

THE  
Erskine-Halcro Genealogy

THE ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF  
HENRY ERSKINE, MINISTER OF CHIRNSIDE,  
HIS WIFE, MARGARET HALCRO OF ORKNEY,  
AND THEIR SONS, EBENEZER AND  
RALPH ERSKINE

BY  
EBENEZER ERSKINE SCOTT

A DESCENDANT

*NEW EDITION, ENLARGED*

*The fortune of the family remains,  
And grandsires' grandsires the long list contains.*  
DRYDEN'S *Virgil*: Georgic iv. 304.

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## THE ERSKINE-HALCRO GENEALOGY



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## PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

By the kind assistance of friends and contributors I have been enabled to rectify several mistakes I had fallen into, and to add some important information unknown to me in 1890 when the first edition was issued.

I shall here refer to these assistants in my elaborations, under the heads of the various Tables :—

*Table I. Balgownie.*—I am indebted for corrections on the early history of this family to the Rev. A. W. Cornelius Hallen, Alloa.

*Table II. Halcro.*—To this I have only added some more precise information from Henry Leask, Esq., of Swartland, Orkney.

*Table III. Stewart of Barscube.*—I have to thank Lady Elizabeth Caroline Cust, wife of Sir Reginald John Cust, and sister of John Stewart Bligh, the present Earl of Darnley, and therefore a lineal descendant of the Aubigny branch of the old Scottish Royal Family, for information which has enabled me to correct the early part of this Table ; and for referring me to Lord Lindsay's address to the Queen in 1853, from which, on page 29 below, I have quoted a paragraph most interesting to any who may take an interest with myself in this work. I am also indebted to Henry Leask, Esq., for the extract from Orkney registers, quoted at page 30 below, proving beyond doubt the family relationship of the Halcros with the Stewarts of Barscube in Renfrewshire.

*Table IV.*—Is substantially the same as in the first edition.

*Table V.*—I am indebted to Mr. William Farries Brown, merchant, Leith, for the particulars of the family of the Rev. Ebenezer Brown of Inverkeithing, and his wife, Erskine Gray, No. (4/1) in the Table, which are now given at

pages 54, 55 below ; and to Mr. John George Bradford of London, descended from the same branch, for the particulars also given under No. (4/1) on page 54 below.

I am also much indebted to William Crawford, Esq., of the Queen's Printing Office, Edinburgh, for a careful revisal of the whole, and for information and suggestions of which I have availed myself.

E. ERSKINE SCOTT.

LONDON, *30th November* 1894.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST EDITION

It seems reasonable, and is no doubt expected of me, that in introducing this little pamphlet to my subscribers I should give them some short account of the subjects of my genealogical studies. I therefore proceed to do so, confining my statement to the narrowest limits consistent with giving the leading dates to each person's history, and enlarging only somewhat upon those erroneous statements which have been promulgated both about the Halcros and the Erskines, and which for the most part, I believe, I have been able to substitute by the real facts of each case.

The Rev. Henry Erskine, M.A., was born at Dryburgh in Berwickshire, the 22nd August 1624.

He was the eldest child of the second marriage of his father, Ralph Erskine, Esq., of Shielfield, Dryburgh; and his mother's name was Janet Wilson. In his domestic record he enters her death as occurring on 13th September 1645. 'That day the battle of Philiphaugh was fought. His father had died previously on 13th February 1645.

Henry was the grandson of Alexander Erskine, the first Erskine of Shielfield, who, being a brother of the Laird of Balgownie, was, according to the original ms. family history of the Halyburtons (which belonged to Sir Walter Scott, and is now in the library at Abbotsford, and is fully taken advantage of in the notes to Table I. below), married to Elizabeth Halyburton, heiress of Shielfield, and thus became Laird thereof.

The Laird of Balgownie was of the old Erskine of Mar race, and thus it came that Erskine of Shielfield was descended from that old family.

By a curious mistake in some early notice of the family, it must have been stated that Henry Erskine was one of the younger children of the family of thirty-three children of Ralph Erskine of Shielfield; and this statement, for which I have been unable to find any authority, appears to have been

blindly accepted as true in all subsequent notices, including the *Biography of Henry Erskine*, by Donald Fraser, D.D., of Keninoway.

The fact is, we have it in Henry Erskine's own writing, that his father's family consisted of twelve, of whom seven were born between 26th August 1589 and 10th May 1600, having been, doubtless, children of a first marriage,<sup>1</sup> and the remaining five between 22nd August 1624 and 16th May 1640, the latter having, no doubt, been the children of Janet Wilson.

Another error has crept, possibly by same means, into most of the accounts of the family. It is stated that the Shielfield Erskines were descended from David Erskine, Commendator of Dryburgh, who was a natural son of Robert, Master of Erskine, son of the fourth Lord Erskine, who was killed at the battle of Pinkie in 1547, during his father's lifetime, and left no legitimate issue. An examination of the facts, as arranged in the subjoined Table I., will show that it is inconsistent with any degree of probability that this David Erskine could have been the father of Alexander Erskine, the first Erskine of Shielfield. This mistake has similarly been blindly copied and repeated without due inquiry by subsequent writers, including Sir Robert Douglas, in his *Peerage of Scotland*, and Dr. Donald Fraser.

In due time young Henry Erskine attended the University of Edinburgh, where he received the degree of M.A., and was thereafter licensed to preach as a clergyman of the Church of Scotland, established in 1560. This ordination probably would be about 1646, when he was twenty-two years of age.

At this time Charles I., King of England and Scotland, with his advisers, was engaged in the vain attempt to thrust the Episcopalian form of church government and the English liturgy by force on the Scottish people; and it appears from Mr. Erskine's family record that he had felt it necessary to remove to England, where he preached in various places, including Wooler and Cornhill in Northumberland, until 1662, when Charles II.'s 'Act of Uniformity' passed, and when he was obliged to leave Cornhill and return

<sup>1</sup> The name of the first wife was Isabella Cairncross. See R.M.S., No. 1177, 21st May 1601.

among his kindred at Dryburgh, where his brother James was then Laird of Shielfield.

Mr. Erskine must have married before 1653, for he records the date of birth of his eldest child on 28th June 1653. This was Jean, afterwards wife of Mr. George Balderston, surgeon, Edinburgh, who has descendants still living there. The third child he had was Philip, born 27th October 1657, who afterwards became rector of Knaresdale in Northumberland.

This first Mrs. Erskine, whose name by a singular chance has not come down to us, died at Dryburgh, 9th March 1670, and was buried there on 12th March.

The years from Mr. Erskine's childhood to 1689 were troubled years for Scotland, being almost one continued persecution of Presbyterians on the part of the reigning monarchs, with the view of compelling the uniform acceptance in Scotland of Episcopacy; and during the latter part of these, Mr. Erskine and his wife and growing family suffered many straits, as is recorded by his biographers.

It may be well to note here that these years include the subscription of the Solemn League and Covenant in 1638; the battle of Philiphaugh in 1645, when the Presbyterians defeated the Royalists under Montrose; the murder of Archbishop Sharpe in 1679; the defeat of Claverhouse at Drumclog, and the defeat of the Presbyterians at Bothwell Bridge, in that year.

In the year 1689, King William III. and Queen Mary ascended the throne of Great Britain, and this event was speedily followed, on 14th March, by the happy re-establishment of the Presbyterian form of church government in Scotland.

Mr. Erskine did not during these years escape from persecution himself, but was repeatedly in prison and fined, and even banished, for his opinions. Early in 1689 he received a call from the parish of Chirnside in Berwickshire, which he accepted, and where he continued to labour as their clergyman until his death on 10th August 1696. He was buried at Chirnside, and on his gravestone there is still the inscription that he 'was eminently distinguished by incorruptible integrity in private life, undaunted zeal in the

service of his Heavenly Master, and steady attachment to the religious principles of the Church of Scotland.'

Having become a widower in 1670, after four years Mr. Erskine notes as follows in his family record : 'I was married upon Margaret Halcro, upon September 1st, about six o'clock in the afternoon, by Mr. John Veitch, Minister of Westruther, *in anno* 1674, in the Abbey of Dryburgh.'

Of this second marriage the fourth child was Ebenezer, afterwards the celebrated minister of Stirling, born at Dryburgh, 22nd June 1680; and the sixth child was Ralph, afterwards the celebrated minister of Dunfermline, born at Monilaws, Cumberland, the 15th March 1685.

Mr. Erskine's register of the first of these events is as follows : 'Ebenezer was born June 22nd, being Tuesday, at — o'clock in the morning, and was baptized by Mr. Gabriel Semple, July 24th, being Saturday, in my dwelling-house in Dryburgh, 1680, at which time John Erskine, son to my nephew Shielfield, born upon June 29th, was baptized at Nenthorn, by Mr. James Fletcher.'

About Margaret Halcro, Henry Erskine's second wife, and her ancestry and connections, many misrepresentations have been repeated from mouth to mouth and from pen to pen; and I think it best at once to give, as shortly as I can, what I now firmly believe to be the truth of the matter.

She was born in the island of Weir, Orkney, about the year 1647, her father having been Hugh Halcro in the island of Weir, a lineal descendant of the ancient and honourable family of Halcro in the Orkneys, and from the Aikeris branch of the same, and her paternal grandmother having been Helen Erskine, of the family of Erskine of Dun in Forfarshire, who was banished from Scotland under the sad circumstances narrated and referred to in Table IV. below, and the notes to the same; while her mother was Margaret Stewart, daughter of Bernard Stewart, brother of the Laird of Barscube in Renfrewshire, descended of the Lennox Darnley Stewarts there.

The Erskines of Dun having been intimate connections of the Erskines of Mar, it is, with the knowledge we now possess, not surprising to find that Margaret Halcro, Helen Erskine's grandchild, in the year 1666 left the Orkneys with the certificate of which a copy is given under Table II.,

and went to visit her grandmother's relatives at Dryburgh ; indeed, in all the circumstances there is much of the pathetic element in this conjunction of relatives who had lived apart so long. She must have met Henry Erskine at Dryburgh, and married him on 1st September 1674, as above narrated.

Here it may be well to note briefly a few of the misstatements in regard to Margaret Halcro. It was repeatedly stated, both in a genealogical table 'collected by Robert Nicholson,' Sheriff-Substitute of Orkney, which in my youth was current among the descendants of those Erskines, and in other works, that she was descended from Robert Stewart, Earl of Orkney, whose daughter, Lady Barbara Stewart, is said to have married Henry Halcro of Halcro, himself descended from Halcro, Prince of Denmark.

The real facts are that Robert Stewart, Earl of Orkney, appears to have had a natural daughter, Barbara Stewart, whom he married to Henry Halcro of Halcro, and gave land in Orkney with her as 'tocher guid'; that the legend about Lady Barbara Stewart arose from confounding her with Lady Barbara Stewart, daughter of Lord Avondale of the time ; and that, however ancient and honourable the house of Halcro was, there has not been any authentic record of a Prince Halcro of Denmark, whose existence seems to be as mythical as that of another Prince of Denmark, 'Hamlet the Dane,' of whom we know. Last of all, Margaret Halcro, being of the Aikeris branch, had no tinge in her of the blood of the Earl of Orkney, or of his natural daughter, Mrs. Harry Halcro of Halcro.

I have fully noticed in the notes to Table II. the curious mistake made in framing Margaret Halcro's certificate of 1666, in making her descend from Stewart of Barscube in Galloway, instead of Stewart of Barscube in Renfrewshire. It is satisfactory to think that if this mistake had not been made we should have lost the clew which enables us clearly to prove that she came *legitimately* from the fully recognised Barscube branch of the original Royal Stewart Family of Scotland ; this discovery well compensates for the necessary giving up of the descent from King James v.'s natural son Robert.

To the account given in Table V. and notes of the birth and connections

and descendants of Ebenezer Erskine and his brother Ralph Erskine, sons of Henry Erskine and Margaret Halcro, it seems unnecessary to add here, as my duty does not include the writing of biography. But I may just call to mind that posterity has fully recognised the manly, conscientious, and consistent conduct of these brothers in seceding from the Established Church of Scotland at the time and in the circumstances in which they felt the urgent necessity of satisfying their consciences by going apart; and I have always treasured the saying of the Lord President of the Court of Session in Edinburgh, about the time of the occurrence of the Free Church Secession, when, referring to the action of the Original Seceders, he spoke of 'that great and good man, Ebenezer Erskine.' The circumstance is quite fresh in my memory, but I have been unable to find a record of the saying. I should be very grateful to any one who would supply me with this information.

As some little addition to what I have said above, I may mention one or two relics of the past which are still treasured amongst us. Professor Crum Brown, of Edinburgh University, descended from Ebenezer Erskine's eldest daughter, Jean Turpie, still holds Margaret Halcro's marriage-ring (a plain gold ring with a scutcheon on which the letters M. H. are engraved), and the original family register kept by Henry Erskine, mostly in his own handwriting, of which I have been favoured with a facsimile copy, and have plentifully availed myself of the information it affords. I myself am in possession, as an heirloom, of the coral and bells which (the family tradition says) the Countess of Mar,<sup>1</sup> then resident with her husband at Dryburgh, presented to Margaret Halcro for her eldest son Ebenezer Erskine at his christening on 24th July 1680, as has been narrated; and there is in my own family a christening cap which was presented by the Countess of Buchan to my mother, in 1816, for her child to wear at his baptism. It has been worn since by all my children at their baptisms.

Margaret Halcro, mother, and Alison Turpie, wife, of Ebenezer Erskine, were at their deaths both buried at the little burying-ground of Scotlandwell,

<sup>1</sup> This lady would be Mary, daughter of George, second Earl of Panmure, and wife of Charles, tenth Earl of Mar, whose father, the ninth earl, married Lady Mary Scott, eldest daughter of Walter, first Earl of Buchan.



close to the eastern shore of Loch Leven, in Kinross-shire, and in the parish of Portmoak. The stones over their graves bore curious and appropriate inscriptions, particulars of which are given at full length by Dr. Donald Fraser in his *Biography of Ebenezer Erskine*; but some years ago they had fallen much into decay and become undecipherable. This was effectually remedied by the late Walter Crum, Esq., of Thornliebank (Table V.), who with pious care renewed the whole. I give this account of the matter in the words of the late Rev. Henry Erskine Fraser, of Edinburgh, in a letter to an esteemed correspondent, of date 26th February 1890 :—

‘Perhaps Mr. Scott does not know of the monument erected to Margaret Halcro by the late Walter Crum of Thornliebank, one of her descendants, at her grave on what was the old burying-ground of Scotlandwell, on the banks of Loch Leven. The original flat stone over her grave had gone all to pieces; but the greater part of the Latin inscription upon it, said to have been composed by her son Ralph, had been in 1820 copied by my uncle Dr. Donald Fraser, and Mr. Crum had this inscription, with the blanks filled up conjecturally by the late Dr. Mackenzie of Glasgow High School, transferred to the handsome new monument which was put up about 1862. I have a copy of the completed inscription, which I saw upon it when I visited the spot some years ago.’

