

William, 11th Lord Forbes

CHAPTER XII.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES.

Born, 1620. Succeeded, 1672. Died, 1697.

It is a little difficult to reconcile what is stated in *Peerages* of William, the 12th Lord Forbes, with his own actions. As already seen under his father, he was, about the year 1650, in communication with Argyll and David Leslie (see page 196), whereas in 1648 he had been (according to *Douglas's Peerage*, subsequently copied by others) nominated one of the Colonels of Foot in the forces raised to attempt the rescue of King Charles I. in that year, and appointed Colonel of Horse in the English army in 1649. To the present writers it appears more likely that the William Forbes who received these commissions was the *uncle* of the 12th Lord, Colonel William, brother of the 11th, who was personally interested in the royalist forces abroad and was, at the time, present with his brother Alexander, the 11th Lord, who was actually raising these forces in Germany. This Colonel William was 34 in 1648 and died 1654.¹

William, Master of Forbes, remained in Scotland during the whole of his father's and uncles' foreign campaigns, and in 1648 contracted a matrimonial alliance with a daughter of the Whig house of Campbell.

He was born (according to the list of the family of Alexander, 11th Lord, already given) in Castle Forbes the 10th of October, 1620. For some curious reason he attempted, in after life, to make himself out younger than he was, for in 1647, according to Sheriff Court Records, he stated himself to be "within the age of 25 years," when in fact he was 27. He had always been a keen Covenanter, and in 1639 he assisted Montrose, who was at that time on the same side, to force the Covenant upon an unwilling City of Aberdeen.

A letter written to him during his father's lifetime gives a glimpse of life after the Restoration and just before the Great Fire, as well as before the disastrous occasion on which the Dutch fleet sailed up the Medway.

It is docketed :—

"Thomas Forbes to the Master of Forbes,

giving news of the South," and is dated "Edinburgh September 19th, 1665."

"Right honoured, the bearer named John Clark, a servant to the Marquis of Huntly, brought me no line from your Lop, but only for desyr I should return ane answer to your last, sent by John . . .

¹ See previous page.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES

"The plague is abated nothing as yet in England, the bills of mortality being 8 thousand and upwards a week, but praise to God, there is nothing as yet of it appeared in Scotland. Since the last accounts wherein his Majesty's navy had surprised eighteen or twenty ships belonging to the Hollanders we have had no news from the fleet, save a report that three of the Hollanders is cast off. News is expected by next post. His Majestie with the Court is come to Oxford, he has been a little indisposed—praise to God is now recovered—there is a rumour the French King's forces are come—but with what design is not known, nor is there much certainty for this. Your honor's memoir for 6 hawks and 3 hawks had fallen by my hand and having now found, send them be the bearer to you him furthcoming. Shall add no more but continues to be Right honourable. Yr most humble &

"obedient servt.

"Thomas Forbes." ¹

The 12th Lord caused to be made at his father's death a careful list of those writs and charters important to the family.

"Inventar and evidents which Wm. Lord Forbes received from Alex. Lord forbes his father" (who died 1672).

The original copy, in a seventeenth-century hand-writing, is among the Castle Forbes papers.² It is here somewhat abbreviated.

- 1309 "An old discharge by Robert de Barclay, E. of Crawford.
1370 "Disposition of the lands of Westselkirk the 8 of May.
1404 "The Earle of Angus charter to Alex. Lord forbes and Elizabeth Douglas at Perth 8 June.
[3] 1411 "Precept of saisein by Philorth to Alex. lord forbes.
1417 "Earle of Marr's Charter of Alfurd.
1418 "Resignation by Cluny of that ilk in the Earle of Angus's hands 19 July.
[5] 1423 "Confirmation of the Lordship of forbes by Murdoch, Duke of Albany, Earl of Fyfe, Governor of Scotland, to Alex. lo forbes and Dame Eliz. Douglas his future spouse, at Perth 6 Oct. 1423.
,, "Halyburton's discharge of Dirlton to the lo. forbes aforesaid, Dundee, 22 Oct.
,, "Confirmation of the lands of Alfurd to Alex. lo. forbes by Alex. Stewart. E. of Mar.
[6] ,, "Reversion by Alex. L. forbes to Walter Halyburton, Lord Dirleton, of the lands of Forgadenny in Perthshire.
,, "Charter of the lands of Balcors, Blacktown by John Earle of Buchan, constable of France, upon the resignation of Wm. Fraser of Philorth to Alex. lo. forbes, 1423.
[10] 1430 "A band of manrent by Alex. of Ogstoun son and heir to Jon Ogstoun Laird of that ilk, to Sir Alex. forbes, lo. of that ilk, 10 May 1430.

¹ Thomas Forbes has not been identified.

² Those numbered are still in the charter chest, the others have disappeared, though records of many of them exist elsewhere.

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

- [16] 1440 " An acquittance on paper for bigging Druminnor, daitted 4 July.
1443 " Laird of Meldrum's prorie on paper, sealed.
- [19] 1444 " An old Indenture on paper betwixt Robt. Lyell, Lord Duchell and Sir Alex. Forbes Knight, Lord of that ilk, touching the half lands of Bremar, Stradee, Quhyhtfield and Cluny. 26 Mar. 1444.
- [20] ,, " The sd James Ld. forbes charter of the lands holden of the Earle of Huntley.
1447 " Confirmation by King James of Indenture for keeping the Castle of Strathnairn.
1453 " Precept of saisein Lands of Balcors by the Lord of the Isles.
- [23] 1454 " Gift of annuity out of the lands of Kinstair.
1455 " A charter of Glenlogy and Innerlogy in the Sheriffom of Bamfe 15 Aug. 1453.
1458 " Precept of saisein for Moncoffer, 8 Mar.
1466 " Precept of saisein by Alex. Earle of Huntly for James Lo. forbes of the lands of Tulloch. The sd Lord forbes had received the order of Knighthood 20 Sept. 1466. [Apparently at the hand of Huntly.]
- [27] 1467 " Indenture bet. Lord Forbes and his friends and Mackintosh and his friends 1467.
- [28] " Resignation of Kinstair by Agnes Hay 1467.
- [29] 1468 " Obligation by Alex. Earle of Huntly to Alex. Lo. Forbes to assist him and to do nothing against him Ab. 8 July 1468.
- [30] ,, " Earle of Huntly—precept of the lands of Abergarden.
1477 " Confirmation to Jon Lo. forbes¹ of the lands of Auford, etc.
1483 " Philorth's resignation of Fintray, Alathen, Blaircom, Balcors, etc.
1487 " Obligation by Halyburton of that ilk for a concession of Alfurd.
1492 " Precept of saisein be George Earle of Huntly to John Ld. Forbes his sister's son, 18 Oct.
1525 " David Ogilvie's resignation of Meykle Tomads to John Forbes.
- [39] 1532 " Charter of Kirkton of Forbes etc.
1539 " Confirmation lands of Cluny of Foderbras and Tolmads.
1546 " Wm. Master of Forbes, saisein of Tolmads.
,, " Saisein of lands holden of Earle of Huntly.
1556 " Bishop Wm. Gordon's charter of Towy to Mr. Jon Fraser and Marjory Gordon, dau. to sd Bishop.
- [45] 1559 " Contract of mar. John Lord Forbes and Margaret Gordon dau. to Earle of Huntly, 17 Oct.
- [47] 1562 " Personage of Forbes."
- [48] 1563 " Charter by Queen Mary of the lands formerly holden of the Earl of Huntly upon his forfaulture.
,, " Queen Marie's precept to enter Arthur forbes of Balfour (*Black Arthur*) tenent of the lands of Abercattie upon the forfaulture of the Earle of Huntly, 18 Sept. 1563.

¹ In 1477 the Lord Forbes was William, the 3rd of the name, and the two sons older than John, Alexander and Arthur, were both alive, but possibly John had this charter, now lost. He had another in the year of his succession.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES

- [49] 1568 " John Lord Forbes charter of the lands of Noth.
1573 " Queen Marie's confirmation of Quhytefield 16 Jan.
" " Gift of non-entry of the lands of Tolden of the Earle of Huntley."

There were two charters of Putachie granted in the lifetime of William, 12th Lord Forbes, they will be found in the Appendix (page 218). In the year after his father's death, the 12th Lord Forbes obtained from King Charles II. a fresh charter of the lands and barony of Forbes; this is not in the *Registrum*, but a contemporary copy is among Lord Forbes' loose papers.¹

" A CHARTER TO WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES, CONTAINING A NOVO DAMUS OF THE WHOLE BARONIE OF FORBES. [Copy, not sealed.]

