

GENEALOGICAL COLLECTIONS

RELATING TO THE

FAMILY OF CRAVIE OR CRAVEN

IN SCOTLAND

WITH

Notes and Documents

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THEIR FAMILY CONNECTIONS

*“ Truditur dies die,
Noveque pergunt interire Lunæ.”*

—HORACE.

BY

THE REV. J. B. CRAVEN, D.D.

RECTOR OF ST OLAF'S CHURCH, KIRKWALL



Kirkwall

PRIVATELY PRINTED

1910.

In Fond Memory

OF

LOVED ONES WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE,

TO

THOSE WHO STILL REMAIN,

AND TO

THOSE WHO MAY COME AFTER :

THAT ALL AT LAST MAY BE ONE IN HIM

WHO HAS BEEN OUR REFUGE

FROM ONE GENERATION TO ANOTHER.

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THE FAMILY OF CRAVIE OR CRAVEN.

DERIVATION OF THE NAME.

“The usual name for a tree is Craebh (Craer or Crew), which appears most often as a suffix, as Auchincrow, in Berwickshire; Auchincruive, near Ayr—Achadh na Craebh, field of trees. Sometimes the prefix drops off, as Cruvie, a ruinous castle in the parish of Logie, Fife, which was once Caiseal Craebhe (Creuvie), Castle of the Tree, which appellation remains entire in Castle Creavie, in Kirkeudbrightshire; Knock Cravie, and Corn-Cravie. In the same county are Cnoc and Coran Cravbhaich or Cravbhe—Woodhill, or Hill of the Tree.”

“Scottish Land Names,” Sir H. Maxwell, 107.

“Cravie, obs. (Tullynessle), Craobhaidh—‘a woody place.’”

“Place-names of West Aberdeenshire,” Macdonald, 140.

CRAVIE

Is in the parish of Tullynessle, Aberdeenshire, and lies all along the face of a hill, consisting of from 50 to 100 acres, and bears the names of “Cravie Park,” “Cravie Howe,” and “Cravie Wood.” On what appears to have been a part or pendicle is a place called “St John’s Close.” It lies about two or three hundred yards from the foundations of the Old House. “St John’s Close” is now marked by one tree, close by the approach to Whiteside, and was connected by a causeway to Cravie proper. At one time a “druidical” circle of four or five stones stood on a hillock

at "St John's Close." In 1845, traces of a dwelling on the lands could be discerned. Of "Cravie Wood," four trees still remain. From these to the public road extends the Howe, through which, at one time, a burn ran, now diverted. At Whiteside is "Temple Howe." Near St John's, and beside the causeway, what appears to have been a sacrificing vessel of stone was found.

A VISIT TO CRAVIE, FRIDAY, 25TH JANUARY 1889.

At Alford station we were met by Mr William Wilson, junior, Hillocks, Terpersie, who had kindly promised to go with us and show us the lands of Cravie. After walking about three miles and a half, we arrived at the farm of Whiteside, Tullynessle, in which large holding the lands are now included. They lie, as just described, along the face of a hill. The wood, in the memory of those still alive, extended a considerable way, and is described as having been a "heavy wood." It went right up to the top of the hill. The burn at one time came through the Cravie Howe, but is now diverted, and runs quite near to the stile of entry to Cravie. The large park is about thirty acres in extent, the smaller about half that size. Our informant was Mr Gordon Watt, tenant of Cottown, in which he lives with his father-in-law, Mr Andrew Adam. The hillock was eight or ten feet high, and on the top of it, or around it, the stones stood. At the barnyard, on the other side of the farm buildings of Whiteside, is the "Temple Howe."

The expressions, "St John's Close" and "Temple Howe," evidently refer to possession of the Knights Templars—a body which had considerable possessions in Aberdeenshire. This accounts possibly for the almost continual leading name of John in the Cravie and Craven family.

It appears therefore that a family of the name of Cravie derived its name from this possession. They held their

lands as rentallers or kindly tenants of the Bishops of Aberdeen, who are recorded as proprietors of these lands from the earliest ecclesiastical period. On what specific tenure the lands were held does not directly appear, but may perhaps be surmised. The mention in the references *infra*, include more. The expression runs, "Cravie ae lie Dirahouse." A "dereth" was a sort of bailie or sergent. In Scotland this word assumed a religious or ecclesiastical limitation, and eventually became the well-known name, "Dewar." It appears that Cravie and "lie Dirahouse" were conjoined as one holding. Were the Cravies then "dereths" or "sergents" to the Bishops of Aberdeen, officers whose duty it was to protect the interests of the bishops in their lands in Tullynessle?

It is to be noted also that the mill of Tullynessle belenged at one time to the Hospital of St Peter, in Old Aberdeen. Early in the seventeenth century we find the representatives of the family settled on these "spital" lands.

"Deray, Dira, Diraland"—"Diracroft, alias Belaikers"—Dewars, keepers of hereditary relics of ancient saints, such as bells, croziers, &c.

Anderson, "Scotland in Early Christian Times," 211, 228.

First recorded mention of the family is in 1453-4:—
"Merave, Andrew de, admitted a burgess of guild and trade of the City of Aberdeen (composition £5 granted for the repairing of the Bell S. Nicholas of Aberdeen.)"

"Miscy. New Spald. Club," i., 4.

This form of the name is still to be found in the spelling, "M'Creuvie," of a family living near Aberdeen. The same is found, 1590, in the person of "Elspet M'Crevie, at Wigton, an excommunicate person" found in company with "Dene Adam Maxwell, sumtyme monk at Corsraguell," adherents of the Roman Church.

Register of Privy Council, of date.

JOHN CRAVY.

1492, July. 6th.—“Anent the actioun and causs perservit be William Hay of Ardendracht [parish of Cruden] agains Henri Chene of Essilmont and John Chene, his son and apparand are, for the wrangis distructione of the Place of Ardendracht, and the houssis and biggings thairof; and for the dampnage and scaittit sustenit by the said Williame thairthrow, extending to five hundreth merkis . . . for the wrangis awaytakin of his charteris . . . gudes . . . xii. silver spvnnis . . . a Bible buk, ane buk contenand four bukis of the sentence, and thre Inglis bukis . . . The Lords appoint 8th October for proof.” 10th Dec., the Lords, ripely advised, discern against the Chenes. 27th February 1492, “the lordis of consale decrettis and deliveris that Richard Gillispy, David Chepman, in Monymusk . . . John Henrysone, in Keig; William Gentilman in Keig . . . Arthur, Lord Forbes . . . *John Cravy* . . . shall freith and releff Henry Chene of Essilmont . . . of five hundred merkis . . . as thai that wer at the distructione and burnyng of the sammyn Place, &c.”

“*Collections in Aberdeen and Banff*,” 381; “*Acta Dominorum Concilii*,” 243, 256, 296; also in reference to payments, “*Acta Dominorum Auditorum*,” 89, 179, 182, 183.

“Assedatioun made be ye bishope to Alexander Leyth of ye landis and croft callit Croft Crewye, for nyneteyn zeiris. Payand heirfor zierlie ten schillingis, usuall money of Scotland, with ariage, karyage, and uder dew service. At Pareise, xv. September, A.D., MDLII.

“Subscribed—

WILLIAM, Bischope of Aberden.	JACOBUS GORDON DE BANCORY.
R ERSKYN, decanus Aberdonensis.	JOANNES ELPHINSTOUN, ab Inner- nochy.
JOHANNES STEWART, Archdiaconus Aberdonensis.	ALEXANDER KYD, Succentor.
JACOBUS WAVAN DE OVYN.	WILLELMUS HAY, at Turrif.
WILLELMUS CABELL DE TULINESSYLL.	JACOBUS GORDOUNE DE LUNMAX.”

Reg. Ep. Abd., i. 456.

1572, Feb. 20. Tack for nineteen years after "the feist of Lambes callit ad vincula Petri," by Mr John Kennedy, parson of Tullinessill, with consent of William, Bishop of Aberdeen, and the chapter thereof, to Alexander Leyth of Mongary, his heirs and assignees male, of the teind sheaves of the town and lands of Mongary and Milltown of the same, Quheithauche, *Craveis Croft*, the lands and town of Fowlerschlic . . . for yearly payment of . . . 6s 8d and 12s of augmentation for Craveyes Croft . . . Signed before Mr Robert Lumisdean of Clowacht and others, 20th Feb. 1572.

Original, Whitehaugh Charter Chest.

1614. King James confirms a charter of feu farm by Peter, Bishop of Aberdeen, dated in the same year in favour of Patrick Leith, of the town lands and mill of Montgarrie, and others. The disposition clause runs thus:—"Omnes et singulas villam et terras nostras de Montgarrie cum suis pendiculis et pertinentiis molendinum de Montgarrie cum terris molendinariis et astricta multura eiusdem unacum brasina ejusdem ville de Montgarrie et brasina vocati Mylnehill, *Croftum Cravie, Dirahous* cum omnibus aliis . . . Reddendo pro brasina de Montgarrie cum Crofto Cravie ac lie Dirahous cum toftis croftis et pertinentiis earundum triginta sex solidos octo denarios progressuma septem solidos quatuor denarios duodecim capones, duodecem pultrias sex gallinas minales."

"Illus. of Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banff," iv. 543.

1641, June 23. Special service of John Leith, heir male of Patrick Leith of Mongarie, his father. Includes "villa et terris de Montgarrie, cum molendino et brasina vocata Milnhill, *Croft Cravie, Diracroft*, et pendiculo dictarum terrarum de Montgarrie vocato Quhythauch. E. 22£ 10s 8d, &c."

1663. Charter of confirmation and novodamus by Alexander, Bishop of Aberdeen, in favour of Patrick Leith, as heir of John Leith of Quhythauch, his father, and his

heirs, &c. . . . of Montgarie . . . *Croft Cravie, Diracroft* . . . to be held in manner and for the payments mentioned in the previous charters, dated 18th April 1556, 23rd May 1562, and 22nd December 1564, and adding of new augmentation for all the foresaids lands, &c., the sum of 3s 4d. Dated 14th November 1663.

Whitehaugh Charter Chest.

The name does not occur in the Poll-book of 1696.

In a court held at Aberdeen on 5th Feb. 1557, by John Leslie of Balquhane, Sheriff-depute, *inter alia* :—In the action and cause of “Spoulzie presewit by Alexr. Lyell, burrow maister of Elsenewir, against Alexr. Joffray and others,” as to hewing down and destroying “the how of ane schiep of the said Alexris, callit the Reisbark,” in 1545, said ship lying under Thomas Menzies’ nether backgate upon the sands, within the flood-mark in Aberdeen. A number of witnesses summoned, but not compeared. Among them “Georg Creve.” Again mentioned, 20th April 1558, as summoned, but “nocht compearand.” Not again traced.

Sheriff Court Records of Aberdeen, N. S. Club, i. 151, 153.

FAMILY IN OLD ABERDEEN.

ENTRIES IN PARISH REGISTERS OF OLD MACHAR.

Burial.

A.D. 1645, February 14. Thomas Cravy, in Old Abd.
"buried in ye kirk."

Baptism Registers.

1643, 7 Feb. Mr John Crevie, witness to a baptism of the
name of Love.

1643, 18 April. John Crevie, in Spittell, ane sone callit
. . . William Rowane, Richart Alexander, Alex-
ander Stewart, John Collie, William Gray, and
Andro Youngsone, witnesses.

1644, 8 Sep. John Crewie, in Spithill, ane son called
Thomas [afterwards minister of Newhills]. Gilbert
Johnston, Thomas Innes, James Ritchie, and John
Jameson, witnesses.

1646, 19 Julie. John Criwie, in Spittall, ane son called
John. John Leask, Jon Robertson, and John Rarey,
witnesses.

1650, Primo September. John Crewie, in Spittall, ane
daughter called Cathrin. George Allane, Jon
Jameson, David Dugit, Andro Dugit, witnesses.

Burial Register.

1677, 22nd August. John Cravie, elder, weaver, in Spittel,
buried in the kirk yard.

Marriage Register.

Crewie and Allan. John Crewie, younger, in Spittal,
produced bands of marriage with Jannet Allan
there. John Crewie, senr., cautioner for the man,
and George Allan, younger, for the woman, wer
married, 18 June 1667.

