

CHAPTER XXII.

DESCENDANTS OF THE YOUNGER SONS OF
THE LORDS FORBES.

CORSINDAE (WHENCE MONYMUSK).

I. THE second son of James, 2nd Lord Forbes, and Lady Egidia Keith was *Duncan*, designed first of Skene, afterwards of Corsindae.¹ He married Christian Mercer, daughter of the Laird of Balliel, Provost of Perth, widow of Gilbert Skene of Skene, and had a son :

II. William of Corsindae,² who married Margaret Lumsden, daughter of the Laird of Coull, relict of Johnston of Caskieben, by whom he had issue : James, his heir ; Mr. Duncan of Monymusk (see p. 300) ; Patrick of Kermucks (see p. 299) ; John of Balfuig, married Janet Forbes of Brux, and his grandson succeeded to Corsindae (see below) ; William of Newhills (see p. 300) and two daughters : Elizabeth, married Alexander Skene of Skene ; and another married Gilbert Johnston of Standingstone.

Duncan died before September 24th, 1542, and was succeeded by his eldest son :

III. James, 3rd Laird of Corsindae, married Janet, daughter of William Gordon in Craig in Auchindoir, by whom he had one son, William.

“ During this tyme monie and syndrie deadlie feades and injureis quhilkis befor had been reconciled or at least the memory of them endit in obliuionn, war notheless new waiknit throuch all the partis of the realme and thairthrouch quarrellis reuengit with gret crueltie ; ispeciallie in the north partis of Scottis, and be the surname of the Forbessis the Lairdis of Achlosone and Lenturk, quhair thair was mony scarmushis and invasionis in the quhilk the Lord of Achlossin, the laird of Achinhuiff, *James Forbes of Corsinday* and mony of their friendis was slayne ; but the Erle of Huntlie was so diligent in the per-sewing of the offenderis and principall authoris of the trubles, that he heild the cuntry thairefter in ressonabill quietness and guid order.” (Bp. Lesley's *History of Scotland*, 1544.)

¹ He is mentioned in the *Acta Auditorium* as brother of William, 3rd Lord Forbes.

² According to the genealogical tree preserved in Sweden, Duncan had a second son, James, who went abroad, married Helena Lundi, and was progenitor of the Swedish House (see page 469).

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IV. William, 4th Laird, married Janet, daughter of William Forbes of Tolquhon, by whom he had two sons, *James*, his heir, and *William*, who went to Sweden, where (according to Allardyce) he married and had two sons, Arthur and Matthew, both Colonels in the Swedish army (but see p. 469 as to the *real* parentage of these two).

The following details probably refer to this *William, the second son*, February 15th, 1563.

"William F. of Corsinday having been banished for homicide was recommended by the Earl of Moray to Cecil." (*Cal. S.P. Bain Col. I.*, p. 684.)

"The Bearer having committed ane slauchter upon ane of his countrie men has by the Queen's Grace had the penalty exchanged from death to exill and having made 'gryte instance' that I may recommend his present estate to your honour, which I will not 'nay' him, I pray you let me have sic favouris for my saik as for his qualitie I may justly requyre and your honour may leifullly grant.

"James Stewart,

"Edinburgh."

Corsinday's other friend, the Earl of Morton, also wrote, March 8th, to Cecil (*ibid.*, 687):

"The bearer my friend, William Forbes of Corsynday, upon suddenly happinit in cummen with ane gentil man and committed ane slaichter for which he has been long in strait prison. Having made satisfaction to the partie it hath pleased the Queen to spare his life but to exterminat and banish him the realm.¹ He concludes to enter rather in your country to pass over the beginning of his exile hoping for greater favour there than elsewhere till the Queen's highness favour be obtained. So I must humbly desire your honour to show him friendly assistance for my sake as I shall be deitbound to do the like for your honour

"be your friend

"Mortoun,

"Edinburgh."

The name of the murdered man appears in the following, among the accounts of the Lord High Treasurer—Vol. II., 1562, 23.

"Patrick Davidstone, Kintire pursevant and George Falconer messenger are ordered to proclaim at all market crosses in the north that none of the King's lieges keep more victual in their girnals than will sustain their households, etc., and to issue letters to fence, arreist and mak inventor of William Forbes of Corsindaie's estat gudis and geir for the slauchter of William Forbes of Finzart."¹

¹ Although called "William Forbes of Corsindae," it seems unlikely that this was William, 4th Laird, more probably his second son, William, said by the old records to have "gone to Sweden," that is into banishment, after his release from prison. He would thus be uncle of the John Forbes, also called "of Corsindae," though also a younger son, who was less fortunate, in that he paid the penalty for the murder he committed with his life.

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V. James Forbes, 5th Laird of Corsindae, married Katherine Mortimer of the family of Craigievar, by whom he had : William, his heir ; John, executed in Edinburgh for the murder of William Brown, etc., 1607 ; Mr. James, who had two sons in France ; Mr. Alexander, *o.s.p.* ; Janet, married Duncan Forbes of Culloden ; Isabel, married Robert Forbes of Milnbowie, Skene ; Margaret, married John Annand, Minister of Inverness ; and a fourth, who married Gideon Keith.

In Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials*, Vol. II., there is the following account :

" John Forbes, brother to William Forbes of Corsindae was dilatit of airt and pairt of the slauchter of umquhile William Brown, servant to John Irving of Ardtamfurd, committit be him and his complices callit the ' Companie & Societie of the Boyes ' upon the landis callit the Peill of Lumfannan in the month of Nov. 1605 and for airt and pairt in the slauchter of umquhile Robert Mersar in Tombeg committed be him and his complices forsaidis in the month of June last by past in Magnus Gariochs house in Drumnahoy and lastly for contravening of our Sovereign Lords Actes of Parliament in beiring and weiring of hagbutts and pistolettes daylie and continuallie this three yeares by gane, and speciallie for invading and perseuing of William Irving brother to the Laird of Drum and schuting of ane pistolet at him betwixt his awin dwelling house and the Kirk of Kincardine in the Moneth of July or thairby 1606."

For these accumulated crimes, and in spite of much interest made for him—as seen under Lord Forbes, page 153—John Forbes was eventually beheaded in the year 1607.

VI. William, 6th Laird, married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Fraser of Strichen, and had : James, the writer of the letters to the 10th Lord Forbes on page 157 ; William, Alexander and Thomas ; all four died without issue.¹ William, the 6th Laird, died in poor circumstances about 1620, and the direct line of Corsindae having failed, the lands passed into the hands of Lord Forbes, who effected an excambion of them with John Forbes of Balfluig (see p. 299) who thus became—

VII. John, 3rd of Balfluig and 7th of Corsindae. He married Margaret Fraser, daughter of the Laird of Durris, by whom he had : William, his heir ; Major Francis of Bandoodle, who married Jean Dalmahoy, and had a daughter, Barbara ; John of Asloun ; Mr. Alexander,² Arthur, Thomas—all *o.s.p.* John died before April 22nd, 1658.

¹ Unless Thomas could have been the father of the Bishop (see p. 300).

² The following possibly refers to Alexander :

Edinburgh, 18th Aug. 1670.

Complaint by the King's Advocate against Francis Irving, brother to Alexr. Irving of Drum, papist, for various offences against the established religion. . . . " And albeit the said Francis has recepted, entertained and had intelligence with " (amongst others) " Mr. Marr, alias Mr. Forbes, brother to Corsindae, a jesuit and priest. . . ."

