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ECCLESIASTICAL AND TERRITORIAL
OF THE PARISHES OF SCOTLAND.

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IN TWO PARTS. PART II.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

IN announcing the completion of the SECOND VOLUME of this Work, entirely from the pen of Mr. BRICHAN, and which bears the impress of that laborious research and patient investigation for which that gentleman is so distinguished, the Publisher ventures to solicit attention to its usefulness and importance as an historical record, containing, as it does, so many matters of importance to all Scotsmen never before given in a collected view, and drawn chiefly from original documents, throwing much light upon the history, antiquities, and manners of the country, from the most remote periods on record. The present Part contains the Dioceses of ROSS and CAITHNESS, with additions to the Dioceses of ARGYLE and the ISLES in the form of an Appendix.

The two Volumes embrace a large portion of the South of Scotland, rich in ecclesiastical remains, and the whole Western Coast and Isles as well as the Northern Peninsula, hitherto unillustrated by any writer conversant in antiquities.

It is believed that the history of the many Churches, Districts, and Families here given, the fixing of previously doubtful localities, and the successful correction of traditionary and local errors, will give satisfaction to all who take an interest in Scottish antiquities.

THE PREFACE.

THE learned editor of the first part of the present volume has remarked that the chief interest of that part is ecclesiastical and centres in the great parent institution of Iona whose history is there detailed. It will be found that the chief interest of the second part now published arises from a different source. The records of the bishopricks of Ross and Caithness are not known to exist; and those of the priory of Beaully and the abbey of Fearn, the former of which were extant in the seventeenth century, cannot now be found—the principal materials of their scanty early history existing in copies of some Beaully charters preserved by Macfarlane and in the original of at least one of the later Fearn charters preserved at Balnagown. A single document of early date and of great interest already printed by the Bannatyne Club, the charter of Bishop Gilbert instituting the chapter of Caithness, is still in the Dunrobin charter chest, in which are also some later documents relative to the ecclesiastical lands. The religious houses which existed in the diocese of Caithness, none of them of great extent or wealth, seem to have decayed at a comparatively early period, almost verifying the remark of an old writer quoted in the text, that the climate was too cold and the soil too barren ‘for that fry to nestle in.’ Memorials indeed of an era preceding all written records will be found in the following parochial histories in the case of churches and other localities still bearing the names of Saint Columba of Hi, of Saint Malrube of Applecross, of Saint Congan of Lochalsh, and even of Saint Ninian of Galloway, with other saints of less note. But two centuries have passed since the church of Saint Barr of Dornoch was removed,

and the day of his anniversary was held as a fair to a still later period. The saint himself is now forgotten in the place, but the memory of Saint Fergus of Wick is still preserved in the parish whose church was dedicated to his honour. Traces also of Norse occupation and power will be seen in part of the ecclesiastical histories here given. The interesting and not very recent notices of the church of Kildonan and its connexion with the abbey of Scone—a connexion apparently in some manner depending on that of the earls of Caithness and Orkney with the earls of Athole—scarce form an exception from the general rule; and altogether the materials available for a parochial church history of the two dioceses are meagre in the extreme.

The great interest therefore of the present part is territorial, and lies chiefly in the authentic history of certain districts including that of the prevailing families, now presented to the reader in a form and with a minuteness entirely unprecedented—in the fixing of several previously doubtful localities—and in the successful correction of various local and traditionary errors. As examples of territorial connected with family history may be mentioned the histories of the earls of Ross—of the Bissets and other families of the Ard—of the lordship of Ardmanach—of the baronies of Avoch, Cromarty, Skelbo, and Pronsy—of the earldom of Sutherland—of the districts of Assynt and Strathnaver—of the lands in Caithness held by the Federeths, Chens, Keiths, Sutherlands, Sinclairs, and Oliphants—and of the older and also the more recent earldom of Caithness. Even the short notice of the somewhat modern family of Grot is not without its interest, and many others might be instanced.

The obscurity which rested on the early history of the Freskyns of Moray and Sutherland has not been removed; but their possession of the district originally named Sudrland (*Suthyrlandia*) at a period probably anterior to that of Hugh the son of Freskyu—the property of Strathnaver, held at a period scarcely less remote by their kinswoman Johanna the wife of Freskyu of Duffus—and the undoubted fact of the lineal descent of the present earls of Sutherland from Hugh Freskyu—render it very probable that the connexion of the family with the territory of Sutherland stretches much farther into antiquity than we have now the means of fixing with certainty. Of the descent of the earls of Caithness from the Norwegian *jarls* of Caithness and Orkney there can be no doubt, the dubious point in connecting their

history being the time and manner of the division of the old Caithness district, a point involved in the same obscurity with the early history of the Freskyns.

As instances of the ascertainment of doubtful localities we have in the present part the identification of the site of Ethir Dover (formerly supposed to be Eddertoun on the Dornoch Firth) with that of the Redcastle or castle of Ardmanach in Killearnan — a matter left unsettled by the acute and learned Lord Hailes, and since undecided by antiquarians; of the promontory named Torfnes (formerly believed to be Tarbatness in Ross) with Trouphead in Banffshire; and perhaps also of the district of Strathnaver with the Dales of Caithness — the latter being usually identified with Dale in Halkirk. The site of Dunscaith, formerly fixed, is confirmed by the notices now given, especially by those in which it is connected with the ferry of Cromarty and included in the lordship of Ardmanach, lying, with the single exception of Dunscaith, on the south side of the Cromarty Firth. It may not be out of place to intimate an opinion not hazarded in the text, that the *Dufeyras* of the Sagas, an emporium of Moray and hitherto conjectured to be Banff, was no other than the old Roman station in the parish of *Duffus*, known to geographers as *Alata Castra* and *Ptoroton*, to which its Norse occupiers subsequently applied their usual term Burgh, and which still bears the name Burghead.

Of the correction of local or traditionary errors the intelligent reader local or general will detect many interesting examples. An instance will be found in the case of the romantic Ross-shire lake Lochmaree, originally known as Lochewe (the name still applied to the arm of the Atlantic into which it falls), subsequently styled Loch-nulruy from a chapel or cemetery on one of its islands dedicated to Saint Malrube, and latterly corrupted into Lochmaree (Loch Malreeve) and locally fancied to be named from the Virgin Mary. A conjecture given in a foot-note relative to the etymology of the name Dunrobin may be worth the attention of the antiquary, especially as the authentic history of the district and of its earls proves that the usual etymology is wholly fanciful.

In addition to the three points of special interest now indicated a fourth will occasionally occur to the reader in the curious forms of rent, tenure, and measures of land anciently prevalent in the districts embraced in the present part, some of

which appear to be entirely local, while others have been imported from Orkney or from Norway.

There is in the General Register House a very interesting rent-roll of the earldom of Sutherland dated early in the sixteenth century, which might have been given in the appendix, but is rather too lengthy for that purpose.

The author of the present volume and of a large part of Vol. I. is solely responsible also as editor for that portion of the work which embraces the history of the diocese of Caithness, and for the appendix in its present shape. For ready access to the materials from which that history is compiled he has been much indebted to the courtesy of His Grace the Duke of Sutherland—of the late James Loch Esquire of Uppat—of D. Gray Esquire, Golspie—of David Laing Esquire of the Signet Library, secretary to the Bannatyne Club—of Joseph Robertson Esquire, author of a large portion of Vol. I.—and of Cosmo Innes Esquire, P. C. S., editor of the greater part of the Work.

JAMES B. BRICHAN.

Edinburgh, October, 1855.

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KINTAIL.

Kyntaill¹ — Kintale² — Kintail³ — Kildowich.⁴ (Map, No. 1.)

ABOUT the middle of the last century Kintail was divided into two parishes, Kintail and Glensheil.⁵

The old and extensive parish of Kintail is bounded on the south by Glenelg, runs northward along the boundary between Inverness and Ross as far as Loch Monar, and has on the north west the water of Long and the salt-water lochs Loehlong and Lochalsh. It is deeply indented by Loch Duich, a salt-water loch running southward from the junction of the former two. The district is entirely mountainous, and attains its greatest height in Tullochard on the north of Loch Duich.⁶ Its chief valleys are Glensheil, Glenlichd, and Glenelchaig.⁷

There appears to be no notice of this church before the Reformation, except its entry in the Libellus Taxationum.⁸ It was a common church of the canons of Ross. In 1574 King James VI. presented John Murchesoun to the hail common kirk baith parsonage and vicarage of Kintale.⁹ In 1582 the same king presented Donald Murchesoun to the same church, then vacant by the demission of John Murchesoun.¹⁰

The church, apparently dedicated to Saint Duthae bishop of Ross, stood at Kilduich at the head of Loch Duich.¹¹ It was burned in 1719, and has been since repaired or rebuilt.¹² The church of Glensheil was built in 1758 east of Loch Duich on the estate of Letterfearn.¹³

In Baiamund's Roll the church is rated at 53s. 4d.; in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £26, 13s. 4d.¹⁴ In 1574 Mr. John Murchesoun reader at Kintale had £18 as his yearly stipend.¹⁵

The lands of Kintail are said to have been granted by King Alexander III. to Colin an Irishman of the family of Fitzgerald for service done at the battle of Largs. The charter is not extant and its genuineness has been doubted.¹⁶ In 1292 the sheriffdom of Skey, erected by King

¹ Circa A. D. 1535. Libellus Taxationum.

² A. D. 1574. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 89.

³ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1582. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 51.

⁴ A. D. 1600-1640. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

⁵ New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ MS. in Adv. Lib.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 89.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 51.

¹¹ Macfarlane. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹² Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. ¹³ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁵ Book of Assignations.

¹⁶ The following are its terms as found in a copy of the 17th century, said to be in the handwriting of the first earl of Cromerty.

Alexander Dei gracia rex Scottorum omnibus probis hominibus totius terre sue clericis et laicis salutem. Sciatis presentes et futuri me 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 Kintail. Tenendas de nobis et successoribus nostris in liberam baroniam cum guardia. Reddendo servitium forinsecum et fidelitatem. Testibus Andrea episcopo Moraviensi.

John Balliol, included the lands of the earl of Ros in North Argail, a district which comprehended Kintail and several other large parishes in Ross.¹ Between 1306 and 1329 King Robert Bruce confirmed to the earl of Ross all his lands, including North Argyle (*Borcalis Ergadia*).² In 1342 William earl of Ross, the son and heir of the deceased Hugh earl of Ross, granted to Reginald the son of Roderic (Ranald Rorisoune) of the Isles the ten davachs (or ten pennylands) of Kintale in North Argyle.³ The grant was afterwards confirmed by King David II.⁴ About the year 1346 Ranald was succeeded by his sister Amie the wife of John of Isla.⁵ Between the years 1362 and 1372 William earl of Ross, the son and heir of the deceased Hugh earl of Ross, exchanged with his brother Hugh of Rosse lord of Fylorth and his heirs his lands of all Ergile, with the castle of Elandonan, for Hugh's lands in Buchan.⁶

In 1463 the lands of Kintail were held by Alexander Mackenzie.⁷ Kenneth his son, who succeeded him, was dead before 1493, and was succeeded by his son Kenneth Oig.⁸ In 1509 King James IV. granted to John Makkenze of Keantalle (the brother of Kenneth Oig) the 40 marklands of Keantalle, namely, the davach of Cumissaig, the davach of Letterfearn, the davach of Gleanselle, the davach of Glenlik, the davach of Letterchall, the two davachs of Croo, and three davachs between the water of Keppach and the water of Lwyng, with the castle and fortalice of Eleandonan, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernis, with other lands in Ross, which John had resigned, and which the king then erected into the barony of Eleandonan.⁹ In 1530 King James V. granted to James Grant of Freuchy and John M'Kinze of Kintale liberty to go to any part of the realm on their lawful business.¹⁰ In 1532, 1538, and 1540 the same John M'Kenich of Kintail appears in record.¹¹ In 1542 King James V. granted to John M'Kenzie of Kintail the waste lands of Monar, lying between the water of Gleneak on the north, the top or summit of Landovir on the south, the torrent of Towmuk and Inchelochill on the east, and the water of Bernis running into the water of Long on the west—and also the waste lands of lie Nel, lying between Loch Boyne on the north, Loch Tresk on the south, lie Ballach on the west, and Dawelach on the east—in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes—lands which were never in the king's rental and never yielded any revenue—for the yearly payment of £4 to the king as earl of Ross.¹² In 1543 Queen Mary granted to Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail and Isabel Stewart his wife the lands of Auchnaceyric, Lakachane, Strome-ne-mowklach, Kilkinterne, the two Rateganis, Torlousicht, Auchmashellich, Auchnagart, Auchewrane, lie Knokfreith, Aucharskelane, and

Waltero Stewart. Henrico de Baltho camerario. Arnoldo de Campania. Thoma Hostiaro viccomite de Innernes. Apud Kincardine ix die Januarii anno regni domini regis xvi.

If the charter be genuine, it is not of Alexander III. or connected with the battle of Largs (1263). Two of the witnesses, Andrew bishop of Moray and Henry de Balliol chamberlain, would correspond with the 16th year of Alexander II. The writers of the family history of the Mackenzies assert also charters of David II. (1360) and of Robert II. (1380) to 'Murdo filius Kennethi de Kintail,' but without furnishing any description or means of testing their authenticity. No such charters are recorded.

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 91.

² Rob. Index, p. 16, no. 7. Regist. Moraviense, p. 342.

³ Rob. Index, p. 48, no. 1; p. 99; p. 100, no. 1. ⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Gregory, p. 27.

⁶ Balmagown Charters.

⁷ Gregory, p. 83.

⁸ Ibid. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 327.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 89. Gregory, p. 83.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 149.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 111; vol. xii. fol. 21; vol. xiv. fol. 32.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 417. Neither the Great Seal Record, nor any accessible map, nor the Statistical or other accounts, afford the means of determining whether those lands lie in Kintail or in some of the neighbouring parishes.

Malegane, in the lordship of Kintail, and other lands in Ross, extending in all to 36 marks, which he had resigned.¹ In 1551 the same queen granted to John M'Kenze of Kintail and Kenzeoch M'Kenze his son and apparent heir a remission for the violent taking of John Hectour M'Kenzesone of Garlouch, Doull Hectoursone, and John Towach Hectonrsone, and for keeping them in prison, 'vsurpand thairthrow onr Souerane Ladyis autorite.'² In 1554 there appear in record John Mackenze of Kintaille and his son and heir apparent Kenneth Mackenze of Brahan (apparently the same persons that appear in 1551).³ In 1562 there appears in record Kenzeoch M'Kinzie of Kintail, apparently the heir of John.⁴ In 1569 the same Kenzeoch was heir in remainder to the chapel lands of Apilerocce, then granted by Sir William Stewart the chaplain to Rory Makkangze and his heirs male.⁵ In 1570 King James VI. granted to Coline Makeainze, the son and apparent heir of the deceased Canzeoch Makeainze of Kintail, permission to be served heir in his minority to all the lands and rents in the sheriffdom of Innernes in which his father died last vest and seised, provided that his entry thus should not prejudice the King or those who held of him the ward and relief of the lands.⁶ In 1572 the same king confirmed a grant made by Colin Makeanze of Kintail to Barbara Graunt his affianced spouse, in fulfilment of a contract between him and John Grant of Frewchie dated 25 April 1571. of his lands of Climbo, Keppach, and Ballichon, Mekle Innerrenned, Devisduan Beg, Litill Innerrenned, Devisduan Moir, Auchadrein, Kirktonn, Ardtulloch, Roroeh, Quhissill, Tullych, Derewall and Nvik, Incheroy, Morowoch, Glenlik, Innersell and Nuik, Achazarge, Kinloch-beancharan, and Innerchonray, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes.⁷ In 1574 the same Colin was served heir to his father Kenneth M'Keinzie in the davach of Lettirfernane, the davaeh of Glenschall, and other lands, in the barony of Ellendonane, of the old extent of 5 marks.⁸ In 1586 King James VI. granted a remission to Colin M'Kainzie of Kintail and Rodoric M'Kainzie of Auchterfallie his brother for being art and part in the cruel murder of Rodoric M'Allester in Stroll, Gorrie M'Allester his brother in Stroneroag, Ronald M'Gorrie the son of the latter—John Roy M'Allane V'Allester in Peitnean, John Dow M'Allane V'Allester in Kirktonn of Lochearronn, Alexander M'Allanroy, servitors of the deceased Rodoric—Sir John Monro in Lochbrume, John Monro his son, John Monro Hucheon—and the rest of their accomplices, under silence of night upon the lands of Ardmanichtyke (or Ardnachfaich), Dalmartene, Kirktonn of Lochearronn, Blahat, and other parts within the baronies of Lochearronn, Lochbrume, Ros, and Kessane, in the sheriffdom of Innernes; and for all other past crimes, except treason against the King's person, and the murder of his father, grandfather, and regent.⁹ In 1633 George M'Keinzie was served heir male to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Keinzie of Kintail, in the lands and barony of Ellendonan, including the lands of Kintail, namely, the davach of Coysag, the davach of Letterfairne,

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 524. Reg. Soc. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 56.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 75.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 211.

⁴ Coll. de Reb. Alb., pp. 143, 144.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 119.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 8.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 94.

⁸ Retours.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 98.

the davach of Glenliek, the davach of Glensceill, the davach of Lettirehoull, the two davachs of Croo, and three davachs between the water of Keppach and the water of Luing, with other lands, together of the old extent of £20.¹ In 1669 Colin Earl of Balcarras was served heir to his father Earl Alexander in the barony of Ilandonan or Kintail, including Kintail, Lochbroome, Lochals, Lochcarrone, Kessurine, and other lands in Ross.²

Near the mouth of Loch Long is a small village named Dornie.³

Near the village, on a rock insulated at high water, are the ruins of the ancient fortress of Ellandonan, now known as Castle Dounan.⁴ It is believed to have been built by King Alexander II. or III. as a place of defence against the Danes or Norwegians.⁵ In 1331 Randolph Earl of Moray, then Warden of Scotland, despatched his crowner to Elandonan to prepare the castle for his reception, and to arrest 'mysdoaris,' fifty of whom that officer put to death, and placed their heads on the top of the castle walls.⁶ In 1350 William Earl of Ross and lord of Sky dates a charter at Elandonan, and about the same period the castle was included in an exchange of his lands in Ergile with his brother Hugh for the latter's lands in Buchan.⁷ Fordun about 1400 mentions Elindonan as one of the *insule lacuales* with a castle.⁸ In 1503 Alexander Earl of Huntlie undertook to reduce the castles which were considered 'rycht necessar for the danting of the Ilis,' especially 'the Strome and Alanedonane,' and to furnish or raise men to keep them when reduced, King James IV. engaging to provide a ship with artillery for the purpose.⁹ In 1509 that king, as before stated, granted the castle to John Makkenze with the lands of Kintail.¹⁰ In 1539 Donald Gorme of Sleat and his allies, after laying waste Trouterness in Sky and Kenlochew in Ross, attempted to take the castle of Elandonan, but, Donald being killed by an arrow shot from the walls, the attempt failed.¹¹ In 1541 King James V. granted a remission to Donald's accomplices, namely, Archibald Ilis *alias* Archibald the Clerk, Alexander M'Conill Gallich, John Dow Donaldsoun, Neil M'Ewin M'Lauchlane, Donald M'Ewin M'Lauchlane, Niel M'Ewin M'Kerlich, Donald M'Anguis M'Ane M'Gillemartene, Alexander M'Breif, Finlay M'Queue, Tarmot Ger, Patrik M'Conill Meill, Angus the Clerk, Gillereoch M'Queane, Donald Og, John Glas Gow, Ewin M'Kynnane Murchew, Rodoric Mantochsoun, Donald Dow M'Gillespe, Hector Cam, Donald M'Ane Roy, John Bane, Finlay M'Ferquersoun, Donald Boreoch M'Cloid, Niel Cuke, Donald Keill Ranaldsoun, Gillebreid M'Gilleangane, Gillecallum M'Federis, and his brother Peter M'Federis, for their treasonable burning of the castle of Allandonnand and of the boats there, for the 'hereschip' of Kenlochew and Trouteness, and for all past actions except treason against the King's person.¹² 'The castell of Ylen Donen,' says a writer of the seventeenth century, 'is composed of a strong and fair dungeon upon a rock, with another tower compasd with a fair barmkin wall, with orchards and trees, all within ane yland of the lenth of twa pair of butts

¹ Retours.

² Retours.

³ New Stat. Acc. and Maps. Anderson's Guide, p. 282.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson, p. 282.

⁵ Old Stat. Acc. Anderson, p. 282.

⁶ Wyntownis Cronykil, c. xxiii. ll. 119-144.

⁷ Balnagown Charters.

⁸ Scotichronicon, lib. ii. cap. 10.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. pp. 240, 249.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 89.

¹¹ Gregory, pp. 145, 146. Border Minstrelsy. Anderson, p. 283. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 46.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 47.

almost round. It is said that of old that castel consisted of seven tours.¹ It is marked by Blaeu as Chastel Ylen Donen.² It was destroyed by a ship of war in 1719, subsequently to a battle fought in Glensheil between the royal troops and those of the Pretender.³ One side of the tower or keep, which was 80 feet in height, and ruins of the other buildings remain.⁴

Near the manse of Kintail stood in 1790 Dounan Diarmod, a circular fort of stone 20 feet high and 20 feet wide.⁵

Opposite Ellandonan on the coast of Letterfearn are the remains of a circular duu named Castle Gruagach, of which the walls are 9 feet in thickness, and the internal diameter is 25 feet.⁶

LOCHALSH.

Lochelch⁷—Lochelsche⁸—Clachan Lochalse⁹—Lochals¹⁰—Lochallis¹¹—
Kilchoen in Lochaelsh¹²—Kilchoen¹³—Lochailse.¹⁴ (Map, No. 2.)

THIS parish includes a long strip of land stretching from south west to north east, the southern portion forming a peninsula having Lochcarron on the north, and Lochalsh, Lochduich, and Lochlong on the south.¹⁵ The northern and inland part is mountainous.¹⁶

We are informed by the Aberdeen Breviary that Saint Congan (about A. D. 600), having left Ireland with his sister Saint Kentigerna and her sons, Felan, Furscus, and Vlean, landed at Lochelch in North Argyle, where he appears to have died, and where Saint Felan his nephew afterwards built a church and dedicated it to Saint Congan.¹⁷ The subsequent history of the church previously to the Reformation seems to be unknown, with the exception of the fact that it was latterly a common church of the canons of Ross. In 1569 King James VI. presented Alexander Fraser or Moir to the parsonage of Lochelsche, 'vakand as ane commoun kirk of Ros.'¹⁸ In 1574 the same Alexander was reader at Lochelshe and Lochcarron.¹⁹ In 1576 King James confirmed a grant by John bishop of the Isles to the deceased Angus Makcallister of Glengarrie of a markland of Clachan Lochalse.²⁰ In 1582 the same king presented Master Murdo Murchesoun to the parsonage of Lochals and Lochcarran (then apparently united), vacant by the decease of Alexander M^rGruder.²¹

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

² Blaeu's Map.

³ Old Stat. Acc. Anderson, p. 280.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc. Anderson, p. 282. New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Old Stat. Acc.

⁶ Anderson, p. 285. New Stat. Acc.

⁷ A. D. 1510. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 126.

⁸ A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 61.

A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

⁹ A. D. 1576. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 83.

¹⁰ A. D. 1582. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 24.

¹¹ A. D. 1582. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 59.

¹² A. D. 1600-1640. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹³ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹⁴ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁵ New Stat. Acc. and County Maps.

¹⁶ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁷ Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 126.

¹⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 61.

¹⁹ Book of Assignations.

²⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 83.

²¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. ff. 24, 59.

The church, dedicated to Saint Congan, stood at Kilchoan on the east shore of Lochalsh.¹ The present building was erected in 1641.² Saint Congan was commemorated on the 20th of February.³

In 1574 the reader at Lochelsche had for his stipend 'the haill commoun kirk of Lochelsche, baith personaige and vicarage,' the value of which however is not stated.⁴

The land of Lochalsh, as part of North Argyle, was included among the lands of the Earl of Ros, in 1292 erected with others by King John Balliol into the sheriffdom of Skey.⁵ Between 1306 and 1314 also it was the property of the Earl of Ross.⁶

In 1449 the lands of Lochalche were held by Celestine the brother of John Lord of the Isles, styled Celestine of the Isles of Lochalche.⁷ The same Celestine appears in record in 1461, 1463, 1464, and 1472.⁸ In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted the lands of Lochalsche and others in Ross to his brother Celestine, and to his heirs by his wife Finvola the daughter of Lachlan Macgilleone of Dowart, with remainder to his heirs by any other wife (whom failing the lands were to revert to the Earl), for yearly payment of six pennies blench ferme.⁹ In 1464 King James III. confirmed the grant.¹⁰ Celestine died in 1473, and was succeeded by his son Alexander, who appears in record in 1492, 1494, and 1495 as Alexander of the Isles of Lochalch.¹¹ Alexander was dead in 1498, and his son Donald, known as Donald Galda, and also as Sir Donald of the Isles of Lochalch, held the lands of Lochalch till about the year 1518, and during the latter part of that period was noted for his turbulence.¹² In 1517 John Duke of Albany Regent appointed Colin Earl of Argyle, for three years or more according to the Regent's pleasure, lieutenant of the Isles and of certain other lands including Lochalche, for the purpose of establishing peace among the inhabitants.¹³ Sir Donald of Lochalche died about the year 1518, and left no male heir.¹⁴ In 1539 King James V. granted anew to Alexander M'Kane M'Alister of Glengarre and Margaret Ylis his wife in life rent, and to Angus M'Alister their son and apparent heir in heritage, the half of the lands of Lochelch, which with other lands in Ross had been resigned by Margaret Ylis (the sister and heiress of Sir Donald).¹⁵ In 1548 Queen Mary granted to James Grant of Freuchy, assignee of his tenants, the liferent of the quarter davach of Inchenarne and Ard-marrach, the quarter davach of Sellach, the quarter davach of Connachry, the quarter davach of Ardely, the quarter davach of Ardach and Auchatorlyne, the half quarter davach of Nosti, the quarter davach of Rewrag, the half davach of Ballimchroy, the half davach of Auchnahogyeh, the quarter davach of Cragy and Harsa, and the quarter davach of Durris, of the lands of

¹ Macfarlane. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu.

² Old Stat. Acc.

³ Camerarius, p. 104.

⁴ Book of Assignations.

⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 91.

⁶ Regist. Moraviense, p. 342. Rob. Index, p. 16, no. 7.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 186. Gregory, pp. 41, 59.

⁸ Argyle Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. nn. 17, 116; lib. xiii. no. 203.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 116.

¹⁰ Ibid. Gregory, p. 59. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 203. Coll. de Reb. Alb., pp. 84, 85. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 359.

¹¹ Gregory, pp. 106, 113-126. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 336; lib. xix. no. 133. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. ff. 2, 9, 26, 84, 101; vol. xiii. fol. 45.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 102.

¹³ Gregory, pp. 126, 218.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 247. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 78.

Lochelch, of the old extent of 12 marks, the liferent of which belonged to Alaster M'Keane M'Alaster of Glengawrie; and also the hereditary fee of the same 12 marklands, which belonged in heritage to Angus the son and heir apparent of Alaster—which lands with others held of the Queen for service of ward and relief had been appraised for the sum of £10,770, 13s. 4d. in favour of James Grant for satisfaction of a 'spulzie' committed by Alaster, Angus, and their accomplices.¹ In 1554 (3 April) the same queen granted to John Grant, the son and heir of the deceased James Grant of Fruchquhy, the relief of the same lands and others which belonged to him in heritage.² In the same year (24 November) Thomas Dingwell of Kildun sold the same half of the lands of Lochelsche to Kenzeth Mackenze of Braban, the son and heir apparent of John Mackenze of Kintaile, to whom Queen Mary granted a crown charter of the lands.³

In 1492 Alexander of the Isles of Lochalch granted to Ewin the son of Alan, captain of Clancamroun, Achenadariach and Lunde of the old extent of two marks; Fairnamore, two marks; Culvoyr and Achmoir, two marks; Fayrinneveg and Fudanamine, and Acheache, two marks; Achechoynleich and Brayeintraye, two marks; Culthnok, Achenacloch, Blaregarwe, and Acheae, two marks; Awnernis and Wochterory, two marks; in the lordship of Lochalch.⁴ In 1495 King James IV. confirmed the grant.⁵ In 1528 the same 14 marklands were resigned by Ewin Alansoun of Lochiell, and for his good service King James V. erected them and others in his favour into the barony of Lochiell.⁶ In 1539 Ewin again resigned the lands of the barony, including the 14 marklands of Lochalch, and the whole were then granted anew by King James to Ewin Allansoun in liferent, and to his nephew Ewin Cammeroun in heritage.⁷ In 1548 Queen Mary granted to John Grant of Culcabog 5 marklands in Lochelsche (part of the above 14), namely, the half davach of Achnadarrach and Lundy, the half davach of Fernagmoir, and the quarter davach of Farnagbeg, Fynnyman, and Auchecroy, which belonged to Ewin Donaldsoun the nephew and heir of Ewin Alansoun, were held of the Queen by service of ward and relief, and with other lands were appraised in favour of John Grant for the sum of £758, 12s. 1d. as satisfaction for a 'spulzie' committed by Ewin and others.⁸ In the same year the remaining 9 of the 14 marklands, namely, the half of the half davach commonly called the davach of Fernagbeg, Finneinan, and Auchecroy, the half davach of Auchowlycht and Briatorich, the half davach of Cuthok, Auchnacloch, and Blairgarrok, the half davach of Avarynnis, Ochtirtirie, and Achich, and the half davach of Auchmoir and Killochir which belonged in heritage to the same Ewin Donaldsoun, the nephew and heir of Ewin Alansoun of Lochelsch, were in the same manner and for the same cause appraised in favour of James Grant of Fruchquhy, to whom, as above stated, the 12 marklands called the half of Lochalsh were at the same time appraised.⁹ In 1572 King James VI. granted to John Grant of Carron a crown charter of 5 marklands in Lochelsche, which were alienated to him in heritage by John Grant of Culcabog,

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 314. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 4.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 22.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 211. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 87.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 203.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 52.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 2.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 263. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 3.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 314. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 3.

⁵ Ibid.

and which had of old belonged to the deceased Ewin Donaldsone, the nephew and heir of the deceased Ewin Allanesoun.¹ In 1583 the same king granted in heritage to Donald M'Angus M'Allester of Glengarrie the nonentry and other dues of £20 lands in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Inverness, including the 14 marklands of Lochalch, and stated to have been in the King's hands since the decease of Sir Donald Ylis of Lochels, Donald M'Allester's predecessor and 'guidame's' brother.² In 1611 John Grant of Glenmoristoun was served heir to his grandfather John Grant of Culcabock in 5 marklands in Lochalsche.³

In 1633 George M'Keinzie was served heir-male to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Keinzie of Kintail, in the lands and barony of Ellendonan, including the whole of the lands and towns of Lochalsche of the old extent of £26, 13s., and with Lochbrein, Kissirin, Assint, and Coegach, united into the barony of Lochalsche.⁴

LOHCARRON.

Lochcarroun⁵—Lochcarran⁶—Chombrich Mulrui⁷—Clachan Mulrui.⁸
(Map, No. 3.)

THIS parish includes a long narrow strip of hilly country extending about five miles north-west from the river Carron and the arm of the sea called Lochcarron, from which it is named, together with some detached lands lying within the parish of Applecross. On the coast are a few islands.

Of the church there seems to be no notice till after the Reformation. In 1574 Alexander Fraser or Moir officiated as reader at Lochalsche and Lochcarron.⁹ In 1582 King James VI. presented Master Murdo Murcheson to the parsonage of Lochals and Lochcarran, vacant by the decease of Alexander M'Gruder.¹⁰

The church, dedicated to Saint Malrube, seems to have always stood on its present site near the head of Lochcarron on its north-west shore.¹¹ The present church was built in 1751.¹²

Near Attadale are two caves, styled by the inhabitants Uagh Ashoil (the stranger's cave), and in their immediate neighbourhood a place of worship and a burying-ground.¹³

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 95.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 189.

³ Retours.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁶ A. D. 1582. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. ff. 24, 59.

⁷ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁸ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

⁹ Book of Assignations.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. ff. 24, 59.

¹¹ Macfarlane. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Modern Maps. The precincts of the church were of old a girth or sanctuary, as is implied in the name Chombrich Mulrui (the girth of Malrube). According to the Old Stat. Acc. it was formerly known as the Great Church of Lochcarron.

¹² Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Old Stat. Acc.

The district of Lochcarron, as part of the lands of the Earl of Ross in North Argyle, was included in the sheriffdom of Skey erected in 1292 by King John Balliol.¹ Between 1306 and 1329 King Robert Bruce confirmed to the Earl of Ross all his lands, which included North Argyle, and among these expressly the lands of Tarrodall and others, apparently in Lochcarron.²

In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted the lands of Lochcarron, Torvirtayne, Kischernis, and others in Ross to his brother Celestine of the Isles, and to his heirs by Finvola the daughter of Lachlan Macgilleone of Dowart, with remainder to his heirs by any other wife, on whose failure the lands were to revert to the Earl.³ In 1464 King James IV. confirmed the grant.⁴ In 1517 John Duke of Albany Regent of Scotland appointed Colin Earl of Argyle, for three years or more at the Regent's pleasure, lieutenant of the Isles and of certain other lands including Lochgarron and Kissirne, for the purpose of establishing peace among the inhabitants.⁵

In 1472 Celestine of the Isles, lord of Lochaleh, granted to Alan the son of Donald Duff captain of Clancamroun, and to his heirs, with remainder to the male heirs of Ewin the son of Donald, the brother of Alan, the constabulary of the castle of Strome and the 12 marklands of Kysryner (Kishorn) in the lordship and earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, for the maintenance and faithful keeping of the castle.⁶ In 1492 Alexander of the Isles of Lochaleh (the son of Celestine) granted to Ewin the son of Alan, captain of Clancamroun, 20s. of Stromecarranach, 20s. of Slouba, 10s. of the quarter of Dovne, and 30s. of the three quarters of Achinche, in the lordship of Locharrane and earldom of Ross.⁷ In 1495 the grant was confirmed by King James IV.⁸ In 1528 Ewin Allansoun of Lochiell resigned the same lands and constabulary of Stroun, which King James V. then granted anew to him with other lands, which for his good service he erected in his favour into the barony of Lochiell.⁹ In 1539 (6 March) the same king granted to Alexander M'Alister M'Alister of Glengarre and Margaret Ylis his wife in liferent, and to their son and apparent heir Angus M'Alister in heritage, the castle, fortalice, and manor of the lands of Strome, and half of the lands of Lochcarne and other lands, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys, which were resigned by Margaret Ylis.¹⁰ In the same year (11 April) Ewin Allansoun resigned the lands and barony of Lochiell, including the lands and castle granted to him in 1528, which King James then granted anew to him in liferent, and to his nephew Ewin Cammeroun in heritage.¹¹ In 1546 Queen Mary granted to George Earl of Huntlie the escheat of certain lands which belonged in heritage to Ewin Allansoun of Lochiell, and among these the lands of Strom and Kesrom in the earldom of Ross.¹² In 1548 the same queen granted to John Grant of Culeabok the liferent of the quarter davach of Auchinschallauch, the quarter davach of Dalmartyne, and the half davach of Torredaill, in Loch-

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 91.

² Rob. Index, p. 16, nn. 5, 7. Regist. Moraviense, p. 342.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 116.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 102.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 203.

⁷ Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 52.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 247. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 78.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 2.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 72.

⁸ Ibid.

arron, extending to $2\frac{1}{2}$ marks old extent, and valued at 359 marks 3 shillings and 8 pence, belonging to Alestar M'Kaane M'Alestar; and also the heritage of the same $2\frac{1}{2}$ marklands, belonging to Angus the son and apparent heir of Alestar; which were held of the Queen by service of ward and relief, and were with other lands appraised in favour of John Grant for satisfaction of a 'spulzie' committed by Alestar, Angus, and their accomplices.¹ In the same year Queen Mary granted to James Grant of Freuchy the liferent of the quarter davach of Dalquharrane, the half quarter davach of Ruboachane, and the half davach of Attadale, together of the old extent of 4 marks 20 pence, of the lands of Locharrone, belonging to the same Alestar; the heritage of the same lands belonging to his son Angus; and 13 marklands old extent of Kessern, namely, the davach of Achbane, the davach of Achnacreak, the davach of Stromecastell, Ardnagald, Ardnanskene, and Bleyat, and the quarter davach of Tannachtan, with the castle of Strome and the office of constable of the same, belonging in heritage to Ewin Donaldsoun the nephew and heir of Ewin Alansoun of Lochelsch: all which with other lands held of the Queen had been appraised in favour of James Grant for the same reason as the lands granted to John Grant.² In 1553 the Queen granted to George Earl of Huntlie the lands of Strome and Kesrome, which had been forfeited by Ewin Allansoun of Lochiel for the crimes of treason and lese majesty.³ In 1554 she granted to John Grant, the son and heir of the deceased James Grant of Fruchquhy, the relief of the lands of Kessarne, Lochquharrone, and others, in the sheriffdom of Innernes, which belonged to him in heritage.⁴ In 1572 King James VI. confirmed a charter by the deceased John Grant of Culcabok, alienating in heritage to John Grant of Carron the $2\frac{1}{2}$ marklands of Lochcarron granted to the former by Queen Mary in 1548.⁵ In 1575 (6 March) the same king granted to Alexander Bayne of Tulch and Anne Fraser his wife, and their heirs, with remainder to Alexander's heirs whomsoever, a crown charter of half the lands of Tovirtane with the salmon fishings in salt water and fresh, sold to them by Thomas Dingwell of Kildun.⁶ In the same year (6 May) he granted in heritage to John Dingwell of Kildun, the son and heir of the deceased Thomas Dingwell of Kildun, the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Lochcarron, Kisyrne, and the fortalice of Strome, in the sheriffdom of Innernes, in the King's hands since the decease of Thomas Dingwell in 1573, or of the last lawful possessor.⁷ In the same year (5 November) he granted to Alexander Bane of Tullycht the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Torerdane and Dalmartene in the sheriffdom of Innernes, in the hands of the crown since the decease of Jonet and Margaret Ilis, sisters and heiresses of those lands, or since the death of the last lawful possessor.⁸ In 1583 the same king granted to Donald M'Angus M'Allester of Gengarrie the nonentry and other dues of £20 lands in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, including 10 shillinglands of the Dun, 10s. of Slowmba, 20s. of Stroympearroinche, 30s. of Midstroyrne, Stromecastell, and Rerog, 40s. of Achintrait, 40s. of Achwanyne, 10s. of Safnachan,

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 263. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 3.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 314. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 4.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 145.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 22.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 95.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 117.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 1.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliiii. fol. 39.

10s. of Blyat, 20s. of Rassor, and 10s. of Resser, in the King's hands since the decease of Sir Donald Ylis of Lochels, Donald M'Allester's predecessor and 'guidame's' brother.¹ In 1584 King James confirmed a charter by John Dingwall of Kildun alienating to Colin M'Kainzie of Kintail and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever bearing his surname and arms, the half of the lands of Achnesellache and Coulonge the half of of Edderdacharrane, the half of Attadill, the half of Rowborchan, the half of Braclache and Dalmartein, held in feu by the deceased Robert Bane, with fishings in salt water and fresh, in the barony of Lochercarne, earldom of Ros, and sheriffdom of Innernes.² In the same year Donald M'Angus M'Alister of Glengarrie was served heir to his grandmother Margaret of Ilis in half of the lands of Auchnell, half of the lands of Arimachlag, half of the lands of Torrerdone with the fishings, and half of the lands of Auchinsellach, in Lochearren, of the old extent of 53s. 4d.³ In 1611 John Grant of Glenmoristoun was served heir to his grandfather John Grant of Culcebock in 2½ marklands of Lochearron (as in 1548 and 1572), of the old extent of 33s. 4d.⁴

In 1633 George M'Keinzie was served heir male to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Keinzie of Kintail, in the lands and barony of Ellendonan, including the barony of Lochalsehe, in which was included the barony or the lands and towns of Lochearron, namely, the towns and lands of Auchnaschellach, Coullin, Edderancharron, Attadill, Ruyehichan, Brecklach, Achachoull, Delmartyne with fishings in salt water and fresh, Dalcharlarie, Arrinachteg, Achintie, Slumba, Doune, Stromecarronach, in the earldom of Ross, of the old extent of £13, 6s. 8d.; and also the towns of Kisserin and lands of Strome with fishings in salt and fresh water, and the towns and lands of Torridan, with the pertinents of the castle of Strome, Lochalsehe, Lochearron, and Kissirin, including the davach of Achvaie, the davach of Auchnatrait, the davach of Strom-castell, Ardnagald, Ardnerkan, and Bland, and the half davach of Sannachan, Rassoll, Meikle Strome, and Rerag, in the earldom of Ross, together of the old extent of £8, 13s. 4d.⁵

At Janetown on Lochearron there is a small fishing village.⁶

The castle of Strome or Strone, as stated above, appears in record in the years 1472, 1528, 1539, 1548, 1575, and 1633.⁷ It appears also in 1503, in which year Alexander Earl of Huntly undertook to reduce the castles which were considered necessary 'for the danting of the Ilis', particularly the Strome and Alanedonane, and to supply or raise men to keep them when reduced, on condition that the King (James IV.) should furnish a ship and artillery for the purpose.⁸ In 1517 Colin Earl of Argyre received power from the Lords of Council to seize, if possible, on the castle of Strome.⁹ About the year 1602 it was besieged by Kenneth Mackenzie, first Lord Kintail, and surrendered to him, on which he caused it to be blown up.¹⁰ Its ruins remain at the foot of a hill on Loch Kishorn named the hill of Strome.¹¹

At Janetown (or Tomaclare) and at Laganduin are the remains of two of those circular buildings so frequent upon the west coast.¹²

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 189.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 58.

³ Retours.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Anderson's Guide, p. 565.

⁷ See pp. 399-401.

⁸ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. pp. 240, 249. Gregory, p. 120.

⁹ Acta Dom. Conc., vol. xxix. fol. 211.

¹⁰ Gregory, p. 302. Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹² Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.



APPLECROSS.

Aporcrossan, Apercrossan, Apuorcrossain¹—Crosain²—Appilleroce³—Abilcros⁴—Apileors⁵—Apileroce⁶—Abileors⁷—Apileroce, Appileroce⁸—Chombrich-abrich⁹—Combrich¹⁰—Apilgirth¹¹—Aplecroce.¹² (Map, No. 4.)

THIS parish, chiefly mountainous, lies between the salt-water lochs named Loch Kishorn and Loch Torridon, and includes three districts, Kishorn, Applecross, and Lochs. On the coast there are some small islands.

We are informed by the Irish annalists that in the year 673 Maclruaba (known in Scotland as Saint Rufus, Malrubius, or Malrube, and commemorated on the 27th of August) founded the church of Aporcrossan.¹³ From the same source we learn that he died at Apercrossan on the 21st of April 722, aged 80 years, three months, and 19 days.¹⁴ Saint Malrube, says the Aberdeen Breviary, was murdered at Urquhart in Ross by Norwegians who landed on the coast, and who understood that he preached a different faith from theirs. He lived some days after receiving his death wounds, and ordered his body to be buried at Appileroce.¹⁵ He was succeeded in the rule of the monastery (as it then appears to have been) of Apuorcrossan by Failbe M'Guaire, who in the year 737 perished at sea along with 22 followers who manned his vessel.¹⁶ The Aberdeen Breviary, without giving the date, informs us that the Danes, having landed at Appileroce, violated the sacred territory of six miles round the church, insulted and

¹ *Ante* A. D. 1088. Tigernachi Annales.

² *Post* A. D. 1088. Annal. Ulton.

³ A. D. 1510. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 90.

⁴ A. D. 1515. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 29.

⁵ A. D. 1539. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 26. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁶ A. D. 1540. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 73; vol. xiv. fol. 36. A. D. 1542. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 84. A. D. 1561. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 53. A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 119. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1575. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 17. A. D. 1576. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliiii. fol. 100. A. D. 1583. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 163.

⁷ A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 38. A. D. 1549. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 10.

⁸ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁹ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁰ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu.

¹¹ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹² A. D. 1662. Retours.

¹³ Tigernachi Annales. Dr. Reeves in a paper published in the Irish Ecclesiastical Journal for 1849

affirms that Saint Rufus and Saint Malrube were different persons. If so, they were frequently confounded in Scotland. Kilarrow in Islay was named also Kilarrow, that is, the church of Malrube and the church of Rufus. An island off Saint Malrube's owu territory of Applecross is named Saint Rufus' Island. The town of Keith in Banff, of old called Kethmalruf (Reg. Mor. no. 25.) after the saint of Applecross, and where the annual fair is still known as Summareve (Saint Malrube) fair, is locally and popularly said to have been dedicated to Saint Rufus. See Reg. Episc. Aberdon. vol. i. p. lxxxvi.; vol. ii. p. 17.

¹⁴ Tigernachi Annales. Thomas l'unes in his history of Scotland now in course of publication by the Spalding Club says that Saint Maclrubius or Mulrui was commemorated on the 21st of April.

¹⁵ Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 90. By other authorities Saint Malrube is said to have been slain *in Meria*, that is, in Kincardineshire, which by some is by mistake rendered Nairn. Urquhart, it appears, was known by the Gaelic name Urchudincill-na-chrossan. Paper by Dr. Reeves above cited. Keith's Bishops.

¹⁶ Tigernachi Annales. Annal. Ulton.

robbed the priests and other ministers in contempt of Saint Malrube, and returned to their vessels, which were afterwards sunk in sight of land without any storm.¹ The church was afterwards a common church of the canons of Ross.² This seems to complete its known history before the era of the Reformation. In 1574 Murquho or Murdoch Jhonnestoun was reader at Apileroce, and in 1575 he was presented by King James VI. to the parsonage and vicarage of Apileroce, 'being ane commoun kirk of the bischoprik of Ros.'³ In 1662 John M'Keanzie of Aplecroce was served heir to his grandfather Alexander Mackeanzie of Coull in the lands of Aplecroce and the advowson of the church.⁴

The church stood at the head of the bay of Applecross on the west coast of the parish.⁵ The building which existed in the seventeenth century is styled by a writer of the time 'a fair hieland kirk.'⁶ The church standing in 1788 was then condemned as insufficient, and the present church was built in 1817.⁷ Near it are the remains of an ecclesiastical building, but whether those of a church or of a monastery does not appear.⁸ In the last century it was common with the inhabitants to swear by the *Ider* of Applecross.⁹

There was a chaplainry in Applecross, dedicated to Saint Malrube, and served by one or two chaplains. In 1515 King James V. presented Sir Alexander Makeloid to the two chaplainries within the parish church of Abileors, when they should be vacant by the decease or inhability of Sir Murdoc and Sir Cristin the chaplains.¹⁰ In 1539 the same king presented Sir John Donaldsoun to the chaplainry of the chapel of Saint Malrube in Apilcoers, vacant by the decease of Sir Alexander M'Clode.¹¹ In 1540 (20 March) he presented Sir John Donaldsoun to the chaplainry of Saint Malrube in Apileroce, vacant by the decease of Sir Christofer Jhonesoun; and in the same year (29 March) he granted to Master John Cameroun and Sir John Donaldsoun chaplains all the goods that belonged to the deceased chaplain, which were in the King's hands by reason of his having been born and died illegitimate.¹² In the same year (29 November) he presented Master John Cameroun to the chaplainry of Saint Malrube in Apileroce, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir John Donaldsoun.¹³ In 1542 the same king presented Sir Murdoc Jhonsoune younger to half the chaplainry of Apileroce, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Murdoc Jhonesoun the elder.¹⁴ In 1548 Queen Mary granted a similar presentation in favour of the same Sir Murdoc or Murquhard Jhonestoun the younger to the chaplainry of Saint Mulrube the martyr of Abileors, the presentation belonging to the Queen during the vacancy of the see.¹⁵ In 1549 that queen, who was patron *pleno jure*, presented Sir John Donaldsoun to the chaplainry of Saint Malrube the martyr in Abileors, vacant or when

¹ Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 90. The parish is still locally styled *Conrieich*, which signifies 'girth' or 'sanctuary.' Old and New Stat. Acc. Macfarlane. In the year 800 the Irish annalists record the death of Macoige of Apcerrosan abbot of Bangor.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 17.

³ Book of Assignations. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 17.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Old and New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

⁶ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Letter from Rev. John M'Queen to Gen. Hinton, 1789. Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 29.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 26.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. ff. 73, 87.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv., fol. 36.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 84.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 38. In the record of

vacant by the resignation of Master John Camroun.¹ In 1561 she presented Sir William Monro chaplain to the chaplainry of Apileroce within the girth of the same, vacant by the decease of Sir John Donaldson.² In 1569 King James VI. confirmed a grant made by Sir William Stewart chaplain of Apileroce, with the consent of John bishop of Ross, the dean, and the canons, to Rory Makkangze and his heirs male, with remainder to Kenzeoch M'Kangze of Kintail and his male heirs whomsoever bearing his arms and surname, of half of the lands of Bonnadell, Longoll and Achechork, Kippech, Satrell and Drumloy, Cowlmoir, Corchirie, Coulnakill, Ardestang, Scheildag, Dybege, Rischill, and Lestang, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, which belonged to Sir William as the patrimony of the chaplainry.³ In 1576 the same king granted to Kenoch M'Kenze, the son of master Alexander M'Kenze of Kilchrist, for his 'sustentation at the sulis' for seven years, one of the chaplainries of Apileroce, vacant by the decease of Sir William Stewart.⁴ In 1583 he granted to Patrick Dunbar, the son of the deceased David Dunbar of Penik, the same chaplainry, vacant by the 'outrunning' of the grant to Kenzeoch M'Kainzie.⁵

Saint Rufus island, Loch-an-tagart (the priest's loch), Island-na-nuagh (saints' island), Loch-na-nuag (the holy loch), and other names, indicate the former veneration for the asylum and territory consecrated by Saint Malrube.⁶

In 1574 Murquho Johnnestoun reader at Apileroce had for his stipend the sum of £17 and 8s.⁷

Between 1561 and 1566 the united value of the chaplainries of Saint Monanis (in Kiltearn) and Apileoce, held by Sir William Stewart vicar of Dingwall, was stated by him at 36 marks.⁸

The district of Applecross was probably included in the lands of the Earl of Ross in North Argyre, which formed part of the sheriffdom of Skey erected in 1292 by King John Balliol.⁹ It seems also to have been included among the lands of the Earl of Ros between the years 1306 and 1329.¹⁰

In 1662 John M'Keanzie of Aplecroce was served heir male to his grandfather Alexander M'Keanzie of Coull in the lands of Aplecroce, including the towns and lands of Rossollis commonly called Over and Nether Rossollis, Resker, Toskag, Barradaill, Longoll, Keppach, Auchmoir, Sacadaill, Drumley, Culmoir, Tercherrie, Drumclaughan, Kirkton of Aplecroce, Killiemorie, Culdnakle, Ardestag, Schildag, Sacrell, Testang, Sadilack, Auchiechock, and Culnakle, with the advowson of the church of Aplecroce, in the parish of Aplecroce and bishoprick of Ross, of the extent of 48 marks, with 3s. 4d. in augmentation of the rental.¹¹

At Shieldag on Loch Torridon there is a fishing village with a population of 200.¹²

In the district of Applecross are the remains of a subterranean dwelling or place of concealment, four feet wide and four feet deep, faced with stone, and roofed with flags.¹³

this presentation the chaplainry is said to be founded 'in the parish church of Ross in the diocese of the same.'

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 10.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 53.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 119. Of the building whose ruins remain beside the church the Old Stat. Acc. says—'It was richly endowed with landed property, which tradition relates to have been conveyed by the last Popish missionary (incumbent) in the place, known by the designation of the Red Priest of Applecross, to his daughter.' This building therefore may

possibly have been the chapel of Saint Malrube, either forming part of the old church or detached.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliiii. fol. 100.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 165.

⁶ See Thomson's Map.

⁷ Book of Assignations.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 91.

¹⁰ Rob. Index, p. 16, no. 7. Reg. Morav., p. 342.

¹¹ Retours. From this it appears that the chapel lands included nearly all the lands of the parish.

¹² New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Old Stat. Acc.

GAIRLOCH.

Garloch¹—Gherloch²—Gerloch.³ (Map, No. 5.)

THIS large parish extends from Loch Torridon on the south to Loch Gruinord on the north, having a rocky coast from 80 to 100 miles in length indented by Loehew and the Gairloch, from the latter of which it is named. It is divided into two unequal parts by its principal lake Loch Maree, which is 18 miles long and studded by twenty-four wooded islands. Its highest mountain range, named the Slioch or Sliabhach, is 3000 feet in height.⁴ Round the coast are a few small islands.

At the Reformation Sir John Broik appears to have been rector of this church.⁵ From that period till 1583 it appears to have been vacant.⁶ In 1583 King James VI. presented Alexander McKainzie to the parsonage and vicarage of Garloch, 'vacant in oure Souerane Lordis handis contenuallie sen the reformatioun of the religioun within this realme' by the decease of Sir John Broik.⁷

The church, built in 1751, stands on the site of an older at the head of the Gairloch.⁸

At the upper end of Loch Maree (anciently Loehewe) at Kinloehew stood a church, apparently used as a place of worship till the year 1791 or later.⁹

In an island about the centre of Loch Maree, named Island Maree, there is a cemetery, which the inhabitants on the north of the loch continued to use in the end of the last century.¹⁰ In the same island are the remains of a cairn or circle of stones.¹¹ The cemetery, or the chapel which it probably contained, locally supposed to have been dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was in fact dedicated to Saint Malrube, a circumstance which gradually occasioned the abolition of the old name Loehewe, and substituted for it Loch Mulrui, now pronounced Loch Maree.¹² The carrying of an insane person round the island or cemetery was even till recent times locally believed to effect a cure.¹³

On the north side of Loch Maree near the east end is Claod-nam-Sasganach, a spot in which some Englishmen, who in the seventeenth century wrought iron mines there, buried their dead.¹⁴

¹ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1583. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 62.

² A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

³ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 62.

⁶ *Ibid.* Book of Assignations.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 62.

⁸ Macfarlane. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Macfarlane. MS. Maps. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc.

¹² Macfarlane. Pennant. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Anderson's Guide. Information procured on the spot, 1853. Pennant says that the patient drank of a well dedicated to the saint, and was thrice dipped in the lake—the operation being repeated for several weeks.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

Gairloch as a part of North Argyle, and the property of the Earl of Ross, was included in the sheriffdom of Skey erected in 1292 by King John Balliol.¹ Between 1306 and 1329 it was with his other lands confirmed to the Earl by King Robert Bruce.² In 1366 William Earl of Ross, Lord of Sky, granted to Paul M'Tyre and to his heirs by Mary of Grahame, with remainder to the lawful heirs of Paul, the lands of Gerloch within the parts of Argyle, for yearly payment of a penny of silver in name of blench ferme in lieu of every other service except the forinsec service of the King when required.³ In 1372 King Robert II. confirmed the grant.⁴ In 1430 King James I. granted to Nele Nelesoun, for his homage and service in the capture of his deceased brother Thomas Nelesoun a rebel, the lands of Gerloch and others in the earldoms of Ross and Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernys.⁵ In 1517 John Duke of Albany Regent appointed Colin Earl of Ergile lieutenant of the Isles and other lands, including Garloch, for three years or more at the Regent's pleasure, for the purpose of establishing peace among the inhabitants.⁶

In 1528 King James V. granted to John Dingvale, provost of Trinity College Edinburgh, the ward of the lands and rents of Garloch in the sheriffdom of Innernys, which belonged to the deceased Auchinroy Makenze.⁷ In 1547 Queen Mary granted to John Earl of Sutherland all the goods belonging to John Hectoursone of Garloch, forfeited by him for assisting the English.⁸ In 1551 that queen granted to John M'Kenze of Kintail, and to Kenzeoch M'Kenze his son and apparent heir, a remission for the violent taking of John Hectour M'Kenzesone of Garloch, Doull Hectoursone, and John Towach Hectoursone, and for keeping them in prison, 'vsurpand thairthrow oure Souerane Ladyis autorite.'⁹ In 1566 Alexander M'Einzie was served heir to his brother german Hector M'Einzie of Garloch in the lands of Garloch, namely, Garloch, Kirktown, Syldage, Hamgildail, Malefage, Innerasfidill, Sandecorran, Cryf, Baddichro, Beinsanderis, Meall, Allawdill, with the pasturage of Glaslettir and Tornagullan, in the earldom of Ross, of the old extent of £8.¹⁰ In 1567 Queen Mary granted in heritage to John Banerman of Cardenye the ward of the lands and rents belonging to the deceased Hector Makkenyeh of Garloch, with the relief of the same when it should occur, and the marriage of John Roy Makkenyeh the brother and apparent heir of Hector, and, should he die unmarried, the marriage of any other heir or heirs male or female.¹¹ In 1569 John M'Kenzie was served heir to his brother german Hector in the lands of Garloch as specified in the service of 1566.¹² In 1638 Kenneth M'Keinzie of Garloch was served heir male to his father Alexander M'Keinzie of Garloche in the lands and barony of Garloche, including Kirktown with the manor-plaice and gardens of the same, Sildag, the two Oyngadellis, Mailfag, Debak, Inneraspedell, Sandcarrane, Bادهchro, the two Sandis, Erredell, Telledill, Clive, Tollie, the two Nastis; the lands of Ellenow

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 91.

² Rob. Index, p. 16, no. 7. Reg. Morav., p. 342.

³ Rob. Index, p. 98, no. 327. Reg. Mag. Sig., p. 92. Coll. de Reb. Alb., p. 62.

⁴ Rob. Index, p. 98, no. 327; p. 114, no. 10. Reg. Mag. Sig., p. 98.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iii. no. 64.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 102.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 163.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 31.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 75.

¹⁰ Retours.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 6.

¹² Retours.

Auldgressen, with the waters and salmon fishings of Kerrie and Badechro; the half of the water of Ew and the salmon fishings of the same, Achitcairne, Meoll with the mill, Udroll; the loch of Lochmaroy with the islands of the same, and the manor place and gardens in the island of Ilinroy; the loch of Garloch with the fishings of the same; the forest, pasturage, and ‘gressing’ of Glaslatter and Torranecullane; together of the old extent of £8; with other lands in Ross, all united into the barony of Garloche—and the town of Clive with the harbour and shore of the same, being part of the same barony of Garloch, erected into a burgh of barony, of the extent of £3 feufirme.¹

In 1539 the district of Kinlochew was laid waste by Donald Gorme of Sleat and his allies, and in 1541 the latter after the death of Donald Gorme had a remission from King James V. for the ‘hereschip’ of Kinlochew and other crimes.²

LOCHBROOM.

Lochbraon³—Lochbreyne⁴—Lochbrune⁵—Lochbreyin⁶—Lochbryne⁷—
Lochbreyin⁸—Lochbrein.⁹ (Map, No. 6.)

THIS large district (which of old may have included several parishes) is composed of four smaller tracts of country, namely, Coigeach, Lochbroom proper or the Meikle Strath, the Little Strath, and the Laigh.¹⁰ It is chiefly mountainous, but has some cultivated valleys near the sea.¹¹ Around its rocky coast, about 100 miles in extent, and indented by Loch Enard, Lochbroom, Little Lochbroom (the Loch Carlin of Blaeu), and Loch Gruinord, lie the islands Ristal, Tanara, Isle Martin, Isle Gruinord, Priest Island, and the Summer Isles.¹²

In the year 1227 Mathew the parson of Lochbraon was present at Kenedor in Moray with the other clergy of Ross at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Ross and Moray regarding the diocesan right of the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser.¹³ The church of Lochbrune was a common church of the canons of Ross.¹⁴ In 1569 King James VI. presented John Monro Alexandersoun to the vicarage of Lochbreyne, then vacant by the decease of Duncan Rannaldsoun.¹⁵ In 1573 he presented Angus Makneill M^rKenze to the vicarage, vacant by the

¹ Retours.

² See KINTAIL, p. 394.

³ A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82. In printed register *Lochbon*, but in MS. may be read as in text.

⁴ A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 88.

⁵ A. D. 1573. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 126. A. D. 1574. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 89. Book of Assignations.

⁶ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁷ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁸ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

⁹ A. D. 1681. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 385.

¹⁰ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc.

¹² New Stat. Acc. and Maps. Blaeu.

¹³ Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 89.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 88.

death of John Monro.¹ In 1574 Donald Ferquharsoun was reader at Lochbrune, and in that year was presented by King James VI. to the 'hail commoun kirk baith personage and vicarage of Lochbrune.'² In 1681 the barony of Tarbet, as confirmed by King Charles II. in favour of Sir George M'Kenzie of Tarbett and John M'Kenzie his son, included the patronage of the parish church of Lochbrein.³

The old church stood at the head of Lochbroom, where the present church also was built in 1817.⁴

In the parish are seven burying-grounds, representing seven churches and chapels (including the parish church) that once existed in the district.⁵ Of these there appears to have been one at Kildonen on Little Lochbroom, dedicated, as its name implies, to Saint Donan.⁶

In 1574 Donald Ferquharsoun reader at Lochbrune had a stipend of £14, 13s. 4d., probably the third of the parsonage and vicarage.⁷

In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted the lands of Loehbryne and others in Ross, for yearly payment of six pennies blench ferme, to his brother Celestine of the Isles, and to his heirs by his wife Finvola the daughter of Lachlan Macgilleone of Dowart, with remainder in succession to his heirs by any other wife, and failing these the lands were to revert to the Earl.⁸ In 1464 King James III. confirmed the grant.⁹ After the forfeiture of the Lord of the Isles in 1476 the lands were held of the crown by the family of Loehalsch, the descendants of Celestine.¹⁰ In 1517 John Duke of Albany, Regent of Scotland, for the purpose of establishing peace among the inhabitants of the Highlands and Isles, appointed Colin Earl of Ergile lieutenant of the Isles and other parts, including Loehbrene, for three years or more according to the Regent's pleasure.¹¹ In 1539 King James V. granted to Alexander M'Kane M'Alister of Glengarre and Margaret Ylis his wife in liferent, and to Angus M'Alister their son and heir apparent in heritage, with remainder to Alexander's lawful heirs whomsoever, the half of the lands of Loehbrome and other lands in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys, which Margaret Ylis had resigned.¹² In 1543 Thomas Dingwell of Kildone sold the lands of Loehbryne with the fishings to John Makkenze of Kintail, in exchange for the lands of Fotherty and for a certain sum of money, for yearly payment of six pennies blench ferme to the Queen as Earl of Ross; and in the same year Queen Mary granted to John Makkenze a crown charter of Lochbryne.¹³ In 1548 that queen granted to James Grant of Freuchy the liferent of the half davach of Aglonoquhan, the half davach of Auchadaskild, the quarter davach of Auchquhedrane, the quarter davach of Laehmaline, the quarter davach of Logy, the half davach of Auehnadonill, the half davach of Brakleweh, the half quarter davach of Derymuk, the quarter davach of Crumnor-

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 126.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 89. Book of Assignations.

³ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 385.

⁴ Macfarlane. MS. Maps. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Pennant, vol. i. p. 364. New Stat. Acc.

⁶ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Modern Maps.

⁷ Book of Assignations.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 116.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Gregory, p. 59.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 102.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 247. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 78.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. nn. 93, 205. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 93.

tumergoseill, the quarter davach of Cambusgannich, the quarter davach of Sand, the quarter davach of Drumork, the quarter davach of Townek and Kernsery, the half davach of Innerew, the quarter davach of Auchnaschene, the half oxgang of Auchnaschow, and the half davach of Davachlatrik, together of the old extent of 17 marks and 20 pence, of the lands of Lochbrume, of which the liferent belonged to Alaster M'Keane M'Alaster of Glengawrie; and also the heritage of the same lands, which belonged to Angus the son and apparent heir of Alaster.¹ In 1554 Queen Mary granted to John Grant, the son and heir of the deceased James Grant of Fruchquhy, the relief of the lands of Lochbrwyne and others in the sheriffdom of Innernes, which belonged to him in heritage.² In 1574 King James VI. confirmed a charter by John Grant of Freulie to Colin Mackanze of Kintale and Barbara Grant his wife, with remainder to Colin's heirs whomsoever, alienating to them half of the lands of Lochbroyne, especially those specified in the grant of 1548, namely, Auchnaglownachane, Auchdrachskalie, Auchindrewyne, Lochmalnye, Loy, Auchtadonill, Braklauch, Derynomwik, Gruinzord and Mungosteill, Cainskannycht, Sanda, Drum-cork, Turnek and Carnesare, Innerew, Dawachnalitheraucht, Auchnaschene, and Auchanewy, extending in all to 17 marklands and 40 pennylands, and to be held of the crown.³ In 1633 George M'Kenzie was served heir to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Kenzie of Kintail, in the lands and barony of Lochalsehe, including with other lands those of Lochbrein above specified, with the fishings of the same, of the old extent of £23.⁴

In 1502 King James IV. commissioned Alexander Earl of Huntlie, Thomas Lord Fraser of Lovate, and William Monro of Fowlis, to let the lands of Cogeach, Assent, and all the other ferme lands that belonged to Torquell Makloid of Lewes, then in the King's hands by reason of Torquell's being the King's rebel, at his horn, and fugitive from the laws, with power 'to gif a parte tharof in seal to guide trew men' for such a time as the Earl should deem expedient for the King's honour.⁵ In 1508 the same king granted to Odo Makky in Strathnavern, for his faithful service in resisting and attacking the King's rebels, the lands of Assent and Ladoehogith in the sheriffdom of Innernys, forfeited for treason by Torquell Makloid formerly of the Lewis, with power to sublet.⁶ In 1511 (29 June) he granted the same lands and others, with their fortalices, houses, waters, fishings, mills, and patronage of churches, all erected into the barony and lordship of Lewis, to Malcolm Makclode the son of the deceased Rory Makclode of Lewis.⁷ In 1538 (2 April) King James V. granted to Rory M'Cloyd, the son and heir of the deceased Malcolme M'Cloid of the Lewis, the nonentry and other dues of the barony of Lewis, Wattirnes, Assent, and Coidgeach, from the 30th of June 1511 to a year after the date of the grant.⁸ In 1541 the same king granted to Rodoric M'Loird of Lewis and Barbara Stewart his affianced spouse the lands and barony of Cogeach, and other lands in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, resigned by Rodoric and erected anew by the King into the free barony of Lewis.⁹

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 314. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 4.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 22.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 56.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 108.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 464. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 157.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xvii. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 126.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 66.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 77.

In 1572 Rodoric Macclloyd resigned the lands and barony of Cogeach, and his other lands, with the castles, mills, fishings, and advowson of churches and chapels, which King James VI. then granted to his son and apparent heir Torquil M'Cloyd and the male heirs of his body, with remainder to Gillecallum Garve M'Cloyd of Raisay and his male heirs, and to Torquil's male heirs whomsoever bearing the M'Cloid surname and arms, reserving the liferent to Rodoric on condition that he and Torquil should commit no crime against the King.¹ In 1617 Donald M'Keanzie M'Ane in Leadmoiris of Assint was served heir to his brother german John M'Keanzie M'Donald M'Ane of Dauachnahard in Coegach in a davaeh of the lands of Auchnahard in the barony of Coegach in the sheriffdom of Innernes, including the towns and lands of Davachnahard, Auchnahard, Dorny, Badintarbat, Akilvy, Badskalbay, Stracholdyn, Stranagruen, Reiff, and the pasture between Lynlovack and Killek, of the old extent of 26s. 8d.² In 1655 Sir George M'Keinzie of Tarbit Baronet was served heir male to his father Sir George in the lands and barony of Cogeach, of the old extent of 4 marks.³

There are a village and harbour established by the British Fishery Society at Ullapool on Loch Broom.⁴ The village contains about 900 inhabitants.⁵

The parish abounds with remains of those circular buildings known as *duns*.⁶

KINCARDINE.

Kyncardyn⁷ — Kincardin⁸ — Kincarn⁹ — Kincairdein¹⁰ — Kincarne¹¹ —
Kincardine¹² — Kincardync.¹³ (Map, No. 7.)

THIS parish stretches on the north along the whole course of the river Oikel (the boundary between Ross and Sutherland) and along its estuary the Dornoch Firth as far as the water of Fearn, by which it is bounded on the east. It is mountainous and abounds with small lakes.¹⁴ Its western part, a hilly district of great extent, is named the Forest of Balnagown or Frevater.¹⁵

In the year 1227 Maurice the parson of Kyncardyn was present with others of the clergy of Ross at Kenedor in Moray at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 65.

² Retours.

³ Retours.

⁴ New Stat. Acc. and Maps. Note by Rev. N. Macleod.

⁵ Note by Rev. N. Macleod.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82. A. D. 1487. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 236.

⁸ A. D. 1533. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 191. A. D. 1539. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 335. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1566. Reg. Sec.

Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 4. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1587. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 89. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁹ A. D. 1536. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 380. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹⁰ A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptions.

¹¹ A. D. 1562. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 480.

¹² *Circa* A. D. 1564. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹³ A. D. 1624. Retours.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Thomson's Map.

and Ross respecting the diocesan right of the churches of Kynalargyn and Ardrosser.¹ In 1487 Sir John Buschild was either rector or vicar of Kyneardyn.² In 1533 the vicar was Sir Archibald Balconie.³ From 1536 to 1566 Master Thomas Dunnone was rector of Kincardin.⁴ In 1566 Queen Mary presented Master Alexander Leslie for life to the parsonage and vicarage of Kincardin, vacant or when vacant by the decease or demission of Master Thomas Dynnynve.⁵ The rector of Kincardine was a canon of the cathedral, and as such had a manse within the canonry of Ross.⁶

The church, built in 1799, seems to occupy the site of its predecessors at the mouth of a small stream on the Dornoch Firth about a mile east from Invercarron.⁷ About the year 1790 the church was thatched with heather.⁸ At the same date the inhabitants used five cemeteries, two in Kincardine, and three in the parish of Creich in Sutherland.⁹

At Kilmachalmag on the Oikel stood a chapel, dedicated, as its name implies, to Saint Calmag.¹⁰

In the Book of Assumptions the rental of the parsonage and vicarage of Kincardin, as given by Mr. Thomas Ros parson of Alnes, was 120 marks or £80, but the rental, he stated, could not be made perfect, as the vicarage was unpaid.¹¹ In the *Libellus Taxationum* the church is valued at £26, 13s. 4d., exactly the third of the above rental.¹² In Baiamund, as preserved by Bisset, it is rated at 53s. 4d.¹³ In 1574 the reader at Kincardin had as his stipend £13, 6s. 8d. and the kirklands.¹⁴

In 1341 William Earl of Ross granted to Hugh of Ross his brother the lands of Strathochill, Strathcarron, and others, with the fishing of Acheferne and Stogok.¹⁵ In 1365 Hugh of Ross lord of Fylorth, the brother of William Earl of Ross, granted to Paul Maetyre and to his wife Mariot of Grahame the niece of Hugh of Ross, and to their heirs, with remainder to Paul's heirs by any other wife, and to his brothers and their lineal descendants, the lands of Tutumtarvok, Turnok, Amot, and Langvale, in Strathokel.¹⁶ The same Paul, who is styled the grandson of Lendres one of three sons of a king of Denmark, is said to have acquired the lands of Stracharron, Strahoykil, and Friewater.¹⁷ His daughter Catherine married Walter Ross of Balnagoun, who thus seems to have acquired the same lands.¹⁸ In 1430 King James I. granted to Nele Nelesoun, for his homage and service in the capture of his deceased brother Thomas Nelesoun a rebel, the lands of Daane, Moyzeblary, Croinzueorth, Tirtumtarvauch, Lanchort, Drinayde, and others in the earldoms of Ross and Sutherland, some of which appear to lie in the parish of Kincardine.¹⁹ In 1490 King James IV., as tutor of his brother James Duke of Ross, granted in heritage to David Ross, the nephew and apparent heir of John Ross of Balnagoun, among other lands those of Stracharron and Strathochell, with the mills,

¹ Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

² Acta Dom. Conc., p. 236.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 191.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 380; lib. xxvi. no. 335; lib. xxxi. no. 480. Book of Assumptions. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 4.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 4.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 89. Retours.

⁷ Macfarlane. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc. This circumstance and others seem to intimate that part of Creich at one time belonged to Kincardine, but we have no direct evidence on the subject.

¹⁰ Macfarlane. Blacu. Retours.

¹¹ Book of Assumptions.

¹² MS. in Adv. Lib.

¹³ Rolls of Court, p. 209.

¹⁴ Book of Assignations.

¹⁵ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁶ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iii. no. 64.

brewhouses, tenants, and tenandries, resigned by John Ross, and reserving to him the liferent.¹ In 1515 Sir Donald of the Isles of Lochaleh granted to Hector Mouro of Foulis his fishing of Kelysakkell (the Kyles of Oikel) in the sheriffdom of Innernys.² In 1528 King James V. granted to William Ros, the brother of the deceased Walter Ros of Ballangowne, the ward, relief, and nonentry of the 5 marklands of Ocumyord (or Gruinyord), the 10 marklands of Langoill, the 3 marklands of Crokkane, the 7 marklands of Cullace, and the 5 marklands of Pellavelnie (probably not all in Kincardine), in the sheriffdom of Innernys, which were in the King's hands by reason of the decease of David Ros of Ballangowne, for the yearly payment of 20 marks to James Earl of Murray or any other having the ward and relief of the lands.³ In 1529 Pope Clement VII. confirmed to the canons of New Ferne all their possessions, including among others two measures of land commonly called davachs in the place called Innercharron; the pasture they had in the places called Halchmaguli, Braghlugudi, and Salki; the fishing which they had in the water called Okeal in the place called Banaff; the fishing commonly called Choro in the town of Kyncarden; a davach in the town called Greater Fern; a half davach in the town called Lesser Fern; the land they had in the place called Archanagart; the fishing and ferry of the same; and a davach and a half in the place called Dwne.⁴ In 1546 Queen Mary granted to Alexander Ros of Balnagown and Jonet Sinclair his wife the lands of Westir Gronzeart, Eistir Gronzeart, and others in Ross, which Alexander had resigned.⁵ Among the sums of money and victual given out of the bishoprick of Ross yearly at the period of the Reformation are mentioned 4 bolls of victual and 40s. to the 'kenar' of Kincairne.⁶ About the same period Henry Sinclair bishop of Ross, at the request of Thomas afterwards abbot of Fearn, granted to the laird of Balnagown Ardgay amounting to a davach of land, the Kirktown of Kincardine, the salmon fishing of the same amounting yearly to a last, and the mill of Kincardin which yielded yearly 24 bolls victual.⁷ At the same time the laird of Balnagowne held of the abbot of Fearn the lands of Wester Ferine, Innercarroun, Downy, and others.⁸ In 1578 the lands and barony of Strathokell (partly in Kincardine), and the lands and barony of Strathqubarrone, the latter including Innerqubarron, Scoll, Langwell with the fishing, Skenehall, Grumzordie with the fishing, and Auchingullane, in Kincardine, and some lands in Eddertoun, which belonged in heritage to Alexander Ros of Balnagowne and George Ros his son and apparent heir, and which with other lands were held by them of the bishop of Ros, the commendator of Ferne, and the sacrist of Thane, were in defect of movable goods appraised in favour of James Scrymgeour of Duddop constable of Dundie, to be held of the crown for the services formerly due.⁹ In 1582 King James VI. granted to George Ros of Balnagowin and to the male heirs of his body, with remainder to his male heirs whomsoever, the lands and baronies appraised in 1578 in favour of James Scrymgeour, subsequently appraised by him to

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. no. 285.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 84.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 140.

⁴ Balnagown Charters. One or both of the Ferns may possibly lie in the neighbouring parish of Eddertoun.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 51.

⁶ Book of Assumptions.

⁷ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 67.

Alexander Ros of Balnagowin the father of George, and also resigned by the same James.¹ In 1584 George Ros apparent of Balnagown sold to Hugh Munro of Asschyn in heritage certain lands in Strahokell, and in warrandice the town and davach of Langwell with the wood of Skatwell, with Lonnillodloch, Cromlie, the salmon fishing of the Halfepolmorall, and all the other salmon fishings within the bounds of Langwell, in the baronies of Strahokell and Stracharroun, in the earldom of Ros and sheriffdom of Innernes.² In 1642 Robert Lord Ros of Halkheid and Melvill was served heir to Lord William his brother german in the lands of Strathokell, including with others Dalnaughtane and Down, the lands of Stracharroun, Soyall, Knockinnarrow, Longwall with the salmon fishings, Scuttiechaell, Gruntzeardis with the salmon fishings, Auchnagullan, and Tormichaell, with the Forest of Friewater, and other lands in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Inverness, all united into the barony of Balnagoune, and together of the old extent of £200.³ In the same year Lord Ross was served heir to his father James Lord Ros of Halkheid and Melville in the Kirktown of Kincardine extending to a quarter davach or 30s., with 6s. in augmentation; the mill of Kincardine extending to 12 bolls victual; the alehouse of Kincardine with its lands, of the extent of 53s. 4d. and 10s. 8d. in augmentation; the lands of Ardyge, a davach, of the extent of £10 and 40s. in augmentation; the fishing of the Yair of Kincardine, of the extent of £20; the lands of Eddertyne, a davach, of the extent of £5, 6s. 8d. and 21s. 4d. in augmentation; the alehouse of Eddertayne, of the extent of 17s. 9d. and 3s. 6¾d. in augmentation; in all £44, 9s. 5¼d. feuferme — with other lands united into the tenantry of Kirktown of Kincardine, for the new augmentation of the whole by the sum of 6s. 8d.⁴ In 1657 David Ros of Balnagowin was served heir male to his father David in the same lands, baronies, and tenantry, with the following difference in the details — the lands of Dalvanachtan and Downe, extending to 6 davachs, of which 4 davachs lie benorth the water of Oickell in the sheriffdom of Sutherland, and 2 on the south of the same in the sheriffdom of Ross, of old the sheriffdom of Innernes; the lands of Strathcarron, Soyall, Knockinnarrow, and Languall, with the salmon fishings; the lands of Skuittichail, the lands of Auchownaguillen, the lands of Tormichell, and the lands of Esbolg, with the Forest of Friewater, all extending to a davach and a half, with other lands in the earldom of Ros and of old in the sheriffdom of Innernes, united into the barony of Belnagowne in the sheriffdom of Ross.⁵

In 1686 King James VII., in a deed confirming the barony of Balnagowan to David Ross of Balnagowan, erected the village of Ardgay in Kincarden into a burgh of barony to be called the burgh of barony of Bonarness, with two yearly fairs, one on 2 June, and the other on the second Tuesday of July, with a weekly market every Friday.⁶

There is a fair called Feille-Edeichan held at Kincardine in the end of November or beginning of December.⁷

In 1179 King William the Lion crossed the Ocbiel with his army on his way to Caithness.⁸ About the same period he sent a large army into Ros against Gothred MacWilliam (or Donald

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 11.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 111.

³ Retours.

⁵ Retours.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Ibid.

⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 620.

⁸ Ford. Scot., lib. viii. c. 59.

Ban), and soon afterwards following in person he built or fortified two castles in Ros, laid waste the country, and nearly extirpated the followers of Gothred, who, having escaped with a few, besieged and destroyed one of the castles when the King's army had retired; but, on the King's return with Prince Alexander, Gothred was betrayed by his followers to the Earl of Buchan, and being brought to the King at Kyncardin was put to death.¹

In the parish are several ancient round towers known as *duns*, and several stone circles.²

In the churchyard is a sculptured stone sarcophagus, 5 feet long, 2 broad, and 2 deep, and divided into two compartments.³

Near the church there is a walled lane terminating in a semicircular space, said to have been used of old for wapinshawings.⁴

At Craigaointheadhan in this parish the Marquis of Montrose in 1650 fought his last battle and sustained his final defeat.⁵

EDDERTOUN.

Eddirtane⁶ — Eddirthane⁷ — Iddirthane⁸ — Attherthane⁹ — Eddirtayn¹⁰
— Eddertane¹¹ — Edirdin¹² — Edardin.¹³ (Map, No. 8.)

THIS parish, stretching along the Dornoch Firth from the water of Fearn to the Muckle Ferry, and about six miles inland, consists chiefly of arable land backed by hills varying from 600 to 1000 feet in height.¹⁴ The coast is sandy, except at one rocky point where a hilly ridge abuts upon the water's edge.

In 1532 Sir John Ros the vicar of Eddirtane died in Ballone.¹⁵ The church of Eddirthane at the period of the Reformation belonged to the subdean of Ross.¹⁶ In 1583 King James VI. presented Donald Simpsonsoun to the vicarage of Eddertane, vacant by the decease of Master William Strauthachin.¹⁷

The church, built in 1743, stands apparently on the old site at Arderonie near Balinlich or Balloch on the Dornoch Firth.¹⁸

The abbey of Fearn, founded early in the thirteenth century by Ferquhard Earl of Ross beside Kincardin in Stracharrin, stood at Fearn, probably Middle Fearn, in this parish, where

¹ Ford. Scot., lib. viii. cc. 28, 76. Chronica de Mailros, pp. 90, 112. Ext. e var. Cron. Scocie, p. 82.

² Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

³ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁶ A. D. 1532. Calendar of Fearn. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁷ A. D. 1561-1566. Ibid.

⁸ A. D. 1561-1566. Ibid.

⁹ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

¹¹ A. D. 1583. Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. xlix. fol. 172.

¹² A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹³ Circa A. D. 1640. Blauen.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

¹⁵ Calendar of Fearn. ¹⁶ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 172.

¹⁸ Macfarlane. Blauen. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Modern Maps.

the convent appears to have remained for about 15 years before its removal to New Fearn, and where vestiges of its buildings seem to have been visible till the end of the sixteenth century.¹ Malcolme, one of two 'quhite channonis,' said to have been met by the Earl in Galloway bearing relics of Saint Ninian, which with the bearers he carried to Ross, was abbot for 15 years, and was succeeded by Malcolme of Nig, during whose rule (apparently about the year 1238) the site of the monastery was changed.²

In the year 1574 the reader at Eddirtayn had for his stipend 20 marks and the kirklands.³

In 1341 William Earl of Ross granted to his brother Hugh of Ross the lands of Westray and others, with the fishing of Acheferne and Stogok.⁴ Between 1350 and 1372 Hugh of Ross granted to his *armiger* William Mareseal, for his good and faithful service, his land of Dachlynbeg in Vestray.⁵ Daane, Westray, and perhaps other lands granted by King James I. to Nele Nelesoun in 1430, and by King James IV. to David Ros in 1490, appear to lie in this parish.⁶ In 1550 Alexander Ros of Balnagown granted to William Carnecors of Colmishill or Colmslie the lands of Milutown of Westray with the mill, the lands of Ballinleich, and the lands of Mekill Doles, in special warrandice of the lands of Estir Rarechy which he then sold to the same William.⁷ At the Reformation all or nearly all the lands in the parish were held and paid tithes to the subdean of Ross as follows — Iddirthane, half a davach (or 23 ploughgates), occupied by Alexander Ros of Balnagown, 10 marks 6s. 8d.; Westray and Melton, half a davach, occupied by the same Alexander, 4 marks; Rowny (or Downe), a davach, occupied by the same, 14 marks; Mekle Doles and Lechestoun, half a davach, occupied by the same, 10 marks; Lytill Doles, three quarter davachs, occupied by John McColemestoun or Ross, 10 marks; Westir Farine (now apparently in Kincardine), a davach, occupied by William Ros, 18 marks; Estir Ferne, a davach, occupied by Thomas Ros, 8 marks; Dathan Mekle, three fourths of a davach, occupied by Walter Ros otherwise named Alexander Waltersoun, his mother, and Thomas Ros, 6 marks; Dathan Lytle, a quarter davach, occupied by William Ros and his brother, 3 marks; the subdean's croft and mains within the canonry of Ros, occupied by Andro Wilgues, 3 marks.⁸ In 1577 William Carnecors of Colmslie was served heir to his father Robert in the lands of Mylutown and Westra with the mill, Ballinlechie, and Mekill Doles, in warrandice of Eister Rarechie.⁹ In 1578 the lands of Litill Dolles, Mekle Dolles, the Myln-town of Westry, and Litill Dovane, with other lands held in heritage by Alexander Ros of Balnagowne, and George Ros his son and apparent heir, of the bishop of Ross, the commendator of Ferne, and the sacrist of Thane, were apprised in favour of James Srymgeour of Duddop constable of Dundie in defect of movable goods, to be held of the crown for the services formerly due.¹⁰ In 1582 King James VI. granted to George Ros of Balnagowin and the male heirs of his body, with remainder to his male heirs whomsoever, the same lands with those of Ballelich, formerly belonging to James Srymgeour of Duddop, apprised by him to Alexander

¹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 555. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 6.

² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁸ Book of Assumptions. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

³ Book of Assignations.

⁴ Balnagown Charters.

⁵ Ibid.

Ross.

⁶ See KINCARDINE, p. 411.

⁹ Retours.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 67.

Ros the father of George for large sums of money, and resigned by the same James, to be held for the services formerly due.¹

The site of the castle of Eddertoun, erroneously supposed to be one of the two founded or fortified by King William in 1179, lies near the sea.²

The circular buildings styled *duns* were at one time numerous in the parish, and one of them named Dunaliskag during part of the last century was nearly entire.³

West from the church is a large plain with tumuli, where a battle is believed to have been fought with the Danes or Norwegians, and beside it a circular mound with a rude obelisk in the centre about ten feet high.⁴

T A I N.

Tene⁵ — Thane⁶ — Tayne⁷ — Tayn.⁸ (Map, No. 9.)

THIS parish (named in Gaelic *Sgìre-Duich*, the parish of Duthace), about 9 miles long from east to west, and two miles in breadth from north to south, consists of three tracts, a low sandy plain about 15 feet above the sea (representing the most recent sea-board of geologists), a fertile and cultivated plain or terrace about 50 feet above the sea (representing an earlier geological beach), and a still higher district culminating in the Hill of Tain 780 feet above the same level.⁹ From the coast there stretch directly across the Dornoch Firth several large sand banks, the chief of which is the Geizen or Gizen Brigs, a few miles below Tain, and the extension of the promontory a short way above that town at the Muckle Ferry anciently known as Portincoutyr.¹⁰

In the year 1227 (during the rule of Robert bishop of Ross) Brydinus the vicar of Tene was present with others of the clergy of Ross at Kenedor in Moray at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross about the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser.¹¹ Saint Duthace, alleged to be the successor of Bishop Robert, born in Tayne, and subsequently revered there, died in 1249 or 1253, and was buried in the town of Tena (Tain) on 19 June in either of these years.¹² Thenceforward there appears to be no notice of the church of Tain till the year 1436, in which died Finlaw abbot of Ferne, the grandson of Sir William Feriar vicar of Tayne.¹³ In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath in

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 11.

² New Stat. Acc. See *Chronica de Mailros*, p. 90; Ford. Scot., lib. viii. c. 28; and *The Family of Kilravock* (Spalding Club), pp. 109, 110.

³ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁴ A. D. 1227. *Regist. Moraviense*, p. 82.

⁵ A. D. 1483. *Acta Parl. Scot.*, vol. ii. p. 159.

⁶ A. D. 1487. *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, lib. x. no. 109. A. D. 1510. *Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hzem.* fol. 66.

⁷ Ante A. D. 1615. *Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.* Circa A. D. 1640. *Blaeu.*

⁸ A. D. 1574. *Book of Assignations.* Circa A. D. 1640. *MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.*

⁹ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ *Miller's Scenes and Legends* (ed. 1850), pp. 25-28. *New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide* (1834), pp. 505-508. *Blaeu's Map.*

¹¹ *Regist. Moraviense*, p. 82.

¹² *Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hzem.*, fol. 66. *Camerarius*, pp. 112, 113, 159. *Keith's Bishops. Treasurer's Accounts.*

¹³ *Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.*

his will appointed 30 trentals to be said for his soul, of which four were to be said in Tayne (doubtless in the church of Saint Duthace).¹ In 1483 William Cluny macer passed to the town of Thane in Ross, where the Lord Creichtoun lived in the vicar's house, and in the presence of witnesses, among whom were William Johnsonn a bailie of Thane and Thomas Rede a bailie of Cromarty, summoned that lord to appear at Edinburgh in parliament to answer for his treason.² In 1487 Master Thomas Ros was rector of the church of Tayne.³

In the same year Thomas bishop of Ross, at the instance of King James III., for the weal of his soul, and of the souls of his predecessors and successors Kings of Scotland, and of all who had contributed any thing towards the foundation, erected the chapel of Saint Duthace of Tayne, bishop, confessor, and priest, into a collegiate church for a provost, five canons, two deacons or subdeacons, a sacrist with an assistant clerk, and three singing boys.⁴ The provost was invested with full ordinary jurisdiction over the canons and other officials, their familiars and servitors dwelling in the town of Tane, and other persons that might be added to the foundation, with power of suspension and excommunication; with power also of excommunication and absolution over the inhabitants of the towns of Newmore, Morynchy, Tallirky, Cambuseurry, and Dunskaith, and all who should in any way molest them. The five canons or prebendaries were to be regularly qualified priests, trained in morals, literature, and especially singing, and were bound to be present with the other officials at matins, vespers, and other canonical hours and masses, in good surplices made at their own expense, and to sing at the mass *De corpore &c.* every Thursday. Absentees were to be punished according to their demerits by pecuniary fines or otherwise as should seem good to the provost or the canon whom he appointed to supply the absentee's place. The provost was to have for his maintenance the vicarage of Tayne; and for the fabric of the church and the repair of its ornaments and books the teindsheaves of the towns of Tallirky, Morynchy, and Cambuseurry, within the girth of Tayne, granted by consent of Master Thomas Ros rector of Tayne to the provost, and to be applied at his discretion. To the provost were allotted also the escheats of the courts of the town of Tayne. He was to have moreover the town of Newmore, recently added to the foundation by King James III., for which he was bound to maintain one of the five prebendaries, who should preside in his absence, and celebrate a private mass daily for the state (*status*) of the King, his ancestors, and his successors, and should have from the provost for his maintenance ten marks yearly. The presentation to this prebend was vested in the King, and the presentation and collation to the provostry in the bishop of Ross. The third person was to be the prebendary of Dunskaith, and to have for his maintenance the lands and fruits formerly annexed to the chaplainry of Dunskaith, to rule the choir in singing, to instruct in singing the boys of the choir, to be presented by the King, and to be admitted by the provost. The fourth was the prebendary of Tallirky, who should have for his maintenance the lands and fruits formerly annexed to the chaplainry of Tallirky. The fifth was the

¹ Misc. of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 159.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109.

prebendary of Morynchy with a similar provision for his maintenance. The sixth was the prebendary of Cambascurry, to be maintained from the revenues of that chaplainry. The patronage of the latter three chaplainries or prebendaries was vested in the Earl of Ross, and the admission in the provost. The seventh person, a deacon or subdeacon, was to have for his maintenance six marks Scots from the lands of Innerathy, to be paid yearly by the lord of the same, who should have the presentation, while the admission belonged to the provost. The eighth, a deacon or subdeacon, should have for his maintenance yearly six marks Scots, four of which were to be paid by Finlay Faid, and two by John Fayd, from their lands of Innerathy and Tain; the patronage to belong to Finlay Fayd and his heirs, and the admission to the provost. The two deacons or subdeacons were to be regularly instructed and sufficiently qualified in singing and in literature. The ninth, or sacrist, was to have for his maintenance the mill of Morynchy as he formerly had, together with such suffrages as clerks usually have, to be trained in singing and literature, and to have under him an assistant with a surplice and becoming dress, who should ring the bell and supply fire and water in the church; the patronage to belong to the provost. The three singing boys, scholars, or choristers, were to be either secular or clerical, and to have for their service yearly each three marks or forty shillings Scots; the first to be paid by John Monroo of Foulis and his successors — the second by John Merschell of Davachcarty and his successors — and the third by the heirs of the deceased Andrew Alanesoun. The whole of these officials were bound continually to reside in the college, and not to be absent above eight days, or even so long without the license of the provost or president; and should they be longer absent even in the courts of the king, the bishop, or the earl, they should *ipso facto* forfeit their respective offices, which, if the regular patron neglected to fill them up within a month, should be disposed of by the provost; and not even an apostolical dispensation should have power to release them from continual residence. The visitation and correction of the provostry were to belong to the bishop, and the visitation and correction of the other functionaries, and full ecclesiastical power over them, to the provost; so that they were not to be sued before any one but the provost, except for crimes which inferred degradation from their sacred office. The provost and four of the prebendaries were bound to appear yearly in the bishop's synod, one prebendary remaining to celebrate mass in their absence. Each of the officials was bound at institution to swear obedience to all the statutes made and to be made, and especially to that relating to residence and the invalidity of a dispensation therefrom. The rest of the rules were to be similar to those of the collegiate church of Saint John the Baptist of Corstorphin. In 1492 the erection was confirmed by Pope Innocent VIII.¹

In 1514 a mandate of Robert Fresel dean and official of Ross is witnessed by William of Spyne provost of Tane.² In 1541 Sir Donald Monro was provost of the church of Tayne.³ In the same year King James V. presented George Ogilvy to the provostship, vacant or when vacant by the demission or decease of Sir Donald Monro.⁴ In 1542 the same king presented

¹ Original at Tain.

² Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 159.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 60.

Sir Hugh Gray chaplain to the provostry, then vacant by the decease of Sir Magnus Vaus.¹ In 1544 the provost was Master John Thorntoun precentor of Moray.² In 1549 Queen Mary presented Sir Nicholas Ros to the provostry of the college church of Thane, and to the vicarage of that church annexed to the provostry, when they should be vacant by the demission of Sir Alexander Gray.³ In 1550 and between 1561 and 1566 Sir Nicholas Ros appears as provost.⁴ In 1567 he demitted the provostry of Thane for the abbey of Ferne, and John bishop of Ross granted it to Thomas Ros parson of Alnes, the presentation being confirmed by Queen Mary.⁵ In 1571 Thomas Ross appears as commendator of Ferne and provost of Tayne.⁶ In 1584 he resigned the abbacy or commend of Ferne with the provostry of Tayne, which King James VI. then granted for life to Walter Ros, reserving to Thomas the liferent of both with reversion to the abbacy in case of Walter's death, and to the ministers serving the parish churches of the abbey and provostry the liferent of their stipends.⁷

In 1515 King James V. presented Sir Donald Rede chaplain to the chaplainry called Newthmore in the college church of Saint Duthac in Thane, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Finlay Fergusson.⁸ In 1518 the same king presented Master Andrew Sinclair to the chaplainry of Newmore, then vacant by the decease of Sir Donald Reid.⁹ In 1529 he presented Alexander Grant (or Duff) to the chaplainry of Neomoir (stated in the presentation to be situated in the cathedral church of Ross), vacant by the decease of Master Andrew Sinclair.¹⁰ In 1530 the same king presented Master John Bissate vicar of Kilmure to the same chaplainry (in the college church of Thane), vacant by the decease of the same Master Andrew Sinclair.¹¹ In 1531 he granted to Sir Alexander Duff chaplain, a letter confirming his presentation to the chaplainry of Neomoir, vacant by the decease of Master Andrew Sinclair, and stating that this chaplainry was situated within the college church of Tayne for suffrages and divine service to be performed there, notwithstanding a clause in the presentation to the effect that it was situated in the cathedral church of Ross, where it should have been said the college church of Tayne, and that the King therefore admitted the presentation to Sir Alexander Duff to be to that chaplainry, and by his letter of confirmation discharged all others from the same.¹² In 1541 the same king granted a letter of protection for life to Master John Bissate chaplain of the chaplainry of Neomoir within the college kirk of Tane, and to his friends and property.¹³ In 1543 Master John Bissate, the same prebendary or chaplain of Newmore in the college church of Saint Duthac of Thane, with the consent of Queen Mary, of the Earl of Arran, and of Robert bishop of Ross, granted to George Munro of Dawacharty the kirklands of the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 41.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 36.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 91. In the record of this presentation it is stated to be in the crown *pleno jure*, which indicates the alteration of the original foundation as given above.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 535. Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 41. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. This presentation appears to have

been given in accordance with the original foundation.

⁶ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 90.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 8.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. ff. 120, 121.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 135; vol. ix. fol. 40.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 170.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 40.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 68.

chaplainry, namely, the lands of Newmore with the alehouse, Inchedowne, Baddequhondachy, Rowecorracht, and Newmoyr in Strathowre, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Inness, which the tenants used to have for the annual ferme of 7 marks Scots, 40s. grassum, 30 bolls victual, 4 muttuns, 4 dozen poultry, 4 marts, and 12 capons—the grantee paying accordingly, the victual to be half oatmeal half bear by Leith measure.¹ At the Reformation the same George Munro appears to have been feuar or chaplain of Newmoir.² In 1570 King James VI. presented Master George Monro student to the chaplainry of Newmoir, vacant by decease of his brother german Master Hector Monro.³ In 1571, by a deed dated 10 February at Striueling and 28 February at the canony of Ros, Master George Munro prebendary and chaplain of Newmoir in the collegiate church of Saint Duthac in Tayne, with the consent of King James VI., of the Regent Mathew Earl of Lennox, of Master Kintigern Monypenny dean and vicar general of Ros, of Thomas abbot of Ferne and provost of the church of Tayne, and of the prebendaries of that church, for the augmentation of his rental by the sum of six marks Scots, granted to Andrew Munro in Newmoir, the son and apparent heir of George Munro of Dauchartye, and to his male heirs, with remainder to his heirs whosoever bearing the surname and arms of Monro, the churchlands of the chaplainry, namely, the lands of Newmoir with the alehouse, the lands of Inchedown with the mill and ‘straith’ of the same, the lands of Baddiequhonecar, Rawsnywe, Killymano, Rewchorrack, Newmoir, with the ‘straythis’ of Aldnafrankach, Aldnaquhoriloeh, and Rewthlasnaboa, in Strathowrie, in the earldom of Ros and sheriffdom of Inness—which were formerly held in heritage by the same George, and were resigned by him because from the dearness of the lands he had reaped no profit from them, but had sustained loss by the payment of the dues, and because the whole yearly revenue of the lands, according to the rental given in for payment of the thirds of the profits of the chaplainry, amounted only to the sum of £30 Scots—to be held by Andrew Munro for yearly payment of 7 marks Scots in name of feufferme, 40s. grassum, 30 bolls victual or 8s. 4s. Scots for each boll, 4 muttuns or 3s. 4d. for each, 12 capons or 6s., 4 dozen poultry or 12s., together with the sum of £4 Scots for arriages, carriages, bondlages, and every other burden, and for the augmentation of the rental beyond what the lands ever before yielded, amounting in all in money to the sum of £30, 14s. 8d. Scots for feufferme and customs.⁴ The lands were to be held according to the following boundaries. The lands of Intoun of Newmoir, Inchedown, Baddiequhonecar, Rawsnywe, and Kellymoir of Newmoir; Beginning at the summit of the hill called Correyewny towards the west—and thence descending the shoulder of the hill across the burn which runs from the loch of Auchnaclaych southwards to the little hill called Knokderruthoill—and thence passing southwards to the marchstone in the cultivated field called Ardachath of Newmoir on the west side of a cairn called Glasearne near the road lying on the north side of the said cairn which leads westwards to the lands of Bادهall—and from the said marchstone to the marchstones as they are situated as far as the marchstone situated on the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. ff. 14, 15.

² Book of Assumptions.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 48.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. ff. 69-71.

east side of the hill called Kuoknasteraa lying on the south side of the wood or haining (*saluicula*) called Abianemoir—and from the said marchstone situated on the east side of the said hill called Knoknasteraa passing eastwards to the marchstones as they lie as far as the marchstone situated at the common road which leads thence to the lands of Incheifure—and from the said marchstone passing eastwards on the south side of the said road as far as the hill called Kirkchaistull or Pollogroyscheak—and from the mountain called Kirkchaistull passing eastwards from hill to hill to the summit of the same as wind and weather schere (*et ventus et aer seruiunt*) as far as the first hill lying on the south side of the east part of the lands of Kellymoir of Newmoir—and in like manner passing from that first hill northwards across the stream called Alddanahehar to the marchstone called Clachinnumoir—and thence passing also northwards across the burn called Craskayk to the well called Tobirinteir—and thence passing northwards to the rock (*petra*) called Eistir Glakgowir—and thence passing straight¹ to the summit of the great hill called the Hill of Inchedown and Kandyrlwyf to the north—and passing from the summit of that hill westward as wind and weather schere along the summit of the hills to the said hill called Corryzewynic to the west; which bounds and marches lie between the said lands of Intown of Newmoir, Dorrewchoill of Newmoir, Inchedown, Baddequhonchar, Rewsuwye, Glaslowis, and Kellymoir of Newmoir, and the lands of Auchnocloych, Brakaeh, and Tollye, towards the north respectively. The lands of Raweharache, Newmoir in Straythrowrie, Strayth of Aldnafrankache, Aldnaquhorolache, and Rewclaschenabaa; Beginning from the lands of Cabreithe, Dalnacleraueh, and Chanduirwyf, towards the east, and the lands of Auchnaclay, Badkall, and Culcarne, on the west—the lands of Chandraig, Ardnagaik, Feathilachie, Delany, and Inschefure, towards the south—the summit of the hill called Binebreychst and the well in the same called Feromenarbinbreichst towards the north—and descending thence southwards to the fall (*precipitium*) of the burn called Kethauebontaeone—and thence descending and passing on the east side of that burn as it runs as far as the water called Owarie towards the south—and thence passing across the ford in that water called Ahanenalgw eastwards to the Reid Braa called Skedane Roy—and thence eastwards passing a hollow or the How Dayne Claschenagowarane as far as the burn called Aldmaddow towards the east—and thence passing northwards on the west side of that burn to the well in the hill called Correbruoch or Foranecorrebruoch towards the north—and thence from the said well and the summit of the hill called Correbruoch passing westwards along the summit of the hills as wind and weather schere as far as the said hill called Binebreichst to the well in the same called Quharanebinebreichst: which boundaries lie between the said lands of Rewehorache, the Strayth of Aldnafrankach, the Strayth of Aldnaquhoroloch, and Claschenabaa, with their pendicles and pertinents belonging to the land of Newmoir, and the lands of Tollie, Chwleachmeanach, Chwyulaichmoir, Brakach, and Auchnaclay, towards the west—the lands of Strathrorie, belonging to Walter Innes in Calrossie, towards the south—the lands of Westray towards the east—and the lands of Straytherrone and the burn called Aldcassane towards

¹ In record *herialiter*; qu. *linealiter*?

the north. In 1574 Master George Munro, on his promotion to the chancellery of Ross, resigned the chaplainry of Newmore, which King James VI. then granted for seven years to George Monro the son of Andro Monro of Newmore 'in support of his sustentation at the scoles.'¹ In 1579 the chaplainry was resigned by Master George Munro, and granted by King James to his brother John Munro for the same term and purpose.² In 1585 King James confirmed the grant of the lands of the chaplainry, made in 1571 by Master George Monro to Andrew Monro.³ In 1586 King James renewed to John Monro the grant of 1579 for the same period.⁴ In 1639 Robert Monro of Obstaill was served heir to his father Colonel John Monro of Obsteill in the churchlands of the same chaplainry, of the extent of £30, 14s. 8d. feuferme.⁵

In 1500 King James IV. presented Sir Alexander Ross to the chaplainry of Dunskaith within the college kirk of Tane, vacant by the promotion, incapacity, or demission of Sir John Poilson chanter of Catneiss, last chaplain—the patronage belonging to the King and the collation to the bishop of Ross.⁶ In 1533 Sir Nicholas Ross, the natural son of Sir Alexander Ros, was chaplain of Dunskeath.⁷ Sir Nicholas had four sons, Nicholas, William, Donald, and Thomas, who received letters of legitimation from Queen Mary in 1543.⁸ In 1544 that queen presented Sir Thomas Stevinsoun chaplain to the chaplainry and prebend in the college church of Thane, then vacant or when vacant by the decease or demission of Sir ——— Ros.⁹ In the same year she granted a precept of legitimation in favour of Sir Nicholas Ros the chaplain of Dunskeith.¹⁰ By a deed dated at the college church of Thayne 24 March 1544 Sir Nicholas, with the consent of Queen Mary, of the Earl of Arran, of Robert bishop of Ross, and of Master John Thorntoun provost and the prebendaries assembled in chapter, granted to Nicholas Ros (his son) and his heirs male, with remainder to William Ros the brother german of Nicholas and his heirs male, to Donald Ros their brother german and his heirs male, to Thomas Ros their brother german and his heirs male, to the eldest of the female heirs of Thomas, and to the heirs of Nicholas whomsoever, his lands of Dunskaith in the lordship of Ardmanach and sheriffdom of Innernes, together with a revenue of two marks Scots from the ferry dues and profits (*de naulo et proficuis*) of the Queen's port and ferry of Cromatye—which lands and revenue belonged to him as the patrimony of the chaplainry, and extended in his rental to the sum of 18 marks Scots—the grantee paying yearly 20 marks in augmentation of the rental by two marks, and engaging to build and maintain a sufficient mansion upon the lands.¹¹ In 1549 Queen Mary presented Sir Donald Scherare chaplain to the chaplainry of Dunskaith, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Nicholas Ros.¹² In 1578 King James VI. granted the chaplainry to Thomas Daudsoun, the son of John Daudsoun in Edinburgh, for his support at school for seven years.¹³

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 45.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 33.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 11.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 54.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 126.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 42; lib. xxix. no. 208.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 209.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 27. The chaplainry, though unnamed, is apparently Dunskaith, and the chaplain, whose first name is blank, Sir Nicholas Ros.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 208. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 32.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 36.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 91.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 47.

In 1580 he confirmed a grant in heritage by Andrew Daudisoun chaplain of Dunskaith, given with the consent of the chapter to John Daudisoun, of the manse and tenement lying in the town of Thayne on the north side of the same, between the lands of Thomas Fiddes burgess of Thayne on the east, the common road on the west, the public road on the south, and the garden of the said Andrew on the north.¹ In 1582 the same king granted to Thomas Daudisoun, the son of John Daudisoun burgess of Edinbureh, the chaplainry of Dunskaith, not exceeding the sum of 20 marks yearly, vacant by the decease of Sir Andro Daudisoun.² In 1586 he granted to the same Thomas Daudisoun, 'bursar in the college of Cambrige in England,' for seven years, 'and that for supporte to hald and interteny him at the said college for his bettir education in vertew and guid lettres,' the chaplainries of Dunskeyth and Ardefaill in the dioecse of Ross, not exceeding the sum of £30, vacant by expiration of the grant made to the said Thomas and his brother James, or in any other way.³ In 1587 he granted to Robert Monro, the son of Huchecom Monro in Fyreis, for seven years, 'to hald and interteny him at the scules,' the same two chaplainries, vacant by the expiration of the grants made to the two sons of John Daudisoun tailor 'throw thair not abydng actuallic at the scules,' or otherwise.⁴

In 1503 King James IV. presented Master Alexander Gordoun to the chaplainry of Tallirey, vacant by the decease of Sir Thomas Kilqwhons.⁵ In 1505 the chaplainry is stated to have been resigned by Master Alexander chanter of Moray, and granted by the same king to Sir George Gordoun.⁶ In 1506 King James presented Sir Thomas Tarbart to the same chaplainry, when it should be vacant by the demission of Sir Alexander Gordoun, then chaplain.⁷ In 1529 King James V. presented Sir Robert Mailuile chaplain to the prebend or prebendary chaplainry called Tarlogy in the college church of Thane, when vacant, in exchange for the vicarage of Abirtarf.⁸ In 1559 Sir Robert Mailuile, perpetual chaplain of Tallarky, granted in liferent to George Monro of Dawacharty, and to Donald Monro his son and his male heirs, with remainder to the male heirs of George Monro, and to the eldest of his female heirs without division, the lands of Tallarky in the sheriffdom of Innernes, for payment to the chaplain yearly of 29 marks 4s. 6d., with two dozen of capons, and 2s. 10d. in augmentation of the rental.⁹ In the same year Queen Mary confirmed the grant.¹⁰ Between 1561 and 1566 Sir Robert Melvill was still chaplain, and George Munro feuar of Tarlaquhy.¹¹ In 1574 King James VI. granted for seven years to George Monro, the son of Donald Monro of Talrawky, for his education at school, the chaplainry of Talrawky, vacant by the demission of Master George Monro, who was promoted to the chancery of Ross.¹² In 1580 the same king granted to Donald Monro's son Huchecom for the same period and purpose the chaplainry of Talrekie, not exceeding £20 yearly, and in 1586 he renewed the grant.¹³

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 139.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 120.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 53.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 32.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 134.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 16.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 79.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 49.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 460. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 92. In the Reg. Mag. Sig. the name of the chaplain is Sir John Mailuile.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Book of Assumptions.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 45.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 16; vol. liv. fol. 54.

In 1526 King James V. presented Sir Donald Henrisone to the chaplainry of Morinch in the church of Saint Duthac of Thane, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Donald Morisone.¹ In 1536 the same king presented Sir John Scott to the chaplainry, then vacant by the decease of Sir John Moresoun.² In 1545 (8 July), and in the same year and month (14 July), Queen Mary presented Sir Symon Blyith and Sir David Weir successively to the prebend of Morinche, vacant by the decease of Sir John Scott.³ In 1547 she presented Sir Thomas Fergusoun chaplain to the same prebend, vacant or when vacant by the demission of Sir Symon Blyth.⁴ In 1574 King James VI. granted for seven years to Thomas Ros, the lawful son of the deceased John Ross or Reid in Annet, for his education, the same chaplainry of Moirinche, not exceeding yearly 20 marks Scots, vacant by the decease of Sir Jeromy Paip.⁵ In 1580 he granted the chaplainry for seven years to Walter Ros the son of Master Thomas Ros in Tane for his education at school.⁶ In 1584 King James confirmed a grant made by Sir Jerome Pape (before or in 1574), with the consent of Nicholas Ros provost of Tayne and commendator of Ferne, and of the prebendaries of the college, to Donald Ros Hendersoun and his heirs, of the following lands (apparently those of the chaplainry of Morinche), namely, the two Thesklaris lying on the west side of the town of Tayne, extending to the sowing of three bolls of bear or thereby—the lands lying above the lands of Enycht, extending to the sowing of six pecks of bear—two rigs of land extending to the sowing of six pecks of bear—one rig of land extending to the sowing of one peck of bear, lying at the west end of the town of Tayne—one rig of land lying near the lands of the provost of Tayne, of the sowing of half a firлот of bear—one rig of land lying between the roads, of the sowing of a firлот of bear—one rig of land lying at the west end of the town of Tayne, extending to the sowing of three pecks of bear—the lands called the Buttis lying on the west side of the provost's lands, extending to the sowing of one firлот of bear—one rig of land extending to the sowing of three pecks of bear—one croft of land called Croftmatak, containing seven *buttis*, extending to the sowing of two firlots of bear or thereby—one rig of land of the sowing of 3 pecks of bear—one butt (*sulcus*) of land of the sowing of one peck of bear—one small butt, and another butt, with four rigs of land lying contiguously, extending to the sowing of two firlots of bear—one rig of land of the sowing of two pecks of bear—one rig of land extending to the sowing of two firlots of bear or thereby, at least to the sowing of one firлот—one rig extending to the sowing of one firлот of bear—one rig of the sowing of three pecks of bear—another rig of the sowing of three pecks of bear—one rig of the sowing of a firлот of bear—one rig of the sowing of two pecks of bear—one rig of the sowing of two pecks—six rigs called Watleyth Croft, of the sowing of three firlots of bear—one rig of the sowing of three pecks of bear—another rig of the same sowing—two rigs extending to the sowing of six pecks of bear lying contiguously—one rig with one butt lying upon Poltak—one rig of the sowing of three pecks of bear—another of the sowing of two pecks—and also the sowing of a boll of bear at the north end of the town of Tayne; namely,

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 53; vol. vii. fol. 57.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. x. fol. 132.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 23.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 48.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 142.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 12.

two rigs extending to the sowing of a firlot; the Buttis extending to the sowing of three pecks; four rigs in Neclacanalych extending to the sowing of six pecks of bear; the sowing of three pecks of bear at the burn (*apud torrentem*); and one rig of the sowing of two pecks of bear — all specially bounded as in the charter.¹ In 1586 King James, understanding ‘the gude and fervent affectionn borne be his Hienes louit Williame Ros, sone to Thomas Ros abbot of Ferne, towardes science and lettres, and to gif him occasioun to continew at the seullis for obteneing thairrof,’ granted to him for life the chaplainry of Morinche, vacant by the decease of the last chaplain, and then held by Walter Ros student the brother of William by the King’s grant for seven years — his entry to take place on expiration of that grant.²

In 1506 King James IV. presented Sir Thomas Heriot to the chaplainry of Cambuscurry, vacant by the decease or inability of Sir Donald Rede.³ In 1515 King James V. presented Sir Thomas Fergusson chaplain to the same chaplainry, when it should be vacant by the resignation of the same Sir Donald Rede.⁴ In 1544 Queen Mary presented Sir Symon Blyth to the same prebend, vacant or when vacant by the decease of Sir Thomas Fergusson.⁵ In 1547 (2 June) the same queen presented Master John Giffert to the prebend of Cammiscurre, vacant by the decease of Sir Thomas Fergusson, or when it should be vacant otherwise.⁶ In the same year (20 September) she again presented Sir Symon Blyth chaplain to the same prebend, then vacant or when vacant by the demission of Sir Thomas Fergusson.⁷ In 1550 the same queen presented Master Alexander Dingwell to the chaplainry, then stated to be vacant by the decease of Sir Thomas Fergusson.⁸ The prebend of Cambuscurry seems to be the ‘prebendrie of Than pertaining to Symond Blyth,’ for which he accounted to the collector of thirds in 1561-1566.⁹ In 1578 King James VI. granted to Robert Coluill, the son of Master John Coluill chanter of Glasgow, for his education during seven years, the chaplainry of Cambuscurry, not exceeding 20 marks yearly, vacant by the decease of Master Alexander Dingwall.¹⁰ In 1580 Mr. John Coluill demitted the chaplainry, which King James then granted for the same time and purpose to Gillicallum Ros the son of Alexander Ros of Balnagounne.¹¹ In 1618 David Ross of Pitearline was served heir to his uncle Malcolm Ros of Cambuscurrie in the half of Cambuscurrie with the salmon fishings and other privileges, of the extent of 7 marks feuferme — the half of the alehouse and croft of the same, extent 6s. 8d. feuferme and grassum — the half of the boat and ferryboat in the harbour of Portinculter, with the rights of port belonging to that half, extent 6s. 8d. feuferme — and the other arriages and carriages of the same lands, extent 2s. 6d.¹²

In 1507 King James IV. presented Sir William Fudes to the sacristy of the church of Saint Duthace of Tane, founded on the mill of Morinche, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Donald Rede.¹³ In 1532 King James V. presented Sir James Wythand to the same

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 191.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 162.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 70.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 8.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 107.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 20.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 48.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 40.

⁹ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 97.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 115.

¹² Retours.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 139.

sacristy, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Malcolm Mortimer.¹ In 1539 (5 June) the same king presented Sir Florimund Hume chaplain to the sacristy, vacant or when vacant by the inability of Sir James Wythhand, or otherwise.² In the same year (29 June) he presented George Ogiluy to the same sacristy, vacant by the inability of Sir James Withhand, who had committed murder.³ In 1541 (4 October) the same king presented Master Hugh Guthrie his servitor, and (5 October) Alexander Vddart, to the same prebend or office of sacrist, vacant by the decease of Sir James Withand last possessor.⁴ In 1544 Queen Mary presented Stephen Kincaid to the office of sacrist in the college church of Thane, then vacant by the decease of Sir James Wythhand, or when it should be vacant by the inability or deprivation of Alexander Vddart, or by any other means.⁵ In 1546 the Queen issued a second presentation in favour of Stephen Kincaid, and the sacristy was again stated to be vacant by the decease of Sir James Wythland and the deprivation and inability of Alexander Vdwart, or otherwise.⁶ In 1557 she presented Robert Kincaid to the same office, then vacant by the demission of Stephen Kincaid.⁷ At the Reformation the mill of Morinch, on which the sacristy of Tain was founded, was held of the bishop of Ross by George Moreis for the yearly payment of 2 chalders of victual.⁸ In 1618 David Ross of Pitcarline was served heir to his uncle Malcolm Ros of Cambuscurrie in the grain mill of Morinselie with the mill croft and multure, of the extent of 20 marks and 6s. 8d. in augmentation.⁹

Besides the chaplainries originally founded in the collegiate church of Tain by King James III. there was a chaplainry subsequently founded by King James IV. In 1495 and subsequently the sum of £5 was paid every half year to Sir Donald Rede chaplain, who was appointed to sing for the soul of King James III. in Saint Duthois chapel at Tayn.¹⁰ In 1517 King James V. presented Sir John Ferne chaplain to the chaplainry pensionary of £10 Scots, to be yearly raised from the fermes of the earldom of Ross, founded by King James IV. in the college church of Tayne, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Donald Rede.¹¹ In 1543 (26 March) Queen Mary presented Sir John Nycholsoun to the same chaplainry, then vacant or when vacant by the demission or decease of Sir Hugh Farny.¹² In the same year (2 April) that queen presented Sir William Home chaplain to the same chaplainry, stated to be vacant by the decease of Sir John Farny.¹³

The church, dedicated to Saint Duthace, appears to have stood on the low beach north of the town, where its ruins, composed of strongly cemented granite blocks, and now known as the chapel of Saint Duthace, may still be seen.¹⁴ The chapel of Saint Duthace stood in the town or close to it, and, as above detailed, was in 1487 erected into the collegiate church of Tain,

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 151.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 7.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 11.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. ff. 42, 46.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 27.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 34.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 2.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Retours.

¹⁰ Treasurer's Accounts.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 117.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 43.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 44.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson, p. 305. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 28.

the fabric of which is still standing.¹ This church consists of a chancel, nave, a chapel at the south east end of the chancel (a complete ruin), a south porch, a detached tower in the middle of the town, and a detached chapel a little south of the former, still nearly perfect.² It has a pulpit bestowed by James Stewart Earl of Moray, 'the good Regent.'³ Above a porch at the west end of the church is a niche with a stone image of a priest in eucharistic garments; and in a niche on its north side is the effigy of a bishop, supposed to be Saint Duthace.⁴ The present parish church, built in 1815, stands at the east end of the town.⁵

About the year 1790 the remains of a small chapel were to be seen in the neighbourhood of Lochslin three miles east from Tain.⁶

The shirt of Saint Duthace (*camissa Sancti Duthaci*) was in the fourteenth century preserved and revered at Tain, and Saint Duthace's cairn is still shown.⁷

A well, covered by the sea at high water, and of old believed to be a cure for consumption, is known as Saint Mary's Well.⁸

In the Libellus Taxationum the provostry of Tayne is valued at £40; in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. it is rated at £12, 8s., and in Baiamund (perhaps the rating is that of the church of Tayne in 1270) at £4.⁹ At the Reformation the rental of the provostry was stated by Mr. Henrie Kinros as follows — 'The said hail provestrie consistit in offrandis and the vicarage of Tayne, of the quhilk vicarage the kirk kow and clayth with the pash offrandis ceiss, and only restis teind lamb and teind lynt, quhilk will not extend to xx. lib. or thairby.'¹⁰ At the same period the other tithes of the parish, then annexed to the subdeanery of Ross, were given as follows — The town of Tayne, occupied by Nicolas Ros commendator of Ferne, Thomas Fiddes, Andro Ros and his mother, Nicolas Ros, and Mitchell Furde, paid 104 marks; Moriniehe, a half davach, occupied by Nicolas Ros, 12 marks; Talraquhy, a davach, occupied by Alexander Ros laird of Balnagowne, 22 marks; Cambuscurry, three-fourths of a davach, occupied by Adame Hay, 21 marks; Plaiddes, three-fourths of a davach, by Alexander Innes of Catboll, 8 marks; Pettogarty, half a davach, by the same Alexander, 8 marks; Ballecherye, a quarter davach, by the same, 4 marks; Innerartie and Bahnatouch, half a davach, by Michall Furde, 6 marks; Petgerello, half a davach, by John Drumond, 8 marks; Balnagaw, half a davach, by Walter Innes, 4 marks; Lochislyne and Newtown, a davach, one half belonging to the bishop, and the other to the subdean, 6 marks; Skardly with the pendicles, occupied by Agnes Ros, 6 marks; Kerskeith, by Andro Ross, 3 marks; Auley, by Agnes Ros, 2 marks.¹¹ In 1574 Finlaw Mansoun, the minister serving Tayn, Eddirtayn, Nyg, and Tarbert, had for his stipend £66, 13s. 4d.,

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109. New Stat. Acc.

² Ecclesiological Notes on Man, Ross, Sutherland, and Orkney, p. 62. The Treasurer's Accounts mention 'Sanet Duthois chapell qnhair he was borne,' 'Sanet Duthois chapell in the kirkzaird of Tayn,' and 'Sanet Duthois kirk.' The present church, says Mr. Neale in his 'Ecclesiological Notes,' from the excessive shortness of its nave, though founded for secular priests, could never have been parochial.

³ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Paper by D. Laing, Esq. Neale's Ecclesiological Notes.

⁵ New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ New Stat. Acc. J. Major, lib. v. c. 12.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁰ Book of Assumptions.

¹¹ Ibid. For farther notice of Balnagaw (or Ballingall) see ROSKEEN *post*.

the kirklands, and some other perquisites; and William Fraser, reader at Tayne, had £16 and the kirklands.¹

The rental of the chaplainry of Newmore, as stated at the Reformation by George Munro the feuar was as follows— ‘Newmoir extendis to xii. bollis beir; item to xii. bollis aitneill; item to xii. bollis small custumis atis; item four mairtis, four muttounis, iii. do. pultrie; item to xvi. merkis money; the quhilk rental was sett to the said George in assedatioun be vnuquill Johne Bissatt chaplane thairof, and now be Hectour Monro chaplane for this tyme present, for the sowme of xxx. lib. money allanerlie.’²

The rental of the chaplainry of Tarlaquhy, held in feu by George Munro of Sir Robert Melvill the chaplain, is stated at the same period at £20.³

Sir Simon Blyth at the same era gives in to the collector of thirds the rental of his prebend (apparently that of Cambuseurry) as follows— ‘The rental of the prebendrie of Than perteing to Symond Blyth, quhilk sould pay yeirle to him iii. lib., and serve the self, albeit I haif gottin na payment thairof this vi. yeiris bygane.’⁴

The girth (*immunitas* or *libertas*) of Tayne or of Saint Duthace was nearly coextensive with the parish. By an inquest held in 1439, of which a notarial copy is preserved among the burgh records, the girth, included between four crosses which marked the four corners called the girth crosses, is averred to have been founded by King Malcolm Canmore, and afterwards confirmed by King David II. and some of his successors.⁵ In 1306 or 1307, while King Robert Bruce was in the island of Rachryn, his queen and her daughter Marjory left the castle of Kildrumy in Aberdeenshire, and took refuge in the girth of Tane.

The quene, and als dam Marjory
 Hir dochtir that syn worthely
 Was coupillit into Goddis band
 With Walter Steward of Scotland,
 That wald on na wis langar ly
 In castell of Kildrumy
 To bid aue sege, ar ridin rath
 With kniechtis and squyaris bath
 Throu Ros richt to the girth of Tane:
 Bot that travale tha mad in vane,
 For tha of Ros that wald nocht ber
 For tham na blam na yhet danger
 Out of the girth tham all has tane,
 And syn has send tham evirilkane

¹ Book of Assignations.

² Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Municipal Corporation Reports. Malcolm Can-

³ Ibid.

more died in 1093, Saint Duthace about 1253. If the girth was founded by Malcolm, in that age it could originally have no reference to the saint whose name it afterwards bore.

Richt intill Ingland to the king,
 That gert draw all the men and hing,
 And put the ladyis in presoun,
 Sum into castell, sum in dongeoun.¹

In the year 1439 Alexander Earl of Ross became bound, in case he should lawfully obtain certain lands from Alexander of Suthirland and his wife Maryoun of the Ilys the Earl's sister, to grant to them in heritage lands of equal yearly value between the bridge of Alnes and the gyर्थ of Tayne.² In 1458 John of Ile, Earl of Ross, Lord of the Isles, and sheriff of Innernys, addressed to John M'Culloch, bailie of the girth of Sanct Duthowis, a letter requiring him to protect the privileges of the burgh of Innernys in that quarter.³ In 1487, as we have seen, the foundation charter of the collegiate church places the towns of Tallirky, Morinehy, and Cambuseurry, within the immunity of Tayue.⁴ Among the acts of parliament in 1503 occurs the following memorandum — 'Auent the girtht, that my lord of Ros and the kirkmen prouide tharfor as they think to be dovn.⁵ In 1512 King James IV. granted anew to William Makeulloch of Pladdis the lands of Seardy, Pladdis, Petnely, Pettogarty, Balmuduthy (apparently Bailedhuich or Tain), and Ballecarew, with the office of bailie of the immunity of Tane, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys, which William had resigned, reserving to the King the escheats of the bailie courts, for the usual services and the yearly payment of 5 marks to a perpetual chaplain in the cathedral church of Ross.⁶ In 1533 William M'Culloch of Pladis sold to Walter Innes of Towchis two-thirds of Pitnely with the tofts and crofts, and the half of Balmathoche with the tofts and crofts, to be held of the granter and of the King as Earl of Ross, to the latter of whom were reserved the right of the escheats of court, of bludewitis, and of theft.⁷ In the same year King James V. granted to Walter Innes a crown charter of the lands.⁸ In 1535 William M'Culloch sold to William Dunnon a minor (*puero*), lord of the third part of Arkboll, with remainder to his brother David Dunnon and his heirs, to John Dunnon and his heirs, and to Andrew Dunnon and his heirs, the lands of Pittogartye lying within the immunity of Saint Duthace of Tain, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys.⁹ In 1536 King James V. granted to William Dunnon a crown charter of the lands, and to William M'Culloch a letter of reversion to the same.¹⁰ In 1539 the same king granted to the same William a letter of reversion to two-thirds of Pitnely and the half of Ballethoche, alienated by him in 1533 to Walter Innes of Towchis.¹¹ In the same year William Makeulloch sold those lands to William Dunnone of Pittogerte, and King James V. granted to the latter a crown charter, and to the former reversion to the lands.¹² In 1540 he seems to have

¹ The Brus (Spalding Club), xxviii. 39-56.

² Cawdor Charters.

³ Inverness Burgh Charters.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109. See above, p. 417.

⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 248.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 82. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 197.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 42.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 245. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. x. fol. 70.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 88.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 335. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 35.

granted another letter of reversion to the same William M'Culloch.¹ In that year he confirmed the same lands to William Dunnone of Pittogarte, and in special warrandice of them the lands of Plaidis; the two-thirds of Pitnele and the half of Ballecouth, which formerly belonged to the deceased William Makeulloche of Plaidis, having been alienated by him under reversion to the deceased Walter Innes of Touchis, and now belonging to William Dunnone as assignee of William Makenloche, who redeemed the lands from Walter Innes.² In the same year King James confirmed to Mariot Grant her liferent of the same lands granted to her by William Dunnone.³ In 1541 he granted to Thomas Makeulloch, the son and heir of the deceased William Makeulloch of Pladdis, the nonentry and other dues of Pladdis, Skardy, Belleairich, and the office of bailie of the immunity of Thane, which had been in the King's hands for the last two terms.⁴ In 1547 William Dunnone of Petnele granted to Elizabeth Vrqhart, the relict of the deceased John Vause of Lochslune, and now his own wife, as compensation for her dowry, the liferent of the lands of Petnele and Pettogarty.⁵ In 1548 Queen Mary confirmed the grant.⁶ In 1550 a charter is witnessed by Robert Makulloch of Pladis.⁷ In 1552 the same Robert sold to his uncle Alexander Innes of Catboll captain of Orkney, and to Elizabeth Innes his wife, the lands and lordship of Plaidis, Pettogarte, Balleguith, Ballekere, Petnele, Searde with the mill, Torane with the office of bailie of Tayne, and Litill Kintere with the mills and other pertinents, lying in the lordship and barony of Plaidis, in the baillary of Tayne, and sheriffdom of Innernes.⁸ In the same year Queen Mary granted Alexander Innes and his wife a crown charter of the lands.⁹ In 1562 that queen confirmed a charter of William Denwne of Petnele, granting, with the consent of his curators Master Thomas Denowne rector of Kincarne and Alexander Clunes burgess of Cromertie, to Katherine Vaus, the daughter of Jasper Vaus of Lochslyn, the liferent of the lands of Petnele, then occupied by Master Thomas Denowne and John Makeulloch.¹⁰ At the Reformation the lands of the parish were occupied as above.¹¹ They subsequently passed into various hands, and the office of bailie of Tayne within the four girth crosses was held in 1579 by Alexander Innes of Cromy (to whom it was sold with the barony of Pladdis by Alexander Innes of Pladdis), in 1617 by Sir William Sinclair of Catbol (who in that year was served heir in the same barony to his father Sir George Sinclair of May), and in 1681 by Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbett.¹²

Tain, said to be the Norse *thing* (a place of judgement), and locally styled in Gaelic Balegowieh or Balduich (the town of Saint Duthace), was formerly asserted to have been created a royal burgh by King Malcolm Canmore before the year 1093.¹³ By the fictitious grant of that king, said to have been confirmed by some of his successors, the inhabitants had power to

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 6.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 47. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 6.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 32.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 40.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 254.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 535.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 76. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 130.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 480. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 48.

¹¹ See p. 427.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 48. *Retours. Acta Parl. Scot.*, vol. viii. p. 385.

¹³ Worsaae, p. 259. *Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old and New Stat. Acc. Inquest among Burgh Charters cited in Mun. Corp. Reports.*

buy and sell within the four corner crosses of the immunity, were exempted from the payment of all contributions to the King and the Earl of Ross, excepting the King's custom, and had the privilege of working (trafficking?) and navigating with their merchandise and goods everywhere.¹ According to these grants and confirmations, the inquest of 1439, and subsequent deeds, the girth or immunity of Saint Duthace seems to be identified with the immunity or liberty of the burgh of Tain.² The letter dated 1458, already cited, addressed by the Earl of Ross to his bailie of the girth of Sanct Duthowis, bears, 'Forthi at is cumyn beto our heryng in maner of grewous complaynt be the aldirman, bailyeis, and comunite of Innernys our nychtbouris, that sinder of the inhabitandis the tom of Tain and vtheris of the north partis of thar fredome of Innernys occupiis merchandis in buying, sellyng, cappyn, and owthawyng of merchandice and gudis langand thar fredome fra thar burgh in grete hindering, scaithe, and lak to thaim, and in lessyng of ladding of thar schippis — quharfor we stratly charge and commawndis all and sinder that sall be requiryt tharapon, and specialy our forsaide bailye, that, quhat person of the said burgh of Innernys sall happyn to cum quhar sic gudis is owthad be schippyn or vthirwayis, ye help, supple, manteme, and defend that nychtbur of Innernys togidder with the Kingis mayr, and that ye thole nocht impediment or let be made to thaim in the vsing of the autorite commyttyt to thaim be our Soueren Lord the Kyng for the inhalding of merchandis and gudis, bot erar ye assist to thaim as ye will do to vs singlar emplesance and vndir all payn that ye may commit and inryn anent our Soueren Lord and vs.'³ In 1483 the citation of the Lord Creichtoun at Thane to answer in parliament for the crime of treason was witnessed among others by William Johnson a bailie of Thane.⁴ In 1494 (3 December) the Lords Auditors ordained that letters should be addressed to the bailies of Thane 'to enter Effie Monylaw to the possessioun of all landis and tennentis liand within thar boundis that vmquhile Donald Stephin Raithsone burges of Thane deit last westit and sesit as of fee, becaus it is fundin be ane inquest takin before the bailyeis of Thane that the said Effie is lauchfull are to the said vmquhile Donald;' and the Lords further ordained 'that Cristiane Innecloud sall decist and ces of all vexatioun and trubling of hir in the saidis landis in sa fer as pertenis to hir.'⁵ Cristiane, though frequently summoned to answer in this case, failed to appear.⁶ Six days therefore after their first decree (9 December 1494) the Lords Auditors ordained 'that for ocht that thai haf yit sene Cristiane Innecloud dois wrang in the intrometting and withhalding of ane croft of land with ane barne liand within the fredome of the burgh of Tane, and tharfore ordinis hir to decist and ces tharfra to be broikit and manurit be Donald Hendrisone ay and quhill he be lauchfully put tharfra.'⁷ The Lords further ordained 'that the said Cristiane dois wrang in the detentioun and withhaldin fra the said Donald of the avalis and proffitis of the saidis landis be the space of twa yeris bipast, that is to say, for the first yere xiiiis. iiid., and for the seund yere four bollis of bere and vi bollis of aitis, takin vp and intromettit

¹ Mun. Corp. Reports.

² Mun. Corp. Reports. Acta Dom. Aud., pp. 189, 192. Retours. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 385.

³ Inverness Burgh Charters.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 159. See above, p. 417.

⁵ Acta Dom. Aud., p. 189.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Acta Dom. Aud., p. 192.

with be the said Cristiane, as was sufficiently prefit before the Lordis,⁷ and that letters should be addressed to the bailies of Tane to put their decret in execution.¹ In 1503 parliament among other acts appointed a sheriff to be created and called the sheriff of Ross, and to sit at Thane or Dingwall as the ease required.² In 1505 King James IV. granted to Andro Aytoun, captain of the castle of Striuelling, the customs of all the burghs and bounds between Banf and Orkney, including Tane, for the yearly payment of £50 to the King's comptroller and others.³ In 1507 the same king appointed a commission, consisting of Andro bishop of Cathnes, James Redeheuch comptroller, Sir John Ramsay and Sir John Striuelin knights, Master John Spens, and Master Thomas Leslie, to assemble the communities of Dingwell and Tane, and all the other free tenants and inhabitants of the lordships of Dingwell and Ardmannach, and to examine their infettments; and, should any of them be found to occupy illegally any of the King's lands, such as mosses or woods, farther than their infettments bore, to note them and to send copies of their infettments under the seals of the commissioners to the King, that they might be duly punished.⁴ In 1509 King James appointed Alexander Earl of Huntlye sheriff of Innernys, with power to hold courts and appoint deputies within Ross and other distant parts, and to sit daily in the towns of Tane and Dingwall for the bounds of Ross.⁵ In 1516 died Stephen Fudis burgess of Tayne.⁶ In 1548 Queen Mary appointed Master Thomas Marjoribanks burgess of Edinburgh her custumar within the bounds of Ross, including the burgh of Tane, for seven years, for payment of £40 Scots yearly.⁷ In 1556 she appointed the sheriff courts of Innernes to be held at Tane and Dingwall for the earldom of Ross.⁸ In 1587 King James VI. confirmed all former grants to the burgh, and granted or confirmed to it the ordinary privileges of a royal burgh.⁹ In 1612 the same king again confirmed all former charters, and granted 1. The burgh with the lands perambulated yearly within the four corner crosses called the girth crosses—2. The lands of Innerrathie, Goringes, Clerk-island, and Priest-island, belonging to the burgh from time immemorial—3. The harbour and shore adjacent to the burgh, with the customs and privileges of a free port, the fishings of salmon and of white fish in fresh water and in salt, and also of ehouses and rock ehouses, mussel-scape, and mussels, within the flowing of the sea within sight of the burgh and the boundaries called Duthois Scape, with wrack and ware within the bounds of the crosses and both above and below the bounds of the adjacent sands.¹⁰ In 1675 King Charles II. confirmed all the former grants made to the burgh.¹¹

There are three annual fairs held at Tain, and known as Saint Duthace fairs, at Midsummer, Lammas, and Michaelmas.¹²

¹ Acta Dom. Aud., p. 192.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. pp. 241-249. This seems to indicate an intention to divide the sheriffdom of Inverness, which was carried into effect about a century and a half later.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 30.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 106.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 63. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 204.

⁶ Calendar of Fearn.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 28.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 400.

⁹ Mun. Corp. Reports.

¹⁰ Mun. Corp. Reports. Saint Duthace's Scalp, misread into *Euchois* Scape, is still known by the former designation.

¹¹ Mun. Corp. Reports.

¹² New Stat. Acc. The Calendar of Fearn gives three fairs at Tane, on 18 March, 9 August, and 20 December, the last styled 'Makcarmochis day.'

At Inver in the eastern extremity of the parish there is a village with a fishing population.¹ In 1496, 1497, 1501, 1503, 1504, 1507, and 1513, King James IV. made pilgrimages to the shrine of Saint Duthace at Tain (the last having been performed within a month of his death at Flodden), and on these occasions he made offerings (usually of the sum of 14 shillings), in 'Sanet Duthois chapell quhair he was borne,' in 'Sanet Duthois chapell in the kirkzaird of Tain,' in 'Sanet Duthois kirk,' and at 'the stok of Sanet Duthois town,' and generally gave a gratuity to the man that bore 'Sanet Duthois bell.'² He possessed a 'relict of Sanet Duthois set in silver' (of what kind does not appear), which was doubtless preserved as having a miraculous power of healing, and which continued in the hands of his son King James V. down at least to the year 1534.³ In 1528, previously to the condemnation of Patrick Hamilton, the bishops and elergy tried to persuade King James V. to 'pass in pilgrimage to Sanet Dothess in Rosse,' but it is not recorded that he went.⁴ In the upper part of the parish of Tain a footpath leading across a moor is known as the King's Causeway, and may possibly be the old bridle road by which King James IV. 'raid to Sanet Duthowis.'⁵

T A R B A T.

Arterbert⁶ — Terbert⁷ — Tarbat⁸ — Terbat⁹ — Tarbet¹⁰ — Tarbert¹¹ —
 Tarbart¹² — Terbart.¹³ (Map, No. 10.)

TILL the year 1628 the parish of Tarbat included the present parish of Fearn, which was separated from it 'by the special consent of the bishop and whole diocese,' each parish having 10 davachs land.¹⁴

The old parish of Tarbat thus consisted of two districts — Fearn, generally level and arable, and Tarbat, a low bare promontory terminating eastward in the point known as Tarbatness, probably the Torfnaes of the Norwegian chroniclers.¹⁵

¹ New Stat. Acc.

² Paper by D. Laing, Esquire, read to the Society of Antiquaries in 1846. Treasurer's Accounts.

³ *Ibid.* Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 283.*

⁴ Paper by D. Laing, Esquire. Knox's History of the Reformation, edited by Mr. Laing.

⁵ New Stat. Acc. Treasurer's Accounts. In the English poem on Flodden field the Scots in the reign of King James IV. are reproached with their devotion to 'Doffin their demigod of Ross.' Sir David Lyndsay in the following reign speaks of 'Sanet Duthow borit out of ane block.' Weber's Battle of Flodden Field, pp. 27, 154, 155.

⁶ A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

⁷ A. D. 1529. Balnagown Charters.

⁸ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁹ A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptions. *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaen.

¹⁰ A. D. 1571. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 101.

¹¹ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1586. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liiii. fol. 97. ¹² A. D. 1629. Retours.

¹³ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁴ Original in the Tower, London. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. This, says the writer in Macfarlane, is shown by old desks in the church of Tarbat bearing names and arms of proprietors in Fearn who had no lands in Tarbat.

¹⁵ New Stat. Acc. Notes by W. H. Murray, Esq. Worsaae's Danes, p. 264.

In the year 1227 Andrew the vicar of Arterbert was present at Kenedor in Moray with others of the clergy of Ross on the occasion of the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Ross and Moray about the diocesan right of the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser.¹ Before the year 1529 one of the bishops of Ross granted to the canons of New Ferne the vicarage of the church of Saint Colman situated in the place called Terbert.² The canons had also the teindsheaves in the town called Alen in Terbert belonging to the vicarage, four acres of land beside the church of Terbert, and an acre of land in the town called Terbert.³ In 1529 all these were with their other possessions confirmed to the canons by Pope Clement VII.⁴ At the Reformation the parish church of Tarbat was included in the rental of the bishoprick of Ross given up to the collector of thirds, being probably a mensal church of the bishop.⁵ In 1586 King James VI. granted for life to Andro Wod his comptroller a yearly pension of £200 Scots, and to John Fentoun the comptroller's clerk a yearly pension of 200 marks Scots, out of two-thirds of the bishoprick of Ross, to begin respectively in 1585 and 1588; and assigned as payment to the former 10 chalders bear at £20 the chaldar, and to the latter 6 chalders 10 bolls bear, out of the fruits of the parish of Tarbert, being part of the bishoprick.⁶

The church, dedicated, as appears, to Saint Colman the bishop, stood at Tarbat on the Dornoch Firth.⁷ It was probably rebuilt on the same site about the year 1628, when the parish was divided.⁸ Under it till the year 1707 or later there was a vault 30 feet long, said to have been built as a church by Saint Columba (Colman?).⁹ A new church was built in 1756.¹⁰

On the coast near the old castle of Tarbat or Ballone there was a chapel known as Teampul Eraich, and near it a well named Tobair Mhuir or Mary's Well.¹¹

At Portmahomack, styled, says a writer of the seventeenth century, in old charters Portus Columbi, but probably meaning the port of Saint Colmae or Calmaig, there is a green hill known as Chapelhill or Knoekshorty, on which a chapel appears to have stood.¹²

Between 1486 and 1516 Thomas M'ulloch abbot of Fearn built a chapel at Midd Genie, which afterwards came to be known as Chapel Barr, being probably dedicated to Saint Barr.¹³

Before the year 1529 Pope Clement VII. confirmed to the canons of Fearn the chapel of Saint Mary situated in the place called Cathabul.¹⁴ This is probably the small chapel, the outlines of which are still to be seen amid a clump of trees in a field named Balcachan (Hector's town) on the farm of Cadboll Mount formerly named Hill of Geanies.¹⁵

There is a ruined chapel at Hilton on the Moray Firth.¹⁶

¹ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 81, 82.

² Balmagown Charters.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Book of Assumptions Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 97.

⁶ Balmagown Charters. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. Camerarius, pp. 102, 103.

⁷ Macfarlane. Note by W. H. Murray, Esquire.

⁸ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc. Notes by W. H. Murray, Esquire. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old Stat. Acc.

¹³ Balmagown Charters.

¹⁴ Notes by W. H. Murray, Esquire.

¹⁵ Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 283.

In 1633 Alexander Corbatt of Arkboll was served heir male to his father John Corbat of Arkboll in two-thirds of the lands of Arkboll, including Portnawest or the harbour of Saint John, with the chapel of Saint John.¹ The chapel stood at Wester Arboll, and was dedicated to Saint John the Baptist.²

There was also a chapel at Alhansallach, apparently dedicated to Saint Bride.³

Early in the thirteenth century (probably about 1227) Ferquhard Earl of Ross founded an abbey of Premonstratensian monks at 'Farne beside Kincardin in Stracharrin.'⁴ Whatever truth may be in the alleged origin of Ferne, the abbey long acknowledged its dependence upon the mother house of Whitherne. Malcolm was the first abbot, ruled for fifteen years, and after his death 'was holden amongis the peopill as a sanct.'⁵ He was succeeded by Malcolm of Nig, during whose rule (apparently about the year 1238) Earl Ferquhard removed the abbey to the parish of Tarbat, after which it was styled New Ferne, latinised *Nova Farina*.⁶ Between the years 1252 and 1274 appears Machabeus Makkersin third abbot, during whose rule probably between 1261 and 1264 the convent was established and their regulations confirmed by Pope Urban IV.⁷ Between 1274 and 1323 there appear to have been four abbots, Sir Colin, who was abbot in 1281, Mertein and John (canons of Quhythorne), and Mark Ross the son of Sir Mark Ross, who became abbot in 1321.⁸ The last three were presented by the prior of Quhythorne.⁹ In 1336 the abbey being built only of rough stones and clay, and appearing ruinous, William Earl of Ross suggested that it should be rebuilt with hewn stone, and seven brethren were appointed to 'beg and thig' through the country for contributions.¹⁰ The rebuilding was begun in 1338 under abbot Mark, who died about 1350 and was buried within the abbey church.¹¹ Abbot Mark Ross was succeeded by Donald Pupill, who was elected by the convent, and whose election was confirmed by the prior of Quhythorne.¹² In 1356 William Earl of Ross, on the narrative that the abbey of New Ferne was founded and strengthened with privileges by its founders, as appeared from charters grauted to it by Alexander King of Seotland, to the effect that it should be free from all royal exaetions and contributions, confirmed its freedom from the same, with the exception only of that clerical tax (*clericatura*) proclaimed by Ottobon the Pope's legate in Scotland, of which the collectors were Roger bishop of Ross and Donald abbot of Ferne.¹ Between the years 1350 and 1372 various charters are witnessed by abbot Donald, and in 1372, while he still ruled, the rebuilding of the abbey was finished.¹⁴ In the last named year Earl William, who built and repaired the abbey church, is said to have granted to the canons 'the kirk of Tarridie

¹ Retours.

² Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Spotswood's Religious Houses. See EDDERTOUN, p. 415.

⁵ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁶ Balnagown Charters. Floors Charters. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Regist. Moraviense, p. 282. Spotswood's Rel. Houses.

⁷ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁸ Regist Moraviense, p. 282. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid. Balnagown Charters.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁴ Balnagown Charters. Floors Charters. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

in Ross.¹ Abbot Donald died in 1333.² Adam Monilaw, his successor, was abbot in 1398, died in 1407, and appears to have been succeeded by Thomas Kethirathie, who was appointed by the prior of Qulythorne, and after ruling for a short time resigned.³ The next abbot was Finlaw, the nephew of Sir William Feriar vicar of Tayne, who after having 'theikit the kirk of Ferne' died in 1436.⁴ He appears to have been succeeded by Finlay Macfaid, who was abbot in 1442.⁵ During his rule, by a will dated 1456, Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed to the 'chanon' of Ferne for a daily mass with a note of the *Regina* 6 marks from the lands of Mulfayle and Drumerne, and, failing these, from the lands of Dumbeath; and of 30 trentals to be said for his soul he appointed four to be said in Feyrne.⁶ All his goods not specially disposed of were left at the disposal of abbot Finlay and others.⁷ Finlay Macfaid died in 1485 and was buried within the abbey church.⁸ His successor was Master John Fearn, who built Saint Michael's aisle on the south side of the church, founded the dormitory, built the cloister, and purchased in Flanders for the abbey a *tabernacle* and *lettron* of brass, the organ, chalices, vestments, and various other ornaments.⁹ He appears to have ruled about a year, having died in 1486.¹⁰ Thomas M'Culloch succeeded to the abbacy in 1486, and appears in record in 1487 and 1488.¹¹ He completed the dormitory, but, being deprived of the possessions and revenues of the abbey, except the mill of Fearn and the town of Mid Geny, by Andrew Stewart bishop of Caitliness, who was appointed abbot on a false representation to the Pope, he retired to Mid Geny, where, as before stated, he built a chapel.¹² He died in 1516.¹³ Bishop Stewart, after being actual abbot for a year, died at Skibo in 1517.¹⁴ 'And after him succeeded Master Patrick Hamiltoun, who was accused for heresie be James Beaton archbishop of Saint Andrews, primat of Scotland, with the counsell of the hail clergie of Scotland, and was decerned to be burnt and delivered in the seculars hands for diverse articles of heresie grounded upon Luther's laws . . . upon the whilk articles the said Archbishop gave sentence definitive at the metropolitan kirk of Saint Andrews the last day of February 1527 [1528], where the said Master Patrick Hamiltoun was burnt in presence of Gavin bishop of Glasgow, George bishop of Dunkeld, John bishop of Brechin, William bishop of Dunblane, Patrick prior of Saint Andrews, David abbot of Arbrothok, George abbot of Dumfermling, Alexander abbot of Cambuschkynoch, Henry abbot of Lindores, John prior of Pittenweynyss, the dean and subdean of Glasgow, Mr. Hugh Spence, Thomas Ramsay, and Allan Meldrum.'¹⁵ The successor of Patrick Hamilton was Donald Denoon.¹⁶ In 1529 Pope Clement VII. confirmed to the canons of New Ferne all their

¹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Calendar of Fearn.

² Calendar of Fearn.

³ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁴ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Misc. of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ New Stat. Acc. Tombstone in Abbey.

⁹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.* Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109. Balnagown Charters.

¹² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹³ *Ibid.* Calendar of Fearn.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. This list is not complete. For the names of the rest, and for some interesting notices of Patrick Hamilton, see appendix to Laing's edition of Knox's History, vol. iii.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* Balnagown Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 245.

possessions, including the place in which the monastery was situated with its pertinents, the vicarage of the church of Saint Colman situated in the place called Terbert which a deceased bishop of Ross with the consent of his chapter had given them, the chapel of Saint Mary situated in the place called Cathabul, and the teindsheaves in the town called Alen in Terbert belonging to the said vicarage — four acres of land which they held beside the said church — the free passage which they held at the small ports of Ardnacolternach, Hardnanen, and Ardnadoler — the land called Davnacerach situated near the towns called Cathabul and Gathenn — the land which they had in the place called Innerladour — the use of timber and trees they had in the woods of the Earl of Ross, granted of old to the monastery by its founder Ferchard Earl of Ross — an acre of land they had in the town called Terbert — an annual revenue of 8 lbs. of wax they had in the town called Conten — two measures of land commonly called davachs in the place called Inuercharron — the pasture they had in the places called Halchmaguli, Braghlugudi, and Salki — the fishing they had in the water called Okeal in the place called Banaff, and the fishing commonly called Choro in the town of Kyncarden — a davach in the town called Greater Fern, and a half davach in the town called Lesser Fern — the land they had in the place called Archanagart, with the fishing and ferry of the same — a davach and a half in the place called Dwne — three davachs in the towns called Rathne and Pitkeri, and the lake called Loehlin in the same place — a davach in the town called Gathne — another davach in the same town — two davachs in the towns of Roehani and Balmoechi — a davach in the town of Cathbulnacrene — and half a davach in the town of Lachelawak.¹ Donald abbot of Ferne appears in record in 1534, 1535, and 1539; and Robert Strabrok a canon of Ferne in 1538.² Abbot Donald died in 1541, and was succeeded by Robert Carnecross bishop of Ross, who died in 1545.³ In the latter year Queen Mary granted to her secretary Master David Paniter the temporalities of the bishoprick of Ros and the abbacy of Ferne, having before presented him to the bishoprick and abbacy, vacant by the decease of Robert last bishop and commendator.⁴ It is said however that bishop Robert was in 1547 succeeded in the abbacy by James Carnecross, who in 1550 granted part of the abbey lands to Alexander Ross of Balmagowne, and afterwards resigned it in favour of Nicolas Ross provost of Tain.⁵ In 1558 the 'dortour' of Ferne was burned through the negligence of a boy named Huchon M'Cullo.⁶ Between the years 1561 and 1566 we have the following rental of the abbey given up by Nicolas Ros as commendator of Ferne to the collector of thirds — 'First, the landis contenit in the laird of Ballangownis few chartour, Inneerarroun, Vestir Ferine, Downy, Westray, Mwldarg, Knokydaff, Myltoun, Balmoch, Midilgany, Pitkery, the Manes of Fearine, Eistir Gany, Wastir Gany, Meikill Rany, Ballieblair, the Dow Croft, Brighous, Myleroft, and Weitland and the fishing of Bonach; quihilkis giwis in maillis, fearmis, girsum, bonage silver, mairtis, muttoun, caponis, henis, and in augmentationioun, as his chartour proportis, sic as efter followis — Item in maillis, girsum, and bonage silver, and

¹ Balmagown Charters.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. nn. 140, 245; lib. xxvi. no. 62; lib. xxvii. no. 48.

³ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Keith's Bishops. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 43.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 70.

⁵ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. ⁶ Calendar of Fern.

augmentatioun, the sowme of £89, 12s. 8½d. ¾; Item mairtis, mwttoun, capoun, hen, and fir silver, the sowme of £20, 10s. 8d.; Item victuall, 23 ch. 2 fir. 2 pe.; Item in aitis, 16 bollis — and heirof of the said money allocat to the said laird as his chartour proportis in bailye fie, £40. Item the landis of Catboll-fishar, Lawch-clawethe, Tulloch, Lytill Rany, Amot, Eister Ferne, Relony, sett in few to the Dwnnwnis, quhilkis payis conforme to thair [chartour] as efter followis — Item in maill, girsum, bonage silver, and augmentatioun, the sowme of £31; Item mairtis, mwttoun, and capoun silver, £6, 14s.; Item in victuall, 2 bollis; Item in aittis, 6 bollis. The mylne and vtheris landis quhilkis are not sett in few payis as efter followis — Item the mylne of Ferne in victual 7 ch.; Item four ailhouss with their croftis, £4, 6s. 8d.; Item the smithis landis, barne croft, the croft callit Roresouns croft, the croft callit Ballanasharach, vtherways callit the Cottaris Delwingis, payis 54s.; Item the fisharis aucht akervis of land, quhilk newer payit ane penny, bot giwin to thaim to dwell vpon for furnishing of fishe to the place and cuntries vpon the cuntries expens; Item the place and yeards with the waird for feding of hors newer payit ane penny nor cam newer in rentall. Deducit heirof — Item to the laird of Balnagowne conforme to his chartour as said in bailye fie, £40; Item in contributioun to the coledge of iustice, £5; Item the sustentatioun of the channounis, 3 ch. 12 bs. victuall and £24 money; Item ane pensioun to John Nicolsoun quhairvnto he is provydit of anld, 24 bs. victual.¹ The whole rental amounted to £165, 7s. 0½d. ¾, 30 ch. 2 fir. 2 pks. victual, and 22 bolls of oats.² At the same time the abbot of Fearn paid teind to the bishop of Ross to the amount of 2 ch. 14 bo. 3 pks. victual.³ In 1569 Nicolas Ross died and was buried at Fearn in the north of the choir.⁴ In 1566, three years before the death of Nicolas, Master Thomas Ross parson of Alnes was appointed abbot.⁵ He 'theikit the dortour' which had been burned through negligenece, built a new hall, chambers, cellars, pantry, and kitchen, and made various other repairs about the monastery; he built also two barns of stone, rebuilt the old mill with stone and clay, and erected a new mill 'bewest the place of Fearn.'⁶ Subsequently to the year 1568, from some disagreement with Alexander Ross of Balnagown, he left Ross and lived for ten years at Forres in Moray, where he purchased land and built houses 'on both sides of the road.'⁷ In 1570 King James VI., for the good service done by Alexander Suthirland during the regency of James Earl of Murray and subsequently, granted to him for life a yearly pension of 80 bolls of victual out of two-thirds of the bishoprick of Ross, then vacant by the forfeiture of John bishop of Ross for treason and lese-majesty; and as security he granted to him the teind victual of the lands of Eister Gany, Midgany, Westir Gany, Balleblair, and Mekill Gany,

¹ Book of Assumptions. Balnagown Charters.

² Ibid. The above rental is almost *verbatim* the same in the Balnagown papers and in the Book of Assumptions. In the former there is appended to the rental the following memorandum — 'Thair is inhibition in the laird of Mayis custodie at the instance of George Ros of Ballangown and George Sinclar of Mey *contra* Sir Patrik Morray registrat at Edinburgh penultima Junii 1603, fols. 332 and 333, Mr. John Skene Clerk. The contract aient the lands of the abbacy of Ferne

is of the dait 23 April 1600 yeris, and registrat 28 of November 1600, quher Sir Patrik is obleist to dispone theis landis in sic formes as they sall think expedient and that may stand be the law to warrant the samen both for byganes and tim to cum.'

³ Ibid.

⁴ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Calendar of Fearn.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

in the parish of Tarbert, extending yearly to 80 bolls (teinds which arose from the lands of the abbacy), 'without prejudice of the said Alexanderis execution vpon the reddiest vthir fruitis of the said bishoprík in cais he be not thankfullie ansuerit of the saidis fruitis assignit.'¹ In 1571 he leased some of the abbey lands to the same Alexander.² In the same year (10 July) King James VI. granted to Issobell Rois, the relict of the deceased Thomas Rois, the escheat of the goods of the deceased Thomas Rois the son of Nicolas Ros abbot of Ferne, a rebel and at the horn for not paying to Andro Mouro, the chamberlain of the bishoprick of Rois, certain teinds of the lands of Eister Gany and Tarrall in the parish of Tarbet for the years 1569 and 1570; and (2 December) he granted the same to Alexander Suthirland.³ In 1574 the same king confirmed a grant in heritage, made to Alexander Ferne by the deceased Nicolas commendator of Ferne, of the conventual lands of Cullyne with the alchouse and croft then occupied by Donald Makeonachie, lying between the ditches of the monastery commonly called the *ward dykis* towards the north and the lands of Eister Rarecheis as the march stons and the *fauld dyk* extend towards the south, the meadows of the lands of Eister Rarecheis towards the west and the common road descending to Tulloch towards the east—also of a croft of land called the *smythis croft* lying between the public road on the west and the lands of Kilpot on the north, and the lands and crofts of Ballechricht on the south and east—and of the crofts of the monastery and the 'meringis' of Ballechericht formerly called Waltir Makroreis crofts, lying between the said smith's croft and the public road on the west, Toburnayngor, Graystane, the pasture and the moss of Ferne on the east, the lands of Eister Kilpot and Rynmoir on the north, and the common pasture of the monastery adjacent and extending to the lands of Catbollfishcar and Tulloch on the south—all within the abbacy of Ferne and sheriffdom of Inverness.⁴ In 1584 King James VI. granted to Walter Ros for life the abbacy or commend of Ferne with the provostry of Tayne, resigned by Thomas commendator of the same, reserving to Thomas the liferent with reversion to the abbacy in the case of Walter's death occurring before his, and to the ministers serving the parish churches of the abbey and provostry the liferent of their stipends.⁵ In 1587 the same king confirmed three grants made by Thomas Ros commendator of Ferne—one to Donald Ros in Littill Rany and his heirs of the lands then in his hands lying between the lands of Lytill and Mekill Allanis towards the west, the lands of Arthreis, Coillen, and Ballesuith on the south, the feu-ferme lands (*terras feudifirmas*) of the monastery of Ferne belonging to the laird of Ballingown on the east, and the lands of Ballinblair, Brigend, Mylneroft, Doweateroft, and Weitlandis, on the north, with the four alehouses and brewlands of the monastery lying near it and occupied by John M'Allane, John Reid, John Murray, and Andrew Dowglas, the kill commonly called the kill of Ferne, the gardens occupied by Andrew Dowglas, David Reid, and John Murray, and the mill of Ferne with the astricted and other usual multures—another to Donald Ros Huchainsoun in Ballemakie and his heirs of the lands of Ballemakie extending to a davach, resigned by Alexander Ros of Balmagowne

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 37.

² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 101; vol. xl. fol. 31.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 83.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 90.

formerly feuffermar of the same — and a third to John Ros of Litill Allane and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, of the lands of Muldearge and Knokandow, resigned by George Ros of Balnagowne — all lying within the abbacy of Ferne and sheriffdom of Innernes.¹ Abbot Thomas Ross died at Tain in 1596, and was buried at Fearn in Saint Michael's aisle.² In 1606 James Gordoune of Letterfurie was served heir to his father Patrick Gordoune of Letterfurie in the manor of Ferne, of old called the monastery of Ferne, the demesne lands and lands of Ferne, the lands and towns of Eister and Wester Ferne, the mill of Ferne, the lands of Innerearroue, the lands of Downe Westra, the lands of Muldarge, Ukades, Miltoune, Ballemochie, Midganie, Pitkerie, Easterganie, Wasterganie, Mikillrane, Balblair, Dowcroft, Brighthouse, Myleroft, Veitland and the fishing of Bronache, Catboll-fischer, Lachlawy, Tulliche, Littilrane, Arnote, Ryland, the four alehouses of Fearne, the lands called Smythisland, Hartcroft (or Bartycroft), the croft called Robesoun's (Rosesonn's?) croft, the croft called Baildnaseaucht (or Balleneserache) or the Cotteris Deillings, and eight acres of land occupied by the fishers of Ferne, with the mill, all formerly belonging to the abbacy of Ferne as part of its patrimony, and of the extent of £337, 13s.³ In 1615 David Ros of Balnagowne was served heir to his father George in the lands of Wester Ferne, Downie and fishings of Bonack, Ruylome, Meikill Rayny; Pitkerie, Muldarg, Torrendow, the half of Wester Ganie, Cullin, Ballinsirach, the croft of Ballinsirrach, Easter Drum and Ferne, four acres of Catbollfischer, the limekiln of Ferne, the mill of Ferne, the demesne lands of Wester Drum and Ferne, with the dues and feuffermes of the same, and half of the manor, buildings, and gardens of Ferne, of old named the monastery of Ferne, in the barony of Ganyes and sheriffdom of Innernes, of the extent of £222, 11s. 2½d. of old ferme and augmentatioun.⁴ In 1617 King James VI. annexed the abbacy to the bishoprick of Ross in favour of Bishop Patrick, and in 1633 King Charles I. renewed or confirmed the annexation in favour of Bishop John.⁵ At an earlier period of the same century the abbacy came to be known as the barony of Ganyes (now Geanies); and in 1643 Sir James Sinclair of Cannesbye Baronet was served heir male to his grandfather George Sinclair of May in half the manor of Ferne of old called the monastery of Ferne, the lands and towns of Eister Ganny and Mid Ganye, and the alehouse and croft of the same, the lands of Bellamuthie and Ballavaiche, the lands of Cadboll-fischer and Tulloche, the lands of Lachlaveig, Sallachie, and Muckirnach, with the alehouse and alehouse crofts, half the lands of Cotteris Delvingis and eight acres of old occupied by the fishers of Ferne, the lands of Litle Mylntoun of Ferne, the lands of Litle Ranny, the lands of Belblaire with the alehouse and its croft, the lands of Dowcroft, Brighthouse with alehouse and croft, Milcroft, Weitland, Almet, Innercharrone, with alehouse and croft, and Eister Ferne, all in the barony of Ganyes and sheriffdom of Innernes, and united into the barony of Cadboll, of the extent of £170, 6s. 10¾d. feufferme.⁶

The Calendar of Fearn gives us the following obits of persons connected with the abbey, or buried within it — In 1512 Alexander Ros of Balnagown, who was buried in Ferne; in

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. ff. 64, 68, 201.

² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Calendar of Fearn.

³ Retours.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 71.

⁶ Retours.

1519 Sir Donald McGillemeil canon; in 1525 John Monelaws canon; in 1543 Sir William Caldour canon; in 1548 Sir John McCulloch canon, and Patrick Davidson chaplain of the altar of the Virgin Mary; in 1549 James Reid, who built the well in the cloister, and died at Ferne; in 1552 Donald Faid canon and subprior; in 1554 George Baxter *faber lignarius*; in 1557 Robert Strabrok canon, mentioned above in 1538; in 1564 Andrew Dauson monk; in 1588 Dean David Reid canon; in 1592 David Clepen citizen of Leyth, who died at Ferne in the house of Alexander Ferne at Balnasyrach, and was buried at Tane; and in 1596 Alexander Ferne, who died at Balnaglune and was buried in Ferne.

The abbey church consisted of a choir with two chapels, and a nave, on the north of which the conventual buildings appear to have stood.¹ The choir, still standing, and measuring 99 feet by 25½, was used as the parish church from 1628 when the parish of Fearn was erected till 1742, when the roof fell in while the people were assembled for worship, and killed 36 persons.² It appears to have been disused till 1772, when it was repaired and again used as the parish church.³ Within it there is a stone effigy of a warrior shown as that of Ferquhard Earl of Ross.⁴ In Saint Michael's aisle is the effigy of abbot Finlay McFead, with the inscription, *Hic jacet Finlains McFead abbas de Fern qui obiit anno mccccxxxv.*⁵

In the rental of the bishoprick of Ross, as given up to the collector of thirds by Bishop Henry Sinclair between the years 1561 and 1564, the teinds of the parish church of Tarbat are stated at 33½ chalders victual, £26. 8s. teind silver, and 40 muttons.⁶ Among the 'sowmes of money and victuall given out of the bishoprick of Ros in ordinar now yeirlie' the bishop includes as given to the curates of Nyg and Terbat £40, and to the preacher of the kirks of Nyg and Terbat £50.⁷ In 1574 Gawin Dunbar reader at Tarbert had for his stipend 20 marks and the kirklands.⁸

Among the sums given out of the bishoprick yearly at the era of the Reformation the bishop includes also 12 bolls of victual to the chaplain of Allane, probably the same as Alhausallach before mentioned.⁹

In the *Taxatio* Sec. XVI. the monastery of Ferne is rated at £82, 13s. 1d., and in the *Libellus Taxationum* it is valued at 400 marks.¹⁰

In the year 1281 William Earl of Ros, as the compensation exacted of him and his by Archebald bishop of Moray for injuries done to the churches of Petyn and Brachuli, granted to the bishop the two davachs of land in Ros which were called Kattepoll, and a quarter (*quarterium*) of land which was called Petkenny, for the maintenance of the Friars Minorites who should for any time dwell at Elgyn in their house near the cathedral church; so that the bishop with the advice of his chapter should appoint some discreet and faithful person as distributor, to receive yearly the whole ferme of the said lands, and to distribute it as

¹ Neale's Ecclesiastical Notes, p. 59.

² Old Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 208.

In the latter authority see a curious tradition connected with the above catastrophe.

³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Book of Assumptions.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Book of Assumptions. See above, p. 435.

¹⁰ MS. in Adv. Lib.

he should see fit for the maintenance and necessary uses of the said friars; but, should the friars not be in the place or refuse to remain there, the ferme of the lands was to be wholly converted at the discretion of the bishop and chapter to the maintenance of two chaplains who should minister continually in the cathedral church of Elgyn for the souls of all the faithful dead; and the Earl bound himself and his heirs, if they should ever contravene the arrangement, to submit to the jurisdiction of the bishop, or, in case of the vacancy of the see, of the dean and chapter, who should compel them by the censures of the church to observe it.¹ In 1375 William of Clyn, claiming to be tenant of the town of Cathboll belonging to the bishop of Moray, appeared in presence of witnesses at the town of Nyg in Ross, and requested of Master William of Chesholme treasurer of Moray and John of Forbes lord of that Ilk, the procurators of Alexander bishop of Moray, that the lands and his corns of the said town, arrested by those procurators for the fermes of the town both past and present, should be given him to pledge (*ad plegium*)—promising on his oath, which he of his own accord gave by the hands of the said treasurer, that he would settle with the bishop about the said town and fermes against the feast of Saint Andrew the apostle next instant, or, if he could not come to an agreement within that time, that he would not thenceforth intromit with the town, or raise any controversy with the bishop or his church regarding it, or publicly or privately offer any obstruction to them or to those to whom they might lease the town; on which Master William of Chesholme, with the consent of his comprocutor, forthwith restored to William of Clyn to pledge a certain glove in lieu of the lands of the town and of his corns, and suspended all inhibition before made by the procurators till the feast of Saint Andrew the apostle immediately following.² In 1478 William bishop of Moray, with the consent of his chapter and of Gilbert Richardson and John Williamson the chaplains of Catbollis, for the promotion of divine worship and the augmentation of the salary of the chaplains, leased to John M'Culloch and three successive heirs either lineal or collateral the lands of Catpulle lying in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernis, which the deceased William Earl of Ross granted for the maintenance of two chaplains in the church of Moray, for payment of 14 marks Scots yearly in the cathedral church of Ross at the usual terms, and making one suit either in person or by deputy at the bishop's head court to be held yearly at Elgyn after Easter.³ In subsequent records occur the names Catboll or Cadboll, Wester Catboll, Catboll-abbot, and Catboll-fisher, applying probably to only two towns or properties, Cadboll perhaps being the lands granted to the bishop of Moray, and the other three being but different designations of a Cadboll belonging to the abbot of Fearn. In 1552 appears in record Alexander Innes of Catboll captain of Orkuay, to whom the lands of Plaidis and others were sold by his nephew Robert M'Culloch, perhaps the descendant of John M'Culloch to whom the chaplains' lands of Cadboll were granted in 1478.⁴

In 1534 there appears in record Andrew Dummune of Wester Catboll.⁵ In 1536 John Denowne of Davidstoun grants a charter at Catboll (in this instance apparently Wester Catboll)

¹ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 281, 282.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 180, 181.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 232, 233.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 76. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 130.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 140.

to Dowy Makeulloch (of the Plaidis family) and her heirs by his own son Donald Denowne.¹ In 1562 Andrew Denowne of Wester Catbole again appears in record, and about the same period, as we have seen, the lands of Catboll-fisher were among those leased to the Dwnnwnis by the abbot of Fearn.² In 1606 John Denone was served heir to his father Andrew Denone of Catboll-abbot in the lands of Catboll-abbot, Tulloch, half of Sallochic, half of Lachelawak, and half of Muikarniche, in the earldom of Ross, of the extent of £14, 7s. (a part of those held of the abbot of Fearn by the Dwnnwnis of the previous century).³ In 1643, as we have seen, the same lands, including those of Cadboll-fischer, were part of the barony of Ganyes or Cadboll held by Sir James Sinclair of Cannesbye.⁴ In 1649 Andrew Denune was served heir to his father John Denune of Catboll in nearly the same lands, including Catboll-abbat, and of the same extent, £14, 7s., in the subdeanery and sheriffdom of Ross.⁵ In 1666 Master John M'Keinzie was served heir male to his father Master Thomas M'Keinzie of Inverlawell in various lands, including those of Wester Catboll or Fisher, of the extent of £9 feuterm.⁶

In 1351 Hugh of Ross, the son of the deceased Hugh Earl of Ross, confirmed to William of Marischal and Mariot his wife 6 marks of valued rent of Tarbart, granted to them by his father Hugh and brother William Earls of Ross.⁷ In 1368 Mariot of Hirdmannystoun, the daughter of the deceased Andrew of Hirdmannystoun, and widow of William Mariscall, quitclaimed to the same Hugh of Ross the same 6 marks of yearly revenue of Tarbart, which were then confirmed to him by his brother Earl William.⁸ In 1374 or 1375 King Robert II. confirmed to Hew of Ross the same 6 marks or £4.⁹ In 1375 there appears in record Sir Walter of Tarbard (whether clerical or lay is not apparent).¹⁰ In 1476 King James III. granted to Elizabeth Countess of Ross, the wife of John Lord of the Isles, for her maintenance certain lands in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, including 5 marklands of Tarwat; and in 1477 on attaining his majority he confirmed the grant.¹¹ In 1485 (25 January) the Lords of Council ordained that James of Dunbar should pay to Elisabeth Countess of Ross the sum of 100 marks of the mails of her lands of Ross (including, as afterwards appears, those of Easter Tarbart) due at the term of Whitsunday last.¹² They further ordained that the consideration of a claim made by the Countess against James of Dunbar for 13 chalders of victual and 100 marks received on her behalf from the Earl of Huntle should be deferred till the 24th of March, and that the Earl should be summoned to appear for his interest.¹³ An action raised by the same James against the Countess for payment of £40 of fee which he alleged remained due by her for five years, and for fulfilment of a condition under which he alleged that he held her lands, namely, that the dues should be diminished when the lands were waste, the Lords deferred till the same 24th of March.¹⁴ In 1489 (21 January) the Lords Auditors ordained that James of Dunbar of Cumnok should pay

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 303.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 480. See above, p. 438.

³ Retours.

⁴ *Ibid.* See above, p. 440.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Balnagown Charters.

⁸ Balnagown Charters.

⁹ Rob. Index, p. 120, no. 64; p. 129, no. 32.

¹⁰ Regist. Moraviense, p. 181.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 40.

¹² Acta Dom. Cone., p. 100.*

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

to Elizabeth Countess of Ross the sum of 736 marks Scots due by him for the mails of the lands of Ros which he held of her in lease, as proved by a bond under his seal and subscription; that his lease should be declared null because he had failed in payment of the dues at the terms contained in his bond; and that his lands and goods should be distrained for payment.¹ James of Dunbar, though regularly summoned in the case, failed to appear.² He seems however still to have held the lands, as in the following year (25 February 1490) the Lords of Council ordained him to pay to the Countess 200 marks Scots as the dues of the lands for Martinmas preceding, as shewn by his bond.³ In the same year King James IV., as tutor of his brother James Duke of Ross, granted to David Ross, the nephew and apparent heir of John Ross of Balnagown, a yearly revenue of 6 marks from the lands of Tarbat, with certain lands in Ross, resigned by John Ross and reserving to him the liferent.⁴ In the same year he appears to have granted to him the lands of Tarbat.⁵ In 1494 (9 December) the Countess of Ross brought another action against James of Dunbar for wrongfully withholding from her £42, 'with the mare of the Witsunday terme' of her lands of Ros, and four score head of oxen and cows, and for wrongfully occupying her lands of Dolguy (Delgny?) and Estir Tarbat with the rest of her lands of Ros; in which case the Lords Auditors in presence of the parties ordained that James of Dunbar did wrong, that he should cease to occupy the lands, that he should give to the Countess the dues and cattle in question in so far as she could prove her case before William Monroo of Fowlis, that the latter should be empowered to hear the case, and, if it was proved, to distrain accordingly, and that the lands should forthwith be 'red' to the Countess.⁶ In 1506 King James IV. commissioned Andro bishop of Caithnes to let all the lands in the lordships of Ross and Ardmannach which formerly belonged to Elisabeth Countess of Ross, except the lands of Tarbat, for the term of five years to the tenants by whom they were formerly held or to others.⁷ In 1507 the same king granted his lands of Tarbart in Ross, with power to sublet, to Master Gawine Dunbar archdeacon of Saint Andrews.⁸ In 1514 James Dunbar of Tarbart appears in record.⁹ In 1516 King James V. granted to James Dunbar, the son of David Dunbar of Durris, the King's lands of Tarbart in the earldom of Ross, then occupied by him, for nine years from the following Whitsunday, with power to sublet.¹⁰ In 1526 the same king granted in ferme to James Dunbar of Tullyglennis his lands of Estir Tarbert with the fishings in fresh and salt water.¹¹ In 1531, 1538, 1540, and 1542 James Dunbar of Terbart or of Tullyglennis appears in record.¹² In 1542 King James V. confirmed to James Dunbar of of Tullyglennis and Elizabeth Leslie his wife, and to their heirs male, with remainder to James's own heirs male, to his uncle Robert Dunbar and his heirs male, and to his own heirs whomsoever,

¹ Acta Auditorum, p. 122.

² Acta Dom. Conc., p. 126.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. no. 285.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. no. 228.

⁵ Acta Aud., pp. 192, 193.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 108.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 157.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 170.

² Ibid.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 60.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 34. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 45; vol. vii. fol. 46. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. pp. 310, 311.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiv. no. 65; lib. xxvi. no. 63; lib. xxvii. no. 130; lib. xxviii. nn. 255, 263, 285. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 11; vol. xi. fol. 63; vol. xiv. fol. 36; vol. xvi. ff. 6, 36.

the lands of Estir Terbert with the fishings, they paying yearly to the King £11. 19s. 8d. with one reek hen or 4 pence, in order to augment the rental by the sum of 9s., and to the chaplain of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Balnagounne £4 for his daily prayers for the King and his successors.¹ The same James Dunbar of Terbat appears in record in 1543, 1545, 1546, 1554, 1555, and 1556.² In 1558 Queen Mary granted to James Dunbar, the son and apparent heir of James Dunbar of Eister Terbart, the lands of Eister Terbart with their salt and fresh water fishings, resigned by his father, to whom the liferent was reserved, the grantee paying as in 1542.³ Between the years 1561 and 1566 the bishop of Ross states the yearly rent of the mills of Tarbat and Kincardin, held by the laird of Balnagowne and Walter Innes of Terbat, at 20 bolls of victual; and among the sums given yearly out of the bishoprick includes 18 bolls of victual and £10 paid to the 'gantar' men of Nyg and Terbat.⁴ In 1578 the quarter lands of Tarbet, with other lands belonging to Alexander Ros of Balnagowne and George Ros his son and apparent heir, and held by them of the bishop of Ros and others, were appraised in favour of James Scrymgeour of Duddop constable of Dundie.⁵ In 1569 James Dunbar of Tarbet appears in record.⁶ In 1601 Alexander Dunbar of Tarbert was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Tarbert in the lands and mill of Eister Tarbert and the fishings in salt and fresh water, of the old extent of £3.⁷ In 1604 Master James Dunbar of Sanquhar, then of Tarbert, appears as heir male and of entail to Alexander Dunbar of Tarbert his brother.⁸

By a deed dated at the abbey of New Fearn in 1357 William Earl of Ross, the son and heir of the deceased Hugh Earl of Ross, granted the land of Estir Alane to Hugh of Ross his brother.⁹ The grant by King James III. to the Countess of Ross in 1476, confirmed by him in 1477, included 20 marklands of Mekle Alane and 10 marklands of Litill Allane.¹⁰ In 1490 King James IV. granted the lands of Litill Allane, resigned by John Ross of Balnagown, to David Ross his nephew and apparent heir, reserving the liferent to the former.¹¹ In 1547 there occurs in record the legitimization of Alexander Ros of Litill Allan, the son of the deceased Walter Ros the apparent heir of Sir David Ros of Ballegown.¹² The lands of the mairdom of Allane belonged at the Reformation either wholly or partly to the bishop of Ross, who includes them in his rental given up between 1561 and 1566 to the collector of thirds.¹³ In 1569 King James VI. granted in heritage to Andrew Monro of Newmoir the escheat of all the goods upon the quarter lands of Mekill Allane, with the crops of that year, which were forfeited by John bishop of Ross for treason and lese-majesty.¹⁴ In 1579 George Ros the son and apparent heir of Alexander Ros of Balnagowne, fear, and his father liferenter, for certain sums of money *titulo*

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 255. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 6.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. nn. 206, 419; lib. xxx. no. 306; lib. xxxi. nn. 54, 281. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 75; vol. xx. fol. 53; vol. xxiv. fol. 119.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 506. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 37.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 67. See pp. 412, 415.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. xxxviii. fol. 72.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Balnagown Charters.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 40. See above, p. 443.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. no. 285.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 92.

