



Dabh Ghhlase

The Newsletter of the Clan Douglas Society of North America

VOL 50 ISSUE 1
MARCH 2023

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NEWSLETTER FOUNDER Gilbert F. Douglas, JR. MD (deceased)

OFFICERS

President

Tim Tyler

2780 Pine Creek Circle
Fullerton, CA 92835
Phone: 714-478-9666
mark.peterson@ai-engines.com

Vice-President

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DouglasSecretary@comcast.net

Treasurer

Tom Douglas

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Phone: 618-795-3879
tomdouglas46@yahoo.com

Board Member

Chuck Mirabile (Past Pres)

.....
.....

Assistant Vice-President (East)

Harold Edington
11907 E. Alberta St.
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Phone: 816-529-7764
clan.douglas@yahoo.com

Assistant Vice-President (West)

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6505 N. Gentry Ave.
Fresno, CA 93711
Phone: 559-709-6588
corampeterson@gmail.com

HELP CDSNA MOVE FORWARD!
BECOME A REGENT Or Co-REGENT

REGENTS

UNITED STATES

ALABAMA

Gilbert F. Douglas III
205-222-7664
ke4nrl@gmail.com

ARIZONA

Barbara J. Wise
520-991-9539
bwise320@gmail.com

ARKANSAS

Diana Kay Stell
501-757-2881
DouglasLady@outlook.com

CALIFORNIA (North)

Mark & Cora Peterson
559-439-2947
corampeterson@gmail.com

CALIFORNIA (South)

Alex Kirkland
714-718-1571
alex.m.kirkland@gmail.com

COLORADO

Chuck Mirabile
720-934-6901
loudbeak@yahoo.com

FLORIDA (Central)

Jeff & Mona Sparks
407-721-3775
jtsparks1@gmail.com

FLORIDA (South)

Elizabeth Douglass & Russell Douglass
954-296-1834 786-853-1349
edouglass@bellsouth.net
russellpipes4x4@gmail.com

FLORIDA (Northeast) & GEORGIA (South)

Dennis Conrad
904-772-8102
sarahsdaddy@comcast.net

GEORGIA (North)

Doug Isbecque
770-813-0789
drcl.bel@gmail.com

HAWAII

James Douglas Putnam
808-554-1944
jamesputnam85@gmail.com

IDAHO - Regent wanted for Boise, ID -- Treasure Valley Highland Games & Celtic Festival

ILLINOIS (Central)

Timothy Kirkpatrick
253-359-7069
kirkpatrick79@yahoo.com

ILLINOIS (North) - Regent wanted for the Chicago area

INDIANA

Jim & Sandy Douglas
765-296-2710
sandyd77@outlook.com

IOWA -- Regent wanted for the Quad City area

KANSAS --- Regent wanted for Wichita area

KENTUCKY --- Regent wanted

LOUISIANA -- Regent/Co-Regent wanted for the Minden area

MAINE

Chris Mogensen
alwayskilted@gmail.com

MARYLAND

James Agnew
571-278-6056
jim.agnew67@gmail.com

MICHIGAN

Mary Clark
734-301-8472
MICDSNA@gmail.com

MINNESOTA (North)

John M. Glendenning, Jr.
218-728-4998
jglen@charter.net

MINNESOTA (South)

Brooke Kenney
612-655-8954
brooke@brotheroke.com

MISSISSIPPI -- Regent/Co-Regent wanted

MISSOURI

Harold Edington
816-529-7764
clan.douglas@yahoo.com

MONTANA - Regents wanted for 1 or all Billings, MT -- Celtic Classic Festival

Hamilton, MT -- Bitterroot Celtic Games
Kalispell, MT -- Flathead Celtic Festival
One, two, or all three are available

NEVADA (North -- Reno area)

Richard & Holly Bromley
775-530-5667
rlbrich@aol.com

NEVADA (South -- Las Vegas area)

See CALIFORNIA (South) Regent info

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Regents wanted

NEW MEXICO

Eric Vigil
575-749-1275
ericvigil@yahoo.com

NEW YORK

Daneen Muehlbauer
716-283-5247
clan_douglas.ny51@yahoo.com

NORTH CAROLINA

Samuel Thayer
803-389-3550
clandouglasncregent@gmail.com

NC Co-Regent

Chris Mogensen
alwayskilted@gmail.com

OHIO --- See Michigan Regent Info

OKLAHOMA

Jody Blaylock
405-985-9704
jmblaylock@yahoo.com

OREGON (North)

Carol Bianchini
971-300-8593
clandouglaspnw@aol.com

OREGON (South)

Dakotah Blair
541-636-7535
dakotahblair@gmail.com

PENNSYLVANIA --- Regent wanted

SOUTH CAROLINA Co-Regent

Thelma Hein
843-780-8357
ladyhein@yahoo.com

SOUTH CAROLINA Co-Regent

Curtis Rowell
434-305-4601
crowell001@gmail.com

SOUTH DAKOTA -- Regent wanted for Aberdeen, SD -- Aberdeen Highland Games

TENNESSEE (West)

Derek & Brittany Douglas
615-691-0939
derek@douglas-clan.com

TENNESSEE (East)

Tyson & Betsy Chastain
865-385-0972 (please text first)
hsbtennessee@yahoo.com

TEXAS (North)

Matthew Douglas
214-493-6442
matthew.douglas75@gmail.com

TEXAS (South) --- Regents and/or Co-Regents wanted

UTAH

Trenton Duke
435-459-2562
trentduke95@outlook.com

UTAH Co-Regent wanted for Salt Lake City area Utah Scottish Festival

VIRGINIA Co-Regent

Scott Douglas
571-426-3826
arlyndoug@aol.com

VIRGINIA Co-Regent

Sean Morton
504-875-9540
mountainmanmorton@gmail.com

WASHINGTON

John Blakemore
510-484-3001
2doalameda@gmail.com

WEST VIRGINIA Co-Regents

Tyler Agnew
tyler.agnew21@gmail.com

WISCONSIN

Lori Garbett
414-256-0806
grabit1112@sbcglobal.net

WYOMING -- Regent wanted for Cheyenne and/or Jackson areas

ADMINISTRATORS

Storekeeper

Cassie Douglas
213 Coleton Lane
DeLand, FL 32724
352-603-3868
douglasclanstore@gmail.com

Web Editors

Mark Peterson
mpeterson1019@comcast.net

Harold Edington
clan.douglas@yahoo.com

Carol J Morton-Bianchini
DouglasSecretary@comcast.net

Historical Article Editors

Dr. Callum Watson
Battle Coordinator at the Battle of
Bannockburn Visitor Centre
just outside Stirling

Mr. Ian Douglas
Author, Photographer
Whitchurch, Hampton, UK

Newsletter Editor

Harold Edington
11907 E. Alberta St.
Sugar Creek, MO 64054
Phone: 816 529 7764
clan.douglas@yahoo.com

REGENTS (cont.)

If there is a local Scottish or Celtic event in your area that invites clans but has no Clan Douglas representative, consider becoming our Douglas Regent for that event.

Regions needing a Regent are highlighted in yellow.

Even if you are available to represent CDSNA at just one festival a year, that is so much better than no Douglas representation at all.

INTERNATIONAL REGENTS

CANADA – Regents wanted

- *** BRITISH COLUMBIA --- Vacant
- *** NEW BRUNSWICK -- Vacant
- *** ONTARIO --- Vacant

AUSTRALIA - Contact the
Clan Douglas Society of Australia
Anne Breust
0419 620 914
anne.breust@bigpond.com

BENELUX
(Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg)
Murray Frick
470-232-8060
murrayfrick@att.net

SPAIN
Leopoldo Fernández de Angulo y Gómez
de las Cortinas
Phone: 34 954 277 365
Cell: 34 639 019 632
regentclandouglas@gmail.com

March to your own drumbeat...
Become a CDSNA Regent



Looking for a different kind of gift for an adult family member?
Consider giving the gift of an annual membership (\$20) to
The Clan Douglas Society.

Another Douglas
is a member in Good Standing in the
Clan Douglas Society
of North America
clandouglassociaty.org
member # 5000
expires 01/2023
MM/YYYY

Click here to visit the
JOIN CDSNA
Section of the Clan Website.
Download a form
& pay online via Paypal.

President's Comments ...

With the advent of New Year, I was truly looking forward to attending this year's local Burns Dinner but my plans were once again detoured by Real Life. Instead of the dinner, I attended the funeral of a coworker. At the funeral, I pondered (again) how precious our time is to us while we are living since we have no idea when our Creator will call us home. Life can be so demanding and we all often equate our quality of life with our working success but I coming to the realization that there is much more to Life than work. Yes, it is necessary yet it should not be the full measure of what and who we are.

2023 holds so much promise and opportunity. Scottish festivals have already occurred in Florida and by the time you are reading this, there will likely have been more across the country. If your Scottish heritage is important to you, make a plan to set aside some time from work and make a point to attend your local games.

If your local event has a Douglas tent, go and support the Clan Douglas Society and your local Douglas Regent. Your help at the tent will make a world of difference to your Regent and give them a chance to have a brief break from the tent and enjoy everything the festival has to offer and perhaps have a chance to buy a little gift for their spouse. We owe our Douglas Regents a deep debt of gratitude for all they do – and will do in the coming year.

If your local event does not have a Douglas tent, consider being the Douglas Regent at that event. To paraphrase CDSNA Asst VP Harold Edington, if you are a CDSNA member with enthusiasm for Clan Douglas and you are able to show Calm, Commitment and a Caring attitude for others, you may be just the right person to become a Douglas Regent. If you would like to learn more about being a Clan Douglas Regent, contact our VP Mark Peterson, or either of our Asst VPs: Cora Peterson (Asst VP West) or Harold Edington (Asst VP East).

Another thing I should mention is this: EVERYONE should make a plan to attend the 2024 GMM. The CDSNA is making some BIG plans for this Gathering at Grandfather Mountain to celebrate our 50th year as a Society. This will definitely be something you do not want to miss. More information will be forthcoming in future issues of **Dabh Ghlase** as we get closer to the date. If you are someone with a Weekly/Monthly/Yearly Planner, you should go ahead and set aside the first week of July 2024.

2023 holds amazing potential for CDSNA but it will take ALL of US to make that potential a reality. Don't forget to take some real time for yourself and your family doing those things that bring you joy and show your love.

Yours aye,

Tim Tyler
CDSNA President



***At a Scottish/Celtic event, the only thing worse seeing than
an empty Clan Douglas tent is no Clan Douglas tent at all.***



Secretary's Report ...

CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, LTD. MEETING MINUTES FROM Saturday, February 18, 2023



1. President Called the meeting to order.

2. **Secretary called roll.** Tim Tyler, President, Mark Peterson, VP, Tom Douglas, Treasurer, Carol MortonBianchini, Secretary, and Chuck Mirabile, Past President were present.

3. **Welcome Guests** Cora Peterson, Asst. VP West, Harold Edington, Asst. VP East, and Jim Morton, 50th Anniversary Chairman were present.

4. Officers' and Storekeepers' Reports

a. President, Tim Tyler – Queen Mary Highland Games were not held. Formed Election Committee of Elizabeth Douglass, John Blakemore, and Chuck Mirabile to determine a slate of officers for 2024 – 2026.

b. Vice President, Mark Peterson – GMM Details – see below. Next highland games he and Cora will attend will be in September 2023 – Pleasanton and Fresno games.

c. Treasurer, Tom Douglas - ***the Treasurer's Report*** ... Checking Account: \$18,022.02. Morgan Stanley Investments: \$121,216.09. Profit to date for this fiscal year (July 1, 2022 - Feb. 17, 2023): \$1,797.26.

d. Secretary, Carol Morton-Bianchini – 5 new members and 5 renewals. Updating website under old business.

e. Editor & Asst VP East, Harold Edington- New Hampshire Regent will be replaced as he has not responded in the last six months. President has submitted his report for the Dubh Ghlase. Vice-President will be submitting his report this weekend. Treasurer's report will be included in Secretary's report submitted this weekend along with updated membership roster.

f. Asst VP West, Cora Peterson – Volunteers are needed. Has responded to highland games inquiries.

g. Cassie Douglas, Storekeeper – excused due to another event.

5. Old Business

a. **Approved Meeting Minutes** from the CDSNA Board Meeting on November 12, 2022.

b. Update on 2024 CDSNA GMM by Jim Morton, Chairman, 50th Anniversary Committee. Committee is reviewing all options for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of CDSNA at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in 2024 including hotels and block of rooms to be reserved, dinner venues (Banner Elk Winery was suggested where a previous CDSNA event was held that members enjoyed. Experience the Banner Elk Winery & Villa, North Carolina), buffet dinner, budget of maximum \$5K was set(Committee will try to minimize at all costs while still planning a quality event), new banner, 50th Anniversary items for sale, Grand Father Mountain Highland Games logistics, 2 tents (inside and outside of track), entertainment, ceilidh, photography by Chuck Mirabile, challenges of transportation (transportation will most likely be on attendee, but carpools are encouraged to share the cost), and Douglas titled guests from Scotland were suggested to attend, but it was determined all would have to be invited and it was cost prohibitive to do so, Torch Light Ceremony participation, and more. Officers to respond promptly (within 48 hours) of committee's request to enable them to book hotel and event venue by email replying to all Board Members and Jim Morton, Chairman.

[Grandfather Mountain Highland Games \(gmhg.org\)](http://gmhg.org)

– The Official Website of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Gathering O' Scottish Clans

c. Website Update – discussed Membership Benefits to add to website. Regents to be reviewed by Asst. VPs for accuracy due to changes. Volunteers needed to be highlighted.

6. New Business

- a) Add name tags back to the order form for Board Member, Regent, CDSNA Member, and CDSNA Life Member. Cassie to contact Joe Blaylock for more information on how to order name tags.
- b) Regent Zoom Meetings – VP is planning agenda and coordinating with Asst. VPs to set date. Refining requirements and sharing ideas on how to be a successful Regent.
- c) Next Board Meeting May 20, 2023 - 9 am PST, 11 am CST, and 12 EST.

Respectfully,

Carol Morton-Bianchini, Secretary
Clan Douglas Society of North America, Ltd.

A Douglas!

A Douglas!

A Douglas!

Please forward any [changes in email address, phone number, or home address to DouglasSecretary@comcast.net](#). Your continued delivery of the Dubh Ghlas newsletter is dependent on the Douglas Secretary having your current email address.

Members are sent friendly reminders via email of their dues expiration date three times before being placed in inactive status.

The Clan Douglas Society does not share our directory information with anyone except CDSNA Regents. On request, CDSNA Regents are provided a member directory for their state and surrounding areas. CDSNA Regents are instructed not to share information from directories with anyone, including other members of Clan Douglas.

New Members receive a welcome email with information about our social media pages via Facebook – “Clan Douglas Society of N.A.” and the group page “Clan Douglas Society of North America Ltd.” to connect to clan members year-round, a newly designed membership card, and a welcome letter from the Douglas Secretary.

Life Members receive a framed certificate signed by the President and Secretary along with a letter of appreciation and a specially designed Life Membership Card.

Questions? Email DouglasSecretary@comcast.net.

***Cead mìle fáilte* to
our new members this quarter.**

***Welcome to the
Clan Douglas Society.***

- 4349 Vaughan, Christopher; Prosper, TX
- 4350 Brock, Anthony; Taxewell, TN
- 4351 Dickie, Phillip; Portland, OR
- 4352 Bright, Leslie Neal; Kingsport, TN
- 4353 Creek, Thomas David; Mount Albert, ON



**CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, LTD.
SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

1. Each fiscal year Clan Douglas Society of North America, Ltd. (Clan Douglas) will award up to \$1000.00 in scholarships provided no individual will receive a scholarship in excess of \$250.00.
2. Applicants must be dedicated to continuing their instruction and furthering their education in the field of Scottish arts, which includes piping, drumming, dancing, Scottish related languages, traditional Scottish Highland Games athletics, or general Scottish studies.
3. To be eligible, an applicant must have been an active member in Clan Douglas for a minimum of one year or a direct descendant of such an active member. Active membership will be certified by the Secretary and determined as of April 30th following receipt of application for scholarship. Members of the scholarship committee and their descendants are not eligible.

4. Applications must be post marked by May 1, 2023

5. Applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee, which will make recommendations to the Board of Directors for approval. Recipients will be announced at the Annual General Meeting of Clan Douglas.
6. Criteria used by the Scholarship Committee in making its recommendations will include applicant's:
 - Interest in and dedication to Scottish tradition.
 - Indication of accomplishments in chosen area of study.
 - Evidence of academic or artistic capability.
7. Recipients must submit a report upon completion of their studies for publication in the Clan Douglas newsletter, *Dubh Ghlas*.