A copy of the inscription is given in an Appendix to Dr. Fraser’s *Life of Ebenezer Erskine*, page 517.

I may add that the original gravestone and inscription placed over the remains of Henry Erskine in Chirnside Churchyard, at the time of his decease, having become decayed, several of the parishioners in the year 1825 caused to be erected, closely adjoining the original stone, a handsome monumental pillar with appropriate inscription; and now in 1890 I am informed by a correspondent both are in need of renovation.

It only remains for me to acknowledge with hearty thanks the great assistance I have received in the course of my labours from many valued correspondents, among whom I must mention :—

*Henry Leask, Esq.*, of Swartland, Birsay. To him I owe an invaluable Table of the Halcro family, constructed from his own investigations, without

which all my efforts to trace the family might have been ineffectual. As to the opportunities which Mr. Leask had of acquiring the necessary information, I quote his own words as follows :—

‘The county records of the Sheriff and Commissary Courts (of Orkney), a good portion of which I had through my hands. Two hundred and eighty years ago, and some time later, it was the fashion when any transaction was recorded, even the obligation to deliver a certain quantity of malt or butter, as well as a marriage contract, for the friends of the parties—it may be brothers, or sons, or fathers, or others—to sign as witnesses—and *the relationship was expressed*—not as now, the lawyers’ clerks or any chance witness. In this way the general record affords a good deal of genealogical information.’

I may just say that Mr. Leask’s information has been corroborated in every case in which I had the opportunity, and never found to be incorrect, and, I feel satisfied, is implicitly reliable.

*Sir Nicholas Howard Elphinstone, Baronet*, who was engaged in extensive investigations among the records having reference to his own ancestry, and with great kindness furnished me with such extracts as he had obtained regarding the early history of the Halcros, which, as it happened, were of great assistance to me in tabulating the mutual connections of and rivalry between the principal family of Halcro of that ilk and the Aikeris branch from which we descend.

My nephew (who is an official in the Edinburgh Register House), and a very old acquaintance, who, learning the investigation I was engaged in, most kindly employed a professional searcher to obtain for me extracts from the old records in Edinburgh, have both been of important service to me. I owe to the latter the information by which alone I was enabled to identify the Helen Erskine of the Drum family with the grandmother of Margaret Halcro.

In conclusion, I have to say that my labours on this genealogy, which have extended over ten or twelve years, have put me in possession of much more information than I found it wise to burden this pamphlet with, but that what I have given has been faithfully given by me as correct, referring wherever I could to my authorities. In a work of this kind I cannot flatter

myself there are no mistakes ; but if there be, I shall be thankful to any one who will kindly point out such.

I originally intended to confine this pamphlet to the Tables I. to IV. inclusive, in terms of the circular notice which I distributed, and accordingly those Tables and Notes have been in type for many months ; but in the course of finishing these, and of the correspondence with descendants which arose, I found that the work would not be considered complete without bringing down the family history to the present time. Hence has arisen the preparation of the Table V. in two parts, which has been a tedious and laborious task, involving the acquisition from descendants of much information which could not be obtained in any other way.

E. ERSKINE SCOTT.

*7th August 1890.*



# LIST OF SOME OF THE PRINTED BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS

WHICH HAVE BEEN CONSULTED IN THE COMPILATION OF THESE TABLES

*And of Abbreviation Marks for reference to each used in the Notes.*

Extracts from Acts and Deeds registered at Edinburgh.	A.&D.
Beveridge (David). Culross and Tulliallan : Edinburgh 1885.	B.C.T.
Manuscript Family Register by the Rev. Henry Erskine of Chirnside, in possession of Professor Crum Brown, Edinburgh.	B.M.S.
Crawfurd (George). Genealogical History of the Family of Stewart, with a Description of the Shire of Renfrew : Edinburgh 1710.	C.H.S.
Douglas (Sir Robert). Peerage of Scotland, second edition : 1813.	D.P.S.
Fraser (Rev. Dr. Donald). Life of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine of Stirling, father of the Secession Church : Edinburgh (William Oliphant) 1831.	F.L.E.
Fraser (Dr. D). Life of the Rev. Ralph Erskine of Dunfermline : Edinburgh (Oliphant) 1834.	F.L.R.
Genealogical Table of the Aikeris Branch of the Family of Halcro, sent me by Mr. Leask, Orkney.	G.T.L.
Reports of the Historical Manuscripts Commission.	H.M.C.
Original Family Record of the Haliburton Family, now in the library at Abbotsford.	H.M.S.
Inquisitionum ad Capellam Regis Retornatorum Abbreviatio: Edinburgh 1816.	I.A.C.
Liber Sancte Marie de Dryburgh (Bannatyne Club) : Edinburgh 1847.	L.M.D.
Extracts from Orkney Registers at the General Register House, Edinburgh, got for me by Colin James Stalker, Esq.	O.R.
Extracts from Orkney Testaments made for me.	O.T.
Pitcairn (Robert). Criminal Trials in Scotland : Edinburgh 1833.	P.C.T.
Extracts from Particular Register of Sasines for Orkney, 1617-39, taken for me on the order of Robert Miln, Esq.	P.R.S.
Peterkin (Alexander). Rentals of the Earldom and Bishoprick of Orkney : Edinburgh 1820.	P.R.O.
Registers of the Privy Council of Scotland, in course of publication at Edinburgh.	R.P.C.
Registrum Magni Sigilli Scotiæ, in course of publication at Edinburgh.	R.M.S.
Spalding Club Miscellany, vol. iv. : Aberdeen 1849.	S.P.M.
Stewart (Duncan). Historical Account of the Family of Stewart : Edinburgh 1739. (A copy in the Grenville Library, British Museum.)	D.S.H.



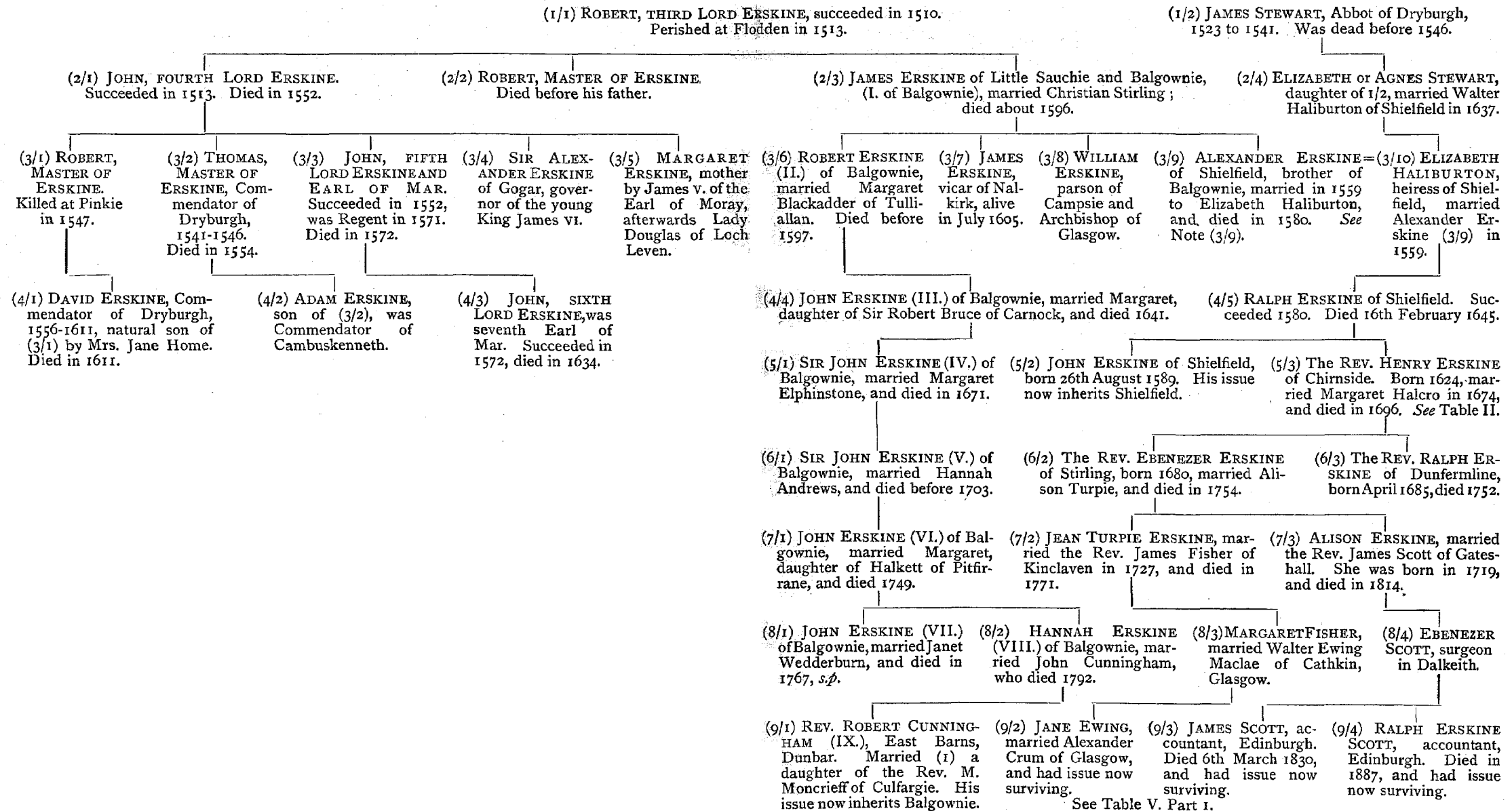
TABLE I.  
ERSKINE OF BALGOWNIE  
PERTHSHIRE  
AND  
ERSKINE OF SHIELFIELD  
ROXBURGHSHIRE





TABLE I.

## ERSKINE OF BALGOWNIE AND ERSKINE OF SHIELFIELD, DRYBURGH.

*Framed to illustrate the connection of these Families with the Rev. Henry Erskine and his sons.*



## NOTES TO TABLE I

### ERSKINES OF BALGOWNIE AND SHIELFIELD

GENERAL NOTE.—The authorities on which this Table has been constructed are principally as follows:—

Sir Walter Scott, Baronet, was descended from an ancient Border family—the Haliburtons of New Mains, near Dryburgh, representatives of the Haliburtons, Barons of Mertoun—and as such became possessed of a family register which had been kept from about the year 1650, and is in the holograph writing of successive members of the family during that time.

This register was published anonymously by Sir Walter in the year 1820—in quarto form—under the title *Annals of the Haliburtons*.

There is a copy of this publication in the Grenville Library of the British Museum, which copy had been presented to the late Mr. Grenville by Sir Walter; and there is bound with it the original autograph note from Sir Walter with the gift, dated Abbotsford, 6th May 1820.

From this copy I have taken the following extracts:—

‘Walter Haliburton was married to Elizabeth Stewart, daughter of Abbot James Stewart, in the year 1537, and had by her one daughter named Elizabeth.’

‘Thomas (Haliburton), finding that his brother Walter had no more children, and that his brother’s inheritance would thereby fall into strangers, if not timely prevented, took opportunity to represent this to his brother; upon which there was a meeting of friends, where it was resolved that Walter’s daughter should be married by their advice—that Thomas should pay her tocher good, which at that time was no doubt condescended on—and that Thomas should succeed him in his lands and estate; whereupon Thomas

took instruments and required his brother's performance, April 4, An. 1559, at Driburgh.'

'After this, Elizabeth Haliburton was taken away by the Abbot and married at Stirling to Alexander Erskine, a brother, as 'tis said, of Balgownie, at that time a servant to the said Abbot.

'Alexander Erskine got by this marriage with Elizabeth, daughter to Walter Haliburton of Shielfield, all and haill the lands of Nether Shielfield, as appears by a precept by David, Commendator of Dryburgh, for infesting the foresaid Alexander in these lands, proceeding upon a Charter of Resignation by the said Walter, to whom these lands did appertain, dated 27th September 1559.'

Unfortunately, Sir Walter Scott, in commenting on the foregoing narrative, not only in the *Annals* themselves, but also in his Introduction to the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, published in 1821, concluded that the Abbot who took away Elizabeth Haliburton and married her to Alexander Erskine was Abbot James Stewart, the grandfather of the bride, which seems manifestly now to have been an erroneous assumption, as will be explained below.

The original manuscript of the Haliburton family records, forming the subject of Sir Walter Scott's *Annals of the Haliburtons*, is, it is believed, from the Catalogue published by the Maitland Club in 1838, p. 13, still in the library at Abbotsford.

The *Liber Sancte Marie de Dryburgh*, a publication of the Bannatyne Club, Edinburgh, was issued in the year 1847.

It contains an extensive account of all histories and documents referring to the Abbey of Dryburgh which were available to the editor, and among others it embodies the whole of the narrative above quoted from the *Annals of the Haliburtons*, and unfortunately adopts Sir Walter Scott's interpretation as to the Abbot, grandfather of Elizabeth Haliburton, already explained.

At page 287 of this book there is a copy of a grant by Thomas Erskine, Commendator of Dryburgh, dated 18th November 1546. In this, reference is made to a dispute in which Abbot James Stewart had before that time

been mixed up, and he is there referred to as follows: *Venerabilem patrem Jacobum Stewart tunc in humanis agentem.*

Considering the interpretation of the Haliburton manuscript which had been made by Sir Walter Scott and adopted by the editor of the *Liber*, I clung in the first place to the belief that the above Latin words signified nothing more than that Abbot James had at 1546 retired from the management of the temporalities of the Abbacy, but was still alive.

Full consideration, however, and a reference to authorities, have satisfied me that the Latin words quoted bear no other interpretation than that Abbot James in 1547 had been removed from all human affairs—or, in other words, had been dead at the date of the grant by Thomas.

Now, David Erskine became Commendator in the year 1556, and continued in that office until 1611: see *L.M.D.* p. 445. I find it not unusual in the writings of the period to use the term 'Abbot' indiscriminately for 'Commendator'; and altogether I am driven to the conclusion that it was Commendator David, described as the Abbot, who took away Elizabeth Haliburton and married her at Glasgow to Alexander Erskine, who was not only his servant or factor at Dryburgh, but a near relative, as the foregoing Table I. clearly shows.

I now come to consider the statement originally made by Sir Robert Douglas in his *Peerage of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 211, that David Erskine, Commendator of Dryburgh, natural son of Robert, Master of Erskine, who perished on the field of Pinkie in 1547, was ancestor of the Erskines of Shielfield.

This David Erskine was appointed Commendator, as above quoted, in 1556, at which time it is necessary to believe that he was at least twenty-one years of age, or of full age, and that he was therefore born in or before the year 1535. At 1559, when the marriage took place of Elizabeth Haliburton and Alexander Erskine, David must therefore have been at least twenty-four years of age. This would make him seventy-six when he died in 1611.