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VIII. William of Balfluig and Corsindae married Katherine Bannerman of Elsick and had : Alexander, his heir ; Arthur and Patrick, *o.s.p.* ; and Jean, married Patrick Leslie of Kinbraigie.

IX. Alexander, married in 1661 Mariot, daughter of Burnett of Kemnay, and had one son,

X. William, who married Elizabeth Smith. He sold Corsindae¹ and bought the estate of Badsley, Southampton, dying *s.p.* in 1750. The direct line, therefore, died out completely, but the succession was considered to fall to the family of Asloun, descended from John, third son of the 7th Laird.

ASLOUN AND PARK.

John Forbes of Asloun,² third son of the 7th Laird of Corsindae, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Forbes of Monymusk, by whom he had two sons, William, his heir, and Robert in Park, and two daughters, Barbara (wife of Arthur Forbes of Echt, and third wife of the 12th Lord Forbes), and Jean. William Forbes, the son, was the Laird of Tillieangus, in Clatt, and he and his father, who had gone to reside at Kinmundy in Longside, sold the property of Asloun to Arthur Forbes, second son of the 12th Lord Forbes, who also held Breda.

William of Tillieangus married Isabel, daughter of William Meldrum of Hatton, by whom he had a daughter, married, 1701, George Forbes of Bellabeg.

Robert Forbes in Park, Captain in the Earl of Dumbarton's Regiment, married Jean, daughter of Gavin Cumming, factor for the Earl of Erroll, and by her had three sons : Alexander, *o.s.p.* ; John, Clerk to the Bills in the Court of Session ; Robert.

John Forbes, Clerk to the Bills, married Margaret Cramond, by whom he had one son, John, a merchant in London, who succeeded his cousin, William of Corsindae and Badsley above. He married Joanna Douglas, and had two sons, Bartholomew and John, and four daughters, Margaret, Charlotte, Joanna and Caroline.

Bartholomew, born 1769, was a merchant in London,³ married Harriet, daughter of Richard Stone of Chislehurst, banker, and had five sons and two daughters : John Douglas, *b.* 1802, Captain, 39th Regiment, *o.s.p.* 1836 ; George, *b.* 1804, in the Royal Mint ; Arthur, *b.* 1806, Captain and Admiral, R.N. ; Francis, *b.* 1808, Colonel, Madras Cavalry ; Henry, *b.* 1812,

¹ To William Duff of Braco. It is now united with Learney.

² October 21st, 1685.

" Ane list of such heretors and wadsetters as are vassals to the Earle of Erroll and who went along with His Lordship's regiment to his Majesties host"—amongst others—" John Forbes off Aslowne for the lands of Fachfield." (*Privy Council.*)

³ Bartholomew Forbes must have been a person of some note in the City of London, as a silhouette of him was recently exhibited by an old book shop in Charing Cross.

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H.E.I.C.S., Madras, married Isabella Maclean; Harriet, *b.* 1814; and Helen, *b.* 1820.

FAMILY OF BALFLUIG.

I. John Forbes, fourth son of William, 2nd Laird of Corsindae, married, first, Janet, daughter of John Forbes of Brux, by whom he had William, his heir; Robert, who married Garioch of Kinstair; and John. He married, secondly, Margaret Moir, and had Patrick, Burgess of Edinburgh; and Janet, who married the Minister of Marnoch.

II. William Forbes of Balflug married Margaret Coutts of Auchterfoull and had John, his heir; William; Alexander; and James of Cloak,¹ who married Calder of Asloun, and had one son, Minister of Coldstone.

III. John succeeded to Corsindae, of which he was 7th Laird (see p. 297).

RUBISLAW.

Robert Forbes of Rubislaw, descended from William, 2nd Laird of Corsindae. He was Provost of Aberdeen from 1671 to 1675. He married Anna, daughter of William Forbes of Cotton, and had by her: Thomas, his heir; and Robert, born November 13th, 1651.

He died before 1680, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas Forbes of Rubislaw, married, first, January 28th, 1673, Margaret Paton, and had: Robert, born April 10th, 1681, and six daughters: Isobel, Anna, Margaret, Marjory, Elizabeth, Janet.

He married, secondly, Jean Lumsden, by whom he had Thomas, born July 26th, 1685.

FORBES OF KERMUCKS, SHEDDOCKSLEY AND COTTON.

Patrick Forbes, third son of William Forbes, 2nd of Corsindae, married Janet Gordon, daughter of the Laird of Cocklarachie, by whom he had one son, Alexander, Baillie in Aberdeen.

He married, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew Lawson, Burgess of Aberdeen, and had George of Kermucks, and Henry, Robert, and William, all *o.s.p.*

George Forbes of Kermucks had a son, Patrick, and a grandson, Malcolm, who settled in Kent.

Alexander, the Baillie in Aberdeen, above, married Marjory, daughter of Alexander Cullen, Provost of Aberdeen, by whom he had, with others:

I. Thomas of Sheddocksley, Baillie in Aberdeen, who married Isabel Lorimer and had William, his heir, and Mr. Alexander, a parson in England. He married, secondly, Marjory Menzies, by whom he had issue, John, Thomas and Jean, and died before 1621.

¹ On August 19th, 1644, James of Cloak resigned all his rights in favour of John, his elder brother. (*Fettercairn Papers.*)

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III. William Forbes of Sheddocksley, and afterwards of Cotton, Baillie in Aberdeen, married, 1612, Elspet, sister of George Morrison, Provost of Aberdeen, by whom he had : Thomas, a Doctor of Medicine in Padua and Pisa, his heir (see page 472), and Robert, Professor of Philosophy in King's College, Aberdeen.

William Forbes married, secondly, Anna Duncan, by whom he had : Isabel, Marjory and Elizabeth, unmarried ; Anna, married Robert Forbes of Rubislaw, Provost of Aberdeen ; Barbara, married Gilbert Skene of Dyce.

III. Thomas Forbes of Cotton, M.D., on his return from Italy married Isobel, daughter of David Roger of Keithock, by whom he had one son, Mr. William Forbes, who married Margaret Lindsay, *o.s.p.*

NEWHILLS.

I. William Forbes of Newhills, fifth son of William, 2nd of Corsindae, married a daughter of Alexander Tilliedaff, and had :

II. Henry, married a daughter of Andrew King, Burgess of Aberdeen, by whom he had two sons, Andrew, his heir, and Arthur of Auchintoul.

" The first Bishop of Edinburgh was William Forbes, son of Thomas Forbes of the family of Corsindae by a sister of the famous Mr. James Cargill, M.D.

" William Forbes went abroad about the age of twenty years for his improvement, and visited several places most noted for learning in England, Germany and Holland. On his return he became minister at Alford & at Monimusk, then one of the Ministers of Aberdeen and principal of Marischall College ; last of all he was for some time a minister in Edinburgh. When Charles I was in Scotland in 1633, hearing this great man preach before him, he had such a due regard for his excellent parts and talents that way, and for his knowledge in all matters theological, that when his Majesty erected the Episcopal see of Edinburgh and consultation was held concerning a fit person to be promoted to the see the King was pleased to say he had found a man who deserved to have a see erected for him, meaning Mr. Forbes. His patent from the King to be first bishop of Edinburgh bears the date 26 January, 1634, and he died that same year on the 1st day of April following. He only appeared long enough to be known, but not long enough to do what was expected."

(Bp. Keith's *Scottish Bishops*.)

