

By the Same Author

TRUE ROMANCES OF SCOTLAND
(*in collaboration with E. M. PATERSON*)

THE OLIPHANTS OF GASK

THE CHILDREN OF FRANCE

THE BEAUTIFUL MRS GRAHAM

THE MAXTONES OF CULTOQUHEY.



CULTOQUHEY FROM THE SOUTH.

THE MAXTONES OF CULTOQUHEY

BY

E. MAXTONE GRAHAM



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TO
ALL DESCENDANTS OF THE
OLD LAIRDS OF CULTOQUHEY
NOW LIVING, AND TO THOSE
WHO ARE TO COME

*Sen I have tane travaill and diligence to collect and gadder the
historie and cronicle of thy House and surename . . . and to set
furth the samin; quhilk culd nocht weill be done wythout pane and
labour, as thou may know by the process and inspectioun of this lytill
Boke; quhilk I present to thee, willing the samin to be thankfullie
resavit, thocht it be of small valour. Accept my gude mynd for the
rest. I desyr none uther recompense but that thou will follow thy
maist honorable predecessouries, and flee and forbeir all vyce, and
eschew all thingis contrair to thy honour and gude conscience.*

FROM "THE HISTORY OF THE HOUSE
OF SEYTOUN," 1559, BY SIR RICHARD
MAITLAND OF LETHINGTON, KNIGHT.

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THE MAXTONES OF CULTOQUHEY

CHAPTER I

THE FIRST FIVE LAIRDS OF CULTOQUHEY

THE object of this book is to draw together the frail threads of the story of a simple Scottish family, recording as far as possible with the slight material available, for their descendants now living and for those who are to come, the lives and activities of the owners of Cultoquhey, who have lived upon the lands from father to son for more than five centuries.

Neither historical background nor the prestige giving to some great families a dazzling appeal to the imagination can be claimed for the Maxtones of Cultoquhey. They belonged to a quiet but tenacious race. Little light can be thrown on the characters of the earlier lairds, for there remains only what can be gathered from the arid disclosures of charters, and other legal documents, bearing the signatures that form the only proof that they ever lived. Later traditions and legends lift the veil to some extent, till the great enlightenment of letters brings nearer the realization of life and personality. Unfortunately the Maxtones of the far past do not emerge clearly into this light. Among the family papers there are no letters until late in the seventeenth century, and the few that are dated about that time reveal nothing of general interest. Like many such collections of all ages, the great events of the day are passed over without comment. Their only value lies in the occasional glimpses giving some aspect of old Scottish domestic life. But even these are few and far between. Through the early generations the Maxtones produced no good letter-writer, and had few correspondents, to throw a strong light on a family otherwise obscure. It will be realized from many gaps and unfinished episodes that much has been destroyed in the past and that the present record is not drawn from a wealth of material. Of the earlier lairds, it can only

be said that they did certainly live, possess the estate, and die, leaving the inheritance to a son.

Cultoquhey¹ lies in Central Perthshire, in the parish of Fowlis Wester, three miles east of Crieff and fifteen westward from Perth. A small property between the range of the Ochil hills to the south and the Grampians to the north, it has always been surrounded by larger estates. The Morays of Abercairny, the Campbells of Monzie, the Murrays of Dollerie, the Keith Murrays of Ochtertyre, the Drummonds of Concraig, the owners of Ferntower and Balgowan, were the nearest neighbours, and for the most part were established families before the date of the earliest Maxtone charters. The interests of all these landowners were a threat to the small undefended property. Possibly safety lay in the fact that all alike looked with desire on the nestling fields and woods of Cultoquhey and kept a jealous eye on one another; but there must have been kindly friendship too, for the Cultoquhey estate, though often threatened, was never dismembered.

The house which sheltered so many generations was built on the site of some earlier long-vanished stronghold, first mentioned in a charter of 1545 as a "Fortalice and Tower." A relic of this stronghold remains to-day in the great stone dug out of the foundations when the old house was demolished, and which bears a modern inscription notifying that it marks the exact situation of the dwelling-place that must have replaced the "Fortalice and Tower." According to the only picture that has been found, this was a small compact house with wings, to modern ideas far too small for the families that were reared within its walls; but until recently the standards of comfort in Scotland were primitive. Privacy was little considered and rules of health unknown. The household staff would be crowded into a couple of attics, and the children packed like sardines in small bedrooms at night. All the lesser Scottish houses were overcrowded; but, in spite of this drawback, hospitality was one of the first rules of country life. There must always be room for guests at bed and board, and besides, shelter was given as a matter of course to certain members of the older generation. As each laird and lady succeeded to the estate, one or two unmarried Maxtone ladies were left, as the tide of life receded, cast on the shore, to be protected and cared for by the younger people. With the unfailing arrival of the new family group, it must often have been a tight squeeze in the old house of Cultoquhey.

¹ The name Cultoquhey is the anglicized form of the Gaelic Cùilt a' Chadha, meaning "*Nook of the Path.*" A *cadha* is a hollow path in a hill face. In the old form the original would have been Cùilt a' chói. (Information given by Professor W. J. WATSON.)

The outlook from the new house, now more than a hundred years old, is practically the same, as it stands only a few yards to the west of the ancient site, looking out over the wide coloured strath to the Ochil range of hills. The house itself remains just as it was designed by Sir Robert Smirke, a noted architect in his day, with no changes or additions, but the present grounds with the grouping of fine trees and terraces and the wooded approach from Gilmerton village were laid out long after by James Maxtone Graham, the 13th laird, about 1860.

There is an earlier history of Cultoquhey, for it came within the scope of the Roman occupation in the days of Agricola. Urns and ashes have been dug up in the mounds and ditches of a small camp on the estate, probably connected with a great camp at Fendoch, an important stronghold of the Roman legions in the Sma' Glen. Possibly further research might unearth valuable relics, but in the meantime the story of the occupation remains in the realms of surmise, supported by plain indications that the Romans were certainly there.

The legendary origin of the family name is set forth here as a matter of interest, but the statements gathered from vague sources are merely scraps of tradition, handed down without any foundation in historical record.

It is an established fact that there lived a man Maccus in the reign of David I., between 1116 and 1147, who was a landowner of some note in his day. His manor was called Maccus-ton, and lay on the left bank of the Tweed in Roxburghshire. The village of Maxton is still in existence on the spot. It is claimed by some genealogical writers that the Maxtones came northwards from thence, and being of Saxon origin had nothing to do with the migration of knights from the south. The reason of the change from Roxburghshire to Perthshire is all conjecture. Possibly the family groups were carried northward in the tide of seekers after land in the train of some Norman conqueror. Among all the dark gropings of research into the shadows of these remote times, only one definite piece of evidence emerges—the identity of the name of the Roxburgh village, and the name of the owners of Cultoquhey.

The earliest definite mention of a Maxtone is in the record of Alexsaunders de Maxtone who was Constable of the Castle of Roxburgh in 1285 and 1290. His name appears on the Ragman Roll, the great list of the nobility and gentry of Scotland who were tyrannically compelled to subscribe allegiance to Edward I. of England in 1296. To bear a name not to be found on the Ragman Roll is a distinction claimed and valued by certain families, but it was a fairly compre-

hensive list, and though Alexsaunders de Maxtone bent to the storm and signed it, he did so in good company, for the name of Robert Bruce also appears there, with numerous others who later acquitted themselves honourably in their country's cause.

No link has yet been traced connecting this early Maxtone with the first owner of Cultoquhey, nor is it known who was this original laird. There is a long gap of years between the signing of the Ragman Roll and the earliest Maxtone known for certain as holder of lands in Perthshire. But for several generations the first laird has been reckoned to be Robert de Maxtone, for the reason that the first charter in the family charter-chest conferred the lands upon him in 1429. In reality he was not by any means the first, and this fact came to light one hundred and fifty years after his death, when his grandson, another Robert, the 3rd laird, "compeirit before the Lords Council," 30th January 1508, and gave in a charter "desirit the sammyn to be registrat and transumpt." This charter¹ concerned a far earlier John of Cultachy, who in 1360 was summoned to produce his charter of the lands, by the Earl of Strathearn (afterwards Robert II.), during the Justice Ayre at Crieff. John pleaded his rights, in spite of having no charter to show. He appealed to a jury, and it was decided that Cultachy was held of the said Earl for three suits (attendances at Court) and one merk of silver yearly, in name of blench Farme. His descendant, asking in 1508 for evidence of his right to the land, produced this charter of 1360. The original charter to Robert de Maxtone of the Cultoquhey estate cannot at present be found, but it is believed to have borne the date of the year 1410. In a subsequent charter by King James III. of Scotland, dated 5th August 1483, the original charter is referred to as having been granted in the reign of King James I. of Scotland.

The dates of the birth and death of Robert de Maxtone, who continues to be reckoned as the 1st laird of Cultoquhey, are not known, nor the name of his wife. By the deed of 1429 he held the lands for a pair of white gloves at the Kirk of Crieff on the Feast of Michael the Archangel, if asked only. The charter is by "William de Foulerton, Lord of Aberuthven, in favour of Robert de Maxtone of the said William's lands of Achillquheny² with the pertinents

¹ *Acta Dominorum Concilii*, vol. xx., fol. 71.

² Auchilhanzie, spelt in a variety of ways, is mentioned in all the early charters, and nearly always in connection with the name Rogie, or Roge. This association between owners and tenants of these lands has continued all down the five centuries to the present day.

Auchilhanzie is in the Gaelic of to-day Ach' Ghille Choinnich, and means "*Field of St Cainneach's Servant.*" The older form is Achadh Ghille Chainnigh. (Information given by Professor W. J. WATSON.)

lying in the earldom of Strathearn and county of Perth, for the said Robert's service and counsel rendered to the said William to be holden *de me*." Nothing personal is known of the 1st laird, beyond the facts that he was dead before August 1483, and that he left a son, Patrick.

Scottish life in the middle of the fifteenth century is difficult to realize apart from the figures and dramas of history. The kings, the feudal lords, the great ecclesiastics, with their achievements and quarrels, ringing still across the centuries, overshadow obscurer lives. Life was simple; war and farming forming the two preoccupations of overlord and peasant. Besides the great nobles there were smaller landowners who lived on their own estates, neither feudal lords in their strongholds, nor peasant clansmen sheltering under their shadow, but holding rights from the king or a feudal superior over the soil, housing themselves in their own buildings—often wooden castles with towers and fortalices—farming their own lands. To this group no doubt the early Maxtones belonged. One simple fact of their history is clear. The lands of Cultoquhey bestowed by James III. in the middle of the fifteenth century have been firmly held by successive lairds from that day to this. No Maxtone added to his inheritance, neither did any part with an acre. From father to son, in unbroken male succession, the little compact estate descended for fifteen generations.

Now and again a Maxtone does appear for a moment, to touch the fringe of history, but only twice is he found engaged in perilous championship of man or cause. His excitements as a Perthshire landowner would chiefly concern inroads of raid and foray from the Highlands, crimes and disorders to be avenged with fierce protective retaliation by the Lowlands. His property lay precariously between the cattle raising and the cattle raiding. He looked southwards across the wide strath, even then cultivated and supporting herds of black cattle, to the line of the Ochils, while at his back the hills rose into moorland and broke at last into the wild tumbled masses of the Grampians. There must have been sport enough among those trackless glens and hills, haunts of wolves and deer, if he had time for any such pursuit, as he wrung a living out of the soil, his hands too full in keeping caterans at bay to set himself to the pleasures of hunting. No doubt, however, he would look to the hills and rivers to fill his larder. His diversions would indeed be few, in a life of intense and pressing reality filled with primitive occupations. But Crieff was less than three miles away, and there the ordinary weekly market enlivened the churchyard on Sundays. In later times the great cattle sales took place three times

a year, when 30,000 black cattle were driven down from the north, escorted by lawless groups of wild Highlanders, demanding food and shelter, and causing an exciting break in the routine of the countryside. All the events of public life were vivid and picturesque. The Earl of Perth opened the fairs in person, riding splendidly with his guard of halbert-men, provided by his tenants. In the morning, in a field outside Crieff, he held his Court of Justice,¹ with full powers of life and death. Afterwards he rode about the marches of the town, stopping at every place where his land touched that of other landowners, and there he himself proclaimed his titles. Maxtone of Cultoquhey doubtless often witnessed this characteristically feudal scene.

Cultoquhey is only on the borders of the Highlands, and looking southwards the Maxtones might watch the progress of a civilization that included a new-born recognition of beauty. The poets were singing; wit and romance were finding expression. A race of minstrels and bards had for long passed over the countryside, keeping alive traditions of great deeds and fairy lore, when few people could read or write, but now poetry was assuming a more definite form. During the lifetime of Robert Maxtone he witnessed activities of a new kind and awoke to another aspect of beauty in the building of splendid churches and abbeys. Certain charters disclose that he went sometimes to Edinburgh, and so may have watched the building of Holyrood Abbey, and looked upon the exquisite fairy tracery of Roslin in the making.

Rites and festivals of the Church loomed large in the lives of country people. Time was reckoned by the return of Christmas, Pasche and Corpus Christi. These solemnities were observed at Crieff and Perth with great pageantry. Mysteries and morality plays were in reality links with pagan times. The gay merrymaking of pagan tradition was so riotous that the Church stepped in and forbade certain plays which seemed to excite the populace beyond reason.

The Abbey of Inchaffray, a great centre of light and learning, had for more than two hundred years before the date of the first charter of Cultoquhey held austere command over the scattered dwellers of Strathearn. The authority of the abbots was supported by the Crown and the great feudal landowners. It is improbable that near this mighty lamp of power very uncivilized conditions prevailed, but the chiefs of clans farther north continued a lively intermittent but savage warfare of their own.

¹ A standing stone still to be seen in a meadow beside the Muthil road marks the spot.

Patrick Maxtone, the 2nd laird, succeeded his father, according to a charter dated 5th August 1483. This is a charter under the Great Seal by James III. in favour of Robert Maxtone, son and heir-apparent of Patrick Maxtone, of the lands of Cultoquhey. Patrick died in 1487, so his reign as laird lasted only four years. The name of his wife is never mentioned, but the names of several children appear in various documents: Robert, the heir, William, and a daughter, who married James, second son of David Drummond of Milnab. The Milnab family was an offshoot of the great house of Drummond of Concraig. The first name of this Maxtone daughter does not appear, but she was certainly married about 1480. To Mistress Drummond three sons were born, grandsons of Cultoquhey. According to a custom of the day, the eldest boy, David, was sent as a youth into the household of the head of his father's family, John Lord Drummond of Stobhall, who held a great position in Strathearn, and had lately built for himself the imposing stronghold of Drummond Castle, near Crieff. The boy when living there must often have ridden home to Milnab, and across the strath to his grandfather's home at Cultoquhey. Among the group of his young kinsfolk at the castle he was known by the nickname "Davie the Doctor." Of the six daughters of Lord Drummond three lived at home: Eupheme, wife of John, 4th Lord Fleming, Sybilla, who was unmarried, and Margaret, whose beauty and charm had years ago so wrought on the heart of the young King James IV. that, to the consternation of Scottish statesmen, the idea began to grow that, having looked upon her so long as his wife, he intended to make her his Queen. The whole country counted on an English match to bring peace. The hoped-for bride was another Margaret, sister of Henry VIII. of England. The true story will perhaps never be known, but there certainly existed, in this year of 1502, a powerful reason for wishing Margaret Drummond out of the way. Unless the whole tragedy was accidental, someone must have been found to undertake mass murder—a horror even in those days when human life was lightly regarded.

The family at Drummond Castle assembled for breakfast one fatal morning. Others may have been present, but certainly young David Drummond of Milnab was there, with the three sisters, Eupheme, Sybilla and Margaret. Hardly was the meal at an end when all four were seized with mortal pains. One by one during the day the three sisters died, of acute poisoning. Possibly Davie the Doctor had eaten less, or his constitution was stronger. Though falling into the same agony, he did not die. But he never recovered the effects of the poison, and all

his life after suffered from partial blindness. The three sisters lie before the altar in Dunblane Cathedral. The King's marriage to Margaret Tudor took place within a year. The remembrance of the Drummond crime soon faded, and no one was brought to justice. Only the homes of Milnab and Cultoquhey knew lasting sorrow, when the half-blind boy who survived the tragedy came home to face life as best he could.

Robert Maxtone, 3rd laird, succeeded in 1487 to the lands of Cultoquhey. He saw great changes in national life. Although there was always a background of war, clan disputes, and struggle for power between chiefs and the Crown, yet cultivation of the mind and a better standard of life were growing in spite of much restless insecurity. Every Highland family, and those on the borders of the Highlands, must be held in readiness to fight, equipped with armour and horses, and trained to shoot. But the histories and motives of human actions become clearer. The primitive incalculable element fades. It is possible to realize that the men of that day stood on the same ground, strove for the same advantages, were satisfied with the same achievements, as the men of to-day. The race seems to leap into social nearness with a modern age.

All life at Cultoquhey was not struggle and contention, but was lightened by many pleasures, before the Reformation swept these away as being, in some mysterious manner, incompatible with liberty of thought. There was a great deal of country dancing, especially in Perth and Crieff, the ceremonies of Beltane "bringing in the summer," games of golf, shinty, football, curling: above all there was music, then recognized as a necessity in national life. The ancient bards were gone, but minstrels and musicians were part of ordinary existence. Everyone was trained in part-singing.

Education in Scotland under James IV. was compulsory for the sons of barons and gentry. They were obliged to attend school, or otherwise obtain instruction, from the age of eight or nine till they had acquired a knowledge of Latin. They then went to the University of St Andrews, Glasgow or Aberdeen. Books were being printed in Scotland.

The children of the 3rd laird therefore came into a fuller inheritance than would have been dreamed of by their forbears. Still no mention of a wife's name is found, but his children can be traced. Besides his heir, Alexander, he had a daughter, Isabella, who married James Learmonth—the couple is mentioned in a document of 1515—and three sons, William, David and George—the two latter witness a

charter in 1514. There was also a son, Charles, who married, before 1511, Janet Buchanan of Coulchrie. The charter in which Janet is mentioned is relative to the succession of Charles's brother William in the lands of Coulchrie subject to the liferent of Janet; such provision, however, was to lapse if Janet in her widowhood should marry without consent of Robert Maxtone of Cultoquhey, David and George Maxtone, all her brothers-in-law. Should William disturb Janet in the enjoyment of her three-fourths of the property he was to pay a penalty of forty merks Scots.

In 1514 the storm broke that was to overwhelm Scotland and overshadow countless homes. A war undertaken by James IV. because Henry VIII. was going to make war on France was the nebulous pretext that led to the disaster of Flodden. But James IV. was to his people a knightly figure, with all the charm that gave the Stewart race their fateful attraction. When he called, the nation could but answer. The landowners rose into military activity, not only in obedience to feudal tradition, but from a personal impulse to follow his fortunes.

Robert Maxtone of Cultoquhey heard and answered the summons. At the Borough Muir, near Edinburgh, he joined the great host assembled there, of all ages and of all ranks. With him went his nearest friends and neighbours, the Earls of Montrose and Atholl, Haldanes of Gleneagles, Oliphants of Gask, Murrays of Ochertyre, Morays of Abercairny, groups of Rollos, Ruthvens, Scotts, a troop of Perthshire gentlemen, many of whom had never seen service before, a whole generation representing the progress and stability of the land. On 22nd August they crossed the Tweed with the rest of the Scottish forces, marching to the banks of the Till, where the armies of Henry and James came face to face. Few of the Perthshire men returned. Robert Maxtone was among the fallen. The Grahams of Kincardine lost two brothers, the Oliphants two brothers, the Morays of Abercairny lost father and son. The families of Gleneagles, Monzie, Ochertyre, Duncrub and Colquhailzie were also stricken.

Though no great national issues were involved in the quarrel, the fact of the King's death in battle, and the heavy losses among his adherents, made so deep an effect over the whole country that the date 1513 stands out in Scotland to this day, dark with a tragic and ineffaceable memory. There exists a Maxtone charter, dated 1st June 1514, "in favour of Alexander Maxtone, son and heir of the deceased Robert Maxtone of Cultoquhey, who was killed under the Royal Standard in the battle between the Scotch and English on the 9th day of September, on the battlefield called Flodoun." This charter

has a special interest in mentioning the name "Flodoun," as some historians have put forward an idea that the fight near the village of Branksome was called by that name, and not known as Flodden for many years later, but the above charter, dated eight months after the event, disproves this theory.

Alexander Maxtone, 4th laird, is the first of the line whose wife's name appears in the charters. She was "Catherine Gregor, wife of Alexander Maxtone." There exists a perplexing entry in the *Chronicle of Fortingall*, where the death is recorded of "Katherine Neyn Dowyll V'Agn wife of the Baron of Kyrquharie, and afterwards spouse of Alexander Maxtone of Culthequhay, who died at Culthequhay the last day of April 1553." The Maxtone charters make no mention of the lady by this name, but it is certain that the two Catherine's were one and the same person. It is possible to trace something of her history. Macgregor of Glenstrae ruled as chief over groups of families of different names. Surnames were for long unknown in the Highlands. Clan names were in general use. When the members branched off into separate lands other names were acquired. It is very likely that Catherine Gregor of the Maxtone charters belonged to the Dow family, of whom Gregor himself was a branch, and that she was among the Macgregors at Fortingall or the neighbourhood. Catherine's first marriage was to a Robertson, Chief of Kyrquhin (Carwhin), a member of a neighbouring clan. The date of her marriage to Alexander Maxtone is not known. The first charter concerning her is dated 21st October 1545. Another, in 1546, gives her the liferent of Little Cultoquhey, probably the farm now known as the Littleton. Alexander died in that year. She outlived her husband by seven years. There was one son of the marriage, Robert, who succeeded to the lands of Cultoquhey.

Robert Maxtone, 5th laird of Cultoquhey, was owner of the lands for a short time only, as the charters show his son Patrick inheriting in 1556. Robert's wife was Elizabeth Ruderford. Genealogical books of reference state that Robert married a daughter of David Murray of Dollerie.¹ This is not confirmed by the Maxtone charters, which, in 1562, twice mention Elizabeth Ruderford as his widow and mother of his son Patrick. There were at least four sons of this marriage—Patrick, the heir, Alexander, Anthony and David. All are mentioned in a charter of 1581. All were alive in 1587. By 1606 Alexander was

¹ There were clearly marriages between the Murrays of Dollerie and their near neighbours, the Maxtones of Cultoquhey. Anthony Murray, 1st of Dollerie, according to Burke's *Landed Gentry*, married Christian Maxtone, and the daughter of their eldest son, David, married Robert Maxtone of Cultoquhey.

dead. A charter gives the names of David and Anthony as burgesses of Perth, and secures guardians for Alexander's son, another Alexander.

So much, and no more, is known of the first five lairds of Cultoquhey, shadowy figures moving in the mists of a past that no research can penetrate.

CHAPTER II

SCENES OF OLD PERTHSHIRE

DURING the sixteenth century the country had suffered an immense change. It is amazing that the flood of the Reformation swept over Scotland leaving so little recorded in private charters or letters of the day. No existing document indicates at what time the Cultoquhey family transferred allegiance from the ancient faith to the new doctrines. The Parliament of 1560 definitely established the Reformed Church, in the lifetime of Robert Maxtone, the 5th laird. The whole story of burning enthusiasms, martyrdom, struggles and sacrifices finds not one echo in the family records. The Maxtones evidently kept quiet, meddling no more in Church affairs than in the raids and forays of their neighbours. Law-abiders by nature and tradition, they probably slipped quietly into the new order of things. The bells of the great Abbey of Inchaffray ceased to sound across the strath, calling to prayer. The abbey was soon torn down, meeting the same destruction as did all other great religious houses. All beauty, all grace, all colour in the forms of worship went with them. An extinguishing dullness settled down on the religious life of the land. The rulers of the reformed creed were busy stopping the distractions of the people. Music, pageants in their seasons, dancings, plays, all that was picturesque, all that touched life with careless gaiety, came under the ban of the new authorities.

It was into a darkened world, heavy with the uncertainty of a great change in the minds of men, that Patrick Maxtone, the 6th laird, was born and grew to manhood. He succeeded his father in 1556. The earliest letter in the Maxtone collection is addressed to him, and is unsigned :

To ane honourable man the Laird Cultyquhey

RIGHT HON. SIR,—Efter maist herttie commendation this present is to asure you that fore as mickle as this Bearer John Sutherland quha is a frynd of myne is destitut at this present be reasoun of the

taking of the House of Logie, and he was ane of tham quha was therein. Therefoir will pray you that ye will lat him remane with you until the time that we see quhat ordour can be gotten thereanent and sua nocht doutting in your goodwill anent him I will refer the rest committing you to God. From Kincardin this 18th Oct. 1585.

Patrick Maxtone was twice married.¹ His first wife was Katharine Murray, who died in 1574. There were six children of this marriage: Agnes, Nicolas, Christian, Isabel, Katharine and Henry. Of these no further record is found, except the marriage of one daughter, Katharine, to Patrick Comrie of Ross, in 1594, and possibly that of Christian to Anthony Murray of Dollerie. Henry must have died young.

We come now to a Graham marriage, the first of five between Maxtones of Cultoquhey and the houses of Inchbrakie and Balgowan, forming a cousinship and family bond between Perthshire groups continued in several centuries. The wives of the Maxtones were invariably taken from neighbouring families. The charters show how hereditary in kinship were those who signed and supported the marriage contracts, leases, and other legal documents, the same names appearing through many generations.

Patrick Maxtone married again in 1587. His new wife was Nicolas Graeme, one of the four daughters of George Graeme, 2nd laird of Inchbrakie, and Marion Rollock, his wife. This distant ancestress of the Maxtones was the daughter of Andrew Rollock of Duncrub. Her whole life was passed within sight of her first home, for according to the custom of the country her father looked to a neighbouring estate to find her a husband. His choice fell across Strathearn, a few miles from Duncrub, upon George Graeme, laird of Inchbrakie, a very young man in 1555 at the time of the marriage. The old castle of Inchbrakie saw the birth of seven children, two sons and five daughters, who were all married to Perthshire men: Christane to Drummond of Balloch; Annas to Robertson of Fascally; Lillas, first to Colvill of Condie, and secondly to Laurence Oliphant of Gask; Katherine to Campbell of Monzie; while Nicolas remained nearest to her mother when she became the wife of Patrick Maxtone of Cultoquhey. Her father, the laird of Inchbrakie, died in 1575. Her mother, Marion, after three years of widowhood, looked no farther for her second husband than an adjacent estate. In 1578 she married John, a younger son of Graeme of Garvock. Six years after the marriage

¹ Proof of a first marriage was found recently in the Register of Wills in Edinburgh.

he purchased the estate of Balgowan,¹ and in this new home Marion reared another family of Graemes. By both her marriages she was linked with the destinies of ardent royalists. Graeme of Balgowan played a gallant part in support of his sovereign, James VI., in the Gowrie Conspiracy. Nicolas, as a daughter of Inchbrakie, transmitted to the Maxtone race a strong tradition of loyalty to the Crown.

Patrick Maxtone and Nicolas had been married five years when, in June 1592, the quiet life at Cultoquhey was enlivened by the romantic love affair of Nicolas's brother, young George Graeme, the second son of Inchbrakie, and Marion Crichton of Cluny. Marion was a daughter of Sir Robert Crichton of Eliock, who had acquired the estate of Cluny, near Blairgowrie, and a small island in the Cluny loch which is pointed out, with doubtful accuracy, as the birthplace of the Admirable Crichton, who was Marion's half-brother.

Sir Robert was dead and Marion had inherited landed property, an unlucky position for an unmarried woman in those times, for the possession of land made her a valuable pawn in the game of barter among powerful neighbours and relations, all anxious to profit in one way or another by the chance of an unmarried heiress in their midst.

The Graemes of Inchbrakie were cousins of the Crichtons. George was destined for the Church, and obtained his first charge when he was about twenty-five years old, the parish being at Cluny, near Blairgowrie, where accordingly he took up his duties. It was of course quite natural that he and Marion Crichton should fall in love, but the fact aroused a storm of protest among her family and friends. It was considered necessary to remove Marion at once from the danger of an imprudent match. Lady Crichton, her mother, had married again, James Stirling of Feddal, an estate not very far from Cultoquhey, while Stirling's brother owned Ardoch, a few miles across the strath. The idea was that Marion, who was then about sixteen, should finish her education at Feddal, under the eye of her mother and stepfather. Later, it was considered that Ardoch was a safer and more suitable home, and she was given in charge of Henry Stirling and his wife at that place. By this time the county was divided into two camps as to the case of George Graeme and Marion. Much resentment was felt by those of her relatives who wished for the Inchbrakie connection against those who supported Marion's mother in decreeing her banishment at Ardoch. To feel

¹ In 1584 Balgowan was bought from James Lord Innermeath, subject to a right of reversion, which was renounced by John Earl of Atholl, son of Lord Innermeath, and John Graeme's title thus became irredeemable.

resentment in those days was to be ready for prompt action, and there were always hot spirits at hand longing for adventure. The affair that has been called "The Raid of Ardoch" was planned and carried out by Sir Robert Crichton, Marion's brother, a character well known for lawless enterprises, and one of the swashbuckling young men who pass noisily across the stage of history with wild and generally fruitless daring.

In this case, Sir Robert got together a few young men reckless as himself, including Patrick Graeme of Inchbrakie, brother of young George Rollo of Duncrub, and forty other horsemen, fully armed. Across the strath they rode, and clattering to the gates of Ardoch demanded admission. Their aspect, however, was so threatening that they found the way barred. The three young ringleaders thereupon forced an entrance, frightened Lady Stirling with threats, and getting possession of Marion carried her off. The record does not say if she went willingly. It is quite unlikely that she suffered the slightest alarm, for the three chief abductors were very well known to her—Inchbrakie, the brother of her lover, Cluny, her own brother, and Andrew Rollo of Duncrub, a near cousin. Sir Robert Crichton was declared a rebel for this act of lawlessness, but nothing further seems to have happened to the raiders, though Marion's relations and their party cried loudly for reprisals.

The matter did not come into court, for a family settlement was effected. Patrick Murray was bound to produce Marion. Four of his friends gave heavy bail: Patrick Maxtone of Cultoquhey, William Graham of Panhoillis, £1000 each; John Graeme of Balgowan and Andrew Ramsay, £500 each. They undertook to produce Marion Crichton at the instance of the Stirlings. This bond is signed at Cultoquhey, where all the parties were assembled on 21st September 1592. Thus the affair, which had caused great excitement in the county, ended peaceably. George and Marion were married, and brought up four sons and seven daughters, George afterwards playing an important part in Scottish Church history, as Bishop of Dunblane in 1603 and Bishop of Orkney in 1615.¹

Patrick Maxtone and Nicolas, his wife, had a son William, 7th laird of Cultoquhey. According to Patrick's will, dated 10th May 1615, there were other children, as after nominating "Nicolace Graham" as sole executrix he orders distribution of his "free geir to the bairns lawfully procreated between them." Nicolas is mentioned in several documents from 1587 to 1615, and was still living and

¹ Marion died in Orkney in 1615. Her husband lived till 1647.

liferenting Little Cultoquhey in 1633, having long survived her husband, Patrick Maxtone, who died in 1618.

There are few personal glimpses of Patrick Maxtone, but he is known to have been a member of the Assize appointed to try Violet Mar of Kildeis, in October 1577, on a charge of "treasonable undertaking to put down my Lord Regent's Grace¹ by witchcraft." As most of the members of Assize were neighbouring lairds, Violet was probably of better social standing than most of the unfortunate victims of the witchcraft delusion. She was found guilty. The record of her fate is incomplete, but it mentions the name of Patrik Maxtoun of Cultoquhey as one of those "Absen ab assisa."

It has always been known in the family that a son of Cultoquhey was Prebendary of Durham Cathedral. An inquiry into dates suggests that this was Anthony Maxtone, a younger son of Patrick, the 6th laird, and his wife, Nicolas Graeme. The only churchman in the family, he probably went south at an early age. He could only have been nineteen when he took Deacons' Orders, and was ordained priest at the age of twenty. At twenty-five he was rector of Wolsingham, near Durham, and instituted to the Rectory of Middleton-in-Teesdale in 1619.

There is a story of course behind these rapid promotions, which seemed unlikely enough to fall to the lot of a young Scot from Central Perthshire, unconnected by family tradition with Church interests. But his mother was a Graeme of Inchbrakie, a member of a race whose services had won high honour with the Stuart kings, and it was Charles, Prince of Wales, who as a young man of nineteen presented the living of Middleton to another young man, not much older than himself, and afterwards, when he was King, had him still in remembrance, and recommended Anthony Maxtone to Bishop Morton for the canonry of the eighth stall at Durham in 1633. Anthony's house, where he was often in residence, is still to be seen there, facing the austere beauty of the cathedral. His real home was the country rectory at Wolsingham, where he died in 1641.

Canon Maxtone was twice married. His first wife was Ann, daughter of Ambrose Dudley of Chopwell. His second wife was Isabel, widow of Ralph Featherstonehaugh of Stanhope. His children were all by the first wife. He left no sons, but there are definite records of three daughters—Ann, Jane and Isabel. Ann married Thomas Bowes of Streathlam, who died in 1661. Her prudence and wisdom during long years of widowhood saved the estates for her

¹ James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton.

descendants. She died in 1705. Six sons and four daughters were born to Thomas and Ann Bowes. The fourth son, who ultimately succeeded to the Bowes estates, was William, who was born 1656, was M.P. for Durham, knighted in 1679, and died in 1706, having married in 1691 Elizabeth Blakiston of Gibside. The child of this marriage was George Bowes, who was born 1701, and married Mary Gilbert. Their only child and sole heiress to their great fortune was a daughter, Mary Eleanor Bowes, born 1749. She married in 1767 John Lyon, 9th Earl of Strathmore, who added the name of Bowes to his family name. This pair were the direct ancestors of the present Strathmore family. Mary Eleanor was the great-great-granddaughter of Canon Anthony Maxtone.

A more unlikely character to be a descendant of the Canon and of the old lairds of Cultoquhey than Miss Bowes could not be imagined. Highly coloured and diverting accounts of her two marriages, together with a medley of love affairs, are to be found in her own confessions and in pamphlets of the day. She proved indeed anything but a suitable mate for John Lyon or a welcome addition to his family. The traditions she added to the Strathmore records can only be described as deplorable.

By her first marriage she had three sons and two daughters. Lord Strathmore died in 1776. She lost no time in remarrying, but this time her choice fell on a disreputable fortune-hunter, Andrew Stoney, and the rest of her life, till she divorced him, was a martyrdom. She died in 1800, and was buried in Westminster Abbey in a "superb bridal dress"—whether her wedding garment for her first or second marriage will never be known.

Jane Maxtone, the Canon's second daughter, married, after her father's death, Sir Joseph Cradock of Harperley, a widower with four children. She had two daughters of her own, Jane and Peregrina. Jane was twice married, first to Thomas Thweng of Hilton Castle, Cleveland, by whom she had two daughters, who left no children, and secondly to Tockett of Tocketts. She had a Tockett son who was afterwards in the Royal Navy. Peregrina had a very sad life. She married Sir William Chaytor of Croft, a reckless spender, who died a debtor in the Marshalsea. Peregrina had eleven children, and lost all but three, all of whom died unmarried. She died herself in 1704, and was survived by her husband, who lived to 1717.

Isabel Maxtone, the Canon's third daughter, married Thomas Featherstonehaugh of Stanhope, and left a daughter, Peregrina, who married a cousin of the name of Wren in 1649. Of their five children,

Charles, the eldest, married Elizabeth Ruddock, and a daughter, Barbara, married John Fenwick.

These genealogical details are given in case descendants of Anthony Maxtone among Durham families to-day may be interested to trace their ancestry back to the old lairds of Cultoquhey.

William Maxtone, the 7th laird, succeeded his father in 1618. There is no record of his birth, the only certainty is that he was of age in 1628. He married Agnes Oliphant, daughter of George Oliphant of Bachilton. Now consisting of only a few fields, there was once doubtless a manor-house at Bachilton, for a branch of the Oliphant family lived there for some generations. The property lay immediately to the east of Cultoquhey. Agnes, who received a tocher of 4000 merks, is mentioned in several charters, which only reveal that the date of the marriage was certainly before 1630. Yet outside the charters there remains a record of William and Agnes, in an ancient stone heraldic shield taken from the old house, now placed over the door of the dairy at Cultoquhey, bearing the Maxtone and Oliphant arms, with the initials W.M. and A.O. on either side of the shield. The date at the top is very clearly 1602. This is perplexing, as William's parents were married in 1587, and even if their son was born the year after he could only have reached the age of fifteen in 1602. The stone shield must therefore commemorate some early un conjectured event in the joint lives of William and Agnes, or, more probably, the date was a mistake (1602 for 1620) made by an illiterate stonemason and never rectified.

Very few details survive of the lives of William and Agnes. That there was a scheme for letting the house and grounds of Cultoquhey in 1630 appears from the draft of a lease, which finds a place here because it gives a more distinct idea of the surroundings of the house than any other document:

"Tack dated 27 Aug. 1630 by William Maxtone of Cultoquhey and Agnes Oliphant to John Maxtone *in* Cultoquhey, letting to him the Mains of Cultoquhey with Manor Place thereof with houses biggins and yards, parks, pendicles, bounage of tenants and cottars, and all pertinents, presently possessed by said John Maxtone with samickle of the easter orchard to be ane kailyard to the said John and his foresaids, for seven years from Whitsunday 1631 occupied laboured and manured by him without break of terms freely, reserving to said William Maxtone and his spouse the orchards of Cultoquhey (except the part already granted of the easter orchard) and also reserving the remenant gardenis and orchards in Cultoquhey occupied

by the said William and his spouse with the gairdines croft and gairdners service together with these 2 acres of land in Cultoquhey possessed by the said William together with the chalmers situated on the east side of the clois with the Hall in Cultoquhey with two Kyis grass, following to the 2 acres of land possessed by the said William, the land to be laboured and tillit by said John at his own expense to be free to said William and spouse to be used by them as they shall think expedient." The tack includes "the woddis parkit, and to be parkit, bounded within the said mains to pasture his cattle thereon and providing the timber growing in the new park be not destroyed but keepit by both parties and reserving to said Annis Oliphant yearly someikle of the best croft land within the mains of Cultoquhey as will sow to her twa peckis of grain yearly." The rental was "40 bolls vitwall, being 24 bolls oatmeal and 16 beir, with the sum of 200 merks Scots (1½d. Stg.) 100 loads elding to the said William and spouse at their dwelling-house for the time provided it exceeds not 2 miles from Cultoquhey, over and above the leading other elding for the lands of Little Cultoquhey to furnish straw to the said William's rydding horse yearly and said John Maxtone is to uphold the park dykes of the wood and the houses and to leave them sufficient at his removing."

At the end there is a good signature, "William Maxtone." The tenant could not write.

William Maxtone died in May 1646. Agnes, his widow, outlived him for many years, liferenting Little Cultoquhey.

Their children were John, who succeeded as 8th laird, a son Alexander, and four daughters, Katherine, Nicolas, Agnes and Elspeth. All these are mentioned as being alive in a document of 1643. Agnes and Elspeth were alive in 1664, and one sister survived in 1677, when a nephew, John, sends her messages in a letter. Beyond these glimpses the Maxtone daughters of that generation have faded completely from all record. The name of their mother, Agnes Oliphant, appears in the marriage contract of her son, John Maxtone, with Isobel Graeme of Balgowan in 1677. She was still living, a very old woman, in 1681.

Life at Cultoquhey must have had its difficulties, for all through the seventeenth century there was little peace or security. Scotland was convulsed by the "Great Troubles," the Wars of Montrose. The origins of the quarrel seem to our later race very inadequate as a cause of so much misery and bloodshed, but the difference of creed between Episcopalian and Presbyterian appeared to the men of

300 years ago a vital issue for which it was worth while to fight and die. Montrose himself, who took up the sword ostensibly in the cause of religious differences, soon raised another standard, and under his commanding personality the issue was focussed into a defence of Charles I. and all that the Stuart dynasty stood for in Scotland, an heroic story from first to last. The Grahams stood solidly at his back, ready with money and arms.

When John Maxtone, the 8th laird, succeeded in 1646 he brings family history more clearly into the light. Among the records are proofs showing that Cultoquhey was not wholly outside the shock of events that stirred the kingdom, as the great Montrose flashed like a meteor back and forth across the Grampians, gathering to his standard all who would follow him in the King's cause. The first victory of Montrose was at Tippermuir, when he swept with his wild forces down the hill of Buchanty into Strathearn—so near Cultoquhey that the noise of battle could have been heard there.

The Committee of Estates, in the general alarm for public safety, hastily gathered adherents to the Covenant, but most of the lairds of Central Perthshire were definitely King's men. Cultoquhey had not so declared himself—unless indeed requisitions were sent broadcast to all landowners on the chance that some of them had not committed their fortunes and sympathies to the royalist cause. John Maxtone was still young, and his mother, Agnes Oliphant, living with him at Cultoquhey, when the following requisitions were made by the authorities:

"There was quartered upon John Maxtone and his mother in the parish of Foulis 16 soldiers of Duncan Menzies Company in August 1645 and stayed three days and nights. James Stewart received 3 dollars 3 firloths oatmeal when he lay at the wood of Methven when there was no billet given, and stayed for the space of 24 hours, for which they gave neither billet nor payment. Again 24 Sep. and again Sep. 29 1645, 16 men for 24 hours."

John and his mother sent in a claim for this.

There is also a "Discharge by Col. Robert Douglas under Col. Strachan to John Maxtone of Cultoquhey for ane horseman sufficiently armed with lance." Signed at Drumfad, 19th June 1648.

Among the papers is a receipt by William Bonar, narrating that William Oliphant paid on behalf of the Laird of Cultoquhey £22, 10s. and a billet for £6, 6s. for two months' maintenance of his lands in Crieff and Fowlis for March and April 1649, "which billet is at 14 pence to every horse and man for every 24 hours." Dated Perth, 9th May 1649.

The following is a further discharge of maintenance :

"I, Robert Murray of Buchantie, grant me to have receivit from John Maxtoun of Cultraquhey £51 Scots with a discharge of thrie fut sojoris whilk completes his and his mothers loan and taxt and discharges him thereof.

"*Dated at BUCHANTIE 19 Sept. 1649.*"

Another receipt acknowledges contributions from Cultraquhey and his mother in men, and that in full satisfaction of his rolls "conform to the order of the Committee of the Shire within the Parish of Foulis 20th July 1650: 1 man to Captain John McNab, another man to Captain Andrew Sibbald." Signed by Sibbald at Dunblane.

A solitary letter, written in a somewhat embittered spirit, is found among the archives of this time. The writer was Alexander Maxtone, a grandson of Robert, the 5th laird of Cultraquhey, who makes several appearances in family documents. It is addressed to John Maxtone, the 8th laird.

1652. 3 Dec.

RIGHT LOVING COUSIN,

I have received your letter and also 4 firloths. I retorne you most hartie thanks, for I do acknoledge myself exceedingly engadged to you for your love and remembrance of me who am a man now almost forgotten of all friends (except of Ochertyre). However it may please the Lord in his owne tyme to return my condition to what it was within these (past) years if it please Him to do assure yourself that there is not a graine of curtesie [torn] but real thankfulness for it and in the meantyme I am favord to rest your debtor. I shall use all possible diligence to find out Mr Patrick Oliphant if he be in toune and I will deliver him Mr Johnstones letter and press him for an answer and I will send your letter and his answer to our Cousin Johnstoune. I find in those letters where you have wroatt my name Maxwell and your own name Maxtone, but I deny my name to be Maxwell therefore (I assure you) that your name when you write is Maxtone, but both your name and myne is Maxtoune, for so your deeds goes and so your predecessors and mine did wreatt, therefore I will never alter. I pray you remember all our best respects to your mother and to your sisters with our special service to yourself from him who shall ever rest

Your loving Cousin to serve you

ALEXANDER MAXTOUNE.

Opportunities for social gatherings were few, but there exists a certain old ballad which gives a glimpse of the landowners of Perthshire.

Jeanie Reid was the hostess of a public-house in the vicinity of Perth, which was a favourite rendezvous of the young lairds of Strathearn. Besides the excellence of the fare provided by the landlady, her six handsome daughters, who assisted their mother in the management of the house, formed a great attraction.

"The House on the Green" stood near the foot of the High Street, in Perth—the ancient town mansion of the Mercers of Aldie and Meikleour. The inn, afterwards famous as a meeting-place for the whole countryside, was on the site of this older building.

The rhymes belong to the seventeenth century and have a definite association with the coming of Oliver Cromwell to Perth in 1651.

It seems probable that the sly fun poked at each laird had origin rather in the demands of rhyme than on actual fact or known characteristics, but still across the centuries resound to the imagination the gales of laughter among the company greeting the sallies, as each name came forth in the song.

Omitting here and there the constant refrain, the verses are as follows :

We're a' reelin' doon the Brae
To Jeanie Reid's Hoose, to Jeanie Reid's Hoose,
We're a' reelin' doon the Brae
To Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.

There was making o' beds and clappin' o' cods ¹
In Jeanie Reid's Hoose, in Jeanie Reid's Hoose.
There was skirlin' and laughin' and flytin' and daffin'
In Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.

An' it's o rare! the mirth that was there
In Jeanie Reid's Hoose, in Jeanie Reid's Hoose.

Cultoquhey was cuttin' the pie;
The Laird o' Logie he left a clean cogie;
Frae Strageath, Meikleour and bonnie Pitfour,
Kirkpoltie, Kintullo, Pitcur and Laird Rollo,
Invermay, Monievaird, Balbeggie, Kinnaird
Cam' a' to the Hoose on the Green jo.

The Laird of Methven aye filled his pechan,
Tippermallo had an unco' swallow,
What wi' Condie and Craigie and crouse Aberdalgie,
Sic a crackin' o' bickers ² and breakin' o' plates
When Crusty Balquhidder sent the lads thro' ither,
In Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.

¹ Shaking of pillows.

² Wooden drinking-cups.

It's the Laird of Kinvaid that kissed the maid,
 It's the Laird of Gleneagles that joukit the beagles,¹
 The Laird o' Perth he foucht wi' airth.²
 An young Seggieden set the cock on the hen,
 Gae tell Tullylumb that he's wanted to come,
 Tell Bonsie and Keir an' Riven the peer
 To come to the Hoose on the Green jo.

It's the Laird of Keir he made a steer
 When the Laird of Strathallan dang doon the hallan.³
 Fetch Easter Tarsappie and gie him a drappie,
 Fetch Wester Tarsappie and he'll be as happy,
 Gae tell auld Monzie that he's wanted to see
 The lairds in the Hoose on the Green jo.

Tell the Laird o' Woodhead that his bed's newly made
 In Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.
 The Laird o' Arnprior burnt his taes at the fire,
 The Laird o' Kinnoull gaed on like a fool,
 Deil tak' Dumbarnie an' Abercairn
 They crackit the cradle,⁴ and flegget ⁵ the bairnie.
 Stormont and Pitheavles are weel kent for deevils,
 But the Laird of Moucrieffe was a' the lairds' chief
 In Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.

And it's o sair! the Dule that was there
 In Jeanie Reid's Hoose, in Jeanie Reid's Hoose.
 Oliver's men both but and ben
 In Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.

The Laird o' Crieff he cam' to grief,
 Young Balgowan set all a'lowan.⁶
 The Laird o' Gask had muckle to ask.
 Auld Gorthie Graeme came cantering hame,
 An' Meffan gaed wi' him an' Keillor gaed wi' him
 Frae Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.

The Laird of Coplindy jumped out of the window.
 Balvaird Murray peeled his kuits ⁷ in the hurry,
 Ochertyre he lap over the mire.
 The Laird o' Monzie he flew like a flea,
 The Laird o' Scone he crackit his croon,
 The Laird o' Blair tumblit doon the stair,
 The Laird o' Strowan he rade like a growan ⁸
 Frae Jeanie Reid's Hoose, frae Jeanie Reid's Hoose.

The Laird o' Struan swore it was ruin,
 But the Laird of Lawers cam' home frae the wars,
 Young Tullibardine creapt thro' the garden,
 The Laird of Inchbrakie gaed on Shank's naggie
 That day in the hoose on the Green jo.

¹ Cheated the sheriff.

⁴ Cradle—a frame for holding glasses.

⁷ Ankles.

² Artfully.

⁵ Frightened.

⁸ Greyhound.

³ Pulled down the building.

⁶ A'lowan—a fire.

Ilka laird that day took the King's highway
 Frae Jeanie Reid's Hoose, frae Jeanie Reid's Hoose,
 Some up hill and some doon brae,
 An' there's armed men five score and ten
 In Jeanie Reid's Hoose, in Jeanie Reid's Hoose,
 An' it's o sair! the dule that was there
 In Jeanie Reid's Hoose on the Green jo.

The Cultoquhey who cut the pie must have been John, the 8th laird, who had already had personal experience of the "Troubles" at home. It would be interesting to know what part he played when Cromwell's men broke in upon that party of cronies in the friendly hostelry and scattered the little group in all directions.

Among the family papers there is but one letter in the handwriting of John, the 8th laird, and it is dated only a few weeks before his death. It is addressed to "William Smith, Notar from Cultoquhey," 25th February 1658, and indicates that John may have engaged in some dealings with the secret schemes and activities of the day.

SIR,

Be pleased to come alongis with Robert Friebairne to Crieff, you alone, bringand non with you that we may speak of the busnes; and see how I may walk in it saffie untroubled in tyme coming; and you shall find I metting with you all satisfaction according to reason granted. So nocht further butt rests in the meantime Yours,

JOHN MAXTONE.

The "Troubles" were nearly at an end when John Maxtone made his marriage with his cousin, Isobel Graeme of Balgowan. The marriage contract is dated at Balgowan, 9th February 1656. Isobel has 400 merks for her tocher and is liferented in Little Cultoquhey.

John's married life was short, lasting only two years, for he died in 1658, leaving Isobel with a son, another John, who thus became 9th laird of Cultoquhey in babyhood. Isobel had to face the task of keeping her little son's estate clear of dangerous political entanglements. He was provided with a powerful guardian and curator in the Earl of Atholl, whose influence could be counted upon to protect the interests of a long minority.

The Restoration came, and the fortunes of the royalist Graemes soared again. Isobel had spent her young life among men whose thoughts and energies were devoted to the service of the King at a time when prospects were dark. Her father, the 2nd laird of Balgowan, had been the playfellow and companion of the young Montrose at

Kincardine Castle, had followed him on his campaigns, and had "risked life and fortune in his service." Isobel may have witnessed the scene when her father carried the great mourning banner at the majestic pageantry of Montrose's funeral at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh.

When she married a second time, a year or so after John Maxtone's death, it is not surprising that she chose a known and devoted Stuart adherent, Robertson¹ of Invar, who in 1665 took the designation of Tullybelton, his lands lying opposite Dunkeld.

Isobel may have carried little John Maxtone with her to her new home, but it is certain that he lived at Cultoquhey as quite a young man. His mother's interest in the place was naturally drawn away by a new family and surroundings, but the welfare of young Cultoquhey was not forgotten by his neighbours.

A contract drawn up between William Roy and a number of young John Maxtone's friends shows that all was not going well with the estate of Cultoquhey, groaning under the burden of supporting in liferent not only Marjorie (or Isobel) Graeme, his mother, but also his grandmother, Agnes Oliphant. The following scheme was devised to keep a firmer hold on outgoings:

"Contract betwixt William Roy at Millroge on the one part and Patrick Graeme of Inchbrakie, David Graeme of Gorthy, William Moray of Ochertyre, William Moray of Keilour, John Graham Yr. of Balgowan, George Oliphant brother german to Laurence Oliphant of Bachilton, Friends nominate and appointed by the deceased John Maxtone of Cultoquhey for regulating and managing of the estate and house of Cultoquhey and taking burden on them for John Maxtone now of Cultoquhey son and apparent heir of said deceased John with consent of Marjorie Graeme his mother and Alexander Robertson her husband and of Anna Oliphant his grandmother on the other part, and also betwixt said John Graham younger of Balgowan and the remanent friends above named (as follows): Having oft and diverse times met for considering upon the private condition of the Estate and house of Cultoquhey and finding after exact trial that the said haill estate and house in all likelihood to be brought to utter ruin (if remead be not provided in time) partly thro the burden of the two life-rentresses who enjoy almost the whole estate, and partly thro the great sums of money as debts affecting it to the extent of

¹ J. A. Robertson, in his *Earldom of Atholl*, states that Donald Robertson married for the second time in 1651 (the date is certainly wrong), Marjory Graham, daughter of Graham of Balgowan and widow of Maxtone of Cultoquhey, and that she had a son Charles Robertson, first of Balnaguard. In her marriage contract with John Maxtone and other earlier legal documents her name is given as "Isobel." Later she appears as "Marjorie."