¹² Book of Assumptions.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 95.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

oneroso, sold to Alexander Ros of Litill Tarrell and Elizabeth Ros his wife, and to Alexander's heirs whomsoever, certain lands in Ross, and a yearly revenue from the lands of Vmass Litill Allane, which were held in heritage by Alexander of Litill Tarrell; and King James VI., of whom the lands were to be held, granted to the latter a crown charter of the same.¹ In 1582 that king granted in heritage to Master John Ros of Hiltown the ward and other dues of half of the town and lands of Litill Allen and others in the earldom of Ros, in the King's hands since the decease of Alexander Ros of Lytill Terrell, with the relief when it should happen, and the marriage of Marione Ros and the other two lawful daughters and heirs apparent of Alexander Ros.² In 1586 he granted in heritage to his domestic servant William Keith for his good service the lands of Meikill Allane with the alehouse, and others in Ross, the grantee paying yearly for Meikill Allane 53s. 4d., 3 chalders bear, 3 chalders oatmeal, 10 reek hens, and 16s. of bondage silver, with the usual services, for the alehouse 13s. 4d., and as gressum every five years 13s. 4d.³ In 1596 Marjory and Isobel Ross were served heirs portioners to their father Alexander Ross of Litill Tarrell in a third (apparently a third each) of the lands granted in 1579, including the third of a yearly revenue of 8 marks 3 shillings from the lands of Umaist Littill Allan.⁴ In 1623 George Monro of Mylntoun was served heir to his father George Monro of Tarrell in a fourth of the lands and town of Meikill Allane or Allannemoir, containing two oxgangs, of the extent of 13s. 4d., and a fourth of the alehouse, of the extent of 3s. 4d.⁵ In 1666 Master John M'Keinzie was served heir male to his father Master Thomas Mackenzie of Inverlawell in the quarter davach of Little Allan called Balnagone, with the half of the wards of Wester Little Allan, and the half of the Cordinerlands, in the parish of Fearn, of the old extent of £2, 5s.⁶

About the year 1368 John of Tarrell appears in record.⁷ In 1534, 1535, 1538, and 1539, appears in record Angus M'Culloch of Terrell or Mekle Terrell, and in 1538 Alexander his son and apparent heir.⁸ In 1542 King James V. granted to John Macculloch, the nephew and heir apparent of Angus Macculloch of Terrell, with remainder to Hugh and Angus the sons of Angus Macculloch, the lands of Mekill Terrell in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Invernes, which Angus had resigned, reserving the liferent to him and the terce to his wife.⁹ In 1544 Queen Mary granted to Hutcheon M'Culloch of Hiltown the marriage of John M'Culloch, the nephew and heir of the deceased Angus M'Culloch of Terrell, in the Queen's hands by reason that Angus held his lands of Terrell of her as Earl of Ros; and, if John M'Culloch should die unmarried, the marriage of any other heir.¹⁰ In 1553 the same queen confirmed to Cristina Monypenny, the sister of Thomas Monypenny of Kingkell, the lands of Mekill Terrell, granted in that year in fulfilment of a marriage contract by John Macculloch of Tarrell to Cristina in liferent, with remainder to his heirs by her, and to his own heirs

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 124.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. no. 7.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Balnagown Charters.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. nn. 140, 245; lib. xxvi. nn. 62, 335.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 92. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. fol. 70.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 31.

whomsoever.¹ In 1559 the queen granted to John M'Culloch the right of reversion to the lands of Mekle Tarrell, stated in the grant to have been alienated under reversion to Thomas Monypenny of Kinkell.² In 1562 a charter of John Dunnvne lord of the third part of Arkboll is witnessed by John the son of William M'Culloch of Mekill Terrall, and by Alexander Gar in Mekill Tarrall.³ In 1567 (6 May) Queen Mary granted in heritage to Master David Chalmer the ward and other dues of the lands of Mekill Terrell, and of the other lands and property of the deceased John M'Culloch of Terrell, in the Queen's hands by his decease in April last, or by reason of his holding the same of her by ward or relief, or by decease of her late husband Henrie Duke of Albany and Earl of Ross, the immediate superior of the lands, together with the marriage of Angus Makeulloch the son and apparent heir of John, or of any other heir.⁴ In 1568 King James VI. granted in heritage to Andrew Monro of Newmore the escheat of the grant to Master David Chalmer, who was denounced rebel and at horn for not finding surety to appear and answer for the slaughter of James Balvany in Prestoun and other persons slain at the field of Langsyid.⁵ In 1571 he confirmed the grant to Andrew Monro.⁶ In 1577 Mariot M'Cullo was served heir to her father John M'Cullo of Mekill Tarrell in the lands of Mekill Tarrell, together with the revenue of 50s. from Eister Ard above mentioned, of the old extent of 4 marks.⁷ In 1578 King James VI. granted to Mariot M'Culloch, and to her future spouse George Monro the son and apparent heir of Andrew Monro of Newmoir the lands of Mekill Tarrell, which formerly belonged to Mariot in heritage, and which she had resigned with the consent of her curators Robert Monro of Fowlis, James Dunbar of Tarbert, George Dunbar of Awauch, and Master George Monro chancellor of Ros — to be held of the crown for the services formerly due.⁸ In 1579 King James VI. granted to Elizabeth Ros, the widow of Angus Makeulloch of Mekill Tarrell the grandfather of John Makeulloch of Mekill Tarrell, and then the wife of Alexander Ros of Litill Allan, a crown charter of the half of the third part of the lands of Mekle Tarrell called Royeindavoir (or Royer, Davoir), Renmasrysche, Creitnacloyithegeill, Creitemantae, Kilpottis, Rownakarne, Rownaknoskenidis, a piece of the land of Calleehumetulle, and the sowing of a boll of bear in the field called Kandig, lying contiguously between John Makeulloch's lands of Kilstane towards the north, the lower part of the lands of Mekill Tarrell on the west, the public road leading from the road of Mekle Tarrell to the sea on the east, and the rocks (*petras marinas*) towards the south — sold to her in liferent by John Makeulloch as full satisfaction for her terce of the lands of Mekill Tarrell or of others that might fall to her by the decease of the said Angus her husband — reserving to the crown all the rights and services due from the said half third before the present confirmation.⁹ In 1598 George Munro of Mekle Tarrell appears in record.¹⁰ In 1627 John M'Kenzie of Tarbat was served heir male to his father Sir Rotheric M'Kenzie of Coogache in

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 124. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 94.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 69.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 597.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. ff. 45, 46.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 12.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 76.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 68.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 63.

¹⁰ History of Family of Kilravock (Spalding Club), p. 287.

the lands of Eister Aird, Eister Tarbat with the fishings, Mekill Tarrell, and an annual revenue of 50s. from the lands of Eister Aird, all united into the barony of Mekill Tarrell.¹

In 1562 there appear in record Alexander Ross of Litill Terrell and Elizabeth Ross his wife.² Alexander is said to have died in 1568.³ It is certain that he was succeeded by Alexander Ros his son, and that the father was dead before the year 1579, and the son before 1584.⁴ In 1596 Marjory and Isobell Ross were served heirs portioners to their father Alexander Ross of Litill Tarrell in the third part of the lands of Litill Tarrell, of the extent of 22s. 4d. feuferme.⁵ In 1617 Hugh Ros was served heir in certain lands to his father John Ros of Lytel Tarrell.⁶

In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted to Thomas the younger of Dingvale, with remainder in succession to his brother John of Dingvale and his heirs, and to the better and more worthy successor of his relatives of the name of Dingvale, the lands of Vsuy in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys, with certain reservations, in exchange for the third part of Arkboll and the lands of Inchfure in the mairdom (*maragium*) of Delny, for payment of 6 pennies in the name of blenchferme.⁷ In 1464 the grant was confirmed by King James III.⁸ In 1506 King James IV. granted to John bishop of Ross two-thirds of the town of Arkboll in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, resigned by Thomas Dingwell of Kildon.⁹ In 1507 he granted to Alexander Fresell the same lands of Arkboll, formerly resigned by Thomas Dingwell, and granted to the bishop of Ross, through whose decease in bastardy the lands were escheat to the crown.¹⁰ In 1514 John Frisale, the son and heir of Alexander Frisale burgess of Linlithgw, sold the two-thirds of Arkboll to James Dunbar of Tarbart, to whom King James V. then granted a crown charter of the lands.¹¹ In 1531 James Dunbar sold the two-thirds of Argbole to William Dunnvne, with remainder to his brothers John and Andrew; and in the same year King James V. granted to William Dunnvne a crown charter of the lands, and to James Dunbar a letter of reversion to the same.¹² In 1534 James Dunbar of Tarbart sold one-third of the lands of Arkboll to John Corbet of Estir Ard and Mariot Dunbar his wife, who in the same year received a crown charter of the land from King James V.¹³ In 1535 and 1536 William Dunnon is styled a minor (*puer*) and lord of the third part of Arkboll.¹⁴ In 1544 John Corbett portioner of Arkboll granted to James Corbett his son and heir apparent the half of the two-thirds of the lands of Arkboll, with the half of the two-thirds of the mill, reserving the liferent to himself and a reasonable terce to his wife Catherine Rorisoun; and the grant was confirmed by Queen Mary.¹⁵ In 1546 James Dunbar of Terbert sold to Robert Vaus burgess of Innernes his lands of the third part of Arkboll, lying between the third part of the same belonging to John Corbet one of the portioners of Arkboll towards the east and the other

¹ Retours.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 597. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 79.

³ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 72; vol. xlv. fol. 118; vol. I. fol. 111.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 17.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 263. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 81.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 122.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 170.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiv. no. 65. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 11.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 173.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 245.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 33.

third part belonging to John Denowne the remaining portioner towards the west, together with the third part of the mill of Arkboll; and Queen Mary granted a crown charter to Robert Vaus, with reversion to James Dunbar.¹ In 1547 the same queen granted to William Dennowne of Petnele the nonentry and other dues of Ardboll and other lands, which were in her hands since the decease of Alexander Dunnvne of Davidstoun.² In the same year she granted to John Dunnvne, the second son of John Dunnvne of Davidstoun, the western third part of the lands of Arkboll, reserving the liferent to John Dunnvne the elder who had resigned the lands.³ In 1554 the same queen granted to Elizabeth Dunbar the liferent of the lands of Mydthrid of Arboll, with the third part of the mill and fishings, resigned by her husband Jaspas Waus.⁴ In 1556 she granted to John Denone and his wife Katherine Ross the third part of the town and lands of Arboll which John had resigned.⁵ In 1562 John Dunnvne, styled lord of the third part of Arkboll, in fulfilment of a contract made at Litill Terrell in that year, and with the consent of his wife Katherine Ross, sold the third part of the town and lands of Arkboll to Alexander Ross of Litill Terrell and his wife Elizabeth Ross, to whom in 1563 Queen Mary granted a crown charter of the lands.⁶ In 1569 King James VI. granted to Alexander Ros of Litill Tarrell and Isabella (Elisabeth?) Ros his wife and their heirs a crown charter of a half of the third part of Arkboll alienated to them by James Dunbar of Tarbet, to whom at the same time the King granted the power of reversion to the lands.⁷ In 1579 he granted to John Waus of Lochslyne and his heirs the third part of the town and lands of Arkboll with the third part of the mill, alienated to him by the deceased Alexander Ros of Litill Tarrell.⁸ In 1582 the same king granted to Master John Ros of Hiltoun in heritage the ward and other dues of the third of Arboll and Escboll, and other lands in Ros, which were in the hands of the crown since the decease of Alexander Ros of Lytill Terrell, or other lawful possessor, with the relief when it should happen, and the marriage of Marione Ros and the other two lawful daughters and apparent heirs of Alexander Ros.⁹ In 1584 he granted to Margaret Mwnro the daughter of Hugh Mwnro of Asschin a crown charter of the liferent of the west third part of the town and lands of Arkboll, sold by the deceased Alexander Ros of Lytill Terrell to Margaret and the deceased Alexander Ros his son, to whom she was at the time betrothed, and to her heirs by him, with remainder to Alexander's heirs whomsoever; and also the ward and nonentry of the same third part.¹⁰ In 1596 Marjory and Isobel Ross were served heirs portioners to their father Alexander Ross of Litill Tarrell in the third of the west third of the lands of Arboll, of the old extent of 9s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.¹¹ In 1601 Alexander Dunbar of Tarbert was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Tarbert in a third of the lands and mill of Arbo in the sheriffdom of Innernes, of the old extent of 7s. 2d.¹² In 1633 Alexander Corbatt of Arkboll was served heir male to his father

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 53. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 419.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 30.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 33.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 37.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 337. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. fol. 36.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 597. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. no. 79.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 72.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 118.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 7.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 111.

¹¹ Retours.

¹² Ibid.

John Corbat in two-thirds of the lands of Arkboll with the pendicles, namely, the pendicle called Aldiquhilbar—the marshes and moors named Mulboyeid lying contiguously—the rabbit warrens *lie linkis* of Arkboll—the marsh and moor named Lonteanaquhat—the marsh and moor lying contiguously at the eastern part of the lands of Arkboll on its south side, and on the east side of the loch called Lochanteny—the marsh and moor lying adjacent to the west part of Arkboll on its south side—the great marsh and moor adjacent to the west part of Arkboll on its west side—the marsh and moor adjacent to the northwest part of Arkboll near the sea shore named Knockangirrach—together with the harbours of Portnagrighach, Portnaclieich, Portnawest or the harbour of Saint John, the chapel of Saint John, the port called Camray, and the privilege of having boats for taking salmon, herring, and other fish within those harbours and other parts of the sea off the lands of Arkboll, with the ‘wreck and wair’ within the same bounds—all lying in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, united into one free tenantry, and of the old extent of 57s. 8½d.¹

In 1512 King James IV. granted anew to John Vaus of Lochslyn the lands of Lochslyn in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys, which he had resigned, for yearly payment of one pound of cucumber (*cucumeris*) or of three pence at Whitsunday.² In 1534 King James V. granted to Robert Vaus burgess of Innernis a crown charter of the lands of Lochislin and Newtown in the earldom of Ross, sold to him in that year by John Vans of Lochislin, and to be held of him and of the King as Earl of Ross.³ In 1535 a charter of William Makcullo of Plaidis is witnessed by John Vaus of Lochslyne.⁴ In 1536 the same John resigned the lands of Lochslyn (with the exception of the lands of Newtown), which King James V. then granted anew to him and Elizabeth Urquhard his wife.⁵ In 1538 that king again granted to Robert Vaus burgess of Innernys a crown charter of Lochislyn and Newtown, sold to him by John Vaus of Lochislyn, and reserving to John Vaus and his wife Margaret (Elizabeth?) Urquhard the liferent of Lochslyn, and to himself the liferent of Newtown only.⁶ The charter of John Vaus is given at Lochislyn, and witnessed among others by Sir Magnus Vaus vicar of Abirtarf, apparently a relative of the family, and at different times appearing in record also as notary public, chaplain, rector of Y, provost of Tain, and commissary of Inverness.⁷ In 1554 Master Patrik Vaus parson of Wigtoun had from Queen Mary a grant of the marriage of Katherine, Margaret, and Agnes Vaus, daughters of the deceased John Vaus of Lochslyn, and of any other heir succeeding to the lands of Lochslyn and Newtown.⁸ In 1562 appear in record Jasper Vaus of Lochslyn and Katherine Vaus his daughter.⁹ In 1570 King James VI. granted in heritage to John Vaus, the son and apparent heir of Jaspas Vaus of Lochslyne, the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Lochslyne and Innerathy in the earldom of Ros and sheriffdom of Innernes, the lands of Lochslyne being in the King’s hands since the decease of John Vaus

¹ Retours.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 89. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 197.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 140.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 245.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 362. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. x. fol. 173.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 62. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 53.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 62. See pp. 381, 418, 419.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 91.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 480, 481.

at the field of _____, and those of Innerathy since the decease of Paul Maktyre, or in whatever other way.¹ In 1571 the same king granted in heritage to Walter Vrquard sheriff of Cromartie the escheat of the goods that belonged to Jasper Waus of Lochslyne, who was denounced rebel and at the horn for non-payment to Master Robert Richardsoun commendator of Sanct Marie Ile, the King's treasurer, and to his assignee Andro Lamb indweller in Leith, of certain sums of money, for the payment of which Jasper Waus and John Neilsoun burgess of Innernes were sureties, namely, £20 due by John Reauch M'Fail in Cullevlar, £100 by William M'Farquhar in Cultclachquhy, £20 by John M'Farquhar in Cultclachquhy, and other sums entered in the treasurer's books.² In 1579 appears in record John Waus of Lochslyne, and in 1609 John Vauss junior was served heir to his father John Vauss of Lochslyne in the lands of Lochslyne and Newtowne, of the old extent of 30s.³

In 1520 King James V. granted to John Campbellthane of Calder the lands of Estir Ard called Corbettislandis in the sheriffdom of Innernys, formerly belonging to the deceased Master John Caldor precentor of Ross, and in 1522 he confirmed the grant.⁴ In 1524 John Corbet of Estir Ard sold in heritage to James Dunbar, with remainder to his brother John Dunbar and his heirs, and to James's heirs whomsoever, the fourth part of the lands of Estir Ard, and the superiority of another fourth part on the east side, with the new lands between the bank of Saltoun and the bank of Wattertoun of his lands of Estir Ard, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes.⁵ In 1525 King James V. granted to James Dunbar a crown charter of the same lands.⁶ In 1527 James Dunbar portioner of Estir Ard, on the narrative that John Corbett of Estir Ard had alienated to him the same lands under reversion on payment of the sum of 259 marks 10s., appointed Sir William Fudas chancellor of Caithness his assignee, and the above sum having been paid, granted to him the lands.⁷ In 1528 King James V. granted to Sir William a crown charter of the lands.⁸ In 1531 that king granted to William Hay of Mayn the same lands and superiority, formerly belonging to the deceased Sir William Fudes chancellor of Caithness, and escheat to the King by reason of his bastardy.⁹ In 1534 appear in record John Corbet of Estir Ard and Mariot Dunbar his wife.¹⁰ In 1538 King James V. granted to James Dunbar of Tarbet and Elizabeth Leslie his wife the lands of Estir Ardis called Corbettisland, formerly belonging to the deceased Master John Caldor precentor of Ross, at whose death they reverted to the crown, and were granted by the King to Sir John Campbell of Caldor, who now resigned them.¹¹ In 1540 James Dunbar of Tarbert and Estir Arde sold to John Corbet of Arde and Katherine Roresoun his wife the fourth part of the lands of Estir

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 51. The name of the battle is blank in the register. It must have been fought between the years 1538 and 1554, during which period occurred the Rout of Solway, the Battle of Anernum, the Battle of Pinkie, and various sieges and minor conflicts.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 69.

³ Retours.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xx. nn. 86, 87.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xx. no. 134. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vii. fol. 104.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 70.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiv. no. 144. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 63.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 173.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 63. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 63.

⁶ Ibid.

Arde, and a fourth of the four crofts called Ladycroft, Makhucheounecroft, Scheipherderoft, and the croft cultivated by Megot Enymmanwise, to be held for yearly payment of one penny blenchferme.¹ In the same year King James V. granted to John Corbet a crown charter of those lands.² In 1542 that king granted to John M'Culloch, the nephew and heir apparent of Angus M'Culloch of Terrell, with remainder to Hugh and Angus the sons of Angus M'Culloch, a yearly revenue of 50s. from the lands of Estir Hard, which Angus had resigned.³ In the same year he granted to George Monro of Davachearty a crown charter of a fourth of the lands of Ester Arde, called the Intoune of Estir Arde, sold to him by his kinsman James Dunbar of Terbert.⁴ In 1545 James Dunbar of Terbat sold to John Corbat of Arkeboill the fourth of Eistir Ard, and the fourth of the crofts called Ladycroft, M'Hutcheoncroft, Croft-nageracht, and Croftnacon (spelled also Croftnatoun and Croftnarone); and in 1546 Queen Mary granted to John Corbat a crown charter.⁵ In 1552 that queen confirmed to Andrew Munro and Katherine Vrquhard his wife the fourth of the lands of Eistir Ard, granted to them by George Monro of Dalcarty.⁶ In the same year she granted to George Monro of Dalearty and Jonet Fraser his wife a crown charter of the fourth part of Eister Ard called the Intoun, and of other lands in Ros sold to them by James Dunbar of Terbert, to whom at the same time she granted the right of reversion.⁷ In 1553 John Makeulloch of Tarrell, in fulfilment of a marriage contract, granted in liferent to Christina Monypenny the sister of Thomas Monypenny of Kingkell, with remainder in succession to his heirs by her, and to his own heirs whomsoever, a yearly revenue of 50s. Scots from the lands of Eistir Aird; and Queen Mary in the same year confirmed the grant.⁸ In 1556 that queen confirmed to Marjory Ogiluy, the daughter of Walter Ogiluy of the Boyne, the liferent of the lands of Eister Airdis called Corbettisland, granted to her in 1555 by James Dunbar of Terbert and Eistir Airdis.⁹ In 1558 she granted to James Dunbar, the son and heir apparent of James Dunbar of Eister Terbert, the same lands of Eistir Airdis, which his father had resigned, reserving the liferent to the same Marjory Ogiluy.¹⁰ In 1559 she granted to John M'Culloch of Mekle Terrell a letter of reversion to the yearly revenue of 50s. from the lands of Eistir Hard, alienated by him under reversion to Thomas Monypenny of Kinkell.¹¹ In 1567 she granted in heritage to Master David Chalmer the ward and other dues of the property belonging to the deceased John M'Culloch of Terrell, including the same yearly revenue of 50s.¹² In 1568 it was forfeited by Master David Chalmer, and granted by King James VI. to Andrew Monro of Newmore, to whom in 1571 it was confirmed by the same

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 130. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 36.

² *Ibid.*

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 70. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 92.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 285. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 36.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 306. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 75. This seems the same as the transaction of 1540, yet both are recorded and dated as above.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 119.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 124. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 94. The Reg. Mag. Sig. gives the sum as 5s., the Reg. Sec. Sig. as £50 Scots—but from the grant of 1542 and subsequent deeds the true sum appears to be 50s.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 281. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. no. 6.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 326. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 37.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 69.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. ff. 45, 46.

king.¹ In 1577 Mariot M'Cullo was served heir to her father John M'Cullo of Mekill Tarrell in the same yearly revenue from the lands of Eister Ard.² In the same year King James VI. granted to Hugh Monro of Assint and Cristina Monro his wife a crown charter of the lands of half the Intoum of Easter Aird, occupied by Hugh Monro, and alienated in heritage to him and his wife by James Dunbar of Tarbart with consent of his wife Marjory Ogilbie; granting at the same time to the latter parties a letter of reversion to the lands.³ In 1578 the above yearly revenue of 50s. was resigned by Mariot M'Culloch, and granted in heritage by King James VI. to her and her future spouse George Munro the son and apparent heir of Andrew Monro of Newmoir.⁴ In 1601 Alexander Dumbar of Tarbert was served heir to his father James Dumbar of Tarbert in the lands of Eistir Aird called Corbetsland with the mill, of the old extent of 17s.⁵ In 1604 Master James Dumbar of Sanquhar, now of Tarbert, was served heir male and of entail to his brother Alexander Dumbar of Tarbert in the lands of Eistir Aird called Corbetsland, with the mill and fishings in salt and fresh water, of the old extent of £3.⁶ In 1627 John M'Kenzie of Tarbat was served heir male to his father Sir Rotheric M'Kenzie of Coegache in the lands of Eistir Aird of the old extent of £3, 6s. 8d., and in a yearly revenue of 50s. from the same lands of the old extent of 23s. 4d.⁷

In the parish are three fishing villages, Ballintore, Hiltown, and Portmahomack.⁸

On a small creek near Tarbatness, named Port-chaistal, is the site of an ancient castle or fort, defended on the land side by a deep ditch, and by some supposed to be the ancient Ethir Dover.⁹ From it the first Earl of Cromarty took the style of Castlehaven.¹⁰ On the Black Moor in its neighbourhood are vestiges of an encampment.¹¹

The castle of Ballone or Tarbat stands on the east shore of the parish, and is still nearly entire.¹²

There was a castle at Cadboll on the same coast, of which there seem to be few or no remains.¹³

In the north east of the parish, near a lake variously named Locheye, Lochlin, and Lochslin (which belonged of old to the abbot of Fearn), stands the castle of Lochslin, the old dwelling of the Vauses, consisting of two towers 60 feet high, and respectively 38 and 20 feet square.¹⁴ In it was born in the year 1630 Sir George Maekenzie of Tarbat, afterwards first Earl of Cromertie, one of a family who succeeded the Dunbars in the possession of the Tarbat estates.¹⁵

There seem to have been several other castles in the parish, one of which belonged to the Sinclairs of Dunbeath.¹⁶

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 12; vol. xxxix. fol. 76.

² Retours.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 3.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 68.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Ibid.

⁸ New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 276. New Stat. Acc.

¹² Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ Old Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 296. Bahagown Charters.

¹⁵ Old Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 151.

¹⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

In the churchyard are a monument called the Dingwalls' Tomb, and fragments of a cross said to have stood on a small green mound at the east end of the church.¹

At Hilton stands one of three obelisks supposed without much foundation to commemorate the three sons of a Danish king who perished at sea off the neighbouring coast.² One side is richly sculptured; the other, from which the sculptures were erased about two centuries ago, bears a rude shield and label with an unmeaning Scotch inscription.³

N I G G.

Nig⁴ — Nyg⁵ — Nigg.⁶ (Map, No. 11.)

TITHS parish consists of the Hill of Nigg, of old called the Bishop's Forest, about 500 feet in height, and forming about one-third of the whole parish; a fertile slope on the north west side of the hill; a considerable extent of plain; and a level tract called the Sands of Nigg covered by the sea at high water.⁷ The cliffs extending along the Moray Firth and the entrance to the Firth of Cromarty, where the Hill of Nigg takes the name of the Northern Sutor, have an average height of 300 feet above the sea.

In the year 1296 John of Dunbretan parson of the church of Nig of the county of Ros swore fealty to King Edward I. of England.⁸ Thenceforward till the Reformation there seems to be no mention of this church, but it appears to have been a mensal church of the bishop of Ross.⁹ In 1569 King James VI. presented Finlaü Mansoun reader at Nig to the vicarage of that church, vacant and in the King's hands 'as omittit and not gevin vp in rentall be the last possessour thair of or vthirwyis quhatsumeur.'¹⁰ In 1574 it was vacant, and in 1578 and again in 1581 King James VI. presented Alexander Clunes to the vicarage of Nig, vacant by the demission of Fynla Mansou.¹¹

The church, built in 1626, and repaired in 1725 and 1786, stands at Nigg near the Sands, apparently on the site of its predecessors.¹²

At Culiss there is a small enclosure named the Chapel Park, in which in last century were some slight vestiges of a chapel.¹³

¹ New Stat. Acc.

² Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 39-41. New Stat. Acc.

³ Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 41.

⁴ A. D. 1296. Ragnan Rolls, pp. 142, 143. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 109. A. D. 1578. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 53. A. D. 1581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 113. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen.

⁵ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

⁶ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁷ New Stat. Acc. ⁸ Ragnan Rolls, pp. 142, 143.

⁹ Book of Assumptions. Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 109.

¹¹ Book of Assignations. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 53; vol. xlvii. fol. 113.

¹² MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Old Stat. Acc. In 1585 Sir Jerome Paip appears as chaplain of Cullis, but whether at Cullis or within the cathedral church is not stated. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 71.

At Shandwick there was a chapel and burying-ground, of the former of which the walls towards the end of last century were nearly entire.¹ There seems to have been near it another burying-ground, the enclosure of which was visible at the same date.²

At the Reformation the bishop of Ross gave up the teinds of the parish of Nig to the collector of thirds at 19 chalders 5 bolls of victual, £15, 0s. 9d. in teind silver, and 29 muttons.³ Among the sums yearly given from the bishoprick the bishop enumerates as given to the curates of Nyg and Terbat the sum of £40, and to the preacher of the same churches £50.⁴ In 1568 Fynlay Mansoue as reader had for his stipend £20, and in 1569 as vicar he had £40; the sum assigned as stipend to the reader at Nyg in 1574 was 20 marks, and in 1576 it was £6, 13s. 4d. the amount of the vicarage.⁵

In the year 1333 Hugh Earl of Ross, who died in that year, granted to his son Hugh of Ross the four davachs of Rarechys.⁶ This Hugh of Ross is styled the first laird of Rarichies and Balnagown.⁷ In 1351 he dates a charter at Culuys.⁸ In 1368 he is styled Hugh of Ross lord of Raricheis.⁹ He was succeeded by William of Ross, apparently his son.¹⁰ In 1394 Walter of Ross was infefted in the lands of Rarichies on a precept of Euphame Countess of Ross.¹¹ In 1398 Alexander of Lesley Earl of Ross, the son and heir of the deceased lady Eufania Countess of Ross, granted to Walter of Ross lord of Raricheis a davach of Culluys in the mairdom of Delgeny.¹² Walter was succeeded by Hugh Ross, whose son John was infefted in the same lands on a precept of Alexander of Ile Earl of Ross between the years 1429 and 1449.¹³ In 1490 King James IV., as tutor and governor of his brother James Duke of Ross, granted to David Ross, the nephew and apparent heir of John Ross of Balnagown, the lands of Rareche, with the mills, brewhouses, tenants, and tenandries, and the lands of Estir Rareche, resigned by John Ross, and with reservation of the liferent to him; and to the same David Ross and his wife Helen Kethel the lands of Westir Rareche and Culleis.¹⁴ In the same year David Ross on a precept of the same king was infefted in the lordship of Balnagowne (which included Rareche) as heir to his grandfather John Ross of Balnagowne.¹⁵ In 1546 Queen Mary granted to Alexander Ross of Balnagowne and Jonet Sinelare his wife the lands of Eistir Rereyche, with the pasture, alehouses, and fishings in salt water, and other lands in the lordship of Balnagowne, which Alexander had resigned.¹⁶ In 1550 Alexander Ros of Balnagoun sold to William Carnecors of Colmis-hill (or Colmislic) the lands of Westir Rarechy and the lands and mill of Culles in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, and in special warrandice of those lands the land of Balnagoun, the mains and mill of the same, the lands of Mylhill, Garthie, Knockgarthie, and Culcarne.¹⁷ At the same time he sold to the same William the lands of Estir Rarechy, and in special warrandice of them the lands of Mylntoun of Westray with the mill, the lands of Ballinleieh, and the lands

¹ Old Stat. Acc.³ Book of Assumptions.⁵ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.⁶ Balnagown Charters. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.⁷ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.⁸ Balnagown Charters.¹⁰ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.² Ibid.⁴ Ibid.⁹ Ibid.¹¹ Ibid.¹³ Ibid.¹⁴ Ibid.¹⁵ Ibid.¹⁶ Ibid.¹² Balnagown Charters.¹³ Ibid. Gregory's Highlands and Isles.¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. nn. 228, 229, 285.¹⁵ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.¹⁶ Ibid. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 426. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 51.¹⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 535. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 6.

of Mekill Doles.¹ In the same year Queen Mary granted to William Carneors a crown charter of all the lands thus sold to him by Alexander Ross.² In 1554 she granted to Sir John Bellen-den of Anclmoule the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Rarechys Eistir and Westir, with the mill and lands of Cullis, in her hands since the decease of William Carneors of Colmslie.³ In 1557 she granted to Robert Carneors of Colmslie and Barbara Hume his wife the same lands and mill, which he had resigned to the Queen's mother as Regent of Scotland.⁴ In 1577 William Carneors of Colmslie was served heir to his father Robert Carneors of Colmslie in the same lands and mill, of the old extent of £43, 3s. 2d., and in the lands granted in warrandice of the same.⁵ In 1578—on the narrative, notwithstanding that Alexander Ros of Balnagowne had sold in heritage to William Carneors of Colmslie the lands of Westir Rarechie with the lands and mill of Cullis, and in special warrandice of them the lands of Balnagowne, the demesne lands and mill of the same, and the lands of Myhhill, Garthe, Knoockgarthe, and Culcarne—and notwithstanding that the said William had granted to the said Alexander two letters of reversion to the same, namely, one to the lands of Westir Rarechie on the payment of 2455 marks 5 shillings and 10 pence Scots, together with a letter of lease of the lands for five years following their redemption, the lessee paying yearly 9 chalders of bear and meal and 10 bolls of dry multure, or 10 marks for each chaldar, 1 mart or 30 shillings, 8 muttuns or 4s. 2d. for each, 12 dozen of poultry or 4 pence for each poultry, and 12 bolls of oats or 4s. 2d. for each boll, with various other conditions specified in the letter of reversion, dated 5 April 1550; and another letter concerning the lands and mill of Cullis, redeemable on payment of 1000 marks Scots, together with a letter of lease of the lands and mill for five years after their redemption, the lessee paying yearly 4 chalders 13 bolls of victual, bear and meal, or 10 marks for each chaldar, 6 eapons or 8 pence for each, and 100 eggs or 12 pence Scots, with other conditions specified in the letter of reversion of the same date as the former; which reversions Alexander Ros had assigned to Alexander Innes of Plaidis and his heirs, and which reversions and assignation Alexander Innes had sold in heritage to George Sinclair chancellor of Cathanes—King James VI. granted to the same George and his heirs that, as soon as those conditions should be fulfilled by William Carneors of Colmslie or his heirs, and the sums of money specified in the letters should be paid by them, George and his heirs should have full and free reversion to the said lands and mill, both the principal lands and those granted in warrandice, as Alexander Ros had before his alienation of the lands; and the King constituted George and his heirs immediate hereditary tenants of the same.⁶ In 1617 Sir William Sinclair of Catbol was served heir to his father George Sinclair of May in the lands of Wester and Eister Rarichies, and the lands and mill of Cullis, as principal, of the old extent of £15, and in the lands of Rarichies, of the old extent of £10; and in the lands formerly granted in warrandice of the same.⁷ Rarichies and Cullis soon after became the property of the Roses of Kilravock through intermarriage with the Sinclairs of Dunbeath.⁸

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 535. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 6.

² Ibid.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 89.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 557.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 60.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ The Family of Kilravock, pp. 93, 330, 340.

A transaction in 1375 relating to the lands of Cathboll in Tarbat took place at the town of Nyg in the diocese of Ros, and was witnessed by brother Adam of Nyg, probably one of the canons of Fearn.¹ The mairdom of Nig, which included the lands of Logy extending to a davach, with the brewhouse and brewlands of the same, belonged at the Reformation to the bishop of Ross.² The third of the dues of that mairdom, as stated by Bishop Sinclair, amounted to £161, 18s. 3d., 1 ehaller 6 bolls 2 firlots of victual, 8½ marts, 42 muttons, 36 kids, and 16 dozen and 6 capons.³ Among the sums of money and victual yearly given out of the bishoprick the same authority states as given to the ‘gantar’ men of Nyg and Terbat 18 bolls victual and £10.⁴ In 1581 King James VI. confirmed three grants of land in the barony of Nyg—I. A grant by John Jacksoun, chancellor of Cathanes and commissary of the deceased Henry bishop of Ross, with consent of the dean and chapter, to Alexander Ferne and his male heirs, with remainder to his eldest female heir without division, of the fourth part of the town and lands of Nyg extending to a quarter davach, a fourth of the alehouse of Nyg occupied by the grantee, an oxgang of the same lands formerly occupied by Thomas Tulloch, and the half of the town and lands of Pitcalzeane, extending to half a davach, occupied by Alexander and his son, reserving to the bishop the manor-place, mansion, orchard, garden, moothill, stanks (*staguis*), and granary of Nyg; 2. A grant by the deceased John bishop of Ross, with the consent of the dean and chapter, to the same Alexander Ferne and his male heirs, with remainder as before, of an oxgang of the town and lands of Pitcalzeane besides the half davach contained in the above grant of Bishop Henry; and 3. A grant by Bishop John to Donald Fiddes in Nyg and his heirs of an oxgang of the lands and town of Nyg, with a fourth of the alehouse and its croft, and half an oxgang of the town and lands of Pitcalzean.⁵ In 1582 the same king confirmed a grant by John bishop of Ross, commendator of Lundoris, to Fynlay Mansoun in Pitcalzeane and his heirs of a fourth of the town and lands of Pitcalzean in the barony of Nyg, which Fynlay then occupied.⁶ In the same year he confirmed a grant, made by the same bishop to Andrew Mouro of Nig, of the half of the lands and town of Nig, and half the alehouse and its croft, with the keeping of the place and manor of Nig.⁷ In 1584 he confirmed a grant by the deceased John bishop of Ross to Donald Gibsoun in Pitcalzean and his heirs of half an oxgang of the town and lands of Pitcalzeane, and the brewhouse and its croft then occupied and laboured by the same Donald.⁸ In 1598 George Munro of Meikle Tarrell became bound ‘to releve and skaythles keip’ Elizabeth Ros the widow of Waltir Vrquhart sheriff of Cromertie, William Gordoun of Bredland her husband, William Ros of Kilravak tutor testamentary to Alexander Vrquhart the son of the said Waltir, and Alexander himself and his heirs—at the hands of Donald Ros, Magnus Ferne, David Ferne, and Finlay Manson, the assignees appointed by the deceased Alexander Ferne portioner of Pitcalzean to his right of reversion to the ‘eister half dawine land’ of the lands of Pitcalzean granted to him by the deceased Waltir

¹ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 180, 181.

² Book of Assumptions. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 61.

³ Book of Assumptions. ⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 133.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlviii. fol. 122.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 57.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 38.

Vrqnhart and Alexander Ferne — of their renunciation of the reversion to Andro Munro the son and heir of the deceased David Munro and to his tutor testamentary.¹ In 1662 Andrew Fearn of Piteahane was served heir to his great-grandfather Alexander Fearn of Balnasturache in a fourth of the town and lands of Nyg, extending to a quarter davach, of the extent of 33s. 4d. feuferme; a fourth of the alchouse of the same, of the extent of 5s. feuferme; an oxgang of the town and lauds of Nyg, of the extent of 16s. 8d. feuferme; and half of the town and lands of Piteahane, a half davach, of the extent of 53s. 4d. feuferme; formerly in the sheriffdom of Inverness, but then in the sheriffdom of Ross.²

There are two small fishing villages, named Balnabruch and Balnapaling, each containing about 20 families.³

Hugh's Fair, named from its founder Hugh Rose of Kilravock, sheriff of Ross and Cromarty, was formerly held at Wester Rarichie, but is now held at Ankerville, on the third Tuesday of November.⁴

Behind the parish church were to be seen about 1790 the foundations of a building 90 feet long styled the bishop's house, and doubtless the remains of the old manor-place of Nigg mentioned in the above grants.⁵

In the year 1179 King William the Lion during an expedition into Ross built or fortified the castle of Dunscaith.⁶ Its site is believed to have been a little green knoll on a farm still named Castle Craig, situated at the foot of a steep declivity, where the slope of the south end of the Hill of Nigg or Northern Sutor of Cromarty terminates about 150 feet above the level of the sea.⁷ The moat and part of an outwork on the land side may still be traced.⁸ The lands of Dunskaith seem to have continued to be royal property till the erection of the college church of Tain in 1487, when with a revenue of two marks Scots from the royal ferry of Cromarty they were assigned by King James IV. to the chaplainry of Dunskaith in that foundation.⁹

A ledge of rock running for some miles along the east coast of the parish about half a mile from the shore, and covered at high water, is locally known as the King's Sons; a cave on the adjacent shore is named the King's Cave; and near it is Port-an-righ (the King's Harbour); and a path winding to the top of the rocks is styled the King's Path.¹⁰ These names are traditionally connected with three sons of a king of Denmark, whose vessel or vessels are believed to have been wrecked on the ledge which bears their name.¹¹ It is further believed that the three young men were buried respectively at Hiltown in Fearn already noticed, and at Shandwick and Nigg in this parish, at each of which places a sculptured obelisk is still to be seen.¹² The obelisk at Shandwick, which stood in the ancient cemetery near the chapel, and which bore on one side a sculptured cross, and on the other sculptures of various kinds, was some

¹ History of the Family of Kilravock, p. 287.

² Retours.

³ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. See above, p. 457.

⁶ Chronica de Mailros, p. 90. Ford. Scot. lib. viii. c. 28.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 44.
New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 46.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 309. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 36. See p. 417.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 39.
New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

years ago blown down and broken into three pieces.¹ The obelisk at Nigg stands in the parish burying-ground, having on one side a cross and other sculptures, and on the other figures of men and animals.² It was blown down in 1725 by a storm which destroyed the belfry and broke the bell of the church, but is now replaced at the east end of that building.³

At Easter Rarichie is a detached hillock said to be the site of a Danish fort, and exhibiting some remains of a wall or rampart.⁴

KILMUIR EASTER.

Kilmor⁵—Kilmur⁶—Kilmure-Madath⁷—Kilmowr⁸—Eistir Kilmure⁹—
Kilmuir Eistir¹⁰—Kilmure-Meddett¹¹—Kilmoor, Kilmoore.¹² (Map,
No. 12.)

THIS parish, stretching about 5 or 6 miles along the north coast of the bay of Nigg, and about 3 miles inland, is flat and sandy on the coast, cultivated and wooded in the interior, and moor and wood in its upland parts.¹³

In the year 1296 Roger of Foderingeye, vicar of the church of Kilmor of the county of Ros, swore fealty to King Edward I. of England.¹⁴ In 1475 James of Werk (Weik?) parson of Kilmur witnesses an indenture between M'Gilleoin of Lochboy and Ross of Ballnagovin.¹⁵ At the Reformation George Dunbar was parson of Kilmowr.¹⁶ In 1569 King James VI. presented William Ros to the vicarage of Eistir Kilmuir, vacant by the decease of Alexander Suthirland.¹⁷ The reader in 1572 was Donald Reid, and in 1574 and 1575 Neil Monro.¹⁸ In 1575 King James VI. presented Neil Monro to the vicarage of Kilmure or Kilmure-Meddett, vacant by the demission of William Ros parson of Roskin.¹⁹ In 1585 the same king presented John Monro the son of John Monro in Pithraachtie to the vicarage of Kilmuir Eister, vacant by the deposition of Neill Monro for non-residence and not serving the cure.²⁰ The rector of Kilmuir Eister had a manse and garden in the canonry of Ross, showing this benefice to have been a prebend of the Cathedral.²¹

¹ Old Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 41.

² Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 41, 42.

³ Old Stat. Acc. Scenes and Legends, p. 41.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ A. D. 1296. Ragman Rolls, p. 172.

⁶ A. D. 1475. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 347.

⁷ A. D. 1541. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 80.

⁸ A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptious.

⁹ A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 61.

¹⁰ A. D. 1572-1574. Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1585. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 26. A. D. 1621. Retours.

¹¹ A. D. 1575. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 111.

¹² *Cirea* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹³ New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

¹⁴ Ragman Rolls, p. 172. Though not quite certain, it is at least highly probable that Kilmuir Easter is here intended.

¹⁵ Acta Dom. Conc., p. 347. In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed £200 to his son Alexander to pass for him on a pilgrimage to Rome, the money to be placed in the hauds of Sir James of Weik (probably then or afterwards parson of Kilmuir). Misc. of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptious. Apparently Kilmuir Eister.

¹⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 61.

¹⁸ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 111.

¹⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 111.

²⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 26.

²¹ Retours.

The old church stood on the bay of Nigg, where the present was built in 1798, and succeeded one built in 1621.¹ Beside the present church is a round tower dated 1616.²

In 1368 Mariot of Hirdmannystoun, the daughter of the deceased Andrew of Hirdmannystoun, resigned the patronage of the chapel of Balnagown.³ About the same time William Earl of Ross granted to his brother Hugh of Ross lord of Philorth the lands of Balnagown and others, resigned by the same Mariot, the grantee finding a chaplain to officiate twice or thrice in the week at the altar of the Virgin Mary in her chapel at Balnagown.⁴ This chaplainry (whether in the mansion-house or otherwise does not appear), founded for daily prayers in behalf of the reigning sovereign, and supported by the yearly payment of £4 from the lands and fishings of Estir Terbert, was held in 1542 by James Dunbar of Tuliglenis and Elizabeth Leslie his wife, and in 1558 by James Dunbar his son and apparent heir.⁵ In 1642 Robert Lord Ros of Halkheid and Melvill was served heir to his brother William Lord Ros of Halkheid and Melvill in the barony of Balnagoune, including the advowson of the chaplainry of Balnagoune, and the kirklands, the last being of the extent of £4 feufirme.⁶

In 1512 the yearly payment made by Andrew Monro for the croft called the markland of Tulloch, then granted to him by King James IV., was one pound of wax to be paid at Midsummer within the chapel of Delny.⁷ In 1521 King James V. presented Alexander Dunbar to the chaplainry of Delny.⁸ In 1529 he presented David Dunbar to the same chaplainry, vacant or when vacant by the resignation of Alexander Dunbar.⁹ In 1541 Master David Dunbar, chaplain of the chaplainry of the Virgin Mary in the parish of Kilmure Madath, with the consent of the King and of the bishop of Ross, granted to Thomas Ros of Ballintraid and Elizabeth Dunbar his wife and their male heirs, with remainder to John Dunbar of Bannagefield and his male heirs, and to George Monro of Dalearty and his male heirs, the churchlands called Preistishill and Vlladule, with the croft of John the Baptist, and the glebe, manse, houses, buildings, gardens, and pertinents of the same, belonging to the chaplainry, reserving to himself and his successors one acre of the lands of Preistishill, lying near the manse on the south side, for a manse and garden to be there constructed—all which were rented by husbandmen and tenants for 12 marks yearly—the grantee paying yearly 12 marks, and 40s. in augmentation of the chaplain's rental, in all £10 Scots.¹⁰ In 1580 King James VI. granted for seven years to Colin Dunbar the son of George Dunbar of Awach, 'for help of his sustentatioun and intertenement at the scoles,' the chaplainry of Delny, vacant by the decease of Master David Dunbar.¹¹ The chapel, dedicated, as we have seen, to the Virgin Mary, stood with its cemetery on a bank at Delny till near the end of the last century, when the stones of the building were removed and otherwise used, and the ground ploughed up, although it was

¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Balnagown Charters.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 255; lib. xxxi. no. 506.

⁶ Retours.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 72. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 195.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 150.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 36.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. ff. 80, 81.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 31.

afterwards enclosed and sown with grass.¹ At the same period an eminence near the chapel continued to bear the name Cnoc-an-tagairt or Priestshill, and in the same neighbourhood were the remains of a cross at the extremity of a village, the seat of the old baronial court of Delny.²

In Baiamund's Roll the church of Kylesmure is taxed at £4; in the Taxatio Sec. XVI. at £12, 8d.; and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £40.³ At the Reformation the parsonage and vicarage of Kilmowr, as given up by the parson George Dunbar to the collector of thirds, amounted yearly to 100 marks or £66, 13s. 4d.⁴ In 1572 the reader at Kilmuir Eistir had for his stipend £20, and in 1574 he had £12, 13s. 4d.⁵

The chaplainry of Delny, as we have seen, rented before 1541 at 12 marks 8 shillings, and left in that year for £10 Scots, did not in 1580 exceed the value of 20 marks yearly.⁶

The chaplainry of Balnagowne, belonging to the Reformation to Master Thomas Ros parson of Alnes, was then of the yearly value of £4, corresponding to the value given above at previous and subsequent dates.⁷

The mairdom (*maragium*) of Delny, a district including various lands in Kilmuir and other parishes, belonged of old to the Earls of Ross, one of whom, Earl William, died at Delny in 1323.⁸ In 1356 a charter of William Earl of Ross (the grandson of the former) is dated at Delgeny in Ross.⁹ In 1362 William Earl of Ross and lord of Sky granted certain lands in the mairdom of Delgeny to Henry Stewart and his wife Mariot the Earl's kinswoman.¹⁰ In 1368 an indenture between Mariot of Hirdmanystoun lady of Balnagown and Hugh of Ross lord of Raricheis is dated at Delgeny.¹¹ Earl William died at Delny in 1372.¹² In 1384 Alexander Earl of Buchan, lord of Ross and of Badenoch, dates a charter at Delgeny.¹³ In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted to Thomas the younger of Dingvale the lands of Vsuy in exchange for other lands in the mairdom of Delny.¹⁴ In 1476 King James III. granted to Elisabeth Countess of Ross, the widow of John Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, for her maintenance certain lands in Ross which she held in conjunct infeftment with her husband before his forfeiture; and besides these, for her gratuitous services to the King's father and his consort, and considering that she took no part with her husband in his rebellion, he granted to her £100 of land and yearly revenue in Ross, including 20 marks of Delne and other lands.¹⁵ In 1477, on attaining his majority, he confirmed the grant.¹⁶ In 1485, 1489, and 1494 the lands belonging to the Countess, including Delgeny, were the subject of a long litigation between her and James of Dunbar of Cunnok, by the latter of whom they were occupied.¹⁷ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to his domestic servant William Keith master of his wardrobe, for his good service and for other reasons, certain lands in

¹ Old Stat. Acc.

³ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Book of Assignations.

⁶ See above, p. 460. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 31.

⁷ Book of Assumptions. See above, p. 460.

⁸ Charter at Floors. Retours. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Balnagown Charters. Calendar of Fearn.

² Ibid.

⁹ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁰ Charter at Floors.

¹¹ Balnagown Charters.

¹² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Calendar of Fearn.

¹³ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 17.

¹⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371.

¹⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 40.

¹⁷ See TARBAT, pp. 443, 444.

Ross, including Delny, its alehouse with toft and croft, its two alehouses without toft and croft, and the orchard of Delny, for the yearly payment of 3 chalders bear and oatmeal, 8s. of bondage silver, and 6 poultry, for Delny—13s. 4d., and the same sum every 5 years as gressum, for the alehouse with toft and croft—13s. 4d. for the alehouses without toft and croft—and 30s. for the orchard and the croft called Gardinaris Croft.¹

In the year 1333 Hugh Earl of Ross appears to have granted the lands of Balnagown to Hugh Ross his son, the first laird of Balnagown.² Between 1336 and 1341 or 1351 William Earl of Ross (the son and successor of Earl Hugh) granted to Marion, the kinswoman and *alumpna* of Emma the wife of Thomas of the Abbaey, the davach of Awchale, which belonged to Andrew of Erwynd, who witnesses the grant.³ In 1341 a charter of the same earl is witnessed by William Marischal of Balnagown.⁴ In 1351 Hugh of Ross, the son of the deceased Hugh Earl of Ross, confirmed to the same William and Mariot his wife the lands of Balnagown and Aehawyl, granted to them by his father Hugh and his brother William Earls of Ross.⁵ In 1368 Mariot of Hirdmanystoun, the daughter of the deceased Andrew of Hirdmanystoun (and the widow of William Marischal), appears as lady of Balnagown.⁶ In that year, by a deed dated at Balnagoun, she resigned the lands of Balnagoun, Aehenwyl, and Gorty.⁷ Apparently in the same year William Earl of Ross and lord of Sky granted the same lands to his brother Hugh of Ross lord of Philorth.⁸ In 1374 or 1375 they were confirmed to the same Hugh by King Robert II.⁹ In 1384 there appear in record William Ross of Balnagown (the son of Hugh) and his wife the daughter of Lord Livingstone, and in 1394 and 1398 Walter Ross his heir.¹⁰ The latter, who was surnamed Clugganache, married Catherine the daughter of Paul M'Tyre.¹¹ Between 1429 and 1449 appears John Ross of Balnagown, the son and heir of Hugh Ross.¹² In 1451, in the chapel of Saint Nicolas in the cathedral church of Ross, in presence of Andrew of Munro archdeacon of Ross, commissary of Bishop Thomas and auditor of consistorial cases, and of other witnesses, John Ross lord of Balnagowan produced certain charters, of which a transumpt was then made.¹³ By an indenture made at Dingwall in 1475, and publiely recorded in 1494, it was agreed that a son of Alexander Ross, the son and heir of John of Balnagovin, should marry a daughter of Hector M'Gilleoin of Lochboy.¹⁴ In 1488, in presence of Thomas bishop of Ross and of Thomas abbot of Fearn, John Ross of Balnagown resigned his house and living to Sir Gilbert Keith of Inverugie and to David his 'oye' and apparent heir.¹⁵ In 1490 King James IV., as tutor of his brother James Duke of Ross, granted to David Ross, the nephew and apparent heir of John Ross of Balnagovin, the lands of the lordship of Balnagown with the castle and manor, and other lands in Ross, with the mills, brewhouses, tenants, and tenandries, resigned by John Ross, and reserving the liferent to him.¹⁶ In 1492 David

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

³ Balnagown Charters.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Rob. Index, p. 120, no. 64; p. 129, no. 32.

¹⁰ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross, Balnagown Charters.

¹¹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁴ See TOROSAY, pp. 311, 312.

¹⁵ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. nn. 228, 285. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

Ross of Balnagovn appears in record.¹ In 1527 King James V. granted to Walter Ross, the son and heir of the deceased Sir David Ross of Ballingovn, all the lands and reuts which belonged to the latter.² In 1528 the same king granted the ward, relief, and nonentry of some of the lands of the barony to William Ros the brother of the deceased Walter Ros of Ballangowne.³ In 1546 Queen Mary granted to Alexander Ros of Balnagovn and Janet Sinclair his wife Ballinlone and other lands, with the woods, parks, and other pertinents of the lordship of Balnagovn, which Alexander had resigned.⁴ In 1550 the same Alexander granted to William Carnecors of Colmislie the lands of Balnagovn, the demesne lands and mill of the same, and other lands of the barony, in special warrandice of the lands of Westir Rarechy and Culles, which he had sold to William Carnecors.⁵ In 1560 he granted the lordship of Balnagovne to his son and apparent heir George Ross.⁶ In 1567 Master John Douglas, rector of the university of Saint Andrews, grants a receipt for £32, 2d. Scots as the board of George Ross younger of Balnagovne 'for all the time that he remainit student with me in the New College.'⁷ In 1576 the same Alexander Ros of Balnagovne and George Ros his son and heir appear in record.⁸ In 1578 the lands and barony of Balnagovne, including the demesne lands and mill, with other lands, formerly belonging in heritage to the same Alexander and George, and held by them of the bishop of Ros, the commendator of Ferne, and the sacerist of Thane, were appraised in favour of James Scrymgeour of Duddop, constable of Dundie.⁹ In the same year King James VI. constituted George Sinclair chancellor of Cathanes and his heirs immediate hereditary tenants of the lands of Balnagovne and others granted in special warrandice of those sold to William Carnecors of Colmislie in 1550.¹⁰ In 1581 George Ros fear of Balnagovne gave the liferent of certain lands of the barony, with the mill of Balnagovne and the astrieted multure, to Marjory Campbell the daughter of the deceased Sir John Campbell of Calder, to whom King James VI. in the same year granted a crown charter of the lands.¹¹ In 1582 the same king granted to George Ros of Balnagovin and the male heirs of his body, with remainder to his male heirs whomsoever, several baronies, including the lands and barony of Balnagovin, the demesne lands of the same and others in that barony, formerly belonging to James Scrymgeour of Duddop, and resigned by him, to be held for the services formerly due.¹²

In 1362 William Earl of Ross and lord of Sky granted to Henry Stewart and his wife Mariot the Earl's kinswoman his land of Kennachrowe and Strathury, with all the men inhabiting the same, and the other pertinents lying in the mairdom of Delgeny, for yearly payment of one silver penny called sterling at Kennachrowe.¹³ In 1372 the grant was confirmed by King Robert II.¹⁴ In 1536 John Denowne of Daidstoun, in implement of a contract between him and William McCulloch of Pladdis, granted to Dowy Makulloch and her heirs by his son Donald Denowne,

¹ Coll. de Reb. Alb., p. 85.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 67; vol. vii. fol. 74.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 140. See KINCARDINE, p. 412.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 426. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 51. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 535. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 6. See N166, p. 455.

⁶ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 102.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 67.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 60. See N166, p. 456.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. ff. 99, 105.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 11.

¹³ Original at Floors.

¹⁴ Ibid.

with remainder to his own heirs, the three 'eist oxgangs' of his land of Candoroy.¹ In 1547 Queen Mary granted to William Dennonwe of Petnele the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Candenrew and others in Ross, in her hands since the decease of Alexander Dennonwe of Davidstoun.² In 1549 John Denone, lord of half the lands of Daweistoun and of all the lands of Kanderwif and Strathworie, sold to Walter Innes dweller in Calrossy the lands of Kanderwif and Strathworie in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Invernys; and in the same year Queen Mary granted to Walter Innes a crown charter of the lands.³ In 1556 the same queen confirmed the grant of 1536, and Donald Donowne, the son and heir of the deceased John Donowne of Davidstoun, appears also as Donald Donowne of Kenroy.⁴ In 1563 Queen Mary granted the lands of Cayndruiff and Straithworie to Walter Innes of Cayndruiff and Margaret Makintosche his wife.⁵ In 1575 William Innes was served heir to his father Walter in the same lands, lying in the lordship of Ross, of the old extent of 40s.⁶ In 1577 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Innes of Candereuff and Katharine M'Kanze his wife, with remainder to William's heirs whomsoever, the lands of Candereuff which he had resigned, to be held of the crown for the usual services.⁷ In 1628 Beatrix, Margaret, and Agnes Innes were served heirs portioners to their father William Innes of Calrossie, and Donald Monro the lawful son of George Monro of Tarloggie was served heir portioner to the same William his maternal grandfather, in the lands of Kendriue and Strathworie.⁸

In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted to Thomas the younger of Dingvale, with remainder to his brother John of Dingvale and his heirs, and to the better and more worthy successor of their relatives of the name of Dinguale, the lands of Vsuy in the earldom of Ross in exchange for the third part of Arkboll, and the lands of Inchfure in the mairdom of Delny.⁹ In 1464 King James III. confirmed the grant.¹⁰ Among the £100 of lands and rents in Ross granted by King James III. in 1476, and confirmed by him in 1477, to Elizabeth Countess of Ross were included 10 marks in victual of the lands and town of Meithaite with its two mills, and 10 marks of Mekle Meithaute.¹¹ In 1512 King James IV. granted to Andrew Monro the lands of Myltoun of Meath with the mill, the office of chief mair of the earldom of Ross, and the croft called the markland of Tulloch, in the earldom of Ross, which lands of Myltoun with the mill and mairdom had been granted to Andrew and one heir by a letter under the privy seal, the grantee paying yearly for Myltoun 8 chalders 4 bolls of victual half bear half meal of the lesser measure of the earldom and to augment the rental by 8 bolls, and for the croft of Tulloch one pound of wax on the feast of Saint John the Baptist (24 June) within the chapel of Delny.¹² In 1527 King James V. granted to Thomas Ross of Ballintred the lands of Arnagaig, Ballintred, Feauchtelauchy, and Knoknapark, extending in the

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 393. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. fol. 70.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 39.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 419. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 79.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. nn. 358, 393. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. ff. 33, 70.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 97.

⁶ Retours. ⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. ff. 42, 43.

⁸ Retours.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 17.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 40. See above, p. 461.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 74. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 195.

King's rental respectively to 26s. 8d., 40s., 20s., and 26s. 8d., in all 8 marks 6 shillings and 8 pence, for the yearly payment of £7, to augment the rental by 26s. 8d.¹ In 1541 Thomas Ros of Ballintraid appears in record as the grantee of the chapellands of Delny in the parish of Kilmure-Madath, a name apparently derived to the parish from the lands of Meddat or Meithat.² In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to his domestic servant William Keith for his good service certain lands in Ross, including Mekill Methat, its alehouse with toft and croft, and its alehouse without toft and croft, Badebaa, Knoeknapark, Ballintraid, Fayelachie, Ardnagaag, Calrechy, and Inschefuir; the grantee paying yearly for Mekill Methat 6 chalders of bear and oatmeal of the measure of Leith, 16s. of bondage silver, 6 poultry, and the usual services—for the alehouse of the same with toft and croft 13s. 4d. and the same sum every 5 years as gressum—and for the alehouse of the same without toft and croft 6s. 8d. and the same every 5 years as gressum; for Badebaa 20s., and the same every five years as gressum; for Knoeknapark 26s. 8d., 6s. of bondage silver, and as gressum every 5 years 26s. 8d., with the usual services; for Ballintraid 40s., 9s. of bondage silver, one poultry, and 40s. gressum, with the usual services; for Fayelachie 26s. 8d., 6s. of bondage, 2 poultry, and gressum 26s. 8d., with the usual services; for Ardnagag the same; for Calrechy 26s. 8d.; and for Inschefuir 40s., 9s. of bondage silver, 1 poultry, and 40s. of gressum every 5 years, with the usual services.³ In 1615 Arthur Sutherland was served heir to his father Alexander Sutherland of Inschefure in the town and lands of Calrichie of the extent of 26s. 8d., and the lands of Inschefure of the extent of 40s., in the barony of Delny and earldom of Ross.⁴ In 1623 George Monro of Mylntoun was served heir to his father George Monro of Tarrell in the lands of Mylntoun of Meddat with the mills and the office of chief mair of the earldom of Ross, of the extent of 8 chalders 4 bolls of victual; a croft named the markland of Tulloch in the earldom of Ross, of the extent of one pound of wax; and the lands and town of Meikill Meddat or Meddatmoir, of the extent of 6 chalders of bear and oatmeal and other dues—its alehouse with toft and croft of the extent of 13s. 4d.—and its other alehouse without toft and croft, of the extent of 6s. 8d.—in the barony of Delnie, earldom of Ross, and sheriffdom of Inverness.⁵

There are villages at Milntown, Bartaraville, and Portlich, the first of which has a population of 200.⁶

On the coast near New Tarbat House are the ruins of the castle of New Tarbat the seat of the Earls of Cromarty.⁷

In the year 1590 Catharine Ross, Lady Fowlis, one of the Balnagown family, was tried and condemned to be burned for witchcraft.⁸

At Kenrive (the ancient Kennachrowe or Kandenuiff) on a hill still bearing that name there is a large cairn, and close to it the foundation of a large building (probably the remains of the old mansion-house and chief message of the property).⁹

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 36.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. ff. 80, 81.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 46-48.

⁴ Retours.

⁶ New Stat. Acc.

⁷ New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

⁸ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. pp. 192-201.

⁹ New Stat. Acc.

LOGIE EASTER.

Logy¹—Logy Eistir²—Logie.³ (Map, No. 13.)

THIS parish, the name of which in Gaelic signifies 'a hollow,' is chiefly composed of the upper part of the strath of the water of Rorie, named in Gaelic 'Abher' (the river), and latterly known as the water of Balnagown.⁴

Of this parish we have but scanty notices, and no early notice except its entry in Bisset's copy of Baiamund's Roll.⁵ In 1497 King James IV. presented Sir Donald Morisoun to the vicarage of Logy (probably that of Logy Easter) in the diocese of Ross, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir John Rathre.⁶ The church appears in records of the sixteenth century, and about the period of the Reformation the rector appears to have been Thomas Hay, and the vicar Sir Donald Reid.⁷ In 1581 King James VI. presented Master John Ros to the parsonage and vicarage of Logy Eister, vacant by the decease of Master Thomas Hay abbot of Glenluce.⁸ In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a grant by Master Thomas Hay rector of Logie, given with consent of Alexander bishop of Ross and the dean and canons of the cathedral to John Irving burgess of Rosemarkie and Margaret Cumming his wife, and to John's male heirs, of the croft of the rectory of Logie lying in the canonry of Ross (showing the church to have been a prebend of the cathedral).⁹ In 1619 Thomas Irwing was served heir to his father, Andrew Irwing in the canonry of Ross, in the manse of the rectory of Logie with the garden within the same canonry.¹⁰

The church originally stood in a hollow on the water of Rorie, which gave name to the parish.¹¹ The present church was built about the middle of the last century on a small eminence at a short distance from the former site.¹²

The eminence on which the modern church is built is named Chapelhill, implying the previous existence of a chapel, the name and dedication of which seem to be unknown.¹³

In Baiamund's Roll the rectory of Logy is taxed at £5, 6s. 8d.; in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. at £16, 10s. 3d.; and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £53, 6s. 8d.¹⁴ At the

¹ A. D. 1270. Baiamund's Roll. A. D. 1497. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 23. A. D. 1534. Lib. Taxationum. A. D. 1500-1600. Tax. Sec. xvi. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

² A. D. 1572. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 115.

³ A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 60. A. D. 1619. Retours.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc. Modern Maps.

⁵ Bisset's Rolls of Court, p. 209.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 23.

⁷ Lib. Taxationum. Tax. Sec. xvi. Book of Assumptions. Book of Assignations.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 115.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 60.

¹⁰ Retours.

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Modern Maps. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹² Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

Reformation the parsonage of 'Logy and Channonry in Ros' was let yearly for 100 marks, or £66, 13s. 4d.; and the vicarage extended yearly to the sum of £12.¹ In 1572 William Ross Thomassone, exhorter at Logy Eistir, had for his stipend £40, and in 1574 Donald Reid, reader, had £13, 6s. 8d. and the kirklands.²

The history of the lands of Strathworie, which lay partly in this parish, seems to have been the same as that of the lands of Kanderuiff or Kenrive in Kilmuir.³

In 1370 William Earl of Ross granted to William of Ross, the son and heir of the deceased Hugh of Ross, the lands of Pitmadwy within the bailiary of Delgeny, although he had formerly granted the same land in liferent to Master William of Dyngenal.⁴ In 1476 King James III. granted to Elizabeth Countess of Ross, in addition to lands granted to her for her maintenance, £100 of yearly revenue from certain other lands in Ross, including 10 marks of Drumgill and 10 marks of Glossery (probably Calrossy).⁵ In 1556 a charter is witnessed by Walter Innes in Calrossy.⁶ In 1578 the lands of Pettecowy (Pitmadowy) were included in the barony of Balnagowne, formerly belonging in heritage to Alexander Ros of Balnagowne, and in that year appraised with other lands in favour of James Scrymgeour of Duddop constable of Dundie.⁷ In 1582 the same lands were appraised by James Scrymgeour in favour of Alexander Ros, and granted by King James VI. to Alexander's son George Ros of Balnagowin and the male heirs of his body, with remainder to his male heirs whomsoever.⁸ In 1586 the same king granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe, for his good service and other reasons, various lands in Ross, including Calrossie, Drummediat, Glastowlie, and Drumgillie; the grantee paying for Calrossy 3 chalders bear and oatmeal, 8s. 4d. of bondage silver, and 4 poultry, with the usual services—for Drummediat 3 chalders bear and oatmeal of the measure of Leyth, 8s. of bondage silver, and 4 poultry, with the usual services—and for Glastowlie 6 chalders bear and oatmeal of Leith measure, 16s. of bondage silver, 9 poultry, and the usual services.⁹ In 1619 John Monro was served heir to Andrew Monro of Daan his father in the town and lands of Pitmadowie in the earldom of Ross, of the old extent of £4.¹⁰ In 1623 Walter Ros of Kindeis was served heir male to his father Hugh Ros of Kindeis in the lands of Morachwater with that part of them called Litill Rasches in the barony of Balnagown *pro principali*, and in warrantice of those lands in the south and lower quarter of the town and davochland of Pitmaduthie, lying next the lands of Drumgill, commonly called Auchownatone, in the same barony, of the extent of 20s.¹¹ In 1642 Robert Lord Ros of Halkheid and Melvill was served heir to his brother german Lord William in the lands of Pitticoway or Pitmadowy, included as before in the barony of Balnagowne.¹² In 1644 Master Thomas Rig of Athernie was served heir to his father William Rig of Athernie in the barony of Balnagown, including the town and lands

¹ Book of Assmptions.

² Book of Assignations.

³ See KILMUIR EASTER, pp. 463, 464.

⁴ Balnagown Charters.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371. See KILMUIR EASTER, p. 461.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 269.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 67.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 11.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

¹⁰ Retours.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

of Pitmaduthie.¹ In 1652 David M'Culloch was served heir to his immediate elder lawful brother James M'Culloch of Kindeis in the fourth part of the town and davochlands of Drumgillie, in the barony of Delny and earldom and sheriffdom of Ross, of the extent of the fourth part of three chalders of bear and other dues.²

In the year 1586 King James VI. confirmed a grant by John bishop of Ross and commendator of Lindoris, with the consent of his dean and chapter, to William Ros in Logy and Margaret Monro his wife, and to their heirs, with remainder to William's heirs whomsoever, of the lands of Logy extending to the quarter of a davach, with the brewhouse and brewlands, then occupied by William Ros, in the barony of Nig and sheriffdom of Inverness.³

At Blackhill there is a cattle market in the month of May.⁴

About the middle of the parish is a ridge of small hills, on one of which, partly surrounded by a ditch, stood a gallows.⁵ Near the end of the ridge is a deep narrow pool of water named Poll-a-bhaidh (the pool of death), in which the last feudal execution, that of a woman for child-murder, took place about the middle of the last century.⁶

ROSKEEN.

Rosken⁷ — Roskene⁸ — Roskynce⁹ — Roskin¹⁰ — Roskein¹¹ — Roschene¹² — Roskyin¹³ — Roscun.¹⁴ (Map, No. 14.)

THIS parish, lying on the north of the water of Alues and Loch Moir, is level along the coast of the Firth of Cromarty, rises gently for a few miles inland, when it becomes hilly, and attains its greatest height in Cairn Coinneag, said to be 3000 feet above the sea.¹⁵ In the upper part is an extensive valley named Strathrusdale.¹⁶

In 1528 Master James Knollis (or Knowis) was a canon of Ross, prebendary of Roskene, and preceptor of the Hospital of the Virgin Mary beside Lintlithgw.¹⁷ In 1533 the same Master James appears as rector, and in 1534 Andrew Ros was vicar of Roskene.¹⁸ In 1555 and between 1561 and 1566 the rector was Master Gawin Dunbar.¹⁹ In 1573 (1 January) King James VI. presented Master James Hering to the parsonage and vicarage of Roskene, and to the parsonage

¹ Retours.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 61.

⁴ New Stat. Acc. ⁵ Old Stat. Acc. ⁶ Ibid.

⁷ A. D. 1270. Baiamund's Roll.

⁸ A. D. 1528. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 223. A. D. 1533. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 160. A. D. 1534. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 96. A. D. 1500-1600. Taxatio Sec. xvi. A. D. 1573. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. ff. 43, 58. A. D. 1574-1576. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 40. A. D. 1621. Retours.

⁹ A. D. 1555. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 376.* A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

² Ibid.

¹⁰ A. D. 1575. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 111.

¹¹ A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 73. A. D. 1607. Retours.

¹² A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 14.

¹³ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁴ Circa A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

¹⁵ New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 223.

¹⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 160. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 96.

¹⁹ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 376.* Book of Assumptions.

and vicarage of the kirk of Newnacle, vacant by the decease of Gawin Dunbar.¹ In the same year (14 March) he presented William Ros to the same parsonage and vicarage, which belonged to the deceased Gawane Dunbar.² In 1574 and 1576 William Ros Thomassoun was minister, and William Monro Huchesoun was reader at Roskene and Newynkill.³ In 1575 William Ros is styled parson of Roskin, and in that year resigned the vicarage of Kilmure Meddett.⁴ The rector of Roskene as a prebendary had a manse with garden and croft within the canonry of Ross.⁵

The church, apparently dedicated to Saint Ninian, seems to have originally stood at Noinikil a short way from the coast, where its ruins still remain, and the site seems to have been afterwards changed to Roskeen nearer the coast, where the present church was built in 1832.⁶ There are still two glebes, one beside each church.⁷

In Bajamnd's Roll the rectory is taxed at £8, and in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. at £24, 16s.⁸ In the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £80.⁹ The rental of the parsonage at the Reformation, wholly received in money from the tenants, amounted to £101, 6s. 8d., of which £10 yearly were paid to the choristers.¹⁰ In 1574 the minister at Roskene had a stipend of £85, 15s. 2d., and the reader £20; in 1576 they had respectively £105, 15s. 2d. and £20; the reader being paid by the minister.¹¹

In 1361 James Prat of Kerdale, the son of the deceased John Prat lord of Estir Glenarundy, sold to Hugh Ross lord of Philorth a yearly revenue of 6 marks sterling due to him from the lands of Fraswlin, Okyngil, and Harpsdol, for 35 marks sterling to be paid by Hugh on recovering the same by law.¹² In 1384 Alexander Earl of Buchan, lord of Ross and of Badenoeh, ordered Hugh of Munro, his bailie of the earldom of Ross, to give to William of Ross seisin of the lands of Innerkstelane and Hospostyl.¹³ In 1490 King James IV., as tutor of his brother James Duke of Ross, granted to David Ross, the nephew and apparent heir of John Ross of Balnagovn, certain lands, including the lands of Hospitall, resigned by John Ross, to whom the liferent was reserved.¹⁴ In 1597 Gilbert Gray was served heir to his father John Gray of Fordell in the lands and town of Hospitill in the earldom of Ross, of the old extent of 10 shillings.¹⁵ The lands of Hospitill appear to be the same as those of Obstuell or Obsdale, on which a chaplainry was founded in the cathedral church of Ross.¹⁶

In the year 1473 appears in record Andro Merser of Inchbreky.¹⁷ In 1511 King James IV. granted in heritage to Andrew Stewart, the son of Jonet Terrell lady of Innachbreky, with remainder to Jonet and her heirs, the lands of Innachbreky and Balnegall in the sheriffdom of Innernys, resigned by Jonet, and reserving the liferent to her.¹⁸ In 1512 the same king granted to Jonet Terrell and her heirs the lands of Innerbreky and Balnegall in the earldom of Ross, formerly resigned by her to the King as Earl of Ross in favour of the deceased Andrew Stewart her

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 43.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 58.

³ Book of Assignations.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 111.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 73; vol. li. fol. 40. Retours.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. ff. 43, 58. Book of Assignations. Blaen. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁸ MS. in Adv. Lib.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Book of Assmptions.

¹¹ Book of Assignations.

¹² Balnagovna Charters.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. no. 285.

¹⁵ Retours.

¹⁶ See ROSEMARKIE, *post.*

¹⁷ Acta Auditorum, p. 30.

¹⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 100. Balnegall appears to lie in the parish of Tain.

son and his heirs, after which resignation Andrew died without lawful heirs, and the lands fell to the crown by reason of nonentry.¹ In 1529 Jonet Terrell resigned the same lands, which King James V. then granted in heritage to her and her husband Walter Innes of Touchis.² In 1533 William M'Culloch of Pladis dates a charter to Walter Innes of Towchis at Innerbreke.³ In 1534 the same Walter, with consent of his wife Jonet Terrall, granted to John Innes his son the lands of Innerbreky and Balnegall, on condition that John should marry *in facie ecclesie* Mariot the daughter of Donald Terrall, whom James Innes the son and heir of Walter ought to have married in terms of a contract between Walter and Jonet.⁴ In the same year King James V. confirmed the grant.⁵ In 1547 Queen Mary granted the same lands with the tofts and crofts, which John Innes of Innerbreky had resigned, to Walter Innes his son and apparent heir, to be held of the Queen as Countess of Ross, and reserving the liferent to John Innes and a reasonable terce to Mariot Terroll his wife.⁶ In 1557 the same Walter, the son and apparent heir of John Innes of Innerbrakey, in implement of a marriage contract, granted to Margaret the daughter of Kenneth Mackenze of Brawne the liferent of the lands of Balingall in the earldom of Ross, reserving the terce to Mariot the wife of John.⁷ In the same year Queen Mary confirmed the grant.⁸ In 1608 James Innes of Uvachbrekie was served heir to his father Walter in the town and lands of Uvachbrekie, of the old extent of 23s. 4d., and the town and lands of Innerachnegall, of the same old extent.⁹

Among the lands from which a yearly revenue of £100 was granted by King James III. to Elizabeth Countess of Ross in 1476, and confirmed by him in 1477, were included 10 marklands of Kineragy and 10 marklands of Culqulunze.¹⁰ The same lands were in 1586 included in a grant by King James VI. to William Keith the master of his wardrobe, the grantee paying yearly for Kincraig with its alehouses £4, 13s. 4d, 20s. of bondage silver, 12 bolls of bear, 12 bolls of oatmeal, 2 marts, 2 muttuns, and 12 bolls of oats, and for Culkenzie £5, 10s. 8d., 12 bolls of bear, 12 bolls of oatmeal of Leyth measure, 4 marts, 4 muttuns, and as grassum every five years £5, 10s. 8d.¹¹ In 1615 Arthur Sutherland was served heir to his father Alexander Sutherland of Inshcfure in three oxgangs and a sheaf [*garbata*] of land, commonly called 'the thrie oxgang and schaeifland' of the town and lands of Culkenzie, in the barony of Delny and earldom of Ross, of the extent of 43s. 10d. and other dues.¹² In 1635 Iver M'Iver of Culkenzie was served heir to his father Iver M'Iver of Laekmaline, portioner of Culkenzie, in 10 sheaves and a half of the town and dauchland of Culkenzie, commonly called ten 'scheaffis and ane halfe scheafland,' in the barony of Delny then newly erected, of the extent of 24s. 7d. and other dues; and in 7 sheaflands of the same lands of Culkenzie, extending to an oxgang and a half, in the same barony, and of the extent of 16s. 4½d. and other dues.¹³

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 125. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 163.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii. no. 66. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 84.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 42.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 96.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 74.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 359.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Retours.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 40. See KILMUR EASTER, p. 461.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

¹² Retours.

¹³ Ibid.

In 1538 King James V. granted to Huchoun Ros for five years the three marklands of Brekauche, the five marklands of Auchneclayeh, the ten marklands of Tullichmeaneyeh, and the mill of Cragmyne in the earldom of Ros and sheriffdom of Innernys, for the yearly payment of £12 for the lands and of 18 bolls of ferme for the mill, or in all £18.¹ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith master of his wardrobe, for his good services and other reasons, lands in Ross including Craigmynh with the multures and alehouses, Tullichmanieh, Tullichmoir, and Brekhauch; the grantee paying yearly for the Mill of Craig with the multures 1 chalder 2 bolls of bear, and for the alehouse 6s. 8d. and the same sum every five years as gressum — for Tullichmanieh £4, 6s. 8d., 2 marts, 2 muttuns, 6 bolls of dry multure half bear half meal, and 16s. 8d. of bondage silver — for Tullichmoir £5, 18s., 1 chalder 14 bolls of bear, 12 bolls of oats, and 4 muttuns — and for Brekhauch 50s., one poultry, 4s. of bondage silver, and 50s. every five years as gressum.²

In 1582 King James VI. confirmed a grant in heritage, by John bishop of Ross to the deceased John Innes of Innerbrekie, of the mill of Roskeyn and the astrieted multures and dues.³ In 1607 Thomas Urquhart sheriff of Cromertie was served heir to his uncle John Urquhart in a davaeh of the lands of Roskeyn, of the old extent of £9, 11s. 4d.⁴ In 1623 Walter Innes of Auchintoul was served heir male, of entail, and of provision, to James Innes of Calrossy his kinsman in the lands of Roskene, a davaeh, of the extent of £8 and other dues — the alehouse of Roskene with its croft, of the extent of 13s. 4d. and other dues — and the lands of Debadail, of the same extent as the alehouse of Roskene.⁵

In 1586 King James VI. confirmed a charter by the deceased John bishop of Ross, perpetual commendator of the monastery of Lundoris, granting to Alexander Ros of Litill Terrell and Issobel Ros his wife and their heirs, with remainder to Alexander's heirs whomsoever, the lands of Newmekill extending to half a davaeh, and the alehouse of Newmekill with the brewlands, then occupied by Alexander Ros and his tenants.⁶ In 1652 Hew Ross was served heir to his father Alexander Ros of Pitkerie in the three oxgangs of the lands of Newnakill with the teind sheaves, of old in the bishoprick of Ross, then in the sheriffdom of Ross, of the extent of 6 marks of feu duty.⁷

There are villages at Invergordon (formerly Inchbreky), Bridgend, and Saltburn, containing respectively populations of 1000, 276, and 300.⁸

At Invergordon are held five yearly fairs, in February, April, August, October, and December.⁹

Near the church stands an erect stone or obelisk named Clach-a-mhearlich, the thief's stone (probably the boundary of an ancient girth).¹⁰

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 93.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. ff. 14, 30.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 17.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

Near Loch Achnacloich is a large cairn measuring 130 yards in circumference, and surrounded by a number of tumuli.¹ On Knocknavie is a cairn named Cairn-na-croiche, the cairn of the gallows.² In the parish is another cairn named Carn-nam-Fiann, and interpreted 'the cairn of the Fingalians.'³

Throughout the parish are several places composed of upright flagstones, and supposed to be places of sepulture, the largest of which measures 14 feet by 3.⁴

A L N E S S.

Alenes⁵ — Alnes⁶ — Alness.⁷ (Map, No. 15.)

THE general features of this parish are similar to those of Roskeen.⁸ It lies chiefly between the rivers of Alness and Aultgrande, and is partly composed of a hilly district attaining its greatest height in the hill of Fyrish about 1000 feet above the level of the sea.⁹ It has two lakes, Lochglass and Lochmuire.¹⁰

In the year 1227 Adam Bur the parson of Alenes, and James the vicar of that church, were present with others of the clergy of Ross at Kenedor in Moray on the occasion of a settlement between the bishops of Moray and Ross respecting the diocesan right of the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser.¹¹ There appears to be no farther notice of the church till the year 1384, when either the church of Alnes or the bridge is stated to have been built by William Ros of Balnagown or by his wife the daughter of Lord Livingstone.¹² In 1528 Master Robert Sehand was rector of Alnes.¹³ In 1547 (19 October) Queen Mary presented Master John Daudisoun, student of theology and regent of the college in the city of Aberdeen, to the vicarage of Alnes, vacant by the decease of Master Alexander Galloway.¹⁴ In the same year (31 October) she granted to Master Alexander Galloway parson of Kinkell the escheat of all the goods that belonged to Master Alexander Galloway the vicar of Alnes.¹⁵ At the period of the Reformation Master Thomas Ros (afterwards provost of Tayne and abbot of Ferne) was parson of Alnes, and the vicar was Master John Daudisoun 'Maister of the Peddagog of Glasgow,' apparently

¹ New Stat. Acc.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid. 'Tubernafoyne of the grett or Kempmiss men callit Fenis is ane well.' Regist. Moraviense, p. 457.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

⁶ A. D. 1528. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 78. A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 50. A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1567. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. ff. 22, 41. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 14. *Ante* A. D.

1615. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

⁷ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. *Post* A. D. 1640. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁸ See p. 468.

⁹ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 81, 82.

¹² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 78.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 50.

¹⁵ Ibid.

the person presented to the vicarage in 1547.¹ In 1571 Alexander Morison was exhorter, and in 1574 he was reader at Alnes.² The rector of Alnes as a prebendary of the cathedral of Ross had a croft in the canonry.³

The church appears to have always occupied the site of the present building, erected in 1780 in the east end of the parish on the right bank of the burn of Teaninich.⁴

In 1549 Queen Mary presented Sir James Buchat or Buschart (apparently the same as Wischart) to the chaplainry called Towy (or Tolly) in the diocese of Ross, when it should be vacant by the demission of Sir Thomas Stevinsoun.⁵ In 1567 she granted to John Chalmer, servitor to Master David Chalmer chancellor of Ross, the same chaplainry, then vacant by the decease of Sir Thomas Stevinstoun.⁶ In 1569 King James VI. presented Finlay Mansoun to the chaplainry of Tolly, vacant by the decease of John Chalmer.⁷ In 1622 Hugh Ross of Auchnacloch was served heir male to his grandfather Hugh Ross of Tollie in the lands of Tollie in the earldom of Ross, formerly belonging to the chaplainry of Kildermorie or Tollie as part of its temporality, of the extent of 13 marks 6 shillings and 8 pence, with 6s. 8d. in augmentation.⁸ The chapel of Tollie was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and its walls, 40 feet by 18, and about 4 feet thick, and its cemetery may still be seen in a small valley named Glenmoir or Gildermory at the head of Lochmuire.⁹ Near it is Tobair-na-Muire, Mary's Well, anciently believed to possess healing virtues.¹⁰

In the cathedral church of Ross there were three chaplainries named the chaplainries of Alnes, one of which appears to have been founded on the lands of Fyrish or Fyres in this parish, and another on those of Culcragy.¹¹

At the Reformation Master Thomas Ros, styled the principal parson of Alnes, stated the parsonage at 100 marks or £66, 13s. 4d., out of which a yearly pension of 20 marks was paid to Sir Andro Robertsoun.¹² Other three persons, Sir James Buschart, Master Alexander M'Kenzie, and John Robertsoun, called the other three portioners, had each about 36 bolls of victual yearly out of the same parsonage, the whole victual amounting to 6 chalders 12 bolls.¹³ Master John Davidsoun states the vicarage thus—'The quhilk gaiff quhen payment was maid the sowme of xx lib. be yeir with ane plaid with the plenassing &c.; bot the laird of Fowlis and his freindis hes not lattin me gett ane penny thairof this fyve yeiris bygone.'¹⁴ In 1571 the exhorter at Alnes had for his stipend £22, 4s. 5½d., the third of the parsonage, and in 1574 the reader had 20 marks and the kirklands.¹⁵

The chaplainry of Tollie, Kildermory, or Lochmuire, seems to have been of the yearly value given above, namely, 13 marks and a half.¹⁶

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. ff. 22, 41. Book of Assumptions. Chronicle of the Earls of Ross.

² Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 14.

⁴ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 11.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 11.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 60.

⁸ Retours.

⁹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ See ROSEMARKIE, *post*.

¹² Book of Assumptions.

¹³ *Ibid*.

¹⁴ *Ibid*. The vicar states the third of his vicarage at £6, 13s. 4d., but makes no division of the plaid or its plenishing.

¹⁵ Book of Assignations.

¹⁶ See above.

The mairdom of Ferindonald extended from Dingwall to the water of Alness.¹

Among lands from which a yearly revenue of £100 was granted by King James III. to Elizabeth Countess of Ross in 1476, and confirmed by that king in 1477, were included 10 marklands of the two Queneleiches (or Quentleiches, apparently Contlichis), 10 marklands of Culcragy, and 10 marklands of Culmyllache.² In 1526 King James V. granted to Walter Innes of Tulchis the lands of Nethir Culmelloquhy extending in the King's rental to 46s. 8d.; Ovir Culmelloquhy extending to the same sum; the mill of Culmelloquhy, called in the King's rental the mill of Culcragy, with its lands and houses, extending to £3. 6s. 8d.; and other lands in the earldom of Ross, all united into the tenantry of Culmelloquhy—for the yearly payment of £26, 13s. 4d., in order to augment the King's rental by the sum of £5, 6s. 8d.³ In 1527 King James appears to have renewed the grant, the grantee however paying yearly for Culmelloquhy £6, and for the mill £4, 3s. 4d., and the dues of the other lands of the tenantry being proportionally altered, in order to increase the whole rental by the sum of £6.⁴ In 1528 the same king granted to the same Walter Innes the lands of Culcragy and Kirkfarbarne in the earldom of Ross, and annexed them to the tenantry of Culmelloquhy.⁵ In 1538 Walter Innes seems to have resigned the lands of the tenantry, as in that year they were again granted to him for five years by King James V., and including the two Culmelloquhies, the mill and alehouse of Culcragy, and the lands of Culcragy (apparently Culcragy in Alness and Culcragy in Contin), were let to him for the yearly payment of £28, 13s. 4d., two marts, and two muttuns.⁶ In 1586 the half davach commonly called the half davach lands of Culmalochie, the lands of Culcragy, Culcragy with the mill, multure, and alehouse (apparently both Culcragies), the mylntoun of Culmalochie, and the lands of Ovirculmalochie, were included in a grant of lands in Ross made by King James VI. to William Keith the master of his wardrobe; the grantee paying yearly for the half davach lands of Culmalochie, the lands of Culcragy, and other lands included in the grant but not in the tenantry, £7. 12s., 2 chalders bear and oatmeal, 12 capons, 16s. of bondage silver, 2 marts, 2 muttuns, 5 reek hens, and as grassum every 5 years £4, 13s. 4d.—for the mill of Culcragy or Culmalochie with the multure 1 chaldar bear, and 1 chaldar oatmeal—for the alehouse of Culcragy 20s. and the same sum as grassum—for the mylntoun of Culmalochie £3, the same sum as grassum, 8s. of bondage silver, and 1 poultry—and for Ovirculmalochie £3, with 7s. of bondage silver, 1 poultry, and 45s. 8d. as grassum.⁷ In 1589 Master Hector Monro was served heir male and of entail to his father Robert Monro of Fowlis the elder in the lands of Contulich Over and other lands in Ross and Sutherland, of the old extent of £10.⁸ In 1608 Robert Monro was served heir male of entail and provision to his father Master Hector Monro in a davach of Contulich

¹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 9; vol. xlvii. fol. 94; vol. xlix. fol. 132; vol. li. fol. 89. Book of Assumptions. Retours.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 46. See KILMUIR EASTER, p. 461.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 7. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 34; vol. vii. fol. 34.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 4.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 133. From this grant and other circumstances it appears that the lands of Culcragy here granted were not those of Culcragy in Alness, but of Culcragy in Contin.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 75.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48. See KILMUIR EASTER, p. 465.

⁸ Retours.

Over and Nether, with the mill, pertinents, and outsets, namely, Ardachie, Auehvaiche, with the brewhouse and its croft, and the superiority of the chaplainry of Obstaile and its salmon fishings—and in other lands, together of the old extent of £80.¹ In 1635 Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovat was served heir male to his father Symon Lord Fraser of Lovat in the barony of Foulis, in which the lands specified in 1608 were included.²

In 1490 King James IV., as tutor of his brother James Duke of Ross, granted to David Ross, the nephew and heir apparent of John Ross of Balnagown, certain lands in Ross, including Culcarn, Badcall, and Multowy, resigned by John Ross, and reserving the liferent to him.³ In 1550 Alexander Ros of Balnagown granted to William Carnceors of Colmislie the lands of Culcarne and others, in special warrandice of Westir Rarechy and Culles sold by him to William Carnceors.⁴ In 1578 the lands of Culcarne were probably included in the barony of Balnagown as then disposed of.⁵ In 1581 George Ros fear of Balnagowne sold in liferent to Marjory Campbell the daughter of the deceased Sir John Campbell of Calder the lands of Culcarne and others in the barony of Balnagowne, of which King James VI. then granted to Marjory a crown charter.⁶ In 1582 that king granted to George Ros of Balnagown and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, the barony of Balnagown and other lands, including Culthearne, Badcall, and Multowy.⁷ In 1617 Sir William Sinclair of Catbol was served heir to his father George Sinclair of May in the lands of Culcairne and others included in the barony of Balnagowne, in special warrandice of Rariechies and Cullis.⁸ In 1622 Hugh Ros of Auchnacloch was served heir male to his grandfather Hugh Ross of Tollie in the lands of Multowy and Lealdy in the barony of Balnagown, of the extent of 5 marks, and in warrandice of these in the lands and town of Culcayrne in the same barony and of the same extent.⁹

In 1580 King James VI. confirmed a charter of John bishop of Ross, granting to Hugh Monro the brother german of Robert Monro of Foulis and to the male heirs of his body, with remainder to Robert Monro and his heirs whomsoever, the lands of Assint and Inhecultir in the diocese of Ross or mairdom of Farndonald.¹⁰ In 1614 Patrick Kynnaired of that Ilk was served heir to his great-grandfather in the lands of Assint in the sheriffdom of Innernes.¹¹ In 1616 John Kynnaired of that Ilk was served heir in the same lands to his father Patrick.¹²

In 1583 King James VI. confirmed a charter of John bishop of Ross *pro tempore*, granting to Robert Monro of Foulis and to the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, the lands of Kandlochglass, Balnacoule, Hauchmagall, and Bothmore, in the diocese of Ross called the mairdom of Farndonald.¹³ In 1584 the same king confirmed a grant by the same bishop to Hector Monro the brother of Robert Monro of Foulis and his heirs male, with remainder to Robert and his heirs male whomsoever, of the lands of Kilteremore and

¹ Retours.² Ibid.³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. no. 285.⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 535. Reg. Sec. Sig.,

vol. xxiv. fol. 6.

⁵ See KILMUIR EASTER, p. 463.⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. ff. 99, 105.⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 11.⁸ Retours.⁹ Ibid.¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 94.¹¹ Retours.¹² Ibid.¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 132.

Auchnacallane, and the lands of Alnas with the brewhouses, in the bishoprick of Ross or mairdom of Farindonald.¹ In 1586 he granted in heritage to William Keith master of his wardrobe certain lands in Ross, including the mill of Alnes with the astricted multures, and the lands of Feyris, the grantee paying yearly for Feyris £4, 8s. 8d., 12 bolls bear, 12 bolls oatmeal, 12 bolls oats, Leith measure, 4 marts, 4 muttuns, 16s. of boudage silver, and 13 poultry.² In 1651 Jonet M'Leay was served heir to her father John Mackley advocate in the lands of Alnes with the brewhouse within the bishoprick of Ross called the mairdom of Ferindonald, formerly in the sheriffdom of Inverness, then in that of Ross, of the extent of £3, 2s. 2d. feuferme.³ In 1653 Hew Monro of Fyres was served heir to his brother David Monro in the lands of Killermourie and Auchnagullan within the late bishoprick of Ross or mairdom of Ferrendonill, and then in the sheriffdom of Ross, of the extent of £4 and other dues; and in a quarter of the town and lands of Fyres in the barony of Delnie and earldom of Ross, of the extent of 3 bolls of bear and other dues.⁴

There is at Alness a village which lies partly within the parish of Rosskeen.⁵

There appears to have been a bridge at Alness, probably built by William Ros of Balnagown about the year 1384.⁶ The bridge of Alnes occurs in record in 1439.⁷

At the eastern boundary of the parish there is a large stone named Clach-airidh-a-mhinister, the stone of the minister's shealing, and on the moor near the chapel of Gildermory are two large stones placed one above the other known as the Clach-nam-ban or stone of the women — in both cases connected with local traditions.⁸

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 89.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

³ Retours.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁷ Cawdor Charters.

⁸ New Stat. Acc.

KILTEARN.

Keltierny¹—Kelyern²—Kelyerne³—Kilteirn⁴—Kylterne⁵—Kilterne⁶—
Kiltarne⁷—Kiltern.⁸ (Map, No. 16.)

THIS parish, now united to Lumlair, lies chiefly on the south of Lochglass and the river Aultgrande, terminating eastward on the shore of the Cromarty Firth, and extending on the north west to the borders of Lochbroom, its marches with which and with the neighbouring parishes are not very clearly defined. It lies partly on the northern slope of Ben Wyvis, which is 3720 feet above the sea. The Aultgrande at one part of its course passes through a deep and narrow chasm of great picturesque beauty.⁹

In the year 1227 Andrew the parson of Keltierny was present at Kenedor in Moray on the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross about the diocesan right of the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser.¹⁰ In 1296 William of Kynegorn parson of the church of Kelyern of the county of Inernys swore fealty to King Edward I. of England.¹¹ In 1487 Thomas Padesone was vicar of Kilteirn.¹² In 1539 King James V. presented Sir John Auchinlek to the vicarage of Kylterne, vacant by the decease of Master John Gardinar.¹³ In 1546 Queen Mary presented James Hammiltoun, the son of James Hammiltoun of Innerwik, to the same vicarage, vacant through the inability of Sir John Auchinlek, who was convicted of certain treasonable acts and of being art and part in the slaughter of the deceased David cardinal of Saint Andrews.¹⁴ In 1547 the same queen presented Laneelot Hammiltoun, the son of the deceased James Hammiltoun of Innerwik, to the vicarage of Kilterne, vacant by the inability of Sir John Auchinlek, convicted of treason, of being art and part in the slaughter of the cardinal, and of holding the castle of Saint Andrews against the tenor of the mandates directed thereon.¹⁵ In the same year she granted to Laneelot Hammiltoun the fruits of the vicarage, in her hands by the escheat of Sir John Auchinlek, who was denounced rebel and at the horn for the above crimes.¹⁶ In 1548 Sir John Auchinlek had a remission for assisting Norman Leslie

¹ A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

² A. D. 1296. Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 25.

³ A. D. 1296. Ragman Rolls, p. 159.

⁴ A. D. 1487. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 236.

⁵ A. D. 1539. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 2.

⁶ A. D. 1546. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 566. Reg.

Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 39. A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig.,

vol. xxi. ff. 58, 59. A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol.

xxiii. fol. 38. A. D. 1550. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no.

566. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 74; vol. xxiv. fol.

23. A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptions. A. D.

1573. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 94. A. D. 1574.

Book of Assignations. A. D. 1580. Reg. Sec. Sig.,

vol. xlvii. fol. 45. A. D. 1583. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol.

xlix. fol. 114. A. D. 1623. Retours.

⁷ A. D. 1585. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 81.

⁸ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp.

168, 169.

¹⁰ Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

¹¹ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 25. Ragman Rolls, p. 159.

¹² Acta Dom. Conc., p. 236.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 2.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 39.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 58.

¹⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 59.

Master of Rothes, James Kirkaldy of the Grange, and their accomplices, in holding the castle of Saint Andrews against the Queen, and for taking part with the English.¹ In 1550 Queen Mary presented John Sideserf to the vicarage of Kilterne, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Lancelot Hammitoun.² John Saidserf continued to be vicar between the years 1561 and 1566, at which time the parson was John Sandelandis.³ In 1568 the reader at Kilterne was Angus Neilson, and in 1574 Ferquhard Monro.⁴ In 1580 King James VI. confirmed a grant in heritage by Master John Sandelandis rector of Kilterne to Gavin Reid carpenter in Innernes of the houses of the manse of Kilterne (apparently in the canonry) with the garden and pertinents, then occupied by Thomas Smyth.⁵ In 1583 the same king confirmed a grant by Sir John Sadserf vicar of the parish church of Kilterne, with consent of Master Quintigern Monepenny dean of Ros and vicar general, and of the chapter, to the deceased John Monro in Kilterne and his heirs, of the lands of the vicar's croft of Kilterne, reserving to the vicar the manse and croft as then occupied.⁶ In 1585 the same king presented Master Archibald Moncreif to the parsonage and vicarage of Kilterne, vacant by the decease of Master John Sandilandis.⁷

The church, built in 1790, stands near the shore of the Cromarty Firth on the right bank of the burn of Skiach, apparently the site of its predecessors.⁸

In 1546 Master John Monro chaplain of Balkny in the parish of Kilterne, with the consent of Queen Mary, the Earl of Aran, and Master Kentigern Monypenny dean and vicar general of Ross, his ordinary during the vacancy of the see, let to John Munro and his heirs male the churchlands of Toulise (or Tewlyis) with the brewhouse and the croft called Brewmer's-croft in the same parish, for the yearly payment of 5 marks 2 shillings and 8 pence and of a dozen of capons wont to be paid, and of 4 shillings in augmentation of the rental.⁹ In 1550 Queen Mary confirmed the grant.¹⁰ In 1551 she presented Sir William Monro to the chaplainry of Saint Monan on the lands of Balcony, vacant by the decease of Master John Monro.¹¹ Between 1561 and 1566 the chaplainry of Saint Monanis was held by Mr. William Munro minister and vicar at Dingwall, apparently the presentee of 1551.¹² In 1573 King James VI. granted for seven years to Alexander Monro Donaldsoun 'for his sustentation at the scuillis' the chaplainry called 'Sanct Monanis chaplainrie' in the parish of Kilterne and sheriffdome of Innernes, of which the yearly value did not exceed £8 Scots.¹³ In 1577 he granted for seven years to John Monro, the son of William Monro in the Cannogait, the same chaplainry, vacant by the demission of Alexander Monro.¹⁴ In 1583 he granted the chaplainry with the place and chapel of the same for seven years to George Monro the son of the same William.¹⁵ In 1623 Hugh Monro served heir to John Monro of Urquhart his father in the kirklands of the chaplainry or bursary

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 38.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 74.

³ Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 45.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 114.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 81.

⁸ Old and New Stat. Acc. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 566. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 23.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 67.

¹² Book of Assumptions.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 94.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 88.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 116.

of Balconie named Tomless, with the brewhouse and croft of the same named Brabneris croft, of the extent of 5 marks, 6 shillings, and 8 pence feufferme.¹

There was a chapel at Culnaskeath, and one at Wester Fowlis.² Blaeu gives Kilmabryd apparently in this parish.³

There was a chaplainry in the chanonry of Ross founded on the lands of Drummond in this parish.⁴

In Baiamund's Roll the church of Kyltarne is taxed at £5, 6s. 8d.; in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £53, 6s. 4d.; and in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. it is taxed at £16, 10s. 3d.⁵ At the Reformation the parsonage was let to the laird of Fowlis yearly for £96, 13s. 4d., 'of the quhill,' says Master John Sandelandis the parson, 'I pay in pensiou to Sir Donald Sherar yeirlic the soume of £12, item to Johne Sandilandis soume to the laird of St. Ninianis 42 merkis yeirlic, with the yeirlic dewteis alsua to the minister.'⁶ The vicarage, as stated at the same period by Master Alexander Pedder procurator for John Saidserff the vicar, 'gaif yeirlic in assedioun to the said Mr. Johne the soume of xl. merkis, and now be yeir nathing be reasoun the paroshineris will not pay quhill farder ordour be put to the kirk of the samin.'⁷ The reader at Kilterne had for his stipend in 1568 and 1573 £20, and in 1574 £16.

The yearly value of the chaplainries of Saint Monanis and Applecroce, as stated at the Reformation, amounted together to 36 marks, the former, as we have seen, being valued at less than £8 Scots.⁹

The possession of the lands of Fowlis by the family of Monro is locally ascribed to a period previous to the date of almost any existing record.¹⁰ Nisbet asserts that William Earl of Sutherland between the years 1214 and 1249 granted a charter *charissimo et fidelissimo consanguineo Georgio Munro de Foulis*.¹¹ In 1341, 1368, and between 1362 and 1372 appears in record Robert of Monro, and in 1398 Hugh of Monro, probably both of Foulis.¹² George of Monro of Foulis appears in 1437, 1440, and 1449.¹³ In 1487 John of Monro was lord of Foulis.¹⁴ He was dead in 1500, and appears to have been succeeded by his brother William.¹⁵ There appear in record in 1502 William Monro of Fowlis, in 1515 and 1541 Hector Monro of Foulis, and in 1542 Robert Monro of Foulis the son and heir of the deceased Hector.¹⁶ In 1542 King James V. granted to Robert Monro of Foulis the relief of the lands and other property belonging to his deceased father Hector, which was due to the King for giving him seisin of the same.¹⁷ In 1552 Robert Monro of Fowlis sold to Margaret Ogilvy lady of Moy in liferent the lands of Wester Fowlis in the barony of Fowlis and sheriffdom of Inverness.¹⁸ In 1553 Queen

¹ Retours. ² Old Stat. Acc. ³ Blaeu's Map.

⁴ See ROSEMARKIE, *post*. ⁵ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁶ Book of Assumptions. ⁷ *Ibid*.

⁸ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁹ Book of Assignations. See above.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc. ¹¹ Heraldry, vol. i. p. 343.

¹² Balnagown Charters.

¹³ Charter in Northern Institution Inverness. Kilravock Charters.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 236.

¹⁵ Kilravock Charters.

¹⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 108; vol. xiv. ff. 80, 86; vol. xvi. fol. 4. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xix. no. 133; lib. xxvii. no. 159.

¹⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 4.

¹⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 122. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 48.

Mary granted to Margaret Ogilvy a crown charter of the same lands.¹ In 1563 a charter is granted at Foulis by Robert Munro of Foulis, and is witnessed by his brother George Munro and by William Munro vicar of Dingwell.² Robert Munro of Foulis (apparently the same person) appears in record in 1571, 1574, 1577, 1580, 1583, 1584, and 1589.³ In the last named year Master Hector Munro was served heir male and of entail to his father Robert Munro of Fowlis the elder in certain lands, including the 10 davachs of Estir Fowlis, Westir Fowlis, Nether Catboll, and other lands not in this parish.⁴ In 1608 Robert Munro was served heir male and of entail and provision to Master Hector Munro of Foulis his father in the lands of Eister Foulis and their pertinents, namely—Culskea; Teachatt; Wester Ballachladieh; Achlich with the brewhouse, alehouse, smiddie, smiddicroft, and other crofts of the same; the pastures and shealings of Clearmoir, Altnagerrack, and the forest of Weyes; the lands of Wester Foulis with the shealings and Arbisak; a davach of the lands of Keatoll, with the pendicles, outsets, and pertinents, namely, Eister Ballachladieh and the pastures and grassings of Badnagarne.⁵ In 1635 Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovat was served heir male in the same lands to his father Symon Lord Fraser of Lovat.⁶ It is said that the forest of Wyvis mentioned in the above services was held of the King on condition that the grantee should furnish a snowball on any day of the year if required.⁷

In the year 1455 Beatrice Countess of Ross submitted to King James II., who then granted to her the barony of Balknie.⁸ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith master of his wardrobe, for his good service, various lands in Ross, including Balconie with the alehouse and the Flukeris croft, the 'stell' of Ardroy, and the 'yair' of Balconie with the alehouse of the same.⁹

In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Master Quintigern Monypenny vicar general and dean of Ross, granting to Robert Munro of Foulis and his heirs the lands of Kilterne, with the mill, astricted multure, and fishings, which were formerly held by John Cokburne of Kilterne and Jonet Forres his wife, and were escheat to Queen Mary by reason that John Cokburne was born and died illegitimate without lawful heirs.¹⁰ In 1608 Robert Munro was served heir male, of entail, and of provision, to his father Master Hector Munro of Foulis in the salmon fishing of Kilterne, and the superiority of the lands and mill of Kilterne, of the extent of £9, 6s. 8d.¹¹

At Evantown there is a village (apparently the same as Drummond) with a population of 500.¹²

Two yearly fairs are held in the parish, on the first Tuesday of June and the first Tuesday of December.¹³

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 122. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 48.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. nn. 593, 594. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. ff. 98, 99.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 101; vol. xlii. fol. 55; vol. xlv. fol. 26; vol. xlvii. fol. 94; vol. xlix. fol. 132; vol. li. ff. 89, 90. Retours.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Retours.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc.

⁸ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 90.

¹¹ Retours.

¹² New Stat. Acc. Old Stat. Act.

¹³ Ibid.

Balcony Castle, of old a residence of the Earls of Ross, and named on that account Balcony Vic Dhonail, stands on the banks of the Skiach, and has apparently been modernised or rebuilt.¹ In 1333 Hugh Earl of Ross, and in 1341 William Earl of Ross, date some of their charters at Balkenny.²

Near the village of Drummond there existed in the last century a grave composed of flags, 7 feet long, 3 broad, and about 3½ deep, named the Priest's Sepulchre.³

L U M L A I R .

Lemnclar⁴—Lymnolar⁵—Lumlar⁶—Lymmalar⁷—Limlair⁸—Lymlair⁹—
Lymnolair¹⁰—Lumlair¹¹—Limlare.¹² (Map, No. 17.)

THIS parish seems to have been composed of only the western and smaller portion of the present parish of Kiltearn, stretching from the shore of the Cromarty Firth to the foot of Ben Wyvis, and thus having a gradual ascent from south east to north west.

In the year 1227 William Poer parson of Lemnclar was present at Kenedor in Moray at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross.¹³ The church became afterwards a prebend of the cathedral. In 1548 (21 March) Queen Mary presented John Kincaid to the prebend of Lymnolar in the cathedral church of Ross, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Master John Bellindene.¹⁴ In the same year (10 November) he was presented by the Queen to the same prebend, then vacant by the decease of Master John Bellenden.¹⁵ At the Reformation Henry Kincaid was parson of Lymmalar, and seems to have still been parson in 1584.¹⁶ The rector of Lymnolair as prebendary had a manse and croft in the cauntry of Ross.¹⁷

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and in modern times known as Saint Mary's chapel, stood at Lumlair near the sea shore.¹⁸

In 1586 King James VI. granted to George Monro, the son of George Monro chancellor of Ros, for seven years, 'for his support in sustenyng him at the seulis,' the chaplainry of Clyne in the diocese of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes.¹⁹

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old Stat. Acc.

² Balnagown Charters. Kiltavock Charters.

³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

⁵ A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 78.

⁶ A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 51.

⁷ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁸ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁹ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

¹⁰ A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 60; vol. ii. fol. 14.

¹¹ A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 73.

¹² *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaeu's Map.

¹³ Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 78.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 51.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptions. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 60, 73.

¹⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 60, 73; vol. ii. fol. 14.

¹⁸ Old Stat. Acc. ¹⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 54.

There was a chapel at Kilehoan, dedicated, as its name implies, to Saint Congan of Lochalsh.¹

In Baiamund's Roll the church is taxed at £3, 6s. 8d. ; in the *Libellus Taxationum* it is valued at £33, 6s. 8d.² The parsonage, as stated by Henry Kincaid between 1561 and 1566, was 100 marks or £66, 13s. 4d. yearly.³ In 1574 the reader at Lymlair had for his stipend 20 marks and the kirklands.⁴

Between 1224 and 1231 Ferkar Earl of Ros granted in heritage to Walter of Moray the son of the deceased Hugh of Moray two davachs of land in Ros, namely, Clon with its pertinents, the grantee paying yearly to the granter a pound of pepper at the feast of Saint Martin (11 November), and doing to the King the forinsec service belonging to the land.⁵ In 1263 Sir Fergus of Ardrossen, for the weal of his own soul, and specially for the weal of the soul of the deceased Friskin of Moray lord of Duffus his overlord, granted for ever to Archebald bishop of Moray his land of Ros, namely, the two davachs of Clon which he held of Friskin, for the maintenance of two chaplains in the cathedral church of Elgyn to minister perpetually for the souls of all the faithful dead, to be held freely and fully according to Friskin's charter to him, saving the forinsec service of the King and the liferent of the lady Eufamia the mother of Friskin, and with the exceptive clause that Sir Fergus and his heirs should not be bound to warrant the land to the church.⁶ In 1264 the lady Eufemia, the widow of Sir Walter of Moray lord of Duffus, quitclaimed to Archebald bishop of Moray the land which she had in Ros in name of her dowry, namely, the third part of the whole lands of Clonys near Dyngvall, which formerly belonged to Sir Walter her deceased lord, for the maintenance of two chaplains to minister for the living and the dead in the cathedral church of Elgyn according to the charter of Sir Fergus of Ardrossan.⁷ In 1269 William Earl of Ros confirmed to Bishop Archebald the same two davachs of Clon in Ros, granted by the deceased Freskin of Moray lord of Duffus, quitclaiming for ever the yearly revenue of a pound of pepper due from the lands, and engaging for himself and his heirs to perform the forinsec service due to the King.⁸ Between the years 1350 and 1372 various charters are witnessed by William of Clyne.⁹ In 1375 William of Clyne, apparently the same person, held the lands of Cadboll in Tarbat of the bishop of Moray.¹⁰ In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Sir Alexander Douglas, chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint [Mary] Magdalen, and Sir James Spens chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint Laurence in the cathedral church of Moray, granting, with consent of the bishop, canons, and chapter, to Robert Monro of Foulis in liferent, and to his second son Hugh Monro and his male heirs, with remainder to Hector Monro his other son and his male heirs, and to Robert's own male heirs whomsoever bearing the surname and arms of Monro, the towns and lands of Mekill and Litill Clynis, with the mills, salmon fishings, and other fishings in salt and fresh water, lying in the

¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Old Stat. Acc.

² MSS. in Adv. Lib.

³ Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Book of Assignations.

⁵ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 333, 334.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 277, 278.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 278.

⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 278, 279.

⁹ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁰ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 180, 181. See TARBAT, pp. 441, 442.

earldom of Ross, regality of Spynie, and sheriffdom of Innernes.¹ In 1589 Master Hector Monro was served heir male and of entail to his brother german Hugh Monro of Clynes in the lands and towns of Mekle Clyne and Lytill Clyne, with the mill and multure, and the salmon fishings, lying as above, with the power of building and cultivating, of the extent of £21, 6s. 8d. feuferme.² In 1608 Robert Monro was served heir male of entail and provision in the same lands to Master Hector Monro of Foulis his father.³

In 1557 David bishop of Ross, perpetual commendator of Cambuskyneth, with the consent of his dean and chapter, granted to his brother Robert Leslie the lands and baronies of [in?] Ferindonald and Ardmanoch, the patrimony and property of the bishoprick, the lands in Ferindonald being those of Kilquhoane, for which the grantee was to pay yearly 4 marks with 17s. 9½d. as grassum, the fourth part of a custom mart, one mutton, 6 poultry, one kid, 20 eggs or 3 pence, and one boll of custom oats; paying for the whole lands as arriage and carriage, and turf or fuel, 30s. with 13s. 4d. yearly in augmentation of the rental, and furnishing also three suits at the three head courts yearly held at the canony of Ros.⁴ The bishop's lands of [in?] the mairdom of Ferindonald, as held by the laird of Fowlis and his brothers between the years 1561 and 1566, paid yearly £40, 9s. 1¼d., 11 bolls oats, 8¼ marts, 25 muttons, 24 kids, 82 capons, and 69 poultry.⁵ The lands held by the Monroes appear to have been those of Pellok and Lymlair with the alehouse, and some lands in Alness, which were granted by John bishop of Ross to Robert Monro of Foulis and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, and in 1583 were confirmed to him by King James VI.⁶ In 1537 that king confirmed a charter by William Sinclaire rector of Olrik, canon of Caithnes, and commissary of Henry bishop of Ross, granting the lands of Kilquhone extending to the quarter of a davaeh, and other lands of the bishoprick, to Thomas Vrquhart the son of the deceased Alexander Vrquhart sheriff of Crombathy, and to the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his brother german Arthur Vrquhart and his male heirs, to their brother german James Vrquhart and his male heirs, to their brother german John Vrquhart and his male heirs, and to their eldest brother Walter Vrquhart and his male heirs whomsoever bearing the surname and arms of Vrquhart.⁷

At Clyne is a small eminence, around which are three circles, one at the foot 80 paces in circumference, a second higher up 50 paces, and a third at the top 35 paces and enclosing two ovals formed of erect stones, each 13 feet by 10.⁸ At some distance westward from the eminence there is a cairn about 30 paces in diameter, having a few graves composed of flags, one in the centre of the cairn, and the others at the circumference.⁹

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 90.

² Retours.

³ Ibid.

Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 9.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 132.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 169.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Ibid.

DINGWALL.

Dyngwall¹ — Dingwell² — Dingill, Dungill³ — Dingwall.⁴ (Map, No. 18.)

THIS parish occupies a small area of scarcely two miles square extending from Ben Wyvis to the mouth of the river Conan, the lower part being a rich plain lying chiefly between that river and the Peffer or Pefferay burn.

Between the years 1350 and 1372 a charter by Hugh of Ross is witnessed by Thomas the clerk of Dyngwall.⁵ In 1504 a charter by John bishop of Ross is witnessed by John Fresell rector of Dingwell.⁶ In 1532 the vicar of Dingwell was Sir Alexander Rorisoun.⁷ In 1547 (November 2) Queen Mary presented Sir William Monro, the nearest of blood to the deceased Sir Alexander Roresoun, to the vicarage of Dingwell, then vacant by Sir Alexander's death.⁸ In the same year (6 November) she presented Master Thomas Ker to the rectory of Dingwell, vacant by the decease of Sir John Stevinsoun.⁹ Between 1561 and 1566 William Munro appears as minister and vicar of Dingwell.¹⁰ In 1569 Donald Adamsoun was exhorter at Dingwell and Vrray, and in 1574 Master Walter Ross was reader at Dingwell.¹¹ In 1579 King James VI. presented Robert Philp to the vicarage of Dingwell, vacant by the demission of Donald Adamesoun.¹² In 1587 he presented William Makkynname to the parsonage and vicarage of Dingwell, vacant by the decease of Master Thomas Ker last parson and Master Robert Philp last vicar.¹³

The present church, built in 1801, stands on the north side of the town of Dingwall.¹⁴ About the year 1790 the church was ruinous, and attached to it were several chapels.¹⁵

In 1516 King James V. presented Sir Thomas Kemp chaplain to the chaplainry of Saint Laurence in the castle of Dingwell, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir John Auchtlek.¹⁶ In 1547 Queen Mary presented Sir Andrew Dow to the same chaplainry vacant by the decease of Sir Alexander Roresoun.¹⁷ Between 1561 and 1566 Sir David Barquhan held the chaplainries 'of Sanct Lawrent and Arfaill' in the diocese of Ros.¹⁸ In 1569 King James VI. presented Donald Adamsoun, 'instructar and teichar of the youth within the burch of Dingwall,'

¹ A. D. 1350-1372. Balnagown Charters.

² A. D. 1504. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 85. A. D. 1532. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 150. A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. ff. 51, 52. A. D. 1563. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 593. A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 96. A. D. 1579. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 62. A. D. 1587. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 170. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

³ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁴ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

⁵ Balnagown Charters.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 85.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 150.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 51.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 52.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 593. Book of Assumptions.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 96. Book of Assignations.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 62.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 170.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. ff. 70, 71.

¹⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 51.

¹⁸ Book of Assumptions.

to the chaplainries of Saint Lawrance in Dingwall and Ardafailly in Ardmannoch, vacant by the decease of David Barchan.¹ In 1575 that king granted for seven years to James Daidisoun the son of John Daidisoun in Edinburgh, 'in support of his sustentation at the scule,' the chaplainry of Saint Lawrence and Ardfield in Dingwall (meaning evidently the same two chaplainries), vacant by the demission of Donald Adamesoun promoted to the subelhantry of Ross.² In 1582, the chaplainry of 'Sanctlaurence and Ardfail in Dingwall' being vacant by the expiration of the above grant, King James granted it for life to the same James Daidisoun, 'in respect of his continuance at his studie, in forder support of his sustentation at the scolis and intertenement vtherways.'³

In Baiaumund's Roll the church of Dingwell is taxed at 53s. 4d.; in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £26, 13s. 4d.⁴ At the Reformation William Monro minister and vicar at Dingill, states, 'And, becaus I gett nathing of the said vicarag except v merkis of twa cobillis fishing, I am content the Quenis Grace dispone thairon, becaus I can gett na lyf thairin without hir Grace eans me haue ane lyf lyk ane minister and be speciallie exercit.'⁵ In 1574 Robert Monro, minister at Dingwell and other churches, had for his stipend £66, 13s. 4d.; and the reader, Master Walter Ross, had £10.⁶ In 1576 Donald Adamsoun minister had for his stipend £102, 13s. 4d. 'with the gleib and kirkland of Urray newlie providit to him, &c.,' and Robert Philp (afterwards, as we have seen, presented to the vicarage) had 'the hail vicarage of Dingwell, vacant, £40.'⁷

The chaplainries of Sanct Lawrent and Arfaill yielded yearly £15 to the chaplain at the Reformation.⁸

The earldom of Ross included the modern counties of Ross and Cromarty, or the more ancient districts of Cromarty, Ross proper, and North Argyle, the last including Kintail, Lochalsh, Lochcarron, Applecross, and Garloch, perhaps also Lochbroom.⁹ In a manuscript of the thirteenth or fourteenth century the land of Ros is said to be 24 leagues in breadth and upwards of 40 in length.¹⁰ At an early period it was subject to local rulers named Maormors, of whom the first on record is Finlaoich, Finlach, or Finleg, the son of Ruadri, styled by the Irish annalists 'Ri Alban' and 'Mormaer of the sons of Croeb,' and by the Norse sagas 'Finnleikr Jarl the Scot.'¹¹ In the year 1020 he was slain by the sons of his brother Malbrigid.¹² His son and successor was Macbeatha or Macbeth, styled by Nennius 'the vigorous Macbrethaeh,' and by Wyntoun 'thane of Crwmbawelty,' who became King of Scotland in 1040, and was slain in 1056.¹³

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 86. Both these chaplainries seem to have been dedicated to Saint Lawrence, a circumstance which may have caused them to be confounded as they are in subsequent grants.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 125.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 29. In 1586 and 1587 the chaplainry of Saint Lawrence in Ardefaill was included in the same grant with the chaplainry of Dunskeyth, first to Thomas Daidisoun the brother of James, and then to Robert Monro.

⁴ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Book of Assignations.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Book of Assumptions. Register of Ministers.

⁹ Regist. Moraviense, p. 342. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 91. Rob. Index, p. 16, no. 17; p. 48, no. 1; p. 99; p. 100, no. 1. The earldom included also the parish of Kilmorack, now in the county of Inverness.

¹⁰ Misc. of Maitland Club, vol. iv. part i. p. 34.

¹¹ Tigernaebi Annales. Chalmers' Caledonia, vol. i. pp. 403, 407. Irish Version of Nennius (Irish Arch. Soc.), pp. lxxvii, lxxix.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid. Innes's Critical Essay, pp. 791, 803. Reg. Prior. S. Andree, p. 114. Chronica de Mailros, p. p.

Macbeth apparently had no son, and has on record no successor as Maormor of Ross; and we hear no more of the rulers of that district till about the year 1160, when King Malcolm IV. ordered Malcolm Earl of Ros and others to protect the monks of Dunfermelyn.¹ In 1161 the earldom of Ross is said to have been granted to Florence Count of Holland in marriage with Ada the sister of the King of Scots.² In 1215 Machentagar or Mackinsagart (a person whose name signifies 'the priest's son') was knighted by King Alexander II. for his good service in quelling an insurrection in Moray.³ In 1235 the same Mackinsagart appears as Earl of Ross, and as assisting the same king in suppressing a rising of the men of Galloway.⁴ If these dates are correct, Machentagar the priest's son was the same as Ferchar or Ferquhard usually styled first Earl of Ross, who appears in that capacity from 1212 to 1252, and who died in the latter year.⁵ William, the son and heir of Ferchar Earl of Ros, witnesses a charter between 1224 and 1231, witnesses another in 1232, grants a charter as Earl of Ros in 1269, and is said to have died in 1274.⁶ William Earl of Ros (apparently the son of William) appears as Earl in 1281.⁷ In 1291 he swore fealty to King Edward I.⁸ In 1292 the lands of the Earl of Ros in North Argail were by an ordinance of King John Balliol included in the sheriffdom of Skey.⁹ In 1296 King Edward I. ordered the barons and lieges of Ergile, Nicholas Campbell bailie of Leghor and Ardescothyn, and William de la Haye warden of the earldom of Ros, and the men of that earldom, to assist Alexander Earl of Meneteth as warden of the castles of those lands.¹⁰ In 1308 King Robert Bruce restored to William Earl of Ros all his lands 'with free forests.'¹¹ About the same date the marches between the earldoms of Ros and Moray are described as running between Glennelg and North Ergile (the latter of which belonged to the Earl of Ros), and thence along the boundary of Ros to the water of Forne (Beauly), and thence along that water to the eastern sea.¹² Earl William died in 1323, and was succeeded by his son Hugh, who is said to have been 'made' Earl on Saint Patrick's day of that year (17 March).¹³ In 1333 (10 May) Hugh Earl of Ross granted to his son Hugh the lands which were then in the hands of Margaret of Ross by reason of her terce when it should happen, except certain lands in Aberdeenshire reserved for William of Ross his son and heir.¹⁴ On Saint Magdalen's day (22 July) of the same year Earl Hugh was killed at the battle of Halidonhill.¹⁵ He was succeeded by his son William, who appears to have been in Norway at the time of his father's death, and to have

47, 51. From the designations 'sons of Croeb' and 'thane of Crwmbawchty' it is probable that the oldest seat of the rulers of Ross was in Cromarty.

¹ Regist. de Dufermelyn, p. 25.

² Palg. Illust., vol. i. pp. 20, 21.

³ Chronica de Mailros, p. 117.

⁴ Ibid., p. 145.

⁵ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 89, 99, 101, 333. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. This earl is represented in the 'Cronicle' as being present in 1272 with King Alexander III. at the coronation of King Edward I. of England, and as having there vanquished an athletic Norman called Dougall Duncansone, who 'had sic craft in wrasling that he cuist all men that assaizeit him.'

⁶ Reg. Morav., pp. 89, 278, 334. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Calendar of Fearn.

⁷ Reg. Morav., p. 281.

⁸ Ragman Rolls, p. 20.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. I, p. 91.

¹⁰ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 32.

¹¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 117. Rob. Index, p. 16, no. 17.

¹² Regist. Morav., pp. 342, 343.

¹³ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Calendar of Fearn.

¹⁴ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁵ Buchanan Hist., lib. ix. c. 14. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. The Family of Kilravock (Spalding Club), p. 32.

assumed the earldom only in 1336.¹ In the year 1350 Earl William, styled also lord of Sky, at the instance of all the nobles of the earldom of Ross, with the consent of his sister the lady Marjory Countess of Caithness and Orkney, and on condition that the consent of the King (David II.) should be obtained, appointed his brother Hugh of Ross his heir in the event of his own death without male issue.² Hugh of Ross was dead in 1370, and in that year Earl William resigned the earldom of Ross and the lordship of Sky, which King David II. then granted anew to him and his heirs male, with remainder in succession to Sir Walter of Lesley and Eufame his wife (the Earl's daughter), to the male heirs of Eufame and her eldest female heir without division, and to Johanna the Earl's younger daughter and her male heirs or eldest female heir without division.³ In 1371 Earl William represented to King Robert II. that King David had given all his lands and tenements, and also the lands and tenements of his brother Hugh in Buchan, to Sir Walter of Lesly without the Earl's consent—that he had been thwarted in his attempts to recover them—that King David had taken the lands into his own hands, but had restored them to the Earl on his making certain concessions to Sir Walter—that his daughter (Eufame) had not been married to Sir Walter with his consent—and that he had neither given Sir Walter any grant of land, nor made any agreement with him respecting the succession down to the day of King David's death.⁴ The result of this representation is not on record, and Earl William died in 1372, and was succeeded in the earldom by his daughter Eufame and her husband Sir Walter Lesley styled Lord of Ross, who had issue, Alexander afterwards Earl of Ross, and Mary married to Donald Lord of the Isles.⁵ Sir Walter died in 1382, and in that year or the following King Robert II. confirmed a grant of the earldom of Ross by Euphame Lady of Ross to Alexander Stewart Earl of Buchan (whom she married).⁶ In 1384 and 1387 the same Alexander appears as Earl of Buchan and Lord of Ross and of Badenach.⁷ A separation having taken place between him and his wife Eufame the Countess, the matter was referred to ecclesiastical arbitration, and in 1389 was determined as follows by Alexander bishop of Moray and Alexander bishop of Ross—That the Countess of Ross and her possessions should be restored to the Earl of Buchan as to her husband, and that she should be treated with all conjugal affection and receive every right becoming her state—that Mariot the daughter of Athyn should be removed—that the Earl should not again put away Eufame—and that, whereas the Countess alleged that she was in fear of her life and of injury to her men (*homines nativi*), her nobles, and others, the Earl should find the security of noble and well known persons and engage under a penalty of two hundred pounds that he would treat the Countess honourably in all things and without putting her in fear of her life, and not stint her *nativi*, nobles, and others, in any way contrary to common law.⁸ The Earl became bound according to the sentence of the bishops, and with the consent of the parties gave as his sureties for its fulfilment Robert Earl of

¹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

² Balnagown Charters. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

³ Balnagown Charters. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. pp. 177*, 178*. Rob. Index, p. 53, no. 20; p. 90, no. 258.

⁴ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

⁵ Ibid. Calendar of Fearn. Douglas's Peerage.

⁶ Ibid. Rob. Index, p. 124, no. 20.

⁷ Balnagown Charters. Regist. Moraviense, p. 196.

⁸ Regist. Moraviense, p. 353.

Sutherland, Alexander de Moravia lord of Culbyn, and Thomas of Chesholme.¹ In 1394 (10 May) Alexander of Lesly (the son of Sir Walter by the Countess Eufame) appears as heir of Ross.² His mother was alive on 8 August 1394, but was dead before 13 August 1398, and he then appears as Earl of Ross.³ He died in 1402, and was succeeded by his daughter Eufame as Countess of Ross.⁴ Her title to the earldom was disputed by Donald Lord of the Isles, the husband of her aunt Mary the daughter of Sir Walter Lesley and the former Countess Eufame, a claim which led to the battle of Harlaw in 1411, when Donald was defeated by Alexander Earl of Mar.⁵ In 1415 Eufame Leslie Countess of Ross resigned the earldom, which the Regent Albany her grandfather then granted to her anew, with remainder to his son John Stewart Earl of Buchan, and to John's brother Robert Stewart, and to their heirs male respectively, whom failing, to revert to the crown.⁶ The countess Eufame is said to have become a nun, and the Earl of Buchan was thenceforth acknowledged as Earl of Ross till his death in 1424.⁷ It appears however that Mary Lesley had continued to claim the earldom, as in 1420 she styles herself 'Dame Mary of the Ile lady of the Ylis and of Rosse.'⁸ In 1427 her son Alexander of Yle Lord of the Isles adopts the additional style Master of Ross.⁹ In the same year both were apprehended as rebels; in 1429 (in which year the lady Mary appears to have died) the Lord of the Isles was set at liberty, but afterwards rebelled, and in 1431 submitted to King James I., by whom he was imprisoned in the castle of Temptalone.¹⁰ Till that period the claim of the lady Mary and her son to the earldom of Ross seems not to have been admitted, as the King in that year continued to hold the ward of the earldom since the death of John Stewart.¹¹ Alexander of Ile however was afterwards undoubted Earl of Ross, in 1443 was justiciar north of the river Forth, and died in 1449.¹² At that time and for nearly 30 years afterwards flourished Sir Donald Balloch of Isla, erroneously styled by some Lord of the Isles and Earl of Ross.¹³ Alexander of Ile was in 1449 succeeded as Earl of Ross by John of Yle, his son by Elizabeth the daughter of Alexander Seton Lord of Gordon and Huntly.¹⁴ This John of Yle, Lord of the Isles and Earl of Ross, was the chief party on the side of the Scotch in the treaty of Ardtornish concluded in 1462 with King Edward IV. of England.¹⁵ In 1475 he was attainted for treason, and in 1476, on his resignation of all his lands, King James III. restored them to him, with certain exceptions, including the earldom of Ross, which was perpetually annexed to the crown.¹⁶ In 1476 the same king granted to Elizabeth Countess of Ross, the

¹ Regist. Moraviense, p. 354.

² *Ibid.*, p. 355.

³ Balnagown Charters. Kilravock Charters. Rob. Index, p. 146, no. 29.

⁴ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Calendar of Fearn. Rob. Index, p. 159, no. 9.

⁵ Ford. Scot., lib. xv. c. 21. Buch. Hist., lib. x. c. 24. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Gregory, pp. 30-32.

⁶ Rob. Index, pp. 159, 160, no. 9. Douglas's Peerage, vol. ii. p. 415.

⁷ Kilravock Charters. Douglas's Peerage, vol. ii. p. 415. Gregory, p. 33.

⁸ Regist. Moraviense, p. 475.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 188.

¹⁰ Ext. e var. Cron. Scocie, pp. 231, 232. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Gregory, pp. 35-37.

¹¹ Kilravock Charters.

¹² Gregory, pp. 39, 40. Kilravock Charters, Cawdor Charters, Charter in Northern Institution (Inverness), and other writs of the period. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 345. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹³ Gregory, p. 62. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross. Godscroft. Pennant. See KILBRIDE, p. 117.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 186. Gregory, p. 40.

¹⁵ See MORVERN, p. 193.

¹⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii., pp. 109, 110, 111, 113, 189, 190. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 235. See KILARROW, pp. 263, 264.

wife of John of Yle, for her honourable maintenance certain lands in Ross which she had in conjunct infetment with her husband before his forfeiture, and in addition £100 of land and yearly revenue within the earldom on account of her gratuitous serviees to the King's father and his consort, and because she had taken no part with her husband in his rebellion.¹ In 1477 the King on attaining his majority confirmed the grant.² In 1481 he granted in heritage to his second son James Marquis of Ormond the lands of the earldom of Rosse and the castle of Dingwale, forfeited by John Lord of the Isles and Earl of Rosse; and in 1488 he created him Duke of Ross.³ In 1490 (4 November) King James IV., as tutor to his brother James Duke of Ros, brought an action before the Lords of Council against William Keth, the son and heir apparent of Sir Gilbert Keth of Innerwgy, as bailie of Elizabeth Countess of Ros, for the ' wrangwis intronetting and withholding fra our Souerane Lord as tutour forsaid of a parte of the malez of the lands of Fingask of the termes of Witsunday and Mertymes bipast.'⁴ William of Keth, being summoned to produce his warrant, failed to appear, and a charter under the seal of the deceased Alexander of the Ilis Earl of Ross, showing that the lands of Fyngask were a tenandry of the earldom, was produced on behalf of the King.⁵ The Lords ordained that William of Keth did wrong in intronetting with the mails and profits of the lands, that he should thenceforth cease from so doing, and that he should pay to the King the mails and profits for the terms in question in so far as the King could prove them due—for which proof they assigned to the King's advocates the third day of March following (3 March 1491).⁶ A litigation which lasted from 1484 to 1494 between Elizabeth Countess of Ross and James of Dunbar of Cumnok the tenant of her lands of Ross has been already detailed.⁷ About the year 1503 James Duke of Ross resigned the earldom.⁸ In 1524 King James V. granted the earldom of Ros and lordship of Ardmannach to James Earl of Murray (his natural brother).⁹ In 1565 (May 15) Queen Mary granted the earldom to Henry Stewart Lord Darnley, to whom she was married on 29 July following.¹⁰

The lordship of Dingwall (apparently the same as the lordship of Ross) appears in record in 1263. In that year Ralph de Laseeles and others, deputies (*attornati*) of Alexander Cumming Earl of Buchan and bailie of Digneuall, declined giving an account of the bailiary on the ground that they were uncertain of the amount of its fermes as testified by the chapel roll, and therefore the account remained incomplete (*indefinitum*).¹¹ In the same year Alexander Earl of Buchan appears as sheriff of Digneuall.¹² In 1308 King Robert Bruce granted to William Earl of Ross the lands of Dingwal with the castle and town, a grant which he seems to have confirmed in 1321 or 1322.¹³ In 1382 or 1383 Euphame lady of Ross resigned the thanedom and castle of Dingwall,

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 113.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 40.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ix. nn. 43, 60. Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 57.

⁴ Acta Dom. Conc., p. 161.

⁵ Ibid.

⁷ See TARBAT, pp. 443, 444.

⁶ Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 58.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vii. fol. 92.

¹⁰ Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 46. Buch. Hist., lib. xvii. chap. 49.

¹¹ Computa Camerar., vol. i. p. 30*.

¹² Ibid., p. 41*.

¹³ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 117. Rob. Index., p. 15, no. 17; p. 16, no. 4.

which King Robert II. then granted to her and to her husband Alexander Stewart Earl of Buchan his son.¹ In 1455 the barony of Eddirdaill called Ardmanache, and the Redcastell with the lordships of Ros belonging to it (including apparently the lordship of Ros or Dingwall), were annexed to the crown.² In 1506 King James IV. appointed Andro bishop of Cathnes for 9 years chamberlain and captain of the lands and lordships of Ross and Ardmannach.³ In 1507 (22 March) he appointed that bishop and another person his chamberlains and bailies of the lands and lordships of Ross and Ardmanach, and captains and keepers of the castles of Dingvile in Ross and Redecastle in Ardmanach, with all their fees and pertinents.⁴ In the same year and month (23 March) he appointed the same bishop for nine years his chamberlain and baillie of all the King's proper lands and lordships of Ross and Ardmannach, and keeper of the same castles, assigning to him for those offices all his 'manys laundis,' profits, and dues, as others had before him.⁵ In the same year (13 April) the same king commissioned Andro bishop of Cathnes and others to examine the infeftments of the tenants and inhabitants of the lordships of Dingwell and Ardmanach, and, if any should be found to occupy lands not contained in their infeftments, to send to the King copies of the infeftments under the seal of the commissioners, that the offenders might be punished.⁶ In the same year (22 April) King James granted to the same bishop for three years the fishings on the water of Couane, and all his other fishings in the lordships of Ross and Ardmannach, for the yearly payment of four lasts of salmon 'full, rede, and suete,' and 2000 'keling' (cod) sufficient merchandise, to be delivered free on the shore of Leith, the King paying the 'aventure' of the same and the freight from Dignwell to Leith.⁷ On 6 May of the same year the King commissioned Bishop Andro to let for five years all the lands in the lordships of Ross and Ardmannach formerly belonging to Elizabeth Countess of Ross, except the lands of Tarbat, to those by whom they were held or other sufficient tenants.⁸ In 1511 the same king granted to the same bishop, then his treasurer, 'for grete sovmes of money gevin be him to the Kingis Hienes, and vthir grete service and expens maid to his plesour,' for two terms of nine years, notwithstanding any act of parliament or other deed to the contrary, the lands and lordships of Ros and Ardmannach, with the woods, forests, waters, lochs, yairs, and fishings, both fresh and salt, with the power either to occupy the lands or to let them to others, with the power also of baillie and of holding courts, for payment of the dues specified in the King's rental, and without the usual grassum, which the King granted to the bishop for the repairing or building of the castles of Dingwell and Reidecastell, 'putin and kepin of gude reule in the said landis, danting of wild peple, with diuers vtheris costis and charges,' to be held till £1000 should be paid to him on one day by any of the King's successors who might desire possession of the same.⁹ In 1561 Queen Mary granted during her pleasure to George Monro of Dawcarty the bailliary and chamberlainship of her lands and lordships of Ros and Ardmannach.¹⁰ In 1568 King James VI. appointed

¹ Rob. Index, p. 124. no. 25.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 42.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 82.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 118.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 106.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 106. See TAIN, p. 432.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 107.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 108.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. ff. 158, 159.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 4.

the same George to the same offices during the will of the King and the Regent.¹ In 1567 the same king granted for three years from 1 December of that year to Thomas Murray, the brother german of David Murray of Cars, a lease of his salmon fishing on the water of Conan, belonging to the King as part of the patrimony of the crown; ordering the Lords of Council, Session, and Exchequer to address letters to the chamberlain of Ros and the tenants of the lands of the earldom of Ros and lordship of Ardlmanoch, and to all others concerned, to obey Thomas Murray 'in inputting of the eruis vpon the said watter and vther seruice aucht be thame to the said fischeing in connement and dew tyme of yeir according to vse and wount,' the grantee paying yearly the sum of £133, 6s. 8d. Scots.² In 1584 (3 February) King James granted the fishings on the Connan to Colin M'Kainzie of Kintail for five years from the feast of Andermes (30 November) 1585, for the yearly payment of 200 marks Scots at the usual terms.³ In the same year (5 March) he granted certain lands and the fishings of Connan to Sir Andrew Keith of Svessa (or Fressa), as the near relation of Marischal Earl of Keith (Keith Earl Marischal), and to the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever bearing the surname of Keith and the arms of the principal house or message of the earldom of Merschall called Dymnotter, the grantee paying yearly for the fishings £133 as fermes, feufermes, dues, and services.⁴ In the same year and month (18 March) he granted to the same Sir Andrew, of the most ancient and noble family of George Earl Mareschal, for many services both at home and abroad, the castle of Dingwall with the houses, buildings, and wards of the same — the superiority of the town of Dingwall with the burgh fermes — the demesne lands commonly called Kynnairdie — the lands of Glakkis, which were the fourth part of the same demesne lands — and the lands of Dalmaoak (contained in the previous grant) — united into one free lordship and barony, to be called the lordship of Dingwall; Sir Andrew and his heirs to have the style Lords and Barons of Dingwall and a seat in parliament; the castle to be the chief message; and the grantee to pay one penny of silver yearly on the feast of Pentecost for the castle, the town, the burgh fermes, and the lands of Kynnairdie and Glakkis.⁵ In 1587, on attaining his majority, King James renewed the grant.⁶

In the year 1342 a charter by William Earl of Ross is witnessed by John Yong of Dyngvale; and between 1350 and 1372 a charter by the same earl is witnessed by John called Yong and Thomas his brother.⁷ In 1350, 1368, and 1370 there appears in record Thomas of Dyngvale, and in the last named year also Master William of Dyngvale, probably the same who in 1389 appears as dean of Ross.⁸ In 1451 we have as witness to a charter Thomas of Dyngvale canon.⁹ In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted certain lands to Thomas the younger of Dingvale, with remainder to his brother John of Dingvale and his heirs, and to the better and more worthy successor of their relatives of the name of Dingvale,

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvii. fol. 29.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 108.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 58.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 87, 88.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 98, 99.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 171. The lands of the lordship and barony of Dingwall lay partly in other parishes. See post. ⁷ Rob. Index, p. 100, no. 1. Balnagown Charters.

⁸ Balnagown Charters. Regist. Moraviense, p. 354.

⁹ Balnagown Charters.

with reservation of the franktenement to Sir Thomas of Dingwall the Earl's chamberlain (probably the canon of 1451).¹ In 1464 King James III. confirmed the grant.² From some of these Dingwalls were descended the family who afterwards held the lands of Kildun near Dingwall, one of whom, Thomas Dingwell of Kildun, appears in record in 1506 and 1507.³ In 1526, in which year appear Donald and William Dingwell (probably burgesses of the town), the lands of Kildun, marching with those of the burgh of Dingwall, formed a separate lordship.⁴ In 1527 King James V. granted certain lands near Dingwall and elsewhere to William Dingvale of Kildun.⁵ In the same year he granted to Sir John Dingwall, provost of the Trinity College beside Edinburgh (perhaps the same who in 1524 appears as archdeacon of Caithness), the ward of all the lands and rents that belonged to the deceased William Dingwall of Kildone.⁶ In 1541, 1543, 1544, 1552, 1554, and 1556 there appears in record Thomas Dingwell of Kildun, a charter by whom in 1541 is witnessed by Thomas Dingwell burgess of Dingwall, and who in 1543 grants a charter at Kildone.⁷ Thomas Dingwell of Kildun was dead in 1573, and John Dingwell of Kildun his son and heir appears in record in 1575.⁸ In 1583 John Dingwall of Kildun sold to Colin M'Kainzie of Kintail some of the lands granted to Thomas the younger of Dingvale in 1463.⁹

Among the lands granted by King James III. in 1476 for the maintenance of Elizabeth Countess of Ross, and confirmed to her by that king in 1477, were the lands of Davachearne.¹⁰ In 1542 King James V. granted to Duncan Bayne (along with the lands of Tulche and others) thestricted multure and suckin of the lands of Dunglust, the four Glakkis, Mekle Kynnardy, Lital Kynnardy, Westir Dryne, and Dawahearne.¹¹ In the same year he granted the lands of Dawahearne and others in the lordship of Ross to James Fraser the brother of Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovet, Davachearne extending in the King's rental to £8, 4s. 4d. in ferme and grassum, 16s. in bondage silver, and 6 reek hens.¹² In 1584 King James VI. granted to Sir Andrew Keith in heritage, with remainder as in the case of the fishings of Conan, the lands of Drumglust, for yearly payment of £6, 18s. 8d., 1 chalder 2 bolls bear, 1 chalder 2 bolls oatmeal, 1 chalder 2 bolls oats, 6 marts, 6 muttuns, 24 shillings of bondage silver, and 13 reek hens.¹³ In 1600 Duncane Bane of Tullich was served heir to his father Alexander Bane of Tullich in thestricted multure and suckin granted to Duncan Bayne in 1542, which together with those of some other lands were of the extent of £10, 16s.¹⁴ In 1619 Colin lord of Kintail was served heir male to his grandfather Colin Makkeinzie of Kynntail in the demesne lands called the Maynes of Kynnardie,

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 17.

² Ibid.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 263. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. ff. 81, 122.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxiii. no. 67. See *post*.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 36. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 53; vol. vii. fol. 57.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vii. ff. 65, 104.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 159; lib. xxix. nn. 93, 205; lib. xxxi. no. 269; lib. xxxii. no. 211. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. ff. 9, 38; vol. xvi. fol. 36; vol. xvii.

fol. 93; vol. xviii. fol. 34; vol. xxiv. fol. 121; vol. xxvi. ff. 64, 69; vol. xxvii. fol. 87; vol. xxxviii. fol. 2.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 1.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 72.

¹⁰ See above, pp. 488, 489.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 306. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 38. For a notice of the lands of Easter Drynie see KINNETTES *post*.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 365. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 87.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 87, 88. See above, p. 491.

¹⁴ Retours.

the ward called the ward of Dingwall, of the extent of 1 chalder 2 bolls of meal and other dues; the lands of Glakkis, being the fourth part of the said lands of Maynes, of the extent of 1 chalder 12 bolls of meal and other dues; the lands of Drumglust, of the extent of £6, 18s. 8d.; and other lands, all included in the lordship and barony of Dingwall.¹

In 1507 King James IV. granted to Andro bishop of Caithnes the ward of a mark's worth of land of old extent of the Tulloch in the lordship of Ross, which was in the King's hands by the decease of Ferquhar Ouresoun.² In 1542 King James V. granted to Duncan Bayne the lands of Tulch and others in the earldom of Ross, for the yearly payment of £18, 4s., 4 bolls of bear and meal, 1 mart, and 2 reek hens, to augment the rental by 20 shillings.³ Duncan Bayne of Tulch appears in record in 1553, 1554, 1555, and 1556.⁴ Alexander Bane of Tullich (apparently the son of Duncan) appears in 1563, 1579, 1581, 1600, 1607, and 1611, and was dead in 1624.⁵ In 1600 Duncan Bane of Tullich was served heir to his father Alexander in the lands of Tullich of the extent of 3 marks and other dues, and in other lands, extending in all to £18, 4s.⁶ In 1611 Duncan Baine of Tulliche appears as heir to his grandfather Duncan and his father Alexander.⁷ In 1635 we have Alexander Bayne the heir male and of provision of his father Duncan Bayne of Tullich.⁸

In 1541, 1542, 1543, 1553, 1554, 1555, 1556, 1561, 1567, and 1568 George Monro of Dalcarty or Davacharty appears in record, and in the year 1579 he was dead.⁹ In 1553 he sold the lands of Dawacharty to Duncan Bane of Tulch, and in the same year Queen Mary granted to the latter a crown charter of the lands, and to the former a letter of reversion to the same.¹⁰ In 1555 George Monro of Dawacharty sold to Donald Makaneroy the fourth part of his lands of Dawacharty, then occupied by John Maklauchlane M'Gillely and John Makferquhair M'Gillebane, and in 1556 Queen Mary granted to Donald Makaneroy a crown charter of the lands.¹¹ In 1561 that queen appointed George Monro of Dawcarty during her pleasure bailie and chamberlain of her lands and lordships of Ros and Ardmannauch.¹² In 1567 she exempted him for life on account of his age from all service as a soldier, from sitting on assizes, and from appearing as a witness in any court.¹³ In 1568 the same George was appointed bailie and chamberlain of the same lands and lordships as in 1561 during the will of King James VI. and his Regent.¹⁴ In the same year King James granted to Donald Roy and his heirs a crown charter of the half of the east quarter of the lands of Dalchartie, namely, an oxgang then occupied by Moriach

¹ Retours.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 106.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 306. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 36.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. nn. 205, 269; lib. xxxii. no. 211. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvi. fol. 21; vol. xxviii. fol. 2.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. nn. 593, 594. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. ff. 98, 99; vol. xlv. ff. 106, 107; vol. xlvi. fol. 88. Retours.

⁶ Retours.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 159; lib. xxxi. nn. 205, 267. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. ff. 80, 81; vol. xv. fol. 9; vol. xvi. fol. 36; vol. xviii. ff. 14, 15; vol. xxvi. ff. 21, 64, 69; vol. xxvii. fol. 137; vol. xxxi. fol. 4; vol. xxxiv. fol. 25; vol. xxxvii. ff. 29, 35; vol. xxxviii. ff. 16, 109, 110; vol. xlv. fol. 106; vol. xlvi. fol. 95.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 205. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvi. fol. 21.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 267. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 137.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 4.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 25.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvii. fol. 29.

Andro. Bishop

Makdonald Makwillame M'Kay, and an oxgang of the west quarter of the same lands then occupied by Gillepatriek Makdonald Roy, both sold to Donald Roy by George Monro of Dalchartie, to whom in the same year the King granted a letter of reversion to the lands.¹ In 1579 the same king granted in heritage to Alexander Bane of Tullich and Agnes Fraser his wife, with remainder to the heirs of Alexander, a crown charter of half the lands of Dalcartie in the lordship and earldom of Ros, then occupied by Donald Makaneroy and his tenants and others, and sold to Alexander Bane and his wife by Andrew Monro of Newmoir the son and heir of the deceased George Monro formerly of Dalcartie.² In 1581 the same king granted in heritage to Alexander Bayne of Tullich the nouentry and other dues of half the lands of Daacartie, then occupied by Donald Monro and his cottars, tenants, and servants, and in the King's hands since the decease of George Monro of Daacartie or last lawful possessor.³ In 1611 Duncan Baine of Tulliche was served heir to his father Alexander and to his grandfather Duncan Baine of Tulliche in half the lands of Dawachearlye, of the old extent of 23s. 4d.⁴

In the year 1227 King Alexander II. erected a royal burgh 'at Dingwell in Ros,' and granted to the burgesses all the liberties and free customs which the burgesses of Invernes had.⁵ He appointed a weekly market to be held in the burgh every Monday, and granted to the burgesses that persons coming to the burgh and settling in it should be *ker secum* for ten years from the feast of Saint Martin (11 November) of the year 1226, and that they should be for ever free from toll and every other custom exigible for their cattle throughout the land.⁶ He granted also his peace to all who should come to dwell in the burgh, and commanded that all resorting thither to sell or buy should have his peace, should traffic there, and return thence in peace, saving the rights of the burgh.⁷ In 1296 the Knights Templars and the Knights of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem had property in the town of Dynguale, which the sheriff of Dynguale was ordered to restore to them on the Masters having sworn fealty to King Edward I.⁸ In 1308 King Robert Bruce granted to William Earl of Ross the burgh of Dingwall and its liberties — a grant which in 1321 or 1322 he seems to have confirmed.⁹ In 1475 John Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles before his forfeiture was summoned by the Unicorn Pursuivant as sheriff of Invernes, among other places at the market cross of the burgh of Dingvale, to appear in parliament and answer for certain crimes.¹⁰ In 1498 King James IV., on the narrative that the privileges of his burgh of Dingwell had gone into desuetude through the insults of war and the depopulation of the country to the great loss and grievance of the same, confirmed its erection and the privileges granted by King Alexander II. ; and granted moreover to the burgesses and inhabitants the power of electing yearly an alderman and bailies, of making guild brothers, and generally of enjoying all the privileges held by the burgh of Invernes, saving the rights formerly due to the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvii. fol. 35.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 106.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 88.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Burgh Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 295.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.* Dingwell is said to mean Thingavollr, the upper *thing* or judgement place. Worsaae, p. 259.

⁸ *Rotuli Scotiae*, vol. i. p. 25.

⁹ *Rob. Index*, p. 15, no. 17; p. 16, no. 4. See above, p. 489.

¹⁰ *Acta Parl. Scot.*, vol. ii. p. 110, 111.

King by the burgh and burgesses of Dingwell.¹ In 1503 a sheriff appointed by the Scotch parliament to be made and called the sheriff of Ross was to sit in Thane or Dingwale as the case required, and the justices depute and sheriffs for the North Isles were by the same authority appointed to sit in Innernes or Dingwale.² In 1505 King James IV. granted to Andro Aytoun, captain of the castle of Striueling, the customs of all the burghs between Banf and Orknay, including Dingwell, for the yearly payment of £50 to the King's comptroller and others.³ In 1507 the burgesses and community of Dingwell were as tenants of the lordship included among those whose infestments Andro bishop of Cathnes and others were commissioned to examine.⁴ In the same year Dingwell was the port at which the salmon due by that bishop to King James IV. for the fishings on Conane were shipped for Leith.⁵ In the same year John Mowat of Loscragy and Freswick granted to his brother Alexander Mowat, under reversion to himself and his heirs, certain lands in the lordship of Ross, and his tofts and crofts in the burgh of Dingwell, the grantee giving the forinsee service to the King and a penny sterling yearly to the granter.⁶ In 1508 King James IV. confirmed the grant.⁷ In 1509 that king appointed Alexander Earl of Huntlye sheriff of the whole sheriffdom of Innernys, with the power of sitting daily when necessary in the towns of Tane and Dingwell for the bounds of Ross.⁸ In 1526 King James V. granted to Walter Innes of Tulchis seven roods of land in Petglasse on the south side of the lands of Donald Dingwell—half an acre in Petglasse between the lands of William Dingwell on the south and the lands called Blakearisland on the north—an acre lying at the Gray Stane between the lands of Patrik Kempt on the west and of John Nicholsoun on the east—a piece of land near the mill of Brigend called Schortaker between the public street and the mill on the east and the march of Fesallich on the west—a piece of land between the water of Peferay on the north and the lands of the lordship of Kildun on the south—a rood of land in Thombane between the lands of William Candich on the west and the lands of William Makmular on the south (east?)—and an acre of land in the field of Acris-Scottie between the lands of the lordship of Kildun on the south and the lands of John Vaus on the north—all within the territory of the burgh of Dingwell, and in the King's hands as escheat by the decease of John Makanedoy in Dauchaueh-polo who died without lawful heirs.⁹ In 1541 a charter of Thomas Dingwell of Kildun is witnessed by Thomas Dingwell burghess of Dingwell.¹⁰ In 1543 and 1555 charters by the same Thomas Dingwell of Kildun are given at Dingwell (apparently the town).¹¹ In 1545 Queen Mary appointed Master Thomas Marioribanks, burghess of Edinburgh, custumar (apparently of the burghs) within all the bounds of Ros and neighbouring parts.¹² In 1556 a charter is witnessed by Donald Makgillewan burghess of Dingwall.¹³ In 1563 Alexander Bane of Tullich granted to

¹ Burgh Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 295.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. pp. 241, 249.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 30.

⁴ See above, p. 490.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 193.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 63. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 204.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii. no. 67. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 84.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 159.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 93; lib. xxxi. no. 269.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 28.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 358.

Robert Monro of Foulis certain lands in Sutherland in exchange for lands in Ross and for infeftment in his arable lands in the burgh of Dingwell.¹ His charter, given at Foulis, is witnessed by Donald Kemp burgess of Dingwell.² In 1584 King James VI. granted to Sir Andrew Keith of Svessa (or Fressa) the superiority of the town of Dingwall with the burgh fermes, included in the lordship or barony of Dingwall.³ In 1587 he confirmed the privileges of the burgh as granted by King Alexander II. and King James IV.⁴ In 1655 Sir George M'Keinzie of Tarbit was served heir male to his father Sir George in various lands and baronies, and among these the Boig of Dingwall within the burgh thereof called Boigmoir, including the bogs called Boigmore or Westerboig, the Midboig, and the Eister Boig, within the parish of Dingwall, of the extent of £6.⁵ Some circumstances existing in the end of the last century, such as the cross standing at the east end of the burgh, and a street 200 yards long running to the north east, seemed to indicate that the town was formerly of greater extent.⁶

At Dingwall are held three yearly fairs.⁷

In 1292 William of Braytoft, keeper of the castles of Invernesse and Dingwall, was ordered by King Edward I. to deliver them to King John Balliol.⁸ In 1308, as we have seen, King Robert Bruce granted the castle of Dingwall with the lands to William Earl of Ross, and in 1321 or 1322 he confirmed the grant.⁹ In 1350, 1356, and 1370 William Earl of Ross (the grandson of the former) gives charters at Dingwall (apparently the castle of Dingwall).¹⁰ In 1382 or 1383 the castle with the thanedom were resigned by Euphame Countess of Ross, and were granted by King Robert II. to her and her husband Alexander Stewart Earl of Buchan the King's son.¹¹ In 1394 Eufame Countess of Ross grants a charter at Dyngvale (apparently the castle).¹² In 1398 Alexander of Lesley Earl of Ross grants a charter at his castle of Dyngwall.¹³ In 1411 Robert Duke of Albany, Regent of Scotland, after the battle of Harlaw, took the castle of Dingwall which belonged to the Lord of the Isles (or was held by him as claiming the earldom of Ross).¹⁴ In 1443 Alexander of Ile, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, justiciar north of the Forth, dates a charter at the castle of Dyngwele, and in 1463 and 1464 his son and successor John of Yle gives charters at the same place.¹⁵ An indenture above detailed, made in 1475 between David Ross of Balnagovin and John M'Gilleone of Lochboy, with the consent of John of Yle Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, was made at Dingwell in Ross, apparently at the castle.¹⁶ In 1475 the Scotch parliament ordered the sheriffs of Innernys to cite the same John of Yle, Lord of the Isles and Earl of Ross, either at the castle of Dyngvale or at the market cross of Edinburgh, to appear before the next parliament at Edinburgh to answer for certain crimes.¹⁷ On the 16th of October of that year he was summoned by the Unicorn Pursuivant

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. nn. 593, 594. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. ff. 98, 99.

² *Ibid.*

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 98, 99. See above, p. 491.

⁴ Mun. Corp. Reports.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 12.

⁹ See above, pp. 489.

¹⁰ Balnagown Charters.

¹¹ Rob. Index, p. 124, no. 25.

¹² Kilravock Charters.

¹³ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁴ Ford. Scot., lib. xv. c. 21.

¹⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 116; lib. vii. no. 345.

¹⁶ See above, pp. 311, 312, 462.

¹⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 100.

as sheriff of Innernes at various places, and among these at the gate of the castle of Dingwall, because he could not get admittance into the castle itself.¹ In 1481 King James III., as above stated, granted in heritage to James his second son, Marquis of Ormond, the castle of Dingwall with the lands of the earldom of Ross, forfeited by John Lord of the Isles and Earl of Rosse.² In 1484 (26 October) the Lords of Council ordained that for the offence of 'lichtlying and contempeious done to our Souerane Lordis Hienes' by Archbald of Douglas, Stevin M'Kerbrycht, John Thomsoun, James Thomsoun, John Wallace, Patrick Nelesoun, James Ker, Patrick Ker, and James of Douglas the son of Archbald, in having violently taken from their beds Sir David Purdy subchanter of Glasgow and Sir Alexander Panther his chaplane, dragging them to the fields, and with threats compelling Sir David to let his church, and to remit certain sums due to him, with other great injuries, therefore Archbald of Douglas, Stevin M'Kerbrycht, and John Thomsoun should enter their persons in ward in the castle of Dingwell within twenty days, and the rest in the castles of Redecastell and Innernes, and should remain there on their own expenses till released by the King under pain of rebellion.³ About 1503, when James Duke of Ross resigned the earldom, he reserved to himself for life the moothill (*montem*) of Dingwall beside the town, in order to preserve his title of Duke.⁴ In 1506 Andro bishop of Cathnes was appointed by King James IV. captain of the castle of Dyngwell in Ross for 9 years.⁵ In 1507 the same bishop and another person not named were appointed by King James IV. captains and keepers of the castle of Dingwell.⁶ In 1511, as we have seen, the same king, in granting to the same bishop the lordships of Ros and Ardmannoch, granted to him also the usual grassum of the lands for repairing or building the castles of Dingwell and Reid-castell.⁷ In 1564 a part of the dues of the lands of Drumdarveth in Ardmannoch, consisting of 80 loads of fuel, was to be delivered in the castle of Dingwell.⁸ In 1584 and 1587 the castle of Dingwall, with the houses, buildings, and wards, was included in grants of the lordship or barony made in those years by King James VI. to Sir Andrew Keith.⁹ The castle, of which a small fragment and the ditch and glacis still remain, stood on the shore north-east of the town, occupied about half an acre of ground, and was flanked on two sides by a small deep muddy stream.¹⁰ About the end of the last century the office of constable was said to be hereditary in the family of the proprietor of Tulloch, and had attached to it a salary of 20 marks Scots.¹¹

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 109.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ix. nn. 43, 60.

³ Acta Dom. Conc., pp. 89*, 90*.

⁴ Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 58.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 82.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. ff. 106, 118.

⁷ See above, p. 490.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 443.

⁹ See above, p. 491.

¹⁰ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc.

FODDERTY.

Fothirdy¹ — Fothartye² — Feddiry³ — Foddertie⁴ — Foddartie⁵ —
Fodderty.⁶ (Map, No. 19).

THE present parish of Fodderty includes the ancient parish of Kinnettes, and consists chiefly of the valley of the river Peferay known as Strathpeffer. On its north side lies Benwyvis, the highest hill in Ross-shire, on its north Knockfarril, and on its west Craig-an-fhiach (the raven's rock).⁷ The parish of Kinnettes appears to have had Craig-an-fhiach on the west and Knockfarril or the Peferay on the south, and to have occupied a comparatively small portion of the united parish, including Loch Usie. Fodderty includes several detached glens or straths.⁸

Between the years 1350 and 1372 a charter of William Earl of Ross is witnessed by Robert the vicar of Fothirdy.⁹ In 1548 Queen Mary presented Sir Andrew Robertsoun chaplain to the vicarage of Fothartye, vacant by the resignation of Master William Vrqhart.¹⁰ Sir Andrew Robertsoun was vicar between 1561 and 1566.¹¹ In 1572 King James VI. presented William Hay, 'admittit be the kirk redar in the kirk of Foddertie,' to the vicarage of Foddertie then vacant by 'simoniacall paction' between Sir John Smyth last vicar and Sir William Chalmer.¹² In 1574 Alexander Anthane was reader at Foddertie.¹³ In the same year King James VI. presented Alexander Antone to the vicarage, vacant by the decease of Rorie Bane.¹⁴ In 1583 he presented Evir M'Evir to the same vicarage, vacant by the decease of Alexander Anthone.¹⁵

The church, of which the cemetery is still in use, stood on the left bank of the Pefferay burn.¹⁶ The modern church, built in 1807 about a mile from the village of Strathpeffer, stands at a considerable distance from the former.¹⁷

At Inchroy, on the right bank of the Pefferay, immediately opposite the old burying-ground of Fodderty, and within this parish or Kinnettes, stood a chapel, held at the Reformation by Sir Andrew Robertsoun the vicar of Fodderty.¹⁸

At the Reformation it was stated that the vicarage, 'quhen all dewties vsit and wont was payit gaiff' be yeir in assedatioun to the vicar xx merkis.¹⁹ In 1574 the reader at Foddertie had for his stipend yearly £13, 6s. 8d. (the amount of the vicarage).²⁰

¹ A. D. 1350-1372. Balnagown Charters.

² A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 10.

³ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁴ A. D. 1572. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 38. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 89. A. D. 1583. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 64.

⁵ A. D. 1681. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 385.

⁶ A. D. 1583. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 72.

⁷ A. D. 1655. Retours. ⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc. The New Stat. Acc. affirms that Fodderty includes another parish named Tollie, and that traces of its burying-ground remain near Brahan Castle, which lies in Urray.

⁹ Balnagown Charters.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 10.

¹¹ Book of Assumptions.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 38.

¹³ Book of Assignations.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 89.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 64.

¹⁶ Note by W. H. Murray Esquire. New Stat. Acc. Modern Maps. ¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Book of Assumptions. Note by W. H. Murray Esquire.

¹⁹ Book of Assumptions.

²⁰ Book of Assignations.

The chaplainry of Inehroy at the Reformation was worth £5 yearly.¹

Among the lands granted by King James III. to Elizabeth Countess of Ross in 1476, and confirmed by that king in 1477, were included the lands of Wethirnyde (now Auchterneid) and the lands of Pollane, either wholly or partly in this parish.² In 1526 or previously the lands of Dauchauchpollo were held by John Makanedoy, who died without lawful heirs.³ In 1527 they were included with the lands of the forest of Strathvaich (being respectively of the extent of 6 marks, and of 4 bolls victual and a mart) in a grant by King James V. to William Dingvale of Kildun.⁴ In 1542 (28 July) that king granted to Duncan Bayne the lands of Ballafreis, Strathskey, the forest of Strathramoch, and other lands, either wholly or partly in Fodderty.⁵ In the same year (24 October) he granted the lands of Dawachpollo and others to James Fraser the brother of Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovet.⁶ In 1554 and 1555 appears in record Alexander Bayne in Inchevayneyl (or Enchewan), apparently the modern Inchevandie.⁷ In 1578 Hugh Fraser of Gvisachane, hereditary fear of the lands of Dawachpolloch, in fulfilment of a contract between him and Alexander Bane of Tulloch, sold the half of the town and lands in heritage to Alexander and his wife Agnes Fraser, with remainder to the heirs of the former.⁸ In 1579 King James VI. granted to Alexander Bane a crown charter of the lands, and to Hugh Fraser a letter of reversion to the same.⁹ In 1583 King James seems to have confirmed both grants.¹⁰ In 1584 he granted in heritage to Sir Andrew Keith the lands of Dalmalook, Inchevandie, and Ochterneid, with other lands; the grantee paying yearly for Dalmalook £6, 13s. 4d., 16 shillings of bondage silver, and 7 reek hens—for Inchevandie £4, with 8 shillings of bondage silver, and 3 reek hens—and for Ochterneid £6, 13s. 4d., 4 muttoms, 6s. bondage silver, and 9 reek hens.¹¹ In the same year the lands of Dalmalook were included in the lordship or barony of Dingwall granted by the same king to the same Sir Andrew Keith.¹² In 1600 Duncan Bane of Tullich was served heir to his father Alexander Bane of Tullich in the lands of Ballafreis, of the old extent of 3 marks 4 shillings and other dues; Sthraitskey, of the extent of 3 marks and other dues; and the forest of Strathramoch, of the extent of 4 bolls of bear and other dues.¹³ In 1619 Colin lord of Kintail was served heir male to his grandfather Colin Makkenzie of Kyntail in the lands of Dalmalook, Inchevandy, and Ochterneid, respectively of the extent of £6, 13s. 4d., £4, and £6, 13s. 4d.¹⁴ In the same year Issobel M'Kenzie was served heir to her father John the heir apparent of Garloche in the davach of Davachpollay, of the extent of £6, 8s. and 8s. in

¹ Book of Assumptions.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 40. See DINGWALL, pp. 488, 489.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii. no. 67. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 84.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 36. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 53; vol. vii. fol. 57. The grants of land in this district and the only maps we have do not determine whether Strathvaich and some neighbouring lands, afterwards included in the same grant, lie in Fodderty or in some of the neighbouring parishes.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 306. Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. xvi. fol. 36. See DINGWALL, p. 492.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 365. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 87.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 269; lib. xxxii. no. 211.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 107.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. ff. 107, 116.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix., fol. 107.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 87, 88. See DINGWALL, p. 491.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 98, 99.

¹³ Retours.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

augmentation.¹ In 1635 Alexander Bayne was served heir male and of provision to his father Duncan Bayne of Tullich in the half of the forest of Strathannaeh, namely Straihewaich and Straintirie, of the extent of 2 bolls of victual and other dues.²

In 1508 Alexander Seytoun of Tulybody sold to Alexander Earl of Huntlie the lands of Fotherty with the mill and brewhouse.³ In that year or the following the Earl had from King James VI. a crown charter of the same.⁴ In 1532 King James V. granted in heritage to John Maekeneith of Kentail the lands of Fotherty, which he had acquired from the hereditary proprietor Master John Calder, and had resigned to the King.⁵ In 1543 Thomas Dingvale of Kildone sold to John Makkenze of Kintail the lands and fishings of Lochbryne in exchange for the lands of Fotherty with the mill, to be held of the Queen as Earl of Ross for payment of 6 pennies as blenchferme at Whitsunday.⁶ In 1543 and 1544 Queen Mary granted to these parties crown charters of the respective lands exchanged.⁷ In 1583 King James VI. granted in heritage to Colin M'Kainze of Kintail the lands of the Kirktoom of Foddartie, Bahmuldie, and others, alienated to him by John Dingwall of Kildun.⁸ In 1633 George M'Keinzie was served heir male to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Keinzie of Kintail, in the lands of Foddertie, Mulnaan with the mill, Ballamulieh, and others, of the old extent of £5, included in the barony of Ellendonan.⁹ The lands of Muhaan, with the mill of Fodderty and the multure, the Kirktoom of Fodderty, and Ballamulloeh, were together of the old extent of 3 marks 6 shillings and 8 pence.¹⁰

In 1533 or previously Thomas Vrquhard sheriff of Cromerty granted to his son and heir apparent Alexander Vrquhard, and to his wife Beatrix Innes, the lands of Inehrorry and Dauachnaclear with the mill (either in Fodderty or in Kinnettes).¹¹ In 1533 King James V. confirmed the grant.¹² In 1549 the same Alexander appears in record as Alexander Vrquhart of Ynehrorrie.¹³ In 1599 Thomas Urquhart was served heir to his father Henry Urquhart, sheriff apparent of Cromerthie, in the lands, mill, multure, and mill-lands of Inehrorrie, the davach of Davachnaclearache, and the shealing called Garbet, of the old extent of £4.¹⁴

On the north of the burying-ground at Fodderty lies a croft named Croicht-an-teampuil, in which stone coffins have been found.¹⁵

On the east side of the church are two erect stones, probably the remains of a circle, but without any known history.¹⁶

On the heights of Hilton are a large cairn measuring 260 feet by 20, and the remains of two stone circles.¹⁷

¹ Retours.

² *Ibid.*

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 141. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 35.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiv. no. 202. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 111. The latter authority states that the lands were resigned by John M'Kenich of Kintail and by Sir John Campbell of Caldor.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. nn. 93, 205. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 34.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 72.

⁹ Retours.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 177.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 419.

¹⁴ Retours.

¹⁵ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

The chapel and lands of Inchrory, described under Fodderty, may have been within the bounds of this parish.¹

The whole chancellery of Ross, as given up at the Reformation by Master David Chahmer titular of the teinds, amounted to £173, 6s. 8d.² In 1574 Master George Monro the minister had the whole chancellery, out of which he paid the readers at Suddy and Kynnattas each 20 marks, they having also the kirklands.³

In 1463 John of Yle, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted to Thomas the younger of Dingvale the lands of Vsuy in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys, in exchange for the third part of Arkboll and the lands of Inchfure in the mairdom of Delny, with remainder to his brother John of Dingvale and his heirs, and to their better and more worthy successor and relative of the name of Dinguale; reserving to the Earl the old mill with the usual toft and croft, and the usual multure and sequels (except those of the town of Vsuy), and the use of the stream descending from the lake of Vsuy, all as formerly — and reserving to Sir Thomas of Dingvale the Earl's chamberlain the liferent of the lands of Vsuy; for a yearly payment of 6 pennies in name of blenchferme.⁴ In 1464 the grant was confirmed by King James III.⁵ In 1476 that king granted to Elizabeth Countess of Ross, the wife of John Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, for her maintenance certain lands in Ross, including Park, Elodil, Ouse, and the mill and brewhous of Tympane, all which she had held in conjunct infestment with her husband before his forfeiture.⁶ In 1477 on attaining his majority he confirmed the grant.⁷ In 1527 King James V. granted to William Dingvale of Kildun various lands in Ross, including the mill of Houisy with the house and lands of the extent of 10 marks.⁸ In 1542 the mill of Ousse with its croft and alehouse, and the astricted multure and suckin of Tolle and other lands, were included in a grant by the same king to Duncan Bayne.⁹ In 1583 King James VI. confirmed a charter by John Dingwall of Kildun, alienating in heritage to Colin M'Kainzie of Kintaill the lands of Lytill Vsui and Mekill Vsui, with other lands in the earldom of Ross.¹⁰ In 1586 the same king granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe various lands in Ross, including Ardwall with the mill called Tympane Myln and multure, the alehouse of Kennetis *alias* Ardwell, the lands of Park, and the lands of Vladaill; the grantee paying yearly for Ardwell 53s. 4d., 6 bolls meal, 6 bolls bear, 6 bolls oats, 2 marts, 2 muttuns, 6 poultry, 60 'girthlingis,' 60 loads of fuel, 100 draughts of fuel, 8s. of bondage silver, and 40s. every 5 years as grassum — for the mill of Ardwell or Tympane Myln with the multure, 1 chaldre 2 bolls victual of the measure of Leith — for the alehouse of Kynnetis or Ardwell 13s. 4d., and the same sum as grassum — for Park 46s. 8d., 4s. of bondage silver, 3 poultry, 40s. as grassum, and 40 loads of fuel, with the usual services — and for Vladaill, 40s., 8s. of bondage silver, 3 poultry, 40s. as grassum, and 40 loads of fuel, with the usual services.¹¹ In 1600 Duncan Bayne of Tullich was served heir to his father

¹ See FODDERTY, pp. 498, 500.

² Book of Assumptions.

³ Book of Assignations.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 17.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 40.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 36.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 306. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 36.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 72.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

Alexander in various lands, including the mill of Oussie with its croft and alehouse, and the astricted multures and suckin of Tollie.¹ In 1633 George M'Keinzie was served heir male to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Keinzie of Kintail, in many lands in Ross, including the lands of Meikle Usie and Litill Usie, apparently of the old extent of £2, 13s. 4d.² In 1655 Sir George M'Keinzie of Tarbit was served heir male to his father Sir George in the lands of Ardavell, a half davach, of the extent of £3, 9s. 4d. and other dues — the lands and town of Ulladill, a half davach, of the extent of £3, 16s. — and the mill called Tympane Mill. of the extent of 1 chaldor 2 bolls of bear—all in the lordship of Dingwall and earldom of Ross.³

In the year 1507 John Mowat of Losragy and Freswick granted in heritage to his brother Alexander, with reversion to himself and his heirs, the half of the lands of Estir Dryne and Cantaneloid in the lordship of Ros, and his tofts and crofts in the burgh of Dingwell, the grantee giving the forinsec service due to the King, and paying yearly one penny sterling to the granter.⁴ In 1508 King James IV. confirmed the grant.⁵ In 1534 King James V. granted in heritage to John M'Alister M'Alister of Elanterin, captain of Clanranald, and to Mariot Maccane his wife, 10 marklands of old extent in the sheriffdom of Inneruys, including the 4 marklands of Kandineloid and Ardequhoray, which John had resigned.⁶ In 1547 Queen Mary granted to William Denowne of Petnele the nonentry and other dues of certain lands in the earldom of Ross which were in her hands since the decease of Alexander Dumnvne of Daidoustoun, including the half of Cultenloid and the half of Dryne.⁷ In 1556 Donald Donowne of Kenroy, the son and heir of the deceased John Donowne of Daidoustoun, sold the half of the lands of Caltaloid and Dryne to John Mackenzie of Kintail, to whom in the same year Queen Mary granted a crown charter of the same.⁸ About the year 1575 Colin M'Kenzie of Kintale granted in liferent to Alexander Bane of Tullyelt and Agnes Fraser his wife, liferenters of the lands of Rewindoun in the barony of Beulie, and in heritage to Alexander Bane their elder son, fear of the same lands, with remainder to other heirs of Alexander by Agnes Fraser, and to his own heirs whomsoever, the half of the lands of Caltalode and Eister Drynie in the earldom Ross, to be held of the King as Earl.⁹ In 1575 King James VI. confirmed the grant.¹⁰ In 1583 King James granted in heritage to Colin M'Kainze of Kintail the half of the lands of Culteleudie and Glenskanyeh in the earldom of Ros, formerly belonging in heritage to Alexander Bane the son of Alexander Bane of Tullyeh, and in liferent to the latter and Agnes Fraser his wife, and with their consent resigned by their son Alexander Bane, the grantee rendering the services formerly due.¹¹ In 1633 George M'Kenzie was served heir male to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Keinzie of Kintail, in a number of lands in the earldom of Ross, including the lands of Cultealoid and Glenskeoch of the old extent of £4, 13s. 4d.¹² The lands of Drynie, as before stated, lie in the parish of Dingwall. The lands of

¹ Retours.² Ibid.³ Ibid.⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 193.⁵ Ibid.⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxv. no. 141.⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 30.⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 358. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii, fol. 33.⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliiii. fol. 39.¹⁰ Ibid.¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 72.¹² Retours.

Contanclod or Cultelloid were subsequently known as Culclod, and have been modernised into Castle Leod.

The village of Strathpeffer, famous as a watering-place, and the villages of Maryburgh and Keithtown, appear to lie within the bounds of the parish of Kinettes.¹

On the west side of Strathpeffer is Castle Leod, a seat of the Earls of Cromertie, bearing the date 1616.²

On the summit of Knockfarril is a vitrified wall enclosing about an acre, and connected in tradition with the Fions or Fingalians.³ Near the same hill there is a circular hollow surrounded with stones, and in another part of the parish one of the same kind—both locally termed Fairy folds.⁴

At Park is a circle of erect stones 15 feet in diameter, from which run eastward two rows 9 feet in length and 6 feet apart.⁵ It is traditionally connected with the battle of Blar-na-paire fought about 1480 between the Macdonalds and Mackenzies, but is evidently of much older date, though it marks the spot.⁶

Near Castle Leod is a stone sculptured with the figure of an eagle and known as the Clach-an-tiompan, supposed to mark the scene of a conflict between the Munroes and Mackenzies.⁷

CONTIN.

Conten⁸ — Contan⁹ — Contayne¹⁰—Qwentan (or Qweittan)¹¹—Contane¹²—
Cowntane¹³—Kirk Contain.¹⁴ (Map, No. 21.)

THIS large and mountainous parish is about 30 miles square, and includes almost every variety of scenery. It is watered by Loch Fannich, Loch Luichart, Loch Rnsque, and many smaller lakes, and by the rivers Bran, Garve, Rasay, Conan, Orrin, and others. It is entirely inland, and on its western border is skirted by no fewer than five large parishes.

In the year 1227 John the vicar of Conten was present at Kenedor in Moray with others of the clergy of Ross at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross about the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser.¹⁵ The Aberdeen Breviary, without giving the date,

¹ New Stat. Acc. Connty Maps. ² New Stat. Acc.

³ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Miller's Scenes and Legends. See Regist. Moraviense, p. 457.

⁴ New Stat. Acc. ⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid. Anderson, p. 559. Gregory, p. 92.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ A. D. 1227. Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

⁹ A. D. 1510. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 90. A. D. 1575. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii.

fol. 11. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

¹⁰ *Circa* A. D. 1535. Libellus Taxationum.

¹¹ A. D. 1550. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 12.

¹² A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

¹³ A. D. 1587. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. Iv. fol. 89.

¹⁴ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁵ Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

informs us that about 500 Islanders invaded Ross, set fire to the church of Saint Malrube of Contan while the inhabitants were celebrating his anniversary (27 August or 21 April), and by fire and sword destroyed about 100 men and women.¹ The men of Ross, we are informed by the same authority, encouraged by the appearance of the deceased saint bearing a staff or crosier, though inferior in numbers, attacked and defeated the Islanders, leaving scarce 30 of them alive.² In 1529 the canons of Fearn had a yearly revenue of 8 lbs. of wax in the town called Conten.³ In 1550 Queen Mary presented David Stewart to the rectory of the parish church of Qwentan, vacant by the decease of a person of the surname of Fores.⁴ At the Reformation the parsonage and vicarage of Contane belonged to Master Robert Burnet.⁵ In 1574 Donald Adamsoun was minister of Contane and several other parishes, and the office of reader at Contane was vacant.⁶ In 1575 occurs the legitimization of Alexander and Robert the sons of Master Robert Burnet rector of Contan.⁷ In 1587 the same Master Robert appears as vicar of Cowtane and canon of Ross.⁸

The church dedicated to Saint Malrube seems to have always stood in the extreme east of the parish on an island in the river Rasay near its confluence with the Conan.⁹ The date of the present building is unknown.¹⁰ A church was built at Keanlochluichart in 1825, and another at Strathconan in 1830.¹¹

In Baiamund's Roll the church is rated at 53s. 4d.; in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £26, 13s. 4d.¹² At the Reformation the parsonage and vicarage were let yearly for the sum of £40.¹³ In 1574 the reader at Contane had for his stipend 20 marks and the kirklands.¹⁴

About the year 1309 King Robert Bruce granted the lands of Strathconan to Hugh of Ross.¹⁵ In 1538 King James V. by a letter under his privy seal declared John M'Kanze of Kintaille to be heritable proprietor of the lands of Meyn in Strachonane, and of the lands of Eschadillis, Innermany, Innerquhonray, and Kinlochbanquhare, in the lordship of Ros and sheriffdom of Innernys; and ordered his comptroller and auditors of his exchequer to 'delete and put furth' the lands from the exchequer rolls.¹⁶ At the same time he united those lands, namely, two marklands of Kinlochbanquhar, three marklands of Innerquhonray, three marklands of Innermany, four marklands of Meyne in Strachonane, and four marklands of Eschadillis, to the barony of Eleandonnan belonging to the same John M'Kanze of Kintaille.¹⁷ In 1543 Queen Mary granted in heritage to Kenneth Mackenze, the son and apparent heir of John Mackenze of Kintaille, and to Isabel Stewart his wife, along with lands in the lordship of Kintaille, the lands of Maneye and Eskadillis in the lordship of Strachonnan, and others, which John Mackenze had resigned.¹⁸ In 1571 Colin Mackenze of Kintaille, in fulfilment of a contract between himself on the one side

¹ Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 90.

² Ibid.

³ Balnagown Charters.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 12.

⁵ Book of Assumptions. ⁶ Book of Assignations.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 11.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 89.

⁹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

¹⁰ New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Ibid. These are perhaps old church districts, though there seems to be no record or remains to show it.

¹² MSS. in Adv. Lib. ¹³ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁴ Book of Assignations. ¹⁵ Rob. Index, p. 2, no. 60.

