affraid is in great confusion, he himself being negligent in stateing his accounts. I know she will get friends to speak for her to the King, and indeed she will stand in need of assistance; for an honnest man was never worse stated than Collonel Munro was with a sad crew of hypocriticall, unmannerly, covetous clowns, of which they gave an early evidence by seaseing what was left by his servants in the camp before we could lay him under ground,—an action so durty that it cannot be parralel'd in the whole history of this wars; tho many in my own knowledge had greater reason to do it, and therefore is condemned in them to the highest degree by all the world. And what yet

shews the meannes of their spirits, being altogether incapable of an affront, they very wisely and gentilely seased sixtie guneys, that lay in a trunck there, and which, indeed, was all the ready money we could touch then for defraying the charges of the funeral, tho I ame shure it could satisfy no pretention. However, we laughed at their malice, and got our affair handsomely and gentilely done, and got the things too next day without any thanks to them. Our next care must be to see what can be made of them, and to see if the King will do any thing for her. After all, I ame affraid it was no profitable bargane, tho' she desires that none should know it but her friends. It's probable she must of necessity pass so much time here as will give her the advantage of receaveing your Lordships advice and comands, which may be directed to Mr. Nairn, the agent, with an intreaty that he may not discover any thing of Collonell Munroes affaires to her enemies, which may prejudice her, untill she come there herself to clear with him. If in the meane time I could serve not only your Lordships neece, but the meanest of your dependants, no man liveing would more chearfully, as there is none more oblidged to do it than, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble, most faithfull, and ready servant,

JO. M'KENZIE.

My Collonell and his brother, Major Robert, always minds your Lordship most affectionatly.

78. JANE MACKENZIE to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Pittsligo, 10 October 1693.

MY LORD,—Having hard thatt yow have now the greattes intrestt in my nevoy Mays fortovn, I mostt begg yow will be plesed, withovtt yovr oven pregidvss, to favovr my nice, Barbara Sincler, in leting hir have a portion

ovtt of her brothers fortovv, tho' I shall be far from desiring itt so greatt as once mightt have bein expected, or yet to wrong hir brother in his presentt condition; bott sven thing I wold have sequerd to hir. I have the greater confidence to pled this for hir, thatt I can asvr your Lordship, this 20 years, and the tyn she hes bein from me, she hes not in the lestt bein in anie thing byrdinam to the hoys of May, nor to non of hir relations ther. My requestt being so ivatt, gives me the greater hoyps your Lordship will nott be againestt a parattles yovng woman, tho I begg pardon for giving yow this troybell, and am allways, my Lord,

Your mostt affectionatt covsing and hvubell servaunt,

JANE MACKENZIE.

My hvubell servis to my Lady,

For the rightt honorable the Vicountt of Tarbutt.

79. JAMES MACKENZIE, afterwards LORD ROYSTOUN, to his Father, GEORGE  
VISCOUNT OF TARBUT.

Utrecht, October 18, [16]93.

MY LORD,—I am now, God be thanked, safelie arrived at Utrecht. On the 5 instant I left London, but when I came to Greenwich, the yachts were gone down to the buy on the Nore. I immediatlie thereupon went on board a smack goeing for Deal, and, when we came near the Nore, we see a great fleet under sail, but none at all at anchor, so that I dispaired of goeing to Holland this winter. This fleet proved to be the great ships coming to Chattam. As we went throw the fleet, we learnt that the yachts designed for the King were gone up Chattam river, there to lye till such time as the convoy was readie. I then left the smack, and went after them in a litle

boat belonging to the men of war, but they sailed too fast for us to come at them. So I landed at Sheerness, and in the evening, after having viewed that fort, I went on board one of the yachts. I had before got a warrant from the Lords of the Admiralty, which I gave to the captain, who was verie civil to me. I went on board on the Fryday, and there lay at anchor till Sunday, so that I had the opportunity of seeing the fleet, for we lay within a pair of the Brittain. I need say nothing of them, for your Lordship see them formerlie. On the 9 we sett sail under convoy of 4 great ships, commanded by our countrie man rear admiral Mitchell. On the 11 we came in sight of Holland, and landed at the Briell. That night I left the yacht, and went up to Rotterdam in companie of 2 French gentlemen. I found that, before I touched land, I had spent 5 guineas. It cost me 2 for a warrant, 2 to the captain, and 1 before I went on board for boats from London to Chattam. This is a great towne, and the second in Holland. There are but few things remarkable in it, onlie Erasmus his statue erected in the markett place, and the great church, where I see intombed severall admiralls. From thence I went to Delt, a verie neat towne. This is the great magazine of Holland. In one of their churches are to be seen the tombs of William the Great and Admiral Truap, and, in the closter, you have a brass pillar with ane inscriptions shewing how that Prince was killed by a Jesuite, with his deserved punishment. From Delt I went to the Hague, the fairest village of the world. There are here many things verie curious, as the Prince's palace and his house in the wood, in a hall belonging to which are to be seen a great many fine pictures done by the most famous painters of Europe. Portlands gardens are well worth the seeing. The King was at the same time at the Hague, onlie waiting for a fair wind. On the 13 I went to Leyden. Here I see the closet of the famous Herman, the choicest collectione of curiosities in Europe; here is likewise the best col-

lectione of plants and shrubs in the world ; a great manie other things they have, which for brevities sake I omitt. Here I staid some days. On the 16 I went for Utrecht. In my way I see the Rhine, which, tho it retains the name, is but a small branch of it. I found here a great manie Scotsmen, —I believe no less then fiftie. Lantoune and his ladie are to leave this place so soon as my Lord Ballcarras comes here, and from hence to Hamburg. I am not yet settled, nor do I intend it till I hear from your Lordshipp, for I am affraid I cannot live so cheap here as in Oxford. They have two different ways of liveing in this place ; either they pension, or eat in ane ordinarie. In the first, they pay for chamber and diet 15 shillings a week ; in the other they pay 7 for dinner onlie. You cannot gett a tollerable chamber under 4 shillings. This makes 11, besides breakfast and supper, which cannot cost me much under a crown ; and considering the inconvenience and danger of goeing abroad at night for supper, which I must certainelie be obliged to do, I think the first the best way. Then ten ducatoons for everie colledge. My expences in my journey to this place are all extraordinarie, so that, for this year, I am afraid I cannot live under ane hundred pounds, as few or none here do. I would verie willinglie, if possible, put your Lordship to less expences. This year has been verie fatall to Scotsmen in this place and in Leyden, few or none escapeing ane ague or fever ; 3 or 4 dyed, among them a son of Sir James Hay of Limplum, who is verie much regrated. He was one of the best scholars Dr. Gregorie ever had ; and I, tho this be the best season, and tho I have taken as good care as possible, am a litle troubled with the cold, so that if your Lordshipp find anie other place as convenient, I would willinglie leave this place. Not but I like it verie well for everie thing but the air, which I have good reason to fear, considering the thinness of my bodie ; and I think health is preferrable to anie thing in this world. However, in this as in all other things, I shall submitt to your Lordshipps determina-

tion. But I fear I am too tedious, and I shall deferr anie other thing I have to say till my next.

I remaine your Lordshipps dutifull son,

J.A. MACKENZIE.

80. [JOHN, MASTER, afterwards FIRST EARL OF STAIR, to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.]

London, November 24, 1693.

MY LORD,—By what the King hath now don its evident he hath a serious inclination to protect the northern clergy, and will not suffer bigotry to reing, if he can. The clergy ar to be advised to signify all the deutifull senc of it imaginable, and complyanc to his inclinations. The last appearance that he mad towards the cavalleer sid, there was litle senc of it uhill it was lost, as not having the effects expected. The more the people ar thancfull and content, the mor others will freett and kyth. Now, if the clergy and layity wold shew inclinations to take the oaths, we might be rid of this sett that ryds the King and nation both. D. H. thinks he shall serv the King and pleas all partys. I wish he may, bot still another session of parliament is as pleasing to him as it should be profitable to yow. That many projects have failled without our being forced to undertake to make the asse speak, you will acknolege. One again we hav no common theem, lyk the crying out upon bigotry, and the narrownes to exclud in church and stat all bot ourselves. I doubt not yow will consider with freinds how to improv this blink. I hop it shall keep us from dispair or asking forrain forces this year, and that the nixt may be mor succesfull. My dear Lord, adeiu.

81. [JOHN FIRST EARL OF BREADALBANE] to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

London, December 7th, [16]93.

MY LORD,—I receavd yours of the 30th. I sett it out of all apprehensions of doubting, that your Lordship and other freinds do beleev but that all industrie has been vsd to know if it was practicible to get you and E. L. to come vp, not to mak apologies (for ther uas no cause), but to assist by debate and strenth of reason to convince the King that matters uer mistaken as to the publict, and ill measurs taken which ought to be rectified. But after many consults uith our freinds, and conferences amongst ourselvs, wee found that impracticable, and not to be touched without resolving to get the refusall and to giv offence. The nixt poynt to manage, uas to know how farr it uas resolvd to prosecut the bigotts sumer designs of laying us aside (which you know uas that uas avouedly talkt of, and by us very much expected, and particularly your post for its sake, and mine for my sake, and E. L. on the same foot); and that such others as dissented in parliament from the violent motions should fall under our condemnation, and so suffer for ther oun faults, and for our saiks, as Sir P. M. and Sir R. L. did. But it has been so managd that the King has declar'd his pleasure not to mak any such alteration as was aprehended, and if these tuo forsaid's uer not then done, uould not yet be done. This being with managment seccurd, and the assistance of our good freinds concurring, and D. H. (who has audience and access when he pleases) brought not [to] oppose, but giv uay to it, was by beholders judgd all could under such circumstances be expected. I suppose wee do not at this conjunctour dream of promotions; its very fair uer stand our ground. I wish it hold to the end; and to get this without strugle, without stageing, and articing, or to be heard in publict, and in danger of Mr. Cast. [Carstares] taking it to ane advizandum, in our sense uas no small service; and if all of



us had been here mor could not be expected—if men at distance knew, as such as ar on the place do. By contest I hav seen bargans spilt, which by ane easie hand coms better to plye. The absents hav, I am sure, on advantage by saving their money, which I lay out, who has no higher veiw as to my self but not to be affronted in the maner of laying me aside. Ther is a far veiw in head of ane other session of parliament; nor am I against it, as farr as I yit understand the instructions or the inclinations of the apparent commissioner. He told me this day that he should not be for the episcopal clergie taking oaths, intill first the general assembly receavd them into ther number *in omnibus*. Uee did undertak, as its say'd, and fayld in the probation. Others now uill undertake much more, and I uish they may succeed in any thing that uill make us liv easie and quiet; for if uee be uearie of our contests uhen at home, uee may be ashand of them here, uher wee ar the toun and court talk. All endeavours uill be vsd to hav certanties given to the clergie, to prevent the objections of former disapoyntments. But I need not tell yow, uho is a much mor experienced statsman then I'll pretend to, that if yow can not as yow uould, yet seem uell pleasd uith uhat you may.—Adieu.

For the Viscount of Tarmat.

[Sealed with armorial seal of the first Earl of Breadalbane.]

82. LADY MARY CAMPBELL, COUNTESS OF CAITHNESS, to GEORGE  
VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

London, January 30, [16]94.

MY LORD,—By your constant civilitie to me, you hav made me beleev that itt will not displeas your Lordship that I hav made choice of you befor

all others to overse the drawing vp of a bond, which is of so great conserne to your cosen my son, as you will be informed of by the inclosed memorandum, which is writt by my Lord himselff. I hav seen papers drawn up, which hath left great ground of debatt; I wold have this verie plain, so that ther can be no contraversie about it afterwards. I intreat the favour that you will send up the draught of the bond as soon as you can, that itt may again com unto your hands to be registrat. My Lord is so franck in this affair to giv my son an honorable provition, that I hav good ground to think itt will be the first dett he will releev his estat of. I hop to se you in Scotland when the season becoms fitt for me to travell in. I hav got a governor to Colin, who is comended as a verie fitt man for such an imployment. Such things as are not taught in the scoul wher he is bourded, his tutor is to teach him at his lodging. Colin hath made a considerable advance in his French, and is now learning the mathamaticks. As for his philosophie and law, his tuttor is very capable to teach him thes principls; and I doe think he may make as good advances in thes studys hear as at Oxfourd, wher the younge gentelmen are but taught in ther chambers by such as are apointed ther tutor. I went this last September to Oxfourd, and stayed ther too weeks, and did inform my selfe verie fully of all the ways that such as my son wold be managed in that place; and when I considered the good and ill that is to be learnt ther, I concluded that my sons education may be ful as well hear at London as at Oxfourd. Being sixtene, he shal still be bourded with his French maister, who is a discreet, well bred man; and when Colin is something advanced in such lesons as are thought fitt for him, ther is an verie good academie hear. My Lord is very free to be at the charge of every thing that is proper for Colins education, and, I thank God, the child is very willing to learn, and I hop in a few years he shal be capable to serv your Lordship;

for I shal not neglect to instruct him of his deutie to you. Forgiv this trouble from

Your Lordships most humble servant,

M. CAITHNES.

For the right honourable my Lord Vicount of Tarbatt,  
at Edinburgh, Scotland.

83. [JOHN FIRST EARL OF BREADALBANE] to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

London, March 8th, [16]94.

MY LORD,—I hav forever lost my court with the presbytery, so call'd, for Meffen. I hav produced all you sent me, first and last, as a patern of that mild way the litle courts will proceed whenever they ar but illuminat. The retreat found out hear for acting against and rejecting the pluralities call, is, that they ver not qualified,—had not taken the oaths. This choaks, and ther is no ansuer to be given; and I forsee that therby the presbyterians may get into ther hands the planting of all the vacancies in the kingdome; nor will they stay ther 6 months for deliberation. That, and disarming all Highlanders, and dismounting all Loulanders, ar prudent moderat advyces. If it do uell, I deserv no thanks; if otheruayes, I hav given testimonie, and so am exonerat. But at present it's to no purpose to addresse, to debate, or to struggle; and, in the mean time, all ill will is got, wherof yow ar all free; and it's sayd to me that I am obedient to law when I please, but I sayd it pleases me to be so aluayes. It may be the King will at Winchester declar his pleasur for the G. A.; he has taken it to his advisandum. I am clearing my bagadge to be readie at his return, and uhen wee meet wee will resolv whoes turn it shall be nixt. Adieu, my dear Lord.

For the Viscount of Tarnat.

84. [WILLIAM FIRST DUKE OF QUEENSBERRY] to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Sanquhar, 19 March, [16]94.

MY DEAR LORD,—Last night brought me your Lordships most obliging letter, for which I returne yow many thanks. Yow had hear'd from me oftner this winter, bot that this place affords little worth your trowble, and that I have bein verrie bad this winter,—but doe thank God I'm now soe much better that I hope to wait on yow at Edinburgh in few weeks; bot the weather is yet soe unseasonable that I dar not hazard abroad. As to our publick bussiness, both of church and state, I'm possitively of your opinion, and doe long extreamly to speak with yow on the matter, nothing of this kind being to be treated at distance. Its noe wonder my sone Drumlangrig does not trowble yow often with his letters, for he verrie seldom wreats to me, and I believe for the same reason ye mention. I'm much of your opinion that our General Assembly will sitt at the tyme appointed, in which cace Lord Carmichell will certainly be commissioner. I have not hear'd from Earl Linlithgow these many weeks, and am much surprizd to find that he lately shun'd apearin for me in the treasurie, in a matter wher my satisfaction and intrest wer much concerned. The particullar he knoues, and will tell yow, soe I nied not trowble your Lordship with account of it; only I'm sure I wold not have shuned to serve him in a matter of much greater consequence. I hope to gett the bussiness done elsewher, bot I had much rather have oued the obligation to my friends here. If, befor I have the happiness to sie your Lordship at Edinburgh, any thing occur worth your trouble, I expect ye'll acquaint me. Soe, my dear Lord, till meiting, adieu hertely.

For the Viscont of Tarbett, Lord Register.

85. CHARLES FIRST DUKE OF LENNOX AND RICHMOND to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

London, June the first, 1694.

THE very great esteem the King, my father, had for your Lordship, and which you have soe well made good by your respects to his memory, I hope will benefit me with your friendship to this gentleman, Mr. Bell, and the authority he brings to inspect my affaires in Scotland, where I intend to be noe stranger, having the honour to be a Scotchman, and to inherit the name and superiorityes of my predecessors, the Dukes of Lenox. I will succeed them, as near as I can, in their justice and good to men of honour and honesty, and shall think I walk securely when I am conducted by your Lordships kindness and good advice, which shall be valued with sutable respect and resentment by, my Lord,

Your most humble servant,

LENOX AND RICHMOND.

86. JAMES EARL OF ARRAN, afterwards FOURTH DUKE OF HAMILTON, to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

London, December 4, 1694.

MY LORD,—My sister Dundonald tels me that yow have been pleased to appear freindly in a concerne of her sones which is now befor yow. I hope you'l find what she desires soe just, that a sollicitation upon that subject is not nessary ; however I, being a tutore to my nephew, thinkes myself obliged to joyne with thos that would indeavour to remouve ane ungraitfull servant. I wont at this distance enter into particulars. I suposse the proofes will

bee so evident which yow will have befor yow, that ther will bee noe hesitation in the matter; so that I hope thos that would countenance and assist ane unfaithfull servant will bee ashaimed of itt. I am sure noebody can wonder at my concerne, nore the interest I take in what relaittes both to my sister and my nephew, which I recomend to your Lordship as my oun, bieng perswaded of your justice, and the good will you have for

Your most humbell servant,

A<sup>~</sup>RAN.

For the Viscount of Tarbatt.

87. MAJOR ROBERT MACKAY to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

London, the 20th December 1694.

MY LORD,—I receiued your commands, and an senceable of the honour you was pleas'd to do me by your recommendation to Inverlochy. But now I finde the old gentleman is not weari'd of this post; for we are told he is recovering. Meantime friends are indeavouring to haue my brother to Scotland; and I wish to God he hade a yeares respyt. He hade the news of Hill's being dead, and did wryt to me about that post. Sir John spok to the King of it, but hade no positive ansuer. If he came to Scotland, my next best is to command his regiment in Flanders, which would take very weall, by which Hamilton would get my regiment, in caice any thing befell Hill. My Lord Chancellor will not be here till the 27 instant, and till he come, we do nothing. Yesterday the bill for regulating caices of treason and misprition pass'd in the house off Comons, *nemo contradicente*. What the King says to it we know not. Ther's no forraigne news. My Lord Lexinton is arived at Vienne. Be pleas'd to giue my Lord B[r]eadalbane the trouble of my best thanks for being at paines to wryt to the same purpose with your Lordship; no man alive shall in any station be more ready to serve you both than I

shall. . . . Let me congratullat my Lord Duke of Gordons inlargment with all transport ; I doupt not (and faithfully I wish) that, in order to a greater. Tell him I haue his collar of the order of St. Andrews, in which some of the small chaines that fasten the thistles to the crosses are brock, which in my opinion can be better fastn'd here as their. If his Grace pleases, I shall see them weall don. I will not fail to serve Madam Monro all that lyes in me, and shall be proud if in that, or any thing else, I appeare as much as I really am, my deare Lord,

Your most oblidged and faithfull affectionat servant,

ROBT. MACKAY.

If my Ladie Tarbat come last under this pen, it is not that shee is last in my thought, but last out on't.

88. ÆNEAS MACKAY to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Bommel, January  $\frac{28}{18}$ , 1695.

MY LORD,—The expectation I vas in of giveing your Lordship the account of some decisive action this sumer in Flanders, and the missforton I hade of falling sick, soon after my retorne from the baithes, could only have made my silence hithertoo excuseable. I am informed by my brother your Lordship vas pleas'd to favour me with your recommendation to succeed in the command of the forces in Scotland, which is soe much the mor feeling that it comes unrequered : soe if I were oblidg'd to show in wryt the resentment I have of your friendship, I could not but be at a loss, tho I may with all freedom say ther's not a Mackenzie alive mor yours than my self, and that in what ever circumstance I may be found, inclination shall newer be wanting to wittness the same. I doubt not but your son, the Master, and Mr. John Mackenzie, have inform'd your Lordship of the circumstance he and his lady

were in when they came to Brussells, and of my readiness to serve them till such tyme as they could be suply'd from home, being then without money or credit in a strang countrie, which vas occation'd, as they inform'd me, by the loss they sustain'd at sea. I shall long for ane occation wherby I may say as well as wryt how much I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most oblidg'd cousen and servant,

ÆN. MACKAY.

Pray give my humble duties to my Lady. I shall give the Master the pictur I promised to her Ladyship.

89. GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT to MR. WILLIAM CARSTARES.<sup>1</sup>

May 16, 1695.

SIR,—I know too well the temper of our hott party, not to know with that how inconvenient it were for you to be seen in my company ; yet, since I am sure you wish them well, and the King at ease from their turbulent designs, it will not displease you to carry to the King what may contribute to both these ends, which, I can assure you, this inclosed will in some measure do. I intreat you to represent to his Majesty that I am neither afraid of my adversars, . . . for I am not guilty of a thought prejudicial to him, nor wearied of serveing him ; but, if he judge it either fit or easy to please a party, with allowing my address for a private lyfe, I can as willingly quit a beneficial office to serve him as they can trouble him untill they get it. Though I am afraid this will not cure the distemper, yet its all that I can contribute to it. But when their heat cannot bear with the Earl Melvilles family and with you, to whom they owe, under the King, all the power they

<sup>1</sup> Carstares State-Papers and Letters (Edinburgh, 1774), p. 229.



have, I can little wonder of their fretting at me; but I hope their folly will not frighten the King from so faithful servants, nor you from giving him counsell for their sakes, whose fire will hurry to self-prejudice, if not stopt by prudence. I hope my fidelity in endeavouring to enlarge the bottom of his Majestys government, and especially by bringing in of such of the northern clergy as would qualify themselves for ecclesiastic office, according to the present law, will not always be considered as undutifulness in me; I wish the holding of so many out be not. But I shall be best pleased if my fears for the effects of these heats be disappointed. I will adventure to intreat the favour of you to second my desire to the King in giving me a safe and easy retreat, and to favour me with a letter, whereby those in the government may know that my person, my little estate, and the pension which his Majesty hath given me during my life, and not depending on my being in or out of employment, may be secure by his Majestys protection; and, if you please to give him my faithful assurance of being as zealous for his person and interest when in a private, as if I were in the highest, station, I will make good your promise, and likewise assure you, that by doing this you will very much oblige me, and ingage me to be, Sir,

Your faithful friend and servant,

TARBAT.

RIGHT TRUSTY SIR,—We having allowed our right well beloved and right trusty cousin and counsellour, George, Viscount of Tarbat, to lay down the office of clerk of our counsels, registers, and rolls, and his old age rendering him less able to attend frequently at our counsell, it is our pleasure that he be not called to attendance, but when he voluntarily comes, or on our express call. And we likewise require the Lords of our Treasury, now in place, and any who shall succeed them, to make the pension of £400 yearly, granted by

us under our privy seal to the said George, Viscount of Tarbat, during his lyfe, to be effectually paid to him in manner as is contained in our letter of gift and pension granted to him by us, in all points.

For our right trusty, etc., the Lord Chancellor, and  
remanent Lords of our Treasury, etc.

90. GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT to MR. WILLIAM CARSTARES.<sup>1</sup>

June 11, 1695.

SIR,—This is to trouble you with a new desire to prosecute my former proposition, for, had I never wearied till now, I see now too much to make me wearie. But I regrate the King, kingdomes, and interest of the church, more than what concerns myself, for I pretend not to bigotry, yet I wish a settled church; and I am far mistaken if the present and promised heats doe not prejudice all these. However, I think it both his Majestys and the churches interest to have a firm and yet moderate presbyterian, who will be above suspicion with the church, and yet be one to stop violent fury. And I wish to have a return from my master as soon as can be. Another thing is of importance, in my judgement, and that is, since the interest of the moderate party is much weakened by what was done to the Earl of Melvill, which renders him less able to do effectual service, it might be useful to the King and country, if, by some demonstration of favour, others may be encouraged to follow his directions, which would put many in a right road who goes wrong. If I mistake, I assure you it is with no ill meaning. Mean while, if you please, I wish to have a very general remission sent me, because I see faults fisht for in others on no great grounds. If it come, let it contain

<sup>1</sup> Carstares State-Papers and Letters, p. 231.

treason, perduellion, and a general of all crimes, though, on all that's sacred, I know not myself guilty; nor doe I fear any thing on this side of Irish witnesses or evidence. I am, Sir,

Your faithful servant,

TARBAT.

91. GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT TO MR. WILLIAM CARSTARES.<sup>1</sup>

June 25, 1695.

SIR,—The methods of some men, and their heats, you (though you know us well) cannot conceive, nor can the sad consequences be safely exprest. I know you have account of the matters of fact; my troubling of you shall be of another subject. Its certain, if the presbyterian party would moderate their designs, and were they managed by wise men, they are sure to the King and against his enemies; but as the Master of Stairs may repent his successe against the Earl of Melvill, so may others, for he had the best founded interest with that party, and, if he had not been loaded with marks of disgrace, he had led that party to the Kings mind; but, being put from the secretar's office,—and without an exoneration either in that office or in commissioners, which was never refused to any,—the preferring his juniors in presiding in councel and parliament, the taking his sonnes regiment from him, he and his some left out of the commission for auditing of accompts, forcing a deputy on his sonne in the castle, and all who come down from court making it their work to lessen him. But I do not see a probable way for the King to manage the true presbyterian party but by his family, and, if they were countenanced by the King, they could doe more by their finger than others can doe with both their hands; yea, altho he be thus lessened,

<sup>1</sup> Carstares State-Papers and Letters, p. 233.

the body of the presbyterians have more kindness for him than for all the other officers of State. The hot party, who attackt him rudely enough at first, and spoke loudly of it, found the respect of the presbyterians so strong for him, that now they court him, whilst others see that he moderats many; in spyte of the heats, they all desire union with him. But he would be less useful were he plunged in a party. In short, if this confusion and wrong steps be retrievable, I see not so fixt a base to draw up on as him and his family; for Lord Keith is certainly one of the sharpest, most judicious, diligentest, in the nation. What past as to the Master of Stairs yesterday, you will know by this post, and none could perswade the least delay until his Majesty were acquainted. A short observe, drawn by a friend of his, I have inclosed. I wish earnestly that the King may put Earl Melvill and his children under such marks of his favour as may strengthen them to sett right what is wrong; and he is too long a filling of my post, for that would allay some, and put others from their foolish expectations, for they roar and gape in hopes of it. I wish a sober, faithful, and able man may get it, and he whom I recommended is such. But they have twist him into a misprison of Glenco affair, and will, no doubt, cast dirt on him, though I am sure he had no more hand in it than you had; but they will put a beasts skin on every one that is not of their clubb, and then hound at him. And my relation to him will not move me to urge the least inconvenience in the King's affairs; therfor take that post in the easiest accesse,—whether it be to one or two, I leave to Earl Melvill and you to advise in that. So you see my own interest weighs little with me; but I hope the King will send me a letter, such as will let all see I am in his protection, though not in publick service; and perhaps I will be as useful to him in recess, though not so profitably for myself as when in publick. So go about, sir, consider our nation, and where the strength of it lies, and then consider our present state, and what comes

next, and judge if wit and discretion be not necessar. Then view our trustee governors, and take or offer what measure you judge fit. I wish the Lord Keeper Summars and Earl Melvill did correspond, and that the King and E. P. would write kindly to him, for he got discouraging blows; and you know his reserved temper, and unwillingness to medle; but he is an ill man if he refuse when he is so necessar. Duke Queensberry, Earl Argyle, Earl Keith, and he, are very well; and, by this inclosed scheme, you may guess how to pack them right. I will retire so soon as the Parliament adjourns (if I be not clapt up with E. Brod[albane]). My fault, as is said, is, that I endeavoured to bring the episcopal clergy to addresse, as was prescribed to me, and to take the oaths, which indeed I endeavoured diligently; but its two years since I quitt meddling in it, seeing it to little purpose, for these two parties will never coalesce. What you writ to me, direct by Earl Melvill, and it will come safe to the hand of

Your faithful servant.

92. GEORGE EARL OF SUTHERLAND to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Abby, 1st July 1695.

MY LORD,—The sadd circumstances that I am now in, with the loss of my only daughter, and she lying yet unburied, retards me from waiting on your Lordship, to informe you of how great importance it is that my petitione to the parliament be read and granted, for without it the familie of Arbuthnott is ruined; and I hope your Lordship will find the arguments therein so pungent, just, and reasonable, as cannot well be denyed to a survyving parent, who is willing to be at pains for my seven orphants, and the good of their affairs and educatione, and to prevent their falling under the hand of a tutor in law, who is known to be every way unfitt for so great a trust and

mannagement. Yet wee seclude him not as a friend. Therefor I earnestlie beseech your Lordship to have pity and regard to the destitute conditione of these seven orphants, that ane act may be granted in their favours, according to the premises in my petitione, whereby I and the friends therein named may be put in a cappacitie to prevent their ruine; by which you will doe ane act extreamlie just in it selfe, and very obliging upon, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble servant,

SOUTHERLAND.

93. ADDRESS to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT by the MAGISTRATES, COUNCIL, and COMMUNITY of the BURGH of FORTROSE.

7 September 1695.

RIGHT HONORABLE,—Wee had your letter, and full information from Daniell Simson, our comissioner, of your Lordships help, favor, and kyndness to this poor place, and people in it; and for no reason that wee know (save that lyk your selfe ye did it, and continowes in so doeing), from ane principall of goodness, justice, honor, charitie, and pietie, accompanied with pittie. And since wee have no other reward to give yow, wee pray to the good and only wise God to reward yow, bless, prosper, and direct yow and yours in all your adoes and concerns; and our blessing and good will, with our good wishes, wee give your Lordship and yours, as wee shall ever doe. Wee for our selves, and in name of this poor place and people, doe begg for the continowance of your Lordships favor and kyndness to ws, particularlie to be aiding and assisting for getting the gospell preached to ws, and ane settled ministrie in this place. The rest wee leave to Mr. Bernard and Daniell Simson, to be told your Lordship; and ane act from our magistrats and eldership for ane dask in our church to yow and yours, shall be sent your Lord-

ship in the best dress wee cau; and so wee rest, and in all duetie and sinceritie,

Your Lordship's most humble and most affectionat, obleidged servants,  
The MAGISTRATS, COUNCILL, and COMUNITIE of the BRUGH of FORTROSS.

Subseryved at ther comand, by

AR. SPEIDIMAN, bayllzie.	ROBERT WILSON.
GEO. GRAHAME.	DAVID M'CULLOCH.
HUGH BAILLIE.	A. GAIR.
WI. HOLME.	DA. MONIPENNIE.
WILLIAM THOMSONE.	DONALD DAVIDSONE, Elder.
DONALD DAVIDSON, younger.	JAMES REID.

For the right honorable the Viscount of Tarbat, Lord Register—thess.

94. JOHN FIRST MARQUIS OF TWEEDDALE to [his son, JOHN LORD YESTER].

Edinburgh, December 8, 1695.

By this days packett we have an account, that on Moonday last the King had called all the Scots councellors to wait upon him at six a clock at night. There were eleven of them called into his closet at seven, of whom he asked an account of what had past in parliament which occasioned so much debate and heat. After some times silence, my Lord Stairs broke off, and spoke to the particulars which had occasioned it, which was manadged by my Lord Annandale and the secretarie, as to the bussiness of Glenco, Bradalbins bussiness, and severall others bussiness, pointing at persons; and as to the supplies, he said they would have been granted for life but for my Lord Polwarth, in which discourse he asserted, as if he had been present, the unjust and false

reports of the parliaments proceedings,—which discourse my Lord Annandale fully answered. My Lord Argyle seconded my Lord Stairs, to whom my Lord Annandale replied. My Lord Lothian offered twice to speak in his accustomed manner; then Secretary Johnstoun concluded with the best account could be made of the whole proceedings. In all this conference, the King said that he had allowed the Glenco bussiness to be enquired into, because of the noise it had made at home and abroad. We do expect a full and exact account by Tuesday's packett.

There is a letter come from the King to the councill about the recruits; and, it is said, the Duke of Queensberrie intends to go for England on Thursday, and my Lord Tarbatt goes with him. Their coach is taken for that day, tho Tarbat conceals his going; and it is thought strange yow have been so long absent now, when with difficulty we can make a quorum. If you cannot gett on a boot, yow would cause make a gramash, or come from the church of Dalgety to the South Ferrie, and a coach shall be sent for yow there. Therfor lett me know by this bearer if yow can come befor the councill meets on Twesday, where there will be matters of importance and requiring the presence of as many as can be. Dear son, adieu.

TWEEDDALE.

It was by Mr. Secretary Johnstoun that the King called that meeting, and the letter for the recruits was putt off till this moneth, tho all the instance was made that could be to have it sent the last moneth. And Rankillor every day presses to have his suspension past, which hath made me keep the session all this week, and I intend to bring it in to the councill on Twesday. I must think that I had that paper since my Lord Dirletoun died, and I desire yow to call to mind if ever yow saw it or heard any thing of it since.



95. THE SAME to THOMAS TENISON, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

Edinburgh, December 21, 1695.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—My endeavours to serve the King in this last session of parliament, with no small success, both in the concerns of the church and civill government, being in danger of disappointment by some ill-minded countrey men of ours taking hold of the displeasure some in the House of Lords have expressed at our Act of Trade, I found it necessary to send up my son to satisfie the King with my behaviour therein, and, as far as is possible for him, to allay the ill humour and consequences therof. I must therfor entreat your pardon, that I addresse him to your Grace, that yow would be pleased to give him a hearing, and interpose with the King for me, that he will not condemn me unheard, but will allow me to come up to vindicate my selfe; wherein your Graces assistance will exceedingly oblige, may it please your Grace,

Your Graces most humble and obedient servant,

TWEEDDALE.

Indorsed: "The Earl of Tweedale to the Archbishop of Canterbury."

96. [THE SAME to his SON.]

Edinburgh, February 8, 1696.

I SHALL not be able to part from this till the week after the next, there being so many necessarie affairs of the treasure to be dispatched, and onlie a quorum here, as I have wrote fully to my lord secretarie, whom I have desired to impart it to the King; and possibly he will show it yow, if yow ask him about my coming. I have so many private affairs of no small importance to be followed here, that I doubt I shall bring your son alongst

with me. We have gained the bussiness of Craighlascair, and my Lord Lauderdale seems to be so desirous to be in good understanding with me and my familie, that I am verrie hopefull the bussiness of the teinds of Pinkie and of the teinds of Inuerkeithing may be settled, and way made for the purchase in your uncles favours, if yow act your part vigourouslie there with the Dutchess; in which I shall make yow all the help I can, when I come.

I was visiting my Lady Rothes this afternoon, and speaking about a meeting of the commissioners of supply on the 15th of March, about the valuation. She sayes of the thirty which she and yow had named to be added to that list, there is but on of hers who refuses to qualifie himselfe, and there are but three of those yow named who will qualifie themselves; but she will send you the list her selfe, that yow may write to those who recommended them, to deal with them to qualifie themselves befor the 15 day of March. And by her sheriff-deputs industrie the cesse and pole money are lifted accordng to the old valuation. And now my Lord Raith is going to law with her about a piece of land which she was bargaining for, which he hath a mind to purchase, and which she hath already a security upon, and hath been engaged in a great while befor Raith knew or had any thoughts therof: and the Earle of Melvill complains in all companies of the submission he was made to make to her. Learn, if yow can, if he hath also to the King. So adiew.

Indorsed: "Tweeddale to his son."

97. [THE SAME to THE SAME.]

Edinburgh, February 13, 1696.

A FITT of the gravell continuing with me, I past tuo stoness on Wednesday, and happily my Lord Raith and Sir John Maxwell came not till this day.

Sir John Maxwell came to see me so soon as he came, and was at council, but my Lord Raith hath not appeared. I know not if he will to morrow at the meeting of the treasurie, but we shall have more bussiness to do than we are able to dispatch in severall dayes, so that tho yow be long a getting an audience, I resolve to stay till yow gett it; and do not forbear writing till I forbid yow. I think it strange that the advocat sees yow not, nor writes not to me, and that he should give it out that I am upon the road, as if he heard from me. When Sir James Ogilvie comes, yow will be able to make greater discoveries. It is talked here, that in place of expedients the advocat says the act must be repealed, or not medled with during the warre. I think yow should not forbear to speak to him, for you are not to expect civilities from him as from other men; but wherever yow see him, frankly ask him questions, without being concerned at what he answers or resenting his incivility in not seeng yow. I may ask whither Carstairs hath seen yow, for I hear he hath been severall times with Mr. Johnstoun. I have this day ended the purchase of Maristoun, and not befor, and am like to engadge in another of Smeatouns coal about Musselburgh, not being able to purchase the servitude of my own ground without taking in Prestongrange his whole bargain. The Earle of Lauderdale makes great professions of kindness and friendship, and I design the setling of the bussiness of Pinkie teinds with him, and the bygones of Inuerkeithin teinds; but this will be the work of the vacation or next session.

98. WILLIAM HAY, Bishop of Moray, to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Kessock, July 6th, [16]96.

MY LORD,—I congratulate your Lordships safe arryvealle to your owne country. Being reduced to this primitive way of subsisting, by tilling ane

vther mans peece of ground, I am forced to pick up my crumbs, which will excuse my telling your Lordship, that ther being a small few-duty resting me for 88, from the lands of Catboll, as I told the Master some time agoe, I expect ye wilbe so good as to pay it to the bearer, quho hath ane discharge, quherby ye will much oblige,

My dear Lord,

Your Lordships most humble servant,

WILL. MORAVIEN.

For the right honourable the Viscount of Tarbat.

Received from the ryght honourable the Viscount of Tarbat sixteen pounds Scots, as few duty for the lands of Catboll, crope (88), and discharges him therof, and all concerned, for now and ever. Written and subscribit with my hand at Kessock, July 20th, 1696.

WILL. MORAVIEN.

99. SIR PATRICK HUME, LORD POLWARTH, LORD CHANCELLOR, to GEORGE  
VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 7 December 1696.

MY LORD,—His Majestie, by his royal letter off the first off December instant, haveing acquainted the council that ther is some ground to apprehend the French intend ane invasione vpon this kingdome; for withstanding wheroff it is necessarie that such as are off his Majesties privie councill doe attend and frequentlie meet to lay downe and prosecute such measures as shall be thought most effectuall for defeating that designe; in order to which your presence is expected here with all possible diligence, to be assist-

ing in his Majesties service vpon this exigent, which in name of the councill is signified to your Lordship by, my Lord,

Your Lordships verie humble servant,

POLWARTH, Cancellar.

For the right honorable the Lord Viscount off Tarbet.

100. GEORGE THIRD LORD REAY, to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Bommell, the 20th July, old style, 1697.

MY LORD,—Should I neglect to assure your Lordship of my service, by the bearer, Mr. Hay (your Lordships most faithfull servant), I should be unworthy of your Lordships civilities, in particular to my self, as weel as unjust to the friendship you showed in generall to all those of the family I represent,—a family lyes now very low by its sufferings, both in its persons and interest. But I need not mention this to your Lordship, who knows it in all its circumstances better than I. The removeall of my uncles lyes very severe upon me, especially Collonel Æneas's, whose care for me in my education was in every manner fatherly, that his death is like to defeat the hopes I had of doing any service to my family,—my education being the only way I proposed to my self, by which I could be rendred capable of doing any thing to retrieve the losses of my family or serve my country; being willing to sacrifice my repose, how soone I were capable, for the rest of my dayes, to these two. What may become of me or it now, providence allone can determine, upon whom only I depend for a true solace: nor would I neglect the means, so long as I could perceive any probability of succèding. How soone I heard of my uncle's removeall, I lost no time to cast my self at his Majesty's feet. I shall not trouble your Lordship with a detail of

what was done there for me—the bearer can informe you fully—but shall now only intreat that your Lordship may be pleased to continue your wonted goodness and friendship for me, and to make interest with his Majesty and his ministers to consider the circumstances of a family that has suffered so severly in his service. This, wishing your Lordship all prosperity,

I remain, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

REAY.

101. COLONEL JOHN HILL to [THE SAME].

Fort William, the 1<sup>o</sup> November 1697.

MY LORD,—Beinge told your Lordship designes for London, I hold it my duty to follow yow with my good wishes wherever yow goe, withall prayinge that (as the affaires of myselfe and regiment fall in discourse) your Lordship will extend your former fauour to your old servant. I doe not know when I was better in health, and (tho I could be well pleased to spend some tyme in [my] owne countrey of Kent before I dye,) yet the considerration of the gentlemen who haue served with mee makes me willinge, for their good, to liue and dye any where as the Kinge pleaseth. I sent lately to Glenmoriston to setle with and sattisfie your Lordship, which hee promised to doe; and if he fail, I shall be a quick remembrancer to him. Wee are all peaceable, the bussines of Captain Frazer being ended in the marryage of my Lady Lovett. Some partes of the Brae of Lechabor, and other partes, are beggered, and the land wast, by paying the Justiciary decreits, and now charitie is soe cold they must either steal or starve; but when they doe, they pay dear for it.

Aplecros got 1000 merkes worth of cowes lately from these partes upon a decret. The courts are sure to doe justice upon highlanders, right or wronge, some of them commonly being judge and partie. I hope to see the scene altered when your Lordship sees Scotland againe, after yow haue seen the Kinge. I cease further trouble, and subscribe,

My Lord,

Your Lordships much obliged and most humble servant,

JO. HILL.

102. R. MACKENZIE, and twenty-four others of the Name of MACKENZIE, to  
[GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Fortrose, December the 1st, 1697.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,—We haveing mett here, in obedience to the Marquise of Seafort his call, to give our best advyce for setleing the affairs of his familie, by such measures and methodes as best might contribute to the honour and interest thereof, by payment of debts, and otherways; and he haveing laide before us his circumstances, we found that, to further the friendlie proposalls made be us, it was most necessarie and proper to remove all grounds and seeds of differences, or rather mistakes, that hitherto (to owr great regraite) hath been entertained 'twixt him and your Lordship; and findeing his Lordship fullie enclyn'd therto;—therefore, by his allowance, we doe unanimsly by this our conjunct letter, signifie to your Lordship how serious and earnest we are to have a good understanding established betwixt yow; intreating your Lordship may make known to us your inclinations lyke-ways, and give your best directions, advyce, and assistance, for advancing my Lord Seafort his soe just resolutions and designes to a desireable suc-

cesse. Expecting your return in relation to the premises, we continow, right honourable,

Your Lordship's most humble servants,

R. M'KENZIE.	GEO. M'KENZIE.	ROD. M'KENZIE.
AL. M'KENZIE.	THO. MACKENZIE.	SIMON M'KENZIE.
GEO. MACKENZIE.	A. M'KENZIE.	A. M'KENZIE.
K. M'KENZIE.	HECTOR M'KENZIE.	KEN. M'KENZIE.
AL. MACKENZIE.	C. M'KENZIE.	JO. M'KENZIE.
WILL. MACKENZIE.	M. M'KENZIE.	AL. M'KENZIE.
R. M'KENZIE.	COLINE MACKENZIE.	SIM. MACKENZIE.
KEN. M'KENZIE.	A. MACKENZIE.	ROD. M'KENZIE.
MUR. M'KENZIE.		

103. ISABELLA MACKENZIE, COUNTESS OF SEAFORTH, to her Brother, GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT, with the preceding letter.

13 December [16]97.

DEAR BROTHER,—Soom days agoe seuerall of our frinds met at Fortrose, which tym they recomended the inclosed to me to be sent south to yow ; but, the sto[r]m fallen on so heauily, I could get non in this plas to undertak to goe with it, the uswall posts being allready south. I am uentering now to send it ; I wish it com safe to your hands. By this yee will perceau how willing all is to hau any difERENCE betwixt yow and my sone Seafort taken away ; and non will be glader of it then I will, howeuer I hau bein misconstructed in the thing. Beleive me, I wad dy much the easier that wee war all as wee owght to bee, frindly and kynd, so that I hop out of a Cristian disposition yee will pas by and forgiue wherin yee think yee hau bein



wronged ; and this I will expecte from others to yow also ; and wherin I can contribut to mak all ods euen, I asure yow will be efectually endeauored be your affectionat sister and seruant,

ISOBELL SEAFORT.

My son continows ill of his grauill. On day of six he is not free of it. I hau minted twys to goe see him ; but the storm is so great I was forst to turn back.

For the right honourabl the Vicount of Tarbat—thes.

104. KENNETH MACKENZIE TO GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Dochmaluak, the 18 December 1697.

MY LORD,—I receiued your Lordships letter from John M<sup>c</sup>Leoud, and it seimes by quhat you urett therein that your Lordship did not receiue the one sent with Mr. Æneas, for I mett uth him conforme to your Lordships direction from Elgin ; and, accordingly, did showe him a vay hou that money uold be secured, and peayed to Prestounhall ; quich vas, that Mr. George M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, Rosehavghs nepheu, should advance the samen to your Lordship upon Prestounhalls accounte, prouyding alwayes your Lordship should be satisfied with that transactione. And I ame hopefull as yett, iff I cann gett Prestounhall good security, and pairte off peayment nou, that your Lordship will be plesed to cawse him accepte off it. For I allways presume your Lordship neuer desyend my ruine by that affaire ; bot upon the contrair, I have experience hou you have ceuerall tymys preuened the samne, espetially by your Lordships aduyce sent by Æneas M<sup>c</sup>Leod, quich I have soe farre obeyed that I used all methods to gett the samen effectuate. And nou, iff Prestounhall will not be satisfied uthout possessing that inconsiderable

intrest I have in Strapeffer, its uerie hard; for, albeit it be not off great valoue, its my only bread, and by vant off it I could expect nothing bot to liue in misery. Yett by the dayly experience I have, and euer hed, off your Lordships protectione off my poore family (to uhose cair my father left it uhen dying), I doubte not in the lest bot your Lordship uill continoue to protecte the samen from ruin; and I uill uith all possible diligence giue Prestounhall sufficient security off his monie, against Februarii nixt, in the terms of your Lordships letter. And iff he doe not condisend to this, your Lordship will be plesed to aquent me, and I uill use all uther methods to plesse him. Bot I expecte your Lordship will preuail with him; and as hitherto will persuad him not to ruine, my Lord,

Your Lordships most oblidge and uerie humble servant,

K. M<sup>c</sup>KENZIE.

105. SIR DONALD MACDONALD of Sleat to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Dunturn, February 16, 1698.

MY LORD,—It is not once that my predecessors and I owe the standing of my poor family to your Lordships and predecessors affectionat activeness for us, which if we did forgett, we might justly be number'd with the most ungrate; and tho hitherto any returns we were able to make to soe great kindness and candor have been little valuable, yet your Lordship may be assur'd to finde you have ty'd us intirely to the interests of your family when you make tryall of us. I will not trouble your Lordship with reading the fashious account of my circumstances with Mudoirt and others here, since my brother goes there, and will wait upon you when you tell him to finde you at leasure. But for that debt of Middletouns, wherin your Lordship stands

cautioner for me, I'm resolved to apply the next Martimass rents for your reliefe. The one of the bonds is allreddie pay'd off, and the discharge of it with Cramount, and I hope your Lordship will gett me the other at ane easie rate, for therby it may be pay'd the sooner. I expect, if the King comes down in May to be crown'd (as we are told here), that we most all wait upon him; at which tyme I hope to have better opportunity of adviseing with your Lordship of all my concerns, which, as your Lordship minds, are in too great confusion, and I therby in danger enuch. But I'm the less apprehensive, that I have the honour and happiness of soe good a director to extricatt me out the laberinth of thir difficulties. All those of my family your Lordship was pleas'd to minde soe kindly, are your most humble servants, as is,

My Lord,

Your most faithfull and affectionat cousin and servant,

SIR D. MACKDONALD.

If I be not put to a necessity of goeing there, your Lordship will be trubled with greater leybells of my affairs that I have forborn at this tyme.

106. JOHN FIRST EARL OF BREADALBANE TO GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Taymouth, March 17, [16]98.

MY LORD,—Your accompt of our confused world is a most acceptable delegat to me, who am so reteerd; and as I uish not to see, nather do I hear, uhat is acted on our vncertun theatre. When pairties ar named to me, I ask uho they be. They ar lyk the Knightbridge armie in the Rehearsall. I concluded the deaths and removealls of D. Q., E. L., V. S., yourself, and poor me, but, abov all, the loss of our gracious Queen, had extinguished that pairtie, that ther uas not on left to gainsay; but uhat is ordaind to be done will be done, and instruments uill never be wanting.

My Lord, I am endeavouring to recover in my privat affairs some of the time I lost by attending the publict. The bearer uill informe yow of on particular wherin your Lordship can assist me to be extricat. Pray yow giv yourself the trouble to allow him to uait of yow for setling of it, wherin yow will oblidge

Your fixed and faithfull freind and humble servant,

BREADALBANE.