4731. 11 (Scots) besides a great many annual rents and the moveable estate of the said deceased John Maxtone of Cultoquhey being only 903. 2. 8 so that the estate stand affected with the burden of 3828. 8. 4. and there being no other way at present left for disburdening the said estate but by applying the super-plus of the rent that is free and unlife-rented which are the rents duties and casualties of the mill and mill-lands of Cultoquhey with the yearly value of the over and under growth of the fruit thereof as well of the over and nether orchards with the gardine land of the same and seeing that the said William Roy at Millroge partly at the earnest entreaty and desire of the friends and partly out of his respects to the welfare and standing of the House of Cultoquhey has undertaken to advance 3000 pounds to the persons to whom the same is resting therefor all the persons above mentioned oblige them to give security for said sum, and therefore the said Patrick Graeme etc. bind themselves to give security therefore as follows: the Mill of Cultoquhey, the Mill land thereof multures and sequells of the same with canes customs casualties profits and duties thereto belonging for £2000 and for £1000 the over and under growth of the fruit yards of Cultoquhey as well as the over and nether orchards thereof together with the gardines land presently possessed and occupied by John Brugh Gardener until repayment of the said £3000 under burden of teind payable by said William Roy to the Abbot of Inchaffray or any other having right and because said Marjorie Graeme by her contract of marriage with the deceased John Maxtone is provided in liferent after the decease of said Anna Oliphant old Ladie Cultoquhey in case of her surviving her to the Mill lands etc. above mentioned where thro the disposition and wadset thereof at the decease of said Anna Oliphant will become null therefore the said haill freinds bind themselves at her decease to wadset again to said William Roy such a proportion of the Mains of Cultoquhey as will correspond to the quantity of the duties of said Mill and Mill lands etc. and further John Graeme Younger of Balgowan has undertaken for the welfare and standing of the said house and estate of Cultoquhey to advance the remaining sum of £828. 8. 4. therefore the freinds give power to said John to cut and dispose so much of the wood of Cultoquhey and of so many of the barren trees in and about the Mains of Cultoquhey where the same may be best spared, as will when put to the outmost avail recompense him for said sum. The same being always done at the sight of the above freinds or any two of them."

This document is unsigned and undated, but the young laird must have been about ten years old.

It is stated in an Act of Court, dated Perth, 24th July 1674, that the minor was past the years of tutory and far within years of curatory. He compeired in the Sheriff Court at Perth and of his own free will nominated and chose as his curators John, Earl of Atholl, the lairds of Ochtertyre, Inchbrakie elder and younger, Clashbennie, Lochlane, Balgowan elder and younger, Duncan Roy in Auchhanzie and George Drummond, Writer in Edinburgh, three to be a quorum. All accepted office and all were present except Atholl.

CHAPTER III

FIRST FAMILY LETTERS

THE period of the 9th Laird brings a clearer light into the story of the Maxtones. Their domestic life is revealed in a number of carefully preserved accounts. A few letters also have come to light, not of any historical import, but bringing out for the first time in family records touches of personal interest, so that John Maxtone, the 9th laird, can be realized, not as a shadowy figure but as an individual, with his love of dogs and horses, his anxieties for the upkeep of his house, his economies, his thoughtful care of an old aunt. He appears to have lived much in Edinburgh, possibly in business there, or studying for the Bar, and his correspondent is James Malloch, the Provost of Crieff. In 1677 John is evidently concerned for the plenishing of his house, with a view to his marriage. Lochlane, to whom he sends messages, was Harry Murray, depute to the Earl of Atholl as sheriff of the county since September 1674. He was captain in No. 10 Company of the Perthshire Militia. His commission is dated 3rd September 1668. Lochlane is a small estate near Comrie.

John Maxtone to James Malloch in Crieffe

EDINBURGH, the 13 of Junij 1677.

ASSURED FRIND,

According to your desyre I have sent you the ink horne yee send word for to me with Andro McCarrich. And as for what ells of cloath I stand in need of will be about six ells so I desyre yee may send the same to me with the first occassione and I intreat yee may sei that my father sister want nothing shoe calls for as also I prey you sie my dogs want not and that they be not spoilt quhich is all at present but my service being presented to Lochlaine especiallie and selfe I remaine

Your assured frind & servand

Jo : MAXTONE.

My Lord Atholl¹ was in great pompt upon Tuisday last as captaine of archers with collors drummes and did behave breavlie.

The Same to the Same

EDINBURGH, 21 Junij 1677.

ASSURED FRIND

I receaved that cloath I wrytt for from Andro McCurrich. As also yee shew me that the tennents stands in need of some timber to thair housis. I think it not amis that yee should goe alongest with them and let them have as mutch as will satisfie them for I think it will doe no prejudice to the rest of the timber but mutch good. I thank you for takeing a cair of my dogs and of the black hors quhich wes reserved for my use. Assured frind I desyre yee may send with the first occasione twelfe pounds Scotts and it shall be allowed you and for the use thereof I shall shew you any uther tyme. This is all at present but presenteing my humble service to Lochlaine and your selfe and wyfe. I rest

Your assured to serve you

Jo : MAXTONE.

Present my service to my father sister and show hir I am in good health billissed be God and wishes the lyke to hir. I pray you have ane cair of hir concernments as if they wer mine and in so doeing yee will obleidge me. rests.

Between the date of this letter and the next, John Maxtone had married Jean Murray, and was planning to take his bride to Auchilhanzie, the farmhouse on the hill behind Cultoquhey.

The Same to the Same

EDINBURGH, this 9th October 1677.

LOVEING FRIND,

I wounder I have not heard from you since I cam from you last, so it is my earnest desyre yee may let me know how all affaires goes in the contry and how far the work man is proceeded in repaireing the hous at Aulchanzie for yee may know your selfe it is noe benifitt to me to abyde longer at Edr. So it is my earnest intreatie yee would be pleased to cause repaire that hous within eight or ten dayes at

¹ This Lord Atholl was the 2nd Earl, and had been created 1st Marquess in 1676. A letter from one of the Drummonds written to Cultoquhey a year later, in November 1678, records: "The Marquis of Montrose is Captain of the King's Troupe in place of Atholl, and Atholl is degraded from all his offices quhich I am sorie for."

fardest, and what is wanteing let me have ane lyne from you. Yee may show Lochlaine Strouan would have wrytten to him * * * Yee may send to me fourtein or sixtein pund Scotts * * * This all I desyre. Thair is noe word of my Lord Murrays mariage as yet. * * *

Your assured to serve you

Jo : MAXTONE.

My wyfe hes hir service remembered to Lochlaine and your selfe.

The Same to the Same

EDINBURGH, *this 26th Nov. 1677.*

ASSURED FRIND,

My service remembered to you and all frinds. I have bought severall things I stand in need of that I hade money and if I hade hade mor money I could have bought all I stand in need. All the money I brought with me will not by but courteings for wan beed¹ and six pleats ane salt foot halfe ane duzon of alcomie² spoones and I am suir I did not spend ane halfe doolor to aney uther use. I desyre yee may send Harie within three or four dayes to me for yee know what I have to buy yee may cause get that lineing from Andro Milner and make wan pair of shetts of it and the rest for coadwars³ and yee may speak to my Antie and sie what shoe will give me and send me word with this bearer and if yee can not get noe money I will be forced to borrow from Allan McDonald and give him ane ticket for what I borrow but befor I doe it let me have your advice and in so doing yee will obleidge me to remaine

Your assured to serve you

Jo : MAXTONE.

I could not lipen the pleats⁴ to this boyie for spoyleing of them.

The Same to the Same

EDINBURGH, *this 7th Decr. 1677.*

ASSURED FRIND,

My love and service remembered to you and your wyfe. I thought to have sent some mor things home with this bearer but for want of money could not for Alban hes not gotten none of his money as yet. I did give to my wyfe money for buyeing courteings for on

¹ Curtains for one bed.

² German metal.

³ Pillowslips.

⁴ Trust the plates.

bed but shoe could not get out to buy them for waiteing on Lady Jean but with the nixt occassione I shall send them and all other things I stand in need of. Be pleased to receave six plaitts two stops ane salt foot ane tosteing airne two candle stickes with ane pair of snuffers quhich is all I hade money for an I am putten till ane great pushe my selfe for wante of money. I shall send your showes with Harie for they ar a-makeing as also I shall send you word with Harie when I intend to come home my selfe. I desyre yee may comand the hird to goe up to Albans wyfe with this letter immediatlie eftir sight heiroyf and cause him bring ane answer of it downen with him againe quhich is all at present from

Your assured to serve you

Jo : MAXTONE.

What evir my antie will of thes things shoe wrytt to me of assure hir selfe shoe shall losse nothing at my hand quhich yee may shew hir I have gotten from Alban what money I stand in need of so I desyre yee may have it in readines against my home comeing that he may gett thankfull payement.

The Same to the Same

EDINBURGH, *this 12th December 1677.*

ASSURED FRIND,

Receave from the bearer your shoues according to my promis. Yee may showe Lochlaine I did give Pitcarlie that minut to draw a dispositione be Abercarnie to me according to his desyre and I shall bring it over with me. I pray you mind the chimnay and caus put it up as also heast the hous for I intend to keep my Yuill at home with you so I desyre yee may furnish two horses against Thursday night and my owen againe Saturdayes night with my saidle and bridle for against Tuisday come eight dayes I intend to take jorney from this God willeing * * * Send me word if yee have bought toanges as yet. Yee may get up that wadder sheep from the miller and caus slay him for meat and ye may buy ane syde of ane cow good for fresh meatt. I would have been readie long er this tyme reather not for want of money I pray caus get ane table cloath with servetts thereto and if yee will not be reddie against that tyme I pray you send me word. I need not show you what things is mor necessar for you know better

as I doe. Present my respects to Lochlaine and all frinds your selfe
and wyfe. I rest

Your assured to serve you

Jo: MAXTONE.

I pray you get from my*antie ane furnished beed and shoe shall
losse nothing at my hand. Yee may caus make up ane chist or two to
my use as also caus get some brandie rests.

I did take from Andro McCurich four dollars * * * and I will
need the lesse from Allan for I find him some what leassie so I desyre
ye may pay him back again and this shall be your payment.

J. M.

Next in date comes a letter with an account to the "Laird of
Cultiquhy."

EDR. *July* 1678.

LOVING COUSING,

I thought to have heard ffrom you long or this tyme by receav-
ing payment off that account you are dew for me it is above 12 moneth
since it was taken off which is a considerable tyme longer I cannot
lye out of my money w'out considerable losse considering I used you
as if I had gotten money at Martimas last by past as it was promised
me upon which consideration I earnestly intreat that course may be
taken ffor my satisfaction * * *

I rest Sir your affectionat Cousing and humble Servant

MORAY.

The soun of the copy off you accompt
1 ell and halfe Cloth frise at 8 lb the ell

263 1 6
12 15 6

Summe

280 16 0

As will be noted, arithmetic was not Moray's strong point!

A pleasanter letter is from John's cousin, Drummond, who sends
the Cultoquhey child a collection of toys.

EDIN. 22nd *June* 1680.

LOVING CUSSEIN,

I received yours with that money yee sent and accordingle I
sall have ane cair of your affair and verie speedlie ye sall have ane
accompt of it. Receive from your man ane pair of showes, to your
son, ane trump, a young lady, and ane mear and fooll and a bird, a

sword, if your man do not brake them, but however they are all but 15 pence hassard. If your shoves do not fit, return them and they sall be changed but send your missour quhen yee send againe. This is all at present presenting my respects to your lady and good mother not forgetting yourself, I rest your

affectionatt cussein & servand

C. DRUMMOND.

Receive lykwise 8 dusson of black buttons of the finnest at 4 shillings sixpence the dusson.

In 1680 young John engages in some hot-headed dispute with his neighbour Abercairny. Definite details do not come to light in the letters concerning this quarrel, but his older friends counsel more peaceable methods than John is inclined to employ. He is advised that "if Cultoquhey grants time to Abercairny for performance [payment] it should be considerately done. It should be upon the assurance of freindshipe, kyndness and gude neightboure-head for the future. If he grant Abercairny any favour it ought to be that he will shew the like."

C. Drummond to John Maxtone of Cultoquhey

EDINBURGH, the 2 August (16)80.

CUSSEIN,

I receaved yours quherin yee desayre ane accompt of your bussines with Abercairny. For answer know that I did insist in the discussing of your suspension aganest Abercairny and hes gotten ane decreit to you aganest him in the heall heads and oblishments of your Contract, but Abercairny finding himself streatned therwith he went to my Lord of Atholl and mead hes aplicatione to him by Liftennent Generall Drummond and promissed faithfullie to my Lord to satisfie you in all things yee could aclame of him at my Lord sight by the vacance, and he desayred that my Lord sould send for me and discharge me from proceeding any further or extracting of the decreit till then, and quhich accordinglie my Lord did and hes ordered me not to proceid further till they meit in the vacance, quhich I was angrie at at first and shew him the great expenss yee have bein at in consulting of advocatts everie session, and that Abercairny myndit nothing but delays, and came constantlie to his Lordship quhen he saw he could doe nocht better. However my Lord upon the Generall Lyftennents accompt hes done thes once more to sie if it cane be

freindlie done away but not to lett you rebeat one sixpence in the Contract. It semes Buchanlie hes misinformed you anent Lochlanes affair for ther is no such thing at all, but be the contrar Lochlan is at great lenth to put his busines to a close. This is all presenting my respects to your Lady and good mother and self I rest

Your effectionatt cussein and servant

C. DRUMMOND.

The Same to the Same

EDINBURGH, the 24 December (16)80.

COUSSEN,

Thes are showing you that upon the 22 instant I caused apprehend Abercarnay with caption at your instance but immediatlíe Mr James Grahame reid to my Lord Atholl who procured his Lordship to send for me and efter severall expostulationes on the affair all that was creaved was that my Lord wold allowe him the first of Januarie nixt to sie if he wold performe. In the meantyme Abercairney compleaned to my Lord that he got wronge at our compting and gave in ane peaper to my Lord in order therto, quhich I undeceived my Lord of all and shew that all the gentillmen present therat wold shew he got noe prejudice. The thing as I suppose he think at is ane ease of the money quhich I posutivlie refussed, but with all I told I hald Niell to you and sie what yee wold doe and als that yee wold come heir yourself if your convenience wold permitt so I told I wold advertise you, so if yee come yee may come heir in the yeull vacance¹ or send your answer. This is all presenting my respects to your Lady and mother and self. I rest

Your effectionatt Coussin and servant

C. DRUMMOND.

The Same to the Same

EDINBURGH, the 13 April 1681.

CUSSEIN,

I received yours from your man quherin yee desayre me to come over showing that Abercairnay and yee is to end your affair, upon fryday nixt. For answer know that I cannot come so shone but I intendit it shortlie. However I have sent you peapers so maney as is usfull but se that yee doe not medle to compt of new agan but stand close be the contracts alradie mead and onlie creave that he

¹ Christmas vacation.

may performe as he is therby oblidge and doe not medle further quhich if yee doe in the contrar yee will doe more wronge to yourself in one day nor who is concerned in you cane doe you good in a yeare. I have sent with your man one pair of showes to your self and a wooden suord to your sone. This is all presenting my respects to your Lady and mother and all freinds I rest

Your effectiounatt Coussein and servant

C. DRUMMOND.

A letter of 2nd May 1681 is again addressed to Cultoquhey from Drummond, advising him "to put the Caption to execution if Abercairny will not perform his obligations," but that if he will give a deed under his hand that John should take it "sooner than send Aber: to prison." He adds that thirteen or fourteen dollars are asked for advocates' fees, clerks and servitors, and advises that these claims be paid.

John Maxtone hesitated to pursue an unneighbourly course, towards which Drummond continued to goad him:

"It seems yee are a little slow in putting the caption against Abercairny to execution. I will onlie say this,—if he had it against you he wold take you from your lady's siyd and put you in prissone."

John thereupon took some further action, and drew down a reproof from another less truculent friend.

L. Murray to John Maxtone

CRIEFF, *this 25 May (16)81.*

SIR,

Ye have done a deid I am exceidinglie sorie for. How muche I have bein against it ye mey know bothe many tymes to your selff as also be my letter with your man presentlie, who denyed all to me. I wishe ye mey doe gentillie with Abercarnie (whom I wold wish ye haid not middlit with) and wyslie. I am

Your servant

L. MURRAY.

There remains no record of the end of this incident. Disputes and difficulties between the lairds of the countryside are a feature in all collections of family papers, and were an enlivenment of life rather than a source of bitterness.

John Maxtone, the 9th laird, married Jean Murray, a granddaughter of the minister of the Parish Church at Fowlis Wester. The

actual date is unknown, but John, as has been shown, mentions his wife in a letter dated October 1677—he was then twenty. At the time, Episcopacy was the State Church, and was attracting ministers who were often members of landed families. At Fowlis the minister was the Rev. James Drummond, who was also the Laird of Deanston, a property near Crieff. Mr Drummond had four children; his eldest son succeeded as Laird of Deanston, his second son was minister of Auchterarder, his third son was Bishop of Brechin, a daughter, Jean, married George Drummond, the minister of St Madoc's, and the younger, Catherine, married Mungo Murray, who is described in most printed genealogies as son of the Earl of Tullibardine, though it is not a traceable connection in the *Scots Peerage*. Perhaps some definite proof may yet be found. At any rate, Catherine Drummond and Mungo Murray had a daughter Jean, who married John Maxtone of Cultoquhey. The first child was a son, who must have died young, though it is proved by a letter in 1681 that he was then alive and old enough to play with a wooden sword which was sent him as a present. A daughter, Jean, was baptized in October 1682, another daughter, Katherine, followed, and when Isabel was born, in 1686, young John Maxtone, already in ill-health, began to despair of leaving Cultoquhey to a son. Feeling the end draw near, on 28th March 1687 he proceeded to make a settlement or Bond of Tailzie for the benefit of his daughters. His eldest daughter is enjoined to marry a gentleman who shall assume and bear to himself and his posterity the surname and arms of Maxtone of the House of Cultoquhey. The whole circumstances are difficult to understand, for Jean his wife was within a few days of her confinement, and this settlement in no way includes any son or fourth daughter who might be born. Hardly was the will signed when his wife produced the much-desired heir, and, on 10th April, John made another will, in favour of "his only son." He already calls him Mungo. Before 16th April, John died. He was thirty years old, and had been laird of Cultoquhey all his life. For the second generation the place was inherited by an infant in arms.

Some light on John's last illness is thrown by various accounts which his wife kept, and which have been preserved in the family archives. From the chemist's bill it is easy to guess that his disease was a chest complaint of some kind, soothed, it is to be hoped, by the doses and "oyles."

The laird of Cultoquhey's account to William Flemyng of Perth is rendered at the beginning of 26th May 1687. It includes several

charges for pectoral syrup, pectoral ointment, also "oyle of sweet almonds new drawen" (this repeated several times):

A quarter mutchkin cinamond water.
4 ounces oyle of sweet almonds new drawen.
an squirt for ye ordinar drink.
Syrup of violets.

On 12th April, more syrup of violets, more "oyle of almonds," but on 16th April "Oyles for ye coffine." Nothing then till 30th May, when dosing of the orphans begins:

Ye dose powder for worms to ye children.
Syrup of almonds and other purging syrups.

The whole account amounts to 35.006-00.

Received from Jane Murray Ladie Cultaqhey full and complete payment of ye above account and of all other ye 28 Oct. 1688.

WILLIAM FLEMYNG.

I Cristan Smith releck of ye deceased James Young Baxter in Perth grants me to have received full and complit payment of all counts and recknings and of all the furneter to the founerall of the decesed Leard of Colterwhey received from his releck and doe dischairg hir and all others of all accounts preceeding the death hier-of as witness my hand at Perth ye third day of May one thousand six hundreth and four score seven years.

Jean paid for the funeral very promptly, although the chemist's account for medicines stood over for more than a year.

CHAPTER IV

MUNGO MAXTONE, THE IOTH LAIRD

JEAN MAXTONE was left with her family of four small children and the responsibility of her son's affairs during his long minority. Her husband had nominated Thomas Graham of Balgowan, Sir William Murray of Ochtertyre, Colin Campbell of Monzie and John Mitchell of the Byres as guardians of the infant Mungo. Thus supported, Jean ably fulfilled her task, did not remarry, but devoted herself to the affairs of her children and the estate. She had a habit of putting aside and keeping paid accounts, though letters seem to have been destroyed. From what is left, it is almost possible to visualize Jean at the old house of Cultoquhey, with her little children round her, keeping goods and gear together. As the mother of Mungo, she is of interest to later Maxtones, for the legendary figure of the 10th laird has always appealed to his descendants. His life was longer than that of other lairds, and he left a more definite mark on the family records.

The year 1690 brought some excitement into the lives of the Maxtones, for there was a raid on Cultoquhey by Stewart of Chestle, in Glenlyon, and Hugh Stewart, his son. The lands of Chestle, in Glenlyon, had been thoroughly harried by the Macdonalds of Glencoe in 1689. "Ane list of the haill goods and geir taken away from the Laird of Glenlyon by Coill M'Donald of Keppoch" is still extant. Possibly the Stewarts hoped to recoup themselves to a small extent by a descent on Cultoquhey cattle and goods.

It happened in April 1690. "The Stewarts took away from John Ewen tenant in Cultoquhey 4 horses worth £30 a peice, from Helen Kempie there 2 horses worth £30 a peice, her whole insight and plenishing goods and geir cloath etc. to the value of 3 score pounds and after dilligent search trouble travell and expense of Tascal¹ money and otherwise the said defenders being convened befor Col.

¹ Tascall money—paid in the Highlands for information regarding raided cattle.

James Menzies of Culdares at the desire of the Lord Murray to examine them concerning the matter they did acknowledge and confess that they had two of the said horses in their custody therefor in all law equity and justice the said defenders ought not only to be decerned to restore back the said horses in als good caise and condition as they were the time of the away-taking thereof or prices thereof above written and of the said soume of 3 score pundis for the insight plenishing cloath wenthe but also the soume of £100 of Tascall money and expenses expended and debursit in search tryall and pursuit thereof."

"Harie Christie fiscall of Court in Perth" appeared for Lady Cultoquhey, and the defenders failed to compear, whereupon the Commissioners granted decree against them for the said sums, amounting in all to £340 Scots. Decree was granted at Perth, 24th October 1694, by the Commissioners of Justiciary of the South and West Districts, appointed for securing the peace of the Highlands.

In 1699, Jean Maxtone was doing necessary repairs to the old house.

Att CULTOQUEY ye twenty third of No—ber 1699.

It is agreed betwixt Jean Murray Lady Cultoquhey and John Ballantyne masone in Monzie it is to say ye said John obliges him betwixt ye date hereof and ye terme of Whitsunday 1700 to winne and hew pavement for laying ye two laigh rooms and granery of ye house of Cultoquhey and obliges himself also to lay ye samen wherfore ye said Jean Murray obliges her to make payment to him of ye soume of twenty seven pounds Scotts money and ane boll meall. Also ye said John obliges him to build ane sufficient dyke of stone and mortar about ye closs betwixt the date hereof and ye terme forsaid wherfore ye said Jean Murray obliges her to pay to him four pound Scotts for each and ane firloft of meal, and also it is agreed betwixt them that ye said Jean Murray shall pay to him twelve pound Scotts and ane firloft of meall for winning hewing and building stone for three yeatts As witness our hands att Cultoquhey ye twenty third day of No—ber 1699.

JEAN MURRAY.
JOHN BALLANTINE.

Jean dealt with various tradesmen in Perth. One of the accounts is headed :

Ladie Cutiwohey to Widow Henres in Pearth 1696

Half a pund of Crish and 2 pund of Sope	00. 12. 6
A Vinigar Tree	01. 10. 0
A pund of Stiffen [Starch] and unes [ounce] of indigo	00. 07. 0
A ston, a pund and unces of Head Lint	8. 12.

Jean paid for all this partly in kind.

2 pecks of Lintseed	5. 12. 0
A Lypy Lintseed [a Lippie is the fourth part of a peck]	00. 15.
A bol of Oatmeal.	

The rest of the account was settled by the payment of £17 Scots in money.

A drapery account between Lady Cultoquhey and Charles Stewart, merchant in Perth, spread over two years :

8 Jan. 1696-1698.

1 ell of Buckram cost 12 shillings.
12 drop silk cost 16 shillings [1s. 8d. in money to-day].
18 ells of creape [crape] cost £16, 4/-

There were also :

Broad-flowered rubens.

Ane caster [Beaver] Hatt to her son.

Fine brode serge.

For a suit to her son $3\frac{1}{2}$ ells of English Cleath 25 : 4 :

To her daughter Katren 1 ell stentine [stent=to stretch].

For her son she bought "a Candebek Hatt at £5. 8," also "a woollen French hatt," and also for him "an pair stockens £2 : 4." But "ane pair of fine stockens" cost £3, and "ane night-cap" 12s.

Scarlet plush, Red serge, Blue thread, Blue rubens, Camblet, Holland and fine muslins and plush [all these items are easily understood].

$1\frac{3}{4}$ ell Worsettine [cloth serge] $6\frac{1}{2}$ oz Black Franze [fringe].

"1 piece Knetins" (to knet is to knit timbers), "7 oz 5 drop Whyt Hair" are more puzzling, and one or two entries defy interpretation, such as "1 ell Maskarad, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ell Bonquill and Brode Stringing."

That much spinning and weaving was done at Cultoquhey is proved by the accounts for dyeing of material in one year. The following account is from David Murray, dyer, of Perth, 3rd July 1696 :

1 oz. Worsett litted [dyed] red.
10 ells cloth litted light cloth colour.
6 ells cloth Beass [meaning "very"] thick litted cloth colour.
4 ells long Fries thick litted red.
12 ells $\frac{1}{2}$ currall [a carrel was a piece containing 15 ells] litted cloth colour.
6 ells $\frac{3}{4}$ currall litted blew and black.
22 ells strip currall litted hair-colour.
24 ells strip currall litted blew.

Rebecca Roy sends in—"Ane account resting by the Ladie Cultoquhey," 1699 :

19 lbs 12 ounces of Sop all at 4 per lb	03. 19. 00
For 2 pintts of Vinager	02. 00. 00
4 ounces of Crish and a muskin of Oyle	
Ane ounce of Shugar lofe cost	00. 15. 00
4 ounce of Spaijce [spice]	
A quar and a half of peper	00. 12. 00
12 drop of whitt thread and three whitt Bands	00. 02. 00

Rebecca Roy, Merchantt in Perth.

Discharges the Ladie Cultoquhey heer hairs executors intromittor of this account and all of her accounts blocks bargins whatsoever as witness my hand at Perth the seventh of Aprayle 16 and ninety and nine years.

Accompt due by the Lady Cultowhey to Alexander Caw, Writter in Crieff

At several times in the months of Febry March last furnished six chopins of Brandy and one chopin orange water and an Bottle Aquaviti	5: 10:
An bottle white wine and three mutchkins claret wine when the Bairn was sick	2: 5:
Sent to the House three pints and a chopin ale	: 7:
Two legs Mutton	: 18:
An chopin Honey	: 15:
The expence of the Submission betwixt Inchbreaky and Cultoquhey including the Registration thereof	4: 10:
	<hr/>
	14: 5:

An account for the years 1705 and 1706 shows that a great deal of trade of various descriptions was done through David Caw at Crieff :

June 1705. Tartan. 7 quarters at 13/4 per ell
1 Blew Bonnet 10/-
1 Horn Comb 3/-
Powder and Shot, 8½ lbs. Iron cost 18/- and 1 lb Steel 6/-
2 stone of wool came from Monzie costing £6. 16. 8.

The purchase of 10 oz. blew Birsell (a blue dyestuff) and madder looks as if the family undertook some of their own "litting." The food included "dried fish, fresh butter, a side of veal, stones of cheese, mutchkins of oyle, 50 herrings (at 13/4), a side of mutton costing 11 shillings and a leg of beef 20 shillings."

The family is seen only through these fragmentary accounts and a few legal documents, until there appears a clearer view in 1707.

Lord Breadalbane¹ writes to the Duke of Atholl from Taymouth,

¹ John Campbell, 2nd Earl of Breadalbane, *b.* 1662, *d.* 1752.

30th October 1707, describing visits he paid in Perthshire. He went to Murthly, Nairne, Logie, Balgowan, Abercairny and Drummond, and goes on to say :

"There is ane old litle family ther, related to your Grace, readie to perish presently if it be not prevented: it is Cultewhay. All the countree has kyndness for him, except such as covets his litle vineyard. I remember that your father preserved him once. It is debt that is lyk to swallow him up. The remedie proposed to me was that Balgown, having a very lame daughter, would bestow upon him who is willing to accept of her, he giving 10 or 12 thousand marks with her, which would preserve him. This I only inform your Grace of without making any application: it is thought Balgown may be ye more neir altho his daughter is not mercat ware, that if lands must go, his son-in-law Abercairny is to be the merchant."

Mungo was twenty at this time, and did not marry for many years. If his fortunes changed it was not owing to the bargain suggested by Breadalbane. Neither did he part with his land.

Of Balgowan's five surviving daughters, Liliass, Anna and Elizabeth were already married at the date of this letter. All were considerably older than Mungo. Elizabeth had just become the wife of William Moray of Abercairny, whom Balgowan, according to Breadalbane's letter, planned to make laird of Cultoquhey. She died after three years of marriage, leaving three children. Many years afterwards Mungo did marry one of his Balgowan cousins, and his wife, Christian, may have been the lame daughter whose misfortunes were so shamelessly to be exploited in this discreditable bargain. There is no evidence, however, that anyone took up Breadalbane's scheme at the time.

A glimpse of Mungo in 1708, when he was twenty-one, shows him, together with Patrick Drummond of Broich, in a difficulty with Mr Daniel McAra of Easter Drume. Unfortunately Mungo's reply to his accuser is not among the family papers, and it will never be known if he kept the "keir¹ black coloured horse."

19th August 1708. A summons at the instance of Mungo against the Procurator Fiscal of Perth with reference to a delivery by Mungo of a horse found straying upon his ground and claimed, after having been declared "waiff" at the several parish churches in the usual form, by Donald McAra of Drumnice as pretending to be lawful owner. Mungo is willing to deliver the horse to one or other whoever has best right: he requires them to appear before the Lords of Council to prove their title.

¹ This must have been a carriage or cart horse. Keir is an old Scottish word for driving.

*Horn and Poynd. McAra Agt. Maxton and Patrick Drummond
of Broich 1709*

Shoven to us by our loveit Mr Daniel McAra of Easter Drume that whereupon the third day of August 1708 the said complainer obtained befor the Justices of Peace in the Sherriffdoms of Perth against Mungo Maxton of Cultowhill for the Causes thereof Decerning him to restore and deliver to the said Complainer a keir black coloured horse three years old or thereby belonging to the Complainer and unwarrantably medled with by the said Mungo, or else to pay him the soume of five pounds sterling as the pryse thereof, with twenty merks Scotts of damage and expence sustained by the said complainer through the want of his horse * * * of which charge the said Mungo raised ane suspension befor the said Lords which the said complainer having called for by putting up protestation in the minute book 21 Jan. last and he having failed to produce the said suspension, our said Lords of Councill and Session admitted protestation and decerned and ordained the said Mungo Maxtone to deliver to the said complainer the said horse or to make payment etc.

He goes on to beg if this be not done within fifteen days next "under paine of Rebellion and putting of them to the Horn * * * and bring their whole moball goods and geir to our use for their contempt and disobedience."

In the end, Mungo had the decret suspended, the matter to be debated in the Court of Session. He did not appear, and costs were given against him.

There exists very little material on which to found an idea of the life and activities of young Mungo Maxtone. It is scarcely possible that he should have remained untouched by all the events of the time. Scotland was recovering from the shattering effects of the Montrose wars, but the Stuart claims rose more strongly after the Revolution of 1688, the year that gave the Jacobite cause a visible centre for loyal effort and almost religious fervour in the birth of a son to James II. Jacobite hopes and schemes were a part of life in most of the families connected with Mungo all through his childhood. He was twenty-eight in 1715, on every hand surrounded by kinsfolk and friends who were deep in the Stuart counsels. He seems to have made no move to engage in any of their activities at that time, but is found in the Jacobite ranks in the attempt of 1719.

After the failure of the Jacobite enterprise of 1715 the cause was

in a very bad way. There was no money, and no foreign Power would help, till a quarrel with England gave Spain the idea of striking a blow for the restoration of the Stuarts. The great Cardinal Alberoni, the Spanish dictator, undertook to support a rising on the west coast of England, but it was suggested that in the Scottish Highlands there should be a rising of the clans at the same time, with men and arms supplied by Spain. This being agreed, war was declared. Everything for the invasion of England was planned in Spain. William Lord Tullibardine was appointed Lieutenant-General in Chief Command of the Jacobite forces in 1717, and in 1718 was created "Duke of Rannoch." He had been attainted for high treason after the 1715, but escaped to France, and now returned with the Spanish force.

The leaders of the expedition were divided in their counsels. This fact alone would have ruined the enterprise from the first, even had there been the slightest prospect of success in the whole fantastic idea. Everything depended on the descent of the Spanish forces in England, under the 2nd Duke of Ormonde. By itself the Scottish attempt was recognized by Tullibardine as a futile movement, but his opinion was set aside and it was decided to go forward when once they had landed, though no news came of the promised invasion in England. The Jacobites fixed their headquarters on the west coast at Eilean Donan Castle, the ancient stronghold of the Mackenzies, on a small island near the shore, where Loch Alsh branches into Loch Duich and Loch Long. In the massive keep of the castle were stored ammunition and provisions. The tiny garrison was formed by forty-five Spaniards. The main body of the troops was on the mainland.

Great was the anxiety for news of the English invasion, but a shattering storm scattered the Spanish ships on their way from Cadiz with troops and supplies. Every single ship was beaten back. At the same time came word to the trapped forces on the wild Highland coast that English ships were sailing to Loch Alsh to attack the castle of Eilean Donan. The little Scottish and Spanish bands were left isolated in an impossible situation. There was still one effort to be made—the clans must be raised. Tullibardine made a desperate attempt to rally the men of the West, with very little result. The memories of 1715 were too recent. Three English ships sailed up the loch to Eilean Donan, and sent a flag of truce to the garrison. This overture was rejected. The stronghold was attacked, all the ammunition taken, the Spanish garrison made prisoners, and the castle blown up.

Tullibardine was doubtless the personality that inspired Mungo Maxtone to take up arms at this crisis. He was Mungo's kinsman, a man of his own age, whose chivalrous record was already a great tradition in Scotland. Something in his simple-hearted steadfast devotion drew men as if by magic to his standard in all three Jacobite risings.

The English forces were now on the mainland, and the attack was awaited at Glenshiel, a desolate glen running inland from the head of the loch. There Tullibardine gave battle. The action was over in three hours. Outmanned and outmanœuvred, the upshot was hardly in doubt from the first, and soon the little Jacobite army was in retreat. An immediate decision must be made. It was resolved that the Spaniards should surrender, and that the Highlanders should disperse as they could. The leaders, with a price upon their heads, were scattered among the glens in Knoydart and Glengarry's country. Tullibardine escaped to the Continent, to endure weary years of exile before his last chance came in 1745 to strike yet again for the cause, and to die a prisoner in the Tower of London.

Proof that Mungo Maxtone fought in 1719 is found in the second volume of the *Atholl Chronicles* in the account of money laid out by Tullibardine, beginning at Stornoway, 30th March 1719. On 27th April and on the 30th of June—ten days before the battle of Glenshiel—Cultoquhey is paid money for subsistence, and again in August and September, the last on the island of Lochmorar. In November he received his commission as Lieutenant-Colonel.

William Duke of Rannoch, Marquis of Tullbardine etc. Commander in Cheif of His Majesty's Forces in Scotland, to Major Mungo Maxton of Culteqhey

By verteu of the power given me from the King as Commander in Cheif of His Majesty's Forces in Scotland I doe hereby constitute and appoint you Major Mungo Maxton of Culteqhey to be a Lieutenent Collonel of foot in his Majesty's Army and to take your rank as such from the date hereof and all officers and souldiers are hereby required to observe you as such and your self to obey and follow all such orders directions and commands as you shall from time to time receive from the King, the Captain Generall myself or the Commander in Cheif of His Majesty's forces for the time being, or any other your superior officer according to the Rules and disciplin of war in pursuance of the trust hereby reposed in you. Given at the

Isle in Lochmorer this second day of November 1719, the eighteen year of His Majesty's reign.

RANNOCH.

By his Graces command
WILLIAM MURRAY.

Mungo Maxton of Cultewhey a Lieutennent Collonel.

Many Perthshire gentlemen went into hiding for a while and returned quietly to their homes, but it is certain that Mungo was away for two years—either concealed in the Highlands or abroad with the Stuarts. Only one sentence in a letter from James III. and VIII. to William Tullibardine would seem to indicate that he was one of the exiles who followed the King to Italy. The letter is dated from Rome, 20th December 1721.

The King mentions various adherents who had made sacrifices for his cause, and adds in a postscript:

“As for Mr Maxton, I have no difficulty in his returning home, if it be safe for him, and wherever he is, I shall be always mindfull of his zeal and loyalty.—J. R.”

Mungo returned to Cultoquhey when the storm of the 1719 attempt had blown over. No vengeance appears to have fallen upon him for his share in the enterprise.

Handed down through the generations among the family valuables at Cultoquhey, and the most treasured possession to-day, is an exquisite miniature of the child Prince Charles Edward—the best of all the portraits known of him as a boy, gay, princely and charming, looking out fearlessly on a world to be conquered. The Prince was born a few months after the disaster of Glenshiel, a ray of hope to comfort many sad hearts in Scotland.

The picture was sent from France by the boy's father, a few years later, to Maxtone of Cultoquhey, a memorial of the one great adventure of his life.

In the Cultoquhey collection of pictures, besides the miniature, are two unique portraits of Stuart children, one of James III. and VIII., father of Charles Edward, another of Henry IX., Cardinal of York.¹ No record exists of the history of these pictures: there is nothing to tell how and when they came into Mungo Maxtone's possession. After his part in 1719 he was never again, as far as can be discovered, to take up arms in the Stuart cause.

Mungo did not marry in his first youth, and when he did he

¹ There is also a portrait by Allan Ramsay of Clementina Walkingshaw.



PRINCE CHARLES EDWARD AS A CHILD.

From a miniature sent to Culloquhey c. 1730.

chose his wife from the huge family of Thomas Graham, 4th laird of Balgowan, who was a notable figure in the history of that family and of especial interest to the Maxtones for two reasons. First, that it was he who, in the year 1728, purchased the estate of Redgorton from Margaret Lady Nairne, and was therefore the first Graham laird of Redgorton. Secondly, that the Maxtones have no less than three descents from Thomas and his first wife.¹ She was Anne, the second daughter of James Drummond of Machany, a son of the 2nd Lord Maderty. Her sister Liliass married first the Earl of Tullibardine, and secondly, in 1676, James, 4th Earl of Perth,² two of the most brilliant figures in the Stuart enterprises. The atmosphere of all connected groups must have been charged with the fiery enthusiasms of the day. But Thomas Graeme's wife can have had little chance of any activities outside Balgowan. Married in 1671, her first child was born in 1672, her last in 1693. In that interval she produced sixteen children.

Among the Balgowan collection of papers is a memorandum, in Thomas Graeme's own handwriting, extending over these years, recording the birth of all his children—the kind of document precious to the genealogist. It will be noticed that Thomas does not even mention the name of his wife.

It is not surprising to find that Anne Graeme died comparatively young—worn out, no doubt, with constant child-bearing, and perhaps tried beyond endurance with Thomas and his maddening obsessions about the moon.

Memorand.

THO. GRAEM.

I was married on the first of Julay in the year of our lord and saviour Jesus Christ 1671 in the one and 20th year of my age, my wife's age being 19.

1. My daughter Liliass was born on the 11th of June in the year of our Lord 1672 and was christened on the 15th instant so that it was the longest day in all the year and the moon declining.
2. My son John was born on ye 22 of September in the year of our Lord 1673 and was christened on ye 28th instant it being ye day of the equinoctial in the newe of the moon.
3. My daughter Hellen on the 22 of December in the year of God 1674 and was christened on the thirteenth day yr after the day of her birth being the shortest of the year.

¹ Thomas Graeme's second wife was Christian Leslie, third daughter of David Lord Newark. This marriage was in 1716. No issue.

² The contract of this second marriage, which is dated at Perth, 5th October 1676, is among the papers of the Grahams of Balgowan. Seventeen witnesses, all Perthshire men, appended their signatures.

4. My daughter Anna was born on the 17 October in the year of God 1676 and was christened on the 20th day of that month.
5. My son James was born on Tuesday about four oclock in the morning the 6 of November 1677 and was christened on ye 9th day thereafter the moon being declining.
6. My son Thomas was borne upon the 28 January about on aclock in ye afternoon on Tusday in anno 1679 and was christened on Friday thereafter the 31st it being the eld of the moon when he was borne.
7. My daughter Hellen was borne on ye 30th of May in anno 1680 it being Thursday about 9 oclock at night ye moon wanting two days of ye hight. She was christened upon Wednesday thereafter being ye 2 of June.
8. My son David was borne on the 29 of July 1681 it being ye eld of the moon and was christened August. (Turne ye lef)
9. My daughter Christian was borne upon ye 30th day of December 1682 and was christened upon ye 2nd of Jan 1683 it being the new moon.
10. My son Robert was borne upon the 20 January 1684 and was christened in the Hall ye 21 of ye month the moon being within a day of the hight.
11. My daughter Margaret was borne the 15 Februar 1685 and was christened upon ye 9th day it being ye old of ye moone.
12. My daughter Elizabeth was borne the 12 of March 1686 at two in the morning, it being ye old of the moon and was christened on the next day being Saturday and was an extraordinary misty nicht wind and raine.
13. My son George was borne upon the 6th of May 1687 at twelve oclock in the forenoon, ye moon being about a quarter old, and was christened the next day.
14. My son Thomas was born on Sunday ye 27 October 1689 and was christened at night ye moon being in ye last quarter and noe.
15. My son William was borne on Munday ye 7th of March 1692 at five oclock at night, ye moon being (*illegible*). He was christened next day.
16. My son Patrick was borne on Sunday ye 24 of November 1693 at 9 oclock at night being Christmas 12 oc. ye moon being eight days old and christened on the 8th of Jan in the Hall.

Memorandum of Balgowan's Grandchildren

Thomas Grame grandson to Thomas Grame of Balgowan was born on the 30th of May 1703 in the old of the moon and was christened in ye house by Mr. W. Smythe the 3rd June.

This is the close of Thomas Graeme's Memorandum. Had the register of grandchildren been kept up, forty-eight entries at least would have been added.¹

From three of these children of Balgowan the Maxtones are on the female side directly descended : first from Christian, the fifth daughter, who married Mungo Maxtone, 10th laird of Cultoquhey ; second from Robert, the fifth son, who was the father of John Graham of Eskbank, whose daughter married Anthony Maxtone, 12th laird of Cultoquhey ; and third from Patrick, ninth son and sixteenth child, whose daughter Marjory married James Maxtone, 11th laird of Cultoquhey.

Family papers yield no information as to the date of Mungo Maxtone's marriage. It is only possible to conjecture that he came home from his exile about 1722, and finding his cousin, Christian Graeme of Balgowan, the only remaining unmarried daughter there, he took her to wife, in spite of the disparity of years between them. Born in 1682, she was the elder by five years. It will never be known if Christian was the same woman recommended to Mungo years before in Breadalbane's letter as being a suitable match, although lame and not "mercat ware." Nothing is known of her personality. Her father, Thomas Graeme, allowed her 9000 merks Scots, but provided no settlement or contract. Her first and only child, a son, James, was born in 1724, a dangerous experiment for a woman of forty-two, for which she paid with her life.

Mungo's mother took up the reins as mistress of Cultoquhey again after the brief interlude of his marriage. The young James was confided to her care, and grew up the centre of anxious interest to his grandmother and three maiden aunts. Mungo remained a widower to the end of his days.

The western windows of the present house of Cultoquhey look out upon the Knock of Crieff, and the story of a tragedy enacted there in the days of Mungo Maxtone cannot be left out of this record.

The Graemes of Inchbrakie were the nearest neighbours as well as

¹ A genealogical chart (at end of book) has been drawn up, giving, as far as can be ascertained, the names of all the families descended from Thomas Graeme and Anna Drummond.

cousins of Cultoquhey. There was always much coming and going between the families. The Graemes' family nurse, Kate McNiven, was no doubt well known to the Maxtones. Her chief charge was the laird's young son. Servants in the large houses usually belonged to the neighbourhood, and Kate's home was within three miles of Inchbrakie, on Campbell property, at the Kirkton of Monzie, where she had a cottage on the banks of the little River Shaggie. Thither she retired to live when, as an old woman, she left the house of Inchbrakie. It is not known what unfortunate peculiarities caused local gossip to be busy with her name. In remote country districts, the minds of men were still held in thrall by the fantasy of witchcraft, even as late as the first quarter of the eighteenth century. All the cruelty such Satanic beliefs entailed was fostered by the ministers of the Church, who, in spite of the growing enlightenment of the time, continued to pin blind faith on certain unfortunate Old Testament pronouncements which had caused the death of many innocent people for hundreds of years. Many fantastic stories attach to the name of Kate McNiven, examples of the frightful ignorance and credulity displayed by law, Church, and people. The whole countryside seems to have been stirred to passionate interest, either for or against her conviction and execution as a witch. Many and strange were the spells uttered by this poor victim when at last she died at the stake, on the crag of the Knock of Crieff, within sight of the windows of Cultoquhey: and strangely have her prophecies been fulfilled in many families, who either took her part or joined in her condemnation. Kate McNiven's curse, or her blessing, bears fruit here and there on local families and places to this day, working out gradually and with strange certainty through more than two centuries, as if to prove that in spite of the enlightenment of modern days there exists something, after all, of occult power and vision beyond understanding.

The stories of Kate McNiven are too long and too many to find place here, but it must be recorded that Mungo Maxtone's part in the tragedy was on the side of mercy. He endeavoured to save her. One of her dying declarations was to promise to the lairds of Cultoquhey that they should never lose an acre or lack an heir. A further prophecy declared that a "Treasure shall be found in the Cultoquhey woods on the day that a gled-eyed Laird is born." Two hundred years of Maxtone births have failed to produce the necessary squint, and the treasure has not been disclosed.

So few are the traces of Mungo Maxtone through the years that an account of him must be given playing a part at Dunkeld,

when that little Highland town acclaimed, with an outburst of conviviality, the birth of a son, at Blair, to the 2nd Duke of Atholl, on 28th March 1735. Apparently a group of neighbouring lairds watched for the event, while the Duke himself was absent, probably in London, and these friends, in a fever of excitement, sent off a letter:

"I have the infinit pleasure to tell you that my Lady Dutchess¹ was safly delivered of a son, my young Marquess, this night a quarter after nine oclock at night. My Lady Dutchess is very safe and the child a thumping boy.

"I desyre that the Captain² and your Grace may get as drunk as your humble servants shall do. My hand shakes so for joy that I cannot write.

"My Lord Duke, Your Graces most, etc."

Mungo Maxtone signs this letter, with three of the Murrays of Ochertyre, Murray of Balmanno, and Alexander Murray, the Duke's factor.

Lord George Murray, having seen the baby, writes his congratulations too. "The child is as tall as ever anybody seed a new born infant, and a very strong cry," he reports.

Alexander Murray, writing more fully to the Duke next day, describes the festivities:

"At night a Lodge of Masons at Jamy Johnstones drew up in the Castle Closs in whyte gloves and aprons marching in pairs to the Cross. [Cultoquhey was amongst them.] The Fraternity in their aprons made a circle about the bonfire, crosst arms, shook hands, repeated healths and a Marquess for ever. Drank, Roared and Sang till midnight, and then reeled home ryving fou."

The baby whose coming was received with these hilarious scenes was the fourth child of the Duke's family. The first was a son, who lived only a few months. Two daughters³ followed, and the arrival of another son was greeted with the unbounded enthusiasms here described. The little boy did not live to know of it, for he died in less than a year.

In pathetic contrast with the picture of rejoicings is the despair of

¹ Jean, wife of the 2nd Duke of Atholl, daughter of Thomas Frederick, and widow of James Lannoy, of Hammersmith. This lady is said to be the heroine of the song *Huntingtower*. She died in 1748.

² James Murray, captain in Tullibardine's Scots-Dutch regiment in 1709. Afterwards Sir James Murray of Clermont.

³ Through the elder of these, Lady Charlotte Murray, the line of the Dukes of Atholl was continued. She married her first cousin, the 3rd Duke, son of Lord George Murray.

his mother, expressed in a letter to her kinswoman, Margaret Lady Nairne. It is dated London, 24th February 1736 :

MADAM,

I cannot express the agony of my soul for the loss of my dearest boy. I have not only the heart breaking sorrow of a mothers heart but the grief and anguish to see my dear lord oppressed with affliction which adds to my sorrow. Almighty God enable us to bear this great triall with due submission to his Divine Will. We look'd upon the Dear Child as a gift and blessing preserved by the imediate interposition of Gods great mercy to us, but now alas he is knatched from us, and our fond hopes are blasted. Its impossible for me to say more on this melancholy subject, its a point too tender for me at present. * * * *

Madam, your Ladyship's most obedient and most humble servant,

J. ATHOLL.

One little relic remains of this child, who was the centre of hope and interest in the very wide circle of Atholl relations in Perthshire.

A carefully folded scrap of paper containing a small lock of soft fair hair put away among the papers of the Oliphants of Gask, two hundred years ago, bears the inscription :

"James, Mqs Tulibardines Hair, cut out by me the 10th Feb. 1735/6 two days before his death."

The handwriting is that of Laurence Oliphant the elder, Jacobite laird of Gask.

Nothing else remains of the baby's brief story, begun in such an outburst of happiness and ending so soon in a sorrow that was never to be assuaged.

His mother never had another child.

A later social event reveals Mungo Maxtone taking part in the wedding ceremonies of his nephew, Thomas Graeme of Balgowan, with Lady Christian Hope, fourth daughter of the 1st Earl of Hopetoun, on 18th April 1743. Mungo's name is among the nineteen relatives and friends who witnessed the marriage and signed the contract at Hopetoun House.

No record gives a sight of him except in these domestic scenes.

Yet it was impossible that the events of the Forty-Five never stirred the surface of life at Cultoquhey. Copewith his army marched by Stirling and Dunblane to Crieff, where he remained several days, pitching his camp within sight of Cultoquhey, in the park of Ferntower. Prince

Charlie himself was at Crieff with his whole army, on his retreat to the Highlands after the march from Derby. He stayed a day and night at Ferntower. Did the Maxtones remain at home, watching the smoke of the camp-fires? Or did they play some part of which they prudently destroyed every trace in family records? It was twenty-six years since Mungo had received his commission in the Jacobite army. He was nearing sixty now, too old to join in the brief madness of the chivalrous enterprise. He might have inspired his son James, who was twenty-one, but among family papers no word of any Jacobite activity at this time is to be found.

A cobbler's bill, extending over a couple of years, provides proof that the three generations of the family were all living together from 1738 to 1740. The account is headed: "Ane accompt of the Laird of Cultawhey to Patrick McAurish."

The prices for goods supplied and work done, not conveying much information of present values, are partly omitted here.

The first entry is 19th June 1738 :

	To Mrs Katren on pair shoes	01. 06. 0
	To the Laird on pair	01. 06. 0
30	To soling on shoe and mending the other pair to James	
July 16	To Mrs Isbell on pair	
Aug. 16	To soling and heltoping and mending the toes of Mrs Jean's shoes	00. 07. 0
Sep. 2	To the lady on pair	01. 06. 0
	To mending and healtoping Mrs Isbels shoon	00. 06. 0
Oct. 14	To the Laird on pair pumps	01. 06. 0
Nov. 1	To Mr James a pair	
30	To mending the toes and heals of James shoes	
Dec. 15	To soaling Mr James shoes	
	To soling on shoe to Mr James and helping the other	
	To a tag to the Lairds saddel	00. 01. 00
	To soaling and mend the heals of Mr James shoes	00. 07. 00
	(Katrin, Jean and James all had new shoes in Feb. 1739)	
Apr. 2	To mend the Lairds Holster cases and 4 tags and 2 bells	
20	To the Laird a par of boots	06. 06. 0
May 16	To Healtoping the Lairds shoes also Mrs Jeans	
Aug. 30	To the Lady a pair	01. 06. 00
	To Mrs Katren a pair	
	To the Laird a pair pumps	
	To mending Donald Murrays boots	
Nov.	To mending the toes of Mrs Jeans shoes	00. 02. 00
1740	To soling and making large Mrs Jeans Clogs	00. 05. 00
	Total account	5 8 10

There is added: "1739 I received 2 bols meal at on time and on bol at another time. I received 4 slaughter hides and a faln hide."

The bill was paid by Mungo after February 1740.

Mungo sometimes bought books, but was slow in paying for them, according to the following account:

Mungo Maxton of Cultewhey, Dr to Willm Drummond, Edinburgh

1744			
Dec. 12	To Heister's Surgery	£1	4 .
	To Douglass on the Muscles		3 6
13	To Le Dran's Observations		5 6
1745			
Mar. 16	To Blancard i Lexicon 8°		9 .
24	To Sydenham's Works by Swan		7 6
Aug. 16	To Boyer's Grammar		2 6
Dec. 19	To Winslow's Anatomy 4°		16 .
		<u>£3</u>	<u>8 .</u>

A note is put away with this account:

EDINBR. 14 July 1747

SIR,

As I am at present much straitned for money to mentain my Family I have used the Freedom to send enclosed a copy of the acct. due by you to my Husband and having an ample Factory registrate containing sufficient powers to discharge you. I hope you will be so good as to return the copy of the Acct. with orders for my immediate payment and the same shall be sent you back discharged. And I shall own myself extremely obliged for so reasonable a favour and am

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

MARGT. MURRAY.

