

CHAPTER XXV.

OTHER CADET BRANCHES FROM THE LORDS FORBES.

FODDERBIRSE.

WILLIAM FORBES of Fodderbirse, second son of William, 7th Lord Forbes, married Margaret, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Janet, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon, and relict of William Forbes of Corsindae by whom he had Captain John, called "the old Captain," and a daughter, married Forbes of Auchintoul.

By a second marriage he had a son, James, who married a daughter of William Forbes of Corsindae, *o.s.p.*

FECHIL.

James Forbes of Fechil, afterwards of Lethenty, third son of William, 7th Lord Forbes, married Margaret, eldest daughter and co-heiress of William, 6th Laird of Pitsligo, by whom he had Patrick, his heir, and Janet.

He bought the lands of Fechil for the following curious price: 50 bolls oats, 24 bolls bear, 4 bolls wheat, 24 capons, 24 hens, and 4 wedders, with 4 shillings for arriage and 4 shillings augmentation.

The lands of Lethenty came to him by marriage from his father-in-law, Pitsligo, and the two children, Patrick and Janet, were in 1614 served heir to their grandfather. Patrick had no issue.

Robert Prior of Monymusk, fourth son of the 7th Lord Forbes, married, 1555, Agnes, daughter of William Forbes of Corse, and had Captain John of Tulloch; Lieut.-Colonel James of Fowlis, see page 322; Robert, *o.s.p.*; killed at Stirling. One daughter married Duguid of Auchinhove, and one married William Fraser of Boghead.

BLACKTON.

Another family which sprang from a younger son of a Lord Forbes was that of Blackton.

I. Abraham Forbes, sixth son of William, 7th Lord Forbes, married Janet Duncan of Merdrum in Essie, widow of Irvine of Beltie.

He received from his father in 1589 a feu charter of the lands of Blacktoun and Badintoy in the parish of King Edward, and further acquired by

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purchase from Alexander Gordon of Beldorney, Wester Fowlis, Craigmiln and Easter Leochel, in the parish of Leochel—this was in 1608.

He had four sons and five daughters. James,¹ his heir, Arthur,² William and John³ who left no heirs. Isobel, who married Robert Leslie of Findrassie; Jean, married John Leith of Harthill; Anna, married Patrick Leith of Whitehaugh; A fourth married John Gordon of Braichlie; Barbara, the fifth, married Dr. William Johnston of Caskieben. Abraham, who was on the Royalist side in the "Troubles," died before 1639, as on April 28th, James, his son, was served heir.

II. James married Magdalene, daughter to Sir Alexander Fraser of Philorth, by whom he had Walter, his heir, and Arthur of Balvenie, and a daughter, Jean, who married James Forbes of Bankhead.

III. Walter succeeded in 1647.⁴ In 1667 he had sasine on the lands of Bervie, and later he sold all his lands in the parish of Leochel to John Robertson of Clunie. His brother Arthur, who had been present at the "Trot of Turriff," 1637, bought the lands of Balvenie in Mortlach from Lord Saltoun in 1670, but being a bankrupt he was forced to borrow money and mortgage his lands to Alexander Duff of Braco, whose son, William, turned Forbes out in the most forcible manner, it being recorded that Forbes declining to go and continuing to sit by the fire, William Duff lifted him up, chair and all, and "placed him on the midden."⁵ Walter married Janet, daughter of John Forbes of Corsindae, by whom he had Alexander his heir,

¹ In 1625 James Forbes of Blacktoun appears in the list of Papists as "a very pernicious seducer and busy trafficker." He also had a warrant from Charles I., dated at Otlands, July 22nd, 1631, to levy men for service in Sweden.

² "1635. Be it kenned to all men, me, Major Arthur Forbes, brother germane to James Forbes of Blacktoun, as Alex. Master of Forbes dispoit to me in 1634 the custom of the Mercat of Barthol fair, and Play sundays fair holden at Kincardine Mill there are now debates of the same with John Earl of Kinghorn, George Earl of Seaforth, Sir Robert Innes of that ilk and several other persons for many years bygone."