I am my Ladyes most humble servant. Your old freind, my uife, is severaly handled uith this long and hard winter, but you ar ever green.

For the Viscount of Tarbat.

107. JAMES LESLIE to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

London, April 21th, 1698.

MY LORD,—I have received the honour of yours, and find that neither misfortune nor distance makes you lessen your friendship to your friends. I am very sensible of the favour you have done me in procuring me the fir-seed, but have not been able to get it here. I had the misfortune to have two falls by the way comeing for London; by the first I sprained my left arm, so that I have lost the use of it as yet; and by the second I got a great wound in my head, that it was a hundred to one I escaped with life. I remained five months in York, and never stured out but the last five days. But I bless God I am come safe to London. I have taken the advice of three doctors, and they all advise me to goe to the Bath; therefor I resolve to doe it about the 8th or 9th of May, but am yet but very weak, and doe not stur much abroad. I am in hopes that your Lordships affairs may require you to come to London (I mean the Kings service); but how that affair is

disposed of as yet is not known. When I come from the Bath, if you judge me capable of serving you in any thing, pray command, for non is more affectionately, my Lord,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES LESLIE.

My humble respects to your Lady and all your noble family.

108. PATRICK COUNT LESLIE<sup>1</sup> to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Fettermer, 19 August [16]98.

MY LORD,—My oun hand is now so illegible that I most, in the first plaice, beg pardone for this borrowed ane; and in the nixt, vpon the constant favour and protectione your Lordship hes allwayes bein pleased to allow to me and my freinds, I am encouraged to recomend the concerne off my cusine the Laird of Pitcaiple, my sone, and brother-in-law, which is to come in befor your Lordshipe and the rest off the lords off privie councill; the informatione wherof I leive to himselfe, least it might be teydious for your Lordshipe for me to impairt it. But I am hopfull he will make out it comes upon just and provoked grounds, and thairfor imboldens me the mor earnestly and humbly to beg your Lordships protectione therin; wherby your Lordshipe will singularlie honour and obleidge,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient and most humble servant,

PATRICK COUNT LESLIE.

<sup>1</sup> Patrick Count Leslie was the fifteenth Baron of Balquhain. The estate and barony of Balquhain had remained in the possession of this branch of the family of Leslie from the beginning of the fourteenth century. He was born in 1640, and was the second sur-

viving son of Alexander Count Leslie. On the death of his eldest brother James Count Leslie, in 1694, he succeeded to the Leslie estates in Germany, and acquired the title of Count Leslie. He was made a privy councillor in 1686.

109. SIR DONALD MACDONALD of Sleat to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Dunturn, December 8th, 1698.

MY LORD,—Amongst all your relations I beleev ther are non that owe more to your kindness than I, and I dare say there are non of them have greater inclinations to serve you, whatever incapacity I lay under to perform to my wishes, and am from my heart sory if your ingagements for my family should bring you to any trouble or danger of credite, which I'm resolved to prevent by all the methods I can use. But, my Lord, I most tell you that I labour under greater difficulties than you know of, and it is no inconsiderable break to a man of my condition, and to my defraying of debts or reliveing of friends that are ingag'd for me, to be forcibly kept out of the best part of all the free patrimony I have, as I am now by Mudoirt thir two years bypast; soe that I hope your Lordship will not wonder if at present I applay my indeavours to recover soe considerable a part of my interst, but that you'le concurr with me in it, wherby I may be in better condition to relive yourselfe, besides what els I may have to doe. But be this as it will, or your Lordship were put from the street, I wod paund my little plate and what more I hade; yett, notwithstanding (if possible), I wod wish to have as much respite in it as that I might gett ridd of the few debts that keep me out of my debt of Mudoirt. I beleeve your Lordship does not minde that one of the bonds in which you were surty is pay'd allreddie, and I left the discharge of it at Edinburgh to be shown you. As to that debt of Newhalls, without I pay'd all myselfe, I could doe noe more than I did, haveing first, when we could not sattle it at home, desir'd that dilligences might be done for my relife against the lady; and to that end sent the obligements I hade of her to Mr. John MacKenzie (which I acquainted your Lordship of, tho it

seems you have forgott to call for them), but he and Mr. Alexander Mack-Leod advis'd to submitt it and our debate anent the pretended inlaik of her joy[n]ture lands to them. This I yealded to, and subscrib'd the submission with Mr. Moore. But for all this they obstructed the arbriters to give sentence, soe as I thinke it most now come to a law suite, which I was soe farr willing to evite, that our arbriters will confess I was very frank on my part, and willing to have pay'd whatever they hade determin'd. This, my Lord, you may see how I'm tosst twixt your craveing of me and their backwardness to relive me, that are every way oblig'd to doe it. Mr. John (for both claims) offer'd 4000 merks in my name, which I thought too much, but that having sumitted in it, I wod not limite them to determine but as they pleas'd, and, to be free with your Lordship, I wod choise to pay 100 lib. to any man or I pay'd fiftie for the price of Balconie, of which I never hade a farthing. But I expect that this winter will put ane end to it, either by a friendly satlement, or a sentence of the Lords, any of which two ways that will be taken your Lordship will be acquainted of be, my Lord,

Your most faithfull and affectionat cousine and servant,

SIR D. MACKDONALD.

My Lord, I presume to trouble you to give your Lady and childeren mine and my wifes humble service.

110. GEORGE FRASER, Regent of King's College, Aberdeen, to [GEORGE  
VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Kings Colledge, 15 April [16]99.

MY LORD,—I hade the favour of your Lordships, and I am much refreshed to find matters are not as were reported here. And as on all occa-

sions, so I am much instructed as to what methods I should follow anent Bishop Elphinstons History. I am resolved, God willing, to push at some one or other of the proposals. I had some thoughts of going north in May but this day we are advertised of a committee of visitation to sitt at our colledge, ij of May, my lord treasurer depute to come in ; and some alleadge he proposes to himself to be worth his paines. I am much troubled at poor Mr. John M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie of Kildonans sufferings. Your Lordship gives a very satisfying account of the divels imposing upon the judgments of those and other silly people emancipate to him ; they being commonly simple, and of the weaker sex, are the more lyable to have the stronger delusions, and their imagination and senses wrought upon, and so beleive they are capable to do things and produce effects produced by other causes. Their voluntar confessions, and taking guilt upon them by owning the facts as the causes of maladies and deaths, and desire to be gone to their master otherwayes then by burning ; as they are deluded in the first, ascribing those effects to the silliest of litle tricks, without any naturall ground or dependence, which were to befall the patient by the temperature of his body, or by a secret application of things noxious upon the sign given, so their seeming willingnesse to die any other way then by fire flowes from some assurance the deluder gives them of living in the same pleasure they are, if their bodyes be not brunt or spoiled otherwayes then what hanging or drowning procures, it being more plausible to them, that their intire bodies may be sooner restored to life, then when brunt to ashes and evaporate in smoke. I go also alongst with your Lordships decision as to the poor creatures curiosity that lookt upon their operations, accidentally coming to their elaboratory (a sort of *leger de maine* many could look on), providing she was under no compact or promise with them or him, except secrecy. I am apt to beleive that all are not so uncircumspect as to admitt of strangers, without notice ; and certainly some



motive most be for such a toleration. But I am most stumbled at the litle horse his speaking, then any other part of the relation, it being reasonably lookt on as supernatural that brutes, whose organs are not fitted for articulate pronounciation, should in ane instant speake distinctly. The Bishop of Cambray's book is condemned in 32 points hereticall, and the author no wayes touch'd, having made a solemn submission to the Holy Father in on of his sermons. The particulars of the French persecutions yet amongst them were tedious, but our merchants that come home assure us there is one.

Wee are trusted with a curious season ; tho cold, yet no frost since March. The borrowing dayes were stormie to a wish. Salmon does not sweeme in our rivers no way wel as yet : inputed to the plenty of snow water comes from the hills, which are yet covered with snow. I need not trouble your Lordship with any accounts we may have of the African Company ; your Lordships concerne and paines in that affaire making it familiar and sent from better hands. The president and Kings advocate are gone, being call'd to court, as some say to support, others to betray, our Scotts Company : the resident of Spaine having addressed the King upon their landing in Port Darien, and, as some say, put upon it in England, tho it be talked that the Spaniards have made reprisal of sex English ships in the Indies. Spanish salt is scarce and deare at present in this place, at the rate of 20 merks ; but the expectation of a ship we have at Lisbon gives hopes it may be cheaper upon her safe arrival. Which, with my dutyfull respects, is all that occurs at present to be write by

Your Lordships most oblidged humble servant,

GEO. FRASER.

For the right honourable the Viscount of Tarbat, to the care of the post master of Innerness—these.

111. GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT to [PATRICK FIRST EARL OF MARCHMONT,  
Lord Chancellor]. [Copy.]

15 May 1699.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,—Duty oblidges me to inform your Lordship of what occurs in this remote country, which may concern his Majesties interest or the quiet of the Government, and I presume your Lordship will excuse the trouble I give you on this account. When I retired to the north, I saw all people in great quiet, only the Highland robbers were doing hurt to many of the peacable subjects, wherof, and of a suitable remedy as to the 5 northern shyres and a part of Nairn, I acquainted your Lordship; and I doe yett wish that the posting of some 80 or 100 of the forces, from April to December, twixt Invermoriston, at the east, and the head of Lochuirm, at the west sea, may be ordored, which would safe these shyres, who now repyne that the souldiers, who live in sloath and idlnes, are not doing this good office to a considerable part of the nation, who give their money as frankly as any does, for pay to these forces; and who, knowing that their losse might be prevented so easily, and is not done, are ready to feare that the governours forgett that they are a part of the kingdome,—and a part who affoorded not only their quota of all burden in proportion, but four tymes as many souldiers to his Majesties armies dureing the late warrs as any so much elswher of the kingdome;—and this is certainly true. This your Lordship may consider. Another matter is, that your Lordship may remember when the bishopricks were a setting in tack, I represented in writt to the Lords of Treasury how the maner and form of the tacks did take from the King a half or more of the bishopricks. I presumed that I made it plain, and I twice offered the plan in Exchecker. Greater effaires shuffled it out then, but now I find that I was in the right to a demonstration, as I did then and can now make evident. This I now writt

of, that, if your Lordship please, that matter may be considered and adverted to before the last tacks be cleared for and discharged or a new one sett, for there is apparent trick in it on the matter to the Kings great loss in proportion to that fond of his revenue. A thrid effaire is, what hath presently occurred : the episcopall clergy, who are qualified according to law, and have owned and evidenced their loyalty to the King, their peacable inclinationes in the country, and are a satisfying branch of the ministry to most of the people, and who did very reasonably look on themselves as secure in the exercise of their holy function, and in the frutes of their legall benefices, by the act of the Sess. of this current parliament, and cheefly by their beeing therby plac'd under the Kings speciall protection, with reiterated assurances that their declared adversares should not be their judges ; for in that case they could forse that all the other securities were only amusements. My Lord, by this they judged themselves safe, many peoples grudgings were removed, and I beleve there was never so much quiet in the Kirk of Scotland as this did hitherto procure. But when the General Assembly did sitt, these ministers and their congregationes were alarumd by reports that the Assembly were to fall on them, and at any rate to cast them out. But the Assembly, rysing without any motion toward this design, removed the fears ; and albeit it was noised that it was forborn least it should meet with obstruction on so publick a theatre as the General Assembly, yett it was resolved to be prosecuted in the severall presbitries with more secrecy and greater precipitancy, where blowes might be given or they could be prevented, especially in remoter places. Yet the improbability of so bold a stepp did take of the fear ; and, indeed, I was one who did confidently enough assert that it could not be intended by the charity of the Kirk men, nor permitted by the wisdom of the Government. But now the jealousy, or rather the certainty, hath revived the feares, and indeed confounded the episcopall clergy and all

their freends ; for the presbitries on consults, which were also divulged, have entered to the work and begunn with on Mr. Forbes, in Kilmuir parish, in Ross, on of these who, with the first, and with due zeal, owned the Kings authority, and is qualified so as to be under his Majesties protection by the said act of parliament. The moderator of a presbitry consisting of 3 or 4, all of which are tenn years, or more, younger in the min[is]try then Mr. Forbes is, and almost, in the opinion of many, as short of him in preaching as yett, have four dayes agoe sent him a sumonding letter to compear befor them on the last Wednesday of May, to preach on a text prescribed by them ; thus to bring him, ane old established minister, as it were, to be a probatiner, befor them, who are of a very short standing in the ministry,—one only of them excepted, who, its said, was not with them. He is also informd that his lybell is ready ; for, befor tryall, they conclud him ane Arminian (tho he be indeed very farr from it), and so erroneous in doctrine ; and they find that [h]is wife (who is a very modest woman) was brought to bed somewhile before 9 moneths after the mariage was publisht ; and, therfor, they most have that provd the child to be gott in fornication, tho this scandall be one of no charitable inquisition, and its said (with probability enough) that in a very few dayes the lybel will be sustand, proved, and execut. The true cause, viz., his beeing of the principles owned by the Church of England, will not be mentioned. My Lord, this particular mans case is considered by all the episcopall clergy as theirs in generall, and no doubt it is, and it may have hurtfull consequences ; wherfore it is humbly layd with the former under your consideration by, my Lord——.

[The copy is holograph of Lord Tarbat.]

## 112. DR. ARCHIBALD STEVENSON to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Edinburgh, July 6, 1699.

MY LORD,—Being taken out of town immediatly after I had the honour of yours, and kept at Dunebrisse many days attending my Lord Drumcairns daughter (who died of a feaver the 26th day after she was brought to bed of a verie livelie sonne), it was not possible for me to give your Lordship a return with the bearer of yours. I have now sent for my lady 4 doses of these pils, which her Ladyship was wont to finde doe well in her colicks, and which I earnestly wish may now doe aswell ; and if there be nothing else in her present colicks than was befor, I am verie hopefull will doe well. My Lord, I have sent 2 doses of pils of the *pulvis cornuchini* for your own use ; 7 are a dose, and your Lordship is to intermit betwixt the 2 doses takeing, 3 or 4 days at lest. The pils are to be taken about 4 or 5 in the morning, that yow may sleep after them, and all day your Lordship is to behave as under physick. Let your drinke be only summer warm, that is free of extreme cold. Too much warmnes, as well as cold, at this season will hurt. Supping broath with barley at dinner will doe well, and a roasted chicken toward night. Your drinke may be ordinarie ale, or ale posset, or whey. The night befor yow take your pils it will be fit at bed tyme to take half a dram of the Peruvian bark finelie powderd, as also another dose that same day at bed tyme that you take your pils, in claret wine, else the purgeing may bring on again your ague. I am verie glade that we have ground to hope for your being speedilie here with my lady and your daughters. Our news here are not worth the writeing, and therfor I leave them to the writeing of any other that shall have a minde to write them. All I have to write is that I am unchangeable, my Lord,

Your Lordships most intire servant,

AR. STEVENSON.

## 113. THE SAME to THE SAME.

Edinburgh, July 22 about 8 in the morning, 1699.

MY LORD,—Your sonne, Mr. James, haveing calld Dr. Pitcairn and me to consult anent my Ladys present state of health, and we haveing considered your Lordships letter to me, and the information of some physicians with yow which Mr. James gave us to read, we did conclude with these physicians that her Ladyships trouble is plainlie hysterick, and we are confident doeth not threaten such mischiefe as is feard. I have seen my Lady (as your Lordship writes) in many colicks and hysterick passions worse than these my Lady now labours under, according to information. I sent two weeks agoe, with a bearer that Sir George Brown wrote with, 4 doses of these pils my Lady had found help by formerlie very often; together with some doses of *pulvis cornachini* that yow wrote for, and a letter containing my advice anent the use of these; which it seems are not come to your hand. I was long out of town, which made my letter in return to yours come so late. We think that no strong purging will be fit for my Lady. These easie pils her Ladyship hath formerlie tryd, will suffice when there is need for purging. Clysters we approve of for keeping the belly open. These things we have now sent are no ways purging. There are some of King Charles his famous drops (which are of the volatile salt and spirit of raw silk), whereof 10 or 12 gutts are to be taken 4 or 5 tymes a day amongst my Ladys ordinary drinke. There are also sent pils against vapours, which are only anti-hysterick and noways purging: 5 of them are to be swallowed over at bed tyme every other night, any way my Lady can best swallow them; and in the interveening nights my Lady is desired a dose of the strengthening powders (fit for strengthning the stomack) may be also at bed tyme taken by her Ladyship amongst two or three spoonfulls of the whig of a posset made with sack and

double sweet milk of a cow—takeing after a draught of the same posset; which it will be fit also to take after swallowing the pills that are now sent. We are verie full of hops that my Lady by the use of these things shall recover both health and strength; and thereby that your Lordship will have your health better; the news of both which will verie much rejoice, my Lord,

Your Lordships most devoted servant,

AR. STEVENSON.

For the right honourable the Viscount of Tarbat.

114. DR. ARCHIBALD PITCAIRNE TO GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 31 August, [16]99.

MY LORD,—Since Dr. Stevenson is with my Lord Hume (and merry too, I hope, for no body is very sick there), I presume to give my opinion about my Lady's condition. I reallie think she should have more of the Peruvian bark, which will help her stomach and prevent usless sweatings: I mean, any more than what has eas'd her of her pains. Besides, to the sore pairts let be applied a pledget of flax, prettie thick, cover'd on the inside with whites of eggs beat to a froath or water; and when the flax is well cover'd with the whites of eggs, pour on it aqua-vite or brandie, with camphire and spirit of harthorne; that is, half a pound of liquor and two drams of camphire, with a dram of spirit of harthorne, or of spirit of sal ammoniac. Let this be applied cold 4 or 6 tymes in 24 houres. After the flax has been once us'd, it will serve often, putting more spirit on it cold.

My Lord, if the pain continowes in one place, make a pultess of cow's dung, milk, and chamomil flowers, and apply; or cause bake a bannok of meal and *album hordeum*, *āā. q.s.*; let it be pease or bean meal. This apply warme to the places.

Now, my Lord, I dare not advyse to blood my Lady any more, for that is the true way to put her in a dropsie. If your Lordship has not got Dr. Sibbalds "Provision for the Poor," nor the towne-councils proclamation about the coal-stealers, it is your sons fault.

I wish my Lady Tarbat very good health, and am,

Your Lordships most oblidge,

A. PITCAIRNE.

I send your Lordship two rols of the old Lady Colston's plaister, which my wife always makes for her. It is the *Emplastrum de minio cum sapone*. The Nuremberg plaister is better, being ane improvement of the other.

I send your Lordship the "Provision for the Poor," written by Dr. Sibbald,—a work of wondrous art.

For my Lord Tarbat.

115. [THE SAME] to the HONOURABLE JAMES MACKENZIE, afterwards  
LORD ROYSTOUN.

2d September [16]99.

MR. JAMES MACKENZIE,—Yesterday the post brought a letter from my Lord Tarbat to Dr. Stevenson, who is out of towne. I think there needs no more to be said in answer to it than that it is fit to give steel. It did extremely well with this President, after a long ague, Dr. Stevenson and I being with him. Wee gave him pils, with *limatura ferri* or *chalybis*, *gummi ammoniacum*, *castoreum*, and *elixir proprietatis*, once a day. Also wee gave him 4 or 5 spoonfuls of Louers bitter tincture once, and sometymys twice a day. Get a mutchkin of it from the apothecarie.



Enclose this for my Lord. I am in haste going owt of towne, to be assistant at the death of James Borthwic of Stow, last male of the royal line of the surgeon apothecaries. 2 Sepr., 7 in the morning.

5 Sepr. 99.

There is no *balsamum Guidonis*, but Mr. Monteith will give yow ane ointment that I think is better. Wee call it *unguentum opodeldoch*. It is greenish. Call for in my name, and get 4 ounces of it. It is to be rubbed in with ones hand.

The steel (of which 4 ounces are sent) may be us'd pairtlie in pils, pairtlie in infusion, with wine and *cortex peruv.*, with what other things the doctors shall think. If it be put in infusion, it must be in subtile powder, and so taken turbid.

116. The HONOURABLE JAMES MACKENZIE, afterwards LORD ROYSTOUN, to his  
Father, GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, September 6, 1699.

MY LORD,—I received your Lordships of the 14 and 25 ult. both in one day. I went immediatly and enquired for the balsam; it is called *balsamum Guidonis*. The reason why it was not sent was, that it could not be had in all the toune, nor the extract of angelica; but to supply the want of the balsam, Dr. Pitcairn ordered me to buy some *unguent. opodeldoch.*, which I have sent with the bearer. Item, half a miskin syr. artemis., extract of gentian ʒij, antimon. diaph. ʒij, as much sal. armoniac., saccar. rosarum perl., which is rose tablets and peaches, diaphen. ʒj, linatura chalyb. ʒjiii, and a miskin of Dr. Laurs tincture. I have sent inclosed Dr Pitcairns directions how to use them, Dr. Stevenson not being in toune. I

wrote to your Lordship Fryday last by Captain M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, as did likewise Dr. Pitcairn. I sent with him two rolls of Lady Colstounes plaister, and two boxes of the Nurimb. plaister. As for my self I was a litle unwell, but am no[w] pretty well. It was one of my ordinarie feverish fitts that ailed me. My Lord, I did not conceal my disease from your Lordship, tho I could not then, nor can I yet, tell what it is ; and I think the doctors know but litle of it. They give it no speciall name ; only say it is occasioned by this and the other humor, and suchlike occult qualities. I have no particular disease, but what ought to be attributed to the weakness of my body and poverty of my blood, occasioned by a long ill habit of the body ; so that, till I am in better *embon point*, I cannot think of marriage. The great and frequent heats that troubles me still, demonstrates that I am hectick, tho my lungs are as good as any bodies. In short, the state of my health is such that, if it does not mend, it will end me ; but whether it does or not, there is nothing I shall study so much (next to my future state) as to please your Lordship, and to be esteemed

Your Lordshipps most dutifull son,

JA. MACKENZIE

For the Viscount of Tarbat.

117. DR. ARCHIBALD PITCAIRNE to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 9th September [16]99.

MY LORD,—I sent my advyce last day to Mr. James about my Lady Tarbat, instead of Dr. Stevenson's, who is not yet come to towne ; and I have nothing to adde in answer to your Lordship's of the 5th September, save that I joine with Dr. Mackenzie, and that I think my Lady's ill is from the bile and aciditie in her stomach ; and that nothing will doe so well as to

vomit her with some half ane ounce of *vinum emeticum*, then give her both steel and *cortex Peruvianus* in tyme of intermission, and whensoever her sweat is off; but when she sweats, the sweat is to be encouradged.

My Lord, all the other points of your letter were answer'd last occasion. Instead of the *balsamum Guidonis*, which is not to be got, I recommend the *ung. opodeldloch*, and I think the last the better of the two.

I wish my Lady good health, and am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most oblidged and most humble servant,

A. PITCAIRNE.

I send  $\bar{z}$  iv. sp. salini aromatici.

For my Lord Viscount of Tarbat.

118. LADY ANN STEWART to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

The 17 October 1699.

MY LORD,—It is divine pouer that can only support your spirit under the heauie weight of your present affliction, and his hand that wounded you can tenderly bind up. Your Lordships knowledge of the submission that we owe to the Lord maks me blush to offer you counsell, who is fitter to giue aduice to far wiser then I; yet pardon me to indeauor to performe this duetie of comforting your Lordship.

My Lord, he hes don it, who giues not ane accompt of his meatters; and who can say unto him, What does thou? Only his people ar by his grace brought to that resignation of spirit, that they sing, O Lord thou art worthy of all glorie and praise. I hope your Lordship is noe stranger to this blisshed change of heart and calmenes of spirit. When our blisshed Lord comands the winds and stormes in our natures to be still, they obey him. My Lord,

comfort yourself in Christ, that he may be to you in place of your dear consort and earthly comfort; and his infinit fullnes will mak up all wants. My Lord, pray forgiue me to intreat your Lordship to perform your promis of remoueing Forbes, which my dear Lady obtaned from you, out of Christian simpathy with me; and the Lord, who I hop hes glorified hir, will reuard you. My Lord, your faithfullnes to hir is singullar, and to obey hir godlie request, for strengthning a poor Christian freind, will seale your fidelitie to hir suet memorie, and imprint ane inuiolable obligatiōe to you in the heart off,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionat humbl seruant,

A. STUART.

For the right honourable the Viscount of Tarbat—these.

Dorso, in the handwriting of George Viscount of Tarbat—"Ladie Ann Stewart, 1699."

119. ISABELLA MACKENZIE, COUNTESS OF SEAFORTH, to her brother [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

9 September 1700.

DEAR BROTHER,—I got yours with Collen, Coulls sone. The letter yow mention in it I neuer got; howeuer I am glad yow are weell; and I nothing doubt of your being in a satisfied condition. As I wad think, yee war ill to pleas; and tho soom spok against your marage, I confess I did not think them your frinds that did so. As to other things of which yee had fears, I hop or this tym you know that your fears was grundless, as all of us hop and wish. Now, as to my self, I think my trublls shall neuer end till my tym end. I may say they run paraleall with my days; for euery new day

brings a new trubbl; and that which I am hurried with at present is ode to come from a brother, a neuoy, and a sone. Soom says it was but a base unaterall imployment for Prestonhall to your sone Cromerty to aprehend me with caption; and so uiolent are they on this that I dar not keip my own hous. I pray giu your aduyse in this, for I am confident it has bein without your knowlidge. I shall trubbl yow no farther, but rests

Your affectionat sister and scruant,

ISOBELL SEAFORT.

120. CHARLES LORD YESTER to his father [JOHN SECOND MARQUIS OF  
TWEEDDALE].

Dagaty, September 22, 1701.

MY LORD,—Since my last to your Lordship, I have received two of yours, one of the 7th, the other of the 10th of September, and am sorry that there is no better an account of my sisters health. My wife and children are, I thank God, pretty well. But she is very melancholy, and no wonder, for the more one thinks on poor Lord Basils unhappy fate, and reflects upon the manner of it, it appears the more to be lamented, and the loss the greater both to his friends and countrey. I like the paper your Lordship sent me about Ro. I have no manner of news to write from this. I was last week at Kinross to see my Lord Montross, where I saw my sister Rothess and her Lord very well. The theasurer deputs lady is dead and buried. And now that your Lordship is at London, I was desired by Rory Mackenzie to write to you to be kind to Paterson, if he comes and waits upon you; for neglecting him may do harm, and making of him do good. You would likwys, before you come away, concert with Mr. Johnstone and R. what is fitt to be printed before our parliament meets, which I believe will not be soon, and how to

convey it down here when done. A gratification may be sent up when your Lordship and the Duke comes home. He is in mighty affliction for his brother, and, they say, talks of staying all winter in England; but I am against that upon many accounts. As to the project you write off, about our trade with France, I believe it will come to nothing; for, by the accounts we have in the last publick news, the King of France seems to have discharged all trade with Brittain. I think any thing that is to be printed in relation to us may be delayed now, till we see how our King and the parliament of England, at their meeting, take the King of Frances owning of the Prince of Wales for King of Brittain. I am affraid his owning of him will encourage the foolish Jacobite party here, and hinder them from taking the oaths, which will do us harm. The bill your Lordship drew is with much ado got payed, the man being very pressing for it, and the warning but short. There is likewys bills drawn for the timber your Lordship sent for, to the value of 3000 lbs. Scots. It seems George Duglass hath no mony, for I had an express from Mr. Buch. and him, desiring me to bind with them for as much to be borrowed from the bank when the bills fell due, which I have done, the bank refusing to lend otherwise. I hear no word, however, of the timbers being arrived. Just as I am ending this, Sir James Hay arrived here from Leslie, where he hath been all last week, and at Kinross. He left all there well this morning. I have likewys sent up an catalogue of the books I bought when last at London, that so, in case your Lordship buy any, you need not buy doubles. This is all at present from,

My Lord,

Your most obedient son,

YESTER.

My wife gives her humble duty to your Lordship.

121. JAMES SECOND DUKE OF QUEENSBERRY to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF  
TARBAT].Bath, September the 24th [*circa* 1701].

MY DEAR LORD,—I received a letter from you just before I came from London, which, in good manners, I ought to have answered long ere now, but the waters not agreeing with me when I came first to this place, I durst not venture to write; so I hope yow have goodnesse enough to forgive me, since I beleve ther is noething lost but a litle breeding. If his Majesties servants there are not sensible of the value of my dear Tarbat for their Masters interest, I am sure that I have an advantadge over them in knowing his worth. The small things that were procured to your Lordship from the King I doe assure you were very readely granted, and he expresses himselfe on all occasions with great satisfaction in your service, and a personall esteem of you, and I must say that what you have hitherto desired is much belowe what yow may very justly pretend too. I was inform'd by letters from Scotland that, after some delay, these litle intended favours were made good to yow; if they have not, I am sure that I shall get them made effectuall whenever the King returns; however, I will by this or next post write to both the secretaries about it. Your Lordships son, James, mett with some obstructions in his pretension, which I could not foresee, but I know that none of them has so great weight as that of Sir Thomas Moneriefs not consenting; wherfore, endeavour to gain the old gentleman, and I doe not doubt to make it yett succeed. And he is to blame if he refuses a conjunct in the termes which your son is willing to serve inn. In short, my dear Lord, be assured that noething can ever be in my power for your interest, or that of your

fanelly, but what I shall be overjoyed to serve yow inn, for I have a true sense of your friendship, and am, with all sincerety,

Your most faithfull servant,

QUEENSBERRIE.

122. [JOHN MASTER OF TARBAT to his wife, The Honourable MARY MURRAY.  
*Circa 1701.*]

MY DEAREST SOULE,—My last was an answer to yours, sent by Inchcouter. The bearer nas a footman of Lady Issobella M<sup>c</sup>Leods, who promised to delyver my letter out of his oun hand to you at Tarbat, but lick a raskall he forgot to call for the leter after it was sealed and baked. It nas tuo days therafter or I hade occation to send it, and that uas a footman of Gairlochs, so that I doubt not of your haveing receaved it long or nou. I deteaned this bearer, thinking to give my dear Mary some sertean account of hou matters stood betwixt my father and me in relation to the setlement of our pryvat affairs; but the publick concern (I mean the parliament) does so intyrlly take up my father, that to attemp speaking to him of anie pryvat business uer in vain. God knowes how uneasie this is to me; for it not only hes, but is the only cause of my too long absence from the delight of my lyfe, and your trouble for that I oune is uhat is most in my mind, espetially since I receaved your last letter by the Inverness post, which uas Saturday last, dated the 5th of Jullij. I oune I never was more surprised then at the reading of the first part of your last leter, for I concluded you uould have rested intyrlly satesfyed as to that proposition of my sisters going north, untill you should have my return to uhat you writ with Inchcouter; for that did contean as much as did finally deter-  
min not only me, but lickuay our uncle, the Justice-Clerk, that after uhat you said my sisters staying with me uas never more to be thought of, and



my Lady Prestonhall was of the same opinion; so that, upon second thoughts, I doubt my dear Mary will be so just to your husband as to condemn your dear selfe for interteaning the least thought that would occasion a minutes disquett. My deare needs not fear that tho my father, uncle, and all the relations I have alive, would urge me in any thing against your inclinations, that their pleasure would weight in the ballance with yours. It is far from that. The only reason that my dearest soul gott not my positive resolution of not excepting my sister to live with us after what you writ with Inchcouter, was the information my Lady Prestonhall gott of my fathers resolution, in altering his former design in settling his estate and affairs in my person, in case of our refusing to take my sister to our family. For this reason, I say, my uncle and his lady obliged me neither to determine, or writ to you finally of this matter, till your return to their letters should come, which I doubt not my angel will doe in as reasonable terms as possible.



123. PATRICK FIRST EARL OF MARCHMONT TO GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Cannongate, Tuesday the 5th of January, 1702.

MY LORD,—When I sent my son to London, to waite upon your Lordship and others upon whose friendship I reckon, I instructed him fully of my circumstances, and what I had to propose, which I understand he has explained to your Lordship as I appointed him.

I have no reason to doubt that your Lordship will, in a friendly concern for me, act such a part towards me as may make good my pretentions, your Lordships interest in the Queens favor being such as leaves no place for doubting of a good effect of what you advise her Majestie in reference to me.

I know you have a great deal of business upon hand, which makes what concerns privat persons to take the more time ; yet I have a confidence that your Lordship will not neglect what so nearly concerns me.

I doe not trouble your Lordship with a long information, such as my affair wold require ; nor doe I think it necessary, seeing my soon is with you, who can give as good ane account of my case and my families, from what I have told him, almost as I could doe my selfe if I were there. So I shall only entreat that, as soon as convenientlie can be, I may know what I am to reckon upon. I wish you a happy new year, and remain,

My Lord,

Your Lordships very obliedged humble servant,

MARCHMONT.

To the right honorable the Viscount of Tarbat, Lord Secretary  
of State for Scotland, at Court.

124. GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT to [JAMES FOURTH MARQUIS, afterwards  
FIRST DUKE, OF MONTROSE].<sup>1</sup>

9 Januar, 1702.

MY LORD,—I shall doe what service lyes in my way to the gentlman recomended by your Lordship. I wish there had been some judiciaall pre-cognition transmitted hither, for the Queen is very nice in the matter of slaughters. My Lord, as to what your Lordship writs in your entring into publick effairs, if the proport be (as who can suspect it otherwayes from MONTROSE) that yow will be in the Queens view, under no consideration as drawn by any party or faction (the Scots plague), but come with the testificatt

<sup>1</sup> Original in Montrose Charter-chest.

of your innate loyalty, and consequently affection, to your princes and country, no resolution can be more noble : but if it be on a ballance (which I shall never think), whither to owne that interest of our country which is coherent with our monarchicall interest, or as a party which pretends the country and is at the bottom antimonarchicall, then, perhaps, there cannot be a worse ; for in that case it is never separat, *si quis vult fallere plebem, fingat Deum*. My dear Lord, yow doe oblidgingly remember my respect to your father ; for, my Lord, if yow adhere to the principles of your father, grandfather, and GREAT grandfather, yow shall ever be followed,—if opposit to that principle, never, but heartily regrated by,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and faithfull servant,

TARBAT.

125. MR. GEORGE MACKENZIE, Inchcouter, to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Kappach, February 6th, 1702.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,—Since it's not improbable my last letter I wrote to your Lordship giving account of the slaughter, or rather direct murder, of one of your Lordships men living in this place, is miscaried or some way neglected, I judged itt necessary to renew my information of that pitifull misfortune, which is as followes :—The man that was killed lived in Knocknain, by name Alexander M'Lean *alias* M'Neil, grandchild, by the father side, to one Donald M'Neil, who lived sometye at Counlain, and, by the mother, grandson to old Murdo M'Coilyer, who lived under your Lordship in Ochternaid. This poor fellow, upon the last day of December last bypast, was married to a daughter of one Colline Baynes in the Milne of Inch, belonging to the Laird of Tulloch ; and the very next day, being the 1st of January

last, about or after six of the cloack att night, some friends of both sides, such as my brother Kenneth, that went there to attend the bridegroom, and others with him; and, on the other side, Donald Bayne, brother to Knock-bayne of a 2d mariage, and lately servant to young Tulloch; Rory Bayne, son to Mr. Donald Bayne, sometye in Inchrory, both living on Tullochs ground, with severall others, continuing together till the aforesaid tyme of night (old Tulloch having left them but a litle whyle befor), and, I doubt not, taking a greater liberty than became them both in drinking and talking. As attlength they are parting, and my brother coming away, the said Rory and Donald Baynes, as itt were out of compliment, would see him a litle way of from the wedding house, and, as they are gone butt a short way of, Rory Bayne begins to renew some idle and naughty words that past twixt the company within doors, and, judging himself a litle briskly answered by my brother, he starts aside and draws his sword, and, without any more adoe, in his drink, amongst a rable and under night, he would challenge the other to fight him. My brother plainly declyned itt, and by speaking calmly to him and urging him att that tyme to a more sober temper, enclosed with him without making use of sword or any other weapon, and thereafter forcing the sword out of his hand delivered itt drawen, and his own undrawen, to a by-stander, who was endeavouring to separate them, and who prudently dispatch'd not only both theirs, but lykewise his own, out of the company; and att this tyme there was none in the company hurt or in the least prejudged. Immediatly after the swords were sent away, my brother and the said Rory fell a strugling, and the last, finding the other command him, called for the said Donalds assistance (who then only had a sword in the company, being a course Toledo, and by the acknowledgment of all was itt by which the man was thrust to death); upon which Donald advances with that miserable sword drawen, and my brother, seeing him, calls at the forsaid bystander to secure him with his

sword from doing prejudice. The said Donald is taken hold of by that bystander and diverted from going up to the other two, who were in the mean tyme separated from one another by the rest of the rable about them, and in the encounter twixt the said Donald and that bystander the backwand of his sword is broken; and then, in a confusion when they parted, it seemes the unhappy bridgroom is lykewise endeavouring to divertt the said Donald, and then is supposed to gett his death thrust, or, as others conjecture, he gott itt befor the other man encountred with Donald, or befor my brother took notice of his advancing with the drawn sword. However or whenever it was, such was the confusion amongst them all that there is none of them can declare they saw the man gett the thrust; only all declare there was no other sword in [the] company, and all declare the said Donald had itt first and last, and was seen go of the spott where the man was killed with itt. My brother lykewise declares that he and the said Rory keptt still strugling so closely together, and that to the very minute in which they heard the cry about the mans death, that itt was impossible for Rory either to have procured the said Donalds sword (for other there was nott), or to have done any execution with itt. And yett, notwithstanding of all this, they would fix the guilt upon the said Rory and have made him absent; but the most sober and thinking sort of people look on this as a triek to take of the said Donald, because his comerad Rory was befor this deed in a desperate circumstance by his murder two years ago of a man att Glasgow, for which he made his escape to this country,—and by this silly pollitick to lose but one man for both thir separate guilts. Butt, sure, all the concurring relations, both of actors and spectators in this misfortunate encounter, militate directly against the said Donald Bayne; nay, even when it's granted what Tulloch would say against Rory Bayne, by Donalds relation, I humbly conceave Donald will be found as deep in the guilt, and be found art and part in giving the other immediatt assistance; for

Tulloch says that Donald Bayne declares that Rory killed the man with his sword, and that Rory forced itt out of his hand. But none of the company on either side, that ever I could yett learn, could declare any such thing; on the contrary, all deny that Rory had any sword after his own, which was a broad sword, was taken from him. Since I judged this allready too long to trouble your Lordship withall, I have written with the bearer hereof a further account of this misfortune, with all the most particular circumstances of itt, to Colline M<sup>e</sup>Kenzie, advocate, Coules son, who, att your Lordships convenience, will wayt on you to this purpose. Hitherto there is nothing done in itt, not so much as a cognition taken of itt by sheriff or justiciar; tho, by the last commission, the last have a power to cognosce and judge of this crime, and I had no mind to apply to either till first I had your resolution and answer. I spoke to your son Cromarty and to Scatuell, and they promised to write to your Lordship; and since the defunct lived on your Lordships ground, they would not stirr in the affair till your Lordships advyce were had anent itt. There is no effects or gear belonging to the poor fellow himself, tho he made a shift to live honestly by his occupation, that will exped the persuit; and his nearest of kinn are as uncapable by means to expend on, as by their esteem to countenance, a persuit of this nature, so that the weight of itt is on your Lordship or any fitt person your Lordship will be pleased to order to manage and prosecute this affair. And, truly, it's no small reproach if the deed pass unpunished; for tho the poor creature was not great or rich, yett he was innocent and of a peaceable and honest deportment. After so much wrytting I do not encline to trouble your Lordship with any more; only, since I am now engaged in a more settled state of life that will oblige me to take up the ramble and to think more closly on frugality, I humbly intreat your Lordship would be pleased to advyse and assist me to some suitable employ, whereby I may in some measure or capacity or other be more serviceable to your Lordship and family than hitherto

I could have been, or otherwise I can be. Your Lordships answer will be impatiently expected by, right honourable,

Your Lordships most humble and devoted servant,

GEO. MACKENZIE.

Indorsed in the handwriting of George Viscount of Tarbat : " Letter, Inchcouter, 1702."

126. REV. HUGH M<sup>c</sup>HENRY to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, November 12, 1702.

MY VERY NOBLE LORD,—After duty and service. Your Lordship is a sanctuary for all scolders and distressed churchmen. My case is fully known to Mr. James, your son, at London, represented and atested by Rochester to her Majestie ; the verity whereof is confirmed by Mr. William Houston, your old friend and servant. Tho I serve the cure, yet the pick and prejudice of these pretended presbiterians postpons and procrastinats my stipends, so that my numerous family is like to starve, which cannot be remedied but by her Majesties commands, seeing my church is under her royal patrociny.

May it please your Lordship to hear the cry of Levie the Lords inheritance, and to curb the violence and violence of those malicious machaniks ; and Heavens remuneration shall be the prayer of

Your Lordships most obedient,

HUGH M<sup>c</sup>HENRY.

To the right honourable the Viscont of Tarbat, to the care of Richard Goddard, at the Sub-Secretar office in Whithall, London.

Indorsed in the handwriting of George Viscount of Tarbat : " Mr. William Hushton and others."

127. ROBINA LOCKHART, COUNTESS OF ARCHIBALD FIRST EARL OF  
FORFAR, to [THE SAME].

November 12, 1702.

I RECKON'D it no small misfortune that I had not the happiness to see my dear Lord Tarbott before he went away. I congratulate the nations good fortune that so great and wise a man is nam'd to negotiat in an affair of so great consequence; and am in great hopes the good reports of your Lordships being further concern'd in the government will prove true; for, tho I think you can hardly come to any thing will raise your character beyound the pitch your own merit has plac't it, yett your being in greater capacitys of doing good things for your friends and country is what would give great joy to your wellwishers, of which number there is none more zealously so then my selfe. And now I must beg your Lordship will, according to your accustomed goodnes for my Lord and me, speak to both our secretarys, that my Lord may have his pention, lodgings, and place at the councill board continued. The first is all the house we have to live in, the second is our bread; as for the third, tho it be not otherwayes profitable, yett its a thing to be turnd out of looks like a disgrace and may lessen ones credit, especially to on in his circumstances, having so small an estate, with considerable burden, as you may imaign, after maintaining so long a process, the very loss of which has not a little deminisht his credit, which the name of a privie councillor and on well att court might in some measure make up. Lett me, therefore, beseech your Lordship to deall seriously with the Duke of Queensberry about this, for I think twill be no great credit for him to have so near a relation utterly ruind when he's at the helm of affairs. Both his Grace and my Lady Dutchess seem to have all the good inclinations imaignable to doe my Lord service. I therefore most seriously



beg it of your Lordship to speak with them concerning it, and, above all, that you'll use your interest with my Lord Seafield on my Lord's behalf, who is the only person I fear, not having so near relation nor acquaintance with him; but I know you may use arguments that may be very prevailing with him, and I depend upon your kindness in this more than any body's alive. I send this in my sister's packet, who has sense enough to be a great admirer of yours. I hope you will be so kind to see her, which is a favour she will be vain of; and by her I shall hear the oftener of your health and other circumstances, to which, and all your good endeavours, both publick and private, I wish success, as I do to all that's dearest to,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's affectionate, dutifull niece and faithfull humble servant,

R. FORFAR.

If you see your old apostle Jerry, pray tell him I remember him with a venerable respect.

128. [JOHN PATERSON, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow], to GEORGE  
VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, 21 November 1702.

MY DEAR LORD,—This serves merely to congratulate your Lordship's deserved promotion to a post wherein you can so well serve the Queen and your country. The Church calls for your help to have it settled upon the true apostolick basis, the only foot upon which it can serve the true interest of the monarchy also; and I hope you will grant it, and God will reward it. You know my dutifull sentiments towards the Queen; but our stars are so unlucky, as that as yet I am not able to bring up those of our order to the

same opinion, tho I hope some tyme and a serious judicious recollection will bring them to my opinion. I am now ane insignificant bodie, and desires to live in privacie and obscuritie for the small remainder of my tyme. If by your Lordships kynd mediation her Majesty sall allow me anie thing towards repairing of my great losses and damages by King Williams illegall oppression of me, by imprisonments, banishments, and confynments in ane arbitrary manner, for more then ten years without interruption, it wilbe a reasonable kyndnes to me. Some endeavors are used to gett ane address from the episcopall suffering presbyters to the Queen. Iff it be such as I judge will please her Majesty, I will recomend it, but otherwise I will not owne it. And now I end with putting your Lordship in mynd of our worthie friend the Earl of Belcarres. For Gods sake doe what you can for him. You know his hard circumstances requyrs your help and assistance for some office or post which may assist towards his releef and subsistence; and iff the Queen setts her monarchie upon a true cavalier foot, you know he is worthie and capable to serve her Majesty. All yours here are wele. Adieu, my dear Lord.

Forgive I write to your Lordship as formerlie till your new title pass oure the seals.

I send to Sir Alexander Bruce, by this post, a part off ane act of the synod of Glasgow and Aire in October last; it is of ane bold strain, as your Lordship will see.

To the right honorable the Viscount off Tarbat, at London—these.

Indorsed in the handwriting of Lord Tarbat: "Ar. B. Gl., 21 Novr."

129. SIR WILLIAM BRUCE of Kinross, Architect, to THE SAME.<sup>1</sup>

Edinburgh, 28th November 1702.

MY LORD,—Your old friend coms to wish you joy of your present office and that your Lordship may improve it to the best for the advantage of your native countrie and privat interest; which I cannot doubt your own judgement and experience will fail to direct your Lordship to be truly concerned for both; for I'm sure you have in some times of your life known less care than enough had, than was due to either, by some in the like station. A word to the wise is abundance, especially to your Lordship, soring above my advice. I'm sure I mean well both in relation to your publick and privit capacity, which may render me excusable for this touch of freedom.

I was not a little surpris'd, in the countrie, to hear your excellent paper of the Union suffered jeasting parraphrasis, and still the more to hear it was restrain'd, after I had perus'd it; for truly, without compleiment, I thought it was most seasonably usefull, and glad I was when I heard it was republish'd. I cam but yesterday to this place from the countrie life, and emediatly set about to learn the grounds of cretising your paper, which I found mostly landing on a few words creticks term'd cramp, particularly *identifying onness*. I'm a sorie gramarian, but as I understand, signefying an unalterable form of union, it ought and might have past with the whole in great applaus; but he that hates me for little, loves me for naught. But certainly its the matter and not

<sup>1</sup> Sir William Bruce, the writer of this vigorous and interesting letter, was the son of Robert Bruce of Blairhall, and Jean, daughter of Sir John Preston of Valleyfield. He was a devoted loyalist. After the Restoration of King Charles the Second he was appointed Master of Works and Architect to his Majesty,

and was created a Baronet in 1668. Besides Hopetoun House and other noble mansions in Scotland, he designed the additions to the ancient palace of Holyrood, by which the building assumed its present quadrangular form. Sir William died in 1710.

your Lordship's words stures up some men's beell, who will not adventure to decree a thing universally applauded, as the onely mean to boy up o[u]r sinking trade and make our forgotten countrie famous, rich, and happie. Its dreaded, as I hear, our grandes in offices, and asspiring expectents, as well as the trouble, may, as laying cross to them, stand in its way; but I thinke an office in the state of Great Briten, to which this end of it, in a full union, is as sib to as the other, may be of far greater advantage then the best in Scotland as it stands now, and for the trouble, their hazard seems proceeding from themselves, as ripe for corection at home as under an union, and working forwardly for it at present, as, no doubt, is made known to your Lordship ere now. But, as I said at our parting, let the Kirk stand in the kirkyaird, but brake not the unvalouable union for either cassack or cloak.

I little doubt its the succession to our Crown gives us a favourable invitation to unit with England, and if the English act of settlement can allow of the next protestant heir in generall termes, possibly it wold pass the more pleasantly in our parliament without lesning the security of the protestent religion a bit.

I doubt not, as in the proposed union in the year 70, our judicators, holdings, and customes, will without disput be yealded to. Allow me to minde you of the customes upon the export and imported merchandice that such may be so considered as that our parliament, in case of union, may rectifie and deminish them, which will contribut much to the encess and flourishing of our trad and navigation, and sinifie little by it to the Crown in full union.

Its like your Lordship and others may thinke it necessarie, in our next, which may be our last, parliament to make new, and corect, and reshind old hurtfull laws, such as those relating to the host, leasing making, fudale delinquencies, and reducing acts against treason to the standert of England,

that we may be as uniform as our state will allow; and therefore I shall not doubt any thing in your treatie will pass without due regard, so as our parliament may proceed therein freely without jealousy.

