

I propose in this Book to record all the information our father has left us regarding his Family, and to make it the basis of more elaborate details, showing as far as possible from whom he was descended and to whom related, following up this with our Mother's descent, and also with those of our children, who will thus have the advantage of possessing much Family history which otherwise would most probably be lost in the future, as no doubt much has been lost in the past, from the want of some such Record.

Gargunock House, 7th April 1877.

My father in a loose sheet now before me says - "according to my Grandfather's Records, his Grandfather John Findlay was born in Newmills, otherwise called Loudoun Parish, of honest parentage, rather before than after the year 1635; and although I find in the Library an ancient Quarto Latin Dictionary with his name upon it, I incline to think that he had not the advantage of a classical Education." (Marginal note - Classical Education was held in highest estimation by my father, who as well as his forebears were all distinguished for scholarship.) I may here observe that without knowing on what my father formed this opinion, it is difficult to gainsay it, but I think it is obvious that unless John Findlay had been a man of good education as well as of means, he could hardly have taken the position he did.

My father proceeds - "There is authentic evidence of his having been settled in the town of Kilmarnock as a merchant in 1664 ... and that he, under God's Blessing, rose rapidly to what was in those days regarded as wealth and independence. The trade of Scotland was at that time (and indeed until after the Rebellion of 1745) carried on in a great measure through travelling merchants, and the business of John Findlay was to supply these itinerant traders with the various articles of merchandise which they carried in their packs through the various districts of the West of Scotland and of Galloway and Niddisdale and to buy and export to Holland through Borrowstoness the coarse domestic woollen manufactures of Ayrshire, and to import in exchange for these tobacco, indigo, iron, cards, and the various articles of necessity and luxury which could only be obtained at that period from the countries of Europe which had commercial intercourse with India and America, but of which Scotland had none. (Marginal note - Paterson Carrick p.110 says "A pack horse Merchant was considered in those days equal to the Wholesale Merchant of the present" - and I may add from what my father has told us, was the origin of the fortunes of some of the best families in Scotland,)

"After he settled in Kilmarnock John Findlay married in May 1668 Margaret Smith the daughter of a wealthy skinner there, Robert Smith, by whom he got a marriage portion of 1300 Merks, and about 1680 he bought for 900 Merks the Gleibhouse of Kilmarnock and Garden attached, in which my Grandfather and his father were born, and which continued the residence of his mother till her death in 1785. (Marginal note - "Lady Jean Drummond only daughter of Earl of Perth was married to Earl of Sutherland with a portion of 5000 Merks" - the greatest portion that ever was given in Scotland before that time (1629)", History, House of Leytoun. Domestic Annals of Scotland (Chambers) Vol.II p.54. This is interesting and valuable as a means of comparison. If 5000 Merks (£287.17.4d) was on the most liberal scale for Earl of Perth's only daughter, 1300 Merks was a handsome allowance for a Baillie of Kilmarnock and a fair evidence of his wealth.) (Marginal note - 1886 It will be seen from correspondence with Mr. G. Muir of Kilmarnock that Chambers was in error as to this.) I can remember reading the initials of John Findlay and his wife on the corner stones of the gable, and also on an ancient tombstone in the old Kirk Yard of Kilmarnock (to which Gleibhouse adjoined) with the date 1671. (Marginal note - Ancient Grave Stone dated 1671 - as there is no death in the family recorded so early, it would be interesting to know to what this date refers.) There still remain in the Library some Classical books which bear the signature of his eldest son Robert, who was eminent for his scholarship and attainments, but was cut off at the early age of 24 in the year 1695, in consequence of a severe cold, leaving no issue. His father had purchased for, and infest him/