Baptism Register.

- 1669, 24 Janry. John Crevie, in Spittal, a daur. Agnes. John Crevie, elder; Thomas Crevie, George Allan, elder, and others, witnesses.
- 1677, 29th Aug. John Crivie, in Spittall, a daughter called Agnes. John Robertson, George Allan, elder, and yor.; James Leslie, witnesses.
- 1679, 22 Aug. John Crevie, younger, in Spittall, ane son called John. John . . . John Cowper, John Robertson, witnesses.
- 1680, 20 May. John Crevie, in Seaton, a son called George. George Allan, elder, and younger; George Robertson, elder, and younger, witnesses.
- 1682, 15 October. John Crevie, in Seaton, a son called James. James Gordon, of Seaton; James Ogelvie, James Johnston, James Leslie, witnesses.
- 1685, Feb. 2. John Crevie, in Seaton, a daughter called Janet. Thomas Taylour, James Taylour, Robert Taylour, George Taylour, witnesses.
- 1687, 22 May. John Crevie, at the Bridge of Don, a daughter called Jean. John Smith, Robert Milne, Ja. Fraser, Wm. Henderson, witnesses.
- 1689, 24 Aug. John Cravey, at the Bridge of Don, a daughter called Janet. George Allan, David Grier, Gilbert Anderson, James Smith, witnesses.
- 1694, Aug. 26. John Crevie had a child baptised called
 . . .

Marriage Register.

- 1704, Nov. 27. Compeared George Crevie and Janet Ritchy, both in this paroch, and contracted marriage. According to order they consigned pledges for their civil behaviour. John Crevy, weaver in Seatoun, cautioner for the man; William Ritchy, weaver there, for the woman. They were

orderly proclaimed and married here by Mr David Corse, Minister of the Gospell, December 26, 1704.

Baptism Register.

- 1705, Nov. 25. George Crevey, weaver at the hillhead of Seatoun, and Janet Ritchie, his spouse, had a daughter baptized by the minister and named Christian. John Crevy, William Ritchie, George Henderson, and James Hatt, witnesses.
- 1707, Dec. 17. George Crevy, weaver at hill head of Seatoun, and Janet Ritchie, his spouse, had a daughter baptized by Mr William Mitchell, Minr. of the Gospell at New Machar, named Janet. George Henderson, John Robertson, William Ritchie, John Crevy, witnesses.
- 1711, March 27. George Crevie, weaver in Seatoun, and Janet Ritchie, his spouse, had a daughter baptized by the minister, and named Mary. Alexr. Taylour, of Newport; Alexr. Taylour in Coltoun; John Crevie, and William Ritchie, witnesses.
- 1713, ye 23 May. George Crevy, weaver at hill head of Seatoun, and Janet Ritchie, his spouse, had a son baptized by Mr David Anderson, Professor of Divinity for the King's College of Aberdeen, named John. John Wordrop, John Fyffe, John Robertson, John Studdert, witnesses.
- 1715, Feb. 23. George Crevie, weaver at Bridge of Don, and Janet Ritchie, his spouse, had a daughter baptized by the minister, named Jean. James Hatt, James Crevie, James Hill, James Johnston, witnesses.
- 1716, Sept. 16. George Crevie, weaver in Seatoun, had a child baptized by Mr David Anderson, Professor of Divinity, and named William. Wm. Thomson, Wm. Marr, Wm. Hervy, Wm. Proctor, witnesses.

Burial Register.

- 1720, Jan. 28. George Crevie, merchant at hillhead of Seatoun, had a child buried in the kirkyeard, and above arms, named Jean.
- 1720, Nov. 23. George Crevie, weaver at hillhead of Seatoun, had a child buried in the kirk yeard, under arms, and named William.

At Christmas 1746, a "George Cravie" appears at Leith in very poor circumstances. He is also mentioned as a bedesmen of the old Hospital at Leith, 24 April 1750. He died Jan. 20th 1751, and was buried at Leith. His age is stated as 74 years. The ages do not quite tally.

Marriage Register.

- 1711, Nov. 23. James Crevie, in this parochin, produced a testimonial from Aberdeen, signed by Alex. Lesly, of his Imbuking there with Jean Coutts. They were orderly proclaimed here and married at Aberdeen, Dec. 13, 1711.

Baptism Register.

- 1712, Sept. 10. James Crevie, weaver in the hillhead of Seaton, and Jean Coutts, his spouse, had a son baptized by Mr David Hedderwick, minister of the Gospel, and named George. George Ross, George Mair, George Henderson, George Crevie, witnesses.

NOTE.—This is the only baptism recorded to James Crevie and Jean Coutts. This may be explained by the fact that Mr Hedderwick was then the Episcopal clergyman at Old Aberdeen. On 29th Dec. 1708, he was libelled before the Presbytery of Aberdeen as "intruder into the College Kirk of Old Aberdeen," where he used "a forme of Liturgie and ceremonies never received nor practised by this [Presbyterian] Church," as also for "his presuming to Baptize, having no authority from the Established Church, and in baptisme using the signe of the Cross . . .

as also for his presuming to administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, himself and the people kneeling in the very act of receiving."

There is a note on the parish register of Old Macher stating that many persons refused to get their children baptized (by the Presbyterian minister), "and, therefore, have no benefit from the register," 1699-1721.

Thomas Cravy, whom we shall meet by-and-by at North Berwick, is believed to have been the son of James Crevie and Jean Coutts, and the above notes may explain the absence of his baptism entry in the public register.

1739, Dec. 15. John Crevie, weaver in Old Aberdeen, and Margaret Fawns, his spouse, had a daughter baptized by Principal Chalmers, named Elspet. Peter Dunbar, Wm. Ross, Wm. Kaithness, and James Fawns, witnesses.

1742, July 20. John Crevie, weaver in Old Aberdeen, and his spouse, Margaret Fawns, had a son born who was baptized by Mr James Mitchell, minister, and named John. Wit. at his baptism—Wm. Renny and Peter Dunn.

1745, April 21. John Crevie, weaver in Old Aberdeen, and Margt. Fawns, his spouse, had a daughter, named Margaret, baptized by Mr James Mitchell, minister of the Gospel in Old Aberdeen. Witnesses—Robert Forsyth, William Ross, William Collie, and John Catto.

1747, Oct. 11. John Crevie, weaver in Old Aberdeen, and Margaret Fawns, his spouse, had a son (who was born the 5th of October) baptized by the said Mr Bartlet [Old Machar] and named George. Witnesses—Thomas Volum, Thomas Forsyth, George Hill, and George Henderson.

1750, Feb. 10. John Crevie, weaver in Old Aberdeen, and his spouse, Margaret Fawns, had a son (who was born on the 2nd curt.) baptized by Mr James Mitchell, and named James. Witnesses — James Still, James Ross, Alexander Ross, Alexander Henderson. [Searched down to 1763.]

TOWN COUNCIL RECORDS OF OLD ABERDEEN.

- 1636, "xi. day of Maii. Names of the Inhabitants within the spittell:— . . . Andrew Youngsoun, wobster, his wyff, four bairnes, James . . . , John Crewie, John Moir, and Margaret Littlejohne, servants." In Old Aberdeen itself — "Alexander Coutts, himself and his wife, . . . John Ritchie, Broudster, his wyff and two young bairns." The only "Allan" is "Jeane Allane," servant to "Mr Alexander Scrogie."
1634. "Act of freedom of Burgh in favour of Andrew Coutts, to be burges and fre Craftsman of the Hammerman Craft," granted by "Patrick, be the mercie of God, bischop of Aberdeen," with consent of the baillies.
- 1647, July 7. John Coutts admitted freeman, May 29. "George Allane, Cordiner, in Old Aberdeen, and William Allane, his sone," admitted freedmen.
1649. John Coutts, a town councillor.
1654. George Allane, a quarter master.
1657. John Contts, George Allane, and William Allane, councillors.
1657. William Allane, quarter master, John Coutts, Deacon Convener of the Town.
1658. James Allane, son to George Allane, admitted freedman.
1660. George Allane, councillor.

1662. 19 Aug. Mention of Margaret Ross, wife of John Coutts, wright and burgess. George Allane, one of the Town Council, who ask Gordon of Seaton to write the new bishop, promising to have his house ready.
1664. William Coutts, Deacon of Hammermen.
1666. Gilbert Anderson decerned to pay to William Coutts, freedman and merchant burgess of the said city, "ane shillings four pennies for bygane house maill."

These notes are taken from the original minutes, but see also "Records of Old Aberdeen," New Spalding Club, 2 vols., passim.

REGISTER OF MERCHANT AND TRADE BURGESSES OF
OLD ABERDEEN, ADMISSIONS.

- 1674, Feb. 19. Jon Crevey, weaver in the spittall, brother to the minister of Newhills.
- 1720, June 25. George Crevie, weaver and merchant in Seaton, second son to John Crevie, merchant.
- 1736, Sep. 18. John Crevie, eldest son to George Crevie, merchant and weaver.
- 1770, Nov. 10. John Crevie, son of John Crevie, merchant.

The Merchant Society of Old Aberdeen had, 11th Dec. 1680, a grant by Bishop Patrick Scougall for a loft in the Cathedral.

One of the merchants petitioning is "John Crevie," also John Ross, George Henderson, William Henderson.

They had resolved to "build ane sufficient handsome loft for their own accomodation, and lykewayes ane Convenient Seat in the most eminent part of the said loft for the use of the magistrats of the said citie."

- 1689, "Mar. 2. Ane new session." Members include Principal Middleton, Dr James Garden, also "James Gordon of Seatoun, John Smith, John Creavy."

"Rec. Old Abd.," i. 237, 252, 257, 262, and ii. 89.

RECORDS OF THE WEAVER INCORPORATION OF OLD
 ABERDEEN. VOL. I. BEGINS 1636.

Weaver Oath.

“ A. B. promise and sweare that I sall be leill, true, and obedient to my deakin and my trade, and sall never see your skaith, nor hear it, but I sall lett it at my power and warne you thairof, your counsell shewen to me I shall conceall, the best counsell I can I shall give you when ye charge me thairwith. Swa help me God.”

Arms.

“ The weavers of Aberdene Bounes, azure, 3 weaver’s shuttles, Or, Tipped and furnished with quiles (?) of yairne the thread is pendant, gules. The spider, and silk worm next the first of this trad, and no mortal man can counterfeate their cunning in this art. They are distinguished and dignified according to the stuffe they make as Ribband, weaves velvet.

“ 35 Exodus, and 25 and 26 verses it is said, and all the women that were wyse hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that qeh they had spune both of blew and purple, and of scarlet and of fyne linning, and al the women whose hearts stirred them up in wisdom spun goat’s hair.”

From MSS. in the Box.

1637. “ The nyntene day of October, anno 1637, Jon Crevie band himself to serve Jon Rotherill in the same yeir of God, before witnesses, John Law and Wm. Wobster.”

1638. “ The 19th day of Januar, 1638 years, Comperit John Creivie, ap. Befor the Decone and Masters, and band himself to serve John Collas till yowl next coming, in this instant yeir of God, before yair witness John Makie, John Law, writer hereof, and William Wobster, servand to Thomas Angus, Decone.”

1703. "Upon the 31st of August 1703, Compeired George Creiwie, lawfull son to John Creiwie, burgess of Aberdeen, and entered himself taskman to Thomas Forsyth, younger, for the space of an quarter of an year, to witt, from the last of this instant August to the last of November in this present year, 1703, and this was done before witnesses, to wit, Androw Charells, let Deacon, and George Robertson, present mester, and William Wollum, present deacon."
1710. "John Cravie, in Seatoun; George Cravie, James Cravie, weavers in Spithill."