The ancestry of this Divine has been claimed also for other branches of the Forbes family, especially William, second of Balfuig.

Mr. Andrew Forbes, son of the Bishop of Edinburgh, was Professor of Humanity at St. Jean d'Angley near La Rochelle.

MONYMUSK.

I. The second son of Duncan Forbes of Corsindae founded a family which almost rivalled that of his elder brother in importance, and lasted longer.

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Like his father, he was named Duncan. Both he and his father advanced large sums on the Priory lands of Monymusk, having a charter from Pope Julius III. to "set the Mains of Monymusk," and at the time of the Reformation he foreclosed the mortgages and came into possession of the estates by Charter, 1560. It is incorrect to say that he "seized" them—the transaction was a purely business one.

He had a charter of Torry in 1581. Earlier in life he had been a magistrate in Aberdeen, and in 1564 was involved with his cousin, John of Pitsligo, in a charge of coining "false bawbees," but was not prosecuted.¹ He married Agnes Grey, daughter of a fellow Baillie of Aberdeen, and had: William, his heir; John of Camphill (see p. 308); Mr. Duncan of Lethenty (see p. 310); Isobel, who married Michael Fraser of Muchalls; Elizabeth, who married (1) Alexander Forbes of Towie, and (2) the Laird of Glenkindie; and a third, who married the Laird of Udney. Duncan and his wife both died in 1584.

II. William, 2nd Laird of Monymusk, married Margaret Douglas, daughter of the Earl of Angus.

He obtained, on January 20th, 1589, a Crown Charter erecting the town and lands of Monymusk into a borough of barony with the privilege of holding two fairs annually—a right much valued in those days, as shown by the disputes between Huntly and the Lords Forbes over the right to hold similar fairs in Aboyne. His children were: Duncan, an idiot;² William, his heir; John of Leslie (see p. 311); Mr. James of Haughton, married Margaret Buchan of Auchmacoy, and had a son, Alexander, who succeeded him; Alexander and Robert of Cowlie, both *o.s.p.*; Isobel, *m.* the Laird of Newton; Elspet, *m.* Kennedy of Kermuck; Margaret, *m.* Alexander Dunbar. William died 1619.

III. William, his eldest son, married Elizabeth Wishart of Pitarrow. He bought land in Kincardineshire, including Portlethen and Banchory, and was a Royalist sympathiser in the early troubles, being created a baronet by Charles I., April 2nd, 1626, among the earliest in Scotland.

Besides, William, his heir, he had two other sons, Robert of Barnes,³ and Alexander of Abersnithack, and three daughters—Jean, married Alexander

¹ *Mar. 20. 1564.* "Maister Duncan Forbes of Monymusk and John Forbes of Pitsligo his brother [*really his cousin*], found sureties that they shall compeir before our soverane and lordis of counsale upon XV dayis warning that they may be chairgeit thairto to see and other tryell taken, anent the allegit cunzeing of ffalse cunzeis Balbeis (bawbees)." (*Pitcairn's Criminal Trials*, Vol. II.)

² William Forbes, afterwards 1st Bart. of Monymusk, was appointed Tutor to his elder brother.

"Inquisitiones de Tutela Oct. 12. 1604. Duncanus Forbes, senior filius legitimus Willielmi Forbes de Monymusk est in compos mentis, fatuus et naturaliter ideota et Willielmus Forbes ejus frater germanus proxime genitus propinquior consanguineus ex parte patris dicto Duncano." (*Family Papers at Fettercairn.*)

³ In 1650 "Robert of Barnes," immediate younger brother of the 1st Bart. of Monymusk, was appointed Tutor to his nephew, Sir John, the 3rd Bart.

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Lunan, minister of the parish ; Elizabeth or Isobel, married John Forbes of Asloun ; and Anne, died unmarried.

IV. Sir William, 4th Laird and 2nd Baronet, was, like the majority of Forbeses, on the covenanting side, being one of those who joined Argyll at Dunnottar in April, 1644, and was still "in the field" in October of that year when Montrose visited Monymusk, and would have plundered and destroyed the house, but for the intercessions of Sir William's wife, Jean Burnett of Leys. Spalding relates that "the Marquis dynit at Monymusk with the lady, the laird being absent, and upone fair conditiones, he spairit him at this time."

Sir William died in 1654, leaving only one son, John, and a daughter, Janet, who married George Rickart of Auchnacant.

V. Sir John Forbes, 3rd Bart. of Monymusk, born 1640, served heir in 1702, while a minor, married, *firstly*, Margaret, daughter of Viscount Arbuthnott, by whom he had Sir William, Robert, an advocate, *o.s.p.*, and Jean, married Sir Charles Maitland of Pitrichie ; and, *secondly*, Barbara, daughter of Sir John Dalmahoy,¹ and had two sons and three daughters : John, born 1680, of Upper Boyndlie ; and Charles, both Jacobites ; Agnes, twin with John, married Henry Elphinstone of Glack ; Catherine, married Dr. Gregory ; Barbara, married Thomas Mitchell of Thainston (her daughter married Sir Andrew Mitchell of Thainston, which property was bequeathed to the second son of Sir Arthur Forbes of Craigievar).

In 1661 Sir John had a Crown Charter of Pitfichie, which estate was afterwards occupied by his son John. He died in 1700.

VI. Sir William, the 4th Bart. of Monymusk, married Jean Keith, daughter of John, Earl of Kintore. He had four sons and four daughters : (1) John, born 1684, who married Mary, sister of Lord Pitsligo, and predeceased his father, leaving issue ; (2) William, born 1698 ; (3) Gilbert, born 1699 ; and (4) Alexander, born 1700, all died young. Daughters : (1) Catherine ; (2) Barbara, died unmarried ; (3) Jean, married Mr. George Moir, minister of Towie ; and (4) Mary, married William Urquhart of Meldrum.

Sir William died January 8th, 1715, having in 1712 become bankrupt and sold Monymusk to Sir Francis Grant, Lord Cullen, for £116,000 Scots (£9600 sterling).² A bond for a portion of the purchase money was granted

¹ In the Poll Book of 1696 the family of Monymusk appears thus :

" Sir John of Monymusk and his wife (Barbara).

William, his eldest son, and his wife (with son John under 16, Katharine, Barbara and Jean below 13).

Robert, his second son, above 21.

John and Charles, below 16.

Agnes, Katherine and Barbara, below 16."

² Lord Cullen is said to have greatly regretted the purchase, as he found the estate in a poor condition, and had to spend a great deal on it.

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to the widow of the eldest son, John, and Sir William's creditors got 15s. in the pound.

John, younger of Monymusk, eldest son of Sir William, the last Forbes laird, had married in 1706, when 22, Mary, only surviving daughter of the 3rd Lord Pitsligo, by whom he had two sons, William and John. "Monymusk younger" died of consumption in 1711. His widow subsequently married James Forbes of Putachie, afterwards 16th Lord Forbes, and had four other children (see p. 251).

VII. Sir William, 5th Baronet of Monymusk (though no longer owning it) was born in 1707, and succeeded his grandfather in the title at the age of eight.

The portion of the price for which his grandfather had sold Monymusk, which came to him, was only £1000, and the family found itself in great poverty.