In the year 70 we had no cause to apprehend a free and full communication of trade would be so much as contraverted, without which union is but the shell, for its the kirkell, which I thinke is not to be lost for a little more then enough of our quota in proportion with England. In our privet meetings, Olivers proportion was considered to be betwext a 30 and 36 part with England—that is, of land taxes; for ambulatorie impositions upon this, that, and the other thing used in England, I remember nothing of such, and I do not thinke such can well quadrat in proportion with England without uncerten hazards too havie for us to bear. But we may be easier than now in proportion to land taxes, being only imposed in time of war in England, if we unit.

I know not what to say of the anext excise. If the Queen will part with it next parliamen[t] she'll be little the poorer, and land rent and traffect much the easier and improvable by it, and the suport of the government in union will not miss it—a small eas to Briten, and a verie great one to this corner, laying remot from consumption, as we do.

The last houer I was with your Lordship, the day before you parted, accedently the Master of Works Office drop in our discourse as not layable to oathes, and finding it not enumerat in the act amongst such as are thereby layable, I wrote to Broomhall to advice with his friends and mine if it might be so restored to me in case of an change, naming your Lordship as my friende, without saying ony thing of your opinion. It was my office some years, wherein I wrought more for my fie then has been since or for a hundred of years had been wrought. The Duke of Lawderdale took prejudice at me for adding to the number pleaded redress of greivances, and knowing well my

master would allow nothing of prejudice to be don me, cunningly got my office suprest as useless, and revived it in favours of his brother by a letter without comision. Its like the Queen may minde me, however. I served her uncle and father 50 years faithfully, not without banishments, etc. If it do not cross other designs, and that new choises must be, minde me as you pleas. I have been some time that I would not have truced under it, but I am not so streatned as to be onwise burdensome, and, for deverticement, I have enough in serving all and sundrie gratis. Excepting Broomhall, I have not touched this matter to any till now to your Lordship. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most humble servent,

WM. BRUCE.

If in opinions I have run without my line, its my naturall kindness for my countrie and deferrence to your Lordship has led me.

For the right honourable the Viscount of Tarbet, conjunct Secretarie of State for the kingdome of Scotland—at London.

130. [JOHN PATERSON, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow], to SIR ALEXANDER BRUCE.

Edinburgh, 15 December 1702.

It's sadd (if our intelligence is true) that anie true sones of the church, much more that anie bishops, sould reason or vote against the bill sent up to the peers by the excellent house of commons relating to occasionall communion. It seems some bishops there will cooperat to keep the Church of England from its firm settlement and securitie, as some here are like to doe in hindering the restoration or releeff off our desolate church. God forgive both, and turn their hearts to their duetie !

You write to me of a 100 lib. for each bishop and archbishop here, orderd by the Queen to be payd to us, and wonders I heard or said nothing of it. I answer, indeed I heard of it once, but as ane rumor, and did look on it as such, thinking the Queen wold haue orderd more for the archbishops than for the other bishops; but now I find some trueth in it, tho it was never intimated to me by anie concernd, and you will know the trueth from Earl Seafield or his servants, who needs must know it.

As for such of our bishops who obstruct and disswade from dutifull addresses to her Majesty from the episcopall clergy, I know you guess them exactlie, for I know that neither the bishops of Aberdeen, Murray, or Dumblane, are against that seasonable and dutifull designe, and if some two bishops was not in Edinburgh, I am sure that such addresses had come long agoe from most off those presbyters who live in and about this citie. But whatever I say to yow, I know it's safelie lodged, and I will never turn ane accuser of my brethren, but sall doe all I can to serve and save them, for I am hopefull that some tyme will convince them off their error, and that if they haue anie designe to gett the P[rince] of W[ales] included in the royal succession, they take the worst method in the world for it, by keeping out from owning and serving the Queen in her reigne. For Gods sake pitie them, and doe them all the kyndnes in your power against their owne methods—it's a great charitie. I sall e[n]quire further about what yow write of ane 100 libs. coming to us bishops and archbishops, and sall acquaint yow of what I learn, per next; but I say again, no such order or precept ever came to my hands, nor wes ever intimated to me.

Be not anxious about the form off anie addresses from our clergy, for if anie come you sall find them such as will please yow. Addresses are preparing both from presbyters and laicks in severall places of the kingdom, but letters are written from this place both to bishops and presbyters in the

countrie, disswading from taking oaths or making addresses to the Queen, which I am sorrie for. Continue in your proposd method for indulgence and favors in generall to us and our clergy, and if wee prove so unhappie as not to accept off them on reasonable conditions, the refusers sall haue non but themselves to blame for it. Indeed, I know non of our surviving bishops who wold refuse to swear allegiance to the Queen, iff episcopacie wes restored, and they to their former posts with it, two onlie excepted, who are not as yet free to doe it, tho in tyme I hope they sall win over their scruples in that matter also. I am glad my Lords of York and London are pleased with my deportment in this juncture, much more that so is the Queen.

Amongst other topicks used for disswading du[tifull] addresses, it's said tho the Queen in her owne mynd w[as] dissatisfied with them and with the addressers [ . . . ] ane indulgence will come from her Majesty to [the epis]-copall clergy and people without their m[aking] such addresses or applications to her, as also f[avours] and bountie, both to bishops and presbyters; and so[me] are so weak as to credit these delusive suggestions; but I doe positivlie assure all of them that these are altogether groundles and ridiculous imaginations. If Lord Tarbat sall write to his brother Prestonhall, he will tell him plainlie who they are, and what methods they use, who endeavor to suppress addresses; it's better it come by him then by another. I desire nott that it come from me, nor that my name be so much as mentiond as ane author or reporter of it. Pray be so kynd as to take care of this for my sake. Adieu.

To Sir Alexander Bruce, at Mr. Sam. Fisher's at the Olive tree,  
neer Charing Cross, Westminster, London—these.

Indorsed: "Archbishop letter," and "Archbishop Glasgow."



131. GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT to [JAMES FOURTH MARQUIS, afterwards  
FIRST DUKE, OF MONTROSE].<sup>1</sup>

Whithall, 15 December 1702.

MY LORD,—I had the honor of a letter from yow relateing to Mr. Grames concern in the admrality. It is with regrate that I meet with the least obstacle in any return to your comands, and this it is so on the following occasion. Apparently there had been some comuneing on this matter befor the Queen, when the Duke of Lennox did take the oaths as admiral, at which tyme it is said that the Duke did promise to the Queen not to dispose of his deputations and under officers without herr Majesties approbation ; and that the Duke had said he would not, wheron the Duke of Queensberry and Earl Seafeeld had, by her Majesties allowance, promised a continuance of the offices of judge admiral and clerk to the two who had formerly served in them. They could not then know nor conjectur that you would be any way concernd ; and the Duke of Lennox, not remembring (as he sayes) of such a promise, disposed of them, on which there is some variance twixt the two Dukes, and it lyes befor the Queen ; and tho it be odious to bribe members of parliament, yet prudence will allow a warines from disoblidging them, and at present should any (tho litle) inconvenience arise from disoblidging Mr. Forbes, who is a parliament man, it were not desyrable to occasion it. Duke Queensberry thinks also that his honor is ingadged in it befor he could know (or indeed [        ] ) your Lordship was concernd ; and therfor perhaps your Lordship may, on knowledge of these circumstances, leave the determination of the matter twixt these who are directly concerned, since, as it is stated, Duke Queensberry looks on himself as a defender of his word in the case.

<sup>1</sup> From original in Montrose Charter-chest.

My Lord, I wish it had been my fate to have had your comands both in things that were not blown on by others manadgment, and yet rather in a concern of more importance, if I were of use in your service. My pith may be litle, but my desyres are strong enough to serve the person and family of the Marquis of Montrose. Things have runn long enough in less notable channels. I cannot forbear wishing to see yow amongst the cheeffs of Scots royalists. Your quality may pretend to any service to your princes, and your age to a fair entry, and I should be sorry to see good opportunity slipt ether by negligence or bad counceles; and the sooner one beginns there will be a nearer hast to advance, wheras, if those of opposit interests root themselves longer in the authority, they will root the deeper and be less moveable, for never had the principles of loyalty a more favourable aspect then they have at present from our princess. I am not so vaine as to think that I can be usefull, but I am sure I shall not think shame to be officious in so noble an errand on many accounts, and one is, that I presume true desyrers of honor will never propose but just and suitable things in and under suitable circumstances. Its a while since I desyrd your true servant and freend, the Lord Boyle, to impart some hints of this nature. My Lord, allow ane old gram-mariar one Latin adage: *est post occasio calva*. There is very litle room and very many pretenders, and albeit few give the stakes to keep to such as desyre them too earnestly, yett in our tymes they are seldom given to those who shunn to be concernd. In conclusion, I should be sorry to see one in the crowd of a party, who may now be considerable and shortly a cheef in the body politick under a sovereign head, where, amongst others, he should be attended by a

Faithfull and most humble servant,

TARBAT.

[Address wanting.]

132. Rev. DAVID WILLIAMSON,<sup>1</sup> Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Edinburgh, 17 December 1702.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—I was desyrd by brethren conveend in Edinburgh at the comission to signify to your Lordship that the time of the assembly approaching, the tenth of March, you wold take your conveniency to acquaint her gracious Majesty hearwith. Wee expect it will hold at the diet. Our assemblys heartofore have been helped so to behave as hath been approven, and we ar hopefull shall be so guided for hereafter. As we rely much on her Majestys repeated assurances to mantain and preserv the present presbyterian church government, and giv all encouragment to ministers, so we ar confident of your Lordships favour (now advanced to such an eminent post) on all occasions. I was injoined to intimat publiquly to the commission that the members not only themselves wold mind, but also acquaint the brethren within there respective precincts at their return home, how much it is the duty of all of us to be instant at the throne of grace that God wold bless her Majestys person and government, and grant her a long, happy, and prosperous reign, and to bless the Lord for the Prince his recovery, and for the successe of her Majestys arms both by sea and land. I will not be farther tedious to your Lordship. That the good

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Williamson was minister of Saint Cuthbert's parish, Edinburgh, till 6th August 1706, when he died, aged 72 years. Between the years 1665 and 1700 he is said to have espoused seven successive wives. On the occasion of his seventh marriage, the wits of the day said that the lady was his Sunday

wife. While at Court, on the accession of King William, he attracted the notice of the ladies on account of these matrimonial alliances. He was familiarly known as "Dainty Davie." The popular song of that name is supposed to refer to him.

Lord may bless and grant your Lordship his favour and conduct, is the prayer of,

May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordships most faithfull and obedient servant in all humble duty,

D. WILLIAMSONE, *Moderator.*

Indorsed in the handwriting of Lord Tarbat, "L<sup>re</sup>. Mr. David Williamson."

133. SIR PATRICK VANS of Barnbarroch to [THE SAME].

Glasarttoun, the 19th Desember 1702.

MY LORD,—I most hearttliely congratulat your being mead Lord Seckrie-tarrie. And I being soe much asured of your Lordships frindship formerly heas impoldened me to give the trouble of this to show your Lordship that, as to the bussiness betwixt Lawers and I, it is still lying by and noe lykelihood of its being ended, which is the cause of great trouble and expences to me; and I fear, if not ended werry shortly, will doe me great hurt, for ther is non that I ame owing any thing to but they are begining to dispare of my ever getting any of it out of Lawers hand, which if not, bouth I and your Lordshipes nics and childring will be in ane bad condittione therfor.

My Lord, I most beg that sines yowr Lordshipe is in ane post soe that non is more capable to serv ther frinds, and I knowing it was still your Lordships inclienationes to doe me kindness fare beyound my desertts, I have presumed to put your Lordship in minde to doe soumthing for me, soe that I may make your Lordshipes nices and her childring live as becoms such near relationes to your Lordship.

My Lord, I lykways presume to give ane small informattione of ane debt dew to my great grandfather by King Jaems the Six. The cause of the debt was, my great grandfather was sent as ambassiedor to the kingdome of Den-

mark, to treat of the maradges betiuxt King Jaems and Queen Ann; and lykway, when his Majestie went to solemnices the maradges, he went ower with him, and all upon his oun expences, which was the first break that the femallie got; and newer got any thing in recompens, which heas brought the famellie soe loe that I ame not able to make yowr Lordshipes nices live as such ane near frind of your Lordshipe ought to, without I be provided in some post. I shall only beg pardon for my rudness, and say that I have non to depend upon but yowr Lordshipe; and if it wer not to great ane trouble to yowr Lordshipe, I would beg that yow would return the Earle of Gallway thanks, for he is kinder as I can express: and if yowr Lordship should think it fite that I should goe up to London, and represent to her Majestie the great loss my famlie heas susteained throw the want of the debt dew by her great grandfather, I doute not but the Earle of Gallway would us his intrest with his greacs the Duck of Queenberry to be my frind; but I will not desire my Lord to write till I know yowr Lordshipes minde, and till then yowr Lordshipes nices and godsoun gives ther humble duty to yowr Lordship, as alsoe him how is, my Lord,

Your Lordshipes most humble and obedient servant,

PATT. VANS.

134. JAMES FIFTH EARL OF GALLOWAY to [THE SAME].

Glasertoune, December 21, [1]702.

MY LORD,—I doe heartly congratulate your Lordships advancement to that honourable office of high secretarie. I am confident it is nou in your hands to doe kindness to your freinds, which will ingadge them to serve your Lordship. I am not to sollicite your Lordship at this time upon my oun

account, but I most recomend to your Lordship your good freind and mine, the laird of Barnbaroch. Your Lordship may remmember that you was endeavouring to procure a companie for him in summer last, when the commissions were in the Duke of Queensberrie his hands; but at that time they were all filled up, which was the occasione of his disappointment: therefore I beg your Lordship may use your endeavours for procuring somewhat to him that may be assistant to the support of his family, for rely his circumstances requires it. And considering the interest he hes in your family, and his oune merit, it wold be a great incuradg[ment] to him; and I shall look upon the favour equalie as done to [myse]lf. If your Lordship wold be pleased to write a line to him, and if [there is] anie necessity for him going to Londone, he will upon your [desire]. My Lord, as I formerly have had undeniable proofs of your Lordships freindship, soe I shall desire this as a furder instance therof. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble servant,

GALLOUAY.

135. JOHN EIGHTH LORD ELPHINSTONE, to [THE SAME].

Elphinston, 24t December 1702.

RIGHT HONORABLE,—I was unwilling, upon your first entry to youre new office, to give you any trouble, knowing that ye wOULD be mutche taken up with the publik and mor important affairs of the nation, and union of the tuo kingdoms. And judgine now that the gratest trouble of thes is over, I presume, in the first place, to congratulat your Lordship upone your accession to youre office of secretarrie of state; and to assure yow that there is no bodie gladder of it, or wishes you more happines and longer continowance in it then I doe.

It is not unknowen to your Lordship that I had in King Charles the Seconds reigne a gift of pension from him of tuo hundered pounds sterling a year during my life ; notwithstanding whereof, I have never, since the happy revolutione, had any parte of it payd, nor any continowance of it ; albiet youre Lordship knows that severalls whos gifts of pension war in the same termes, and on the same fot, were continowed and payd to them. I cane attribute this my misfortune to no other cawse then misrepresentations that may have been made of me, because I wase against the aboleshing of the ancient churche governement by archbishops and bishops. And now that the Queen (whom God preserve) is happily setled upon the throne, I beg youre Lordships favorable representatione of my caise to her Majestie, and procure for me the continowance of this my pension, to which I have so just a right. Your Lordship wase a witnes to my cariage the last sesion of parlament, and how faithfully I was designed to have served hir Majestie, which I doubte not bot ye will represent unto hir. I rely upon your Lordships favor and goodnes in this affaie, and am in sincerety, right honorable,

Your Lordships most humble and faithefull servant,

ELPHINSTON.

136. PATRICK COUNT LESLIE to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

Fetterneir, December 31, 1702.

MY LORD,—Upon the first assurance I found my self oblidged to congratulat your Lordships preferment, and wishes your Lordship long life and health to enjoy it, with all the good wishes I can think on for blessing your undertakings. And withall, am necessitat to beg your Lordships protection and cair of this gentleman, bearer herof, William Leslie (brother german to

the Laird of Pitcaple), my near relation, who, in the last wars, did deservedly behave himself in being preferred to be a lieutenant; and thought to have been mortally wounded att the siege of Namure, as his scarr yet can bear witness; and has served this last campaign in good esteem as a volunteir, with a promise of preferment from my Lord Malborough. Yet I and all his friends are convinced that a word from your Lordship will much add to the obtaining therof; therfor let me humbly beg your Lordship will allow me the honour of it, which will much add to the many and great obligations put upon, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and oblidged servant,

PATRIK COUNT LESLIE.

137. [JAMES MARQUIS, afterwards DUKE, OF MONTROSE], to GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.<sup>1</sup>

Edinburgh, the 2d January 1703.

MY LORD,—This day my Lord Justice Clerk was pleased to call for me at my lodgeing, and delivered me a letter of your Lordship. I need not, I hope, use many arguments to persuade your Lordship of the trew sence I heave of the particularr kaindness your Lordship has been pleased to express to me on many occasions. I were both verie unsensible and ungrate, if I did not give it a just return. As your Lordship is pleased to express a great dall of concern about me, so I hope yow'l do me all justice in believeing me always firm to those principles of my famely which heave been ever for the support of the monarchie. I should look upon it as a verie mean project, and verie much below me, eetheir to follow or heave any

<sup>1</sup> Original copy at Buchanan.



thing to do with however were of different principalls; but I do assure your Lordship that whatever measures I enter into for the servise of my countrie, I shall always heave her Majesties honor and interest particularlie before my eyes. But that I mant give your Lordship further troble, I shall only add that I ever am, my Lord ——.

To my Lord Tarbat.

Indorsed: "Copy letter, D. M. to E. Cromarty, 2 January 1703."

138. GEORGE EARL OF MELVILLE to [GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT].

January 7, 1703.

MY LORD,—I find by yours I had the other day, without date, that some have write to yow of my being dissatisfied that I was not advertised when turned out. I thought, and still thinke, that it uas hard not to acquaint me with it. I was informed by good hands that your Lady told, in several companies, that yow had write to her that I was laid aside; uherupon I told your brother that I wondered non had writ of it to me, and that I should be left at an uncertainty how to carry. For, upon a bare report to desert the Queens service, would have been taken ill (if the news had been false). On the other hand, to attend as a member and then be kicked out, is not very desirable; but matters of civility and kindness are not to be challenged.

As for my being turned out, I assure yow its as litle trouble to me as ever it uas to any.

I do not desire your Lordship should give your self any trouble about that affaire of the Kettle tiends; its a matter of smal value. It was more to have occasion of obligeing some of my neighbours, then any prospect I had

of great advantage, that made me desire it. I have no more to trouble yow with at present; only I expect from her Majesties justice, the Duke of Quensberrie and your Lordships kindness, that my son and I be paid of what we served faithfully for.

I am sorry mistakes should continue between yow and my friend, and I wish I could have prevented them; but if every one will keep their own humours and justify whatever they do, there is no help for it. Whatever of late has fallen out I regret; but I am sure he was a kind friend and faithful servant of yours, and I would have thought so wise a man, and of so much experience, and so concerned a husband as my Lord Tarbat, might have indulged another's concern for a wife they were fond of, especially when their feet were not long cold. If yow had been pleased to have discoursed me when yow did the other, much of these mistakes might have been prevented. But I have said too much on this head. If friendship be gone out of the world, I am sorry for it; I am sure it never failed on my side. I will give your Lordship no further trouble at present. I am, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships affectionate cousin and most humble servant,

MELVILL.

139. GEORGE THIRD LORD REAY to [THE SAME].

Bommel, the iith January 1703.

MY LORD,—I had long ere now given your Lordship the trouble of a line congratulating your being made secretary of state, but that I thought to have seen your Lordship at London. But tho' I came among the last, I assure your Lordship that I'm as much overjoyed at it, and wishes the continuance of it, as much as any man; since I'm sure few has been in that employment so fit for it and deserving of it, as your Lordship. I gave my Lord Seafeld

the trouble of getting me a gift of recognition of the lands of Sanside, and am informed your Lordship stopped itt on Durens accountt. I assured your Lordship att Edinburgh that I had no design against Duren any manner of way, which Sir George Sinclar knows very weell, but against Sanside; and I exspect your Lordship will be pleased to gett me the said signater past, and send it to Mr. James, your son; and if I don't satisfy him fully on that head, I shan't desyr itt. My Lord, the only reason I ask this gift for is, to be my security in case I buy any debts against that esteate; for, if any other should gett itt afterwards, my right will prove null; so that I exspect your Lordship will befreind me in itt. The Duke of Queensberry promised to make me one of the privy councill (which is no expence to the thresery), and I hope your Lordship will be assisting in itt, or do it yourself if it happens to be your Lordships waiting month. I design shortly for Scotland, being an old married man, and should be desyrous that were done ere I went their. I had a pension of £300 a year from the King, and was promised to gett itt renewed. I hope your Lordship will concur in itt if proposed. I allwayes depended much on your friendship, and hopes your Lordship will believe me to be, my Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionatt humble servant,

REAY.

I wish your Lordship a happie new year.

140. GEORGE EARL OF MELVILLE TO GEORGE VISCOUNT OF TARBAT.

Edinburgh, January 21, 1703.

MY DEAR LORD,—I perceive by yours of the 14th yow thinke I am not uell pleased with the manner of my being laid aside. I believe I gave no ground for it, as to yowr part, or that I jealouse yowr kindness. Yow knew

and understood better things then to have wanted charity for me, when yow were not employed at first, and were uell enough acquainted with the circumstances of affaires at that time, and how much I endeavoured to testifie my kindness both then and befor. I am too old now to take the dorts, which seldome does a pettit bairn good. Uhat yow writ in relation to others: I am sorry for the continuance of mistakes amongst friends, but yow may thinke I look on that affaire with more calmness, and freer of passion then either parties, and the heats or mistakes of others does not often much influence me. But I will not insist on this subject, haveing said enough formerly. I hope and expect that your Lordship will make good your promise in procureing some effectuall way that I may be paid of what is owing me.— I am, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships affectionate cousin and most humble servant,

MELVILL.

To the right honorable The Viscount of Tarbat, principal secretary of state for the kingdome of Scotland, London.

141. [JOHN PATERSON, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow, to THE SAME.]

Januarij 26, 170 $\frac{2}{3}$ .

MY DEAR LORD,—I was never surprised befor with such a bold, impudent calumny, as the Bishop of Edinburgh hath suggested of me to the good Bishop of London. It is a strange, arrogant imposing upon so wise a person, as against common sense, to assert ane impossibility, as if I could carrie on in a secrett, hidden, and clandestin manner, that address which is preparing by our clergy, which must necessarlie pass the hands off aboue sixtie presbyters here, besides bishops. Non knows better than your worthie brother, my lord justice clerk, that I haue, ever since your Lordship parted, solicited

and courted my Lords St. Andrews and Edinburgh to come franklie in and owne and serve the Queen, and to concurr in and recommend that address. God knows how great joy it wold prove to me if I could not onlie perswad them, but all others, now to come in to her Majestys service and interest, which, I am perswaded wee must be either madd and distracted, or wee must now see to be our duetie and interest. They need not entertain anie jealousy of me, as iff I intended to do anie thing without your concurrence in reference to the Church; for I am not so blind as not to see that a joint and vnited allegiance to the Queen is the best and most effectuall way to help us and to releve our suffering brethren. Nor did I ever propose, so much as in a single thocht, anie releef or bounty from her Majesty to myself, which I did not wish and endeavor might also in a due proportion be granted to them; for our interests do no wyse interfere, as all the world sees. I send your Lordship here a copie off my letter to my Lord Bishop of London, which I am sorrie to write, but that self-defence makes it necessarie; but I relate to him the whole case as it truelie stands as to matter off fact, without saying or advancing anie thing which is not exactlie just and true. I send my letter to him in the black box, and I begg your Lordship may cause deliver it safelie. Your Lordships brother is so kynd to me as to write my vindication this post, both to your self and to his Lordship, which I know my Lord of London will regard.

As for my brother William his effair, it lyes in safe and kynd hands, because it is lodged in your Lordships owne, and I doubt not your Lordships kynd concern to effectuat it in the best and most secure way; nor doe I wish it to be done till your Lordships next moneths attendance on the Queen. As for a becoming gratification to your Lordship, I sall answer for it to be done thankfullie at your brothers sight and myne; and I hereby bind and oblige my self to make effectuall payment thereof to your self or order, that is, that my brother and I salbe conjunctlie bound to your Lordship for it; and that

if he sould faile (which I am sure he never will), I sal become your debtor for it, upon the Queens grant in his favors taking effect here.

It needs must discourage our laicks from their intended addresses for our church and episcopall clergy, when they find some bishops discountenancing and diswading addresses from the clergy to the Queen for releef to our church and to our selves. Good God, under what dementation and infatuation are some fallen !

Indorsed by Lord Tarbat : "Letter, Bishop of Glasgow."

142. JOHN FULLERTON and others to JOHN ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW.

Glasgow, February 1st, [1]703.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—As we gave your Grace ane account of our resolutions to observe the solemnitie of January 30th, quhich has been frequently observed by us here since the revolution, so we now think it our duty to acquaint yow likewise, that the day being come, and the people to a considerable number of the best qualitie in the place peacably assembled at Sir John Bells house, we were attacked with great furie by a rout, who threw stones of a considerable bigness in at windows, broke the glass and putt the hearers into great confusion ; and at lenth the fury of stones throwing grew so high, that we were necessitated to break off in the midst of the worship. This account we doe the rather give your Grace, because we are informed the magistratts of the place have given a false representation of the matter, in quhich they indeavour to load us as the authors of the tumult, as though we had hired persons to begin it ; but so farre was it from this, that we are credibly informed the common ringleader of the tumults in this place was the day before with the masters of the colledge, the magistratts and ministers of the city, consulting with them about the designed tumult,

and accordingly was present at it with her complices and many students of the colledge, who were the chief actors in it. It's true the magistratts came down with a pretext to dissipatt the rout, but quhen they came they made but a mock of it, for none of the authors were seized on nor the rout scattered. But the magistratts withdrawing, they fell on with fresh fury and forced us to break off. We are farther certainly informed, that the comandant in this place sent to the magistratts to desire them either to prevent the mob themselves, or to allow them and they would doe it, but were answered that they had no service for them. Upon the whole matter, that quhich we especially regrate is, that Sir John Bell and his sons, having so oblidgingly invited us thither and offered their house for that use, should have been so injured and affronted, and had their house so damnified and abused. This is a short account of the whole matter, quhich we leave to your Grace to make use of as ye think fitt, and still beg your blessing and prayers on behalf off, my Lord,

Your Graces most humble and obedient servants,

JO. FULLERTON. J. HAY.

J. BOGLE. ALEXR. DUNCAN.

It need not be thought strange such tumults should fall out in this place, considering the doctrine taught in the churches, in quhich, the very Lords day before, the field conventicles were justified, the solemne league openly owned and recommended, the supremacy test and prelacy exclaimed against and condemned. But that which we should especially take care off is, to free our selves of that aspersion of being the authors or abettors of the tumult, and for this it may be thought sufficient to vindicatt us, that the sons of ministers, elders, and magistratts, were the chief actors in all this bussiness.

For my Lord Archbishop of Glasgow, his Grace.

143. GEORGE HALIBURTON, BISHOP OF ABERDEEN, to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Neutyl, 3 February [1]703.

MY LORD,—I presume to congratulate your Lordships being placed in a post wherin you may excercise those eminent induements God has blisssed you with, and heartily pray you may have success in all your just designs for the good of this poor divided kingdome and afflicted church. I supose your Lordship has had frequent accounts of the calamitous condition of our poor clergie, which pleads for pity; and the condition of the bishops is not much better, after this long tryall. Your Lordship has given such marks of your affection to the church that, after what has been offered to your consideration by the bishops uho live about Edinburgh, and other true freinds, I need give your Lordship no information, and hop your Lordship will wittnes your concern for the church, as far as the state of affairs will admitt, about which I will not adventure to prescribe, and that an effectuall remedie be applyed to the starving necisity of the clergie. I have presumed to trouble your Lordship with account of my oun circumstances, which my Lady Prestonhall has inclosed in a letter to your Lordship. I ever am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most devoted and humble servant,

GEO. ABERDONEN.

144. GEORGE FRASER, Regent, King's College, Aberdeen, to THE SAME.

Kings Colledge, 3 February 1703.

MY LORD,—I cannot sufficiently expresse how acceptable I find it to all I converse with, that a person of your Lordships experience and prudence is



established secretary to her Majestie, or how happily my own repeated wishes are fulfilled, so that if I were capable of any of your Lordships favours I might promise my self a share of your former kindnesse. But that which brings this present trouble is the recommending to your Lordship a gentleman who, with all his relations in this cuntry, are my good freinds, and may be, as still they are very significant in this shire, most usefull in what your Lordship may propose as to her Majesties service. The gentleman is Mr. Arthur Forbes, writer to the signet, a son of Cragivars, who proposes to himself, by your Lordships procurement, to be her Majesties writer, which office Com-misser Home formerly hade. I am told it hase beene already spoke of to your Lordship with satisfaction. If any interest I can plead in your Lordship can be of any weight, I do earnestly begge you would countenance Mr. Arthur, who is a deserving young man; and his father, Cragivar, on of the fastest freinds any man ever took by the hand, who hase great influence, not only amongst all the name of Forbes, but with most of the gentrie of the shire, and respected by all; whose freindship is by no method better obtain'd then by favours done to his sones, and particularly to this young man, whom he loves dearly. So that your Lordships countenancing of him in this affaire will make both and all they can do intirely yours. Leaving it wholly at your Lordships feet, and praying Almighty God to continue you in health and prosperity, I am, in all sincerity, my Lord,

Your Lordships most dutyful and oblidged humble servant,

GEO. FRASER.

For the right honourable the Viscount of Tarbat, on of his Majesties chief-secrataries for the kingdom of Scotland, London.

145. JOHN EARL OF TULLIBARDINE, afterwards FIRST DUKE OF ATHOLE,  
to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Dunkeld, February 11, 1703.

MY LORD,—I have writt fully to you of the 8th, in answer to yours of the 30 last month, which, if you please, you may show to the Queen or Duke Marlborough and Treasurer, that I may be vindicatt of any misrepresentations have been made. I expect this justice from your Lordship.

I shal now tell you that I have perused the project of the regiment with my father, who aproves of itt, but sayes he is grown so infirm that he cannot be collonel to it, but desires that I should be it instead of him. This is all one vpon the matter, for our interrest's the same. He thinks Sir Donald M'Donald shoud be one of the captaines, uho uoud bring in that clan as being the cheiff of them. His Lordship thinks he may be instead of Lochyel, and, instead of 300 men, Sir Donald can bring out 4 or 500, by which meanes Earl Mars, or any others quota, may be lessened, for Earl Mar uill be found not to be able to raise 400 men. This regiment uill also serve instead of the two independent companies, and consequently lessen their expences. My father thinks that some companies of this regiment shoud lye at Inverlochic, and relive other by turns. This minds me that I was wished joy by severals at my coming home, of being governour of Inverlochic, which was firmly believed as being a thing feasible and of use to the Quen. I must own this, that if thi[s] regiment take not effect, I belive I shall be more servisable to the Queen, considering the interrest my father and I have, then others. I doe not kno uhat security the Queen has of the present governour, Col. Maitland, but I have often heard from his fellow officers that he was not to be depended on.

My father expected an answer from your Lordship of the letter he urotte

to you long agoe. He desires no imployment, but will be well satisfied if he gett a pension of 500 lib., which I spoke to the Queen off before parting, and indeed I woud rather pay itt my self then he shoud want itt. As for the title of Duke, my father is very sensible of the Queens goodnes and favour in granting itt, and desires your Lordship will return his humble thanks to her Majestic; and since it is a thing resolved on, both his Lordship and I expects it will be passed the Queens hand as soon as possible, and, as I alwayes thought, the sooner the better, that others may not pretend to the same. Your Lordship will find patents in the Secretaries office, so I need not send you any; and, for the narrative, you can make it up better then any, for your Lordship knows the loyaltie of our family to the Queens predecessors, and my fathers actings in the rebellious times when he was but a youth. The first of the family of Atholl, of which we are descended, was James Stuart, called the Black Knight of Lorn, who married the relict of King James the 1st. Their son, John Stuart, was created Earle of Atholl by his brother on the mother side, King James the 2d. And for the family of Tullibardine, their antiquity and loyaltie are remarkable. I have charters to our predecessors from K[ing] W[illiam] and K[ing] Allexander, in the yeare 1100. I have heard of older charters, but never saw any.

I had almost forgott to mind your Lordship not to mention Argile or his men to be concerned in the new regiment, for, if the Atholl men and they meet, they will more readily fight with one another then joine together.

I must also tell your Lordship from my father, that the two independant companies will not only be absolutly unnecessar in caice of this regiment, but it will be a great advantage to the country that those two companies be sent to Flanders, for I can assure you that they are filled with all the most notorious rogues and theives in the Hilands; and the men will be a considerable recruitt to the regiments abroad.

Since the Queen was resolved to lay aside Mr. Cairstairs from being her chaplaine, for which she has but too much reason, your Lordship did recomend to me to enquire uho might be proper for that post. Accordingly, while I was at Edinburgh, I caused try Mr. Creighton, uho declined itt; and I was informed that Mr. Webster, uho we had spoke off, was not so proper for itt. But I was told of one, Mr. William Hamilton, your oun parish minister at Cramoud, that there was nott a discreiter man in the presbetry, and uho is begun to have a great stroke in itt, and consequently will be the more capable to serve the Quen. You kno him better then I doe, for indeed I have hardly acquaintance of him, therfore leaves it to you. The sallary of chaplain is small, and the Deanery of the Chaple Royal uses aluayes to be joined to itt. Now, I am sure I have made amends for not uring sooner then my last of the 8 and this, both which are of a lentgh to make half a dozen of yours, therfore shall now conclude by assuring you I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithful humble servant,

TULLIBARDINE.

I have not sent a cypher, as I designed, which I intreat you may doe to me.

You may see by my uring on different sheets I have been hurried and interrupted.

146. WILLIAM LORD JEDBURGH<sup>1</sup> to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 22 February 1703.

MY LORD,—Having got this last post one account of my dear fathers daith, I beg perdon to intreat off yowr Lordship that yow will be pleased to continow yowr former keindness to the famaly, if it wer but upon his accownt

<sup>1</sup> By the death of his father Robert first Marquis of Lothian, on the 15th of February 1703, the writer had become the second Marquis.

who I am showr wes an intear servant off yowrs ; and for myselff I know your Lordship belives me to be so. I will trubler your Lordship no farther, but desyrs the continowance off my fathers place as shiriff off the shyr off Lothiane ; it is at no bennefitt, but gives me one occation to oblidge my nybowrs in the place, and it will be ane addition to the obligations your Lordship hath bein pleased to give to, my Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionate and obedient humble servant,

JEDBRUGH.

147. JAMES OGILVIE, FIRST EARL OF SEAFIELD, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, March the 4th, 1703.

MY LORD,—I received your Lordships this morning, and with it four letters blank for privie counceleurs. My Lord Sinclair, I find, desirs not to be of the council til after the parliament, and so no use shal be made of that was designed for him. . Sir George Broun and I shal wreat tomorou to the Earle Marischal, and leat him know hou readie the Duke of Queensberrie and your Lordship are to doe for him, and that he hes been kindlie and favourable represented to the Queen. Haddo is in the west with my Lady Eglintoun, bot will be in against Moondays night. He will accept most willingly. I shal deliver none of thes letters, nor the Lords of the Sessions pensions, till I find them readie to accept them thankfulie. Wee have adjusted al with the managers of the customs ; ther commission will be signed the morou morning. Al the collectors that will accept and find good cation shal have ther commissions furthwith ; and wee shal also constitut the surveyors as the managers recommends them. Wee are also adjusting instructions both for the managers and collectors, and nothing shal be wanting on

our pairt, only wee most, on Saturday nixt, transmitt to the Duke and your Lordship a memorial of some thræsurie affairs. Thay begin to pey the cess in most places. The Earls of Home, Muray, Belcarres, Aberdeen, Strathmore, the Lords Sinclair, Kenmuir, Lindors, the Lord Anstruther, and several more of that pairtie, have ordered peyment, and the touns will al pey, and al our friends will be most punctual : and, als I am informed, it is laid on by the commissioners in al the shirs. I have sent to my Lord Duke the draught of a letter to the parliament, drauen by the advocat, and revised by the register, the justice-clerk, and myselfe ; as also the draught of ane indemnitie. You may alter or amend as you pleas. I have a letter from the Provost of Glasgou, acquainting me that the magistrats prevented a rabel that wer readie [to] hender ane unqualified episcopal minister to preach at Sir John Bells house. Receave inclosed the copie of my ansuer, which I did advise with the Earl of Eglintoun, the register, advocat, and justice-clerk. Eglintoun is also to wreat to Sir John that none be employed bot such as are qualified by taking the oths to the Queen. A disorder ther would make noise in al the west countrey, bot if such rabels hapen we most punish them. At my earnest desire the advocat, Mr. Francis Montgomerie, my Lord Halcraig, and several ministers, have caried it by pluralitie of vots in the Commission of the assemblie nou sitting, that Mr. Gr[a]hame, minister of Dumfermling, be reponed to his church ; this gives me hops of the Assemblie. I shal do what I can, tho ther will certanlie be dificultie in it. I shal neaver have time to wreat without interruption till I am in the Abey, and ther I will be the worst lodged of al the Queen's servants ; bot I shal be satisfyed, not knowing hou to doe better. I resolvé to wreat to my Lord Thrasurer befor the siting of the Assemblie. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

SEAFIELD.

148. ARTHUR ROSS, ARCHBISHOP OF ST. ANDREWS, and ALEXANDER ROSE,  
BISHOP OF EDINBURGH, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, March 4th, 1703.

MY LORD,—The Lord Justice-Clerk having don us the favor to inform us that we ar represented not only as having opposed our presbiters' address, but also the addresses from the leyity through the severall shires, we thought our selves bound (besids the satisfaction we have given his Lordship) to make an accompt of our selves to your Lordship likewais as to those matters. And as to the first, as no man can say that we dissuaded him from that measur, so, not being advised with in it, we had no occasion to express our selves either on way or aneother, tho it be very true that if our opinion had bein asked, we readily would have advised that the laick addresses should have preceeded that from our clergy; and indeed we wer much surprised to sie matters otherwais manadged. And for the other matter of our having opposed the ley addressess, we must say that the information is so notoriously gross and unjust, that nothing can be mor so; for, upon all occasions that our opinion has bein askd in that affair, we have expressd our selves very well satisfied with them. And as the Marquess of Athole was amongst the first who imparted that design to the Bishop of Edinburgh by a letter, and askd his opinion about it (having likewais communicat to him severall instructions was to be given to the person that should present the address), so he returned his Lordship a letter of many thanks for his care of the episcopall church and clergy, and recommended to his Lordship the managment and carrying on of that design, wher his Lordship was concerned, and elsewhere by his interest and influence. And tho som alledge that the different sentiments of our clergy in relation to their address was the occa-

sion of a stop to the other, yet I can assure your Lordship, that befor any mistakes amongst our clergy wer understood or known, there was a stop put to the countrey addresses, and that by the influence of som persons, and upon considerations of a far other nature then the differences of our clergy, as to which we neither had nor have any interest or concern; for as tis non of [our] business to meddle in civill concerns, so tis far from our inclinations to meddle with intrigues that tend to embarass the government as to any meassurs it shall be pleasd to take. But becaus this needs som farther explication, and that your Lordship is to be here very soon (as we ar informed), we shall say no further upon that head till then; and as we hop your Lordship shall ward of any prejudice our interest may sustain by such misrepresentations as ar made of us, so we shall not fail to approve our selves on all occasions as, my Lord,

Your Lordships most duetifull and humble servants,

ARTH. ST. AND.

ALEXR. EDINBURGEN.

149. JOHN EARL OF TULLIBARDINE, afterwards FIRST DUKE OF ATHOLE,  
to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Dunkeld, March 5, 1703.

MY LORD,—My greiff for my deare mother has been so great and so just, that I could not aply my self to writting sooner. You kno uhat an extrodinar good uiffe she was, and I found that there never was a more affetionatte mother, so that my trouble is not to be expr[e]ssed. My father, you may imagine, is extreamly greived, and made him much wors then he was; he has now kept his bed three months, and, if the season doe not prove soon warm, its to be feared he uill not recover. You see, my Lord, I have had too much



reason to stay in this place, which also vexes me that I could not attend the Queens affairs at Edinburgh, as I very much desired; but I know she is so good as to accept of so necessary absence, which I desire your Lordship will acquaint her Majesty of. We designe my mothers funeral the end of the next week, and till I pay the last duty to her I cannot leave this place; things that are proper for it cannot be ready sooner.—I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithful humble servant,

TULLIBARDINE.

I have not had an answer from you to two of my letters, one from this place, the other from Huntingtower, where I went for 3 or 4 dayes, thinking my mother was better, but was sent for in hast to see her die. I came two hours before her death, and found her sensible and speaking within ten minutes of her death. She told me just then she was in perfect ease, and departed as if she had been sleeping, without the least struggle or commotion. Never died any with more resignation and contentedness, or gave more satisfaction to all about her.

My father and I have given orders to pay the cess of our lands before any quartering. The Earl of Strathmore acquaints me he is to do the same in Angus.

150. JOHN EIGHTH EARL OF CAITHNESS to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Murkle, 6th March 1703.

MY LORD,—I received your Lordships three letters all at once, tho of different dates, under James Sinclairs covert, on the 6th of March, by the

Caithnes post office. I wish that that of the first date had come to me in due time, that it might have had a seasonable return. I have had very little health since I took leave of your Lordship at Roistown, and had, because of my sickness, great difficulty in my journeying home, which increased so upon me since that therby I was brought to deaths door; if it had been otherwise with me, your Lordship had been troubled frequentlie with my letters. I thank God as for one of my good fortunes in a world (that one whom I have so much intrest in by a blood relation, and who knowes me so well and the familie I now represent, and my fathers integrity and sufferings for the royall familie) has arrived to that station your Lordship is now in. Your Lordship knowes I did not owne the titles of Caithnes fullie, tho vacant since the late Earles death, till her Majestie was settled on the throne, and still did reckon it a great blessing and mercy from God bestowed on these nations, that her Majestie now swayes the scepter of her predecessors. It was my care, as your Lordship might have perceived at the last sederunt of parliment, that I should not digress in the least measure from my duety and affection towards the royall familie; and doubting their might be some thing relating the succession moved then, as it was, made me averse to sit as a member; and seing many noblemen and gentlemen likewise averse to sit, made me incline their way rather than to joyn with these, the plurality of whom would have voted for that which was then proposed. Your Lordship knowes that in my converse with yow I expressed my self to be verie free that her Majestie should have a cess pleasantly and affectionatly granted to her by all her subjects. I am verie glad I hear her Majestie is en[c]lined to be favourable to her predecessors old freinds, which should dissolve all factious tempers her subjects may be off. A little after I came home I wrote to your Lordships son annent some commands I had from him here, but I find my trustie, to whom I sent it to be given him, did not send it up, which is a wrong done

both to him and me. My Lord, if it please God to give me any health, I will wait on yow at this Parliament. But if it sit peremptorie at the day appointed, I am affraid I will not be able to be there so soon; but it may please God I may be in a condition to travel and to be there some little time after the day appointed. I have writen to her Majestie as your Lordship desires, but thought it fit to wait your Lordships advice and directions there-  
annent. My Lord, my sickness continues so heavie on me, and I have so little time, having receaved yours but just now, I am not able to enlarge further at this time, therefor I rest,

Your Lordships faithfull freind and humble servant,

CAITHNES.

That signature your Lordship writes of is mine, although it be in Mr. Robert Gordons name, his name being only borrowed to it upon some considerations of my advocats.

151. [JOHN PATERSON, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow] to THE SAME.

8 March 1703.

NOTWITHSTANDING I wrote (as the lords chancelor, justice-clerk, register, and advocat desired me) to the episcopall people in Glasgow to employ non to preach ther or in a meetting-house, save onlie preachers qualified by law, and that the chancelor and advocat had written to the magistrates and commander of the forces at Glasgow to watch against and dissipat anie mobb or rabble (if anie sould arise to disturb the worship): as also, notwithstanding a qualified person wes the preacher on Sunday last, yet the mobb gathered and haue dissipated the meetting after the disturbing of the divine worship, and spoiled and rendred uninhabitable Sir Jon Bells fine house, where the

meeting wes, and hurt and wounded severalls of the worshippers ; and all is thought to be done by the neglect, connivence, or worse, off the present magistrats. Butt I hope the chancelor and others concerned in the government, and peace of the kingdom, will take such effectuall measurs to suppress that diabolicall spirit of rabbling upon thir occasions, as may be of great use for our peace, and may secure the honest good people there from such mischievous insults for the future. And indeed iff the present sett off men, who are now magistrats in Glasgow, sall not be turned out, and be exemplarilie punished for this insolent ryot, no honest episcopall person needs think off living one hour securelie in that place, nor in some other ill sett townes or villages, who, by the impunitie of the guiltie, wilbe encoraged to act such madd pranks as are inconsistent with the publict peace and safeticie.<sup>1</sup> But I beleue the matter wilbe fullie informed and layd befor the Queen by the chancelor, justice-clerk, and advocat, etc., by ane express. I hope the privy council sall order the citie of Glasgow to repair Sir John his house, to be *in statu quo* befor it wes spoiled, and to pay him suitable damages ; as also doe right to such persons there as haue been hurt, wounded, or injured by the rabble, by giving just damages and reparations. God deliver us from being again under the power of our soveragne Lord the Rabble, as wee were in 1688 and 1689. I hope K[ing] W[illiam]s reigne is ended. This letter I intended for Sir Alexander Bruce, to be communicated to your Lordship ; and now I beg you to impart it to Sir Alexander, with my letter enclosd to the Bishop of London, that if he and your Lordship thinks fett it may be delivered to his Lordship. It is vnder a fleeing seale, and so you both may peruse it, and, if you judge fitt, after closing it, may deliver it.—Adieu, humblelie.

<sup>1</sup> Some years after the date of this letter, we learn from Wodrow, "two things happen pretty singular, which twenty or thirty years ago would have been very odd in

Glasgow, the setting up of an Episcopalian meeting house, and publick allowing of comedies."—*Analecta*, iv. 8.

For God sake let the address from our Clergy be graciouslie received by the Queen, and that her Majesty may declare her self wele pleasd with it; that she will take the addressers under her Royall care and protection, and will in due tyme consider the petition contained in it, and doe all favor to the dutifull episcopall clergy as she sall see cause. And, in the mean tyme, let something considerable be granted by her Majesty to the two Doctors who bring up the address. Som here wold laugh heartilie if either the address or addressers sould be slighted, and upbraid us all with doing ane unseasonable thing, and so take occasion to dishearten and discourage all such addresses for the future. This may be fairlie done, tho her Majesty sould delay her full and finall answer to it till the next session of Parliament is over, or till addresses may come from the laicks in the several shyres. For Gods sake take a tender care of this.—Adieu.

I send you the enclosd for my Lord off London, under a flieing seale, for your perusall; read it, and consider it, and deliver it, or not, as you sall judge fitt. By last post I had no letters from yow, nor from Doctor Skeen or Dr. Scot, which is strange. God grant yow may be all wele, and that right measurs may be taken in relation to the address, of which I wrote my mynd fullie to you by last post that went from hence on Saturday last, after my comuning with Lord Justice-Clerk on the Thursday befor. I dread a wrong cast, God forbidd. I am sure the consequences wilbe fatall and irreparable, and am as sure I cannot be justlie blamed for them, as you can witness for me, as also my good L. Tarbat can.

To the right honorable the Viscount off Tarbat, principall secretarie off state at Whythall, London.—These.

Indorsed by Lord Tarbat: "Lre. Arch B. Glasg."

## 152. JOHN THIRD LORD LINDORES to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 9 Merch 1703.

MY LORD,—I reseued the honour of yours on Frayday last. I neuer doubted your cayndnes, nor shall not. I faynd what you wret in your letr to be relifent. I am not werie gude, althoght I most say I both nid and diseres it as will as sum heth got it, bot that is not your falt. What you wret to me anent the feudutj of the absay of Lundores that is payabel in to the exchequer, it is not so considerabl as yow think ; it is only ane hundr feudute and on pund Scots, and fourtin bols bere thre firlots tuo peks, which is not four hundr mark yerle, which is bot mine if I git not sumthing adid to it. I culd not git a signeter sent up becaus I wanted the resignation of the lands ut of which it is payed, bot your Lordship and I shall consort that at miten. In the men tayme, ther is the master of the mints place yit on disposed of, which is with a hundr and fifty pund sterlen yerle, and I wold be satisfayd with it, and I knou the Quine wil not refeuse me if she be spok to. Ther is laykways the gouerer of Blaknes plese, bot I knou not whidr it be disposed of or not, for he was at Lundon. My Lord, I am your oune, doe with me as you think fit ; non shall be more obseruant to your comands nor your humbl seruant,

LUNDORES.