Mungo, for so long the head and autocrat of the family, possibly grew a little crusty as years went on, and was as determined as ever on his rights among his neighbours. The last clear incident recorded of him concerns some dispute that arose with the Earl of Perth¹ about a seat in Crieff Church. It never came to a quarrel, for the letter from Perth was calculated only to pacify: in fact there is no trace here of

¹ Lord John Drummond, born 1679, assumed the title of Duke of Perth on the death of his nephew, the 2nd Duke, in 1747. The 3rd Duke died in Edinburgh, 27th October 1757.

"the ire of the Drummonds," but the incident shows that Mungo did not lose his vehemence as he passed into old age.

*Obligatory letter from The Duke of Perth to Mungo Maxton
of Cultowhey Esq.*

SIR,

When I desired you to conver with me in the disposition of the lands of Fairtown I never intended to hurt your right to the seat in the Kirk of Crieff, therefor if any part of your seat has been taken in to enlarge the seats designed for my tenants or servants, I beg you may cause put it into the same form and condition it was in before the alteration was made, and I believe the same persons may be got who made the alteration and may still be employed to restore it to its former condition, but if these persons cannot be got, I daresay there is abundance of people who know what alteration was made and may direct workmen how to restore it to its former condition and I shall pay the expenses. In the meantime this letter I hope will satisfie you that no wrong was intended and shall oblige me to rectify what has been done with regard to the seat, therefor I send out back to you the disposition signed by you which I hope you will return soon, and I am with my compliments to your sisters, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

PERTH.

BROUGHTOUN,
19^{8ber} 1751.

The outlook of the old laird Mungo was coloured throughout his life by the difficulties of his early youth, which was passed in a struggle for the retention of his small property. Lying in the midst of large estates belonging to Grahams of Balgowan and Inchbrakie, Murrays of Ochtertyre and Atholl, Campbells of Monzie and Drummonds of Drummond Castle, his possessions seemed to him, as in the far past days of the early lairds, to invite interference. Though he was fortunate in finding good friends and supporters all through his life, these names may have had vexatious associations, for members of all these families were appointed in the will of John Maxtone, his father, as tutors and administrators for the infant laird of Cultoquhey. Doubtless during his long minority he suffered restrictions and annoyances at their hands. Though he left no portrait of himself, he appears to his descendants a living personality as the creator of a unique family tradition. "The Cultoquhey Litany" will always keep his memory alive.

This he intoned daily at a well near the house, surrounded by his household :

“ From the greed of the Campbells,
From the ire of the Drummonds,
From the pride of the Grahams,
From the wind of the Murrays,
Good Lord, deliver us.”

Tradition adds that on one occasion the Duke of Atholl, chief of the Murrays, invited Cultoquhey to dinner, and asked him to repeat his Litany, thinking he would not have the courage to do so to his face. When Cultoquhey quietly complied, the Duke with a show of temper threatened to crop his ears. “ There, my lord ! ” said Cultoquhey, “ there’s the wind o’ the Murrays ! ”

Another member of the Murray family called on the laird of Cultoquhey and angrily protested that his Litany was scandalizing his clan. Cultoquhey said nothing in reply, but calling his servant told him to “ open the door and let out the wind o’ the Murrays.”

Both these stories may have had some truth in them, but a wrong atmosphere has been created by the narrators. It is very unlikely that either the Duke or any member of the Murray family, who were close friends and kinsmen of Mungo Maxtone, regarded the Litany as anything but an amusing flash of wit on his part.

Mungo Maxtone lived to a good old age, for he was seventy-six when he died, in 1763, leaving his property to his son James.

CHAPTER V

LINKS WITH AMERICA

OF the early life of James Maxtone, 11th laird of Cultoquhey, very little trace remains, beyond his name in the family accounts. His boyhood was passed in the care of his grandmother and three elderly aunts. This group naturally lessened as the years went on. There is no record of the death of Jean Murray, "Ladie Cultoquhey": both she and her daughters fade out of the story without any definite dates of departure. It is known only that, of the three sisters, Katherine died first, and that Isabel and Jean were still alive after 1751. It may have been a dull life for James. He can be visualized only as the centre of a group of old people. But he had his distractions, though he did not travel far to find them. A son, Charles, was born to him in December 1752, and was registered under his own name in the Muthil Register. The mother was Janet Thomson of Foulis.

A divergence from the main subject of the Maxtones is appropriate here, as a series of letters are of interest, written by Thomas Graeme,¹ fourth son of Thomas Graeme and Anna Drummond, ancestors of the Maxtones, and the only member of that generation of the family whose letters are to be found in the Cultoquhey collection. Thomas was so near a relation of the Cultoquhey group, and his letters throw such light here and there on family connections, that this digression is permissible.

Born in 1689, he studied as a doctor, served in the Navy, went out to the United States about 1717, and married in 1719 Ann Diggs. Eleven children were born to this couple, though only three daughters grew up: Mary Jane, Mrs Young; Ann, who became Mrs Stedman, and Elizabeth—the only one to survive her parents—who married a Mr Ferguson. By a strange chance, a bundle of letters written by Thomas Graeme, his wife and his daughter Elizabeth was picked up on an old London bookstall about seventy years ago. They were returned to the Balgowan family and ultimately printed for private circulation.

¹ There is a good account of Thomas Graeme of Philadelphia and his children in *The Provincial Councillors of Philadelphia*, by Charles P. Keith, published in Philadelphia, 1883. Thomas Graeme died at Graeme Park, Philadelphia, 4th September 1772.

Some other letters from Thomas Graeme have now been found among the Balgowan papers. He proved himself a most kind relative, taking an immense interest in his young nephews and all that went on at home, though he never left the United States after his emigration. He befriended in a very special manner Charles Graeme, a younger son of his brother John, the 5th laird of Balgowan and 2nd of Redgorton. John, who succeeded on his father's death in 1728, married, in 1702, Elizabeth Carnegie, daughter of James Carnegie of Balmanoon. The couple, though they did not beat the previous generation's record of sixteen children, did produce nine—five sons and four daughters. Most of these died before their mother, and about the date of Thomas's letters, 1759 to 1761, the family was much reduced. Charles Graeme was in the Army, and went on active service with his regiment to America. His Uncle Thomas's house at Philadelphia was a second home to him. Letters giving details of the unfortunate fate of this young man are here given, and may be of interest in showing the ideas of treatment in cases of incipient insanity a hundred and seventy years ago.

*Letter from Doctor Graeme of Philadelphia to his brother Mr Peter¹
Graeme at Perth concerning Captain Charles' Distress*

PHILADELPHIA. 10 Feb. 1759.

DEAR BROTHER,

Since my last of the 3rd Jan. I have seen here Mr McAlpin a Breadalbin man who is Capt. Charles second lieutenant who was with him at the siege of Lansburgh and up the river St Johns untill his departure indisposed for Boston. This gentleman informs me that when at the siege he happened to be sent on an advanced post very near the enemy, and that while he was obliged to remain there which was for 2 or 3 hours it rained without interruption excessively hard, so that on returning from his station he complained of being very much chilled and further he said he had done what he never did before in his life-time, that was, he drank a dram of plain Rum without mixture. This cold occasioned him a sore throat which he struggled with more or less for some time, but before they left Lansburgh which was in the middle of Sept'r he was seised with (illness) * * * before they reached Halifax which they did in six days, and they were only two days at Halifax when they had orders to proceed to the River St Johns in the bottom of the Bay of ffundy, which took them about 8 or 10 days more. Mr McAlpin says he saw him often taking

¹ Or Patrick.

medecines, but where he got them or by whose prescription he could not tell. On this passage to St Johns he kept his bed all thro the voyage till within two days of landing when he got up, came to table and appeared to be better, but still they observed he could not eat. This was plainly a breakking of his constitution least he should have appeared indisposed when he came to land, expecting to face an enemy. However as it happened no enemy remained. He thus would needs continue to doe his duty notwithstanding his weakness and exhausted state of body and in a clymat very cold damp and foggy as that is in the month of Oct.

He had not been much above 10 days in this way and on the river, when one night after some sleep in his tent he complained to the corporal and his wife who lay always in the tent by him that his two Lieutenants Mr Brown and Mr McAlpin had come to him that night with design to do him some mischief, in which he persisted next morning when he saw them. This struck them with so much astonishment, being a thing so contrary to his usual manner of treating them, that they agreed to keep out of his way till they could somehow or other discover the true cause of his displeasure. During the interim of this, he went to dine with Brigadier General Mouston (who is now the Colonel of the Batalion) without an invitation, and after dinner proposed sending his baggage into the Generals quarters.

This step so much the reverse of his known disposition immediately discovered itself to the General who spoke to some officers of his acquaintance to persuade him to ask the Generals leave to goe to Boston for his health, the Regiment being soon to follow for quartering the winter there. This leave was asked and immediately granted by the General with all possible care taken for his voyage. This Corporal and his wife besides his own servant to attend him. They gott pretty soon to Boston but there continued above six weeks and as I understand his indisposition increased.

He was after that, as I wrote before, brought to New Yorke where I had taken all the precaution in my power for his reception and that he should have the best advice the place could afford for his immediate relief. I therefor judged I could not better inform you of his situation there than by the enclosed letters I received from Dr Thomson, the physician I chiefly employed there for his preservation. By these letters you will soon perceive how impracticable it hitherto has been to bring him forward to this place which my desire for hastening his coming I have pressed on Dr Thomson in every letter I have wrote him, and am still in expectation of having him with me every day. I have prepared all proper accommodation for him and those

that are so necessary for his attendance which I know will be much more commodious than anything he could meet with anywhere else. We can also take our turns in creating him amusements that may carry him off those ideas that may too fixedly possess his imagination. Upon the whole, I give it as my opinion that as his flux (which was then his distemper going up the river St Johns) increased so his anxiety least he should not have been in condition when landed, to do his duty as a soldier, they then expecting to meet an enemy. Thus I'm persuaded poor Capt. Charles has fallen a sacrifice to his Duty and his Honour.

Mr McAlpin from whom I collected this (as I said above) told it me with tears trickling down his cheeks, and withall said he lost in Capt. Graeme the best friend he ever had in the world, nay he lost a father, and that the Regiment would greatly miss him as an officer.

Thus far I thought fit to acquaint you, Dr Brother, that not only you and his friends but all the world should know by what perplexing circumstances he became subject to this melancholy disorder.

I am Dr Brother most affectionately yours,

THO : GRAEME.

*Dr Adam Thomson to Doctor Thomas Graeme, Physician at Philadelphia.
By favour of Captain Thomas Graeme*

NEW YORK,
Jan. 2, 1759.

DEAR SIR,

I wrote you 25th ult. concerning your nephew by Mr Barclay. This comes by Capt. Thomas Graeme of the same Regiment, a gentleman whom I beg to recommend to your civilities as a name-sake, countryman and man of real worth—that you might have the satisfaction of conversing with one who had seen your unhappy relation.

I carried Capt. Thomas Graeme with me this morning to see him, and I have the pleasure to inform you that he appears to be considerably mended since he has been at his Lodgings. Upon examining the woman who had attended him all along, I learnt that he had just recovered of a bloody flux which had reduced him very low when the first marks of a disordered brain appeared, and that he has never recovered any degree of bodily strength since, being still very weak. This joined with the unwholesome foggy air of St Johns and these parts I suspected might be the cause of his disorder by unfitting the brain and nervous system from performing their functions properly.

I have seen, and I doubt not you have also observed instances in America paralel to this, which evacuations and a low diet have increased, but which the restorative Anaseptic method has happily cured. Accordingly I stated the case and proposed a tryal of this to the Gentlemen of His Majesty's Hospital here, viz Messrs Napier and Adair and Doctor Huck, who unanimously approved. I then ordered the nurse, who had been ordered by a Physician at Boston to give him nothing stronger than milk and water, to let him drink a glass of generous wine or two, with his victuals, and wine and water at times when he called for it. He likewise takes three doses of Bark every day, and a plunge into the Cold Bath every morning. I borrowed a bathing-tub for the purpose and we found some small difficulty the first time, but he now goes into the Bath freely and likewise takes his medicines. You will want to know the effects. He has been in the bath three times and upon the whole appears to me to be visibly better. He talks both more composed and free, has a much better appetite to his victuals and recovers strength. I would by no means flatter you with too high expectations of the consequence, as you well know cases of this sort are ever precarious, but I think the method mentioned is well worth trying for eight or ten days longer.

Most affectionately yours etc.

ADAM THOMSON.

Major Robertson to Doctor Graeme at Philadelphia

NEW YORK. 12 Feb'y. 1759.

SIR,

It would give me infinite pleasure to be useful to so dear and valuable a friend as Capt. Graham. His character as an officer was as high as any man of his rank in the army, and there never was any man whose present sad state is more generally lamented by all, nor more particularly felt by me.

All my hopes are founded upon your skill and care. Mr and Mrs Gregor who have taken care of him since his illness have given me a very long account of disbursements since they arrived at New York,—it amounts to £54. 2. 9 N. York money. The articles were so many that it is impossible to correct it, and I thought it hazardous to provoke them by refusing their claim, lest they should abandon him before he got to Philadelphia, so I payed the money. This hint may not be unnecessary as it will put you on your guard against imposition.

I believe both the man and woman like Capt. Graham and take care enough of him, but I know they are covetous and desirous to get money.

Sir, your Obt humble sert.

JAMES ROBERTSON.

On the same sheet of paper as the previous letter are written a few lines in Thomas Graeme's handwriting :

* * * * *

Gregor and his wife are two very respectable people, he a well-looking soldierly little man, and she a very cliver genteel woman for one of her rank. They have behaved in my ffamily very well, and am persuaded have a thorough regard and affection in whats their duty towards your Brother, but the best of those ffolks must have some interest connected with it. Here I could doe very well with the woman alone, but when gone from us, they will be both necessary, and it affords me the greatest satisfaction, I think I can accomplish on reasonable terms their continuance to attend him till he gets home.

To JOHN GRAEME of Balgowan.

*Thomas Graeme, Philadelphia, to his nephew John,
5th Laird of Balgowan*

June 12. 1760.

DEAR SIR,

By the arrival of your brother (Charles) you would know that I had received your two first letters, but that of April the 9th, 1759 did not come to hand till after he was gone. I indeed Sir was very much inclined to have wrote before this but being daily in hopes of hearing first what might be agreeable concerning your brother after having got with his ffriends has made me hitherto postpone it, and am not without my fears that tho you may have written it may have miscarried, as a vessell of great value bound to this port from London has been taken this Spring and carried to Cape ffrancois on the Island of Hispanola.

It would have given me and all my ffamily the greatest pleasure to have understood that your brother was with you in situation and condition full as well if not better than you expected, which by the short accounts we had of his arrival in the Orkneys gave us some reason to believe, but since that we are hitherto entirely ignorant. I am also not without concern to know how far my conduct in his affairs meets with

your approbation. I need not mention what was properly enough suggested in your letter as that of Resignation on full pay, which I believe would have been pretty difficult to have accomplished, yet had your letter arrived in time, and also General fforges been alive, I should have attempted it, but as he poor Gentleman was gone, and the Rules prescribed pretty decisive, I was affraid of putting them in worse temper by any hesitation on my part.

* * * * *

Soon after hearing of my Brother Peter's death I was meditating with myself how it would be best to dispose of his son [John Murray of Murrayshall] after his Grammar School education was over, and I had gone so far as partly to have engaged a merchant of considerable credit and character in this place to have taken him an apprentice, but by a letter I had from Mr Ochterlony and afterwards in the public magazines, I saw an account of the death of his elder Brother of his mother's first marriage [Moray of Abercairny] which I immediately conjectured would in all probability alter my scheme, as I understand an inheritance of about £100 per annum falls to him. Yet with this, joyned to what his ffather has left him, will be far from sufficient to enable him to make a figure in the world, without adding to it some honourable profession, and there is non that can answer that end so much as the Law, and as tis to be hoped (did he but bring merit with him) he would naturally find a Patron in that great and good man my Lord Mansfield. However all this depends on genius and application with a disposition and capacity for letters in general. But should these be wanting and he so inclined, he might still advance his fortune in all probability as fast if not more so, by submitting to an apprenticeship and following trade after. He might doe it with his fortune on very sure principles from this place. These, dr Sir, are a few reflections I make in regard to this lad's stepping into the world, whom I with great pleasure heard from you to be a fine youth, so shall leave it here for your further sentiments.

Capt. Stewart who carried your Brother home, the very day he left this place, left in my hands the principal and interest of a Bond due by him to my Brother Peter's estate in all about £26. This money I shall in some short time remit for the account of the said Estate. Poor Capt. Stewart after making a very successful voyage with ffrench suggests to Amsterdam and returning with a valuable cargoe was in the winter time taken in a storm off our Capes, and so near as to have gotten a pilot on board, who thro misconduct and the violence of the

weather, ran the Brigantine ashore, lost the vessell and dammidgd all the goods. Capt. Stewart underwent incredible fatigue and I believe some losses, but as he had a pilot a Boord no share of the blame fell to his part. On the contrary the same owner is now fitting out for him a new and much finer vessell and he going the same voyage to Amsterdam or Homburgh. If his ffriends are not rightly informed of these things they'll be glad to know so much.

I'm very anxious to hear of my Brother Robert's state of health, knowing he has lain long under a lingering indisposition with but small hopes of a right recovery, and were it such as he could bear without great oppression to himself it would give me the greatest relief. God grant it may be such.

Now after thinking of my friends I cant but let you know that I begin to feel very sensibly the effects of years myself. A cough more or less but specially in the winter, attends me all the-year round. As I know something of the nature of it it obliges me to strict rules in diet, which preserves me pretty well in several other respects.

I still put off writing to your Brother till I have some satisfactory accounts of him. I'm persuaded his arrival being by a different route and earlier than you had reason to expect, would be a surprize upon you all; was it but as we would wish, it would give the greatest pleasure. At the same time I cannot but think of the poor Lady Ballgowan¹ as how she does and how she bore this, and all her family afflictions. Make my compliments to her in the warmest and most sincere manner, and let her know that all through these tedious years of absence I have ever retained the greatest esteem and most affectionate regard for Her Ladyship. I further hope that this will find you and my Lady Christian and young nephew in perfect health, a blessing I shall always esteem amongst the greatest I know. I pray God for its continuance. As to my Wife and family they are at present pretty well, though I had very nigh lost my youngest daughter Betty last ffall by a ffever both severe and long continued. They all join with me in their dutifull and most respectful compliments to you, Sir, and my Lady Christian, to our young nephew and in a particular manner to their good and worthy Cousin Capt. Charles.

Who am

Dear Sir your most affectionate Uncle and most humble servant,
THO : GRAEME.

¹ Elizabeth Carnegie, widow of John Graeme, 5th of Balgowan, mother of Captain Charles Graeme.

*Thomas Graeme to his nephew John, 6th Laird of Balgowan*PHILAD^a. June 24, 1761.

* * * * *

Amongst other interesting family affairs you acquainted me of the not unexpected death of my poor Brother Robert. I know him to have been for some years past in such a distempered state of body as considering his years, there could be no hopes of his recovery, under which consideration a deliverance from this world was a blessing. He as you are pleased to inform me has left two sons¹ and three daughters,² which by an equal dividend of his Estate turns out about £300 to each, a small affair for carrying them through the world, especially the Girls up to the rank of Gentlewomen, but that it should be more, there was little room to expect, considering the family he had to raise, and the foundation he had to doe it upon. However such as it is fortunate it is for them to have it under the care and inspection of Abercairny and you, Sir.

Of the two lads I should be glad to hear more of them, as the Elder is gone to sea and the younger proposes to qualify himself for a Writer.

It is a great pleasure to me to know that my brother Peter's son³ and daughter⁴ are so decently provided for, and that in their respective characters are both fine youths. I wrote in my last as touching further education and advancement in the world. 'Tis true I had a view to his becoming a merchant, which undoubtedly he should have been, had not the accession he has had to his fortune since his father's death much altered his condition. But as it is a small landed estate, and he the sole representative of a ffamily I make no doubt but you and his other ffriends will think it proper that he should finish his education at Home, and ffollow such business or profession what chiefly his genius leads him to. I begin to advance too far in years to hope to live (were he with me) to doe that Duty my inclinations would lead me to, to the son of so dear a Brother.

I with not less pleasure and satisfaction receive the favourable accounts you give of my young nephew your son.⁵ His so early advancement in his school learning affords a promising expectation of his Genius, and his carrying with it health and firmness of constitution must not only give his parents the most solid joy and contentment,

¹ One son was John Graeme of Eskbank, W.S. There is no mention of another son in Burke's *Landed Gentry*.

² Of the daughters, Christian married Hamilton of Woodcote; Elizabeth married Scott Kerr of Chatto, and Catherine married Dr Charles Webster, Redhall.

³ John assumed the name Murray of Murrayshall on succeeding to that estate through his mother.

⁴ Marjorie Graeme, wife of James Maxtone of Cultoquhey.

⁵ Thomas Graeme of Balgowan, afterwards Lord Lynedoch.

but to all who ardently wish for the prosperity of the ffamily, of which number I beg to rank myself amongst the first. It was a pity he should not be a twelvemonth at Westminster School: this I would not propose unless you and Lady Christian were to accompany him, neither is it for any advantage that is to be had there in point of instruction superior to what may be had at home, but purely to mix with the youth and Boys of the world of Rank and ffigure, by which they may acquire acquaintance of such value and importance as may be of use to them for their Life thereafter. * * * However I throw only this out by the by, to shew my good wishes for a youth I so tenderly regard and esteem. I would fain, Dr Sir, ask after one person more, did I not know it must give you pain, that is your poor sister (Christian Graeme). I'm affraid she is in a condition attended with small hopes of recovery, and left only to me to joyn with you in our Prayers and earnest desires for a change into a better state both of Body and mind.

This naturally leads me to enquire after the health of my sister the good old Lady Ballgowan, how in these advanced years she bears up against those severe strokes of Providence, but as hitherto her constancy and firmness of mind has been superior to all worldly afflictions, I'm hopeful she'll carry these noble and Christian virtues to the last period of her days. My remembrance of her has ever been with the greatest honour Gratitude and affection, and when you, with my most respectful compliments to her Ladyship, let her know so much, you'll doe me but justice.

You were so good as to let me know that my nephew Abercainry ¹ was well, and that he did me the honour of his compliments, and withall was gone to London to settle his second son ² in some business there, in which I wish him all success. I had heard some time agoe that his Eldest son ³ a fine youth, was gone upon his travels. I pray he may return in health, and with those accomplishments that will doe honour to himself, his ffather and ffamily.

I beg to return Abercainry my compliments in the kindest manner, and let him know that it gives me the greatest joy when I hear of the prosperity and welfare of my ffrriends, and that such a portion thereof should fall to his share is to me a most sensible pleasure.

Dr Sir your most affectionate Uncle and
most humble servant,

THO. GRAEME.

¹ James Moray, son of Thomas Graeme's sister Elizabeth.

² His second son was Alexander, *b.* 1743, *d.* 1784. The present family is descended from Charles, the third son, *b.* 1746, *d.* 1810.

³ His eldest son was James Francis Edward, *b.* 1739, who died unmarried 1768.

Elizabeth Carnegie of Balmanoon, wife of John Graeme of Balgowan, to whom Thomas Graeme refers, certainly presents a melancholy figure in old age. After years of marriage spent, according to the habit of her day, in giving birth to children, she was left at the end of her life bereft of her husband and all but two of her nine children. Of these two, one was Charles, an insane son, the other Christian, an insane daughter.

When John Graeme, her husband, died in 1748 she quitted Balgowan to make room for the young people, Thomas Graeme and his wife, Lady Christian Hope. She went to Pitmurthly, on the Redgorton estate, with her melancholy entourage, and died there in 1767, a very old woman, for she had been married in 1702. In spite of the nine children of John Graeme, 4th of Balgowan, there is now not a single descendant, except the Rattrays of Craighall-Rattray.

What became of poor Charles Graeme some letters in other collections may disclose. No further details are now available as to his fate or the date of his death. But his sister, Christian, lived on many years after her mother's death, the last of the tragic group. A single receipt, dated 1787, signed by James Maxtone of Cultoquhey, acknowledging the sum of fifty pounds for a year's board and lodgings in 1783, reveals how the problem of providing care for her was solved. Though the house was not large, and already contained a number of young Maxtone sons and daughters, she found shelter at Cultoquhey.

James Maxtone married in 1764, the year after his father's death. Like his father, he sought a wife of Balgowan blood, Marjorie Graeme, the only daughter of his Uncle Patrick, and therefore his first cousin.

His mother's brother Patrick (known in the family as Peter) was the ninth son and the sixteenth child of the prolific Thomas Graeme and his wife, Anna Drummond. Born in 1693, Patrick¹ married an heiress, Janet Murray, the eldest of the three daughters² of Andrew Murray of Murrayshall. Janet had been already twice married—first to a Moray of Abercairny, secondly to Mr Davidson. Patrick Graeme was her third husband. She had a Moray son, heir to the Murrayshall estate, but he died about 1760. Two children were born of her marriage to Patrick Graeme: a son, John Graeme, who owing to the death of his stepbrother inherited Murrayshall and assumed his mother's name of Murray, and a daughter, Marjorie Graeme, who became the wife of James Maxtone, 11th laird of Cultoquhey, in 1764. Marjorie was born 11th January 1745, and was nineteen at the time of her marriage to James, who was then a man of forty. During a married life lasting

¹ "Peter" was the "Uncle Peter" who planted the fine avenue of beech-trees on the road between

seventeen years, ten children came to fill the old house of Cultoquhey.

If John, the son of Patrick Graeme, who was a sixteenth child and ninth son, could have foreseen that he would become the male representative of the Grahams of Balgowan and Redgorton he would doubtless have hesitated to drop his own ancient name. The unlikely extinction of the male line in Patrick's eight elder brothers came to pass—John, the eldest, ending in Thomas Graham, Lord Lynedoch, who died childless; the line of Robert, the next heir, died out in the second generation in Robert Graham, who inherited the entailed properties, but died unmarried; while the next brother, Thomas, left daughters only; and five more sons died unmarried.

The marriage of James Maxtone, the 11th laird, seems to open up a new chapter of family history. Life at Cultoquhey comes forth into the light. Instead of finding isolated glimpses, which are all that can be gathered of the surroundings of Mungo and his forbears, there is a definite continuity given by letters. Very few of these were written by James himself, but his children wrote a great many.

According to a very fine miniature of Marjorie Graeme she was a lovely girl. There is both an oil portrait and two miniatures of James also, showing him, not handsome of feature, but kindly of expression. One other relic of this couple is among the family treasures—a curious enamelled ring, with a design of a tree with ten branches, springing from two hearts, with the initials J.M. and M.M. intertwined, and the date 1782, the year of Marjorie's death.

James Maxtone was left desolate by the sudden death of his wife after ten minutes' illness. Thirty-six years old, she was the mother of ten living children, the youngest not two years old. The elder boys, in those days of early beginnings, were just at the outset of their careers. Helen, the eldest daughter, was twelve when the household cares devolved upon her as head of her father's house, and she received the letters and confidences that would have been given to her mother.

The following is a list of the children of James Maxtone and Marjorie Graeme:

1. James, *b.* 19 Feb. 1765; *d.* 6 Nov. 1800.
2. John, *b.* 28 Oct. 1766; *d.* 4 May 1790.
3. Thomas, *b.* 3 Feb. 1768; *d.* Feb. 1798.
4. Helen, *b.* 16 Apr. 1769; *m.* William Stewart of Ardvorlich, 28 Aug. 1797; *d.* 1853.
5. Margaret, *b.* 18 Sep. 1771; *m.* Thomas Ramsay, 28 Aug. 1797; *d.* July 1833.



JAMES MAXTONE, 11TH LAIRD OF CULTOQUHEY.
1724-1798.



MARJORIE GRAEME OF BALGOWAN, WIFE OF JAMES MAXTONE
OF CULTOQUHEY. 1745-1782.

6. Anthony, *b.* 9 July 1773; *m.* 16 Dec. 1816, Alexina Graeme; *d.* 1846.
7. Patrick, *b.* 24 Jan. 1775; *d.* 11 July 1803.
8. Christian, *b.* 17 Aug. 1776; *m.*, before 1801, Dr Patrick Lindsay; *d.* 1813.
9. Mary, *b.* 24 Apr. 1778; *d.* 1858; unmarried.
10. David, *b.* 17 Sep. 1779; *d.* before 1794.

Strange to trace the almost eventless lives of the lairds of Cultoquhey, who yet in succeeding generations married into families renowned for carrying the standard of warlike devotion to Stuart sovereigns through several centuries. The Maxtone wives were chosen from these fiery groups, but little result of such strains of adventurous blood is registered in Maxtone records till late in the eighteenth century, when the quiet, unobtrusive James, 11th laird, found himself in his old age with five enterprising young sons, all bent on lives of adventure, and carrying their eager ambitions over the world in a manner entirely new to his ideas. There is really no proof that hitherto any of the Maxtones had travelled farther than Flodden.

An accumulated weight of inherited instincts through the distaff may get the credit of this outburst of energy, but it is probable also that the personality and influence of Thomas Graham, 6th laird of Balgowan, had much to do with the trend of the young Maxtones' minds towards active service. Their letters show how great a part he played in all their lives, both as adviser and patron. Though only one of the five brothers lived to see the height of his brilliant military career, they recognized his commanding talents. More than that, they could count upon his unequalled kindness of heart at every step in their lives. Loyalty to family was a very marked trait of the age, and in Thomas Graham it carried weight in an unusual degree. Old James Maxtone of Cultoquhey and Thomas's father, John Graham of Balgowan, were first cousins, so that in the case of the Maxtone boys and himself the ties of kinship were considerably stretched. But though very much younger than he, they were of the same generation, and in the midst of his own thrilling career he never seems to have forgotten this blood link with the Cultoquhey family. It was in his power to serve his young kinsmen, and their letters show how consistently he helped and encouraged them. Neither in the Navy nor the Army could young officers make much headway, in those days of interest and patronage, without the support of powerful relatives and friends.

At the beginning of their varied careers, the Maxtone boys however did not look to the advice of Thomas Graham as a soldier. He had no

experience of military life at the time that James went into the Army. He was happily married to the beautiful Mary Cathcart, and had no thought of leaving her and his homes at Balgowan and Lynedoch, in Perthshire. After her early death, to assuage his intolerable loneliness, he threw himself into a soldier's life, developing in a few short years a military genius that carried him on the wave of the Napoleonic Wars to lasting fame, and brought him in touch with powerful interests, both political and military.

Later on, when both James and Thomas Maxtone had died in the services, Colonel Graham was ready to befriend their younger brothers, Anthony and Patrick. Indeed all through his long life (and as Lord Lynedoch he lived to his ninety-sixth year) the friendship and help of this Graham kinsman were freely and steadfastly given to the Maxtone family.

James Maxtone did not keep his whole group of boys and girls round him very long. His boys got their education at a local academy, which turned them out, if not scholars, at least, as their letters show, good writers and spellers, and with a satisfactory share of ordinary intelligence and ability to take life as it came. When the eldest child, James, was twenty he was already an ensign in the Army; John, the next son, went into the service of the East India Company as a child, and Thomas, the third, joined the Navy very young. Helen, the fourth child and eldest daughter, was left in charge of the laird and the younger children, though she was spared from her home duties to obtain some schooling in Edinburgh. Helen was the most constant correspondent of her brothers, though the next sister, Margaret, probably both wrote and received letters, but kept only a few—unless, indeed, a bundle of them may be found in other family collections.

These letters from the brothers give to the whole family group an atmosphere of reality, showing them keen for life, for experience, for adventure, eager for advancement in their careers, full of anxious care for each other's welfare, and for the well-being of the home.

The letters of the soldier, James, and the sailor, Thomas, require little comment. They give, from the point of view of young, obscure officers, sidelights here and there on the French wars which are sometimes illuminating. The sailor especially made no bones about describing the failures and incompetences that beset the fleet from his own particular angle. These writings have the characteristic of most collections of letters—that important events are lightly passed over, seen fleetingly here and there in a chance sentence, and never developed into the main substance of the letter. At the same time, reports given

by Thomas would be rigorously blue-pencilled by a censor in war-time to-day. There seemed no check whatever on any report, though "packets" so constantly fell into the hands of the enemy. But communications were so incredibly slow that when any news came through it was already ancient history.

The system of promotion was to modern ideas scandalously unjust. The pulling of wires, pushing of personal interest in high places, leaning upon relations with powerful connections—all these were to be reckoned with as part of the career of soldier and sailor alike. As a result, these young officers passed much of their time in devising means of getting promotion through these channels. They would have been left out in the cold had they not done so, and the anxiety about it was never absent from their minds. No wonder their letters reflect this preoccupation, to the regrettable exclusion of much comment on events that would make them historically important to-day. But with it all, it is more possible to realize the personalities James and Thomas in these careless, natural letters to their sister Helen.

All the disappointing lapses, repetitions of small details in these letters, thrown hastily together without thought of preservation, cannot rob the whole series of a sense of real life, lived simply and intensely in all the freshness and eagerness of youth. Four of these brothers were to die young—Anthony alone was destined to see old age—and there seems, in a humble way, something memorable in the simplicity and human interest of these writings, the only evidence that they ever lived.

All of the letters, sent from the ends of the earth, are alike in some particulars. Every one contains pathetic requests for more letters and news from home, for relief from the long strain of waiting in the deadly silence and uncertainty that was the price paid for travel in those days, especially in war-time—not only in the dividing distance, but in the chances, perils and disasters that lay in wait on the high seas to break communication. Certainly Helen and Margaret and the younger ones at home, and the laird himself, must have done their best to keep in touch, but sometimes months went by when the "packets" brought no word from Cultoquhey.

The second point of resemblance in subject-matter was an anxious preoccupation about promotion. To these young men, war meant chiefly an opportunity for the individual, and was longed for as offering chances of getting on in their careers.

A third constant topic was the shortage of shirts, and it is easy to imagine the busy needles at Cultoquhey year in, year out, striving to keep five young men supplied.

CHAPTER VI

THE FIVE YOUNG MEN

THE first communication to reach Cultoquhey concerning the careers of the young Maxtones was a letter in the handwriting of John, the second son, written within a few months of his mother's death. Born in 1766, he was sixteen years old when he set forth as a midshipman in the service of the East India Company. There is something childish and yet gallant about the short letter, in clear, decided handwriting, he sends to his sister Helen. No other letter written by John is to be found, but it is good to know that on his last journey from home he went fine in new garters and corded muslin ruffles.

The *Fairford*, a very fine ship hired by the East India Company to go to Bombay, sailed on 11th September 1782, seven months after the date of John's letter. It was her maiden voyage. Her captain was John Haldane, elder illegitimate son of Brigadier-General George Haldane of Gleneagles.

Young John Maxtone would naturally never realize that romance, adventure and tragedy were his shipmates on the voyage. Captain Haldane took with him, under his protection, Mrs Cargill,¹ a beautiful and gifted actress, who had given up a promising stage career to follow Haldane² to the East. Bombay Harbour was reached in June 1783, and there the *Fairford* was destroyed by fire, a total loss.

John Maxtone to his sister Helen

LONDON. Feb. 26, 1782.

DEAR SISTER,

I came from Deptford last Saturday and the same evening I received your letter along with my things which came safe to hand.

¹ Mrs Cargill was an actress of some distinction. Born in 1748, she made her first appearance in London at Covent Garden in 1770, and played there till 1780. In 1781 she scored a success in the rôle of Macheath, in *The Beggar's Opera*, on the occasion when that play was given with all the men in women's parts, and all the women playing men's parts. She played in India a variety of rôles with great success, while stranded there with Captain Haldane.

² After the loss of the *Fairford*, Captain Haldane, stranded in India, was given command of the

I also received the garters which are very fine, and the corded muslin ruffles are very pretty. Your drawings are all very well done and very pretty. I would have wrote Jamie now, but as this letter comes by a gentleman of Mr Dd Drummond's acquaintance I did not like to trouble him with too many letters. He also brings some specimens of my drawing which I hope you will receive. I dined with Mrs Seton yesterday and she told me she had wrote to you but never received an answer, and she begs you will write her. Give my Compts to Jackie and tell her all my things answer very well, and my Love to my Father, and all my Brothers and Sisters and I ever am

Dear Sister,

Your affectionate Brother,

JOHN MAXTONE.

P.S.—I will write again very soon and let you know when I shall go on board the *Fairford*.

John's start in life is clear enough, but it is strange that no further word from him is to be found among the Cultoquhey papers. Letters may have been lost or destroyed, but there is no mention of John in any of his brothers' letters, a difficult omission to explain in the Maxtones, to whom family feeling and loyalty counted for a great deal. Possibly John never again wrote home, and in those days of difficult and slow communication he would be given up as one of the many who disappeared in the wars, sometimes for years and sometimes altogether. John's name certainly cannot be said to have been lost to official records, as after the disaster of the *Fairford* he went into the Army, obtaining a cornetcy in the 4th Madras Cavalry. He died at Trichinopoly, 4th May 1790, at the age of twenty-four.

There is a gap of six years between John's one letter to Helen and the next family letter in the collection, which is from James from Halifax. He had obtained a commission in the West Middlesex 57th Regiment, was Ensign 19th July 1786, and went to Canada when he was twenty-one. He was Senior Ensign in 1791, Lieutenant on 31st July 1794, and Captain on 2nd September 1795, until his death in November 1800. In the Army Lists his name appears as Senior Captain in 1801, the news of his death in Trinidad having evidently not reached authorities in Britain or his family.

Nancy packet. He embarked for England, taking with him Mrs Cargill and her child. The *Nancy* ran upon the rocks off the Scilly Isles, 5th February 1784, with the loss of every soul on board. The body of Mrs Cargill, with the child clasped in her arms, was washed ashore and buried on one of the islands. The story is told in *The Haldanes of Gleneagles* by General Sir Aylmer Haldane.

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

HALIFAX. Feb. 4, 1788.

MY DEAR SISTER,

I have just now heard of a Brig's sailing for England in a day or two, and cannot let slip so favourable an opportunity of writing you to wish you and all at Cultoquhey many happy returns of the season. I intended to have written to you by Cunningham but I happened to be out of town when she sailed, and consequently lost that opportunity. I have wrote my Father several letters all of which I hope he has received, in one of them there was a pargraf for you which was to send me out some white waistcoats, but since that time I have got some and instead of them if you would send me out some pieces of Nankein, as there is none to be got here but what is very bad and very dear.

I shall expect to hear from you and my Father early in the Spring with all the newes you can think of. Let me know how the Perthshire Hunt went on this year and if you or Miss Margaret was in Edinr. during the winter. Let me know if Tom was with you this winter, and if he sails for Newfoundland next season. We have just heard accounts of the Peace, for which we are all very sorry. Make my best compliments to all friends and acquaintances.

Love to you and all at Cultoquhey.

I remain, my dear Sister,

Yours afft.

J. MAXTONE.

P.S. Send me out all the Newespapers you can collect and a Scotch Almanack.

A note follows in the handwriting of his father :

CULTOQUHEY. 19 March 1788.

As I knew there was no secrets in James letter I broke it open and have now sent it to you. As he wants some Nankein you may get three pieces where it is best and cheapest and have them ready to come here by the next carrier.

JAMES MAXTONE.

The letter is forwarded to Helen "at Mrs Kerr's High School," Edinburgh.

The Same to the Same

HALIFAX. Dec. 18, 1789.

MY DEAR SISTER,

Although you do not deserve a letter from me (you know the reason why and I hope you'll take the hint) but as it is to solicit a favour I shall say no more on the subject.

You must know then that I have been almost three years in America, and that it is very expencive for a subaltern to make up shirts, and from the long service that mine has seen you may easily conceive that they are pretty well worn. My stockings are almost in the same situation. May I therefore beg that you will have some ready for me by the time I arrive at home, which I hope will be in August next. The way that I would wish the shirts to be made is to have no ruffles at the hands, the Breast not too much cut down with two breadths of cambrick cut at the rate of a yard to five shirts with a pretty deep hemm. I beg you will excuse me being so particular, but you know I was always so.

I am really at a loss to know what to write to you next as there is so little variety in this place, only that we have fitted up a very handsome little theatre, the scenes all painted by officers of the garrison, very elegantly done, the first play is to be the Recruiting Officer, and none but officers of the Navy and Army are allowed to act. The youngest and most handsome of both are chosen to be Ladys: there has already been two Rehearsals and we flatter ourselves we shall come off with a good deal of eclat.

Our assemblys too are much more brilliant this year than formerly so that we shall pass our time pretty well till we go home. As it is so near Christmas I must conclude with wishing you and all at Cultoquhey many happy returns of the season, and tell my Friends at Abercairny that according to our custom I may spend my next with them.

Give my best wishes to my Uncle and all Friends.

I shall expect to have a long letter from you early in the Spring. You will have a good opportunity of writing me by our Cousin Alex. Kerr¹ who is in the Regiment that comes to relieve us. When you see the Miss Kerrs give them my love and tell them I shall soon have the pleasure of taking them by the hands in old Reekie. I am, my dear Sister,

Yours very sincerely,

JAMES MAXTONE.

¹ The members of the Scott Kerr family mentioned in this letter were second cousins of the Maxtone boys, a large group of young people descended from Thomas Graeme of Balgowan and Anna Drummond through their son Robert. See note on page 77.

The following letters from Thomas Maxtone, third son of Cultoquhey, who had entered the Royal Navy, are addressed to Thomas Graham of Balgowan.

*Thomas Maxtone, R.N., to Thomas Graham of Balgowan,
at Brookesby, Leicester*

SALISBURY, PORTSMOUTH.
4 May 1788.

DEAR SIR,

Ever since my arrival from Scotland I have been so weak that I could not put pen to paper, otherwise would have wrote you sooner. I was 10 weeks in Scotland for which I am much obliged to Col. Cathcart¹ as it was owing to his application to Capt. Gower that I got leave when I did. I am exceedingly sorry for my having lost so good an opportunity of going out in the *Vestal* to India, as I am convinced it would have been a thing very beneficial for me. We are now at Spithead ready to sail for Newfoundland, but we will not sail before June and on our return home we shall be paid off as Admiral Elliots station will be out. I believe I shall want a month of serving my time as Midshipman, as I did not go on board the *Scipio* till Jan. 83 so that my time will not be out till Jan. 89 unless I was on the ship's books before I went on board her, which I can't tell unless I were in London to enquire at the Admiralty Office where the ships books are kept. Captain Mann who I was with in the *Scipio* now commands the *Bedford*, a guardship in this Harbour. I have never had an opportunity of waiting on him yet owing to my late illness but I shall now the first opportunity. I hope Mrs Graham is in good health and all friends and

Believe me to remain, Dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS MAXTONE.

The Same to the Same

Barfleur,
SPITHEAD. 27 June 1790.

DEAR SIR,

I delayed writing to you till the very last opportunity in order to be able to give you some information of our intended cruize but such is the secrecy on board a Man of War that we are going to sail to-morrow morning and not one person except the Admiral and

¹ Charles Cathcart, brother-in-law to Thomas Graham, a young man of brilliant promise who died at sea, on board the *Vestal*, while employed upon an undisclosed Government mission to the East, just a month after Thomas Maxtone's letter was written.

Captain knows where, but the report of the day is that we go to Torbay where the Fleet is to remain until it is known whether we shall have a War or not, but the knowing ones here already pronounce that there will be no War. We have got on board besides Admiral Barrington,¹ Rear Admiral Sir John Jervis² who goes out as Captain General of the Fleet, a place generally filled by a young Admiral, and our Captain's name is Calder, who seems a very good kind of man if I can judge from my short acquaintance of him. But should a War take place in all probability I shall not be long on board this ship, as the Admiral will go on with the *Royal George*, and of course I will go along. She is still at Plymouth and will not be ready for some time. I wrote Captain Pringle from Portsmouth letting him know that the Admiral ordered me on board this ship, but hop'd soon to have the honour of sailing with him. There is a great talk of a promotion taking place and the officers are all to be appointed by the Admiralty. Of course it will be all ministerial interest, and should this disturbance blow over, no doubt but it will take place. I must conclude as we are very busy at present.

I beg my best compliments to Mrs Graham and believe me to be

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

THOS MAXTONE.

P.S.—There is this moment a sloop of war arrived here that had been sent out by the Admiralty to took into some of the Spanish harbours, and they bring information that there are 19 sail of Spaniards at sea, and that she was chased off the coast by a Spanish [frigate]. That looks all in our favour. * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

Barfleur.

TORBAY. 4 July 1790.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I received yours a few days before we left Portsmouth and was happy to hear you were all well. I see by it that the letter I wrote my father had not come to hand, letting you know that I had joined a ship, through Lord Grahams recommendation to Adl Barrington. We sailed

¹ Samuel Barrington, 1720-1800, had a distinguished naval career in the West Indies, where he took Santa Lucia from the French, and took part in the relief of Gibraltar, 1782. He was still Admiral at the date of this letter, but was not employed in the French Revolutionary Wars.

² John Jervis, born 1735. Ran away to sea as a boy. Was Lieutenant in 1755, full Admiral 1795, in command of the Mediterranean Fleet. In 1797 defeated the Spanish fleet at Cape St Vincent, and was created Earl St Vincent for this feat. After a glorious career, he died in 1823.

from Portsmouth Monday last for Torbay where we still remain with 18 sail of the line, besides Frigates, ready at an hours warning to attack the Spaniards with full vigour which I sincerely hope may be soon. Should a War take place I daresay I shall not remain long in this ship, as Adl Barrington will go on board the *Royal George* which is now fitting out for him by Capt. Pringle and I daresay I shall go along with him. Capt. Pringle came here to-day from Plymouth which was a good opportunity for me to see him, indeed he sent for me and enquired after all my friends, and desired I would make his compliments to Mr Graham when I should write him, which I beg you will do for me, as I wrote him so lately I do not like to trouble him with another letter so soon. You give me a question in your letter, which I do not know well how to answer, which is, to give an account of Mrs Maxtone¹ and the children. In the first place, the names of the latter I entirely forget, but they are very fine children indeed. Mrs Maxtone is far from being well-looking or handsom in my opinion, but I believe she is a very good kind of woman. You may keep this to yourself. You will I daresay have got the shirts that I sent you * * * there is also two waistcoats which were too small for me, but had I known as much as I do now they should not have been sent, for on board this ship we are allowed to wear nothing but white waistcoats and Breeches every day, which is not only expensive but difficult to accomplish by not having a great many of those things.

I must conclude by giving my best compliments to my Father and all my Brothers and Sisters, and believe me to be sincerely theirs, and give my compliments to Mr Barty and tell him that I am sorry I shall not be at the finishing of the Manse, as I once intended but the next account I hope to hear of him may be that a certain Lady who shall be nameless is at the head of his table. We get all our letters franked by Sir John Jervis, who is on board this ship as Capt. General of the Fleet under Adl Barrington, so while I am here your letters will cost you nothing. Do write by return of post if you can and direct at Brixham, Torbay. * * *

Believe me to be my dear Nelly,

Your affectionate Brother,

THOS. MAXTONE.

¹ Charles Maxtone, Mrs Maxtone and the children appear constantly in the letters. Research has not been successful in tracing the identity of this family. It is only certain that Charles Maxtone showed great and consistent kindness to all the group of Maxtone brothers. It is possible that this Charles was the illegitimate son of James Maxtone of Cultoquhey born in 1752. Charles had a most successful career in India, and no doubt left descendants there. A son, Charles, born 1791, saw years of service in India. Married, at Quilon, Bellina Sophia, daughter of General Welsh, H.C.I.C.S. A son died young. Charles Maxtone retired on half-pay in 1838. He died, aged fifty-seven, in 1849.

Thomas Maxtone to Thomas Graham of Balgowan

*Royal George.
29 Oct. 1790.*

DEAR SIR,

* * * The Capt. has just now asked me when I wrote you if I had told you of the promotions going on. * * * He has now sent me down to write you in his name, as he is so busy,—he does not wish to lose a post, as there is no time to spare. He desires me to tell you that Promotions are going on very rapidly thro ministerial interest alone, that not an Admiral in the Fleet has the least thing to say in them, and that it is his opinion were the Duke of Montrose to mention to the Minister where I am, and his wish to get me made Lieutenant, there would not be the least doubt of succeeding, were it done immediately, as there is no knowing when they may stop—then that might be an excuse for them to say that the intended number have been made and that it is not in their power to make one more. Capt. Pringle asked me if I could write to the Duke myself as it would save a great deal of time. I told him I did not think myself at liberty to do so. There were a great number of Commissions came down to-day, as there has for these many days past. Capt. Pringle joins with me in best compts to you and Mrs Graham and I remain, Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate,

THOS. MAXTONE.

In chronological order the next letter to reach Cultoquhey was from James, still at Halifax.

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

HALIFAX. Oct. 15, 1790.

I had the pleasure of receiving yours along with a box containing shirts, stockings etc. which I assure you was a very great relief to me and I return you thanks for supplying me in so ample a manner and every thing being so good of their kinds.

You write me that you have been very busy electioneering and dancing. I assure you I regret very much not being at home during so much mirth and jollity but these things cannot be helped: we must obey our orders but I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you next year, when I expect to have a Hopp in the Crieff Ballroom. I was very happy to hear of Charles and Mrs Maxtone's arrival. I daresay by this time they have been in Scotland.

This is a very stupid place at present not the least amusement going on, so you must not expect a long or entertaining letter, and any *Halifax* newes cannot be the least entertaining to you. I shall expect to hear from you soon. Write me by the Pacquet as they are the safest conveyance.

By the next letter he is in England.

The Same to the Same

STROUD. *March 1, 1792.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

I received yours and would have wrote you imediatly on the receipt of it but as I had wrote my Father only two days before I thought it needless for the letters to follow one another so fast.

I have done everything in my power to procure leave of absence but without effect, but I hope after being some months longer on the Recruiting service I shall be able to obtain it.

You made me very uneasy by the account you gave of my Father not being well but I hope to God by this time he is perfectly recovered.

What I meant by saying I thought I should be in London soon was in case of my promotion taking place my presence might be required there. I assure you it [is] far from wishing to go there for I dislike London very much unless I have plenty of money and then it is tolerably well. Among all our acquaintances in London I assure you none was happier to see me than our friend Bess Kerr¹ now Mrs McLaurin, who I found out by chance. I was with her as much as possible for the short time I was in London, went out a-walking with her. I took her to several places she had never seen before. It was a great treat to her as the Doctor seldom can attend her being a good deal employed.

Charles told me you were all very gay in Strathearn when he and Mrs Maxtone were there. I assure you they talk very gratefully of the hospitality they met there.

Pray how did the Perth Hunt go off last year. I daresay you were there.

Who lives at Fearntown now and what is become of the Miss Prestons.² Ann will be worth while looking after. I daresay her grandmother has left her something very handsome. What is become of the Dollary family? Are none of them married yet. I am surprised there are so many young ladies in Strathearn and none of them get husbands.

¹ Elizabeth, daughter of William Scott Kerr of Sunlaws and Chatto and Elizabeth Graeme of Balgowan. She was married to Dr Maclaurin, and died 1846. Young James Maxtone was her second cousin.

² Ann Preston of Valleyfield and Ferntower. Married Sir David Baird, the distinguished soldier.

Apropos, I am told you refused poor Davie Drummond. Now there is an end to these sort of questions. I must ask something respecting our own family. What does Anthony and Peter¹ mean to do: it is high time they were thinking of something, as I daresay they have done with the Academy, but I know my Father's disposition so well that he will be unwilling to part with them, but they themselves should push it. Is Tom at Cultoquhey—does he intend to try to get on full Pay again soon.

Now after this very long letter I shall expect one equally long from you with a great deal of information. I dont know but I should have wrote more but there is an end to my paper. God bless you my dear Sister and all at Cultoquhey and believe me to be yours very affectionately

JAMES MAXTONE.

The Same to the Same

HILSEA BARRACK.
April 4, 1792.

MY DEAR SISTER,

I had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 19 March at Stroud and had just then received orders to join the Regiment therefore delayed writing you till I arrived here. I assure you the order to join made me very happy as I found the Recruiting service both a very disagreeable and expencive one. Our Regiment marches from this about the 1st May for Leeds and Wakefield in Yorkshire and are to be reviewed by the King in Hide Park (*en passant*) which puts all the officers to a very great expence being obliged to get all new appointments which amount to ten pounds, I dont know how I shall manage as what little I could spare all went on the Recruiting service. I was in hopes of getting leave of absence on my arrival here so that I might save the expence of getting all these things for some time, but found it impossible as there is now too few officers to march with the Regiment.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

EDINR. CASTLE.
July 17, 1792.

MY DEAR SISTER,

* * * * *

We have just heard a report that the Transports have sailed from the Downs for our Regiment to embark in but as we have had no

¹ Patrick Maxtone is generally called Peter in his brothers' letters.

official account it is not believed. I have only seen Fanny Murray twice, once at the Play and once at the Races. I called on her at Leith but missed her. I have seen none of our friends in town for some time as we are most always out in the field preparing for the Review, which is to be the first week in August. The Races were never known to be so badly attended as this year, but there was excellent sport, and the joint abilities of Mrs Easton and Mr Lewis brought excellent houses at the Theatre.

* * * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

*Bonetta IN THE DOWNS.
20th Dec. 1792.*

* * * * *

When I last wrote you I believe I told you that we were ordered into Portsmouth Harbour to refit, which as soon as we had done we were ordered to sail for Sheerness, in order to carry seamen from there to the Downs, to man the Fleet which is now fitting out. It is a very disagreeable [duty] but as it is in a good cause we dont mind. [Our] spirits are all elevated with the hopes [of war] which at present appears very likely. We are making every secret preparation for it, giving Bountys to seamen who are entering very fast, and are in daily expectation that Press Warrants will be issued out should a war take place. I shall endeavour to get removed from this ship as she is too small to remain in as Lieutenant, as Captain I should be very happy to put up with her, and I hope you will exert your interest with those great neighbours of yours for me. You must leave off Burning in Effigy those great men, otherwise they will be making in for a dissaffected set. I suppose James has got orders to join his Regt as I see by the papers that all officers on leave are ordered to join. Pray, how did his bargain about the Lieutenancy end. I wish you would tell him to write me, if he is not gone and where the Regiment is quartered. You say that he has been with Hosh for some time ; I suppose he has taken up house again. I am very happy to hear that Anthony is fixed in the Excise Office. When you write let me know his situation there, if he has any salary etc.

When you see Louisa Graeme¹ (I suppose Mrs Stewart by this time) make my best compts and hearty congratulations upon the event

¹ Louisa Graeme of Inchbrakie. Married, 1792, Captain Stewart of Fincastle. Died 1841.

of her marriage. I find it perfectly impossible to get away from the ship at present to wait on Mr Graham which I very much wish to do.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

H.M. SHIP *Bonetta*.
FLUSHING. 15 Jan. 1793.

MY DEAR HELEN,

You will no doubt have seen by the papers that Commodore Murray sailed with the Squadron from the Downs destined for Holland. We sailed in such a hurry that I had no opportunity of letting you know that the *Bonetta* is one of the Squadron. When we left England most people then thought that we should begin the war by insisting on the French to give up the navigation of the Scheld, which they still say they are determined to keep open, but I believe the real reason of our coming here is to shew the French as well as the disaffected Dutch who are very numerous in this Province of Zeland, that we are ready to assist the Prince of Orange in case of any encroachment on his territory, and I am afraid it has had the desired effect as the Commodore returns to England tomorrow and takes part of the Squadron with him. He leaves only 1 Frigate and 3 sloops of war of which number I am sorry to say we are one, as I wish to get into a larger ship should a war take place and there is no chance of that while we remain here. It is thought we will not leave this place till a Dutch Squadron of sufficient force relieves us, and they are so slow in their motions there is no saying when that will happen. We are only 21 miles from Antwerp where a great part of Dumouriez's army are, but we have no communication with it, so we can have no news to write you. Make my best compliments to my Father and all at home and believe me to remain, my dear Helen,

Y. Aft. Brother,
THOS. MAXTONE.

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

TINMOUTH BARRACKS,
NORTH SHIELDS.
March 16, 1793.

MY DEAR SISTER,

When I wrote to my father we were in such a hurry and confusion from officers joining that I had hardly time or a place to write in but now we are a little more settled. I found the Regiment just as

I left all pleasant and happy together and I assure you our Lt. Coll. is a great acquisition to it, he is quite a different man from what you all took him to be, he is a fine pleasant dashing fellow not the least severe or distant and we can use as much freedom with him as any Subaltern in the regt.

We dont know what is to become of us as yet whether we remain here or march North but I believe it is pretty certain we dont go to Holland which we are all very sorry for.

I saw by the papers that the *Bonetta* is one of the fleet going to the Mediteranean and I daresay you have heard from Tom long before this time, write me what he says. I have wrote him but I am afraid he will be off before my letter reach him.

Give my love to the Club and tell Miss Oliphant that I delivered her letters and parcel to her sister and had a good deal of laughing with her and afterwards had the pleasure of dancing with her at the Riddochs. My love to my Father and all at Cultoquhey.

Write me soon.

In the autumn of 1792, the French Republic was proclaimed. In January 1793, Louis XVI. was executed. In spite of Pitt's efforts to maintain peace, the threat of the Revolution being carried into other lands, and the French occupation of Belgium, proved too dangerous to Great Britain, and brought inevitable war. In February 1793, the earnest wishes of the young Maxtones were fulfilled. Holland, Spain, Austria, Prussia and other smaller Powers joined against France—a powerful coalition—which, however, did not at first meet with success.

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

Duke. SPITHEAD.

23 March 1793.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I have delayed writing to the very last in hopes that I should be able to tell you where we are going to but it is of no use as it is still kept a profound secret. We received orders 5 days ago to fit out for foreign service with all possible dispatch, which was very unexpected to us as we were formerly intended for the Channel Fleet at home, but however this alteration has made us all very happy, we shall sail either tonight or tomorrow morning, unless our orders are contradicted. Our Squadron consists of 7 or 8 sail of the Line and 3 Frigates, Admiral

Gardner has the command and Commodore Murray is second. But whether we go to the West Indies or the Mediterranean has not as yet transpired, but I believe our first business will be to go after a French Squadron of nearly the same force, which we have got intelligence of being at sea. I only hope we may be lucky enough to fall in with them. I think we should be able to give a good account of them. You will probably hear in the course of a few weeks where we are gone and then you will be able to write me by the pacquets, which go every month from Falmouth. I shall write you from the first place we touch at and give you any information I can. Adieu, we are just now weighing our anchor, and have time to say no more.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

H. M. SHIP *Duke*.
CARLISLE BAY, BARBADOES.
28 April 1793.

MY DEAR HELEN,

According to promise I take the earliest opportunity of writing you by a vessel which sails tomorrow or next day, for England. We arrived here yesterday after a very good passage of 34 days which is a very quick one for a Fleet to make. No particular occurrence happened during the voyage, nor did we fall in with a single French ship of any kind, tho we were very near their Fleet at one time, one of our Frigates which was sent on before us fell in with them four days after she left us, they consist of 8 or 9 sail of the line and 5 Frigates. We have only 7 sail of the line 2 Frigates and 1 sloop, so you will see that they are a good deal superior to us in point of numbers, but nevertheless I flatter myself if we meet with them we shall be able to give them a good drubbing. I am happy to tell you that the first attack of the British arms has been crowned with success, by the capture of the Island of Tobago, by Admiral Laforey about a fortnight ago, with a very small small loss on our side. Indeed we have not heard all the particulars about it yet. I only wish that we had been out here a month ago, we should have made a little Prize Money at the taking of it. Our movements are not yet made known, but I do not think we shall remain here many days, as soon as we get a supply of water we shall be off somewhere. Next time I write I hope to have something of consequence to tell you of.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

PORTSMOUTH. 2 Aug. 1793.

DEAR HELEN,

By this time I suppose you think that I am at Newfoundland, which I fully expected myself last time I wrote. We have been expecting to sail every day these 6 weeks which prevented my writing, as I had no idea of being able to receive an answer. The reason of our delay was owing to the Admiral keeping us to go along with him, and he has been waiting for the Judge of the Island who is this moment arrived, and we sail tomorrow morning at daylight for certain which I am very happy at as it is so disagreeable to be so long in a state of suspense by staying so long here. We shant be above four months out and I hope by the time we arrive to have a very long letter awaiting for me. You may write about the 8 or 10th of November, and I daresay it will arrive about the time we do. I was very sorry to see poor Mrs Graham's¹ death in the papers about a fortnight ago. When you write let me know anything about Mr Graham how he bears the loss and where he is. I must conclude with best compts to my Father and all at home, for I am in a very great hurry it being almost dark and a boat waiting for me. I am very much affraid you will not be able to read this but your goodness will excuse it and

Believe me to remain, my dear Helen,

Your affectionate Brother,

THOS. MAXTONE.

P.S.—I have met with your acquaintance Capt. Douglas who has been very kind to me, and have been a good deal with him. He is just now setting off for Scotland and he intends being at Drummond Castle when he has promised to pay you a visit at Cultoquhey, when I hope James will not let him away without a good Drinke.

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

MENIN. Sept. 25, 1793.

* * * * *

We are now within two miles of the French and our out Picquets and theirs have generally a little peppering at one another every night. We are still in the dark as to our operations. Some say we are to Blocade Lisle, others say we are to go into winter quarters in a

¹ The Honourable Mary Cathcart, born 1757, wife of Thomas Graham of Balgowan. Died at sea, off Hyères, June 1792.



HELEN MAXTONE, WIFE OF WILLIAM STEWART OF ARDVORLICH. 1769-1853.

[A. Stewart.]

fortnight but there is so many Reports going that we can believe nothing.

I shall expect to hear from some of you regularly every week and I shall also be punctual in my writing. When you put the letters in the Post Office you must pay the inland Postage.

I have just now been with Coll. Campbell who is arrived from Ostend a good deal better.

Capt. Inglis is well and joins me in best wishes to you and all at Cultoquhey. Remember me to all friends in Strathearn particularly to all the Misses.

* * * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

H.M. SHIP *Duke*.

3 Oct. 1793.

SPLITHEAD.

MY DEAR HELEN,

We arrived here yesterday after a tedious passage of 9 weeks. I suppose you have received by this time the letters I wrote you at sea, by which you would see that we should have a tedious passage. I was very happy to find a letter here from you, and that you were all so well, for I have not received one of your letters since I sailed. I have been making enquiries about the 57th Regt but can get no accounts where they are as yet, but I have written to Charles and he will most likely be able to tell me of them. I am sorry that I cant give you any information with respect to my own motions. The Commodore set off this morning for London, where he will settle his arrangements with the Admiralty, and of course if he remains employed, I shall most likely remain with him, tho I must confess I am a little tired of a three decked ship; indeed it is thought here that he will go out again to the West Indies, as there is an expedition planned against these Islands which we have been so unsuccessfully attempting. Sir John Jervis goes out Admiral, and Sir Charles Grey Commander of the Troops. I understand there are 10 Regiments going, which I am sure it will require to reduce them. When I know for certain what is to become of us I shall let you know. At all events I think we must have another ship as the *Duke* is in very bad repair. In the meantime I expect that you will answer this letter immediately. I am sorry for poor Pit, but it is astonishing that he lives so long. I am glad to hear of Lord Bredalban's¹

¹ John, 4th Earl of Breadalbane, born 1762. Married, 2nd September 1793, Mary Turner, daughter and co-heiress of David Gavin of Langton.

Marriage, but I hope he has not been all this time a-fortune-hunting, for I think he has fortune sufficient of his own to [make] Lady Bredalban live gay and happy. You have never told me whether Peter is at home or not, and let me know how Anthony is doing. We have got a son¹ of Mr Graham of Fintry on board here, a very fine boy and is in good health. I tell you this in case you should meet with any of his friends who would be glad to hear of him.

* * * * *

In the autumn of 1793, Thomas Graham of Balgowan was with the British force at Toulon, which, sent in support of the French Royalists, was ultimately driven out by a young Corsican artillery officer, Napoleon Bonaparte. After this first experience of active service, Thomas Graham was eager for a military career, and returning to Scotland raised the 90th Regiment, and was appointed Colonel in 1794. His influence was now more than ever important to the Maxtone brothers.

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

H.M. SHIP *Glory*.

PLYMOUTH.

Nov. 10, 1793.

MY DEAR HELEN,

You will see by the place I date this letter from that we have changed our quarters since you last heard from me: about a week after our arrival at Portsmouth we received orders to come round here to be paid off as the *Duke* was in a very bad state, which did not take place till yesterday owing to bad weather. Tho I knew some time ago what ship I was to go in, yet I did not wish to write before I was actually commissioned for her. All the officers of the *Duke* are appointed to the *Glory*, a new ship of 98 guns, and we are now fitting with all possible despatch for Commodore Murray but where we shall go is perfectly unknown to us. It is thought that we shall go abroad somewhere as soon as we are ready for sea, but that will be at least 3 or 4 weeks, but I shall let you know as soon as it is made known to us. I am very happy to hear by your letter that Peter is fixed with Mr Moncrieff. I think it is a line that he may do very well in with proper attention on his side which I have not the least doubt of, for he is very steady. It must be very pleasant to him and Anthony to be living

¹ Thomas Graham, R.N., third son of Robert Graham, twelfth of Fintry, married Maria, daughter of Admiral George Dundas. Died at Valparaiso, 1822.

together. I wish to God he may soon get an appointment in the excise. I am very glad to hear he is so great a favourite. After he once gets in there is little fear of his rising in the office. I had a letter from James dated the 23rd October from Mennin, they were then on the point of embarking for Ostend for the West Indies, but since that I see that they were disembarked again, owing to the danger that place was in. I see by today's paper that everything is again quiet there, so I suppose they will embark them again.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

Glory. PLYMOUTH.
21 Dec. 1793.

MY DEAR HELEN,

We are just now on the point of sailing for Portsmouth where we are to join Lord Howe's¹ fleet, as our destination at present is to be in the Channel with him so it is probable we may be at Spithead a month or two during the dead of winter as it is rather a bad season to cruize in our narrow seas. Commodore Murray has been down here some time, he told me that he had received a letter from my Father, and desired I would make his best compts the first time I should write, and apologize for his not answering it, as nothing but a multiplicity of Business prevented him. I had a letter from James the day on which they sailed from Portsmouth from Guernsey, he was very well. I think that it is not unlikely we may meet at Portsmouth, for I doubt very much that expedition will prove unsuccessful,² indeed it is reported here that some of the Transports are already arrived at Portsmouth, but I daresay some other service will be found for the Troops. I heard of Mr Graham's return a few days ago and wrote him immediately to London, but I have since been told that he has gone to Scotland, so that you will most likely see him soon. I am in great hopes that they will reward his gallantry by promoting his *friends* who are looking for it.

I am very glad to hear that your gayety still goes on. I must confess I was a little affraid that your Balls would dwindle until another Election was approaching when political motives would urge them. The Ball at Dunkeld I heard off some time before I read your letter and that you were both there. I am glad that it was so pleasant a one. I am

¹ Richard Howe, born 1726. Took command of the Channel Fleet at the outbreak of war with France, 1793. He won a great victory off Ushant, "The glorious 1st of June." Died August 1799.

² This expedition, sent out to support the Royalists in La Vendée, proved unsuccessful.

much obliged to Mrs Keith for her kind offer of letters, in case of going to the West Indies, which I shall most assuredly accept, should we be in future ordered there, for I can assure you it is one of the pleasantest things for us wanderers to be introduced at the different places that we go to. St Vincents was almost the only Island in the West Indies that we were not at. Had we gone there I certainly [had] done myself the honour of waiting on the Governor and made myself known to him.

Tho I have had a good many letters from Charles since I came home I have never asked the name of his young daughter, indeed I never thought of it, but the grandeur of the name¹ does not surprise me. I can only say *O Vanity of Vanities*. * * *

I wish you would tell Anthony and Peter to write me and let me know how they are going on : they can also direct under cover to the Commodore, for there is no occasion for me to pay postage while I serve with a Parliament man.

* * * * *

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

GUERNSEY. Dec. 6th, 1793.

* * * * *

Our destination is still uncertain, the Royalists have not come forward as was expected, indeed they have retired further into the country, so that till they establish a post on the coast we shall remain here, or be sent on some other expedition. I wrote my Father before we left Portsmouth which letter I hope he has received, and desired him to write me both to this place and Portsmouth, but the surest way of my getting them will be to address them to me serving in the army serving under the Earl of Moira² and enclose them to the Secretary of State, who will forward them. I am very uneasy at not having heard from any of you since I left Ostend as I have wrote so frequently, so I hope you will write me oftener. * * *

P.S.—My shirts are getting very bad, if you can get some made for me I hope I shall be able to let you know where to send them next time I write.

¹ Lenora.

² Lord Moira, born 1754. Entered the Army 1771. Fought through the American War, and was afterwards Governor-General of India. He was created Marquis of Hastings in 1816, and died in 1826.

*The Same to the Same**Addressed to*

EAST COLLEGE STREET, EDINBURGH.

BERTHENS. Jan. 12, 1794.

MY DEAR SISTER,

I wrote to you a few days ago from Sentorp a village about three miles from this, where we staid a week and marched back here again where we are to remain 5 or 6 weeks it is thought, till some Brunswick troops come to relieve us, and then we are to march further up the country and remain quiet for some time till we hear what is to become of us. I hope you have not sent the parcel you intend to send me, if you have it has certainly shared the same fate as all the rest of my baggage. Upon my arrival at the Regiment from Holland I found myself entirely destitute of everything and was obliged to borrow a little money to buy me some cloathes which I wrote you of at that time. I got the money from Capt. Roberts which he wishes to be paid to Mrs Roberts at Edin. if it can be done I shall be very happy as he has written to her about it. I dont know what I shall do when I get to England for cloathes. I must look to you for some shirts and stockings. I am very anxious to hear from you as I have not had a single line from anybody since Major Balfour went home. I shall expect a large Pacquet full of Newes.

* * * * *

*The Same to the Same*COWES, ISLE OF WIGHT.
Feb. 2, 1794.

MY DEAR SISTER,

I delayed writing to you so long till I knew to a certainty what was to become of us, it is now determined that we are to land here, there are barracks fitting up with all possible expedition and expect to get into them in a few days, but God knows what is to become of us afterwards. I received a letter from Mr Graham of Balgowan upon a very disagreeable subject, which I assure you distresses me a great deal, as I had no idea that things were near so bad. The only thing I have to say is that you must all keep up your spirits as well as possible. It is certainly a most distressing thing, the idea of leaving the country but if there is no help for it you

must bear it as well as you can and hope something may turn out better than we expect. I shall say nothing more on so disagreeable a subject.

* * * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

*Glory. SPITHEAD.
5th Feb. 1794.*

MY DEAR HELEN,

I am sorry to hear by your letter that my Father was complaining so much but I hope by the arrangements which are likely to take place will be the means of restoring his health. I saw Sir William Murray's letter to Mr Graham which he enclosed to James, it gave a clear statement of everything and the necessity there was of going to a town to live. I have been very long of opinion that there was a considerable loss on the farm, and it is certainly the best plan to let it and there is certainly a great inducement to go to Edinburgh to live on Anthony's and Peter's account, as there will be a considerable saving in their board; indeed at all events I should not like your going to Perth, for I do not like the place, but you need not tell any of the inhabitants of my aversion to their town, as I suppose they would be abusing me for it.

* * * * *

James Maxtone writes to his sister again a few days later :

"* * * I had a letter from Charles this morning informing me that Mr Graham of Balgowan had obtained leave to raise a regiment, and advises me to write to him to try and get one of the Commissions in it. I wrote him for answer that I thought it much better not to do it as it was rather a delicate business, as I am sure if Mr Graham has it in his power to serve me he will do it without solicitation. There are six other regiments to be raised in Scotland. I think with a little interest I might get a Company in one of them. * * *"

On 6th April 1794 he writes again, from the Isle of Wight :

"* * * I have been absent from the Regiment these three weeks past, being sent as far as Stafford a march of near 200 miles to bring up some recruits that were sent there from Manchester. I assure you I found it a very disagreeable as well as an expensive duty. Upon my arrival here I found the box with the shirts for which I return you my thanks.

I shall keep Tom's till he returns from his cruise. Have any of you seen Mr Graham since he went to Scotland. I am very anxious to know about his Regiment as I think I have a little chance for a Company in it. I see by the Papers he is a candidate for the County and daresay he will be chosen without opposition as I dont hear of any other Candidate starting against him. We have just heard that all Lord Moira's army are to be encamped on a common near Lyndhurst in 3 weeks or a month, so I think from that we shall all sleep in whole skins for some time. There are so many new Regiments raising in Scotland that I shall think myself very unlucky if I dont get a company in one of them and I hope my friends will use all their interest to effect it. Let me know whether there is anything done for Anthony as yet and tell him I shall be glad if he will write me. * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

Glory. 13 April 1794.
SPITHEAD.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * A very great alteration has taken place with us. Commodore Murray¹ (or rather now Admiral) is appointed to the command of the American station in consequence of which we leave the *Glory* and go out with him in a 74 Gun ship and commissions are this moment come down for the *Resolution*, where we shall go tomorrow, the first ship named for us was the *Robust*, the ship that Capt. Keith Elphinston² commanded, as he comes into the *Glory* and to be made an Admiral, but upon examination she proves to be very sickly which prevented our going in her as one to fit out with all haste, as they are a little affraid of an attack being made on Halifax, which I hope we will be out in time to prevent. Our present Squadron is reported to consist of 3 line of Battle Ships and 5 or 6 Frigates, but it is reported that the French have a much stronger one there and if that is the case our force must be augmented, the more we have the better for me as there will be the greater chance of promotion, if we remain out three years I may have some chance. I go out 5 Lieutenant so there is 4 before I can have any chance. I hope my being abroad will not prevent

¹ Brother of the 3rd Duke of Atholl, a son of the Lord George Murray of the "Forty-five." Born 1741, died 1797. Admiral of the White.

² Keith Elphinstone, afterwards Lord Keith. Born, 1747. Post-Captain, 1775. Vice-Admiral in 1795. Died in 1823, after a glorious career.

my friends at home from making application for me. There is a great deal of promotion going on at present.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

H.M. SHIP *Resolution*.

PLYMOUTH.

Apr. 18, 1794.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I was glad to hear by your last that you were all well and that all matters are arranged with respect to your going to Edinburgh. I have delayed writing to you till the very last moment, we came here 4 days ago from Portsmouth to compleat our ship, and that being finished we take our final departure today for America, and in great hopes of falling in with a very large French Fleet that are expected home from that quarter. Immediately on receipt of your letter I wrote to Mr Graham at Nicols Hotel. * * * I know he has wrote to Admiral Murray about me. * * * I am pretty satisfied of his inclination to get me promoted. * * * I can assure you that everybody here who know that I am connected with Mr Graham are astonished that I am not made before this time in consequence of his gallant behaviour at Toulon. * * * James came on board and dined with me the day before we sailed from Portsmouth, he is very well. It is generally thought that they will have some active service this summer. I am very happy to hear that Anthony has got a salary, tho small.

* * * * *

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

CAMP NEAR SOUTHAMPTON.

June 10, 1794.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * I had a letter from Charles three days ago. He tells me you have moved to Edinr. which was the first intimation I heard of it. Let me know how our Father agrees with the change. We are quite unsettled here yet, having been only three days on the ground, but I expect in the course of three days more we shall be very comfortable. It will be a very pretty encampment in the course of a few weeks, we are to have 18,000 infantry and 2000 cavalry. I see by the Newspapers that there has been some very alarming plotts¹ discovered

¹ See note, p. 108.

in Edinr. but have not heard the particulars of them. I beg you will give me a full account as I am very anxious to know.

Let me know how you and Mrs Eagle's¹ family go on. I would recommend you not to be too intimate there, only just to keep up appearances.

* * * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

H.M. SHIP *Resolution*.

HALIFAX.

Aug. 23, 1794.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * We were 8 weeks on our passage before we made the land, during which time nothing material happened and did not meet with a single prize. Two days after we made the land to the Southward near Philadelphia we got information of a convoy which was to sail for France on the 13th of July (the very day we got our intelligence) we accordingly shaped our course as near as we could judge for the place they would be, and to our great satisfaction we saw them to windward of us at daylight in the morning, consisting of 26 merchant vessels, under convoy of two Frigates and 4 smaller ships of war. In the course of the day, tho they were so far to windward of us when we first saw them, we came up with and took possession of 14 of these which we sent off to this place. Night coming on prevented our taking more of them. The merchant vessels are all (except one) Americans hired by the French Republic, to carry their property, so that it is most likely it will involve us in a Law suit before we can get them condemned. There is no doubt the Cargoes will be condemned but the Hulls are doubtful—at all events I hope to get a little prize money, for the first time this war, but I shall be able to tell you more about it by next Packet. They are all laden with flour which is not very valuable here.

We are in great expectation of an American war here, which would be a very good thing for our pockets, but whether it would be so good for our country I dont pretend to say. The Americans are, I can assure you, very ripe for war, particularly the lower class. It is impossible to have an idea of their hatred to the English without being amongst them and reading their papers and publications. We have been at New York and Philadelphia at both which places we were treated more

¹ Mrs Eagle was a Murray of Murrayshall, sister of Patrick Graeme's wife, and therefore a great-aunt of the Maxtone children.

like enemys than the subjects of a nation at peace with them, and they are on the contrary particularly partial to the French and imitate them in all their popular Clubs and Societies. At all events our Ministry must fall on some method to prevent them sending so much provision to France, or never think of reducing that country to a state of want. We have been here only a week and I can assure you I do not like the appearance of the place from what little I have seen of it. * * * I see by the papers that there are a great many people about Edinburgh taken into custody for seditious practices¹: are there any people of consequence among them. I find that Lord Moira's army are gone over to Flanders, so I suppose James is there. * * * I wish you would send me out some newspapers. I hope Anthony and Patrick are doing well, tell them to write to me.

* * * * *

THOMAS MAXTONE.

The Same to the Same

H.M. SHIP *Resolution*,
HALIFAX. 15 Nov. 1794.

MY DEAR HELEN,

Tho I wrote so lately to Peter from Virginia where we then were, I cannot let slip so good an opportunity of a vessel bound to Greenock of writing you.

We arrived here a few days ago from a cruize, which was a very unsuccessful one, as we took nothing the whole time we were out. I think we shall not go out again this winter, which has already set, and I assure you it looks very bleak. What adds to the natural misery of the place, there has been three vessels come out with merchandise, which have been taken by the French, and at this moment there is not a yard of superfine cloth in the whole town, nor any other article. One of the Packets has also been taken, by which we lost all the news, public and private. It was the August Packet, and I hope you wrote by her, tho she was taken it would at least shew your good intentions, for I have not had the scrape of a pen from you these 7 or 8 months, had I not received Peters letter, which was by the greatest chance in the world, I should have been very uneasy. * * * If I knew how to direct to James I should write himself, but from that circumstance I am prevented. I wish you would tell him as I am stationary, that I did expect

¹ The seditious practices at this time shocking authority in Edinburgh consisted of an attempt to promote the cause of liberty by a readjustment of voting power by a group of men from England. The account of the trials, a ludicrous travesty of fair play, would make highly amusing reading to-day, were it not for the savage sentences of transportation imposed by Lord Braxfield at the end.

he would write me and let me know a little of what is going on on the Continent. I hope he has been recommended to General Abercromby, who I see commands the Army that Lord Moira had, as I think he may have an opportunity of serving him. I had a conversation with the Admiral lately, which he wished me to communicate to Mr Graham, but as I wrote to him about 6 weeks ago, I do not wish to trouble him. I should be very glad if my Father would take some favourable opportunity either by seeing him if in Edinburgh at any time or by writing to let him know it. In the first place the Admiral advised (as the Squadron out here is but a small one and consequently little chance of promotion) to push at the Admiralty, as my being out here would not prevent my Promotion at home, because, if a Peace should take place soon, I would return to England as I came out, and remain a Lieutenant, a great while, as there is no promotion in our service in time of peace. Let me know when you write where Mr Graham is. I want to know if he takes the title of Colonel. As my paper is full I must bid adieu.

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

CANTONMENT OPPOSITE NIMEGUEN.
Nov. 10th '94.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 19th of last month only a few days ago, owing to my being on duty from the Regt for some time. It gave me the greatest pleasure to hear that you were all so well, as I had not heard from any of you for a great while. I wrote to my Father some time ago which letter I hope he read. Since that time we have been doing duty at Nimeguen which place we were obliged to evacuate to the French last Thursday night, but two days before that we made a very successful sortie and killed about 500, the loss of the British was very trifling. Our Regiment was very fortunate during the short time we were besieged, we had only one man killed and two or three slightly wounded. A very singular thing happened on one of the works where our Regiment was stationed, two splinters of shells came and broke the staff of one of the Colours and three Sergeants Haldbutts, without doing any other mischief. How long we shall remain in this situation I know not, but should suppose our next movement will be across the Rhine, as the French carry everything before them.

I am happy so many marriages have taken place in Perthshire, since the ice is broke I expect to see some of your names in the next list.

*The Same to the Same*CANTOONMENTS ON THE
BANKS OF THE WALL.

Nov. 27, 1794.

MY DEAR HELEN,

Since I wrote you last we have remained very quiet here. The French we understand have gone into winter quarters so that it is most likely we shall remain where we are till next Spring or till we return home, which is an event wished for by the whole army, as we are all tired of running away.

By some gentlemen I saw lately from England I understand that peace is the wish of everybody, but I don't think it will be possible to make a peace at present. I think the plan would be to withdraw our troops from this country and make it a Naval war entirely. * * *

The Austro-Prussian invasion had been repelled by the French, who now carried the war into the enemy's country. The British Navy was doing well. Howe's fine achievement off Ushant no doubt suggested to James the idea that the troops should be withdrawn, and the Navy allowed to carry on with the war.

The Same to the Same

DELFT. Jan. 1st 1795.

MY DEAR SISTER,

When I wrote to Anthony I was just setting off to this place where I have been ever since. It is one of the most stupid places I ever was in, and the most expensive, the only thing that makes it at all pleasant is being so near the Hague, it is only four miles off and we generally take a walk there every day.

I have just this moment heard that Lord Moira's expedition ¹ still takes place and that he is to have his old Regiments back again, which I'm very happy to know, as I am heartily tired of this country, the Dutch treat us more like enemys than friends, and I am convinced that they would much rather see the French here than the British Army.

* * * * *

¹ This was a second expedition sent out to help the insurrection of the French Royalists in La Vendée. Like a previous attempt, it turned out a disastrous failure. The insurrection was crushed by Republican forces on the shores of Quiberon Bay. See note, p. 116.

The Same to the Same

SARTORP. Jan. 6, 1795.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I have just time to let you know that we are all well and expect to march from this place for Embden to embark for England as soon as the ice breaks up. * * *

I made a very narrow escape of being taken prisoner on my return from Delft, not knowing the French were so near, as I staid a day or two at Utrecht, and they marched in the very day I left it, but my servant and all my baggage are taken and I have nothing now in the world but what is on my back. I am certain what I have lost I cannot replace for £100 so I shall be obliged to have a compleat new stock of things, and I am told that Government will not make an allowance the amount of the losses are so great.

* * * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

LONDON. 8th Jan. 1795.

MY DEAR HELEN,

You will be surprised to hear from me in London where I arrived three days ago from Halifax in the Packet. The reason of my coming home was to get my appointment of Master and Commander confirmed which the Admiral thought necessary, as he had received no directions from the Admiralty about me, owing to some mistake in office, as I find from Lord Spencer, who I saw yesterday, that he had written to Admiral Murray to appoint me to a vessel which is building at the Island of Bermuda, where I must go and join her, so that I have got all this trouble and expense for nothing. I daresay from what Lord Spencer told me it will be some weeks before I shall be able to go there as the ships that are going to that place, in one of which I take a passage, will not be ready to sail till that time. I wish I could have got down to see you, but that is impossible at present.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

31st March 1795.

MY DEAR HELEN,

When I wrote you last from Halifax I believe I told you that we were to remain there all winter which was at that time intended, but

owing to some information which the Admiral got, he thought it proper to go to sea. We sailed in December and have been cruising ever since on this coast. We have only put in here for water and some provisions, which we shall get in a few days and off to sea again. We have had the most stormy weather I ever experienced since my going to sea and indeed very few of the oldest on board have ever seen it blow harder than it did for two months but now the bad weather is nearly over in this country and I hope we shall be fully recompensed for past toils. I would write you more fully but the very great uncertainty of this reaching you and also the risk of its being opened prevents me writing of anything that might be of service to our Enemys in case of falling into their hands. This letter I hope will go in an American ship which is going to Greenock in a day or two. * * *

You may tell Fintry that his son Tom is well, he is here at present in the *Cleopatra* frigate which is a better ship for a youngster to learn his duty than one of this size. I have him often with me when the ships are in company. Charles Moray was very well about 2 months ago, you may tell Abercairny (the *Lyonesse*) the ship he is on board [of] has been out cruising since that time.

* * * * *

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

WALSDORF.
April 5, 1795.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I have the pleasure to inform you that we have at last finished our marches in this country and are just by the river where we see 100 fine ships every morning ready to receive us and we expect to embark in about a week or ten days at farthest. Our destination is for Portsmouth but where afterwards we know not. I hope they will put us in good barracks for some time and give the soldiers a little rest which I assure you they require very much. I wrote you some time ago that all my clothes were taken by the Enemy and that if you could give me some shirts and stockings it would be very acceptable to me as I have at present only three of each.

He writes again from Portsmouth on 11th May 1795 :

"I have the pleasure of writing to you once more from Old England. We arrived at Spithead the day before yesterday and disembarked last evening. We are to do duty here for some time till Hilsea Barracks are ready for us.

"We had a very tedious and rough passage of fourteen days, and I assure you we are all very happy to be in this country once more. I wrote you from the Transport before we sailed telling you of the deplorable situation of my shirts."

Another letter from Hilsea Barracks, 27th May 1795, tells Helen:

"I received your box from London two days after I wrote to you, it contained a very ample supply of everything for which I return you my most gratefull thanks. I assure you I shant forget it and I only hope it will be in my power some time or other to return the obligation three-fold.

"You would see by the Newspapers that we have had a great deal of Promotion in our Regiment of late. I am now second oldest Lieutenant and expect to be oldest in a day or two, as we understand we are to have double Field Officers, which will make Major Balfour Lt. Colonel and Inglis Major."

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

H.M. SHIP *Resolution*.

HALIFAX. 25 June 1795.

MY DEAR HELEN,

We have at last arrived here after a very long and stormy cruize, having been at sea the whole winter except a few days we were in Virginia and at the Island of Bermuda, where we went for a supply of provisions and I am sorry to say that we have not succeeded in taking Prizes.

I was very happy on my arrival to receive a letter from you dated in January, which is the only one that I have got for a great while, but as there have been 3 Packets taken the letters that you mention to have written must have gone to the bottom with the mail. The appointment you mention that Anthony has got I am affraid will be stopt by the recall of Lord Fitzwilliam,¹ but it may put him in the way of something else. The obligations we all owe to Mr Graham are many and great, and this last instance of his attention to me in the early recommendation to Lord Spencer shews how much he has my interest at heart. The changes that have taken place in the Admiralty has turned out very unlucky for me, had it not happened so soon, I should have been a

¹ William Earl Fitzwilliam, born 1748. Was sent to Ireland as Lord Lieutenant in 1794, but was considered by Pitt too liberal in his support of Catholic Emancipation. His recall was followed by the Irish Rebellion of 1798. He died in 1833.

Captain at this moment. * * * There have been 3 French Ships of War taken by this Squadron during the winter (two of which were taken by Capt. Cochrane in the *Thetis* and another Frigate after a very smart and gallant action. His letter to the Admiral you will see in the Papers, which I refer you to for particulars) and as I was 3rd Lieutenant in the common course of promotion I should have been made into one of these, which the Admiral told me he intended doing, but to my great mortification on our arrival here we find that Lord Spencer has sent out a Captain to a ship here, to be made Post, which throws me out, and I shall remain 1st Lieutenant and wait for some other opportunity, but there is no saying when one may happen. My great fear is lest a Peace should be made and I left in the lurch. Had Lord Chatham remained in the Admiralty it would not have been the case as there is a young man who he sent out to be promoted turned out of his ship by this business, but he has got one of the French ships that was taken, so that he is not much disappointed.

* * * * *

Thomas Maxtone to Thomas Graham of Balgowan

H.M. SHIP *Resolution*.

4 July 1795.

MY DEAR SIR,

By the last Packet I wrote you rather a desponding letter with respect to my situation in the way of promotion. Since that, things wear a much better aspect. The *Bonetta* sloop of war arrived here this morning by which Admiral Murray received a letter from Lord Spencer recommending me in very strong terms to him for Promotion, in consequence of your very great attention to me he has also made offer to send me home where I should get made in case this Admiral has it not in his power, but as there is a prospect of my going actively in a ship here the Admiral as well as myself think it for my interest to remain, as it will be in Lord Spencer's power to confirm me here. The Admiral has written him on the subject. The great object of remaining here is the chance of getting made post, as I shall be the third for that step. Hence if I can get confirmed Master and Commander Lord Spencer's letter was a very handsome one and shewed how much he wishes to serve me. I must beg leave to return my most gratefull thanks to him as well as you for this and past favours.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *Cleopatra*,
 HALIFAX.
 16th July 1795.

MY DEAR SIR,

* * * I am now happy to tell you that I have got the command of the *Cleopatra* as acting Captain, where it is probable I shall remain a few months untill the will of the Admiralty is known with respect to an appointment which the Admiral has made in the Island of Bermudas. If it is approved of and the Admiral left to himself, he will then make me into a sloop of war. If not approved I must return to the *Resolution* again. But from Lord Spencer's letter to the Admiral about me, I should fain hope that he only wants an opportunity of promoting me and never can he have a more favourable time than the present besides this vacancy there is an order from the Admiralty to purchase several vessels at Bermudas for Men of War, but it is intended to send out Officers for them from England. * * * I am exceedingly sorry to trouble you so often but as it is of so much consequence to me, getting promotion, your goodness will I hope excuse it. The Admiral intends writing you on the subject.

* * * * *

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

London TRANSPORT,
 CANSARD BAY.
 July 29, 1795.

MY DEAR HELEN,

You would hear by a letter Major Inglis wrote to his sister that we were obliged to put into Weymouth on account of a very severe contrary wind, we remained there two days and put in here for the same cause. I did not think it worth while to write you from Weymouth as Major Inglis desired his sister to tell you that I was well, and as he does not write with this conveyance you may let his family know that he is alive. We have very bad accounts from the coast of France,¹ the Emigrants are almost entirely cut to pieces, and those unhappy wretches that were fortunate enough to make their escape are now on uninhabited islands along the coast and I fancy will be embarked

¹ James Maxtone's regiment went with the 90th Regiment for a stay of some two months on Isle d'Yeu, off the coast of France, in the hope of co-operating with the Royalist rising against the French Republic (September to December 1795).

again for England. I don't know what they mean to make of us now, but the knowing ones still seem to think that the expedition will still go on, but I am of a different opinion, I should not be surprised if our first landing place will be Portsmouth, and march to old Hilsea again, a few days must determine.

* * * * *

The Same to the Same

Commerce de Marseilles.
ST HELENS. Oct. 26, '95.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I had the pleasure of receiving yours which made me very happy to hear that you and Anthony were doing so well. I would have written to you sooner but delayed till I could give certain information of sailing. It is now determined that we shall remain till General Abercromby¹ and the Grand Army are ready which cannot be sooner than a fortnight or three weeks.

It was the most fortunate thing in the world that we did not sail at the time it was intended for the certainty we should have fallen in with the French Squadron that captured the Mediterranean fleet and must have shared the same fate our force being so much inferior to theirs, and since that we have had such violent gales of wind, there is no knowing what might have happened to such an overgrown ship as this; we are so deep in the water having so many people on board more than the usual complement, we are near 1700 on board.

I have sent you a lock of my hair, I wish you had wrote for it sooner for the moment we were ordered for the West Indies I cut it almost off, but I fancy it will be long enough for the purpose you want. Write to Christie and Mary and tell them I received their letter and shall write to them next. I am happy to hear that everything is going on so well at Cultoquhey, old Ann deserves great credit. Give my love to all the young Misses in Strathearn and tell them by the time [I return] I hope to see them all well married. I can think of nothing more to write therefore must conclude with best wishes to you and the young ladies of the Hospitable mansion you are in [Dollerie]. * * *

¹ Sir Ralph Abercromby, born 1734, had a fine career as a soldier, distinguishing himself in all the campaigns of the time. At the date of this letter he was in Holland, where he won the admiration of the whole world in his struggle against losing odds. He was killed in the glorious action of Aboukir Bay in 1801.

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

PORTSMOUTH. 8 Jan. 1796.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * I go in *L'Espion* Frigate which is going to Bermudas, and we shall sail tomorrow or next day should the wind permit, which I am very happy at, for I am perfectly tired with being kept in a state of suspense so long. I told you that the *Rover* is the name of my ship, but I do not know any of the officers that I shall have with me, the Admiral will have the appointing of them. When I get there you will be astonished when I tell you how much Prize-Money I have made during the War, after having so much of our good fortune I have just got £80 currency which is about £72 sterling. The Admiral instead of making £40000 I am pretty certain has not touched more than 8 or 9 thousand. There is a good deal of property under appeal, which if condemned will give him a handsome sum, and I may get as much as I have already got. We were not lucky in the *Resolution* but the Admiral shares in every prize taken on the station which tells well, he has one eighth of the whole. I met Coll. Graham in town, who tried to get me a ship at home, but Lord Spencer would not grant his request, nor would he date my commission from the time he wrote the Colonel to say that I was made, which was the 1st of August, so that I get nothing by coming home, but am put to a very great expense and inconvenience.

Anthony Murray, the two Tullybeltons and myself dined together the last day of the old year, and I set off for this place the day after. I left the two Navy lists my Father wanted with him, who took in hand to send them down. You will not find my name amongst the Captains in either. I see I am down in Steels list for Jan. but they were not printed when I left Town. You will have heard of poor Mrs Murray's¹ death, it will be bad news for me to carry out to the Admiral. I was with her only two days before when she seemed in tolerable spirits and talked a good deal. I was very much surprised when I was told of her death. I saw the old Dutchess of Athol² in Town who asked very kindly after my Father and family. I have a

¹ Mrs Murray was Wilhelmina, daughter of the 5th Lord King, and wife of George Murray of Pitkeathley, Vice-Admiral of the White. The marriage was in 1784. She died 29th December 1795, without issue.

² Charlotte, daughter of the 2nd Duke of Atholl; b. 1731, d. 1805. Married John Murray of Strowan, her cousin, who was afterwards 3rd Duke of Atholl.

son ¹ of Lord George's under my charge to carry out to the Admiral,
a very fine boy.

* * * * *

James Maxtone to his Father at Cultoquhey

BRIDGE TOWN, BARBADOES.
May 3rd 1796.

MY DEAR FATHER,

I take the earliest opportunity of writing you to let you know of our safe arrival here last Sunday all in good health and spirits after one of the pleasantest voyages that possibly could be made. When on going ashore we understood that Sir Ralph Abercromby and the whole army were gone on a secret expedition, but since that it has transpired that they had gone to attack St Lucia and yesterday we had intelligence that the whole Island had surrendered except one Fort (Marie Fortune) a very strong post, but they expected it would fall in a very short time. We have received orders to land all our heavy baggage here and remain till further orders, from that it is supposed that after the business of St Lucia is settled, we shall all proceed together to the attack of Guadaloupe. I dont find this climate at all too hot, I assure you we had some days in England last year that I thought much warmer.

* * * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

HALIFAX. 21 May 1796.
H.M. SLOOP *Bermuda*.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I have this moment arrived from a cruize and have just time to write a few lines by the Packet which sails tonight.

I wrote you some time ago by a vessel bound to Glasgow when I was on my way from Providence to Bermuda. When I arrived there I found the *Rover*, which ship I was appointed to, was not launched, and the Admiral has appointed me to command the *Bermuda* sloop of war instead of her, which is a very pleasant thing for me, as I must have remained at least six months before I could have got to sea in the *Rover* and the one I am in was just ready for sea when I took the command of her and I sailed in 2 days on a short cruize but met with nothing. The *Bermuda* is not so fine a vessel as the *Rover* but upon the whole I think myself better off. * * *

¹ John, eldest son of Lord George Murray, son of the 2nd Duke of Atholl. John Murray was afterwards Captain of H.M.S. *Port Mahon*. Born in 1761, he died in Jamaica in 1803.

I believe many of the letters you have wrote me have not come to hand, as I this day received one from James dated 18th *May* 1794. * * *
Let me know what has been done with the 90th Regt. and where Colonel Graham is, because there was some idea of its being reduced when I left England. Let me know where the 57th Regt. is, in case I should not hear from James before, and tell me all news.

* * * * *

CHAPTER VII

AT HOME AND ABROAD

THAT there was a very limited income at Cultoquhey to provide for the needs of so many sons and daughters is apparent enough between the lines of the letters. As old age approached, the laird James must have felt a load of responsibility. He had arranged a small provision for the four daughters, an annuity of £25 each, and in event of marriage a tocher of £500.

In August 1797 he parted with Helen and Margaret—a double wedding in Edinburgh. Helen was then twenty-eight, and had managed her father's house since she was twelve. Her husband, born 1754, was William Stewart, laird of Ardvorlich, a beautiful and romantic property only a few miles from Cultoquhey, on the shores of Loch Earn.

Portraits of Helen and Margaret Maxtone, by the Scottish artist Stewart, are to be seen at Cultoquhey. There is also an interesting miniature of Helen, and a portrait of Margaret by Hoppner. Both girls were known for their good looks. A neighbour writing about his intentions as a voter in an election for a Collectorship in Perthshire mentions that he wished to vote for Maxtone of Cultoquhey, "the man with the pretty daughters." Cultoquhey obtained the Collectorship, but was doubtless quite unaware that votes had been swayed in his favour by the beauty of Helen and Margaret.

Helen is known chiefly by her brothers' letters, showing her as their confidante and friend after her marriage as well as in her girlhood. No scrap of her handwriting is to be found in the family papers, except her signature on her marriage contract. Her long life was passed at Ardvorlich, where many sorrows befell her, for she outlived four of her five sons.

History shows a passing glimpse of Helen's husband just before the marriage. Rumours of a French invasion had caused panic everywhere. Central Perthshire seemed remote enough for such alarms, but the countryside was arming as best it could. Parish after parish fell in with the scheme, and most of the lairds were giving a patriotic lead



MARGARET MAXTONE, WIFE OF THOMAS RAMSAY OF BAMFF. 1771-1833.

[Hoppner.]

in the matter. On 14th May 1797, 167 men from Balquhidder and Lochearnside were enrolled by William Stewart of Ardvorlich. The minister of Balquhidder saw them—"167 soldiers, looking good men, upon the Parade last Friday in the Highland dress." In a short time they numbered 200. The men paid for their own uniforms and served without pay, arrayed in "a short dark blue coat with scarlet 'neck' and kilt and plaid of the Black Watch Tartan." A piper was in attendance. Two of the conditions of service were original: the first—"No Volunteer shall be called out to drill but when he pleases"; the second—"When we turn out, none of us shall go near the ale-house in the country, under the penalty of 5 shillings Sterling as often as we transgress."¹

Ardvorlich's men formed part of the regiment called the Strathearn Highlanders. On the disbanding of the Volunteers, a silver salver, still to be seen at Ardvorlich, was presented to Major Stewart.

Margaret Maxtone, a year younger than Helen, married a man fifteen years older than herself, her second cousin, Thomas Ramsay, fourth son of Sir James Ramsay, 4th Baronet of Bamff. The fate of both sisters was alike in one particular: they both had very large families. Helen long outlived her sister; she was widowed in 1838 and achieved an old age rare in those days, for she was eighty-five when she died. Margaret and her husband died within a few months of each other, in 1833, when she was sixty-two.

Something of the career and character of Thomas Ramsay, husband of Margaret Maxtone, has survived, in a letter written by Sir William Nairne to Thomas Graham at Balgowan, 28th November 1785. The address given—Colney Hatch, Middlesex—would not to-day inspire confidence, but it was evidently the Nairne residence.

DEAR SIR,

I had the pleasure of a call from your friend Sir George Ramsay, who has been for some time past in Scotland, among his friends and relations, he mentioned to me a circumstance of his brother Thomas (who is just now with his friends in Scotland) that after being so many years in Jamaica, was still an overseer on the Estate belonging to our pupil John Kinloch. I recollect very well that when Mr Ramsay went out, that George Oliphant's intention was certainly to do everything in his power to serve him and to make him Attorney upon that estate as soon as he was acquainted with the business. * * * I think we are

¹ These particulars are taken from Lady Tullibardine's *Military History of Perthshire*.

in duty bound to promote Mr Ramsay to be our Attorney and am happy to find it has been proposed among you gentlemen who has been on the Spott. * * * It will always make me happy if I can oblige Sir George Ramsay * * * but having had the pleasure of meeting with Mr Ramsay in London and likewise having had an opportunity of knowing his character from several Jamaica gentlemen, makes me bold to say that he is entitled to everything we can do for him, that in fact he has all the management and drudgery of that estate for some years, without the Salary that he justly merited and which I hope he will soon have now. I am sorry to hear there is one dissenting voice, but I can't see that that should be any obstacle in Mr Ramsay's way. * * *

Your most obed. and most humble s^{er}t

WM. NAIRNE.

Margaret and her husband lived for the most part in Alva Street, Edinburgh, where they reared their large family of four sons and six daughters.¹

Anthony Maxtone to his sister Helen

LONDON. 20 July 1797.

MY DEAR HELEN,

It was with the greatest pleasure that I read my Father's letter to Charles, informing him of the change that is soon to take place in yours and Margarets situation, and I now congratulate you both most sincerely upon it. I confess I was a little surprised at first, but I assure you it made me very happy, especially when I found it was so entirely with your own consents. I have not the pleasure of being personally acquainted with either of the gentlemen indeed I dont think that I ever saw them, but what I knew of them by report makes me hope that you have both been lucky in the choice of husbands. I am sure there are none deserve it more than you do. I hope I shall be able to go to Scotland before the 24th Aug. indeed had I known I was to have been so long idle here I might have been there all this time. * * *

My Father mentioned in Charles' letter that Mary had written to me by a private hand. She could not have chose a better, for he is so

¹ A list of the children will be found in the Maxtone genealogical chart. It will be noticed that, in spite of a family of ten, there is not a single descendant in the third generation.

very private that he has not as yet made his appearance. Letters with such news should always be sent by the post. I never would grudge the postage, had it been three times the sum.

As I daresay you and Margaret are both very busy preparing making the shifts I dont expect I shall hear from either of you, but altho I dont deserve it for being so long in writing, I hope Christy or Mary will write me some account of your plans and arrangements. * * *

Christian, the third daughter of James Maxtone, did not marry till some years after the marriage of her elder sisters, and her father's death. Probably she met her husband, Dr Patrick Lindsay, at her sister Helen's home at Ardvorlich, as he was then living at the neighbouring small estate of Dundearn, St Fillans. The exact date of the wedding has not come to light, but it was after 1801 and before 1804. Patrick Lindsay had a finer record in the service of his country than either of his brothers-in-law, Stewart of Ardvorlich or Thomas Ramsay. He had passed many years on active service before he met Christian and began a very different kind of life in a remote country district. His first appointment was in 1779, as assistant surgeon to the General Hospital in North America. He served under command of General Sir H. Clinton during the siege of Charlestown and at the reduction of the province of South Carolina. In 1782 he was appointed surgeon to the 45th Regiment, and went with it to Grenada in 1786. He stayed there for four years, and afterwards was appointed Garrison Surgeon at Barbados in 1790, where he remained three years.

He acted as Inspector of Hospitals in 1793 with the expeditions under the command of Major-General Cuyler and Lieutenant-General Bruce at Tobago and Martinique. Appointed Physician to the Forces at the end of that year, he took part in the reduction of Martinique, Guadaloupe and St Lucia under General Sir C. Grey. His next appointment was Assistant Inspector of Hospitals, in June 1797. In September 1798 he was placed upon half-pay when cuts were made in the medical staff in the West Indies.

Patrick Lindsay probably had some connection with Strathearn, and he and Christian settled down at St Fillans, and afterwards in Crieff. There were three children of the marriage: Marjory, born in 1805; James, born in 1811, and Isobel La Batte, who was born and died in 1813. In this year Christian herself died. Patrick Lindsay was left with two small children to bring up. He would appear to have given up his property in Crieff and moved to Broughton Street, in Edinburgh.

Here he died, in September 1819, leaving Marjory, aged fourteen, and James, eight years old. Their natural guardians were their uncle, Anthony Maxtone, and their aunt, Helen Stewart, of Ardvorlich. Within a few days of her father's death Marjory came to the shelter of her uncle's house at Cultoquhey. Some light is thrown on the history of these two orphans through lawyers' letters. Lindsay left very little property and complicated matters by dying intestate. All his effects were sold off. Mrs Stewart of Ardvorlich bought six silver spoons at a cost of £4, 15s. 5d., no doubt her sister's Maxtone silver, though Marjory protested against the sale of her mother's things. There was pitifully little to maintain the two children when all was settled. Marjory went to complete her education at Mrs Walker's school at Montrose. James was removed from school at Musselburgh and sent to Mr John Peddie's in Perth.

Very little more is known of these grandchildren of the old laird James Maxtone. The lawyers' letters carry a little further insight, but the personalities of Marjory and James are soon lost in disputes between Mr Turnbull, the Crieff agent, and the firm, Thomson & Ferguson of Edinburgh, which managed the Lindsay affairs. The arid discussions, however, are lightened by the remarks of the Edinburgh agent on the subject of old Miss Lindsay, Dr Patrick's sister, who evidently was a thorn in his side. She came to Edinburgh with Marjory to arrange with Mr Ferguson for the roup of Dr Lindsay's effects. "The old lady," writes Mr Ferguson to Anthony Maxtone, "was in one of her devilish humours and began by bitter reflections on the copy of her minutes having been taken away from her, which she said she could not at all understand. I had enough to do to keep Miss Lindsay in decent humour, and have seldom met with a more complete Firebrand. She let loose her abuse against me upon one occasion, which however I treated with the utmost contempt. She afterwards saw the impropriety of her conduct and has continued abundantly submissive ever since."

By 1829, James, established at the Military Academy in Edinburgh, very soon greatly exceeded his allowance of six pounds a quarter. He was said by Mr Ferguson, who had been made responsible for his finances, to be "exposed to the temptations of dress in a large city," but this was his one extravagance.

No further details of the Lindsay family are to be found among the Cultoquhey papers, though James is mentioned once or twice in later letters. There is a trace of him living at Woodstock, in Upper Canada, in 1849.

Mary, the youngest daughter of the 11th laird, outlived all her brothers and sisters. She never married, and her whole life was passed at Cultoquhey, till her death there in 1858, at the age of eighty. Her figure flits here and there among the records of three generations, a gracious personality, always to be counted upon for help in every domestic crisis, well loved for the kindness of her disposition and admired for her good looks, which won for her the nickname "Bonnie Mai."