¹⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 21.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 524. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 56.

and John Grant of Frewchie for himself and Barbara Grant on the other, granted to Barbara, who was his affianced spouse, certain lands, including those of Kiulochbeancharan and Innerchonray.¹ In 1572 King James VI. confirmed the grant.² In 1574 Colin M'Keinzie of Kintail was served heir to Kenneth M'Keinzie his father in the four marklands of Meyneu and the four marklands of the davach of Eschidaill, and other lands, in the barony of Ellendonane, of the old extent of 5 marks.³ In 1633 George M'Keinzie was served heir male to his brother Colin Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Keinzie of Kintail, in the lands and barony of Ellendonan, including among others the two marks of Kenlochbencharran, three marks of Innerchonran, three marks of Innervenane, four marks of Mainzie, and four marks of the davach of Eskidillis.⁴

Among the lands granted by King James III. to Elizabeth Countess of Ross for her honourable maintenance in 1476, and confirmed to her by that king in 1477, were included the lands of Rew and the lands of Cwyl.⁵ In 1526 the lands of Rewy extending in the King's rental to 53s. 8d., and the lands of Aehnacleroch (or Aehnaclerach) extending in the same rental to 33s. 4d., were included in the tenandry of Culmelloquhy then granted by King James V. to Walter Innes of Tulehis.⁶ In a subsequent grant by the same king in 1527, given in order to augment his rental by the sum of £6 yearly, Rewy was let at £3, 6s. 8d., and Auchnacleraueh at 40s.⁷ In 1528 the same king granted to Walter Innes the lands of Culcragy (apparently in Contin), and annexed them to the tenandry of Culmaloquhy.⁸ In 1538 he granted to the same Walter for five years the same tenandry, including the lands of Auchinagleraueh, the lands of Rewy, and the lands of Culcragy.⁹ In 1584 King James VI. granted to Sir Andrew Keith the lands of Auchnacleraueh, for the yearly payment of 53s. 4d., a reek hen, and 4s. of bondage silver.¹⁰ In 1586 the same king granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe various lands in Ross, including the lands of Culcragie and Rewy, the alehouse of Coull with a croft, and the alehouse of Coull without a croft; the grantee paying yearly for Rewy £3, 6s. 8d., with 8s. of bondage silver, and 1 poultry, and £3, 6s. 8d. every five years as grassum—for the alehouse of Coull with croft 26s. 8d. and the same sum as grassum—for the alehouse without croft 13s. 4d. and the same sum as grassum—and for Culcragie certain dues not specified, but included in one payment with those of some other lands.¹¹ In 1619 Colin Lord of Kintail was served heir male to his grandfather Colin Makkeinzie of Kyntail in the lands of Auchnacleraeh, of the extent of 26s. 8d.¹²

In 1528 King James V. granted to John M'Kenze of Kintail the £4 lands of Estir Hecheley and Westir Hecheley, the 4 marklands of Cumerly, the £4 lands of Mekle Seathole, and other lands in the earldom of Ross, for yearly payment of £18, 13s. 4d., in order to augment his rental by the sum of £4.¹³ In 1529 the same king granted to Roderick or Rory Makkenze the two

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 94.

² *Ibid.*

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 4.

³ Retours.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 133.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 40. See DINGWALL, pp. 488, 489.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 75.

⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 317. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 7. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 34; vol. vii. fol. 34. See ALNESS, p. 474.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 87, 88. See DINGWALL, p. 491.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48. See ALNESS, p. 474.

¹² Retours. ¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 250.

Acheleis, Cumry, the two Scatellis, and the mill of Contane, in the lordship of Ross.¹ In 1584 King James VI. granted in heritage to Sir Andrew Keith the lands of Cumree and others in Ross, the grantee paying yearly for Cumrie 53s. 4d., with 8s. of bondage silver and one reek hen.² In 1586 the same king granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe various lands, including Littill Scattoll, Kynnallan, Eister Achillie, Westir Achillie, and Mekle Scattoll; the grantee paying for Littill Scattoll yearly £4, with 8s. of bondage silver, one poultry, and 3 marts, and every five years as grassum £4—for Kynnellan, with Essy, Coull, and the mill of the same with the multure, £15, 4s. yearly, and £23, 10s. every five years as grassum—for Eister Achillie yearly 40s., with 4s. of bondage silver, and 2 reek hens, with the usual services, and every five years £4 as grassum—for Wester Achillie the same—and for Mekill Scattoll yearly £4, with 8s. of bondage silver, 1 poultry, 3 marts, and the usual services, and every five years £4 as grassum.³ In 1619 Colin lord of Kintail was served heir male to his grandfather Colin Makkeinzie of Kyntail in the lauds of Comrie of the extent of 53s. 4d.⁴ In 1669 Colin Earl of Balcarras was served heir to his father Earl Alexander in the lands of Kynellane and Oray (or Cray), and Escoule with the mill (apparently the lands described in 1586 as Kynellan, with Essy, Coull, and the mill), of the extent of £15, 4s.⁵

A fair is held twice a year at Contin Inn.⁶

At the eastern end of Loch Achilty there is a circle of stones, within which were found some empty urns.⁷

Near Loch Kinellan is Blair-nan-ceann (the field of heads), a name supposed to commemorate the same conflict as Blair-na-paire.⁸ In the loch is an artificial island on which it is said that the Seaforth family had formerly a stronghold.⁹

In Loch Achilty, also on an island believed to be artificial, are some ruins pointed out as once the residence of a person known as Maclea Mor, and a vault formerly existing in the parish church was known as Cruist Mhic Lea and said to have been the burial place of that family.¹⁰

K I L M O R A C K.

Kilmorok¹¹—Kilmoricht¹²—Kilmorak¹³—Kilmarak.¹⁴ (Map, No. 22.)

THIS parish, anciently included in the earldom of Ross, and now in the county of Inverness, consists of a well cultivated plain on the north of the river Beauly, and of an upland district including Glenaffaric, Glencannich, Glenfarrar, and a part of Strathglass, all watered by streams

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 234. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. ff. 6, 7.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 87, 88. See DINGWALL, p. 491.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

⁴ Retours.

⁶ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Ibid. See KINNETTES, p. 504.

¹⁰ Ibid. ¹¹ A. D. 1437. Athole Charters.

¹² A. D. 1521. Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

¹³ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS.

Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen.

⁵ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

¹⁴ A. D. 1573. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 98.

which unite to form the Beauly. Its chief lakes, formed in the courses of those streams, are Loch Affarie, Loch Beneiran, Loch Moyley, and Loch Monar. The falls of Kilmorack and other scenes on the Beauly are noted for their beauty.

A charter granted in 1437 by Hugh Fraser lord of Lovet to Alexander of Ile Earl of Ross is witnessed by Sir John the vicar of Kilmorok.¹ Robert bishop of Ross, who died in 1521, granted to Thomas Fraser of Lovet and his heirs the lands of the Kirktoom of Kilmoricht, with the 'craig' and fishing of that town commonly called the Ess of Kilmorichte, belonging to the church of Kilmorichte, in the earldom of Ross—for the yearly payment of £10, 6s. 8d. Scots, namely, £8, 6s. 8d. for 4 barrels of salmon according to the common valuation of the yearly fishing called the Ess, and 40s. as the old ferme of the Kirktoom and the 'craig'—with £3 in augmentation of the rental.² In 1532 Hugh Fraser of Lovet as heir of Thomas petitioned Silvester the Pope's legate for confirmation of the grant; and the legate in compliance with his request issued in a mandate addressed to Robert abbot of Killoss and Donald abbot of Ferne, who consequently cited all concerned to appear before them on the 28th of August of that year in the aisle of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the cathedral church of Ross to witness the confirmation.³ There seems to be no farther notice of this church till the Reformation, at which time the vicar was Sir John Nicoloun.⁴ In 1573 King James VI. presented Donald Dow to the vicarage, then vacant by the resignation of the same Sir John.⁵ In 1574 Donald Dow was minister of Kilmorak and several other churches, and there was no reader at Kilmorak.⁶

The church, dedicated apparently to Saint Moroc (who is said to have been a Culdee abbot at Dunkeld, and was commemorated on the 8th of November) stood near the falls of Kilmorack on the left bank of the Beauly.⁷ It was rebuilt in the end of the last century, apparently on the same site.⁸

In 1230 the priory of Beauly (*prioratus de Bello Loco*, Beaulieu, Beuling, Bewlie) was founded by Sir John Byseth (Biset, Bissate, Bisset) of Lovat for monks of the order of Vallis Caulium.⁹ The terms of the foundation are said to have been—that the monks should pray for the founder during his life; that they should receive his body when dead; and that they should commemorate him by continual sacrifices and works of piety.¹⁰ One of the Popes named Gregory (apparently Pope Gregory IX. who filled the chair from 1227 to 1241) confirmed and took under his protection the property of the monks of Beauly, especially Fitheny and Kareurri and the fishing of the Forne granted to them by John Biseth.¹¹ Between the years 1230 and 1242 William Byseth, the brother of John, granted to the monks the church of Aberterth (Abirtarf in the diocese of Moray).¹² Between the same years Andrew (de Moravia) bishop of Moray

¹ Athole Charters.

² Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 98.

⁶ Book of Assignations.

⁷ Camerarius, p. 186. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen. New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc.

⁹ Ext. c Var. Cron. Seocie, p. 93. Spotiswood's Religious Houses. Macfarlane. Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Spotiswood. Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane. Spotiswood. In Macfarlane's copy of the deed of confirmation John Biseth (who died about 1268) is not said to be dead—a circumstance which seems to assign the confirmation to Pope Gregory IX.

¹² Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

confirmed to the monks of Beauly (*Belli Loci juxta Beaufort*) the teinds of the church of Aberterf, the churchlands of the same, and the tithes of all the salmon fishings in that parish, which were granted to them by William Byseth.¹ In 1255 Laurence the soldier (*miles*), the son of Patriek the gateway (*janitor*) of Innernis, quitclaimed to the monks all right which he had in Bromihalw and in the Island.² Between the years 1275 and 1294 David of Innerlunan, with the consent of Gillierist Maegilliduff, quitclaimed to the monks his land of Ouehterwaddale (or Onachtervadal) extending to half a davach, which he held in lease of Gillierist, by whom the same land was granted to the monks.³ In 1278 Andrew de Boscho and Elisabeth (Byseth) his wife granted to them two marks to be yearly received at their castle of Eddyrdor from them and their heirs or from their bailies for the time, or in their tenement of Eddirdor.⁴ In 1279 the prior of Beauly was one of the sub-deputies appointed by the abbot of Der, who was commissioned by the Pope (Nicolas III.) to settle a dispute about the kirklands of Keltalargyn between Arehibald bishop of Moray and William of Fenthon lord of Beuford.⁵ Subsequently to the year 1280 Cecilia Byseth, the widow of Sir William of Fentoun, granted to the monks of Beauly her third part of Altyr falling to her as heir.⁶ Apparently between 1309 and 1325 Patriek of Graham granted to the same monks his third part of Altre in exchange for the multures of the lands of Loueth, Fyngask, Dofnaldistun, and others—also in compensation for 40 marks due by him to them as the third of 120 marks in which the deceased Sir John Byseth (his grandfather) had bound himself and his heirs to the fabric of Beauly—also in compensation for 25 marks in which he (Patriek of Graham) was bound to them by occasion of the unjust detention of the multure of the said lands—and also in compensation for 17 marks in which he was bound to them of the debt of Sir David his father; and, should he or his heirs recall this grant, the multures of the lands should revert to the monks for ever.⁷ In 1329 William of Fenton lord of Beuford granted to them two marks yearly from the mill of Beuford, to be paid by his bailies of Beuford or by the farmers of the mill.⁸ In 1340, by a charter dated *apud Bellum Locum*, John called of Urehard, perpetual vicar of Abbertherff, quitclaimed to the monks all right which he had in the tithes of the fishing of Abbertherff, granted (or confirmed) to them by the deceased Andrew bishop of Moray.⁹ In 1341, 1356, and 1357 Robert prior of Beauly appears in record.¹⁰ In 1362 we have Symon prior *de Bello Loco*.¹¹ Apparently between that date and 1372, and certainly between 1336 and 1372, a charter by William Earl of Ross is witnessed by Sir Maurice prior *Belli Loci*.¹² One of the popes named Gregory, said to be Gregory XI., by a bull dated at Lyons on 15 March in the third year of his pontificate, confirmed all the privileges of the monks of Beauly.¹³ In 1471 is recorded the death

¹ Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane. Spotswood styles the subjects of this confirmation 'their tithes and fishings on Spey, and the teind sheaves of the parish of Abertarf.' The deed is not recorded in the Regist. Morav., from which however it would seem that William Byseth, whom Spotswood styles 'knight,' was parson of Kiltarlity.

² Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane. In 1398 Alexander Lesley Earl of Ross granted to Walter of Ross lord of Raricheis the lands of Datus Aygass in Stra-

glass (apparently the 'Island' of the above grant, and the modern 'Eilan-Aigas'). Balnagown Charters.

³ Beauly Charters.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Regist. Moraviense, p. 140.

⁶ Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Balnagown Charters.

¹¹ Original at Floors.

¹² Balnagown Charters.

¹³ Beauly Charters. If the Pope was Gregory XI., the bull was granted 15 March 1373.

of Alexander Frisale prior of Bewly.¹ In 1480 appear in record Sir John Fynla prior, and Sir Patrick Morra and Sir John Duncan monks.² Sir John Fynla appears to have been succeeded by Hugh Frezel, who died *extra Romanam curiam*.³ In 1497 Pope Alexander VI. presented Dougald M'Rory (*Roderici*) clerk to the priorate, then vacant by the death of Hugh Frezel, commending the bishops of Aberdeen and Ros, the official of Ros, the abbot and convent of Vallis Caulium, and the subprior and brethren *de Bello Loco* or of Beulie, to receive Dougald, if qualified, as a monk, and to induct him into the priorate, whose fruits he alleged did not exceed £40 yearly.⁴ Andrew bishop of Moray was commissioned to give effect to the appointment; and in 1501 the same pope issued a similar mandate in Dougald's favour.⁵ In 1506 James Courtois (or Quartus), prior general of the order of Vallis Caulium (*Val des Choux*), commissioned the prior of Beuling to visit the priory of Ardquhattan (in Argyle), which belonged to the same order.⁶ In the same year (18 December) the prior general, styling himself 'brother James Courtois, prior of the monastery of Valliscaulium, head or general of that order situated in the duchy of Burgundy near Chatillon on the Seine,' addressed a letter to the prior of Beaully to the following effect—That on the date of his letter a Scottish priest named William Thomson appeared in the priory of Valliscaulium, and presented certain letters unsigned and unsealed, dated 10 November preceding, and addressed to the prior general by the prior of Beaully; that, whereas the latter complained that the bishop of Ross or his official claimed the right of visiting the monastery of Beaully, and the prior maintained that the order was exempt from episcopal jurisdiction, which was not true, the prior general informed him that in France the order had but thirteen small houses situated in five dioceses, and that they were regularly visited by the bishops; that, whereas the prior of Beaully desired an authentic copy of the institution and confirmation of the privileges of the order, the prior general could not then furnish it, as the original lay in their treasury at Bivion, and he on account of the approaching feast of the Nativity (25 December) and his own ill health could not go thither; that he wondered how the prior could rule the priory of Beaully and its dependent monasteries without either coming or sending to the prior general to have institution and confirmation of the same; that he therefore exhorted him under the usual penalties to appear in a chapter of the order to be held on the next feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross (3 May 1507), that he might there show him the confirmation, statutes, and privileges of the order; that the prior's last predecessor (Hugh Frezel) had promised that he or his procurator would appear in the general chapter once every four years, and yet, though the prior general on account of the distance had extended the interval to six years, neither the deceased prior, nor his procurator, nor the present prior, nor any person for him, had appeared, with which he thought he (the prior general) should not rest satisfied; and that moreover, although the prior's predecessor or his procurator had promised to send salmon named from their country, or rivers, or waters, to the town of Bruges or Valenciennes, whither the prior general had commissioned merchants to receive them and carry them to Bivion, yet he had never received any from the deceased prior or his procurator; but

¹ Calendar of Fearn.² Beaully Charters.⁶ *Ibid.* The prior of this and the following notice³ *Ibid.*⁴ *Ibid.*⁵ *Ibid.*

must have been Dougald M'Rory.

that, as the said William, the bearer of this letter, had assured him that the present prior was a man of nobility, of veracity, and of good religion, he believed that during the following summer he would do him reason not only for his predecessor but also for himself.¹ In 1513 Pope Julius II. granted a bull in favour of Dougall prior of Beaulie and the convent, threatening with excommunication all who had intermeddled with their property, unless they made restitution within a certain time.² In 1514 the bull was published by Robert Fresel dean and official of Ross.³ In 1529 King James V. promoted Master James Haswell, chaplain of the chapel of Saint Margaret in the castle of Edinburgh, to the dignity of prior of Bewlie.⁴ About the year 1530 Robert Reid abbot of Kinloss was appointed commendator of Bewlie; in 1540 he was made bishop of Orkney, and appears to have held those three offices till his death in 1558.⁵ In 1537 he received seven young men into the priory as monks, and was engaged in preparing material for building the nave of the church.⁶ In 1540, on his appointment to the bishoprick of Orkney, he went into that district, and on his return brought five young monks of Beaulie to Kynlos, and put them under the charge of John Ferrerius, whom he had brought from France in 1528 to instruct the monks of Kynlos.⁷ The five monks were Sir Thomas Togny, Sir David Dason, Sir John Crauford, Sir James Pop, and Sir Gilbert Gray.⁸ In 1540 the commendator built the nave of the church at a great expense, and roofed it with oak; and repaired the belfry which had been struck with lightning.⁹ The changes which arose on the death of King James V. in 1542 interrupted the labours of Ferrerius, and having sent back the monks to Beaulie, he resolved himself to return to France.¹⁰ In 1543 Sir James Haisty a monk of Bewlie found surety before the civil court for his appearance to answer for being art and part in the oppression done to Master Gawin Dunbar treasurer of Ross in coming upon him with the bishop and his accomplices in the cathedral church, in laying hands upon him, and in cruelly wounding him to the effusion of his blood.¹¹ In 1544 the commendator took down the old rickety house of the prior, and built in its stead a large and elegant house with six vaults below.¹² Between 1561 and 1566 we have the following rental of the priory given up to the collector of thirds by John abbot of Kinloss the commendator—‘The rental of the priorie of Bowlyne, baith of the maillis, silver, fearmis, teindis, martis, wedderis, and vtheris dewties, as efter followis. The rental of silver—Item in primis the silver maill of the barronie of Bewlyne with the maynis of the samin extendis to lxi lib.—Item the kirkis of Convith and Cumer sould pay in silver in the yeir the sowme of xxxiii lib.—Item the kirk of Abirtarf sould pay in silver the sowme of xlii lib.—Suama of the haill silver in maillis and teindis extendis to ic xxxvi lib. xiii s. iiiii d.; The rental of the victuall of the said pryorie—Item in the haill victuale of the barronie of Bowlyne with the mayuis of the samin extendis to iiiii ch. victuall—Item the kirkis of Conveith and Cummer in vietuale extendis to vii ch. xi bs.—Item the twa mylnes of Bowlyne sett

¹ Beaulie Charters *apud* Macfarlane.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 29.⁶ Ferrerius, p. 40.⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 39, 40, 43, 49.⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 49.⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 48.¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 49.¹¹ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 328.*¹² Ferrerius, p. 48.⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 125. Keith's Bishops. Spotswood. Ferrerii Historia Abbatum de Kynlos, p. 40.

for ii ch. viii bs. meill and malt—summa of the haill victuall extendis to xiii ch. iiii bs. victuale ; The rental of aites—Item the haill aitis of the said baronie viii bs. ; The mairtis—Item in mairtis x mairtis ; The muttoun—Item in wedderis xx wedderis—Item in pultrie xxi dussane ; As for the fishing of Bowlyne it is vneertane, sumtymys les, sumtymys mair, and vther tymys verie lytill, and thir twa yeiris bygane hes searslie giwin ii last vi barreillis. And sua the haill priorie of Bewlyn extendis yeirlie in silver, victuale, and wedderis, aitis, mairtis, pultrie, and salmond, as efter followis—Summa of the silver i^e xxxvii lib. xiii s. iiii d.—Summa of the victuall xiiii ch. iii bs. victuale—Summa of the haill aitis viii bs.—Summa of mairtis x mairtis—Summa of wedderis xx wedderis—Summa of pultrie xxi dosan—Summa of salmond ii last vi b. Thir ar the thingis that are to be deducit of the money, salmond, and victuallis, abone specifeit, payit as efter followis—Item in primis to be deducit be payment maid to the aucht brethir for thair habit silver, ilk bredir havand in the yeir xl s., quhilk extendis to xvi lib. ; Item thair is to be deducit for the said viii brethir for thair flesh and fish in the yeir, ilk brother havand for thair flesh iii d. in the day, for thair fish ilk day ii d., extending in the yeir to xxix lib. xiiii s. viii d. ; Item for the Lordis of the Seit contributioun yeirlie iiii lib. iiii s. ; Item Master Alexander M'Kenzie for his yeirlie pensiou quhilk he hes of the said pryorie and provydit thair of in Roome xiii lib. vi s. viii d. ; Item to the officiar of Bowlyne yeirlie for his fie quhilk he hes dureing his lyfytyme xxv s. viii d. ; Item thair is to be deducit for the said aucht bretheris drink in the yeir v^{xx} xii bs. victuale ; Item for thair breid in the yeir lvii bs. iii fir. i pe. ; Item for the officiaris fie i b. ; Item thair is to be deducit for the officiaris fie i b. ; Item thair is to be deducit for the teind fish of the kirk of Warlaw iii bs. 3 barell salmond ; Summa of the haill victuallis and salmond, deducit as is abone writtin, extendis to lxiiii lib. xiii s. of silver, and x ch. x bs. iii fir. i pe. victuale, iii bs. 3 b. salmond ; And sua restis to the prior lxxii lib. xvi d., iii ch. viii bs. iii pes. victuale, and of salmond ii last ii b. $\frac{3}{4}$ b. salmond. Memorandum that the kirk of Conveith was wont to pay for the vicarage thair of the sowme of xxvii lib. xiii s. iiii d., and now gettis na payment of the samin. I Jo. abbot of Kinloss Memorandum to tak the salmond the thrid, not as it is rentallit, bot as it givis, for this rental is manchlitt. . . . Remember, my lord comptrollar, and speir the rental of thir twa, Kinlos and Bewlyne, for they are suspitious anent the fishing.¹ In 1568 Walter abbot of Kinloss and prior of Bewlie leased for 19 years to John Clerk in Bewlie, and, he failing, to Alexander Clerk his lawful son, and to their heirs of no higher degree than themselves, the eighteenth part of the town and lands of Reyndoun in the barony and priory of Bewlie and sherifdom of Inverness, with the 'pateland' called John Clerk's land, lying 'betwix our said abbaye and place of Bewlie betwix the twa getis eist and west, ascendand up fra the croft callit Alexander Wrichtis croft to the get passand eist and west throu the Cuthill, as the said auchtant part and pateland callit John Wrichtis (Clerkis?) land lvis in lenth and braid,' then and long before occupied by John Clerk, together with the kilnhouse, barn, tofts, wastes, and buildings, used and wont, with power to brew and sell the malt made from corn grown by themselves, provided they did so without prejudice to the principal alehouse of the priory—

¹ Book of Assumptions.

the grantees paying yearly for Reyndoun 12s. 6d. Scots, 2 bolls 2 peeks of ferme, one firlot of oats, one-fourth of a mart, three-fourths of a mutton, 6 poultry, one kid, and 24 eggs valued at a penny; and for the 'pateland' called John Clerk's land £4 Scots, a dozen of poultry, 'ane ——— to the water,' and a hook (a reaper) in harvest; extending in all to £4, 12s. 6d. Scots — the lease to be void if the dues should remain unpaid for two successive terms.¹ The lease is subscribed by abbot Walter, brother John Crawford, James Rox, Sir Thomas Taynam monk, and George Moray.² In 1573 King James VI. appointed Master John Fraser prior and commendator of Bewlie, the priorate being vacant by the resignation of Walter abbot of Kinlos.³ One of those two priors (it does not appear which) granted to Hew Lord Fraser of Lovat and his heirs male the barony, towns, and lands of Bewlie, namely, the village and lands of Ardingrosk; Rewindoun; Ineherie; Alter; Craigeorie; Plathaycht; Grome; Ferinellie with the forests and woods; Thaynok with the pendicles, namely, Ouircroars, the Relict, and Grenefault, with the cottage of the same; the lands of Vrqhany with the woods; the lands called the Half Dawaucht; the lands of Boycht, Conharbrie; a third of the lands of Mekle Culmulang; a third of Eister Glen of Conveith, and a fourth of the lands of Faynblair; Ferriehous with its croft; Ainocht; Auldoun called the common pasture; Thaefrishe with the cottage; the lands called Masounland; the lands called John Cuikis land; a croft called M'Huecheonis croft and common cottage; the lands called the mains of Bewlie, with the yards and orchards belonging to the priory, and the pertinents and crofts of the said lands and lordships; a croft called Dean James Papis croft; a croft called Merschellis croft; a croft called M'Alisteris croft, then occupied by David Lowsoun; and also two mills called Thaynok and Bewlie mills, with the thirled multure of the whole barony of Bewlie and of all the lands above written with their sequels; and also the whole salmon fishing on the water of Forne, marching from Cairnot to the sea or to any other part on the said water among Hew Lord Fraser's fishings of Kilmorok, with the cruves and other commodities; within the priory of Bewlie and sheriffdom of Innernes — for the yearly payment of £211, 15s.⁴ In 1579 King James VI. confirmed the grant, with a special clause confirming the yearly payment, and appointing the third of the rental of the fishings to be paid according thereto.⁵ In 1584 the same king, for the good service done by the deceased Hew Lord Fraser of Lovat, and his son and heir Symon then Lord Fraser of Lovat, confirmed the prior's grant, the seisin given to Hew Lord Fraser, the seisin given to Symon as his son and heir, and the King's own charter of 1579, and specially that clause of it relating to the yearly payment and the collection of the third.⁶ An entry in the records of the Scotch parliament, dated 1612, is as follows — 'Ratification to the Lord Hay of Sala of his erection of Beaulie.'⁷ The remains of the priory church, consisting chiefly of bare walls without sculpture or ornament, are still to be seen near the mouth of the Beaulie in the east end of the parish.⁸ Within it are numerous tombstones and monuments, apparently of the Bissets and other early lords of Beaulie,

¹ Beaulie Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

² *Ibid.*

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 43.

⁴ Spotswood. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. pp. 356, 357.

⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 357.

⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. pp. 356, 357.

⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iv. p. 522.

⁸ Anderson, p. 530. New Stat. Acc.

and also of the later proprietors the Frasers, the clan Clisholm, and others; and among the rest is the tombstone of Sir Kenneth MacKenzie of Kintail dated 1493.¹ At Wellhouse in the neighbourhood was a consecrated spring, and also a lofty cross, the shaft of which is still to be seen at the modern village of Beauly.² In the end of last century Beauly was locally known as Vanechan (the laud of the monks), and the river as Avin-na-manich (the river of the monks).³

At the Reformation the vicarage of Kilmorak was given by Sir Alexander Pedder, in name of the vicar Sir John Nicolsoun, as having yielded when leased the sum of £26, 13s. 4d., 'quhen teindis and oblationnis was payit.'⁴ We have another statement by Master Henry Kinros, who says that 'the vicarage of Kilmorak gaif of auld xx lib. in assedatioun, and now nothing payit thir tua yeiris quhill vniversall ordour be tane.'⁵

In the Libellus Taxationum the priory of Beuling is valued at 400 marks; and in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. it is rated at £62.⁶

Before the thirteenth century the lands of Herkele (Erechless) and of Cumber (Comer), each extending to a davach, formed part of the old parish of Conveh (or Conway) in the diocese of Moray, the church of which then belonged to the bishop.⁷ In the end of the twelfth or beginning of the thirteenth century the lands of the parish were granted in fee to John Byseth (of Lovat).⁸ Between 1203 and 1222 Bricius bishop of Moray had a controversy with John Byseth respecting the patronage of the churches of Coneway and Dulbatelauch (now Kirkhill), and the tithes of the crown rents due from the lands.⁹ It was settled by John Byseth on the one hand resigning to the bishop the patronage and ecclesiastical dues of Dulbatelauch, and the bishop on the other resigning to him the patronage and dues of Coneway, with the exception of 20s. yearly retained by the bishop as the tithe of £10 paid yearly by John Byseth to the King for the lands which he held at ferme within those parishes.¹⁰ In 1258 a controversy arose between Archibald bishop of Moray and the same John Byseth, the former maintaining that a davach of the churchland of Cuneway and another davach in Ros called Herchelys belonged to his table, and the latter that they belonged to his fief of the Ard—the bishop moreover claiming from John Byseth the 'cane' of his land of the Ard and a stone of wax, which he alleged were wont to be paid to himself and his predecessors for a long period.¹¹ Robert bishop of Ross and his dean being appointed arbiters in the matter by the Pope (Alexander IV.), the bishop of Moray renounced his claim, and John Byseth of his mere good will granted to him for ever a yearly revenue of 60 shillings sterling from the lands of Munychoe in the Ard.¹² John Bisset left three daughters, Mary (married to Sir David Graham, and afterwards, it is said, to Simon Fraser of Lovat), Cecilia (married to Sir William of Fenton), and Elizabeth (married to Sir Andrew de Bosco), each of whom seems to have inherited a third of their father's property.¹³ The lands of the Ard, including Erchless, were probably held by Steuene of Arde (how acquired is unknown), whose

¹ Anderson, p. 535. New Stat. Acc.

² Anderson, p. 535.

³ Letter of Rev. John M'Queen to General Hutton, 1789.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 15, 59.

⁶ Book of Assumptions.

⁷ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Reg. Morav., pp. 133, 134.

¹¹ The Family of Kilravock, pp. 27-29. Shaw's Moray. Beauly Charters *apud* Macfarlane. Regist. Moraviense, pp. 367, 368.

¹² Others say that Simon Fraser married the daughter of Mary Bisset.

¹³ Ibid. pp. 15, 16, 59, 60.

¹⁴ Ibid.

son William, designated of the county of Innerness, swore fealty to King Edward I. in 1296; and also by Sir Cristin of Ard, who appears in record from that year to 1366, and whose son John appears between 1296 and 1325.¹ In 1309 King Robert Bruce granted to Hugh of Ross the lands of Straglass (probably including Erchless).² Weland of Ard (of what descent does not appear) married Matilda, the only daughter of Malise Earl of Stratherne by his first wife Matilda the daughter of the Earl of Menteth.³ Their son Alexander of Ard inherited in right of his mother the earldoms of Stratherne and Caithness, and lands in Banff, Sutherland, and Orkney, all which he resigned apparently between the years 1375 and 1377.⁴ He appears to have previously resigned the lands of the Ard, and died without issue.⁵ About 20 years before his resignation of the other lands the three portioners of the Ard were William of Fenton lord of Bewfoud, Hugh Fraser Lord of Loveth, and Alexander of Chesolme.⁶ In the year 1368, on the feast of the Blessed Trinity, in the chamber of Alexander bishop of Moray at Spyny, in the presence of the whole multitude of canons and chaplains and others invited thither to dinner, Alexander of Chesolme portioner of the Ard with joined hands and uncovered head did homage to the bishop for the lands of the Ess and of Kyntallirgy.⁷ Between the years 1360 and 1398 there appear in record John of the Ard subchanter of Moray, William of Chesolme treasurer, and Thomas of Chesholm, a person of some consequence at the time, all by birth apparently connected with the families of the Ard.⁸ In 1394, in an agreement made between Thomas of Dunbar Earl of Moray and Alexander of the Isles lord of Lochalse, by which it was settled that Alexander of the Isles should have the custody of all the lands of the regality of Moray and the ecclesiastical lands, there were excepted the lands of Hugh Fraser, Thomas of Chesholme, and Sir William of Fodrynlham (apparently the portioners of the Ard): among whom there was a certain agreement concerning their lands.⁹ In 1398 there occurs in record John of Chesholm of the Arde.¹⁰ In 1401, by an indenture dated at Dvnbathlach between Margaret of the Ard lady of that Ilk and Angus the son of Goffred of Ile, it was agreed that Angus should marry Margaret the Young the daughter of the lady Margaret of the Ard, with whom he should have from her mother 15 marklands, namely, the davach of Croychel and the half davach of Comyr Kynbady, within the bounds of Strathglas, to be held by Angus and his heirs by Margaret — that, should Margaret

¹ Ragman Rolls, p. 161. Palg. Illust. vol. i. p. 314. Rob. Index, p. 16, nn. 11, 12; p. 20, no. 5. Registrum de Aberbrothoc, vol. i. pp. 305-307; vol. ii. pp. 4, 5. Regist. Morav., pp. 306, 317. Beaulieu Charters.

² Rob. Index, p. 2, no. 60.

³ Lib. Ins. Missarum, p. liv.

⁴ Ibid. Rob. Index, p. 120, nn. 45, 46, 59, 60; p. 129, nn. 27, 28.

⁵ Lib. Ins. Missarum, p. liv. Regist. Morav., p. 369.

⁶ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 367-369.

⁷ Regist. Morav. p. 369. This Alexander is supposed to have been the husband of Margaret of the Ard afterwards mentioned. He appears to have been the son or grandson of Sir Robert Chesholm of Quarelwode

mentioned in the succeeding note, but it is not certainly known how he inherited the lands of the Ard.

⁸ Regist. Morav., pp. 130, 174, 180-183, 202, 203, 213, 304, 324, 326-8, 354. At the same period Sir Robert of Chisholme of that Ilk, lord of Quarelwode in Moray, held lands of the bishop to the south of Inverness. Ibid. p. 197. Rob. Index, p. 134, no. 39.

⁹ Regist. Morav., p. 354. Thomas Earl of Dunbar (in 1420) is said to have granted to Hugh Lord Lovat, who married his daughter, the superiority of the 'Braes of the Aird,' which belonged of old to Alexander of Chesholm lord of Kinrossie. MS. cited in letter to Editor by E. Batten.

¹⁰ Reg. Morav., p. 211.

die without heirs, the half of those lands and the half of the goods then jointly possessed by Angus and his wife should revert to the lady Margaret and her heirs, the other half to remain with Angus for life—that after his death the whole should freely revert to the lady Margaret and her sons for recovery of the dacha of Brebach Carynnes and Innvyrnavyr in Strathnavyr, and the two Gartysis in the earldom of Suthyrland, and Larnyse in the earldom of Caithness—and that, in so far as the lady Margaret and her sons might recover the said lands through the advice, assistance, and power of Angus, he and his heirs by her daughter Margaret should have the fourth part of the recovered lands, and the other three-fourths should remain with the lady Margaret and her sons; the entry of Angus to be at the feast of Pentecost following, so that the fermes of that term should remain with the lady Margaret, and that the lands should thenceforth be at the will of Angus.¹ In 1403, by an indenture dated at Kinrossy in the barony of Cullace (in Perthshire) between William of Fentoun of Baky on the one side and Margaret of the Ard of Erles and Thomas of Cheisholm her son and heir on the other, dividing between them the lands of which they were heirs portioners, and which lay in the sheriffdoms of Perth, Forfar, Lanark, Aberdeen, and Inverness, it was agreed that the lands of the Ard should stand divided as of old.² Between the years 1406 and 1415 the agreement was confirmed by Robert Duke of Albany Regent of Scotland.³ Between 1406 and 1410 the Regent granted the lands of Straglashe to Eupham Leslie Countess of Ross, with remainder to John Stewart Earl of Buchan and to Robert Stewart his brother, and they failing the lands were to revert to the crown.⁴ In 1464 John of Halyburtoun of the Arde or of Kynrossy was prosecuted by the abbot of Abirbrothoe for alienating the lands of Bucht which he held of the abbot.⁵ In the year 1492 Alexander and William of Cheshelm appear among the arbiters in a dispute between Andrew bishop of Moray and Hugh Ros baron of Kilravok.⁶ In 1512 King James IV. granted in heritage to James Haliburtoun of Gask certain lands in the barony of Ard and sheriffdom of Innernys, and the lands of the two Arcles in the earldom of Ross, which he had resigned—and erected into the free barony of Arcles the same lands, together with the lands of Kirk-toun and Inglistoun in the barony of Ard, and the lands of Westir Strus, Estir Strus, Culgnyry, Estir Croychell, Westir Croychell, Westir Comyr, Kilbaddy, and Dalbeny, with the fishings and outsets of the same, lying in Strathglaseh, in the earldom of Ross, and in the sheriffdom of Innernys, which formerly belonged to James Haliburtoun in heritage, and after alienation by him had been redeemed—granting to him all the King's right and title to the lands and their fermes, which he had by reason of the forfeiture of the Earls of Moray or of Ross, of whom they were formerly held.⁷ In 1513 the same king confirmed the indenture of 1403.⁸ In 1529 James Haliburtoun of Gask resigned the lands granted to him in 1512, which King James V. then granted in heritage to Hugh Fraser of Lovat.⁹ In 1539 King James

¹ Lib. Ins. Missarum. pp. l. li. Pitsligo Charters.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 138. Rob. Index, p. 167, no. 21.

³ Rob. Index, p. 167, no. 21.

⁴ Rob. Index, p. 161, no. 7.

⁵ Regist. de Aberbrothoc, vol. ii. pp. 138-140.

⁶ Reg. Mor., pp. 237-239, 241, 243, 244.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 53. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 185.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 138.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 272.

granted to Hugh Lord Frasare of Lovet and his male heirs of the name and arms of Frasere, with remainder to his heirs whomsoever, the lands and baronies of Lovet, Strathawrick, Ard, Abirtarff, Hereclis or Straglass, the fishings in the water of Forne, the lands of Comerkle in the barony of the Ard, and other lands in the sheriffdom of Innernys—the lands of Comerkle and some others having been appraised in the hands of King James IV. for certain sums of money due to him by the deceased Thomas Lord Lovet, and the rest resigned by Hugh—and the whole were then erected into the free barony of Lovet.¹

In 1500 Welland Chesholme of Comar appears as party in a raid against the lands of Ardnamach and the Redecastell.² In 1513 King James IV. granted in heritage to Wiland Chesholm of Comyr the lands of Knockfyn, Commymor, the two Inverchaynayas, and the two Brekachyis, in Straglasch in the earldom of Ross, which Wiland had resigned to the King as Earl.³ In 1539 King James V. granted in heritage to John Chesholme, the son and apparent heir of Wiland Chesholme of Comyr, the lands of Knokfyn, Comermore, the two Innerchannais, and the two Brakachies, with the outsets and the forests of Affrik, Cullove, and Bramulieh, in Straglasche in the earldom of Ross, which formerly belonged to Wiland Chesholme, and were appraised in the hands of King James IV. for certain sums of money due to him by Wiland, and which King James V. then united into the barony of Comermore.⁴ In 1555 Queen Mary granted to John Earl of Sutherland the lands of Comyr Straglasche and all others belonging to the deceased John Cheisholme of Comyr, in her hands since his decease.⁵ In 1577 King James VI. confirmed a grant in liferent by Alexander Chisholme of Comber to Jonet M'Kenze the sister german of Colin M'Kenze of Kintail, of the lands and mill of Brakeches in the earldom of Ross, to be held of the crown.⁶ In 1584 appear in record Alexander Cheisholme of Cwmer and Wiland (*Vallenus*) Cheisholme his youngest son.⁷ In 1590 John Chisholm was served heir to his father Alexander Chisholme of Commirmore in the lands of Knokfyne, Commirmore, the two Innerchannais with the mill, Brakacheis, the woods and forest of Aufrage, Cawloue, and Bramaleche, extending to three davachs, united into the barony of Commermoir, lying in Strathglass, in the earldom of Ross, and, excepting the lands of Wester Innerchannay with the mill, and the lands of Commirmoir, of the old extent of £4.⁸

There seems to have been a town or village at Beauly in 1562.⁹ There is a modern village in the neighbourhood, but apparently not on the same site.¹⁰

Fairs are held at Beauly in May, August, October, and November.¹¹ The Muir of Ord Market is held on the third Wednesday of April, on the second Wednesday of May, on the third Wednesday of June, on the third Tuesday of July, on the third Tuesday of August, on the third Tuesday of September, on the third Tuesday of October, and on the second Wednesday of November.¹²

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 244.

² Kilravock Charters.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xix. no. 3.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 14. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 82.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 103.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliv. fol. 50.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 40.

⁸ Retours.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 481.

¹⁰ New Stat. Acc. Anderson, p. 531.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc.

¹² *Ibid.*

Ereless Castle, the seat of the Chisholms, built between 1594 and 1610, lies on the Beauly, where its stream is formed by the union of the Glass and the Farrar, about five miles above Kilmorack, and near an eminence the site of an older building and now enclosed as a family cemetery.¹

On the Muir of Ord are two upright stones, 6 feet high, said to commemorate some feat of warfare.²

In different parts of the parish are the sites or remains of cairns, and the ruins of small hill forts.³

URRAY.

Vrray⁴ — Wrray, Vurray⁵ — Urray.⁶ (Map, No. 23.)

THIS parish, now united with Kilechrist (or Tarradale) is chiefly a well cultivated plain with patches of wood and moor interspersed, stretching from east to west along the banks of the rivers Conan and Orrin, which meet about its centre.⁷ It includes also a davaeh of land in Stratheonan, distant about 10 miles from the rest of the parish.⁸

The church of Urray was the prebend of the subhanter of Ross, and was from 1541 to 1561 or longer held by Master David Haliburton.⁹ In 1546 Queen Mary presented Donald Symson to the vicarage of Vrray, when it should be vacant by the demission or decease of Sir Alexander Gray, collation to the benefice during the vacancy of the see belonging to the cardinal of Saint Andrews.¹⁰ In 1548 the same queen presented Sir Andrew Dow chaplain to the vicarage, vacant or when vacant by the resignation of Master John Carnceors precentor of Ross, collation in this case (the see being still vacant) belonging to Master Kentigern Monypenny dean and vicar general of Ross.¹¹ At the Reformation the vicar was Sir Alexander Peddir, who in the rental of the assumption of thirds (1561-1566) is stated to have been vicar 'the space of thir four yeiris bygane or thairly.'¹² In 1569 (11 October) King James VI. presented Alexander Greirsoun to the vicarage of Vrray, vacant by the decease of Sir Alexander Pedder.¹³ In the same year (13 December) he presented to the vicarage, vacant by the decease of the same Alexander, Donald Adamsoun exhorter at the kirks of Dingwell and Vrray.¹⁴ In 1573 the same king presented Donald Adamesoun minister at Vrray to the parsonage of Vrray, 'quihilk is the subhanterie of Ros, quihilk pertenit of befor to Mr. Daud Halyburton provest of Methven, and throw his inobedienee and noeht geving of his assent and subscribing the actis of religioun contentit in the actis

¹ Anderson's Guide, p. 535. County Maps. Paper in Inverness Courier, 6 September 1849.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ A. D. 1546. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 65. A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 75. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 96. A. D. 1573. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 107. A. D. 1579. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 62.

⁵ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Circa A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers. A. D.

1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1576. Ibid. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

⁸ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 159. Book of Assumptions. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 107.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 65.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 75.

¹² Book of Assumptions.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 96.

¹⁴ Ibid.

of parliament, and for non-geving of his aith for acknowleging of oure Souerane Lord and his authoritie and dew obedience, and for not bringing of ane testimoniall in writ thairpoun and not reiding of the same oppinlie on sum Sondag in tyme of publict prayeris or sermon in the kirkis of the said subclanterie, and nocht geving of his aith of new agane in the saidis kirkis within the tyme prefixit in the act of parliament, is now vacand *ipso facto* and becum in oure Souerane Lordis handis.¹ In 1574 Donald Adamsoun (the presentee of the former year) was minister at Urray, Contane, Kirkechrist, and Foddertie, and Angus M'Neill M'Kenzie was reader at Urray.² In 1579 King James VI. presented William Kitehie to the vicarage of Vrray, then vacant by the demission of Donald Adamesonn.³

The church, apparently built about the year 1780, stands near the confluence of the Conan and the Orrin (styled by Blaeu Avon Forbarin), but, from the frequent shifting of the bed of the latter, probably not on the original site.⁴

On a hillock among the woods of Conanhouse, at one time an island in the river, are a ruined chapel and its cemetery.⁵

In Baiamund the subclanthy of Ross is taxed at £4; in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £40.⁶ At the Reformation the rental of the parsonage of Vrray, presented by Mr John Dumber, was in effect as follows—The teinds of Brain extending yearly to 20 marks; Kingis Vrray II marks; Arekyne 26 marks; Eistir Farbrowne 5 marks; Andirquhenren 40s.; Killquhilliedrum 7 marks; Mekill Moy with Murdoch M'Cenzie's feu lands £50; in all £102, 13s. 4d.⁷ At the same date Sir Alexander Peddir the vicar states that the vicarage 'was quhen guid payment was maid worth yeirlie xx lib., and now nothing gottin thir thrie yeiris.⁸ Between 1569 and 1573 Donald Adamsone exhorter had as his stipend £40 (apparently the parsonage), and £8, 7s. 1d. the amount of the vicarage.⁹ In 1574 and 1576 the same Donald Adamsoun as minister had for his stipend £102, 13s. 4d., the kirklands, and apparently other perquisites, and the reader had yearly £16.¹⁰

In the year 1370 William Earl of Ross granted to William of Ross, the son and heir of the deceased Hugh of Ross, the half davach of Moy in the mairdom (*maragium*) of Strapeffer.¹¹ Among the lands granted by King James III. to Elizabeth Countess of Ross in 1476, and confirmed to her by that king in 1477, were included Owra, Ballibrahede, Illiculdrum, Ballingovne, and Balliblare.¹² In the tenandry of Culmelloquhy, granted by King James V. to Walter Innes of Tulehis in 1526 and 1527, were included the mill of Kilkulllodrum with its land and houses, and the lands of Ord, extending respectively in the king's rental to £3 and 26s. 8d., the respective yearly payments according to the grant of 1527 being £4, 6s. 8d. and 40s.¹³ In the latter

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 107.

² Book of Assiguations.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 62.

⁴ Macfarlane. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

⁵ My Schools and Schoolmasters, p. 187. About the year 1821 the font of the chapel remained, and was connected with a curious local tradition. *Ibid.* pp. 194, 195.

⁶ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁷ Book of Assumptions.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Register of Ministers.

¹⁰ Book of Assiguations.

¹¹ Balmagown Charters.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371; lib. viii. no. 40. See DINGWALL, pp. 488, 489.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 7; lib. xxii. no. 4. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 34; vol. vii. fol. 34. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 317. See ALNESS, p. 474.

year the same king granted to William Dingvale of Kildun the lands of Westir Ferburn and Middill Ferburn, extending in the King's rental to 10 marks, and the fishing of the Esche of Balbrait extending to 2 marks, included in the same grant with other lands extending in all to £23, 13s. 4d., 4 bolls victual, and a mart.¹ In 1528 King James V. granted to Walter Innes of Towclis the lands of Culcragy and Kirkfarbarne in the earldom of Ross, and annexed them to the tenantry of Culmaloquhy.² In the same year he granted to John M'Kinze of Kintail the £4 land of Killequhildrum, and to William M'Culloch the lands of Mekill Moy, the latter grantee paying yearly 10 marks 8 shillings, 8 bolls of bear, 8 bolls of meal, 8 bolls of oats, 2 marts, and 2 muttuns, to augment the King's rental by 13s. 4d. in ferme and grassum.³ In 1538 the King granted to Walter Innes for five years the lands of Fairburnegleis, Ord, and the mill and alehouse of Kilquhillardrum, with other lands.⁴ In 1542 (1 April) he granted in heritage to his servitor Murdoch M'Kenze the lands of Ferbrune, extending yearly in his rental, in ferme, grassum, bondage silver, and other profits, to £5, 16s. and one reek hen—the lands of Kirkferbrune or Ferbrune-ne-egles, extending to £3, 8s. and a reek hen—the lands of Auchnasoil, extending to £3, 5s. 4d., 3 bolls of meal, 3 bolls of oats, a mart, a mutton, and 4 reek hens—the lands of Ballabraid, extending to £6, 4s. 4d. and 8 reek hens—and the fishing of Ballabraid called the Ess, extending to £3, 4s. Scots—the grantee paying yearly for the whole £23, 11s. 4d., 3 bolls of bear, 3 bolls of meal, 3 bolls of oats, or 6s. 8d. for each boll, a mart or 2 marks, a mutton or 3 shillings, and 14 reek hens or 4d. for each, in order to augment the King's rental by 13s. 4d.⁵ In the same year (28 July) King James granted to the same Murdoch the lands of Myd Fairbrone, Kirk Fairbrone alias Eglis, Auchnasowle, Ballabraid, the fishing of Ballabraid called the Ess, and the lands of Moynoir, for the yearly payment of £30, 17s. 4d., 9 bolls of bear, 9 bolls of oat meal, 9 bolls of oats, 3 muttuns, 3 marts, and 23 reek hens, to augment his rental by the sum of 26s. 8d.⁶ In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Murdach M'Kenze of Farebren and Meriobel Vrqhart his wife the lands of Ballevrayd of the new extent of £8, and the 40 shilling lands of Moy, in the earldom of Ross, which Murdach had resigned.⁷ In 1555 Murdoch M'Kenze of Farabren witnesses a charter of Thomas Dingwell of Kildun.⁸ In 1584 King James VI. granted in heritage to Sir Andrew Keith certain lands, including those of Wester Fairbarne and Arcon; the grantee paying yearly for Wester Fairbarne £4, 10s. with 8 shillings of bondage silver and one reek hen—and for Arcon £4, 4s. 4d., 12 bolls of bear, 12 bolls of oatmeal, 6 bolls of oats, 2 marts, 2 muttuns, 8s. of bondage silver, 8 reek hens, 2 loads of fir, 60 'girthstingis,' 60 loads of turfs or peats, *vulgo* 'fewall,' as good and sufficient as in Ardmannoch, and 100 draughts of the said fuel.⁹ In the same year King James confirmed a charter of John bishop of Ross, granting to Alexander Bayne of Tullich and Agnes Fraser his wife, and to their heirs born

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 36. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 53; vol. vii. fol. 57.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 133. See ALNESS, p. 474.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. nn. 249, 250. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 14.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 75.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 174. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 100.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 289. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 36.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 72.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 269.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 87, 88. See DINGWALL, p. 491.

between them, with remainder to Alexander's heirs whomsoever, the lands of Vrray, extending to a quarter davach, then in Alexander's hands; and also a charter by the same bishop, granting to Alexander M'Culloch of Stronomadie for life, and to William M'Culloch his first-born son and his heirs male, with remainder to his second son Duncan and his heirs male, his third son Alexander and his heirs male, his fourth son (unnamed) and his heirs male, and to the male heirs whomsoever of the elder Alexander, the lands of Litill Moy, extending to the fourth of a davach, then occupied by Alexander, with the salmon fishing on the water of Connan belonging to the lands, if any.¹ In 1586 the same king granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe, for his good service and other causes, certain lands in Ross, including Vrra, Kilquhillardrum, Ord with the mill and alehouse of Bawblair, Balnagoun, and others; the grantee paying yearly for Vrra 40s., with 4s. of bondage silver, and 4 poultry, and every five years £4 as grassum—for Kilquhillardrum £6, with 8s. of bondage silver, a reek hen, and £6 as grassum—for Ord 40s., with 4s. of bondage silver, 8 poultry, 26s. 8d. grassum, and the usual services—for the mill of Kilquhillardrum with the multures, 2 chalders victual half bear half meal, and for the alehouse 40s., with the same sum as grassum—for Bawblair 40s., with 2s. of bondage silver, one poultry, 40s. of grassum, and the usual services—and for Balnagoun 46s. 8d., with 4s. of bondage silver, 2 reek hens, 46s. 8d. grassum, and the usual services.² In 1590 Alexander M'Kenzie was served heir to his father Murdoe M'Kenze of Ferbrone in the lands of Mid Ferbrone of the extent of £5, 16s. feuferme, the lands of Kyrk Ferbrone alias Eglis of the extent of £3 and other dues, the lands of Auchinsaul of the extent of £3, 5s. 4d. feuferme, the lands of Ballebraid of the extent of £7, 4s. feuferme, the fishing of Ballebraid called the Es of the extent of £3, 4s. feuferme, and the lands of Moymoir of the extent of £6, 13s. 4d.³ In 1619 Colin lord of Kintail was served heir male to his grandfather Colin Makkeinzie of Kyntail in the lordship and barony of Dingwall, including the lands of Wester Fairbrone of the extent of £4, 13s. and other dues, and the lands of Arcon of the extent of £4, 4s. 4d.⁴

In 1526 King James V. granted to his familiar servitor Robert Gib the lands of Branmore in the lordship of Ros, extending in the King's rental to £6 yearly, for the yearly payment of 10 marks.⁵ In 1538 he granted to the same Robert the same lands, extending yearly to 10 marks 10 shillings and 8 pence, for the yearly payment of 10 marks 17 shillings in augmentation of his rental by 6s. 4d.⁶ In 1541 the same king granted to John M'Kenze of Kintale the lands of Mekill Brawane, extending yearly to £6 in the King's rental, and in grassum and other dues to 24 shillings, for the yearly payment of £8 Scots in augmentation of the rental by 16 shillings.⁷ In 1542 he granted to Duncan Bayne the lands of Tulehe and others, with the astricted multures and suckin of certain other lands including Brawane.⁸ In 1543 Queen Mary granted in heritage to Kenneth Mackenze the son and apparent heir of John Mackenze of Kintail, and to Isabel

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. f. 34, 41.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. f. 46-48.

³ Retours.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 133. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 20; vol. vii. fol. 19.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 72.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 51. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 29.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 306. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 36.

Stewart his wife, the lands of Mekill Braane in the lordship of Ross, which with other lands extending to 36 marks John Mackenzie had resigned.¹ In 1554 and 1557 Kenneth Mackenzie of Brahan appears in record.² In 1574 Colin M'Keinzie of Kintail was served heir to Kenneth M'Keinzie his father in the lands of Meikill Brayne in the earldom of Ross, of the old extent of £8.³ In 1600 Duncan Bane of Tullich was served heir to his father Alexander Bane of Tullich in the astricted cultures and suckin of the lands of Brawane.⁴

On the left bank of the river Orrin stands the ruined tower of Fairburn (of old Ferbrune, Ferbarin, or Forbarin, originally built without a door, and accessible only by a ladder through one of the windows.)⁵

On the north of the Conan is Brahan Castle, the seat of the Mackenzies.⁶ In a barrow near it, opened during the last century, was found an urn, polished or varnished inside and outside, and containing a few pieces of bone.⁷ Other barrows opened about the same date contained human bones, and fragments of armour apparently of copper.⁸

KILCHRIST.

Taruedal⁹ — Tarridie¹⁰ — Kylechristan¹¹ — Kirkechrist¹² — Killecreist¹³ —
Kilchrist.¹⁴ (Map, No. 24.)

THIS parish, now united to Urray, seems to have included only a small district (anciently known as Taruedal or Tarradale), forming the south east portion of the united parish, and bounded on the south by the Moray Firth.

Among the witnesses to a grant in favour of the chaplain of Saint Peter at Duffus (in Moray), made in 1240 by Walter de Moravia the son of Hugh de Moravia, appears Ada the chaplain rector of Taruedal.¹⁵ In 1274 a controversy which had arisen between the prior of Beaully and Master Henry of Fottyngham rector of the church of Taruedal was settled as follows; That the prior should freely have the tithes of all the land belonging to the church for a term of eight years from the feast of Pentecost 1275—that during that time he should entertain at his own expense the said Master Henry with two horses and two grooms for the half of each year—and that during the same period Master Henry should protect and faithfully serve the prior and

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 524. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 56.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 359; lib. xxxii. no. 211. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. fol. 54.

³ Retours.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. County Maps. Miller's 'Schools and Schoolmasters,' p. 138.

⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ Ibid.

⁹ A. D. 1240. Reg. Morav. p. 275. A. D. 1274. Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane. In the Reg. Morav. the word is misprinted *Carnedal*.

¹⁰ A. D. 1372. Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹¹ *Circa* A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers.

¹² A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

¹³ A. D. 1584. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 90.

¹⁴ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

A. D. 1603. Gregory, pp. 302, 303.

¹⁵ Reg. Morav., p. 275.

convent as often as required.¹ In the year 1372 William Earl of Ross is said to have granted 'the kirk of Tarridie in Ross' to the canons of Fearn.² About the year 1569 Master Alexander Makkenze was reader at Kyllarnane and Kylechristan.³ In 1574 the churches of Urray, Contane, Kirkechrist, and Foddertie, were under one minister, and the office of reader at Kirkechrist was vacant.⁴ In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Alexander Horne canon of the church of Ross, granting with consent of the dean and chapter to George Monro of Dalquhartie in heritage the churchlands of his prebend called Killecreist with the parsonage tithes included, lying in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes, and also the prebendary's manse with its pertinents lying as above.⁵

The church, dedicated to the Saviour, stood about three miles south east from the church of Urray, where its ruins and cemetery still remain.⁶

About 1569 the reader at Kyllarnane and Kylechristan had for his stipend £20.⁷ In 1574 Donald Adamsoun, minister at Kirkechrist and other churches, had for his stipend £102, 13s. 4d., the kirklands, and other dues; and the reader at Kirkechrist had 20 marks and the kirklands.⁸

Between the years 1275 and 1294 David of Innerlunan, with the consent of Gillicrist Macgilliduff, quit-claimed to the monks of Beaulieu his land of Ouchterwaddale (or Onachtervadal) extending to a half davach, which he held on lease from Gillicrist, who granted the land to the monks.⁹ In 1309 King Robert Bruce granted to Hugh Ross the lands of Taruedelle and Inuerasren.¹⁰ In 1476, on the forfeiture of John Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, King James III. granted to Elizabeth Countess of Ross for her maintenance certain lands, including Ballingovne, Hiltountardel, Balliblare, and the lands of the castle of Tardale, in the earldom of Ross, which she had in conjunct infefment with her husband before his forfeiture.¹¹ In 1477 on attaining his majority he confirmed the grant.¹² In 1526 and 1527 the mill of Tarradale, and the lands, crofts, and houses, were included in the tenandry of Culmelloquy granted by James V. to Walter Innes of Tulchis, the grantee paying yearly in 1526 the sum of 26s. 8d., and in 1527 the sum of 33s. 4d.¹³ In 1538 the mill was included in a grant of the same lands for 5 years by the same king to the same Walter.¹⁴ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe certain lands in Ross, including Bawblair, Balnagown, Balnakuok, and Tarradail with the mill; the grantee paying yearly for Balnakuok or Hiltoun of Tarradail 46s. 8d., with 4s. of bondage silver, 4 reek hens, 60 loads of peats, with the usual services, and 46s. 8d. every five

¹ Beaulieu Charters *apud* Macfarlane. This agreement is witnessed by Sir William the dean of Moray, Sir Walter Sureys the official of Moray, Sir Robert the vicar of Duffhus, Sir William the prior of Pluscardyn, and Robert of Bosyll his fellow monk.

² Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

³ Register of Ministers.

⁴ Book of Assignations.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 90.

⁶ Macfarlane. New Stat. Acc. County Maps. Miller's 'Schools and Schoolmasters,' pp. 167, 168.

⁷ Register of Ministers.

⁸ Book of Assignations.

⁹ Beaulieu Charters *apud* Macfarlane. The charter of David of Innerlunan had the seal of Walter de Moravia appended, and was witnessed by Sir Andrew de Moravia.

¹⁰ Rob. Index, p. 2, no. 59.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 371.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 49.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 7; lib. xxii. no. 4.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 34; vol. vii. fol. 34. See ALNESS, p. 474.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 75.

years as grassum—for Tarradail with the alehouse £5, 6s. 8d., one poultry, 8s. of bondage silver, £5, 6s. 8d. as grassum, and the usual services—and for the mill of Tarradail with the miltures and croft 33s. 4d.¹ In 1599, by a contract between William Ros of Kilravok and Rorie M'Kenye of Ardafailie, it was agreed that Murdoch the son and apparent heir of Rorie should marry Margaret the daughter of William Ros; that Rorie should infest Murdoch and Margaret in certain lands, including the quarter lands of the Hiltoun of Tarradell; and that William should pay to Rorie and his daughter 4500 marks Scots.² In 1635 Alexander Bayne was served heir male and of provision to his father Duncan Bayne of Tullich in the half davaeh of Tarradill with the alehouse and its croft, in the barony of Delny then newly erected, of the extent of £6, 16s. and other dues.³

In the year 1278 a charter by Andrew de Boscho and Elizabeth his wife to the monks of Beaully, dated at Eddyrdor, is witnessed by Colin Gove the constable of Taruedal.⁴ The castle of Tardale, as we have seen, occurs in record in 1476.⁵ 'Two myl thence (that is, from Killearnan),' says a writer of the seventeenth century, 'Tarradill with the old castle of Tarradill; a myl thence is Kilchrist with a kirk.'⁶

'Two myl thence,' continues the same writer, is 'Achaichroisk with manie ancient monuments betwix.'⁷

In 1603 the Clanranald of Glengarry plundered the lands of Kilchrist and the adjacent lands belonging to the Mackenzies, and the inhabitants, who were assembled in the church, were there burned to death by the invaders, whose piper meanwhile marched round the building playing a pibroch which has since been known under the name of Kilchrist as the family tune of the Clanranald.⁸

K I L L E A R N A N .

Eddyrdor⁹ — Kilearnane¹⁰ — Kyllarnane¹¹ — Killemane¹² — Kirewran¹³ —
Killearnan.¹⁴ (Map, No. 25.)

In 1756 a part of Kilmuir Wester and a part of Suddy (which in that year were united, and which bound Killearnan on the east and north east) were annexed to Killearnan, and a part of the latter was annexed to the united parish.¹⁵

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48. See URRAY, p. 521.

² Kilravock Charters.

³ Retours.

⁴ Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

⁵ See above.

⁶ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Gregory, p. 302, and authorities there cited. 'My Schools and Schoolmasters,' p. 168.

⁹ A. D. 1278. Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

¹⁰ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

¹¹ Circa A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers.

¹² A. D. 1574-1576. Book of Assignations.

¹³ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁴ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁵ Old Stat. Acc.

The parish of Killearnan rises gradually from the shore of the Moray Firth (here called the Beaully Firth or Loch Beaully) to the middle of an extensive moor named the Mulbuy (known of old as Ardmeanach, the central ridge, a name which was applied to the whole peninsula now called the Black Isle).¹

In the year 1278 a charter of Andrew de Boscho and Elisabeth his wife is witnessed by William the vicar of Eddyrdor.² The church, afterwards styled Killearnan, was part of the prebend of the archdeacon of Ross.³ In 1574 and 1576 Robert Grahame, archdeacon, was minister at Killernano, and Alexander Mackenzie was reader.⁴

The church stands on a small eminence on the shore.⁵ It is cruciform, and was originally thatched with heather, but in the end of the last century had its walls heightened and was roofed with slates.⁶

At Redcastle about half a mile west from the church stood a chapel dedicated to Saint Andrew, at which a fair was of old held about Lammass (1 August).⁷

At Spittal there is said to have been a religious foundation belonging to the Knights Hospitallers.⁸ The lands of Spittal occur in record in 1599.⁹

There was a chaplainry in the cathedral church of Ross founded on the lands of Ardafalie in this parish.¹⁰

In Baiamund the archdeaconry of Ross is rated at £8; in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. at £24, 16s.; and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £80.¹¹ In the rental of the bishoprick given in to the collector of thirds between 1561 and 1566 there is entered 'ane pairt of the teindis of the parochinis of Kilmowir and Kilername yeirlie riddin, quylis les quylis mair, estimat to 5 ch. 8 bo. comounly.'¹² About 1569 the reader at Kyllarnane had a stipend of £20.¹³ In 1574 the minister's stipend was 'the haill archidenerie of Ross, extending to xii ch. victuall and xii li. xiii s. iiiii d. money, he sustenand his readare at Killernaue,' to whom he paid yearly £16.¹⁴ In 1576 the minister had only two-thirds of the archdeaconry, and the reader the same stipend as before.¹⁵

By a charter, dated at Eddyrdor in 1278 on the Friday after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Andrew de Boscho and Elisabeth his wife granted to the monks of Beaully two marks, to be received yearly at their castle of Eddyrdor from them and their heirs or from their bailies for the time, or in their tenement of Eddirdor.¹⁶ In 1294, by an agreement made at Lovet in the Ard on Friday 26 March, Hugh of Ross (of Kilravock) and Mary his wife (the daughter of Sir Andrew de Boscho and Elizabeth Byseth) granted in heritage for eight years from Whitsunday of that year to Sir David of Graham (the brother in law of Elizabeth) a davach

¹ New Stat. Acc.

² Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

³ Book of Assignations.

⁴ *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 75.

⁵ Macfarlane. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁶ New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old Stat. Acc.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc.

⁹ Kilravock Charters. There were hospitals in Ross

in the fifteenth century. In 1457 the chancellor of Ros and William Vrqhard in Crumbathy were appointed by King James II. to assist his chancellor in visiting and reforming them. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 49.

¹⁰ See ROSEMARIE, *post.* ¹¹ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹² Book of Assumptions. ¹³ Register of Ministers.

¹⁴ Book of Assignations. ¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

of land called Culcolly in their tenement of Edirdowyr, of which they had received beforehand from Sir David the ferme for the first four years; the grantee paying yearly for these four years two pennies sterling, namely, one penny on the fifteenth day after the feast of Pentecost, and one on the fifteenth day after the feast of Saint Martin in winter—and for the second four years eight marks sterling at the same terms; reserving to Hugh and his wife and their heirs their wood (*bosco*) of Culcolly with one acre which John called Dalt formerly held.¹ It was agreed between the parties that, if the land should be laid waste by war (*guerram patrie*), it should remain in the hands of Sir David and his heirs till they should have received from it as much of the fruits as they should have lost by the war—that, if Sir David and his heirs or tenants (*firmarii*) should sustain any loss on the land through the fault of the granters or of their heirs, the land should remain with the grantees until they recovered their loss from it, or until the granters should satisfy them at the sight of trustworthy persons—that, if the granters should sustain any loss through defect of payment of the fermes at the appointed terms, the grantees should satisfy them at the sight of trustworthy persons both for their loss and for the principal debt—and that at the end of eight years the davach of Culcolly, saving those conditions, should peaceably revert to Hugh of Ross and his wife.² For nearly two centuries afterwards the history of the lands known as the lordship of Ardmanach, which included the tenement of Edirdowyr, is almost a blank, and we have only some obscure intimations in writs of the period that they were partly or wholly in the possession of the De Moravias of Duffus and of Bothwell and that the Earl of Ross was overlord.³ In 1455 the barony of Eddirdail called Ardmanaeh, and the Redcastell with the lordships of Ros belonging thereto, were annexed to the crown by King James II.⁴ In 1481 (5 April) King James III. granted to his second son James Stewart, Marquis of Ormound, the lands of the lordship of Ardmanaeh called Avauch and Netbirdul, with the moorhill (*mons*) of Ormound and the castle and fortalice of Redcastell.⁵ In the same year and month (12 April) the King confirmed the grant by a charter under his great seal.⁶ About the same period the lands and 'house' of Arthmannoch were held by George Earl of Huntlie of Queen Margaret, who in a letter without date addressed to that nobleman thanks him for his great labours 'in the recouering of the house, the keeping of the samyne, and the defence and plensyng of the landis,' stating her intention to accept as the fermes of the lands for the past terms fifty good marts for her larder at Striueling, granting to him the remainder of the dues for the keeping of the castle during the same terms, and promising that he should have the preference as lessee at next lease.⁷ In 1482 (24 June) the Earl granted to Huchone the Ros of Kilravok till 8 September following the keeping of the Reidecastell and lands of Ardmanach, which the Earl had 'in governans of our Souerane ladie the Queyne,' discharging him (in lieu of

¹ Kilravock Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane. Kilravock Charters. Regist. Moraviense. The family of Kilravock (Spalding Club).

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 42. This seems to include Edirdowyr or Killearnan, the rest of Ardmanach, and probably also the lordship of Dingwall.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ix. no. 59. MS. *penes* Edictor.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ix. no. 60. In the confirmation the lands are styled Avauch and Eddirdale, and in the other MS. cited they are Alway and Neerdaill.

⁷ Kilravock Charters.

payment) of the dues of the lands of Vrqhard and Glenmorisonne which he held of the Earl.¹ In 1485 (6 February) Robert Colvele the Queen's 'sceneschal' granted to the baron of Kilrawee a discharge for 34 marts and £16 in silver of the dues of Ardmanach.² In 1488 King James III. created his second son James Earl of Edradale or Ardmanach.³ Before the 3d of February 1492 the lands of Ardmanach and the Redecastal were taken from Hucheoun the Ros of Kilravok by Kenzo (Kenneth) Makkenze of Kintail.⁴ By an obligation dated at Lochcanmor on the 15th of July of that year George Earl of Huntly bound himself to restore to the baron of Kilrawak his lease of the Redecastal and Ardmanacht 'in sa far as resoune and law will,' together with his 'goods' which he had in the same; and to do his diligence with the King and the Earl of Bothwell for the recovery of the lease to himself and to Hucheoun.⁵ On the 16th of August of the same year (at Newark on Spey) the Earl became bound to pay to Huchon Ros of Geddas, the son and apparent heir of Huchon Ros of Kylrawok, £100 Scots for resigning the lease of 'Ardmannache and castell of the same,' and for the expenses connected therewith; which lease Huchou Ros had from the Earl's son Alexander Lord Gordonne, to whom also he resigned it; the £100 to be paid at the following Martinmas or within forty days thereafter, Patrik Gordon dwelling in Dorno being security.⁶ On the same day and at the same place Alexander Lord Gordoun granted to Hucheoun the Ros of Geddas a discharge for 200 marks Scots of the 'malis' of Ardmanach, due to him 'befor the taking of the Redecastal be Kenzo Makkenze fra the said Hucheoun,' and for 'al malis, fernys, and customis, sen the said Makkenze tuk the said eastal and landis of the Ardmanach fra the said Hucheoun.'⁷ In 1498 Alexander Finlawsone appears as 'mair and serjant' of the lordship of Ardmannoch under James Duke of Ross the brother of King James IV.⁸ In the same year that king commissioned certain persons to distrain the lands and goods of William Forbes in Strathglas, Welland Chesholme of Comar, Murquho Makcoule, Duncan Lauchlansoun, Johne Duff Makalester, Johne Johne Duffisone, Alexander Makdusone, Johne Roy Makanroy, Dougale Makaneduff, Rory Mule Makcoule, Alexander Finlaysoun, Auchaneroy Kenyeoch, Duncan Maklauchlane in the Bray of Ros, Rury Williamsoun in Moy, Donald Makanedoy, Kenyeoch M'Conleif, Donald M'Conleif, Johne Dow Makalester, and Rury Gar Makteir Makmurquhy, to the amount of certain oxen, cows, horses, sheep, goats, capons, hens, geese, victual, swine, sums of money, and other goods, taken by them from Huchone Ros of Kilrawok out of the lands of Ardmanach and the Redecastall 'the tyme that he wes capitane therof' — a commission formerly entrusted to David Ros of Balnagown the king's sheriff of Ros, and neglected by him.⁹ In 1499, on a warrant granted by George Earl of Huntly the King's lieutenant, Duncan Makynthois captain of the Clanchatane, John the Grant of Fruchy, Huchowne the Ros of Kylrawok, Alexander Crome of Inyerethnac, Alexander Keir of Ratamorkos, Lachlane Makintows of Galawe, and their accomplices, to the number of 3000, passed to Ross 'tyll birne, hary, and sla,' against Canoch Makeanehe and his kinsmen and friends dwelling in Ross, the King's rebels and at his horn for the slaughter of Harrald of Sehescheme dwelling in Straglas,

¹ Kilravock Charters.² The Family of Kilravock, p. 151.³ Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 57.⁴ Kilravock Charters. Gregory, pp. 55-57.⁵ Kilravock Charters.⁷ *Ibid.*⁸ *Ibid.*⁶ *Ibid.*⁹ *Ibid.*

and for diverse other 'herschippis, selacteris, and spowlleis' committed by Kanoeh Makkanehy and his kinsmen and accomplices of the Clankanye on the King's 'pur legis and tenandis' in the lordship of Ardmanoch.¹ In a document dated at the Newark on Spey 15 December 1499 the Earl of Huntly declares that 'quhat skath that was done at that tyme to the saidis Clynkane and thair complissis was be the Kyngis commande and ouris as luftanande.'² About the year 1503 James Duke of Ross and Earl of Edradale resigned his lands, including those of Ardmanach.³ In 1506 (6 May) King James IV. commissioned Andro bishop of Caithnes to let for five years to the tenants at the time or others the lands of the lordships of Ross and Ardmannoch formerly belonging to Elizabeth Countess of Ross, except the lands of Tarbat.⁴ In the same year (2 November) he appointed that bishop for nine years chamberlain and captain of the lands and lordships of Ross and Ardmannach, and captain of the castles of Dyngwell in Ross and of Rede-eastell in Ardmannach.⁵ In 1507 (22 March) he appointed the same bishop and another person chamberlains of the same lands, and captains of the same castles.⁶ On the following day (23 March) he appointed the bishop for nine years to the same offices.⁷ On 13 April following he commissioned the bishop and others to examine the infetments of the tenants, and to send him copies of the same.⁸ On 22 April he granted to the same bishop for three years all the fishings of both lordships.⁹ In 1511 he granted to the bishop, then his treasurer, for large sums of money and other services, for nine years the same lands and lordships, with the woods, forests, waters, lochs, yairs, and fishings, and also the castles.¹⁰ In 1524 King James V. granted the earldom of Ros and lordship of Ardmannach to James Earl of Murray.¹¹ In 1561 Queen Mary appointed George Monro of Dawcarty during her pleasure bailie and chamberlain of her lands and lordships of Ros and Ardmannach.¹² In 1568 King James VI. granted the same offices to the same George Monro during the will of the King and his Regent.¹³ In 1576 the same king granted in heritage to Thomas Murray, the brother german of David Murray of Cars, his salmon fishing on the water of Conan for three years from 1 December of that year, commanding the tenants of Ardmanoch and others to perform the services due by them.¹⁴ In 1577 he appointed Robert Monro of Fowlis bailie and chamberlain of the earldom of Ros and lordship of Ardmanoch for a year or longer according to the will of the King and Regent.¹⁵

In 1294, as we have seen, Hugh of Ross and Mary his wife granted for eight years in heritage to Sir David of Graham the davach land of Culcolly in their tenement of Edirdowyr.¹⁶ In 1511 King James IV. granted to Henry Stewart the lands of Culcowy, Drumnarnage, and Muren, with the mill of Redeastel, in the lordship of Ardmannach, extending in all to 43 marks, for

¹ Kilravock Charters.

² Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 58.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 108.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 82.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 118.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 106.

⁷ Ibid. See DINGWALL, p. 490.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 107. See DINGWALL, p. 490.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. ff. 158, 159. See DINGWALL, p. 490.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vii. fol. 92.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 4.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvii. fol. 29.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 108. See DINGWALL, p. 491.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 26.

¹⁶ Kilravock Charters. See pp. 525, 526.

the yearly payment of £41, in order to augment the King's rental by the sum of 21 marks 6 shillings and 8 pence.¹ In 1554 Queen Mary granted the same lands and mill, resigned by Robert Stewart of Muren, to John Stewart his son and apparent heir.² In 1557 a charter granted by Walter Innes, the son and heir apparent of Walter Innes of Innerbrakye, is witnessed by Thomas Leslie in Culcowy.³ In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by John Stewart of Murcane, alienating in heritage to Rodoric M'Kainzie of Arthirfairthlie the mill of Reidcastell in the lordship of Ardmanoch.⁴ In 1616 Robert Stewart was served heir male of entail and provision to his uncle Sir James Stewart of Muren in the lands of Culcowie, Drumnamarge, and Muren, in the same lordship, and of the extent of £39, 13s. 4d. feuferme.⁵ The lands of Culcowie (now Kilcoy) were afterwards held by Mackenzies, one of whom Alexander Mackenzie of Culcowie appears in record about the year 1642.⁶ In 1662 Colin M'Keanzie of Reidcastell was served heir male to his father Roderic in the mill of Reidcastell of the extent of 3 marks.⁷

In 1526 King James V. granted in heritage to Henry Dingnevale certain lands in the lordship of Ardmanach, including the lands of Ardirfalie of the extent of £5, two nuttons, and 24 capons.⁸ In 1537 he granted the same lands to Patrick Dingwall the son and heir of the deceased Henry.⁹ In 1584 and 1599 Rodoric M'Kainzie of Arthirfairthlie or Ardafalie appears in record, and in the latter year we have also Murdoch M'Kenzie his son and apparent heir.¹⁰ In 1639 Rorie M'Kenzie appears as heritable proprietor of the lands of Ardafalie.¹¹

In the parish are held two yearly fairs, one in March, the other in July, the latter apparently the same that is mentioned in the seventeenth century as being held at Saint Andrew's chapel at Redcastle.¹²

In the year 1179 King William the Lion, his brother Earl David, and his nobles, went into Ros with a great army, and built or fortified two castles, one of which is named Edirdovar, Ethirdover, or Ewerdover.¹³ In 1278, as we have seen, two marks granted to the monks of Beaully by Andrew de Boscho and Elisabeth his wife were to be paid yearly at their castle of Eddyrdor or in their tenement of Eddirdor, and the grant is dated at Eddyrdor.¹⁴ The grant of Culcolly in 1294 by Hugh of Ross and Mary his wife, although the castle is not mentioned, fixes the locality of the tenement of Edirdowyr, and consequently of the castle.¹⁵ In 1455, as we have seen, the barony of Eddirdaill called Ardmanache was with the Redcastle annexed to the crown.¹⁶ In 1481 the same barony or lordship appears as Ardmannache; its chief lands or tenement as Eddirdule, Nethirdul, or Neuerdaill; and its castle as the Redcastell.¹⁷ About the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 140.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 242. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. fol. 71.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 359.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 10.

⁵ The Family of Kilravock, pp. 332-334. ⁶ Retours.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 35. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. ff. 27, 28; vol. vii. fol. 27.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 16.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 10. Kilravock Charters.

¹¹ Kilravock Charters.

¹² New Stat. Acc. Macfarlane. See p. 525.

¹³ Ford. Scot., lib. viii. cc. 28, 76. Ext. e Var. Cron. Seecie, p. 82. Chronica de Mailros, p. 90. Hailes' Annals. Macpherson's Geographical Illustrations. The site of this castle has hitherto been considered doubtful. The notices here collected identify it beyond doubt with the Redcastle in Ardmanach.

¹⁴ Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane. See p. 525.

¹⁵ Kilravock Charters. See The Family of Kilravock, pp. 109, 110.

¹⁶ See p. 526.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

year 1482 the castle appears under the same name and also as the house of Arthmannoch.¹ In 1484 the Lords of Council sentenced certain persons to enter themselves in ward in various castles, and of these James Thomsoun, John Wallace, and Patrick Nelesoun were ordered to enter their persons in the Redecastell.² In 1488, as we have seen, King James IV. created his son James Stewart Earl of Edradale or Ardmanach; and about 1503, when the latter resigned his lands, he retained the Redecastle of Ardmanoch in order to preserve his style of Earl.³ The rest of the history of the Redecastle or castle of Ardmanoch previously to the year 1526 is given above.⁴ In that year King James V. granted to his familiar servant Henry Kempt the lands of Gargestoun, then extending in his rental to £6, 13s. 4d., 8 bolls of bear, one mart, and one mutton, and the lands of Hiltoun of the same extent, in the lordship of Ardmanach; and also the lands of Newtown in the same lordship belonging to the ward of the castle of Reidecastell, together with the constabulary and keeping of that castle also in that lordship, with all its lands and dues, and the power of making constables; the grantee paying yearly for Gargestoun and Hiltoun £17, 24 bolls of bear, 2 marts, and 2 muttons, in augmentation of the King's rental by £3, 13s. 4d.⁵ In 1531 the same king granted to Robert Innes, the son and heir apparent of Robert Innes of Innermarky, and to his tenants, the same lands and castle for 19 years, for the same yearly payment, ' defalcand to him and thame for the saidis martis and mvttonis in payment of the said sovm siclike as is defalcate to vthiris tennentis of the said lordschip in tymis bygane.'⁶ In 1533 he granted the same lands with the mill and alehouse and the keeping of the Redecastell for 19 years to Robert Innes of Innermarky for his good service on the borders in the army of the Regent Murray.⁷ In 1545 Queen Mary granted to (apparently) the same Robert Innes of Innermarky the same lands and castle, stated in the grant to have been resigned by Henry Kempt of Thomastoun.⁸ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe various lands in Ross, including the lands and towns of Gargastoun, Newtown of Reidecastell with the alehouse, and Hiltoun; the grantee paying yearly for Gargastoun £7, 14s. 8d., with 8 bolls 2 firlots of bear, one mart, one mutton, 20s. of bondage silver, 5 reek hens, and 80 loads of fuel, and every 5 years £7, 14s. 8d. as grassum — for Newtown £14, 6s. 8d., with 2 chalders 2 bolls of bear, 2 marts, 2 muttons, 40s. of bondage silver, one reek hen, and £14, 6s. 8d. as grassum — for the alehouse of Newtown 26s. 8d., and the same sum as grassum — and for Hiltoun £7, 4s. 8d., with 1 chalder 1 boll of bear, one mart, one mutton, 20s. of bondage silver, 8 poultry, 80 loads of fuel, and £7, 4s. 8d. grassum.⁹ In 1599, by a contract dated at the canonry of Ros on the 13th of June, it was agreed between Wiliam Ros of Kilravok and Rorie M'Kenzie of Ardafailie, that Murdoch M'Kenzie, the son and apparent heir of Rorie, should marry Margaret Ros the daughter of William — that Rorie should infest Murdoch and Margaret in the davach land of Killewnan and Spittall with the alehouse and its croft, the three quarter lands of the town and lands of

¹ See p. 526.² See DINGWALL, p. 497.³ Add. Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 58. ⁴ See p. 528.⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 81. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 47; vol. vii. fol. 49.⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 9.⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. ff. 184, 185.⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 48.⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

Gargastoun, and the quarter lands of Hiltoun of Tarradell — and that William Ros should pay to Rorie and his daughter the sum of 4500 marks Scots.¹ In 1662 Colin M'Keanzie of Reidecastell was served heir-male to his father Roderic M'Keanzie of Reidecastell in the lands of Gargristoun, of the extent of £7, 13s. 8d.; the town and lands of Newtoun of Reidecastell, of the extent of £13, 6s. 8d.; the alehouse of Newtoun of the extent of 26s. 8d.; and the smith's croft of the same extent, in the same town of Newtoun of Reidecastell.² A writer of the same century styles the castle 'Castel Riwy' and 'the house of Redcastle.'³ A writer of the last century says that the castle was a place of considerable strength, and that it had the rights of a burgh of barony, of a free port, of weekly markets, of levying tolls and anchorage dues, and all other baronial privileges not abrogated in 1748.⁴ The Redcastle, modernised and still inhabited, stands on the shore about a quarter of a mile east from the church.⁵

The castle of Kilcoy (Culcolly), now a ruin, stands on the height above the Redcastle, a short distance inland.⁶

The parish formerly abounded with cairns, one of which in the north of the parish bears the name of Cairn Irenan, supposed to be the origin of Killearnan, and to be the name of a Danish prince slain at the place.⁷

K I L M U I R W E S T E R .

Kilmowir⁸ — Kilmowr⁹ — Kilmur¹⁰ — Kylmuir Westir¹¹ — Kilmure¹² —
Kilmuir Westir¹³ — Kilmure Westir¹⁴ — Kilmuir¹⁵ — Killimure¹⁶ —
Kilmorie, Kilmoor.¹⁷ (Map, No. 26.)

In 1756 the parishes of Kilmuir and Suddy were united, a part of each was added to Killearnan, and a part of Killearnan added to the united parish.¹⁸

The parish of Kilmuir Wester seems to have stretched along the shore of the Moray Firth from Kessoek to Munlochy Bay, running inland for about three miles, and becoming gradually narrower as it receded from the shore. It has no high hills, and its surface is composed chiefly of cultivated tracts and moor.

¹ Kilravock Charters. 'Ardafailie,' written also 'Ardifaill,' 'Ardirfalie,' and in various other forms, seems to be the modern representative of the name 'Edirdover' or 'Eddirdale.'

² Retours. ³ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Macfarlane. Blaen. Modern Maps. New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Anderson, p. 501. New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁸ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁹ A. D. 1561-1566. Ibid.

¹⁰ A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 31.

¹¹ Circa A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers.

¹² A. D. 1573. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 126.

¹³ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

¹⁴ A. D. 1585. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 75.

¹⁵ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen.

¹⁶ A. D. 1649. Kilravock Charters.

¹⁷ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁸ Old Stat. Acc.

This church first appears in record between the years 1561 and 1566, at which time Sir David Barchan was vicar of Suddy and Kilmowr.¹ In 1569 King James VI. presented John Reid (successively reader and exhorter) to the vicarage of Kilmur, vacant by the decease of the same Sir David.² In 1573 he presented John Ros to the vicarage of Kilmure and Suddy, vacant by the decease of John Reid.³ In 1574 Andro Myll was minister at Kilmuir Westir and other three churches, and the reader at Kilmuir Westir was John Ros, apparently the person presented to the vicarage in 1573.⁴ In 1579 Alexander Vreghart dean of Ross, with the consent of the canons during the vacancy of the see, leased for life to Robert Grahame archdeacon of Ross, for life to his nearest heir, and for 19 years to his nearest heir's heir and his heirs, the teind sheaves and teind wedders of the two Culmawris, Drynys, and Slego, in the parish of Kilmure Westir, beginning at Lammas (1 August) of that year.⁵ In 1585 the lease was confirmed by King James VI.⁶

The church stood on a small eminence in the south-east of the parish on the shore of the Moray Firth.⁷ Its cemetery seems to be still in use.⁸ The church of the united parish, built in 1764, stands at Knockbain on Munlochay bay.⁹

There was a chapel at Handach or Haldach in this parish, the patronage and tithes of which in 1673 belonged to Alexander Brodie of Lethin (in Nairn), and formed part of his lordship, barony, or regality of Kinloss.¹⁰

Between the years 1561 and 1566 the bishop of Ross states a part of the teinds of Kilmowir and Kilernane at 5 chalders 8 bolls.¹¹ At the same period the rental of the vicarages of Suddy and Kilmowr is stated as follows by Sir David Barchan the vicar — 'The saidis twa vicarages in tyme bygane, quhen all dewteis and teindis was dewlie payit, sic as lamb, woll, stirk, buttir, cheis, teind aill, corspresentis, and Pash fynis, and teind lynt and hempt, and teind fishes of the steill of Kissok, was worth in [comonn] yeiris xx merkis, and now thir twa yeiris bygane nothing gottin.'¹² Previously to 1573 we have on record the following statement — 'John Reid, reidar, xx li. Beltym 1568, now exhortar sen November 1569, his stipend xl lib., and now vicare of Kilmuir, extending to iiii li. vi s. ix d., to be allowit in his stipend sen lxx yeiris crope.'¹³ In 1574 the reader at Kilmuir Westir had for his stipend £6, 13s. 4d., the kirklands, and some other perquisites.¹⁴

By a charter dated at Dyngvale 8 August 1394 Eufame Countess of Ros granted to Sir George of Lesly lord of Rothes the ward and relief of the lands of Culmor, which formerly belonged to John of Monymusk; granting him also the lands and their dues till the entry of the lawful heirs.¹⁵ In 1454 Andrew Urrie of Forglen was served heir to his brother John of Monimosk, who died vest and seised in the lands of Culmore.¹⁶ In 1460 the same lands were acquired

¹ Book of Assumptions.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 31. Register of Ministers.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 126.

⁴ Book of Assignations.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lli. fol. 75.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Macfarlane. MS. Maps. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Book of Assumptions.

¹¹ Register of Ministers.

¹² Book of Assignations.

¹³ Kilmuir Charters.

¹⁴ The Family of Kilmuir, p. 139.

¹⁵ Retours.

¹⁶ Ibid.

by Robert Hunter of Balnirk.¹ In 1474 the same Robert sued John Earl of Ross for withholding from him the lands of Culmor and the dues of the same for 13 years, extending yearly to 20 marks, contrary to various acts of parliament and council, and in contempt of the King's mandates.² The Earl not appearing when cited, the Lords Auditors ordained that Robert Hunter should enjoy the lands of Culmor undisturbed by the Earl, that the latter should pay to Robert the dues for the time specified, and that the nearest lands and goods of the Earl should be distrained for the same.³ In 1482 Master James Hunter of Culmore rector of Cranstoun (the son of Robert Hunter) sold the lands of Culmore to Hugh le Ross baron of Kilrawak, to whom in 1485 King James III. granted a crown charter of the lands.⁴ In 1498 Huchoun Ross of Kilrawok (the son of the former) complained to King James IV. that James Duke of Ross the King's brother had obtained the King's warrant for the restoration of certain 'goods' which Huchoun had lawfully distrained for the dues of his lands of Culmore for three terms.⁵ In consequence of this complaint the King (13 July) ordered Alexander Finlawsone 'mair and serjant' of the lordship of Ardmannoch to appear before him and his council at Aberdeen or elsewhere on 8 November or next lawful day, to answer for withholding from Huchoun Ross the sum of 10 marks with the 'mare' of the dues for two terms of the lands of Culmore, and all other dues of the lands for those two terms, assigned by the King to Huchoun a year before his entry to the lands in the year 1495.⁶ In 1517 Hugh Ross of Kilrawok was served heir to his father Hugh Ross in the lands of Culmoir in the earldom of Ross, of the old extent of 15 marks.⁷ In 1527 King James V. granted to James Dunbar, the son of Master Patrick Dunbar, certain subjects in the lordship of Ardmannach, including the lands of Westir Haldach, extending to £4, 10 bolls of bear, 2 bolls of oats, the half of a mart, the half of a mutton, 2 dozen poultry, and 8 loads of turfs, the grantee paying 13s. in lieu of the victual—the lands of Estir Haldach, extending to 40s., 4 bolls of oatmeal, 1 boll of bear, the fourth of a mart, the fourth of a mutton, and 4 loads of turf, the grantee paying 5s. 6d. instead of the victual—the alehouse with its croft, extending to 20s.—the smethy-croft extending to 8s.—the croft of Petrislaw, extending to 12s.—and the Mariscroft extending to 13s. 4d.—with other lands: of all which the chief messuage was to be Casteltoun (in Avoch).⁸ In 1530 the same king granted to Hugh Ros of Kilrawak and Agnes Urquhart his wife the lands of Coulmore and half the lands of Dawaucht in the lordship of Ardmannach, which Hugh Ros had resigned.⁹ In 1542 the same king, understanding that Huchoun Rose of Kilrawok and his servants had recently resisted the arrestment of their corn by the sheriff of Narne and his deputies at the instance of the bishop of Moray on the lands of Cowmore in the barony of Kilrawok and sheriffdom of Narne, and had thereby incurred confiscation of their goods and imprisonment of their persons, for the good service done by Huchoun Rose and for other causes remitted to himself and servants all crime incurred on that account.¹⁰ In 1572 King James VI. confirmed a

¹ The Family of Kilravock, p. 139. Acta Aud., p. 30.² Acta Auditorum, p. 30.³ Ibid.⁷ Retours.⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 95.⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xi. no. 21.⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiv. no. 12. Reg. Sec. Sig.,⁵ Kilravock Charters.⁶ Ibid. vol. viii. fol. 184.¹⁰ Kilravock Charters.

grant by Hugh Ros of Kilrawak to Catherine Falconar his wife of the liferent of the lands of Myd Culmoir and Westir Culmoir.¹ In 1580 he confirmed a grant in liferent by the same Hugh to the same Katharine of the lauds of Eister and Mid Culmoir, and the lands of Haldacht with the kiln (*torrali*) of the same called Toldegormok, with the fishing of the 'yair' and other pertinents, in the lordship of Ardmanach, earldom of Ros, and sheriffdom of Inverness.² In 1586 the same king granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe various lands in Ross, including those of Wester Half Daokis, the grantee paying yearly for the latter £4, 8s. 8d., with 10 bolls, 2 firloths, 2 pecks of bear, 4 bolls of oats, 3½ marts, half a mutton, 10s. bondage silver, 2 dozen poultry, 3 reek hens, and 40 loads of fuel, and as grassum every five years, £4, 8s. 8d.³ In 1611 Hugh Ross of Kilrawock was served heir to his father William Ross in the lands of Culmoir with the 'steall' and 'yearis,' the fishings of herring and salmon, and the 'quhytt fishing,' with the parts called Easter Culmoir, Middle Culmoir, Haddoche, Torgarmoche, the alehouse and alehouse crofts; all which were then of the yearly value of £16, and in time of peace were worth yearly £4.⁴ In 1635, on a complaint by Huchone Ros of Kilrawak against the dean of Ross and others, titulars and tacksmen of the lands of Culmoir, Eister and Westir, Haddoche, and Torgormak, belonging to him in heritage, that through their negligence the teinds of those lands had not been valued according to act of parliament, a new summons of valuation was granted to him by King Charles I.⁵ In 1639 the marches were settled between the lands of Ardañalie (in Killearnan) belonging in heritage to Rorie M'Kenzie of Reidcastell, and the lands of Leadanaeche (Le Davach ?) and Torgormach (in Kilmuir) belonging in heritage to Houehoun Ros of Kilraoock.⁶ A controversy which arose in 1640 between Alexander M'Kenzie of Culcowie and Huchoum Ros of Kilraoock respecting the privilege of casting peats in the 'Mouth of Muilbuy,' which Kilraoock claimed in right of his lands of Culmores, and which gave rise to a litigation, seems to have ended only in 1678, when the lands of Culmore were sold to Colin Mackenzie of Redcastle.⁷

In the year 1437 Alexander of Ile, Earl of Ross and Lord of the Isles, granted to the Friars Preachers of Innernys 20s. of yearly rent from his land and ferry of Estir Kessok.⁸ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe Eister Kessok, the ferry of Kessok, and the stell of Kessok with the alehouse; the grantee paying yearly for Eistir Kessok £3, 6s. 8d., 12 capons, 2 muttons, 10 poultry, and 10s. bondage silver, with £3, 6s. 8d. every five years as grassum—for the ferry £6 yearly and £6 every five years as grassum—for the stell 13s. 4d. and the same as grassum—and for the alehouse the same as for the stell.⁹ In 1662 Colin M'Keanzie of Reidcastell was served heir male to his father Roderic in the town and lands of Eister Kessock, of the extent of £3, 6s. 8d.—the ferry of Kessock, of the extent of £6—the stell of Kessock, of the extent of 13s. 4d.—and the alehouse, of the extent of 13s. 8d.¹⁰

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 91.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 95.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

⁴ Kilravock Charters.

⁶ Kilravock Charters.

⁷ The Family of Kilravock, pp. 332-334.

⁸ Charter in Northern Institution Inverness.

⁵ Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

¹⁰ Retours.

In 1526 King James V. granted to Henry Dingnevale certain lands in the lordship of Ardmach of the extent of £22 and other dues, including the lands of Petlundy, of the yearly extent of £3, 6s. 8d., the half of a mart, the half of a mutton, and 24 poultry.¹ In 1537 he granted the same lands to Patrick Dingwall the son and heir of the deceased Henry.² In 1542 the same king granted to James Fraser the brother of Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovet, the same lands, extending yearly in fermes and grassum to £4, with 10s. bondage silver, half a mart, and half a mutton.³ In 1583 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Hugh Fraser of Gussuquhan, alienating in heritage the lands of Petlundie and others to John M'Kainzie of Garloche, by whom they were then occupied.⁴ In 1619 Issobel M'Kenzie was served heir to her father John M'Kenzie apparent of Garloche in the half davach of Pitlundy in the barony of Ardmconache, of the extent of £4, and of 4s. in augmentation.⁵

In 1539 King James V. granted for life to James Fraser the brother german of Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovet the 10 marklands of Drumdervat in the lordship of Ardmannach and earldom of Ross, for the yearly payment of a penny of silver as blencherme.⁶ In 1563 Queen Mary granted to Thomas Monypenny the Kinkell the escheat of the goods of Donald Williamesoun, John Noble, and William Alexandersoun, dwelling in Drumderphet belonging to the deanery of Ros in the lordship of Ardmannach, denounced rebels and at the horn for non-payment of the fermes and dues of the crop 1561 to Master Mungo Monypenny dean of Ros.⁷ In 1564 (16 October) the same queen granted to James Gray, one of her body guards, the lands of Drumdarwecht and Westir Kescheok, with the mill, fishings, and other pertinents, then occupied by William Lobane and others, and lying respectively in the earldom of Ros and lordship of Ardmannoch; the grantee paying yearly for Drumdarwecht £9, with 20s. for arriage (*arigea pecunia*), 36 bolls of victual, one mart, one mutton, 4 dozen poultry, and 4 bolls of horse oats (*avenarum equinarum*), as the old fermes and dues, and 6s. 8d. in augmentation of the rental—and for Westir Kescheok and the mill £6, with 4 dozen capons, 4 muttons, and 14 bolls victual, as old ferme, and 6s. 8d. in augmentation of the rental.⁸ In the same year (2 November) she renewed the grant; the yearly payment being then fixed at £10, 16s., with 2 chalders 6 bolls 1 firlot bear with 'the charity,' 4 bolls oats, one mart, one mutton, 4 dozen poultry, 9 reek hens, 20s. of bondage silver, and 80 loads of fuel to be laid down in the castle of Dingwell, as the fermes, dues, and services, formerly paid for Drumdarveth—£7, 4s., with 4 muttons, 4 dozen capons, 8 reek hens, 20s. of bondage silver, and 80 loads of fuel to be laid down in the same castle, and the usual services, as the old fermes due for Westir Kescheok—4 bolls of victual for the mill—and 3s. 4d. for Drumdarveth and Westir Kescheok respectively in augmentation of the rental.⁹ In 1578

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 35. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. ff. 27, 28; vol. vii. fol. 27.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 16.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 365. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 87.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 72.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 264. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 8.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 97.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 406. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. ff. 100-110.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 443. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. ff. 100-110. The 'charity' was the light grain blown out in dressing corn.

King James VI. granted during his pleasure to James Gray in Wester Kessok, for his good service 'asweill in the caus of religioun as in vthiris the common effaris of the realme,' a yearly pension of 14 bolls of victual which formerly belonged to the Black Friars of Innernes, to be received from the fermes of the mill of Kessok, discharging him also of the dues of the same for the years 1576 and 1577.¹ In 1582 he granted to the same James the same pension for life, beginning in the year 1580.² In 1584 he renewed the grant, the 14 bolls being in his hands by the dispersion and demolition of the Black Friars to whom they had belonged.³ In 1586 he granted in heritage to John Wylie writer the mill of Kessok with its croft, houses, buildings, astricted multures, and other dnes, formerly belonging to the Friars Preachers of Innernes; the grantee paying yearly 14 bolls of meal or for each boll 13s. 4d. between the feasts of the Nativity of our Lord (25 December) and of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary (2 February).⁴ In 1587 the same king, on attaining his majority, renewed a grant made by his mother Queen Mary to William Keith the master of his wardrobe and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, of the lands and towns of Drumdarvat in the lordship of Ardmenoch, and the lands and towns of Westir Kessoke in the earldom of Ross; the grantee paying yearly for Drumdarvat 2 chalders 4 bolls bear and meal with 'the charity,' 4 bolls oats, one mart, one mutton, 4 dozen poultry, 9 reek hens, £10, 16s. as bondage silver and in augmentation of the rental, and 120 loads of fuel—and for Westir Kessoke £9, 4s. 4d. as bondage silver and in augmentation of the rental, 4 dozen capons, 10 reek hens, 4 muttons, and 120 loads of fuel—as the fermes, canes, customs, and dues specified in the rental.⁵ In 1624 Kenneth M'Keinzie was served heir to his father Thomas, formerly in Breckanord, in the south half of the town and lands of Drumdarfat in the lordship of Ardmeanoche, of the extent of £4, 10s. feuferme.⁶ The family of Loban, one of whom is mentioned above in 1564, have long been tenants of the farm of Larach in Drumderfit, and their supposed or real antiquity has given rise to the proverb, 'as old as the Lobans of Drumderfit.'⁷

In 1574 King James VI. confirmed two grants; 1. A grant by Master William Sinclare rector of Orliek, canon of Cathness, commissary and vicegerent of the deceased Henry bishop of Ross, with consent of the dean, chapter, and canons of Ross—to Oliuer Sinclare of Quhitkirk and Beatrice Rollok his wife, and to the male heirs of Oliuer, with remainder to William Sinclare of Rosling and the heirs male of his body, and to his heirs male whomsoever—of the lands and towns of Allanegrange, of which one-fourth was formerly occupied by Margaret Dunbar, two-fourths by the widow of Finlay Wilky, and by Henry Wilkie, Andrew Richesoun, Andrew Alexandersoun, and William Reoch the younger, and the remaining fourth by the deceased Master Donald Fraser archdeacon of Ross; the alehouse and mill of Allanegrange; and the lands of Drummoir, extending to a half davach, with the alehouse of Drummoir—in the earldom of Ross, and to be held of the bishop; 2. A grant by the same Oliuer with the consent of his wife to Colin M'Kanze of Kintale and his nearest male heirs, with remainder to his next male heirs

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 66.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 18.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 72.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 139.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 171.

⁶ Retours. ⁷ Old Stat. Acc. Anderson, p. 545.

bearing the name and arms of M'Kanze, and to his nearest heirs whomsoever, of the same lands, mill, and alehouses, to be held as before.¹

In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe the lands of Dryne, for the yearly payment of £4, 15s. 4d., with 2 chalders 4 bolls of bear, 2 bolls for 'the charity,' 4 bolls of oats, one mart, one mutton, 9 poultry, and 80 loads of fuel, the grantee paying also £4, 15s. 4d. every five years as grassum.²

There is a village at Kessoek in the west end of the parish opposite the entrance of the Caledonian Canal.³

In this parish is a large moor with numerous cairns, locally said to have been the scene of a battle between the Macdonalds and the inhabitants of Inverness in the thirteenth or fourteenth century, and known as Blair-na-coi, a name which implies a termination of the fight by the same means as the popular traditional account ends the battle of Luncarty in Perthshire.⁴ The farmers who at Blair-na-coi rallied the fugitives would appear to have been the ancestors of the Lobans, who date their connexion with the place from the era of the alleged battle.⁵

East of Blair-na-coi are the remains of a circle known as James's Temple—west of it are traces of a camp—and on the hill of Kessoek to the south are traces of another camp, and a large cairn named Cairnglas.⁶

S U D D Y.

Sudy⁷ — Suddy⁸ — Suddye⁹ — Sndday¹⁰ — Suddie¹¹ — Siddy.¹²

(Map, No. 27.)

In 1756 a part of Suddy and Kilmuir was united to Killearnan, and a part of Killearnan to the united parish of Kilmuir Wester and Suddy.¹³

The parish of Suddy included the northeru and hilly part of the united parish, extending inland from the head of Munloch bay to the middle of the elevated moor named the Mulbu.

In the year 1227 Thomas the parson of Sudy witnessed at Kenedor in Moray the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross regarding the churches of Kyntalargyn

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 56.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

³ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Macfarlane. Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Old Stat. Acc.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ A. D. 1227. Reg. Morav., p. 82.

⁸ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 89. A. D. 1570.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 29. A. D. 1573. Reg.

Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 126. A. D. 1574. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1592. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 601.

⁹ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ *Circa* A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers.

¹¹ *Circa* A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹² *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu.

¹³ Old Stat. Acc.

and Ardrosser.¹ The church was afterwards a part of the prebend of the chancellor of Ross.² Between the years 1561 and 1566 the parsonage was held by Master Duncan Chalmere chancellor and 'vsufructuare,' and by him leased to Master David Chalmer titular and Richard Wrwing his factor.³ At the same time Sir David Barchane was vicar of Suddy and Kilmowr.⁴ From 1569 to 1572 Andro Myll, previously exhorter at Awach, seems to have been minister of Awach, Suddy, Kilnair Westir, and Ardorseir.⁵ In 1569 King James VI. presented David Thomesoun to the vicarage of Suddy, vacant by the decease of Sir David Barrachin.⁶ In 1570 he presented James Buschertt to the same vicarage, then vacant by the decease of David Thomesoun.⁷ In 1573 he presented John Ros to the vicarage of Kilmure and Suddy, vacant by the decease of John Reid.⁸ In 1574 and 1576 Master George Monro was minister, and Alexander Reid was reader at Suddy.⁹ In 1592 King James VI. granted the glebes and manse of the chancellery of Ros and the vicarage of Suddy to Master David Chalmer of Ormound.¹⁰

The church, probably dedicated to Saint Duthace of Tain, appears to have always stood at Meikle Suddy in the east end of the parish about a mile due north from the bay of Munloch.¹¹ Its cemetery seems to be still in use.¹² The church of the united parish, now known as Knockbain, stands at Knockbain near the head of Munloch bay.¹³

In the year 1328 there was a controversy between Hugh Earl of Ross and Sir Andrew de Moravia about the lands of Dromeudyn, Munloch, and others, of which neither the origin nor the termination is on record.¹⁴ In 1605 Duncan Fraser of Mullochic was served heir to his brother german Alexander Fraser of Mullochic in the lands and mill of Mullochic within the chaplainry of Mulvoche in the bishoprick of Ross.¹⁵ In 1612 William Fraser of Mullochic was served heir to his brother german Duncan Fraser of Mullochic in the lands and town of Mulloche, with the mill, mill-lands, multures, and sequels, within the chaplainry of Mullochic and earldom of Ross, of the extent of £4.¹⁶

On a small hill north west from the church, named Hurdyhill, there was in the seventeenth century a well, imagined to have the virtue of curing sick children when left one night beside it.¹⁷

In Baiamund's Roll the chancellery of Ross is taxed at £8; in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. at £24, 16s.; and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £80.¹⁸ In the rental of assumptions

¹ Reg. Morav., p. 82.

² Book of Assumptions.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Register of Ministers.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 89.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 29. Register of Ministers.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 126.

⁹ Book of Assignations.

¹⁰ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 601.

¹¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. Old Stat. Acc. Modern Maps. The sole ground for conjecturing the dedication of the church to Saint Duthace is the local name Belmaduthy, interchanged in old

writs of Tain with Balleguith or Bailedhuich, the undoubted 'town of Duthace,' though interpreted by the writer in the Old Stat. Acc. 'Ball-ma-duich, a good country town, or Ball-ma-duth, a good black town.'

¹² Old Stat. Acc.

¹³ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ Rob. Index, p. 28, no. 11².

¹⁵ Retours.

¹⁶ Ibid. From these services and another cited under ROSEMARKIE it would appear that this chaplainry or another of the same name was founded in the cathedral church of Ross.

¹⁷ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁸ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

it is valued at £173, 6s. 8d., while the united vicarage of Suddy and Kilmowr is given at £13, 6s. 8d.¹ About 1569 the reader at Suddy had for his stipend £20 yearly, and in 1572 the minister drew 20 marks yearly from that church and Kylmuir Westir, apparently from the vicarages.² In 1574 the minister at Suddy and Kynnattas had for his stipend the whole chancellor, £173, 6s. 8d., out of which he paid his readers; and the reader at Suddy had yearly 20 marks and the kirklands.³ In 1576 the minister had only two-thirds of the chancellor, extending to £115, 11s. 1d., and the reader had the same as before.⁴

The chaplainry of Munloch, as we have seen, was valued at £4 yearly.⁵

In 1389 and 1399 appears in record John Bard or John le Barde.⁶ In 1492 Thomas Bard of Ordinhuf (in Banffshire) was on an assize of perambulation of the vicarage lands of Abirkerdor.⁷ In 1526 King James V. granted to his familiar servitor William Bard the lands of Balmaduthy, extending in his rental to £6, 13s. 4d., with 1 chalder of bear, 1 mart, 1 mutton, and 4 dozen poultry, and the lands of Sudy, extending to £8, with 1 chalder 4 bolls of bear, 1 mart, 1 mutton, and 4 dozen poultry, in the lordship of Ardmanach, for yearly payment of £20, with 2 chalders 4 bolls of bear, 2 marts, 2 muttons, and 8 dozen of poultry, in augmentation of the King's rental by £5, 6s. 8d.⁸ In the same year he granted to Henry Dingnevale the alehouse of Mekle Suddie with its croft and toft, extending to 20s., and the mill of Mekle Suddie with its toft and croft, extending to 18 bolls of meal and malt, and 18 capons.⁹ In 1537 the same king granted the same alehouse and mill to Patrick Dingwall the son and heir of the deceased Henry.¹⁰ In 1538 he granted the lands of Bowmalduthy and Sydde to William Bard for 19 years.¹¹ In 1542 he appears to have renewed the grant, and fixed the yearly payment at £22 Scots, 8 bolls of bear, 8 bolls of oats, 2 marts, 2 muttons, and 8 dozen of poultry.¹² In 1543 and 1544 James Dunbar in Sudy deceased appears in record.¹³ In 1548 Queen Mary granted to David Dunbar of Bennettsfield all the goods that belonged to the deceased James the son of Alexander Dunbar of Sudy.¹⁴ In 1560 she granted to Master David Chalmer provost of Creichtoun in heritage the towns and lands of Castletoun (in Avoch), Achirfiro, Balmaduthie, and Mekill Suddie, with the mill, mill-lands, alehouse, and alehouse croft, in the canony of Ross and lordship of Ardmanoch.¹⁵ In 1567 she confirmed the grant.¹⁶ In 1568 King James VI. granted to Andrew Monro of Newmore, the son and apparent heir of George Monro of Dalcarthie, and to Katherine Vrqhart his wife, and to their male heirs, the town and lands of Castletoun with the fishing croft and its pertinents—the town and lands of Balmadwthie—the town and lands of Swdy with the brewhouse (*bruerium*), croft, and mill—the town and lands of Ochtereloy—and all the pendicles and pertinents of those towns and lands—lying in

¹ Book of Assumptions.

² Register of Ministers.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 16.

³ Book of Assignations.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ See above.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 3.

⁶ Reg. Morav., pp. 200, 212.

⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 346-348.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 34.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 131. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 311.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. nn. 77, 206.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 17.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 35. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. ff. 27, 28; vol. vii. fol. 27.

¹⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 550.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

the earldom of Ros, lordship of Ardmannoch, and sheriffdom of Innernes, belonging in heritage to Master David Chalmer formerly chancellor of Ros, held by him of the King, and forfeited on account of treason and lese majesty—united in *enam integram et liberam particulam et partem terre consolidatè vocatam vulgò Casteltoun*; the grantee paying yearly the old fermes, victual, grassum, and dues, namely, for Casteltoun £11, 10s. 6d. in money, 1 chalder 4 bolls of bear, 4 bolls of oats, 1 mart, 1 mutton, with the bondages (*bondagia*) or 20s. in lieu of them, 4 dozen poultry, and 11 hens commonly called reek hens—for the croft commonly called Casteltoun croft 19s. 8d. and 1 boll of bear—for Balmadwthie £10, 16s. in money, 1 chalder 1 boll of bear, 1 mart, 1 mutton, and 4 dozen poultry, with the usual bondages of the same or in lieu of them 20s.—for Swdy 13s. 4d., 1 chalder 5 bolls 1 firlot of bear, 1 mart, 1 mutton, 4 dozen poultry, with the bondages or 20s.—for the brewhouse of Swdy and its croft, 32s.—for the mill of Swdy 18 bolls of victual half meal half bear, with 1 boll 2 pecks for ‘the charity,’ and 8 capons—for Ochtercloy £15, 4s. 9½d. ⅓ Scots, 2 chalders bear, 8 bolls oats, 2 marts, 2 muttons, the bondages or 40s., 8 dozen poultry, and 14 reek hens—with 26s. 8d. Scots in augmentation of the rental.¹ In 1571 King James VI. granted to Master Alexander M^cKeinzie a crown charter of the alehouse of Mekill Suddie with its tofts and crofts, and of the mill of Mekill Suddie with its tofts, crofts, and multures, alienated to him in heritage by Patrick Dingwall fear of the same, and to be held of the crown.² In 1585 the same king confirmed a grant by John bishop of Ross to David Dumbar of Vrqhart and Grisillida Leslie his wife, and their heirs, with remainder to David’s heirs whomsoever, of the lands of Litill Suddy, and the brewhouse with its croft and lands, then occupied by David and his tenants.³ In 1607 William Chalmer apparent of Ormond was served heir male to his father Master David Chalmer of Ormond in the town and lands of Castiltoun, of the extent of £11, 10s. 6d.—the croft of Castiltoun called the chapel croft, extent 26s. 8d.—the lands of Auchtercloy, extent £15, 4s. 9½d.—the lands of Balmaduthie, extent £10, 16s. and other dues—the lands of Suddy, extent £13, 4s. and other dues—the brewhouse croft of Suddy, extent 32s.—and the mill of Suddy, extent 18 bolls victual—with other lands in the lordship of Ardmenechie and earldom of Ross united into the free portion or part of contiguous land called Castiltoun.⁴ In 1621 and again in 1625 George Dunbar was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Newtown in the town and lands of Suddie commonly called the lands of Meikle Suddie, extent £13, 4s.—the alehouse and croft, extent 32s.—and the mill of Suddie, the multures and sequels, with Carrswairdis, extent 18 bolls of victual.⁵

There is a village at Muulochy at the head of the small bay of the same name.⁶

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. ff. 16, 109, 110.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 103.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 72.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ New Stat. Acc. Anderson. County Maps.

A V O C H.

Alvach¹ — Awoch² — Awoche³ — Awach⁴ — Awache⁵ — Awauch⁶ —
Avache⁷ — Avach⁸ — Ava⁹ — Avoch.¹⁰ (Map, No. 28.)

THIS parish extends along the shore of the Moray Firth from the bay of Munloch on the south west to the Craigland burn on the north east, and inland to the height of the Mulbuy, there rising to 500 feet above the level of the sea.¹¹ Parallel to the Mulbuy are two lower ridges gently sloping towards the north.¹² The bay of Avoch divides the coast into two nearly equal parts, the more northern being high and rocky, while a portion of the more southern is flat and sandy, and the remainder a mixture of rock and high gravelly beach.¹³

In 1493 (16 October) the abbot of Kynlos (in Moray) sued William lord of Saint John's for 400 marks Scots of the dues of the churches of Alvach in Ros and Ellone in Buehane, and of the lands of Straithylay, for one year.¹⁴ The abbot declared in court that he should hold himself satisfied of 50 marks of the money, if the lord of Saint John's would produce the receipt of Master Hew Mertynce to whom he affirmed he had paid them. The Lords of Council therefore assigned to him the third day of February following to produce it. And, as the same lord asserted that he had by command of the abbot paid to Master Hew the sum of 200 dnacats amounting to 300 marks Scots, and the abbot denied that he had given any order to that effect — and also, because the lord of Saint John's affirmed that he had given up to the abbot certain lands of the abbey as payment of about £60, and that the abbot had accepted them — the Lords assigned him the same day to prove his allegations. The church of Awach was afterwards a prebend in the cathedral of Ross.¹⁵ In 1558 Queen Mary presented Sir James Ker chaplain to the vicarage of Awoch, vacant or when vacant by the resignation of Sir Alexander Pedder.¹⁶ Between 1561 and 1566 Sir Alexander was still vicar of Awoch.¹⁷ In 1569 Queen Mary presented Andro Mylne to the vicarage, then vacant by Sir Alexander's death.¹⁸ From that year till 1576 Andro Myl appears successively as exhorter, minister, and vicar.¹⁹ In 1604 John Urquhart was served heir male of entail and provision to his father Walter sheriff of Cromartie in the manse or eroft of the rector of Awach in the canonry of

¹ A. D. 1493. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 302.

² A. D. 1558. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 50.
A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

³ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁴ A. D. 1569. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 88.
A. D. 1569-1572. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574.
Book of Assignations. A. D. 1576. Ibid. A. D. 1604.
Retours.

⁵ A. D. 1569-1572. Register of Ministers. A. D.
1621. Retours. ⁶ A. D. 1576. Book of Assignations.

⁷ A. D. 1621. Retours.

⁸ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁹ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu.

¹⁰ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc. ¹² Old Stat. Acc. ¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Acta Dom. Conc., p. 302.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 50.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 88.

¹⁸ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

Ross, of the extent of 40 shillings.¹ In 1621 George Dunbar was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Newtown in three-fourths of the town and kirklands of Awache, extending to 6 oxgangs of a davach of land, with the mill of the town of Avache, of the extent of £6 — the alehouse of Avache and its crofts, with the yair and salmon fishing, if any, with wrack and wair, groves and woods, of the extent of 25s. — and the town and lands of Killen with the tithes included, extending to a half davach, in the parish of Awache, of the old extent of 8 shillings.²

The church, built in 1670, stands on a height near the shore apparently on the site of former churches at the village and on the left bank of the burn of Avoch.³

In 1528 King James V. presented Sir John Scherar to the chaplainry of the Virgin Mary of Ormondhill in the lordship of Ardemannach, extending yearly to £5, vacant or when vacant by the demission of Sir Seuer Stewart.⁴ In 1546 Queen Mary presented Sir Thomas Rag chaplain to the chaplainry of the Mount of Ormond, vacant or when vacant by the resignation of Sir Seuerin Stewart.⁵ In 1567 she granted for life to Master James Chalmer, servant to Master David Chalmer chancellor of Ross, the chaplainry of Ormondie, vacant by the decease of Sir Thomas Rag.⁶ In 1607 William Chalmer apparent of Ormond was served heir male to his father Master David Chalmer of Ormond in the croft of Castletoun called the chapel croft, of the extent of 26s. 8d.⁷ In 1673 Alexander Brodie of Lethin was served heir to his father Alexander in the patronage of the chaplainry of Castiltoun with the tithes, as part of the lordship, barony, and regality of Kinloss.⁸ In 1677 John M'Kenzie of Aplecross, who was the eldest lawful son of Alexander M'Kenzie of Coull, was served heir to the latter in the half of the croft called the chapel croft of Casteltoun.⁹ In 1681 Kenneth Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Kenzie of Kintail, was served heir male to his great-grandfather Kenneth Lord M'Kenzie and Kintail, formerly styled Lord Kenneth M'Kenzie of Kintail, in the same chapel croft, of the extent of 28s. 4d.¹⁰

In 1673 Alexander Brodie of Lethin was served heir to his father Alexander in the patronage and tithes of the chaplainry of Killen, as part of the lordship, barony, and regality of Kinloss.¹¹

In the parish are three wells, named Hainnck, Charles's Well, and Craiguick, the last of which is still believed to effect miraculous cures, and is frequented for that purpose on the morning of the first Sabbath of May.¹²

At the Reformation between the years 1561 and 1566 Sir Alexander Peddir, who had then been vicar 'the space of thir four yeiris bygane or thairby,' stated that 'the vicarage of Awach was quhen guid payment was maid worth be yeir xx merkis, and now not worth x merkis.'¹³ Between 1569 and 1572 we have on record the following two statements — 1. Awach, Andro Myll exhorter, xl li., now ane minister sen November 1569, i^c merkis, and now vicar of Awache, extending to viii li. vii s. i d., to be allowit in part of payment of his stipend of lx yeiris erope. 2. Awach,

¹ Retours.² Ibid.⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 11.³ Macfarlane. MS. Maps. Blaeu. Old. Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. County Maps.⁷ Retours. See SUDBY, p. 540.⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. x. fol. 18.⁸ Retours.⁹ Ibid.¹⁰ Ibid.¹¹ Ibid.⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 36.¹² New Stat. Acc.¹³ Book of Assumptions.

Suddie, Kylmuir Westir, Ardorsier; Andro Mill minister, i^c merkis November 1569, xx li. mar sen November 1571, and for thir tua kirkis xx merkis sen Lambmes 1572, the vicarage of Awach extending to viii li. vii s. i. d. in part of payment of the foirsaid stipend.¹ In 1574 the same Andro Myll, minister at Awach, Kilmuir Westir, and Arthourseir, had for his stipend £80 with the kirklands and other perquisites; and George Thomsoun reader at Awach had £20.² In 1576 the statement of the assignation of stipend for Awauch is thus given—‘Awauch, Andro Miln minister, his stipend £66, 13s. 4d. with the kirkland of Awach, thair of the hail vicarage of Awauch newlie disposit to him £8, 6s. 8d., and the remanent to be payit out of the thriddis of the abbay of Kinlos, &c.; George Thomsoun reidare at Awauch, his stipend £20, &c.’³

The chaplainry of Ormondhill, as we have seen, was in 1528 valued at £5 yearly.⁴

About the year 1328 King Robert Bruce appears to have settled a dispute between Andrew Murray and Sir Hugh of Ross about the barony of Auach in Ross.⁵ ‘Andrew Murray’ was doubtless Sir Andrew de Moravia of Bothwell and Avoch, fifth in succession of that branch of the De Moravia family.⁶ He was *Panctarius*, and latterly Warden of Scotland, ‘the good Warden eminent in an age of heroes and patriots,’ and died at Avoch in 1338.⁷ John de Moravia, the son of Sir Andrew, and also *Panctarius Soccie*, was lord of Bothcuyle and Auauach from 1338 to 1351.⁸ During the same period appears in record John de Mor baillie of the barony of Auauach.⁹ John de Moravia was succeeded by his brother Thomas, also *Panctarius*, who died in 1361, and whose daughter Joan carried the family estates, including Avoch, to Archibald the Grim, third Earl of Douglas.¹⁰ In 1398 among reasons given by the bishop of Moray against a judgement of the sheriff of Innernys, declaring that the bishop was bound to give suit in the sheriff courts, was the following—That the court in which the judgement was given was null, because in such a court there ought to be present the sheriff or his lieutenant, three or four suiters (*sectatores*), a clerk of fee, and a judge of fee, while in the court in question there was present but one suiter, namely, John the son of Michael (Macmichael) the suiter of Avach, and neither clerk nor judge of fee, but that the same John Macmichael who was the only suiter in court acted as judge, gave the judgement in question, and thus performed the office both of court and of judge.¹¹ The Douglasses seem to have held the lands and barony of Avoch till their forfeiture in 1455, and before that date, apparently between the years 1440 and 1448, King James II. conferred the title of Earl of Ormond on Hugh of Douglas, the hero of Sark, and fourth son of James the seventh earl.¹² In 1455 King James II. on attaining his majority recalled all grants which he had

¹ Register of Ministers. ² Book of Assignations.

³ Ibid.

⁴ See above.

⁵ Rob. Index, p. 28, no. 3. The subject of the dispute is printed by Robertson *baronia de Lanach*, but should apparently be read *baronia del Auach*.

⁶ Reg. Morav., pref. pp. xxxvii. xxxviii. Wyntownis Cronykil.

⁷ Ford. Scot., lib. xiii. c. 37. Bneh. Hist., lib. ix. c. 25. Wyntownis Cronykil. Reg. Hon. de Morton, vol. ii. p. 68. Reg. Morav., pref. p. xxxviii. Hailes' Annals. Chalmers, vol. i. p. 609.

⁸ Reg. Morav., pp. xxxviii., 296, 297. Kilarvoek Charters.

⁹ Kilarvoek Charters.

¹⁰ Reg. Morav., pp. xxxviii., 300. Reg. Glasg., p. 300. Reg. Hon. de Morton, vol. ii. p. 98.

¹¹ Reg. Moraviense, p. 209.

¹² Godscroft's History of the House of Douglas. Buch. Hist., lib. xi. cc. 29-31. Reg. Morav. p. 228. Godscroft says that Hugh 'was made Earle of Ormond, and had sundry lands given him by the king in Tivendale and Rosse.'

previously made, excepting among others the grants of land in the sheriffdoms of Innernes and Bamf made to the bishop of Moray from the lands forfeited by the deceased Hugh of Douglas Earl of Ormond and John of Douglas formerly of Balwanye, and held by them of the bishop in chief.¹ Between the years 1460 and 1481 King James III. created James Stewart his younger son Marquis of Ormond.² In 1481 (5 April) he granted to the Marquis of Ormond the lands of the lordship of Ardmannach called Avauch and Nethirdul, with the moothill of Ormond and the fortalice of Redcastell.³ In the same year (12 April) he confirmed the grant by a charter under his great seal.⁴ About the year 1503 the Marquis, having become an ecclesiastic, resigned his lands to his brother King James IV., retaining only the principal message or the moothill of each property in order to preserve his titles.⁵ In 1527 King James V. granted to James Dunbar the son of Master Patrick Dunbar certain lands in the lordship of Ardmannach, including the lands of Casteltoun, extending to £8, 20 bolls of bear, 4 bolls of oats, 1 mart, 1 mutton, 4 dozen poultry, 16 loads of turf—the grantee paying yearly 22s. in lieu of the victual—and the crofts of Casteltoun, extending to 13s. 4d. and 1 boll of bear—the lands of Casteltoun to be the principal message or ‘cheif ehymmise’ of the whole.⁶ In 1560 Queen Mary granted to Master David Chalmer provost of Creichtoun the towns and lands of Casteltoun and others in the earldom of Ross and lordship of Ardmannoch; and in 1567 she confirmed the grant.⁷ In 1568 King James VI. granted to Andrew Monro of Newmore the son and apparent heir of George Monro of Dalcarthie, and to Katherine Vrchhart his wife, and to their male heirs, the town and lands of Casteltoun, with the fishing croft commonly called Casteltoun Croft, and other lands in the earldom of Ros and lordship of Ardmannoch, which belonged in heritage to Master David Chalmer formerly chancellor of Ros, and were forfeited by him for treason and lese majesty.⁸ In 1607 William Chalmer apparent of Ormond was served heir male to his father Master David Chalmer of Ormond in the town and lands of Castiltoun, of the extent of £11, 10s. 6d., and the croft of Castiltoun called the chapel croft, of the extent of 26s. 8d., united with other lands into the free portion or part of contiguous land called Castiltoun.⁹

In 1563 Master William Sinclair rector of Orlrik, as commissioner of Henry bishop of Ross for leasing the lands of the bishoprick, granted to George Dunbar and his heirs male, with remainder to his natural son George Dunbar and his heirs male, to Patrick Dunbar the brother of George the younger and his heirs male, and to the heirs male whomsoever of George the elder, three-fourths of the town and lands of Avach with the mill and multure (except the mill-lands occupied by Master Alexander M’Kainze), with the yair and salmon fishing, if any, and also the wrack, wair, and woods within the bounds of the town and mill, and the alehouse of Avach with its lands, occupied by George Dunbar.¹⁰ Between the years 1564 and 1571 John bishop of Ross granted to Master Alexander M’Kenze in liferent, and to his eldest son

¹ Reg. Morav., pp. 226-230.

² Crawford’s Officers of State, p. 58. Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 57.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ix. no. 59. MS. *penes* Editor.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Additional Sutherland Case, chap. iv. p. 58.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 95.

⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 550. See SIDDIE, p. 539.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. ff. 16, 109, 110. See SIDDIE, pp. 539, 540.

⁹ Retours. See SIDDIE, p. 540.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 142.

Kenneth M'Kenze and his male heirs, with remainder to his second son John M'Kenze and his male heirs, and to Alexander's male heirs whomsoever bearing the name and arms of M'Kenze, the mill-lands of Avoch, then occupied by Alexander and his subtenants.¹ In 1572 King James VI. confirmed the grant of bishop John, and in 1581 he confirmed the grant of bishop Henry.² In 1580 appears in record Colin Dunbar the son of George Dunbar of Awach.³

Between the years 1338 and 1351 Muriel de Roys the widow of Sir William de Roys lord of Kylraoke, daughter and one of the heirs of the deceased Andrew of Doun, with the consent of her overlord John de Moravia lord of Botheuyle and of Auauch, granted to her second son Andrew de Roys and his heirs her whole share of the lands of Kyllayn and Pethfour in the barony of Auauch belonging to her in heritage, to be held as freely as by her deceased father, the grantee doing to the overlord the service due for his portion of the land.⁴ In 1525 (4 July) King James V. granted in heritage to John Dunbar the kinsman of Gawin bishop of Abirden the lands of Bannethfeild and Killane in the earldom of Ross and Ardmanach, extending in his rental to £7 yearly, for the yearly payment of £9 to augment the rental by 40s.; the grantee being bound to construct on the lands houses of stone and lime, orchards, gardens, pigeonhouses, fish-pools, and rabbit warrens, if the ground were suitable.⁵ In the same year (17 July) the King and parliament confirmed the grant.⁶ In 1526 the same king granted to Henry Dingnevale the lands of Pethfuyr, extending yearly to 44s. ferme—the mill of Pethfuyr called the Denemylyne with its toft and croft, extending to £6—and the mill of Pettenoch with its toft and croft, extending to 2 chalders of meal and malt, and 18 capons—with other lands in the lordship of Ardmanach—extending in all to £17, 6s. 8d., 3 chalders 2 bolls of oatmeal and malt, 2 quarters of a mart, 2 muttuns and two quarters, 5 dozen capons, and 24 poultry—for the yearly payment of £22 and other dues, in augmentation of the King's rental by £6, 9s. 4d.⁷ In 1527 the same king granted to James Dunbar the son of Master Patrick Dunbar a number of lands in Ardmanach, of which the lands of Castelton were to be the chief messuage, and which included the lands of Petconnoquhy, extending to £6, 13s. 4d., 20 bolls of bear, 4 bolls of oats, 1 mart, 1 muttun, 4 dozen poultry, 16 loads of turf—the grantee paying yearly 22s. in lieu of the victual—three alchouses called the alchouses of Petconnoquhy, extending to 3s.—and the mill of Petconnoquhy, extending to 2 chalders bear and 3 dozen capons, which belonged to the King in property, was held of him in chief by Henry Dingvale, and was resigned by Henry in favour of James Dunbar the grantee.⁸ In 1537 King James V. granted to Patrick Dingwall the son and heir of the deceased Henry Dingwall, the same lands that were granted to his father in 1526.⁹ In 1548 Queen Mary granted to David Dunbar of Bennetisfeild the goods which belonged to the deceased James Dunbar the son of the deceased Alexander Dunbar of

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 59.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 59; vol. xlvii. fol. 52.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 31.

⁴ Kilravock Charters.

⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 396. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xx. no. 159.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 35. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. ff. 27, 28; vol. vii. fol. 27. See KILLEARNAN, p. 529; KILMUIR WESTER, p. 535; and SUDDY, p. 539.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 95. See above, p. 544; and KILMUIR WESTER, p. 533.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 16.

Sudy.¹ In 1541 John Dunbar of Bannagefield appears in record.² In 1549 Queen Mary granted to David Dunbar, the son and heir of the deceased John Dunbar in Bennettsfeild, and to his male heirs, with remainder successively to his brother John and his male heirs, to Patrick Dunbar of Sanchar and his male heirs, to Patrick's brother John and his male heirs, to the male heirs whomsoever of David Dunbar bearing the same surname and arms, and to his nearest female heirs without division, the lands of Bennettsfeild, Petfur, the alehouse of Petfur, the lands of Killane, the mill of Petconochy, and the mill of Petfur called the Denemyln, in the lordship of Ardmannach, extending in the Queen's rental to £21, 15s. 7d. Scots, 1 chaldar meal, 1 chaldar bear with 'the charity,' 1 dozen capons, and 5 reek hens, and then of new united into the free tenantry of Bennettsfeild, for the yearly payment of £22, 8s. 11d., 12 capons or 6 pence for each, 5 reek hens or 4 pence for each, 1 chaldar meal, and 1 chaldar bear, as feuferme, in augmentation of the rental by 13s. 4d.³ In 1563 John Jenour was served heir to his father John Jenour in the lands of the fourth part of Killane and the sixth part of Pitfure in the lordship of Ardmannach, of the old extent of 6 shillings.⁴ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe the mill of Peteconochy or of Petfour with the multures and alehouse, the lands of Kyllane, the lands of Benethefeild and the mill of Petfur with the multures, and the lands of Dryne with the alehouse of Petfur; the grantee paying yearly for the mill of Peteconochy with the multures 2 chalders victual with 2 bolls as 'charity,' 2 dozen capons, and 1 poultry—for Petfur with the alehouse 44s., with 10s. of bondage silver, 1 reek hen, and as grassum every 5 years 44s.—for Killane 55s., with 4s. bondage, 1 poultry, and 55s. as grassum—for Bennethfeild £6, 5s., with 8s. bondage, 1 poultry, and £6, 5s. as grassum—for the mill of Petfur with the multures £6, 1 poultry, and £6 grassum—for Drynie £4, 15s. 4d., 2 chalders 4 bolls bear with 2 bolls as 'charity,' 4 bolls of oats, 1 mart, 1 mutton, 9 poultry (capons?) 20s. boudage, 48 poultry, 80 loads of fuel, and grassum £4, 15s. 4d.—and for the alehouse of Petfur 10s. and the same sum as grassum.⁵ In 1620 Alexander Genor was served heir to his father John Genor portioner of Pitfuir in the sixth part of the town and lands of Pitfuir, of the old extent of 3 shillings.⁶ In 1621 George Dunbar was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Newtown in a piece of moor called Blairfoydre or Newtown of ——— adjacent to the lands of Killen in the lordship of Ardmeanochy in the sheriffdom of Inverness, with common pasture on the hills called Mulboy and Ordhill, of the old extent of 3 shillings.⁷ In 1637 Alexander Dunbar of Bennegfeild was served heir male to his father John Dunbar of Bennegfeild in an oxgaug of Killen in the lordship of Ardmeanach and sheriffdom of Inverness, and in a piece of moor called Blairfoydre adjacent and united to the same, of the old extent of 5 shillings.⁸ In 1676 King Charles II. granted to Sir George M'Kenzie of Rosehaugh, Lord Advocate, an oxgang of land called Easter Killeaue, and a partiate of land or piece of moor called Blairfoild, then arable, lying beside the former and bounded as follows—

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 17.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. ff. 80, 81.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 369. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 81.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

⁶ Retours.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

‘ Having the well called the Goosswell of Killeane as the samen flows in the Goosburne ascending directly in the litle river or water called Strathburne on the west ; the kirklands of Wester Radderie as the samen was possesset of old in the year of God 1598 be the then tennents and possessors thereof on the east ; the Strathburne on the north ; and the litle river or water called the Goosseburn on the south pairts’—with the liberty of common pasture on the hills and within the moors called the Millbowie and Ordhill lying south and north of the land of Blairfoid—all in the parish of Avach, lordship of Ardmannoeh, and sheriffdom formerly of Lunerness, then of Ross.¹ In 1681 King Charles confirmed the grant.²

In 1586 King James VI. confirmed a charter by the deceased Alexander bishop of Ross, granting to Thomas Wilsoun the son and heir of the deceased John Wilsoun in the canony of Ross and to his male heirs, with remainder to his heirs whomsoever, the lands of Arkyndwucht, Tempilland, and Boigschangie in the diocese of Ross.³ In 1611 Edward Lord Bruce of Kinloss was served heir male to his father Lord Edward in the lordship of Kinloss, including among lands formerly belonging to the abbey of Kinloss the lands of Murcaillous, Auchindeuch, and a manse within the canony of Ross, in the parish of Avach.⁴ In 1617 Thomas Lord Bruce of Kinloss was served heir to his brother Lord Edward in the same lands.⁵

In the last century there were in the parish three villages named Seatown, Kirktown, and Milntown, having respectively 378, 99, and 80 inhabitants.⁶ At present there seems to be but one village, named Avoch.⁷

From the castle of Avoch, known also as the castle of Ormond, Ormondy, or Ormondhill, and Douglas Castle, Hugh of Douglas between 1440 and 1448 drew the style Earl of Ormond, and James Stewart the second son of King James III. between 1460 and 1481 drew the style Marquis of Ormond.⁸ In 1481, as we have seen, King James III. granted the lands of Avach with the moothill of Ormond to the Marquis of Ormond, who about 1503 resigned the lands, but retained the moothill in order to preserve his title.⁹ A writer of the seventeenth century mentions Ormondhill south-west from the church with the remains of a castle, and elsewhere describes it as ‘ Casteltoun with the ruynes of a castell called the castell of Ormond, which hath gevin styles to sundrie earls and last to the Princes of Scotland.’¹⁰ The foundations of the castle remain on the top of a hill near Castletown point on the bay of Munlochly about 200 feet above the level of the sea.¹¹ They occupy a space 350 feet by 160, and the castle seems to have been built of coarse red stone and lime, with a ditch on one side.¹² The hill of Castletown is now known as Ormondhill or Ladyhill (the latter name having arisen evidently from the dedication of its chapel).¹³

Of the tower of Arkendeith, situated on a farm of the same name, only the lower story remains.¹⁴

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 377.

² Ibid.

³ See above, p. 544.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 178.

⁴ Retours.

¹⁰ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁸ See above, pp. 543, 544. The Old Stat. Acc. says that in the last century tradition gave the castle the name of Douglas Castle.

¹² Old Stat. Acc.

¹³ New Stat. Acc. See above, p. 542.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

In different parts of the parish are traces of encampments, and in the churchyard are several gravestones with figures in relief of spears, arrows, and stars.¹

On the farm of Arkendeith there is an old quarry, out of which the cathedral church of Ross is said to have been built.²

LOGIE WESTER.

Logy³ — Logie⁴ — Logy Westin⁵ — Logyweird.⁶ (Map, No. 29.)

ABOUT the year 1669 the parishes of Logie Wester and Urquhart were united.⁷

Logie Wester, forming the southern portion of the united parish, rises gradually from the banks of the Conau and the Firth of Cromarty to the ridge of the Mulbuy, the lower part being generally cultivated, and the upper waste.⁸

In 1498 King James IV. presented Master John Monro to the vicarage of Logy-Vrquhart (meaning apparently the vicarages of Logy and Vrquhart), when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir Dugall Ruresoun.⁹ In 1560 Queen Mary presented Robert Monro to the vicarages of the parish churches of Vrquhart and Logie, vacant or when vacant by the resignation or the inability of John Monro, or in any other way.¹⁰ At the Reformation the church of Logy was part of the prebend of the treasurer of Ross.¹¹ In 1569 Robert Monro was reader at Urquhart and Logy Wester, afterwards exhorter at the same churches, and then minister of them and others.¹² In 1659 Simoun Fraisser of Innerallochie was served heir to his grandfather Sir Simone of Innerallochie in the advowson of the parish church of Logie both parsonage and vicarage.¹³

The church stood on the right bank of the Conau at a place anciently known as Logyreyth or Logyweird, where its ruins remained in the end of last century.¹⁴ The church of the united parish, rebuilt in 1795, but apparently not on its former site, stands at Urquhart on the Cromarty Firth.¹⁵

In Baianuud's Roll the treasury of Ross is taxed at £8; in the Taxatio Seculi xvi. at £24, 16s.; and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £80.¹⁶ At the Reformation the treasury, including the churches of Logy and Urquhart, and the fourth of the churches of Cromarty and Rosemarkie, was stated at 300 marks, of which 100 marks were appropriated 'for the vphold of the kirkis and to the ministraris.'¹⁷ In 1569 Robert Monro as reader at

¹ Old Stat. Acc.

² Ibid.

⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 598.

³ A. D. 1498. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 57. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. Circa A. D. 1640. Blaen.

⁸ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 57.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 26.

⁴ A. D. 1560. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 26. A. D. 1639. Retours. A. D. 1669. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 598.

¹¹ Book of Assumptions.

¹² Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹³ Retours.

⁵ A. D. 1569-1572. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574-1576. Book of Assignations.

¹⁴ Macfarlane. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48. Retours. Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁶ A. D. 1690-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁶ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁷ Book of Assumptions.

Urquhart and Logy Wester had a stipend of £20, and afterwards as exhorter a stipend of £40.¹ In 1574 as minister of the same and other churches he had £66, 13s. 4d. and the kirklands, and the reader at Urquhart and Logy had £20.² In 1576 the same minister had for his stipend £72, 4s. 5d., the kirklands of Urquhart, and other perquisites; and David Monro reader at Urquhart and Logy had £20, paid out of the third of the treasury of Ross by the tacksmen and parishioners of Logie Wester.³

Between 1336 and 1357 appears in record John of Kynkellee dean of Ross.⁴ In 1527 King James V. granted to William Dingvale of Kildun the lands of Kinkell-Clairsair, with the Ferry-housecroft and the privilege belonging to the same, then extending in the King's rental to 7 marks 6 shillings and 8 pence, and other lands in Ross, extending in all to £23, 13s. 4d., 4 bolls victual, and 1 mart, for the yearly payment of £33, 6s. 8d., and the other dues, to augment the rental by £9, 13s. 4d.⁵ In 1542 the same king granted to James Fraser, the brother of Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovet, the lands of Kynkell-Clarschac, extending in the King's rental to £7, 8s. in ferme and grassum, 8s. of bondage silver, and 3 reek hens — with other lands in Ross and Ardmannach — the grantee paying for the whole yearly £51, 3s., 21 reek hens, 2½ marts, 2½ muttons, and 8 dozen poultry.⁶ In 1553 and 1563 appears in record Thomas Monypenny of Kinkell.⁷ In 1583 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Hugh Fraser of Gussouhan, alienating to John M'Kainzie of Garloche and his heirs the lands and towns of Kinkell-Clarsache in the lordship of Ross, then occupied by John M'Kainzie.⁸ In 1584 the same king confirmed two grants by the deceased John bishop of Ross — 1. A grant to Murdoc M'Kainzie and his heirs of the brewhouse of Kinkell and the lands belonging to it, then occupied by Murdoc and his tenants; and 2. A grant to Alexander Cheisholme of Cwmer for life, and to his youngest son Wiland (*Vallano*) Cheisholme and his male heirs, with remainder in succession to his second son Alexander and his male heirs, and to his eldest son Thomas and his heirs whomsoever, of the lands and town of Kinkell, extending to a half davach, then occupied by Alexander Cheisholme the elder.⁹ In 1590 Alexander M'Kenze was served heir to his father Murdoc M'Kenze of Ferbrone in the alehouse of Kinkell with the brewlands, of the extent of 49s. feuferme.¹⁰ In 1638 Kenneth M'Keinzie of Garloch was served heir male to his father Alexander M'Keinzie of Garloche in the lands and barony of Garloche, including Kinkell-Clairsach, of the extent of £7, 8s. feuferme and other dues, and in the manor place of Kinkell, of the extent of 3s. 4d. feuferme.¹¹ In 1647 Hector M'Kenzie was served heir male to his brother John M'Kenzie of Fairburne in the same alehouse and lands, of the extent of 49s. 1d.¹² In 1673 Alexander Maekenzie of Garloch was served heir male to his father Kenneth Maekenzie of Garloche in the lands of Kinkell-Clairsach and in the manor-place of Kinkell, as in 1638.¹³ The barony of Kinkell-Fraser, stated in 1669 to have been of old called Ferintosh, is still known

¹ Register of Ministers.² Book of Assignations.³ *Ibid.*⁴ Kilravock Charters.⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 36. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 53; vol. vii. fol. 57.⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 365. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 87.⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 94; vol. xxxi. fol. 92.⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 72.⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. ff. 35, 40.¹¹ *Ibid.*¹⁰ *Retours*.¹² *Ibid.*¹³ *Ibid.*

by the latter name.¹ In 1690 it was held by Duncan Forbes of Culloden, to whom in compensation for losses sustained during his absence in Holland on government service the Scotch parliament granted an exemption from the excise duties on spirits distilled from corn grown upon the lands.² In 1786 the privilege was abolished, and a sum of money granted to the proprietor as compensation for £30,000 of debt incurred in the service of government by his father the well known president of the Court of Session in 1745.³

In 1542 King James V. granted to James Fraser, the brother of Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovet, the lands of Culbokoy, extending to £18, 8s. in ferme and grassum, 41s. of bondage silver, 2 marts, 2 muttuns, 8 reek hens, and 8 dozen poultry — and the alehouse of Culbokoy, extending in ferme, grassum, and other dues, to 12 shillings.⁴ In 1563 Queen Mary granted to Hugh Fraser of Gussachane and Margaret Munro his wife the western half of Eistir Culbokoy and the eastern half of Westir Culbokoy, with the houses and gardens made and to be made near the shore in the place called the Querrell, in the lordship of Ardmanach, resigned by Hugh.⁵ In 1581 King James VI. granted to Hugh Fraser of Gussauchan and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, the mill of Culbokoy, with the croft, multure, and profits, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Inverness, extending yearly in the King's rental to 16 bolls of victual — for the yearly payment of 16 bolls 'good and sufficient merchandise' with 'the charity,' as the ferme contained in the rental, and one boll of bear in augmentation, in all 17 bolls, to be paid between Christmas and Candlemas.⁶ In 1586 the same king granted the mill of Culbokoy in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe for the yearly payment of 15 bolls of victual with 3 firlots 3 pecks as 'charity.'⁷

In 1563 Alexander Bane of Tullich exchanged with Robert Monro of Foulis the half of the lands and fishings of Ferrintoshy in Braquhat (in Sutherland) for the lands of Wester Logy with the mill and alehouse in the earldom of Ross, and for certain arable lands in the burgh of Dingwall.⁸ In the same year Queen Mary granted to the respective parties crown charters of the lands exchanged.⁹ In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe the ferry of Scuttoll and the lands and alehouse of Logyreth; the grantee paying yearly for the ferry 20s., and every 5 years the same sum as grassum — for Logyreth £3, with 8s. of bondage silver, 4 poultry, £3 grassum, and the usual services — and for the alehouse 40s. and the same sum as grassum.¹⁰ In 1681 Kenneth Earl of Seaforth, Lord M'Kenzie and Kintail, was served heir male to his great-grandfather Kenneth Lord M'Kenzie and Kintail, formerly styled Lord Kenneth M'Kenzie of Kintail, in the ferry (*freto lie ferrie*) of Scuttell with the land of the same, the lands of Logiereth, and the alehouse of Logiereth, respectively of the same extent as in 1586.¹¹

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 598.

² Old Stat. Acc.

³ Old Stat. Acc., in which see a full account of the Ferintosh privilege.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 365. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 87. See above.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 460. Reg. Sec. Sig.,

vol. xxxi. fol. 99. Wester Culbokoy appears to lie in Logie, and Easter Culbokoy in Urquhart.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 30.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. nn. 593, 594. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 99.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

¹¹ Retours.

The ferry of Scuttoll or Seuddale, which existed till the end of last century, has been superseded by a bridge over the Conan, at which there is now a village named Conan Bridge.¹

The old castle of Kinkell (apparently the manor house mentioned above) is still standing, though somewhat modernised.²

In the south-west of the parish are several conical cairns, one of which, opened about 1795, contained three stone coffins ranged in a line from east to west.³

URQUHART.

Vrquhard⁴ — Vrquhart⁵ — Urquhart⁶ — Wrquhart⁷ — Wrchart⁸ —
Urquhairt⁹ — Wrwhart.¹⁰ (Map, No. 30.)

THIS parish, united to Logie Wester about the year 1669, and lying immediately to the north of it, has the same general features, rising from the shores of the Firth of Cromarty to the ridge of the Mulbuy.¹¹

In 722 Saint Malrube of Applecross is said to have been murdered by Norwegians at Vrquhard in Ross.¹² There was erected, says the Aberdeen Breviary, on the spot where he was slain a chapel of oak which afterwards became the parish church of Vrquhard.¹³ The church was afterwards a part of the prebend of the treasurer of Ross.¹⁴ In 1498 King James IV. presented Master John Monroo to the vicarage of Logy Vrquhard (Logy and Vrquhard), when vacant by the resignation of Sir Dugall Ruesoun.¹⁵ In 1560 he presented Robert Monro to the vicarages of the parish churches of Vrquhart and Logie, vacant or when vacant by the demission or inability of John Monro, or in any other way.¹⁶ From 1569 till about 1572 Master John Robesone seems to have been treasurer of Ross and minister at Urquhart and Logy Wester.¹⁷ During the same period Robert Monro was successively reader and exhorter at the same churches.¹⁸ In 1574 Robert Monro was minister, and the office of reader was vacant; in 1576 the same Robert was minister, and the reader was David Monro.¹⁹ In 1659 Simoun Fraisser of Innerallochie was served heir to his grandfather Sir Simoun in the advowson, parsonage, and vicarage of Urquhairt and Logie.²⁰

¹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

² 'My Schools and Schoolmasters,' pp. 51, 187.

³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ A. D. 1498. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 57. A. D.

1510. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 90.

A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

⁵ A. D. 1560. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 26. A. D.

1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁶ A. D. 1569-1572. Register of Ministers. A. D.

1576. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS.

Maps in Adv. Lib. A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane.

⁷ A. D. 1569-1572. Register of Ministers. *Circa*

A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁸ *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaen.

⁹ A. D. 1659. Retours.

¹⁰ A. D. 1669. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 598.

¹¹ See LOGIE WESTER, p. 548.

¹² Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv., fol. 90.

See APPLECROSS, p. 402.

¹³ Brev. Aberd. *ut supra*.

¹⁴ Book of Assumptions. Register of Ministers.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 57.

¹⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 26.

¹⁷ Register of Ministers.

¹⁸ Book of Assignations.

¹⁹ Retours.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

The church stood at Urquhart near the shore of the Firth, where a new one for the united parish was built in 1795 on a different site.¹

The valuations of the treasury of Ross and of the churches of Urquhart and Logie have been given above.² The only additional statements with which we are furnished on the subject are, that between 1569 and 1572 Master John Robesone, treasurer and minister, had as his stipend the third of his own benefice amounting to £66, 13s. 4d., and that after November 1571 the reader had 19 marks additional, apparently for the church of Urquhart.³

The lands of Culbokoy, described above, lay partly in this parish, and partly in Logie Wester.⁴

In 1574 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Robert Monro of Foulis to Marjory Mackanze the sister of Colin Mackanze of Kintaille in her virginity, granting to her the liferent of the lands of Meke Findoun, extending to a davach, in the earldom of Ross, to be held of the crown.⁵ In 1587 the same king confirmed a charter of John bishop of Ross, granting in heritage to Hugh Monro in Litle Findoun the lands of Litle Findoun in the diocese of Ross.⁶ In 1608 Robert Monro was served heir male of entail and provision to Master Hector Monro of Foullis his father in the lands of Meikill Findon with the pertinents, namely, Baddrean, Ballegyle, and Teazet, with the brewhouse and its croft, in the lordship of Ardmeanach.⁷ In 1635 Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovat was served heir male to his father Symon Lord Fraser of Lovat in the same lands, included in the barony of Foullis.⁸

There is a village at Culbokie, at which are held four yearly fairs.⁹

CULLICUDDEN.

Cullicuden¹⁰—Cullieuddin¹¹—Cullicudden¹²—Cullieudyne¹³—Cullicudin¹⁴
Cullyeuddin¹⁵—Killeuddin¹⁶—Culleuddin¹⁷—Culicudin¹⁸—Coulieuddin¹⁹
—Cullieuddin.²⁰ (Map, No. 31.)

In 1662 the parishes of Cullicudden and Kirkmichael were united by act of parliament.²¹

The united parish extends for some miles along the shore of the Cromarty Firth, from which the ground rises gradually for about two miles, after which it slopes into a cultivated valley,

¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. Old and New Stat. Acc. ² See LOGIE WESTER, pp. 548, 549.

³ Register of Ministers.

⁴ See LOGIE WESTER, p. 550.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 55.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 78.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ A. D. 1227. Regist. Morav., p. 82.

¹¹ Circa A. D. 1535. Libellus Taxationum. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1580. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 39.

¹² A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1662. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 439.

¹³ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

¹⁴ A. D. 1561-1566. Ibid.

¹⁵ A. D. 1580. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 2.

¹⁶ A. D. 1580. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 27.

¹⁷ A. D. 1600-1700. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁸ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁹ Circa A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

²⁰ A. D. 1662. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. pp. 439, 440.

²¹ Ibid. See post.

and then rises again gradually to the top of the Mulbuy, at that part 800 feet above the sea.¹ Cullieudden included the western portion of the united parish.²

In the year 1227 Jeronimus the parson of Culieuden was present at Kenedor in Moray at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and of Ross about the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser.³ In 1275 the church appears to have been taxed along with other Scotch benefices for relief of the holy land.⁴ At the Reformation the parson of Cullieudden was David Dunbar.⁵ In 1574 William Monro Hucheson was reader at the same church.⁶ In 1580 (14 October) King James VI. presented Master George Thomsoun to the parsonage of Killecuddin, vacant by the decease of Master David Dunbar.⁷ In the same year (1 December) he presented William Monro Hucheson to the same parsonage, vacant by decease of the same Master David.⁸ The parson of Cullyeudden was a canon of the cathedral.⁹ In 1662 the commissioners for the plantation of kirks united the parishes of Cullieudden and Kirkmichaell into one parish church, to be called the parish and church of Kirkmichael, and to be built at Reisolace, in favour of Sir John Wrwhart of Cromertie, and ordained that, until the new church should be built, the parishioners should attend at the church of Cullieuddin then standing; the stipend to be paid by Sir John, and to consist of 400 marks, 2 chalders bear and 2 chalders meal Linlithgow measure, with the vicarage teinds of both parishes and 50 marks for communion elements; and Sir John to have right to the glebes of Cullieudden and Kirkmichael on the entry of the minister to the new glebe designed for him at Reisolace.¹⁰ In the same year the union of the two parishes was ratified by King Charles II. and the parliament.¹¹

The church of Cullieudden, dedicated to Saint Martin, stood originally at Kilmartin or Saint Martin's in the west end of the parish, where its foundations and the burying-ground (now disused) may still be seen.¹² The site appears to have been changed previously to the year 1641, and the church built at Cullieudden on the shore of the Firth, where one of its gables is still standing.¹³ The parish is still locally known as Sgìre-a-Mhartinn, the parish of Saint Martin.¹⁴

In Baiamund's Roll the church is taxed at 53s. 4d., and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £26, 13s. 4d.¹⁵ At the Reformation the rental of the parsonage was stated as follows by Sir Alexander Pedder procurator for the parson—The town of Cullieudden, 42 bolls; Drumceudye, 22 bolls; Sanct Martenis, 9 bolls; Kyncebarch, 10 bolls; the Craighouse, 4 bolls; Eistir Culboll, 14 bolls; Wastir Culboll, 20 bolls; the Wodheid, 4 bolls; the town of Braire, 16 marks; amounting in all to 7 chalders 13 bolls of victual and £10, 13s. 4d. in money.¹⁶ In 1574 the reader at Cullieuddin had for his stipend 20 marks and the kirklands.¹⁷

¹ New Stat. Acc.

² Ibid.

¹² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 630. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

³ Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

⁴ Bisset's Rolls of Court.

⁵ Book of Assumptions. ⁶ Book of Assignations.

¹³ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 630. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 27.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 39.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 2.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. pp. 430, 440.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹⁷ Book of Assignations.

In 1328 King Robert Bruce appears to have settled a controversy between Hugh Earl of Ross and Sir Andrew de Moravia about the lands of Dromedynd and Munlochey.¹ The town of Drumneudyne, as we have seen, is about 1561 enumerated among the lands of this parish.² In 1586 King James VI. granted in heritage to William Keith the master of his wardrobe the lands of Drumquhadden, for the yearly payment of £6, 13s. 4d., 2 chalders 6 bolls 1 firloft of bear, 4 bolls of oats, 1 mart, 1 mutton, 48 poultry, 20s. of bondage silver, 10 reek hens, and 80 loads of fuel.³ In 1666 John Monro of Arduzie was served heir to his father Hugh Monro of Arduzie in the davach of the town and lands of Drumeuddin in the barony of Delnie, lordship of Ardmeanach, and sheriffdom of Ross.⁴

In 1350 William Earl of Ross and Lord of Sky granted to Adam of Vrehard the son of the deceased William of Vrehard the davach of Brehe within the *maresium* of Fernewyr in the sheriffdom of Innernes.⁵ In 1369 King David confirmed a grant, which William Earl of Ross made to Alexander of Saint Clair the son of the deceased Thomas of Saint Clair, of the whole davach of land of Bray *infra maresium de Fornewyr* in the sheriffdom of Innernes.⁶ In 1533 King James V. confirmed a charter, granted by Thomas Urquhart sheriff of Cromarty to his son and apparent heir Alexander and Beatrix Innes his wife, of three oxgangs of the lands of Brey in the earldom of Ross.⁷ In 1564 Walter Urquhart was served heir to his father Alexander Urquhart sheriff of Cromarty in the 5 oxgangs of Brey in the lordship of Ardmanache, of the old extent of £8, 8s. 2½d.⁸ The town of Braire is enumerated above among the lands of the parish as stated between 1561 and 1566.⁹ In 1577 King James VI. confirmed a grant by Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromarty to Elizabeth Makkanze his wife of the liferent of a davach of land called the lands of Bray, and of a davach called Bralangall, in the sheriffdoms of Innernes and Cromarty respectively, as full satisfaction for her terec of all the lands and other property belonging to Walter which she might claim in the event of his death.¹⁰ In 1599 Thomas Urquhart was served heir to his grandfather Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromerthie in the 5 oxgangs of the lands of Brey in the lordship of Ardmanach, of the old extent of £4.¹¹ In 1617 the same lands were resigned by John Urquhart in favour of James Fraser of Brey.¹²

In 1557 David bishop of Ross, perpetual commendator of Cambuskyneth, granted to his brother Robert Leslie the lands of the baronies of Ferindonald and Ardmanoch, including among others the lands of Eister Culbo and the alehouse and alehouse croft of Saint Martin; the grantee paying yearly for Eister Culbo 6 marks and as grassum 26s. 8d., 4 bolls of ferme victual, half a custom mart, 2 muttons, 12 poultry, 2 kids, 40 eggs valued at 6d., 100 loads of custom fuel, 8 loads 'lie takturris,' 2 bolls of custom oats, and 1 boll of 'suggeroun aitiss'—and for the alehouse and croft of Saint Martin 10s. with 3s. 4d. as grassum; paying also as arriage and carriage, and turf or fuel, for the whole lands 30s. with 13s. 4d. in augmentation of the rental, and performing

¹ Rob. Index, p. 28, no. 112.

² Book of Assumptions.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. ff. 46-48.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Cromarty Titles.

⁶ Cromarty Titles. Rob. Index, p. 58, no. 11; p. 91, no. 274.

⁷ Cromarty Titles. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 177.

⁸ Retours.

⁹ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ Cromarty Titles. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliv. fol. 42. Bralangall, now Braelangwell, is in the parish of Kirk-michael.

¹¹ Retours. The extent here given is less than half of the extent given in the retour of 1564.

¹² Cromarty Titles.

three suits at the three head courts held yearly at the canonry of Ross.¹ In the same year Queen Mary confirmed the grant.² Between 1561 and 1566, as we have seen, the lands of Eistir and Westir Culboll and of Sanct Martenis are enumerated among the lands of the parish.³ About the same period William Sinclare rector of Olrik, canon of Caithnes, and commissioner of Henry bishop of Ross, granted to Thomas Vrquhart the son of the deceased Alexander Vrquhart sheriff of Crombathy, and to the heirs male of his body, with remainder to Arthur Vrquhart his brother german and his male heirs, to James their brother german and his male heirs, to John their brother german and his male heirs, and to Walter Vrquhart their eldest brother and his male heirs whomsoever bearing the surname and arms of Vrquhart, the lands of Kilquhone (in Lumlair) extending to a quarter davach, and the lands of Eister Culbo extending to a half davach, belonging to the bishop as part of the patrimony of the bishoprick.⁴ In 1578 Alexander bishop of Ross, with the consent of the dean and canons, granted for life to his servitor William Fergusson 'chirurgéane' a yearly pension out of the dues belonging to the bishop from certain lands in Ross which belonged in heritage to Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromartie, including Sanctmartynis paying yearly 26s. 8d. mail, 8s. 11d. gersum, 7s. 1½d. in augmentation of mail and gersum, the quarter of a mart, 1 mutton, 3 capons, 3 poultry, 1 kid with eggs, 2 firlots 'sudgerone' oats, and 1 pound of heup—and the alehouse of Sanctmartynis paying in mail 26s. 8d., in gersum 8s. 11d., and in augmentation 2s. 8d.⁵ In 1585 King James VI. confirmed the grant of Saint Martin's, and in 1587 he confirmed the grant of Eister Culbo.⁶

The lands of Kynebarch, as above stated, appear among the lands of this parish between 1561 and 1566.⁷ Between the years 1565 and 1571 John bishop of Ross granted for life to Walter Vrquhart sheriff of Cromartie and Elisabeth M'Kenzie his wife, and to Henry Urquhart their second son and his heirs male, with remainder to Walter's heirs whomsoever bearing the surname and arms of Vrquhart the lands of Kinbeachie extending to a half davach, the brewhouse of Kinbeachie with its croft, and the mill of Kinbeachie, then occupied by Walter and his tenants, in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes.⁸ In 1578 Alexander bishop of Ross granted for life to his servitor William Fergusson 'chirurgéane' a yearly pension out of certain dues belonging to the bishop from the lands of Kinbeachie with the mill, and other lands in the diocese; the lands of Kinbeachie paying yearly £7, 4s. Scots in feu mails, 4 bolls ferme, 2 bolls custom oats, 1 boll 'sudgerone' oats, the half of a custom mart, 2 muttons, 6 poultry, 2 kids with their eggs, as the ferme and dues—and the mill of Kinbeachie paying yearly 20 bolls ferme and 'ane gals.'⁹ In 1580 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Walter Urquhart sheriff of Crummarty, granting certain lands to Elizabeth Ros in special warrandice of the lands of Kinbeachy.¹⁰ In 1584 he confirmed the grant of bishop John, and in 1585 the grant of bishop Alexander.¹¹ In 1603 Thomas Urquhart sheriff of Cromarthie was served heir to his father Henry Urquhart sheriff apparent in the lands of Kinbeachie extending to a half davach, the

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 9.

² Ibid.

³ Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 169.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 82.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 82; vol. lv. fol. 169.

⁷ Book of Assumptions.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 45.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 82.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 110. See KIRKMICHAEL, p. 557.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 45; vol. liii. fol. 82.

alehouse of Kinbaehie with its croft, and the mill of Kinbaehie, in the bishoprick of Ross, of the extent of £7, 4s. feuferme and other dues.¹ In 1630 Thomas Urquhart was served heir to his brother Walter Urquhart fear of Kinbeachie in the same lands, alehouse, and mill.²

Of eight yearly fairs granted in 1641 by King Charles I. to the burgh of Inverness the fifth was to be held on 10 November called Martimes fair, 'quhillk was halidin of auld at Sanct Martenis kirk in Ardmannoche now lyand waist.'³ In 1661 the grant of those fairs was confirmed by King Charles II.⁴

On the lands of Craighouse, about a mile and a half west from the chureyard of Cullieudden on the Cromarty Firth, stood the castle of Craighouse, named also Castleeraig, and in Gaelic Tigh-na-erai⁵. In the end of the sixteenth century it is said to have belonged to the Williamsons of Craighouse, and afterwards to have been a seat of the bishops of Ross.⁶ It is mentioned by a writer of the seventeenth century as 'Craighons with a tour of 4 hous height.'⁷ The tower or wing which still remains is 50 feet in height, and consists of four heavily-arched stories, with turrets, bartizans, and stone roof—the lower half having strongly vaulted apartments, and the upper half being furnished with wooden floors.⁸ On the land side it was defended by a ditch and a high wall, and the rock on which it stands is perpendicular towards the sea.⁹

In the united parish are numerous encampments, generally near the shore, and numerous cairns or tumuli which when opened are usually found to contain graves made of slabs, and in these are found ashes and remains of armour.¹⁰

K I R K M I C H A E L.

Kilmichaell¹¹ — Kirkmichael¹² — Kirkmichaell¹³ — Kirkmyhell¹⁴ — Carmichaell¹⁵ — Kirkmichell¹⁶ — Kirkmichel.¹⁷ (Map, No. 32.)

THIS parish, united to Cullieudden in 1662, forms the eastern portion of the united parish, and has the same general features as Cullieudden.¹⁸ It is locally known as Sgìre-a-mhìeal (the parish of Saint Michael).¹⁹

In 1533 a charter is witnessed by Master John Innes rector of Kirkmichell.²⁰ In 1547 Queen Mary presented Robert Marioribanks to the prebend of Kirkmichael in the cathedral church of Ross, vacant by the decease of Master John Innes.²¹ In 1548 she presented Thomas

¹ Retours.

² *Ibid.*

³ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 630.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. vii. p. 112.

⁵ Macfarlane, Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ Macfarlane.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc. 'My Schools and Schoolmasters.'

pp. 51, 222.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Circa* A. D. 1535. Libellus Taxationum.

¹² A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 15. A. D.

1587. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 36. *Circa* A. D. 1640.

Blaeu. A. D. 1662. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. pp. 439, 440.

¹³ A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 59. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS.

Maps in Adv. Lib. A. D. 1662. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 439.

¹⁴ A. D. 1570. Register of Ministers.

¹⁵ A. D. 1585. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 106.

¹⁶ A. D. 1586. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 17.

¹⁷ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁸ See CULLIEUDDEN, p. 552.

¹⁹ New Stat. Acc.

²⁰ Cromarty Titles.

²¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 15.

Marioribankis, the son of Master Thomas Marioribankis burgess of Edinburgh, to the same prebend, vacant by the decease of Robert Marioribankis.¹ In 1570 and 1574 Alexander Clunes was reader at Kirkmiehael.² In 1580, 1585, and 1586 the rector of Kirkmiehell appears to have been Master Thomas Marioribanks.³ In 1587 King James VI. presented Alexander Reid to the vicarage of Kirkmiehael, vacant by the decease of Sir James Gray.⁴

The church, dedicated to Saint Michael, stood in the east end of the parish within a few yards of the sea on the Cromarty Firth, where remain its western gable, its belfry, and a bell still used at funerals.⁵ The church of the united parish, apparently built in 1774, stands at Resolis in Kirkmiehael on the site of a former.⁶

In Baiamund's Roll the church is taxed at 53s. 4d., and in the Taxatio Sec. xvi. at £18, 12s., its yearly value in the Libellus Taxationum being 40 marks.⁷ The reader at Kirkmiehael had as his stipend in 1570 the sum of £20, and 1574 the sum of 20 marks with the kirklands.⁸

In 1551 Queen Mary granted to Elizabeth M'Canzeoch the liferent of half the lands of Bowskaly, Birkis, and Belblair, in the barony and sheriffdom of Cromertye, resigned by the sheriff Thomas Vrquhart.⁹ In 1557 David bishop of Ross, perpetual commendator of Cambuskyneth, granted to his brother Robert Leslie certain lands in the lordship of Ardmannoeh, including the lands of Eister Balblair with the alehouse; the grantee paying yearly for those lands, otherwise called Kirkmiehaell, 4 marks, with 17s. 10d. grassum, the fourth of a custom mart, 1 mutton, 6 poultry, 1 pound of hemp (*canabis*), 60 loads of fuel, and 2 bushels (*modiis*) of 'suggeroun' oats—and for the alehouse of Kirkmiehell 12s., 6 eapons, 6 geese, and 4s. grassum.¹⁰ In the same year Queen Mary confirmed the grant.¹¹ In 1580 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Walter Vrquhart sheriff of Crummarty, granting in liferent to Elisabeth Ros (then unmarried), and in heritage to his heirs by her, with remainder to his own heirs otherwise, the towns and lands of Wester Ballano and Ballaiskaillie, with all their pertinents, namely, Aueh-nintyne and the other pendicles and outsets, in the barony and sheriffdom of Crummarty, in special warrantiee of the lands and town of Kinbeachy, with the mill and other pertinents in the same barony and sheriffdom, and to be held of the crown.¹²

In 1577 King James VI. confirmed a grant of the liferent of Bralangall in the sheriffdom of Cromartie by Walter Vrquhart sheriff of Cromartie to his wife Elisabeth Makkanze.¹³

On trenching a moor on the glebe of Resolis there were discovered the foundations of a circular building like those known as Piet's houses, and imbedded in the soil a stoue vessel four inches in diameter and three-fourths of an inch in thickness.¹⁴

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 59.

² Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 2; vol. lii. fol. 166; vol. liv. fol. 17.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 36.

⁵ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen. Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 429, 430. New Stat. Acc. An anecdote related in the Scenes and Legends seems to imply that the cemetery of Kirkmiehael was of old considered a sanctuary.

⁶ New Stat. Acc. See CULLICUDDEN, p. 553.

⁷ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁸ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 116.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 9. See CULLICUDDEN, p. 554, 555.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 110.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 42. See CULLICUDDEN, p. 554.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

CROMARTY.

Cromarte¹ — Crumarty² — Crumbathy³ — Cromartie⁴ — Cromardy⁵ —
Cromarty⁶ — Cromertie.⁷ (Map, No. 33.)

THIS parish is composed of the north-east portion of the peninsula called the Black Isle, terminating eastward in the precipice called the southern Sutor, and stretches for about 4 miles along the shore of the Moray Firth on the east, and about 6 along that of the Firth of Cromarty on the north and west. On the east it presents to the Moray Firth a range of lofty precipices, attaining the height of about 470 feet above the sea.⁸ On the north and west it slopes gradually towards the other firth, the slope terminating in an abrupt terrace nearly 100 feet above the sea-level, and from its base a lower and level terrace extends to the shore.⁹ The coast in the end of the sixteenth century extended fully a quarter of a mile farther seaward than at present.¹⁰ The bay of Cromarty at the entrance of the Firth, the Sikirsund of Norse writers, is thus correctly described by Buchanan — ‘The German Ocean, opening a way to itself among the stupendous cliffs of the most lofty rocks, expands within into a spacious basin, affording a safe harbour and certain refuge against every tempest; for the passage is not difficult, and once entered the largest fleets may ride secure from the winds and waves.’¹¹

At the Reformation a fourth of the teindsheaves of the parish of Cromarte was part of the prebend of the chancellor of Ross, Master Duncan Chalmer; a fourth was part of the treasury then held in lease by Matthew Hamiltoun of Mylneburne; and a fourth was annexed to the prebend of the dean, Master Mungo Monypenny.¹² At the same period the vicarage was held by Sir John Andirsoun (or Hendirsoun) chamberlain of Moray.¹³ In 1569, 1574, and 1576 James Burnet was reader at Cromartie, and in 1574 and 1576 Master John Robertsoun treasurer of Ross was minister.¹⁴ About the year 1578 Alexander Vrqhart dean of Ross, with the consent of the canons during the vacancy of the see, granted for life to Walter Vrqhart sheriff of Cromartie and to his nearest lawful heir a yearly pension of 3 chalders 12 bolls of victual with

¹ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

² A. D. 1561-1566. *Ibid.*

³ A. D. 1561-1566. *Ibid.*

⁴ A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574-1576. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1583. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 89. A. D. 1585. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 105. *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blauen. A. D. 1644. *Retours*.

⁵ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁶ *Circa* A. D. 1640. *Ibid.*

⁷ A. D. 1661. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 106.

⁸ New Stat. Acc.

⁹ *Ibid.* Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 26, 27.

¹⁰ Scenes and Legends, pp. 28, 29.

¹¹ Buch. Hist., lib. i. c. 30. Macpherson's Geographical Illustrations. Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 25. The cliffs described by Buchanan are those known as the Sutors, which flank the entrance to the Firth. In Ross, says Bishop Leslie, is the estuary of Cromarty, abounding in varieties of the best fish, and so safe a station for ships that it is well named by geographers the *Portus Sabutis* (a mere Latin translation of the *Sikirsund*). De Gestis Scotorum, pp. 16, 17.

¹² Book of Assumptions.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

‘half cheritie’, 5 wedders, and 40s. in money, to be paid out of the quarters of the teinds of the parish of Cromartie belonging to the deanery in the following proportions, namely; Of the quarter teinds of the town of Cromartie 16 bolls of bear with ‘half cheritie,’ 40s., and a wedder — of the quarter teinds of Navitie 10 bolls of bear, ‘half cheritie,’ and a wedder — of the quarter teinds of Eistir Farnes 8 bolls of bear, ‘half cheritie,’ and a wedder — of the quarter teinds of Daidstoun 7 bolls of bear with ‘half cheritie’ — of the quarter teinds of Peddistoun 8 bolls of bear, ‘half cheritie,’ and a wedder — of the quarter teinds of Litill Farnes 8 bolls of bear, ‘half cheritie,’ and a mutton — and of the quarter teinds of Vddal 3 bolls of bear with ‘half cheritie;’ reserving only the pension given by the dean to John Sympson of Bannauis and Mariorie Abirnethy, amounting to 4 bolls of bear, ‘half cheritie,’ and a wedder, out of the quarter teinds of Eister Farnes; the lease to begin in 1578, saving the rights, services, suffrages, and prayers, formerly due to the King.¹ In 1583 King James VI. presented Master Robert Williamsoun minister to the vicarage of Cromartie, vacant by the decease of Sir John Andersoun.² In 1585 King James VI. confirmed the lease of 1578.³ In 1661, on a petition from Master Patrick Durhame, late minister of Ardnaseir, who had been appointed for life to the deanery of Ross, the parliament ordered the heritors and others to pay to him 40 bolls of teind victual, with certain customs and silver dues, payable to him as dean out of the teinds of Rosemarkie, which for three years they had paid to the minister of Cromertie.⁴

The church stood originally on ground now covered by the sea, and a sand-bank which still retains the name of the Old Kirk apparently marks its site.⁵ About the middle of the last century after a violent storm from the north-east the beach was found to be strowed with human bones, and among them were several blocks of hewn stone.⁶ One of the latter, the cornerstone of a cornice, is still to be seen upon the shore.⁷ The present church stands at the east end of the town near the base of the higher terrace above described.⁸

Between 1561 and 1566 Sir Andro Robertsoun was chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint Regule in the diocese of Ross.⁹ In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by James Burnet chaplain of Saint Regula (Regulus) near the burgh of Cromartie, granting, with the consent of Walter Vrquhart sheriff of Cromartie, and of the bailies and community of the burgh, the patrons of the chaplainry, to Alexander Vrquhart the son of Arthur Vrquhart of Balleblair and to his heirs male, with remainder in succession to John Vrquhart the unele of Alexander and his heirs male bearing the surname and arms of Vrquhart, and to Walter Vrquhart and his heirs male bearing the same surname and arms, the lands of the chaplainry, with the manse, garden, and croft, extending to 4 acres of land, lying between the lands of the sheriff on the west and the lands of Alexander Clunes on the east.¹⁰ The chapel, dedicated to Saint Regulus or Rule, abbot and confessor, who is said to have brought into Scotland the relics of Saint Andrew, stood on a detached wooded knoll east of the town of Cromartie, having on the south a deep ravine with a

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 105.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 89.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 105.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 106.

⁵ Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 104.

⁶ Ibid., p. 29.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 34.

small stream.¹ The southern wall has been destroyed by the ground giving way from the continued action of the stream; the ruins of the other walls still remain.² Attached to the west end was the tomb of the Urquharts of Cromarty, of which almost the only remains are a single tier of hewn ashler having a sloping base and surmounted by a Gothic moulding.³ Tradition says that at the Reformation a valuable historical record belonging to the chapel was carried to France by the priest.⁴ In the last century there was found in a recess of one of the walls a rubricated manuscript, the nature and subsequent fate of which are unknown.⁵

On a steep ridge overlooking the Moray Firth is the site of a chapel dedicated to Saint Bennet (one of the saints named Benedict) of which the only vestiges are a heap of stones and a grassy mound.⁶ Near it stood a stone trough termed the Fairy's Cradle, destroyed about the year 1745; and in the neighbourhood is Saint Bennet's Well, even in recent times believed to possess the virtue of curing the sick, by whom, when they drank the water, a small rag was left as an offering on a thorn bush overhanging the well.⁷

In the parish were other three chapels, two of which have totally disappeared, and the dedication of which is unknown; the third, dedicated to Saint Duthace, is now represented by a mound and stones like the chapel of Saint Bennet, and has in its vicinity a well which still bears Saint Duthace's name.⁸

There was a chaplainry in the cathedral church endowed from the lands of Navity.⁹ In the seventeenth century it was a popular belief that the inhabitants of the sheriffdom of Cromarty were at the day of final doom to be judged on the moor of Navity.¹⁰

Between 1561 and 1566 the valuation of the church of Cromarty was included in that of the chancellor, treasury, and deanery of Ross, to each of which a fourth of the teinds belonged (the remaining fourth belonging apparently to the bishop).¹¹ At the same date we have on record the following valuation of the vicarage of Cromarty: 'The rental of the vicarage of Cromarty within the dyocie of Ros quhan all dewtie pertening thairto was ansuerit—Payment zeirlie xxii merkis, the curat being sustenit; and now lytill thairof ansuerit except the teind of the yeardis within the town, quhilk will be vi bollis victuall or thairby—Pertenis to Sir Johne Andirsoun chalmerland of Murray. Mr. Thomas Ker at the command of Sir Johne Hendirsoun possessor of the foirsaid benefice.'¹² In 1569 the reader at Cromartie had for his stipend £20; and in 1574 and 1576 he had 20 marks and the kirklands.¹³ In 1574 Master John Robertsoun treasurer had for his stipend as minister at Chanonrie and Cromartie £118, 10s. 8½d.; and in 1576, as minister at Cromartie, 'his stipend forty pundis, thairof the rest of the thrid of his awin thesaurarie of Ross not assignit to the ministers and reidars serving at the kirkis thairof.'¹⁴

¹ Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 191, 207. The Calendar of the Romish Church assigned two festivals to Saint Regulus, one on 31 March, and one on 17 October. Camerarius (p. 180) gives 17 October as the day of Saint Regulus. Sir H. Nicolas gives 28 August.

² Scenes and Legends, p. 206.

³ Ibid., pp. 206, 207.

⁴ Ibid., p. 105.

⁶ Ibid., p. 104. The saint was probably Benedicta the Virgin, commemorated on 8 or 21 October.

⁷ Ibid.

⁹ See ROSEMARKIE post.

¹⁰ Scenes and Legends, p. 216.

¹¹ Book of Assumptions.

¹² Book of Assumptions.

¹³ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹⁴ Book of Assignations.

⁵ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

The value of the chaplainry of Saint Regule, as given up between 1561 and 1566 to the collector of thirds by Sir Alexander Pedder procurator of Sir Andro Robertsoun the chaplain, was £10.¹

Of the other chaplainries we have no recorded valuation.

The early history of the parish and district of Cromarty is apparently the same as that of the earldom of Ross.² The barony seems to have been co-extensive with the ancient sheriffdom, and to have been held by the sheriffs, the first of whom on record is William de Monte Alto, who was sheriff of Crumbathyn in 1263.³ The sheriff of Crumbartyn appears in record in 1296 under King Edward I. of England.⁴ In 1315 King Robert Bruce granted in heritage to Sir Hugh of Ross, the son and heir of William Earl of Ross, and the husband of Mauld the King's sister, the whole sheriffdom and burgh of Crumbathy, the grantee doing the forinsec service belonging to the land, saving to the King the custom called 'malatout.'⁵ Before 1349 King David II. granted to Ada Urquhart the sheriffdom of Crombathie and sheriffship of the same, which William Earl of Ross (the son of Hugh) had resigned.⁶ From that year to 1370 Adam of Urquhart, formerly styled lord of Inchrory, appears as sheriff of Cromady or Crumbathy.⁷ His son John appears with him in 1369 as witness to a charter, and in 1398 John of Urquhart appears as sheriff of Cromarty.⁸ In 1457 William Urquhart in Crumbathy was one of two appointed by King James II. to assist his chancellor in visiting and reforming the hospitals in the diocese of Ross.⁹ Between 1491 and 1493 occurred 'the herschip of Cromartie,' that is, the plundering of the lands of Cromartie by Huchoun the Ros younger of Kilrawok and his accomplices, of whom the chief seem to have been Doule McGillecallum and William Alansone.¹⁰ These carried away from the lands 600 cows, each worth 13s. 4d.—5 score of horses, each 26s. 8d.—50 score of sheep, each 2s.—20 score of goats, each 2s.—200 swine, each 3s.—20 score bolls of victual, each 6s. 8d.—and £200 worth of household goods.¹¹ Master Alexander Urquhart sheriff of Cromarty, proprietor of the lands, sued the parties for the restitution of the goods, and also for £100 of the mails of his lands 'haldin wast be the said Huchoun younger and his complices of twa yeris.'¹² The chiefs of the Clanchattane and Huchoun the Ros baron of Kilrawok became surety for the parties prosecuted; the case was proved in court; and in 1493 (5 February) the Lords of Council ordained that the

¹ Book of Assumptions.