The abas of Lundores gius hir seruices to you. I got bot on letr.

## 153. JAMES OGILVIE, FIRST EARL OF SEAFIELD, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, March the 13, 1703.

MY LORD,—I have drauen a full memorial of her Majesties affairs and sent it to the Duke of Queensberrie, which I desire your Lordship and he

may read together, and take the first opportunitie of reading it together to the Queen ; as also it is desired that you may concur in præsenting the ansuer from the assemblie. They are inradged against the episcopal meetings, the adresses, and the incuragement they meet with. I can only add that I am

Your Lordships most faithful and humble servant,

SEAFIELD.

I am at a great loss in want of your brother. He is gone to the north. It is nou two a cloak in the morning.

154. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE and other PEERS to MR. MACKENZIE.  
A WARRANT.

March the 15, 1703.

BY vertue of an order of the House of Lords appointing us to be a comittee for examining into the Scottish conspiracy, these are to require you forthwith to attend us at Northumberland House.

DEVONSHIRE.	TOWNSHEND.
SOMERSET.	T. WHARTON.
SUNDERLAND.	SOMERS.
SCARBROUGH.	

To Mr. Mackensy.

155. JAMES OGILVIE, FIRST EARL OF SEAFIELD, to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Holyrudhouse, March 21st, 1703.

MY LORD,—I received two of your Lordships this morning as I was going to church. I am extreamlie oblidged to your Lordship for the freedom you

use in them, bot after al I assure your Lordship wee have acted with al the cair possible in that affair of Glasgou. As I think my last memorial does sufficientlie evince ther would have great inconveniencie hapned had they been prosecut during the assemblee, when both your brother and I would have been absent, and most of the privie councehours in the countrie; and manie hier would have proceeded faintlie till the retu[r]n from Court. The circumstances of that mater being laid befor her Majestie, nou I shal goe on, and I am sure none haits rabels and al kind of rebellion more as I doe. I cannot conveen a council befor Tuesday comes eight dayes, and then the Duke of Q[ueensberrys] letter shal be redd and receive al diu obedience. I would have called the council sooner, bot your Lordships postscrip makes it necesarie the indemnitie be helped, for, as it is, it indemnifies al concerned in that tumult. I have sent to the Duke the copie of the indemnitie as it is, with two nots on the margine, which your Lordship may peruse and cause trans[c]rive and get it signed by her Majestie. The letter for the adjournment most also be renewed, being relative to the indemnitie, bot it needs no alteration bot as to the dait. Houever the time of the meeting of parlement is so near that I most präsent what I have on the 30th, if I get not ane ansuer to this betwixt and then; so I intreat you mind my Lord Duke to dispatch. I most take on word of your valiant souldier you mention at Glasgou. He fought only a feu boyes, and it is confidently said his persuing them and his cursing and swearing raised the tumult; bot this is not to justifie them. Leat me only know with your ansuer what time this affair should be judged—the begining of May or June. The order can only be given the nixt council day; then the lybel most be raised and execut on the dayes aloued by law, and the councehours most be conveened; so in this wee shal have your Lordships assistance. Al nou to be determined is as to the time. I shal call Sir John Bells son to morou and leat him know that he shal be repaired



and protected. If your Lordship was angrie at the counceils letter, it was drauen by thee officers of state, the register, advocat, and justice clerk, your Lordships brother. I did not see it til it was redd in councel, and observed nothing in it that reflected on her Majesties letter; on the contrarie, it was rather fortified and mentioned as ane agravation against the rablers. I long to have you hier; you shal find me the same as at parting. I wrot a ful memorial to your Lordship last night concerning the affairs of the assemblie. I have hopes, bot no ful assurance, of a peaceable issu.—I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithful and humble servant,

SEAFIELD.

156. JOHN EARL OF TULLIBARDINE, afterwards FIRST DUKE OF ATHOLE,  
to [THE SAME].

Aby, March 25, 1703.

MY LORD,—I am come here this night to attend the Queens affairs, which my inclinations led me to doe much sooner, but the paying my last duty to the best of mothers hindered me, and which I kno the Queen is so good as to excuse on that accompt. I found a letter from your Lordship to me in this place, daited the 16, in which I am surprised to find you doe not mention the receipt of any of mine, which I expected you woud have noticed, especially that in which I uritt of my father and Earl of Strathmores and my designe in paying the cess, daited at Dunkeld before my deare mothers death, the 14 of February; and another daited at Huntingtouer the 20th that month, in which I sent you inclosed the proposal for the regiment you gave me; and a third I uritt from Dunkeld, in which I told your Lordship my father and I had paide the cess out of duty and re[s]pect to the Queen, which I own I have to as great a degree as possible for a subject to have, and the good opinion you writte she is pleased to have of me shal, if possible,

augment it. Having come here late this night, I have yet seen no body, so  
shal ad no more till the next occasion, uho am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithful humble servant,

TULLIBARDINE.

157. [THE HONOURABLE SIR KENNETH MACKENZIE, second son of GEORGE  
FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE], to HIS FATHER.

Edinburgh, Aprile 15 [*circa* 1703].

MY LORD,—As I returnd from Preastounhall the other day, Sir Robert  
Dickson being told I rode by, followd me to Inverask, and, after many  
protestationes of his inclinatione to serve your Lordship, he informd me that  
their is a certain designe to impeach the Duke of Atholl and your Lordship  
befor the ensuing parliament, and that his avoucher assurd him you could  
not be awarr of the grounds of the indictment. This he woud needs have me  
writt. I know the Earl of G. was a night with him not long since, who I  
beleive is the author of this stuff. Tho I know very weell their is nothing to  
be feard of this kind, yett I presume to say that I wish your Lordship were  
not presentt att our next sessione of parliament, for, as I understand, your  
freinds will be very untractable if the grand affair talkd of is to be pressd att  
this tyme ; and for me, tho I will not determine myselfe without advising with  
your Lordship, yett my being so singularly treated hitherto gives me small  
encouragment to serve such masters in tyme coming, for, as I never yet made  
a wrong step wheir the Crown was concernd, so I have bein alloud to spend  
my tyme and money without thanks, when many who came not my lenth  
have grown rich.

For the right honourable the Earle of Cromarty, principall secretary of state  
for Scotland.

158. MARGARET COUNTESS OF WEMYSS AND CROMARTIE to [HER HUSBAND,  
GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Melvill, the 19th of Jullie 1703.

MY DEAREST LOVE,—I am very sory you have been so toyld with business, and satt so late up. I pray God it may not do you hurt. I long alredy to be with you againe, and tho' I have a little of the gravell, yitt I resolve, if the Lord give me health and strength, to goe from this place tomorrow by 8 acloak in the morning, for I do not care to ly abed when I want my dearest and better parte. I shall be very carfull of your Pegie, and, if I finde my selfe weary or not well tomorrow, I will stay till Wednesday, which my sister is very earnest to have me do. My dearest heart, I had great satisfaction in the work I have been about these severall days past. It is now neer 12 a cloak, so I shall add noe more, but I am unalterably, my dearest life,

Your oune

M. W.

Your sone was very carfull of me, which I took most kindlie one your account.

159. [JOHN FIRST EARL OF BREADALBANE] to GEORGE FIRST EARL OF  
CROMARTIE.

Taymouth, September 29, 1703.

MY LORD,—I am much obliged to you for the account that my cousin, Glenderuel, gives me of your intentions to befriend him as to his preferment. It is most proper that these two new companies be adjected to the guards, because they are indeed effectually guards, and I can say more usefull for

guarding the country than the whole regiment of guards these years bypast, and will certainly be very obligeing to the generall to have them added to the regiment of guards to be more immediatly under his command, and may serve him as Highland granadiers upon any present immergent, to be placed in the forefront of the battle; and their absence may be supplied by us who are their friends till they return to their posts. In case Glenderuels affairs succeed, I had in my thought to have recommended to you a near kinsman of mine, he haveing been in the army several years, and may be very usefull in that post, but I am prevent'd by my best friend, your sister, who, I hear, has recommended a nephew of her husbands, which I neither can nor will contradict; but if there can be two lieutenants made, as is now, she and her Lord will yeeld that Ednample be the first, and he the second, which is Glenderuels interest, as well as his inclination.—Adieu, my dear Lord.

B.

To the right honourable the Earle of Cromertie, principal secretary of state.

160. ARCHIBALD FIRST EARL OF FORFAR to [THE SAME].

Abey, October 5, 1703.

MY LORD,—Ther is now a vacancie in the thresorie by Argils death, which I intreat your Lordship would bee plesed to help me to procure, if you find that pless of justis jenerall cannot be got. Others befor have advanced severall of ther freinds, so it is but just your Lordship should put in sume of yours. I hope your Lordship will represent what I have hazarded to serve hir Majestie, and that ther will non more willingly serve her Majestie and my freinds then I will doe; so I expect your Lordship will use your utmost interest to procure me on of thes posts. I have wrot to this purpose to the

Duke of Queensberry, who his promised to procure me something considerable, so I hope your Lordship will not forget your Ladys nepheu ; and believe ther is non in the world more sincerly then I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull obedient humble servant,

FORFAR.

161. CHARLES SIXTH EARL OF HOME to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, October 16, 1703.

MY LORD,—I was exceeding glade when I mett with some who had seen you upon the roade in perfect health. I wish the continuance of it with all my heart, and I humbly intreat your Lordship would do me the favour to let me hear how you are.

My dear Lord, being informed that some are so injust to those called the cavalier-party, as to misrepresent them to the Queen as those who obstructed her affaires in the late parliament, I think my selfe oblidged to desire your Lordship to take care that no such impression may be taken. You know all the steps in it as well as any man. We recognized the Queen's authority, and I will say it was the party called the cavaliers who did carry it through, there being many who were against the last clause of it. Your Lordship may well remember that after that we mett with great opposition, when we proposed a very modest and moderate overture for tolleration, I will not say from the court it selfe, but from all those who had any dependance upon it, whom we could not perswade to go alongst with us. Not only so, but when committies were proposed, it was absolutely refused to allow one single man of ours to be named in them. This gave great occasion of jealousie that there were other great designes to be sett on foot, and we hope in crushing

of them we have done her Majestie no disservice : and since I love to be plain, that which we were then affraid of was, that the successour should be nominate and ane oath of abjuration pressed. I shall say no more ; but haveing sworn to be faithfull to her Majestie, I will do what in me lyes to defend her persone and governement against all who shall offer to do violence to the one or disturbe the other. I hope your Lordship will be pleased to lett me hear from you by a letter direct to be left at Mr. Rodham's, post master at Barwick, and I assure your Lordship no body shall rejoyce more to hear of your health and the good success of your affaires than he who is, my Lord,

Your most faithfull and obedient servant,

HOME.

162. SIR DAVID CUNNINGHAM to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 20th November 1703.

MY NOBLE LORD,—I know the inteir confidence betuixt the E[arle] of Glencairne, chancellour, and your Lordship, and betuixt his sone (who deceased Wednesday last) and yourselfe the great affection : so I presume, on behalfe of the present Earle, his sone, who is takin vp in bewailing his father and ordoring his funeralle, that his fathers commission to command the Castle of Dumbartane, which he onlie injoyed two moneths, may be renewed to his sone, which is no noveltie, and, when he becumis advanced to be colonell, his posts will serve two. My Lord, I hope his fathers memorie is not forgott, and he himselfe well deserve.—I am, as in dutie bound, my Lord,

Your Lordships most obliged and humble servant,

S. D. CUNYNGHAME.

163. SIR GILBERT ELIOT of Minto, advocate, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 25 November 1703.

MY LORD,—The debate about the Irish victuall seized by Mr. Patrick Ogilvie spent the most part of this dyet of councill, which is the second meeting they have had since November. After hearing petitions from both sydes, the councill resolved that the case should be debated at the barr, to the effect the councill might make a decision *in jure* upon the laws in that caise enacted, which was accordingly done as in the journalls. Much of the rest of the counccills tym for this dyet was spent upon a process against the Countess of Seaforth for carying her son out of the kingdom to be popishly bred. She made a long defence herself from the barr, but chiefly insisted upon the indemnity; but at last the matter was remitted to a committy to find out expedients to constrain her to bring home her son, and to raise money for the effect. Other particulars are fully in the journalls, according to duty heirwith sent by, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant,

GILB. ELIOT.

164. SIR JAMES STEUART, of Coltness, lord advocate, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 23 December 1703.

MY LORD,—I had the honour of your Lordships pacquet this day at seven in the morning. My lord justice clerk sent it to me, and he having caused secure Captain M<sup>c</sup>Cleod and Charles M<sup>c</sup>Kinnon, the only persones in toun, the council was called and met at eight, where hir Majesties letter was read and a committie for examination, with all farder pouers needfull, appointed;

and immediatly the committie met, and M<sup>c</sup>Cleod and M<sup>c</sup>Kinnon wer brought befor them, but so disordered by having bein at their cups all night that the committie was necessitat to adjurn the examination till four a clock this afternoon, and in the mean time to committ them closs prisoners in separat roumes. Major Corbet was not found till ten a clock, and the committie met again at four; and M<sup>c</sup>Cleod being called first, his account was so generall, and he himself still under such an indisposition, that it was thought fit to delay him till to morrow; and in the mean time the committie allowed me to examine and interrogat him more closely on the interrogators transmitted: and the same cours was taken uith M<sup>c</sup>Kinnon. Then Major Corbat was called, but he did so franckly purge himself of all correspondence, or so much as knoulege of Beaufort or any of his concernes, that the committie dismissed him; only I desired the opportunity that I may put the interrogators a litle more closly to him, which he readiely agreed to. My Lord, I doe not write what M<sup>c</sup>Cleod said this night, becaus I think it uill doe better when I transmitt the whole examination,—and in the mean time I knou the lord justice clerk uill doe it; and I shall then also make a return to the honour her Majesty has done me by her letter. I dispatched the order this forenoon for apprehending the four Frasers in the north, to Briggadier Maitlan. The councel delayed the ordering of the forces till the lieutenant general be present, who is expected this night. I wish your Lordship had sent a copie of the letters intercepted, it would have helped the examination; but by the nixt your Lordship shall have a full account of all from,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servitour,

S. JA. STEUART.



165. MARGARET COUNTESS OF WEMYSS, second wife of GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE, to [HER HUSBAND].

Saterday, 24th [1703].

MY DEAREST,—Tho I wrote one Thursday, yit I would not miss this occasion to tell you I am weell, I thank God ; and if my dear childe could have consented to my leaving her this afternoon, I would have gone to Sherps houss and stay'd there to morrow and heard Mr. Tullideph preach, and gon away one Monday morning. But my daucher was vex'd when I spook of it, and has convinced me I could not be uith you till Tewsday if I did so ; for my Lord Melvills coach is to com to the waterside one Monday, and if wee can get the lenth of Kenoway that night, it is a great jurney for the horses and for me too, who has 13 myles in this side ; and I hope wee shall get over on Tewsday afternoon—and I can be no sooner over however now. The Lord send us a happy meeting ! My dearst love, be earfull of the best parte of me, and do not fast long nor sitt up late. There is great care taken of me here, but I fear their will be some tears att parting, tho none from me, my dear.

Indorsed in the handwriting of Lord Tarbat : “ C<sup>s</sup> Weems L<sup>re</sup>, 1703.”

166. JOHN PATERSON, Archbishop of Glasgow, to GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE.

Holborn, 7 aelock, 17 January, morning.

[*Circa* 1703.]

MY DEAR LORD,—It wes my grief as wele as misfortune to be both sick and otherwyse incapabile to wait on your Lordship yesternight, being de-

tained in waiting for D[uke] Queensberry at E[arl] Belcarres lodgings till half ane hour past eleven at night. He told me the Queen desired his Grace to seek that signature appointing the two collectors, and that it sould be kept with the other paper relating to the managers of her Majestys charitie, with the respective proportions her Majesty appoints for the bishops, etc. I sould haue instantlie obeyd; but, having sent that paper to Scotland the verie next post I receaved it, by her Majestys comand from your Lordship, I could not now give it up, but desired his Grace to assure her Majesty that it sould not be made publict till the other paper sould be so, or her Majestys pleasure knowne in it; and I undertook this on my allegiance. He declared befor E[arl] Belcarres his intire satisfaction with S. G. B. and my sone to be continued still collectors, as Belcarres will owne and declare to your Lordship. Give my humble duetie to your good Lady, and send your commands to me, which salbe carefullie obeyd by, my dear Lord,

Your owne faithfull servant,

JO. GLASGOW.

To the Earle off Cromerty, principall secretarie of state for Scotland—these.

167. JAMES FOURTH MARQUIS, afterwards FIRST DUKE, OF MONTROSE,  
to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Glasgow, the 30th December [*circa* 1703].

MY LORD,—I receaved a letter from your Lordship in returne to mine concerning Mr. Græme. I shant belive your Lordship less inclineable to

do me a favor, that yow heave not had occasion to appear in this bussiness, as I doubt not yow would heave done had not the D[uke] of Queensberrie thought himself a pairtie in the maitter. I cant but return your Lordship a great many thanks for your oblidgeing and kaind letter, and hope with a great dale of satisfaction that the good corispondence that was always betuixt your Lordship and my father may be continewed betuixt us. I shall take this occasion, then, to speak of what your Lordship is pleased to write to me, and freely owen that I think it the saifest post a young man can taik to incline to heave some experience in publick affairs before he be fond to engaidge himsel too farr in them. I'm so much of this oppinion that reallie I dont deseign to embark myself any way, till once I may heave served her Majestie in parliament, where your Lordship knows I never yet appeared. My Lord, I know its verie impertinent in me to troble your Lordship so often with my sollicitations: I shall heave recourse to your Lordships goodness, and hope yow'l reddelie forgive me. I heave sent your Lordship inclosed a short account of ane unluckie bussiness that happened some time ago betuixt tuo of our countrie men in Flanders, by which yow'l see one Mr. Pringle, a chirurgion, was killed; but its verie certain that there can be no probation found against the other, Dalmoak, who has lived now at home these severall years without the least disturbance till of late, and is not at present neither sought aifter by Mr. Pringles freinds, who are sinsible that they are able to proove nothing against him. If your Lordship thought it convenient to apply to her Majestie for a remission to him, I hope the caise may be thought so favorable that it wont be denyed. I shall now beg pardon for importuneing your Lordship so much, and shall only add that I always am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull humble servant,

MONTROSE.

168. JAMES SECOND DUKE OF QUEENSBERRY to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE. *Circa 1703*].

I JUST now received your letter, for which I give yow, my dear Lord, a thousand thanks. I doe verry well understand what yow mean, tho I wish yow had been a litle more particulare, especially in the postcrip. I goe from hence to morrow, about ten in the forenoon, and I should be verry glade to see yow before I went, if that could be done without giveing yow trouble or jealousy to others. My coach is at your command, and the bearer will attend yow. If you'l come here to night you shall have a litle broath, a glasse of good wine, and halfe ane hours laughing. If yow must goe to the Bath before I see yow, pray stay there as short while as yow can, for reasons know'n that I shall tell yow at meeting. I doe joyn with yow in wishing that all things may turn to the Queens true interest and service, but I remember ane old saying of a freind of yours, that its easier to keep old friends then to make new ones; and I shall only now assure yow that I am, after the old manner,

Your own Q.

My Lord Renfrew and my wife are your humble servants, and I shall not fail to make your complements to the D[uke] of Ormond in the best manner I can.

I write this while at cards with Renfrew.

169. BRIGADIER-GENERAL A. MAITLAND to [SIR JAMES STEUART, lord advocate.—Copy.]

Fort William, 5 January 1704.

MY LORD,—I received tuo letters from Captain Stewart of yesterdays date. He gives me account that Glengairie left his house on Saturday the first of

January and took his papers with him. The captain, being informed of this, took no notice that he had any designe to apprehend him, but sent parties to take Shyan and Kitray, both of them being suspected persons. But naither of them could be found, nor are there any men to be seen in any houses in the countrie of Glengairie, as yow will perceiue by the inclosed paper. Their designe will soon be knoune, for they cannot keep the hills in this season. Non of the people heirabouts, nor Appins people, are from home as yett. They acknouledge that they hear a manifesto from King James hes bein caried about the countrie, and its said that the whole countrie have orders to be readie with their armes at 24 hours warneing, and that King James is readie to saile with a great fleet and many men, with much mony, from France. This is what is whispered about amongst them. I hope Ensigne Ferquersone is with yow by this tyme. I intreat he may be dispatched back, and my requeist granted else soon as possible. Non of the Frasers are taken, except John Fraser, Culdutholls brother, and the postmaster of Inverness, whom I have ordered to be brought from thence else soon as possible. I have many parties out, and but a small garison at best, considering the condition it is in. I know your Lordship will lay this before the councill, who can best judge whats fitt to be done at this juncture. Lochyells papers have all bein sighted by Livtenant-Collonell Keith and Livtenant Lesslie. I was witnes to a good pairt of it myself, but there is not any thing in them that can aither touch his sone or him. I have sealled all up again, and have them in my custodie.—I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servant,

(*Sic subscribitur*) A. MAITLAND.

170. SIR JAMES STEUART, Lord Advocate, to GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE.

Edinburgh, 6 January 1704.

MY LORD,—There is all reason both to search to the bottom of this discoverie and to secure against insurrection and invasion, and so much the rather that I must still regret that, even without any plot, we are visibly in a most dangerous condition, without armes, without ammunition, and having but a small handfull of forces against such a potent ennemie abroad and so many restless ones at home. I acquainted the general-lieutenant with your Lordships thoughts, upon his telling me he had one from you to the same purpos, but he said a detachment to Fort William could not be spared, and tho it could, any detachment could be sent could not be there in any security in the condition wherein the fort is at present; and I have a return from Brigadier Matlan, which makes no demand of men, and says that, so some as the weather will allow, the workmen sent by the treasurer may put the fort in a good condition, and, withall, he says he hath no return as yet about the four Frasers ordered to be seased. The lieutenant-general was farder of opinion that the forces could not be safely sent by north Tay, becaus being so feu it wer rather to expose them,—but he will write to your Lordship better than I can in such maters. My Lord, you cannot but knou my opinion of Simon, and hou well acquainted I am with his circumstances with the D[uke] of Athol; and all that M<sup>c</sup>Cleod could say was, that Simon said such a thing, in generall, but gave no reason of his knowledge; and I may assure your Lordship that nothing can byass my sincere impartiality in this inquirie. As to the securing of persones, all necessarie orders are given: but for the tuo Murrays, Jon may be in Scotland, but I apprehend James is gone, tho he was sein here within these 20 days or thereabouts.

My Lord, when Captain McCleod appeared first, he was in that confusion that I told the committie I would examine him privatly and more particularly, for I had found the benefit of that way, and in truth I had no other designe but to discharge myself of her Majesties commands ; and yet, after all, got nothing from him more than you have sein, and your Lordship may be most persuaded that jealousies on party accounts shall never have any rise or countenance from me, tho I must put your Lordship in mind that privat close examinations have alluise uith us bein found the best, for many hands uith us keep vere ill.—I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servant,

S. JA. STEUART.

E[arl] Crom[artie].

Indorsed : “ Advocats letter to Cromerty.”

171. WILLIAM NINTH EARL MARISCHALL to [THE SAME].

Inverugie, January 12, 1704.

MY LORD,—The plot has so taken you up, that I belive, the less I truble you nou with it, I'll come the better speed in what I'm to ask, which is, your Lordships freindship to my cusine, Will Keith. That he conversed uith Beaufort is sure ; that he plotted with him against thes this plot was intended for, I can not let my self belive it. He's young, and some allouence should be given for that. I'll say noe more, for fear the last part of my letter contradiete the first, but I uill expect, att my humble request, you'll make things as easey to him as possible, and you can not put a greater favour one,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most humble servant,

MARISCHALL.

172. [JOHN PATERSON, ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW], to THE SAME.

London, 15 Januarii 1704.

MY DEAR LORD,—I return you the enclosed, amongst which I send Doctor Scot and Doctor Skenes letter to me, to let it be seen how Achtifardell regards her Majesties precepts in favors off bishops and off our episcopall clergy. I attempted [to] wait on the Queen, and I am glad she wes so bussie as that I could not haue that honor yesterday. Since that, I find that [it] is resolved here that the management of the Queens charitie salbe still in the hands off the comissioners off the thesaury, but with ane express proviso, that the proportions now agreed to, to be given yearlie to the bishops, salbe made effectuall under highest pains: tho the Queen, D[uke] Queensberry, and all, were once satisfied it wold not prove so effectuall if in their hands. I find also that the collecting of the bishops rents for crompt 1703 salbe continued in the hands [of] the former collectors, in regard they haue medled with the rents alreadie, all for the last term of Whitsunday, and some part for Martimas past, so that it wold breed confusion if otherwyse; so that the neu collectors, now appointed, are onlie to intromett with the years rent 1704. Of this I think nothing is needfull to be said as to collecting, provyding the proportions allowd by her Majesty to the bishops out of their rents be effectuallie payd to them for crompt 1703, as her Majesty hath destinated it, tho I still am of opinion it were better for her purposes and our payment the commission alreadie signed by her Majesty sould stand in force. I am truelie verie indisposd in my health, and am sick of this place, and long to be at home. So God bless you and your good lady.—Adieu.

The Earle of Cromerty—these.



## 173. THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND to QUEEN ANNE. [Copy].

Edinburgh, the 3rd February 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—The copies of the papers and letters relating to the plot, transmitted to us by your Majesty out of your royal care and vigilance for our preservation and safety (which in all humble duty we most heartily acknowledge), having been laid and read before us, and there appear such evidences therein of most wicked councils and practices both at St Germain's and the French court, and else where against your Majesty's government and the peace of this and all your Majesty's kingdoms, as are fully convincing and satisfying to us, as they must be to all who consider them; as also that these ill practices are still under a closs and dangerous prosecution;—and, therefore, as we can not but approve all the means and methods that have been taken by your Majesty's allowance for discoveries in this matter, so we shall continue to use our outmost diligence to prosecute these that have been or shall be made, and thereby to prevent the mischiefs that so visibly threaten. But withall we must still represent to your Majesty our present weak and defenceless condition, specially for want of arms and ammunition; and that we humbly judge ten thousand stand of arms at least, with proportionable ammunition, to be requisite and necessary for the safety and security of this and your other dominions. And what farther shall occur we shall be careful to communicate to your secretaries from time to time, to be laid before your Majesty. And this, wishing that God may long preserve and prosper your Majesty's life and reign, and defeat all the evil designs of your enemies, we are,

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most loyal, most faithful, and most obedient subjects and servants.

*Subscibitur ut in sederunt.*

Indorsed: "Copie of the Councils Letter to the Queen."

174. THE HONOURABLE WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, afterwards THIRD VISCOUNT KILSYTH, to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Kilsyth, 8 February 1704.

MY LORD,—I presume to lay before your Lordship ane affair, having first communicate it to the lord justice clerk. He was pleased so far to approve of it, as to give your Lordship, I suppose by last post, ane account that he had seen a disposition granted by my brother in the year eighty-three, of his title and honors in my favors, with ane authentick copie of our fathers signature, signed by Sir George Mackenzie, then Kings advocate ; which I have sent to the gentleman who hes the honor to deliver your Lordship this, to the end that, if so your Lordship think fitt, yow may look on them at your leasure ; and if your Lordship find it proper to move the expeding of it now, ther is none I would so willingly owe that honor and singulare obligation as to your Lordship, being ambitious to be reckned among those yow have trewly obleidgid to be your reall servants. I shal not now give your Lordship the trouble of any reason or cause why I never offered at this after so long ane intervall of time till now ; but if by your Lordships intrest I shal be so fortunate as to obtain it, I shal ever account it the greatest happines can befall me, that it hes been reservid to be bestowed by our most gracious Queen as ane new and perpetuall tye on me to serve her Majesty on all occasions as becomes a most faithfull, highly obleidgid, and most deutifull subject,—and such, I doe assure your Lordship, are the reall, firm, and constant resolutions of,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most obedient humble servant,

W. LEVINGSTON.

## 175. ALEXANDER NINTH EARL OF EGLINTON to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, February 10, [1]704.

MY LORD,—I cannot but acknouldg the honor of your Lordships by my Lord Haddo, tho I have been kept long in counsell, first with the Duck of Atholls narative, and nixt with Mr. Baillie, by uhom it apiers the Duck of Quinsberie, in time of parlament, thought to have made great discoverays, and last uith ane petition from our Affrican Companie, complening of the East India Companie of England.

The Duck of Atholls letter to the counsell uas refused to be red by ane vott of the counsell, in regaird it uas belou the dignitay of that bourd to reseve ane letter from anie subject. But ue forced them to ried the narative, uich I am affrayed ue had as good forborn ; for the counsell hes ordered the samen to be transmitted to the Quien, and ane letter to be uritt by my Lord Advocat, uith the resons of our sending it, uich is to be redie against the morou at tuelf of the cloock. I am affrayed that in the letter they cast in some thing uill doe more prejudice then the narative uill doe good.

As for Mr. Ballie, tho he did, the first time he uas before the committie of counsell, francklay tell all that past betuixt him and the Duck of Quinsberie, uich the committie desired him to put in uritting, yett this day, in presence of the counsell, he refused, upon pretext of indisposition, to say anie thing by uritt. Then ther ueer a great manie interragotors put to him : to some he ansuered, but to most he said he uould not doe it at that time. Houever, I am convinced, when the houmer takes him, that he uill give in his answers. They will not be over agriable to thes that prest him most this day ; at best he apiers to be ane magetic light fellow.

As for our Indian Companies concerns with the English, pray your Lordship to bestir yourself in it, for it uill be oblidging to the uholl nation.

As for other neus heer ue have verie little, beeing everay big uith expectations uhat uill come from above. Duck Hamiltoun and his friends heer ar thinking of sending some to the Quien, uich in the generall is agried to, but the particullar persons ar not condiseded upon. I am verie hopfull thes that are sent uill make frank offers of ther service to the Quien, and so give incuragment of good success in parlament, uich may make it mett soon, and it uill prove the onlay cure to the present convultions of our steat. Therfor use your outmost indevours for its metting. Its so verie lett I have not time to say more, but everay week your Lordship shall knou uhat passeth, for I reallay am, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull servant,

EGLINTOUNE.

I presum to give my most humble service to my Ladie.

176. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, February 17, [1]704.

MY DEAR LORD,—I knou your Lordship uill hear of honest Arbruchels death by manie uill be solisitors for his place. I doubt not the chancellor uill have friends to recomend; and, considering his post in that bench, it uill be but reson he be gratified. Houeuer, I uish your Lordship and he may understand on ane other, and get it disposed to your minds before this month end, otheruays D[uck] Quinsberie uill licke the butter of your breed before Apriell.

Ther uas yesternight at Pett Stiells ane great metting, and have comissionett Rothes, Roxbruch, and Jerusood, to the Quien, to desire that the

parlament may mett, that the imputation cast upon hir Majesties subjects as plotters against hir government may be fullay trayed. They allso ar to represent that they ar informed that hir Majestie hes been desired to send English monay to pay hir Scots forces, uich they ar humblie to intreat may not be yealded to, inregaird it uould bring our troupes intayerlay to depend upon the English. Roxbruch is gone this morning; Rothes and Jerusuood take post upon Teusday. Ue have no other news heer, nor uill have till Thursday that Ballies process of lising making comes in. I am told he uill stand to the veretay of uhat he hes said in that letter to Duck Hamiltoun, and give astonishing evidences for it. I presum to give my most humble service to my ladie. I am, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull servant,

EGLINTOUNE.

177. GEORGE LORD HADDO, son of GEORGE FIRST EARL OF ABERDEEN, to  
[THE SAME].

Edinburgh, February 17, 1704.

MY LORD,—Their is litle occurs here that is remarkable, except what is done in counsell; and of all that pases there I know your Lordship is informed from others, else I would doe my self the honor of writeing more frequently to your Lordship. Yesternight, I am informed, their was a considerable meeting in Patrick Steels of the countrey party. I hear of no cavaliers were there save Home, Stormont, and Carnwath. In short, it was ther resolved that E[arle] Rothes, Roxbruch, and Jeriswoode should goe up to court on this occasion, and all that I hear they are instructed to doe is to desire the Queen would please alloue the parliament to meet as soon as her

Majestys affairs can allowe it, that the present plot, and all practises concerning it, may be fully inquired into. Rothes and Jeriswoode, I hear, goe from this post, Twesday nixt, and Roxbrugh takes journey on Saturday, being to goe in a calesh with his own horses, so that they think of being att London about the end of this moneth. I wish they may doe so, when they are ther, as that ther journey may be usefull. I am sory to give your Lordship the accounts of Lord Arbrukell's death, but I know your Lordship will have it from others. This, your Lordship knows, occasions a vacancie in the Sessione. I know their will be a great many competing for it; however, I shall presume to recomende to your Lordships friendship Kemna, whom I need say nothing of, seeing your Lordship knowes him of a long time, and this I only doe in case your Lordship be not concerned for a nearer friend; for if your Lordship can get it done for the gentleman the justice clerck did recomend to your Lordship, ther is all the reasone imaginable for your Lordship to prefer him. I wish your Lordship, with all my heart, good health and success in all your affairs, for I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionate, most oblidge, and faithfull servant,

HADDO.

Your Lordship will please excuse I offer here my most humble duty to my Lady.

178. [THE HONOURABLE SIR KENNETH MACKENZIE of Grandvale, Baronet, second son of GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE, to HIS FATHER.]

Edinburgh, February 17th [1704].

MY LORD,—Last evening my Lord Aberurchle dyd. He particularly recommended his sone to your Lordships and my Lord Justice Clerks protec-

tion. Munday next goes for court the Earles of Rothes and Roxbrough, with the Laird of Jerviswood, to represent to the Queen, that the advising her Majestie to pay her forces heir with English money, was pernicious to, and vnconsistant with the libertie of this natione, and that such counsellors shoud be removd from her persone; and further, to intreat of the Queen that our parliament may be alloud to sitt at the tyme prefixd, that the plott against her person and goverment may be laid befor it, and that the noble persons so much callumniat may have opportunity to vindicat themselves. This is what I cane learn is all their bussines. . . .

179. SIR JAMES STEUART, Lord Advocate, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 22 February 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—I have a line of the 17, not of your hand, nor subscribed by your Lordship, which yet I take to be from you, since it gives an account that the councils tuo letters to her Majesty, with the papers therein related to, ar come to hand. The letter addes that your Lordship doubts not but those that had fuller informations from me as to Mr. Baillie, have used them as I advised. My Lord, this stricture might have been spared, for I am confident that the ground of your mistake is before this time fully removed, and you ar satisfied that I have given both my informations and advises (as far as is propre for me) with all impartiality. What farder is done in Baillies bussiness I wrot to your Lordship by the last express, and what ansuer he shall make the 24 instant, shall also be transmitted by,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servitor,

S. JA. STEUART.

## 180. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 25 February 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—I had yours of the 19 February at 6 a clock the 23 instant, about 10 a clock forenoon. I imediatly communicat it to my lord justice clerk, and we agried privatly to write to such as we thought might help to find these Murrayes, especially Captain Jon ; and I am sure I have writ to a good hand for Perth shire, and all the bounds about, and I have also inquired, with my best discretion and all secrecie, at others that might assist. But, my Lord, give me leave to tell you this flieing pacquet was to me a surprize, for, with the first letters came down about this plot, and in the interrogators under your Lordships hand, mention is made of Captain Jon and James Murrayes to be inquired after ; and imediatly by warrant of the committie I gave three warrants, one for Edinburgh, another for Captain Campbell of Finnab, and a third for Brigadeer Maitlan, to make search for them ; which having bene done so many weekes agoe, it is nou generally reported that they are both out of the countrey, and if not, no doubt they ar upon their closest keeping. Hovever, I doe belive they ar both verie material persones, and what your Lordship recommends shall be prosequit with the secrecy and diligence that the case requires. Yesterday David Baillie was called and compeared before the council. There was a great attendance ; and after reading of the libell against him as a leeing maker and defamer, he gave in his defenses dilatore desiring a remitt to the parliament, becaus of the contingency with the plot ; and 2, becaus the persuers not personally present peremptore no *animus calumniandi*, no publication, but deliverie to D[uke] H[amiltoun] for information ; and 3, brought to light only by the examination of the government. But he imediatly ouned the letter, and that he had delivered it to D[uke]



H[amiltoun], which much shortned the process. For tho there was much debate, yet the council repelled the dilators and found the libell relevant and proven without much difficulty; and therfor declared him infamous, and banisht him the realme, and ordered him to be transported to the plantations, and to lye in prison till occasion should offer; and farder, that before being transported, he should be pillorized on such a day and in such a maner as the council should appoint. The council did goe this length, becaus the slaunder appeared atrocious and incredible, and he, not being able to pay a fine, was by lau to be punished in his bodie (life and limb excepted). And it much helped that this appeared a designed villany on his part, since it is probable he gave out himself for a person could informe of most dangerous designes against the government, and thereby imposed on my lord justice clerk and his informer, and procured her Majestys letter to me to seaze him as such a person. And yet from the first to the last he informed of no such maters, but only of his aforsaid slaunders and defamations, whereof he gave not the lest probable circumstance.

The lords of treasurie and exchequer set the inland excise by roup Wednesday last. Mr. William Jonstoun was the hiest offerer for 33,500 lib. sterling. Killmaronock was the nixt under him, and offered 33,400 lib. sterling. I wish the custumes and forrein excise wer as well set. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servitor,

S. J. St.

Severall of the Highland landlords appeared yesterday befor the council, and among them young Lochiel, and Appin, and they are all remitted to a committie. It was a slip that Glengarie was not in the letters, but my lord justice clerk tells me he shall compear if I uill recall my warrant against him, which is but reasonable.

181. JAMES FOURTH MARQUIS, afterwards FIRST DUKE, OF MONTROSE, to  
[THE SAME].

Glasgow, the 28th February 1704.

MY LORD,—Pardon me if, after my usewall manner, I again take the liberty to address myself to your Lordship for your favor and kindness, of which I have alreddie had so many proofs, that I should look upon myself as extreemly insensible if I did not paye all dew acknowledgement for them.

What I am to troble your Lordship with at this time is, in short, this. Your Lordship knows that the Duke of Ritchmonde, about a year ago, sold his estait in Scotland. I need not mention the particular steps that were made in that affair, which your Lordship no doubt knows much better as I. That interest belongs now to Doctor Hamiltone, one of the Queens physicians, who resolves to pairt with it, being by his employment oblidged to stay in England. It lys mighty contiguous to my estait, and besides, I hold considerablie of Lennox, which makes me still the more earnest to have that interest for my self. And for this ende Gorthie, the bearer of this, goes to London to conclude, if possible, a barguen with the doctor for my behoofe. I dont know what opposition I may meet with in this affair. I know my Lord Blantaire for one is makeing all the interest he can to have it for his sone, and perhapes there may be yet other competitors that I know not of. But I presume by this to beg your Lordships assistance and freindship, if there shall happen any difficulty in the carrieing of it on, by what interest my Lord Blantaire shall make for his sone at London. I shall leave Gorthie to talk with your Lordship more fully on this head; and meanwhile, depending upon your Lordships wonted kindness, I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and faithfull servant,

MONTROSE.

I beg leave to send my humble dewty to my Lady.

## 182. GEORGE FIRST EARL OF ABERDEEN to [THE SAME].

Aberdeen, 10th March 1704.

MY LORD,—My son, at his coming to Edinburgh, sent me the honor I had of your Lordships letter, for which I render your Lordship my very heartie thanks.

I delayed the giving your Lordship this trouble till I should speake with himselfe. He is treuly sencible of the obligations lyes on him to your Lordship for the frindship you shew him there; and I see he will be altogether yours in her Majesties service.

I agree with your Lordship that good citisens will never give over there endeavors for the weel publick, nor doubt of being successfull in the end. Therfor, my Lord, think not of peace or leasure to be had at home, since it is neither safe nor honorable to leave the ship in a rough sea till you bring her to the harbour: *nam suum cuique decus posteritas rependet*. I see there will much remain after us to be right'd by the young men that will succeed. But if God will please to provyde such as shall wisly mind the tymes to which they are born, and be watchfull always to use the present with prudence and a steddie loyaltie, they will soon recover what to us may appear as lost.

I shall always pray God to blise and support her Majestie in her person and goverment, and that her peopell may find peace and safety in her reing. I need say nothing to your Lordship of the present temper here; you knou too much of it.

I will endeavor to see your Lordship at your coming to Edinburgh, and till then will always be glade to hear of your weill, for I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most humble servant,

ABERDEEN.

183. SIR GILBERT ELIOT, Baronet, of Minto, advocate, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 21 March 1704.

MY LORD,—The councill remitted Glengary and Keppoch to be examined by the committy appointed upon her Majestys letter for enquireing into the evill practices against the government, who, finding he had conversed with Captain John Morray, have comitted Glengary therupon closs prisoner untill further examined, which is to be reported to the councill the morrow, for which end its adjourned untill that tym. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant,

GILB. ELIOT.

184. WILLIAM ELEVENTH LORD ROSS, Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, March 21, 1704.

MY LORD,—I hope nou our aseembly shal end to the Queens satisfaction. I am glad I can tell your Lordship the satisfaction the ministers have with the Queens honoring me to represent her Majesty, whom they say openly they firmly trust hes abated all thos heats uer feared, and I am the mor proud of it since it tends to the advantag of the Queens service. I have taken all pains possible for me for the Queens satisfaction, continually speaking and dealing with ministers and elders that al may be quiet; and I doubt not your Lordship uill hear I have not spared the Queens mony in treating not only the ministers of the aseembly and elder[s], but al the peple of quality in toun, for the honor of the Queen, which I prefer much mor then my interest, for I

believe little of it shall be in my pocket. But if her Majesty be pleased with my management in her service, I fear not her Majesty will do for me according to her accustomed goodness. I hope once next week we shall rise happily; so I have writ to the Duke of Queensberry, that since I have only received 300 pound of what the Queen ordered me, his Grace will procure an order to pay me all before I return, which I desire immediately after we rise,—for I desire not to be owing the Queens meat; and also an order to pay the minister[s] the 400 I brought them order for, and as soon as possible thereafter. This should come by a flying packet, to be here before we rise. Pray, my Lord, acquaint me how the Queen pleases my actings. The ministers have acted so wisely that it will be much for the Queens service to order their payment.

My humble service to Duke of Athol. Your Lordship will acquaint his Grace what passes, for I have not time to writ. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and faithful servant,

ROSSE.

The Queens servants here advised me this afternoon to send this by an express, that the Queen may know all is going well in the assembly, which your Lordship will perceive by this inclosed note, drawn up to inform her Majesty.

185. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, March 25, 1704.

MY LORD,—I judged it proper to send an express that D[uke] Queensberry might acquaint the Queen all goes in the assembly as my heart could wish—great calmness, peace and unity, great duty to the Queen, and great kindness to me. I hope they shall rise Thursday the 30 or 31, and I desire to part from this, Monday April 3, in case the Queen has no further commands for me here.

This will be with you on Tuesday, and I hope D[uke] Quensbery will dispatch the ansuer so as to be heir at fardest again Sunday the 2 Aprill, and I shal be glad to hear from your Lordship what passes, and hou the Queen is satisfied with my managment. I am, in haist, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and faithfull servant,

ROSSE.

186. SIR JAMES STEUART, Lord Advocate, to GEORGE FIRST EARL  
OF CROMARTIE.

Edinburgh, 25th March 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—I should have writ to you by the last post, if not extraordinarily straitned. The account you may have had of Glengaries being made closs prisoner by the committie, may touch me in particular, and therefor I give your Lordship this plain account. Upon the first orders we had about the plot, the committie ordered me to send a warrant to Brigadier Maitlan to seaz Glengarie and his papers; but he, having notice, reteared with all his people to the hills. Than the councel ordained the Highland heretors to be charged to give security, and a list was given in, wherein Glengarie was. But the councel committed it to the lord justice clerk, the Lord Arbruchall, and me, to divide them in thrie classes, that they might be charged according to their distances and other considerations; and this was done by the justice clerk and Arbruchall, for my skill in that mater was nothing. Only the first list was brought to me to signe, for the warrant of the letters, which I signed without the lest notice, since presented by the clerk as adjusted as above. But when the letters and executions came back, the councel wer offended that Glengarie was omitted; and when I told the justice clerk of it,

he said it was done becaus he was under my order to be seased, but if I would discharge that order he would come of himself; which I did, but at the same time the council ordered him to be charged. And accordingly he came to the Abbay, and moved for a safe conduct to appear before the council. Whereupon the council ansuered that the charge he got upon their letters did bear a safe conduct from all privat personal execution, but no more; and he was satisfied with it, and made his appearance, and was remitted to the committie; before whom, having confessed his converse with Captain Jon Murray in September last, and giveing no satisfieing account why he and his men reteared to the hills, the committie ordered his commitment. It was said I had promised he should not be imprisoned; but I did it not, nor was it in my pouer; nor did he himself understand it so, els he had not craved a safe conduct, which yet uas given with the explication above-mentioned. All I did was to tell him I had recalled and discharged my order for a summare seizure, that he might come in not as a prisoner. If others promised him more, they knou best. My Lord, this is the plain and true account, which I suppose your lordship may expect from me becaus of what I have heard; and I hope will satisfie, that both the committie and I have proceeded fairly in this bussiness. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servitour,

S. JA. STEUART.

My Lord, The inclosed is the copie of the letter I have writ to the D[uke] of Queensberrie as in waiting, by order of the privie council, that your Lordship may concurre and assist in it for obtaining the capitulation desired with the States for our Scots regiments.

E[arl of] Cr[omartie].

187. WILLIAM ELEVENTH LORD ROSS, Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, March 27, 1704.

MY LORD,—I had the honor of your Lordships this morning of the 23, that ye had received mine and was glad in hopes of the assemblys moderation. I doe assure your Lordship never assembly behaved better. They shew great duty to the Queen, and are ready to imbrace all occasions to testifie it to the Queen; and though ther never wer greater fear of heats then the begining of this assembly, yet they have chearfully laid them al aside, and I hope on Thursday or Friday they shal dissolve very calmly, ane account wherof I shall give your Lordship. As for that affair of Dinguall, I knew nothing of it for some dayes after it was done in councell. I have so much continually to doe about assembly affairs, that takes me wholly up; but I doe, as far as I can, advise them to all moderation, as whats ther interest and will be acceptable to the Queen, and shal still inculcat it as much as I can. But I am sure the assembly will be moderat, and I doubt not your Lordship will have heard the confidenc and trust the ministers have in me hes not a litle calmed all thes heats.

I know nothing furdur at present to trouble your Lordship, only that I regrate your Lordship thought my last to be superficiall. Truly I am so hurried, some continually coming to me, that I scare can get time to writ a letter; but am troubled if I have neglected what I should have writ to your Lordship, and imput it not to any thing but hurrie. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and faithfull servant,

ROSSE.

My Lord, Since writting I had the Queens ansuer to the assemblys adres: I send it to your Lordship inclosed, as I spok it to them. By his



Grace, the D[uke] of Queensbery, I receaved it. And I send you also the asemblys return by ther moderator; so your Lordship will see how dutyfull they are to the Queen.

## 188. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, March 31, 1704.

MY LORD,—I have only time to tell you that yesterday al the synod books ver past without speaking on word contrar to her Majestys prerogativ, with great calmnes. This day I dissolved them in her Majestys name and authority and comand, and by the same apointed a new on to meet the last Thursday of March 1705. Ther was nothing like a protest, but joy and kindnes in all ther faces, and al of them in a body acompanied me to my lodgings, praying for the Queen. I doe belive never such a rising of asembly was seen in this nation, and I am glad to have had the honor to doe her Majesty this servie to unit the church when the nation is so devided. I hope to wait on your Lordship very soon and give you full accounts of all, but this is the substanc. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and faithfull servant,

ROSSE.

## 189. DAVID FIRST EARL OF GLASGOW to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, 18th Apryle 1704.

MY LORD,—Having conversed with David Craford, your Lordships servant, I was truly uneasy to understand that your Lordship should have received information that I stopped any bussiness in treasury which was countersigned by your Lordship. My Lord, I hope I shall be able to give

yow full satisfaction that I never designed in the least to putt any kind of disrespect wpon your Lordship, for I doe own that I have and ever had as much personall honor and regard for yow as for many in Scotland, and have many tymes asserted the desyreableness of your humor and temper.