James Maxtone, the 11th laird, died in June 1798. The last of his sorrows was the loss of Thomas, captain of the sloop *Bermuda*, in the disaster which happened in the Gulf of Florida. Only his four daughters could have been with him to the last at Cultoquhey. All the sons were on active service; not one was available to follow him to Fowlis Wester when he was laid beside his wife, Marjorie, in the family grave within the church there.

Naturally the eldest son, James, would inherit Cultoquhey. The news of his father's death may have taken a long time in reaching him in the West Indies, but he came home on leave about 1st May 1799 and was for four months or longer in Scotland. Of this visit nothing is known, except that he is reported as having been gay at Montrose Races. He left Cultoquhey for Trinidad for the last time before the end of 1799. He was then within a few months of his death. It is possible that, though he was really 12th laird of Cultoquhey, the necessary business giving him actual possession was not carried through in time. There is a document dated 28th February 1799, signed by Anthony and Patrick, his brothers, in which James is named "now of Cultoquhey," but this is the solitary piece of evidence that he was ever so regarded. The very memory of James seems to be consigned to the shadows, yet he was a fine soldier, a good son and brother, and deserves a place of pride in the line of lairds. It is too late now. To establish him as the owner of Cultoquhey would entail many changes on tombstones and memorial brasses. Only in this record, for family information, it is possible to give James his rightful place as head of the family, and owner of the lands he loved and thought of continually in his exile.

Only one memorial of him exists among the Cultoquhey possessions. It is a fine miniature, in the uniform of the 57th Regiment, probably done on his last visit home to please his sisters. In the same case is enclosed a miniature of his father.

His regiment had been in Trinidad, forming part of the garrison there, since June 1797, after the capture of the island from the French, and remained there for six uneventful years, till the Peace of Amiens.

James sailed again for the West Indies in March 1800 to rejoin the regiment. He reached Trinidad in April and died there on 6th November 1800.

There is no record of the place of his burial. He and his ancestor who fell at Flodden are the only lairds of Cultoquhey who do not rest in the ancient family burial-place at Fowlis Wester.

The letters of the Maxtone brothers give little indication of the wave of success which was bearing their country to the height of prestige on the seas. They could hardly have realized that they were playing a part in events which were to save Europe from catastrophe, and set Britain in the forefront of naval supremacy for generations to come. Napoleon was forcing Europe to her knees, and the nations were going down before the amazing progress of his sword. Britain was continuing the war without allies. Standing solitary in a time of acute danger, the splendour of her achievements are hers alone. In the space of two years, Admiral Jervis met and defeated the Spanish Fleet off Cape St Vincent, Admiral Duncan defeated the Dutch at Camperdown and Lord Nelson won the Battle of the Nile.

Anthony Maxtone had been working for some time in an Edinburgh office. Doubtless the routine was dull, and his brothers' letters from distant parts were very unsettling. He was now twenty-three, and longing to join them in a life of adventure. Any idea of his remaining at the desk was abandoned when a chance of a military life offered itself.

The beginning of Anthony's career was very fortunate. Thomas Graham of Balgowan, whose reputation as a soldier was steadily rising towards the distinction he was ultimately to achieve, had joined the Austrian forces in 1796, and was appointed on a special mission with the army which was preparing a great defensive force in Italy. He learned much during an otherwise futile campaign, but it must have been a maddening experience, for the enterprise resolved itself into a series of disjointed operations. There were no generals to match the supreme genius of Napoleon, who was beginning his great invasion of Austrian possessions in Italy. Anthony Maxtone had at least the good fortune to see service with Thomas Graham through this campaign. The Austrians were at last forced into Mantua—a scene of misery which Anthony did not witness, or his Colonel's long incarceration there, as Colonel Graham sent him to Venice, to get there as best he could, in charge of his carriages and heavy baggage.

Anthony remained with the army in Italy till the spring of 1797. In the following year he was a lieutenant of the 9th or Royal Perthshire

Militia Regiment of Foot. He resigned on 24th November 1799, on appointment as a cadet in the East India Company's service. He joined the Bengal European Regiment, and was appointed to the 27th Native Infantry in 1805.

Anthony Maxtone to his sister Helen

LONDON. *June 24, 1796.*

MY DEAR HELEN,

I have the pleasure to inform you that I am at length in hopes of getting away. I daresay you would see by the newspapers that a courier had arrived from Col. Graham, when he goes back I am to go along with him. * * * I will try and write you from Yarmouth, if I can get as much time.

I was sorry to hear of poor Mr Grants death, but I think it is as lucky for himself and friends, as it will be a burden off their minds. I daresay that duel¹ that has happened must cause a great deal of conversation in Edinburgh. I should like to hear their opinions of it. We can't judge here who was the aggressor but from what Peggy wrote me I should think Field was to blame in the first place, for sending a challenge to any of his customers, but several of the accounts we have got seem much against Bennet. How does Miss Collins bear his absence? I am glad to hear however that Chrichton is getting better. * * *

He writes again from Hanover, 29th June 1796 :

"We had a passage of about 40 hours only, which is thought very quick, and we arrived here about 10 o'clock this evening. I had not the least idea what the roads in this country were till now. It is almost impossible for you to form an idea of the badness of them. However they get better after this, for some stages. We will be about five or six days more on the road but I don't mind that now as I have got accustomed to travelling by this time and I agree with it very well. The horses are putting to, so I must finish."

With the departure of Anthony on foreign service the old laird had lost all but his youngest surviving son, Patrick. No doubt he hoped to secure for this boy a position that would keep him in Scotland, and to this end had apprenticed him to Mr John Moncrieff, an

¹ On 16th June 1796 a duel was fought in Edinburgh between Major Crichton and Mr Bennet, a surgeon of that city, when the Major was wounded. The ball entered the left side of the chest and came out near the blade bone. The wound was not dangerous. The cause of the quarrel seems now to be lost.

apothecary in Edinburgh, for five years. But Patrick served only three years of his apprenticeship. He heard the call of the East and shared the ambitions of his four elder brothers. John Moncrieff was very much pleased with the boy's services, and gave up a claim of twenty pounds for which Patrick was liable. "The pleasure and satisfaction I have had from the chearful and faithful discharge of the duties you owed me as an apprentice has merited my warmest thanks," he writes. By July 1796 Patrick had said good-bye to his father and the home he was never to see again, and set out in the service of the East India Company.

Helen helped him with a loan of £200 for his equipment, which he promises to repay "if ever it is in my power." It is surprising to know that Helen had such a sum at her disposal.

Patrick Maxtone to his sister Helen

LONDON. July 2, 1796.

MY DEAR HELEN,

How unfortunate it was that Anthon after waiting so long should leave London before my Fathers letter came to hand. He left this Saturday morning at 4 o'clock as I mentioned in my last, he was to write you from Yarmouth if he had time before he sailed. I have been at Gravesend on board the *Glatton*¹ since Anthon went away so I did not get the letter till yesterday. I think my Father should write immediately to Mr Dundas informing him of Anthon having left this. * * * I hear that Capt. Drummond takes leave on Wednesday, so I will have to go on board then or a few days after, for good. * * * Make my compliments to Miss Drummond and tell her that as Anthon was not at hand I accepted of her present. Remember me to all friends and

Believe me

Your affectionate Brother

PATK. MAXTONE.

While Patrick was eagerly setting out in life, his brother James was at the most exciting part of his career on active service. He had been gazetted Captain 12th September 1795.

The 57th Regiment was part of a large reinforcement planned

¹ The exploits of Captain Trollope in the *Glatton* stand high in the naval records of this year: he encountered and defeated a French squadron carrying upwards of 200 guns, in all respects nearly thrice the force of the *Glatton*.

under Sir Ralph Abercromby to help in the reduction of the West Indies. The story of the embarkation of this regiment at the end of September 1795 is one of fatuous incompetence. The ship was the *Commerce de Marseilles*. It carried the whole of the 57th Regiment, and a company of the Royal Artillery, besides the crew, making a total of 1785 persons on board. Even this burden was dangerously heavy, but by an error a quantity of stores was added, making it impossible for the ship to rise on the waves. She ploughed through heavy seas in a gallant attempt to start, but finding herself in great danger of total loss she was with the utmost difficulty got back into Portsmouth Harbour—whence she never emerged, as she was too seriously damaged ever to put to sea again.

The authorities now decided that the 57th should re-embark in three small ships of forty-four guns—*Charon*, *Adventure* and *Ulysses*. Again they started, but encountered a fearful storm, lasting six weeks, which dispersed the fleet. Back they came to Portsmouth again, with the exception of the *Charon*, which with part of the regiment, under the command of Major Inglis, managed to reach Barbados. Not until May 1796 was the whole regiment in the West Indies. St Lucia had been retaken by the French, and there the 57th was landed. In one column 350 men, under Major Inglis, described by General Moore as “a good steady officer,” advanced to the attack. Affairs at St Lucia being satisfactorily settled, the 57th was ordered to Grenada, the most southerly of the Windward Islands in the West Indies, an exquisite but tragic spot, the scene of constant struggle between France and England for a century and a half. James was there at the darkest moment of the island’s history.

Julien Fedon, a mulatto planter, owning an estate called Belvidere, in the mountain fastnesses of the island, led a brigands’ war in 1795, backed by some of the French colonists and their slaves. In their attempt to make themselves masters of the colony, these bandits seized the British Governor, Ninian Home, as prisoner, and murdered him in cold blood, with forty-seven others, while the British were attempting an attack on Fedon’s almost inaccessible camp. The reign of terror went on. The British garrison was lamentably inadequate. As the danger was not realized in time, troops were drawn off to other islands. Only 192 rank and file of the regular forces, and many of these in bad health, remained to safeguard life and property. The whole struggle, involving much personal heroism in the fighting forces, is seen now against a background of muddle and incompetence, very typical of what was going on throughout the West Indies, never

properly supplied with men, and given over to the ineptitude of local officials, so that the murderous Fedon was able to defy the power of Britain with his handful of bandits, slaves and riff-raff left by the French colonists, for two years.

Sir Ralph Abercromby, assuming the chief military command of the West Indies, landed at Grenada on 6th June 1795, and ultimately suppressed the rising, though not without bloody resistance.

It is characteristic of all the young Maxtones' letters that their own part in great events is left out, and James gives no account of the chief engagement of the campaign when, on 19th June 1795, the 57th Regiment, under the leadership of Colonel Gladstane, rushed the almost impenetrable wooded heights where, in the midst of his property, Fedon had established Morne Fedon, the strongest fort on the island. James no doubt took part in that silent midnight march to the top of the Morne, where at daylight next day the rebels found the little British force in possession. It was the final defeat. Though little resistance was offered, the British witnessed the last desperate atrocity of the savage campaign, when the enemy, seeing the advancing troops, brought out from the fort and murdered in cold blood twenty white prisoners.

The rebellion was now at an end, but in spite of all efforts the arch-rebel, Julien Fedon, was never caught. According to James Maxtone's letter they were still looking for him more than a year later. Nothing certain is known of his fate. He disappeared into the woods. It was conjectured at the time that he met his death by drowning in trying to escape to Trinidad in a small canoe.

After the rebels were routed, James's regiment went into quarters at Charlotte Town, on the north-west coast of the island. A furious epidemic of yellow fever carried off seven officers and 542 men, and the next year 149 more.

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

GRENADA. *July 14, 1796.*

MY DEAR HELEN,

I only had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 30th of April yesterday, but altho it is of an old date it made me very happy as I had not a letter from any of you since I came to the country. The last time I wrote to you was just upon our leaving St Lucia which letter I hope you have received. Since that time we have been constantly in the woods in this Island and have very few opportunities of writing. I send this by Major Buttar of our Regt, who has leave to go home on

acct of his health and I believe leaves the Regt. We have had a great number of officers sick since we came here and one dead, but thank God I have never had the least complaint of any kind. It made me very sad to hear of poor Nancy Kerr's death. * * *

We are still far from being quiet on this Island. Fedon, the Brigand General, has escaped into the woods with about 400 Blacks and until they are entirely destroyed there is no rest for us, and there is no possibility of getting at them, the mountains are so steep and woody. We are now trying to cut them off from provisions, which may be the only way of getting the better of them. * * *

Thomas Maxtone to his sister Helen

H.M. SLOOP *Bermuda*

OFF THE CHESAPEAKE.

24 August 1796.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I am this moment made very happy by the receipt of three letters, two from you of the 1st and 28th May, and one from Mary the 2nd April, they came out all in the same packet to Halifax, and one of the ships brought them here to me, where I am cruising in company with the Admiral, but I am sorry to say there is nothing to be got, as the French dare not show their face here, which we all are sorry for. I am very happy in hearing of Anthony's good fortune, as I think the Coll. will not quit him without getting something for him. I am also glad that Colonel Graham is not gone last time abroad as I have one step yet to get and there is little chance of it on this station. Peter I hope will do well, my only fear is that he has gone too soon for his studies. I do not know whether I shall remain much longer in the *Bermuda* as my own ship will soon be ready and she is so much larger a vessel that I think I shall take her. However I'll let you know when that happens. I am sorry to tell you that the Admiral was struck with a stroke of the Palsy almost 5 weeks ago at Halifax. He lost the use of his whole left side, but since he has come to sea he is wonderfully recovered, he now walks about quite well, so much so that you would scarcely know he had been unwell. His recovery so far has surprised all the Doctors. * * * You do not say how my Father keeps his health in Edinburgh.

It is good to hear that Thomas had been made happy by home letters, for he was now very near the end of his career, and the letter to Helen was the last he ever wrote.

The muster-roll of H.M.S. *Bermuda*, a sloop with a crew of 80

and 14 guns, is to be seen in the Record Office in London, and discloses that Captain Thomas Maxtone on 26th April 1796 received from Captain Robert Hall, his predecessor, "The Muster Book compleat for his sloop *Bermuda* under my command. Given under my hand on board H.M. Sloop *Bermuda* at Bermuda." There are one or two entries in his handwriting, showing that the ship was at St John, New Brunswick, on 13th May 1796, and in Halifax harbour in the same year. The last entry, 28th June 1796, records: "These are to certify Principal Officers that the man named in the above list did run from H.M. Sloop *Bermuda* under my command, at the time and place set against his name in the said list, and in my present opinion deserves no Relief."

The record is carried no further. It must be concluded that after this date no opportunity occurred to send the ship's papers ashore, and that all subsequent records went down with her and every soul on board in the Gulf of Florida.

There is some confusion as to the date of the disaster. *The History of the Royal Navy* (1900) by W. Laird Clowes, supported by many naval authorities, gives the date 27th August 1796. If this be so, Thomas's last letter, "off the Chesapeake," was written only three days before his death.

News of the tragic loss of the ship and crew was slow in reaching Britain. In several letters from his brothers, anxious questions are asked regarding news from Tom. The Admiralty gives the date of the foundering of the *Bermuda* in February 1798. Possibly it was at that date that definite news was received of the loss, and that there was not, and will never be, any real account of what happened.

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

GRENADA. Sept. 16, 1796.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * I am very glad that Anthony is gone to Italy with Col. Graham, it will be of great service to him and if he turns out clever may make his fortune. I daresay that Peter is by this time half-way to India. I have made every enquiry of any vessels going to America to write to Tom but can hear of none. You never mention in any of your letters how things are going on at Cultoquhey. I assure you I am very anxious to know as I expect to spend some pleasant days there by and by. I still continue to enjoy good health and indeed every officer in the Regiment. It is very singular that the 27th Regt who are quartered only within ten miles of us have lost 13 officers by

the Bulam¹ Fever and not one of us have been attacked with it. I daresay you have seen General Campbell before this time and he would tell you how we are going on. I should be sorry if he lost the Boroughs. When you write me always direct to this Island as it is my opinion we shall be here a considerable time, and I expect to hear from some of you every Packet. Be sure and remember me to all friends and to Murrayshall in particular and let me know how he comes on and what the Eagles are doing. * * *

Anthony Maxtone to his sister Helen

VENICE. December 14, 1796.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I would have wrote you sooner as I promised in my letter to my father of the 25 ulto but had nothing material to say as nothing of any consequence has happened since, but having just heard of Coll. Graham I thought it would be a great satisfaction to his mother and friends to hear that he was in good health. * * * It was by accident that I came to hear of him from the Imperial Minister here whom I saw yesterday at Mr Drake's by a letter which he had received by some means or other from Mantua² which mentioned Col. Graham having bought a new-drop'd calf, for which he paid 40 sequins and he had no sooner bought it than he invited his friends to share it with him. Although we have not heard from himself we may be sure by that story that he is very well, as it happened but the other day. I can give you little information as to what is going on in the army as I have heard of no accounts being received from that quarter for these several days. However I believe they have been doing very little for this fortnight past, having been waiting for fresh reinforcements which I understand were expected about this time when it was supposed it would again put itself into motion. I hope they will be more successful than they were last time. I am sorry to say that the French have likewise received some pretty considerable reinforcements. Something must be decided soon, I think, as it is terrible weather for the troops, the winter having already set in with a heavy fall of snow and severe frost. I have still hopes they will be able to relieve Mantua, since it has stood out so long. They have been eating horse-flesh for this some

¹ Bulam fever was brought to Grenada from the island of Bulam, on the west coast of Africa, in the ship *Hankey*, about 1793. It is a species of the deadly blackwater fever, and raged in Grenada for five years. Before February 1797 the 57th Regiment lost 600 men in this sickness. It had abated by that date.

² Mantua was the strongest fortress in Italy, and twice endured a great siege in this war—by the French in 1797 and the Austrians in 1799.

time, and begin to like it very well now. They kill about 14 a day, and I hear they have still in the garrison enough of flour for some months. They have likewise a great plenty of aqua-vita. They are worst off for wine, however I think the aqua-vita may supply its place very well. I assure you I was very glad when I heard of Coll. Graham as it was more than two months since I heard of him before, and was beginning to be uneasy about him. I am wearying very much to get out of Venice. I did not think I should have been so long in it when I came here, but I suppose I will be some time longer yet. However I dont tire of it so much now as I did at first. If one wearies here it need not be for want of amusement, for there is no less than 4 Opera houses and 4 Playhouses open every night. I daresay the Carnival will be commenced before I leave it. However I dont suppose it will be very amusing to me having so few acquaintances here. * * * I have never received but one letter of my Fathers since I came here dated in August, so you may believe I am now very anxious to hear. Remember me in particular to the Eagles, the Graemes, the Drummonds, the Austins etc. and let me know if Miss Collins is married yet. * * *

Anthony Maxtone to his sister Helen

LONDON. April 14, 1797.
Direct for me No. 1 VIGO LANE,
SWALLOW STREET.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * I am glad to see that you still have hopes of something being done for me yet, for I was beginning to despair myself, however your letter raised my spirits a little in hopes of Lady Jane¹ taking it in hand, as I understand she is a very good woman and Mr Dundas does anything for her that she asks. I should like going to India above all things, if it can be done, and I see nothing to hinder it unless my age comes in the way, and even that we could find means of getting over. As to an appointment at [home] should the other fail, I suppose it will be the same as what I have lost by being abroad, which I understand to be what is called an extra clerk in the Pay Office. * * * An extra clerk has 5 shillings a day, and when he gets on the establishment he has 100 to 110 with hopes of rising, so that it is not so bad an appointment. However I must confess that I would prefer India. * * * I am glad to hear you have got Cultoquhey let. I hope you get a good rent for it. I heard of poor Mrs Drummond's death by a letter I

¹ Daughter of the 2nd Earl of Hopetoun, married 1793, as his second wife, the Rt. Hon. Henry Dundas, afterwards Lord Melville. This was the lady described by Pitt as "the sickly sea-nymph."

received from Peggy about two months ago, dated the 1st of Jan. I hope they will get all their affairs settled now that James is dead, let me know when you write. Mrs McLaurin told me of the sudden death of her sister. I hope we shall see James soon, as I have heard the same thing you write me from two or three different people. Your not hearing from Tom must I think be owing to the irregularity of the packets or something of that kind. * * * It was at Udine I left Col. Graham but the letter I had from him while at Vienna was from Layback, and he was to leave that next day to go to Klagenfurt to join the Archduke, but where they are now it is hard to say. * * *

James Maxtone to his sister Helen

GRENADA. May 8, 1797.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * It is now a long time since we had any letters from Europe owing to the two February Packets being taken, which makes us very uneasy but we are in daily expectation of the March Packet, which will relieve all our anxiety. We are still in the same situation as when I wrote to you last. We dont know whether we are to be drafted or receive Drafts, but one or other must take place soon as we are only the skeletons of two Regiments, indeed the two together will hardly make half a Battallion. We understood that General Abercrombie is gone to attack Porto Rico and when he returns every arrangement will take place. I have not seen Bobby Bruce but have heard from him frequently, he is gone with his uncle. I am sorry to see by the papers of the fate of Mantua. What is become of Col : Graham and Anthony? Have you heard lately from Tom ; when you write to him tell him I have written to him several times but I am afraid he will not receive my letters as there is no certain conveyance. I hope by this time he is Captain.

Tell Peggy Drummond I received her comical epistle which made me laugh very heartily. I was very sorry to hear of her poor Mother's death. * * *

Patrick Maxtone to his sister Helen, Mrs Stewart of Ardvorlich

Alfred, PORTSMOUTH.

Mar. 22 (1799).

MY DEAR HELEN,

I dare say that you expected to have heard from me before this and I am certainly much to blame for not writing you sooner. If I plead want of time you will think it a very silly excuse and therefore

will let that alone, but to tell the truth the short time that I was in London and the great hurry I was in to be ready to get out in the *Alfred* prevented me from writing and from calling on a number of my friends in London. When I tell you that had I been two days later in going to London I must have lost my passage by this Fleet you will excuse me for what I very much regret, not being able to go to Perthshire before leaving Scotland. * * * We will have a pretty full ship, 22 will dine at the Captain's table. There is 5 Lady passengers but I have only seen 2 of them. The others are not yet come on board, one of them is a daughter of Lord Wintertons who has married a Mr Richardson, who is going out a writer to Madras. The other a Miss Cochrane, a niece of Lord Dundonald, who is going out to look for a husband. She is pretty tolerable and will look well enough at sea, when we can no longer see those we left behind. We are just now beginning unmooring, but I dont think we sail until tomorrow. Anthon Murray is just sitting by me and desires to be remembered to you all. * * *

Anthony Maxtone to his sister, Mrs Stewart

10 LEICESTER PLACE,
LONDON. 1 May 1799.

MY DEAR HELEN,

You have no doubt ere this heard by the letter I wrote to James how unlucky I have been in missing my Passage in the *Ld Hawkesbury* owing to my baggage not arriving in time, and their sailing sooner than expected. I assure you it was a great disappointment to me for I shall find a very great difference between it and the ship I am now to go in, where we shall be so crowded that there will hardly be room to turn. I am told there will be upwards of 50 passengers on board. The Captain's table was more than filled before I applied to go in that ship, so that I am obliged to go in the 3rd mates mess, but I am not singular for there are a great many in the same situation, so we must endeavour to weather it the best way we can, for a few months, by making ourselves as comfortable as possible. By being in the Mates Mess we get out for half the money, so that is one comfort. I shall likewise have another advantage by going in the *Asia*, the pleasure of seeing both Peter and Charles at Madras, which I could not have had in the *Ld Hawkesbury* as she was to go to St Helena. * * *

I was favoured with Mary's letter yesterday by which I was happy to find that you were all well. * * * I hope your lambs are thriving well and that you dont lose many of them.

The only news I have to write to you is that accounts are arrived

today of the Brest Fleet being out, consisting in all of 27 sail, 17 of which are of the line, their destination is supposed to be Ireland or the Mediterranean, but I hope we shall have a good account of them before they reach either, as it is said Lord Bridport¹ is in pursuit of them.

The Same to the Same

SHIP *Asia*. July 29, 1799.

Lat. 2.9 South. Long. 21½.

MY DEAR HELEN,

The Commodore has just made the signal to prepare letters for England. I believe they are to go by the Ships of the Fleet that are for the Cape of Good Hope which leave us today. * * * I am in good health. We have had thus far a tolerable good passage, indeed for about 3 weeks or a month it was impossible to have finer weather. * * * We crossed the Line yesterday morning being Sunday the ceremony of shaving did not take place but today Mr Neptune is to make his appearance. * * * There are certainly too many in our ship, there are 31 at our table, and as many at the Cpts. the greatest difficulty was the stowing us at night, but we now do pretty well. Our cots were all cut down into hammocks and we have only 18 inches to swing them in, but as everything must go by habit I dont so much dislike it now. Mr Toby in whose mess I am does everything he can to make us comfortable indeed all the officers are very attentive and I think it must be a man's own fault if he does not try to make himself happy and always hope for a quick passage. * * * As I am sure you dont know any of our passengers a list of them cannot be very interesting. I shall only say that there is a mixture of Scots, English, Irish and Welsh, there are 4 ladies, 2 of them being Misses are of course adventurers, the other two are provided for, the one having a husband on board and the other being Mother to one of the Misses. I really dont know whether she is a widow or not. * * * Let me know all about James' motions. I only hope that he wont have to go to the West Indies again * * * if Christy and Mary can collect some papers to send me now and then I should be so much obliged to them. * * * I have written a few lines to Margaret in case of the one miscarrying. You may depend upon hearing from me again. My kindest love to Mr Stewart and all at Ardvorlich. * * *

P.S.—I have just been getting a good ducking from Mr Neptune, and am now as wet and dirty as I can be.

¹ The celebrated Naval Commander, Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, *b.* 1724, *d.* 1816. Created Baron Bridport in 1794 and Viscount Hood in 1796.

Patrick Maxtone to his brother James

MADRAS. Aug. 10, 1799.

MY DEAR JAMES,

We arrived here the 31 of July after a very pleasant passage. I was much disappointed at not finding Charles here, but am glad to understand he has got a very good appointment. He is Commercial Resident at Injiram which is some hundred miles up the coast. * * * As soon as I know my destination I shall let you know. I imagine I shall be sent somewhere up the country. I only regret that I was not out here six months ago as then in all probability I should have been sent to Seringapatam, where the first division of Prize Money to a Subaltern amounted to 500 gre and 1 or 2 more divisions are expected, the storming of Seringapatam was a very glorious business but our Troops suffered severely especially in officers. Some individuals made immense fortunes. The storming party were allowed a certain number of hours to plunder, and the quantity of jewels and gold taken in that time was very great. However, altho that chance is lost we must still hope for the best. The Company's territorys here are now so immense that they will require a very large establishment to keep them and of course we will meet with quicker promotion. I hope you have obtained leave of absence until the Regt is ordered home. * * *

Anthony Maxtone to his sister Christian

CAPE TOWN. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Sept. 14, 1799.

MY DEAR CHRISTY,

* * * We are thought to have had a long passage being exactly 12 weeks from the time we left England till we anchored here on the 9th inst. It was not the intention to stop here or any where else, when we left England, but finding the passage so long we should have run short of water before we reached Bengal had we not stoped besides it will be of great service to all on board being on shore for a week, our water is all completed and we expect to sail again tomorrow morning. We shall make the rest of the voyage by ourselves, the Fleet having separated from us about the middle of Aug. While we were setting up our rigging they got so far ahead of us that when night came on we lost sight of them and have never heard of them since. We thought the *Charlton* the other Bengal ship would have put in here but by her not having made her appearance before this, it is thought that she must

have gone on, but if she is not and should arrive before we sail it will detain us here a few days longer as we must wait for her. I like this place very much but should get tired of it, if I were to stay too long. Everything is very cheap except Europe articles which are very dear. There is very little Port wine to be had, and so dear that very few can buy it. Meat of all kinds is very cheap, mutton about two pence a Pound, beef the same. Tullybelton is the only acquaintance I have met with here. He is a Capt. in the 91st, most of our army here is up the country with General Dundas, endeavouring to subdue the Hottentots, who have been very troublesome of late. Mr Stewart of the 91st to whom I had the letter is there at present and in good health, which you may assure Mrs Cameron of. * * * You have no doubt long ere this heard of our successes in India. I assure you it surprised us a good deal for when we left England there was a talk of the probability of a war with Tippoo and the first news that we heard here was that he was killed and his capital taken. I am very sorry that the war is so soon over for we shall have [nothing] to do when we get there.

Patrick Maxtone to his sister, Mrs Stewart

MADRAS. Oct. 8, 1799.
(Direct for me ASSISTANT SURGEON,
SAMALCOTTAH, MADRAS.)

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * Soon after my arrival here I was appointed to the General Hospital where I continued until now, but having made application to be appointed to the Northward and a vacancy having happened in that quarter I am now appointed to the charge of two small garrisons viz: Samalcottah and Rajamundry. Samalcottah is within 26 miles of Injiram where Charles was appointed Commercial Resident. Of course we shall have frequent opportunities of being together. I go on board ship today and shall land first at Injiram where it is probable that I shall pass some weeks before I join my charge. I am not sorry at leaving the Precedency as I neither like the place nor the inhabitants, and the expense double anywhere else. Madras is the most unsociable place in India. I must say I met with a good deal of attention from individuals on Charles' account, but that does not take away from their general character. They are much too stiff and formal for me. I have not seen Anthon's arrival announced among the passengers that have yet arrived at Bengal. If he went in the *Ld Hawkesbury* she would be detained some time at St Helena.

* * * I shall write him when I understand that he has arrived. Remember me to Mr Stewart James Christian Mary the Ramsays and all friends. * * *

James Maxtone to his sister, Mrs Stewart

PORTSMOUTH. Jan. 2, 1800.
No. 141 HIGH STREET.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I received yours and Mr Stewarts letter just before I left London and I hope that Master Robert has got well over the small-pox by this time.

Upon my arrival here I found the Fleet gone, they sailed much sooner than was expected, by an express order from the Admiralty, therefore must remain till the next which is expected to sail about the 12 or 14 of the month. I am sorry now that I left London as it is much pleasanter and even cheaper than this Blackguard hole. * * *

The Same to the Same

TRINIDAD. April 20, 1800.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I have the pleasure to inform you of my safe arrival here, after a very tedious passage of 7 weeks from Portsmouth. However we did not find it disagreeable as we had good weather, a very good ship and plenty to eat and drink.

I found the Regiment a good deal altered since I left it, a good many of the Subalterns have got companys in other Regiments and all the officers that got married here have left us, some turned Planters and others shop-keepers. We are entirely burnt up here, there has been no rain for 4 months, which makes it very uncomfortable. I am already wishing for some of your cold weather. I found Coll: and Mrs Balfour and Colonel Inglis in good health they all desire to be remembered to you. As I have nothing particular to write to you only to say that I am well, I must conclude with my love and best wishes to you and all at Ardvorlich as also to the Ramsays, and tell Margaret that I shall write her next opportunity. Remember me particularly to all Friends and believe me to be my dear Helen,

Your most affectionate brother

JAMES MAXTONE.¹

¹ His last letter to Helen.

Anthony Maxtone to his brother James, in the West Indies

BARRACKPOOR.

Aug. 12, 1800.

MY DEAR JAMES,

* * * I had a letter about 3 weeks ago from Peter telling me that he had just received one from Christy dated 17 Oct. with a Postscript from you mentioning your intention of embarking at Liverpool in Dec: on your return to the West Indies. I sincerely hope that since you have been obliged to go back again that you will now find it turn out to your advantage, and that we shall soon hear of you being promoted, as you now stand so near it. I was very happy to hear also by Peters letter that Helen and Margaret have both had an increase to their families and had so well recovered. I have no doubt but that the appearance of the Young Laird Ardvorlich¹ caused much joy. * * * I was likewise very glad to hear that all friends were well, for these are the first accounts I have had of you for these 14 months past, which I think very strange, as there has been so many opportunities of writing by Packets which have sailed direct from Bengal. However I hope the next Fleet that arrives will make up for it. I am happy to tell you that I now feel myself pretty well off in this country, where I suppose it is my Doom to remain so long. In consequence of a 2nd Regt being added to the Establishment we have had considerable promotion here lately. There were 125 of us made Lieutenants, and of that number, only 8 are above me. * * * This is certainly a very good service and improving every day in consequence of the Regimental Rank being established which by keeping the officers together more attention is paid to the discipline of the Corps and I make no doubt but that in a few years when we get rid of a parcel of Old Stagers we shall have a very fine army in this country. Our allowances are very good and although we cannot save much at first, we are enabled to live comfortably. I have been at the Station ever since I arrived here. It is a pleasant enough place, and only 14 miles from Calcutta. I preferred it to going to a distance up the country and I find I have done right for tho the allowances in the field are very nearly double what they are here, yet the great expense it is necessary to be at, in buying a house, field equipage etc. that without one has the ready money it is of little use, and by being some time on half Batta I shall enjoy the double full the more when I get it. All I now look for is some small Staff appointment such as an Adjutancy. I should then be very happy, but everything of

¹ Robert Stewart, born 25th August 1799, eldest son of William Stewart and Helen Maxtone. Succeeded his father in the Ardvorlich estate in 1838. Died unmarried, 1854.

that kind depends on good interest in this country. I have not much but it is best to live in hope. Our present Commander in Chief¹ goes home for certain this year. Genl Lake² it is currently reported is to be his successor it is also said that Lord Caven and a Genl St John are coming out to be put on the staff here, but these are all people I know nothing about. Your ci-devant Lieu.Col. now Genl MacDowall commands in the Island of Ceylon, which I believe is a very good situation: you once intended giving me a letter to him, but we had forgot it. * * * Peter I have the pleasure to say was in good health when he wrote me. He has got a very good appointment for one so young in the service and I make no doubt will do very well indeed. He is only about twenty miles from where Charles is who is also very well and in a very good situation however he is in expectation of a better, and makes no doubt but he will succeed, so I hope in a short time he will be able to make up all his Pall Mall losses.

I have little or no news to write you except that our Governor General³ intends to found a College in Calcutta for the instruction of the young men who come out here. It is I hear to be on a most extensive plan, besides the necessary languages of this country it is to have professors of all the different sciences. The young writers are to attend it for 3 years after which if found qualified upon examination they are to take out a degree, and until that they cannot hold any appointment. A certain proportion of officers of the Army who chuse it are to get leave to attend, but without the Degree business. I dont know how John Company will relish the expensé of it, for I believe he has not had their opinion yet. I shall expect you to write me often. There are frequently American vessels coming here, you may chance to get an opportunity by some of them if you remain in the West Indies. You may direct for me 2nd Battn 6th Regt Native Infantry, Bengal.

I was glad to see lately that Inglis had got the Brevet Rank of Lt Coll. Remember me to him and Captain Bruce, who I believe are now my only acquaintances in the 57th.

I have now only to add that I have kept my health very well since coming to the East, and hope to find you do the same in the West Indies.

Believe me my dear James

ever your most affect. Brother

ANTHONY MAXTONE.

¹ Sir Alured Clark, 1745-1832. Highly distinguished for services in America and India. Succeeded Sir Ralph Abercromby as Commander-in-Chief in India under the Marquess of Wellesley, 1798-1801.

² General Lord Lake, 1744-1808. Won special distinction in the Mahratta War of 1803 in India. Among many victories captured Agra.

³ The Governor-General was Lord Moira, who was deeply interested in education in India.

Anthony Maxtone to his sister, Mrs Stewart

BARRACKPOOR.

12 Aug. 1800.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I was made very happy about 3 weeks ago by the receipt of a letter from Peter telling me that he had just received one dated 17th Oct. from Christy with postscript from you and James announcing the birth of a young Laird Ardvorlich which I assure you has given me much joy and I most heartily congratulate you and the Laird on the event and I most sincerely pray that all that's good may ever attend him and by enjoying good health he may long live to bless and make his parents happy. I have also to give Margaret and Mr Ramsay much joy of their second daughter.¹ I was very glad to hear that you had both so well recovered. I assure you I am very proud of my little nephews and nieces. [Complaints follow that he has had no letter for fourteen months, though he himself has written often. He then gives details of his promotion.]

I am sorry to find by Peter's letter that James has been obliged to go out again to the West Indies, but hope it will turn out to his advantage, as he is now so near promotion. I heard of his being very gay at the Montrose Races. I mean to write to him by this ship [see previous letter]. When did you hear anything of Colonel Graham and where is he? Lady C. has been very generous to her name daughters.² Has Sir Thomas Stirling got a wife yet, now he has the Titles? The Abers: I suppose cut a great dash now.

You may tell your neighbours the Balquhidders that I had a letter two days ago from Sandy. He is at Futtighur and in good health, but thinks they have forgotten him altogether as you have me. However I hope the next Fleet will make up for it.

I suppose you are preparing to keep little Williams (is not that his name) Birthday. I shall not fail to make one of the party to drink his health on the 25th. I have only now to add my kindest love to Mr Stewart Christy and Mary and the Ramsays also to Murrayshall and his two boys.³ * * *

¹ Elizabeth Ramsay, born 6th October 1799. Died unmarried, 11th June 1829.

² Lady Christian Graham left legacies to all relatives named after her.

³ Only one son of Murrayshall is recorded in Burke, but another is mentioned in several family letters.

Patrick Maxtone to his sister, Mrs Stewart

RAJAHMUNDRY.

Feb. 12, 1801.

MY DEAR HELEN,

I was made very happy by a letter from Christian with a postscript from you and James of date 27 Oct. 99. You need not doubt that it gave me immense pleasure to learn from yourself that I had got such a fine nephew and I can easily conceive how *Voikie* both the Laird and you are of him. I was likewise very happy to hear of Margarets increase to her family and that she and all in Edinburgh were well. * * * By Margarets letter 12 March 1800 I was informed of James having sailed for the West Indies, and of his being at that time eldest Captain. I hope to hear soon of his getting a majority. I should imagine the 57th would soon be ordered home, they have been a long time in the West Indies. Anthon was very well when I last heard in December. He has been lucky enough to get out in a Secret Expedition that sailed at that time from Bengal and this country. The last letter I had from him was dated on board the Transport in which he sailed, and was sent on shore by the Pilot boat. The object of the Expedition is kept a most profound secret but it is of very great force, there are various conjectures on the subject, some say that it is destined against Batavia and Marsilla, others against the Mauritius. Likewise a report is spread that it is going to act against the French in Egypt. However a short time will unveil the mystery,—if it does not end in the manner in which a number of Expeditions have done that have taken place in this country and I may say at home too (I mean in nothing) Anthon will have a chance of cutting in for a little prize money. * * * I must here mention that should you not have letters from me so often as you would wish, it is owing to my distance from the Precedency, as ships may arrive from England and sail again before I hear of their arrival in this country.

I still retain my first situation, and likely to do so for some time viz: Samalcottah and Rajahmundry. I believe it is as good as any I can get at present and pleasantly enough situated with regard to Society, excellent shooting of all kinds of game. I have much improved in shooting since I came to this country. I think nothing of bringing in 8 and 10 Brace of Snipes in a forenoon. I have enjoyed excellent health, not having had an hours sickness since my arrival. I do not find the climate too hot, except in the months of May and June when

the hot winds blow and Thermometer stands at 100 in the shade. However they are not of long duration and we have a method of cooling them by having our houses surrounded by a kind of large straw mats which are kept constantly wet and the wind blowing thro them is rendered very cool and pleasant. Charles is very well. * * * I see him very often. I believe Mrs Maxtone does not come out until Caroline and Lenora have finished their education, when she means to bring them out with her. I was sorry to see by the English papers the death of Lord Perth¹ and of his son some time before, that family being now extinct, who cuts in for the title and estate? Lady Christian has been remarkably generous in her will in leaving so much to her name-daughters.

Remember my kind love to Mr Stewart, Christian Mary Mr, Mrs Ramsay, the Murrays, the Eagles, the Drummonds and all friends, and tell Christian and Mary that they must write me all the news and scandal that takes place in the County. * * *

There are in all only five letters from Patrick covering the time of his absence from July 1796 till February 1801. After his farewell to Cultoquhey none of his home party saw him again. It is easy to imagine the joy and excitement that must have followed the news in 1803 that he had obtained leave and was to come home. He had taken his passage in the *United Kingdom*. Whether his health was already broken by his years in India will never be known. It is only certain that he died on board ship, 16th July 1803. He was twenty-eight years old.

The next letter from Anthony shows that he had been removed from India to see service in Egypt. He took part in the battle of Alexandria. His portrait, now at Cultoquhey, painted by Watson Gordon, shows him wearing the medal given for the Egyptian campaign in 1801.

Anthony Maxtone to his sister, Mrs Stewart

ROSETTA. 4 Sept. 1801.

MY DEAR HELEN,

Your hearing of me at last from this place will I hope account to you for my long silence. Indeed from the time I left Bengal I have never till now had a good opportunity of writing to you, and as I know

¹ James, 11th Earl of Perth, born 1744, died 2nd July 1800, at Innerpeffray. His only son, James, had predeceased him, August 1799, and he was succeeded by the "next heir whatsoever," James Lewis, 12th Earl of Perth, who died within a few weeks of succeeding, September 1800.

that you would always hear of me from Peter I was not so anxious about it. We have altogether been rather an unlucky army. After being about 5 months at sea we got at last to a miserable place called Kossie in the Red Sea where we remained near two months drinking bad water, which we had dug for after our arrival, from that we had to cross a desert of about 140 miles to reach the Nile, with water only at 4 places. We at last began the march, carrying our water with us and got to Kenna on the Banks of the Nile in about 8 days. From thence we were conveyed down the river in boats and encamped on the island of Rodda opposite Cairo for a few days. We again embarked to come to this place, in hopes as we had been so unfortunate as to be late for every other business that we should still be in time to assist at the taking of Alexandria, which it was said the French General had determined to defend to the last, but the Fates had decreed otherwise, for the first news we heard on our arrival here a few days ago was that M. Menon¹ had capitulated. So here we have come this immense distance without seeing a single shot fired, which is rather hard upon Volunteers who have come so far for that purpose. God knows what is to become of us now, but report says that there are 10,000 men to be left in Egypt and that all the Indian Army which is about 5000 is to be part of them. Indeed I think that we must at all events be 4 or 5 months here until the season opens in the Red Sea to enable us to return to India, so that I hope to hear from you before I leave this. I was made very happy while at Kosser by the receipt of letters which were sent to me from Bengal,—the one from you dated 15 March the other from May 22 Aug. 1800. Except for one from Margaret they are the only letters I have received since my arrival in India. I am glad to hear the young Laird is so fine and thriving a boy and hope he still continues so and from your account of him there can be little doubt but that he is very handsome. It was only yesterday that I found for certain that Col. Graham was in Egypt with his Regt. He is at Alexandria just now, which is about 35 miles from this. I mean to take the earliest opportunity of going to see him, indeed I am very anxious to join the British Army, as I hear of several acquaintances in it and I daresay I should meet with a number more that I dont know of. You have no doubt had full accounts of the glorious actions fought here, and the success attending them. It will shew the world what stuff a British soldier is made of. The 42nd I am told did wonders. It was a severe stroke our army met with in the loss of their

¹ The French General Menon, 1750-1810, who commanded the Egyptian army after the death of Kleber.

brave Commander,¹ he must be for ever lamented by all who knew him; it must have been a sad shock to his wife and family.

You must not expect from me any description of Egypt, or an account of what I have seen in it. A Subaltern in an army who can seldom go a mile from camp has not many opportunities to make observations. I shall only say that Upper Egypt all along the Banks of the Nile is without exception the richest country I ever saw, a great plenty of everything in it, but a little way in from the river where it does not overflow it becomes a perfect desert. I had not time to go to the Pyramids, altho only 3 or 4 miles from them, nor even into the city of Cairo, we must do all that on the way back again. You must not lose a moment in writing to me when you receive this, in order that I may get it before I leave Egypt. * * * Give my kindest love to all. * * *

The Same to the Same

ALEXANDRIA. 3 April 1802.

MY DEAR HELEN,

Your letter of the 24 Nov. which I received about 3 weeks ago along with one from Mr Ramsay of 1st Dec. you may easily conceive gave me much pleasure, to hear that you were all well. It being near 20 months since the date of my last letter from home I had no little satisfaction on receiving them and finding that you were all in good health and spirits.

By a letter which I wrote to Christie the 8th Feb. you will find that the melancholy intelligence contained in your letters of the loss of our dear Brother² had been informed of by Captain Stewart. It must indeed have been a sad stroke upon you all and Christy and Mary no doubt felt it severely. However you may rest assured, as well as they that nothing shall ever be wanting on my part to make up if possible their loss, and it shall always be my study to do anything in my power that can render them comfortable and happy. I am only sorry that at present I can be of so little assistance to them, for altho the pay in India is very handsome yet anything one could save from it is so small that it takes a long time before it tells, and I fear I shall never have interest enough in India to get anything else, unless I can get good recommendations to some of the great folks from home, which I have often told you. * * *

¹ See note on p. 116.

² James Maxtone died, at Trinidad, 6th November 1800.

I must now wish you and Margaret much joy of the encrease you have both got to your families. I am happy to hear they are all so fine healthy children and God grant they may continue so. I hope Margarets fourth¹ is a son and that she is by this time quite well again. Anthony Murrays marriage² did not surprise me as I had understood that it was to take place after he returned from his last voyage. I am extremely happy to hear that he has got a ship and sincerely hope that he will be successful in her. I regret that I happened to be from Bengal when Tom Murray arrived, as I daresay he had not many acquaintances there who would be of much use to him. I could have assisted him a good deal on his arrival, however you may assure his Father that I shall pay him every attention in my power when I get back, which I am happy to say we have at last a near prospect of. We only wait here for the official accounts of the Definitive Treaty being signed, which are daily expected. The moment they arrive we begin to move and in six or seven weeks more I hope we shall again be on board ship. I think about August we shall be in Bengal. We are all heartily tired of this country from the highest to the lowest. However what with one thing and another our time passes tolerably well. We have very good Races here and there has a theatre been opened lately by the gentlemen of the army and there have been several very good performers. The last play was *She Stoops to Conquer* so you see we dont want altogether for amusement. * * *

Anthony returning to India from Egypt was fortunate in seeing service during the Mahratta War, under General Lake. It is a family tradition that he planned the siege of Agra, and that the document that appears in his hands in his portrait is the plan of the city. No doubt he may have been disappointed that there was no spectacular storming of Agra, as that city capitulated in time. No medal was given for the exploit. The battle which Anthony spells as Dighe is referred to by later writers as Dig. It was a fairly large fortified town belonging to the Rajah of Bhartpur, and stood a siege of twelve days, when it was successfully stormed. The battle was won entirely by hard fighting, and cost Britain dear in valuable lives, for 643 men fell and 21 officers. General Lake considered that the victory surpassed anything that had been done in India, and that it practically ended the war. Anthony was of the storming party in the Bengal European Regiment, and was among many other seriously wounded officers. He received a bullet

¹ Margaret Ramsay's fourth child was a son, James, born 1802, died 1821.

² Anthony Murray of Dollerie married Ellen F. Bower of Kilcaldrum.

wound in the head. He was left on the battlefield as dead, but his friend the surgeon found life in him, took him to his tent and nursed him back to life.

The Same to the Same

AGRA. 16 Feb. 1805.

MY DEAR HELEN,

* * * I should appear very unreasonable were I to expect you to write oftener, when I know how much your time must necessarily be taken up in the cares and management of four such fine little fellows as I hear from all quarters your boys are, and I most sincerely hope they will be long spared to you to reward you for it.

“When Robert John and Jamakie are up and gotten lear¹
May they help you row the Boatie weel and lessen a’ your care.”

I have not forgot the Boatie and hope one day or other to hear you sing it again.

My letter to Mary of the 28th Dec. last would inform you of a severe wound I got in the head at the glorious battle of Dighe on the 13th Nov. I am sure I have not greater satisfaction in telling you than I know you will have in hearing that I am now I may say quite recovered and shall be able in a very few days to join my Regt again. I shall not however I believe return to my old Regt, the Europeans being now removed from it to the 27th Native Regt now raising at Futtighur, and to which you will no doubt be glad to hear I am appointed Adjutant and Quarter Master. I mentioned in former letters my having been so strongly recommended by Col. Graham to the Commander in Chief, in consequence of which on finding that I was removed to the new Regt I applied to His Excellency for the situation and I had the satisfaction to find in a few days that I was appointed to it. I mean to write to Col. Graham myself. * * * It is as good an appointment as I could have held as a Subaltern, and I hope if I hold it long enough to be able to save a little money, but I am now so near being a Captain that I shall lose it probably sooner than I wish. I want only four steps to give me that rank and while our war continues here there is no saying how many more Regts we may have. I am determined however to save a little money for by the statement which accompanied your letter, I find that I shall have need for it all. I had no idea that the debt was so much, without assistance there is I think but a distant prospect of its being cleared off. Your plan for making a fortune

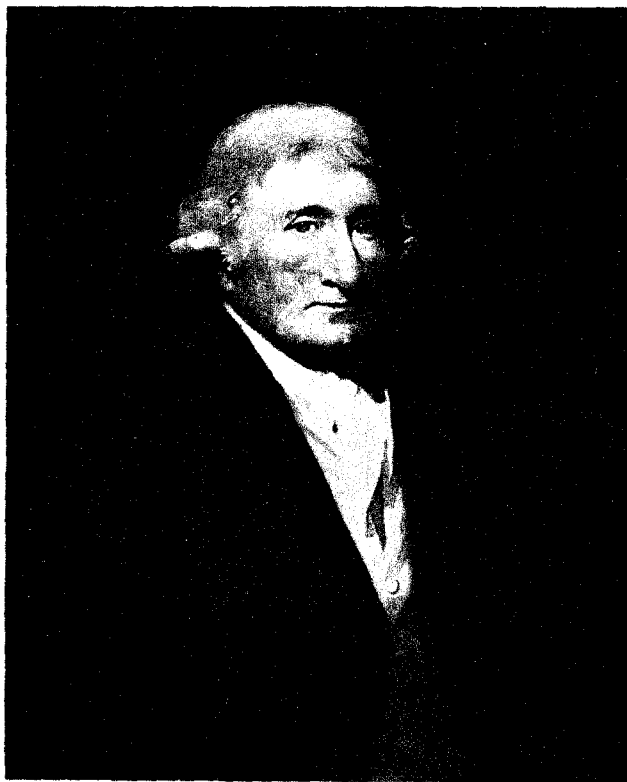
¹ Lear=a Scotticism meaning “learning.”

quickly is certainly a very good one. Were I at home I dont know but that I might be inclined to follow your sage advice. But *Ladies* who come to this country are in general so needy that it is only to look out for riches that they come. I am sure you would not have me bring home a Black Wife.

As to my going home, it is an event which you need not doubt I have as anxious a wish for as you can have. But as I have said before that it would be rather an imprudent step relinquishing my present situation without a certainty of something as good at home, and where that something is to come from I really cannot guess. * * * I am sorry to hear that Murrayshall has been complaining so much of late. You may tell him that John is very well. I hear from him every other day with an account of what is going forward in the army. I assure you he is a very great favourite of mine, indeed I shall never forget his kindness and attention to me while I remained in Camp after being wounded,—he is really a very fine young fellow and very clever and I have no doubt that he will do remarkably well in this country. He is at present Acting Adjutant of his Battn and I am in great hopes will get confirmed in the appointment when vacant. You may tell Mary that he expects she will answer his letter. * * * Mrs Maxtone and the two Misses have at last reached India. They came out on one of the Bengal ships. On seeing their arrival at Calcutta in the Newspapers I wrote to her and have received a very kind and affectionate letter from her in answer. Indeed I understand she shewed much concern and anxiety on my account for seeing my name in the list as severely wounded, she could get no information about me till my letter reached her. She is really on the whole a very good woman indeed I should be ungrateful were I to say otherwise for she was always extremely kind and attentive to me when in London. The two Misses I am told are grown very fine girls, and appear to have good dispositions, and I doubt not but that we shall soon hear of their getting husbands. They left Calcutta about 3 weeks ago for Futtighur from whence you may tell the Laird I shall write to him. In the meantime I must beg my kindest love to him and the Bairns. * * *

Anthony saw several years' further service in India. In 1805 he was appointed to the 27th Native Infantry, and was a captain in that regiment in 1811. In 1814 he retired, left India and came home.

The old house of Cultoquhey must have seemed strangely still and empty when Anthony came back. He had been one of so large a group of brothers and sisters, and now not one of his five brothers was alive.



JOHN GRAEME OF ESKBANK. *b.* 1753, *d.* 1814.
[Raeburn.]



MARY SCOTT OF USAN, WIFE OF JOHN GRAEME OF ESKBANK.
c. 1760-1849. [Raeburn.]

Helen and Margaret were married, Christian was dead, and there remained to him for companionship only his sister Mary, seven years younger than himself. He found a great deal to do at Cultoquhey, for none of his forbears for several generations had known what it was to have money to spare for repairs and estate development. He had done what he set out to do, in making money in the East, and though later he lost much of this fortune, he undoubtedly was in a very fair financial position on his return from India. He married at the age of forty-three, and, like several of his forefathers, he sought a wife of the Balgowan family.

Alexina Graeme was his second cousin. Both were descended from the patriarchal Thomas Graeme of Balgowan and Anna Drummond, to whom such constant reference is made in these pages, the father of Alexina being John Graeme of Eskbank, their grandson, a Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh, and his wife, Mary Scott of Usan. Portraits of this couple by Raeburn may be seen at Cultoquhey, where there is also a fine portrait of John, as a boy, by Medina. Nine children were born of the marriage, four sons and five daughters. Of the sons, John and Thomas died as children, and Archibald as a young man. Robert alone survived, but failed to carry on the family in the male line, as he never married. Alexina, born 1787, was the second of the five daughters. The others, Eliza, Margaret, Mary and Christian, lived to old age; but all died unmarried. Alexina thus was the only one of the group of nine to marry and have children. Upon her and her sons and daughters were centred all the interests and hopes of this branch of the Graeme family.