" Charles R. Our soverangne Lord with advyce and consent of his Majestie's right trustie Cousine the Earl of Lauderdale his Mtie's High Commissioner and sole secretar of stait for this his ancient Kingdom of Scotland, John Earl of Rothes High Chancellor of the said Kingdom, John Earl of Tweddall, Alexander Earl of Kincardin, William Earl of Dundonald, Charles Maitland, his Majestie's Treasurer Deput and of his Majestie's Right Trusty Counsellor Sir Robert Murray, lait Justice-Clerk . . . ordaynes ane charter to be mayd and past under his Majestie's Great seal.

" . . . And be the tenor hereof his Majestie with consent signs, gives, grants and dispones and for his heirs and successors, and confirms to William, Lord Forbes his aires and assignees heritable and irrideemable ALL AND HAILL the town and lands Barronie and uthers TO WITT, The twentie-merk land lyand contiguously at the Castell of Fforbes called Druminnor To witt the lands and mains of Drumminnor and place thereof, Cairndaired wt the patronage of the Parochin and parish Kirk of Kairne, personadge and vicaradge thereof, Cushnay, Castlehill, miln lands and multures Sequells and Knaveships of the same, Bogside, Barslett, milne, milnlands, multures etc. lying within the parochin of Auchindore and Sheriffdom foresaid Kirktowne of forbes with the patronage of the parish and kirk of forbes . . . the lands of Bethennie, Balfour, Strathimak, Collihay, Eister forbes, Dubstane, Sillavethie and nether Black hillock, Corne and Walkmilnes of forbes, multures etc. Patronage of the parish and kirk of Kenethmont with the vicaradge of Crystskirk, With all and sundrie teinds etc. belonging to the said parishes

" The Towne and lands of little Endovie, Tilliehetlie, Archballoch, Cobleseat, Kinstaires, Carnaverine, Longhaugh, Auchintoul, Broadhaugh, Culfork, Tibberchindie, with the milne of Auford miln-lands etc. The lands of Asloun, Dorisoull, Badintoreith, Drummaguchindie, milne of Asloun etc. houses, biggings, yeards, tofts, crofts, perts, pendicles etc. of the samen all lyand within the parochin of Aufurd, Also all and haill the right of Bailzearis of the personadge of Kincardin

¹ It is possible that the king granted this the more readily, as he had apparently taken no notice of the petition for assistance from William, Lord Forbes's father, and uncles. (Page 187, last chapter.)

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

with the right and priviledge of the weekly mercat, and fair, callit Bartholemews fair and play Sundays fair, holden within the Towne of Kincardine of Neil with the hail tolls, customes, priveledges etc. belonging¹ and sicklyk all and hail the Townes and lands of Blacktoun, Greins, and Allathen with the house byggins, yeards etc. lying in the parochin of Kinedward and Sherifffdom foresaid With all and sundrie the Castles, tounes, fortalices, manor-plaices, houses, byggins, yeards, orchards, outsetts, insetts and all pertinents of the same whatever—

“ Which hail lands and others abovesaid were all formerlie in the Baronie of forbes and pertained heritable to Sir Robert Innes of that ilk Knt. Baronet and Thomas Mckenzie of Pluscarden and were be them and yr lawful prors with consent of Kenett Earl of Seaforth for all right and title which he as air or apparent air or successor to the deceased George Earle of Seaforth his father had, to the hail lands abovesaid and also be Sir Charles Erskine of Cambo, Lyon king at arms for all right and interest he had or could pretend to the sd lands of Auchintoul, Langhauch, Broadhauch, Culfork, Tibberchindie, and Nether miln of Auford, lying as foresaid, resigned be charter under his Matie's Gt. Seal . . daited the 29 day of Apryll and first day of May 1557 yeirs, and Registrat in the books of counsell . . Our Sovereign Lord takeing into his royal consideration the good, true and thankfull service done to his Matie and his progenitors be the said William, Lord fforbes and his progenitors in time past—Therefore and for divers uther onerous causes and considerations moving his Matie our sd Soverane Lord . . has given granted and disponed to the said William Lord forbes and his foresaids for now and ever—the barronie to be called now in all tyme to come the barronie of fforbes, ordaining the said toune, fortalice and manor of Castell fforbes, of old called Drumminnor, to be the principal messuage of the said barronie and his Majestie wills and grants that the sasine now to be taken be the said William Lord fforbes and his foresaids in tyme coming upon the manor place etc. of Castell fforbes, of old callet Drumminnor, shall be also a sufficient and a valid sasine to them for all and sundrie the uther lands etc. the reddendo for Castell fforbes to be ane red rose, upon the feast of St. John the Baptist called midsummer, by name of blench ferme if it be asked.”

(For the other lands a certain sum was to be paid at Whitsunday and Martinmas, but the amount was left *blank*—“ no other burdens.”)

“ GIVEN at the Court at Whitehall the 6th day of June 1673 and of his Majestie's reign the 25th year.”

¹ A further detail about the Bartholomew Fair, another frequent source of dispute with the Huntly family, which also claimed to hold it, occurs in a document of 1688 :

“ A Meeting of the Court of the burgh of barony of Kincardine 29 Aug. 1688, ordaines that

“ None of the inhabitants of the said burgh of Kincardin shall in tyme cuming resett any customable goods at Play Saturday's mercat or the mercat of Barth-fair under the paine of confiscation of the sd customable goods and the resetters of the samen to pay ilk ane of them ten pounds Scots *toties quoties*.”

See also page 208 for the Gordon claim, and page 277, where it is seen that even in the time of the 17th Lord Forbes in 1770, the profits of this Fair were still considered as part of the estate.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES

The 12th Lord received, as is well seen from his father's letters, a much embarrassed estate, and laid the following petition before the Court of Session, a month after the granting of the above charter :—

“ 3 JULY 1673. SUPPLICATION OF WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES.

“ My Lords of Council & Session, the humble supplication of William Lord Forbes yr Lordships' servitor sheweth, whereas it is notorious that the petitioner progenitors' estate of Forbes being unhappilie brought under so many incumbrances and insuperable burdens as that he neither durst nor dares adventure to enter thereto or to any pairt thereof by representing them or any of them, nor pretend to any more interest therein as a stranger might have done. Yet seeing both reason and honour did oblige him to essay to make purchase of a part of what had been his projenitors ancient estate, rather than to bestow the money otherwayes and by God's blessing through his endeavours (to preserve the memorie of his familie) had recovered a pairt of it (though inconsiderable) and thereof through the disorders of the late troubles and the petitioner's father, he having these many years lived and travelled in foreign countries and laityly died in 1672 in Sweden. The writts and evidents are undoubtedlie in the hands of several persons both within and without the countrie and howbeit the petitioner should come to the knowledge of those in whose hands they are and that withall they were willing to deliver the same, yet without yr Lordships warrant and command the petitioner dares not meddle therewith, lest thereby he should ensnare himself and doe anything that might import ane *Immistis* or *geste pro heredo* or otherwayes cause him to represent his father or progenitors upone one or the other of the passive titles and soe become lyable to their debts. Howbeit that upon the accompt of the petitioner's security in what he has acquired right to, as a singular successor or of what through God's blessing he may come to acquire hereafter and to the effect that the petitioner may deliberate whether or not it may be safe for him to enter on to his predecessors—And also for the interest of such as are or may pretend to be their lawful creditors, necessair it is that the said writts and evidents should be diligentlie sought and inventared and taken in sure custodie and keiping to be made forthcoming to all persons having interest as accords.

“ . . . May it therefore please your Lops to grant commission to Mr. Alex. Monro, and the remanent clerks of Session or any one of them that shall happen to be in town at the tyme to receive and inventar the saids writts and evidents from the Havers thereof, as they shall happen to be discovered, Inventar and deliver the samen to the petitioner upon his lyne of receipt and obligement to make the same forthcoming to all parties having interests and accords.”

The petition is thus endorsed

“ The Lords having considered the within bill, they grant warrant to Alexr. Monro, clerk to receive the writts within specified for makeing the samen forthcoming to all persones haveing interests as accords of the law.

“ David Dalrymple ” (the Advocate-General).

A document in the *Registrum*, dated June 26th, 1675, at Putachie, throws some light on family squabbles over such small matters as cutting peats :—

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

" Acknowledgement by Arthur Forbes of Brux that he has received a tolerance from William, Lord Forbes, for the lifetime of the said Lord ¹ to cast and win peats out of his mosses of Logie and Edinbanchorie for the use of the Mains of Brux, Westsyde and Newton of Brux and for Mackershaugh when redeemed.