Young William was very carefully brought up by his mother, who re-married in the same year his father died; James, afterwards 16th Lord Forbes, the latter proving a very indulgent step-father. William became an advocate in 1727, and in 1741 was elected Professor of Civil Law in Aberdeen. He married, in 1736, Christian, his first cousin, eldest daughter of John Forbes of Upper Boyndlie, and died at Putachie, now Castle Forbes, the house of his step-father, on May 12th, 1743, of cramp in the stomach, aged only 36. His mother had died in 1739, and his step-father had married again two years later, Elizabeth Gordon of Cobairdy, younger than William Forbes, but a most estimable woman, who was also very kind to this delicate young man.¹ His wife, Christian Forbes, survived him by nearly fifty years, dying on December 26th, 1789, in her 85th year. Her father's family must be given here, before proceeding to the story of her young son and his descendants.

JOHN FORBES OF UPPER BOYNDLIE, eldest son by the second marriage of Sir John, 3rd Baronet of Monymusk, was born February 7th, 1780. He was educated for a business career, and was known in the family as "Glasgow John," from the place of his apprenticeship. He was granted by his father the estate of Pitfichie, near Monymusk, and apparently lived most of his life there; but in 1711, the year when his brother, the bankrupt, sold Monymusk, John purchased from Lord Pitsligo the estate of Upper Boyndlie in Buchan, though it does not appear that he ever lived there. He was an ardent Jacobite, and became collector of Cess on behalf of the Earl of Mar's army. The MS. roll from which he did this is still in existence, and was published in 1932 by the Third Spalding Club, with notes by the present writers. On the collapse of the rising it is believed that he attempted to flee to Holland, and was either murdered or shipwrecked on the coast of Buchan, as sailors

¹ When asked by his step-father shortly before his death how he did, his reply was, "I am very well, my Lord, but dying fast."

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were afterwards seen wearing his clothes. His descendants and the present family of Boyndlie follow.

As already stated, he lost his life in the rising of 1715-16. A brief memorial of him by his wife, Susanna Morison, is preserved at Fettercairn with other papers belonging to the Pitsligo family. It describes how he was very active in levying the Cess required by the Earl of Mar for the Jacobite army, and after the failure of the rising was obliged like others to "sculk" in the country, and in the month of November he left Scotland by ship "and in a few days after was unluckily washed overboard and drowned, leaving four daughters, Christian, Barbara, Mary and Margaret, and three sons, Theodore, John and George, and his wife with child of a fifth daughter, who was born after his death and named Elizabeth." The landed estate of which he died possessed was worth £600 a year, and he had also a bond of money owing to him, to the extent of £4000, settled on his daughters, but his wife was much alarmed lest his estate should be declared forfeit in view of his Jacobite activities, and that the Whig landowners of Aberdeenshire from whom he had extracted double Cess might claim it again from him. This does not seem to have occurred, but Susanna was certainly poor for many years, and brought up her eight children with a struggle. Christian, the eldest, became the saintly wife of the 5th Baronet of Monymusk; Barbara and Mary both lived to be nearly 90; Margaret married Charles Copland. Elizabeth married James Milne, and secondly, George Abernethy. Of the sons, Theodore, who succeeded his father, was a successful doctor in Banff. John was apprenticed to Mr. George Keith, the well-known advocate, and George was also college-bred.

John succeeded Theodore, and George succeeded John, to be followed by the latter's son and grandson, and then grand-daughter, Jane, who married John Ogilvie, son of Auchiries, and founded the family of Ogilvie-Forbes (see tree).

In the marriage contract of John Forbes and Susanna Morison his lands are thus enumerated :

"All and haill the lands of Upper Boyndlie and Nether Boyndlie with the Mill of Boyndlie, miln lands, multures, sucken etc., the town and lands of Tarmair, Ardequharn, Ladysfoord and Skelmanae in the parish of Tyrie."

His grandson, John, bought more land, including Euchrie, and had a crown charter of it all in 1818.

VIII. Sir William Forbes, 6th Bart. of Monymusk, born 1739, has left an account of his own upbringing and early history in a very charming biography of his mother, *The Life and Death of Dame Christian Forbes*. He was only 4 years old when he succeeded to the title, and to very little else. Two brothers and two sisters died young, and he and his mother lived very simply, first at Mill of Forge, and then in Aberdeen.

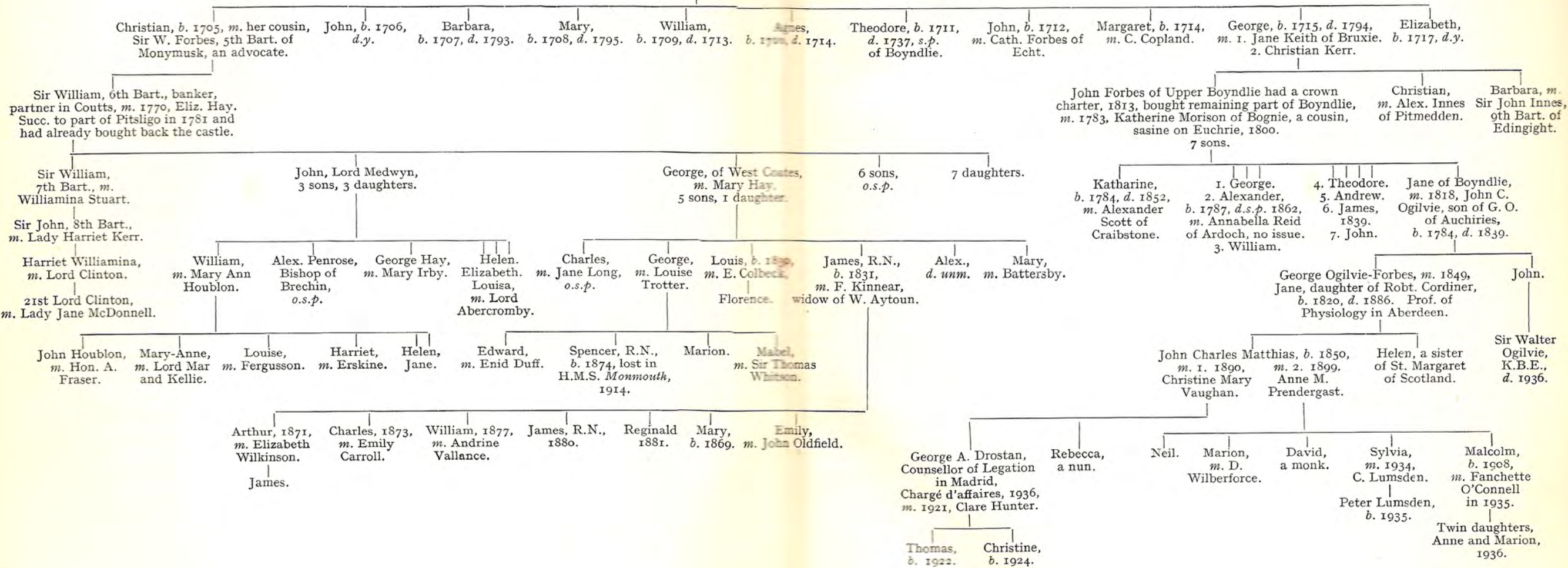
His guardians were his great uncles, Lord Pitsligo and Morison of Bognie, as well as Mr. Urquhart of Meldrum. His mother removed to

FAMILY TREE

No. 3

UPPER BOYNDLIE

No. 3. THE II CHILDREN OF JOHN FORBES OF UPPER BOYNDLIE AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.