My Lord, I shall begg leave to give yow a short accompt of my behavior as to Mr. Gordons gift of recognition, and Robert Pantons gift of his brother Hiltons escheat, single and lyfrent, which are the tuo instances condescended on wherin I should have failed to show your Lordship due respect. As to Gordones recognition, I only insisted that the samen should be burdened with ane aliment to the Lady St. Foord, and but prejudice to the ladies lyfrent after St. Foords death. And as to Hiltons gift of escheatt, considering the debt was due be one brother to another, and that in a twelvemonths tyme there is mustered wp a debt near to four thousand pound sterling, so that the gift cutts of the other creditors, widowes and orphans many of them, to the value of threescore thousand merks,—I only urged a clause to be insert in Robert Panton the donators backbond, that in caice there were found any collusion between the brothers in making wp the debt, that the gift should be void and null. My Lord, I hope on second thoughts you'le have no hard thoughts of me for my procedure in these particulars; for I can assure your Lordship I made no manner off distinction between what past your Lordships or the Duke of Queensberries hand; and so long as it pleases the Queen to continue me in treasury, I shall make it my bussiness that her Majestys good subjects gett all the justice and dispatch I am capable to give them. Your Lordship may be allwayes assured, wherin I can serve yow and your family, that yow shall ever freely command,

May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most obedient humble servant,

GLASGOW.

190. JOHN FIRST DUKE OF ATHOLE to [THE SAME].

London, April 20, 1704.

MY LORD,—Since I had not the good fortune to see your Lordship this morning, and gett the letter the Queen has been pleased to signe for my expences, and the other for dilaiting the regality out of Gairntullies signature, I have left my servant to receive them. I have ground to think the Queen uill at least allow me the half of the expences I have been at in the tuo journies I have made here by her command, for I shall never think but the Queen uill doe justice to every body, if things be not misrepresented to her. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble servant,

ATHOLL.

191. [JAMES FIRST EARL OF SEAFIELD, Lord Chancellor, to THE SAME.]

Edinburgh, Apryle 29, 1704.

MY LORD,—I hope the letter I wrott to your Lordship by the flying pacquet is come safe to your hands, in which I acquainted you that<sup>1</sup> 38, 39, 24, 23, 20, 30, 24/, and 93/, and 94/, and 79, and many others, are very ready to enter into the Queens measures. Att the same time I did write to<sup>2</sup> 92/ and 8/, and I intreat that you may informe me if they came safe to there hands. I shall not trouble you with any further account of this now untill I have a return. The taking the draughts out of the regiments does make a great deal of noise in this countrey. It has as good as broke three regiments

<sup>1</sup> The persons denoted by these ciphers are, according to an interlineary note in the handwriting of the Earl of Cromartie,—the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Rothes,

the Earl of Roxburgh, and Baillie of Jerviswoode.

<sup>2</sup> These ciphers are not explained.

viz., Mars, Strathnavers, and Brigadeers Maitlands; and the more, that there is only fourty shillings of levy money allowed for each man, whereas they had formerly three pound with the exchange. If Colonell M'Kartney had more than 40 shillings, that you will best know att London. It is the more noticed, that the letter for the draughts was not directed to the privy council. The draughts were also ordered to be taken out of the two independent companies of the Highlands, against which there was a representatione to the privy council from the most considerable gentlemen of the northern shyres, bearing that the private men of these companies doe understand the correspondence and haunts of the theives, and that it would be very difficult to find others so fitt for that bussines, and consequently the northern shyres might be again exposed to theiving. The privy council did upon this unanimously recommend it to me to acquaint the generall, that the officers of these two companies might be allowed to give other men in place of draughts, which I have done. Wee had severall church processes before the council. One was aganist the sherrif of Ross, which relates to what happened att the church of Dingwall. Severall of the councillors did appeer plainly against the sherriff, but I did argue the matter fully, and did keep them closs to the debate. The sherriff is allowed to return home, and is freed from attendance till he be cited *de novo*; but wee appointed him and the magistrates of Dingwall to concurr in makeing the church doors patent to any that shall be imployed by the presbitery. The other church processes were against ministers that preached for charity, and were qualified by the Queen; and these, after hearing att the barr, were let fall. I doubt not but you will obtain orders concerning Captain Ewan, the captain of the man of warr that is here for transporting of the recruits. If ane other man of warr be ordered, it is fitt he be allowed to sail with such of the men as are in readines; but if not, then his continuing here some time is for her Majestys

service, that all the men that are engaged may be carryed over together to Holland, there being thirty or 40 officers in severall places of the kingdome makeing there recruits. Captain Gordon has cleared the coast of some privateers, having chased three of them. He came to the mouth of the firth with 25 sail of victuall ships, and is again returned to his cruise. Your Lordship was pleased to send me the draught of Colonel Ogilvies bore-breeff, which is very well, and I herewith return you it and desyre you may present it to the Queen; and I hope her Majesty will signe it, he having merited so well of his countrey. It was moved last council day that Glengary should be sett att liberty upon his finding bail, but that was delayed because I found many of the councillors were absent. But the council is to meett again on Tuesday next, and I belceve the councillors are almost all inclined to liberate him; for severall of the deepest whigs, I find, have been against his being imprised, and are very well satisfied that he be let out. Wee wait for her Majestys determination of our affairs; and, whatever may happen, I shall ever doe what is in my power for her Majestys satisfaction and the good of this kingdome.

I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and humble servant.

The parliament was adjourned Friday last, according to her Majestys letter.

Indorsed: "For E[arl of] Crom[artie]."

192. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, May 8th, 1704.

MY LORD,—I thought to have write this night to my lord thesaurer, and to some others att London whose letters I have receaved, and to have

answered some of yours ; but I have had so many company with me that I have only time to let you know what occurred att council this day. Wee have past a proclamation for hindering the export of our current coyn, which has been very litle notised all this winter. Wee have also ordered the ships to be searched and the skippers and merchants to be examined upon the design of exporting it att present. Wee have ordered the recruits to be all putt on board against Friday, and then they are to sail with the first fair wind, there being now above 1400 men aboard. The whole officers and masters of the transport ships complain that they have but one convoy, and they earnestly entreat that any ship att Newcastle, or any other place near to that, may be imediately ordered to joyn them ; for two or three litle privateers may carry the half of them to Dunkirk. It is for her Majesties service that you acquaint her with this how soon you receive the letter ; for it will make great clamour if wee lose our ships and men for want of sufficient convoyes. The north coast is full of privateers, and I am sure it were good both for England and Holland that cruisars were appointed there, especially for two or three moneths. Your Highland company is lykewise established, and I have given them as great dispatch as you could have desired. David Baillie had a petition before us this day, and by the unanimous consent of council he is ordered to be transported from Blacknes to Stirlie Castle, where he is to continue till the further order of council, by reason of the bad air att Blacknes. There has been a meetting att Patrick Steells this night, where there appeared great calmnes and moderation. This is all I have time to write, but to assure you that I am, with all sincerity,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and humble servant,

SEAFIELD.

## 193. [THE SAME to THE SAME.]

Edinburgh, May 30th, 1704.

MY LORD,—I received your Lordships last letter after my return from the country. I had been att Fettercairn for some dayes att a meeting with my Lord Boynd and his friends. His affairs are in a desperate condition. I am afraid he will be able to save litle or nothing, though his creditors give him considerable eases. I earnestly intreat that, if any gift of his escheat or recognition be demanded of her Majesty, that you may stop till I write to you again; for I am a creditor myself, and many of my neighbours and friends are engaged for him. And I rely on your Lordships friendship in this matter, for I truely design no thing but the preservation of that family, if possible. As for ansuire to yours, I thought 59 had gone to the Bath, and therefor I did nether write so frequently nor so fully; but I shall be very glade that 59 have the full influence that he or his predecessors have had, and there is none with whom 58 shall more willingly communicate. I know nothing as yet but that  $\square$  is 22, 33, 31, 31, 28, 37, 37, 28, 33, 32, 24, 36/; but 91 being secretary and  $\omega$  continuing, what can  $\square$  doe? He thinks it not necessary to fill 34, 30, 20, 22, 24, 37, att present, but he is for 39, 20, 22, 20, 38, 28, 32, 26/ of some, that persons may serve in 27, 33, 34, 24, 37/, which I truely think moderate. And though he speaks of severalls of the 28 40, 32, 38, 33/, yet it is with submission to 92, but all his friends thinks that the doeing of this may be the most probable mean to prevent heats and to take away jealousies. 58 resolves to follow what directions he shall receive from 92, and shall have a great deal of deference to the opinion of  $\delta$ ; and therefor, though he writes sometime with freedome, I hope 58 will not be mistaken. I wish that measures were concerted, for there is no time to

be lost,—the funds are near run out. As for Mr. 39, 20, 23, 24, 36, 21, 40, 36, 32, I beleeve they thought 59 was not att London, and they will not trust Mr. 32, 20, 36, 32, 24; but there is no doubt but they will have all regaird for 59. I am confident that he and 102 are in a good correspondance together, and it is necessary it should be so, since the last is so well with  $\square$  and his friends. The council has this day adjourned the parliament. In my absence they could not gett a quorum, though my wife sent the advocat her Majestys letter to the council; but it is done timeously. The generall did think fitt to withdraw the party which was under Captain Ogilvies command for keeping out the Irish wictuale, and the gentry of that countrey did advyse him to hyre above thirty men on his own expenses for his assistance. This he did, and came into the council and made his application; and the privy council did unanimously appoint the former party to be sent back, being convinced that the want of it would doe a great dale of prejudice to the countrey. Give my service to 102, and tell him I have not time to write to him this night, though I have received one letter for him. Mind the commission I wrote for to my servant, John Philp, to be Hugh Cuninghames successor. I am to be with your brother to-morrow, and I am

Your humble servant.

194. THE SAME to GEORGE EARL OF CROMARTIE.

Edinburgh, June 9th, 1704.

MY LORD,—I beleeve this will meett your Lordship on the rode, and therfor shall be much shorter than if you had been att London, for the thoughts of your absence has oblidged me to write full to my lord thesaurer. I received both your letters by the two flying pacquets. There was no occasion for the second, for I did plainly discover the difficulty in reading



the first to the council, and therefor did only by a discourse signify to there Lordships her Majestys pleasure concerning the vacancies. I am of your Lordships opinion that it is allwayes best to err on the safest side. I have reformed the draught of the letter as it was sent down, for there was things in it that I can by no means consent too. There is a better party for her Majestys service and the good of the kingdome to be made out of both than either of the pairties, and therefor it is very inconvenient to encourage the one to unite against the other. If you were here, you would be intirely convinced of this. Indeed, the matter of the plott will be enquired into; but in this and every thing els I am for moderation, and shall observe the rule that you prescrive to me with regard to your self. I must own that my Lord Twedale and all his friends are very inclinable to moderation att present, and att the same time very dilligent about her Majestys affairs. Att meeting wee shall speak fully, and att present it is only necessary to acquaint you that the managers have answired your bills. And wishing you a good journey, I give my most humble service to my lady, and I am with all sincerity, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and humble servant,

SEAFIELD.

Indorsed: "Earl of Seafield, Lord Chancelor, to the Earle of Cromerty, when Secretary."

195. SIDNEY LORD GODOLPHIN, Lord High Treasurer of England, to  
[THE SAME].

Windsor, June 9th, 1704.

MY LORD,—I have had an opportunity to read to the Queen the severall letters and papers your Lordship sent mee before I left London.

I returne herwith the letter for adjorning the parliament, sign'd by her Majesty, and the blanks fill'd, as you proposed.

The memoriall concerning the plott is in the hands of Mr. Secretary Harley, who will receive her Majesty's comands in that matter.

Lieutenant-Generall Ramsey's memoriall seems to mee a little imperfect; for it wants a stated account of the exact sum which remains due for that cloathing in Scotland, upon which account, when it is sent up hither, her Majesty's orders for his repayment ought properly to bee grounded.

As to his claym of 2000 lb. from the Treasury, that is new to mee. But if any memoriall to that purpose lies now, or shall bee hereafter transmitted to the treasury here, it shall bee examined without delay.

I beg the favor of your Lordship to send the Lieutenant-Generall an extract of this paragraph of my letter, which I hope will excuse my not writing to him, having this day very many letters to write.

The Queen will cause the D[uke] of Queensberry's papers to bee altered as you propose, and will take consideration of the severall particular persons mentioned in your memoriall, whose cases lie before her Majesty.

Upon the return of the flying packett of the 2d instant from hence, it may deserve great consideration what may bee fitt for the Queen to doe with respect to the D[uke] of Atholl; after which, the sooner your Lordship and Mr. Johnstone are upon the place, I think it will bee the better. I am always with respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient, humble servant,

GODOLPHIN.

196. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

Windsor, June 10th, 1704.

MY LORD,—I have received your Lordship's severall letters of yesterday and the day's before. Sir D. Nairn will bring you all the papers signed by the

Queen, as you proposed. I shall speak to-morrow to the admiralty to compleat their order to the convoy for Lord Tweeddale's equipage.

I have spoken to Sir Thomas Stuart, who says he will be ready to inform mee more fully to-morrow.

The Queen will consider the case of Lord Wandell and Sir Andrew Foster. I am always, my Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient, humble servant,

GODOLPHIN.

197. KENNETH MASTER OF DUFFUS, afterwards THIRD LORD DUFFUS,  
to [THE SAME].

Windsor, 14th of June [1]704.

MY LORD,—I came here yesterday, but had no opportunity to see the Prince till this morning. The doctor had spoke to him concerning me er I went in ; so, when I deliver'd your letter, he said when his counsell came here (which I belive will be Saturday next) he shou'd do all for me he cou'd, which I suppose is the letter of recommendation he meant by. He had not read your letter while I was there ; therfor I designe to see this night again if your Lordship may expect any answer, for the contents of it being what you expect from the Queen in my favours, and what my present sircumstances absolutly requires, makes me the more concerned, and is the reason why I trouble you with what follows. My Lord, I am abundantly well assured of your inclinations and forwardness to doe me all the kindness ly's in your power ; yet, when I reflect how I stand at present, it makes me very uneasy. For tho your Lordship is well perswaded I am not very rich, yet I belive you scarcely imagine me so very poor as I am ; for, when I left home,

my father was not able to advance me any thing considerable, nor did I part with expectation of any reliefe thereafter. However, with much adoe I got as much together as brought me to London, upon the remender of which and the litle credit I had, I have made shift to live these three months past. Your Lordship knowes when I came I neither desired or expected any great matters, but only that you might recommend me to any post for a while I cou'd but live by ; and then I cou'd have equiped my self in some manner for it, but I must own it is not in my power now. Tis true your Lordship has promis'd that, if the Queen will give nothing at this time thertoo, you will advance me something owt of your own pocket ; which I acknowledge is more than I ever deserv'd at your hands, and for which I shall wish to live to be in sircumstances to make you and yours ane honorable and gratefull requittall. Besides, if it come to that, when ever your Lordship can procure me any thing from the Queen, you shall reteen your own in the very first of it. The Queen is to be to-morrow be twelve a klock at Hamton-Court, wher, if your Lordship be as you designed, I shall wait on you ; and I am perswaded that your own speakeing to her Majesty is the readdyest way to procure it. I am very well assured of my fathers inclinations to serve your Lordship, and I am very confident that if you take but a litle trouble to converse with him, afterwards you may depend on him as far as he is able. I am resolv'd my self to writ him a letter, which your Lordship shall see, which I know will do no harm. But tho neither he nor I shou'd be ever so luckie as be able to repay your kindness, I hope ovr family, which has the honour of your relation and neighborhood, may be sometime so happy as to show their gratefull resentment.

My Lord, I'm hopefull, when you consider my present sircumstances, and what pickle I shou'd be in if you forgot to do some thing for me er you left this place, you will easily excuse the trouble of this, being from one whose

greatest satisfaction shall be ever to acknowledge how much I am in all duty,  
My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obliged and most obedient nephew and  
humble servant,

KEN. MR. DUFFUS.

198. SIR JOHN MACLEANE to [THE SAME].

London, 27 June 1704.

MY LORD,—I was at Windsor Sunday last, to wait on the Duke of Somersett, in order to have the honour of kisseing the Queens hand, but his Grace told me that, haveing spoke of it to her Majestie some time agoe, she seemed to decline it as a thing for which there was no present necessity, and that might give umbrage to people in Scotland. As I was surpris'd at this, I askt his Graces sentiments whence the Queens shynesse could proceede. He said he beleev'd that, at the time he spoke to her Majestie, she was on some new measures as to Scots affaires, and that, haveing those to manage into whose handes she was to present them, she knewe not how farr her giving me her countenanc publickly might be agreable to them; butt that he would speake again to the Queen, and lett me knowe her Majesties pleasure next week, att his arrivall in town, and that in the meane time he would speake of it to my lord treasurer. He told me that he heard by accident (for that Englishmen were to meddle no more in Scots affaires) that the Scots required all those concerned in Frazers affaire should be sent downe, but that I needed not be uncasey about [it], for he would speake of it to the Queen. As your Lordship is better able to make a judgement of this matter then I, so I shall be glade to have your Lordships sentiments, and your orders how I am to

behave. It seemes it is not Argyll who is manadged ; and if two certain Dukes with yow be not sensible of the justice I have done them, I think they are in the wrong to me, of which as your Lordship is best judge, I leave it to yow to sound ther sentiments. As your Lordships friendship is my reall stock, when I have your instructiones I shall follow them exactlie. I hope this will find yow safelie arryved in good health, which none of your sons shall ever take a greater concern in then, my Lord,

Your ever faithfull and most humble servant,

MACLEANE.

199. ALEXANDER WEDDERBURN<sup>1</sup> to [THE SAME].

London, 27 June 1704.

MY LORD,—I hope this shall find your Lordship safe at Edinburgh, and that you have gott satisfying reasons why ther has been so few letters from thence for your Lordship since you were upon the road. I shall say only that I'm perswaded ther is no design of disobliging you by it. I writt to your Lordship and sent under packets sent by my Lady to the places you order'd upon the road, but I doubt you have not gott all. I shall be very sorry if your Lordship take offence against me on that acount. I assure your Lordship my resolution is fixt to my duty, as well as my inclination to personall respect for your Lordship. Acording to your directions, I went

<sup>1</sup> The writer of this letter was a younger son of Peter Wedderburn of Gosford and a Lord of Session under the title of Lord Gosford. In consideration of his efforts in favour of the Union, Alexander Wedderburn was appointed a commissioner of excise. His son, Peter Wedderburn, was appointed a Lord of Session, and assumed the title of

Lord Chesterhall ; and his grandson and namesake, Alexander Wedderburn, was successively created Baron Loughborough in 1795, and Earl of Rosslyn in 1801, after having filled the office of Lord Chancellor and played a prominent part in the political arena in the latter half of the eighteenth century.

to the secretaries once and again to call for the papers relating to the plott. Both of them assured me they had none in their custody concerning that matter, all having been laid before the House of Lords; but Sir Charles Hedges said, if your Lordship would condescend upon any not contained in the printed account, he would endeavour to find them. Not being satisfied with these answers, I went to the treasurer at Windsor, and spoke both as to the papers and the sending of the persons named in your memoranda to me. As to the papers, he said I had best send these I could gett, that is, extracts from the clerks to the House of Lords. Without the witnesses were sent down, I know little use those would serve for, and therefore I have delay'd asking them till I see what comes of the other, or that I gett new directions about it. All I have been told yet in relation to the persons, is that the Queen is desirous they should go, and such as want pardons shall only have them upon that condition; but that by the law they can not be forced out of the kingdome, and some of them upon particular reasons. Mr. Ferguson is under triall here, and it were a carying him away from justice. Sir John M<sup>c</sup>Klane can scarce be desired, having something like an assurance not to be made an evidence. David Lindsay stands condemned, and, till he be pardon'd, can not be admitted; and it will need stronger intercession than mine to obtain a pardon. If either the opinion of the privy counceel were sent to her Majesty, or at least positive orders were sent to me what I shall demand on evry particular point in this matter, your Lordship would see by the answers what is meant, better than by any remarks I can make.

I have as yett had no opportunity for dispatching the privat papers you left with me, but I hope the next week I shall. To-morrow the trial in exchequer for the ship Annandale comes on. It will be fitt I be present, being able to attest that the papers said to be the companys deeds are truly so. Thursday, the Queen goes to Hampton Court, so it will be Friday after

the packet comes in before I can go, at soonest. Though I have said above that I delay'd getting extracts, I have not delay'd inquiring how it is to be done, and I find both the principal clerck to the House of Lords and his deputy are in the cuntrey.

The Duke of Malbury has given orders for makeing provisions at Heidleberg for his army, which confirms the news of Bavarias agreement with the confederates. My Lord Galloway goes to command in Portugal, and Shomberge returns—at least this was proposed in council—and five thousand men are to be sent [to] those parts. I am, with all respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

200. ALEXANDER WEDDERBURN to GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE.

London, 29 June 1704.

MY LORD,—I had not troubled your Lordship by writting to-night, haveing nothing new to say, if my Lady Weems had not ordered me to acquaint your Lordship that she is gone to Windsor this afternoon, and to send herewith inclosed the Queens warrant in favours of Mrs. Kinnaries. I have come to no fixt point as yet in the matter of the papers your Lordship ordered me to call for. I find now they are lodged in the attorney generals hands, and no assurance they are to be taken from thence. And as to the persons, ther is only a positive promise of sending Mr. Campbel, but when or how I can not tell; but on Munday I am promised an answer. I have given my lord chancellor the same account, only I beleeve it may be a litle more full, or tedious rather. I intend to go to-morow to Windsor, and cary with me all the privat papers your Lordship left with me, and shall give your Lordship account of what pases the Queens hand with the first post after. I have no news to



add to-day, and some of what I writt last was but upon hearsay, and wants confirmation. I am, with al respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

My Lady Forfar intreats your Lordship would help to gett some of her Lords arears pay'd, that she may go home, now that her son has a promise of money here for his education. But I do not inlarge upon this, knowing my Lady has recommended it.

To the right honourable the Earle of Cromarti.

201. THE SAME to THE SAME.

London, 3 July 1704.

MY LORD,—I had no letters from your Lordship yesterday, nor have I any thing to acquaint you of relating to the affaires of parliament. This day I gott the Queens hand to a gift of escheat of Boyne, elder and younger, in favors of my lord chancellor. I send down the letter to lords of exchequer open. Your Lordship may be pleas'd to cause show it to my lord chancellor, that he may be satisfied, before it is presented, that it is conform to his directions. Their is no dewes of this nor any other paper that I have sent payed here. I likewise obtaind a letter ordering one Anna Blair, whose father had been a great sufferer in King Charles the Firsts time and afterwards, to be putt upon the charity roll for five pounds sterling yearly. There are two sisters of them, and they had fortie pounds Scots; but that not being sufficient, I presumed to gett this addition, which will make but fifty pounds Scots to each. Yesterday Sir Harry Furnace sent to acquaint the Queen that

he had intelligence that Prince Eugene had cutt off part of Tallards army and most of his bagage. This can not be depended upon, since we have no mails from Holland ; but it's said Sir Harry has ventur'd two thousand pound upon it. I am, with all respect, my lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

To the right honourable the Earle of Cromertie, principal secretary of State for Scotland.

202. JEAN WEMYSS, COUNTESS DOWAGER OF SUTHERLAND, to [THE SAME].

Abbey, July 5th, 1704.

MY LORD,—I am constrain'd to forbear my addressing to the counsell ament the poor orphans, my grandchildren, their additionall aliment, hoping that when my sone Southerland comes here, and some other freinds, that I expect your Lordship may find the busieness more easie to obtain then at present it would be. I think my adversa[r]jies are affraid of your Lordship ; for, since I was with yow, they have pay'd me the ordinary aliment that the counsell modified to the children severall years ago, tho' it has not afforded poor John a farthing to buy cloaths or any necessary for him this year and a halfe bygone, so that I have bein forced to furnish him my selfe with all necessary's during that tyme. But I hope the counsell will ordain Arbuthnott to doe better things, so that his only brother may have meatt, cloathing, and education, which is all I petition for in his behalfe. When my sone Southerland comes, I hope your Lordship will give him that freindly counsell to give me my oun in peace and without delay, which will be his oun advantage and his children's. I had not tyme to tell your Lordship that, wpon

what your Lady, my dear sister, wrot to me of your Lordships being active for the good of the Church of Scotland, I made many glad, for I told it to as many as came to visit me, and they were well pleas'd to hear of it ; so I hope your Lordship will act so as to convince all that what I told them was truth. I beseech your Lordship to have a speciall care of your health now when my sister is farr from you. Give my humble and affectionate service to her, and beleive me that I am, in all sincerity, my Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionate humble servant,

J. W. SOUTHERLAND.

203. SIR JAMES STEWART, Lord Advocate, to THE SAME.

Edinburgh, 7 July 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—I have bein this night so tormented with the gout that I could not keep my bed, and this morning I am good for nothing ; but I have ordered William Gordon to wait on your Lordship at eight a clock, as also the clerk of council, and shall send a macer to bring the two prisoners from the castle at twelve a clock. But I can doe no more save to intreat your Lordship to make this my excuse to my lord chancellor, if he come. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient,

S. JA. STEUART.

For the Earle of Cromerty, principal secretair of state.

204. SIR JOHN MACLEANE to [THE SAME].

London, July 11th, 1704.

MY LORD,—Since my last to your Lordship I hade the honour of a visit from my Lord Sunderland. He told me he hade spoke to my Lord Treasurer,

who gave him an account of the Queens orders for the 20 sh. per day, with which his Lordship advised me to make myself as easy as I could for some moneths, and that if before next session of parliament I was not putt on a better foott, they would then take care for a more fixt settlement. Upon my telling his Lordship that in my petition I had laid before the Queen the expences I was att in my confinement before I had any allowance, and the fees of the officers of the tower, for which I stood indebted, he was pleased to promise he would wryte that very night to the treasurer; and offered me very kindly his assistance in every thing I might think he could be usefull to me, and in so obligeing a manner that it showed his sincerity. I wayted Thursday last on my lord treasurer, who was very civil to me, and lett me knowe that my Lord Sunderland had spoke to him, but that he had not heard of what I told him was mentioned in my petition before I had any allowance, but that he would take care of it if I would renewe the petition by Sir Charles Hedges, which I have done. The Queen was so taken up whilst she stayed in town, that the Duke of Somersett told me there was no speakeing to her, but that he would knowe att her return to Windsor when she would allowe me to see her. I beleeve she does not desyre to be pressed about any Scots affaire whilst your parliament sits; and it is my buseinesse to be modest, and lett her take what measures she judges most convenient. I find by Glendaruell that Argyll was so violent on the first newes of my arryvall, that he went straight to the Queen to prevent any favourable impressiones might be given her of me. He swore to Glendaruell, when I was in the Tower, that I should never enter Mull but by force of armes. He sayes his ill humour against me proceeded from the Duke of Queensberry and his clubb, who persuaded him that I was sent for by the Duke of Atholl and your Lordship, to knock Frazer's affaire in the heade; and that it was the true reason of my making so much heast to land

in England. The use I shall make of this is to be on my guard, without takeing any notice of it, whilst he keepes fair with me. Sir Æneas writes to me of that affaire I gave your Lordship ane account of, that was proposed formerlie to my wife; but the person who made the offerr being deade, I knowe not what weight it may have: and on the other hand the mentioneing it may doe me prejudice with some people heere, whom your Lordship knowes I must manadge. But I leave this to your Lordship's better judgement, begging pardon for intrudeing on your Lordship's time by so long a letter; but your friendshippe and advice being what I most firmlie depend on, it oblidges me to give yow ane account of whatever passes in relation to me. May your parliament be weell and soon at ane end, that I may see again the man on earth I am most oblidged to, and who, I can sweare, has not any body more entirely his then, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most humble servant,

MACLEANE.

205. ALEXANDER WEDDERBURN to [THE SAME].

Windsor, 27 July 1704.

MY LORD,—I have never failed to deliver your Lordships letters to the Queen and my lord treasurer as soon after my receiving them as I could have access, nor to represent fully what you have been pleas'd write to me, both as to your concern and skill in management of her Majestys interest; and I hope, when your Lordship shall have occasion to inquire, I shall not be found faulty that way. But your Lordship, in yours of the 20, is pleas'd in a very obliging maner, I must own, to lay home to me some particulars that have the appearance of a fault, yet if ther's any allowance to be given upon the account of want of experience, I doubt not to be clear'd in this to. I have

had no reason to suspect that what papers are sent up to the Queen are concealed from any of her chief ministers. Your Lordship sent up an instruction to the commissioner which none of the government mention'd in their letters to me, but I did not question for this that your Lordship had not concerted with them, and therefore I made no difficulty of sending it directly to his Grace; nor did I ever offer any thing to the Queen as recommended by one, and concealed from the others of her servants. But that there may no mistakes happen of this sort, and that I may be free of blame, as my intention is to serve honest[lly] and fairly so far as I understand, I shall acquaint my lord chancellor, and any other, if it be fitt, that I may receive directions not to give offence; tho in the mean time this farr I must say, that your Lordship has not condescended upon the particulars you think wrong, and so I am at a loss how to hitt upon just reasons by which I may give you satisfaction as to my observance and respect.

I receiv'd some time ago from Mr. Chalmers a signature in favours of my Lord Northesk, which he write your Lordship was to give me directions about; but, since I have heard nothing from you, I have delay'd offering it. It contains some considerable favours, such as erecting lands in a regality.

I receiv'd likewise another, recommended by my Lord Rankillor, in favours of Polekemmet, for a novodamus and a change of holding from ward to taxt ward, which I shall not present till your Lordship is first satisfied; also a gift of Boynes escheat in favours of the chancellor, with the draught of a letter for a backbond comprehending the creditors, as it was in his gift of recognition. This is plainly for the security of his purchase and just debt, and therefore I presume your Lordship will not disallow of my presenting it so soon as a fitt opportunity offers. I did not forget to represent the struggle was made in the treasury about the preference of payements; and what your Lordship says, showing the difference ought to be put betwixt the

offices that occasion expence and these that create neither trouble nor charges, was own'd to be very just and plain. This farr I have writt before I have any thing to observe to your Lordship of the Queens or the treasurers sentiments of what came by the flying packet, save that they seem pritty well pleasd to find the cess caried. If I observe any further befor despatching this, I shall add a line or two. If my being here keeps back my Lady's letters it is only when a flying packet comes, and even than it has not happen'd to delay much, becaus I sent hers imediatly back by the same express that brought the packet hither. I though[t] to have sent this by an express, expecting that the Queens letters would have been redly to day, but it is now so late that I can not expect it, and therefore I send this by the ordinary post, which will be sooner in Scotland than I think the express can be now. I have no time to add more, save that I am, with all respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

206. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

Windsor, 31 July 1704.

MY LORD,—I am realy sensible of no neglect on my part in giving your Lordship accounts of what pases here ; I'm sure I never fail to write when their is the least reason to make me think it would not be a trouble. I indeavoured in my last to satisfie your Lordship on this head, and therfor shall be the shorter now. My lord treasurer sends by this packet the Queens mind to my lord commissioner, and I hope will write it to [your] Lordship to ; but in case he do not, I shall adventure to giv<sup>e</sup> you my conjectures what it may be. There seems to be no scruple in allowing the Act of Security to pass, if the clause which begins (Provyding alwayes) be

intirely left out. The first paragraf is not liket more than the last; therefore, if it be found necessary to have any part of it continow'd, it would be changed and made smother. It's thought now to look too like an exclusion of the successor of England from our nomination, which sounds very ill here, and differs mightly from what the Queen has recommended so earnestly. I shall not adventure to go farther upon conjecture; besides that, I hope it will be needless, for the treasurer will certainly be plain to the commissioner, tho I beleve by the smallnes of his packet he has not writt to all he design'd at first. I am, with all respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

207. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

London, 1 August 1704.

MY LORD,—The flying packet that went yesterday from Windsor caried all that I can say concerning publict affaires. The Queen is come this evening to Kingenston, and I was so long of having notice of it, that I could not find a conveniency to bring me here till it was late; so that I have had no time to learn either the true news, or common discourse of this place. I was surprised to find, at my coming to the office, a packet which I sent on Saturdays night from Windsor, directed for your Lordship. It seems by some mistake at the General Post-office it was neglected that night. I have sent it without opening it, as it was first directed by your Lordships own servants hand, to satisfy you that I was not to blame that nothing came to your Lordship by that post. This day, before the Queen came from Windsor, my Lady Forfar had an audience, and was told by her Majesty that the pention



promised before your Lordship went from hence for her sons education, is not to be payable here, as was expected, but that a letter is to be ordered for it in the same manner as is done in favours of the Duke of Douglas ; with a promise that the Queen will see it made effectual. In my humble opinion, it will be a kindness done to the family if your Lordship would represent that this grant will prove ineffectual, since the treasury of Scotland is already over charged ; and than without doubt her Majesty will be perswaded to continow the favour in the terms it was first promised, at least understood to be. I left my Lady at Windsor with my Lady Cromartie, who is very well, but I can not tell positively if her Ladyship comes here to-morrow, or stays till the Queen return on Thursday. Sir Andrew Forester has gott a promise of a hundred pounds to supply him in the time, and the consideration of his claime is reserved till your Lordship and others his friends are present to represent it, and use your interest for him. I am, with all respect, my Lord,

Your most humble and obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

208. THE SAME to [THE SAME].

London, 5 August 1704.

MY LORD,—I had the honour of yours of the 29 July by yesterdays packet. The councell was mett be the time it came to me, so that I could only gett a single word of my lord treasurer, as he came out. The Queen went after she had din'd to Windsor, and my lord treasurer follow'd very early this morning ; so that I had no opportunity of representing what your Lordship recommends to me. I design to go out to court to morrow or Munday early, and shall take the first opportunity of showeing the general

letter, and observe your direction in the return I make. I have not gott Blacknes patent past, but I hope I may, and send it soon. I have a letter from the Duke of Athol, and another from the Earle of Bute, desiring me to present a memorial to the Queen against my Lord Montrose bargain of Lenox, at least that part of it which carys a right to some few dutys of Bute and Comra. It's my duty to do it, tho I had not the honour of being related to the Earles children; but I expected your Lordships orders about it, which I juge may advance it as well as the Duke of Athols, if it appear that my Lord Bute is to have any real prejudice. But the maner of conveyance being advised by the Queens Advocat, doubtless, her Majesty will give no positive answeare, till she has heard both sides. I do not hear of any positive resolution about a new parliament here; neither can ther be any conjecture made which partie will prevail in the new elections, when they come to be made.—I am, with all respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

209. SIR ANDREW FORRESTER to [THE SAME].

London, 5th August 1704.

MY NOBLE LORD,—Having ever since your Lordships parting given my constant attendance, as ther was occasion, here or at Windsor, in expectation of the good effects of your so earnestly recommending me to my lord treasurers favour, I was (not a litle) surprised when his Lordship told me last Tuesday at Windsor, that the Queen ordered him to pay me one hundred pounds. which is not the fourth part of my expenses (to say nothing of my trouble and fruitlesse attendance) ever since the midle of May last was tuo

years, when I was ordered by her Majesties then high commissioner to re-  
paire hither, in order to my giving up the commissions, journalls, and other  
papers relating to the treaty of union betuixt the tuo kingdomes in the  
reigne of King Charles the Second, of ever blessed memory ; and at my re-  
cieving that small summe I was obliged to pay five pounds of exchequer fees.  
Notwithstanding all which, it was no small encouragement unto me, when I  
had the honour of paying my due most humble thanks to her Majestie, tuo  
days agoe, at Kensington. Shee was graciously pleased to promise that,  
after the coming up of her ministers from Scotland, the contents of my  
memoriall shall be taken into consideration by her Majestie. Untill which  
time I am to be (God willing) in a privat retirement, not farr distant in the  
country. And if it shall please God to continue my life till your Lordships  
returne to this place, [I] will presume to depend on your wonted goodnesse  
and favour to me and mine, for which I shall never faile to be with all pos-  
sible respect, due gratitude, and sincerity, as your most obliged, so,

My thrice dear Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most faithfull obedient servant,

A. FORRESTER.

210. ALEXANDER WEDDERBURN to [THE SAME].

Windsor, 8 August 1704.

MY LORD,—According to your orders I have read to the Queen the  
memorial sent by your Lordship of the Earle of Butes case ; but her Majestie,  
having only had information upon one side, did not think fit to give orders  
for stopping the act of dissolution complain'd of, but only commanded me to  
acquaint your Lordship that she has no doubt but the parliament, and parti-

cularly those of it who are intrusted by her Majesty with the administration, will take care of her concern and of that of the nation. And she recommends to your Lordship to consider of the most propper methods for preventing the Earle of Butes meeting with any hardship; but, on the other hand, her Majestie's intention is, that dew regard be had to the Marquess of Montrose's interest, and that he meet with no disapointment or unnecessary stopp in the bargain he has entered into with Dr. Hamilton for the estate of Lenox.

I have orders from the Queen to draw a letter to the lords of the treasury, in the terms your Lordship desires, for your more effectual payement; and I have obtain'd, as I think, Blackness's patent, tho her Majesty has it yet in her hands. So soon as I can gett to London, I shall have both dispatched for your Lordship. I show'd her Majestie the generals letter in favours of Mester Stewart, which she said was a very good recommendation; but I have no orders to draw his commission, yet I doubt not with a litle patience it may be had. I am sorry to find your Lordship diffident of your own interest here, or at the pains to repeat these storys about changes; indeed, my Lord, I have no reason given me to credit any thing as to your being out of favour, what ever may be conjectur'd as to others. I am, with all respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

AL. WEDDERBURN.

211. JOHN PATERSON, ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW, and ALEXANDER ROSE,  
BISHOP OF EDINBURGH, to THE SAME.

Edinburgh, 12 September 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—As you desired, wee send this memoir to your Lordship, which contains all wee judge necessarie to be done at present

for us and our clergy by the Queens Majesty, and which wee hope your Lordship will judge proper and reasonable; and wee humble begg you may keep it beside you for a remembrancer off the particulars therin contained, when you offer our desires to her Majesty. Wee are verie sensible off your Lordships kynd friendliues to our selvs and to our order, and flatter our selvs, or rather promise our selvs, that by your Lordships good conduct (now that you onlie are her Majestys secretarie off state for Scotland) and your kynd concern for us, this that wee humble propose wilbe effectualle and presentlie done for our and our distressed clergys releeff. Manie off us bishops must shortlie part from this world, so that iff her Majesties bountie is not speedilie rendred effectuall to us, it will come too late. Besides, manie off us are in extrem want and straits, which calls for a speeddie releeff, without which wee cannot subsist; and therfor wee hope your Lordships Christian compassion will move you to obtain a seasonable and speeddie releeff to us, which God will reward. Your Lordship will find, upon due tryall and examination, that the fund out off the rents of the bishops is much narrower and shorter then you imagined at first, which will make our humble proposalls in the enclosed memoir to appear so much the more just and reasonable. Pardon this trouble, and beleue us to be, with the greatest respect,

May it please your Lordship,

Your Lordships most humble and most faithfull servants,

JO. GLASGOW.

ALEX<sup>R</sup>. EDINBURGEN.

12 September.

MY DEAR LORD,—I am more particular[ly] concerned, 1<sup>o</sup>, to haue her Majesty comand her gift to me in favors off my children to be passed,

which your Lordship knows is off 200 lib. sterling yearlie for 15 years after my death out off the bishops rents. Non ought to grudge this, seing it is indeed but a small part off my benefice, which I haue wanted now for more then 15 years, and such as I hope sall signifie verie litle to me or mynes, and must signifie nothing at all, iff episcopacie salbe restored; 2<sup>o</sup>, to haue my sone Sandie kept in still to be one off the collectors of the bishops rents, as he is in her Majestys late signed gift, tho not as yet passed the seal; 3<sup>o</sup>, to move the Queen to grant me 200 libs. sterling for the expenss off my last jorney to court. I salbe content with it, tho ane archbishop had always allowd 300 lib. sterling for that jorney. Her Majesty told D[uke] Queensberry and E[arl] Belcarres she wold order it how soon the last session off Parliament sould be over, and it will cost your Lordship onlie to mynd her Majesty off it, and it wilbe done. My dear Lord, I begg your Lordship may take a particular concern for, and care off me, and off my litle interests, and off my desires to you by this lyne; for I hope your Lordship in so doing sall effectuallie doe for the interest off some off your owne, as I . . . at parting. I expect you will effectuallie and kyndlie doe for me, and I de[pend] on it. I give my humble duetie to your good lady, the Countess of Weemes, at this tyme. Your Lordship will give me a prooff off the sinceritie off your concern and kyndnes for me and mine.

Adieu, humblie and kyndlie.

Pray forget not, my dear Lord, to give my humble duetie to your noble worthie lady, my childrens chief off their mother syde, with manie thanks for the good tablets she gave me at parting, which provd a great cordiall to me in my sicknes upon the road homewards.

To the right honorable the Earle off Cromertie, principall secretary  
off state for Scotland, Whitehall, London—these.

212. ÆNEAS M'PHERSON, son of William M'Pherson of Inveressie,  
to [THE SAME].

September the 14th, 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—When I had the honour latly to kiss your Lordships hands att pairture, I did not think I should soe soone have occasione for your Lordships patrociniè ; for, as I told your Lordship att that tym, I made a hard shift to leive vpon my small allowance without being ower troublesome to my frinds. But now that, against all the rules of charitie and true gratitude, my litle income is of a sudden stopt, and the person who was in vse to advance it hithertoe ordered of late to make no further payment, my condition is become so deplorable that, if by your Lordships good help some speedie course is not thought off for my subsistence and my partners, we shall not have a morsell of breade nor a hole to sett our head in. In which extremity I have no remaining shift but to petition her Majesty for some small mater to extricat me of my present straights. That pilate may be justly reckoned weake that, missing of one shoare or harbour, has neather the heart nor the head to make for an other. And howe're I might have bin streatned in point of principle vnder the late reigne, for such reasons as were told your Lordship at your country house, I hav had no maner of scruple since her Majesties accessione to the throne ; on the contrarie, after my barbarouse vsage, have full freedome to take your Lordships advice in all things, and render her Majesty any sorte of service within my power or reach. And as for the merite of my cause, your Lordship may freelie tell her Majesty, that except Sir John Maclean, ther is not one gentleman in the Highlands has a juster title to the royall bounty ; for, not to goe back to remoter ages to instruct our families constant adherence to the crowne, my father,

William M<sup>c</sup>Pherson of Inveressie, was the first that join'd the great Montrose in King Charles the First his service, with a full regiment of his name, and caried on the warr at his own charge, to the ruine of his fortune, till he was killed at ther head at the battle of Aldern. Sir John, indeed, has lost a great and oppulent fortune purlie for the crowne, which I acknowledg is more than I can plead; but I have lost an other, tho' not soe considerable, has bin for many ane age the paternall fortune of our family, and for so much is as well accomodated as any estaite or fortun in the Highlands, besids my commissions, which your Lordship knows were both great and profitable; and as for my personall sufferrings for her Majesties royall father, they have had skarse a parraleale since the Revolutione: so that your Lordship having soe much to say in my behallff, I shall make no maner of questione, but that on this moveing occasion your Lordship may heartily inploy your interest to save a gentleman from ruine inclins soe much to be your Lordships servant, especially considdering that I propose no great maters to mysellff, nothing that may putt your Lordships interest or frindship to the streatch. 40 or 50 libs. may doe much to cleare all my scores in this place, and putt me above necessity; or if your Lordship could prevaile with her Majesty to order but halff soe much in hand, and a guinie a weeke to subsist me and my family thereafter, I should be proude to owe so seasonable a favoure and my change of fortun, above all mankind, to a person I am bound to honoure and esteem soe much; and dureing the residue of my tym be full of my acknowledgments, and reddie to embrace any favourable opportunity to demonstrat to the world how much I am, my dearest Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and most obedient servant,

ÆN. M<sup>c</sup>PERSONE.



213. JOHN PATERSON, ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW, to THE SAME.

Edinburgh, 16th September 1704.

MY DEAR LORD,—I hope this shall come seasonable, befor your Lordship can haue a just opportunitie to speak to the Queen in favors off the surviving bishops and others off the episcopall clergy in Scotland, to represent that, as I am credible informed, her Majesty grants yearlie to the dissenting ministers in Irland 1200 libs. sterling per annum to support them, out off her owne revenue in that kingdom. King William first gave it, and her Majesty now continues it. Now it wilbe a mightie discouragement to us all, and to all laicks off the episcopall perswasion, that her Majesty sould grant so much to ministers off ane opposit opinion to her self, and off no loyall principles, in Ierland, out off her owne revenues, and that as yet litle or nothing is allowd to the bishops and episcopall clergy in Scotland, even out off the bishops owne rents. Iff her Majesty will secure the respective proportions she hath already signed to us the surviving bishops, and 600 libs. sterling more for our inferior episcopall clergy per annum, to arise out off our owne rents, and the superplus (so farre as our rents come short theroff) out off a sure fond of her royall rents to us, it is perhaps a just proportion and method off her royall charity to us, iff made effectually, and which I am perswaded her Majestys Christian and compassionat genius will franklie condescend to grant us. I humbly begg, iff your Lordship thinks it fitt, to lay this humbly befor her Majesty, to doe in it as her Christian charitie (which I know to be truelie great and royall), as from me and as my humble request, I say to doe in it as her Majesty sall judge fittest. Pardon this renewd trouble, and desiring onlie that your Lordship will kyndlie remember me, and to doe for me and my children as I beggd by last, and as I wold most

cheerfullie doe for your Lordship and yours in such a case, I am, with the uttmost respect and sinceritie, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient and faithfull servant,

JO. GLASGOW.

I sould be glad iff your Lordship and D[uke] Q[ueens]berry wold come to a good vnderstanding ; for, iff I am not misinformed even by those who are truelie your Lordships friends, you sall then come to be better stated then at present you are with some others. But you are wise and knows best your owne interest.

Some off our bishops, and manie off our inferior clergy, are in great want, and indeed in a starving condition ; all our charitie at home is dreyed up, and no releef arises to them now by it. God help.

To the right honorable the Earle of Cromerty, principall secretary  
off state for Scotland, Whitehall, London—these.

214. ALEXANDER ROSE, BISHOP OF EDINBURGH, to [THE SAME].

Edinburgh, September 19, 1704.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—Som dayes agon I signed both a letter and a memoir to your Lordship, both written with my Lord Glasgow's hand. I presume that they ar in the terms that his Grace and I communed upon ; but, being abroad and not comming hom that night, they wer [not] sent to be signed by me till near the time of the posts going of. I had scarce time to read, far less consider them. Wherefor I beg to be pardoned in case there be any matter of offence or indiscretion in either. My Lord, however avers I have hitherto been to make known the lowness of my fortoun, through a piece of blamable weakness, and perchance hurtfull to my self, yet now that

the necessities of my condition presses me, I must be plain to tell your Lordship that it is full thrie years ago that I spent the last farthing of my stock, having nothing to subsist by save the 100 lib. of the Queens bounty; and ther being nothing ordered for us last year, your Lordship may easily conjectur what hardships I may now be under. The duety I ow my family obleidges me to tell this sad truth, tho with the less reluctaney that it is to a person of that honour who (as I am perfectly satisfied) is incapable to make any other save a generous use of it, and is, besids, in such condition to help my misfortoun. And whither this my griveous circumstance needs your Lordships assistance, and pleads a consideration even beyond my brethren, I humbly submit it to your Lordship. I shall not doubt to find your Lordship well disposed to doe me a favor; but, becaus to sollicit a distinguishing on may perchance look partially and sound harsh, unless the desire be supported by suetable reasons, I have therefor presumed to give your Lordship the trouble of the inclosed memoriall with respect to my particular case, which I hop shall afford very just grounds whereupon to plead a very valueable superplus of the Queens bounty in my behalf: and if there be need, and your Lordship thinks fit, I am very willing that the Queen shoud see it. I know that it occurs naturally to be asked how my condition shoud com to be so much wors than that of my brethren, and the ansuer is that, besids my mor numerous family and the greater charginess of the place I live in, tis known that most of them had occasion to make stocks upon their rents, having possessed their benefices for many years, whileas I was no sooner in then out, having entered immediatly upon the Revolution; so that what I expended upon my entrie, together with the providing what was decent for my post, cam to be considerably mor then the rent I had a right to.

My Lord, I know not if the speciall gift obtained by my Lord Glasgow in favors of his children be otherwais founded than his sufferings and the in-

digency of his family ; and if so, I hop your Lordship shall be satisfied that som of us has a very good pretence to the like favor, and that upon the justice of these grounds I may very honestly and as onerously put in for it. But this, and what els I have truely represented to your Lordship, I humbly submit to your better judgement, not doubting of som speciall instance of goodness suetable to your Lordships temper, my pressing exigences, and the humble request of, may it please your Lordship,

Your Lordships most faithfull and humble servant,

ALEX<sup>r</sup>. EDINBURGEN.

Your Lordship may readily know that Mr. Sage has don eminent service to this church, and it wer no less honorable for your Lordship than necessary for him that he wer particularly minded and encouradged.

Indorsed : "Bishops effaires—Bishop of Edinburghs letter, 1704."

215. ROBERT DOUGLAS, BISHOP OF DUNBLANE, to [THE SAME].

Dundee, 22d September 1704.