" Witnesses Sir John Forbes of Monimusk, Sir John Forbes of Craigievar, John Forbes of Balfluig, William Forbes of Camphill and Mr. Alexander Forbes, Governor to William, Master of Forbes " [then 19 years of age].

The family feud with the Gordons showed, in the year 1677, some signs of abatement, according to the paper given in Appendix (page 219), but the following document of date 1678 shows it rising again somewhat ludicrously over the right to hold the fair and to take the profits of the same :—

" To the Right Honbl. my Lord Commissioner his Grace And remanent Lords of his Maties privie Counsell The humble supplication of William Lord Forbes against Charles, Earle of Aboyne

" That gras the petitioner hath ane depending action of reduction and declaration before the Lords of Counsell and session for reduction of a signatur and grant of a public mercat or fair, yeirlie to be holden upon the Muir of Bountie (alias called Charlestoune) about two or thrie miles distant from Lumphanan, Colstoune and Kincairn of Neill qr the petitioner and his authors and producers stand infett and have been in immemorial possession of a public yeirlie mercat called Bartholomew Fair, holding upon the 24 and 25 days of August, Wednesday Thursday and Friday nixt prefix at Kincairden of Neill against the said Charles Earle of Aboyne for reducing of the said new impetrate fair to be upon the penultimate tuesday of August nixt to come, as having been sureptitiously procured in simulatione and prejudice of the petitioners yeirlie mercat of Bartholomew fair, tending to the extinction thereof and enhancing the emoluments and benefitts arising to the petitioners from the yeirlie custome of the faire by inroaching upon the tyme of the petitioners mercat above spec^d. and not duellie observing the dew distance of tyme established by the law and custome of this nation, and necessar for preventing of the interfering of mercats at places lying so near adjacent. And now the tyme of the said mercat being at hand and falling in tyme of vacance so yt the sd depending reductione and declaration cannot be brought to a close for preventing anie inconveniencie yt may ensue upon the petitioner in maintaining his just right and Imemoriall possession from so manifest ane encroachment and to prevent the disquiet and disturbance of the petitioners mercat and persons resorting yrto, Necessar it is that a stop be put to the holding and keeping of the said new impetrate fair untill the discussing of the said reductione and declarator depending at the petitioners instance.

" It is yrfor humblie craved yt yr Grace and Lops may be pleased to dis-charge the said Earle of Aboyne from holding or keeping of the said procured fair upon the muir of Bountie until ye said depending reduction and declarator be discust or otherwayes untill the Earle himself shall declare his own right in law." ²

¹ The fact that this licence was only for the lifetime of Lord Forbes was quoted in a dispute about peat mosses in 1770.

² The charter granted by King Charles II., just quoted, shows that the right of Lord Forbes to hold the Fair was undoubted, but the troubles continued nevertheless.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES

The 12th Lord Forbes was fond of his woods, witness the following :—
 “ We William Lord Forbes, Sir John Forbes of Craigievar, and John Forbes of Balfluig, elder, being a quorum of William Master of Forbes friends, take into our consideration the prejudice the wood of Puttachie sustains by horse, nolt or sheep pasturing therein, and now seeing the trees there belong to William Forbes of Tulloch by virtue of disposition thereof made by us to him and he being willing for promoting the Master of Forbes interests by preserving the young growth of said wood, he to be at the pains both to keep the forester to his duty, as also to cause his own servants to oversee and keep the wood from the abuse of pasture aforesaid, therefore we do empower him to take and poynd all horse, nolt and sheep that shall be found pasturing within the said wood dyke, and to keep the samen till their owners shall redeem them by the payment to him of twentie shillings ilk horse and nolt and 12 shillings ilk sheep, to be employed by him for the wages of his attendants on the said wood and we do declare that the poynding shall import no deed of wrong by the said William Forbes of Tulloch to any as shall be found pasturing therein, and we further order William Rae, forrester for the said wood to give obedience to the said William Forbes as to his Master, all the time the said wood shall be in cutting

“ Written by John Laing servitor and subscrit at Castle Forbes. 8 Nov. 1683.”

An infraction of the above occurred on October 31st, 1685, when James Gairdner and James Anderson were called before the Baron Court of Lord Forbes, accused of burning woods last summer. Their defence was merely that they “ had not done it.”

A lawyer’s bill in Scots money delivered to the 12th Lord Forbes, *circa* 1685, is interesting. The Mistress of Forbes was Anne Brodie, wife from 1679 of William, afterwards 13th Lord.

“ Accmpt for my Lord & Master of fforbes

“ *Charge.*

“ Imprimis, Receaved bond from my Lord & ye Master of fforbes and the Laird of Brodie for £333 06 08

“ *Discharge.*

“ Imp. for wrytting and Signature of confirmation in favour of the Lord fforbes of the lands holden blench of his Matie, which formerly were not confirmed and in favour of the Master of fforbes of the hail Lordship of fforbes with some patronages, teynds and other goods in the signetur and in favours of the Mistress of fforbes of her Joynter lands, principall and warranted, being 4 sheets of paper 008 14 0

“ Item to the presenter of the signetures in Exchequer two rix dollars to his man, twenty shillings to the Usher and his man, two pound two shillings and four pennies to the Casket, six shillings to the Clerk of the thesaurers register and his man for regraven of the signature, eight pound, fourteen shillings . 017 18 4

“ Item, payed to the Exchequer for composition for the signatuers 040 00 0

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

" Item, payed at the Signet for all dows to Mr. and servants there .	£023	06	0
" Item, for translating the Signature in latin, and wrytting out a precept thereupon, being four sheets	008	14	0
" Item, Given to the wryter to the Signets man for wrytting their signatures and precept and for wrytting doubles thereof to leave at the Registers and sealls and for going along with me to the Sealls	02	18	0
" Item, payed to the wrytter to the public seall his deput and servants, and for parchment, thretty four pound. It. to the keeper of the public sealls and his depute and servants, and for wax twenty-six pund. Item sixteen shillings	60	16	00
" Item, to the director of the Chancellary twenty-six pounds. It. to his clerk and servants and for parchment and wrytting out ane charter to the great seall eighteen pund seventeen shillings. Expenses with three due pounds. It. for registration of the charter seven pund fyve shilling	054	00	00
" Item, payed to the Chancellor for appending the great seall, con- form to and rased on the back of the Charter ane hundred and four pounds. It. to Major Buntein, ¹ presenter to the great seall thretty fyve pund eight shillings. Item to his servant that waits on the great seall, fyve pounds sixteen shillings It. of sundrie charges with Entrekin eighteen shillings full	165	02	00
" It. for ane clerk	001	0	0
" It. for the deed of the Master's seasing it being verie long and many lands in it	007	05	00
	<hr/>		
	" Summa of ye accompt £0389 11 04"		

On December 17th, 1685, there was a Supplication to the Privy Council by William, Lord Forbes, William, Master of Forbes, and Alex^r. Master of Pitsligo. " They live at a great distance, and would be put to great expense in the winter seeson to come to Edinburgh and take the Test before the Council : so they crave to be allowed to take it before the Commissary of Aberdeen or any other person appointed by the Council for that effect."

Granted. (It being added that " William Lord Forbes is knowen to be ane infirme and aged man who these many years has not travelled from his owne house." He died in 1697, aged 77, so that at this date he was 65.)

¹Major Hugh Buntein of Kilbryde, Ayrshire, was, in March, 1689, when Dundee left the Convention and Edinburgh, sent after him with a troop of horse to bring him back to the city. He overtook Dundee but did not attack, being alarmed (according to Browne in his *History of the Highlands*) that " Dundee would send him back to the Convention in a pair of blankets." After this, April 24th, Buntein was appointed Muster-Master General of the forces raised by the Convention, to be commanded by Mackay. (Mark Napier, in his *Memoirs*.) Balcarres says that Major Buntein " never came within sight of Dundee." The above record of his peaceable employment as presenter to the great seal, is of date some years before the Highland rising.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES

Alexander, Master of Pitsligo, and afterwards 3rd Lord, was the father of Alexander, the 4th Lord, the well-known Jacobite. He is said to have been only 35 when he succeeded in 1690, so at this date was 30, and the Master of Forbes, who wished also to be saved a journey, was 28.

