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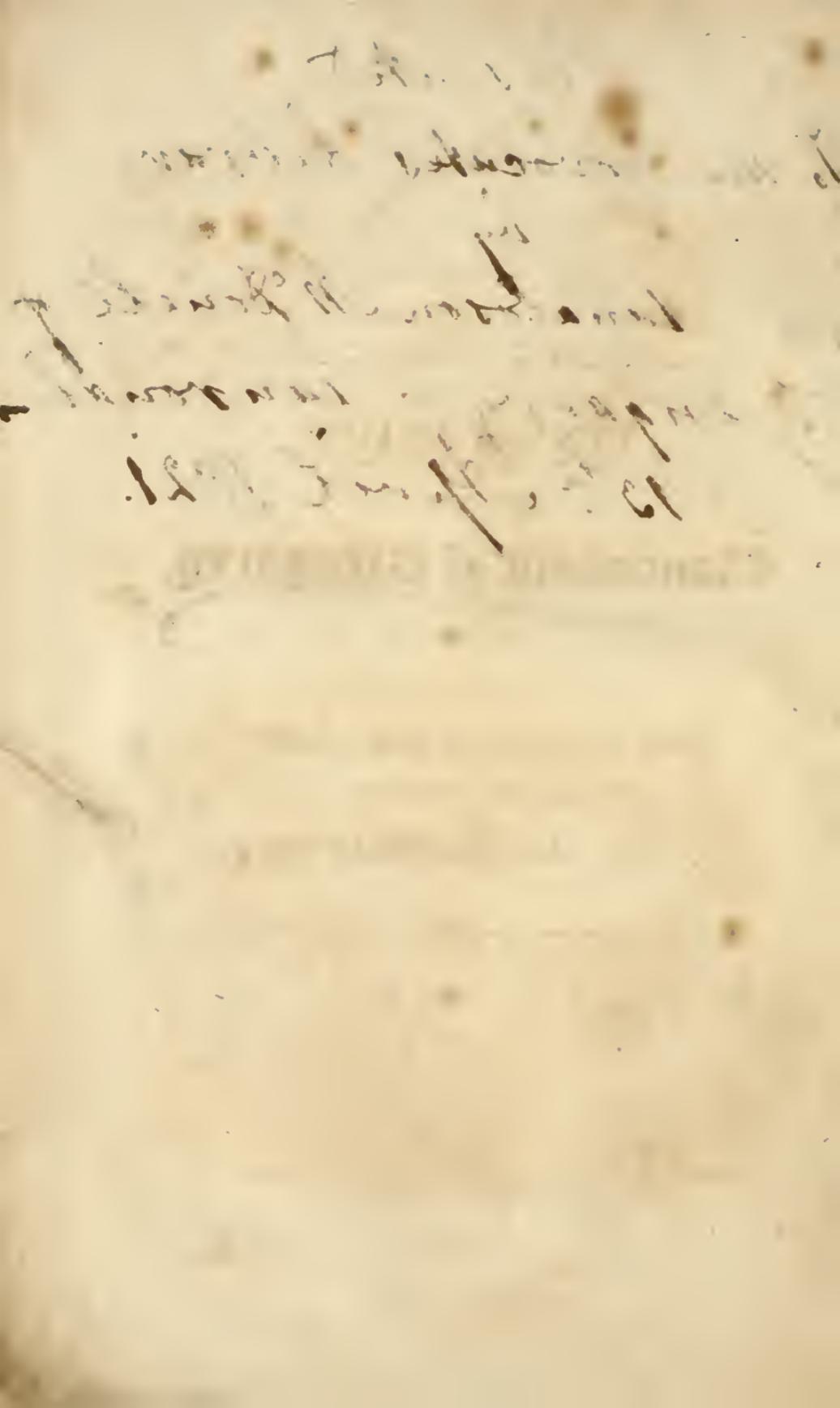
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Col<sup>l</sup>. Ranaldson M<sup>o</sup>Donnell of  
Glen garry & Clansonauld.

13<sup>th</sup> April 1821.





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VINDICATION  
OF THE  
**Clanronald of Glengarry,**  
&c. &c.  
WITH REMARKS AS TO  
THE DESCENT OF THE FAMILY  
WHO STYLE THEMSELVES  
“OF CLANRONALD,” &c.

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VINDICATION

OF THE

"CLANRONALD OF GLENGARY"

against the attacks made upon them

IN THE

*Inverness Journal*

and some recent printed Performances.

With remarks

as to the descent of the FAMILY who style themselves

"OF CLANRONALD."

By John Riddell.



*Drawn & Engraved by W.L.L. sculp.*

Edinburgh

PUBLISHED BY W. & C. TAIT.

1821.



## ADVERTISEMENT.

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*THE following Statement, it will be seen, also involves the question of the Male Representationship of the ancient Sovereigns and Princes of the Isles; for whoever is Heir Male of Ranald of the Isles, FOUNDER of CLANRANALD, is also the Male Representative of his remote Ancestor Donald of the Isles, Grandson and Heir of Somerled first King of the Isles, after whom the Macdonalds are surnamed at the present day. It is well known that the descendants of Somerled (who lived in the 12th century) were Sovereign Princes, and treated as such by Foreign Powers.*



# VINDICATION

OF THE

## “Clanronald of Glengarry,”

&c. &c.



GENEALOGICAL discussions are, for the most part, dry and uninteresting, and their interest must always be confined to a very narrow circle indeed. Circumstances, however, may occur, to render it indispensable to submit them to the arbitrament of the Public. When the fame, and honour, and legitimacy of a Family, are publicly and *unjustly* assailed,—*nay, their very birthright assumed by a STRANGER!*—it were indeed tame in them to sink under such insults; and to risk the obloquy of their descendants, by neglecting to refute them. This is the precise situation of the Family of Glengarry, at the present moment. Printed performances, of such a nature, have been circulated against them with an activity and perseverance, which it is truly ludicrous to ob-

serve,\*—more especially denying their legitimacy and descent: And, without some interference on their part, a *regal* status might be endangered, in which they were recognized at a remote period by the Highest Authorities of the Kingdom. Amid so many provocations, their Repr-

\* *After* the fancied conclusion (at least on one side) of all irregular altercation between the Families of Glengarry and Casteltirrim, in the Inverness Journal,—of which the latter were *in reality* the cause†—there was printed at Edinburgh, an octavo volume, of between two and three hundred pages, entitled, “HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL ACCOUNT OF THE CLAN OR FAMILY OF MACDONALD, FROM SOMERLETT, KING OF THE ISLES, LORD OF ARGYLE AND KINTYRE, TO THE PRESENT PERIOD; MORE PARTICULARLY AS RELATING TO THE SENIOR BRANCH OF THAT FAMILY, VIZ. THE CLAN RANALD. IN TWO PARTS. EDINBURGH, (*printed by*) *Duncan Stevenson & Co. Parliament Stairs*, 1819.” This anonymous book contained all the ingredients of that inflammable matter that had given such fury to the hostilities, which it was hoped the supposed armistice had suspended. While the Family of Glengarry are there represented as “*subordinate members of the Clan*,” ‡ that famous usurper of the 16th Century, *John MacAlister of CASTELTIRRIM*, (male ancestor of the Family who design themselves “*of Clanronald*,”) is metamorphosed into “*JOHN MACDONALD, SEVENTH CHIEF OF THE FAMILY OF MACDONALD!*” and bursts upon us, in his new panoply, with a splendour and importance that might have dazzled the very heroes of antiquity. But this is little enough for the *heir* of “*Somerlett, King of the Isles, Lord of Argyle and Kintyre!*” &c. &c. Under the same titles, *his descendants* present themselves down to the present generation, all “*CHIEFS OF THE FAMILY OF MACDONALD*,” and *lawful representatives* of the insular Mo-

† *Vid.* No. I. APPENDIX.

‡ *Vid.* Hist. p. 118.

representative might well exclaim, in the words of Bolingbroke,

“ Myself—a prince, by fortune of my birth ;—  
 Whilst you have fed upon my signories,—  
 From mine own windows torn my household coat,  
 Razed out my impress, leaving me no sign,—  
 Save men’s opinions, and my living blood—  
 To shew the world I am a Gentleman !”

Impelled, at length, by the unfairness, and for the most part *clandestine* nature of these attacks, the

narrator. In this pompous deduction, the Glengarrys, as Chieftains, are quite omitted, though perchance “ *eo clariores quia eorum imagines non cernebantur.*” The book, written somewhat in the style of Plutarch, though certainly not with the same justice of panegyric, is divided into two Parts, with regular introductions, or proemiums to each. Part First proceeds to trace the Macdonald origin upon the authority of “ some Irish Highland Senachies and historians, from Fergus Mac Eyre, who, they say, became the founder of the Scottish kingdom,” &c. &c. &c. After which, Part Second, with its relative discourse, commencing with Somherle, and the Chronicles of Man, Annals of Ulster, &c.—and including some edifying particulars about Marshall Saxe, Flora Macdonald, and the Duke of Tarentum, who, it seems, as well as the Earls of Antrim, is a *cadet* of Casteltirrim ! An Appendix is added, much in the same style, and evidently for the same purposes.

Coeval with this *godly* performance was another, still more reprehensible, dealing in the grossest invective and abuse against the Family of Glengarry. Such a *tirade*, it was not deemed proper to hazard in the Inverness Journal ; and, therefore, it took its humble station, in the form of a printed, though *unpublished* pamphlet, in the rear of the many articles upon which the labours of the *Moydartists* had been expended

Family of Glengarry, contemning every *underhand* proceeding, have determined, *publicly* and *openly*, to maintain their rights; and to expose the pretensions of those by whom they have rashly been usurped. In so doing, care will be taken to avoid, as much as possible, all tedious circumlocution. A simple detail of facts, with some obvious conclusions, is all that is here meditated; nor, it is humbly apprehended, will the case require any other treatment to ensure for it the conviction of the Public.

in the late controversy. It is dated 1st October 1819, and is, notwithstanding, addressed to "The Editor of the Inverness Journal," *as if it actually had appeared there.*

Some respectable persons, rather friendly to the Family of Casteltirrim, have imagined, that the article was first offered to him for publication, and *upon his refusal*, printed in this shape. But this circumstance, which, at any rate, could afford no apology for so irregular and *clandestine* a proceeding, is expressly contradicted by the Editor, in the following extract of a letter from Mr MacAndrew, at Inverness, to Glengarry.

*"Inverness, 9th March, 1821.*

The Editor of the Inverness Journal informs me, that nothing was presented at the office from 'Also a Fior Raonuillich' in October 1819, or subsequent to the last published Letter from him, &c. &c.

(Signed)      JN<sup>o</sup>. MACANDREW."

"Also a Fior Raonuillich" was the signature of the apologist of Casteltirrim in the discussion in the Inverness Journal.

Other works of the same kind *are in embryo*, and a splendid Genealogical Trec of the "CLAN OF MACDONALD," by the late Mr JOHN BROWN, GENEALOGIST TO HIS MAJESTY, is

It is contended for the representative of the respectable House who design themselves “*of Clanronald,*” (although it is conceived they are only of Casteltirrim or Muidwort\*), *First*, That the present Glengarry is not the lawful heir male of the ancient Macdonells of Glengarry. And, *Secondly*, That the latter were *never* surnamed “**RANALDSON**” or “**MACRANALD** ;”—a point to which, on all hands, importance is attached.

In regard to the **FIRST** charge, it is *not openly or manfully made, nor is it attempted to be supported by the SLIGHTEST PARTICLE of evidence*; but is merely hazarded upon some vague hints, subversive of the legitimacy of a “**Donald Laggan,**” and an “**Alexander Dirg,**” who are alleged to be “two of the Glengarry Family by the father’s side.” As many of that race were called **Donald** and **Alexander**, it is certainly rather difficult to imagine what precise individuals are here meant;—and, therefore, in order to refute the objection, it will be necessary to prove the legitimacy of the whole line of Glengarry downwards, *from* their Ancestor

already announced for publication. In it, the Family of Casteltirrim are, as usual, “**OF CLANRONALD,**” and Chiefs of the Clan Macdonald; being placed on the right hand of the Tree. Then follow Glengarry, the Countess of Antrim, &c. &c. as *cadets*.—But the public have had now enough of such subjects.

\* Casteltirrim or Muidwort are in fact the same designation, the former being the principal Messuage of Muidwort.

of the name of Alexander, who lived early in the 15th century:—for as to the *anterior* legitimacy, that is fairly acknowledged even by their opponent. This, accordingly, is effected by means of the following evidence.

*PROOF that the PRESENT GLENGARRY, is the lawful heir male of his Ancestor ALEXANDER, who must have lived early in the 15th century.*

1. COMMISSION OF LIEUTENANCY by the Crown in favour of Colin Earl of Argyle, making him “*Locum tenentem omnium insularum tam australium quam borealium,*” and of certain lands,—among others, “*Alterius MOROR quam Alester Makcane MAKALESTER habet,*” dated 8th March, 1516.\*

There were two Morors, north and south Moror; the former is the one here meant.

2. ACTION in the Court of Session, where there is mention of “*Alexander Jhone MACALISTERIS sone in Glengary,*” dated 26th February, 1517.†

3. BOND OF MANRENT by “*Allastyr MacEan VIC ALLYSTER of Morvern and Glengarrie,*” to Colin Earl of Argyle, dated 5th Feb. 1519; with

\* Regist. Sec. Sig. Lib. 5. f. 102.

† Act. Dom. Con. Lib. 12. f. 2. b.

a notorial Instrument taken upon it before witnesses, dated 8th Aug. 1519.\*

Farther evidence of a like import will be stated in the sequel.

4. LETTER UNDER THE PRIVY SEAL to "*Alexander Mackane MACALESTER of Glengarry,*" of the nonentries of the *Slysmoyne of Glengarry,* and *Moror,* "wyt all malis fermes proffittis and dewteis of ye saide lands wyt yare pertinents of all yeris and

\* Excerpts from original writs sent by Neil Campbell of Dumstaffnage to the Chamberlain of Argyle, at the commencement of last century, in the hand-writing of George Crawford, Author of the Peerage of Scotland. Ad. Lib. Jac. V. 2. 14.

Bonds of Manrent did not necessarily infer, that the granter was inferior in birth to the grantee. Sir Walter Scott, in his first volume of the Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border, (p. 205.) notices many from the most illustrious families on the Borders,—such as Crichton Lord Sanquhar, Douglas of Drumlanrig, ancestor of the Dukes of Queensberry, Gordon of Lochinvar, Murray of Cockpool, ancestor of the Earls of Annandale, Johnstone of Johnstone, &c.—to Lord Maxwell, "binding themselves in the most submissive terms to become the liegemen and vassals of the House of Maxwell," and, afterwards, well remarks, "I cannot dismiss the subject without observing, that in the dangerous times of Queen Mary, (and he might have added even previously,) when most of these bonds are dated, many Barons, for the sake of maintaining unanimity and good order, may have chosen to enrol themselves among the clients of Lord Maxwell, then Warden of the Borders, *from which, at a less turbulent period, personal considerations might have deterred them.*" At the time that the bond of manrent was granted by Glengarry to the Earl of Argyle, the latter was Lord Lieutenant over the bounds where his estate lay.

termes bigane yat ye samin hes been in oure sov-  
 rane lordis handis or his predeccessoris be resoune  
 of nonentres *sen* ye deccis of JOHN MACALESTIR  
*fader to ye saide Alexander, or his Predeces-*  
*soris,*”\* dated 30th March, 1538.

5. CHARTER under the GREAT SEAL “Alex-  
 andro Mackane MACALISTER et Margarete Ylis  
 ejus spouse,” in liferent; “*et* ANGUSIO MACALIS-  
 TER *eorum filio et heredi apparenti*” in fee, and his  
*heirs male*, of the lands of *Glengarry and Moror*,  
 with the Castle, Fortalice, and Manour of Strome,  
 half of Lochelshe, Lochbroome, &c. &c. *proceeding*  
*upon the resignation of the former*, dated 6th  
 March, 1538.†

6. CHARTER under the GREAT SEAL confirming,  
 “Honorabili viro ANGUSIO MACALESTER ‡ filio

And, in fact, it was nothing else than a recognition of the  
 King’s authority, indirectly through the Earl. This is com-  
 pletely confirmed by another commission to him by the King,  
 in the year 1516, (Privy Seal, vol. v. p. 101.) “To tret and  
 promis *in ye Kingis* name for remissions to all and sindrie per-  
 sonis inhabitants of *the landis and lordship of the Ilis*,” pro-  
 mising them restitution of their heritage; in which event,  
 bonds of manrent, as a future security for their good conduct,  
 would not fail to be taken.

\* Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 11. f. 62. b.

† Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 26. No. 426.

‡ From Margaret Macdonald, daughter of this Angus or  
 Æneas, was the famous Colbert, Marques of Seignelay, Minis-  
 ter of Lewis XIV. descended, as appears by an extract from the  
 curious Parliamentary warrant for his “*Bore Brieve*,” in the  
 Appendix. *Vid.* Appendix, No. II.

ac heredi apparenti *quondam* Alexandri Mackane de Glengarie suisque heredibus masculis de corpore, &c.—omnes et singulas terras *de Glengarrie*, necnon terras Drynathane insulam de Sleichmeine duodecim mercatas terrarum antiqui extentus de *Morare* duodecim mercatas terrarum antiqui extentus de Locheache, viz.—Inchnarine, Andenarra, Sallachie, &c. &c.—quatuor mercatas terrarum de Lochcarron,” &c. &c.—which had been apprized from him by John Grant of Freuchy, dated 19th July, 1574.\*

7. CHARTER under the GREAT SEAL “DONALDO *MacAngus MacAllister filio et heredi apparenti Angusii MacAllestar de Glengarie*”—“et heredibus suis masculis de corpore suo legitime procreandis,” &c.—of the lands of Glengarrie, “Drynathan, insula de Sleuchmeine,” &c. proceeding upon the resignation of Angus, dated 19th July, 1574.†

8. SPECIAL RETOUR at Inverness, before the Sheriffs Depute of the County, by a respectable Inquest, dated 5th November 1584.

“QUI JURATI DICUNT quod quondam Margreta Ylis *avia* Donaldi MacAngus MacAlester de Glengarrie latoris presentium obiit ultimo restitus et saisitus ut de feodo ad pacem Matris supremi Domini nostri Regis de omnibus et singulis terris de dimidietate terrarum de Achiult

\* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 34. No. 116.

† Ibid. No. 110.

et dimidictate terrarum de Torrurdane cum piscariis," &c. "Et quod dictus Donaldus de Glengarrie *est* LEGITIMUS *et* PROPINQUIOR HÆRES *quondam* Margarete Ylis AVIE SUE," &c.\*

9. GENERAL RETOUR at Edinburgh, dated 27th April 1629, before the Sheriff Deputes of the County, by a *distinguished* Jury.

"QUI JURATI DICUNT quod quondam Celestinus de Ylis de Lochelche Frater quondam Joannis Comitum de Ros Domini de Ylis Abavus Donaldi MacAngus de Glengarrie obiit," &c. "Et quod dictus DONALDUS MACANGUS lator presentium *est* LEGITIMUS *et* PROPINQUIOR HÆRES *ejusdem* quondam Celestini de Ylis de Lochelche SUI ABAVI." †

On this occasion, it is worthy of remark, that the Lairds of Slate and Casteltirrim, *direct male ancestors of the Noble Family of Slate, and of that of Casteltirrim*, are PRINCIPAL members of the Inquest; yet the apologists of the latter have *made them deny the descent of Glengarry from Celestine, through this Donald MacAngus MacAlister.* ‡ To such straits have they been reduced! They must convict their forefathers of *deliberate perjury*, before they can impugn the descent of the Family of Glengarry!!

\* Original, in the Registers of Chancery.

† Ibid.

‡ *Vid.* Second Letter to the Editor of the Inverness Journal on behalf of the Family of Casteltirrim. The words, however, are too extraordinary, not to be here quoted. "Fior Raonuillich" (the defender of Glengarry in that paper) says,

10. GENERAL RETOUR, dated 23d February 1758, before the Bailies of Inverness, by a respectable Jury.

“ QUI JURATI DICUNT magno sacramento interveniente quod quondam Donaldus MacAngus vic Alistar de Glengary attavus Alexandri Macdonell de Glengary latoris presentium filii quondam Joannis Macdonell de Glengary qui fuit filius demortui Alexandri Macdonell de Glengary qui fuit filius Ronaldi Macdonell de Glengary qui fuit filius Donaldi Macdonell de Scotus, qui fuit filius

that Glengarry's descent is proved beyond a doubt as heir general to Celestine of Lochalsh, &c. *I, however, deny that there is proof of any such thing.* It may be admitted, that Alexander Macdonald of Glengarry married Margaret, an heiress portioner of certain lands, but I never have had any proof that Margaret was a daughter of Celestine's; *on the contrary, it appears from record, September 1507, May 1524, and April 1541, that she was THE GRAND NIECE of Celestine and the daughter of Angus, the Bastard, son of John last Earl of Ross!*” Never, perhaps, was there a more gross misrepresentation! There is no proof in the Records of any such thing, *and the Champion of the Castellirrimis is defied to adduce any such evidence.* Such a supposition, indeed, is disproved by the Retour in 1629, and can also be disproved by other evidence. So little have the rules of just decorum been observed in this controversy, that the most wanton attacks have been made upon the fame and honour of this poor Lady,—the more blameable because, even if well-founded, they could not assist the case of their antagonist. In the competition for the arms of Ross between Lord Macdonald of Slate, and Glengarry, in the Lion Court, a similar objection to the above was taken by his Lordship, who is neither the heir of line or representative of the Earls of Ross.

natu secundus dicti Donaldi MacAngus vic Alister obiit," &c. "*Et quod dictus ALEXANDER MACDONELL NUNC DE GLENGARY EST LEGITIMUS ET PROPINQUIOR HÆRES MASCULUS dicti quondam Donaldi MacAngus vic Alister SUI ATTAVI,*" &c. \*

11. GENERAL RETOUR, dated 23d February 1758, before the Bailies of Inverness, by a respectable Jury.

"QUI JURATI DICUNT magno sacramento interveniente quod quondam Æneas Dominus Macdonell de Arros filius fratris abavi Alexandri Macdonell de Glengarry latoris presentium filii Joannis Macdonell de Glengarry filii Alexandri Macdonell de Glengarry filii Ranaldi Macdonell de Glengarry filii Donaldi Macdonell de Scotus fratris natu secundi Alexandri Macdonell de Glengarry patris dicti quondam Æneæ Domini Macdonell de Arros obiit," &c. "*Et quod dictus ALEXANDER MACDONELL NUNC DE GLENGARY EST LEGITIMUS ET PROPINQUIOR HÆRES MASCULUS dicti quondam Æneæ Domini Macdonell de Arros EJUS FILII FRATRIS ABAVII.*" †

Æneas Macdonell of Glengarry, the grandson and heir male of Donald MacAngus MacAlister of Glengarry, was created by King Charles II. on account of his unshaken heroism and loyalty, Lord "MACDONNEL" and "ARROS" by Patent, dated

\* Certified Extract, Glengarry Charter Chest.