Alexander Erskine, 'brother as 'tis said of Balgownie,' was, as is quoted below, a witness to deeds quoted in the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland in the years 1541 and 1556. On the former of those dates he must have

been twenty-one years of age, making his year of birth 1520 or before. At the date of his marriage, therefore, in 1559, he could not have been *less* than thirty-nine years of age.

On these data it appears that in all probability David Erskine was not born until Alexander was fifteen years of age—the difference may have been less if David's birth, as inferred, took place some years earlier than 1535; but on the whole it is manifest that David was the younger of the two, and that the statement of Sir Robert Douglas is in the highest degree improbable.

Unfortunately, this mistake of Sir Robert's has been repeated by other writers—for instance, the late Sir David Erskine of Dryburgh Abbey, in his *Annals and Antiquities of Dryburgh*—and hitherto has remained uncontradicted for want of sufficient information or interest in the subject.

I have attached more importance than perhaps it calls for to this erroneous statement on the part of Sir Robert Douglas—partly because, in my researches at the Register House, Edinburgh, some years ago, I was informed through a friend by the late Mr. Burnett, Lyon King, that he had seen evidence of the illegitimate descent of the Shielfield Erskines. I have no doubt this arose from Mr. Burnett having noted either the remarks of Sir Robert Douglas or some repetition of them. On the other hand, it occurs to me as probable that the abduction of the heiress of Shielfield in 1559 by David Erskine the Commendator, and his marrying her to his relative Alexander Erskine, may have assisted in giving birth to the report that Alexander was his son.

Professor Crum Brown of Edinburgh University, a descendant of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine, has favoured me with a copy in facsimile of an original memorandum in his possession, being a holograph family record by the Rev. Henry Erskine, with notes thereon, in the handwriting of his descendant, the Rev. Dr. John Brown, father of Mr. Crum Brown. The following is a quotation from these notes :—‘The first Erskine laird of Balgonie was James Erskine, brother-german to John, Lord Erskine, and had Christian Stirling to wife. He granted a charter of the lands of Balgonie to his eldest son Robert, and to Margaret Blackadder, his wife. This (Robert) seems the laird referred

to whose brother Alexander was the first laird of Shielfield ; in this case, he (Alexander) appears to have been the nephew of John, Lord Erskine, and probably the grandson of another Lord Erskine.' 'Information obtained for me by my friend Alexander Gib Ellis, W.S., from the Balgony Charters.' This record has been of essential service to me in fixing the dates of birth and decease of several of the Erskine family in these Tables.

While the Erskines of Shielfield thus trace their descent from Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Haliburton, Sir Walter Scott traced his descent from Thomas Haliburton, the brother of the same Walter, through Barbara Haliburton, sister of Robert Haliburton of New Mains, the last male of the family, who died in 1780. Barbara married Robert Scott in Sandyknowe, and became Sir Walter Scott's grandmother (see *Memorial of the Haliburtons*, already quoted). The place of burial of the Haliburtons and of their descendant Sir Walter Scott is, as might be expected, in the same aisle at Dryburgh Abbey as that of the Erskines of Shielfield.

The armorial bearings of the Erskines of Balgownie, according to Burke (General Armory), are Quarterly 1 and 4 *Azure*, a Bend betwixt 6 Cross Crosslets fitché *Or* for Mar, and 2 and 3 *Argent*, a Pale within a Bordure *Sable* for Erskine ; and those of Erskine of Shielfield or Sheefield, according to the same authority, are *Argent*, on a Pale *Sable*, a Cross Crosslet fitché *Or*, a Bordure *Azure*.

The latter corresponds strictly, according to the rules of heraldry (as laid down in Boutell's *Heraldry*, edition of 1889, pages 185 and 186), with the Erskine half of the arms of Balgownie—the cadency, or difference between the two families being marked by a change of the tincture of the Bordure from *Sable* in Balgownie, to *Azure* in Shielfield ; the addition of the Cross Crosslet *Or* to the Pale in Shielfield's arms having probably been made as a memento of the Cross Crosslets in the original Mar shield, and as a further mark of cadency.

The arms of Balgownie and Shielfield are the same as above in Alexander Nisbet's *Heraldry*, published at Edinburgh in 1722. It is there also distinctly stated that John Erskine of Shielfield was descended of the family of Erskine of Balgownie. I have ascertained from the Register of Arms at the

General Register House, Edinburgh, through the courtesy of the late Lyon King-at-Arms, that the arms of Balgownie were registered there about the year 1680, and those of Shielfield as a branch of Balgownie about 1700.

These heraldic facts would not, probably, be sufficient in themselves to establish the connection of the Shielfield family with that of Balgownie; but when taken in connection with all other facts established, they form a powerful factor in the proof of the connection between the two families.

It may be worth while to add that in Nisbet's *Heraldry*, and elsewhere, the crest of the Mar family is 'A Right Hand proper holding a dagger (skeen) in Pale *Argent* hilted and pommelled *Or*, motto "*Je pense plus*"; while the crest of the Shielfield family is a Dexter Arm from the elbow proper, a Cross Crosslet *Or* pointed downwards, and the motto '*Think Well*'—showing the two families to be nearly connected, so far as heraldry can show.

On 31st March 1541, Alexander Erskine (3/9) was witness to a charter—see *R.M.S.*, No. 2321—granted by his uncle, John, fourth Lord Erskine. His cousin Thomas Erskine, then Commendator of Dryburgh, was a witness to same deed; and on 29th January 1557, Alexander Erskine was witness to a charter granted by his cousin John, fifth Lord Erskine, at Stirling,—see *R.M.S.*, No. 1149.

Balgony, or Balgownie, is in Perthshire, in the immediate neighbourhood of Culross on the Forth.

The late Dr. Alexander Laing of Newburgh allowed me to take a copy of a Genealogical Table of the Balgownie Erskines, in his possession, to which I am indebted for several of the names and dates in the Table.

Nos. 3/9, 3/10, 4/5, 5/2.—The relationship among these four persons and of Walter Haliburton, formerly of Shielfield, father of Elizabeth, No. 3/10, is at once clearly established by an entry, of date 14th March 1585, in *R.M.S.*, being No. 796 therein.

In the *Liber Sancte Marie de Dryburgh*, at page 317, there is a deed copied from an original, which Mr. Spottiswood says he saw in the possession of Lord Polwarth, which deed bears that, of date '10 June 1600, Ralph Erskine in Dryburgh was son of the late Alexander Erskine in Dryburgh, and had a son John Erskine, his apparent heir, then alive.'



In the first edition, published in 1890, I had been induced to suggest that Alexander Erskine, parson of Monybreck, whose name is entered by Sir Robert Douglas in his *Peerage* as that of a brother of the fourth Lord Erskine, had been in reality the first laird of Shielfield. I am now satisfied that my suggestion was in error, and that the Alexander Erskine who married the heiress of Shielfield was in reality of the next generation, and a nephew instead of a brother of the said Lord.

The lineal descendants of this Alexander Erskine and his wife Elizabeth Haliburton have continued until the present time to possess the estate of Shielfield. It is now in possession of Charles Erskine, Esquire of Shielfield.

(7/3.)—The Rev. James Scott was the second minister of the congregation at Gateshall, or Gateshaw-brae, about a mile south of Morebattle. The locality is described as a romantic spot, enclosed on the east and west by fine old trees and on the south by 'The Brae'; on the north it opens by a gentle ascent to Morebattle Hill. The first minister, Mr. Hunter, was appointed in 1739, but he died a few months after ordination. Mr. Scott was ordained in 1742. The congregation worshipped under Mr. Scott on Gateshaw Brae in the open air, summer and winter, from 1739 till 1749-50, at which date a site was obtained about two hundred yards from 'The Brae,' and there a manse and church were erected, where Mr. Scott preached until his death in 1773. The church and manse were in 1780 removed and re-erected at Morebattle, where the old church was pulled down in 1866, and a new church now stands, 'an ornament to the village.'

Mr Scott was proprietor of a small estate in the parish of Ancrum, called Ashieburn, which he inherited from his father and grandfather, and which passed from him to his eldest son, William Scott of Ashieburn. Mr. Scott was interred in Ancrum churchyard. This note has been prepared by me principally from information kindly given by the Rev. Mungo Giffen, retired minister of the congregation at Morebattle, and by my cousin, Ebenezer Erskine Scott,<sup>1</sup> Queen Street, Edinburgh, who informs me that he finds there was a William Scott, proprietor of the small estate of

<sup>1</sup> Son of my late uncle, Ralph Erskine Scott.

Clarlaw, near Hawick, about the year 1620, who, he believes, was ancestor of the Rev. James Scott. I have also obtained much information on the subject from a book entitled *Two Centuries of Border Church Life*, recently published by Messrs. Rutherford, booksellers, Kelso, the author being the late Mr. James Tait, at one time editor of the *Kelso Chronicle*.

(9/2).—Jane Ewing married Alexander Crum, merchant, Glasgow, and was the mother of Margaret Fisher Crum, who again married the Rev. John Brown, D.D., father of Professor Crum Brown.

(9/3).—James Scott married Mary Scott, daughter of Dr. William Scott of Hawick. Their eldest child, a son, is the compiler of these genealogical studies.

Much authentic information as to the family of Erskine of Balgownie, and their connections, is afforded by Mr. David Beveridge in his book, *Culross and Tulliallan*, published by Blackwoods, Edinburgh, in 1885.

TABLE II.  
HALCRO OF HALCRO  
IN ORKNEY

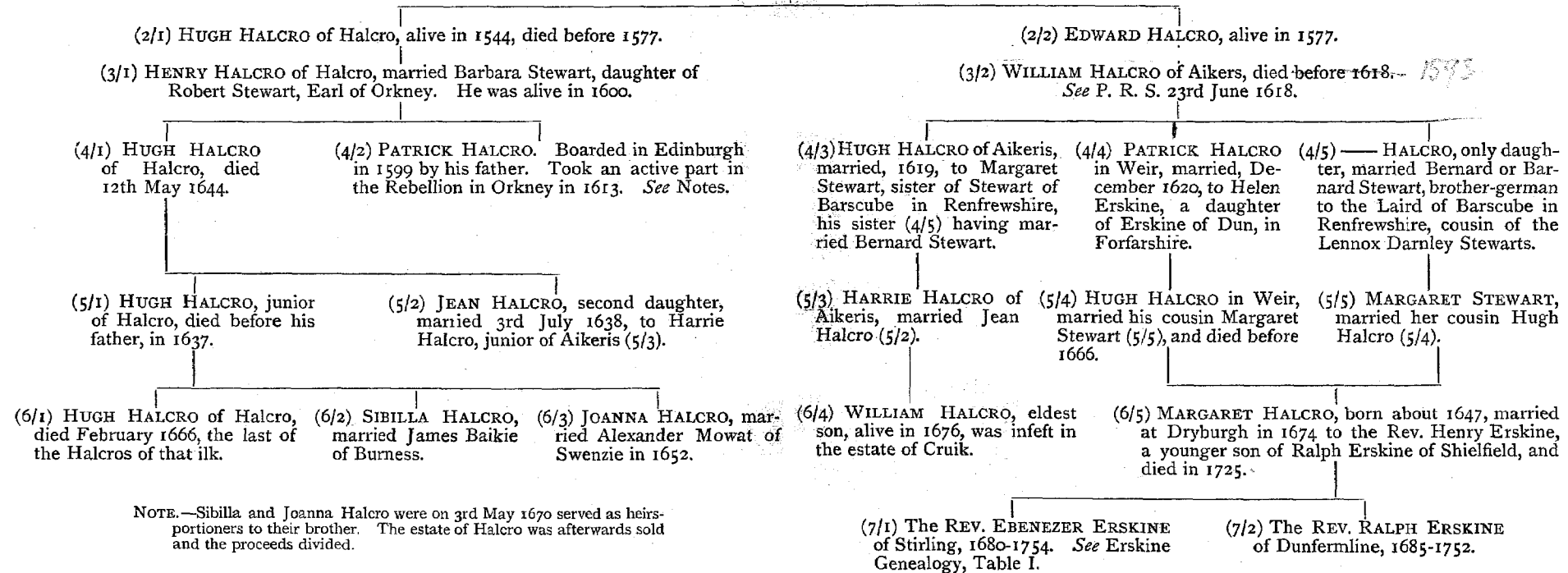


## TABLE II.

### HALCRO OF HALCRO, ORKNEY.

*Framed to illustrate the ancestry of Margaret Halcro, a native of Orkney, who in 1674 married the Rev. Henry Erskine of Chirnside, a younger son of Ralph Erskine of Shielfield, and became mother of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine, one of the Founders of the Secession Church in Scotland, and of his brother the Rev. Ralph Erskine.*

(1/1) MALCOM HALCRO, in Orkney, father of Hugh and Edward Halcro. The first designates in the deed entailing the estate of Halcro executed by the Rev. Hugh Halcro and Malcom Halcro, Canon and Provost of the Cathedral Church of Orkney, in 1544, and registered at the Great Seal Office, 30th April 1545.





## NOTES TO TABLE II

### HALCRO GENEALOGY

GENERAL NOTE.—In No. 15620 of the Additional Manuscripts, in the British Museum, written apparently during the reign of James VI. by one J. F. von Bessen, being a genealogical account of the noble families of Stewart in Scotland, the following notices of the family of Halcro occur:—At pages 111, 112, etc., the writer, in referring to James III. of Scotland, who married, in July 1469, Margaret, daughter of Christian I., king of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, says: ‘At this time also lived Hermon *Pirence*, who was the King of Denmark’s Chamberlain, who is progenitor of the ancient name of Pirence—or Prince. At this time also lived some gentlemen in the islands of Orkney and Shetland who are descended of the Norroway Blood, namely Halcrow of that ilk, who was lineally descended of a natural son of Swere, king of Norway.’

The coupling of the name of Pirence thus with that of Halcro makes it probable that the Halcros came from Denmark about the time of the marriage of the king’s daughter Margaret, with whom came the pledging of the islands of Orkney and Shetland for payment of her dowry to King James III.; but the reference to King Swere, who lived centuries before that time, appears nothing more than a mere tradition.

As to the coming of the Halcros to Orkney, it may be remarked that in Peterkin’s *Rentals of Orkney for 1497-1503* the name of Halcro does not once occur, and the first authentic notice I have found of the family is a *quasi* deed of entail of date January 1544, registered at the Great Seal Office, 30th April 1545, at which time we find the two ecclesiastical grantors of that deed in possession of the estate and chapel of Halcro, and a considerable connection of Halcros already established, apparently all made

designates in the deed with the view of perpetuating the family as Halcros of Halcro.