William, 12th Lord Forbes, married in 1648 Jean, daughter of Sir John Campbell of Calder, and by her, who died December 10th, 1666, had three sons and three daughters :—

1. William, 13th Lord Forbes, born *circa* 1657.¹
2. Arthur of Auchintoul² and Breda—married Elizabeth Forbes of Echt, and had a son, Alexander, and a grandson, John.
3. Archibald of Putachie,³ died November 29th, 1723; buried in St. Nicholas, m. Margaret Forbes of Leslie, 1 son, David, and 3 daughters.
4. Margaret, married first about 1668, Alexander, 1st Lord Duffus, who died 1674. She was his fourth wife and had no children by him. She married, secondly, about 1675, Sir Robert Gordon, 2nd Bart. of Gordonstown, and son of the 1st Sir Robert, who was fourth son of the 12th Earl of Sutherland and Jean Gordon (formerly Lady Bothwell). Margaret Forbes died in April 1677 at the birth of her only child, a daughter, Jean (who became, in 1699, the wife of John Forbes of Culloden and died in 1717 without issue).

The following letter from Margaret's father to the Laird of Calder refers to this unfortunate orphan, Jean Gordon :—

“ Castell Forbes. 22nd Nov. 1677.

“ I have been all this tyme expecting to have heard from you for an double of that contract of mariage of my dear daughter Duffus with Gordonston. I doubt not but you know the reason wherfor I would have it. Therfor iff you have not a double already by you, gett the principall contract that was subscribed by both parties, if it be yet lying in the Clerks hands, or then gett me ane band of provision to the child according to the contract of mariage, for to my best memorie the contract is for 16,000 merks at least. I am verie confident, that Gordonston will not refuse this, for who ought to have the keeping of it but myself. Sir, I will again and again expect and earnestlie entreat that you will bestowe yourself and look after this for the kindnesse you had to your cousing my daughter who is now gone, you being so instrumentall in that mariage. I

¹ Student in Aberdeen, 1672.

² “ At Aberdeen 1686 Arthur Forbes of Auchintoull, 2nd son of 12th Lord Forbes, was summoned for not taking the Test.” His defence was that he was married on the 1st January, 1686, that he did not know the particular time appointed by Act of Parliament for taking the Test, that he was a minor, that till his marriage he was “ onelie fiar of anie small fortune he hade, and the Lord Forbes, his father, was lyfrenter.” He took the Oath on January 15th, 1686, but was apparently afterwards a Jacobite with Dundee. (See page 232.)

³ At college in Aberdeen, 1677, with his brother, Arthur.

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

intend, God Willing (if it shall please the Lord to spare that child) to caus bring her heir in May after shee is weaned, for seing I have no mor now for my daughter I must therfor look the mor carfullie after her representative. Sir, I crave your pardone for this truble I give you. This with my humble dutie to your Lady and my wife's to you both :

" I ame, Sir, your most affectionate friend and servant,

" Forbes."

A previous item in the same volume, *The Thanes of Cawdor*, shows a sum of money paid to Jean Campbell at the time of her wedding to William, then Master of Forbes :—

" Discharge of 1651.

" Item givin to the Mistres of Forbes at Inverary the tyme of her wedding according to her ticket £71 4

" Item at that tyme given to Mr. John Campbell of Moy, being imployit be the freindis with ane commissioun to the Master of Forbes anent the said mariage, and in going northe the second tyme in convoy of the Mistres of Forbes after the mariage £55 "

5. Elizabeth, the fifth child of William, Lord Forbes and Jean Campbell, married John Leith of Whitehaugh, who died in 1728. Their only child, Anne, m. William Forbes of Tolquhon, whence the Forbes-Leiths.
6. There was also a daughter Mary, only known from a paper at Castle Forbes. (See page 221.)

William, 12th Lord Forbes, married secondly, while still Master of Forbes (*circa* 1669), Anna Erskine, third daughter of Alexander, Viscount Fentoun, son of the first Earl of Kellie. She died without issue.

His third wife, whom he married in 1682, was Barbara Forbes, daughter of John Forbes of Asloun, and previously second wife of Arthur Forbes of Echt, who died in 1680. She had had one daughter by Echt, who married her *step*-brother, Arthur Forbes of Auchintoul. (See above.)

The following inventory was probably made for Anna Erskine, second wife of William, 12th Lord Forbes :—

" Inventar of what plenishing there was in the house att my home coming which was in Aug. 1669.

" Blankets, sheets, bed plaids. Coddys [pillows].

" Bolsters—Coverings.

" Curtains, Table cloathes.

" Naperie in the wardrobe, Mirror glasses.

" Chamber potts, stools, bedpan.

" six brass candlesticks—snuffers—tongs."

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES

REGISTERED BOND OF RELIEF, 1699.

Arthur Fforbes of Breda
against

Archibald forbes 1714, his brother.

Archibald Forbes was commissioner of supply and was authorised to uplift the eight months' supply for 1713.

When the star of King James II. was about to set, William, Lord Forbes, sided, to all appearance, with the Whig party and seemed to be in sympathy with the address which his eldest son and friends sent to William of Orange after the famous landing of the latter in Torbay and the flight of the king.

"THE MASTER OFF FORBES AND HIS FRIENDS TO THE PRINCE OF ORANGE.
JAN. 25TH 1689.

[164] [*The copy is in the Charter chest, without signatures, but headed as above.*]

"Your Highnes, moved with a fervent zeall for Religione and love to Justice, Hath with so vast expence and so great hazard to your own persone prevented (as we hope) the dismall consequences of the powerfull and formidable combinations made against the Reformed Church and at the same tyme with so much prudence kyndness and gentleness, Rescued these Realms from ane uneasie government occasioned by pernicious forraigne counccills ; And hath so comforted and rejoysed all the sincere professors of the Reformed Religion and astonished and counfounded all the imbittered adversaries of it. That as Your Highnes is the Darling and Glorie of the present age So you will be the admiration of the ages that are to come. These great advantages we already enjoy by the blessing of God on your Highnes indeavours, give us ane weel-grounded assurance to expect evrie good thing we can reasonable desyre ; Wee therefore now that his Sacred Majestie hath withdrawn himselfe and retired from his Kingdoms, Humble and earnestlie address and apply our selves to Your Highness for your protection and assistance in procuring to this Kingdome ane frie Parliament wherin the errors of the laite Government both of Church and State may be redressed, our laws priviledges, liberties and properties secured, And above all our Holy Religion may be so established as shall contribute most to the Glorie of God, the honour and everlasting renoun of Your Highnes and the peace, quiet and happieness of this hithertoo Divyded Kingdome. Wee are——"

Although a Whig partizan, William, Lord Forbes, had no idea of losing money in his country's cause, and as soon as William and Mary appeared secure on their throne, he sent in a bill for the losses sustained by his tenants in the course of the campaign waged between General Mackay and the Highlanders under Dundee and his successors.¹

¹These "Highlanders" were not, of course, all the soldiers of Dundee—they were many of them the lawless bands of the mountainous regions who habitually preyed on their more peaceful neighbours, and against whom the lowland lairds made bonds between themselves, and gave others to the Government. Several of these are in the Forbes Charter Chest, but have already been printed in the *Jacobite Papers by Colonel Allardyce*. (*New Spalding Club*, 1895.)

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

"THE ACCOMPT OFF LOSSES SUSTAINED IN MY LORD FORBES LANDS BY THE
HIGHLANDMEN IN THE YEARS 1689 & 1690.

" Out of the Towne of Logie that was taken,	
" From George Ronald and John Mitchell yr. four score of wedders at three marks and a half the peice is	186 13 0
" Out of the town of Edinbanchrie taken	
" From John Mitchell yr 8 drawing oxen at 20 lib the peice is	160 0 0
" For 5 oxen at twenty merk the peice is	66 13 0
" For 2 horse at twenty merks the peice	26 12 8
" From William Chrystie yr three oxen at 20 lib the peice is	60 0 0
" for a cow at	14 0 0
" For a horse and a mare at	40 0 0
" From George Mitchell five oxen at 20 lib the peice is	100 0 0
" fra him two kyn and a stow at 12 lib the peice is	36 0 0
" From John Morgan yr. three oxen at 20 lb. the peice is	60 0 0
" for a cow at	13 6 8
" for two horse at twenty merk the peice is	26 13 4
" From George Gardner three oxen at 20 lb. the peice is	60 0 0
" for a cow at 12 lib.	12 0 0
" From Elspet Drummond four oxen at 20 lib the peice is	80 0 0
" for two kyn at 12 lib the peice is	24 0 0
" From John Mitchell at the Milne a horse at	40 0 0
" for a mare at	20 0 0
	839 6 8"

And similar accounts for three other towns (i.e. farms) the whole amounting to 3324 13 1 Scots money (nearly £300 sterling).