† Ibid.

20th Dec. 1660, to him and the heirs male of *his body*.\* Dying without lawful issue, the title became extinct.

The preceding links have been instructed by Retours, because they have always been regarded as the best evidence in points like the present.

It now only remains to prove the male representation in the person of the present Glengarry.

John Macdonald of Glengarry, father of the Alexander, *served in* 1758, obtained a Charter, dated 27th August 1724, from John Duke of Argyle of the lands of Knoidort, (his Grace's grandfather having evicted them by a legal process from Æneas Lord Macdonell) *to him, and his heirs male*.† Under this destination they descended to Alexander, and by his death without issue, to his nephew Duncan, John's grandson—son and next heir of his second son Colonel Angus Macdonell, who, as is well known, was *basely* murdered, in the streets of Falkirk, *after* the battle of Falkirk,‡ where he led out two bat-

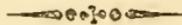
\* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 38. No. 8.

† Original, Glengarry Charter Chest.

‡ "The Macdonells of Glengarry had lost their Colonel Angus Macdonald the second son to their Chief, who was killed on the street of Falkirk, a day or two after the Battle (of Falkirk,) by the *accidental* going off of a piece." *Hume's Hist. Rebell.* p. 186. Robertson of Strowan, the well known Jacobite poet, has commemorated him in the striking lines in the Appendix, where referenee is made to the "*inhuman*" act. App. No. III.

talions of his Clan, and commanded with gallantry and effect on the right wing of the army of Prince Charles.

Duncan, being legally vested in Knoidort and Glengarry, executed on the 30th April 1788, a destination of his whole estate in favour of certain heirs, of whom the present Glengarry is the institute, and where, he is explicitly designed his "*eldest son*." In the same deed the above John of Glengarry is also called "*grandfather*" of the entailer.\* This latter descent, it is notorious, could be proved by other evidence, both written and parole; but this, it is conceived, will suffice.



HENCE it is proved by the strictest evidence, that the whole line of Glengarry, or Moror, downwards, from the time of the previous Alexander,—the only period that is questioned,—is clearly legitimate. Conscious of the truth of this fact, the Family of Glengarry now solemnly call upon their opponent to substantiate his charge. *They have proved their status of legitimacy by complete legal evidence; AND THEY NOW CHALLENGE HIM LEGALLY TO REDUCE IT.* After such a fair and equitable demand, if he shall still persist in throwing out, *as formerly*, his aspersions against their birth, he can be regarded

\* Certified Extract, Glengarry Charter Chest.

no otherwise than as the traducer of a Family, whom he dare not openly or manfully attack! —of whose superior ancestry he is meanly jealous, and against whom he can only discharge his impotent *threats* in the dark.

The style and nature of this accusation is really conceived so very improper, that it shall here be submitted to the public for their especial consideration.

In a Letter to the Editor of the Inverness Journal, in the year 1818, the apologist of Casteltirrim observes,

“Should Fior Raonuillich chuse to appear again before the public, he will do well previously to inquire as to the legitimacy of *Donald of Laggan*, and *Alexander Dirg*, two of the Glengarry Family by the father’s side, and should he affect ignorance, I perhaps may assist him in obtaining proofs.”

To which it was replied by “Fior Raonuillich,” (Glengarry’s defender) in a Letter to the same Editor,

“The inuendo of your correspondent, with his offer of assistance to prove bastardy in the Glengarry Family, is (as every such must always be) unmanly. I disregard them, and consider them as introduced to soften the stigma of the bastardy of John Moydartach\* in reference to ancient times.”

This only drew forth *unsupported* reiterations of the charge.

\* A conspicuous Ancestor of the Family of Casteltirrim, of whom more will be said in the sequel.

“ There is not a person on the Glengarry estate who has not heard of the bastardy of Donald of Laggan, and Alister Dirg,”\*—Again, “ I find I am accused not only of ignorance, but of acting in an unmanly manner, by throwing out an inuendo relative to the bastardy of two of the Glengarry Family, Donald of Laggan, and Alexander Dirg. In my last Letter, I desired Fior Raonuillich to inquire as to the illegitimacy of these two Gentlemen, and stated, that I might perhaps assist him in obtaining proofs. I can figure nothing unmanly in this; but I think it a little unmanly to shrink from the question. Were I inclined to argue as he does, I would say that there is evidence enough of Donald of Laggan’s bastardy to be found in the *name itself*; For if *John Moydartach* is a term of derision, an opprobrious or *contemptible appellation*, so also must *Donald of Laggan* be;†—but as I know that this is not the case, I shall assist him so far in obtaining proofs, by referring him to the Public Records. I see he has been examining them, and if he has done so with sufficient care, I have no doubt that *ere now* he has discovered evidence which he did not wish, though from *tradition*, on which he builds so much, he had every

\* Letter to Edit. Inver. Journal, 27th May, 1818.

† This is not correct, they are not parallel instances; “ of Laggan” means *proprietor* of Laggan, “ Moydartach” a *mere inhabitant* of the country of Moydart. To have made them parallel, it should have been “ Lagganach.”

reason to expect it. I may also request him to look into the state of the Glengarry titles, and there also he may see something to confirm him on the subject; and when he has reported to me the result of his searches, I shall then give him a little information; but beg he will be particular in the search of the Records."

Still no proof was adduced, and "Fior Raonuillich" could only reply,

"Among all the vagaries of your correspondent, (still addressing himself to the Editor of the Inverness Journal,) the charge of bastardy in the family of Glengarry takes the lead in degree, when directed against "DONALD LAGGAN." If by evidence the most relied in common law, the legitimacy of a man who lived in that remote age is to be proved, there can remain no doubt of the legitimacy of Donald Laggan. No man of his day appears oftener on record, or is more generally known in traditional history than Donald Laggan.\* This man lived to the extreme age of 120 years. At the date of Freuchy's contract (of marriage) he was a youth, and taken bound to marry Freuchy's daughter, on his arrival at the age of 18 years. Soon after his arrival at majority, he was served

\* Here Fior Raonuillich assumes, that "Donald of Laggan" was Donald MacAlister of Glengarry; if so, the accusation of Bastardy is still more absurd: but as this is not homologated by the other side, no advantage has been taken of his assumption. The like remark holds as to "Alister Dearg."

heir to Sir Donald of the Isles,\* and 50 or 60 years after, he was served heir to Celestine, expressly as the brother of the Earl of Ross. Among those who made oath to his legitimacy, we find John Macranald of Yllintyrrim, Sir Donald of Slait, and the Laird of Macleod, and others;—but so regardless of consistency is your correspondent, that in defiance of all evidence, he would make the world believe that this man was a bastard. It is clear, that there was no bastardy in all the intermediate Glengarries, who connected Donald Mac-Angus with Celestine. Donald's grandfather, from whom he is designed "DONALD MACANGUS MACALISTAIR," was the HUSBAND TO MARGARET ILES DE LOCHALCH, &c. and being by friends called "Alistair an Choille," GOT THE ROYAL CHARTER TO ALEXANDER MACEAN MACALISTER OF GLENGARRY, and to his wife and son, in liferent and fee; the Jury who served them cannot be held to have perjured themselves; and they could not be ignorant of the status of these persons. "Alistair Dearg," the son and heir of Donald of Laggan, and father of Lord Macdonell and Arros, could not be a bastard. Alistair Dubh succeeded Æneas Lord Macdonell in the course of legal inheritance. Alistair Ruadh of Glengarry, who died shortly after the year 1760, was succeeded by the present Glengarry's father. The

\* A casual error for "Margaret of the Isles."

links of the Glengarry succession are established by services,—all the Alexanders and the Donalds have been brought on the stage of discussion in this paper, and Pyrrhonian scepticism can assign no reason for doubting the legitimacy of the only two Donalds, or any of the Alexanders who possessed the estate since the days of Reginald. But your correspondent drowns the evidence of facts in the confidence of his assertions. He derides the testimony of record and of history. He coins and uncoins story and fiction at pleasure, as best suits the general purposes of his argument; and with a front which modesty cannot abash, or which candour cannot soften, he offers these as truths, to which he calls on the public to give their assent.”—“Records of Charters, and Services of Heirs, must yield to his perverted quotations from the Privy Seal, which he misrepresents, or which he does not take the trouble to examine.”

At length, the apologist of Casteltirrim, in his last *clandestine* pamphlet, is driven to suppose, that his imaginary bastard, “Donald of Laggan,” was “Donald of Scothouse,” (whose *landed designation* he abuses in the very childishness of his resentment;)—the same who, by the two *Retours* in 1758, was so solemnly found to be legitimate!!

It is only necessary to add, that the charge of the bastardy *still rests upon his BARE and UNSUPPORTED allegation.*

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As to the SECOND and remaining OBJECTION of their Opponent,—That the Family of Glengarry were *never* designed “RANALDSON” or “MAC-RANALD,”—*that is equally untrue*;—as may easily appear by the following evidence, which, for greater perspicuity, shall be divided into separate heads.

1. *PROOF* that ALEXANDER of Moror, Morvern, and Glengarry, above mentioned, (who figured about the beginning of the 16th century,) and his grandfather ALEXANDER, were surnamed “RANALDSOUNE.”

The following entry appears in the Register of the ACTA DOMINORUM CONCILII, in the year 1501.

“APUD ABIRDENE x Decembris (1501.) Sederunt Williclmus Episcopus Abirdonensis Alexander Comes de Huntle Matheus Comes de Levenax Jacobus Abbas de Scona Secretarius,” &c.—

“In ye actione ande cause persewit on ye behalf of ye Kingis Hienes against Ewin Macauchane *Alane Rorisone Alexander Alanesone.*—“*Alexander Johne Alexander RANALDSOUNE*”—“for ye wrangwise occupation of certaine landis underwritin,” &c.—The Kingis Hienes comperand be James Heurieson his Advocat, and ye remanent of ye saidis personis being lauchfullie summoned til yis actione oft tymes callit and not comperit. The Lordis of Counsall decrettis and deliveris yat ye saide Ewin Macauchane dois wrang in ye occu-

pying of ye landis of Artornis in ye Morane Alane Rorisone and Alexander Alanesone in ye occupying of ye landis of Moydart.”—“*Alexander Johne Alexander RANALDSOUNE* in ye occupying of ye landis of *toyer MORORE*,” &c. &c.\*

It is well known, that, from views of state policy, many such unjust and vexatious actions were raised by James IV. against his Nobility and Barons; and the Records, at that period, abound with them. But that the lands of Moydart actually belonged to Alan Rorison, and his son Alexander Alanson; and those of “*toyer Moror*” to Alexander John Alexander Ronaldson, is proved either by evidence to be now stated, or in the sequel. The lands of Moror, or “*toyer Moror*,” were also, it will be seen, *then* in nonentry.

The next deeds clearly identify Alexander *Ronaldson* of “*toyer*” (other) Moror, with Alexander Macean vic Alister of Moror and Glengarry.

1. COMMISSION OF LIEUTENANCY (*already quoted*) by the Crown in favour of Colin Earl of Argyle, making him “*Locum tenentem insularum*,” &c.—and of certain lands, among others “*ALTERIUS Moror quam Alister Mackane Mac-Alister HABET*,” 8th March, 1516.†

*This Alexander is admitted by their Opponent to be the undoubted Ancestor of the Family of Glengarry;‡ and indeed the thing is incontestible.*

\* Lib. 11. f. 12.

† *Vid.* Page 6.

‡ *Vid.* Second Letter, dated 19th Dec. 1817, from “*ALSO A FIOR RAONUILLICH*,” to Edit. Inver. Journal.

2. ACTION in the Court of Session (*already quoted*,) where there is mention of “*Alexander Johne MacAlisteris sone in Glengarry*,” 20th Feb. 1517.\*

3. BOND of Manrent (*already quoted*) by “Al-  
lastyr MacEan vic Allyster of Morvern and Glen-  
garrie to Colin Earl of Argyle,” 15th Feb. 1519.†

4. SUMMONS of Treason against sundry High-  
land Chieftains by the Parliament of Scotland,  
“*Alexandro Mackane Alister de Glengarry*”  
being of the number,‡ dated 26th April, 1531.

5. LETTER under the Privy Seal (*already quoted*) to “*Alexander Mackane MacAlester of Glen-  
gary*” of the *nonentres* of the Slysmoyne of GLEN-  
GARRY and MOROR, “*wyt all malis, &c. of all yeris  
and termes bigane yat ye samin hes been in oure  
soverane lordis handis—sen ye deceis of JOHN  
MACALISTER, fader to ye saide Alexander or his  
predecessoris*,” dated 30th March, 1538.||

Hence it clearly follows, that Moror descended,  
heritably, and, in full property, to Alexander *from  
his father* JOHN; and must have been long before  
1501, in the possession of the Family.

6. CHARTER under THE GREAT SEAL, (*al-  
ready quoted*) “*Alexandro Mackane MacAlister  
et Margarete Ylis ejus spouse*” in liferent, &c. of

\* *Vid.* Page 6.

† *Ibid.*

‡ Acts of Parliament, printed by command of his Majesty,  
vol. 2. p. 333.

|| Page 7.

the lands of MOROR and *Glengarry*, proceeding upon their resignation, dated 6th March, 1538.\*

“*Alane Rorison*” and “*Alexander Alanesone*” of Moydart or Casteltirrim, Defenders in the above Decreet in 1501, are DE FACTO *the direct male ancestors of the Family of Casteltirrim*. They, however, are NOT surnamed “*RANALDSON*.” That distinguished epithet is only reserved for *Alexander of Moror and Glengarry*,—a fact that will be kept in view; as to it, special allusion will be made in the sequel.

The opponent of *Glengarry* has repeatedly questioned, in his usual manner, the possession, by *John* the father of *Alexander*, of the Lands of *Moror*; † that error, therefore, is now completely exposed.

2. *PROOF* that the same *Alexander of Moror and Glengarry*, and his Father *John of Moror and Glengarry*, were, in 1495, surnamed **RANALDSONE**.

1. EXCERPT from the original Register of the Crown Rentals, under date 16th April, 1496.

\* *Vid.* Page 8.

† Letter to Edit. Inver. Journal, 27th March, 1818.

“I shall now finish this long, but I hope concluding address to you, and have only one thing to request of *Fior Raonuillich*, which is—that if he still must write, he will tell me—where he learned that *John* (father of the above *Alexander of Glengarry*) possessed—*Moror*.” Letter from “*Also a Fior Raonuillich*” to Edit of Inver. Journ. 27th May 1818.

“ Invergarry XIII merkis occupiet be *Alane Rorisone* of ye Kingis propirte.”

“ GLENGARRY XXX merkis occupiet be Angus More and *Alexander Johne RANALDSONE*.”\*

2. ACTION in the Court of Session, (*already quoted*) where there is mention of “ *Alexander Johne MacAlisteris sone in GLENGARRY*,” dated 26th Feb. 1517.†

The identity of Alexander John Ranaldson in Glengarry with Alexander Makane vic Alister of Glengarry, is proved not only by the latter authority, but also by other deeds quoted at pages 6, 7, and 8, which it would be needless to repeat. In this instance in 1496, it will be observed, that the name of the grandfather of Alexander is left out, in order to make way for the grand patronimic or surname of Ranaldsonc. This was a very common practice at that period. Thus in a Royal Charter, dated 15th June 1498, MacLeod of Dunveggane, or of Macleod, is described “ Willielmus Johannis Macleodson,” ‡ or as in the precept under the Privy Seal, “ *William Jone MacLoidson* ;” § while on other occasions, *omitting the in-*

\* *Rentale Serenissimi Domini nostri Regis*. Register Office. The above entry is in the third volume of the series marked on the back with the dates “ 1492—1500,” deposited in the Lord Register’s apartment.

† Page 6.

‡ Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 13. No. 266.

§ Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 1. f. 37.

*intermediate generation*, as in a Royal Charter in 1449, he is simply styled "*William Macloyd*."\* The Records abound with such instances.

Again, it will be observed, that the two ancestors of the Families of Casteltirrim and Glengarry are confronted with each other; and yet the former is only Rorison, *whilst the latter is still RANALD-SONE*.

3. *PROOF* that John RANALDSON of Moror, Knoydart, and Glengarry, the father of the last Alexander in 1495, died in 1467,—and was surnamed MACRANALD.

1. LETTER under the Privy Seal to Donald Cameron of the nonentries of the lands of KNOYDART then in the Crown "*be rasone of non entries throw deceas of umquhile JOHN MACRANALD*;" of those of Glenevis in like manner in the Crown, through decease of "*umquhile Sorle Mackane*" (probably a son of John); as also of the nonentries of "*Sliosgarour in GLENGARRY*," dated 21st July, 1536.†

2. PRECEPT of a Charter of apprising under the Privy Seal to the same, of the lands of KNOIDORT and Glenevis, where it is said that the *former*

\* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 14. No. 150.

† Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 10. f. 131. b.

had been in nonentry, “*per spatium septuaginta annorum,*” dated 8th Nov. 1537.\*

Hence John Macranald of Knoidort must have died *in the year* 1467.

The following deeds identify him with John Ranaldson of Moror, and Glengarry.

1. ENTRY in the Crown Rentals in 1496, (*already quoted,*) where it is proved, that a “*John Ranaldson,*” i. e. *Macranald*, the father of Alexander Ranaldson of Moror and *Glengarry*, must have lived *about the middle of the 15th century*.

2. CHARTER under the *Great Seal*, (*already quoted,*) confirming “*Angusio MacAlestare,*” son and heir of the last mentioned Alexander, “*OMNES ET SINGULAS TERRAS DE GLENGARRIE,*” &c. appriized from him by John Grant of Freuchie and *his predecessors*, dated 8th July, 1574.

This Angus, it has also been proved, was obtaining lands by Charter in 1538.

That *part* of Glengarry, the “*Sliosgarour,*” possessed by the above John Macranald, has ever since been held by the family of Glengarry; and upon it both their old and new residences were built.

3. BOND of INDEMNITY and FIDELITY by Donald MacAllan vic Ean of Ilandtirrum, (ancestor to Casteltirrim) to Donald MacAngus of Glengarry, dated 18th July, 1618, where there is this clause,—  
“*For sameikle as it is pretended be ye Laird of*

\* Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 11. f. 34.

Glengarry that in ye moneth of May last bipast (1616) John and Rory M'Allanes vic Eanes committitt ane heirship in ye said *Laird of Glengarries land of Knoydart* be taking away of certane gudis furt of ye said countrie of Knoydart, and ye said Donald MacAllane vic Eane being willing that ye said injure be reparit in cais it sal be verefeit, &c. Therefore ye said Donald M'Allane vic Eane bindis and oblijses him and his forsaidis to content pay and restoir and delyver to ye saide Donald M'Angus all sic guidis and geir as wes spoilzeit," &c. &c.\*

Knoydart, after being for a short time in the Argyle family, reverted to that of Glengarry, by whom it is still possessed.

The immediate patronimic of John is, also, omitted in this instance, in order to introduce the more distinguished one of Ranaldson.

That Ranaldson was the true and ancient surname of this Family, will farther be corroborated in the next head.

4. *PROOF that the male Descendants of the previous Ranaldsons, Lairds of Moror, Knoydart, and Glengarry, were surnamed "RANALD" and "MACRANALD."*

1. In the ACT of PARLIAMENT 1587, which contains a "ROLL of ye clannis yat hes Captitanes, CHIEFFIS, and CHIFTANES," there is mention of

\* Bonds and Obligations, v. 263, Register Office.

the “CLAN RANALD of KNOYDART AND GLENGARRY.”\* Hence the Chief of Glengarry, in 1587, Donald MacAngus of Glengarry, and his Clan, were called the “Clanronald of Knoidart and Glengarry.”

2. In an ACT of PARLIAMENT in 1594, there is again mention of the “CLANRANALD IN KNOYDART AND GLENGARRIE.”†

3. The eldest son of this last Donald, has been proved to be Alister, or Alexander. In the Treasurer’s accounts for September 1603, there is a payment by Government of £16, to a Robert Elder “passand of Edinburgh, wyt letters to charge *George Marquis of Huntlie, — Lachlan Mac-Intosh of Dunchatane, John Grant of Freuchy, ALEXANDER MACRANALD of Glengary, &c. &c.* to compeir personallie afoir the Counsale the xx day of this instant, to underly sic ordoure as sall bie prescryvit to theme auent the persait of Clangregor.”‡

4. Again, in September 1603, there is another payment “to an boy passand of Edinburgh wyt clois letters to the *Marquis of Huntlie, the Lairds of Mackintosh, Grant, MACRANALD,*” &c. &c. who are evidently the same as the above; and here it will be remarked, that Alexander of Glengarry is styled LAIRD OF MACRANALD. ||

\* Acts of Parliament printed by command of His Majesty, vol. 3. p. 466.

† Ibid. vol. 4. p. 71.

‡ Compot. Thesaur. vol. 57, Register Office.

|| Ibid.

5. Lastly, on the 3d of October 1603, there is an additional payment “to Duncan Grierson messenger passand of Edinburgh wit letters to charge” — “MACRANALD of GLENGARRY and MACRANALD OF KNOYDART,” &c. the son and the father, “to compear personally before the Counsaillie.” \*

The son and heir of Alister Macranald, was, as has been shewn, Æneas or Angus of Glengarry, created in 1660, “Lord MACDONNEL” and “Arros.” He bore, as will be proved in the sequel, the more comprehensive surname of “Macdonell,” after his remote ancestor Donald Lord of the Isles—an example, indeed, admitted, upon the other side, to have been set him by his father. Hence it is now fixed that, from the 15th, down to the 17th century, the family of Glengarry were surnamed “RANALDSON,” and “MACRANALD.”