For additional information or to receive application forms, you may write to:

Clan Douglas Scholarship Committee
c/o Gilbert F. Douglas III
1868 Patton Chapel Rd
Birmingham, AL 35226-3317

2023 CDSNA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please submit original and two copies to: Clan Douglas Scholarship Committee
c/o Gilbert F. Douglas III
1868 Patton Chapel Rd
Birmingham, AL 35226-3317

~~~~~ Deadline for entry - May 1st, 2023 ~~~~~

Applicant's FULL Name _____ Telephone Number: (____) _____

Age _____ U.S. Citizen (Circle): Yes No Martial Status: _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Clan Douglas Membership # _____ Applied for Scholarship Before (Circle): Yes No

If "yes", date of previous application: _____ Amount(s) received: \$ _____

If applicant is under 18 years old or intends to qualify as a direct descendant of an active member, please complete the following:

Relative's Full Name: _____

CDSNA Membership #: _____ Telephone Number: (____) _____ Relationship: _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Area of Study (Circle one) : Piping Drumming Dancing Languages Highland Athletics

Scottish related General Studies (Give brief description) _____

Location of Study:

Name of School or Instructor _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Class Dates: Begins _____ Ends _____ Total Estimated Cost of Attending: \$ _____

Please provide a brief summary of previous training, competitions, awards and accomplishments. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Multiple horizontal lines for writing a summary of previous training, competitions, awards and accomplishments.

FOR SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Postmark date on envelope _____ For Secretary, years as active member _____

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RENEWING MEMBERSHIP FORM

↑ Check one above DATE: _____ / _____ / _____

Clan Douglas Society
of North America



TYPES OF MEMBERSHIPS & DUES: (MAKE A SELECTION)

ONE YEAR: \$20 THREE YEARS: \$55

LIFE, if UNDER 60 years old: \$300 → LIFE, INSTALLMENT: \$75

LIFE, if OVER 60 years old: \$200 → LIFE, INSTALLMENT: \$50

LIFE MEMBERSHIP MAY BE PAID IN FOUR EQUAL INSTALLMENTS

Dues are payable in US currency or equivalent currency of applicant's home country at the exchange rate at time of payment.

PLEASE INDICATE PAYMENT TYPE: PAYPAL CHECK CASH OTHER, _____

*Pay via PAYPAL: <http://clandouglassociety.org/join-cdsna/>

**If paying by check, make payable to CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY

***REQUIRED CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS (Please Print)**

*NAME:

* EMAIL:

*PHONE:

The CDSNA *Dabb Ghlase* Newsletter is digital only & will be emailed to your email address of record.

Do you possess any skills (Web Design, IT, Leadership, etc.) or have an interest in any activity or service you would be willing to share with CDSNA? Please list.

↓ ↓ FOR NEW APPLICANTS ONLY (please print) ↓ ↓

Family or Sept Affiliation:

Spouse's/Partner's Name:

Children under 18:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

ZIP:



- Attn Regent: Scan & Email completed form to:


Carol Morton-Bianchini, Secretary
PO Box 6974
Portland, OR 97228

(Call/Text) 971.300.8593 (Email) DouglasSecretary@comcast.net

REGENT receiving Application:

To pay your CDSNA Membership Dues via our CDSNA account...

go to <http://clandouglassociety.org/join-cdsna/>

[1] Click on the  button to connect to the PayPal form.



[2] Once on the PayPal form, enter the AMOUNT of your Membership option selection:

\$20 - [1-YR] (one year)

\$55 - [3-YR] (three year)

[Note: LIFE memberships may be paid in one lump sum or in 4 equal payments]

\$300 – [LIFE-59] (age 59 & younger)

\$75 – [LIFE-59/I] (installment)

\$200 – [LIFE-60] (age 60 & older)

\$50 – LIFE-60/I (installment)

[3] On the next page, click on "Please list what your donation is for:" and indicate either: **1-YR**; **3-YR**; **LIFE-59**; **(LIFE-59/I)**; **LIFE-60**; or **(LIFE-60/I)**

[4] To ensure you receive your digital copy of the quarterly Clan Douglas newsletter, *Dubh Glase*, you need to include your email address in the **CONTACT INFORMATION**.

[5] Once you have completed the Membership Donation, send an email to the Clan Douglas Secretary to inform that you have paid via the CDSNA website and ask for the Secretary to email you a verification at the earliest convenience.

Email: DouglasSecretary@comcast.net

The Editor's Ramblings ...

Along for the Ride

In February, the Lady Jennifer and I traveled to Arizona to visit family. Along the way, we stopped in Albuquerque, NM and had dinner at *Sadies* with CDSNA Regent Eric Vigil and his delightful *Crew* -- Paula Ross, Paul Duval and Tomaz Cervantes -- where I gave Eric a copy of my newly published "*Septs & Allied Families of Clan Douglas*" book. Dinner was fabulous and the venue featured live music by a guitarist and a harpist who stopped at the end of our table to play. What a treat!

As some may recall, Eric is the driving force behind a new March festival in New Mexico that is a combination Celtic Celebration, Medieval Celebration, Pirate & Viking Celebration and Time Traveler Celebration that drew in over 8000 visitors during its first run in 2022. The 2023 event appears to be shaping up to be something even bigger and better. I plan to travel back to New Mexico near the end of March to attend the 2nd *NM Renaissance Celtic Festival* and see *The Crew* again. You can learn more about this event on their website: <https://nmrenceltfest.com/>

Our return trip to Missouri required a bit of "fanny fortitude" as a snowstorm closed the I-40 corridor across Arizona and we were forced to re-route south from Phoenix to the I-10 and travel east far enough to evade the snow and connect back to I-40. The extra miles afforded us a look at part of the country we had never before visited. If we had thought to take along our passports, we might have made a quick visit to Mexico -- we were a mere 30 minutes from the Border.

To Reprint or not Reprint... That is the question!

For the past few issues of *Dabh Ghlase*, I have been reprinting chapters from *out-of-print Douglas-themed books*. I am not sure how many of you have been reading and enjoying these reprints; I don't know if they are being read at all. If you have been reading and enjoying, please let me know via email (clan.douglas@yahoo.com) or on the Clan Douglas Society of North America, Ltd. Group found on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/clandouglassociety>).

Time to get all over our News From All Over

This section of the newsletter is often filled with the games reports of our various Regents. But I want each of you to understand that this section is also a place for you to submit reports of Scottish/Celtic themed events you attend, as well.

You may have attended an event that did not have Clan Douglas representation. If that is the case, your narrative of the event may be just the thing to encourage a Regent to attend the event in the future.

But I want you all to know this, as well: Even if a Clan Douglas tent was at a particular festival you attended, your thoughts, views, and opinions of the event are just as valid as the Regents' narrative and I would encourage you to share your thoughts with the Editor for publication alongside the Regent's narrative. If you are up for this, please send some photos -- people shots are better than scenery shots -- with descriptions of who or what and where. Sharing your experiences may give a nudge to another member to do the same. The end result will be a better, more interactive, and more enjoyable quarterly publication.

Read All About It...

I heard an old song on the radio the other day. The 2012 song, *Read All About It, Pt. III* was written (in part) and sung by Emeli Sandé. The song reminded me that there are a number of gifted and talented members in our Society that have so much to share and contribute ... but they don't. Whether from fear or something else, they remain invisible and silent. I hope that these opening lyrics from the song will inspire you to share your inner light and let it shine on all of us.

*You've got the words to change a nation
But you're biting your tongue
You've spent a life time stuck in silence
Afraid you'll say something wrong
If no one ever hears it, how we gonna learn your song?
So come on, come on
Come on, come on*

*You've got a heart as loud as lightning
So why let your voice be tamed?
Maybe we're a little different
There's no need to be ashamed
You've got the light to fight the shadows
So stop hiding it away
Come on, come on*



Harold, Paul Duval and Tomaz Cervantes looking through Harold's new *Septs & Allied Families of Clan Douglas* book



Regent Eric Vigil & Paula Ross



July 5th- 7th
(Fri - Sun),
2024

**50th Anniversary Celebration
and General Members Meeting**

Please join us in 2024...

when we celebrate the **50TH ANNIVERSARY** of the
Clan Douglas Society of North America

in conjunction with the General Members Meeting

at the 2024 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, (near Boone, NC).

If you have never attended the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
and you would like a sneak peek at all the event has to offer,
visit the festival's website for a look at what is planned for 2023.

www.GMHG.org

*And then imagine how much
more grand it will be in 2024*





Battle of Baugé 1421 by artist & CDSNA Life Member Andrew Spratt

'An antidote to the English': Battle of Baugé, 1421

By Dr. Callum Watson

On March 22, 1421 the Battle of Baugé was fought in Anjou. While ostensibly part of the Hundred Years War between England and France, the battle is unusual in that the victory was ascribed at the time to the 6,000-strong 'Grand Army of Scotland' that was at that time in the service of the French dauphin Charles (the future Charles VII). The 'Scottish' victory at Baugé cemented the reputation of the so-called 'Grand Army' as a particularly fearsome and effective fighting force, an 'antidote to the English' in the words of the contemporary pope Martin V. Moreover, this success was seized upon by Archibald, 4th earl of Douglas – who was not present at Baugé but who had been central to the recruitment and dispatch of the 'Grand Army' – to increase his diplomatic standing with the French crown and to further his ambitions as a figure of international significance. Today's blog post will examine the battle, its context and what it tells us about the outlook of the Scottish political community in the early fifteenth-century.

Context is for kings: Scotland in the early fifteenth-century

The early decades of the fifteenth-century have traditionally been seen as the nadir of royal authority within the kingdom. Since 1384, a succession of crises – both minor and major – had resulted in a series of extended guardianships and lieutenantancies, during which various minor royals had exercised practical control over the government while the reigning king was effectively side-lined. During the 1390s, King Robert III staged something of a fightback against this trend, using his offspring – and particularly his eldest son and heir David, duke of Rothesay – to re-assert his own influence over the royal administration. However, by January 1399 Rothesay had disentangled himself from his father's political networks and sought to assert his independence, securing his appointment as 'kyngis lieutenande generally throch al the kynrike' at a general council at Perth. Rothesay's bid for power was supported by his uncle Robert Stewart, duke of Albany, (who had served as guardian from 1388-92 and remained one of the most influential figures in Scottish politics), Archibald 'the Grim', 3rd earl of Douglas, (indisputably the most powerful magnate in southern Scotland), and his own mother – Robert III's wife – Annabella Drummond. However, the deaths of Archibald the Grim in late 1400 and – more significantly – Queen Annabella the following year removed their important stabilising influence from the still volatile political situation in Scotland.

As a result, the relationship between Rothesay and Albany quickly soured and in early 1402 Rothesay died – apparently of neglect – while imprisoned at Albany’s castle of Falkland in Fife. In order to achieve this remarkable coup against the young duke, Albany had been forced to negotiate a hasty alliance with Rothesay’s brother-in-law Archibald, 4th earl of Douglas, who had succeeded his father Archibald the Grim as the leading figure in the politics of southern Scotland. Together, the two men faced an inquest into their part in Rothesay’s death at a general council at Edinburgh in May 1402, and not only were they acquitted of any wrongdoing, but also Albany was restored to the office of lieutenant on behalf of his brother the king. Still stability remained illusive for the Scottish political community, as the defeat and capture of Douglas alongside Albany’s son Murdoch and a substantial portion of their armed followings at the Battle of Homildon Hill in September 1402 weakened Albany’s ability to firmly assert his authority across the realm. This provided yet another opportunity to re-establish royal authority for Robert III, who this time invested his hopes in his remaining son James, earl of Carrick (the future King James I). The king once again overplayed his hand though, as in February 1406 James’s guardians Sir David Fleming and Henry Sinclair, earl of Orkney, botched an attempt to intimate the formidable Margaret Stewart, countess of Angus. Fleming was killed fighting forces loyal to Countess Margaret and the Black Douglases, while Orkney hastily made arrangements to deliver the twelve year old James to France, apparently fearing that if either the Douglases or Albany got their hands on him, James would suffer the same grisly fate as his elder brother had done in 1402. However, while at sea, Orkney and James were captured by pirates and handed over to King Henry IV of England, condemning James, at least, to an indefinite period of imprisonment at the hands of the ‘auld enemye’. To compound matters, Robert III himself died on 4th April, apparently shortly after learning of his son’s capture.

By mid-1406 then, Scotland was without a king, and without much hope of recovering its monarch any time soon. The last time a King of Scots had fallen into English hands – David II in 1346 – it had been eleven years before the Scots had managed to secure his release. Nonetheless, the political community at least had an experienced and capable candidate in whom governance of the realm could be invested in the form of Albany, who was swiftly appointed ‘Governor of Scotland’. This hitherto unheard of title has been used to suggest that the duke harboured some deep-seated ambition to usurp the throne altogether (being the young king’s nearest male relative and thus technically heir presumptive), but in fact the title probably reflects his unprecedented position of having to stand-in for an absentee king who had not yet technically been formally crowned. The absence of both his late brother and his potentially troublesome nephew left Albany largely free to govern however he saw fit, although there are some signs that his early efforts to administer the realm stirred up tensions in the south. In particular, Albany’s acceptance of the return of the exiled George Dunbar, earl of March, and his family back into Scottish allegiance in 1408 was a cause of considerable concern for the earl of Douglas, who at the time was still a prisoner in England. March had previously been alienated from the Scottish crown by Douglas’s father’s politicking in the late 1390s, and one of the fourth earl’s key goals during the early years of his tenure had been to oversee the partition of the vacant earldom of March in favour of himself and his followers. So alarmed by this development was the



The Battle of Baugé, from a late fifteenth-century manuscript of *Les Vigiles de Charles VII* by Martial d’Auvergne. The Franco-Scottish army are depicted on the right, wearing the white cross of St Denis. The luckless figure being skewered on the left of the image is probably supposed to be Henry V’s brother Thomas, duke of Clarence. Image source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vigiles_du_roi_Charles_VII_53.jpg

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Doune Castle, favoured residence of Robert Stewart, duke of Albany. Albany had been one of the most influential figures in Scottish politics since the 1380s and this influence is one of the major reasons that the late fourteenth- and early fifteenth-centuries have traditionally been seen as a period of diminished royal authority in Scotland. Image source: <https://www.visitscotland.com/info/see-do/doune-castle-p254201>

earl that in 1409 he arranged for a period of parole from Henry IV's custody – the third such arrangement since his initial capture in 1402/3 – and promptly absconded, remaining in Scotland to settle his dispute with Albany even after his parole was over. The canny duke did not apparently require much persuading to reach an accommodation with the earl. At a meeting between the two men at Inverkeithing in Fife in June 1409 the pair sealed an indenture that their shared responsibility to arbitrate on matters arising between their respective followings and to ensure that neither one overstepped their respective jurisdictions. The only hint that there was any disparity between their respective statuses can be seen in the document's description of Albany as a 'mychty prince' and Douglas as a 'mychty lord'. Otherwise, the document was clearly at pains to stress the equal nature of the two men's power. The indenture of 1409 would establish the political settlement of Scotland for the best part of a generation. Though this was not made official policy, the contemporary English observer John Shirley is essentially correct in his observation that 'the duke of Albany governyd and toke uppone hym the reule of Scotland beyonde the Scottish See (i.e., the River Forth). And in the same wyesse dydde th'erlle Douglas both governe and reule over this syde the Scottische see'. Albany seems to have been largely content to focus on domestic affairs but the battle-scarred earl of Douglas (who had lost an eye at Homildon Hill in 1402 and, probably less visibly, a testicle at the Battle of Shrewsbury the following year) took this as an opportunity not only to pursue his interests within Scotland but also to expand his personal standing on the international stage. Partly this was due to his estates being situated so close to the border, partly due to his experiences and connected formed in England from 1402-9, and partly out of straightforward personal ambition. It was as a result of Douglas's burning desire to present himself as an influential figure in international diplomacy that he sought to intrude Scotland into the on-going – and increasingly bitter – conflict between England and France known as the Hundred Years' War.

Once more unto the breach: England and France in the 1420s