At Court of Weavers' Trade, held 1720, May 14, John Ross, Deacon. "Admission, George Crevie, Freeman. The said day compeared George Crevie, weaver in the Hill head of Seaton, and gave in ane petition, Desiring to be admitted Freeman of trade and payand in therewith fourtie shillings Scots, which petition being read, the Deacon and trade accepted thereof, and appointed him to work an Essay as the trades should appoynt, viz. :—Ane Linen Wob, ane piece of broad cloath called say (or soy), and an piece of tamruce (?), which being wrough by him in presence of William Volum, John Ellies, and George Haddon, Essay Masters, and the said John Ross, present Deacon, Overseer, and they being satisfied therewith, the said petitioner was declared sufficiently qualified to serve the King's lieges. Having instantly found caution for his Composition to the trade, he was declared freeman in their incorporation, whereupon he took instruments. Thereafter George Haddein, weaver, burgess of Old Aberdeen, Became bound and obliged as Cautioner sowrty for the said George Crevie, he haveing married ane fremane's eldest daughter, That he sall make payment to Thomas Volum, present Box master, of the sum of six pounds Scots money, and that for his Composition to the said trade, Betwixt the date hereof and the first day of October next to come, and the said George Crevie oblidged him to relieve his said Cautioner of

his Cautionrie and obligation. George Hadden, Georg Creve."

"Freemen's eldest daughters shall in all respects be equal to freemen's eldest sons, providing that they shall not have ane brother of our trade."

1722. George Crevie is described as in Seaton, and as having paid his composition; designed "weaver and merchant burges in Old Aberdeen."

1736, 7 Aug. John Crevie, eldest lawfull son to George Crevie, weaver in Old Aberdeen, admitted freeman of trade. Had for Essay "a piece of broad cloth, a lenning web, and a piece of camblet."

1752. Deacon and master elected. John Crevie elected deacon, re-elected 1753, 1754, 1762, 1763. In 1752, John Crevie, Box Mr., and Alex. Henderson, Deacon, pray for leave from Kirk Session to "Build a loft for themselves in a genteel maner on their own charges in the north end of the common loft in the Cathedral of St Machar," which was granted.

The arms of the Weaver Incorporation are in colour reproduced in "Records of Old Aberdeen," i. 301. On an azure field they bear the traditional pot of three upright opened lillies, the three fish on the front of the pot, the three heads with shuttles. The supporters are two mermaids; the motto, "Salus per Christum."

In St Machar Churchyard:—"In hope of a blessed Ressurrection, here ly the ashes of William Henderson, merchant, burges in Old Aberdeen, and Elspet Allan, his spouse; as also Margaret Henderson, their daughter, lawful spouse to Patrick Robertson, merchant in Old Aberdeen. She departed this life December 17, 1729." [Cherub with spreading wings—skull, crossbones.] Elspet Allan, sister to Janet Allan, wife of John Crevie, weaver and merchant. "In memory of Alexander Crevie, late Shipmaster in Newburgh, who died 21st May 1834, aged 57; also Jannet

Murray, his wife, who died 21st May 1846, aged 64; and Helen, their daughter, who died in infancy."

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS FROM MR ALEXANDER CREVIE,
NEWBURGH, FOVERAN, TO THE WRITER.

I. 18th Dec. 1871.—“ My grandfather was John Crevie, junior, who joined the Merchant Society the 17th Nov. 1770. My father was born in 1776, and I remember my father telling me that he had the right of being freeman of Old Aberdeen from his father being a member of the Merchant Society. I think you are quite right in your opinion of both your descent and mine of the different branches. There were no other Crevies ever known, and they all sprang from the John Crevie in Sunnyside, but the question is—Where did he come from? My father employed different parties to try and find out that, but it never could be done, and although the name is differently spelled, they are all from the same stock. My father had a brother who did not spell the same as he did, and had some difficulty in having a claim to his part of the money left by Wilhm. Crevie, Coventry. My father always insisted that his way of spelling the name was the original way.”

II. 20th Feb. 1872.—“ Regarding the connection of the late John Cravie, of Banff, he was my cousin, his father was a brother of my father, and was a shipmaster in Aberdeen. His name was William, and had three of a family, but they are all gone.”

Conversation in 1871, with Mrs Dunn, Aberdeen, whose mother was Elizabeth Cravie, daughter of James Cravie, shipmaster:—“ My great-grandfather's name was John Cravie. He was a master weaver in Old Aberdeen. Their house was in Don Street, right hand side, near a pump well at the beginning of the street. His first wife's name was Fawns, his second Jean Dunbar. He was at the baptism of the latter, when the child's mother called on him to hold it, as 'she might be a

wife to him yet.' He worked at his web till his death, which took place thus:—He was lifting a stone to split a piece of wood with, and instead hit his leg, breaking the bone. As he then lived alone, he sent for my grandmother. When coming, he asked her to reach him his broad Scotch bonnet, and to feel in it, and she would get some money. She took out £21, but he said it should have been £22, only some one must have stolen £1. He thought it must have been the woman who attended him, who lived in the attic. His children were—James, my grandfather, who was a sailor, and served his time at Berwick-upon-Tweed; Thomas, who was deformed, which thus happened:—When he was young, his mother was told that there was a ship from Berwick ashore, and fearing it was her son's, she ran too hastily and let the boy fall. Professor Gordon took an interest in him, and he became a teacher of drawing. He and another son, William, who was a cabinetmaker, went to Coventry, when Thomas soon died, and William went to the West Indies, made a fortune, came home, and died at Coventry. The Coutts family were old relations of ours. My mother died in 1870, aged 80. Her sampler is embroidered, 'Eliz. Cravie.'"

1696. In the "List of Pollable Persons for Aberdeenshire," i. 564, the following entry is found:—"John Crevie, merchant (stock under 500 merks), and Jannet Allan, his spouse, and ane daughter in familia, poll £0 18s 0d." These folks lived near the Bridge of Don, on the Seaton estate.

The Rev. Thomas Crevey, M.A., minister of Newhills, was the son of John Crewie, in Spital, Old Aberdeen, born there, 8th Sept. 1644. The mother's name is not given, but not improbably it was Innes. Thomas matriculated at King's College when fifteen years of age, anno 1659. George Gordon, afterwards Earl of Aberdeen and Chancellor of Scotland, was regent of the class. In the "Album

Collegii" he is designed as "Thomas Crevie, Aberdonensis." During his collegiate course the Restoration took place, and Doctor David Mitchell was consecrated bishop, succeeded for one year by Dr Alexander Burnett, afterwards Archbishop of Glasgow. On 30th April 1663, "Mr Thomas Creveus, Aberdonensis" graduates Master of Arts. On Easter Day, 1664, Patrick Scougal, parson of Saltoun, was consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen—a man of "endearing gentleness, great strictness in giving orders, and most unaffected humility." "He took great pleasure in discoursing with young divines, and set himself to frame in them right and generous notions of the Christian religion and of the pastoral care, so that a set of men grew up under his labours that carry still in them clear characters of his spirit and temper." (Grub's "History," iii. 129, quoting Bishop Burnet.)

On 24th Jan. 1669, we find him witnessing the baptism of his sister Agnes.

In November of the same year, we have this entry in the baptismal record of Old Machar—"A fund bairn being at the point of death, baptized by Mr Thomas Crevie." This shows that he was there in holy orders, given, no doubt, by Bishop Scougal, but under what title is unknown. The records are non-existing. But there is evidence to show that long before his formal institution to the parish of Newhills, he was in charge of that cure. On Feb. 19, 1674, "Mr Thomas Crevey, minister at Newhills," receives the honorary freedom of the city of Old Aberdeen. ("Rec. of Old Abd.," i. 275.

The church of Newhills was built about the year 1662 by George Davidson of Pettens, a burgess of Aberdeen, "who had risen entirely by his own industry." Tradition tells that when travelling he found some of the people working on Sunday as if an ordinary day. Expressing his surprise, he was informed that as they could not hear the bells of the cathedral, they had lost count of the days. Davidson endowed the benefice with the surrounding lands

of Kepplehills. At first, Mr John Mercer, minister of Kinellar, performed duty, but the legal designation of the parish was made by Bishop Scougal in 1666, after which Principal Middleton appears to have held the benefice, and it is understood that Thomas Crevey acted as his substitute and assistant. He was legally instituted on 10th June 1679. The manse was at the bottom of the rising ground on which the ruins of the church stand. A single tree marks the spot, and near by is a spring of clear water. The old church was a long, narrow building, with galleries at each end, the pulpit standing in the middle of the south wall. A couple of aumbries remain near where the pulpit stood, and a monument in the window to the memory of Mr James Howe, one of the earlier Presbyterian clergy. No parochial records exist prior to 1700.

But in 1674, Thomas Crevey was appointed to the office of Synod Clerk of the Diocese of Aberdeen, and a volume of Synod records in his writing is still preserved. It is a small folio, strongly bound in dark calf, with two clasps. The entries in Crevey's writing begin 6th Oct. 1674. There are only a few references in the book to the writer; one, 2nd June 1679, when, at the admission of John Menzies as professor of divinity by Bishop Scougal, "the said Mr John asked and took instruments in the hands of Mr Thomas Crevey, Clerk to the Synod."

In April 1680, disputes existed as to a "controverted room" in Ellon church, between Moir of Hiltoun and Udney of Auchterellon. One of the committee appointed by the bishop to inquire into this is "Mr Thomas Crevey, Clerk to the Synod." After meeting on three successive days, the matter was referred to the bishop for decision. In 1681, the record of Synod abruptly terminates with the admission of Mr James Garden as Professor of Divinity. The Clerk was present. Probably Bishop Scougal's death in February 1682 was the cause of the break. No other volume exists till 1697.

Thomas Crevey was a married man, but his wife's name

has not been recovered. But the fact is known from the following entry in the burial register of Old Machar:—
“1686, 27 July. Isobell Crevie, lawll. daughter to Mr Thomas Crevie, minister of the Newhills, buried in the church before the door of the Cheine’s ylle.”

Improvements were now being made on the University buildings, and money donations were given from many persons. On 21st June 1688, “Mr Thomas Craven, minister at Newhills” gave “twentie marks Scots for reparing the south part of the old work of the King’s College of Aberdeen.” This is the first instance of the name being spelt “Craven.” At this time George Haliburton was Bishop of Aberdeen. He survived the Revolution, and died at Coupar-Angus in 1715.

The Rev. John Rose, D.D., parson of Foveran, and father of Bishop Rose, afterwards of Edinburgh, died in 1690. In 1691, Mr James Gordon, son of Mr James Gordon of Banchory-Devenick the well-known author of “The Reformed Bishop,” and who had been at college with Mr Thomas Crevey, was presented. “Mr Thomas Crevey, min. of Newhills, by order of the (non-juring) diocese of Aberdeen, in Dec. last (1691), produced a call to Mr G. from George, Earl Marishal, and other heritors, 28 Nov. [1692], when he was admitted.” A long account of this affair is preserved in the Session Record of Foveran. “Mr Tho. Cravie preached—text, Luke 18, 19 and 10”—the story of the Pharisee and the publican. The said day, after prayer, the said “Mr Thomas did represent yt. he had come to supply the vacancy at yt. tyme, by an order from the meeting of ye Diocese off Abd. in Decr. last, and yt. he had also a letter from the ministers of ye Presbry. of Ellon disyreing him to keep session.” The settlement was opposed by “Alex. Udny of that Ilk,” but promoted by Udny of Auchterellon, Rickart of Arnage, Udny of Newtyle, and others, amongst whom was Alexander Allan, who may have been the brother of Janet Allan, wife of John Crevie, who lived “in Buchan.” He appears to have been “tenant

in Ardoe," in Foveran parish. Eventually, the key of the manse being produced, Mr Crevey gave access and institution to Mr Gordon, who had subsequently to demit, being summoned before the Privy Council. He afterwards published an account of this affair—"A True Account of the Procedure of the newly established Presbitry in the Diocese of Aberdeen against Mr James Gordon. In the Savoy, Printed by Edward Jones for the Author, 1696"—a pamphlet of 32 pages, now very rare; see also Scott, "Fasti Ecc. Scot.," vol. iii. 608.

In the north, the Revolution of 1688 was but coldly received, almost the whole population being supporters of Episcopacy. In the Scottish Parliament the defence of the Church was undertaken by Mr James Moir of Stoneywood, a parishioner of Newhills. It was unsuccessful, and as the Bishops were unable to take the oaths to William and Mary, the Church was disestablished. A committee of the General Assembly had to be sent north in order to further the Presbyterian cause. The clergy at once called a meeting of delegates from the northern dioceses, which met on June 5, 1694, in King's College Chapel. Mr Thomas Crevey was appointed clerk to the meeting, and a number of incidents relating to it have been preserved. Gordon's affair came up, and both he "and Mr Thomas Crevey at Newhills compeared, and with them a considerable number of the clergy." A serious protestation, including a series of queries, were given in to the committee. A full account of the affair may be seen in "Spalding Club Miscellany," ii. 163. The protestation is signed by twelve clergy, the last being "Mr Thomas Crevey, minister at Newhills."