After such very clear evidence, the confident denials on the other side can only provoke a smile. The opponent of Glengarry, in his first letter to the Editor of the Inverness-shire Journal, thus expresses himself. “Now it will puzzle your correspondent (Fior Raonuillach) to point out the period at which Glengarry’s ancestors *stood upon record* as “*Ranaldsons*.” In point of fact, no such Record ever existed.”†—“In no deed whatever on record, is the additional patronimic of *Macranald* or *Ranaldson* used” (by the family of Glengarry.)

\* Compot. Thesaur. vol. 57, Register Office.

† Letter dated 19th Dec. 1817.

Again, "The premises of your correspondent being thus evidently erroneous, it follows that his conclusion is equally so."—"He would have it implied, that as Glengarry's ancestors were designed *at some undefined period, in some unknown Record, Ranaldsons,*" at the same time that the Lairds of Muidart were *Allansons*—consequently Glengarry is Chief of Clanranald. This reasoning is ingenious, *and only wants truth to support it.*"\*—In his second Letter to the Editor, he observes, "It was stated, that Glengarry's ancestors *stand upon record as Ranaldsons* at a period when the first Lairds of Muidort appear in the same *authentic register as Alansons*. It was answered by me, that *Glengarry's* ancestors NEVER STOOD ON RECORD *as Ranaldsons*, and I GAVE FROM THE RECORD the literal designations of the three first of the *Glengarry* family whose names appear; these are "Allister MacEane MacAlister," "Angus MacAlister," and "Donald MacAngus MacAlister." I also stated, that at no *after* period did any of the Glengarry race use the patronimic of *Ranaldson*." "I again aver, that from the time Glengarry's ancestors *sprung from the parent stock*, to the present moment, no one of them ever assumed the patronimic of *Ranaldson* or *Macranald*, and I challenge Fior Raonuillich to shew that they did."—In his third Letter, † 27th May 1818, he continues, "Fior Raonuillich"

\* Letter dated 19th Dec. 1817.

† Letter dated 27th May, 1818.

is correct in stating, that I expressly deny that any of the Glengarry family, ever, in any record, or any deed, assumed the name of Ranaldson, or Macranald."—"His poor attempt to prove that Glengarry's ancestors were designed Ranaldsons, must——be treated by every person with a degree of contempt I shall not now describe."—"So much for FIOR RAONUILLICH's new genealogical deduction of the Glengarry family, and his miserable attempt to prove that they were designed Ranaldsons or Macranalds."—"For were FIOR RAONUILLICH to search all the Records in Europe, he can never shew that any one of the Glengarry family after Donald, or indeed Donald himself, were ever designed Ranaldson or Macranald; and as they were not, FIOR RAONUILLICH must give up all pretensions to a distinction which the Family, whose cause he espouses, never can have a title to!!"\* At another time he affectedly requests "FIOR RAONUILLICH" to "tell him, in what RECORD (he is) to find JOHN RANALDSON?"—"Where he discovered the ROYAL GRANT of the Lands of Glengarry to Alexander Johne Ranaldson?"†—And to his reference, "*See the Register Office,*" to prove the application of this epithet to John of Glengarry in 1496, which, with other deeds there, also proves him a descendant of John of Isla or the Isles—(but which he, as usual,

\* Second Letter to Ed. of Inver. Journ. from "ALSO A FIOR RAONUILLICH."

† Ibid.

contradicts,) he facetiously adds, “*See the Moon!*” \* —The evidence, however, *is* entered in the Crown Rentals in His Majesty’s General Register House, just as above quoted.

Conducting his argument, in this manner, quite independently of fact and record, and falling into the grossest mistakes, owing to this negligence, he has yet the assurance gravely to tell his opponent,—“*That it is easy to aver, but that no averment ought to be made WITHOUT PROOF UNQUESTIONABLE TO SUPPORT it!!*” † Sufficient proof is then afforded of the perseverance, accuracy, and consistency of the Champion of Casteltirrim. In respect to an important assertion, that the Family of Glengarry *do not* “stand upon record as Ranaldsons at a period when the first Lairds of Moidart, as their proper mark of cadency appear in the same authentic register as Allansons,”—that, already, has been clearly refuted.

As it is *now* certain that their ancestor, who lived early in the 15th century, was called “*Alexander RANALDSON*,—and that that epithet descended to his heirs;—and *as none of the Family of Moror or Glengarry*, ever since they were known by these de-

\* *Ibid.* He again in his Letter, 27th May 1819, asserts, “He (Fior Raonuillich) will not find a John Ranaldson designed in any Record!” But there is no end to his misrepresentations.

† *Vid.* First Letter from him to the Edit. of Inv. Journal, 19th Dec. 1817.

signations, bore the Christian name of *Ranald*,\*—it follows that “*Ranaldson*” was their GRAND *patronymic*, or surname, which they must have derived from some *original* Progenitor. And as it also has been proved, that they *anciently*, at least *not long after 1400*, possessed both Moror and Knoirdort, that progenitor could be no other than Reginald or Ranald of the Isles, to whom, “and TO HIS HEIRS MALE *to be* LAWFULLY PROCREATED OF HIS BODY;” *these very lands* were entailed, by a Royal Charter, *in the year 1372*.†

\* This indeed is admitted by their opponent. *Vid.* his Second Letter to Inverness Editor, 1818.

† Reg. Mag. Sig. Rot. 3. Rob. 2. No. 18.

John Lord of the Isles, the son and heir of Angus Lord of the Isles, the lineal heir male of Somerlet King of the Isles, was twice married. By his first wife, Amy, heiress of Roderick of the Isles, the representative of the oldest collateral Branch of his House, and nearly equal to his own in power and possessions, he had Reginald of the Isles, Founder of Clanronald mentioned in the text. The Dispensation for their marriage, still extant in the Vatican, is thus noticed by its title by the acute Andrew Stewart, in his Supplement to his Genealogical History of the House of Stuart: “BENEDICT XII. (the Pope who granted it,) *Dispen. Joanni quondam Eaggussii de Isle Sodoren, et Amie quondam Roderici de Insulis—1337.*” After the death of Amy, he married the Princess Margaret, daughter to Robert the Second, by whom he had a *second* son, Donald. John, in the first part of his life, was engaged in hostilities with the Kings of Scotland, by whom he was afterwards overcome, and forced to negotiate. It was their obvious policy to divide the territories of so great and dangerous a neighbour; and it happened that Reginald, his eldest son,

These facts, independently of any other evidence, would instruct a lawful descent lineally from him, and, in truth, that the family of Glengarry were his heir. But farther, this same Ranald, the Founder of Clanranald,—and the undoubted Chief of all the Macdonalds, is designed, in this latter deed, “de Insulis,” or “of the Isles.”—*Now, let any one member of the House of Casteltirrim adduce a single legal document to prove that such a title was ever applied to his Branch.* It is confidently believed, that *none such exists.* But, on the other hand, it is given by King James V. in a Royal Precept of a Charter in 1541, to Alexander Ranaldson of Glengarry, who is there expressly called “Alexander ILIS de Glengarry.”\* He also, as “*Alexander ILIS*

succeeded to the extensive estates of his mother, with a large addition out of those of his father, whilst the rest of the Lordship of the Isles, with that title, were secured to Donald the son of the Princess, who of course would not fail to be favoured. Donald married the heiress of the ancient Earls of Ross, and thus his descendants came to possess that Earldom, which was a female fief. From Celestin of the Isles, son of Alexander Earl of Ross, and the grandson of this Donald the founder of the *NEW dynasty of the Isles*, Glengarry is also lineally descended, as indeed is already shewn. The true male representation, however, of the *ANCIENT Lords of the Isles* really centers in the male heirs of Reginald, the *eldest* lawful son of John’s first marriage, who are no other than the Clanronald,—although, like the elder branch of the House of Saxony, somewhat eclipsed by the younger.

\* Regist. Sec. Sig. Lib. 14, f. 80.

of *Glengarrich*," (Glengarry) is pursuer in a civil suit in the year 1524. \*—Hence his exclusive use of the title among the Clanranald, would seem to infer, that he was Ranald's representative. The ancient *exclusive* adoption too (as will afterwards be more fully shewn) of Ranald's Christian name, as a patronymic, by the family of Glengarry, is even still more remarkable and striking. In the Irish language, the Duke of Argyle is termed "Maccallan More," i. e. the son of the great Sir Colin,—because he is the *heir* of the latter, who was the first Campbell who settled in Argyleshire. In the same way, Robertson of Strowan, and Macdonald of Ardnamurchan, "Duncanson," † and "MacIan," as the *representatives* of their remote ancestors. Such was the invariable custom in the Highlands, and the thing must be familiar to every one. Therefore, unless, as the heirs of Ranald of the Isles, the Family of Glengarry could never, anciently, and in the above manner, have been surnamed

\* Act. Dom. Con. 16th May, 1524, Lib. 34. f. 167. b.

† Charter under the Great Seal, "*Roberto Duncansone de Strowane*," of the Lands of *Strowan*, Rannach, &c. dated 15th August, 1451. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 4, No. 277. A Royal Charter is witnessed, in 1449, by "*Alexandro Joannis de Ardnamurchane*." Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 13, No. 150. There is also a Charter under the Great Seal, "*Joanni Mackane de Ardnamurchane*" of Lands in Isla, dated 19th Nov. 1506. Ib. Lib. 14, No. 304. After their founders, both Clans were called "Clan-donoquhy" and "Clan Jeane." *Vid.* Act of Parliament 1587, quoted before, where there is a list of the Clans.

Ranaldson. When that surname declined, they were the first of the Clanranald to assume the more comprehensive one of Macdonald, after Donald of the Isles, Ranald's progenitor: and when ennobled in 1660, they were created "*per excellentiam*," "LORDS MACDONELL," with the *additional* title of "ARROS," which was the noted castle, and judgment-seat of the Isles. TO CROWN ALL, there is the solemn act of Privy Council in 1672, ordaining and commanding (*the then Glen-garry*,) "Æneas Lord Macdonald," "to be answerable for the peace of the Macdonalds," "AS CHIEF OF THE NAME AND CLAN OF MACDONALD."—Facts, it is conceived, so irresistible and conclusive, as almost to supersede the necessity of any comment or remark.

As this latter recognition, owing to some singular fatality, has been rather overlooked in the course of the dispute, and not honoured with that attention it deserved, it shall here be inserted at full length for the better information of the public.

" APUD EDINBURGH *decimo octavo Julii* 1672.

THE LORD COMMISSIONER HIS GRACE.

Chancellor,	Caithness,	Dundonald,
St. Andrews,	Atholl,	Yester,
Hamilton,	Linlithgow,	Lieut. G. Drummond,
Argyle,	Roxburgh,	Register,
Eroll,	Kellie,	Thesr. Depute,
Marishall,	Dalhousie,	Nidry.
Mortoun,	Tweeddale,	

“THE LORDS OF HIS MAJESTY’S PRIVY COUNCIL considering that by the Laws and Acts of Parliament of the realm, *Chieftannes of Clannes are obliged to find caution for their* **WHOLE NAME and CLAN**, that they shall keep the peace, and exhibit and present them to justice, wherever they shall be called. *In prosecution of which lawes,* the saids Lordes, *ordaines and commandes* **Æneas, Lord Macdonald, as CHIEF OF THE NAME AND CLAN OF MACDONALD**, to exhibit before the Council, upon the first Tuesday of October next, the persons underwritten, viz. Archibald Macdonald of Keppoch; Macdonald of Theisit; Macdonald of Bohauden, and his eldest son; Macdonald of Killichouat; Macdonald in Tullich; Macdonald in Inmereymore; Angus Kennedy in Lenachar; Macdonald of May; Macdonald of Teinadish; Macdonald in Armat; Macdonald of Insh, and Macdonald of Auchnacoshen, to find caution for their men tenants, servants, and indellers upon their lands, rounes and possessiones, and the hail persons descended of their Families, that they shall committ no murder, deforcement of messingers, reiff thefts, receipt of theft, depredations, open and avowed, fyre raisinges and deidly feids, or any other deeds contrar to the Acts of Parliament; with this provision, that the generality of the said band shall not infer against them or their cautioners an oblidgement to remove from their present possessiones of such

lands possest by them as belonges to the Laird of Mackintoshche, they being willing to pay therefor, as the same has been set these many yeirs bigane; and untill the said day that the said caution be found; *the said Lords ORDAINS the LORD MACDONALD to be answerable, and give bond for the saidis persones that they shall keep the King's peace, and not commit any of the crimes foresaid under the paine of five thousand merkes Scottes money.* And for the saids persons their farther encouragement to compear and give obedience to the saids Lords, ordaines personal protection to be granted to them for the space of twentie days before and twentie days after the said dyet of appearance, not only for civill debtes, but all criminall causes whatsomever.\*

By the mention of "Macdonald of Keppoch," &c. it is clear, that his Lordship's influence, as Chief, was not only limited to the Clan-ronald, strictly so speaking, but embraced every Member and Branch, however remote, of the Clan of Macdonald.



HAVING now stated this indisputable evidence as to the family of Glengarry, let us see how matters

\* Certified Extract from the Acts of the Privy Council of the above date; Glengarry Charter Chest.

stand with his opponent—the male representative (for the example on his side shall not be copied of causelessly branding with illegitimacy) of the Muirdochs “CAPTAINS” of Clanronald. It is maintained for him, *First*, That his male ancestor, John Muirdoch, or MacAlister of Casteltirrim, “*Captain*” of Clanronald, was *the lawful heir* of Ranald Alanson, (styled also vic Rory or Rorison) of Muirdort—the real head of the “Shiel Alan,” (Alansons) who claim a descent from Ranald of the Isles. And, *Secondly*, that *his alleged family* were *always*, EXCLUSIVELY, SURNAMED “RANALDSON,” or “MACRANALD.”

We will begin with the FIRST assertion. Even granting it to be true, enough has still been stated under the previous heads to shew, that the Allansons, if really descended from the ancient Clanronald, *must have been a junior branch*. Therefore, the fact, whether true or otherwise, is quite immaterial indeed. There is, however, as yet, *no legal evidence for such a descent*,—although from certain circumstances, especially the possession by them, of part of the Reginaldine estate—it might very possibly have been so. In fact, the line of Allanson can legally be traced no farther back than to the above Rory or Roderick, of Muirdort, who lived at the end of the 16th century. As to the *previous ancestry*, the *Records of Scotland* are *entirely silent*. In this emergency, an *Alan*, and occasionally a *John*,—probably both fic-

titious,—have been foisted in to serve as a connecting link between Roderick, and Ranald of the Isles, by the kindly assistance of partial tradition, and that *best of all evidence*, PRIVATE FAMILY HISTORIES. Here, then, there always would have been, even independently of other objections, an insuperable bar to the pretensions of the Allansons.

But that John MacAlister of Casteltirrim was only *de facto* a son of Allister Macallan, portioner of Muidwort, *younger* brother of the above Ranald Allanson of Muidwort,—that the latter left descendants, who were his heirs, *and not John*,—and that John and his posterity usurped their estates—assuming at the same time the title of “*Captain*” of Clanronald—(consequently could in no event be the representatives of Clanronald),—is clearly instructed by the following evidence, which shall also be stated under separate heads.

1. *PROOF* that ALAN RORISON of MUIDWORT HAD TWO SONS; RANALD ALANSON of MUIDWORT, *his heir and successor*, and a YOUNGER son, ALEXANDER, *portioner of MUIDWORT*.

1. CHARTER under the GREAT SEAL, granting the lands of Kilpetter, &c.—“RANALDO MAC-ALLANE et heredibus suis masculis de corpore suo

legitime procreatis quibus deficientibus ALEXANDRO MAKALLANE *fratri* DICTI RANALDI," dated 3d Aug. 1498.\*

2. DECREET of REMOVING given in absence (*already quoted*) wherein "ALAN RORISON" and ALEXANDER ALANSONE" are ordered to remove from the lands of Moydart, dated Dec. 10th, 1501.†

In this manner it is proved that the whole estate of Moydart, necessarily including Casteltirrim, was possessed, in 1501, by Alan Rorison, and his younger son Alexander Alansone. After the death of Alane Rorisone, his interest in these lands should have past to his eldest son Ranald. This, however, did not happen until 1540, when he obtained the whole of it, as will shortly be seen. It will be also evident, that Alexander Alanson and his son John were, *previous* to that date, the only other proprietors of Moydart and Casteltirrim, excepting Alan Rorison.

3. LETTERS of SAFE CONDUCT, under the Privy Seal, directed "RANALDO *filio* ALANI MAKORY" and other persons, in favour of certain religious women then travelling in the Isles, dated in the year 1508.‡

4. CHARTER under the GREAT SEAL of the lands of MOYDORT and ARISSAIK "RANALDO ALANSON," there explicitly designed "SON AND

\* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 13. No. 299.

† Acta Dom. Con. Lib. 11. f. 12.

‡ Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 3. f. 209. b.

HEIR of the *deceased* ALAN RORISON of MOYDORT, dated 15th Dec. 1540.\*

After this Alan Rorison of Muidwort, a man of note in his day, his descendants have evidently been styled "Alansons," and hence originated the tribe of "Shiel Alan."

2. *PROOF* that RANALD ALANSON of MOYDART had a *LAWFUL Son of the name of ALAN, who left issue ANGUS of MOYDART, alive in the year 1612.*

1. LETTER under the Privy Seal, to "ALLAN MAKRANALD sone to *umquhile* RANALD MAC-ALLANE his airis," &c. of the nonentries of the lands of *Mudwort*, and *Arisaik*, and others in the *Isle of Egg*, † dated 26th Jan. 1562.

2. SPECIAL RETOUR at Inverness, dated 4th Feb. 1612, before John Gordam of Buckie, and Alexander Paterson, Sheriffs Depute, by a respectable Jury.

\* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 27. No. 102.

Moydart, Arrisaik, part of Igk, and *perhaps* Skerihof, (though, from certain circumstances, this last possession is extremely dubious,) were the only estates held by the Allansons before the accession of Ranald. There is no legal proof in the Records to the contrary, whatever may be said by the Apologist of Casteltirrim. By the forfeiture of the Earl of Ross, at the end of the 15th century, Ranald acquired some lands from the Crown, which he does not appear to have retained.

† Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 31, f. 65.

“QUI JURATI DICUNT *quod quondam RONALDUS ALLANSON DE MOYDORT avus Angusii MacAllan MacRonald* latoris presentium obiit ultimo vestitus et sasitus ut de feodo,” &c. in the lands of *Moydort* and *Arrisaik*, “Et quod dictus Angusius MacAllan MacRonald est LEGITIMUS ET PROPINQUIOR HÆRES EJUSDEM QUONDAM RONALDI ALANSON SUI AVI,” in these lands, &c.\*

The issue of Angus, it is admitted on all hands, have long ago failed.

From this short deduction, this Branch have evidently been designed *after their immediate parents*, and not after Ranald of the Isles. Allan and Angus, no doubt, are called MacRanald, but that was clearly after Ranald Alanson; in the same manner, they have been once or twice termed the Clanranald of Muidort.

3. *PROOF that the above ALEXANDER, Portioner of Muidwort, YOUNGER brother of Ranald Alanson of Muidwort, had de facto a son “JOHN MACALISTER OR MOYDORT OF CASTELTIRRIM,” who, and his descendants, usurped the Estates of Muidwort, and assumed the title of “Captain,” OF CLAN-RONALD.*

1. SUMMONS OF TREASON by the Parliament

\* Original, in Registers of Chancery.

of Scotland against sundry Highland Chieftains, "JOHANNE MORDORDACHE DE ELLANTHORANE (Elanterim) CAPITANEO DE CLANRONALD," being of the number, dated 26th April 1531. The year then began upon the 25th March.\*

2. CHARTER under the Great Seal, granting to "JOHN MACALISTER OF CASTELTIRRIM," the lands of MOIDART ARRISAİK, Skerilhoif and parts of Igk, *which formerly belonged* "quondam ALANO MAKRORY AVO JOHANNIS MAKALESTAIR DE CASTELTIRRIM," the disponee, dated 11th Feb. 1531. †

3. CHARTER UNDER THE GREAT SEAL TO "JOHN MACALESTER MACALLANE OF ELANTERIM, CAPTAIN OF CLANRONALD," and Margaret Macane, his wife, of the lands of Kildonan, dated 2d July 1534. ‡

\* Acts of Parliament printed by command of His Majesty, vol. 2. p. 333.

† Regist. Mag. Sig. Lib. 24, No. 151.

‡ Regist. Mag. Sig. Lib. 25, No. 141.

"Elanterim," "Elanthorym," "Illandterim," and "Casteltirrim," denote one and the same spot. Tirrim is a rock upon the Coast of Muidwort, which is an islet at full tide; and hence, from this circumstance, called "Elanterim,"—that is, the Island of Tirrim; at other times, "Casteltirrim," from a Castle with which it was crowned. It is a rock of some height, and in circumference nearly equal to the Calton Hill. On one side ships could formerly approach it; and it was every way well suited for the strong hold of the marauding Chiefs of the fifteenth century.

4. CHARTER under the Great Seal, confirming the lands of MOYDORT and ARRISAIK to RANALD ALANSON, who, as has been shewn, was *the true heir*, containing this remarkable clause,

“INSUPER NOS—*revocamus, retractamus, cassamus annullamus exoneramus annullamus et exoneramus cartam et infeofamentum per nos EX SINISTRA INFORMATIONE in nostra minori etate JOHANNI MAKALESTER de predictis terris confectam et concessam.*” Evidently alluding to the Royal Grant to John MacAlister of Casteltirrim, already quoted, 11th Feb. 1531.\*

5. RESPITE (under the Privy Seal,) to “JOHNE MYEDWARTE *MacAlester Capitane of Clanronald,*” and others, dated Aug. 1547. †

6. “PRECEPTUM REMISSIONIS JOHANNIS MACALESTER *alias MOYDORT CAPITANE de CLANRANALD,*” and many others, for absenting themselves from the King’s army at Fawlaymure, dated 3d March 1564. ‡

7. ACT of PARLIAMENT in the year 1587, where there is mention, (John MacAlister being then dead,) of his son and heir “ALLANE MACKANE OF ILLANDTERRIM.” ||

8. CHARTER under the Great Seal, *entitled*

\* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 25, No. 141.

† Regist. Sec. Sig. Lib. 22, f. 27, b.

‡ Regist. Sec. Sig. Lib. 35, f. 10.

|| Acts of Parliament, published by command of His Majesty, vol. 3, p. 466.