Anglo-French conflict had been common through the two kingdoms' histories, but since the late 1330s war had become an even more regular feature of their interaction than usual. Scotland and its nobility had a vested interest in this as one of the key pillars of Scottish diplomatic policy since at least the late thirteenth-century had been the maintenance of good relations with France as a potential bulwark against English aggression. The internal weakness of the English royal administration – badly mismanaged and riven by factionalism – in the late fourteenth-century had allowed the French to regain the upper hand and by the turn of the fourteenth-century they had established a broadly favourable peace deal with their habitual foes. However, by the early decades of the fifteenth-century, the French domestic situation was beginning to destabilise. The French king Charles VI – subsequently known as Charles 'the Mad' – had begun suffering periodic bouts of mental illness since around 1393. Initially, the French royal administration was managed by a ruling council, but increasingly powerful factions began to emerge around the king's brother Louis, duke of Orléans (whose supporters became known as Armagnacs) and the king's cousin John 'the Fearless', duke of Burgundy. In November 1407, Duke Louis was assassinated by supporters of John the Fearless on the streets of Paris. This delivered effective control over the royal administration to the Burgundian duke, but naturally provoked violent recriminations from Louis's son and successor as duke of Orléans, Charles. Unable to overwhelm the Burgundians materially, the Armagnacs began negotiating a series of alliances intended to encourage widespread resistance to John the Fearless's policies and ultimately undermine his position. In 1412, the Armagnacs even secured the support of King Henry IV of England, offering him a substantial parcel of lands in south-west France in return for support in smashing the Burgundian administration. That summer, Henry IV's second son – Thomas, duke of Clarence – led an army of 4,000 men through western France, carving a wide arc of devastation through the lands south of the River Loire. It was this into this increasingly desperate situation that Douglas proceeded to intrude himself.

In the autumn of 1412, Douglas personally travelled to Paris, where he was hosted by John the Fearless himself. It is unclear whether this trip had been arranged by the Burgundian duke or if Douglas had simply invited himself, but the purpose of the embassy – at least as far as Douglas was concerned – was clearly to further the Scottish earl's diplomatic ambitions. As a result of the discussions conducted at Paris, Douglas agreed to field an army of 4,000 men – the same size as the English force then terrorising the Loire Valley – whose wages would be paid by the French crown. Individual Scots already had a long history of military service on the Continent. Douglas's father had for instance fought with a contingent of Scots led by his cousin William, lord of Douglas, at the Battle of Poitiers in 1356. More recently, David, 1st earl of Crawford, had served in the retinue of Louis, duke of Orléans, while in 1408 Alexander Stewart, earl of Mar, had earned a particularly fearsome reputation in the service of none other than John the Fearless himself. Yet the agreement of 1412 envisaged Scottish military intervention in



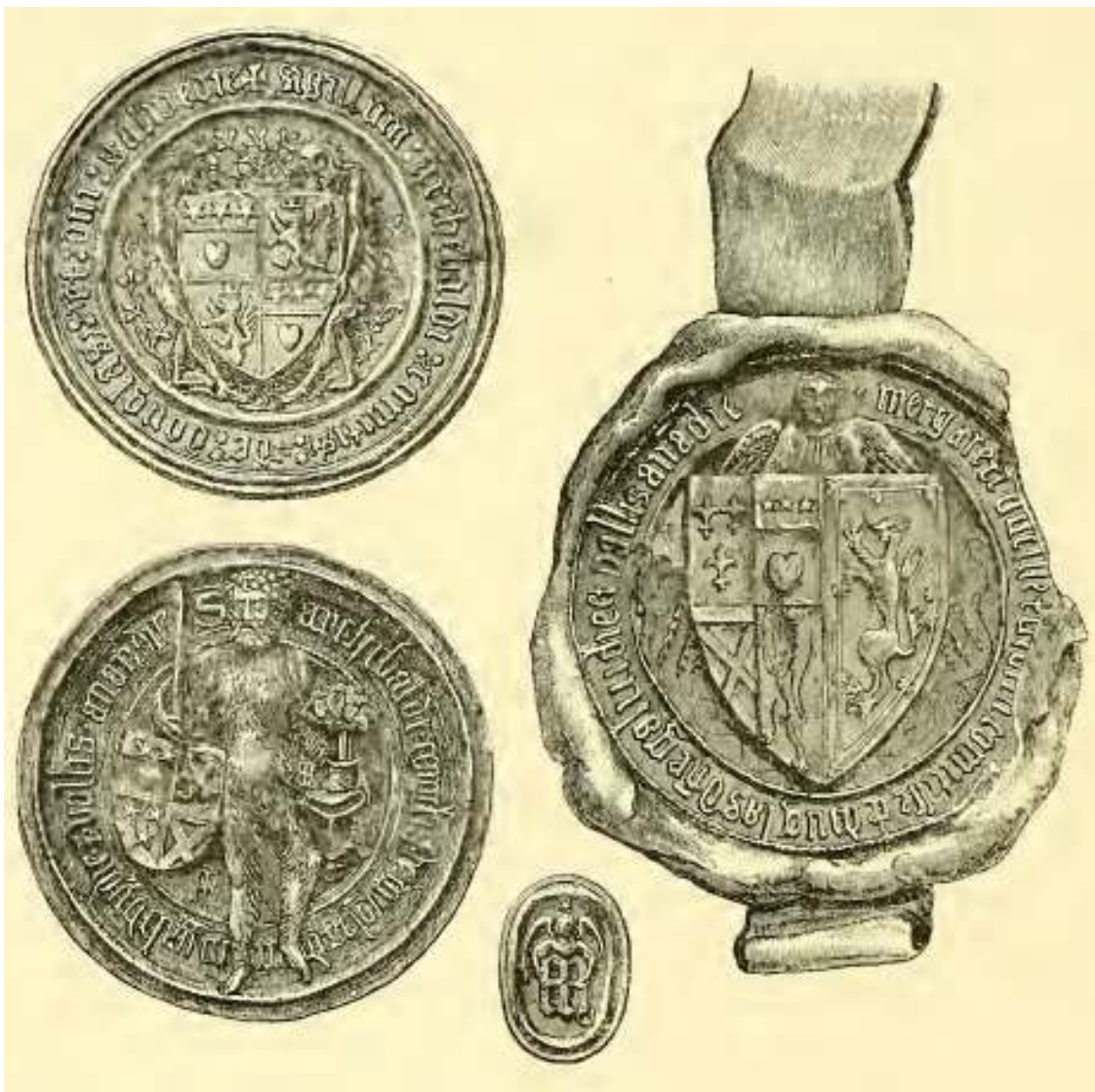
A scene from a fifteenth-century manuscript of Jean Froissart's *Croniques*. In it, King Charles VI, depicted on a white horse with a crowned helmet and sword raised, attacks his own followers, believing them to be enemies. This incident - which occurred in 1392 - is the earliest known indication of Charles's long-running and debilitating mental illness, a condition that would frequently leave him unable to govern personally.

Image source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Madness_of_Charles_VI.jpg

France on an unprecedented scale. To secure such a far-reaching settlement, Douglas not only exploited Duke John's

increasing desperation, but also drew on his family's already impressive reputation on the Continent. As early as 1330, Douglas's grandfather James 'the Good' had made a lasting impression on the chivalry of western Europe by carrying his lord King Robert I's embalmed heart on crusade to what is now southern Spain, dying in battle there into the bargain. Douglas's father had spent a considerable portion of his youth in France, and on more than one occasion had represented the Scottish crown in diplomatic negotiations with the French royal administration. Thus, it was not merely because John the Fearless felt he had nowhere else to turn in 1412 that he agreed to fund Douglas's proposed military adventure. He clearly believed that Douglas truly could deliver on his outrageous-sounding promise of armed support.

As it happened, the agreement of 1412 was nixed in the most unpredictable of ways. On 20th March 1413, Henry IV died and was succeeded by his eldest son, as Henry V. Though young and warlike, Henry initially favoured a settlement with the Burgundian duke, seemingly to give himself time to consolidate his domestic position, and he soon entered into peace negotiations with John the Fearless. Thus, after more than a year away from Scotland, Douglas embarked for home loaded with lavish Burgundian gifts, but with his diplomatic settlement in tatters. On his way back to Scotland the earl stopped off at the English court, where he may have been heartened to learn that Henry's apparently peaceful overtures were not a genuine effort to restore peace between England and France, but rather a way to neutralise the threat Burgundy's powerful army could pose to any future English efforts to reassert themselves on the Continent. Sure enough, in August 1415 Henry personally led a sizeable English army to France, besieging and capturing the town of Harfleur before advancing through the French countryside as a deliberate demonstration of his



A collection of seals associated with Archibald, 4th earl of Douglas. The development of his arms during his tenure as earl provide a striking illustration of his vaunting ambition and his eagerness to visually advertise his growing prestige. The earliest of these three is the one in the top right, in which the arms of the earldom of Douglas are quartered with those of the Lordship of Galloway. Both of these titles he had inherited from his father in 1400. The one in the lower left of this image shows the incorporation of the Murray patrimony (in the bottom left quadrant), which he inherited from his mother after February 1401, and the lordship of Annandale (in the bottom right quadrant), which he acquired in 1402. The third seal actually belonged to his wife Margaret Stewart, but it features the earl's arms impaled with her father's (the royal arms of Scotland). In this case, the earl's arms now include the fleur-de-lis associated with the duchy of Touraine, which Douglas received shortly before his death in 1424.

Image source: <http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/heraldry/seals.htm#.YFdrT537RPb>



King James I of Scotland and his English wife Joan Beaufort, as they appear in the Forman Armorial of 1562. James was utilised by the English royal administration in their early efforts to dissuade Scots from entering service of the French crown. This proved to be ineffective however, which pushed the English to pursue the more aggressive policy that led them to defeat at the Battle of Baugé.

Image source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:JoanBeaufortandJames.jpg>

military might. Henry was confronted by a larger French army near the village of Agincourt in what is now the Pas-de-Calais region, and in the ensuing battle the English king utterly smashed this (largely Armagnac) force. In the wake of this devastating defeat, the French royal administration collapsed almost completely. For the best part of two years, the remnant of the French government sought a diplomatic solution to this crisis, but in 1417 Henry returned to France and began the piecemeal conquest of Normandy. By now, Charles VI's son and namesake the dauphin (future King Charles VII) was old enough to attempt to take charge of the running of the kingdom, but his efforts to do so were frustrated by the continuing interference of John the Fearless. When Duke John was assassinated – within sight of the dauphin – in September 1419, the duke's son and successor Philip 'the Good' once more threw Burgundy's considerable weight behind Henry V, concluding the Treaty of Troyes with him in May 1420. This treaty not only secured Henry's marriage to the dauphin's youngest sister Catherine, it also recognised the right of the offspring of this union to the throne of France. Henry now not only had a significant territorial base from which to threaten the remnant of the French royal administration, he even had a formal basis for establishing a royal administration of his own to govern France in opposition to that headed by Dauphin Charles! This humiliating – and potentially fatal – blow to French royal prestige was of course music to the ears of the earl of Douglas, who once again stepped in to 'rescue' them and inflate his personal reputation in the process.

And we won't come back 'til it's over, over there: The 'Grand Army of Scotland'

The fourth earl of Douglas had not abandoned his ambition to promote himself on the wider stage of international diplomacy even after the disappointment of 1412-3. While Henry V was campaigning in France in 1415, Douglas had descended on and burned the town of Penrith in north-west England, although this had accomplished little beyond provoking a retaliatory raid that saw the Scottish burgh of Dumfries burned. When Henry crossed back to France in 1417 to begin his conquest of Normandy, Douglas again laid siege to the English-held town of Roxburgh in Teviotdale, while Albany laid siege to Berwick. Albany's sudden involvement in proceedings suggests not only that there was considerable support for intervention in French affairs among the Scottish political community, but also that the duke may have feared that he risked the earl supplanting him as the most important figure in the development and execution of Scottish policy. Although the sieges of 1417 achieved nothing of note, from this point on the duke and his supporters would expect representation in the earl's adventures on the Continent. With the French royal administration in pieces by 1419, Dauphin Charles sought to appeal to Douglas's simmering diplomatic ambitions and revive the agreement the earl had reached with the duke of Burgundy seven years earlier. He addressed his petition to Albany, Douglas, and Mar and called 'for help against the English, our ancient and common enemy'. According to the contemporary chronicler Walter Bower, the dauphin's proposals were discussed in council by the Three Estates and the decision was made to provide the military assistance that the dauphin had requested. The fact that leadership of this army fell to Albany's younger son John Stewart, earl of Buchan, might on the fact of it suggest that this was perceived as a 'national' effort, but this is misleading. While there had been a time when it appeared that Buchan was being groomed to be the governor's successor – while Albany's eldest son Murdoch was a prisoner in England and Murdoch's own sons were still minors –

*De son frere vint mener guerre.
Du pays de France tresdure.*



*Si mist le siege deuant Dreux
Et leust par composition.
Avec autres places et lieux
Dont il print domination.*

King Henry V leading an English army, from a fifteenth-century manuscript of *Les Vigiles de Charles VII* by Martial d'Auvergne. Henry's fearsome martial reputation was primarily earned through his vigorously prosecution of the war with France from 1415 onwards. The intensification of Anglo-French conflict during this period provided an opportunity for the earl of Douglas to pursue his ambitions as a diplomat and gave the Scottish nobility more generally lucrative opportunities for personal enrichment through service to the French crown in war.

Image source:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vigiles_du_roi_Charles_VII_60.jpg

around 1413 Buchan had married Douglas's daughter Elizabeth, a move that ensured he had a foot in both the Albany and Douglas camps. As the son and son-in-law of the two most powerful men in Scotland, Buchan was surely seen as a compromise candidate that enabled Albany to claim a stake in what amounted to a personal vanity project for his sometime rival/sometime ally the earl of Douglas. The fact that command of the army was to be shared with Douglas's son and heir Archibald further suggests that this was to be a Douglas-dominated enterprise. More striking still, the younger Archibald was to be given the title 'earl of Wigtown', apparently to give him equal status with Buchan. The Douglases had purchased the earldom of Wigtown from the Flemings in 1371 and had subsequently reached an accommodation with Albany's father Robert II to smooth over the fact that this was probably an illegal arrangement. King Robert's acceptance of this shady deal was apparently predicated on an understanding that the Douglases were laying claim to the land of the earldom, rather than the title. The fact that Albany was willing to condone the heir to the earldom of Douglas adopting the title 'earl of Wigtown' – or was perhaps unable to prevent it – is a testament to the extent to which Douglas's personal ambitions influenced the Scottish undertaking in 1419.

The 'Grand Army of Scotland' landed in France in October 1419. This force numbered 6,000 men-at-arms, 2,000 more than Douglas had promised the duke of Burgundy in 1412. This was the largest Scottish army to serve overseas in the medieval period and was drawn primarily from the vast personal affinities of Douglas and Albany. The army's constable – John Stewart of Darnley – was an Albany adherent, but its marshal – Thomas Kirkpatrick – was resolutely a Douglas man. So too were John Swinton (whose father had died fighting for the earl at Homildon Hill in 1402), William Crawford (deputy-sheriff of Edinburgh while Douglas was sheriff), John Turnbull, Thomas Colville, Robert Pringle, William Glendinning, John Stewart of Teviotdale, John Haliburton, John Cockburn, Thomas Seton, John Carmichael, and Hugh Kennedy. Also serving in the army were several of the earl's junior kinsmen such as William Douglas of Drumlanrig and Henry and William Douglas of Dalkeith. Though this suggests that the 'Grand Army' had been raised using the traditional method of appealing to ties of regional lordship, the appeal for minor nobles such as these of fighting in France was largely based on the generous material rewards this service offered. Rarely were soldiers paid a wage in service to the Scottish crown in the early fifteenth-century, but in 1423 alone the French crown paid out a whopping 30,000 écus to be distributed among the Scottish army in a two-month period! Furthermore, a Scot named Christian Chambers – formerly Buchan's secretary – was paid 1,000 livres tournois to serve in the dauphin's bodyguard. Interestingly, two thirds of the Scottish force in 1419 consisted of archers, the first Scottish army to



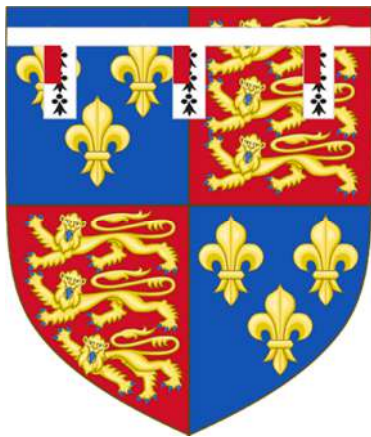
The assassination of John 'the Fearless', duke of Burgundy, in 1419, from a late fifteenth-century manuscript of Enguerrand de Monstrelet's *Croniques*. Duke John's death - and the dauphin's likely involvement in it - fatally damaged the relationship between the French crown and the duchy of Burgundy, driving the latter into an alliance with the English royal administration. Deprived of Burgundian support, and still struggling to reconstruct French military power in the aftermath of the crushing defeat at Agincourt in 1415, Dauphin Charles thus looked to Scotland to provide him with soldiers that could resist English expansion on the Continent.

Image source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:John_the_Fearless_assassination.jpg

so closely mimic the make-up of contemporary English armies (English battlefield tactics had relied heavily on archery since around the 1330s). It is tempting to see the influence of the earl of Douglas behind this innovation as well, since his missing eye and testicle were likely painful reminders of just how effective this tactic could be. While portions of this force would be deployed in garrisons or on specific small-scale operations, the 'Grand Army of Scotland' mostly remained as a cohesive unit following its arrival in France, serving the French crown but directly under the command of Buchan and Wigtown. It must be said that it did not get off to a particularly impressive start, when in early 1420 Douglas of Drumlanrig led a small contingent of Scots to defeat by the English at Fresnay in the Loire Valley. Neither Buchan nor Wigtown were present for this incident, which may have helped mitigate the embarrassment it caused the Scots, but in any case the French situation was still so desperate that Dauphin Louis was likely willing to overlook such a failure. A more promising sign of how useful the Scots could be came in the summer of 1420, when at the long-running Siege of Melun the still-captive King James I was brought by Henry V from England in an effort to persuade the Scots serving in the garrison to surrender. Even when the English displayed the Scottish royal banner before the walls of Melun, the Scots fighting there did not submit, and although Henry V subsequently hanged these men – ostensibly as traitors to their king – after capturing the town this does not seem to have deterred the rest of the 'Grand Army of Scotland' from continuing in service to the French crown. For us as historians, the events at Melun provide a fascinating insight into the highly-developed Scottish perception of the distinction between the person of the king and the office

of the crown in early fifteenth-century Scotland. For the French royal administration at the time, it surely demonstrated that the value of Scottish troops in resisting the English, an impression that would be reinforced even more forcefully the following year.

‘Let us go against them, they are ours’: The Battle of Baugé



A modern reconstruction of the arms of Thomas, duke of Clarence. The fact that his arms are essentially a slightly modified version of the English royal arms emphasise his status as Henry V's heir presumptive. There is some evidence of tension between the brothers during the later years of their father's reign, when there were suggestions that Henry IV favoured Thomas over Henry, but following his brother's accession in 1413 Clarence seems to have quickly accepted the role of his brother's faithful lieutenant. While many accounts of the Battle of Baugé have tended to lay blame for the defeat at Clarence's feet, it seems likely that the duke was carrying out a policy that was approved by the king himself.

Image source:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Arms_of_Thomas_of_Lancaster,_1st_Duke_of_Clarence.svg

Henry V's gradual reconquest of Normandy from 1417-9 had been a fairly cautious affair, relying heavily on the use of sieges to bring towns and territory back under English control. However, the emergence of a fighting force large enough to openly challenge the English in the field seems to have convinced the English to once again to return to a strategy of using periodic chevauchées to undermine French royal authority in regions still outwith English influence and to perhaps lure the 'Grand Army of Scotland' into giving battle. While later historians, often eager to excuse the English defeat in 1421 or at least to shift the blame for it away from King Henry himself, have tended to attribute the decision to undertake the campaign that led to Baugé to the rash actions of Henry's brother Thomas, duke of Clarence. Yet when Henry left France for England in early 1421 his commission to his younger brother to assume command of the English war effort clearly encouraged him to assume a more aggressive stance in the hopes of forestalling a Franco-Scottish offensive into south-west Normandy. To that end, Clarence launched a destructive advance through Maine and Anjou as far as Angers, before turning back towards Normandy. Less than thirty miles into the return trip, the English army's retreat was blocked by Buchan and Wigtown near the village of Vieil-Baugé. There was a French contingent in the opposing force – led by Gilbert Motier de La Fayette, Marshal of France – but the vast preponderance of the army was composed of the so-called 'Grand Army of Scotland', ready for its first real test in open battle. By comparison, the English army appears to have been woefully unprepared for combat, still scattered for foraging and plundering. John Holland, earl of Huntingdon, and Gilbert Umfraville – himself descended from the Umfraville earls of Angus exiled from Scotland since the early fourteenth-century for their unwillingness to support Robert I's claim to be king – come in for considerable praise both in contemporary chronicles and subsequent histories for counselling Clarence to hold his position and force the enemy to come to them, hoping that this would buy time for the English army to regroup and replenish their numbers. Clarence, on the other hand, is typically presented as a rash and hot-headed young man eager to win personal glory for