(1/1).—The Christian name of this gentleman is not given in the deed of entail by his sons ; but I find in volume xxiv. of the Acts and Decrees, preserved at the Register House, Edinburgh, that record is made of an action, of date 31st July, 1562, by one David Marshall, 'against Hew Halcro of that ilk, executor and principal intromittor with the goods and chattels of the umquhile *Malcom Halcro*.'

(2/1) and (2/2).—These gentlemen are distinctly mentioned in the deed as brothers-german.

(3/1).—On the decease of Hugh (2/1), this Henry was entitled to succeed ; but his uncle Edward (2/2), being the second designate in the deed (Henry being a youngster), made an attempt to seize the estate of Halcro ; and I find in the General Register of Acts and Decrees at Edinburgh, of date 4th Dec. 1577, the following entry : 'Decreet at the instance of Henry Halcro of that ilk, only son and heir of the deceased Hew Halcro, and Mr. Magnus Halcro, his curator, for his interest, against Edward Halcro, brother of the said late Hew, for wrongous seizure of the said Henry's place of Halcro, and the whole Charters and Writs of the land of Halcro and Holland, etc.'

'The Lords ordained the said Edward Halcro to deliver up everything to the said Henry and his curator.'

This Henry or Harry Halcro of Halcro no doubt married Barbara, daughter of Lord Robert Stewart, Earl of Orkney, natural son of King James v., as is shown by an entry in Peterkin's *Rentals of Orkney*, No. ii., page 93, being the rentals for 1603. Here, after designating certain lands in South Ronaldshay, the rental goes on : 'redeemed by my Lord' (Earl Patrick) 'from Harry Halcro in anno 1598, which was wadsett by my umquhile Lord' (Earl Robert) 'to him for 100 mks. in tocher guid with Barbara Stewart.

Looking to the fact that in the rental this lady is mentioned by her Christian name only, and not as *Lady* Barbara, and that elsewhere she is said to have been the youngest daughter of Earl Robert by his wife, Lady Janet



Kennedy, whom he married in 1561, and of whom he is reported to have had five sons and four daughters, and to the further fact that Sir Robert Douglas in his *Peerage of Scotland*, in mentioning this Lady Barbara Stewart, confounds her with Lady Barbara Stewart, daughter of Lord Avondale, who belonged to the immediately preceding generation, there have altogether been considerable uncertainty and contradictory statements on the subject; and on the whole I am inclined to believe that Barbara Stewart, whom Harry Halcro of Halcro married, was a *natural* daughter of Earl Robert.

The last notice I find of Henry Halcro of Halcro is in the General Register of Deeds at Edinburgh, of date 5th March 1604, wherein is recorded a bond by him to William Carmichael, merchant.

On 6th May 1606 I find recorded a bond by Hew Halcro of that ilk his son and Esther Thomson his spouse, so that Henry must probably have died between these dates.

(3/1).—I have not been able to find sufficient proof that William Halcro of Aikeris was son of Edward Halcro. It is highly probable that it was so, however. I find that his (William's) grandchild, Harrie Halcro of Aikeris (5/3), married Jean Halcro (5/2), grandchild of Henry Halcro of Halcro; and if I am right, they would be cousins. Mr. Leask's manuscript bears that this gentleman had two other sons in addition to those entered in the Table, viz., a second son, Robert Halcro of Cava, and a fourth son, David Halcro of Instabillie. As to this Robert of Cava, see notes on Table III., Stewart of Barscube.

(4/1).—This Hugh Halcro of Halcro was married first to Esther(?) Thompson, who was mother of Hugh (5/1)—*she* died in April 1613, as appears from an extract taken for me at the Register House, Edinburgh, from Orkney deeds. He had two wives afterwards, viz.: second, Jean Stewart, daughter of James Stewart of Gramesay, and third, Isabel Craigie, who survived him. He died 12th May 1644—'an old man.' His son Hugh (5/1) was served heir to his mother, Eister Thomson on 30th Sept. 1629—see *I.A.C.*

(4/2).—*Patrick Halcro*. In the General Register of Deeds of date 2nd January 1600 there is registered a 'Bond of Harry Halcro of that ilk (3/1) to

John Sinclair and Beatrice Tuthie his spouse for Forty Pounds, and that for six months' board of the said Henry Halcro's son, at Edinburgh, 6th June 1599. Witnesses, Edmund Sinclair of Flota, Robert Halcro, and William Sinclair.'

As Hugh (4/1) became a widower in 1613, the above extract must necessarily refer to a younger son of Henry Halcro and Barbara Stewart.

In Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials*, in the accounts of the Orkney Rebellion of 1613, repeated mention is made of a certain Patrick Halcro, who was in the employment of and intimate with Earl Robert Stewart, and his natural son Robert, and who it is stated gave up the castle of Kirkwall to the king's troops when besieging same. It is further stated that this Patrick Halcro's mother was alive in 1613, and had a house of her own in Kirkwall, in which certain very compromising documents belonging to the rebels had been deposited for a time.

At this time, in all probability, Henry Halcro, the husband of Barbara Stewart, was dead, and thus it is natural that she, a widow, had a house of her own.

Sir Robert Gordon, in his *History of Sutherlandshire*, page 301, says that this Patrick Halcro's life was saved—when all the other rebels were executed—'for his part in giving up the castle of Kirkwall,' and 'that he was afterwards in great favour with Earl George of Caithness, and well entertained by him for this service.'

I find no other mention of this Patrick in any of the records to which I have had access, and I am driven to the conclusion that he was the younger son of Harry Halcro and Barbara Stewart, who was boarded in Edinburgh in 1599, and that he was named Patrick after the Earl of that name, who would be his mother's half-brother.

Possibly his mother, Barbara Stewart, may have been sister of Robert, Earl Robert's natural son; but this latter is only conjecture.

(4/3).—This Hugh Halcro's marriage with Margaret Stewart, sister-german of Stewart, the laird of Barscube, is distinctly authenticated by Mr. Henry Leask's original ms. documents, alluded to elsewhere—see Table III., No. 10/2.

(4/4).—In the notes to Table IV., Erskine of Dun, will be found

abundant evidence to show that this Helen Erskine was the daughter of John Erskine of Dun, called John of Logie, and that her life was spared by the Crown, and sentence of death against her commuted to banishment for life, when her brother and her two sisters were beheaded in 1614. Her marriage to Patrick Halcro is proved by an entry in the Particular Register of Sasines for Orkney and Shetland, now in Edinburgh, of date 11th December 1620, of a 'Sasine on Charter by Patrick Halcro, brother-german to Hugh Halcro of Aikeris, with consent of Helen Erskine his spouse, of certain lands in South Ronaldshay'—and by the fact of Margaret Halcro's (6/5) connection with the Dun family through her father being stated in her certificate of 1666, quoted under Margaret Halcro (6/5) below.

(4/5).—As to the marriage of Bernard Stewart with this lady, see full details in note (10/2) to Table III.

(5/4) and (5/5).—This marriage is established by Mr. Leask's authentic documents in MS., and by the certificate already mentioned, in which Margaret Halcro is stated to be descended of her mother of the lairds of Barscube.

(6/1), (6/2), (6/3), and (6/4).—The short facts stated in connection with each of these entries are quoted from the Records of Orkney and Shetland at the time, now in the Register House, Edinburgh, and partly from Mr. Leask's papers. Hugh (6/1) was served heir to both his grandfather (4/1) and his father (5/1) on 22nd Oct. 1544—see *I.A.C.*

(6/2) and (6/3) were served as heirs-portioners to their father (6/1) on 3rd Feb. 1671—see *I.A.C.*

(6/5).—*Margaret Halcro* was born about the year 1647; left Orkney in 1666, in her nineteenth year; was married to the Rev. Henry Erskine of Chirside in 1674 in her twenty-seventh year. She died in 1725, in her seventy-eighth year, at Portmoak Manse, Kinross-shire, the house of her son, the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine. On leaving Orkney she received a certificate, of which the following is copy:—

'At the Kirk of Evie, May 27, 1666.

'To all and sundry into whose hands these presents shall come, be it

known that the bearer hereof Margaret Halcro lawful daughter of the deceased Hugh Halcro in the Isle of Weir and Margaret Stewart his spouse, hath lived in the Parish of Evie from her infancy, in good fame and report, is a discreet, godly young woman, and to our certain knowledge free from all scandal, reproach, or blame. As also that she is descended of her father of the house of Halcro, which is a very ancient and honorable family in the Orkneys, the noble and potent Earl of Early, and lairds of Dun, in Angus, and by her mother of the lairds of Barscube, in Galloway. In witness thereof, we, the minister and clerk, have subscribed these presents at Evie, day, year, month of God, and place aforesaid, and give way to all other noblemen, gentlemen, and ministers to do the same.'—*Sic subscribitur*,

‘MR. MORISON, Minister of Evie,

‘GEORGE BALLENTINE,

‘JAMES TRAILL,

‘WILLIAM BALLEND.’

This copy has been made from that included in the life of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine by the Rev. Donald Fraser, D.D., of Kennoway, which, as he says, was copied by him from an original copy left by the Rev. Ralph Erskine, who was his great-grandfather.

From this certificate and the details given in the notes to Tables II., III. and IV., it now seems evident:—1. That she was descended of her father from the family of Erskine of Dun, because her grandmother, Helen Erskine, was of that family. 2. That she was similarly descended from the family of Ogilvy of Airly, on account of the close connection of that family and the Dun family. 3. That she was descended of her mother of the Stewarts of Barscube in Renfrewshire, because her mother was daughter of Bernard Stewart of that family.

As to the mistake in the certificate mentioning Barscube in Galloway when it should have been Barscube in Renfrewshire, see notes under Table III., Stewart of Barscube.

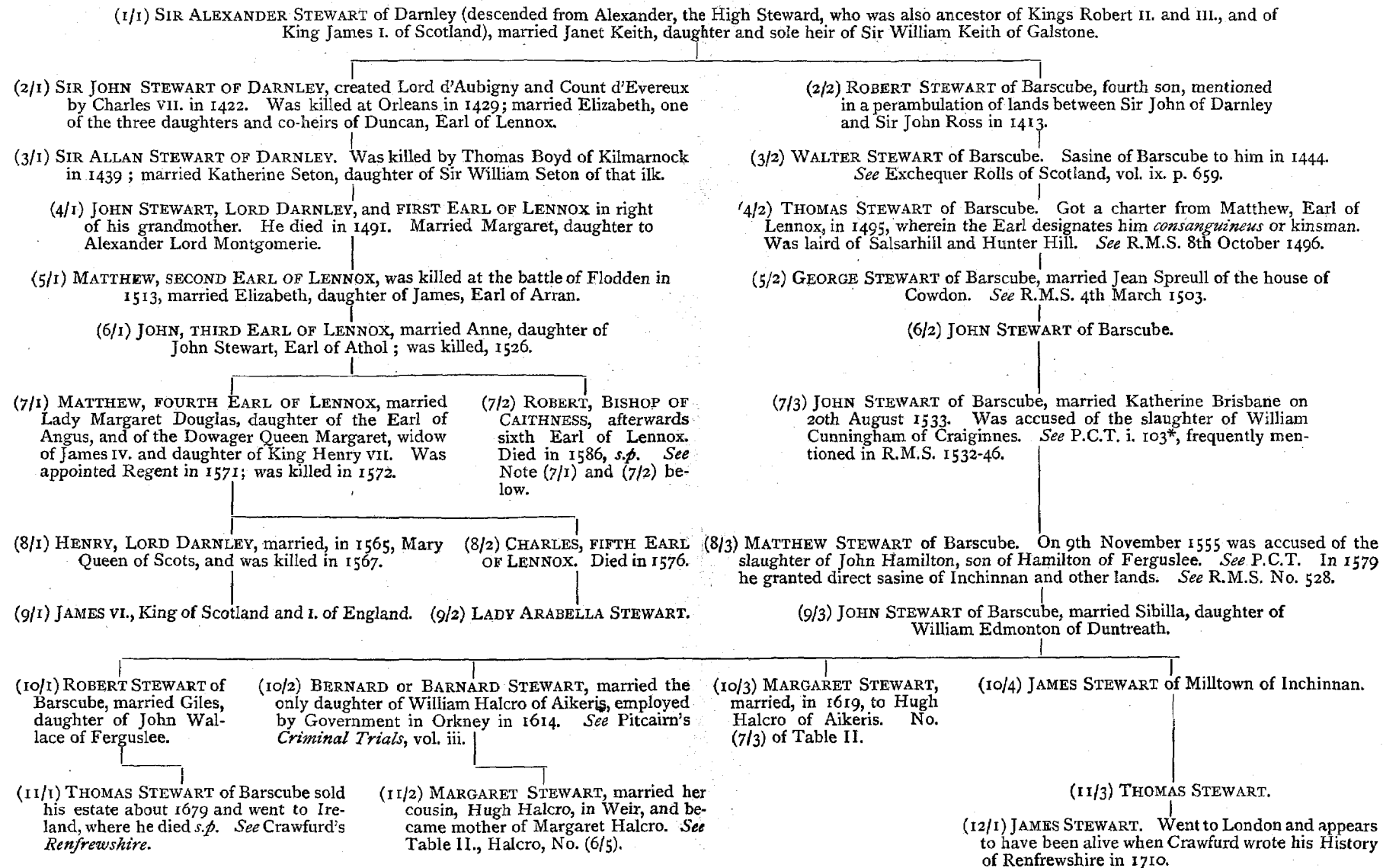
TABLE III.  
STEWART OF BARSCUBE  
RENFREWSHIRE



TABLE III.

## STEWART OF BARSCUBE, RENFREWSHIRE.

*Framed to illustrate the connection of that family with Margaret Halcro, referred to in Tables I. and II.*







## NOTES TO TABLE III

### STEWART OF BARSCUBE, RENFREWSHIRE

GENERAL NOTE.—Crawfurd, in his *History of Renfrewshire*, writes in 1710 of this family as follows :—‘ And west from this (the old Palace of Inchinnan) stands the house of Barr, the seat of the Stewarts of Barscube, a branch of the Stewarts of Darnly. As to the precise term of Barscube’s descent I cannot determine ; but this much I certainly know, that they were a younger son of that noble family, for I have seen a Charter, granted by Matthew, Earl of Lennox (the second Earl, killed at Flodden, and great-grandfather of the ill-starred Henry of Darnley), *dilecto consanguineo suo Thomae Stewart de terris, de North Barr, Craigton, Barscube et Rashilee apud Crookstown 5 Julii anno 1497 (carta penes Jac Mac Gilchrist de North Barr)*. This family continued in good reputation, was esteemed the first of quality in this shire, and well allied in the country, and failed in the person of Thomas Stewart of Barscube, who died without issue in the last Irish wars. He alienated most of his estate about 1670 to Donald M’Gilchrist, a wealthy merchant of the city of Glasgow.’