Some of the partizans of Dundee took occasion to harry Lord Forbes' lands.

"MEMORANDUM FOR THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD CHANCELLOR AND
REMANENT LORDS OF HIS MAJESTIES MOST HONOURABLE PRIVIE COUNCELL."

(Indorsed—"Memorandum for the Earle of Argyll—1695.")

This Petition narrates that John Lumsden of Auchindore being "neighbour to my Lord Forbes, did carrie ane inveteratt malice and prejudice against him and his Tennents and took occasion of the late troubles at and since the revoluⁿ to intise and tryst down the hyghland robbers to his own house under silence of the night and then he himself led them on to my Lord Forbes lands and did demonstrat to them who were the ritchest tennents, wher they should fall on and carry off the goods and wch accordingly thes hyghland robbers did to the utter ruin of these poor tennents" and that Decree had therefore been pronounced in the Court of Justiciary against him ¹ for the amount plundered with expenses of plea.

Lord Forbes died in June, 1697, and seems to have had a truly Highland funeral:—

¹ I.e. John Lumsden. There is nothing to show whether Lord Forbes ever got any redress either from Lumsden or from the Government.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES

“ACCOMPT OF NECESSARIS SPENT AT LORD FORBES HIS FUNERAL, JUNE 15TH.

“ Imprimis 10 elnes & $\frac{1}{2}$ of black cloth at 2 lib 10s/ per elne.	
“ 6 elnes & $\frac{1}{2}$ black cloth at 2 lib. 8s/ per elne. 43 elnes of plaidin	
“ 4 elnes & $\frac{1}{2}$ ditto at 1 lb. 10/ 5 pr black stockings	
“ 3 elnes of black searge 40 elnes of lining.	
“ for litster commodities for litting (dyeing) hangings.	
“ 4 elnes of plaidin litted with the hangings	£120 16 10
“ Accompt of grave cloaths	
“ 5 elnes of holland 7 elnes of holland, 1 elne of holland ane elne and half of muslin	
“ elnes of white mourning ribbands 12 elnes of black ribbands.	
“ 6 elnes of linen and for making the grave cloaths	47 19 0
“ Accompt of meat to the funeral.	
“ Imprimis, ane boll and 3 firlots of flour	
“ 2 stone and three quarters of butter For a fed cow	
“ 7 capons 14 hens 3 dozen and a half of chickens	
“ 5 dozen and a half of chickens for roasting, 8 capons, 20 hens for roasting, 6 lambs, a veale 4 kids 5 wedders	£100 4 4
“ To Kynnairdy for his attendance on my Lord	£20
“ To the German doctor when he came to see my Lord	£20
“ To Wm. Forbes the apothecary fourteen days attendance	£37
“ To expreses sent up and down the country for carrying the burial letters	£6
“ 4 Stoups of acquavitæ. A ston of prunes	
“ 6 pounds of dry confits to John Frazer for taking of muirfowls.	
“ To two Trumpeters. To the Kirk officer for being at the Grave	
“ To eight days work to a wright. 8 pints of acquavitæ.	
“ For a chalder of malt Ten bolls and a firLOT of meal	£100 4 4
“ 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of claret 3 Casks for holding same 1 Chapin claret	
“ 1 lb Glen 3 gross 3 doz. double pyppes 1 pint Claret	
“ 3 Gross single pyppes box for holding them	
4 lbs. Cutt Tobaco	£130 6 0”

Other items are for painting the escutcheon ; for mortcloths, etc., and “for printing of fyve several epitaphs upon his deceast worthie father.” Also the list of 385 guests invited, showing that a vast provision of food and drink was indeed required.

Letter to Lady Forbes (Barbara Forbes), third wife and widow of 12th Lord, after her husband’s death :—

“Monymusk, June 7th, 1697.

“Madam,

“As your Lap is justly disconsolate with the death of My Lop, your husband, so friends have a due regrate for the loss of one so good and kindly. All of us wish the Master had been at home, in which case anything that may now appear difficult could have been easily obviate and more sure directions could have been given. However, Madam, the friends of ye family who mete here this day doe

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

unanimously judge yt ye proposal of your Lap's letter is most just and reasonable, yt is our own opinion and we doubt not but ye Mr. when he comes home will have ye same sentiments, he is too good and wise himself not to have a due regard to your merit toward my lord his father and your houseband, to whom you not only performed all ye conjugall duties but have likeways put a singular obligation upon the family and upon all the name by the advantages you have brought into it. The Mr. will be sensible as we are that you have brought much into the family and yt you carry nothing from it, so that both reason and justice and gratitude doe each of them put the strongest tyes to acknowledge and grant qtever you have demanded in your letter—Besydes the above mentioned grounds of acknowledging your proposal are greatly strengthened and confirmed from this consideration of the executry is all the provision made by way of requittall for what you have brought into the family and that the executry may be really exhausted by debts contracted for the decent support of the house during the tyme of the marriage ; but tho this were not as we really believe it, we do not see how yt daly provision could decently be rendered ineffectuall by leaving the burthen of the funerall expenses upon it ; We hope yt what is written anent the particulars will give your Lap all the satisfaction the matter itself allows, and as to the disconsolate state you stand in, it is God only can give you comfort in that and we heartily pray for it. When yr Lap considers how virtuously and piously my lord lived you cannot but have a great dale of comfort in thinking yt he now enjoys the fruits of his labours and of a pious and well led life.

“ We subscribe ourselves Madam

“ Your Lap's most humble and obedient servants,

“ Jo. Forbes of Monymusk. Sam. Forbes (*Foveran*)

“ Wm. Leith of Whitehaugh. Arth. Forbes. (*Echt*)

“ — Forbes. R. Forbes. (*Brux*) ”

To recapitulate the family of William, 12th Lord Forbes, by his first wife, Jean Campbell of Calder, he had

William, 13th Lord Forbes, 1697 ; died, 1716.

Arthur of Auchintoul.

Archibald of Putachie.

Margaret, Lady Duffus, subsequently Lady Gordon of Gordonstown.

Elizabeth, married John Leith.

Mary, died unmarried. (See page 212.)

APPENDIX FOR WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES.

CHARTERS, BONDS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

“ 1654 WHEREAS William Maister of forbes and Adame forbes tutor of Brux has given band and securitie to Lieutennant Collonell Simones for Arthur forbes of Brux, that he shall live peacible and act nothing prejudicibel to the Commonwealth of England—And to the effect the said William maister of forbes and the said Adam forbes may be warrandit free and Liberat of ther said band and of the sowme of ane thousand pundis sterling money of failzie therein specifiet

therefor wit ye us under subscribing to be bund and obleist and be this presents, binds and obleisses us to warrand, free, releve, and skaithless keep the said William Maister of forbes and the said Adame forbes of the forsaid sowme of ane thowsand pundis sterling money of failzie specefiet in the band granted to be given to the said Lieutentennant Collonell Symones according to our proportionable pairtes therof, not exceeding the sowme of fyve hundreth marks Scottes money.

"IN WITNES wherof we have subscrivit this presents with our hands att — the — day of — ane thowsand six hundred fyftie and four yeirs.

" Befor Witnessis (*signed by*)

" Johne Forbes of Bandley.

W. Forbes of Likliheid.¹

" Walter forbes of Blactoun.

A Forbes, his brother.

" T. Forbes of Achorthies.

J. Forbes, brother.

" R. Forbes of Disblair.

W. Forbes of Craigie.²

" T. Forbes of Echt.

Arthur Forbes of Culquharry.

" Will. Forbes of Corsinday.

Alexander Garden of Troupe.

" George Forbes.

Alex^r. Straqⁿ. of Glenkindie, younger.

" Arthur Forbes, Towie.

Jo. Innes.

" Alexr. Forbes younger

Robert Forbes of Barnes.

of Culquharry

John forbes of foullis

" William Forbes of Thombeg.

Jo. Forbes of —

" J. Gordoun of Glenbucket.

Knockquharn

" W. Reid, burges of Aberdeen."

[134] " 24 April 1658. Carta per Thomam McKenzie de Pluskardin et Dominum Robertam Innes de eodem hereditarios proprietarios terrarum infrascriptarum facta Jeannæ Campbell in vitale reddito et ejus sponso Willelmo Magistro de Forbes et heredibus masculis ejusdem in feodo de terris de Puttachie, Ester et Wester Glentone, New Keig, Brighhall and Coriburne, terris de Bithnye, Kirktoune de Forbes, Balfour, Strautlimak, Colhay, Blackhillock, Easter Forbes, Sillavethie, Scotsmill and Lamhards Croft, tenendis de dictis Thoma McKenzie et Domino Roberto Innes in alba firma."