Edinburgh when he was 14, that he might carry on his education, and a kind friend, Mr. Farquharson of Haughton, got him into Coutts' Bank.¹

At the early age of 22 he was made a partner, and two years later the house of Forbes, Blair & Herries, Bankers, was started. By 1773 he had become the head of the new house of Forbes, Hunter & Co.

On September 21st, 1770, when 31, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Hay of Hayston, M.D., by whom he had a numerous family, nine sons and seven daughters. Of the sons, only three lived to grow up: Sir William, his successor; John, Lord Medwyn; and George, of West Coates; five dying in infancy: James, Daniel, Adam, Francis, and another Daniel; while Charles, a midshipman, was killed in action, May 28th, 1806, aged 16.

Of the daughters who survived, Christian married Alexander Wood, Secretary of the Ionian Isles. Rebecca married Alexander Macdonell of Glengarry, and had issue. Elizabeth married Colin Mackenzie of Portmore, Clerk of Session. Jane married James Skene of Rubislaw, the friend of Scott.

Both John, Lord Medwyn, and George of West Coates had large families—of the former was Alexander Penrose Forbes, 1817-75. Driven by ill-health from the East India Co.'s service, he took orders and became Bishop of Brechin, 1847, and a friend of Dr. Dollinger, the "old Catholic." He was a prominent High Churchman in the Scottish Episcopal Church, and in 1860 incurred the censure of his superiors for his extreme views on the Eucharist. He wrote the Kalendar of Scottish Saints, and founded a sisterhood. Forbes Court, in Dundee, was built to his memory. His next brother, George, also in Holy Orders, though a lifelong invalid, had a remarkable career as a preacher and organiser of Church work. (See trees, pages 304 and 306.)

Sir William² died November 10th, 1806, and was succeeded by his son.

IX. Sir William, the 7th Bart., born December 21st, 1771, married, January 19th, 1797, Williamina Wishart Belshes, only child of Sir John Stuart, Bart. of Fettercairn,³ by whom he had eight children:

William and John predeceased their father; John succeeded; Charles Hay, born 1806, of Canaan Park, Edinburgh; James David, born 1808, Principal of the United Colleges of St. Andrews; Jane, Eliza, and Alice, died unmarried.

Both Charles Hay Forbes and Principal James David left numerous descendants, whose names can be found in the tree on page 308.

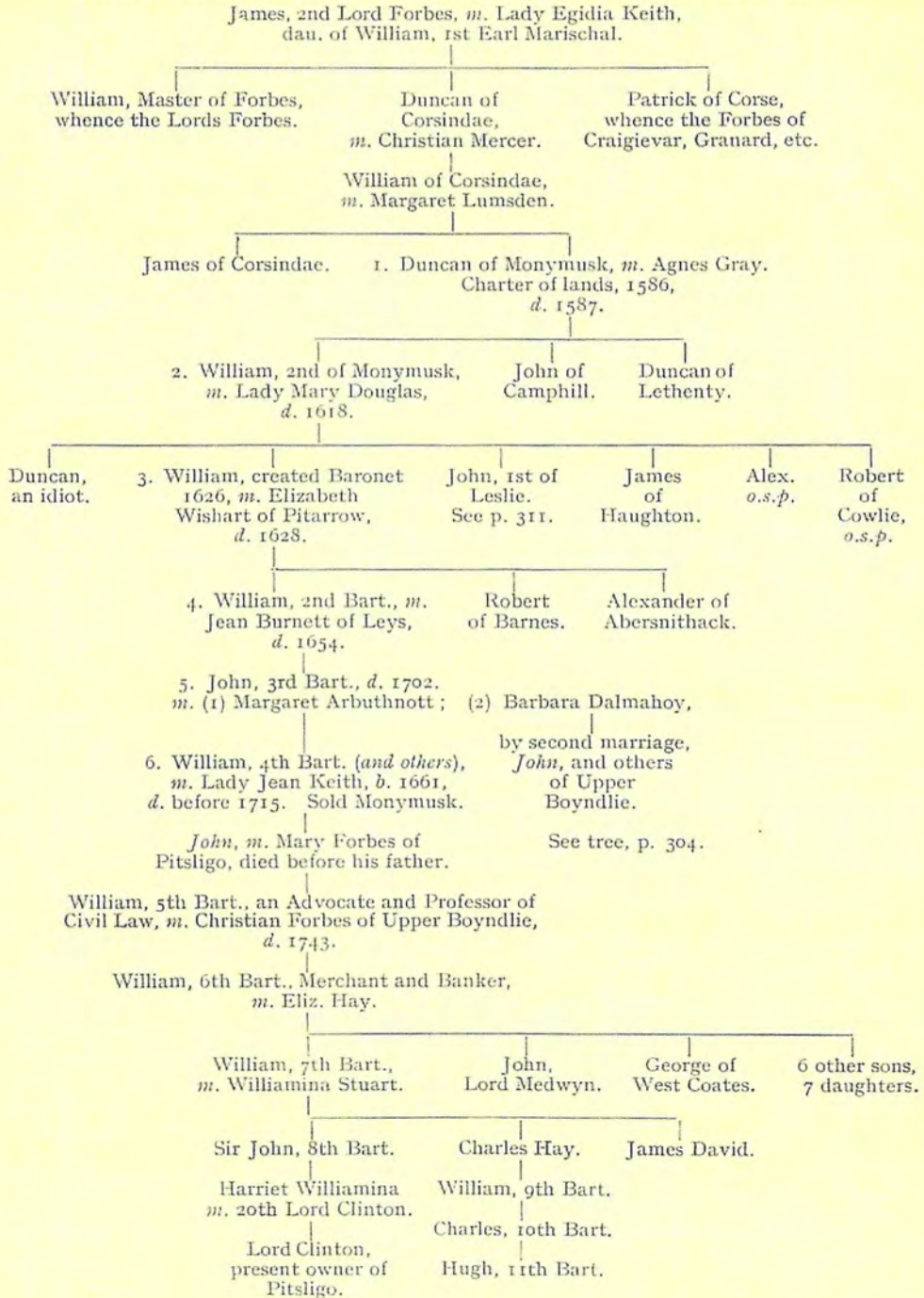
¹ Sir William Forbes afterwards wrote the *Memoirs of a Banking House*; and of John Coutts, one of four brothers connected with it, he records how he was "More correct in his conduct than the others—so much so that Sir William never, but once, saw him in the counting house disguised in liquor and incapable of transacting business."

² In 1799 Pitt offered Sir William Forbes an Irish Peerage, but this he declined. He is mentioned by Scott in the Introduction to Canto IV of *Marmion*.

³ The beautiful Miss Stuart of Fettercairn was at one time courted by the future Sir Walter Scott.

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

No. 4. FAMILY OF FORBES OF MONYMUSK, CAMPHILL AND LESLIE, ETC.



DESCENDANTS OF YOUNGER SONS

The second son of the latter, Professor George Forbes, born 1849, was an eminent scientist. He was formerly Professor of Natural Philosophy in the Andersonian Institute of Glasgow, and the recipient of many foreign orders of distinguished merit, being the electrical engineer responsible for the first idea of harnessing the vast water power of Niagara, and the inventor of various improvements in gunsights and electrical apparatus. He died 1936.

Sir William, the 7th Bart., was an intimate friend of Sir Walter Scott, in whose *Journal* occur the following notes :

Jan. 20th, 1826.

“ Sir William Forbes called—the same kind, honest friend as ever, with all offers of assistance, etc. etc. All anxious to serve me, and careless about his own risk of loss. And these are the cold, hard, money-making men whose questions and control I apprehended.”