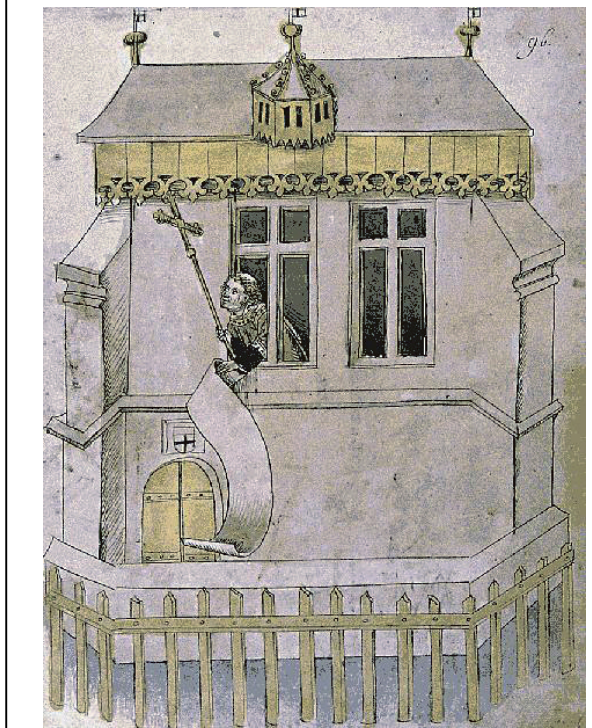
himself, and while there may well be a grain of truth to this it is worth remembering that he must also have sensed that this was his chance to fulfil the remit he had been given to confront the King of France's forces in the field and smash them much as his brother had done at Agincourt, and delay might well rob him of this opportunity. Thus, Clarence rejected Huntingdon and Umfraville's advice and pressed on to attack the 'Grand Army of Scotland' with only a portion of his overall force. For all the moralising of chroniclers and later military historians, Clarence's 'rash' aggression seems to have enjoyed at least some initial success. Possibly the Scots had expected Clarence to try to wait them out or else to attempt an ordered withdrawal, and so his immediate offensive appears to have disrupted the Scottish lines. However, the Scottish archers – led by former cleric and Douglas adherent Hugh Kennedy – seem to have blunted the English advance while the bulk of the Scottish army regrouped on the far side of the River Couesnon. Having attacked without his entire army, Clarence apparently lacked sufficient archery to drive off the Scottish bowmen, and on the second attempt the Scottish infantry overwhelmed the duke and his men. Accounts vary as to the precise circumstances of Clarence's death, but Bower claims that the duke was wounded in the face by John Swinton before being killed by Buchan himself. Huntingdon was captured, as were Clarence's stepsons John and Thomas Beaufort. This had been a confused and hard-fought battle and the momentum had swung both ways at times, but the emergence of the Scots as the victors, as well as the capture of several prominent English noblemen and the death of a high-ranking member of the English royal family (King Henry's heir presumptive no less) meant that the outcome was seen as a resounding endorsement of the effectiveness of the 'Grand Army of Scotland'.

World Turned Upside Down: Aftermath

The result of the Battle of Baugé was widely celebrated among those who opposed English expansion on the Continent. The most famous expression of delight at the news came from Pope Martin V, who proclaimed the Scots to be 'an antidote to the English'. Victory brought lavish rewards for the leadership of the 'Grand Army of Scotland'. Buchan was granted the lordship of Châtillon-sur-Indre to serve as a permanent base of operations for the Scottish army in France and was also appointed Constable of France, the first foreigner to receive this office in French history. This made Buchan the second most important military officer in the kingdom after the dauphin himself and earned him the right to a seat on the French royal council, which he is known have attended at Blois in August 1421. Wigtown too received the lordship of Dun-le-Roi in Berri as well as a speculative grant of the County of Longueville. Since the latter was still occupied by the English, the grant reads as an attempt by Dauphin Charles to encourage the Scots to continue in their efforts to drive the English out of France altogether in order to enjoy the maximum benefits of French royal patronage. The Scottish marshal John Stewart of Darnley was given the lordships of Aubigny-sur-Nere and Concessault, while Thomas Seton was appointed seneschal of Berri, an office he claimed in right of his wife Isabeau Goyon. However, this largesse towards the victorious Scots did not endear them to the bulk of the French political community, who generally seem to have resented the dauphin's promotion of figures like

Buchan and Wigtown. The Scots themselves do not appear to have helped matters, as they seem to have supplemented the already generous payment they were receiving from the French crown by pillaging goods from the French commons in the regions they passed through. Bower reports that the Scots were denounced as ‘wine-bibbers and mutton-eating fools’ by the French nobility, although he also claims that success at Baugé helped to assuage this resentment a little. Nevertheless, while there was money to be made and fame to be earned in service to the French crown, one victory was not enough to fully cement the ‘Grand Army of Scotland’ as the answer to the dauphin’s problems.

One person who was of course quick to capitalise on the outcome of the Battle of Baugé was the piratical earl of Douglas. It is a testament to what a shrewd – and unscrupulous – political operator Douglas was that his response to the news from France was not to impress the importance of the ‘Grand Army’ on the dauphin, but rather to reach out to Henry V. In May 1421, Douglas was at the English court, where he agreed to become Henry’s retainer for life, serving the English king in war with 200 men-at-arms and 200 archers in return for a pension of £200. This may at first seem like a jarring volte-face, but it must be understood in context. In September 1420 Albany had died and been succeeded both as duke and governor by his eldest son Murdoch, who had been released from English captivity in 1415. Murdoch lacked both his father’s extensive political networks and it seems his formidable personality, significantly weakening the position of the Albany Stewarts relative to the Black Douglases. This shift in the domestic balance of power emboldened Douglas to press his advantages at home and abroad. The deal struck between Douglas and King Henry in 1421 also made provisions for a three-month parole for James I to return to Scotland for the first time since 1406. Although James does not seem to have availed himself of this offer, the inclusion of this clause suggests that Douglas was now seeking to signal his influence over all aspects of Scottish foreign policy and inviting the English and French royal administrations to compete for his support. He was, in effect, emphasising that he had the controlling stake in diplomatic affairs across the three kingdoms. This play



The election of Pope Martin V from a chronicle by the German chronicler Ulrich of Richenthal. Martin's election in 1417 was a source of considerable relief to many in Christendom, as it brought to an end the so-called Western Schism, which had dragged on for nearly forty years and seen various popes and anti-popes contended to be recognised as the rightful head of the Church. This too was exploited by Archibald, 4th earl of Douglas, in pursuit of his international ambitions, and he vocally supported Martin V in opposition to Albany's dogged support for the anti-pope Benedict XIII. In doing so, Douglas increased his diplomatic cachet in England, France and the Empire, all of which were quick to recognise Martin's rights.

Image source:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Habemus_Papam_1415.jpg



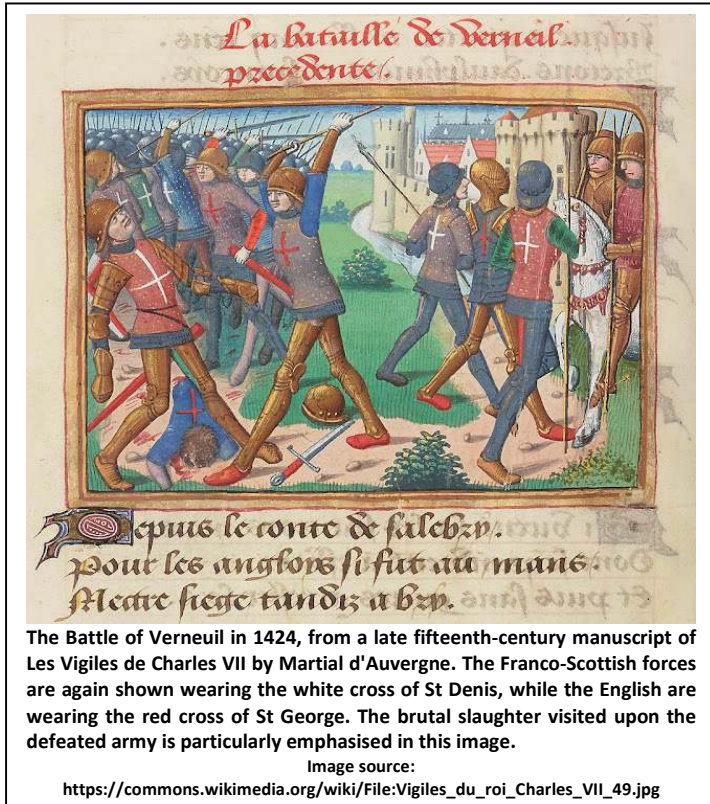
The tomb of Archibald, 5th earl of Douglas, at St Brude's Kirk, Douglas, Lanarkshire. As well as rehearsing his multitudinous Scottish estates, the tomb is inscribed with the French titles he laid claim to, including the duchy of Touraine, county of Longueville, and lordship of Dun-le-roi, despite the fact that he had not been able to enjoy practical possession of these holdings at any point during his tenure as earl of Douglas. This serves to illustrate the continued importance of international status and prestige for the Black Douglases, even after 1424.

Image source: https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:St_Bride%27s_Church_Douglas_-_Archibald.jpg#mw-jump-to-license

paid off. In 1423 both the English – now governed by a regency council following the death of Henry V in August 1422 – and Charles VII – whose father had died mere months after Henry V – came to Douglas with their most generous offers yet in an effort to secure his service. The English offered to permanently release King James in return for a truce that would end the threat of the ‘Grand Army of Scotland’ in France. The French – who dispatched Buchan and Wigtown to deliver their offer to Douglas in council – promised Douglas a royal duchy and the position of ‘lieutenant-general in the waging of his war through all the kingdom of France’ if he would come in person to fight against the English. Such was the earl’s confidence – and ambition – at this point that he managed to secure what he no doubt thought was the best of both deals. He convinced the English to release King James (which would bring Murdoch’s governorship to an end and place a further check on Albany-Stewart power within Scotland) and to accept a truce that applied only in mainland Britain. This left the earl himself free ‘to pass into France...in order to support

monsignor the king [Charles VII] against his ancient enemies of England’.

Douglas set off from Scotland in February 1424 and landed at La Rochelle on 7th March. On 24th April, he met with King Charles to review the ‘Grand Army of Scotland’, now swelled to 6,500 men thanks to the reinforcements the earl had brought from Scotland. On 29th, Charles made good on his earlier promise by making Douglas the duke of Touraine. Douglas spent a leisurely three months from May-July 1422 enjoying the material benefits of his elevation to ducal status, running up astonishing debts of 6,000 livres tournois and apparently deeply frustrating the put-upon denizens of Tours. On 4th August Douglas finally led the ‘Grand Army of Scotland’ out of Tours, joined up with a French army at Châteaudun, and confronted an English army just outside the town of Verneuil-sur-Avre in Normandy on 17th. Once more, the Scots – and Douglas in particular – appear to have lived up to Pope Martin’s appraisal of them as ‘an antidote to the English’, but the battle turned against them. Abandoned by their French allies, the Scots were surrounded and massacred, almost to a man. The English reputedly rallied to the cry of ‘Clarence, Clarence’, indicating how the memory of Baugé contributed to the brutality with which the ‘Grand Army of Scotland’ was destroyed. Douglas himself was killed, as was Buchan and Douglas’s younger son James. The death of the earl and so many of his adherents in one place created serious problems for the Black Douglases and the Albany-Stewarts back in Scotland, where James I exploited this fact to vigorously reassert royal authority against the two families who had benefited most from his eighteen-year absence. Yet although the Scots would never again intervene in French military affairs on such a large scale after 1424, Scots continued to regularly serve the French crown. Dauphin Charles had already established the so-called Garde Écossaise in 1422, a company of twenty-four Scottish archers intended to serve as personal bodyguards to the French king. This company continued to provide this service even after Verneuil. John Carmichael, a Black Douglas adherent who first came to France in the ‘Grand Army of Scotland’ in 1419, was elected Bishop of Orléans in 1426. Hugh Kennedy, who led the Scottish archers at Baugé, later fought alongside Joan of Arc and assisted Charles VII in negotiating the marriage of James I’s daughter Margaret to his son Dauphin Louis (the future Louis XI) in 1436. William Monypenny, who likely accompanied Margaret to France, was described as a squire (escuyer) to Charles VII by 1447, two years after Margaret’s death. Monypenny used his connections to both the French and Scottish crowns to forge a career as one of the most important diplomats in maintaining Franco-Scottish relations in the mid to late fifteenth-century, mirroring the fourth earl of Douglas’s ambitions (albeit on a smaller scale). Like Douglas, Monypenny was rewarded for his services with lands both in Scotland and France, receiving the lordship of Concessault from Charles VII and lands in Stirlingshire, Aberdeenshire, and Kirkcudbrightshire from James I’s son James II. Baugé then represents not a curious aberration in Franco-Scottish relations, but rather signals the early stages of a long and fruitful phase of cooperation between the nobilities of France and Scotland.



The Battle of Verneuil in 1424, from a late fifteenth-century manuscript of *Les Vigiles de Charles VII* by Martial d’Auvergne. The Franco-Scottish forces are again shown wearing the white cross of St Denis, while the English are wearing the red cross of St George. The brutal slaughter visited upon the defeated army is particularly emphasised in this image.

Image source:
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vigiles_du_roi_Charles_VII_49.jpg



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*Dr. Callum Watson is an historian, historical blogger, and an active member of the Late Antique and Medieval Postgraduate Society (LAMPS), a student-led society at the University of Edinburgh. He currently works as a Battle Coordinator at the Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre just outside Stirling. As Dr. Watson describes it, “This somewhat pompous title belies a job that mostly amounts to guiding visitors around the high tech 3D exhibition at the Centre.”*

A number of his historical blogposts can be viewed @ <https://drcallumwatson.blogspot.com/>

You can contact Dr. Callum Watson via email... <mailto:drcallumwatson@gmail.com>

## Castles of the Black Douglases by Dr. Callum Watson

James Douglas – The Black Douglas – was Robert the Bruce’s right hand man. Follow the fates and fortunes of his family as we explore the castles of the Black Douglases with Dr Callum Watson.

<https://blog.historicenvironment.scot/2019/11/the-black-douglases/>



**Flowers of the Forest** is an ancient Scottish folk tune typically played to honor fallen soldiers. Our ***Flowers of the Forest*** tradition as a clan is to pay tribute to our own “fallen soldiers”, our extended Clan Douglas family members.

Contact your local Regent, one of our Clan Douglas Officers, or the Newsletter Editor to submit a tribute.

*Flowers of the Forest*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfsasAllCo8>  
Apologies in advance, if you have to suffer through any ads.

**John Austin Dutton, LT. COL., USAF, RET.**

**March 1, 1933 - August 18, 2022**

Published by MilitaryTimes.com on Sep. 12, 2022



John A. Dutton (89) passed away on August 18, 2022. Born in Quincy, MA on March 1, 1933, he was the oldest of six children of Warren and Esther Dutton who pre-deceased him. His brother, Warren Jr., passed away on May 28, 2006, and sister Marion Seckendorf, on July 15, 2010. His remaining siblings are Eleanor Lombardo, Mary Esther Dutton, and James Dutton who all live in New England. John graduated from Colby College, Waterville, ME in 1955 and received a BA in Geology and a commission in the U.S. Air Force. He completed basic pilot training in 1956 and became an instructor pilot at Goodfellow AFB, TX. In 1960, he was assigned to Mather AFB, CA and married the former Jane Gilchrist of Sacramento, CA in 1961. John always felt that Jane was the “wind beneath his wings” throughout his Air Force career of 26 years and in retirement after 1980. By then he had flown over 8000 hours primarily as an instructor pilot and flight examiner. During the 1960s, John and Jane became parents to John, Jr., William, and Julie Dutton. In later years, they became grandparents to one grandson, Steven, and three granddaughters, Elizabeth, Heather, and Bonnie. In 1967, he graduated from the Ohio State University with an MS in Geodetic Science. Later assignments included Korea and Vietnam. A further assignment took him to the Pentagon where he was the project officer for the Air Force's aerial mapping program and other classified programs. During his four years at the Pentagon, he was promoted to Lt. Colonel.

In 1975, John was assigned as Commander of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps unit at Duke University, Durham, NC. He returned to flying in 1979 and became a C-130E aircraft commander, assigned to Pope AFB, NC. John retired in 1980 and returned to Duke where he held positions in Athletics and the Dept. of Electrical Engineering. Upon full retirement from Duke in 1989, John and Jane returned to Sacramento. He then became active in health care counseling and voluntary tax preparation for the elderly for 13 years. John and Jane loved to garden, travel and research genealogy together. Longtime associations were with the Masons, Shriners, Daedalions and Colby College athletics. His hobbies included flight simulation, computers, genealogy, and photography. Services will be private with burial in the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, Massachusetts. The family requests in lieu of flowers that donations be made to the [Disabled American Veterans](#).



***The Parting Glass*** is a Scottish traditional song, often sung at the end of a gathering of friends. It was purportedly the most popular parting song sung in Scotland before Robert Burns wrote ***Auld Lang Syne***. <https://irishurns.com/the-parting-glass/>

Of all the money that e'er I had  
I spent it in good company  
And all the harm I've ever done  
Alas it was to none but me  
And all I've done for want of wit  
To mem'ry now I can't recall  
So fill to me the parting glass  
Good night and joy be to you all  
  
So fill to me the parting glass  
And drink a health whate'er befall,  
And gently rise and softly call  
Good night and joy be to you all

Of all the comrades that e'er I had  
They're sorry for my going away  
And all the sweethearts that e'er I had  
They'd wish me one more day to stay  
But since it falls unto my lot  
That I should rise and you should not  
I gently rise and softly call  
Good night and joy be to you all  
  
So fill to me the parting glass  
And drink a health whate'er befall,  
And gently rise and softly call  
Good night and joy be to you all



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## MOAB CELTIC FESTIVAL Moab, Utah – October 14-16, 2022

The Moab Celtic Festival was held October 14-16 2022 in Moab Utah. The festival was wonderful! It was great weather, had great food, great music provided by the Wicked Tinkers, many wonderful vendors, heavy athletics, pipe music, Scottish dance, and a wonderful venue looking at the wonderful Southern Utah red rocks. This was the largest turnout of Douglases yet! We had in attendance: (See group photo L-R) our New Mexico Regent Eric "The Brown" Vigil, Paula Ross, Ian Douglas, Mariah Vigil, Kellie Vigil, Sef Vigil, Lemon Drop the Fairy, Russell Kilgore Baum, Trenton Duke, and our visitor from Colorado.



Regent Trenton Duke



Regent Trenton Duke with event organizer Dan Lamont



## WHAT? YOUR AREA OR LOCAL EVENT DOESN'T HAVE A CDSNA REGENT?

Consider becoming the Regent for that event or that area or that state/province.

### How can you become a Regent for CDSNA?

Contact CDSNA VP Mark Peterson, CDSNA Asst VP West Cora Peterson or CDSNA Asst VP East Harold Edington to learn more about being a Regent.

### What is required to be a Regent (you may be asking)?

A few things. First, you must be a member of CDSNA. Second, you need some enthusiasm. Third, you need the **3 Cs**: **C**alm, **C**ommitment, and a **C**aring attitude for others. OK ... you got me ... there is a *wee* bit more BUT that's where it starts.

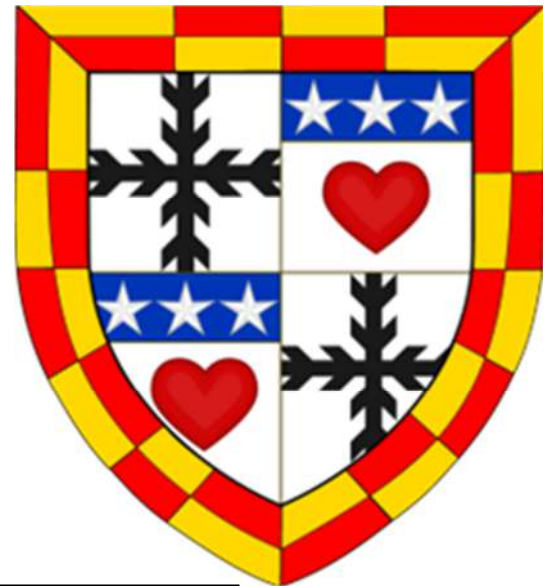
# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## Clan Douglas represented at the Waipū Highland Games, New Zealand – January 1, 2023

[Editor's Note: *Special thanks to Lynn Douglas & Kirsty Buchanan and the New Zealand Douglases of Glenbervie family for sending this report.*]

Clan Douglas of Glenbervie in New Zealand began with the arrival of Sir Robert Andrews McKenzie Douglas, who came from Glenbervie, Scotland, in the 1800s. He married Eleanor Lifferton and they settled just outside of Whangārei in New Zealand's North Island. Upon his passing, Lady Eleanor Douglas gifted land for a public school, which she requested be named 'Glenbervie'. The surrounding suburb is now also called Glenbervie.