There was a reduction in favour of Major Arthur Forbes, signed by Wm. Master of Forbes and Arthur Forbes of Culquhany. (*Castle Forbes Papers.*)

³ John Forbes, son to Abraham Forbes of Blackton, had sasine from his father of the lands of Nether Beltie, September 20th, 1633.

⁴ He became a Protestant as in the *Records of the Scots College at Douai* it is written "10 Sept. 1613 Walter Forbes son of James Forbes of Blacktoun and Magdalen Fraser, aged 18. 'Uxorem duxit et haereticum facturendo.' His brother Arthur aged 12 entered with him."

His brother, John, was a soldier under Montrose, and in 1659 sasine was granted (by him) on the lands of Craigmiln and Easter Lochel, with consent of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, to William and John Forbes, brothers-german to the deceased James Forbes of Blackton (i.e. Walter's uncles).

John had sasine for himself on Blackton at the same time, March 29th, 1659, and died in 1669.

⁵ The authority for this is the papers of William Rose, long factor to the 2nd Lord Fife.

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George of Oldwhat and Christian, married John Forbes, burgess of Aberdeen. He died before 1695.

IV. Alexander Forbes, 4th Laird of Blackton, married Isobel Hackett, widow of Alexander Abernethy of Mayen, and had William and Helen, who married William Keith of Bruxie. Alexander died in 1721.

V. William, 5th and last laird of Blackton, was one of the Aberdeenshire Jacobites of the Fifteen. He was first a soldier of fortune and had served for five years in Flanders under Marlborough and had been wounded at the siege of Bouchain.

When Mar raised the Standard at Braemar he was 26, and had been living at home for some time. According to a memorial addressed by him to Prince Charles Edward in 1745 explaining his non-appearance for the cause on that occasion, he was "called out" by his relative, the Earl Marischal, and having gone to Perth with James Forbes of Putachie, was appointed a Lieutenant in the Company of John Gordon of Aboyne in the Regiment commanded by Lord Panmure, his former military experience being greatly in his favour. He was taken prisoner at Sheriffmuir and passed a miserable night in the open field at Dunblane, being afterwards carried to Stirling Castle, where he again complained of cruel usage. He was then for eleven months prisoner in Edinburgh and five in Carlisle before his trial came on in December, 1717, when he was among those discharged, but was compelled to swear on the Bible that he "would not rise or levy war against the House of Hanover, or any of the branches of it that had title, right or pretension to the Crown of Britain's Realm for a year and a day after the first insurrection that should chance or happen." It was this oath (what he called "the unluckie promise that had saved his head") which prevented his joining Prince Charles in 1745. Whether any other of those liberated after long durance in Carlisle were compelled to swear the same oath does not transpire. The horrible dungeons in which a number of Jacobites were confined both in 1716 and in 1746 can still be seen and the damp place in the rock worn away by the thirsty tongues of those to whom even water was denied.

William Forbes married twice: In 1714, while still younger of Blacktoun, Janet, sister of Joseph Brodie of Muiresk, and had one daughter, Ann, who married Thomas Urquhart. His second wife was Ann, daughter of Thomas Forbes of Gavell, and the only son predeceased his father.

William Forbes sold Blackton to William Duff of Braco, the owner of Balvenie, in 1725. He then took a tack of Pitrichie, and later lived at Brownhill of Altrie and afterwards at Skelmuir and Ludquharn. He died in 1771.

TOLMADS.

I. James Forbes of Tolmads, natural son of John, 8th Lord Forbes, married Agnes, daughter of John Forbes of Camphill, by whom he had Colonel William, his heir, and four daughters: Jean, married Colonel George Forbes, a soldier under the Earl Marischal (see page 409); Agnes,

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married Gordon of Walkmill ; Margaret, married Captain Forbes of Millbowie. Barbara, married Mr. George Monro, Minister at Rosemarkie.

II. Colonel William married a daughter of Sir George Rydman of Pomphield Castle, and had one daughter, Rebecca.

He was killed in a skirmish between the Marquis of Huntly and the townspeople of Aberdeen, July 28th, 1646, and in 1661 Rebecca was served heir to her grandfather.

PUTACHIE.

