

# The Olivestob Hamiltons



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By

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Arms of the Ducal House of Hamilton from which, through Sir David Hamilton of Cadzow, a second son, John Hamilton of Muirhouse and Olivestob, sprang: Gules, three cinquefoils ermine (or later, pierced ermine). Crest: Out of a ducal coronet, an oak tree fructed and penetrated transversely in the main stem by a frame saw proper, the frame or. Motto, "Through."

Arms probably borne by the Boreland Hamiltons and their descendant John Hamilton of Muirhouse and Olivestob, and about 1700, formally assumed by John Hamilton's descendants, the Hamiltons of Innerdovat: Gules, a crescent argent between three cinquefoils ermine within a bordure embattled or.

Arms of Colonel Thomas Hamilton of Olivestob, fourth son of John Hamilton of Muirhouse and Olivestob, registered 1673: Gules, a martlet between three cinquefoils argent, within a bordure embattled or. Crest: An antelope's head proper, gorged and attired gules. Motto, "*In via virtuti pervia.*"

When princely Hamilton's abode  
Ennobled Cadyow's Gothic towers,  
The song went round, the goblet flow'd,  
And revel sped the laughing hours,

Then, thrilling to the harp's gay sound,  
So sweetly rung each vaulted wall.  
And echoed light the dancer's bound,  
As mirth and music cheer'd the hall.

But Cadyow's towers, in ruins laid,  
And vaults, by ivy mantled o'er,  
Thrill to the music of the shade,  
Or echo Evan's hoarser roar.

(From Sir Walter Scott's "Cadyow Castle.")

## The Olivestob Hamiltons

THE powerful and widely spread family of Hamilton traces to Walter Fitz-Gilbert, who as Sir William Fraser in his recent "Memorials of the Earls of Haddington" says, is now admitted by all writers to have been its earliest authenticated ancestor, the current traditions of the family's noble English ancestry having been cast aside. Of Gilbert the father of Walter, Sir William adds, nothing definite is known, but his son lived in the reign of King Robert the Bruce (1274-1329), and in reward for his services received grants of valuable estates, including Cadzow, now Hamilton, and Machan or Dalserf, in Lanarkshire, and Kinneil and other estates, in Linlithgowshire. The name Hamilton was first assumed, possibly in reference to some previous connexion of the family with a place of that name in England, in the time of David, the grandson of Walter Fitz-Gilbert, and Sir John de Hamilton, the son and successor of this David Hamilton, was the first of the family who assumed the territorial designation of Hamilton or Cadzow. James, the first Lord Hamilton, who married the Princess Mary of Scotland, sister to the reigning King, James the Third, was the grandson of Sir John, and after his elevation to the peerage in 1445, and his alliance with the royal house, the family continued rapidly to increase in dignities and estates. James, the second Lord Hamilton, was created Earl of Arran, and his son, the second Earl, was created Duke of Chatelherault in France. The Duke's second son, Lord John Hamilton, was created Marquis of Hamilton, and James the third marquis, was created Duke of Hamilton. By the marriage of Lady Anne Hamilton, eldest daughter of the third Marquis with Lord William Douglas, Earl of Selkirk, who was created Duke of Hamilton for life, the dukedom about 1656 passed into the Douglas family, the present Duke being William Alexander Louis Stephen Douglas, twelfth Duke of Hamilton, ninth Duke of Brandon, Baron Dutton, Duke of Chatelherault, Marquis of Douglas and Clydesdale, Earl of Angus, Arran, and Lanark, Baron Hamilton, Aven, Polmont, Machanshire,

Innerdale, Abernethy, and Jedburgh Forest, Premier Peer of Scotland, and Hereditary Keeper of the Palace of Holyrood, who succeeded his father in 1863.

Many titled personages in the three Kingdoms, besides the Duke of Hamilton, his brother Lord Charles George Archibald Douglas, and his sister Lady Mary Victoria, Princess of Monaco, have a Hamilton ancestry. Among these are the Duke of Abercorn, who by virtue of his descent from Lord Claud Hamilton, fourth son of the Regent Arran, is the *heir male* of the Hamilton family; his brothers Lord Claud, Lord George Francis, Lord Frederic Spencer, and Lord Ernest William, Hamilton; and his sisters, the Countesses of Litchfield, Dalkeith, and Winterton; Lady Blandford, formerly Duchess of Marlborough; and the Marchioness of Lansdowne; the Earls of Aberdeen, Belfast, Carnwath, Carrick, Derby (who by virtue of his descent from Lady Elizabeth Hamilton, only daughter of James, sixth Duke of Hamilton, and her husband Edward, twelfth Earl of Derby, is the *heir-of-line* of the Hamilton family), Dufferin, Dundonald, Haddington, Mar, Orkney, Roden, Southesk, and Stair; Vicounts Bangor and Boyne; and a number of Barons, as Baron Belhaven and Stenton, and Hamilton of Dalzell; besides many Knights and untitled commoners of distinction. The eldest cadet of the House of Hamilton is the Earl of Haddington, who, like the descendants of Colonel Thomas Hamilton of Olivestob, traces his pedigree through the Hamiltons of Innerwick, one of the most ancient and honorable branches of this noble house.

Of the various cadets of the House of Hamilton, not a few settled in Ayrshire, as for example, the founders of the Ardoch, Bargeny, Boreland, Bourtreehill, Beith, Cambuskeith, Inchgottrick, and Sorne and Sanquhair families. From one of these families, that of Boreland, are immediately descended the *Hamiltons of Olivestob*, a family numbering many distinguished military men, and allied by marriage not only with other important families of Hamiltons, but with many noble Scottish families of other names.

Concerning the Boreland Hamiltons not very much has yet been gathered. The family was founded by George Hamilton, second son of Sir David Hamilton of Cadzow and his wife Janet, daughter of Sir William Keith of Galston, who must therefore have acquired Boreland



about the end of the 14th, or the beginning of the 15th century.\* In 1551 George Hamilton of Boreland and John his son had a remission under the Privy Seal for "syding with the Earl of Lenox" in the battle of Butts, fought near Glasgow in 1543.†

William Hamilton of Boreland was retoured heir to his father Patrick Hamilton in lands in Boreland and Towlach in 1611. Hew Hamilton of Boreland is mentioned in the testament of Janet Wilson, in Bent, in 1616;‡ John Hamilton of Boreland is mentioned in the Ayr Presbytery records in 1650; Hugh Hamilton of Boreland executed a procuratory of resignation of his estate in favor of his grand-daughter Margaret, only child of the deceased John Hamilton, only son of the said Hugh, June 29, 1669; Margaret Hamilton was married to Hugh Montgomerie of Prestwickshaws, descended from the Eglinton family, in 1670, and in 1673 she and her husband had a charter of the estate from the said Hugh Hamilton, his grandfather, in favor of them and their heirs. In 1751 the Boreland property was sold, and in 1847 it belonged to the Marquis of Bute.