Fifteen of Sir Robert's descendants and family attended the 150<sup>th</sup> Waipū Highland Games on New Year's Day 2023. They are one of the longest-running Scottish gatherings in the Southern hemisphere, offering fierce competition, spectacular entertainment, and a full day of family-friendly fun.



Four generations of Douglases attended the 150<sup>th</sup> Waipū Highland Games in New Zealand on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

The games were instigated by the first migration of Scots, who landed in Waipū in 1854. The Waipū Caledonian Society established the event to promote and celebrate the culture of the settlers, acquiring 9 acres of land (the Waipū Celtic Park) and holding the games there for the last 150 years.

The games start with a pipe band and street march of the clans into the grounds. Competitions include highland dancing, piping, fiddling, and drumming, kids' running races, and heavyweight championships such as the Highland Stone Putt, Box Weight Distance Throw, Caledonian Hammer Throw, Sheaf Toss, Gaelic Dead Weight Toss, 160lb Farmers' Walk, and Caber Toss, as well as a tug-of-war. Other entertainment includes Celtic music, bouncy castles, go-karts, and an evening Ceilidh. There are also plenty of food stalls, with traditional



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER



Grand Entry of the Bands and Clans

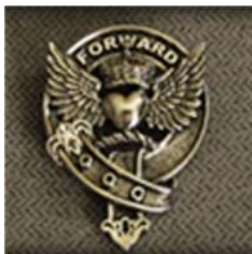
haggis on offer, as well as other fast foods, and stalls selling traditional Scottish clothing and accessories, handcrafts etc.

Each registered clan is allocated a clan site to set up an information desk for people who would like to find out more. Clan Douglas of Glenbervie participated this year, displaying the family tree dating back to the 1100s, septs and allied families, photos and information about Douglas castles in Scotland, information on the Red and Black Douglases, the tomb at St Bride's Kirk in Douglas, Scotland, and more. Visitors from throughout New Zealand and countries around the globe chatted with us during the day and some left happily knowing that they were related to the Douglas Clan.

We look forward to seeing you in Waipū on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2024!  
"Ceud Mile Failte (a hundred thousand welcomes)."



The Douglas Clan site and information desk



Clan Douglas Cap Badge  
\$22.00

**Needing a new Douglas cap badge or kilt pin?**  
Use the CDSNA Store Goods Order Form

<http://clandouglassociety.org/cdsna-store/>



Clan Douglas Kilt Pin  
\$22.00



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## Rabbie Burn's Night - Kitchi Gammi Club Duluth, Minnesota -- January 21

A festive occasion as always.

160 plus people came to the event sponsored by the "Kitch", as it is affectionately called, and the Duluth Scottish Heritage Association. Clan Douglas again sponsored the Hartley Room after a year's absence. Usually we serve North Sea Salmon, but because of our absence last year (I was in the hospital for COVID), we did not have food.



Regent Jock with two of the many curious guests

Interestingly enough we served as a gathering place for many who wanted to stand/sit and chat. Several questions were asked about Clan Douglas. At one time I mentioned it was ironic that the Scots seemed to think that "the highlands" were the only part of Scotland, yet who is celebrated, but a lowly Lowland Scot - Burns. But...do not forget that other Lowland Scot, Sir. Walter Scott.

The Gaelic Toast was given by me in Gaelic and translated by Kerry Welsh.

Since our Spring concert was canceled, the dancers did a unique sword dance in a circle. Country Dance, the precursor of the Square Dance, followed.

A great event, in a great place.

John (Jock) Glendenning  
MN--Regent



Regent Jock and Julie McCormick (my photographer this evening)



|                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                       |
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|  <p><b>CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY</b><br/>of North America, Ltd.</p> | <p>Agnew<br/>Bell<br/>Blackadder<br/>Blackett<br/>Blacklock<br/>Blackstock<br/>Blackwood<br/>Blaylock<br/>Breckinridge<br/>Brown<br/>Brownlee<br/>Caddie/Cadie<br/>Caddy/Cady<br/>Cadden/Caddin<br/>Caggie/Caggy<br/>Carmichael</p> | <p>Caruthers<br/>Cauldwell<br/>Caldwell<br/>Cavan<br/>Cavers<br/>Cleland<br/>Clendenon<br/>Crockett<br/>Dalrymple/Dalzell<br/>Deal<br/>Dick</p> | <p>Dickey<br/>Dickson/Dixon<br/>Dyke/Dale<br/>Foster<br/>Fouresten<br/>Foster<br/>Galbraith<br/>Gilpatrick<br/>Gibson<br/>Gladstone<br/>Gladstone<br/>Gladstone</p> | <p>Glendenning<br/>Glenn<br/>Hamilton<br/>Harkness<br/>Home/Home<br/>Inglis<br/>Kistner<br/>Kilgore<br/>Kirkconnell<br/>Kirkland<br/>Kilpatrick</p> | <p>Kirkpatrick<br/>Lockenby<br/>Lockney<br/>Lockhart<br/>MacGuffey<br/>MacGuffock<br/>Maxwell<br/>McKitterick<br/>Moffat<br/>Morton<br/>Paingle</p> | <p>Rowell<br/>Rowle<br/>Ryle<br/>Rutherford<br/>Sandilands<br/>Sandlin<br/>Simms<br/>Soale<br/>Stewart<br/>Syme<br/>Symington<br/>Troup<br/>Turnbull<br/>Weir<br/>Young<br/>Younger</p> |  |
|                                                                                                                                                   | <p><b>DOUGLAS</b></p> <p>DO YOU SEE A NAME FROM YOUR FAMILY HISTORY? MANY SPELLING VARIATIONS EXIST.</p>                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                       |

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## CENTRAL FLORIDA SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES Winter Springs, Florida – January 14-15



The 45th Central Florida Scottish Highland Games were held in sunny Winter Springs on January 14-15, 2023. While the sun provided much desired warmth, the temperatures were in the 30s to 50s each day. I would describe it as brisk, but my wife would describe it as downright cold. A total of 89 clans were in attendance, almost doubling the number only 7 years ago.

We had over 30 visitors to our tent on Saturday and almost 20 on Sunday. They included our recent past Regent Marc Hitchens and his daughter Kyelynn. Marc lent a hand in running the booth, providing food to share, and providing pointers to me for my 1st games as the Regent. Many thanks to Marc for his help in this transition.

Our national Treasurer Tom Douglas and his daughter (and our new Storekeeper), Cassie Douglass were on hand to give guidance and to share a sampling of his scones.



Also joining us were Jill Ross & Linda. Jill provided much needed warmth by sharing her Cock-a-Leekie soup and Rumbledethumps. Both were a great hit. Thanks for sharing!

Welcome to new member Linda Bell (Brownlee) who joined us and is excited to learn more about her roots. And also thanks to Edmund Young for renewing his membership for another year. It's always good to see him at the games each year.

The Bartle family was well represented again this year. Brian arrived early in the morning and braved the chilly air. Rev. Fr. Ed Bartle and Therese also joined us in the tent and enjoyed many musical groups performing on the main stage.

Many members participated in the Parade of Clans. We were led by the very special Allison Morton Painter who led our A Douglas, A Douglas cheer when the clan was announced. Also marching were Life members Mark & Sally Hill. Mark is our Parade Captain and helps us get organized and arrive at the marshalling area on time. Preston Dyan, Brian Bartle, and many others also marched with us.

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Stuart Ballantyne was there all weekend entertaining the crowds with his Border Collie sheep herding demonstrations. Always a crowd favorite.

Two of our members, Sally Hill and Mona Sparks, entered the Shortbread contest on Saturday. Sally Hill nabbed 2nd place in the Modern Shortbread category with her brightly decorated cookies. And on Sunday, Tom Douglas entered his scones to be judged. He came up short this time, but got to talk to many of the judges afterward and gained great insight into what they are looking for so he will be better prepared next year. Many tent visitors enjoyed nibbling on their creations.

All weekend, we renewed our bonds of friendship with our fellow members of Clan Douglas and with those in other clans we see regularly. We had some good conversations with a multitude of people seeking their roots.

Jeff & Mona Sparks  
Central Florida Regents



## MOUNT DORA SCOTTISH HIGHLAND FESTIVAL Mount Dora, Florida – February 18-19



Mark Hill & Regent Jeff Sparks

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Mount Dora Scottish Highland Festival was held on the weekend of February 18-19, 2023. The weather was quite balmy and that brought out the crowds.

Our tent was set up on Clan row and our most recent past Regent – Marc Hitchens, accompanied by his friend Liz – fended off the Forbes Clan to procure our tent and location. Once the dust was settled, we began to set up for the weekend. Also helping with the setup was Elizabeth (Liz) Douglass, the South Florida Co-Regent. She recently moved to Mount Dora. Accompanying her was her brother, Co-Regent Russell Douglass and his wife Lydia.

Our Parade Captain, Mark Hill, helped both days with the tent setup/takedown and getting me to the games on time. Mark did a fantastic job in organizing our Clan for the parade on Saturday. A local TV station carried the parade live and we shouted A Douglas A Douglas for all to hear.

The national treasurer, Tom Douglas also joined us for the weekend. He shared his homemade scotch eggs with us and regaled us with many tall tales.

All greeted visitors and helped many find out more information about their clan heritage and their affiliation with Clan Douglas. The new banner with all of the Sept & Allied Families listed

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

really helps in that regard. Many thanks to all who helped and made the weekend a huge success.

Our tent was festooned with information about our clan and we had a daily naming contest for our Douglas Squirrel. We made suggestions but also allowed guests to write in their own. For both days, James was the overall pick. On Saturday, it was James, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Douglas. And on Sunday, The Good Sir James won out. It's a nice way to involve guests and gives us the opportunity to provide some history of the Douglas name.

We also had sample shortbread cookies to hand out. The cookies were expertly baked by Mona Sparks from the recipe found in The Douglas Larder cookbook. This definitely increased sales of the cookbook and we plan on doing this more often.

It was great to enjoy the Central Florida weather, see old friends, and meet new ones.

Jeff Sparks  
FL Central Regent



Mt Dora Parade Crew (L-R): Liz, Lydia, Mark (partially behind the tartans), Elizabeth, Marc, Russell



Former Regent Marc Hitchens, Regent Jeff Sparks, Regent Elizabeth Douglass, and CDSNA Treasurer Tom Douglas at the Mt Dora SHG



A HISTORY  
OF THE  
**House of Douglas**

FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES DOWN TO THE  
LEGISLATIVE UNION OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

BY THE  
**RIGHT HON. SIR HERBERT MAXWELL**

BART., M.P., F.R.S., LL.D.  
PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY  
W. A. LINDSAY, WINDSOR HERALD

*IN TWO VOLUMES*

Volume 1

LONDON  
**FREEMANTLE & CO.**  
217 PICCADILLY W  
MCMII

# **A History of the House of Douglas**

## **from the earliest times down to the legislative union of England and Scotland (published 1902)**

### **By Sir Herbert Eustace Maxwell, Bt. 1845-1937**

#### A quick intro from the Dubh Ghlasé editor

It often amazes me that so many books long out of print and once found only in the largest libraries – certainly not in the small town library I had at my disposal as a child – can now be found online and downloaded in multiple formats to your computer or device **ABSOLUTELY FREE OF CHARGE**. What would have required a small fortune in book buying costs to fill a specialized section of a researcher's shelf with several specific volumes can now be carried around in your pocket on your phone (if you have enough phone memory). Minimal space is all you need for a mountain of resource materials and, again, it is **ABSOLUTELY FREE OF CHARGE**.

The free source book from which this series of chapters from volume one of Maxwell's two-volume work is found is on the *Internet Archive* site: <https://archive.org/details/historyofhouseof01maxw/mode/2up>

Here is a screenshot image of the numerous download options for this book...

**A history of the house of Douglas from the earliest times down to the legislative union of England and Scotland**  
by Maxwell, Herbert Eustace, Sir, bart., 1845-1937

Publication date: 1902  
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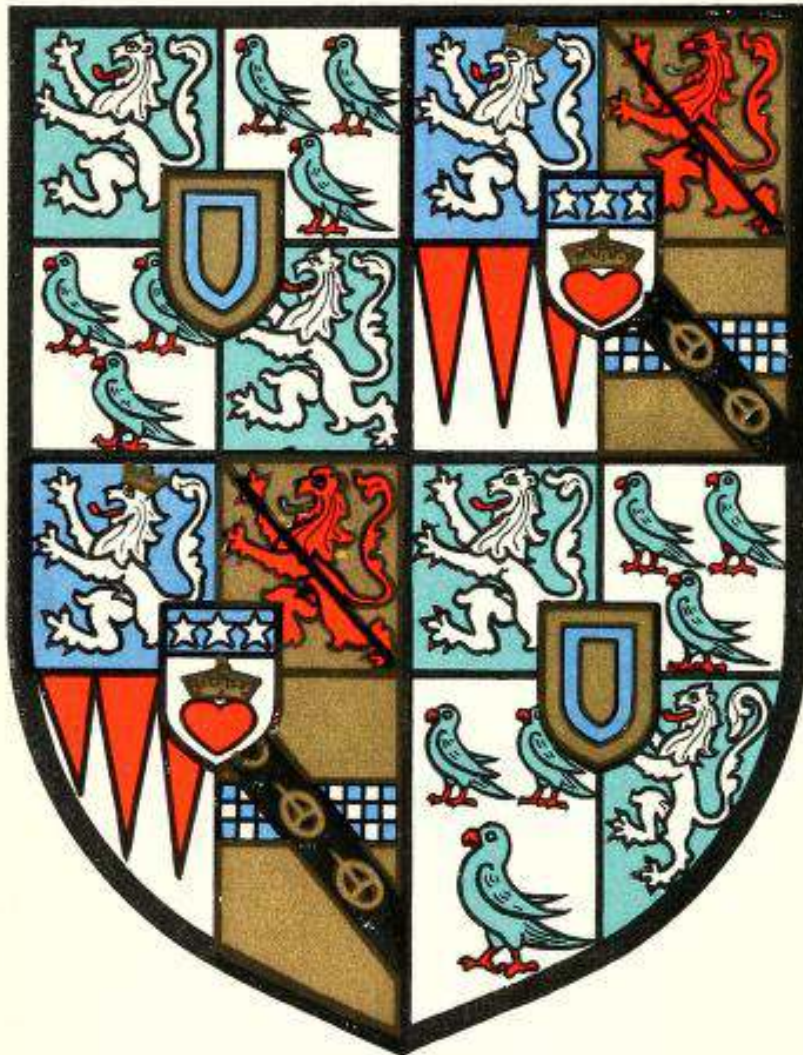
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If you received the September issue of Dubh Ghlasé, you will recognize that the above information is a repeat from that issue. This has been done on purpose so that anyone who has not yet read the previous chapter can find a copy to read and anyone not wanting to wait three months for the next chapter will have an opportunity to read ahead or to acquire the complete book in either digital or print formats.

If you did not receive a copy of the September 2022 issue, you can always email the Editor and request a link to that issue.

## That being said... Let's move FORWARD to Chapter 3.



*Charles Alexander Douglas-Home, 12th Earl of Home, 2nd Baron Douglas of Douglas, etc.*



DEDICATED TO  
CHARLES ALEXANDER DOUGLAS  
XII EARL OF HOME  
**Lord Douglas of Douglas**  
IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF  
THE ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY HIM IN  
COMPILING THIS WORK

## CHAPTER III

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ALREADY the Douglas pedigree is becoming an intricate affair.

There is no record extant of the marriage of the Good Sir James. Hume of Godscroft merely states that he left two natural sons, William and Archibald, and that William was the renowned Knight of Liddesdale, known as "the Flower of Chivalry" [xxviii.]. In pointing out this error Sir William Fraser argues that William must have been born in wedlock,

viii. William, Lord of Douglas, died 1333.

## WILLIAM, LORD OF DOUGLAS 67

because he succeeded his father as Lord of Douglas [1330–1333].<sup>1</sup> His argument is not conclusive as to William's legitimacy, but the fact that William succeeded his father, Sir James, rests on sufficient evidence—First, the mention in the Exchequer account of Chamberlain Reginald More, between 14th March and 14th December 1331, of certain transactions with *Willelmus dominus de Douglas*.<sup>2</sup> Second, a complaint, addressed by the monks of Coldingham to David II, against William, Lord of Douglas, and Archibald, his uncle, for wrongful retention of the manor of Swinton in Berwickshire, “which was granted to the honourable man, Sir James, lately Lord of Douglas, for his counsel and to have his aid in time of war, by a simple monk who had no power to grant the said town in that manner against the interests of the house of Coldingham.”<sup>3</sup> Lastly, Sir Thomas Gray mentions in his *Scalacronica* that “the Lord of Douglas, son of James of Douglas, who was slain by the Saracens on the frontier of Granada,”<sup>4</sup> was among the slain at Halidon Hill [19th July 1333]. Knyghton in his chronicle mentions *Willelmus Douglas filius Iacobi ejus[dem]*—William Douglas, son of James of that ilk—as taken prisoner in this battle, to which the cautious Hailes notes: “rather Archibald the natural son of the renowned Sir James Douglas.” Another Archibald, indeed, did fall on that day of Scotland's dule, but that was the youngest brother of the Good Sir James, who had earned the title of “Tineman” [the Loser] because of his persistent ill-fortune in war.<sup>5</sup> More about him presently. Meanwhile as to William, Lord of Douglas [viii.], the fact that he perished at Halidon Hill is enough to distinguish

<sup>1</sup> Fraser, i. 185.

<sup>2</sup> *Exchequer Rolls*, i. 396, where the editor, Mr. Burnett, notes that the name William is probably a mistake for Hugh, although in fact there is no mistake.

<sup>3</sup> The references given by Sir W. Fraser for this letter, the original of which is in Norman-French, are B.M. *Faustina*, A. vi. fol. 51, and Surtees Society, *Priory of Coldingham*, p. 21.

<sup>4</sup> *Scalacronica*, p. 163.

<sup>5</sup> This nickname has also been applied to Archibald, 4th Earl of Douglas, but the earlier Sir Archibald is the right “Tineman.” “Archibaldus de Douglas, qui Tyneman dictus est.”—Bower, xiii. 27.

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him from his namesake and kinsman, who became famous as the "Knight of Liddesdale," and who was prisoner in Carlisle at the time of the battle of Halidon Hill and for two years after. Besides, it is known that this Knight of Liddesdale was the lawful son of Sir James Douglas of Lothian, descended from Andrew, brother of Sir William Douglas [iv.], the ancestor of the Earls of Morton.

William, Lord of Douglas, died, then, in 1333, unmarried and a minor, and, seeing how very little is known of him—so little that his very existence had been overlooked till Sir William Fraser identified him—it is curious that one remarkable relic of him should have been preserved. Impressions of seals of the fourteenth century are common enough,



Fig. 5.—Seal of William,  
Lord of Douglas, c. 1332.

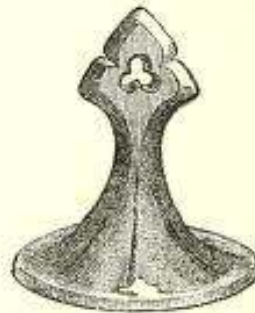


Fig. 6.—Matrix of same  
Seal.

but matrices—the seals themselves—exceedingly rare. The Douglasses of old had a burial vault in the church of North Berwick, in the ruins whereof was discovered in 1788 a brass seal stamp of elegant fourteenth century design, bearing the legend—

SIGILLVM · WILLELMI · DNI · DE · DOUGLAS

surrounding a shield bearing a fess between the stars in chief and the heart in base.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This is the earliest instance of the display of the heart in the Douglas shield, showing that it was assumed immediately after the death of Sir James. The fess is not so easy to explain. The bearings of Douglas of Mains stand in the Lyon Register argent, a fess chequy gules, between three stars azure in chief and a man's heart proper in base.



*Enrico Scotti-Douglas, Conte d'Agazano, 1900.*



*Sir George Douglas of Pittendreich, 1550.*



*Malcolm Douglas of Mains, 1584.*



*Sir William Douglas of Glenberrie, afterwards 9th Earl of Angus, 1587.*

## THE "DULL DOUGLAS"

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ix. Hugh,  
"the Dull,"  
Lord of  
Douglas,  
c. 1294-1342.

William was succeeded in the lands and lordship of Douglas by his uncle, Hugh [ix.], dubbed the "Dull Douglas," not, perhaps, so much on account of mental or bodily infirmity, as Godscroft unkindly suggests, but merely because his clerical education and profession inclined him to a retired life.

When Sir William le Hardi's [vi.] English possessions were forfeited in 1296, Hugh, a child not two years of age, was taken into custody with the manor of Stebbing.<sup>1</sup> Nothing further is heard or known of him till 16th May 1325, when he appeared by proxy as a Canon of Glasgow at a meeting of the chapter of that diocese.<sup>2</sup> At that time he seems to have been parish priest of Old Roxburgh, and, for aught we know, so he remained until the death of his nephew opened for him the succession to the broad lands of the lordship. Yet was he at first but a titular owner, for by this time nearly the whole of southern Scotland was under the sway of Edward III., or of his nominee, King Edward [Baliol] of Scotland. On 12th June 1334, the Scottish King surrendered to Edward III. the forests of Jedburgh, Selkirk, and Ettrick, with the counties of Roxburgh, Peebles, Dumfries, Linlithgow, Edinburgh, and Haddington, to remain for ever as possessions of the English Crown.<sup>3</sup> Douglasdale was restored to Lord de Clifford, grandson of that Sir Robert who had received it from the first Edward, but it was stoutly held by the men of Douglas and watched over by the Knight of Liddesdale, so that Clifford never enjoyed his fief.