It was believed that Lord Tarbat had a good deal to do with preventing the northern clergy from taking the oaths. Carstairs refers to the Aberdeen clergy, from which it appears that before the meeting in King's College the Government had their eyes open. "My Lord Murray told me the business of Cravie, before even I knew it from

Nynwalls; he told the same to the Duke, from whom Tarbat and others have known it." (Carstairs State Papers, 182).

The report of the committee was so adverse that the result may be told in the words of Mr Thomas Stephen ("History of Church of Scotland," iii. 597):—"Three of the ministers of the Synod of Aberdeen—Messieurs Craven, minister of Newhills; Burnet, minister of Aberdeen; and Thomson, minister of Fintrie—who had protested against the Commission of the last General Assembly, were called before the House [of Parliament] and examined. For this heinous offence, and their attachment to the Episcopal Church, their churches were declared to be vacant, and they were debarred from the exercise of their ministerial function, until they should qualify themselves by taking the oath of allegiance and subscribing the assurance. They were imprisoned in Edinburgh till they gave security not to go on the north side of the river Forth under a penalty of £100 sterling." The whole proceedings will be seen in Thomson's "Acts of Parliament," ix. 109, appx. 389, &c. In the presence of Parliament the three ministers adhered to their protestation, and Mr Thomas Crevey declared that he was clerk thereto. Blair, Carstairs's correspondent, is now triumphant. "It was some piece of satisfaction to see pragmatical Cravie, the ringleader of the protesters of the north, deprived by the authority of Parliament and confined to this side of Forth. ("State Papers," 255.)

By a deed still preserved in the Register House, Edinburgh, the three ministers "become enacted . . . that we, and each of us, shall give punctual and full obedience to the said sentence of Parliament." They were then liberated. The deed bears date 5th July 1695.

Unable to return to the north, Mr Crevey removed to Ireland, where, it is believed, he resided for the future. A family tradition, indeed, relates that he returned eventually to Old Aberdeen, died, and was buried there. This tradition was continuously repeated by older members of our

family, by my grand-aunt, Mrs Smith, and by my grand-uncle, William Craven, who frequently told the story to both my father and mother. The story was rightly enriched by the statement of his strong adherence to Episcopacy, and his close relationship to the present family. These relations believed and insisted that a tombstone existed in Old Machar churchyard to the memory of the first minister of Newhills. It has not been found.

The place is said to have been haunted. The ministers could not live in the manse—a continued horror of uneasiness possessed them. It was subsequently pulled down and sold. The writer well remembers standing in the old churchyard of Newhills when a boy, and listening to the tragic tale of a venerable friend whose grandfather had been church-officer in the time of Mr Robert Burnett, one of the earliest Presbyterian ministers of the parish, 1702-1715, how that, one Sunday morning, when the officer entered the church, he found, to his horror, that Mr Burnett had hung or strangled himself with the bell-rope suspended from the gallery. Before doing so, he opened the pulpit Bible and stuck a pin at the verse, Job vii. 14, 15—"Thou scarest me with dreams, and terrifiest me through visions: so that my soul chooseth strangling and death rather than my life."

In the present Episcopal Church of St Machar, Bucksburn, in the parish of Newhills, the writer has had the privilege of placing a stained glass window to the memory of Thomas Craven. It represents, in full length, St Machar in episcopal vestments, and bears the inscription—"T. C. hujus parochiæ sacerdos 1679-1695. J. B. C. grates agens posuit."

THE REV. THOMAS CRAVEY, JUNIOR,

was the son of John Cravie and Janet Allan. It is not known at what university he graduated. The Aberdeen records are not complete at the probable date. He was, at

anyrate, ordained in Ireland. Bishop Rose, of Edinburgh, writing to Bishop Campbell after April 20, 1706, refers to him as being "qualified," having taken the oaths, "he being formerly a curat in Ireland." (Original letter, Epl. Chest, Edr.) He appears to have returned to Scotland about the year 1705, and became "preacher in the meeting-house at Elgin." He had there a lodging with Alexander Leslie, barber. He visited his relations in Old Aberdeen more than once, and "in a gown" officiated in the Episcopal meeting-house there on at least one occasion. He describes himself as "an episcopal minister in the communion of the Church of England, who own not presbyterian judicatories." He also alleged (not without truth) "that it is the distinguishing character of a certain sort of people, besides the Jesuits, to blacken and darken the character of those who differ from them in opinion with groundless calumnies and false aspersions, it being a known maxime to them—*Calumniare audaciter aliquid adhærcbit.*" Charges against his moral character were brought by the Presbytery of Elgin in 1708. He offered to try the case before the Magistrates of the city or the Justices of Peace for the county. This was refused. He then left Elgin, "and is gone to Edinburgh, on his way, as is said, to England." His subsequent history is unknown.

Alexander Leslie, with whom Mr Cravey lodged in Elgin, relates that on a certain night, "as he came into the hall below Mr Cravey's chamber, he heard a terrible noise in his chamber, upon which he took a candle in his hand and went upstairs to see what it might be; and when he came into his chamber, he found a great many books that were lying on his table, all thrown on the floor, and one leaf of the table a little broken; and when he asked Mr Cravey what the meaning of it was, he answered him that the best of men have been troubled with the devil."

In July 1708, George Cravie was in purpose of going to

Ireland, probably to visit his brother, the elder Thomas. It is not unlikely that James Cravie went there at a subsequent date. Neither his nor his wife's deaths are to be found in the register. Elspet Allan, Agnes Allan, and Margaret Allan, sisters of John Cravie's wife, were resident in Old Aberdeen in 1708.

Thomas Cravy, a descendant of John Crevie, senior, and probably a son of James Crevie and Jean Coutts, is said by family tradition to have come over from Ireland to Jedburgh in the earlier half of the eighteenth century. This is the constant tradition. After remaining at Jedburgh for only a short time, he came to North Berwick, where he settled and married.

"1740, Oct. 25th. Thomas Cravy and Margaret Spinks, both in North Berwick Parish, married."

1705, Feb. 4. "William Spinks and Elspet Walker, both in the parish of North Berwick, were proclaimed in order to marriage, *pro primo*, Sab. 11 of Feb.; 2^{do} on Sab. ye 18; *pro 3^{tio}*, and married here on Thursday, ye 22 of said month." "1708, Sep. 19. William Spinks and Elspet Walker, in this parish, had a child baptized here named Margaret. Witnesses, John Walker and Thomas Oliver."

"North Berwick, 1 July 1743. In presence of Alexander Burton, one of the present bailies of this burgh, compeared Thomas Cravey, weaver there, who, having sworn the burghess oath, was, uniform to act of Council, received and admitted burghess and freeman of this burgh, with full powers to him to use and exercise all privileges and freedoms belonging thereto, &c." (Reg. of N. Berwick Council, Vol. IV. of date.)

They had at least six children:—

1. William (does not appear in register).
2. Anne, baptized April 24, 1743. Witnesses, James Veitch and George Donaldson.

3. Janet, baptized Oct. 19, 1744. Witnesses Alexander Lauder and Alexander Ross.
4. James, baptized June 1, 1746. Witnesses, James Jack and Alex. Lauder.
5. Janet, baptized Feb. 6, 1747. Witnesses, Charles and Stair Dalrymples.
6. Elizabeth, baptized April 29, 1750. Witnesses, Mr George Murray and Robert Anderson.

Their son, James Cravy, family tradition tells, went to England and obtained "a government situation." He had four children—James, teacher of the harp; John, a musical instrument maker; William, an attorney or solicitor; and Mary.

"1768, July 8. William Crewie, baxter in North Berwick, eldest son of Thomas Cravie, weaver, burgess of said burgh, is admitted a trading burgess and freeman, and pays 40s." (Reg. of N. Berwick.)

He married Jane Oliver, of a family well known and of long standing in the district. William Craven did not succeed in his business, and after his death his widow removed to Dirleton, where she took the inn. She died about the year 1812, "a much respected, industrious woman." Her brother, Robert Oliver, was land steward of Archerfield. He is said to have been a very gentlemanly and particular person. He is buried in Dirleton churchyard. "Robert Oliver of Dirleton died April 18, 1816, aged 84 years." My grand-aunt, Mrs Smith, had a story that "some of her forefathers were buried in the Duke of Douglas aisle," but could give no particulars.

In an old business book in the writing of the Murrays, long ministers of North Berwick, some entries are made of business with "Willm. Craven" for wheat, some £24, in April 1787. The name then was spelt in different ways.

William Craven and Jane Oliver had eight children:—

1. William, born 10th and baptized 18th June 1769.

2. Jean, Mrs Darg, afterwards Mrs Smith. Her second husband was a navy artificer. She had three children—all dead—Mary, David, and William. I met Miss Mary Smith when a boy, and remember her quite well. She was a person of kindly nature and some intelligence. She lived and died in North Berwick. Mrs Smith long had a pension from the navy of some £30 a year. My grandfather liked his sister, Mrs Nisbet, best. I knew her daughter Jacobina very well, who lived in Keir Street, Edinburgh. She had a brother. All are now dead.
3. Christian, Mrs Blair.
4. Susan, Mrs Horsburgh.
5. John, born Nov. 3, 1777, my grandfather.
6. Margaret, Mrs Nisbet, Tranent.
- 7 and 8. Children who died young.

My grandfather's eldest brother became a farmer in Dirleton. His wife's name was Manderston. He had seven children—Christian, Mrs Eeles; James, unmarried; John, Thomas, William, Robert, and Walter. When a boy, I met James. He lived near Dirleton. He was a short, stout man. Robert became commissioner to Talbot, Lord Ingestre. He married and settled in England, but left no issue.

John Craven, my grandfather, bachelor, and Honour Eldridge, spinster, were married in the Church of Saint Marylebone, in the county of Middlesex, upon 26th March 1806, by the Reverend Benjamin Lawrence, according to the order of the Church of England. He was long in the service of the Archerfield family, and died at Middlefield House, Old Machar, Feb. 7, 1856, and was buried in Nellfield Cemetery, Aberdeen. I have a very vivid recollection of seeing my grandfather in his house at North Berwick. He had two heritable properties there; the one he left to my aunt, Mrs Jackson, with its contents; the other, next

to the town house of North Berwick, to my father, who sold it to Mrs Eeles. He was a short, red-faced man. He had very considerable natural gifts, collected a considerable library, part of which is in my possession, and had a great collection of prints and paintings, a number of which I now have. He travelled with the Earl of Elgin to Rome and Constantinople, and was very highly esteemed. The second time I saw him was at Middlefield House, when he was in bed, very poorly. He lived to the age of seventy-nine, and was an active, busy man all his life.

My grandmother, Honour Eldridge, was the daughter of Robert Eldridge and Sarah Carlton. The Eldridge family were long connected with Woolwich, having been clerks in the dockyard for at least three generations. Their names can be traced in the register of St Mary's Church. Sarah Carlton, my great-grandmother, is said to have been an only child, and of a higher rank than her husband. She had an interest in a chancery suit, but it never came to an end; and when at times she went to enquire, her lawyer put her off with some small gift of money, or a dress, or the like. Robert Eldridge had a pension from the Navy, but sold it, and, and with the money made an excursion to France, and neglected to provide for his wife and three daughters. He had also two sons. One turned out bad, and was lost sight of. The other went into the Navy, but was drowned when quite a young lad. He had red hair. His name, I think, was Robert. Ann Eldridge, after whom Mrs Jackson was named, was many years in the family of Montague, Lord Rokeby, and the ladies of that family were ever afterwards most kind to her. She took a great notion to a young girl who lived in the house in which she boarded, and gave her all her property. Sarah Eldridge, the second daughter, was long in the family of Spencer Perceval, the Prime Minister who was assassinated in the House of Commons, May 11, 1812. Both these ladies had pensions. Sarah

died at Ardrossan, and was buried at Saltcoats. Her portrait, a large oil painting, is now in my possession. She is represented in a blue satin dress, with a lace shawl, a newspaper on her knee, and an eye-glass in her hand. The brooch she wears and the eye-glass are now in my possession. My great-grandfather, Eldridge, died about the year 1814. He was a warm-hearted but rather foolish man. His wife is said to have been a handsome, good-looking woman, and very good-tempered. They both died in the same year, and were buried at Newbury, a small village in Sussex. Her husband trusted her with all his money. When he got his quarter's salary, he would bring the money and throw it into his wife's lap, saying, "See, Sally, you know what to do with it." They eventually having lost all their money, and disposed of some house property they had, were glad to retire to a cottage at Newbury, near Lord Rokeby's place. Besides the children referred to, they had other six, who all died young.