MY LORD,—The confidence I have of your Lordships favor encouradges me, and my present circumstances necessitats me to give your Lordship the trouble of this line to sheu your Lordship that there are four precepts in my favors—tuo granted by King William, and tuo by her present Majestie—for a hundred punds sterling each, of all which I have not gott one farthing. The lords of treasury were pleasd to give precepts upon the collector of the Bishops rents, who absolutely refuses to pay them, and tells that his commission is burthend with so many other debts as exhausts him, tho some of my brethren have gott punctuall payment. Therfor I humbly intreat that your Lordship may be pleasd to consider my condition and my

numerous family, and to interpose with the Queen that I may obtain payment of these precepts out of some other fund, since the appointed fund hath faild me. I shall trouble your Lordship no further at present, but that I am, in all sincerity, my Lord,

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

RO. DUNBLANEN.

216. JOHN SECOND LORD BELHAVEN to [THE SAME].

Beil, 24 September 1704.

MY LORD,—It was my ill forton not to have the honnor of seeing your Lordship befor you went for London. I thought to have waited upon you as you passed this road of ours, but yow escaped the trouble of your freinds convoys by leaping over the mountains, and scipping over the hills, in a machine of your own invention. I wish your Lordship may be as successfull in your invention of good and solid measurs for settling this poor divided nation of ours. I know it will not be your fault, for I have heard you with great satisfaction upon trew and right measures, particularly when we went to Kingsington together last tyme I was at Court to take my conge. I have not the least dout bot you ar the same man still, and I wish you good successe. I blisse God I am verie happie here at home, bot yet I should have a better prospect of the continuation therof, if England and we wer in better terms, what I think may be don with lesse difficulty than many beleive it possible. I beleive you may comprehend me weel enuff, having spoak of this to you formerly; and therfor shall add no more, save to tell you frankly and freely, that I am, in all sincerity, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull humble servant,

BELHAVEN.

217. JOHN PATERSON, ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW, to THE SAME.

Edinburgh, 28 September 1704.

MY DEAR LORD,—I hope ere this arryves your Lordship hath procured orders from the Queen to send downe the papers signed by her Majesty for our releeff and support. Her owne gracious inclinations need onlie your Lordships motion to send them; and I hope her Majesty will order that whole effair, as it is desired by the memoir the Bishop of Edinburgh and I sent to yow, which I beg your Lordship may still keep beside you as containing our humble proposalls on that matter. I depend on your Lordship to mynd particularlie what more especiallie concerns my self—my sone Sandie, and what the Queen hath graciouslie granted in favors of my other children after my death. I write the more confidentlie to your Lordship for this, in regard off what I said to you at parting. God blesseth the Queen signallie for her charitie and bountie to the poorer sort off the clergy in the Church off England, and she is gracious to her enemies, the dissenting ministers in Irland, who haue allowd them no less than 1200 lib. sterling yearlie out off her owne revenue; and it will prove hard iff her Majesty suffer the poor bishops and episcopall clergy in Scotland to starve, when they may be subsisted and releevd out off the bishops rents here, without burthening her royall revenue in this kingdom. I am sure her Majestys Christian compassion and inclination for our releeff will help us. Tho the relict of the Bishop off Ross had no lose by the revolution—her husband being dead long before it, yet she is a bishops widow, and in want; and therfor, iff your Lordship please to move the Queen to grant to her 40 libs. sterling per annum out off the bishops rents, after the surviving bishops are payd their allowd proportions, it wilbe a suitable charitie. The Bishop off Edinburgh thinks 20 or 25 lib. sterling yearlie will doe wele for her in regard off the narrownes off that fond. This

will please also Charl. Chalmers. Here we haue E[arl] Roxburgh already your colleague in the office off secretarie, but I beleue it not; he is young, and I fancie no changes wilbe made off the Queens servants and ministers till after the arryvall off Duke Marlborough. I am still off opinion, and heartilie wish it, after all, that D[uke] Q[ueens]berry and your Lordship sall doe best to enter into a true friendship and good vnderstanding; and others, wiser then I, and true friends to your Lordships, are off the same mynd. I give my humble duetie to your good lady, and am to your self, my dear Lord,

Your owne true humble faithfull servant,

JO. GLASGOW.

A lyne from your Lordship in answer to the severall letters I haue latelie sent wilbe kynd in you, and refreshing and acceptable to me, when your Lordship can doe it.

It wilbe honorable for your Lordship, and a good eminentlie charitable work in it self, to end our effair with the Queen, while you are single and alone secretary off state; and will give you the help off the prayers off manie indigent, and indeed starving, pious and learned clergymen, and off their languishing children and families.

To the right honorable the Earle off Cromertie, principall secretarie off state for Scotland, Whitehall, London—these.

218. [LADY CHRISTIAN LESLIE, Dowager of James third Marquis of Montrose, and wife of Sir John Bruce of Kinross, to MARGARET COUNTESS OF CROMARTIE.]

Kinrose, the 2 of Oketobour 1704.

I HEVE, my dear cousin, had a sevear returran of my colike, sins I urot to you last; and, althoghe I do att all occashions love to hear from you and to

uret, yett I most oune the moranfoull ocashion of this leter affikes me, sins it is to beg earnestly your interseshion withe your Lord for a remition to Sir Davett Murry of Stanope from her Majesty, who heathe most unfortonetly falen into that sad axedentt of killing his oun groume, bieng so dronke as hi was quett unsensable and kneue notheng of it nixtt day till hi was tould of itt ; and whiche apears by his shoniting of him for no falt, bot becaus the servant kiped him from rayding an oumpasable pllace of a water in which hi wold heve pereshed. The axidentt is sad and dismell, and I do belleve nothing will suener gean him your Ladyshipe and Lords frendshipe, and her Magestayes pardon, then knowing his greatt and just conserean for his misforton ; and his pour lady, who is an exallentt woman, is under suche anexeity also, thatt all of os that loves her dreads the bad consequenses of her justt trouble may indanger her lif, for shi is vere tender ; and noue her bieng sepeeratt from him at this sad ocashion heghteans her disqueatt, for they heve leved in grat love and frendshipe. And althoghe this misorable and sad axedent heath noue fallen in to Sir Davets hands by drinkeng, hi is a vere sobear, orderly, and a weall inclayned man ; and, by hes falling into this, we si the mor what nid pipell heathe to be gayded by the divin hand of an onering God, and to axe his proteketion in and thoroue all thear aketiones. I am manay ways conserved in this pouer jentellman, for hi was an ould and good aquentens of my Lords, and noue heathe married a vertious fin woman, whom I love and estim, and to whom Mr. Bruce heathe the honouer to be vere nearly related, whiche alon war grond anof for me to heve an onfenead conseran. Bot all joynd mekes me want words to expres the earnest disayer I heve for yours and your Lords frendshipe to him ; and the jentellmans justt and sinsear grif for his great misforton, mekes wan justly the mor hopfoull her Magestay will remitt, as a mersefoull God will, all troue penetents. Bot I shall ad no mor, bot hopes for your granting the so earnestt requestt of, dearest.



## 219. [SIR JAMES MACKENZIE to his father, GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE.]

16 December 1704.

MY LORD,—Thursday night the captaine and crew of the English East India ship (formerlie arested by our African Company) were apprehended, and imprisoned, upon strong presumptiones of their having murdered the two Captaines Drummonds and the whole crew of their two sloopes homeward bound from the East Indies. These sloops sailed from Clyde about four years agoe, upon an adventure partlie from the Company, and partlie belonging to private adventurers. Severall letters and advices came from them, giving account that they had made three or four successfull voyages from one port in the Indies to other places, and were comeing home richlie loaden; but, after they left the Cape of Good Hope, they were never heard off till now. There appears many concurring circumstances that they were destroyed by this ship. Its confidentlie said that some of the crew will be witnesses, who say that if the ship were searched, there will sufficient documents be found for verifying this inhumane and barbarous fact, which will soon appear, for African Rorie is sent to Bruntland to unload her. This storie hes been whispered about these severall months, and some of the crew own that they endeavoured by all means emaginable to shun our coast, but were still forced upon it; and their surgeon went in a vessel for London, and, after he was half way thither, was blown back to the north of Scotland, and came overland to Edinburgh the verie instant his companions were seized. There are many more remarkable instances given whereby the hand of providence wonderfullie appears for bringing to light this horrid villanie. The way it was acted is

said to be thus : This English ship mett the two sloops on this side the Cape, and having no force able to resist her, made them strike, after firing a broad side on them ; and made them send their long boats aboard her with the principall officers, where they no sooner came but they cutt their throats with hatchets, and then threw them over board ; and then sent their own long boat aboard the sloopes, and treat all they found there in the same manner. In short, there is alreadie so much discovered, that no bodie doubts of the truth of it.

Whitelaws bodie was this night transported to the new church, and poor Collonell Macgill was buried to-day. He was seized with an apoplectick fitt on the streets Thursday night, and immediatelie dyed. Some say he was run down with a coach, but the first is generallie believed. J. M.

Indorsed : " A Story of an odd Murder," and " Sir James letter of publick or other mens busines."

220. JAMES FIRST EARL OF BUTE to GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE.

Rothsay, the of 1704.

MY DEAR LORD,—Ever since my youth I had the honor of your Lordships acquaintance, and the greatest value for, and trust in your frindship, which maikes me (with much confidence) apply to you in any thing may be for the service of the government and the interest of my family. When I was last at London, your lordship was often speakeing of the government of Dumbriton Castle for me ; and because of the convenient situation and nearness of my interest and frinds therto, your lordship judged it for the Queens service to put that garisone in the hands of my family, who wald

maintain and improve it for hir majesties interest as weel as any, and, with that addition to our oune, wald be a check one any in that pairt of the nation that designd to dissturbe the government. And any that knou the west countray, wil think it of the greatest importance to have that place in good hands; and the treu use of it is lost when it is not in the posession of a person that hes a considerabil adjacent interest, that wald imploy that and his oune to serve hir Majestie one al occasions. Of this hir Majesties royal grandfather was so senseibil, and so desyrous to have it in our familys custody, that upon the increise of his Majesties troubils he sent doum tuo men of warre to put my grandfather in posession of it, and his Majesties enemys were so alairmed at it that they sunk boats in the chanel to stop his passage to it. And it lyes so naturally for me, that when I was last at court, every body was expecting its being put in my hands. And nou when it is vaicant, my experience of your Lordships frindship (that I never kneu yet to have faild me) assures me you will in deu time represent it to hir Majestie. And I hope hir Majestie, that has been graciously pleasd to advance the honor of my family, and to be so mindful of the interest of it as to tell your Lordship of hir royal intention to have a poast for me in hir service, and to recommend my being provyded to your Lordship—hir Majestie wil nou readily bestoue this smal mark of hir favor (a place, though of no smal trust, yet of a mean salary, and feu perquisits) one a family that always faithfulie imployd any trust and al the interest they had for hir Majesties royal ancestors, and wil still be ready to haizaird ther lives and fortunes for hir Majestie and hir royal family.

Though it be my concern and deuty to be inquiring about your Lordships health, and the good staite of your affairs, and your incouragements from her Majestie to continoue in the toyle of so publick and difficult ane employment for her Majesties service, the good of your countrey, and the benefite of your

frinds and advancement of the publick interest more then your ounie private fortune, and that I am sometymes getting accounts therof from others, yet, when your leisure aloued, I should be satisfied to have it from your self, and wherein you could one any occaseon be served by,

My dear Lord,

Your Lordships much oblidgd, most faithful, and most humble servant,

BUTE.

Indorsed: "1704. Earl of Butes letter to the Earl of Cromertie."

221. JOHN PATERSON, sometime Archbishop of Glasgow, to GEORGE FIRST  
EARL OF CROMARTIE.

14 July [*circa* 1704].

MY DEAR LORD,—Not being able to come and wait on your Lordship, and your great effairs not allowing your Lordship to see me as yet, I humblie begg, by a lyne, your Lordship may acquaint me with what her Majesty hath orderd about the papers she graciouslie signed in favors off us bishops and our poor clergy; and as your Lordship did most kyndlie assist us in that effair, so, when I left London, these papers were left with your self. My Lord Saint Andrews being dead, there will now be 300 libs. sterling more to be given to our poor presbyters. Iff any alteration is made as to the manner of conveyance off her Majesty's bounty, I know not, but I hope your Lordship will see the matter made effectuall for our releeff as her Majesty proposd. Two things funder I am to begg from your Lordship's goodnes: 1°, that my sone Alexander may be continued, as your self procured, to be one off the collectors off the Bishops rents; 2°, that in the exchequer your Lordship may see the gift off her Majesty in favors off my children

after my death may be ownd and passed; for I, finding that the lord chancellor and Eglinton demurrd, determind not to present it till your Lordship sould be present, upon whom I depend. Your Lordship's interest and concern wes never indifferent to me, nor ever shall; and therfor I beg and hope myne wilbe assisted and protected by your Lordship, for I am,

My dear Lord,

Your Lordships owne servant most sincerelie,

JO. GLASGOW.

I again humbly begg your Lordships favor, assistance, and directions in these things. Your Lordship knows that out off the bishops rents the 200 libs. sterling her Majesty gives to my children after my decease is such a gift that, tho' it be a mark off her favor and goodnes to me, yet I wish it may never take effect, for good reasons; and I am sure your Lordship beleuees that I wish it not. But it being a mark off her Majesty's goodnes and favor to me and myne, I wold fain haue it passed in exchequer; and I think even my enemies (iff anie I undeserved haue) sould not oppose it, seing it is not like to doe much good to me or to my children. I confess I vnderstand not the meaning or meassurs off some who haue good reason to be friends to me, and off whom I deserve kyndness, and to whom I may yet (as old as I am) be off good use, iff they use me wele. Adieu, my dear Lord.

I am sure her Majesty deserves wele all your Lordship says off her most justlie in your speech to the parliament, now printed by their order, but wee are not like to be so happie as to vnite.

I consider myself a dying man, so that I cannot long enjoy her Majesty's bountie; and shortlie what is granted to me will again be at her disposall to the other suffering clergy.

222. JOHN LORD TARBAT, eldest son of George first Earl of Cromartie,  
[to HIS FATHER]. [*Circa* 1704.]

MY LORD,—Your ordors anent the elections of the shyre of Ross was so long a coming that, hade I not taken measors which, to my great satisfaction, I fynd assuerable to what your Lordship was pleased to writ both to myself and your other freinds in this place, the Uhige partie would, uthout dout, have caried ther design, which was to have the Lairds of Bellnagoun and Fouls chosen to represent the shyre of Ross in the insheuing parliament; so that your interest (which by fare is the greatest, notwithstanding of Fouls and Bellnagouns joineing thers), hade signefyed nothing in the matter of the elections of Ross, either in shyre or broughs, only for not uring in time to your freinds, which your Lordship often blames me and others of your relations for,—I mean, not uring, which in time comeng I purpose to amend. Catbo, who brought your letters, was more the[n] three week by the road. I insist the longer on this that your Lordship uill be pleased, when anie such publick affair is to be gon about, to send ane express, for letters of concern are never to be trusted to gentlemen. Nou that all things are according to your Lordships desair, I most confess that I have some satesfaction that once in my life I have occation to challange your neglect of uring, for I doubt [if] I'l ever have it again. I beg your Lordships pardon for this freedom. Hou soon I hade your letter, I aquanted all the barons of Uest Ross to meet at Dinguall, which they did on Thursday befor the elections. At our former meeting it was unanimously agreed upon that, when your orders should come, which all of them expected (I mean of Uest Ross), that Fouls should be called to our pryvat consultation, which accordingly was done. This was to persuad Fouls not to joine with Bellnagoun against the Mackenzies, who uer alluays

his good neighbours and freinds, which we doubted not but he and his family were sensible of, particularly when he and his father did compete with Bellnagoun in the elections for the last parliament, the Mackenzies still preferred Fouls; and now that they resolved to have two of their family (viz., McKenzies) to represent the barons of their shire in this parliament, they doubted not of Fouls' hearty concurrence in their so just and reasonable design against Bellnagoun, or any other who would oppose them. And this was but what they looked for from Fouls and his family as just returns for their former acts of friendship; this I had commission to tell Fouls from all the barons of West Ross. His answer was that he and all his family were very sensible of the Mackenzies friendship in general, and the Viscount of Tarbat in particular; but in this affair of the elections he was sorry he could not go along with them in choosing two of their family, but he was satisfied for one, which was Scatall, as an honest man and my Lord Tarbat's near cousin. They thanked him for his offer, but told him roundly that he was neither just nor kind, and that after this he nor any called Monro should have their friendship as formerly, farther than common civility obliged them too. Fouls was much surprized at this, and pretended to excuse himself, upon the account of conscience, and a great deal of other Whigish cant, which is not worth troubling your Lordship with at this time. At last poor Fouls fell in tears, which made all our barbarous mountaniers laugh, particularly Fairburn, who bid Fouls go home to his mother and his ministers, which sett both him and Bellnagoun better than to be members of parliament. I really think if poor Fouls were not imposed upon by the light-headed ministers, he would [not] have acted in this as he did. But, when I found that Fouls with the other Monros, particularly Cullrain, who, when he received your letter, promised upon honour to be for any two I pleased, had joined with Bellnagoun, I sent Coull and Ridcastell to Foules to tell him

from me that, seeing he had joined with Bellnagoun against your Lordship and his other best freinds and nighbours to the great prejodice of his famely, I behouved to be excused if I did not act as formarly : for, since reason and freindship could not prevail uith Fouls, perhaps some other thing uould, which uas, if he pretened to apear at Tain the day of the election, I uould give him the Queens hous to keep, for I had a caption then in my pocket readie, with messenger in the nixt room, but, on the consideration that Fouls come ther on my call, he should go home as freely as he come afeild. Both his cousin-germans told him that it uas needless for him [to make] anie aplication to me, for I uas justly offended uith him for joineing uith Bellnagoun. The sume conteaned in the caption uas six or seven thousand merks Scots. Tho the sume uas not great, yett it uas too much for the laird and all his clan to pay on so short advertisment ; so the laird uas necessitate to stay at home, uith great resentment against me. All his freinds joyned uith Bellnagoun against your freinds, and uhen Fouls had been uith them at the elections, matters uould have gon as they are. And this I knew befor the day of elections, for at the meeting I had uith our freinds, which uas at Chanonrie, we ueighted the interests of all the famelys in Ross and Cromarty. Your Lordship's interest uas put in ballance uith Bellnagoun and Fouls (for by that time ue had sertean information of those tuo mightie chiftens union, which perhaps may be a forruner of that of the tuo kingdoms)—both the clans, to the ameazment of the lookers on, did not move the scale your interest uas in ; upon which Killravock uas put in uith the other tuo lairds, which manie thought uould at least make the ballance equall. On the contrarie, it made them lighter. This occasioned the calling for the records (keept by Heugh Dallas). It uas found by the last ueighting that Bellnagoun allon ueighted more then all the three does nou. This hes sett all the polititians, of which thers no small number in Ros, a uourk to fynd out the cause that one mans interest



should downueight three great chifes of clans. I dout not this uill be knowen about the tim of the parliament sitting. Killrauoek give the sain reasons for joineing Bellnagoun that Fouls did. Bellnagoun is mightely offended at Pilltoun [and] John Froster for joining uith your freind; so is Fouls at Roberson of Kindale. Thes three joyned uith your freinds, for uich the[y] deserue particoular thanks. I insisted the longer on this because of your comand to be particularly informed of everie on. For uhat pased at the elections, as Bellnagoun's protestation and other redicoulus stuff, Catbo's letter heruith sent uill inform your Lordship particoularly. God almighty preserve you in your jurnie, and send you safe back to your country for the satesfaction of your poor famely and freinds, and in particoular to, my Lord,

Your obedient son,

JOHN TARBAT.

223. DAVID LORD ELCHO, afterwards THIRD EARL OF WEMYSS, to his Mother,  
MARGARET COUNTESS OF WEMYSS and CROMARTIE.

Weems, January 21, 170 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

MADAM,—I had the honour of your letter dated January 13. The letter which I wrote would come to your hands by the 15. To make compliments to so near a relation as a mother, either for her concern in her child or family, looks superfluous; for the maintaining or supporting the interest of either perpetuats there own esteem, and establishess there own character: so what is my part to say is, that I am very sencible of the good wishes your Ladyship hes for me, and the desire you have that I should be living in a settled way; and I shall always live up to a right sense of it. I had certainly been more particuilar in some of my former letters, had not I been waiting till I should

hear more fully from you ; and now that your Ladyship hes signified in part, but that you'r tyed up from being more particular, I shall here beg leave to give yee my oppinion. Madam, you needed not lay your commands upon me to have waited of you, if I could possibly have done it ; but my circumstances runns very parrarill with the countrys, both very low at present, and such a journey would infallibly bring my family under greater burthen still ; which is one difficulty to me. The next, which is not a small one, is the waiting of yee where the court is. As I told your Ladyship formerly, I have never yet seen the Queen, and where one neither hes (nor is likly to have) any business about the court, there appearence there is uneasy to both ; besides, a journey now would certainly put me into the mouths of every body for something. Your Ladyship hes already wrote to my sister, and you say you are to write to her Grace, so that its one to twenty but it took air, which would reach the person's ears likeways. And without there were more then probability of succeeding, and that either the foundations of this proceeded from a former acquaintance or from ane exact inquiry into my circumstances, she would certainly be upon her guard more to me then any body ; and your Ladyship knows, however I might carry in it, yet a dissappointment of that nature would not all be easy to me. Now I hope you will consider of these difficultys effectually, for the more I know in the matter before any journey be undertaken it were better for both, for then none is exposed, and whatever is revealed to me shall be very sacred. This I doe indeed think both safer for the design and for me. I have said all here ; so that I have nothing left to trouble my Lord with, only my most humble service, and that you'l both please rightly to weigh what I have said.—I am ever

Your most obedient son,

ELCHO.

The children, I thank God, are very well.

## 224. THE SAME to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

February 25, 170 $\frac{4}{5}$ .

MY LORD,—I had yours, and am extreamly sorry to find my mothers sickness hes not only been so tedious, but so severe, and she hes not a body to stand it out. However, I thank God, it goes of, but she must look specially to herself now in her recovery; for of all illnesses rheumatism are most apt upon mismanagement to recurr, and a relaps might prove of the utmost danger to one of her weakness. To be sure you'l be nothing the better for it, for, what by concern and toyll, you'l bear a proportionable share. This country affords noe news; only, folks here are gaping to know how they are to be disposed of, and all sides knowing nothing of the matter. Only poor I live here closs in the country in the same morose solitude and unconcern as ever. The greatest satisfaction proceeds from a view of not being ane actor where theres danger, but one may come to suffer by others procurement, tho we are in most profound tranquility hitherto. I cannot indeed add one word more then what I said in my two last, so I'l give yee noe farther interruption at this time, only give my humbly duty to my mother, and beleive me alwayes, my Lord,

Your humble faithfull servant,

ELCHO.

## 225. SIR JAMES MACKENZIE to his Father [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Edinburgh, 10 February 1705.

MY LORD,—The spirit of [P<sup>7</sup>] predomeens so much in [41] that one would think that fortie nyne and eightie nyne were returned againe; and, which is

worse, we are threatned with more alterations of the same sort: *avertat Deus*. I am sorie your Lordship should stand in need of much money, since it is not only scar[c]er here then ever; and what you have a just right to from the thesaurie cannot be had by all the methods I can use, either with the lords or receaver. Corns give a verie low price, and good merchants ill to be had, so that I know not how your Lordship will be supplied. An unluckie accident happned here some nights agoe. Young Hallyards and young Balfour quarell'd in a tavern, and angrie words passed betwixt them, upon which the first threw a glass in the others face, which cutt his eyeball so that he hes lost the sight of it. There is a match concluded betwixt the lord advocats son and the presidents second daughter. There was a foolish report that the upper part of Clyde was dry for severall miles, but it was a meer storie. We are fitting out our formidable fleet to oppose and be a terror both to French and English foes; and, in pursuance of the late act of parliament, we are provyding arms verie fast. The shyre of Angus alone have signed for 10,000 stand to be sent for to Holland, so have att the Southernns. The old Ladie Lochslynn is dead; she was above nyntie years of age. I am troubled to hear that both my Ladie and your Lordship were ill of the cold. I wish to see both safelie on this syde Tweed againe, since England is neither for your healths nor interest. I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most dutifull and obedient son and servant,

JAS. MACKENZIE.

Be pleased to give my humble dutie to my Ladie.

226. JAMES FIRST EARL OF SEAFIELD to MR. JOHN STEWART, Signet Office,  
Edinburgh.

London, the 10th of March 1705.

SIR,—Her Majesty having signed my commission as chancelor, and my Lord Twedales as president of the privy council, I have write to him to order the expeding of mine ; and I hereby authorise you, in absence of Sir Alexander Ogilvie, to exped my Lords and the other papers till I come to Edinburgh. Write to me what occurs while I am on the rode, and ask my lord secretary if he has any commands for me, for you can forward them, so as that they can come to my hands. This is all from your assured friend,

SEAFIELD.

For Mr. John Stewart, att the Signet Office, Edinburgh.

227. JOHN LORD MACLEOD to his Father [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF  
CROMARTIE].

Baufort, 28 May 1705.

MY LORD,—The resolucion I hade of uaiting of your Lordship, when I understood your aryvall in Scotland, made me not trouble you with leters ; but nou that my uifes cond[i]tion, who is at the lying down, and my other cercomstances, which are not proper to trouble your Lordship uith at this time, does de pryve me of that satesfaction, I am necessitate to give your Lordship the trouble of thes feu lines to testefy my duetyfull respects and unfenied satesfaction for your safe return to your freinds and famely. My Lord, I knove some persons who does blame me for not haveing performed thes outuard markes of respect and duety that others of your Lordships famely have done, but I hope your Lordship is so just as to belive that, did

my circumstances allow of it, I would be as willing and ready to give proofes both of my duety and affection as anie concerned in your Lordship. Therfor I hop your Lordship will tak the uill for the deed. I knove your Lordship is nou under great affliction, so that its unproper to trouble you either with busines or long letters. I pray God confort and preserve your Lordship. I am, with all respect, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient son and servant,

MACLEOD.

This express goes in heast from your brother, uho, God be thanked, is nou in a uay of recoverie, but poor Rosehauch is still in hazard.

228. JOHN MACKENZIE to [THE SAME].

London, June the 5th, 1705.

MY LORD,—I hope your Lordship has got my last under Sandy Macleod's cover. This is to acquaint your Lordship that Sir Thomas Stewart, haveing been emprisoned in the Gate House by your friend Smith, who, in complement to your Lordship, said he would not do it till you was gone, for fear of affronting you, dyed between 7 and 8 at night a Sunday last; and that I am going about to bury him this night; and that the treasurer is to give me 20 or 25lib. for doing of it, as he promised to me this morning, which is to be laid out partly upon his funerals, and partly towards the payment of debts in prison, and to his poor landlady, by advice and consent of Mr. Drummon, his nephew. I did not think fit to write to my Lady Jane Stewart about it, but leaves it to your Lordship to tell her of it, for which her Ladiship has no reason to break her heart. I have not yet got my own litle affaire done either with the treasurer or any other. We are in sus-

pence as to elections, tho R. Ferguson told me this morning that he doubted not but the church would have a superiority. I was told this day by a good hand that Queensberries comission as secretary is a writeing. The dissolution of the Scots parliament is talk'd of here, and its said that the English will rather give them another years time than that they should sit now. I am sorry that our newes from abroad had not so good an aspect as we would wish ; but if the Duke of Marlborough, whose army is said to be neare the French, prove as succesfull as last year, it will turn the scales mightily. When there is any considerable newes, your Lordship shall have the true account from, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most faithful and obledged servant,

JO. MACKENZIE.

This is written in heast, and therefore unmannerly ; but the next may be more so, if I have any thing of consequence to say.

229. ALEXANDER ERSKINE, LORD LYON, to [THE SAME].

Cambo, June 5th, 1705.

I presume to give you the trouble of this line to let your Lordship know the reason why I was so far short of my duty as not to have attended the funerals of my good Lady Weems. I had trysted with my Lord Kelly and my Lord Balcarras to come to them on the Teusday night, and come along with them on Wedensday, as your Lordship was pleased to do me the honour to desire me to come to Roystone. But I fell so ill on the Teusday morning, and did continue so till Sunday, that I was not able to stir out of my bed ; and to this hour I am not able to write my self, but to make use of another hand. My Lord, I shall presume to give your Lordship no further

trouble but to wish you health and happiness. There is none who shall be readier on all occasions to serve you and yours, so far as my weak power can go, and I shall ever acknowledge my self, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most oblig'd, most obedient, and most humble servant,

ALEX<sup>R</sup> ARESKINE, LYON.

230. JAMES SECOND DUKE OF ORMOND [to GEORGE EARL OF CROMARTIE].

London, July the 2, [*circa* 1705].

MY LORD,—I had the honor of your Lordship's, and am very sorry that I had not the good fortune to [take] my leave of you before you went from this plaes. But I hope your Lordship dos me the justies to believe that I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient humble servant,

OR[MONDE].

231. JOHN LORD MACLEOD to his Father [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Tarbat, 8th July 1705.

MY LORD,—I have sent this express to acquaint your Lordship of my wife's being safly delyver'd of a boy. God be thanked, both shee and the child are in good condition. I presum to tell your Lordship that I have named your grandchild after my Lord Elibank, which I hop you'll approve of. I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient son,

MACLEOD.

The heritors of the parish of Tarbat have writ to your Lordship by this bearer in favors of a nevey of your old servant Medatt, if it be agreeable to



Mij Lord.

I have sent this report to acquaint  
your Lordship of mij nefes being  
safely delivered of a boy, God  
be thanked, both the mother and the  
child are in good condition -  
I presume to tell your Lordship  
that I have named yr grand-  
child after my Lord Chebank  
wh I hope you'll approve of  
I am

my Lord

yr Loys. most obedient  
son.

Tareboat  
8 July 1703

MacLeod



your Lordship that this young man bees called to be minister of Tarbat (as Captain M<sup>c</sup>Leod assured me you uer). The people of the parish are all unanimously for Mr. Daniell M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie. It uill be liekuays a great satesfaction to poor Medatt to have his nevoy settled neer him, besyds that his brother Mr. Keneths noumberous small famely requeers it—I mean Mr. Daniells being settled in this countrie. I beg pardon for this freedom. Uhou soon it pleases God my uife recovers (uho is verie uaik), I'll use my outmost endeuore to uait of your Lordship uhere and uhen you pleas to ordor me. Your litle grandchilderen are, God be thanked, in health.

232. HENRY HYDE, SECOND EARL OF CLARENDON, to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

London, July 19th, 1705.

MY LORD,—Some time since, my Lady Duchesse of Monmouth sent me word that your Lordship had written to me to give me an account of my small affairs. I give your Lordship this trouble to acquaint you that, if your Lordship did write to me, that letter never came to me, for I haue had no letter from your Lordship since you left England. For the future, when your Lordship does me the fauour to write to me, if you please to send your letter to the Duchesse of Monmouth, it will come safe, for hers always doe soe. I shall be glad to hear you haue recover'd some of our money, and how that whole matter stands. It is your Lordships friendship hath drawn this trouble upon you, but I must not presse too much at this juncture, when all your time is taken up in the great affairs of the parliament. But this is a great conerne to my grandchildren, which will in some measure justify my importuning your Lordship in it. I beseech your Lordship to believe that I wish

for nothing more then an opportunity to shew you that I am, with the greatest respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most humble servant,

CLARENDON.

233. LADY CHRISTIAN LESLIE, DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF MONTROSE, to  
[GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Kinnrose, the 28 of Agost [*circa* 1705].

MY LORD,—I wold not heve bin so long of inquiring after your Lordship had not Mr. Bruce bin tayed to his bead theas three wikes allmost with the amorods, a deseas I believe you heve your self felt to be an intolerable pean and trouble, for indid a hosband and uif that loves wan and other shears perfeatly tou withe wan and other in thear pean. So I concloued you will exques my sayllens, and not belive me calpoble to be indefareantt ever of what was so justly loved as wan of the bestt of husbands by my so dear freand. I aske you pardon for nemeng her, bot I'm shouer I fill your pean as I heve depely sheared of your Lordships, uhiche I can never, never forgett to grive for from my heart and souell. Mr. Bruce geve me ones som hopes I might si you hear, uhear you wold be alls wellcom as your heart could desayer, for I do impatiently long to si you; for I'm persuaded, could my exallent frend loke bake withe worldly ays, shi wold love me for loveng you, and bieng so reely concerned in you. So you may be shouer thes can only end with the lif of, my Lord,

Your mostt obliged humble servantt and cousen,

C. MONTROSE.

Mr. Bruce goes over ons agean to apear in town, bot hi can hardly walke in enay caes, so I'm lothe to peart.

234. LADY MARY LESLIE, wife of William Lord Haddo, afterwards second Earl of Aberdeen, to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

Kellie, October 11 [*circa* 1705].

MY DEAR LORD,—I had the honour of your Lordships kind and obligen letter last night. I would have answerd it then, but my fathers being going away mead me delay it. I am very sory to think you are so neir and we cannot meit. I dout not but if ye had a spaire day I would have the satisfacion of seing you hear. If I wer as well and able to travel as I have been, I would come to Aberdeen and see you, since you cannot come hear att this time. But the chear is so longsume I lay asside thought of travelen eany way for this winter. I held very well out on the road, but heas been extremly sick since I came hear, and vomets all my meat. I hop to hear some times from your Lordship this winter, if your convena[n]ce can alow you. A letter from you is very exeptable to, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient humble servant,

M. HADDO.

235. GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE to [JOHN EARL OF MAR, one of the secretaries of state for Scotland].<sup>1</sup>

23 October 1705.

MY LORD,—I did not know of your hasty parting, but I did hast to Abbay Hill to have kist your hands, and prayd for good and succesful return to my Lady and your Lordship, which I did then, and renews now. My Lord, I adventur to recomend my litle interests to your favour. *Ex officio*, the intrant secretars should assist the exeant [to be] payed of his bygones. I want

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in the Mar Charter-chest.

1100 l. sterling of my very dues. I have herr Majesties letter for my self and all succeeding secretars payments to be *ante omnes*; and in justice it should be so, for he most advance it, which all the other officers needs not doe, besides many other reasons; and consequently I, who was necessitat to borrow this a year agoe, should at worst be now payed, after those who satt at home and near their own estate are payed for tearms since mine was due. A lyne to hasten it and to pass my locality for reimbursing of my dear, dear bought 1500 l. may be past, since all others of the like nature are. I begg yow lay these before the Queen, and I hope shee will doe whats just and favourable for ane old calm Torie. My Lord, I designd to have informd your Lordship concerning a matter of great importance to this nation, and especially to the concerns of the African Company; but the Earl of Stair told me that he had fully informed both your Lordship and the Earl of Lowdon, and my letter to the Queen (the cobby wherof is heerwith sent) will tell the whole effair. Two things are necessar—dispat[c]h, but cheefly secrecy—for many will be concernd, on particular designs, to defeat it; so, except your selfs two, it were weel if none else heard of it. Send the return under the Earl Stairs cover, for wee shall concert and follow your directions. Major Sinclair and Captain Breholt have been, and are at much expenc and travaill in this, and they are wearriing, and they are necessar in the effair. My dear Lord, by many obligations I am faithfully

Your Lordships most humble and obedient servant,

CROMERTIE.

236. JOHN EARL OF MAR to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

London, November 6th, 1705.

MY LORD,—I was very sorie I did not see your Lordship the day before I left Edinburgh, but I was in such a hurrie, that it was not posible for me

to wait of your Lordship, and I was not sure of my going til the very morning I went. I had the honour of one from you since I came here, and another, on the road, directed to my Lord Loudoun and me. As to what your Lordship wryts of your own affair, I shall lay it before the Queen the first time I am with her, and I doubt not but she will do you justice. My Lord Loudoun has wryten fully to my Lord Stair of the other affair, who will show it you, so 'tis needless for me to give your Lordship any trouble about it at this time. In both your letters your Lordship sayes that you sent the double of your letter to the Queen to me, but you have forgot to inclose it. I wish the two gentelmen you wryt of may have patience yet a little longer, and not wearie. For, since secrecie is absolutly necessar in that affair, it must take a little more time ; for if it were done just now, other people than yet knows it behoved to be let into the secret. My Lord Stair will explain this further.

I can give your Lordship litle news ; for, as I can learn, the parliament here have not yet come to a fixt resolution as to our affair, tho I'm hopefull it will take a good turn in a little time. My predecessor still stands out as when he left Scotland, and, to say the truth, thers no body here seems fond of perswading him to do otherwise ; for his reception at court, and from those from whom he expected favour, was very indifferent : so 'tis very probable he will return as he came, unless he alter very much his way. I shall be glade to hear some times from your Lordship, and I hope you'll do me the justice to belive that I am sincearlie, my dear Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionat cousin and most humble servant,

MAR.

Indorsed in Lord Mar's handwriting, "E. Cromartie."

237. JOHN PHILP to JOHN STEWART, Under-Keeper of the Great Seal,  
Edinburgh.

London, November 8th, 1705.

SIR,—I am very glade that you are returned safe to Edinburgh, for now I expect to gett the Edinburgh news; whereas before, I had no correspondant but my wife, who is a very bad news monger. There is nothing doing in Scotts bussines; the Marquis of Annandale is a working with his English friends, but out of all measures with his Scotts fellow courtiers. He nether visits the late commissioner, secretaries, or chancelor, nether doe they him. Some dayes agoe I heard a story that Argyle gave him very base names in his face, and, if he took that ill, bad him resent it; and, that he might have ane oportunity, told him he was going to the fields to walk. He followed him out, but did not what he ought to have done. Loudoun was with Argyle, and Major Dowglas was with Annandale. This is a great secret here, though I beleeve it will not be so att Edinburgh; but you need take no notice of it, if you hear it not otherwise. My Lord is very kindly receaved by her Majesty and his old friends here, and Argyle and he are very great. The Duke of Queensberry is expected up. The parliament of England is not lyke to repeal the aliene clause, but are willing to suspend it; but this will not doe our bussines. [Your] Lordship may send me up a state of my Lords victuall accountt with Kincardine, that [I ma]y know whats owing him, and send me up my Lords note to Brecco for the 90 lib., because it must be ane instructione of my accounts. I expect by Baillie Linds assistance you will raise the 200 lib. sterline, and draw bill on me for the same, and lay it in the townes hands, as I wrott to you and him some posts agoe.



Bare thanks for your kindnes to my wife will not be sufficient, and therefore shall delay further acknowledgements, till I have the honour of knowing your beloved. Informe me particularly how my wife behaves, if she be allowed a good room, and if she can give any enterteeinment to my friends that see her, and what is the generall opinion of the towne: and doe this with freedome, and tell me what her mother sayes of the chain I sent her.  
I am, Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

JO. PHILP.

Keep Forglines letter till he come to Edinburgh, but give it not to his Lady.

To Mr. John Stewart, att Edinburgh.

238. JOHN EARL OF MAR, Secretary of State for Scotland.

London, November 10th, 1705.

MADAM,—There are severall people applying for a gift of your Lord's liferent escheat, but the Queen's servants, upon my speaking to them, are very willing that nothing shou'd be done in it until your Ladyship and the friendes of the familie were acquainted, and that you wou'd be pleased to let some of us know what ye desire to have done in that matter; and whatever ye can demand in justice your Ladyship may be assured will meet with all favour. Any service that lyes in my power I ow to your Ladyship and your familie, for I am, Madam,

Your Ladyships most obedient and most humble servant,

MAR.

239. [MR. JOHN PHILP] to MR. JOHN STEWART, Under-keeper of the Great Seal at Edinburgh.

London, November 17, 1705.

AFFECTIONATE COMERADE,—Mrs. Sydserf writes me that my wife is very angry, because she did not hear from me for ten or 12 dayes. I acknowledge she might justly be so, but you know since I left Edinburgh I have not omitted a paquet but two or 3, and, in your absence, I sent my letters under Mr. Andrew's cover. I am perswaded my letters are miscarried, for my wife has not writt to me all this week, by which I fear a storme, if some happy hitt of providence doe not prevent it. I hope her gold chain is come safe. I have given my wife some bussines,—to receive 106 lib. from Richard Murray, and ane year and a halfs annualrent of 800 lib. from Provest Cuninghames brother of Irvine. I have bidden your Mr. Andrew gett Moubrayes note for a litle money he ows me, and give it her. Your advyce will be taken on all these particulars, and be sure to preserve peace att home.

What you have done as to my bussines with Baillie Lind is most reasonable, and better than I could have projected. I find the advantage of such good friends. Give him my humble service, and tell him it is not possible to gett 50 guineas by the paquett, as you proposed, and I shall writt him when any thing materiale is done about the treaty. My Lord delayes to give directions about his bussines with Boynd till Forglie return, but he will be the better that he hear from Cullen and Mr. John Montgumrie.

Upon Thursday the House of Lords was upon considering the state of the nation, and there one of the Lords proposed the calling over Princess Sophia. The Queen understanding that this was to be in, she went to the house and stayed the whole time of the debate. The High Church were for bringing her over, and the Low Church against it, and the debate fell without any effect.

You may tell my Lord Findlater to send you the newspapers after he reads them, that you may send them to my Lady Seafield, and in the mean time may serve you and my cousine, Mr. Wattstone. I have no further to trouble you this night, but bid you adieu. The reason why I did not write last post was, that being engaged with Captain Peter Campbell, Adam Smith, and Coline Campbell, wee made ourselves incapable drinking the Baron of Bristoll's health, which is the Duke of Argyles English title, and all our other friends.

For Mr. John Stewart, under-keeper of the great seal, att Edinburgh.

240. GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE to [JOHN EARL OF MAR, one of the secretaries of state for Scotland].<sup>1</sup>

17 November 1705.

MY LORD,—I had the honor of yours, and I acknowledg the favour of your minding my litle concerns so minutly; but my straits, by what necessitatly expended in that (to me) unhappy station, that if at least herr Majesty be not pleased to give some peremptor order for paying now what should have been pay'd to me at Mertimas 1704, it will very much hurt me: nor is it just, that of salaries equally due, and yet more, when in justice and by the Queens express appointment the secretaries should be payed *primo loco*, all others should be pay'd so long before him. As to that of my locality for 1500 l., all others of the like natur, and mine stopt, it is hard, if I have not offended; and the Queen promised to hear me, ere shee would beleev any accusation: and I have been too long serving the crown, unchallengd of failure (except of haveing too much zeal for it, for which I have sufferd), to be now ether guilty, or condemned unheard. My Lord, I hope your Lordship will lay this before herr Majesty, and that herr royall pleasure may determine it.

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in the Mar Charter-chest.

My Lord, a man without doors can say litle to purpose of the publick transactions, and I never was, nor will I now beginn to be, ane intruder, that beeing odious to the Generall Assembly, and against both claime of right and act of parliament. Yet I may say over ane old prayer of mine : God send a solid Union in, and of, Brittainne !—for I am sorly afraid, and firmly perswaded that such will, only will, secure Brittainne, and deliver old Scotland from its many complaints. If England will give us free trade with them and theirs, and take of the act of navigation, at least, if they extend it to ships of Scots-built, in so farr I should be pleased, for I hate a ruptur or division with England more then I doe other greevances on us. But I will not hope thes two untill England give me sure grounds to hope so. As to factions, animosities, emulations, the itch of place and pension, dissimulation, false calumnies, small and great pox, feavers and consumptions, both in nobility and the other two states, I cast my account, and patienza ! The D[uke] of Q[ueensberry] hath a great loss in pretty Lady Mary. There is nothing of publick or peoples humor to be decernd, untill the decisions of our estates-mens debates open our eyes, and lowse our tounges ; for at present all are at gaze in sullen silence. It is talkt heer, that the Lord Ross is to buy from Mr. Francis Stuart his taylie to Bellingowns estate, so that the Lord Ross is to be restored to be Earl of Ross. If so, your Lordships goodems kinn may sell their estates in that earldome, and many besides them, who have been as faithfull, and as able to doe it service as ever ane Earl of Ross was ; and it will be as great a cause of Highland disturbance as ever was afforded in Scotland, and may be of as long duration. And for eviting of which obvious evils there is ane peremptor act of parliament be King James the 3d, statuting that none but the Kings second some shall ever be Earl of Rosse,—what made King Charles 2d recall a patent given by him on that cause. This I thought not to inform your Lordship of, both because of your station and your relation to

very many concern'd. And since I am on this purpose, I have inclosed a proposition of another nature, of no hurt to any, and, as I think, convenient for the crown,—which consider, and move in it or not, as your Lordship judges fitt, only lett none know of it who will not be for it; and excuse this too great ineroachment on your tyme by, my Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient humble servant,

CROMERTIE.

241. HENRY HYDE, EARL OF CLARENDON, to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].

London, November 20th, 1705.

MY LORD,—I have too long delay'd returniꝰg my thanks to your Lordship for your letter of the 11th past, and for all your favours in minding the concern of my grandchildren, and particularly for appoynting Mr. Mackleod to be our factor. I humbly aske your Lordships pardon for my omission, which I hope you will forgive. I have had an account from Mr. Mackleod of his proceedings, with which I have reason to be well satisfyed; and I have return'd my answer to him by this post. I am in great hopes to have her Majesty's favour in giving a new grant to my grandson, which will obviate all doubts; and, as we proceed, I shall take the liberty to informe your Lordship, and begg your assistance in perfecting it. I shall not take upon me to give your Lordship any account of our publick affairs, knowing you will be inform'd thereof by more authentick hands; soe that I haue nothing more to add, but to beseech your Lordship to believe that I am, with all possible respect, my Lord,

Your Lordships most faithfull and most humble servant,

CLARENDON.

242. GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE to [JOHN EARL OF MAR, one of the secretaries of state for Scotland].<sup>1</sup>

22 November 1705.

MY LORD,—This letter is intended for my owne particular. Our late sitting in councell makes it short ; and yett I most beginn with ane unexpected occurrent in councell. Two border Earles were vying gainst one another for building of kirks (it may be long or I have the like to writt of us Highlanders); but the 2d was that in that cause the Earl of Stair, the Earl of Morton, Lord Haddo, Earl Dunmore, and your Lordships humble servant, defended a presbitery and its act, and the justice clerk, Mr. Fr. Montgomerie, and Earl Lauderdale impugned. However, as the ryot was without blood, so the decision was without sting, and all ended in MODERATION ; to which end may wee all be brought. Now to my purpose. Except honest Jo. Maculloch, I owe not a bill in London, but what was yesterday presented, and this day were registrat, in order to further prosecution of my true depurst money, and ordored by herr Majesty, with the excheckers preceptt, and the cashkeepers acceptance, which is 1100*l.*, and should have been payd a year agoe. If this, or the half of it, had been payed, I had kept my credit. Now I am thinking to goe to the Abbay, albeit other ministers pensiones due posterior to mine be answerd, which is no good president for statsmen who may goe out, as I have : nor is it just that a secretar, who most lay out, should be postpond to those whose salary is clear gaine. My Lord, allow me to intreat that the Queen may be pleased to know that I with humility think I am barbarously used, and, if I deserved no riches, yet I most say

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.

I never deserved such unusuall hardship from the crown nor royall family. For I frankly owne to your Lordship that, if the 1100*l.* due to me at Mer-  
 timas last be not soone payed, and very soone, I most runn for shelter :  
 and this besides my dear bought 1500*l.* of locality, and my 300*l.* due for  
 Whitsunday last, as justice generall; and tho useless servants be turned  
 of, there is a justice that pleads payment of bygones. Necessity presses me  
 to press thus and on that accountt at least excuse it to, my Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient and most humble servant,

CROMERTIE.

243. JOHN EARL OF MAR to [GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE].<sup>1</sup>

London, November, Wensday 28th, 1705.

MY LORD,—I wou'd not have been so long silent if I cou'd have answered  
 the pairt of your letters you are most concern'd in sooner; but the Queen  
 has been so taken up with her affairs here that she has not yet got much  
 time to think of Scots bussiness, but in generall. I represented to her Majesty  
 some dayes ago what your Lordship wrote to me of the money owing you.  
 She spoke very kindly of your Lordship, and ordred me to wryt in her  
 name to the treasurie, that what was indue you of your pensions as secre-  
 tary shou'd be pay'd as soon as possiblie they can; which I have done to my  
 lord treasurer deput, and inclosed it here to your Lordship. Be pleased to  
 seal it with some fancie, and order it to be deliver'd as your Lordship thinks  
 fit. As for your 1500*l.*, your Lordship must have a little patience; for you  
 know the treasurie is just now so poor that, until they recruit a little, it is

<sup>1</sup> From a contemporary copy indorsed by the Earl of Mar, in the Mar Charter-chest.

impossible for them to pay even the présent servants selleries. For my own shair, I have not got a sixpence, and am affraid I will not in haste; but in a short while the treasurie will have more money (the taxmen being just now superexpended), and then I doubt not but the Queen will give orders for paying your Lordship too. Wherein I can serve your Lordship, I assure you I shall not be wanting. If any body say otherwayes of me, I beg your Lordship may let me know it, that I may vindicat myself; for I wou'd be extreamlie concern'd that your Lordship, of any body, shou'd have such an opinion of me. I thought the incloased letter wou'd do as well as a letter under the Queen's hand, which made me not press it when the Queen proposed my wryting by her order; but if your Lordship get not payment by this, for which I wou'd be very sorie, I shall get a letter under the Queens own hand, or do any other thing for it your Lordship shall propose. But I hope there will be no need of this.