² See DINGWALL, pp. 485, 486.

³ *Compta Camerar.*, vol. i. pp. 30*, 41*. This person, affirmed by Sir Thomas Urquhart to have derived his name from the hill on which the castle of Cromarty was built, and reckoned by him among his ancestors, was in reality one of an Anglo-Norman family who came into Scotland in the preceding century, and whose name subsequently took the more familiar form Mowat. See Chalmers's *Caledonia*, vol. i. pp. 531, 532; *Reg. Morav.*, pp. 99, 114, 126, 279, 282; *Regist. de Aberbrothoc*, vol. i. pp. 93, 163, 187, 189-191, 200, 201, 205, 206, 227, 269, 323, 338. The barony, as afterwards held by the Urquharts, 'extended from the farthest point of the southern Sator to the hill of Kinbeakie, a tract which

includes the parishes of Cromarty, Kirkmichael, and Cullinden.' *Miller's Scenes and Legends*, p. 46.

⁴ *Rotuli Scotie*, vol. i. p. 25.

⁵ *Kilravock Charters*. *Rob. Index*, p. 2, no. 50.

⁶ *Rob. Index*, p. 45, no. 27. This seems to be the first grant of Cromarty made to the Urquharts. Ada appears to have been the son of William of Vrehard, who was dead in 1350. *Cromarty Titles*.

⁷ *Charter penes Urquhart of Craigston*. *Balnagown Charters*. *Kilravock Charters*. *Rob. Index*, p. 35, nn. 20, 21; p. 86, nn. 204, 205; p. 100, no. 1.

⁸ *Rob. Index*, p. 86, no. 204. *Balnagown Charters*.

⁹ *Acta Parl. Scot.*, vol. ii. p. 49.

¹⁰ *The Family of Kilravock*, pp. 162, 163. *Acta Dom. Conc.*, p. 273. ¹¹ *Ibid.* ¹² *Ibid.*

baron of Kilrawok and Huchoun the Ros his son and apparent heir should pay the value to Master Alexander Vrqhart and his tenants John Vrqhart, Thomas Vrqhart, Thomas Vrqhart, William Smethissone, Andrew Holme, William Donaldsone, and others, and that their lands and goods should be distrained for it, reserving to Kilrawok and his son the right of prosecuting any of the accomplices of the latter for their share of the payment.¹ In 1494 (5 July) the case of Huchoun the Ros of Kilrawok against Sir Alexander of the IIs of Lochelche, Alane M'Rory, and others, for his relief at the hands of Master Alexander Vrqhart of 600 cows and oxen and other goods was continued by the Lords of Council to 4 August following, that more witnesses might be examined.² In the same year the sheriff of Cromarty and his tenants sued Huchoun Ros of Kilrawok for withholding from them 'the avals and profitis that thai nicht haf haid' of the goods taken from their lands; and the Lords of Council (9 July) continued the case till 8 August, ordaining the sheriff to summon his witnesses.³ By the year 1497 or 1498 the baron of Kilravock had not succeeded in operating his relief against the Mackintoshes: and between 1501 and 1503 the debt of 800 marks due to the Urqharts was by the arbitration of friends settled as follows—That in lieu of 400 marks Huchone Rois the heir of Kilrawok, or, he failing, John Rois, the baron's second son, or any other his eldest son and heir, should marry Agnes Urqhart the sheriff's daughter; and that the other 400 marks should be secured over the lands of Kilravock and paid in yearly instalments of £40.⁴ Master Alexander Vrqhart of Cromarty and sheriff of Cromarty appears in record in 1503 and 1504, and was dead in 1506.⁵ In the last named year King James VI. granted to Alexander Ogilvy of Far the marriage of Thomas Vrqhard the son and heir of the deceased sheriff.⁶ In 1510 Huchoun Ros and Agnes Urqhart were married, and the marriage contract, dated 4 November of that year, is witnessed by the same Thomas Urqhart of Cromarty the son and heir of the deceased Alexander.⁷ In 1533, 1534, 1549, 1551, and 1552, the same Thomas Vrqhard (styled in the last named year Thomas Vrqharde of Fyscharie), appears in record as sheriff of Cromarty.⁸ He seems to have died in 1557.⁹ About the year 1533 he granted the lands of Inchroty and others to his son and apparent heir Alexander Vrqhard and his wife Beatrix Innes, the former of whom appears in 1549 as Alexander Vrqhart of Ynchrorie the son and heir apparent of the same Thomas Vrqhart sheriff of Cromarty.¹⁰ In 1564 Alexander Vrqhard appears as sheriff of Crombathy, and in 1565 he was dead.¹¹ He had five sons, Walter, John, James, Arthur, and Thomas, of whom Walter the eldest succeeded him.¹² Between 1565 and 1571 Walter Vrqhard sheriff of

¹ The Family of Kilravock, pp. 162, 163. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 273.

² Acta Dom. Conc., p. 359.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 368.

⁴ The Family of Kilravock, pp. 162, 163.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 132; vol. iii. ff. 1, 60.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 60.

⁷ The Family of Kilravock, p. 163.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 177; vol. xxiv. fol. 116; vol. xxvi. fol. 10. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 169*. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 419.

⁹ In that year, according to the Calendar of Fearn, died in his own palace Andrew Vrqhard sheriff of Cromarty, a person who so far as other records are concerned never existed. Thomas Vrqhard appears to have been the 'Pater Hemon' of his descendant Sir Thomas, but no existing record seems to justify the title. See Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 52, 53.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 177. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 419.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 46; vol. lv. fol. 169.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 169.

Cromartie appears in record with his wife Elisabeth M'Kenzie and Henry Vrqhart their second son; in 1577 he again appears in record along with his wife Elisabeth Makkanze; in 1578 Alexander Vrqhart dean of Ros granted to him and his nearest lawful heir for life a yearly pension, above mentioned, from the dean's quarter teinds of the lands of Cromartie, namely, Navitie, Eister Farnes, Daidstoun, Peddistoun, Litill Farnes, and Vddall; and in 1585 he had a confirmation of the grant from King James VI.¹ In 1599 Thomas Urquhart was served heir to his grandfather Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromerthie in the lands and barony of Cromerthie, with the Castlehill called the Mothill of the same, and the yearly revenues of the burgh of Cromerthie, lying in the barony and sheriffdom of Cromerthie—and in the office of sheriff of Cromerthie—together of the old extent of £40, 12s. 7d.² In the same year and in 1603 Thomas Urquhart appears as the heir of his father Henry Urquhart sheriff apparent of Cromerthie.³ In 1599 appears in record Johu Wrqhart tutor of Cromertie, and in 1604 John Urquhart was served heir male in certain lands to his father Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromartie (then apparently alive).⁴ The latter and his son Henry the apparent sheriff were both dead in 1607, in which year Thomas Urquhart sheriff of Cromertie was served heir in certain lands to his uncle John.⁵ In 1630 Thomas Urquhart (apparently the son of the sheriff, and afterwards Sir Thomas) was served heir in the lands of Kimbeachie to his brother Walter the fear of those lands.⁶ He was born in 1613, knighted by King Charles I. in 1641, succeeded his father soon afterwards, and died in 1661.⁷ In 1644 Master Thomas Rig of Athernie was served heir to his father William Rig of Athernie in a yearly revenue of £2000 from the lands and barony of Cromartie, and specially of those towns and parts of the barony called Daidstoun, Pedistoun, Arnoche, and Farnes, with the mill of Farnes, in the barony and parish of Cromartie, of the extent of £1600 according to act of parliament.⁸ Sir Thomas Urquhart was succeeded by his brother Alexander, who, dying in the course of a year afterwards, was succeeded by Sir John Urquhart of Craigfintrie the representative of another branch of the family.⁹

In 1529 died John of Daidstoun (apparently John Denowne).¹⁰ In 1536 appear in record John Denowne of Daidstoun and his son Donald Denowne.¹¹ In 1547 Queen Mary granted to William Dennowne of Petnele the nonentry and other dues of certain lands which had been in her hands since the decease of Alexander Dunnvne of Daidstoun.¹² In the same year she granted to John Dunnvne, the second son of John Dunnvne of Daidstoun, certain lands resigned by John the elder, to whom the liferent was reserved.¹³ In 1556 John Denowne of Davidstoun was dead, and Donald Denowne of Kenroy appears as his son and heir.¹⁴ In 1578 and 1585, as we have seen, the lands of Daidstoun appear among the lands of the parish, and in 1644 were inherited by Master Thomas Rig of Athernie from William Rig his father.¹⁵

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 69; vol. xlv. fol. 42; vol. li. fol. 45; vol. lii. fol. 105.

² Retours.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Kilravock Charters. Retours.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 86, 87, 92.

⁸ Retours.

⁹ Scenes and Legends, p. 110.

¹⁰ Calendar of Fearn.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 583.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 30.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 33.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. nn. 358, 393. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. ff. 33, 70.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 105. Retours.

In 1557 David bishop of Ross granted to his brother Robert Leslie his lands in Ferindonald and Ardmanoeb, including the lands of Vdwall, the grantee paying yearly for the latter 6 marks 6 shillings and 8 pence with 28s. 11d. as grassum, 8 bolls of ferme victual, the half of a custom mart, 2 muttuns, 12 poultry, 2 kids, 40 eggs valued at 6d., 2 bolls of custom oats, and 1 boll of 'suggarunne' oats.¹ In the same year Queen Mary confirmed the grant.² In 1578 and 1585, as we have seen, Vddall is enumerated among the lands of the parish that paid tithes to the dean of Ross.³

The burgh of Cromarty (Crumbauchtyn) existed in the year 1263, when it appears to have had two provosts or aldermen (*prepositi*).⁴ In 1296 the Knights Templars had probably some property in the burgh, which King Edward I. by a mandate addressed to the sheriff of Crumbhantyn ordered to be restored to the Master on swearing fealty.⁵ In 1315 King Robert Bruce granted the burgh of Crumbathy, with all the burgesses, liberties, and pertinents, within and without it, to Sir Hugh of Ross the son and heir of William Earl of Ross, reserving to the King the custom called 'malatout.'⁶ In the Inverness Museum is an old seal or cocket, supposed to be of the reign of King Robert II. (1371-1390), and bearing the name of the burgh, Chrombte.⁷ In 1472 William Urquhart was infeft in the burgh of Cromarty on a precept by John Earl of Ross.⁸ In 1483 appears in record Thomas Rede bailie of Cromarty, and in 1492 David Dunnone bailie of the same burgh.⁹ In 1505 King James IV. granted to Andro Aytoun captain of the castle of Striueling the customs of all the burghs and bounds between Banf and Orkney, for the yearly payment of £50 to the King's comptroller and others.¹⁰ In 1533 appear in record Alexander Clwnes, Alexander Forbes, and Thomas Duff, burgesses of Cromarty.¹¹ In 1555 Queen Mary granted to Sir John Deuvne a remission for the cruel slaughter of John Maltie dwelling in the Newtoun of Cromarty.¹² Till about this period the burgh of Cromarty stood upon ground now covered by the sea, and before the end of the century another (apparently the 'Newtoun' above mentioned) had been formed farther from the sea, and to the eastward of the present town.¹³ Its cross, bearing the date 1578, still exists.¹⁴ In 1592 among a number of articles referred by parliament to the privy council there was one entitled 'Ane article anent the heaven and port of Cromertie.'¹⁵ In 1593 King James VI. confirmed the privileges of the burgh of Cromarty as a royal burgh, and confirmed anew to the provost and magistrates the burgh lands, namely, those lying between the lands of Murehead, Boghous, and Bogs of Fernes, belonging to the sheriff of Cromarty, on the west—the lands of Ethie and the sea on the south—and the sea on the east and north—with the haven, raid, and harbour of the burgh in all places within the 'craiges callit the Sowteris.'¹⁶

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 9.

² Ibid.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 105.

⁴ Compota Camerar., vol. i. p. 41*.

⁵ Rotuli Scotie, vol. i. p. 25.

⁶ See above, p. 561.

⁷ Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 48.

⁸ Cromarty Titles.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 159. Acta Dom. Conc., p. 236.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 30.

¹¹ Cromarty Titles.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. ff. 111-113.

¹³ Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 28, 29, 75-78.

¹⁴ Ibid., p. 275.

¹⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 586.

¹⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 627.

In 1599, as we have seen, Thomas Urquhart was served heir to his grandfather Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromerthie in the yearly revenues of the burgh.¹ In 1641 King Charles I. confirmed the charter granted in 1593 by King James VI.² In 1670 the town council alienated their lands to Sir John Urquhart of Cromarty for 5000 marks Scots and a yearly feu duty of 20 marks.³ In 1672 they represented to Parliament that for a long time there had been no trade within the burgh, and that through the imposition of many burdens it was both impoverished and depopulated; and requested leave to demit their freedom and privileges as a royal burgh.⁴ The request was granted, and Cromarty ordered to be expunged from the rolls of parliament, and no more to be accounted a royal burgh.⁵ From that period the town appears to have gradually sunk into an inconsiderable village till about the year 1750, when its trade revived and its site was changed as at present.⁶ The site of the original burgh, of which the last vestige disappeared in the present century, is now covered every tide by two fathoms of water, but seems to be still marked by the 'Clach Malacha' (or Malloch), a large stone now a quarter of a mile from the shore, but in the seventeenth century surrounded by cornfields and clumps of wood.⁷ Its successor is now represented by a road to the east of the present town bounded by fences and a few old houses, formerly its main street, and still known as the Old Causeway.⁸

In 1292 King Edward I. ordered Thomas of Braytoft, keeper of the castles of Invernar and Crumbarthyn, to deliver them up to King John Balliol.⁹ The castle of Cromarty is traditionally said to have been besieged by the English in the time of Sir William Wallace, who is believed to have raised the siege.¹⁰ It was probably granted, though not expressly mentioned, with the sheriffdom to Sir Hugh of Ross in 1315, and to Adam of Urquhart before 1349, and thenceforward held by the Urquharts as sheriffs and barons of Cromarty.¹¹ In 1557 Andrew (Thomas) Urquhart sheriff of Cromarty is said to have died 'in his own palace.'¹² In 1599, as we have seen, Thomas Urquhart was served heir to his grandfather Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromerthie in the lands and barony of Cromarty with the Castlehill called the Mothill of the same.¹³ In 1643 Hen Ros of Tollie with two of his servants are said to have died suddenly 'in ane chamber in the eastell of Cromartie.'¹⁴ The castle stood on an angle of the terrace above the present town on the east side of a deep ravine.¹⁵ It was built in the old turreted style, and defended on the south by a moat and high wall.¹⁶ It was taken down in 1772, and in the surrounding ground were found human skeletons and urns containing human remains, both enclosed in graves made of flags.¹⁷ The lintel of one of its fire-places, preserved at Kinbeakie in Resolis, bears the date 1651, the initials of Sir Thomas Urquhart, the names and eras of some of his supposed ancestors, and several curious devices.¹⁸

¹ Retours. See p. 563.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 627.

³ Mun. Corp. Reports.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. pp. 68, 69. ⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Miller's Scenes and Legends, pp. 75, 275.

⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 28, 29. 'My Schools and Schoolmasters,' p. 63.

⁸ Scenes and Legends, p. 75.

⁹ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 12.

¹⁰ Scenes and Legends, p. 47.

¹¹ See above, pp. 561, 564.

¹² Calendar of Fearn.

¹³ See above, p. 563.

¹⁴ Calendar of Fearn.

¹⁵ Miller's Scenes and Legends, p. 78.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 78, 79.

¹⁷ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁸ Scenes and Legends, pp. 82, 94, 95. For an interesting account of Sir Thomas and his writings see the same authority, pp. 86-103. See also 'The Works of Sir Thomas Urquhart,' with a memoir, published by the Maitland Club.

Close to the town stood an eminence called the Courthill (apparently now removed), on which the sheriff courts were held in early times.¹

To the west of the present town is another eminence, having a hollow known as the Witch's Hole, and at one time the place of execution.²

The highest part of the Southern Sutor is still named the Gallowhill, and the remains of a cairn which crown it retain the name of the Gallows.³

On a hill behind the town a spot marked by a few shapeless hillocks is supposed to have been the scene of a battle between the English and Sir William Wallace, who is said to have laid an ambush for his enemies in a marshy hollow 4 miles south of Cromarty still known as Wallace' Slack.⁴ The battle is supposed to be mentioned by Blind Harry, the biographer of Wallace, in the following lines—

Wallace raid throu the northland into playne
At Crummade feill Inglismen thai slew
The worthi Scottis till hym thus couth persew
Returnd agayne and come till Abirdeyn
With his blith ost upon the Lammes ewyn.⁵

In the higher parts of the parish, and extending into the neighbouring parishes, is an extensive moor covered with numerous tumuli, supposed to mark the scene of a battle; and within the parish is the site of an encampment supposed to be Danish.⁶ At the east end of the moor about 6 miles from Cromarty is a large heap of stones known as the Grey Cairn.⁷ Near it was another long since destroyed.⁸

¹ Scenes and Legends, p. 83.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid., pp. 47, 48.

⁵ MS. of Wallace in Adv. Lib., fol. 55. Jamieson, book vii. ll. 1084-1088.

⁶ Scenes and Legends, pp. 20, 21. Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

ROSEMARKIE.

Rosmarky¹ — Rosmerky² — Roismerky³ — Rosmerkie⁴ — Rosmerkin⁵ —
 Ramskye⁶ — Channonrie⁷ — Channonerye⁸ — Chanonrie⁹ — Rosmarkny¹⁰
 — Rosmarkie¹¹ — Rosemarkie¹² — Chanrie.¹³ (Map, No. 34.)

THIS parish, extending from near Fortrose to the burn of Ethie, has in its southern part a sandy coast which includes the Ness of Chanonry about a mile in length, and in its northern part a bold rocky coast diversified by perpendicular precipices and wild ravines.¹⁴ From the shore it slopes at some parts to the top of the Mulbuy, and in the interior it is generally arable.¹⁵

The origin of the church of Rosmarky is ascribed to Saint Boniface surnamed Queretinus, an Italian who in the seventh or eighth century is said to have come into Scotland for the purpose of inducing the church there to conform to the practice of the church of Rome, and, after founding churches in many parts of the country, to have settled at Rosmarky, and to have built there a church, in which he was afterwards buried.¹⁶ The church does not appear in any known record from the period of its foundation till the year 1510, in which it is mentioned in the Aberdeen Breviary as the burial-place of Saint Moloc.¹⁷ In 1529 appears in record Sir William Gray vicar of Rosmarky deceased.¹⁸ In 1546 Queen Mary presented Sir Thomas Stevinsoun to the vicarage of Rosmerky, vacant by the decease of Sir Thomas Gray, or by his resignation, or in any other way whatsoever.¹⁹ In 1549 the same queen presented George Dunbar to the vicarage, vacant or when vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Stevinsoun.²⁰ Between 1561 and 1566 a fourth of the teinds of Rosmarky belonged to the chancellor of Ross, a fourth to the treasurer, and a fourth to the dean.²¹ At the same period the vicarage was held by George Dunbar parson of Kilmowr (Wester), and apparently the presentee of 1549.²² Between 1569 and 1571 William

¹ A. D. 1510. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv. fol. 7. A. D. 1529. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 81. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

² A. D. 1546. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 75. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

³ A. D. 1549. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 7.

⁴ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁵ A. D. 1561-1566. Ibid.

⁶ A. D. 1561-1566. Ibid.

⁷ A. D. 1569-1571. Register of Ministers.

⁸ A. D. 1570. Ibid.

⁹ A. D. 1574-1576. Book of Assignations.

¹⁰ A. D. 1574-1576. Ibid.

¹¹ Circa A. D. 1640. Blacu. A. D. 1649. Retours.

¹² Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. A. D. 1655. Retours.

¹³ A. D. 1649. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 395.

¹⁴ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. ¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Acta Sanctorum, xvi Martii, citing Boethius, Leslie, Dempster, and Utrecht MSS. Leslaeus de Gestis Scotorum, p. 17. Camerarius, p. 117. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. byem. ff. 69, 70. Saint Boniface is further said to have baptized Nectan king of the Picts, and to have first settled at Restennet in Forfarshire. He was commemorated by the church of Rome on 16 March. The authorities cited leave it a matter of doubt whether the church which he founded at Rosemarkie was the parish church or the cathedral.

¹⁷ Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv. fol. 7. See LISMORE, p. 159. ¹⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 81.

¹⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 75.

²⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 7.

²¹ Book of Assumptions.

²² Ibid.

Hay was reader at Channonrie; in 1570 the reader was James Buschart; in 1574 Master John Robertoun was minister at Chanonrie or Rosmarkny, and at Cromartie, and William Hay was reader at the Chanonrie or Rosmarkny; and in 1576 Alexander bishop of Ross was minister, and William Hay reader at Chanonrie and Rosmarkny.¹

The bishoprick of Ross was founded by King David I. between the years 1124 and 1128, at which period Macbeth its first bishop (*Rosmarkensis episcopus*) appears in record.² The bishop's seat was perhaps originally at Rosemarkie, from which the bishoprick continued to be occasionally named down to the middle of the thirteenth century, when the original name seems to have finally given place to that of bishoprick of Ross.³ Among the items of the King's revenue accounted for in 1263 by Laurence le Grant sheriff of Innernes were the King's silver (*finis*) paid by the bishop of Ross, amounting for that year to 10 marks, and the profits (*lucra*) of the justiciar in Ros, amounting to £4, 10s., exclusive of the bishop's tithe, which was 10s.⁴ In 1329 the abbot of Dunfermline, depository of the money ordained *pro pace* (for fulfilling the stipulations of the Treaty of Northampton, 1328) accounted to the King's exchequer for the sum of £71, 11s. 1d. received for the bishoprick of Ross.⁵ From that period till near the end of the fifteenth century there seems to be almost no recorded notice of the bishoprick, except in the case of its successive rulers.⁶ John Fraser is alleged to have been appointed bishop in 1485; the bishop in 1487 was Thomas the founder of the collegiate church of Tain; and in 1499 there is on record a precept of King James IV. for the admission of John bishop of Ross (apparently John Fraser) to the temporality of the bishoprick, 'the aith of fidelite ressauit of befor.'⁷ In 1507 (1 May) that king granted for a year to Sir Robert Fresale dean of Ross, Alexander Fresale, and James Makysoun, the executors of the deceased John bishop of Ross, the temporality of the lands and possessions of the bishoprick, with power to sublet and to hold courts, with all other liberties.⁸ In the same year (17 August) he granted a precept of admission to the temporality of the bishoprick in favour of Master Robert Cokburn.⁹ In 1516 King James V. granted a letter of protection to Robert bishop of Ross, 'quhilk passis in the Kingis ambassiate and seruice to the King of France and vthir princes in the parts beyond sey,' and to 33 persons his kinsmen, friends, and servants — the letter to be valid for 6 months, or for 15 days after the return of the ambassador, who carried with him two letters 'of credence' written in French and sealed with the privy seal of Scotland.¹⁰ In 1524 (16 September) the same king granted a precept of admission to the temporality of the bishoprick in favour of James bishop of Ross.¹¹ In 1539 (23 June) he granted a similar precept in favour of Robert bishop of Ross.¹² Between the years 1561 and 1566 the following rental of the bishoprick was

¹ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

² Keith's Bishops. Chalmers, vol. i. p. 678. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 46*. Regist. de Dunfermelyn, p. 4.

³ Chronica de Mailros, pp. 78, 102, 113, 114, 191. Regist. Morav., pp. 4, 19, 63, 64, 81, 82, 122, 133, 140, 282, 332, 333. Keith's Bishops.

⁴ Computa Camerar., vol. i. p. 16*.

⁵ Ibid., p. 58.

⁶ See Keith's Bishops.

⁷ Ibid. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 127.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 113.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 121.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 34.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vii. fol. 93.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 10.

given up to the collector of thirds by Henry Sinclair the bishop — ‘ The rental of the bishoprick of Ros as it payis now *salvo iusto calculo* sua far as I can gett witt presentlie. In primis the Witsunday and Martymes tearnis maillis of the landis of the mairdomis of Allane, Ardmanoch, Fyrndonald, Nyg, Ardrosser, and vtheris landis perteing to the said bishoprick of Ross, yeirlie extendis to the sowme of *iiii^c lxii li. iiii s. ii d.* Fearnis of the temporalitie thairof, *xx ch. viii bs.* victuall; *custum aittis, vii ch. iiii bs.*; *custum mairtis, xxxix mairtis ii quarteris*; *custum muttoun, vii^{xx}*; *custum caponis, x dossone*; *custum pultrie, lvii. do.*; *custum kyddis, vi^{xx} xliiii*, and with ilk kyd 30 aggis paying thairfor *iiii d.*; and in salmond tua or thrie last, and sum yeiris not sa many, quhairof is to be deduct salt, tries, and vther expenss, quhilk the thrid pairt of the fishe beis gottin will not outred yeirlie for commoun and sum yeiris not tua last, and sua vncertan quhilis lesse quhilis mair. Item ane pairt of the teindis of the paroshinis of Kilmowir and Kilernane yeirlie riddin quhyllis les quhyllis mair estimat to *v ch. vii bs.* comounly. Item the parosh kirk of Terbat *xxxiii ch. i pt.*, and in teind silver *xxvi li. viii s.*, and *xl muttoun.* Item in the paroche kirk of Nig *xix ch. v bs.* victuall, and in teind silver *xv li. ix s.*, *xxix muttoun.* The sowmes of money and victuall giwin out of the bishoprick of Ros in ordinar now yeirlie; Item to the lordis of the coledge of justice *xvi li. xvi s.*; Item to the chalmerland in fie *xl lib.*; Item to the gantar men of Nyg and Terbat *xviii bs.* victuall and ten pundis money; Item to the chaplane of Allane *xii bs.* victuall; Item to the fischar bottis of Rosmarkin *ii bs. ii fir.* victuall; Item to the salmond fischaris of the Nes of the Channonrie *xix bs.* victual and *iiii lib.*; Item to the kenar of the Nes *xii bs.* victuall and ten pund of money; Item for the officiaris *fies x lib.*; Item to the curatis of Nyg and Terbat *xl li.*; Item to the kenar of Kineairne *iiii bs.* victuall and *xl s.* mony; Item to the vicar of chore in the Channonry *xx li.*; Item to the prechar of the kirkis of Nyg and Terbat in the yeir *l li.*; Item for the expenss and *fies* of men to keepe the hous and place of the Chanounrie quhen I am furth of it in the cussion or wthirwayis in the Queenis Grace service, quhilk *lyis* in ane far Heland cuntrie and ellis stollin this tyme twa yeir fra my servandis be brokin men as is notarie knawin, quha withheld it fra me nyne monthis or thairby to my great skaith, and opprest nocht allanerlie the landis perteing to that kirk bot sindrie vtheris of the Queenis Grace tennentis and vtheris perteing to vther landit men of the cuntrie thairabout, quhairthrow it is force to me to haif ane guild company of men in my absence in the said place, lyk as I haif now presentlie in the samin, quhairof the expenss extendis as efter followis — Item of victuall *xii ch.* — Item *xx mairtis* — Item of muttoun *lxxx* — Item of pultrie *xx dussoun* — Item for sleshis and vtheris necessaris and the saidis menis *fies 1^c lib.*; quhilk is to be considerit, for on force I am constraint to caus keepe that place as said is, and wtherwayis, gif broken men mycht haue it, it sould not only stop me to be anserit of my leiving in thair pairtis, bot also be ane instrument to truble the cuntrie thairabout. Sic subscribitur, Hen. Rossen.¹ In 1565 Queen Mary granted for life to her servitor ‘ Seinzecoure Johnne Francisco de Busso, knycht of the ordoure of Sanet James of Spada, and ane of hir Hienes maister of housholdis,’ a yearly pension of £400 Scots out of the fruits of the bishoprick

¹ Book of Assumptions.

of Ross and its patrimony.¹ In 1567, for the good service done to her deceased mother and to herself by the same 'Seinzeoure Francisco,' she confirmed the grant.² In 1568 King James VI. confirmed to Gilbert Dowglas the brother german of Frances Dowglas of Borg a grant for life made to him (3 February 1565) of a yearly pension of £200 Scots out of the fruits of the bishoprick of Ros, to be paid 'be the bischop or intransis quhilkis suld happin than to be prouidit thairto be oure Souerane Lordis moder or be ony vthiris quhatsumeuir'—the grant and the confirmation to be valid 'nochtwithstanding the proces of forfaltour led aganis Johnne now bischop of Ros for certane crymes of tressoun and lesemaiestie committit be him.'³ In 1569 the same king confirmed to 'Seigneoure Francisco de Busso' the grant of 1565 and the confirmation of 1567.⁴ In 1570 (15 November), for the good service done by Alexander Suthirland during the regency of James Earl of Murray and afterwards, the King (James VI.) granted to Alexander for life a yearly pension of 80 bolls of victual out of two-thirds of the bishoprick of Ross, then vacant by the forfeiture of Bishop John for treason and lesemajesty—and, as security for payment he granted him the teind victuals of certain lauds in the parish of Tarbert extending yearly to 80 bolls of victual, 'without preiudice of the said Alexanderis executionu vpon the reddiest vthir fruitis of the said bischoprik in cais he be not thankfullie anuerit of the saidis fruitis assignit.'⁵ In the same year (21 December) the same king, for the good service done to his 'guidschir and regent' by Robert Leslie of Arthourseir, granted to him for life a yearly pension of £103, 11s. 4d. Scots, together with 300 'laidis of peittis' out of the fruits of the bishoprick of Ros, and, as security, the dues of the lands of Arthourseir and others belonging to the bishoprick.⁶ In 1571 the same king granted in heritage to Henrie Lord Methuen the escheat of all the goods and dues of the bishoprick, its lands and its churches, remaining due since the forfeiture of John bishop of Ros for treason and lesemajesty.⁷ In 1572 (6 January) he confirmed his grant of 1570 to Robert Leslie of Arthourseir.⁸ In the same year (20 February), on the narrative that the presentation of a bishop to the see of Ross after the forfeiture of Bishop John, and certain other privileges, had been promised by the regents Murray and Lennox to Donald Gormsoun of Sky, King James VI. after the decease of both regents granted in lieu a yearly pension of 1000 marks Scots out of the fruits of bishoprick of Abirdene forfeited by Bishop William.⁹ In 1578 the same king granted in heritage to Henrie Lord Methuen the temporality of the bishoprick of Ros, and the castle, house, and place of Channonrie, with all pertinents, vacant by the decease of Alexander bishop of Ros, until a bishop should be appointed.¹⁰ In 1579, for the good service done to him by Alexander Ruthven the brother german of his treasurer William Lord Ruthven, King James granted to Alexander for life a yearly pension of £200 Scots out of the fruits of the bishoprick of Ros, resigned by Gilbert Douglas the brother german of Frances Douglas of Boirg.¹¹ In 1585 (19 May) the same king

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 9.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 24.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 46.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 37. See TARBAT, pp. 438, 439.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 47.

² Ibid.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 10.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 47.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 50. See SLEAT, p. 342.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 88.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 52. See above.

granted in heritage to Henrie Lord Methuen, the son and apparent heir of the deceased lord of that name, the temporality of the bishoprick of Ross, and the castle, house, and place of the Channonrie, with the lands, mills, fishings, woods, and all dues belonging to it, in the King's hands by the decease of Alexander bishop of Ross, and formerly granted by the King to the deceased lord from the death of the bishop till another should be appointed.¹ In the same year (28 September) the same king granted for life to Roger Aschtoun for his good service a yearly pension of 400 marks out of the fruits of two-thirds of the bishoprick of Ross or any part of it, in the King's hands by the decease of 'Adam and John Bussois,' and to be paid to him even after a bishop should be appointed.² In 1586 (1 February) the King granted for life to Andrew Wod his comptroller a yearly pension of £200 Scots out of two-thirds of the bishopick of Ross, beginning in 1585 — and for payment assigned to him 10 chalders of bear at £20 per chaldar out of the fruits of the parish of Tarbert.³ In the same year and on the same day he granted for life to John Fentoun his comptroller's clerk a yearly pension of 200 marks Scots from two-thirds of the same bishoprick, to begin in 1585 — and assigned to him for payment 6 chalders 10 bolls of bear out of the fruits of the same parish.⁴ In the same year (4 March) he granted for life to William Keith the master of his wardrobe a yearly pension of 10 chalders of victual out of two-thirds of the same bishoprick, to begin in the year 1585.⁵

In the year 1226 a controversy between Robert bishop of Ross and John Byseth about the patronage of the church of Kyntalargy was settled as follows — The bishop with the consent of the chapter of Rosmarkyn and his other clergy of Ros quitclaimed to John Byseth and his heirs for their homage his right of patronage, if any; and John Byseth and his heirs quitclaimed to the bishop whatever right they had to the kirkland of the said church; and John Biseth besides, for the purpose of settling the controversy and as an atonement for his own sins (*pro redemptione peccatorum suorum*) contributed 15 marks of silver to the fabrick of the church of Saint Peter of Rosmarkyn, and a stone of wax yearly from himself and his heirs to the light upon the altar of that church; and the bishop and dean and canons gave John and his heirs an interest in the orisons (*omnium orationum suffragiis*) which should be perpetually presented in praise of the Lord in that church; and, in order to secure unbroken the future observation of the agreement, there were appended to it the seals of both parties and the seal of the chapter of Rosmarkyn.⁶ In 1227, on the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross about the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser, the bishop of Ross gave up the stone of wax thus acquired for the use of the cathedral church of Elgyn.⁷ In 1338 Sir Andrew de Moravia, lord of Bothwell and Avoch, died in Ross and was buried in the 'kyrk cathedrale of Rosmarkyne.'⁸ In 1420 (16 August), in the presence of John bishop of Ross and others, in the 'kyrkeyharde of the chanounry of Rosmarkyng,' William the Grame, the son and heir of the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. ff. 125, 126.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 48.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liiii. fol. 97. See TARBAT, p. 434.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 124.

⁶ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 332, 333.

⁷ Ibid., pp. 81, 82. See ARDERSIER, *post*.

⁸ Wytounis Cronikle. Reg. Morav., p. xxxviii.

deceased Henry the Grame, resigned the lands of the barony of Kerdale in Inverness to his overlord Thomas Earl of Moray.¹ In 1494 or 1495 Hugh Ros of Kilrawok, John Ros his son. John Urquhard, Gillepatrik Makfleger, Donald Makevne, John Ros in Financefeild, William Ros, Cristus Makmullmory, John Hnchonsoun, Duugal Clerk, John Roy Makhuehone, and Ewin Makevne, slew within the cemetery of the cathedral church of Ross Alexander Nobill, John Nobill, William Gawane (Galkane, or Gollan), and a chaplain named Sir Maurice.² For this crime Hugh Ros appears to have been tried before the circuit court at Inverness, and to have compounded for the sum of £42 to the King, for payment of which Sir Alexander Gordoun of Migmar, Henry Chene of Essilmont, and John the Ross of Auchinlosk, became his sureties.³ In 1495 (8 February) Henry abbot of Cambuskenneth, treasurer to King James IV. granted to those parties a discharge for that sum, which the king had forgiven to Hugh Ross.⁴ In 1498 (26 January) the King granted to Hugh Ross and the other eleven who were art and part in the murder a remission for the same, and for all crimes with which they might be chargeable on that occasion, on condition that they should make amends to the parents and friends of the parties slain.⁵ In 1543 Master Mungo Monypenny archdeacon of Ross, and Sir Thomas Haisty a monk of Bewlie, found surety for their appearance in court to answer for being art and part in the oppression done to Master Gawin Dunbar treasurer of Ross by their coming upon him in company with Robert bishop of Ross and his accomplices within the cathedral church, laying hands upon him, and cruelly wounding him to the effusion of his blood.⁶ In 1546 a charter by Master John Monro, chaplain of Balkny, is given at the cathedral church, with consent of the Queen, the Earl of Aran, and the same Master Mungo or Kentigern dean and vicar-general of Ross.⁷ In 1572 King James VI. granted in heritage to his treasurer William Lord Ruthuen 'the hail leid quhairwith the cathedrall kirk of Ros wes theikit, alsweill principal kirk as queir and ilis thairof, ellis tyrvit, tane of, and disponit vpoun as to be intromettit with and in place vnhandillit,' formerly belonging to the bishop and canons, and now in the King's hands, 'throw being of the said cathedrall kirk na paroch kirk, bot ane monasterie to sustene ydill belleis,' and through the forfeiture of the bishop for treason and lese-majesty — with power to 'intromet and tak vp the saidis hail leid theikit vpoun the said cathedrall kirk queir and ylis thairof, ellis tirvit, tane of, and disponit vpoun, as alsua as yit restand vntromettit with,' and to sell or otherwise dispose of it at his pleasure.⁸ Bishop Leslie about the year 1578 says that not far from Rosmarky is situated the cathedral church of Ross, named not from the town but from the province.⁹ In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Alexander bishop of Ross, granting in heritage to William Robertsson indweller in the canonry of Ross a piece of land or particate of the cemetery of the cathedral church, partly built and partly waste, extending to the space of 106 feet or 8 'enpill bigging' in length, reckoning 12

¹ Reg. Morav., pp. 475, 476.

² Kilravock Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 70.
The Family of Kilravock, pp. 64, 65, 163, 164.

³ Kilravock Charters.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 70.

⁶ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 328*.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 566.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 106.

⁹ De Gestis Sctorum, p. 17.

feet as one 'cuppill bigging,' and to the space of 5 ells in breadth; lying before the manse of the archdeacon on the east side of the same between the south part or gable of the house of John Irwyng of Kynnok, then belonging in heritage to him and Margaret Cumyng his wife, and formerly belonging in feuferme to Robert Grahame archdeacon of Ross, situated within the cemetery, on the north, and the *residuum* of the cemetery on the south, and extending from the King's common road on the east as far as the *residuum* of the cemetery on the east (west?).¹ In 1585 the same king confirmed a charter by the same bishop, granting to John Robertsoun treasurer of Ross and his heirs a piece of the ground of the cemetery, partly built and partly waste, extending to the space of 155 feet or 13 'cuppill bigging' in length, counting 12 feet as one 'cuppill bigging,' and to the space of 5 ells in breadth.² In 1649 the inhabitants of the Chanourie of Ross represented to parliament that the cathedral church had lain waste and destitute of a particular ministry ever since the Reformation, and prayed that it should be declared a parish church, the stipend to be provided from the bishop's rents and the free teinds of the parish of Chanrie.³ The parliament therefore recommended to the commissioners for the plantation of kirks the plantation of the kirk of Chanrie to be considered among their first acts.⁴

A charter of King Alexander II., dated 5 July 1224, is addressed to the bishop of Catanes, the abbot of Kynlos, and the dean of Rosmarkyn.⁵ The last named person was probably Henry dean of Ross or of Rosmarkyn and vicar of Dumbathlach (in Moray), who appears in record in the years 1224 (19 July), 1226, and 1227.⁶ In 1258 and 1280 the dean of Ross appears in record without being named.⁷ Between 1338 and 1350 a charter of Muriel of Roys, the widow of Sir William of Roys lord of Kylraouke, is witnessed by Master John of Kynkellee dean of Ross.⁸ In 1350 and 1368 Master Alexander dean of Ross appears in record.⁹ In 1389 Master William of Dyngwale was dean of Ross.¹⁰ In 1420 the dean was Sir William Fayrhar, and in 1451 John Caldor.¹¹ In 1478 and 1487 various charters are witnessed by Master Martin Vaus dean of Ross.¹² In 1507 and 1514 appears in record Sir Robert Fresale dean of Ross, who was official in 1514, and is said to have died in 1523.¹³ In 1544 Sir Paul Fresall chaplain was dean of Ross.¹⁴ He had four sons, Donald, Robert, William, and John, who in that year were legitimised by Queen Mary; and Sir Paul's death is recorded to have taken place in 1545.¹⁵ In 1546, 1547, and between 1561 and 1566, Master Kentigern or Mungo Monypenny was dean of Ross, and in the first two of those years vicar general.¹⁶ In 1572 King James VI. granted in heritage to Robert Leslie of Arthourseir the escheat of the goods that belonged to Master Mungo, then rebel and at the horn for non-payment of the third of his

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 62.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 61.

³ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 395.

⁴ *Ibid.* It does not appear that this transaction produced the desired result.

⁵ Regist. Moraviense, p. 19.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 76-78, 82, 333. ⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 133, 140.

⁸ Kilravock Charters.

⁹ Balmagown Charters.

¹⁰ Regist. Moraviense, p. 354.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 475. Balmagown Charters.

¹² Regist. de Aberbrothoc, vol. ii. no. 201. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 113. Beaulie Charters. Calendar of Fearn.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 207. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xviii. fol. 34.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* Calendar of Fearn.

¹⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 566. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 52; vol. xxxi. fol. 97.

deanery for the year 1567 to Patrick Davidsoun 'Ros Herauld,' collector of the thirds of the benefices within the bounds of Ros, Sutherland, and Caitnes.¹ In 1576 the same king presented Alexander Vrqhart to the deanery of Ros, then vacant by the demission of Master Mungo Monypenny.² In 1578 the same Alexander dean of Ros granted for life to Walter Vrqhart Sheriff of Cromartie, and for life to his nearest heir, a yearly pension out of the quarter teinds of the parish of Cromartie belonging to the deanery.³ In 1583 he presented Hector Monro, the son of Robert Monro of Foulis, to the deanery, vacant by the deposition of Alexander Vrqhart, or by his abiding at the horn for more than a year and a day, or by his demission from whatever other cause.⁴ In 1584 (22 August) he confirmed two charters— One by the deceased Quintigern Monypenny dean and vicar general of Ross, granting in heritage to Helen Tailzeour, the relict of the deceased Gilbert Dick, the dean's croft lying within the bounds of the canoury of Ross between the croft of the rector of Alnes on the east and the croft of the rector of Roscheue on the west, and between the lands, manse, or garden of the dean on the north, and the common pasture of the Deanis Pot on the south; and another by dean Alexander Vrqhart, granting in heritage to Walter Vrqhart sheriff of Cromartie his manse and garden lying between his croft which belonged to Donald Vrqhart on the south, the *residuum* of his manse occupied by William Hay on the east, the King's common road on the north, and the manse of the rector of Roskene on the west, in the earldom and canoury of Ross.⁵ In 1585 the same king confirmed dean Alexander's grant of the quarter teinds of Cromartie made to the sheriff in 1578.⁶ In 1607 Thomas Vrqhart of Cromertie was served heir to his grandfather Walter sheriff of Cromertie in the manse of the deanery of Ross in the canoury with the croft, and a piece or rood of land of the same manse with a stone house built on it, of the extent of 10s. 4d. feuferme.⁷ In 1661, on a petition from Master Patrick Durhame late minister of Ardnaseir, who had been appointed for life to the deanery of Ross, the parliament ordered the heritors and others to pay to him 40 bolls of teind victual with certain customs and silver duty, payable to him as dean out of the teinds of Rosemarkie, which for three years they had paid to the minister of Cromertie.⁸

In 1255 appears in record Master R. of Eglinton chanter of Ross.⁹ In the year 1281 a charter of William Earl of Ros is witnessed by Master Ada of Derlington precentor of Ros.¹⁰ Between 1350 and 1372 Sir Isaac Olivar precentor of Ross appears in record.¹¹ In 1451 the precentor was Thomas Fauconer.¹² In 1505, 1513, and 1516 Sir John Calder chanter of Ross appears in record, and in 1520 he was dead.¹³ In 1532 and 1541 the chanter was Sir Walter Stewart, and between 1561 and 1566 Master John Cairnroce.¹⁴

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. fol. 42.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 109.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 105. See CROMARTY, p. 558.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 116.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. ff. 14, 40.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 105.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 106.

⁹ Beauls Charters.

¹⁰ Regist. Moraviense, p. 282.

¹¹ Balnagown Charters.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 21; vol. v. fol. 46. Beauls Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xx. no. 86.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 64. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xvii. no. 109. Book of Assumptions.

Of the chancellors of Ross appear in record, in 1255 Sir R., in 1333 William of Lindors, and in 1451 and 1456 Master Thomas of Lochmalony or Loucholony.¹ In 1520 King James V. granted to Duncan Chalmer chancellor of Ros all the property that belonged to William Wedman and James Crag (the latter residing in Litill Ferry), which was escheat to the King 'throw thare remaning and biding at hame fra our Souerane Lordis oist and army quhilk passit with his derest brothir and counsalour James Erle of Murray in Cathnes for invading and perseving of his rebellis being tharin and putting of gud reule in thai partis.'² The same person, afterwards Master Duncan, and in 1553 official of Ross, appears in record in 1543, 1549, 1553, and 1556.³ At the Reformation he was still chancellor or 'vsufructuare,' and Master David Chalmer was titular.⁴ In 1568 King James VI. granted in heritage to Master James Kirkcaldy, the brother german of Sir William Kirkcaldy of Grange, the escheat of all the goods and of the fruits of all the benefices that belonged to Master David Chalmer, especially the provostry of Creichtoun and the chancellary of Ros, forfeited by him as 'fugitive fra the law, at the horne, or in will' for art and part in the battle of Langsyid, and for art and part in the slaughter of James Balany in Prestoun, James Douglas 'suddart,' and William Purves servitor to Alexander Hume of Manderstoun, at the same place.⁵ Master Duncan Chalmer died in 1571, and in that year (1 July) King James VI. presented Master George Monro to the chancellary of Rois, vacant by the decease of Master Duncan, or by the forfeiture of his pretended successor Master David Chalmer for treason and lese-majesty.⁶ In the same year (4 July) the King granted to Robert Monro of Foulis the escheat of all the goods that belonged to the deceased Master Duncan, and to his pretended successor Master David, who was then rebel and at the horn for non-payment of the third of his benefice to the collectors.⁷ In 1572 the King confirmed the grant of the chancellary to Master George Monro.⁸ In 1585 he confirmed a charter by Master George Monro chancellor of Ross, granting, with consent of Alexander bishop of Ross, the dean, and the canons, to Master John Robert-soun treasurer of Ross and Elizabeth Baillie his wife, and their heirs, with remainder to John's heirs whomsoever, the chancellor's manse with the houses and buildings both built and to be built, and the garden and croft of the same lying contiguously, in the canonry of Ross.⁹ In 1592 the same king granted to Master David Chalmer of Ormound the glebes and manses of the chancellary of Ros.¹⁰ In 1649 Master George Monro, minister of the word of God at the church of Rosmarkie, was served heir to his father Master George, minister at Suddie, in the manse, house, and croft of the same, which of old belonged to the chancellor of Ross within the canonry and bishoprick of the same, of the extent of 46s. 8d. feufferme; and in a piece or pertieate of land of the garden or cemetery of the cathedral church of Ross, 72 feet long by 5 ells wide, in the same canonry, of the extent of 6 shillings feufferme.¹¹

¹ Beauly Charters. Balnagown Charters. Misc. of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 231.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. nn. 419, 440; lib. xxxi. nn. 205, 583.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvii. fol. 72.

⁶ Calendar of Fearn. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 91.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 101.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 91.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 61.

¹⁰ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 601.

¹¹ Retours.

In 1227 an agreement respecting the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser, made at Kenedor in Moray between the bishops of Moray and Ross, was subscribed among others by William the treasurer of Rosmarkyn.¹ In 1451 a transcript of certain charters made in the chapel of Saint Nicolas in the cathedral church of Ross is witnessed by Thomas Tulloch treasurer.² In 1518 is recorded the death of Thomas Heriot treasurer of Ross.³ In 1543 the treasurer was Master Gawin Dunbar, the subject of an affray in the cathedral church above described.⁴ Master Gawin died in 1546, and in that year (13 September) Queen Mary presented Master John Hammiltoun of Mylburne to the treasurership, vacant by Master Gauin's decease.⁵ The same Master John appears as treasurer in 1547, and was dead in 1548, in which year (22 April) Queen Mary presented John Robeson to the treasurership, vacant by the decease of the former.⁶ Master John Robertsoun was treasurer at the Reformation, when the treasurership was leased to Matthew Hamiltoun of Mylneburne.⁷ In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by the same Master John, granting in heritage to Donald Reid the treasurer's croft in the canony lying between the croft and garden of the chancellor of Ross on the west, and the croft of the chanter on the east, and between the treasurer's principal dwelling on the south and the hill called Craiglaw on the north—and also a piece of the treasurer's manse on the east side extending to 20 ells in breadth and destroyed to the foundation, lying between his croft on the north and the King's common road on the south, and between the manse of the precentor of Ross on the east and the *residuum* of the treasurer's manse on the east (west?)⁸ In 1585 the same king confirmed a charter by the same treasurer, granting in heritage to Thomas Orok in the canony of Ross and Bessy Gardin his wife a piece of the manse of the treasury lying in the canony and extending in length and breadth respectively to 20 ells, between the King's common road on the south, the principal manse of the treasury on the north, the part of the manse formerly let to Donald Reid on the east, and the entrance to the manse on the west.⁹ In 1586 the same king confirmed two charters by the same Master John Robertsoun treasurer of Ross—1. Granting in heritage to Archibald Hammiltoun dwelling in Linlithgow a part of the manse of the treasury within the canony, lying between the croft of the treasury occupied by William Robertsoun in the canony towards the north, another part of the said manse occupied by Robert Leslie on the east, the manse of the chancellor on the west, and another piece of the manse of the treasury let to Thomas Robertsoun in the canony on the south; and 2. Granting in liferent to Robert Leslie in the canony and Margaret Robertsoun his wife, and in heritage to John Leslie their son, with remainder to the other lawful heirs of Robert and Margaret and their heirs, and to John Robertsoun the brother of Margaret and his heirs whomsoever, a part of the land of the treasury of Ross on the east side of the same extending to 20 ells, lying in the canony between the precentor's manse on the east and the *residuum* of the treasury manse on the west, and extending in

Regist. Morav., p. 82.

² Balnagown Charters.

³ Calendar of Fearn.

⁴ See p. 572.

⁵ Calendar of Fearn. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 46.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. ff. 35, 86.

⁷ Book of Assumptions. Book of Assignations.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 62.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 106.

length from the King's common road on the south to the croft of William Robertsoun in the canony on the north.¹

In 1487 the foundation charter of the collegiate church of Tain was witnessed among others by Thomas Ros subdean of Ross.² In 1494 during the vacancy of the see King James IV. presented Master James Forster to the subdeanery.³ In the same year (3 July) that king prosecuted Master John Maitland for contempt of his authority and violation of the acts of parliament in having passed to the court of Rome without the King's license, and in having obtained the subdeanery of Ross and published certain bulls contrary to the royal prerogative, by which acts he had incurred the penalties of proscription and banishment—and also for disturbing Master James Forster in his possession of the subdeanery.⁴ Master John protested against the auditors, but produced no exculpatory evidence; and the Lords of Council ordained that meantime Master James Forster should enjoy the benefice, and assigned to him and to the King's advocates the eighth day of August following to prove that Master John Maitland had acted contrary to statute and in what manner.⁵ In the year 1549 Pope Paul III., with the consent of Master John Thorntoun subdean of Ros and Master James Thorntoun parson of Ancrum, granted for life to Master Henry Thorntoun a yearly pension of £100 Scots out of the fruits of the subdeanery, and of a like sum out of those of the parsonage of Ancrum.⁶ Between 1561 and 1566 Master James Thorntoun was subdean of Ros.⁷ In 1569 (14 November) Master John Thorntoun was dead, and King James VI. confirmed the grant of 1549.⁸ In 1578 that king presented William Makquene parson of Assent to the subdeanery of Ros, vacant by the decease of Master James Thorntoun.⁹ In 1583 he confirmed a grant in heritage by the same William, to William Barbour in the canony, of his manse of the subdeanery with all its pendicles, pertinents, houses, gardens, and buildings, and the kiln (*estrina*) and its croft lying contiguous to the manse, in the canony of Ross.¹⁰

In 1296 John of Hedlam subchanter of the church of Ros swore fealty to King Edward I.¹¹ In 1514 a mandate of Robert Fresel dean and official of Ross is witnessed by Anselm Robertsson (*Roberti*) the subchanter.¹² In 1541 and between 1561 and 1566 Master David Haliburton was subchanter of Ross.¹³ In 1573 King James VI. presented Donald Adamesoun minister at Vrray to the parsonage of Vrray or subchantry of Ross, vacant by the deprivation or forfeiture of Master David Halyburtoun.¹⁴ In 1574 that king confirmed a charter by Master David Halyburtoun, provost of the collegiate church of Methuen and subchanter of the cathedral church of Ross, granting with the consent of the bishop, dean, vicar general, and canons, to Donald Vrrquhart in Ferrietoun and his heirs the manse with the houses, buildings, gardens, tofts, and crofts, belonging to the subchantry, then occupied by John Frissell and John Wilsoun, in the city of the canony of Ross, between the chanter's manse on the west, the Watergate

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 33.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109.

³ Acta Dom. Conc., p. 351.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 90.

⁷ Book of Assumptions.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 90.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 1.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 68.

¹¹ Ragman Rolls, p. 144.

¹² Beauty Charters.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 159. Book of Assumptions.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 107.

(*aqualem viam*) on the east, the common street on the south, and the hill commonly called Plotokhill on the north.¹ In 1604 John Urquhart was served heir male of entail and provision to his father Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromartie in a croft of land in the canony of Ross called the subchanter's croft, of the extent of 6s. 8d., and a rood of land in the canony belonging to the subchanter, 40 ells in length and 30 in breadth, of the extent of 3s. 4d.² In 1607 Thomas Urquhart of Cromertie was served heir to his grandfather Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromertie in the manse of the subchanter and its croft, of the extent of £3 fenferme.³

Robert archdeacon and canon of Ross appears in record in 1226 and 1227, and in the latter year was present at Kenedor in Moray at the settlement of a dispute between the bishops of Moray and Ross.⁴ Between 1362 and 1372 charters are witnessed by Thomas of Urchard archdeacon of Ross.⁵ In 1451 the archdeacon of Ross was Andrew of Monro, who was also commissioner of the bishop and auditor of consistorial cases.⁶ In 1484 Sir David Lichtone archdeacon of Ross and clerk of the King's treasury was elected abbot of Arbroath.⁷ In 1487 the archdeacon was Richard Murhed, one of the witnesses to the foundation charter of the collegiate church of Tain.⁸ In 1510 King James IV. granted a letter of protection to Master Robert Elphinstoun archdeacon of Ross.⁹ In 1543 the archdeacon was Master Mungo Monypenny, afterwards dean.¹⁰ Between 1561 and 1566 the archdeacon of Ross was Master Duncan (Donald?) Fraser.¹¹ In 1572 Master Donald Fraser archdeacon of Ross was slain at Awfurd.¹² In 1573 King James VI. presented Robert Grahame to the archdeaconry, vacant by the decease of Master Donald Fraser.¹³ In 1576 that king confirmed a charter by William Sinclair rector of Oirik, canon of Cathanes, and commissioner and vicegerent of the deceased Henry bishop of Ross, granting to the deceased Master Donald Fraser archdeacon of Ross and his nearest heirs, with remainder to his heirs whomsoever, the lands and town of Mureheid, with their pertinents except the lands of Craigheid, in the diocese of Ross—with the clause inserted by the bishop at the foot of the charter, confirming it under his seal and subscription.¹⁴ In 1581 the same king confirmed a charter by Robert Grahame archdeacon of Ross, granting to William Stewart in the canony of Ross and Besset Irving his wife, and to their heirs born between them, with remainder to the heirs of William, his portion of the manse of the archdeaconry within the canony, with the houses, buildings, gardens, and others, constructed or to be constructed by them.¹⁵ In 1582 King James confirmed a charter by Master Donald Fraser archdeacon of Ross, granting to Donald Reid chaplain in the cathedral church for life, and to Alexander Reid his natural son, and his heirs male, with remainder to John Reid the brother german of Alexander and to his heirs male, and to the heirs male whomsoever of Donald Reid, that piece of land of his manse

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 145.

² Retours.

⁴ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 82, 333.

⁵ Balmagown Charters.

⁷ Regist. de Aberbrothoc, vol. ii. no. 240.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 71.

¹⁰ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 328*. See p. 572.

¹¹ Book of Assumptions.

¹² Calendar of Fearn. The death of the archdeacon seems to have taken place in an engagement at Tulliangus between the Gordons and Forbeses, in which the former were victorious. See Buch. Hist., lib. xx. c. 64.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xli. fol. 107.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 109.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 118.

in the canony between the King's common road towards the east, the feu lands (*terras feulatarias*) of Thomas Legat towards the west, the feu lands of William Robertsoun towards the south, and the feu lands of Thomas Legat towards the north, and then occupied by Donald Reid.¹ In 1583 the same king confirmed two charters by the same archdeacon—1. Granting in heritage to William Robertsoun, dwelling in the canony and college of Ross, and to Eufame Basok his wife, a piece of the lands of the manse of the archdeaconry in the canony occupied by William, and extending to 65 measured ells in length, namely, from the common road called the 'calsay' on the east to the archdeacon's croft on the west, and 14 ells in breadth, namely, from the principal manse of the rector of Kirkuichell on the south to the other side of the archdeacon's manse on the north; and 2. Granting to the same parties in heritage a croft of land in the canony called the archdeacon's croft, occupied by Helen Tailzeour.² In 1584 the same king confirmed another charter by the deceased Master Donald Fraser the archdeacon, granting to Thomas Legat and Elisabeth Besek his wife, and to their heirs born between them, with remainder to the heirs whomsoever of Thomas, a piece of the land of the archdeacon's manse in the canony, between the King's common road in front on the north, the lands of William Robertsoun on the south, the King's common road and the archdeacon's lands occupied by Donald Reid on the east, and the archdeacon's lands occupied by James Fraser on the west—which piece of land was then occupied by Thomas Legat and John Patersoun, or was at least in their hands by reason of a lease granted to them for 19 years.³ In 1585 King James confirmed a charter by John Fraser feuar, with the consent of Isobel Marlioun liferenter, granting in heritage to his brother german William Fraser the west piece of the manse of the archdeaconry, with the houses, gardens, and buildings of the same, lying between the croft of the archdeaconry then belonging in heritage to William Robertsoun towards the west, the garden of the same William Robertsoun towards the south, a part of the said manse of John Fraser towards the east, and the King's common road, commonly called the 'calsay,' on the north.⁴ In 1627 Kenneth Grant was served heir to his father Robert Grant, burgess of the canony, in the principal stone house of the archdeaconry of Ros with part of the garden of the archdeaconry lying in the canony, of the extent of 7s. and 4d. in augmentation—in another part of the archdeacon's manse in the canony, of the extent of 6s. 8d. and 4d. in augmentation—and in the fifth part of the lands of Bromehill with the tithes, also in the canony, and of the extent of £6.⁵

In 1451 Henry Kynnidy, not designated as a prebendary, was official of the bishoprick.⁶

In 1226 an agreement between Robert bishop of Ross and John Byseth was witnessed by the canons of Rosmarkyn.⁷ In 1227 a settlement made between the bishops of Moray and Ross about the chnrches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser was subscribed by Robert bishop and canon of Ross, Robert archdeacon and canon of the church of Ross, Edward Beket canon of Ross, Archebald canon of Ross, Maurice canon of Rosmarkyn and parson of Ardrosser, and Peter

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlviij. fol. 123.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 114.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 41.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 130.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Balnagown Charters.

⁷ Regist. Morav., p. 333. See above, p. 571.

canon both of Moray and of Ross.¹ In the year 1296 Thomas of Iar prebendary of the church of Ros swore fealty to King Edward I.² In 1312 an agreement between Bernard abbot of Abirbrothoc and Rayner the son of Alan was witnessed among others by Thomas of Salthor canon of Ross.³ Between 1338 and 1357 a charter of Muriel of Roys was witnessed by Master Andrew de Bosco canon of Ross.⁴ In 1398 Robert M'Chanter (*Cantoris*) witnessed among others a protest by William bishop of Moray against a sentence pronounced on him for not giving suit at the sheriff court of Innernys.⁵ There appear in record, in 1451 Thomas of Dyngvale, in 1514 John Fresell, in 1524 Alexander Dunbar, and in 1546 Sir John Stephenson, canons of Ross.⁶ Besides the dignitaries the chapter in later times seems to have included the rectors of Kirkmichael, Cullicuddin, Kiltearn, Lumlair, Logie Easter, Roskene, Alnes, Contin, Avoch, Kilmuir Easter, and Kincardine.⁷

In 1580 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Master Thomas Marioribanks rector of Kirkmichell *intra ecclesiam cathedralen Rossen. fuvlat.*, granting in heritage to John Wilsoun in the canonry of Ross a piece of the waste manse (*mansi vasti*) belonging to Master Thomas, and lying within the bounds of the canonry between the lands of William Barbour towards the north, the manse of the rector of Cullycuddin towards the south, the public road on the east, and the seashore on the west.⁸ In 1585 the same king confirmed a charter by the same Master Thomas, rector of Carmichael within the cathedral church of Ross, granting, with consent of the dean and canons during the vacancy of the see, to William Robertsoun dwelling in the canonry and Eufame Basak his wife and their heirs, with remainder to William's heirs whomsoever, a waste piece of ground of the manse of the rectory within the canonry on its north side, 5 ells or thereby in length, lying between the manse on the south, the manse of the archdeacon on the north, the street commonly called the 'calsay' and the common ferry (*commune passagium*) on the east, and the high water mark (*fluxum maris*) on the west.⁹ In 1586 the same king confirmed a charter by the same rector, granting in heritage to Walter Vrqhart sheriff of Cromartie his principal house and manse of Kirkmichell, with its enclosure, garden, and tail, then almost destroyed to the foundation, waste, and burned, lying in the canonry of Ross between the feu lands (*terras feudales*) of William Robertsoun, which he held in heritage of the rector, towards the north, the feu lands of William Barbour towards the south, the common road on one side (towards the east?), and the seashore on the west—for the restoration, construction, and repair of the same house and manse, and of its enclosure, garden, and ditches.¹⁰

In 1580 King James VI. confirmed a charter of Master John Sandilandis rector of Kilterne, granting to Gavin Reid carpenter in Innernes the houses of the manse of Kilterne, with the garden and pertinents, then occupied by Thomas Smyth.¹¹ In 1583 he confirmed a charter by Sir John Sadserf vicar of the parish chureh of Kilterne, granting, with consent of Master

¹ Regist. Morav., p. 82.

² Ragman Rolls, p. 144.

³ Regist. de Aberbrothoc, vol. i. p. 287.

⁴ Kilravock Charters. ⁵ Regist. Morav., p. 210.

⁶ Balnagown Charters. Beauly Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xx. no. 134; lib. xxx. no. 566.

⁷ See the following notices.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 2.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 106.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 17.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 45. See KILTEARN, p. 478.

Quintigern Monepenny dean and vicar general of Ros during the vacancy of the see, and of the chapter, to the deceased John Monro in Kilterne and his heirs the lands of the vicar's croft of Kilterne, reserving to the vicar the manse and croft as then occupied.¹

In 1584 (4 February) King James VI. confirmed a charter by Henry Kincaid, rector of the parish church of Lymnolair and canon of the cathedral church of Ross, granting to Master John Robertson treasurer and his wife Elisabeth Baillie and their heirs, with remainder to John's heirs whomsoever, the croft called Lymnolair lying within the bounds of the canonry.² In the same year (15 February) he confirmed a charter by the same Henry, granting to John Irving and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, the tenement and manse with the garden called 'the persouis of Lumlair' in the canonry of Ros, situated between the lands of the rector of Roskein on the east and the lands of the same John on the west and north respectively.³

In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Master Thomas Hay rector of Logie, granting to John Irving burghess of Rosmarkie and Margaret Cumming his wife, and to John's male heirs, the croft of the rectory of Logie in the canonry, earldom, and diocese of Ross.⁴ In 1619 Thomas Irving was served heir to his father Andrew Irving in the canonry of Ross in the manse of the rectory of Logie in the canonry, with the garden of the same, of the extent of 6s. 8d.⁵

In 1584 King James VI. confirmed a charter by the deceased Gavin Dumbar rector of Roschene, granting in heritage to Helen Tailzeour the relict of the deceased Gilbert Dick a croft lying in the canonry of Ross between the croft of the dean on the east and the croft belonging to the rector of Lymnolair on the west, the common pasture of Deanis Pot on the south and the garden of the said Gavin on the north.⁶ In 1607 Thomas Urquhart of Cromertie was served heir to his grandfather Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromertie in the croft of the rectory of Roskein with a piece of land called the Rig in the Field 'lie Middilschede' within the canonry, of the extent of 10 shillings feuferme.⁷ In 1621 George Dumbar was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Newtoun in the manse and garden of the rector of Roskene in the canonry of Ross, of the extent of 2s. 4d.⁸

The rector of Alnes had a croft in the canonry lying on the east side of the dean's croft.⁹

In 1587 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Master Robert Burnet vicar of Cowtane, granting in heritage to John Irving in the canonry of Ross the manse of the vicarage lying between the manse of the vicar of Kilmure on the east, the manse of Kincardin on the west, the common road on the south, and the common vennel descending between the vicar's manse and the Middilsched on the north.¹⁰

In 1604 John Urquhart was served heir male of entail and provision to his father Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromartie in the manse or croft of the rector of Awach in the canonry of

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 114.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 60.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 73.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. l. fol. 60. See LOGIE EASTER, p. 466.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 14.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 14.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 89. See CONTIN, p. 505.

¹⁰ Ibid.

Ross, of the extent of 40s.¹ In 1607 Thomas Urquhart of Cromertie was served heir to his grandfather Walter Urquhart sheriff of Cromertie in the manse of the rectory of Awache, of the extent of 42s. feuferme.² In 1611 Edward Lord Bruce of Kinloss was served heir male to his father Lord Edward in certain lands in the parish of Avoch, and in a manse within the canonry, apparently considered to be within the same parish.³

In 1621 George Dunbar was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Newtown in the manse and garden of Kilmuir Easter in the canonry of Ross, of the extent of 2s. 4d.⁴

In 1624 Duncan Bayne of Logye, the son of the deceased Alexander Bane by his wife Agnes Fraser, was served heir male to his grandfather Alexander Bayne of Tullich in the manse of the rectory of Kincairdyne in the canonry of Ross, of the extent of a penny blench ferme.⁵

The church of Rosmarkie, dedicated to Saint Boniface, stood in the town of Rosmarkie on a bank of sand near the sea shore.⁶ In repairing it in 1735 there were found in a vault under an ancient steeple some stone coffins of rude workmanship.⁷ A new church was built in 1821 on the same site.⁸ A well at Rosmarkie is still known as Saint Boniface' Well.⁹

The cathedral church, dedicated to Saint Peter and Saint Boniface, stood at the canonry (now Fortrose) about a mile west from the parish church.¹⁰ When entire, it consisted of choir and nave with aisles, eastern Lady chapel, western tower, and chapterhouse at the north-east end; its remains consist of 'the south aisle to chancel and nave, and the detached chapterhouse,' all in the Middle-pointed style.¹¹ The seal of the chapter, now used as that of the burgh, bears the figures of Saint Peter and Saint Boniface, and the inscription SIGILLVM SANCTORVM PETRI ET BONEFACH DE ROSMARKIN.¹² A large old bell, now hung in a modern spire, bears the name of Thomas Tulloch bishop of Ross, the date 1460, and an inscription intimating its dedication to the Virgin Mary and Saint Boniface.¹³

In the cathedral church was a number of chaplainries, the chaplains of which held some lands and revenues in common. In 1451 two chaplains (apparently of the cathedral), Sir John Yonge and Sir David Faw, witnessed a transcript of certain charters made within it.¹⁴ In 1504 John bishop of Ross granted, and King James IV. confirmed to the chaplains of the cathedral church of Ross a yearly revenue of £10 from a tenement of land in the burgh of Linlithgw.¹⁵ Among the particulars of the rental of assumptions, given in by Bishop Henry Sinclair at the Reformation to the collector of thirds, are stated 13½ muttons as given to the 'cheplene of the bishoprick.'¹⁶ In 1580 King James VI. granted in heritage to Robert Grahame the three crofts of land called the lands of the chaplains of the cathedral church of Ross and belonging to the chaplains and

¹ Retours. ² Ibid. ³ Ibid. ⁴ Ibid. ⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Camerarius, p. 117. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc. Bishop Leslie about the year 1578 says that the town was adorned with the relics of Saint Boniface and the sepulchres and monuments of his relatives. ⁸ New Stat. Acc. ⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Leslaeus de Gestis Scotorum (1578), p. 17. Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Neale's Ecclesiological Notes, pp. 53-57; in which see a minute description of the ruins.

¹² Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Ibid. The bishop at the above date appears to have been Thomas Urquhart, not Thomas Tulloch. See Keith's Bishops.

¹⁴ Balmagown Charters.

¹⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 85.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptions.

stallers there founded; two of which crofts without houses lay between the common lands of Roismerkíe on the north and south—the lands of the bishoprick let in feuferme to Colin Makenze of Kintaill, the common road between the canoury of Ross and Roismerkíe, and the common lands of Rosemarkie, on the north (east?)—and the green path (*transitum viridem*) between the canoury and the fishertown of the same on the west; and the third croft with houses had a piece of land called the Bischopis Sched, then let to the same Colin in feuferme, on the east—the public street of the canoury on the south—the path between the canoury and ‘lie Plotcook’ on the west—and the community (common lands) and houses of Plotcook on the north; with reservation of the usufruct and liferent to the existing chaplains and stallers; the grantee paying yearly a silver penny at the cathedral on the feast of Pentecost to the King, if asked, and the sum of £20 Scots at the usual terms to the master of the grammar school of the town of the canoury of Ross.¹

There was a chapel in the cathedral church dedicated to Saint Nicolas, in which in the year 1451 a transumpt of certain charters produced by John Ross lord of Balnagowan was made in presence of Andrew Munro archdeacon of Ross.²

In 1512 King James IV. granted anew to William Makeulloch of Pladdis certain lands resigned by him (including Balmodutly, or Bailliednich), for payment of the usual services and of 5 marks Scots yearly to a perpetual chaplain officiating in the cathedral church of Ross.³ In 1621 John Barbour was served heir to his father William Barbour in the canoury of Ross in the lands of the chaplainry of Ballacuithe founded within the canoury, of the extent of 33s. 4d., and in lands of the sowing of 3 firlots of bear in the croft called Grantiscroft in the canoury of Ross and burgh of Rosemarkie.⁴

In 1529 (18 May and 22 June) King James V. presented Sir William Spens to the chaplainry founded by the King’s predecessors in the cathedral church of Ross on £5 of yearly revenue from the lands of Ardifaly (or Arthifale) in the lordship of Ardmach assigned to that chaplainry, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir John Spens.⁵ In 1537 the same king presented Sir Patrick Hay to the chaplainry of Ardorfaily in the cathedral church of Ross, vacant by the decease of Sir William Spens.⁶ In 1543 Sir Patrick Hay, styled chaplain of the chaplainry of Ardewalie in the diocese of Ross, with the consent of Queen Mary, of the Earl of Arran, and of Robert bishop of Ross, granted to John Chalmer the kirklands of the chaplainry with all their pertinents, extending in his rental to 10 marks Scots, 2 muttons, and 2 dozen of poultry, for the yearly payment of £7 Scots and the other dues, in augmentation of the rental by 6s. 8d.⁷ In 1546 Queen Mary presented Sir David Barchan to the chaplainry of Ardinfall in the cathedral church of Ross, vacant or when vacant by the demission or decease of Sir Patrick Hay.⁸ Between 1561 and 1566 Sir David Barquhan held the chaplainries

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 17.

² Balnagowan Charters. See KILMUR EASTER, p. 462.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xviii. no. 82. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 197. See TAIN, p. 429.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. ff. 48, 59.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 7.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 87.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 56.

of 'Sanet Lawrent and Arfaill lyand within the diocy of Ros,' the former, as we have seen, founded in the castle of Dingwall.¹ In 1569 King James VI. presented Donald Adamsoun 'instructour and teihar of the youth within the burch of Dingwall' to the chaplainries of Saint Lawrence in Dingwall and Ardafaily in Ardmannoeh, vacant by the decease of David Barchan.² In 1575 the same king granted for seven years to James Daidisoun the son of John Daidisoun in Edinburgh, 'in support of his sustentation at the scule,' the chaplainry 'of Saint Lawrence and Ardfeld in Dingwall,' vacant by the demission of Donald Adamesoun promoted to the subchantry of Ross.³ In 1582, the same chaplainry or chaplainries, styled 'of Sanctlaurence and Ardfail in Dingwall,' formerly granted by King James VI. to James Daidisoun the son of John Danidsoun burges of Edinburgh 'for his intertenement at the scoles' for the term of seven years, being vacant by the expiration of that term, the King granted to him the same chaplainry for life 'in forder support of his sustentationn at the scolis and intertenement vtherwayis.'⁴ In 1586 the same king granted for seven years to Thomas Danidsoun the son of John Daidisoun burges of Edinburgh, and 'bursar in the college of Cambrige in England . . . to hald and interteny him at the said college for his better educationn in vertew and guid lettres,' the chaplainries of Dunskeyth and of Sanct Lawrence in Ardefaill, not exceeding the sum of £30 yearly, and vacant by the expiration of a grant to the same Thomas and his brother James or in any other way.⁵ In 1587 the same king granted for seven years to Robert Monro the son of Huchoun Monro in Fyreis, 'to hald and interteny him at the scules,' the same two chaplainries, then vacant by the expiration of grants made to two sons of John Danidsoun tailor, or by 'thair not abyding actualle at the scules,' or otherwise.⁶ In 1615 Murdoc M'Kenzie of Ardafaille was served heir male to his father Roderic M'Kenzie of Ardafalie in the church lands of the chaplainry of Ardafalie in the diocese of Ross, of the extent of £7.⁷ In 1662 Colin M'Kenzie of Reideastell was served heir male to his father Roderic in the chapel-lands of Ardafailis with the glebe, in the diocese of Ross, of old in the sheriffdom of Innernes, and then in the sheriffdom of Ross, of the extent of £7 feuferme.⁸

Among the chaplainries in the cathedral church were three known as those of Alnes, endowed from lands in the parish of Alnes, apparently the lands of Alnes, Fyrish, and Culeragy. In 1539 King James V. presented Sir Thomas Chirnsyde to the chaplainry of Alnes, vacant or when vacant by the resignation or decease of Sir Walter Fethy.⁹ In 1558 Queen Mary presented Master Alexander Makkenze to one of the chaplainries called of Alnes Fyres situated in the cathedral church of Ross, vacant by the decease of Sir Patrick Hay.¹⁰ In 1574 (15 October) King James VI. granted for seven years to Thomas Daidisoun, the son of Patrick Daidisoun Ros Herauld, one of the three chaplainries of Alnes in the diocese of Ros, vacant by the decease of Sir James Butchert—commanding the principal master of Sanet Leonardis college within the

¹ Book of Assumptions. See DINGWALL, p. 484.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 86.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 125.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 29.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liv. fol. 53.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 32.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 1.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 64.

university of Sanctandrois to receive the grantee under his care and discipline.¹ In 1580 (14 October) the same king granted for life to the same Thomas one of the same three chaplainries, vacant by the decease of Sir James Buschart or by the expiration of the space of seven years for which it was granted to the same Thomas Davidsoun.² In 1581 he granted for life to Master John Robertsoun, one of the professors of theology in the New College of Sanctandrois, the third of his own prebend or chaplainry called the chaplainry of Culeragy, one of the chaplainries of Alnes in the diocese of Ros, the grant to begin in 1580.³ In 1583 he granted for seven years to Alexander Lewis, the son of Ninian Lewis burgess of Edinburgh, for his education at school the chaplainry of Alnes (that of Fyrish) vacant by the decease of Master Alexander McKainze.⁴ In 1585 he confirmed a grant of the chapel-lands of Navitie in Cromarty by certain of the canons and chaplains of the cathedral, including Thomas Ros principal chaplain of Alnes, and James Visehert one of the chaplains of Alnes.⁵ In 1619 Alexander Thomsonsone was served heir to his father William Thomsonsone in the canony of Ross in 2 roods or rigs of land in Oversched—in another rood there—in 2 roods in Middlesched—2 roods or rigs in Nethersched—2 rigs in the acres within the bounds of the burgage of Rosmarkie—1½ rig under the wood—2 roods or rigs near the loch—I rood and 1 rig between the lands called Langseyfeld—2 roods in Schortseyfeld within the bounds of the canony of Ross and burgage of Rosmarkie—all lying within the chaplainries of Mullochie and Culeragie and bishoprick of Ross—of the extent of £4, 6s.⁶ In 1621 George Dunbar was served heir to his father James Dunbar of Newtown in various lands, including those of the chaplainry of Alnes, of the extent of 42s. and 2s. in augmentation.⁷ In 1645 Alexander Thomson was served heir to his father William burgess of Chanorie in the same lands as in 1619, and of the same extent.⁸ In 1681 a confirmation of the barony of Tarbet by King Charles II., in favour of Sir George McKenzie of Tarbett and of John McKenzie his son, included the three chapels of Alnes founded from the teinds-heaves of the kirk of Alnes.⁹

In 1547 Queen Mary presented Master Thomas Ker to the chaplainry and altarage of Obstule in the cathedral church of Ross, vacant by the decease of Sir John Stevinsoun.¹⁰ Between 1561 and 1566 the chaplainry called Obstull in the diocese of Ross was held by Master John Dunbar parson of Cuumok, and by him leased to George Munro of Dalcarty.¹¹ In 1583 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Hector Munro chaplain of the chaplainry of Obstull in the earldom of Ross, granting, with the consent of Robert Munro of Foulis the patron of the same, to George Munro the patron's son the town and lands of Obstull, with the boat, fishing, and yair of the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 79.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 32.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 70.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 98.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. fol. 71. See *post*. It does not appear from this at what time Thomas Ros held the principal chaplainry of Alnes. James Visehert is evidently the same as Sir James Buschart.

⁶ Retours. The loch here mentioned seems to have

been a small sheet of water that lay near the public road from Rosmarkie to Fortrose, and about the year 1788 was drained by the parish minister. See Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ *Ibid*.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 385.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 52. See ROSKEEN, p. 469.

¹¹ Book of Assignations.

same, belonging to the chaplainry.¹ In 1635 Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovat was served heir male to his father Symon Lord Fraser in various subjects including the superiority and advowson of the chaplainry of Obstuill and the salmon fishing of the same in the earldom of Ros.²

In 1549 Queen Mary presented George Dunbar, as we have seen, to the vicarage of Rousierky; and at the same time she presented him to the chaplainry of the chapel of Saint John of Ellen; both in the diocese of Ross and vacant by the demission of Sir Thomas Stevinnoun.³

In 1574 King James VI. granted for seven years to Patrick Dunbar the son of George Dunbar of Avach, 'in support of his sustentatioun at the scule,' the chaplainry of Drimmen in the diocese of Ross, situated in the chapel of Saint Boniface, vacant by the decease of Sir Donald Reid, and not exceeding in yearly value the sum of 20 marks Scots.⁴ In 1580 the same king granted for seven years to John Dunbar the son of George Dunbar of Avache for the same purpose the same chaplainry, styled of Drummis, vacant 'be ressoun the gift maid be his Hienes to Patriek Dunbar student and bursar in grammer of the said chaplanerie for the space of sevin yeiris is alredie expyrit and furthrun.'⁵ In 1584 he confirmed a grant of the churchlands of the chaplainry of Drum in the diocese and earldom of Ross, made by Sir Homer Fraser the chaplain to Robert Monro of Foulis with the consent of Master Quintigern Monypenny dean and vicar general, and of the canons and chapter.⁶ In 1608 Robert Monro was served heir male of entail and provision to his father Master Hector Monro of Foulis in the lands of the chaplainry of Drummond, with the mill, brewhouse, and brewhouse croft, of the extent of £8, 13s. 4d.⁷

In 1578 King James VI. granted to Thomas Daidousoun the son of John Daidousoun in Edinburch, 'in support of his sustentatioun at the scole for the space of sevin yeiris,' the chaplainry of Navitie in the diocese of Ross, 'pertenying to the chanrie kirk thairof,' vacant by the decease of Sir Symon Blyth.⁸ In 1580, and again in 1582, he granted to the same Thomas for life the common lands of Navitie, extending to 12 bolls of victual, and formerly belonging to the chaplains of the cathedral church of Ross.⁹ In 1585 (2 June) the same king confirmed a charter by Thomas Ros principal chaplain of Alnes—William Hay, Donald Reid, and John Greirsoun, vicars of the cathedral church of Ross—and Jerome (*Hieronimus*) Paip and James Vischert chaplains of Cullis and of Alnes—with the consent of John bishop of Ross, and of the dean and chapter—granting to Master David Chalmeris of Casteltoun of Ormont and his heirs the two oxgangs of Navitie in the sheriffdom of Cromartie, lying between the lands of the sheriff of Cromartie on the west, the lands of Thomas Duff on the east, the seashore on the south, and the King's common road or the common pasture of the town of Navitie on the north.¹⁰ In the same year (24 September) King James granted for seven years from 1584 to John Mowat

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 132.

² Retours.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 7. It does not appear from the terms of the grant whether this chapel stood in the parish church or in the cathedral. Saint John of Ellen seems to be John bishop of Ely, commemorated 6 May.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlii. fol. 27. See KILTEARN, p. 479.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 31.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 90.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 72. See CROMARTY, p. 560.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 109; vol. xlix. fol. 2.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liii. fol. 71.

‘for his intertenement at the scules,’ the chaplainry of Navitie belonging of old in common to the canons of Ross.¹ In 1592 he granted or confirmed to Master David Chalmer of Ormound the two oxgangs of Nautie in the sheriffdom of Cromertie.² In 1607 William Chalmer apparent of Ormond was served heir male to his father Master David in the same two oxgangs, of the extent of 12 bolls of meal and other dues.³ In 1681 the chaplainry of Navity was included in a confirmation of the barony of Tarbet by King Charles II. in favour of Sir George M’Kenzie of Tarbett and John M’Kenzie his son.⁴

From one of the above notices (1585) it would appear that the chaplainry of Cullis was served within the cathedral church.⁵

The chaplainry of Munloch, noticed above, seems also to have been founded in the cathedral of Ross.⁶

At the Reformation the vicarage of Rosmarky, as given up by Alexander Pedder, procurator for George Dunbar parson of Kilmovr and vicar of Rosmarky, was stated at £20 ‘quhen all teindis and small offrandis was in vse of payment;’ but the vicar had received nothing for three years.⁷ About 1569 William Hay reader at Channonrie had for his stipend 40 marks, and about 1571 he had 50 marks.⁸ In 1570 James Buschart as reader had £20.⁹ In 1574 the minister at Chanonrie or Rosmarkny and Cromartie had a stipend of £118, 10s. 8½d.; and the reader had £20, the kirklands, and other perquisites.¹⁰ In 1576 Alexander bishop of Ross, minister at Chanonrie and Rosmarkny, had for his living two-thirds of his bishoprick; and the reader had £20, the vicar’s manse at Rosemarkny, the kirkland, and other perquisites.¹¹

According to the ancient taxation of the thirteenth century the bishoprick of Ross was valued at the yearly sum of £351, 19s. 8½d., which, when taxed at the rate of 5d. per mark, gave £10, 19s. 11¼d. and the half of ¼d.¹² In the *Taxatio Seculi* xvi. it is taxed at the rate of £248, and in the *Libellus Taxationum* it is valued at 1200 marks.¹³ At the Reformation according to the rental already cited the bishoprick was worth yearly £462, 4s. 2d.¹⁴

In Baiamund’s Roll the deanery of Ross is taxed at £8; in the *Taxatio Sec. xvi.* at £24, 16s.; and in the *Libellus Taxationum* it is valued at £80.¹⁵ At the Reformation it was stated to the collector of thirds at 20 bolls of victual, of which 5 chalders were paid from the teinds of Ardrosser, and 6 chalders 1 boll from the quarter teinds of Rosmerkin and Crumbathy, together with £35 in money, deducing yearly 20 marks ‘to the chorislatt for his fie.’¹⁶

The chantry is taxed in Baiamund at £6, 13s. 4d., and in the *Taxatio Sec. xvi.* at £20, 13s. 3d.; and in the *Libellus Taxationum* it is valued at £66, 13s. 4d.¹⁷ The rental of the chantry at the Reformation is thus stated by the chanter—‘In victuall viii chalder; in silver

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. liiii. fol. 46.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 601.

³ Retours.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. viii. p. 385.

⁵ See NROG, p. 454. There is a place named Cullis in the modern parish of Knoekbain, including the greater part of the old parishes of Kilmuir Wester and Suddy. There is nothing in the recorded notices of the chaplainry to determine the locality of the lands from which it was endowed.

⁶ See SUDDY, p. 538, and ROSEMARKIE, p. 585.

⁷ Book of Assmptions.

⁸ Register of Ministers.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Book of Assignations.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Reg. Prior. S. Andree, pp. 28, 360, 361. Reg. de Aberbrothoe, vol. i. p. 231.

¹³ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁴ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁵ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁷ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

v^{xx} merkis. Maister Williame Cranstoun hes of the said chantry in yeirle pensoun the sowme of xxx lib. John Gibiesoun chorister in the channonry of Ross hes yeirle for his fie xxi merkis. Summa of the money payit zeirle out of the chantry of Ross extendand to the sowme of lxvi merkis.¹

In Baiamund the chancellary is taxed at £8, and in the Taxatio Sec. XVI. at £24, 16s.; in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £80.² The rental of assumptions between 1561 and 1566 gives us the following statement—‘The rental of the chansellarie of Ros pertenant to Master Duncan Chalmere vsufructuare. The personage of Suddye, the personage and vicarage of Kennetis, with the fourt pairt of the teind shavis of Cromarte and Rosmerkie, sett in assedatioun to Master David Chalmer titular of the samin and Richard Wrwing his factour for the sowme of xiii^{xx} merkis—of the quhilk thair is to be deducit to the vicaris and chaplandis ministaris of the samin the sowme of 1 merkis.’³

In Baiamund, the Taxatio Sec. XVI., and the Libellus, the treasurership is given at the same sums as the chancellary.⁴ In the rental of the assumption of thirds we have it as follows—‘The rental of the thesaurarie of Ros. Item the fruitis of the said thesaurarie and teind shavis of the samin, videlicet, the kirkis of Logy and Vrqhart, and the quarter of Crumarty and Rosmerky, sett in assedatioun to Mathow Hamiltoun of Mylneburne for the sowme of iii⁶ merkis—of the quhilk thair is to be deducit for the vphold of the kirkis and to the ministaris i⁶ merkis—and sua restis ii⁶ merkis.’⁵

The subdeanery is rated in Baiamund at £12, and in the Taxatio Sec. XVI. at £37, 4s.; and in the Libellus it is valued at £120.⁶ The subdean’s prebend consisted of the churches of Tayne and Eddirtane, which at the Reformation yielded together the sum of 300 marks 6s. 8d.⁷

The subchantry is taxed in Baiamund at £4, and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at £40.⁸ At the Reformation it was stated at £102, 13s. 4d.⁹

The archdeaconry, taxed in Baiamund at £8, and in the Taxatio Sec. XVI. at £24, 16s., is valued in the Libellus at £80, and in the rental of assumptions at £12, 13s. 4d. and xx chalders of victual.¹⁰

The valuations of the prebends of the other canons are given above under the heads of their respective parishes.¹¹

The chaplainry of Ballacuithe, as we have seen, was of the yearly value of 5 marks Scots.¹²

The chaplainry of Ardifaly, originally of the yearly value of £5, was latterly valued at £7.¹³ At the Reformation the united value of the chaplainries of Saint Laurence and Arfaill, ‘set in few be chartour and seasing,’ was £15.¹⁴

¹ Book of Assumptions.

² MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁷ Book of Assumptions. See TAIN, p. 427, and EDDERTOUN, p. 415.

³ Book of Assumptions.

⁴ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁸ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁹ See URRAY, p. 519.

⁵ Book of Assumptions. The statement is given and signed by James Lamb notary public at the command of the said Mathew the factor, who could not write *manu propria*.

¹⁰ See KILLEARNAN, p. 525.

¹¹ See pp. 411, 461, 466, 469, 473, 479, 482, 505, 542, 553, 557.

¹² See p. 583.

¹³ *Ibid.*

⁶ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁴ Book of Assumptions.

One of the three chaplainries of Alnes (it is not stated which) was of the extent of about 42s.¹

Between 1561 and 1566 the chaplainry of Obstull was leased yearly for the sum of £20.²

The chaplainry of Drummond appears to have been of the yearly value of £8, 13s. 4d.³

The chaplainry of Navity extended yearly to 12 bolls victual.⁴

The chaplainry of Munloch was probably of the yearly extent of £4.⁵

In 1579 appears in record John Irving of Kynnok.⁶ In the year 1580 King James VI. confirmed a charter by the deceased Alexander bishop of Ross, granting to John Irwing in the canony and Margaret Cumyng his wife, and their heirs born between them, with remainder to John's own heirs, the churchlands of Kynnok in the bishoprick of Ross, extending to a half davach.⁷ In 1584 John Irwyng of Kynnok and his wife Margaret again appear in record, and had a house in the canony.⁸

In 1655 Sir George M'Keinzie of Tarbit Baronet was served heir male to his father Sir George in a fifth part of the lands of Broomhill in the parish of Rosemarkie, of the extent of £6.⁹

The burgh of Rosemarkie, stiled by Bishop Leslie about 1578 a very ancient town, is said to have been erected a royal burgh (or burgh of regality?) by 'Alexander King of Scots.'¹⁰ In 1255 a charter by Laurence the soldier (*miles*), witnessed by several of the clergy of Ross, was given at Rosmare, apparently the burgh.¹¹ In 1455 'the toun of Forterose callit the Channorie of Rose' was annexed by King James II. to the burgh of Roismarkie.¹² In 1505 King James IV. granted to Andrew Aytoun captain of the castle of Striueling the customs of all the burghs and bounds between Bauf and Orknay (a grant which included Rosemarkie), for the yearly payment of £50 to the King's comptroller and others.¹³ In 1506 a charter by the same king is dated 'at Channony in Ross.'¹⁴ In 1545 Queen Mary appointed Master Thomas Marioribanks burgess of Edinburgh for seven years customer of the burgh of Innernes and within all the bounds of Ros and other counties, he paying yearly the sum of £40 Scots.¹⁵ In 1553 the Queen, on the narrative that the town of Rosmerkie had been of old created a burgh of regality by her predecessors, and had been annexed to the burgh of the Channony of Ros, and desirous that the inhabitants should provide for the lodging of strangers resorting thither, granted, in favour of David bishop of Ros, that the bailies, burgesses, and inhabitants of Rosmerkie should have within the burgh a market cross, a weekly market on Saturday for all kinds of merchandise and wares, and yearly fairs upon Saint Peter's day (1 August) and All-hallow-day (1 November), and on the octaves of both, with power to the bailies to levy all the customs and make payment of them to the

¹ See p. 585.

² See p. 586.

³ See SUDDY, p. 538.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 53.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 42.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. li. fol. 62.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 630; vol. vii. p. 224. Old Stat. Acc. Leslaens de Gestis Scotorum, p. 17.

¹¹ Beauly Charters.

¹² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 630; vol. vii. p. 224.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 30.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 81.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 28.

bishop.¹ In 1554 the same queen created the town of Rosmarky a burgh of barony in favour of the bailies, council, and community, the grantees paying yearly to the bishop of Ross the usual burgh fermes, and a wild goose (*anser silvestris*) or the common price of the same on the entry of every burgess.² In 1555, 1556, 1557, and 1562, charters are given by various persons at the Chanonry of Ross; one of them is witnessed by George Mouypenny, Alexander Thomesoun, and Richard Irving, inhabitants of the Chanonry, and another by (apparently) the same Alexander Thomesoun; and two are granted by the bishop, on condition of the grantee performing three suits at the three head courts yearly held at the Chanonry.³ In 1563 Queen Mary granted to John Wysehart burgess of Kirkwall the non-entry and other dues of the crofts and burgh roods beside the town of Rosmerky, extending to three roods or thereby, with the 'outsettis, houss, biggingis, and yairdis,' formerly belonging to the deceased Andrew Wisehart his grandfather, provided that no other than his grandfather had been heritably infeft in the same.⁴ In 1569 King James VI. granted in heritage to Andrew Monro of Newmoir the escheat of all the goods, cattle, and corn upon the piece of land called the Bischoppis Sched (in the Chanonry), and the quarter lands of Mekill Allane (in Tarbat), which belonged to John formerly bishop of Ross 'of this instant crop and yeir of God im^e veth lxxix yeiris and sawin to his behuif,' and were forfeited by him for treason and lese-majesty.⁵ In 1590 the same king created Forterose, 'of old called the Channonrie of Rosse,' a royal burgh, with weekly markets on Saturday and Monday, and two yearly fairs, one on Saint Bonnieface day and the other on the day called Pardon day (Easter).⁶ In 1592 he confirmed the union of Forterose and Rosemarkie by King James II.⁷ In 1599 a contract of marriage between Margaret the daughter of William Ros of Kilravok and Murdoch the son of Rorie M'Kenzie of Ardafallie was made at the Chanorie of Ros.⁸ In 1612 King James VI. confirmed the erection of the burgh of Roismarkie and all the privileges granted to it by his predecessors Alexander King of Scots and James II. King of Scots, and also the union of the towns by the latter king—uniting them anew, and granting all the privileges of the burgh of Roismarkie (including the fairs on Saint Peter's and All Saints' days) to the united burgh, which was to be governed by the provost, bailies, and council of the former.⁹ In 1615 Charles Pedder was served heir to his father James Pedder burgess of the Chanonry of Ross in a piece of the common lands of Plateok within the bounds of the college of the Chanonry, of the extent of 8s. ferme.¹⁰ In 1641 King Charles I. confirmed his father's charter of 1612.¹¹ In 1655 Sir George M'Kenzie of Tarbit Baronet was served heir male to his father Sir George in 6 pecks of lands in the Chanonry of Ross and burgh of Rosemarkie, each peck of the extent of 4s. and 2d.¹² In 1661 King Charles II. — considering the ruinous state of the burgh of Rosemarkie then almost depopulated, and the flourishing condition of

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 56.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvi. fol. 39.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. nn. 267, 359, 481, 581.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 60.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxviii. fol. 95.

⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 224.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Kilravock Charters.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 630; vol. vii. pp. 224, 225.

¹⁰ Retours.

¹¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 630.

¹² Retours.

the burgh of Fortrose, which 'is within a rig length to the same old and ruinous burgh, and of a most pleasant stance and situation, and of old the cathedrall seate of the dyocie of Rosse,' and that the latter still retained its privileges as a royal burgh and had been enrolled as such by an act of the parliament then sitting—with the consent of the inhabitants of Rosemarkie, who were to be burgesses of Fortrose, confirmed all previous charters and infestments; ordained that the united towns should thenceforth be called the burgh of Fortrose; changed the weekly markets from Saturday and Monday to Tuesday and Friday; and renewed the grants of the yearly fairs, that called Saint Boniface to begin on 16 March, and that called Pardon day to begin on Whitsunday, each continuing for three days, and the fairs formerly held in Rosemarkie on Saint Peter's day and Hallowmes to be held there or at Fortrose as the inhabitants of both might think expedient.¹ Fairs are now held at Fortrose on the first Wednesday of April, the third Wednesday of June, and the first Wednesday of November.² The houses of the inhabitants are chiefly the old residences of the canons.³ The old seal of the chapter of Ross, as above stated, is now used as the seal of the burgh of Fortrose.⁴ The cross of Rosemarkie still stands at the west end of the town, and the seal of the burgh, still in existence, bears the legend SIGILLUM COMMUNE BVIRGI DE ROS-MARKYN.⁵

Between the years 1561 and 1566, as we have seen, Henry bishop of Ross complained that his palace, or, as it was called, the house and place of the Chanonry, had been taken and kept from him for nine months by 'broken men,' and that he was therefore compelled to undergo considerable expense in paying men to defend it.⁶ His successor Bishop Leslie about the year 1578 describes it as the bishop's palace, situated not far from the dwellings of the canons, and in splendour and magnificence inferior to few in the country.⁷ In 1578, as above stated, King James VI. granted in heritage to Henry Lord Methuen the temporality of the bishoprick and the 'castle, house, and place of the Chanonrie,' till a new bishop should be appointed.⁸ In 1579 (20 November) the same king remitted to Colin Makcainzie of Kintail, Roderic Makcainzie his brother german, John Irving of Kynnok, and Donald M'Intagart, all action which he had against them for their violence and treasonable coming with accomplices to the number of 100 or thereby, armed with coats of mail, steel caps (*galleris cullibeis*), swords, daggers, shields, ordnance great and small (*bombardis bombardicalis*), spears, lances, axes, bows, arrows, and other instruments of war, on the 22d day of September 1578, to the castle, fortalice, and palace of Chanonrie of Ros belonging to the bishoprick, having heard and certainly understood the death of Alexander bishop of Ros, who died on that day, with the fixed purpose and deliberate intention to surprise and take the said castle, fortalice, and peel—so that they the more easily effected their purpose, laid violent hands on the persons of William Irving messenger, Thomas Merschall writer, and John Robertsoun the servitor of the deceased

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. pp. 224, 225.

² New Stat. Acc. and Almanacks. The Calendar of Fearn in the seventeenth century mentions a fair at Chanonry in the month of April.

³ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ See above, p. 582.

⁵ New Stat. Acc.

⁷ De Gestis Scotorum, p. 17.

⁶ See p. 569.

⁸ See p. 570.

bishop, who were then in the city of the Channonrie, and caused them to be carried prisoners to the castle called the Reidcastell belonging to Colin Mackcainzie and distant about 10 miles from the Channonrie, detaining them there as prisoners for 24 hours, continually beating them *in terrorem*, and giving occasion to all the servitors of the deceased bishop and to others the King's lieges to flee and hide themselves from the cruelty of the said Colin and his accomplices, and to leave the castle of the Channonrie as if deserted so that none save the janitor durst remain in it; continuing there with a number of armed men sufficient to accomplish their treasonable purpose; exclaiming with terrible voices and noise, and declaring that they would slay and burn all within the castle unless the doors were opened to them; and afterwards besieging the castle for eight hours or thereby, treasonably seizing the keys and entering by dint of superior force, treasonably intronitting with the goods found there, and afterwards holding the castle without the King's licence to the above effect for a long time contrary to the acts of parliament—and for treasonably supplying, fortifying, and holding either in person or by their servitors and accomplices the said castle of the Channonrie of Ross against the King's authority since the 29th of April, although regularly commanded and required on that day to deliver it up to Henry Lord Methven, and to William Lord Ruthven the King's treasurer and the tutor of Lord Methven, within 24 hours on pain of treason and lese-majesty—and for all other crimes.¹ In 1585, as we have seen, King James granted in heritage to Henry Lord Methuen, the son and apparent heir of the deceased Lord Henry, the temporality of the bishoprick, with the castle, house, and place of Channonrie, formerly granted to the deceased lord.² The bishop's palace no longer exists, but in 1835 its foundations appear to have been turned up in trenching a place in the Chanonry known as 'the precincts.'³

In 1854, in the course of some operations on the ruins of the cathedral, there was found built into the wall near the high altar a stone sarcophagus divided horizontally into two compartments, of which the upper contained the skeleton of a tall man, apparently a bishop, with the vestments nearly entire, and at its left side a piece of wood supposed to be the remains of a crosier.⁴

In the arches separating the south aisle of the cathedral church from the chancel are two monuments, one dated about 1330 and commemorating a countess of Ross, and the other said to be that of Bishop John who died in 1507.⁵

Above the town of Rosemarkie is a circular hill with a flat top named the Courthill, probably the seat of the bishop's court.⁶

In the last century were found among the foundations of an old house in the Chanonry coins of Robert King of Scots, and in a moor near Rosemarkie coins of Queen Elizabeth, King James VI., and King Charles I.⁷

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 53.

³ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Inverness Courier, March, 1854.

² See p. 570.

⁵ Neale's Ecclesiological Notes, pp. 53-57.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc.

LOCUINETHERETH.

IN the year 1227 a settlement between the bishops of Moray and Ross about the churches of Kyntalargyn and Ardrosser was witnessed and subscribed by Douenald the vicar of Locuinethereth.¹ The locality of this church seems to be now unknown.

KYNTERYTH.

IN 1549 Queen Mary presented Arthur Hamiltoun to the rectory of Kynteryth in the diocese of Ross, vacant by the decease of Master Peter Sandelandis.² This church may be the same as Locuinethereth, but there seems to be nothing known of either farther than what is here noticed.

ARDERSIER.

Ardrosser³ — Ardorsier⁴ — Arthourseir⁵ — Ardyrsyir⁶ — Arthyrasyir⁷ —
Ardersier⁸ — Arduasier.⁹ (Map, No. 35.)

THIS parish is situated in the county of Inverness upon the point or headland which lies on the Moray Firth opposite to the Ness or Point of Chanonry. The shore is flat and sandy, but diversified with sandy knolls and heathy ridges, morasses, and small lakes, and is generally known as the Carse of Ardersier.¹⁰ The rest consists of a sea-terrace in some parts about 300 feet above the sea, and is in general cultivated.¹¹

IN 1227 a controversy arose between Andrew bishop of Moray on one side and Robert bishop of Ross and his chapter on the other, the former asserting in presence of the Pope's delegates, namely, the abbot of Der, and the dean and archdeacon of Aberdene, the right

¹ Regist. Moraviense, p. 82.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxii. fol. 91.

³ A. D. 1227. Regist. Morav., p. 82. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Circa A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers.

⁵ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

⁶ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu.

⁷ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁸ Circa A. D. 1640. Ibid.

⁹ A. D. 1661. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 106.

¹⁰ New Stat. Acc. Thomson's Map.

¹¹ Old and New Stat. Acc.

of diocesan over the churches of Gylltalgryn and Ardrosser, and having been put in actual possession of the churches a year before *causa rei servande*.¹ The controversy was finally settled by the advice of the delegates, and with consent of the chapters and clergy of both dioceses in the following manner: That the bishops of Moray should possess the church of Kyntalargyn as to diocesan right, and the bishops of Ross should for ever have the church of Ardrosser as to all ecclesiastical matters as their predecessors formerly held it.² Moreover the bishop of Moray for himself and his successors and with the consent of his whole chapter renounced all right, if any, which he had or might have in the church of Ardrosser, and all action and demand, solemnly promising that neither he nor his successors should afterwards claim any right in that church or in any thing belonging to it; the bishop of Ross for himself and his successors and with the consent of his chapter and clergy making a similar renunciation and promise as to the church of Kyntalargyn.³ The bishop of Ross moreover with the same consent gave for ever to the cathedral church of Elgyn a stone of wax to be held for confraternity and the orisons and other benefits there to be rendered, which stone of wax John Byseth and his heirs according to their charter were wont to give to the cathedral church of Ros.⁴ It was further agreed that, if either of the said churches should attempt to contravene the above, it should pay the penalty of £100 sterling to the other which observed the agreement, and that the agreement should notwithstanding remain valid.⁵ The settlement was subscribed by the respective bishops and clergy together with the delegates, and among those who subscribed the copy to be kept by the bishop of Moray was Maurice canon of Rosmarkyn and parson of Ardrosser, who subscribed by the hand of his procurator because he was blind.⁶ At the Reformation the kirk of Ardrosser was part of the prebend of the dean of Ros.⁷ In 1569, 1571, and 1574 John Smyth was reader at Ardorseir, and in 1574 Andro Myll was minister there and at several other churches.⁸ About the year 1661 Master Patrick Durhame, late minister at Ardnaseir, was appointed for life to the deanery of Ross.⁹

The church stood on the Carse near the bottom of the sea-terrace, where its cemetery may still be seen.¹⁰ It was rebuilt with clay in 1766, and about 1790 was ruinous.¹¹ The present church was built in 1802 near the east end of the higher part of the parish.¹²

In 1296 the Master of the Knights Templars in Scotland swore fealty to King Edward I. of England, and received from that king among other mandates for restoring the possessions of his order one addressed to the sheriff of Invernys (which probably included their lands at Ardersier).¹³ In 1611 James Lord Torphichen granted the Temple lands of Ardnasier to Master Thomas Rollock, who in 1626 granted them to John Campbell.¹⁴ In the latter year John Mackaye of the Tempill Land of Ardincheir granted to Houchone Rose of Kilravok a

¹ Regist. Morav., p. 81.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*¹⁰ MS. Maps. Blaeu. Thomson's Map.⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 81, 82.⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 82.⁶ *Ibid.*¹¹ Old Stat. Acc.⁷ Book of Assumptions.¹² New Stat. Acc.⁸ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.¹³ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 25.⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 106.¹⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 366.

receipt for his 'hail vryttis hail and suir as he delyverit thame to him.'¹ In 1661 King Charles II. confirmed in favour of Sir Hew Campbell of Calder the grants of the Temple lands made in 1611 and 1626, both granters and grantees being then deceased.² The preceptory or house of the Templars, the ruins of which remained in the beginning of the last century, stood at Dalyards.³

Between 1561 and 1566 the kirk of Ardrosser, included in the rental of the deanery of Ross, was valued yearly at 5 chadders of victual and apparently a sum of money not stated separately from the money paid by the other churches held by the dean.⁴ In 1569 and 1571 the reader at Ardorseir had for his stipend £20, and in 1574 he had 20 marks and the kirklands.⁵ In 1574 the minister had £80 (the amount of the deanery), the kirklands (probably of Awach), and other perquisites.⁶

In the year 1552 Robert Monro of Fowlis granted a charter at Arthursair.⁷ In 1556 David bishop of Ross, perpetual commendator of Cambuskyneth, with consent of the dean and chapter of Ross, granted to his brother Robert Leslie the lands and barony of Ardroseir, the salmon and other fishings of the same, the upper alehouse of Ardroseir and the lower alehouse with their crofts and pertinents, and the lands of Wester and Eister Delny (in the neighbouring parish of Nairn); the grantee paying yearly for Ardroseir 24 marks with 8 marks as grassum, 2 marts, 2 muttuns, 18 capons, 18 poultry, 8 kids, 160 eggs, and 4 bolls of oats—for the mails of the upper alehouse 20s. with 6s. 8d. as grassum—for the mails of the lower alehouse 2 marks with 8s. 11d. as grassum, 2 muttuns, and 24 capons—and for the fishings 10 marks; and performing three suits at the three head courts held yearly at the chanonry of Ross.⁸ In 1557 Queen Mary confirmed the grant.⁹ Between 1561 and 1566 Henry bishop of Ross enumerates the mairdom of Ardrosser among the lands belonging to the bishoprick.¹⁰ In 1570 King James VI., for the good service done to his 'guidschir and regent' by Robert Leslie of Arthourseir, granted to him for life a yearly pension of £103, 11s. 4d. Scots together with 300 loads of peats out of the fruits of the bishoprick of Ros, and as security he granted him the dues of the lands and barony of Arthourseir with the fishing of the same, and the dues of the lands of Estir Airdrie, in the sheriffdom of Innernes, belonging to the bishoprick as part of its patrimony, and formerly let in feuferme to Robert and his heirs for the yearly payment of those dues.¹¹ In 1572 (3 January) the same king granted to the same Robert Leslie in heritage the escheat of the goods which belonged to Master Mungo Monypenny dean of Ross, and (6 January) confirmed to him the grant of 1570.¹² In 1575 the son of Robert Leslie sold the lands of Ardiersier and Delnies to John Campbell of Calder.¹³

¹ Kilravock Charters.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 366.

³ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁶ Book of Assignations.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 122.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 581. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 9.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Book of Assumptions.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxix. fol. 47.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xl. ff. 42, 43. See above, p. 573.

¹³ Shaw's History of Moray.

Campbeltown, lying partly in this parish and partly in Petty, was in 1623 created a burgh of barony in favour of John Dow Campbell of Calder, with a fair on 5 July.¹ It is now a village with about 1000 inhabitants, and has a fair on 12 August called Lammas Fair.²

Fort George, built in 1748, an irregular polygon with six bastions, and capable of accommodating 2500 soldiers, occupies the extremity of the Point of Ardersier opposite to Chanonry.³

On the height above Campbeltown is a circular mount about 20 feet high, having a rampart of earth and clay 5 feet in height and 120 in circumference.⁴ It is known as Cromwell's mount, a corruption of Cromal or Tom Mhoit, and was evidently the ancient moot-hill of the barony of Ardersier.⁵

In 1508 King James IV. crossed the ferry of Ardersier on his way to Tain, on which occasion he paid 13s. to the 'feryaris.'⁶

Near the march between Ardersier and Nairn is an erect stone 6 feet high, known as the Claoh-na-cabbac or Kebbuck-stone, traditionally said to commemorate the death of a chieftain who fell on the spot.⁷

On the heath of Balnagown are the remains of an encampment supposed to be Danish, which when perfect consisted of two parallel lines of circular mounds, each mound in the one line covering the opening between two mounds in the other.⁸

¹ New Stat. Acc.

² Ibid.

³ New Stat. Acc. and County Maps.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Treasurer's Accounts.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc.

⁸ New Stat. Acc.

DORNOCH.

Durnach¹—Dornouch²—Dornoch³—Dornogh⁴—Durnoch.⁵ (Map, No. 1.)

THIS parish, of which the seaward part is skirted by Loch Fleet and the Little Ferry (Unis) on the north, the Dornoch Firth on the east, and the portion of that firth called the Meikle Ferry (Portnacultry) on the south—and whose northern extremes touch Loch Buie on the west, and the immediate vicinity of the church of Rogart on the east—is low, flat, and sandy towards the sea, and rises to no great height in the interior, which is traversed by some hilly ranges, and by two valleys named Strathearnaig and Strathachvaich watered by the streams Carnaig and Evelix.⁶

The original parish church of Dornoch, the date of whose foundation is unknown, was dedicated to Saint Bar, Finbar, or FyMBER, a native of Caithness and bishop of Cork, who flourished according to some authorities in the sixth century, and according to others in the eleventh.⁷ Saint Duthace, said to have been bishop of Ross during the first half of the thirteenth century, was believed to have wrought a miracle at Dornoch on the festival of Saint Fimbar (25 September).⁸ During the same period, as will afterwards be seen, Bishop Gilbert (said to have been the pupil of Saint Duthace) built the cathedral church, subsequently dedicated to him as Saint Gilbert.⁹ Whether this erection superseded the church of Saint Bar, neither the charter of Bishop Gilbert nor any other record informs us—but his festival continued to be held as a term day and fair during both the sixteenth and the seventeenth century, and the cemetery of Saint Fimber of Dornoch occurs in several bounding charters of the same period.¹⁰ The church of Saint Bar existed, whether in ruins or otherwise does not appear, till about the beginning of the seventeenth century, when it was taken down or destroyed.¹¹

¹ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1275. Sutherland Charters.

² A. D. 1456. Misc. of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.

³ A. D. 1568. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1569. Sutherland Charters. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1576. Ibid. A. D. 1607. Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Circa A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

⁵ A. D. 1641. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. pp. 599, 600.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 6, 25. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 361. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. estiv. fol. cxv. Annals of the Four Masters (translated by Connellan), p. 180. Keith's Catalogue. Torfaeus gives the following story, which he dates about 995, and which bears some resemblance to the legend of the Aberdeen Breviary. Ulf, surnamed the Bad, an inhabitant of Sandey in Orkney, murdered Harald an inhabitant of Ronaldsha. Helg the son of Harald in revenge slew Bard the friend of Ulf, plundered Ulf's

house and lands, and carried off his daughter Helga. He was pursued and overtaken by Ulf (apparently on the coast of Caithness), a sea-fight ensued, and Helg, being worsted, threw himself into the sea and swam ashore, carrying with him Ulf's daughter. They were kindly received by a poor man named Thorfin, in whose cottage they were irregularly married and dwelt for two years. Ulf being dead, they then returned to Orkney; and their son Bard, who travelled and acquired great learning, was afterwards bishop of Ireland, and became famous for his miracles. Orcaedes, lib. i. c. 10.

⁸ Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hycm, fol. lxxvi.

⁹ Sutherland Charters. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 32.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 7.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 6, 25. Sir Robert Gordon, author of the Genealogy, writing in 1630, says of the church that it 'was of late demolished in the dayes of King James the Sixth.'

The bishoprick of Caithness appears to have been from its erection co-extensive with the older earldom, extending, as recorded in charters of 1476, 1527, and 1567, from Portnacultr to the Pentland Firth and from the eastern sea to the western, and thus including the modern counties of Caithness and Sutherland.¹ The era of its erection is unknown.² The first bishop whose name appears in authentic records is Andrew, whose rule extended from the year 1146 at latest to the year 1185.³ Before 1153 King David I. granted to that bishop Hoeter Comon (probably the same as Huetherhincbe subsequently assigned by Bishop Gilbert to the chantry) free from all service except that of the common host.⁴ About the same period Bishop Andrew granted to the monks of Dunfermelyn, of which he had been himself a monk, for the weal of the soul of King David, his predecessors, and successors, and of his own soul, the church of the Holy Trinity of Dunkeld (which he appears to have had from the gift of King David), with all its pertinents, namely, Fordouin, Dunmernaeh, Bendaethin, Cupermaecultin, Inchetburfin, and Chethee.⁵ Between the years 1160 and 1164 King Malcolm IV. confirmed to the monks of Dunfermelyn the same church, to be held by them after the decease of Andrew bishop of Cateneis, and with the same pertinents and rights held by him from the gift of King David.⁶ Before 1165 Gregory bishop of Dunkeld confirmed the same, which he styles in his charter the gift of King Malcolm and of Andrew bishop of Katenes.⁷ Bishop Gregory's charter is witnessed by Bishop Andrew. and by Murethac the clerk of the bishop of Katenes.⁸ Before 1181, during the pontificate of Alexander III., Harald earl of Catenes and Orkney granted to the see of Rome one penny yearly from each inhabited house within the earldom of Catenes, a grant which was witnessed by Bishop Andrew and other nobles of the district, and which the bishop had the duty of enforcing.⁹ Bishop Andrew died at Dunfermelyn on 30 December 1185.¹⁰

John, who succeeded Andrew as bishop of Caithness, witnesses several charters between the years 1187 and 1199, in one case along with his two chaplains, each named Alexander.¹¹ As he refused to exact the papal contribution granted by Earl Harald, the latter between 1198 and 1202 seems to have sent information to that effect to Pope Innocent III., who thereupon commissioned the bishops of Orkney and Ross to compel Bishop John to levy the tax on pain of church censure.¹² During the same period Harald the son of Eric Slagbrell (styled Harald the younger), having received from Magnus king of Norway the half of Orkney, and from

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 393; lib. xxi. no. 42. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 72; vol. vii. fol. 81. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 567. Macpherson's Geog. Illust.

² Keith's Catalogue. Dalrymple's Collections, pp. 227, 247. Macpherson's Geog. Illust. Miscellany of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii. Bishop Leslie, and after him Sir Robert Gordon, attribute the foundation of this bishoprick to King Malcolm III., and Sir Robert gives Saint Bar as first bishop, and Saint William as his successor. Sir James Dalrymple and Mr. Chalmers assign the foundation of the bishoprick to King David I.

³ Regist. de Dunfermelyn, pp. 7, 8, 14, 22, 23, 24, 26, 30, 31, 35. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. pp. 48*, 52*, 53*, 64*. Regist. Glasgucense, pp. 13, 32. Reg. Prior. S.

Andree, pp. 128, 129, 131, 133, 139, 144, 147, 149, 184-189, 195, 196, 198, 199, 201-205, 207, 216, 217, 219, 220, 222-225. Regist. Moraviense, pp. 4, 454. Lib. Ecol. de Seon, pp. 7, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27, 33. Regist. de Aberbrothoc, vol. i. pp. 7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 67, 101. Chronica de Mailros, p. 93.

⁴ Regist. de Dunfermelyn, pp. 14, 15.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 74.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 22.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 74.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Epist. Innocentii III., lib. i. no. 218.

¹⁰ Chronica de Mailros, p. 93.

¹¹ Regist. Morav., p. 6. Regist. de Aberbrothoc, vol. i. pp. 17, 99.

¹² Epist. Innocentii III., lib. i. no. 218.

King William the Lion the half of Katanes, and having collected an army in Katanes, sent to Earl Harald (called the elder) requesting him to yield the half granted to him by the king.¹ The earl refused, raised a large army, entered Katanes, defeated and slew the younger Harald, and retired to Orkney.² King William on learning these things sent an army into Katanes under Rogvald Gudrodson king of the Hebrides, who took possession of the whole district, and left it under the charge of three prefects.³ Earl Harald in 1201 returned to Katanes with an army, and landing near Thorsa was met by Bishop John then residing at his palace of Skarabolstad (Serabster), and anxious to intercede with the earl for the Katanes men who had submitted to the king.⁴ The earl at first received him civilly, but then caused him to be seized and to have his tongue and eyes cut out.⁵ The bishop of Orkney by letter informed Pope Innocent III. of the outrage, and of the part acted in it by Lombard a layman, who according to his own account was forced by some of the earl's soldiers to cut out the bishop's tongue.⁶ That pope in 1202 prescribed for Lombard the following penance—That, barefooted and clad only with breeches and a short woollen garment without sleeves, and having his tongue projecting and tied with a string bound round his neck, and with rods in his hand, he should in the sight of all walk for fifteen days in succession through his native district, the district of the mutilated bishop, and the surrounding country; that, prostrate on the earth before the door of the church, he should cause himself to undergo discipline with the rods he carried; that he should spend each day in silence and fasting till after the evening, and then support nature with only bread and water; that at the end of the fifteen days he should make ready to set out for the Holy Land, where he should labour for three years in the service of the cross; that he should never more bear arms against Christians; and that for two years he should fast every Friday on bread and water, unless that abstinence should by the indulgence of some discreet bishop be mitigated on account of bodily infirmity or other cause.⁷ Bishop John appears to have survived the mutilation till the year 1213, in which Adam abbot of Melros was elected as his successor.⁸

In 1214 Adam was consecrated bishop of Cathenes by William Maleuicn bishop of Saint Andrews.⁹ In the same year he presided at the dedication of the church of Saint Mary of Hawic.¹⁰ In 1218, in company with Walter bishop of Glasgow and Bricius bishop of Moray, he made a pilgrimage to Rome to procure absolution, and in 1219 he returned.¹¹ It was probably in one of those years that he witnessed a charter of Bishop Bricius.¹² In 1218 also he is said to have procured from Pope Honorius III. a confirmation of the erection

¹ Orkneyinga Saga, p. 407. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 38.

² Ork. Saga, pp. 409, 411. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 38.

³ Ork. Saga, pp. 411, 413. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 38.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 415. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 38. Ford. Scot., lib. viii. c. 62. Ep. Inn. III., lib. v. no. 77.

⁵ Ibid. The Chronica de Mailros seems to place these events in 1196 or 1197—Buchanan gives the date 1199. Chron. de Mailros, p. 103. Buch. Hist. lib. vii. c. 49. The date given by Fordun, 1201, seems to be more correct.

⁶ Epist. Innocentii III., lib. v. no. 77.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Chronica de Mailros, p. 114. The Sagas relate that Bishop John, having been conducted by a woman to the tomb of Saint Trollhaena, had his tongue and eyes miraculously restored. Ork. Saga, p. 415. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 38. Trollhaena is Triduana of Scotch hagiologists, who place her tomb at Restalrig.

⁹ Chronica de Mailros, p. 114.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 115.

¹¹ Ibid., p. 135.

¹² Regist. Moraviense, p. 62.

of the bishoprick.¹ By an old custom a *spann* of butter for every 20 cows was paid to the bishop by the husbandmen.² Bishop Adam reduced the number first to 15, then to 12, and finally to 10, exacting in every case the *spann* of butter.³ In 1222 the Katanes men complained to Earl John, who in vain attempted to induce the bishop to be more moderate.⁴ While the bishop was at his episcopal manor of Hakirk in Thorsdal (probably at that time the episcopal see), in company with Serlo dean of Neubottle his confidential adviser, and Rafn the *logmadr* (one of the prefects appointed by King William), the discontented husbandmen assembled in the vicinity, threatening to use violence, from which Earl John who was present seems to have dissuaded them.⁵ Rafn's intercession with the bishop had no effect—the husbandmen advanced to attack the house—Serlo came out to meet them, and was immediately seized and put to death—and, the bishop at last coming out and offering terms of agreement, the better part of the populace would have willingly made an arrangement with him, but the more violent seized him, dragged him to a hut (or, as some say, his own kitchen), and setting fire to it burned him to death.⁶ His body was afterwards honourably interred in the baptismal church (of Skinnet), and in 1239 was transferred to the episcopal see (then at Dornoch).⁷ Among the documents found in the king's treasury at Edinburgh in 1282 was one entitled 'A quitclaiming of the lands of the *bondi* of Catanes for the slaughter of the bishop.'⁸ Earl John, whose only blame seems to have been that after failing in his first intercession with the bishop he declined again to interfere, was nevertheless considered a partner in the murder, and forfeited his lands, which however were soon afterwards restored.⁹

Gilbert de Moravia, a son of the laird of Duffus in Moray, and from 1203 to 1222 archdeacon of that diocese, succeeded Bishop Adam in the see of Caithness.¹⁰ He is said by our chroniclers to have been present with Bishop Andrew at the council of Northampton in 1176, and to have been the Scottish clerk who there asserted the independence of the Scottish church.¹¹ Bulls granted by Popes Clement III. and Celestine III. between 1187 and 1198 in favour of that church are said to have been partly the result of his able defence, and to have been committed to his keeping by King Alexander II.¹² He afterwards held some office

¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 30.

² Ork. Saga, p. 421. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 40.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.* Hakirk was not at that period a parish, the church being at Skeuand (Skinnet), but there seems to have been a chapel at Hakirk (afterwards made a parish church), and the name according to some writers is translated 'high or principal church.'

⁶ Ork. Saga, pp. 421, 428. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 40. Chronica de Mailros, p. 139. Ford. Scot., lib. ix. c. 37. Wyntownis Cronykil, book vii. ch. ix. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hyem., fol. lxxxiii. Buch. Hist., lib. vii. c. 56. Ant. Celto-Scandicæ, pp. 272, 274. Ext. e Var. Cron. Scocie, p. 92. Wyntoun says that a boy who attended the bishop—'the child that in his

chawmyr lay'—was also killed; and that the bishop suffered because he refused to lease his teinds to his own men.

⁷ Chronica de Mailros, pp. 139, 150.

⁸ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 4 post pref.

⁹ Chronica de Mailros, p. 142. Wyntownis Cronykil, book vii. ch. ix.

¹⁰ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 43, 60-62. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hyem., fol. lxxxiii. Ford. Scot., lib. viii. c. 26. Ext. e Var. Cron. Scocie, p. 93. Sutherland Charters. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 31. Keith's Catalogue.

¹¹ Forduni Scot., lib. viii. c. 26. Ext. e Var. Cron. Scocie, p. 93. Camerarius, pp. 121, 122.

¹² Camerarius, pp. 121, 122. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 31.

under that king (variously but erroneously styled chancellor, chamberlain, and treasurer), in virtue of which he was empowered to administer the king's affairs in the north, and to build, repair, and keep the royal castles and other buildings.¹ In 1225 as bishop he witnessed the settlement of a dispute between Andrew bishop of Moray and Robert Hode about the manor of Lamanbrid.²

Apparently soon after his appointment to the see Bishop Gilbert, on the narrative that in the times of his predecessors there was but a single priest ministering in the cathedral church both on account of the poverty of the place and by reason of frequent hostilities, and that he desired to extend the worship of God in that church, resolved to build a cathedral church at his own expense, to dedicate it to the Virgin Mary, and in proportion to his limited means to make it conventual.³ He therefore ordained that in that church there should be ten canons constantly ministering to the bishop by themselves or their vicars—that the bishop should preside as head, five of the others holding the dignities of dean, precentor, chancellor, treasurer, and archdeacon, each of whom, as well as the bishop and the abbot of Scon who had been appointed a canon in that church,⁴ should find a priest as vicar to minister there daily in his own absence—and that the other three canons should find deacons continually to assist and serve the said priests within the church. Having assigned fourteen of the parish churches of his diocese for the maintenance of the canons and the lighting of the cathedral church, and having reserved six for the use of the bishop, he appointed to each canon his prebend as follows.⁵ To the dean were assigned the church of Clun with all its fruits, the teindsheaves of the city of Durnach and the town of Ethenboll, with the fourth part of the altarage of Durnach and the whole land of Methandurnach—to the precentor the church of Creech with its fruits and chapels, the teindsheaves of Promci and Auelech, Stradormeli, Askesdale, and Rutheuerchar, the fourth part of the altarage of Durnach, and the whole land of Huetherbinehe at Durnach—to the chancellor the church of Rothgorth, the teindsheaves of Scelleboll, namely, of 12 dawachs, and the fourth part of the altarage of Durnach—and to the treasurer the church of Lairg, the teindsheaves of Scitheboll and Sywardhoch, except those before assigned to the precentor at Stradormeli belonging to those lands, and the fourth part of the altarage of the church of Durnach—with free toft and croft in the city of Durnach to each of those four prebendaries. In order the better to secure their residence in the cathedral, there was given them as a common church, while resident or while employed in the external business of the church or of the bishop, the church of Far, except the tithes and fruits of Helgedall previously assigned by

¹ Ford. Scot., lib. viii. c. 26. Ext. e Var. Cron. Seccie, p. 93. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hzem., fol. lxxxiii. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 32. Crawford's Officers of State, p. 253. Keith's Catalogue. Sir R. Gordon (Genealogy, p. 32) ascribes to him the building of Kildrummy Castle in Aberdeenshire.

² Regist. Morav., p. 460. ³ Original at Dunrobin.

⁴ See KILDONAN *post*.

⁵ The 14 churches thus assigned to the prebends were, as will be seen, those of Clyne, Dornoch,

Creech, Rogart, Lairg, Far, Kildonan, and Durness, in Sutherland; and Bower, Watten, Skinnet, Orliek, Dunnet, and Cannisbay, in Caithness. Those reserved to the bishop seem to have been Golspie and Loth in Sutherland, Reay in Sutherland and Caithness, and Thurso, Wick, and Latheron in Caithness. Lairg at that period included Edderachillis; Far included Tongue; and Skinnet included Halkirk and Spittal. Assynt, the only remaining parish, was probably not a distinct parish at the time. See Rental of Bishoprick *post*.

the bishop to the church of Ra on account of the nearness of that church to Helgedall and the great distance of the church of Far—reserving also to the bishop the power of dividing the parish of Far into more on account of its diffuse extent. As those prebendaries were next after the bishop the chief members of the cathedral, the bishop ordained that they should be free from every burden payable to the archdeacon, the officials, and the rural deans, none of whom should presume to exercise jurisdiction over them, their households (*familias*), or their chaplains, the correction of their misdemeanours being left to the bishop and chapter. To the archdeacon were assigned the churches of Bouer and Watne. The lands of Pethgrudi and of the two Herkhenys, with the common pasture of the city of Durnach, were assigned in common to the chancellor, treasurer, and archdeacon. The church of Kelduninach was assigned as the prebend of the abbot of Seon, who was bound to serve in the cathedral church by a competent priest as vicar, and to serve in his prebendal church by a competent priest, but not bound to residence or to find a vicar in that church. To the three remaining prebends were assigned the parish churches of Olich, Donott, and Cananesbi, with the church of Seynend as a common church—the fruits of the last in case of absence to be applied for the work and ornament of the cathedral church, saving for life to the bishop's clerk William of Ros 100 shillings formerly assigned to him from that church, and to his chaplain Eudo three marks yearly from the same. The church of Dyrnes was given to find light and incense for the cathedral church. To the bishop's vicar in the cathedral were assigned with consent of the chapter the teindsheaves of Thoreboll and Kynald, and 20 acres of land at Durnach, with toft and croft in that city. To the five prebends above instituted and specified were further assigned tofts and crofts in Durnach, in order to deprive them of all excuse for non-residence. The prebendaries were to enjoy their benefices freely, saving the episcopal rights in their respective churches. The bishop with the consent of the chapter further ordained, that the dean should reside at least for the half of every year in the cathedral church, and that all the other canons, whether dignified or otherwise, except the abbot of Seon, should either together or singly be resident for three months in the year, unless licensed by the bishop or chapter, the defaulter to pay 12 pennies for every week of his absence—that any canon summoned by the bishop or chapter to give his advice and assistance for the defence of the church, and neglecting the summons, unless he could plead a canonical excuse, should be deprived of his prebendal revenue till he should make condign satisfaction—that each of the seven priests ministering in the cathedral church should daily perform divine service unless canonically prevented—and that all the priests and deacons should be daily present at every (canonical) hour, unless unwell or licensed by the bishop, or in his absence by the dean—the absentee otherwise to be punished according to the practice to be instituted in the church. The bishop concludes his constitution by praying for peace and eternal glory to every faithful canon and vicar, and eternal wrath to the divisive and injurious. He intimates his own subscription and seal, and the manual subscriptions of the canons, none of which seem to have been appended.¹

¹ Original at Dunrobin.

Bishop Gilbert appears to have completed the building of the cathedral.¹ The glass used for the windows is said to have been made at Sytheraw (now Ciderhall) a short distance west from Dornoch.² The bishop had latterly some controversy with William earl of Sutherland about the episcopal lands, which was continued by two of his successors.³ In 1242 he made his will, which was extant in 1630.⁴ He died in 1245, was afterwards canonised, had his festival celebrated on 1 April (the anniversary of the day on which he died), and became the patron saint of the church which he built, and of the diocese which he ruled.⁵ His relics continued to be had in reverence till the eve of the Reformation.⁶

The immediate successor of Saint Gilbert was William, who in 1250 joined with other Scottish bishops in addressing a letter to King Alexander III. concerning the liberties of the church, and who is said to have died in 1261.⁷ He was succeeded by Walter of Baltrodd.⁸ In 1263 among the items of royal revenue accounted for by Laurence le Grant sheriff of Innernes were the profits of the justiciar of Caithness, which amounted to 18 shillings, saving the bishop's tithes, which was 2 shillings.⁹ Bishop Walter died in 1270 or 1271; and Nicolas abbot of Scone, who was elected his successor, having gone to Rome for consecration, was rejected by the pope (Gregory X.), who ordered the chapter to elect another.¹⁰

The next bishop was Archebald Hayrok (or Heroe), formerly archdeacon of Moray.¹¹ In the year 1275 — on the narrative that, after a long controversy between his predecessors Gilebert, William, and Walter, on the one part, and William of good memory, and William his son, earls of Sutherland, on the other part, about the castle of Schythebolle with certain other lands, namely 6 davachs of Schythebolle, and 6 davaechs of Sytheraw with the ferry, and 2 davachs and a half of Miggewet, Swerdisdale, Creych with the fishing of the Bunnach, Cuttheldawach, 2 davachs of Mouimor, 2 davachs of Awelec, 3 davachs of Promsy, a davach of Roweherchar, 3 quarters of Haskesdale, half a davach of Hacchencossy, 3 davachs of Thorbolle, 2 davachs of Kynalde, and 4 davachs of Largge, in which lands and castle the bishop's said predecessors claimed right from the said earls in name of the church of Cathanes; and after the prolongation of the controversy to the no small expense of the church and of the earls down to the time of bishop Archebald and of William the son of the said deceased earl; at length, by the interposition of certain prelates and noblemen compassionating the straits of the church of Cathanes, the said earl by the advice of those prelates and other trustworthy persons granted to that church the castle of Schythebolle with six davachs of land adjacent to it, 6 davachs of Sytheraw with the ferry, 2 davachs and a half of Miggewet, Swerdel, and Creych, with the fishing of the Bunnach, and 2 davachs of Mouimor, to be held

¹ Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hyem., fol. lxxxiv. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 6, 31.

² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 6, 31.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 32.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 31, 32. Brev. Aberd. Prop. SS. pro temp. hyem., fol. lxxxiv. Camerarius, p. 121.

⁶ Protocol Book of David Seaton (at Aberdeen). See *post*.

⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 83.* Sutherland Charters. Keith's Catalogue. Rites of Durham, p. 133.

⁸ Sutherland Charters. Hay's Scotia Sacra. Keith's Catalogue.

⁹ Compota Camerar., vol. i. pp. 21.* 31.*

¹⁰ Scotia Sacra. Keith's Catalogue. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 35.

¹¹ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 135, 279. Keith's Catalogue.

perpetually without any controversy on the part of the earl or his heirs, saving the forinsee service of the king; and that the rest of the land, namely, 2 davachs of Awelech, 3 davachs of Promsy, a davach of Rntherhard, 3 quarters of Haskesdale, half a davach of Hachencosse, 3 davachs of Thorebol, 2 davachs of Kynalde, 4 davachs of Largge, and the davach of Cutthel-dawach, was freely given over by the bishop and chapter to the earl and his heirs — Bishop Archebald, in order more firmly to secure the privilege of his church with respect to the said lands, and for the benefits conferred on him by the earl, with the consent of the chapter granted to the earl in heritage a davach of Owenes of the value of half a mark, and the right of presenting to the bishop a chaplain to celebrate perpetually in the church of Durnach at the altar of Saint James for the souls of the earl, his predecessors, and his successors; assigning to the chaplain for his maintenance 5 marks yearly *de bonis episcopalibus*, namely of the fermes of his town of Durnach, to be paid by the hands of his bailies at the feasts of Saint Martin in winter and of Pentecost, and promising to grant to the earl every security which he and his council might please to demand.¹ To the above agreement, made in the cathedral church, were appended on one part the seals of the bishop, dean, archdeacon, precentor, and chancellor, and on the other those of the earl, William de Monte Alto, Sir Andrew of Moray, Sir Alexander of Moray, and Sir David of Innerlunan.² Bishop Archebald appears to have died in 1288.³

In 1290 (17 March) Alayn [of St. Edmund] bishop of Catenes was one of several bishops and others who in the name of the community of Scotland addressed a letter to Edward I. king of England proposing marriage between the Maid of Norway and his son Prince Edward.⁴ The same bishop was afterwards associated with others in negotiating that marriage, which, as is well known, was prevented only by the death of the Maid of Norway.⁵ In 1291 (12 June, *die Martis in crastino festi Sancti Barnabae apostoli*), in the presence of Sir Robert of Brus, John of Balliol, and others claiming right to the crown of Scotland, and of William bishop of Saint Andrews, Robert bishop of Glaseu, Sir John Comyn, and Sir James Stewart, wardens of that kingdom, and of other nobles and prelates both of Scotland and of England, assembled on a certain green opposite the castle of Norham on the north side of the river of Twede in the parish of Upsetlington in the diocese of Saint Andrews, Alan bishop of Cathanes, created chancellor of the kingdom of Scotland by the king of England, came and received the common seal of Scotland (*sigillum ad regimen Scocie deputatum*) delivered to him in the name of that king, and seeing and kissing the holy gospels gave his bodily oath that he would faithfully hold the office of chancellor according to the laws and customs of the kingdom of Scotland, that he would faithfully obey in that office the king of England as superior and immediate lord of that kingdom, and would do full justice to every one in that kingdom in every thing touching his said office.⁶ At the same time Sir Walter of Amundesham (St. Edmund?) clerk and associated with the bishop of Cathanes

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ Keith's Catalogue. Priory of Finchale, pp. 190, 191.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 85. Rymer, vol. ii. pp. 471, 472. There is no evidence that Alan was appointed by King Edward or through his influence, as

asserted by Keith; or that he was an Englishman, which Keith both asserts and doubts.

⁵ Rymer, vol. ii. pp. 488, 1090. Hailles' *Annals ad annum* 1290.

⁶ Ragman Rolls, pp. 6, 7. *Rotuli Scotiæ*, vol. i. p. 2.

in the office of chancellor gave a similar oath.¹ The wardens, claimants, and others, then went to the king in the castle of Norham, and treated of the above and other matters.² In the same year the same bishop was witness to the oath of fealty given by various persons to the king of England, and had various mandates addressed to him by that king.³ In the same year (28 June) King Edward, on the narrative that he had as above appointed Bishop Alan chancellor, and Walter of Agmodesham his associate, ordered Alexander of Balliol his chamberlain of Scotland to pay every four weeks from his receipts as chamberlain 20 marks to the bishop and 10 marks to his associate as their salaries from 12 June till another arrangement should be made.⁴ On 12 August the same king, on the narrative that the pope (Nicholas IV.) had granted to him the title of all ecclesiastical goods within the kingdom of Scotland as a subsidy for the Holy Land, and had appointed the bishop of Carlisle and Alan bishop of Cathenes collectors of the same, and that he had taken under his special protection those bishops, their substitutes, men, lands, revenues, and possessions, ordered his bailies and others of Scotland to afford all protection and assistance to them in making that collection.⁵ On 14 August he ordered the bishop as chancellor to cause the bishop of Carlisle and himself to have the king's letters of protection under the seal of Scotland while engaged in the same collection.⁶ On 17 August, after the chancellor and his assistant had received 8 weeks payment (*a die Martis post festum Sancti Barnabae usque ad diem Martis proximam post festum Sancti Oswaldi regis et martiris*, from 12 June to 7 August) at the appointed rate of 20 and 10 marks respectively for 4 weeks, King Edward, considering that such pay was not sufficient for their maintenance, ordered that from the latter date the bishop should receive a mark daily till another arrangement should be made—that the chamberlain should pay at the same rate to the bishop as the attorney of Walter of Agmodesham the arrears of his pay from 7 to 16 August (*a die Martis post festum Sancti Oswaldi usque ad diem Jovis in crastino festi Assumptionis Beatæ Mariæ*)—and that he should also give to the bishop beforehand 8 weeks payment at the rate of a mark per day from 7 August, and repeat the same payment at the end of every 8 weeks while the bishop held the office of chancellor until the king should otherwise ordain.⁷ At the same time he authorised the chancellor, as he had then no assistant, to use the seal of Scotland in sealing briefs of the chancery till the king should appoint an assistant.⁸ On 18 August King Edward ordered the bishop to direct letters under the seal of Scotland to Simon Fresel keeper of the forest of Sele Kirk, commanding him to give to various persons a number of stags from that forest, and among these ten to the bishop himself.⁹ On the same day he appointed as assistant chancellor Master Adam of Bodyndon clerk, and ordered the chamberlain to pay him as his fee from 19 August (*a die Dominica proxima post festum Assumptionis Beatæ Mariæ proxime preteritum*) one mark per day every 8 weeks in advance till farther orders.¹⁰ On 22 September the same king commanded the sheriffs of Forfar and Edinburgh to satisfy the chancellor and his assistant of their expenses in advance from the issues of their (the sheriffs')

¹ Ragman Rolls, p. 7.² *Ibid.*⁴ *Rotuli Scotiae*, vol. i. p. 2.³ *Ibid.*, pp. 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21. *Rotuli Scotiae*, vol. i. pp. 2, 3, 4, 5. *Acta Parl. Scot.*, vol. i. p. 5 post pref.⁵ *Rot. Scot.*, vol. i. p. 3.⁷ *Ibid.*⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 4, 5.⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 4.⁸ *Ibid.*¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 5.

bailiary according to the king's grant.¹ On 26 October he ordered Alexander Colyn his keeper of the forest of Ternway in Moray to give Bishop Alan chancellor of Scotland 40 oaks from that forest suitable for material for the fabrick of the cathedral church of Catenes, which the king had granted to the bishop for the souls of Alexander king of Scotland of good memory last deceased, and of the deceased Margaret queen of Scotland the consort of King Alexander and the sister of King Edward.² On 12 December the king of England commanded Alexander of Balliol chamberlain of Scotland to pay to Master Adam of Botingdon subchancellor of that kingdom his fee and the arrears of the same, and also his fee as vice-chancellor, which office he had held by the appointment of the nobles and chiefs of Scotland since the death of Alan bishop of Catenes of good memory, and to pay him his fee while he held the office by the same appointment till the king should come into those parts or otherwise order in the matter.³ In 1292 (8 January) King Edward, desiring, on account of the faithful obedience which the deceased Alan of good memory bishop of Catenes and chancellor of Scotland had paid him during his life, to show special respect to the deceased, granted that all the goods and cattle which belonged to the bishop within Scotland at his death, and which had since according to the custom of Scotland been seized in the king's hands, should be delivered to the prior of Coldingham and Master Adam of Saint Edmund parson of the church of Lastalrik brother of the deceased bishop, to be distributed by them as they might see fit at the sight and ordination of one whom the bishop of Durlham should appoint to act for him before the king.⁴ He therefore commanded William of Dunfres then holding the office of chancellor in Scotland to direct briefs under the seal of Scotland to those in whose hands the goods and cattle of the bishop were, that they should deliver them to the said prior and the said Adam—to compel them to this, if necessary—and to issue letters of protection and safe conduct *in forma capelle*, to last for a year, in favour of the said Adam and his attendants while settling the affairs of the deceased bishop in those parts.⁵ On 14 January the same king commanded Barachius Gerardi of Florence, Reynerus Bellitoni, and their associates *de societate Pullicum et Lamberinorum* dwelling in England and in Scotland, on account of the security which they had given to the king in England and to Brian Fitz Alan in his name in the parts of Scotland touching the pence and other goods of the deceased Alan bishop of Catenes then in their hands to be kept for the king's use, to deliver those pence and goods to the prior of Coldingham and to the bishop's brother Master Adam of Saint Edmund, to be distributed as above for the soul of the deceased.⁶ On 15 January the king ordered that the arrears of the deceased bishop's fee as chancellor should be paid to the same persons for the same purpose.⁷ On 20 January he ordered William bishop of Saint Andrews and Robert bishop of Glascu to commit the cure of the bishoprick of Catenes, vacant by the death of Bishop Alan, to some clerk of those parts in the king's allegiance, who should be found sufficiently qualified for the office according to the custom in those parts.⁸

¹ Rot. Scot., vol. i. p. 5.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 5, 6.

³ Rot. Scot., vol. i. p. 6.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 6. It thus appears that Bishop Alan died between 26 October and 12 December 1291, not in 1292 as stated by Crawford and Keith.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 6, 7.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 7.

⁸ *Ibid.*

The fulfilment of King Edward's mandate is not on record, and we have no authentic notice of a bishop of Caithness from the death of Bishop Alan in 1291 till the year 1310, in which Ferchard Belegambe or Belerambe bishop of Cathenes joined with certain other prelates in acknowledging Robert Bruce as king of Scotland.¹ In 1312 the same bishop appended his seal to King Robert's confirmation of the treaty between King Alexander III. and Magnus of Norway regarding the Isles of Scotland, and was one of those appointed to give oath to that confirmation in the king's name.² He again appears in record in 1321, and is said to have died in 1328.³

Between 1306 and 1329 King Robert Bruce granted a charter styled *Carta Beate Marie et Sancti Gilberti de Dornoch*, of which we have no particular account, but which from its title appears to have been a confirmation of the charter of Bishop Gilbert.⁴ In 1328 Sir Robert of Poblis chamberlain of Scotland accounted to the king for £233, 6s. 8d. of the issues of the bishoprick of Caithness during the vacancy of the see—for the sum of 50 shillings paid to the earl of Sutherland for the keeping (*custodia*) of that bishoprick since the term of Martinmas preceding—and also for the sum of £8 paid to Herman for his service in that bishoprick while in the king's hands.⁵ In 1329 the abbot of Dunfermline, depository of the money ordained *pro pace*, accounted to the same king for £64 received from the bishoprick of Caithness.⁶ In 1342 Sir John Marr *clericus probationis* received no salary for one term because he had been appointed to a certain church in Caithness.⁷ In 1368 the chamberlain of King David II. claimed the sum of 33 shillings and 4 pence as paid by him from the burgh fermes of Aberdeen to the bishop elect of Caithness in name of the church of Saint Gilbert of Caithness, by appointment of the chapter and confirmation of the king—which church used to receive yearly 5 marks.⁸

In the year 1455, by a deed dated in the chapterhouse at Dornoch, William bishop of Caithness, for the defence of his churches and churchlands both in Caithness and in Sutherland, with the consent of the dean and chapter granted to his brother-german Gilbert Mudy and two lawful heirs the keeping of his castles of Scrabestoun (Scrabster in Thurso) and Skelbole, and of the surrounding lands, for which keeping, to be made at the expense of the church of Caithness, he leased to Gilbert and his two heirs 10 marklands in Caithness, namely, 9 pennylands in the territory and lordship of Weke, a markland of Alterwelle, 20 shillinglands of Stroma, and 10 shillinglands of Dorrery.⁹ In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath in his will ordained 30 trentals to be said for his soul, four of which were to be said in Dornoch—and bequeathed to the bishop of Caithness for the repair of Saint Gilbert's church all the fee due to him by the bishop since his consecration to office, except £40, and to the same to sing for his soul and to confirm his testament £20.¹⁰ Between 1458 and 1464 Pope Pius II., in honour of God, the Virgin Mary, and Saint Gilbert the confessor and patron of the

¹ Keith's Catalogue. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 100.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. pp. 103, 104.

³ Ibid., p. 119. Keith's Catalogue.

⁴ Rob. Index, p. 16, m. 3, 6. See *ante*, pp. 601, 602.

⁵ Compota Camerar., vol. i. pp. 22, 24, 26.

⁶ Ibid., p. 58.

⁷ Ibid., p. 282.

⁸ Ibid., p. 487.

⁹ Reg. Mag., lib. viii. no. 123.

¹⁰ Miscellany of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.

cathedral church of Cathanes, and for certain good and reasonable causes inserted at length in his bull, of new erected a certain sacred immunity within bounds extending for three miles on every side around the said cathedral church and marked with the sign of the holy cross.¹ In 1464 King James III., at the pious and just request of his counsellor William bishop of Cathanes and his clergy, and desiring to sanction and defend the said sacred immunity, commanded all his liege subjects and officers to preserve the same immunity inviolate under all pain which they might incur towards his royal majesty and that of his successors.² In 1478 the same king confirmed Bishop William's grant of 1455.³

The death of that bishop does not appear in record—and one named Prosper is said to have been elected as his successor, and to have resigned in favour of John Sinclair, who appears never to have been consecrated.⁴ There is said to have then occurred a vacancy of 24 years, during which the affairs of the see were administered by Adam Gordon dean and vicar general, and at the end of which Andrew Stewart, afterwards commendator of Kelso and Ferne, was appointed bishop.⁵ Of the beginning or end of that vacancy we are not informed—but Sir Donald Ros was dean of Caithness in 1487, and the see was certainly vacant in June 1494, and in August 1497.⁶

Andrew Stewart was bishop at least as early as 1504.⁷ In 1509 he was one of the enutors appointed in the case of Alexander Sutherland a claimant of the earldom of that name.⁸ In 1511 he was appointed the king's treasurer, and in 1517 or 1518 he died.⁹

He was succeeded by his namesake Andrew Stewart the son of John earl of Athole, of whose rule nothing remarkable is recorded except the murder of the laird of Duffus by the Clangun at his instigation, on which occasion, says Sir Robert Gordon, 'the haill dyocie of Catteynes wes in a tumult.'¹⁰ Andrew Stewart was bishop from 1518 to 1542, and apparently died illegitimate and intestate.¹¹

His successor was Robert Stewart brother of Mathew earl of Lennox, who is affirmed never to have been in priest's orders.¹² In 1544 he is styled bishop elect and confirmed, and in the same year one of his charters given at the cathedral church is witnessed by his brother Mathew earl of Leuenax Lord Dernele.¹³ In that year the bishop elect took part in the rebellion of his brother the earl, and passed with him into England to the court of King Henry VIII., and on that account forfeited his bishoprick.¹⁴ Alexander Gordon, the brother of George

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 18.

² Ibid. The charter of King James is dated 17 August 1464. Keith erroneously places the bishop's death in 1460.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 104. Keith's Catalogue.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109. Acta Dom. Conc., pp. 334, 341. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. ff. 13, 16. Keith says that Andrew Stewart was bishop of Caithness in 1490.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. Crawford's Officers of State. Keith's Catalogue.

⁸ Sutherland Charters.

⁹ Crawford's Officers of State. Calendar of Fearn. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 93.

¹⁰ Keith's Catalogue. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 102. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 149*.

¹¹ Keith's Catalogue. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 48. In the latter authority he is erroneously named *James*.

¹² Keith's Catalogue. Gregory's Highlands and Isles, p. 175. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. ff. 8, 29.

¹³ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. ff. 8, 29. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 111. Keith's Catalogue.

earl of Huntly, was nominated in his stead.¹ During the absence of Robert Stewart in England (apparently in the autumn of 1544) George earl of Caithness and Donald M'Ky of Far seized the lands and rents of the bishoprick in his name, and occupied the castles of Skibo and Scrabster.² In 1545 (23 April), in presence of John earl of Sutherland, Thomas Murray precentor of Caithness, Thomas Stewart treasurer of the same, Duncan Chalmer chancellor of Ross, and Paul Freser pensionary of the deanery of Ross, in the chapterhouse of the cathedral church of Caithness, John Gray of Kilmaly swore on the relics of Saint Gilbert that he was innocent of the coming of the servants and accomplices of Donald M'Ky of Far within the bounds of the earldom of Sutherland, and of the depredation and slaughter committed by them therein—the same John Gray and John Matheson chancellor of Caithness gave their great oath on the same relics to be faithful to the earl of Sutherland—and Murquihard Murray in Pronsi and Walter Murray in Auchflo deponed on their oath, touching the same relics, that in riding with their accomplices in the month of October last to the harbour of Unis they in no wise intended the hurt of Hugh Kennedy of Girvane Mains.³ In the same year (28 April) Queen Mary granted to Sir James Dempstar the fermes and dues of the lands and baronies of the bishoprick of Caithness, which were in the queen's hands by reason of the escheat of Robert bishop elect for passing to England in time of war without the queen's license.⁴ In the same year (apparently between 28 April and 6 August) the bishop elect was despatched by his brother from England to induce the constable of Dunbarton castle to yield it to King Henry.⁵ It is said that an offer of restoration to his bishoprick led him to join the constable in yielding the castle to the Regent Arran.⁶ On 6 August Queen Mary granted to the bishop elect a remission for his treasonable conduct in passing to England and assisting the queen's enemies there, and for all other actions preceding that date, except the prosecution of his cause before the judge spiritual—to the effect that he might come to Saint Andrews or elsewhere with four servants to answer to a summons of deprivation from his benefices before the judges appointed by the pope—the remission 'to indure quhill the end of the pley and ane moneth tharefir.'⁷ On 23 September the same queen granted to Master Alexander Gordoun postulate of Caithness all the goods and the arrears of the pension of the bishoprick since the provision thereof, which belonged to the deceased James (Andrew) Stewart, who died illegitimate and intestate.⁸ In 1547 the queen granted a letter of protection to the same Master Alexander, still styled postulate of Caithness, and to his men, tenants, and servants of the temporality of the bishoprick.⁹ In 1548 Queen Mary granted to Lauchlane M'Kintoische the escheat of the goods of three brothers named Thomassoun dwelling within the barony of Skebo, forfeited for default of finding surety to answer for slaughtering Lauchlane's servants.¹⁰

¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 111. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 48; vol. xxi. fol. 32. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 337*.

² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 111. Protocol Book of David Seaton among the records of Aberdeen.

³ Protocol Book of David Seaton.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 8.

⁵ Gregory's Highlands and Isles, p. 175.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 176.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 29. Keith, apparently without foundation, says that Robert Stewart was obliged to abscond for 22 years.

⁸ *Ibid.*, vol. xix. fol. 48.

⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. xxi. fol. 32.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, vol. xxxii. fol. 82.

In the same year Robert bishop elect of Caithness, Sir John Matheson chancellor of Caithness, Hercules Barclay rector of Cannisby, and others, found surety to appear before the civil court to answer for taking and detaining from Master Alexander Gordoun postulate of Caithness the house and place of Scrabister, for seizing on the fruits of the bishoprick, and for other crimes.¹ George earl of Caithness and Donald M'Ky of Far, who had seized on the revenues of the bishoprick in the absence of Robert Stewart, refused on his return to restore them, but were reduced to submission by George earl of Huntly and John earl of Sutherland, 'by which meanes,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'the dyocie of Catteynes wes for some years in peace and quietnes.'² 'Thus,' adds Sir Robert, 'wes Bishop Robert Stuart repossessed in his owne bishoprick.'³ In 1550 and for some years following Robert Stewart in his charters styles himself either bishop or bishop elect and confirmed, and thereafter bishop of Cathanes.⁴ In 1553 he granted to John earl of Sutherland the hereditary bailiary of all the lands, bounds, 'roumes,' and possessions of the bishoprick.⁵ In 1557, with the consent of the dean and chapter, for the augmentation of his rental by the sum of £3 Scots, for large sums of money paid to him beforehand and converted to his own use and especially to the repair of the cathedral church, for the earl's defence of the canons and other ecclesiastical persons, and for his other good services, Bishop Robert granted to John earl of Sutherland and Elenour Stewart countess of Errol his wife, and to the heirs got between them, with remainder to the earl's nearest heirs whomsoever, the following lands and other subjects within the bounds of Sutherland and Cathanes, and in the sheriffdom of Innernys, namely, the lands of Westir Skebo, Sythera, Vilest, Ardalles, Ferretoun with the boat and ferry, Dawachfyn, Drumewane, and Auehiveyach with its pendicles called Auehegormolaye and Auehencolas; the mill of Skebo; the palace of Dornoch; the lands of Force with the mill and salmon fishing; Ballze; Stambuster; the 10 pennylands of Weik; Canzeouchquyis; Bischopisquyis; North Killummister; South Killummister; the mill of Wyndeles, with the 3 *lie ottunmis* of land in Myrelandnorne then in the hands of Master Thomas Brody pensionary of Wattin; the mill of Lythe with the multures; the 9½ pennylands of Serabustar with the fortalice or castle; the lands not named of John M'Erwin and William Randelstoun, except the crofts of Serabustar; with the fourth part of the salmon fishing of the water of Thurso, and the whole lands, crofts, and acres, of the city of Dornoch—which according to the bishop's rental paid yearly as follows, namely, Westir Skebo, 8 bolls of ferme victual and 4 bolls of dry multure at 10s. per boll, 2 bolls of horse corn at 5s., 2 dozen poultry at 3d. each, £4 Scots of ferme, and 16s. grassum, in all £11, 12s.; Sythera, the same; Vilest, 4 bolls ferme victual and 2 bolls dry multure at 10s., 1 boll of horse corn at 5s., 1 dozen poultry at 3d. each, 40s. ferme, and 8s. grassum, in all £5, 16s.; Ardallis, the same; Ferretoun with the boat and ferry, 2 bolls ferme and 1 boll dry multure at 10s., 2 firlots of horse corn at 2s. 6d. (in all), 6 poultry at 3d. each, 40s. ferme, and 4s. grassum, in all £3, 18s.; Aueheveyich with its pertinents Auehegormula

¹ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 337.

² *Ibid.*, p. 112. These events seem to have occurred between 1545 and 1550.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 111, 112.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ *Ibid.*

and Aucheniclas, 20s. Scots; Dawauchfin, 40s. Scots; Drumdwane. 53s. 4d. Scots; Mill of Skebo, £4; Force with the mill and salmon fishing, 4 chalders 8 bolls ferme at 8s. 4d., 6 bolls horse corn at 4s. 2d., 96 sheaves of oats at 1d., 96 *lie hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 18s. grassum, 3 grassum marts at 30s. each, 2 dozen poultry with 3 *halkhennis* at 2d. each, 6s. *pleuch siluir*, 12d. *huik siluir*, in all £38, 4s. 6d.; Ballze, 20s. ferme, 20s. grassum, 4s. *pleuch siluir*, 1 boll horse corn at 4s. 2d., 32 sheaves of oats at 1d., 32 *hallowis of stray (sarcinas straminum)* at 1½d., 4 *halkhennis* at 2d., and 16d. *huik siluer*, in all 56s. 10d.; Stambustar, 40s. ferme, 8 rams at 3s. each, 16 poultry and 4 *halkhennis* at 2d., 4 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 64 sheaves of oats at 1d., 64 *hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 8s. *pleuch siluer*, 3 grassum marts at 30s., 16d. *huik siluer*, in all £9, 16s. 8d.; the 10 pennylands of Weik, £6, 13s. 4d. ferme, £3, 6s. 8d. grassum, 2 *vnset martis (martas emptas)* at 16s. 8d., 20 capons at 6d., 20 poultry and 5 *halkhennis* at 2d., 5 bolls horse corn at 4s. 2d., 80 sheaves of oats at 1d., 80 *hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 16d. *huik siluir*, and 10s. *pleuch siluir*, in all £14, 16s. 4d.; Kennochquyis, 20s.; Bisehopisquyis, 10s.; Northkilmister. £6 ferme, £6 grassum, 9 bolls horse corn at 4s. 2d., 144 sheaves of oats at 1d., 144 *hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 36 capons at 6d., 36 poultry and 6 *halkhennis* at 2d., 12s. *pleuch siluer*, 2s. *huik siluer*, 3 *vnset martis* at 16s. 8d., in all £19, 16s. 6d.; Southkilmister, the same, except the *pleuch siluer* 15s. 9d., making the whole £20, 0s. 3d.; the mill of Wyndeles. 12 bolls of victual at 8s. 4d., in all £5 Scots; the 3 *lie ottuennis*, 6d.; the mill of Lythmoir. 15 bolls victual at 8s. 4d., or £6, 5s.; the 9½ pennylands of Scrabustar with the castle, £6. 6s. 8d. ferme, £12, 13s. 4d. grassum, 76 poultry and 8 hens at 2d., 9½ bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 152 sheaves of oats at 1d., 152 *hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 20s. *pleuch siluer*, 2s. 2d. *huik siluer*, 3 *vnset martis* at 16s. 8d., in all, £26, 17s. 6d.; the crofts of Scrabustar, 10s.; the fourth of the salmon fishing of the water of Thurso, £13. 6s. 8d.; the tofts and crofts of the city of Dornoch with the palace and pertinents, formerly paying *nil*, £10 Scots; the getting, carrying away, and building of peats, £8; the ariages and carriages of all the above lands and other subjects, £5; in all £227. 11s. 4d. of old ferme—the grantee paying that sum and £3 Scots in augmentation.¹ The bishop also appointed the earl and his heirs hereditary constables of the castle of Scrabustar and the palace of Dornoch, situated among the wild and uncivilised Scots and in a wintry region, granting them also the lands of Scrabustar with the crofts extending yearly to £27, 12s. 11d., and the lands, crofts, and acres of the city of Dornoch extending yearly to £10, in all £37, 12s. 11d., for their expenses in maintaining and keeping the said castle and palace, to be built and furnished by the bishop at his own expense while remaining there—ordaining that seisin for the whole lands and other subjects granted should be taken at the castle and palace.² In 1559 Bishop Robert granted to the same earl and countess and their heirs as in 1557, for certain sums of money

¹ Sutherland Charters. A *quoyland* or *outbreck* 'is ane pece of land newly win without the dykis'—that is, a piece of land newly improved and not yet enclosed. A *tumall* (perhaps the same as *ottun*) 'is ane

pece land whiche wes quoyland, but now inclosed within the dykis.' See Peterkin's Rentals of Orkney, no. ii. p. 2.

² Sutherland Charters.

and other favours, the following lands with the mills, tithes, and other pertinents, namely, Gauldwale, Kauldale, Crannega, Borrole, Slanys, Astlairmoir, Astlairbeg, Sandwat, Carragawye or Carragawow, Carramannycht, with the waters of Awmagarrone and Sandwat, with the fishings, mills, and alehouses of the same, the island and lands of Hoa the half of the water and fishing of Laxfuird, the fishing of Ardwirnes with the mill and the fishing of the *crweis* of the same, lying in Strathnavar; and the lands of Skaile, Regeboile, Dorare, Wlgrame-moir, Wlgramebeg, Subambuster, Halkryk with the mill, alehouse, and fishing of the *crweis*, Westirdale, Eisterdale, Thormeskeyth or Thormesdaill, Meremichaelis, Deren, Alterwall, 3½ pennylands of Stanthestell, lying in Cathanes; all in the sheriffdom of Innernes — which lands of Gauldwall, Kauldwall, Crannega, Borrole, Slanys, Astlairmoir, Astlairbeg, Sandwat, Carregawyf or Carregawow, Carremannycht, together with the water of Amagarrone, the water of Sandwat with the fishings, the island of Hoa, the half of the water and fishing of Laxfuird, the whole water and fishing of Ardwirnes, with the mills, alehouses, teindsheaves, and other pertinents, together with the teindsheaves of the whole parish of Ardwirnes, which were never separated from the trunk (*a trunko*) of the said towns and lands and their principal fruits, with their grassums, fermes, and other dues and services, extended in the bishop's rental to the sum of £81, 6s. 8d. Scots old ferme; the lands of Skaile and Regeboill extending to £6 Scots; the lands of Dorarie, 20s. ferme and 20s. grassum, in all 40s. old ferme; the lands of Meke Wlgrame, 24 bolls victual at 8s. 4d., 3 *gersum martis* at 30s., 3 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 48 sheaves of oats at 1d., 48 *hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 4s. *pleuch siluer*, 9d. *hwik siluer*, 4 poultry and 3 hens at 2d., in all £15, 8s. 5d.; the lands of Wlgrame Beig, 40s. ferme, 20 bolls ferme victual at 8s. 4d. Scots, in all £7 of old ferme; the lands of Subambuster, 10s. Scots of ferme, 2s. *pleuch siluer*, 3d. *hwik siluer*, in all 12s. 3d. Scots old ferme; the lands of Halkryk with the mill, alehouse, and fishing of the *crweis*, 2 chalders ferme victual at 8s. 4d. Scots per boll, 2 *gersum martis* at 30s., 12 capons at 4d., 12 poultry and 12 *halkhennis* at 2d., 4s. *pleuch siluer*, 9d. *hwik siluer*, in all £16, 17s. 11d. Scots old ferme; the lands of Westerdail, 6 bolls ferme victual at 8s. 4d., 30s. ferme, in all £4 Scots old ferme; the lands of Esterdail, £3 Scots old ferme; Thormeskeyth or Thormesdaill, 20s. Scots old ferme; Miremichaelis, 13s. 4d. Scots old ferme; Stanstill, about 3½ pennylands, otherwise granted in feuferme to William Daudisoun, 46s. Scots, 7 capons at 4d., 7 poultry and a halkhen at 2d., 7 firlots horse corn at 4s. 2d., 28 sheaves of oats at 1d., 28 *hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 3s. 6d. *pleuch siluer*, 3d. *hwik siluer*, 1¾ *lie gersum mart* at 30s., in all £6, 9s. 0½d. old ferme; Alterwall, £5, 6s. 8d. Scots in ferme and grassum, and 2s. *pleuch siluer*, in all £5, 8s. 8d. old ferme; Deren, 3 chalders of victual at 8s. 4d. per boll, 4 grassum marts at 30s., 2 poultry and 4 *halkhennis* at 2d., 4 bolls horse corn at 4s. 2d., 64 sheaves of oats at 1d., 64 *hallowis of stray* at 1½d., 8s. *pleuch siluer*, 12d. *hwik siluer*, in all £28, 5s. Scots old ferme; also the sum of £3, 5s. Scots for getting, carrying, and building turfs or peats, and 3s. Scots for ariages, carriages, and other dues of the lands of Dorare, Wlgrame Moir, Wlgrame Beig, Subambuster, Halkrik, Westerdail, Esterdail, Thormeskeyth or Thormesdaill, Miremichaelis, Deren, and Alterwall, and the 3½ pennylands of Stanstell; extending

altogether in money fermes, victual fermes, grassum marts, horse corn, sheaves of oats, hallows of straw, muttuns, capons, poultry, hens, teindsheaves, *plewech siluer*, *hwik siluer*, *pete siluer*, arriages, carriages, and all due services and fishings of the said lands, to the sum of £183, 4s. 3½d. Scots old ferme, and 40s. in augmentation — the grantee accordingly paying yearly the sum of £185, 4s. 3½d. — seisin for the lands in Strathnavar to be taken at Gauldwall in Ardwirnes, and for the lands in Cathanes at Dorare.¹ In 1560 the same bishop, for certain sums of money paid by the same earl, and for his defence of the canons and others *in hoc periculoso tempore et in futuro*, granted to the earl and his countess as before the same lands and offices granted in 1557 and 1559, with the addition of Skebo-castell with the castle, fortalice, and the pendicles, namely, Bramort, the east half of Skebo called the *columbarium* or Dowcatland with the alehouse, in Sutherland, and the lands of Brymmis (or Halfbrimes), namely, 13½ pennylands, in Cathanes — the additional lands in Sutherland extending in the rental to 15 bolls ferme victual and dry multure at 10s., 2 bolls and 2 firlots of horse corn at 5s., £5, 13s. 4d. for the alehouse and money ferme, 20s. grassum, and 30 poultry at 3d., in all £15, 3s. 4d. — and the lands of Brymmis in Cathanes, except those formerly leased to Master Walter Innes, to 40 bolls 2 firlots of ferme victual at 8s. 4d., 18s. grassum, 6 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 96 sheaves of oats at 1d., 96 hallows of straw at 1½d., 36 poultry with 6 *halkhenneis* at 2d., 2s. *hwik siluer*, 6s. *plewech siluer*, 3 grassum marts at 30s., in all £25, 5s. 6d. — the grantee paying yearly the sum of £295, 8s. 6½d., including £5 of augmentation.² In the same year (1560) the bishop added to his grant the lands of Kilmale and Rogart, extending to £30 — the grantee thus paying yearly for the whole the sum of £328, 8s. 1d., including £3 of augmentation.³ In 1564 the same bishop — on the narrative that the above lands had been forfeited by John late earl of Sutherland for treason and lese-majesty on 28 May 1563, and that Queen Mary, considering that Alexander Gordoun the earl's son was an infant and had not partaken in his father's crime, had by letters dated 6 March 1563 (1564) presented him to the bishop as feuffermar of those lands — granted them to Alexander in heritage, reserving the liferent to the lady Helen (or Elenour) Stewart, the mother of Alexander, and countess of Errol and of Sutherland; the whole rental extending to the sum of £475, 12s. 10d., with £5 in augmentation, exclusive of the lands of Kilmale and Rogart; the grantee paying yearly those sums, and for Kilmalekirkton with the teindsheaves and Rogartmoir with the mill and alehouse £30, in all £510, 12s. 10d. *saluo iusto calculo*.⁴ The bishop at the same time appointed Alexander Gordoun hereditary bailie of all the lands and possessions of the bishoprick on the following terms — that he should not appoint a deputy without the bishop's consent — that, if the bishop should grant any of his lands in feufferme or in long leases, he should reserve the bailiary to Alexander Gordoun, as bound by his own charter to the late Earl John dated 8 December 1553 — and that grants or leases made by the bishop after the grant of the

¹ Sutherland Charters. The seal of the chapter attached to this deed bears the legend S. CAPITVLI ECCLÉSIE SANCTE DEI GENITRICIS MARIE CATANENSIS.

² *Ibid.* Protocol book of William Gray at Dunrobin.

³ Sutherland Charters. The yearly payments are given from the originals, although not always calculated with correctness.

⁴ *Ibid.*

bailiary to Earl John should not in any way prejudice Alexander — to whom the bishop further granted £100 yearly out of the readiest profits of the said lands as bailie's fee, reserving as before the liferent to the lady Helen Stewart.¹ And, as the castles of Skebo and Serabustar and the palace of Dornoch were situated in a wintry region and among the wild and uncivilised Scots, the bishop appointed Alexander and his heirs hereditary constables of the same, granting them all the rights and services due to the office, his lands of Skeboeastell extending yearly to £13, 3s. 4d., the 9½ pennylands of Serabustar with the castle extending to £27, 12s. 11d., and his lands, crofts, and acres of the whole city of Dornoch extending to £10, in all £52, 16s. 3d., for their expenses in keeping those castles, which should be built and maintained by the bishop at his own expense for his reception when in those parts.² Seisin was appointed to be taken for the lands of Wester Skebo and others contained in the grant of 1557 at the castles of Skebo or Serabustar or at the palace of Dornoch — for Gauldwale and those contained in the grant of 1559 at Gauldwale in Ardurnes or at Dorare in Cathnes — and for Kilmalekirktown with the teindshaves and alehouses, and Rogartmoir with the mill and alehouse, on the lands of Kilmalekirktown.³ Between the years 1561 and 1566 we have the following rental, which does not always tally with the above grants. ‘The rental of the bishoprik of Cathnes giwin in be [Johne Kennedy]. Item the barronie of Ardurines callit xv dawoch land with the salmond fishing of the samyne, pendicles and pertinentis thairof, with the teindshawis of the samin, sett in few and payis yeirlie in all dewtie £81, 6s. 8d. Item the townis of Skail and Regeboll payis yeirlie in all dewtie £6 money. Item the barronie of Skebo with pendicles and pertinentis thairof sett in few and payis yeirlie in all dewtie the sowme of £54, 19s. 8d. Item Stoidaill, Nygdail (Mygdail), and Lytill Creicht, sett in few for the yeirlie payment of £20. Item Kilmalekirktown and Roard payis yeirlie the sowme in few mail, xx merkis money. Item the croftis and tenementis in Dornoch payis yeirlie the sowme of £10. — The few landis within Cathnes. Item the barronie of May with pendicles and pertinentis thairof sett in few to the erle of Cathnes paying yeirlie in all dewtie £84. Item the town of Dorare payis yeirlie in all dewtie the sowme of £15, 18s. 5d. Item Lytill Vllagrahame yeirlie in all £7. Subumster yeirlie in all dewtie 11s. 3d. Halieerik, with myln, cowff, and salmond fishing, payis yeirlie in all dewtie £16, 17s. 11d. Wasterdaill yeirlie in all dewtie £4 money. Eisterdaill yeirlie in all dewtie £3 money. Thornsdaill yeirlie in all dewtie 20s. Meremechal's yeirlie in all dewtie 13s. 4d. Stansall yeirlie in all dewtie £9. Lyth within the paroshin of Bowar in all dewtie £9. Atterdaill (Alterwall) yeirlie in all dewtie £5, 8s. 8d. Derane yeirlie in all dewtie £28, 5s. Item thir particular townis fewit and payis mair in augmentation of the rental £3, 5s.: Brymis yeirlie in all dewtie £46; Forss with the mylne and salmond fishing thairof payis yeirlie in all dewtie £28, 4s. 6d.; Bailzie payis yeirlie in all dewtie 56s.; the twa pairt of Lochmoir (Lythmoir) with the twa pairt of Awist and tua pennyland mair nor the saidis tua pairtis payis yeirlie in

¹ Sutherland Charters. Among the powers here given to the bailie of the bishoprick was the power *cautionem lic eoterath pro administratione iustitie*

diebus et locis oportunis prout moris est auferendi et reddendi.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

all dewtie £21, 8s. 4d.; Stambusteir in all dewtie £9, 16s. 8d.; Serabuster in all dewtie £34, 15s.; the croftis of Serabuster yeirlie 10s.; the quarter of the watter of Thurseth payis yeirlie in all dewtie £13, 6s., 8d.; Tenpennyland in Weik with Bishopisqwyis and Canisqwyis yeirlie in all £16s. 6s. 4d.; North Kilmster yeirlie in all £19, 16s. 8d.; the myln of Vindleis yeirlie in all £5; thrie ottomis in Netherlandnorne (Myrelandnorne) yeirlie 5s.; the mylne of Lythmoir in all £6, 5s. Item thir partiucular townis fewit and payis mair in augmentation of rentall £6 mony; Item for the annuellis of Thursocht, of the tenentis thair of yeirlie vi do[sane] geis (on margin, presentlie xii li. vs., vi do[sane] geis). Summa of this hail temporalitie £607, 18s. 5d.—The rentall of the teindis of the bischoprik foirsaid. Item the teindshawis of the paroshin of Ray within Cathnes sett in assedatioun yeirlie for the sowme of £79, 6s. 8d. Item the teindshawis of the paroshin of Thursoche within Cathnes sett in assedatioun for the yeirlie sowme of £126, 16s. 8d. Item the teindshavis of the paroshin of Weik within Cathnes sett in assedatioun for the yeirlie payment of £196, 13s. 4d. Item the teindshavis of the paroshin of Lethrin within Cathnes set in assedatioun for the yeirlie payment of £81, 11s. 8d. Item the teindshawis of the paroshin of Lothe within Swthirland sett in assedatioun for the yeirlie payment of £75, 17s. 4d. Item the teindshawis of the paroshin of Kilmaly within Suthirland sett in assedatioun for the yeirlie payment of £105, 15s.—Deducit. Item thair is to be deducit of this prenominat rentall that is giwin in yeirlie pensiou to Mr. Alexander Gordoun bishop of Galloway, &c. to the quhilk he is prouidit, and cautioun actit for yeirlie payment thairof, *videlicet* the sowme of 500 merkis money.¹ Item mair to be deducit yeirlie for contributioun to be payit to the Lordis of Counsall £14. Item siklyk to be deducit in heritable bailzie fie to my Lord of Suthirland £100 mony conforme to his infetment maid thairvpon.—This rentall presentit be Johne Kennedie. Subscryvit with my hand. *Sic subscribitur*, Johne Kennedy with my hand.—Money, £1283, 18s. 9d.; 3 thairof £426, 19s. 7d. Geis vi do[sane]; 3 thairof ii do[sane]. All vthir thingis omittit.—Memorandum that this be tain vp but prejudiee of the auld rentall quhill thir takis and fewis be productit to sie the tyme of thair giwing.² In 1570, in a feud between the earl of Caithness and the Murrays of Sutherland, while Dornoch was occupied by the latter, the master of Caithness burned the cathedral with the exception of the steeple, which with the eastle was held by the other party.³ We are not informed that the bishop acted any part in that matter, but he probably took the side of the Murrays and of Earl Alexander, to the latter of whom in 1577 he gave seisin of all the lands formerly granted to him in his minority.⁴ In the same year he is styled earl of Marche and bishop of Cathenis, in 1579 earl of Levenax and bishop of Cathnes, and in 1581 earl of Marehe, commendator of the priory of Saint Andrews, and bishop of Cathnes.⁵ In the last of those years he granted to Alexander earl of Sutherland a new infetment in the same lands and

¹ This is Alexander Gordon who was appointed bishop on the rebellion of Bishop Robert—and from this it appears that the latter had been restored to the see only on the arrangement here stated.

² Book of Assumptions.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 156.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ *Ibid.*

offices granted to him in 1564, and specified in the bishop's precept of seisin of 15 January 1576 (1577), which the earl had resigned in the bishop's inner chamber in the abbey (priory) of Saint Andrews.¹ In 1605, on 5 November, the day of 'the detestable powder treason,' the pillars 'of the north syd of the body of the cathedrall church at Dornogh (apparently half of those of the nave) were blown from the verie roots and foundation quyt and clein over the outer walls of the church.'² The repair of the church was begun by John earl of Sutherland in 1614, and after his death in 1615 was continued by Sir Robert Gordon tutor of Sutherland, the historian of the family, who in 1617 caused it to be roofed with slate from a quarry newly opened in the neighbourhood.³ In 1641 King Charles I. granted to Mr. Alexander Monro minister at Durnoch and his successors serving the cure of that church, 'being the cathedrall kirk of the dyocie of Cathlues,' the sum of 800 marks Scots in money or 8 chalders in victual in augmentation of their stipend from the rents of the bishoprick in the parish of Thurso and elsewhere, on condition that they should pay yearly 300 marks for upholding the fabrick of the church and 200 marks to help to provide a schoolmaster for the grammar school.⁴

In 1363 a charter of William Pop the son and heir of William Pop burges of Elgin is witnessed by Malcolm of Alues (or Alnes) dean of Cathanes.⁵ In 1455 the grant of Bishop William to his brother Gilbert Mudy, above cited, was witnessed by Patrick Fraser dean of Cathanes.⁶ In 1487 Sir Donald Ros dean of Cathanes witnessed the foundation charter of the collegiate church of Tayne.⁷ Master Adam Gordoun, a canon of Moray (apparently precentor), was also dean of Cathness in the end of the fifteenth and beginning of the sixteenth century.⁸ He is said, as we have seen, to have ruled the bishoprick during a vacancy of 24 years, and he died on 5 June 1529.⁹ On 12 June following Master Alexander Suthirland was dean of Cathanes.¹⁰ He was the son of William Suthirland of Duffous and Jonet Innes, rector of Duffous in Moray, and latterly official of that diocese.¹¹ In 1512 he was made rector of Duffous, and in 1524 perpetual chaplain of the chapel of the Virgin Mary of the castle of Duffous, and in 1526 took the oath of canonical obedience to Robert bishop of Moray.¹² In 1529 after he was made dean of Cathanes, in 1532, and in 1535, he witnessed various charters given in Moray and Sutherland.¹³ In 1537 he resigned to Bishop Andrew all right which he had in the lands of Achloch.¹⁴ In 1538 (10 August) Thomas Young burges of Elgin sold to the dean of Cathanes a stone 'ducat' on the south side of the burgh of Elgin with a space of 12 feet on every side of it, which the dean in the same year (14 August) gave to found two anniversaries in the choir of the cathedral of Moray for the weal of the souls of his parents William Sutherland of Duffous and Jonet Innes, of

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 255.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 300, 346.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. pp. 599, 600.

⁵ Reg. Morav., p. 313.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

⁷ *Ibid.*, lib. x. no. 109.

⁸ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 236, 237, 238, 240, 241, 243-245, 257, 262, 264, 402. Genealogy of the Earls of

Sutherland, p. 104. There was at the same time an Adam Gordon prebend of Petty and Braeholy.

⁹ See above, p. 608. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 104.

¹⁰ Regist. Moraviense, p. 416.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 371, 374, 398, 401, 402, 416, 429, 430.

¹² *Ibid.*, pp. 372, 401.

¹³ *Ibid.*, pp. 374, 416. Sutherland Charters.

¹⁴ Sutherland Charters.

William Sutherland of Duffous his brother, of Master Adam Gordoun dean of Cathanes and canon of Moray, and of himself the founder.¹ In 1542, 1544, 1549, and 1551, he still appears as dean of Cathanes, rector of Duffus, and official of Moray.² From 1557 to 1562 Master William Hepburn appears as dean.³ In 1565 Henrie and Marie king and queen of Scots presented Gawine Boirthuik, the lawful son of Michael Boirthuik of Glengelt, to the deanery of Caithnes then vacant by the decease of Master William Hepburne.⁴ In 1566 (19 July), within the choir of the cathedral church of Dornoch, John Kennetye living in Clynekirk-town, in virtue of the above presentation and of a letter of collation by Robert bishop of Caithnes dated at the palace of Scrabuster on 1 June 1566, and as the procurator of Gavin Borthuik, received seisin of the dean's stall and place in the chapter from Master Thomas Brady vicar pensionary of the parish church of Wattin as the executor specified in the bishop's letter.⁵ Gavin Borthuik, afterwards Master Gavin, held the deanery till 1607 or 1608, when he resigned.⁶ In 1608 (5 January) King James VI. presented Master John Gray, the son of Gilbert Graye of Suardell, to the deanery of Cathnes then vacant by the resignation of Gavane Borthuik.⁷ In 1610 Master John Gray, with the consent of the bishop and chapter, leased to John master of Sutherland for life, and to his heirs and assignees for twice 19 years, the teinds of Clyne belonging to the deanery, and the dean's quarter of the teindsheaves of the parish of Dornoch and of the teind vicarage, namely, the teindsheaves and teind vicarage of the town and lands of Eyndboll, Balknok, Auchintreasurer, Auchinchanter, Pittgrodie, Auchinloch, Auchinlong, Ballalone, Dauchfin, Auchgormlarie, Auchevauch, and of the town and lands of Dornoch, all in the parish of Dornoch, for the yearly payment of 40 bolls of bear between Yuill and Candlemess, and of the sum of 193 marks 3 shillings and 4 pence.⁸ In 1656 Master Robert Gray provost of Dornoch was served heir to his father Master John Gray dean of Cathnes in the manse and croft called 'the Deane of Cathnes mans and croft' in the city of Dornoch, of the extent of 40 shillings and 3s. 4d. in augmentation—and in the town and lands of Auchinloyng in the parish of Dornoch and earldom of Sutherland, of the extent of 4 marks 2s. 4d.⁹

In 1368 a charter of William earl of Ross is witnessed by Sir John Derlyng precentor of Caithnes.¹⁰ In 1455 John Kenniti was precentor of Cathanes.¹¹ In 1497 (apparently after 10 August), during the vacancy of the see, King James IV. presented Nicholace Patersoun to the chantry of Cathnes vacant by the decease of John Kennachtsoun (perhaps the same as John Kenniti).¹² In the same year (17 September) King James presented Master James Betoun to the chantry, then vacant by the decease of Master James Auchinlek, *last possessor* of the same.¹³ On 20 September he presented Sir John Poilsoun to the chantry of Dornoch vacant by the *resignation* of Master James Auchinlek *last possessor*.¹⁴ On 11 October he again presented Master James Betoun to the same chantry vacant by the *decease* of Master James

¹ Reg. Morav. pp. 401, 402.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 398, 429, 430. Sutherland Charters.

³ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Morav., pp. 404, 414.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Retours.

¹⁰ Balmagown Charters.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no 123.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 13.

¹³ *Ibid.*, fol. 18.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, fol. 16.

Auehinlek.¹ In 1499 (3 November) he presented Sir John Poysloun to the chantry of Cathanes, when it *should be* vacant by the resignation of Master James Betoun *last possessor*.² In 1504 (24 February) Sir John Poilson was precentor of Cathanes.³ In 1515 (9 March) Sir Thomas Murray precentor of the cathedral church of Cathanes resigned certain lands in Dornoch, and in the same year (28 September) he witnessed a charter of Andrew Kynnard of Kynnard and Skelbo.⁴ The same Sir Thomas appears as chanter in various following years down to the year 1546.⁵ From 1557 to 1562 the chanter was Robert Stewart.⁶ In 1559, with the consent of Bishop Robert and of the dean and chapter, for the augmentation of his rental by the sum of 3s. 4d., and for certain sums of money and other favours bestowed upon him by John earl of Southairland, he granted to that earl, to his wife Helen countess of Errol, and to the heirs of their body, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, all his lands commonly called the Chantourisfeild, with their pendicles and pertinents as well cultivated as to be cultivated, lying between the town and the lands of Denisfeild on the west, the lands of Bellinknok called the Archidenisfeild on the east, descending to the lands of Auehekehoeh belonging to Thomas Polson of Creyelmoir towards the south, and the Thesaurarisfeild on the north, within the barony of Skelbo and Dornoch and sheriffdom of Innernes, extending in his old rental to the sum of 40s. Scots yearly, the grantee paying that sum and 3s. 4d. in augmentation.⁷ In 1562 (September) with the same consent he leased to the same earl, his countess, and their heirs, for 19 years, his benefice of the chantry, including the parsonage and vicarage of Creich, together with his quarter of the parsonage and vicarage of Dornoch, namely, the teindsheaves of Strathormlie and the other teinds whatsoever according to use and wont, with his glebe called the Chantourisfeild with the manse and croft in the city of Dornoch—the entry to be 'at the feist of Beltane eallit Phillope and Jacobi' following the above date, and the yearly payment £100 Scots, from which was to be deducted yearly the eurate's fee and the fee of the staller in Dornoch.⁸ In 1577 Gilbert Gray chanter of Cathnes, with the consent of Robert earl of Marche and bishop of Cathnes, and of the chapter, leased the chantry for thrie 19 years to Alexander earl of Sutherland and his heirs for a yearly payment of £102 Scots.⁹ In 1579 John Gray of Sordell and Elizabeth Barelay his wife resigned to that earl a thrie 19 years' lease of one fourth of the chantry, granted to them by their son Gilbert Gray the chanter with consent of Robert earl of Levenax and bishop of Cathnes, in lieu of which the earl appointed them his assignees to the same.¹⁰ In 1583 King James VI. presented Donald Logane minister of Creych to the chantry of Cathnes, vacant by the resignation of Gilbert Gray.¹¹ Master William Pape was chanter in 1602; and in 1607, with the consent of the bishop, dean, and chapter, he leased to John earl of Sutherland for life, and to his heirs and assignees for 19 years, reserving the liferent to himself, the teindsheaves of the chanter's quarter towns and lands lying in the earldom and sheriffdom of Sutherland and barony of Pronsie, namely, of the towns and lands of Evelik, Riarehar, Arsdail, Karnamein, Pronsiecastelloun, Pronsienaine, and Pronsieeroy,

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 19.² *Ibid.*, fol. 95.³ *Ibid.*⁷ *Ibid.*⁸ *Ibid.*⁴ Sutherland Charters.⁴ *Ibid.* ⁵ *Ibid.*⁹ *Ibid.*¹⁰ *Ibid.*¹¹ *Ibid.*

all in the parish of Dornoch—the lessee paying yearly for Evelik 1 chaldor of teind, for Riarchar 9 bolls, for Arsdail and Karnamein 8 bolls, for Pronsiecasteltoun 8 bolls, for Pronsie-naine 6 bolls, and for Pronsiecrov 3 bolls, in all 50 bolls of teind victual, or 10s. for each boll.¹

In the year 1390 Sir John of Abyrkerdor, with the consent of the bishop of Catenes, resigned the chancery of Catenes, the chaplainry of Saint Michael in the cathedral church of Moray, and the chaplainry of the Inche, to be exchanged for the prebend of 100 shillings or of Saint Giles with the vicarage of Elgyn held by Sir William of Lonkfordyn, who appears to have been then appointed chancellor of Catenes.² Bishop William's charter of 1455 is witnessed by Thomas Qubit chancellor.³ In 1497 King James IV. during the vacancy of the see presented Master Patrick Dunbar to the chancery of Cathanes, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir William Tarall.⁴ In 1524 a charter is witnessed by Sir William Fudes chancellor of Cathanes, who probably died or was removed in that year, as Sir John Dingvale, archdeacon of Moray and rector of Strabrok in Linlithgow, seems to have been then promoted from the archdeaconry of Cathanes to the chancery.⁵ In 1536 a transaction between Hugh Kanide of Garwenmanis and John Murray of Caubussaffe was 'done in the manse of the chancellor of Cathanes within the city of Dornoch.'⁶ From 1544 to 1554 the chancellor was Sir John Mathesoun.⁷ In 1547 Queen Mary presented Master John Craig to the vicarage of Thorso in the diocese of Cathanes, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Sir John Mathesoun the chancellor or otherwise.⁸ In 1548 Sir John was one who together with the bishop had to find surety to answer before the civil court for seizing on the fruits of the bishoprick.⁹ From 1557 to 1564 Master John Jarsom, Jersom, or Jaksonn appears as chancellor.¹⁰ In 1560, for certain services done and sums of money paid to him by Alexander Lowell, the chancellor granted to him in heritage the lands of Pitgrowthie with the pertinents and the culture of the lands to be newly improved (*meliorandorum*), lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernes, and extending in his rental, in ferme, grassum, and all other duties, to the sum of 4 marks Scots yearly—and also the croft of the chancery descending straight from his manse and the principal house and garden of the same, with its two usual particles (or perticates) and tails, together with the upper part of the manse and chief house of the same being then a waste tenement, lying between the said house called the old manse and the king's high way, and bounded by the manse or waste tenement of the precentor of Cathanes on the east, and the manse or waste tenement of the treasurer on the west, both contiguous—the grantee paying yearly for Pitgrowthie the said 4 marks, for the croft of the chancery 10 shillings, and for the waste manse 2 shillings, all of old ferme, with an augmentation of 3s. for Pitgrowthie, 12d. for the croft, and 2s. for the waste manse.¹¹ In 1577, 1579, and 1581 the chancellor was George Synclar, and in 1602 and 1610 Thomas Pape.¹²

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Regist. Moraviense, pp. 203, 324.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123. See p. 607.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 16.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xx. no. 116, 124. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vii. ff. 93, 104; vol. viii. fol. 26.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Ibid. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 27; vol. xxvi. fol. 74. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 337*.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 27.

⁹ Pitcairn, vol. i. p. 337*. See p. 610.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters. Protocol Book of William Gray at Dnrobin. ¹¹ Sutherland Charters. ¹² Ibid.

The treasurer of Cathanes in 1455 was William Tulloch.¹ In 1494 the treasurership was claimed severally by Sir Thomas Myrtoun and Master Thomas the Hay, who were on that account summoned before the civil court in name of King James IV. as patron of the benefice during the vacancy of the see, and required to produce proof of their claims which might be submitted to the arbitration of certain prelates and clergy.² Sir Thomas Myrtoun agreed to have the matter settled thus, but Master Thomas Hay protested and appealed to Rome.³ The king's secretary therefore required Master Thomas in the king's name either to abide by the determination of clergy chosen as arbiters by both parties, or to undergo the penalty of the law for pursuing a matter that touched the king's privilege 'vttouth his realme.'⁴ To this he finally agreed, and by the consent of both parties Master Adam of Gordoun parson of Kingkell, Master Andrew Liel treasurer of Abirden, Master Thomas Strathachin parson of Tulynessil, and Master Alexander Cambell parson of Banchre, were chosen as arbiters, with one of the three following as 'owrman,' namely, Master Richard Murhed dean of Glasgw secretary, Master Johne Fresale dean of Lestalrig clerk of register, and Master Gavin Dunbar dean of Murray, and, they failing, a canon of Abirden to be chosen by the arbiters.⁵ The parties were appointed to meet in the cathedral church of Abirden or in the town of Abirden on 2 September 1494, and the arbiters required to decide the case between that and 6 September following.⁶ In 1530 Master Thomas Stewart treasurer of Caithness (probably the same who previously appears as rector of Duthell in Moray) and certain others found caution for their appearance in court to answer for being art and part in the slaughter of William Sutherland of Dufhouse, who was slain in Thurso at the instigation of Andrew Stuart bishop of Caithness.⁷ The same Master Thomas appears as treasurer in 1537, 1544, and 1546.⁸ In 1547 Queen Mary presented Master William Gordoun rector of Duthell to the treasurership of the cathedral church of Cathnes, vacant or when vacant by the resignation or decease of Master Thomas Stewart.⁹ In 1548 the same queen presented Master David Carnegy to the treasurership, then vacant by the decease of the same Master Thomas.¹⁰ Master William Gordoun however was treasurer in 1552, and held the office till the year 1564 or later.¹¹ In 1564 John Murray was served heir male to Alexander Murray his brother's son in a piece or partiate of land called Akchinthosaur in the bishoprick of Cathanes, of the extent of 5 marks and 3s. 4d. in augmentation.¹² In 1577, 1581, and 1602 the treasurer was William Gray, and in 1610 the office appears to have been held by Master Alexander Gray.¹³ In 1656 Alexander Sutherland of Torboll was served heir to his brother-german John Sutherland in Skelbo in the lands of Auchinthesawrer of the extent of 5 marks.¹⁴

In 1328 Andrew Hirdmanniston archdeacon of Cathanes witnessed the settlement of a controversy made in the chapel of the manor of the bishop of Moray at Kynedor between the chanter and subchanter of the latter diocese.¹⁵ In 1365 Sir John of Moray was

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

² Acta Dom. Conc., pp. 334, 335.

³ Ibid., p. 335.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid., p. 341.

⁶ Ibid., pp. 341, 342.

⁷ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 149*.

⁸ Sutherland Charters.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 95.

¹⁰ Ibid., vol. xxi. fol. 84.

¹¹ Letterinlay Charters. Sutherland Charters. Protocol Book of William Gray.

¹² Retours.

¹³ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁴ Retours.

¹⁵ Reg. Morav., p. 152.

archdeacon of Cathanes.¹ In 1396 Alexander bishop of Moray, considering the earnest desire of John of Innes, archdeacon of Catanes, clerk, and a native of his diocese, to study the canon law in the University of Paris, and seeing that the fruits of his archdeaconry were insufficient for the fulfilment of that desire, granted to him for a continuance the tithes of the 'airs' and courts of the whole diocese of Moray.² In 1455 the archdeacon of Cathanes was Alexander Suthirland the son of Alexander Suthirland of Dunbeath.³ In 1456 his father Alexander bequeathed to him the sum of £200 in the hands of Sir James of Weik to pass for him on a pilgrimage to Saint Peter of Rome, and appointed him one of a number of persons at whose disposal he placed all his goods not disposed in his will.⁴ In 1520 and 1524 the archdeacon was Sir John Dingvale, who in the latter year appears to have been made chancellor.⁵ In 1529 a charter is witnessed by William Gordone archdeacon.⁶ In 1544 the archdeacon was Master James Bridy or Brady, who held the same office also in 1550 and 1551.⁷ In one of the latter years, with the consent of John Sinclair his coadjutor and future successor in the archdeaconry, of Robert bishop elect and confirmed, and of the dean and chapter, and for certain sums of money and other favours, he granted in heritage to Alexander Murray M'Schir-Angus the lands of Balleknok with the culture of lands to be newly improved, lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Inverness, and extending in mail, grassum, and all dues, to £3, 6s. 8d. — the grantee paying yearly that sum with 3s. 4d. in augmentation.⁸ John Sinclair appears as archdeacon in 1558, and in various years between that and 1577.⁹ In the last named year (4 January) Alexander Murray fear of the town and lands of Balleknok, with the consent of his wife Martell Ros liferenter, granted to his firstborn son Thomas Murray and to his male heirs by his wife Margaret Murray, with remainder to the heirs of Thomas whomsoever, his lands of Balleknok, reserving the liferent to Alexander and his wife Martell, to be held of John Sinclair archdeacon of Cathanes and his successors according to the charter of James Brady.¹⁰ In the same year (1 June) Master Robert Innes was archdeacon.¹¹ He again appears as archdeacon in 1580 and 1581.¹² In 1610 the archdeacon was Master M. Pont.¹³ In 1633 William Lord Sinclair of Berridail granted the patronage of the archdeaconry to Sir George Hamiltoun of Blaikburne, and King Charles I. confirmed the grant.¹⁴ In 1644 George earl of Caithness, Lord Sinclair of Berridail, was served heir male in the archdeaconry to his father John master of Berridail.¹⁵

We have no satisfactory account of the connexion of the abbot of Seone with the see of Caithness. Between the years 1165 and 1206 Harald Earl of Orkney, Hetland, and Catanes, for the souls of his predecessors and of himself and his wife, granted to the canons of Seon a mark of silver yearly after the weight of the Scottish mark, to be paid by himself, his son Turphin, and his heirs for ever.¹⁶ Between 1214 and 1249 King Alexander II. addressed

¹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

² Reg. Morav., p. 206.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123. Misc. of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.

⁴ Misc. of Bannatyne Club, vol. iii.
⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 146: vol. vii. ff. 93, 104.
 Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xx. nu. 116, 124.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 154.

¹⁵ Retours.

⁷ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁶ Liber Ecclesie de Seon, p. 37.

a letter to his sheriffs, bailies, and men of Moray and of Cathanes, informing them that he had taken under his especial protection the ship of the abbot and convent of Seon, and the men and goods which they had therein; forbidding them on pain of his full forfeiture in any way to injure the said ship, men, or goods; and commanding that, when the ship should pass to them, they should maintain and defend it and the men therein, not allowing any one to injure or aggrieve them, and should freely allow them to buy in those parts whatever things might be necessary for the victual of the abbot and convent.¹ Between 1223 and 1245, as we have seen, the abbot of Seon was recognised if not then first instituted as a canon of Cathanes with the church of Kelduninach (Kildonan) for his prebend, being bound according to Bishop Gilbert's constitution to serve in the cathedral church by a vicar and in his prebendal church by a qualified priest, but not bound to reside in either.² In 1226 Pope Honorius III. confirmed to the canons of Seon the church of Kyldonaeh with its chapels and lands.³

There were, as we have seen, other three prebends constituted by the charter of Bishop Gilbert, namely, those of Olrick, Dunnet, and Cannisbay, the history of which will be given under the heads of those parishes.⁴ Other three prebends were subsequently instituted, namely, the rectory of Assynt, the chaplainry of Helmsdale, and the chaplainry of Kinnald in the cathedral church.⁵ In 1544 Sir Alexander Gray, chaplain of the chaplainry of Kinnald in the cathedral church of Cathanes, and vicar penitentiary of Robert bishop elect and confirmed, for the augmentation of his rental by the sum of 10s. 4d., with the consent of the bishop, dean, and chapter, granted to John Gray of Culmaly and his wife Jonet Matheson, and to the heirs male got between them, with remainder to Patrick Gray the brother german of John and to the heirs male of his body, to James Gray the paternal cousin of John and the heirs male of his body, to the elder of John Gray's female heirs without division, and to his heirs and assignees whomsoever, his lands of Auchinlong lying in the diocese of Cathanes and sheriffdom of Innernes.⁶ In 1569 Robert bishop of Cathanes presented William Gray his minister of Dornoch to the chaplainry of Kinnald, vacant by the resignation of Alexander Gray.⁷ In 1649 Master James Gray preacher at Lairge, for certain sums of money paid to him by his lawful son Master William Gray preacher at Clyne, sold to him and his heirs *titulo oneroso* his dwelling or manse (*mansio*) called the prebendary's manse of Kinnald, lying within the city of Dornoch between the manse of the rector of Assint on the east, the *via arcti rici* 'lie narrowe vynd gate' ascending to the top of the hill on the west, the common road on the south, and the said hill to the top of the same on the north—also his croft called Croftnaeallache lying on the west of Dornoch, between the lauds of Drumdivan and the common road on the north and south, and the common roads on the east and west—for yearly payment of 6s. 8d. Scots old feuferme to the king, and 16d. in augmentation, in all 8 shillings.⁸

¹ Liber Ecclesie de Seon, p. 45.

² Sutherland Charters. See above, p. 602.

³ Lib. Eccles. de Seon, p. 67. See KILDONAN *post*.

⁴ See above, p. 602.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123. Sutherland Charters. Sir Robert Gordon says that the chapel stood at Kinnald. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 3.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

Of other functionaries connected with the cathedral we have the following notices. In 1272 a charter of John Fraser of Glenwym given *apud urbem veterem* is witnessed by Henry of Nottingham canon of Cathanes.¹ In 1365 there appear in record Sir John of Gamery and Sir Symon canons of Cathanes.² In 1472 a charter of the lands of Thorboll is witnessed by Sir Farchard penitentiary of the cathedral church, and Sir Henry Wormot sacrist; and in 1544, as we have seen, Sir Alexander Gray chaplain of Kinauld was also vicar penitentiary of Robert bishop elect and confirmed of Cathanes.³ In 1504 we have Robert Ralston the bishop's clerk, and in 1569 William Gray the bishop's minister at Dornoch.⁴ In 1512 the seisin of certain crofts in Dornoch is witnessed by Masters and Sirs Malcolm Rattar, Laurence Smyth, Donald Swyithne, and Andrew Ferne, chaplains of the choir of the cathedral church; in 1527 we meet with Sir William Ymfray and Sir Donald Reid chaplains; in 1544 Sir Robert Bonar, Sir James Fern, Sir Thomas Raburne, and Sir Robert Stewart, chaplains; in 1545 Sir Robert Ferne chaplain; in 1546 Sir John Trumbull and Sir Thomas Raburne priests, and Sir Robert Ferne, Sir Patrick Stephenson, and Sir Donald Reid, chaplains; and in 1576 Sir Farquhard Lesle chaplain (*sacellanus*); in each case probably chaplains of the choir.⁵ In 1539 William Sinclaire rector of Orlrik appears as commissary of Cathanes; in 1562 we have Richard Pyot officer of the commissariat of Cathanes; and in 1633 is recorded the death of another commissary Robert Monro.⁶ In 1546 appears Sir Robert Stewart curate of Dornoch, and in 1568, 1569, and 1576 Farquhard Lesly vicar pensionary of the parish church of Dornoch.⁷

The church of Saint Bar, taken down, as we have seen, about the beginning of the seventeenth century, wholly ignored in our statistical accounts, and now locally forgotten, stood about the middle of the town of Dornoch beside the cross still standing and on the site of the former council-house and prison removed in 1813.⁸

The church of Saint Gilbert, built within a few yards of the church of Saint Bar, was partly ruinous in the end of the last century, and till the year 1835, when it was rebuilt from the foundation except the central tower.⁹ It seems to have been wholly First-pointed, except the aisles of the nave, which had circular-headed windows.¹⁰ To the north of the choir was attached a strongly vaulted building, probably the chapter-house, but latterly used as a prison.¹¹ South-west from the nave was a detached chapel, the burying-place of the Gordons of Embo.¹² As rebuilt, the church within walls is of the following dimensions—length of church 126 feet; height from floor to roof 45; length of nave 61, breadth 25; length of choir 34½, breadth

¹ Liber Eccles. de Seon, p. 85. Probably named from Nottingham in the parish of Latheron.

² Crouicle of the Earlis of Ross.

³ Sutherland Charters. ⁴ Ibid. ⁵ Ibid. ⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid. In 1568 he is styled *quartus vicarius pensionarius de Dornoch*.

⁸ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 361. Notes taken on the spot 1854. See p. 597. Its cemetery, mentioned in several charters afterwards quoted, has been either partly or wholly erased.

⁹ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 361. Cordiner's Ruins in North Britain, vol. ii. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Neale's Ecclesiastical Notes, p. 66. Notes taken on the spot 1854.

¹⁰ Cordiner's Ruins, vol. ii. Neale, p. 66. Mr. Neale doubts the existence of the *aisles*, but they are distinctly figured by Cordiner, and also remembered by persons still alive. They were about 14 feet in width.

¹¹ Notes taken on the spot 1854.

¹² Ibid.

23 feet 9 inches; length of transepts 92 feet, length of each 31 feet 3 inches, breadth 23 feet 9 inches; side of square of tower 29 feet 6 inches.¹ The piscina, of continuous mouldings, occupies its old position in the south wall of the choir at the east end.² In the north transept is a stone sarcophagus, removed from the choir, containing, it is said, the relics either of Bishop Gilbert or of his brother, whose figure is represented by a cross-legged effigy on the lid.³ The church has long been the burial-place of the earls of Sutherland.⁴

In 1275, on the settlement of a controversy between the earls of Sutherland and the bishops of Caithness, it was, as we have seen, provided by Bishop Areheald that Earl William and his heirs should present a chaplain to the altar of Saint James in the church of Durnach to celebrate perpetually for the souls of the earls of Sutherland; and the bishop assigned as the chaplain's maintenance from the fermes of his town of Durnach 5 marks yearly to be paid by the hands of his bailies at Martinmas and Whitsunday.⁵ In 1509, 1512, and 1514, the advowson of the same chaplainry was included in retours of the earldom.⁶ In 1551 the redemption money of the lands of Balnabrayt in the lordship of Skelbo was paid at the altar of Saint James the apostle in the cathedral church of Dornoch.⁷ In 1552 John Murray or Neilsone citizen of Dornoch, for certain favours shown him by Master Thomas Brydy (Brady, or Brody) vicar pensionary of Wattin, and for a certain sum of money paid to him in his necessity, sold to Master Thomas and his heirs the north part of his house lying in the city of Dornoch, extending in length to 40 feet from the west gable of his said house to the entry of the cemetery of Saint Finber on the north, and thence extending in breadth from the said cemetery to the burn running before and descending through the said city as far as the high water mark (*ad maris fluxum*)—for the payment of a penny yearly at Whitsunday to the chaplain of the altar of Saint James the apostle in the cathedral church.⁸ In 1554 the sale was confirmed by Robert bishop elect and confirmed of Cathanes.⁹ In 1563 Robert M'Donald M'David citizen of Dornoch, for a sum of money paid to him in his necessity, sold to Master Thomas Brody vicar pensionary of Wattin and his heirs his garden on the east side of the city of Dornoch with his house on the west side of that garden, lying between the tenement of Walter Lesly on the south, the kiln of Alexander Murray of Balleknok on the north, the king's highway on the east, and the burn on the west, to be held of the bishop, the grantee paying to the chaplain of Saint James the usual yearly rent if asked.¹⁰ In 1576 (18 March) Alexander earl of Sutherland, 'patron of Sanct James cheplenrye situat in Sanct James ile within the cathederall kirk of Cathnes' long vacant in his hands, granted the chaplainry for life to his servitor John Forsythe for his 'anefald guid and thankfull service' done by him to the earl's deceased parents and to the earl himself, and for other causes—with a precept addressed to Alexander Lovell of Pitgrudye his bailie in that part to pass to the said 'Sanct James ile, and thair quhair the alter wount to stand' to give institution to John Forsythe 'be ane Scottis plak in takin of

¹ Notes taken on the spot 1854. ² *Ibid.* Neale, p. 66.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 33. Pen-
nant. Cordiner. Neale. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat.
Acc. Notes taken on the spot 1854. The effigy is not
that of a bishop.

⁴ Genealogy *passim*.

⁵ Sutherland Charters. See above, pp. 603, 604.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

his possession of the sam.¹ On 2 April institution was given accordingly *super locum in quo olim altare divi Jacobi predicti edificabatur.*² In 1580 Robert bishop of Cathanes confirmed both the grant and the institution.³

The chaplainry of Kinnald has been noticed above.⁴

Between the years 1127 and 1153 King David I. commanded Reinwald earl of Orkney, and the earl and all good men of Cateneis and Orkney, as they loved him, to respect the monks dwelling at Durnach in Cateneis and their men and goods, and to defend them whithersoever they might go in those parts, not allowing any one to do them injury or shame.⁵

It is said that in 1271 Sir Patrick Murray founded at Dornoch a convent of Red Friars, otherwise named Mathurines or Trinity Friars, and that, after the English became masters of Berwick, the lands belonging to the Red Friars there were given to the Friars at Dornoch.⁶

A monastery, in modern times known as Franciscan, stood at the south-east corner of the town on the road leading to the links.⁷

In the Register of Ministers and their Stipends after the year 1567 we have the following — ‘Dornoch, Williame Gray younger exhorter in the Irsche toung 1 merkis, and xx merkis mair sen Beltane 1569 for supporting of Creich in the ministratioun of the sacramentis, videlicet baptysme.’⁸ In 1574 and 1576 the same William Gray, minister at Dornoch and Creich, had for his stipend 100 marks, and William Aw reader at Dornoch had £20.⁹

The bishoprick of Caithness by the Antiqua Taxatio was estimated according to one authority at £386, 13s. 4d., and according to another at £286, 14s. 10½d. — being taxed for the papal contribution according to the one at 4d. per mark to the amount of £7, 3s. 4½d., and according to the other (at what rate is not stated) to the amount of £8, 19s. 2½d. and the ¼ of a farthing.¹⁰ In the Taxatio Sec. XVI. *ad rationem triginta millium librarum* it is taxed at £206, 13s. 3d., and in the Libellus Taxationum it is valued at 1000 marks.¹¹ At the Reformation, as we have seen, the total value of the bishoprick was stated at £1283, 18s. 9d.¹²

The deanery in the Taxatio Sec. XVI. is rated at £12, 8s., and in the Libellus Taxationum is valued at £40.¹³ Between 1561 and 1566 the rental of the deanery is given as follows — ‘The rental of the denrie of Cathnes pertening to Mr. Williame Hepburne dene thairof is x chalderis beir, and fourty merkis money for the vicarage of Kirktown of Clyne and Denesfeild heirof — the vicarage onpayit.’¹⁴

In the Taxatio Sec. XVI. the chantry is taxed at £16, 10s. 3d., and in the Libellus it is valued at £53, 6s. 8d.¹⁵ In the rental of the assumption of thirds we have the value of the chantry

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

⁴ See p. 622.

³ Reg. de Dunfermelyn, p. 14. The earl of Catenes and Orkney was doubtless Earl Harald, sometimes styled the elder, who had the whole of Catenes and the half of Orkney. Reinwald is Rogwald.

⁶ Keith, Pennant, Cordiner — who give no authority for the statement. As Dunfermelyn was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, may not the alleged establishment of Trinity Friars be the same as the colony from Dunfermelyn?

⁷ Sketch of Dornoch by R. S. Taylor Esquire. Perhaps the three monasteries were but one.

⁸ Reg. of Min., p. 63.

⁹ Book of Assignations.

¹⁰ Registrum de Aberbrothoe, vol. i. pp. 231. 247. Reg. Prior. S. Andree, pp. 28, 360, 361.

¹¹ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹² Book of Assumptions. See above, p. 615.

¹³ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁴ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁵ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

as follows — ‘The rental of the chanterie of Cathnes pertening to Robert Stewart chantour thairof sett in assedatioun for yeirle payment of i^o lb. Item for the Chantourisfeild in few yeirle xls. *Sic subscribitur* Johne Kennedie with my hand.’¹

The chancellorship is rated in the Taxatio Sec. XVI. at £12, 8s., and is given in the Libellus as worth £26, 13s. 4d.² At the Reformation its yearly value was given in to the collector of thirds as follows — ‘The rental of the chancellarie of Cathnes pertening to Mr. Johne Jaksoun chancellor thairof. Payis yeirle vi chalderis beir and ane hundredth merkis money for the personage and vicarage. Item the Chancellarisfeild yeirle xls. Heirof thair is to be deducit of the chancellarie that is giwin in yeirle pensioun to Thomas Mathesoun xl lb.’³ In 1574 the chancellary seems to have been valued at £140, but the chancellor’s name George Sinclair is erased, and another substituted for it, ‘becaus George Sinclair, being chargeit for the hail fruites of the chancellarie of Cathnes for non-residence upon allegiance of deidlie feid, obtenit decret absolvatur.’⁴

The treasurership, rated in the Taxatio at £18, and valued in the Libellus at £26, 13s. 4d., is valued at the Reformation thus — ‘The rental of the thesaurarie of Cathnes pertening to Mr. Williame Gordoun. Payis yeirle iii chalderis half chalder beir, and i^o merkis money. Item the Thesaurarisfeild yeirle xls.’⁵

The archdeaconry is rated in the Taxatio at £24, 16s., and is valued in the Libellus at £80.⁶ At the Reformation we have a rental, which including the teindsheaves of Bowar and Vattin for 1561, the dues of the archdeacon’s personal lands, the mill of Scarnlat, the lands of Ballinknok, and the vicarages of Bowar and Vattin, and deducting £16 yearly for the chorister, gives in all £55 in money and 28 chalderis 15 bolls of victual.⁷ We have also ‘Ane vthir rental of the archdenrie of Cathnes. The archdenrie of Cathnes set for takis to ryn to Daud Sinclair of Dune his airis and assignayis for the sowme of xii^{ss} merkis yeirle with the payment of the stallaris fie of Dornoch and curatis fie of Bowair with all vthir ordinar chargis. Subsryvit with my hand. *Sic subscribitur* Williame Lame.’⁸

The valuation of the other prebends will be given under the heads of the respective churches.⁹

We have no valuation of the chaplainry of Kinnald.¹⁰

The yearly value of the chaplainry of the altar of Saint James the apostle was, as we have seen, 5 marks.¹¹

Between the years 1203 and 1214 Hugh Freskyn granted to Master Gilbert archdeacon of Moray, and to those of his clan (*parentela*) whom he might appoint his heirs, and to their heirs, all his land of Seelbol in Suthyrland and certain other lands, the grantee doing the service of one bowman and acquitting the forinsee service of the king.¹² Before 1214 the grant was confirmed by King William the Lion, saving his own service, and before 1222 by

¹ Book of Assumptions.

² MSS. in Adv. Lib.

³ Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Book of Assignations.

⁵ MSS. in Adv. Lib. Book of Assumptions.

⁶ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁷ Book of Assumptions. See BOWER and WATTIN *post.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ See KILDONAN, OLRICK, &c.

¹⁰ See above, p. 622.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ See above, p. 624.

William lord of Suthyrland the son and heir of the deceased Hugh Freskyn, the land to be held according to Hugh Freskyn's charter.¹

Before 1235 or in that year Gilbert bishop of Katanes (formerly archdeacon of Moray) granted the land of Scelleballe and other lands in Suthyrland in heritage to Richard his brother.² In 1235 King Alexander confirmed the grant of those lands, to be held by Richard and his heirs of the heirs of Hugh Fresekin according to the bishop's charter to him, the charter of Hugh Fresekyn, and King William's confirmation granted to the bishop, saving the king's service.³ In 1330 Kenneth earl of Suthyrland, the son of the deceased William earl of Suthyrland, by a charter dated at the chapel of Saint Andrew of Goldespy on the day after the feast of Saint Nicholas — on the narrative that in times past many dissensions had arisen between his predecessors and the predecessors of Reginald of Moray the son and heir of the deceased Alan of Moray of Culbyn touching divers lands, debts, possessions, and their rights, and other matters — in order to terminate those disputes and to establish friendship between himself and Reginald and their heirs, resigned to the latter all kinds of exactions of debts, and all controversies, quarrels, and calumnies, moved or to be moved till that date about all lands, possessions, and tenements within his earldom, about which his charter of confirmation granted to Reginald bore witness.⁴ The earl granted also to Reginald the whole relief of his lands in Suthyrland on account of the matrimonial alliance formed between Gilbert of Moray the son and heir of Reginald and the earl's eldest daughter Eustachia — faithfully promising that, if any letter obligatory or conventional, or any muniments or writings public or private, could be found, which might favour the earl or his heirs and in any way be prejudicial to Reginald or his heirs, such writings should be for ever null; and binding himself faithfully to maintain and defend Reginald, his men, and his lands, and their possessions, and to support them in all justice, counsel, aid, and favour.⁵

The lands and castle of Skelbole were afterwards in the hands of Bishop William Mudy, who, as we have seen, in 1455 granted them to his brother Gilbert and two lawful heirs.⁶ In 1478 King James III. confirmed the grant.⁷

Between that date and 1494 the same lands and castle seem to have been held successively by Alane of Kynnard of that ilk, by John of Kynnard (both dead in 1494), and by Thomas of Kynnard, who in that year had a litigation about the lands and castle with Marjory Mowat the widow of John.⁸ In 1510 King James IV. granted to Andrew Kynnard of that ilk, one of the free tenants of the earldom of Suthyrland, the dues of his lands of Skelebow in that earldom till the entry of the righteous heir.⁹ In 1512 Thomas Kynnard is styled of Skelbo.¹⁰ In 1515 Andrew Kynnard of that ilk and of Skelbo granted to John M'Ky in heritage the lands of Eddiraquhelis, then in the barony of Skelbo.¹¹ In 1518 Adam earl of Suthyrland and Elizabeth Suthyrland countess and 'heritare' gave a precept of seisin in the

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.* Sir Robert Gordon (*Genealogy*, p. 44) says that the lands in question were those of Skelbo. They were doubtless included in the arrangement.

⁸ *Acta Dom. Conc.* p. 348. *Acta Dom. Aud.* pp. 203. 204. See Skelbo Castle *post*.

⁹ *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, vol. iv. fol. 70.

⁶ *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, lib. viii. no. 123. See above, p. 607.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

lands and fortalice of Skelbo in favour of Andrew Kynnard of that ilk, proceeding on the king's brief, and address'd to John of Murray, Murcho Murray, Normontt Leslie, Danid Mvdy, and Huchoun Murray, their bailies in that part.¹ In 1525 the same earl, with the consent of the same countess, lady of the lands of Sudirland and superior of the lands of Skelbo in the lordship of Sudirland and sheriffdom of Innernes, ordered his bailies in that part, namely, John Murra, Rore Murra of Spandaill, Valter Kynnard of Culbyn, Murchur Murra, and Alexander Murra, to give seisin to John Kynnard, the sou and heir of the deceased Andrew Kynnard of that ilk last tenant and possessor of the lands, and admitted by the earl as tenant and heir, in the land of Skelbo, the castle, and manor, and in East Skelbo with the alchouse and crofts, Dawauchdow, Auchandro, Paitmayne, Balnobraid, Cammesefe, Estir Abbirchoir, Vestir Abbirchoir, Litill Roart, Knokcartnoll, Moireuch, Auchindowecht, Innirschyn with the fishings, Petintraill, Assent, Artrikquilliss, and of the whole lordship (*dominacio*) of Skelbo.² John Kynnard of that ilk was lord of Skelbo till the year 1529.³

In 1275, as we have seen, on the settlement of a long controversy between the earls of Sutherland and the bishops of Cathanes, Archebald then bishop resigned to William earl of Sutherland 2 davachs of Awelech, 3 davachs of Promsy, 1 davach of Rutherhard, 3 quarters of Haskedale, half a davach of Hachencosse, 3 davachs of Thorebol, 2 davachs of Kynalde, 4 davachs of Largee, and 1 davach of Cuttheldawach.⁴ In 1360 William earl of Sothyrland granted to his brother Nicolas of Sothyrland in free barony, for his faithful homage and service, 16 davachs in the earldom of Sothyrland of the land called Thorbol, namely, 3 davachs of Thorbol, 1 davach of Rouarkar, 1 davach of Assastel, 1 davach of Proncey Upper, 1 davach of Proncey Nether, 1 davach of Pronceeroy, 2 davachs of Euelek, and other lands, to be held by Nicolas and the lawful heirs of his body for the service of one soldier yearly.⁵ In 1362 King David II. confirmed the grant, saving the king's service.⁶ In 1408, by a charter dated at the castle of Duffous (in Moray), John of Suthirland, the son and heir of Nicholas of Sutherland lord of the castle of Duffous, confirmed the resignation of £40 lands in the earldom of Suthirland by his father, and a grant of the same by Robert earl of Suthirland to John's brother Henry of Suthirland, with reversion to John failing heirs of Henry's body.⁷ In 1444, by a deed dated 12 July at Pomfret in England, John earl of Suthirland declared that he had seen a certain resignation, made at his chapel of Saint Andrew by Nicholas of Suthirland lord of the castle of Duffhus in the hands of Robert earl of Suthirland, of the lands and tenements of Thurboll, namely, of lands to the value of £40 lying in the earldom of Suthirland and sheriffdom of Innernes; and that in the same chapel the same Earl Robert had granted those lands to Henry of Suthirland the son of Nicholas and to the male heirs of his body, for service of ward and relief, three suits yearly at the earl's court in Suthirland, and all other forinsee services belonging to the ward and relief; in which lands the same Henry died vest and seised, and had male issue the earl's kinsman Alexander of Suthirland lord of Thorboll.⁸ On the same day Earl John granted to Alexander of Suthirland of

¹ Sutherland Charters.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

² Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid. Rob. Index, p. 43, no. 30; p. 69, l. 32; p. 72,

no. 36.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ Ibid.

Thurboll the said resignation, and the said lands of Thurboll, namely, Thurboll, Straqhaqharu, Lital Thurboll, Ilik, Pronnseeorie, Nethirpronse, Ouirpronse, Aqhaqhasse, Dale, Royaqhrer, and others.¹ In 1448 appears in record the same Alexander of Suthirland of Thureboll, and in 1455 appears Angus of Sutherlande of Thurboll.² In 1472 John earl of Suthirland granted in heritage to his kinsman Nicolas of Suthirland, the son and apparent heir of his kinsman Angus of Suthirland of Thureboll, with remainder to Angus and his heirs, the lands of Thureboll Miele, Thureboll Litle, Strathacharne, Ruryarchar, Askadaile, Vfir Pronnsy, Nethir Pronnsy, Pronnsycroy, Evillik, and others in the earldom of Suthirland and sheriffdom of Innernis, resigned by Angus in the cathedral church at Dornach, the grantee doing the usual rights and services, reserving the liferent to Angus, the teree to his wife Cristina, and the ward and relief to the earl, if Angus should die before his son.³ In 1492 Hugh the son of Angus Sutherland lord of Thurboll, on a precept of John earl of Sutherland, was infeft in the lands held by Angus his father, and by Nicholas and Donald his brothers.⁴ In 1505 or 1506 Hugh Sutherland of Spronse granted to Andrew Kynnard of that ilk, for his good service both in war and in peace, the lands of Spronsenain in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernis.⁵ In 1510 King James IV. granted in heritage to Cristina Suthirland the daughter of Hugh Suthirland of Torbull and John Stewart her intended husband, with remainder to the heirs of Hugh, the lands of Thurboll in the earldom of Suthirland which Hugh Suthirland had resigned.⁶ In 1525 Adam Gordon earl of Sutherland and Elezabeth his wife countess and hereditary lady of the same — lest the lands subject to their *dominium* should pass to an uncertain heir or to unknown persons having no title — having considered the right of succession of William Sutherland lord of Duffous to the lands and lordship of Pronse by the decease of Hugh Sutherland formerly lord of Pronse without male heirs, and by reason of entail and ancient infeftment, granted in heritage to the same William for his service the same lands and lordship, namely, the two towns of Turbois with the mill of the same, the lands of Dalnamayne, Vuir Pronse, Pronse-croy, Pronsenayn, the lands of Ewillie with the mill, the lands of Ruarechar, Austisdail, with others in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernis, reserving to themselves the superiority, and the ward, relief, and marriage, when they should occur, the grantee paying those dues, and giving them his counsel and assistance in their causes.⁷

By an indenture dated at Aberdeen 1 April 1529 it was agreed that John Kynnard of that ilk should heritably infeft William Suthirland of Duffous in his lands of Skelbo with the castle, salmon fishing, and other pertinents, to be held of the earl of Sutherland for service used and wont — that William Suthirland should for that infeftment pay to John Kynnard 2500 marks Scots, namely, 1000 at the town of Dundee on 6 May following, on which day John Kynnard should give him a charter of the lands of Innerschine and Awelindowich with the fishing of the water and 'lyn' of the same, and of the lands of Estyr Abyrskoure (none of which are

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*⁴ Charter in General Register House.⁵ Sutherland Charters.⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xvi. no. 138.⁷ Sutherland Charters.

in the parish of Dornoch); the remaining 1500 marks to be paid at the same town on the feast of Lammes immediately following the date of the agreement, for which John Kynnard should by charter and seisin infest William Suthirland and his heirs in the lands of Skelbo with the tenandries, castle, and fishing—that the latter should endeavour to obtain the overlord's confirmation, discharge John Kynnard and his heirs of all recognition that might be made of the lands in virtue of the present alienation, warrant them against the same, and give John a discharge of his mother's terce—and that, as part of the lands were wadset to sundry persons, such as John Murray, Hucheoun Calder, and Rory Johnnesoun, of which lands John Kynnard had the reversion, he should give up that reversion to William Suthirland, and make him his assignee for 'outridding' the lands at his own expense.¹ According to the above agreement John Kynnard on 5 May 1529 sold to William Suthirland the lands of Abirscoir Estir, Achindowych, and Innersclin, and on 16 May the deed was confirmed by Alexander Gordon master of Suthirland.² On 31 July Jonet Terroll of Innerbreky resigned her lands of Petintreill in the barony or earldom of Suderland and sheriffdom of Innernes in the hands of Alexander Suderland lord of Skelbo her superior in favour of Walter Innes of Touchis and the children to be begotten between her and Walter, with remainder to Walter's heirs whomsoever, reserving the liferent to herself.³ On 26 August John Kynnard sold to William Sutherland and his heirs his lands and fortalice or castle of Skelbo, with the fishings of Innerschyne and the 'lyn,' which on 2 September were confirmed by Alexander Gordon.⁴ On 15 September John Murray of Campbussay, as bailie in that part for John Kynnard of that ilk, gave seisin of Skelbo and Innerschin to William Suthirland of Duffus, receiving a black ox with grey (*grestis*) horns as evidence of the seisin of the lands and castle of Skelbo, and a 'brandit' ox as evidence of the seisin of Innerschyne, the water, 'lyne,' net, fishing boat, and cable.⁵ In 1534 or 1535 (25 April) in the church of the Friars Minorites of Elgin William Sutherland of Duffus and Skailbo, the son and heir of the deceased William of Duffus and Skailbo, acknowledged that he had seen a certain acquittance granted by his father to John Murray of Cambusawy for the sum of 366 marks Scots as part payment of 500 marks due by John to the deceased William for the lands of Petfuir, Knokarwall, Estir Heberiscors, and Hawchandrow (some of them not in the parish of Dornoch) in the barony of Skailbo, which acquittance William Sutherland then approved and confirmed—and the same William there and then discharged John Murray and his heirs of the sum of 40 marks Scots due by John to the deceased for 40 bolls of victual bought of him—and, as to the 'rest' of the 500 marks, he discharged John Murray of 47 marks for certain reasons, especially for his 'thankis, gratitudis, and plesouris'—and so of the said 500 marks William Sutherland allowed that only 47 remained unpaid, which John Murray accordingly bound himself and his heirs faithfully to pay to William and his heirs between the above date and the feast of Saint Fimber (25 September) 1536.⁶ In 1535 (27 September) the same William Sutherland was seised as his father's heir in the lands of Turbois and others granted to his father in 1525.⁷ In 1536 (7 December) in the manse of the chancellor of Cathanes

¹ Sutherland Charters. ² *Ibid.* ³ *Ibid.* ⁴ *Ibid.* ⁵ *Ibid.* ⁶ *Ibid.* ⁷ *Ibid.* See above, p. 629.

within the city of Dornoch Hugh Kanide of Garwenmanis and his wife Jonet Steward *viu vocis oraculo* discharged John Murray of Cambussaffé of the mails, fermes, and grassums of the towns of Pettvir, Knockcartoll, Cambussaffé, Balbrade, and the half of Coull, and of all other burdens exigible from those lands down to the feast of Pentecost immediately following the above date.¹ In 1538 King James V. granted to Henry Kempt of Thomastoun the ward and nonentry of Spronase (apparently Spronse) in the sheriffdom of Innernes, formerly belonging to the earl of Sutherland.² In 1542 inquest was made in the tolbooth of the burgh of Innernes by William Hay of Mayne, James Innes of Rothkenze, George Munro of Dawacharty, Thomas M'Culloch of Pladdis, John Murray of Cambissach, William Dunbrek of Ortane, James Innes of Drane, Andrew Sudirland of Greschip, Andrew Stewart in Rossille, Hugh M'Culloch in Terrell, Alexander Cumming in Barmwkytie, William Doddis in Golspetour, Andrew M'Culloch in Craighons, Gilbert Haye and Alexander Duf burgesses of Innernes, and Walter Leslie, Ferquhard M'Gillespy, Alexander Rater, and Alexander M'Culloch, inhabitants of Dornoch — who declared that William Sudirland of Duffos was the lawful heir of his father the deceased William lord of Duffos in all the lands and yearly revenues in the sheriffdom of Innernes in which his father died vest and seised.³ In 1549 (7 June), on a precept of John earl of Sutherland dated 2 April, Hugh Murray the son and heir of John Murray of Cambussavy was seised in the lands of Auchandro and Ester Abirseors.⁴ In the same year (26 December), at the request of Alexander Sothirland the son and apparent heir of the deceased William Sothirland of Duffos, with the consent of his curator Master Alexander Sothirland dean of Cathanes and official of Moray, in the cathedral church of Moray, John Leslie prebendary of Ryne and commissary of Moray made a transumpt of the four charters of the lands of Thorboll dated 1360, 1362, 1408, and 1444.⁵ In 1551 Sir Robert Vrquard rector of Kildonein, as procurator for Master Alexander Sutherland dean of Cathanes, rector of Duffus, and official of Moray, assignee of the deceased William Sutherland of Duffus for the redemption of the lands of Balnabrayt extending to 2 davachs, lying in the lordship of Skelbo, earldom of Sutherland, and sheriffdom of Innernes, went to the altar of Saint James the apostle in the cathedral church of Dornoch, and there paid to Hugh Murray the son and heir of the deceased John Murray of Cambussawe burgess of Dornoch the sum of £30 Scots as redemption money for the lands of Balnabrayt — on which Hugh Murray resigned those lands, which had been granted to his father by Andrew Kynnaird of that ilk.⁶ In 1555, on precepts of seisin granted by John earl of Sutherland with the consent of Helen Stewart countess, Alexander Sutherland of Duffos was seised in the lands and castle of Skello and the lands and fishings of the water of Innerschyn with the 'lyn' as heir to his deceased grandfather William Sutherland of Duffos, and in the lands of Turbois and others as in 1525 as heir to William Sutherland his father.⁷ In 1560 (26 October) on a precept of the same earl and countess Christina Sutherland as the daughter and heirsch of the deceased Hugh of Sutherland of Thureboll was seised in the lands of Thureboll.⁸ In

¹ Sutherland Charters.² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 56.³ Sutherland Charters.⁴ *Ibid.*⁵ *Ibid.*⁶ *Ibid.*⁷ *Ibid.*⁸ *Ibid.*

1560 or 1562 (more probably the former) on 30 October John earl of Sutherland, superior of the following lands and others, with the consent of his wife Helen countess of Errol and Suderland, granted in heritage to his kinsman Alexander Suderland of Duffous the lands and barony of Skelbo, namely, Casteltown of Skelbo with the tower, fortalice, and mill, Ballewraat, Cambusawye, Ester Skelbo, Cowll, Petmayne, Wester Aberscors, Morynehe, Roartbeig, Morines, Cragie, Awchindowyeh, Innerschyn with the salmon fishing of the water of Innerschyn and the 'lyn,' with the multure and alehouses — and the lands of the barony of Pronsie, namely, Casteltown, with the tower and fortalice, Pronsienane, Pronsiecroye, Assidaell, Cornamane, Rewarchar, Avelik with the mill, Dalnamayne, Mekte Torboll, Litill Torboll, Grudebrora, Syborskeg, Kilpeddermoir, Kilpedderbeig, with the mill of Kilpeddermoir, Kilpedder in Strathvlze, and Cayane in Strathvlze — all lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernys, and resigned by Alexander Sutherland at Dunrobyn on the above day for a new infeftment in the same, and for the union of the lands into the free barony of Skelbo, seisin taken at the castle of Skelbo to be sufficient for the whole.¹ In 1562 (28 October) the same earl with the consent of his countess granted in heritage to the same Alexander his kinsman for his many good services the lands of Turbois and others as in 1525, which were on that day resigned at Dunrobbin by Adam Reid the husband and procurator of Christina Suthirland, the daughter of the deceased Hugh Sutherland of Thureboll, to whom they belonged in heritage — seisin taken on the lands of Thuriboll Mekte to be sufficient for the whole, and the grantee giving service of ward and relief.² In 1562 (7 November) the same earl with the same consent granted anew to his kinsman Alexander Sutherland of Duffous and his heirs, for his homage and for various services and benefits bestowed by him on the earl, the demesne lands of Skelbo with the fortalice of the same, the lands of Ester Skelbo, Petmayne, Cowll, Ballwraat, Cambusawye, Wester Aberscors, Morocht, Morenes, Litill Rewart, Ladie, Blaricht, Machaell, the half of Langwell, Innerschyn, Auchindowicht, with the salmon fishing of the water of Innerschyn and the 'lyn,' together with the salmon fishing of Machaell on the water of Oychall, the fishings of salmon and other fish in fresh water and in salt within the bounds of the said lands and fishings, with the mill of the lands and its multure and sequels — also the lands of Pentraell called the lands and barony of Pronsie, Thuriboll Mekte, Thuriboll Litill, Strathearne or Dalnamayne, Ruriarchar, Assisedaill, Overpronsie, Nethirpronsie, Pronsiecroye, Evillik, Mekte Kilpedder, Litill Kilpedder, Grudebrora, Schiber-skek in Strathbrora, and the lands of Caven and Kilpedder in Strathvlze, with all their mills, fishings in fresh water and salt of salmon and other fish, fortalices, and other pertinents — all in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernis, and resigned by Alexander on the

¹ Sutherland Charters. The grant is witnessed by Alexander Suderland or Hectorson, and the seisin (of the same date) by Nicholas Suderland the brother german of Alexander of Duffous, John Suderland or Hectorson, Alexander Suderland his brother german, Alexander Suderland in Litill Thureboll, and Canicus Suderland

² Sutherland Charters. The charter is witnessed by Gilbert Gordone the earl's uncle, and the seisin (of same date) by John Suderland in Torboll, Alexander Suderland, Canicus Suderland or M'Muldonyeh, and Thomas Gibsone, servitors of Alexander Suderland of Duffous, and by William Suderland his brother german.

above day at Dunrobbin to be united in favour of himself and his heirs into one barony called the barony of Skelbo, seisin taken at the fortalice of Skelbo to be sufficient for the whole, the grantee paying service of ward and relief, and giving personal suit at the three head courts of the earl to be held yearly at Dunrobbin.¹ In 1563 (20 or 22 June) Queen Mary granted anew to the same Alexander Suthirlande of Duffois, and to his heirs and assignees, the lands of Skelbo with the fortalice, tenants, and other pertinents—the fishing on the water of Innerschyne with the ‘lyn,’ and all the fishings of those lands with the usual pertinents—the lands of the two towns of Torbollis, of Dalnamane, Overspronsy in Strathfleit, Spronsyerooy, Spronsynane, Ewilik, Rewferchar, and Astray-dail in Brachat—the lands of Kylpeddermoir, Sybarskaig, and Grodebrora in Strathbrora—the lands of Kilpedder and Cawyne in Straithvlze—the mills of Torbollis—the mill of Evelik—the mill of Kilpedder in Straithvlze—and all the lands of Golspytoure—lying in the earldom of Suthirlande and sheriffdom of Innernys, and formerly held by Alexander Suthirlande of John earl of Suthirland, by whom they were forfeited for treason and lese-majesty on 28 May 1563—the grantee paying the rights and services formerly due, provided that the grant should not prejudice the subvassals of the earl previously infeft in any of the above lands, and on condition of their paying their share of Alexander’s composition.² In the same year (23 June) George earl of Cathanes, Alexander Suthirland of Duffus, and James Innes of Drainsy, bound themselves and their heirs to pay to the queen’s treasurer Master Robert Rychartsoun 1000 marks, namely, 500 at Michalmes (29 September) following, and 500 between that and the feast of Yule (25 December) following, on pain of horning, as the composition of Alexander Suthirland for the above lands and fishings—the earl and Alexander being surety for James Innes, and Alexander being surety for the earl—the earl also agreeing to free Alexander Suthirland from all interdiction which he had against him for the relief of James Innes and caution for payment of the said sum.³ On 14, 15, and 16 July seisin of the lands, mills, and fishings, was given to Alexander Suthirland on the soil of the same by the delivery of earth and stone, ‘clap and hoppir,’ net and boat.⁴ On 22 September Queen Mary granted to her brother Robert Stewart junior the lands and baronies of the earldom of Sutherland, forfeited by Earl John, and including among other lands those of Cowle, Petmane, Bellwraith, Camusowe, Westir Abbirscoors, Litirod, Mornes, Innerschine with the fishings, Auchindwycht, Mykael, Ardinsche, Torroball, Kynmowie, Dola, Blaroquhy, Lady, Langwell, Pettintraill, Pitfwir, Knokartoll, Pronscastell, Pronssenayne, Pronnseerooy, Evillik, Askadell, Rearchear, Mekle Torbo, Litill Torbo, Dalnamayne, Grudiebrora, Scheborskaik, Kilpeddermoir Kilpedderbeg, Kilpedder in Straithvlze, Cayne, Kintraid, Kynnald, and Golspietwir.⁵ In 1564 (10 January) Robert earl of Suthirland—on the narrative that the lands and earldom of Sutherland in the

¹ Sutherland Charters. The charter is witnessed by Gilbert Gordone the earl’s uncle and others, and the seisin (dated 9 November) by John Suderland or Hectorsonne in Acharrie, Alexander Suderland his brother german, Alexander Suderland junior in ———, Hugh Suderland, Thomas McNeill, David Suderland,

Bartholomew Litilljohnne, Thomas Forman, Valter Suderland and Nyeholas Suderland the brothers german of Alexander of Duffois, and Thomas Gibsone.

² *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. xxxi. fol. 122.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5.

sheriffdom of Innernes were forfeited by John formerly earl, and that he Earl Robert had been infeft in the same by Queen Mary, whose will it was that the free tenants after settling with her treasurer about their compositions should be infeft in their tenandries as of old—granted to Hugh Murray of Abirscors and his heirs the lands of Auchandro and Eistir Abirscors with the mill, formerly held in heritage of Earl John by the same Hugh, who had paid a certain sum as composition to the treasurer, the grantee giving the rights and services formerly due.¹ In the same year (22 August) Alexander Sutherland of Duffous and Skelbo, with the consent of George earl of Caithness his governor, granted to the same Hugh Murray and Beatrice Vrqhart his wife, for Hugh's homage and service, with remainder to Hugh Murray the son and apparent heir of Hugh, and to his heirs and assignees, the lands of a davaeh of Torboll in the lordship of Skelbo, earldom of Sutherland, and sheriffdom of Innernys—the grantee paying ward and relief—and, should Hugh or his son and heir take part with any one against Alexander Sutherland and his heirs, or appear in arms against them except on royal authority, the lands should revert to the granter.² In 1566, on a precept of Henry and Mary king and queen of Scots, Earl John was seised in the earldom of Sutherland, resigned by Robert Stewart, and including among others the land of Cayan and Kilpedder in Straythwllzie with the mill, Kilpeddirmoir, Kilpeddirbeg with the mill, Sevirseraig, Grudebrora, Carnameyne, Golspetowr, Eister Aberseors, Vestir Aberseors, Knokarthoill, Kynnalde with the mill, Litill Reorde, Morenes, Pitfuyr with the mill, Pittintraill with the mill, Kynbraid, Blarocht, Leady, Langoll, Kynmonov, Innerselhin with the salmon fishings, Anehindaucht, Dolaye, Mekle, Ardlnech, Casteltoun of Skelbo with the place, fortalice, mill, and pertinents, Cambussave, Balnabraide, Pitmanyn, Andandro, Eistir Skelbo, Cowle, Prompsecastell, Prompseuayne, Prompseeroy, Awalek with the mill, Askisdail, Rearquhar, Dalnameyne, Mekle Torboll with the mill, and Litill Torboll.³ In 1567 Master Robert Rychartstone, provost of Sanct Marie Ile and treasurer to Mary queen of Scots, granted to George earl of Caythnes, Alexander Sutherland of Duffus, and James Innes of Drainy a discharge for the sum of 1000 marks paid by them as the composition of Alexander Sutherland for his lands of Skelbo and others.⁴ In 1578 Alexander earl of Sutherland for a sum of money paid beforehand sold to Hugh Murray of Aberseors and his heirs the lands of Auchandro, Eistir Aberseors, Pitfour, and Knokartholl, which Hugh had resigned; the grantee paying ward, relief, and marriage, answering at the three yearly capital suits, and doing all the other usual services, the 'blud-wytis' of the lands being reserved to the earl.⁵ In 1616 William Sutherland of Duffus was served heir to his father William Sutherland of Duffus in the demesne lands of Skelbo with the tower and fortalice, the lands of Eister Skelbo, Pitmean, Coull, Ballavraid, Cambusavie, Westir Abirscors, Morroch, Morines, Litill Rogart, Cragie, Lady, Blerieh, Mackell, the half of Langwell, Innerschyne, Awchindowich, with the salmon fishings of the water of Innerschine and the 'lyn,' with the fishing of Makell on the water of Oekell, and the salmon

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid. This charter is witnessed by Alexander Sutherland in Torboll, Nicolas Sutherland the brother

german of Alexander Sutherland in Skelbo, William Sutherland in Awalek, and John Sutherland in Mekle Torboll.

⁴ Ibid. See p. 633.

⁵ Ibid.

and other fishings in fresh and salt water within the bounds of those lands and fishings, with the mills—the lands of Pentraill called the lands and barony of Pronsie, Torboll Meikil, Torboll Lytill, Cornamayne, Straitheairne or Dalnamayne, Ruyarcher, Assiedall, Over Pronsie, Nether Pronsie, Pronsiecrov, Evilieck, Meikill Kilpeddir, Lytill Kilpeddir, Groudbrobra, Sheberskeg in Strathbrobra, Cayane and Kilpedder in Strathulzie, with the fishings of salmon and other fish both in fresh water and in salt—all lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Inverness, and united into the barony of Skelbo, of the old extent of £111, 12s. 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ d.¹

Two davachs of Kynalde, as we have seen, were in 1275 resigned by Bishop Archebald to William earl of Sutherland.² They were afterwards held in heritage by a family of Sutherlands, represented about 1499 by Alexander Sutherland of Dilrid.³ In 1499 King James IV., for the good service of Odo or Y Makky in Strathnauern both in peace and in war, and especially in the taking and bringing of the deceased Alexander Suthirland of Dilrid and ten persons his accomplices, the king's rebels and at his horn, granted in heritage to Odo certain lands forfeited by Alexander Suthirland, including Kynnald with the mill.⁴ In 1513 James Dunbar of Cumnok, the son and heir of the deceased Sir James Dunbar of Cumnok, sued Y M'Ky in Stranawerne for a pretended royal grant which the latter alleged that he had of the lands of Kynnauld and Golspytour, which lands James Dunbar alleged had been appraised in favour of his deceased father for debts due to him by the deceased Alexander Sutherland of Dilryt, to whom at the time they belonged, and who was subsequently forfeited.⁵ Y M'Ky having been regularly summoned before the Lords of Council and not having appeared, the Lords after hearing the case decreed in favour of James Dunbar, and ordered the earl of Sutherland to infest him in the lands.⁶ In 1539 King James V., on the narrative that the deceased Odonius or Y M'Ky the father of Donald M'Ky in Strathnauern possessed in heritage certain lands then in the king's hands by reason of nonentry or otherwise, granted those lands, including as before those of Kynnald with the mill, to Donald M'Ky, erecting them all into the free barony of Fer.⁷ In 1540 Donald took seisin of the lands at the principal message of Farr.⁸ In 1551 Queen Mary granted in heritage to Robert bishop of Orkney the lands and barony of Far, including Kynnault and the mill of Kynnault, with the miltures, sukkin, and astricted miltures, forfeited by Donald M'Ky of Far, who lived and died bastard without lawful heirs or a lawful disposition of the lands.⁹ The lands and mill of Kynnald were included in grants of the earldom of Sutherland by the same queen to her brother Robert Stewart in 1563, 1564, and 1565, and in a new grant of the same to John earl of Sutherland in 1566.¹⁰ In 1570 George earl of Huntlie, Lord Gordoune and Badenoch, baron of the barony of Farr, sold the same lands

¹ Retours.

² See following note.

³ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 519. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 95.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ See p. 604.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 338. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 38.

⁸ Sutherland Charters.

⁹ Ibid. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 98.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. ff. 5, 70, 138. Sutherland Charters.

and others to Y M'Ky and his heirs.¹ In 1601 they were included in a new grant of the earldom of Sutherland by King James VI. to Earl John.² In 1613 (4 June) the Lords of Council decided that the lands and barony of Far, including as before Kynult with the mill, multure, suckin, and astricted multure, were in the sovereign's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of Robert bishop of Orkney, who died about the month of February 1558, or about 53 years before the date of the summons (29 December 1612), and that the king by a letter under his privy seal dated 2 November 1612 had granted the nonentry and other dues to Sir Robert Gordoun of Kynmounwy till the entry of the lawful heir, those having or pretending interest in the case as hereditary possessors of the lands, namely, George marquis of Huntlie and erle of Enzie, Hucheoun Macky of Far, Donald Macky his son, William Sutherland of Duffus, George Murray of Spanzedaill, and David Reid of Aiekinheid, having been lawfully summoned and having failed to appear.³

In 1601 the whole of the lands of the bishoprick of Cathanes, including Skebo and others in the parish of Dornoch, were included in a new grant of the earldom of Sutherland by King James VI. to Earl John and his heirs male and of entail by the lady Anna Elphinstoun his countess.⁴

The episcopal city or town of Durnach (afterwards the burgh) is first noticed in record between the years 1127 and 1153, when King David I. granted his protection to the monks dwelling there.⁵ It is next mentioned in Bishop Gilbert's charter of erection of the chapter (1203-1245), in which it is styled the city of Durnach.⁶ In 1275 Bishop Archibald calls it his town of Durnach.⁷ In 1503 the Scottish parliament ordained that a sheriff should be appointed called the sheriff of Catnes, who should have jurisdiction throughout the whole diocese, and should sit in Dornok or in Weik as the case required.⁸ In 1505 Alexander of Moray was a baillie and burges of Dornoch.⁹ In 1509 King James IV. appointed Alexander earl of Huntlie sheriff of the whole sheriffdom of Innernys, with power to appoint deputies and to hold courts within the bounds of Caithnes and other parts, and of sitting daily when necessary in certain towns, those in Caithnes being Weik and Dorno.¹⁰ A deed dated at Dornoch in 1515 is witnessed by John and Murehard Murray burgesses of Dornoch.¹¹ In 1529 a seisin of lands in Rogart is witnessed by Murehard Murray burges of Dornoch, by his brother german Hugh (probably also a burges), and by other two burgesses Ysaac Leslie and John Talyonr.¹² In 1536 a discharge for the dues of certain towns was granted to John Murray of Cambussaffie in the manse of the chancery of Cathanes within the city of Dornoch.¹³ In 1542 we find on an inquest touching the lands of William Sudirland of Duffus the names of Walter Leslie, Ferquhard M'Gillespy, Alexander Rater, and Alexander M'Culloch, inhabitants of Dornoch.¹⁴ In 1544 a charter is witnessed by David Dyksoun citizen of Dornoch.¹⁵ In 1546 Murehard Murray (apparently the burges of 1529) was a baillie of Dornoch.¹⁶ In

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. pp. 242, 249, 250.

⁵ Ibid. See GOLSPIE *post*.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Regist. de Dunfermelyn, p. 14.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 63. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 204.

⁹ Sutherland Charters. See above, pp. 601, 602.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ Ibid. See p. 604.

¹² Ibid. ¹³ Ibid. ¹⁴ Ibid. ¹⁵ Ibid. ¹⁶ Ibid.

1551 John Murray of Cambussawe burgess of Dornoch was deceased.¹ In the same year a payment of redemption money for Balnabrayt is witnessed by Valter Murray of Auchlwing, Murdoc Murray, Thomas Chesolme, Roderie Murray, and Alexander M'Culloch, burgesses of Dornoch.² In 1552 a charter by John Murray or Neilsone citizen of Dornoch is witnessed by Walter Leslie, Thomas Sutherland, or Kennoelson, David Dickesoun, and John Talyeour, citizens, and by Gillepatriek Tailyeour sergeant.³ In 1566 seisin of the dean's stall was witnessed by Thomas Murray and Robert Mathesone burgesses of Dornoch.⁴ The town of Dornoch was burned in 1567 by Y Macky of Far, and in 1570 together with the cathedral by the master of Caithness and the same Y Macky.⁵ In 1583 appears Angus Polson citizen of Dornoch.⁶ In 1606 an agreement was made at Over Pronsie between William Sutherland of Duffus and the bailies and community of Dornoch, with the consent of their overlord John earl of Sutherland, by which both parties chose Hucheoun M'Ky of Far, George Sinclair of May, and George Monro of Tarrel, to 'sight' the marches between the town of Dornoch and the lands and baronies of Skelbo and Pronsie both property and common.⁷ The arbiters decided 'that the comon hie gate that passes betuix the lands of Auchthoiche and the cistmost feild of Nether Pronsie passand vp to Raghan sal be ane speciall proper merehie betuix the saidis landis comontie and properties of the toune of Dornoch and the litle townes and subvrbz thairabout haldin of the kirk and the said baronie of Pronsie on the eist part — and the said litle hill and sheling callit Raehan to be ane proper meithe and merehe of the saidis toune of Dornoch and kirklandis forsaidis at the north syde — and all that is beeist the said gate and feild of Raehan to be as propertie to the said towne of Dornoch and vtheris suburbs forsaidis — and the haill landis and vtheris lyand bewest the said gate and feild of Raehan to be ane proper part and pertinent apertening to the saidis barones of Pronsie and Skelbo — the comon moore about Raehan vpon the eist and north parts of the gate to be comontie to baith the saidis parties landis quhill they cum to the proper merchis of Coule and Indboll — and all pasturages beest and benorth the saidis meithis of Raehan to be comon to baith the saidis parties except orne feild landis and hand (*hained*) feildis and gressings.⁸ In 1628 (14 July) King Charles I. — on the narrative that his city of Dornoch was the only city of the earldom and country of Sutherland to which beyond the memory of man all the inhabitants of that country flocked as to a common emporium to purchase the necessaries of life; that, as a place built near the seashore, it had a fit station for a harbour for the importation and exportation of merchandise; that it was expedient that it should be erected into a free royal burgh and free port for the use of his lieges in that part, which might be of much use in reducing the barbarous and uncultivated mountaineers to civilization; and seeing that the country and earldom of Sutherland extending to 60 miles had much need of a free burgh within their bounds — erected the burgh and city of Durnoch, with all its lands, tenements, houses, buildings, roods, and 'outsettis,' together with the station and port of the same, into a free royal burgh and port, reserving to John earl of Sutherland and his heirs male and successors their hereditary right in the said lands and other pertinents,

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*⁴ *Ibid.*⁵ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 150, 156. See above, p. 615.⁶ Sutherland Charters.⁷ *Ibid.*⁸ *Ibid.*

to be held of them as formerly or as the earl and his heirs might please to appoint, with the yearly dues specified in their infeftments, the entries of their tenants, and all their other hereditary rights as superiors of the burgh lands, houses, mosses, and other subjects; with power to the community to elect a provost, four bailies, a dean of guild, a treasurer, and twelve councillors, and to elect also commissioners to parliament; and with power to the magistrates to build a market cross and a tolbooth or prison, and to have a weekly market on Saturday, and three yearly fairs to be held for three days each, one beginning on 20 July, another on 20 August, and the third on 10 October, with all the small customs of those fairs; and with power also to build the harbour and station of Dornoch *cum fulcimento et propugnaculis* 'lie schoir et peir,' and to levy all the small customs of the same, with anehorages, 'lie dockmaill,' and other privileges — the magistrates and community paying yearly to the king 40s. as burgh cess (*cenſus*) with the usual burgh service.¹ Sir Robert Gordon, writing about that period, says of Dornoch — 'It is situat betuein the rivers of Portnecouter and Vnes, and is the cheeff burgh and seat of the shirreffs of Southerland, wher all the hornings and inhibitions are registred, and all denunciations made and proclamations red. About this toun along the sea coast ther are the fairest and largest linkes or green feilds of any pairt of Scotland, fitt for archbery, goffing, ryding, and all other exercise; they doe surpasse the feilds of Montrose or St. Andrews. In the toun of Dornogh ther ar four fairs kept yeirlie, Sanct Gilbert his fair, Sanct Barr his fair, Sanct Margaret's fair, and Sanct Bernard's fayre, vnto the which ther resorteth a great confluence of people to traffique from all pairts of the kingdome. St. Gilbert his fayre is kept yeirlie the first day of Aprile, St. Margaret's fayre is kept yeirlie the tuentie daye of Julie, St. Bernard his fayre is kept yeirlie the tuentie daye of August, and St. Barr his fayre wes kept in former tymes the tuentie-fyft day of September, bot Alexander erle of Southerland procured it to be transferred and removed from the 25th day of September to the tenth day of October. Everie one of these fairs continues for the space of thrie dayes.'² His continuator informs us that 'this year of God, one thousand six hundredth thirty-one, there was a busines of the earl of Southerland's finished which cost Sir Robert Gordon much paines and travell to compasse for the space of seaven years together both at court and before the commission of surrenders since the same was established: the matter was the setling of the shrifship-regalitie of Southerland, and enlarging the bounds of the shrifship of Southerland, and the dismembering off it from the shirrifdome of Invernes, and getting the town of Dornogh to be made the head burgh of the shire in all time coming.'³ In 1641 the parliament passed an act changing the yearly fair held at the royal burgh of Dornoch on 10 October to one to begin on 22 October, to continue for three days, and to be called Saint Gilbert Fair, because the former fair was hurtful to the burgh and its neighbourhood 'be eating and destroyeing thair cornes thane being vpon the grund and vsuallie win nor lead at the tyme thairof.'⁴ In 1647 parliament confirmed an agreement (dated 9 February) between John earl of Sutherland and Thomas Mansone commis-

¹ Sutherland Charters. 'In the moneth of Julie the year of God 1628 Sir Robert Gordonn procured from his Majestic at London the privilege of a burgh royall to the toun of Dornogh in Southerland with divers privileges conteaned in that gift: which Sir Robert

sent home then into Scotland to passe vnder the greate seale.' Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 406.

² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 6, 7.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 450, 451.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 453.

sioner for the burgh of Dornoch for himself and the magistrates and community, whereby the earl agreed to remove to Dornoch the fair called Andersmes market, formerly held at Golspie, to begin on 20 November and last for three days, and all the other markets held within the earldom of Sutherland, the customs to be uplifted for the use of the burgh.¹ In 1655 an agreement was made at Dornoch between Alexander Lord Duffus on one part and John Dempster and William Gordoun bailies of the burgh of Dornoch on the other part to the following effect — The bailies, council and community acknowledged that, although for years they had east and led peats and turfs on the said lord's lands of Pronssie and Evileck, they had no right to do so except by toleration of him and his predecessors; on which acknowledgment, and for the favour he bore to the burgh and community, Lord Duffus granted to them during his lifetime the liberty to east, win, and lead peats and turfs within the said baronies 'benorth and becast Raehan, and from Raehan straicht westward by the Hillhead of Carney to the hill of Rierquhar—from thence straight westward to Lochlavaehie and to the north of the saids bounds—as also vpoun the southe and west of the lands of Evileck bewest and besowth the water thairof allenerlie within ane half quarter of ane myle to the arraball lands and haned grass of the saids lands of Evileck and Aisdill—secluding and debarring the saids hail inhabitantis of the said burghle from easting of peattis, trullis, fail, diffattis, or forgaige becast the saids (lands) of Evileck (or) any part of Lonestutach at any tyme heirefter but licence and tollerance of the said lord, his heirs and successors'—paying yearly within the burgh of Dornoch the sum of £20 Scots, beginning at Martimes following.²

In 1504 Andrew bishop of Cathanes granted to John Murray in heritage the following lands and tenement with garden in the burgh of Dornoch and without, namely—the lands called Auchinecloich, having the lands called Cragge on the south, Pronsenain on the west, the common pasture on the north, and the lands of Pitgrode on the east—and a tenement with garden, having the common street on the south, the common road on the west, the cemetery of Saint Fynbar lineally on the north, and the tenement of Gillemechell M'Bathe on the east—of which lands and tenement the donation belonged to the bishop *pleno jure*—the grantee paying yearly 4d. for each rood of the tenement.³ In 1535 John Murray resigned the burgh lands of Achloich in the hands of Alexander Murray bailie of Dornoch in favour of his friend and kinsman Walter Murray, reserving the liferent to himself.⁴ In 1537 Master Alexander Sutherland dean of Cathanes resigned to Bishop Andrew all right which he had to the lands of Aehloch, and especially Reueneronich, in favour of Walter Murray burgess of Dornoch.⁵ In 1570 Walter Murray of Achelech burgess of Dornoch resigned in the hands of Robert M'Bathe bailie the lands of Achelech in favour of his son John Murray and his heirs, reserving the liferent of the fourth part of the lands to Jonet Sutherland his wife.⁶ In 1584 (6 December) Walter Murray in Drumdewan and his wife Issobell Murray

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.* This resignation is witnessed by Walter Lesly, Gorre Neilson, Alexander Gar, Farchard

M'Talyour, and John M'Ane M'Alexander, burgesses and neighbours of the burgh of Dornoch.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.* Witnessed by John Sanderson in Dornoch and Walter Murray sergeant (*officiarius*) of Dornoch.

bound themselves and their heirs to resign to Alexander earl of Sutherland and his heirs all right to the lands of Achloche lying in the diocese of Caythnes and sheriffdom of Inverness, which they might have or might between the above date and Whitsunday following purchase of John Murray in Achloche and Agnes M'Craith his wife, within twenty days after obtaining that right, and on what security the earl should choose—in return for which the earl promised to secure to Walter and his wife the lands of Drumdewan in exchange for those of Achloche—and it was agreed that, should either party be injured by the exchange, the injury should be submitted to the judgement of neutral men and repaired accordingly.¹ In 1592 (12 August) by a contract made at the Ile of Broray between Alexander earl of Sutherland, John Murray of Auchloych, and Adam Gordoun of Golspiekirkton, it was arranged as follows—1. John Murray, with the consent of his son Angus Murray, fear of the lands of Auchloych, and of his wife Agnes M'Krayth liferenter, sold to the earl and his wife Dame Jene Gordoun, and to their heirs got between them, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the town and lands of Auchloych in the diocese of Cathenes and sheriffdom of Inverness, to be held of the superior by resignation or confirmation as the earl might choose—engaging to give the grantees charter and seisin of the lands between the above date and the next feast of Saint Bar (25 September), and to deliver to them before that feast all his evidents of the lands, and also the reversion and wadset of the same on the sum of 300 marks belonging to Adam Gordoun. 2. The earl in lieu of the above became bound to infest John Murray in the lands of Dawachfyn in the same diocese and sheriffdom before the said feast of Saint Bar, and to pay to Adam Gordoun for John Murray as the price of the reversion to the lands of Auchloych 200 marks before Whitsunday 1593, and also before that date the remaining 100 marks—in lieu of which last John Murray became bound on being infest in the lands of Dawachfyn to infest the earl and his lady in a yearly revenue of 5 bolls of 'sufficient cherateit victuall with the mett and mesure of Leyth' from those lands between 25 March and 1 May, beginning in 1593, and continuing till the said yearly revenue should be lawfully redeemed by his payment of the said 100 marks. 3. As Adam Gordoun and John Murray had reckoned for the rent due to Adam for the lands of Auchloych, the latter discharged John Murray of all rents due before 1593, except 100 marks due for the years 1591 and 1592, which sum the earl on John Murray's behalf promised to pay—John Murray in lieu of the same further became bound to infest the earl, his lady, and their heirs in another yearly revenue of 5 bolls 'sufficient cherateit victuall' from the lands of Dawachfyn till lawfully redeemed—and the earl on the other hand for the redemption of the same engaged to give John Murray a letter of reversion on 200 marks Scots to be paid to the earl, his lady, and their heirs within the cathedral church of Dornoch on 40 days warning before any term of Whitsunday, which sum in case of absence or refusal should be consigned to any responsible landed man dwelling in Dornoch for the use of the earl, provided it should not be lawful for John Murray to redeem the said yearly revenue till he should pay the whole rents due along with the 200 marks.² On 18 October 1592

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.* 'Cherateit' is 'winnowed.'

the earl granted to John Murray in Auchincloych and his heirs the lands of Dawachfyn.¹ On 19 October at Dunrobin John Murray further engaged, in case himself or his heirs should be obliged to sell or otherwise dispose of his heritable right to the lands of Dawachfyn, to give the earl the first offer of them on such reasonable terms as others within Sutherland would give for the same.² On 20 October he received seisin of the lands.³

In 1512 (4 May), on inquest made in court at Dornoch, Roderic Murray, John Murray, Donald Murray, Andrew Cambell, Rodric Jousone, Alexander Wrycht, Andrew Pantour, Donald Taylour, Donald M'Gillemor, Henry Johnesone, Henry Burges, William Johnesone, John Aneram, Thomas Blair, and William Mathesone, declared that Alexander Murray the father of Sir Thomas Murray died last vest and seised in certain crofts and tenements in the town of Dornoch, as the charter of Alexander Murray more at length bore, and also in two crofts formerly belonging to Paul Burges, all in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Inverness, and held in chief of the bishop of Cathanes, and that Sir Thomas was the lawful heir of Alexander and of lawful age.⁴ On 7 July Sir Thomas was seised in the same.⁵ In 1515 the same Sir Thomas Murray, then precentor of the cathedral church, and the heir of his deceased father who was a burges of Dornoch, in a court held at the market cross by Andrew bishop of Cathanes, resigned all his hereditary lands, to be named in a charter afterwards to be made, reserving the liferent — and the bishop immediately went to a tenement of those lands lying near the market cross, and gave seisin of them to John Murray the brother german of Sir Thomas, in whose favour they were resigned.⁶

In 1524, on the mandate of John Ostelar, seisin was given to Say Lesly in a tenement in Dornoch between the king's common road and the burn, and witnessed by Rodric M'Ane Duf, William M'Ayne Oyr, John Murray, and Farchard M'Talyour, burgesses and neighbours of Dornoch, and by John Awloch mair.⁷

In 1545 John Murray of Cambussave, William Murray of Spanzedaill, John Poilsone of Creichemoir, Alexander Murray of Begos, Sir Robert Makraith vicar of Kilmalie, Farquhard M'Intailyour, Thomas Kenyeochsone, Thomas Murray, Walter Murray, John Tailyour, Alexander M'Culloch, William M'Ane Moir, Alexander Gar, Murquhard Murray, Walter Lesley, John Awloche, and Donald M'David Blair, fellow-burgesses and fellow-neighbours of the burgh of Dornoch, in name of the community granted to their fellow-burgess Thomas Mowete a waste piece of land of their commonty lying within the king's high way leading to the Innoche on the east, the Blechinghill on the south, the common ford of the burn running before and through the burgh on the north, and the said burn wholly on the west, paying yearly to the bailies of Dornoch the sum of 4d. Scots in the name of burgh ferme.⁸ In 1567 Mariot Mowat the daughter and heiress of the deceased Thomas Mowate was seised in the same piece of ground.⁹

In 1557, as we have seen, Robert bishop of Cathanes granted his tofts, crofts, acres, and tenements of the city of Dornoch to John earl of Sutherland, and in 1564 admitted the earl's

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*⁴ *Ibid.* Witnessed by John M Brady sergent of the⁵ *Ibid.*⁶ *Ibid.*⁷ *Ibid.*⁸ *Ibid.*⁹ *Ibid.*

burgh.

son Alexander as hereditary tenant of the same.¹ In 1601 the crofts and tenements within the city of Dornoch, the 'assyis aill and thoil' of that city, and the superiority of the same, formerly belonging to the bishop, were included in a new grant of the earldom of Sutherland by King James VI. to Earl John.²

In 1562 Robert Duf *alias* M'Donald M'David burgess of Dornoch for a certain sum of money sold to Alexander Murray or Angussonne also a burgess a house in Dornoch, namely, the Kill, measuring in length 56 feet and in breadth 22 feet, as appeared, lying in his tenement at the foot of the bridge, and having his garden on the south, the common road on the north, the water of Dornoch on the west, and the said garden on the east, with the house built upon the same, to be held in burgage at the usual rate, with power to repair and roof the same, and especially on the south side next his garden, to the extent of three feet when required.³

In 1568 Alexander Murray of Balleknok bailie of Dornoch gave seisin to John Murray the son and heir of the deceased John M'Donald M'Murquhe in a tenement or house lying within that city between the cemetery of Saint Findbar of Dornoch on the west, the burn or water of Dornoch on the east, the common road on the south, and the tenement of Master Thomas Braydy on the north.⁴

In 1568 a charter by Thomas Murray burgess of Dornoch, granting to his son John crofts and other subjects round the city, names the croft of Sir Hugh Kennedy knight, Croft Anna-hill, Croft Niell, Croft Mowden, the hill called Knoknaheglis, and Doynefad.⁵ In 1618 John Murray of Abirscoers granted in heritage to Walter Murray the son of the deceased John Murray in Spainzedail, and to Margaret Bayne his wife, the town and lands of Ballone otherwise called Fynniblair, the lands called Croftowile, Doanefad, and Loquharie, the lands of Croftlarie and Bellerofit, the lands of Doanefad and Barnesegen, the lands called the Tolme (or Colme) with the tail of the same, the lands of Doanochouina, and his tenements and dwellings in Dornoch, with the garden and other pertinents belonging to him in heritage, and all other tenements, houses, and buildings erected or to be erected thereon, all lying within the immunity of Dornoch, earldom of Sutherland, and regality of the same.⁶ In 1633 (6 November), on a mandate of King Charles I., John earl of Sutherland granted in heritage to George Ros portioner of Pittearie, the croft called Croftmauld lying on the south side of the burgh of Dornoch, with the tenement, barn, and garden in the upper part of the same, between the Bletchinghill of the burgh on the east, the croft of Thomas Ratter on the west, the lands of John Chisholme on the south, and the common road on the north — also the croft called Croftowlay with the tenement and garden in the upper part of the same, lying on the south of the burgh between the croft called Croftmauld on the east, the Delwings on the south, the croft called Gunneris Croft on the west, and the common road on the north — also the croft called Gunneris Croft or the croft of the deceased Donald Tailyour, lying on the south side of

¹ Sutherland Charters. See above, pp. 610, 611, 613.

² *Ibid.* See GOLSPIE *post*.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.* Witnessed by William Clerk 'sutor,' Ro-

bert M'Donald M'David, and Walter Murray sergeant (*clericus*) of Dornoch. ⁵ Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁶ Sutherland Charters. The immunity here named is probably the 'girth,' noticed above, pp. 607, 608.

the burgh between the croft called the croft of Thomas Ratter then belonging to Sir Alexander Gordoun on the east, the croft called the Delvingis sometime belonging to the heirs of the said deceased John Chisholme on the south, the croft called Croftphail then belonging to Sir John Gordoun baronet on the west, and the common road on the north — and the croft called the Delvingis with its pertinents, lying on the south side of the burgh between the crofts called Croftmauld, Croftowlay, and Gunneris Croft on the north, the common road on the east, the common pasture or seashore on the south, and the said croft called Croftphail on the west — all lying in the earldom and sheriffdom of Sutherland, and all formerly belonging to the deceased Robert Monro commissary of Cathanes, and on 22 November last apprised from his maternal cousin Robert Sutherland (who had been lawfully summoned to show himself heir to George Ros) by a decree of the Lords of Council in favour of George for the sum of 1885 marks Scots and 92 marks as sheriff's fee — the grantee paying yearly 20s. Scots, and Robert Sutherland to have regress to the above on payment of the sum for which they were apprised, saving the right of the earl and his heirs.¹ In 1659 Robert Gray of Arbo granted in heritage to George M'Culloch the croft of land called Croftphail or Croftmore extending to 5 bolls 2 firlots of bear, lying on the south side of Dornoch between the land called the Chantoures Croft on the west, the land called Guners Croft on the east, the tenement of land, the barn, and yard of John Polson sometime heritor of the said croft on the north, and the lands called the Delveingis on the south, together with the said dwelling, house, barn, and yard, being for the time ruinous and waste, all lying in the burgh of Dornoch and in the earldom and sheriffdom of Southerland.²

In 1573 Alexander M^cWilliam M^cAne Moir was seised in certain crofts at Dornoch bounded by the hill called Knoklot.³

In 1574 Alexander earl of Sutherland, by a deed dated at Edinburgh 7 August, promised to pay to Luke Wilson burghess of Edinburgh and his wife Katherine Vddart, and to their heirs, executors, or assignees, the sum of £1000 Scots within the burgh of Edinburgh by Whitsunday 1575, and acknowledged receipt of 500 marks from Luke for 'outredding' of his affairs; in return for which the earl engaged to infest Luke and his wife and heirs in a yearly revenue of 50 marks Scots from his lands called the sixpenny lands of Innerbo (or Indbo) in the earldom of Suderland and sheriffdom of Imernes, under reversion on payment of the said sum of 500 marks with all dues in the parish church of Edinburgh, giving as his sureties Robert Abireromey and Clement Tor burgesses of Edinburgh; and Luke Wilson thereupon discharged the earl, as the son and heir of the deceased John earl of Suderland and the deceased Dame Elenour Stevart countess of Arroll and Suderland, of all debts due by them to Luke.⁴ In 1592 John Gordoun in Clyntredlen granted to Alexander earl of Sutherland reversion to a yearly revenue of 50 marks to be paid at Whitsunday and Martinmas, sold to him by the earl, on payment of 500 marks Scots in one day within the cathedral church of Dornoch.⁵

¹ Sutherland Charters. ² *Ibid.* ³ Protocol Book of William Gray. ⁴ Sutherland Charters. ⁵ *Ibid.*

In 1575 Alexander Kenate burgess of Banff, as the procurator of Catharine Reid the wife of Master Alexander Dunbar dean of Moray, and of Thomas Dunbar their lawful son, on a mandate of Alexander earl of Sutherland took seisin of a house in Dornoch called 'the vicar of Kilmaleis chalmers.'¹ In 1630 Angus Angussone burgess of Dornoch granted in liferent to Jannet Kinros his future wife his dwelling-house on the north side of the burgh of Dornoch and on the west side of his tenement formerly belonging to Sir Robert M'Craith vicar of Culmalie on the north side of the cemetery of Saint Fimber, with that part of his garden and the outer house of the same lineally joined from south to north, lying between the king's highway on the south, his tenement of laud sometime belonging to the deceased Alexander M'Craithe of Inbo on which the new stone foundation called the Castle was built on the west, the common road on the north, and the rest of his tenement and garden with the buildings erected within the said bounds as far as the tenement of the deceased Thomas Wyre on the east—also his said tenement lying on the north side of the burgh sometime belonging to Robert M'Craith vicar of Culmalie, with the garden, kiln, houses, and buildings on the same, as they lay in length and breadth between the tenement of the said deceased Thomas Wyre on the east; his said tenement formerly belonging to the said deceased Alexander M'Craithe of Inbo and James M'Raith his son, on which the said new stone foundation called the Castle was built, with the garden of the same, on the west; and the king's highway or vennel of the said burgh on the south and north—in the diocese of Cathanes and sheriffdom of Sutherland—the grantee paying to John earl of Sutherland at Whitsunday, if asked, in name of feuferme, 12d. Scots for the house with part of the garden and outer house of the same, and 3s. 4d. Scots for the tenements with garden, kiln, and other buildings.²

In 1576 Alexander Murray of Ballinknok conveyed to his son Angus his new 'bwithie' with a small 'bwithie,' house, and stable, in the city of Dornoch.³

In 1603 (22 August) Barbara Matheson, the only daughter and heiress of the deceased Robert Matheson sadler and burgess of Dundie, with the consent of her husband Andro Ramsay tailor and burgess of the same, appointed Donald Makphail citizen of Dornoch her procurator to obtain for her by precept of *clare constat* from [George] Glaidstanis bishop of Kaitneis infestment in a tenement of land lying in the town of Dorno 'betwix the commoun gait of the said toune at the north, the kirkyard of Dorno at the east, and the commoun kingis gait at the west and south partis,' and to resign the same in favour of William Sanderson bailie of Dornoch and his heirs in terms of a contract between the said William and herself and husband.⁴ On 22 November an inquest was held in the tollbooth of the burgh of Dornoch by the following burgesses, namely, Donald Makphail, Richard Murray, Alexander M'Kraith, William Clunes, Alexander Clark, Alexander Murray, Thomas Veir, Thomas Ratter, George Dickson, Thomas Fiddes, William Murray M'Kane M'Kwatt, Thomas Murray Angussone, and John Murray M'Kwatt, who declared that the deceased Robert Mathesone sadler of the said burgh, the father of Barbara Mathesone, died last vest and seised in the dwelling (*mansio*) commonly called the Bischopis Lichting Place with the houses and buildings erected on the same, lying on the west side of the

¹ Protocol Book of William Gray.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

burgh between the common roads on the south, west, and north, and the cemetery of the church of Saint Gilbert on the east, and that she was his lawful heir and of lawful age.¹ In 1606 Master Alexander Forbes bishop of Cathanes, for the good service done by William Sandesone citizen of Dornoch, granted to him in heritage the Bischopis Lichting Place for the yearly payment of 3s. 4d. Scots.²

In 1627 Alexander Murray, the lawful son of the deceased John Murray in Dornoch, was served heir to his uncle William Murray in a tenement of land with a garden lying on the east side of Dornoch in the sheriffdom of Innernes, of the extent of one penny.³

In 1660, on a precept by John earl of Sutherland, Alexander Gordoun burgess of Dornoch and his heirs were seised in a tenement of land and garden adjacent, lying within the Castleclos of Dornoch.⁴ In 1669, by a contract made at Dornoch on 14 July between Robert Mansone burgess, with the consent of his wife Anne Papley, and George M'Culloch in Aehindeane late baillie of Dornoch, Robert and his wife acknowledged receipt of £241 Scots from George M'Culloch, and as security for the same sold to him and to his heirs 'that tenement of land and yaird in Dornoch contigue lyand on the south syde therof, having the tenement of land sum tyme pertening to Farquhair M'Intailyeour at the south, the commone casey and vennalls of the said burgh at the east and north pairtis, and the Castleyaird, Castleclosse, and tenement therein at the west pairtis,' lying in the sheriffdom of Sutherland, under reversion on payment of the said £241 Scots, and for the yearly payment of £20 Scots.⁵

From the above notices and other sources it appears that the city or burgh of Dornoch was formerly of much larger extent than at present.⁶ The burgh cross, apparently of some antiquity, though broken, has been repaired, and still occupies its old site on the north of the cemetery of Saint Gilbert.⁷ Beside it stood the townhouse or prison, mentioned by Pennant in 1769, and taken down in 1813.⁸ Fairs were formerly held in the churchyard, which was unenclosed, and through which in the end of the last century the public road passed.⁹ The burn so often noticed in the charters of burgh property intersects the town from north to south, and immediately to the east of the churchyard was crossed by the bridge (also mentioned in charters, but now superseded by another), and at other three points by stepping stones corresponding to the roads or lanes.¹⁰ Of the sites of the canons' houses, all or most of which seem to have been extant in 1769, only two are now remembered, the house of the canon of Clyne (the dean) at the east end of the town, and the house of the canon of Criech (the chanter) on the south-east, now the site of the Caledonian Bank.¹¹ Some of the names of the canons' crofts or fields, such as Auchintreasurich and Auchinchanter, still survive.¹²

At the arrangement between William earl of Sutherland and Bishop Arehebold in 1275, as we have seen, the castle of Schythebolle (Skibo) and six davachs of land adjacent to it were

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Retours.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Sketch and notes by R. S. Taylor Esquire. Notes

taken on the spot 1854.

⁷ New Stat. Acc. Notes on spot 1854.

² Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁸ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 361. Sketch by R. S. Taylor Esquire. Notes taken on spot 1854.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc. Note by R. S. Taylor Esquire.

¹⁰ Sketch and notes by R. S. Taylor Esquire. Notes on spot 1854.

¹¹ Ibid. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 188.

¹² New Stat. Acc. Notes on spot 1854.

ceded to the bishop.¹ The castle was thenceforth a principal residence of the bishops of Caithness, but we hear no more of it till about the year 1544, when it was taken by Macky of Strathnaver and afterwards retaken by Captain James Cullen.² Skeboecastell with the castle (that is apparently the castle and the six davachs around it) appears, as we have seen, in grants by the bishop dated 1560, 1564, and 1577, and in the new grant of the earldom of Sutherland in 1601.³ In 1650 the marquis of Montrose is said to have been confined for two days in the castle of Skibo after his capture in Assint.⁴ In 1769 the castle was modernised and habitable, but was subsequently taken down.⁵

The castle of Skelbole (anciently Scelbol, Skelbotil, or Skellebole, and now Skelbo) was, as we have seen, granted to Gilbert Mudy by his brother Bishop William in 1455, and confirmed by King James III. in 1478.⁶ In 1494 (1 July) the Lords of Council decided that John earl of Sutherland and his accomplices had done wrong in taking and withholding the castle and place of Skelbo and also two children of John of Murray, and ordained that he should deliver the castle to Thomas Kynnard of that ilk to be held by him according to his charter and seisin which he had produced before the Lords, that he should immediately set the children at liberty, and should pay to Thomas Kynnard 100 marks Scots for his 'dampnag and scathis' as proved in court.⁷ As to other goods contained in the summons the Lords continued the case till 8 October following, ordaining that the witnesses should be dismissed and new witnesses summoned.⁸ In the same year (15 December) William Keth appeared before the Lords Auditors as procurator for Marjory Mowait the widow of the deceased John of Kynnard, demanding redress for the injury done her by Thomas of Kynnard in 'falsing' the charters and letters made to her of the castell and place of Skelbo.⁹ Marjory Mowait at the same time sued Alexander Murray, John of Murray his son, and Thomas Kynnard for wrongously withholding from her the castle and place of Skelbow and occupying and labouring the demesne lands of the same for that year, and for withholding the dues.¹⁰ Thomas Kynnard alleged that the charter and seisin of conjunct infeftment of the said castle and lands made to John of Kynnard and Marjory by the deceased Alane Kynnard of that ilk, dated 15 January 1486 (1487) in presence of Master Walter Kynnard, Archibald Brothy, Michell Murray, Huchon Monroo, Adam Brothy, William Murray, and Alexander Brothy, were false and sealed after Alane's decease.¹¹ The Lords Auditors therefore assigned to Thomas Kynnard the 13th day of March following to 'fals' the said charters and seisin civilly by the witnesses contained in the same infeftment; and, as some of those witnesses were alleged to be unwell and unable for a journey, they ordained with the consent of the parties that Sir John Amisfeld and one called Auchinlek public notaries in Dornoch should take the depositions of the sick witnesses and forward them under their seals by the day appointed.¹² In 1518

¹ See above, p. 603.

² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 361. New Stat. Acc. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 111, 112. See above, p. 609.

³ See above, pp. 613, 614, 636.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 555. New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 361. New Stat. Acc.

⁶ See above, p. 607.

⁷ Acta Dom. Conc., p. 348.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Acta Dom. And., p. 203.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 204.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

Andrew Kynnard of that ilk took seisin of the lands and castle of Skelbo at the top of the stair ascending to the tower of the castle.¹ In 1525 John Kynnard the son of the deceased Andrew took seisin of the same castle and lands in the hall of the castle.² In 1529, as we have seen, when John Kynnard sold the lands and castle to William Suthirland of Duffus, his bailie John Murray of Campbussay received as evidence of the seisin a black ox with grey horns.³ In 1545 Master John Sutherland appears as captain of Skelbo.⁴ In grants or confirmations of the barony, dated in 1555, 1562, 1563, and 1566, the castle was included, and in some cases appointed the chief messuage of the barony.⁵ In 1564 a transaction between Alexander Suthirland of Duffus, his son James, and James's foster father Angus Suthirland Hectorstone, was done in Alexander Suthirland's 'chalmer within the castell of Skelbo.'⁶ In 1616 William Sutherland of Duffus was served heir to his father William in the demesne lands, tower, and fortalice of Skelbo.⁷ The castle, situated on Loch Fleet near the Little Ferry, is now a mere ruin, but still exhibits traces of its former size and strength.⁸

In some of the above notices appears the bishop's castle or palace of Dornoch.⁹ In 1570 it was held for some time together with the steeple of the cathedral by the Murrays against the Master of Caithness, after the latter had burned the cathedral and the town.¹⁰ Part of it still remains on the south side of the square or place in the middle of which the cathedral stands.¹¹ Till the beginning of the present century it was surrounded by a court and wall, in the inside of which were vaults or booths used as shops or dwellinghouses.¹² The court and a lane either on the east or on the west side of the wall were probably the Castleyaird and Castleelos noticed in the titles of certain tenements.¹³ The new foundation called the Castle appears to have stood on a different site.¹⁴ The use and even the name of the Bishop's Lighthouse Place are now locally unknown.¹⁵

Pennant in 1769 mentions Embo, an old building, the seat of the knights of Embo.¹⁶

'A litle by east the toun of Dornogh their is a monument in forme and structure lyk a croce, called Craske-Worwarre, that is, the thaine or erle his croce. Ther is another besyd Embo about a mile from Dornoch, called Rie-Crosse, that is the king's crosse, in the which place one of the kings or commanders of Denmark was slain and buried.'¹⁷

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.* See p. 630.

³ Regist. Moraviense, p. 402.

⁴ Sutherland Charters. See pp. 631-634.

⁵ Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁶ Retours. See p. 634.

⁷ Notes taken in 1854.

⁹ See pp. 611, 614, 615.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 156.

¹¹ Notes taken in 1854.

¹² Sketch and notes by R. S. Taylor Esquire.

¹³ See p. 645. ¹⁴ See p. 644. ¹⁵ See pp. 644, 645.

¹⁶ *Tour*, vol. iii. p. 361.

¹⁷ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 7. The cross at Embo, which no longer exists, was traditionally ascribed to the 13th century, and said to commemorate a battle between William earl of Sutherland and the Danes, in which the *king* of the Danes was slain. The cross or obelisk near Dornoch, evidently of a much later date, bears on each side a shield with three stars, and is still called the Thane's Cross, but is frequently confounded with that which stood at Embo. It is so confounded by Pennant, vol. iii. pp. 188, 361.

GOLSPIE.

Culmalin¹—Culmaly²—Kilmale³—Kilmaly⁴—Kilmalie⁵—Kylmalie⁶—
Culmale⁷—Kilmalze⁸—Culmalze⁹—Kilmailze¹⁰—Kilmallie¹¹—Col-
malie¹²—Culmalie¹³—Golspie.¹⁴ (Map, No. 2.)

THIS parish, separated from Dornoch by Loch Fleet and its outlet the Little Ferry, extends in a north east direction about 8 miles along the Dornoch Firth, and forms an oblong generally equal in breadth to the length of Loch Fleet. The upper part is hilly with a few small lakes, and the lower comparatively level and arable, including the links, a large tract composed of a series of ancient seabeaches with intervening spaces, at one time overblown with sand, which has since to a great extent been covered with mould, greensward, heath, and other vegetation. The wooded glen of Dunrobin with its cascade on the burn of Golspie forms a scene of great beauty.

In 1471 a deed of inquest made in the head court of John earl of Sutherland and in his presence was sealed for some of the parties with the seal of Sir Alexander R (probably Rattir) vicar of Culmalin.¹⁵ In 1512 a transaction done at the castle of Dunrobyn was witnessed by Master Malcolm Rathar vicar of Culmaly.¹⁶ In 1515 Master Malcolm appears to have resigned the vicarage of Culmaly, and to have been appointed vicar of Latheroun.¹⁷ Sir Robert M'Raith, probably appointed his successor in the same year, appears as vicar of Culmaly in 1524 and 1529.¹⁸ In 1532 Master Alexander Rattar is styled vicar of Kilmale.¹⁹ In 1536 Master Robert M'Raith (evidently the same as Sir Robert) was vicar.²⁰ In 1545 the same Sir Robert appears as vicar, and Alexander Rattar as parish clerk.²¹ In 1546 (29 April) a charter is witnessed by the same Sir Robert as vicar, by Sir Robert Fern enrate, and by Alexander Rattar parish clerk.²² In the same year (13 October) a seisin of the earldom is witnessed by one surnamed Fern, and styled either pensionary or penitentiary of Culmale.²³

¹ A. D. 1471. Fors Charters.

² A. D. 1512. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1515. Ibid. A. D. 1524. Ibid. A. D. 1529. Ibid. A. D. 1545. Ibid. A. D. 1552. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 3.

³ A. D. 1532. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 67. A. D. 1549. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1559. Ibid.

⁴ A. D. 1536. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1546. Ibid. A. D. 1549. Ibid. A. D. 1558. Ibid. A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptions.

⁵ A. D. 1545. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1551. Ibid.

⁶ A. D. 1546. Ibid.

⁷ A. D. 1546. Ibid.

⁸ A. D. 1565. Ibid.

⁹ Circa A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers.

¹⁰ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

¹¹ A. D. 1578. Sutherland Charters.

¹² A. D. 1580. Ibid.

¹³ A. D. 1630. Ibid.

¹⁴ A. D. 1662. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 390.

¹⁵ Fors Charters. Richard Fossard parson of Kilmaly, who in 1296 swore fealty to King Edward of England, may have been parson of this parish. See KILMALIE, p. 180.

¹⁶ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid. ¹⁸ Ibid. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 67. This notice is erroneously applied to the parish of Kilmalie in the diocese of Argyre. See p. 180.

²⁰ Sutherland Charters.

²¹ Ibid. Seisin of the lands of Auchinlong is witnessed by Alexander Rattar parish clerk, and by Thomas Gray, William Makynman, and Thomas Makewin, laymen. ²² Ibid. ²³ Ibid.

In the same year (10 December) Sir Robert Ferne again appears as curate of Kilmalie.¹ Sir Robert M'Raith again appears as vicar in 1549, 1551, 1552, 1558, 1559, and 1565.² In the last year (8 August) Henric and Marie king and queen of Scots granted for life to their daily servitor James Daidisoun Kintyre Pursevant the vicarage of Kilmalze, with the manse, glebe, and kirkland, vacant by the decease of Sir Robert Makeraith.³ In 1569 Sir Robert Ferne (apparently the curate of 1546) was exhorter at Culmalze, and in 1574, 1577, and 1578 he was reader.⁴ In 1578 James Daidisoun vicar of Kilmaillie, with the consent of the bishop and chapter, leased to John master of Sutherland and his heirs for 19 years from Alhallowmes 1579 the vicarage of Kilmaillie, with the fruits, rents, teinds, teindfish, wool, lamb, butter, cheese, teindstirk, staig, and other emoluments — ‘corps presentis, vmaist claythis, Pasche-fynis, and oblationis, always according to the ordonr taikin heiranent exceptit’ — reserving also the glebe and manse to the readers; the lessee paying yearly £10 Scots at Alhallowmes and Peax, namely, £6, 13s. 4d. as two-thirds to the vicar, and £3, 6s. 8d. as one-third to Sir Robert Ferne reader at the kirk of Kilmaillie or any other reader there.⁵ In 1581 (4 February) Robert earl of Marche, commendator of the priory of Saint Andrews, and bishop of Cathnes, with the consent of his dean and chapter, for the sum of £2000 Scots paid to him by Alexander earl of Sutherland, leased for life to the earl, to his lady Dame Jean Gordoun, and to their son and apparent heir John master of Sutherland, and after their decease for 19 years to the master's heirs and assignees, the teindsheaves of the parishes of Loth and Colmalie, the latter including those of Wppet, Innerboll, Mellak, Claysyid, Dunrobin, the Glen of Dunrobin, Allertoun, Bakeis, Golspitour, Golspimoir, Golspikirktoone, Ruiffis, Drummoy, Colmalimoir, Colmaliecraytgoun, Eister Aberscoors, and Westir Aberscoors, with entry at Lambes 1581, the lessee paying yearly 120 marks Scots.⁶ In 1662, on a petition by Lord Strathnaver the son of the earl of Sutherland, and the report of their commission, the parliament found that during the vacancy of the church of Golspie (1649-1653) the stipend had been applied by the presbytery to pious uses.⁷

The church (probably dedicated to a saint whose name is corrupted to Carden) stood at Kilmaly, corruptly Culmalie, and now known as Kirktown, where its cemetery, enclosed, but disused and overgrown with weeds, and the remainder of its north wall, may still be seen.⁸ The wall is 81 feet long, about 7½ feet high, and 3½ feet thick.⁹ The eastern portion, 26½ feet long, seems a later but very old addition, and has within 12½ feet of its eastern termination a semicircular arched recess in length 7 feet.¹⁰ In the other and older part of the wall is a slab of hewn stone, with an inscription bearing that the dilapidated cemetery contains the bodies of many of the earls of Sutherland, a modern fancy which has no foundation in fact.¹¹ In 1619 the place of worship was changed to the village of Golspie, two miles eastward from Kilmaly,

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 3. Book of Assumptions. The notice from the Reg. Sec. Sig. is erroneously given under Kilmalie. See p. 180.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 390.

⁸ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 79. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Notes on spot 1854.

⁹ Measurement taken in 1854.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Notes taken on spot 1854. See Genealogy of the Earls *passim*.

and the site of the chapel of Saint Andrew mentioned below.¹ The present church, which is cruciform, is said to have been built in 1738, and to have had an aisle added in 1751.² Mr. Neale, writing in 1848, says, 'The church, which is cross, is on old foundations, but nothing ancient remains except the rood staircases.'³

In the year 1330, on the day following the feast of Saint Nicholas, Kenneth earl of Suthirland granted a charter to Reginald of Moray of Culbyn at the chapel of Saint Andrew of Goldespy.⁴ Between 1399 and 1408 Robert earl of Suthirland by a deed dated at the chapel of Saint Andrew granted to Henry of Suthirland the lands of Thurball, resigned there by Henry's father Nicholas of Suthirland lord of the castle of Duffhus.⁵ In 1448 John earl of Suthirland presented Sir Alexander of Ratir to the perpetual chaplainry of Saint Andrew the apostle of Golspi then vacant, and specially to the town of Drommoy, with the crofts and lands around the chapel and the croft upon the hill between the burns.⁶ In 1451 Robert of Suthirland, the son and heir of John of Suthirland of Fors, granted to the perpetual chaplain of 'Sant Andrewis chapell of Golspy' 40s. Scots yearly from the mails of the town of Drommoy (Drommoy), 'for to pray for me and the sawlys off my forbearis and successouris.'⁷ In 1509 the advowson of the chaplainry of Golspy was included in a retour of the earldom of Sutherland in favour of John Sutherland the son and heir of the deceased Earl John.⁸ In 1515 (31 August) Adam Gordoun earl of Suthirland presented Sir Robert M'Raith chaplain to the chaplainry of Saint Andrew of Golspy in the parish of Culmaly, vacant by the resignation of Master Malcolm Rattir.⁹ In the same year (18 September) Andrew bishop of Cathanes granted collation of the chaplainry to the procurator of Sir Robert M'Raith.¹⁰ About the year 1550, during the absence of earl John, John Southerland, the son of Alexander who, as will afterwards appear, laid claim to the earldom, came with a party to Golspickirktooun, intending to attack Alexander Gordoun the earl's brother, to whom he had committed the rule of the earldom, and who was then at worship in the chapel; but he, having learned their approach, went out to meet them, on which they dispersed.¹¹ In 1556 John earl of Suthirland, with the consent of his wife Elizabeth Stewart countess of Erole and Sudirland, granted to his faithful servitor Sir Richard Maddir priest the chaplainry of Saint Andrew with the lands and crofts of the same, when vacant by the consent of Sir Robert M'Rayth then chaplain or in whatever other way — committing to him the cure, government, and administration of the same — Sir Richard doing the funeral rites (*exequias*) and other services according to the foundation of the chaplainry.

¹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 9, 361. Neale's Ecclesiological Notes, p. 67. 'At this tyme also Sir Robert Gordoun interprysed the building and repairing of the parish churches of Southerland, being almost all ruinous to the ground, which in end he brought to passe, and began with Golspickirktooun. Sir Robert with consent of the bishop and of the parishioners did appoynt the same to be the parish church and the place of meeting for divyne service, which wes befor this tyme at Kilmaly Kirktooun, seing Golspie church is in the midst

of the parish and neir the house of Dunrobin.' Genealogy, p. 361.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Eccles. Notes, p. 67. Those staircases are now gone. Mr. Neale does not seem to have been aware that the 'old foundations' were those of a chapel, or that the parish church was at Kilmaly.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ Ibid. ⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid. ¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 132.

together with the service and worship (*servitio et divinis*) due and wont within the palace or fortalice of Dunrobin when possible besides the cure and service of the chaplainry according to the same foundation.¹ Sir Robert M'Crayth, who, as we have seen, was vicar of Kilmaly, appears to have held the chaplainry till his death in 1565.² In 1566, under the designation of the benefice of Saint Andrew called Golspiekirktoon, the advowson of the chaplainry was included in a new grant of the earldom of Sutherland made by Queen Mary to Earl John.³ In 1570 Richard Maddir chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint Andrew of Gospye, with the consent of the patron Alexander earl of Sutherland then a minor, of Barbara Sinelar countess of Sutherland his wife, and of the earl's curators Robert bishop of Cathanes and Alexander Sutherland of Duffous, for certain sums of money paid to him by Gilbert Mill and for other favours, granted to Gilbert in heritage his chaplainry of Golspe with its lands, fields, crofts, tofts, houses, and buildings, and with the yearly revenues of the town of Drommoy and of the boat of the port or ferry of Vnis, lying within Sutherland in the sheriffdom of Innernes, extending yearly in his rental to the sum of £10 Scots—the grantee paying yearly that sum with 16 pence in augmentation of the rental.⁴ In 1575 (16 February) Sir Richard renewed the grant of the chaplainry to Gilbert Milne, who on 23 February took seisin of the same.⁵ In 1583 (15 March) Gilbert Milne, fear of the town and lands of Golspykirktoon, with the yearly revenues of the town and lands of Drummoy extending to 40s., and the privilege of the ferryboat of Vnis, in fulfilment of a contract with Adam Gordoun of Culgour dated at Dornoch 3 March 1582 (1583), with the consent of Edward Kennety the son of John Kennetie burgess of Bamfe, chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint Andrew of Golspy, and with the consent of the same John the tutor of his son Edward, and of the patron Alexander earl of Sutherland, granted to Adam Gordoun and to his wife Cristina Murray the daughter of Hugh Murray of Aberseors, and to the heirs got between them, with remainder to Adam's heirs whomsoever, the town and lands of Golspykirktoon, with the annual rents of Drummoy extending to 40s. Scots, and the privilege of the ferryboat of the port of Vnis, with the rest of their pertinents, belonging to the chaplainry of Saint Andrew of Golspykirktoon in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernes, for a certain sum of money paid to him by Adam in his necessity—to be held of the chaplain and of the earl and of their successors for the yearly payment of £10 old ferme with 16d. in augmentation—seisin taken on the lands of Golspykirktoon to be sufficient for the whole.⁶ In the same year (18 April) Alexander earl of Sutherland confirmed the grant.⁷ In 1592 Adam Gordoun of Golspiekirktoon appears as a party to a contract with the same earl and John Murray of Auchloyeh.⁸ In 1617 his son Alexander, styled of Golspiekirktoone, witnesses a seisin of the earldom of Sutherland.⁹ In 1626 the same Adam (apparently), with the consent of his eldest son Alexander fear of Golspiekirktoon, and of his (apparently Alexander's) wife

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Book of Assumptions. Sutherland Charters.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid. The seisin is witnessed by William Makhenrik in Golspyekirk.

⁶ Ibid. The grant is signed by Gilbert Mylne, Edvart Kennayte cheplan of Golspy, and Alexander erll off Sutherland.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid. See DORNOCH, p. 640.

⁹ Ibid.

Margaret Gordoun, for the sum of 2500 marks Scots paid to him by Sir Robert Gordoun of that ilk baronet, tutor of Sutherland, sold to Sir Robert and his heirs the 'chaplane landis of the towne and landis of Golspiekirktown, with houss, biggingis, yairdis, toftis, croftis, annexis, connexis, dependencieis, partis, pendicles, and pertinentis thairof vsit and vont, togidder with the annuelrentis of the towne and landis of Drummoy extending to the sowme of fourtie schillingis monie yeirlie to be vplifit and tane furth of the saidis landis of Drummoy, with the privileged of the passage boit and point of Vnes, with all and sindrie thair pertinentis quhatsumevir pereneing to the chaplanrie of Sanct Andro of Golspiekirktown,' to be held of the superior.¹ Earl John who died in 1460, the lady of his son Earl John (the daughter of the Lord of the Isles) drowned at Vnes about the same date, her husband who died in 1508, and a son of the earl of Caithness poisoned by accident in 1567, were all buried at Golspiekirktown.² The monument of the countess, 'with a ston curioslie carved,' was extant in 1630.³

Between 1561 and 1566 the teindsheaves of the parish of Kilmaly were leased for the yearly payment of £105, 15s.⁴ About 1569 the exhorter at the church of Culmalze had as his stipend 50 marks 'fra the bischope.'⁵ In 1574 the reader had £16 and the kirklands, as part of which or in addition to it he had, as we have seen, in 1578 the third of the vicarage amounting to £3, 6s. 8d.⁶

Between 1561 and 1565 the chaplainry of Saint Andrew, as leased by Sir Robert M'Crayth vicar of Kilmaly, paid yearly £10, which, as we have seen, was the old valuation.⁷

The district anciently known as Sudrland (the south land of Catanes or Catenes, in which it was included) extended from the range called the Mound or Mounth (apparently the same as the more ancient Eisteinsdal or Drumnahallestane (Drumalestane, Drumhallesdell), and terminating at the south in the modern Hill of Ord) to the north bank of the river Oikel or Portnacoulter, known to the Norwegians as Ekkjalsbakka, and a small tributary stream named Alde-ne-Gealgigh (probably the Godgedlae of the Norse writers), thus excluding Assynt, Ederachylis, Durness, and Strathnaver or Farr. included in the modern earldom.⁸ These excluded districts however seem to have been from an early age sometimes included under the name Sudrland.⁹ Between the years 875 and 880 (apparently) Sigurd or Sward earl of Orkney, having formed an alliance with Thorstein the Red the son of Olaf the White king of Dublin, subdued Cathanes and Sudrland as far as Eekjalsbacka the boundary.¹⁰ Earl Sigurd was slain about the year 880 in a battle with Melbrigd a Scottish earl, and was buried at Eekjalsbacka.¹¹

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 75, 83, 147.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 75.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Register of Ministers.

⁶ Book of Assignations. Sutherland Charters. See p. 649.

⁷ Book of Assumptions. See p. 651.

⁸ See the following notices from Torfaeus and the Orkneyinga Saga; and also Innes's Critical Essay, App. No. 1; Miscellany of the Maitland Club, vol. iv. part 1; Reg. de Dunfermelyn, p. 14; Ford. Scot., lib. viii. c. 59; Buch. Hist., lib. i. cc. 30, 31; Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 1-18; Sutherland Charters; Pennant,

vol. iii. p. 350; Blaeu's Maps; Macpherson's Geographical Illustrations; and Worsaae's Danes.

⁹ *Ibid.* 'Sutherland, in Irish *Catav*, and *Caitness*, *Gualav*, were anciently called *Catenesia cis et ultra montem*, viz. Ord. In Irish *cad* is *altus*, high, and *gual* is *humilis*, low, plain. And so *Catav* (from *cad*, high, and *taobh* or *tav*, a side) is the high side of the Ord, and *Gualav* is the low side of it.' Shaw's Moray, p. 50.

¹⁰ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 4. *Antiquitates Celto-Scandiae*, p. 5. The latter authority places this event *circa* 895, and translates Ekkjalsbakka *montes Ochellenses*.

¹¹ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 4. Worsaae's Danes, p. 259.

Between 941 and 969 Liot, the son of Thorfinn Hausakiuf earl of Orkney, defeated his brother Skul and a Scottish army in the Dales of Catanes, and occupied the whole district, but, being afterwards attacked by another Scottish army under an earl named Magbrad (probably Malbrigid the brother of Finnleikr Jarl the Scot) in the Seidensian marshes a tract of Catanes (said to be the neighbourhood of Loch Shin in Sutherland), although victorious, he died in a few days of his wounds.¹ Between 969 and 995 his grandson Earl Sigurd the Gross, besides holding Catanes against Kenneth III. king of Scotland, is said to have ruled Moray, Ross, Sudrland, and Dale.² Being challenged by the Earl Finnleic (Finnleikr Jarl) to battle on a certain day at the Seidensian marsh, having received from his mother a charmed standard, and having restored to his subjects of the Orkneys their allodial lands, Earl Sigurd met and defeated Earl Finnleic after losing three standard-bearers.³ In 1014 Earl Sigurd was slain in battle in Ireland, and Thorfin, his son by a daughter of King Malcolm II., then only 5 years old, received from his grandfather Malcolm Katanes and Sudrland with the title of earl, and men to assist him in his rule.⁴ About the year 1034 Karl Hundason, styled by the Norse writers king of Scotland, demanded of Earl Thorfin that he should pay tribute for Katanes, and the earl, claiming Katanes as the gift of his grandfather, refused, on which war arose between them.⁵ King Karl created his sister's son Moddan earl of Katanes, with the intention of giving him the rule of that country, and Moddan having raised an army in Sudrland, Thorfin raised one in Katanes, and, assisted also by troops from Orkney, caused Moddan to retire, subdued Sudrland and Ros, and overran several other parts of Scotland.⁶ About the year 1036 Earl Thorfin frequently dwelt in Katanes at Godgedlae, where, says the Orkneyinga Saga, Scotland and England march.⁷ Earl Thorfin retained during life the whole of his dominions, namely, nine earldoms in Scotland, all the Hebrides, and a large territory in Ireland, and died apparently in 1064.⁸ The rule of Katanes and Sudrland appears to have been held successively by Paul the son of Thorfin, Haco the son of Paul, and Harald the son of Haco, the last of whom died in 1135.⁹

¹ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 9. Macpherson's Geog. Illust. See DINGWALL, p. 485.

² Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 10. Orkneyinga Saga, p. 7. Dale, or the Dales of Catanes, is usually applied to the district of Halkirk. The above notice seems to distinguish it from both Catanes and Sudrland. If the distinction is correct, Dale must apply to Assynt, Edderachylis, Durness, and Strathnaver, or some particular part of those districts.

³ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 10. This battle is probably the same as that of Creich, dated by Sir Robert Gordon in 1031, and fought between his imaginary thane Alane Soutberland and the Danes and Norwegians who had settled in Moray.

⁴ Orneyinga Saga, pp. 5, 27. Torfaeus, lib. i. cc. 10, 12.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 31. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 13. For an explanation of the name and story of Karl Hundason see the chapter of Torfaeus just cited, and the Irish version of Nennius published by the Irish Archaeological Society, notes, pp. lxxvii, lxxxiii.

⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 31. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 13. For the sequel of this war see CANNISEAY *post*.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 55. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 14. *Cum*, says Torfaeus, *cacteroquin in Catanesia Gaddgedlis Thorfinnus plerumque resideret, urbem aut praedii necio, loci certe nomen est, inque finibus Catanesiae quaerendum*. The place may probably have been Alde-Gealgigh near the Oikel (Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 8. Old Stat. Acc. See ASSYNT)—and the probability is strengthened by the fact that during the war above noticed Moddan led an army into Katanes through the Highlands (*per superiorem Scotiam*), when he may have crossed the Oikel near the same spot.

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 87. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 15. Buchanan, and after him Sir Robert Gordon, mention a thane of Sutherland (named Alane by Sir Robert) who was put to death by Macbeth between 1046 and 1057. Buch. Hist., lib. vii. c. 85. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 23.

⁹ Ork. Saga, p. 141. 147. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 19.

It seems to have been afterwards a subject of dispute between Earl Paul the brother of Harald and Earl Rognvald (afterwards sainted).¹ In 1137 Sveinn Asleifson, a turbulent leader of that period, went into Orkney, seized Earl Paul, sailed by the Breidafjord (the Moray Firth) to Eekialsbaka, and leaving there a ship with 20 men went with the rest of his followers to Maddad earl of Atjoklis (Athole) and his wife Margaret the sister of Earl Paul.² Earl Paul soon after died or was murdered, and in 1139 Harald the son of Earl Maddad (and thence styled Harald Maddadson), by the joint consent of Earl Rognvald, Sveinn Asleifson, William bishop of Orkney, and a bishop named John said to be from Atjoklis in Scotland, was admitted (when only 5 years old) as the colleague of Earl Rognvald—an arrangement which is said to have been afterwards confirmed at a meeting held in Katanes by the oaths of the nobles of Orkney and Scotland.³ In the same year Sudrland was overrun and laid waste by Sveinn the son of Asleif.⁴ The two earls seem to have ruled jointly but not always cordially till the death of Earl Rognvald in 1159, when Harald became sole earl.⁵ He was thenceforth styled earl of Catanes and Orkney, or earl of Orkney, Hetland, and Catanes.⁶ Between the years 1196 and 1202 he had war with King William the Lion, who at length marched into Katanes and encamped with a large army at Eisteinsdal the boundary between Katanes (proper) and Sudrland, on which the earl after consulting with the inhabitants made peace on condition that they should pay the king yearly a fourth of all their possessions and reimburse certain persons who had fled to the king to escape the earl's vengeance.⁷ Earl Harald died in 1206, and his sons David and John, who ruled jointly, both died (John by violence) in the year 1231.⁸

Between the years 1203 and 1214 Hugh Freskyn held the land or territory of Suthyrland of King William the Lion.⁹ He appears to have died about the year 1214, and before 1222 his son and heir William lord of Suthyrland held the same territory of the crown.¹⁰ Between 1222 and 1229 King Alexander II. in consequence of the murder of Adam bishop of Cathanes passed into Ros, Suthyrland, and Catanes 'to do justice.'¹¹ William lord of Suthyrland seems to have been for some time known both as Sir William of Moray and William of Suthyrland.¹² He appears to have been created earl by King Alexander II. about 1237, and was undoubtedly

¹ Ork. Saga, pp. 169-219. Torfaeus, lib. i. cc. 21-25.

² Ork. Saga, p. 219. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 25.

³ Ork. Saga, p. 221-231. Torfaeus, lib. i. cc. 25, 26.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 235. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 26.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 419. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 39.

⁶ Epist. Innocent. III., lib. i. no. 218. Lib. Eccles. de Scen, p. 37.

⁷ Ork. Saga, pp. 407-419. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 38. Ford. Scot., lib. viii. cc. 59, 62. For the history of this war see *CANNISBAY post*.

⁸ Chronica de Mailros, pp. 106, 142. Ork. Saga, pp. 419, 421. Torfaeus, lib. i. cc. 39, 40; lib. ii. There is no evidence whatever to show that Earl Harald was forfeited. By his submission to King William he retained the earldom, which was distinctly held also by his sons.

⁹ Sutherland Charters. Hugh was the son of Freskyn, a person of unknown origin, who in the reigns of

King David I., King Malcolm IV., and King William, had extensive possessions in Linlithgow, Moray, and perhaps in Sutherland. The land of Suthyrland held by Hugh was apparently that already described as the original territory which bore the name. See Nisbet's Heraldry, app. p. 183, and Dalrymple's Collections, pp. 422, 423. Chalmers (Caledonia, vol. i. pp. 604, 605) confounds Hugh Freskyn with his nephew Hugh the son of William Freskyn.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ Wyntoun, b. vii. c. 9. King Alexander is said to have given the earldom of North Caithness to Magnus the son of Gillibrud Earl of Angus, and to have taken from him the earldom of Sutherland. See Dalrymple's Collections, pref., p. lxxiii; Ork. Saga, appendix, p. 551; Lib. Ins. Miss., p. liii; and *CANNISBAY post*.

¹² Regist. Moraviense, pp. 26, 81, 89, 133.

the first earl of Sutherland.¹ Among the documents found in the king's treasury at Edinburgh in 1282 were two charters styled *Carta de Suthirland* and *Alia carta Suthirlandie*, both very probably referring to the erection of the earldom.² Earl William died in 1248 at the peace of King Alexander II., and was succeeded by William his son, then apparently a mere child.³ In the year 1263 among the items of royal revenue Sir Laurence le Grant sheriff of Innernes accounted for the sum of £20 as part of the king's silver (*finis*) of the earl of Sutherland.⁴ In 1269 a charter by William earl of Ros was witnessed by William earl of Suthirland.⁵ In 1275, as we have seen, by an arrangement between Earl William and Arehebold bishop of Cathanes the latter yielded to the earl the lands of Awelech, Promsy, Rutherhard, Haskesdale, Hachencosse, Thorebol, Kynalde, Largge, and Cutheldawach, and granted to him also a davach or half a markland of Owenes, with the right of presenting a chaplain to the altar of Saint James in the church of Durnach.⁶ Between that year and 1294 the same earl witnessed a grant of the lands of Tarradale in Ross by David of Innerlunan.⁷ About the year 1284 he witnessed a grant of the lands of Culnacloych and Ruthrelen in Strathbolgy, which were held of him by John of Moray the son of Sir Malcolm of Moray.⁸ In 1284 he was one of the nobles of Scotland who bound themselves to support the title of Margaret the daughter of King Alexander III. to the throne.⁹ In 1290 he joined in addressing a letter to King Edward I. in name of the community of Scotland, proposing marriage between Edward the son of that king and the Maid of Norway the grand-daughter of King Alexander III.¹⁰ In 1296 he swore fealty to King Edward.¹¹ In 1297 that king addressed a mandate to the earl, giving him special thanks because he had always and especially in those days conducted himself well and faithfully in Scotland; and enjoining him by his homage, faith, and love to King Edward and the peace of his kingdom, and by the full trust the king had in him—seeing that the king had committed the guardianship of Scotland to Brian the son of Alan (who in 1296 had sworn fealty along with him)—that he, continuing as he had in that part manfully and laudably begun from good to better, should persist in all things belonging to that guardianship with his horses and his arms and his whole power (*posse*), in order to repress the malice of the king's enemies in those parts as often as was necessary and he should be required by the said Brian.¹² The same earl is said to have fought in 1314 at Bannockburn on the side of King Robert Bruce.¹³ It is certain that in 1320 he signed the memorable letter of the Scottish barons to Pope John.¹⁴ He is said to have been with Bruce at the battle of Byland in 1322.¹⁵ He died in 1325, and was succeeded by his son Kenneth.¹⁶ In 1330 the latter, styling himself Kenneth earl of Suthyrland the son of the deceased William earl of Suthyrland, made an agreement with Reginald of Moray

¹ Regist. Morav., p. 133. Sutherland Charters. Hailes' Additional Sutherland Case.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 4 post pref.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 33. Sutherland Charters. Caledonia, vol. i. p. 606.

⁴ Compota Camerar., vol. i. pp. 21*, 31*.

⁵ Regist. Moraviense, p. 279.

⁶ Sutherland Charters. See Dornoch, p. 604.

⁷ Beaully Charters *apud* Macfarlane.

⁸ Regist. Moraviense, p. 462.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 82.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 85.

¹¹ Ragman Rolls, p. 119.

¹² Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 50.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 39.

¹⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 114.

¹⁵ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 42.

¹⁶ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 44. Sutherland Charters. Additional Sutherland Case.

the son and heir of the deceased Alan of Moray of Culbyn concerning Reginald's lands in Sutherland, and gave his daughter Eustachia in marriage to Reginald's son Gilbert of Moray.¹ Earl Kenneth was slain in 1333 at the battle of Halidon-hill, which was fought contrary to his advice.² He several times renewed the fight, exposing himself where the danger was greatest, 'untill,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'he loosed all hope of victorie; then, disdainig in any ease to incurr either the infamie or suspition of cowardice, he resolved not to overlive so great dishonor as to sie his countrie in servitude vnder the dominion of a stranger; thus, peremptorie hazarding all and therwith his lyff, he lossed the same in the midst of his enemies with the pryce of a number of ther deaths.'³

William earl of Sutherland, who succeeded his father Kenneth, took an active part in the public affairs of the period in which he lived.⁴ He is said to have been present with Sir Andrew Murray of Bothwell at the battle of Kilblane in 1335, was certainly a party in the incursion of the Scots into England in 1340 while King Edward III. besieged Tournay, and was in high favour with King David II., whose half-sister Margaret he married in 1344.⁵ In 1345 King David granted to the earl and his wife Margaret, and to the heirs of their body, the earldom of Sutherland in free regality.⁶ The same king subsequently granted to the earl various lands in the counties of Forfar, Kincardine, Aberdeen, and Inverness.⁷ They were both taken prisoners at the battle of Durham or Nevill's Cross in 1346, but the earl seems to have been soon after liberated.⁸ He appears to have taken no part in the negotiations for the ransom of King David in the years 1348 and 1349.⁹ In 1351 (28 June) Earl William with the earls of Marche, Marre, and Angus, or any two or three of them, had a safe conduct from King Edward III. (to last till 15 August), in order that they might go with 40 horsemen in company to the town of Newcastle on Tyne to treat with certain of the king's lieges of matters enjoined on them by the king.¹⁰ On 11 July King Edward empowered the bishop of Durham and others to prolong the term of safe conduct according to their discretion.¹¹ On 4 September William earl of Sutherland, the earls of Marche and Angus, the bishop of Saint Andrews, and William of Douglas, or any four, three, two, or one of them, had a safe conduct from the same king (to last till the fifteenth day after 2 February 1352) empowering them to go with 200 horsemen of whatever estate to David de Brus his prisoner, who was about to proceed to Scotland for certain

¹ Sutherland Charters. See *Dornoch*, p. 627.

² *Buch. Hist.*, lib. ix. c. 14. *Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland*, p. 45. *Hailes' Annals*, app. no. iv.

³ *Genealogy*, p. 46.

⁴ See the following notices.

⁵ *Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland*. *Hailes' Annals*. *Douglas's Peerage*. *Additional Sutherland Case*.

⁶ *Genealogy of the Earls*, pp. 49, 53. *Douglas's Peerage*. *Additional Sutherland Case*, p. 10. *Robertson's Index*, p. 32, no. 5. The charter containing this grant was extant in the last century, and was produced in the case of the Countess Elizabeth in 1770, but is not now in the charter chest at Dunrobin.

⁷ *Genealogy of the Earls*, pp. 53, 54. *Rob. Index*, p. 32, no. 13; p. 33, no. 49; p. 39, no. 42; p. 49, l. 26;

p. 63, no. 53; p. 65, no. 15; p. 66, no. 2; p. 81, no. 157; p. 89, no. 242.

⁸ *Genealogy of the Earls*, p. 50. *Douglas's Peerage*. *Hailes' Annals*. In the list of the prisoners given by *Hailes*, app. no. vi., appears William of Moray, probably a son of the earl of Sutherland. The earl was perhaps liberated privately, as some prisoners were. *Rymer's Foedera*, vol. v. pp. 532-537. *Rotuli Scotiae*, vol. i. pp. 677, 679. The same William of Moray appears in a list of the Scotch prisoners to be brought to the Tower of London, 8 December 1346. *Rot. Scot.*, vol. i. p. 678.

⁹ *Rotuli Scotiae*, vol. i. pp. 714, 717, 718, 721-4, 727.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 741.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 741, 742.

causes touching his freedom, certain hostages having been first delivered to the king of England, to the place at which the exchange of David de Brus for those hostages should be made, to remain there, and then to return home in the train of Brus.¹ John the son and heir of the earl of Sothirland was one of the hostages for King David, to whom on 5 September King Edward granted a safe conduct (to last till a fortnight after 2 February) to go to Berewye on Tweed if in his hands, otherwise to Newcastle on Tyne, with 100 horse, and there be exchanged for the king of Scots.² The hostages were ordered to be kept in the castles of York and Nottingham.³ Ascension Day (17 May) 1352 seems to have been at first fixed for the king's return to England, which was however delayed till the Quinzaine of Easter (22 or 23 May), on which day the hostages were brought to Berewie and released.⁴ In 1354 (18 June) the earl of Sotherland and others had a safe conduct from King Edward (to last till 22 July) to go to Newcastle upon Tyne to treat about the ransom of King David.⁵ In the same year (5 October) a treaty was concluded for a ransom of 90,000 marks sterling (to be paid in nine years at the rate of 10,000 marks yearly on 2 February or its Quinzaine), for the payment of which King David became bound to send to England twenty hostages, of whom one was the son and heir of the earl of Sotherland.⁶ On 17 October the hostages had a safe conduct from King Edward for their journey to England.⁷ The truce was broken early in 1355, and the treaty was consequently void.⁸ In 1356 negotiations for peace and for the ransom of the king were renewed, and in 1357 a new treaty was concluded.⁹ On 16 August 1357 William earl of Sutherland, Thomas earl of Anegos, and Thomas earl of Morref, had a safe conduct from King Edward (to last till the Quinzaine of Saint Michael, 13 or 14 October) that they might go to Berewie on Tweed with 60 horsemen and their grooms (*garcionibus*) to treat for the ransom of King David.¹⁰ On the same day the earls of Sutherland, Anegos, and Morref, and twenty sons of Scottish noblemen, had a safe conduct given them to go into England as hostages for King David's ransom — the safe conduct to last till the Quinzaine of Easter following.¹¹ In September of the same year the Scottish parliament agreed to ransom the king for 100,000 marks sterling, to be paid at the rate of 10,000 yearly on 24 June; and the earl of Sutherland was one of those who became surety for the payment, and John his son and heir was again to be given as a hostage.¹² On 3 October the treaty was concluded by the commissioners of both nations at Berewie on Tweed.¹³ John, the son and heir of the earl of Sothirland, was sent to London in company with his father to abide in the custody of the chancellor.¹⁴ On 25 October 1357 John of Foderygham, a familiar of the earl of Sutherland (then apparently in England), had a letter of safe conduct from King Edward till 24 July 1358.¹⁵ In 1358 (25 October) Earl William, before

¹ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 743.² *Ibid.*, p. 744.³ *Ibid.*, p. 745.⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 748-750.⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 765, 766.⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 768.⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 774.⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 775, 776. Hailes' Annals.⁹ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. pp. 791, 799, 803, 806, 808, 809, 811-814. Hailes' Annals.¹⁰ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 809.¹¹ *Ibid.*¹² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. pp. 156-159. Rob. Index, pp. 107, 108, nn. 23, 25. Hailes' Annals.¹³ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. pp. 811-814. Rob. Index, p. 107, no. 19. Hailes' Annals.¹⁴ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 814. Rymer's Foedera, vol. vi. p. 35.¹⁵ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 815.

visiting Scotland on business of his own, took oath in the chamber of the bishop of Winchester (*Wyntonienensis*) in Suthwerk, in presence of the bishop, of Richard earl of Arundell, of Guido de Bryan, of Roger of Beauchamp, of Edward of Saint John, and others, by the hand of John of Cherleton the king's chamberlain, that he would return to England by 2 February 1359 at farthest.¹ On 26 October he received a safe conduct for the purpose.² His visit to Scotland was probably occasioned by the death of his wife Margaret, who appears to have died about that time.³ In 1359 (1 April) King Edward III. granted a safe conduct to Nicholas of Creghton, the familiar of William earl of Sutherland, and two horsemen his companions, sent into Scotland by the earl to expedite certain of his affairs—the safe conduct to last till 1 August.⁴ On 28 July John of Sutherland, Nicholas of Creghton, and Adam de la More (apparently the same parties), had from the same king a safe conduct for one year to go to England by sea or land.⁵ On 9 September the same king granted a safe conduct for one year to John of Croye clerk, a familiar of the earl of Sutherland, to go through his dominions into the parts beyond sea for expediting certain affairs of the earl at the court of Rome, and to return thence through England into the parts of Scotland.⁶ In 1360 (14 May) King Edward granted a safe conduct for one year to John of Sutherland and Nicholas of Creghton of Scotland to go into England with two servants and four horses to William earl of Sutherland, still abiding there as a hostage for King David.⁷ On the same day he granted a safe conduct (to last till Christmas) to Adam de la More and John de Seint Cler of Scotland to go to the earl with the same number of servants and horses.⁸ On 28 November he gave a safe conduct (to last till Christmas) to Thomas of Nesbyt the familiar of the same earl with three horsemen of any estate in his train to go into Scotland on the earl's business.⁹ In the same year Earl William was appointed 'executor-testamentar' to Thomas Fingask bishop of Catteynes.¹⁰ It is said that John the earl's son and heir (styled by Fordun his *only* son), one of the hostages for King David, died of the plague at Lincoln about 8 September 1361.¹¹ In the same year (28 November) King Edward granted a safe conduct (to last till 24 June 1362) to Robert of Catenesse the servant of the same earl to go to Scotland with two companions to expedite certain affairs of the earl.¹² In 1362 (23 January) the earl himself had a safe conduct from King Edward to go to Scotland on his own affairs in company with twelve horsemen, on condition that he should return to the city of London by 15 May at farthest.¹³ On 9 February King Edward granted a safe conduct (to last till 29 September) to John of Greneburn of Scotland to go into England to prosecute the affairs of the same earl.¹⁴ On 28 April the earl's servant Robert of Catenesse had a safe conduct into Scotland for the same purpose and till the same day.¹⁵ At the same time King Edward granted to

¹ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 830.² Ibid.³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 51. Douglas's Peerage.⁴ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 837.⁵ Ibid., p. 840.⁷ Ibid., p. 848.⁹ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 852.¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 52.¹¹ Ford. Scot., lib. xiv. c. 25. Hailes' Annals and Additional Sutherland Case. This statement rests solely on the authority of Fordun or his continuator Bower. Sir Robert Gordon makes John succeed his father in 1370. See post. *Lincoln* is an evident mistake for *London*.¹² Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 858.¹⁴ Ibid., p. 861.¹³ Ibid., p. 860.¹⁵ Ibid., p. 863.

the earl, who had returned to England and was then at the city of York, an extension of the term of his safe conduct till 1 August, on which day he should be bound to return to London.¹ On 30 April the king ordered Marmadue le Conestable his sheriff of York and Henry of Ingelsby canon of the church of Saint Peter of York to take the earl's oath to that effect.² On 8 November Robert of Catnes the earl's *vallētus* had a safe conduct to London in company with three horsemen till the following Whitsunday.³ On 10 December Nicholas Sutherland of Scotland (probably the earl's brother) had from the same king a safe conduct into England for one year.⁴ Some time before 20 September 1363 King Edward had again given the earl of Sutherland leave of absence on his affairs till 29 September in company with twelve horsemen; on 20 September he extended that leave till Whitsunday 1364; and on 21 September ordered Ralph de Nevill to take the earl's oath that he should return to London by the day appointed.⁵ On 6 December the king granted to the same earl liberty to pass to and from Scotland with his twelve familiars both horse and foot as often as he pleased during the space of one year.⁶ On the same day he granted the same liberty for the same term to Johanna countess of Sutherland with ten familiars both horse and foot.⁷ On 6 December 1364 the countess had the same liberty for another year.⁸ On 12 December King Edward extended the earl's leave of absence with the same following to the feast of Easter 1365, and from that to the same feast 1366.⁹ On the same day the earl's two *valletti* James of Stratton and Alexander Rameseye had from King Edward a safe conduct into Scotland with four horsemen in company for the space of one year.¹⁰ On 6 May 1366 the same king granted his passport into England for a year in favour of Richard Mufford esquire (*scutifer*) of the earl of Sutherland on the earl's affairs and in company with a single horseman.¹¹ On 11 May the earl's leave of absence was extended from the previous Easter to 29 September following.¹² On 16 October it was extended to 29 September 1367.¹³ On 28 January 1367 King Edward took under his protection and safe conduct for a year the person and property of William of Murrif the son of William earl of Sutherland, then abiding in England.¹⁴ On 20 March the same king took under his protection and safe conduct for a year William earl of Sutherland, who had lately resided in London as a hostage for King David, and who by King Edward's license had returned to the parts of Scotland to dwell there for a certain time, and was then for the same purpose about to return to London with his wife Johanna and twenty horsemen in their train; the earl's wife Johanna; their horsemen and harness; and their money, goods, and chattels of whatever sort.¹⁵ Among the accounts deferred by the Scottish parliament at their meeting at Seon in September 1367 till their meeting to be held in January 1368 was the sum of £15 in the hands of the earl of Sutherland to be accounted for of the retour of an assise of his earldom.¹⁶ Earl William seems to have been finally released about this time, and is said to have died at Dunrobin in 1370 at the faith and peace of King David II.¹⁷

¹ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 863. ² Ibid. ³ Ibid., p. 866.

⁴ Ibid., p. 867. Sutherland Charters.

⁵ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. i. p. 874.

⁶ Ibid., p. 878.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid., p. 902.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid., p. 906.

¹⁴ Ibid., p. 909.

¹⁵ Ibid., p. 911.

⁷ Ibid. Johanna was countess of Strathearn. See Regist. Morav., pref., p. xxxiv.

¹⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. pp. 168, 169.

⁸ Rot. Scot., vol. i. p. 889.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁷ Douglas's Peerage. Sutherland Charters (retour of 1630). Genealogy of the Earls, p. 54.

The next earl of whom we have any authentic notice was Robert (apparently the son of William), who was earl of Sutherland on 2 November 1389, when he witnessed a decree arbitral by the bishops of Moray and Ross between Alexander Stewart earl of Buchan and his wife Eufame countess of Ross, and was one of the sureties given by that earl for his fulfilment of the sentence of the bishops.¹ He was succeeded by Earl Nicholas, who was undoubtedly the grandson of Earl William, and whose death is placed in 1399.²

Robert apparently the son of Nicholas was earl on 22 January 1401, when he granted certain lands to his brother Kenneth.³ He is said to have fought at the battle of Homildon in 1402, and between that year and 1408 to have been a party in an incursion of the Scots into England.⁴ He died in 1442.⁵ In 1444 his son John earl of Sutherland granted a charter of the lands of Thurboll dated at Pomfret in England.⁶ In 1448, as we have seen, the same Earl John granted the chaplainry of Golspi to Sir Alexander of Rattir, and the deed was witnessed by his son Nicholas of Sutherland.⁷ In 1456 (22 February) the same earl resigned the earldom, which King James II. then granted to John of Sutherland his son and apparent heir according to a charter to be made.⁸ On 24 February accordingly the king granted the earldom in heritage to John of Sutherland for payment of the usual services, reserving the liferent to the earl, and to Margaret his wife her conjunct infestment in the two towns of Lothis, the lands of Cracok, Culnagoure, and Vüriglen, and her terce of the earldom for life, with the farther condition that, should the earl die before his son, the ward and relief should be the king's notwithstanding the above grant.⁹ This earl died in 1460, and was succeeded by his son John, who was infest in the earldom in 1456, and who appears

¹ *Registrum Moraviense*, p. 354. Sutherland Charters (retours of 1630 afterwards cited).

² Sutherland Charters (retours of 1630). Genealogy of the Earls, p. 59. We have three accounts of this part of the succession, all differing from the account given above. 1. Sir Robert Gordon affirms that Earl William was succeeded by his son John, who according to Fordun died in 1361 and was never earl, and that Earl Nicholas was the son of John. 2. Douglas in his Peerage follows Sir Robert Gordon in making John the immediate successor of William, and, giving John another son, the Robert of the *Registrum Moraviense*, makes this Robert die in 1389 and be succeeded by his brother Nicholas. 3. Lord Hailes, summarily rejecting both accounts, and founding on the notice of William of Murrif in 1367 and a notice of Kenneth the son of the deceased Earl William in 1408, creates William of Murrif his father's successor in the earldom, omits Robert and Nicholas, and makes another Robert (who succeeded Nicholas) the son of William of Murrif. The truth seems to lie in either of the following statements—1. That William earl of Sutherland, who died in 1370, had four sons; John his firstborn and for a time his only son, styled his son and heir, who died before his father; William of Murrif, styled the son of William earl of Sutherland, and probably a natural son; Robert, who was earl in 1389; and Kenneth, who was

alive in 1408—or 2. That he had only three sons, and that the Earl Robert of 1389 and Earl Nicholas his successor, were the sons of John the master who died in 1361. See Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 54-59; Douglas's Peerage; Additional Sutherland Case, pp. 10-12; Fors Charters; and Sutherland Charters (retours of 1630). Buchanan and after him Sir Robert Gordon name Earl William's son who died in England *Alexander*, and Sir Robert seems to have been totally ignorant of that earl's second marriage. The same authorities affirm that this imaginary Alexander was declared by King David II. to be heir to the crown, when that king repudiated Robert (also by Buchanan misnamed Alexander) Stewart his sister's son—a statement which seems to have no foundation in fact. See Buchanan, book iv. c. 37, and Genealogy of the Earls, p. 51.

³ Fors Charters. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 59.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 60, 61. Sir Robert Gordon says that this incursion extended to Pomfret Castle, where Nicolas Sutherland of Duffus resigned to the earl the lands of Thurboll. That resignation, however, was made at the chapel of Saint Andrew of Golspy. Sutherland Charters. See *post*.

⁵ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 70.

⁶ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCU, p. 628.

⁷ *Ibid.* See above, p. 650. ⁸ *Ibid.* ⁹ *Ibid.*

as earl in 1471 holding his head court (apparently at Dunrobin), and in 1472 as superior of the lands of Thureboll.¹ In 1488 Earl John is said to have been on his way to assist King James III. at the battle of Bannockburn or Sauchieburn, which was however fought before the earl arrived.² He again appears in record in 1494, and died in 1508 at the peace and faith of King James IV.³ In 1509 (4 May) King James IV. directed to his sheriff and bailies of Innernes a brief of inquest of the chapel royal regarding the earldom in favour of Elizabeth Sutherland the daughter of the deceased John earl of Sutherland.⁴ On 25 July Master Gilbert Hay the attorney of John Sutherland the son and heir of the deceased John earl of Sutherland, and Adam Gordoun of Obin with Elizabeth Sutherland his wife the daughter of the deceased earl, appeared in the sheriff court of Innernys held in the tolbooth of that burgh by Thomas Patirson and James Donaldson the deputies of Alexander earl of Huntlye and Lord Badzenach sheriff principal, and presented the king's brief, requesting execution of the same, and asserting that the deceased John earl of Sutherland died last vest and seised in the earldom, with the castle of Dunrobin, the tenants, tenandries, and services of the free tenants of the earldom, and the advowson of the chaplainries of Golspy, Helmsdale, and Saint James in the cathedral church of Cathenes, and that John Sutherland his son was his lawful and nearest heir.⁵ In the same court appeared Alexander Sutherland also the son of the deceased earl, asking instruments against the brief and petition of John Sutherland, asserting that he had a hereditary right in the earldom, and requesting that, as he was a minor of about 18 years, curators in the case should be given him.⁶ The deputies accordingly appointed as his curators Andrew bishop of Cathanes and commendator of Fern, William earl of Cathanes, John master of Athole, Sir William Spyne provost of Thane, and Sir Thomas Robertson rector of Assint.⁷ The curators having advised with Alexander Sutherland, and having held a friendly conference with Master Gilbert Hay, Adam Gordoun, and Elizabeth Sutherland, both parties at length agreed that Alexander Sutherland should for a certain composition renounce his right to the earldom in favour of John and Elizabeth Sutherland and their heirs, saving his own right of succession in case their heirs should fail.⁸ Accordingly Alexander with the consent of his curators immediately resigned his claim for a composition of 40 marklands, of which Adam Gordoun there in court gave him charter and seisin; and the deputies then proceeded to the service of the brief.⁹ In 1512 (24 December) Patrick Balze, the attorney of John Sutherland the son and heir of the deceased John earl of Sutherland, appeared before Duncan Riche *signifer* the king's sheriff of Innernis in that part, and produced a brief of the chapel royal dated 6 August; on which the sheriff went to the castle of Dunrabyne and gave seisin to the attorney in the earldom of Sutherland, the castle of Dunrabyne, the tenants, tenandries, and services of free tenants of the earldom, and the advowson of the chaplainries of Golspy, Helmsdale, and Saint James in the cathedral church of Cathenes.¹⁰ In 1514 (3 May) King James V. appointed William Lord Ruthven, John Lord Drummond, David Lyndesay

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 75. Fors Charters. Sutherland Charters.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 79, 83. Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

² Genealogy of the Earls, p. 79.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

master of Crawford, Sir William Scott of Balwery, Sir David Lyndesay of Edzell, William Gray of Lour, Alexander Rede of Straloch, John Ross, and Walter Ross, his sheriffs of Innernes in that part, to execute a brief or briefs of idiotry (*ydeotrie*) of his chapel upon John earl of Sutherland.¹ On 9 May John Gordon of Halheid appeared before Alexander Blair provost and sheriff of the burgh of Perth, and John Donyng and Robert Bonkill bailies, and presented a brief of the chapel royal addressed to them and dated 5 May, to the effect that the king, understanding that the sheriffs of Innernes were not present in that part to give their oaths before the Lords of Council as to the due serving of the above brief of idiotry on John earl of Sutherland, charged the said provost and bailies immediately to take the oaths of the sheriffs.² In obedience to the king's charge the provost and bailies immediately took oath of John Lord Drummond one of the vice-provosts of Innernes, there present, concerning the faithful administration of justice in the case.³ Lord Drummond then by the mouth of John Matheson mair of the sheriffdom of Perth caused the sheriff court of Innernes to meet—Sir Hugh Ros of Kilrawae, Sir John Cambell of Cavdar, Sir David Ros of Ballangovn, and David Dunbar of Durris, having been first summoned for their suits and presences—and there appointed John Peblis and Robert Thomson notaries public clerks of court, Thomas Cuk dempster, and John Matheson, Andrew Cuk, James Wisman, and James Fydlar, mairs of the sheriffdom of Innernes in that part, and took their oaths *de fidei administratione*.⁴ Thereafter Lord Drummond proceeded to the market cross of Perth, and there by the mouth of John Mattheson one of the said mairs, in his own presence and in that of John Merschell one of the bailies of Perth, caused the brief of idiotry to be proclaimed; appointed it to be served in the sheriff court of Innernes to be held by himself or his colleagues in the tolbooth of Perth on 13 June following; and summoned all having interest, and all the barons *libertinentes* of the sheriffdoms of Innernes and Perth and of other four adjacent sheriffdoms, under pain of a fine of £10 from each person, to appear at the said day and place to proceed to the service of the brief.⁵ On 13 June accordingly Sir William Scot of Balwery and Alexander Reid of Stralouch, sheriffs of Innernes in that part specially appointed to execute the brief, appeared and took oath faithfully to discharge their duty; after which they convened the sheriff court of Innernes in the tolbooth of Perth, caused the brief, previously proclaimed at the market cross of Innernes, to be proclaimed also at the window of the tolbooth of Perth, and, none objecting to it, proceeded to choose an assise to make inquest regarding its contents, and took their oaths according to law in the presence of the earl of Sutherland.⁶ Immediately before the exit of the assise from court the sheriffs demanded of the earl, Who in case of heirs of his body failing should be held as heir of his lands and possessions?⁷ The earl replied that his sister-german Elizabeth Sutherland the wife of Adam Gordoun, and her offspring *ydonie* begotten, should, his own heirs failing, succeed to his heritage.⁸ The earl moreover, as he was naturally of a weak intellect, and was strongly desirous that his heritage should not be alienated, chose (on condition that the king's license should be obtained) the said Adam Gordoun his sister's husband, and John Sutherland

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*⁴ *Ibid.*⁵ *Ibid.*⁶ *Ibid.*⁷ *Ibid.*⁸ *Ibid.*

burgess of Elgin, his curators for managing all his affairs.¹ Earl John died about July of the same year.²

In 1514 (17 September) James Fidar sheriff of Innernes in that part appeared at the market cross of Innernes, and presented to John Dunnyn one of the sergeants of that town a royal letter relating to the serving of a brief obtained by Elizabeth Sutherland the daughter and heiress of the deceased earl of Sutherland, and summoned all and sundry to appear in the tolbooth of Innernes on 3 October next to witness the service of the brief, and object if objections they might have.³ John Dunnyn accordingly caused the brief to be thrice proclaimed at the market cross.⁴ On 3 October Master John Caldor precentor of Ross, the attorney of Elizabeth Sutherland the sister of the deceased John earl of Sutherland, appeared in the sheriff court of Innernes held in the tolbooth by Andrew Auchlek burgess of Innernes and sheriff deputed for serving the said brief, produced that brief lawfully proclaimed and executed, and caused its execution to be proved in presence of Master Robert Munro the brother and procurator of Alexander Sutherland, who objected to the brief and claimed a right to the contrary.⁵ The procurator being unable to show any thing against the brief and its execution, or against the members of court, the sheriff proceeded to the election of an assise.⁶ The procurator then alleging that Alexander Sutherland had not access to Innernes by reason of the cruelty of Alexander earl of Huntly and his friends the favourers of Elizabeth Sutherland. Adam Gordon of Obeyn the husband of Elizabeth for himself and his accomplices offered to give security to Alexander that he might return to Innernes.⁷ The procurator further alleging that the earldom was entailed, but failing to produce the charter of entail, the assise proceeded to the service of the brief.⁸ The persons on the assise, namely, Thomas Fraser of Lowet, John Grant of Fruchy, George Haliburton of Gask, James Feuton of Ogyll, James Dunbar of Cunnok, Alexander Cuming of Altir, John Cuming of Ernesyd, Alexander Wrquhard of Burrisyardis, David Dunbar of Durris, Alexander Brody of that ilk, David Douglas of Pettindreech, Hugh Ros of Kylraok, Henry Doles of Cantra, William Doles of Bodwyt, Alexander Strathglyn of Cullodin, John Corbet of Ester Ard, John Waus of Lochslyne, William McCullocht of Plaidis, Robert Murref of Fochabris, Robert Wrwell of Schanchar, and Thomas Patrikson burgess of Innernes, declared that the deceased John Sutherland earl of Sutherland, the brother german of Elizabeth Sutherland, died last vest and seised in the earldom of Sutherland, its tenants, tenandries, and services of free tenants, and the advowson of the chaplainries of Saint John of Helmsdaill and of Saint James in the cathedral church of Cathanes, and of all other churches and hospitals in that earldom lying in the sheriffdom of Innernes — that Elizabeth was his lawful heiress and of lawful age — that the earldom was then worth yearly 1000 marks Scots, and in time of peace 500 marks — that it was held of the king in chief by service of ward and relief — and that it was then in the king's hands by reason of the decease of Earl John, who died about the month of July last, and in defect of Elizabeth

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² See the following references.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

prosecuting her right.¹ On 14 October King James V. granted a precept of seisin in the earldom in favour of Elizabeth Sutherland.² In 1515 (30 June) the same Elizabeth, the wife of Adam Gordoun of Avbyn, on a precept by Alexander earl of Huntly and sheriff of Innernes dated 21 May and proceeding on the king's brief, by her attorney James Wysman took seisin of the earldom on the soil of Whys at the hands of George Reidfurd the sheriff depute.³ In the same year (31 August) Adam Gordoun was styled earl of Sutherland, and granted a charter which was witnessed by his son Alexander as master of Sutherland.⁴

In 1527, by a contract dated 9 November at Elgin between Elizabeth countess and 'heritare' of Sudirland and her husband Adam earl of Sudirland on one part, and their son and apparent heir Alexander master of Sudirland on the other, it was agreed that the countess should with the consent of her husband resign the earldom in favour of her son Alexander, reserving the liferent to themselves—that for this Alexander should 'cause ak' in the books of the official of Moray Robert Innes of Innermarky, Robert Innes of Rothmakenze, John Gordon of Lungar, William Gordon of Auchindoir, James Gordon of Collquhiddilstoun, John Gordon of Bawehrome, George Gorlon of Coclarquhy, and William Gordon of Awoehy, and their heirs, executors, and assignees, as his sureties, to pay yearly to the countess and the earl, or to the longest liver of them, or to their factors at Dunrobin or at Brora in Sudirland, 23 chalders victual, £22 Scots, 14 (or 12) score 'veddeis of irn,' and 20 marts, in lieu of all the dues of the earldom, according to an indenture made on 16 June 1520 between the same countess and earl and the deceased John earl of Atholl—that, should the countess and earl die before giving Alexander's sisters in marriage, Alexander should pay to each of his unmarried sisters being of blameless life 100 marks Scots 'to thair mariagis,' and should cause my Lord of Huntly to receive John Gordon the brother of Alexander as tenant of the lands of Obeyne, and ensure him of the same—that, should Alexander with the help of his parents happen to lead any process of forfeiture or recognition on any tenandry within the lordship of Sudirland, he should with the advice of the countess and earl compound for the same in behalf of his brother—that notwithstanding the premises the countess and earl should at pleasure during life freely intromit with all the lands and dues of the earldom, in the meantime finding Alexander and his wife honestly in house with them—that Alexander should cause to be paid to his parents between the date of the contract and eight days after the next feast of Saint Andrew (30 November) 500 marks due to them by the deceased John earl of Atholl, and should with them sue that earl's executors for the 'restis and skathis' they had sustained for not keeping the contract with him—and that the procuratory of resignation should be placed in the hands of Alexander Ogylwy of that ilk, and the contract be registered in the books of the official of Moray.⁵ On the same day (9 November) the parties took oath that they would observe the contract, and the countess declared that she was not in any way

¹ Sutherland Charters. ² Ibid. ³ Ibid. ⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid. This contract is subscribed, Adam erle of Sutherland — Elizabeth countas of Sudirland with

my hand at the pen be the leding of Schir David Fotheringham notar public — Alexander Gordoun mastir of Sudirland.

forced by her husband to make the resignation, but made it of her own free will.¹ On 10 November Elizabeth Suthirland, styling herself countess of Suthirland and hereditary lady of the same, with the consent of her husband Adam Gordoun earl of Suthirland, for her love towards her firstborn son Alexander Gordoun master of Suthirlande, and for other causes, and also by reason of his marriage contracted (after many benefits conferred on Elizabeth and her husband) with a noble lady (*domicella*) Jonet Stewart the daughter of the deceased John earl of Atholl, appointed Master William Gordoun and others her procurators to resign the earldom in the hands of King James V., reserving the liferent to herself and husband, to be held of the king.² On 17 November Robert Innes of Innermarky, Robert Innes of Rothnokenze, John Gordon of Lowngar, William Gordon of Crag, James Gordon of Tulemenoch, William Gordon of Awoqhy, Thomas Copland of Edocht, and John Gordon of Bawquhrom, in name of the master of Suthirland took oath to pay yearly to the countess and the earl 23 chalders of victual, £22 Scots, 240 (or 280) 'le viddeis' of iron, and 20 marts, at the ports of Helmsdail, Dunrobin, or Broray, beginning at the feast of Saint Martin (11 November) last—and the master and his wife Jonet Steuart took oath yearly to relieve their cautioners of those dues at the hands of the earl and countess.³ On 1 December King James V. granted in heritage to Alexander Gordoun, styled the son and apparent heir of Adam Gordoun earl of Sutherland and his wife Elizabeth Sutherland countess of Sutherland, the whole earldom of Sutherland, and all the lands of the earldom, with the castle of Dunrobin and all pertinents, resigned by the countess, reserving the liferent to her and her husband *ratione curialitatis Scocie*—the grantee doing the rights and services due and wont.⁴ On 20 December Alexander Gordoun was seised in the earldom by John Murray of Cambushavy at the principal messuage or fortalice of Dunrobyn.⁵ In the same year appears in record John Rattir mair of Sutherland.⁶ The master of Sutherland died before both his parents in January 1530.⁷ The Countess Elizabeth died in September 1535.⁸ In 1536 King James V. granted to George earl of Huntlie the ward, rents, and marriage of the lands that belonged to the deceased Alexander Gordoun fear of the earldom of Suthirland.⁹ Earl Adam died 17 March 1538.¹⁰ In the same year, (1 April) King James V. granted to Sir John Campbell of Caldour the mails, nonentries, wards, reliefs, and other dues, in the king's hands by the decease of Alexander Gordoun master of Suthirland, of his father Adam earl of Suthirland, and of his mother Elizabeth Suthirland countess of Suthirland.¹¹

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 103. See also the return of 1546 *post*.

⁴ *Ibid.* Subscribed by six of the cautioners, and by Alexander master of Sutherland, and Jonet Steuart with my hand at the pen.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. x. fol. 97.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 103.

⁵ *Ibid.*, Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 32.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xi. fol. 68. The authorities cited in this and the preceding note, and the return of 1546 cited below, prove that the Countess Elizabeth died in 1535, and her husband Earl Adam in 1538. Yet a return of 1591 places the death of the countess in 1530, and that of the earl in 1541 (1542).

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.* Sir Robert Gordon says 15 January 1529 (the year being correct according to the old reckoning).

In 1546 (4 May) inquest was made in the tolbooth of the burgh of Inverness in the presence of George earl of Huntlye sheriff principal by William M'Kintoche of Dunnaughtan, Kenzeoche M'Kenze of Brayne, Robert Monro of Fowlis, Robert Innes of Innermarky, James Dunbar of Terbet, Robert Dunbar of Durris, Hugh Ros of Kilrawak, John Hay of Park, Alexander Cummyng of Altir, Alexander Kynnard of Cowbyne, John Grant of Culeabok, James Dunbar of Couze, Thomas Brody of that ilk, George Monro of Dawachearte, Alexander Balze constable of Inverness, James Vruhart burgess of Fores, and Robert Vaus burgess of Inverness, who declared that the deceased Alexander Gordone master of Sutherland, the father of John Gordone, died last vest and seised in the earldom of Sutherland, its lands, and the castle or manor of Dunrobin—that John Gordone was his heir and of lawful age—that the earldom was worth at the time 1000 marks yearly, and in time of peace 500 marks—that it was held of the queen by service of ward and relief—that by the decease of Alexander Gordone it had been in the queen's hands by reason of ward for 3 years and 5 months since the death of King James V., in whose hands it had been for the same reason for 5 years preceding his death—and that it had been also in the hands of the deceased Adam Gordone and his wife Elezabeth Sutherland for 8 years following the month of January 1529 (1530) by reason of liferent and of John Gordone not prosecuting his claim.¹ On 7 June at the message or castle of Dunrobin and on the soil of the earldom James Patirson sheriff depute of Inverness in that part gave seisin of the earldom on a precept by Queen Mary to John Gordone the procurator of John Gordone earl of Sutherland as the heir of his deceased father Alexander.² On 6 August Queen Mary granted in heritage to the same earl and to the lady Elizabeth Campbell countess of Murray the lands of the earldom of Sutherland with the tower and fortalice of Dunrobin, resigned by the earl, the grantee paying the rights and services formerly due.³ On 13 October James Patirson gave seisin of the earldom to the earl and his countess at the castle and on the lands of Dunrobin.⁴ On 10 December seisin of certain lands granted by the earl to Alexander Terrell was witnessed by Donald Williamsone *alias* Skallag the earl's mair and officer.⁵ In 1558 a seisin of the prebend of Helmsdall was witnessed by the same Donald Williamsone, styled officer of Sutherland.⁶ In 1563 (22 September) Queen Mary granted in heritage to her brother Robert Stewart *junior* the lands and baronies of the earldom of Sutherland both property and tenantry, namely, the lands of Sutherland with the castle and fortalice of Dunrobin and the whole manor of the same; the lands and town of Nevindell; the towns of Eistir Garthe, Mydgarthe, and Westir Garthe, Cowlegowre, Mekle Lothe, Craigok, Litol Lothe with the mill, Clyntredwane, and Brora with the fishings; half the lands of Doill; Vppate, Innerbo Heiche and Laiche, Clayside, Mallecht, Allertoun, Golspiemoir, Ruves, Culmalie-moir with the mill, Culmalie-craigtoun; Strabrorra, Dalpoldie, Westkelziebeg, Westkelzie-moir with the mill, Kilnabrair, Kyllane; half the lands of Carrell; Larg, Schennynes, Moy with the mill, Rine, Cragie; the lands of Grudy, Plaide, Petfuire, Clynall, Pittarkessie

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*⁴ Sutherland Charters.³ *Ibid.* Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 379. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 37.⁵ *Ibid.*⁶ *Ibid.*

with the mill, Auchannye ; Holmsiday (Helmisdayll) with the water and fishings ; the lands of Borryboll, Killarnanes Eister and Wester with the mill ; Vlbister, Gyllyboll, Lyriboll, Borroboll, Altreboll, the Glen of Loth, and the Glen of Dunrobene ; as property—also the tenandries of the lands of Skebo with the demesne lands of the same ; the lands of Eister Skebo ; half the lands of Doill ; Cowle, Petnane, Bellwraith, Cammusowe, Westir Abbirseors, Litilrod, Mornes, Innerschine with the fishings, Auehindwicht, Meehall, Ardinsche, Torrobull, Kynnowie, Dola, Blarouhy, Lady, Langwell, Pettintraill, Pitfwir, Knokartoll, Pronsecastell, Pronsenayne, Pronseecroy, Evillik, Askadell, Reareheare, the barony of Promesy, Mekle Torbo, Litill Torbo, Dalnamayne, Grudiebrora, Seheberskaik, Kilpeddermoir, Kilpedderbeg, Kilpedder in Strathwlze, Cayne, Kintraid, Kynnald, Kilchallumkille, Golspietwir, Dawachbeg, Rewy-kirktoon, Rewy-craigtoon, Inehcaip, Rossaill, Auehealze, Eister Abbirseors, Auehindrow, Drummoy, Bakkeis, Torreis, Clyneles, Clynemylne with the mill, the half of Kirktoon of Clyne, Dalcallum, and the lands of Eastside of Brora lying on the east side of the bridge—all forfeited by John earl of Sutherland.¹ In 1564 (27 May) the queen confirmed the grant.² In 1565 (15 January) she renewed or again confirmed it, and re-erected the earldom in favour of the same Robert Stewart, appointing the castle of Dunrobene to be the principal messuage.³

Between the years 1538 and 1563 Earl John, especially after attaining his majority in 1545 or 1546, had a considerable share in various public events both in Sutherland and in other parts, and especially in the battle of Pinkie fought in 1547, and in the matters which led to the conflict at Corriehie in 1562.⁴ During his forfeiture he resided abroad, and seems to have returned to Scotland in 1565 or early in 1566.⁵ In the latter year (27, 28, and 31 May, and 1 June) Gilbert Gordoun in Golspetowr and Alexander Tarrell of Doill, bailies in that part, on a precept by Henry and Mary king and queen of Scots, at the place and fortalice of Dunrobin near the well of the same, and at the following lands and castles, gave seisin to John Kennedy the procurator of John earl of Sutherland in those lands and castles belonging to the earldom, namely, the lands of Nauadaill, Borroboll, Estir Killernan, Vestir Killernan with the mill of the same ; the lands of Vlbister, Galzeboll, Lereboll, Askraig, Altreboll, Cayan and Kilpedder in Strathwlzie with the mill of the same ; Auehadill ; the water of Helmisdail with the salmon fishings ; Eister Garthe, Myd Garthe with the mill, Vastir Garthe, Culgour, Mekle Loth, Crakok, Litill Loth with the mill, the Glen of Loth, Clynetredwane with the mill, Clynemullin with the mill, the half of Clynekirktoon, Clynelys, Daligallum, Brora Eist and Vest Syde with the salmon fishing ; the lands of Doill, Carrell, Culnabrayr, Delfoldyn, Vest Kelziebeg, Vest Kelziemoir with the mill, Kyllin, Gilleallunkille, Kilpeddirmoir, Kilpeddirbeg with the mill, Sevirscraig, Grudebrora, Carnameyne ; the lands of Vppat, Inverboll, Clayeside, Mellok, Dunrobin with the tower, fortalice, place, houses, orchards, gardens, and pertinents, the mill of Golspye, the Glen of Dunrobin, Allartoun, Bakkeis, Golspetowr, Golspeimoir, Ruiflis, Kylmailzemoir with the mill, Drummoy, Kilmailziecragtoon, Eistir Aberscors, Vestir Abirscors ;

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. Earl John was forfeited for treason and lese-majesty on 28 May 1563.

² *Ibid.*, fol. 70.

³ *Ibid.*, fol. 138.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 106-149. Buch. Hist. lib. xvii. c. 38.

⁵ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 144.

Knokaittholl, Kynnalde with the mill; Litill Reorde, Morenes, Pitfuyr with the mill, Pittintraill with the mill, Kynbraid, Dawachbeg, Roykirktoon, Royeragtoun, Inchekipe, Rosall, Auchawelle, Blaroicht, Leady, Langoll, Moy, Reynde, Craggie, Kymonovy, Leargis, Schinenes, Edderdachellis: the lands of Gruyde, Pleddis, Pitfuyr, Pettarkassie with the mill, Auchannye, Innerschin with the salmon fishing, Auchindaucht, Torreboll, Dolaye, Mekle, Ardinche; the lands of Casteltonn of Skelbo, with the place, fortalice, mill, and pertinents, Cambussave, Balnabraide, Pitmanyn, Andandro, Eistir Skelbo, Cowle, Prompsceastell, Prompsenayne, Prompscroy, Awalek with the mill, Askisdail, Rearquhar, Dalnameyne, Mekle Torboll with the mill, Litill Torboll; with the castles, towers, fortalices, mills, fishings, woods, advowsons, annexis, connexis, outseittis, parts, pendicles, and pertinents; together with the advowson of the benefices of Saint Andrew called Golspiekirktoon, of the chaplainry of Saint John of Helmsdail, and of the chaplainry of Saint James of Dornocht, and all other benefices of the earldom—resigned by the queen's natural brother Robert Stewart, to whom they belonged in heritage, and erected anew by the queen into the earldom of Sutherland, the castle of Dunrobin to be the chief messuage.¹ In 1567 (9 April) the process of forfeiture against Earl John was reduced by a decree of parliament.² In the same year (23 June) inquest was made in the tolbooth of the burgh of Innernis before James Innes of Dranye, James Patirsonne provost of Innernis, and Alexander Baillie of Dunnane, sheriffs depute, by Alexander Ros of Balnagown, Robert Monro of Fowlis, Walter Wrquhart sheriff of Cromertie, John Innes of Innerbraky, George Monro of Dawachcarte, Thomas Dingvell of Kildwn, Alexander Chessolme of Commer, Murdoch M'Kenzie of Forbryne, Alexander Bane of Tnlich, John Stewart of Kyncarne, John Narne of Cromdell, John Gray of Swordell, Hugh Murray of Aberscork, William Murray of Spanzedell, Thomas Poilson of Cresmoye (Crechmoyr), John Hay of Perk, Alexander Murray in Dornoch, Thomas Murray, and John and Alexander Lewall of Craggy, who declared that Adam earl of Sutherland, the grandfather of John earl of Sutherland, died at the peace and faith of King James V., and that Earl John was his lawful heir and of lawful age—and that he was likewise the lawful heir of his grandmother Elizabeth countess of Sutherland, who also died at the king's peace.³ The earl and his lady are said to have died by poison at the castle of Helmsdale, the earl's son and successor Alexander narrowly escaping the same fate.⁴

In 1573 Alexander earl of Sutherland complained to King James VI. that, although he was desirous to serve the king's briefs of inquest of the lands in the sheriffdoms of Innernes and Abirdene in which his father Earl John died vest and seised, he was unable to serve the brief of inquest of the lands in Innernes in the tolbooth of the burgh, because he could find no inquest of barons and hereditary proprietors within the sheriffdom for that purpose by reason that many barons and gentlemen of the sheriffdom, such as Colin Makkanze of Kintail, Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovet, Lauchlan Makintosche of Dunnanchtane, Robert Monro of Fowlis, with many other families and men of the country, were at deadly feud among themselves.⁵ The

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.* Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 145, 146.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 146, 147.

⁵ Paper at Dunrobin (extract from the burgh records of Aberdeen).

king therefore (30 May), with the consent of George earl of Huntlie sheriff principal of Innerne and Abirdene, appointed John Leslie of Buchquhane, Gilbert Menzeis apparent of Petfodellis, Patrick Menzeis burghess of Abirdene, Master Robert Lummsidane of Clova, and Master Patrick Ruthirfurde burghess of Abirdene, sheriffs of Innernes in that part, to serve the said briefs in the tolbooth of the burgh of Abirdene.¹ On 13 June accordingly John Kennedy the attorney of Earl Alexander appeared in the burgh court of Abirdene held in the tolbooth by Master George Middiltoun one of the bailies, and presented the king's commission.² Thereafter the sheriffs took the oath of fidelity, and held their court in the tolbooth, when John Kennedy presented the king's brief, and the sheriffs delivered it to the officers of court to be proclaimed at the market cross of Innernes and served on 8 July next, and meantime ordered the king's commission to be engrossed in their books.³ On 8 July Master William Daidson and Master George Barclay, appointed by the earl his procurators in all actions, presented to the sheriffs in court the king's brief duly executed, the proclamation was certified by the officers, and, none objecting, the brief was submitted to the following assise, namely, Andrew Master of Erroll chancellor, James Dunbar of Tarbet, Alexander Dunbar of Conze, Archibald Dunbar of Pennek, John Gray of Sordell, William Hay of Delgaty, Thomas Cumming of Alter, Robert Turing of Fowerane, William Setoun of Meldrum, John Pantoun of Petmeddene, James Murray of Cowbardy, Hutcheone Murray of Abirshorss, James Patirsoun provost of Innernes, George Gordoun of Auchmengzye, Andrew Meldrum of Darley, Andrew Myln in Estir Bin, and James Dunbar in Kintassacht.⁴ On the same day the earl's procurators produced in court an instrument of the lands of the earldom contained in a petition dated 6 June 1546; a retour of the deceased John earl of Sutherland in those lands dated 4 May of the same year; a decret of the constitution of parliament reducing the process of forfeiture against that earl, dated at Edinburgh 9 April 1567 and subscribed by Master James Makgill clerk of register; and an attestation of the decret by James Ballindene dated 25 May 1573, by which Earl Alexander's age might be known — wherupon the assise unanimously served the earl heir to his father Earl John, determining the yearly value of the earldom, as before, to be 500 marks in time of peace, and at the date of the inquest 1000 marks.⁵ On 17 July James Innes of Towchis sheriff depute of Innernes in that part gave seisin of the earldom to the earl's procurator John Kennedy burghess of Banf at the castle of Dunrobyne and at the gates of the same.⁶ In 1581 (18 March) Earl Alexander resigned the earldom with the castle of Dunrobin in favour of his eldest son John master of Sudirland, reserving the liferent to himself; and King James VI. (23 March) granted the same to John in heritage.⁷ In 1583 Adam Gordone in Culgowyr at the gates of the castle of Dunrobin took seisin of the earldom for the same John, saving Earl Alexander's liferent.⁸ In 1591 the following assise, namely, Andrew Monro of Newmoyr, John Vans of Lochslyne, William Fraser of Strowy, John Chessolme of Commyr, James Corbet portioner of Arkboll, Alexander Fraser of Gussoghuan, John Cuthbert of Old Castle, John Vinstyr of Artelle, William Balze of Dummayne, Luke Patirsone burghess of Innernes, John Corbet apparent

¹ Paper at Dunrobin (extract from the burgh records of Aberdeen). ² *Ibid.* ³ *Ibid.* ⁴ *Ibid.* ⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ *Ibid.* ⁸ *Ibid.* The seisin is witnessed by the earl.

portioner of Arkboll, Gilbert Gollan burgess of Innernes, James Abram burgess of the same, Findlaw Donaldson burgess of the same, and John Fraser in Incherore, served Alexander earl of Suderland heir to his great-grandfather Adam Gordone earl of Suderland, who died in January 1541 (1542), and to his great-grandmother Elizabeth countess of Suderland, who died in September 1539.¹ Earl Alexander died in 1594, and was succeeded by his son John.²

In 1601 (29 April) King James VI. granted anew to John earl of Sutherland, and to his heirs male and of entail got between him and his wife the lady Anna Elphinstoun countess of Sutherland, with remainder to his own heirs male of his body, to his brother german Robert Gordoun and the heirs male of his body, to his brother german Alexander Gordoun and the heirs male of his body, and to Adam Gordoun the lawful son of George marquis of Huntlie and his heirs male whomsoever, the earldom of Sutherland and the Castle of Dunrobenne with all pertinents, resigned by the earl — also a davach of Knokfyn, a davach of Fre, a davach of Swyisgill, a davach of Kynbrasche, two davachs of Kyldonan, two davachs of Dwyboill, a davach of Balnabaleach, and a davach of Helmsdail with the pendicles of the same called Achadalevis, alienated by the earl's predecessors to the earls of Caithnes, and resigned by George then earl of Caithnes in favour of Earl John — also the lands and barony of Far with the waters and salmon fishings, the lands of Arnedail and Straith with the waters and salmon fishings, Renew, Kynnald, Golspetor, Delreid, Cattak, Broniche, Killicalumkill, Dawach Lochnaver, Dawach Ereboill, two pennylands in Strone, the island of Sanda, namely, three pennylands there, the island of Ifaga extending to two pennylands, the lands of Millines and Hoip with the waters and salmon fishings, Galdwell, Balnahaclies, Skelpik, Mowadell, Mekill Grub, Litill Grub, Syre, Carnoch, Innernaver, Thorisdail with the waters and salmon fishings, Mekill Borge, Litill Borge, Kirkboyll, Tung, Skrabister, Kennyside, Candloch, Edderdawachellis, the water of Torrisdail with its fishings, Awchynes, Clybrek, Langoill, Rosnall, Raygill, Arnedell, Skarre, Lettirlyoll, Lettirwyndeschoir, Ardnaboill, Houndland, Strathoridail, the island of ———, the mills of Tung, Far, and Kynnald, with the multures and sucken, with all pertinents, resigned by Earl John.³ King James moreover for the earl's good service annexed to the earldom Knokfyn and the other lands resigned by the earl of Caithnes, and Far and the other lands resigned by Earl John — and, understanding that the earldom had been granted in free regality to the earl's predecessors by David King of Scots and other kings, and for other reasons, erected the earldom and the annexed lands into one free regality with free chapel and chancery and all other privileges.⁴ The king also, understanding that the earl had undergone great expense in the construction of houses and for policy (*pro policia*) upon the Inver of Bruray in the earldom of Sutherland to the great advantage of the king's lieges and others, erected the Inver of Bruray, its lands, tofts, crofts, outsettis, and pertinents, in favour of the earl and his said heirs, into a free burgh of barony and regality to be called the burgh of Innerbruray, with power to create bailies, councillors, burgesses, sergeants, and other officers, and to remove the same; with power to the burgesses *ad lie pak et peill*, and of buying and selling in the burgh

¹ Sutherland Charters. For the true dates of the deaths of Earl Adam and his countess see above, p. 665.