Robert Eldridge's sister married a Mr R. Pitcock, an attorney in Woolwich. He was an only son. They had at least two sons. Benjamin was a solicitor in Woolwich and Bournemouth. He was a remarkably fine-looking lad, and extremely nice. He married, on his mother's advice, a lady from Jamaica, with money. But the marriage was unhappy. The Pitcocks were our only relations on the Eldridge side, and it is believed descendants still exist.

My grandmother, Honour Eldridge, was born 4th Jan. 1779, and baptised in the church of St Mary, Woolwich, on Jan. 31st.

Her baptismal certificate, Book of Common Prayer, and marriage certificate are now in my possession.

My grandfather's family Bible, in two huge quarto volumes, with notes and illustrations by the Rev. Samuel Burder, A.M., London, 1809, is now in my possession. It is largely illustrated, handsomely bound, and must have been quite a costly book.

On a sheet of parchment, pasted on the fly-leaf at the beginning of volume first, and in my grandfather's writing, are these entries :—

We married 26th March 1806.

- Births.*—1st. Sarah, born 13th Jan. 1807.
2nd. Jane, born 15th August 1808.
3rd. William, born 28th April 1810.
4th. Robert, born 6th June 1812.
5th. John, born 20th Oct. 1815.
6th. John Eldridge, born 18th Sept. 1817.
7th. Ann, born 24th July 1819.
8th. Oliver, born 17th Augt. 1823.

In my father's writing :—J. C. died 7 Feb. 1856. H. E. died Jan. 31, 1842.

The said John Eldridge Craven married Helen Brown at Glasgow, 28th Nov. 1844.

- Births.*—1. John, born at North Berwick, 18 Nov. 1845 ;
died at Thurso, 2nd November 1893.
2. James Brown, born at Biggar, 13 June 1850.

I have added—J. E. C. died 2 Dec. 1897.

H. B. died 4 Nov. 1885.

On the edge opposite the births are pencilled marks, partly by my grandfather, and partly by my father and myself :—

- Sarah [Mrs Macintosh] died 10 Nov. 1830, childbed.
Jane, 9 Nov. 1815, scarlet fever.
William, 25 Nov. 1818, water in the head.
Robert, died abroad in Australia.
John, died 7 July 1816, teething.
John Eldridge, died 2 Dec. 1897, old age.
Ann [Mrs Jackson], died 21 Nov. 1903, old age.
Oliver, died June 9, 1868.

Tombstone in Dirleton Churchyard :—“ Sacred to the memory of Jane Craven, daughter of John Craven, who died Nov. 9, 1815, aged 7 years. Also John Craven, his

son, who died July 7, 1816, aged 9 months. Also William Craven, who died Nov. 25, 1818, aged 8 years. Also his wife, Honour Eldridge, who died 29th June 1842, aged 50 years."—[Date of death and age wrong.]

"1814. Helen, lawful daughter to Walter Brown, Esqr. of Currie and Mrs Catherine Renton, was born [at Currie House] Nov. 2nd, and baptized 3rd Dec. 1814, before witnesses."

Borthwick Parish Register.

"Craig, November 25th, 1844. This certifies that the Banns of Marriage between the Rev. John Eldridge Craven, residing in this Parish, and Miss Helen Brown, residing in the Parish of North Berwick, have been proclaimed in due form, and that no objections have been offered to their union.—Charles Nelson, Sess. Clk."

"That the above parties were married by me on this twenty-eighth day of November, eighteen hundred and forty-four years, at Glasgow, is certified by me.—Matthew Murray, Minr."

Mr Murray was my mother's cousin, son of the parish minister of North Berwick, and subsequently D.D. and Professor of Theology in the Theological College at Glasgow of the Original Secession Church.

My father was educated at the Parish School of Dirleton and at the High School and University of Edinburgh. When about seventeen years of age he determined to become a minister of the Established Church of Scotland, and after the usual course of training he was duly licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Haddington. He was appointed assistant minister of Maryton, near Montrose. Soon after his appointment the "Disruption" took place, when he at once, and at considerable self-sacrifice as to his

future, having the prospect of one, if not two, presentations to parishes in the south of Scotland, cast in his lot with the new Free Church, and in October of 1843 was ordained—Mr, afterwards Dr, Nixon, of Montrose, presiding—to the small congregation formed by that body in the parish of Maryton. Very soon he had offers of openings in larger places. Letters and papers in my possession show that Insh, Aberdeenshire; Dunnichen, Forfarshire; St Peter's, Liverpool; North Berwick, Gifford, Yester, near Haddington; and Old Aberdeen, all sought him. He eventually accepted a call to the Free Church at Newhills. It is understood that one reason why he accepted this charge was that the congregation had been divided into two parties, and at a previous election the voting for two candidates had been equal. He preached his first sermon there on 22nd June 1845, from Ezek. iii. 17, and he has noted that in his subsequent active ministry there he preached fully three thousand times. The church and congregation were large. During his long residence at Newhills he received many tokens of appreciation from the congregation. In October 1858 (I just remember being present), he was presented with a very handsome writing-table, a beautiful timepiece, and pocket Bible. The inscription runs:—"Presented by the Parishioners to the Rev. J. E. Craven, Free Church, Newhills, October 1858." He was elected Moderator of the Synod of Aberdeen in 1864, and preached in September of that year a special sermon, Isaiah lix. 19.

He published only one sermon, entitled, "The Trumpet Blown: or a Watchman's Warning. A Sermon preached in the Free Church of Newhills on Sabbath, 17th January 1847. By the Rev. John Eldridge Craven. Published at the request of the Office-bearers of the Congregation. Motto, Is. xxxvii. 3. Aberdeen: Printed by Geo. Cornwall, Victoria Court, 54 Castle Street, 1847. Dedicated to the Elders and Deacons of the Congregation. Text of the Sermon, 1 Cor. xvi. 13, 14." pp. 20.

He also was the author of a tract, "The Work of the Spirit in Awakening the Sinner." Text, Acts xvi. 29, 30. "Aberdeen Series of Tracts," No. vii., January 1849. Aberdeen : G. & R. King. pp. 12.

After his retirement from active work, my father took up his residence in Edinburgh, first in Maxwell Street, then at No. 2, and subsequently at No. 36, Woodburn Terrace, where he died, 2nd Dec. 1897.

My mother was the author of a number of New Year addresses to "The Young of the Free Church Sabbath-schools at Newhills." These were printed and issued in 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, and 1855. She was also the author of a small work entitled, "An Abundant Entrance: or Dying to the Lord, illustrated in the Latter End of George Addison Yeoman, Free Church Teacher, Newhills, Aberdeenshire." Motto, "We shall see him as He is." Edin.: W. P. Kennedy, &c. [1856]. pp. 70. The writer remembers, as a very young boy, being taken to see Mr Yeoman, who bore his acute sufferings with great humility and resignation. He presented me on that occasion with a little book, which I still possess. My mother and also my father wrote a number of religious poems. Some of them show real poetical feeling and beauty of expression. They were only circulated privately. My mother died, after a long illness, of heart trouble, at 2 Woodburn Terrace, 4th Nov. 1885.

My father subsequently married at Edinburgh, 30th July 1890, Mrs Christina Leith Packman, widow of John Smith, Newhills. They were married by the Rev. Thomas Addis, D.D., assisted by the Rev. George Bain. My step-mother was a lady of the very highest character, a lovable, gentle, helpful, generous woman. Her bright and unselfish nature did much to cheer my father. She had been long known to us, and was a great friend of my mother. Her

father was at one time schoolmaster of Old Rayne, Aberdeenshire.

Sad to say, she did not live to a great age, but died at Woodburn Terrace on Nov. 2, 1895, aged 56 years.

They all lie together in Morningside Cemetery, where a suitable monument of white marble marks their last resting-place.

On his jubilee in 1893 as minister of the Free Church, my father was presented with two illuminated addresses, one from the congregation, signed by the Rev. A. J. Chrystal, his assistant and successor; and one from the Presbytery of Aberdeen, signed by Principal Brown. His address at the presentation of the congregational testimonial is now before me, written with the trembling hand of extreme old age. It speaks in most affectionate terms of his long ministry, and in a few sentences sums up the results, and concludes by saying—"It is most fitting that in looking back we should say, 'The Lord hath done great things for us, for which we are glad.' I ask you to rejoice on this our jubilee day with your now aged friend."

After my father's death, the Free Presbytery of Aberdeen kindly sent me the following extract minute:—

"At Aberdeen, 4th January 1898, which day the Free Church Presbytery met and was constituted. *Inter alia*,—The Free Presbytery of Aberdeen record their sense of the loss which they have sustained in the removal by death of the Rev. John Eldridge Craven, senior minister of the Free Church of Newhills, which took place at Edinburgh on 2nd December 1897, in the 81st year of his age and 55th of his ministry. Mr Craven was ordained in October 1843 to the pastoral charge of the Free Church of Maryton, in the Presbytery of Brechin, and two years thereafter was inducted at Newhills, in the Presbytery of Aberdeen, and for 34 years fulfilled his ministry there with marked fidelity, until through failing health he retired from the active duties of the pastorate, and went to reside in Edinburgh,

retaining to the end a very affectionate and prayerful interest in the affairs of the congregation. As a preacher, Mr Craven was earnest and evangelical, and at the time of the revival movement in 1859-60, he was much owned in the work of the Lord, there being not a few then and thereafter who acknowledge him as their spiritual father, some of whom remain to this present, and some have fallen asleep. As a pastor, also, he was painstaking and sympathetic, and his visits were much prized among the people as he went out and in among them, teaching publicly and from house to house.

“The Free Presbytery of Aberdeen took advantage of the occasion of Mr Craven’s jubilee, about four years ago, to address to him their cordial congratulations, and in the address then presented to him they testified to their appreciation of his work and worth in the faithful discharge of his duties in the office of the ministry, and now, after a long life of service in the cause of Christ, Mr Craven has been called to his rest and recompense of reward.”

Extracted by Robert Semple, Pby. Clk.

My only brother, John Craven, was educated at the West End Academy, Aberdeen; at the Gymnasium, Old Aberdeen; and at the Universities of Aberdeen and Edinburgh. He received the diploma of Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Edinburgh; and practised medicine for many years and with great success in Thurso, Caithness, where he succeeded the late Dr Mill. He was a J.P. for Caithness-shire, a member of the Thurso Police Commission, and held other public offices.

“He was a talented and skilful practitioner, and for many years enjoyed a large practice. In his day he performed many difficult and delicate operations, and was singularly successful in the majority of these cases.” “He was a gentleman of rare abilities, of most courteous manner, kind and social disposition.” After a few days’ illness from a malignant fever, caught during his professional work, Dr

Craven died at Thurso, 2nd Nov. 1893, and was buried, from St Peter's Episcopal Church, in Thurso public cemetery.

My brother married at Stirling, August 18th, 1868, Mary Moffat, daughter of Mr Moffat, solicitor, Edinburgh. They had five children—one still-born daughter, born at Crieff, June 7, 1869; John Eldridge, born at Crieff, Aug. 18, 1870; Thomas Muir Moffat, born at Edinburgh in Sept. 1871; Walter Brown Renton, born at Thurso, 26th April 1874; Jessie Finlay Boyd, born 2nd Nov. 1872; died at Thurso, 5th June 1873. Mrs Craven died at Edinburgh, and lies buried in the Grange Cemetery.