And again, ‘near to the place of North Barr lie the lands of Craigton, the possession of Walter Paterson of Craigton, which lands were acquired from Stewart of Barscube.’

Duncan Stewart (*History of the Family of Stewarts*) repeats in 1739 the more important of the above facts, and gives a table of the succession of the Barscube lairds which is embodied in the preceding table.

I have tried to get access to the charter of 1497, if it still exists, thinking it may be in the possession of Lord Blantyre, who now possesses North Barr, but have met with no encouragement from his lordship.

(4/2).—From an entry in the *R.M.S.* of date 8th October 1496, No.

2328, it appears that at that time Thomas Stewart of Barscube was in difficulties and had to pledge his lands of Salsarhill and Hunterhill to a certain Lord Lisle for £100. This seems quite inconsistent with his being proprietor of the lands of North Barr, Craigton, etc., in 1497.

Again, from an entry in *R.M.S.* of date 25th May 1579, Matthew Stewart of Barscube and John Logan of Balway executed direct precept of sasine of the lands and barony of Inchinnan, in a charter confirmed by the king. The explanation of the whole, as I understand it, is that these Stewarts, cousins of the Lennox Darnley Stewarts, were only at the time proprietors of the smaller estates of Salsarhill and Hunterhill, and that their connection with the large estates of the family was of the nature of a trust.

(4/2).—*R.M.S.* 28th October 1496, No. 2328. 'Thomas Stewart of Barscube, proprietor of the lands of Salsarhill, with the mill thereof, and the sixth part of the lands of Hunterhill.'

(5/2).—*R.M.S.*, 4th March 1502, No. 2706. George Stewart of Barscube is a witness to a deed in connection with land in Renfrewshire. He got sasine of the lands of Barscube, Saucerland (Salsarhill), and Hunterhill in 1502—see *Exchequer Rolls*, xii. p. 711.

(6/2).—In *D.S.H.* this Barscube is called 'Robert,' but the terms in an entry in *R.M.S.*, dated 28th August 1550, refer to John (7/3) and to his father John, who was the husband of Katherine Brisbane. It appears, therefore, in this solitary instance, that Duncan Stewart has fallen into an error. In corroboration of this I find, in Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials*, vol. i. p. 163, that on 20th August 1533 John Stewart of Barscube was accused, with others, of the slaughter of the laird of Craiginnes. This John was most probably (7/3).

(7/1) and (7/2).—Matthew, fourth Earl of Lennox, had another brother, John, Lord d'Aubigny, who succeeded to the earldom when his brother Robert (7/2) resigned. This John had a son, Esme, Lord d'Aubigny, who was created Duke of Lennox by James VI. on 5th August 1581, when the Earldom of Lennox was raised into a dukedom. He died in Paris in 1587-1588, when his son Ludovick, then a minor, inherited the dukedom. It appears

from an edict of the Court of Session at this time (quoted by Lord Lindsay in his address to the Queen in 1853 relative to his father's claim to the original Dukedom of Montrose, p. lxxxvi. of Introduction) that the nearest male representatives of the young duke, cited to appear relative to the appointment of curators for him, were Thomas Stewart of Gaston and Matthew Stewart of Barscube; but these relatives failing to appear, the Earls of Huntly and Errol were appointed curators.

Lord Lindsay adds to his narrative as follows :—

‘A very interesting fact transpires here—one of much antiquarian, and indeed historical, importance—viz. that Thomas Stewart of Gaston (or Galston) and Matthew Stewart of Barscube were the nearest male heirs of the house of Lennox and Stewart in 1588. The Stewarts of Galston were descended, as can be proved, from Alexander, second lawful brother of John, first Lord Darnley and first Earl of Lennox, who was alive in 1493; those of Barscube, it is said, from a younger son of Sir Alexander Stewart of Darnley, who was dead in 1406. Both families retained their landed property for many generations—the Stewarts of Galston till the Protectorate, those of Barscube till 1670, and, indeed, till the reign of Queen Anne—and produced various younger branches possessing landed property, besides landless cadets. It is in the descendants, therefore, of these two houses of Galston and Barscube—if such exist—that the male representation of James I., Charles I., and all the succeeding royal and princely Stewarts down to Cardinal York must now reside.’

(7/3).—See note (6/2). In *R.M.S.* John Stewart of Barscube is repeatedly mentioned as having been on assizes from 29th July 1532 to 15th July 1546. The earlier parts of these records may have referred to the father and the latter to the son. This Stewart was also proprietor of Hunter-hill—see *R.M.S.*, 28th August 1550, No. 506.

(8/3).—*R.M.S.*, 25th May 1579, Matthew Stewart of Barscube grants direct sasine in an instrument granted by the king at Stirling confirming a charter of the king's uncle, Robert, Earl of Lennox and Lord Darnley. This charter refers to the lands and barony of Inchinnan.

From Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials*, vol. i. p. 382, it appears that on 9th November 1555 Matthew Stewart of Barscube was connected with an outrage (hamesucken) committed at the monastery of Paisley.

In *R.P.C.*, 12th October 1580, p. 319, there is notice of a deed to which this Matthew is a witness, and in which Lord Esme Stewart, Earl of Lennox, Lord Darnley and Obigny, is interested.

(9/3).—*D.S.H.* says on p. 159 that this Barscube married Sibilla, daughter of William Edmonstone of Duntreath.

In *R.P.C.* of date 19th January 1603, p. 810, he becomes surety or bail for another.

(10/2).—Bernard or Barnard Stewart was a witness for the Crown at the trial of Earl Patrick of Orkney in 1615. His deposition is referred to in the report in Peterkin's *Notes on Orkney*, Appendix, p. 47.

According to authentic documents in ms. in the possession of Henry Leask, Esq., Board House, ~~Burray, South Ronaldshay~~—the particulars of which Mr. Leask has kindly communicated to me—William Halcro in South Ronaldshay, alive 1579-1616, had four sons: *Hugh*, his heir, *David* of Instabilla, *Patrick* in Weir, and *Robert* of Cava, and one daughter, whose name is not given, but who, it is stated in these documents, married Bernard Stewart, *brother to the laird of Barscube*.

Mr. Leask has kindly sent me a copy of the following particulars, extracted by himself from the Sheriff-Court Records of Obligations, Contracts, and Dispositions, etc., in Orkney (Record beginning in 1647), and mentions that a full copy from the Record may be got by applying to A. J. Gold, Esq., Sheriff-Clerk of Orkney, Kirkwall. The particulars are as follows:—

'On 13th April 1648 there was registered an obligation, dated 9th August 1640, by Hugh Halcro of Aikers to Margaret Stewart, his sister's daughter, and lawful daughter to the late Bernard Stewart, brother-german to the late (*Robert?*) Stewart of Barscube, for 200 merks, and with him Harie Halcro, his eldest lawful son, as cautioner, etc.'—See Table II., No. 4/3.

In Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials*, vol. iii. p. 274, having reference to the

trial of Earl Patrick of Orkney in 1615, this Bernard is called Barnard Stewart, and is said at the time of the rebellion in Orkney in 1613 to have been keeper of the Palace of Birsay. At p. 276 it is said the rebels came to the house of Barnard Stewart in Kirkwall and made forcible entry therein, and he, being his Majesty's free and faithful subject, was taken prisoner by the rebels. At p. 249 it is stated that Duncan Mitchell, post-boy, deponed that he delivered a letter from *Earl Patrick* to Robert Stewart, his natural son, the active head of the rebellion at Birsay Palace, 'at which time Bernard Stewart's wife had the keeping of the house.'

At p. 296 it is reported that Bernard Stewart deponed that the Duke of Lennox and the Earl of Mar had entreated his Majesty in his favour, being no doubt kinsmen; and further, that while Bernard Stewart's wife was in captivity at Birsay, Robert Halcro of Cava, who it now appears was her own brother (he having been younger brother of Hugh Halcro of Aikers), had waited on Robert Stewart and interceded for her release.

This Bernard became, in natural course, maternal grandfather of Margaret Halcro, as appears from Table II., specially relating to that family; and, therefore, when the latter left Orkney in 1666, in the certificate she bore (a copy of which has already been given) from the minister of Evie and others, she is correctly described as descended of her mother of the lairds of Barscube.

But the minister of Evie, or whoever drew the certificate, was no doubt in error when he wrote 'Barscube in Galloway,' as is apparent from what has been now adduced; and the certificate should have run, 'Barscube in Renfrewshire.'

As a further proof of the mistake, it appears, on referring to Kirkton's *History of the Church of Scotland*, published at Edinburgh from an old ms. in 1817, that the lairds of Barscube in Galloway were *M'Lellans* and not *Stewarts*, and that M'Lellan of Barscube in Galloway, himself a Covenanter, was murdered in his own house by Covenanters in 1683—see p. 452, note.

I am indebted for the discovery of this curious mistake to a writer in *Notes and Queries*, vol. iv., for 1866, p. 82, who signs himself *Anglo-Scotus*.

(11/1).—This was the last of the direct line of Stewart of Barscube. Crawford reports that about 1670 he sold his estate and went to Ireland, where he died without issue.

The only remains now of the name of Barscube in Renfrewshire are, so far as I know, Barscube Hill and Barscube Farmhouse (a modern erection), situated about a mile south-east of Langbank Station. There is a distillery near Paisley, at a place now called Saucerhill. It appears that this is a corruption of Salsarhill, the property which formerly belonged to the Barscube family.

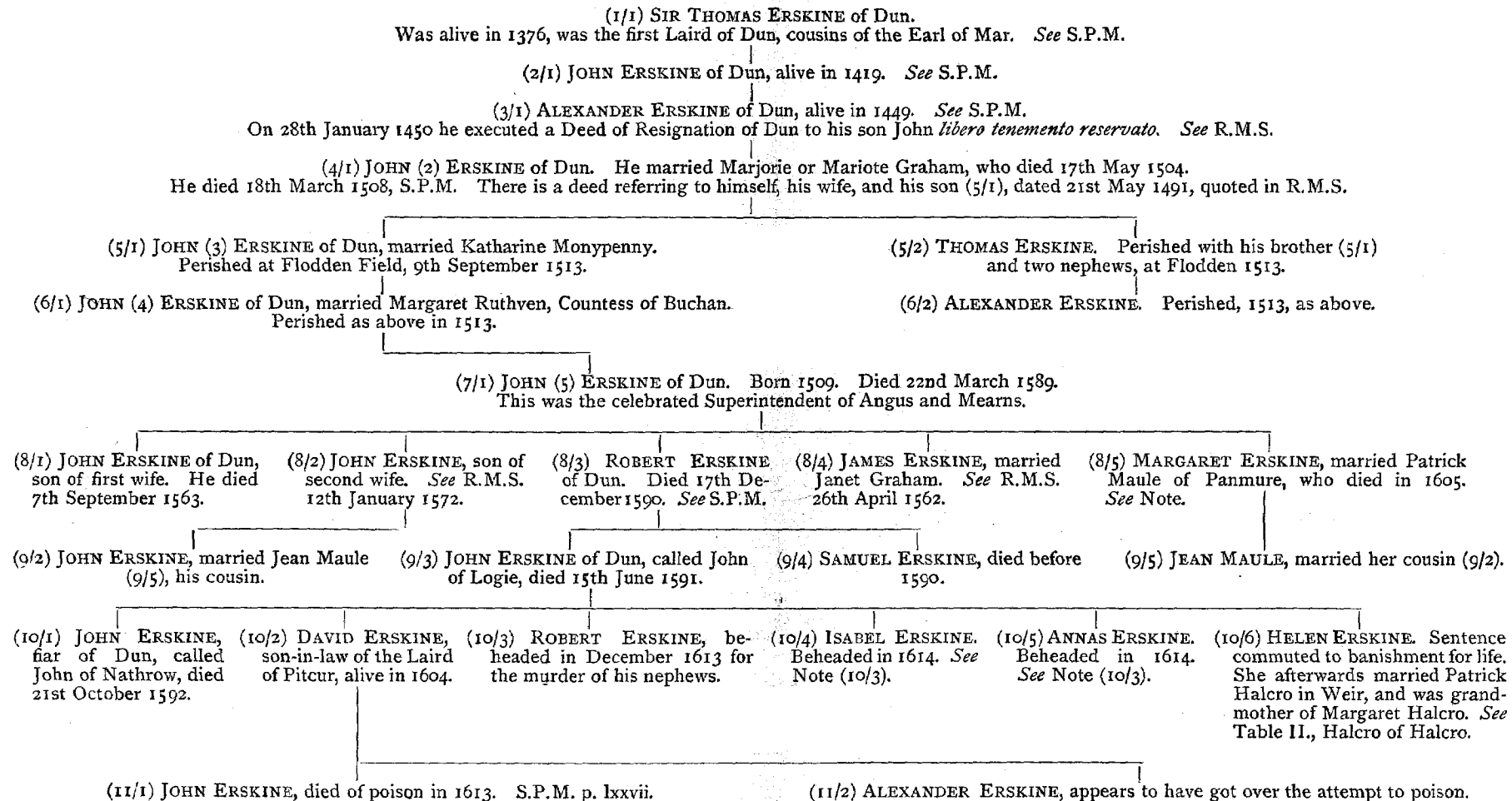
TABLE IV.  
ERSKINE OF DUN  
FORFARSHIRE





# TABLE IV.

## ERSKINE OF DUN, IN FORFARSHIRE





## NOTES TO TABLE IV

### ERSKINE OF DUN

GENERAL NOTE.—I have been indebted largely, in the construction of this Table, to the fourth volume of the *Spalding Club Miscellany*, published in Aberdeen in 1841-53, which contains a full genealogy of the family, stopping short at the time of the murders and trial in 1613. It is herein referred to as *S.P.M.* The remainder of the Table and facts have to a large extent been derived from Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials (P.C.T.)*, and from other equally authentic sources, referred to in these Notes.

(5/1).—This gentleman, along with his sons John and Alexander and his brother Thomas, all perished at Flodden field, 9th Sept. 1513—see *S.P.M.* There is a deed, of date 30th August 1508 (of which particulars are given in *R.M.S.*), by this gentleman, referring to himself, his son (No. 6/1), and his son's wife, Margaret Ruthven, Countess of Buchan.

(6/1).—His wife's name was Margaret Ruthven, daughter of Sir William de Ruthven, first Lord Ruthven, and relict of Alexander, second Earl of Buchan—see *R.M.S.*, 30th August 1508. His widow died 5th August 1548—see *S.P.M.*

(7/1).—The Superintendent married (1) Lady Elizabeth Lindsay, third daughter of David, Earl of Crawford, who died 29th July 1538; and (2) Barbara de Beirle, who died 15th Nov. 1572—see *S.*

(8/1).—He married Margaret, granddaughter of James, fourth Lord Ogilvy of Airlie—see Burke's *Peerage*, *voce* Airlie; and *D.P.S.*, vol. i. p. 31.