In 1336 Edward III. held his court at Bothwell, to receive the west of Scotland to his peace. No appearance was made on behalf of Douglasdale, which accordingly was laid waste by Lord de Stafford, *vir multum militaris*.<sup>4</sup> Even Hugh Douglas's prebend of Old Roxburgh did not escape, for Edward III. appointed thereto Andrew de Ormiston in 1337.<sup>5</sup>

During these years David II. was an exile in France,—

<sup>1</sup> Stevenson, ii. 43.

<sup>2</sup> *Registrum Glasguense*, i. 234.

<sup>3</sup> *Federa*, iv. 614.

<sup>4</sup> *Lanercost*, 288.

<sup>5</sup> *Rotuli Scotiae*, i. 516.

"none but children in their games dared to call David Bruce their King,"—yet were there faithful hearts in Scotland who suffered not the cause of the King over the water to be quenched. Most puissant among royalist champions remained William Douglas of Lothian and Liddesdale [xxviii].

Matters took a turn in 1341 when David II., at the foolish age of eighteen, returned to his proper realm. At this time Hugh the Dull, having no stomach for the military service due for his lands, made over many of his possessions to his kinsman, William of Lothian,<sup>1</sup> and returned humbly to his parochial duties in Old Roxburgh, whence, if still alive, he was to be dislodged once more after the battle of Durham in 1346, when Edward III. bestowed the prebend upon William de Emeldon.<sup>2</sup>



Fig. 7.—Seal of Hugh of Douglas, a canon (c. 1294-c. 1342).

The seal of Hugh the Dull, which is attached to the charter conveying Westerkirk to the Knight of Liddesdale, is erroneously described in Laing's catalogue as bearing a knight on horseback with a shield. The real device is an unicorn supporting a shield, of which the upper part is obliterated, but the lower still shows the heart. The compartment is semé of stars, and surrounded by the legend [also erroneously deciphered by Laing]—

[SIGILL : HVGONI]S : DE : DOWGLAS : CANONIC.

This "Dull Douglas" dedicated a chapel to St. John the Baptist at Crookboat of Douglas, where the Douglas Water joins the Clyde, and endowed it, among other emoluments, with the right to the best cheese in every house on Douglas Moor.

Turn we now to Hugh's uncle, Archibald [x.], youngest brother of the Good Sir James [vii.], who, although he never became Lord of Douglas, bore far too important a part in public affairs to be omitted from the roll. He is first heard of after 1320, when he received from Robert I. a

<sup>1</sup> *Morton*, ii. 89-92.

<sup>2</sup> *Rotuli Scotia*, i. 749.

## THE DISINHERITED LORDS 71

charter of Morebattle<sup>1</sup> in Roxburghshire, and Kirkandrews in Dumfriesshire. In 1324 he received a further grant of the lands of Crimond<sup>2</sup> and others in Buchan, being already in possession of Cavers in Roxburghshire, Drumlanrig and Terregles in Dumfriesshire, and West Calder in Midlothian. He made little figure during the life of Robert I, though glimpses are had of him serving under Sir James [vii.] in the campaign of Weardale [1327], when his foragers "auoint curry apoi tot levesche de Doresme"<sup>3</sup>—overran nearly all the bishopric of Durham—and gathered much booty. But with the death of the Bruce and the reappearance of a Baliol on the stage, Archibald takes a foremost place in the ensuing struggle.

King Robert I, dying in 1329, left his realm to his son David, who, though barely six years old, was already married to Joanna, sister of Edward III., a few months older than himself. Randolph, Earl of Moray, acted as Regent until his sudden death at Musselburgh in 1332, when the young King's first cousin, Donald, Earl of Mar, was elected Regent by the Estates. King Robert had left a heritage of ill-blood to his successor by neglecting to fulfil the stipulation in the treaty of Northampton [4th May 1328] binding him to restore the lands forfeited from certain lords in the war of independence—Wake, Lord of Liddesdale, Beaumont, Earl of Buchan, and others of less note. These disinherited lords, *les querelleurs* as they were called, attached themselves to the English Court, whither came also in 1330 Edward Baliol, seeking, if not his father's crown, at least his father's forfeited Scottish lands.

On 30th December 1330 Edward III. demanded the restoration of their lands to Wake and Beaumont. Regent

<sup>1</sup> There is no reference in this name to a conflict. It is an Anglo-Saxon compound—*mōr boll*, the dwelling on the moor or by the marsh, exactly equivalent to the more familiar Morton.

<sup>2</sup> Wrongly printed Ormond in Douglas's *Peerage*, which estate came to the Douglas family long after through Joanna Moray, heiress of Bothwell.

<sup>3</sup> *Scalacronica*, 154. Barbour, cxli. 124.

x. Sir Archibald Douglas, "the Tineman," Regent of Scotland, died 1333.

The disinherited Lords, 1332.



Moray temporised: to dislodge the existing proprietors would have been to raise up a fresh body of malcontents nearer home, and negotiations dragged on for eighteen months. King Edward, despairing of the fulfilment of the treaty so justly demanded by him, now adopted the claim of Edward Baliol to the crown of Scotland, and did not interfere when the disinherited lords, having fitted out an independent expedition in the summer of 1332, landed with Edward Baliol in Fife. Mar, the new Regent, met the invaders on the Earn, near Dupplin, on 12th August, but although his force greatly outnumbered the invaders, the Scots were utterly defeated, Mar himself, with Menteith and the young Earl of Moray, being among the slain. Sir Archibald Douglas held command under the Earl of March, who lay near Perth with another large force. Baliol and the English had thrown themselves into that town after their victory at Dupplin, and were promptly blockaded there by March.

Promptly, but not effectively. Tidings came of a rising in Galloway, always tender to the Baliol cause, under Sir Eustace Maxwell of Carlaverock, ever a shifty patriot; and March made speed thither to chastise the rebels. Scone witnessed the coronation of Baliol as Edward, King of Scots [27th September], and the new monarch set out on a progress through the west and south. But for his incorrigible luck the Tineman should have captured the usurper near Jedburgh; but an ambush laid for Baliol by Douglas was detected and put to flight, Baliol taking his ease that night in Kelso.

Archibald came nearer success in his next exploit. Baliol, after performing his allegiance to the King of England at Roxburgh [23rd November], rode to Annan intending to keep Christmas there. But Annandale, notwithstanding its proximity to Carlaverock, was no safe harbour for one of his race. Archibald Douglas, having with him the 3rd Earl of Moray, was still upon his tracks. Riding from Moffat during the night of 15th–16th December with a strong

Reappear-  
ance of  
Edward  
Baliol, 1332.

Camisade of  
Annan, De-  
cember 1332.

## CAMISADE OF ANNAN

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company, he gave the usurper a sharp camisade before daylight. Sir Walter Comyn and Sir John Mowbray were slain, Baliol himself escaping in his shirt-tails—"on a barme horse, with legys bare";<sup>1</sup> or, as Bower puts it, "on a sorry jade, with neither bridle nor saddle; one shank booted, the other bare."<sup>2</sup> Taken he must have been without fail, but for the prowess of his brother, Sir Henry de Baliol, who, with other naked men, made a gallant resistance before he fell dead in the dark. Thus it came to pass that the Tineman was balked of the fairest chance that ever befel him; even what he accomplished is smirched by the English chroniclers Hemingburgh and Walsingham, who allege that in this exploit he broke a truce which March and Douglas, solicitous for the safety of their own lands, had made with Baliol till 2nd February following; but of this treachery there is no sure evidence forthcoming.

On 9th March Baliol re-entered Scotland by the eastern border to avenge the ignominy of his exit by the western. On the 21st the Tineman raided Gilsland in counter-stroke, and collected a deal of booty. But this was the last gleam of success on his arms. After Mar's death Sir Andrew Moray, perhaps the son of Wallace's colleague, had been appointed Regent, but soon afterwards was captured by the English at Roxburgh,<sup>3</sup> and the Tineman was chosen to succeed him. His administration was short and in harmony with his earlier fortune. Baliol had ceded Berwick to Edward III. under the treaty of Roxburgh, but it was still held for King David, Sir Alexander de Seton commanding in the town, the Earl of March in the castle. The two Edwards appeared before the walls in May 1333. Seton undertook to surrender unless relieved by a given day, handing over his son, among others, as hostages. The Tineman marched to his relief, and appeared in plenty of time with plenty of force. He

Douglas appointed Regent of Scotland, 1333.

<sup>1</sup> Wyntoun, viii. c. 26.

<sup>2</sup> Bower, xiii. 25.

<sup>3</sup> Most historians assign Moray's capture to November 1332, but Wyntoun and Bower both state that the camisade of Annan was in accordance with Moray's commands.—Wyntoun, i. viii. c. 26, l. 385. Bower, xiii. 25.

threw supplies and reinforcements into the town, thereby, as he claimed, having technically relieved the place; after which he must needs go off raiding and looting across the border. The Edwards sat still until the Scots were well across the Tweed, and then summoned the garrison. Seton protested that the stipulated relief had been effected; the English King rejoined by hanging Seton's son before the father's eyes, intimating that he was prepared with other arguments of a like nature. A fresh compact was struck. Berwick would be given up if not relieved within fourteen days, and messengers were sent after the Tineman. King Edward wished no better fortune than to wait his return upon ground of his own choosing, for the zone of fire from English archers was ill to cross by an attacking force. He took up a position on Halidon Hill, the rising land to the north-west of the town; the Regent crossed the Tweed and encamped not far off in Duns park. He surely must have heard from his brother the lesson so often read to the Scottish knights by Robert the Bruce, never to risk a pitched battle or to face the fire of English archers where it was possible to adopt the safer strategy of falling back and making a desert of the country before an invading army. Never would such a policy have been more effective than at this time, for there was much discontent among the English, desertions were frequent, and the levies of the northern shires had not turned out readily to muster. But the Tineman was "fey"; it was written that he was never to succeed, as surely as his brother had never failed, and he decided to attack the enemy's position.

Between the two camps lay a marsh, as was generally the case in Scottish battle grounds: a valuable feature as it proved at Bannockburn, where the right use was made of it; a frightful danger to a headstrong commander, as was to be proved this day, and hereafter at Flodden. The Scots crossed the marsh in four columns, under a destructive archery fire; soaked with water and mire, the thinned ranks formed at the foot of a steep brae whereon the English line

Battle of  
Halidon  
Hill, 1333

## HALIDON HILL

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of battle was drawn. It was no even contest. The leading division under the Earl of Ross climbed the steep and attacked Baliol's line with splendid courage, but their devotion served but to make their losses the heavier. One after another the other Scottish schiltroms, under Moray, the Steward, and the Regent himself, breasted the hill and encountered the same fate. All were heavily, disastrously repulsed, sacrificed to their leader's blunder. How bravely

both leaders and followers bore themselves let the death-roll tell. Six Scottish earls, at least, died in their harness—Lennox, Ross, Sutherland, Carrick, Menteith, and Athol; three brothers Fraser; William, Lord of Douglas [vii.], and of other good knights too many to recount. The Tineman himself made the last of his losses, his own life—irreparable to himself, and the most coveted town and seaport in Scotland—irreparable to his country, for Berwick has remained an English borough ever since, except for twenty-one years after Henry VI. restored it [1461–1482].

The Tineman married Beatrice, daughter of Sir Alexander de Lindsay of Crawford. They had two sons and a daughter—(1) John, who died in France before 1342 in the retinue of David II.; (2) William [xi.], who became Lord of Douglas; and (3) Eleanor, who married (1st) Alexander, Earl of Carrick, natural son of Edward Bruce, King of Ireland. He was killed at Halidon Hill, when she married (2nd) Sir James de Sandilands, ancestor of the present Lord Torphichen, who still owns the lands of West Calder, bestowed upon Dame Eleanor by her brother William [xi.].<sup>1</sup> Sir James died before 1358, when his widow is believed to have married (3rd) Sir William Tours of Dalry. Before 1368 she was the wife (4th) of Sir Duncan Wallace of Sundrum; and lastly, in 1376, a dispensation was obtained for her marriage with Sir Patrick Hepburn of Hailes. Chivalrous warfare was fatal to the longevity of husbands, but well-dowered widows needed never to remain disconsolate for long.

<sup>1</sup> Fraser, iii. 15.

Death of Sir  
Archibald  
Douglas, 19th  
July 1333.

At the time of the Tineman's death his second son, a minor and ward of the Knight of Liddesdale,<sup>1</sup> was being educated in France. He returned to Scotland about 1348, probably about the time he came of age. The state of affairs in that realm was deplorable. The yoke of Baliol, indeed, had been thrown off; by arms, or by corruption of the partisans of Baliol, nearly all the strongholds of Scotland had come into the hands of David's officers, and Robert the Steward [afterwards King Robert II.] was Regent. King David, a lad of eighteen, had returned to his kingdom with his English Queen, Joanna [2nd June 1341]; but almost his first public act had been to give mortal offence to the Knight of Liddesdale, who was thenceforward to be

xi. Sir William, Lord of Douglas, 1st Earl of Douglas and Earl of Mar, c. 1327-1384.

reckoned among the least loyal of his subjects; albeit he shared the fate of King David himself in being taken prisoner at the disastrous battle of Neville's Cross [17th October 1346].



Fig. 8.—Seal of William, Lord of Douglas (1342-1384).

Young William returned to restore the fair fame of his house. He went straight to Douglasdale, summoned his retainers to his standard, and took up his quarters in the forests of Ettrick and Jedburgh, whence he carried on guerrilla war upon the English. He was one of those appointed in 1351 to treat with the English Commissioners for the liberation of King David.<sup>2</sup> Edward Baliol was living on his lands of Buittle at this time, awaiting another turn of the wheel in his favour; but these lands were of the rightful heritage of Douglas,<sup>3</sup> who therefore in the summer

<sup>1</sup> *Morton*, ii. 46.

<sup>2</sup> Sir William Fraser has cleared William, Lord of Douglas's, fame from the imputation of underhand dealing with the English at this time. Lord Hailes, in casting it, confused him with the other William, the Knight of Liddesdale.—*Fraser*, i. 218-220.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 57, *ante*.

## SLAUGHTER OF LIDDESDALE 77

of 1353 made a descent upon them and exacted submission to King David from the Baliolite chiefs of Galloway. In this he was probably acting as Warden of the Marches in concert with Stuart, Earl of Carrick [afterwards Robert III.], who was subduing Annandale, and with Sir Roger Kirkpatrick, who took Dalswinton and Carlaverock in Nithsdale about this time.

Now, in July 1352, the Knight of Liddesdale, godfather and former guardian of William, Lord of Douglas, being then in prison in the Tower of London, where also lay King David, did agree to most treasonable conditions with the King of England, whereby he obtained his liberty and a grant of the lands of Liddesdale and the Tower of Hermitage.<sup>1</sup> Shame upon the "Flower of Chivalry"! the first to bring dishonour upon the scutcheon of his race. Returning to Scotland, he was speedily called to account for other and private crimes. To explain their precise nature would require long and tedious examination of a very complicated business, already undertaken by the practised hand of Sir William Fraser. Mention has already been made of the grant by Hugh the Dull [ix.] to Sir William Douglas of Lothian of the lands of Liddesdale, from which he afterwards derived his distinctive title of "Knight of Liddesdale." Very shortly after the execution of this grant, in February 1342, Robert the Steward, in Parliament at Aberdeen, demanded sasine of these same lands, in virtue of a crown grant made to him on being knighted. The claim was opposed by the Knight of Liddesdale, on the ground that he held the lands in virtue of his guardianship of William [xi.], son and heir of Sir Archibald [x.], in support of which he showed a charter of infestment in favour of Sir Archibald.<sup>2</sup> True, the objection was overruled on the ground that Archibald, being at the time of the said grant guardian of the realm, could not bestow lands upon himself,<sup>3</sup> and the grant was made to the Steward; nevertheless, two days later a fresh grant of Liddesdale was made out

Slaughter of  
the Knight of  
Liddesdale,  
August 1353.

<sup>1</sup> *Federa*, v. 738.

<sup>2</sup> *Morton*, ii. 46, 47.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

in favour of Sir William Douglas, who compensated the Steward by making over to him the lands of Athol.<sup>1</sup> The young lord of Douglas therefore, returning home, was deeply displeased to find part of what he considered his rightful heritage in the possession of his godfather and overrun by English partisans. The allegation that he was jealous of the Knight of Liddesdale's attentions to his "countess" rests upon the slippery foundation of a ballad, and can scarcely be maintained; because, while it is doubtful whether young Douglas was married at all as early as 1353, it is certain that his wife could not have been a countess till he himself was made an earl in 1358. There was plenty of other matter for dispute between godfather and godson. Besides Liddesdale, there were the other broad lands which Hugh the Dull had been cajoled or coerced into making over to the Flower of Chivalry, and the young lord may have spoken his mind plainly about the foul murders by his godfather of Sir Alexander de Ramsay and Sir David de Barclay.<sup>2</sup> The immediate cause of the last fatal dispute between these two Douglases seems simple enough, although of the circumstances little is known. In August 1353 the Lord of Douglas, probably returning from the subjugation of Galloway, found the Knight of Liddesdale hunting in Ettrick Forest, where the young lord claimed exclusive rights. High words would pass; swords leap lightly from their scabbards. Young Douglas presumably had the stronger following, and the Knight of Liddesdale was slain. The place was known as Galsewood, but is now called Williamhope, in commemoration, it is supposed, of the slaughter of one William Douglas by the other. Godscroft [Hamilton Palace MS.] states that in his day it was called William's Cross.

Shortly after this deed, namely, in February 1354, King David bestowed a fresh charter upon William, Lord of Douglas, of all the lands possessed by his uncle the Good

<sup>1</sup> *Morton*, ii. 48.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 224, *post*. Fordun alleges this as one of the reasons for the quarrel.—*Fordun*, ii. 360.

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Sir James [vii.], and his father Sir Archibald [x.], including Liddesdale.<sup>1</sup> It is remarkable that no notice is made therein either of the decree of nullity of Sir Archibald's title to Liddesdale in 1342, nor of possession thereof by the Knight of Liddesdale.<sup>2</sup>