² Genealogy of the Earls, p. 233.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ *Ibid.*

wine and wax, cloth woollen and linen, broad and narrow, and all other articles of merchandise and staple goods (*stapule bona*), and of admitting into the burgh fishers, brewers, *laniatores*, sellers of fish, *sartores*, shoemakers, weavers, *allutarii*, *scissores*, carpenters, smiths, and all other necessary tradesmen; with power also to build a tolbooth, to have a market cross with a weekly market on Saturday, together with four free yearly fairs on the feasts of the Conception (8 December), of Saint Peter the apostle (29 June), of Saint Peter *ad vincula* (1 August), and of Saint Michael (29 September), to hold a market at each of those fairs for the space of two days, and to collect the entire customs and apply them for the good of the burgh; with all other privileges.¹ The king moreover, understanding that the following lands and other subjects, partly in Sutherland and partly in Caithnes, and in the sheriffdom of Inverness, belonged in heritage to the earl, and before the annexation of ecclesiastical lands were held of the bishop of Caithnes, and were then held of the king, namely, the lands and towns of Galdwell, Caldell, Crammage, Barolye, Slanys, Astlermoir, Astlerbeg, Sandewatt, Tarriagavis, Crannamannycht, Carnogarraw, with the mills and fishings, and with the fishings of Laxfurde, and the water of Ardurines and the 'cruvis' of the same, the island of Hoia with the other islands there and their fishings; the lands of Kilmalekirktooun with the pendicles of the same called Auchnaealzie; the lands of Stambuster, the half of Brynmes, Fors with the mills and fishings, Baillie, two thirds of Lythmoir with two pennylands of the (other) third part of Lythmoir, two thirds of the lands of Owist; the lands of Dorarie and Myrr-michaelis; 9½ pennylands of Skrabister, with the 'castell wairdis' and Langag of Skrabister and the fishings of the same, with the Sklaithuch and Halkes in Hoburneheid; 10 pennylands of Weik and Papigo with the crofts called the Bischopis Quoyis and Kenzeochis Quoyis, with the other crofts there and the tenements in the town of Weik and the superiority of the same; the lands of Southkilmister and Northkilmister with the mill of Wyndles; three 'ottonyrlandis' in Myrelandmoir, with the teindsheaves of all the above lands; the lands of Mekill Vllagrahame, Littil Vllagrahame, and Halkrig, with the mills, fishings, and 'cruvis'; the lands of Westerdaill, Esterdaill, Thormesdaill, with the fourth part of the salmon fishing in the water of Thurso; a pennyland of Subamster, the lands of Diran, Alterwell with the loch of the same, 3½ pennylands of Stanstell; the lands of Skebomanys with the pendicles called Braymort, the eastern part of Skebo, the lands of Wester Skebo and Skebocastell, the lands of Vleste, Ardaleis, Auchvaiche with the pendicles called Auchgormela and Auchneholas, the lands of Sythera with the croft called Tayclyb, the lands of Dawachfyn, Drumdewan, and Ferritoun of Portinculter, the mill of Skebo, with the crofts and tenements within the city of Dornoch, the palae of Dornoch with the 'assyis aill and thoill' of the city and the superiority of the same; 13½ pennylands of Brynmes; the lands of Rogartmoir with the mill; the lands of Skaill and Rogeboill, with the tenants, tenandries, and services of free tenants of all those lands and of the others, the hereditary office of constable of the castles and palaces of Skrabister, Skebo, and Dornoch, and the hereditary office of baillie of all the

¹ Sutherland Charters.

said lands with all its fees and dues — and considering that within those lands justice was not rightly administered owing to their remoteness — erected the whole into a separate sheriffdom to be called the sheriffdom of Sutherland, and appointed the earl and his male heirs hereditary sheriffs and crowners of the same, the burgh of Innerbroray to be the chief burgh of the sheriffdom, and the castle of Dwnrobene to be the chief messuage for the earldom, sheriffship, crownership, and burgh; the grantee paying yearly for the earldom and regality a pair of gilt spurs on the feast of Saint John the Baptist (24 June) in name of *bleuch ferme*, although formerly held by service of ward and relief — and for the hereditary offices the administration of justice personally or by deputy, and a pair of gilt spurs on the same feast.¹ In 1605 the same earl was served heir to his father Alexander in the same lands and earldom.²

In 1616 (4 June) an assise held in the tolboth of Innernes, namely, Symon Lord Fraser of Lovett, Thomas Fraser of Strwy, John Monro of Lymclair, John Murray of Abirscoers, Robert Monro of Assint, George Murray of Spanzedell, Robert Monro of Vrqhart, Robert Gray of Ospisdell, Andrew Monro of Teanower, Oliver Gordoun of Drummoy, Adam Gordoune of Backyes, William Fraser of Mullochies, Patrick Gordoune of Craigtoune, Alexander Sutherland of Cambusboy, Robert Monro of Teanenich, James Sutherland of Ballavraid, and Walter Murray of Ovir Skibo, declared that John earl of Sutherland was the lawful male heir of the deceased John earl of Sutherland who died vest and seised in the earldom and the annexed lands and hereditary offices — that the whole earldom with the hereditary offices were at that time worth yearly 1000 marks Scots, and in time of peace 500 marks (old extent) — that the *davach* of Knokfyne and the lands annexed along with it were then worth yearly £66 Scots, and in time of peace £36 (old extent) — that the lands and barony of Far with the other annexed lands were then worth yearly £50 Scots, and in time of peace £13, 6s. 8d. (old extent) — that they were held as above (1601) — and that they had been in the king's hands by reason of nonentry for about 8 months since the decease of Earl John who died 13 December 1615.³ In 1617 (17 April) the earl was seised in his earldom and other property as above by John Gordoun of Golspetour younger bailie and sheriff depute in that part for John Gordoun of Buckie sheriff of Innernes.⁴ In 1630 an assise held in the tolbooth at Innernes, namely, Simon Fraser of Lovatt, Hugh Fraser master of Lovatt, Sir Thomas Vrqhart of Cromartie, Hugh Vrqhart of Leatheris, Robert Dunbar of Burgy, George M'Kenzie of Kildun, Robert Leslie of Finrossie, Alexander Dunbar of Grange, James Sutherland tutor of Duffus, John Monro of Obstuill, John M'Ky of Dahit, Angus M'Ky of Beghous, Hugh Ros of Tolly, Robert Monro of Assint, John Monro of Lemclair, Thomas Fraser of Strwy, James Fraser of Phoppochie, Hector Monro of Findon, and Andrew Monro of Teanowar, declared

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Retours.

³ Sutherland Charters. Retours. Sir Robert Gordon dates the death of Earl John on 11 September 1615, which the interval of 8 months renders more probable. Sir Robert also says that at the time of this service £8 Scots were paid into the king's exchequer instead of the pair of gilt spurs specified in the charter.

⁴ Sutherland Charters. The witnesses to the seisin are Patrick Gordoune of Craigtoune, Alexander Gordoun of Golspiekirktonne, Gilbert Gordoun his brother german, Adam Gordoun of Backies, Robert Aikin in Dunrobbin, William Innes chamberlain of Sutherland, and Andrew Gordoun, the servitor of Sir Donald M'Ky of Strathnaver.

that William first of that name earl of Sutherland, *attavus* of the deceased Nicolas earl of Sutherland, *attavus* of the deceased Alexander master of Sutherland, *abavus* of John then earl of Sutherland, died at the peace of Alexander II. king of Scots—that William earl of Sutherland, *attavus* of the deceased John earl of Sutherland, *attavus* of (another) deceased John earl of Sutherland, the father of John then earl of Sutherland, died at the faith and peace of David king of Scots (1370)—that John earl of Sutherland, *attavus* of John earl of Sutherland, the father of John then earl of Sutherland, died at the faith and peace of James IV. king of Scots (1508)—and that John then earl of Sutherland was the lawful heir of those three earls and of lawful age.¹

In 1401 Robert earl of Sutherland granted to his brother Kenneth of Sutherland and to the heirs male of his body, for his faithful service, the lands of Drommoy, Torowys (in Kildonan), and Bakys, with common pasture in the valley called in English the Glen to all the inhabitants of the lands of Bakys—reserving to the earl and his heirs the mill called the mill of Dunrobyn, with the croft lying between the mill and the water running on the west side of the croft, and the fat fish coming to the lands of Drommoy and Bakys, except the fish called ‘pellokis,’ which alone the grantee should be allowed to carry home, and about which the earl and his heirs should raise no question—the lands of Bakys being bound to cause millstones to be brought to the mill of Dunrobyn, and the millhouse (*domum molendini*) to be maintained according to ancient custom; the grantee doing similar service to the mill of Culmali for the lands of Drommoy; the lands of both Bakys and Drumroy to be free of multure; and, failing Kenneth and his male heirs, the whole lands granted to revert to the earl.² In 1448, as we have seen, the town of Drommoy (probably only a part of the lands), and the croft upon the hill between the burns (apparently the croft reserved by Earl Robert in 1401), were part of the kirklands of the chapel of Saint Andrew of Golspi.³ In 1451, as we have further seen, Robert the son and heir of John of Sutherland of Fors granted to the same chapel 40 shillings Scots yearly from the mails of the town of Drommoy.⁴ In 1471 inquest was made in the head court of John Earl of Sutherland, and in his presence, by Angus Sutherland of Thureboll, Alexander Sutherland of Golspie, William of Cline of that ilk, Neil of Moray, Alexander of Moray, John Reoch Sutherland, William Thomson Sutherland, Angus Neilson, Alexander of Sutherland, Thomas of Terraille, John M’Alister, John of Sutherland, and Murehard M’Gillecaloune, who declared that the deceased Richard of Sutherland of Fors, the father of the deceased John of Sutherland, within the sheriffdom of Innernes and earldom of Sutherland, died last vest and seised in a davach of the lands of the town of Drumroy, a davach of the lands of the town of Bakys, and the third of a davach of the lands of Torrois, held in chief of the earl.⁵ In 1505

¹ Sutherland Charters. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 421. This service of Earl John is decisive as to the misstated succession between William fourth earl of Sutherland and the Earl Robert of 1401. See p. 660. It was performed at Innerness according to the customs of the kingdom in the presence of his uncle Sir

Robert Gordon knight-baronet, then shireff principall of that shyre, who caused returne the service and briefs to the chancellarie orderly proceeded conforme to the lawe observed in such cases.⁷

² Fors Charters.

³ Sutherland Charters. See above, p. 650.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Fors Charters.

King James IV. granted to John Suthirland of Fors the fermes and teinds of his lands of Bakeis in Strabrora in the earldom of Suthirland, held by him of the earl.¹ In 1529 the seisin of certain lands in Rogart was witnessed by Kenneth the son of Nicolas Suthirland in Drummoy.² In 1546 John earl of Suthirland ordered his bailie John Gordoun constable of the castle of Dunrobin to give seisin to Richard Suthirland of Fors, the grandson and heir of the deceased John Suthirland of Fors, in the lands of Drummoy, Torrowis, and Baikeis, with common pasture in the valley called in English the Glen, lying in the lordship and earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernes, and held of the earl by service of ward and relief.³ In 1563 (8 September) Queen Mary granted anew in heritage to William Suthirland of Fors and Jonet Sinclair his wife the same lands with common pasture in the Glen of Dunrobin, formerly held by William of John earl of Suthirland, who was forfeited for treason and lese-majesty on 28 May 1563, and now to be held of the queen for the services formerly due, but without prejudice to the vassals, subvassals, and other tenants, or to their infeftments previously granted.⁴ The same lands, as we have seen, were included in the grant of the earldom by Queen Mary to Robert Stewart on 22 September 1563 after the forfeiture of Earl John, and in the new grant by that queen to the same earl in 1566.⁵ The seisin following on the latter grant was witnessed by William McAngus in Bakky and James Suthirland in Drummoy.⁶ In 1602 Alexander Sutherland was served heir male and of entail to William Sutherland of Fors his grandfather's brother in the lands of Drummoy, Bakkeis, and Torrois, with common pasture in the Glen of Bakkeis, in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Caithness, of the old extent of £6.⁷ Two of the assise for the retour of the earldom in 1616 were Oliver Gordoun of Drummoy and Adam Gordoun of Backyes, and the latter, as above noticed, witnessed the seisin of the earldom in 1617.⁸

In 1401, as we have seen, the holder of the lands of Drummoy was bound by ancient custom to furnish millstones to the mill of Culmali, and to maintain the fabrick of the mill.⁹ In 1529 the seisin of certain lands in the parish of Rogart was witnessed by Alexander Vicarson in Culmalyemoir.¹⁰ In 1548 John earl of Sutherland granted in liferent to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol certain lands including Kilmaliemoir with the mill and alehouse.¹¹ The grant was confirmed by Queen Mary.¹² The same lands and mill were included in the grant of the earldom of Sutherland by Queen Mary to her brother Robert Stewart in 1563, and in the new grant of the same by that queen to Earl John in 1566.¹³ In 1575 Alexander Kenate burgess of Banf, as procurator for Catherine Reid the wife of Master Alexander Dunbar dean of Moray, and for Thomas Dunbar their lawful son, on a charter by Alexander earl of Suther-

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 71.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.* Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 393. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 2.

⁵ See above, pp. 666-668.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Retours. This is given in the Retours under the

head of Caithness, although the sheriffdom of Sutherland, as appears above, was erected in 1601.

⁸ See note, p. 672.

⁹ See above, p. 673.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ See above, pp. 666-668.

land, took seisin of Culmalemoir and Mellak, and a house in Dornoch called the 'vicar of Kilmaleis ehalmer.'¹

In 1476 Sir Robert Crechtone of Sanehar sued John earl of Southirland for wrongfully occupying the lands of Cragtoun in Southirland and the fishing of the same, and withholding the dues.² The Lords Auditors decided that 'for oucht that thai haue sene' the earl should 'devoid and red' the lands and fishing to Sir Robert, and that letters should be written to a sheriff in that part 'to devoid and red the samyn.'³ In 1529 appears in record William Smyth in Cragtoun.⁴ In 1548 John earl of Sutherland granted the lands of Kilmaliecrag in liferent to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol, and Queen Mary in the same year confirmed the grant.⁵ In 1554 the same Earl John gave precept of seisin in the lands of Cragtoun in Culmaly with the 'fische gartht' and pertinents, lying in the earldom of Suthirland and sheriffdom of Innernes, in favour of Alexander Lokart the grandson and heir of the deceased Sir Stephen Lokhart of Gleghorne, saving the earl's own right.⁶ The same lands were included in the grant of the earldom by Queen Mary to her brother Robert Stewart in 1563, and in the grant by the same queen to Earl John in 1566.⁷ In the latter year a seisin of the dean's stall in the cathedral church of Dornoch was witnessed by James Fraser in Culmalyecragtoun.⁸ Patrick Gordoun of Craigtoun (probably the same Craigtoun) was on the assise for a retour of the earldom in 1616, and witnessed the seisin of the same in 1617.⁹

In 1544 (2 March) Robert bishop elect and confirmed of Cathanes, with the consent of the dean and chapter, in order to augment the rental of the church by the sum of 16s. 8d. Scots, and for certain sums of money paid for the repair of the cathedral church, and other favours done by John Graye in Kilmalye, granted to him and to Jonet Mathesoun his wife, and to the male heirs of their body, with remainder to Patrick Gray the brother german of John and to the male heirs of his body, to James Gray the paternal cousin of John and Patrick and to the male heirs of his body, and to the eldest of the female heirs of all the above persons without division and to their heirs whomsoever, the lands of Kilmalykyrk and Rogertkyrk, with the mill, alehouses, multure, sequels, and other profits, lying in the barony of Skebo, diocese of Cathanes, and sheriffdom of Innernes; with power to erect sufficient dwellings, with halls, chambers, fortalices, barns, kilns, stables, mills, pigeonhouses, and all other buildings — to make gardens, orchards, bridges, and stanks, with other buildings and policies convenient for the ground — and to reduce the lands under new cultivation; the grantee paying yearly for Kilmalykyrk with the alehouse 10 marks Scots as old ferme and 10s. in augmentation — and for Rogartkyrk with the mill and alehouse, including money fermes, victual fermes, grassums, astricted multure, custom oats, poultry, and other dues and services, 23 marks Scots old ferme with 6s. 8d. in augmentation — in all 34 marks 3 shillings and 4 pence — and furnishing three suits yearly at the bishop's three head courts held at Skebo; seisin taken at Kilmalykyrk to

¹ Protocol Book of William Gray.

² Acta Auditorum, p. 52.

³ Ibid. These lands were apparently Kilmaly Craigtoun, although there is another Craigtoun in Rogart.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ See pp. 666-668.

⁸ Sutherland Charters.

⁹ Ibid.

be sufficient for the whole.¹ On the same day Sir Alexander Gray chaplain of the chaplainry of Kinauld granted to the same parties the lands of Auchinlong in Dornoch; of which grants John Gray of Culmaly took seisin respectively on 12 and 30 June 1545.² On 6 April 1546 Cardinal David Beton, as papal legate in Scotland and primate of the same, on the petition of John Gray ordered the prior of Pluscardyn and the dean and chancellor of Ross to confirm the grant of Kilmaly and Rogart by apostolical authority.³ On 29 April Kentigern Monepenny dean of Ross and Duncan Chalmer chancellor, on the above mandate, ordered all clergy to publish the same—to cite the bishop, dean, and chapter of Cathanes, and all having interest in the matter, to appear before the delegates in the chapel of the Virgin Mary in the cathedral church of Ross on 12 June following to witness the confirmation of the grant to John Gray—and also to cite Murchard Murray bailie of Dornoch, Sir Robert M'Rath vicar of Kilmaly, Sir Robert Fern curate, and Alexander Ratter parish clerk of Kalmaly, Sir Donald Neilson curate of Rogart, Donald M'Hewin, Allan Thomason, Farquhard Murray *alias* M'Ane Glas, Sir Laurence Smyth, and Donald Thomassone, to appear at the same place and date to inquire into the truth of the premises.⁴ Accordingly David Settoun notary on 5 May summoned Murchard Murray and the others enumerated above, except Sir Laurence Smyth and Donald Thomassone—on 9 May the bishop and chapter—and on 11 May Sir Laurence Smyth and Donald Thomassone.⁵ On 12 June the confirmation was given in due form at the appointed place, the chapel of the Virgin in the cathedral of Ross.⁶ On 2 December a precept of seisin by the earl of Sutherland was witnessed by the same John Gray of Kilmale.⁷ In 1548 a grant of Kilmaliemoir by John earl of Sutherland was witnessed by John Gray of Kilmalie.⁸ In 1550 a confirmation of lands in Rogart by John earl of Sutherland was witnessed by the same John Gray of Culmalie, styled notary public.⁹ In 1554 (11 August), for a certain sum of money paid to him beforehand in his necessity, he sold to Earl John, to his wife Helen Stewart countess of Arol, and to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the lands of Kilmalie and Rogartmoir with the mill and alehouses, lying in the sheriffdom of Inverness and barony of Skebo—the holder paying yearly to the bishop of Cathanes the dues and services specified in the charter to John Gray.¹⁰ On 3 November at Dernivey in Moray the same John Gray witnessed a precept of seisin of the lands of Skelbo by the same earl.¹¹ On 1 December Robert bishop of Cathanes confirmed that sale and another, and both confirmations are witnessed by John Gray of Kilmaly.¹² In 1555 (12 November) Earl John took seisin of the lands of Kilmalie and Rogartmoir.¹³ In 1560 Bishop Robert seems to have granted the same lands to the same earl.¹⁴ Between 1561 and 1566, as we have seen, the same lands are given in the rental of assumptions at the sum of 20 marks yearly.¹⁵ In 1564 Robert bishop of Cathanes on Queen Mary's presentation admitted as hereditary tenant of the lands of Kilmalekirktoon with the teindsheaves and Rogartmoir with the mill and alehouses, forfeited

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*⁹ Sutherland Charters.¹⁰ *Ibid.*⁴ *Ibid.*⁵ *Ibid.*⁶ *Ibid.*⁷ *Ibid.*¹¹ *Ibid.*¹² *Ibid.*⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig.,¹¹ *Ibid.*¹² *Ibid.*

vol. xxiv fol. 15.

¹¹ *Ibid.*¹⁴ *Ibid.*¹⁵ Book of Assumptions.

by John late earl of Sutherland for treason and lese-majesty, Alexander Gordoun the earl's elder son, reserving the liferent to Alexander's mother Helen Stewart countess of Errol and Sutherland; the grantee paying yearly the sum of £30, and seisin taken on the lands of Kilmalekirk-toun to be sufficient for those lands with the teindsheaves and alchouse, and for the lands of Rogartmoir with the mill and alchouse.¹ In 1567 or subsequently John Gray of Sordell and Elizabeth Barelay his wife for themselves and their heirs granted to the same Alexander as earl and to his heirs the right of reversion on payment of 500 marks within the cathedral church of Dornoch to the lands of Kilmalekirk-towne with the alchouse and alchouse croft, sold by the earl to them and to the heirs got between them, with remainder to John's heirs whomsoever.² In 1577 the same Alexander had seisin of the same lands, and in 1581 resigned them and had a new grant.³ In 1583 he again resigned them in favour of his son John master of Sutherland, saving his own liferent, and they were included in subsequent grants or confirmations of the earldom.⁴

In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed to Donald Bruntouch the half of the alchouse of the tower of Gouspy.⁵ In 1471 Alexander Sutherland of Golspie, as we have seen, appears on an inquest of the lands of Drummoy, Bakys, and Torrois.⁶ In 1499 King James IV. for the good service of Odo or Y Makky in Straithnauern both in peace and in war, and especially in the capture of the deceased Alexander Sutherland of Dilrid and ten accomplices the king's rebels and at his horn, granted in heritage to Odo the lands of Fer and others, including those of Gollesby, formerly belonging to Alexander Sutherland in heritage, and forfeited by him for treason.⁷ In 1513, as before noticed, James Dunbar of Cumnok, the son and heir of the deceased Sir James Dunbar of Cumnok, sued Y M-Ky for a pretended royal grant of the lands of Kynnauld and Golspytour, which James Dunbar alleged had been apprised in favour of Sir James his father for debts due to him by Alexander Sutherland of Dilryt, who was subsequently forfeited; and the Lords of Council gave sentence in favour of James Dunbar.⁸ In 1527, by a deed dated on 2 July at the burgh of Fores, James Dunbar of Cumnok for a certain sum of money sold to his kinsman William Suderland of Duffous and to his heirs the lands of Golspytour in the earldom of Suderland and sheriffdom of Innernes, to be held of the earl by service of ward and relief.⁹ In the same year (10 December) a seisin of the earldom in favour of Alexander master of Sutherland was witnessed by William Doddis in Golspetoure, probably the same who in 1529 appears as William Doddis *armiger*.¹⁰ In 1539 King James V., on the narrative that the deceased Odonius or Y M-Ky the father of Donald M-Ky in Strathnauern held in heritage the lands of Fer and others including Golesby or Golspietour, then in the king's hands by reason of nonentry or otherwise, granted those lands in heritage to Donald,

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*

tween Earl Kenneth and Reginald of Moray in 1330. See p. 650.

³ *Ibid.*⁴ *Ibid.*⁶ Fors Charters.⁵ Miscellany of Ban. Club, vol. iii. Golspie, subjected to various interpretations by Celtic authorities (see Old Stat. Acc. and Anderson's Guide), is apparently Norwegian, its earliest known form being Gollespy, in which it appears in the agreement be-⁷ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 519. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 95. See FARR, HALKIRK, and other parishes.⁸ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 635.⁹ *Ibid.*¹⁰ *Ibid.*

erecting the whole into the free barony of Fer.¹ On an inquest made at Innernes in 1542 respecting the lands held by William Sudirland of Duffos in the sheriffdom of Innernes we find the name William Doddis in Golspetour.² In 1546 a charter is witnessed by Alexander Gordoun in Golspetour.³ In 1548 (2 January) a contract of marriage was made at Golspetour between Alexander Tarrell portioner of Doill and Margaret Murray.⁴ In 1551 Queen Mary granted in heritage to Robert bishop of Orkney the lands and barony of Far, including Golspitour, forfeited by Donald M'Ky of Far, who lived and died bastard without lawful heirs or a lawful disposition of the lands, and to be held of the earl of Sutherland.⁵ In 1552 the same queen granted to John earl of Suthirland the escheat of all the goods of the deceased William Dodis in Golspitour, who died illegitimate and intestate.⁶ In 1563 (20 or 22 June) she granted anew in heritage to Alexander Suthirlande of Duffois his lands of Skelbo and others, including the lands of Golspytoure, formerly held by him of John earl of Sutherland, who was forfeited on 28 May.⁷ In the same year (22 September) the lands of Golspietwir were included in the queen's grant of the earldom to her brother Robert Stewart.⁸ In 1564 a precept of seisin of certain lands by the same Robert, then infest in the earldom of Sutherland, was addressed to Gilbert Gordon in Golspetour and John Kennedy.⁹ In 1566 the lands of Golspetour were included in a new grant of the earldom by Queen Mary to Earl John.¹⁰ In 1570 (31 July) George Earl Huntlie, Lord Gordoune and Badenocht, baron of the barony of Farr, and proprietor of certain lands, in implement of a contract between him and Y Macky dated on 29 July at Abirden, and for certain sums of money therein contained to be paid to the earl and his heirs, sold to Y Macky those lands and others, including Golspietour in the earldom of Sutherland, diocese of Cathanes, and sheriffdom of Invernes.¹¹ The same lands were included in the new grant and erection of the earldom in 1601.¹² In 1613 the Lords of Council decided that the barony of Far, including Golspietour, was in the king's hands by reason of nonentry, and that the king had granted the nonentry and other dues to Sir Robert Gordoun of Kynmounwy.¹³ In 1617 John earl of Sutherland was seised in the earldom by John Gordoun of Golspetour younger, bailie and sheriff depute in that part for John Gordoun of Buckie sheriff of Innernes.¹⁴ In 1666 a transumpt was made at Dornoch of the instrument of seisin on the charter of 1539, and also of the charter of 1570, in favour of Donald M'Ky in Strathnaver and his heirs.¹⁵

In 1548 Queen Mary confirmed a charter of John earl of Suthirland, in which he sold or granted in liferent to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol certain lands in the sheriffdom of Innernes, including Golspeimoir with the mill.¹⁶ The same lands and mill were included

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 238. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 38. Sutherland Charters.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 97, 98.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 8.

⁶ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 122.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ Ibid. See DORNOCH, p. 635, and FARR and other parishes *post*.

¹² Ibid. See above, p. 670.

¹³ Ibid. See DORNOCH, p. 636, and FARR and other parishes *post*.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

in the grants of the earldom of Sutherland in 1563 and 1566, and apparently in all subsequent grants.¹

In 1512 Thomas Kynnard of Skelbo granted to Rolland Murray of Spangdull for his good service the liferent of the lands of Westir Abirskor and 'le Morach' in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernis.² In 1525, as we have seen, John Kynnard, the son and heir of the deceased Andrew Kynnard of that ilk last tenant and possessor of the lands and lordship of Skelbo, on a precept by Adam Gordon earl of Sutherland was seised in those lands, including the lands of Estir Abbirseoir, Vestir Abbirseoir, and Moireuch.³ In 1529 (5 May) the same John Kynnard of that ilk, lord of Skelbo, according to an agreement made at Aberdeen on 1 April sold to William Sutherland of Duffous and his heirs the lands of Abirseoir Estir and others in the earldom of Sutherland.⁴ On 16 May the grant was confirmed by Alexander Gordone master of Sutherland.⁵ On 21 May William Sutherland lord of Duffous and Estir Abirscors for a sum of money paid beforehand sold to John Murray of Cambusavy and his heirs the lands of Estir Abirscors, for the service of ward and relief payable to Alexander Gordon master of Sutherland and fear of the lands.⁶ On 4 September the same William Sutherland gave John Murray a charter of Aelmandro and Estir Abirscors.⁷ In 1534 or 1535 a transaction partly relating to the lands of Estir Heberriscors took place in the church of the Friars Minorites of Elgin between the same John Murray and William Sutherland of Duffous and Skailbo the son of the deceased William.⁸ In 1549 Hugh Murray, the son and heir of John Murray of Cambusavy, on a precept of John earl of Sutherland was seised in the lands of Auchandro and Estir Abirscors.⁹ Hugh Murray of Abirscors witnesses a charter by Robert Stewart precentor of Cathanes in 1559, and a seisin of the earldom of Sutherland in 1560.¹⁰ In the latter year or in 1562 John earl of Sutherland granted anew to his kinsman Alexander Sutherland of Duffous and his heirs the baronies of Skelbo and Pronsie, including the lands of Wester Abirscors and Morynehe (or Morocht).¹¹ The lands of Westir and Eister Abirscors were included in the grant of the earldom by Queen Mary to Robert Stewart in 1563.¹² In 1564 Robert earl of Sutherland, on the narrative that the lands and earldom of Sutherland in the sheriffdom of Innernes had been forfeited by John formerly earl, and that he Earl Robert had been infefted in the same by the queen, whose will it was that the free tenants, after settling with her treasurer about their compositions, should be infeft in their tenandries as of old, granted in heritage to Hugh Murray of Abirscors the lands of Auchandro with the pertinents and of Eistir Abirscors with the mill, lying in the same earldom and sheriffdom, formerly held of Earl John in heritage by the same Hugh, who had paid a certain sum as composition to the treasurer — paying the rights and services formerly due.¹³ The new grant of the earldom by Queen Mary to Earl John in 1566 included Eister and Vestir Abirscors, and the seisin was witnessed by

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. Sutherland Charters. See pp. 666-672.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 628.

⁴ *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 629.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 630.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.* Protocol Book of William Gray.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. See above, p. 666.

¹³ Sutherland Charters.

Hugh Murray of Aberseors, who in 1567 was on the inquest that served Earl John heir to Earl Adam and the Countess Elizabeth, and in 1573 on that which served Earl Alexander heir to his father John.¹ In 1578 Earl Alexander sold to the same Hugh for a sum of money paid beforehand the lands of Estir Aberseors and others, which Hugh had resigned—the grantee paying ward, relief, and marriage, answering at the three yearly head courts of the earldom, and doing all other wont services, the ‘bludwytis’ being reserved to the earl.² In 1583 we meet with Cristina Murray, the daughter of Hugh Murray of Aberseors and the wife of Adam Gordoun of Culgour, and in 1618 with John Murray of Abirseors.³ In 1616 William Sutherland of Duffus was served heir to his father in the barony of Skelbo, including Westir Abirseors and Morroeh.⁴

We have seen that in 1401 and various subsequent years grants of the lands of Bakys and others included common pasture in the Glen of Dunrobyn, that the mill of Dunrobyn and an adjacent croft were reserved to the earl of Sutherland, and that the holder of Bakys was bound to furnish millstones to that mill, and keep the fabrick of the same in sufficient repair.⁵ In 1528 King James V. granted certain lands in Sutherland, including Vphald, to Alexander Gordoun master of Sutherland, the son and apparent heir of Adam earl of Sutherland, and to Jonet Stewart his wife.⁶ In 1548 John earl of Suthirland granted in liferent to Hellen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol (besides the lands above specified) the demesne lands called the Manis of Dunrobin with the castle and fortalice, the lands of Platagall, Ruvis, Allertoun, Mellak, and Innerbo with the alehous.⁷ Queen Mary in the same year confirmed the grant.⁸ The grant by that queen to Robert Stewart in 1563 included the lands of Sutherland with the castle and fortalice of Dunrobin and the whole manor of the same, and the lands of Vppate, Innerbo Heiche and Laiche, Clayside, Mellak, Allertoun, and Ruves.⁹ In 1564 a seisin of Doill and Carrell is witnessed by John Leslie in Clyside and Donald Wik Euisoun in Vppatt.¹⁰ The former witnesses also the seisin of the earldom in 1566 following on a grant to Earl John, which included the lands of Vppat, Inverboll, Clayesyde, Mellok, Dunrobbin with the tower, fortalice, place, houses, orchards, gardens, and pertinents, the Glen of Dunrobbin, Allartoun, and Ruiffis.¹¹ In 1573 a seisin of the earldom is witnessed by Thomas Black in Dunrobin, and in 1575 a seisin of the chaplainry of Golspie is witnessed by Thomas Balfour in Dunrobin (probably the janitor afterwards mentioned).¹² In the same year, as we have seen, Catherine Reid, the wife of Alexander Dunbar dean of Moray and Thomas Dunbar their son were seised in the lands of Culmalemoir and Mellak.¹³ The seisin of the earldom in 1617 was witnessed by Robert Aikin in Dunrobbin.¹⁴

The original village of Golspie seems to have stood at Golspietower about a mile from the sea, where there is still a small cluster of cottages.¹⁵ The yearly fair called Andersmes or Saint

¹ Sutherland Charters. See above, pp. 667-669.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Retours.*

⁵ See p. 673.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. See p. 666.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ *Ibid.* See p. 667.

¹² *Ibid.*

⁹ Protocol Book of William Gray. See p. 674.

¹³ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁴ Notes taken in 1854.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15. See p. 678.

⁸ *Ibid.*

Andrew's fair was anciently held on 30 November at Golspiekirktown on the seashore.¹ In 1647, as we have seen, by an agreement between John earl of Sutherland and Thomas Mansone commissioner to parliament for the burgh of Dornoch, the fair was removed to Dornoch, and appointed to be held for 3 days, beginning on 20 November.² In 1793 the village of Golspie stood along the shore.³ Its site was on both sides of the burn east from Golspiekirktown, and is still partially occupied by houses.⁴ The present village also lies along the shore a little to the westward of the former.⁵ It has two yearly fairs, one in May and the other in October.⁶

In 1630 there was a yearly fair held at Kilmaly called 'Sanet Carden his fayre.'⁷

The castle of Dunrobin (Dunrobyn, Dunroben, Dunraby, Drumraby), as it existed previously to recent alterations, was evidently a building of considerable antiquity.⁸ About the year 1630 it is described as follows—'It is a place seated upon a round mote, by the which ther lyeth fair orchards and gardens, planted with all kynd of fruits, hearbs, and flovres vsed in this kingdome, and good store of saffron, tobacco, and rosemarie. The fruit heir is excellent, and cheeflie the pears. In the midst of the court within the castle ther is one of the deipest draw-wells in Scotland, all made of aisler work from the ground, which wes built and finished before the hous was begun. This castle is situat hard by the sea.'⁹ Its earliest notice in authentic record seems to be in 1401, in which year Robert earl of Sutherland granted a charter at the castle of Dunrobyn.¹⁰ His son and successor Earl John dates one of his charters at the same place.¹¹ 'This John earle of Southerland,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'had some trouble at home with his owne friends.'¹² The two sons of his natural brother Thomas Moir, named Robert and the Keath, who had incurred his displeasure, happening to go to Dunrobin, the earl killed Robert on the spot, and severely wounded the Keath, who, although he escaped from the castle was overtaken and slain at a place called Aylen-Kheigh, 'that is, the Kaith his bush.'¹³ In subsequent transactions from the year 1509 till the year 1601 the castle appears as the residence of the earls and the chief messuage of the earldom, seisin of the lands being generally taken at the castle, at its gates, or near the well, which it appears was styled the well of Saint John.¹⁴ In 1512 a seisin of the earldom and castle, done at the latter, is witnessed by David Stewart constable of Drumraby.¹⁵ About the year 1519, while Earl Adam was in Strathbogy, Alexander Gordoun the natural brother of the last earl, who

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 7. Sutherland Charters.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ Notes taken in 1854.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 7.

⁸ See the following notices.

⁹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 26. On the same authority, corroborated by Worsaae, Dunrobin is said to mean the 'mote' or tower of Robin (Worsaae, p. 259), the foundation being ascribed to an earl named Robert who never existed. As the name is a matter of mere conjecture, it may with far greater probability be ascribed to Rahn the *lognadr*, one and apparently the chief of several prefects left to rule the country by

Rognvald Gudrodson in the reign of King William the Lion, and subsequently (in 1222) present at the death of Bishop Adam, whom he had in vain advised to conciliate the infuriated populace. See Orkneyinga Saga, pp. 407-408, and Torfaeus, lib. i. cc. 38-40. From the description of its site as it formerly existed Dunrobin castle may fairly be inferred to have taken the place of a more ancient edifice, one of those curious structures now known as Picts' houses.

¹⁰ Fors Charters. There is no early notice of the castle in the Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters.

¹² Genealogy of the Earls, p. 81.

¹³ See above, pp. 661-672. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 8.

¹⁴ Sutherland Charters.

had in 1509 claimed the earldom, besieged the castle of Dunrobin, but, before a party sent by the earl to raise the siege arrived, he had retired into Strathnaver, leaving a garrison in Dunrobin.¹ It was yielded to Alexander Leslie of Kinnivny, who with a party soon after attacked and slew Alexander Gordoun at Aldquhillin near Kintradwell.² Leslie beheaded Gordoun, and 'his head wes careid to Dunrobin on a spear, and was placed vpon the height of the great tour.'³ In 1527 and 1529 various transactions are witnessed by Thomas Blair constable of the place of Dunrobyn.⁴ In 1546 the constable of the castle was John Gordoun.⁵ About 1550 John Sutherland, the son of Alexander who was slain in 1519, was killed by William Murray of the family of Pulrossie 'vpon the Nether Grein of Dunrobin at the west corner of the garden.'⁶ In 1556, as we have seen, the chaplain of Saint Andrew of Golspy was bound according to the foundation of the chaplainry to officiate when possible in the palace or fortalice of Dunrobin.⁷ In 1563 the yearly payment fixed by a charter of Queen Mary for the lands of Colmekill in Strabruarich was one penny in name of blench ferme to be paid at the castle of Dunrobin.⁸ In 1567 Earl John and his countess, after being poisoned in the castle of Helmsdale, were carried to Dunrobin and died there.⁹ In the same year Alexander master of Sutherland was seized and kept for some time at Dunrobin by George earl of Caithness, who is said to have dwelt there for a time and to have destroyed all the writs of the family of Sutherland that he could find.¹⁰ In 1569 the master was rescued by a stratagem of his friends the Murrays and Gordouns, who in the absence of the earl of Caithness concealed a party on the burn of Golspie, and, having informed the master of their presence by a person in disguise, induced him to elude the vigilance of the earl's servants and to escape to his friends.¹¹ In the same year Thomas Balfour janitor of Dunrobin witnessed a grant of the chaplainry of Golspe, and was probably the person who witnessed a seisin of the same in 1575.¹² On 14 May 1580 Sir Robert Gordoun the historian of the Sutherland family was born at Dunrobin.¹³ 'This year of God one thousand six hundredth forty-one the earl of Southerland did begin to repair the hous at Dunrobin, and finished the great tour the same yeir, wowing it to the top; wherein Anna countesse of Southerland was a very diligent overseer during her husband's absence in the south for the most part of that summer.'¹⁴ 'This year of God one thousand six hundredth fortiefour the earl of Southerland repaired the little tour of Dunrobin.'¹⁵ In 1650 the castle was strongly garrisoned by the earl, who retired into Ross, and the constable, having captured some of Montrose's men, refused to deliver them to that leader, who seems to have made no attempt to take the place.¹⁶ Defoe in the beginning of the last century says, 'The earl of Sutherland has a castle beyond Inverness called Dunrobin, situate on the eastern shore; in the gardens of this seat, though so northerly, saffron grows very well and comes to maturity.'¹⁷ Large additions have

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 95, 96.

² *Ibid.*, p. 96.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 132.

⁵ Sutherland Charters. See p. 650. There seems to be no other notice of a chapel or chaplain in the castle.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 395.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 147.

⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 151, 152.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 314.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 509.

¹² *Ibid.*, pp. 552, 553.

¹³ *Ibid.*, pp. 552, 553.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 552, 553.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 519.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 552, 553.

¹⁷ Tour through Great Britain, 7 ed., vol. iv. p. 261.

recently been made to Dunrobin—the old castle, its tower, and its draw-well, being carefully repaired and preserved; and the whole constitutes the princely seat of the present Duke of Sutherland, the lineal descendant of Hugh Freskyn, and locally known by the old title of the earls, Morfhear Chatt or Maormor of Sutherland.¹

In 1630 there were towers or peels at Golspitour, Golspikirktown, and Aberseors.²

In the parish are the remains of three of those buildings known as Piets' houses—one at Baekies, 10 or 15 feet in height, the interior diameter at the base being 27 feet, and the thickness of the wall $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet—and two near Dunrobin, one of which situated on the seashore, of which from 5 to 10 feet of the height remain, has an interior diameter of 33 feet, with a wall of the average thickness of 14.³

Various ancient implements of brass, wood, and other materials have been dug up in several parts of the parish, most or all of which are now at Dunrobin.⁴

On the links of Golspie are the remains of several circular cairns, one of which lies behind an ancient beach within a few yards of the present flood-mark.⁵

At Strathsteven on the eastern boundary of the parish are two caves placed at about half the height of the perpendicular rocks; one of which, approached by steps cut in the rock, but now rendered inaccessible by a stone wall built below, is supposed to have been the abode of a hermit—the other, accessible by natural indentations and irregular cuttings in the rock, appears to be still occasionally the abode of human beings.⁶

In the churehyard at Golspie is an obelisk of red sandstone about 6 feet high, with the usual grotesque emblems.⁷

'The yeir of God 1609,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'a rock of bastard kynd of cristall wes found in Southerland in the burn of Golspie hard by the Glen of Dounrobin.'⁸

The same authority informs us that in 1620 Sir Thomas Menzeis provost of Aberdeen found a silver mine in Southerland, and sent part of the ore to the mint at London.⁹ The Creig-n-airgid or Silver Rock near Golspie has been supposed the locality of the mine, which the finder concealed, but the name appears to have an older date, and to mean the rock of rents paid in silver.¹⁰

There is said to have been a skirmish at the Little Ferry in 1746 between the soldiers of the government and of Prince Charles Edward, and remains found on the ground, though of much older date, are supposed to be relics of the fight.¹¹

¹ Notes taken in 1854.

² Genealogy of the Earls, p. 8.

³ Notes taken in 1854.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Notes taken in 1854.

⁶ *Ibid.* Pennant, vol. iii. fol. 192.

⁷ Notes taken in 1854.

⁸ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 259.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

¹⁰ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 361. Sir Robert Gordon does not name the silver rock in connection with the discovery of Sir Thomas Menzeis. See also Pennant, vol. i. p. 261.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide, p. 510.

CRIECH.

Crech¹ — Creich² — Creigh.³ (Map, No. 3.)

THE paroch of Creich in Sutherland is twenty four miles long from east to west, Pulrossie being the eastern and Kenlochailse the western extremities thereof. It is not over a mile in breadth in most parts, but in the Highland parts of it there are straths and outskirts striking up from the body. It runs for fourteen miles on the north side of an arm of the German Ocean commonly called in the maps the Firth of Tayn, beginning at Pulrossie near Portnaeulter *alias* Mikle Ferry, and so west to Innerchasley near Castleearn where the tyde ends.⁴ ‘Sutherland,’ says Sir Robert Gordon, ‘is divyded from the province of Rosse by the river Port-ne-couter or Tayn), by the water of Oikell, and by the hight of Glenmuck; so that Casley, Kean Logh Eilsh, and all the lands lying upon that river of Casley evin unto Aldi-Ne-Geale-Gigh and the Laydmore in Assint, and whatsoever els that payeth titles to the parish of Creigh, apperteyneth all to the province of Southerland.’⁵ The whole parish is hilly, and is watered by the rivers Casley and Shin.⁶

At the erection of the chapter of Cathanes by Bishop Gilbert between 1223 and 1245 the church of Crech with its fruits and the fourth of the teinds of Durnach were assigned as the benefice of the precentor.⁷ The subsequent history of the chantry has been given above.⁸ In 1562 Robert Stewart chanter of Cathnes, with the consent of the bishop and chapter, leased for nineteen years to John earl of Suthirland, Helenor countess of Arroll his wife, and their heirs, his benefice of the chantry, including the parsonage of Creich, namely, the teindsheaves of the parish, and the vicarage or small teinds (inclusive of the teinds of the salmon fishings), and his quarter of Dornoch with the glebe and manse there, for the yearly payment of £102 Scots, from which was deducted the fee of the curate of Creich and the staller’s fee in Dornoch.⁹

The church (probably dedicated to a saint corruptly named Saint Teavneck) appears to have always stood on the site of the present church at Crieich on the north shore of the Dornoch Firth, 9 miles from the east and about 30 from the west end of the parish.¹⁰ It was probably repaired by Sir Robert Gordon in 1619, when he ‘interprysed the building and

¹ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

² A. D. 1562. *Ibid.* A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1640 MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

³ *Circa* A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 9.

⁴ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect. This description, written in 1726, is still substantially correct, with the exception only of the measurements in miles. See Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 1, 2. written about the year 1630.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 601.

⁸ See DORNOCH, pp. 617-619.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 7. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old and New Stat. Acc. Anderson’s Guide.

repairing of the parish churches of Southerland, being almost all ruynous to the ground.¹ It was rebuilt in 1790, and has been since repaired.²

There were burying-grounds and apparently chapels at Knoockan (or Croockan) and Achness, 'at the first of which (1726) they bury for ordinary.'³

The yearly value of the chantry of Cathanes early in the sixteenth century is given in the *Libellus Taxationum* at £53, 6s. 8d., and about the same period it was taxed to the amount of £16, 10s. 3d.⁴ Between 1561 and 1566 its yearly value when leased was, as we have seen, £102.⁵ In 1569 Donald Logane 'reidar in the Irsche toung' at Creich had for his stipend £21, and in 1574 he had £14 and the kirklands.⁶

Between the years 1203 and 1214 Hugh Freskyn granted to Master Gilbert archdeacon of Moray, to his heirs of the same family whom he might choose to name, and to their heirs, along with his lands of Seelbol, the lands of Fernebutllyn (Ferenbenthlin, Ferinbeildin, Ferrinbusky, Ferrincoskarie, Chilis, Shishehelis) and Innerchyn (Innerchen, Innersehyn, Invershin), and all his land of Suthyrland towards the west lying between those lands and the bounds of Ros.⁷ This grant, which apparently included the entire parish of Creich, was confirmed before 1214 by King William the Lion, and before 1222 by William lord of Suthyrland the son and heir of the deceased Hugh Freskyn.⁸ Before 1235 or in that year Gilbert the archdeacon, afterwards bishop of Cathanes, granted the same lands in heritage to his brother Richard.⁹ In 1235 King Alexander II. confirmed the grant, the lands to be held of the heirs of Hugh Freskyn (afterwards earls of Sutherland) according to the charter of Hugh Freskyn, the bishop's charter to Richard, and King William's confirmation, saving the king's service.¹⁰ In 1308 King Robert Bruce, besides restoring to William earl of Ross his own lands, caused him to be infeft in the land of Dingwal, and also in the land of Ferneroskry (Fernerosker, Ferneroscen) in the earldom of Suthyrland, a grant apparently including the whole parish.¹¹ In 1321 or 1322 King Robert seems to have confirmed the grant.¹² The lands of the parish, described in general terms as those of Braychat (or Ferrincoskarie) and Strathoykil, were subsequently held by William earl of Ross the grandson of the former, by Paul M'Tyre, who appears in record from 1350 to 1372, by the crown between the years 1427 and 1431, and apparently also by the lords of the Isles as earls of Ross from 1431 till their final forfeiture in 1476.¹³

The lands of Innerchyn, included in the above grants and confirmations between the years 1203 and 1235, were probably included also in the arrangement made in 1330 between Kenneth earl of Suthyrland and Reginald of Moray of Culbyn (the descendant of Richard of Moray),

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 361.

² Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

³ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. MS. Maps. in Adv. Lib.

⁴ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

⁵ See above, p. 684.

⁶ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 4, 28, 65. Blaeu. See also the following notices.

⁸ Sutherland Charters. Creich at that period probably included Assynt.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 117. Rob. Index, p. 15, no. 17; p. 16, no. 4. Balmagown Charters. See also the following references.

¹² Rob. Index, *ut supra*.

¹³ Cronicle of the Earls of Ross. Balmagown Charters. Rob. Index, p. 98, no. 327; p. 114, no. 10. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iii. no. 64; lib. vi. no. 116. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 36, 37, 65. See DINGWALL, p. 488.

and in the retour of the lands of Skelbo in 1518 in favour of Andrew Kynnard of that ilk (a descendant of the same Richard.)¹ In 1525 John the son and heir of the deceased Andrew Kynnard of that ilk was seised in the lands and lordship of Skelbo, including the lands of Auchindoweich and of Innirschyn with the fishings.² The subsequent history of the lands of Innerschine and Awchindowich with the fishing of the water and 'lyn' is included in that of the barony of Skelbo.³

In 1275, as we have seen, by an agreement between William earl of Suthyrland and Archebald bishop of Cathanes, the lands of Miggeweth, Swerdisdale (or Swerdel), and Creych, with the fishing of the Bunnach (now Bonar) were among those ceded by the earl to the bishop.⁴ In 1430 King James I. granted to Nele Nelesoun, for his homage and for his service in the capture of his deceased brother Thomas Nelesoun a rebel, the lands of Creich, Gerloch, and others in the earldoms of Ross and Suthirland and sheriffdom of Innernys.⁵ In 1464 John of Yle, earl of Ross and lord of the Isles, granted to his brother Celestine of the Isles, and to his heirs by his wife Finvola the daughter of Lachlan Macgilleon of Dowart, with remainder to his heirs by any other wife, with reversion thereafter to the earl, the lands of Fernacosereche, namely, Crechmor, Spanigidill, Davacherry, Plodd, and Pulrossy, in the earldom of Sutherland.⁶ In the same year King James III. confirmed the grant.⁷ In 1467 John earl of Sutherland was infest (apparently on a crown precept) in the lands of Pulrossie and Spainzidell.⁸ In the rental of assumptions between 1561 and 1566 the bishop's lands of Soirdaill, Mygdail, and Lytill Creicht are entered as leased for the yearly payment of £20.⁹

In 1472 a grant of the lands of Thorboll is witnessed by Hugh Poilson (*Pauli*), probably a descendant of Paul Mactyre and one of the family that held the lands of Creichmore.¹⁰ Sir John Poilson (probably of the same family) was, as we have seen, presented to the chantry of Cathanes in 1497, and was chanter in 1504.¹¹ In 1515 Sir Donald of the Isles of Lochaleh granted to Hector Monro of Foulis his fishing of Kelysakkell (the Kyles of Oikel, apparently the same as the Bunnach) in the sheriffdom of Innernys.¹² In 1541 Margaret Ylis the wife of Alexander Ilis of Glengarry with the consent of her husband granted to Hector Monro of

¹ Sutherland Charters. See above, p. 685, and DORNOCH, pp. 627, 628.

² *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 628.

³ See DORNOCH, pp. 628-635. 'In the river of Shin ther is a great lin and overfall of water, wher ther is good fishing of salmond, which is the biggest and largest salmond in the kingdome.' Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 2. 'There is on this river a cascade of a considerable height, and a deep pool below into which the water falls from the rock. The fish, leaping to get over the cascade, fall into a *creel* (or basket) and are killed. Most of the fish were in use to be caught in this way. The cascade is called *the Linn*.' Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ See DORNOCH, p. 603.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iii. no. 64. Sir Robert Gordon informs us that Thomas the son of Neill Macky, of the Strathnaver family, having slain Mowett laird of Fresh-

weik, and being therefore denounced rebel, Angus Morray the son of Morray of Culbin induced Morigin and Neill the brothers of Thomas to apprehend him. This they did at Spanizedaill, and then delivered him to Angus Morray, by whom he was taken to the king. Thomas was then put to death, and his lands of Pulrossie and Spanize-dail (of which below) were given to Angus Morray. Sir Robert further affirms that Creighmore, which was held by the same Thomas, was then given by the lord of the Isles to the Polsons. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 64, 65.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vi. no. 116.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 75, 329, 430. This infestment, extant in 1630, has disappeared.

⁹ Book of Assumptions. ¹⁰ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ See DORNOCH, pp. 617, 618.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. fol. 84.

Fowls the superiority of the lands of Creichmore and the fishing of Killisochell.¹ In the same year King James V. confirmed the grant.² In 1545 there appears in record John Poilsons of Creichemoir, and in 1559 and 1567 Thomas Poilson of Creychmoir.³ In 1589 Master Hector Monro was served heir male and of entail to his father Robert Monro of Fowls the elder in the superiority of the lands of Creichmor in Breachat, and the fishings of Kellisochell both in salt water and in fresh, lying in the earldom of Ross and the barony of Fowls.⁴ In 1608 Robert Monro was served heir male of entail and provision to his father Master Hector Monro of Foullis in the superiority of the same lands, lying in the barony of Fernicosky in Brachat in the earldom of Sutherland.⁵ In 1635 Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovat was served heir male to his father Symon Lord Fraser of Lovat in the superiority of Creichmoir, lying as before.⁶

In 1525 Rore Murra of Spandail appears as one of the bailies of the earl of Sutherland in giving seisin of the barony of Skelbo.⁷ In 1527 King James V. granted certain lands in Strathalladale to Gavin Murray the son of Roderic Murray of Spayngdale.⁸ In 1529 the same king granted to Alexander Murray the son of Rore Murray of Spangdale the fermes and dues of the same lands, which had been in the king's hands since 22 July 1527 by reason of the nonentry of the late Gavin Murray the brother of Alexander.⁹ In 1545 the same Alexander, styled of Begos (in Strathalladale), and William Murray of Spanzedaill, appear as burgesses of Dornoch.¹⁰ In 1546 two of the witnesses to a notarial summons were Gilbert Murray of Spanzedaill and Hugh Murray his son.¹¹ Gilbert is said to have fallen at Pinkie in 1547.¹² About the year 1550 mention is made of William Morray, the son of Caen Morray, one of the family of Pulrossie.¹³ In 1553 Walter Murray of Spanzedell sold to Gavin Murray his brother and to his heirs male, with remainder in succession to his brother Gilbert and his heirs male, to his brother Neil and his heirs male, to John Murray the son of the deceased John Murray in Aucherry, and to Walter himself and his heirs whomsoever bearing the surname and arms of Murray, the lands of Spanzedell, Floid, Aucherry, and Pulrosse, with the mill of Spanzedell, lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernes.¹⁴ In the same year Queen Mary granted to Gavin Murray a crown charter of the lands.¹⁵ There appear in record in 1555 Alexander Suderland in Spanzedaell, in 1562 John Suderland or Hectorson in Acharrie and Alexander Suderland his brother german, in 1567 William Murray of Spanzedell, and in 1577 George Murray in Balliblair.¹⁶ In 1579 or previously John Murray of Spanzedaill granted in liferent to his wife Jonet Monro the daughter of the deceased George Monro of Daucharty, and in heritage to the heirs got between them, with

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 80.

² *Ibid.*, ff. 80, 86.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Sutherland Charters. Sir Robert Gordon, as above stated, affirms that the lauds of Pulrossie and Spanzedaill were granted by King James I. to Angus Morray (of the Culbin family) about 1430. Genealogy, p. 65.

Angus was soon after slain in Strathnaver. *Ibid.*, p. 66.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 41.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 41.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 129.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 132.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 193.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ Sutherland Charters.

reversion to John himself and his heirs, the lands of Polrossie and the lands of Floid, lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Inverness.¹ In 1579 King James VI. confirmed the grant.² In 1599 George Morray was served-heir to his father John Morray of Spainzedell in the lands of Spainzedell with the mill, Acharrie, Floid, and Pulrossie, in the lordship of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Inverness, of the old extent of £14, 13s. 4d.³ George Murray of Spainzedaill appears in 1613 as having or pretending a right to the lands of Farr, and in 1616 on an assise for the service of John earl of Sutherland as heir to his father John.⁴ In 1618 appears Walter Murray the son of the deceased John Murray of Spainzedaill, and apparently the brother of George.⁵

From 1554 to 1579 John Gray of Kilmaly, who in that year sold the lands of Kilmaly to John earl of Sutherland (or exchanged them for Sordell), appears as John Gray of Swerdell (or Sordaill).⁶ His son Gilbert Gray, chanter of Cathnes, and afterwards styled of Suardell, appears in 1577, 1579, and 1608.⁷ Among the sons of Gilbert was Robert Gray of Ospisdell, who appears in record in the year 1616.⁸

In 1541 (20 April) Margaret Ylis the wife of Alexander Ilis of Glengarry with the consent of her husband granted to Hector Monro of Fowlis the half of the lands and fishings of Fernecosky in Braycat, namely, the half of the lands of Inzeorane, Linsetteroy, Linsettmore, Altasbeg, Altasmore, and Achinzeis, with the half of the mill of Inzeorane.⁹ On the same day Hector Monro resigned the lands to King James V., who confirmed the charter of Margaret Ylis and gave Hector Monro a new grant of the same lands.¹⁰ On the same day Thomas Dingvale of Kildune resigned the (other) half of the same lands and fishings, which King James then granted to him anew.¹¹ In 1541 (20 April—22 June) Thomas Dingwell, by a charter dated at Inzeorane, sold his half of the lands to George Monro of Dalcarty.¹² On 22 June King James V. granted to George Monro a crown charter of the same half of Farnycosky.¹³ In 1552 Queen Mary granted to Huchoum Monro, the brother german of Robert Monro of Fowlis, the nonentry and other dues of the half of the lands of Ferrynosque in Brachat between the waters of Schyn and Castnay (Casley), namely, the half of Inverren with the half of the mill, multure, and fishing, the half of Leynsidemore, the half of Leynsiderooy, the half of Altesbeg, the half of Altesmore, and the half of Anchies with the half of its fishing, *in the earldom of Ros*, in the queen's hands since 'the redemptioun and lousing tharof maid be Thomas Dingwell of Kildun furth of the handis of George Monro of Dalcarty.'¹⁴ In 1554 (4 March) the same queen granted to Thomas Dingwell of Kildun the dues of the same half of Farnycosquy in Braquhar since his redemption of the same from George Monro.¹⁵ On 5 March she granted to the same Thomas a letter of regress to the same lands, sold by him under reversion to George Monro of Dalcarty.¹⁶

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. fol. 95.

² Ibid.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ Ibid. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 105.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiv. fol. 80.

⁸ Ibid., vol. xiv. ff. 80, 86.

⁹ Retours.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid., vol. xv. fol. 38.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvii. no. 159. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 9.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 121.

¹⁷ Ibid., vol. xxvi. fol. 64.

¹⁸ Ibid., vol. xxvi. fol. 69.

In 1555 the same Thomas Dingwell sold his half of Farincosky to Duncan Bayne of Tulch, and in 1556 Queen Mary granted to Duncan Bayne a crown charter of the same.¹ In 1563 Alexander Bane of Tullich granted his half of Ferrincosky and its fishings to Robert Monro of Fowlis (holder of the other half) in exchange for the lands of Wester Logy and certain lands in the burgh of Dingwell; and Queen Mary in the same year granted to each a crown charter of the lands exchanged.² In 1577 Donald M^cAngus M^cAllister of Glengarrie was served heir to his granduncle Sir Donald Ylis of Lochelche in the half of the lands of Ferncosky, namely, Inveran, Leinset, Altesbeg, Altesmoir, and Achenis, in Brachate in the dukedom of Ross, of the old extent of 50 shillings.³ In 1589 Master Hector Monro was served heir male and of entail to his father Robert Monro of Fowlis the elder in the lands of Fernecoskie, namely, Innerane with the mill and salmon fishings, Lynsettrocy, Lynsettmoir, Altesbeg, Altesmoir, and Achiness with the salmon fishings—which lands with the superiority of Creichmoir and the fishings of Kellisoquill were of the old extent of £10.⁴ In 1608 Robert Monro was served heir male of entail and provision to his father Master Hector Monro of Fowllis in the same lands of Ferincosky in Brachat, described as Innerane with the mill and the half of the salmon fishings of the Ness of the water of Schin, Linceatroy, Linceatmoir, Altasbeg, Altasmoir, Innerald, and Achnes, with the half of the salmon fishing in the fresh water of Caslay and the 'lyn' of the same, with the woods, fishings, outsettis, and sheillingis of Glencaslay belonging to it, and with pasture, all lying in the barony of Ferincosky in Brachat in the earldom of Sutherland.⁵ In 1635 Hugh Lord Fraser of Lovat was served heir male to his father Symon Lord Fraser of Lovat in the same lands, described as in 1608.⁶

In 1341 William Earl of Ross granted to Hugh of Ross his brother the lands of Strathochill with the fishing of Acheferne and Stogok.⁷ In 1350 (30 April) he appointed the same Hugh his heir, provided the king's consent were obtained, and on 18 May he ordered his baillie William Marschal (of Balnagown) to infest Hugh in the same lands.⁸ In 1365 the same Hugh of Ross, lord of Fylorth, granted to his son-in-law Paul Mactyre, and to his wife Mariot of Graham the niece of Hugh, and to their heirs, with remainder to Paul's heirs by any other wife, and to his brothers and their lineal descendants, the lands of Tutumtarvok, Turnok, and others in Strathokel.⁹ In 1384 William Ross (of Balnagown) appears to have been infest in the lands of Inverchasly.¹⁰ In 1430 King James I. granted to Neil Nelesoun, for his homage and for his service in the capture of his deceased brother Thomas Nelesoun, certain lands in Ross and Sutherland, including Daane, Tittumtarwauch, Lanchort, and Drinayde, partly in this parish.¹¹ In 1475, in a marriage contract between the families of Balnagovin and Lochboy,

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 269. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxviii. fol. 2.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. nn. 593, 594. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. ff. 98, 99. 'These lands of Ferrincoscarie or Sleashehilish fell to the lairds of Glengarie and Kildun by the marriage of two sisters of the surname of Clandonald, who wer heyr and heretors of the same; which lands were sold by Glencarie and Kildun to the Banes, and the Banes disposed them to the Monrois,

who doe possesse most of them at this day (1630), and have alwise kept a true and inviolable friendship with the erles of Southerland.' Genealogy of the Earls, p. 65.

³ Retours.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Balnagown Charters.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Cronicle of the Earlis of Ross.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iii. no. 64. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 64, 65. See above, p. 686.

John Ross of Balnagovin and Alexander his son and apparent heir became bound in case of their nonfulfilment of the contract to pay to Hector McGillane of Lochbooy the sum of 600 marks Scots, until payment of which it was agreed that Hector or his heirs should hold the 22 marklands of Strathochell.¹ In 1490 King James IV., as tutor and governor of his brother James duke of Ross, granted to David Ross the nephew and apparent heir of John Ross of Balnagovin the lands of the lordship of Balnagovin, including Strathochell and Hospital, with the mills, brewhouses, tenants, and tenandries, resigned by John Ross and reserving the liferent to him.² In 1528 King James V. granted to William Ros, the brother of the deceased Walter Ros of Ballangoune, the ward, relief, and nonentry of the three marklands of Crokane, the 7 marklands of Cullace, and the 5 marklands of Pellavehnie, and other lands in Strathoikel, in the king's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of David Ros of Ballangoune, for the yearly payment of 20 marks to James earl of Murray or any other having the ward and relief of the lands.³ In 1576 King James VI. granted in heritage to George Ros the son and apparent heir of Alexander Ros of Balnagowne, and to Marjory Campbell his wife, with remainder to George's heirs whomsoever, certain lands in the barony of Balnagowne, including the half davach of Innercaslay with the salmon fishing, formerly belonging to Alexander in liferent and to George in heritage, resigned by them, and to be held for the services formerly due.⁴ In 1578 the lands and barony of Strathokell with the pertinents, namely, Innercaslay with the fishing of the same called the Serelak, the half of the Tullen (or Cullen) of Caslaw, Glencaslaw, Glenmwke, lie Crokaue, Tutentarroch, the two Turnochis with the fishing of Essokell, Killochel, Drumleth (or Drumloch), the lands of Amat, Langwell with the fishing of the water of Enoch, Dalmaachtane, and lie Downe (most of which lie north of the Oikel), and certain lands in Ross, formerly belonging in heritage to Alexander Ros of Balnagowne and George Ros his son and apparent heir, and held by them of the bishop of Ros and others, were in defect of movable goods appraised in favour of James Scrymgeour of Duddop constable of Dundie for the sum of £10,000 as principal and the sum of £500, 6s. 8d. as the fee of the appraising sheriffs, to be held of the crown for the services formerly due.⁵ In 1582 James Scrymgeour resigned the lands, which were then granted by King James VI. to George Ros of Balnagovin and the male heirs of his body, with remainder to his male heirs whomsoever.⁶ In 1584 George Ros apparent of Balnagoun sold to Hugh Muuro of Asschyn and his heirs the town and lands of the davach of Innercaslaw with Glenmwk, Stronroschir with the coble fishing called Swlach, Rossach with the salmon fishing of the 'lyn', and the 'lynes' of Innercaslaw, in the barony of Strathokell; and in special warrantee of the same certain lands in Stracharroun in Ross.⁷ In 1614 John earl of Sutherland was served heir to his father Earl Alexander in the lands of Strathokell, Invercaslay with the fishing called lie Sulak, the half of the Lyn of Caslay, Glencaslay, Glenmuck, Knoockan, Tutumtreach with the fishings, the two

¹ Acta Dom. Conc. pp. 346, 347. See TOROSAY, pp. 311, 312, and KILMUIR EASTER, p. 462.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xii. no. 285.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ix. fol. 140.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. xliii. fol. 102.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. xlv. fol. 67.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. xlix. fol. 11.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. l. fol. 111. See KINCARDINE, p. 413.

lie Turnakis with the fishing of Eshokell, Kendlochalsch, Drumvaich, and certain lands in Ross, together of the old extent of £150.¹ In 1642 Robert Lord Ross of Halkheid and Melvill was served heir to Lord William his brother german in the lands of Strathokell, namely, Auchnafairne and Sloggak, the lands of Innerchasley, with the fishing called Soulak, half the salmon fishing of the Lin of Chasley, the lands of Glenchasley and Glenvaik, the lands of Hospistill, the lands of Knokan, the lands of Tuttintarroch with the salmon fishing, mill, and mltures, the lands of the Tua Turnakis with the salmon fishing of Eschokell, the lands of Kendlochalshe, the lands of Drumvaiche, Amott, Langwall, with the salmon fishing, Enak, Dalnauchtane, and Doun.² In 1657 David Ros of Belnagowin was served heir male to his father David Ros of Belnagowin in the same lands of Straithhochell, of which the lands of Dalvanachtan and Downe extended to 6 davachs, 4 davachs lying 'benorth' the water of Oickell in the sheriffdom of Sutherland, and 2 davachs on the south of the same in the sheriffdom of Ros and of old in the sheriffdom of Inverness.³

In 1630 there was a yearly fair held at Creigh named Saint Teavneek's fair.⁴ The Kyle markets are now held at Bonar Bridge in July, August, and September.⁵

In the parish are the sites or remains of several of those circular buildings known as Picts' houses, built of dry stones and open at the top.⁶

Dun-Criech on a hill near the church is a vitrified fort, locally believed to have been built by Paul Mactyre.⁷

'Near by the place where the river (Shin) empties itself in the sea is an old ruinous castle called the castle of Innershin, built by one of the family of Duffus of the surname of Sutherland, to whom Innershin belongs.'⁸

There were castles also at Pulrossie and Ospisdale.⁹

Near the church in 1790 stood an obelisk about 8 feet high, bearing the figure of the cross, and supposed to mark the grave of a Danish chief.¹⁰

The north bank of the Oikel (Eckialdsbacka) has been the scene of numerous battles, of which its tumuli still bear evidence, and among which is recorded a battle in the ninth century between Sigurd Earl of Orkney and a Scottish earl named Melbrigd, in which Sigurd was slain.¹¹ Sigurd was buried at Eckialdsbacka.¹² There are on record also the battle of Tutumtarvach fought between Macleod of Lewis and the men of Sutherland and Strathnaver between the years 1400 and 1430; the battle of Aldycharrish or Doricha in 1479 or 1487 between the Rosses of Balnagown and the Mackays aided by the men of the earl of Sutherland; and the battle of Mackell between the master of Sutherland and the Mackays of Strathnaver.¹³

¹ Retours.

² Ibid.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 7.

⁵ New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Macfarlane's Geog. Coll.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 8. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

⁸ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. This appears to be the old castle 'at the top of the Kyle' mentioned in the Old

Stat. Acc., near which is *Curor na Croike*, the hill of the gibbet.

⁹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 8. ¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 3. *Antiquitates Celto-Scandicæ*, p. 5. Worsaae, p. 259. ¹² Ibid.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 61, 78, 97. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Anderson's Guide. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's History of the Frasers, p. 66.

There is a place in Southerland besyd Spainzidell, wher the inhabitants doe tak a kynd of fish called sandells efter this maner: At hight streames and springs in summer, when the sea is at a low eb, their doth appeir in the firth of Port-ne-Couter some banks or bedds of sand; at these tymes the commoun sort of the inhabitants doe conveen on horsbak to the number of six or seaven hundred people, and so doe swim towards these sands; and, when they doe aryve vpon these bedds of sand, incontinent they run their horses at full speed, stryveing who can first aryve at the fishing place, wher they doe indevoar with all dilligence to tak these sandeills, not unlyk vnto sprats, whereof they tak such abundanee dureing some few dayes that it sufficeith them for provision of that kynd of fish dureing the Lent and the most part of the yeir following.¹

ASSYNT.

Assend² — Assint³ — Assent⁴ — Assyin⁵ — Assynt.⁶ (Map, No. 4.)

THE parish of Assynt is identical with the ancient district. 'Southerland,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'is sepatat from Assint by the Gormlogh, Finlogh, and Loghmarkell; toward Toinne-toyne by the Glasiom lying north-east from the Bin-more in Assint; by the Eynagh of Bin-more in Assint inclyning to Glen-muck; and by Strathnordell falling into Kean Logh Eilsh the mother of the river Oikell.'⁷ The district is extremely rugged and mountainous, rising in Benmore (or Conval) to the height of 3230 feet above the sea, and is diversified by numerous lakes, of which the largest is Loch Assynt lying about the centre, and containing the Isle of Assint, the island Skadden, and the island Nachassh.⁸ The rocky coast, from 20 to 40 miles long, is indented by Loch Inver, Loch Row, Clashmessie bay, and Loch Ardvar, and bordered on the north by the larger arm of the sea named Kyle Skow (Cheules Gung, Killiscuig, the narrow Kyle).⁹ Around the coast are the islands Elan-a-gharin, Elan-au-du, Maul-elan-an, Oldney (or Oldernay), Cronay, Soay, and Klett.¹⁰ Assynt consists of Ard-assynt or Upper Assynt, Mean-assynt or Middle Assynt, and Fan-assynt or Lower Assynt.¹¹ It was anciently divided into four davach-lands, each containing eight oxgates, namely — the davach of Ard-assynt extending from the river Skiak to Knockan; the davach of Edra-isk lying between the river Kirkaig and Inver, and having pasture in the Sulvine and Canisp hills; the davach

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 5. Evidently a pre-Reformation custom.

² A. D. 1455. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

³ A. D. 1509. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1580. *Ibid.* A. D. 1649. *Ibid.*

⁴ A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 89. A. D. 1553. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 85. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1576. *Ibid.* A. D. 1577.

Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1578. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 1.

⁵ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁶ *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 1.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. MS. Maps. Modern Maps. ¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc. ¹¹ Old Stat. Acc.

of Rowstore between the river Inver and Clashmessie; and the davoch of Slish-a-chilish (the side or skirt of the Kyle) from Clashmessie to Glencoul.¹

The church of Assynt is the only church of the diocese of Caithness not included in Bishop Gilbert's charter between 1223 and 1245 — subsequent records sufficiently establishing the fact that it was not one of the six churches reserved to the bishop.² It is therefore probable, as will be seen, that Assynt was at that time a part of the parish of Criech.³ The origin of the church is locally ascribed to Angus Macleod, laird of Assynt between 1436 and 1443, who, we are informed, travelled into France and Italy, and having received favours from the pope vowed that he would build and endow a church at Assynt.⁴ The earliest record notice of the church appears to be in 1455, when Sorlet rector of Assend witnessed the charter of Bishop William to his brother Gilbert Mudy.⁵ In 1509 Sir Thomas Robertson rector of Assint was one of the curators appointed in the case of Alexander Sutherland a claimant of the earldom.⁶ In 1547 and 1553 the rector of Assent was Sir Robert Macenair.⁷ In 1574 the charge was vacant; in 1576 the minister was William Gray; and from 1577 to 1580 the rector of Assent was William Makquene.⁸ The benefice seems to have been a prebend of the cathedral from 1455 downwards, the rector having a manse in Dornoch lying on the east of the manse of the prebendary of Kinnald.⁹ In 1793 the glebe consisted of half an oxgang, partly hill partly lowland, called the half oxgate of Camore, the lower part being 'runrig.'¹⁰

The church stood at Kirktoon, Balnaheglisc, or Achnahiglash, at the east end of Loch Assynt, 'beautifully situated on a moderately rising ground,' on the right bank of the river Tralegal (Avon Tralligir) falling into the loch.¹¹ Between 1780 and 1793 there remained of the original church an arched vault, the burying-place of the Macleods of Assynt, with an apartment above it supposed to be a place for private devotion.¹² The upper apartment was removed before 1793; the vault and cemetery remain.¹³ In 1793 the church, apparently built during the last century, and repaired about the year 1785, stood without the burial ground.¹⁴ The present church, 'a small lonely building,' also without the cemetery, is said to have been built 'in the end of last century.'¹⁵

In 1793 there were burying-grounds (all perhaps the sites of chapels) at Gedavolich near Loch Nedd, at Ardvor, on Oldney island (apparently the Skyrmyuig of Pont's map), on the farm of Store, and at the mouth of the river Inver.¹⁶ At two of those places, Inver and Store, are the remains of chapels.¹⁷

¹ Old Stat. Acc. See *post*. For a minute description of the localities of the parish see the Old Stat. Acc., and for a good general idea of the surface see Anderson's Guide.

² Sutherland Charters. Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCH, pp. 601, 602, 615.

³ See the following notice, and p. 694 *post*.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 69, 262. Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123. See DORNOCH, p. 607.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 89; vol. xxv. fol. 85.

⁸ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlv. fol. 1.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123. Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

¹² Old Stat. Acc.

¹³ *Ibid.* New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

¹⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁷ New Stat. Acc.

Between 1561 and 1566 the yearly value of the parsonage and vicarage of Assent, as then leased, was £40.¹ In 1574 the stipend of the reader was £16; and in 1576 the stipend of the minister was £76, 1s. 10d., and some other perquisite not named.²

'Assint,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'wes in former tynes a pairt of Sutherland and of the barony of Skelbo, as appeirs by ane infetment given of the same to the lairds of Kinnaird, who had somtymes the lands of Skelbo.'³ 'Tradition and even documents declare that it was a forest of the ancient thanes of Sutherland.'⁴ It first appears in authentic record about the year 1343, when King David II. granted in heritage to Torkyll M'Cloyd (of Lewis) the four davochlands of Asseynt (Askynkte, Asseyunkte) with the fortalice in the island of the same, the grantee doing the service of a ship of 20 oars when required.⁵ In the beginning of the following century the lands of Assint were held by Roderick Macleod of the Lewis (apparently styled Rory Moir).⁶ In 1502 King James IV. granted a commission to Alexander earl of Huntlie, Thomas lord Fraser of Lovate, and William Monro of Fowlis, or two of them, the earl being one, to lease the lands of Cogeach, Assent, and all the ferme lands that belonged to Torquell Makloid of Lewes, then in the king's hands 'throw the being of the said Torquell his rebell, fugityve fra the lawis, and at his horne,' with power to give part of the lands 'in seal to gude trew men' for such a term as the earl should deem expedient for the king's honour.⁷ In 1508 the same king granted for life to Odo Makky in Strathnavern, for his faithful service in resisting and attacking the king's rebels and others, the lands of Assent and Ladaehogich in the sheriffdom of Innernys, forfeited for treason by Torquell Makeloid formerly of Lewis, with power to sublet.⁸ In 1511 (29 June) the same king granted to Malcolm Makeloid the son and heir of Rory Makeloid (and the brother of Torquill) the lands of Lewis and Wattines in the lordship of the Isles, the lands of Assent in the earldom of Sutherland, and the lands of Coidgeach in the earldom of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernys, with the fortalices, houses, waters, fishings, patronage of churches, and mills, all erected into the barony and lordship of Lewis, with the castle of Stornochway as the chief messuage, and with the provision that, if the lands of Assent were formerly held of the earl of Sutherland, he should suffer no loss of his superiority of the same.⁹ In 1517 the regent Albany appointed Colin earl of Ergile for three years or more as the regent pleased lieutenant of the Isles and of

¹ Book of Assumptions. ² Book of Assignations.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 2. No such infetment of an early date appears among the writs at Dunrobin, unless the grants of Skelbo, Inver-shin, and the land of Sutherland are meant—in which case those grants would include Assynt, and thereby strengthen the belief that it formed part of Crieich. Assent however appears in an infetment of 1525. See *post*.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc., which further asserts that those 'documents are in the archives of the present noble proprietor;' that one of those thanes granted Assint to a person named Mac-kry-cnl, and that from the marriage of a female descendant of Mackrycul with a

younger son of Macleod of Lewis sprang fourteen successive lairds of Assynt, a manuscript history of whom the writer in the Stat. Acc. had read. The superiority of Assynt was certainly claimed by the earl of Sutherland in 1511. See below.

⁵ Rob. Index, p. 48, no. 6; p. 99, l. 13; p. 100, no. 2. Gregory's Highlands and Isles, pp. 72, 73.

⁶ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 262; Gregory, p. 73.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. ff. 108, 111, 112.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 157. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 464.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xvii. no. 16. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iv. fol. 126. This shows that the superiority was at least claimed by the earl of Sutherland.

In 1793 the farms or towns in Assynt were Inverkirkag, Baddynaban, Knoeknannach, Cnlag, Filin-wintering, Drumswordland, and Duchlash, in Edraisk; Baddydarroch, Inver, Brackloch, Baddygrinan-wintering, Torbreck-wintering, Achonaloich, Clacktoll, Store, Ballachladach, Clashmore, Achnacarnan and Dureland, and Culkinaehnakaman, in Rowstore; Clashnessy, Oldeny, Culkin-drumbaig, Drumbaig, Nedd, Glenleag, Ardware, Ryantraid-wintering, and Unapool, in Slish-a-chilish; Ledbeg, Little Assint, Loch-bannoch, Poul-a-garvie, Poullakarkan, Tumore, Edrachalda, Upper and Lower Tubeg, Baddynacabad (the wintering of Edrachalda), Upper and Lower Achmore, Culin, Half Camore, Inchnadaff, Stronchruby, Laing, Ryanerovich, Ledmore, Cromauld, Auldachy, Alpine, and Knock, in Ard-assint.¹

There was, as we have seen, a castle or fortalice on the Isle of Assint in the middle of the fourteenth century, when the lands were granted to Torquyll McCloyd.² It appears to have been included in the subsequent grants of the land, particularly in the grant of 1511.³ In 1585 it was besieged by Honcheon Mackay of Strathnaver in the interest of Donald Neilson, and defended by Neill Honcheonsone then ruler of the district; but the siege was raised by Alexander earl of Sutherland.⁴ In 1646 it was besieged by the Clan Kenzie and held by the same Donald Neilson then laird of Assint, but the siege was abandoned on the proclamation of peace.⁵

The castle of Ardvroek (Ardbrek, Ardwreck, Ardvrack), said to have been built about 1580 or 1590, and now a ruin, stands on a peninsula running into Loch Assynt on its north shore.⁶ In 1650 the marquis of Montrose was kept for a short time in the castle of Ardvroek after his capture by Macleod of Assint.⁷ It was partly destroyed by lightning in 1795.⁸

At Edderachalda on the same shore of Loch Assynt, between Ardvroek and Kirktown, is a ruined house or castle said to have been built by the Mackenzies.⁹

There seem to have been several of the circular buildings named Piets' houses, or similar erections, in the parish, one of which at Clachtoll on the sea shore, defended by a double dike of stone on the land side, is named Tighe-talmidh-no-druinich.¹⁰

In the island of Oldney in 1793 was a cairn, in which was a stone basin with a lid, at one time the receptacle of a variegated mineral about the size of an egg, long held in veneration by the inhabitants, but said to have been stolen by a sailor.¹¹

¹ Old Stat. Acc. The farms or grazings of Auldynfin, Auldanfarn, Strathkeskach, Knoekhurny, and Glaswel, now in Criech, are said to have at one time belonged to the parish of Assynt.

² See above, p. 694.

³ See above, pp. 694, 695.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 181.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 534, 535.

⁶ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 555. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blauen. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide. Miller's Scenes and Legends.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 555. Anderson's Guide.

⁸ Anderson's Guide.

⁹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

¹⁰ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc.

LAIRG.

Larg¹ — Lairg² — Largie.³ (Map, No. 5.)

THE old parish of Lairg included the greater part of the district called Edderachylis, which with a smaller part of the same district belonging to the ancient parish of Durness was in 1724 erected into a separate charge.⁴

The parish of Lairg thus extended from a point near the borders of the parish of Dornoch to the western coast, and was nearly divided into two equal parts by a chain of lakes running from north west to south east, and including Loch Stack, Lochmore, Loch Merkland, Loch Geam, and Loch Shin, of which the last alone is about 24 miles long.⁵ It included two districts — 1. Braechat, nearly the same as the present parish of Lairg, and subdivided into two by Loch Shin, the tract lying on the south of that lake forming the ancient barony of the Gruids; and 2. Edderachylis, namely, the portion of that district lying south of Loch Laxford.⁶ Both districts are extremely rugged and hilly, with a comparatively small proportion of arable land.⁷ In Braechat is the forest styled the Dirimeanigh and in Edderachylis the half of the forest of Dirimore; in Loch Shin are the islands Murie (Mulruy), Donald, Seyad, and Clach Ellan; and the coast of Edderachylis, stretching from the head of Kyle Skow to the head of Loch Laxford, and indented by several smaller arms of the sea, is skirted by about 20 islands, of which the largest is Handa, a mass of horizontal basaltic blocks rising to the height of 600 feet above the sea.⁸

At the erection of the chapter of Caithness by Bishop Gilbert between 1223 and 1245 the church of Larg, as we have seen, and part of the teinds of Dornoch, were assigned to the treasurer.⁹ The subsequent history of the treasury has been already given.¹⁰ In the year 1515 a charter is witnessed by Thomas Faid curate of Larg.¹¹ In 1568 the church of Larg was served

¹ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1515. *Ibid.* A. D. 1568, 1569. Register of Ministers.

² A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 7, 9. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

³ A. D. 1662. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 300.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 9, 10. Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Although Edderachylis doth apperteyn at this day (1630) to Macky, yet it was never a part of Strathnaver, bot it was a portion of the baronie of Skelbo in Sutherland, and hath been a part of the parish of Lairg; though since it went from the lairds of Skelbo it hath payed no tythes to the thesaurer of Cateynes, unto whom the whole tythes of the whole parish of Lairg doe properlie appertain. Neyther doth it at this day apperteyn to any other parish, bot that of late the bishop hath given the tythes to the possessor; nether is

ther any parish church within itself to this day.' Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 9, 10.

⁶ See modern maps.

⁷ *Ibid.* Sutherland Charters. Braechat, or the Brae of Sutherland, appears to have of old included also the parish of Criech. See *CRIECH*, pp. 685-689. Edderachylis, the land between the Kyles, that is, Kyle Scow and Kyle Durness, included the tract implied in its name; but, the district being attached partly to Durness and partly to Lairg, the name seems to have been latterly confined to the portion south of Loch Laxford. See Blaeu's Scotia and Maps, and the Old Stat. Acc. of Edderachylis.

⁸ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 5, 9, 10. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ See *DORNOCH*, p. 601.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 620.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters.

by Donald Williamson reader, in 1569 by the exhorter at Rogart, and in 1574 by Hew Poil-soun reader.¹ In 1662 the Scottish parliament, on a petition of the lord Strathnaver the son of the earl of Sutherland and a report by their commission, found that during the vacancy of the church of Largie between 1652 and 1658 the stipend had been devoted by the presbytery to pious uses, and therefore declared the lord Strathnaver and the earl free of the stipend previously to the year 1661, and assigned it for the years 1661 and 1662 to Mr. James Wood 'sumtyme' minister at Kilpatrick.²

The church appears to have been dedicated to Saint Malrube, and to have always stood on or near the site of the present, built in 1794 near the east end of Loch Shin on its northern shore.³

'On the south side of Kiliscoug,' says a writer in 1726, 'a mile east from Secoury stands the farm of Badeall. At this farm the parish church of Edirachilis is designed to be built with the minister's manse, the parish being lately erected out of the parish of Durmess.'⁴ The church of Elderachylis appears still to occupy the site thus described.⁵

Between 1561 and 1566, as we have seen, the treasurership of Caithness, then held by Master William Gordoun, was worth yearly 3½ chalders of bear and £68, 13s. 4d.⁶ In 1568 the reader of Larg had for his stipend the sum of £20; in 1569 the exhorter at Rogart had 20 marks additional to his stipend 'for supporting of Larg;' and in 1574 the reader at Lairg had £16 and the kirklands.⁷

Among the lands given up to the earl of Sutherland by Bishop Archebald in 1275 were the 4 davachs of Largge.⁸ The lands of Aqhaqhasse, resigned with those of Thorboll and others by Nicolas of Suthirland, granted by Earl Robert to Henry the son of Nicolas, confirmed to Henry by his brother John in 1408, and confirmed by John earl of Suthirland in 1444 to Alexander the son and heir of Henry, appear to lie in the parish of Lairg.⁹ About the year 1519 Alexander master of Sutherland is said to have taken the lands of Gruids from John Macky of Strathnaver.¹⁰ In 1548 John earl of Sutherland granted to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol, the liferent of certain lands, including the Two Largis, Schenanes, and Cragy.¹¹ Queen Mary in the same year confirmed the grant.¹² In 1554 (25 April) Walter Seytoun of Tulybody, who had been seised in the following lands on a precept by John earl of Sutherland, for certain favours done and certain sums of money paid to him by the earl, and in terms of a contract between them dated 5 March, resigned the lands of Grwde lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Inverness, extending to 7 davachs, namely, the lands of Clunok, Petterquhasty, the Ord of Petfure with the mill, Auchanne, and Plaid, with the mills, fishings, and other pertinents.¹³ The lands of Cragie were in 1560 or 1562 included

¹ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 390.

³ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 7. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu. New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. See above.

⁵ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCH, p. 626.

⁷ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁸ See DORNOCH, pp. 603, 604.

⁹ See DORNOCH, pp. 628, 629.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 97. See *post*.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

¹² *Ibid*.

¹³ Sutherland Charters.

in the barony of Skelbo then granted by John earl of Sutherland in heritage to Alexander Sutherland of Duffous.¹ In 1563 the same barony, granted to the same Alexander by Queen Mary, included the lands of Astraydaill in Brachat.² In the same year the earldom of Sutherland, as granted by the queen to her brother Robert Stewart, included Larg (or Lairgis), Schennynes, Cragie, Grudy, Plaide, Petfuire, Clynall, Pittarkessie with the mill, Auchannye, Torrobull, and Kynnowie.³ The same lands were included in the new grant of the earldom to Earl John in 1566.⁴

Of the islands granted in 1386 by King Robert II. to Ferchard Leche those of Calwa and Sanda lie on the coast of Edderachylis in this parish.⁵ In 1515 Andrew Kynnard of that ilk and of Skelbo, for faithful service to be done to himself and his heirs, granted in heritage to John M'Ky, the son and heir of Odo M'Ky of Stranavern, the lands of Eddirquhelis in the barony of Skelbo and sheriffdom of Innernes.⁶ In 1525 the lands were included in the same barony, then held by John Kynnard the son and heir of the deceased Andrew.⁷ In 1551 Queen Mary granted in heritage to Robert bishop of Orkney the lands and barony of Far, including the lands of Edderdaquhelis, forfeited by Donald M'Ky of Far, who lived and died illegitimate without lawful heirs or a lawful disposition of the lands.⁸ The same lands were included in the grant of the earldom by Queen Mary to Earl John in 1566, and along with Skuribeg, Skurimoir, Calstromie, and the isle of Handa in a grant of the barony of Far by George earl of Huntlie to Y Macky in 1570.⁹ In 1589 Houcheon Macky the son of Y is said to have given the lands of Edderachilis and others to Alexander earl of Sutherland 'as a particular pledge of his heretable good service to the house of Southerland.'¹⁰ In 1601 the same lands were included in a new grant of the earldom by King James VI. to Earl John.¹¹ In 1613 the Lords of Council declared that the lands and barony of Far, including Edderdilquhillis, were in the king's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of Robert bishop of Orkney, who died about the month of February 1558 (1559), or about 23 years before 29 December 1612 (the date of the summons), and that the king by a letter under his privy seal dated 2 November 1612 had granted the nonentry and other dues of the lands

¹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 632.

² *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 122. In the other grants of the same barony we find the lands of Askadale or Astell in Dornoch. Their place is here supplied by those of Astraydaill 'in Brachat,' which by the term used to designate them seem to lie in Lairg.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ See ASSYNT, p. 695. Sanda is the same as Handa.

⁶ Here, says a writer in 1793, 'once lived Little John M'Dhoil-mhich-Huisldan, a gentleman of the Assint M'Leods, who were a branch of the M'Leods of Lewis or Sliol Torquil. He was low of stature, but of matchless strength and skill in arms, and kept always a bierlin or galley in this place with 12 or 20 armed men ready for any enterprise. . . . By him it was that Judge Morison of Lewis, of whom several respectable families

now living there are descended, was slain. . . . Among the numerous islands on this coast is one called Elan-a-blirin, or the Island of the Judge, from the above-mentioned Judge Morison.' The same writer informs us that 'all these islands and many more, some of them inhabited and others affording excellent pasture and of considerable extent, from Roc-a-Stoir in Assint to Stroma in Orkney, are said to have been granted in property and included in a charter to one Ferchard Beton, a native of Isla and a famous physician, at his own request, by one of the Stewarts kings of Scotland, whom he had cured of some distemper.' *Old Stat. Acc.*

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 97, 98.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters. See FARIT *post*.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 201.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

to Sir Robert Gordoun of Kynmounwy till the entry of the lawful heir—those having or pretending interest in the matter as heritable possessors of the lands, namely, George marquis of Huntlie and earl of Enzie, Huchcon Macky of Far, Donald Macky his son, William Sutherland of Duffus, George Murray of Spanzedaill, and David Reid of Aickinheid, having been lawfully summoned and not having appeared.¹ At the same time the Lords declared that the lands of Adderaquhillis in the barony of Far were in the king's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of I Macky in November 1536, the decease of his lawful son John Macky in August 1542, the decease of his natural son Donald Macky in December 1549, and the decease of Robert bishop of Orkney in or about February 1558 (1559), or about 64 years before 29 December 1612, and that the king had granted them as above, the same parties having been summoned and not appearing.²

In 1630 there was yearly a fair at Lairg named Saint Murie's (Malrube's) fair.³

Two battles recorded to have been fought in the tenth century, one between Liot a Norwegian chief and Magbrad a Scottish earl, and another between Sigurd the Gross earl of Orkney and the Scottish earl Finnleic, in the Seidensian marshes, styled a tract of Catanes, are supposed to have been fought in the neighbourhood of Loch Shin.⁴

At Scourie and Kylestromie in Edderachylis, and in various parts of Lairg, are the remains of circular buildings, locally known as Danish forts, or cairns raised by the Fingalians.⁵ Between 1519 and 1522 occurred the battles of the Gruids and of Lairg, in both of which Alexander Master of Sutherland defeated John M'Ky of Strathnaver, who after the second took refuge in Island Mulruy, but afterwards submitted to his conqueror.⁶ Either of those battles seems to have been fought at Cnock-a-chath (the hill of the fight) a place marked by tumuli.⁷

In 1640 Hugh Mackay, afterwards Lieutenant-General of the forces of King William III. was born at Scourie.⁸

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 7.

⁶ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 97, 98.

⁴ Torfaeus, lib. i. cc. 9, 10. M'Pherson's Geographical Illustrations.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ *Ibid.*

DURNESS.

Dyrnes¹ — Ardurnes² — Ardwrines³ — Ardurines⁴ — Durines⁵ — Durenish⁶
— Durness.⁷ (Map, No. 6.)

THIS parish included the district of West Moin between Loch Hope and Strathmelness, the davach of Eriboll between Loch Hope and Loch Eriboll, Durness proper (Dyrnes, Ardurnes), and the district of Parf, together forming the modern parish — and the districts of Ashir or Astlair (corruptly Old Shores) and Kerrugarbh (corruptly Kinlochbervie), attached to the modern parish of Edderachillis.⁸ The whole parish is mountainous, and in Ben Hope on its eastern border attains the height of 3150 feet above the sea.⁹ It is watered by the river Hope and a loch of the same name, and by the Dinart and numerous smaller streams, and its rocky coast is deeply indented by the Kyle of Durness and Loch Eriboll forming the peninsula of Durness,¹⁰ and less deeply by Loch Laxford, Loch Inchard, and Sandwat bay. Of the district of Parf, styled in 1636 the 'Extream Wilderness,' Gordon of Straloch and Pont remark, 'Verie great plentie of wolves doo hunt in thir desert places.'¹¹ Its north west extremity, now known as Cape Wrath, is the Hvarf of Norse writers, of which Parf is apparently a corruption.¹² Fordun describes the peninsula of Durness as the 'Isle Dureneys, where at the summer solstice the sun is seen during the night, not shining, but as it were passing through the darkness.'¹³ 'The dayes,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'are of great lenth in Durines in summer, and there is no dark night at all; the dayes in winter be verie short, and the night exceeding long. I do verelie think that there is no land directlie north from the poynt of the nesse of Durines called Ardrines.'¹⁴ On the coast of Ardrines is the remarkable cave of Smoo or the Uaigh More,

¹ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

² A. D. 1541. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 24. A. D. 1544. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1551. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 98. Circa A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

³ A. D. 1559. Sutherland Charters.

⁴ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Circa A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 10.

⁶ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen.

⁷ Circa A. D. 1726. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁸ Sutherland Charters. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

¹¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹² Worsaae, p. 259. 'In Durines and north-west

from the Dirimore ther is ane excellent and delectable place for hunting called the Parwe, wher they hunt the reid deir in abundance, and somtymes they dryve them into the o-cean sea at the Pharo-head, wher they doe tak them in boats as they list.' Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 4.

¹³ Scotichronicon, lib. ii. c. 10.

¹⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 10. Blaen, like Sir Robert Gordon, styles Cape Wrath Pharo Head, and the point of Durness Row-na-Farriif. The names should be exchanged. Farriif is evidently Parf or Hvarf, and Pharo Head, as well as the modern term Far-out-head, seem to be corruptions of the word *Farard*, applied in the seventeenth and eighteenth century to the point of Durness. Blaen gives *Farriif* as the name of a place near the point. See Macfarlane's Geog. Collection.

200 feet long, 110 wide, and 53 feet high at the entrance.¹ Around the coast are the islands Choarie, Hoan, Garvellan, Roan, and others.²

The church of Dyrnes, as we have seen, was between 1223 and 1245 assigned by Bishop Gilbert to find light and incense for the cathedral church.³ In 1541 King James V. during the vacancy of the see of Cathanes presented Master John Jaksoun to the vicarage of Arduines, vacant by the decease of Sir Gilbert Dynnocht or of any other the last vicar, or in any other way whatsoever.⁴ In 1544 the same Master John Jaksoun was vicar.⁵ In 1551 on a letter from Queen Mary Robert bishop elect of Cathanes received Robert bishop of Orkney as his tenant of the lands of Arduines and of the teinds of the parish.⁶ In 1559 the same bishop of Cathanes granted the same lands and teinds in heritage to John earl of Sutherland and his wife Helen Stewart countess of Arroll.⁷ Between 1561 and 1566 the teinds of the parish continued to be leased together with the lands of the barony of Arduines.⁸ In 1567 John Reid was exhorter at Arduines.⁹

The church has always stood at Balnakiel (Kirktown) on Durness or Balnakiel bay near the south end of the promontory from which it derives its name.¹⁰ The present church was built in 1619, and had an aisle added in 1692.¹¹ About the year 1726 its situation is thus described — 'Within a bowshot of the house (of Balnakiel) stands the parish church very near the sea, a burn running between it and the house. The house and church are founded on marble rocks, and most of the stones are of that kind.'¹²

'The other bay,' says a writer in the early part of last century, 'formed betwixt Farard point and Cape Wrath is called the bay of Durness, and is formed into two inlets of unequal depth into the land. The more easterly of the two is but a large half mile into the land south east, at the bottom whereof stands upon a marble rock another manour house of the Right Honourable Lord Reay called Balnacille. This manour having been churchlands of old, there was to be seen (till this last year that it was thrown down for building a new house) the ruines of an old wall about eight or nine foot thick and in some places thirty foot high without any window thereon. It seemed to extend on one side one hundred foot long and in breadth forty foot. There is no tradition by whom it was built or for what purpose. It seems to have been some old monastery.'¹³

At Balnakiel is a hollow stone or basin, known as the 'clach na sagart ruadh' or stone of the red priest.¹⁴

¹ Macfarlane's Geographical Collection. Pennant, vol. iii, p. 344. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide. The cave is minutely described by Anderson.

² MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu. Old and New Stat. Acc.

³ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 602.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 24.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 98. See *post*.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. See *post*.

⁸ Book of Assumption.

⁹ Register of Ministers.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 10. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc.

¹² Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹³ *Ibid*.

¹⁴ Letter of E. M'Iver to James Loch Esquire. The red priest is believed to have been the last incumbent of Farr or of Durness previously to the Reformation, and withal a worker of miracles. *Ibid*., and Letter by Rev. David M'Kenzie. See APPLECROSS, p. 404, note 3.

The red priest is believed to have built a chapel at Bealoch Mhor between Durness and Eriboll, at which the inhabitants of Eriboll occasionally worshipped.¹

On the islands of Hoan and Choarie are cemeteries locally said to have been used to protect the remains of the dead from wolves.²

At the Reformation the exhorter at Ardures had for his stipend 50 marks yearly, and in 1574 the reader had £20 and the kirklands.³

In 1263, before Haco King of Norway set sail for the Hebrides, three of his captains, Erling Ivarson, Andrew Nicolson, and Halvard the Red, sailed into Scotland under Dyrnes, from which they went up into the country, destroyed a castle, and burned more than 20 hamlets.⁴ In the same year King Haco on his return from the west passed Cape Wrath and Dyrnes, and was becalmed in Gjaford or Goaford (apparently Loch Eriboll).⁵ Some of his men having landed to procure a supply of water were attacked and slain by the Scots.⁶

'Among the bishop of Catteynes his evidents and writs,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'their is ane aggriment and arbitrall decreet past long agoe between the erle of Southerland and the bishop of Catteynes, whereby the merches of Durines and of the erle of Southerland his propertie ar by way of perambulation settled and agreid upon.'⁷ In 1551 Queen Mary addressed a letter to Robert bishop elect of Cathnes or to his vicar general in his absence, presenting to him Robert bishop of Orkney as his tenant in the lands of Galdewell, Kaudowll, Crannegy, Barolle, Slaynis, Aslarmoir, Aslarbeg, Sandwet, Carrogarif, Carromanache, the island of Hoa, the water of Awingarron with the salmon fishings, the water of Sandwet with the salmon fishings, the half of the water of Laxfurde with the salmon fishings, with the teindsheaves of those towns and of the whole parish of Ardures, lying in the sheriffdom of Innernes, and forfeited by Donald M'Ky of Far.⁸ In 1559 the same Robert, elect and confirmed of Cathanes, for certain sums of money and other favours granted to John earl of Sutherland and his wife Helen Stewart countess of Arroll, and to the heirs got between them, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the same lands of Gauldwale, Kauldale, Crannega, Borrole, Slany, Astlairmoir, Astlairbeg, Sandwat, Carragawye *alias* Carragawow, Carramannycht, with the waters of Avmagarrone and Sandwat and the fishings of the same, the island and lands of Hoa, the half of the water and fishing of Laxfurd, the whole water and fishing of Ardwrines, with the mills, alehouses, teindsheaves, and other pertinents, together with the teindsheaves of the whole parish of Ardwrines, which were never separated from the body (*a trunco*) of those towns and lands and their principal fruits — which lands with their grassums, fermes, and other dues and services, then extended in the bishop's rental to the sum of £81, 6s. 8d. Scots old ferme — seisin to be taken at Gauldwale in Ardwrines for all those lands and others in Strathnavern included in the same grant.⁹ In 1564 the same bishop on the narrative that those lands had been forfeited by John

¹ Letter of E. M'Iver.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁴ Haco's Expedition, pp. 30-33.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 114, 115. Torf., lib. ii.

⁶ Haco's Expedition, pp. 116, 117. Torf., lib. ii.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 10. This deed of perambulation is not at Dunrobin. Sir Robert elsewhere affirms that the lands of Durines were granted to Bishop Gilbert by King Alexander II. *Ibid.*, p. 32.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 98.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

late earl of Sutherland on 28 May 1563, and that Queen Mary, considering that Alexander Gordoun the earl's son was an infant and had not partaken in his father's crime, had by a letter dated 6 March 1564 presented him to the bishop as feuffermar of the lands—granted them in heritage to Alexander Gordoun for the same yearly payment, reserving the liferent to his mother the lady Helen Stewart countess of Errol and Sutherland—seisin to be taken either at Gauldwale in Ardures or at Dorare in Cathanes.¹ Between the years 1561 and 1566 we have the following in the rental of assumptions given in to the collectors of thirds—'The baronie of Ardurines callit xv dawochland, with the salmond fishing of the samyne, pendicles and pertinentis thairof, with the teindshawis of the samin, sett in few and payis yeirlie in all dewtie iii^{xx} i li. vis. viii d.² In 1570 George earl of Huntlie, Lord Gordonne and Badenoch, baron of the barony of Farr, in implement of a contract between him and Y Macky dated at Aberdeen in the same year, and for certain sums of money therein contained to be paid to the earl and his heirs, sold to Y M'Ky and his heirs certain lands in the diocese of Cathanes, barony of Strathnaver, and sheriffdom of Inverness, including Keanlochbervie, Nahardin, Fenzedallis, Laxford with the salmon fishings, Sandwat, the island of Hall, Alsnrbeg, and Alsnemoir, with the nonentry when it should occur, and the office of hereditary bailie of the lands, for service of ward and relief—the grantee relieving the earl and his heirs from all royal taxations and from the yearly payment of the feufferme due for part of the lands, including Sandwat, the isle of Hall, Alsnrbeg, and Alsnemoir, if justly due, giving the oath of fidelity to the superior at entry, and giving personally three suits at his three head courts held yearly in the burgh of Inverness.³ In 1577 Alexander Gordoun, then earl of Sutherland, was seised in the same lands as in 1564 as heir to Earl John his father.⁴ In 1580 he resigned them to Bishop Robert, who granted them anew to the earl and his heirs male, with remainder to the eldest of his female heirs without division and to his heirs male whomsoever.⁵ In 1601 the lands and towns of Galdwell, Caldwell, Crannage, Barolye, Slanys, Astlermoir, Astlerbeg, Sandewatt, Tarriagavis, Crannaman-nycht, Carnagarraw, with the mills and fishings of the same, the fishings of Laxfurde, the waters of Ardurines and the 'cruvis' of the same, and the island of Hoa with the other islands there and their fishings, were included in a new grant of the earldom then made to Earl John by King James VI.⁶

In 1379 King Robert II. confirmed a charter of his son Sir Alexander Stewart lord of Badenach, granting to Ferchard the king's physieian the lands of Mellenes and two parts of Hope, to be held freely according to Sir Alexander's charter, saving the king's service.⁷ Of the islands granted in 1386 by King Robert II. to the same Ferchard those of Elangawne, Elanwillighe, Elanerone, Elanehoga, and Elanequochra, appear to have belonged to the ancient parish of Durness.⁸

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Book of Assumptions.

³ Sutherland Charters. See *post*, and FARR.

⁴ *Ibid.* ⁵ *Ibid.* ⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ From copy in the Gen. Reg. House. Mellenes is in Farr. A writer in 1793 says, 'This Ferchard was physieian to the M'Kays of Far, and received from them in exchange for his right to these islands (those

named in the grant of 1386) a piece of ground near Tongue called Melness, where he lived himself and some of his offspring after him; but the M'Kays found means to recover possession of Melness long since, and yet it is said Ferchard's posterity remain still in the country under the name of M'Kay.' Old Stat. Acc. See LAIRD, p. 699.

⁸ See ASSYNT, p. 695.

In 1499 King James IV., for the good service of Odo or Y Makky in Strathnauern granted to him in heritage certain lands, including Davach Erribull, which had been forfeited by Alexander Sutherland for treason.¹ In 1511, by a deed dated at Inverane, Donald M'Donachy M'Corrochie resigned the lands of Melness, Mossell, and Hoipe, in favour of Y M'Kay and his son John.² In 1530 King James V. granted to William Sutherland of Duffous the nonentry and other dues of various lands, including Hop with the fishing of the same, Arnobill, Wnlem, Ireboll, Strathwradell, and Moswell, lying in the sheriffdom of Inverness and in the country of Strathnavern 'be the auld name callit Kintale and West Movne,' from the time since they were in the king's hands till the entry of the lawful heir.³ In 1539 King James V. granted in heritage to Donald M'Ky in Strathnaver the free barony of Farr created anew, and including Davach Ereboll, the island of Sanda extending to 3 pennylands, the island of Hoae extending to two pennylands, and the lands of Hoip with the mills and other pertinents, formerly belonging to Odo or Y M'Ky the father of Donald, and in the king's hands by reason of nonentry or otherwise.⁴ In 1542 James earl of Murray—as arbiter between William Sutherland of Duffous, the son and heir of the deceased William Sutherland of Duffous, and Donald M'Ky of Farr, concerning the wrongous occupation of certain lands in Strathnaver and the nonentry of others, the latter including Hop with the fishings, Arnobill, Wnlem, Erebole, Strathquardill, and Moswell, claimed by William Sutherland as heir to his father, and alleged by him to be wrongfully intromitted with by Donald—decided that William Sutherland should make Donald or any other he might please his assignee to the said nonentry, for which Donald should pay to him 450 marks.⁵ In 1546 Queen Mary granted to Elizabeth Sinclair the wife of Donald M'Ky of Farr her liferent of certain lands, including the water of Hoip from the lake to the sea with the salmon fishing, which Donald had resigned.⁶ In 1551 the same queen granted in heritage to Robert bishop of Orkney the lands and barony of Far, including the isle of Sanday extending to 3 pennylands, the isle of Howga extending to 2 pennylands, the lands of Hoip with the salmon fishing in the water of Hoip, Handlemet, Ardeboll, Strathurydale, Moswell, and the island of Quothra, forfeited by the deceased Donald M'Ky of Far.⁷ At the same time the queen granted to the same bishop the deceased Donald M'Ky's part of the decree arbitral pronounced by James earl of Murray (in 1542) between him and the deceased William Sutherland of Duffus.⁸ In 1555 the same queen granted to John earl of Sutherland the bailliary of the lands granted in 1551 to the bishop of Orkney.⁹ In 1567 she granted to George

¹ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 519. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 95.

² Note of original charter or transcript by James Loch Esquire. This deed is endorsed in a handwriting of about 1660 as follows—'This is Donald Our M'Conochy's letter of procuratory as descendit fra Parquhar Leiche to resing all his landis of Strathnaver within writen in our Soverane Lordis handis.'

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. ff. 168, 169. The lands contained in this grant, besides some lands in Caithness, are those of Strathnaver, Tongue (or Kintail), and West

Moin, the three names being here erroneously made interchangeable.

⁴ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xvi. no. 338. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 38.

⁵ Sutherland Charters. For the whole of this decree arbitral see FARR *post*.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 80.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 97, 98.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 98, 99.

⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. xxvii. fol. 127.

earl of Huntlie the same lands, which had belonged to Donald Makkye of Far, who died illegitimate and intestate.¹ The grant of the barony of Far by that earl to Y Macky in 1570, a grant by Y Macky to Alexander earl of Sutherland in 1589, and the new grant of the earldom of Sutherland by King James VI. to Earl John in 1601, included the lands of Hoipe with the salmon fishing, Arnobill, Hunleam, Ereboll, and Strathuridail, and the island of Choarie, and the last also the islands of Sanda and Haga.² In 1613 the Lords of Council decreed that the lands and barony of Far, including the isle of Sandy, the isle of Houga, the lands of Houp with the salmon fishing on the water of Houp, and the lands of Handlemet, Ardboll, Strathuridell, and Moswell, were in the sovereign's hands by reason of nonentry since the death of Robert bishop of Orknay, and that the king had granted the nonentry and other dues to Sir Robert Gordoun of Kinmounwy till the entry of the lawful heir.³

There was a castle at Balnakiel, apparently removed before the year 1630.⁴

'A mile above Mussall (in Strathuridale) stands an old building made in the form of a sugar loaf, and which has a double wall and winding stairs in the middle of the wall round about, and litle places for men to ly in as is thought, and all built of dry stone without any mortar. Its called by tradition Dundornigil.'⁵ An old poem, of which a fragment was extant in 1777, described this building as 'the Dun of Dornghiall the son of Duff built on the side of the strath next to Reay seven miles from the ocean and on the road by which the warriors or 'cearn' travel to Caithnes.'⁶ At that time the building was 25 feet high, but it has since been gradually reduced to 20 or 16.⁷ Its interior diameter is 27 feet.⁸ Strathuridale is now Strathmore, and the Dun of Dornghiall the son of Duff has in modern times been fancied a hunting seat of Dornadilla the son of Mainus, one of the supposed early Scottish kings.⁹ In the parish are the remains of other nine *duns*.¹⁰ It contains also subterranean buildings locally named *Cabidh fholaich* (hiding places), and numerous tumuli.¹¹

In 1769 there was on the side of the hill Ben Spionnadh a square building called *caru urí* (the king's earn).¹²

A rock in Loch Eribol named Lech-vuaies has been supposed to be that on which King Haco slaughtered the cattle he took from the Caithness men in 1263.¹³

In a vault under the church is the tomb of Donald M'Leod the Rob Roy of the north, and the Gaelic poet Robert Donn (or Don) was a native of the parish.¹⁴

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 558.

² See above, p. 704; Genealogy of the Earls, p. 201.

³ Sutherland Charters. See LAIRG, pp. 699, 700, and FARR *post*. Sir Robert Gordon says, 'At this time also the earle of Southerland yielded to give Durines to Macky as a particular fie for his service to the house of Southerland, and that the lands of Durines should alwise remain with the chieff of the family of Macky, and not to be given to any brother of that house.' Genealogy, p. 296.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 8, 10.

⁵ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁶ Archæologia, vol. v. pp. 216, 217.

⁷ *Ibid.* New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

⁸ Anderson's Guide.

⁹ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 343. Note by James Loch Esquire.

¹⁰ New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 343.

¹³ *Ibid.* See CANNISEAY *post*.

¹⁴ Old and New Stat. Acc.

FARR.

Far¹—Fard²—Farr.³ (Map, No. 7.)

THIS parish originally included the present parishes of Tongue and Farr, and the part of the parish of Reay called Strathalladale which lies within the county of Sutherland.⁴ Strathalladale having been attached to Reay before the year 1245, the parish of Farr thenceforward included only the districts of Tongue (or Kintail) and Farr, or Strathnaver properly so called, being the country watered by the Melness, the Borgie, the Naver, and the Strathy.⁵

This extensive parish is entirely mountainous, its southern portion being part of the great forest called the Dirimore, and containing its highest eminence Ben Chlibrig, 3200 feet above the level of the sea.⁶ It has numerous lakes, of which the two largest are Lochnaver and Lochlaughal.⁷ The coast is deeply indented by the Kyle of Tongue, and slightly by the bays of Torrisdale, Farr, Strathy, and others.⁸ Off the Kyle are the Rabbit Isles (anciently Ylen Gald, Ellen Gild, Ealan-a-ghail), Island Roan (the isle of seals), and Island Comb or Eilean-na-naomh (the isle of Columba or Holy Island).⁹ 'In the Dirimore ther is a hill called Arkill; all the deir that are bred therin or hant within the bounds of that hill have forked tails three inches long, whereby they are casaille knowne and deerned from all other deir.'¹⁰

Between the years 1223 and 1245, when Bishop Gilbert erected the chapter of Caithness, he assigned the church of Far with all its fruits as a common church to the canons, with the exception of the teinds of Helgedall (Halladale) which he had previously assigned to the church of Ra on account of the nearness of that church to Helgedall and the great distance of the church of Far, reserving also the power of dividing the parish of Far into several on account of its great extent (*diffusionem*).¹¹ From 1529 to 1559 Sir Alexander Gray appears in record as vicar of Far.¹² Between 1561 and 1566 he seems to have held both parsonage and vicarage.¹³ About 1567 Donald Reid was rector at Far, and in 1574 Ferquhard Reid

¹ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1529. Ibid. A. D. 1551. Ibid. A. D. 1557. Ibid. A. D. 1559. Ibid. A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 3. A. D. 1662. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 390.

² A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

³ A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 11. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. A. D. 1726. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁴ Sutherland Charters. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 11.

⁵ Ibid. Blaeu and Modern Maps. Macfarlane.

⁶ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 3, 11. Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Old and New Stat. Acc. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 11. County Maps.

⁸ New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

⁹ MS. Maps. Blaeu. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 11. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 3.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters. The parish does not appear to have been farther divided till long after the Reformation.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

¹³ Book of Assumptions.

was minister.¹ 'There is,' says Sir Robert Gordon in 1630, 'one parish in Strathnaver called Farr.'²

The church appears to have always stood a little eastward from the mouth of the Naver on the right bank of a small stream falling into the bay of Farr.³ The present church was built in 1774.⁴

There was a chapel at Kirkboll or Kirkiboll, the burialplace of the family of Macky, which was standing and was repaired about the year 1630.⁵ The parish church of Tongue was built in 1680 about half a mile farther north, was nearly rebuilt in 1731, was repaired in 1778, and seems to be still in use.⁶ The cemetery of the chapel, still used, lies at the village of Kirkiboll on the burn of Clachan (the Avon Kerkiboll of Blacu); between which and the present churchyard is a portion of the glebe locally known as 'Eilean-tigh-an-tsagairt' (the island of the priest's house).⁷

There was a chapel at Skail in the middle of the parish on the left bank of the Naver, on a flat between it and a hill locally known as Cnoc-an-tsagairt (the priest's hill), where the cemetery may still be seen.⁸ At the east end of the cemetery is an erect stone, marked with a cross, and supposed to mark the grave of the last Popish incumbent of Farr called the red priest.⁹ In the immediate neighbourhood is a piece of ground named Dalacary (Dal-an-tsagairt, the priest's field?), and believed to have been the glebe land attached to the chapel.¹⁰

At Clibrig near the head of Lochnaver is a ruin said to have been a chapel.¹¹

There were chapels also at Moudale in Strathmoudale, at Langdale or Langwall on the Naver, and at Strathy at the mouth of the river of that name.¹²

Lochnaver in the immediate neighbourhood of several of those chapels was of old believed to possess healing virtues on the first Monday of February, May, August, and November.¹³ The visiter dipped three times in the water, drank of it, threw in a piece of money, and departed before sunrise.¹⁴

On Island Comb (latterly a 'grassing' belonging to the farm of Skerry) was a chapel, evidently dedicated to Saint Columba, traces of which remained in the end of the last century.¹⁵

In the rental of assumptions between 1561 and 1566 we find 'the rental of the personage and vicarage of Fard pertening to Schir Alexander Gray sett in assedatioun for yeirlye payment of lxxx merkis.'¹⁶ About the year 1567 the reader at Far had for his stipend 40 marks, and in 1574 the minister had £40 and the kirklands.¹⁷

Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

² Genealogy of the Earls, p. 11.

³ MS. Maps. Blacu. Macfarlane. Old and New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

⁴ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 11.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Letter of Rev. D. McKenzie to James Loch Esquire, 1854.

⁸ Ibid. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 347.

⁹ Letter of Rev. D. McKenzie. The stone here described may have been a 'girth cross.' See APPLE-CROSS, p. 404, and DURNESS, pp. 703, 704.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Pennant vol. iii. p. 347. The MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. mark at a point near Strathy 'a chapel heir.'

¹³ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Macfarlane. Pennant, vol. iii. pp. 345, 346. Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁷ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

The earliest holder of lands in Strathnaver of whom we have authentic notice is the lady Johanna the wife of Friskyn of Moray, who appears in record in 1269, but whose descent and tenure of the lands are unknown.¹ One of her daughters was Mary the wife of Reginald le Chen, to whom with her husband the bishop of Moray granted the land of Langewal and others in 1269.² Another of her daughters was the Cristian of the following grant.³ In 1287 in the cathedral church of Elgyn William de Fedreth portioner of Duffhus and Cristian his wife granted in heritage to Sir Reginald le Chene the son the four davachs of land which they then had in Strathnavyr, and also all other lands which by whatever title or grant they might in future have in the tenement of Strathnavyr, to be held from them with all the rights freely as the original charter of the land of Strathnavyr more at length bore.⁴ It was agreed between the parties that Sir Reginald and his heirs should do for William and Cristian and their heirs the third part of the free service of one soldier for the tenement which the latter then had in the barony of Duffhus and in the barony of Strathbrok, or which by any title or succession they might in future have in those baronies — that they should give suit at the court of the king's justiciar and sheriff as far as related to the part then belonging or that might in future belong to William and Cristian and their heirs in the tenement of Duffhus and of Strathbrok, so, namely, that the men of William and Cristian and their heirs should attend the said courts and bear witness of the said suit for the third part belonging to them in that tenement — and that their men and tenants should do Scottish service as often as it should happen; saving also to them and their heirs all the rights and liberties belonging to the baronies of Duffhus and Strathbrok for their actual or possible contingent of the same.⁵ The parties swore in presence of Bishop Archibald and the chapter of Moray and others to observe the premises, it being understood that the penalty of 100 shillings to be paid to the fabrick of the church of Moray by the party wishing to resile from the agreement, and the agreement itself, should notwithstanding remain in force.⁶

Probably from an early period of the fourteenth century down to the end of the fifteenth the lands of Strathnaver were held by the Mackys as tenants.⁷ In 1379, as we have seen, King Robert II. confirmed the lands of Mellenes to Ferchard his physician.⁸ Of the islands granted in 1386 by King Robert II. to Ferchard Leche those of Elangelye (now Ellengild or the Rabbit Island) and Elanenyefe (or Ellen Comb) are on the coast of this parish a few miles west from Armidale Head, the Rowearmedale of King Robert's charter and the terminating point of his grant.⁹ From a marriage contract between Angus the son of Goffred of the Isles and Margaret the daughter of the lady Margaret of Ard, dated 8 January 1401, it would appear that the davach of Brebach, Carynnes, and Innvyrnavyr in Strathnavyr was the property of that lady, the half of certain lands in Strathglass according to the contract reverting to her on the death of Angus for the recovery of that davach.¹⁰ Among the persons arrested at a parliament held at Innernes

¹ See *post*, and Reg. Morav., preface, p. xxxvi.

² See *post*, and Reg. Morav., pp. xxxvi, xxxvii.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Regist. Moraviense, p. 341.

⁵ *Ibid.*

Ibid., pp. 341, 342.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 58-80, 302-305.

⁶ See DURNES, p. 704.

⁹ See ASSYNT, p. 695, LAIRG, p. 699, and DURNES, p. 704.

¹⁰ Lib. Insule Missarum, pp. l, li. See KILMORACK, pp. 515, 516.

by King James I. in 1427 were Angus Duf or Makgye of Straithnawarne and his four sons.¹ Towards the end of the fifteenth century the lands of Strathnaver were held in heritage by Alexander Sutherland of Dilrid, a descendant of one of the earls of Sutherland.² In 1499 King James IV., for the good service of Odo or Y Makky in Straithnauern both in peace and in war, and specially in the taking and bringing of the deceased Alexander Suthirland of Dilrid and other ten persons his accomplices, the king's rebels and at his horn, granted to Odo in heritage the lands of Fer, Armidill, Strae, Rynvee, Kynnald, Golliesby, Dilrid, Cattak, Bronych, Kilehallumkill in Strabroray, Davach Lochnaver, Davach Erribull, and the two pennylands of Stromay, with the mill of Kynnald, lying in Caitlmes and Sutherland in the sheriffdom of Innernes, and formerly belonging in heritage to Alexander Sutherland and forfeited by him for treason, for the yearly payment of a red rose on the feast of the Nativity of Saint John the baptist upon the soil of Dilrid in name of blench ferme if asked.³ In 1508 the same Odo for his service in resisting and attacking the king's rebels had from the same king a grant of the lands of Assent forfeited by Torquell Makeloid of Lewis.⁴ In 1515 Andrew Kynnard of that ilk granted the lands of Eddiraquhelis in the barony of Skelbo to John M'Ky the son and heir of Odo M'Ky of Stranavern.⁵ Both Odo and his son John were dead in 1529, the latter leaving no male issue.⁶ In 1530 King James V. granted to William Suthirland of Duffois the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Galvell and Bellinaglis, with the fishing in the water of Halladall, the lands of Stratly with the fishing of the same, the lands of Armadall and Far with the fishing, the lands of Rennewe, Skelpik, Rewigill, Syre, Skale, Skarray, Alannye, Dilrid, Catak, and the lands of Towng, Kirkkeboll, Scrabustir, Regeboll, Kennesett, Elyngiell, Kinloch, Mellenis, Latirlioll, Hop with the fishing of the same, Arnobill, Wulem, Ireboll, Strathwradell, and Moswell, lying in the sheriffdom of Innernys 'and in the cuntre of Strathnaver be the auld name callit Kintale and West Movne'—from the time since they had been in the king's hands till the entry of the lawful heir.⁷ In 1539 the same king granted in heritage to Donald M'Ky in Strathnauern the lands of Fer, Armidill, Straye, Rynewe, Kynnald, Golliesby, Dilrid, Cattak, Bronych, Kilehallumkill in Strabroray, Davach Lochnaver, Davach Erribull, the 2 pennylands of Stromay, the mill of Kynnald, the island of Sanday extending to 3 pennylands, the island of Hoga extending to 2 pennylands, and the lands of Millines and Hope, with the mills, mill-lands, manors, demesne lands, and other pertinents, formerly belonging in heritage to Odo or Y M'Ky the father of Donald, and in the king's hands by reason of nonentry or otherwise, and now

¹ Ext. e Var. Cron. Scocie, p. 231.

² Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 519. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 95. Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 55, 80, 305.

³ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 519. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 95. See DORNOCHE, GOLSPIE, DURNESSE, CLYNE, HAWICK, THURSO, and CANNISBAY. Dilrid, now Dirlet, the chief messuage of the lands, is in HAWICK. Alexander Sutherland, taken, as above mentioned, by Y Makky, was his nephew, and had in a quarrel slain Alex-

ander the brother of Sir James Dunbar of Cumnock, for which he was forfeited and put to death by King James. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 80.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiv. no. 464. Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. iii. fol. 157. See ASSYNT, p. 694.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 305, 306.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. f. 168, 169. See DURNESSE, REAY, and HAWICK.

erected into the free barony of Fer, seisin to be taken at the principal message of Fer.¹ In 1542 James earl of Murray — arbiter between William Sutherland of Duffous, the son and heir of the deceased William Sutherland of Duffous, and Donald M'Ky of Farr, anent the wrongous occupation of certain lands in Strathnavare alleged by William Sutherland to be held by him in heritage of the church of Murray, namely, Langewall, Rossewall, Toftis, Dowyn, Achenedesse, Clybry, Ardouyr, and Carnferne, lying in the diocese of Cathanes and sherifdom of Innernes; anent the nonentry of Galwall, Bellenaglis, the fishing on the water of Halladall, the lands of Strathy with the fishing, the lands of Armadale and Farr with the fishing, and the lands of Renuwy, Skelpik, Revegill, Syre, Skale, Skarry, Alannye, Dilrit, Cattak, Toung, Kirkebole, Serabustir, Rigebole, Kennesett, Elingeell, Kinloch, Malenys, Latirleole, Hop with the fishing, Arnobill, Vnlem, Erebole, Strathquhardill, and Moswell, lying in the same sherifdom, claimed by William Sutherland as heir to his father, and alleged by him to be wrongfully intronitted with by Donald; anent the nonentry and dues of those lands and fishings for several years past; and anent all other matters of debate between the parties — in presence of the parties gave as his decree that, understanding the great slaughters and injuries committed on each other by the ancestors of the parties in consequence of their disputes about the above subjects, and for the purpose of avoiding such injuries in future, he ordained that William Sutherland should alienate to Donald and his heirs the lands which he held of the church of Murray, to be held by Donald of that church for the yearly payment of 12 marks Scots to the chaplains of Saint Michael's altar in the cathedral church of Murray, the grantee giving three suits at the three head courts of the bishop, and taking the oath of fidelity to him; that William Sutherland should make Donald or any parties he chose his assignees to the said nonentry, and discharge him and his heirs of all the past dues both of the lands held of the church of Murray and of the lands of which he had the nonentry; that for the lands held of the church and their dues Donald should pay to William the sum of 250 marks, and for the nonentry and dues of the other lands 450 marks, in all 700 marks, namely 100 marks at the date of the decree, 200 marks at the feast of Martymes immediately following, 200 at the following Whitsunday, and 200 at the Martymes thereafter; that William Sutherland should be bound for the warrantice of only the half of the lands held of the church of Murray; that both parties should mutually forgive past injuries, and should thenceforth live as friends; and that the decree should be registered in the books of the Lords of Council, Donald M'Ky finding sufficient surety 'actit' therein for payment of the said sum.² In 1546 Queen Mary granted in liferent to Elizabeth Sinclair the wife of Donald M'Ky of Far the lands of Ballibeglis with the mill and multures, Gallowell with the mill and multures, Stray with the mill and multures, Armidale with the mill and multures, Ranowly with the mill and multures, Mellenes with the mill and multures, Dillart with the mill and multures, Cattoch and Broynoch with their mills and multures, the water of Far from the broad ford to the sea with the usual salmon fishing, the water of Hallowdale from the

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 338. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 38. Sutherland Charters. See p. 710, note 3. Donald M'Ky was a natural son of

Odo or Y. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 306.

² Sutherland Charters.

Beghous to the sea with the salmon fishing, the water of Stray with the salmon fishing, and the water of Hoip from the loch to the sea with the salmon fishing, all lying in the sheriffdom of Innernes and resigned by Donald M'Ky.¹ In 1549 the same Donald, after an unsuccessful feud with the men of Sutherland and an imprisonment in the castle of Fowlis in Ross, escaped to Strathnaver and gave his 'band of service' to John earl of Sutherland.² In 1551 (5 October) Queen Mary granted in heritage to Robert bishop of Orkney the lands and barony of Far with the salmon fishing in the water of Far; the lands of Armydill, Strathy, Ranewy, Kynnault, Golspitour, Dilride, Cattak, Broynache, Kyllealumkill in Strabrora, Daache Lochnavare, and Daache Irrebole; two pennylands in Stromay; the mill of Kynnault with the multure, sukkin, and astricted multure; the isle of Sanday extending to three pennylands; the isle of Howga extending to two pennylands; the lands of Myllines and Hoip with the salmon fishing on the water of Hoip; the lands of Galdwell, Banaheglis, Skelpik, Rebegill, Mowdell, Mekle Gnowb, Litle Gnowb, Syre, Carnoche, Innernaver, and Thorisdale with the salmon fishings; the lands of Litill Borg, Mekle Borg, Kirkeboill, Towng, Scrabuster, Keneside, Candloche, Ellengill, Handlemet, Ardeboll, Strathurydale, Moswell, and Letterlowell; the island of Qwothra; the lands of Edderdaquhelis; the water of Hallowedaill with the salmon fishing; and the water of Strathy with the salmon fishing; in the sheriffdom of Innernes — extending from the west side of Edderdaquhelis inclusive to Mowdell, which lies for the most part towards the south east (*versus subsolanum vulgo syth est*), and to Drumalestane towards the east, and as the ocean (*mare oceanum*) flows — all forfeited by Donald M'Ky of Far, who lived and died bastard without lawful heirs or a lawful disposition of the lands; erecting the whole of new into the barony of Far, seisin to be taken at the principal message of Far, the grantee giving three suits at the three head courts of the sheriffdom of Innernes, and the services of ward, relief, and marriage.³ At the same time the queen granted to the same bishop the lands of Golspitour, Kynnald, Killealumkill in Strabrora, and the mill of Kynnald, in the earldom of Sutherland, forfeited by Donald and to be held of the earl; and the half of Donald M'Ky's share of the decret arbitral pronounced (in 1542) by James earl of Murray between him and William Sutherland of Duffus.⁴ In 1553 she granted to the same bishop the escheat of all the goods that belonged to Y M'Ky of Far, forfeited to the queen for his

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 80.

² Genealogy of the Earls, p. 306. 'This Donald Macky,' adds Sir R. Gordon, 'was a politick and wyse gentleman. When as he perceived that there was no lawfull or legitimat succession descended from his father Y Roy Macky, he caused Robert Reid bishop of Orkney tak a gift of bastardrie of the lands of Strathnaver to the said Donald's use in Bishop Reid his name, which gift was granted in Quein Marie's minoritie. Therefter George earle of Huntley in the quein's majoritie and perfect aige took another gift of the said bastardrie, which gift the earle of Huntley did afterward alienat to Y Macky the sone of Donald, reserving still vnto himself the superioritie of the lands

of Strathnaver; which superioritie this marquis of Huntley that now liveth gave to Alexander earle of Sutherland, who gave a new infeftment of Strathnaver to Honcheon Macky the sone of Y Macky, to be held of the earle of Sutherland as his immediate lord and superior thereof; which infeftment was renued by John earle of Sutherland the sone of Earle Alexander to Honcheon Macky and to his sone Donald the yeir of God 1606, reserving alwayes the superioritie of Strathnaver to the earle of Sutherland as being annexed to that earldome.' *Ibid.*, pp. 306, 307. See the following notices.

³ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 97, 98.

⁴ *Ibid.*, ff. 98, 99. See *post*.

being art and part in the slaughter of some person or persons not named.¹ In 1554 the same Y M'Ky and other 19 persons had a remission for their treasonable coming against the regent (Arran) on Glasgow Green (*super moro de Glasgw*).² In 1555 Queen Mary granted to John earl of Sutherland the bailliary of the lands of Far as specified in the grant of 1551.³ In 1562 (2 May) William Sutherland or Hectorson in Langwell married Margaret, the daughter of John Williamson in Anchness and 'umquhile Donald M'Ky's dochtir of Far,' receiving as her 'tocher thrie skoir of greit ky.'⁴ In the same year (5 October) Y Makky of Far had from Queen Mary a remission for assistance given to the English, especially at Haddington in April 1548.⁵ In 1567 that queen granted to George earl of Huntlie the lands in Caithness and Sutherland which belonged to Donald Makkye of Far, who died illegitimate and intestate.⁶ In 1570 (31 July) that earl, styled also Lord Gordoune and Badenocht, baron of the barony of Farr, and proprietor of the following lands, in fulfilment of a contract between him and Y Macky dated at Aberdeen on 29 July, and for certain sums of money therein contained to be paid to the earl and his heirs, sold to Y M'Ky and his heirs the lands of Bronache, Dilrit, Cattack, and 2 pennylands in the island of Stroma, lying in the diocese of Cathenes and sheriffdom of Invernes; the lands of Galdwall, Balnaheglishe with the salmon fishings, Strathie with the salmon fishings, Armaidall, Farr with the salmon fishings, Invernaver, Rineuie, Skelpeick, Carnachie, Ravigill, Shyre, Grubeg, Grubmoir, Mowdail, Torisdail with the salmon fishings, Skerri, Burgiebeg, Burgiemoir, Tung, Kirkiboll, Skrabister, Kinset, Letterlyvall, Keanloche, Melnes, Hoipe with the salmon fishing, Arnabill, Hunleam, Ereboll, Strathuridail, Keanlochbervie, Nahardin, Fenzedallis, Laxford with the salmon fishing, Skuribeg, Skurimoir, Calstromie, Edirachillis, the isles of Handa, Choarie, Gylde, Rone, and Colme, and the lands of Langwall, Rosswall, Achnis, Clibrig with the forest of Ririmoir or Rerimoir, Skail, Rigibald, Sandwatt, the island of Hall, Alsnerbeg, and Alsnermoir, lying in the diocese of Cathanes, barony of Strathnaver, and sheriffdom of Invernes; and also Kinald, Golspietour, and Killicalmekill, with the mill and other pertinents, lying in the earldom of Sutherland and in the same diocese and sheriffdom — for the yearly service of ward and relief — the grantee also relieving the earl and his heirs from the yearly payment of the feuferme of the lands of Skail, Rigibald, Sandwatt, the isle of Hall, Alsnerbeg, Alsnermoir, and also of the lands of Langwall, Rosswall, Achnes, and Clibrig, if justly due; giving the oath of fidelity to the superior at entry: giving yearly three personal suits at the earl's three head courts held in the burgh of Invernes; and relieving the earl and his heirs from all royal taxations.⁷ The earl moreover — on the narrative that Y M'Ky had formerly held the lands immediately of the kings of Scotland, and had now become his (the earl's) vassal for the same — granted to him and his heirs and successors of the nearest succession the nonentry of the lands during the minority of the heir when it should occur; the grantee paying yearly for the term of nonentry 10 marks Scots or the yearly fruits

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 54.

² *Ibid.*, vol. xxvii. fol. 24.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. xxvii. fol. 127. See *post*.

⁴ Protocol Book of William Gray at Dunrobin. John Williamson in Auchindess witnesses a seisin

of the lands of Langwell and others in 1548. See *post*.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 100.

⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 558. A grant almost the same as that of 1551. See *post*.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

contained in the old retour of the lands at the option of the earl and his heirs, provided that the nonentry should not be in defect of Y M'Ky, his heirs, and successors.¹ The earl granted to him also the office of hereditary bailie of the lands, with all the escheats belonging to it, and appointed seisin for the whole lands and other privileges then granted to be taken at the town of Farr.² In 1589 Houcheon Macky on a precept by Alexander earl of Sutherland was served heir to his father Y Macky in the lands of Strathnaver except the Dirimoir.³ The lands and barony of Far with the waters and salmon fishings, as annexed in 1601 to the earldom of Sutherland, included the lands of Arnedail, Straith with the waters and salmon fishings, Renew, Kynnald, Golspetor, Delreid, Cattak, Broniche, Killicalumkill, Dawach Lochnaver, Dawach Ereboill, 2 pennylands in Strone, the island of Sanda, namely, 3 pennylands there, the island of Haga extending to 2 pennylands, the lands of Millines and Hoip with the waters and salmon fishings, Galdwell, Balnahaclis, Skelpik, Mowadell, Mekill Grub, Litill Grub, Syre, Carnoch, Innernaver, Thorisdail with the waters and salmon fishings, Mekill Borge, Litill Borge, Kirkboyll, Tung, Skrabister, Kennysyde, Candloch, Edderdawachellis, the water of Torrisdail with its fishings, Awchynes, Clybrek, Langoill, Rosuall, Raygill, Ardnedell, Skarre, Lettirlyoll, Lettirwyndeschoir, Ardnaboill, Houndland, Strathoridail, the island of ———, and the mills of Tung, Far, and Kynnald, with the multures and suckin.⁴ In 1613 the Lords of Council decreed that the lands and barony of Far with the fishings on the water of Far, the lands of Ardmoydill, Strathie, Ranwy, Kenalt, Golspetour, Dilredde, Cattak, Broinak, Killecalmikell in Strabrora, Daach Lochnaver, Daachjereboll, 2 pennylands in Stroma, the mill of Kynnalt with the multures, suckin, and astricted multures, the isle of Sandy extending to 3 pennylands, the isle of Houga extending to 2 pennylands; the lands of Myllines and Hoip with the salmon fishing on the water of Hoip; the lands of Galdwall, Belnahaglis, Skelpik, Rebegall, Mowdell, Mekill Grub, Litill Grub, Syra, Carnok, Innernaver, Thorisdail with the salmon fishing, Litill Borg, Mekill Borg, Kirkboll, Toung, Scrabuster, Kennesyde, Keandloch, Ellengild, Handlemet, Ardboll, Strathuridell, Moswell, Littirluell, Ruchra (or Ruthra), and Edderdilquhillis; the water of Alludell with the salmon fishing; and the water of Stratlie with the salmon fishing — all lying in the sheriffdom of Innernes, and extending from the west point of Eddirquicillis inclusive to Mowdell, which lies chiefly towards the south east, and to Drumalesten at the east, and as the ocean flows — had been in the sovereign's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of Robert bishop of Orkney, who died about the month of February 1558 (1559) about 53 years before 29 December 1612 (the date of the summons in the present case); and that the king by a letter under his privy seal dated 2 November 1612 had granted the nonentry and other dues of the lands to Sir Robert Gordoun of Kymounwy till the entry of the lawful heir; those having or pretending interest in the matter as heritable possessors of the lands, namely, George marquis of Huntlie and earl of Enzie, Houcheon Macky of Far, Donald Macky his

¹ Sutherland Charters.² *Ibid.*³ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 200, 201.⁴ Sutherland Charters.

son, William Sutherland of Duffus, George Murray of Spanzedail, and David Reid of Aickinheid, having been lawfully summoned and not having appeared.¹ In 1616 an assise held at Innernes regarding the earldom of Sutherland declared that the lands and barony of Far were then worth yearly £50 Scots, and in time of peace £36.² In 1617 a seisin of the earldom of Sutherland is witnessed by Andrew Gordoun the servitor of Sir Donald Macky of Strathnaver.³ In 1628 Sir Donald was created Lord Reay by King Charles I.⁴

In the year 1269 Archbald bishop of Moray with the consent of the dean and chapter granted to Sir Reginald le Chen the younger lord of Duffus, and to his wife Mary the daughter of the deceased Friskyn of Moray, and to the heirs of their body, his land of Strathnauir in the diocese of Cattenes, which the noble lady Johanna the deceased wife of Sir Friskyn of Moray granted to the church of Moray for the maintenance of two chaplains to minister perpetually in that church, namely, the lands of Langeval and Rossewal, Tofttys, Dovyr, Achenedes, Clibry, Ardovyr, and Cornefern, to be held according to the charter of the lady Johanna for the yearly payment of 12 marks sterling at the canoury of Elgyn to the dean and chapter for the maintenance of the said chaplains.⁵ For the faithful payment of the 12 marks yearly Reginald and his wife pledged themselves, their heirs, and their goods movable, immovable, and self-moving, and became bound to defend the lands with all their might in unison with the bishop and chapter against all; renouncing for themselves and heirs all aid of law canon and civil, the privilege of market and especially of those who have taken cross, every custom and statute, all letters of indulgence with privileges procured or to be procured from the apostolic see or the king's court, also every prohibition, the constitution *de duabus dietis* published by a general council, and every plea and defence personal and real which might be objected against the present deed or which might injure the bishop and his church or profit themselves and theirs (*et suis*); and subjecting themselves and heirs in this matter to the jurisdiction of the bishop, dean, and archdeacon of Moray, to whom or one of whom it should be lawful on simply giving the legal warnings at the castle of [Duffus] to compel them wheresoever they might be found by sentences of suspension from church privilege (*ab ingressu ecclesie*) and of the greater excommunication and of interdict against their lands to make full and due payment of the said sum, if they should have failed in payment of the same.⁶ In 1525 Robert bishop of Moray — on the narrative that the lands of Strathnevir in the diocese of Cathanes had been granted by a noble lady Johanna the wife of the deceased Friskin of Moray for the maintenance of two chaplains in the cathedral church of Moray; that from the intromission with and laying waste of those lands by wild (*siluestrium*) and wicked men who inhabited them the chaplains were like to perish and must cease from their service for want of the payment of the yearly ferme; and that the lands, after the rentallers (*censuarii*) had for a long time failed in payment, had been recognised by the deceased James Hepburn the bishop's predecessor — desiring to aid that pious foundation and to counteract the wickedness of the occupants of the lands, with

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 406. Douglas's Peerage, citing crown charter.

⁵ Reg. Morav., p. 139.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 139, 140.

the consent of the dean and canons, and for the favours bestowed on them by William Sutherland of Duffous, and to be bestowed by him and his heirs, granted to him in heritage the lands of Strathnaver, namely, Langewall and Rosewall, Toftys, Dowyn, Achenedesse, Clibry, Ardouyr, and Carnefern, in the diocese of Cathanes and sheriffdom of Innernes; the grantee paying yearly 12 marks Scots to the chaplains of the chaplainry of Saint Michael the archangel at the altar of the same, and giving suit at each of the three capital pleas of Moray once in his life if required, with the oath of fidelity to the bishop; the grant to be null if the rent remained unpaid for two years, notwithstanding that William Sutherland had given the bishop a charter of 12 marks yearly from his lands of Duffous.¹ In 1535 Ronald Hectorson and others, the bailies of Alexander bishop of Moray in that part, gave seisin of the same lands to William Sutherland of Duffous the son of the former.² In 1542 James earl of Murray, arbiter between Donald M'Ky of Farr and William Sutherland the son and heir of the deceased William of Duffous anent the wrongous occupation of the same lands of Strathnavare, which William Sutherland alleged that he held in heritage of the church of Murray, and anent the nonentry and dues of certain other lands, gave as his decree that William Sutherland should alienate to Donald M'Ky and his heirs the lands which he held of the church of Murray, to be held of that church by Donald for the yearly payment of 12 marks Scots to the chaplains of Saint Michael's altar and the other services stated above—that he should discharge Donald and his heirs of all the past dues of the lands—that for those lands and their dues Donald should pay to William Sutherland the sum of 250 marks—and that the latter should be bound for the warrandice of only one half of the lands.³ In 1547, on a precept of Patrick bishop of Moray, Alexander Sutherland of Duffous the son and heir of the deceased William was seised in the same lands.⁴ In 1549 he again took seisin of the lands.⁵ In 1551 Queen Mary granted to Robert bishop of Orkney the deceased Donald M'Ky's part of the decree arbitral pronounced by James Earl of Murray between him and William Sutherland of Duffous, by which, as we have seen, the lands of Langewall and the others were to be resigned to Donald.⁶ In 1570 the lands of Langwall, Rosswall, Achnis, and Clibrig, were with others sold by George earl of Huntly to Y M'Ky in implement of a contract between them and for certain sums of money to be paid, Maeky being bound to relieve the earl of the yearly payment of the feuferme if justly due.⁷ In 1601 the same lands were included in a new grant of the earldom of Sutherland by King James VI. in favour of Earl John.⁸ In 1656 Alexander Sutherland of Torboll was served heir to his brother german John Sutherland in Skelbo in the town and lands of Auehnes in Straithnaver, of old called Kerrownasheine or Carrunasheine, Achnellie or Auehsheullie, with the pendicles, namely, Clibrig, Loehinshyre, Carnamadie, Bellach, Unshean, Cochtorma, Fearnie, Aldnaba, Mellollan, Carrifurraiee, and Riehalwaith, with the salmon fishing of the water of Naver, of the extent of £4 of feu duties.⁹

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Ibid. For remainder of this decree arbitral see p. 711.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 98, 99.

⁸ Sutherland Charters. See p. 713.

⁹ Ibid. See GOLSPIE, p. 670.

⁹ Retours.

In 1530, as we have seen, the lands of Skale and Regeboll were included in a grant of the nonentry of lands in Strathnaver by King James V. to William Sutherland of Duffois.¹ They were subsequently included in the decree arbitral between Donald M'Ky of Farr and William Sutherland the son and heir of the deceased William of Duffons, pronounced by James earl of Murray in 1542.² In 1551 Queen Mary, as we have seen, granted Donald M'Ky's part of that decree to Robert bishop of Orkney.³ In 1559 Robert bishop elect and confirmed of Cathanes, for certain sums of money and other favours, granted to John earl of Sutherland and to his wife Helen Stewart countess of Arroll, and to the heirs lawfully got between them, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, certain lands in Caitness and Sutherland, including those of Skaile and Regeboile, which in the bishop's rental extended yearly to £6 Scots.⁴ In 1564, after the forfeiture of Earl John, the same bishop on a letter from Queen Mary admitted as hereditary tenant of the same lands the earl's son Alexander Gordoun, who had not partaken in his father's crime.⁵ About the same date the towns of Skail and Regeboll are entered in the rental of the bishoprick at the former yearly value of £6.⁶ In 1570 they were included among the lands sold by George earl of Huntlie to Y Macky, and among that portion of the same lands from the payment of the feufme of which Y Macky was bound by the contract to relieve the earl and his heirs.⁷ In 1577 Alexander Gordoun, then earl of Sutherland, was on a precept of Bishop Robert seised in the same lands.⁸ In 1580 he resigned them to the bishop, and received a new grant of them.⁹ In 1601 they were included in the new grant of the earldom to his son Earl John.¹⁰

On an eminence near Kirkiboll on the east shore of the Kyle of Tongue are the ruins of an old square tower named Doun Vorrhich, Castle Vorrhich, Barr Castle, or Caistal a Bharrnich.¹¹ It is probably the Beruvik of the Sagas, described as a place in Sutherland at which Earl Rognvald in 1157 celebrated the marriage of his daughter Ingiride with Eric Slagbrell, and from which on learning that Earl Harald was at Thorsa he rode thither with a great multitude.¹²

On Farr Head a small peninsula near the church are the remains of another square tower named the castle of Borve or Farr, said to have been built by Torquill a Norwegian and subsequently to have been a residence of the M'Kys of Farr.¹³ In 1555 or 1556, Y Macky refusing to appear before Queen Mary at Inverness, John earl of Sutherland besieged 'the strong castle and fort called Borve, the principall strenth of that cuntrey, not two myles distant from Far,' took it, hanged the captain Rorie Mack-ean-voyre, and demolished the fort.¹⁴

In 1630 Sir Robert Gordon, after enumerating Borve and Toung among the castles of Sutherland, observes, 'Macky his speciall residence is at Toung, one myle from the place

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. ff. 168, 169. See p. 710.

² Sutherland Charters. See p. 711.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 98, 99. See p. 716.

⁴ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, pp. 611, 612, and DURNES, p. 703.

⁵ Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCH, p. 614.

⁶ Sutherland Charters. See above, p. 713.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid. See GOLSPIE, p. 670.

¹⁰ Blaeu. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 345. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide. County Maps.

¹¹ Orkneyinga Saga, p. 349. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 33.

¹² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 8, 11. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 348. Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Genealogy, pp. 134, 135.

where the castle doth stand.¹ About a century later we have Tongue described as a manor lying on the bay of Kintaile, and the principal seat of the Right Honourable Lord Reay, 'whose house lys closs upon the bay at a place where the land stretches itself out westerly into the bay in form of a tounge, from whence the seat hath its denomination.'² About the year 1790 we are informed that 'on the east side of the bay lies Tongue, one of the seats of Lord Reay, a beautiful spot laid out into gardens surrounded with beautiful trees.'³ In 1834 Tongue is described as a fine old baronial residence, the work of many successive generations, situated at the foot of a lofty mountain on a point projecting into the Kyle on its eastern shore.⁴ It is now the property of the Duke of Sutherland.⁵

Among the other antiquities of the parish are mentioned in 1769 and 1790 a building called Grianan situated on an island in Loch Hacon and supposed to have been a hunting seat of Haaco King of Norway; a field full of cairns called Harald's field and said to have been the place where Rognvald or Reginald of the Isles defeated Earl Harald; the remains of a building at Melness called Dun Bhuidh (the yellow heap), and near it the remains of various circular buildings; a circle of stones and a circular building at Langdale, the former 100 feet in diameter; a sculptured stone in the churchyard supposed to mark the grave of a Dane; and an erect stone at Strathy marked with a cross.⁶

About the year 1429 the battle of Drumm-ne-Coub, a place near Tongue, was fought between the Mackays of Strathnaver and the men of Sutherland headed by Angus Murray the son of Alexander Murray of Culbin.⁷

ROGART.

Rothegorm⁸—Rogart⁹—Rogard.¹⁰ (Map, No. 8.)

THIS parish includes the greater part of the valleys of Strathbrora and Strathfleet, which are separated by a range of rocky hills averaging from 500 to 900 feet in height above the level of the sea.¹¹ The Brora and the Fleet are the only rivers, and in the north east of the parish are two small lochs both known by the same name Loch Beannach (the lake of blessing).¹²

At the erection of the chapter of Cathanes by Bishop Gilbert between 1223 and 1245 the church of Rothegorm and part of the teinds of Dornoch were, as we have seen, assigned to

¹ Genealogy, pp. 8, 11.

² Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ Anderson's Guide.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Pennant, vol. iii. pp. 345-348. Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 64-67, The Ext. e Var. Cron. Scoie dates this battle in 1431, styling it the battle of Straitlmawarne between Angus Duf and Angus Murray, where of 1300 scarcely nine remained alive.

⁸ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

⁹ A. D. 1546. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1553. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 193. Circa A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers, A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations, A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 9. Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen.

¹⁰ A. D. 1602. Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹² New Stat. Acc.

the chancellor.¹ The subsequent history of the chancellor, including partly that of the church, is given above.² In 1546 a charter is witnessed by Sir Donald Neilson curate of Rogart, and in 1553 another is witnessed by William Murray parish clerk of Rogart.³ In 1569 William Gray elder was exhorter at Rogart, and in 1574 he was minister.⁴ In 1602 Thomas Pape chancellor of Cathnes, with the consent of Bishop George Glaidstanes and the chapter, and for certain supplies granted for the 'repair, plenishing, and theking' of the church of Rogart, leased for three years from the following Lambes to Alexander Gordoun of Sydray and Margaret Keith his wife, and to the heirs of their body, with remainder to the heirs of Alexander, the teindsheaves of the towns and lands of Achovelie and Roswell in the parish of Rogart, for the yearly payment of 10 marks and a mutton for each town, in all 20 marks and 2 muttons.⁵

The church, dedicated apparently to a saint locally known as Saint Callen, was accordingly repaired between the years 1602 and 1619, the repair being latterly effected by Sir Robert Gordon.⁶ It appears to have stood at all times at the village of Rogart in Strathfleet, where the present building was erected in 1777.⁷

Between 1561 and 1566 the yearly value of the parsonage and vicarage appears to have been 100 marks Scots.⁸ About 1569 the exhorter at Rogart had for his stipend 50 marks for Rogart and 20 marks 'mair for supporting of Larg.'⁹ In 1574 the minister had £53, 11s. 1½d.¹⁰

In 1363 King David II. confirmed a charter of William earl of Sutherland granting in heritage to John of Tarale 6 davachs of Ruchy (or Rutly) in Strafflete in the sheriffdom of Innernyss (including according to Sir Robert Gordon the lands of Rouiecraftoun, Rouie-kirktonn, Kintrayed, Daueghbeg, Inchehepp, Acheyeweley, Rossell, and Pettinrayle, and subsequently known as Terrell's lands), saving the king's service.¹¹ In 1494 John earl of Sutherland, on the narrative that the lands of Strathfleet had been in his hands for seven years in defect of the relaxation of the relief, and that they belonged in heritage to Jonet Terrell by the decease of Hugh Terrell her grandfather, granted in her favour his precept of *clare constat*, on which she was then seised in the lands on the soil of the town of Rawe in Strath-fleyth.¹² In 1515 and 1518 the lands of Petintraill were apparently included in the barony of Skelbo then held in tenantry of the earl of Sutherland by Andrew Kynnard of that ilk.¹³ In 1525, as we have seen, John Kynnard, the son and heir of the deceased Andrew Kynnard of that ilk the last tenant of that barony (which then certainly included Petintraill), was seised in the same as tenant and heir on a precept of the earl.¹⁴ In 1529 (1 April), as before noticed, the heritage of the barony of Skelbo was sold by John Kynnard of that ilk to

¹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 601.

² See DORNOCH, p. 619.

³ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 193.

⁴ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ *Ibid.* Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 7, 361.

⁷ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCH, p. 626.

⁹ Register of Ministers.

¹⁰ Book of Assignations.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters.

¹² *Ibid.* ¹³ *Ibid.* ¹⁴ *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 628.

William Sutherland of Duffus.¹ In the same year (31 July) by a charter dated at Innerbreky Jonet Terrell of Innerbreky resigned in the lands of her superior Alexander Suderland lord of Skelbo her lands of Petintreill in the barony or earldom of Suderland in favour of Walter Innes of Touchis and the children to be got between herself and Walter, with remainder to his heirs whomsoever, and reserving the liferent to herself.² On 2 August Alexander Gordoun master of Suderland and fear of the earldom granted to the same Walter and Jonet, then married, and the heirs of their body, with remainder to Walter and his heirs whomsoever, the lands of Reveeragtoun, Kintraid, Davauchbege, Inchezep, Rossoll, and Achhele, in the lordship of Suderland and sheriffdom of Innes, which belonged in heritage to the said Jonet Terrall of Innerbreky and were resigned by her, reserving to her the liferent.³ In 1550 (16 April) John earl of Sutherland for certain services confirmed to James Innes of Towquhis the son and heir of the deceased Walter the lands of Reuekirkton, Reuecragtoun, Kyntract, Dawachtbeig, Roswell with the mill, multure, and sequels, Inchaet, and Anuegile with its tofts and crofts, in the earldom of Sutherland, for service of ward and relief as formerly, reserving to the earl the 'bludewetes' and the punishment of theft.⁴ On the same day the earl as superior after a due examination of the retours declared that the lands of Anueweily, Rosuell with the mill and mill-lands, Inchechuip, Rnycragtoun, Ruykirkton, Dawachbeg, Kintraith, and Pettintraill with the mill and mill-lands, forming part of the earldom, were worth yearly in time of peace £3 Scots old extent, and were then worth yearly £12 Scots.⁵ On 18 June James Innes was seised in the lands confirmed to him on 16 April.⁶ In 1562, as we have seen, John earl of Sutherland granted in heritage to his kinsman Alexander Sutherland the baronies of Skelbo and Pronsie which he had resigned, the latter being described in the grant as the lands of Pentraell called the lands and barony of Pronsie.⁷ In 1563 (15 May or June) Queen Mary granted anew to James Innes of Touchis the lands granted to him in 1550 by Earl John, by whom they were forfeited for treason and lese-majesty.⁸ The same lands were included in the grant of the earldom of Sutherland (22 September 1563) to Robert Stewart younger the brother of Queen Mary on the forfeiture of Earl John, and in the new grant of the same to that earl in 1566.⁹ In 1598 they were purchased by the Gordons from the Inneses, reserving the right of redemption to the earl of Sutherland.¹⁰ In 1616 William Sutherland of Duffus was served heir to his father William in the barony of Skelbo, including the lands of Pentraill.¹¹

In 1525 on a precept by Adam Gordon earl of Sudirland, with the consent of his wife Elisabeth Sudirland lady of the lands of Sudirland and superior of the lands of Skelbo in the lordship of Sudirland, John Kynnard the son and heir of the deceased Andrew Kynnard of that ilk was seised in the barony of Skelbo, including the lands of Litill Roart and Knokeartnoll.¹²

¹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, pp. 629, 630.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. Sutherland Charters. See GOLSPIE, pp. 667, 668. The seisin of 1566 is witnessed by John Innes in Roykirkton.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 236, 237.

¹¹ Retours.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

A transaction dated in 1534 or 1535 relating to the lands of Petfuir and Knokarwall, formerly held by the deceased William Sutherland of Duffous and Skailbo, and at that time by William his son and heir, and another dated 1536 relating to the same lands, have been noticed above.¹ In 1548 Queen Mary confirmed a charter by John earl of Sutherland, in which he granted or sold to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol the liferent of certain lands in the sheriffdom of Innernes, including Mowy, Reyne, and Cragy.² In 1562 the same earl, with the consent of his wife Helen countess of Errol and Sutherland, granted anew in heritage to his kinsman Alexander Sutherland of Duffous on his resignation the barony of Skelbo and other lands, including Roartbeig (or Litill Rewart), Morines, Cragie, Ladie, and Blaricht.³ The grant of the earldom to Robert Stewart in 1563 included the lands of Moy, Rine, Cragie, Litil Rod (or Litill Reorde), Morines, Dola, Blaroquhy, Lady, Pitfwir, and Knokartoll, and the new grant of 1566 the same lands with the exception of Dola.⁴ In 1578 Alexander earl of Sutherland sold the lands of Pitfuir and Knokartholl to Hugh Moray of Aberseors.⁵ In 1616 the lands of Morines, Litill Rogart, Cragie, Lady, and Blerich, were included in a retour of the barony of Skelbo in favour of William Sutherland of Duffus as heir to his father William.⁶

In 1544 Robert bishop of Cathnes granted to John Gray of Kilmalye, Jonet Matheson his wife, and the male heirs of their body, with remainder to certain of the relatives of John Gray, and to the eldest female heir of the several parties without division, the lands of Kilmalkyrk and Rogertkyrk in the barony of Skebo, the grantee paying yearly for Rogertkyrk with the mill and alehouse, including money fermes, victual fermes, gresssums, astricted multures, custom oats, poultry, and other dues and services, the sum of 23 marks Scots old ferme, and 6s. 8d. in augmentation.⁷

There was of old a village at Knoekartoll, which in 1542 was burned by Donald M'Ky of Strathnaver, and at which in 1555 or 1556 Y M'Ky had a skirmish with a party of Mackenzies.⁸

In 1630 a yearly fair named Saint Callen's was held at Rogart.⁹

The parish abounds with the remains of the buildings usually known as Pietish.¹⁰

In 1427 the Isle of Dolay in Breachat was the refuge of two brothers named Angus and Paul Mackneill, who drove thither cattle taken from the inhabitants of Sutherland, and whom the inhabitants at last killed on a neighbouring hill named from the circumstance Knoekwick-Neill.¹¹

In 1517 was fought the battle of Torrandow or Knoekendow beside Rogart, in which the Sutherland men under Alexander the Bastard defeated the Strathnaver men under John Macky.¹²

¹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, pp. 630, 631.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

³ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 632.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. Sutherland Charters. See GOLSPIE, pp. 666-668.

⁵ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 634, and GOLSPIE, p. 680.

⁶ Retours. See DORNOCH, p. 634.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. For the rest of the history of Rogertkyrk see GOLSPIE, pp. 676, 677.

⁸ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 107, 135.

⁹ Ibid., p. 7.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 66.

¹² Ibid., p. 91. For a notice of Alexander the Bastard see GOLSPIE, pp. 661, 663, and Genealogy, p. 96.

In the same year John Moray of Aberseors defeated a party of Mackys at Lochsalchie near Torrandow, and immediately afterwards he defeated a second party at the town of Petfure, which they had burned in revenge of their former defeat.¹

The hills that separate Strathbrora from Strathfleet are covered with tumuli, in one of which were found the skeleton of a man and the blade of a dagger ornamented with gold.²

At Rhin in Strathfleet the marquis of Montrose encamped for a night after his return to Scotland in 1650, having landed in Caithness about four days before.³

CLYNE.

Clun⁴ — Clyne⁵ — Clynne⁶ — Clyun⁷ — Cline.⁸ (Map, No. 9.)

THIS parish extends north west from the coast towards the hills, and includes the valleys of Strathbegg and Strathskinsdale, and the lower portion of Strathbrora with the Loch of Brora, from which the water of Brora continues its course, falling into the sea about the middle of the coast line.⁹ These straths are bordered by hills of a considerable height, the highest of which is Ben Ormin, 2306 feet above the sea, and another Ben Horn attains the height of 1712 feet.¹⁰ The coast is low and skirted by sandhills.¹¹

Between the years 1223 and 1245 Bishop Gilbert assigned to the dean of Cathanes as his prebend the church of Clun and certain other emoluments.¹² In 1512 a seisin of the earldom of Suderland, and in 1518 a seisin of the barony of Skelbo, are witnessed by Sir Angus Murray vicar of Clyne.¹³ In 1541 and 1545 the vicar of Clynne was Robert Urquhard.¹⁴ In 1547 a seisin of the lands in Strathnaver belonging to the bishop of Moray is witnessed by Alexander Buchanan clerk substitute of Clyne.¹⁵ In 1562 (10 August) at the castle of Dornoch Master William Hepburne dean of Cathanes declared that he had granted in heritage to John earl of Sutherland the ecclesiastical lands of Auchindean and Clynnekirk with the teindsheaves, but had kept the charter in his own hands till the earl should pay him certain moneys as gressum of those lands.¹⁶ Unwilling however to injure the earl's interests in the matter, he appointed Alexander

¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 93.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 553.

⁴ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

⁵ A. D. 1512. Sutherland Charters, A. D. 1518. *Ibid.*, A. D. 1547. *Ibid.* A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1566. Sutherland Charters. *Circa* A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574, 1576. Books of Assignations. A. D. 1580. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1610. *Ibid.* A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 96, 399, 400. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

⁶ A. D. 1541, 1545. *Regist. Moraviense*, pp. 394, 404.

⁷ *Circa* A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 9. *Circa* A. D. 1640. Blaeu.

⁸ A. D. 1576. Book of Assignations.

⁹ Old and New Stat. Acc. and County Maps.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ New Stat. Acc.

¹² Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, pp. 601, 616, 617, where the subsequent history of the deanery is given.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Regist. Moraviense*, pp. 394, 404.

¹⁵ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

Tarrell of Doill his bailie to give seisin of the lands to the earl or his procurator.¹ On 11 August accordingly Alexander Tarrell gave seisin of the lands to the earl's procurator James Fraser, the seisin being witnessed by John Forsyth and John McDonald Glas in Clinkirk.² In 1566 (21 July), on a presentation by Henrie and Mary king and queen of Scots dated 30 November 1565, and collation by Bishop Robert dated at Serabuster 1 June 1566, Master Thomas Brady vicar pensionary of Wattin, as executor appointed by the bishop, gave seisin of the parish church and teinds of Clyne, which belonged to the dean, to John Kennetye living in Clynekirktown as procurator for Gawine Boirthuik presented to the deanery on the decease of Master William Hepburne, the seisin being witnessed by Henry Golliche and Donald Boy parishioners of Clyne.³ In 1569 Robert Ferne exhorter at Culmalze served also the church of Clyn, and in 1574 and 1576 Andrew Andersoun was minister and Walter Andersoun was reader at Clyne.⁴ In 1580 Master Gawin Borthuik dean of Caithnes, with the consent of the bishop and chapter, leased for 19 years to John Kennedy portioner of Doill and his heirs the teindsheaves of his half of Doill then occupied by himself and his subtenants, belonging to the deanery and lying in the parish of Clyne and sheriffdom of Invernes, the lessee paying yearly the sum of 10 marks Scots 'at the twentie fyve day of September callit Sanct Barris day.'⁵ In 1585 the same dean leased for 19 years from Beltane 1586 to Alexander earl of Sutherland and his heirs the teindsheaves of the half of Doill then occupied by Alexander Tarrell, the lessee paying yearly ten bolls of victual between Yuill and Candilmes.⁶ In 1610 (6 November) Master John Gray dean of Caithnes, with the consent of the bishop and chapter, leased for life to John master of Sutherland, and for twice nineteen years to his heirs and assignees, the teindsheaves of the towns and lands of Killein in Strathbrora, the two West Kelles, Carreill, Kilnabrora, Dallfollie, Killecallumkeill, Killepeddermoir, Shiberseage, the Doill, the burgh and lands of Innerbrora bewest the bridge, the whole teind fishing of the water of Brora fresh and salt, Clynesmill, the half of Clynekirktown belonging to the laird of Duffus, Clyneleish, Dallihallenis, and Easter Brora, with the teind vicarage and small teind of the whole parish of Clyne, belonging to the deanery as part of its patrimony.⁷ In 1610 (1 December) the same dean gave his precept of seisin in the lands of Achimdeane and of the half of the town and lands of Clynekirktonne in favour of John earl of Sutherland as son and heir to the deceased Earl Alexander.⁸

The church, built in 1770, stands at Clyne on the old site of one dedicated to a saint locally styled Saint Aloyne on a declivity near the coast about a mile and a half eastward from the water of Brora.⁹ Between 1625 and 1627 Sir Robert Gordon undertook the repair of the parish church of Clyne and several other churches; 'in advaneing of the which work Mr. John Gray dean of Catteynes and Mr. James Gray thesaurer of Catteynes were good instruments,

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 617.

⁴ Register of Ministers. Books of Assignations.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 617.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. County Maps. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 7, 9.

and chiefie Mr. John Gray, who repaired the church of Clyne vpon his owne proper cost and charges.¹

There was a chapel at Kilcalmkill on the east shore of Loch Brora, dedicated to Saint Columba.² There was another at the Doll dedicated to Saint Mahon (perhaps Maclan the bishop).³ There appear to have been chapels also at Killean and Kilpedder, dedicated respectively to Saint John and Saint Peter.⁴

Between 1561 and 1566, as we have seen, the deanery of Caitlines, then belonging to Mr. William Hepburne, was valued at 10 chalders of bear, with 40 marks ' for the vicarage of Kirk-toun of Clyne and Denesfeild heirof.'⁵ In 1569 Robert Ferne exhorter at Culmalze had 20 marks in addition to his stipend ' for supporting the kirk of Clyn,' to be paid by the collector.⁶ In 1574 the minister of Clyne and Loth had as his stipend £73, 6s. 8d. with the kirkland (apparently of Loth), and the reader at Clyne and Lothe had £20 and the kirkland (apparently of Clyne).⁷ In 1576 the minister had £84, 8s. 10d. with the kirkland of Loth, and the reader his stipend with the kirkland of Cline.⁸

In the year 1275, on the settlement of a controversy between William earl of Sutherland and Areheald bishop of Cathanes, the earl yielded to the bishop certain lands, including two davachs of Moumaor.⁹

Between the years 1350 and 1370 several charters are witnessed by William of Clyne.¹⁰ In 1375 William of Clyn, apparently the same person, again appears in record.¹¹ In 1456 William of Clyne of that ilk and several others gave seisin of the earldom to John the son and apparent heir of John earl of Sutherland.¹² In 1471 he was one of an assise named for holding inquest respecting the lands of Drummoy, Bakys, and Torrois.¹³ In 1512 William of Clyne of that ilk witnessed a seisin of the earldom of Sutherland in favour of John the son and heir of the deceased Earl John.¹⁴ In 1518 Adam earl of Sutherland ' gave vnto John Morray of Aberseors for his tuo sonnes Hutcheon and Thomas the warde and mariag of Jonet Clyne and of her sister Elizabeth, the daughters and airs of William Clyne of Clyne; all which and more John Morray and his children hade deserved at Earle Adam his hands for ther good service in defence of his earldome and cuntree.'¹⁵ ' John Morray took not the benefite of this warde; whether it was that his sonnes did not fancie to marie these women, thinking to better ther fortunes another way, I know not; bot John disponded the same to one of the Southerlands, who mareid the heyre of Clyne.'¹⁶ In 1546, 1548, and 1556 appears in record Andrew Sutherland, styled younger, lord of Clyne, and son and apparent heir of Alexander Sutherland of Clyne.¹⁷ In 1556 the

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 399, 400.

² *Ibid.*, p. 3. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 359.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Register of Ministers.

⁷ Book of Assignations.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Sutherland Charters. See ДОРОСН, p. 603. There seems to be no farther history of those two davachs recorded

¹⁰ Balnagown Charters. Not apparently of Clyne in Ross, as stated p. 482.

¹¹ Regist. Moraviense, pp. 180, 181. See p. 482.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

¹³ Fors Charters. See GOLSPIE, p. 673.

¹⁴ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁵ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 94.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ Sutherland Charters. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 395*.

lady of Clyne, styled 'Rore Huchonsonis dochtir,' assigned her 'gudis and geir' to her nephew (*nepos*) Alexander Sutherland.¹ In 1564 appears in record John Sowthirland the son of Alexander Sowthirland of Clyne.² In 1564 William Sutherland of Clyne witnessed a seisin of the earldom of Sutherland and a seisin of the church of Clyne.³ Towards the end of the sixteenth century or in the beginning of the seventeenth the successors of the first Sutherland of Clyne 'gave these lands agane with a daughter to John Southerland the third sone of William Southerland of Duffus; which John is at this day (1630) laird of Clyne.'⁴

In 1360 William Earl of Sothyrland granted in free barony to his brother Nicolas of Sothyrland and the heirs of his body, for his faithful homage and service, 16 davachs of land in the earldom of Sothyrland called Thorbol, including among others a davach of Grodybrorak, a davach of Sibyrsoe, and two davachs of Kylpedre Mekill and Litill, with a quarter of Meyngerri (afterwards apparently styled Karommenche), to be held for the service of one soldier yearly.⁵ In 1362 King David II. confirmed the grant.⁶ Between 1399 and 1408 Nicolas of Suthirland lord of the castle of Duffus resigned the same lands, which Robert earl of Suthirland then granted to Henry of Suthirland the son of Nicholas and to the male heirs of his body for certain services before specified.⁷ In 1408 John of Suthirland, the son and heir of Nicholas of Suthirland lord of the castle of Duffous, confirmed the resignation of the same lands by his father, and also Earl Robert's grant to his brother Henry, with reversion to himself failing heirs of Henry's body.⁸ In 1444 John earl of Suthirland, after inspecting the resignation by Nicolas and the grant to his son Henry, declared that the latter had died vest and seised in the same lands, and had male issue the earl's kinsman Alexander of Suthirland lord of Thorboll, to whom Earl John then confirmed the lands.⁹ In 1472 John earl of Sutherland (the son of the former) granted in heritage to his kinsman Nicolas of Suthirland, the son and apparent heir of his kinsman Angus of Suthirland of Thureboll, with remainder to Angus and his heirs, the same lands, which Angus had resigned, with reservation of the liferent to Angus, the terce to his wife Cristina, and the ward and relief to the earl if Angus should die before his son.¹⁰ In 1492 Hugh Angussone Suthirland lord of Thurboll on a precept of Earl John was seised in the lands held of the earl by his father Angus and his brothers Nicolas and Donald.¹¹ In 1525 Adam Gordon earl of Suthirland and Elezabeth his wife, having considered the right of succession of William Sutherland lord of Duffous to the lands and lordship of Pronse by the decease of Hugh Sutherland without male heirs, and by reason of entail and ancient infeftment, granted to William in heritage the same lands and lordship, including Grudebroray, Schebriskeig, Kilpeddirmoir, and Kilpedirbeg.¹² In 1535 William Sutherland of Duffous, the son and heir of the former, was seised in the same lands.¹³ In 1555 Alexander Sutherland of Duffous had seisin of the same as heir to his father William.¹⁴ In 1560 John earl of Sutherland, with the consent of Elenour countess of Erroll and Sothir-

¹ Protocol Book of William Gray.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 94, 95.

⁵ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCB, p. 628.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Charter in Gen. Reg. House.

¹² Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCB, p. 629.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

land, gave seisin in the same lands to Christina the daughter and heiress of the deceased Hugh Sutherland of Thureboll.¹ In the same year or in 1562 the same earl with the same consent granted in heritage to his kinsman Alexander Suthirland of Duffos the same lands, resigned at Dunrobbin by Adam Reid, the husband and procurator of Christina Sutherland to whom they belonged in heritage.² In 1563 Queen Mary granted anew to the same Alexander and his heirs the lands of Skelbo and others, including Kylpeddermoir, Sybarskaig, and Grudebrora in Strathbrora, which he had formerly held of John earl of Suthirland, forfeited on 28 May of the same year.³ The lands of Grudebrora, Scheborskaik, Kilpeddermoir, and Kilpedderbeg, were included in the grant of the earldom made in that year by Queen Mary to her brother Robert Stewart.⁴ In 1564 Alexander Sutherland of Duffos 'purlie simplie and frelie ourgeff fyve meris with ane stallone being at the making of thir presentis on the ground of Schebursgag within the earldom of Sutherland and schirefdom of Innernes, pertening to him as propir gudis and geir, and that to James Suthirland sone lauchful to the said lard, being now in fostering with ane discreit man Angus Svthirland Hectorstone in ——— and of thrie years auld or thairby, sua that the saidis gudis may be furth cumand with all profitis thairfof to the use and profit of the said James Sutherland sonne to the said lard of Duffos awner of the samyn; and the said Angus Sutherland Hectorstone foster father to the said James hes sicyk purlie simplie and frelie ourgiffin to the said James four meris pertening to the said Angus Hectorstone, sua that the samyn may be furth cumand with profits thairfof to the use and profit of the said James his foster.'⁵ In 1566 the lands of Kilpeddirmoir, Kilpeddirbeg with the mill, Sevirseraig, Grudebrora, and Carnameyne (the quarter of Meyngferry), were included in the grant of Queen Mary restoring the earldom to Earl John.⁶ In 1616 William Sutherland of Duffus was served heir to his father William in the lands of Skelbo and Pronsy, including Meikill Kilpeddir, Lytill Kilpeddir, Groudbroora, and Scheberskeg, in Strathbrora.⁷

In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed to his son Edward certain lands, including Gilycallumgill in Strabrora, until he should be paid the sum named in the letters of reversion.⁸ In 1499 the same lands of Kilchallunkill were included in a grant of the lands of Farr by King James IV. to Y Makky in Straithnauern.⁹ In 1524 James Dunbar of Conzie granted the same lands to John Terrell in Doill, and the grant was confirmed by Adam earl of Sutherland.¹⁰ In 1540 King James V. granted in heritage to Donald M'Ky in Strathnaver the same lands, which had belonged in heritage to his father Y M'Ky, and were in the king's hands by reason of nonentry or otherwise.¹¹ In 1551 Queen Mary granted in heritage to Robert

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 632.

³ *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 122. For the composition paid for the lands see DORNOCH, p. 633.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. See GOLSPIE, pp. 666, 667.

⁵ Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁶ Sutherland Charters. See GOLSPIE, p. 667.

⁷ Retours.

⁸ Misc. of Ban. Club, vol. iii.

⁹ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 519. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 95. See FARR, p. 710.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 99.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 238. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 38.

bishop of Orkney the lands of Kylecalumkill and others forfeited by Donald M'Ky of Far.¹ In 1563 (20 June) the same queen granted in heritage to Alexander Dunbar of Cunze the half davach (or 3 half davachs) of Colmekill in Strabruaich in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernes, formerly held by him of John earl of Sutherland, by whom they were forfeited for treason and lese-majesty — the grantee paying yearly at Martinmas one penny blench ferme at the castle of Dunrobin.² In the same year (22 September) the same lands were included in a grant of the earldom by Queen Mary to her brother Robert Stewart.³ In 1564 that queen confirmed a charter by Alexander Dunbar of Conze, granting the lands of Killecallumkillye with the mill to his son and apparent heir Alexander Dunbar and Grissell Dunbar his future spouse.⁴ The same lands were included in a new grant of the earldom to Earl John in 1566, and in a grant of Farr in 1570 by the earl of Huntly to Y Macky.⁵ Between 1588 and 1598 appear in record John Gordoun and Alexander Gordoun of Killecalmekill.⁶ The lands of Killecalumkill formed part of the earldom and sheriffdom of Sutherland erected in 1601, and of the barony of Far as decreed to be in the sovereign's hands in 1613.⁷ In 1613 and 1618 appears in record Adam Gordoun the eldest son of John Gordoun of Killecalmekill and fear of the lands.⁸

In 1515 a presentation to the chaplainry of Saint Andrew of Golspy is witnessed by Andrew Stewart of the Doll.⁹ In 1518 Alexander Terrell of the Doill assisted Alexander the bastard in besieging the castle of Dunrobin, and was taken and put to death; but Earl Adam in 1519 restored to Alexander's son John Terrell the half of the lands of Doill and Carrell.¹⁰ The same lands were held by John Terrell in 1524 and 1527.¹¹ In 1529 (22 April) Alexander Gordone master and fear of Sutherland, and lord of the lands of the towns of Doyll and Carrell, for a certain sum of money paid to him beforehand sold to John Terrel and his heirs by his wife Cristina Murray, with remainder to John himself and his heirs whomsoever, his lands of the half of the towns of Doyll and Carrell in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernes, to be held for service done and to be done, reserving to the earl and his heirs the salmon fishings of the water of Broray, the sea coal found and to be found, and the 'blwidwitis.'¹² In the same year (2 August) a seisin is witnessed by Donald Terrel in Doyll and William Burges in Doyll.¹³ In 1546 John Gordoun constable of Dunrobin and Hugh Murray, bailies of John earl of Sutherland in that part, gave seisin in half the lands of Doill and Carrell to Alexander Terrell the son and heir of the deceased John Terrell of Doill.¹⁴ In 1548 (2 January) Alexander Terrell as portioner of Doill, in terms of a contract made the previous day at Golspetour between him and his future wife Margaret Murray, gave her seisin

¹ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 97, 98.

² Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 395. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 13.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 129.

⁵ Sutherland Charters. The seisin of 1566 is witnessed by John Williamson in Killecallumkill.

⁶ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 196-199, 201-203, 237.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 296, 352.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 95, 96.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 99. Sutherland Charters.

¹² Sutherland Charters. ¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

at his house and toft of the two arable pennylands of Carrell in the liferent of those two pennylands.¹ In 1563 Queen Mary granted anew to Alexander Tarrell of Doill the half of the towns of Doill and Carrell, formerly held of John earl of Sutherland, and to be held for the services formerly due.² In 1564 Alexander Tarrell and his wife Margaret Murray had seisin in the lands on a precept of Robert Stewart earl of Sutherland.³ In 1566 a seisin of the church of Clyne is witnessed by Alexander Tarrell of Doill.⁴ Sir Robert Gordon in 1630, writing of the poisoning of Earl John in 1567, observes, 'The Terrell of Doill his posteritie is decayed and run headlong to miserie, whos wyff wes ane aetrix in this doleful tragedie.'⁵

In 1548 Queen Mary confirmed a charter of John earl of Sutherland, granting in liferent to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol certain lands, including the half of Doill, the half of Carrall, the lands of Kilnabraar, Dalpolze, Weskelmoir, Weskelbeg, Killan, and the fishing of Browray.⁶ In 1555 a seisin of Skelbo is witnessed by Hugh Sudirlan in Strathbrora.⁷ The grant of the earldom to Robert Stewart in 1563 included Brora with the fishings, the half of Doill, Strathbrora, Dalpoldie, Weskelziebeg, Weskelziemoir with the mill, Kilnabrain, Kyllane, the half of Carrell, Clyneles, Clynemylne with the mill, the half of the Kirk-toun of Clyne, Dalcallum, and the lands of East Side of Brora lying on the east side of the bridge.⁸ The same lands, as enumerated in the new grant of 1566, are given as Clynemullin with the mill there, the half of Clynekirk-toun, Clynelys, Dalgallum, Brora Eist and Vest syde with the salmon fishing, and the lands of Doill, Carrell, Culnabrayr, Delfoldyn, Vest Kelziebeg, Vest Kelziemoir with the mill, and Kyllin.⁹ The seisin of 1566 is witnessed by Thomas Sutherland in Doill, and William Sutherland or Roreson there.¹⁰

In 1527, as we have seen, on the resignation of the earldom of Sutherland by the countess Elisabeth in favour of her son Alexander Gordoun, certain persons became bound for the latter to pay yearly to the earl and countess 23 chalders of victual, £22 Scots, 240 (or 280) 'vidleis of irn,' and 20 marts, at the port of Helnaisdail, of Dunrobin, or of Broray.¹¹ It would appear that coal had been found in the neighbourhood of Broray as early as 1529, as in that year on the sale of the half of Doyll and Carrell to John Terrell the coal found and to be found was reserved to the superior.¹² 'This cole-hugh,' says Sir Robert Gordon, 'was first found by John the fifth (fourth) of that name earl of Sutherland (before 1567); bot he, being taken away by suddent death, had no leasure nor tyme to interpryse that work.'¹³ 'This year of God 1598,' Sir Robert further informs us, 'the cole-hugh was found besyd Broray, and some salt pans were erected a litle by-west the entrie of that river by Jane countes of Southerland, unto whom her son Earle John had committed the government of his affairs durenceing his absence in France. Ther wes good salt maid then at Broray, which served not onlie

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 23.