(8/2).—This gentleman married Margaret, daughter of Robert Keith, Lord Altrie—see *D.P.S.*, vol. i. p. 61.

(8/3).—He married Katharine Graham, daughter of Graham of Morphy—*S.P.M.*, p. 46.

(8/5).—In Burke's *Peerage*, *voce* Ogilvy of Inverquhar, it is said: 'Sir David Ogilvy married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Erskine of Dun.' This was no doubt a second marriage.

(9/2).—Married Jean, eldest daughter of Patrick Maule of Panmure by Margaret, daughter of John Erskine of Dun, his cousin—see *P.C.T.* iii. 260.

(9/3).—He married (1) Agnes Ogilvy, presumed to be of the Airlie family—see *S.P.M.*, p. 81; and *H.M.C.*, No. 5, p. 633.

(9/4).—He married Grisel Forrester—see letter of King James v. to Robert Erskine (8/3), dated 15th August 1590, in *Fifth Report of Historical Manuscripts Commission*, p. 636.

(10/1).—Refer to *S.P.M.*, p. 75, and *H.M.C.*, vol. v. p. 633.

(10/2).—*P.C.T.* has reference to him at p. 262.

(10/3).—This Robert, after an extraordinary mortality in the family—(John Erskine the Superintendent (7/1) dying in 1589; Robert Erskine (8/3) on 17th December 1590; John of Logie (9/3) on 17th June 1591; Samuel Erskine (9/4) in 1590; John of Nathrow (10/1) on 21st October 1592; and last, David Erskine (10/2) before 1613—in all, six deaths in little more than twenty years)—became heir to the Dun estates, failing his two nephews, (11/1) and (11/2). He then conceived the wicked project of removing by poison these two boys, and thus coming himself into the estate. In this project he actually took into his confidence his three sisters, Isabel, Annas or Agnes, and Helen. It appears, from full details in Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials*, that they obtained the assistance in their fell purpose of an old hag, who prepared the poison for them.

John (11/1), the older victim, succumbed to the poison; but there is some reason to suppose that the younger nephew, Alexander, eventually recovered. The whole four perpetrators were tried for the murder, found guilty, and sentenced to death. Robert was beheaded 1st October 1613, and Isabel and Agnes beheaded in 1614, Helen's life having been spared.—See *P.C.T.* iii. 263, etc.

(10/6).—*First*. Sentence of death against her was commuted to banishment for life, in 1615, 'because she was more penitent, though less guilty than the others'—*P.C.T.* iii. 269.

(10/6).—*Second*. On referring to note (6/5) to Table II., it will be observed that in the certificate which Margaret Halcro took south with her when leaving the Orkneys in 1666 it is stated that she was descended of her father of the lairds of Dun in Angus.

(10/6).—*Third*. Of date 11th December 1620, in the Particular Register of Sasines for Orkney and Shetland, now remaining in the General Register House, Edinburgh, there is an entry as follows: 'Sasine on charter by Patrick Halcro (brother-german to Hew Halcro of Aikeris), with consent of *Helen Erskine, his spouse*, in favour of the said Hew, and Margaret Stewart, his spouse.'

(10/6).—*Fourth*. This Patrick Halcro was Margaret Halcro's grandfather.

Having these four facts before us, it appears impossible to avoid the conclusion that Helen Erskine went to Orkney as a place of banishment, and there married Patrick Halcro in Weir, and eventually became grandmother of Margaret Halcro.

(11/2).—See copy of a deed by this Alexander Erskine's mother, '*ffor-samekill* Alexander Erskine of Dun,' with consent of his tutor, John Erskine, minister of Ecclesgreig or St. Cyrus, dated in 1614, in *S.P.M.*, p. 81.

*Query*: Did he really recover, and afterwards marry — Bethune or Beaton, taking to himself the name of John Erskine, as was common in the family? and was he father of the John Erskine of Dun who was born the last Tuesday of April 1622?—See *S.P.M.*, Preface, p. lxxviii.



TABLE V.  
DESCENDANTS OF  
THE REV. HENRY ERSKINE  
OF CHIRNSIDE

PART I.  
THROUGH HIS OLDER SON  
THE REV. EBENEZER ERSKINE  
OF STIRLING

*Brought down to the present time*





# TABLE V. PART I.

## ERSKINE-HALCRO GENEALOGY.

*Framed to show the descendants of the Rev. Henry Erskine of Chirnside, and his wife Margaret Halcro, through their older son, the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine of Stirling, and their living representatives at the present time.*

The REV. HENRY ERSKINE of Chirnside, A.M., 1624—1874?—1696. Married (1), before 1653, a lady whose name has not come down to us, and (2), in 1674, Margaret Halcro of Orkney.

(1/1) The REV. EBENEZER ERSKINE of Stirling, 1680—1724—1754. Married (1) Alison Turpie, and (2) Mary Webster.

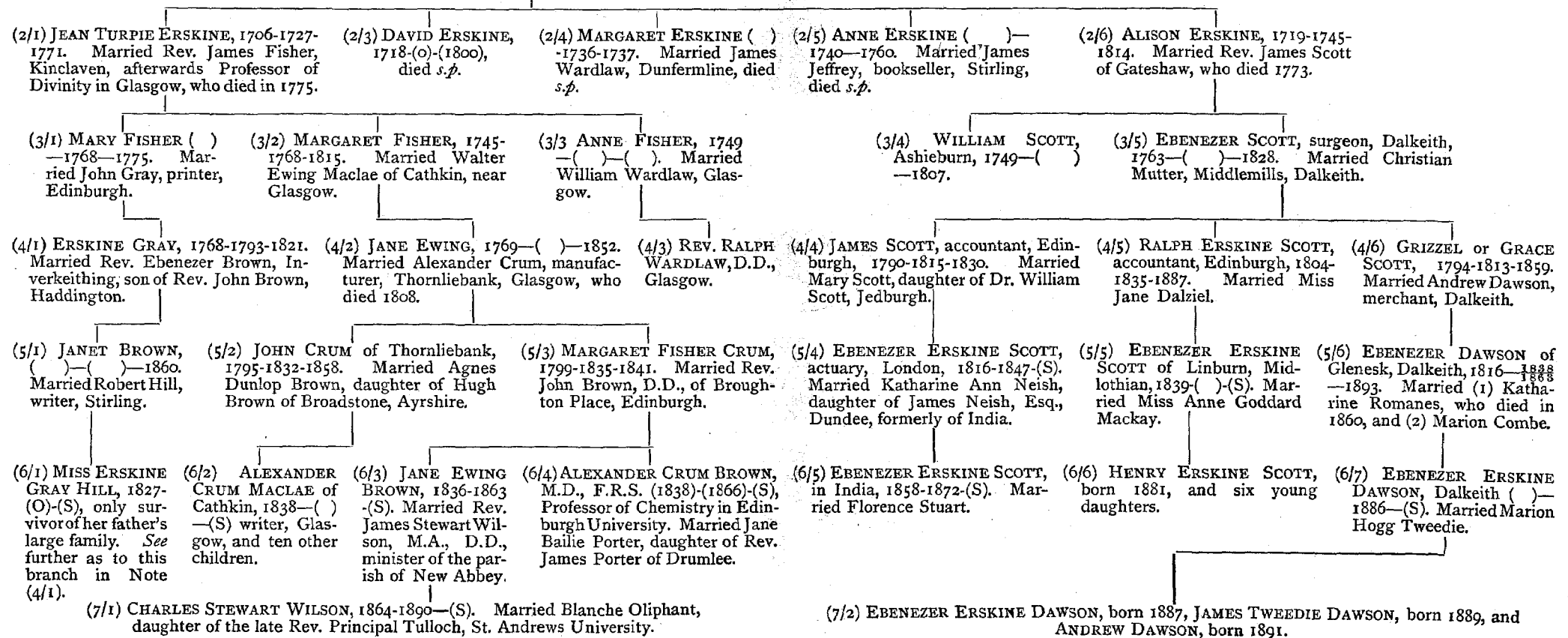




TABLE V.  
DESCENDANTS OF  
THE REV. HENRY ERSKINE  
OF CHIRNSIDE

PART II.  
THROUGH HIS YOUNGER SON  
THE REV. RALPH ERSKINE  
OF DUNFERMLINE

*Brought down to the present time*



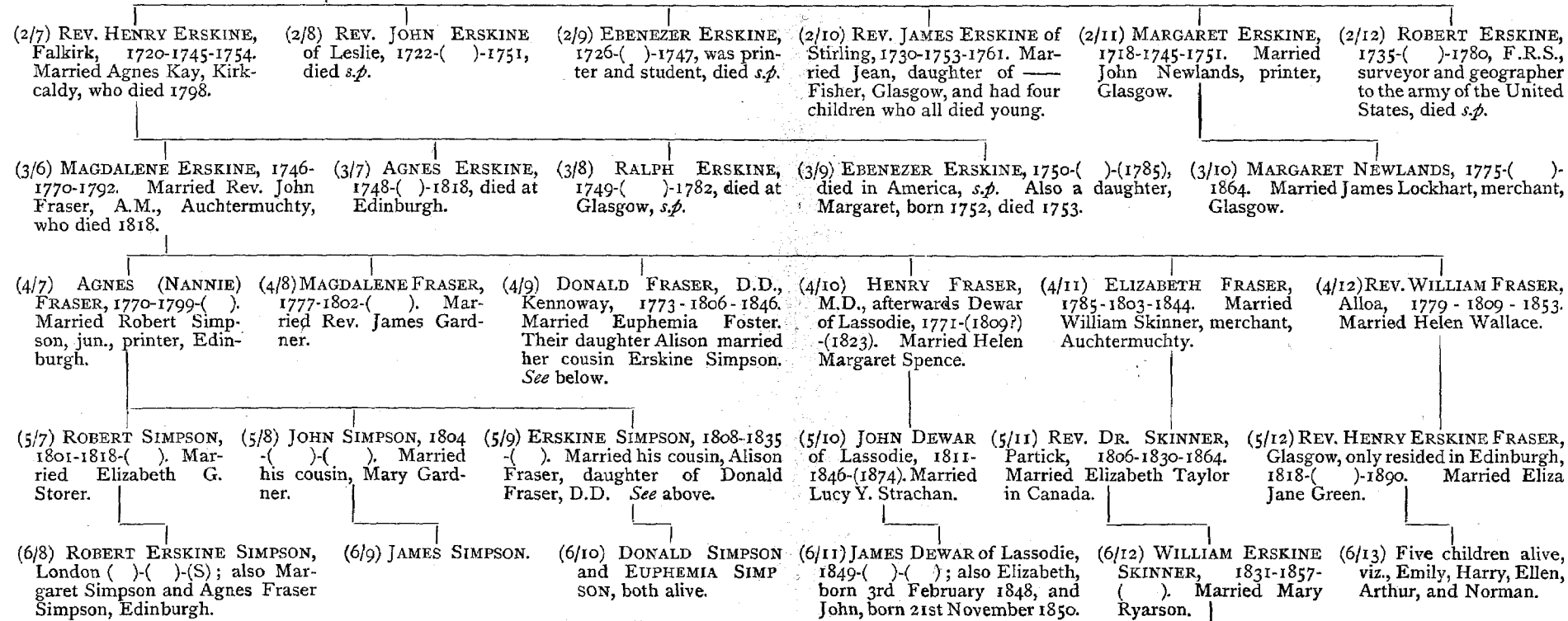
## TABLE V. PART II.

### ERSKINE-HALCRO GENEALOGY.

*Framed to show the descendants of the Rev. Henry Erskine of Chirnside and his wife, Margaret Halcro, through their younger son, the Rev. Ralph Erskine of Dunfermline, and their living representatives at the present time.*

The REV HENRY ERSKINE of Chirnside, A.M., 1624—~~1653~~—1696. Married (1), before 1653, a lady whose name has not come down to us, and (2), in 1674, Margaret Halcro of Orkney.

(1/2) The REV. RALPH ERSKINE of Dunfermline, 1685—~~1714~~—1752. Married (1) Margaret Dewar of Lassodie, and (2) Margaret Simpson.



Eleven children now alive in America.



## NOTES TO TABLE V

### PARTS I. AND II.

#### ERSKINE-HALCRO GENEALOGY

GENERAL NOTE.—In the course of correspondence with the subscribers to this work who are descendants of these Erskines, I found a very generally expressed wish that I should add a Table such as the present, to enable all descendants to trace their ancestry and to know the names and particulars of others of the family with whom they are connected more or less remotely.

I have undertaken, therefore, the fulfilment of this task, which has been attended, as any one may know who looks over the Table, with no small degree of labour.

I found soon that it was impossible in one Table to specify all the descendants, owing to their great number ; and I was forced to adopt the plan of dividing them into five or six main branches, and indicating by notes the collateral descendants and their families. After finishing the Table, I am not without hope that this plan to which I have been driven will be found more satisfactory to inquirers than if I had been able to put all the names on one sheet, as being more distinct and readier of reference.

In all cases where I have been able, I have given (1) in the Table itself, in a line of dates immediately following the name of each individual entered in the Table—1, the year of birth ; 2, the year of marriage ; and 3, the year of death : and (2) in the notes I have also given the same information as far as I have been able to procure it. In all cases in which I have ascertained that the individual survives I have put the mark (S) instead of a date in the third space.

It is impossible, from the nature of the task, for me to flatter myself that I

have been correct in all cases ; and I therefore beg the kind indulgence of my readers in the event of my having been inaccurate, and I will esteem it a great favour if any of them will kindly inform me of any errors which they may discover, and also favour me with any dates which I have been unable to procure, and for filling in which blanks in the line of dates have been left.

The only son of Mr. Henry Erskine's first marriage of whom we learn any particulars was the Rev. Philip Erskine, rector of Knaresdale in Northumberland. Dr. Fraser, in his *Life of Ebenezer Erskine*, mentions an attempt made by Mr. Erskine to open a correspondence with his half-brother, which was not responded to by the latter. We have fuller particulars concerning a daughter Jean, afterwards Mrs. Balderston, repeatedly mentioned in Dr. Fraser's *Life of Henry Erskine*.

(1/1).—Alison Turpie, the first wife of Ebenezer Erskine, had ten children, as is recorded on her tombstone at Scotlandwell, near Lochleven, viz. :—

1. Henry, born 1705, died 1713.
2. Jean (Mrs. Fisher), born 1706, noticed in the Table.
3. Alexander, born 1708, died 1713.
4. Ralph, born 1712, died 1713.
5. Isabel, born 1716, died 1720.
6. Ebenezer, born 1717, died at sea about 1733.
7. David, mentioned in the Table, born 1718, died 1800. He became a schoolmaster.
8. Margaret (Mrs. James Wardlaw), noticed in the Table.
9. Anne (Mrs. Jeffrey), noticed in the Table.
10. Alison (Mrs. James Scott), noticed in the Table.