Jan. 25th, 1826.

“ Gibson comes with a joyful face announcing all the creditors had unanimously agreed to a private trust. This is handsome and confidential, and must warm my best efforts. I will not doubt—to doubt is to lose. Sir William Forbes took the chair, and behaved as he has ever done, with the generosity of ancient faith and early friendship. In what scenes have Sir William and I not borne share together—desperate, and almost bloody affrays, rivalries, deep drinking-matches, and, finally, with the kindest feelings on both sides, somewhat separated by his retiring much within the bosom of his family, and I moving little beyond mine. It is fated our planets should cross again.”¹

Sir John Stuart Forbes of Pitsligo and Fettercairn, born 1804, married, 1834, Lady Harriet Louise Kerr, daughter of 6th Marquess of Lothian, and had one daughter, Harriet Williamina, who in 1858 married the 20th Baron Clinton, and her eldest son, the present Baron Clinton, born 1863, is now owner both of Fettercairn and Pitsligo.

X. Sir John died in 1866 and the baronetcy passed to his nephew, William, eldest son of Charles of Canaan Park,² who was grandfather of the present baronet.

Sir William Stuart Forbes, 9th Bart., married Marion, daughter of J. Watts of Bridgend, Nelson, New Zealand, and had four sons and seven daughters :

¹ Sir William Forbes crowned his generous efforts for Scott's relief by privately paying the whole of Abud's demand (nearly £2000) out of his own pocket—ranking as an ordinary creditor for the amount ; and taking care at the same time that the affair had merged quietly in the general measures of the trustees. In fact, it was not until some time after Sir William's death (in the following year) that Sir Walter learned what he had done. *Life*, Vol. IX., p. 179. (Abud & Sons were Jew bill-brokers in London.)

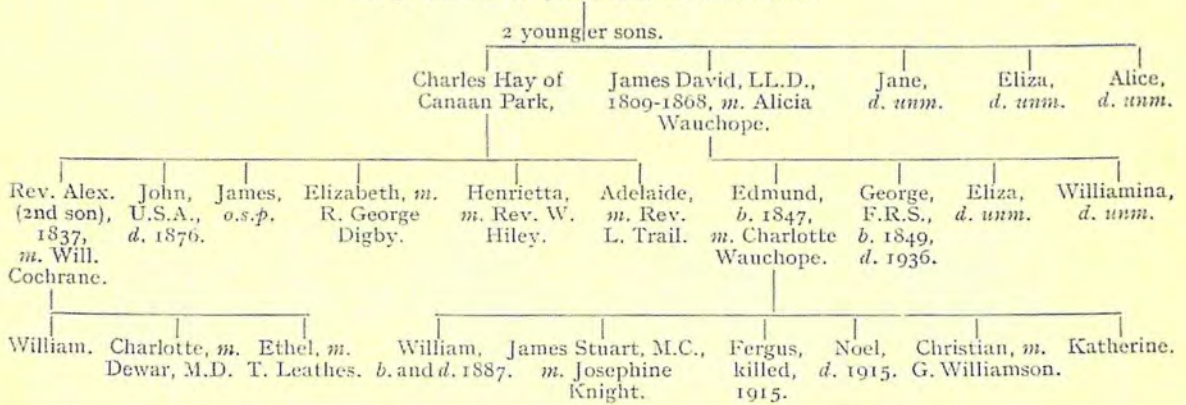
² The title now used is Baronet of Pitsligo, though the original baronetcy was “ of Monymusk.” That estate is now the property of the Grant family, who also have a baronetcy.

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

Charles Hay, 10th Bart. ; Kenneth, died young ; William, married Lilian Moore ; and Hugh, married K. Brown. The daughters were Emma, Marion, Katharine, Adelaide, Beatrice, Georgina and Mildred. Sir William died in 1906.

Sir Charles Hay Hepburn Stuart-Forbes, 10th Bart., born 1871, married Ellen, daughter of Captain Huntley of Marlborough, New Zealand, and had : Hugh, present baronet ; four other sons : Charles, William, James and Reginald ; and three daughters : Lilian, Anne and Ilene.

NO. 5. CADETS OF 7TH BART. OF MONYMUSK.



FORBES OF CAMPHILL.

The first cadet family descending from Forbes of Monymusk was that of Camphill, which lasted for six generations.

I. John Forbes, 1st of Camphill, was second son of Duncan Forbes of Monymusk. He married Jean, daughter of the Laird of Skene, and had : Duncan, his heir ; Agnes, married James Forbes of Tolmads ;¹ Isobel, married Andrew Birnie, Burgess of Aberdeen ; Jean, married Lieut.-Colonel Findlay Farquharson ; and Marjorie, married Arthur Forbes.

II. Duncan, 2nd of Camphill, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Forbes of Corse, and had : Patrick and James, Captains under the Earl Marischal, *o.s.p.* ; William, succeeded his father ; Mr. John, married Margaret, daughter of Mr. John Forbes, parson of Kincardine ; Agnes, married Captain Patrick Murray of Auchinhove ; Margaret, married John Ker of Culquoch ; Isobel, married Thomas Forbes of Saplinbrae ; Jean, married Thomas Henderson ; Janet, married John Dugal of Tulloch ; Marjorie, married Mr. John Dallas, parson of Tain.

¹ Forbes of Tolmads was a natural son of John, 8th Lord Forbes (see page 114), he had one son, Colonel William, killed in a skirmish at Aberdeen, July 28th, 1646. His daughter, Rebecca, was served heir to her grandfather, James, " brother of Arthur Lord Forbes," in the Mill of Alford, in 1661.

DESCENDANTS OF YOUNGER SONS

" In 1647 Duncan Forbes of Camphill got into trouble with the law. Thomas Bruce, messenger, executed a summons against the Laird of Camphill, whom he personally apprehended. The messenger then passed to William Forbes, younger of Camphill, and offered him a copy 'but he on na ways would accept thereof, but menaced and boasted me with weapons, upon the quhilk I did cast the said copie from me, subscribit as said is, to him, becaus he wold not suffer me to come near him.' " (*Privy Council Records.*)

" Both father and son were charged to appear in Edinburgh 25th November 1647. Their crime was that 'they had set upon one William Garioch at the Gate of Craigievar with intent to take his life—the son, chargin' be his father to prosecute their wicked designs upon the complainer, he in a most barbarous and cruel way set upon the complainer or he was aware, dang him to the ground (being behind his back) upone his face, gave him a soar stroke thairupon with his steikit neive, to the great effusion of his blood and afftir he had wounded him he tramped and trode upon him as if he had been a dog, not being able to recover nor help himself, quhairthrow he left him at the point of death not being able to stir nor move but was thairafter taken up and carried to bed, so that he is still bedfast since, to his great and heavy prejudice quhilk is ane unsufferable wrong and ought to be punished.' " (*Ibid.*)

III. William, 3rd of Camphill, married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Forbes, parson of Kincardine, and had three sons: John and William, died young; Charles, who succeeded; and two daughters, Margaret and Agnes.

William died after 1696, and was succeeded by his third son—

IV. Charles, married Elizabeth Duguid, and had one son, Patrick, who succeeded in 1733.

V. Patrick (known as Lang Camphill, being 6 feet 9 inches), married Elizabeth Middleton, and died 1767, and had one son, Francis.