Confirmation (written on the back) of the above charter by Archibald, Marquis of Argyll, immediate Superior of the lands of Putachie,³ etc.

The above charter is followed by another :—

" Charter by William Master of Forbes (in implement of his Marriage contract) to his spouse Mistress Jean Campbell, eldest daughter of the deceased John Campbell of Calder, of the lands of Putachie and others as in the preceding charter, in Liferent.

¹ Also Laird of Leslie.

² Also of Fingask.

³ It is curious to think that at one period these lands, appraised by Thos. McKenzie and Sir Robert Innes, and by them reconveyed in life-rent to Jean Campbell, her husband and heirs, were actually held as superior by Jean Campbell's relative, the Marquis of Argyll. To him had been assigned the forfeited estates of the 2nd Marquess of Huntly, beheaded March 22nd, 1649, and it was not until 1662 that George, 4th Marquess, had a grant from King Charles II. of the ancient Huntly estates, fallen to the Crown through the forfeiture of the Marquis of Argyll.

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

"Witnesses Thomas Forbes, Advocate in Edinburgh, son to the Laird of Tolquhon [*This was Thomas Forbes of Achry, afterwards 11th Laird.*] George Forbes, younger of Skelater, Thomas Forbes of Doresaill, Mr. Robert Dunbar, Minister at Kearne, Mr. Alex. Forbes, Advocate in Aberdeen, John Forbes, his son and Arthur Forbes of Brux." On the back is a Confirmation by Archibald, Lord Lorne.

"Witnesses, Arthur Forbes of Brux, John Forbes fiar of Leslie, and John Forbes, lawful son to John Forbes of Asloun.

"dated 10 Feb. 1660—at Castle Forbes."

In 1664, William, Master of Forbes, gave caution:—

"That Robert Forbes of Robslaw shall not be molested by William, Master of Forbes, Sir John Forbes of Craigievar, Sir Alex^r Forbes of Tolquhon, Thomas Forbes of Auchorthies, Sir John Forbes of Monymusk — Forbes of John Forbes of Arthur Forbes of Forbes of Bryth — Forbes of Culquehanny — Forbes of Neaw and William Forbes of Skellater." (*Privy Council Records.*)

There is also in the Forbes charter chest:

[145] "29th March 1676 an Acknowledgement by Sir John Forbes of Monymusk that he has, and pretends to, *no* right to the lands of Glentoune in the Parish of Keig, belonging to Lord Forbes."

[148] A long memorandum as to these estates, held from the Marquess of Huntly, follows:—

"WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES. 1677. APRIL 17.

"*Memorandum* anent the state of my Lord Forbes his affairs with my Lord Huntly in reference to his action of reduction and others he has against him as to the lands the Lord Forbes holds of the house of Huntly, with a brief collection of the substance of several consultations my Lord Forbes hath had there anent, as also what writs are produced or to be produced regarding the same."

This regards certain actions which seem to have been commenced or at least threatened by the Marquis of Huntly for the purpose of evicting the Lord Forbes from all the lands held by the family of Forbes of the House of Gordon, whether Blench, ward or feu. An action of reduction Improbation on the ground of forfeiture (of the Marquis of Argyll who had granted the infestments as donator to the escheat of the Marquis of Huntly) and another of Recognition on account of certain ward lands being held on a disposition of a compriser without confirmation or consent of the superior, are particularly mentioned and the several defences to each are shortly noticed as suggested at consultations with Sir George Lockhart, Sir Robert Sinclair and Sir George Mackenzie and founded on titles the oldest of which is a crown charter of Confirmation of the whole lands held (by Lord Forbes) of the family of Gordon, excepting Meikle Tolmads, Putachie and Glentoun, dated one thousand five hundred and thirty nine. 1539.

The first holding of the lands of Meikle Tolmads seems to have been on a Charter by Lord Huntly to William Master of Forbes on the resignation of — Ogilvie dated one thousand, five hundred and forty six.

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES—APPENDIX

The lands of Putachie are stated to have been held of Huntly, who holds the same of the Bishop of St. Andrews and a feu charter of these lands by Lord Huntly in favor of Arthur Forbes of Balfour commonly designed Black Arthur dated one thousand five hundred and sixty is produced.

It is stated that no charter can be found of the lands of Glentoune held of the Lord Huntly. Only there is a charter granted by John Archbishop of St. Andrews to Wm. Lord Forbes as presented immediate tenant to him by the King's Majesty upon the Marquess of Huntly his *forfaultrie* dated ye 3rd of June 1563 which is stated to be in the hands of Monimusk, to whom the lands of Cowly and Inzean, contained in the same charter, had been disposed by the Lord Forbes.

“ CHARTER OF GEORGE, M. OF HUNTLY, TO 12TH LORD FORBES, 1677.

[149] “ We George, Marquis of Huntly, for as meikle as there was two charters granted and subscribed by us in favour of my Lord fforbes and the master of fforbes his son, the one upon the lands of Tolmads and others therein contained the other upon the lands of Putachie and others therein contained, both which charters are of the date at Edinburgh the second day of August 1677 years, and seeing in each of these charters there is ane clause which was not contained in the former old charter, to wit

“ ‘ Nec non, prefatus Gulielmus Dominus de Forbes et Gulielmus Magister de fforbes, heredes sui et assignati quibus cumque ac et etiam coloni prædictarum terrarum qui pro tempore extituerunt in gueris et exercitibus Regis quoties eos moneri contigerit cum nobis nostrisque heredibus successoribus et assignatis rebus bellis etc. Gulielmo Domino de Forbes et Anne Erskine ejus sponserie conjuncti infeodatione et vitale reddite pro omne eorum diebus.’

“ Which clause we willingly dispense with and discharge the sd Lord Forbes & Master of Forbes thereof for now and ever And further, if the said Lord Forbes shall present to us at any time the sd two Charters in that case we shall subscribe the same. In witness qroff these presents are written by Patrick Lesly of Kincairgy and subscribed with our hand at the Bogg, the second day of November sixteen hundred and seventy seven years before witness, Alex. Master of Saltoun, and Alex. Bannerman of Elsick and Alex. Gordon of Auchintoull and the sd writer sic sub^r.

“ Huntly.”

The seal to this charter, in very good preservation, shows the arms of the 6th Earl of Huntly, afterwards 1st Marquis, identical with those of the present Marquis; quarters: Gordon, Badenoch, Seton, Fraser; stags-head crest, and greyhound supporters.

BOND FOR LORD FORBES' STEP-DAUGHTER, PRESERVED IN CHARTER CHEST.

“ 1679-80. Registered Obligation and bond of provision. Arthur Forbes of Echt to Elizabeth Forbes—in presence of Master John Forbes, sheriff deput of Aberdeen—£10,000 Scots money to his only child in life, Elizabeth, at the age of 18 years or at her marriage—to be paid to her Mother, Barbara Forbes after

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

my decease (*said Barbara became 3rd wife of 12th Lord Forbes*). At Martimas sixteen hundred fourscore and two yeirs the said Elizabeth would be of the age of twelve yeirs. Said Barbara was to have the management of the arent of the 10,000, to be used for the education and maintenance of said Elizabeth, as long as sd Barbara remained in widow-hood and unmarried to another husband, until said Eliz. charge curators and dispose otherwayes of herself. This to be in full of all that Elizabeth might claim as heir to sd Arthur or his deceast son Thomas. 'Lykewise it is also hereby provided and declared that if it shall happen to the said Elizabeth to depart this life in her virginitie and unmarried to any lawful husband, then and in that case the sd whole sum of 10,000 Scots shall return appertaine and belong to my heirs of tailzie and whosover shall succeed to my estate and liveing of Eight as above disposed. As witness my hand at Eight [*Echt*] the 10 day of December 1679 and subscribit be me before these witnesses John Forbes of Westoune and John Turing and James Fraser my servitor.' "

Elizabeth married her step-brother, Arthur Forbes of Auchintoul, but the estate of Echt went eventually to her uncle, Thomas of Knockquarne. At the age of 13 she seems to have become possessed of a considerable part of the furnishings of Echt, as witness the following:—

" *Inventure* of Moveables Domicils, etc. for Mistress Elizabeth Forbes, daughter to my lady Forbes—

' *Inventure.*

' Of the moveables goods and gear, domicils and household plenishing and soumes belonging to Barbara Lady Forbes and disponed by her to her daughter Mistress Elizabeth Forbes, and the same is taken up and subscribed by her hand at Castle Forbes 7 April 1683.'