According to Nisbet; William Hamilton of Bardanock, in Ayrshire, a second son of *Hamilton of Boreland* (and probably brother of the Patrick Hamilton mentioned above), was the father of the founder of the Olivestob family, who was JOHN HAMILTON, of Edinburgh, the owner of two well known estates in the vicinity of the ancient capital, with both of which his and his family's names are indissolubly connected. The first of these estates is that of Muirhouse, often called Murrays, in Cramond Parish, not more than four miles from Edinburgh, a handsome estate of some three hundred acres, originally, it is believed, a hunting seat of the Scottish kings, and later, in 1316, deeded by King Robert Bruce to Sir William Oliphant of Aberdalgy.§ From the Oliphant family it was bought by John Hamilton in 1620, but passing

\* James Paterson's History of Ayrshire, Vol. I., p. 369. Paterson's History of Ayr and Wigton, Vol. I., p. 313. Boreland was in the Parish of Cumnock.

† Anderson's House of Hamilton, Supplement, 1827.

‡ Commissary Records of Glasgow.

§ Wood's "Cramond Parish," pp. 23-26, which contain a lengthy account of this interesting estate. See also "Castles and Mansions of the Lothians."

to William Hamilton,<sup>2</sup> his son, was sold by him about 1662 to John Denholm, and in time came to the present owner William Davidson, Esq. The other estate was that of Olivestob, in East Lothian, about ten miles to the east of Edinburgh, a property that seems to have belonged in 1632 to Morrison of Prestongrange, and a little later to the Setons, for Alexander Viscount Kingston in his history of the house of Seton written in 1687, says, regarding his uncle Sir Thomas Seton, fourth son of Robert first Earl of Winton, "This Sir Thomas Seton was provided by his father to the lands of Holiestob, now vulgo Olivestobe," and Wood in his Peerage, Vol. II., p. 645, calls the Hon. Sir Thomas Seton, "ancestor to the Setons of Olivestob." The original name of this estate is commonly believed to have been Holy Stob, the place where the "host stopt" when it was being carried in procession from Preston to the Cistercian Abbey of Newbattle near by. It is supposed that John Hamilton bought Olivestob from Sir John Seton, brother of the earl of Winton,\* for his country residence very soon after he bought Muirhouse, for that he was living at Olivestob in 1624 is shown by the fact that in that year, "being an honest man and ready to every good work" as the session register declares, "John Hamilton of Olivestob" was on his own request cheerfully assigned a seat in Prestonpans Kirk. To the time of his death, however, he is usually called "John Hamilton of Muirhouse," and there is little doubt that though the mansion of Olivestob may have been finer than that of Muirhouse,† so making Olivestob more desirable for residence, the estate of Muirhouse was considerably the more important. Olivestob House, which since the latter part of the eighteenth century has been known as Bankton, is a stately old mansion, near the Preston-

\* That others of the Hamiltons, perhaps members of the Preston family, at times were connected with the estate of Olivestob, is clear from various records as for example : *David Hamilton of Langton and Olivestob* was married to Margaret, second daughter of George Lord Seton. He died without issue in 1560. Anderson's *House of Hamilton*, p. 845. *George Hamilton of Over Olivestob* is mentioned in a document dated July 4, 1638. He lends forty-six pounds to James Bruce in Longniddrie. Register of Deeds, vol. 517. The latter allusion it is difficult to understand, for at this time Olivestob was owned, it would seem, by John Hamilton.

† The old Mansion of Muirhouse was built about 1670, but of it only two round towers remain. The present house, which is of ornate architecture, was built about 1830. "*Castles and Mansions of the Lothians*."

pans railway station, standing amid fine trees, with magnificent gardens behind it, and broad fields stretching backward towards the town of Tranent. Almost directly opposite, a few rods away, is the tower of the Preston Hamiltons, now owned by Sir William Stirling Hamilton, Bart., who represents the Preston family; and about two miles further east, a little toward the Firth of Forth, is Seton Castle, which stands on the site of Seton Palace, so famous in days gone by. In a field a little to the eastward is the site of the memorable battle of Prestonpans, and in the lawn of Bankton stands a monument to the good Colonel Gardiner, the owner of Olivestob at the time of his death, who fell in this battle in 1745. The interior of the house was once throughout richly panelled in oak, but a fire in the early part of the present century swept through it and destroyed all the wood-work.

Of the family of John Hamilton of Muirhouse and Olivestob, we find a pretty complete record on the Registers of the old Parish of Edinburgh. Like his brother Hugh, who was also a resident of the city of Edinburgh and a merchant there, and of whose family we have a full record, Mr. Hamilton must have come in very early manhood from Ayrshire to the capital city. He was married three times. His first wife was Margaret Logan, who bore him children: John,<sup>2</sup> bap. May 8, 1614; Agnes,<sup>2</sup> bap. July 26, 1616, and Susanna,<sup>2</sup> bap. Sept. 1, 1622. He m. (2) Catherine Brown, and by her had children: John,<sup>2</sup> bap. January 25, 1629; and Margaret,<sup>2</sup> bap. May 30, 1630. His third wife was Anna Elphinstone, whom he married, it is likely, in 1632, and who bore him thirteen children:

Anna, <sup>2</sup>	baptised	15 March, 1633.
William, <sup>2</sup>	"	9 March, 1634.
James, <sup>2</sup>	"	24 September, 1635.
Thomas, <sup>2</sup>	"	21 April, 1638.
Alexander, <sup>2</sup>	"	3 June, 1639.
Henry, <sup>2</sup>	"	21 October, 1640.
John, <sup>2</sup>	"	25 January, 1642.
Lillias, <sup>2</sup>	"	24 April, 1645.
Margaret, <sup>2</sup>	"	22 July, 1647.
Hugh, <sup>2</sup>	"	6 August, 1649.
Frederic, <sup>2</sup>		
David, <sup>2</sup>		
Elizabeth, <sup>2</sup>		

Anna Elphinstone, the third wife of John Hamilton and the mother of these thirteen children, belonged to a most distinguished family. Her father was James Elphinstone of Innerdovat in Fife, on the shore of the Firth of Tay, nearly opposite Dundee, who held the exalted post of Cupbearer to King James the Sixth. He was the third son of Alexander, second Lord Elphinstone, who fell at the Battle of Pinkie, in 1548, and the grandson of Alexander, first Lord Elphinstone, who fell at Flodden, in 1513. His daughter Anna was therefore also the niece of Robert, third Lord Elphinstone, and first cousin of Alexander, fourth Lord Elphinstone, and his brother Sir James, who in 1602-3 was created Lord Balmerino.\* Her grandmother, Lady Elphinstone, a peer's daughter, was from another noble family, the Erskines, her father being Robert, third Lord Erskine. Anna Elphinstone Hamilton was an only daughter, but she had a brother James, who probably died without issue, leaving the lands of Innerdovat, as we shall see, to his sister's second son James.