My eldest nephew, John Eldridge Craven, married Isabella Beattie Waterston, daughter of the late James Waterston, Perth.

My second nephew, Thomas M. M. Craven, married Margaret Forsythe, of Caithness. Issue, five daughters.

The Reverend James Brown Craven was educated at Aberdeen Grammar School and University. He was ordained Deacon, Michaelmas Day 1875, and Priest, 30th July 1876—both by Bishop Suther of Aberdeen and Orkney. He became clergyman in charge of St Olaf's, Kirkwall, October 1875, and was instituted as Incumbent, 30th July 1876. He had the honour of being created Doctor of Divinity by the University of Aberdeen, and received the degree at the hands of Principal Lang, at Aberdeen, 7th April 1908.

The only other children of my grandfather who married with issue were :—

1. Ann, who married Mr John Jackson, solicitor and bank agent, first at Biggar and latterly at Ardrossan. Their eldest daughter, Honour, died many years ago, and the only survivor of the family is Miss Bruce Henderson Jackson, now residing in Callander.

2. Oliver, who married Miss Turner in London. They had issue, one daughter, Florence Adelaide Arthur, who married Dr Russell Sturgis White, but died many years ago, without issue.

Therefore, the only children of the third generation are the daughters of my second nephew, Thomas M. M. Craven.

BROWN OF CURRIE.

“The mortal remains of Walter Brown of Currie, who died 13th Janry. 1813, and of his wife, Helen Cunninghame, who died 21st Decr. 1829, and of their son, Walter Brown, also of Currie, who died 9th Octr. 1820, are interred within this church, immediately adjoining the south transept.” (Tablet in Borthwick Parish Church.)

“PLAN OF THE ESTATE OF CURRIE, BELONGING TO WALTER BROWN, ESQ., SURVEYED BY JA. STEVENSON, 1772.

“Entail No. 1094, Brown of Estate of Currie, dated 27th July 1810, recorded 15th November 1810, County of Edinburgh.”

Ferguson on “Entails,” appx. 43.

EXTRACTS FROM MS. NOTE-BOOK OF JAMES BROWN OF CURRIE.

“Old Currie House was a few paces to the East of the present Farm House of Currie Mains. It was in the form of the letter T. The entrance was by the east gable, and beside it was a turnpike stair, leading to the upper floor. The house was old, and about the year 1814 or 15 was ruinous and mostly taken down. My grandfather died in that house in Jan. 1814.

“My grandfather, who purchased the Estate of Currie and entailed it, made a fortune in the Civil Service in India, and was so intimately versed in a knowledge of

Indian affairs, that, as is well understood, Henry Dundas, the first Lord Melville, consulted him on the legislative measures which he introduced relative to the government of India. [A large map of India, and his copy, with autograph "Walter Brown," of "A Code of Gentoo Laws, or Ordinations of the Pundits," London, 1777, are now in my possession.—J. B. C.]

"My grandfather brought home with him an Indian boy. The boy died, and was buried in Borthwick Church-yard, in the ground belonging to the late Turnbulls of Currie.

"John Anderson [gardener, who died in his 82nd year, "after 54 years' faithful service on the estate of Currie."—J. B. C.] remembers my grandfather as an old man, who walked about with a long staff, a style of staff much used by gentlemen in these times. He died on Hansel Monday, 1814. My father and mother, who then lived in this present house, had been visiting the old gentleman at the old house on that day, when, tho' quite well for a man of his years when they left him, yet they had scarcely got down to their own house, when he suddenly died.

"The present Currie House was originally a small cottage of a 'but and a ben,' with attics above. J. A. understands that it was once used as a baily Court house. It was afterwards let to various tenants, of whom Martin Borthwick was one. It was altered and improved for my father and mother at their marriage, and in 1815 the present dining-room, with two bed-rooms over it, were added. Nothing further was done to it during my father's, my brother's, and my nephew's lives, but in 1855, two years after my own succession, I added the present drawing-room, with the bedroom and business-room under it, and altered and improved, and completely overhauled the rest of the house at considerable cost.

"My grandfather.—His father was a clothier [some say a furrier.—J. B. C.] in Edinburgh in co. with some body else whose name John has forgotten. My g-father went

out to India as a surveyor, made money, and on his way home was wrecked on the coast of the Isle of France [said to have been pulled out of the sea by a dog,—J. B. C.], lost his all, returned to India, made money again, and after his second return bought Currie.”

Robert Brown, father of the first Walter Brown of Currie, burgess and deacon, 1750, 1751, 1759, 1760, 1765, of the tailors in Edinburgh, died between 15th April and 16th June 1785. W. B., as heir of his father, was seized in part of Bruntsfield Links, July 2, 1785, having had precept of Clare Constat, by the Town Council of Edinburgh, 1785. “4 August 1731. Robert Brown is made burgess by right of his wife, Mary Stewart, daughter of Thomas Stewart, tailor burgess.” (Ed. “Guild Regr.,” vol. xii.)

Robert Brown had two daughters—Helen, who lived and died in Dunfermline unmarried; and Mrs Hastie, whose daughter married a Mr Lindsay in Lanark. His wife was Mary Stewart, daughter of Thomas Stewart, tailor burgess of Edinburgh. They were proclaimed in order to marriage, Sabbath, 12th July 1730. Tradition says that she was connected with the Montrose family, and that when the great Marquis of Montrose was beheaded, her ancestor, Isabella Graham, “received his head into her handkerchief, which bloody handkerchief was long in our family, but was eventually taken possession of by Mr Hastie.”

Mary Stewart (Mrs Robert Brown) was the daughter of Thomas Stewart, who married Marion Futhie, daughter to James Futhie, burgess of Edinburgh. Proclaimed, “Saboth, 19th July 1696; married, 7th August 1696.” They lived in the old Assembly Close, High Street of Edinburgh. She had at least two brothers—Walter, baptized 1697, “Walter, Stewart, advocate, present”; and James, baptized 1701, “J. Stewart, advocate and Town Clerk, J. Stewart, merchant, present.” They were of the family of Blackhall, to which probably Thomas belonged. James Stewart, her brother,

is said to have been in either the army or navy, and when Prince Charles Edward was at Holyrood, was a supporter of his cause, and distributed roses at an entertainment there. After the '45 he fled to India, where, it is said, he died. His brother Walter must have predeceased him, for "Mary Stewart, spouse of Robert Brown, late Deacon of the Taylors in Edinburgh," as "sister german," was served heir in the Burgh Court of Edinburgh. In my possession is a large piece of sewed work, the work of Mary Stewart, my great-great-grandmother.

A more interesting item is a silver-mounted snuff-box, now at Currie, which bears the Stewart arms and this inscription:—"Dii boni reddant incolumen illustrissimæ genti principem patriæque patrem"—a sufficient token of the loyalty of the family to which Mary Stewart belonged.

FYTHIE, OR FUTHIE OF BOYSACK, NEAR ARBROATH.

One of the oldest families in that district, first mentioned A.D. 1254. Henry Futhie of Bysack had three sons. The Rev. Henry Futhie, parson of Lundie and Fowlis, died at Dundee, 1620, having ordained "James Futhie to buy ane bell" for Lundie church. He was a man of "big stature, and walked along the street with his cap at his knee at the great metropolitan, Mr George Gladstones [Archbishop of St Andrews] his stirrup," at the riding of Parliament, 1606. The second son of H. F. of Bysack was James, burgess of Arbroath. His tombstone, with the monogram of J. F. H. C., lies on "the supposed grave of King William," in the old Abbey Church of Arbroath. The third son was John Fuithie, burgess of Edinburgh, who died before 1653. His son James (father to Marion, who married Thomas Stewart) was served heir to him, March 12, 1653; also to James Futhie, precentor in Dundee, his uncle, Jan. 18, 1655.

Of this family was Sir John Futhie, a priest celebrated as an organist, who returned to Scotland in 1532, and was still alive in 1592. "This man was the first organist that

ever brought in Scotland the curious fingering and playing on organs." He was master of the "sang-schule" in Aberdeen.

Proceedings Soc. Antiq. Scot., vii. 455.

The arms of the family "are prettily cut upon the monument I refer to at Arbroath . . . and in some old deeds I have seen connected with this shire, I have found Fithies or Futhies, in Edinburgh, acting as agents."

Letter to Writer from A. Jervise, Esq.

Walter Brown, first of Currie, appears to have been a man of reading and culture. His portrait, in a dark coat and crimson vest, grey-haired and full-faced, is preserved at Currie. Some of his books are now in my possession:—

1. Ch. Aeliani Variæ Historiæ Libri XIV., cum notis Joannis Schefferi, Argentoratensis, Editio Secundo, Argentorati, 1662, 8o. "Ex Libris Guali. Brown, anno 1751." It has also his book-plate, within a plain border, "Ex Libris Gualteri Brown, anno 1805."
2. S. Ignatii Martyris, Epistolæ genuinæ . . . adhæc S. Barnabæ Epistola . . . Edidit et notas addidit Isaacus Vossius. Londini, 1680; 4to. Same printed book-plate.
3. A volume of very old and curious pamphlets:—
 - A. Imperatorum Romanorum Libellus, 1526.
 - B. Cronique abregee des Faits, gestes et vies illustres des Roys de France. Paris, 1560.
 - C. Declaration du Roy, et Nouveau Reglement sur la Saict des Monnoyes taut de France qu' Estrangeres. Paris, 1636.
 - D. Perfect Directions for all English Gold, now Currant in this Kingdome. London, 1632.

My great-grandfather's family consisted of his eldest

son, Walter, who succeeded him in Currie; Dr Robert Brown, father of the late Mrs MacLeod, Ben Rhydding; and six daughters—Helen, Mrs Beveridge; Margaret, Mrs Sayers; Jean, Mrs Gray; Elizabeth, Mrs Niblie; Mary, Mrs Barth; and Catherine, Mrs Crichton.

FROM CURRIE FAMILY BIBLE, NOW IN MY POSSESSION.

Walter Brown, younger of Currie, was married to Catherine Renton, daughter of James Renton, late Wine Merchant in Berwick, on 2 September 1808.

Margaret Brown was born at Dunbar Barracks on 1 August 1809.

Walter Brown was born at Currie on 3 May 1811.

James Brown was born at Currie on 14 April 1813.

Helen Brown was born at Currie on 2 November 1814.

Stuart Brown was born at Currie on 2 September 1818.

John Renton Brown was born at Currie on 21 May 1820.

Walter Brown of Currie died at Currie on 9 October 1820.

He was suddenly seized with illness when at table, which turned out to be typhus fever. He was buried in the old church of Borthwick, 14th Oct. 1820.

Extract from "Sermon preached in the Church of Borthwick, on Sunday, the 15th day of October 1820, being the day after the funeral of Walter Brown, Esq. of Currie." [By the Rev. Thomas Wright, minr. of Borthwick.] Job xiv. 1, 2:—"You are all aware of the circumstances which have led me to these remarks. Since we last met, I have witnessed, and you all here have lamented, the premature departure of an individual who held by his station an important place among the inhabitants of this parish, who stood to myself, more particularly, in the relation of a neighbour and an acquaintance, and respecting whom I should be unjust to all my own impressions, and

to the kindly feelings with which he was universally regarded, if I hesitated, even in this house, to say that in better circumstances than those which it had been his fortune to occupy, he was fitted by the native honour and generosity of his mind, by the sense of propriety with which, above most men, he was naturally endowed; by the unaffected gentleness and inoffensive tenor of his conduct, by the more than ordinary degree of practical discrimination that was the characteristic of his understanding; and, above all, by the deep-rooted desire, which he never lost, of giving all the support which he could to any principles or institutions which he believed to be useful and good—by all these qualities, I say, he was fitted, had his circumstances been more propitious, to have been a model of some of the most useful and estimable virtues of the human character. It was not, however, his good fortune to have been at all times so well situated, or to have undergone in these years, when the character of every individual receives its deepest and most lasting impressions, that salutary discipline which no minds can want and be ultimately successful. His days upon the earth have accordingly, in a very emphatic sense, been both few and troubled, and an early grave has closed, to the regret of all who have seen it, on hopes which a longer life might have realized, and on talents and dispositions which were fitted to have made their possessor a blessing and an honour to all who knew him.”