³ Sutherland Charters.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Genealogy, p. 148.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹¹ *Ibid.* See GOLSPIE, p. 664.

¹² *Ibid.* See above, p. 727.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 237.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

Sowtherland and the neighbouring provinces, bot also wes transported into Ingland and elswer.¹ On the new erection of the earldom of Sutherland in 1601 King James VI., as we have seen, understanding that the earl had undergone great expense in the construction of houses and for policy (*pro policia*) upon the Inver of Bruray in the earldom of Sutherland to the great advantage of the king's lieges and others, erected the Inver of Bruray, its lands, tofts, crofts, outsettis, and pertinents, in favour of the earl and his heirs male and of entail, into a free burgh of barony and regality to be called the burgh of Innerbroray; with power to create bailies, councillors, burgesses, sergeants, and other officers, and to remove the same; with power to the burgesses *ad lie pak et peill*—of buying and selling in the burgh wine and wax, cloth woollen and linen, broad and narrow, and all other articles of merchandise and staple goods (*staple bona*)—and of admitting into the burgh, fishers, brewers, *laniatores*, sellers of fish, *sartores*, shoemakers, weavers, *allutarii*, *scissorses*, carpenters, smiths, and all other necessary tradesmen; and with power to build a tolbooth, and to have a market cross with a weekly market on Saturday, with four yearly fairs on the feasts of the Conception (8 December), of Saint Peter the Apostle (29 June), of Saint Peter ad vincula (1 August), and of Saint Michael (29 September)—and to hold a market at those fairs for the space of two days—and to collect the entire customs and apply them for the good of the burgh—with all other privileges.² In 1614 Earl John 'after some few yeirs intermission' repaired the 'cole-hugh,' and erected a greater number of salt-pans.³ In 1619 'the bridge of Broray, being altogether decayed, wes reedified and repaired by Sir Robert Gordoun and his brother Sir Alexander with the rest of the gentlemen of the countrey of Southerland; and vpon the north syd of the brige the earle of Southerland his armes wer carved in a fyn ston.'⁴ At Brora there seems to be now but one yearly fair in the month of October.⁵ Its population is about 300.⁶

In 1630 there was a yearly fair at Clyne styled Saint Aloyne's.⁷

On the Black Water are the remains of a round building called Castle Cole, 12 feet high, 11 thick, and 22 in diameter inside.⁸

On the south (south west) side of Loch Brora lies Craig Bar, a steep rocky hill surrounded by a ditch, having on the top a platform of 8 acres, and inaccessible except by a narrow ridge leading from a neighbouring hill.⁹

Pennant in 1769 mentions Castle Uain, a hunting-seat of the earl of Sutherland, then demolished.¹⁰

There was a castle at Clyne in 1630.¹¹

In Lochbrora is an island apparently artificial, surrounded by stone walls rising from the water, and divided into two oblongs or squares of 70 feet diameter, and accessible only by two stairs, one on the south and the other on the east.¹² It is said that on the occasion of a

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 237.

² Sutherland Charters. See GOLSPLE, pp. 670, 671.

³ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 237. For the modern history of the coal and salt works at Brora see the Old Stat. Acc. and Anderson's Guide.

⁴ Genealogy, pp. 360, 361.

⁵ New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Ibid. ⁷ Genealogy, p. 7. ⁸ New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Old and New Stat. Acc. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 360.

¹⁰ Vol. iii. p. 359.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 8.

¹² Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 360.

sudden invasion of the neighbourhood by the Caithness men the inhabitants fled to the island—that the Caithness men by damming up the outlet of the loch had nearly succeeded in laying the island under water, when the Sutherland men were relieved by the Clangun inhabitants of Strathulie—that the Caithness men were defeated—and that the scene of their attempt to dam back the waters of Lochbrora retains the name Daman or Davan (dam.)¹ In 1592 a contract regarding certain lands between Alexander earl of Sutherland, John Murray of Anchloyeh, and Adam Gordoun of Golspiekirktoom was made at the Isle of Broray.² ‘In Lochbroray,’ says Sir Robert Gordon, ‘ther is ane ileand where the erle of Sutherland hes a delectable habitation, and pleasant for hunting of reed deir and roes in the woods on both sides of the laik.’³

Pennant mentions a battle at Kilmalkil between the natives and Danes, but gives no date.⁴

In 1589 there was a skirmish at Crissaligh in Strathbrora between Sinclair of Murkle the brother of the earl of Caithness and Macky of Far on behalf of the earl of Sutherland, in which the latter was victorious.⁵

In 1590 was fought a skirmish at Clyne, in which the Gordons of Sutherland defeated the Caithness men under Donald Ballogh Macky of Skowrie.⁶

L O T H.

Lothe⁷ — Loth⁸ — Lothkirk.⁹ (Map, No. 10.)

THE ancient parish of Loth extended only from the borders of Clyne to the river Helmsdale—the present extends to the Hill of Ord, thus including a part of the old parish of Kildonan.¹⁰ The district is composed of an undulating sea border from one to three miles in breadth, backed by a range of hills parallel to the coast, and is watered by a few small rivers.¹¹

Loth, though not named, appears to have been one of the churches reserved to himself by Bishop Gilbert at the constitution of his chapter between 1223 and 1245.¹² In 1555 or 1556, when John earl of Sutherland was besieging the castle of Borve or Farr, Y Macky came with a party and burned the church of Loth.¹³ In 1581 (4 February) Robert earl of Marche, commendator of the priory of Saint Andrews, and bishop of Cathnes, with the consent of the dean and chapter, for the sum of £2000 Scots paid by Alexander earl of Sutherland, leased to the

¹ Old Stat. Acc.

² Sutherland Charters.

Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 9, 96, 135, 399.

³ Genealogy, p. 5.

⁴ Tour, vol. iii. p. 359.

⁵ Genealogy, pp. 198, 199.

⁶ Ibid., pp. 202, 203.

⁷ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations.

⁸ A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1576. Ibid. A. D. 1580.

⁹ Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters. Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc.

¹² Sutherland Charters. Book of Assumptions.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 135.

earl, his lady Dame Jean Gordoun, and their son and apparent heir John master of Sutherland, for life — and after their decease to the master's heirs and assignees for 19 years — the teindsheaves of certain parishes in the earldom of Sutherland, sheriffdom of Innernes, and bishoprick of Cathness, including the teindsheaves of the towns and lands of Marll, Sanct Johnnes Croft, Aucheadelie and Langrig, Eistir Garthie, Myd Garthie, Westir Garthie, Culgour, Lothmoir, Cracok, Litill Loth, and the Glen of Loth, all lying in the parish of Loth, with entry at Lambes (1 August) 1581.¹

The church, apparently dedicated to a saint known as Saint Carden, has always stood on the present site near the shore between the burn of Loth and a smaller stream.² It was burned, as we have seen, by Y Macky in 1555 or 1556.³ Between 1625 and 1627 it was repaired by Sir Robert Gordon.⁴

In 1471 an inquest on the lands of Drummoy, Bakys, and Torrois, was witnessed by Sir Donald Cormokeson master of the hospital of Saint John of Helmesdaile.⁵ This hospital was subsequently a chaplainry and prebend in the cathedral church.⁶ The patronage of the chaplainry of Saint John of Helmsdaill was part of the earldom of Sutherland, and was included in inquests of the same in 1509, 1512, and 1514.⁷ In 1558 Master Thomas Brady prebendary of Helmsdaill, with the consent of John earl of Southirland patron of the prebend, of Robert bishop of Cathanes, and of the dean and chapter, for certain sums of money and other favours granted in heritage to Alexander master of Southirland his prebend of Helmsdaill with its pertinents and sequels, namely, the lands of Marle with the crofts of the same, together with the salmon fishing of the pool called 'Sant Johne Puile' with the 'erweis' towards the lands of Marll belonging to the prebend, lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Innernes; the grantee paying yearly £20 Scots as the ferme specified in the rental, and 6s. 8d. in augmentation — and also maintaining or causing to be maintained the services and duties used and wont in the chapel of Saint John of Helmsdaill.⁸ In 1566 the advowson of the prebend was included in the earldom as restored to Earl John.⁹ In 1578 Master Thomas Brady, chaplain of the chaplainry of Saint John the baptist of Helmsdell, granted to Jonet Gordon countess of Sutherland in liferent, and to her son and apparent heir John Gordon master of Sutherland in heritage, his lands of Marle and the salmon fishings of the 'erweis' and the pool called 'Sanct Johnis Poill' and the crofts of Helmsdell, all belonging to the chaplainry, resigned by Alexander earl of Sutherland, fear of the lands and the father of John Gordon, the grantee paying yearly as before £20, 6s. 8d.¹⁰ In 1580 a charter is witnessed by the same Master Thomas Brady.¹¹ The chapel stood at Wester Helmsdale (on the Loth side of the river), where its cemetery is still to be seen.¹²

At Easter Garty was a chapel built by Lady Margaret Baillie countess of Sutherland towards the close of the fifteenth century.¹³ Her son Earl John destroyed a castle which she had built

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² MS. Maps. Blaeu. County Maps. Genealogy of the Earls, p. 7.

³ See above.

⁴ Genealogy, p. 300.

⁵ Fors Charters.

⁶ See DORNOCH, p. 622, and following notices.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Genealogy of the Earls, p. 3. New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 3, 79.

at Helmsdale, on which she retired to Easter Garty and lived for some time 'besyd a chappell which shoe had built ther for her devotion.'¹ Pennant says the chapel was dedicated to Saint Inan.²

There was a chapel at Kintradwell (formerly Clyntredel, and still more anciently Clyntredwane, its proper form) dedicated, as the name implies, to Saint Triduan.³

In Glen Loth is Tober Massan, a well believed to effect cures when a piece of gold or silver was left for the priest.⁴

At the Reformation the teinds of Lothe within Suthirland were leased yearly for £75, 17s. 4d.⁵ In 1567 Andro Anderson as exhorter at Loth had for his stipend £20, and other £20 payable by the bishop.⁶ In 1574 as minister at Clyne, Loth, and Kildonand, he had £73, 6s. 8d. and the kirklands (of Loth), and Walter Anderson reader at Clyne and Lothe had £20 and the kirkland (of Clyne).⁷ In 1576 the minister's stipend was £84, 8s. 10d.⁸

The rental of the chaplainry of Helmsdail between 1561 and 1566, as leased by Master Thomas Braidy, was £20, corresponding with the valuations given above.⁹

In 1376 or 1377 King Robert II. granted to Alexander Stewart lord of Badenache three davachs of the lands of Garthyes (probably East, Middle, and West) in the earldom of Sothyrland, resigned by Alexander of Aird, and to be held blench.¹⁰ In 1401 the lands of the two Gartyis were the subject of an arrangement between the lady Margaret of the Ard of that ilk and Angus the son of Goffred of the Isles.¹¹ In 1449, we are informed by Sir Robert Gordon, Earl John took an infetment of the lands of Craok from the king.¹² In 1451 King James II. granted to that earl and his countess Margaret the lands of the town of Craok and of the town of Estirloth, and of Cawnagoure, Vuyrglen of Loth, and Westirloth, in the sheriffdom of Innernes, which the earl had resigned.¹³ In 1456, as we have seen, the same king granted to John the son of that earl the earldom of Suthirland in heritage, reserving to the earl the liferent, and to his wife Margaret for life her conjunct infetment in the two townes of Lothis, the lands of Craok, C'ulnagoure, and V'irglen, and her reasonable teree of the whole earldom — and, should the earl die before his son, the ward and relief should be the king's notwithstanding the above grant.¹⁴ In 1524 an arrangement between the earls of Suthirland and Caithnes included the lands of Helmysdail contained in the charter granted to the latter earl both on the west and on the east side of the water of Helmysdail, a grant apparently comprehending lands in Loth.¹⁵ In 1528 King James V. granted to Alexander Gordoun master of Suthirland, the son and apparent heir of Adam earl of Suthirland, and to Jonet Stewart his wife, certain lands, including Estir Garthe,

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 79.

² Tour, vol. iii. p. 358.

³ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 358. The saint is locally styled Trullen, a form which corresponds with the Trollhaena of the Norse writers, from whose account of the mutilation of Bishop John by Earl Harald and his restoration by Saint Trollhaena it is manifest the saint was worshipped in the district. See DORNICH, p. 599.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Register of Ministers.

⁷ Book of Assignations.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Robertson's Index, p. 120, no. 46.

¹⁰ Lib. Ins. Miss. pp. 1, li. See КИЛМОРАК, pp. 515, 516.

¹¹ Genealogy, p. 72.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv. no. 202.

¹³ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁴ Ibid. See KILDONAN *post*.

¹⁵ Ibid.

Westir Garthe, Mid Garthe, Culgour, Glennaloth, Carland, and Lothmor, with fishing in the water of Elmsdale, lying in the earldom of Suthirland and sheriffdom of Innernes, and resigned by the earl, reserving to him and to his wife the franktenement of Lothmore and the fishing.¹ In 1542 Gilbert Gordoun of Gartay took part in the skirmish of Aldi-ne-beth.² In 1548 Queen Mary confirmed a charter of John earl of Suthirland, granting in liferent to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol certain lands, including the lands of Clynetreduane with the mill and alehouse, the lands of Lothbeg with the mill, and the lands of Crakok.³ The grant of the earldom to Robert Stewart in 1563 included the lands of Eister Garthe, Myd Garthe, Westir Garthe, Cowlegowre, Mekle Lothe, Craigok, Litol Lothe with the mill, Clyntredwane, and the Glen of Loth.⁴ The new grant to Earl John in 1566 included Auchadill, the water of Helmsdail with the salmon fishings, Eistir Garthe, Myd Garthe with the mill, Vastir Garthe, Culgour, Mekle Lotht, Crakok, Litill Lotht with the mill, the Glen of Lotht, and Clyntredwane with the mill.⁵ In 1567 appear in record Gilbert Gordoun of Gartay, his wife Isobell Sinclair, and their eldest son John Gordon.⁶ In 1583 seisin of the earldom of Suthirland was given at Dunrobin to Adam Gordone of Culgowyr the procurator of John master of Suthirland.⁷ In 1589 appears in record John Gordoun in Midgarty, and in 1590 and 1601 Patrick Gordoun of Gartay.⁸ The new grant of the earldom in 1601 included a davach of Helmsdail with the pendicles called Achaadalevis with other lands alienated by the predecessors of Earl John to the earls of Caithnes, and resigned to the king by George then earl of Caithnes.⁹ The same lands were included in a retour of the earldom in 1616 in favour of Earl John the son of the former.¹⁰

There were a village and port at Helmsdale in the year 1527, apparently on the Loth side of the stream.¹¹ It is subsequently styled Innerlye.¹² The modern village is built on both sides, and lies wholly within the modern parish of Loth.¹³

There is another village at Port Gower.¹⁴

In 1630 there was a yearly fair held at Loth called Saint Carden's fair.¹⁵

There was a castle at Helmsdale in the end of the fifteenth century, built by Margaret Baillie countess of Sutherland, and destroyed by Earl John her son.¹⁶ It seems to have been rebuilt, and in 1567 to have been the scene of the murder of another Earl John and his countess.¹⁷ It was again rebuilt in 1615 or 1616.¹⁸ Its ruins still exist on the west bank of the river close to the sea.¹⁹

There was a castle at Crakaig built in the end of the sixteenth century by Lady Jane Gordon countess of Bothwell, and afterwards of Sutherland, the mother of Sir Robert the historian of the family.²⁰

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxii. no. 76.

² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 107.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 206. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. See GOLSPIE, pp. 666, 667.

⁵ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 146, 147.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 198, 199, 202, 242.

⁸ VOL. II.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Sutherland Charters. MS. Maps. Blaeu.

¹² MS. Maps. See KILDONAN *post.*

¹³ See Stat. Acc. and Maps.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 7.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 79.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 146-149.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 8, 79.

¹⁹ New Stat. Acc.

²⁰ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 8, 169. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 358.

There was a castle also at Kintradwell.¹

The parish contains the sites of several of the round buildings known as Picts' houses, one of which is named Castle or Cairn Bran.²

Other objects of interest as antiquities are a cave roofed with stone on Kintradwell burn, named Coshgeavag—barrows and cairns, some of which contain stone battle axes—a hill in Glenloth called Drumberg, said to be the scene of a battle between the men of Loth and Strathnaver in the sixteenth century—an ancient hunting-house at Cairn-in-uag—an erect cylindrical stone styled Clach Macmeas—and four stone pillars on a barrow named Carriken-cligh.³

About the year 1519 Alexander Gordon styled the Bastard was taken in a skirmish at Aldquhillin near Kintradwell, and put to death by Leslie of Kinnivny.⁴

In 1587 George earl of Caithness came by night to the house of Marle and attacked and slew George Gordoun a dependent of Alexander earl of Sutherland.⁵ This led to a battle between the earls, which took place at Helmsdale, but their differences shortly afterwards terminated in a truce.⁶

Two battles are traditionally said to have been fought in the neighbourhood of Garty, where there are numerous tumuli—one named Stronrunkie, the other Lourihomast.⁷

About the year 1605 'the old course of the water of Loth was stayed and diverted by Earle John, and was maid to run in a direct passage from the hill to the sea.'⁸

KILDONAN.

Kelduninach⁹—Kyldonach¹⁰—Kyldonane¹¹—Kyldonan¹²—Kildonane¹³—
Kyldonein¹⁴—Kildonand¹⁵—Kildonan¹⁶—Kildonand.¹⁷ (Map, No. 11.)

THIS parish includes two districts, an upper and a lower, respectively named the Dirrichat and Strathully, Strathiligh, or the strath of Helmsdale or Kildonan.¹⁸ The upper is an old hunting forest, and with the upper part of Strathully includes twenty-four lakes which form the

¹ Genealogy, p. 8.

² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 358. New Stat. Acc.

³ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 96.

⁵ Ibid., p. 193.

⁶ Ibid., p. 194.

⁷ Old Stat. Acc.

⁸ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 252. The Old Stat. Acc. says that this was done by Lady Jane Gordon above mentioned.

⁹ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ A. D. 1226. Lib. Eccles. de Scon, p. 67.

¹¹ A. D. 1332. Ibid., p. 120.

¹² A. D. 1371. Ibid., p. 139.

¹³ A. D. 1527. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1530. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 223. A. D. 1561-66. Book of Assumptions. Circa A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers.

¹⁴ A. D. 1551. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1602. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1610. Ibid.

¹⁵ Circa A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 7. Circa A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 390.

¹⁶ Circa A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 9, 399.

¹⁷ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 3-5. Old and New Stat. Acc.

sources of the river Ilich, said to be the Ilea of Ptolemy and the Ila of Richard of Cirencester, and the undoubted Hialmundal or Hialmdal of the Norse Sagas.¹ The river is named in Celtic Abhin Ilich; the strath Strathillich; Helmsdale Bun Ilich (the mouth of the water); and the parish occasionally Scir Ilich.² The whole ancient parish is mountainous, with the small exception of the sea-board lying between the mouth of the Helmsdale and the Hill of Ord (by some supposed the *Berubium Promontorium*), which is now part of the parish of Loth.³

The connexion of the church of Kildonan with the abbey of Scone has already been noticed.⁴ Between 1107 and 1147 appears in record Madath, Maddad, or Malcolm, earl of Atjoklis, Ethoel, or Athole, said to be the nephew of King Malcolm Canmore, and a benefactor of the monks of Scone, whose church of Login Mathed the gift of the earl was probably named from him.⁵ That earl through the instrumentality of a noble lady named Frakark, who lived on the water of Hialmdal, married Margaret the daughter of Haco earl of Orkney, and the issue of the marriage was Harald, subsequently styled Maddadson.⁶ Harald at the age of five years (after Earl Paul of Orkney had been kidnapped) was at the intercession of a person styled Bishop John from Atjoklis admitted by Earl Rognvald his colleague in the rule of Orkney.⁷ A meeting appears to have been afterwards held in Caithness, at which peace was concluded, and the appointment of Harald as earl ratified by the oaths of the nobility of Orkney and Scotland.⁸ Harald held the earldom of Orkney and Caithness for 20 years conjointly with Earl Rognvald, and was afterwards sole earl for 48 years.⁹ About the year 1165, as we have seen, the same Harald, styling himself earl of Orkney, Hetland, and Catanes, granted to the canons of Scone a mark of silver to be paid yearly by himself, his son Turphin, and their heirs.¹⁰ It is probable that on some other occasion he granted to the same canons the church of Kildonan.¹¹ That they had not the church in 1164 when Pope Alexander III. confirmed to them their possessions, and that they had it about the year 1223 is certain.¹² Between 1214 and 1249 King Alexander II., as we have seen, granted his safe conduct and protection to the ship of the abbot of Scone when visiting Moray and Catanes, a fact which seems to indicate the possession of Kildonan by the abbot before that period.¹³ Between 1223 and 1245 Bishop Gilbert erected the chapter of Cathanes, and we have seen that on that occasion the church of Kelduninach was assigned as the prebend of the abbot, who was bound by the constitution to serve in the cathedral church of Cathanes by a vicar, but bound neither to residence nor to find a vicar for his prebendal church, which was to be served by a competent priest.¹⁴ In 1226

¹ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 3-5. Old and New Stat. Acc. Ork. Saga. Torfaens.

² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 363. Old Stat. Acc.

³ Old and New Stat. Acc. Sutherland Charters. Camden.

⁴ See DORNOCHE, pp. 602, 621, 622.

⁵ Lib. Eccles. de Scou, pp. 3, 8, 21, 67. Lib. de Dunfermelyn, pp. 4, 16. Ork. Saga, pp. 177, 217, 219, 231. Torf. lib. i. cc. 22, 23.

⁶ Ork. Saga, pp. 177, 231. Torf., lib. i. cc. 22, 26.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 231. Torf., lib. i. c. 26. ⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ork. Saga, p. 419. Torf., lib. i. c. 38.

¹⁰ Lib. Eccles. de Scou, p. 37.

¹¹ This is probable from Harald's connexion with the earl Maddad, and also with the canons themselves. Other donors might be conjectured, but Harald seems the most probable.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

¹³ Lib. Eccles. de Scou, p. 45.

¹⁴ Sutherland Charters.

Pope Honorius III. confirmed to the canons of Seon the church of Kyldonach with its chapels and lands.¹ In 1332, on the Saturday following the feast of Saint Barnabas the Apostle (11 June), an agreement made between Symon abbot of Seon and Robert called Lytil (of Sothirland) and David of Sothirland his brother, bore, that the canons of Seon had leased to Robert and David their church of Kyldonane with the laud of Borubol and all its pertinents for the space of two years for the sum of £14, 13s. 4d. paid beforehand and appropriated to the uses of the monastery—that the lessees should sufficiently build the church with stone and lime for 4 marks allowed them of that sum, and bear all the ordinary burdens touching that church for those two years, together with the *auxilium* of the bishop and the *papale* for the present year—that they or the survivor of them should have the church for 8 years after the expiration of the two years, if they should find cautioners sufficient and agreeable to the abbot—paying yearly within the abbey of Seon the sum of £10 sterling on the feast of Saint Michael the archangel—that, failing payment in whole or in part within 15 days of the term of payment, the lessees should pay a penalty of 100s. to the fabrick of the church of Seon, and it should be lawful to the canons to intromit with the church and all its fruits, the present agreement being null and void—and that the lessees should bear all the burdens ordinary and extraordinary, except the *papalia* and the royal contributions occurring anew.² Apparently in the year 1371 William abbot of Scone granted the church of Kyldonan with the land of Borowbull and all pertinents to his fellow-canon Andrew of Kynros priest and monk of the order of Saint Augustin and canonically promoted to all his orders, a man of good conversation and honourable, not suspended, not excommunicated, and not, so far as the abbot knew, stained with any vice or blemish, and licensed him to celebrate divine service for ten years, the term of his entry beginning on the feast of the apostles Philip and James (1 May) 1371; on condition that after the expiration of the first three years he should during the following three pay to the monastery of Scone yearly on the feast of Saint Michael the archangel (29 September) the sum of 40s.—that he should pay also the sum of £6 which the abbot had caused to be paid in Flemish money to the bishop of Cathanes as subsidy—and that he should meantime bear all the burdens ordinary and extraordinary from the time of his entry to the said church till his exit from the same howsoever it should happen.³ In 1527 and 1530 Sir Donald Reid appears as vicar of Kildonane.⁴ In 1551 Sir Robert Vrquard was rector.⁵ Between 1561 and 1566 the parsonage and vicarage belonged to Dene Henrie Abircrumb.⁶ About the year 1567 Andro Bane was reader at Kildonane, and is said to have ‘left the office.’⁷ In 1574 the reader was Philip Anderson.⁸ In 1602 Walter Anderson was parson, and in 1610, for certain sums of money in name of gressum paid for the use of the parson and for repairing and decorating the parish church, with the consent of the bishop, dean, and

¹ Lib. Eccles. de Seon, p. 67. At the same time he confirmed to them the church of Login Mathed.

² Ibid., pp. 120, 121.

³ Ibid., p. 139.

⁴ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 223.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ Book of Assumptions. Dean Henry was prior of Scone. Lib. Eccles. de Seon, p. 210.

⁷ Register of Ministers.

⁸ Book of Assignations.

chapter, he leased to John master of Sutherland for life, and to his male heirs being earls for 19 years, the teindsheaves and teindvicarage of the towns and lands of Navidaile, Halmisdaile, Cayen with the Corinsche, Kilpedder, Torris, Balnavaileache, Duibill, Kildonand, Suiskill, Borrobill, Lirieboll, Gylziboll, Wlbister, Waster Killernan, Eister Killernan, Eltriboll, Eskak, and the Dawache of Diricchate on both sides of the water of Leindloche, all lying in the parish of Kildonand and earldom of Sutherland—paying yearly 80 marks old ferme with 16 bolls of bear and half charity, and 20 marks money as augmentation.¹ In 1662 Parliament found that the church of Kildonand had not been vacant, and that the stipend had been paid to the minister, and therefore declared that Lord Strathnaver and his father the earl of Sutherland were free of the stipend previously to the year 1661.²

The church, said to be dedicated to Saint Donan, seems to have always stood on its present site at Kildonand on the left bank of the Helmsdale about six miles from the coast.³ It appears, as we have seen, to have been repaired and ornamented about the year 1610 from certain sums of money paid to the parson by the master of Sutherland.⁴ It was again repaired by Sir Robert Gordon between the years 1625 and 1627.⁵ The present church appears to have been built in 1786.⁶

There was a chapel at Navidaile dedicated to Saint Ninian, 'wher in old tymes ther wes a sanctuarie.'⁷ About the year 1556 it was burned by the men of Strathnaver.⁸ Its cemetery still exists.⁹

There were probably chapels at Killearnan, Kilpheder, and Kilmnir, dedicated to Saint Mary, Saint Peter, and to some unknown saint.¹⁰

A large hollow stone, which was destroyed during the last century, stood half way between Kildonand and Helmsdale, and was known as Cathair Donan or Suigh Donan, Donan's Chair or Seat.¹¹

At the Reformation the parsonage and vicarage of Kildonand were leased for the yearly payment of 80 marks.¹² In 1567 the reader at Kildonand had for his stipend £20, and in 1574 £17, 15s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. and the kirkland.¹³

In 1360 William earl of Sothyrland granted in heritage to his brother Nicolas of Sothyrland for his homage and service 16 davachs of land in the earldom of Sothyrland, including a davach of Caven lying on the east side of the water of Strathulli, and a davach of Kylpedre lying on the east side of the same water.¹⁴ In 1362 King David II. confirmed the grant, saving his own service.¹⁵ Between 1399 and 1408 Nicholas of Suthirland (apparently the grantee of 1360) lord of the castle of Duffhus resigned the same lands with an acre lying on the south

¹ Sutherland Charters.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. vii. p. 390.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 3, 7. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Old Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

⁴ Sutherland Charters. See above.

⁵ Genealogy, p. 399.

⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls, pp. 3, 135. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 358.

⁸ Genealogy, p. 135.

⁹ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Book of Assumptions.

¹² Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹³ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

side of Helmesdale to Robert earl of Sutherland, who then granted them to Henry the son of Nicholas and the male heirs of his body.¹ In 1408 John of Sutherland, the son and heir of Nicholas of Sutherland lord of the castle of Duffous, confirmed the resignation of his father and the grant of Earl Robert to his brother Henry.² In 1444 at Pomfret in England John earl of Sutherland, on the narrative that he had seen the above resignation and grant, and that Henry of Sutherland had died last vest and seised in the lands, granted them of new to his kinsman Alexander of Sutherland lord of Thurboll the son of Henry.³ In 1472 John earl of Sutherland granted in heritage to his kinsman Nicolas of Sutherland, the son and apparent heir of his kinsman Angus of Sutherland of Thureboll, the same lands, resigned by Angus, with liferent to him, remainder to him and his heirs, the terce to his wife Cristina, and the ward and relief to the earl should Angus die before his son.⁴ In 1492 on a precept of the same earl Hugh the son of Angus Sutherland lord of Thurboll was seised in the lands held by Angus his father and by Nicholas and Donald his brothers.⁵ In 1525 Earl Adam and the Countess Elizabeth his wife, on the narrative that William Sutherland lord of Duffous was rightful heir of the lands and lordship of Pronse by the decease of Hugh Sutherland without male heirs and by reason of entail, granted to him in heritage for his service those lands, including Cawen and Kilpedder in Strathulze and the mill of the same, for payment of ward, relief, and marriage, when they should occur, and giving his counsel and assistance in all their causes.⁶ In 1535 William Sutherland of Duffus was seised in the same lands as heir to his father William.⁷ In 1555 Alexander Sutherland of Duffous was seised in the same lands as heir to his father William.⁸ In 1560 Christina Sutherland was seised in the same lands as heiress to her deceased father Hugh Sutherland of Thureboll.⁹ In 1562 the same lands were resigned at Dunrobbin by Adam Reid the husband and procurator of Christina Sutherland, and granted by Earl John in heritage to his kinsman Alexander Sutherland of Duffous.¹⁰ In 1563 Queen Mary granted in heritage to Alexander Sutherland of Duffois the same lands, formerly held by him of John earl of Sutherland forfeited on 28 May.¹¹ They were afterwards included in the grant of that year by Queen Mary to her brother Robert Stewart, and in the new grant of 1566 by that queen to Earl John.¹² In 1616 William Sutherland of Duffus was served heir to his father William in the barony of Skelbo, including the lands of Cayane and Kilpedder in Strathulzie with the fishings in fresh and salt water.¹³

In the year 1401, as we have seen, Robert earl of Sutherland granted to his brother Kenneth and heirs male, the lands of Drommoy, Torowys, and Bakys, with common pasture in the Glen of Dunrobyn.¹⁴

In 1494 (30 June) Sir Gilbert Keth of Innergie raised an action against John earl of Sutherland for the reduction of a letter of reversion given by Sir Gilbert to the earl to £40

¹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 628.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Charter in Gen. Reg. House.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.* Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxi. fol. 122. For composition paid for the lands see DORNOCH, p. 633.

¹² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 5. Sutherland Charters.

¹³ *Retours.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Fors Charters.* For subsequent history of Torrish see GOLSPIE, pp. 673, 674.

worth of his lands within Sutherland called Strathuleze on the lands lying next thereto and claimed by Sir Gilbert in heritage, and also for the reduction of a charter of the £40 lands of Subister and others in Cathnes granted by Sir Gilbert to the earl.¹ The Lords of Council continued the case till the ninth of October following, with certification to the earl that, whether he then produced his titles or not, they would give judgement in the case.²

In 1516 Adam earl of Sutherland granted to John earl of Caithness the 10 davachs of land that lie on the east side of the water of Villy, under reversion on his giving the earl of Caithness a £20 land within Caithness.³ The charter seems to have been destroyed, and the parties were about to litigate the matter when it was amicably settled as follows by the arbitration of Gawin bishop of Aberdene and Alexander commendator of Scone and Inchaffray—namely—that the earl and countess of Sutherland had full right to the salmon fishing of the water of Helmysdale, and should freely enjoy the same, especially ‘in schutting of the nettis and drawing to land of the samyn with the fischis tharin and landing of the cobillis and fischeris,’ which fishing was reserved to the earl and countess in the principal contract between the parties—that the earl of Caithness should renounce all right to the same—that he should have the lands of Helmysdaill contained in his charter both on the west and on the east side of the water of Helmysdaill—that the earl and countess of Sutherland should infeft him in a £10 land within the earldom of Sutherland, to be held in blench ferme under reversion on payment of 300 marks, on condition that it should not prejudice the old reversion given by the earl of Caithness, and that, as soon as the earl and countess of Sutherland should infeft him in a £20 land within Caithness, he should resign to them all the lands contained in his first charter, and also the £10 land then to be given him ‘in wed’ of the 300 marks, unless previously ‘quit out’—and finally that all the parties should thenceforth ‘stand in hertlie kyndnes to vtheris.’⁴ In 1527 King James V. granted in heritage to William Sinclair, the son and apparent heir of John earl of Caithnes, the lands of Helmysdale, Balnavaleich, Seyisgill, Doypull, Kildonane, Kynbraische, Knockfyn, and Free, with their mills and fishings, lying in the earldom of Sutherland and sheriffdom of Inverness, resigned by the earl with the consent of his wife Elizabeth Sutherland, reserving the liferent to the earl and the terce to his wife.⁵ In 1545 Queen Mary granted in heritage to John Sinclair, the son and apparent heir of George earl of Caithnes, with remainder to the earl’s heirs whomsoever, the lands and baronies of Helmysdale, Balnavaleuch, Swisgill, Dwebull, Kildonan, Kinbras, Knockfyn, and Fre, resigned by the earl—granting to John for his good service also all the fermes, profits, and dues of those and other lands (including the earldom of Caithnes) in the queen’s hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of William earl of Caithnes the grandfather of George, or of John earl of Caithnes his father, or of William Sinclair his brother the fear of the lands—to be held of the queen in freedom, earldom, and lordship, and with free forests, vert, and venison, reserving the liferent to Earl George and the terce to Elizabeth Grahame his wife.⁶ On the new erection of the earldom of Sutherland by King

¹ Acta Dom. Conc., pp. 345, 346.

² Ibid.

³ Genealogy of the Earls, p. 89.

⁴ Ibid., p. 99. Sutherland Charters.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig. lib. xxi. no. 42.

⁶ Ibid., lib. xxix. no. 272.

James VI. in 1601 he annexed to it the davach of Knokfyn, the davach of Fre, the davach of Swoygrill, the davach of Kynbrasche, the two davachs of Kyldonan, the two davachs of Dwyboill, the davach of Balnavaleach, and the davach of Helmsdale with the pendicles called Achaadaleys, alienated by the earls of Sutherland to the earls of Caithnes, and then resigned by George earl of Caithnes in favour of John earl of Sutherland.¹ In 1616 an assize served John earl of Sutherland heir to his father John, and declared the above lands to be worth yearly £66 Scots, and in time of peace worth £36.²

In 1528 King James V. granted to Alexander Gordoun master of Suthirland, the son and apparent heir of Earl Adam, and to Jonet Stewart his wife, certain lands in Suthirland, including the lands of Neveyndale, with the fishing in the water of Elmsdale, resigned by the earl, reserving to him and his wife the liferent of the fishing.³ In 1548 Queen Mary confirmed a charter of John earl of Suthirland, granting in liferent to Helen Stewart the widow of the earl of Errol certain lands, and among them the lands of Altreboll, Ulbister, Galleboll, Estir Killernane, Westir Killernane with the mill, and Leryboll.⁴ The grants of the earldom by Queen Mary in 1563 and 1566 included Nauadail, Borroboll, Estir Killernan, Westir Killernan with the mill, Vlbister, Galzeboll, Lereboll, Askeag, Altreboll, and the water of Helmsdail with the salmon fishing of the same.⁵

Early in the sixteenth century a portion of the Clangun, whose captain or 'crownier' was at that time William Jameson or William Mackames-Wick-Cruner, settled in Strathully as dependents of the earl of Sutherland, and had part or whole of the lands of Killernan.⁶ William Jameson captain of Clangwn is witness to a seisin of Pronse in 1525, and Alexander Jameson in Westir Killernane witnesses a seisin of Doill and Carrell in 1564.⁷ About 1601 the captain of the clan was William Gun Mack-wick-Kames of Killeirnan, and in 1618 the Guns of Strathully were joined by John Robson the captain of the Clangun of Caithness and Strathnaver, who had disputed with his superiors the earl of Caithness and Macky.⁸

There were villages in the sixteenth century at Easter Helmsdale and Liriboll.⁹ The former is now much enlarged.¹⁰

In the seventeenth century a fair called Saint Donan's was held at Kildonan.¹¹

There was a castle at Torrish, built in 1621 by Sir Alexander Gordon of Navdale.¹²

A plain near the mountain Bein Ghrim, named of old Leayd Reayfe, and more recently Inis Chomhraig (the field of contest), with a cairn called Cairn-an-teichigh (the cairn of retreat), was the scene of a hostile meeting between the men of Sutherland and Caithnes under their respective earls, from which the latter retreated without fighting.¹³

¹ Sutherland Charters. Sir Robert Gordon informs us that Earl Alexander in 1591 exchanged certain church lands for those enumerated above with John earl of Caithness. *Genealogy*, p. 89.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, lib. xxii. no. 76.

⁴ *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, lib. xxx. no. 206. *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, vol. xxiv. fol. 15.

⁵ *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, vol. xxxii. fol. 5. Sutherland Charters.

⁶ *Genealogy of the Earls*, pp. 91, 92. Sutherland Charters. See also *Genealogy*, pp. 107, 135, 181, 182, 242.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ *Genealogy of the Earls*, pp. 182, 242.

⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 194, 198.

¹⁰ See County Maps.

¹¹ *Genealogy*, p. 7.

¹² *Ibid.*, p. 8.

¹³ *Ibid.*, pp. 241, 242. *Old Stat. Acc.*

In 1617 Sir Robert Gordon erected a gibbet on the Hill of Ord, on which he hanged some robbers who had for some time infested Ross, Sutherland, and Caithness.¹

The foundations of a house called Tea'n-abb (the abbot's house) are still to be seen in the neighbourhood of the present manse.²

In the parish are the sites of upwards of nine round buildings known as Piets' houses, and under the bed of the Helmsdale are said to be three subterraneous passages composed of flags and connected with a cairn on each side.³

Early in the twelfth century Frakark the daughter of a Katanes nobleman named Moddan married a man in Sudrland named Liot Nidingr.⁴ Their daughter was Steinvor Digra (the Gross), who married Thorliot of Rekavik and had a son named Aulfer Rosta, a man above the middle height, robust, seditious, and very skilful in war.⁵ At the same period lived Olaus Rolfi of Gareksey, a descendant of the Norwegian earls, a violent man, who held the farm (*villicatio*) of Dungulsbae in Katanes.⁶ By a woman named Asleif he had three sons, Valthiof, Gunn, and Sveinn.⁷ Harald king of Norway having granted Earl Rognvald the half of the Orkneys, which Earl Paul refused to deliver to him, Kolus the father of Rognvald in 1135 requested the assistance of Frakark and Aulfer Rosta to wrest the Orkneys from Earl Paul, promising that if successful Aulfer should be made earl.⁸ They joined Rognvald with an army in 1136, and the whole were defeated by Earl Paul.⁹ Olaus Rolfi, who commanded one of Earl Paul's ships, returned after the battle to Dungulsbae, where he had a large following.¹⁰ Three days before Christmas 1136, while Sveinn was absent with some friends on a fishing excursion, and Asleif and her son Gunn were feasting with their friends not far from Dungulsbae, Aulfer Rosta came with a body of men to Dungulsbae, set fire to it, and burned Olaus to death, allowing his men to escape.¹¹ In 1137 Sveinn, who was thenceforth surnamed Asleifson, after visiting Orkney, the Sudereys, and Earl Maddad of Joklis, returned to Orkney and seizing Earl Paul carried him to Atjoklis, whence he never returned.¹² In 1139, after Harald Maddadson, as we have seen, was admitted to a share in the earldom of Orkney and Caithness, Sveinn, having received two fully equipped ships from Earl Rognvald, sailed to Dufeyras an emporium of Scotland, and thence along the coast of Merhaefi (Moray) to Eckialdsbacka (the Oikel), and thence went to Earl Maddad to Atjoklis.¹³ Thence he travelled with guides through the hills to Iialhuundal near the middle of Sudrland (the Helmsdale, on which Frakark and her grandson dwelt), from which quarter they apprehended no danger, and before they were aware he appeared with an army on a declivity above their house.¹⁴ Aulfer Rosta engaging Svein with 60 men was defeated with great slaughter, betook himself into the town, and thence escaped up the river Hialmdal into the mountains, thence to the Sinus Scoticus, and thence

¹ Genealogy, p. 346.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 139. Torf., lib. i. c. 18.

⁵ Ork. Saga, pp. 139, 141, 147. Torf., lib. i. c. 18, 19.

⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 147. Torf., lib. i. c. 20.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 175. Torf., lib. i. c. 22.

⁹ Ork. Saga, p. 177. Torf., lib. i. c. 22.

¹⁰ Ork. Saga, p. 187. Torf., lib. i. c. 23.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ork. Saga, pp. 217, 219. Torf., lib. i. cc. 23, 25.

¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 233. Torf., lib. i. c. 26.

¹⁴ Ibid.

to the Hebrides.¹ Sveinn immediately laid waste the ground (*praedium*), and setting fire to the house burned the lady Frakark along with it.² At Kinbrae on the Helmsdale about 4 miles above the church of Kildonan is a place called Suinachugh or Cairn Suin (the old field or old cairns), which has been supposed to be the locality of the residence of the lady Frakark, and to have been named Cairn Suin from the savage by whom she was murdered.³

R E A Y.

Ra⁴—Ray⁵—Rhae⁶—Rae⁷—Reay.⁸ (Map, No. 12.)

BEFORE the thirteenth century this parish lay wholly within Caithness, being included between the water of Forss and the northern termination of the range which separates Caithness and Sutherland known as Drumalestane or Drumhallesdell.⁹ About the beginning of that century the district then styled Helgedall, now Strathalladale, was, as we have seen, disjoined from the parish of Far and united to Ra.¹⁰ Besides the range above named the parish has numerous detached hills; and it is watered by the Forss and the Halladale, and by many small streams and lakes.¹¹ A small stream called Faehallistill between the range Drumhallesdell and the sea is the boundary at that part between Caithness and Sutherland.¹² On the coast are the bays of Sandside and Bighouse.¹³

From the period of the annexation of Strathalladale to Ra till the sixteenth century we have no recorded notice of the church.¹⁴ In 1550 Sir Gilbert Dunnat vicar of Ra was deceased.¹⁵ Ra was one of the six churches reserved to the bishop by the charter of Bishop Gilbert, and appears in the rental of assumptions between 1561 and 1566, at which time the vicar was Sir William Reid.¹⁶ In 1574 and 1576 Ra was served by a reader.¹⁷

The church was dedicated to Saint Colman (apparently the abbot, commemorated on 12 December).¹⁸ In 1726 it stood at the town or village of Old Reay close to the sea on the left bank of the burn of Reay.¹⁹ The present church, built in 1739, stands on a green knoll near the same place a little farther from the sea.²⁰

¹ Ork. Saga, pp. 233, 235. Torf., lib. i. c. 26. ² *Ibid.*

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 364. Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1550. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 25. A. D. 1574, 1576. Books of Assignations.

⁵ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁶ A. D. 1640. Retours. A. D. 1726. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁷ A. D. 1642. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. A. D. 1726. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁸ A. D. 1726. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁹ Sutherland Charters. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland. County Maps.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, pp. 601, 602.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

¹² Genealogy of the Earls. Macfarlane.

¹³ New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

¹⁴ Sutherland Charters and following notices.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 25.

¹⁶ Sutherland Charters. Book of Assumptions.

¹⁷ Book of Assignations.

¹⁸ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 351. Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁹ Macfarlane. New Stat. Acc.

²⁰ Old and New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide. Maps.

At Balnaeglish or Kirktown on the left bank of the Halladale there was a chapel with a cemetery, remaining in 1726, but not mentioned in more modern accounts.¹ It seems to have been used as a place of worship in 1574 and 1576, and in 1726 the minister of Reay was bound to preach in it eight times in the year.²

'At Lybster,' says a writer in 1726, 'there is also a chapell called St. Peter's, and in Shurerey another called Rheanauchan, which seems to be St. Benedict's; and it's observable about that place that the Highland people have a great many expressions which seem to be Latin, as *bonadistie*, i. e. *benedicite*, and they call the Lord's prayer *Paidir* i. e. *Pater Noster*.'³

There were chapels also at Skail, Baillie, and Shebster, the last dedicated to Saint Magnus.⁴

At the Reformation the teindsheaves of Ray were leased yearly for the sum of £79, 6s. 8d., and the vicarage was stated to be worth yearly £20.⁵ In 1574 and 1576 the reader at Ra had for his stipend £16 and the kirklands.⁶

In the year 1439 Alexander earl of Ross became bound to warrant to Alexander of Sutherland and his wife Maryoun of the Ilys the earl's sister the castle and lands of Dunbeth and the lands of Ra.⁷ In 1464 William of Caldore, the son and heir of Sir William of Caldore, had a transumpt made of the charter of the earl of Ross.⁸ In 1507 King James IV. granted to Alexander Innes, the son and heir of Alexander Innes of that ilk, the lands of Dunbeith, Raa, and Sandsid, in the sheriffdom of Innernes, resigned by Malcom Culquhone of Dunbeith.⁹ In 1529 King James V. granted to Alexander Sinclair of Stamster and Elizabeth Innes his wife the same lands with tower, fortalice, manor, mills, and fishings, and right of patronage, if any, resigned by the same Alexander Innes, erecting them also into the barony of Dunbeith.¹⁰ In 1530 he renewed the grant.¹¹ In 1541 the same king granted to the same Alexander Innes, assignee of the deceased William earl of Erol, certain lands in the sheriffdom of Innernes which belonged to the heiresses of the deceased Andrew Oliphant of Beridail, and had been appraised to Alexander Innes for the marriage of one of them, including two thirds of the lands of Sowre (now Shurerey), of the yearly interest of 52s. 10d., with reversion to the heiresses on payment of the sum for which they were appraised.¹² In 1558 Queen Mary granted to William Sinclare of Dunbeith the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Dunbeith, Ra, Sanctsyde, and Showrarnie, in the barony of Dunbeith and sheriffdom of Innernes, in the queen's hands by the decease of Elizabeth Innes his mother and conjunct fear of the lands.¹³ In 1640 Master James Innes was served heir to his father William Innes of Sandsyde in the lands and town of Rhac of new erected into a burgh of barony, the lands of Sandsyde, Dathow, Borlum, Mylntoun of Rae with the mills and rabbit warrens, the lands of Acherasker,

¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen. Macfarlane.

² Books of Assignations. Macfarlane.

³ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Pennant says that the chapel at Lybster was dedicated to Saint Mary, but gives no dedication for that at Shurerie. Some modern maps mark 'St. Mary's Chapel' at Lybster.

⁴ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 351.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Books of Assignations.

⁷ Cawdor Charters.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 120.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii. no. 99.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, no. 115. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 135.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 91. Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. xv. ff. 39, 40.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 49.

and the lands of Schurarie, with the mills and the fishings in fresh water and salt both of salmon and of other fish within the bounds of those lands, with the fishing-boats, ports, anchorages, forests, and other privileges within the same bounds, all lying in the parish and barony of Rhae, of old in the sheriffdom of Inverness, and of the extent of 20 shillings.¹

In 1527 King James V. granted anew to Gavin Murray the son of Roderic Murray of Spayngdale the lands of Bighous, the two Trountalis, and the two Fursyis, in Straithalladale in the sheriffdom of Innernys, which he had resigned.² In 1529 the same king granted to Alexander Murray the son of Rore Murray of Spangdale the fermes and dues of the same lands, which had been in the king's hands since 22 July 1527 by reason of the nonentry of his brother Gavin Murray.³ In 1626 Angus M'Kie was served heir to his father William M'Kie of Beghous in the lands of Beghous and the two Trontaillis, namely, Trontaillmoir and Trontaillbeg, and the two Forseysis, namely, Forsienaine and Forseynaird, in Strathadill in the diocese of Cathanes and sheriffdom of Inverness, of the old extent of £6, 13s. 8d.⁴ 'Four miles west from the church of Rae,' says a writer in 1726, 'is the house of Kirktoon standing closs on the west side of the river of Halladale, upon which is Strathalladale, which is the dwelling-house of the laird of Bighouse proprietor of the said strath.'⁵

In 1530 King James V. granted to William Sutherland of Duffois the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Galvell and Bellinaglis with the fishing in the water of Halladall, and certain other lands, from the time since they had been in the king's hands till the entry of the lawful heir.⁶ In 1542 the same lands and fishings were included in the decret arbitral pronounced by James earl of Murray between William Sutherland of Duffois, the son and heir of the deceased William, and Donald Mackay of Farr, the earl deciding that William Sutherland should make Donald or any other his assignee to the nonentry of the lands, and discharge him of all their dues, and that Donald should for that pay him 450 marks.⁷ In 1546 Queen Mary granted in liferent to Elizabeth Sinclair the wife of Donald M'Ky of Far the lands of Ballibeglis with the mill and miltures, the lands of Gallowell with the mill and miltures, and the water of Hallowdale from the Beghous to the sea with the salmon fishing of the same.⁸ In 1551 the same queen granted in heritage to Robert bishop of Orkney the same lands and fishings, included in the barony of Far and forfeited by Donald M'Ky, the boundary of the barony on the east being the range Drumalestane.⁹ At the same time the queen granted to that bishop Donald M'Ky's part of the decret arbitral pronounced by the earl of Murray in 1542.¹⁰ In 1570 the lands and salmon fishings of Galdwall and Balnaheglishe were sold by George earl of Huntlie to Y M'Ky and his heirs.¹¹ In 1613 the Lords of Council decreed that those lands and others in the barony of Far were in the king's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of Robert

¹ Retours.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 41.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 41.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. viii. ff. 168, 169.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. See FARR, p. 711.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 80.

⁹ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 97, 98. See FARR, p. 712.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. ff. 98, 99. See above.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters. See FARR, p. 713.

bishop of Orkney, and that the nonentry had been granted to Robert Gordoun of Kynmounwy till the entry of the lawful heir.¹

In 1538 King James V. granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and his wife Lady Margaret Keith, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the half of certain lands and baronies in the earldom of Cathanes and sheriffdom of Inneruys, including the half of the half of Borroustoun, the half of the half of Libister with the mill, the half of the 4½ pennylands of Forsysur (or Forsequar), and the half of 31½ pennylands in the town of Skail, resigned by Elizabeth Keith the sister of Margaret and the niece and one of the heirs of the deceased Sir William Keith of Innerugy, and with lands in Moray and Banf united into the barony of Innerugy.² In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Lawrence the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant the ward and nonentry of certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes, in the queen's hands since the decease of Rannald Lord Schen or other possessor, and including Sovre, Bravlybn (or Brawynd), Skail, Burrostoun, and Lybuster with the mill.³ In 1552 the same lands, described as being in the hands of the queen and her predecessors by reason of nonentry for 120 years, were appraised in favour of the same Lawrence Oliphant for certain sums as part payment of those contained in a decree of the Lords of Council.⁴ In 1604 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir to his grandfather Lord Laurence in Sewra, Skaillye, Borrowstoun, and Lybuster with the mill, and in 1605 in the same lands and those of Brawilbyn.⁵ In 1624 William Sutherland, the lawful son of Cristina Allistersoun or Alexandersoun, was served heir portioner to his grandfather William Alistersoun or Alexandersoun in the lands of Lybuster commonly called the Fourpennyland and Halfpennyland of Lybuster, extending to the half of the lands of Lybuster with half the mill—and also in the lands of Borrowstoun commonly called the Fourpennyland and Halfpennyland of Borrowstoun with the fishing in the sea and on land—formerly in the sheriffdom of Innernes, then in the sheriffdom of Caithness.⁶ In the same year Robert John Robsoun, the lawful son of Anne Allistersoun or Alexandersoun, was served heir portioner to his grandfather William Allistersoun or Alexanderson in the same lands.⁷ In 1630 James Forbes was served heir to his father Arthur Forbes portioner of Lybuster in the half of the town and lands of Lybuster with the fourth of the mill, and certain lands in Far, together of the extent of one penny.⁸

In 1539 Robert bishop of Orkney and Zetland, with the consent of his chapter and for the sum of £200, granted to his servitor and kinsman John Maxwell the lands of Dunra with the mill, miltures, and sequels, the lands of Schabuster and Broubustardail with the fishing, and other lands lying in the earldom of Cathnes and sheriffdom of Innernys, formerly leased to Andrew bishop of Caithnes and to his predecessors for the yearly payment of £38, and now leased for the same.⁹ In 1543 Queen Mary confirmed the grant.¹⁰ Between the years 1563 and 1565 John earl of Sutherland 'befor his going into Flanders had purchased from the bishop

¹ Sutherland Charters. See FARR, p. 714.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 22.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 177.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 455.

¹⁰ Ibid. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 40.

of Orkney the fee and inheritance of the lands of Donnrey in Cateynes. At his departure from Scotland he gave the writs and charters apperteyning to these lands in custodie to William Sincler laird of Dumbaith, who had maried his sister Beatrix, and whom he had maid his tenent of these lands, thinking that he might saiffle repose his trust and confidence in him. Bot the laird of Dumbaith during Earle John his banishment took a new gift of these lands to his owne use and suppressed Earle John his writs.¹ In 1620 Richard Sinclair of Brumes was served heir to his father Henry Sinclair in the town and lands of Brouster, Toftmiechie, and Toftthorso, with the mill, in the lordship of Cathanes, of the extent of £4.²

The grant of the church lands in 1557 by Robert bishop of Cathanes to John earl of Sutherland included the lands of Ballze and Stambuster—the former extending yearly to 20s. ferme, 20s. grassum, 4s. pleuch siluir, a boll of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 32 sheaves of oats at 1d., 32 hallowes of straw at 1½d., 4 halkhennis at 2d., and 16d. huik siluer, in all 56s. 10d.—and the latter to 40s. ferme, 8 rams at 3s., 16 poultry and 4 halkhennis at 2d., 4 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 64 sheaves of oats at 1d., 64 hallowes of straw at 1½d., 8s. pleuch siluer, 3 grassum marts at 30s., and 16d. huik siluer, in all £9, 16s. 8d.³ In 1560 the same bishop granted the same lands to the same earl and his countess, and in 1564 he admitted their son and heir Alexander Gordoun as hereditary tenant of the same.⁴ At the same period the lands of Bailzie and Stambustair are entered in the bishop's rental at the respective yearly values of 56s. and £9, 16s. 8d.⁵ In 1580 they were resigned to the bishop by Alexander earl of Sutherland, and granted anew to him and his heirs male, with remainder to the eldest of his female heirs without division, and to his heirs whomsoever.⁶ In 1601 by a new grant of King James VI. they were annexed to the earldom of Sutherland and to the sheriffdom then first erected.⁷

'The church of Reay,' says a writer in 1726, 'is 8 miles west from the town of Thurso, built in a litle village called the town of Reay closs by the sea side, which seems to be a place of considerable antiquity, and in which there are some vestiges thereof yet to be seen, but is now almost covered with sand. The privileges of this town, tho' ancient, are very few, having only two mercats in the year, one in the latter end of August called Marymes, and the other about the middle of December called St. Keulames fare.'⁸ In 1751 a waterspout laid bare the foundations of a town on the west side of the burn of Reay between the village called Old Reay and the sea.⁹ The old village had a market cross, now removed to New Reay, a village built to the westward of the former, at which are now held two yearly fairs, one in the beginning of September and the other in the end of December (evidently the old fairs still held on the old style).¹⁰

¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 148. Sir Robert Gordon informs us further that these circumstances induced the laird of Dumbaith to plot the earl's death, which, as we have seen, was accomplished by poison in 1567. See GOLSPIE, pp. 667, 668.

² Retours.

³ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOC, pp. 610, 611.

⁴ Ibid. Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. St. Keulames fair is evidently St. Colman's.

⁹ Archeologia, vol. v. pp. 216, 217. New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ New Stat. Acc.

Strathalladale, said to mean the strath of Halladha, an earl of Orkney supposed to be buried there, has numerous cairns and standing stones, the latter abounding also in other parts of the parish.¹

The parish contains a number of circular buildings said to be Picts' houses, especially one in Strathalladale, one at Shurery, and one at Shebster.²

Near the shore are the ruins of Dunreay, latterly a seat of the Mackays of Reay.³

A place in the parish is named Tout Horsa (Horsa's grave), probably the Tothorso of the retour of 1620.⁴

'Betwixt Reay and the sea is a litle hill called the Wild Cat's Hill or Tor-na-cat-fiaghick, which of late being broken up by the wind, and the sand blown from it, there were found in it severall stone coffins, and in each corner of these coffins an earthin pig (jar) with some ashes in it; but it is to be observed that the bottom of the pig and what was under it of the stone was rotten to that degree that a man could pierce them with his finger, and there are some to be seen to this day.'⁵ It appears to be this hill of which Worsaae says, 'Near Barrowstoun in the parish of Reay is a large barrow, perhaps a Viking one, so near the Pentland Firth that it is washed by the spray.'⁶

About the year 1426 there was a battle at Sandside between the Mackays of Strathnaver under Neill Wasse and the men of Caithness.⁷

THURSO.

Thorso⁸—Thursow⁹—Thurso¹⁰—Thursoch, Thursoche.¹¹ (Map, No. 13.)

THIS parish extends along the north coast of Caithness, which is chiefly rocky in that part, from the mouth of the water of Forss to the bay of Murkle, having the water of Forss as its western boundary, and as its south and east boundaries a very irregular line, forming a sort of angle with its vertex at a point on the water of Thurso near Halkirk, whence that stream turns northward and nearly divides the parish into equal parts.¹² The surface is irregular, and rises gently from the shore, but at no part attains a great elevation.¹³ Off Holburnhead its northern extremity is an insulated rock named the Clett 400 feet above the level of the sea.¹⁴ Detached

¹ Macfarlane. Pennant.

² Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. New Stat. Acc.

³ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 351. Anderson's Guide.

⁴ Pennant *ut supra*. See p. 746.

⁵ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁶ Worsaae's Danes, p. 255.

⁷ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 304.

⁸ A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 27.

⁹ A. D. 1560. Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ A. D. 1560. Protocol Book of William Gray. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. *Circa* A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assigmentis, A. D. 1641. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. pp. 599, 600. A. D. 1642. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹¹ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

¹² Map in Old Stat. Acc. and County Maps.

¹³ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ *Ibid*.

from the rest of the parish by a distance of several miles lies Dorery, a small property formerly churchland included between the parishes of Halkirk and Reay.¹

The church of Thurso, though unnamed in the charter of Bishop Gilbert, was one of the six reserved by him to the bishop.² Early in the sixteenth century the vicarage of Thorsø was held by Sir John Mathesoun chancellor of Cathnes, on whose demission or otherwise Queen Mary in 1547 presented Master John Craig to the benefice.³ Master Walter Innes, who appears in record in 1554, was vicar of Thurso in 1560, and continued to hold the vicarage between 1561 and 1566.⁴ About 1567 John Rag was minister, and in 1574 Alexander Urquhart was minister of Orlík and Thurso, and Jolu Davidsoun was reader at Thurso.⁵ In 1641, as we have seen, Alexander Monro minister at Durnoch had from King Charles I. a grant of 800 marks Scots or of 8 chalders victual in augmentation of his stipend from the rents of the bishoprick in the parish of Thurso and elsewhere.⁶

The church, dedicated to Saint Peter, though disused since 1832, is still standing on the left bank of the Thurso water close to the sea.⁷ It is cruciform and in the pointed style, and is supposed to be 500 years old.⁸ A writer in 1726 says, 'Above a vault looking into the east end of the church is a sessionhouse, but by the permission of the kirk session it is used by the sheriff and magistrates of Thurso for a court house and prison; and above a dungeon likewise allowed them is a steeple and common clock.'⁹ A new church was built for the parish in 1832.¹⁰

At Dorarie was a chapel named Gavin's kirk or Temple Gavin, and 'thought to have been an exempted chaplainry'—at Pennyland on a rock above the sea was a chapel the burial-place of Murray of Clarden—and at Brims in 1726 were 'two chapells and abundance of rabbits.'¹¹ There were chapels also at Crosskirk, at Gwic, and at Thurso East (apparently the church mentioned in the Orkneyinga Saga and Torfaens, and existing when the former was written); and at Murkil in a spot locally known as Glosters was supposed to have been a nunnery, of which in 1769 nothing remained but a garden wall enclosing a rich piece of ground.¹²

Between 1561 and 1566 the teindsheaves of the parish of Thurso were leased yearly at £126, 16s. 8d., and the vicarage was leased for £16.¹³ About 1567 the minister had for his stipend 100 marks, and in 1574 £133, 6s. 8d., out of which he had to pay his reader at Orlík.¹⁴

The town or farm of Myrkol occurs in history in the end of the tenth century.¹⁵ The river of Thorsa is mentioned in 1152.¹⁶ At Murle on 5 August 1297 John earl of Caithness swore

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 353. Old Stat. Acc.

² See DORNOCH, p. 601, and Book of Assumptions.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 27.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁶ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., p. 599, 600. See DORNOCH, p. 616.

⁷ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen. Macfarlane. Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. ¹⁰ New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Pennant, vol. iii. pp. 352, 353. Macfarlane.

¹² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 352. Ork. Saga, p. 411. Torf. lib. i. c. 38. See *post*.

¹³ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁴ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹⁵ Torfaens, lib. i. c. 9. See *post*.

¹⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 325. Torf., lib. i. c. 32. The *town*, though frequently mentioned in the same works, does not seem to include the lands.

falty to King Edward I.¹ The lands of Murkle and Thurso and others adjacent were a part of the ancient earldom of Caithness, which in 1527 was granted by King James V. to William Sinclair the son and apparent heir of John earl of Caithness and his wife Elizabeth Suthirland, the earl having resigned the lands of the earldom, and a reasonable teree being reserved to his wife, who had conjunct infefment in the lands of Furso with the fishings in the water of the same, the lands of Muirkill, the lands of Bordland, and the Sixpennyland.² In 1538 the same king granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and his wife Lady Margaret Keith, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the half of certain lands and baronies, including the half of the half of Sordell, the half of the fourth of Claradene, the half of the half quarter of Mirekill, and the half of the third of the lands of Thurso with the half of the fourth of the water and fishings—also the half of the fourth of Ormellee, the half of the fourth of Brodland-Myrkill, and the half of the fourth of Subamster—all lying in the earldom of Cathanes and sberiffdom of Innernes, and resigned by Elizabeth Keith the sister of Margaret and the niece and one of the heirs of the deceased Sir William Keith of Innerugy, and with lands in Moray and Banff united into the barony of Innerugy.³ In 1539 King James V. granted to Elizabeth Suthirland countess of Cathnes, for her good service and for certain sums of money paid to his treasurer, certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes formerly belonging to Earl William and apprised in the hands of King James IV. for £400, including the lands of Muirkill.⁴ In 1541 the same king granted to Alexander Innes, the son of the deceased Alexander Innes of that ilk, assignee of the deceased William earl of Errol, certain lands and fishings, including two thirds of the fishing of the water of Thurso of the yearly value of £11, 2s. 3d., which belonged to the daughters of Andrew Oliphant of Eridaill, and were apprised for the marriage of one of them Cristina in favour of Alexander Innes.⁵ In 1549 (6 April) Queen Mary granted to Henry Keir the ward and nonentry and other dues of certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes, in her hands since the decease of Rannald lord Schen or other lawful possessor, including 4½ pennylands in Estir Muirkill with the mills, multures, and fishings.⁶ In the same year (6 July) the Queen granted to Lawrence Oliphant, the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant, the ward and nonentry of certain lands, including Clardene, Borland-Murkill, Sordayle, Ambuster, Ormelie, the water of Thuresoch and its salmon fishings, Thurdistoft, and Subambuster, in the queen's hands since the decease of Rannald lord Schen or other possessor.⁷ In 1552 the same lands, which had been in the hands of the queen and her predecessors by reason of nonentry for 120 years, were apprised in favour of the same Laurence Oliphant.⁸ In 1556 the queen granted to George earl of Caithness a remission for various crimes, including his having violently seized in the years 1553, 1554, 1555, and 1556, on the fourth of the salmon fishing of the water of Thurso belonging to Laurence master of Oliphant, and

¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 37.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 42.

³ *Ibid.*, lib. xxvi. no. 146.

⁴ *Ibid.*, lib. xxvi. no. 328. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 35.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 91. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. ff. 39, 40.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 8.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. xxiii. fol. 22.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 177.

having withheld from him the whole fishing amounting to 3 lasts yearly at £100 per last.¹ In 1564 the same queen granted to George earl of Caithness the nonentry of the lands granted in 1549 to Henry Keir, including those of Murkill, all which belonged to the earl's deceased mother Elizabeth countess of Sutherland, and were in the queen's hands by reason of nonentry.² In 1574 George Sinclair was served heir of entail to William Sinclair the lawful son of George earl of Cathanes his brother in the superiority of the lands of Murkill with the mills.³ In 1589 and 1594 the lands of Murkle were held by James Sinclair the brother of the earl of Caitlnes.⁴ In 1604 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir to Lord Laurence his grandfather in the lands of Clareden, Borland, Murkle, Soirdaill, Ormelie, the water and salmon fishing of Thursoch, and the lands of Thurdestaff and Subamister.⁵ In 1644 George earl of Caithness, Lord Sinclair and Berriedaill, was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in the earldom of Cathanes, including the above lands, and also the half of Sordail, the fourth of Clairden, the solar fourth of Murkle, the fourth of the lands of Thurso, the fourth of the water and fishings of Thurso, with the mills and fishings of all the lands, lying of old in the sheriffdom of Innernes and by annexation in the sheriffdom of Banff, with the fourth of the lands of Ormelie, the fourth of Borland-Murkle, and the fourth of Subamster.⁶

In 1455, when William bishop of Caithness granted to his brother Gilbert Mudy the keeping of the castle of Scrabestoun and of the surrounding lands, he attached to the office 10 marklands in Caithness, including 10 shillinglands of Dorrory.⁷ In 1478 the grant was confirmed by King James III.⁸ In 1527 King James V. granted to Andrew bishop of Caithness the town, lands, and harbour of Scrabuster in Caithness in a free burgh of barony, with power to lease the burgh roods in heritage.⁹ In 1557 Robert bishop of Cathanes, with the consent of the dean and chapter, granted in heritage to John earl of Sutherland and to his wife Elenour Stewart countess of Errol certain lands of the bishoprick, including the lands of Force with the mill and salmon fishing, the mill of Lythe with its multures, the 9½ pennylands of Scrabustar with the fortalice or castle, the lands not named of John McEwin and William Randelstoun, except the crofts of Scrabustar, with the fourth part of the salmon fishing of the water of Thurso—the grantee paying yearly for Force 4 chalders 8 bolls ferme at 8s. 4d. per boll, 6 bolls of horse oats at 4s. 2d., 96 sheaves of oats at 1d., 96 hallowis of stray at 1½d., 18s. grassum, 3 grassum marts at 30s., two dozen poultry with 3 halkhennis at 2d., 6s. pleuch siluir, and 12d. huik siluir, in all £38, 4s. 6d.; for the mill of Lythmoir 15 bolls victual at 8s. 4d., or £6, 5s.; for the 9½ pennylands of Scrabustar with the castle, £6, 6s. 8d. ferme, £12, 13s. 4d. grassum, 76 poultry and 8 hens at 2d., 9½ bolls horse corn at 4s. 2d., 152 sheaves of oats at 1d., 152 hallowis of straw at 1½d., 20s. pleuch siluer, 2s. 2d. huik siluer, and 3 vnset marts at 16s. 8d., in all £26, 17s. 6d.; for the crofts of Scrabustar 10s.; and for the fourth

¹ Pitcairn's *Crim. Trials*, vol. i. p. 395*.

² *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, vol. xxxii. ff. 110, 111.

³ *Retours*.

⁴ *Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland*, pp. 198, 199.

⁵ *Retours*.

⁷ *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, lib. viii. no. 123.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, vol. vi. fol. 51; vol. vii. ff. 54, 55.

⁶ *Ibid.*

of the fishings of Thurso £13, 6s. 8d.¹ In 1559 the same bishop granted in heritage to the same earl and countess the lands of Dorarie extending yearly in his rental to 20s. ferme and 20s. grassum, in all 40s. old ferme.² In 1560 he renewed the grant of Fors, the mill of Lythmoir, the 9½ pennylands of Serabister and castle and crofts of the same, with the fourth of the fishings of Thurso, and granted in addition the lands of half Brymmes and Owst.³ In 1564 he admitted Alexander Gordoun master of Sutherland hereditary tenant of all the above lands—the lands of Brymmis, except those formerly leased to Master Walter Innes, extending yearly to 40 bolls 2 firlots of ferme victual at 8s. 4d., 18 shillings grassum, 6 bolls horse corn at 4s. 2d., 96 sheaves of oats at 1d., 96 hallows of straw at 1½d., 36 poultry with 6 halkhenneis at 2d., 2s. hwik siluer, 6s. pleweh siluer, and 3 grassum marts at 30s., in all £25, 5s. 6d.; and the two thirds of Lythmoir and Owst, with two pennylands of the third part of Lythmoir, 2 chalders 6 bolls 2 firlots 3 pecks of ferme victual at 8s. 4d., 22 rams at 3s., 3 bolls 3 firlots 1½ peck of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 58½ sheaves of oats at 1d., 58½ hallows of straw at 1½d., 7s. 4d. pleweh syluer, 16d. hwik siluer, and 22 poultry and 4 halkhenneis at 2d., in all £21, 8s. 4½d.⁴ In the rental of assumptions at the same period the same lands are entered as follows—Dorarie, £15, 18s. 5d.; Brymis £46; Fors with the mill and fishing £28, 4s. 6d.; Lythmoir and Awist £21, 8s. 4d.; Serabuster £34, 15s.; the crofts of Serabuster 10s.; the fourth of the water of Thurseth £13, 6s. 8d.; the mill of Lythmoir £6, 5s.; and the lands of Thurso £13, 5s. and 6 dozen of geese.⁵ In 1578 the earl of Sutherland granted to Clement Cor (or Tor) burgess of Edinburgh the fourth of the salmon fishings of the water of Thurso.⁶ In 1581 the whole of the above lands and fishings were resigned by Alexander earl of Sutherland, and granted to him anew by Bishop Robert, and in 1601 the whole, with the addition of Langag of Skrabister and the fishings of the same, with the Sklaitheuch and Halkes in Hoburneid, were included in the new grant of the earldom of Sutherland made by King James VI. to Earl John.⁷ In 1726 the fishing of the water of Thurso was valued at 900 marks in time of war and 1000 marks in time of peace.⁸

In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dumbeath bequeathed to his son Edward the lands of Broenach, until he should be paid the sum named in the letters of reversion.⁹ The subsequent history of the lands is included in that of the barony of Farr.¹⁰

In 1545 (1 October) Queen Mary granted to Elizabeth Grame the wife of George earl of Cathnes the liferent of certain lands in the earldom resigned by the earl, including Weddell (or Weddelland) and Carsko (or Carske).¹¹ In a grant to John Sinclair the earl's son dated 2 October the liferent of the same lands was reserved to the countess.¹²

Thurso (Thorsaa, the river of Thor, and in Gaelic styled Inverarsa or Inverthorsa) appears in record early in the eleventh century, when Thorfin earl of Orkney and Katanes, learning

¹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOC, p. 610.

² *Ibid.* See DORNOC, pp. 611, 612.

³ *Ibid.* Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁴ Sutherland Charters.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. See GOLSPIE, pp. 669-671.

⁸ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁹ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii.

¹⁰ See FARR, pp. 710-715.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 271. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 40.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 272. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. ff. 33, 34.

that Moddan on whom the king of Scotland had bestowed Katanes was at Thorsa with an army, despatched thither his adherent Thorkill Fostri, who coming on Moddan by night set fire to the house in which he slept and slew him as he was about to leave it.¹ Early in the following century Thorsa seems to have been the residence of Ottar the brother of the lady Frakark.² In 1137 Sveinn Asleifson met Earl Ottar at Thorsa, and obtained from him a promise of redress for what his sister had done.³ In 1152 Eysteinn king of Norway came suddenly on Earl Harald Maddadson, who lay on the river of Thorsaa, and having captured him made him engage thenceforth to hold the Orkneys of Norway.⁴ Between 1153 and 1156 Erlend the son of Slettnal, to whom King Malcolm IV. granted Katanes with the title of earl, dwelt most frequently in Thorsa.⁵ About the same period the town or castle of Thorsa is frequently mentioned in the history of the earls.⁶ In 1159, when Earl Rognvald of Orkney was slain in the neighbouring parish of Halkirk, some of his adherents, having apparently embalmed his body at Fors, carried it thence to Thorsa.⁷ In 1196 or between that year and 1202 Earl Harald landed with an army at Thorsa before his barbarous treatment of Bishop John.⁸ In 1230 or 1231 John earl of Orkney and Hanef the questor of the king of Norway, a friend of Aulver Illteit, from whom the earl withheld some land to which he was entitled as an heir of Earl Rognvald, passed at the same time into Catanes and took up their residence in different houses in the town of Thorsa, each with a body guard.⁹ During their residence there Hanef with his brothers Snaekol, Rafu, and others, having heard that Earl John intended to attack them secretly, anticipated him, set fire to his house, dragged him from an underground apartment in which he had taken refuge, and put him to death with nine wounds.¹⁰ In 1529 'Andrew Stuart bishop of Catternes upon some conceaved displeasure which he had receaved moved the Clangun to kill the laird of Duffus in the town of Thurso in Catternes.'¹¹ In 1530 Master Thomas Stewart treasurer of Caithness, Master Andrew Petre vicar of Wick; Master John Irland, Sir John Synsone, William Murray the elder, and Hugh Grot, chaplains; Master John Thomson rector of Olrik; and Sir David Rede and Sir William Irwin chaplains—found caution for their appearing in court to answer for being art and part in the slaughter of William Sutherland of Duffhouse, who was slain along with others in Thurso at the instigation of Andrew Stuart bishop of Caithness.¹² About the year 1589 Houcheon Maeky (of Farr) entered Caithness and laid it waste 'evin to the gates of Thurso.'¹³ In 1612 Donald Maeky and others apprehended in the town of Thurso one Arthur Smith a coiner of false money, and carried him away on horseback.¹⁴ This led to a tumult among the inhabitants, some of whom under John Sinclair of Stirkage, a nephew of the earl of Caithness pursued and attacked the party, by whom in the end they were defeated.¹⁵ In 1632

¹ Ork. Saga, pp. 31-37. Torf., lib. i. c. 13. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 351. Worsaae's Danes, p. 253. Old Stat. Acc.

² Ork. Saga, pp. 147, 217. Torf., lib. i. cc. 19, 23. See KILDONAN, p. 741.

³ Ork. Saga, p. 217. Torf., lib. i. c. 23. See KILDONAN, p. 741.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 325. Torf., lib. i. c. 32.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 327. Torf., lib. i. c. 32.

⁶ Ork. Saga, pp. 339-387. Torf., lib. i. cc. 32-36.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 395. Torf., lib. i. c. 36.

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 415. Torf., lib. i. c. 38. See DORNOCH, p. 599.

⁹ Torf., lib. ii.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 102.

¹² Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 149*.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 204. From this it would appear that Thurso was then a fortified town.

¹⁴ Ibid., p. 282.

¹⁵ Ibid., pp. 282, 283.

Master William Davidsoun, the lawful son of the deceased John Davidsoun commissary of Caithness, was served heir to Samuel Davidsoun dwelling in Franee, the son of the deceased Master Archibald Davidsoun in Caithnes his paternal uncle's son, in a piece of land called the Fischill in Thurso, containing in length 44 ells, lying in the town of Thurso and of old in the sheriffdom of Inverness, of the extent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of tallow (*sevi*).¹ In 1633 King Charles I. erected Thurso into a burgh of barony in favour of John Sinclair master of Berrydale, with a weekly market on Saturday, and four yearly fairs, namely, on the feast of the Blessed Virgin (25 March), the feast of Saint Peter (29 June), the feast of Saint Michael (29 September), and on another day not named.² In 1644 George earl of Caithnes, Lord Sinclair of Berriedaill, was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in certain lands and other subjects, including tenements, gardens, and other 'roumes' and possessions in the town of Thurso, and also in the burgh of Thurso erected into a burgh of barony and of the extent of 10 marks.³ In 1650 the marquis of Montrose is said to have been in Thurso on his landing from Orkney, and in 1798 a ruin was shown as that of the house where he lodged.⁴ In 1654 Thomas Robson was served heir to Thomas Robson his 'gudser' in certain tenements in Thurso of the extent of a stone of tallow.⁵ In 1655 John Murray of Clairden was served heir to his father William Murray of Clarden in a tenement and booth in Thurso called William Ronaldsone's tenement of the extent of 'ane pund of whyt wax' or 13s. 4d., and in John Orknayes tenement, Babie's tenement, and John Breyne's tenement, in the same town of Thurso, of the extent of one penny.⁶ A writer in 1726 observes — 'Thurso, a barony burgh, lies about and bewest the church, consisting wholly of lanes save one big street for a market place. Petermass fare holds June 29th, and Marymass August the 15th. Besides they have a weekly Friday's market. John Sinclair of Ulbster is baron, and almost the whole inhabitants hold of him for a *reddendo* of tallow, which with the customs of the markets and other casualties amounts to 500 marks Scots *per annum*.⁷ Sir John Sinclair in 1798 says, 'The weekly markets are held on Friday instead of Saturday the day appointed by the charter of erection; and of the stated yearly fairs that on Peter's Day is the only one which is kept; but the want of the other three is fully compensated by a great fair called Marymas market, which begins about the latter end of August, and continues for ten days.'⁸ The fairs are now three, Petermas held in the end of June, Georgemas held in July, and Marymas held in the beginning of September.⁹

Murkle (in Norse Myrkholl) had probably a castle in the end of the tenth century, when, as we have seen, it appears in record.¹⁰ At that period Ragnbild the wife of the earl Arnfinn caused her husband to be murdered at Myrko, and married his brother Havard.¹¹ In 1769 there appears to have remained no vestige of the castle.¹²

There was a castle at Thurso East, a residence of the old earls of Orkney and Caithness, and very probably that which is noticed in 1157 as a certain castle at Thorsa, in which the earls

¹ Retours.² Retours.³ Retours.⁷ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.² Old Stat. Acc.⁴ Old Stat. Acc.⁶ Ibid.⁸ Old Stat. Acc. written by Sir John.⁹ New Stat. Acc.¹⁰ Torf., lib. i. c. 9. Worsnae, p. 253. See above, p. 748.¹¹ Ibid.¹² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 352.

Harald and Rognvald were reconciled.¹ During the expedition of King William the Lion (1196–1202) against the earl Harald it is said that he sent his troops to Thurschem the residence of that earl, and destroyed his castle.² ‘Thurso East, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile E. of Thurso, closs by the sea and in the top of a rock several fathoms high, the largest fabrick in repair in Caithness, has a very fine though antique entry betwixt two gardens. It was built by one of the earls of Caithness, and quite ruined by them before it and the estate of Caithness came into Glenorchie’s hands, who again rebuilt it, and his heirs sold it and some of the estate and superiorities and heritable offices of Caithness to John Sinclair of Ulbster, whose residence it now is.’³ At Thurso East, says Pennant in 1769, the earls of Caithness had a castle now demolished.⁴ ‘The arch at Thurso East, or Thurso Castle as it is sometimes called, was built in the year 1665, and perhaps is the most ornamental piece of architecture in the north. The contract between George earl of Caithness and Donald Ross master mason for the building of that arch is still on record, from which it appears that the agreed price was 600 merks.’⁵ There is still a castle at Thurso East.⁶

Thurso had a castle called the castle of Thorsa, no vestige of which remains.⁷

There was probably a castle at Fors in 1159, when Hosui, Liotolf of Thorsdale, and Hallvard or Hoskuld Dufson, are said to have dwelt in Kalfadal in the promontory which juts out from Thorsdale, or at Fors a town of the Kalfadaliens, or Forsnes a promontory of Thorsdale.⁸ In that year, as we have seen, the body of Earl Rognvald was brought to Fors to be prepared for burial.⁹ Fors afterwards belonged to the bishops of Caithness, and subsequently to the earls of Sutherland and Caithness.¹⁰ ‘Fors Sinclair,’ says a writer in 1726, ‘lies 4 miles W. of Thurso and on the east bank of the water of Fors, which divides this parish from the parish of Reay.’¹¹

Between 1196 and 1202 John bishop of Katanes was living in the town of Skarabolstad (now Serabster) when Earl Harald seized and mutilated him.¹² In 1328 Sir Robert of Peblis chauterlain claims in his account the sum of £3, 2s. 4d. as paid for keeping the castle of Seraboster during the vacancy of the see.¹³ In 1455, as we have seen, William bishop of Caithness granted to his brother german Gilbert Mudy and two lawful heirs the keeping of his castles of Serabestoun and Skelbole and the surrounding lands, granting him as his fee 10 marklands in Caithness, namely, 9 pennylands in the territory and lordship of Weke, a markland of Alterwelle, 20 shillinglands of Stroma, and 10 shillinglands of Dorrory.¹⁴ In 1478 King James III. confirmed the grant.¹⁵ About the year 1544, during the banishment of Bishop Robert and the temporary appointment of Alexander Gordoun to the bishoprick, George earl of Caithness seized

¹ Ork. Saga, p. 351. Torf., lib. i. p. 33. Macfarlane. Pennant.

² Antiquitates Celto-Scandiacae, p. 49.

³ Macfarlane, 1726. ⁴ Tour, vol. iii. p. 351.

⁵ Old Stat. Acc. 1798 by Sir John Sinclair, who gives a drawing of the arch.

⁶ Anderson’s Guide.

⁷ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 351. Perhaps this was the castle at Thurso East.

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 385. Torf., lib. i. c. 36.

⁹ See p. 752.

¹⁰ Sutherland Charters. Retours.

¹¹ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect.

¹² See DORNOCH, p. 599.

¹³ Compota Camerar, vol. i. pp. 25, 26.

¹⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123. See DORNOCH, p. 607.

¹⁵ Ibid.

the castle of Serabbister.¹ In 1548 Robert, styled bishop elect of Caithness, Sir John Mathesounne chancellor, Hercules Bareulay rector of Cannisby, and others, found surety for their appearance to answer for taking and withholding from Master Alexander Gordoune postulate of Caithness the house and place of Serabister, and for seizing on the fruits of the bishoprick.² In 1557 Bishop Robert, as we have seen, appointed John earl of Sutherland and his heirs hereditary constables of the castle of Serabuster and the palace of Dornoch, situate among the wild Scots in a wintry region, granting them also the 9½ pennylands of Serabustar and other perquisites.³ In 1564 Alexander Gordoun master of Sutherland was admitted hereditary tenant of the same office and lands.⁴ In 1566 Bishop Robert dates a letter of collation to the deanery at the palace of Serabuster.⁵ In 1601 the 9½ pennylands of Skrabister with the 'castell wardis' and Langag of Skrabister and the fishings of the same, with the Sklaitheuch and Halkes in Hoburnheid, and the office of hereditary constable of the castles and palaces of Skrabister, Skebo, and Dornoch, were annexed to the earldom and sheriffdom of Sutherland then granted by King James VI. to Earl John.⁶ 'The old castle of Serabster belonging to the crown lies ½ mile N.W. of Thurso, and almost within the floodmark. It is wholly in ruins. John Sinclair of Ulbster is heritable constable of it and bailie of the bishoprick. Has £100 Scots *per annum*.⁷ The ruins of the castle and of a house near it inhabited by the bishops of Caithness after the Reformation were remaining in 1769.⁸ Of one or the other of those buildings the foundations still remain.⁹

'Brims lyes 2 miles W.S.W. of Howburnhead, and 3½ miles N.W. of Thurso. It is situat on a rock above the sea, a pretty large old fabrick.'¹⁰ It was standing in 1769.¹¹

'Very near Thurso to the west lies the ruinous house of Ormley, and beyond the place designed for the minister of Thurso's manse, ¼ mile W. of Thurso, lyes Pennyland a small house and estate which belongs to Murray of Clardon.'¹²

'At Hoy 4 miles S. from Thurso severall urns were found, and many are found in different places in this shire. It seems the Picts were so buried, for there were never any Romans so far north.'¹³

Near Thurso East is a spot known as Harold's Tomb, marked at one time apparently by a cairn, and latterly by a monument erected by Sir John Sinclair.¹⁴ In the end of the twelfth century Harald the younger, the son of Eric Slagbrell, received from King William the Lion the half of Katanes, formerly held by Earl Rognvald.¹⁵ He demanded of Earl Harald Maddadson that he should resign to him that half, and, the latter refusing, they met each at the head of a considerable force, and there followed a battle in which Harald the younger and many of his

¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 111.

² Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 337.* See DORNOCH, p. 610.

³ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 610.

⁴ See DORNOCH, p. 611.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ See GOLSPIE, p. 670.

⁷ Macfarlane, 1726.

⁸ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 353.

⁹ New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

¹⁰ Macfarlane's Geog. Coll.

¹¹ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 352.

¹² Macfarlane, 1726.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 407. Torf., lib. i. c. 38.

friends were slain.¹ Harald fell in a moss, and he was buried there *in lingula* (apparently a bank running into the moss), and a chapel was built on the spot where he fell.² The place is believed to be that now known as Harold's Tomb.³

HALKIRK.

THIS parish, stretching from the borders of Sutherland to the centre of Caithness, includes by far the larger portion of the valley of the river Halkirk or Thurso, divided in its upper part into two converging valleys Strathmore and Strathbeg.⁴ Its extensive but not much diversified surface is studded with numerous lakes, and has but one hill of any height, Spittalhill on its north east border.⁵

The original name of the parish was Seynend or Skenand (now Skinnet).⁶ At some period subsequent to the beginning of the thirteenth century it was divided into the parishes of Skenand, Halkirk, and the Hospital of Saint Magnus or Spittal, whose boundaries seem to have become unknown from their reunion into one parish under the modern name Halkirk.⁷

SKINET.

Seynend⁸—Skenand⁹—Skenane¹⁰—Skynand¹¹—Skinenn.¹² (Map, No. 14.)

BETWEEN 1223 and 1245, when Bishop Gilbert erected the chapter of Caithness, he assigned the churches of Olrich, Donotf, and Cananesbi, to three of the prebendaries, and the church of Seynend (then the only parish church of the place) as a common church to those three, ordaining that each prebendary, while resident, should receive an equal portion of its fruits; but in case of the non-residence of the prebendaries those fruits were to be given for the work and ornament of the cathedral church; saving in either case 100 shillings formerly granted to William of Ros the bishop's clerk for life, and three marks assigned yearly in like manner to Endo his chaplain.¹³ The church does not again appear in any known record till the year 1500, in which King James IV. during the vacancy of the see of Cathnes presented Sir Henry Patersoun (or Petersoun)

¹ Ork. Saga, pp. 407, 409, 411. Torf. *ut supra*.

² Ork. Saga, p. 411. Torf. *ut supra*.

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 353. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Worsaae, p. 253.

⁴ County Maps.

⁵ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁶ See the following notices.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

⁹ A. D. 1500. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 23. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1576. Ibid.

¹⁰ Circa A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers.

¹¹ A. D. 1620. Retours.

¹² A. D. 1642. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹³ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 602.

chaplain to the vicarage of Halkirk and Skenand, vacant by the demission of Sir Andrew Rettre.¹ In the rental of assumptions between 1561 and 1566 we have that of 'the kirkis of Halkirk and Skenand callit the commoun kirkis of Cathnes diocy.'² In 1567 James Scott, and in 1574 and 1576 John Scott, were readers at Halkirk and Skenand.³ In 1620 Richard Sincler of Browmes was served heir to his brother David Sincler in certain lands with the teinds in the parish of Halkrig and Skynand.⁴

H A L K I R K.

Halkirk⁵ — Haikrik⁶ — Halkrik⁷ — Halkrig⁸ — Hakrig.⁹ (Map, No. 14.)

In the year 1500, as we have seen, King James IV. presented Sir Henry Patersoun chaplain to the vicarage of Halkirk and Skenand, vacant by the demission of Sir Andrew Rettre.¹⁰ In 1504 however a charter is witnessed by Sir Andrew as vicar of Haikrik.¹¹ In 1537 Sir Henry Person (apparently the same as Sir Henry Patersoun) appears as vicar.¹² In 1538 occurs the legitimation of Master Malcom Rotter the natural son of the deceased Sir Andrew Rotar vicar of Halkirk.¹³ The subsequent notices of the vicarage are the same as those of Skenand.¹⁴

S P I T T A L.

Hospital of Saint Magnus in (or of) Caithness¹⁵—Rectory of the Church of [Spittal] called the Hospital of Saint Magnus in Caithness¹⁶—Spittall¹⁷—Spittel¹⁸—Spittel¹⁹—Hospital or Hospice of Saint Magnus in Cathanes.²⁰ (Map, No. 14.)

In 1476 King James III. granted to William Sinclare, the son of William earl of Caithness and Lord de Saint Clair by his countess Merjory, the lands of the earldom with the advowson of the hospital of Saint Magnus in Caithness in the sheriffdom of Imernes, resigned by the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 23.

² Book of Assumptions.

³ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ A. D. 1500. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. ii. fol. 23. A. D.

1537. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1538. Reg. Sec.

Sig., vol. xii. fol. 14. A. D. 1561-1566. Book of As-

sumptions. A. D. 1574, 1576. Book of Assignations.

⁶ A. D. 1504. Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Circa A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers.

⁸ A. D. 1620. Retours.

⁹ A. D. 1642. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁰ See above.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 14.

¹⁴ See above.

¹⁵ A. D. 1476. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 393.

A. D. 1527. Ibid., lib. xxi. no. 42. Reg. Sec. Sig.,

vol. vi. fol. 72; vol. vii. fol. 81. A. D. 1543. Reg. Sec.

Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 40. A. D. 1545. Reg. Mag. Sig.,

lib. xxix. no. 272. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. ff. 33, 34.

A. D. 1548. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 84. A. D.

1633. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 154.

¹⁶ A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 93.

¹⁷ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

¹⁸ A. D. 1642. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib.

¹⁹ Circa A. D. 1642. Blaeu.

²⁰ A. D. 1644. Retours.

earl and reserving the terce to his wife.¹ In 1527 King James V. granted the same to William Sinclair the son and apparent heir of John earl of Caithness and his wife Elizabeth Sutherland.² In 1543 Queen Mary granted to George earl of Caithness the nonentry and other dues of the earldom and of the hospital of Sanct Mawnis in Caithnes, in the queen's hands or in those of her predecessors since the death of William earl of Caithnes.³ In 1545 the same queen granted to John Sinclair the son and apparent heir of Earl George the advowson of the same hospital of Saint Magnus, resigned by the earl.⁴ In 1547 she presented Master William Gordoun rector of Duthell (in Moray) to the rectory of the church of [Spittal] called the hospital of Saint Magnus in Caithness, vacant or when vacant by resignation or decease of Master Thomas Stewart treasurer of Caithness.⁵ In 1548 she presented John Robesoun to the same hospital, then vacant by the decease of Master Thomas Stewart.⁶ At the Reformation Master William Gordoun (treasurer of Caithness) was parson of Spittal.⁷ In 1633 William Lord Sinclair of Berridail granted the patronage of the hospital of Saint Magnus to Sir George Hamiltoun of Blaikbourne, and King Charles I. confirmed the grant.⁸ In 1644 George earl of Caithnes, Lord Sinclair of Berriedaill, was served heir male to John master of Berriedaill his father in the earldom of Caithnes and the advowson of the hospital or hospice of Saint Magnus.⁹

The church of Skinnet, dedicated to Saint Thomas, 'a large, coarse, massy building,' of which the walls and cemetery still remain, stood in the north end of the parish on the left bank of the water of Thurso.¹⁰ An erect stone about 9 feet high, known as Saint Thomas's chair, was broken to pieces in the last century, and seems to have been since used in building a fence.¹¹

The church of Halkirk, originally only a chapel attached to the bishop's residence there, and dedicated to Saint Catharine, or according to some to Saint Fergus, stood not far from Skinnet, but on the right bank of the water on a small round hill in the middle of an extensive plain.¹² The present church was built in 1753 upon the same site.¹³

The church of Saint Magnus, either founded by that saint or dedicated to him, and originally attached to an hospital of which the nature is unknown, stood a few miles south from Halkirk near the foot of the hill named from it Spittallhill.¹⁴ Its foundations 60 feet by 20, part of its walls, and its cemetery the burial place of the Clanguin, still remain.¹⁵ Around it and at some distance were numerous buildings apparently connected with the

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 393.

² Ibid., lib. xxi. no. 42. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 72; vol. vii. fol. 81.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 40.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 272. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. ff. 33, 34.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 95.

⁶ Ibid., vol. xxi. fol. 84.

⁷ Book of Assumptions.

⁸ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 154.

⁹ Retours.

¹⁰ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹² MS. Maps. Blaeu. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 365. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ MS. Maps. Blaeu. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 365. Old and New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

¹⁵ New Stat. Acc.

hospital, and among these one larger than the rest at a place named Auchinarra (the field of the altar.)¹

Near the church of Skinnet stood a building called the Abbey, part of which remained in the end of last century, but the history of which was unknown.²

There was a chapel at Olgrim or Olgany dedicated to Saint Peter; one at Westfield dedicated to Saint Trostan (probably Drostan); one at Strathmore dedicated to Saint Queran; one at Dirlet dedicated to Saint Columba; and there were chapels at Dale, Libster, Banniskirk, Gerston, and Achardale.³

Between 1561 and 1566 the yearly value of the common churches of Halkirk and Skenand was 8 chalders of bear.⁴ In 1567 the reader at Halkirk and Skenand had for his stipend £20; in 1574 he had that sum and the kirkland; and in 1576 £13, 6s. 8d. with the kirkland.⁵

Between 1561 and 1566 the parsonage of Spittal was leased yearly for the sum of £80.⁶

In the year 1361, by an indenture dated at Carynbulg in Buchan, James Prat of Kerdale the son of the deceased John Prat lord of Estir Glenarundy sold to Hugh of Ross lord of Philorth an annual rent of 6 marks sterling due to him from the lands of Fraswilu, Okyngil, and Harpsdol, for the sum of 35 marks sterling to be paid by Hugh Ross on recovering the same by law.⁷ In 1565 Patriek Mowat of Balchollie was served heir to his father Patriek in the lands of Freschewick and Harpistell in the earldom of Cathanes and sheriffdom of Inmernes, of the old extent of £10.⁸

In 1375 or 1376 King Robert II. granted to his son David earl of Stratherne the castle of Brathwell and all the lands thereof, inherited by Alexander of Ard in right of his mother Matilda of Stratherne, and resigned by him.⁹ In 1452 King James II. granted in heritage to Admiral Sir George Crechtoun of Carnis the lands of Brathwele and others in the earldom of Catnes, resigned by Sir James Crechtoun of Frendraucht the king's chamberlain and his wife.¹⁰ In 1494 (30 June) Sir Gilbert Keth of Innergy raised an action before the Lords of Council against John earl of Sutherland, summoning him among other things to hear declared null a charter given him by Sir Gilbert of the lands of Subister and the rest of his lands in Cathnes.¹¹ The ease was continued till 9 October, in order that the earl might produce his writs.¹² In 1538 King James V. confirmed to William Earl Marischal and Lady Margaret Keith his wife, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the half of certain lands and baronies in the earldom of Cathnes, resigned by Elizabeth Keith the sister of Margaret, and the niece and one of the heirs of the deceased Sir William Keith of Innergy, and including the half of the half of Subister, the half of Lurare, the half of the half and a pennyland of Greynstane

¹ Old Stat. Acc.

² Ibid.

those of Harpsdol are in this parish, have been erroneously placed in Ross, p. 469.

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 365. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Retours.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁹ Rob. Index, p. 120. no. 59; p. 129, no. 27. See CANNISBAY post.

⁶ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv. nn. 274, 275.

⁷ Balnagown Charters. These lands, of which only

¹¹ Acta Dom. Conc., pp. 345, 346.

¹² Ibid.

with the half of the crofts called Boilecaik, the half of the lands of Scottis-Caldar and the mill, the half of Norne-Caldar, and the half of the half of Banniskirk.¹ In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Lawrence Oliphant, the son and heir apparent of Lawrence Lord Oliphant, the ward and nonentry of the lands of Subister, Braule, Greistane, and Askary, with other lands, in the queen's hands since the decease of Rannald Lord Schen or any other.² In 1552 she granted to the same Laurence the lands themselves, in her hands and in those of her predecessors by reason of nonentry for 120 years, and apprised in his favour.³ In 1604 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir to his grandfather Lord Laurence in Subister, Braule, and Askary, and in 1605 in the same lands and Griston.⁴ In 1644 George earl of Caithnes was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in the earldom of Caithnes, including Griestoun, Askarie, Lourarie, the half and 2 pennylands of Grestaine with the croft of land called Bolealie, the lands of Scottis-Calder with the mill, the lands of Northinealder, and half the lands of Bannasker.⁵

In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed to his son Edward the lands of Catouch, to be held by him till paid the sum named in a letter of reversion.⁶ In 1499 King James IV. granted the lands of Dilrid and Cattak to Y Makky in Straithnavern, who had captured Alexander Sutherland of Dilrid, to whom they had formerly belonged in heritage.⁷ The subsequent history of the lands is included in that of the barony of Farr.⁸

In 1559 Robert bishop of Cathanes, as we have seen, granted certain lands in Cathanes and Sutherland to John earl of Sutherland and his wife Helen Stewart countess of Arroll, including the lands of Mekle Wlgrame, extending yearly to 24 bolls of victual at 8s. 4d., 3 grassum marts at 30s., 3 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 48 sheaves of oats at 1 penny, 48 hallowis of stray at 1½d., 4s. pleuch siluer, 9d. hwik siluer, 4 poultry and 3 hens at 2d., in all £15, 8s. 5d.; Wlgrame Beig, extending yearly to 40s. ferme, 20 bolls of ferme victual at 8s. 4d., in all £7 of old ferme; Halkyrk with the mill, alehouse, and fishing of the 'erwis,' extending yearly to 2 chalders of ferme victual at 8s. 4d. Scots, 2 grassum marts at 30s., 12 capons at 4d., 12 poultry and 12 halkhennis at 2d., 4s. plewch siluer, 9d. hwik siluer, in all £16, 17s. 11d. Scots old ferme; Westerdail, 6 bolls ferme victual at 8s. 4d., and 30s. ferme, in all £4 Scots old ferme; Esterdail, £3 Scots old ferme; and Thormeskeyth or Thormesdaill, 20s. Scots old ferme.⁹ In 1564 the same bishop admitted as hereditary tenant of the same lands Alexander master of Sutherland the son of Earl John.¹⁰ With the exception of Mekle Wlgrame the same lands are given in the rental of assumptions of the same period at the same yearly value.¹¹ They were in 1601 annexed to the earldom of Sutherland then granted anew by King James VI. to Earl John, and the sheriffdom of Sutherland then erected by that king.¹²

In 1620 Richard Sincler of Browmes was served heir to his brother David Sincler in the 2 pennylands of Spittell, the pennyland called Bolteayand on the east side of the same, and a

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 22.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 177.

⁴ Retours.

⁶ Misc. of Banu. Club, vol. iii.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 519. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 95.

⁸ See FARR, pp. 710-715.

⁹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCU, p. 612.

¹¹ Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCU, p. 614.

¹² Sutherland Charters. See GOLSPIE, p. 671.

⁵ Ibid.

croft of land called Gilbertscroft, with the teinds, in the parish of Halkirk and Skynand, of the extent of £8.¹

A fair called Saint Magnus fair is held at the village of Halkirk on the Tuesday before 26 December — and another styled Jamesmas, formerly held on Spittalhill, is now held on the hill of Ruggy partly lying in Bower and Thurso.²

At Halkirk near the present manse stood one of the residences of the bishop of Caithness.³ It was here that in 1222 Bishop Adam was attacked and cruelly put to death by the populace.⁴ No vestige of the episcopal palace of Halkirk now remains.⁵

On the left bank of the river opposite Halkirk stands the castle of Braal (anciently Brathwell), apparently a very old erection.⁶ It occurs in record, as we have seen, in the year 1375 or 1376.⁷ In 1547 George earl of Cathnes and various others had a remission from Queen Mary for taking the castle of Akirgill, and for forcibly confining Alexander Keith the captain and John Skarlet his servitor in the place of Girnigo, Brawall, and other places.⁸ The castle of Braal consists of a rectangular tower 35 feet in height, and an outer court or castle 100 feet long and 50 broad.⁹ The apartments are contained in the wall, and communicate by passages and staircases similarly situated.¹⁰ Near it in 1797 stood the remains of another and apparently an older building, then only a heap of rubbish.¹¹

At Dirlet on the top of a steep and narrow rock are the ruins of the castle of Dirlet, once the seat of the Sutherlands of Dirlet descendants of one of the family of Sutherland, the last of whom, locally known as the Ruder Derg (red knight) was Alexander who forfeited his possessions in 1499.¹²

Above Dirlet at the outlet of Lochmore stood a castle, at one time the residence or hunting-seat of a person traditionally known as the Morrar-na-shean, a term translated 'the lord of the venison,' but evidently signifying the Lord Chen, and applicable to Ranald Lord Chen, once famous and still remembered in those parts.¹³

Sites of cairns, and circular houses, and scenes of battles are numerous.¹⁴

In 1159 the Earls Harald and Rognvald left Thorsa in company, having with them a number of men, and proceeded up the valley of the Thorsa, and then up the Kalfadal water to the town of that name (since Caldell, Cathel, Calder), and, Earl Rognvald being latterly rather in advance and attended only by two individuals, was there attacked and slain by Thorbiorn Klerk and his confederates.¹⁵ The place at which he was killed, and at which are the ruins of a castle, is traditionally that which is variously styled 'Tullochoogie,' 'Achnavarn,' and 'a castle

¹ Retours. The Old Stat. Acc. speaks of lands in this neighbourhood as held by the Murrays of Pennyland, and as descending to them from Bishop Gilbert.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 366. Old Stat. Acc. See also the following notices.

⁴ See DORNOCH, p. 600.

⁵ New Stat. Acc.

⁶ Blaen. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 366. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

⁷ See above, p. 759.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 27. See WICK post.

⁹ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Old Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc.

¹² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 366. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. See FARR, p. 710.

¹³ Pennant, *ut supra*. Old Stat. Acc. See pp. 760, 764.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 387. Torf. lib. i. c. 36.

at the east end of Loch Calder.¹ Thorbiorn Klerk fled to some deserted cottages called *Asgrims Aergin* (probably the modern *Assary*), where he was overtaken and killed by the men of *Magnus* an adherent of Earl *Rognvald*.²

About the middle of the fourteenth century a son of Paul *Mactyre*, either named *Murthow Reeche* or in company with a person of that name, being sent into *Caithness* with an army 'to tak up custom kyne,' was attacked by the *Caithness* men at the *Spittalhill*, and killed near some neighbouring loch.³ *Spittalhill* is said to have been the usual place of rendezvous for the men of *Caithness*.⁴ They were assembled there by the earl in 1589 to oppose the earl of *Sutherland* and his men, but peace was secured without having recourse to arms through the mediation of Sir *Patrick Gordoun* of *Auchindoun*.⁵

In 1426 there was a fierce conflict at *Harpdell* between the men of *Strathnaver* under *Angus Dow Macky* and his son *Neill* and the men of *Caithness*, 'wher ther wes great slaughter on either syd'—an event which drew *King James I.* to *Inverness*, where he received the submission of *Angus Dow*, and as a hostage his son *Neill*, who being sent prisoner to the *Bass* was afterwards known as *Neill-Wasse-Macky*.⁶

LATHERON.

*Latheroun*⁷—*Lathrin*⁸—*Latherin*⁹—*Lethrin*¹⁰—*Ladroun*¹¹—*Lathroun*¹²—*Lathron*¹³—*Lathern*.¹⁴ (Map, No. 15.)

This parish, said to include two old parishes *Dunbeath* and *Latheron*, stretches from the hill of the *Ord* on the borders of *Sutherland*, along a much indented coast of about 30 miles in length and composed of perpendicular rocks from 100 to 300 feet in height, to the point called *Harril Head* near *Easter Clyth*.¹⁵ It extends inland to an average distance of 10 miles, being in figure an irregular quadrangle.¹⁶ It is watered by the rivers of *Langwell*, *Berriedale*, and *Dunbeath*, and by numerous smaller streams, all running into little bays in its rocky coast.¹⁷ Among its many hills the chief are the *Ord*, *Braenaheglish*, *Beuachielt*, *Morven*, *Scaraben*, and the *Maiden Pap*.¹⁸ An old authority says, 'South and west of the said house (*Brae*) is the hill

¹ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 366. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

² Ork. Saga, p. 395. Torf., lib. i. c. 36. See *CANNIS-BAY post*.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of *Sutherland*, p. 37. *Cro-nicle of the Earls of Ross*.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Genealogy of the Earls of *Sutherland*, p. 200.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 63, 64.

⁷ A. D. 1515. *Sutherland Charters*. A. D. 1640. *Retours*.

⁸ A. D. 1551. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiv. fol. 65.

⁹ A. D. 1560. Protocol Book of *William Gray*. A. D. 1567. Register of *Ministers*.

¹⁰ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of *Assumptions*.

¹¹ A. D. 1561-1566. *Ibid.*

¹² A. D. 1574. Book of *Assignations*.

¹³ *Circa* A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of *Sutherland*, p. 196. A. D. 1726. *Macfarlane*.

¹⁴ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. *Blaen*.

¹⁵ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. County Maps. Genealogy of the Earls of *Sutherland*, p. 196.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ New Stat. Acc.

called Maiden Pape, so called from its figure. A litle to the west is the hill called Morvin. This hill is oft remarked by seamen when sailing this coast, and by it they take their meeths and by mistake call it the Pape.¹ On the coast are numerous caves haunted by seals, whence is said to be derived the name Latheron, 'the resort of seals.'²

In the year 1515 Master Malcolm Rattir vicar of Latheroun witnessed the collation of Sir Robert M'Raith to the chaplainry of Golspy, which himself had resigned.³ He appears to have been the natural son of Sir Andrew Rotar (or Rattir) vicar of Halkirk, and to have been legitimised in 1538.⁴ In 1551 he was dead.⁵ In 1560 (10 September) at the garden of Master William Sinclair rector of Olrik it was deponed by witnesses, that George earl of Cathnes passed with John Mowat, Gilbert Mowat, Andrew Sutherland, and John Sinclair fear of Cathnes, 'in feir of wyir' to the parson of Olrik's house and manse of the kirkland of Kirkclatherin, 'and intromittit thairwith and all insycht gudis and geir thair at his awin hand violentlie without order of law, puttand and removand the said persone thairfra aganis his will, as the said persone allegit.'⁶ On 16 September James Higgis the procurator of Master William Sinclair, in protesting for redress, declared the damage done to be the seizure of 'ane stak of beir in the uver yaird of Kirkclatherin;' the breaking up of 'the lorkkis and durris' of the parson's great barn, and taking thence 'the meill, malt, and other graithe thairin;' the breaking of the 'sellar dur, lednar dur,' and other doors in his house of Latherin; the intromitting with his 'cornis in the nedder corne yaird of Kirkclatherin,' and with 'the cornis instantlie lyand on the said grownd, seherand the tano rig and levand the tuther rig;' and meddling also with the parson's sheep.⁷ Between 1561 and 1566 Master William Sinclair continued to be vicar of Ladroun.⁸ In 1567 Richard Thomson was reader at Latherin, and in 1574 the reader was William Sinclair, probably the former vicar.⁹

The church, built about 1734, seems to occupy the old site on the burn of Latheron about two furlongs from the sea and about halfway between the harbours of Forse and Latheronwheel.¹⁰ It lies 17 miles from the west, 11 from the east, and 10 from the north of the parish.¹¹

'Within a mile to the sea,' says a writer of the last century, 'upon the brink of this water (Dunbeath) is the chapel of Balelay. It's certain it was built in the time of Poperie, and I can give no further account of it,'¹²

'About 20 paces to the west of the house (Braemore on the water of Beridale) there is a chappel. The natives say that one Eyardan was the last priest in that chappel.'¹³ 'The greatest part of the image of the sanct worshiped in the chapell of Braemore stands yet in timber there.'¹⁴

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. The same is the case still.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Sutherland Charters. Latheron was one of the six churches reserved to the bishop by the charter 1223-1245. See DORNOC, pp. 601, 615.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xii. fol. 14.

⁵ Ibid., vol. xxiv. fol. 65.

⁶ Protocol Book of William Gray.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹⁰ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. County Maps. Old Stat. Acc.

¹¹ New Stat. Acc.

¹² Macfarlane's Geog. Collect., 1726.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

‘ Opposite to this chappel, which lies upon the south side of the water of Berridale, stands the chapel of Braenaeghlish, *i. e.* the brae of the church, on the north side of the water of Langwall.’¹

‘ Between these two chappels there is a road which crosseth in the middle the great hill of Seabine, which road is called by the natives *la cois nive* *i. e.* the road where the ——— travel. It’s said that one priest served these two chapels *per vices*, and it’s supposed that the cross rod formerly mentioned was the rod by which the people went and came when attending divine service.’²

‘ It is moreover observed by the natives that when the priests were discharged their office in this country, that either this Eyerdan or some other priest came to the Glutt of Berridale, a secrett and remote place, and built a chappell there, which lyes on the north side of the water of Berridale. This chappel stands about 2 miles from the chapel on the south side of the river.’³

‘ About a half mile or less to the east of the house of Clyth there is a chapel. At the end of it there is a large broad stone erected on the end, with many unintelligible cuttings and carvings on both sides.’⁴

Of these chapels Pennant in 1769 mentions only two, those at Clyth and the water of Dunbeath, and we have no farther notice of any of them.⁵

Between 1561 and 1566 the teindsheaves of the parish of Lethrin were leased yearly for £81, 11s. 8d., and the vicarage was given at the yearly value of £40.⁶ The reader at Latherin in 1567 had for his stipend £20, and the reader in 1574 £40, the amount of the vicarage.⁷

In 1337 King David II. allowed to his chamberlain Reginald More for his lands of Byridale in Caithness granted to William of Creyehot, the sum of £40 reckoned at the king’s pleasure for the two years ending at the previous Martinmas, on condition that he was able to let the lands at the same yearly rate for the future.⁸ In 1340 the same sum was allowed for two years to the same Reginald for his lands of Beridale, in which he alleged he was heritably infett by the earl of Stratherne and confirmed by the king.⁹ In the same reign the lands of Beridale seem to have been held by Reginald Chen, the third of that name, who became a noted man in Caithness, and whose daughter appears to have carried the lands to the Sutherlands.¹⁰ In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed to his son Nicolace the lands of Dallzanze and Berridaill until he should be paid the sum of 18 marks and the rent of 3 years which was then due.¹¹ In 1497 King James IV. granted in heritage to George Oliphant the son and apparent heir of William Oliphant and his wife Cristina Suthirland lady of Duffous, with remainder to Charles Oliphant the brother of George, and to the heirs whomsoever of William and Cristina, the lands of Beredaill and Aldwik in the earldom of Cathnes and sheriffdom of Innernes.¹² In 1526 Andrew Oliphant of Berredale —

¹ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect., 1726.

² *Ibid.* ³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 265.

⁶ See Rob. Index *passim*. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 54. Chalmers, vol. i. pp. 594-596. Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ Tour, vol. iii. p. 356.

⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹⁰ Compta Camerar., vol. i. p. 258.

¹¹ Misc. of Ban. Club, vol. iii.

¹² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 282.

on the narrative that long ago the marriage of Christina Suthirland being in the king's hands through the death of her father Alexander Suthirland of Duffhous, whose heir she was, the deceased Laurence Lord Oliphant the grandfather of Andrew, desiring to promote his sons to heritages and honours that thus his descendants of the surname of Oliphant should be advanced and continued in honour and dignity, had purchased the marriage of Christina from the king for a large sum of money, and had given her in marriage to William Oliphant his second son the father of Andrew; and that, after the celebration of the marriage, when the deceased William Suthirland of Querrelwod at the time of the serving of the briefs of inquest in favour of the said Christina the mother of Andrew Oliphant had taken the exception of illegitimacy against her before the sheriff, and the case, having been remitted to the judgement of the spiritual court, had been begun within the kingdom of Scotland, and had for several years been litigated at the court of Rome, the same Laurence Lord Oliphant the grandfather of Andrew had sustained the heaviest expenses in defending the ease, and *pendente lite* had maintained in his own house the said Christina, her husband William, and her servitors, and had alone borne the expenses of the trial, by which means through the heritable alienation of his lands he had injured his family and heirs to an enormous extent — and considering also the grievous injuries inflicted by the deceased William Suthirland and his friends and successors on the said William and Christina his (Andrew's) father and mother, and on his brother Charles whom they cruelly put to death, attempting right or wrong to recover from the successors of William and Christina that portion of land in Caithness which had been peaceably assigned to William and Christina — and knowing that he could not peaceably enjoy those lands or reside in those parts without the danger of death from the insults and plots of his enemies — by the advice of his friends, considering especially that he had or was likely to have no male heirs, out of sympathy for the losses and expenses incurred by his deceased grandfather in behalf of his (Andrew's) heritage, for the benefits bestowed on his father and mother by the said deceased Lord Oliphant, and for certain sums of money to be paid towards the marriages of his daughters and other assistances rendered according to certain contracts, sold to his uncle Laurence then Lord Oliphant the lands of Berredale and Auldwik in Caithness, and the lands of Strabrok in Linlithgw, with the advowson of their churches and chapels.¹ In the same year King James granted to Lord Laurence a crown charter of the lands.² In 1529 that king granted to Henry Kempt of Thomastoun the ward, relief, and marriage of the heir of the lands and pertinents belonging to the deceased Andrew Oliphant of Beridail.³ In 1540 the same king granted to the same Henry Kempt the dues of the lands of Auldwik and Beridale, in his hands since the decease of the same Andrew.⁴ In 1541 he granted to Alexander Innes the son of the deceased Alexander Innes of that ilk, assignee of the deceased William earl of Erol, two thirds of the 6 pennylands of Hoistildail (or Hoistisdale), of the yearly value of 42s. 8d., two thirds of 4 muttons (*tie wedderis*) or 8s., and 2 bolls of oats or 8s. 4d.; two thirds of Balnehaggelis, paying yearly 36s. 8d., two thirds of 4 muttons or 8s., and 2 bolls of oats or 8s. 4d.; two thirds of Langwell, of the same yearly value as Hoistildail;

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii. no. 34.

² *Ibid.*

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 56; vol. xi. fol. 9.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. xiii. fol. 54.

two thirds of Mellere, the same; two thirds of Ballegay, the same; two thirds of Ladroun, £6, 8s. 10½d.; two thirds of Rosbister, 2ls. 2½d. and 1 boll of oats; and two thirds of the fishing of the water of Beridaill, £32; with other lands, all lying in the sheriffdom of Innernes; which belonged to Margaret, Katherine, and Helen, daughters and heiresses of the deceased Andrew Oliphant of Beridaill, the heir and successor of the deceased Cristina Sutherland lady Beridaill, the heiress and successor of the deceased Sir Alexander Sutherland of Duffous her great-grandfather — which were held of the king in chief by service of ward and relief — and which were appraised to satisfy for the marriage of Cristina for 3500 (or 4500) marks Scots in favour of Alexander Innes; the king also willing that Margaret, Katherine, and Helen Oliphant should have regress to the lands on paying the above sum within seven years.¹ In 1542 King James again granted to Henry Kempt of Thomastonn the ward, nonentry, and relief of the lands of Aldwik and Beridale belonging to the deceased Andrew Oliphant of Berydaill.² In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Lawrence Oliphant, the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant, the ward and nonentry of the same lands, apparently including Latheroun and Rosbuster, in the queen's or her predecessors' hands since the decease of Rannald Lord Schen or other possessor.³ In 1552 or 1553 the same queen granted to the same Laurence Oliphant the lands of Beridaill with the water and fishing of the same, the lands of Laderoune, Rosbuster, Ambuster, and the Sixpennylands, together with those of Auldweik and others in the queen's hands or those of her predecessors for 120 years by reason of nonentry, and appraised in favour of the said Laurence Oliphant for certain sums as the dues for that period.⁴ In 1604 and 1605 Lawrence Lord Oliphant was served heir to Lord Laurence his grandfather in the same lands, of the old extent of £30.⁵ In 1640 Patrick Sinclair was served heir to his father Master John Sinclair of Wolbuster in the town and lands of Rospuster extending to 4 pennylands, with the pendicles and sheilling-places of the same called Polybwyak, Tornessan, Tomreoch, Auelineule, Craiginharie, and Dorinlie, in the parish of Latheroun, of the extent of 9 shillings, and in the town and lands of Harland in the same parish and of the same extent.⁶ In 1644 George earl of Caithnes, Lord Sinclair of Berriedaill, was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in the earldom, including the lands of Berriedaill, the water and salmon fishing of the same, with the hawks and hawknests, the Hill of the Ord and forests of the same, and the lands of Lathroune and Rosbuster.⁷

In 1377 or 1378, or previously, David Stewart earl Palatine of Stratherne and earl of Caithness granted to William of Ross the lands in the earldom of Caithness which were Walter Murray's, except Thomas Scarlet's lands of Wester Clith and Nether Greneland.⁸ The grant was confirmed by King Robert II.⁹ In 1468 King James III. granted anew to William Scarlet and to his heirs by his wife Agnes Keith, with remainder to Sir Gilbert of Keith of Innerrugy and his heirs, the 24 pennylands of Westerclith and the 18 pennylands of Westirgreneland, which William had

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 91. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. ff. 39, 40.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 73.

³ Ibid., vol. xxxiii. fol. 22.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 177. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 45.

⁵ Retours.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Rob. Index, p. 122, no. 111. Greneland is in the parish of Dunnet.

⁹ Ibid.

resigned.¹ In 1477 he confirmed the grant.² In 1526 King James V. granted to John Berclay burghess of Edinburgh the dues of the same lands as long as they should be in the king's hands by reason of nonentry, with power to sublet.³ In 1527 the same king granted to John earl of Caithness, the assignee of the same John Berclay, a crown charter of the lands of Greneland and Westir Clyth, which formerly belonged to William Scarlat, and were in the king's hands by reason of the nonentry of the heir at William's death, and were sold to the earl for £80 as part payment of the nonentry, with reversion to the heirs of William Scarlat on payment of that sum and expenses.⁴ In 1545 Queen Mary granted in heritage to John Sinclair the son and heir of George earl of Caitnes, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the lands and baronies of Cleith and Greneland, with other lands, all resigned by the earl, and also the fermes, profits, and dues of the lands, which were in the queen's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of William earl of Caitnes the grandfather of Earl George, or of Earl John his father, or of William Sinclair his brother fear of the lands.⁵ In 1624 John M'Morane was served heir to his father James M'Morane merchant burghess of Edinburgh in a yearly revenue of £411, 6s. from the lands, baronies, and yearly revenues of the earldom of Caithness and of the lands and baronies of Clyth and Greenland.⁶

Henry of Nottingham, who, as we have seen, was a canon of Caithness in 1272, was probably named from the lands of Nottingham in this parish.⁷ In 1408 Mariot Cheyne, lady of the third part of Duffous and of the fourth part of Catanes, with the consent of Andrew of Keth her son and apparent heir, granted to Kenneth of Sotherland the son of the deceased William earl of Sotherland her lands of the 3 davachs of Nothigane in the earldom of Catanes and sheriffdom of Invernes.⁸ In 1726 the lands appear to have been held by Sutherland of Forse.⁹

In 1439 Alexander earl of Ross became bound to warrant to Alexander of Suthirland and his wife Maryoun of the Ilys the earl's sister the castle and lands of Dunbeth and the lands of Ra, and, if these lands should be lawfully obtained from them, to give them in heritage land of yearly value equal to that of Dunbeth between the bridge of Alnes and the gyrrh of Tayne in Ross.¹⁰ In 1452 King James II. granted to Admiral Sir George Crechtoun of Carnis the lands of Brathwele, Dunbeyth, Lathrynful, and Watyn in the earldom of Catnes, resigned by Sir James Crechtoun of Fendraucht the king's chamberlain and his wife.¹¹ In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed to the canons of Ferne for a daily mass with a note of the Requiem 6 marks from the lands of Multayth and Drumnern, failing which, from the lands of Dumbeth.¹² In 1464 William of Caldore, the son and heir of Sir William of Caldore, caused a

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 32.

² Ibid.

¹⁰ Cawdor Charters.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vii. ff. 11, 12.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 143. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 71; vol. vii. fol. 81.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 272. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. ff. 33, 34.

⁶ Retours.

⁷ See DORNOCH, p. 262.

⁸ Fors Charters.

⁹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv. nn. 274, 275. Brathwele is Braal in Halkirk, *ante*, and Watyn is Watten, *post*.

¹² Misc. of Ban. Club, vol. iii. Among the items of his will were also 8 stone of wax to be burned at his funeral, 3 ells of broad cloth for his winding-sheet, 18 pence to every priest that attended his funeral and said mass for him, 2 shillings to each of those priests who should come from a distance, and 6 pence to every one that should read the Psalter for him.

transcript to be made of the charter of the earl of Ross, for what purpose does not appear.¹ In 1494 the Lords of Council ordained that William and Andrew Keth (frequently summoned but failing to appear) did wrong in occupying the lands of Dunbeth with the house and strength of the same lying in the sheriffdom of Cathnes; that they should resign the same to Alexander Dunbar, to be held by him for the term contained in his lease granted by the king; and that they should pay to Alexander £20 for the damage he had been proved to have sustained in the matter.² In 1507 King James IV. granted to Alexander Innes, the son and apparent heir of Alexander Innes of that ilk, the lands of Dunbeith, Raa, and Sandsid, resigned by Malcom Culquhone of Dunbeith.³ In 1529 King James V. granted to Alexander Sinclair of Stamster and Elizabeth Innes his wife the same lands, with the tower, fortalice, manor, mills, and fishings, all resigned by Alexander Innes, the grantee of 1507, and erected into the barony of Dunbeith.⁴ In 1530 he renewed the grant.⁵ In 1541 the same king granted to Oliver Sinclair of Pitcarnis the marriage of William Sinclair the son and heir of the deceased Alexander Sinclair of Dunbeith.⁶ In 1554 a charter is witnessed by William Sinclair of Dunbaith.⁷ In 1558 Queen Mary granted to the same William the nonentry and other dues of the lands of Dunbeith, Ra, Sanctsyde, and Showrarnie, in the barony of Dunbeith, in the queen's hands by the decease of Elizabeth Innes the mother of William and conjunct fear of the lands.⁸ In 1583 a seisin of the earldom of Sutherland is witnessed by William Sinclair of Dunbeith and his servitors Alexander Sinclair and Archibald Maxwell.⁹ William Sinclair was succeeded by his grandson George, who about the year 1614 made over his entail of the lands of Dunbeith to Lord Forbes, whose sister he married.¹⁰ In 1624 they were purchased from Lord Forbes and his son by John Sinclair the son of George Sinclair of May.¹¹ In 1657 Sir William Sinclair of Canesbie baronet was served heir male and of conquest to his 'gudser brother' Sir John Sinclair of Dunbeith, immediate younger brother of Sir William Sinclair of Canesbie, in the lands and barony of Dunbeith, including the Maynes of Dunbeith, the town and lands of Ramsraigis, Ballinbroach with the mill, Auchachorne, Winackise, Anchiennachley, Brackathie, Lodubist, Houstre, Ballintanick, Auchabraill, Ballachely, and Innvie, with the fishings, lying in the sheriffdom of Inverness and the lately erected sheriffdom of Caithness, and the town of Innurie with its lands and tenements erected into a burgh of barony to be called the burgh of Magnusburgh, with a weekly market and fairs—all united into the barony of Dunbeith, of the old extent of £10.¹²

In 1451 there appears in record Robert of Suthirland the son and heir of John of Suthirland of Fors.¹³ In 1471 an inquest made in presence of John earl of Suthirland declared that the deceased Richard of Suthirland of Fors the father of the deceased John of Suthirland died last vest and seised in certain lands in the earldom of Suthirland.¹⁴ In 1538 King James V.

¹ Cawdor Charters.

² Acta Dom. Conc., p. 329.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 120.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii. no. 99.

⁵ *Ibid.*, lib. xxiii. no. 115. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 135.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 21.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. fol. 49.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 299, 330.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 389.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

¹³ Retours.

¹⁴ Fors Charters.

granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and Lady Margaret Keith his wife various lands in the earldom of Cathnes, including the half of the lands of Force and its castle.¹ In 1546 John earl of Sutherland gave seisin in certain lands in the lordship and earldom of Sutherland to Richard Sutherland of Fors as grandson and heir of the deceased John Sutherland of Fors.² On the forfeiture of Earl John in 1563 Queen Mary granted the same lands anew to William Sutherland of Fors and Jonet Sinclair his wife.³

There is a village at Lybster with a population of 400, and there are two yearly fairs held at Lybster, and two at Dunbeath.⁴

Before 1726 there was a strong bridge with an inn on the east end a little below the junction of the Langwell and the Berriedale, and at that period the banks of those streams had the best wood in the district.⁵

‘Upon a rock at the mouth of the water stands the castle of Berridale, to which they entered when in repair by a drawbridge, and the only entry to the bridge was so sloping from the top of a high brae that only two could go abreast. The entry was very dangerous, the sea being to the right hand and the water to the left, and the rock very high upon both sides, especially to the north.’⁶

‘Upon a rising ground a little above the place where the two waters (Langwell and Berriedale) joyn there is an antient fabrick, a part whereof stands yet. It was strongly built, and a deep ditch cast round it.’⁷ This appears to be the castle noticed by Pennant in 1769 as that of Ronald Chen.⁸ It seems identical also with Achaistal, a building ascribed to one John Beg a son of one of the earls of Sutherland.⁹

The castle of Dunbeath, we have seen, appears in record in the years 1439, 1464, 1494, and 1529.¹⁰ In 1650 it was surrendered to Montrose, but soon afterwards retaken by General Leslie.¹¹ A map of that period represents it as surrounded by a moat filled from the sea.¹² A writer in 1726 says, ‘The castle of Dunbeath, the residence of Sir James Sinclair of Dunbeath, stands upon a rock; the south point of it is always washen with the sea, and some parts of the east and west sides of it are also washen therewith.’¹³ It is still inhabited.¹⁴

There was a castle at Knockinman or Knockgrienen near Dunbeath.¹⁵

‘South west of the church upon the brink of this burn (Latheron) opposit to the house of Easter Latheron, *i. e.* on the west side, there stands a ruinous fabrick. Within it’s four square. but without the corners are round and the stones handsonly sett, tho’ there be no freestone in the whole fabrick. The east side stands directly upon a rock 10 fathom high.’¹⁶ Pennant says this building was called Harold’s Tower, and ascribed to one of the earls of that name.¹⁷

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146. See REAY, p. 745, and THURSO, p. 749.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ *Ibid.* Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxii. no. 393. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. fol. 2.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect.

⁶ *Ibid.* See also Pennant, vol. iii. p. 195, 1769.

⁷ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect.

⁸ Tour, vol. iii. p. 357.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 205. Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ See above, pp. 767, 768.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 552, 556.

¹² Blaeu’s Map.

¹³ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Blaeu. Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁶ Macfarlane.

¹⁷ Tour, vol. iii. p. 357.

Forse castle, we have seen, is noticed in 1538.¹ 'The house of Forse, from which the land of Forse is designed, and standing on a rock closs to the sea, is ruinous.'² 'The house of Nothingham, the residence of Sutherland laird of Forse stands a mile to the north and by east of the church.'³

There were castles also at Easter Clyth, Myd Clyth, and Swiney.⁴

In the parish were at one time numerous circular buildings, the most conspicuous of which appears to have been the Borge or Bourgh of Dunbeath, situated about a mile and a half from the castle.⁵

'A litle to the east of the burn of the Ord, which is the march (between Caithness and Sutherland), there is a pleasant green not called the Dunglass as high as the top of the rock. Since the heath has been burnt passengers who observe may see the vestige of a ditch digged up from the said Dun all along the top of the rock until it come to a burn near the top of the Ord called Altnudir, a small rivolet rising from the morasses about a mile above the top of the forsaid rock.'⁶ This seems to be Blaeu's 'Burgh of the Ord.'⁷

'Two miles to the east of the Ord coastways there is a very high rock called Craignaboth. At the foot of this rock stands the small high rock called the Man of the Ord.'⁸

'About 3 furlongs to the south of the house of Lathronwheel upon a rising ground there stands the beginning of a great fabrick. It is certain that it came never a much greater length than what is now seen of it. At the place designed for the entry to this great building there was a large broad casway begun, and it's reported that that casway was to be carryed on to the town of Thurso, which will be about 17 miles from it.'⁹ This causeway is evidently the same that is marked in maps of the seventeenth century as the Myre Causay, and as extending from the loch of Rannack or Rangag in this parish to Sordal Hill in Thurso.¹⁰ The Causaymire is mentioned as a line of road in use in the year 1796.¹¹

'On the face of a brae above the inlett of this burn (Risgil) there is a stone to which, as the natives tell, many frequented in the time of superstition. It's hollow where they sate, and on the back there is the figure of a cross tripled cutt out. Ther are some hollow places on both sides of it as if designed for the elbows.'¹²

'Betwixt midle Clyth and Easter Clyth, 5 miles to the E. N. E. of the church, there are a great many stones erected in a rank and order. The most remarkable of this kind are near the loch of Achkeanloch in a circular figure; 32 of them are yet standing; many are fallen and overgrown with earth.'¹³ The circle here noticed, which from the description would seem to lie on the coast, is noticed by Pennant in 1769 as situated at the loch of Stemster, some miles inland, and may still be seen at Achkenloch on its banks.¹⁴

¹ See above, p. 769.

² Macfarlane, 1726.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 356. Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Blaeu. Macfarlane. Pennant.

⁶ Macfarlane's Geog. Coll., 1726.

⁷ See Blaeu's Map.

⁸ Macfarlane, 1726.

¹⁰ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹¹ Old Stat. Acc.

¹² Macfarlane, 1726.

¹⁴ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 356. Modern Maps.

⁹ Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

WICK.

Wik¹ — Weik² — Wick.³ (Map, No. 16.)

THIS parish has a coast line about 30 miles in length, extending from Harril Head to Nibster, with an average breadth inland of 5 or 6 miles.⁴ Its rocky coast is indented by numerous creeks, locally named *goes*, such as Whalegoe, Redgoe, Ravengoe, Heathegoe, and Todgoe.⁵ Wick Bay and Broad Haven in the southern half of the coast are of rather larger dimensions, and the north half forms a large semicircular basin named Sinclair Bay.⁶ The surface is generally flat, the only elevations being those of Yarrows (or Yerous) and Camster in the south of the parish, to the north of which lies the strath of Stirkoke about 12 miles long and not more than 60 feet above the sea level.⁷ 'From Bruen to Thrumster,' says a writer in 1726, 'lies a tract of little mountains, commonly called the hills of Warsdill or Yarrow, which about ane hundred years agoe were all covered with wood.'⁸ There is a number of small lakes and streams, and the parish is nearly equally divided by the water of Wick flowing eastward and falling into Wick Bay.⁹

Wick appears to have been one of the six parishes reserved to the bishop by the charter of 1223-1245.¹⁰ In the year 1530 Master Andrew Petre vicar of Wik was one of those who, as we have seen, were concerned in the slaughter of William Sutherland of Dufhouse.¹¹ Between 1561 and 1566 the vicar of Weik was Master Andrew Grahame.¹² In 1567 and 1574 Andrew Philp was minister at Weik, and in 1576 the minister was Master Thomas Keir.¹³

The church, dedicated to Saint Fergus, is supposed to have stood originally at the east end of the town of Wick at a place styled Mount Halie.¹⁴ In 1726 it stood at the west end of the town, and had a steeple at its west end, and on the north two aisles named Sinclair's aisle and Dunbar's aisle, the respective burying-places of the earls of Caithness and of the Dunbars of Hempriggs.¹⁵ In 1588 or 1589 during an expedition of Alexander earl of Sutherland into Caithness John Mac-Gilchoim of Rasay who accompanied him found on entering the church a lead case enclosing the heart of George earl of Caithness who died in 1583, and according to Sir Robert Gordon 'threw the ashes with the wind.'¹⁶ In 1794 the church is described as a

¹ A. D. 1530. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 149*.

² A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1576. Ibid. A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 171.

³ A. D. 1630. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 196. A. D. 1642. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

⁴ New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

⁵ Old Stat. Acc.

⁶ County Maps.

⁷ New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

⁸ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁹ Maps. ¹⁰ See ДОБРОСН, pp. 601, 615.

¹¹ See THURSO, p. 752.

¹² Book of Assumptions.

¹³ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁶ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 177, 196.

‘very old, long, dark, and ill constructed building, perhaps the worst in Caithness.’¹ The two aisles are all that now remain of the old church of Saint Fergus.² A stone effigy, erroneously supposed to be that of the saint, and which in 1726 occupied a small recess in the north side near the east end of the church, has since been placed in the town jail.³ A new church was built in the end of the last century, and another in 1830, both apparently on a new site at the same end of the town.⁴

‘To the west of the town of Wick at a mile’s distance on the north side of the water stands an old chapple called Marykirk, which the commons did superstitiously frequent on the first sabbath after the new moon.’⁵ This is the chapel of Saint Mary at Sibster.⁶

‘One mile to the south west of the town of Wick stands the chappel of Hauster called St. Cuthbert’s church. The common people bury their dead about it.’⁷

‘At the head of Wick is the chapel of St. Ninian.’⁸

North from Wick on the southern shore of Sinclair Bay stood a chapel locally known as the chapel of Tears, Saint Tears, Saint Tayre, Saint Tay, or Saint Ere.⁹ It was ‘thought to be in remembrance of Innocent Day, the commons frequenting that chappell having their recreation and pastime on the third day of Christmass.’¹⁰ About the end of the fifteenth or the beginning of the sixteenth century, ‘after some dissention between the Kaithes and the Clangun, ther was a meitting appoynted for ther reconciliation at the chappell of St. Tair in Catteynes not farr from Girnego, wher they should meitt with twelve hors on either syd. The Cruener, then cheiftane of the Clangun, with the most pairt of his sones and principall kinsmen, came at the appoynted tyme to this chappell to the number of twelve; and, as they were within the cheappell at ther prayers, the laird of Innervgie and Aekrigill arryved ther with twelve hors and tuo men vpon everie hors. So these tuentie-four men rushed in at the door of the chappell and invaded the Cruener and his company at vnawars, who nevertheless made great resistance. In the end the Clangun wer slain, and the most pairt of the Kaithes also.’¹¹ On Innocents’ Day it was customary with the inhabitants even in very recent times to visit the chapel, and to leave there some bread and cheese and a silver coin, which they believed to disappear in a mysterious way.¹²

‘From the town of Wick to the north west stands Kilminster at tuo miles distance, wher of old stood the mansion house of the bishops of Cathness.’¹³ ‘It stands upon the east side of a great flow moss two miles large in breadth, and in the middle of it there is a chappell called

¹ Old Stat. Acc.

² New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 92. See also Pennant, vol. iii. p. 201, and the Old Stat. Acc.

³ Macfarlane. New Stat. Acc.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹² Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁵ Macfarlane, 1726.

⁶ New Stat. Acc.

⁷ Macfarlane. See also the New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 92. Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect. Pennant, vol. iii. pp. 201, 355. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect. Innocents’ Day (28th December) was also the day of Saint Theodore abbot of Tabenna. Saint Tears may be a corruption either of Saint Theodore or of the last two syllables of the Latin word *Innocentes*.

¹³ Macfarlane’s Geog. Collect. The writer in Macfarlane further informs us, that ‘that there is one remarkable story taken notice of by some of our historians, that the last bishop who resided there was boiled to death in a cauldron by the orders of the then earle of Cathness.’ This seems to be but a corrupt version of the story of Bishop Adam. See DORNOCH, p. 600, and HALKIRK, p. 761. Kilminster however belonged to the bishop of Caithness, and may have had a mansion-house. See *post*.

St. Dudoch's Kirk by the commons, of very difficult access any time of the year by reason of the flow.¹ The ruins of this chapel, now known as the Kirk of Moss, and believed to have been dedicated to Saint Duthace, stands in the middle of the moss of Kilminister (or Kilmister) on a piece of ground of 12 acres in extent, formerly cultivated, and approached by a causeway, of which traces are still visible.² Till recently the inhabitants of Mirelandorm in its neighbourhood were in the habit of visiting it before sunrise on Christmas, and leaving an offering similar to that left at the chapel of Saint Tears.³

Between the house of Ulbster and the sea is a chapel dedicated to Saint Martin, still entire, and in 1726 used as the burial place of the family of Ulbster, as it still continues to be.⁴

There were chapels also at Thrumster, at Keiss, and at Strubster, the dedication of which seems to be unknown.⁵

At the Reformation the teindsheaves of the parish of Weik were leased yearly for the sum of £196, 13s. 4d.⁶ The vicarage was at that time leased to John Keith captain of Akergill, for the payment of £40 yearly, and of £20 every third year as grassum.⁷ In 1567 the minister at Weik had for his stipend £80.⁸ In 1574 the minister at Weik and Lathroun had £80 and the kirkland, and the reader at Weik 20 marks.⁹ In 1576 the minister at Weik had £86, 13s. and apparently other perquisites, and the reader had 'the hiall vicarage of Weik vacand,' £40.¹⁰

Between the years 1390 and 1406 King Robert III. granted in heritage to Neill Sutherland the town of Auldwick in Caithness with a burgh of barony.¹¹ In 1497 King James IV., as we have seen, granted the lands of Beredaill and Aldwik in heritage to George Oliphant the son and apparent heir of William Oliphant and his wife Cristina Suthirland lady of Duffous, with remainder to Charles Oliphant the brother of George, and to the heirs whomsoever of William and Cristina.¹² In 1526 Andrew Oliphant of Berredale sold the same lands with the advowson of their churches and chapels to his uncle Laurence Lord Oliphant, to whom King James V. then granted a crown charter of the lands.¹³ In 1538 that king granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and Lady Margaret Keith his wife, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, the half of certain lands and baronies in the earldom of Cathnes, including the half of the half of the lands of Akergill with the tower and other pertinents, the half of the half of Reise, the half of the half of Subister, the half of the fourth of Myrelandorne, the half of the half of Westlister, the half of the half of Harland and the mill of Auldwik, with the half of the fourth of the water of Wik and fishings of the same, and the half of the half of the lands of Vibister, all resigned by Elizabeth Keith the sister of Margaret and the niece and one of the heirs of the deceased Sir William Keith of Innergy, and with lands in Moray and Banf united into the

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

² New Stat. Acc.

³ Macfarlane. New Stat. Acc.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Register of Ministers.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Book of Assignations.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Rob. Index, p. 137, no. 2.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xiii. no. 282. See LATHERON, p. 764.

¹² See LATHERON, pp. 764, 765.

barony of Innerugy.¹ In 1540 the same king granted to Henry Kempt of Thomastoun the dues of the lands of Auldwick and Beridale which belonged to the deceased Andrew Oliphant of Beridale and in the king's hands since his decease.² In 1541 he granted in heritage to Alexander Innes, the son of the deceased Alexander Innes of that ilk, assignee of the deceased William earl of Erol, two thirds of the lands of Vlbister, paying yearly 44s., two thirds of 4 muttons or 8s., 12 poultry or 2s., two thirds of 4 *auce* or 2s.; two thirds of Camster, paying 8s. 10½d., and 2 firlots of oats or 2s. 1d.; two thirds of Thrumbister, paying £5, 2s. 6d.; two thirds of Sarelet, paying £3, 15s.; two thirds of Humbister, 8s. 10d.; two thirds of the Newtown of Auldweik, 47s. 1d., two thirds of the Mylntoun of Auldweik, 34s. 10d.; two thirds of Stemmistar, £3, 4s. 4d.; two thirds of the mill of Mylntoun, £5; two thirds of Furesetter, 48s. 4d.; two thirds of Ouir Bulbistar, £3, 10s. 4d.; and two thirds of Nethir Bulbistar, £9, 19s. — which with certain lands in Latheron and elsewhere belonged to Margaret, Katherine, and Helen, the daughters and heiresses of the deceased Andrew Oliphant of Beridall, the heir and successor of the deceased Cristina Suthirland Lady Beridall, the heiress and successor of the deceased Sir Alexander Suthirland of Duffous her great grandfather; which were held of the king in chief by service of ward and relief; and which in order to satisfy for the marriage of the said Cristina had been appraised to Alexander Innes for 3500 (or 4500) marks, and for the sum of £116 as the fee of the appraising sheriff James Johnstoun, for which latter sum the persons holding the lands appraised to the sheriff two thirds of the mill of Thericie yielding yearly £5, 16s. from the lands of Mylntoun of Auldweik — with reversion to Margaret, Katherine, and Helen Oliphant on paying the above sums within seven years.³ In 1542 King James again granted to Henry Kempt of Thomastoun the ward, nonentry, and relief of the lands of Aldwik and Beridale which belonged to the deceased Andrew Oliphant.⁴ In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Lawrence the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant the ward and nonentry of the lands of Auldweik and Brydall, Campbuster, Sareleith, Vlbuster, Thrumbuster, Stambuster, Hasbuster, Thuresetter, Nethir Bulbuster, Ovir Bulbuster, Aikirgyll, Reis, Harland, Wesbuster, Myrellandnorne, and the town of Wik with the fourth of the salmon fishings, and other lands, all in the earldom of Cathnes and sberiffdom of Innernes, and in the queen's hands or in those of her predecessors since the decease of Rannald Lord Schen or any other possessor.⁵ In 1552 or 1553 the lands of Auldweik with the two mills, Cambustar, Sarcleytht, Wlbuster, Thrumbustar, Stambustar, Hasbuster, Thuresetter, Nethir Bulbuster, Ovir Bulbuster, and others, which were in the hands of Queen Mary or her predecessors for 120 years by reason of nonentry, were appraised to the same Laurence Oliphant for the sums of £7157, 6s. 8d. and £3000, respectively paid in lieu of certain sums as part payment of those contained in a decree of the Lords of Council (being apparently the dues of the lands for the above 120 years).⁶ In 1555 Queen Mary granted to William Oliphant of Neutoun the escheat of all the goods that belonged to Gormak Ferquher-

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 54.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 91. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. ff. 39, 40.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 73.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 22.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 177. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 45.

soun in Thrubuster, Alexander Gormaksoun or Jamesoun there, and Johne Gormoksoun or Jamesoun in Humbuster, fugitives from law.¹ In 1604 and 1605 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir to Lord Laurence his grandfather in the lands of Auldweik, Berydail, and others in the earldom of Caithnes and sheriffdom of Invernes, of the old extent of £30.² In 1614 James Williamsonsoun or Johnsoune was served heir to his father James Johnstone in 3 fourths or farthing-lands (*quadrantis*) of the lands of Ulbuster in the barony of Hasbuster in Cathanes, of old in Inverness, of the old extent of 3s. 4d.³ In 1640 Patrick Sinclair was served heir to Master John Sinclair of Wobuster his father in the town and lands of Ulbuster of old extending to 6 pennylands, with the pendicles, namely, the fields of Watnen, Borroustoun, Quhalogw, with the fishing of the port and the corfhous of the same, the lake of Watnen, the mill-loch and fishings of the same lands, the mill of Ulbuster, and certain tenements in Weik, together of the extent of 18 shillings.⁴ In 1644 George earl of Caithnes, Lord Sinclair of Berriedaill, was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in the earldom of Caithnes, including the lands of Auldweik, the two mills of Auldweik, the lands of Cambuster, Sarcailthe, Ulbester, Thurissetter, Thrubuster, Stambuster, Halbester, and Nethir Balbester—the 6 pennylands of Knappo (Papigo ?), namely, the half of Aikergill, the half of Reis, the half of Wester, the half of Harland, with 2 pennylands in Weik and the fourth of the water and salmon fishing of the same, the mill of Gillak, and 2 pennylands in Myrelandnorne, with the mills and fishings, formerly in the sheriffdom of Inverness—and the half of the lands of Aikergill with the advowson of the parish church of Dunatt, the half of the lands of Reis, the lands of Subuster, the fourth of Myrelandnorne with the half of Wastbuster, the half of the lands of Harland and the mill of Auldweick, 2 pennylands in the town of Weik with part of the water of Weik and fishing of the same, and the half of the lands of Ulbuster, all within the diocese of Caithnes.⁵

In 1455, as we have seen, Bishop William granted to his brother Gilbert Mudy with the castles of Scrabster and Skelbo certain lands in Caithness, including 9 pennylands in the territory and lordship of Weke.⁶ In 1557 Bishop Robert, with the consent of the dean and chapter, for certain sums paid and favours granted by John earl of Suthirland, granted in heritage to him and his wife Elenour countess of Errol certain lands in Suthirland and Cathanes, including the 10 pennylands of Weik, Canzeouchquyis, Bischopisquyis, North Killummister, South Killummister, and the mill of Wyndeles with 3 *lie ottunmis* in Myrelandnorne then in the hands of Master Thomas Brody (or Brady) pensionary of Wattin—the grantee paying yearly for the 10 pennylands of Weik £6, 13s. 4d. ferme, £3, 6s. 8d. grassum, 2 'vnset martis' (*martas emptas*) at 16s. 8d., 20 capons at 6d., 20 poultry and 5 halkhens at 2d., 5 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 80 sheaves of oats at 1d., 80 hallows of straw at 1½d., 16d. huik siluir, and 10s. pleuch siluir, in all £14, 16s. 4d.; Kennochquyis 20s.; Bischopisquyis 20s.; Northkilmister £6 ferme, £6 grassum, 9 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 144 sheaves of oats at 1d., 144 hallows of straw at 1½d., 36 capons at 6d., 36 poultry and 6 halkhens at 2d., 12s. pleuch

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxvii. no. 135.

² Retours. About this period Caithness was made a separate sheriffdom. Certain notices therefore of an

earlier date, given above, erroneously mention the sheriffdom of Caithness. ³ Retours. ⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

siluer, 2s. huik siluer, and 3 vnset martis at 16s. 8d., in all £19, 16s. 6d.; Southkilmister £6 ferme, £6 grassun, 9 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 36 capons at 6d., 36 poultry and 6 hens at 2d., 144 sheaves of oats at 1d., 144 hallows of straw at 1½d., 15s. 9d. pleuch siluer, 2s. huik siluer, and 3 vnset martis at 16s. 8d., in all £20, 0s. 3d.; the mill of Wyndeles 12 bolls victnal at 8s. 4d., in all £5 Scots; and for the *lie ottumms* 6d.¹ In 1560 the bishop renewed the grant.² In 1564 the same bishop admitted Alexander Gordoun master of Suthirland hereditary tenant of the same lands.³ At the same period some of the above lands are given in the bishop's rental as follows—Tenpennyland in Weik with Bischopisqwys and Canisqwys, £16, 6s. 4d.; North Kilmister, £19, 16s. 8d.; the mill of Vindleis, £5; the three *ottomis* in Nethirlanduorne, 5 shillings.⁴ In 1601 the 10 pennylands of Weik and Papigo with the crofts called the Bischopis Quoyis and Kenzeochis Quoyis, with the other crofts there and the tenements in the town of Weik and the superiority of the same, and the lands of Southkilmister and Northkilmister with the mill of Wyndles and the three 'ottonnyrlandis' in Myrelandmoir, with the teindsheaves of all those lands, were annexed to the earldom of Sutherland then granted anew to Earl John by King James VI.⁵

In 1456 Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath bequeathed to the children of the earl of Caithness and Orkney by Marjory Sutherland his daughter the wadset which he had of the lands of Noss and Turbuster.⁶ In 1527 King James V. granted to John earl of Caithness and his wife Elizabeth Suthirland the liferent of the lands of Keisstane and Rowdale (or Keis, Stane, and Rowdale) in the earldom of Caithnes and sheriffdom of Innernys, which with the other lands of the earldom had been resigned by the earl and granted to William Sinclair his son and apparent heir.⁷ In 1539 the same king granted to Elizabeth Suthirland countess of Cathnes, for her good service and for certain sums of money paid to his treasurer, certain lands in the earldom formerly belonging to William earl of Cathnes, and appraised in the hands of King James IV. for £400, including the lands of Nos.⁸ In 1546 Queen Mary granted to the same countess regress to the lands of Noss and Qwiestoun in the lordslup and sheriffdom of Cathanes, alienated under reversion to Hugh Kennedy of Girvanmanis.⁹ In 1548 the same Hugh sold the lands of Noss and Quyestane to Master James Makgill burgess of Edinburgh and his wife Jonet Adamsonn, to whom in the same year Queen Mary granted a crown charter of the lands.¹⁰

In 1545 (1 October) Queen Mary granted to Elizabeth Grahame the wife of George earl of Cathnes the liferent of certain lands in that earldom, including the lands of Telstane with the mill, and the lands of Thrombuster Litill, resigned by the earl.¹¹ On 2 October the queen

¹ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, p. 610.

² *Ibid.* Protocol Book of William Gray.

³ *Ibid.* See DORNOCH, p. 613.

⁴ Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCH, pp. 614, 615.

⁵ *Ibid.* 'Ane quoyland or outbrek is ane peece of land newly win without the dykis, and payis no scatt.' Peterkin's Rentals of Orkney, no. ii. p. 2. An 'otom' may possibly be the same with a 'tumall,' which is thus defined—'Ane tumall is ane peece land whiche

wes quoyland, bot now enclosed within the dykis.' *Ibid.* ⁶ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 42. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 72; vol. vii. fol. 81.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 328.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xx. fol. 70.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 437.

¹¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 271. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 40.

granted the earldom to John Sinclair, the son and apparent heir of Earl George, reserving to the earl the liferent of the whole, and to his countess Elizabeth Grahame the liferent of the lands granted to her on 1 October.¹

Between the years 1142 and 1149 Rognvald earl of Orkney went into Katanes, and was there entertained at Vik by a husbandman named Sveinn the son of Hroald a very brave man.² When Sveinn Asleifson was in the Hebrides, he committed the keeping of Dungulsbae, which he had received from Earl Rognvald, to Margad Grimson, whose oppressions caused many to take refuge with Hroald in Wik.³ This occasioned a dispute between Hroald and Margad, and the latter soon afterwards went to Wik with nineteen men and slew Hroald.⁴ Between the years 1153 and 1156 Harald Maddadson, then joint earl of Katanes and Orkney with Earl Rognvald, passed into Katanes and wintered at Wik.⁵ The town of Auldwick, as we have seen, was made a burgh of barony by King Robert III. between 1390 and 1406.⁶ There seems to be no farther notice of the town of Wick in history till the year 1503, in which the Scottish parliament ordained that a sheriff should be appointed and called the sheriff of Catnes, to have jurisdiction in the whole diocese, and to sit in Dornok or in Wik as the case might require.⁷ In 1509 King James IV. appointed Alexander earl of Huntlye sheriff of the whole sheriffdom of Innernys, and courts to be held in Weik or Dorno for the district of Cathnes.⁸ The town of Weik, as we have seen, appears in record in 1538 and 1549.⁹ In 1575 Alexander Sutherland vicar of Spynie in Moray had seisin on a charter of the bishop of Caithness in the bishop's waste tenement on the east of the town of Wik.¹⁰ In 1589 Alexander earl of Sutherland in an expedition against George earl of Caithness burned the town of Wick.¹¹ In the same year King James VI. erected the town into a royal burgh in favour of the same earl of Caithness.¹² 'About this tyme Gilbert Gray of Skibo was arrested and warded at Edinburgh the yeir of God 1589 at the instance of one Andrew Wardlaw a merchant, who had his ship spoiled and his goods taken from him in the town of Weik, when the earl of Southerland went into Catteynes with his army; bot after tryell and examination Gilbert Gray was fred and cleired from his clame, and so had libertie to returne home into Southerland.'¹³ In 1623 Sir Robert Gordon, after visiting Castle Sinclair with his army, 'returned in battell aray to the town of Weik, wher the commissioners did consult together, and ther did lay doun a setled course with instructions and warrands to the Lord Berridell, how that the province might in tym coming be peceably governed in obedience to his Majestie's lawes.'¹⁴ In 1640 Patrick Sinclair was served heir to his father Master John Sinclair of Wolbuster in a tenement in Weik called Swansone tenement, and a tenement in Weik

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 272. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxix. ff. 33, 34.

² Ork. Saga, p. 241. Torf., lib. i. c. 27. Vik or Viig signifies a large bay. The name may indicate the *farm* or lands of Wick, the *town* of Wick, or the *castle* of Old Wick. In the text it is used as applicable to the town.

³ Ork. Saga, p. 249. Torf., lib. i. c. 29.

⁴ *Ibid.* For the sequel of these events see CANNIS-BAY *post*.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 329. Torf., lib. i. c. 32.

⁶ See above, p. 773.

⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. pp. 242, 249, 250. This act was never carried into effect.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xv. no. 63. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. iii. fol. 204.

⁹ See above, pp. 773, 774.

¹⁰ Protocol Book of William Gray.

¹¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 196.

¹² Old Stat. Acc.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 200.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 380.

called Greives tenement, of old in the sheriffdom of Invernes.¹ A writer in 1726 observes, 'The burgh of Wick, a small town of little trade, lyes on the east end of the church and north side of the water where it runs into the sea, and before it is a bay formed more than a mile in breadth between the Head of Wick on the north and the Head of Old Wick on the south, with a harbour at the end of the town to which ships of between 20 and 30 last burden can come in safely.'² 'There is,' says the same authority, 'a bridge at the town of Wick for the convenience of the parish of eleven pillars built with loose stones, and only timber laid over them. They are maintained by the south side of the parish for carrying them to the church, the water being broad there by the swelling of the tide.'³ In modern times Wick has become a place of some importance from its extensive trade in herrings.⁴

Fairs are held at Kilminster on the first Tuesday of March, at Wick (Wick Market) on the first Tuesday after Palm Sunday, at Wick (Wick Fair) in June, at Hill of Wick (Margaretmass) on Tuesday after 20 July, and at Wick (Fergusmas) in the end of November.⁵

Other terms used in the parish are Colmsmas (20 June), Petermas (29 June old style), Georgemas (15 July old style), Marymas (15 August old style), Lukemas (first Tuesday of October old style), Magnusmas (first Tuesday of December old style), and Tustimas (perhaps Drostanmas, fourth Tuesday of November old style).⁶

The tower or castle of Akergill, as we have seen, was in 1538 granted with the half of the lands to William Earl Marischal and Lady Margaret Keith his wife.⁷ In 1547 Queen Mary granted a remission to George earl of Cathnes, David Sinclair in Thurso, Master William Sinclair, Thomas Sinclair the son of David, James Sinclair, Patrick Sinclair, William Hay, Berrald Hay, John Grot, William Crukschank elder, William Crukschank younger, William Innes, George Suthirland, Master Thomas Braddie, Mwrquhow Patersoun, William Mansoun, Henry Mansoun, Thomas Mansoun, Donald Maleumsoun, Edward Ollasoun, Thomas Donaldsoun, Thomas Gillis, Alexander Mowat, Andrew Smyth, John M'Callane, Thomas Lesk, Alexander Suthirland in Caunast, Robert Williamsoun there, Ferquhard Warris there, William Suthirland in Bulbuster, William Suthirland his son there, Donald Suthirland there, William Poilsoun there, Donald Fowllar there, Alexander Fowllar there, William Suthirland in Myltoun of Weik, Andrew Suthirland in Wedderclet, Ferquhard Alexandersoun there, William Ferquharsoun there, Alexander Ferquharsoun there, Robert Ferquharsoun there, Alexander Guld in Eistir Clythit, Ailleis Neclasson and Kenzacht Poilsoun there, Cormac Ferquharsoun in Thruwamster (or Thrulbamster), William Johnnsoun there, Thomas Tailzeour there, Thomas Suthirland in Wlbuster, Henry Suthirland there, Magnus Ferquharsoun there, Ferquhard Kenzeachtoun there, James Patersoun there, William Bwnache, Alexander Neilson in Papygo, Hugh Grot there, Hugh Pypar in Weik, Andrew Bayne in Bylbustir, Alexander Bayne there, John Suthirland there, David Suthirland there, and Adam Fraser in Noss, for their treasonable taking and holding of the castle, house, and place of Akirgill, belonging to William Earl

¹ Retours.² Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.⁵ New Stat. Acc.³ Ibid.⁶ Ibid. Saint Drostan's day is 14 December.⁴ Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide.⁷ See above, p. 773.

Marischal and Elizabeth Keith his wife, and for their treasonable taking of Alexander Keith captain of the castle, and of John Skarlet his servitor, and detaining of them against their will in the place of Girnigo, in Brawall, and in other places.¹ In 1556 the same earl had a remission from Queen Mary for various crimes, including the besieging of the house and fortalice of Akirgill belonging to William earl of Marchcall, and the expelling of John Searlet the keeper and placing his own servants therein.² Between 1561 and 1566 John Keith was captain of Akergill.³ In the expedition of Sir Robert Gordon in 1623 against George earl of Caithness the castle of Acrigill, which had been strengthened and provisioned by the earl, was at once surrendered to Sir Robert.⁴ A writer in 1726 says that Akergill was then 'a strong house and yet in repair,' and that 'betwixt that and the sea is a good new house lately built, both now belonging to the family of Hempriggs.'⁵ The tower, a rectangle 82 feet high with walls 13 feet in thickness, is in repair and inhabited.⁶

The castle of Girnigo, we have seen, is noticed in 1547 as one of the places in which George earl of Caithness confined the captain of Akergill.⁷ In 1556 Queen Mary granted to that earl a remission for being art and part in the murder of certain persons by his servants in a boat loaded with victual opposite the place of Girnigo; for carrying the victual to Girnigo and sinking the boat; for the murder of Sir John Symson by a servant of the earl; for the slaughter of Hugh Neilsoun in Strathvlze through his counsel; for besieging the house of Akerkill (as noticed above); for imprisoning in Girnigo Alexander Keith the queen's free liege; for imprisoning there also his brother David Sinclair the bailie of the bishop of Caithness; for joining with Andrew Sutherland younger of Clyne, Andrew Sutherland the son of William Sutherland of Bulbister, and others, in the slaughter of William Murray captain of the queen's house of Barrow; for the slaughter of William Auld in Searmelet; and for violently seizing on the fourth of the salmon fishing of the water of Thurso, belonging to Laurence Lord Oliphant, in 1553, 1554, 1555, and 1556, and withholding from him the whole of the fish amounting to 3 lasts yearly at £100 per last.⁸ In 1571 George earl of Caithness, on a suspicion that his son John the master was plotting his death, imprisoned him in Girnigo, 'wher he wes keiped in miserable captivitie for the space of seaven yeirs, and died at last in prissone by famine and vermine as a disasterous subject of a cruell fortune.'⁹ About the year 1578 the same earl imprisoned in Girnigo Houcheon and William Macky the sons of Y Macky of Strathnaver.¹⁰ In 1589 Earl George, the son of John the master who died in Girnigo, and the successor of his grandfather Earl George, shut himself up in that castle which he had prepared for a long siege, but through the mediation of some friends Alexander earl of Sutherland, then in Caithness with an army, withdrew his forces from the country.¹¹ In 1595, while Earl George hospitably entertained Earl Alexander at Girnigo, he treacherously despatched men into Sutherland to kill a servant of the latter.¹² In 1611 Houcheon

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 27.

² Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 394*. See *post*.

³ Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 379.

⁵ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ See above.

⁸ Pitcairn, vol. i. pp. 394*, 395*.

⁹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 163, 164.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 179. ¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 197. ¹² *Ibid.*, p. 233.

and William Macky, formerly prisoners in Girnigo, spent Christmas there with Earl George as his guests.¹ In 1612 William Mack-Angus Rory, a Strathnaver man and servant to Earl George, after committing various injuries on the inhabitants at the earl's desire, thought fit to steal from the earl himself.² Being apprehended in Tavn for some theft committed there, and lodged in Fowlis castle, he escaped; but being again apprehended he was delivered to Earl George, who imprisoned him in Girnigo.³ He escaped from that by leaping into the sea, and the earl's son William Lord Berridell, being sent in pursuit, failed to find him, but apprehended a servant of Macky of Strathnaver named Angus Herriagh, who he supposed had helped the other to escape, and carried him prisoner to Girnigo.⁴ This man was released after an appeal to the Lords of Council.⁵ In 1623 the castle of Girnigo was surrendered to Sir Robert Gordon on his expedition against the earl of Caithness.⁶ About that period the castle began to be known as Castle Sinclair.⁷ Subsequently another castle was built almost close to the former on the land side, which came to be designated Castle Sinclair, the older one retaining the old name Girnigo.⁸ Blaeu about 1640 marks the castle as 'Girnigho or Groengho, now called Castell Sincleer.'⁹ A writer in 1726 says, 'To the north east of the town two miles stand the houses of Castle Sinclair and Girnigoe, both now in ruins, but were of old the mansion houses of the earle of Cathnesse. They are situate on two rocks washen below by the sea and joynd to the land by a narrow passe above. The communication between them hath been by a drawbridge.'¹⁰ The ruins are still known as castles Sinclair and Girnigoe.¹¹

The castle of Old Wick, once the seat of the Oliphants, and whose ruins are now known to sailors as the Old Man of Wick, is a tower of three stories with remains of other buildings, built on a high peninsular rock at the south head of the bay of Wick, and defended on the land side by a deep ditch.¹²

There were castles or mansion-houses also at Keiss, Hempriggs, Thrumpter, Hempster, Bilster, Thurster, and Ulster.¹³

In the south of the parish are several of those circular buildings known as Picts' houses.¹⁴

There are cairns in the parish, one of which between Wick and Papigoe is known as Elsher's cairn or Earl Alexander's Hillock.¹⁵

At Hempriggs is a place called the Burgh of Hempriggs, probably an old hill fort.¹⁶

A ruin called Toffterry is traditionally said to be the remains of the first stone house built in Keiss, and one of the first three built in the parish, the other two being at Harland and Hauster.¹⁷

On the links of Keiss are two ruins covered with sand called the Birkle Hills, of a conical form and 35 feet in height, and said to be the remains of two castles named Linglass, to have had a village connected with them, and to have been destroyed by fire.¹⁸

¹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 267.

² *Ibid.*, p. 280.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 281.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 379.

⁷ *Ibid.* See also the above references.

⁸ See the following references.

⁹ Blaeu's Map.

¹⁰ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹¹ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹² Blaeu. Macfarlane. Pennant. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

¹³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 379. Macfarlane. Pennant. Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁶ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.* Were these glass-houses?

Near Thrumster is a standing stone, which is locally fancied to mark the grave of the Maiden of Norway, who died in Orkney.¹

A stone in the burying-ground at Ulbster, indistinctly sculptured, is said to mark the grave of a Danish princess who was married to a progenitor of the Clangun, and who having reached the coast of Caithness with her husband was drowned near a rock named the Lechan Ore.²

In 1680 a skirmish took place at Aultnamarlich near Wick between Lord Glenorechy and George Sinclair, the latter either earl of Caithness or claiming that title.³

W A T T E N .

Watne⁴ — Wattin⁵ — Vattin⁶ — Wattine.⁷ (Map, No. 17.)

THIS is an inland parish, forming the valley of the upper part of the river Wick.⁸ Its surface is either level or gently undulating, and it is watered by Loch Watten and Loch Toftingall and numerous tributaries of the Wick.⁹ In 1726 there was no wood in the parish, 'except some shrubs on a small hill at Skowthell.'¹⁰

The church of Watne, as we have seen, was one of two assigned by Bishop Gilbert between 1223 and 1245 to the archdeacon of Cathanes.¹¹ In the sixteenth century it was served by a vicar pensionary, who from the year 1554 till the Reformation was Master Thomas Brydy, Brady, or Brody, also prebendary of Ilchmisdaill.¹² In 1569 the same Master Thomas was exhorter at Wattine; in 1574 he was minister at Halkirk, Skenand, and Wattin; and in 1580 he again appears as prebendary of Helmsdaill.¹³ In 1633 William Lord Sinclair of Berridaill granted to Sir George Hamiltoun of Blaikburne the patronage of the church of Wattine and others, and the grant was confirmed by King Charles I.¹⁴ In 1644 George earl of Caithness, Lord Sinclair of Berridaill, was served heir male to his father John master of Berridaill in the patronage of the same churches.¹⁵

The church appears always to have stood on the site of the present, which is somewhat old, on the north side of Loch Watten 'on the king's high way betwixt Wick and Thurso.'¹⁶

¹ New Stat. Acc. ² Old and New Stat. Acc.

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 356. Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

⁵ A. D. 1554. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1557.

Ibid. A. D. 1560. Protocol Book of William Gray.

A. D. 1562. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1566. Ibid.

A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1640.

MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Retours.

⁶ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁷ A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1633.

Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 154.

⁸ County Maps.

⁹ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁰ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹¹ See DORNOCH, p. 602.

¹² Sutherland Charters. Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations. See DORNOCH, p. 624, and LOTN, p. 731.

¹³ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations. Sutherland Charters.

¹⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. fol. 154.

¹⁵ Retours.

¹⁶ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. Old and New Stat. Acc. County Maps. The present high road runs on the south of Loch Watten.

There was a chapel with a cemetery at North Dun, in 1726 the burial-place of Sinclair of Dun and other parishioners of Watten.¹

'There is another chappell that is ruinous before our time (1726) in Skowthell called the Clea, belonging to David Sinclair of South Dun. They only bury strangers and unbaptized children there.'²

At the Reformation the following account of the teinds of Watten for the crop 1561 was given in to the collector of thirds—'The paroshin of Vattin. Vattin xxviii bollis in the pensionaris hands for serving of the cuire; Cogill and Gers xi bollis; Lynekirk xii bollis; Billbuster xx bollis; Nedderseuddaill xviii bollis; Oversendaill with the pendicles xvi bollis; Monsarie, Kansarie, and the Rowenes, vi bollis; Toftingaill viii bollis; Waistbustar xx bollis; Dwne xl bollis.'³ The vicarages of Bower and Watten at the same period were together valued at £40.⁴ About 1569 Master Thomas Brodie as exhorter had for his stipend 40 marks, the third of his 'pensionrie' extending to 9 bolls 1 firlo 1 peck of bear, and the third of the chaplainry of Helmysdaill extending to 10 marks.⁵ In 1574, as minister of Halkirk, Skenand, and Wattin, he had £64, 11s. 1½d. with other perquisites; and Mathew Murray reader at Wattin had £17, 6s. 8d. and the kirkland.⁶

In 1452, as we have seen, King James II. granted in heritage to Admiral Sir George Crechtoun of Carnis certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes resigned by Sir James Crechtoun of Frendraucht the king's chamberlain, and his wife, including the lands of Watyn.⁷ In 1527 King James V. granted in liferent to John earl of Caithnes and Elizabeth Sutherland his wife, and in heritage to William Sinclair the earl's son and apparent heir, the lands of the earldom, including certain lands of which the countess had conjunct infestment with her husband, and among these the lands of Wattyn and Bylebyster and the mill of Skowdale.⁸

In 1538 King James V. granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and his wife Lady Margaret Keith, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes and sheriffdom of Innernys, resigned by Elizabeth Keith the sister of the countess Marischal, and including the half of the lands of Lynaker, the half of Congilfute, and the half of 7 pennylands in the town of Dune.⁹ In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Lawrence Oliphant the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant the ward and nonentry of certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes, including the lands of Dune.¹⁰ In 1552 or 1553 the same lands were appraised in favour of the same Laurence Oliphant.¹¹ Between 1561 and 1566 David Sinclair of Dune appears in record.¹² In 1604 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir to his grandfather Lord Laurence in the same lands.¹³ In 1644 George earl of Caithnes, Lord Sinclair of

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 368.

² Macfarlane.

³ Book of Assumptions.

⁴ Ibid. For the whole rental of the archdeaconry see DORNOCH, p. 626.

⁵ Register of Ministers.

⁶ Book of Assignations.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv. no. 274, 275. See LATHERON, p. 767.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 42. See CANNISEAY *post*.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146.

¹⁰ Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. xxiii. fol. 22. See LATHERON, p. 766.

¹¹ See LATHERON, p. 766.

¹² Book of Assumptions. ¹³ Retours.

Berriedaill, was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in the lands of the earldom of Caithnes, including the lands of Doune, Lynaiker, and Congillfoot.¹

In the parish are held the fair of Roodsmas on the first Tuesday of May old style; another fair of the same name on the third Tuesday of September old style; Wester Market on the last Tuesday of October; Magnusmas on the last Tuesday of December; and cattle trysts on the first Monday of July, August, and September.²

At Stenhouse near the church is said to be the grave of Liot earl of Orkney.³

In the parish are numerous remains of the circular buildings known as Picts' houses.⁴

B O W E R .

Bouer⁵ — Boware⁶ — Bowar⁷ — Bauar⁸ — Bowair⁹ — Boward¹⁰ — Boor.¹¹
(Map, No. 18.)

THIS parish is entirely inland, and is in shape an irregular oblong of about 10 miles in length and 3 or 4 in breadth, having near its west end the loch of Searinlet, and in its east end the loch of Alterwall.¹² It is in general flat, rising a little towards both the north and the south, and is crossed about the middle by a ridge of green hills, which afterwards taking an easterly direction form a part of its southern boundary.¹³

Bouer, as we have seen, was one of the two churches assigned to the archdeacon of Cathanes on the institution of the chapter between 1223 and 1245.¹⁴ In the year 1542 King James V. granted to Malcolm Mowat of Brabistermyre the escheat of all the property belonging to the deceased Sir William Angusson vicar pensionary of Boware, who died illegitimate.¹⁵ In 1570 and 1574 the church was served by a reader.¹⁶ In 1633 William Lord Sinclar of Berridaill granted the patronage of Boward and Wattine and others to Sir George Hamiltoun of Blaikburne, and King Charles I. confirmed the grant.¹⁷ In 1644 George earl of Caithnes was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in the advowson of the same churches, included in the earldom.¹⁸

¹ Retours.

² New Stat. Acc. The fairs of Roodsmas evidently correspond with the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross (3 May) and the feast of the Exaltation (14 September). The others are not readily identified with any of the usual festivals.

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 368. See CANNISBAY *post*.

⁴ New Stat. Acc.

⁵ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

⁶ A. D. 1542. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 89.

⁷ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1570. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of

Assignations. A. D. 1620. Retours. A. D. 1644. *Ibid*.

⁸ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions.

⁹ A. D. 1561-1566. *Ibid*.

¹⁰ A. D. 1633. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 154.

¹¹ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu.

¹² County Maps.

¹³ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ See DORNOCH, p. 602.

¹⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 89.

¹⁶ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v. p. 154.

¹⁸ Retours.

The church seems to have always stood as at present about the centre of the parish.¹ About 2 miles eastward on the border of the parish is a place marked by Blaeu as Kirek, and still apparently bearing that name.²

There was a chapel at Scarmlet, ruinous in 1726, and at that time tradition assigned Lyth as the site of another of which no vestige remained.³

The valuation of the teinds of Bowar for the year 1561 was as follows — Claok 6 bolls, Scarmalat 2 chalders, Guilshfeild and Laroll 3 bolls, Stampstar 22 bolls, Tusbustar with the pertinents 20 bolls, Brabustar 2 chalders, Bowartour 18 bolls, Hawero 7 bolls, the Lwnd and Bowar 'in the curatis fie of Bowar' 12 bolls, Bowarmadin 24 bolls, Altervail 9 bolls, Lyth with the pendicles 37 bolls, Stanestall 18 bolls.⁴ The vicarages of Bower and Watten, as we have seen, together amounted to £40.⁵ In 1570 John Andersone reader at Bowar had for his stipend £20, and in 1574 he had £16, the kirkland, and other perquisites.⁶

In 1455 the markland of Alterwell was included in the 10 marklands in Caithness granted by William bishop of Caithness to his brother Gilbert Mudy with the keeping of the castles of Scrabestoun and Skelbole.⁷ In 1559 the lands of Alterwall and the 3½ pennylands of Stanthestell were, as we have seen, granted by Bishop Robert with the other lands of the bishoprick to John earl of Sutherland and his wife Helen Stewart countess of Arroll, and extended yearly as follows — Alterwall to £5, 6s. 8d. Scots in ferme and grassum and 2s. pleuch siluer, in all £5, 8s. 8d.; and Stanstill, otherwise granted in feufferme to William Davidsoun, 46s. Scots, 7 capons at 4d. each, 7 poultry and 1 halkhen at 2d., 7 firlots of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 28 sheaves of oats at a penny, 8 hallows of straw at 1½d., 3s. 6d. pleweh siluer, 3d. hwik siluer, 1¾d. 'lie gersum mart' at 30s., in all £6, 9s. 0½d. old ferme.⁸ Between 1561 and 1566 the lands of Stansall were given in to the collector of thirds at £9; Lyth at £9; and Atterdail (Alterwall) at £5, 8s. 8d.⁹ In 1577 David Bruce of Standsell had seisin on a charter by the earl of Sutherland (Alexander) in the 3½ pennylands of Standsell, and in the hereditary office of keeper of the island and lake of Alterwall with the freshwater fishing of that lake.¹⁰ In 1583 William Bruce of Stancetell witnesses a seisin of the earldom of Sutherland in favour of John master of Sutherland the son and heir of Earl Alexander.¹¹ The lands and loch of Alterwell and the 3½ pennylands of Stansell were included in those annexed to the earldom of Sutherland by the new grant of 1601.¹²

In 1500 King James IV. granted to John Cromaty, the son and heir of the deceased Huchon Cromaty of Brabistardorane, the dues of the lands of Brabistardorane lying in Cathnes in the sheriffdom of Innernes, and in the king's hands by reason of nonentry for five years since the decease of Huchon.¹³ In 1538 King James V. granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and to his wife Lady Margaret Keith certain lands in Cathnes resigned by Elizabeth Keith the sister

¹ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Macfarlane. County Maps.

² Blaeu. County Maps.

³ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁴ Book of Assumptions.

⁵ Ibid. For the whole archdeaconry see DORNOCH, p. 626.

⁶ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

⁸ Sutherland Charters. See DORNOCH, pp. 611, 612.

⁹ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁰ Protocol Book of William Gray.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters.

¹² See GOLSPIE, p. 671.

¹³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. i. fol. 125.

of Margaret, including a half of the third of Brabisterdorane.¹ In 1541 the same king granted to Alexander Innes of Innes the heir and executor of the deceased Alexander Innes of Innes certain lands in the sheriffdom of Innerness, including two thirds of Tusbistare extending yearly to £9, 5s.² In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Lawrence Oliphant the son and heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant the ward and nonentry of various lands, including those of Tusbister and Brabisterdorane.³ In 1552 or 1553 the same lands were appraised in favour of the same Lawrence.⁴ In 1604 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir to his grandfather Lord Laurence in the lands of Tusbister with the mill.⁵ In 1630 Donald Rany in Stronsay, the lawful son of the deceased David Rany and of Issobell Groit the sister of the deceased Hugh Groit of Brabusterdorane, was served heir to his uncle the said Hugh Groit in the 6 pennylands of Brabusterdorane with the mill, of the extent of *unum collare canum cum habena vulgo ane doggis collar with ane leische*.⁶ In 1644 the lands of Thusbuster with the mill, and the lands of Brabusterdorane with the mill, were included in a service of the earldom of Caithnes in favour of Earl George as heir of his father John master of Berriedaill.⁷

In 1539 Robert bishop of Orkney and Zetland, with consent of his chapter and for the sum of £200, granted to his servitor and kinsman John Maxwell certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes, including Bowartour, Aero, Thuro, and Lyne, with all the dues commonly called skat silver extending yearly to £4, 16s. formerly leased to Andrew bishop of Caithnes and his predecessors for the yearly payment of £38, and now leased for the same.⁸ In 1543 Queen Mary confirmed the grant.⁹ In 1620 Richard Sincler of Brownies was served heir to his brother David Sincler in the lands of Thuray and Boirlwne and the croft of Halero, lying in the lordship of Cathanes, the parish of Bowar, and regality of Orkney, of the extent of £8.¹⁰ In 1624 John Hutchesone was served heir to his brother's son Hugh or Hutcheoun Alisterson, the son of Alexander Hutchesone in Bowerstour, in 7 pennylands in the town of Bowerstour and in the lands of Oekorne called Outseat, formerly in the sheriffdom of Innerness, of the extent of one penny.¹¹

In the rental of assumptions between the years 1561 and 1566 we have the following — ‘The dewties and rental of the said arehdene his corporall landis efter followis; *In primis* Starneclati with the pertinentis *videlicet* Larill, Galchiefeld, Cloak, and Camster, extending to xviii d. land; ilk pennyland xiiii s. money anerlicke, *inde summa* xii lib. xii s.; *item* the mylne of Scarmlat yeirlicke xvi lib.’¹²

Blaeu about 1640 marks a tower in the loch of Altarwel.¹³ ‘Two miles east from the church,’ says a writer of the following century, ‘lys the loch of Flairwill (Alterwell) being $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile broad. In this loch there is a little island, in which there is the ruins of an old house

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146. See Wick, p. 773.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 91. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. ff. 39, 40. See LATHERON, pp. 765, 766, and Wick, p. 774.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 22. See LATHERON, p. 766.

⁴ See LATHERON, p. 766.

⁶ Ibid.

⁵ Retours.
⁷ Ibid.
⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 455. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 40. See REAY, p. 745.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Retours.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCH, p. 626.

¹³ Blaeu's Map.

to which there is no access but by boat.¹ This is doubtless the island of which David Bruce of Standsell was in 1577 appointed hereditary keeper.²

There is an high erected stone one mile west from the church in the moor of Bowertoun called Stone Ludd. There is no certain tradition of the occasion of its being erected.³

The Cairn of Heather Cow, situated on the highest ground in the parish, is in 1793 described as a circular building 9 feet in diameter and 4 or 5 feet in height.⁴ It may perhaps be identical with one of two such buildings mentioned in the beginning of the same century as situated about the same place and named respectively the Castlehill and the Hill of Wirks.⁵ The parish seems to contain the sites of many more of the same kind.⁶

OLRICK.

Olrich⁷—Ollrik⁸—Olræk⁹—Olyrk¹⁰—Olrik¹¹—Olreik¹²—Olrig¹³—Olrick.¹⁴
(Map, No. 19.)