On the register of the Great Seal of Scotland, under date June 1, 1644, appears a charter of resignation by King Charles the First "to John Hamilton, lawful son of John Hamilton of Muirhouse, procreate between him and the late Catherine Brown, his second wife, and the lawful heirs male of his body, whom failing to William Hamilton, eldest lawful son of the said John Hamilton, Sr., procreate between him and Anna Elphinstone, his third spouse, and the lawful heirs male of his body lawfully to be procreated, whom failing to James Hamilton his brother german and the heirs male of his body, lawfully to be procreated, whom failing to Thomas Hamilton and the heirs male of his body, lawfully to be procreated whom failing to Alexander Hamilton, also his brother german, and the heirs male of his body, lawfully to be procreated, whom failing to Henry Hamilton, also his brother german, and the heirs male of his body, lawfully to be procreated, whom failing to John Hamilton, also his brother german, and the heirs male of his body, lawfully to be procreated, whom also failing to the lawful and nearest heirs whomsoever, between the said John Hamilton elder, and Anna Elphinstone, his present spouse, to be procreated, whom all failing to the said John Hamilton, Sr., his

\* John, third Lord Balmerino, succeeding to his uncle's titles, became Lord Coupar; he married Margaret, daughter of John, earl of Lodoun.

heirs and assigns whatsoever, all and whole the said John Hamilton elder's, lands and barony of Muirhouse and Naikeder, which were acquired by the said John Hamilton, Sr., from Sir James Oliphant of Newton, March 6, 1620, on which date the said John Hamilton, Sr., and Catherine Brown his wife received a charter under the great seal of these lands." It is also here stated that John Hamilton, Sr., on the 24th of February, 1643, resigned the charter of these lands "in favor of his son John and remanent children."\* One of the things that this important document shows us, is that at this time John of Muirhouse had two sons living, bearing his own name, which was not, however, in those days, it is said, an uncommon occurrence. The elder of these half-brothers, the John whose mother was Catherine Brown, must have died in boyhood, for the property of Muirhouse soon came to William Hamilton<sup>2</sup>, the eldest son of John Hamilton and his third wife Anna Elphinstone, who was the second heir mentioned in the charter of 1664.

Of the sons of John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone, Alexander,<sup>2</sup> and David,<sup>2</sup> we know only that they were merchants in Edinburgh, and that David<sup>2</sup> married Margaret Gourlay, and had a son Alexander, baptized July 25, 1682. Of Hugh<sup>2</sup> we know nothing after his baptism. Of the daughters, Lillias<sup>2</sup> had a deed of property from her father, "John Hamilton of Muirhouse," June 19, 1661, shortly before his death; which deed is recorded August 9, 1662, John Hamilton being then deceased. Of Anna<sup>2</sup> and Margaret<sup>2</sup> we know nothing. Of Elizabeth,<sup>2</sup> the youngest, we know that she was first the wife of James Hamilton of the Bangour family, and thus mother of the poet, William Hamilton of Bangour, author of the famous Jacobite song of "Gladsmuir," who was born in 1704 and died at Lyons, March 25, 1754; and of the Countess Margaret, third wife of Robert, sixth Earl of Carnwath. After the death of her first husband James Hamilton of Bangour, Elizabeth<sup>2</sup> became the second wife of Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart., of North Berwick, third son of James, first Viscount Stair, to whom she bore two daughters. Sir Hew, whose first

\* The next charter on the Register of the Great Seal, after that to John Hamilton, is curiously one dated 31 July, 1637, to James Elphinstone, of the lands of Innerdovot, in Fife. It reads: "To James Elphinstone of Innerdovot and the lawful heirs of his body to be procreated, whom failing to John Hamilton of Muirhouse and the heirs to be born between him and Anna Elphinstone, his spouse, only sister of the said James."

wife was Marion, daughter of Sir Robert Hamilton of Pressmanen, was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia, April twentieth, 1698, and was Lord President of the Court of Session for many years before his death, which occurred February first, 1737. He was succeeded in the baronetcy by his grandson Hew. The present representative of the Dalrymple family, which is closely allied to that of the Earls of Stair, is Sir Walter-Hamilton Dalrymple, Bart., of North Berwick. The present Earl of Stair is Sir John Hamilton-Dalrymple.

John Hamilton of Muirhouse, as we have seen, died some time between June 19, 1661, and August 9, 1662, and was probably buried, as no doubt were most of his descendants who remained in Edinburgh, in the old Greyfriars Churchyard, or else the Churchyard near St. Giles Cathedral, that has now disappeared.

## SECOND AND THIRD GENERATIONS

WILLIAM HAMILTON<sup>2</sup> (John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone), baptized March 9, 1634. There are several notices of William Hamilton<sup>2</sup> in parish records and printed books. He married Sarah Haliburton (usually spelled Halyburton), succeeded to the family estates before 1663, and died before 1707. In the parish records of Prestonpans are notices of the baptisms of two of his children, William baptized May 24, 1672, and Helen baptized January 7, 1675.\*

In the will of his brother Henry in 1707, three other children are mentioned, a son Arthur, a daughter Gartrick, and a daughter Sarah, who was then married. In 1665 (October 1st) William appears as a witness at the baptism of Helen, daughter of the Rev. Patrick Cook, sometime minister of Prestonpans, and Margaret Cockburn, his wife. He was then, therefore, probably living at Olivestob, though like his father he is called William Hamilton of Murrays. In Wood's "Cramond Parish," pp. 23-26, in the lengthy description of Muirhouse already referred to, the author says: John Hamilton was succeeded in the estate by "his eldest son William Hamilton of Muirhouse, born (baptized) 9 March, 1634, who about 1662 sold this estate, and in his old age fell into a situation so distressful that in 1695 several heritors of the parish of Cramond presented a recommendation in his favour to the Kirk Session." In this recommendation he is called "William Hamilton, sometime of Muirhouse, who was born and bred in this parish," and is said to have "a numerous family of small children, and by God's providence not to have wherewith to maintain and educate them." When he died is not known, but his widow Sarah died in Edinburgh in September, 1721, and her testament dative is recorded by Captain Alexander Campbell, of Brigadier Stanwick's Regiment of Foot, a creditor. Her children "Arthur Hamilton and Gartharet Hamilton residenter in the Canongate, lawfull son and daughter, and nearest of kin to ye said defunct," are also named. Mrs. Hamilton is here called "the widow of William Hamilton

\* This record was given me by the late Rev. Dr. Struthers, for many years parish minister of Prestonpans.

of Olivestob." What became of the family of William and Sarah Hamilton is not known, but wherever the descendants of this the eldest branch of the Olivestob family may be, if any of them are living it is clear that the heirship of line of the family is among them. If any of their descendants of the name of Hamilton remain, here also is the true heirship male.

JAMES HAMILTON<sup>2</sup> (John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone), baptized September 24, 1635. Of James Hamilton<sup>2</sup> we have little knowledge, but what we have is interesting. He was named for his grandfather Elphinstone, and eventually became heir to the Elphinstone estate at Innerdovat in Fife, his uncle James Elphinstone undoubtedly having no children. To the latter a charter under the Great Seal, of the lands of Innerdovat, is given July 31, 1637. In this charter the children of John Hamilton and Anna Elphinstone his wife, are named as heirs to the property, in the event of the failure of direct heirs to the grantee. Our information regarding the family of "James Hamilton of Innerdovat," as he is always styled, comes from two different sources. From a record in the Lord Lyon's Office we learn that about 1700, Alexander Hamilton of Innerdovat, "only lawful child procreat between Gavin Hamilton *of Meland*, and Isobell Hamilton, heiress of Innerdovat, descended of the Hamiltons of Boreland," registered the following arms: gules, a crescent argent between three cinquefoils ermine within a bordure embattled or (1st and 4th quarters). These he impaled with the Elphinstone arms: Argent, on a chevron sable between three boars' heads erased gules, armed of the second, a crescent of the first (2d and 3d quarters). The crescent on these Hamilton arms, coupled with the reference in the memorandum appended to their registration in the Lord Lyon's Office, to the family's descent from the Hamiltons of Boreland, is perhaps to be explained by the supposition that the Boreland Hamiltons from the beginning had used the arms of the Ducal House from which they were sprung, with the difference of a crescent, the crescent being the mark of cadency of a second son. This would of course indicate the settled tradition in the Boreland family of their ancestor, George Hamilton's having been a