Ebenezer Erskine's children by his second wife, Mary Webster, consisted of five, as far as is known, viz. : James, Alexander, Mary, Helen, and Rachel. The sons died abroad in 1770 and 1779, leaving no children ; and two of the daughters died young. Mary kept her father's house after her mother's death, and died at Glasgow, unmarried, about 1786.

(2/1).—In addition to the three children of the Rev. Mr. Fisher and Jean



Turpie Erskine here mentioned, they had a family of fourteen children, all of whom either died young or left no issue ; among others :

Ebenezer, born 1739, died at Newbern, North Carolina, in 1767.

Ralph, West Indian merchant, born 1743, died 1792.

Jean, married in 1754 to the Rev. James Erskine, and died in 1762.

Alison, married the Rev. Robert Campbell, Stirling, but died soon after her marriage.

(2/6).—My cousin, Ebenezer Erskine Scott of Edinburgh, is hopeful of being able to prove that the Rev. James Scott of Gatheshall was of an ancient family. See some account of this matter in the notes to Table I. above.

(2/12).—Robert Erskine was in business in London previous to 1770, in which year he published *A Dissertation on Rivers and Tides, intended to demonstrate in general the effect of Bridges and Cuttings, removing of Shoals and Embankments, and to investigate in particular the consequences of such Works on the River Thames*. The work was dedicated to William Beckford, Lord Mayor.

On 31st January 1771 Mr. Erskine was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, 'as a gentleman well versed in Mathematics and practical Mechanics.' He shortly afterwards emigrated to America. There are two copies of his book in the Library of the British Museum, viz., an original copy, and copy of a second edition published in 1772.

(3/2).—Maclae was not the family name. It came with the estate of Cathkin at the death of Walter Ewing's uncle, Humphry Maclae of Cathkin.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ewing Maclae's family consisted as follows :—

1. Jane, Mrs. Alex. Crum, entered in the Table.
2. Humphry, born 1770, married 1810, died 1860. Married Jean, daughter of Alexander Brown, merchant, Provost of Glasgow, who was born 1774, and died 1874. Their children were as follows :—
  - (1.) Walter, died, aged 14, on 16th January 1826, at Nantes.
  - (2.) Alexander, born 1816, died in 1829.

3. Margaret, 1772-( )-185-; married James Buchan, manufacturer, Glasgow, and had children as follows :—
  - (1.) David of Braeside, township of South Dumfries, and of Toronto, Upper Canada. A son of theirs, Humphrey Ewing Buchan, M.D., Toronto, married his cousin, Jemima Fisher Cameron.
  - (2.) Walter Ewing of Owen Sound, Upper Canada, married (1) Maria Griffith, who died 1839; and (2) Ann ——. Children of first marriage: (1) James, born 1836; (2) Mary Hughes, born 1838 (married Joseph Maughan); (3) Edward Griffin, born and died in 1839. Children of second marriage as follows: (1) Margaret, born 1844; (2) John, born 1845, and died in 1848; (3) Ann Ewing, born 1846, died in 1847; (4) Alice Carter, born 1848; (5) Jane, born 1850, and died 1853; (6) Walter Ewing, born 185—; (7) Sarah Winterbotham, born 1853; (8) Humphrey Ewing, born 1854, and died in 1857; and (9) Elizabeth Livingstone, born in 1859.
  - (3.) Margaret Fisher, 1809-( )-1875; married Daniel Allan Cameron, surgeon-dentist, Glasgow. Children as follows: (1) Allan, born 1830, was in 1876 a doctor of medicine in Canada; (2) Margaret Ewing Cameron, born 1832; (3) James Buchan, born 1833, went to Canada; (4) Jessie Buchan, born 1835, married the Rev. James Boyd, Glasgow; (5) Jane Brown, born 1838; (6) Victoria Kent, born 1840; (7) Ewing, born 1842; (8) Jemima Fisher, born 1845, married her cousin, Humphrey Ewing Buchan, M.D., Toronto.
4. James Ewing, born 1775, married 1836, died 1853. Married Jane Tucker Crawford, who survives. *No issue.*
5. Elizabeth, born 1785, died 1879; married David Hyde, merchant, London, who died early. *No issue.*
6. Ann, born 1773, died 1797; (7) Walter Ewing, born 1777, died 1797; (8) Alison Ewing, born 1780, died 1789.

(3/3).—Anne Fisher was Mr. William Wardlaw's second wife. They were married in February 1773. Mr. William Wardlaw was originally a burghess of Dalkeith, as well as his father and his grandfather of the same name. He removed to Glasgow in the year 1780, and became a burghess and merchant there, and died 1821. Mr. and Mrs. William Wardlaw's family was as follows:—

1. William, 1774-1796.
2. Jeanie, 1775-1777.
3. Walter, 1777-1836; a son, Henry Erskine, died at Glasgow in 1826.
4. Ralph Wardlaw, D.D., 1779-1803-1853; married his cousin, Jane, daughter of the Rev. John Smith, successor to Ralph Erskine.
5. Robert, 1781-( )-1839.
6. John, 1782-( )-1812.
7. James Fisher, 1784-1789; and (8) a twin brother of No. 7, who did not survive.

(3/4).—Mr. Scott of Ashieburn left a son, Henry Erskine Scott, for many years teller in the Bank of Sir William Forbes and Co., Edinburgh, and who died in Edinburgh on 2nd August 1847.

(3/5).—Dr. Scott had other three children, as follows: (1) Ebenezer, for many years much respected as a surgeon in the Royal Navy—he was born in 1792, and died in 1838; (2) Alison, born in 1808, married in 1838 to Mr. E. Adams, merchant, Memphis, Tennessee, and died there, leaving children, and probably grandchildren, in America; and (3) John, merchant in Liverpool, born 1810, and who died in 1859, *s.p.*

(3/6).—In addition to these six children, Mr. Fraser and his wife, Magdalene Erskine, had (as I learn from a copy of his domestic register lent me by Robert Erskine Simson, Esq., London) several other children, who either died young or unmarried, viz.:—

Isabel, born 1775; Ralph, born 1776; Ebenezer, born 1781, died 1782; Lydia, born 1783, died 1808; Margaret, born 1787, married in 1807 to Thomas Laing, and is deceased, leaving only one surviving child, Helen; lastly, John, born 1791, and died same year.

(3/10).—Margaret Lockhart, the only child of Margaret Newlands and James Lockhart who attained maturity, was born about the year 1775. She married in ( ) James Jeffray, M.D., Professor of Anatomy in Glasgow University, and died in the year 1864. They had five children, as follows :—

1. Agnes, married Robert Stewart of Carfin, Lanarkshire, and left a family of eight children.
2. James, died unmarried.
3. John (S), married Jane Mackenzie, and has one child, Mary Lockhart Jeffray, unmarried.
4. Lockhart William, married Catherine Miller, and left one daughter, who is married and has a family.
5. Mary, died unmarried.

I am indebted to Mr. John Jeffray (No. 3 above) for these particulars.

(4/1).—The children of the marriage of the Rev. Ebenezer Brown, Inverkeithing, and Erskine Gray, great-grandchild of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine, as set forth in the Table, were in all :—

1. The Rev. John Erskine Brown, minister in Leith, 1794-1823-1869, who married Margaret Carlyle Farries, daughter of William Farries, merchant, Ecclefechan. Mr. Brown and his wife were run over at Leith on the evening of 18th October by a recklessly driven waggon, on the footpath, as they were walking home. Mrs. Brown was killed at once, and her husband died from the accident on 5th November. Their children were as follows :—

(1.) Ebenezer Erskine Brown, 1827-1850 (S), married to Violet Brown, daughter of David Brown, bookseller, Edinburgh, who was son of the Rev. John Brown, Haddington. Mr. E. E. Brown has one daughter, Margaret Farries, married to John Patrick of Waitahuna, New Zealand ; and they have five children, viz. James, Violet, Rosa, John, and Ebenezer Erskine.

(2.) William Farries Brown, merchant in Leith, 1829-1866 (S),

married Agnes Hutton Williamson, daughter of William Williamson, Sinclairtown, Fife. There is no family.

- (3.) Margaret Carlyle Brown, 1825-1851 (S), married Alex. M'Lean, architect, Edinburgh. They have had a family as follows: (1) Alexander, deceased; (2) Margaret Farries, married to James Nicolson of Monte Video; (3) Anna Christina, deceased; (4) John Erskine of Brisbane; (5) Erskine Isabella, married to David Keys; and (6) Annie Christina Esther Nina, married in 1887 to William Kellow Murray.
- (4.) Erskine Gray Fisher Brown, who survives.
- (5.) Jean Brown, born 1836, died 1838; (6) Mary, born 1837, died in 1838; and (7) Isabella Ina, who survives.
2. Mary, 1796-1817-1826. She married James Hutton, purser R.N., who died 1840; and their children were:—
  - (1.) Erskine Gray, born 1817, died 1825.
  - (2.) Margaret, born 1821; married in 1847 Frederick Bradford of Dalston, Middlesex. Family as follows: (1) Frederick Henry, born 1848, died in 1864; (2) John George, of Dalston, Middlesex, born 1840, who survives; (3) William Erskine, born 1852, died 1858; (4) Anna Margaret, born 1854, died 1886.
  - (3.) George, born 1822, died 1824.
  - (4.) Mary Gray, born 1825, and survives.
3. Janet or Jessie (Mrs. Hill), of whom fully in Table.
4. Joanna, died 1878.
5. Margaret Ann, ( )-1840-1841, married the Rev. John Simpson, who went as missionary to Jamaica. They are both dead.
6. Erskine and (7) Violet, both died unmarried—the former on 20th April 1837, and the latter on 5th March 1852.

(4/2).—Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Crum of Thornliebank had in all five children, as follows:—

1. John, fully noticed in the Table and Notes.
2. Margaret, fully noticed in the Table and Notes.

3. Walter, born 1796; married 1826 Jessie Graham, daughter of William Graham (she was born 1801, and died 1876), and had issue as follows:—
  - (1.) Margaret Crum, born 1827; married in 1852 Sir William Thomson (born 1824).
  - (2.) Alexander Crum, born in 1828; married in 1863 Nina (born 1840), daughter of the Right Rev. Alexander Ewing, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, and has issue as follows: (1) Walter Ewing, born July 1865; (2) Alexander Stewart Ewing, born March 1867; (3) John Ludovick Ewing, born May 1874.
  - (3.) Jane Ewing, born 1829, died 1840.
  - (4.) Mary Gray, born 1832; married in 1868 the Rev. Charles Watson, D.D., and has issue—Walter Crum Watson, born 19th October 1870.
  - (5.) Jessie Graham, born 11th September 1834.
  - (6.) William Graham, born May 1836; married 5th February 1868 Jean Mary Campbell (born 17th August 1848), daughter of the Rev. John M'Leod Campbell, D.D., and has issue: (1) Mary, born 23rd January 1869; (2) Walter Graham, born 2nd August 1870; (3) John M'Leod Campbell, born 12th October 1872; (4) Frederick Maurice Campbell, born 12th October 1872; (5) Edith Erskine Graham Campbell, born 1st July 1874; (6) Jessie, born 13th May 1878.
  - (7.) Elizabeth Graham, born 1839; married 20th August 1862 Sir William Henry Houldsworth, Baronet, of Coodham, Ayrshire (born 1834), and has issue: (1) Henry Hamilton, born 1867; (2) Agnes, born 1868; (3) Walter, born 1870, died 1880; (4) Margaret Constance, born 1872; (5) William Thomas Reginald, born 1874; (6) Violet, born 1st November 1877.
  - (8.) Agnes Pollock, born 1841, died 15th September 1866.
  - (9.) Walter Ewing, born 12th May 1843; married 17th September 1873 Sarah Margaret (born in 1849), daughter of John

Tinne, Esq., and died 9th January 1882. They had issue as follows: (1) Walter Erskine, born 2nd September 1874; (2) Agnes Margaret, born 24th July 1876; (3) Sarah Dorothy Graham, born 21st July 1878.

4. Humphry Ewing Crum Ewing, born 16th July 1802; married in 1825 Helen, daughter of the Rev. John Dick, D.D., Glasgow, and died 27th August 1883.

Mr. Humphry Ewing Crum took the surname Ewing in accordance with the will of his uncle, James Ewing, who left him his estate of Strathleven.

He had issue as follows:—

- (1.) Alexander Crum Ewing of Strathleven, born (    ), married Jane, only daughter of Admiral Hayes O'Grady, County Clare. Children as follows: (1) Susan Emily, born (    ); (2) Helen Dick, born (    ); (3) Humphry Ewing Crum Ewing, born (    ).
- (2.) John Dick Crum Ewing, unmarried, born (    ).
- (3.) Jane Coventry Ewing, only daughter, born 9th March 1830; married 5th July 1854 General John Bayly, C.B., Royal Engineers, and has issue as follows: (1) Helen Tolmie Dick, born (    ), married 7th November 1880 Charles John Cathcart Douglas of Glenfinart, Argyllshire, and has issue—(i.) Helen Victoria Cecile, born 24th August 1881; (ii.) Archibald John Angus, born 31st January 1883; (iii.) Muriel Gladys Cathcart, born 14th February 1884; (iv.) Cecilia Violet Gordon, born 28th January 1886; and (v.) Frances Douglas Erskine, born 7th October 1887; (2) Florence Elizabeth, born (    ), married in 1887 Thomas Denroche Smith, Bengal Civil Service, and has one child, Isobel Jane; (3) Jane Coventry Ewing, unmarried; (4) Paget Lambart, born 18th July (    ), educated at Wellington College and Pembroke College, Cambridge,

ordained 1886 curate of Holy Trinity Church, Ripon, and vicar of Arkendale, Yorkshire, in 1889.

- (4.) Humphry Crum Ewing, born February 1836, died 12th March 1878 at Better Hope House, Demerara; married 9th July 1862 Jessie, eldest daughter of Neil Robson, ironmaster, Glasgow. Issue as follows: (1) Agnes Merry, born ( ); (2) Helen Dick, born ( ); (3) Jessie Robson, born ( ); (4) Jane Coventry, born ( ); (5) Maud Erskine, born ( ); (6) Humphry, born ( ); (7) Nigel Robson, born ( ).

5. James Crum, born 1807 (ten years after his brother Walter), and died in 1860. He married Agnes Pollock, daughter of Allan Pollock, Esq. of Faside, Renfrewshire, who died about 1887. There are no surviving children.