Mr. Archibald Forbes, designed of Putachie, third son of the 12th Lord Forbes, married Margaret, daughter of John Forbes of Leslie, and had one son and three daughters:—

David, at Marischal College in 1712, *o.s.p.* ; Barbara, married first in 1740, Mr. William Badenoch, Minister at Alford, and, secondly, in 1753, Mr. Theodore Gordon, Minister at Kennethmont ; Christian, married George Ross, goldsmith in Aberdeen ; Margaret, died unmarried 1772.

ILLEGITIMATE CADETS OF THE HOUSE OF FORBES, PRIOR TO THE ERECTION OF SIR ALEXANDER FORBES TO BE A LORD OF PARLIAMENT.

Among the illegitimate cadet branches of the House of Forbes, the first to be noted must be undoubtedly the three natural sons of Sir John Forbes of the Black Lip, as given by Matthew Lumsden.

They were Duncan, Malcolm and John.

Duncan was designated "Evil Duncan of Auchintoul," and obtained these lands from a brother of the Earl of Mar, and possessed them for a long time, died without having a legitimate son—only two daughters, one of whom, according to Lumsden, married Calder of Haughton, and the other, a Raitt of Hallgreen.

"He left a bastard son named Thomas, married ane gentlewoman called Christian Fraser, and got on her ane good man, who has been stout in that house, called George Forbes who had seven or eight sons, whose succession and works I will not tire me to writt." (*Lumsden.*)

George's wife was Bessie Leslie of Balquhain and three of the sons were Alexander of Auchintoul, Mr. William, and John in Asloun.

Alexander married a daughter of Seton of Meldrum and had James of Auchintoul, William of Carneveran and Thomas.

One daughter, married to the Laird of Auchinhove, and another to the Laird of Blackhall.

William, brother of Alexander, married Margaret Rutherford and had George of Byth, William in Dantzig and John in Badiach. George of Byth

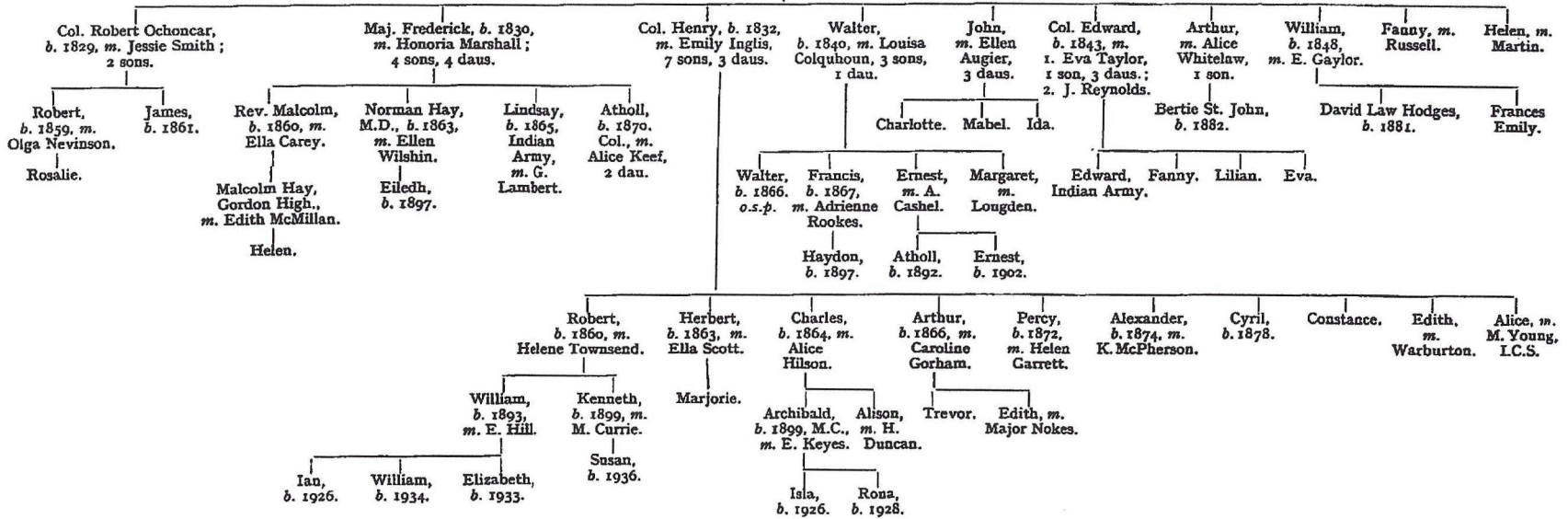
FAMILY TREE

No. 11

CADETS OF 18TH LORD FORBES

No. 11. CADETS OF 18TH LORD FORBES.