*second* son of Sir David Hamilton of Cadzow, as he is usually declared to be. Gavin Hamilton of Cleland, one of the Under Clerks of Session, had married, then, Isobell, the eldest daughter of James Hamilton of Innerdovat, who because she had no brothers became her father's heir. She had a sister, however, as we shall see. Gavin and Isobell had a son Walter, baptized May 11, 1694, Isobell's uncles Alexander, John and Henry Hamilton being witnesses. Other witnesses were James Hamilton, clerk in the Canongate (perhaps a brother of Gavin's), Dr. James Nisbet, who seems to have been the physician of most of the Olivestob family at this period, and David Crawford, Secretary to the Duke of Hamilton. The child was born "April 27, last, in ye morning early." Daniel Hamilton writer, and his wife Margaret Murray had a son Gideon, baptized September 1, 1695, at which baptism both Gavin and James Hamilton were witnesses. This Daniel Hamilton, who in 1707 was Clerk to the Admiralty, was a son of Robert Hamilton, of Barncluith, Lord Pressmanen and a brother of the second Lord Belhaven. He had another brother, Henry Hamilton, a surgeon in Edinburgh, who married Catherine Ross, daughter of James Ross and his wife Anna Strachan of Swanstown, and there may have been some near relationship between Gavin and them. At any rate, not only were Daniel and Henry on intimate terms with Gavin, but they were also intimate with Henry<sup>2</sup> of Olivestob, from whom, as we learn from the latter's will, they had borrowed in 1706, a thousand pounds, Scots money. It is indeed quite possible that the younger Henry was a namesake of the elder, for the name Henry is of very rare occurrence at this early time, or indeed at any time, among the Scottish Hamiltons. In the will of Henry Hamilton<sup>2</sup> of Olivestob, another daughter of his brother James of Innerdovat is mentioned. This is "Ann Hamilton, *second* lawful daughter of the late James Hamilton of Innerdovat, my brother, now spouse to John Burns of Middlemilne." Her children, John, Alexander, and Mary Burns, are also mentioned; and from the Forgan, Fife, parish register we learn that John Burns of Middlemilne had a daughter Isobell baptized March 14 (?), 1705. In the issue of these two daughters, then, we have probably all the descendants of James<sup>2</sup> of Innerdovat, to whom we find no reference after 1685. In this year, August 1st, he appears as a witness at the baptism of his brother Henry's child, Thomas.

COLONEL THOMAS HAMILTON<sup>2</sup> (John<sup>1</sup>, and Anna Elphinstone), baptized April 21, 1638.

The record of Colonel Thomas Hamilton, as given by Anderson, is that in early life he served with reputation in the Swedish Army, and after his return to Scotland about the year 1670, became a merchant in Edinburgh, being elected one of the magistrates of that city. He is mentioned with applause by Lord Kaimes in his Law Tracts, and by Fountainehall, in his Decisions, "for bringing the other magistrates to account for their intromission with the Guid Town's revenue." At the Revolution of 1688, when James II. was driven from the English throne and William and Mary were seated thereon, a regiment was raised in Edinburgh of which Mr. Hamilton was, by the Committee of Estates, appointed Lieutenant Colonel. This Committee of Estates was the outcome of a meeting of the Scottish nobility and gentry held in London, on the arrival of the Prince of Orange in 1688, of which William, Marquis of Douglas, third Duke of Hamilton, was elected President. These gentlemen framed an address, January 10, 1689, requesting the Prince to assume the government and to call a Convention of Estates. The Convention met at Edinburgh, March 14, 1689, and being resolved into a Parliament the following June, the Duke was constituted their Majesties' Lord High Commissioner thereto, His Grace also being given the office of President of the Council and High Admiral of Scotland. The Hamiltons were now, accordingly, in great favor in the kingdom, and the position occupied by Captain Thomas Hamilton, as Lieutenant Colonel of the Edinburgh Regiment, was only one of the honors borne by the family. Of the service in which Mr. Hamilton had been engaged in Sweden before 1670, we have no knowledge, but it is at least certain that in the Swedish Army he had attained the rank of Captain. One mark left by that service on the family was probably the name *Otho*, which he gave his youngest son, a name which has been perpetuated in the family to the present time, and which occurs in no other branch of the Hamilton family in Great Britain or America.

At some period, we do not know exactly when, he bought the estate of Olivestob from his less fortunate brother William, and probably in 1674, married Grizel Hamilton of the Westport family, daughter of James Hamilton and his wife Anna, daughter of Sir Patrick Hamilton of Little

Preston. In this way several important branches of the Hamilton family became closely connected, and those of us who are fortunate enough to be descended from Colonel Thomas Hamilton<sup>2</sup> can also trace our ancestry on his wife's side back to the original stock, through the Hamiltons of Westport, Silvertonhill, Innerwick, Little Preston, and Fala, and can claim a near relationship to the Earls of Haddington, Sir Patrick Hamilton of Little Preston, maternal grandfather of Grizel Hamilton having been a brother of Thomas, first Earl of Haddington.

August 25, 1673, Captain Thomas Hamilton<sup>2</sup> recorded his arms in the Lyon Office in Edinburgh as follows:

Gules, a martlet between three cinquefoils argent, within a bordure embattled or. His crest and motto were, Crest: an antelope's head proper, gorged and attired gules; Motto: "*In via virtuti pervia.*" The martlet was undoubtedly assumed by Captain Thomas in reference to his being the *fourth* son of his father John.

The family of Colonel Thomas Hamilton<sup>2</sup> and his wife Grizel Hamilton, was a large one, but unfortunately the baptisms of only six of their children are recorded. The names of the others, however, have in one way or another been preserved, and are here given in as nearly as possible their true order. They are as follows:

James, <sup>3</sup>	baptized	17 June, 1675.
Alexander, <sup>3</sup>	"	10 Dec., 1676.
Anna, <sup>3</sup>	"	27 March, 1679.
Archibald, <sup>3</sup>	"	21 April, 1681.
Robina, <sup>3</sup>	"	18 May, 1682.
William, <sup>3</sup>		
Andrew, <sup>3</sup>		
Alexander, <sup>3</sup>	"	6 Feb'y., 1687.
Frederick, <sup>3</sup>		
Otho, <sup>3</sup>		
Helen, <sup>3</sup>		
Martha, <sup>3</sup>		