(4/3).—Rev. Ralph Wardlaw, D.D., had a family by his wife, Jane Smith, in all of eleven children. His second son, the Rev. J. S. Wardlaw of Bellary, edited some of his father's posthumous writings in 1860. His youngest daughter, Jessie, married the Rev. William Thompson, one of the London Missionary Society's Agents, in September 1840, and died in 1849 at Madras on her way home, leaving a family, one of whom is the Rev. R. Wardlaw Thompson, Foreign Secretary of the London Missionary Society. Dr. Wardlaw's eldest daughter married the Rev. John Reid, A.M., missionary at Bellary, East Indies.

(4/4).—My father Mr. James Scott's family consisted of three sons and three daughters, of whom two only survive, viz., myself and (2) Christian Dewar, born in 1824, relict of James Dewar, M.D., of Kirkcaldy, the once well-known advocate of the sulphur cure for chest and lung diseases. Mrs. Dewar is now Almoner of the Samaritan Society connected with the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

The other children who have died are as follows:—

3. William, M.D., R.N., born in 1818, died at sea, in the East Indies, on board H.M.S. *Nimrod*; was never married.



4. Jane, born in 1820, married Patrick Morison, accountant, Edinburgh, who died in 1880. She herself died in 1870. They left a family now surviving, including four daughters, viz.: Mary Scott, Margaret Sandeman, Katharine Louisa, and Agnes Foulis, and one son, William Thomson, of the Bombay Civil Service, who is Resident Collector at Porbandar.
5. James, born in 1822, was engineer on board H.M.S. *Sphynx*, and died at Calcutta, 27th July 1852. He was twice married, but left no issue.
6. Mary, born 4th August 1825, the youngest of the family; married on 30th September 1851 to James Stalker, Esq., solicitor, Galashiels, and died 13th December 1852 in giving birth to an only child, Colin James Stalker, now Depute Director in the Chancery Department of the Register House, Edinburgh.

(4/5).—The late Mr. Ralph Erskine Scott had also two daughters, who now survive, viz.: (1) Christian, born in 1837; and (2) Mary Dalziel, born in 1845, who was married in 1871 to John Bruce, Esq. of Sumburgh, J.P. and D.L., Shetland. Mr. Bruce is the tenth laird in succession from father to son of the estate of Sumburgh. The first laird was William Bruce, nephew or cousin of Lawrence Bruce of Culmalindie, who accompanied his relative to Shetland in 1571. Mr. Bruce is therefore descended from one of the oldest families in Scotland.

(4/6).—Mr. Andrew Dawson and his wife, Grizzel or Grace Scott, had several other children, as follows:—

1. James, born 1814, died in 1842, *s.p.*
2. Christian, born 1815; married in 1848 to Ralph Drummond, Rector of the High School, Dalkeith, and has had issue as follows:—
  - (1.) Grace Drummond, married to Walter Brewster, engineer, now in New South Wales, and has had six children, of whom three survive.
  - (2.) Christian Drummond, married to William Main, a banker in Glasgow, and died in 1887, leaving four young children.
  - (3.) A son, now in America.

Mrs. Drummond has been a widow for many years.

3. Ebenezer of Glenesk, mentioned in the Table. He had also by his first wife two daughters, Katharine and Grace, who reside with him.
4. Andrew, for many years a partner of the North American Fur Company. He married in America, and died in 1872, leaving two sons.
5. Alexander Mutter, born in 1823; married in 1854 Margaret Mitchell, who survives him. He died in 1886. Their family consisted of: (1) Ethel, now alive; (2) Harold, deceased; (3) Mary, deceased; (4) Alexander, vicar of St. John's, Barnsley, who married in 1891 Elizabeth Reneau, only child of Canon Lintott, Newcastle, and has an infant daughter, Dorothy; (5 and 6) Grace and Ada, both alive; and (7) Margaret, deceased.
6. Abraham, who is alive in foreign parts.
- 7 and 8. Two girls, Grace and Mary, who died in infancy.

(4/8).—Magdalene Fraser, younger sister of Agnes Fraser, married the Rev James Gardiner of Newtonards, Ireland, who died about 1813. Their son, the Rev. John Henry Gardiner of Whithorn, born in 1807, died in 1833; and their daughter, Mary Gardiner, born 1805, married John Simpson, her cousin, whose son, James Simpson, is now alive. Mary had a twin sister, Magdalene, who died in 1821.

(4/9).—Dr. Fraser was the author of the *Biographies* (1) of the Rev. Henry Erskine and his Son, Ebenezer Erskine (published by Oliphant, Edinburgh, in 1831), and (2) of the Rev. Ralph Erskine, in 1834.

(4/10).—Henry was the oldest son, and on succeeding to his great-grand-uncle, James Dewar of Lassodie (brother of his great-grandmother, Margaret Dewar, wife of Ralph Erskine), in the entailed estate of Lassodie, took the name of Dewar. He had, in addition to his son John, who succeeded him, five other children, as follows:—

1. Henry Andrew, born in August 1812, died 15th April 1861, *s.p.*
2. Mary, born 1810, who married in 1832 Dr. Kimball of Lowell, Massachusetts, and died there 7th July 1869, leaving children now alive.

3. Henrietta Andrew, born in 1822, who is alive.
- 4 and 5. James and Donald, who died in infancy.

Since undertaking the construction of this Table V., I have received from two of the descendants of Margaret Dewar of Lassodie, wife of Ralph Erskine (1/2), copies of a genealogical table which, if it be correct, shows that David Dewar, a former laird of Lassodie, married Marion Wardlaw, who was born in 1575, and was descended lineally from both daughters of King Robert the Bruce, who died in 1329. Nothing is said in the table about children having been born of that marriage; and, on the other hand, I have received from James Dewar, Esq., the present laird of Lassodie, the copy of a family tree, in which it is stated that David Dewar was married to Isabel Logan, and obtained a charter as heir to his father, James Dewar, on 6th March 1603: and, further, this Isabel Logan is entered in the table as mother of the next laird, 'James' Dewar, so that the information as to the marriage with Marion Wardlaw is incomplete. It further appears from the Dunfermline Register of Baptisms that James Dewar, son of David Dewar and Jane Logan, was baptized on 24th February 1601.

(4/12).—The Rev. William Fraser had other children, as follows:—

2. William, Town-Clerk of Inverkeithing, born in 1813, who in 1845 married Jessie Henderson, and has six children, as follows:
  - (1) Agnes, married Charles Lamont, and has a son, John Lamont;
  - (2) William, who has a daughter, Dorothy;
  - (3) Jessie Ann, married A. McNeil, and has five young children;
  - (4) John, now in Australia;
  - (5) Ralph Erskine Fraser, an artist;
  - and (6) Helen Fraser. It appears this William was older than 5/12.
3. John, born 1810, died 1819.
4. Andrew, born 1811, died 1812.
5. Helen, born 1815.
6. Magdalene, born 1820, died 1837.
7. Mary, born 1823.

(5/4).—Mrs. Scott, who died in January 1894, was grandniece of the late

Sir James Wylie, Baronet, of St. Petersburg, who was a younger brother of her grandfather, the late William Wylie, Master of the Parish School, Dundee.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Erskine Scott have also two daughters now surviving, viz. (1) Katharine Anne Wylie, born in 1852; twice married—first, on 3rd June 1875, to Arthur S. Justice, lieutenant, Royal Scots Fusiliers, and son of the late Frederick Justice, Esq., of Newport, Monmouth, and latterly of Clifton, Bristol. Lieutenant Justice died at Pretoria, Transvaal, on 13th September 1880. They had a daughter, Katharine Mabel Caroline, who died on the voyage out to the Cape on 16th October 1879, aged  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years. Mrs. Justice married, secondly, on 3rd July 1883, Ruscombe Field Westmacott, now major, Lancashire Fusiliers, and proprietor of the small estate of Edington, Somersetshire. Major and Mrs. Westmacott have two young daughters and one son, an infant. Mr. Erskine Scott's other surviving daughter, Caroline Frances Georgina, was born in 1862.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Erskine Scott have had three other children, as follows: (1) James Stuart, born in 1848, died in California on 10th October 1880; (2) Alexander Edward, born June 1850, and died in 1851; and (3) Mary Erskine, born 1854, died in 1858.

(5/11).—Dr. Skinner of Partick had two other children, as follows:—

- (1.) Ralph Washington Skinner, born 1844, married in 1875 Emily Labur, and has seven children alive in America.
- (2.) Martha Scotia, born 1847, married 1885 to James Arnott, Esq., Glasgow.

(5/12).—The Rev. Henry Erskine Fraser died at Edinburgh on 15th May 1890.

(6/1).—Mr. Robert Hill's family, all of whom are now dead with the exception of Miss Erskine Gray Hill, consisted of the following:—

1. Alexander Hill, solicitor, Stirling, born 30th September 1825, and married (1) Eliza Miller on 17th March 1857; and (2) Barbara Gray

Anderson, 29th April 1882. Mr. Hill died in 1885, and left four sons and one daughter by the two marriages, viz. :—

Robert Alexander, solicitor, Stirling.

James Miller, Otago, New Zealand.

Ebenezer Erskine.

Anderson Cunningham, Dollar.

Mrs. Catherine C. Hill or Fairbairn, Edinburgh.

2. Miss Erskine Gray Hill, born 29th May 1827.
3. Christina Gillies, born 16th March 1829; married in 1855 the Rev. Finlay Macpherson, Larbert, and died at Larbert in Nov. 1886.

Mrs. Macpherson's family now surviving are as follows :—(1) Robert Hill; (2) Finlay George; (3) Alexander Hill; (4) The Rev. Ebenezer Brown Hill; (5) Norman Macgregor, S.S.C., Edinburgh. The following are deceased :—(1) John and Dougal both died young; (2) Margaret M'Gregor died in 1885, aged 25; and (3) Jessie Brown, wife of George Whitehall, Esq., C.E., died in 1886, aged 30.

4. The Rev. Ebenezer Brown Hill of Lochmaben, born 3rd January 1831; married in 1860 Elizabeth Vaughan Ball; and died 15th November 1883, leaving a family, which includes the Rev. Henry Erskine Hill, Glasgow.
5. Robert, born 30th September 1832, and died 19th April 1859.
6. John, born 25th May 1834; married Margaret Naismith Reid of Peel Park, Lanarkshire; and died 16th July 1879, leaving a family.
7. George, born 19th April 1838; married in 1867 Emma Gray Faber of Liverpool; and died 19th August 1880, leaving a family.
8. Mary, born 18th January 1841, and died 21st October 1845.

(6/2).—Mr. John Crum of Thornliebank and his wife, Agnes Dunlop Brown (born 2nd September 1811, died 1st August 1854), had a family of eleven children, as follows :—

1. Margaret Caldwell, born 3rd January 1834; married 25th March 1856; died 25th February 1875. Married John Anthony Grahame,

Parliamentary solicitor, Westminster, born 16th November 1826, died 27th December 1887; and had issue as follows:—

- (1.) Archibald John, born 3rd October 1857, died 23rd October 1885.
  - (2.) Agnes Mary, born 14th February 1860.
  - (3.) Alexander Hugh Erskine, born 14th March 1867.
  - (4.) Lillias, born 14th April 1869, died 21st February 1870.
  - (5.) Walter, born 5th April 1872.
2. Jane Ewing, born 17th February 1835.
3. Agnes, born 1837; married 3rd June 1862 James Grahame, chartered accountant, Glasgow, fourth son of Thomas Grahame, Writer to the Signet, and has issue:—
- (1.) Thomas Edward, W.S., born 5th June 1863.
  - (2.) John Crum, second lieutenant, 4th Battalion Scottish Rifles, born 2nd February 1870.
  - (3.) Agnes Crum, born ( ).
4. Alexander Crum Macclae of Cathkin (entered in the Table), born 30th December 1838.
5. Hugh Brown, stockbroker, Glasgow, born 29th April 1840; married 30th July 1872 Isabella Ronaldson (born 8th August 1847), youngest daughter of Alexander Ronaldson, merchant, Glasgow, and has issue:—
- (1.) John George, born 20th December 1873.
  - (2.) Catherine Wemys, born 25th June 1875.
  - (3.) Alexander William, born 4th June 1877.
  - (4.) James Arthur, born 22nd September 1880.
  - (5.) Walter Macclae, born 30th December 1882.
6. John Crum, born 19th June 1841, married 21st April 1870 Agnes Dalglish (who died 28th October 1884), daughter of Robert William Dalglish of Birkenhead, and has issue as follows:—
- (1.) John Alexander, born 3rd March 1871.
  - (2.) Annie Leslie, born 5th March 1873.
  - (3.) Agnes Margaret, born 10th March 1879.
  - (4.) Robert Dalglish, born 13th October 1881.
  - (5.) Erskine, born 27th and died 30th October 1884.

7. Janet Crum, born 12th September 1842; married 20th September 1864 John Macvicar Anderson, Vice-President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, London, and has issue:—

- (1.) John Crum, born 18th August 1865, died 1st February 1869.
- (2.) Agnes Frances, born 22nd January 1867.
- (3.) Mary, born 25th January 1870.
- (4.) William Burn, born 12th November 1871.
- (5.) Henry Lennox, born 31st January 1875.
- (6.) Ronald Grahame, born 17th July 1879.

8. James Crum, stockbroker, London, born 1st January 1844; married 6th July 1881 Edith Laura Woolven (born 5th August 1859), daughter of G. Woolven of London, and has issue:—

Margaret Annie Edith, born 27th February 1884.

9. Walter Ewing, born 22nd March 1845, died 31st January 1846.
10. Mary, born 15th September 1847; married 22nd September 1868 Colin Dunlop, junior, coal merchant, Glasgow, and has issue:—
- (1.) Colin John, born 10th September 1869.
  - (2.) Agnes Mary Helen, born 2nd August 1875.
11. Walter Ewing, born 19th December 1848, died 13th May 1849.

(6/4).—Dr. Brown had also a daughter, Margaret Fisher, born 1840, who died in 1846.

(6/12).—William Erskine Skinner held the office of judge for ten years in Hackensack, Bergen County, New Jersey, where he still resides.

(7/1).—Dr. Wilson has four other children—(1) Margaret, born 1865; (2) Jane Ewing, born 1868; (3) Mary Stewart, born 1872; and (4) Isabella Bertha, born 1875.

CONCLUSION.—Examining all these facts, and comparing them with Table V. of this genealogical study, it appears evident that Ebenezer Erskine Brown, oldest and surviving son of the Rev. John Erskine Brown, Leith, who again was grandson of Erskine Gray (No. 4/1 of Table V.), is the

oldest surviving representative of the oldest daughter of the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine, and that after him in order of primogeniture come (1) the remainder of his father's family; (2) the Bradfords; and (3) the Hills, as entered in the Table V. and previous notes.

Descendants and others interested in these Tables are recommended to refer in the Notes to the number of the ancestor, as given in the principal Table, for mention of the descendants from the same. Thus Erskine Gray in the Table is No. 4/1, and under that number in the Notes will be found the names of her descendants, so far as known.