“ CARTA *Donaldi MacAllane vic Ean de ILLENTYRME,*” (the son and heir of the latter,) *narrating the previous Royal Charter, already quoted, by James V. to JOHN MACALISTER of CASTELTIRRIM, of the lands of MOYDART, ARISSAIK, and parts of IGK, dated 11th February 1531 ;—*mentioning that the grantee, *there also designed* “CAPTAIN OF CLANRONALD,” was “NEPOS ET PROPINQUIOR HERES *dicti quondam* JOANNIS MACALISTER DE CASTELTIRRIM SUI AVI;” and therefore, confirming him in these lands, to which the family, evidently, had no legal title since the revocation of 1531.

“ Ad hec nos univimus annexavimus et incorporavimus,” &c. the above lands, “ in unam integram et liberam tenandriam nunc et omnibus temporibus affuturis *tenandriam* de CASTELTIRRIM *nuncupandum,*” &c. dated 24th July, 1610. \*

9. SPECIAL RETOUR of “ *Joannes Macdonald MacAllane vic Eane* CAPITANEUS de CLANRONALD” as heir male “ Domini Donaldi MacAllane vic Eane de ELLANTIRRIM Capitani de Clanranald,” his father, in the previous lands “ omnibus unitis in Tenandriam de CASTELTIRRIM,” dated Sept. 18th 1627. †

It is needless to trace the pedigree of this branch any farther, as it is admitted on all hands that these are the direct ancestors of the Family who

\* Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 46, No. 138.

† Original, Registers of Chancery.

style themselves “ of CLANRONALD,” and whose lands still form a Barony which is called the *Barony* of CASTELTIRIM, into which they were erected after the year 1627.

From these simple facts it is now sufficiently evident what stress is to be laid upon the title of “ *Captain,*” borne by John MacAlister of Casteltirrim, *which previous to his time had been wholly unknown to the Clan,\** and never regarded by them as an honourable or appropriate epithet for their Chief. It is clear that John bore it not *ratione sanguinis*, but *ratione imperii*. He was not the lawful representative of the branch to which *de facto* he belonged, *during any period of his existence*,—far less then could he be *by blood* Captain or leader of Clanronald. Therefore his assumption of the Captainship proves nothing at all. In fact, the extraordinary parts and enterprize of this person were quite sufficient to make the defect of his birth a matter of little importance at a time so very rude and uncivilized. No character is better

\* It is certain, there is no *legal* evidence that, *previously*, any of the “ Ranaldsons” or heads of Clanronald, or of the Allansons, were styled “ *Captains*” of Clanronald. The title was resorted to, *for the first time*, to suit the views of John Moidwort, or MacAlister, whatever partial representations or *Family MS. Histories* may say to the contrary. It is with no small surprize, therefore, that we find mention, in the second Letter from the Casteltirrim Apologist to the Editor of the Inverness Journal, of Allan of Moydwort, (John’s grandfather,) as “ *CAPTAIN of Clanranald.*” *He is peremptorily challenged to prove the fact by ANY LEGAL EVIDENCE.*

known than that of John Muiderach, or MacAlister. Buchanan, his contemporary, has held him up to the execration of the age as “INSIGNEM LATRONEM MULTIS AC SCELESTISSIMIS FACINORIBUS CO-OPERTUM !” \* And on another occasion, he informs us, that this famous outlaw having escaped from jail, where he had justly been confined for his iniquities,—“OMNIA CÆDE ET SANGUINE RURSUS IMPLEVIT !” † What possible check could his tyranny and usurpation have met with in the Highlands, when the very government of his country were unable to “DANTON” him? ‡ Accordingly, by a series of crimes of the most unexampled description, he paved his way to the “*Captainship* ;” and by the same means he acquired it, only was it *preserved*, and, at length, transmitted to his descendants. In this event, most of the Clan-

\* Buchan. Hist. Scot. Lib. 16. f. 186. Edit. Edin. 1582.

† Ibid.

‡ PARLIAMENT OF SCOTLAND, held “Apud Edinburgh anno (1567).

SEDERUNT,

BARONIS DUN CRAIGMYLLAR, QUHITTINGHAME, LOWRESTOUNE, &c. &c.

“ Followis certane articlis referrit to ye Lordis of Articlis to be declarit be thame.

“ Item, be quhat meane may all Scotland be brocht to universal obedience, and how JOHNE MOYDART and Macky may be DANTONIT.” Acts of Parliament printed by command of His Majesty, vol. 3. p. 38. 43-4.

ronald would be obliged to give him their bonds of manrent, and follow him as their military chieftain,—a circumstance upon which his champion would fain fasten, as if it could have any influence upon the present question, or settle at common law the representationship of Clanronald! Nay, had he even been recognized as KING OF THE ISLES, and CHIEF of GLENGARRY, that also would have been quite immaterial! But, in fact, the Ranaldsons of Glengarry figured

Bishop Lesley, in his Annals of Scotland, also informs us, that *in the year 1555,*

“Comes Atholie in Septentrionales partes mittitur, qui, lectis militibus, JOANNIS MUDYARDI audaciam frangeret. Quo tempore ita in rebus placandis modestiam, et concilium, in conficiendis celeritatem, atque prudentiam adhibuit Atholius ut *Mudyardum, seditiosum, et impatientem imperii ad Reginam duxerit, sponte suo, filios ac cognatos dedentem.*” The Queen out of her extreme clemency, pardoned him, upon condition of his abiding at Perth; “Verum cum *Vulpes* (ut apud nos in proverbio est) extra suos latebras vivere non possunt *Mudyardus*, et illius socii *fraude plusquam vulpina imbuti*, custodibus deceptis, clam ad suos redierunt, *atque infestis deinde seditionibus in Scotia Seprionali excitatis, omnia plerisque in locis turburunt.* Quæ res impulit Reginam ut citius quam statuerat in illas oras proficisceretur ad iudicia publica instituenda, *quibus gravissima hominum nocentissimorum scelera coerceat, et provinciam totam evulsis seditionum radicibus perpurgaret.*” It appears by a previous entry, that the Earl of Huntly had in vain attempted to subdue “Joannem Mudyardum ejusque confœderatos Reipublicæ quietem seditiose perturbantes.” Les. de Mor. et Gest. Scot. p. 524-5.

All this, it will be seen, is *previous* to the above reference by Parliament to the Lords of the Articles.

wholly independent of the Casteltirrim, notwithstanding the vast power and resources to which these had attained by their extraordinary talents and atrocities. In support of this assertion, out of many documents, there may be quoted an order of Privy Council, dated in the year 1641, committing Angus Macdonell, young Glengarry, the then effective representative of the Family, to the Castle of Edinburgh, "*for not exhibiting of certain of the CLANDONALD,*"—"seeing the Laird of Glengarry is CHEEFE Maister landis lord to the saids rebellis, and ought to be answerable for thame, and exhibit thame to Justice *conforme to the laws of the Countrie and severall Acts of Parliament—The execution whereof agains HIM will be the ONELIE meanes to reduce the rebellis to obedience.*"\* And, "In regard of the knowne old age and infirmitie of the old Laird of Glengarrie, being near ane hundred the yeeres of age, and that the said Angus Macdonald, his oy, is apperand air of the estate, hes the management and government yereof, and is followed and acknowledged be the hail tennentis of the boundis, and such as hes ane dependance on his goodshir; (the Privy Council) find, that *he* is lyable for exhibition of the rebellis foresaidis," &c.—A responsibility, evidently annexed to his particular status, as is indeed farther

\* *Vid.* this Order, and other notices in reference to it, in the Appendix. No. IV.

confirmed by the other Act of Privy Council, in 1672, where he also in like manner is charged, and where he is designed “ CHIEF of *the name and CLAN of Macdonald.*”

The superior importance and consideration of the *Ranaldsons* of Glengarry over the *Captains* of Clanronald is likewise proved, not only by the *copy* of a deed (though hence scarcely legal evidence,) in 1571, where Angus of Glengarry is styled “ Chief of Clanronald ;” \* but also by a solemn Bond of Indemnity and Fidelity by Donald MacAllan vic Ean of Ilandterim to Donald MacAngus of Glengarrie in the year 1616. In it, after promising to make ample amends to the latter for certain inroads committed by some of his Family upon his lands of Knoidart, Donald of Ilandterim “ bindis and obleisses him and his airis, that he, his men tennentis, and servandis, quhome he may stop or latt oyer wayes, nor be order of law and justice, in na tyme cuming harm, skaithe, trubull, molest, nor oppres the said Donald MacAngus of Glengarrie, and his airis, thair men serventes and servandis, kyn, nor friendis, in thair bodyes, landis, or guidis, *under ye payne of four thousand pundis toties quoties as they shall happen* to contravene ye premisses.” But this is not all: In language still more explicit, “ he bindis and obleisses him and his forsaidis to *concurr, fortifie, and assist, the saide Donald MacAngus and his airis againes all his Majesties rebellis of*

\* Recovered from the Grant Charter Chest.



*Knoidart*, that molestis and trubullis the cuntrie, and sall concur wyt ye said Laird of Glengarrie for apprehending of them, to ye effect they may be presentit to ye lawis, and punisht for their demerittis, under ye saide paine of four thousand pundis toties quoties, upone ye provisiones above writtin." After which follows this extraordinary testing clause, so indicative of the superiority of the rauk of Glengarry:

"In witnes heirop, wretten be Mr Alexander Pacok, servitor to Thomas Couttis wrettar to ye signet, the saidis perties hes subscrivit yir presentis with thair *handis*, day, yeir and place for-said (18. July 1616), befor yir witnesses, Mr John Mackenzie parson of Dignawell, Mr John Mackenzie archdeane of Rosse, John Stewart of Ardinsell, James Logie agent in Edinburgh, and John Robertson serviter to the said Laird of Glengarrie SIC SUBSCRIBITER DONALD MACANGUS OF GLENGARRIE, *Donald MacAllan vac Eane* (Casteltirrim,) above written with my hand at ye pen led by ye notaris underwrittin at my command, because I cannot wreit ye premisses being faithfullie interpret be ye witnesses above designit, quha all understud bothe *Inglisehc* and *Irisehc* languages. Ita est Thomas Couttis notarius publicus ac testis in premissis de speciali mandato dicti Domini MacAllane requisitus scribere nescientis ut asseruit premissis fidelitur interpretatis ut supra testantibus his meis signo et subscriptione manuali: Ita est Robertus Nicolsone co-notarius

in premissis etiam requisitus teste manu mea. Mr John Mackenzie minister at Dignawell, witness; Mr John Mackenzie, archdean of Ross, witness; J. Stewart of Ardsell, witness; John Robertson, witness; James Logie, witness.”\*

Though the matter be adjusted by so ceremonious a notary as Mr Alexander Peacock, the *illiterate Sir Donald* is yet postponed. The *limited* nature of *Sir Donald's* acquirements, (whose right to this title has also been a subject of hot contention in the course of this controversy,) throws some discredit upon the assertion of his Champion, that he was *expressly knighted at Holyroodhouse*; † though in other respects, as will afterwards be apparent, he was well fitted to be a Courtier. Other deeds, demonstrating the distinction and pre-eminence of the Family of Glengarry, down to a later period, are inserted in the Appendix. ‡ Before quitting this head, we cannot help adverting to the extravagant importance, which the apologist of Casteltirrim assigns to the title of Captain, (evidently assumed by John of Casteltirrim to suit his own views, and as a kind of sanction for the authority he usurped,) which, however, is not at all surprising, as it is the only thing *ex facie* that seems to make for his client. If we are

\* General Register of Deeds, vol. 263, Register Office.

† This is another of the *gratuitous* assertions of the Casteltirrim Champion; and, although he has said that none ought to be made “WITHOUT *proof unquestionable to support it*,” he is forsooth angry because it has been contested!

‡ Appendix, No. V.

to believe him, it is as just conclusive, as if John MacAlister had been served lawful heir of his alleged ancestor, Ranald of the Isles ; and contains just as certain evidence, that he was the *true* "Ranaldson." Nay, he even says, " I WILL THANK FIOR RAON-UILLICH TO POINT OUT ANY PERSON WHO WAS NOT A CHIEF, ASSUMING THAT TITLE (*Captain,*) OR BEING SO DESIGNATED ON RECORD."\* Such a conceit really argues very little knowledge of the phraseology of ancient times, more especially in the Highlands!! The term had, indeed, *very seldom* any reference to genuine blood relationship. Governors of Castles, and Commanders, were termed Captains.† Argyleshire abounded in such Captains. ‡ On the Borders, the Master

\* Second Letter from him to Invern. Edit.

† In a solemn agreement between Sir James Macdonald, eldest lawful son to Angus MacConnell of Dunavaig, and James VI. in the year 1599, His Majesty stipulates, " that the House and Castell of Dunavaig, along with LX merk land nearest thereto, assignit to the keipand theirof, sall remain and abide with his Majestie, and be in the keeping of sie CAPITANIS and Keiparis as his Majestie sal nominat and appoint." Acts of Privy Council, 6th Sept. 1599.

‡ In the late controversy in the Inverness Journal, Glengarry's defender referred " to an entry in the Parliamentary Records, relative to Commissioners, for levying the supply in the county of Argyle, anno 1678, in which are named John Campbell, *Captain* of Dunstaffnage, Ranald MacAlister, *Captain* of Tarbert, Donald Campbell, *Captain* of Craignish, John Campbell, *Captain* of Carrick, — MacLachlan, *Captain* of Incheonnell, and John Campbell, *Captain* of Dunoon ; and all these too, from among so small a number as about 30 gentlemen, of which the Commission consisted.

of Home had his five hundred men, and *their* Captains.\* Every one who exercised any military command, either usurped or legitimate, figured as Captain. Upstarts, rebels, outlaws, leaders of Sorners, Katheranes, Gallowglasses, and marauders of all sorts and descriptions, were designated Captains. Fielding's humorous interpretation of Captain in his days might equally have applied, of old, in the Highlands: "A word (says he) of such various use and uncertain signification, that it seems very difficult to fix any positive idea to it: if, indeed, there be any general meaning which may comprehend all its different uses, that of the head or chief, of any body of men, seems to be most capable of this comprehension; for whether they be a company of soldiers, a crew of sailors, or a gang of rogues, *he who is at the head of them is always styled the Captain.*"† And, besides, we have the express authority of Bower, who lived early in the 15th century, that *those very districts*‡ which were afterwards the scene of John Moydart's excesses, engendered "EX LEGES CATERVANOS MAGNOS

\* He also quoted a Parliamentary enactment, 5th October 1545, where "It is thought expedient that 500 horsemen shall be CHOSEN by the Master of Home and his friends, to remain in the Merse, and to be under the care and rule of the said Master of Home, and sic CAPTAINS as he and his friends will chuse thereto." *Vid.* Acts of Parl. printed by command of His Majesty, vol. 2. p. 462.

† Voyage to Lisbon, vol. 12. p. 247. Works, Edinburgh Edit. 1767.

‡ Inverness-shire.

*pro modulo suo* CAPITANEOS."\* But enough at present as to the meaning of this term, which, in the sequel, will receive a very singular illustration.



The SECOND and remaining proposition on the other side, falls now to be considered,—THAT the Family of Casteltirrim, and their supposed relatives, the Allansons, were *anciently*, at least “FROM THE TIME PATRONYMICS WERE FIRST USED,” exclusively surnamed “RANALDSON or MACRANALD.” And, with submission, it must be contended, that, notwithstanding all the vaunts to the contrary, the thing is palpably unfounded. For this extraordinary surmise, the irresistible authority of a Charter in 1498, † is appealed to, of certain lands which had formerly belonged to John Hutchinson of Slait, in favour of “Angus Reochson Macranald,”—who, as usual, *without any authority*, is made a cadet of the Allansons. Of all inconsequent reasonings, this indeed may be re-

\* Scotichron. vol. 2. p. 489.

Jamieson explains “Catherines,” which he makes the same as “Catervani,” “Bands of robbers, especially such as came down from the Highlands to the low Country, and carried off cattle, corn, or whatever pleased them, from those who were not able make to resistance.” He also says, the term denotes “Galloglasses and Sorners.”

† Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 18, No. 337.

garded as the first!—this is begging the question in the truest sense of the phrase!! Even supposing the said Angus Reochson, (son of Reoch,) to have borne Macranald, *as of Ranald of the Isles*, and not through some other Ranald, as might easily have happened, *but which hypothesis is quite excluded in the case of the Family of Glengarry*, is it not rather to be presumed, that he was of them, than of the Allansons, who never, as yet shewn, were designed after the former? But there is not a vestige of evidence for such a supposition, and *its reality* would not only require to be fixed, but also that Angus was *a cadet* of Allanson, before any thing like the assumed inference could follow. Angus in the above Charter entailed his estate, which was *all conquest* upon the heir males of his body, *whom failing* to his son Angus, who therefore was illegitimate: failing whom, it was to return to the Crown. As an Angus succeeded, it is probable that his lawful issue had previously failed.\* This, however, actually happened about the middle of the 16th century, upon the death of John the then representative, as is proved by the actual return of the estate to the Crown, evidently in terms of

\* In a Precept under the Privy Seal in favour of Colin Earl of Argyle, dated 8th March 1516, it is intimated, that part of the very lands that had been granted to Angus Reochson in 1498, then belonged to "*Angus MacAngus Rewing.*" Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 5. f. 102.

the Charter.\* Again it is pretended, that an *imaginary* Allan, the supposed father of Roderick of Mudwort, had an Allan, a supposed son, to whom he generously gave the lauds of Knoirdort, which he never possessed; and who, it seems, *procreated real* Ranaldsons: But this is all mere assertion, and has not the slightest legal evidence to support it. There was, indeed, a family, the "Slioch Allan," who, during the embarrassments of the Family of Glengarry in the 16th cen-

\* The Royal Charter of 1498 disposes to Angus Reochson, *fauling whose lanful heirs of the body, and his son Angus, they were to return to the Crown; Hutchinson's property* consisting of the lands of Galmastel in Isle of Egg, Gundling, Neynaidleau, Sandabeg, Knockeltuck, Claytail, Ballemeanoch in Egg, part of Arrissaig, Brownarty, and Moror (this is quite a different Moror from what the Family of Glengarry held.) That those lands actually reverted to the Crown, is proved by a Royal Charter dated 24th July 1610, to Donald MacAllan vic Eane of Illentyrne (Casteltirrim) the Dispositive and Tenendas clause of which are in these terms; "Igitur pro bono fideli et gratuito servitio per dictum Donaldum MacAllan vic Eane de Casteltirrim, &c. dedimus concedimus, &c. prenominato Donaldo" (the lands of Moydart,) &c. also *part of Arrisaik Galmistane, Sandi, Groullin*, third part of the lands of *Cleatil*, half of *Knoktalteach*, half of *Ballemeanich, Moror, &c. Quequidem tote et integre terre, &c. ad nos tanquam pars nostrarum proprietarum terrarum pertinent.* &c. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 46. No. 138. And upon the 18th September 1627, John, the son of the above Donald of Casteltirrim, is served heir to his Father in most of them. Original, Registers of Chancery.

tury, about the time when part of their estates was appriized by the Camerons, seized upon Knoirdort; but they were afterwards dispossessed of it by the former, the true proprietors, who also succeeded in redeeming it from the adjudgers. It cannot but be amusing to find the Casteltirrim thus attempting to prove exclusively, by the *supposed* designations of imaginary *younger* branches, the existence *in them* of a patronymic like Ranaldson, which in every other family is invariably borne by the elder. The mode of probation may be original, but it is much doubted, whether it will be either satisfactory or convincing to the public; nay, perhaps, they may be inclined to regard it as not a little Hibernian. Nothing else has been adduced in point previous to 1610; but of that date, and in 1636, two authorities are quoted, where to be sure there is mention of "John Macronald of Moidort, Captain of Clanranald," (Casteltirrim); but such *modern* instances can themselves be of no avail, and the Champion of Casteltirrim must have been pressed very hard indeed, exclusively to betake himself to them. At any rate, we would be inclined to receive with all due caution and distrust, designations assumed by a race so notoriously usurping. It is unnecessary to add more on this head, as no stronger instances have been offered. Such then is the mighty evidence, to prove that the Family of Casteltirrim were anciently, "FROM THE TIME PATRONYMICS WERE FIRST USED," *exclusively* surnamed Ranaldson or Macranald!!

It may be here perhaps proper to add a few quotations, to shew how John MacAlestir and his immediate descendants were *really* designated.

1. ENTRY in the ACTA DOMINORUM CONCILII, where there is mention of "JOHNE MUDZOUREDACHE," CAPITANE OF YE CLANRANALD," dated 19th May, 1530.\*

2. SUMMONS of FORFEITURE in PARLIAMENT against sundry Highland Chiefs, "JOHANNE MORDORDACHE de ELLANTHORYM CAPITANEO DE CLANRANALD," being of the number, dated 26th April, 1531.†

3. CHARTER under the Great Seal, where there is allusion, "quondam Alano Makrory avo JOHANNIS MAKALESTAR DE CASTELTIRIM, dated 11th Feb, 1531.‡

4. CHARTER *under* the "GREAT SEAL, to "JOHN MACALESTER MACALLANE OF ELANTERIM, CAPTAIN OF CLANRANALD," of lands, dated 2d July, 1534.§

5. "RESPITE to JHONE MYEDWARTE MACALESTAR, CAPTANE OF CLANRANALD," dated 1547.||

6. REMISSION to the sons "JOHANNIS MOY-

\* Vol. 41, p. 79. b.

† Acts of Parliament printed by Command of His Majesty, vol. 2, p. 333.

‡ Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 24, No. 151.

§ Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 25, No. 141.

|| Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 22, f. 27, b.

DER MACALLESTER, CAPITAIN DE CLANRANALD," dated Feb. 1505.\*

7. PRECEPTUM REMISSIONIS JOHANNIS MACALESTAR *alias* MOYDORT, CAPITANEI DE CLANRANALD," for his absence from the King's Army at Fawlaymure, dated 3d March, 1564.†

8. ACT OF PARLIAMENT where is mention of "ALLANE MACKANE OF ILANDTERIM," (*John's son and heir*;) in the year 1587.‡

9. CHARTER UNDER THE GREAT SEAL, confirming certain lands to "DONALD MACALLAN VIC EANE OF CASTELTIRRIM," where he is styled grandson of JOHN MACALISTER OF CASTELTIRRIM, (the disponce in the Charter 11th Feb. 1531,) and also "DONALD MACALLANE VIC EAN OF ILLENTYRME," dated 21st July, 1610.§

This extraordinary sobriquet of "*Mudzouredache*," that is, *not proprietor*, but *any* inhabitant of Muidwort, was perpetuated in the family even after the 16th century.