I considred the proposall your Lordship sent me, and shou'd be very glade it cou'd be brought about both upon your Lordships account and my own; but all bussiness here at this time is done by concert of the Queens servants present, and not by any particular one. I'm loath to speak of it to any, for the poorness of the treasurie wou'd certainly be objected, when just now we cannot get payment of our own selleries to live on; and so the thing wou'd take air, which might prejudge it at a more favorable opportunitie. Therefore, until I see that offer, I will not speak of it, in which I fancie your Lordship will think me in the right: if not, pray let me know it and advise me how to act in it to your satisfaction. As to that proposall for my Lord Ross, I never heard of it til I got your Lordship's letter. You may be sure if ever I do, I shall advertice you, but I cannot think he can designe such a thing. Your Lordship knows I'm a M<sup>c</sup>kenzie, and their intrest shall never suffer where I can help it.



I doubt not but your Lordship is well pleased with the proceedings of the house of Lordes in relation to our affair. Both Whig and Torie joins now in it, tho some of the Tories proposed to clog it with our act of security. Their frankness is a good omen to the treatie, and I have reason to believe that it will meet with little or no opposition in the house of Comons. I hope their repealing the prohibitory clauses of their act, as well as that declairing us aliens, which we address for, will make people in Scotland better pleased, and to harken to reasonable proposalls of accomodation. I find here that no union but an incorporating one relishes. I know your Lordship has long thought that the best. I wish you cou'd perswad others of it too. I believe there will be greater difficulties amongst our selves after the treatie to adjust, than what we'll have with the English in the treatie betwixt us. Your Lordship wou'd be mightily pleased to see the good disposition in every body now here towards that matter, tho indeed 'tis but a late: for, when I came here first, I confess I almost dispaired of their complying with our desire; yet I had still some hopes, as I wrote to your Lordship, and now they have exceeded mine and every body's else. I hope this treatie, like to begin so well, will have a happier end than all the former, and so put an end to our misfortouns and compliments. I shou'd be glade to hear from your Lordship how people in Scotland takes this. I just now hear that the Lordes have redd the repealing bill a second time and comitted it, and I believe they'll send it down to the Comons to morow, who are to consider that matter by 11 aclock, so in a few dayes it will probablie be ended. I wryt this to night, in case I shou'd be prevented to morow by any accident; and I know your Lordships affair at this time does not admitt of a delay, which I'm very sorie for, and wishes it were in my power to help it, for in all sincerity I am, my Lord,

Your Lordships most affectionat cousin and most humble servant,

MAR.

244. GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE to [JOHN EARL OF MAR, one of the secretaries of state for Scotland].<sup>1</sup>

6 December 1705.

MY LORD,—This day I had the honor of yours, with a token of your kind remembrance of my concern in your letter to the Earl of Glasgow. I find the Queen is pleased to delay herr ordor as to my dear dear bought 1500*l*. I regrate mostly in it that, tho I hope herr Majesty expresses no anger in the delay (for I doe presume that I never deserved that at Queen or Kings hands), yett all others haveing gott theirs past of the samne nature with mine, and mine the only one stopt, and now the only one that is delayed, demonstrate that herr Majesty doth think me not much worth, ether of favour or respect, at least in comparaisn. But, since herr Majesty is certainly the cheeff and best judge, I most humbly submitt till shee please to declare herr royall pleasure; and I doe regrate that I find it stunnns many who hitherto were thought loyalists more then it vexes me. But, if your Lordship pleases, I wish herr Majesty may know these my humble submissions to her pleasure. My Lord, I wanted 500*l*. of my salarie whilst secretare, and 600*l*. which herr Majesty did give me for my downcomeing to the last session of parliament, and return. Your Lordships letter to the E[arl] of Glas[gow] mentions only my salary, albeit the words may comprehend both. The words are (*his dues whilst secretare*); and that expedition and session of parliament were dureing that (to me) unhappy, tho honorable, imployment; therefore, if your Lordship pleases, by another lyne to the E[arl] of Gl[asgow], to explicat it so. Albeit other salaries be payed,—after that these dues were not only resting to me, but after herr Majesties particular ordor to pay me *primo loco*, and after the treasuries

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in the Mar Charter-chest.

ordors, and after the cash keepers hath given receipt to the manadgers for it as payed to me—yet they have payed posterior precepts : which practise makes a new classe of dependances to evn officers of state, and much more to all others, viz., on the manadgers or farmers of the customes, which would appear to be a litle hetroclit. I have adventurd this once more to give yow trouble in so mean a concern ; and so I thought the like, ever untill I was a secretary ; and I hope your Lordship will pardon it this once. If my London debts chace me from Edinburgh I will fly to London, and that I resolved ne're to have done. But if you can safe me the travel, it will be a great favour, for I will be unwilling to goe to the Queen—to complain of the Queen ; and indeed I was so proud once as to think I would not be put to it. As to the other effair, I will not add it to this already too long a letter—I mean of my few-duties. Tho others who have not served the crown the tenth part of the tyme that I have, and whose family's have not been hereditarily loyall, have gott their few duties gratis from tyme to tyme for near 60 years, yet I am not so vaine as to pretend to any such favour. But what I propos I presume will be advantage, and no loss, to the Queen or herr treasury, but of advantage to herr Majestys government, and not draw much money from it, nor in ane uneasy method. I will leave the scheam to the next, and end with what is neither new nor great tydings. It is, that I am, with all my heart,

Your Lordship's most obedient faithfull servant,

CROMERTIE.

My Lord, I pray yow tell my lord treasurer that I presume much on his assistance in my litle concerns, for as to any great thing I have quitt that spheare.

245. [THE SAME TO THE SAME.]<sup>1</sup>

[8 December 1705.]

MY LORD,—Haveing shakt a litle of my cropp in my last, in this I perform what I promised then. By the bargan proposed, I presum the crown hath the advantage. For one evil in our government now is, that the lord chancler, beeing the first wheel in the ministry, and by whose absence the government is oftymes at a stand, and at best most move unequally—their haveing the convenience of a convenient house, gardens, and parks, and some rent at the door, in the seat of the government, with excellent healthfull situation, takes away pretence of goeing to his country, tho perhaps at a distance, or rather will invite the succeeding chancellors to stay more fixtly at the helm. It will really [be] of more advantage by its profits and convenience then 200 (nay, as I think) or 300 more of salary, and more honorable for the chancler to tak, or the King to give, then more specious and more clamorous donatives of fynes, forfalturs, or crown casualities; and this casuality to the chancellors will be perenn and durable, whilst the others are transient, and, oft ending, are as oft renewd, and are more odious and truly less profitable. And for this rent there will be yearly safed 200*l.* of futur chancellors salaries; and this 200*l.*, which ever takes so much of the readiest in the treasury, will by this be payed out of the remotest and worst payed rent which the crown hath; and some years they are not able to pay the half of their rental, as the very last, 1704, they have not as yet payed a thrid part of it.<sup>2</sup>

My Lord, hast to overtake the post made me goe wrong, and that also will not allow me to writ it over, therfor excuse the mischance.

I say that for thes lands, which at worst will pay 12 chalders at 1200*l.*

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.

leted by the writer, as is referred to in the next sentence.

<sup>2</sup> A short passage after this has been de-

constant rent, and 80*l.* sterling of money rent for the parks, *i.e.*, 960*l.* Scots in all, is 2160*l.* Scots. I will take rent for rent in Ross, and the rule to judge the quota of that rent in Rosse may be thus judged. Take 20 years bygone, ether the last bygone 20 years or any 20 years successive, and the midle price twixt the highest and lowest for 20 years to be holden as the rental of these lands, which shall be given me in Ross in exchange for my rent heer, and I shall take only such rent as is payable by those who are my owne vassals, and payable out of lands holden of my self, so that the crown shall not quit a vassell, nor shall any who holds immediatly of the crown be oblidged to pay any rent to me ; so that no body can complain on lesion (as hundreds will, should my Lord Ross project hold). This as to the rent ; and this takes no money out of the treasury, but rather keeps some in it, and gives it more effectuell rents. Now for the building. I value it willingly a thrid less then it cost, or less then it were possible to build it, that is, at 4000*l.* sterling, and I can swear it cost me sex ; and for my payment of this, I will take 40 chalder of the Ross rent, or 40 hunder merk rents at the formentiond rule, in payment of the money, which rent beeing of the worst bear, meal, and oats in that shyre, is dear enough of 100*l.* sterling per chalder ; and by this the crown will safe 500*l.* Scots of chamberlan fee yearly there. So that, on the matter, the crown gives only 33 chalders for the 48,000*l.* Scots, which is the price of the building ; so that really the crown payes only 39,000*l.*, or, if money could be gott to pay me, I would take 40,000*l.* in place of the 48,000*l.* My Lord, pardon all the indiscretions and errors in this letter, which is writ in hast by your Lordships most humble servant.

Indorsed by John Earl of Mar : “ E[arl] Cromertie anent Roiston, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1705.”

246. [THE SAME to THE SAME.]<sup>1</sup>

8 December 1705.

MY LORD,—The other letter is writ in hast. Since now in my old age I am to retire, this bargan, if it can be procured, should be of advantage to me, and by it I could doe what I proposd as to Stragarive and Lochcaron. Since the design seems to be of the chanciers concerns, I have writ to him in the general; and, if your Lordship judges it fitt, seal and send it, or not, as you please. I think the terms reasonable, and of advantage to the government, but it would be very convenient for me; and as to the exchange of rent for rent, viz., 100 merks in Lothian for 100 merks of miserable ill payed rent in Ross, I'm sure the crown gains; and for the price of the house, it is too cheap. But if the stopp be ther, or it goe of, I would make the bargan for rent for rent, *i.e.*, a chalder in Royston, which is at least 150 merks, for a chalder in Ross for 100 (which is more than ever it amounted to *comunibus annis*); and for the house, if money, for 3000*l.* sterling, or, if rent in Ross be given for it, for 33 chalders; and most of all the rent will be out of lands holden of my self: so this will not trouble the treasury in a farthing money.

But I lay this on your Lordship as my speciall freend. If the other hold not, I inclose another litle schem to be tryed in that case; and I'm sure it is both easy and advantagious to the Queen and crown. I referr the rest to it.

My Lord, deliver my letter to the chancelor, or not, as yow find fitt; if yee doe, seal it.

Dorso: "To yourself."

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.

[Scheme referred to by the Earl of Cromartie in the foregoing letter.]

The rent of Royston is good for 2500 merks Scots.

The equivalent rent of the crown rents in Ross payable by the Earl of Cromertie and his vassals in the Ross crown victuall, which is never valued above 80 merks per chalder *communibus annis*, nor never did amount to more to the treasury, and [this] will appear by inspection of the exchecker rolls for 20 or 40 years backward. Yett the Earl is content to take it at ane 100 merks per chalder, so that 25 chalders of that rent compenses the rent in Royston. And if the rent of the parks of Royston be not bought from him by money, he values them at 40*l.* sterling per annum ; and he is content to take as much rent at the forsaid price, viz. 100 [merks] per chalder, as will compensate that—in all, 32 chalders. His house did coast above 6000*l.* sterling : he is content to, and for my house, tho it did coast above 6000*l.* sterling, he is content to quit it for 3000*l.* sterling in money, or for 30 chalder of the Ross rent, which is but 3000*l.* sterling at its utmost value. And to give the Queen more advantage, I am content to restrict my 400*l.* sterling per annum, which I have secure in law during lyfe, and to restrict it to 200*l.* sterling yearly.

Indorsed by the Earl of Cromartie : “ 2<sup>d</sup> scheam,” and by the Earl of Mar :

“ E. Cromarties 2<sup>d</sup> scheam anent exchanging Roistoun, December 1705.”

247. THE SAME to [THE SAME].<sup>1</sup>

8 December 1705.

MY LORD,—The other letters beeing of a singular nature, I would not intermixe other matters with it. This is to intreat your Lordships favour to one who is a freend both to the Earl of Leven and to me ; but the Earl,

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.

because of his circumstances relative to the comand heer, he could not so weel writ on it. It is that [of] the place of the adjutant in the guards; and there is on Leivtenant Neil M<sup>c</sup>Leod, whom I doe, and warranded by the Earl of Leven also, intreats may have that comission. Some Leivtenant or other in the regiment alwayes have it. If this your Lordship pleases, the comission will be found in the record. And since I am in the begging mood (which I will not oft repeat), I humbly recomend Johne Stuart, sonne to the late Sir Thomas Stuart of Balcasky, for a pair of colours, when occasion offers. He is a pretty youth, serves as a cadee in the regiment of guards. His near relation to me oblidgs me to this suit; and his (tho) remot relation to the Earl of Lowdon, I hope, will procure his concurrence, wherof I will adventur to writt to his Lordship shortly. All I can say for my excuse in all these troubles is, that I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant,

CROMERTIE.

248. THE SAME to [THE SAME].<sup>1</sup>

[December 15, 1705.]

MY LORD,—It is with regrate that I should againe trouble yow with my very silly privat concerns; but tho my old friend doth say as kindly as ever, yett I tell him that his influence might gett herr Majesty's letter for my expended dues payed. I have oft tymes preacht patienza: I find that I most practise. I am old enough, but not so as that I may not outlive my owne clowd or others adverse influence. However, my Lord, I give yow my humble thanks for your kind indeavours. I am fast by the Countess of Seafort's making

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.



up the evident, which they themselves have lost or destroy'd, and the design is now almost barefact, for they shew satisfaction in hopes that my memory will forgett the security, which many, and amongst them your Lordship, had by that lost paper ; for in their interrogators they would allow me to remember what I pleased for my self, and to forget all other peoples securitys. But I will certainly be just to all, and to the Countess too, in as farr as my memory can goe ; but I assure your Lordship that the lady and herr advocat, *i.e.*, The Advocat, hath given a fatal strok to herr family, and men will think that it is the sinne of ignorance in both. My Lord, tho I had no mind to writ more of particulars at this tyme, yet on a persons acquainting me that I was spoke of as one who could weell begg at court. Indeed I saw good example, and with their success. But first I do not remember that I ask any thing but some consideration for abov 2500*l.* of necessarily depursments for flitting my family, for horses, coaches, household furnitur, at first goeing, for which herr Majesty gave the 1500*l.* now stopt ; and, my Lord, I intreat yow to beleeve, and when occasion invites, to say for me, that except the bare dues of my office for these two (to me) unhappy years, I had not 100*l.* nor 100*l.* worth of donation, or direct or indirect purchase ; and of these bare dues I want 1100*l.* sterling, and owes it at London, beeing expended there for what was absolutly necessar. I'll swear that this is truth : and yet perhaps some will say, or have said this, who have gott more than I gott to my self, or my dependars, as they are pleased to call them ; and yet I perhaps will find as many to take my advice without pay, as others have perhaps, for 1000*l.* I grudge not their gaine, *sed bona verba queso*. My Lord, no faction nor party will alter to your Lordship the duty of your most humble faithfull servant,

CROMERTIE.

Indorsed by John Earl of Mar : "Cromertie, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1705."

249. THE SAME to [THE SAME].<sup>1</sup>

18 December 1705.

MY LORD,—Sir David Nairn desyrd to know my pretence to 1100*l.* as resting of my dues. 500*l.* is for my last half years salary as secretary, the 600*l.* is for my expedition-money last up goeing to London, and fatall down comeing from it. This I humbly think should have been payd or now, and it pinches me that it is not. The 1500 was for my equipage, flitting of my family, and London furnitur, coaches and horses, by all which I have lost twice as much. All I shall say is, that if a secretare live at London for 2000 per annum he manadges weell, or sillily. And this I intreat your Lordship to beleeve; and on a fair occasion I intreat you to assert for your old freend that I defy Europe for on[e] gine[a] besides my salaries and dues of the office whilst I was secretar, and I doe say the like in what office I ever was in. This I trouble your Lordship with, becaus I hear its said I was a great seeker from the Queen, and this sayes, No; for I nether sought, nor gott, to myself. I did for some others, who have shewd as litle kindnes to me as good service to herr, or their country; and I am sorry for it, for her Majestys and our sake. My Lord, I will no further trouble your Lordship with my trifling abuses, for it is not much in my humor to be a trouble to my patrons and freends. So, if my dear bought salaries be payd, I shall not trouble the Queens Majesty with importunity, but shall ever importunatly pray, for herr glory and happines; and shall ever continue, and beggs to be esteemd

Your Lordships most obedient and truly faithfull servant,

CROMERTIE.

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.

250. THE SAME to [THE SAME].<sup>1</sup>

25 December 1705.

MY LORD,—Your Lordship hath not only done enough, but too much, in so small a matter, and for one who can so little requite and who (probably) is not judged worth half the paines, nor ought else, by others. It is a chang of my circumstances which made me strugle so much for so small a prize. Since my bygone service and other just motives works so little with them, I nether ought, nor will I, put your Lordship to so ungratfull a task, as to importune others on my account. I doe not think that the last will give more success then the others did, and I am weary of their nether logical nor legall excuses, viz., that all is exhausted. Which excuse stands on two leggs: 1. that they are exhausted by paying others befor me, who by herr Majesties express letter, and by justice, should have been payd after me; the other legg is, that the Queen gives more salaries then there are foonds to reach them. The first is no legg at all to support the wrong, the other is a lame one; for at worst there should be a *pro rata*, for part faire might have sav'd all; nor doe my weak mortall eyes weel discern the over ballancing meritt which forces the preference. But *tace* is good Latin. My Lord, this chagrin is ane very unsuitable intertainment for your great kindnes in beeing so concernd for me. I doe not love misfortunes; but I love less to give a share of mine to others. This letter is too long in such a straine. What I have to alleviat my indiscretion, is my sincerity, and true satisfaction I have of feeling your favour to me, and that I presum yow owne me as your Lordships

Most humble and most faithfull servant;

CROMERTIE.

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.

251. GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE to [JOHN EARL OF MAR].<sup>1</sup>

27 December 1705.

MY LORD,—By last post I writ up of a vessel seized in Cathnes. Since writing therof I find some of our lawiers of opinion that only a thrid will fall to the Queen, shee beeing a shipp belonging to ane allie, tho taken and kept many dayes by the French : and the whole will not be much worth, beeing but kye and nolt a board. However, if shee be not legall priz, the Queen gives but uhats legally herrs. The cold kept me close in these 8 dayes, but tomorrow I hope to see the D[uke] of Q[ueensberry] to take leave of him, and speak to him of the Royston proposition. I will make it very reasonable ; and if it hold not, there will be litle skaith, but too much trouble to your Lordship, which is not easy to, my Lord,

Your most faithfull humble servant,

CROMERTIE.

Braco Duff is dead, and so is the old Countess of Home.

I am informed that there is a kind of vermine, which breeds in the hey stacks in Galloway and Airshyre, about 2 inches long, and sex feet on each side, with a reed heat, so numerous that they consume whole stacks. I never saw such unholson weather.

252. [LETTER, unsigned, to GEORGE EARL OF CROMARTIE.]

[*Circa* 1705.]

MY DEARE LORD,—After you left me I grew wors then ever. I have been several tims very neare quiting this vain world, but never that I thought

<sup>1</sup> Original Letter in Mar Charter-chest.

just att it until now. Beyond my expectation I'm recouvring, and hops to see you when the swallows begins to peep out. When I do come out, I most sett up on another foot. Adeiw goodfelohip for ever, and I beleive all thoughts of politiks likways for ever. I see few gaine by eather but seeknes and repentance. What they'r doeing a'toune, or here, I know no more then my footman, nor ever desirs to do. If they will mantaine me in what you helpt to gett me, that I may be free of dunning and noise, I shal compound with all the statsmen now in, or ever shal be, and work at the yard, and build the wals three els higher, if I had cash, then ever you heard me speake of; but if they wer as high as the tour of Babel, I would keep a wikit to lett in some verry few frinds, wherof, I asure you, you should be on with all my heart. I found more good of your plaster then all they gave me for my rumatik pains. I commended it so much [that] somebody did me unkindnes to steal my rol you sent me, but I hope I'l need no mor att this occation; and when I do, Il use the freedom with you to get a peice mor, but rather a receipt to make it, for I think its the best I ever saw. Duke Queensb[erry] is gon, I believe, by this. I wish the Union may prosper, though I should never find the benifit of it; but I feare bigotray, self-intrest for places, and a poor nobility will never lett it go on. Adeiu, my deare Lord.

253. LADY CHRISTIAN LESLIE, DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF MONTROSE, to  
GEORGE FIRST EARL OF CROMARTIE. [*Circa* 1705.]

Thursday.

MY LORD,—I ded muche regratt to mis you att my logengs yesterday, for Im persuaded non of vs will ever forgett how near relationes we ar, and whatt way we ar so, and more becaus my good frend, Lady Marie Cocheren, beleves, as I doue, that you layke me. Shi is mostt solisetous that I wrett

to you in her behove agenestt ouer relation Collanelle John Arskean, whom I doue wishe vere weall toue ; but I doue thenke, so far as I am callpeble to judge, hi heath dealt unjustly and hardly with my Lady Marie ; and though I do neather disayer you to do unjustis, or do I belleve you wold, though I ded, yett I bege you may considear the matear, for hi trets her hardly, and if he is not mead senseble of his rayeats to his costt, Im pear-suaded he will persistt, and unjustly defrad her of her oun, or meke her injoye it att double carge. So if you will befrend her in counseall, it will muche oblige, my Lord,

Your obligead humble servant and cowsin,

C. MONTROSE.

To the right honorable the Earell of Cromertaye.

[ THE CORRESPONDENCE IS CONTINUED IN THE SECOND VOLUME. ]

ABSTRACT OF THE  
CROMARTIE CORRESPONDENCE  
IN VOLUME FIRST.

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| <p>1. Instructions by John first Earl of Middleton, commissioner of King Charles the Second in Scotland, to Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Tarbat, to inform his Majesty respecting—(1.) The proceedings of the Parliament, and, in particular, their passing of the Act for the Restoration of Episcopacy ; (2.) the gratitude of Parliament for the Restoration of the House of Huntly, and their earnest recommendation of those persons who were oppressed by the late Marquis of Argyll, and of others, his creditors ; (3.) the extent to which disaffection was encouraged and strengthened in the country by the favours bestowed by his Majesty on persons of disaffected principles, and to earnestly desire his Majesty to recall the remission granted to them ; (4.) to urge his Majesty to except from the Act of Indemnity certain persons (not exceeding fourteen in number) who were most active against his royal father and himself, and who still continued in their bad principles ; (5.) the extent to which his Majesty's service suffered through some of the best men absenting themselves from Court ; (6.) the hazard that might arise to prince and people through the misrepresentation of persons and affairs at such a distance, and to impress on his Majesty the necessity of calling upon some of his council to attend constantly on him, and advise him in the ordering and disposal of Scotch affairs ; (7.) to communicate these instructions to the Duke of York, the Chancellor of England, and the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and crave their advice and assistance in all his proceedings thereanent.</p> | 1    |
| <p>[5th June 1662,] . . . . .</p>  |      |

	Page
2. John Earl of Middleton to James first Earl of Newburgh, and Lord Tarbat, in reference to their mission under the preceding instructions, and as to Lord Lorne's letter to Lord Duffus, etc. 22d June 1662, . . .	3
3. John Earl of Middleton to Lord Tarbat, with copy letter by Lord Lorne to Lord Duffus, and information thereanent. 25th June 1662, . . .	5
4. Sir John Fletcher of New Cranstoun, knight, Lord Advocate, to Lord Tarbat, in reference to Lord Lorne's letter. 25th June 1662, . . .	7
5. John first Earl of Middleton to Lord Tarbat, in reference to the mission of the latter to the King. 25th September 1662, . . . . .	8
6. William Earl of Glencairn, Lord Chancellor, to Lord Tarbat, giving the political news of the day, and desiring to see Lord Tarbat before the first of January. 23d November [1662], . . . . .	11
7. James Earl of Newburgh to Lord Tarbat, informing him that the Act of Uniformity would be preserved, and that the Duke of Lauderdale had not been successful in his exertions for condemning the Act against the Covenant. February the last [1663], . . . . .	11
8. James Sharp, Archbishop of St. Andrews, to Lord Tarbat, complaining that the Earl of Seaforth, Lord Tarbat, the Laird of Cromartie, and above a score of others, went to the house of the Bishop of Ross, where Lord Tarbat discharged all friendship for him, on the alleged ground that the Bishop had written a letter to the Archbishop, accusing Lord Seaforth, Lord Tarbat, and the Laird of Cromartie, of disaffection to the Church Government; exonerating the Bishop from that charge; intimating that on the strength of Lord Seaforth's assurances given to his Grace personally of favour to the settled order, the latter had solicited the Earl of Middleton's influence with the King for the bestowal of a special fruit of his royal bounty on his Lordship; and expressing his regret that such experiments should have been first attempted in Ross, where they were least expected, and begging them to consider the effect which such contempt cast upon the Bishop by the chief persons of his diocese would have. 12th September 1665, . . . . .	11



	Page
9. Sir James Macdonald of Sleat, Baronet, to Lord Tarbat, complaining of the conduct of the son of the former. 15th December 1666, . . . . .	15
10. John first Earl of Middleton to Lord Tarbat, approving of his Lordship's conduct in his employment. 16th June 1668, . . . . .	18
11. James Sharp, Archbishop of St. Andrews, to Lord Tarbat, expressing his confidence in his Lordship's views relating to the church, king, and country, and his Grace's value of his worth, and good wishes for his welfare ; intimating that he had availed himself of an opportunity to speak to the Duke and Duchess of Lauderdale, who had expressed themselves favourably towards him ; and suggesting the desirableness of Lord Tarbat's paying a visit to Court. His Grace concludes with stating that the measure of his friendship to any one was according as he found them affected towards the Church as then constituted, and offering to employ his best endeavours in his Lordship's interest. 21st November 1674, . . . . .	18
12. James Gregorie, Professor of Mathematics, Edinburgh, to Lord Tarbat, with observations on the theory of winds, and on the expense of telescopes, barometers, and thermometers. 27th January 1675, . . . . .	20
13. Henry Oldenburg, Secretary to the Royal Society, to Lord Tarbat, thanking him for certain papers written by Professor James Gregorie, and communicated by his Lordship to the Society for insertion in their Philosophical Transactions. 24th May 1675, . . . . .	22
14. Professor James Gregorie to Lord Tarbat, enclosing the preceding letter. 8th June 1675, . . . . .	23
15. Sir John Campbell of Glenorchy, afterwards first Earl of Breadalbane, to the Laird of Cromartie [Urquhart], expressive of his desire to be of service to the Master of Reay in his cause before the Lords of Session, and his hope that no one would make use of the Laird of Cromartie's power over him to lay him aside in the Master of Reay's cause, etc. 18th May 1677, . . . . .	24
16. Murdoch Mackenzie, Bishop of Orkney, to Anne Sinclair, Lady Tarbat, expressing his admiration of her husband's good fortune in having been blest with "such ane perfect consort ;" praying that God might be his	

	Page
Lordship's chief counsellor to direct his courses in the present crisis of public affairs, and assuring her Ladyship that he would promote the views of Mr. Colin Dalgleish, whom she had recommended to him, whenever an opportunity occurred in his diocese. Describes the climate of Orkney as being "wake and moistie." <i>Circa</i> 1677, . . .	26
17. Donald Macdonald, and eleven others of the name of Macdonald, to Lord Tarbat, expressing their resolution on account of the differences daily arising between Sir James Macdonald (of Sleat) and his son, Sir Donald, and their failure to pay off almost any of their vast debts, to separate the estate from them both, except a reasonable maintenance to each, with the view of retrieving the affairs of the family; and to that effect requesting that his Lordship would invest them with legal powers to intronit with the estate, and to prevent Sir James and his son from disposing of any portion of it. 2d February 1678, . . .	27
18. Kenneth, third Earl of Seaforth, to Lord Tarbat, with congratulations. 7th August 1678, . . . . .	30
19. Donald Macdonald of Moydart, Captain of Clanranald, to Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Clerk Register, thanking him for kindness to him in his affairs. 8th June 1682, . . . . .	30
20. John Werden to Sir George Mackenzie, Lord Clerk Register, concerning the affairs of East New Jersey, in America. 4th January 168 $\frac{2}{3}$ , . . .	31
21. Robert Barclay of Ury to the Same, concerning some business with Calder, and asking him to recommend the affair of Jersey to Middleton. Ury, 8th of the 7th month, 1684, . . . . .	32
22. Sir George Mackenzie and other Lords of the Secret Committee to John first Marquis of Athole, Lord Privy Seal, and Lord Lieutenant of Argyllshire, directing him to take the Laird of Ardkinlas to Glasgow, and send suspected persons to Edinburgh. 28th August 1684, . . .	33
23. The Same to the Same, expressing their satisfaction with the proceedings of the latter, and stating their views as to counteracting Argyll's insurrection, etc. 6th September 1684, . . . . .	34

	Page
24. Sir George Mackenzie, Secretary to the Secret Committee, to the Same, with news relating to Argyll's rising, and measures to be adopted. 17th September 1684, . . . . .	36
25. George Viscount of Tarbat to the Same, intimating that ammunition was ordered to be sent to Balquhiddy; and expressing an earnest hope that Argyll would not fix his quarters in Argyllshire so as to be between the Marquis and the ships. 22d May 1685, . . . . .	37
26. The Same to the Same, advising him not to withdraw, lest if he did so, Argyll might lurk among the mosses till the rebels assembled in multitudes to him; so that it would be best to fight and beat him then. 27th May 1685, . . . . .	38
27. The Same to the Same, regarding the cruising of frigates at Mull and Kintyre. 5th June 1685, . . . . .	39
28. The Same to the Same, intimating that he had sent him regular supplies of provisions for the army, etc. 24th June 1685, . . . . .	39
29. The Same to the Same, in reference to the proceedings of Lochiel in connection with Argyll. 6th August 1685, . . . . .	40
30. The Same to the Same, farther in reference to the proceedings of Lochiel, Keppoch, and Glengarrie. <i>Circa</i> 1685, . . . . .	41
31. Alexander Earl of Moray to Lord Tarbat, informing him of the King's and Duke of York's satisfaction with the accounts he had given of Spence and Carstairs. 15th September 1684, . . . . .	42
32. William Carstairs to the Lord Register, asking his aid to relax the strictness of his confinement in Stirling Castle. 8th October 1684, . . . . .	42
33. Alexander Earl of Moray to the Earl of Perth, Chancellor, with instructions from the King to connive at Lady Melville's possessing the moveables belonging to her husband, who was to be declared rebel. 11th November 1684, . . . . .	43
34. John Earl of Breadalbane to the Lord Commissioner, intimating that he had arrived at Balloch, and issued orders to his men in Breadalbane to meet him at Strafillan, and thence to march to Argyllshire and make a head for such Highlanders as would appear for the King, the	

	Page
gathering-place being at Glenurchy, near a strong castle on Lochow ; proposes to attack Auchinbreck's house ; and requesting a commission to raise the cadets of his family, etc. 20th May, <i>circa</i> 1685, . . .	44
35. John Earl of Melfort to George Viscount of Tarbat, denying having refused to join with him in Lord Melville's behalf, as the Earl of Moray had represented. A postscript mentions that Monmouth was taken in Dorsetshire. 9 July 1685, . . . . .	47
36. Donald M'Donald of Benbecula to the Same, anent payment of a debt of 1000 merks. 25th July 1685, . . . . .	48
37. Dr. J. Gordon, London, to the Same, with details of his method of curing the ague. 24th May 1687, . . . . .	49
38. Hugh Dallas, Writer, to the Same, regarding teinds and writs of the estate of Cromartie. 3d June 1687, . . . . .	52
39. The Honourable Alexander Melville, afterwards Lord Raith, to the Same, asking him not to side against Lady Wemyss, his aunt, in respect of hearing Presbyterian ministers. 14th September 1687, . . . . .	53
40. John Earl of Melfort to the Same, hoping the King would reward him for his conduct in the war. <i>Circa</i> 1687, . . . . .	54
41. George Viscount of Tarbat to his son John, Master of Tarbat, about the repairing of Tarbat House. 16th January 1688, . . . . .	55
42. J. M'Dougall of Dunolich, and thirteen others of the name of M'Dougall, to George Viscount of Tarbat, respecting Dunolich's affairs, etc. April 1688, . . . . .	57
43. Colonel John Hill to the Same, with his opinion of the state of Ireland. 19th August 1688, . . . . .	58
44. J. M'Dougall, Dunolich, and others of the name of M'Dougall, to the Same, thanking him for services to the family. 15th September 1688, . . . . .	60
45. Kenneth Earl of Seaforth to his uncle, George Viscount of Tarbat, thanking him for assistance in his present trouble ; and anent a petition to the Earl of Portland. 25th October <i>circa</i> 1688, . . . . .	61

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| 46. Major-General Hugh Mackay to George Viscount of Tarbat, intimating that he had written to the Earl of Portland that the Viscount was afraid of being misrepresented to King William III., and had assured the Earl that the Viscount entertained a fervent zeal and desire to see the government of this kingdom established in their majesties; begging the Viscount to lose no time in gaining over Lochiel, and to assure the latter from him of the King's favour if he would show himself active in breaking up the Highland combination; stating that seven or eight hundred Macdonalds had joined Dundee at Inverness, etc. 8th May 1689, . . . | 61   |
| 47. The Same to the Same, intimating that upon information that the Master of Tarbat, his son, was very much suspected, he had sent his nephew to seize his person, that he might keep him at Inverness; referring to the propriety of filling up the vacant sheriffship of Ross by some one on whom the Government could rely; that none of the Mackenzies had come near him but Coule and Redcastle; and urging his Lordship to write earnestly to all in the North with a view to break up the Papist party, and advance the King's service. 20th May 1689, . . .   | 62   |
| 48. Kenneth Earl of Seaforth to his uncle, George Viscount of Tarbat, about complaints the latter had made as to his conduct. January 17, <i>circa</i> 1690, . . . . .   | 63   |
| 49. Kenneth fourth Earl of Seaforth to Colonel John Hill, thanking him for his friendly sentiments. 30th May 1690, . . . . .   | 64   |
| 50. Colonel John Hill to Kenneth Earl of Seaforth, requesting him as a friend not to join any of those who were in arms in the hills against the King and Queen, or suffer them to come to him, otherwise he would be proceeded against as an enemy. 19th June 1690, . . . . .   | 64   |
| 50. The Same to the Same, stating that he had received his Lordship's letter by Sir Thomas Southwell, and hoped soon to get anything that looked like a grievance to his Lordship removed, having written thereanent both to the Lord Commissioner and to Lord Tarbat; assuring him that the soldiers would soon be removed from his house of Brahan and from Chanonry, suggesting the latter as the fittest place for his residence meanwhile. 19th June 1690, . . . . .  | 65   |

	Page
51. Isabella Countess of Seaforth to her brother, George Viscount of Tarbat, entreating him to procure for her a warrant to remain at Chanonry till her son should arrive there ; also that he would get the garrison removed from Brahan, and Chanonry freed from the quartering of soldiers, as in that case her son might come and live there ; and desiring time to provide the four months' cess then due. 28th June 1690, . . . . .	66
52. Ann Sinclair, Viscountess of Tarbat, to her husband, about the payment of Maye's money ; mentioning that a ship had broken to pieces entering the " Sutors," loaded with iron and other goods, and that the people had got very good pennyworths of it, she herself having sent to secure the anchor and best rope ; and informing him of the efforts she was making to obtain money for farm produce, in order to meet their necessary expenses, etc. Castleleod, 21st July, <i>circa</i> 1690, . . . . .	67
53. John first Marquis of Athole to George Viscount of Tarbat, about a debt due by him to Lord Lovat. 18th August <i>circa</i> 1690, . . . . .	69
54. Ann Duchess of Buccleuch and Countess of Cornwallis, and Charles Lord Cornwallis, to David Earl of Leven and George Viscount of Tarbat, about ministers for parishes in their lands, in special, Hawick, Castleton, and Canonbie. 16th September 1690, . . . . .	71
55. Hugh Lord Lovat to George Viscount of Tarbat, about a debt due by him to Lord Kinnaird, and one by the Marquis of Athole to him, as tocher. 22d November 1690, . . . . .	72
56. Colonel John Hill to William first Duke of Queensberry, intimating that he had got £1000 from Edinburgh to pay his men, and 500 bolls of meal in a ship from Greenock, and that the worst men he had were now unwilling to leave him ; also that a day had been appointed for taking the vote upon Lochiel's and Keppoch's proposal to the associated chiefs to lay down their arms and submit to the Government, which he expected would be carried ; and giving an account of the state and news of the West Highlands. 25th December 1690, . . . . .	72
57. Hugh Lord Lovat to George Viscount of Tarbat, about his debt to Lord Kinnaird, and the valuation of his lands. 26th December 1690, . . . . .	74

	Page
58. Margaret Erskine, widow of Sir John Mackenzie, to her son, George Viscount of Tarbat, complaining of the deeds of one of the Lords of Session. <i>Circa</i> 1690, . . . . .	75
59. The Same to the Same, sympathising with him in his trouble, and recommending him to submit with patience to what had befallen him from God Almighty, as it was no more than was common to men; and though he had enemies he needed not to care if God was his friend; enclosing as a legacy to him a trinket of Lammermoor gold, which she got from his father, and recommending him not to part with it "unless at a strait." <i>Circa</i> 1690, . . . . .	76
60. Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun to George Viscount of Tarbat, for information about improvements in husbandry, and the barking of trees, etc. 17th April 1691, . . . . .	77
61. Robert Mackay to the Same, with account of the battle of Aughrim. 13th July 1691, . . . . .	78
62. Elizabeth Duchess of Gordon to the Same, complaining of Captain Hugh Mackay's garrison in Badenoch, especially their wasting the forest of Gaik. 16th July 1691, . . . . .	79
63. George first Earl of Melville to the Same, acknowledging the receipt of letters from him, through Dr. David Gregorie, with items of news, etc. 25th July 1691, . . . . .	80
64. David Gregorie, Professor of Mathematics, Edinburgh University, afterwards Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford, to the Same, with congratulations on the Master of Tarbat's judicial acquittance, stating that, in consequence of the Viscount's letters, Lord Melville had always been very kind to him, and that he felt assured the Master of Stair, who was in the camp in Flanders, would also do him all kindness; that he had two competitors for the chair of astronomy at Oxford; and that the only one who was entirely on his side was Mr. Newton of Cambridge. 27th August 1691, . . . . .	81
65. Colonel John Hill to the Same, intimating that Lochiel had come in to him, and was gone to the sheriff to take the oath, and that he thought	

	Page
Lochiel would be able to bring in Keppoch, Maclaine, and Appin ; requesting his Lordship to assist Lochiel in his affairs, and suggesting that some time should be allowed beyond the first of January to settle ; and expressing his belief that they would never get the country settled till they had a sheriffdom as formerly ; mentions in a postscript that Duke Gordon's tenants of the Macdonalds in the Brae had submitted ; also Badenoch ; and that there were none thereabout to take course with but Keppoch, MacIntosh's tenants, and Glengarry ; that they could easily be alike with the Glencowe men ; and the Appin people were for settlement. 28th December 1691, . . . . .	82
66. Sir John Maclaine to the Same, about submitting to the Government, and rendering his house of Dowart and fort of Kernburg, which Lord Argyll had been ordered to reduce ; also about quartering on his estate for dues since the Revolution. 30th March 1692, . . . . .	84
67. From Robert Mackay to a Lady, with his experiences of women of quality, especially in the campaigns in Flanders. 9th July 1692, . . . . .	85
68. Margaret Countess of Wemyss to George Viscount of Tarbat, anent Mr. Wishart to be minister of South Leith. 15th July 1692, . . . . .	86
69. John, Master, afterwards first Earl of Stair, to the Same, about King William's policy in church and state ; a letter from the Duke of Hamilton, etc. 17th July 1692, . . . . .	87
70. John Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury, to the Same, about the state of affairs in Scotland. 24th September 1692, . . . . .	89
71. John Marquis of Athole to the Same, about his debt to Kinnaird through Lovat, and a summons and charge of horning by Prestonhall. 23d January 1693, . . . . .	90
72. William Duke of Queensberry to the Same, expressing his wish for peace and quietness, with news of his family. 23d February 1693, . . . . .	91
73. James Earl of Airlie to the Same, asking his Lordship to excuse him to the Parliament for absence, being so infirm that he had not been able to go to his own garden that spring unsupported. 13th May 1693, . . . . .	92



	Page
74. James first Viscount of Stair to the Same, expressing his regret for the loss of Mr. Gibson's father, adding that there was none alive of those who sat on the bench at King Charles's restitution but the Viscount and himself; that he was so entangled in business, after ten years' absence, that he could not go East at that time, but had written to his son David to influence Fountainhall, and others of the lords in town, to give a meeting for receiving Mr. George, the Viscount's choice, of whom he highly approved. 17th July 1693, . . . . .	93
75. John, Master, afterwards first Earl of Stair, to the Same, anent affairs in Scotland, chiefly the comprehension of the Episcopal clergy by the Presbyterians; and other public matters. 20th July 1693, . . . . .	93
76. Patrick Lord Glamis, afterwards Earl of Strathmore and of Kinghorn, to the Same, on a matrimonial alliance proposed by his brother. 14th August 1693, . . . . .	94
77. John M'Kenzie to the Same, giving an account of Colonel Munro's death, and the unhappy circumstances of his widow, the Viscount's niece; that the Colonel, after escaping without wounds in the action at Landen, contracted a fever in the camp at Lewbeck, of which he died, and had left his widow in difficulties, on whose behalf it would be necessary to make application to the King; together with the scandalous behaviour of the Colonel's soldiers. 7th September 1693, . . . . .	95
78. Jane Mackenzie to George Viscount of Tarbat, her cousin, requesting his favour to secure to her niece, Barbara Sinclair, a portion out of her brother May's fortune. 10th October 1693, . . . . .	97
79. James Mackenzie, afterwards Lord Roystoun, to his father, George Viscount of Tarbat, with account of his voyage from London to Briel; and travels thence to Rotterdam, Delft, The Hague, Leyden, and Utrecht; with notes on the sights of the various places, and expense of living at the college of Utrecht. 18th October 1693, . . . . .	98
80. John, Master, afterwards first Earl of Stair, to George Viscount of Tarbat, on King William's inclination to protect the northern clergy, and the good effects that would follow the Episcopal clergy and laity taking the oaths. 24th November 1693, . . . . .	101

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 81. John first Earl of Breadalbane to the Same, expressing his conviction that the Viscount and other friends believed that all industry had been used to ascertain if it was practicable to get him and others to go up to London, to assist by strength of reason to convince the King that ill-judged measures had been taken, and ought to be rectified, but that this was found impracticable, and that they next endeavoured to ascertain how far it was resolved to prosecute the bigots' designs of laying their party aside, and that it had been so managed that the King had declared his pleasure not to make any such alteration as was apprehended; that to have got this without staying, or Mr. Carstairs taking it to avizandum, was very fair; that the probable commissioner had told his Lordship that he was not for the Episcopal clergy taking oaths until the General Assembly first received them into their number <i>in omnibus</i> . 7th December 1693, . . . . . | 102  |
| 82. Lady Mary Campbell, Countess of Breadalbane, formerly Countess of Caithness, to the Same, about a bond that concerned her son Colin; giving details of his education. 30th January 1694, . . . . .  | 103  |
| 83. John first Earl of Breadalbane to the Same, intimating that he (Breadalbane) had lost for ever his influence with the presbytery, so called, for Meffen; that the pretence found out for rejecting the pluralities' call was that those signing the call were not qualified,—had not taken the oaths, and that he foresaw the Presbyterians might thereby get into their hands the planting of all the vacancies of the kingdom; and describing that, and the disarming all Highlanders, and dismounting all Lowlanders, as "prudent moderate advices;" adding that perhaps the King would, at Winchester, declare his pleasure for the General Assembly, as he had taken it to avizandum. 8th March 1694, . . . . .  | 105  |
| 84. William Duke of Queensberry to the Same, of his illness during winter, and other news. 19th March 1694, . . . . .   | 106  |
| 85. Charles first Duke of Lennox and Richmond to the Same, expressing a hope that the esteem his father, the King, had for his Lordship would induce him to be a friend to Mr. Bell, whom the Duke had appointed to inspect his affairs in Scotland. 1st June 1694, . . . . .   | 107  |

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| 86. James Earl of Arran, afterwards Duke of Hamilton, to the Same, for his friendship in a cause of his sister Dundonald's. 4th December 1694,   | 107  |
| 87. Major Robert Mackay to the Same, about his promotion in the army, etc. 20th December 1694, . . . . .   | 108  |
| 88. Æneas Mackay to the Same, thanking his Lordship for recommending him to the command of the forces in Scotland. 28th January 1695, .  | 109  |
| 89. George Viscount of Tarbat to William Carstares, asking him to second his desire to the King to retire; and give him a letter securing him, in his person, estate, and pension. 16th May 1695, . . . . .  | 110  |
| Follows a letter to the Lord Chancellor allowing his Lordship to retire, and commanding his yearly pension to be paid.   |      |
| 90. The Same to the Same, expressing his wish for a settled church; and his opinion that it was for the King's interest to have a moderate Presbyterian; recommending the Earl of Melville for some mark of favour, and asking for himself a remission of all crimes, as he saw that faults were fished for in others. 11th June 1695, . . . . .   | 112  |
| 91. The Same to the Same, as to the Presbyterian party; regretting the Master of Stair's success against Earl Melville, whose family were the best fitted to direct the true Presbyterian party; adding his own intention to retire; and that his fault had been trying to get the Episcopal clergy to address and take the oaths, which he found to be of no effect, for the two parties would not unite. 25th June 1695, . . . . . | 113  |
| 92. George Earl of Sutherland to George Viscount of Tarbat, mentioning the death of Anne Viscountess of Arbuthnot, the Earl's daughter; and asking his Lordship to further a petition to Parliament for the guardianship of her children. 1st July 1695, . . . . .   | 115  |
| 93. Address to George Viscount of Tarbat, by the Magistrates, Council, and Community of the burgh of Fortrose, conveying their thanks to his Lordship; asking his further aid in getting a settled minister; and giving him and his family a desk in the church. 7th September 1695,   | 116  |
| 94. John first Marquis of Tweeddale to his son, John Lord Yester, informing him of news brought by packet, that the King had called all the Scotch   |      |

	Page
Councillors to wait on him, that eleven of them were called into his closet at seven to give an account of what had passed in Parliament, which occasioned much debate and heat, which was spoken to by Lord Stair and others, who said that the supplies would have been granted for life, but for Lord Polwarth ; that the king said he had allowed the Glencoe business to be enquired into, because of the noise it had made at home and abroad ; that a letter was come from the King to the Council about the recruits ; with other news. 8th December 1695, .	117
95. The Same to Thomas Tenison, Archbishop of Canterbury, stating his intention to send his son to satisfy the King respecting his Lordship's behaviour in the last Parliament, particularly with respect to the Act of Trade ; entreating his Grace to interpose with the King to allow him to come up and vindicate himself. 21st December 1695, . . . .	119
96. The Same to his Son, intimating that he would not be able, in consequence of Treasury affairs, to leave Edinburgh for a fortnight ; that they had gained the business of Craighascar ; and that as Lord Lauderdale seemed to be anxious to be friendly with him and his family, he was very hopeful the business of the teinds of Pinkie and Inverkeithing might be settled, and arrangements made for the purchase in his brother's favour, etc. 8th February 1696, . . . .	119
97. The Same to the Same, stating that he had had a fit of the gravel, and that Sir John Maxwell came to see him as soon as he came to town ; that he had purchased Maristoun, etc. 13th February 1696, . . . .	120
98. William Hay, Bishop of Moray, to George Viscount of Tarbat, stating that being reduced to this primitive way of subsisting, by tilling another man's piece of ground, he would be excused for telling his Lordship of a small fen-duty still due to him from the lands of Catboll. 6th July 1696. Subjoined is the discharge, dated 20th July 1696, . . . .	121
99. Sir Patrick Hume Lord Polwarth, Lord Chancellor, to the Same, requesting his Lordship's presence at the Privy Council, as there was some ground to fear a French invasion. 7th December 1696, . . . .	122
100. George third Lord Reay to the Same, mentioning the low condition to which his family was reduced ; lamenting especially the removal of	