At the baptism of *James*<sup>3</sup> the witnesses were: *James Hamilton of Westport*, James Hamilton of Innerdovat, James Murray of Skirling, James Murray, Clerk to His Majesty's Guard of Horse, Sir Alexander Bruce, of Broomhall, George Murray, Cornet to His Majesty's Guard of Horse, Captain Andrew Dick, &c. At the baptism of *Archibald* the

witnesses were: *Archibald Earl of Forfar*, Mr. Walter Pringle, advocate, Mr. John Findlay, Procurator Fiscal; Mr. James Elphinstone, W. S., and Alexander and Henry Hamilton, merchants, "brothers german to the said Thomas." Of *William Hamilton*<sup>3</sup> we know nothing but his name. He was at the baptism of the eldest child of his brother James<sup>3</sup>, in 1713, and he and his brother Alexander<sup>3</sup> were among the witnesses. Of *Andrew*<sup>3</sup>, Anderson says: "he perished in the Darien expedition," and we know that there was an Andrew Hamilton, in 1700, a Councillor of the ill-fated Darien colony. (See the Darien Papers, edited by the Bannatyne Club in 1849.) *Alexander* as we have said, appeared at the baptism of James his nephew in 1713. Of him Anderson says: "He was a brave officer, who died in Ireland in 1738, and left no family. Of *Frederick*<sup>3</sup>, we only know that he died in Edinburgh, in August, 1718, his testament dative being given November 10, 1719, by Mr. James Hamilton, of Olivestob, "only executor dative." Of the daughters of Thomas and Grizel Hamilton, *Anna*<sup>3</sup>, the eldest, became the wife of Colonel Alexander Urquhart, of Cromarty and later Newhall, and had among her children Grizel, who married the Earl of Carnwath, and Elizabeth, who married her cousin Major Thomas Hamilton of Olivestob, eldest son of her uncle James<sup>3</sup>. *Helen*<sup>3</sup> was married about 1702, to her cousin, Sir Walter Sandilands Hamilton, a son of Walter Sandilands and his wife Anna Hamilton, of the Westport family. Sir Walter was Aid-de-Camp to General Churchill and served thirteen campaigns under the Duke of Marlborough: he and his wife Helen<sup>3</sup> had children: (1) James S., a captain in the army, wounded at the battle of Fontenay; (2) Thomas, also a captain in the army, who served with distinction; (3) Grizel who was married to John Ferrier, Esqr., of Renfrewshire, and had children: William, who became heir to the Westport Hamilton estates, Walter, Thomas, *Otho*, James, Ilay, and at least eight others.

Of the remaining three sons of Colonel Thomas Hamilton,<sup>2</sup> viz., *James*,<sup>3</sup> *Archibald*,<sup>3</sup> and *Otho*,<sup>3</sup> and their descendants, something will be said farther on.

HENRY HAMILTON<sup>2</sup> (John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone), baptized October 21, 1640, was a merchant of note in Edinburgh. He was undoubtedly named for "Harie Elphinstone of Calder Hall," who was one of the witnesses at his baptism, as also at his sister Lillas'. He married, in middle life, Margaret Gourlay (who may have been his brother David's widow), who was a sister of Clement Gourlay of North Charlton. They had a son Thomas,<sup>3</sup> baptized August 1, 1685, at which baptism the names of five of Henry's brothers appear, viz., Thomas, Alexander, John, Frederick, and James. Both mother and child must soon have died, for when Henry himself died in 1708, he was evidently a widower and childless.

The first notice we have of Henry Hamilton<sup>2</sup> as a man, is in the Dictionary of Decisions, vol. 23, p. 9655, under date of February 21, 1663. At that time we find that "Hary Hamilton pursues his brother William as behaving himself as heir to their father John Hamilton to pay 6000 merks of provision by bond, and condescends that William intromitted with the rents of the lands of Ulistobe whereunto his father had heritable right," etc., etc.

The will of Henry Hamilton was made September 17, 1707, and recorded February 4, 1708. It begin, "I, Henry Hamilton, merchant in Edinburgh, knowing that nothing is more certain than death and nothing more uncertain than the time and place thereof, And being desirous to order my affairs so that there be no debate among my friends thereanent after my decease, do therefore make my latter will and testament as follows: viz.: I doe nominate and appoint Gavin Hamilton of Innerdovat, one of the Sub Clerks of Session, and John Cunningham of Ballandalloch, Writer to the Signet, to be my executors." (Of these executors his nephew Gavin alone acted.) He leaves by this will a thousand merks, Scotch money, to his brother-in-law, Clement Gourlay of North Charlton, and failing of him by decease to his children; a thousand merks to Janet Wylie, his servitour; a thousand merks to Sarah Hamilton, daughter of his late brother William of Olivestob, and failing of her by decease to her children; two thousand merks to Arthur and Gartrick Hamilton, "children to the said umquhile William Hamilton, equally betwixt them, and the deceasand's part to fall to the survivor"; two thousand merks to Sarah Hamilton, daughter of his late brother Frederick, and failing of

her by decease before marriage, the life rent to belong to her mother, and the fee thereof to the children of Margaret and Christian (his first cousins) daughters of Hew Hamilton, sometime Baillie of Edinburgh: two thousand marks to Alexander, son of his nephew Gavin, and failing of him by decease to Isobell Hamilton, his mother; two thousand merks to Captain John Findlay, and his brother Mr. James Findlay, W. S. (who were probably some relation to the testator); and a hundred merks to Mr. Thomas Aikman, W. S. The will is given at "*my dwelling house in St. Mary's Wynd in the head of the Canongate*," the witnesses being Lieut. Col. Alexander Hamilton, of Innerwick, and Archibald Rollo, Secretary to James Blair, Writer in Edinburgh. A codicil was made, November 25, 1707. Witnesses: Lieut.-Col. Alexander Hamilton of Innerwick, James Findlay, W. S., and John Moncrieffe, servant to the same, in which Clement Gourlay's share is given to "Ann Hamilton, second lawful daughter to the late James Hamilton of Innerdovot, my brother, now spouse to John Burns of Middlemilne, and failing of her by decease, to her children John, Alexander, and Mary Burns."

JOHN HAMILTON<sup>2</sup> (John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone), baptized 25 January, 1642, was a merchant in Edinburgh and for many years until his death "Baillie of the Abbey of Holyroodhouse," no doubt an honorary office in the gift of the Duke of Hamilton, who was and is Hereditary Keeper of the Palace of Holyrood. (There was a William Hamilton whose wife was Elizabeth Haliburton, and whose will is recorded November 3, 1732, long "under keeper of the Palace of Holyroodhouse," but who he was we do not know.)

John Hamilton<sup>2</sup> married, September 15, 1687, Catherine Arbuthnot, and July 25, 1688, had a daughter Jane baptized, the witnesses being Lord John Hamilton, Alexander and Harry Hamilton, John's<sup>2</sup> brothers, John Cunningham, W. S., and James Arbuthnot, Catherine's brother. John Hamilton's testament dative is given, January 17, 1722, by "William Hamilton, eldest son to the deceased." Another son James is also mentioned, but further than this we know nothing of the children of John and Catherine Hamilton. The John, Lord Hamilton, who was

sponsor for his kinsman John Hamilton's eldest child, was afterwards Earl of Ruglen. He was a son of the great Duchess Anne Hamilton, and a brother of James, fourth Duke of Hamilton and first Earl of Arran

FREDERICK HAMILTON<sup>2</sup> (John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone) was also a merchant in Edinburgh. He married Rachel Ogstoun, who bore him at least eight children, the baptisms of the first two of whom are recorded in the old Parish of the Canongate, the others in the Parish of Edinburgh. These children were :

Rachel <sup>3</sup> ,	baptized	16 September, 1669.
Frederick <sup>3</sup> ,	"	8 December, 1670.
Thomas <sup>2</sup> ,	"	26 September, 1672.
Janet <sup>3</sup> ,	"	27 October, 1674.
Sarah <sup>3</sup> ,	"	26 May, 1676.
Alexander <sup>3</sup> ,	"	24 October, 1679.
James <sup>3</sup> ,	"	4 April, 1682.
Charles <sup>3</sup> ,	"	29 June, 1683.