10. BOND OR OBLIGATION, where there is mention of "JOHNE MACDONALD *alias* MOYDORTOCHE *sone and air to umquhile* SIR DONALD MACALLANE VIC EANE OF ILANDTYRAME KNIGHT," dated 11th Dec. 1619.||

\* Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 33, f. 45.

† Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 35, f. 10.

‡ Acts of Parliament printed by command of His Majesty, vol. 3, p. 466.

§ Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 46, No. 138.

|| Register of Bonds and Obligations, vol. 333. Register Office.

Hence, as not one valid instance has yet been shewn of the ancient use by the Allansons or Casteltirrimis of the surname of Ranaldson, and as the Family of Glengarry have been proved to have borne it nearly four centuries ago in such remarkable circumstances, when the former did not bear it—the exclusive application to them of that patronymic must now, *in hoc statu*, be legally presumed. It is, therefore, with no small degree of surprise, that we again meet with these confident, though unfounded denials, on the part of their opponent.

“What evidence has Fior Raonuillich produced that Glengarry’s ancestors ever stood on record as Ranaldsons or Macranalds? I again aver, that, from the time Glengarry’s ancestors *sprung from the parent stock* to the present moment, no one of them ever assumed the patronymic of Ranaldson or MacRanald, and I challenge Fior Raonuillich to shew that they did. On such a subject, I treat the productions of modern bards with the utmost contempt—I was told that Glengarry’s ancestors stood *upon record* as Ranaldsons, and that this record was an *authentic Register*; and I find that the averment is supported upon no other foundation than this,—That there was a Reginald of the Isles, who came off the parent stock of the Kings of the Isles, and that John, last Lord, had a son (the first born of his first marriage) named Ranald. Now, Fior Raonuillich might just as well maintain that the ancestors of Glengarry stood upon record as Angussons, or Johnsons, for there were two of that name

Lords of the Isles. The truth is, that there never was a more shallow defence of an untenable position; and whatever he may say to the contrary, the tribe of Glengarry have no more pretensions to the patronymic of Ranaldsons, than any of the Spanish Macdonnells he has been pleased to inform us of. They are *uniformly* named "*Shiol Allister na Coille,*" (of the Wood,) and I appeal to every person in the most trifling degree acquainted with the Highlands of Scotland that I am correct. The Family of Clanranald again, *from the period patronymics were first introduced,* uniformly had that of '*MacRanald,*' or '*Ranaldsons.*' *The evidences of this on record are innumerable;* nor did they drop it till the whole of the Macdonald race assumed the surname of Macdonald. The Glengarry Family, again, never attempted to assume any particular patronymic; they were contented with their Christian Names, and had no pretensions to any other."

"Having, I am confident, to every unprejudiced man, shewn, *1st,* That the Lairds of Glengarry, *from the day they sprung from the parent stock, never assumed the name of Ranaldson or MacRanald;* *2dly,* That the Clanranald Family *have uniformly, from the time patronymics were first used, BORNE THE NAME OF RANALDSONS AND MACRANALD,*" &c. &c.—"it follows, that the statements made by Fior Raonuillich are unfounded, and deserve to be treated with the same contempt with which he would fain treat mine."

“ I shall now conclude this very long Letter, by stating, that no one member of the Glengarry Family, from John Lord of the Isles, ever assumed the patronymic of *Ranaldson* or *MacRanald*; that *the Family of Clanranald uniformly had that patronymic.\**

“ I defy him (Glengarry’s defender) to prove that any *after* branch of the Family (of Glengarry subsequent to John Ranaldson in 1496) assumed the patronymic of Macranald; and I have clearly proved the Clanranald Family did, both BEFORE and AFTER the battle of Blareleine (anno 1544).—The descendants of ALLAN ALONE (*the imaginary ancestor of Casteltirrim, who is said to have lived early in the 15th century,*) were entitled to the PARTICULAR FAMILY DISTINCTION of Maeranald, or Macranald of Clanranald; *and they alone have had it !!*” †

What credit then are we to give such a writer for any one part of his statement, after he has shewn himself guilty of such egregious mistakes? Will his client at all thank him for having in this manner, if we may use the expression, burlesqued his case, and so outrageously slighted his grand principle, “ *that it is easy to aver, but that no averment ought to be made WITHOUT PROOF UNQUESTIONABLE TO SUPPORT IT?*” It will now,

\* Second Letter to Edit. of Inver. Journal by the Casteltirrim Apologist.

† Third Letter to Edit. Inv. Journ. from the Apologist of Casteltirrim.

it is believed, on all hands, be conceded, that there is no evidence either of the Casteltirrim or their supposed relatives bearing *anciently* any epithets that peculiarly marked them as representatives of Clanronald. They were all designated by their *immediate* patronymics, and not like the "Clanronald of Glengarry," "of the Isles," or "Ranaldson" after "*Ranald of the Isles*," far less recognized by Government as "CHIEF OF THE NAME AND CLAN OF MACDONALD." \* Nay, they did not even assume the surname of Macdonald until the end of the 17th century!! † In vain, then, need they appeal to modern surmise,—to idle and partial misrepresentation; or yet to the authority of *private Family MS. Histories*, upon which a weak case of pedigree is always attempted

\* It has been stated before, (p. 36.) that Æneas Lord Macdonnell had the *additional* title of Lord Arros conferred upon him in the patent 1660, and that Arros was the noted residence of the Lords of the Isles. That it continued to be so, even as late as the year 1492, is proved by a Charter under the Great Seal, dated 26th September, 1507, confirming a previous one granted "per Joannem de Ilay Dominum Insularum de data *apud Aroiss*," 6th December, 1492. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 14. No. 386.

† It has also been stated, that when the surname of Ranaldson declined, the Family of Glengarry were the first of the Clanronald to assume the more remote one of Macdonald, after Donald of the Isles, the Ancestor of Ranald of the Isles. This is strikingly illustrated by a wadset *as early* as 15th Nov. 1614, granted over the lands of Knoidort by Donald MacAngus of Glengarry, and "Alaster MACDONALD his sone and apperande aire." Original, Glengarry Charter Chest. *Vid.* App.

to be supported.\* And, at length, in spite of every contradiction, they are proved *not* to have been the heirs of the branch to which *de facto* they belonged, but only cadets.—Little therefore remains to be added for Glengarry. As to the status of his opponent, whether lawful or unlawful, that is *jus tertii* to him, and a point in which he is not interested,—well aware of his superior descent even over the Allansons. But as the Family of Glengarry have been blamed for objecting the illegitimacy of John of Casteltirrim, they owe it to themselves to say a few words more on that head, without which, in every probability, the controversy might still be renewed.

*Never, perhaps, was a tradition more general in the Highlands than that of his bastardy. It is even, at the present day, familiar to the lowest of its inhabitants.* They mention this fact, merely to exculpate themselves, and by no means to found upon it as evidence. They will now, however, advert to what is more deserving of the appellation.

In the year 1540, there passed the Privy Seal a Grant of the nonentries of part of the Allanson estate to a person designed “Farquhard Mac-Alistair MacAllan,”†—evidently the son of Alex-

No. VI. *The Family of Casteltirrim did not take this surname until the end of the 17th century.* But the arguments on the side of Glengarry are inexhaustible!

\* They can only be received as adminicles, in reference to the Family and their connections whose pedigree they detail. They are better evidence in questions affecting third parties.

† Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 14. f. 73.

ander MacAllan, portioner of Muidwort, (or Casteltirrim,) and thus a brother of John MacAlister of Casteltirrim, as indeed is admitted by the other side. As he appears not to have married, John, if lawful, would have been his next heir; but that Farquhard did not regard him as such, may be inferred from the conveyance of his estates, shortly previous to his death, to a James MacConnell of Duniveg, a stranger.\* There can be little doubt that Farquhard was his father's lawful representative, and hence a thorn on the side of the Casteltirrim; and, therefore, was very naturally massacred by his three nephews, the sons of Muidwort, for which they obtained, from Government, as ample a remission, as their father for his other atrocities.†

The frequent application of the "*Terræ filius*" epithet of "*Mudzouredache*" (i. e. of the country of Muidwort) to John, is also not a little remarkable, —so unusual from what was borne *by any lawful member* of the Ranaldsons, or Allansons; and just such a one as foundlings or unclaimed natural children receive at the present day. When, farther, we have his grandson, the *accomplished* Sir Donald, confessing to the Privy Council that he "*is*

\* Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 31. f. 147. b.

† "Preceptum Remissionis Allani Macain vic Alester Angusii Macain vic Alestir et Donaldi gorme Makain vic Alester filiorum Johannis Moyder MacAllister Capitani de Clanranald pro eorum remanentia et absentia ab exercitibus, S. D. N. Regine," &c. "*Et pro parte et arte interfectionis quondam FERQUHARDI MACALESTER in mense Februarii,*" (1564) dated at Stirling, 21st May, 1565. Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 33. f. 45.

*bot a mean Gentilman, far inferiour to the rank and qualitie of a grite Baroune,*\* our doubts as to the legitimacy of this branch are certainly rather increased. Would the heir of the Princely Ranald ever have been entrapped into an avowal so derogatory to his own rank, and the superior lineage of his Ancestors?

All scepticism, however, upon this point is fairly removed by the next authority, being an entry in the original Record of the Privy Seal, which is precisely in these words,

“PRECEPTUM **legitimationis** JOHANNIS MACALESTAR DE CASTELTIRRIM **bastardi filii naturalis** QUONDAM ALEXANDRI MACALANE DE CASTELTIRRIM IN COMMUNI FORMA ETC. APUD STRIVELING XV JANUARIi ANNO PREDICTO (1531.)

*x Solidi.*

PER SIGNETUM.”†

\* “And trew it is that the said complainer (Sir Donald) is bot a mean Gentilman, far inferiour to the rank and qualitie of a grite Baroune.” Privy Council Register, 20th Dec. 1610. Vol. for the years 1610. 1612. f. 97. Register Office.

† Reg. Sec. Sig. Lib. 9. f. 72. *Vid.* Certified Extract, Appendix, No. VII.—The date, 1531, is clearly fixed by that of the previous entries.

The docquet "*Per Signetum*," proves that the legitimation had passed the Signet, as well as the Privy Seal, and the entry on the margin that the Grantee had paid the fee of ten shillings.

As John, the "*Captain*" of Clanranald, is design- ed of "*Ellanthorym*," which is the same as "*Castel- tirrim*," upon the 26th April, 1531,\*—that is *pre- vious* to the date of the legitimation, (the year then beginning upon the 25th of March,) and as there is a Royal Charter *within a month after* the le- gitimation to "*JOHN MACALISTER OF CASTEL- TIRRIM*,"†—(this is his precise designation,) *who is legally proved to be the direct male ancestor of the modern family, who now style themselves of Clan- ranald*,‡—there cannot, independently of other ob-

\* Summons of Treason by Parliament against "*Johne Mor- dordache of Ellanthorame, Captain of Clanronald*," 26th April, 1531. ACTS OF PARLIAMENT printed by command of His Majesty, vol. II. p. 333.

† ROYAL CHARTER to "*JOHN MAKALESTIR OF CASTEL- TIRRIM*," of the *lands of Moydort*, dated 11th February, 1531. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 24, No. 151.

‡ ROYAL CHARTER, narrating *the above Charter*, 11th Feb. 1531, and stating that "*Donald MacAllane vic Eane now of Casteltirrim, Captain of Clanranald*," was "*NEPOS ET PROPIN- QUIOR HERES DICTI QUONDAM JOHANNIS MACALISTER DE CASTELTIRRIM SUI AVI*," the disponee in that deed; therefore confirming to him these *lands of Moydort*, and erecting them into the "*Tennandry of CASTELTIRRIM*," dated 21st July 1610. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 46, No. 138.

SPECIAL RETOUR, dated Sept. 1627, of "*Joannes Macdo- nald MacAllane vic Eane Capitanus de Clanranald*," as *heir male* of "*Domini Donaldi MacAllane vic Eane de Ellanterim*

vious circumstances, be a vestige of a doubt, that they are sprung from the person here legitimated, who, evidently, was no other than the latter. The fact also is as clearly ascertained by the identity of the previous generations in both cases. \*

Alexander MacAllan, John's natural father, is here very properly designed "of Casteltirrim," as it has been proved that the whole of Muidwort—necessarily including Casteltirrim—was possessed by him and his father; and, that his brother Rannald Alanson did not obtain it until after his death, in 1531. Being in a manner Laird of Muidwort, Alexander would naturally occupy that stronghold; and it was a place of too much consequence to be overlooked by his aspiring offspring, who therefore made it one of the first objects of his rapacity. It is proper to mention, that, in one or two deeds after the 16th century, the Captain of Clanranald is styled "Princeps" of Clanranald, as well as John Muidwort, by Bu-

*Capitani de Clanranald," his father, in the lands of Moydort and others, "omnibus unitis in tenandriam de CASTELTIRIM."* Original, Register of Chancery. These are admitted on all hands to be the Ancestors of the present Family who style themselves "of Clanronald."

\* The father and grandfather of the John MacAlester, Captain of Clanronald, were also an Alexander and an Alan. Thus, a Royal Charter (p. 60.) has been already quoted, where lands are granted to him under the designation of "John MacAlester MacAllane of Elanterim, Captain of Clanronald," dated 2d July, 1534.

chanan ; but this is merely a synonyme or latinization of “ Captain ;” for our most ordinary authorities, even Ainsworth, inform us, that *Princeps* denotes “ a *General*, a *Commander*, an *Encourager*, a *Promoter*, A RINGLEADER, &c. It is evident, even supposing the Allansons to have sprung from Clanronald, and to have been the elder branch of the name, yet as they have now failed, Glengarry would still be without a competitor ; and hence, on all hands, must be recognized as the undoubted Chief of Clanranald, or Macdonald.

Though the Family of Glengarry have found it incumbent upon them to make this public disclosure of the bastardy of John MacAlister of Casteltirrim, they most cordially concur in the remark of his apologist, “ That it can reflect no discredit upon any family of the present day, that their ancestor above 300 years ago was illegitimate. He might have been a great and a good man notwithstanding.” Nor will they ever withhold their just tribute of admiration to the skill and enterprize of John Muidwort, who really was an extraordinary personage,—or to the more amiable qualities that have adorned his descendants. May they long flourish, under their just and legitimate designations, as a separate Clan, with honour and reputation in those districts to whose happiness and welfare they have so long and so greatly contributed!—A topic falls next to be noticed that has indeed been irrelevantly started in this dispute,—the supposed

illegitimacy of Celestine, younger son of Alexander, and brother of John, successively Earls of Ross, of the *later* Dynasty of the Isles. Glengarry is in the male line "RANALDSON," and is only the female heir of Celestine, who, it is indisputable, was not descended from the Clanranald. He therefore ought never to have been dragged into the Ranaldian controversy. His legitimacy, which, besides, *is even expressly sworn to by the Ancestors of the Families of Slate and Casteltirrim, who now challenge it!!*\*—had certainly nothing in common with that question. In fact, it seems only to have been fastened upon, in order to perplex the case, and conceal from keener inspection the weaker side of the argument. As to the wanton attacks upon the fame and honour of Margaret of the Isles, no apology can be made for them. They, surely, had just as little connection with the point at issue, and the Family of Glengarry are indeed at a loss to discover, why, and for what end, they were urged. But farther, they have to say as to this imputation, since it actually has been hazarded,—*that it is both FALSE and CALUMNIOUS.* It is expressly proved by the Retours in 1584, and 1629, that *the Margaret of the Isles, their Progenitrix, the wife of Alexander Ranaldson of Glengarry, was the grand daughter—and not the daughter of Celestine of the Isles, consequently could not be the defamed Margaret, who on all hands is admitted to be his*

\* *Vid.* p. 10.

*daughter*.\* However guilty the aunt may have been, the niece, it is contended, was entirely blameless and correct. Such a solitary instance of frailty, supposing the first Margaret to have been actually culpable, can reflect little discredit, in the dark ages, upon any family, when female collaterals could so seldom exhibit an exact pattern of unimpeachable morality. The Family of Glengarry are not descended from the suspected Margaret, whose errors might have been suffered to slumber in the grave, where she herself has so long reposed. This other attempt, therefore, to detract from the respectability of the Family of Glengarry, has also recoiled upon their opponent.

As a specimen of the style and nature of the attacks to which they have been exposed in the course

\* It is admitted on the other side, that the suspected Margaret, who had certain doubtful *liaisons* with a Highland Chief that called for the interposition of the Crown, was *sister* to Alexander of the Isles of Lochalsh, the son and heir of Celestine, and the *daughter* of the latter. All this is perfectly true and correct. But that the *other* Margaret, wife of Alexander of Glengarry, was his *grand daughter*, and the *niece* of the former, and hence a different person, is proved, first, by the Retour in 1584, (*Vid.* p. 9.) where Donald MacAngus of Glengarry is served heir in special to her as his *grandmother*; and, next, by the later Retour in 1629, (*Vid.* p. 10.) where he is again, directly, through her, served heir to the above Celestine, there expressly found to be his “*great, great, grandfather.*” There must, then, have been a *link* in the lincal descent *between* her and Celestine, obviously occasioned by the intervention of her real father, Alexander of the Isles of Lochalsh.

of this controversy, the very words of this most irrelevant charge are inserted below in the note.\*

From all that is stated, it is now perfectly clear that Glengarry is *the true* Ranaldson, being the only one who can legally instruct a right to that

\* "I (says the Casteltirrim Apologist) shall refer to the Privy Seal Record, where, on the 8th September 1507, there will be found a Letter to the Earl of Huntly, stating that the King had given to Margaret of the Isles of Lochguelch, Knight, certain lands during pleasure,—that Margaret had applyit and subjectit her persone, lands, and gudes, quhether in lauchful marriage or otherwise, we know not, to Donald MacArle Mac-Lauchlane Dowe. Now, the designation of Margaret in this deed points her out, beyond a doubt, to be Celestine's daughter, and sister of Alexander, designed of Lochalsh."—After quoting other deeds to the same effect, he adds,

"On perusing the above documents, it must strike every person, 1st, that Margaret, *the sister of Alexander*, was not married in September 1507, but rather seems to have lived in open adultery, so glaring as to call the particular attention of the Crown; and that this Margaret was afterwards Glengarry's wife, cannot be doubted, when her designation is attended to, which is, "Sister of Alexander of the Isles of Lochguelch," &c.—"His (Fior Raonuillich's) boasted and undoubted evidence of Glengarry's noble descent, turns out to be nothing more than this, that Alister MacEane MacAlister was married to a woman, whose character was so bad that the King deprived her of some lands he had given her for her support." Third Letter from Apol. of Casteltirrim to Edit. of Inver. Journal.

Again, "That Alister MacEane MacAlister (of Glengarry) was, at the time of his marriage with Margaret, a man of no consideration in the country, and, in fact, of no character, must be apparent from the very circumstances of his marriage. What must have been the feelings of a high-minded Clan, such as the

epithet ; and hence is Chief of the Clanronald, and necessarily of the Macdonalds. *In this status also, it must have been observed, that his male predecessor was solemnly recognized by THE HIGHEST AUTHORITIES OF THE KINGDOM in the year 1672,\*—since which period there has been no LATER recognition of it in any other family.* While, on the other hand, his opponent, more especially from his illegitimacy, can have no vestige of pretension to such a character.

He, therefore, for himself and his Family, takes this opportunity PUBLICLY *of asserting his right to the designation “ OF CLANRANALD,”* which was first unwarrantably *assumed* by that of his opponent in the course of last century.† Theirs,

Maedonalds, to have seen even a relative of their Chief marrying a woman who had lived for a period of time in open adultery, and so glaringly so, that even the King was compelled to deprive her of some lands, notwithstanding her rank ? And how can we suppose that the *Chief* of a family would have married such a woman ?” *Clandestine Letter, in behalf of the Family of Casteltirrim, addressed to the Editor of the Inverness Journal, but not ventured to be inserted there, which has been noticed at the commencement of the statement.*

\* *Vid.* p. 37.

† About the beginning of the 18th century, they were not designed of Clanronald. Thus, there is a Charter under the Great Seal, dated 9th January, 1674, to Donald Maedonald “ *de Moydort,*” of the lands and tenantry of *Casteltirrim*. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 64. No. 196. Previous to that, among the Commissioners of Supply for the county of Inverness in the years 1667 and 1668, we meet simply with the “ *Lairds of*

previous to that period, being only “ of Casteltirrim,” “ Muidwort,” or “ *Captain*” of Clanranald. Were it a title taken from land, he is

MOYDORT.” Acts of Parliament, Glendoick’s Edition, vol. 2. In the Cess Books of the County for the year 1691, they are repeatedly mentioned only as “ *Captains* of Clanronald.” In the Lion Registers, about the year 1700, there are matriculated the arms of “ Donald Macdonald *of Moydort, Captain* of Clanronald.” This is his exclusive designation; and *without* supporters. In the surveys of the forfeited estates by the Commissioners of Government in 1718, we meet with those of “ Ronald Macdonald late *of Moydort,*” with no other addition. And in Nisbet’s Heraldry, a book published in 1722, the family are still only designed “ *of Moydort, Captains* of Clanronald.” They, however, certainly assumed the title “ *of Clanranald,*” *without that of Captain,* at least in the year 1767; as appears from the following attestation of Alexander Macdonell, writer at Inverness, and the authorities that he there mentions.