VI. Francis, the last Forbes Laird of Camphill, graduated at Marischal College in 1772, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Alford in 1775. He sold Camphill in 1783. His wife was a daughter of Mr. Samuel Copland, minister of Fintray, and he left one son, Dr. Patrick Forbes, D.D., sometime minister of Boharm, afterwards one of the ministers of Old Machar, and Professor of Humanity and Chemistry in King's College. He married, first, Helen, daughter of Baillie John Copland, Aberdeen, and had two sons and two daughters: John, Professor of Hebrew in the University of Aberdeen; Francis, minister of the Scots Church, Demerara; Jemima and Anne.

Dr. Forbes married, secondly, Mary, daughter of Dr. George Glennie, Professor of Moral Philosophy in Marischal College, and minister of the West Parish Church, and had four sons: Alexander of Dacca (see next page); George, chief cashier of the Bank of England, who died May 25th, 1874, unmarried; Patrick, M.D.; James Beattie, minister of Leslie; and six daughters, of whom five died young, and Helen, who survived until her 87th year "with a mind of unusual power and energy and a memory that

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

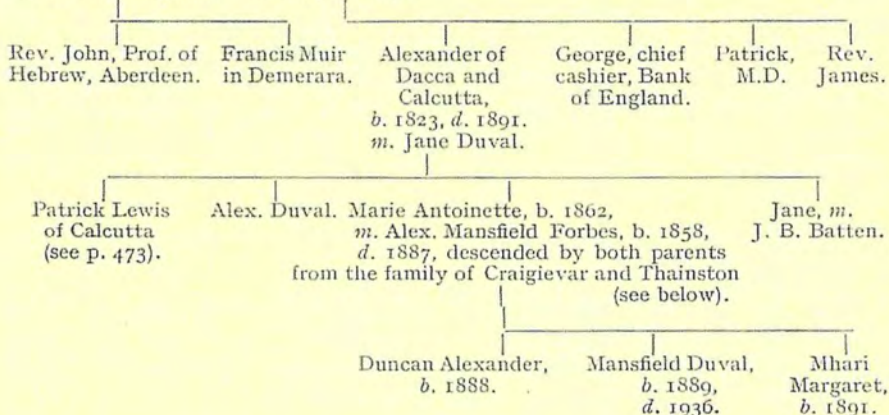
could have produced, had they been lost, the works of more than one poet. She preferred Burns to Tennyson, Scott to Browning, and Asaph to all." (*The latter probably denotes the Psalmist.*)

Dr. Patrick Forbes died in 1847, and his wife in 1879.¹

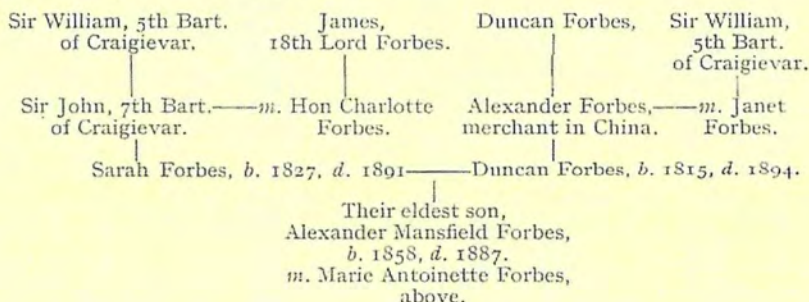
No. 6. Rev. Patrick, Minister of Old Machar, and
Professor of Humanity, etc., King's College.
Moderator of General Assembly.

b. 1776, *d.* 1847.

m. 1. Helen Copland. 2. Mary Glennie.



¹ A grand-daughter of the Rev. Patrick, Maria Antoinette Forbes, married a cousin whose four great-grandfathers were all Forbese.



DESCENDANTS OF YOUNGER SONS

LETHENTY.

I. Mr. Duncan Forbes of Lethenty, fourth son of the 1st Laird of Monymusk, married Margaret, daughter of George Johnston of Caskieben, and widow of Alexander Skene of Skene, son of the 12th and father of the 13th Laird, and had two sons: John, his heir; and Duncan, *o.s.p.*; and one daughter, Isabel, who married Arthur Forbes, 8th Laird of Brux.

II. John, sometime of Lethenty, and afterwards of Balnagask, married, in 1714, Marjory, daughter of James Ferguson, Burgess of Aberdeen, and had three sons and four daughters: Captain Patrick, *o.s.p.*; John and Duncan; Agnes, married Alexander Forbes of Easter Migvie; Marjory, married Mr. Adam Barclay, minister of Towie; Barbara and Jean.

FORBES OF LESLIE.

John Forbes of Leslie, third son of William Forbes of Monymusk, acquired the lands of Leslie from the old family of that name which had been in possession for seven generations. George Leslie, the last Laird, was the son of Patrick Leslie and Sarah Keith; he succeeded his elder brother, John, the 7th Laird, in 1608.

The *Laurus Leslaeana* (1692) thus refers to him:

"This George was the last Baron Leslie of that surname, who dying left the estate greatly burdened with debt, though it was pretty well loaded before he came to it. Whence it happens that John Forbes, called of Enzean, 3rd son of Monymusk, marrying the widow and discharging the debts lying upon the estate, the barony of Leslie was settled in the Forbes family for ever."

The family, however, lasted only for three generations, as the 4th Laird sold them to the Leiths, whence they descended to the family of Leith-Hay.

According to the Kirk Session Records, the first Laird of Leslie was a strict Sabbatarian, for in 1639 he

"supplicated the Session to ratify the Acts of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and prohibit salmond fishing on the Sabbath."

As might be expected, he was also an ardent Covenanter, and as such always at feud with the Laird of Haddo and with the Marquis of Huntly, who on one occasion plundered his girnals. He also joined Argyll at Dunnottar in April, 1644, and the next year his lands were harried by Montrose, in consequence of which he represented himself as one of "the oppressed Covenanters" when he met General Baillie at Brechin.

His only child by the widowed Mrs. Leslie, (who was Anne, daughter of Patrick, 1st Lord Lindores), was—

I. William, his heir. He married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of Alexander Skene of Skene, and by her had John of Balluig (see next page); Alexander of Auquhorthis; and Margaret, married (1) Turing of Foveran, and (2) Sir William Ogilvie of Barras in the Mearns, a family famous in connection with the saving of the "Honours of Scotland" from Dunnottar.¹

¹ "Alexander Forbes, son of John, 1st Forbes Laird of Leslie, was declared fugitive in 1669 for the slaughter of Irvine of Kingcausie." (*Council Records of Aberdeen.*) This

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

II. William Forbes, 2nd Laird, rebuilt the old castle, as appears by an inscription on the walls with his own coat of arms and the date, June 17th, 1661. He was served heir to his father in 1663, but John, the 1st Laird, had already been dead some time. This William Forbes was the man who continued the *History of the Forbeses* (begun by Matthew Lumsden) down to the year 1667. He was notable also as having carried the banner of the house of Forbes at the funeral of Montrose in 1661. In 1662 he presented a supplication to the Privy Council praying remittance of a fine, since he was "a tender and valetudinary man" and unable, in the short time allowed him, to report correctly the losses he had suffered from thefts committed against himself and his tenants.

He married Janet Sutherland, sister of Lord Duffus, and had John, his heir; David, who succeeded John; and Jean, married to Meldrum of Hatton.