There was a Frederick, who may have been Frederick<sup>3</sup>, in Glasgow. He married Janet Sinclair, and had children : Susanna, baptized 26 November, 1697 ; Frederick, baptized 29 October, 1703.

### THIRD AND FOURTH GENERATIONS

JAMES HAMILTON<sup>3</sup> (Colonel Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone), baptized June 17, 1675. He entered the army early and in 1695 was wounded at the siege of Namur, where King William commanded in person. After the peace of 1697 he studied law at Leyden, and was admitted an advocate in 1703. Some time later he was appointed by Queen Anne, Sheriff of Haddington County, an office which he held until about the time of the birth of his second child, in 1715. He had a charter of the lands of "Over Olivestob," dated February 12, 1717, which was very likely about the time of his father's death. March 5, 1712, he married Margaret, daughter of Walter Chiesly, of Dalry, who bore him at least nine children. In later life having financial difficulties he sold Olivestob to the well known Colonel Gardiner, who fell at the Battle of Prestonpans, September 21, 1745. The scene of this battle, as we have already said, is only a few rods to the eastward of the mansion of Olivestob, and among the oak trees which shade the lawn of the house, stands a monument to this gallant officer. At Col. Gardiner's death, Olivestob was purchased by Andrew MacDowal, Esq., advocate, who on his elevation to the Bench, about ten years later, "out of delicacy to his friend Mr. Hamilton," who was always known as Olivestob, renamed the place "Bankton," taking his title of "Lord Bankton" therefrom. James Hamilton died at Bainfield, in 1757, aged eighty-two. His wife, Margaret Chiesly, was, as we have said, a daughter of Walter Chiesly, of Dalry, whose unhappy fate is a matter of local history. She had at least one brother, Major Chiesly, and one sister, Rachel, who was the wife of the famous James Erskine, Lord Grange (a Lord of Session), son of Charles, tenth Earl of Mar, grandson of George, second Earl of Panmure, and brother of John, eleventh Earl of Mar, and James, Knight Marischal of Scotland. The story of Lady Grange's treatment by her husband is among the most singular traditions of Edinburgh. She had evidently inherited a large share of her father's insanity, and from her violent temper was a person impossible to live with. Accordingly, in January, 1732, after she and Lord Grange had been married for upwards of twenty



years and had had several children, her husband having suffered from her it is true the greatest provocations, had her forcibly seized and carried off to the lonely western islands of Scotland, where she was kept until her death in May, 1745. Her home for fourteen years was "the remotest spot of ground connected with the British Islands—namely, the isle of St. Kilda, the property of the Chief of the Macleod" (Robert Chambers' "Traditions of Edinburgh"). One of this unhappy lady's daughters, Mary Erskine, was married in 1729 to John third Earl of Kintore, Knight Marischal of Scotland, who died without issue, November 22, 1758.

The children of James<sup>3</sup> and Margaret Chiesly were as follows:

James<sup>4</sup>, baptized, 5 February, 1713.  
(Born the same day.)

Thomas<sup>4</sup>,

Rachel<sup>4</sup>, " 16 November, 1717.  
(Born on the 11th.)

Andrew<sup>4</sup>, " 20 January, 1719.  
(Born on the 14th.)

Helen<sup>4</sup>, " 3 October, 1721.

Frederick<sup>4</sup>, " 1 January, 1724.  
(Born on the 18th December, 1723.)

Walter<sup>4</sup>, " 25 March, 1725.  
(Born on the 18th.)

Ann<sup>4</sup>, " 24 September, 1727.  
(Born on the 18th.)

Robina<sup>4</sup>, " 12 March, 1729.  
(Born on the 3d.)

Lord Grange, and various male members of the Hamilton family, as a rule were witnesses at these baptisms. At James<sup>4</sup>'s baptism two of the witnesses were his uncles Alexander and William. Of the daughters, Rachel<sup>4</sup> died at Pattenow, near Edinburgh, March 6, 1759, her testament dative being recorded by her brother-in-law and executor, William Wemyss, January 9, 1760. In this document "Captain James Hamilton *only* son of Mr. James Hamilton of Olivestob" is mentioned. This must mean only *living* son. Robina<sup>4</sup> was the wife of William Wemyss, Esq.,

W. S., of Edinburgh, and had children : John, Captain of the 59th Regiment, William Sinclair, Captain of the 48th Regiment, Francis, Captain in the Royal Navy, *Otho Herman*, admitted an advocate in 1785. Robina<sup>4</sup> died in 1794.

The heir of James Hamilton<sup>3</sup> was his second son Thomas<sup>4</sup>, born probably in 1715, Major of the 8th Royal Irish Dragoons.\* Before entering the army he went out as Lieutenant of Marines on board the *Wager*, man-of-war, in Lord Anson's expedition to the South Seas, and was wrecked with Lord Byron and Captain Cheape in the course of Lord Anson's celebrated voyage in 1746, the party suffering great hardships and being given up for lost. He married his first cousin Elizabeth Urquhart, daughter of Colonel Alexander Urquhart of Newhall, and sister of Grizel, wife of Sir Robert Dalzell, sixth Earl of Carnwath. (Grizel who was Earl's second wife, was a great-grand-daughter of John Hamilton of Muirhouse and Olivestob. The Earl's third wife, as we have seen, was Margaret, daughter of John Hamilton of Bangour, grand-daughter of John Hamilton<sup>1</sup>). Major Thomas Hamilton<sup>4</sup> died in 1773. He had at least seven children,—five sons, all of whom are said to have been in the army, and to have died unmarried, and two daughters, Jean<sup>5</sup>, who was married to Major Gibson, and a daughter who died unmarried. The very few living descendants of Major Thomas Hamilton can give little information about this family save in the case of the daughter Jean<sup>5</sup>. Mr. J. G. H. Starke, who is a grandson of Jean and her husband Major Gibson, writes that the last surviving son was John<sup>5</sup>, a captain in the 73d Regiment, who left everything at his death to his sister Jean, but he does not know the names of his other great uncles. Captain John's will, Mr. Starke says, is in his possession, and is dated January 17, 1785. Major Gibson and his wife Jean Hamilton<sup>5</sup> had two daughters: Jean<sup>6</sup> who was married to James Starke, Esq., of Troqueer Holm, and Sarah,<sup>6</sup> who died unmarried in 1857. Major Gibson had his arms impaled with those of Hamilton of Olivestob. The only descendants of Major Thomas Hamilton<sup>4</sup> now living are the two sons of Mr. James Starke:

\*King George once said of Major Thomas Hamilton<sup>4</sup> at a review at Portobello : "Put Hamilton on horseback and Elphinstone on foot, and show me twomen in the Kingdom like them."