“ I Alexander MacDonell, writer in Inverness, hereby certify, That I have searched the Records of the Freeholders of the County of Inverness for the year seventeen hundred and sixty-seven, and until this date (1819): That at the Michaelmas Meeting, which held on the sixth day of October seventeen hundred and sixty-seven, there were present, Norman MacLeod of MacLeod; Alexander Chisholm of Comar; Alexander MacLeod of Ulinish; Hugh Fraser of Dumballoeh; Arthur Robertson of Inchis; Charles Fraser, writer in Edinburgh; William Chisholm, surgeon in Inverness; James Fraser younger of Girtuleg: That at this Meeting there was a claim given in, in the name of Ranald MacDonal, designed of Clanranald, eldest son of Ranald MacDenald of *Benbicula*, in the title deeds mentioned in the said claim, which was then rejected by the above Court of Freeholders: That at the Michaelmas head Court, which held upon the sixth day of October seventeen hundred and eighty-nine, there were present

very ready to admit that the case might be far otherwise; but as it is a mere personal distinction properly inherent in the blood—being, in truth, just the same as “Ranaldson,” or of that ilk, in the Lowlands—it can never be lost by disuse, or regarded as controllable by the ordinary laws of prescription;—it is in fact just like the championship of England, which can belong to no other but to him who is the champion. This desig-

the following persons: Arthur Robertson of Inchis; Doctor William Chisholm of Buntart; Alexander Bailie of Dochfour, Esquire; Simon Fraser of Farralin, Advocate; The Honourable Archibald Fraser of Lovat; Æneas MacIntosh, Esquire of MacIntosh; Alexander Chisholm, Esquire of Chisholm; Mr James MacPharson of Ardersier: That at this Meeting a claim for the enrolment, and in the name of John MacDonald, Esquire of Clanranald, as apparent heir of the now deceased Ranald MacDonald, late of Clanronald, his father, was given in, and received by the Freeholders above referred to: That at the Michaelmas Court, which was held on the third day of October eighteen hundred and nine, there were present, Arthur Robertson, Esquire of Inchis; The Honourable Colonel Archibald Fraser of Lovat; Æneas MacIntosh of MacIntosh; Colonel Alexander MacDonell of Glengarry; Simon Fraser, Esquire of Farralin. There was a claim given in and received in the name of Ranald George MacDonald of Clanranald, Esquire. I further certify, That the lands on which these different claims were founded were, *inter alia*, the lands of the BARONY OF CASTELTIRRM. And I further certify, That, except as above, none of the Family of Muidart stood upon the roll of Freeholders of the County of Inverness within the above period. Given under my hand the sixth day of May, eighteen hundred and nineteen years.

ALEX. MACDONELL.”

nation, he conceives, is still open to be reclaimed by the true heir; and accordingly he does assert his right to it, and solemnly protests against its assumption by his opponent.

Upon another subject, he regrets he must be compelled to make some remarks, as he conceives he has indeed reason to complain.

Before the year 1810, the arms of his opponent were matriculated in the Registers of the Lion Court, simply as those of the Family "of Moydart," and "*Captain* of Clanronald," (a title he might also claim, but of which he is little solicitous,)\* and WITHOUT SUPPORTERS.

He has discovered, however, that there has been a *new* matriculation of that date, where his opponent is expressly designed "CHIEF OF CLAN-RANALD." And not only that, *but his own identical supporters have been conceded to him, with a difference so very immaterial as hardly to be discernible!*† On a subsequent occasion, when he claimed the arms of Ross at the same Court, a regular intimation was kindly sent by the Lyon Depute to Lord Macdonald of Slate, who, although neither the heir female or representative of the an-

\* The title of Captain, besides, is not necessarily hereditary; it is more of an *elective* nature.

† The Supporters of the Family of Glengarry are two Bears in their natural colour, transfixt with one dart. These were granted by a special Diploma of the late Lyon Depute, dated 9th Aug. 1810, to the heir of Casteltirrim, under the pretended difference of one *other* dart.

cient Earls of Ross, thought proper then to oppose him. But upon this, *that courtesy was altogether withheld*, although the rights of his Family were evidently challenged and disputed. He should have been quite ignorant of the occurrence even at the present moment, had it not been for an accidental discovery. He therefore feels compelled to protest also against this aggression. But he intends to follow it up more effectually in another quarter.\*

He also protests against the assumption by his opponent of the component parts of the arms of Macdonald, without some appropriate brisure.

It now only remains to apologize to the Public for so tedious and tiresome a detail, which could only have been called forth by others, in effect much more so, upon the other side, and which added to their extreme tædium the more remarkable blemishes that were noticed in the outset.

Their patience, however, is not likely again to be exercised upon such a subject—to most people so every way uninteresting; for as the question of the legitimacy of John MacAlister is now clearly at an end, and the rights of the Family of Glengarry legally instructed, there will be no occasion to rip up a controversy, maintained upon one side with such virulence and obstinacy, but certainly without the

\* By a later matriculation in 1813, the Family of Casteltirrim are declared to be the lineal representatives of Ranald of the Isles, and also of Somerled Thane of Argyle and King of the Isles!!

slightest vestige of foundation. Nor unless some material and unexpected evidence transpire, or it be necessary to correct some important error, will the Family of Glengarry deign to notice any reply that may be attempted to the present Vindication. They are well aware of the public insignificance of the subject that has been discussed, and of the novel mode of the proceeding ; but, under the circumstances of the case, *how else could they have conducted themselves?* And they hope this will plead as an apology for their intrusion at the bar of the Public.

Agreeably to their uniform system of open and fair dealing, every information as to any authority or fact that may have been noticed in the above statement, will be always obtained by an application at their agent in Edinburgh.

They have now to bid adieu to the respectable Family of Casteltirrim, whom they shall leave at full liberty to settle "*their pretensions*" with the Family of Slate, "without the intervention of Fior Raonuillich,"\* who certainly could never have had an intention of being so very hard-hearted or unpolite, as to disturb the harmony of such an amicable adjustment, as this doubtless must now be.

\* "I feel satisfied that the families of Slate and Clanranald (Casteltirrim,) can settle their pretensions without the interference of Fior Raonuillich."

Second Letter from the Casteltirrim Apologist to the Editor of the Inverness Journal.

*OPINION OF COUNSEL in Answer to the four Queries stated in the subjoined Case for COLONEL MACDONELL of Glengarry, involving the material Points of discussion in the Ranaldian Controversy.*

*CASE for Colonel MACDONELL of Glengarry.*

THERE is herewith submitted to Messrs Jardine and Riddell, a Vindication or Statement of the male descent of the Family of Glengarry, from the early part of the 15th century, down to the present time; together with that of the Family of Macdonald of Casteltirrim, or Moydart, who have of late years assumed the designation of Clanronald.

Messrs Jardine and Riddell will be pleased to answer the following questions in reference to that Statement.

1st, From the evidence there detailed, Are you of opinion that it is proved that Glengarry is the lawful heir male of his alleged ancestor Alexander, who lived early in the 15th century?

2dly, Is it proved that that Alexander, and the Family of Moror, Knoidart, or Glengarry, as they have alternately been styled, were anciently surnamed "Ranaldson" and "Macranald"?

3dly, Is it proved that Glengarry is the male descendant of "Ranald of the Isles," undoubted proprietor of Moror and Knoidart, the well known founder of the Clanranald, who lived about the beginning of the 15th century?

The evidence conceived to be in support of the affirmative of these Queries, is stated in the Vindication, from page 6, down to page 38, inclusive.

4thly and lastly, Is it proved that "*John MacAlister of Casteltirrim*," legitimated as a bastard upon the 15th January 1531, (*vid.* Vindication, p. 68.) is the same person with "*John MacAlister of Casteltirrim*," who obtained a grant of the lands of Moydart from the Crown upon *the 11th of February in the same year*, (*vid.* Vindication, p. 44) and John Mudzauredache, Captain of Clanranald, who was the undoubted grandfather of Sir Donald MacAllane vic Eane of Illentyrim or Casteltirrim, Captain of Clanronald, the direct ancestors of the present Family who style themselves of Clanranald?

The evidence conceived in the affirmative is stated from the third head, noticed at page 43, down to page 46, inclusive, and at pages 68, 69, and 70, of the Vindication.

Referred to in our opinion of this date.

J. J.

J. R.

Edinburgh, 4th April, 1821.

OPINION *for Colonel* ALEXANDER MAC-  
DONELL *of Glengarry.*

WE have carefully considered the case for Colonel Alexander Macdonell of Glengarry, together with a pamphlet entitled, “Vindication of the Clanronald of Glengarry,” and are of opinion, in regard to

*Query 1st,* That Glengarry has established the fact that he is the lawful heir male of his alleged Ancestor, who lived early in the fifteenth century. In the first place, from what is stated in the Vindication, the lawful male propinquity of Glengarry up to his grand uncle Alexander of Glengarry, who was alive in 1758, is established by strong presumptive evidence; and there seems, indeed, no reason for entertaining any doubt upon this point. Then again, the propinquity of the latter being proved by Retours up to his female ancestor Margaret of the Isles, and necessarily to her husband Alexander of Glengarry, dispoonees in the Royal Charter in 1538, is even more firmly corroborated. The previous generations, viz. of John and Alexander, are also instructed by what have always been deemed legal documents, the effect of which could only be taken off by some strong authorities of a contrary tendency, which there seems no reason to imagine are any where to be found.

*In hoc statu*, therefore, the whole male ancestry, and their legitimacy from the first Alexander, who, from circumstances, evidently must have lived early in the fifteenth century, down to the present Glengarry, appears, in our humble opinion, to be instructed in as satisfactory a manner as can reasonably be expected, with regard to any fact of the kind.

In regard to *Query 2d*, Whether “the Family of Moror, Knoidart, or Glengarry, as they have alternately been styled, were anciently surnamed Ranaldson and Macranald,” it appears to us that Alister Mackane MacAlister of the “other Moror,” mentioned in a Commission of Lieutenancy in favour of the Earl of Argyle in 1516,\* could be no other than “Alexander John Alexander *Ranaldson*, also of the other Moror,” who is mentioned in the litigation which occurred in 1501.† —This inference, as well as the fact, that he was the male ancestor of Glengarry, is confirmed by the Royal Charter in 1538, ‡ comprehending Moror and Glengarry, to a dispoonce there in like manner designed Alexander the son of John the son of Alexander, who is on all hands allowed to be Glengarry’s progenitor, and likewise by other authorities stated in the Vindication. || The striking fact also, that none of the Family of Glengarry, at least previous to the middle of the seventeenth cen-

\* Vind. p. 21.

‡ Ibid. p. 8.

† Ibid. p. 20.

|| Ibid. p. 22, 23.

ture, bore the Christian name of Ranald, and the certain application to them of Ranaldson or Macranald during that period,\* which we think is sufficiently made out, also shews that “*Ranaldson*” was their ancient and appropriate surname; so that, upon the whole, we think that this query may safely be answered in the affirmative.

In answer to *Query third*, we are of opinion, that Glengarry is the present male descendant of Ranald of the Isles, who was proprietor in 1372, of the lands of Moror and Knoidart. The royal entail of these lands to Ranald of the Isles and the heirs male *to be procreated* of his body in 1372,†—the proof which there is of the existence of Alexander, the male ancestor of the Glengarry Family, early in the fifteenth century,—his patronymic *Ranaldson*, with its application to his son John and his descendants, together with the possession by them of these same lands of Moror and Knoidart, either of which in this view would suffice, appear, in our opinion, to afford sufficient legal evidence that they were the male descendants of the Ranald of the Isles, mentioned in this query. This conclusion is farther strengthened by the designation “*of the Isles*,” borne by Alexander of Glengarry in 1524 and 1541,‡—the early assumption by his descendant Alexander younger of Glengarry, of the surname of Macdonald, in 1614, after Donald

\* Vind. pp. 23—29.

† Ibid. p. 33.

‡ Ibid. p. 34.

of the Isles, male ancestor of Ranald,\* and by the solemn and formal recognition of the King's Commissioner and Privy Council of Scotland in 1672, of his son Æneas Lord Macdonell, "as Chief of the Name and Clan of Macdonald."†

In regard to *Query fourth*, as to the evidence of the illegitimacy of John MacAlister of Casteltirrim, it appears to us to be proved by the Royal Charters in 1531 and 1627, referred to in the *Vindication*,‡ that this person must have been the man who was legitimated upon the 15th of January, 1531. The only way of avoiding this conclusion is by supposing that there were two persons of the name of John MacAlister of Casteltirrim, the one a bastard and the other not, both proprietors of this place, living at the same time and using the same designation,—a fact which is so exceedingly improbable, that it cannot be taken for granted. And there appears to us to be no evidence, that in the smallest degree countenances such a supposition.

From the authorities too stated in the *Vindication*,|| we are of opinion that this John MacAlister of Casteltirrim was the same person who is mentioned by the name of John Mudzouredache in the *Acta Dominorum Concilii*, 19th May 1530, and the identity of John the bastard we observe is farther corroborated by the Christian names of the

\* Page 65.

† Page 37.

‡ Page 69.

|| Page 60.

immediate generations of both being the same ; a circumstance which, though of not much importance by itself, corroborates to a certain degree the opinion which we have formed in regard to this query.

The opinion of,

JOHN JARDINE,  
JOHN RIDDELL.

*Edinburgh, 4th April, 1821.*

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IN duty to themselves, the Family of Glengarry have thought it proper to subjoin the following correspondence and remarks.

“ TO A. MACDONELL, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

*Dunbar, June 5th, 1816.*

MY DEAR SIR,

I have made so rapid a journey from Arasaig, and passed so quickly through Perth, that I regret I could not have the honour of calling at Garry Cottage, and I am thus obliged to write on a subject on which I had proposed to have a personal communication with you. I was a good deal surprised to see, in the Inverness Paper of the 24th ult. that my name had been enrolled in the list of the Society of True Highlanders, without the proper mark of distinction, namely, “ Captain and Chief of Clanranald,” annexed to it. I beg of you, as President of the Society, to give instructions to have this

mistake rectified, as I cannot acquiesce in my name appearing on the roll without its proper and usual designation. I hope you will pardon the trouble I thus give you, and, with compliments to Mrs Macdonell, believe me, my dear Sir, very truly your's,

R. G. MACDONALD."

The Champion of the Casteltirrimis has talked much of the feelings of Highland Chieftains;\* what then must not have been those of the Representative of Glengarry in receiving such a commission from one who, however respectable, had certainly no right to the status he claimed? No wonder that he was induced to reply in the following manner!

To R. G. MACDONALD, Esq. M. P. &c. &c.

*Garry Cottage, 21st June, 1816.*

DEAR SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 5th, which I opened here yesterday on my return from the Highlands, and to thank you for at length opening on a subject I had long since challenged your pretensions to; though my letter, while you were at Appin House, still remains unanswered; and though you *since then* matriculated in the Lyon Office, without my knowledge, for supporters *de novo*, previously challenged by me, under the strange "mark of distinction" you now set forth. I grieve to see you so ignorant of the history of the Clan, and still more so of the branch to which you

\* *Vid.* p. 74.

owe your origin, sprung from "Iain Muidartach." I shall feel pleasure in giving you whatever place you can establish as your *birth-right* by the usual mode, which is, legal documents, such as ancient charters, services, retours, and the like : I expect a similar courtesy on your part towards myself, which I doubt not will be cheerfully acquiesced in. Till those proofs are exhibited, I must be pardoned for styling you according to the tradition of the country. I do not object to your being Captain of the district of Muidart, or Captain of the tribe of Macranald, originating from John Muidart; but first shew the legitimacy of his blood by proving his father's marriage, before you proceed further. If that could be done, why was the battle of Blaireleine fought, and the ancient Allansons, the original Lairds of Muidart, put down by the sword, "Dhaindheoin co theiradh e," in his usurpation of their estates, when Ranald Gauld, the legitimate heir of Ellan Tirrim, and its castle, was slain at the head of Lochlochy, notwithstanding the best efforts of his mother's kin, the Frasers? I hold myself to be, and my ancestors individually to have been, the Chief of the ancient Macranalds; I do not therefore understand upon what principle you use "Clanranald" as your occasional signature; you have no lands so designed, and you can have no rights beyond the birth-right of "Iain Muidartach," the primogenitor of your race. I could add more, but I think it unnecessary; and I recommend to you to consult authority and authentic documents, rather than allow yourself to be carried off by those who are themselves ignorant; for I trust they would not willingly mislead the source from which they emanate, however flattering to their false hopes. Had I the honour of being known to Lady Caroline, I would offer, through

you, my best respects to her Ladyship; as it is, I can only assure you that, on *all other subjects*, I remain, my dear Sir, your's very truly,

A. MACDONELL.

To another communication from Glengarry, in which he reasserted his right to the Chieftainship of Clanranald, and correctly addressed his opponent by his Gaelic patronymics only up to John Muirdward the bastard, this answer was returned by the latter under the undue subscription of "CLANKANALD."

*“ Arrisaig House, Feb. 17. (1818.)*

“ It is indeed time that I should express the surprise which my own recent discovery of the signification of the Gaelic address with which it (the communication from Glengarry) concludes, very naturally occasioned. From a most imperfect knowledge of the language, I had formed a most erroneous notion of its meaning, and learnt it correctly by accidental reference to a friend. The conciliatory tenor of the main communications justify the astonishment I felt on being apprized of the extraordinary conclusion, and entirely precluded my entertaining any suspicion which could have induced me to seek a more early interpretation.

“ I cannot imagine on what grounds such an assumption is warranted, or how it is possible to expect that I should, in tacit submission, allow an unalienable right of inheritance to be wrested from my indisputably just possession. I must regret that my protest at this unexpected aggression should thus have been delayed, and, although

I must decline any farther controversy, I have now merely to avow my determination to maintain the unalterable claim of my birth-right.

(Signed)

CLANRANALD."

*Subsequent* to this date, and sometime during the course of the year 1819, there was printed at Edinburgh, *though not published*, the Historical Account of the descent of the Family of Casteltirrim, under the false designation of "the *senior* branch of the Clanronalds," &c. &c.—a work, as has been observed, filling *between two and three hundred pages*; and much about the same period there was also *privately* circulated the still more blameable performance, professing to be addressed to the Editor of the Inverness Journal, but which never was inserted in that paper. Both of them were highly derogatory to the rights and descent of the Family of Glengarry, more especially the latter, wherein they were subjected to the grossest invective and abuse. And the whole of the proceeding seemed evidently intended to snatch at an unfair advantage, in a way extremely reprehensible and improper. So secretly were these attacks managed, that they were only discovered by Glengarry in the course of last winter. In this dilemma, it was a matter of some difficulty to conceive, by whom, and under whose authority, these clandestine blows were dealt. They could not have been countenanced in any degree by his

respectable opponent, because although he had always maintained, in the strongest terms, his right to his assumed status, he had as firmly declined all controversy upon the point. At the same time, it seemed unaccountable that any set of individuals—unconnected with his family—should, for their own private amusement, gratuitously have thrown away their money and their time upon such elaborate and bulky lucubrations. In addition to this consideration, strange rumours were afloat; and, as a means to prevent for the future all such extraordinary attacks, and to give his adversary an opportunity of disavowing them, Glengarry was induced to address to him the following letter.

*Edinburgh, 70, George Street, 29th Jan. 1821.*

DEAR SIR,—The Raonuillich controversy appears to have ceased in the Inverness Journal of August 1818. Thereafter a short correspondence opened between us, which (if not objected to by you) I shall give to the public. You are aware that *previous* to the four journals, (which contained almost all the *third and last, or finishing* pamphlet), I had endeavoured to wind up this anonymous controversy, by putting it into a tangible shape. And as we are *individually* homologated to a certain extent, by our subsequent correspondence, I take this manner of *openly* declaring, that I shall hold myself responsible to you for the future silence of Fior Raonuillich; and, *in like manner*, I hope you will not refuse to *answer for the silence* of “Also a Fior Raonuillich,” as blackguardism, without substance or restraint, is the natural result of anonymous controversy; and that

is so evident in "Also a F. R.'s" last paper, that I wish to have a *somebody* to look to for the future. But while I throw up the *shield of a gentleman* in this manner, in consequence of the scurrility that has passed, to (what I conceive to be) an unwarrantable extent, I am *ready and prepared to meet you*, or any agent of respectability in Edinburgh, upon the *real merits* of our individual cases *now at issue*, and too far advanced to be fallen from. I do not, however, wish to combat a *shadow* or person who has no *real* existence, nor a suitable responsibility. I have the honour to remain, dear Sir, very truly yours,

(Signed) A. MACDONELL.

R. G. Macdonald, Esq. of  
Muidart, M. P. &c.

He had flattered himself that a fair discussion, by accredited agents, either publicly or privately, would have been a better means of settling their pretensions;—would have barred for the future all disagreeable altercation; and might at length have been highly acceptable even to his opponent. But, to his surprise, he was honoured in reply with this answer.

“ London, February 14, 1821.

“ DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo: it reached me on the 12th instant, and bears the Edinburgh post mark of the 9th.

I was entirely unprepared for any renewed proposition on the subject at issue between us, as I had previously stated my resolution to avoid any personal con-

troversy, and nothing has occurred to induce any change whatever in that respect.

I have no professional person employed in this way, nor do I entertain any intention of the kind.

As to the publication of private letters, I look upon it as entirely at variance with the ordinary rules of correspondence, and utterly inconsistent with all friendly intercourse. I have the honour to be, dear Sir, truly yours,

(Signed) R. G. MACDONALD."

*Colonel Macdonell of Glengarry,  
70. George Street, Edinburgh.*

In the above view, Glengarry also addressed to him one other letter, which, with the accompanying answer, is here subjoined.

*Edinburgh, February 23, 1821.*

DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 14th instant, under a cover of the 15th, arrived here in due course; and as you say, that “nothing has occurred to induce any change,” while *you evade compliance* with the fair tender I made you, *to avoid anonymous correspondence*, it behoves me, under appearances so contradictory, to call upon you to acknowledge or deny *having given* your sanction to, or having had cognizance of *a paper printed clandestinely*, and privately circulated, from the office of Duncan Stevenson and Company, Parliament Stairs, Edinburgh, which I discovered (by mere accident) in the end of January last, 1821. It bears date, 1st October, 1819, and *is addressed* to the Editor of the Inverness Journal; but it never passed through that paper, otherwise it could not have escaped my notice.

I am far from having a desire, unnecessarily, to seek

for personalities with you, and I therefore proposed *to discuss the merits of our individual interests* now at issue, in a gentleman-like manner, either as principals, or by accredited agents. But, as you decline those proposals made by me in my letter of the 29th ultimo, I must freely observe, that unless you feel at liberty to *refuse all connection with* the vile and slanderous piece, *attached*, in that underhand manner, *to what had circulated through the Inverness Journal in 1818*, under a similar signature, I shall have *no hesitation* in considering your conduct unhandsome, and, let me add with regret, *very different from what I should have expected* from a gentleman in your sphere of life.

I shall wait with some anxiety for your reply; and I remain till then, in haste, yours, &c. &c.

(Signed) A. MACDONELL.

*Sheffield Hall, February 28, 1821.*

SIR,—Your letter of the 23d instant reached me here this day. It is of little import that I should make any remark upon the determined perseverance with which you have involved me in personal controversy, in spite of my frequent efforts to avoid it, and which, I must add, have been prompted as well by my consciousness of having comparatively little studied the subject at issue; as by the anomalous and most unusual style of nearly all the communications I have received from you with reference to it.