Negotiations for the liberation of King David had been proceeding for some time under the existing truce; twenty Scots gentlemen had been enumerated as hostages, and Douglas, with three other barons, had been accepted as security for payment of the ransom, which David's brother-in-law of England had fixed at the substantial figure of 90,000 marks. But there were conditions in this treaty unfavourable to France, and at Easter King John II. sent over to Scotland Sir Eugene de Garencières with other knights, conveying a subsidy of 40,000 *moutons d'or*. Hostilities opened with an English raid upon the lands of the Earl of March, who retaliated by a movement upon Norham Castle. Here stout old Sir Thomas Gray was constable, and Douglas sent out some foragers under Sir William de Ramsay to tempt him forth. The lure was successful: Gray rode out with a squadron of fifty to eighty spears; Ramsay fell back before him towards Nisbet, where Douglas had ensconced himself with a superior force. The retreat of the English was cut off; in a charge upon Douglas's party they were worsted. Young Thomas Gray, whom his father had just knighted, was among the prisoners taken, and employed his subsequent captivity in Edinburgh Castle to good purpose in composing his delightful *Scalacronica*.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fraser, i. 226. This important charter is not mentioned in Robertson's Index, but is known by two transumps, one in the Douglas charter chest, the other at Cavers.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Cosmo Innes put on record that the regnal years of David II. after his return from France are stated one short of the actual date. Hence, although this charter to William, Lord of Douglas, bears to have been granted on 12th February in the twenty-fourth year of the reign, which was 1353, David was not in Scotland during that year, and the true date must have been 1354.—*Ibid.*, i. 227, note.

<sup>3</sup> Sir Thomas Gray of Heton in Northumberland was ancestor of the present Earl Grey and Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.



On 25th January 1356 Edward III. obtained from Edward Baliol the gold crown of Scotland and a sod of Scottish earth, in token of his total renunciation of all claims to the throne of Scotland, and proceeded to reduce that kingdom to his will. He appeared at Roxburgh at the head of a very magnificent army, and there Douglas arrived as an exponent in the craft of diplomacy. Of all the weapons in the diplomat's armoury none is more effective than procrastination, and well did Douglas wield it on this occasion. Having none but fictitious proposals to make, he wasted ten days in making them, which the Steward spent to such good profit that when, at last, King Edward advanced he found the country a desert. A storm destroyed his fleet, and to avoid starvation he was forced to beat a retreat, venting his ill-humour in destroying churches and houses to an extent remarkable even in those days, so that the season was known ever after as the Burnt Candlemas. Douglas, like his uncle Sir James, was an expert in ambuscade, and came very near taking King Edward himself on the outskirts of Melrose.<sup>1</sup>

The Burnt  
Candlemas,  
1356.

The King of England was no sooner back in London than he made up his mind to swallow a bitter draught by appointing ten Commissioners to treat for peace with the Scots [25th March 1356]; but he still held the master card in the person of King David. Douglas, one of the wardens of the Marches, arranged at Roxburgh with the English warden, the Earl of Northampton, a truce to endure till Michaelmas,<sup>2</sup> and in June obtained a safe-conduct [3rd June-15th August] from King Edward to enable him to visit King David and to further the preliminaries of his release. But, as a precaution against that rust which good chevaliers did so greatly dread should gather upon their arms in times of truce, he sought service under the King of France against the Black Prince, in time to share with the French chivalry the awful disaster of Poitiers [19th

Battle of  
Poitiers,  
1356.

<sup>1</sup> Fordun, i. 374.

<sup>2</sup> *Fadera*, v. 849, 857.

THE EARLDOM

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September 1356].<sup>1</sup> Douglas seems to have tempered his valour that day with some discretion, for Froissart says he “fought very valiantly for a while; but when he perceived that the French were hopelessly defeated he made off as fast as he could; for so much did he dread being taken by the English that he had preferred to be slain.”<sup>2</sup> Before the battle he had received knighthood at the hand of King John of France. He was back again in Scotland during the autumn and seized the castle of Hermitage, at that time an English possession, because of a raid upon Eskdale done from that place by Sir Robert Twylllyoll. This Douglas did, not in violation of the truce, but in the exercise of his jurisdiction as Warden of the Marches.

King David's eleven years of captivity came to an end on 3rd October 1357; the price exacted from the Scots for the privilege of receiving back their King being

Liberation of King David, 3rd Oct. 1357. 100,000 marks in ten yearly payments, a crushing burden upon a people so greatly impoverished already in their struggle for independence that their coinage had been considerably debased.

On 26th January 1358 Douglas was created an earl, the precise date being denoted by his having witnessed one

Douglas created an earl, 26th Jan. 1358. of the King's charters on the 25th as “William, Lord of Douglas, knight,”<sup>3</sup> and another on the 27th as Earl of Douglas.<sup>4</sup> By this time he was married; probably in the preceding year, when his wife, Margaret, is first mentioned in a charter from



Fig. 9.—Seal of the Earl of Douglas.

<sup>1</sup> Douglas had probably started on a pilgrimage in expiation of his slaughter of the Knight of Liddesdale, which he abandoned on meeting the chance of an exploit against the English.—See *Scalacronica*, 175.

<sup>2</sup> Froissart, clxi.

<sup>3</sup> *The Stirlings of Keir*, by William Fraser, p. 199.

<sup>4</sup> *Acts of Parl. Scot.*, i. 522.

the King. This Margaret was sister and heiress of Thomas, Earl of Mar, and with her Douglas received the barony of Drumlanrig. During the next few years Douglas frequently travelled to England, probably in connection with his duties as surety for the instalments of ransom. Matters had not been running smoothly in Scotland since the return of the King. Queen Joanna died childless in August 1362; David, whose enforced residence at the English Court had not been without compensating amenities, was already suspected, if not known, to entertain unhallowed views about altering the Scottish succession in favour of the line of Plantagenet, to the prejudice of the rightful heir of the Bruce—his nephew, Robert the Steward, whom he hated. Already, in 1358, David had bestowed the earldom of Moray upon Henry, Duke of Lancaster, with remainder to his heirs male, whom failing, to his two daughters for their lives.<sup>1</sup> But the immediate cause of offence arose out of the way King David had of fingering the moneys exacted from his subjects for his ransom, and applying them to his private expenditure.

Herein Douglas's honour and (which touched him perhaps as closely) his interest were directly involved, for was he not one of the sureties for punctual payment of the yearly instalments of ransom to the English Exchequer? Accordingly he entered into a bond with the Steward and the Earl of March to right affairs by force of arms, and led off by seizing the King's castle of Dirleton. Then these three lords presented a petition to the King, setting forth their complaints in regard to the misapplied funds. Fordun denies that there were any grounds for this complaint;<sup>2</sup> but David's *Exchequer Rolls* tell a different story. His mistress, Margaret Drummond of Logie, who became his Queen about this

<sup>1</sup> Bain, iv. 3. The Earl of Douglas was witness to this grant, as was Robert the Steward also. The significance of such a grant to an alien cannot be understood without remembering that in those days, and for long after, the title of earl was inseparable from possession of the *comitatus*, i.e. the lands comprised in the earldom.

<sup>2</sup> Fordun, i. 381, ii. 370.

Marries  
Margaret of  
Mar, 1357 [?].

Douglas  
takes up arms  
against the  
King, 1363.

## TREASONABLE NEGOTIATIONS 83

time, had numerous needy relations, to whom the King was liberal in gifts and remission of customs, etc.<sup>1</sup>

Douglas's rising was not a very formidable affair: at least, it collapsed as suddenly as it had broken out. From Dirleton he looted Inverkeithing by night;<sup>2</sup> by night also the King in turn surprised him at Lanark, the earl escaping with much difficulty. Afterwards [14th May 1363] the malcontent barons made their submission to the King in terms set forth at length by Bower.<sup>3</sup>

Douglas's movements during the next few months are of moment as throwing light upon the part he took in a very remarkable transaction. On 6th October 1363 King David went to Westminster and there drafted with King Edward and his Council an international treaty to be submitted by King David to his Parliament.<sup>4</sup> This draft treaty provided that in the event of David's demise without [male] issue the King of England should succeed to the throne of Scotland; Berwick, Roxburgh, Jedburgh, Lochmaben, and all lands and castles in Scotland held by the King of England were to be delivered up at once to the Scots, and the ransom due for the King of Scots was to be remitted and all hostages for its payment released. There were a number of articles safeguarding the integrity of the kingdom of Scotland, the rights of its subjects, the freedom of its trade, and providing against any union or incorporation with England; but of the eight-and-twenty articles contained in this draft treaty, the seventeenth is the one which most profoundly affects the reputation of the Earl of Douglas. It provided that "the Earl of Douglas should be restored to the estates in England to which his father and uncle had right, or to receive an equivalent in a suitable place." Was this the price for which Douglas gave his consent and active support to a policy so startling, which, if carried into effect, would have disinherited his former ally, Robert the Steward, and plunged

First secret  
treaty with  
England,  
1363.

<sup>1</sup> *Exchequer Rolls*, ii, pp. lvii, 136, 167, 174.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. l, 154.

<sup>3</sup> Bower, xiv, 27.

<sup>4</sup> Printed in Lord Hailes' *Annals*, ii, 307.

his country into a new war of succession?—a policy which, when King David submitted the treaty to his Parliament at Scone on 4th March 1364, that Parliament emphatically rejected—“We will never have an Englishman to reign over us.”

Sir William Fraser says: “No; there is no proof that Douglas was privy to this treaty, because there is no evidence that he was in Westminster at the time it was drafted.”<sup>1</sup> Sir William must be acquitted of an unsuccessful attempt at special pleading, not having before him the very convincing evidence furnished in King Edward’s *Issue Roll* for that year. The draft treaty was completed 27th November 1363. On 6th December King Edward made gifts “to divers lords and others who came to England in the retinue of the King of Scotland about a treaty of peace between the Kings.” The first on the list of these lords is the Earl of Douglas, who received a gilt cup, money weight 100s. 9d., value £10, 18s. Two days later the goldsmith was paid £6, 17s. 3d. extra for the two cups given to the Earl of Douglas and Sir Robert Erskine.”<sup>2</sup> Undoubtedly Douglas was not only present in Westminster when the treaty was arranged and cognisant of its terms, but he had travelled to London for the express purpose of negotiating it.

When King David submitted this treaty to his Parliament at Scone on 4th March 1364, he was not left long in doubt as to the hopelessness of inducing his subjects to agree to it. From this Parliament Douglas had the good taste to absent himself. The treaty was rejected, but negotiations with England were not broken off. Sir Robert Erskine and other delegates were sent to confer with English representatives, and reported to the Parliament held in January 1365. A second draft treaty has lately come to light.<sup>3</sup> It is undated, and purports to consist of proposals at a conference between the Privy Councils of the Kings of England and Scotland. It provides for the restoration by King

The second  
secret treaty,  
1364-

<sup>1</sup> Fraser, i. 243.

<sup>2</sup> Bain, iv. 22.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 21.

## THE SECOND DRAFT TREATY 85

Edward of all castles held by him in Scotland ; peace is to be established for a thousand years between England and Scotland ; the King of Scots and his lords are to support the King of England in his war in Flanders for fifteen years, if need be ; the disinherited lords, and all Englishmen who have lost their lands in Scotland since the death of Robert the Bruce, are to be reinstated, and should King David die without legitimate issue the succession to the throne of Scotland shall devolve upon a son of the King of England, other than the heir-apparent. There is no mention of the proposed restitution to the Earl of Douglas of his English possessions.

Now, in the absence of any date to this document it is not possible to identify it as the outcome of Sir Robert Erskine's embassy after the rejection of the first draft treaty. It may have been only an alternative draft considered between the Kings at their conference in November 1363. But the probability is that it was the product of the second conference, and as such was submitted to the Scottish Parliament at Perth in January 1365. From this Parliament Douglas was again absent, but in Edinburgh, not long after, he affixed his seal in token of consent to the Act which was the outcome of the deliberations upon the proposed treaty, and swore to use his whole power against any persons who should resist or contravene it. Under this Act the succession to the throne of Scotland was not interfered with, but the Isle of Man and certain of the old Baliol lands in Galloway were settled upon a younger son of the King of England. The disinherited lords were to be restored and King David's ransom remitted.<sup>1</sup>

This was very far short of the length to which King David and the Earl of Douglas had been ready to go. To oust Robert the Steward from the succession in favour of an English prince was indeed a strange end for the joint labours of a son of the Bruce and a nephew of the Black Douglas: lamentable outcome, it

<sup>1</sup> *Acts of Parl. Scot.*, i. 137, 138.

might be deemed, of the fiery years spent in securing Scottish independence. Nevertheless, in the circumstances of the kingdom may be found some extenuation. The succession was clouded by the doubtful legitimacy of the Steward's numerous family. Threatened civil strife might be averted by union of the crowns, then a dream of far-sighted statesmen, and to remain so for centuries to come. Scotland had plunged low in the trough of poverty; the splendid tenacity of her sons had drained her veins to the fainting point; ways and means were near an *impasse*, the King having proved incapable of that frugality which alone could enable the burden of ransom to be discharged. The only remedy lay in a durable peace, which so many heads had ached in devising, so many hearts sickened in hoping for. All these were considerations which might be entertained without dishonour; the sole blot upon Douglas's integrity remains in the damning provision in the first treaty whereby, throwing over the Steward, his colleague in the late rebellion, he was to be a private gainer by a public covenant.

After the miscarriage of these negotiations Douglas became lukewarm in loyalty to David. Doubtless the King's conduct was indiscreet and very trying to his lieges. The hungry tribe of Drummonds, relations of the Queen, had to be satisfied, which could not be managed without disturbing vested interests. Deep umbrage was taken at David's grant, in 1367, of the lands of Annandale to his stepson, John of Logie. These lands were claimed by George, Earl of March, in right of his mother,<sup>1</sup> daughter of Randolph, Earl of Moray, who had received them from Robert I.

True, these lands were at the time in possession of the King of England, and March, as well as Douglas and the Steward, gave written consent to the charter to Logie, but from that time forward these three nobles, often absenting themselves "contumaciously" from Par-

<sup>1</sup> Not "Black Agnes," but her younger sister, Geleis Randolph.—Bain, iv, p. xxii.

Renewed dis-  
affection of  
Douglas.

## OPPOSITION TO ROBERT II. 87

liament, represented a faction in opposition to the King, and especially to his Queen. Happily for Scotland, when disorder was at its darkest relief came from the old quarter—France, where Edward III. had his hands more than full, and on 20th July 1369 a treaty of peace for fourteen years with England was signed in Edinburgh.

In 1370 the Earl of Douglas executed a renunciation of the barony of Dalkeith.<sup>1</sup> It is not clear what rights

Resignation  
of lands of  
Dalkeith, 6th  
April 1370.

he possessed in these lands, seeing that they had belonged to the Knight of Liddesdale, and had passed on his death in 1353 to his only child Mary, who died in 1367; when Sir James Douglas, eldest son of the Knight's elder brother John, was served heir to certain lands in Dumfriesshire, in terms of the entail executed by the Knight.<sup>2</sup> Sir James must have been in possession of Dalkeith in 1369, for in that year he resigned the lands into the King's hands in order to receive a fresh grant of them,<sup>3</sup> and licence to rebuild the castle.<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, the Earl of Douglas seems to have resided at Dalkeith some time between the years 1361 and 1366, because the historian Froissart, travelling through Scotland about that time, with a portmanteau strapped to his saddle and followed by a greyhound, was his guest at Dalkeith (*château d'Alqueth*) for "full fifteen days."<sup>5</sup>

David II. died 22nd February 1371, and was succeeded by Robert the Steward, in terms of the settlement of 1318.

Now Douglas had once been a warm friend of the Steward, and had supported him, even to taking up arms against the King, in controlling David's extravagance. Wyntoun is the chief authority for the statement that Douglas opposed the accession of Robert by force. The earl, he says, had assembled his followers at Linlithgow, but the Earl of March advanced to attack him with a superior force, and persuaded him to give up his opposition, or, as Bower interprets it, his pretensions to the throne, on condition that his

Douglas disputes the succession, 1371.

<sup>1</sup> Morton, ii. 72.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 53, 64.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 75.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 69.

<sup>5</sup> Froissart, iii. c. 126.



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son James should receive one of the new King's daughters in marriage—

“And the King to this mariage  
Gawe silber and land in heritage.  
Thus eftter a royd harsh begynnynng  
Happynyt a softt and gud endynng.”<sup>1</sup>

Douglas was promptly restored to favour, being appointed Justiciar of Scotland south of the Forth,<sup>2</sup> and



Fig. 10.—Seal of the Earl of Douglas and Mar.

was present in Parliament at Scone in April 1373, when the royal succession was settled upon the five surviving sons of Robert II. and their heirs respectively. Of these sons