James Gibson Hamilton Starke, Esq., of Troqueer Holm, Dumfriesshire, M.A., F.S.A., J.P. (born February 9, 1837, m. April 15, 1863, Amelia, daughter of the Rev. Richard Rowland Bloxam, M.A.), who was called to the Scottish bar in 1862, and was for nine years one of H. M. judges in Jamaica; and Major General William Starke, born April 18, 1839.

Mr. J. G. H. Starke, in the seventh generation from John of Muirhouse and Olivestob, is therefore the lineal representative (*heir of line*) of Col. Thomas Hamilton<sup>2</sup>, and as such a few years ago took the additional surname of Hamilton and had assigned to him the arms of Thomas Hamilton<sup>2</sup>. Where the *heirship male* of the family of Thomas Hamilton is, it is impossible to say, but it seems unlikely that of all his eight sons there are none who have living descendants bearing the family name; it is almost certain, at least, that there are male descendants of Major Otho Hamilton of the 40th Regiment.

Mr. J. G. H. Starke possesses miniatures of Major Thomas Hamilton<sup>4</sup> and his wife Elizabeth Urquhart, and also seals and letters of the family.

ARCHIBALD HAMILTON<sup>3</sup> (Colonel Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone), baptized April 21, 1681. At his baptism, as we have seen, two of the witnesses were Archibald first Earl of Forfar (son of Archibald second Earl of Ormond), and Henry Hamilton<sup>2</sup>, the child's uncle. As in the case of so many others of the Olivestob Hamiltons we have no preserved record of Archibald's<sup>3</sup> family, but in 1747 he had a grandson Henry<sup>5</sup> born (apparently the child of a son ~~of~~ Otho<sup>4</sup>), who came to America about 1770 and founded a small family, the leading branch of which was in the Province of Nova Scotia. Henry<sup>5</sup> married in New England, October 5, 1780, Eunice, daughter of Jeremiah Lord, Esq., of a well-known American family, between whom and the New Hampshire Wentworths there were frequent intermarriages, and died February 21, 1819. His seven children were: Sarah<sup>6</sup>, Otho<sup>6</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>6</sup>, Henry<sup>6</sup>, Margaret<sup>6</sup>, Simeon<sup>6</sup>, and Archibald<sup>6</sup>, of whom Otho, Henry, Margaret, Simeon, and Archibald were named for members of their father's family in Scotland. Of these sons, Otho<sup>6</sup>, born May 2, 1784, and Henry<sup>6</sup>, born November 2,

1787, alone married. Otho<sup>6</sup> married in Nova Scotia, June 19, 1813, Maria Starr, only daughter of Samuel and Lydia (DeWolf) Starr, and a near connection of the Willoughbys, and by her had seven children: Susan<sup>7</sup>, born March 10, 1814, Minetta Bath<sup>7</sup>, born March 15, 1816, Henry<sup>7</sup> Starr, born August 18, 1818, Margaret Maria<sup>7</sup>, born February 6, 1821, Otho<sup>7</sup> born August 2, 1823, Josephine Collins<sup>7</sup> born December 11, 1826, Anna Augusta Willoughby<sup>7</sup>, born September 11, 1828. *The sons of this family died leaving no issue.* Of the daughters, Margaret Maria, was married to Brenton Halliburton Harris, fifth son of the Hon. James Delap Harris, M.L.C. (s. p.); Josephine Collins<sup>7</sup> was married (1) to Rufus Eaton, Esq., (2) to the Rev. D. Stuart Hamilton, D.C.L. (probably of the *Bathgate* family); Anna Augusta Willoughby<sup>7</sup> was married to William Eaton, Esq., and died September 23, 1883. Susan<sup>7</sup> died February 17, 1892, Minetta Bath<sup>7</sup> died February 13, 1892.

Josephine Collins Hamilton<sup>7</sup> by both marriages has five children living; Anna Augusta Willoughby Hamilton<sup>7</sup> by her marriage to William Eaton has six children living, of whom the Rev. Arthur Wentworth Hamilton Eaton is the eldest.

Otho Hamilton<sup>6</sup> died May 21, 1831. His brother Henry<sup>6</sup> married a cousin, Mary Lord, and died November 25, 1825, leaving one daughter<sup>7</sup> Mary Elizabeth Hamilton<sup>7</sup>, born November 4, 1824, who is still living. By the death in Nova Scotia in 1892, of the two eldest daughters of Otho<sup>6</sup>, the Hamilton name in this American branch of the Olivestob family became extinct.

MAJOR OTHO HAMILTON<sup>3</sup> (Colonel Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup> and Anna Elphinstone), born about 1690, is one of the most interesting persons with whom we have to deal. He also spent many years of his life in the Province of Nova Scotia, where he was connected with the military government, where he married, and where his three children undoubtedly were born. He himself was almost certainly born in Edinburgh, though his baptism is not recorded there, about the year 1690.

On the eleventh of April, 1713, the famous Treaty of Utrecht was signed, by which Nova Scotia or Acadia was finally ceded to Great

Britain, and passed from under French control. In December, 1714, there were in the garrison of Annapolis Royal, three independent companies having as captains, respectively, J. Williams, Lawrence Armstrong, and Christopher Aldridge. The only officers in Williams' company (which consisted in all of forty-three men) above the rank of sergeant, were himself and a young Ensign, Otho Hamilton, who had undoubtedly but lately come to the Acadian Province-by-the-Sea.\* The settlement of Nova Scotia first and last attracted many Scotchmen, and young Hamilton was no doubt one of a number who came at this time together to Annapolis. January tenth, 1715, on entering the army, he took the oath of allegiance to King George I., and one of the witnesses thereto was Dr. William Skene, probably also an Edinburgh man, who was for many years afterwards, apparently, the leading physician at this little military post in the new world, and probably Mr. Hamilton's father-in-law. Later there were four companies at Annapolis, and in 1717 these, with four companies at Placentia in Newfoundland, and two companies besides, were formed into one regiment under the command of Colonel Philipps, which was thenceforth to be known as the 40th Regiment of Foot. Promotion for Mr. Hamilton came slowly, for it was not until September 3, 1739, that he received his Captaincy, and not until 1761 that he received his Majority. In 1727, however, he was appointed acting Secretary of the Council of Nova Scotia, and in 1731 was created a Member of Council, which position he held, in addition to his military command, until at least 1740, when he was one of the five councillors appointed by royal commission from Nova Scotia, to help settle the disputed boundaries between the Province of Massachusetts Bay and the Colony of Rhode Island.

\* There was also a John Hamilton at Annapolis at an early Period. In March, 1734, the Lieutenant-Governor commissioned "John Hamilton, gentleman," Naval Officer for the port of Annapolis. September 30th, of the same year, John Hamilton, Deputy Collector and Naval Officer, was ordered to go in the sloop Mary, Stride, master, to St. John, to prevent illicit trade. Murdoch's History of Nova Scotia, Vol II., pp. 97, 501, 503. In 1736 he was a Member of the Council and received grants of land. April 23, 1740 he was sworn in Assistant Secretary of the Council, and in 1749 he made a demand for damage sustained by the pulling down of a building or buildings belonging to him, during the siege of Annapolis. Who this John Hamilton was is not known, but it seems likely that he was a near relative, perhaps a cousin, or even another brother of Major Otho's.