I allude to these last directly, for it is solely a reconsideration of their peculiar nature, where terms of aggression, almost bordering on insult, are linked with professions of friendship and regard, however irreconcilable,

that leaves any doubt on my mind as to the true object of your letter of the 23d instant.

I do not conceive that I can fairly be called upon either to avow or disclaim any anonymous publication ; and I am still of opinion, that it is *unquestionably* a matter of option to accept or decline your proposal for discussing the merits of our respective genealogical interests ; and I am confident that I shall be borne out in that opinion.

It is, however, necessary that a termination should be put to this fruitless disputation. I have evaded your aggressions as much as lay in my power ; they do not in any degree affect the merits of the question ; and, consistently with my already often-declared resolution to avoid personal controversy, I have entrusted the delivery of this letter to my friend Mr Macdonald of Borrodale, whom I have charged to discover, at the same time, the undisguised motives which I am to consider as actuating your conduct towards me. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) R. G. MACDONALD.

*A. Macdonell, Esq. of Glengarry.*

No alternative being now left, the Family of Glengarry, from an ordinary regard to their own interests, were compelled to have recourse to the step which they have since adopted ; and which they thus announced to their opponent in this closing epistle.

*Edinburgh, March 8, 1821.*

SIR,—In consequence of a note *yesterday* from Mr Macdonald, your *factor and tenant in Borrodale*, I had

a conversation with him this morning. *I in that manner* received your's of the 28th February, and must *again* express my *regret* that you are not at liberty to disavow your knowledge of the *last article* attached to your pamphlet.

In these circumstances, I have only now to intimate, that I shall immediately publish a legal statement of the evidence in support of my alleged descent; and shall leave the world to determine which of us two *has the best claim* to be considered the *true Ronaldson*; and whether *in fact* your legitimacy is as pure and immaculate as you have invariably represented it to be.

In conclusion, I have no hesitation in publishing our recent correspondence, from the peculiarity of its nature: and, as I shall avoid scurrility in what I adduce, I shall look for a similar courtesy from you, and shall *insist* upon an end being put to all *underhand* interference (*or controversy*) for the future. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

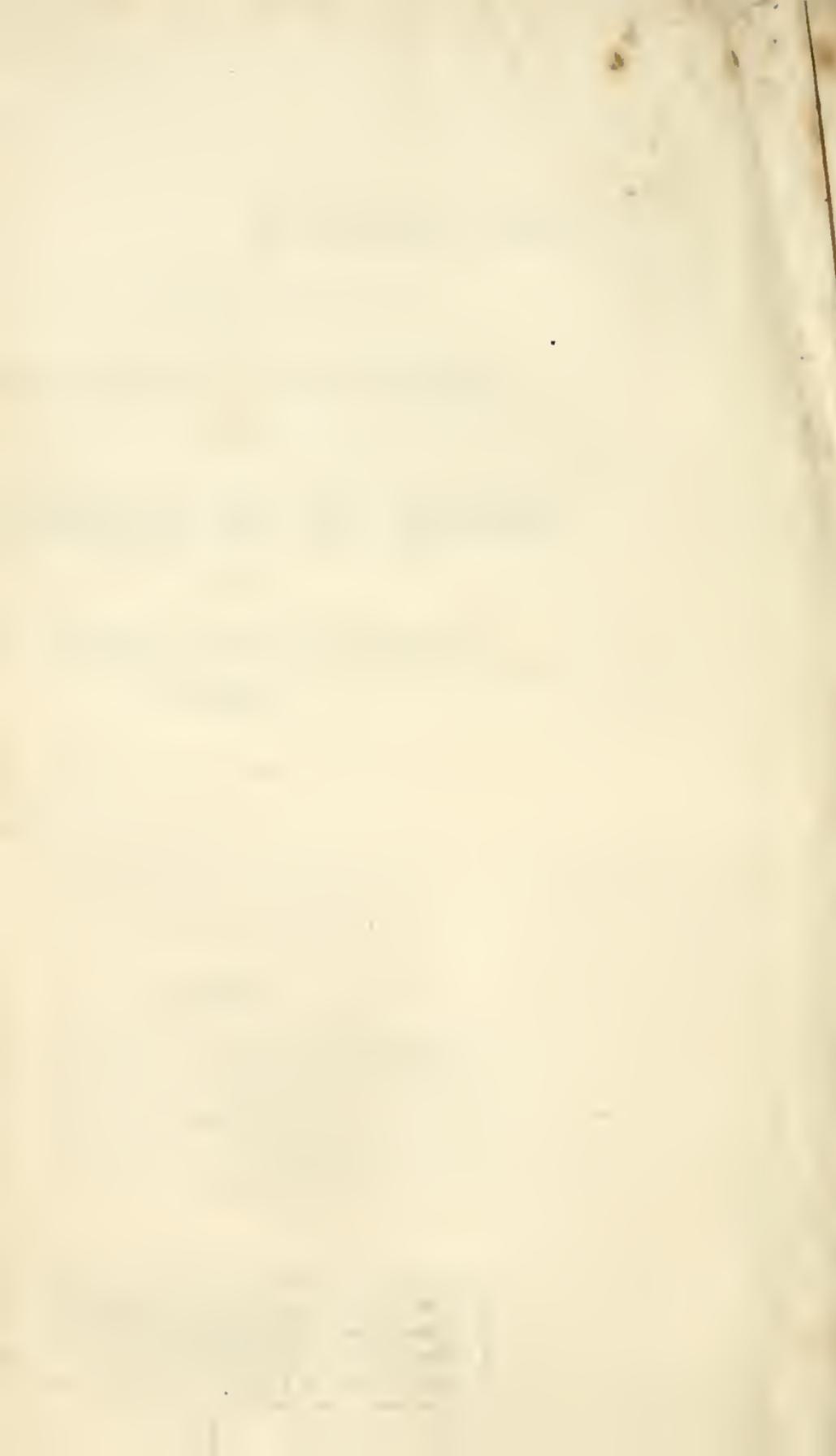
A. MACDONELL.

*For R. G. Macdonald, Esq. of Muidart,  
M. P. &c. &c. Suffield Hall, S. B.*

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**APPENDIX.**

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## APPENDIX.



No. I.

(Page 2.)

THE RANALDIAN CONTROVERSY owes its origin to a Gaelic Advertisement that appeared in the Inverness Journal, on the 17th October 1817; which, with its Translation, is here subjoined.

“ ANN’N Lun’uin, air a chuigeadh la’ do’n mhios so, rug gu sabhailt, Ban-Tighearn’ceart onarach CAROLINE ANN MHAC-DHON uil, Bean Cheann-Feadhna’no CHEANN CHINNIDH CHLANN-RAON’UIL, nioghan laddir shlanteil.”

“ In London, on the 15th day of this month, the Right Honourable Lady CAROLINE ANNE MACDONALD, the Lady of the Captain or CHIEF of CLAN-RONALD, was safely delivered of a strong healthy daughter.”

The Family of Glengarry finding what they regarded as their exclusive Title, to be thus invaded, could do no otherwise than assert their rights; and they accordingly did so, in the following Letter, dated 31st October 1817, addressed to the same Editor.

“ MR EDITOR,

“ IN the Postscript to your paper, dated Friday, Oct. 17, which came only the other day under my eye, I read a Gaelic insertion, *in reference to which*, I beg to observe (as every Gaelic Scholar knows) that ‘ Ceann Feadhna’ and ‘ Ceann Chinnidh,’ are *far* from synonymous terms.

“ Glengarry’s Ancestors STAND UPON RECORD AS RANALDSONS, at a period when the first *Lairds of Muidart* as their proper mark of cadency, *appear* in the same authentic register, AS ALLANSONS !

“ Therefore, no descendant of ‘ Ean Muidertach’ can have a place *beyond* the birth-right of those Allansons, the genuine ‘ Mac-Mhic-Allan !’ whose Estates ‘ Ean Muidart’ *acquired only by the sword*, in the Battle of ‘ Blareline,’ fought at the head of Lochlochy, in July 1544, ‘ Raon’uill Galda,’ Lord Lovat, and the Master of Lovat, being *there slain* in supporting the just rights of ‘ Shean Tainstear Chlann-Raon’uil.—I am,

Mr Editor, &c.

FEAR-RAONUILLICH.”

This occasioned a reply from the Casteltirrim Apologist, which was followed by various articles on each side ; and hence the controversy arose.

No. II.

(Page 8.)

EXTRACT from the Parliamentary “ WARRANT for the *Bore Brieve* of Charles Marques of Seignelay,” in the year 1686.

“Margaret Macdonald (*Progenitrix to the Marquess*) was daughter to Æneas Macdonald, Baron of Glengarry, predecessor to the most loyal the late illustrious Lord Baron Macdonald, and to his spouse Margaret MacLeod, daughter (to) Roderick MacLeod, King’s Baron of the Isle of Herries.”—*Original Registers of Parliament of that date.*

No. III.  
(Page 13.)

“EPITAPH upon Colonel ANGUS MACDONELL, who was killed on the street of FALKIRK in the year 1746, (*by Robertson of Struan.*)

READER, WHILE YET SEDATE, SEEK NOT TO KNOW,  
WHAT KNOWN MUST SINK YOU IN THE DEEPEST WOE;  
HERE VALOUR, MODESTY, AND MANLY TRUTH,  
WITH ALL THE FAIR CONCOMITANTS OF YOUTH,  
WITHOUT TH’INCENTIVES OF IMPETUOUS RAGE,  
THE COMMON GUILT OF A CORRUPTED AGE,  
HERE, BY INHUMAN ARTS, ARE MADE TO SLEEP  
IN THE COLD GRAVE: WHO CAN FORBEAR TO WEEP?  
OH! HAD THIS GLORIOUS STRIPLING CHANC’D TO DIE  
BY HEAT OF DUTY IN HIS MASTER’S EYE!  
HIS HOPEFUL LIFE HAD THEN BEEN WELL BESTOW’D,  
PAYING A DEBT WHICH TO HIS PRINCE HE OW’D;  
BUT NOW THE ROYAL MOURNER BEST CAN TELL,  
HIS ILLS ABOSE WHEN THIS YOUNG HERO FELL.”

*Poems, Edinburgh Edition.*

No. IV.

(Page 50.)

APUD EDINBURGH, 3d Decembris, 1641.

SEDERUNT.

Chancellor,  
 Leven, Generall,  
 Argile,  
 Cassills,  
 Murray, &c. &c.

MACINTOSHE *contra* GLENGARRIE.

Anent the supplication presented to the Lords of Secreit Counsell by William MacIntoshe of Torcastle as maister, the relict of umquhill Lauchlane MacIntoshe and William Miller and their remanent kin and freinds, makand mention that where upon the twentie day of September last Johne Macdonald in Invergarie, Johne Macdonald his brother, Alexander Macdonald in Culeachie, also his brother, Rorie MacGillespick, Johne MacOnill vic Eane, Alexander MacGillespick, Alaster MacOnill vic Gerrie, Dougall MacConchie vic Innes, Angus MacGillichallum vic Couchie, Rorie Dow MacInnes Roy, Donald MacOnill vic Eane Vaine in Stronchroak, Johne MacOnill in Achnadorrach, Allan MacAllan vic Innes, and

MacAllan, his twa sonnes, Angus MacEane vic Innes oig in Kytirach, Johne Bayne MacInnes vic Alaster in Kilienane, John MacEwin vic Eane Ustick in Fochim, John MacInnes vic Ranald vic Allan, yair Donald Owir his brother, yair Johne MacOnill vic Eane Voir in Dam Neill, MacOnill vic Ewin

Roy in Kyllir, Donald MacOnill Duy MacEwin in Drynachan, Johne MacEwin vic Eane Duy in Laggan, Alaster Dow MacOnill vic Alaster vic Ewin, Alaster beg his brother, MacGillispic, MacConchie sone to Gillispick MacConchie officer in Aberchalder, Angus Macranald vic Allan in Ardbeg, Donald MacEane vic Ewin Duy, Donald MacInnes, vic Callan, vic Innes Voir with thair twa uncles,

Allane MacInnes Voir with others yair complices, all kinsmen, tennents and servants to the Laird of Glengarry, alsua Duncane MacMarline alias Cameron in Letterfinlay, and Johne Macrorie vic Connochie in Stro-naba, wer orderlie denounced rebels, and put to the horne, for not finding caution in the bookes of adjournal for thair appearance before the Justice upon the 16th of October last, to underly the lawes for the cruell slaughter of the saids umquhill Lauchlane MacIntoshe and William Millar committed be thame within the burgh of Inverness upon a Sabbath day in manner conteanned in the criminall letres; as the same duellie execute, indorsat and registrat beirs. At the processe qrof the saids persons most proudlie remains his Majesty's rebels; and in manifest of his Majesty's auctorie and lawes, they have disposed upon their meanes, gathered together in companies under ane head, and intends no lesse (so far as in thame lyes) then to disturbe the peace of the countrie, in a far more presumptuous and contemptible maner than they have hitherto done, without some tymous remeid be provided. And seeing the Laird of Glengarie, who is CHEEFE Maister land-lord to the saids rebels, is presentlie in town, and ought to be answirable for thame and exhibite thame to justice, *conforme to the laws of the countrie and severall*

*Acts of Parliament.* *The execution qrof aganis him will be the onelic meanes to reduce the rebells to obedience.* Humblie desiring therefore the saids Lords to commit the said Laird of Glengarie to waird heir ay and till the saids rebells be exhibited to answyr for the said slaughter committed be thame, or ellis to take responsall caution of him for exhibition at a certane day vnder great soumes. And that the saids supplicants may have commission and letres of intercommoning aganis the rebells conteanned in the criminal letres, lyke as at mair lenth is conteanned in the said supplicatioun. Quhereunto Angus Macdonald oy to the Laird of Glengarie being called to answyr, and he compeirand this day personally before the saids Lords, together with Lauchlane MacIntoshe brother to the supplicant. And the saids Lords being well and throughlie advised with all that wes proponned and alledged, be both the saids parteis in this mater. The Lords of Secreit Counsell, in regard of the knowne old age and infirmitie of the old Laird of Glengarie, being neir ane hundreth yeers of age; and that the said Angus Macdonald his oy is appearand heir of the estat, hes the management and government yairof, and is followed and acknowledged be the hail tennents of the bounds, and such as hes ane dependence on his goodshir. Therefore they find that he is lyable for exhibition of the rebells foresaids, men tennents and servants to his said guidshir, as he would have beene if his age did not excuse him. And the said Angus being personallie present as said is, and this sentence being intimat to him, and he ordained to find caution for exhibition of the saids rebells, before the saids Lords in the moneth of Junii next, and to keepe the peace in the meane time, he refused to doe the same; and therefore the saids

Lords ordains him to be committed to waird within the Castell of Edinburgh, therein to remaine upon his owne expenss ay and whyll he find the said caution, and till he be freed and releevd be the said Lords. And siclyke ordanis lettres of intercommoning to be direct aganis the rebells foresaids."

" APUD EDINBURGH, *primo Martii*, 1642.

SEDERUNT,

Chancellor,	Clerk Register,
Argile,	Advocat,
Mar,	Justice Clerk,
Morton,	&c. &c.

" Anent the supplication presented to the Lordis of Secreit Counsell by Angus Macdonald oy to the Laird of Glengarrie, makand mentioun that where he hes been prisoner now be ye space of 13 weekis or thereby in the castle of Edinburgh *for not exhibitoun of certaine of the Clandonald*, (also stating that he) "enterit to find cautione either to exhibit the saidis personis betwix and a certane day to be assigned be the saidis Lordis, or ellis to enter his persone in warde, and in the meine time to remaine and keipe warde within the Burghe of Edinburghe, under such panes as the saidis Lordis sall please prescryve. Humblie desiring therefore the saidis Lordis to give command to the Captaine, Constable and Keeparis of the castell of Edinburghe to put the saide suppliant to libertie," &c. &c. Quhilke being reade, hearde and considerit be the saidis Lords, &c. the Lordis of Secreit Counsell ordanis and commandis the Captaine, Constable, &c. of the castell of

Edinburghe to putt the suppliant to libertie, &c. Because Sir Johne Mackenzie of Tarbett is become cautioner for the said suppliant, that he being received furth of the saide castell sall remane and keepe ward within this Burghe of Edinburghe," &c.

No. V.

(Page 53.)

1. COMMISSION *be his Majestic King James VI. to Glengarrie.*

JAMES be the grace of God, King of Scottis, to all and sindrie our lieges and subdeittes quhom it efferis, to quhase knowlege thir our lettres sal cum greting, forsameikle as we having employed our weil beloved Donald MacAngus of Glengarie, with commissoune to pas uponn the malefactoris and broken men of the Isles perturbaris of the quietnes thair of for thair apprehensioun, and reducing to our obeydience, and in certaine utheris our effares and service in they pairtis. Necessyr, it is for his better executioun of yat expedioune and service that he be furneist with schipping at sic tyme as he sall have occasioun to prosequite and perseu the saidis malefactoris in sic pairtis as they hant and resort. Thairfoir we have gevin, grantit and committit, and be thir our lettres gevis, grantis and committis full power and commissioun, expres bidding and charge to the said Donald MacAngus our commissioner forsaide, to tak and medil with quhatsumevir Scottis shippis or weshellis that sal happin to repair or resort in they seyis or bundis ewest our Iles, and to furneis and man thame with all things necessare for yat our

service and expeditioun, and to passe to and fra with yame in sic pairtis as they saidis brokin men and malefactouris hantis and resortis in and for yair apprehensioun, and reducing to oure obedience and the better executioun of oure said commissioun, chargeing and commanding heirfoir straitlie all and sindrie, the maisteris, skipperis and marineris of ye saidis schippis or weschellis to reddelie answeere and furneis oure saide Commissionar with the same at all occasiouns as they sal be requirit be him thairto for the better executioun of our saide commissioun and service as they and ilk ane of yame will be ansuerable to us upon thair obedience at thair highest charge and perell, and under ye pane of escheating and confiscatioun of the said schippis and weschellis, with the haille gudis and geir being therein to oure use and behuff. Besyde the puneishment of thair personis with all regoure and extremitie in example of utheris, be thir presentis. Gevin under oure signet, and subseryvit with our hand at Perth the xl day of May, and of our reigne the xxxv yeir 1602.

(Sealed and Subscribed)	JAMES R.
Schir GEORGE HOME,	Comptroller.
Thesaurere.	Secretarius.

2. *To oure trustie and weil beloved the Laird of  
Glengarry.*

JAMES R.

Trustie and welbeloved we greet you well, whereas oure trustie and welbeloved servant Sir George Hay knight one of the gentlemen of oure Privie Chamber, haith at his owne greate coste and charges brought into that oure kingdome a greate number of strangearis to

be employed in a worke which can not but redound to the benefit of that whole kingdome in generall, and to you in particular, whose landes lye nere to the place of ther abode : we have thought good by these presents to recommend the said Sir George and the strangers foresaid to youre special favoure ; willing you as you will doe us acceptable service to take such ordoure as not only none of youre frendis, servandis or dependers offer anie inurie, violence or wrong to the said Sir George or strangers, but by the contraree, that you and your friendis use such favourable curtisie towardis them in all thingis, as we may rather heare reporte of youre kynde using of them, (for we wishe we may have occasioun to give you oure speciall thankis) then that they have bene any way by you or youris wronged or terrified from goeing forward in a work so profitable for all that kingdome. And thus assuring oureself that you will have a special respect to this oure recommendatioun, and that it shall produce all gude effectis requisite, we bid you farewell from oure castle of Windsor the xxth of Julie 1611.

*3. Autograph Letter of Charles II. to Glengarry, dated at St Germain, August 3d, 1652.*

“ I am promised this letter shall come safe to your handes, and therefore I am willing that you should know from myself that I am still alive, and the same man I was when I was amongst you. I am very much troubled for what you suffer, and am usinge all the endeavours I can to free you, and before many months I hope you will see I am not idle. In the mean time, I cannot but lett you know that I am in greater straights

and perplexities for your safetyes then you can easily apprehend ; and I am thereby compelled to leave many things undone which would be of advantage to me and you. I could heartily wish therefore that by your interest and negotiation with those you have trust in, and who you know wish me well,\* which would be a very seasonable obligatione, and would never be forgotten my me: I neede say no more to you, but that I shall be glad to receive any advice or advertisement from you, that you thinke necessary for me, and shall allwaies remaine your very loving friend,

CHARLES R."

4. *Other autograph Letter by Charles II. to the same, dated "Collen, Dec. 30th, 1654."*

"Glengarry, I have given this honest bearer in charge to say so much to you, and have written to Middleton of other particulars concerning you, which he will impart to you, that I shall say little more now than to assure you that your so constant adhearing to Middleton in the carring on my service when so many (from whome I expected it not) grow weary of it, and your so chearfully submitting to all straights and distresses for my sake is very acceptable to me, and a great addition to your former meritts. Be confident, I will not fail of doing my parte as a good master, in rewarding so good a servant, and that when we meete, which I beleive will be ere long, you shall finde as much kindnesse as you can expect from your very affectionate friend,

CHARLES R."

\* Something is here evidently wanting to make the sense complete.

5. COMMISSION of MAJOR GENERAL *in favour of Angus Macdonell of Glengarry.*

CHARLES R.

CHARLES, by the grace of God, King of Great Brittain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. to our trusty and welbeloved Angus Macdonell of Glengarry, and to all others to whom these presentis sall come greeting, Know ye that we, reposing trust and confidence in the courage, conduct, and good affection of you, the said Angus Macdonell, doe by those presentis constitute and appoint you to be one of our Major Generals of such forces of foote as are or shall be levied for our service within our Kingdome of Scotlande, giving you hereby power and authority to conduct, order, and command them, in all things for our saide service, according to the lawes and custome of warre, and as belongeth to the power and office of one of our Major Generals of foot; and with the same to fight, kill, slay, and destroy, or otherwise subdue, all opposers and enemies who are in present hostility against or not in present obedience to us; and to doe and execute all such thingis and services, and to hold and enjoy all such authorities, powers, priviledges, rights, and allowances whatsoever, as are belonging or any wysc appertaining to the office and power of one of our Major Generals; commanding hereby all officers and souldiers under you to obey and observe you in all things for our service, as their Major General, provided that you likewise obey and pursue all such orders and commands as you shall from time to time receive from our Lieutenant General Middletoune, and all other your

superior officers. Given at Chantilly, the 31st day of October 1653, in the fifth yeare of our reign.