In view of the confusion in charters and documents between the various spellings of the name Graeme or Graham, it is not surprising that at last a member of the family decided for one definite version. This was done by Thomas Graeme of Balgowan (Lord Lynedoch) about the time of his father's death in 1767. The Lairds of Balgowan had for more than two generations spelt it as Graeme, but he decided upon Graham: not a new idea, but a reversion to other and older signatures to be found in family papers, such as the earliest Balgowan Charter of 1596, and many others of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. His cousin Robert, heir of entail, who had also begun life as Graeme, agreed, at his wish, to the change, and thenceforward in the Balgowan line there was no official return to the more distinctively Scottish version of the name, though the members of the older generation continued to use it for some time.

Anthony Maxtone brought his wife home in 1816. His sister Mary continued to live with him. The *ménage* of the newly married couple

at Cultoquhey became the chief interest of the Graemes at Eskbank, and later at 18 Heriot Row, Edinburgh, where they made their home for many years. There was a constant coming and going, and a flow of letters between the families, making it easy to picture the small details of life at Cultoquhey.

The great excitements of war and adventure were over for Anthony. The countryside was settling down into the tame period that, with all its dullness, meant greater security and prosperity. The doings of the gay, enterprising band of brothers, carried out of life on the wave of enthusiasm and adventure, must have seemed a distant dream. Life narrowed itself to small intimate interests—the neighbours, the local elections, the Church affairs.

The first letter in the collection concerning this period of family history received by Alexina Maxtone after her marriage is from John Murray, her uncle by marriage, dated at Murrayshall, 25th January 1817. A very old man at this date, he died in September the following year.

MY DEAR NIECE,

I duely received the 2nd and 3rd vol. of Tales of my Landlord and now the 4th. I think *Old Mortality* an excellent one. Walter Scott seems to be improving in them. I see from the conclusion of the 4th Vol. he means to publish more.

As to my paying you a visit, I really am not able, but shall be happy to have the pleasure of seeing you when convenient only I do not give any dinners till Mrs Murray comes over.

Your Goodman is so happy he does not know what to do with himself. That is the thing that makes him so lazy.

I have sent for Miss Maxtone's perusal the Ladies Diary for this year. The Rebuses and Charades do not seem to be capital. I am my dear Niece,

Yours most affectionately,

JOHN MURRAY.

A letter addressed to Anthony Maxtone from a Cultoquhey servant, William Faichney, who emigrated, is of interest in throwing some light on conditions in North America a hundred and fifteen years ago.

ROSSIE. 1st Nov. 1818.

MY DEAR HONOURABEL SIR,

I now take this oportunity of writting you again as I am well thank God and hopes this will find you and Mrs Maxtone and Miss Maxtone in the same, and as I wrote you before after stopping a month

at Quebec when I left it 13th Aug. and I have now arived in the Bush on the 1st Oct. on a Load of Land that I have purchased without money 110 acres att 3½ Dollars per Acre. Some very fine land. Minds me very much of the middle Carse. * * * I get seven years to pay for it or more if wanted, one year free of interest, and Peter McLaren has his lot joining mine and Daniel McAra that came from Monzie a man from Perth and 8 families from the south of Scotland all settled in the course of two weeks. I have got a good house and gets plenty of provisions from the Gentleman such as flour Beef Peart Butter Fish tea and shugar and I have got a good milk cow and to get hay for the winter. But the weather has been very favourable as yet, there has been only a few hours rain since I wrote you Before and very warm and I have my brother along with me as yet and throng cutting down some very heavy wood some fine trees 4 feet through but not many of them on these lands Birtch Ash and Alm to a great age, which I Regreat burning them, a great many of them will Reach from 120 to 140 feet * * * and a great many Mapple which [yields] shuggar in the Spring some thousands. I cannot write you much about the Please yit, it is just a new Settlement and wishes it all settled with Scotch and English people, no Irish people allowed. The Gentelman was very well satisfied with the character I have from you and I got a very good one from the Gentelman I lived with at Quebec Mr Shepherd, and this Mr George Parish who we have the land from recolecks you very well in the East Indeas. He has a house at a place called Oughnburgh and has a house at this place Rossie called after a place in Scotland Betwixt Perth and Dundee, where a sister of his lives and I shall be very happy to hear from you as soon as this comes to your hand, and what hearvest you had and what kind of croaps how your new oats pleased you which I would expect a very heavy croap on the middle Carse, and how the Barley was in Sandy hill * * * and I would wish if there was any person comming heare to get 2 Peckes or only I Peck of your oats as the Oats hear is nothing and some of the lands very good, and says that Potaty oats will not grow but I almost certain they are wrong. I must leave off writting and would be very happy to hear from you. I get this Post in the Gentelmans Bag to New York which he is very kind to me. My wife's compliments to you and Mrs Maxtone and Miss Maxtone and to Mrs Miller. Please sir direct to me to the care of George Parish Esq., Rossie, County of St Laurance, State of New York, North America.

I remain your truly servant,

WILLIAM FAICHNEY.

I meant to write to John Murray and all the rest of the old servants but I find that I have not time, but hopping that you will be so good as give John my compliments, Betty and Mary and I will write John next Packet 10 Dec. when it leaves New York.

I forgot to mention that we have Ducks Partreches, plenty wandering about * * * they will come within 10 yards when we are att work and as large as a hen, and we see Dears on my Land * * * will go out with his gun 2 hours in the afternoon and bring in 3 breace and Dear last week which was very fat. The common run of them is from 9 to 12 and he expects to kill 20 of them yet before the New Year comes in. Now I must leave off, directing all my letters to your care which I consider I have no other friend but you to commit them to and I hope that you will get all the Poastage. I will send more news next time when I hear from you.

I remain your truly servant

WILLIAM FAICHNEY.

Very soon after Anthony and Alexina married, in 1816, talk began about a new house at Cultoquhey, which was to be built to the west of the old house. The architect consulted was Sir Robert Smirke, and letters from him in 1818 show that the project was by then well forward. There was a great deal of discussion before anything was done, and the old house was inhabited for years after that date. Regret must always be felt that the Maxtones followed the disastrous fashion in Perthshire at that time, in pulling down the old manor-houses and erecting something much larger and more pretentious in their places, though it must be said that the old house of Cultoquhey, according to the only picture that has survived, was very small for the large families that had been reared under its roof.

Smirke produced a simple and dignified design, which still stands just as he planned. It was thought too plain by some critics, but mercifully someone intervened and prevented the carrying out of a dire scheme for Gothic ornamentation on the porch and windows.

The following is a letter from Anthony to Lord Lynedoch on the subject of the new house, from Cultoquhey, 21st April 1822 :

MY DEAR LORD LYNEDOCHE,

As you have been so kind as to interest yourself about our plan for a new house I beg to enclose you a sketch of one which Mr Smirke sent me a short time after you left England last year. * * * It is I think a remarkably neat one and far better than the first one he

sent the only thing about it that alarms me is the expense which Mr S. estimates at £4000 or perhaps a little more, a sum considerably above what I ought to lay out on a house. I am inclined to think however that perhaps it may be got done for something less as the prices both of material and labour are much lower than they were besides I have some other local advantages, such as being able to perform all the carriages with my own horses and having an excellent quarry close at hand * * * but without a regular plan and specification it is quite impossible to say with any degree of accuracy what the cost will be,—of course I should wish it as plain as possible. * * * I suggested to him to have the nurseries to the South instead of to the North, as we proposed to make the rooms above them our own. * * * I think a little saving could be done by reducing the size of dining and drawing rooms to 26 by 19, which would be quite large enough. He sent no plan of the bedroom floor but it is easy to see what they will be. I do not know how he means to place the kitchen and other offices, so as not to have too great an extension of front. * * * I wish if possible to make a beginning this summer so as to have the foundations laid.

Yrs very faithfully and afftly.

ANTH. MAXTONE.

Out of the family group disclosed in the letters of the day one figure dominates the rest. Robert Graham, Alexina Maxtone's brother, was the kindly and wise autocrat of family councils. Trusted and admired, there was yet something alarming in his personality, and everyone was afraid of him. To Alexina he was the good angel of her very difficult life.

Robert Graham kept every letter he ever received, and through these interminable bundles, carefully tied up and endorsed, the family events and characters gradually unroll themselves. In most of these letters from his mother, from his five sisters, from his friends, are found evidences of his deep, sincere, unfailing kindness and generosity. The rest of his correspondence was of a singular dullness.

His position in life was not easy. As the next male heir to his second cousin, Lord Lynedoch, he found, as years went on, that a large part of his time must be devoted to the great soldier, whose restlessness did not grow less as old age came upon him. Robert was constantly required to set forth on some Continental journey, concealing his anxiety about the old man's health and energy, which must surely fail suddenly at an inconvenient moment. But to the end of Lord Lynedoch's ninety-five years Robert continued to be his

companion, his advice very often disregarded, but his devotion always to be counted on.

Now and again through the letters crops up a note of remonstrance from his own family. His mother thought it hard that she had to wait so long without a sight of Robert. Possibly she may have considered that first cousins,¹ nearer blood relations to Lord Lynedoch, might have taken a share in the long periods of service required. But Robert was firm in his adherence. He also probably enjoyed travels all over Europe.

When the walls of the new house were half up, Anthony lost money in India (see letters), and it seemed as if the work must remain unfinished. With a gesture such as he loved to make, Robert Graham stepped into the breach. The house must be completed, and sooner than see his sister disappointed he would pay for it. The work went on, though it was long before Alexina and her family moved into the house thus provided by the considerate love of her brother.

Anthony and Alexina Maxtone had four children, two sons and two daughters.² The earliest recollections of all the children were of the little old house under sentence of destruction where they lived, while the walls of the new house rose slowly and with many interruptions through the years, no doubt an immense source of interest to parents and children alike, though when the time came, and the new house was habitable, pressure was required to get them to make the move.

Of Alexina Maxtone's children only one died before her—John Anthony, whose health was such that it is a wonder that he lived to be thirty-three. James, Mary and Alexina attained old age, and are well within the recollection of the present members of the family. Mary, the last of her generation, lived till 1909. She was the "Aunt Molly" of family tradition, an outstanding personality, representing in her quaint speech and outlook a survival of the old Scottish gentlewoman. Most of her old age was passed in the midst of her brother James's family at Cultoquhey, where her oddities gave rise to a host of stories that an even newer generation still enjoy and preserve.

A letter belonging to a very much later date, addressed by the present writer to Caroline Maxtone Graham, one of Aunt Mary's nieces, may find a place here, as it includes some small details of life in the old house of Cultoquhey, and also illustrates the extreme difficulty of getting any satisfactory information on family affairs from "Aunt Molly." She was very deaf and very unwilling to talk about the things of long ago.

¹ The Rattrays of Craighall.

² See the Genealogical Chart.

"By dint of repeated bellowings I got her on the subject of old days in the old house of Cultoquhey. While I remember what she told me, I want to write it to you. I mentioned that your Father had told me that as a very small child he always went to sleep at night to a sound of thumping in the kitchen—the servants preparing some dish they invariably had for supper. He called it Sowens. Molly thinks they always got porridge—nothing else night or morning. She says they were not allowed tea, but got 'treacle beer,' which means beer sweetened with treacle. As children they were fed a good deal on 'Ale Sap'—pieces of bread soaked in beer. The garden of the old house lay at the back, I suppose partly where the present walled garden is. The old gardener, John McKeown, was a great character. When your Grandmother (Alexina Graeme) first came home as a bride, he hated her, and when she wanted to make improvements he used to go about muttering 'She wants this, she wants that.' He lived to become perfectly devoted to her and lived till his death in the little gardener's cottage. He was very cross to Molly. The children had a little dog called Worry, and they used to plant his name in mustard and cress, which so riled John that he used to stamp on it when it came up. (A pleasant kind of gardener?) I saw it cost Molly a good deal to confess that the family were Episcopalians, and that they all went to the 'Piskie' Chapel at Muthil every Sunday. The clergyman was Mr Cruickshank, known to everyone as 'Crookie.' Molly remembers the kind of round sweets he always brought out of his pockets when he came to Cultoquhey. It was killing to hear her imitate his singing. She does not remember feeling any pang at the loss of the old house when it was pulled down, but was pleased to be the first member of the family to sleep in the new house. She did not know the age of her mother when she married, 'some time between 20 and 30' was pretty vague, and she seems to have no idea of anything connected with her grandparents. No doubt you may get a lot out of her with judicious questioning, though I'm sorry for the sore throat you will have after each interview. I was exhausted after half-an-hour's strenuous bellowing at her."

No further details were ever got from Aunt Molly.

Mrs Maxtone did very little travelling in her life. There is no record of her having ever gone abroad except on one occasion. By 1825 her married life was so shadowed by the pressing anxiety of Anthony's ill-health—a cloud that was never to be wholly lifted—that her cousin, Lord Lynedoch, backed up by her brother Robert, persuaded her to take Anthony to The Hague to consult a celebrated

doctor there, Baron Sloet. It must have needed persuasion, as she left a small baby. Lord Lynedoch himself travelled with the party, and remained at The Hague a short time—leaving them established in an hotel. Alexina wrote him the following letter after his departure :

HOTEL DE BELLEVUE.
29 PLAATS.
Oct. 31, 1825.

The day you left us had a most dreary appearance. I actually ran and *hid* myself on returning to the drawingroom I found Mr Maxtone sitting at a great coal fire which heated the room in a short time and we have never complained of cold since. We now feel quite at home and are determined to keep ourselves light-hearted and be as happy as you can most kindly wish. I have not seen Lady Bagot since you left us but she has been very civil to me, gave me her box in the theatre one evening and ask'd us to join a party at her house tomorrow. On Saturday Baron Sloet called, he quite condoled with us on your departure, he repeated to Mr Maxtone his injunctions in regard to eating frequently and never too much at a time. * * * The fashionable hour for paying *morning visits* is in the evening between 7 and 9 oclock. * * * Mr Maxtone and the English Merchant Proctor are *great friends*, he gives him a great deal of information on many subjects and never fails bringing forward his own merits and merchandise. I congratulate myself every day that we are not housed in his dark den. We have had the hotel to ourselves for several days. Yesterday being Sunday the Landlady brought up her children to the room adjoining this one and played and sang to them most *outrageously* on the vilest piano-forte I ever heard. Johnstone attracted by the sound of music joined the party. She complimented the performer on her powers, and said she was sure I would be glad to know there was a piano-forte in the house, for that Madame and her sisters were the *finest musicians in Scotland*. This extravagant *boast* of our love of music had a most happy effect, for the Piano was shut as with an electrical shock and I trust will remain so while we are in its neighbourhood. * * *

Anthony was one of those trying patients who when face to face with a new doctor at once announces that he is perfectly well. After all the expenses and fatigues of the journey, Mrs Maxtone heard him do this on his introduction to Baron Sloet, who, however, luckily brought a colleague with him, in whom she secretly and hastily confided. Sloet recommended various treatments, and on the whole a

pleasant winter passed at The Hague. It does not appear, however, that any difference could be noticed in Anthony's health.

Baron Sloet's prescription seemed to have concerned only one powder, supposed to possess miraculous qualities—this to be taken with strict attention to diet and way of life: "An hour before breakfast, in the first quarter of the moon one powder to be taken, and so for three days. Then wait till the next moon is in the first quarter,—after that a third powder, and on the third day a fourth powder. Then in the first quarter of the third moon, the fifth powder and so on. The patient should not agitate himself, should avoid all fatigue, drink no liqueur, little wine, neither port nor Madeira, nor eat any cabbage, peas, chives * * * or the head of any fish of any kind, veal or pork. He must never look on the flowing water, or drink green tea."

The visit to The Hague is commemorated at Cultoquhey by the very large gnarled Spanish chestnut growing on the lower terrace to the north of the house. It grew from a chestnut brought in her pocket from The Hague and planted by Mrs Maxtone in 1827. The acorn from which grew the oak near by was brought over and planted at the same time. A set of beautiful old Dutch Delft jars, now at Cultoquhey, also came from The Hague, and some of the large china bowls, no longer to be identified.

The most important purchase at The Hague was the round table of Amboyna wood, in one piece, and six feet six inches across, made by the negroes in the East Indies. It is so described by the vendor, Monsieur J. W. F. Seelen Norst, music and instrument seller at The Hague. The price quoted was six hundred Dutch florins. The account for it, with a piece of string attached giving the size of the table, is still intact after a hundred and eight years. This is the table now in use in the dining-room at Cultoquhey.

A letter from Mary Maxtone, who had been left in charge of James and the baby, John, while little Mary was housed in Heriot Row, reached Alexina at The Hague. Containing odds and ends of Perthshire news, it is here given in full, as it is the only letter extant in Mary's handwriting:

CULTOQUHEY.

Mar. 18, 1826.

MY DEAR ALEXINA,

I am delighted to think that this is the last letter I am to address to you at The Hague, and we shall soon see you sitting at your own fireside. Your letter of March 3 I received just at I was setting off with

James [then six years old] to Ardvorlich. I had promised to take him there for a little vanity to him when Mr Laing [the tutor] went to St Andrews to preach his sermons. We remained till the Wednesday. I assure you he enjoyed his visit very much, and was never within the doors hardly. Mr Laing returned the same day we did, so that the lessons began again next day. I left all the young ladies at home in charge of Johnnie and found all well when I returned. * * * I told Abercairny about the Table that Anthony wrote about, they both thought that it would be a great curiosity, but very properly are prudent and grudge the price of it. The quarry is cleared and ready to begin work. The cow Fasita died the other day. James has not sold Trifle yet, he has not yet got an offer to his mind. The foundation stone of the new chapel at Muthill was laid the other day, a fine ceremony. I am told the same people are to build the Chapel. Dollerie who had been better and been twice on horse-back had another attack of gout, but is better again. The Inchbrakies are now all well the Laird and Mrs Graeme called here the other day both looking well. They seem to have got up their spirits again. Laurence arrived about a week ago. The Ochertyres are come to the country and the Bairds go to London about the beginning of May, so that you will have a little time to *yourself* and not be worried by them, at least when you come. Mrs Stewart and Margery are to be down next week to attend Easter. Margery Lindsay goes up with them and the two Ramsays follow about the beginning of April, so that you will only have me to annoy you when you return. Miss Drummond of Strathallan has been very unwell most part of this winter. Lord Strathallan is still in London. * * * I am really longing to see sweet little Mary. I have not a bit of news to write you. * * *

MARY MAXTONE.

James adds a note in his own handwriting—his first letter :

MY DEAR PAPA & MAMMA,

I am very happy to hear that you are coming home soon.

JAMES F. E. MAXTONE.

After the return to Cultoquhey there is little of interest to record, except that Baron Sloet had not succeeded in effecting a cure for Anthony. The results of the bullet wound received in Egypt could neither be understood nor treated. His health continued to give anxiety to the end of his long life.

The children were now reaching a stage when education must be considered. James had been provided with a tutor, but when he was in his tenth year school life was thought to be desirable.

Robert Graham writes a letter to James's father on the subject of the Edinburgh Academy.

EDIN. 16 Jan. 1829.

MY DEAR MAXTONE,

I saw Carmichael yesterday and had a good deal of conversation with him the result of which went far to impress me with the view that it was highly advisable to send James to him at the commencement of the next half year's term. That was further confirmed by a visit I made to his class today when I heard the boys examined. I have little doubt that James has already done more than the average of them, and in that respect will enter to advantage, but there is a quickness in the system and a smartness in the use of their information in which he will probably feel deficient at first. * * * All this however will probably come in a short time. In the meantime he should be practiced to speak out with his loudest voice, and be placed at the farthest end of the room for Mr Laing, and he should take no answer from him in a peaky tone. Every exertion should be made to accustom him to quick work, by Mr Laing taking the word out of his mouth, as the other boys are ready to do whenever an answer is going to be given wrong, so as to shew him how many places he would lose in a very short time from his present habits of drawling out his work. The noise that goes on in the school at the time of preparation in the class is a difficulty which he cannot get over till he comes to encounter it.

It was scarcely a delightful prospect that opened before James, but, as it turned out, his schooldays were happy.

Still the family continued to occupy the old house of Cultoquhey, but on 19th October 1829 Robert Graham adopts a firm attitude in the letter he writes from Perth to his sister :

MY DEAR ALEXINA,

I am now writing you on a subject which will require your serious attention, and a quiet moment to consider my letter and ponder upon its contents. * * * It relates to a scheme which cannot be prosecuted with success without your hearty co-operation and concurrence: I hope I am not writing you incautiously, but the object I have been engaged in the last week makes me not in the fittest state at

this moment for going into details. The subject has grown out of a temporary embarrassment in paying up a balance to the old Perth Banking Coy. whose concerns are almost entirely wound up, a circumstance which makes this almost last debt very desirable to be settled. It would probably be very easy to get this balance transferred in some form to the new Company or in some other way paid off for the present, but this at the best is but a very temporary relief, as it is sure to come back upon us with accumulation in a very short time. Besides the view which we have taken of Mr Maxtone's affairs generally, saddled as he is with some heavy existing engagements, with still further expenses of the house, and I am afraid the prospect of increasing causes of outlay from the growth of the family, their education etc. brings us to the conclusion that it is highly desirable that some general arrangement should be made to reduce unnecessary outlay as much as possible, and if possible to create some sinking fund that might operate a gradual extinction of some of the debt,—to prevent the chance of calamity in some quarter. * * * The detail would be best followed up by your going with the family to Edinburgh in the Spring, a movement not unnatural in the prospect of their education. A house not much larger than the present one there would enable you to do this, and you might at once take down the old house at Cultoquhey,—get rid of all taxes there, let off the home farm for a few years, giving sufficient accommodation in your offices which might thus be kept up in repair. All establishment there got rid of for a time, idle horses and stock sold off, and affording a present sum for emergencies and the whole of this plan combining with it the finishing of your new house, as slowly as you please, and having the power of taking possession of a corner of it with what establishment or in any manner and at what time you please. A regular break of all existing habits and the present establishment of the place seems to me a most material feature : and the effectual way is to devote your attention for a few years exclusively to the education of your children, and at once rooting out the power or the necessity of any establishment whatever in the country, by the taking down of the old house, annihilating taxes and finishing the new one at your leisure. * * * I think it highly desirable that the greatest openness of communication should take place between Maxtone and yourself, and with Miss Maxtone likewise. And I thought it was better to write you at once, as it might free Maxtone from any painful feeling as to opening the subject to you. Adieu, kindest love to all.

Yrs ever most affec.

ROBERT GRAHAM.

In response to this advice the removal to Edinburgh was effected in a few months. Alexina went ahead of the party to find a house.

Anthony writes to his wife from Cultoquhey :

26 Feb. 1830.

MY DEAREST ALEXINA,

My hurried letter of yesterday would tell you that we're all going on finely. I have great pleasure in telling you now that we are all continuing to do so * * * quite a treat to see our dear little monkees so lively and looking so well. Your letter of yesterday from St Vincent Street I had this morning by which I was glad to find that you were all well in Edinburgh and that James is so well and looking so well and so happy which I trust will continue.

I am happy to find that Saxe-Coburg Place gives you so much satisfaction. The alteration you propose in the arrangement of the rooms I have no doubt is a good one.

The house in Saxe-Coburg Place, Edinburgh, was the family home for some years. James attended the Edinburgh Academy and is entered on the roll there as having been a scholar from 1828 to 1834, and then John followed from 1835 to 1841. The boys must have been boarded out as the family returned to Cultoquhey in 1833, and thenceforward it was never left uninhabited.

Bad news clouded the family life in 1833. Andrew Murray, Anthony's first cousin and man of business, writes to Mrs Maxtone from Murrayshall, 1833 :

MY DEAR MADAM,

I am very sorry to transmit you the enclosed announcing the failure or at least stoppage of payment by Mr Maxtone's agents McIntosh & Co. of Calcutta and the house of Richards McIntosh etc. of London connected with them. I went to Perth immediately on receiving the packet to call on Moncrieff, and found he was absent. I mentioned however the purport of your brother's letter to Mr McWhannel who told me the business was known in Perth in the morning by other channels, but as yet no particulars.

The only observation I have to make on Robert's letter is that he treats the matter as a total loss of what money of Mr Maxtone's remains in their hands, but the matter may not be so bad. They talk of suspending payments and afterwards paying in full, but of that I have no

expectation. Loss and inconvenience there must be, for which I am sincerely grieved, but to what extent cannot yet be guessed at. * * * Your brother I think takes a most proper and prudent view of this most unfortunate business.

I am, most truly yours,

ANDW MURRAY.

£9200 arrived from India in 1836, and in course of time other sums in addition, but the solid fortune expected from Anthony's Indian career had vanished.

In June 1836, Robert, writing, while on an excursion with Lord Lynedoch, to his sister Alexina, is already trying to get an opening in life for James, who was now nearly seventeen :

" I did not expect to be able to do anything very satisfactory about James on my first attempt, but I have done what was possible for laying a foundation to do more afterwards. Lord Lynedoch wrote very strongly to Lord Melbourne but he has not had any answer from him. * * * I think Maule is sincerely interested in the case, and in company with him I spoke to Stanley, the secretary of the Treasury, who has a good deal in his power. He was something of the *Iceberg* as I expected, but it is absolutely necessary to make allowances for the innumerable applications which these people have to encounter, and the duty which they have to attend to of making the most of their patronage, and as we have not much parliamentary interest to support us, we cannot be angry if they look coldly upon all applications that do not hold out some prospect of what may be eventually useful to them. I got him to put his name down in his memorandum book. Whether that would be transferred to any list I know not. I mention all these things that you may not pitch expectation too high. * * * "

He adds : " It is a severe and disagreeable work, hunting these people at the offices, and I have not had much success yet. "

Lord Melbourne sends a note from Downing Street, 22nd February 1837 :

MY LORD,

I am desired by Lord Melbourne to acquaint your Lordship that he has placed Mr James Maxtone on his list of candidates for Clerkship in the Treasury and that he will be very happy whenever sufficient vacancies shall occur to enable him to nominate Mr Maxtone

as one of the three gentlemen who by the existing regulations compete for the situation.

I have the honor to be
Your Lordships obedt servant,
WM. COWPER.

James was not to be told of this letter, in case his mind should be distracted from his studies.

Mrs Maxtone to her brother, Robert Graham

CULTOQUHEY.
Dec. 2 '37.

MY DEAR ROBERT,

I suppose you are now at Lynedoch and that Robert Stewart has joined you. When are we to see you here, not for a flying visit but for a comfortable sojourn. On the prospect of your coming John Murray has been *redding* up the front of the stables. We are all well here. The three Marys [Mary Maxtone, Mary Scott Maxtone, Mary Graeme] dined at Inchbrakie with the Abercairnys yesterday, they seem to think Mrs Moray¹ a sensible unaffected person and Abercairny quite quiet and gentlemanlike, and never was heard to swear during the visit. * * * I mean to ask them to a family dinner. You will be glad to hear that in April we are to have a remittance of £400 from India. * * *

Yours in haste affly,
ALEXINA MAXTONE.

While Robert Graham ranged over Europe in his travels with his kinsman, his sisters at Heriot Row did very little in the way of moving about. Mrs Graeme was very old, and a visit to an hotel at Granton was considered enough for the summer change for the whole party. There were of course frequent visits to Cultoquhey and Lynedoch, but when Margaret received an invitation from her Uncle Scott, in London, it was thought a great event.

It is a mark of the times that Margaret, an unmarried woman of fifty, on receiving the invitation, as a matter of course laid it before her brother and her cousin, aged ninety-three, and only on receiving their sanction accepted it. It should be added that both took pains to give

¹ James Moray of Abercairny, of the 15th Hussars, Lieutenant-Colonel Perthshire local Militia, born 18th October 1780, married, when he was fifty-seven, 12th October 1837, as his second wife, Mary Frances, daughter of Joseph Thomas of Shepherd's Bush and Cowley Hall, Middlesex (*d.s.p.* 1840).

Margaret a good time when she reached London. A letter giving details of this visit from Mrs Maxtone to her daughter Mary has been preserved. The date must have been 1840.

MY DEAREST MARY SCOTT,

I do not know if you have heard from Heriot Row of Margaret's exploits in London. Your uncle [Robert] and John Anderson took her out of the railway, and she insisted on going to Lord Lynedoch first, knowing he would help her to see sights, so she was booked that day for the Ascot Races on the 16th. She went to the Opera next night with the Scotts [her mother's relations] drove all next day, saw Mrs Maule. The day after was appointed to call on the Duchess of Somerset who made her promise to dine with her and the Duke on Saturday and go to the opera in her box. She was quite near the Queen¹ when she was shot at, and had to dine in Stratton Street with Lord Lynedoch, with her morning gown and bonnet cap, with some ladies. Lord Lynedoch would not let her away, as she was the only one that could tell all about the moment, place, position of the Royal pair when the wretch shot at them. She went to the Hanover Square morning concert on Friday, to the great Horticultural Fete some miles from London on Saturday forenoon, was appointed to dress and be ready for the Duchess of Somerset's coach which was to take her from Stratton Street at 6 o'clock to dine with them. She did not arrive at Stratton Street till 7 from the immense crowd of carriages. The Scott's carriage could not move faster than the rest. She dressed in a moment (something new) the Duke's carriage had stood an hour, and off she went and had a delightful day with Maggie Shaw's² own self, her most pleasing Duke and a great favourite of the Queens, and a young Lord in Waiting Lord Torrington, which made a party of four. The Duke had carried up and dined with the Queen the address of congratulation on her escape the day before, and many was the anecdote she got about Royalty. She is quite taken with the innocent looking young couple she saw so often,—meaning the Queen and Prince Albert. She then went to the opera and the Duchess' box being a very conspicuous one, she desired Margaret to put on her best attire as it was a Dress night, and the Queen was to be there. This she kindly told her the first day she saw her. Lord Torrington told her all the people and she was really in great luck. A new opera glass was got for the Duchess on purpose

¹ On 10th June 1840 an insane pot-boy, Edward Oxford, fired two shots at Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort in the Green Park, London.

² Margaret, daughter of Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, married the 11th Duke of Somerset as his second wife, 1836 (*d.s.p.* 1880).

that Margaret might use it that night. The enthusiasm of the House on Her Majesty's appearance after her escape was quite over-coming and it is a miracle she stands it all so well. Margaret was set down at Lord Lynedoch's where she slept. I forgot to say both Lady Theresa Lister and Lady E. Hope Vere had called on Margaret, she could not dine with them as by this time she had arranged to meet me at Birmingham and had a great deal on hand. Lady Theresa sent her carriage to Stratton Street for her, she spent several hours with her and her mother, and then Lady T. set her down at Mr Scotts. On Monday she and the Scotts went to the Zoological Gardens exhibition of paintings, and returned to dine at home, dress for the German opera, pack for sleeping and dressing for Ascot, after the German opera she was to be set down at an evening party at Lady E. Hope Veres where she was told she would meet Lord Breadalbane. * * * Next morning at 9 Robert was to take her in a Railway and get her conveyed to Ascot, where Lord L. had gone the day before, and where his carriage has the privilege of being placed opposite the royal stand, and Margaret was to have a seat in it. The day was fine but blowy, and I hope it all went on well. Robert was to escort her back to her uncles and she expected to have this day to pack up her goods and chattels and to be ready to be put into the rail Train tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. * * * Can you figure such a sky-rocket of a week, and such spirits and strength it required, but she had no walking or bodily fatigue, it was all mental pleasure and fatigue from that, but of course she does not complain, and how she found time to write me I marvel, but I have had a letter almost every day, and you have no idea of the interest the Kerrs, Ramsays and Hopes have taken to hear all her proceedings as they occurred. Sir John Hope and Sir James Ramsay had set her in a flame about the Operas before Mr Scott's invitation came, so she had her own consent to go before she laid the invitation before Robert and Lord L. both of whom wrote her to go up immediately. * * *

Some time before 1843 Eliza Graeme's lively pen gives one vivid little pictures of Mary Maxtone, who survived till extreme old age in the Cultoquhey household. Aunt Mary had an independent spirit, and ventured to remain a Tory all her life among the impressive Whig influences of the combined Graemes and Maxtones.

Eliza writes from Cultoquhey on the painful subject of a Whig defeat at the polls—owing, she says, to the fact that "corruption has once more triumphed in this county." Mary Maxtone alone exulted.

"If all the Tories take this as Miss Maxtone is doing," writes the indignant Eliza, "there will be great manifestations of joy in many quarters, and the weather is so wretched we cannot get out, nor away from her in the house, as she seems to be in every corner at once. I wish somebody would invite her to visit them, till the first of this is over."

This is the only breath of criticism concerning "Bonnie Mai" to be found in family correspondence.

The first great excitement at Cultoquhey in these somewhat dull years was the frenzied squabble in the Presbyterian Church which culminated in the Disruption, when the Free Church started an organization of its own, founded on points of Church doctrine which seem in the light of modern thought wonderfully inadequate to unloose such intense disruptive energy over the whole of Scotland. The Maxtones having always belonged to the Episcopalian Church, the quarrel was none of theirs, and it is surprising that they felt and expressed themselves with so much rancour. The Rev. Mr Omond, minister of Monzie, had always been a close friend of the family at Cultoquhey. He was one of those who "went out" in this little ecclesiastical revolution, and became one of the chief supporters of the new Church—an unforgivable lapse in the eyes of Anthony Maxtone. Not only the Maxtones but the whole Graham family and Lord Lynedoch took up an attitude of disapprobation, which is understandable in view of the unauthorized building of a church at Redgorton. Mrs Maxtone writes, as usual, a sensible letter to her brother Robert, from Cultoquhey, 26th July 1843:

"My friend Mr Thomson has been incurring the dissatisfaction of Lord Lynedoch. It would have been easy to have asked his opinion before commencing operations at Pitcairn Green, and when a site there was objected to, some other spot may have been admitted of without any hostile feeling, for though neither Lord Lynedoch nor you do approve of the Secession, yet you must both admit it won't be stopt, and from what I can observe in this neighbourhood the people *will keep by them*. Nevertheless it is much to be deplored. * * * It was a relief to me to hear him [Lynedoch] talk quietly on the subject * * * as my ears are accustomed to hear Free Church men call'd every bad epithet under the sun; even on the high road on a Sunday, Mr Maxtone has the folly to abuse the people going to hear Mr Omond, who he is for hanging at once. Monzie's wooden Kirk at Gilmerton is a constant eye-sore and heartburn, as you may imagine it requires all my prudence and authority to keep our young people out of a scrape with their Father, till the heat of the present times blows over. Mr

Omond who has been so invariably kind to them all, his name must not be mentioned. I hear from Miss Maxtone who is living between Jordanstown and Bamff that the french George Ramsays are quite determined on coming here next week, he has often been here and we like him much, and she wished to come last time they were in the country, and I think we put her off. She is quite aware of Mr Maxtone's state of health, but still wishes to come, it is a bother, but I must do my best. They are enthusiastic admirers of scenery,—I think a forenoon at Lynedoch would be a relief to me keeping Mr Maxtone at home. Mrs William Stewart¹ is also to be with us next week but she has already become quite like one of ourselves. I never saw a more attractive disinterested sensible accommodating human being, accustomed to such luxury and attendants. She has quite gained the esteem of her hostess by never seeming to have any nicety or choice of viands, but well did I see, the two days I was up there, the poor soul has no appetite, doing her utmost to swallow the staple bread. Her colour requires all her attractions to make the laird [Robert Stewart] barely civil to her. It was a terrible surprise upon him and he can't get over it yet. She is to come here for a little change of air. We are all very fond of her. * * * We contrive to keep John A. as much apart from his father as possible, we have been fortunate hitherto but oh! how I miss the Manse of Monzie for him."

Eliza Graeme writes to her sister, Mrs Maxtone :

HERIOT ROW, *June 14th* [after 1843].

Mrs Wedderburn has just been here to tell us of the fine Ball that Lady Eliot gave to 400 people, the gayest pair there were the Duke of Wellington and Lord Brougham. We remember Margaret Stewart of Glenbuckie well, a pretty creature she was, tho without the style of her elder sister. William Stewart of Ardvorlich's wife has come from India not a very *fair one* much to Robert's discomfiture. Sir J. Ramsay is now here. * * * The magnificence of Abercairny House is now the talk everywhere. What a speaking picture of the vanity of all things here below.

Alexina Maxtone, writing to her brother Robert, in August 1843, gives a glimpse of Mrs Stewart of Ardvorlich—once the lovely sister Helen so beloved of her brothers. Mrs Maxtone described the visits of the Murrayshall cousins and neighbours, and the "luncheon-dinner" she had prepared for them :

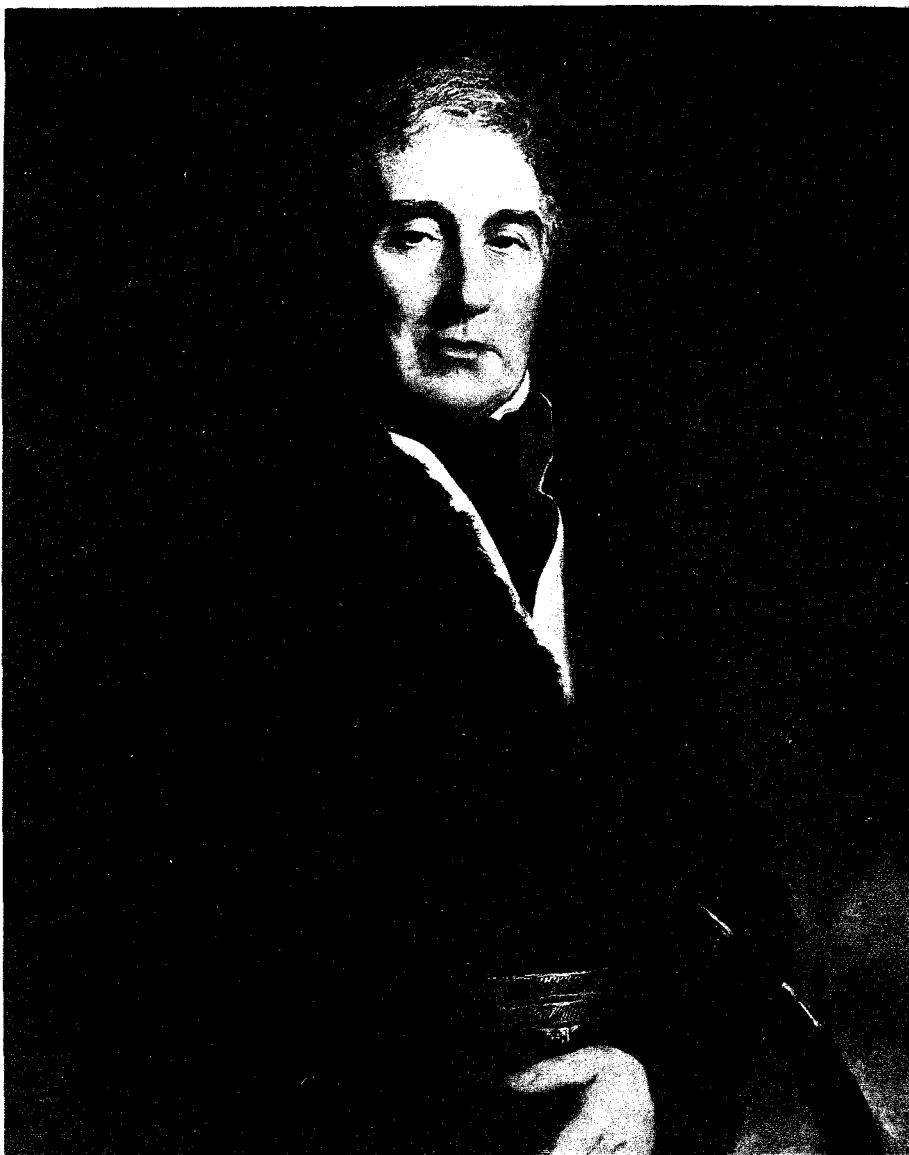
¹ Charlotte Athanas, daughter of a Greek merchant in Calcutta, wife of William Stewart, fourth son of Ardvorlich.

“ In the meantime here comes old Mrs Stewart from Ardvorlich all expecting an early dinner. Mrs Stewart is neither to *hold nor to bind* with anger against her son Robert. He has, quite unknown to her, let every bit of his grouse-shooting, which was most thoughtless, this season of all others, when so many people are flocking up to pay their respects to Mrs William Stewart, who has been living on the hope of eating grouse for the first time.”

Old Mrs Stewart's irritation seems pardonable. Mrs William was doubtless on her first visit to her husband's country supported by the promise of roast grouse.

The life of the Maxtones at Cultoquhey was typical of country life in Scotland through the middle years of the century. The romance of the old world was fading. The peace, the comfort, the security that followed so many years of war did not tend towards developing outstanding character. The days went by very quietly at Cultoquhey. There were a few visits to Edinburgh and among county neighbours, a ball or a concert, the excitement of the new railway fifteen miles away, but nothing to stir the imagination or the blood any more. The family letters covering the stretch of time between 1816, when Alexina Graeme married, and 1868, when she died, show something very appealing in her personality. A woman of strong practical sense, she was not carried away by the emotional religious reactions that ultimately took possession of her sons and daughters. Life was difficult, and demanded endless sacrifices, but she had the support of a worshipping appreciation from her husband, her children, her brother and sisters. Gifted not only with a sense of humour, but a strong power of detachment, she held the balance between a variety of temperaments in the family circle with a steady hand. The vitality of her character stood out firmly in a world where women had greatly sunk from the fine position they held in Scotland a century earlier, when they controlled home affairs while their men went to war. In less dangerous times women were resignedly accepting subordinate parts. But it is evident that Alexina Maxtone held the key position in all matters of family concern. It was her hand that guided the ship.

The death of Lord Lynedoch was for her the ending of a warm, lifelong friendship. He had a special affection for the whole group of this family of Graham cousins. A large number of letters show how often and intimately they wrote to one another. To Alexina especially he showed a never-failing affection, and she must have sorely missed a thousand evidences of his kindly interest in all that befell her. A story is told in the family that Alexina and Lord Lynedoch once played



THOMAS GRAHAM OF BALGOWAN AND REDGORTON, LORD LYNEDOCH. 1748-1843.

(G. Hayter.

a game of chess by post that took a year to complete—an expensive pastime in those days of heavy postage.

The death of this kinsman and friend was an event that closely affected Cultoquhey.

Robert Graham writes from Lord Lynedoch's house :

12 STRATTON STREET, LONDON.
19th December '43.

MY DEAR ALEXINA,

After what you have heard the last few days you will not be surprised that I have sealed this with a black seal, and that it brings to you an intimation of the death of our amiable and gallant friend. He went off quite easily without a struggle. He made an exertion in the morning to get up and was dressed and seated in a chair at the Breakfast table but the exertion was too much and he was in a moment obliged to be hurried to his bed and he remained very weak and languid for some time. He rallied however about midday and sent for me twice for special objects which however he did not carry out. But he listened for a long time to Hare's conversation about the Derby and so on, and I think he was rather fatigued with this. He wandered a good deal afterwards but took interest in a pony match now going on described by Weller. Later in the day he expressed a wish to be left by himself, and after that he never spoke much. He was very restless about 7 and I was sent for suddenly from the dinner table and he was then evidently getting very ill. William and I got him laid back in a half sitting half reclining posture and I ran to Dr Hume and got him to come. He found his pulse very low indeed (by this time about 8) and at 9 the other Doctors came, and they were all satisfied he was going fast and said he might continue alive till morning. It was sooner than even they thought, for he ceased to breathe at 10 minutes before 11 last night. He suffered no pain, indeed throughout his last illness, by which I mean within the last 3 weeks, what he endured with slight exception only amounted to inconvenience or malaise and not to real suffering. It is very consolatory that he went off so easily.

Mrs Maxtone wrote to her son John, then with a tutor at Islay, a description of the funeral to Methven Churchyard :

CULTOQUHEY. Jan. 6, 1844.

MY DEAREST JOHN ANTHONY,

I dont think I have with my own pen wished you and Mr Stein many many happy returns of the year, although it is six days old. * * * James left us this morning for Edinburgh, he said after he got there

he would write you an account of the Funeral of dear Lord Lynedoch, which took place on Tuesday the 2nd a lovely day the place looking so smiling and unconscious of the sombre procession that wound down the avenue. Your Father went and took Dr Maxtone in the carriage. James had gone to Lynedoch the day before in a coach with two of the Murrays Sir James Ramsay and John R. They all slept at Lynedoch where were your uncle and Mr Murray. On the Friday previous these two latter gentlemen went to Dundee also Robert Stewart who was at Lynedoch and they received the venerable remains out of the steamer and conveyed them to Lynedoch. I will now write what Christy McNeil said to me. "I was in Perth on Friday and was walking in George Street when I heard a gun from the other side of the water. Immediately a' the folk began to run to the Bridge and the shop lads ran out of the shops with the shutters and clapped them on the outside of their windows, the Kirk bells began to ring a muffled sound and I cried out 'What's a' the hurry and what's the folk running for?' I was then told it was the approach of Lord Lynedoch's remains coming from Dundee." And soon after she saw the hearse followed by a couple or three carriages which contained our gentlemen and several servants. Then the Minute guns continued to fire while they were passing from the Hill of Kinnoull a compliment paid to the old warrior by Mr Turnbull. * * * There was a great turn out of gentlemen at the funeral quite uncommon, the tenants all met at Dalcrue where they had refreshments and waited to join the procession. I hear there were 50 carriages and 12 like ours all the works in the neighbourhood struck work and from Methven all the way to Dalcrue a mile and a half, the fields and road were lined with several thousands of people all quiet and shewing concern. Dr Maxtone happened to be one of the last in leaving the Cottage and during the whole drive he never got sight of the first Melancholy Conveyance. Your father went in the first coach with your uncle and Mr Murray and one of his sons, and when they got to the vault he had a place on the left shoulder of the dear old man. He and your uncle and Mr Murray are of the same generation and same degree of propinquity to Lord Lynedoch, therefore they got the following places :

Robert Graham

Mr Murray
A. J. Ramsay
Major Moray
Lord Mansfield

Mr Maxtone
Sir P. Thrieland
Robert Stewart
Lord Glenlyon

Sir William Murray did not appear which was a pity as he was very near to Lord Lynedoch's mother's side, and would have represented the Hopetoun family, as the late Lady Mary Murray was Lord Lynedoch's cousin germane, so when he did not come Lord Glenlyon was given the place from being the near relation of Lord Lynedoch's wife as also was Lord Mansfield who was there as a descendant of the Cathcarts.

The Marquis of Breadalbane had horses bespoke on the road, but was taken ill.* * * Everything was conducted with great propriety and every honour paid to the memory of a man who lived for the good of his country.

Your uncle was quite aware he would succeed to an immensity of debt, but it is even beyond all the expectation of his Trustees, therefore he will for a good while be as poor as he is at present, as there are a good many legacies which must come off the income as there is no lying money, but in the long run there is as much unentailed land as pays the interest of the debt. All the servants are to be paid off with the present years wages and two years wages into the bargain. Your uncle does not mean to keep up any farming establishment more than is necessary at Lynedoch. * * * I mean in about a fortnight hence to pay my mother a visit and must take care to keep a better footing on the street than I did two years ago.

Willie Stewart was here a couple of hours on his way back to St Andrews from Ardvorlich. He expects to get Robert up with him the end of this month as he has got the offer of a cadetship and is to try if he can pass at Addiscombe, if he does not, he will return to St Andrews for another year. Have you got a good substitute for Nellie, as I fear you will tire washing the clothes and mending the stockings. I daresay you are learning many things that may be useful for you to know when you take up house as a Batchelor Farmer somewhere and some time.

How kind in the Islay House gentlemen to send you game, it is just like what I would do. Adieu my dear John

ALEXINA MAXTONE.

The death of his kinsman Lord Lynedoch made a great change in the life of Robert Graham. As heir of entail he inherited the estates of Balgowan, Redgorton and Lynedoch. Andrew Murray of Murrayshall was heir-at-law, and the new owner was fretted with endless difficulties, both great and small, in matters of estate management. It was found to be essential that part of the properties be sold to settle

the heavy debts left by Lord Lynedoch, but a proposal to carry this out, with the consequent cutting of the entail, met with natural opposition on the part of the Murrays. Eventually Messrs Dundas & Co., who had drawn up Lord Lynedoch's will, found that under its provisions, though "no part" of the property could be sold, there was nothing to prevent disentailment and sale of the whole. A lawsuit was the result. Robert Graham gained his plea in both Houses. Balgowan and Lynedoch were sold, and Robert bought back Redgorton for himself.

CHAPTER VIII

QUIET YEARS

THERE is no story to unfold of doings at Cultoquhey in these years, for life was a tranquil and serious affair. The four young Maxtone sons and daughters had, however, strong characters, and developed along lines of their own, in spite of unavoidable repression caused by the anxiety about the father's health. Among the family group, the character of John Anthony makes the greatest appeal. He belonged to a type peculiar to his generation, when in the widespread renewal of religious life men turned and looked anxiously at their own souls. One regrettable result was a cultivated habit of introspection, an absorption in self-examination and painful effort towards perfection. To read John Anthony's private diary is to realize how earnestly and with how little grace and happiness he trod the narrow way. In the early days no one of his family walked with him. His mother's compassionate love did not enable her to follow in the ways of his spirit. He remained a family problem. No gleam of humour relieved the dreary stretches of his imagination.

James, his elder brother, full of health and energy, had plenty of humour and determination, stretching out eager hands towards life, hoping for a career, longing to touch and see and experience. Mary Scott, the elder daughter, was very much alive to the value of pleasure, delighting in the gaieties of the countryside, attending balls and concerts, and not in her early years the least absorbed in the things of the spirit. Later her views were much the same as John's on the subject of the Free Church, and she equally condemned the lighter pleasures of life, after, however, a few years of thorough enjoyment of these herself. The youngest child, Alexina, suffered from such bad health that she is never mentioned in letters except in connection with her condition. Yet she was a lively and rather original little person, and continued to be so to the end of a long life.

In 1844 there was a suggestion from Uncle Robert that John Anthony, whose presence at home was a heavy trial to his father, be lodged at Balgowan, and learn to farm there. Lord Lynedoch had

allowed the house to fall into disrepair after the death of Lady Christian Graham, his mother, for he could never bear to live there himself.

Mrs Maxtone and her sister-in-law, Mary Maxtone, drove over from Cultoquhey in the snow to inspect the house with a view to installing John. She gives a picture of what the old Balgowan house was like :

“Half way up the stair that leads to the room above the Library on the right hand is a largish lumber place which the McGregors [the caretakers] keep peats and sticks in, and has two open windows without glass,—proceed up the stair to a light landing passage which leads to a cheerful room the same size as the Library, not too high in the roof, therefore will be more easily kept comfortable, a window in the south looking at the opposite wing and a cheerful window to the west. The walls are cracked and the paper quite off but apparently as dry as a bone. At one time the late Mrs Graham made this her bedroom as she thought her own suite in the main body of the house on the ground floor was damp. * * * Ascend the stair and you will find three small very low roofed places, one of them receives its light from the passage below, could contain a bed. The other on the other side of the partition is also small but could contain a narrow bed, this one has two small windows on a level with the floor, it has had a fireplace which has been built up, and here some injury to the wall at the side of the fireplace is likely to increase from a slate being off, or some other opening letting in wet. The third little place is where Lord Lynedoch had a turning lathe and would hold nothing more. Miss Maxtone and I were delighted with the accommodation and think the young Farmer will be well accommodated. We think as John’s health requires an airy sleeping apartment his bed being in one of the atticks with his companion or servant in the immediate vicinity in the other, the roof being so low would not answer. We propose all their clothes goods and chattels being kept up there, and two small ottoman frames which could be made of common materials to be replenished with mattress and bedding and with a covering in the day to appear like sofas would both help to furnish the large room and be useful for their beds. * * * The thoughts of his being under the roof with a respectable man like McGregor and his wife with a cheerful hum of young voices is an unspeakable comfort to Miss Maxtone and me, for Mr Stein tells me he gets often low about himself, after being ill. * * * The first time you are at Balgowan yourself you will judge if anything should be done to the wall of the passage and the wing below, which has no plaster and is quite green

from drawing damp from the back. There is also a water closet in that passage which I could not look into, as the McGregors had turnips for their cow heaped up against the door. The leaden pipes of course were all wrong and would probably cost a good deal to repair, but that place would be a safe *convenience* without pipes for John and could be kept private. * * * You have no idea the relief this opening has given to my mind since you proposed it, as none can know the tearing wearing thoughts I have about that dear boy. * * *

Believe me, my dear kind-hearted brother,
Your affectionate sister,

ALEXINA MAXTONE.

12 Jan. 1844.

This uncomfortable project for John was not carried out. Possibly it was soon discovered by Robert Graham, who had inherited Balgowan from Lord Lynedoch only a few weeks before the date of this letter, that the estate must be sold to pay the old man's debts.