My grandmother, “the said Catherine Renton, relict of Walter Brown of Currie, was married to the Rev. Geo. Brown, No. Berwick, 5 Deer. 1827, and died at Bridge of Allan, 15 August 1848.” Buried with her second husband in North Berwick churchyard.

On my mother’s birth:—

“Currie, Wednesday morn [2 Nov. 1814.]

“My dear mother,—It gives me pleasure to inform you that Mrs Brown was this morning safely delivered of a

nice stout daughter. Notwithstanding her weakly state of health before this event, she got through wonderfully well. . . . It is not above 2 hours since her delivery. I hope my sisters got well into town on Monday, and am, my dear mother, yours affectionately,

WALTER BROWN.

Addressed, "Mrs Brown, No. 17 Broughton Street Edinburgh."

REGISTER IN THE FAMILY BIBLE OF "JAMES RENTON,
MERCHT., EYEMOUTH, 1772."

James Renton, merchant in Eymouth, and Miss Margaret Home, only daughter of the late Revd. Mr Abraham Home, minister of Whittinghame, deceas'd, were married at Haddington on Wednesday, the 22 day of June 1774, By the Revd. Mr George Home, minister of Ayton.

1st. John Renton was born at Eymouth on Thursday, the 25th day of May 1775, at one o'clock afternoon. Baptized by the Revd. Mr George Home.

2nd. Elizabeth Renton was born at Eymouth on Wednesday, the 29 day of January 1777, at 2 o'clock afternoon, Baptized by Mr George Home.

3rd. Jean Renton was born at Eymouth on Sunday, the 20th of September 1778, at 4 p.m. Baptized by Mr George Home.

4th. Margaret Renton was born at Eymouth on Thursday, the 9th day of November 1780, at 5 afternoon. Baptized by Mr Williamson.

5th. Isabella Renton was born at Eymouth on Friday, the 27th day of September 1782, at 2 afternoon. Baptized by Mr Home. Died 27th August 1787. Buried in Dunse Churchyard.

6th. Abraham Renton was born at Eymouth on Friday, the 3rd day of December 1784, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Baptized by Mr Williamson. Died at Dollera, in the Presidency of Bombay, on the 9th January 1810, an Ensign in the 5th Regt. Native Infantry.

7th. James Renton was born in Berwick on Sunday, the 21st day of January 1787, at 10 o'clock at night. Baptized by the Revd. Mr Aitchison.

8th. Katharine Renton was born in Berwick on Thursday, the 11th day of June 1789, at 6 o'clock a.m. Baptized 14 July by the Revd. Mr George Home.

9th. Mrs Renton was delivered of a male child at Beadnell on Sunday, the 14th day of August 1791, who died on Wednesday, the 24th of same month, and is buried in Beadnell Churchyard—unbaptized.

No. 10. Alexander Home Renton was born at Beadnell on Friday, the 23rd day of August 1793, between 8 and 9 in the Evening. Baptized by the Revd. Mr John Nichol, Minr. of Warnford, on Thursday, the 3rd day of Sept., and Recorded in the Register of the Congregation there.

11. Agnes Renton was born at Berwick on Saturday, the 6th day of June 1795, between 3 and 4 in the afternoon. Baptized by the Revd. Mr Aitchison on Friday, the 12th June. Died at 4 o'clock in the morning of Sunday, the 21st of June, and was buried next day in Berwick Churchyard.

“James Renton, my second son, died in the Island of Martinico in July 1795, leaving a widow and 4 sons and 4 daughters.”

Settlement of John Renton, Esq.

“It gave me great pain when I heard of the death of your brother James. I believe I was the last person who saw him in this Country. I drank tea with him on board the *Medusa* a few days before he left Portsmouth. I have had several letters from him since he arrived at Martinique.

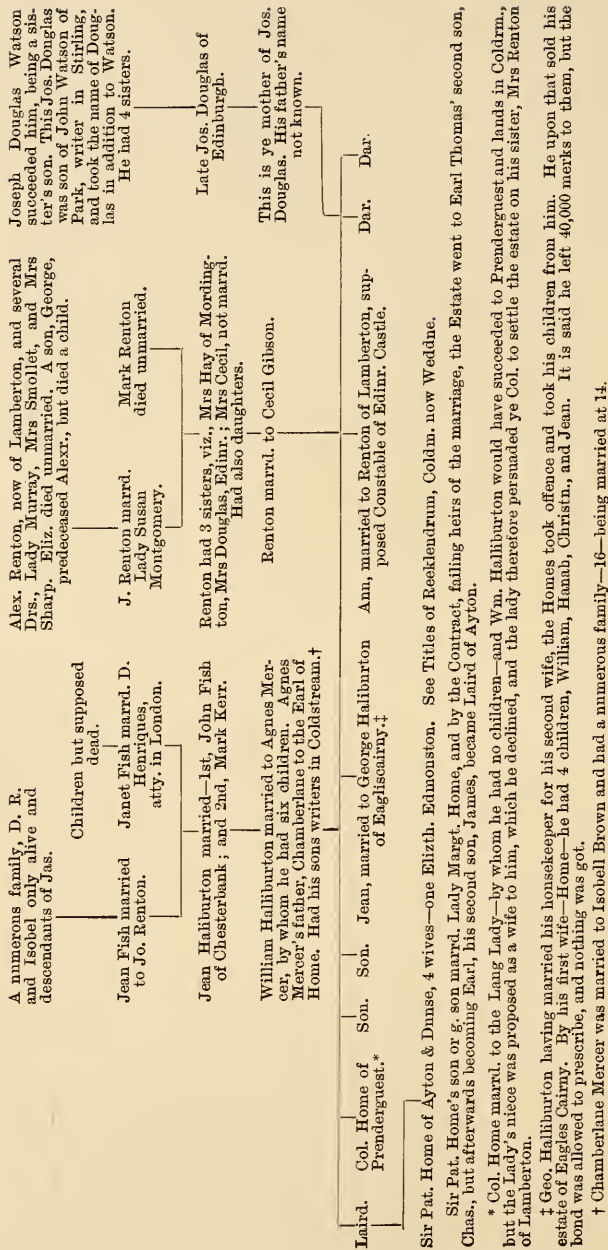
There are a few articles on board my Ship, *The Crown*, that he ordered to be sent to him home. I have given the Captain orders to dispose of them (amount to about £10), which I shall account for, &c."

Letter, John Lyall to D. Renton, Esq., dated, London, March 1796.

1768. James Renton, merchant in Eyemouth. Dec. 27, dues of entering, passing, and raising as a Freemason, £1 11s 6d; was Steward, 1778, and also Treasurer of St Ebbe's Lodge, Eyemouth.

Mrs Renton died at Eyemouth in 1822. Her Bible and a ring are in my possession. My mother for a time resided with her.

DESCENDANTS OF SIR PATRICK HOME OF AYTON, THE SENIORITY OF HIS DAUGHTER UNCERTAIN,
29TH JUNE 1806 [IN WRITING OF DAVID RENTON, ESQ.]



AYTON OF AYTON AFTERWARDS HOME OF AYTON.

See Carr's "History of Coldingham," 124, &c.; Anderson's "Scottish Nation," i. 170; "Conqueror and his Companions" (de Vesci) ii. 157; "Aytons of Ayton on the Merse," by Col. Ayton, 1887; Nisbet's "Heraldry," ii. 123.

FAMILY OF FISH.

1560. The laird Fysche's lands [in East Reston] payand yierlie, v.s.
Carr's "Coldingham," 121-135.
- 1614, Jan. 11. Johannes Fische, heir of Alexander Fishe in Ayton, in a husband land there.
Berwick "Retours," 531.
1656. Alexander Fish, portioner of Flemington, left two sisters, Jonet Fish in Aitoune, and Elizabeth, spouse to Home of Whitrig, and a nephew, John Anderson, son of George A. in Northfield and Helen Fish. These served heirs-portioners.
"Retours," 4155, Genl.
1695. Precept of Clare Constat, by Sir Patrick Home of Renton, advocate, in favour of John Fish as heir to his father, Archibald Fish, and grandmother, Janet Fish, in two husband lands in Flemington, dated 26 August.
1675. Discharge granted by Mr Patrick Home, advocate, afterwards Sir Patrick Home, to the said Archibald Fish, of the valued teinds of his said two husband lands for crofts and years 1672 and 1673, dated 13th Jany.
- 1727, January 25. Sasine in favour of Robert Renton in Northfield, of ane anl. rent to the yrin soume of 200 pounds Scots, furth of John Fish, portioner, of Aitoun and Fleemington, his two husband lands in Fleemington, ane husband land and a half in Aitoun, with houses and pertinents, all in Aitoun parish.
- 1729, Decr. 5th. Precept of Clare Constat granted by Sir John Home of Manderston, Bart., in favour of Jean and Janet Fishes as heirs-portioners to the said John Fish, their father, in the said two husband lands.

FAMILY OF HALLIBURTON OF EAGLESCAIRNY.

“In 1747 Patrick Lindsay married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Thomas Halliburton of Eaglescarnie, Esq., an ancient branch of the great and noble family of the Lords Haliburton of Dirleton, and being heir of line and representative of the house of Eaglescarnie, this Patrick is now designed by that title.”

*Douglas' "Baronage," 261-2; "Peerage," i. 216;
Nisbet's "Heraldry," i. 101.*

“Patrick Lindsay, Esq. of Eaglescarnie, died 20th Oct. 1804, aged 82 years. Margaret, his wife—daughter and heiress of Thomas Haliburton, Esq. of Eaglescarnie—died 20th Augt. 1849, aged 90 years. Also Jane Lindsay, their daughter, died 14 Sep., aged 63 years.”

Tombs in Bolton Churchyard.

“I, John Renton, writer in Eymouth :—Whereas, I have purchased and acquired Two husband lands in Flemington, with their pertinents, Belonging to Janet Fish, Relict of Robert Home, late Surgeon in Ayton, and now wife of David Henriques, attorney at law in Hampstead, in the County of Middlesex: It was, prevous to the conclusion of said sale, stipulated and agreed that I should retain in my hands the sum of Sixty pounds Sterling of the purchase money till the death of Jean Haliburton, mother of the said Janet Fish, and that I should free and relieve the said Janet Fish and her said Husband of the annuity of Three pounds Sterling payable by them to me as assignee to the said Jean Haliburton during all the days of her life.”

Bond, dated 1753. Appended is a Discharge by Jane Henriques for said £60, dated Aug. 7, 1784.

FAMILY OF RENTON.

Tombstone in Ayton Churchyard :—“ Here lies the body of John Fish of Chesterbank, who died on 31st December 1726, aged years. Here also lie interred John Renton of Chesterbank, who died on 7th May 1803, aged 83, and Jeannie Fish, his spouse, who died on 24 Dec. 1813, aged 91 years. Likewise Susan, Jean, William, Patrick, Janet, Mary, and Agnes Renton, their children, who all died before their parents. Also Isobel Renton, daughter of the said John Renton, who died on 19th January 1834, aged 83 years. And David Renton, of Highlaws, his son, who died on 9th August 1840, aged 87 years. James Renton, also of Highlaws, grandson of the above John Renton, who died on 18th March 1857, aged 70 years. Likewise James, his only child, who predeceased him on 24th Dec. 1837, aged 6 years and 5 months. And Margaret Renton, last surviving grand daughter of the said John Renton, who died on 20th April 1859, aged 78 years.”

John Renton married Jean Fish about the year 1750. Two oval paintings, by T. Mossman, represent them, with the date 1755; another picture represents Mrs Renton at the age of 91.

“ For the advantages of the harbour in its present state, Eyemouth has been principally indebted to the persevering and judicious exertions of the late John Renton, Esq. of Chesterbank, a most intelligent and active magistrate, many years in the commission of the peace, and long under Sheriff of the County, who was nearly 80 years of age when he undertook this beneficial improvement. . . . To the exertions of the same respectable gentleman, Eyemouth likewise owes the construction of a very useful stone bridge over the deep dell of the Eye, by which a most incommodiously steep bank in the communication towards Berwick has been effectually surmounted.” (*Scots Magazine*, 1809, 747, 748.)