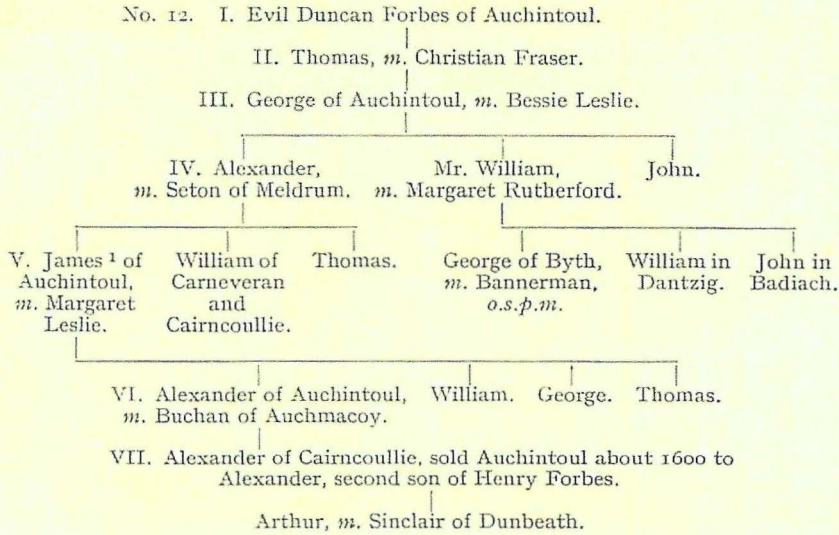
Robert, sixth son of James Ochoncar, 18th Lord Forbes,
 b. 1st June, 1808, m. Frances Hodges,
 and had eight sons and 2 daughters.



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married a Bannerman and left only a daughter. Of William of Dantzig, Lumsden says, "his succession is to me uncertain by reason of the great distance betwixt our dwellings."

Alexander of Auchintoul married a Buchan of Auchmacoy, and his son sold Auchintoul about 1600 to Forbes of Newhills, being subsequently designed "of Cairncoullie." He had a son Alexander, and a grandson Arthur, whose family settled in Caithness.



Malcolm, the second illegitimate son, according to Lumsden,

"living riotously in Strathdon, Glenbucket, and through the Highland country, and departed leaving behind him a sone called John, in the Highland manner called John Malcolmson who succeeded his father in geir and manners, thought it honest and profitable to bruike such possessions as his father had, and in speciall the Baillieary of Braemar, through the which contention rose between him and the Keirs of Rothiemurchus, when he was slain be the said Keirs at ane place called Cragland and left three sons:—

"Robert, who died without succession. Alex. had ane son of whom I tire me to write. Malcolm had four sons gotten on the Laird of Ley's daughter, Burnett, viz. John Forbes of Culquharrie, Robert of Buchan, James of Ledmacoy and Peter of Ardgeicht. Also William in Newe.

"John of Culquharrie married ane Abercromby who bare to him Robert, married Bisset, daughter to the Laird of Lessendrum.

"James of Ledmacoy married a daughter of Findlay Farquharson's.

"Peter of Ardgeicht married a Keith."

¹ James was also Laird of Cairncoullie and Drumquhattie, which he made over to his brother William by a deed dated May 26th, 1533 (now at Fintray).

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No. 13. Malcolm.

John.

Robert. Alexander. Malcolm, *m.* Burnet.

John of Culquharric, *m.* Abercrombie. Robert of Buchan. James of Ledmacoy, *m.* Farquharson. Peter of Ardgeicht, *m.* Keith. William in Newe.
a daughter.

Of the third illegitimate son, John, "out with the Sword," all that is known has already been given under his half-brother, the first Lord Forbes (see page 37).