When schooldays were over, some means had to be found for providing an occupation away from home for John. Alexina loved him with anxious adoring thoughts, and might have found happiness in arranging a suitable life for him had he been ready to be guided by her. But in his gentle but intensely obstinate mind there was room for only one idea, and this involved a general sacrifice of everything that did not fit in with his very crude religious opinions. Sent away with a tutor to Islay, he there formed friendships with others of the same views. The secession of the Free Church appealed to him as a glorious blow for freedom and God's service. Naturally the opposition of an older generation enormously strengthened his resolve. Uncle Robert's sound sense and judgment beat uselessly on the rock of poor John's convictions. Yet Robert was kind, and ready to help his sister Alexina by devising an alternative to the Balgowan plan, and putting the young lad on his farm at Dalcrue, on the Lynedoch estate, where he would be not too near Cultoquhey, but yet near enough for supervision. It seemed an ideal plan. But then John's conscience began to work in a most vexatious way, as the letters show. Old Dr Omond was once heard to say: "John Maxtone was the holiest man I ever knew." This holiness, however, was of the kind that causes distraction in a family, owing to the inconvenient ways it took effect.

John passed some uncomfortable years at Dalcrue, striving to take an intelligent interest in farming, sending detailed accounts of crops

and of everything that happened to cows, sheep and pigs to his uncle, packing hampers of vegetables for his Graham aunts in Edinburgh, but never really giving his mind to anything but his one obsession—the state of his own soul.

Mrs Maxtone to her brother, Robert Graham

CULTOQUHEY. 26 Aug. 1844.

Your letter received this morning is both kind and painful. I need not describe my state of mind for some time past on John A.'s account. His opinions were formed and matured in Islay where he seems to have read on no other subject apparently and where he had no other society both male and female than Free Church people. My influence over him prevented him joining the church there as one of its members. I had been long aware he would not be an Episcopalian, which gave me no uneasiness. On his return from Islay I found him steady in his opinions several of which I endeavoured to combat. At Murrayshall he found an unexpected ally in Jessie Murray, whose father had given it in her option either to leave his house and the established church or take her own way. She had communicated in the Free Church in England: she made up her mind to submit for a while to his pleasure. It seems lately she wrote him what is called a *firm* letter and the result was leave to attend a Free Church in Perth but not at Scone. * * * The brothers [James and John A.] have frequently canvassed the subject of the Free Church, but as James tells me they both get heated on the subject, James means to desist. John feels deeply having lost your confidence and hurt at seeing me so much cast down, but feel convinced no argument will change his mind.

John Maxtone to his uncle, Robert Graham

DALCRUE. Aug. 19, 1844.

MY DEAR UNCLE,

You are aware of having prohibited me going to the Free Church when you were here last. I have since been caused a great deal of uneasiness on that account, and hope you will not be offended at the decided step I have now taken in resolving to adhere to the Free Church whatever temporal consequences may ensue. My convictions of duty are clear. * * * You talked of my being too young to judge for myself and asked if I had told my mother about it. Now I consider if you or my mother were able to undertake the responsi-

bility of my soul, then it might be, but as that is not the case and as it lies wholly with myself I feel it my duty to strive to act as one that must give an account, however unable I may be to do so, etc. * * *

John continues to preach a not very convincing sermon on these lines.

The death of Anthony Maxtone, the 12th laird, is given in detail, as showing the terrors of falling into the doctors' hands in those days. Mrs Graeme, in Edinburgh, was now a very old woman, and her daughter Alexina often felt it a duty to leave home and be with her and her sisters for a few days. In October 1846 she was paying one of these visits, having left her husband at Cultoquhey no worse than usual. She received a summons to return, hurried off, but was too late. What happened is best given in Dr Maxtone's own letter :

Nov. 6, 1846.

On Wednesday afternoon I was called to visit Mr Maxtone, who had been affected for a day or two previously with a slight cold, but not such as to confine him to the house.

I found him drowsy and inclined to sleep and was told he had been so during the day. As I had often seen him in the same drowsy state, and the pulse indicated nothing serious, I advised him to go to bed and gave him some Calomel Antimonial Powder and Yecacuan to be followed in the morning by an aperient, and a saline diaphoretic which had always formerly relieved him. Next day he was much worse, the breathing and pulse being oppressed. I immediately opened a vein, applied a blistering plaster to the chest and gave some expectorant medicine. He seemed a little relieved after the bleeding and the Blister rose well, but on visiting him early next morning I found him sinking.

I administered some Brandy and water, applied sinapisms to the feet, and was about to apply a blistering plaster to the nape of the neck when he suddenly expired.

Poor old gentleman, it was a troubled passing, but evidently the doctor had no regrets or misgivings.

Until a short time ago, one or two persons were still living who remembered the day of Anthony Maxtone's death. According to Highland custom, the "Funeral Boy" was employed to go round and knock at the door of every house on the property with the announcement : "The Laird of Cultoquhey is dead."

Except for Alexina's misery at having been absent at the end, after her thirty years of endless watching and nursing, it is impossible to think that the passing of Anthony was anything but a relief. A sad ending after many dreary years to a life that had begun in such a gay company of brothers and sisters, and had known the thrill of gallant achievement and adventure.

His son James, who was now twenty-seven, succeeded as 13th Laird of Cultoquhey. He had been nowhere and seen nothing. He felt this acutely, and complained to his mother that never having even been to London made him feel at a great disadvantage with other young men of his age. He was thirty before he ever got to London. It is easy to understand his eagerness to see and do everything when the chance came. His determination to attend Ascot Races caused mild surprise at Cultoquhey.

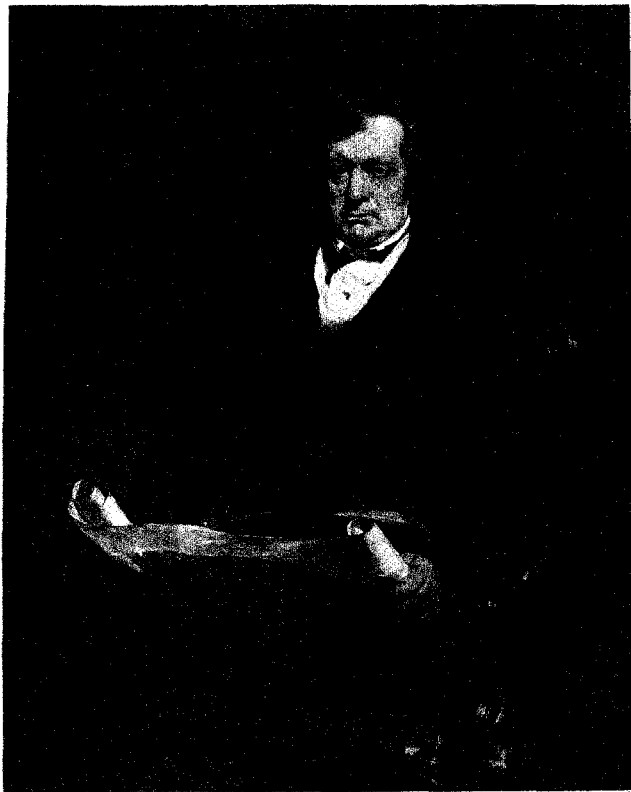
The lives of the young Maxtones were considerably controlled by the Graeme relations. After old Mrs Graeme's death the four unmarried daughters and the only remaining son, Robert, continued to live for many years in solid comfort at 18 Heriot Row, Edinburgh.

This settled group loomed largely in the destinies of the young generation at Cultoquhey, for there were no other descendants. Aunt Eliza, according to the letters she wrote, was a person of character and determination. She spoke her mind with more clearness than the others, and being the nearest in age to Robert was consulted by him on all points.

These four sisters were well known in Edinburgh society for many years, not only for their social gifts, but also for their music, in which they had fine taste and great skill as pianists. Some may be still living who remember them and the musical centre they created.

The Graemes had many close friends. There was a pleasant acquaintance between the sisters and the family next door in Heriot Row. These neighbours had an only child, a boy, who used to come now and again into the group of elderly ladies and, sitting amongst them in their drawing-room, read aloud to them. It would be good to be able to fill in a fuller picture of these visits, and to know among other details what book he read. For the slender dark-eyed boy was Robert Louis Stevenson.

The following letter from Mary Graeme to her brother, Robert Graeme, is not dated. The first New Club Ball was held 4th April 1838, but the entertainment here described is certainly of a later date.



ANTHONY MAXTONE, 12TH LAIRD OF CULTOQUHEY.
1773-1846. [Sir J. Watson Gordon.



ALEXINA GRAEME, DAUGHTER OF JOHN GRAEME OF ESKBANK
AND WIFE OF ANTHONY MAXTONE OF CULTOQUHEY.
1787-1868.

18 HERIOT ROW.
Thursday 10th.

MY DEAR ROBERT,

I am happy to tell you that the New Club Ball went off on Tuesday night most successfully, and it was universally allowed to be a very elegant entertainment. Your list contained the distinguished names of Miss Margaret Graeme, Miss Maxtone and myself, James Maxtone, Mr Street and Mr George Stuart of Stuarthall. The Assembly Room was lighted with wax candles in addition to the usual centre lights, and was most brilliant. The windows were filled up with panels of fluted pink and white cotton, and festoons of candles in wreaths on the walls all round the room. The refreshment room was that part of the Music Hall under the gallery, which was partitioned off by a wall trellised with pink, and stuck over with tufts of heather, thistles and white roses. All carpeted with scarlet, and beyond that at one o'clock an entrance was opened into the supper room, where 537 persons had supper all at once and everything really was as well ordered and comfortable as any dinner in a private house could have been. Soups and hot Turkies in great profusion over 12 tables, all the length of the room, with a Director at the end of each table. The Band of the Scots Greys in the orchestra playing the "Roast Beef of Old England" as we went in, and the National Anthem after the Queen's health was drunk. Lord Leven at the centre table made some speeches, which were responded to by Lord Morton, but neither of the Earls acquired much fame by their oratory, as nobody heard a word of what either of them said. The company was excellent, Levens, Mortons, Wemyss, Sutties, Balfours of Balbirnie and Whittinghame, Blantynes, Cathcarts, Col. Dundas of Melville, Mrs Campbell of Islay, the Ladies Richardson and Moncrieff also, the latter of whom found herself of more importance next day at a dinner of Lady Gray's, where Elisa met her, than she discovered herself to be at the Ball. Mary Scott [Maxtone] enjoyed it extremely and had plenty of dancing. We left at $\frac{1}{2}$ past two o'clock, but we heard the Wemyss's and Balfours and Levens were still there at 5 in the morning.

Goodbye my dear Robert and

Believe me, yrs aff.

MARY GRAEME.

It was almost too much to hope that after his father's death John's conscience would keep itself in the background for long. His mind

had inevitably taken the turn of exaggerated Sabbatarian observance. The affair of Sunday letters stirred it up very awkwardly, and Uncle Robert issued a stern ultimatum.

Mrs Maxtone to her brother, Robert Graham

CULTOQUHEY. 3 Feb. 1847.

MY DEAR ROBERT,

I received your very unpleasant intelligence about John A.'s mistaken conduct. He wrote me next morning which letter I replied to being as much shocked as you were at his stoicism in regard to not opening family letters on Sunday giving my own comments in no measured terms, that no reliance whatever could be rested on his assistance on any emergency either by you or by me were he called upon to act on the moment of receiving a letter from us by a Sunday post. I then blamed him soundly, unhesitatingly and sharply for his conduct in refusing to take your orders on the occasion you mention, accused him of selfishness in keeping his own conscience *soothed*. Had Stratton refused on the same plea what was to become of the interest of kind Uncle into whose head God had put the good feeling of placing him where he was, and where he was rendering himself quite unfit for such a charge. I wrote him a great deal more and forbid him to argue with me by letter. That I answered his query if I thought he had acted ungratefully to his Uncle? by saying not only ungratefully but undutifully. I have since learned that he has of late taken a serious thought about his health, he was sure he would not live long and is endeavouring to live as holily as is in his power. He has not been on the subject with me yet, but I mean to point out his complaint is not dangerous.

His Aunt Eliza had very little patience with John, and writes to her brother :

HERIOT ROW.

July 28, 1847.

You have given John a good trial. * * * I also think that until he is personally the *loser* or the *gainer* in whatever he is occupied with, his heart and mind and energies will not be entirely thrown into the work. This I know to be the way with many people. I am quite convinced that John would not have wronged you in a shilling, but I am sure when a concern is more his own in however small a way it would interest him more nearly and he would be obliged to give his powers to it. If he could be joined to anyone with more experience and take

a small farm at a distance together, that might succeed perhaps. But as to his going to Cultoquhey to driddle¹ about the Fields there, and be liable to all the solicitude of his Mother, Aunt Mary, old servants and flattering bodies about, I should consider it ruination and idleness in the extreme. The only fault I ever could discover in the working of the Dalcrue plan with regard to John was the vicinity to home, which under his circumstances was a most natural refuge no doubt. * * * I am truly grieved you should lose Fenwick, as he suited so well in more ways than one. If McLaurin throws any light on the subject, I will let you know, but she is such an ass that it is impossible to make anything of her opinion even, however her travels may have sharpened her a little.

The record of John Anthony cannot be closed without a reference to his Diary, which he kept from 1849 to 1852. Destitute of any vestige of humour, he uses it to record his dealings with the difficulties of such souls as he encountered. The Bible, of course, was his one stand-by, to be used and quoted without any regard to suitability of choice. It is surprising to find him recommending the Song of Solomon to "Miss R." who had consulted him on her spiritual state, and "feels deadness." He advises that she should persevere in asking the Lord to give her light upon the Song of Songs. Really an excellent remedy, but one which we should scarcely expect to find John prescribing.

At endless prayer-meetings he suffered the great drawback of sleepiness. Do what he would, he could not keep awake. This distressed him greatly. One Sabbath, on his knees, wrestling in prayer with "Miss G." and "Miss D. M.," he was so overtaken with sleep that he felt it was no prayer at all. In his misery he suggested a drastic remedy to the Almighty: "Lord, send one of the Seraphims to me with a live coal."

He certainly expected a great deal of Divine attention. If he accepted an invitation to dinner, he asked the Lord to go with him, the mere fact of a pleasant evening with "Christian friends" so narrowly escaped being a sin. To dine with Mr Craigie was an actual moral offence, requiring bitter penitence. Next day he slept in church and "lost much of Mr Thomson's sermon" and yet could not feel "real remorse."

He went with a "pleasure party" to Trinity College, Glenalmond, but felt the need of God's presence. Satan, on the other hand,

¹ An old Scottish word meaning to loaf aimlessly. It has other meanings, probably not known to Eliza.

was as usual in attendance. He was very anxious about the soul of Charlotte Stewart and gave her a book, but feared he may be feeling love for her rather than for God—a human and endearing touch. John was not lacking in courage. He must have carried about with him a selection of tracts suitable for the rebuking of all varieties of sin, for on hearing a porter swear heartily in Perth, and a reproof having naturally met with a crude rebuff, a tract was handed to the sinner, *A Word to the Profane*. The astonished porter departed harmlessly with this trophy.

Though his mother would fain have kept John at home, the plan was evidently not approved by the family. She wrote letter after letter seeking accommodation for him at some farm that would take him in, and give him a semblance of occupation. But in the end he did not leave home. He was right in his premonition of an early death.

The autumn of 1847 was made notable in Perthshire by the visit of Jenny Lind, who sang at the City Hall, on 14th September, "Casta Diva," from *Norma*, a Terzetto with the Lablacha from Donizetti's *La Figlia del Regimento*, the Finale to *La Sonnambula*, the aria, "Quando Lasciai la Normandia," from *Roberto il Diavolo*, and some Swedish ballads. The event caused some stir at Cultoquhey, where the young people showed determination to get to the concert. A programme is preserved among the letters.

James Maxtone writes from Edinburgh, 26th September 1848 :

"Jenny Lind has been charming everybody here with both a concert on Saturday and an opera last night. Having seen her so satisfactorily lately I determined to resist my impulse to spend a guinea and a half again, but after the doors were opened last night I heard of a man who had speculated in tickets, and who had so overshot his mark as to let me have a guinea ticket at half price, which he was glad to get for it at that late hour. We had no ballet, but the after-entertainment consisted in seeing Sir J. Ramsay, who had come in expressly for the occasion, rush into all the boxes at the end of the opera, *taking credit* for the whole performance."

Mention should be made of an addition to the Maxtone property of the two farms a few miles across the strath, Redford and Ardbennie, which came into the possession of James in an unusual way about the year 1851. These farms were owned by the Reverend Alexander Maxtone (1779-1851), who was a son of John Maxtone in the Milton of Abercairny. In 1817 he was presented with the living of Fowlis Wester by James Moray of Abercairny. He took a leading but conciliatory part in various church disputes which raged round

Auchterarder at one time, but in old age he acquired Redford and Ardbennie and, giving up the parish, went to live there with his two sisters. Associations with his parishioners at Cultoquhey were kept up by James Maxtone and his brother John, who made a practice of walking over to Ardbennie every autumn when the apples were ripe. Except for this visit there seem to have existed no communications, for in the autumn of 1851, when James went over as usual, he was met, not by Alexander Maxtone, but by his old sister, who informed him that her brother was dead. "But," she added, "he has left this property to you." James assured her there must be some mistake, as he had no possible claim, but she went into the house and returned with a piece of paper on which his wishes were written. James saw at once that in no sense could such a will carry any legal weight, and persuaded her that he could never think of taking advantage of such a thing, however kindly it was meant. The old lady was undoubtedly herself the heir, and he could countenance no other arrangement. Miss Maxtone accepted this decision, but went at once to her lawyers and made a will in accordance with her brother's wishes, and dying soon afterwards the farms and orchards were added to the property of the Maxtones of Cultoquhey, who have held them ever since.

Before the death of Anthony, the 12th laird, his son James had met and fallen in love with Caroline Russell, the youngest daughter of George Russell¹ of Binfield, who made a fortune in the Indian Civil Service, and after acting as Governor of Madras retired, and returning to Great Britain spent his autumns in Scotland, where he rented various places for shooting and fishing. It was while he was the tenant of Aberuchill, Comrie, that the Russell and Maxtone families became acquainted. The following family letters show the reactions of the Maxtone connections to the idea of the engagement of James and Caroline. The disapprobation with which it was received seems strange enough after the lapse of time, for of all the events in the life of James, certainly his marriage to Caroline Russell was by far the best and most fortunate that ever befell him. But at Cultoquhey there was a great fear of Uncle Robert Graham and of his opinions. He was accustomed to be consulted on every point in the concerns of the family. To the stupefaction of his sister, Mrs Maxtone, here was her son James breaking out into independent action. Unluckily he did not do so with

¹ George Russell, son of Claud Russell and Leonora, daughter of Lord Pigot; born 1786, died 1863; married, 1813, Caroline Bowness. He was descended from Mungo Russell, Treasurer of the City of Edinburgh, who founded Roseburn House in 1582, the descent being through the Russells of Kingseat and Slipperfield and John Russell of Braidshaw. The Russell coat of arms is still to be seen over a doorway at Roseburn House, Edinburgh.

courage, but, intimidated by the shadow cast by Uncle Robert's powerful personality, kept the secret till old Mr Russell rebelled at the equivocal position for Caroline.

Mrs Maxtone to her brother, Robert Graham

CULTOQUHEY. 10 Oct. 1847.

MY DEAR ROBERT,

On Mr Russell's hearing that I thought it best that James' imprudent secret should still be restricted to the few, to whom it was necessary to confide it to at first, he wrote in great embarrassment of mind fearing "I knew best what the feelings of my own family would be on the subject."

On reading this note to James I immediately took up my pen to Mr Russell saying I quite entered into his natural feelings, and that I had got James to view them in the same light, and that he was quite prepared and determined to write to his Uncle of the scrape he had got into, that I felt assured *want of means alone* would be the only reason for any of my family agreeing with Mr Russell, and see that it *was a scrape*. I mentioned to him that I would also write you a few lines on the subject and I trusted his mind would feel less restrained when he heard the communication to you came from us. Mr Russell writes me "I gladly resign that duty (for duty I consider it) to you, and when I know it has been done my mind will be at ease. I cannot help feeling I have not been doing by Mr Graham as I should wish and expect him to do by me under similar circumstances. When Mr G. has been made acquainted with the true state of things it will be a matter of indifference to me who knows it." Mr Russell adds in another place "It will give me much pleasure to hear *the* communication has been made, *that done* I shall not write or speak to Mr Graham unless invited to do so, by his opening the subject to me." James has given me his letter to you to read over and seal. I find it just the cream of what you already know. I perceive he has not bound you down to secrecy, therefore I do think there would be no harm in your telling Eliza, warning her from me not to let James know she is aware of what has been going on. His Aunt Miss Maxtone has no suspicion of it, and little knows the weight it has been on my mind for nearly a year. Whatever answer you may make James, Mr Russell will expect to hear of it, although he James and I are quite aware the affair is as much at a *standstill* after you know it, as it was this time last year. * * *

Adieu my dear Robert, your affectionate sister,

ALEXINA MAXTONE.

Thus goaded to the sticking-point, James composed the following explanation :

CULTOQUHEY. 18 Oct. 1847.

MY DEAR MR GRAHAM,

It was not my intention to have made you aware of the subject of my present communication until I had been better able, further to see my way in it than I can at present ; and it is now at the request of another that I make the communication in order to relieve him from the embarrassment which he feels your being kept ignorant of the matter lays him under, and considering it to be the most straightforward course that I should open the subject myself, rather than permit it to come to you from any other quarter, I now take up my pen to do so.

It is some time since I formed an attachment for Mr Russell's youngest daughter Caroline, but being well aware at the time it commenced of the impossibility of then realizing my wishes, or even of having any definite prospect of doing so, I kept my own secret as much from the young lady herself as from anyone else, till last Autumn when I ascertained that Mr Russell had made up his mind to leave Scotland for good. At that time, I had fair reason to believe that the attachment was mutual which then induced me to open my mind first to his daughter and afterwards with her consent to Mr Russell. His reception of the announcement was most considerate, for notwithstanding that I fully and faithfully laid before him my position as regarded means, and the utter impossibility of being able to bring my wishes to any immediate fulfilment, he said that since the attachment existed on both sides and had gone on for some time, he would not stand in the way of our happiness by putting a stop to the hope that in time we might be enabled to attain the object we had in view. What occurred here, very soon after this in October last, prevented me then speaking to my Mother on the subject. I however found an opportunity to do so before returning to Edinburgh for the winter, and in confidence related what had taken place, but Mr Russell desires that you, at least, should also be informed in order that the part he has taken may be viewed in the proper light, and to prevent any undue reflection being afterwards passed on his present consideration in permitting us occasionally to meet. I have now relieved myself of a duty I owe to Mr Russell in making you acquainted with what I know you will think has been in my present circumstances an imprudent step, but I trust you will be as lenient in your judgement of it as the case will admit. I may mention that in consideration of what thus came to Mr Russell's

knowledge on the eve of his leaving Scotland last autumn, he changed his mind with regard to settling in England and returned here with the view of looking out for a permanent residence in this country. * * *

Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

JAMES MAXTONE.

Robert Graham replied very dryly to this priggish communication from James: "I only regret that knowing your own position you had not been able to manifest greater freedom than you have done, and consulted with somebody before getting yourself into a situation from which it seems equally difficult to advance or recede." He tells James not to expect help from him, and suggests that no announcement of the engagement be made. No word of encouragement or of sympathy with the young couple brightens the arid commonsense of his letter.

Thus coldly looked upon by the family, the engagement of James Maxtone and Caroline Russell was a long one. For five years they held to their purpose. In 1851 they were married, at Old Warden Church, in Bedfordshire, where the Russell family then lived. Various places were visited on the honeymoon, including Knole Park, from whence Caroline brought an acorn to plant on the terrace to the north of the house at Cultoquhey, where it now appears a finely grown oak.

James had obtained a small post in the Treasury, and the first home of the couple was 6 Harewood Square, London. Their two eldest children, Alexina and Anthony, were born there. The good news of the birth of the young laird in 1854 was received with enthusiasm by the Cultoquhey tenants, and rejoicings were held in Gilmerton. A highly respected villager, Margaret Maxtone, collected all the neighbours together in a public-house, treated them all to whisky to drink the baby's health, after which ceremony the company all knelt down on the floor and prayed.

In 1855 a position in the Inland Revenue at Perth was obtained for James, a great cause of rejoicing, as it entailed a return to Scotland and the near neighbourhood of Cultoquhey, where Mrs Maxtone with her children, Mary, John and Alexina, and old Aunt Mary still lived.

There was indeed little change in the manner of their living, the quiet years flowing uneventfully except for domestic interests. Mrs Maxtone knew the joy of the steadily growing number of grandchildren, now so near at hand in Perth that she could often see them. Her mother, Mrs Graeme, died in 1849, at a great age, but the four sisters and the brother Robert were still an unbroken group at

Edinburgh, sharing with her all the interests and variety of more stirring social life than her own. The strong family ties that united them were never broken or disturbed as long as life lasted.

It is clear that Robert's chief object, outside his immediate circle, was concerned with his sister's children at Cultoquhey. He had for many years past regarded James as his heir, and as old age came upon him his interests centred more and more upon these young ones, who were the sole descendants of his own branch of the Grahams.

That Robert after inheriting Lord Lynedoch's property never settled in any country house was a great vexation to his sisters. What he really enjoyed was doing up a few rooms at a farm, or adding something in the way of a library to a small roadside house, and using it as a *pied-à-terre* whenever he came North. The irritation his family felt at the missed opportunity of an establishment in Perthshire on his own property found vent at last in letters from his sister Eliza, who, in spite of the awe Robert seems to have inspired generally, was the one relative who could speak her mind.

(Undated, but probably about 1855)

18 HERIOT ROW. 15 Feb.

I have received your letter my dear Robert with much surprise at your strange plans, and cannot help agreeing with Stevenson, Sidey and Stewart on the "Daftness." As to Belmont, I can assure you we had no feeling further than wishing to see you in a gentleman's residence which you are not now at Pitmurthly, and would be still less so on the roadside at Kirkhill, even if you did go to the expense of taking down Luncarty Mill House and adding it to Kirkhill.

To preserve your books and boxes could you not collect them all together and put them into a dry floor of a house in Perth till you obtain a suitable house for yourself? When you have written to me confidentially, as you have done to-day, I do not see why I may not ask you for whom it is you put yourself out of your position in Perthshire? for whom you save your capital? and continue to live in the Butt and Ben style to the surprise and regret of your oldest best and most intimate gentlemen friends, who do not scruple to say to us what I often think is with the intention of reaching you. * * * Now dear Robert I must repeat that I wish you distinctly to understand that we have no interested or selfish motives for your taking Belmont or any other country house—all we wish is to see you out of the Hugger-Mugger which prevents you being on a footing with your

Gentlemen Friends, either resident or occasionally in your neighbourhood. Believe me this is quite a vexation to us, and I cannot see your running deeper into it with regard to Kirkhill without saying this. * * * I hope you will read patiently and take it in good part. If you are busy when you get this, lay it aside till you have time to read it, and then make away with it. You must excuse me if I say that your present excessive indulgence in rural tastes is making other society quite irksome to you, which is more and more observable by your best friends, altho you are not aware of it yourself. You are restrained abstracted and wearied when away from them and you do not seem comfortable except when alone with your books or accounts before you. You are losing your taste for that society in which you were so welcome and intelligent a member and which would be as easy for you to keep up in the country as here, in a moderate way, and enable you to see your old friends when on the move. It is this which makes me throw cold water on Kirkhill or any such makeshift of a place. Your opposite and witty neighbour is not slow in his animadversions on your style of accommodation, therefore I hope it is no false feeling with regard to what he may like or dislike which deters you from making to yourself a moderate compact dwelling-house on your own very beautiful property of Redgorton, and settling yourself in a respectable and gentlemanlike way, instead of muddling through life from one push-about plan to another without either credit to yourself or to the manner of life which you had been formerly used to, subjecting yourself moreover to the continuation of the constant vicinity of servants, and the minute details of their everyday occupations, without the power or the prospect whatever of getting out of it. Settle yourself on the hill of Redgorton without delay, live in it, work your estate like any other gentleman, and do not waste the best part of your life by shifting about from one unseemly establishment to another, having no companionship with men of your own standing, shunning them as you now appear to do in the country (by not having a hole to put a passing friend into) and *seeming* to save your money by not mixing with the gentlemen of your neighbourhood, when it is well known and felt by those who experience them that your kindness and hospitality are in *full force*, tho not directed into the channel most suitable to your station.

I am quite prepared for your being angry with me and calling me, as you often do, a fool, but I risk both as none has your interest more at heart, and I would earnestly try to arrest what I see growing fast upon you, a distaste of your equals and your old attached friends,

and a strong propensity to a roughing life, which I know is not necessary, and which, believe me, is most injurious to you, and will tell upon your health before you are aware if it. This last weighs heavily with me. * * *

I cannot close without assuring you that it is with no view of sharing the comforts of what I wish you to have in the country that makes me suggest them to you, as one and all of us are most perfectly satisfied with what we have here, and that *with very good reason indeed*. I will not write to you again in this strain. In reply to this I anticipate a *Thunderer* more stern than usual, but I shall always remain,

Your most afft.

E. GRAEME.

Regrettably Robert's reply to Eliza has not been preserved. It is only certain that he did not act on her suggestions, and never installed himself in the large country house in Perthshire visualized by her. 18 Heriot Row was really the only settled home he knew.

Changes were happening at Cultoquhey. The year 1858 saw the passing away of John Anthony. He had lived to see his brother James married and the births of some of the new generation. In spite of some qualms of his ever-tormenting conscience, he stood godfather to the first child, Alexina Mary.

Some still living remember the tall figure of John Maxtone wandering about the countryside. He was a man of one idea. His singleness of heart and rigid sincerity might have isolated him from his fellows, but he carried with him the attraction of complete simplicity, and was well beloved. His devoted old aunt, Mary Maxtone, who had taken a large share of looking after him all the anxious years of his life, survived him only a few weeks. She was the last of the children of the old laird James.

In 1859 came the death of Robert Graham, who bequeathed his property of Redgorton, and all the personal estate he had inherited from Lord Lynedoch, to his nephew, James Maxtone of Cultoquhey. The entailed portion of the estates passed to John Murray Graham,¹ the next male heir, as descendant of Patrick Graeme of Balgowan and Janet Murray of Murrayshall.

The new generation of Maxtone children rapidly filled the Perth house, and it was decided to move the family² into the more spacious

¹ John Murray Graham; born 1809, died 1883; married, 1853, Robina Hamilton. There were no children. The present Graham Murray families are descended from Andrew and Thomas, younger brothers of John.

² See the Maxtone Genealogical Table.

quarters of Cultoquhey. Mrs Maxtone, now a very old woman, was moved with her two daughters into Inchglass, a house in Crieff, bought for her by her son as a dower-house, and there she died, in 1868, having survived Anthony her husband for twenty-two years. Her daughters, Mary and Alexina, were the two aunts remembered well by the present generation—an ill-assorted couple who, after the mother's death, wisely decided not to stretch the ties of kinship beyond bearing in an attempt to live together. Both attained a great age. Alexina had a house in Crieff, and Mary acquired one in the suburbs of Edinburgh, but coming to pay a fortnight's visit to her brother and his family, at Cultoquhey, stayed there on and off for sixteen years.

The year 1860 should really end the record of the Maxtones, for in that year James, the 13th laird of Cultoquhey, on succeeding to the Redgorton estate added the name of Graham to his own, forming the combination by which the family has now been known for four generations.

CHAPTER IX

DAYS OF YESTERDAY

THE recent history of places and personalities is too well known to the present family to need elaboration at the moment, but the time will come when fading memories and traditions will alone remain, as the years race over all, and except for a few portraits, a few recollections and possessions, nothing will be left of the figures which now seem so clear-cut and unforgettable to the young generation. There is a motive therefore in putting upon record something of the lives and characters of those still well remembered.

James Maxtone Graham, the 13th laird of Cultoquhey, held the property for fifty-eight years, and naturally left lasting impressions of his personality and tastes. His talent for landscape gardening found pleasantscope in the undeveloped surroundings of both his houses, where his planning and planting gave a totally different aspect. Most of the trees about the grounds at Cultoquhey were planted by him. His taste for this dated from his boyhood, when in the early Edinburgh schooldays he planted and tended a little group of hardwood-trees upon a waste piece of ground near the Dean Bridge, afterwards transferring the saplings to Cultoquhey, where they now soar to a great height. He did away with a steep inconvenient approach to the house from the Perth road, and cut the present picturesque avenue through the wood from Gilmerton, at the same time laying down the lawns and terraces which give the house its right proportions and setting. The same gift was applied to the estate of Redgorton, and Battleby House is another memorial of his ideas in building and alteration.

He founded at Cultoquhey the herd of Shorthorns, now one of the oldest herds in Scotland, which he afterwards transferred to Redgorton, and all his life was interested in this effort to maintain and improve the breed of cattle. All country pursuits in sport and agriculture appealed to him.

He had a full share of public work and usefulness, and was a noted figure in the political arena of Perthshire between 1860 and 1885. A Liberal by family tradition and his own conviction, he threw in his

influence on the side then supported by Gladstone, pursuing the ends of that policy with a vehemence that set him at variance with many men of his own standing in the county who for the most part kept to Tory principles. It was then rare to find minds of the type that could maintain perfectly cordial relations with those whose political views were differently cast.

As first Chairman of the Executive Committee of the North and East Scottish Liberal Association, and subsequently, after the amalgamation of that Committee into the National Liberal Association, for the whole of Scotland, he accepted a position entailing a great deal of organizing ability and hard work. He was one of the original promoters and prominent supporters of the Liberal Club in Edinburgh.

An ardent enthusiasm carried on through years, with expenditure of nervous vitality, proved too much for his health. In the early eighties he gave up political work, a loss to Liberalism at the time, but he had for some years felt unable to follow the marked progress of Liberal statesmen in the matter of Irish Home Rule and other social changes. He was by this time so little in sympathy with Gladstone's ideals that he could not conscientiously accept the Baronetcy twice pressed on him in acknowledgment of his services. As the years went on, and the Tories moved slowly forward into line with all in Liberal doctrine that had attracted him at the outset of his political career, the ardour of party spirit cooled. The word Unionist bridged usefully for him the gulf between Whig and Tory. The last years of his life saw him a supporter of the Unionist cause, although he took no further part in active politics for years before his death, and declined all proposals that he should contest any constituency himself. The positions he held in the Perthshire world of politics satisfied his intense interest in public affairs. Besides politics, he played a part in all county business, as Deputy-Lieutenant, and was a member of the Fishery Board and Board of Agriculture as well as the Board of Manufactures. He left a tradition of many years of strenuous work, and a fine set of presentation silver, the offering of the Scottish Liberal Association, when he retired from the Chairmanship.

As regards his home life, the personality of James Maxtone Graham expressed itself in a way very usual in those days for the head of a household. He dominated everyone and every detail of family life. That the wife and mother accepted this state of things without protest is again a sign of those Victorian times, when any deviation from a line of complete and firm faith in the superiority of man was coldly disapproved. A husband's belief in his own taste can sometimes prove

a great trial in married life, but his wife Caroline from the first yielded even in personal matters. He even chose the children's hats, and the story has survived of his going in to Perth and buying four hats for his four little girls, in four sizes. On his return, he dealt them out to the children, the eldest getting the largest hat, and so on to number four. It happened that the eldest had a small head, while the third sister had a large one—in fact all the sizes were wrong. The features of one child were swallowed up, while another presented an appearance of depressing rakishness with the hat perched precariously on the top of her head. The noses of some were effaced, the foreheads of others unbecomingly laid bare. Common sense suggested an exchange according to the size of heads, but this compromise was sternly forbidden by Papa. He had bought the hats as he intended them to be worn. It stood to reason that the eldest must wear the largest, the youngest the smallest. The children themselves probably cared nothing about it, but the feelings of the mother can be imagined, as she followed the pitiful procession on its way to church. There is an almost incredible story, too, of James and Caroline driving out in their brougham to dinner with neighbours. On the way thither the carriage was stopped ; James got out, gathered a spray of hawthorn from the hedge, and thought he was improving his wife's appearance by twining it in her hair. This she seems to have borne with her usual sweetness and calm. "How few wives," writes one of her daughters, "would have submitted to having their hair dressed by their husband and appear at a dinner-party without having a chance of rearranging it, or seeing how it looked." How very few would have allowed sprays from the dusty hedgerow at the roadside to touch her head at all ! But she kept her feelings to herself, never deviating from her chosen path—the road of perfect submission and admiration for all that James was and did.

Of all the long line of Cultoquhey wives, there was none who surpassed Caroline Russell in unwavering devotion and loyalty to her husband and life's companion. To her children she has left a dearly cherished honoured memory. Her sympathies and understanding immensely relieved the difficulties and restrictions of home life, and enlarged the possibilities of happiness among all her children. The legend that must pass into family history concerning her is one of steadfast love and gentleness, with the charm that belongs only to a perfectly unselfish nature.

Though she had much to bear, through the long years of her married life, in her husband's recurring bouts of ill-health and low

spirits, many of his characteristics were lovable, and a source of pride to her. She found in him many fine attractive qualities to balance the drawback of an overbearing will. No description could be just that did not bear witness to his geniality and warm-heartedness. No one was more companionable, amusing, well-informed and full of humour. All who ever came to Cultoquhey will recall his kindliness and hospitality. The warmest and most comforting of welcomes radiated from his threshold.

Father and mother and their eight children made the group at Cultoquhey through the second half of the nineteenth century. Well known to many now living, these sons and daughters must yet find a place in this record for the sake of those descendants who may be interested years hence.

The eldest child, Alexina Mary, was born in 1852. The rest of the family followed at short intervals till 1863, when there was a pause of eight years, and then the last of the family, Georgiana, brought the list to an end.¹

Of this group of eight, no less than six remained at home with their parents. Owing to his father's ill-health, Anthony, the eldest son, could seldom be spared during his lifetime. Robert, the next brother, after a short interval of distasteful work in a bank in Manchester, chose the adventure of life abroad, and went to seek fortune in the United States, where, except for one or two visits home, he spent the whole of his days. His last sight of Cultoquhey was in 1902, when as a newly married man he brought his wife Julia² on a visit. His only son, Robert,³ also came to Scotland, by himself, for a few weeks, as a boy of eighteen. By marriage, and by fifty years' residence in the States, the family home being for many years in California, it would seem that Robert the elder had definitely adopted America as his country. But life there has always worn the strangeness of exile to one whose heart is rooted in the old associations and the old remembered places.

James⁴ was the third and youngest son. His father considered that there was no chance of any opening anywhere for younger sons, and having taken up this attitude held out no prospect to James of anything but life at home, a dull affair, in spite of chances of sport, for a young man full of energy and ambition. It was hardly to be expected that he would acquiesce. Acting on his own initiative, James left home at nineteen for an accountant's office in Edinburgh, and

¹ For births and deaths see Chart.

² See Chart.

³ Married, 1935, Dorothy Garden.

⁴ James married, at Gask, in 1893, Margaret Ethel, second daughter of Philip Blair Oliphant of Ardblair. For their issue see p. 203.



ALEXINA, ANTHONY, ROBERT, MARGARET, CAROLINE, ELIZABETH, JAMES—CHILDREN OF JAMES MAXTONE GRAHAM,
13TH LAIRD OF CULTOQUHEY.

[A. Leggatt. Painted c. 1865.]

qualifying as a chartered accountant started out on a life that was to be filled with strenuous effort, but offered opportunities to win a place for himself in the world of affairs.

In the development of financial and other interests he found an outlet for his gifts of concentration and activity of mind, which, coupled with a remarkable capacity for hard work, carried him to a leading position in the business life of Scotland.

For his start in life, and for the success attained, he owed nothing to anyone but himself, and his own determination to succeed.

The five daughters at home would nowadays be looked upon as a serious problem, for all would expect to specialize in some way and make lives of their own, but the youth of these sisters passed in an epoch when any yearnings towards a separate career were thought eccentric, if not definitely wrong.

There was never any attempt at training for any work in life, outside the home. The father and mother had a wonderfully easy time compared with more modern parents, for they were not faced with the restlessness of unfulfilled ambition, or the straining towards independence of action and thought. Sons and daughters alike accepted home and home conditions as an ordered and unalterable estate. Resignation to the decisions of the older generation was a lesson patiently learned in those days of restricted personal liberty, especially for women.

It was remarkable, however, that the uninspiring virtues of resignation and obedience never succeeded in making life at Cultoquhey either dull or narrow. Even when very tiresome things happened, disappointments, unreasonable demands, needless restraints, there was always a flowing of life towards the best outlet, a point of view developing from unpromising situations into laughter. There was always someone in the group who saw the funny side, and ultimately it was the humour of the thing that was remembered by all.

While the children were young, the farmhouse at Redgorton was enlarged, and transformed into the comfortable family dwelling now called Battleby, and here the Maxtones lived for six months in every year, the rest of the time being spent at Cultoquhey. The earliest recollections of his eight children are of both these homes, and in particular of the very uncomfortable journeys from one to the other in the earlier days in a carriage shaped like a boat.

"Never shall I forget," writes one of these children in later years, "the long drive of 14 miles which seemed to us children interminable all packed into the family coach, with dogs, parrots and dolls to make

confusion more complete. About 1866, my father arranged to live entirely at Battleby, and Cultoquhey was let to Lord Moncrieffe. All my childish recollections therefore centre round Battleby. How we loved the funny old house and the Clumps and the Belvedere wood and the daily rides on Empress and Ronald our ponies, and fishing in the Shochie, and on holiday being taken to the Tay to see Father and Mother fish, and sometimes allowed to get into the boat and fish too. Our lives were very happy though very uneventful, as we never left home except for a yearly visit to the sea, Stonehaven, Nairn and Carnoustie being our chief resorts. The excitement of the saloon carriage we travelled in! When we grew older we were taken to see any sight in our visits to Edinburgh which were few and far between, and generally asked to write an essay on what we had seen. I remember getting a prize for writing one on a carpet manufactory which I had been hideously bored at being taken over. We paid our first visit to London when I was thirteen, and the following is an example of what an inveterate sight-seer my father was. Madge, Bessie and I started with him in the morning for the Tower, we then went over the Mint, after that to St Paul's which we did thoroughly. From there went over the Houses of Parliament, and ended up with the Kensington Museum. By the end of the day we were thoroughly exhausted, and had everything pretty well jumbled up in our heads, the thing that impressed us most being an altercation my father had with a cabman outside St Paul's! We occasionally were taken to visit our grand-aunts in Heriot Row, Edinburgh, where we were always told to be on our best behaviour. I remember Bessie, Jim and me disgracing ourselves when shut into the small drawing-room to play one wet day, and the old ladies having provided no toys for us, we elected to play at trains with the chairs. At last one of us spied some paste in a saucer, which we eagerly got hold of and filled the castors of the chairs with it for railway grease,—a curtain can be drawn over our great-aunts' faces when they came in and saw what we had done. They were very kind to us though we were rather in awe of them, and they used to give us half-a-crown each when we went away."

Brought up in the Episcopalian faith, James Maxtone Graham had all his children baptized into that Church, but the strongly Calvinistic turn of his mind drew him into Presbyterian interests, where he veered for years in his allegiance between the Church of Scotland and the Free Church, according as the ministers of the local churches bowed to his authority, or feebly sought to maintain their independence. His children as they grew up, resisting all attempts to draw them into

another fold, retained their membership of the Episcopal Church, and firmly adhered to it through all difficulties. But as children they endured Presbyterian Sundays, with services lasting for hours. When the family were at Battleby they all went to Redgorton Church for the morning service, a long and dreary affair, then walked back to Battleby for dinner, and afterwards returned to the droning of the afternoon service. In the house there were long family prayers twice a day, and everything suggesting a secular pursuit of any kind was hidden away.

At Cultoquhey the family habit had been for generations to drive over to Muthil to the Episcopal Church there, but under the 13th laird this was sternly discountenanced. "In 1843," writes one of the daughters, "a small wooden church at Gilmerton was built at the time of the Disruption, and for many years all the Free Church people used to go there. Dr Omond the Minister was a great friend of our family and many is the long service I have sat through as a child there. The service used to begin at 12 and was not over till 3 o'clock. In 1868, the present Free Church was built on a piece of land my Father gave for it. He erected the stained-glass window in the Church to the memory of his Mother.¹ The feu-duty he exacted was a yearly bunch of sweet briar from the Minister's eldest daughter Margaret Omond (now Mrs Bannerman) who was a great favourite."

The atmosphere of the Scottish Sabbath permeated once a week the lives of countless families, who accepted it as an unavoidable interval of depressing routine, on which somehow eternal salvation depended, in lives otherwise fairly full of light-hearted happiness. No doubt it was the usual fate of most people sixty years ago, and among the young Maxtones there would be neither repining nor rebellion—only memories of long hours of boredom to carry on through life.

The prevailing trend of religion in Scotland a generation ago, firmly rooted in the more threatening portions of the Old Testament, was towards a tenacious belief that the chief manifestation of all godliness was Sabbatarianism in its most dismal form. The following example conveys an idea of the rigid adherence of the head of the Maxtone family in this matter.

When Ysenda, the first granddaughter of the family, was a very young infant she was brought to Cultoquhey on a visit. One of the toys used in the nursery to distract her during fairly frequent bouts of howling was a sort of sixpenny tin jar, attached to a handle which, when vigorously worked, caused the jar to emit a few cracked and

Alexina Maxtone remained all her life an Episcopalian, and would certainly not herself have chosen the Gilmerton Free Church for her memorial window.

reedy sounds. One Sunday afternoon, the child having begun to cry, the nurse had recourse to the consolations of this instrument. The melancholy notes penetrated to the passage, and the nurse was startled to see the nursery door opened to admit the serious face and long beard of grandpapa: "Nurse, I do not approve of music on Sunday." The head was then withdrawn, the door closed, the notes of the jar silenced, and the child's bawling renewed. Later in the day he sent for the nurse and said: "I am afraid you thought me very severe this morning, but we must all remember that this child has a soul to be saved."

Bouts of ill-health alternating with periods of high spirits, over-fatigue and excitement made tranquillity at Cultoquhey a precarious affair in the later years of the 13th laird. Life for him was either in a melancholy backwater, or swept forth on the tumultuous swirl of a flood. The calming influence of his wife, her tact and grace, created another and kindlier current in this uncertain tide.

"We must have been rather unruly children judging by the number of governesses we had," writes one of the daughters: "I think 12 between us all. Of course as we got older, our lives were much spent in the schoolroom."

The daughters of the family were fortunate in ultimately having a first-rate German governess, but no definite plan for education was pursued for the two elder sons, Anthony and Robert, who were moved here and there between various minor schools or dreary vicarages, and never had the advantage of public school training. James, the youngest son, had some years at a preparatory school, Cargilfield, and after a time at a public school was carried abroad, to suit the family convenience, and his education was completed under a German tutor at Darmstadt.

"In 1877, it was decided we should all go abroad for a year or two," records another letter, "as my Father was in bad health and it was thought a thorough change would do him good, and our education would be finished there. Madge, Bessie and I were nearly heart-broken at leaving home, and looked upon it as the greatest tragedy in our lives. We made our wills and quite thought we should never come home again, though when we arrived in Dresden we soon picked up our spirits. We were abroad two years, then went to Edinburgh for the winter, as both places were let, and in 1881 went to Cultoquhey, where we lived till my Father's death in 1901."

A great many of the laird's political letters are preserved, but there are few domestic ones, so that it seems permissible to add a letter here

addressed jointly to the two daughters he calls "twins," because as there was less than a year between them they could call themselves the same age for just ten days. The letter is very characteristic of him in many ways.

SCOTSCRAIG.

16 April 1880.

MY OWN VERY DEAR TWINS,

CARRIE AND BESSIE,

I wish you both very many happy returns of the 21st and 30th of this month, you my dear of the 21st, and you my dear very specially of the 30th, each very lovingly on her own day. I conveyed to the Mother a certain little remembrance for she of the 21st, trusting that it will be given on the proper day, and also on the understanding that you my dear of the 30th do not cherish the fond delusion that anything of the kind is in store for you on the 30th, a thought that would be vain, illusory and generally cheeky.

I am enjoying the forenoon of a very bad day here at Scotsraig, and devoting myself to writing to friends in general.

The day before yesterday, I got a telegram from Adam¹ to say he was down for two nights. I therefore wired to say I would be with him for dinner. I was loudly welcomed by Mrs A. and B. who with Freddy are the only inmates at present. We had a fine night of talk as you may suppose, dishing up Dresden and Liberal victories alternately. They were awfully pleased that I came and I very glad that I went as we had much to talk over. Next day we pottered about, sent off telegrams and otherwise occupied ourselves till lunch, after which we went to Barns, which is much improved,—saw the paper Madge chose, and then got the 4.20 train which took him to London and me to this.

He has to meet Lords Granville and Hartington to-day (The latter wrote me such a nice letter about Perthshire) and to see Gladstone who comes to town also and arrange with him what is to be done. If Gladstone wishes it, he will be Premier. Nothing else can be settled till the Queen and Dizzy meet, which will be to-night or to-morrow. Dear old Adam fears he will be ordered into hard labour again, as they can get nobody fit to do his work, but he etties at something else, and he has a right to ask what will give him rest with good pay, even to the Governor Generalship of Madras for five years at £11,000

¹ Right Hon. William Patrick Adam; born 1823, died 1881; M.P. for Clackmannan and Kinross, 1859-1880, Liberal Whip; First Commissioner of Works, 1873-1874; Governor of Madras, 1880.

per an!! Now girls breathe not this to mortal, and if it had not been for your birthdays, I would not have sent you all this political news, but take care that it does not get out. Mrs Adam dislikes the idea, but he would go at once if it was not for many family considerations which are in the way and which will likely prove the obstacle.

They all send heaps of love to all and B. and Elliot a large amount to Georgie.

If Madre has the list of Crieff Band instruments which I think she wrote she had, you can organize with the help of Miss Grundler a visit to Herr Trinkler to ask if he will arrange for these instruments the March in *Tannhauser* and *Hortense*, getting from him some distinct idea of the cost, so that it may not be ruinous. If he is moderate you can ask if he can arrange any other nice lively airs, should some be wanted for the same performers. I know this will be an outing for you, and if you all execute it well I shall give you a Trinkler picnic on my return. I think I have done well for a birthday letter, but this will stand for all the party, and tell the Mother that next week I shall write her more as to plans, but at present these are very vague, till I know what is to be done among the chiefs of the New Government in anticipation, which as I am in the country I should like to see formed, unless they are very long about it.

With much love to you both and to each of my dear ones round you

Believe me again, my beloved twins,

Your afft. Father,

J. MAXTONE GRAHAM.

Scores of people now living remember the interesting days at Cultoquhey, when the sons and daughters were grown up and formed their own friendships here and there, friendships that never seem to have grown cold or been forgotten through later years. Though so different in character, the members of the family were united in the power of creating an attractive atmosphere of warmth and cordiality. "There never was any place quite like it" is the verdict of many guests of those past times, recalling their memories to-day. Sons and daughters knew the secret of drawing newcomers at once into the household intimacies and giving them a sense of being at home, and at the same time enjoying the prestige of honoured guests. It was a place of happiness, of laughter and good-fellowship.

Caroline Maxtone Graham died in 1898. Her husband, outliving her for three years, died in 1901. Thus both saw the beginning of

the third generation,¹ in the two daughters of their son James, the old laird living also to welcome Anthony, his first grandson, at Cultoquhey.

Old age brought a gracious change in the character of the 13th laird. It opened his heart to little children. His grandchildren knew no touch of awe of the almost legendary figure sitting withdrawn from the coming and going of household life. To break in upon the austere solitude of the laird's room was an adventure not undertaken without good cause by the grown-ups, but children disregard habits of isolation, the idea of moods to be considered does not occur to them, nor the sanctity of any one particular room in the house. Ysenda and Rachel ran noisily in and out, with all kinds of unusual demands, treating him as a sort of useful contemporary. No doubt it was refreshing to see and hear childish faces and voices, and all the tenderness of his nature awoke in response and understanding. He was the perfect grandfather in his patient kindness, indulgence and love.

It is upon this remembrance of him that the record closes. On a certain morning he is early disturbed by two very small girls who rush frantically into his room, waving little flags. Primed with a glorious message, they are as full of enthusiasm as if they understood its meaning. Caught up in the excitement of momentous news, their eager voices break upon the stillness: "Grandpapa! Grandpapa! Mafeking is relieved!"

The passing of the two lives of James and Caroline Maxtone seemed to bring the end of an era, as so many deaths did that happened near or at the outset of the new century. Changes came to the whole family at Cultoquhey, for Anthony, who succeeded his father as 14th laird, held the property for twenty-nine years, and being unmarried went away after one year spent at Cultoquhey to live in London.

Of this laird it is difficult to write—he is so near the present time in love and remembrance, and all who knew him well will feel that any description of his character and personality can only be an inadequate attempt to place upon record qualities that elude analysis.

¹ The children of James Maxtone Graham, 15th laird, are as follows:—

Ysenda. Born 1895; married, 1922, Patrick Smythe. Issue: [1] Patrick. Born 1923;

[2] Philip. Born 1925; [3] Charles. Born 1928.

Rachel. Born 1897; married, 1926, Greenough Townsend. Issue: [1] Anthony. Born 1927;

[2] David. Born 1930.

Anthony. Born 1900; married, 1923, Joyce Anstruther. Issue: [1] James. Born 1924;

[2] Janet. Born 1928; [3] Robert. Born 1931.

Patrick. Born 1903; married, 1926, Ann Taylor. Issue: [1] Peter. Born 1927; Michael and John [twins]. Born 1929.

To the comfort of a sunny hopeful outlook, a keen sense of humour and joy of life, was added the enviable gift of forming and keeping warm and enduring friendships. He saw the best in everyone, and viewed the possibilities of life always in a sanguine, unperturbed spirit. Seventy-six years old when he died, no one ever associated him with the thought of old age. As the years went by, he became more wholly the centre of the family, more established in the affections of all who knew him. It is only to be regretted that his days were not lived out at Cultoquhey. Strangers inhabited there for over thirty years.