" Imprimis three scoir of sheep, all widders, three kine with their followers, Item of household plenishing, a chest with ten pair of plaids and fourteen pair of sheets layd up therein. A presse in the Wardrobe having in it twelve pair of playds, six pair of sheets, Twenty four pillows, whereof a dozen filled and wared. Two dozen of Dornick napery and thretty elnes of tyking, all laid up in these presses. Item. two Cabinets. Item four coverings, whereof three sewed and one broidered, a web of green stamped cloth for bed hanging. Six feather beds, six bolsters. Item, a half dozen of great pewter playts and a dozen of smaller playts. An acquavity Stillaton. A. p m [pint measure] in bottles. A dozen of sewed and broidered cushions A looking glass, two pair of candlesticks wherof one pair brasse and another of china. All these above written are over and beside the moveable heirship disponed to the foresaid Mistress Elizabeth Forbes by her deceased father.

" *Item.* All debts and soumes of money resting to the sd Barbara Lady Forbes whereof her bonds tickets and compt books will give an account. I, Barbara Lady Forbes have subscribed the foresaid *Inventure*, written by Mr. Adam Barclay Min. at Keig, the said day and yeir of God above written—before witnesses the said Mr. Adam Barclay and Mr. John Barclay his sone.

" Barbara Forbes.

" Adam Barclay

" John Barclay."

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES—APPENDIX

Fresh charters and sasines of Putachie, Auchterkeig and Glentoune were granted by the Marquis of Huntly on July 9th, 1678.

In 1679 the lands of Putachie, etc., were settled on William, Master of Forbes, afterwards the 13th Lord, at the time of his marriage with Anna Brodie, eldest daughter of James Brodie, heir of Brodie.

In 1679 also there is a "Note of what bonds William Lord Forbes is to ingage for and pay, conform to the present burthen of the House of Forbes, according to the minute of contract past betwixt him and his son Wm. Mr.

"My Lord's ingagement extending to the sum of ten thousand merks."
(10,000 merks Scots = £554 13s. 4d. sterling.)

" To Archibald Forbes his youngest sone	6000 merks.
" To Mrs. Mary Forbes his youngest daughter. [<i>This is the child ignored in the "Peerage"</i>]	4000 "
" To the Laird of Ballluig	600 "
" To Monymusk	300 "
" To the Laird of Lesley	300 "
" To Catherine Watson	400 "
" To Mr. Wm. Chalmers	300 "
" To Mr. Alex. Forbes, Minister at Kern	300 "
" To the Exors of Mr. Melville	500 "
" To Jean Mitchell	400 "
" To Thomas Adams in Wester Tammads	300 "
" To Culquharry	250 "
" To Christian Robertson	200 "
" To Mr. Robert Farquerson	200 "
" To Patrick Chrystie, elder	200 "
" To Craighall ¹	200 "
" To Craigievar	150 "
" To Euphim Donaldson	200 "
" To James Morgan	100 "
" To Wm. Donaldson	100 "

15,000

" summa of my Lords ingagement is fifteen thousand merks
signed Forbes.

" Note that thes soumes are drawn up conforme to the bonds upon them
" Signed William Mr. of Forbes."

In 1680 William, 12th Lord Forbes; John, Lord Elphinstoune; and William, Master of Forbes, with the advice of the Bishop of Aberdeen, are appointed "to take care of the education of the Viscount of Fren draught both as to place and manner thereof." This was in answer to "a supplication by Christian, Viscountess Fren draught, a Protestant, because all the

¹ George Leith, freeholder.

rest of the family are popish, but her design is like to be frustrated by Lues Crichton, uncle to the Viscount, a declared and bigoted papist."

Christian, Viscountess Fren draught, the daughter of Sir Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty, was widow of Lord Rutherford before she married Viscount Fren draught. After the death of the latter in 1674 she married, thirdly, George Morison of Bognie, to whom eventually she conveyed the lands of Fren draught, etc.

Her son William, 3rd Viscount Fren draught, whose education was in question, died unmarried and a minor between 1680 and 17th August, 1686, when his uncle Lewis was served heir to him in the title.

A somewhat illegible parchment, *not* included in the *Registrum*, shows the question of marches, and troubles over cutting peats reappearing under the 12th Lord Forbes, 1680 :—

" At the Castell of Kildromy the fourteint day of July, j M. vj.C. and tour-score yeires The quhilk day In presense of ane Noble Earle, Charles Earle of Marr, Lord Erskeine, Garroch and Alloway heretable Lord off the Regality off Kildromie, William Forbes off Skellater, John Keirie off Gegor and Charles Gordon of Blelack, his Lordshipes Baylies of the sayd regality, sitting In Judgement In ane regaltie Court Lawfullie fenced and affarmed, personallie Compeired ane noble Lord William Lord Forbes haveing and holding in his hand Certayne papers contayneing the bounding and cleireing of Marches betwixt his Lps Lands of Balchatt and Westhilles on the one part, And the lands of Edinbanchrie with the pertinents on the other syde all belonging heretable to the sayd William Lord Forbes And the lands of Boghead, Whytley, Auld Achmilen Deskrie, Luythauch, Drieme and Bridgend with the pairts and pertinents theroff belonging heretable to John Lumsden of old Achindoir on the other pairt, earnestlie the sayd paperes for bounding and cleiringe the sayd marches, with ane tollerance under the hand and subscription of the said John Lumsden granted to him be the sayd William Lord Forbes for getting libertie to Cast peats in his Lps. Mosse, to be publickly read and approven for reall and trew bounding evidents in all tyme to come, Quhilk desyne the sayd noble Earle and his baylies thocht reasonable And therfor ordayned the same to be publicly red in face of Court and wherof the tenures followes and ar thus.

" Att the burne off Bleckpett the haugh ther betwixt the right honorable William Mr. of Forbes and James Gordone of Tarparsye upon the Twantie first day of July one thousand sex hundreth and fiftie seven yeires is marched be both the Consents as follows—

" the first march betwixt them now agreed upon the westsyd wherof is properlie Tarparsie and the eastsyd the Master of Forbesses, qlk. beginnes at the headline known of the Duan the foot yrof And so directly doune throwe the sayd haugh according as the samen is marched the sayd day, and houles made in severall pairts filled with stones till it come to the North end of the know of bridgend a little distance therfra according as the holl is made ther And therfra to the old *fousie* ¹ wher the burne ran till it Come right to the burne it selfe wher it

¹ Fosse or ditch.

now runs. This is subscribed by them both and Condescended upon day forsayd
 Written by John Gordone of Law, before witness George Forbes younger of
 Skellater, Harie Gordon of Achlyne and John Gordone writtar forsayd, Robert
 Farquharson of Wardes, Mr. Patrik Anderson of Clate et sic subscribitur *William*
Mr. of Forbes, Gordone of Tarparisie agrees to thes Marches. R. Farquharson
 witness, H. Gordone witness, John Gordone writtar & witness Isa : Andersone
 witness At Bridge end off Mossett the tualt day of August j M. vj.C. seventie eight
 yeires In presence of John Forbes off Leslie and Alexander Innes of Towy Baylie
 to the Earl of Marr Compeired George Ranald in Boghead, John Theuse in
 Middleton, George Layng servitor to my Lord Forbes, Arthur Dalgarno in
 Blairindinnie, James Anderson in Marchinall Thomas Angus and George Mitchell
 in Edinbanchie as witness sworne and examined anent ane Moss debatable
 betwixt My Lord Forbes and John Lumsden of Achindore, who altogether went
 alongs the hilles wher the sayd Mosse debatable and In question lyes And who
 declared and sett the Marshes as follows :—to witt :—

“ First Arthour Dalgarno ane Man of fiftie yeires or more being examined
 declared upon oath that he knew no mor of that last but that my Lord and his
 tennents had peaceable possest the sayd moss without Interruption since he
 remembered to know the samen, and is thus subscribed Arthour Dalgarno.

“ Item George Layng a man of fourtie yeires or more of Age as he Confest,
 being also examined declared upon oath that as he knew or was Informed the
 trew Marsh betwixt my Lord Forbes Lands and John Lumsdenes land is ane
 wellhead in the head of six greines, by and upon the North of the descent of the
 hill from the Moss called the Moss of Carnedald be ane direct lync to the wellhead
 from whence the burne of Crannest descends and that he never knew or herd
 any word butt that my Lord Forbes and his tennents had peaceable possession of
 that moss butt (without) Interruption, till this last Sumer that the sayd John
 Lumsden made civill Interruption. G. Layng.