Mr Renton was author of the "Statistical Account of the Parish of Coldingham."

He was the founder of St Ebbe's Masonic Lodge, No. 70, Eyemouth. He gave the feu on which the lodge room now stands, and advanced a considerable sum towards its erection. The charter petitioned for, Nov. 14, 1757, was granted on 17th Nov.; and on St Andrew's Day of same year, John Renton, writer in Eyemouth, was apprenticed, and on Dec. 26, 1757, passed and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. His brother, Captain William Renton, M.M. of No. 15 Lodge, London, was affiliated in 1768, and several of his sons became members, and some proceeded to the Royal Arch degree.

Captain William Renton, his brother, was in 1756 appointed an Ensign in the 20th of Foot. Next year he served in the expedition against St Malins; thence, in Germany, he served in the whole war. At the battle of Minden he was severely wounded, and lost so much blood that he was carried off the field as dead. One of his arms was then broken by a gun-shot wound, and the bone so shattered as to render amputation necessary, notwithstanding which he continued to do his duty during the war. On the day of the battle of Minden he was made Lieutenant. In 1770 he purchased the office of Quartermaster for 400 guineas. In 1775 he was appointed Captain in the 62nd Regiment, then at Cork, and ordered for America. On account of his health he had then to sell out. He never recovered his strength. In 1790, Mrs Renton mentions that her husband was then dead. He left two daughters, who had no issue.

On the death of Mr John Renton, the following notes were sent to his son:—

I. *From D. Home, Esq., Sheriff of Berwickshire, Baron Home, Nephew of Hume the Historian.*

"Edr., 14 May 1803.

"Dear Sir,—I am very sensible of your attention and

kindness in communicating to me, in the terms you have done, the intelligence of the death of your worthy Father, my late esteemed Associate in office. During the many years we were connected in that capacity, tho' we might sometimes differ in opinion, yet I was always sure of the Purity of his intentions and the Rectitude of his conduct. It must, therefore, have been owing to some fault on my part if we ever disagreed, and certainly it would be a great one, now when he is gone, if I should fail to acknowledge to you, sir, and his family, the obligations under which I consider myself as having lain to him for his assiduous and intelligent assistance in our office, as well as for his personal regard and attention on all occasions to myself."

II. *From A. Renton, Esq.*

" 17 May 1803.

"The loss of so valuable a man must long be a subject of deep regret to his family, as well as to his friends, in the number of which I have the vanity to count myself. I ever entertained the highest regard and esteem for him, and shall ever revere his memory, My best wishes for the health and happiness of his family shall never be wanting, and it will give me the highest satisfaction to live with them on the same terms of friendship and regard I ever entertained for our departed and lamented friend."

"John Renton, my eldest son, an accountant in the service of the Hon. East India Company, died a Bachelor at Fort St George, Madras, in Nov. 1775." From a letter by a Mr Mowbray it appears that death was occasioned by a putrid fever, and that Mr Renton was buried next day at Fort St George.

Another son, captain of the *Martin*, R.N., died at sea about the year 1800.

My cousin, the late Miss Margaret Murray, who was

born in 1800, well remembered her great-grandmother, Mrs Renton, born in 1722; and more than once described to me an interview she had with her at Eyemouth, when she gave her the present of a shawl.

“ At Lauder, the first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four. years,—The which day The Honble. George Lauder and George Romanes, Bailies of the Burgh of Lauder, Created, admitted, and received John Renton, Esq., Commissary Principal of the Commissariat of Lauder, Burgess and freeman of the said Burgh, and gave and granted to the said John Renton, Esq., the hail privileges and Immunitys belonging to a Burgess freeman in the late cases. Extracted from the Council Court books of the said Burgh, and the Seal of the burgh is hereunto appended by John Henderson, Clk.”

L. S.

“*Insignia Burgi de Lauder.*”

Figure of Virgin and Child

Suspended by a blue ribbon.

Seal in red wax on a

Circle of Parchment.

“ Charles, Prince of Wales, &c., Regent of Scotland, England, France, and Ireland, and the Dominions thereunto belonging, To John Renton, Writer in Aiton:—

“ These are requiring you upon sight hereof to deliver up to Andrew Craw of East Reston, or his order, all Bills, Bonds, or other securities in your possession for the Rents of East Reston; and this order you are to obey under pain of military execution to be done against your Goods and Effects. Given at our Palace of Holyrood House, the eighteenth day of October 1745.—By his Highness’s Command, J. Murray.”

THE FAMILY OF HOME.

Sir Alexander Home of Home was created a Lord of Parliament, 2nd August 1473, under the title of Lord Home. He died between 1490 and 1492. He married, first, Mariota, daughter and heiress of Landells of Landells, in Berwickshire. His eldest son, Alexander, died *vita patris*, 1468. He had married Elizabeth Hepburn, and by her left two sons—Alexander, second Lord Home; and John Home of Ersiltoun and Whitrigs, ancestor of the present Earl of Home.

The first Lord Home's third son was George Home of Ayton (see *ante*), who had charters of Ayton and Whitfield, 29th Nov. 1472. He had licence from King James III. to erect a castle on his lands of Ayton, 1st March 1471-2. Afterwards Katherine, daughter to Sir John Home of Ersiltoun—who married, first, Marie Sinclair, daughter of John, Master of Caithness, sister of George, Earl of Caithness (she had a conjunct charter, 1601); and, secondly, Lady Beatrice Ruthven, daughter of William, first Earl of Gowrie—married, first, Sir John Home of Duns, younger of Ayton; and, secondly, Sir John Home of Blacater, in the earlier part of the seventeenth century. The lady was alive in 1644. The writer is descended from both these families.

John Home of Ersiltoun, Whitrig, and Crailing. He had his lands erected into a Barony, 26th Nov. 1489. He married Margaret Ker, daughter of James Ker of Gateslaw. Contract dated at Kelso, 20th March 1471-2.

His eldest son, Mungo or Kentigern Home, had sasine of Ersiltoun, &c., 1493. He married Elizabeth Stewart, daughter of James Stewart, Earl of Buchan, by Margaret Murray, before 11th March 1507. He is designed of Coldaneknollis. He died before Whitsunday 1513.

Sir John Home of Cowdenknowes. His eldest son had sasine of Ersiltoun, 1527. He was knighted by the Regent

Arran at Jedburgh in 1552, and died before 24th March 1573. He married Margaret Ker, daughter of Sir Andrew Ker of Cessford, about 1524. Her mother was Agnes, third daughter of Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, and her grandmother, Agnes, daughter of James Rutherford of that Ilk.

William Home, his fourth son, had a confirmation charter of the lands of Bassendean, in Berwickshire, 25th Feb. 1573-4. Had also a pension from the Monastery of Kelso. He married, first (contract, 5th Oct. 1568), Marion Pringle, daughter of James Pringle of Wodehouse and Whytbank, with issue; and second, before Jan. 1576-7, Helen Edmestoun, daughter of Sir John Edmestonn of that Ilk.

George Home of Bassendean succeeded his father in 1611. He married Jean, daughter of James Seytoun of Tullybody. Their contract of marriage is dated at Greenknowe, March 29, 1602, and may be seen in the first leaves of the earliest register of writs for the county of Berwick, preserved in H.M. Register House, Edinburgh. He died in 1643. Her grandmother was Lady Elizabeth Erskine, daughter of John, Earl of Mar.

Alexander Home of Bassendean got a disposition thereto in 1623. He married Sibilla, daughter of Sir James Brown of Coalston. He had issue—George, who succeeded him in Bassendean, and who had a disposition thereto in 1654; and James Home of Flass, who married a daughter of Alexander Home of Kennetsideheads. The son of James Home of Flass was Alexander Home, Town Clerk of Leith, grandfather of the Rev. John Home, author of "Douglas," &c.

Jean Home, daughter of Alexander Home of Bassendean and Sibilla Brown, married, about 1660, Alexander Home of Kennetsideheads, descended from the Homes of St Leonards. With other children they had:—

George Home, licensed by the Presbytery of Dunse, 1702; called to Chirnside, 1703; and ordained 13th March of that year. Died 5th October 1755, and lies buried in the Ninewells vault of Chirnside church. He married Katharine, daughter of John Home of Ninewells, aunt of David Hume, the historian.

HOME OF TYNINGHAME AND NINEWELLS.

Sir Alexander Home of Home and Dunglass, a faithful ally of Archibald, fourth Earl of Douglas, taken prisoner at Homildon, 1402, Deputy Keeper of Priory of Coldingham; killed with Douglas at the battle of Verneuil, in France, 17th August 1424. He founded a commemorative mass in the Church of the Virgin at Whitekirk. Married Jean or Janet Hay, daughter of Sir William Hay of Lochorwarth, by Joanna, daughter and heiress of Hugh Gifford of Yester.

Thomas Home, his second son, had a grant of lands in Tynninghame from James Kennedy, Bishop of St Andrews, 20th June 1443. His elder brother, Sir Alexander Home, in 1450 founded the Collegiate Church of Dunglass, for a provost and two chaplains, with four choir boys.

George Home of Ninewells was the great-grandson of Tynninghame.

Andrew Home of Ninewells, his son, was, in 1566, 68 years old.

David Home of Ninewells, 1576, had a brother John, who had lands in Greenlaw and Hornden. David married a daughter of Belsches of Tofts.

John Home of Ninewells, his son, married, before 1657, Margaret, called also Helen, daughter of John Home of Blacater; died before 1667.

John Home of Ninewells, junior, married Sophia,

daughter of Joseph Johnston of Hilton. She was a descendant of Sir John Arnot of Barswick, in South Ronaldshay, Orkney, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, *temp.* James VI., related to Gilbert Burnet, Bishop of Sarum, and Lord Warriston. She was also descended from Home of Polwart and Sir William Kirkealdy. John Home died before 1696. By Sophia Johnston he had a son and three daughters. Joseph, who married a daughter of Falconer, Lord Halkerton, President of the College of Justice, was the father of the celebrated David Hume, philosopher and historian, who was born at Edinburgh, 26th April 1711.

The eldest daughter was Katharine, who married the Rev. George Home, minister of Chirnside.

Extract of her baptism from the Parish Records of Chirnside:—"1678, Jun. 20. John Home of Ninewells had a child baptized, named Katharine."

With other children, they had Abraham Home, baptized 22nd Feb. 1711; licensed, 1734; ordained as assistant to his father, 1741; and translated to Whittinghame, 26th Jan. 1748, being presented thereto by John Hay of Belton. Died, 2nd Oct. 1768. Married, 4th Nov. 1748, Elizabeth Hay, who died 12th Feb 1790. They had four sons and one daughter, my great-grandmother, Mrs Renton. The sons were—George Home, minister of Ayton; Alexander, doctor of medicine in 36th Regiment; killed in India. Miniature portrait, set in gold, in possession of the writer. The other two sons were—Robert, grain merchant in Berwick, died *s.p.*; and Abraham, who died young. My mother often resided at Gunsgreen with her grand-uncle, the Rev. George Home, who died Sept. 1, 1836, aged 87.

The following epitaph, from the tombstone in Ayton churchyard, relates to this family:—

"The Remains of the late Elizabeth Hay are deposited within this cemetery. She was the daughter of the late

George Hay of Broadhaugh, and Relict of the Revd. Abrm. Home, late minr. of Whittinghame. She was beloved of her family, and much esteemed by her friends. Alexander, second son of the Revd. Abrm. Home and Eliz. Hay, died in India. He was surgeon to His Majesty's 34th Regt. of Foot, was taken prisoner on the 24th of August 1791, on his return from the Fort of Bangalore to the British Camp, and it is believed that he was killed by the banditti who seized him. Abraham, their youngest son, died on his passage to London. He is interred in the churchyard of Kilnsea, near Partington, Yorkshire. Robert, their third son, died June 1812, aged 65 years, and is interred here."

On Earls of Home and Homes of Ayton, Bassendean and Ninewells—

See—“Scots Peerage,” *iv.*, 440-451, 467-471, 484.

Douglas' “Baronage”: *Art.*, “Home of Ninewells.”

Burke's “Landed Gentry,” *voce* “Home of Bassendean,” &c.

Drummond's “Noble British Families,” *ii.*