The brothers and sisters scattered when the home was broken up, and made interests in other directions. But to some places belongs an enchantment that does not lessen as time goes by, their very names bringing a sense of the tranquil security of home, even when long emptied of the remembered voices and faces. Cultoquhey keeps its attraction still to those whose earliest memories are rooted there, and though the charm of the past can never be recaptured there will always remain through all changes an instinctive love and longing for the cradle of their race.

Under the will of Anthony Maxtone Graham, the 14th laird, his brother James succeeded to the family properties. Taking up the threads of association and understanding between those who have for centuries owned the land with those who have worked it, he brings to the changing conditions of modern life the will to preserve and develop all that was valued in the old days.

Now once again the descendants of the bygone lairds of Cultoquhey gather in the old surroundings. It is the great desire of the present owner to create a centre for the groups of the third generation, and, linking the traditions of the past with the activities of to-day, give to his children's children a background of happy memories to carry forward into the future.

How long the simple family life of the countryside on land owned for centuries can be continued who can say? Under the pressure of modern conditions it may sink at last, here, as in so many lost homes throughout the land, where all love and striving has been of no avail to keep back the encroaching tide of change. But should the race pass, and the ancient name cease to be linked with the lands, some spirit may still survive, an undying heritage from the past, in faint lovely legends of old ways, echoes of old serenities and loyalties, warmth of comradeship, love and laughter.

APPENDIX

INVENTORY OF CHARTERS OF THE FAMILY OF MAXTONE OF CULTOQUHEY ¹

ROBERT DE MAXTOUN, 1ST OF CULTIQUHEY

The original Charter to Robert de Maxtoun of the Cultoquhey estate cannot at present be found, but it is believed to have been granted in or about the year 1410. In a subsequent Charter by King James III. of Scotland, dated 5th August 1483, the original Charter is referred to as having been granted in the reign of King James I. of Scotland.

Lands of Achilquhany

1. Charter by William de Foulertoun lord of Aberuthen in favour of Robert de Maxtoun of the said William's lands of Achillquhenny with the pertinents lying in the earldom of Stratherne and sheriffdom of Perth for the said Robert's service and counsel rendered to the said William; to be holden *de me*; giving therfor yearly a pair of white gloves at the Kirk of Crieff, on the feast of Michael the Archangel in name of blench farm if asked only, dated at Perth the last day of [*blank*] 1429.

Half Lands of Ardoch

2. Charter by Robert Heries of Balhary in favour of Thomas Rogerson of Drumdebane of the lands of Ardoch with the pertinents lying in the Earldom of Strathern within the sheriffdom of Perth; to be holden from the said Peter Heries of the Earl of Stratherne giving therefor yearly to the said Earl a silver penny at Whitsunday in name of blench farm if asked only, dated at Perth the 29th day of November 1446.

PATRICK MAXTOUN, 2ND OF CULTIQUHEY, AND ROBERT MAXTOUN,
3RD OF CULTIQUHEY

Lands of Cultiquhey

3. Charter under the Great Seal by King James III. in favour of Robert Maxtoun son and heir apparent of Patrick Maxtoun son and

¹ The inventories in this Appendix were compiled in the year 1932, by Mr C. T. McInnes of the Historical Department, General Register House, Edinburgh, and Mrs Maxtone Graham, wife of the 15th laird of Cultoquhey and 7th of Redgorton.

heir of the deceased Robert Maxtoun (1st of Cultiquhey) of the lands of Cultiquhay with the pertinents lying in the Stewartry of Stratherne and sheriffdom of Perth. The Charter refers in the narrative or preamble to an ineffectual entry of the said Patrick Maxtoun in said lands and bears that the said lands being an ancient tenantry of the earldom of Stratherne in the time of James I. upon the purchase (*per conquestum*) of the said deceased Robert Maxtoun (1st of Cultiquhey) from the deceased Thomas Cardney, chaplain, were resigned by the said Thomas in the hands of the deceased Earl of Athole and given again heritably by the said Earl to the said deceased Robert Maxtoun, the said Earl himself not having power of receiving resignations or giving infeftments of tenandries of the said Earldom of Stratherne and so from the time of said resignation and illegal infeftment the said lands had remained in the hands of the King and his predecessors. The lands are to be holden of the King and his successors in fee and as freely as the said Thomas Cardney or his predecessors held the same as an ancient tenantry of the earldom of Stratherne before the said resignation. The said Robert Maxtoun, son of the said Patrick, and his heirs performing therefor (*faciendo inde*) yearly to the King and his successors the rights and services for (*de*) the said lands as for the foresaid free tenandry due and accustomed conform to the form and tenor of the evidents anciently made thereupon. The said Patrick and Robert Maxtoun and their heirs are discharged of the rents and profits of the lands levied by the said Patrick and the said deceased Robert Maxtoun, his father, from the time of the said resignation. The life-rent of the said lands is reserved to the said Patrick for the whole time of his life. The Charter is dated at Edinburgh the 5th day of August 1483.

THE SAID ROBERT MAXTOUN, 3RD OF CULTIQUHEY

Lands of Cultiquhey

4. Instrument of Sasine in favour of the said Robert Maxtone, son and heir apparent of the said Patrick Maxtoun, of the said lands of Cultiquhey, proceeding upon a Brieve or Precept of Sasine from the Chancery directed to William Murray of Tulibardine, Knight and Steward of Stratherne and his deputies. Four of the witnesses named in the Sasine are Patrick Maxton, Charles Maxton, Rolland Maxton and William Maxton, but they are not designed. The Sasine is dated the 14th day of August 1483.

Lands of Achilquhany

5. Precept of Sasine by Richard Foularton lord of Abruthven for infefting the said Robert Maxtoun as nearest and lawful heir to the said deceased Patrick Maxtoun in the lands of Auchinkenny; dated at Abruthven the 12th day of February 1487.

6. Instrument of Sasine thereon in favour of the said Robert Maxton of the said lands of Auchinkenny; dated the 18th day of February 1487.

7. Instrument of Sasine in favour of William Roge of the half of the said lands of Ardoch, and also of the whole lands of Pyttyncleroch with the pertinents lying in the earldom of Stratherne and in the sheriffdom of Perth, proceeding upon a Brieve or Precept of Sasine from the Chancery directed to Lord John Drummond, Steward of Stratherne, and his deputies. One of the witnesses is Robert Maxton of Cultiquhay. The Sasine is dated the 29th day of April 1489.

8. Charter by William Roge of Drumdewanen in favour of Robert Maxton of Cultiquhay of the said William Roge's half of the said lands of Ardoch, and the multures of the lands of Pyttyncleroch; to be holden of the King, giving therefor yearly two silver pennies at the said lands of Ardoch Whitsunday in name of blench farm if asked and at the lands of Pyttyncleroch at Martinmas one sheaf of corn for the said multures in name of blench farm if asked only. The Charter contains an obligation of warrandice which affects the lands of Pyttyncleroch. The Charter is dated at the Monastery of Inchaffray in Strathern the 6th day of May 1489. Charles Maxton is one of the witnesses.

9. Charter by the said William Roge in favour of the said Robert Maxtoun of said half of the lands of Ardoch, to be holden of the said William Roge, giving therefor yearly twelve pennies Scots at the lands of Ardoch at Whitsunday in name of blench farm if asked only. The Charter contains obligations of warrandice affecting the lands of Pyttyncleroch and is dated at Incheffra 6th May 1489, Charles Maxtone being one of the witnesses.

9A. Charter under the Great Seal, dated 3rd October 1489, confirming No. 9.

CHARLES WILLIAM MAXTOUN

Lands of Coulchrie

13. Notarial Instrument taken by Charles Maxtoun, in the hands of a Notary, relative to the succession to him of William Maxtoun, his

brother-german, in the lands of Coulchrie and the provision of three-fourths of said lands to Janet Buchanan, spouse of the said Charles, for her life such provision lapsing if the said Janet after his death should marry without consent of Robert Maxtone of Cultiquhay, his brother, and his other brothers, and the said William should thereupon have entry to said three-quarters. Said William is bound in a penalty of 40 merks Scots if he should disturb the said Janet in the enjoyment of said three-fourths. The Instrument is dated 8th April 1511.

14. Instrument of Sasine in favour of Alexander Maxtoun, son and heir of the deceased Robert Maxtoun of Cultiquhey, killed under the Royal Standard in the battle between the Scots and English on the 9th day of September 1513 on the battlefield called Flodoun; proceeding upon a Precept of Sasine dated the last day of May 1514 granted by John Lord Drummond, Stewart of Stratherne, in obedience to a Brieve of Sasine of the King's Chapel [Chancery] for infesting the said Alexander Maxtoun as heir foresaid in the lands of Cultiquhay with the myln of the same, extending to five pound land, and of ane merk land of Ardoch extending to the half of the said town; which Sasine is dated the 1st day of June 1514. One of the witnesses is David Maxtoun, brother-german of the said Alexander Maxtone.

Lands of Achilquhany

16. Instrument of Sasine in favour of the said Alexander Maxtoun, proceeding upon a Precept of Sasine dated the 4th day of May 1514, granted by Christina Countess of Montrose, lady of the barony of Aberuthven, for infesting the said Alexander Maxtoun in the lands of Auchilhanney; which Sasine is dated the 23rd day of June 1514. Two of the witnesses are David Maxtoun and George Maxtoun, brothers of the said Alexander Maxtoun.

ISOBELLA MAXTOUN, DAUGHTER OF ROBERT MAXTOUN

17. Notarial Instrument relating to the Testament and Inventory of the goods of James Learmonth and a debt of 100 merks Scots alleged to be due to him and his executors, under contract of marriage with Isobella Maxtoun, daughter of the deceased Robert Maxtoun of Cultoquhay, by the said Robert Maxtoun and others dated the 15th day of January 1515-6.

CHARTER ALEXANDER MAXTOUN TO PATRICK GRAHAM

18. Charter by the said Alexander Maxtoun to Patrick Graham of Inchbraky of one fourth of the Mill of Cultequhay with the miltures

sequels, and pertinents, to be holden *de me* for payment of two pennies Scots in name of blench farm if asked only; dated the last day of October 1537.

ROBERT MAXTOUN, 5TH OF CULTIQUHEY

Lands of Cultiquhey and Ardochmule

19. Procuratory of Resignation of the said Alexander Maxtoun for resigning his lands of Cultiquhay with the tower, fortalice, yards, mill, woods, fishings, tenants, tenandries and services of free tenants thereof and his merk land of Ardochmule with the pertinents in the hands of James Earl of Arran, Tutor of Queen Mary and Governor of the Kingdom, as in the hands of the Queen, for infestment to Robert Maxtoun, his son and apparent heir, reserving the liferent of the said lands to the said Alexander Maxtoun, and a terce thereof to Catherine Gregor his spouse, or any future spouse, and also the liferent to the said Catherine of that part of the said lands of Cultequhay called Little Cultequhay; dated at Cultequhay the 26th day of October 1545.

20. Charter under the Great Seal of Queen Mary, with consent of the said Earl of Arran, in favour of the said Robert Maxtoun of the said lands of Cultoquhay and Ardochmule and others, proceeding upon the resignation of the said Alexander Maxtoun and containing a Novodamus of said lands, to be holden of the Queen and her successors in fee, performing therefor yearly the rights and services of the said land and others due and accustomed before the said resignation, reserving the liferent of said lands to the said Alexander Maxtoun with a reasonable terce thereof to the said Catherine Gregor, his spouse, or any future spouse, and also the liferent to the said Catherine of Little Cultoquhay. The Charter is dated 2nd day of May 1546.

PATRICK MAXTOUN, 6TH OF CULTIQUHEY

Lands of Auchilquhany. Lands of Cultequhay and Ardochmuill

23. Precept of Sasine of William Earl of Montrose, baron of the barony of Aberuthven, in obedience to a Brieve of Sasine from Chancery, for infesting Patrick Maxtoun in the lands of Auchilquhany with the pertinents; dated at Kincardine the 9th day of August 1556.

24. Instrument of Sasine in favour of the said Patrick Maxtone, proceeding upon a Precept of Sasine dated 3rd day of September 1562, granted by David Lord Drummond, Steward of Strathearne and Balquhiddier, in obedience to a Precept of Sasine of the Queen's [Mary's]

Chapel, dated 4th day of August 1562, for infefting of the said Patrick Maxtoun as nearest and lawful heir of the deceased Robert Maxtoun, his father, in the lands of Cultequhay, with the tower, fortalice, yards, mills, woods, fishings, tenants, tenandries and services of free tenants thereof, and the merk lands of Ardochmuill, with the pertinents lying within the stewartry of Strathearne, reserving a reasonable terce thereof to Elizabeth Ruderford, spouse of the said Robert, and mother of the said Patrick, for her whole lifetime, which Sasine is dated the 3rd day of September 1562. One of the witnesses is George Maxtoun.

24A. (No. 90.) Reversion by George Graham of Inchbrakie in favour of Patrick Maxtone of Cultoquhey, 1563.

REVERSIONARY RIGHTS TO ALEXANDER MAXTOUN, BROTHER OF THE SAID
PATRICK MAXTOUN

Lands of Cultequhay and Half Lands of Ardoch

25. Charter by Patrick Maxtoun of Cultiquhay in favour of his brother-german, Alexander Maxtoun, and the heirs-male to be lawfully procreated of his body, whom failing to Anthony Maxtoun, also brother-german of the said Patrick Maxtoun, and the heirs-male to be lawfully procreated of his body, and failing all of them to the said Patrick Maxtoun's nearest and lawful heirs-male whatsoever bearing the name and arms of Maxtoun, of the lands of Cultiquhay, with the tower and pertinents, and also the half lands of Ardoch, and the multures of the lands of Pittencleroch to be holden *a me*; reserving the liferent of the same lands and others to the said Patrick Maxtoun for his whole lifetime: dated at Cultiquhay the 20th day of February 1581.

Lands of Achillquheny

28. Charter by the said Patrick Maxtoun in favour of the said Alexander Maxtoun and his heirs male foresaid, whom failing the said Anthony Maxtoun and his heirs male foresaid, whom failing the said David Maxtoun and his heirs male foresaid, and failing all of them the said Patrick Maxtoun's nearest and lawful heirs male whatsoever bearing the name and arms of Maxtoun, of the lands of Achillquheny with the pertinents, to be holden *a me*, reserving the liferent of the said lands to Patrick Maxtoun for his whole lifetime: dated at Cultiquhay the 20th day of February 1581. Two of the witnesses are Alexander Maxtoun, burgess of Perth, and Robert Maxtoun, in Cultiquhay.

30. Obligation and Reversion by the said Alexander Anthony and David Maxtoun in favour of the said Patrick Maxtoun and the heirs

male of his body for the redemption by the said Patrick and his said heirs male from the said Alexander, Anthony, and David Maxtoun, and their heirs foresaid, of the said whole lands and others upon payment of a crown of the sun of gold, as therein mentioned ; dated at Cultiquhay the 21st Day of February 1581.

LIFERENT RIGHTS TO NICOLAS GRAHAME, WIFE OF THE SAID
PATRICK MAXTOUN

31. Instrument of Sasine in favour of Nicolas Grahame, daughter of Marjorie Rollok, lady of Inchbrakie, following on a Charter, dated 3rd August 1587, by the said Patrick Maxtoun of Cultoquhay and the said Alexander, Anthony, and David Maxtoun, with one consent, to the said Nycolas Grahame in liferent for all the days of her life of the lands of Little Cultoquhay, mill and mill lands, of Mekill Cultoquhay, with the multures of Pittencleroch, and other multures, sequels and pertinents : which Instrument of Sasine is dated 7th August 1587.

32. Instrument of Sasine in favour of the said Nycolas Graham, following on a Charter dated 3rd August 1587 and granted by the said Patrick Maxtoun and Alexander, Anthony, and David Maxtoun, and also bearing to be granted with consent of John Earl of Montrois, the superior of the lands therein contained, to the said Nycolas Grahame in liferent as aforesaid, of the lands of Achilquhenny with the pertinents, together with the commony of mure, myre and moss, and pasturage upon the bounds of the lands of Ardoch : which Instrument of Sasine is dated 7th August 1587.

32A. (No. 92.) Sasine mentioning Patrick Maxtoun of Cultoquhey. January 1590.

WADSET RIGHT TO LAURENCE OLIPHANT AND HIS SPOUSE

33. Contract between Patrick Maxtoun of Cultiquhay and Nicolas Grahame, his spouse, with consent of David Maxtoun and Anthony Maxtoun, burgesses of Perth, brothers-german to the said Patrick, and also with consent of Anthony Murray of Dowald, and others, taking burden on them for Alexander Maxtone, son and apparent heir of deceased Alexander Maxtone, brother-german of the said Patrick, and them all of one consent, as principals, and with them John Lord Murray of Tullibardine and William Master Murray, his son, as cautioners and sureties for them for fulfilling their part of the contract, on the one part, and Laurence Oliphant and Lilius Graham, his spouse, and the said Laurence for himself and taking burden on him for his said spouse

on the other part, containing conveyance in favour of the said Laurence Oliphant and Liliash Grahame in conjunct fee, and the survivor of them, and the heirs lawfully gotten between them, whom failing of the said Laurence, and his heirs and assignees, of the sunny half of the mains of Cultiquhay, with the half of the houses and others as principal, and the shadow half of the mains of Cultiquhay and houses and others in warrandice of said sunny half, under reversion on payment by the said Patrick Maxtoun and his said spouse and the other persons foresaid to the said Laurence Oliphant and his said spouse and their foresaids of the sum of 2500 merks Scots as therein mentioned, which Contract is dated at Perth 9th June 1606.

36. Testament of the said Patrick Maxtoun of Cultoquhay containing Inventory and list of debts owing by him, and nominating Nicolace Grahame, his spouse, as his only executrix with power to her with advice of the persons therein named to pay his debts and distribute the free gear to the bairns lawfully procreated betwixt them; dated Cultoquhay 10th May 1615.

37. Gift under the Privy Seal of King James to Mr James Oliphant of Munchope, advocate, of the ward and non-entry duties of the lands of Cultoquhay and others since the decease of Alexander Maxtoun, brother of the said Patrick Maxtoun, or since the decease of the said Patrick Maxtoun, and until the entry of the heir, with the duties of the marriage of William Maxtoun, eldest lawful son and apparent heir to the said Patrick Maxtoun, and failing him of the marriage of the heir succeeding to him, or of the said Alexander, or of Patrick Maxtoun in the said lands, dated 17th May 1615.

WILLIAM MAXTOUN, 7TH OF CULTOQUHEY

Lands of Cultoquhey, Half Lands of Ardoch and Multures of Pittencleroch

39. Extract Retour of the General Service of William Maxtone of Cultequhay, as eldest son and nearest and lawful heir of the said deceased Patrick Maxtone, expedie before the Steward Depute of Stratherne at Crieff on 18th March 1618.

40. Gift under the Privy Seal of King Charles to the said William Maxtoun of the non-entry duties of the lands of Cultoquhey and half of the lands of Ardoch and multures of Pittencleroch since the decease of the said Patrick Maxtoun or his predecessor lawfully entered, and until the lawful entry of the righteous heir; dated 5th February 1628.

41. Letters of Regress under the Privy Seal of King Charles in favour of the said William Maxtoun granting regress to the lands of

Cultoquhey, half of the lands of Ardoch and multures of Pittencleroch, proceeding upon Letters of Renunciation and Redemption, dated 25th September 1626, and registered in the Register of Sasines and Reversions at Edinburgh 22nd Nov. 1626, by the said Alexander Maxtoun in favour of the said William Maxtoun, which Letters of Regress are dated 30th July, written to the Seal 2nd Aug., and sealed and registered 4th Aug. 1628.

Lands of Achilquhany

43. Precept of Clare Constat by James Earl of Montrose with consent of his curators, in favour of the said William Maxtoun, for infesting him as nearest and lawful heir of the said Patrick Maxtoun, his father, in the lands of Achilequhenny with the pertinents; dated at Kyncardin 16th day of April 1630.

JOHN MAXTOUN, 8TH OF CULTOQUHEY

Lands of Cultoquhey, Half Lands of Ardoch and Multures of Pitincleroch

45. Extract Retour of the special service of John Maxtoun, as nearest and lawful heir to the said deceased William Maxtoun, his father, in the lands of Cultoquhey and half of the lands of Ardoch and the multures of Pittencleroch, expedé before the Sheriff Depute of the Sherifffdom of Perth, within the old Kirk of Perth on the 9th day of April 1656. William Maxtoun is stated to have died in the month of June or thereby 1644.

CONTRACT OF MARRIAGE OF JOHN MAXTOUN AND ISOBELL GRAHAME AND
LIFERENT RIGHTS TO THE SAID ISOBELL GRAHAME

46. Contract of Marriage (in duplicate) between John Maxtoun of Cultequhay, with consent of Agnes Oliphant, his mother, on the one part, and Isobell Grahame, lawful daughter to John Grahame, younger of Balgowan, with consent of her said father, and John Grahame, elder of Balgowan, her 'guidsyr,' and the said John Grahame, elder and younger, for themselves and taking full burden on them for the said Isobell Grahame, on the other part, whereby *inter alia* the said John Maxtoun bound himself to infest the said Isobell Grahame in liferent for all the days of her lifetime in the lands of Little Cultoquhay with the mylne, mylne lands, multures and sequels thereof, and also in a yearly proportion of an annualrent to be paid out of the mains of Cultoquhay, as corresponds to the yearly avail of the rent of Auchilchangzie

extending yearly to 12 bolls beir and 12 bolls meal and 125 merks Scots of silver duty, with all and sundry houses, etc. of the lands and others above named, and that by double infestment, one thereof to be holden *de me* and the other *a me*. The said John Grahame, elder and younger, bound themselves to make payment to the said John Maxtone in name of tocher with the said Isobell Grahame of 4,000 merks Scots. The Contract is dated at Balgowan 9th Feby. 1656.

48A. (No. 93.) Retour in favour of John Maxtoun, son of William Maxtone of Cultoquhey. 9th April 1656.

49. Instrument of Sasine in favour of the said John Maxtoun of Cultewhey, following upon a Precept furth of the Chancery of Oliver Lord Protector of the Commonwealth for infesting the said John Maxtone as heir foresaid of the said William Maxtoun, his father, in the said lands and others, dated 26th Feb. 1657; which Instrument of Sasine is dated 17th March 1657.

GIFT OF WARD AND NON-ENTRY AND OTHER DUTIES TO WILLIAM PURVES OF WOODHOUSELEE

52. Gift under the Privy Seal of King Charles to William Purves of Woodhouselee (as having power and commission from the King of the gift of ward land within Scotland) of the ward and non-entry duties of the lands of Coltuquhay and other lands which pertained to deceased William Maxtoun, or deceased John Maxton, his son, or John Maxton, his 'oy,' or either of them, or his predecessors last entered therein, until the entry of the heir, with the duties of the marriage of John Maxton, son and heir of the said deceased John Maxton, and, failing him, of the marriage of any other heir of the said deceased William or John Maxtone succeeding them in their heritage, dated 10th June 1664.

RIGHT OF APPRISING OBTAINED BY WILLIAM ROY MCGILLIACHONELL AT MILL OF ROGIE AND AFTERWARDS ACQUIRED BY SIR ROBERT MURRAY OF ABERCAIRNEY

53. Charter by King Charles II. under the Great Seal in favour of William Roy McGilliechoneill, at the Mill of Rodger or Rogie, of the towns, lands, mains and manor place of Cultoquhey, mill thereof, mill lands, multures and others, the town and lands of Little Cultoquhey, and woods growing thereupon, the town and lands of Auchilhannie, houses and others, with the teinds, as well parsonage as vicarage thereof, proceeding upon a Decree of Apprising of the said lands and others at the instance of the said William Roy McGilliechoneill against the said

John Maxtoun then of Cultoquhey as lawfully charged to enter himself heir to the deceased John Maxtoun of Cultoquhey, his father, and his tutors and curators, if he any had for their interest, in payment and satisfaction to the said William Roy McGilliechoneill for himself and as assignee, and having right otherwise in manner specified in said Decree of Apprising, of the sum of 5644 merks, 5 shillings and 4 pennies Scots of principal and the sum of 282 merks of 3 shillings Scots for Sheriff's fee corresponding thereto; which Charter is dated 15th Sept. 1664.

JOHN MAXTONE, 9TH OF CULTIQUHEY

Lands of Cultiwhey, Half Lands of Ardoch and Multures of Pittencleroch

57. Extract Retour of the special service of John Maxtoun of Cultiwhey as nearest and lawful heir of the deceased William Maxtoun of Cultiwhey, his grandfather, in the lands of Cultiwhey, with the tower and pertinents, and half of the lands of Ardoch, and multures of Pittencleroch, expedite before the Depute Stewards of Strathearne at Crieff on 8th March 1686. The Retour bears that William Maxtoun died in May 1646.

WILL OF JOHN MAXTOUN AND BOND OF TAILZIE BY HIM

60. Latter Will of the said John Maxtoun in favour of Mungo Maxtoun, his only son, as his executor and legator-testamentary, and containing a nomination of Jean Moray his spouse, Thomas Graham of Balgowan, Sir William Moray of Octertyre, Coline Campbell of Monzie and John Mitchell of Byres, as tutors and administrators to his said son; dated 10th April 1687.

61. Bond of Tailzie by the said John Maxtoun whereby he rescinded, innovated and altered the tailzie of his lands of Cultiquhey and others to heirs-male in manner following, that is to say, failing of heirs-male of the body, to accresce to his eldest daughter and the heirs whomsoever of her body, whom failing to the heirs whomsoever of the body of his second daughter, whom failing to the heirs whomsoever of the body of his third daughter, the heirs-male being always preferable in succession, and failing thereof, the eldest daughter succeeding is thereby obliged to marry with a gentleman who shall assume and bear to himself and his posterity the surname and arms of Maxtone of the house of Cultowhey, by virtue whereof he and his said posterity are to enjoy the benefit of the said Tailzie and not otherways: it being declared that the intent and meaning of said

Tailzie was not to be understood that the said estate was to fall amongst heirs-portioners or females, but, failing an heir-male, the eldest daughter (she marrying as said is) was to succeed without division so as the surname and arms of Maxtone might be retained and transmitted to posterity. This Tailzie is dated March 28, 1687.

LIFERENT TO JEAN MURRAY, WIFE OF THE SAID JOHN MAXTOUNE

62. Instrument of Sasine in favour of Jeane Murray, Lady Cultequhey, following on a Bond of Provision, dated 28th March 1687, by the said John Maxtoun in favour of the said Jeanie Murray, his spouse, for infesting her in liferent and conjunct fee during all the days of her lifetime in the lands of Auchillchanzie, lands of Little Cultoquhey, mill and mill lands of Cultoquhey and others; which Sasine is dated 31st March and registered in the Register of Sasines at Perth 23rd March 1687.

MUNGO MAXTOUN, 10TH OF CULTIWHEY

Lands of Cultiwhey, Half Lands of Ardoch, and Multures of Pittencleroch

63. Extract Retour of the special service of Mungo Maxtone of Cultiwhey, and nearest and lawful heir of the deceased John Maxtoun of Cultiwhey, his father, in the lands of Cultiwhey, with the tower and pertinents, and half of the lands of Ardoch and the multures of Pittencleroch, expedite before the bailie or substitute of the Sheriff at Perth 27th August 1703. The Retour bears that the said John Maxtoun died in the month of April 1687.

66A. (No. 96.) Sasine in favour of Mungo Maxtone of Cultoquhey of the lands of Cultoquhey, dated 8th Nov. 1703, and registered 29th Dec. 1703.

67. Charter of Resignation under the Great Seal of Queen Anne in favour of the said Mungo Maxtone, 20th September 1704.

67A. (No. 97.) Sasine in favour of Mungo Maxtone of the lands of Cultoquhey and others dated 17th Aug. and registered 26th Sept. 1705.

67B. (No. 102.) Charter of the Barony of Cultoquhey 1706.

68. Extract Tack by William, Viscount of Strathallan, with consent therein mentioned, to the said Mungo Maxtoun, and after his decease, to ten of his heirs successively, for their and ilk ane of their lifetime, of the Teinds great and small parsonage and vicarage, of the said Mungo Maxtoun's lands of Cultoquhey, with the pertinents for 19 times 19 years after the decease of the last of said heirs, the said Mungo

Maxtoun's entry being at Whitsunday 1699; dated 20th Oct. 1700. Regd. 1st March 1763.

68A. (No. 98.) Extract Disposition by Viscount Strathallan to Mungo Maxtone of his teinds dated 21st Oct. 1700. Regd. 1st March 1763.

68B. (No. 103.) Commission from the Duke of Rannoch, Lord Tullibardine, to Mungo Maxtone of Cultoquhey, giving him the post of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Jacobite forces 1719. (Copy. The original document taken out to add to Jacobite Collection in 1932.)

69. Letters as to superiority of Achilhannie and as to seat in Kirk of Crieff.

Copy letter by the said Mungo Maxtone to Mr Graham of Gorthy, with reference to the supposed acquisition during his father's minority by Sir Robert Moray of Abercairney from the Marquis of Montrose of the superiority of the said Mungo Maxtone's lands of Achilhannie, but which Mr Maxtone wished to hold of the family of Montrose, 29th March 1728.

69A. (No. 99.) Sasine in favour of Mungo Maxtone in liferent and James Maxtone, his son, in fee, 11th June 1741, following on a disposition, dated 17th May 1728, granted by said Mungo.

JAMES MAXTONE, 11TH OF CULTOQUHEY

Lands of Cultoquhey, etc.

71. Disposition of the said Mungo Maxtone in favour of himself for his liferent use only, and, failing him by decease, James Maxtone, his only son, procreated betwixt him and the deceased Christian Graeme, his spouse, third daughter of Thomas Graeme of Balgowan, and the heirs-male of his said son's body, and the heirs of their bodies, whom failing the heirs-male of his the said Mungo Maxtone's own body in any other marriage, and the heirs-male of their bodies, which failing the heirs-female of the said James Maxtone's body, and the heirs of their bodies, which failing the female heirs of the said Mungo Maxtone's own body and the heirs of their bodies, all which failing to return to himself, the said Mungo Maxtone, and his own nearest and lawful heirs or assignees; dated 17th May 1728 and registered 1st March 1763.

71A. Sasine following thereon, 11th June 1741.

72. Contract of Marriage between the said James Maxtone and Marjory Graeme, his spouse, with consent of Thomas Graeme, Balgowan, James Moray of Abercairney and Sir James Ramsay of Bamff; dated 9th and 21st November 1764.

TRUST DISPOSITION BY THE SAID JAMES MAXTONE AND JAMES MAXTONE
HIS SON

73. Extract Trust Disposition and Assignment by the said James Maxtone, with consent of Lieut. James Maxtone of the 57th Regiment of Foot, his eldest son, in favour of Sir William Murray of Ochtertyre, Bart., Thomas Graham Esq. of Balgowan, Charles Moray Esq. of Abercairney, John Murray Esq. of Murrayshall, and John Graeme Esq., W.S., as trustees for the purposes therein contained, of *inter alia* the whole lands and others before mentioned including the teinds of the lands of Cultoquhey; 26th Feb. and 11th March, and registered in Sheriff Court Books at Perth 20th March 1794.

74A. (No. 100.) Discharge by Anthony and Patrick Maxtone of their portions under Marriage Contract of their father in favour of their elder brother James "now of Cultoquhey"; 28th Feb. 1799.

75. Extract Deed of Assumption by the Trustees in favour of William Stewart Esq. of Ardvorlich, Thomas Ramsay Esq., Princes Street, Edinburgh, as trustees, 1799.

76. Copy Locality of the Stipend of the Parish of Foulis Wester for Crop 1816; modified July 1816.

ANTHONY MAXTONE, 12TH OF CULTOQUHEY

77. Extract of Renunciation and Conveyance by the Right Hon. Thomas Lord Lynedoch, John Murray of Murrayshall, William Stewart of Ardvorlich, Thomas Ramsay, Princes Street, Edinburgh, Sir P. Murray of Ochtertyre, Bt., and Andrew Murray yr. of Murrayshall, the surviving original and assumed trustees under the Trust Deed No. 73, whereby on the narrative of the said Trust Deed and two Deeds of Assumption, and on the further narrative *inter alia* that Anthony Maxtone Esq., Capt. in the service of the Honble. Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies, the only surviving son heir and representative of the said James Maxtone, had not only either paid from his own funds the whole debts contracted by the said James Maxtone, or in relation to the trust estate, or granted his obligation to relieve the trustees of the same, but had discharged the trustees, who not only renounced the trust but also assigned conveyed and made over to the said Anthony Maxtone and the heirs of his body, whom failing to the other heirs entitled to succeed under the Contract of Marriage before mentioned between the said James Maxtone and Marjory Graeme and to their heirs; 1815; registered 1848.

78. Instrument of Sasine in favour of Rev. John Murray, minister of Fowlis, 1815.

79. Charter of Confirmation by James Duke of Montrose in favour of the said Anthony Maxtone of the lands of Achilquhenny now called Achlanzie, January 1830.

CONTRACT OF MARRIAGE BETWEEN THE SAID ANTHONY MAXTONE
AND ALEXANDRINA GRAEME

80. Extract Contract of Marriage between the said Anthony Maxtone and Alexandrina Graeme, daughter procreated of the marriage betwixt the deceased John Graeme of Eskbank, W.S., and Mrs Mary Scott of Usan, with consent of her mother, containing *inter alia* procuratory of resignation of the lands of Cultoquhey, half lands of Ardoch, etc. etc. in favour of said Anthony Maxtone, and heirs, failing the heirs-male to the eldest heir-female. June 1848.

92. (No. 106.) Accounts and letters of the Maxtone family.

93. (No. 107.) Various business papers concerning the Maxtones.

94. (No. 108.) Maxtone letters and accounts, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

INVENTORY OF CHARTERS OF THE FAMILY OF GRAHAM OF BALGOWAN

1. Charter of feu-farm of the lands of Moneydie Roger granted to Archibald Douglas by the Principal and Masters of St Leonard's College of St Andrews, dated 1st Nov. 1577.

1A. Charter of Confirmation by King James VI. in favour of Archibald Douglas of Milntown confirming a Charter of feu-farm of the lands of Moneydie Roger granted to him by the Principal and Masters of St Leonard's College, St Andrews. 11th Dec. 1577.

2. Letters of Legitimation by Colene Earl of Argyle in favour of Alexander Gald Makvekgregour, natural son of deceased Alexander Macgregor of Glenstra, dated Inverara 17th June 1579.

(Usually the prerogative of the Crown, this grant would appear to be unique as being made by a vassal.)

3. Sasine in favour of John Graeme and Lady of Inchbrakie, his spouse, of the lands of Balgowan. April 9, 1584.

3A. Contract between James Lord Innermeith and John Graeme, son lawful to John Graham of Garvock, and Marjory Rollock, his spouse. 4-7 April 1584.

(Good specimens of signatures.)

3B. Charter by James Stewart Lord of Innermeith in implement of a contract between him and John Graham, lawful son of John Graham of Garvock, and Marjory Rollock, his spouse, whereby said Innermeith grants to said John Graham younger and Marjory Rollock, his spouse, the lands of Balgowan, dated 4th April 1584.

(Lord Innermeith's seal in good preservation.)

4. Sasine in favour of James Master of Gowrie of the Barony of Ruthven and other lands which belonged to William Earl of Gowrie who was executed in May 1584 for his part in the Raid of Ruthven in 1582. The Sasine is dated 11th April 1584.

(The obvious purpose of the infeftment in favour of the Master of Gowrie (about twelve years old) was to dispose of the lands to escape their forfeiture when sentence thereof was pronounced at the time of execution. The Sasine proceeds on a Precept in the King's name (James VI.). James Master of Gowrie, afterwards second Earl, died in 1586.)

5. Discharge by John Lord Innermay in favour of John Graham of Garvock and Marjory Rollock, Lady Inchbrakie, his spouse, concerning lands of Balgowan. 3rd July 1589.

(Lord Innermay's seal appended in good preservation.)

7. Charter by the Principal and Masters of St Leonard's College, St Andrews, in favour of Patrick Rattray of the lands of Moneydie Roger, dated 8th July 1595.

8. Discharge by John, Earl of Atholl, in favour of John Graeme of Newraw and Marjorie Rollock, his spouse, 31st May 1596.

(The Earl's seal in good preservation appended.)

9. Sasine Johnn Grahame of Balgoun and his spouse of the lands of Balgoun. 1st Oct. 1596.

10. Contract between James Earl of Atholl, Lord Innermeath and Balveny, as principal, and Sir Robert Crichton of Cluny, knight, David Hering, fiar of Glasclune, as cautioners, whereby after his age of 21 years he shall ratify the infeftments in favour of John Graham of Balgowan in life-rent and John Graham, his son, in fee, against any claim by Lady Mary Countess of Atholl, elder, and relict of John Earl of Atholl. 9th and 21st Feb. 1604.

(Patrick Graeme of Inchbrakie a witness.)

11. Bond by James Earl of Atholl to John Graham of Balgowan for £200. Dated 5th March 1604.

(Robert Crichton of Cluny a witness.)

13. Contract of Marriage between John Graeme, fiar of Balgowan, with consent of John Graeme of Balgowan, his father, and Marion Rollo, his mother, and Isobell Bonnar, only child of Ninian Bonnar of Keltie. 1605.

14. Charter under Great Seal in favour of John of Balgowan, elder, in liferent, and younger, in fee, of the lands of Kippen, etc.; and of said John, elder, and Marjorie Rollok, his spouse, of the lands of Balgowan. 28th March 1605.

(Great Seal attached.)

14A. Charter by John Graham of Balgowan in favour of John Graham, his son, of the lands of Balgowan, in implement of a marriage contract between said John, elder, and Marjorie Rollock, his spouse, and said John Graham, their lawfull son, on the one part; and Ninian Bonar of Keltie and Isobel Strang lady of St Minnans, his spouse, and Isobel Bonar, their only begotten daughter, for the marriage of said John and Isobel; charter dated at Keltie 8th Oct. 1605.

15. Sasine in favour of George Ogilvy of Quhythillis concerning lands of Ballinblair. 20th June 1605.

16. Bond and Disposition of Dame Marie Countess of Atholl of her liferent of the lands and Barony of Invermay. 6th March 1606.

21. Charter by Thomas Chapman in Kynved, with consent of Ninian Criehton, in Balinblair, and of William Grahame, lawfull son of deceased Archibald Graham of Strowiehill, in favour of said William Grahame of the lands of Balinblair, dated Perth, 10th September 1618. Witnesses John Graham of Balgowan and John Graham of Bogside, his son and heir.

22A. Sasine in favour of John Graeme of Balgowan proceeding on a Retour in his favour as lawfull nearest heir of deceased John Graeme, his father. Nov. 8-9, 1625.

23. Instrument of Resignation of the lands of Balgowan and others in liferent in favour of Johnne Grahame, elder, of Balgowan and Isobel Bonar, his spouse. 23rd June 1628.

25. Extract of gift of Legitimation to John Grahame younger. 1635.

26. Disposition by the Lords of Exchequer in favour of John Graham of Balgowan of an annuity of £304. 18th Dec. 1635.

27. Disposition John Grahame of Balgoun to John Grahame, his natural son. 1636.

28. Memorandum for the Laird of Balgowan mentioning that deceased John Graham of Balgowan on 21st June 1638 resigns Balgowan in favour of himself and Isobel Bonar, his spouse, in liferent and John Graham now of Balgowan, his son, in fee.

29. Charter under the Great Seal of the lands and Barony of Balgowan and others in favour of John Graeme of Balgowan in liferent and John Graeme of Balgowan, his son, in fee. Dated 23rd June 1638.

32. Contract between Magdalene Murray, relict of Mr Peter Murray, commendator of Inchaffray, and Mr Robert Murray, minister of Methven, as tutor for Patrick Murray, son of said deceased Mr Patrick, on the one part: and William Blair of Williamston, on the other, with reference to the teinds of Williamston. 5th June 1645.

33. Contract of Marriage between John Graham elder of Balgowan and John Graham younger, his son, on the one part: and Helen Blair, lawful daughter of Sir Thomas Blair of Balthayock, for the marriage of said John younger and Helen Blair. 24th March 1647. Dated at Tarsappie and Balthayock.

39. Instrument of Resignation by John Graham younger of Balgowan with consent of John Graham elder of Balgowan, his father, in favour of John Graham, eldest lawfull son to said John Graham younger, whom failing to Thomas Graham, his second son, whom failing to

James Graham, his third son, whom failing to David, his fourth son.
22nd Jan. 1658.

41. Contract of Marriage between Thomas Stuart of Ladywells and Margaret Graeme, dau. of John Graeme, fiar of Balgowan. Jan. 1660.

41A. Statement of accounts between the Marquis of Montrose and John Graham of Balgowan, with other Grahams, under various dates, ending in Aug. 9, 1666. Signed "Montrose" (son of the Great Marquis). The entries include the names of Lord Rollo, Graham of Fintry, Patrick Graeme of Inchbrakie, Graham of Craigie, Mungo Graham of Gorthy. Large sums were borrowed from these in the lifetime of the Great Marquis, and possibly were settled by his son after his death in 1650. Aug. 9, 1666.

41B. Marriage Contract between the Laird of Bamff and Mistress Cristian Ogilvy. 1666.

42. Charter of Confirmation and Novodamus by St Leonard's College of St Andrews to Gilbert Rattray of the lands of Moneydie Roger and teinds thereof, dated 12th June 1670.

43. Contract of Marriage, Thomas Graham of Balgowan and Anna Drummond. 1671.

44. Extract Sasine, John Graham of Balgowan, his spouse, and son of the lands of Over Pitcairnes and Moneydie rodger, 1672.

45. Contract of Marriage between James 4th Earl of Perth and Lady Dame Lillias Drummond, daughter of James Drummond of Machany, and widow of the Earl of Tullibardine, 5th Oct. 1676. Perth.

Witnesses: David Lord Madertie.

Sir John Drummond of Logiealmond.

John Drummond of Loudin.

Lieu. Gen. Will. Drummond of Cromlix.

Mungo Halden of Gleneagles.

Sir Robert Moray of Abercairny Kng.

Sir William Graham of Braco Kn.

John Halden fiar of Glenhegies.

John Drummond of Machany.

Thomas Graham of Balgowan.

James Drummond of Comrie.

George Drummond of Blair. [Machany.

Andrew Drummond uncle of said John Drummond of

Patrick Hay, brother-german to the laird of Pitfour.

George Hume of Argethie.

John Mitchell, Steuart clerk of Stratherne.

Mr Harry Drummond of Balloch.

46. Memorandum for the Laird of Balgowan, 5th July 1677. Narrates Minute betwixt John and Thomas Graham of Balgowan, on the one part: and James Graham of Garvock, on the other, by which they bound themselves to pay him 10,000 merks.

47. General Retour in favour of James Graeme of Garvock, 14th Dec. 1677. The deceased John Graham of Balgowan, a brother's son of the great-grandfather of James Graeme of Garvock.

48. Resignation in favour of John Graeme elder of Balgowan and Thomas Graeme younger. 11th Feb. 1680.

49. Charter under the Great Seal in favour of John Graeme of Balgowan in liferent and after his decease to Thomas Graeme, his eldest son, also in liferent, and John Graeme, eldest son of said Thomas, in fee, of said lands and Barony of Balgowan, and others, dated 13th Feb. 1680.

50. Sasine in favour of John Graham of Balgowan and Helen Blair, his spouse, Thomas Graham younger of Balgowan and John Graham, eldest lawful son of said Thomas. 21st May 1680.

51. Marriage Contract between David Graem and Agnes Kidd. 1681.

52. Resignation in favour of Sir William Blair of the teinds of Williamston. 24th June 1687.

53. Crown Charter in favour of Patrick Oliphant of Williamstone. 29th July 1687.

54. Sasine in favour of Mistress Elizabeth Graeme of her liferent provision. 8th Jan. 1692.

54A. Division of the tofting of the tops of Lednoch betwixt Drumfag and Lednoch. 1694.

55. Contract of Marriage between Alexander Hering, eldest lawful son of James Hering of Callie, with consent of said James, his father, and of Marjory Durhame, his spouse, mother to the said Alexander, on the one part: and Mistress Helen Graham, youngest lawful daughter of deceased John Graham of Balgowan, on the other part, for the marriage of said Alexander and Mistress Helen, 1695. Signed at Easter Innergowrie.

58. Contract of Marriage between David Carmichael and Mistress Anna Grahame. 1698.

60. Liferent provision and disposition, Thomas Graeme of Balgowan to Anna Drummond his spouse. 1702.

60A. Liferent sasine. Anna Drummond, Lady Balgowan. 1702.

61. Confirmatory Charter in favour of Thomas Graham of Monydie-Rodger and John Graham. 1702.

62. Renunciation, Anna Drummond in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan; 1702.

63. Gift of Escheat in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan of his own estate which fell into the King's hands on 9th July 1703. Dated 4 August 1703.

64. Memorandum by Thomas Graeme of Balgowan. Births of his children in his own handwriting, 1672-1703. Later provision for his children.

66. Sasine in favour of Mistress Lillias Grame Lady of Bamff of her liferent lands. 21st May 1713.

66B. Bond of Provision by Sir James and John Ramsey to the Lady of Bamff. 1708.

67. Marriage Contract between William Moray of Abercairny and Mistress Elizabeth Graham, with consent. 1707.

68. Settlement on Lillias Graeme, spouse to the Laird of Bamff, younger. 1713.

69. Inventory of the writs and evidents of the half lands of Lednock disposed by Mr William Moncrieff to Thomas Graham of Balgowan, 1710.

70. Marriage Contract between the Laird of Balgowan (Thomas, 4th laird, *b.* 1650) and Mistress Christian Leslie, 1716.

71. Disposition Gilbert Stewart to William Peddy in liferent and David Peddie in fee. Easter Burnside of Ardity. 29th Mar. 1718; and Sasine to the same 10th May 1718.

74. Tack of the Teinds under Privy Seal to John Graham younger of Balgowan, and his heirs, of the towns and lands of Over Pitcairnes, Craigengall, and Brigtoun of Almond—"which do now belong to" the Crown, "through the abolition of Episcopacy." At Edinburgh, 30th Nov. 1724.

75. Sasine in favour of Andrew Blair of Corbs of the lands of Souterton following on a Charter of Adjudication by James Oliphant of Gask. 21st April 1730.

76. Liferent Sasine concerning Marjorie Graeme, wife of James Rattray younger of Craighall. 30th Nov. 1731.

77. Translation Disposition and Procuratory of Resignation etc. by Patrick Murray of Dullery in favour of Laurence Olyphant of Gask. 26th May 1732.

77A. Sasine in favour of Patrick Murray of Dullary of the fourth part of the town and lands of Soutertoun granted to him by Andrew Blair of Corbs and Laurence Olyphant of Soutartoun. 26th May 1732.

77B. Instrument of Resignation in favour of Laurence Oliphant of Gask of the third part of the lands of Soutertoun. 26th May 1732.

78. Papers relative to the case of Euphan Caddell against John Graham. 1733, 1761, 1774.

78A. Marriage Contract of Jean Graeme, 2nd daughter of John Grame of Balgowan, to Sir Alexander Murray Kynnynmound of Melgund. 1735.

79. Sasine in favour of John Graeme of Balgowan of the lands of Drumdewan. 27th Sept. 1745.

(OLIPHANT)

80. Disposition by the Barons of Exchequer in virtue of Act of Parliament vesting in them the estate of Laurence Oliphant, late of Gask, attainted or convicted of high treason, in favour of Laurence Oliphant of Condie, who purchased the estate at auction on 16th Feb. 1753. The price of the lands £11,158. 4. 10³/₄d. sterling, under deduction of £2,220. 4. 5¹/₂d., which he was allowed to retain in his hands during the life of Emilia, the present wife of the said Laurence Oliphant, attainted for her jointure of various lands, amounting annually to £111. 2. 2³/₄d. Cautioners for payment—Patrick Campbell of Monzie and David Graeme of Orchill. Disposition dated 6th Aug. 1754.

80A. Disposition by the Barons of Exchequer to Laurence Oliphant of Condie of the Barony of Williamston. 6th Aug. 1754.

81. Crown Charter of Resignation in favour of Thomas Graeme of Balgowan of the Barony of Williamston, and others. 3rd July 1760.

84. (14) Contract of Wadset between Thomas Graham of Balgowan and John Stewart, of the lands of Tullyfergus. 1773.

85. (1) Contract of Wadset betwixt Thomas Graham of Balgowan and William Carmichael, writer in Edinburgh, of the lands of Newton of Blair. 1773.

(2) Sasine of lands of Newton of Blair in favour of William Carmichael. 1773.

(3) Contract of Wadset betwixt Thomas Graham of Balgowan and Thomas Whitson of Parkhill of the lands of Over Pitcairn, and others. 1773.

(4) Sasine of lands of Over and Nether Pitcairns in favour of Thomas Whitson of Parkhill. 1773.

(5) Disposition by Thomas Whitson to Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1787.

(6) Disposition by Thomas Graham of Balgowan to Archibald McDonald, counsellor at law, of Lincoln's Inn, London, of the lands

of Carnies, Pitmurthly, Soutarton, etc., in liferent, and to himself in fee. 1773.

(7) Sasine of the same. 1773.

(8) Disposition, Thomas Graham of Balgowan to The Hon. Capt. Charles Napier of the lands and Barony of Luncarty in liferent and himself in fee. 1773.

86. (1) Sasine, lands of Nether Benchills in favour of John Murray of Murrayshall in liferent and Thomas Graham of Balgowan in fee. 1773.

(2) Sasine in favour of David Smyth of Methven of lands of Nether Benchills. 1773.

(3) Feu by Thomas Graham in favour of David Smyth of Methven of the lands of Nether Benchills. 1773.

(4) Disposition by Thomas Graham of Balgowan to John Murray of Murrayshall in liferent and himself in fee of the town and lands of Nether Benchills. 1773.

(5) Feu Charter by Thomas Graham of Balgowan to David Smith of Methven. 3 March 1774.

(8) Disposition, William Carmichael to Thomas Graham. 1787.

(9) Contract of Wadsett betwixt Thomas Graham of Balgowan and William Carmichael of the lands and barony of Blair. 1774.

(10) Contract of Wadsett betwixt Thomas Graham of Balgowan and David Tod of Balmunzie of the lands of Lornty, etc. 1774.

(11) Instrument of Sasine of the lands of Pildrey in favour of Captain George Knight younger of Jordanstone. 1774.

(12) Contract of Wadsett between Thomas Graham of Balgowan and Capt. George Knight. 1774.

(13) Disposition by Capt. George Knight to Thomas Graham of wadsett right to Pildrey.

(14) Sasine of the lands of Moneydie in favour of John Johnston. 1774.

(15) Regd. Disposition and Retrogression, David Smyth of Methven to Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1774.

(16) Disposition, Thomas Graham of Balgowan to Robert Aberdein Esq. of the lands of Rogerton and others. 1773.

87. Contract of Marriage betwixt Thomas Graham of Balgowan and The Hon. Miss Mary Cathcart. 1774.

88. (1) Precept of Clare Constat for infefting Thomas Graham of Balgowan in the lands of Cairnies as heir to his father. 1774.

(2) Sasine of the teinds of Cairnies in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1776.

89. (1) Crown Charter of Resignation in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan of the Barony of Blair. 23 Feb. 1774.

(2) Precept of Clare Constat for Thomas Graham of Balgowan in lands and Barony of Luncarty as heir to his father. 1774.

(3) Sasine of the lands and Barony of Luncarty in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1776.

(4) Sasine of the Lands of Rogorton and Blackhall in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan.

(5) Precept of Clare Constat for infefting Thomas Graham of Balgowan in the lands of Nether Benchils, heir to his father. 1776.

(6) Sasine of the tower and lands of Nether Benchils in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1776.

90. (1) Precept of Clare Constat for infefting Thomas Graham in the lands of Pitlandie as heir to his father. 1776.

(2) Instrument of Sasine, lands of Pitlandie in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1773.

91. Inventory of Writs dated 1613 and subsequent dates to 1742 of the lands of Williamston, etc.

92. (1) Instrument of Sasine of an annuity of £500 upliftable out of the lands and barony of Blair in favour of the Honourable Mrs Graham of Balgowan. 1780.

(3) Precept of Clare Constat by John Duke of Atholl in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 19 Feb. 1785.

(4) Sasine in favour of Thomas Graham of Balgowan of the lands of Drumdewart, dated 8 Nov. 1785.

93. Regd. Disposition and Retrocession, David Smyth of Methven to Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1788.

94. Bundle of Vouchers, etc., in connection with Discharge and Renunciation from the Earl of Hopetoun for the Marquis of Annandale to Thomas Graham of Balgowan. 1787 and various dates.

96. Inventory of the Writs of the lands and barony of Gorthy relative to a Disposition of certain parts thereof by Baron Steuart Moncrieff's trustees to Thomas Graham. 8 and 14 Feb. 1793.

97. Bundle of papers concerning Margaret Lady Nairne and her son John, and their financial affairs at various dates about 1730.

Negotiations between them and Thomas Graham of Balgowan regarding his purchase of the lands of Redgorton.

The Nairne claims upon the estate of Balgowan.

98. Letters concerning the Nairne family, of Jacobite interest. Many names of Perthshire families included. Various dates in the eighteenth century.

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