III. John, 3rd Laird of Leslie, married Helen, daughter of Sir William Scott of Ardross, and had six daughters, but no surviving son: Margaret, married Archibald Forbes of Putachie (see p. 211); Christian, married Alexander Skene of Dyce; Janet, married Alexander Paton of Kinaldie; Anna, married Walter Leslie of Colpnay; Lilius and Barbara, unmarried.

John Forbes, 3rd of Leslie, appealed to the Privy Council, Edinburgh, August 19th, 1684, having been fined by the Laird of Kimmundie, sheriff depute of Aberdeen,

"for alleged irregularities, (and particularly for his ladys withdrawing from ther oune paroch kirk) in the soume of twentie two thousand three hundred and twenty punds Scots money. The accusation was true but he stated that it 'did not proceed from any disaffectione to the present established government in church and state, but out of a dislyke against Master Alexander Mowat, the minister, who was put in contrair to John Forbes inclinacione, he being patrone.' He and his lady always 'frequented the nearest churches of the orthodox and regular clergy.' They were discharged and the fine remitted." (*Privy Council.*)

IV. The 4th Laird of Leslie, who was in possession when the Poll-book of 1696 was compiled, was David, younger brother of the 3rd. He married Margaret Farquharson of Invercauld, and had five sons: William, John, James, Alexander and Kenneth; and four daughters: Janet, Jean, Margaret and Anne. It was he who sold the lands to the family of Leith.

THE SECOND FAMILY OF FORBES IN BALFLUIG. (DISTINCT FROM THAT OF CORSINDAE.)

I. John Forbes, second son of John Forbes, 1st Laird of Leslie, married (1) Anne, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Boyndlie, by whom he had John, could not have been Alexander of Auquhorthies, and therefore Spalding was no doubt right when he wrote that it was a *natural* son, called either Alexander or William Forbes, who murdered John Irving of Kincausie in 1664, and subsequently shot off his own hand by an accident. In recounting this, the chronicler adds, piously, "Behold the Lord."

DESCENDANTS OF YOUNGER SONS

his heir : James, Arthur, Robert, Patrick, Joseph, William and Elizabeth. He died about 1700.

II. John, 2nd of Balfluig, married Mary Ogilvie, daughter of George, 2nd Lord Banff, by whom he had George, his heir ; Alexander, John, Anne, Katherine, Mary, married James Gordon, minister at Alford,¹ and Isobel. John died about 1730. His second son, Alexander, was one of the Aberdeenshire Jacobites of 1715 taken prisoner by Colonel Cathcart at Dunfermline. He was tried at Carlisle, but was eventually liberated on account of his youth.

III. George, married Jean, daughter of Alexander Skene of Skene, and had John, his heir ; and Mary, who married her cousin, George Skene of Skene, and had five sons, two of whom were the last lairds of Skene ; and two daughters, Mary, married the 3rd Lord Fife,² and Sarah. He died about 1741, and was succeeded by his son—

IV. John, last laird of Balfluig, who sold the estate in 1753 to Francis Farquharson of Haughton, and went to live at Rotterdam, where he died unmarried.

AQUHORTHIES.

I. Alexander, third son of the 1st Laird of Leslie, married Anna, daughter of William Seton of Mounie, and had six sons and one daughter : 1. John, his heir ; 2. Alexander of Blackford (see below). 3. George, married Margaret Skene. 4. Samuel, a M.D. in Aberdeen, married Janet Gerard, and died, 1744. 5. Timothy, a merchant in Ireland, married Sarah Sparrow, and had issue. 6. James, also went to Ireland ; he married Catharine, daughter of Robert Barclay of Urie, and died in 1735 ; and Barbara. He died in 1681.

II. John, 2nd of Aquhorthies and Lethenty, married, in 1653, Barbara, daughter of Alexander Skene of Dyce, by whom he had one daughter, Margaret, married Skene of Skene, and brought to that family the estate of Lethenty.

BLACKFORD.

I. Alexander Forbes, second son of Aquhorthies, married, in 1702, Helen, daughter of Alexander Gellie of Blackford, and purchased the latter's estate. He died in 1703, and was succeeded by his son—

¹ This is the lady to whom there is the charming memorial on the gable of Alford Parish Church (formerly within the church) :

“ Within this isle, interred behind these stones
Lye pious, wise, good Mary Forbes' bones
Balfluig's daughter and of blameless life
To Mr. Gordon, Pastor, here the wife.

Expiravit Aet suæ 46

April 27 A.D. 1728 ” (see illustration, page 476).

² Bringing the Skene property into the family of the Earls of Fife, by whom it was sold to the late John Hamilton.

THE HOUSE OF FORBES

II. Alexander, who was served heir to his father in 1724. He married, in 1727, Mary Askew, an English lady, by whom he had one son, Alexander. In 1722 he built the house of Badenscoth, and died in 1750.

III. Alexander, 3rd of Blackford, married, in 1754, Catherine Gordon of Badenscoth, and had Alexander and John, who both succeeded him, and three daughters: Mary, married Peter Gordon, 11th of Abergeldie, son of Charles Gordon, the unwilling Jacobite of 1715, and of Rachel, daughter of the 8th Laird, and last of the old stock. Elizabeth and Grace both died unmarried.

IV. Alexander, the 4th Laird, died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother—

V. John, born 1758, married Anna Margaretta (daughter of John Gregory, M.D., and his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of the 14th Lord Forbes)—they had seven sons and one daughter. 1. Alexander, who succeeded. 2. John of the Bombay Engineers, died unmarried, 1803. 3. James Keith, Capt., H.E.I. Cos.S., married, 1817, Marion, daughter of James Brown, and had: James Keith, 10th Bengal Native Infantry, died in Lucknow, 1839; and John Gregory, surgeon in London, married Harriet McIntyre. He married, secondly, Margaret Duncan of Aberdeen, and died in London, 1842. 4. Charles, Colonel, died unmarried, 1843. 5. Andrew, Capt., R.N., died unmarried, 1847. 6. William Nairne, Lieut.-Col., Bengal Engineers, married Sarah Greenlaw, and had John Greenlaw and Sarah. 7. Jonathan, born 1798, afterwards Colonel Jonathan Forbes Leslie, 78th Regiment, who entered the army at 15, and served until 1847. He was in the Walcheren Expedition and in Flanders up to 1815, also in Ceylon and Scinde. He married, in 1825, Margaret, daughter of John Urquhart of Craigston, by whom he had issue two daughters: Isabella, born 1827, married, 1845, James Crawford of Rothienorman, Capt., Bombay Engineers; Anna Margaretta, born 1828, married, 1848, Alexander Irvine of Drum. (See page 472.)

John Forbes, 5th of Blackford, had one daughter, Mary Elizabeth, who married William Moir of Park. He died in 1840, and was succeeded by his eldest son—

VI. Alexander, 6th of Blackford, born 1786, married Margaret, daughter of Charles Bannerman, and had issue: Alexander, 61st Regiment, died unmarried; John, Mary and Anne, died young; Margaret, married, 1843, John Leith, Admiral of the Fleet, son of General Alexander Leith-Hay of Rannes and Leithhall, whence Lord Leith of Fyvie.

Alexander married, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of General Leith-Hay, sister to his son-in-law, but had no further issue. He died October 28th, 1851.

A concise table of these cadet families is added.

FAMILY TREE

No. 7

LESLIE, BALFLUIG, AUQUHORTHIES, AND BLACKFORD

No. 7. LESLIE, BALFLUIG, AUQUHORTHIES, AND BLACKFORD.