“ Item Thomas Angus a man of threttie yeires of age declared that he was
 Informed by the sayd George Ranald and John Troup that the Marsh betwixt
 the sayd Lands is the burne well heades above mentioned And that he knew
 nothing of the Moss. Thomas Angus.

“ Item the said George Mitchell a Man of thrittie three yeires of age being
 examined declared upon oath that he heard ane old man John Angus somtyme
 in Edinbanchie say and declare to him that the March betwixt the sayds lands
 was from the sayd wellhead on the Northsyd of the sayd hill in the descent from
 the said Mosse of the burne of Crannest, as that old man was Informed
 by his father who was present at the appoynting of the sayds Marches.
 George Mitchell.

“ Item the sayd John Troup : a man of seventie yeires of age as he Confest,
 declared that he heard that the heads of two burnes was the March betwixt them
 since he remembered And that he never heard that any person made any In-
 terruption to my Lord Forbes his peaceable possession of the sayd mosse. At
 Comand of the sayd George Ranald and John Troup who cannot writt as they
 affirmed I James Thomson notar publick being desyred subscribe for them as
 testifie my following subscription *J. Thomson.* J. Forbes off Leslie. J. Innes
 (*followes the tollerance*) I John Lumsden of Achindore grants me to have

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

received from my Lord Forbes ane tolerance for leaseing haveing and Leading of peats soe cropt and yeir of jM. vj.C. and 'seventie seven yeires which favour I grant the receipt of, excluding any of my tennents that can pretend Interest by vertue of my tolerance or ye former carying of peats in the sayd Moss Witnesse my hand at Castell Forbes the twantie first of May jM. vj.C and seventie seven befor witness Mr. Angus M^eBane and William Forbes of Cardodle Jo. Lumsden. William Forbes . . Mr. Angus McBane witnes after the publick reading of which two . . . papers And letter of Tolerance Judicialle in Court as sayd is The sayd Noble Earle and his baylies considering the samen, And finding the sayds Lands trewlie Marched and the marches rightlie appoynted and sett doune, They all with ane Consent ratiefied approved and confirmed the samen in haill heads conditiones and Circumstances therin nominate and sett doune, And to thes presents declares appoynts and ordaynes the sayd boundings and Marches to be the reall trew evidents of the samen in all tyme comeing als fullie as if the samen with the forseid Letter of Tolerance had beine Ingrossed in the bodies of the severall distinct cherters. In wittness q^of The sayd Earle and his baylies have subscryved this presents day place and yeir of God forsaid befor witnesse Mr. Roderick Mackenzie of Killiewhillidrum Arthour Forbes of Brux eldre and younger.

" Jo. Forbes	Mar.
" Charles Gordone	Jo. Kerrie baylies.
" J. Gordone wittnes	
" Ar : Forbes wittnes.	
" A. Forbes wittnes."	

RE HIS BROTHER JAMES.

Discharge LIEUTENANT Colonel James FORBES TO WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES.

" I, Lieutenant Collonel James Forbes, oldest lawfull son procreat betwixt the deceast Alexander Lord Forbes and Dame Elizabeth forbes his second Ladie, for certayne onerous causes and soumes of money advanced and payed to me at the makeing hereof by William Lord Forbes my eldest brother and for other considerations moveing me, have discharged and be the tenor hereof grant quit-tance for me my airs, assignees and successors whatsoever of all cloggs, claims, instances, debates, actions of law, debts and soumes and all and sundrie other things of any sort either pretended to be addebted and due be him to me or whereunto I have or can pretend any kynd of right title or interest as transmitted and befalling to me be any other person or be pretence of succession or any other maner of way under whatsoever color or pretext for any cause or occasion preceding the day and dait of these presents, whereanent the sayd William Lord forbes and his foresds shall remayne quit, free and exonered in all tyme coming, declaring willing and ordaying the present generall discharge to be als valid and sufficient exonar unto him as if every particular compt and reckoning and

WILLIAM, 12TH LORD FORBES—APPENDIX

other claims and pretensions of any sort which I have or had agaynst him or could have layd to his charge, had been specially and particularly herein nominat etc.

“ In witness whereof I have subscribed these presents at Castle Forbes the sexteenth day of May 1677, before these witnesses Arthur Forbes of Eight, John Forbes of Pollfleeg, Alex. Forrester servitor to the said Lord Forbes and the said James Thomson notter public.

Colonel James Forbes, fifth son of Arthur, 10th Lord and uncle of the 12th Lord, who died 1654, had estates in Sweden.

“ A review of some papers of Coll. James Forbes (in the German tongue) of ane estate of 750 Rex dollars per annum and 12,000 rex dollars more.”

This is a copy of a certificate under the hand and seal of Wellbott, that he has at the desire of William, Master of Forbes, examined the grant of an estate by Christina Queen of Sweden, to Colonel William Forbes, dated at Stockholm the 18 day of May 1653, and the subsequent titles in the German tongue bringing down the right to that property to Colonel James Forbes, uncle to the Master, with a detail of some litigation used to prove his title and a certificate that it having now been cleared and allowed, the recovery was easy ; but no details are given as to whether recovery was attempted and, if so, whether it was successful.

It would appear probable that Colonel James Forbes, who signed the petition on page 187 with his brother Alexander, 11th Lord, and John (after the death of the brother William), did not return again to Scotland, also that he was unmarried.

“ MEMEMTO MORI UPON THE DEATHE OF THE TRUELY NOBLE LORD WILLIAM LORD FORBES WHO LEFT THIS LIFE JUNE 3. 1697.”

[*Put up in MS. with the Funeral Accounts.*]

“ Death being gluttet with plebeian blood,
Lest that he surfeit, he will alter 's food ;
He'll suck the blood of nobles and be sure
He'll cull the best that lyes within his pow'r.
The Prince of the Forbesian tribe hath found
No force nor Phisick can remove his wound ;
Of noble blood, sprung from the purest veins
Of ancient heroes without spot or staines ;
Of blood that justly claims the first degree
Among the most ancient of Nobilitie.
Could damnéd death, oh given a Relief ?
Great Forbes'es clan should always had this chief.
If honest kyndness or kynd honestie :
If pious virtue or virtu'ous pietie :
If Soul enriched with all was good or great,
Could have resisted this sad stroak of Fate ;

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

All men should ever had this noble friend,
Who to all rankes was still both good and kynd.
Let Poetes praise him in heroick verse ;
Let floodes of teares attend his funeral hearse ;
Mourn after —'s bier and with great David say,
A Prince and a good man is fallen today ! ”

Posuit Necrophilos.

The following letter from Amelia, first wife of Simon Fraser of Beaufort (afterwards 11th Lord Lovat) and widow of Hugh, 9th Lord Lovat (undated, but subsequent to her marriage), is of great interest :—

“ TO LORD FORBES (1696 OR '97) (WILLIAM, 12TH OR 13TH).

“ My Lord,

“ Being informed that your Lop is coming with ane order from the Council to sett my person at Liberty as kepted by Mr. Simon Fraser, I thought it necessary to declare to your Lop freely that I am in no restraint but lives wt. Mr. Simon to whom I am married. I hope this will forbend [*sic*] your Lop's word that the Convoys will not be wronged or attacked. I shall goe to my own house of Castle Downie and Castlehill. that is all your Lop can desire, who hopes your Lop will excuse this trouble

“ from My Lord

“ Your Lordship's hum servt.

“ (*sic scrib.*)—A. Lovett.”

Local history and legend has held that the Dowager Lady Lovat, widow of Hugh, 9th Lord Lovat, and daughter of John, Marquis of Atholl, was a most unwilling bride to Simon, afterwards the notorious Lord Lovat. Possibly he dictated the above letter. In 1698 he was tried, in absence, for forcible seizure of her person and estates and condemned to death. When he returned to Scotland in 1715 he, for his useful political services, received a pardon, and then found it convenient to ignore the forcible marriage and united himself first with a daughter of the house of Grant, and then with one of the house of Campbell.

Amelia died in 1743, nearly 50 years after this date. Simon's son, by his marriage with Margaret Grant, was old enough to bear arms in the “Forty-five.” Simon was actually about seven years younger than Amelia, though, when repudiating the marriage with her, he said she might have been his mother. It was indeed his first intention to make her his mother-in-law, by allying himself with the little daughter, aged 9, but she, luckily for herself, had already been carried to safety by her grandfather, the Marquis of Atholl, and only the elder Amelia was left a prey to violence.