<sup>1</sup> Wyntoun, ix. 1. Godscroft's story about Douglas claiming the throne by succession through his mother Dornagilla, daughter of John Comyn, is wholly apocryphal. His mother was Beatrice de Lindsay.

<sup>2</sup> *Exchequer Rolls*, ii. 394, 462.

## THE EARLDOM OF MAR

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the three elder owed their dubious legitimacy to the Papal dispensation of 1349 for the marriage of their father with Elizabeth Mure.

The first five years of the reign of Robert II. were marked by great scarcity in Scotland, and Douglas seems to have been busy as Warden of the Marches in keeping away the borderers. About 1373-1374 his possessions, already immense, were increased by the addition of the lands of his brother-in-law, Thomas, 13th Earl of Mar, who, though twice married, died without issue.<sup>1</sup> Douglas came into possession of the earldom and estates at once in right of his wife, and was henceforward by far the most powerful subject under that monarchy which his uncle had been the chief agent in restoring.<sup>2</sup> Powerful as he was, however, the task of maintaining peace on the Border proved beyond his power, even if we could be sure that he had the will. The truce was timed to expire in 1383, but the Earl of March could not endure to see his rightful heritage of Annandale still in English hands. He made war on his own account in 1377, wasting Annandale and burning Roxburgh town.

The Earl of Northumberland appealed to Douglas as warden,<sup>3</sup> but Douglas was unwilling to interfere. He could only have dispersed March's troops by force, and may be pardoned if he preferred international to civil warfare, albeit at the expense of the truce. Northumberland, crossing the Border in strength, ravaged Tweeddale for three days in reprisal for the mischief done at Roxburgh. Douglas, according to Froissart, lay at a place called Hondebray,<sup>4</sup> where he received word that Sir

Succeeds to  
the earldom  
of Mar, c.  
1373-1374.

Hostilities on  
the Border,  
1377-1380.

<sup>1</sup> The last mention of him occurs in a safe-conduct passing him to England, 22nd October 1373 [*Rotuli Scotia*, i. 960]. Douglas is styled Earl of Douglas and Mar in several charters, etc., of Robert II. [*Liber de Melros*, ii. 446, 451, 455, 456, 462, 478].

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix A, p. 95, *The Earldom of Mar*.

<sup>3</sup> Bain, iv. 53.

<sup>4</sup> Froissart, ii. c. 9. Lord Berners identifies Hondebray with Haddington, but the place more probably was Humbie, formerly written Hundebey. Had-

Thomas Musgrave was holding Melrose with a detachment. He determined to give Northumberland the slip and make a dash for Musgrave. He timed his march so as to reach Melrose at midnight. It was the month of August, but they were overtaken by such a tempest of wind and rain that the pages dropped their masters' spears for very cold, and the party had to take shelter in the woods. "They were full seven hundred lances, and two thousand others, whom I call lusty varlets, armed with hunting spears, dirks and pointed staves."<sup>1</sup> In the morning they sent out foragers, who encountered an English foraging party, whereby Musgrave received warning of the presence of the enemy. He turned out his force at once, and rode forth to give battle. When the two forces were in view of each other the Earl of Douglas, says Froissart, bestowed knighthood upon his son,<sup>2</sup> and Sir Thomas Musgrave upon his. Thus ceremoniously were combats undertaken before chivalry had begun to wane. Then they set to with a will. "Sir Archibald Douglas [xiii.]," says the sympathetic Froissart, "was a good knight, and much feared by his enemies; when near to the English he dismounted, and wielded before him an immense sword whose blade was two ells long, which another could not have lifted from the ground; but he found no difficulty in handling it, and gave such terrible strokes that all on whom they fell were struck to the ground."<sup>3</sup> The English were routed, Musgrave and many of his following being taken prisoners.

dington cannot be described as among the mountains. Froissart says that Douglas heard here of the re-capture of Berwick by Northumberland, and the slaughter of the Scots there; but that did not take place till 1378, whereas we know from Northumberland's account in the Exchequer that Musgrave's capture preceded the taking of Berwick by more than a year [Bain, iv. 56]. This accords with the dates given by Wyntoun and Bower, who, however, give March the credit of taking Musgrave.

<sup>1</sup> Froissart, ii. c. 9.

<sup>2</sup> James, afterwards 2nd earl. If Froissart be accurate it must have been the dignity of knight-banneret which was conferred, as upon his great-uncle at Bannockburn, for James was a knight as early as 1372.—*Rotuli Scotiae*, i. 952.

<sup>3</sup> Froissart, ii. c. 10.

## DOUGLAS RAIDS ENGLAND 91

Next year [25th November 1378] a band of fifty Scots adventurers captured Berwick, and held it for eight or nine days in defiance of a large force under the Earl of Northumberland. Douglas and his cousin Sir Archibald marched to relieve the place, but finding the English too strong, drew off into the Lothians. The English earl stormed Berwick and put all the Scots therein to the sword, except their commander, Alexander de Ramsay.

Such local conflicts as these were accounted as no more than chivalrous bickerings between free-lances of the two nations, scarcely inconsistent with the official truce. March meetings were frequent between the Earls of Northumberland and Douglas, the English and Scottish Wardens, where matters were discussed, protests examined, and futile agreements made for the better observance of the truce. These meetings were generally held during this reign at a place called "Lyliat Cross," which Mr. Bain identifies with the modern Lilliard's Edge, between Melrose and Jedburgh.<sup>1</sup>

In the spring of 1380 the Earl of Douglas began operations on a far larger scale than heretofore. Mustering his vassals and their men to the number stated, Douglas invades England, 1380. probably with exaggeration, as 20,000, he carried a destructive raid into Cumberland and Westmorland, and drove off a very large number of cattle. The plague was raging at this time in the north of England, and Walsingham attributes its importation into Scotland to a counter-raid which crossed the Solway after the retreat of the Scots. This force, put by Walsingham at 15,000, and therefore probably not exceeding 3000 or 4000, was attacked and dispersed, but not before they had communicated the deadly infection, which proved very destructive in Scotland in this year. Immediately after these events John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, was sent by King Richard II. with sufficient troops to wreak vengeance upon the Scots; but the ghost

<sup>1</sup> Bain, iv. pp. xx. 54, 57.

of the violated truce was raised; truce upon truce was arranged, first till November 1381, then till Candlemas 1384. The balance of success in these affairs remained with the Scots. The Earls of Douglas and March and Sir Archibald Douglas had redeemed most of the counties of Roxburgh and Berwick from the English sway, as appears from a memorandum drawn up for the information of "Monseigneur Despaigne" [John of Gaunt], and other Commissioners, about to hold a March meeting on 1st October 1380. Therein are defined the lands taken from Richard II. since "la grant triewe." The term of this long truce cannot have expired when the Earls of Douglas and March and Sir Archibald invested the Bruce's ancient castle of Lochmaben, a place of great natural and artificial strength, but weakly garrisoned and ill provisioned. Its keeper, Fetherstonhaugh, agreed to surrender if not relieved within eight days, during which the besiegers lay—

Capture of  
Lochmaben  
Castle, 4th  
February  
1384.

"En wykked weddyr, as wind and rane,  
That thame dyd gret annoy and pane."<sup>1</sup>

No relief came, so the castle was given up on the ninth day, 8th February, just two days after the expiry of the truce, and utterly dismantled; luckless Fetherstonhaugh being put under arrest when he arrived at Carlisle, and sent prisoner to Windsor.<sup>2</sup>

This affront brought the Duke of Lancaster into Scotland again as an invader. He advanced as far as Edinburgh, but by 23rd April he had withdrawn to Durham<sup>3</sup> without having inflicted much injury; and Douglas, having recovered Annandale from the English with the help of the Earl of March, now resolved to expel the English from the possession they still kept of Teviotdale. He received a special commission from the King to that end, in which he was completely successful, and once more the Scotland of Bruce, with the exception of Berwick, was entirely under the dominion of her own monarch.

<sup>1</sup> Wyntoun, ix. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Bain, iv. 73, 77.

<sup>3</sup> *Rotuli Scotiae*, ii. 62.

## DEATH OF THE FIRST EARL 93

Death of the  
Earl of  
Douglas,  
May 1384.

This was the last service done by the 1st Earl of Douglas. In returning from Teviotdale to Douglas Castle, at the end of April or beginning of May 1384, he was suddenly seized by fever and died at Douglas. He was buried, not in St. Bride's beside his illustrious uncle, but at Melrose.

His career must be pronounced a brilliant and honourable one. Notice has been made above of certain transactions in which he does not seem to have been perfectly disinterested, and certainly at one time he inclined to—nay, promoted—a scheme which would have brought his country under English dominion. But he accepted the decision of his countrymen upon that matter, and thenceforward was a good chevalier and loyal Scot to his life's end. He raised his banner in rebellion when he perceived the King's actions and policy to be dangerous to the commonwealth, nevertheless from first to last he was a pillar of strength to the monarchy.

Godscroft goes utterly astray, and has led subsequent writers astray also, in assigning three wives to the 1st Earl of Douglas. He states that the first wife was Margaret of Dunbar, which is a confusion with Agnes of Dunbar, who married Sir James Douglas of Dalkeith in 1372. As the third wife, Godscroft mentions Margaret, daughter of Thomas Stuart, Earl of Angus;<sup>1</sup> but this is impossible, as the earl's only wife, Margaret of Mar, survived him, and in 1388 married Sir John de Swinton,<sup>2</sup> whom her son, 2nd Earl of Douglas and Mar, refers to in a charter of that year as his "very dear father."<sup>3</sup> She bore two children to Douglas, James [xii.], who succeeded him, and Isabel, who, upon her brother's death in 1388, inherited the estates of Mar and his unentailed lands

<sup>1</sup> She was his mistress, however, and by him the mother of George Douglas, Earl of Angus.

<sup>2</sup> Swinton, after his stepson's death, was known by the ordinary baronial title of Lord of Mar.

<sup>3</sup> *Liber de Melros*, ii. 465.

of Cavers, Jedburgh Forest, Liddesdale, the town of Selkirk, the superiority of Buittle and Drumlanrig, etc. The original Douglas territory went under entail to Sir Archibald "the Grim" [xiii].<sup>1</sup> Dame Isabel married Sir Malcolm Drummond, brother-in-law of Robert III., styled Lord of Mar and Garioch, in virtue of the lands which he possessed in right of his wife.<sup>2</sup> His widow married Alexander Stuart, and granted the earldom to him and their heirs [12th August and 9th December 1404],<sup>3</sup> whom failing to her heirs.



Fig. 11.—Seal of Isabella Douglas, Countess of Mar, c. 1400.

She died in 1408, but her husband remained Earl of Mar till his death in 1435, when he died without issue, and the well-known Mar dispute began.<sup>4</sup>

Earl William also left at least two illegitimate children, namely, first, George Douglas, afterwards Earl of Angus [xxxviii.], whose mother was Earl William's sister-in-law, the widow of Thomas, 13th Earl of Mar, and Countess of Angus in her own right; and second, Margaret, who, marrying Thomas Johnson in 1404, received from "her dear sister" Isabella, Countess of Mar, a grant of the Mains of Bonjedward.<sup>5</sup> She was therefore probably the ancestress of the family of Douglas of Bonjedward.



Fig. 12.—Signet of the Earl of Douglas and Mar.

<sup>1</sup> Fraser, i. 288.

<sup>2</sup> *Origines Parochiales*, i. 527, quoting Traquair charters.

<sup>3</sup> *Reg. Magni Sigilli*, ii. 251.

<sup>4</sup> Charter dated 9th December 1404, confirmed by the King. A previous charter, dated 12th August 1403, conveyed the earldom absolutely, but was set aside and not confirmed.

<sup>5</sup> *Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banff*, iv. 731.

## APPENDIX A

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## APPENDIX A

*The Earldom of Mar*

THE nature of the succession to and tenure of the ancient earldom of Mar by William, 1st Earl of Douglas [xi.], has been the subject of much litigation, resulting in the existence at the present day of two Earls of Mar under different creations, namely—

(1) John Francis Erskine Goodeve-Erskine, Earl of Mar, holding as heir-general the precedence of the original earldom which, upon the death of Thomas, Earl of Mar, in 1377, passed to his sister, Margaret, Countess of Douglas, as heir-general, and so to her daughter Countess Isabel.

(2) Walter John Francis Erskine, Earl of Mar and Kellie, Lord Erskine, etc., heir-male of John, 6th Lord Erskine [afterwards Regent], who received from Queen Mary a charter dated 23rd June 1565, restoring to him the earldom as heir of Isabel, sister of the 2nd Earl of Douglas [xii.]. This Earl of Douglas having died at Otterburn in 1388 without lawful issue, his sister Isabel succeeded to the earldom on the death of her mother, Countess Margaret, in 1390.

It is no concern of the present work to follow the intricate arguments which resulted in the judgment pronounced by the House of Lords upon the Mar Peerage Case in 1885; but seeing that Sir William Fraser has committed himself in the *Douglas Book* to an explanation of the transmission of the earldom which is wholly at variance with that judgment,<sup>1</sup> it seems desirable to recapitulate briefly the circumstances which have brought about the anomaly of two Earls of Mar.

Sir William held that the ancient earldom of Mar, being limited to heirs-male, came to an end with the

<sup>1</sup> It is not suggested that Sir William Fraser ignored the judgment of the House of Lords in 1885. His book was printed before judgment was pronounced.



death of Thomas, 13th Earl of Mar, in 1373-74. Mar, he argued, was the premier earldom of Scotland; Douglas in 1374 was the youngest [creation 1358], yet after 1374 Douglas was always styled Earl of Douglas and Mar, and after his death his widow continued to be Countess of Douglas and Mar, the inference being that Douglas never became 14th Earl of Mar, but was the first under a new creation. Sir William also held that the 2nd Earl of Douglas [xii.] was recognised as Earl of Mar during his mother's life, but of this there is no conclusive evidence, and no instance of his having used the arms of Mar quartered with those of Douglas, as his father did.

Isabel Douglas, Countess of Mar in her own right, married—first, Sir Malcolm Drummond, brother of Queen Annabella, spouse of Robert III.; second, Alexander Stuart, natural son of Alexander, Earl of Buchan, brother of Robert III., to whom she conveyed the earldom of Mar in liferent by charter dated 9th December 1404, duly confirmed by Robert III., although it was in contravention of an engagement made in 1395 with Sir Thomas Erskine, heir of Elyne, daughter and heir-presumptive of Graitney, 7th Earl of Mar [died *c.* 1305]. When Countess Isabel died without issue in 1409, her husband, Alexander, continued life-renter of the earldom, and in 1426 obtained from James I. a charter thereof in favour of himself and his natural son, Sir Thomas Stuart, with remainder to the crown. Sir Thomas died, without issue, before his father, on whose death in 1435 James I. took possession of the lands of the earldom. But Robert Erskine, son of the above-named Elyne, having been made a Lord of Parliament with the title of Lord Erskine before 1429, was retoured heir of Countess Isabel, and used the title of Earl of Mar. James II. succeeded in getting this service reduced by an assize of error in 1457, on the ground of Thomas's bastardy, and the earldom was pronounced to have reverted to the Crown on the death of Alexander, husband of Countess Isabel. It was afterwards bestowed by James II. and James III. upon four of their several

## THE EARLDOM OF MAR

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sons, legitimate and natural, in succession; but John, 6th Lord Erskine, obtained a revision of his rights, with the result that Queen Mary granted him the earldom of Mar by a charter dated 23rd June 1565, declaring that he had been unjustly dispossessed of his rights as heir of Isabel of Mar. He was thereafter recognised as Earl of Mar, and became Regent of Scotland in 1571.

The great-great-great-grandson of this earl having been attainted and forfeited for his part in the Jacobite rising of 1715, his lands of Alloa were purchased by his brother, Lord Grange [a Lord of Session], who entailed them upon Thomas, Lord Erskine, only son of the attainted earl, whom failing, upon the said Thomas's half-sister, Lady Frances Erskine, and her male issue.<sup>1</sup> Lady Frances married in 1740 her cousin, James Erskine, second son of her uncle, Lord Grange, who, after the death of Grange's elder son, Charles, in 1774, and the death of Thomas, Lord Erskine, in 1776, became heir-male of the Erskines. In 1824 John Francis Erskine, son of James and Lady Frances, was restored to the earldom by George IV., and may be designated 7th Earl of Mar under the [assumed] new creation by Queen Mary in 1565. His grandson, 9th Earl of Mar under the same creation, claimed the earldom of Kellie as collateral heir-male of Methven Erskine, 10th Earl of Kellie, and judgment was pronounced in his favour in 1834. He was succeeded as 12th Earl of Kellie and 15th Lord Erskine by his cousin, Walter Coningsby Erskine, 13th Earl of Kellie, who claimed the earldom of Mar under the creation of 1565, but died in 1872 before judgment on his claim could be pronounced by the House of Lords. This claim was renewed by his son who, in virtue of judgment pronounced in 1875, became 11th Earl of Mar. He was father of the present Earl of Mar and Kellie.

So much for one of the existing Earls of Mar. How comes it that there is another? When the Committee

<sup>1</sup> The territorial earldom was lost, and is now principally contained in the estates of the Duke of Fife.

of Privileges decided that Queen Mary's charter of 1565 conveyed to Lord Erskine the lands of the ancient earldom [*comitatus*], it held at the same time that it did not restore to him the dignity of an earl, and that this must have been done by a separate act of Queen Mary, which, not being extant now, may be presumed to have contained a limitation to heirs-male, the original earldom having been to heirs-general. The grandson of the 8th Earl of Mar under the creation of 1565 had assumed the ancient earldom. He was the son of Frances Jemima, daughter of the 8th earl, by her husband William James Goodeve, and asserted that when his first cousin, 9th Earl of Mar and 11th Earl of Kellie, was succeeded in 1866 by *his* first cousin, Walter Coningsby Erskine, as 12th Earl of Kellie, the earldom of Mar reverted to him as heir-general. A Committee of the House of Lords was appointed to consider a bill restoring the ancient earldom of Mar to John Francis Erskine Goodeve-Erskine. After a hearing which lasted five days, the committee passed the preamble of the bill, Lord Redesdale alone dissenting. The bill passed through Parliament and restored the Earl of Mar as successor to Isabel, Countess of Mar; whereby Queen Victoria did, as it was supposed until 1875 Queen Mary had done, namely, restored the heir of the house of Mar to one of the oldest dignities in Europe.

**CHAPTER 4 coming in the JUNE 2023 issue of Dubh Ghlase**

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