*The five preceding documents are from originals in the Glengarry Charter Chest.*

#### 6. DIPLOMA *Æneæ* DOMINI MACDONELL *et* ARROSS.

CAROLUS Dei gratia Scotiae Angliæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ rex fidei defensor omnibus Probis hominibus suis ad quos presentes literæ nostræ pervenerint Salutem Sciatis quandoquidem a Nobis tanquam a primo fonte omnis honoris Scaturiginis in cives nostros manare et a munificentia nostra Regia unice pendere debeant: quin etiam apud omnes Reges liberosque principis vetere et laude digna consuetudine semper invaluerit titulos et gradus honoris et dignitatis in cives de eis optime meritos pro eorum regiæ celsitudinis incremento conferre cumque multis testimoniis compertum habeamus eximiam fidem et singularem amorem dilecti nostri *Æneæ* Macdonell de Glengary erga nostrum servitium: ac memoria teniamus multa præclara officia nobismetipsis et carissimo nostro patri æternæ memoriæ a prefato *Ænea* temporibus etiam difficillimis præstita et quanta fide animique constantia nobis utique firmus adhæserit, et quam fortiter ipse *Æneas* cum clientibus et amicis suis pro occasione data nobis semper paludatus adfuerit; et quam strenue inimicos nostros non sine discrimine vitæ ejus, et amicorum sibi adhærentium cum maximo despendio; et ruina fortunæ et patrimonii sui multoties oppugnaverit: Et nos benigne volentes præfatum *Æneam* Macdonell tessara aliqua regii nostri favoris ornare, ut animus et vires ei addantur ad persistendum fideliter in nostro servitio in Posterum Igitur fecimus

constituimus et creavimus et creamus memoratum  
 Æneam Macdonell de Glengary ejusque hæredes mas-  
 culos ex corpore suo legitime procreatis DOMINUM  
 MACDONELL *et* ARROSS, &c. &c.—

—In cujus rei testimonium præsentibus magnum si-  
 gillum nostrum appendi præcepimus apud aulam nos-  
 tram de Whythall vigesimo die mensis Decembris an-  
 no Domini millesimo Sexcentesimo Sexagesimo et anno  
 regni nostri duodecimo. Per signaturam manu S. D. N.  
 regis suprascript. Extracted on this and the two pre-  
 ceeding pages, furth of the Records in His Majesty's  
 General Register House, by me one of the principal  
 clerks of Session, having commission for that effect  
 from the Lord Clerk Register.

(Signed)                      GEORGE HOME.

*Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 60, No. 8.*

In the original copy of the Act of Privy Council  
 of Scotland in 1672, in the Glengarry Charter Chest,  
 where Æneas Lord Macdonell is styled Chief of the  
 name and Clan of Macdonald, his surname is written  
 "Macdonel." This appears the more ancient and ap-  
 propriate orthography. In the Exchequer Rolls in  
 the year 1326, there is mention of "John Macdonnyle  
 Ballivo de Ile."

7. ADDRESS of One Hundred and Two chief Heritors and Heads of Clans in the Highlands of Scotland to King George I. on his Accession to the Throne, which, by Court intrigue, was prevented from being delivered to his Majesty. The consequence was, that the Clans, in resentment of this supposed neglect, raised a Rebellion in the following year 1715.

(Faithfully copied from the Original preserved in the Museum of the Antiquaries of Scotland.)

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE of the chief heritors and others in the Highlands of Scotland under subscribing, beg leave to express the joy of our hearts at your Majesty's happy accession to the crown of Great Britain. Your Majesty has the blood of our ancient Monarchs in your veins and in your family; may that Royal Race ever continue to reign over us. Your Majesty's princely virtues, and the happy prospect we have in your royal family, of an uninterrupted succession of Kings to sway the British sceptre, must extinguish these divisions and contests which in former times too much prevailed, and unite all who have the happiness to live under your Majesty into a firm obedience and loyalty to your Majesty's person, family, and government; and as our predecessors have for many ages had the honour to distinguish themselves by their loyalty, so we do most humbly assure your Majesty, that we will reckon it our honour steadfastly to adhere to you, and with our lives and fortunes to support your crown and dignity against all opposers.

Pardon us, great Sir, to implore your royal protec-

tion against any who labour to misrepresent us, and who rather use their endeavours to create misunderstandings than to engage the hearts of your subjects to that loyalty and chearful affectionate obedience which we owe, and are ready to testify towards your Majesty. Under so excellent a King we are persuaded that we, and all your other peaceable faithful subjects, shall enjoy their just rights and liberties, and that our enemies shall not be able to hurt us with your Majesty, for whose royal favour we presume humbly to hope, as our forefathers were honoured with that of your Majesty's ancestors. Our mountains, though undervalued by some, are nevertheless acknowledged to have, in all times, been fruitful in producing hardy and gallant men, and such, we hope, shall never be wanting amongst us, who shall be ready to undergo all dangers in defence of your Majesty's, and your royal posterity's, only rightful title to the crown of Great Britain. Our behaviour shall always witness for us, that, with unalterable firmness and zeal, we are, may it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most loyal, most obedient, and most dutiful subjects and servants.

Alex. M'Donell of Glengarie	Norm. M'Leod of Grisernish
Mackintosh of that Ilk	John M'Donell of Ardnabie
J. Cameron of Locheill	Hugh Fraser of Gusachan
Jo. Stewart of Ardsheall	John M'Tavish of Little Gartl
Farq. M'Gilleray of Dun-	Thomas Fraser
maglass	D. Mackdonald
Donald M'Donell of Lundie	Rod. Chisholm of Comer
Alex. M'Donell of Ardochie	Jo. Stewart of Appine
John M'Donell of Gandarge	Jo. Grant of Glenmoristone
Normand M'Leod of Drynach	A. M'Donald of Glenco

Jo. M'Donell of Shienne	Lach. M'Kinnon of Breckinsh
Alex. M'Donell of Kytrie	Thomas Fraser of Eskedell
Alex. M'Donell of Easter Cullachy	T. Fraser of Koklanie
Rod. M'Leod of Ullinish	Alex. Fraser of Glenuakie
Will. M'Leod of Vaterstein younger	Hugh Fraser younger of Erogy
Will. M'Leod of Hussinish	Hugh Fraser of Bethrabine
Ken. M'Leod of Kallisaig	Jo. Fraser of Borlime
William Fraser of Cullidace younger	MacLeane of that Ilk
Simon Fraser of Crochel	Jo. M'Lennon of that Ilk
John Fraser of Innerchannish	Do. M'Leod of Contalich, tutor of M'Leod
Dun. Campbell of Lochinell	Donald M'Leod of Talasker
Ang. M'Intosh of Kellachie	Alex. M'Donald of Cleonag
J. M'Dougal of Dunollish	Ae. M'Donald of Tulloch
D. M'Pherson of Cluny	Al. M'Donald of Achnackoi- chine
La. M'Pherson of Noid	Alex. M'Donald of Bohuntin
Alex. M'Donell Leick	Jo. M'Donell of Inveroy
Jo. M'Donell of Oberchaldar	W. Fraser of Kilbackie
W. M'Leod of Hamer junior	James Fraser of Belladrum
John M'Leod of Gesto	Alex. Fraser of Kinapuntach
Ro. M'Leod of Ensay	Ha. Fraser of Dunchen
Alex. M'Leod Handreavich	Jo. Fraser of Kinbrelly
John Chisholme of Knockfine	John Fraser of Drumond
Tavish M'Tavish Pellelyne	Alex. M'Kenzie of Fraserdale
Aene M'Donell of Muckerach	W. M'Donell of Keappoch
Hugh Fraser of Aberskie	Ro. M'Donald of Trinadrish
T. Houstoun of Dulchirachan	J. M'Donald of Fersett
Ja. Campbell of Auchinbrek	Ranald M'Donald of Coronsie
Anneas M'Donell of Dranichane	Ro. M'Donald of Murrissie
Ro. M'Leod of Hamer	Hugh Fraser of Kinneries
D. M'Leod of Sandeck	Ja. Fraser of Kiluk
Don. M'Leod of Ehost	Tho. Fraser of Dunballoch
Will. M'Leod of Skarbost	William Fraser of Killaclule
	Ja. Fraser of Newtown

Hugh Fraser of Little Struie	D. M'Leane of Tarbart
Alex. Fraser of Belnain	Ang. M'Leane of Kenlochaline
John Fraser Gartmor	Allan M'Leane of Inverscadle
Alex. Fraser of Farrachne	T. M'Lean of Mingarie
Alex. Fraser of Easterhead- shaw	Lach. M'Leane of Achure
Hugh Fraser of Easter Ar- dachie	Don. MacLean of Drimigha younger
James Fraser of Milndire	Allan MacLean of Reddel
Don. M'Lean of Broloss	Lauchlan M'Lean of Drimigig- ha elder
Hector MacLean of Coll	Lauch. M'Leane of Kilmory.

TO THE LAIRD OF GLENGARIE,

SIR,

This address ought to have a place in the archives of your Family.

It was given to me by a Gentleman who received it from the later Earl of Mar at Antwerp not long before his death, with an injunction to deliver it to such of his Family as should seem most likely to make a proper use of it, after the death of all who were concerned in that Rebellion, and who had signed it.

I received the deposit as a flattering mark of distinction, and hope the Public will not disapprove of the choice.—I deposited the Original Parchment in the Museum of the Society of the Antiquaries of Scotland. I am, Sir, with regard, your obedient humble servant,

BUCHAN.

*Edinburgh, May 2, 1784.*

8. *The Earl of Mar's Declaration.*

OUR rightfull and natural King James VIII. by the grace of God, who is now coming to relieve us from

our oppressors, having been pleased to entrust us with the direction of his affairs, and the command of his forces in this his ancient kingdom of Scotland; and some of his faithful subjects and servants out at Aboyne, viz. the Lord Huntly, the Lord Tullibardine, the Earl Marischal, the Earl of Southesk, GLENGARRY from *the Clans*, Glenderule from the Earl of Breadalbane, and Gentlemen of Argyleshire, Mr Patrick Lyon of Auchterhouse, the Laird of Aulblair, Lieutenant General George Hamilton, Major General Gordon, and myself, having taken into consideration his Majesty's last and late orders to us, find, that now is the time that he ordered us to appear openly in arms for him; so it seems to us absolutely necessary for his Majesty's service, and the relieving our native country from all its hardships, that all his faithful and loving subjects and lovers of their country, should with all possible speed put themselves in arms. These are therefore in his Majesty's name and authority, and by virtue of the power aforesaid, and by the King's special order to me thereunto, to require and empower you forthwith to raise your fencible men with their best arms, and you are immediately to march them to join me and some other of the King's forces at the Inver of Braemar on Monday next, in order to proceed on our march to attend the King's standard, with his other forces.

The King intending that his forces shall be paid from the time of their setting out, he expects, as he positively orders, that they behave themselves civilly, and commit no plundering nor other disorder upon the highest penalties, and his displeasure, which it is expected you will see observed. Now is the time for all

good men to shew their zeal for his Majesty's service, whose cause is so deeply concerned, and the relief of our native country from oppression and a foreign yoke, too heavy for us and our posterity to bear, and to endeavour the restoring of not only our rightfull and native King, but also our country to its ancient, free and independent Constitution, under him whose ancestors have reigned over us for so many generations. In so honourable, good and just cause, we cannot doubt of the assistance, direction and blessing of Almighty God, who has so often rescued the Royal Family of Stewart and our country from sinking under oppression.

Your punctual observance of these orders is expected, for the doing of all which this shall be to you, and all you employ in the execution of them, a sufficient warrant.

Given at Braemar the 9th day of Sept. 1715.

(Addressed) *To the Bailiff and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Lordship of Kildrummy.*

9. WARRANT *for a Patent by the Father of Prince Charles, commonly called the Prctender, in favour of Alexander Macdonald of Glengarry, and his heirs male, of the dignity of Lord Macdonald.*

“ JAMES R.

JAMES VIII. by the grace of God, King of Scotland, England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Whereas we are well satisfied with the duty, loyalty and affection of our trusty and well beloved Macdonald of Glengarry, and with the good services performed by him and his predecessors to the Crown on all occasions, and likeways taking into our particular consideration the late good services performed by the

said Macdonald to us in the late attempt that was made in Scotland for relieving that country from oppression and a foreign yoke, and restoring us to our just rights, as appeared by his early repairing to Braemar on the call of the then Earl now Duke of Mar, to whom we had committed the charge and direction of that affair, and receiving such orders from him as was most necessary for our service, even without his showing any commission from us, which orders he afterwards observed punctually in bringing his men in good order to the place and at the time appointed, then joyning our army with them and continuing with it till the battle of Sheriffmuir, where he distinguished himself particularly by fighting gallantly for our service, and even after that still continuing in an exemplary obedience to every thing that was judged for our interest, until at last all hopes of any further effects of this nature were given over until a more favourable opportunity, and being resolved not only for these remarkable good and faithful services, but also to attach the said

Macdonald and his family the more to the interest of the Crown, us, and our lawful successors, and to make them further useful to their country, and as a mark of our royal favour to confer on the said Macdonald and his lawful heirs male the title and dignity aforementioned. It is therefore our will and pleasure, and we hereby ordain Letters Patent to be past under our Great Seal of our ancient kingdom of Scotland, making and creating, as we hereby make and create the said

Macdonald, a Lord and Peer of Parliament of our said ancient kingdom *by the name and title of LORD MACDONALD*. To have and to hold to him and his lawful heirs male with all the privileges, preheminencies,

precedencys, places, immunities and other advantages which by the laws and custom of our said ancient kingdom do appertain, in as full and ample a manner as any Lord of our said kingdom does hold the same, which Letters Patent are likeways to contain all such clauses as are necessary for making the same valid and effectual, and we hereby dispense with all informalities (if any be herein contained,) and ordain the said letters patent to pass our Great Seal of our said ancient kingdom of Scotland *per saltum* without passing any other Seal, for doing whereof this shall be a sufficient warrant. Given at our Court at Avignon the ninth day of December, in the sixteenth year of our reign, 1716.

JAMES R.

*(Sealed with the Royal Arms, and subscribed with his own hand.)*

*Original, Glengarry Charter Chest.*

10. *Letter from Sir John Graham to the Minister of his most Christian Majesty, in behalf of "Alexander Mackdonnell de Glengarry," in the year 1716.*

“ Comme le Regiment Royal Ecossois est destitué d'un Colonel par la mort du Duc de Perth, Je me suis crus obligé de représenter a votre grandeur que de tous ceux que y pourront aspirer Monsieur Makdonell de Glengarry et apres luy le Chevalier Macklean sont les plus capables de répondre aux vues de sa Majesté qui sans doute desire d'avoir ce regiment composé de veritables Montagnards Ecossois, et que ces deux chefs ont les plus nombreux tribus et sans contredit les plus braves, *puisque dans toutes les batailles ils ont droit a la place d'honneur par privilege special de leurs Rois ;*

ce qui leur donne lieu d'esperer que sa Majesté voudra bien accorder a l'un d'eux ce regiment qui vacque par la mort du Duc de Perth. S'il ne s'agit donc que de l'utilité du service, ils se flattent que leur zele qui a deja été approuvé et leur capacité de repondre aux vues de sa Majesté meriteront la preference. C'est sur ce fondement qu'ils supplient tres humblement votre grandeur de vouloir bien leur etre favorable."

*Original, Glengarry Charter Chest.*

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Alexander Macdonald of Glengarry, commonly called "Alastair Dubh," and who carried the Royal Standard at the battle of Killcrankie, in this manner became the heir of his cousin, Lord Macdonell. He is the person who has been so well proved to have filled the place of Chief of his name;—it was he who was the *first* subscriber of the loyal address to King George I. upon his accession to the throne of Great Britain, the neglect of which occasioned the rebellion of those very Clans in the following year; and who represented them generally at the meeting of Brae Mar, called by the Earl of Mar for the support of the heir of the abdicated Monarch, previous to 1715. These eminent situations clearly point out his indubitable rank and status; and the Patent of the Peerage sent him by the latter is strongly illustrative of the same thing, as well as of the estimation in which he was held, both by the Earl of Mar (Commander in Chief in Scotland) and that unfortunate Prince.

Alastair "Ruagh" Macdonell of Glengarry, his grandson, legally perpetuated the status of his ancestors by the two services he expedé in 1757,—the one to Lord

Macdonell and Arros, acknowledged by Government as Chief of the whole name and Clan of Macdonald;—and the other to Donald MacAngus of Glengarry, their common ancestor. Nor was his own pre-eminence inferior to his grandfather's. He was deputed by the Highland Chieftains to carry over their address and assurance of fidelity to Prince Charles Edward (his father being then considerably advanced in years); but having unfortunately missed his highness, whose eagerness led him previously to embark, he, on his return, was overpowered at sea by one or two English men of war, and after fighting his vessel to the last extremity, compelled to surrender. The inflexible attachment of his Family to the House of Stewart, and his military talents and influence in the Highlands, were well known to Government, and on this account he was detained a prisoner in the Tower of London until after the battle of Culloden—although an officer commanding in the French guard, and not altogether amenable to the laws of Great Britain.

In consequence of his confinement, his next brother, Angus, (the present Glengarry's grandfather) was called upon to lead out the Clan in the year 1745, at the early age of nineteen. He brought a regiment of two battalions of his retainers into the field,—the one commanded by his cousin, Macdonell of Lochgarry, as Lieutenant Colonel, and the other by Macdonell of Barridale, with the like rank, both being subordinate to himself. This regiment fought successfully upon the right wing of the army (which, as already proved, was the hereditary post of the Clan in action) at Prestonpans, Penrith, and latterly at Falkirk, where, after repulsing and dispersing the Duke of Cumberland's ca-

valry, their leader was raised to the rank of Major General. He, however, met with the deplorable end so feelingly bewailed by Strowan, whilst walking in the streets of Falkirk with two of his officers.

His son and heir Duncan, though not figuring in any public capacity, knew well how to maintain his place as Chief of the Macdonells. This was very conspicuous in his spirited and successful opposition to the late Lord Macdonald of Slait, when attempting to obtain from the then Lyon Depute the principal arms of Macdonald. Owing to which, his Lordship was obliged to relinquish the arms he had assumed,\* and to content himself with those which his family now bear. It is here also worthy of notice, *that the then representative of Casteltirrim made no appearance upon this occasion.*

The military ardour of the Family of Glengarry has been transmitted at a later period to their representatives, whose chief aim it has been to preserve, as much as was in their power, that reputation which so many ages has confirmed in their name, and was the characteristic of the Chieftains of Macdonell. In this respect, and in their duty to the House of Hanover, they would fain hope that they have been inferior to none of the existing branches of the surname of Macdonald.

#### No. VI.

(*Vid. Page 65.*)

“ At Lagane in Auchindoune ye fyfteyne day of November ye zeir of God 1614 yeris, comperit Donald

\* *Vid.* article, “ Lord of the Isles,” Douglas’ Peerage, Edition 1764; and his Baronage, article “ Macdonald of Macdonald,” published 1798.

MacAngus of Glengarrie, and Allaster MACCONILL his sone and apperande air one ane parte, and Allister oig MacAyne vic Ellane in Invergerserum in Knodort, one the uyer parte in forme and effecte as efter followis, viz. I ye said Donald MacAngus, and Allister my eldest sone and air, watsettis ye fyve pennie land yat ye saide Allister oig MacAyne possessis presentlie in Knodort, and that for ye soume of twelf hundreth merks money quhilk ye said Allister MacAyne hes bund to pay, viz. at Mertymes last fyve hundreth lib. more, and ye rest of three hundreth lib. in compleit paiment at Mertymes yereftir ye yeir of God j m vi<sup>e</sup> and - - - yve yeris, and we ye saidis Donald MacAngus and Allister my sone ande air, bindis and oblisses us, oure airis, executaris and assignais to warrand and defend ye saidis landis to ye saidis Alester oig MacAyne, his airis, executaris and assignais, and yat ay and quhil sa lang as ye said soume of twelf hundret merkis beis one payit or redeemet be ye said Donald MacAngus or Allister my sone, as also ye saidis Allister oig salbe bund one all kyndis of dew service, to ye saide Donald MacAngus and his saide sone, exceptand the Kingis Majestie only preservit, and gif yair be prowyn iustlie yat ye said Allister oig MacAyne failzeis in his dewtye in service, the peneltie of fyve hundryt merkis ye saide Allister oig sall pay to ye saidis personis, and at this payment I ye saidis Donald MacAngus and Allister my sone grantis ws ressevit in parte of payment twa hundret merkis of ye saide soume of xii<sup>e</sup> merkis fra ye said Alister oig MacAyne and dischargis him yerof, and findis at yis present Jhone MacAllane vic Innes and Donald his breyer, and Donald beg MacAllan in Drynachane, cautionaris ilkane for yare awine partis,

afferand to ye saide soume of twa hundryt merkis to ye said Allister oig Macayne, prowyding gif ye saidis Donald MacAngus and Allister my soun fulfill not to performe all conditions betwix ws and Allister oig Mac-Ayne, yat be ane forme of ane notar sasone as ye saide notare may be gottin. And for ye mair securitie and fulfilling of ye premisses, we ye said Donald MacAngus and Allister my sone and air subscriyves ye samin wyt my hand, yeir, day and place foirsaide befor thir witnes Duncan Macayne vic Innes, Donald beg MacEllan in Drynathane, and Johne Robertstone, wreiter.

(Subscribed)

GLENGARRIE.

ALEXANDER MACDONALD."

We Jhone MacEllane vic Innes ande Donald my breyer, and Donald beg MacAllen cautionaris, leid be ye pen be me Johne Robertstone, wreiter, etc.

Yis is wreittin in heist."

*Macconill and Macdonald are the same, as might be proved by many authorities.*

*Original, Glengarry Charter Chest.*

No. VII.

(Vid. Page 68.)

*Certified Extract of the Legitimation of John Mac-Alestar of Casteltirrim in 1531.*

x.s. " Preceptum legitimationis Johannis MacAlestar de Casteltirrim bastardi filii naturalis quondam Alexandri MacAllane de Casteltirrim in communi forma etc. apud Striviling xv Januarii anno j m v<sup>e</sup> xxxi per signetum.

That which is contained on this page is faithfully copied from the Records in his Majesty's General Register House, IS ATTESTED by me one of the Keepers of the Records of Scotland.

(Signed) GEO. ROBERTSON."

*Registrum Secreti Sigilli, vol. 9, f. 72, b.*

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