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| his uncle, Colonel Æneas [Mackay], and entreating the Viscount to continue his friendship for him, and to use his interest with the King and his ministers to consider the circumstances of a family that had suffered so severely in his service. 20th July, old style, 1697, . . .   | 123  |
| 101. Colonel John Hill to the Same, in prospect of his Lordship's departure for London, requesting that as the affairs of the Colonel and his regiment occurred in discourse, he would extend his former favour to his old servant; stating that all was peaceable in the North, Captain Frazer's business being ended in the marriage of Lady Lovat; that some parts of the Brae of Lochaber were beggared, and the land waste, by paying the justiciary decreets; and that Applecross got 1000 merks worth of cows lately from these parts upon a decret; and hoping for stricter justice on his Lordship's return. 1st November 1697, . . . | 124  |
| 102. R. Mackenzie, and twenty-four others of the name of Mackenzie, to the Same, stating their earnest desire for a good understanding between him and the Marquis of Seaforth, at whose call they had met to give their advice for settling the affairs of his family. 1st December 1697, . . .   | 125  |
| 103. Isabelia Countess of Seaforth to her brother, George Viscount of Tarbat, with the preceding letter, stating that a heavy storm had delayed the dispatch of the packet; that his Lordship would perceive how willing all were to have any difference between him and her son Seaforth removed, and that none would be gladder of it than herself; and expressing a hope that out of a Christian disposition he would forgive wherein he thought he had been wronged. 13th December 1697, . . .   | 126  |
| 104. Kenneth Mackenzie to George Viscount of Tarbat, ament payment of a debt due to Prestonhall. 18th December 1697, . . . . .   | 127  |
| 105. Sir Donald Macdonald of Sleat to the Same, about a debt to Middleton, for which his Lordship was cautioner, etc. 16th February 1698, . . .  | 128  |
| 106. John first Earl of Breadalbane to the Same, stating that the Viscount's account "of our confused world" was a most acceptable delicate to him who was retired, and who neither saw nor heard what was acted on our uncertain theatre, etc. 17th March 1698, . . . . .   | 129  |

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| 107. James Leslie to the Same, of two accidents that had befallen him ; and the state of his health. 21st April 1698, . . . . .  | 130  |
| 108. Patrick Count Leslie to the Same, recommending a concern of his cousin, the Laird of Pitcaiple, his son, and brother-in-law. 19th August 1698, . . . . .  | 131  |
| 109. Sir Donald Macdonald of Sleat to the Same, about a contention with Moidart ; and debts for which his Lordship was cautioner, etc. 8th December 1698, . . . . .  | 132  |
| 110. George Fraser, Regent of King's College, Aberdeen, to the Same, thanking him for instructions as to what methods he should follow anent Bishop Elphinston's history ; expressing his sorrow on account of the sufferings of Mr. John Mackenzie of Kildonan, and his satisfaction with the Viscount's account of the devil's imposing on the judgments of silly people, with the writer's views on witchcraft generally ; that salmon were not swimming well in their rivers yet, imputed to the snow water, etc. 15th April 1699, . . . . .   | 133  |
| 111. George Viscount of Tarbat to Patrick first Earl of Marchmont, Lord Chancellor, informing him of hurt the Highland robbers were doing, and expressing a wish for the posting of 80 or 100 soldiers between Invermoriston and the head of Lochuirm from April to December ; and reminding his Lordship that when the tacks of the bishoprics were being set, he had represented to the Treasury that the form of the tack deprived the King of a half or more of the bishoprics ; that the matter should be considered before the last tacks were cleared or a new one set ; and laying before his Lordship the case of the Episcopal clergy who were qualified, and had evidenced their loyalty to the King, and were a satisfying branch of the ministry to most of the people, and who were now threatened with deprivation of their benefices by the Presbyteries, under the sanction of the General Assembly, instancing Mr. Forbes in Kilmuir, who had been summoned to appear before the Presbytery to preach on a text prescribed by them, with a view to removing him on the ground of Arminianism. 15th May 1699, . . . . . | 136  |

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 112. Dr. Archibald Stevenson to George Viscount of Tarbat, with medicines and medical advice for Lady Tarbat and himself. 6th July 1699, . . . . .  | 139  |
| 113. The Same to the Same, containing his and Dr. Pitcairn's opinion respecting Lady Tarbat's ailment. 22d July 1699, . . . . .   | 140  |
| 114. Dr. Archibald Pitcairn to the Same, recommending, in Dr. Stevenson's absence, more Peruvian bark for Lady Tarbat, etc. 31st August 1699, 141   | 141  |
| 115. The Same to the Honourable James Mackenzie, in answer to a letter from Lord Tarbat to Dr. Stevenson, who was absent, anent Lady Tarbat's illness, that it was fit to give steel, etc. 2d September 1699, 142   | 142  |
| 116. The Honourable James Mackenzie, afterwards Lord Roystoun, to his father, George Viscount of Tarbat, with medicines and Dr. Pitcairn's directions; also about his own state of health. 6th September 1699, . . . . .  | 143  |
| 117. Dr. Archibald Pitcairn to George Viscount of Tarbat, intimating that he had sent his advice about Lady Tarbat to Mr. James, as Dr. Stevenson was not yet come to town. 9th September 1699, . . . . .   | 144  |
| 118. Lady Ann Stewart to George Viscount of Tarbat, condoling with his Lordship on the death of Lady Tarbat; and entreating that he would perform the promise of removing Forbes, which Lady Tarbat obtained from him out of sympathy with Lady Ann. 17th October 1699, . . . . .           | 145  |
| 119. Isabella Mackenzie, Countess of Seaforth, to her brother, George Viscount of Tarbat, referring to her troubles, and especially a caption by Prestonhall and other kinsmen. 9th September 1700, . . . . .   | 146  |
| 120. Charles Lord Yester to his father, John Marquis of Tweeddale, with news of his family; asking him, on Rory Mackenzie's request, to befriend Paterson when in London; and about the trade with France, etc. 22d September 1701, . . . . .   | 147  |
| 121. James Duke of Queensberry to George Viscount of Tarbat, wherein he expresses his sense of the value of the Viscount's services for the King's interest, and states that the small things that were procured to his Lordship from the King were very readily granted, and that the King |      |

	Page
entertained and expressed on all occasions a personal esteem for him ; adding that the Viscount's son James had met with some obstructions in his pretension, the chief of which was Sir Thomas Moncrief's not consenting. 24th September, <i>circa</i> 1701 (should be <i>circa</i> 1696), . . .	149
122. John Master of Tarbat to his wife, the Honourable Mary Murray, of the settlement of private affairs between his father and him ; and of his sister coming to live with them. <i>Circa</i> 1701, . . . . .	150
123. Patrick first Earl of Marchmont to George Viscount of Tarbat, requesting his interest with the Queen in his favour. 5th January 1702, . . .	151
124. George Viscount of Tarbat to James Marquis, afterwards Duke of Montrose, promising to assist a gentleman recommended by his Lordship ; hoping that his Lordship on entering public life would adhere to the monarchical interest, and follow the principles of his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. 9th January 1702, . . . . .	152
125. Mr. George Mackenzie, Inchcouter, to George Viscount of Tarbat, giving an account of the slaughter of Alexander M'Lean or M'Neil, one of his Lordship's men, on the night of his marriage. 6th February 1702, . . .	153
126. Reverend Hugh M'Henry to the Same, about payment of his stipend. 12th November 1702, . . . . .	157
127. Robina Lockhart, Countess of Archibald first Earl of Forfar, to the Same, congratulating the nation on his Lordship's return to public employment ; asking his good offices for getting her husband's pension and place at the Council continued. 12th November 1702, . . . . .	158
128. John Paterson, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow, to the Same, congratulating his Lordship on returning to office ; hoping for his Lordship's help to settle the church on an apostolic basis ; also, in getting something to repair his losses in King William's time ; and some help for the Earl of Belcarres, etc. 21st November 1702, . . . . .	159
129. Sir William Bruce of Kinross, architect, to the Same, congratulating his Lordship on his return to office ; with remarks on his Lordship's paper on the Union ; makes several suggestions in view of the Union	



- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| relative to the export and import customs, the land taxes, excise, etc. ; and concludes with a request that his Lordship would assist him to recover the office of Master of Works, of which he had been deprived through the Duke of Lauderdale. 28th November 1702, . . . . .  | 161  |
| 130. John Paterson, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow, to Sir Alexander Bruce, anent the Bill on Occasional Communion in the Church of England ; and affairs of the Episcopal clergy in Scotland, some being for addresses of loyalty to the Queen, others only for recognising the Prince of Wales, etc. 15th December 1702, . . . . .   | 164  |
| 131. George Viscount of Tarbat to James fourth Marquis, afterwards first Duke of Montrose, regretting that he was unable to gratify the Marquis by procuring an appointment in the admiralty for Mr. Graham for reasons stated ; and hoping to see his Lordship amongst the chiefs of Scottish loyalists. 15th December 1702, . . . . .  | 167  |
| 132. Reverend David Williamson, Moderator of the General Assembly, to George Viscount of Tarbat, intimating, by desire of the Commission, the near approach of the General Assembly ; stating their reliance on Her Majesty's assurance to maintain Presbyterian church government, and on his Lordship's favour ; with assurances of loyalty. 17th December 1702, . . . . .   | 169  |
| 133. Sir Patrick Vans of Barnbarroch to the Same, congratulating his Lordship on his being made Lord Secretary ; asking his Lordship to do something for him that his Lordship's niece and her children might live as became their relationship to him ; and about a debt due to his great-grandfather by King James the Sixth, contracted at the time of his marriage to Queen Ann of Denmark, which he hoped still to recover. 19th December 1702, . . . . . | 170  |
| 134. James Earl of Galloway to the Same, recommending Barnbarroch for some employment under Government. 21st December 1702, . . . . .  | 171  |
| 135. John Lord Elphinston to the Same, as to a pension of £200 granted in King Charles's reign, and discontinued at the Revolution. 24th December 1702, . . . . .  | 172  |

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| 136. Patrick Count Leslie to the Same, recommending William Leslie, brother to Pitcaiple, for preferment in the army. 31st December 1702, . . . . .  | 173  |
| 137. James, Marquis, afterwards Duke of Montrose, to the Same, assuring him of the steadfastness of his principles of loyalty. 2d January 1703, .  | 174  |
| 138. George Earl of Melville to the Same, wherein he refers to his having been turned out of office without having been advertised of it; desiring his Lordship not to trouble himself further about the Kettle teinds; that he expected from Her Majesty's justice and the kindness of his Lordship and the Duke of Queensberry that he and his son should be paid what they had faithfully served for; and concludes by expressing regret on account of misunderstandings between his Lordship and a friend. 7th January 1703, . . . . . | 175  |
| 139. George third Lord Reay to the Same, anent a gift of recognition of the lands of Sanside, which he was informed his Lordship had stopped on Duren's account; assuring his Lordship that he had no design against Duren, but against Sanside, etc.; asking his Lordship's concurrence with the Duke of Queensberry in making him one of the Privy Council; and that he would also concur in the renewal of a pension of £300 a year he had from the late King. 11th January 1703, . . . .   | 176  |
| 140. George Earl of Melville to George Viscount of Tarbat, Secretary of State for Scotland, stating that he was not offended with the manner of his being laid aside from office, so far as his Lordship was concerned, etc. 21st January 1703, . . . . .  | 177  |
| 141. John Paterson, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow, to the Same, expressing his surprise at a calumny which the Bishop of Edinburgh had suggested of him to the Bishop of London, to the effect that he was managing in a clandestine manner the address preparing by the Episcopal clergy to the Queen; giving a defence of his conduct; and his judgment of the folly of bishops and others dissuading from owning the Queen by addressing her for relief to their church and themselves, etc. 26th January 1702-3, . . . . .            | 178  |

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 142. John Fullerton and others to John Archbishop of Glasgow, giving him an account of an attack made upon them by a rout, when assembled at Sir John Bell's house to observe the solemnity of January 30th, which had been frequently observed by the Episcopal clergy in Glasgow since the Revolution; that the attack had been made with the connivance of the Magistrates, who even charged them with getting up the tumult; and had been shared in by many students of the college. In a post-script attributes the outrage to the doctrines taught in the churches, etc. 1st February 1703, . . . . .   | 180  |
| 143. George Haliburton, Bishop of Aberdeen, to George Earl of Cromartie, about the necessitous state of the clergy. 3d February 1703, . . . . .   | 182  |
| 144. George Fraser, Regent, King's College, Aberdeen, to the Same, recommending Mr. Arthur Forbes, son of Craigievar, for the office of Her Majesty's writer. 3d February 1703, . . . . .   | 182  |
| 145. John Earl of Tullibardine, afterwards first Duke of Athole, to George first Earl of Cromartie, about a letter he had written to vindicate himself against misrepresentations, to be shown to the Queen and others; of the project of raising a Highland regiment, with himself as colonel, Sir Donald M'Donald one of the captains, etc., to serve instead of the two independent companies; of a pension of £500 to his father, the Earl of Athole, and of the title of Duke of Athole which the Queen was to confer; of the antiquity of the family; Argyll or his men not to be mentioned in regard to the new regiment, as the Athole men and they would be readier to fight than join together; character of the two independent companies; of a Queen's chaplain to be appointed instead of Carstairs. 11th February 1703, . . . . . | 184  |
| 146. William Lord Jedburgh to the Same, intimating the death of his father, and desiring to be continued Sheriff of Lothian in his stead. 22d February 1703, . . . . .  | 186  |
| 147. James Ogilvie, first Earl of Seafeld, to the Same, with reference to the appointment of Privy Councillors, the names mentioned being Lord Sinclair, Sir George Broun, the Earl Marischal, and Lord Haddo; that   |      |

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| the cess was beginning to be paid ; that he had sent to my Lord Duke (of Queensberry) the draft of a letter to the Parliament prepared by the advocate, and also the draft of an indemnity ; that he had a letter from the Provost of Glasgow stating that the magistrates had prevented a rabble from hindering an unqualified Episcopal minister to preach at Sir John Bell's house, and enclosing a copy of his answer thereto ; that at his desire the Commission of Assembly had reponed Mr. Grahame minister of Dunfermline. 4th March 1703, . . . . .   | 187  |
| 148. Arthur Ross, Archbishop of St. Andrews, and Alexander Rose, Bishop of Edinburgh, to the Same, disavowing a charge made against them of having dissuaded the presentation of addresses both from the presbyters and the laity in the several shires ; and stating that, with reference to the lay addresses, no information could be more notoriously gross and unjust. 4th March 1703, . . . . .  | 189  |
| 149. John Earl of Tullibardine, afterwards first Duke of Athole, to the Same, referring with great grief to the death of his mother, and to his father's weak health, which had kept him from coming to Edinburgh to attend the Queen's affairs, etc. 5th March 1703, . . . . .  | 190  |
| 150. John eighth Earl of Caithness to the Same, acknowledging three letters from his Lordship, and intimating that he had enjoyed very little health since he took leave of his Lordship at Royston ; expressing his gratitude to God that one in whom he had so much interest as a blood relation had arrived at the position his Lordship now occupied ; mentioning that he did not assume the title of Caithness fully, though vacant since the late Earl's death, till Her Majesty was settled on the throne, and that he regarded it as a great blessing and mercy from God bestowed on these nations that Her Majesty now swayed the sceptre of her predecessors ; that he had been averse to sit in the last parliament lest something should be moved about the succession, etc. 6th March 1703, . . . . . | 191  |
| 151. John Paterson, formerly Archbishop of Glasgow, to the Same, intimating that notwithstanding he had written to the Episcopalians in Glasgow to employ none to preach there or in a meeting-house, except preachers   |      |

Page

qualified by law, and although the Chancellor and Advocate had written to the Magistrates and Commander of the Forces at Glasgow to prevent disturbance during the worship, yet, although a qualified person was the preacher on the Sunday previous, the mob broke up the meeting and spoiled and rendered uninhabitable Sir John Bell's house, where it was held, hurting and wounding several of the worshippers; expressing a hope that the Chancellor and others concerned in the government and peace of the kingdom would take effectual measures to suppress that diabolical spirit of rabbling; and suggesting that if the present Magistrates of Glasgow were not turned out and exemplarily punished for that insolent riot, no Episcopal person need think of living one hour in that place; and stating his hope that the Privy Council would order the City of Glasgow to repair Sir John's house and pay him suitable damages, and also to make reparation to those persons that had been hurt, wounded, or injured by the rabble; and entreating his Lordship to secure that the address from the Episcopal clergy should be graciously received by the Queen, and that she should take them under her royal protection, etc. 8th March 1703, . . . . . 193

152. John Lord Lindores to the Same, as to the feu-duty of the Abbey of Lindores, which was £101 Scots, and 14 bolls 3 firlots 2 pecks here; that he would be satisfied with the Master of the Mint's place, which was not yet disposed of, worth £150 sterling yearly, which the Queen would not refuse him if she were spoken to. 9th March 1703, . . . . . 196

153. James Ogilvie, first Earl of Seafield, to the Same, that he had drawn a memorial of Her Majesty's affairs and sent it to the Duke of Queensberry, and desiring that his Lordship and the Duke would read it to the Queen, and that they would concur in presenting the answer from the Assembly, who were enraged against the Episcopal meetings, the addresses, and the encouragement they met with. 13th March 1703, 196

154. The Duke of Devonshire and other Peers to Mr. Mackenzie, with order to attend the committee for examining into the Scottish Conspiracy. 15th March 1703, . . . . . 197

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 155. James Ogilvie, first Earl of Seafield, to George first Earl of Cromartie, assuring his Lordship that he had acted with all possible care in the affair of Glasgow, and that it would have been very inconvenient to have conducted the prosecution during the Assembly ; that he could not convene a meeting of Council for ten days, as it was necessary to alter the indemnity, seeing that, as it stood, it indemnified all concerned in that tumult, etc. 21st March 1703, . . . . .                   | 197  |
| 156. John Earl of Tullibardine, afterwards first Duke of Athole, to the Same, intimating that he had now arrived to attend the Queen's affairs, which the paying his last duty to his mother had prevented him from doing sooner. 25th March 1703, . . . . .  | 199  |
| 157. The Honourable Sir Kenneth Mackenzie, second son of George first Earl of Cromartie, to his father, intimating that he had been informed by Sir Robert Dickson that there was a design to impeach the Duke of Athole and his Lordship in the ensuing Parliament ; expressing a wish that his Lordship should not then be present, as he understood his Lordship's friends would be very untractable if the grand affair talked of were to be pressed at that time. 15th April, <i>circa</i> 1703, . . . . . | 200  |
| 158. Margaret Countess of Wemyss and Cromartie to her husband, George first Earl of Cromartie, expressing her regret that he had been so toiled with business, and her desire to be with him ; that she would leave Melville on the day following, and that his son had been very careful of her, which she took most kindly. 19th July 1703, . . . . .   | 201  |
| 159. John first Earl of Breadalbane to George first Earl of Cromartie, thanking him for his intention to befriend his cousin Glenderuel as to his preferment, etc. 29th September 1703, . . . . .   | 201  |
| 160. Archibald Earl of Forfar to the Same, asking his interest for the place in the Treasury vacant by Argyll's death. 5th October 1703, . . . . .  | 202  |
| 161. Charles sixth Earl of Home to the Same, defending the policy of the Cavalier party in the last parliament, as he had heard that misrepresentations had been made to the Queen that they obstructed her affairs. 16th October 1703, . . . . .   | 203  |

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 162. Sir David Cunningham to the Same, asking on the Earl of Glencairn's behalf the command of Dumbarton Castle, which had been held by his father. 20th November 1703, . . . . .   | 204  |
| 163. Sir Gilbert Eliot of Minto, Advocate, to the Same, about a case before the Council anent Irish victual seized by Patrick Ogilvie; and another against the Countess of Seaforth for carrying her son abroad to be Popishly bred, wherein she defended herself at the bar. 25th November 1703, . . . . .   | 205  |
| 164. Sir James Stewart, Lord Advocate, to the Same, intimating that the Lord Justice-Clerk had that day sent him his Lordship's packet, and had caused secure Captain M <sup>c</sup> Cleod and Charles M <sup>c</sup> Kinnon; that the Council met at eight in the morning, when Her Majesty's letter was read, and a committee appointed, which, however, had to adjourn till four in the afternoon, in consequence of M <sup>c</sup> Cleod and M <sup>c</sup> Kinnon being disordered by having been at their cups all night; and that Major Corbet was not found till ten o'clock; adding that he had despatched an order to Brigadier Maitland for apprehending the four Frasers in the north. 23d December 1703, . . . . . | 205  |
| 165. Margaret Countess of Wemyss, second wife of George first Earl of Cromartie, to her husband, with domestic news, etc. 1703, . . . . .   | 207  |
| 166. John Paterson, Archbishop of Glasgow, to George first Earl of Cromartie, in regard to a signature appointing two collectors of the bishops' rents, which had been sent to Scotland, and which the Duke of Queensberry, in the Queen's behalf, had sought back, intending it to be kept with the other papers relating to Her Majesty's charity, etc. 17th January, <i>circa</i> 1703, . . . . .  | 207  |
| 167. James fourth Marquis, afterwards first Duke of Montrose, to the Same, acknowledging a letter from his Lordship in answer to one from the Marquis concerning Mr. Græme; stating that he himself did not intend to embark in the Government until he had first served Her Majesty in Parliament; and asking a remission for Dalmoak, who had slain Mr. Pringle, a surgeon, in Flanders. 30th December, <i>circa</i> 1703, . . . . .  | 208  |

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| 168. James second Duke of Queensberry to the Same, intimating that he was to go from hence on the following day, and would be very glad to see his Lordship before going, etc. <i>Circa</i> 1703, . . . . .  | 210. |
| 169. Brigadier-General A. Maitland to Sir James Steuart, Lord Advocate, intimating that he had been informed by Captain Stewart that Glen-garry left his house on 1st January, and took his papers with him; that the captain sent parties to take Shyan and Kitray, both of them being suspected persons, but neither of them could be found; stating that none of the people about Fort William, nor Appin's people, were from home as yet; that the people acknowledged that a mani-festo had been carried about the country, and that it was said the whole country had orders to be ready with their arms at twenty-four hours' warning, and that King James was ready to sail with a great fleet, many men, and much money, from France; adding that none of the Frasers were taken, except John Fraser, Culdutholl's brother, and the postmaster of Inverness; and that Lochiel's papers had all been examined by Lieutenant-Colonel Keith and Lieutenant Leslie. 5th January 1704, . . . . . | 210  |
| 170. Sir James Steuart, Lord Advocate, to George first Earl of Cromartie, expressing apprehension at the dangerous condition of the country, even though there were no plot; that he had acquainted the Lieu-tenant-General with his Lordship's thoughts, but he said that a detach-ment to Fort William could not be spared; that the forces could not be safely sent north of the Tay, being so few in number; and stating that none of the four Frasers had yet been taken, and that all the evidence that Captain M <sup>c</sup> Cleod could give was that Simon said such a thing in general; and of his examining Captain M <sup>c</sup> Cleod privately, etc. 6th January 1704, . . . . .   | 212  |
| 171. William ninth Earl Marischal to the Same, asking his friendship for his cousin, Will Keith, who was concerned in the plot referred to in the last letter. 12th January 1704, . . . . .  | 213  |
| 172. John Paterson, Archbishop of Glasgow, to the Same, enclosing Dr. Scott and Dr. Skene's letter to himself, to show his Lordship how  |      |



- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| Auchtifardell regarded Her Majesty's precepts in favour of bishops and the Episcopal clergy ; that the management of the Queen's charity was to be still in the hands of the Commissioners of the Treasury, with express proviso that the bishops' proportions should be made effectual ; of the collectors of the bishops' rents, etc. 15th January 1704,   | 214  |
| 173. The Privy Council of Scotland to Queen Anne, thanking Her Majesty for having transmitted to them copies of the papers and letters relating to the plot ; promising diligence in prosecuting discoveries thereanent ; and representing the weak and defenceless condition of the kingdom for want of arms and ammunition, and suggesting that 10,000 stand of arms, with proportionate ammunition, would be necessary for the safety of Her Majesty's dominions. 3d February 1704, . | 215  |
| 174. The Honourable William Livingston, afterwards third Viscount Kilsyth, to George first Earl of Cromartie, enclosing a disposition granted by his brother in the year 1683 of his title and honours in the writer's favour, with an authentic copy of their father's signature, signed by Sir George Mackenzie, then Lord Advocate ; and asking his Lordship's favour to expedite the same. 8th February 1704, . . . . .  | 216  |
| 175. Alexander ninth Earl of Eglinton to the Same, as to the proceedings of the Council on a letter from the Duke of Athole to them, the examination of Mr. Baillie, and a petition from the African Company complaining of the East India Company of England. 10th February 1704,   | 217  |
| 176. The Same to the Same, referring to Lord Abruchil's death, and to the disposal of his place ; of a meeting at Patrick Steell's, at which Rothes, Roxburgh, and Jerviswood had been commissioned to go to the Queen to ask a meeting of Parliament, that the imputation as to plotters against her Government might be tried, etc. 17th February 1704, .  | 218  |
| 177. George Lord Haddo, son of George first Earl of Aberdeen, to the Same, about the meeting of the country party at Patrick Steels ; recommending Kemnay for Abruchil's place. 17th February 1704, . . . . .  | 219  |
| 178. The Honourable Sir Kenneth M <sup>c</sup> Kenzie, second son of George first Earl of Cromartie, to his father, that Lord Abruchil died last evening,  |      |

	Page
and that he had particularly recommended his son to the protection of his Lordship and the Lord Justice-Clerk; and of the deputation sent by the country party to the Queen. 17th February 1704, . . . . .	220
179. Sir James Steuart, Lord Advocate, to the Same, in answer to a letter without subscription which he supposed to be from his Lordship. 22d February 1704, . . . . .	221
180. The Same to the Same, of the measures taken to apprehend the two Murrays connected with the plot; David Baillie's examination by the Council as a lesing-maker, and his banishment to the plantations; the setting of the inland excise, etc. 25th February 1704, . . . . .	222
181. James fourth Marquis, afterwards first Duke of Montrose, to the Same, wherein he refers to the Duke of Richmond's having sold his estate in Scotland, which then belonged to Dr. Hamilton, one of the Queen's physicians, and who was resolved to part with it, as he was obliged to reside in England; begging his Lordship's assistance, in case of competition by Lord Blantyre or others, in a negotiation for the purchase of the estate, which the Laird of Gorthy was to conduct on behalf of the Marquis. 28th February 1704, . . . . .	224
182. George first Earl of Aberdeen to the Same, thanking his Lordship for the friendship he had shown to his son; recommending him not to think of peace or leisure at home until he had brought the vessel of the State out of a rough sea into the harbour, etc. 10th March 1704, . . . . .	225
183. Sir Gilbert Elliot, Baronet, of Minto, Advocate, to the Same, intimating Glengarry's imprisonment, it being found on examining him and Keppoch that he had conversed with Captain John Murray. 21st March 1704, . . . . .	226
184. William Lord Ross, Commissioner to the General Assembly, to the Same, of his proceedings as Commissioner, and his satisfaction with what was done in the Assembly; of his salary, and the Queen's gift to the ministers; asking how the Queen was pleased with his actings. 21st March 1704, . . . . .	226
185. The Same to the Same, about the Assembly's proceedings. 25th March 1704, . . . . .	227

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 186. Sir James Stewart, Lord Advocate, to the Same, containing a full account of proceedings as to the seizure of Glengarry ; with the writer's defence as to having given him a safe-conduct, etc. 25th March 1704,  | 228  |
| 187. William Lord Ross, Commissioner to the General Assembly, to the Same, of the moderation of the Assembly, and their dutifulness to the Queen. 27th March 1704, . . . . .  | 230  |
| 188. The Same to the Same, intimating to his Lordship that all the Synod books were passed in the Assembly with great calmness, and without one word contrary to her Majesty's prerogative ; that he had dissolved the Assembly, etc. 31st March 1704, . . . . .  | 231  |
| 189. David first Earl of Glasgow to the Same, having heard that his Lordship had been informed that he had stopped Treasury business countersigned by him ; defending himself from the charge, and giving an account of his behaviour in the two cases, Mr. Gordon's gift of recognition, and Robert Pantoun's gift of his brother Hilton's escheat. 18th April 1704, . . . . .   | 231  |
| 190. John first Duke of Athole to the same, intimating that he had left his servant to receive from his Lordship the Queen's letter for his expenses, and another for deleting the regality out of Gairmtullie's signature. 20th April 1704, . . . . .  | 233  |
| 191. James first Earl of Seafield, Lord Chancellor, to the Same, intimating that the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Rothes, the Earl of Roxburgh, and Baillie of Jerviswoode, and others, were ready to enter into the Queen's measures ; alluding to the drafting of men out of regiments, which had as good as broken Mar's, Strathnaver's, and Brigadier Maitland's ; and out of the two independent companies, which latter had been prevented by a representation from the gentlemen of the Northern shires ; mentioning that several church processes had been before the Council, one against the Sheriff of Ross as to the church of Dingwall, and the others against qualified ministers that preached for charity ; suggesting that, if another man-of-war ship were ordered, Captain Ewan should be allowed to sail with such of the men as were in readiness for |      |

	Page
Holland ; stating that Captain Gordon had cleared the coast of some privateers ; as to a bore-brief for Colonel Ogilvie ; and setting Gleggarry at liberty. 29th April 1704, . . . . .	233
192. The Same to the Same, with information about an order of Council against exporting coin ; that 1400 recruits had been put aboard, and were ready to sail ; of a convoy to them from the risk of privateers ; as to David Baillie's imprisonment, and a meeting at Patrick Steel's. 8th May 1704, . . . . .	235
193. The Same to the Same, mentioning that he had been at Fettercairn at a meeting with Lord Boynd as to Lord Boynd's affairs ; remarks on various persons, partly in cipher ; and as to Captain Ogilvie's party for keeping out Irish victual. 30th May 1704, . . . . .	237
194. The Same to the Same, with information on various matters, and stating his own inclination to moderation. 9th June 1704, . . . . .	238
195. Sidney Lord Godolphin, Lord High Treasurer of England, to the Same, intimating that he had read to the Queen the letters and papers his Lordship had sent to him : the letter for adjourning the Parliament, the memorial concerning the Plot, Lieutenant-General Ramsay's memorial, the Duke of Queensberry's papers ; stating what was done with each ; and also that the Queen would consider what it was fit to do with respect to the Duke of Athole. 9th June 1704, . . . . .	239
196. The Same to the Same, intimating that Sir D. Nairn would bring the papers signed by the Queen ; that he would speak to the Admiralty to complete their order to the convoy for Lord Tweeddale's equipage, and that the Queen would consider the case of Lord Wandell and Sir Andrew Foster. 10th June 1704, . . . . .	240
197. Kenneth Master of Duffus, afterwards third Lord Duffus, to the Same, asking his Lordship's interest with the Queen in getting him some post. 14th June 1704, . . . . .	241
198. Sir John Maclean to the Same, about the Queen's declining to receive him, with the Duke of Somerset's opinion as to the cause of it ; that	

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| the Queen was on some new measures as to Scots affairs; that all concerned in Frazer's affair were to be sent down to Scotland, etc. 27th June 1704, . . . . .  | 243  |
| 199. Alexander Wedderburn to the Same, excusing himself that his Lordship had received few letters from him; what he had done as to getting the papers relating to the plot, and as to the persons connected with it, mentioning Mr. Ferguson, Sir John M'Leane, and David Lindsay; with items of home and foreign news. 27th June 1704, . . . . .  | 244  |
| 200. The Same to the Same, acquainting him that Lady Wemyss was gone to Windsor, and enclosing the Queen's warrant in favour of Mrs. Kinrarians; that the papers which his Lordship ordered him to call for were lodged in the Attorney-General's hands; and that as to the persons, there was a promise of sending Mr. Campbell, etc. 29th June 1704, . . . . .  | 246  |
| 201. The Same to the Same, intimating the Queen's signature of a gift of escheat of Boyne, elder and younger, to the Lord Chancellor; of Anna Blair's being put on the charity roll for her father's sufferings in King Charles I.'s reign, etc. 3d July 1704, . . . . .  | 247  |
| 202. Jean Wemyss, Countess Dowager of Sutherland, to the Same, about the ailment of her grandchildren, the children of Robert third Viscount of Arbutnot; expressing her gladness at hearing from the Countess of Cromartie, her sister, about his activity for the good of the Church of Scotland. 5th July 1704, . . . . .  | 248  |
| 203. Sir James Stewart, Lord Advocate, to the Same, stating that owing to an attack of gout, he had been unable to wait on his Lordship. 7th July 1704, . . . . .   | 249  |
| 204. Sir John Macleane to the Same, intimating a visit from Lord Sunderland, who informed him that the Queen had ordered him 20s. a day; that he could not obtain an audience of the Queen; that he learned Argyll was so violent on the first news of Sir John's arrival, that he went straight to the Queen to prevent any favourable impression, and that he swore to Glendaruell that Sir John should never enter Mull but by force of arms, etc. 11th July 1704, . . . . . | 249  |

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 205. Alexander Wedderburn to the Same, stating that he never failed to deliver his Lordship's letters to the Queen and the Lord Treasurer, and that he had no reason to suspect that any papers sent up to the Queen were concealed from any of her chief ministers ; that he had received from Mr. Chalmers a signature in favour of Lord Northesk ; likewise another, recommended by Lord Rankeillor, in favour of Polkemmet, for a novodamus and a change of holding from ward to taxward ; also a gift of Boyne's escheat in favour of the Chancellor, etc. 27th July 1704, . . . . . | 251  |
| 206. The Same to the Same, stating that he did not neglect to give his Lordship an account of what passed at Court ; that there seemed to be no scruple in allowing the Act of Security to pass, if the clause beginning " providing always " were left out, as it was thought to look too like an exclusion of the successor of England. 31st July 1704, . . . . .   | 253  |
| 207. The Same to the Same, intimating that the Queen was come to Kingenston ; that Lady Forfar had had an audience of the Queen ; that he left Lady Forfar at Windsor with Lady Cromartie, who was very well, etc. 1st August 1704, . . . . .   | 254  |
| 208. The Same to the Same, of his fulfilment of the instructions his Lordship had sent him ; that he had not got Blackness's patent passed ; and that he had received letters from the Duke of Athole and the Earl of Bute, desiring him to present a memorial to the Queen against Lord Montrose's bargain of Lennox, or that part of it which carried a right to the feu-duties of Bute and Cumbrae. 5th August 1704, . . . . .   | 255  |
| 209. Sir Andrew Forrester to the Same, about payment for expenses incurred in connection with his delivery of the papers relating to a proposed Union in King Charles II.'s reign. 5th August 1704, . . . . .   | 256  |
| 210. Alexander Wedderburn to the Same, intimating that he had read to the Queen the memorial of the case of the Earl of Bute, as concerned in the purchase of Lennox, etc. 8th August 1704, . . . . .   | 257  |

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 211. John Paterson, Archbishop of Glasgow, and Alexander Rose, Bishop of Edinburgh, to the Same, with a memorial of what they judged necessary to be done for the bishops and clergy by the Queen ; pressing their extreme want and straits, etc. 12th September 1704, . . . . .  | 258  |
| Subjoined is a letter, apparently by the Archbishop of Glasgow, urging his Lordship to get Her Majesty's gift of £200 sterling yearly for 15 years after his death, out of the bishops' rents, in favour of his children, passed, and to have his son " Sandie " still kept as one of the collectors of the bishops' rents, as he was in Her Majesty's gift not yet passed the seals ; and to move the Queen to grant himself £200 sterling for the expenses of his last journey to Court, although an archbishop was always allowed £300 for that journey, etc. 12th September [1704], |      |
|   | 259  |
| 212. Æneas M'Pherson, son of William M'Pherson of Inveressie, to the Same, asking his Lordship's influence in getting some assistance or pension for him from the Queen ; relating his father's services to the Crown in being the first to join Montrose with a full regiment of his clan, etc., and his own sufferings for the Queen's father. 14th September 1704, . . . . .   | 261  |
| 213. John Paterson, Archbishop of Glasgow, to the Same, pressing the need of the Queen's giving something to the bishops and Episcopal clergy. 16th September 1704, . . . . .   | 263  |
| 214. Alexander Rose, Bishop of Edinburgh, to the Same, explaining how he had signed the Archbishop of Glasgow's memorandum ; enclosing a memorial as to his own case, showing that he was worse off than his brethren ; and that others had as good claims as the Archbishop of Glasgow had for a gift in favour of his children, etc. 19th September 1704,   | 264  |
| 215. Robert Douglas, Bishop of Dunblane, to the Same, stating that there were four precepts in his favour, two granted by King William, and two by Queen Anne, for £100 sterling each, of which he had not got one farthing, and entreating his Lordship to interpose with the Queen, that he might obtain payment of these precepts out of some other fund, since the collector of the bishops' rents, upon whom the precepts were granted, absolutely refused to pay them. 22d September 1704, . . . . .  | 266  |

- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 216. John Lord Bellhaven to the Same, expressing regret that he had not seen his Lordship before he left for London; that he would have waited on him in passing, but his Lordship had escaped the trouble of his friends' convoys by "leaping over the mountains in a machine of his own invention," etc. 24th September 1704, . . . . .   | 267  |
| 217. John Paterson, Archbishop of Glasgow, to the Same, expressing a hope that his Lordship had received orders from the Queen to send down the papers signed by Her Majesty for the support of the bishops and clergy, and stating his dependence on his Lordship to attend particularly to what more especially concerned him, his son "Sandie," and Her Majesty's grant in favour of his other children after his death; alluding to Her Majesty's grant of £1200 yearly out of her own revenue to the dissenting ministers in Ireland, and the hardship of the poor bishops and the Episcopal clergy in Scotland being allowed to starve, when they might be subsisted out of the bishops' rents, without burdening her royal revenue; and suggesting that his Lordship should move the Queen to grant to the relict of the Bishop of Ross £40 yearly out of the bishops' rents, after the surviving bishops were paid their proportions, etc. 28th September 1704, . . . . . | 268  |
| 218. Lady Christian Leslie, Dowager of James third Marquis of Montrose, and wife of Sir John Bruce of Kinross, to Margaret Countess of Cromartie, entreating her intercession with the Earl of Cromartie for a remission from Her Majesty in favour of Sir David Murray of Stanhope, who had, under the influence of drink, unfortunately killed his groom, on account, as it appeared, of the latter having prevented him from riding through an impassable place of a water in which he would have perished. 2d October 1704, . . . . .   | 269  |
| 219. Sir James Mackenzie to his father, George first Earl of Cromartie, intimating that the captain and crew of an English East India ship had been apprehended and imprisoned upon strong presumptions of their having murdered the two Captain Drummonds, and the whole crew of their two sloops, homeward bound from the East Indies richly freighted; that it was confidently stated that some of the crew would be witnesses, etc. 16th December 1704, . . . . .   | 271  |



- |   | Page |
|---|------|
| 220. James first Earl of Bute to George first Earl of Cromartie, asking for the command of Dumbarton Castle; showing how much it was for the Queen's interest to have this done. 1704, . . . . .  | 272  |
| 221. John Paterson, sometime Archbishop of Glasgow, to the Same, inquiring as to the papers for the bishops and clergy; stating that as the Bishop of St. Andrews was dead, there would be now £300 more to be given to the poor presbyters; and further, begging that his Lordship would cause his son, Alexander Paterson, to be continued as one of the collectors of the bishops' rents, and would see Her Majesty's gift in favour of his children passed in the Exchequer, as he found the Lord Chancellor and the Earl of Eglinton demur; stating that he considered himself a dying man, and could not long enjoy the Queen's bounty. 14th July, <i>circa</i> 1704, . . . . . | 274  |
| 222. John Lord Tarbat, eldest son of George first Earl of Cromartie, to his father, with reference to the elections of the shire of Ross, wherein he states in detail the probable influence of the principal families in the shire. <i>Circa</i> 1704 [perhaps 1710], . . . . .  | 276  |
| 223. David Lord Elcho, afterwards third Earl of Wemyss, to his mother, Margaret Countess of Wemyss and Cromartie, expressing his sense of her Ladyship's good wishes for him, and her desire that he should be living in a settled way; states his inability to undertake a journey for the purpose of waiting upon her Ladyship; and his fear of a disappointment in reference to a matter which her Ladyship had in view. 21st January 1704-5, . . . . .  | 279  |
| 224. The Same to George first Earl of Cromartie, expressing the sorrow he felt when informed of his mother's severe illness, and his thankfulness that she was now recovering; adding that he himself was living in the country in the same "morose solitude and unconcern as ever." 25th February 1704-5, . . . . .  | 281  |
| 225. Sir James Mackenzie to his father, George first Earl of Cromartie, wherein he expresses his regret that his Lordship stood in need of money, since it was scarcer than ever, and that what was due to him by the Treasury could not be obtained; refers to a quarrel between   |      |

	Page
young Hallyards and young Balfour; states that a match had been concluded between the Lord Advocate's son and the President's second daughter; that a formidable fleet was being fitted out to be a terror both to French and English foes, and that arms were being provided very fast, the shire of Angus alone having signed for 10,000 stand to be sent for to Holland. 10th February 1705, . . . . .	281
226. James first Earl of Seafield to Mr. John Stewart, Signet Office, Edinburgh, intimating that Her Majesty had signed his commission as Chancellor, and Lord Tweeddale's as President of the Privy Council, and authorising him, in absence of Sir Alexander Ogilvy, to expedite my Lord's and the other papers. 10th March 1705, . . . . .	283
227. John Lord Macleod to his father, George first Earl of Cromartie, regretting that his wife's condition deprived him of the satisfaction of waiting on his Lordship, to congratulate him on his safe return; requesting him to take the will for the deed, and praying God to comfort him under his great affliction. 28th May 1705, . . . . .	283
228. John Mackenzie to the Same, intimating the death of Sir Thomas Stewart, etc. 5th June 1705, . . . . .	284
229. Alexander Erskine, Lord Lyon, to the Same, excusing himself for not having attended Lady Wemyss' funeral. 5th June 1705, . . . . .	285
230. James second Duke of Ormond to George Earl of Cromartie, expressing regret at not having been able to take leave of him at his departure. 2d July, <i>circa</i> 1705, . . . . .	286
231. John Lord Macleod to his father, George first Earl of Cromartie, intimating the birth of a son; and about a call to Mr. Daniel Mackenzie to be minister of Tarbat. 8th July 1705, . . . . .	286
232. Henry Hyde, second Earl of Clarendon, to George first Earl of Cromartie, about the recovery of money in a matter that concerned his grandchildren. 19th July 1705, . . . . .	287
233. Lady Christian Leslie, Dowager Marchioness of Montrose, to the Same, sympathising with him in his loss; and about the state of Mr. Bruce's health. 28th August, <i>circa</i> 1705, . . . . .	288

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| 234. Lady Mary Leslie, wife of William Lord Haddo, afterwards second Earl of Aberdeen, to the Same, expressing regret that she could not pay him a visit. 11th October, <i>circa</i> 1705, . . . . .   | 289  |
| 235. George first Earl of Cromartie to John Earl of Mar, one of the Secretaries of State for Scotland, stating that he wanted £1100 of his dues, and that he had Her Majesty's letter for himself and all succeeding secretaries to be paid <i>ante omnes</i> ; asking his Lordship for a line to hasten it, and to pass his locality for reimbursing him of £1500; and about a matter that concerned the African Company, of which he had written to the Queen. 23d October 1705, . . . . .                   | 289  |
| 236. John Earl of Mar to George first Earl of Cromartie, acknowledging receipt of a letter from his Lordship, the subject of which he would lay before the Queen, and doubted not but Her Majesty would do his Lordship justice; and referring to the matter concerning the African Company, alluded to in the preceding letter, etc. 6th November 1705, 290   | 290  |
| 237. John Philp to Mr. John Stewart, Under Keeper of the Great Seal, Edinburgh, wherein he states that there was nothing doing in Scots business; that the Marquis of Annandale was working with his English friends, but out of all measures with the Scots courtiers; refers to high words between Argyll and Annandale; and mentions that his Lord was very kindly received by Her Majesty and his old friends in London, and that Argyll and he were very great friends, etc. 8th November 1705, . . . . . | 292  |
| 238. John Earl of Mar, Secretary of State for Scotland, to a Lady, as to the gift of her Lord's liferent escheat. 10th November 1705, . . . . .  | 293  |
| 239. John Philp to Mr. John Stewart, Under Keeper of the Great Seal at Edinburgh, wherein he refers to his wife's anger at not having letters from him; and about a proposal in the House of Lords to call over the Princess Sophia, etc. 17th November 1705, . . . . .  | 294  |
| 240. George first Earl of Cromartie to John Earl of Mar, as to the payment of his arrears of salary, and his locality for £1500; his desire for a solid Union; and as to the Earldom of Ross. 17th November 1705, 295  | 295  |

	Page
241. Henry Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, to George first Earl of Cromartie, thanking his Lordship for his attention to the concerns of his grandchildren, and particularly for appointing Mr. Macleod to be their factor, etc. 20th November 1705, . . . . .	297
242. George first Earl of Cromartie to John Earl of Mar, about questions in Council; and his difficulties through the non-payment of the salary due to him. 22d November 1705, . . . . .	298
243. John Earl of Mar to George first Earl of Cromartie, intimating that he had represented to Her Majesty what his Lordship wrote concerning the money due to him, and that she had ordered him to write in her name to the Treasury to pay what was due to him as Secretary as soon as possible, which he had done, and enclosed to his Lordship the letter addressed to the Treasurer-depute; adding that on account of the poverty of the Treasury he must have a little patience for the payment of the £1500 of locality due to him, and stating that he himself had not got 6d. of his share; and that he had never heard of the proposal for Lord Ross until he got his Lordship's letter; and concludes by referring to the progress of the Treaty of Union in the House of Lords. 28th November 1705, . . . . .	299
244. George first Earl of Cromartie to John Earl of Mar, with further references to his arrears of salary and his expenses; and a proposal which would be an advantage to the Queen and Treasury, etc. 6th December 1705, . . . . .	302
245. The Same to the Same, as to a residence for the Lord Chancellor, and purchase of Royston by the Government in exchange for Crown rents in Ross. 8th December 1705, . . . . .	304
246. The Same to the Same, referring to the subject of the preceding letter, and stating that as he was about to retire on account of old age, the bargain referred to if it could be procured would be of advantage to him, and he could in that way do what he proposed as to Stragarive and Loch Carron, etc. Follows the scheme for exchanging Royston. 8th December 1705, . . . . .	306

- |  | Page |
|--|------|
| 247. The Same to the Same, recommending Lieutenant Neil McLeod for an adjutancy in the Guards; and John Stuart, son to Sir Thomas Stuart of Balcasky, for a pair of colours. 8th December 1705, . . . . .  | 307  |
| 248. The Same to the Same, thanking him for his kind endeavours in his private concerns; stating that he was at the Countess of Seaforth's making up from memory a document which had been lost or destroyed, in which there was security to his Lordship, among others, for debt due; and that he would certainly be just to all, and to the Countess too, so far as his memory could serve; mentioning a sum of £2500 of necessary disbursements for removing his family, for horses, coaches, and household furniture, for which Her Majesty gave the £1500, which had been stopped; that except the bare dues of his office he had not had £100, and of these dues he wanted £1100, and owed that sum at London for what was absolutely necessary. 15th December 1705, . . . . . | 308  |
| 249. The Same to the Same, wherein, with reference to Sir David Nairn's desire to know how the £1100 of arrears of his dues was made up, he states, £500 for half year's salary as secretary, and £600 expenses of going and returning from London, and that there was £1500 for removing, etc., as in the preceding letter. 18th December 1705, . . . . .   | 310  |
| 250. The Same to the Same, acknowledging his obligations to his Lordship for endeavours made on his behalf, and his regret that they had not been more successful; and complaining of the treatment he had received by the non-payment of his dues by the Treasury. 25th December 1705, . . . . .  | 311  |
| 251. The Same to the Same, referring to a vessel that had been seized in Caithness, and stating that he hoped to see the Duke of Queensberry the following day, and speak to him of the Royston proposition. 27th December 1705, . . . . .   | 312  |
| 252. Letter, unsigned, to George Earl of Cromartie, stating that after his Lordship left him, the writer grew worse, but that, beyond expectation, he was recovering, and that he had bid adieu to good fellowship and all thoughts of politics for ever; expressing his great friendship for the Earl, and good wishes for the Union. <i>Circa</i> 1705, . . . . .  | 312  |

	Page
253. Lady Christian Leslie, Dowager Marchioness of Moutrose, to the Same, expressing regret at having missed seeing his Lordship at her lodgings on the previous day ; stating that Lady Mary Cochrane was most solicitous that she should write to his Lordship on her behalf against their relation, Colonel John Erskine, whom her Ladyship, although she wished him well, could not help thinking to have dealt unjustly and hardly with Lady Mary ; and begging his Lordship to consider the matter and befriend her. <i>Circa</i> 1705, . . . . .	313

THE END OF VOLUME FIRST.

3597