THIS parish lies on the southern shore of Dunnet Bay, its coast line of 3 or 4 miles including the smaller bays of Murkle and Castlehill, and extends inland to the distance of 4 or 5 miles.¹⁵ The surface is generally low, and is diversified only by a few small hills, including those of Duran and Olrick, and by the loch of Duran and the small stream that issues from it and falls into Castlehill Bay.¹⁶

At the erection of the chapter of Cathanes between 1223 and 1245 the parish church of Olrich was made a prebend in the cathedral church.¹⁷ In 1455 Magnus Buge appears to have been rector of Olrick.¹⁸ In the year 1504 a charter is witnessed by Master Walter Fenton prebendary of Ollrik.¹⁹ In 1517 King James V. presented Master James Forester to the rectory

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

² See above, p. 784.

³ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. More modern authorities have given fanciful interpretations of the name Stone Ludd.

⁴ Old Stat. Acc.

⁵ Macfarlane.

⁶ Old Stat. Acc.

⁷ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters. *Circa* A. D. 1535. Libellus Taxationnm.

⁸ A. D. 1504. Sutherland Charters.

⁹ A. D. 1517. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. ff. 116, 117.

¹⁰ A. D. 1527. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1544. *Ibid.*

¹¹ A. D. 1527. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1530. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 149*. A. D. 1540. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 13. A. D. 1544. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. xxi. fol. 14. A. D. 1560-1562. Protocol Book of William

Gray. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1570. Register of Ministers. A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1580. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1602. *Ibid.*

¹² A. D. 1557-1559. Sutherland Charters, A. D. 1562. *Ibid.* A. D. 1564. *Ibid.* A. D. 1577. *Ibid.* A. D. 1581. *Ibid.*

¹³ A. D. 1561-1566. Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1593. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iv. p. 20.

¹⁴ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen.

¹⁵ Old and New Stat. Acc. County Maps.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ See DORNOCII, p. 602.

¹⁸ Bishop William's charter of that date is witnessed by Magnus Buge rector—the name of the prebend being of course unintentionally omitted—but, as the other prebendaries are named as witnesses, Olrick alone can be the omitted prebend.

¹⁹ Sutherland Charters.

or prebend of Olrik, when it should be vacant by the resignation of Master William Gibsone, in exchange for the vicarage of Logymurdoch in the diocese of Saint Andrews belonging to Master James.¹ In 1527 Master Thomas Stewart was rector of Olryk.² In 1530 Master John Thomson rector of Olrik was one of a number who found caution for their appearing to answer for being art and part in the slaughter of William Sutherland of Dufhouse and others.³ In 1540 is recorded the legitimization of Master William Sinclair chaplain rector of Olrik, the son of Henry Lord Sinclair.⁴ In 1544 he appears again in record as rector of Olryk.⁵ In 1547 Queen Mary presented Master William Gordoun rector of Duthell (in Moray) to the prebend of Olrik in the cathedral church of Caithnes, when it should be vacant by the decease of Master William Sinclair last rector or in any other way.⁶ The latter however continued to be rector down to at least the year 1564.⁷ About 1570 Francis Wrycht was exhorter, and in 1574 Alexander Urquhart was minister and Alexander Patrik Grahameson was reader at Olrik.⁸ From 1577 to 1581 Master Thomas Keir was parson.⁹ In 1593 among the exceptions in an act recalling certain infestments was the patronage of the kirk of Olrik granted to George Sincler of May.¹⁰ In 1602 the parson of Olrik was Paul Bruce.¹¹

The church, built in 1633, occupies apparently the old site a little south from the coast and not far from the centre of the parish.¹²

On the eastern boundary is the site of a chapel still known as Saint Coomb's Kirk, traditionally said to have been destroyed by sand.¹³

In 1726 a moss within the parish was known as the moss of Halycelay.¹⁴

In the *Libellus Taxationum* about 1535 Olrich is valued at £26, 13s. 4d.¹⁵ Between 1561 and 1566 the parsonage and vicarage are given at £134, 9s.¹⁶ In 1570 the exhorter at Olrik had for his stipend the sum of £40, and in 1574 the minister had £133, 6s. 8d., out of which he paid his reader £20.¹⁷

In 1538 King James V. granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and his wife Lady Margaret Keith certain lands in the earldom of Cathnes, resigned by Elizabeth Keith the sister of Margaret, and including the half of the fourth of the lands of Tayne, the half of the half of Stangirgill with the half of the fourth of the mill, and the half of two thirds of Nedderridolrik.¹⁸ In 1549 (6 April) Queen Mary granted to Henry Keir the ward and nonentry of certain lands, including 9 pennylands in Stangergeryll and 4½ pennylands in Estir Murkill, with the mills, multures, and fishings, in the earldom of Cathnes and sheriffdom of Innernes, in the

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. v. ff. 116, 117.

² Sutherland Charters.

³ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 149*. See THURSO, p. 752.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xv. fol. 13.

⁵ Sutherland Charters.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 14.

⁷ Sutherland Charters. Protocol Book of William Gray. Book of Assumptions. See LATHERON, p. 763.

⁸ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iv. p. 20.

¹¹ Sutherland Charters.

¹² MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blacu. Macfarlane. Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹³ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁴ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁵ MS. in Adv. Lib.

¹⁶ Book of Assumptions.

¹⁷ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146. See WICK, p. 773.

hands of the queen or her predecessors since the death of Rannald Lord Schen or other lawful possessor.¹ In the same year (6 July) she granted the ward and nonentry of the same lands to Lawrence Oliphant the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant, and in 1552 or 1553 the lands were appraised in favour of the same Lawrence.² In 1604 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir in the same lands to his grandfather Laurence Lord Oliphant.³ In 1644 George earl of Cathlins, Lord Sinclair of Berriedaill, was served heir male in the same lands to his father John master of Berriedaill.⁴

In 1559 Robert bishop of Cathanes granted in heritage to John earl of Sutherland and his wife Helen Stewart countess of Arroll the bishoprick lands, including the lands of Deren, extending yearly to 3 chalders victual at 8s. 4d., 4 gersum marts at 30s., 4 bolls of horse corn at 4s. 2d., 64 sheaves of oats at 1d., 64 hallows of straw at 1½d., 8s. of plench siluer, and 12s. of hwik siluer, in all £28, 5s. Scots old ferme.⁵ The same lands, given in to the collector of thirds between 1561 and 1566 at the same value, were granted by the bishop in 1564 to Alexander master of Sutherland, and in 1601 were included in the new grant of the earldom by King James VI. to Earl John.⁶

There is a village at Castletown, and in the parish are held three yearly fairs in the months of March, June, and November.⁷

At Castlehill was a castle, of which in 1794 scarce a vestige remained.⁸

At the same date were to be seen in the parish the vestiges of about 6 or 7 of those buildings known as Picts' houses.⁹ The remains of a supposed watchtower on the hill of Olrick appears to have been one of those.¹⁰

DUNNET.

Donotf¹¹ — Dunneth¹² — Kyntorris Prebend of Dunat¹³ — Dunnet¹⁴ —
Dunnat¹⁵ — Donat¹⁶ — Dunnett¹⁷ — Dunett¹⁸ — Dumatt.¹⁹ (Map, No. 20.)

THIS parish includes a somewhat low lying district 8 miles by 4, and an irregular hilly promontory from 4 to 6 miles long running into the Pentland Firth and terminating in Dunnet

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 8.

² See LATHERON, p. 766.

³ Retours.

⁴ *Ibid.* For a full history of the lands of Murkle, lying partly in Thurso, see THURSO, pp. 748-750.

⁵ See DORNOCH, p. 612.

⁶ Book of Assumptions. Sutherland Charters.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.* New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ A. D. 1223-1224. Sutherland Charters.

¹² A. D. 1455. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

¹³ *Circa* A. D. 1535. Libellus Taxationum.

¹⁴ Taxatio Sec. xvi. A. D. 1539. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 455. A. D. 1542. Rec. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. ff. 60, 70. A. D. 1574, 1576. Book of Assignations. *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaen.

¹⁵ A. D. 1537. Sutherland Charters.

¹⁶ A. D. 1569. Register of Ministers.

¹⁷ A. D. 1574. Book of Assignations. A. D. 1610. Sutherland Charters.

¹⁸ A. D. 1644. Retours.

¹⁹ A. D. 1644. *Ibid.*

Head (anciently Whindiknop Head, and probably the Varvedrum or Oreas of an earlier date), the most northern point of Scotland.¹ The surface, generally level, is diversified by a few small lakes, especially towards the north.² Part of the coast is low and has been overblown with sand; the promontory has generally a bold rocky coast, in some places 400 or 500 feet in height.³

Between 1223 and 1245 Bishop Gilbert, as we have seen, constituted the church of Donoff one of the prebends of the cathedral church of Cathanes.⁴ In 1455 a charter of Bishop William Mndy is witnessed by Robert Rettir or Rettre rector of Dunnet.⁵ In 1537 a charter is witnessed by Sir Thomas ——— vicar of Dunnet.⁶ In 1539 Robert bishop of Orkney and Zetland granted to his kinsman John Maxwell certain lands in the parish of Bowar, among the pertinents of which were apparently included 27 bolls skat malt of the parishes of Dunnet and Cannesbie.⁷ In 1542 (23 October) King James V. during the vacancy of the see presented Master Robert Keith to the prebend in the cathedral church of Cathnes called the rectory of Dunnet, vacant by the decease of Master John Menzies.⁸ In the same year (7 November) he presented Thomas Menzeis the lawful son of Thomas Menzeis of Petfodellis to the same rectory vacant by decease of the same Master John.⁹ In 1543 Queen Mary confirmed the grant of 1539.¹⁰ In 1569 John Pronthocht was exhorter, in 1574 Thomas Dunnet was reader, and in 1576 John Dunnet was minister and Thomas Dunnet was reader at Dunnet.¹¹ In 1610 the parson of Dunnet was Mr. Timothy Pont the geographer.¹² In 1644 George earl of Caithnes was served heir to his father John master of Berriedaill in the patronage of the parish church of Dunnet.¹³

The church, an old building, supposed to have been built before the Reformation, and repaired and enlarged in 1837, stands on Dunnet Bay on the west coast of the parish on a small stream which flows from Dunnet Loch.¹⁴ In 1794 a small steeple adjoining it, built of the hard freestone of Dunnet Head, still bore the marks of the chisel, though at that time believed to be at least 200 years old.¹⁵

There are in the parish the vestiges of three chapels.¹⁶ One of these stood on Dunnet Head, where, says Pennant in 1769, in ancient times lived a hermit, the ruins of whose cell were then in existence.¹⁷ Another stood at the east end of Saint John's Loch, which is still frequented by invalids on the first Monday of May, August, November, and February, old style, when they walk round the loch, throw into it a piece of money, and are out of sight of it by sunrise.¹⁸

In the Libellus Taxationum the prebend of Dunat is valued at £26, 13s. 4d., and in the Taxatio Seculi xvi. it is rated at £8, 15s. 3d.¹⁹ In 1569 the exhorter at Donat had for

¹ Blaeu and Modern Maps. Old and New Stat. Acc.

² New Stat. Acc. and Maps.

³ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 353.

⁴ See DORNOCH, p. 602.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 455.

⁸ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvi. fol. 60.

⁹ Ibid., fol. 70.

¹⁰ See above.

¹¹ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

¹² Sutherland Charters.

¹³ Retours.

¹⁴ MS. Maps in Adv. Lib. Blaeu. Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁵ Old Stat. Acc.

¹⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

¹⁷ Ibid. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 353.

¹⁸ New Stat. Acc.

¹⁹ MSS. in Adv. Lib.

his stipend 50 marks; in 1574 the reader had £16, 8s. 10½d., the kirkland, and other perquisites; and in 1576 the minister had £61, 2s. with the parson's glebe and kirkland, and the reader £16, 8s. 10d. with the vicar's glebe and kirkland, both having some additional allowance.¹

The history of the lands of Greneland has been already given in connexion with that of the lands of Clyth from the year 1377 down to the year 1624.² In the year 1549 (6 April) Queen Mary granted to Henry Keir the ward and nonentry of the lands of Ester Greneland and other lands with the mills, maultures, and fishings.³ In the same year (6 July) that queen granted the ward and nonentry of the lands of Greneland and others to Lawrence Oliphant the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant, and in 1552 or 1553 the same lands were appraised in favour of the same Lawrence.⁴

In 1538 King James V. granted in heritage to William Earl Marischal and Lady Margaret Keith his wife, with remainder to the earl's heirs whomsoever, certain lands, including a pennyland of Ratar, the half of the 6½ pennylands of Dunnet, 2 pennylands of Haland, the half of the half of Resserter, the half of the half of Hollandmaik, the half of ¼ pennyland (*le ferdingworthe*) in the town of Ratter, the half of one sixth of Corsbaddir with the half of the fourth of the mill, the half of the half of Holme, and the half of Swynne with the mill, in the earldom of Cathanes, resigned by Elizabeth the sister of Margaret, and the niece and one of the heirs of the deceased Sir William Keith of Innerugy, and with lands in Moray and Banff united into the barony of Innerugy.⁵ In 1539 the lands of Donet, formerly belonging to William earl of Cathnes, were with other lands appraised in favour of Elizabeth Suthirland countess of Cathnes for her good service done to King James V., and for certain sums of money paid to his treasurer.⁶ In 1549 Queen Mary granted to Lawrence Oliphant the son and apparent heir of Lawrence Lord Oliphant the ward and nonentry of various lands, including Dunate, Wesbuster, Barrak, Rattar, Corsbak, Rasister, and Haland, in the queen's hands since the death of Rannald Lord Schen or other possessor.⁷ In 1552 or 1553 the same lands were appraised in favour of the same Lawrence Oliphant.⁸ In 1564 Queen Mary granted to George earl of Caithnes the nonentry of the lands of Donet and others (as in 1539), which belonged to his deceased mother Elizabeth countess of Caithnes and were in the queen's hands by reason of nonentry.⁹ In 1574 George Sinclair was served heir of entail to his brother William Sinclair the lawful son of George earl of Cathanes in the superiority of the lands of Dwnat and others.¹⁰ In 1604 Laurence Lord Oliphant was served heir to his grandfather Lord Laurence in the lands of Dwnnat, Westbuster, Baroke, Rattare, Corsbak, a pennyland of Rasserter, Grenland, and Haland, with other lands in the earldom of Caithnes and sheriffdom of Innernes.¹¹

¹ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

² See LATHERON, pp. 766, 767.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 8. See OLRICK, p. 787.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. ff. 8, 22. See LATHERON, p. 766, and WICK, p. 774.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 328. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 35.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 22.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 177. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 45.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. ff. 110, 111.

¹⁰ Retours.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

Fairs are held in the parish on the first Tuesday of April, Tuesday after 15 August old style, the first Tuesday of October, and the third Tuesday of October old style, the last being styled the Reaster Market.¹

In 1769 the seat of the earl of Caithness was at Ratter.²

In the parish are the remains of several Picts' houses; and Dunnet Head, the Hill of Barrack, and the Hill of Greenland are supposed to be the sites of ancient beacons.³

CANNISBAY.

Cananesbi⁴ — Cannasby⁵ — Canasbie⁶ — Cannesbie⁷ — Canisby⁸ — Cannisby⁹ —
Canesby¹⁰ — Cannesby¹¹ — Cannesbye¹² — Cannisbie¹³ — Cannesbe¹⁴ —
Conansbay.¹⁵ (Map, No. 21.)

THIS parish is of a triangular shape, its longest side stretching in an irregular line from Nibster on the east coast to the burn of Ratter on the north.¹⁶ The surface is generally level and destitute of wood, the only eminence of any size being the Warth or Ward Hill, 300 feet above the sea level.¹⁷ The eastern coast on the Moray Firth is rocky and precipitous; the northern on the Pentland Firth is lower and sandy.¹⁸ The point at which they meet is the steep rocky promontory named Duncansbay or Dungsby Head, by some supposed the Berubium, by others the Virvedrum of Ptolemy, and the undoubted Dungsbae of the Norse writers.¹⁹ Off the east coast are the rocks known as the Stacks of Duncansbay, and off St. John's Head on the north are those named the Men of May and the island of Stroma (Straumsey), while north east from Duncansbay Head lie the rocks or islands named the Pentland Skerries or Boars of Duncansbay.²⁰

Between the years 1223 and 1245 Bishop Gilbert assigned the church of Cananesbi as a prebend in the cathedral church.²¹ In 1455 a charter of Bishop William is witnessed by James Kynnarde rector of Cannasby.²² In 1539 Robert bishop of Orkney and Zetland granted to his

¹ New Stat. Acc. ² Pennant, vol. iii. p. 354.

³ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁴ A. D. 1223-1245. Sutherland Charters.

⁵ A. D. 1455. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

⁶ *Circa* A. D. 1535. Libellus Taxationum.

⁷ A. D. 1539. Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 455.

⁸ A. D. 1580. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1593. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iv. p. 20.

⁹ A. D. 1547. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 45.

¹⁰ A. D. 1548. Piteairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 337*.

¹¹ A. D. 1556. Protocol Book of William Gray.

¹² A. D. 1557. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1559-1566. *Ibid.* Book of Assumptions. A. D. 1574. Book of Assiguations.

¹³ A. D. 1560. Protocol Book of William Gray.

¹⁴ A. D. 1577. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1602. *Ibid.*

¹⁵ A. D. 1567. Register of Ministers.

¹⁶ A. D. 1577. Sutherland Charters. A. D. 1581. *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Circa* A. D. 1640. MS. Maps. in Adv. Lib. Blaeu.

¹⁸ County Maps.

¹⁹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Old and New Stat. Acc.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹ Old and New Stat. Acc. Buch. Hist., lib. i. c. 31. Camden's Britannia. Ork. Saga. Torfaeus.

²² Blaeu. Macfarlane. Pennant. Old and New Stat. Acc. Worsae. ²¹ See DORNOCI, p. 602.

²² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

kinsman John Maxwell certain lands in Reay and Bower, and 27 bolls skat malt of the parishes of Dunnet and Cannesbie belonging to the bishop and his chapter.¹ In 1543 Queen Mary confirmed the grant.² In 1547 that queen presented Hercules Berclay to the rectory and prebend of Canisby, vacant by the decease of Master William Berclay the brother of Hercules.³ In 1548 the same Hercules was one of a number who joined in taking and keeping from Master Alexander Gordoun postulate of Caithness the house and place of Serabister, and in seizing on the fruits of the bishoprick.⁴ Thenceforth to the year 1564 or 1566 he appears as rector of Cannesby, and about the latter date subscribes the rental of the parsonage and vicarage given in to the collector of thirds.⁵ In 1567 Alexander Patrik Gramisone was exhorter at Cannisbie, and in 1574 John Wobster or Watsoun was minister, and Andro Rag was reader.⁶ In 1577 a charter of Gilbert Gray the chanter of Cathenis is signed by Master John Donat rector of Cannesbe, and John Watsoun or Wobster parson of Cannesbye.⁷ In 1580 and 1581 Master John Donat (or Dunnat) again appears as rector.⁸ In 1593 among the exceptions stated in an act of parliament recalling certain infeftments was the patronage of the kirk of Cannesbie with the parsonage and vicarage, which had been granted to Patrick Mowett of Buquhollie.⁹ In 1602 the parson of Cannesbye was Alexander Ogstoune.¹⁰

The church, apparently dedicated to Saint Drostan, stands at Cannisbay about the middle of the north coast line.¹¹ At an early period it may probably have stood at Gills a little to the west of Cannisbay at the head of Gills Bay.¹²

There was a chapel dedicated to Saint John (which saint of that name does not appear) on the promontory of Dunney, styled also Saint John's Head—another at Brabster dedicated to Saint Drostan—a third at Freswick dedicated to Saint Modan—and a fourth at Duncansbay dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and known as the Lady Chapel or Lady Kirk.¹³

There was a church or chapel at Strubster, situated on 'a small spot of green in the midst of a remote wide desert,' and described in 1726 both as a hermitage and as a supposed place of Protestant worship used at the time of the Reformation when the worshippers could not meet more openly.¹⁴

A writer of the same period says, 'There are no apparent vestiges in this parish of Popish monasteries, abbacies, or other religious societies, and few or none in our country, being too cold a clime and barren a soyl for that fry to nestle in.'¹⁵

In the island of Stroma were two chapels, 'called commonly the Kirk of Stara and the Kirk of Old Skoil.'¹⁶ A tomb, apparently in one of the chapels, built by Kennedy of Kairn-

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxviii. no. 455.

² *Ibid.* See REAY, p. 745, and BOWER, p. 785.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxi. fol. 45.

⁴ See DORNOCH, p. 610.

⁵ Protocol Book of William Gray. Sutherland Charters. Book of Assumptions.

⁶ Register of Ministers. Book of Assignations.

⁷ Sutherland Charters.

⁸ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iv. p. 20.

⁹ Sutherland Charters.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ M.S. Maps. Blaen. Macfarlane. County Maps.

¹² This is merely a conjecture drawn from the word Gills, which seems the same as Keils, a frequent abbreviation of the names of churches that begin with the syllable Kil.

¹³ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 354. Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc. Book of Assumptions.

¹⁴ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

muck, was noted for its quality of preserving dead bodies uncorrupted, 'so the bodies laid there in coffins without bowelling or embalming forty years ago and upwards to this day have all the members intire and so firmly dried up that they will stand upright on their feet.'¹ Pennant names 60 years as the period during which bodies interred in Stroma had been known to remain undecayed.² A writer in 1793 observes, 'From the antiseptic influence of the salt particles perpetually floating in the air mummies were preserved for a great length of years, and were wont to be exhibited as curiosities, in a chapel situated in the island. The mummies are now destroyed, and the chapel is unroofed and mouldering into ruin.'³

In the *Libellus Taxationum* the church of Canasbie is valued at £26, 13s. 4d.⁴ Between 1561 and 1566 the following rental was given in to the collector of thirds — 'The rental of the personage and vicarage of Cannesby within the dioce of Cathnes. The teindshavis of the personage thairof sett dyvers yeiris for money extendand yeirle to the sowme of viii^{xx} xv merkis, except within thir thrie or four yeiris bygane or thairby the foirsaidis teindshavis ar intromettit with for the maist part be the erle of Cathnes servandis and tenantis, and withhaldin be thame respectiue vnpayit as yett throw default of justice, and the victuall thairof for the maist restand in thair handis. The vicarage thairof, quhilk payit the vicar, only worth xx merkis to the stallar, intromettit with for the maist part thir thrie or four yeir bygaine be the wayis of the said erlis servandis and occupyit. Beseikand your lordship for remeid in all tymis bygaine and to cum according to equitie and justice. *Sic subscribitur*, H. Barclay with my hand. — Personage of Cannesby in the haill i^o xvi li. xiii s. iiiii d. *Nota*, this personage giwes xvii ch. beir or thairby, and lettres to ansuer the quein of the haill and the possessour of the twa pairt of the sowme. Vicarage thairof; *nota*, thair is na rental thairof giwin vp but only to the stallar xx merk, the rest alegit giwin to susteine the vicar.'⁵ In 1567 the exhorter at Cannisbie had 50 marks of stipend.⁶ In 1574 the minister had £130, out of which he paid the reader £20.⁷

Between 1561 and 1566 the yearly value of the chaplainry of Dunmy was given at £10.⁸

The district known at an early period as Katanes or the Nes included the modern earldoms or counties of Caithness and Sutherland.⁹ Towards the end of the ninth century Sigurd the son of Eysteinn, who had been made earl of Orkney by Harald Harfagr king of Norway, formed an alliance with Thorstein the Red the son of Olaf Hvit king of Dublin, and subdued Cathanes and Sudurland as far as Eckialdsbacka the boundary (the river Oikel, as we have already seen).¹⁰ Sigurd was afterwards slain in a battle with Melbrigid a Scottish earl, and was buried at Eckialdsbacka.¹¹ Cathanes seems to have been then ruled by an earl named Dungal, whom Andur or Unnur the mother of Thorstein induced to marry Thorstein's daughter Groa.¹² About the same

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

² Pennant, vol. iii. pp. 198, 355. ³ Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ MS. in Adv. Lib.

⁵ Book of Assumptions. ⁶ Register of Ministers.

⁷ Book of Assignations. ⁸ Book of Assumptions.

⁹ See GOLSPIE, p. 652. For a full account of all that is known or conjectured of the name and early

settlement of Caithness see Buch. Hist., lib. i. c. 31; Shaw's History of Moray, pp. 1-4, 50, 51; Macpherson's Geog. Illust.; Chalmers's Caledonia, vol. i. pp. 67, 266, 340-345, 412, 605, 606, 632-636; and the following notices.

¹⁰ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 4. See GOLSPIE, p. 652.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*, c. 5.

period Halfdan and Gudrod the sons of Harald Harfagr, having slain Rognvald the father of Einar (or Torf-Einar) earl of Orkney, Halfdan came to Orkney with an army and compelled Einar to take refuge in Cathanes.¹ In 893 Einar returned to Orkney with reinforcements from Cathanes, and defeated and slew Halfdan.² King Harald Harfagr therefore came to Orkney, and Einar again fled to Cathanes, styled a promontory of Scotland.³ In 934 Athelstan the son of Edward the Martyr king of England laid waste Scotland with an army as far as Dunfoeder and Westermore, and with a fleet as far as Catenes, because King Constantine had broken a treaty with him.⁴ After 941 Thorfinn Hausakliuf (Skulleleaver), the son of Earl Einar, married Grelod the daughter of Earl Dungað, by whom he had a son named Hlodver or Ludovic.⁵ Besides Hlodver Earl Thorstein left four sons, Havard Arsael, Liot, Skul, and Arnfinn.⁶ Arnfinn and Havard having been slain at the instigation of Ragnhild, whom they had successively married, Ragnhild succeeded in procuring a third brother Earl Liot for her husband.⁷ The fourth brother Skul went to Scotland (apparently between 941 and 976), obtained from the king the title of earl of Orkney, and going to war with Liot was defeated and fled into Catenes and thence to Scotland.⁸ Liot remained for a long time in Catenes, and Skul having returned with a large army obtained from the king of Scotland and Earl Magbrad, they joined battle in the Dales of Catenes, when Liot came off victorious, and Skul was slain.⁹ Liot then occupied Catenes as conqueror, and kept forcible possession of it, whence arose a war between him and the Scots.¹⁰ Being attacked by a Scottish army under Earl Magbrad in the Seidensian marshes a tract of Catenes (supposed to be Loch Shin in Sutherland), although victorious, he died in a few days of his wounds.¹¹ He was succeeded in the earldom of Orkney by his brother Hlodver, who was buried at Hofn (perhaps Huna) a farm in Catenes, and who left as his successor Sigurd, his son by Andna the daughter of Kiarval king of Ireland, and afterwards known as Sigurd the Gross.¹² Earl Sigurd, besides holding Catenes against Kenneth III. king of Scotland, is said to have ruled Ross, Moray, Sudurland, and Dale.¹³ Between the years 969 and 995 he was challenged by the Earl Finnleic (apparently the father of Maebeth) to battle on a certain day at the Seidensian marsh; and, having received from his mother a charmed standard, and restored to his subjects of the Orkneys their allodial lands, he met and defeated Earl Finnleic after losing three standard-bearers.¹⁴ About the same period Grim and Helg, the sons of the Islandic poet Nial, and domestics of Earl Sigurd, intending to sail to Norway, were driven by adverse winds into a bay of Scotland, and had scarcely cast anchor when they were attacked by Snackoll and Griotgard the sons of Moddan of Dungulsbae in two pirate vessels.¹⁵ As they refused to deliver up their ship and goods, a battle ensued, in the midst of which Karius another domestic of the earl arrived with ten ships, and the pirates were defeated and slain.¹⁶ Earl Sigurd, having learned that Earls Hund and Melsnat, kinsmen of Melkolf (Malcolm) afterwards king of Scotland, had slain Hallvard of Trasvik his kinsman and captain, entered Catenes with an army, and engaged the earls under

¹ Torfaens, lib. i. c. 7.² Ibid.³ Ibid.⁶ Torfaens, lib. i. c. 9.⁷ Ibid.⁴ Chronica de Mailros, p. 20. The Saxon Chronicle, pp. 140, 141. Buch. Hist., lib. vi. c. 75.⁸ Ibid.⁹ Ibid.¹⁰ Ibid.¹¹ Ibid.⁵ Torfaens, lib. i. c. 9. Orkneyinga Saga, pp. 3, 5.¹² Ibid. Orkneyinga Saga, p. 5.¹³ Torf., lib. i. c. 10.¹⁴ Ibid.¹⁵ Ibid.¹⁶ Ibid.

the precipice of Dungad.¹ Melsnat was slain and Hund retreated; and Earl Sigurd pursued until he learned that Earl Melkolf awaited him with fresh troops at Dungulsbae, and then returned to Orkney.² Between the years 995 and 1014 Sigurd embraced Christianity, and married a daughter of Melkolm (Malcolm II.) king of Scotland, by whom he had sons named Thorfin, Sigurd, Sumarled, Brusius, and Einar.³ Before 1014 he went to Ireland, leaving his elder sons to rule his dominions, and sending Thorfin to his grandfather King Melkolm; and in that year he fell in battle with the Irish king Brian Born.⁴

On the death of Sigurd his sons Sumarlid, Brusius, and Einar divided the Orkneys equally between themselves.⁵ At that time Thorfin was only five years old; and his grandfather the king of Scotland, having heard of Sigurd's death, gave Thorfin Katanes and Sudrland with the title of earl and men to assist him in ruling.⁶ On the death of Sumarlid between 1014 and 1034 Earl Thorfin demanded his share of the Orkneys; Einar objected that Katanes and Sudrland, which had been subject to his father Sigurd, were much more than the third of Orkney; but Brusius waived his claim in favour of Thorfin, and two-thirds therefore fell to Einar.⁷ About the same period Thorkell the son of a rich and powerful man Anmund of Sandvik, having incurred the displeasure of Earl Einar, fled into Katanes to Earl Thorfin, and became his instructor or fosterfather, whence he was named Thorkell Fostri.⁸ The severe rule of Earl Einar induced many rich men of the Orkneys to follow the example of Thorkell and take refuge with Earl Thorfin.⁹ When the latter grew up, he demanded of Earl Einar his rightful share of the Orkneys, and, Einar objecting, Thorfin led an army into Orkney, while Einar raised forces to oppose him; but Earl Brusius, having also raised an army, made peace between them, and it was arranged that Thorfin should have his own third of Orkney, and that Einar should rule the united thirds of Brusius and himself, the survivor to have the whole rule.¹⁰ Thorfin committed the rule of his Orkney domains to his men, but himself lived chiefly in Katanes.¹¹ Earl Einar was afterwards slain by Thorkell Fostri.¹² Earl Brusius then held two thirds of Orkney, while Thorfin continued to hold the remaining third and resided either in Katanes or in Scotland.¹³ About 1030 by an agreement with Brusius Thorfin obtained two thirds of Orkney, Brusius retaining a third.¹⁴ About 1034 the historians state that Thorfin had become famous, and describe his person and character as follows—He was above the middle stature, of a stern countenance, with black hair and a thin swarthy visage, conspicuous above most in his military bearing, greedy of money and of glory, a conqueror, skilled in war and prone to engage in it.¹⁵ Subsequently to the year 1034 Karl Hundason, styled by the Norse writers king of Scotland, demanded tribute of Earl Thorfin for Katanes; but the earl, claiming it as the gift of his

¹ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 10. This precipice is apparently Duncansbay Head, which thus seems to have derived its name from Dungad, the first earl of Caithness on record.

² Ibid. ³ Ibid. Ork. Saga, p. 5.

⁴ Ibid. ⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 5. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

⁶ Ork. Saga, pp. 5, 29. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 7. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

⁸ Ork. Saga, pp. 7, 9. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

⁹ Ork. Saga, p. 9. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

¹⁰ Ork. Saga, pp. 9, 11. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

¹¹ Ork. Saga, p. 11. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

¹² Ork. Saga, p. 15. Torf., lib. i. c. 12.

¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 27. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

¹⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 29. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

¹⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 29.

grandfather, refused, and war arose between them.¹ King Karl created Moddan his sister's son earl, with the intention of giving him also the rule of Katanes; and Moddan, having raised an army in the south (or Sudrland), was met by the Katanes men under Thorfin and Thorkill Fostri, on which he withdrew with his forces.² Earl Thorfin then subdued Sudrland and Ros, and overran various parts of Scotland, after which he returned to Katanes, and Thorkill to Orkney.³ While Thorfin lay at Dungulsbæ in Katanes, where he had five well manned ships of war, Moddan met King Karl at Berwick and informed him of the failure of his expedition.⁴ King Karl immediately fitted out eleven ships of war and a great army, and sailed to the north of Scotland, Moddan being sent by the Highlands into Katanes with another large force, that Thorfin might be attacked on two sides at once.⁵ On receiving that information Thorfin set sail for Orkney, bore up under the coast of Dyrnes (in Mainland), and by a messenger ordered Thorkell to collect his forces.⁶ Early next morning he was suddenly surrounded by King Karl's fleet, which he had not seen, but by which he had been observed, and after a long conflict, during which he boarded the king's ship and took his standard, he defeated him with great slaughter.⁷ King Karl, driven into the Moray Firth (Breidafjord), rallied his forces; and Thorfin, returning and meeting Thorkill with a large reenforcement, pursued him thither and carried the war into Scotland.⁸ Having learned that Earl Moddan lay at Thorsa in Katanes with a great army, and waited also for assistance from his friends in Ireland, Earl Thorfin arranged that Thorkill should return to Katanes with part of their forces, and that himself should remain and invade Scotland.⁹ As the natives of Katanes were faithful to him, Thorkill went thither without announcing his approach, and reaching Thorsa by night came upon Moddan, set fire to the house in which he slept, and as he attempted to escape slew him with his own hand.¹⁰ Of Moddan's adherents some yielded and were pardoned, some fled, and some were slain.¹¹ Thorkill, having collected his whole force throughout Katanes, Sudrland, and Ros, crossed the Breidafjord into Moray (Merhaefi), where Thorfin and he then remained for a time.¹² King Karl afterwards collected a great army in Scotland and Cantyre (Satiri), and, assisted by Moddan's friends from Ireland and by supplies from the chiefs of Scotland, engaged Thorfin, whose force was much inferior, at a place named Torfnes.¹³ Earl Thorfin, foremost in the fight,

¹ *Ibid.*, p. 31. Torf., lib. i. c. 13. This king Karl or Kallius is unknown to our Scottish historians. For the probable explanation of the omission, if such it be, see Torfaeus *ut supra*, and notes to the Irish Archaeological Society's Irish version of Nennius, pp. lxxxiii-lxxxiv.

² Ork. Saga, p. 31. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

³ *Ibid.*

⁵ Ork. Saga, pp. 31, 33. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 33. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 37. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 39. Torf., lib. i. c. 13. Torfnes is usually identified with Tarbatness in Ross; and the

mention of the Oikel (Eekial) by Arnor Jarlaskald (quoted in the Ork. Saga) seems to confirm the identity. The Ork. Saga however, as translated by Jónæus, says the battle took place in *Torfnesia australique Bæfjordi (v. Breidafjordi) ora*—and Torfaeus says that it was fought in *promontorio Thorfnesia quod ab austro sinum Bæfjordum (v. Breidafjordum) respicit*—both thus placing the field of battle on the south coast of the Moray Firth. The only name on that coast that resembles Torfnes is Troup Head. That the battle occurred on the Moray side of the Firth is further rendered probable by the facts, that immediately before it, as we have seen, Earl Thorfin was in Moray or near it, and that between his residence there and the battle we do not read of him crossing the Breidafjord, his invariable route between Caithness and Moray.

⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*

with gilded helmet, girt with a sword, and wielding a spear with both hands, with his personal staff or body guard attacked the Irish so vigorously that they were driven back and could not be rallied; on which King Karl advancing personally against Thorfin fought bravely for a time, but at length terminated the conflict by his flight, and according to some by his death.¹ Earl Thorfin pursued the fugitives into the interior of Scotland, and subduing the natives as far as Fife, dismissed Thorkell with a part of the army.² The natives who had submitted then attacked him, but on his advancing against them retired into desert places; and the earl, having laid waste the country with fire and sword, and having taken some prisoners, went northward through Scotland, and overcoming all opposition returned to his ships, wintered in Katanes, and every summer afterwards gave his earnest attention to warlike operations.³ In the year 1036 Earl Thorfin frequently dwelt in Katanes at Goddgædlae, a place, as we have seen, apparently on the north west boundary of Sutherland.⁴ In the same year, with an army partly furnished from Katanes, he invaded England then ruled by Hardicanute.⁵ In 1046, after a severe struggle with his nephew Rognvald the son of Brusius, he subdued all Orkney and resided there, sending to Katanes for provisions.⁶ In the same year Rognvald, who had escaped to Norway, came privately to Shetland (Hialtland), and thence to Mainland (Hrossey) in Orkney, where Thorfin then was, and set fire to the house in which he lived.⁷ Thorfin, taking his wife Ingibjorg in his arms, broke through a vaulted roof in the house, and escaping fled in a boat to the Ness (Katanes).⁸ Rognvald, supposing that Thorfin had perished in the flames, took possession of the Orkneys, and by a messenger proclaimed himself ruler of Thorfin's dominions in the Ness and the Hebrides, in which parts all submitted to him.⁹ Thorfin for a time lived privately among his friends in Katanes, his escape remaining generally unknown; but about Christmas 1046 he went privately to the island of Little Papa and set fire to the house in which Rognvald dwelt; and, though Rognvald escaped, he was afterwards taken and put to death by Thorkill Fostri, on which Earl Thorfin subdued the whole of Orkney.¹⁰ That earl thenceforth retained till his death all his dominions, namely, nine earldoms in Scotland, all the Hebrides, and a large territory in Ireland.¹¹ He died apparently in 1064, and was succeeded by his sons Earls Paul and Erlend, who ruled jointly.¹²

About the year 1104 Sigurd, Eistein, and Olave, the sons of King Magnus of Norway, and joint sovereigns of that country, bestowed on Hacon the son of Earl Paul the title of earl and all the territory which heritably belonged to him.¹³ About 1108 King Eistein gave Magnus the son of Erlend (afterwards Saint Magnus) the half of Orkney with the title of earl.¹⁴ Afterwards in the absence of Earl Magnus Earl Hacon Paulson subdued all Katanes and Orkney, and settled in Katanes with an army.¹⁵ They subsequently agreed to divide equally between

¹ Ork. Saga, p. 39. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

² Ork. Saga, p. 41. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

³ Ork. Saga, pp. 41, 43. Torf., lib. i. c. 13.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 55. Torf., lib. i. c. 14. See GOLSPIE, pp. 652, 653.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 57. Torf., lib. i. c. 14.

⁶ Ork. Saga, pp. 65, 67, 71. Torf., lib. i. c. 14.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 73. Torf., lib. i. c. 14.

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 75. Torf., *ut supra*.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Ork. Saga, pp. 75-79. Torf., lib. i. c. 14.

¹¹ Ork. Saga, p. 87. Torf., lib. i. c. 15.

¹² Ork. Saga, pp. 87, 91. Torf., lib. i. c. 15, 16.

¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 119. Torf., lib. i. c. 18.

¹⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 121. Torf., lib. i. c. 18.

¹⁵ Hist. Sancti Magni, c. 18.

them the earldom of Orkney, Katanes, and Hialtland.¹ In 1110 (14 April) Earl Magnus was put to death through the machinations of Earl Hacon, who thenceforth ruled all the Orkneys.² Earl Hacon, by his concubine Helga the daughter of Moddan of Dale in Katanes, had a son named Harald Slettmal.³ He had another son named Paul Umalgi (dumb); and on his death (apparently between 1110 and 1124) his sons divided his dominions equally between them.⁴ Earl Harald by permission of the king of Scotland (apparently David I.) retained Katanes, and often dwelt there.⁵ He shared the rule of the Orkneys with his sisters Ingibiorg and Margaret, who after his death (about 1129) went into Katanes and thence to Sudrland where Frakark the daughter of Moddan dwelt.⁶ In 1129 Sigurd king of Norway granted to Karl the son of Kol the half of the Orkneys not under the dominion of Earl Paul, with the title of earl, and named him Rognvald after Rognvald the son of Brusius.⁷ King Magnus who succeeded Sigurd about 1130 did not acknowledge Rognvald's dominion, but in 1135 it was expressly confirmed by King Harald the rival and successor of Magnus.⁸ In 1136 Rognvald in order to wrest the Orkneys from Earl Paul, assisted by troops from Suthrland under Aulfer Rosta the grandson of the lady Frakark, who in the event of their success was to be earl in the Orkneys, attacked Earl Paul, but was defeated and driven back to the Petland Firth.⁹ Olaus Rolfi of Gareksey, who had the farm (or territory) and the captaincy of Dungulsbae, and a large following in Katanes, commanded one of Earl Paul's ships, and after the battle returned to Dungulsbae, in which about Christmas 1136 he was burned to death by Aulfer Rosta.¹⁰ His death, as we have seen, was afterwards avenged by his son Sveinn, who was thenceforth known as Sveinn Asleifson, Asleif being his mother's name.¹¹ In 1137 Sveinn, who on his father's death fled to Orkney and thence to the Sudareys, went into Scotland, where he resided for some time with Maddad earl of Joklis or Atjoklis (Athole), who through the influence of Frakark had married Margaret, the daughter of Earl Hacon Paulson and Helga his concubine, and the sister of Earl Paul.¹² He then returned to Orkney, captured Earl Paul, and carried him to Earl Maddad and his wife Margaret.¹³ Earl Paul never returned to Orkney, and Earl Rognvald became sole ruler.¹⁴

In the year 1139 a bishop, designed by the Norse writers as bishop John from Atjoklis in Scotland, came into Orkney, and, after a conference with William bishop of Orkney, Sveinn Asleifson, and Earl Rognvald, the earl accepted as his colleague in the rule of Orkney Harald the son of Earl Maddad and his wife Margaret, then about five years old.¹⁵ A meeting appears to have been subsequently held in Katanes, when peace was made, and the whole ratified by the oaths of the nobles both of Orkney and of Scotland.¹⁶ Harald Maddadson accompanied Earl

¹ Hist. Sancti Magni, c. 18.

² *Ibid.*, cc. 25, 26. Ork. Saga, p. 133. Torf., lib. i. c. 18.

³ Ork. Saga, p. 139. Torf., lib. i. c. 18.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 141. Torf., lib. i. cc. 18, 19.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 141. Torf., lib. i. c. 19.

⁶ Ork. Saga, pp. 141, 147. Torf., *ut supra*.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 169. Torf., lib. i. c. 21.

⁸ Ork. Saga, pp. 173, 175. Torf., lib. i. c. 22.

⁹ Ork. Saga, pp. 175-183. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁰ Ork. Saga, pp. 147, 187. Torf., lib. i. cc. 20, 23.

¹¹ See KILDONAN, pp. 741, 742.

¹² Ork. Saga, pp. 177, 217. Torf., lib. i. cc. 22, 25.

¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 219. Torf., lib. i. c. 25.

¹⁴ Ork. Saga, pp. 221-229. Torf., lib. i. c. 25.

¹⁵ Ork. Saga, pp. 231, 419. Torf., lib. i. cc. 26, 39. John must have been bishop of Dunkeld; but we have no authentic account of that bishoprick at the period.

¹⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 231. Torf., lib. i. c. 26.

Rognvald into Orkney, received the title of earl, and was followed thither by Thorbiorn Klerk the son of Thorstein Hauld and Gudrun the daughter of Frakark, who brought up the young earl.¹ Thorbiorn Klerk likewise held all the possessions which had belonged to Olaus the father and Valthiof the brother of Sveinn Asleifson, whose sister Ingirid he married.² In 1139 Sveinn, after having revenged his father's death by burning Frakark in her house at Hialmadal, and having laid waste Sutherland and spent the summer in piracy and in an invasion of Scotland, returned in the autumn to Orkney, and having visited Earl Rognvald went to the Ness and wintered at Dungulsbæ.³ Between 1142 and 1149, while Sveinn Asleifson was in the Hebrides, Earl Rognvald went to Katanes and was entertained at Vik by a husbandman named Sveinn the son of Hroald a very brave man.⁴ Sveinn Asleifson was afterwards made the earl's steward, and in company with Thorbiorn Klerk made a predatory excursion into the Hebrides, whence they returned to Dungulsbæ.⁵ They disputed about their booty, and Sveinn who had most adherents in Katanes prevailed, on which Thorbiorn complained to Earl Rognvald, who made peace between them.⁶ Afterwards however Thorbiorn divorced his wife Ingirid, and sent her into Katanes to her brother Sveinn.⁷ When Sveinn was in the Hebrides, he committed the keeping of Dungulsbæ, which he had received from Earl Rognvald, to Margad Grimson, whose oppressions caused many to flee to Hroald; and Margad soon afterwards went to Vik with nineteen men, slew Hroald, and then returned and met Sveinn at Dungulsbæ.⁸ Sveinn, having collected his followers, retired to Lambaburg (apparently Freswick), where there was a commodious fortress, furnished it with provisions, and dwelt there with sixty men.⁹ The city or fortress of Lambaburg was situated on a precipitous shore, having a stone wall built upon the land side, and on the other extensive precipices.¹⁰ From this place Sveinn and Margad frequently invaded their neighbours in Katanes, and brought into the fortress whatever they could lay hands on.¹¹ On hearing these things Earl Rognvald at the request of Sveinn the son of Hroald passed into Katanes, accompanied by Thorbiorn Klerk, Hatlid Thorkelson, and Dufniall Havaradson, and proceeded first to Dungulsbæ, and thence to Lambaburg, which on Sveinn's refusal to deliver up Margad they blockaded.¹² Provisions being exhausted, Sveinn and Margad escaped by letting themselves down with ropes into the sea and swimming till they passed the precipices, and landing they passed through Sutherland into Merhaefi, reached Dufeyras (supposed to be Banff), and went thence by sea to the court of King David at Edinburgh.¹³ On their escape the citizens of Lambaburg submitted to Earl Rognvald, who allowed them to depart unharmed.¹⁴ King David reconciled the earl and Sveinn, and Margad remained at court.¹⁵ In 1152 Sveinn, having slain Arni Spitleggr a Norwegian sailor who was one of an expedition preparing by Earl Rognvald for the Holy

¹ Ork. Saga, p. 231. Torf., lib. i. c. 26.² Ibid.³ Ork. Saga, p. 235. Torf., lib. i. c. 26.⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 241. Torf., lib. i. c. 27.⁵ Ork. Saga, pp. 241, 247. Torf., lib. i. cc. 27, 28.⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 247. Torf., lib. i. c. 28.⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 249. Torf., *ut supra*.⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 249. Torf., lib. i. c. 20.⁹ Ibid.¹⁰ Ibid. This exactly answers the modern description of the old castle of Freswick near Duncansbay. See Pennant, vol. iii., where the castle is figured, and New Stat. Acc.¹¹ Ibid.¹² Ork. Saga, p. 251. Torf., lib. i. c. 20.¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 253. Torf., *ut supra*.¹⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 255. Torf., *ut supra*.¹⁵ Ibid.

Land, fled to Katanes; and Rognvald, having left Earl Harald then about 20 years old to rule the Orkneys, sailed for Palestine.¹

In 1152, during Earl Rognvald's absence, King Eysteinn came from Norway to Orkney with a great army, and, learning that Harald Maddadson had passed into Katanes with 80 men in a ship of 40 oars, and was then lying on the river Thorsa, he fitted out three galleys, crossed the Petland Firth, sailed to Thorsa, and coming suddenly on Earl Harald seized him on board his ship.² The earl agreed to procure his ransom with three marks of gold, and thenceforth to hold the Orkneys of King Eysteinn.³ About the year 1153 Earl Harald's father Maddad died, and his mother Margaret removed to Orkney.⁴ Between 1153 and 1156 Erlend the son of Harald Slettmal, who then dwelt chiefly in Thorsa, went to Melkolm king of Scots (Malcolm IV.), and requested that he would give him the rule of Katanes with the title of earl, which his father Harald had held.⁵ King Melkolm granted him the half of Katanes in conjunction with his kinsman Earl Harald, on which he went to Katanes and raised troops, and thence to Orkney, and requested the inhabitants to receive him.⁶ On learning these things Earl Harald raised an army, but on the interference of friends he agreed to a half year's truce, during which Erlend should go to the king of Norway and ask the half of the Orkneys which belonged to Earl Rognvald, and which Harald agreed to give him.⁷ About that period Earl Harald had banished Gunn the son of Olave and the brother of Sveinn Asleifson, who had children by Margaret the earl's mother, a step which made Sveinn the earl's enemy.⁸ During Erlend's absence in Norway Earl Harald passed into Katanes and wintered at Wik.⁹ Sveinn, who had married first Ragnhilde the daughter of Ingimund, and then Ingrid the daughter of Thorkel, obtained about that time the farm of his fathers-in-law at Thraswick in Katanes.¹⁰ Strolling one day about Lambaburg with a few of his men, he observed a ship of burden passing north of the Petland Firth.¹¹ Believing that it was a ship sent by Earl Harald to collect tribute in Hialtland, he ordered his men to pursue and take it, which they accordingly did, bringing all in it to land along with the ambassadors of Harald, whom they sent to tell him of the event.¹² Earl Harald said little, and made his arrangements for keeping the feast of Easter.¹³ Sveinn after Easter went to Orkney with a ship of burden and a galley, and, having during his voyage taken twelve ounces of gold from Sigurd Klauf a domestic of Earl Harald, when he reached Skalpeid took a ship from Fugl the son of Liotolf who had come from Liodhus (the Isle of Lewis) to meet Earl Harald.¹⁴ He then passed into the Ness, and thence into Scotland, and met King Malcolm then nine years old at Ardion, and received from that king an order to retain all the goods which he had in Katanes before his enmity with Earl Harald.¹⁵ In 1155 Sveinn again went to Orkney, where he met Earl Erlend, and subsequently they had a skirmish with Earl Harald.¹⁶ On the mediation of friends it was agreed that Erlend should have the half of the Orkneys,

¹ Ork. Saga, p. 277. Torf., lib. i. cc. 30, 31.

² Ork. Saga, p. 325. Torf., lib. i. c. 32.

³ Ibid.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 329. Torf., *ut supra*.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 327. Torf., *ut supra*.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 331. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁴ Ibid.

⁷ Ork. Saga, pp. 327, 329. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁵ Ibid. Malcolm must then have been at least 13.

¹⁶ Ork. Saga, pp. 331-335. Torf., *ut supra*.

after which Earl Harald passed into the Ness, and thence into Scotland to his friends, accompanied by a few men from Orkney.¹ In 1155 Earl Erlend received the whole dominion of the Orkneys, the inhabitants however stipulating that, if Earl Rognvald returned from Palestine, he should have his share.² In the same year Earl Rognvald returned from Palestine, and landing in Norway was informed that the Orkneymen were divided into two factions, the one headed by Earl Harald, and the other by Earl Erlend and Sveinn Asleifson, while a few were neutral.³ Sailing from Norway he reached Scotland late in the winter, and landing at Torfines shortly after Christmas he reached Orkney.⁴ In 1156 Earl Harald went to Orkney and gave his mother Margaret in marriage to Erlend Junga, who therefore became his ally.⁵

In 1156 Earl Rognvald agreed with Earl Erlend that each of them should have a half of the Orkneys, and that both should defend them against Earl Harald if he should attempt possession.⁶ For that purpose, while Harald was in Norway, Earl Erlend in 1157 went to Hialtland lest Harald should land there on his return, and Earl Rognvald went to Thorsa, where Earl Harald had many friends and relations.⁷ On Harald's return from Norway in the same year three of his ships were driven by stress of weather to Hialtland and taken by Earl Erlend.⁸ Earl Harald landing in Orkney, and hearing of the arrangement between Rognvald and Erlend, resolved to go into the Ness to meet Rognvald, and accordingly sailed to Thorsa with six ships, while Erlend and Sveinn hearing of his arrival also sailed southward.⁹ Rognvald was then at Beruvik in Suthrland celebrating the marriage of his daughter Ingirid with Eric Slagbrell, but, when he heard that Harald was at Thorsa, he immediately rode thither with a great multitude.¹⁰ The Earls Harald and Rognvald however were reconciled by the mediation of Eric Slagbrell.¹¹ While in conference on the subject in a certain castle at Thorsa, Thorbiorn Klerk arrived with the intention of assisting Earl Harald, and before he was aware of their conference slew some of Earl Rognvald's men, but the earls interfered and prevented farther bloodshed, and afterwards crossed the Petland Firth together with ten ships to Vidivog in Rinarsey.¹² Earl Erlend, having heard of their arrival, by the advice of Sveinn crossed to the Ness on the eve of Saint Michael (28 September), and took and slew many cattle in that district.¹³ Sveinn, having spread a report that Earl Erlend after plundering Katanes intended to sail for the Sudureys, about the beginning of winter 1157 sailed in company with that earl with six large and well equipped ships of war from Thorsa to the west coast, but, when he had sailed as far as the Staur (the Row Store in Assynt), he changed his course and sailed back to Vagaland (Walls), where he learned that Earls Rognvald and Harald lay at Skalpeid (Seapa) with fourteen ships.¹⁴ On the third night before the feast of Saint Simon (25 October) 1157 he came suddenly on the earls, and forced them to abandon their ships and flee to the Ness, while he and Erlend took possession of the ships and of immense wealth.¹⁵ Sveinn afterwards sent all the precious things which he found in Earl

¹ Ork. Saga, p. 331-335. Torf., *ut supra*.

² Ork. Saga, p. 327. Torf., *ut supra*.

³ Ork. Saga, p. 321. Torf., lib. i. c. 31.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 323. Torf., *ut supra*.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 343. Torf., lib. i. c. 32.

⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 347. Torf., lib. i. c. 33.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 349. Torf., lib. i. c. 33. ⁹ Ibid. ¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ork. Saga, p. 351. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹² Ork. Saga, pp. 351, 353. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹³ Ork. Saga, p. 353. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 355. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁵ Ork. Saga, pp. 357, 359. Torf., *ut supra*.

Rognvald's ship to the earl then in the Ness; Earl Erlend was slain by Earls Rognvald and Harald; and Sveinn having made peace with the earls broke it by an attack on Earl Harald, but again made peace, and in 1159 passed into the Ness and spent Easter at Dale with his friend Sumarlid.¹

In the end of summer 1159 the Earls Rognvald and Harald according to their usual practice went from Orkney into Katanes to hunt.² When they came to Thorsa, they learned that Thorbiorn Klerk, who some time previously had been banished from the Orkneys by Earl Rognvald, and had been at the court of King Melkolm, lurked in the neighbourhood with his men, prepared for a raid when opportunity should offer.³ The earls on receiving that intelligence proceeded up the valley of the Thorsa with 100 men, of whom 20 were horsemen, and then up the Kalfadal (now Calder) to the town of that name; Earl Rognvald being a little in advance with his friend Asolf and his kinsman Jomarr, and Earl Harald following soon after.⁴ When Earl Rognvald reached the town of Kalfadal, Hauskuld an inhabitant and the friend of Thorbiorn was engaged with some domestics in bringing corn into his barn not far from the banqueting-room in which Thorbiorn and his men were then drinking, and which was separated from the house by a ravine and a steep declivity.⁵ In the back wall of the house were doorways filled up with stones.⁶ When Thorbiorn and his men heard Hauskuld salute Earl Rognvald, they seized their arms, and knocking out the stones from the concealed doors took refuge there.⁷ As Earl Rognvald advanced towards the doors, Thorbiorn attacked him, and at the first stroke wounded the earl severely in the face, and cut off Asolf's head.⁸ Earl Rognvald was in the act of dismounting from his horse; Stephen a friend of Thorbiorn came up and attacked him with his spear, and Thorbiorn inflicted on him another wound.⁹ At the same moment Jomarr struck Thorbiorn in the thigh with a spear, which also entered his bowels.¹⁰ Thorbiorn and his men then took refuge behind the house, and from that descended into a clayey marsh.¹¹ Just then Earl Harald arrived, and meeting Thorbiorn delayed attacking him till he should learn Earl Rognvald's opinion; but finding the earl dead he pursued Thorbiorn, who with about 50 men had crossed the marsh and stood on his defence on the opposite bank.¹² A conference then took place, and Harald, though unwilling to attack Thorbiorn, was overruled by Magnus the son of Havarð Gunnason.¹³ Thorbiorn, advising his men to consult their own safety by flight, went and met Harald and submitted himself to his will.¹⁴ Harald refused to slay him, but also declined to fight in his behalf with the men of Magnus who were then in pursuit, and advised him to take refuge in some deserted cottages named Asgrims Aergin (probably Assary).¹⁵ Thither therefore Thorbiorn fled with eight men, pursued by the men of Magnus, who set fire to the cottages, from which after a brave defence Thorbiorn and his men, much worn out from the effects of the fire, came out and formed an easy prey to the victors.¹⁶ Earl Harald descended the valley of the

¹ Ork. Saga, pp. 359-375. Torf., lib. i. c. 33, 34.

² Ork. Saga, pp. 385, 387. Torf., lib. i. c. 36.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 387. Torf., *ut supra*.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ork. Saga, pp. 387, 389. Torf., *ut supra*.

⁹ Ork. Saga, p. 389. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ork. Saga, pp. 391, 392. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁴ Ork. Saga, pp. 393, 395. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 395. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁶ Ibid.

Kalfadal, and Magnus's men, returning to Fors, prepared the body of Earl Rognvald for burial, and carried it to Thorsa.¹ Earl Rognvald was slain five days after the feast of the Assumption of Saint Mary (that is, on 20 August) 1159, or according to Torfaeus 1158.² He was canonised in 1192.³

After the death of Earl Rognvald Earl Harald became sole ruler of Orkney.⁴ 'He was,' say the Norse historians, 'an illustrious potentate, superior to others in stature and strength.'⁵ A writer of this period, supposed to be Geraldus Cambrensis, describes Scotland as of old divided into seven districts, ruled by seven princes, and says, 'The seventh part is Cathanes on this side the Mound and beyond the Mound, for the hill Monnd divides Cathanes in the middle.'⁶ In the end of the twelfth century (apparently after the year 1196) Harald, Magnus Mangi, and Rognvald, the sons of Eric Slagbrell, went into Norway to King Magnus Erlingson, who conferred on Harald (thenceforth styled Ungi, the younger) the title of earl and the half of the Orkneys which was held by Earl Rognvald his maternal grandfather.⁷ Harald accompanied by Sigurd Murt went to the court of King William of Scotland, who gave him the half of Katanes which was held by Earl Rognvald.⁸ He then went into Katanes, met Lifolf his sister's husband, collected forces, and sent to Earl Harald Maddadson (the elder) requesting him to yield the half of Katanes.⁹ Earl Harald refused with indignation, and entered Katanes, apparently near Thorsa, where he was met by Harald Ungi with a much inferior force.¹⁰ A battle ensued, and Lifolf, Sigurd, and Earl Harald Ungi, were slain.¹¹ After the battle Earl Harald the elder again subdued the whole of Katanes, and then returned to Orkney.¹² King William the Lion on hearing these events sent ambassadors to Rognvald Gudrodson king of the Hæbudes and the son of Ingiborg the daughter of Earl Hæcon Paulson, who immediately raised a great army, occupied the whole country of Katanes, and left it under the rule of three toparchs, Manius Olafson, Rafn the *lojmadr*, and Hlifolf Ollius.¹³ Earl Harald sent a man into the Ness with instructions to kill, if possible, one or all of the toparchs.¹⁴ The sagacity of Rafn defeated the assassin, but he succeeded in killing Hlifolf, and then returned to Orkney.¹⁵ Immediately afterwards Earl Harald landed with an army at Thorsa, mutilated Bishop John as we have seen, took the town of Thorsa without resistance, punished the natives and especially their ringleaders for their treason, compelled them to swear fealty to him, seized on the possessions of the toparchs who had fled to the king, and occupied Katanes with his army.¹⁶ After Christmas (in some year between 1196 and 1201) King William raised an army, went into Katanes against the earl, and encamped at Eisteinsdal the boundary between Katanes and Sudrland, his camp stretching a long way in a

¹ Ork. Saga, p. 395. Torf., *ut supra*.

² *Ibid.*

³ Torf., *ut supra*.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 397. Torf., lib. i. c. 37.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Innes's Critical Essay, pp. 550, 601, 668, 768. The Mound is that range which terminates in the Ord on the south and in Drumhallsdell on the north. See GOLSPIE, p. 652.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 407. Torf., lib. i. c. 38.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Ork. Saga, p. 400. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹¹ Ork. Saga, p. 411. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Ork. Saga, pp. 411, 413. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 413. Torf., *ut supra*.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ Ork. Saga, p. 415. Torf., *ut supra*. See DOBSON, p. 599.

line with the valleys.¹ The earl, although at the head of an army of 6000 men, found himself unable to oppose the king, and having consulted the inhabitants made peace on condition that they should pay the king yearly a fourth of their possessions and repay those who had fled to him for refuge.² The Scottish chroniclers say that the king took Earl Harald and imprisoned him in Roxburgh castle, and that he was set at liberty on leaving his son Torphin as a hostage, who on his father's subsequent rebellion was subjected to various mutilations and died in prison.³ The Norse writers say that Earl Harald after making peace with King William at Eisteinsdal returned to Orkney, and that during those hostilities his son Thorfinn, whom the king retained as a hostage, had his eyes put out.⁴ Harald, as we have seen, was earl when five years old, afterwards held the earldom for 20 years in conjunction with Earl Rogvald, and after his death was sole earl for 48 years.⁵ He died in 1206 in the second year of the reign of Ingius Bardson king of Norway.⁶

Earl Harald was succeeded by his sons John and David, who ruled jointly.⁷ It was Earl John in whose presence, but apparently without whose consent, the Caithness men murdered Bishop Adam in 1222.⁸ The subsequent expedition of King Alexander II. into the north, in which he is described by the Norse writers as laying waste the country and expelling the inhabitants, is thus recorded by Wyntown —

And oure the Mownth als fast
 Intil the north landis than he past
 Swthyrland, Catenes, and into Ros,
 Justys til do wes his purpos.
 The Erle of Catenes met him thare
 And come oure wyth him til Forfare.
 A ryale Yhule thare held the kyng
 Quhare wantyng wes of na gud thyng.
 Thare borwyd that erle than his land
 That lay into the kyngis hand
 Fra that the byschape of Catenes
 As yhe before herd peryst wes.⁹

Earl David died before his brother John, apparently in the same year 1231, and soon after Earl John was murdered at Thorsa by Hanef the quaestor of the king of Norway and others, who

¹ Ork. Saga, p. 415. Torf., *ut supra*. The encampment of King William was evidently on the range named the Mound or Drumhallsdell. The date of his expedition, which Fordun and his continuator divide into two, and place in the years 1196 and 1201, the Melros Chronicle places in 1197, and Buchanan in 1199, occurred most probably about the year 1201. See DORNOCH, p. 599; Chronica de Mailros, p. 103; Ford. Scot., lib. viii. cc. 59, 62; Epist. Innocentii III., lib. i. no. 218; lib. v. no. 77; Buch. Hist., lib. vii. c. 49.

² Ork. Saga, p. 415. Torf., lib. i. c. 38.

³ Chronica de Mailros, p. 103. Ford. Scot., lib. viii. c. 59.

⁴ Ork. Saga, p. 419. Torf., lib. i. c. 38.

⁵ Ork. Saga, p. 419. Torf., lib. i. c. 39.

⁶ Ibid. Chronica de Mailros, p. 106.

⁷ Ork. Saga, p. 419. Torf., lib. i. c. 39.

⁸ Ork. Saga, p. 421. Torf., lib. i. c. 40. See DORNOCH, p. 600.

⁹ Ork. Saga and Torf., *ut supra*. Wyntounis Cronykil, book vii. c. 9.

set fire to his house, and dragging him from a cellar in which he had taken refuge slew him with nine wounds.¹

'It is,' says Lord Hailes, 'the opinion generally received that Alexander II. granted the earldom of Caithness to Magnus the second son of Gillibride earl of Angus in 1222.'² A manuscript which belonged to Robert Reid bishop of Orkney (now in the library of Lord Panmure), containing an account of the earls of Orkney by Bishop Thomas Tulloch in 1443, states that Earl John was succeeded by Earl Magnus the second, from whom Alexander king of Scots took the earldom of Sutherland.³ The truth seems to be, that, the ancient line of the earls of Orkney and Caithness having become extinct with Earl John in 1231, King Alexander II. granted the earldom of Caithness to Magnus the son of Gillibrid, who was also earl of Angus, about the same time that he created William the son of Hugh Freskyn first earl of Sutherland, not in 1222, but in 1232.⁴ Magnus is doubtless the same as Magnus the son of the earl who appears in record between 1226 and 1239.⁵ A charter of King Alexander II. to the chapel of Saint Nicholas at Spey, dated 7 October 1232, is witnessed by M. earl of Angus and Katanes (*Katania*).⁶ A charter by the same king to Patriek earl of Dunbar, dated 7 July 1235, is witnessed by the earl of Katanay.⁷ Earl Magnus died in 1239.⁸ From that year down to 1284 the succession is a matter of uncertainty.⁹ The following from Bishop Tulloch's manuscript is perhaps the most correct — Earl Magnus the second (Magnus the son of Gillibrid) was succeeded by Earl Gilbert the first; to whom succeeded his son Earl Gilbert the second, who held the earldoms of Orkney and Cathnes in Scotland; which Gilbert the second begot Magnus the third and a daughter Matilda; this Earl Magnus the son of Gilbert the second begot Earl Magnus the fourth and John; and Earl Magnus the fourth dying without issue was succeeded by his brother John in the foresaid earldoms of Orkney and Cathnes.¹⁰

Among the items of revenue accounted for in 1263 by Laurence le Grant sheriff of Inverness was the sum of 50 marks as part of the king's silver (*finis*) paid by the earl of Caithness.¹¹ In the same year Haeco king of Norway during his expedition against Scotland anchored for some time off the island of Ronaldshay, whence he sent ambassadors to the men of Catenes to demand tribute, threatening that otherwise he would lay waste the province with fire and sword, a threat which had the desired effect.¹² Among documents found in the king's treasury at Edinburgh in 1282, styled in general *Negocia tangencia Norwagiam*, there was one entitled

¹ Torf., lib. ii. Chronica de Mailros, p. 142. See THURSO, p. 752.

² Annals, first ed., vol. i. p. 148. Lord Hailes is not satisfied of the correctness of this opinion, and conjectures that the crown had given South Caithness or Sutherland to William Freskyn, and North Caithness to a younger son of the family of Angus. See GOLSPIE, p. 654. Sir James Dalrymple states positively, though without giving any authority, that King Alexander II. gave the earldom to Magnus the son of Gillibrid earl of Angus by the designation of North Caithness, for payment of a yearly duty of £10 sterling. Collections, prof. p. lxxiii.

³ Ork. Saga, app., p. 551. Lib. Ins. Miss., app., p. liii.

⁴ See the following notices, and GOLSPIE, p. 654.

⁵ Reg. de Aberbrothoc, vol. i. pp. 263, 335.

⁶ Regist. Moraviense, p. 123.

⁷ Reg. Hon. de Morton, vol. i., app., p. xxxv. In the Morton chartulary at Dalmabay, from which this charter was printed, the name of the earl is illegible, but there can be no doubt that Earl Magnus was the witness.

⁸ Torfaeus, lib. ii. Catalogue appended to the Ork. Saga.

⁹ See the following references.

¹⁰ Ork. Saga, app., pp. 551, 552. Lib. Ins. Miss., pp. liii, liv. Torfaeus and the editor of the Ork. Saga give different accounts of the succession.

¹¹ Compota Camerar., vol. i. pp. 21*, 31*. ¹² Torf., lib. ii.

Littera regis Norwagie missa Cataniensibus—very probably the missive of King Haco of 1263.¹ Among those who in 1284 became bound to support the title of Margaret the daughter of King Alexander III. to the throne of Scotland was Magnus earl of Orkney—doubtless also earl of Caithness.² Torfaeus places the death of Earl Magnus in the same year.³ John, said to be the son of Magnus, was undoubtedly earl of Catenes in 1290, and was one of those who in that year signed a letter to King Edward of England in name of the community of Scotland, proposing marriage between the king's son Edward and the Maid of Norway.⁴ The same Earl John was one of those who in 1293 were summoned to appear at the first parliament of King John Baliol, and who failed to appear.⁵ Sir Robert Gordon says that in 1297 Earl John swore fealty to king Edward I. at Murkle in Caithness.⁶ Torfaeus says that in 1300 the daughter of Eric king of Norway was betrothed to Earl John the son of Magnus.⁷

A manuscript, supposed to date between the years 1292 and 1296, describes the land of Cateneys as 24 leagues in length and 40 in breadth.⁸ In the year 1308 the community of the earldom of Catenes and others addressed a letter to Philip king of France touching the right of King Robert Bruce.⁹ John appears to have been still earl of Cathnes, but before or in the year 1320 he was succeeded by his son Magnus, who on 6 April of that year as earl of Cathanes and Orkney signed the letter addressed by the Scottish nobility to Pope John.¹⁰

In the year 1296 King Edward I. ordered John of Warren earl of Surrey, his warden of the kingdom of Scotland, to cause deliver to Andrew Fresel, who was about to go into England beyond the Trent, a hundred marks of the dowry of his wife in Catanes for the maintenance of himself, his wife, and family.¹¹ He further ordered that all the lands and tenements which were of his wife's dowry in Catanes should be restored to him for the same purpose.¹² In 1330 is recorded 'the complaint of Symon Fraser and of Margaret his wife and one of the heirs of the earl of Caithnes concerning the earldom of Caithnes,' dated at Kinross on 4 December.¹³ Simon Fraser was the son of Sir Andrew, but it is uncertain on what ground his wife claimed an interest in the earldom.¹⁴ He fell at Halidon in 1333, about which period Malise earl of Strathern became earl of Caithness.¹⁵ The manuscript of Bishop Tulloch says that Malise earl of Stratherne in Scotland succeeded Magnus fifth of that name earl of Orkney by hereditary right in both the earldoms of Orkney and Cathnes, as is proved by certain writs of confirmation of both the kingdoms of Scotland and Norway.¹⁶ Earl Malise married Johanna the daughter

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 3 post prof.

² Ibid., p. 82.

³ Torf., lib. ii.

⁴ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 85.

⁵ Ibid., p. 91.

⁶ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 37. Sir Robert describes the document in which the earl gave his fealty as if he had seen it—but with the same ignorance of the succession evinced by other historians he adds, 'This Earle John had succeeded unto Gilbert earle of Cateynes.'

⁷ Torf., lib. ii.

⁸ Misc. of Maitland Club, vol. iv. part i.

⁹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 99.

¹⁰ MS. of Bishop Tulloch. Lib. Ins. Miss., p. liv. Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 114.

¹¹ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. i. p. 35. Andrew Fresel was Sir Andrew Fraser the son of Sir Gilbert sheriff of Stirling, and the first who settled in the north. See Anderson's Family of Fraser, pp. 33-35.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 153. Rob. Ind., p. 29, no. 24.

¹⁴ Anderson's Family of Fraser, pp. 36, 44.

¹⁵ Hailes' Annals. Lib. Ins. Miss. pp. xliii, xlv, liv.

¹⁶ Lib. Ins. Miss., p. liv. It does not appear how the earl of Strathern had an hereditary claim to the earldom of Caithness. As his descent in the male line was different from that of Earl Magnus, he must have inherited the earldom through a female. See Riddell's Inquiry, vol. ii. pp. 502-504.

of Sir John of Menteth, who was dead in 1329, and by whom he had a daughter Matilda.¹ He afterwards married Marjory the daughter of Hugh earl of Ross who fell at Halidon in 1333.² In 1334, under the style 'earl of the earldoms of Stratherne, Caithness, and Orkney,' he granted to William earl of Ross (the son of Hugh) the marriage of his daughter Isabel (by his wife Marjory), declaring her his heir of the earldom of Caithness, failing an heir male by his said wife.³ Earl Malise in 1345 forfeited the earldom of Strathern, which he had given to the earl of Warrane, 'ane Englishman, enemy to King David,' and which that king then granted to Maurice Murray.⁴ He does not appear to have forfeited the earldom of Caithness, which was inherited by his daughter Matilda, and afterwards by Alexander of Ard her son by Weland of Ard.⁵ The manuscript of Bishop Tulloch says that Alexander of Ard by the law and custom of the kingdom of Scotland succeeded in right of his mother as heir to Earl Malise of Strathern in the principal manor or mansion of the earldom of Cathanes, and held it with the right and title of earl, and enjoyed also by the same right a perticcate or quantity of the lauds of Orkney, and acted as bailie and captain of the people of Orkney on the part of the king of Norway.⁶ In 1357 a Scottish chief styling himself Duncan the son of Andrew addressed a letter to the community of Orkney, and specially to the lieutenants of Magnus king of Norway, stating that he had the guardianship of the true and lawful heir of Malise formerly earl of Orkney, and requesting them not to suffer any of the fruits or fermes of the earldom to be taken out of those parts till the heir should be presented to them.⁷ It does not appear who that heir was, but most probably, as will be seen, it was Henry of Saint Clair the son of William of Saint Clair lord Synclar by a daughter of Earl Malise, apparently Isabel already noticed.⁸ In 1359 the chamberlain of King David II. gave in the revenue of the 'assise del lawyeld' of the earldom, rendered at Martinmas, as amounting to £20.⁹ In 1361 King David confirmed the charter of Earl Malise dated in 1334, granting to William earl of Ross the marriage of his daughter Isabel, and to Isabel the earldom of Caithness failing a male heir.¹⁰ In the year 1367 the parliament held at Seon in September deferred till the following January the auditing of certain accounts, among which was the sum of £10 to be accounted for of the return of an assise of the earldom of Cathanes, and in the hands of William Keth who held the ward of the heir of William of Saint Clair.¹¹ In 1375 Alexander of Ard sold or resigned to King Robert II. the earldom of Cathnes, the principal manor or mansion, with the title of earl and all other rights

¹ Rob. Index, p. 18, no. 69. Lib. Ins. Miss., p. liv.

² Lib. Ins. Miss., pp. xlv, liv. Hailes *ad annum*.

³ Lib. Ins. Miss., pp. xliii, xlv. Charter extant at Dunrobin in 1840, but now missing. Sir Robert Gordon says that in 1344 Malesius earl of Cateynes, Orkney, and Strathern, gave the earldom of Cateynes to William earl of Ross in marriage with his daughter Issobel—an evident misinterpretation of the charter of 1334. Genealogy, p. 49.

⁴ Rob. Index, p. 56, no. 1, 11. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 49.

⁵ Lib. Ins. Miss., p. liv. Rob. Index, p. 120, no. 59; p. 129, no. 27.

⁶ Lib. Ins. Miss., p. liv. It appears that Alexander of Ard received the captaincy of Orkney from Haco king of Norway only in 1375, soon after which he resigned the earldom of Caithness. Charter of King Haco, quoted by Torfaeus, lib. ii.

⁷ Torf., lib. ii., in which the original document is copied.

⁸ Lib. Ins. Miss., p. lv. See also Douglas's Peerage and the following notices.

⁹ *Compota Camerar.*, vol. i. p. 320.

¹⁰ Lib. Ins. Miss., pp. xliii, xlv. Rob. Index, p. 51, no. 34. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 49.

¹¹ *Acta Parl. Scot.*, vol. i. pp. 168, 169.

belonging to him by the law and custom of Scotland in right of his mother as the elder sister.¹

In 1375 King Robert II. granted to his son David Stewart (in 1371 created earl Palatine of Stratherne) the castle of Brathwell, its lands, and all the other lands as well in Caithness as in any other part of Scotland, inherited by Alexander de le Arde in right of Matilda de Stratherne his mother, and resigned by him.² In the same year, between 1377 and 1378, and again between 1380 and 1381, David Stewart appears with the style earl Palatine of Stratherne and earl of Caithness.³ In 1382 (23 February) he had a safe conduct from King Richard II., to last from the feast of Easter following to the feast of Easter 1383, empowering him to go to any part of England he pleased and remain there with sixty knights in his retinue.⁴ The date of his death is uncertain.⁵ He left a daughter Euphame, styled countess Palatine of Strathern, and heiress also of the earldom of Caithness.⁶ Probably between the years 1390 and 1398 King Robert III. granted to his brother Walter Stewart lord of Brechin the earldom of Caithness and regality of the same, resigned by 'the countess Palatine called Euphame Stewart countess Palatine of Strathern,' for the yearly payment of a 'reid haulk.'⁷ Walter Stewart, who was also earl of Athole, held the earldom of Caithness till about the year 1424, when he resigned it in favour of his son Alan.⁸ King James I. then granted the earldom to Alan Stewart and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his father Walter the king's uncle and to his heirs whomsoever.⁹ Alan held the earldom with the title of earl till the year 1431, when he was slain at the battle of Inverlochy in Lochaber.¹⁰ It then in terms of the charter reverted to his father Walter, on whose forfeiture for his share in the murder of King James I. in 1437 it again reverted to the crown.¹¹

In 1452 King James II. granted the earldom of Caithness to Sir George Crichtoun of Carnis admiral of Scotland, and to the heirs male of his body.¹² In the same year, as we have seen, he granted to the same Sir George the lands of Brathwele and others which formed part of the earldom, and which were resigned by Sir James Crichtoun of Frendraucht the king's chamberlain and his wife.¹³ Earl George compelled his wife Jonet to resign the barony of Mortoun to James of Douglas of Dalkeith, but soon after the earl's death in 1455 she publicly and by legal process recalled the resignation.¹⁴ She was afterwards married to James of Douglas, and in 1459 after his death she resigned the barony of Mortoun in favour of William of Douglas her son.¹⁵ At

¹ Lib. Ins. Miss., p. liv. Rob. Index, p. 120, no. 59; p. 120, no. 27.

² Rob. Index, p. 120, no. 59; p. 120, no. 27.

³ Ibid., p. 121, no. 79; p. 122, no. 111. Lib. Ins. Mis., p. xlvii.

⁴ Rotuli Scotiae, vol. ii. p. 42.

⁵ Additional Sutherland Case, c. v. p. 56.

⁶ Ibid. Rob. Index, p. 149, no. 57.

⁷ Rob. Index, p. 149, no. 57.

⁸ Ibid., p. 140, un. 19, 31, 32; p. 164, no. 37. Wyn-tounis Cronykil, book viii. ch. xxii. Reg. Honoris de Morton, vol. ii. p. 334. Lib. Ins. Miss., p. lii. Genea-

logy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 62, 63. Additional Sutherland Case, c. iv. p. 44.

⁹ Additional Sutherland Case, c. iv. p. 44.

¹⁰ Ibid. Ford. Scot., lib. xvi. c. 17. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 67, 68.

¹¹ Additional Sutherland Case, *ut supra*. Buch. Hist., lib. x. cc. 58, 59.

¹² Additional Sutherland Case, c. iv. p. 45. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 73.

¹³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv. un. 274, 275.

¹⁴ Reg. Honoris de Morton, vol. ii. pp. 332, 333.

¹⁵ Ibid.

that date she was still styled countess of Cathanes, but the earldom in terms of the grant to her first husband had reverted to the crown at his death.¹

In 1455 King James II. granted the earldom of Caithness in heritage to his chancellor William Lord Saint Clair earl of Orkney, the descendant, as we have seen, of a daughter (probably Isabel) of Earl Malise by his second wife Marjory.² In 1456 Alexander Suthyrland of Dunbeth bequeathed to the earl of Cathenes and his countess Marjory the daughter of Alexander, and to the children got between them, the £1000 which were due to him by the earl, or as much of that sum as might be recovered; the lands which he had in wadset of the earl within the earldom; and his claim to the wadset of Noss and Turbuster—the rents of the lands to be appropriated to the use of the children till the lands should be ‘quyt out’ by those who wadset the lands to him or by their heirs.³ From 1455 till the year 1471 or 1472 William Saint Clair was styled earl of Orkney and Cathnes.⁴ In 1471 or 1472 he resigned the earldom of Orkney, and was thenceforth styled only earl of Cathnes.⁵ He is known only as earl of Cathanes in the English records, in which he appears in 1457 and 1460 as one of the conservators of the truce between King Henry VI. and King James II., and in 1471, 1472, and 1473 as one of the ambassadors of King James III. to King Edward IV. sent to treat of the breaches of truce.⁶ In 1476 King James III. granted in heritage to William Sinclair, the son of William earl of Caithness and Lord de Saint Clair by Marjory his countess (the earl’s second wife and the daughter, as we have seen, of Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath) the lands of the earldom with the advowson of the hospital of Saint Magnus in Caithness in the sheriffdom of Innernes, with the offices of justiciar, chamberlain, and sheriff within the bounds extending from Portuacultir to Pentlandfirth and from the eastern sea to the western as the bounds of the bishoprick of Caithness extended, resigned by the earl, reserving the liferent to him and the terce to his wife Marjory.⁷ On his father’s death about the year 1480 William Sinclair became earl of Caithness, and he died at Flodden on 9 September 1513.⁸ In 1516 John earl of Caithness, the son of William, entered into a friendly alliance with Adam earl of Sutherland, who then granted to him 10 davachs on the water of Villy.⁹ They afterwards disputed, and their dispute was not settled till the year 1524, when it was brought to a friendly termination in the manner already detailed.¹⁰ In 1527 King James V. granted in heritage to William Sinclair, the son and apparent heir of John earl of Caithness,

¹ Reg. Honoris de Morton, vol. ii. pp. 332-334. Additional Sutherland Case, c. iv. p. 45.

² Additional Sutherland Case, *ut supra*. Lib. Jus. Miss., p. iv.

³ Misc. Ban. Club, vol. iii.

⁴ Reg. Hon. de Morton, vol. i. pp. xlv, xlv; vol. ii. p. 334. Misc. Ban. Club, vol. iii. Add. Suth. Case, *ut supra*.

⁵ Add. Suth. Case, *ut supra*.

⁶ Rotuli Scotiæ, vol. ii. pp. 383, 397, 429, 433, 436.

⁷ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. vii. no. 393. Misc. Ban. Club, vol. iii. Add. Suth. Case, c. vi. p. 110. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 70.

⁸ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 86, 442. Douglas’s Peerage. Riddell’s Inquiry, vol. ii. p. 609. Drummond’s History of Scotland, p. 150. The tradition

of the country is—that Earl William and his men, all Sinclairs, passed the Ord on a Monday dressed in green—that the earl had been forfeited, but that King James IV. on the field of battle wrote on a drum head a reversal of the forfeiture, which the earl immediately sent to Caithness by a trusty messenger—that he and his men all fell on the field—and that ever since no inhabitant of Caithness of the name of Sinclair will cross the Ord on a Monday. It is said that the deed written by King James remained in the possession of the earl’s descendants till 1766, and is now in possession of the earl of Fife. Old Stat. Acc. Pitcairn’s Tales of the Scottish Wars, vol. i. p. 401.

⁹ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 89.

¹⁰ See KILDONAN, p. 739.

all the lands of the earldom with the patronage of the hospital of Saint Magnus of Caithness in the sheriffdom of Innernys, with the offices of justiciar, chamberlain, and sheriff within the bounds extending from Portnaculter to the Pentland Firth and from the eastern sea to the western according to the bounds of the bishoprick of Caithness—and also the land of Helmysdale, Balnavaleich, Seyisgill, Doypull, Kildonane, Kynbraisehe, Knokfyn, and Free, with the mills and fishings, in the earldom of Suthirland and sheriffdom of Innernes—which lands of the earldom of Caithness and others belonged to Earl John, his wife Elizabeth Suthirland being in conjunct infefment of a part of them, namely, the lands of Furso (Thurso) with the fishings in the water of the same, Muirkill, Bordland, the Sixpennyland, Wattyn, Bylebyster, and the mill of Skowdale; and were resigned by him with the consent of his wife, reserving the liferent of the lands of the earldom to William Sinclair, and of the lands in Suthirland to the earl, with the terce to the countess Elizabeth.¹ In 1529 (18 May) Earl John and many of his men were slain in Orkney, to which they had gone to claim some possessions or to revenge some injury.² In the same year (13 June) King James V. granted to Alexander commendator of Scone the ward, nonentry, and relief of all the lands and rents of the deceased John earl of Cathnes, with the marriage of his heir.³ In 1538 George Sinclair (the brother of William) was earl of Caithnes, and in 1543 Queen Mary granted to him the nonentry and other dues of the earldom and of the hospital of Saint Mawnis in Caithnes, in the hands of the queen or her predecessors since the decease of William earl of Caithnes.⁴ In 1545 (1 October) the queen granted to Elizabeth Grahame the wife of George earl of Cathnes the liferent of the lands of Teistane with the mill, Trubbinster Litill, Wedderclet, Westbister, Weddale, and Carsko, in the earldom of Cathnes and sheriffdom of Innernes, resigned by the earl.⁵ On 2 October she granted to John Sinclair, the son and apparent heir of Earl George, and to his male heirs, with remainder to the earl's heirs whosoever, the lands and yearly revenues of the earldom of Caithnes, with the castles, fishings, mills, tenants, and other pertinents, and with the advowson of the hospital of Saint Magnus and all the benefices, churches, chapels, and altarages belonging to the earldom—the lands and baronies of Cleith and Greneland in that earldom—and the lands and baronies of Helmysdale, Balnavaleich, Swisgill, Dwebull, Kildonan, Kinbras, Knokfyn, and Fre, in the earldom of Suthirland—all resigned by the earl; also for his good service the fermes, profits, and dues of the same lands, in the queen's hands by reason of nonentry since the decease of William earl of Caithnes the grandfather of Earl George, or of John earl of Caithnes his father, or of William Sinclair his brother fear of the said lands; to be held of the queen in free earldom and lordship, with free forests, vert, and venison, reserving to the earl the liferent, and to his wife Elizabeth Grahame the terce of the lands of the earldom, and the liferent of the lands granted to her on 1 October.⁶

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxi. no. 42. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. vi. fol. 72; vol. vii. fol. 81.

² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 102, 442.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. viii. fol. 56. The commendator of Scone was Alexander Stewart bishop of Moray, the son of Alexander Duke of Albany. Lib. Eccles. de Scon., pref. p. xiii.

⁴ Reg. Morav., p. 402. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xvii. fol. 39. This appears to be Earl William who fell at Flodden. See the following grant of 1545.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 271. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. fol. 40.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxix. no. 272. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xix. ff. 33, 34.

In 1567 Earl George was infest in the hereditary office of justiciar within the bounds of the diocese of Caithnes, namely, from the Pentland Firth to Portneuter and from the east sea to the west — an office not included in the above resignation.¹ About the year 1570 the earl, on the suspicion that his son John the master was plotting his death, imprisoned him in the castle of Girnigo, where he died after a captivity of seven years.² Earl George died in 1583, and was succeeded by his grandson George, the son of John the master.³ In the year 1624 John M:Morane was served heir to his father James M:Morane merchant burghess of Edinburgh in a yearly revenue of £411, 6s. from the lands, baronies, and annualrents of the earldom of Caithness, and of the lands and baronies of Clyth and Greenland.⁴ 'In Februar one thousand six hundredth forty three yeares George Sinclair earl of Cateynes, having overlived his eldest sone William Lord Berridell, and his grandchild John master of Berridell the only sone of the said William, dyed in Cateynes of the age of three score and eighteen years, leaving his great-grandchild George Sinclare the sone of John master of Berridell to succeed vnto him.'⁵ In 1644 George earl of Caithnes, Lord Sinclair of Berriedaill, was served heir male to his father John master of Berriedaill in the lands, baronies, and annualrents of the earldom of Cathanes, with the fishings and mills; the advowson of the hospital or hospice of Saint Magnus in Cathanes, of the other benefices, churches, chapels, and altarages belonging to the earldom, of the archdeaconry of Caithnes and the churches of Bowar and Wattin belonging to it, and of the church of Dunett; and the lands and baronies of Clyth and Greinland; together of the old extent of 354 marks — the lands of Berriedaill and others, formerly in the sheriffdom of Inverness, together of the old extent of £30 — the half of the lands of Aikergill and parts of many other lands within the diocese of Caithnes, together of the extent of 100 marks — and the burgh of Thurso erected into a burgh of barony, of the extent of 10 marks — all erected into the earldom of Caithness.⁶

Among those who in the year 1290 joined in recommending marriage between Edward the son of King Edward I. and the Maid of Norway the grandchild of King Alexander III. were John earl of Catenes, Ranald le Chen the father, Ranald le Chen the son, and Magnus of Fetherith.⁷ In 1296 one or both of the Chens, and William the son of William of Federed of the county of Elgyn in Morref, swore fealty to King Edward I.⁸ The Chens and Federeths were connected with each other by intermarriage with the Morays of Duffus.⁹ How the Federeths had lands in Caithness does not appear; but between 1329 and 1350 William Fedrey or Feddereffe of that ilk granted the fourth part of Kathness to Ranald (or Reginald) Chene the third of that name and the son of the younger Ranald of 1290, and King David II. confirmed the grant.¹⁰ In 1333 Reginald was taken prisoner at the battle of Halidon Hill, and he is said to have died

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 571.

² Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, pp. 157, 163, 164.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 177, 179. For various particulars of the life and character of Earl George, who died in 1583, see the same authority, pp. 134, 136, 145, 146, 147, 148, 150, 151, 152, 153, 177-180. And for the life and character of

his grandson and successor down to the year 1630 see pp. 180-444 of the same work.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 511.

⁶ Retours.

⁷ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 85.

⁸ Ragman Rolls, pp. 96, 119, 172.

⁹ Regist. Morav., pp. 139, 144, 145, 285, 341.

¹⁰ Rob. Index, p. 62, no. 22. Chalmers, vol. i. p. 595.

about 1350.¹ He is styled in charters, as we have seen, Ranald Lord Schen, and is traditionally remembered as the *Morrar-na-shean*; and we are informed by Sir Robert Gordon that he was 'a great commander in that cuntree, of whom many fables are reported amongst the vulgar sort of people, and cheiflie concerning his hunting wherein he much delighted.'² He had two daughters, whose names are uncertain (but probably were Margery and Mary), the one married to Nicolas Sutherland the brother of William earl of Sutherland and the ancestor of the Sutherlands of Duffus in Moray, and the other married first to John of Douglas and afterwards to John of Keth of Inverugy.³ It is uncertain whether the following notices apply to one or both. Between 1350 and 1371 King David II. granted to Margery Chene the lands of Strathbrok and the half of Catness.⁴ In 1366 that king granted anew to Mariot Chene the widow of the deceased John of Douglas the half of the barony of Strabroek in the constabulary of Lynlithen and sheriffdom of Edynburgh, and the fourth part of the earldom of Cathanes in the sheriffdom of Inverness, resigned by Mariot at Edynburgh in presence of divers nobles and barons of the kingdom.⁵ In 1390 or 1391 Mary Chene resigned the lands of Strathbrok in favour of Andrew of Keth her son and the son and heir of John of Keth of Inverugy.⁶ The lands inherited by the daughters of Ranald Chen, which lay in various parishes, were by them carried respectively to the Sutherlands and Keiths, from whom they passed to the Oliphants, and ultimately became the property of the Sinclairs earls of Caithness.⁷

In the end of the tenth century appears in record Hallvard of Traskvik the kinsman of Sigurd earl of Orkney.⁸ In 1013 Karius an adherent of the earl, who had informed him of the slaughter of Hallvard by two Scottish earls, having himself slain one Gunnar at a banquet of Earl Sigurd's, fled into Catanes and dwelt a long time with a chief named Skeggjus at Traskvik.⁹ He afterwards went to Rome for absolution, and then returned to Thrasvick a town of Catanes, where his wife Helga died.¹⁰ Between the years 1153 and 1156 Sveinn Asleifson, who married first Ragnhild the daughter of Ingirmund, and next Ingirid the daughter of Thorkel, obtained the farm of his fathers-in-law at Thrasvik in Katanes.¹¹ In 1361, as we have seen, by an indenture made at Carynbul in Buchan, James Prat of Kerdale the son of the deceased John Prat of Estir Glenarundy sold to Hugh Ross lord of Philorth a yearly revenue of 6 marks sterling due to him from the lands of Fraswiln, Okyngil, and Harpsdol, for the sum of 35 marks sterling to be paid by Hugh on recovering the same by law.¹² Between 1406 and 1413 Robert Duke of Albany regent of Scotland confirmed a wadset of the lands of Freswick and Ochyngill in Caithness granted by William Mowat (de Monte Alto) of Loseragy to his son John.¹³ In 1549 Patrick Mowat of Boquhellie sold to Alexander Mowat in Toftis under reversion the lands of Toftis, the lands of Owirtye, and two pennylands of Ouchtingill, in the barony of Freschwick and sheriffdom of Innernes; and in the same year Queen Mary granted to Alexander Mowat a

¹ Hailes' Annals. Chalmers, vol. i. pp. 595, 596.

² See THURSO, HALKIRK, and other parishes. Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 54.

³ Genealogy of the Earls of Sutherland, p. 54. Shaw's Moray, p. 76. Chalmers, vol. i. p. 596.

⁴ Rob. Index, p. 34, no. 17.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 79, no. 132.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 151, no. 13.

⁷ See LATHERON, WICK, and other parishes.

⁸ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 10.

⁹ *Ibid.*, c. 11.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Ork. Saga, p. 329. Torf., lib. i. c. 32.

¹² Balnagown Charters. Harpsdol is in HALKIRK, which see.

¹³ Rob. Index, p. 166, no. 8.

crown charter of the lands.¹ In 1554 Patrick Mowat lord of Boquhollie and Freshwick (apparently the same Patrick) sold to Malcolm Halero provost of the cathedral church of Orkney, with remainder in succession to his natural sons Hugh, Ninian, and Edward, and to the nearest lawful heir of the house of Halero, 6 pennylands of the town of Otingill in the barony of Freshewick within the bounds of Cathnes and in the sheriffdom of Invernes.² In the same year Queen Mary granted to Malcolm a crown charter of the lands.³ In 1565 Patrick Mowat of Balchollie was served heir to his father Patrick in the lands of Freshewick and Harpistell in the earldom of Cathanes and sheriffdom of Invernes, of the old extent of £10.⁴ In 1593 Patrick Mowat of Buquhollie, probably the son named in the retour, appears in record.⁵ In 1653 Sir George Mowat of Bolquhollie knight was served heir male to his father Master Roger Mowat of Bolquhollie advocate in the lands and mains of Freshweik; the manor place of Burnesyde with the mill; the lands of Harlie, Midletoun of Freshweik, Skersarie, Sowsaquoy, and Toftis; the lands of Overly, Astrowell, Blay, Berinquoyes; the lands of Ockingill; the Milntown of Okingill; and the lands of Stronbister; with the patronage of the kirk of Cannesbie — formerly in the sheriffdom of Invernes — united with lands in Aberdeen into the barony of Bolquhollie, and of the old extent of £10.⁶

About the year 1400 Fordun enumerates among the islands of Scotland the isle of Stromeye near the Seylla of the Oreades.⁷ In 1455 Bishop William granted to his brother Gilbert Mudy as captain of Skelbo and Scrabster among other lands the 20 shillinglands of Stroma.⁸ In 1499 two pennylands of Stromay were included among the lands forfeited by Alexander Sutherland of Dilrid, and granted by King James IV. to Y Makky in Straithnaern, and were included also in all subsequent grants of the barony of Farr.⁹ In 1539 King James V. granted to Elizabeth Suthirland countess of Cathnes, for her good service and for certain sums of money paid to his treasurer, the lands of Kanesby, Werris, Steter, Murkill, Nos, Donet, and Stroma, in the earldom of Cathnes and sheriffdom of Innernys, formerly belonging to William earl of Cathnes, and apprised in the hands of King James IV. for the sum of £400 due to him by that earl.¹⁰ In 1564 Queen Mary granted to George earl of Caithnes the nonentry of the same lands, which had belonged to his deceased mother Elizabeth Suthirland, and were in the queen's hands by reason of nonentry.¹¹ In 1574 George Sinclair was served heir of entail to his brother William Sinclair the lawful son of George earl of Cathanes in the lands of Cannasbie, Seittar, Qwys, Hwnaye, and Stromaye, and the superiority of the lands of Warris, Smyddeis, Dwnat, and Murkill, with the mills, lying in the sheriffdom of Invernes, and of the old extent of £23, 8s. 10½d.¹² In 1617 Sir William Sinclair of Catbol was served heir to his father George Sinclair of May in the same lands and superiority, with the lands of Nos and Queystaine.¹³ The island of Stroma, says a writer in 1726, 'pays in victual and money toward 1300 merks of

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 55.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 734.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. iv. p. 20.

⁶ Retours.

⁷ Ford. Scot., lib. ii. c. 10.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. viii. no. 123.

⁹ See FARR, pp. 710-715.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 328. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xiii. fol. 35.

¹¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxii. ff. 110, 111.

¹² Retours.

¹³ Ibid.

yearly rent, yet there is not one plough in it, but is all delved with the spade or foot.'¹ 'The tenth sheaf,' observes another in 1793, 'was heretofore taken in part payment of the rent; this with all other customs and services has of late been converted by the present proprietor at the desire of the people into money.'²

In the year 1496 John Grot (according to local tradition one of three brothers named Malcolm, Gavin, and John) had from William earl of Caithness a grant of lands in Dungsby.³ In 1525 John Grot in Dongasby, chamberlain and bailie of John earl of Caithness, gave seisin to the Trinity Friars of Aberdeen in an annuity of 10 marks from the island of Stroma.⁴ In 1530 Hugh Grot chaplain was among the number of those who were art and part in the slaughter of William Sutherland of Dufhouse and others at Thurso.⁵ In 1546 seisins of certain lands in Sutherland were witnessed by Donald Grot.⁶ In 1547 John Grot and Hugh Grot, the latter designed 'in Papygo,' were among those who had a remission from Queen Mary for treasonably taking the castle of Akirgill and other crimes.⁷ In 1548 Donald Grot was witness to a seisin of Langewell and other lands in Farr.⁸ In 1549 the nonentry of the lands of Duncasby, said to have been possessed by the Grots, was granted by Queen Mary to Laurence Oliphant, and the lands were classed among those in the hands of the crown since the decease of Rannald Lord Schen or other possessor.⁹ In 1552 or 1553 they were appraised in favour of the same Laurence.¹⁰ In 1604 they were inherited by Laurence Lord Oliphant from his grandfather Lord Laurence.¹¹ In 1630, as we have seen, Donald Rany in Stronsay, the lawful son of the deceased David Rany and of Issobell Groit the sister of the deceased Hugh Groit of Brabusterdoran, was served heir to the same Hugh his uncle in the lands of Brabusterdoran in the parish of Bower.¹² In 1644 all the lands held by the Grots appear to have been included in the earldom of Caithness, in which Earl George was then served heir to his father John master of Berriedaill.¹³ A writer in 1726 observes, 'Here (at Duncasbay) is the dwelling house of Grott of Wares, who has ane other dwelling at Wares 4 or 5 furlongs south west of the church.'¹⁴

In 1538 the half of the lands of Brabastermyre and Sleiklie was with various other lands granted by King James V. to William Earl Marischal and his wife Lady Margaret Keith, with remainder to the earl's heirs, having been resigned by Elizabeth Keith who was the sister of the countess and the niece and one of the heirs of the deceased Sir William Keith of Innerguy.¹⁵ In 1542, as we have before seen, there appears in record Malcome Mowat of Brabistermyre.¹⁶ In 1644 the lands of Brobisterne (Brabistermyre) and Sliklie were included in the earldom of Caithness.¹⁷

Between the years 1561 and 1566, as we have seen, the rental of the bishoprick given in to the collector of thirds included 'the barronie of May with pendicles and pertinentis thair of sett in few

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

² Old Stat. Acc.

³ *Deliciae Literariae*, p. 80. Old Stat. Acc. Anderson's Guide. The local tradition, transmitted in the last century through George Groat of Warse, is, that the three brothers came into Caithness with a letter of recommendation from King James IV., and acquired by purchase or otherwise the lands of Warse and Duncasbay. See Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen, vol. ii. pp. 67, 68.

⁵ See THURSO, p. 752.

⁶ Sutherland Charters.

⁷ See WICK, p. 778.

⁸ Sutherland Charters.

⁹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxiii. fol. 22.

¹⁰ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxi. no. 177. Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 45.

¹¹ Retours.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxvi. no. 146. See WICK, p. 773.

¹⁶ See BOWER, p. 783.

¹⁷ See above.

to the erle of Cathnes paying yeirlie in all dewtie lxxxiii lib.¹ The barony of May was probably included in the service of the earldom of Caithnes in 1644 in favour of Earl George.²

Fairs are held at Freswick in February and at Cannisbay in December, on what days is not mentioned, but the fairs are evidently those of Saint Modan and Saint Drostan, whose respective days in the Romish Calendar are 4 February and 14 December.³

On Duncansbay Head stood the ancient fort of Dungsulbae, a very early if not the earliest stronghold of the earls of Orkney and Katanes, and apparently one of those circular edifices known as Picts' houses.⁴ It was generally held by a prefect or captain under the earl.⁵ Remains or vestiges of the building existed in 1793, and appear to be still extant.⁶

On the Warth Hill was a tower similar to that of Dungsulbae.⁷

At Freswick are the ruins of a castle, believed with every probability to be the ancient fort or city of Lambaburg, above described as built near the brink of a precipice overhanging the sea and defended by a stone wall on the land side.⁸ It is mentioned, as we have seen, as held by Sveinn Asleifson between the years 1142 and 1149.⁹ Connected with it we have the following story dated in 1156 and 1157.¹⁰ About Christmas Earl Harald Maddadson sailed to Orkney with four ships manned by 100 sailors, and at some part of Mainland killed two men, one of whom was named Ketill, took four prisoners, two of whom were Arnfinn the brother of Anakol and one named Liotolf, and then returned with Thorbiorn Klerk to Thorsa. Two ecclesiastics named Benediet and Eirik carried Arnfinn to Lambaborg, whence they sent a messenger to Earl Erlend to say that Arnfinn would be released only on condition of restoring one of their ships taken at Kiarekstad. The earl agreed; but Anakol thought the matter might be managed otherwise. Accordingly on Friday immediately before Lent Anakol and Thorsteinn Rangnason passed by night into the Ness in a galley with 20 men, and landing in a certain bay under the rocks hid themselves among the brushwood near Thrasvik, leaving the ship with a block of wood dressed like a man lying between every two oars. Anakol, observing a ship rowed from the Borg to Aros (apparently from Lambaborg to the mouth of the river Freswick), and on land a rider and footman, one of whom he knew to be Eirik, sent 10 men to the river to protect his own vessel, and 10 to the town who intercepted and seized Eirik. Eirik was then conveyed to Orkney to Earl Erlend, and afterwards exchanged for Arnfinn. In illustration of the locality we have the following, written in 1726 — 'East south east from the church at two miles distance is the town of Freswick upon a bay of the East or German Sea. The house stands on the south west side of the bay two miles south west from Duncansbay Head and mouth of Pictland Firth. On the north side of the house a brook or burn runs into the sea, over which is a bridge of one arch over against the gate. At a quarter mile's distance south west of Freswick stands the old castle of Freswick, now ruinous, on a high rock almost environed with the sea.'¹¹ Before that

¹ Book of Assumptions. See DORNOCH, p. 614.

² Retours. ³ New Stat. Acc. See above, p. 792.

⁴ See above, pp. 794-796, 798, 799; Pennant, vol. iii. p. 354; Old Stat. Acc. New Stat. Acc.

⁵ See above, pp. 794-796, 798, 799.

⁶ Old and New Stat. Acc.

⁷ New Stat. Acc.

⁸ See above, p. 799. Old and New Stat. Acc. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 354.

⁹ See above, p. 799.

¹⁰ Ork. Saga, pp. 339-341. Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 32.

¹¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

period the castle was the residence of Mowat of Balquholly, the proprietor, as we have seen, of the lands, and from that circumstance acquired the name of Bueholie's castle.¹

In 1726 the castle of Mey was 'a good old building with a tower,' built about 120 years previously by the earl of Caithness.² It was then going to ruin, is noticed in 1769, and in 1793 was ruinous.³ The seat of the present earl of Caithness is at Mey.⁴

Huna, as we have seen, appears to be Hofn, the place at which Earl Hlodver or Ludovic the father of Earl Sigurd the Gross was buried in the end of the tenth century.⁵

'East north east from the church,' says a writer in 1726, 'at a long mile's distance is the town of Duncansbay, only remarkable for John a Grott's house.'⁶ Pennant in 1769 says that John o' Groat's house was known only by name.⁷ In 1793 a writer already cited states that, the Grots having multiplied to the number of eight, and having disputed about the precedence at table, John Grot constructed an octagonal building with a door in every side, and placed within an octagonal oak table, so that each Grot might enter at his own door and no one have the precedence of any other—a measure which is said to have settled the dispute.⁸ The same writer says that the remains of the oak table had been seen by many then living, who had inscribed it with their names.⁹ In 1834 there was to be seen at the spot merely the indented site of a house on a small green knoll close to the beach.¹⁰

On the north side of Stroma in 1726 stood 'the principall dwelling house built by Kennedy of Kairnmuek,' but then 'belonging to William Sinclare of Freswick proprietor of the isle.'¹¹ In 1793 an old tower or place of defence, built on a rock in the sea or on the shore, is noticed as lying on the *west* side of Stroma.¹²

In the year 1726 there were no highways in the parish, and the bridges were built of turf (the bridge at Freswick being apparently an exception).¹³ One of the turf bridges was a quarter of a mile in length, and was known as the Long Bridge.¹⁴

¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect. Pennant, vol. iii. p. 354.
New Stat. Acc.

² Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

³ Ibid. Pennant *ut supra*. Old Stat. Acc.

⁴ Notes taken in 1854.

⁵ Torfaeus, lib. i. c. 9. See above, p. 794.

⁶ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

⁷ Pennant, vol. iii. p. 341.

⁸ Old Stat. Acc.

⁹ Anderson's Guide. New Stat. Acc.

¹¹ Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.

¹² Old Stat. Acc. ¹³ Macfarlane.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

APPENDIX.

A P P E N D I X.

K I N T Y R E.

PAGE 1. In the year 574 was fought the battle of Delgen in Cindtire, in which fell Dunchad M'Conal M'Comgal and many other servants of the sons of Gauran.¹

P. 2. In the account of William earl of Mar chamberlain, rendered at Scone in the year 1264, occurs the following memorandum—That the said earl received of the fermes of Kintyre from the term of Whitsunday of that year 20 cows valued at £3, and delivered them to the men of Galloway for defect of victuals.²

P. 2. The lands granted by King Robert Bruce to James the son of Dunsleph between 1306 and 1309 were seven senemargis and a half senemargis of his lordship of Kyntyre, namely, $1\frac{1}{4}$ senemargis of Ardayardill, $\frac{1}{2}$ a senemargis of Ogilduill, 1 senemargis of Ardinlochir, 1 senemargis of Ardinross, $1\frac{1}{2}$ senemargis of Kylteden, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a senemargis of Cartegredlene and Arngaffs. $\frac{3}{4}$ of a senemargis of Delgrenan, between the land of the abbacy of Iona and the land of Ardeardell; 1 senemargis of Penigunnum, and $\frac{1}{8}$ of a senemargis of Lagan near Penigunnum; the grantee rendering the forinsec service of a ship of 26 oars with its complement of men and victuals.³

P. 2. In the account of John de Lany constable of Tarbart, rendered at Claemanan in 1326, he enters the sum of £4, 16s. as the value of 6 *pondra* of cheese received from the bailies of Kentire, according to the *pondus* of the district, reckoning 12 pence for each *pondus*.⁴ In the account rendered at Scone in 1329 by John of Dunfermelin, clerk of the liverance of the king's household, are entered 103 $\frac{1}{2}$ bolls of the barley of Kentyre.⁵ The lands which King Robert Bruce in that year granted to Gilchrist Maeymar M'Cay were two 'schanmareate' of land in Kentyr, namely, a pennyland of Arydermeile, a pennyland of Ballostalfis, a pennyland of Kylewlan, and a pennyland of Seskamousky, to be held by Gilchrist and by his younger son in heritage, with remainder to Ymar his elder son and his heirs, for the service of two bowmen in the king's army.⁶

¹ Tigernachi Annales.

² Compota Camerar., vol. i. p. 18^a.

³ Hadinton's Collections, vol. ii. p. 77.

⁴ Compota Camerar., vol. i. p. 2.

⁵ Ibid., p. 67.

⁶ Hadinton's Collections, vol. ii.

P. 3. In 1367 the lands of Kyntir and Unghys were in the hands of John of the Isles, and the sheriff of the lands did not appear to account for the king's rents.¹ In 1430 King James I. granted for seven years from Whitsunday of that year to Alexander of Montgomery of Ardrossane and Sir Robert Cunynghame of Kylmawris the joint wardenship within the parts of Kyntyre and Knapdale, for the purpose of making his peace with the inhabitants, and for leasing the lands to them *pro tempore*, and doing all other things competent to their office—and gave the wardens the liberty of levying the fermes of the lands for their own use *sine compoto*.²

P. 4. A.D. 1494. Note a mistake concerning Sir John of the Isles (of Donyvaig), erroneously identified with John of Ila Lord of the Isles.³

KILBLANE.

P. 9. In 1580 King James VI. presented Donald Campbell to the parsonage of Kilblawane in the diocese of Ergyle and sheriffdom of Terbert, vacant by the decease of Master Cornelius Omay.⁴

P. 9. There is an isle Sanda in the Scottish Sea on the west a mile from the mainland of Kintire. It is one large mile (*magnum milliare*) in circumference. Its soil is genial, and, if cultivated, would be fertile in fruit and grain. In it is a small church sacred to Saint Ninian, to whose monastery in Galloway the whole island belongs. Adjoining the church is the sepulchre of the fourteen sons of a most holy man Senchanius an Irishman, renowned for their sanctity, surrounded by a low stone wall and including seven large polished stones covering those sacred bodies, in the midst of which (as at this moment occurs to my recollection) was an obelisk higher than a man's usual stature. None can enter that enclosure with impunity. The oldest of the islanders, and the father of nearly all the rest, related to me the prodigy which I here add. Angus Maconell lord of Kintire and the island of Ilay, whom I myself have seen, once entered the island accompanied by a numerous band, among whom was the chief of the youth of Kintire. The lord and his nobles, after treating of more serious matters, exercised themselves, as they were wont, with the game of 'shinty' (*pilæ ac clavarum ludo*). The ball (*pila*) bounded into the cemetery, and a lad who dared to fetch it died of a swelled foot. In this island was found an arm of Saint Ultan, which enclosed in a silver shrine was religiously kept before this war (*ante hoc bellum*) by a gentleman of the illustrious family of the Maconells. Not far from the chapel is a perennial spring, noted for miracles, as the islanders and many on the continent informed me. Indeed it was frequented in my own time by the neighbours all around, chiefly by those in whose minds any remains of the ancient religion dwelt. There were many other wonderful and pleasant things told me of this place by men most worthy of credit.⁵

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. i. p. 108.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iii. no. 60.

³ See KILDALTON, p. 269.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 44.

⁵ MS. in the Burgundian Library at Brussels, circa 1600, entitled *Insulæ Sandæ seu Auoniæ Hiberniæ Abhūm Brevis Descriptio*, by friar Edmund M'Can. The game here described was probably that of Shinty.

KILCHOUSLAND.

P. 19. In 1580 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Sir Neil Makneill vicar of the parish church of Kilchuslane in Kintyre, granting, with the consent of Angus Makkonnell of Donyvage and Glennis the patron of the vicarage, to Adam Mackay and his heirs the lands of Kirrynych and Chaillen of the old extent of 13s. 4d., and the lands of Ballimanochwachthroch of the same old extent, together with the glebe and kirklands of the vicarage called Gortane-chabbal, Arynd, Glak, Sellestir, Gortencobber, Imry, Amaill, and Browachintempill, lying in North Kintyre in the parish of Kilehuslane and sheriffdom of Tarbert.¹

KILMAROW.

P. 21. This church, like others of the same name (of which the spelling is various), appears to have been dedicated to Saint Malrube; and the church of Saint Mary, coupled with that of Killean in the grant of 1251, was probably Kilmory in that parish.²

P. 22. In 1599 Alexander Campbell commendator of Ardehattan granted to Duncan Campbell, the natural son of Donald Campbell of Eachtrachan, a lease for life, the life of his next heir, and 19 years more, of the teinds of the parish of Kilmarow in Kintyre, reserving the teinds payable to the minister.³ In 1602 Alexander Campbell resigned the priory of Ardehattan with its churches, including the church, teinds, and patronage of Kilmarow, all which King James VI. then granted to him anew, incorporating the whole into the temporal tenantry of Ardehattan.⁴

KILLEAN.

P. 24. In 1575 King James VI. confirmed a charter by James bishop of Argyle and commendator of the abbey of Sadagall, granting for life to Gawine Hammiltoun a yearly pension of £40 Scots from the readiest fruits of the bishoprick and abbacy, and as security the teinds and dues of the bishop's quarter of the kirks of Kilmartine, Glenvrquhay, Kilmolevo, and Inchald.⁵

P. 25, note 7. For 'Somhavile' read 'Somhairle.'

KILCALMONELL.

P. 28. In 1580 (18 August) King James VI. presented Hector M'Allister to the vicarage of Kilealmonell, vacant by the demission of Alexander M'Allister.⁶ In the same year (5 September) he confirmed a charter by Alexander Makallister vicar of the parish church of Kileolmannell in Knapdail, granting in liferent to Charles Makallister constable of Tarbert, and in heritage to

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlviij. fol. 52.

² See KILLEAN, p. 23, CRAIGNISH, KILARROW, and other parishes.

³ Ardehattan Inventory.

⁴ *Ibid.* and Ardehattan Charters.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliiii. fol. 41.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlviij. fol. 1.

Hector Makallister his son, the lands of Kilcolmannell called Balleneele of the old extent of two marks, with the mill, aqueduct, and astricted miltures of the same, the acre called Dalnascenkill, and the acre lying around the chapel of Skibinche, belonging to the vicarage, in the lordship of Knapdail and sheriffdom of Tarbert.¹

P. 29. The grant of Kintyre and Knapdall, made by King James I. in 1430 to Alexander of Montgomery and Sir Robert Cunynghame, included the keeping of the castle of Skypinche with power to appoint lieutenants.²

P. 35. In 1580, as appears from the above notice, the office of constable of Tarbert was still in existence.³

KILBERRY.

P. 38. Between the years 1432 and 1480 Sir Colin Campbell first laird of Glenvrquhay acquired the 4 marklands of Innerneill in Knabdall, which he afterwards exchanged for lands in Perthshire.⁴ By a deed dated at Glenvrquhay 18 August 1502 Archibald earl of Argyle granted to Duncan Campbell of Glenvrquhay the same 4 marklands lying in the lordship of Knapdail and sheriffdom of Tarbert.⁵

NORTH KNAPDALE.

P. 39. In 1587 Alexander commendator of Kilvynning granted for life to Duncan Makphaill the vicarage of Kilmakocharmik in Knapdail in the diocese of Ergyle, with the 'teyndis, fruittis, rentis, annualis, landis, gleib callit Kilbegie, kirklandis and pendielis callit Kilmorie in Knap, Kilmichaell, Kilduseolane,' vacant by the resignation of Neill M'Callum.⁶

P. 41. The grant made in 1430 by King James I. to Alexander of Montgomery and Sir Robert Cunynghame included the isles of Geyay and Dannay belonging to Castle Soon, and the keeping of that castle and of the castle of Skypinche.⁷ Between the years 1429 and 1449 Alexander of Yle, earl of Ros and lord of the Isles, granted in heritage to Torquel M'Neill constable of the castle of Syffyn the constabulary of that castle, certain lands in Gyga, and the following lands in Knapdale, namely, 4 marklands of Dannay, a markland of Bairbrek, a markland of Bairbeth, a markland of Bairbethan, 2 marklands of Bairnaphala and Duarbay, a halfpennyland of Dufföynyng, and a markland of Tuiryngs, with the office called Toshachdeora of the lands of Knapdale.⁸ In 1455 John of Yle (the son of Alexander), earl of Ros and lord of the Isles, confirmed the grant in favour of Neil M'Neill the son of Torquel.⁹ In 1472, as stated in the text, Hector M'Torquell M'Neill was keeper of castle Siven.¹⁰ In 1478 John lord of the Isles was summoned before parliament for treason in aiding the rebels in Castle Sone, and for other crimes.¹¹

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 2.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iii. no. 60. See KINTYRE, p. 600.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 2.

⁴ Black Book of Taymouth.

⁵ Breadalbane Chartulary.

⁶ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lvi. fol. 71.

⁷ See above, p. 600.

⁸ Macneill Charters. ⁹ Ibid. ¹⁰ Ibid. ¹¹ Ibid.

P. 42. In 1542 King James V. granted in heritage to Neill M'Neill V'Achyn of Tynishe, the natural son of the deceased Neill Makneill of Geya, certain lands, including 8 marklands in Knapdail called Kilcarmak, Gartnagrenan, and Muchtre, resigned by Anabella Makneill the daughter and heiress of Makneill of Geya.¹ In 1564 Archibald earl of Argyle granted to Torquell Makneill Vic Achin, the son and apparent heir of Neill Makneill Vic Achin, a markland of Drumnagall, a markland of Barbrek with its islands, a markland of Tawnacht, a markland of Barnafalg and its island, a markland of Scottensche with island Vande, a markland of Ovir Scottensche, a markland of Avenaraidebeg, 2 marklands of Tynishe with their islands, a markland of Bairaoraniode, a markland of Barbay, a markland of Kylmorrie, a markland of Surbiskell, 2 marklands of Ardbeg, a markland of Barbay in Downing, together of the old extent of 16 marklands, in the lordship of Knapdail and sheriffdom of Tarbert, and resigned by Neill Makneill.² In 1590 and 1599 Neill Makneill of Thynis appears in record.³

GLASSARY.

P. 43. In the year 1452 Master Hercules Skrymgeour was parson of Glassar.⁴ For several notices of Master James Scrymgeour between the years 1524 and 1533 see *Registrum de Aberbrothoc*, vol. ii. pp. 443, 453, 461, 462, 475, 515.

DUNOON.

P. 63. In 1440 Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochawe granted to the church of Dunoon half a mark yearly from the lands of Ardinslate.⁵ In 1460 the grant was confirmed by Colin earl of Argyle the grandson of Sir Duncan.⁶

P. 64. In 1440 Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochawe granted a charter at the castle of Dunnoone.⁷

P. 68. In 1447 Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochawe granted to George bishop of Argyle the fishing of the pool of Lochaik and of the rest of the water of Aikhie.⁸

STRACHUR.

P. 78. In 1592 John Campbell of Ardkinglas granted to Colin Campbell his son and apparent heir certain lands in Cowall, with the office of bailie of the lands of Straquhur and Penne-Innermuk.⁹

LOCHGAILHEAD.

P. 79, note 2. Note the omission of the date 1456.

¹ Macneill Charters. See GIGHA and CARA, p. 250.

² Macneill Charters.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Auchinleck Chronicle. See LISMORE *post*.

⁵ Paper at Taymonth.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Protocol Book of Gavin Hammiltoun. See LOCHGAILHEAD, p. 80.

KILMORICH.

P. 84. In 1592 John Campbell of Ardkinglas granted to his son and heir apparent Colin Campbell the lands of Auchthrevich and others in Cowell, of the old extent of 80 marks, with the office of coroner or 'tosichdore' of all the lands of Cowell from Lachhintokich to the point of Toward and Ardlawmonth.¹

INVERARAY.

P. 85. The church of Kilmolevo was one of four, of which the teinds and dues of the bishop's quarter were about 1575 granted by James bishop of Argyle to Gawine Hamiltoun as security for a yearly pension of £40 Scots granted by the same bishop from the fruits of the bishoprick and of the abbey of Sadagall.²

P. 85. The church of Kilmalew seems to have been dedicated, not to Saint Lupus as stated in the text, but to Saint Maldulph or Maydulph, a supposition warranted by the earliest record form of the name, Kylmalduff. It is remarkable that not one of the local fairs at any time instituted at Inveraray was to be held on Saint Maldulph's day (28 September), or on the day of Saint Lupus (24 July).³

KILMARTIN.

P. 92. The church of Kilmartin was one of the four churches mentioned above, the bishop's quarter of whose teinds and dues was in 1575 given as security to Gawine Hamiltoun for his pension of £40.⁴

In 1581 King James VI. confirmed a charter by Neil Campbell, rector and vicar of the parish church of Cragenes, and chaplain of the altarage or chaplainry of Saint Mary the virgin within the parish church of Saint Martin in Arskeadinis, granting, with the consent of the patron Colin earl of Argyle, to James Campbell or Makneill M'Illespik V'Ane and his heirs, with remainder to Dougall Campbell Makillespik V'Ane and his heirs, to Archibald Campbell Makillespik V'Ane and his heirs, to John Campbell of Melphort and his heirs, and to the rector's heirs whomsoever, the lands of Pennykill and Darrak belonging to the vicarage, of the old extent of one mark, in the barony of Craigenes and sheriffdom of Ergyle, and also the lands of Auchafyn belonging to the chaplainry, of the old extent of 3 marks, in the barony of Arskeadenis and sheriffdom of Ergyle, with the bailliary of the lands.⁵

¹ Protocol Book of Gavin Hamiltoun.
See DUNOON, pp. 65, 66.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliiii. fol. 41.

³ See pp. 88, 89.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliiii. fol. 41.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 88.

CRAIGNISH.

P. 96. About the year 1581, as we have seen, Neil Campbell, apparently the rector of 1574, was rector and vicar of Cragenes.¹

Note 17. For 'CRAIGNISH and KILCHRENAN, p. 8,' read 'CRAIGNISH, p. 98, and KILCHRENAN, p. 125.'

KILCHATTAN.

P. 100. In 1567 Queen Mary granted to Sir Neil Campbell parson of Loyng for 19 years a remission for being art and part in the slaughter of Mawnis Chahner in Elgyn of Murray, committed about 12 years before, and for all other crimes except the four points of the crown.²

The church of Kilehattan, a ruin without the chancel, is built of massive stones not placed in courses; the cemetery is overgrown with rank weeds, but is still in use.³

KILBRANDON.

P. 102. In 1591 King James VI., with the consent of his chancellor, treasurer, clerk of justiciary, and collector general, granted to Master Neil M'Lauchlane the lands of Kilbrydebeg, extending to about 9 acres, lying in the parish of Kilbrandan-in-Scall in the diocese and sheriffdom of Argyle, formerly occupied by Neil's deceased father Patrick, and formerly belonging to the vicars of the church as part of its patrimony, and then to the king by reason of the act of annexation; reserving to the ministers or vicars serving the cure of the church 4 of the 9 acres lying immediately around it according to the act of parliament; the grantee paying yearly 5 shillings as the ancient dues, and 12 pence in augmentation of the rental.⁴ The lands were bounded as follows—Kylbrydebeg (apparently); As the ditch lies between Cnokantaighemoir and Kilbrydebeg on the west; and as the rivulet runs from that ditch by the Lonmoir to the Cean-an-tsalen on the north; and as another rivulet called the Reaven flows from the same ditch to the same Cean-an-tsalen on the south—Garralehsaor; From the rivulet Reavan by the Fcithe-na-glochmora to the top of the Drainan on the west; and from the top of the Drainan by the south side of the Cnokan-na-gabbar, including the Iommarie-na-geeark, by the Beama of the cemetery to the church itself on the south; and from the church to the Knokan-na-sanasuge, including all the buildings of the vicar and the clerk, by the ditch that leads to the said rivulet Riavan on the east and north.⁵

Kilbrandon is still used as a cemetery, and a fragment of the church stands in the midst. There are 7 or 8 old monumental slabs richly ornamented, some of Macdonalds, and some

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 88. As to the dedication of the church see KILMAROW, p. 601.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvi. fol. 24.

³ Notes taken on the spot in 1852.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lxii. fol. 15.

⁵ Ibid.

of Maclachlans of Kilbride. A stone resembling a man's chin, belonging to the clan Marquis, if carried away, is believed always to return to their tomb.¹

The cemetery of Kilbride has been ploughed up.²

P. 103. In the island of Seil on the Atlantic shore is an old fort, and at the foot of the cliff on which it is situated is the *Ty-an-biorlin* (the house of the barge), immediately below which there is an opening in the rocks sufficient to admit a boat and named *Port-an-falin* (the harbour of the helm).³

KILBRIDE.

Pp. 108, 119. In the churchyard is a curious cross, now laid as a gravestone, with a figure of the crucifixion surmounted by I. H. S., and bearing the name of Archibald M'Phail, but said to mark the grave of Livingstones, in Gaelic M'lanlea.⁴ A tomb of Campbells of Braglean has a monument on which is the figure of a man with a sword and round targe apparently hung in chains.⁵

The chapel of Dunstaffnage, still used as a burying-ground, has Early English lancets and remains of a circular doorway and of the dog-tooth ornament.⁶

P. 109. In 1218 Sir Ewin of Argyle witnessed a charter of Malise earl of Stratheryn to the monks of Inchaffray.⁷ This seems to indicate that Ewin of Ergadia, noticed in 1304 as apparently the father of Alexander, was his son John, styled also Ewin.⁸

P. 117. The chief who in 1455 entertained the earl of Douglas at Dunstaffnage was not the lord of the Isles (whose name was *John*), but Donald Balloch of Islay.⁹

KILMORE.

P. 120. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has outside nothing architectural to mark its antiquity. Inside at the east end of the south wall is a low circular arch of bold mouldings (probably once over an altar tomb), and also part of a dog-tooth moulding, the whole Early English.¹⁰

The present farmhouse of Kilbride, about three miles above the house of Glenfeochan, was built about 50 years ago on the site of the old cemetery of Kilbride.¹¹

KILCHRENAN.

P. 121 and note. Saint Peter the deacon, styled also martyr, was a martyr of Antioch, and commemorated on 17 April (also Saint Donan's day); and is probably the saint to whom the church of Kilchrenan was dedicated.¹²

¹ Notes taken on the spot in 1852.

³ Note by Sir A. Campbell of Barcaldine.

⁴ Notes taken on the spot in 1852.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Lib. Ins. Missarum, p. 35. ⁸ See Gregory, pp. 22, 28.

² Ibid

⁹ See KILARROW, p. 263, KILDALTON, p. 269, and DINGWALL, p. 488.

¹⁰ Notes taken on the spot in 1852.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Acta Sanctorum, 17 April. Note by W. F. Skene Esquire.

P. 122, line 6. For 'forty days, and for the other service' read 'for forty days, and giving the other service.'

INISHAIL.

P. 129. About the year 1575 the church of Inchald was one of four, of which the teinds and dues of the bishop's quarter were granted to Gawin Hammiltoun by James bishop of Argyle as security for a yearly pension of £40 from the fruits of the bishoprick.¹

P. 131. In 1569 occur in record 'Letters of slain or discharge for drowning Clanarthour. Johne Campbell of ———, Archibald Campbell and Johne Campbell his sons, Patrick M'Taylor, Johne Dow ———, and others; John Makfina M'Arthur of Terowadyeh, William M'Vicar. James Campbell of Ardkinlas, &c., as principallis being ——— next of kin.'²

MUCKAIRN.

P. 132. In 1583 King James VI. presented John M'Kellar to the vicarage of Killespikkerrell in Mukcarne, in the sheriffdom and diocese of Ergyle, vacant by the decease of Angus M'Phaill.³

Of the church of Kilmaronog and of the wall of its cemetery there remain only the foundations.⁴

GLENORCHY.

P. 135. The church of Glenvrquhay was one of four, of which about 1575 the teinds and dues of the bishop's quarter were granted to Gawine Hammiltoun by James bishop of Argyle as security for a yearly pension of £40 from the fruits of the bishoprick.⁵

ARDCHATTAN.

P. 154, line 27. For 'daughter' read 'daughters.'

P. 155. In 1566 Colin Campbell of Glenorchy gave seisin to Archibald M'Lauchlane, as son and heir of Lauchlan M'Olehallum V'Ewin, in the 10 marklands of Auchyquhay and Bernavoke in the lordship of Lorne.⁶

P. 156, line 5. For 'to Alane' read 'and Alane.'

LISMORE.

P. 161. About 1575 James bishop of Argyle granted to Gawine Hammiltoun for life a yearly pension of £40 Scots out of the fruits of the bishoprick and of the abbey of Sadagall.⁷

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 41.

² Monzie Inventory.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 182.

⁴ Notes taken on the spot in 1852.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xliii. fol. 41.

⁶ Monzie Inventory.

⁷ See KILLEAN, p. 601.

P. 161 and note. Sir James M^cGregor, the son of Dougall Johnson, dean of Lesmore, and vicar of Fortirgill, died on Saint Lucia's eve (12 December) 1551.¹

P. 161. In 1452 Sir Gilbert M^cLachlane chancellor of Argyle and Sir Morys M^cFadyane treasurer (for what reason does not appear) pronounced sentence of deposition on Master Hercules Skrymgeour parson of Glassar, who had for fifteen years held that benefice along with Sir Gotheray M^cFersan.² Master Hercules appealed to the bishop (George of Lawder), who summoned the parties before him in order to settle the dispute.³ As he was on his way to the cathedral church for this purpose, in company with Sir Hercules Skrymgeour, Sir John M^cArthur (gentleman), Sir Adam his parish priest, Alexander the brother of Sir Hercules, and his own household servants—the chancellor and treasurer, who, on the pretence that the bishop intended to deprive them of their benefices and confer them upon the parson of Glassar, had got together the Clanlachlane and others, attacked the bishop's party within a quarter of a mile of the church, 'spak till himself richt dispitnoslie with felloun wordis and scorne, and for dispyte halsit him in Errische, sayand *bannachadee*, and dispytfully reft fra him the forsaid Master Hercules, and pullit him fra his hors, and brak the lordis belt, and tuke the clerke ande his brother and harllit and led thaim away rycht dispytfully, and band the gentillman and thocht to strik of his hed.'⁴ They refused to let the bishop go till he had given them absolution for their conduct, and detained the others till the following day, when they made them take oath that they should not in any manner prosecute their assailants either on the ground of the summons or on any other.⁵

P. 162, line 1. For '1623' read 'in 1623.'

P. 162, note 3. For '*habet non*' read '*non habet*.'

P. 164. By a deed dated at Achindune 10 September 1334 Ewin lord of Lorn granted to Andrew bishop of Argyle a £10 land in the isle of Lismore, called Frakersek, Craiginche, and Achindune.⁶ By a deed dated at Kilmund 26 May 1447 Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochawe granted to George bishop of Argyle 'ane perpetual libertie within any forrest pertaining the erlis of Argyll to cut treis of all sortis that can serve for the bischopis building'—and also 'ane libertie to tak any sort of fewall.'⁷

Pp. 164-166. In 1515 Colin earl of Argyle granted to Allan Campbell of Achnaere the 6 marklands of Fryare and the 4 marklands of Achnahard in the island of Lismore and lordship of Lorne.⁸ In 1536 Alan Campbell of Ballimanoch gave seisin to Ewin M^cEwyn V^cConchie in certain lands in Lismore.⁹

ELANFINAN.

P. 190 and note 14. The 30 marklands of Sownort and Ryssabill were included in the barony of Bar in North Kintyre, granted in 1545 and confirmed in 1558 by Queen Mary to James Makeconnyl of Dunnyveyg and Glennys, and granted by the same queen in 1564 to Archibald his son and apparent heir.¹⁰

¹ Chronicle of Fortirgill. ² Auchinleck Chronicle.

³ Auchinleck Chronicle.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Paper at Taymouth. ⁷ Ibid. ⁸ Monzie Inventory.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ See KINTYRE, pp. 5-7.

ARASAIG.

P. 200. The church of Arasaig may have been dedicated either to the Virgin Mary or to Saint Malrube, the variations in the spelling leaving it a matter of doubt. In collecting materials for the present volume nothing farther than what is stated in the text has occurred to show whether Moydart was a parish or not.

GLENELG.

P. 208, line 4. For 'were apprised' read 'was apprised.'

In 1527 King James V. addressed a letter to his sheriff of Innernes and others, messengers, his sheriffs in that part, bearing—That Hew Lord Fraser of Lovet had complained to him that Alexander Makloyd of Dounbegane had forcibly occupied the lands of Glenelge, lying on the border of the Isles in the sheriffdom of Innernes, and belonging to Hew Fraser in heritage, and collected the profits of the lands for 18 years during his father's life and for two years since 'with the mair,' on the ground that they lay near 'his place;' that Hew had obtained a decret of the Lords of Council ordering the sheriffs to cite the parties and take cognition of the matter, and, if it was proved, to cause Alexander M'Cloyd to refund the profits; and that the case was proved, and Makloyd ordered to refund accordingly and to desist from occupying the lands.¹ The king therefore, understanding that his sheriffs delayed putting the sentence in execution, 'because the said Alexander M'Cloyd duellis in the Hieland, quhair name of your officiaris dar pas to poynd him for dred of thair lyvis without convocatioun of oure lieges'—commanded them to proceed immediately to poynd for the mails of Glenelg, 'to tak na deforcement thairin bot of landit men' that might be responsible to the king and to Hew Fraser, and to summon all his lieges in those parts by open proclamation at the market cross of Innernes to pass with them and assist them, if necessary, in the execution of the sentence.²

P. 209. In 1583 Tormot Makeloid of Downbeggane granted in liferent to his wife Jonet Campbell, the widow of Hector Maklane of Doward, 10 pennylands of Arnistill called a half davach, 10 pennylands of Aichaglyn called a half davach, 5 pennylands of Lekewuir and 5 pennylands of Meillarie called a half davach, 10 pennylands of Clamboyle called a half davach, 5 pennylands of Achatydownling and 5 pennylands of Achanahevill called a half davach, 10 pennylands of Alis and Landaik called a half davach, 10 pennylands of the two Corareis called a half davach, 5 pennylands of Arycharnachan and 5 pennylands of Achacharn called a half davach, 10 pennylands of Bowirblek called a half davach, 10 pennylands of Ballanray called a half davach, and 10 pennylands of Moilachunry and 10 of Moillockkiraig called a davach—extending in all to 24 marklands of old extent, lying in Glenelg in the sheriffdom of Innernes—for the yearly

¹ Macleod Charters.

² Ibid.

payment of one penny Scots on the ground of each part of the lands at Whitsunday in the name of blench ferme, if required.¹ A letter addressed by Allane Makranald of Easter Leyis 'to the richt honorabil and his belovitt eme Rorie Makloid of Harye,' and dated at the Channonrie of Ros 3 April 1596 (a most minute and elaborate document), bears — That the last time that Rorie's father was with Colyne earl of Argile at Ternway (in Moray) he brought with him his writs of Glenelg to be inspected by the earl, who had promised that, if he could thus prove his title to Glenelg to the satisfaction of the earl and of certain barons of Murrayland, 'men of gude vnderstanding and weray expert in the lawis,' he (the earl) would cause the Lord Lowet, who then held the lands and by whom they were leased to the Clanrannald, to give them up to Rorie's father without going to law, and, should he refuse, the earl would assist the latter to recover them by order of law, and to get Lowet's lands appraised for the damage which Rorie's father and his friends had sustained by the 'herschipe' of Glenelg committed by the Clanrannald, as they alleged, at Lowet's instance; that Lowet, although young, 'being a man of a rype witt and gude foresicht,' and being informed that William Makleod's instrument of seisin in the lands of Glenelg had been lost, and knowing that otherwise it would be produced with the other writs, in order to test the correctness of his information agreed to produce his titles if the earl would cause Makleod to produce his, declaring his satisfaction with the earl as arbiter, as he was a man of good conscience, neutral, and as chancellor of Scotland a fit judge in such matters; that the earl had declined acting as arbiter, but offered his advice, 'and quia wald impugne or ganestand the samen he wald be partie;' that Rorie's father had on these conditions produced his charter and seisin of Glenelg, which the earl and his assessors declared to be satisfactory; that they then required inspection of his writ of lawful possession, namely, of his brother's seisin, a document which he could not produce; that the earl was therefore offended with Rorie's father, thinking he had through negligence left the document at home, and plainly told him that, if it had been produced, he would have caused Lowet to yield his pretended right and be at his mercy for indemnification of the 'herschip,' and that, if it could not be produced, it would endanger his title not only to Glenelg but to all his other lands; that Makleod kept silence on the subject of the missing document, and on coming to Invernes detailed the whole affair to Allane Makrannald, except in so far as related to Lowet's information about the missing instrument, a circumstance which was unknown until Allane found it out within the past year; that Makleod notwithstanding had informed Allane that the instrument was missing, and besought him as he was his friend to spare neither labour nor expense at his (Makleod's) charge to procure the original or a copy, as he was quite certain that his brother had been seised in the lands of Glenelg by the sheriff clerk of Invernes or some other notary, and that Allane could have no difficulty in getting inspection of the 'schireff buckis;' that after the decease of Rorie's father his brother had made the same request; that Allane had therefore used more pains and been at more expense in searching into the matter than ever he had in 'ovtredding' his own affairs, for, after he had found that the sheriff clerk

¹ Makleod Charters.

who had given seisin to Makleod was a stranger and had died the year after he had given the seisin, he learned that his wife and children had left the country, and that after his decease his wife had left her children under the guardianship of her brothers and friends in several places, so that there was the greatest difficulty in finding their father's books; that he (Allane) had therefore employed a confidential friend who lived in that quarter where the deceased notary's books were to endeavour either the original seisin or the notary's 'prodigoll' book to testify it; that however the parties on their side were not so busy as those on Lowet's, although each sought the instrument for a different purpose, the former 'to keip it weill,' and the latter 'to rywe and burne it;' that, had Rorie's father lived but two months longer, he would have succeeded in recovering it, for, as soon as he had left the earl of Argill, the Lord Louet, seeing that his information was correct, had posted to Edinburgh and purchased the nonentry of all Rorie's lands since the decease of his grandfather Alexander Makleod, with the intention, which his son was then following up, of getting all the lands, and especially Glenelg, appraised for the dues payable during that period, which on the report of some of the inhabitants he estimated at upwards of £200,000; and, finally, that Allane's confidential friend at last Christmas had got inspection of the instrument of seisin, had bound the possessors of it to conceal the fact of their possession till 15 May following, and had promised that, if they did not then hear from Rorie on the subject, he should never reveal the matter to any person.¹ The letter concludes with a request that Rorie would appoint a meeting with the writer to confer about what should be further done in the matter, and with urging him to 'tak tyme in tyme, for tyme and tyd bydis no man.'²

K I N G A R T H.

P. 211. The church of Saint Blane appears to have consisted originally of a nave 51 feet by 16 feet 8 inches, and a chancel 13 feet 6 inches square, but subsequently extended in length to 26 feet.³ The chancel arch is Norman, but the windows all pointed and of the period immediately succeeding the Norman.⁴

P. 212. The building called the 'Devil's Cauldron' is supposed to have been the residence of the ecclesiastic who in early times officiated in the church of Saint Blane.⁵ Its true dimensions are 33 feet 6 inches in diameter, 8 feet 6 inches in thickness of the walls, and in present average height 5 feet.⁶ At the foot of the ridge to the west of the church is a well fancied to have miraculous powers.⁷

P. 215. In 1510 King James IV. confirmed to Master Henry Lech the lands of Kerylamond, Mekle Lowpas, and Litle Lowpas, in the lordship and sheriffdom of Bute, of the old extent of £6, 16s. 8d., which had been held by his father Thomas Lech and his predecessors beyond

¹ Macleod Charters.

² *Ibid.*

³ Paper by Mr. Baird, read to the Glasgow Architectural Institute.

⁴ *Ibid.* A painting of the church of Saint Blane by Horatio McCulloch may be seen in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

the memory of man, the grantee paying yearly a silver penny as blench ferme, and giving his services as chirurgion when required.¹

ROTHESAY.

P. 222. In 1568 King James VI. presented William Barbour exhorter at the kirk of Leswaid to the two prebends of the college church of Restalrig named Bute *tertius* and Bute *quartus*, vacant by the decease of Master Nicholl Spittale and Sir Archibald Ellem.² In 1580 the same king granted for life to John Barboure, the son of the deceased William, 'for his sustentation at the scoles,' the prebends called Bute *tertius* and Bute *quintus*—and for seven years to Master Andro Barboure for the same purpose the prebend called Bute *sextus*—the three prebends being situated in the diocese of Ergyle, and vacant by the decease of William Barboure.³ In 1587 the same king granted to David Cumming master of the 'sang scole' of Edinburgh the preceptory of the college of Restalrig; and to Patrick Dunbar the son of the deceased David Dunbar of Petquhyn the prebend called Bute *quintus* within that college, vacant by the decease of Sir William Barbour, and by the insufficiency or inability of John Barbour then pretending title to the same 'as disponit to hald him at the scoleis, he not being ane scollare, nowther vsing the musick or vthir science, bot ane mareit man awaitand vpon vthir effairis.'⁴

P. 231. For 'In 1400 King James III.' read 'In 1400 King Robert III.'

Pp. 237-239. The royal burgh of Rothesay was erected by King Robert. III. in 1401 (not 1400 as in the text) and was in 1585 (not 1584) confirmed by King James VI. according to its former boundaries. These boundaries, as given in the charter of confirmation, are incorrectly stated in the Municipal Corporation Reports quoted in the text, and are here given correctly from the Privy Seal Register, although in the latter there are some mistakes in the spelling of names. They were as follow—*On the land*, between the lands of Askokis and Kellecrasache on the west; the burn of Balnald on the south; the lake called the Langloche, the lands of Chapeloun, Ballieloyne, Mekill Barroun, Incheeragen, Auchinculture, Knaiffislogmorie, and Eister Kames, on the west and northwest; and the sea on the north—and *on the sea*, beginning at the isle of Plada on the south; turning thence westward by the 'kyles' and 'straittis' between Arran and Kintyre, (and between) Ergyle and Bute from Lochridden to Clochstane, comprehending therein all the Kyles of Bute and Lochstryin, on the north; and from the Clochstane to the said island of Plada, including therein the station of Cumray, the station of Fairly (in Ayrshire), and the station of Holy Isle (*de Haluo-insula*) in Arraine, otherwise called Ile Malache.⁵ King James granted also to the burgh free ports in the roadsteads of the bay and station (*navium receptaculis de bey et statione*) of the burgh of Rothisay and of the Kylys of Bute, the stations of Cumray, Fairlie, and Halie Isle, and all others within the bounds of the burgh.⁶

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv. nn. 135, 136.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxvii. fol. 52.

³ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvi. ff. 132, 133.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lv. fol. 49.

⁵ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lii. ff. 10, 11.

⁶ *Ibid.*

KILBRIDE.

P. 251, line 19. For '1466' read '1446.'

KILMORIE.

P. 253. In 1580 King James VI. presented Hector M'Allister to the parsonage of Kilmory in Arrane, vacant by the demission of Alexander M'Allister.¹

P. 254, line 14. For '549' read '1549.'

KILARROW.

P. 261. The church was evidently dedicated to Saint Malrube.²

P. 266. Delete the third paragraph, beginning with the words 'Some lands,' and the corresponding note, and insert the following at p. 275.

KILCHOMAN.

P. 275. In 1588 King James VI.—on the narrative that the deceased Hector Maklane of Dowart, the grandfather of Hector Maklane the son and apparent heir of Lauchlane Maklane then of Dowart, was heritably infeft in certain lauds to be held of the commendators of Yona and Derry, which lands had been annexed to the crown—granted of new to Hector and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to his heirs male whomsoever, all those lands, including the 5 marklands of Nerrabollsadh in the island of Hlay within the bounds called the Rindis of the same and in the sheriffdom of Tarbat, belonging to the monastery of Derry, for the yearly payment of 60 ells of cloth of a white, black, and grey colour respectively, or 8 pence for each ell, at the option of the grantee, as old ferme, and one ell or 8 pence in augmentation, if asked.³ In 1662 Sir George M'Kenzie of Tarbat baronet was served heir male to his grandfather Sir Roderick M'Kenzie of Cogeach in the same lands, of old belonging to the same monastery, and with other lands united into the tenandry of Arroiss.⁴ In 1695 Archibald earl of Argyle was served heir to his father Earl Archibald in the same lands, of the same extent as in 1588.⁵

COLONSAY.

P. 281. In 1567 (10 January) Henry and Mary king and queen of Scots—understanding that the prioress of Ycolmekill and the prior of Oransay had not as yet given in the rentals of their benefices within the sheriffdom of Tarbert, which were then in their majesties' hands, and

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlvii. fol. 1.

² See KILMARROW, p. 601.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxvii. no. 130. Reg. Sec. Sig.,
vol. lvii. ff. 59-62.

⁴ Retours.

⁵ Ibid.

aware that they could receive no revenue from those benefices, because they were then 'waist and vnlawbourit' and lay in the 'far Hielandis and Ilis,' and the victual and other dues could neither be sold at a fair price in those parts nor conveyed to the Lowlands—leased for 19 years to Hew M'Kegane in Coill, his heirs, and his subtenants, the lands of Kaylois, Artnes, Flassaland, and Gunna, in the isle of Coill, with the teindsheaves and other pertinents, all which belonged to the nunnery of Yeolmekill, and which were leased to Hew and his heirs 'for certane yeiris as yet to rin;' and the landis of Tyrungachornage in the same island, belonging to the priory of Oransay—leased by their majesties as their third of the benefices—the grantee paying yearly for the lands and teinds of the nunnery £20 Scots, 24 bolls of bear meal, and a gallon of *aquavite*, at Midsummer; the payment for the other lands not being specified.¹

I O N A.

P. 286, line 21. For 'psaltery' read 'psalter.'

P. 291. In 1247 Pope Innocent IV.—on a representation by the abbot of the monastery of the order of Saint Benedict in the diocese of the Isles (*Sodorensis*) of the kingdom of Norway, that, although a general chapter was celebrated within his province according to the constitution of the apostolic see, the abbots of that order within the kingdom of Scotland compelled him to attend their general council on the ground of his holding certain possessions in Scotland—ordered the abbots in future not to molest him, and in case of their disobedience enjoined the abbot of Russin and the archdeacon of Man in the diocese of the Isles to compel them to obedience on pain of ecclesiastical censure and without appeal.²

P. 294. The following is the mandate of King Charles I. to restore the two bells taken from Iona. 'To the bischop of Rapho. Reverend Father in God, we are informed that Andro late bischop of Rapho at his transportation from the bischoprick of Yles did without just caus or any warrant from our late royall father or ws earie with him two of the principall bells that wer in Icolmkill and place them in some of the churches of Rapho, to which purpos we doe remember that at the tyme your being bischop of Yles yow wer a sutter to ws for effectuating that thing at your predicessour the bischop of Raphoes hands which we now requyre of yow. Therfor and in regard we have gevin ordour to the present bischop of Yles for repairing the cathedrall church of that bischoprick, and that it is fitt that such things as doe properlie belong thereunto be restored, it is our pleasur that yow caus delyver unto the said bischop these two bells for the vse of the said cathedrall church with such tymelie couvenience as may be, which we will acknowledge as acceptable service done vnto ws. Whythall, 14 March 1635.'³

Pp. 295, 296. In 1567 Henry and Mary king and queen of Scots granted to Hew M'Kegane in Coill a 19 years' lease of certain lands in Coill belonging to the nunnery of Iona.⁴

¹ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 107.

³ MS. in Adv. Lib.

² Extract from MS. in British Museum by the late P. Chalmers Esquire of Aldbar.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxv. fol. 107. See above.

P. 297. 'On the north side of the nunnery chapel and very near it stand the ruins of an edifice said to have been the parish church.'¹ This site is of course different from that assigned in the text.

Pp. 297-300. The church of Oran with its fine door of later Norman is probably the oldest building. Some of the abbey is nearly of the same date, and parts of the nunnery are of the period of circular arch and round pillar. The stone is undressed red granite packed with lime and black slate, the doors and windows being of fine white freestone said to have been brought from Carfax in Mull.²

KILNINIAN.

P. 322, line 27. For 'Tyrvughafeal' read 'Tyrvnghafeal.'

SOROBY.

P. 329. For the sentence beginning 'In 1588' substitute the following—Among the lands held of the abbot of Iona, and in 1588 granted anew by King James VI. to Hector Maklane, were the 6 marklands of Balliefulzie, for which the grantee was to pay yearly 48 *malleas* of oat meal or 3s. 4d. for each *mallea*.³ In 1662 Sir George M'Kenzie of Tarbet baronet, and in 1695 Archibald earl of Argyle, were respectively served heir in the same lands as above.⁴

KIRKAPOLL.

Pp. 330, 331. For the sentence beginning 'In 1588' substitute the following. Among the lands granted anew in 1588 by King James VI. to Hector Maklane were the 6 marklands of Kirkebol and the markland of Wayll belonging to Yona, and paying respectively 48 *malleas* of oatmeal or 3s. 4d. for each, and 14 *malleas* or 3s. 4d. for each, with the addition of a mart or 10s. for Wayll; and the 6 marklands of Keylis belonging to the bishoprick of the Isles and paying yearly 48 *malleas* of oatmeal or 3s. 4d. for each *mallea*; with 2 marks on the whole in augmentation of the rental.⁵ In 1662 and 1695 the same persons as above were served heirs in the same lands, Wayll in the service of 1662 being stated as belonging of old to the monastery of Derry.⁶

COLL.

P. 333. In 1583 King James VI. granted to Colin earl of Argyle the nonentry and other dues of all the lands that belonged to the deceased Hector M'Lane of Coill, with the marriage of John M'Clain the grandson and apparent heir of Hector, or of any other heir.⁷

P. 333, line 18. For 'Tyrvughafeal' read 'Tyrvnghafeal.'

¹ Garnett's Tour, vol. i. p. 253.

² Notes taken on the spot in 1852.

³ See KILCHOMAN, p. 833.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ See KILCHOMAN, p. 833.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xlix. fol. 108.

P. 333. In 1567 Henry and Mary king and queen of Scots granted to Hew M'Kegane in Coill a 19 years' lease of the lands of Kaylois, Artnes, Flassaland, and Gunna, belonging to the nunnery of Ycolmekill, and of the lands of Tyrungachornage belonging to the priory of Oransay, all lying in the isle of Coill.¹

KILDONAN.

P. 338. In 1589 King James VI. granted to Lauchlan M'Clane of Dowart, Lachlan M'Kinnin of Stravrdell, Rodoric M'Neile of Barray, Ewin M'Vicallane of Ardgowir, and Hector Makquyre of Vlway, a remission for being art and part in the treasonable burning and destruction of the islands of Rum, Canna, and Eig, and the cruel slaughter of John Angus the son of Master John Angus, of John Makane, and of some other lieges, inhabitants of those islands, in the month of November 1588.²

CANNA.

P. 340. In 1589 King James VI. granted to certain individuals a remission for destroying this island and others, and for slaying certain of their inhabitants.³

UIG.

P. 385. For 'Vye in Lewis' read 'Vge in Lewis.'

KINTAIL, LOCHALSH, LOCHCARRON, APPLECROSS, GAIRLOCH,
LOCHBROOM.

Pp. 391, 395, 398, 403, 405, 407. In 1567 Queen Mary granted to John bishop of Ross and his subtenants for 19 years after 'Lambes' of the previous year (1 August 1566) a lease of the parsonages and vicarages of the common churches of Kintaill, Lochalche, Locharrowne, Garloch, Apileroce, and Lochbrwne; the grantee paying yearly to the comptroller £62, 13s. 4d. Scots according to previous entries made in the Exchequer rolls by Patrick Daidson collector, and having power to collect arrears from the tacksmen.⁴ From this grant it appears that Gairloch was a common church of the chapter of Ross (a circumstance not stated in the text), and that the six churches enumerated were the whole of the common churches of the diocese.⁵

TAIN.

P. 417. In the testament of Alexander Suthyrland of Dunbeth, in a list of the debts due to him, occurs the following — 'Item, the vicar of Tain had my meel that I left in myn ynnys in Tain, and all the beir that I had grouand in Tain.'⁶ He enumerates among the same debts 'a chalys in my kyst in Tain.'⁷

¹ See COLONSAY, p. 613.

² Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. lix. fol. 87.

³ Ibid. See above.

⁴ Reg. Sec. Sig., vol. xxxv. fol. 109.

⁵ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

Pp. 417, 422. The chaplainry of Dunskaith was founded by King James II. in the parish church of Tain between the years 1456 and 1458. In 1456 Master David Stewart the king's chamberlain on the north of the water of Spey, in his account for the preceding year rendered at Edinburgh on 22 September, charges himself with the sum of £3, 6s. 8d. as the fermes of the lands of Dunscaithe within the lordship of Ardmanaeh, together with the passage (ferry) of the water of Crombathy.¹ In 1458 William thane of Caldor and Master Thomas of Carmichael canon of Moray, the king's chamberlains on the north of the water of Spey, in their account for the preceding year rendered at Perth on 21 June, claim as paid by them from the fermes of the lands of Dunscaithe in Ross the sum of £6, 13s. 4d. as the yearly fee of the chaplain officiating in the parish church of Tayn on the new foundation of King James II.² The chaplainry, as we have seen, was in 1487 annexed by the same king as a prebend to the collegiate church which he then founded at Tayn.³

P. 419, note 4. For 'Reg. Mag. Sig., vol. xxx. fol. 535' read 'Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxx. no. 535.'

P. 432. In 1524 the abbot of Arbroath held lands in the burgh of Thayn.⁴

P. 433. In 1506 the expenses of King James IV. on his visit to Tain included 4s. to a man who bore Saint Duthace 'cabok,' 14s. to the harper of the bishop of Caithness, 28s. for the king's 'belcheir' in Tain, and 2s. to the 'pure folkis be the gait.'⁵ On a similar visit in 1511 there was paid the sum of 5s. 'to ane pardonar with Sanct Duthois cowp.'⁶

T A R B A T.

P. 433. Torfnaes. See CANNISBAY, p. 796, note 13.

P. 436. In the testament of Alexander Suthyrland of Dunbeth, dated 1456, he enumerates among his personal property as in keeping of the abbot of Feyrn 'a hundredth pundis of sex-peny grotis, and four score pundis of bonath grotis'—and makes the following bequests; £100 in the hands of the same abbot for the repair of the college church of Roslyng, and to William earl of Cathenes and Orkney 'to by me through stane to lay upon myn grave;' to the canons of Feyrn for a mass with note of the Requiem 6 marks Scots from the lands of Multayth and Drumern, and failing these from the lands of Dunbeth; and of the bonage grottis in the hands of the abbot of Fern 40 lib. to the earl of Cathenes and Orkney, and 40 lib. to his own son Master Alexander archdeacon of Cathanes.⁷

N I G G.

P. 458. The chaplainry of Dunskaith existed in the parish church of Tayn before its annexation to the college church.⁸

P. 458, note 9. For 'Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 309,' read 'Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x. no. 109.'

¹ Exchequer Rolls, no. 223.

² *Ibid.*, no. 227.

³ See text, KILLEARNAN *post*, and NIGG, p. 458.

⁴ Reg. de Aberb., vol. ii. p. 437. See Cromarty *post*.

⁵ Treasurer's Accounts.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii. ⁸ See TAIN *above*.

LOGIE EASTER.

P. 467. In 1456 Alexander Suthyrland of Dunbeth bequeathed to a priest to say mass perpetually in the canonry of Ross for himself and his wife 6 marks yearly from the lands of Effer (or Ester) Kyndeiss.¹

ROSSKEEN.

P. 469. Delete the whole paragraph beginning 'In 1361.' The lands to which it relates are all in Caithness and Sutherland. Harpsdol and Hospitill are not the same—the former being in the parish of Halkirk in Caithness; the latter apparently in the parish of Criech in Sutherland, and in the earldom of Ross only by annexation. The lands of Obstule in Rosskeen belonged to the chaplainry of the same name in the cathedral church of Ross.

LUMLAIR.

P. 482. William of Clyne, mentioned 1350-1375, appears to have been of the Clynes of Clyne in Sutherland.

DINGWALL.

P. 484. In 1463 Master John Grene chancellor of Moray gave sentence touching the church of Dingvale in the cause moved by William prior of Pluscardyne against Henry bishop of Ross to the following effect—That the church of Dingvalle with all its fruits belonged to the prior by just right; that the bishop and his successors should thenceforth cease from all intromission with the teinds of that church; and that they should be compelled to restore the teinds already unduly received by them.²

P. 489. In the account of John Monroo of Fowlis chamberlain of the earldom of Ross, rendered at Edinburgh on 3 July 1479, of all his receipts and expenses from 10 July 1476, the day on which the earldom fell to the crown by the resignation of John lord of Ilaa and lord of the Isles, we have the following enumeration of the lands of the earldom. The quarter of Delne—Estir Terbate, Alane Mekle, Calrosse, Drummethat, Glastollich, Drungelze, Mekle Methat, Myltoun of Methat, Estir Polga, Westir Polga, le Royis, Feauchlath, Ardimagage, Kalruquhy, Kynnakrege, Newenmekle, Culkenze, Culzeoth Mekle, Culzeoth Manach, Craigmyn, Auchnaeloych and Brekoquhy, Culmelachquhyis, Culeragy, Fyrehisth, Culcarne, Swerdull, Balconee, Catoll. The quarter of Kynnardy—Kynnardy, Westir Drynee, Dalfearne, Dalpoldach, Daltmalowage, Inchmanny, Ouchtiruede, Auchinaglerach, Ardovale, le Moye, Kynnaharde, Auchquihlze, Cunze, Seathole Mekle, Conten, le Parke, Vlladill, Browen, Dunglust, Owsee. The quarter of Fyrnewyr and Kessokkis—The two Ferburnys, Ferburne-eggllis, Auchansawle.

¹ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii.

² Reg. de Dunfermelyu, p. 366.

Areoyne, Belbrade, Vrra, Kynculladrum, le Orde, Belblare, Bahagovyn, Balnaknok, Tarredill, Kynkell, Logyeureith, the Two Kessokkis with the ferry. The quarter of Kynnellane—Kynnellane, le Cowle, Rewgy, Litill Seathole, Forest of Rannach, Meyn in Straquhonane, the Two Skatellis, Innermany, Innerquhonray, Kenlochbenquherane.¹

P. 491. For '1567' read '1576.'

In 1460 William of Boyis, prior of Pluscardyn and Vreharde (in Moray), on the narrative that Andrew Denone formerly lord of the half of the town of Kildone, William Cryne burgess of Abirden formerly lord of the sixth part, and William Clyne formerly lord of the third part of the same town, severally resigned their portions in favour of Thomas of Dingvaile younger, granted at the instance of Sir Thomas of Dingvaile subdean of Ross, who consented to the resignation, to Thomas of Dingvaile younger and his heirs, with remainder to his brother german John of Dingvaile and his heirs, and to the nearest, better, and more worthy successor of the surname (*cognicione*) of Dingvaile, the lands of Kildon in the regality of Dunfermelyn, earldom of Ross, and sheriffdom of Innernys, reserving to Sir Thomas the franktenement, and to the prior the pleas (*querelle*) and escheats belonging to the crown, the grantee paying yearly at Whitsunday 12 pennies Scots in name of bleneh ferme on the soil of the said land.² In 1462 Richard abbot of Dunfermelyn confirmed the grant.³

P. 492. In 1506 (23 January) Thomas Dingwell of Kildun appointed John bishop of Ross, Andrew bishop of Katnes, William Stewart, and Galbert Vrrquhard, his procurators for the purpose of resigning the lands of Kildun into the hands of James abbot of Dunfermelyn, reserving the franktenement to himself.⁴ In February of the same year the abbot granted the lands to William Dingwell the son and apparent heir of Thomas, the grantee giving three suits at the three head courts of the regality held within the bounds of Ross or of Murray, and the wards, reliefs, and marriages, when they should happen.⁵ In 1534 George abbot of Dunfermelyne granted the same lands, resigned by Thomas Dingwall of Kildun, for life to him and his wife Jonet Hay, for yearly payment of the usual rights and services.⁶

P. 495. In 1524 the abbot of Arbroath held lands in the burgh of Dynguel in Ross.⁷

P. 496. In the testament of Sir David Syncler of Swynbrocht, dated 1506, we have the following clause — 'Item, the penchione of Dingvell and the Redeastell pails thar dettis this zeir.'⁸

FODDERTY.

P. 498. In 1349 Adam of Urquhart lord of Inchrory and sheriff of Crombathy granted for ever to a perpetual chaplain officiating in the chapel of Saint Mary of Inchrory for the souls of William earl of Ross and his parents, and for the souls of the granter, of his parents, and

¹ Exchequer Rolls, no. 276, A. D. 1476-1479.

² Regist. de Dunfermelyn, pp. 353, 354.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 374.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 374, 375.

⁷ Reg. de Aberbrothoc, vol. ii. p. 437. See Cromarty *post.*

⁸ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 383.

of all the faithful dead, 5 marks of yearly revenue from the lands of Inehrorry, together with a certain croft called the alehouse croft lying in the territory of Inehrorry between the croft Oehierin on the north and a meadow on the south, with a suitable area and place in the town of Inehrorry for a sufficient manse to the present chaplain, and with sufficient pasture for a horse, 12 cows, a bull, and 80 sheep, in the same land of Inehrorry, and the privilege of having fuel within the land—reserving to Adam and his heirs the right of patronage and of giving institution to the chaplain.¹ The grant further bore that, if it should happen that Adam or his heirs should to any extent recall the 5 marks for their own use, or attempt to convert it to any use but that for which it was then granted, or in any way impede the chaplain in the discharge of his duty, they should be compelled by the bishop of Ross under all ecclesiastical censure to make good the grant.²

P. 500, line 6. For 'King James VI.' read 'King James IV.'

KILMORACK.

P. 509. In 1458 the king's chamberlain on the north of the water of Spey, in his account for the preceding year, claimed as paid by him to the prior of Beany (*de Bello Loco*) the sum of £4, which was yearly due to the prior from the fermes of the baronies of Avach and Eddirdule by ancient infeftment, and also the sum of 3s. 4d. paid to the prior as the price of 1 lb. of pepper due to him yearly from the same baronies by the same ancient infeftment.³

KILLEARNAN.

P. 526. In the account of Master David Stewart chamberlain of King James II. on the north of the water of Spey, rendered at Edynburgh on 22 September 1456 for the previous half year, he charged himself with the sum of £3, 6s. 8d. for the fermes of the lands of Dunscaith within the lordship of Ardmanach together with the passage (ferry) of the water of Crombathy; with £3, 6s. 8d. for Drumdun; £6 for Culbokoy; £6 for Merane; £3, 6s. 8d. for Balmaduthy; £6 for Ochtyreloy; 20s. for Killan; 19s. 4d. for Petfure; 6s. 6d. for the mill of Petfure; £3, 6s. 8d. for Petconochy; £3, 6s. 8d. for Muleach; £5, 13s. 4d. for Drumwarny; £3 for Halidawachis; 10s. for the alehouse of the same; 6s. for Pettyslanys; 4s. for Smethyeroft; £4 for Casteltoun; 50s. for Barnatfelde; 33s. 4d. for Petlundy; £3, 6s. 8d. for Dryny; £4 for Drumdafurde; £4 for Suthy; 10s. for the alehouse of Suthy; 30s. for Forestere Croft; 20s. for Portare Croft; 3s. 4d. for Curroure Croft; 12d. for the Marecroft; 12d. for the Serianderoft; £3, 6s. 8d. for Fyndoun; £3, 6s. 8d. for Drumnamarg; £3, 6s. 8d. for Hiltoun; £3, 6s. 8d. for Gargastoun; £6 for Newtoun; 13s. 4d. for the alehouse of Newtoun; and £4, 6s. 8d. for Culcolly; making the total charge in money for the baronies of Avach and Eddirdule north of the water of Forn £91, 8s. 10d.⁴ The chamberlain further charged himself

¹ Original *penes* Urquhart of Craigston.

² *Ibid.*

³ Exchequer Rolls, no. 227.

⁴ *Ibid.*, no. 223.

for the same term with 11 chalders 12 bolls of bear and the same quantity of oatmeal of the fermes of the same baronies.¹ He claimed as paid by him to the chaplain officiating in the chapel of the castle of Avach, whose receipt he produced, the sum of 50s. as his half-yearly salary due from the lordship of Avach; and also as allowed to him of the dues of the lands of Eddirdule granted by the king at Innernys to Gillespy of the Isles the sum of £13, 6s. 8d.² After these disbursements there remained over of the dues of the baronies of Avach and Eddirdule £13, 6s. 8d.³—The account of William thane of Caldor and Master Thomas of Carmichael canon of Moray, the king's chamberlains on the north of the Spey, rendered at Lithgw on 19 July 1457 for the preceding half year, in as far as it related to the baronies of Avach and Eddirdule, was as follows. The whole charge in money was as before £91, 8s. 10d.; and the payments to the chaplain of Avauch and Celestine of the Isles the same as in the preceding year.⁴ After these payments there remained of the dues of the barony of Eddirdule in the hands of Celestine of the Isles 20s. more than his fee for the said term; and also of the fermes of Hiltoun and Gargistoun beyond the barony of Eddirdule and beyond the king's grant for the same term £6, 6s. 8d.⁵ The chamberlains claimed as allowed them for the wasteness (*castitas*) of a certain part of the town of Ochtreloo and of Estyr Half-Davauch for the same term 57s. 4d.⁶ The charge of the grain of Avauch and Eddirdule was the same as before, except 8 chalders 4 bolls supposed to be the dues of the lands held by Celestine of the Isles.⁷ The account of Master David Stewart the king's chamberlain on the north of the Spey, rendered *quasi* at Linlithgw on 10 July 1457, but for what year or terms does not certainly appear, as far as related to the same baronies, was as follows. The chamberlain charged himself with £172, 15s. 8d. as the whole dues in money of the baronies of Avach and Eddirdule called Ardmannoch; and claimed among his expenses £5 paid to the chaplain of Avach, 40s. to the mair of Avach and Eddirdule, 6s. 8d. to the sergeand of Ardmannoch as his yearly fee, £4 to the prior of Beaully payable to him yearly from the dues of Avach and Eddirdule by ancient infefment, 3s. 4d. to the same prior as the value of a pound of pepper due to him yearly from the same baronies, £26, 13s. 4d. to Celestine of the Isles, 20s. of an overcharge of the dues of the town of Drumdafurde for the year, £4, 10s. allowed to him for the wasteness of three fourths of Ochtreloy in Avach, 33s. 4d. of the dues of the town of Drumeuddin in the hands of Alexander Flemyng of Ross remitted by the king at the instance of the countess of Ross, 30s. for the wasteness of an oxgang and a half of Drumdafurde, 20s. for the wasteness of an oxgang of Westir Halflavach, 5s. paid to the forester of Avach from the dues of his croft, 6s. 8d. to the ranger of Avach as his fee of his croft, 2s. to a certain mair on the Maircroft, 26s. 8d. allowed him from a certain tenandry called Petfure and Killane belonging in heritage to Sir Andrew Ross chaplain, which Sir Andrew had recovered from the king, and which was described in the rental of Avach for the year, and 6s. 8d. for the terce due to Jonet the widow of the deceased Andrew Tarale from the same tenandry.⁸ He claimed also £3, 8s. 1½d. as the price of 13½

¹ Exchequer Rolls, no. 223.² *Ibid.*³ *Ibid.*⁴ *Ibid.*⁵ *Ibid.*⁶ *Ibid.* no. 225.⁷ *Ibid.*⁸ *Ibid.*, no. 227.

marts at 5s. each, which were of Ardmannach and were called *rymartis*, paid for to the king's husbandmen and placed in the king's larder at Elgyn; 17s. 3½d. as the price of 23½ muttons or *rymecthis* at 12d. each received from the husbandmen of the sheriffdoms of Elgyn and Fores and of the lands of Ardmannach; and £5, 3s. 4d. including the price of 7 marts bought by him from the husbandmen of Ardmannach, which with the skins were also placed by him in the same larder, and the expenses of carriage and driving.¹ After these disbursements the balance was £154, 8s. 3½d., to which had to be added £3, 10s. 8d. of the dues of Killane and Pettfure allowed through negligence in the account, and 10 marks of the tenantry of Fyndoun belonging to the heir of the deceased George Mourro and in the hands of the king, and not stated in the charge.² After some farther disbursements there remained £81, 12s. 0½d., of which sum £13, 13s. 4d. were in the hands of Celestine of the Isles beyond the sum granted him by the king from the fermes of the barony of Eddirdule.³—The account of Williamthane of Caldor and Master Thomas of Carmichael canon of Moray the king's chamberlains on the north of the water of Spey, rendered at Perth on 21 June 1458 for two terms, is similar to the above.⁴ The following are the chief points of difference. The chamberlains claim as paid by them to the chaplain officiating in the parish church of Tain £6, 13s. 4d. from the lands of Dunseathe; as allowed to them by the king's remission to the earl of Ross from the dues of Mulcaich and Drumwerny for the first term of their account, £8, 13s. 4d.; and as allowed them for 23 herring barrels and 7 Hamburg barrels for 63,000 herrings of the assise fishing of Invernys with expenses, and for the carriage of 12 chalders 5 bolls 1 firloft of the ferme victual of Ardmannoch in bear and meal, and the freight of the same and the placing of it in the king's granary at Innernys, £4, 5s.⁵ After these and other disbursements there remained £90, 2s. 10d., of which sum £13, 13s. 4d. were as before in the hands of Celestine of the Isles beyond the sum granted to him by the king.⁶ The chamberlains charge themselves also with 11 chalders 12 bolls oatmeal of the dues of the baronies of Avach and Etdirdule for the arrears of the crop preceeding their account, and with 23 chalders 8 bolls of bear and meal of the same baronies, deducting the teree due to the wife of Sir John Oggilby for the crop 1457.⁷ They further claim, as remitted by the king to Celestine of the Isles of the arrears of the dues of the ferme lands of Eddirdule and part of Avach for the first year of their account, 5 chalders 12 bolls of malt; as allowed them for the wasteness of Drumdafurd and Ochtreloy, 1 chalders 2 bolls malt; for the dues of the lands held by Alexander Flemyng of Ross for the same year, remitted by the king, 8 bolls of malt; for the wasteness of Drumdafurd and Ochtreloy for the second year of their account, 1 chalders 2 bolls of malt; and for the dues of the corns of Drumeuddin leased to Alexander Flemyng for money and remitted by the king, 2 chalders for the second year of their account.⁸

P. 529. In the testament of Sir David Syncler of Swynbrocht, dated 1506, we have the following clause—'Item, the penchione of Dingvell and the Redcastell païs thar dettis this zeir.'⁹

¹ Exchequer Rolls, no. 227.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Misc. of Bann. Club., vol. iii.

AVOCH.

P. 542. The chaplain of the chapel of Avach, of the chapel of the castle of Avach, or of the chapel of the Mount of Ormoude of Avach and Attirdule, was, as we have seen, in 1456, 1457, and 1458, paid yearly by the king's chamberlain north of the Spey the sum of £5 from the lands of the lordship of Avach.¹

CROMARTY.

P. 564. In 1524 the abbot of Arbroath appointed John Andirson his procurator to appear before the provost and bailies or other authorities of certain burghs, including Cromarty, to demand the yearly rents of his lands in those burghs, and to lease and maintain the same.²

ROSEMARKIE.

P. 568. A clause in the testament of Alexander Suthyrland of Dunbeth, dated 1456, is as follows — ‘ Alsna I geve and I leyfe to my lordis the bishopis of Orkney and Ross the remanant of the hundreth lib. that I have thair obligationes for, ilk one of thame fyndand a prest for me to syng ii zeris, and for the layf to ger do for my saul as they wil answer before God, as sum tym I trastit in thame.’³

P. 572. The same Alexander bequeathed 6 marks yearly from the lands of Effier (or Ester) Kyndeis to a priest to sing mass perpetually for himself and his wife in the canony of Ross, and of 30 trentals to be said for his soul he ordained 8 to be said in the same canony (the cathedral churel).⁴

P. 574. In 1514 Balthasar ——— the Nuncio of Pope Leo X. in Scotland presented Adam Gordonn dean of Chatenes to the benefice of the chantry of Ross, then vacant in his hands by the resignation of Nicolas Birne chaplain in the diocese of Moray, the procurator substitute of Alexander earl of Huntlie the procurator of John Caldor late precentor, and worth yearly by the common valuation 100 marks Scots.⁵

P. 576. In 1510 the treasurer of Ross was Master James Heryng.⁶

P. 577. In 1462 Sir Thomas of Dingvaile was subdean of Ross.⁷

P. 580. Among the canons of Ross in 1514 there appears in record along with John Erisel Dean Patrick Dunbar.⁸

P. 589. In 1557 David bishop of Ross granted to Thomas Cuthbert and his wife the lands of the three ly Scheddis; three pertieates, namely, three rigs in the three ly Scheddis within the

¹ Exchequer Rolls, nn. 223, 225, 227. See KIL-
LEARNAN above.

² Reg. de Aberbrothoc, vol. ii. p. 437.

³ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii.

⁵ Original *penes* D. Laing Esquire.

⁶ Reg. de Aberbrothoc, vol. ii. pp. 399, 401.

⁷ Reg. de Dunfermelyn, pp. 353, 354.

⁸ Original *penes* D. Laing Esquire.

⁴ *Ibid.*

canonry, namely, one rig in the Ewarsched lying between the lands of the chaplainry of the precentor on the east, the lands of the principal chaplainry of Alnes on the west, and the king's common road on the south, and extending to the burn and the ley on the north — another rig in the Middillsched lying between the lands of the chaplainry of Culeragy on the east, the lands of the chaplainry of the subdean on the west, the Nethirsched on the south, and the common road on the north — and a third rig lying in the Nethirsched between the lands of the chaplainry of the archdeacon on the west, the lands of the chaplainry of the subdean on the east, the Middillsched on the north, and the sea and the Ness on the south ; a rood of land within the bounds of the burgage of Rosmarky lying in the Schortsefeld between the lands of the chaplainry of the archdeacon on the north, the sea on the south, the lands called Plumarisland on the east, and the lands called Langsefeld on the west ; a rood of land in the acres lying between the lands of the chaplainry of Alnes on the west, the lands of the chaplainry of Cullis on the east, the lands of the chaplains on the south, and the lands of the bishop of Ross on the north ; a croft called 'croft of the coppis' lying between the lands of the chaplainry of the archdeacon on the north, the common road on the south, the lands of the chaplains on the east, and the loch on the west ; half an acre of land lying between the lands of the chaplainry of Mulloquhy on the south, the lands of the chaplainry of Alnes on the north, the lands of the chaplains on the east, and the loch on the west ; an acre lying under the wood between the lands of the chaplainry of the archdeacon on the east, the lands of the chaplainry of Alnes on the south, and the lands of the chaplainry of the subdean on the north ; all lying in the bishoprick of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes.¹ In 1567 John bishop of Ross granted to William Leslie of Balquhan the lands of Cullieudden, Farnis, Wester Culbol, and Wodheid, the lands of Balmongy with the mill of Rosmarkny, and the lands of Killernene, in the bishoprick of Ross and sheriffdom of Innernes.² In 1568 Alexander Gollane and Andrew Grant bailies of Rosmarkine granted to Robert Lesslie of Ardrosair the common lands of Lochill, formerly occupied by Richard Irving, within the community or burgage of Rosmarkin and sheriffdom of Innernes, lying between the lands of the deceased Sir William Kilquhous, of Alexander Thomsone, and of Andrew Grant, on the south, the top of the hill of Craiglau on the north, the burn commonly called Reglingburn on the west, and the lands of Alexander Gollan, then in the hands of Master Duncan Chalmer chancellor of Ross, on the east.³ In 1576 Alexander bishop of Ross granted to John Leslie of Balquhane the kirklands of Cullieudden, Farnes, Westir Culboll, and Wodheid ; the lands of Balmungie with the mill of Rosemarky ; the lands of Killernane ; the kirklands of RATHERIE, Westir RATHERIE, and Rosmarky ; the lands of the Channonrie with the Bischopissched and salmon fishing of the Nes ; the kirklands of Larny extending to a davach ; the mill and mill-lands of Avach ; the lands of Cragheid ; the lands of Kynbeachie extending to a half davach with the mill and alchouse of the same ; the lands of Contane extending to a half davach ; the lands of Lealdie ; the lands of Kirkiskyth ; the lands of the Inche, with the grove and wood adjacent to the same, and the portion of land commonly called the Bromehill ; the hereditary

¹ Flowerburn Charters. The following grants, it will be seen, refer to other parishes besides Rosmarkie.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

office of constable of the palace or castle of the bishoprick, with the buildings, gardens, orchards, meadows, and 'leyis,' within the canonry of Ross; and a yearly revenue of a hundred pounds Scots with six chalders of victual to be raised at Whitsunday and Martinmas from the fermes and profits of the bishoprick.¹ In 1578 John Leslie of Balquhan granted to Colin Mackenzie of Kintail the lands of Craigheid; the mill of Awache; the lands of Contane, Kyrksaith, and Lealdi; the lands of Inche with the woods and the Bromehill; the hereditary office of constable of the bishop's palace; the yearly revenue (above mentioned) of £100 Scots and 6 chalders victual; the lands of Culicuden, Farnes, Westir Culboill, Westir Raddrie, Roismarkne, Chaunonrie, and the Bischopis Sched with the salmon fishing of the Nes; the lands of Wodheid; the mill of Rosmarkie; the lands of Balmungie; and the lands of Killernane.²

P. 589. In 1524 the abbot of Arbroath had lands in the burgh of Rosmerkyne.³

LOCUINETHEREETH.

P. 593. It has been conjectured with great probability that Locuinethereth is Logywreid.⁴ If so, Kynteryth can hardly be the same as Locuinethereth.

DORNOCH.

P. 607, note 9. For 'Reg. Mag.' read 'Reg. Mag. Sig.'

P. 627. In the testament of Alexander Suthyrland of Dunbeth, dated in 1456, occurs the following clause—'Item, I gif and assigncis to my sone John the lands that I haf in wedsettyng of the Medyltone in the Meyrays, and xls. worth of land zerly that I suld have of the lard of Kynnard, quether the said John wil have it in Kynnard or of the bordland of Skelbow, quhil the said John be pait as the letters of reversion proportis.'⁵

P. 636, line 20. For '1203-1245' read '1223-1245.'

GOLSPIE.

P. 653, note 4. For 'Orneyinga Saga' read 'Orkneyinga Saga.'

P. 672, line 11. For 'tolboth' read 'tolbooth.'

P. 676, line 12. For 'Kalmaly' read 'Kilmaly.'

DURNESS.

P. 701, note 14. For 'Collection' read 'Collections.'

P. 702, note 1. For 'Collection' read 'Collections.'

¹ Flowerburn Charters.

² Ibid.

⁴ Note by Joseph Robertson Esquire. See p. 548.

³ Reg. de Aberbrothoc, vol. ii. p. 437. See Cro-

⁵ Misc. of Bann. Club, vol. iii.

MARTY, p. 843.

FARR.

P. 712, line 11. For 'ands' read 'lands.'

KILDONAN.

P. 739. Note the omission of the date 1524 in the settlement between the earls of Sutherland and Caithness.

REAY.

P. 743, line 27. For 'interest' read 'extent.'

THURSO.

P. 754, note 1. For 'Torf. lib. i. p. 33' read 'Torf. lib. i. c. 33.'

WICK.

P. 772, note 13, line 2. Delete the word 'that' immediately before the quotation.

CANNISBAY.

P. 809. In the account of Sir Gilbert Keith of Innerugy, customar of Cathnes, Straithnavern, and Suthyrland, rendered at Edinburgh by his deputy Henry Mowate on 28 July 1481, he charges himself with the sum of £9, 15s. as the proceeds of the custom of 5 lasts and 5 barrels of salted salmon, customed, carted, and carried out of the said lordships; and with £8 as the proceeds of the custom of 3 lasts of hides, of which 10 dakirs (*dacre*) were not in the customhouse receipt (*coketu*), but for which receipt was to be given as customed and carried as above; in all £17, 15s., of which sum the comptroller was allowed 5s. 6d. as his fee.¹

¹ Exchequer Rolls in Gen. Reg. House. A dakir or dicker is 10 hides, and a last 20 dakirs.

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