In the Nova Scotia archives after 1740 there are frequent notices of Mr. Hamilton, who remained in the Province until at least 1764, when he probably retired from the army and received the appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of Placentia, a town and garrison on the northern shore of Newfoundland. We do not know the exact date of his appointment to this post, nor whether he ever actually resided in Placentia, but we do know that for some reason he soon removed to Waterford, Ireland, where he made his will in 1768, and died, February 17, 1770. In this will, which was proved March 14, 1770, and where he appears as "Otho Hamilton of the city of Waterford, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor of the Town and Garrison of Placentia in His Majesty's Island of Newfoundland," he mentions, besides his children and their families, his friend Charles Gould, Esquire, of the Horse Guards, his servant Cæsar, to whom he bequeaths his freedom and ten pounds, and his "*wife's sister, Mrs. Anne Skene.*" His executors are his two sons and Charles Gould. From this reference to his wife's sister Mrs. (probably *Mies*) Anne Skene, and from the fact of his early acquaintance with the Skene family in Annapolis, an acquaintance which most likely began in Scotland, it seems almost certain that his wife was a daughter of Dr. William Skene,\* but otherwise than in this record we have no clue to her name. The only direct mention we have ever found of her is in a letter of Major Hamilton's to Paul Mascarene, of August 15, 1726, preserved in the Nova Scotia archives. Major Hamilton's children were two sons, John and Otho, and a daughter Grizel. His eldest son John<sup>t</sup>, who was born probably after 1720, in November, 1749, was Lieutenant of the 40th at Captain Handfield's fort at Mines, and in 1754, Captain at Annapolis Royal, and Fort Lawrence. In the former year he and eighteen men belonging to the fort at Mines were captured by a party of Indians and taken to Quebec, where they were kept for about two years until they were ransomed by the payment of a sum of money. During

\* He was possibly the William Skene born June 14, 1676, son of Robert and Barbara (Douglas) Skene, and grandson of the Rev. Andrew Skene, Parson of Turriff in Aberdeenshire, who died in 1678. Robert and Barbara Skene had children; John, b. 28 Dec., 1671, Anna, b. 9 Aug., 1673, William, b. 14 June, 1676. See Skene family memorials, pp. 65. There was also a Mr. William Skene, master of the High School in Edinburgh, whose will was recorded May 2, 1718.

his imprisonment Lieutenant Hamilton made the acquaintance of the notorious Abbé Le Loutre, who afterwards made him the medium of communication between himself and the English Government. In his father's will John Hamilton is called "Captain John Hamilton, late of the 40th Foot," which seems entirely to disprove Anderson's statement that he succeeded his father in the Majority and was Colonel of the 40th Regiment when he died. A young widower he married (2) at Annapolis, August 15, 1752, Mary Handfield, daughter of Captain John Handfield of the 40th, who was concerned in the removal of the Acadians from Nova Scotia in 1755, Captain Handfield himself in the absence of a chaplain performing the ceremony. By Major Otho's<sup>3</sup> will we learn that John had three sons, Otho,<sup>5</sup> William,<sup>5</sup> and Thomas,<sup>5</sup> one or more of whom, or whose descendants, according to Anderson, in 1825 were living in Cumberland, England. John<sup>4</sup> died before 1802, Anderson says, in Ireland.

Major Otho's son Otho<sup>4</sup> probably entered the army very early, though there are few notices of him to be found until October 21, 1768, when in his father's place as *Major of the 40th Regiment* he married, in Ireland, Catherine Elizabeth Clement Hawtrey, of Waterford, probably a sister of Rev. Ralph Hawtrey, whose name appears in his will. In 1767-8 the 40th Regiment, and Major Hamilton with it, was quartered at Dublin, and in 1769 at Cork. Between 1772 and 1778, it was stationed at various places in America, in the latter year at Philadelphia. At some time after 1768 Major Hamilton was transferred to the 59th Regiment, and by Vol. 13, p. 18, of the "Essex Institute" (Mass.) we learn that as Colonel of the 59th, he came to the assistance of Governor Gage at Boston, in 1774. Anderson says: "He died in 1811, after an active and honorable service of half a century's continuance, principally in America, under the late Lord Amherst and General Wolfe, by whose friendship and confidence he was particularly distinguished." His will was made, February 5, 1802, and proved by his widow at London (in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and a copy lodged in the Prerogative Court of Ireland), April 5, 1811. In this record he is called, "Otho Hamilton, of the parish of St. Margaret's, Westminster, Co. Middlesex, Barrack Master of Romford, Co. Essex." He leaves a considerable property, including his dwelling house at 15, James Street, Westminster, and in his will mentions his son Ralph, his daughter Grizel Ann Hamilton<sup>5</sup>, his grandson Otho William

Hawtrey Hamilton<sup>6</sup>, his brother John Hamilton (deceased), and the Rev. Ralph Hawtrey of Waterford, Ireland.

Of Colonel Ralph Hamilton<sup>4</sup> of the Horse Guards, only son of Col. Otho Hamilton<sup>4</sup>, Anderson says in 1827: "Col. Otho Hamilton's only son, the present Col. Ralph Hamilton, entered the army in 1783, served abroad with the Guards on the breaking out of the French Revolutionary War in 1793, and as Aid-de-Camp to the present Duke of Gloucester in North Holland, in 1799. He has now living, three sons and one daughter." These were Otho William Hawtrey, William Frederick, George Burton, and Emma Eliza. Col. Hamilton wrote a poetical account of the campaigns of 1793 and 1794.

Grizel,<sup>4</sup> the only daughter of Major Otho Hamilton<sup>3</sup>, and sister of John<sup>4</sup> and Otho<sup>4</sup>, was married before 1768 to General Richard Dawson of the Engineers. She and her husband are mentioned in her father's will. Their children are also mentioned, but not by name.

Hugh Hamilton<sup>1</sup>, brother of John<sup>1</sup> of Muirhouse and Olivestob, married (1) Jeane Thomson, who bore him at least five children; (2) Christian Ewing, who bore him at least nine. The names of these children were: Susanna, Marion, Jeane, John, Anna, Archibald, Christian, Marion, Hugh, John, Archibald, Anna, James, and Margaret. The record of their baptisms will be found in the Parish Registers of Edinburgh.

Anderson states that among the Olivestob Hamiltons in Scotland, a settled tradition existed that there was a near relationship between them and the distinguished Hamiltons of Sweden, Barons and Counts. A member of the Olivestob family, it is said, "when a young man, was sent to Sweden to a mercantile house, where he had not long remained when he entered the Swedish army, rose in course of time to high military rank, and finally settled in Sweden." If this tradition is at all correct, it may have been one of the brothers of John Hamilton<sup>1</sup>, who founded the Swedish family; it certainly was not one of his sons. The first of the Swedish family ennobled was Hugo, who in 1654 was created a Baron of Sweden by Queen Christina: Hugh<sup>2</sup>, son of John<sup>1</sup>, was not born until 1649, so the founder of the Swedish branch of the family must be put at least a generation back of the children of John Hamilton<sup>1</sup> of Muirhouse and Olivestob.