in the lands of Lawhill, or Drumgrieslaw in Kilmarnock parish, and had also purchased the lands of Waxford (from James Miller of Waxford) in Symington Parish, the former for 1100, and the latter for 5000 merks and £40 Scots, he being then upwards of 60 years old, and from frailty desirous to gather in his money, which he had lent to the landed proprietors in his neighbourhood, and to invest it for his family. He had lent 3000 Merks to Sir Alexander Cunninghame of Corsehill on heritable Bond, and 1000 to Sir George Campbell of Cessnock by Wadset over the lands of Hole in Riccarton Parish (see Deed drawn out by his son Robert). (Marginal note - The landed proprietors of Scotland were all but ruined and reduced to great straits by the exactions of the Government from Charles I's time till advent of William of Orange and became heavily indebted to those who had money to lend on Security of their Estates.) The loss of his son Robert was a severe stroke and he only survived that event about two years dying in 1697 and leaving an only son William, and three daughters Margaret, Mary and Agnes (marginal note - see Paterson pedigree also Muir pedigree combined with Fairlie and Clarke). I believe the relationships with the families of Fairley, Clarke and Wilson (the latter however much more recently connected afterwards by intermarriages with the Paterson family) arises from the marriages of these daughters, with their Ancestors, but I have no particulars. John Findlay left considerable personal property in addition to his Heritage, although he had incurred heavy losses, and amongst others, was a Shareholder to the extent of £100 sterling in the famous Isthmus of Darien Scheme, the failure of which was a heavy blow to Scotland, checked her efforts for many years to raise herself above the poverty stricken state to which she had been so long reduced. Evidence will be found among the old papers in the Caken Cabinet of John Findlay having incurred fines and penalties during the persecutions in the reign of Charles II for "Ecclesiastical irregularities" - as they were termed - and from which few people of any note in the West of Scotland at that time, of earnest religious impressions, escaped - indeed his name stands at the head of one of the lists published by Wodrow in his History of the persecutions of the Church of Scotland, see page - Among other severities, penalties were incurred by parents having their Children baptised by any of the Presbyterian Clergy and in consequence of this, although his son William was born on 15th April 1686, he was not baptised until the passing of the Act of Indulgence in 1687, when the Ceremony was performed by Mr. Osborne, Minister in Kilmarnock after he had been kept till then in concealment. The rights of the Church of Scotland were only finally established at the Revolution and throughout the County of Ayr in particular, that event was hailed with exultation, in proportion to the larger portion of suffering it had undergone. Some old table napery was left to me by my Grandfather which had descended to him from this eventful period, upon the damask of which is interwoven the triumphal entry of William III into London, such being one of the modes which was adopted in commemoration of it - and may be considered to be indicative of John Findlay's politics. John Findlay left by testament 2000 Merks to each of his three daughters and to his Widow in life rent, the house in Glebeland and half of Waxford - "Household furniture, Goods, Gear and sums of money whatever". She died in January 1726 about a month after her son William to whom his father left Gleibhouse and the two Mailings etc. in property".

I may here mention that from ancient times, the manufacture of Skins, in which I understand the business of the Skinner consisted ("along with those of bonnets, hose or stockings, , fingrums (?) playding and linen clothes") formed one of the chief industries of Kilmarnock (see Paterson's History of Cunninghame).

My father always used to say he believed Waxford was a corruption of Wallaceford. He proceeds in his narrative - "William Findlay in his younger days was very weakly and unhealthy and had got his leg broken which ever continued rickety. He was taught to read English distinctly by his father and his elder brother Robert and after his death was sent to school to learn Latin etc., first with Mr. Robert Murdoch (afterwards a Minister in Ireland) and next under Mr. John Thomson afterwards fixed in Hamilton. He made great proficiency in Latin and afterwards in the Greek language, in which he read authors for a year after quitting school and entered the College of Glasgow at/

at Michaelmas 1702 and studied Logick under the care of Mr. John Loudoun, one of the Regents there, for proof of which see his voluminous notes in Latin of the Lectures which were at that period delivered in that language. He paid Widow Finnie near the College gate for Bed and Board, £25 Scots per Quarter. The thoughts in which he had indulged of following a learned profession were laid aside on his return home in June 1703, in consequence of the scoffing he had endured from his fellow students at the bodily infirmity above alluded to and by the advice of his mother he decided on the Mercantile profession, and with her assistance took up his father's business in the year 1704 in which he persevered and prospered - "In a marginal note which no doubt should have preceded the last sentence, my father says - He was also for some time placed with provest Roger of Glasgow to acquire a knowledge of business that gentleman being the first representative of Glasgow in the Union Parliament".

It would seem however from the records he had left of his personal history that he suffered bitterly from self-reproach in allowing himself to be led too much into dissipation and gaming by those "who loved his company notwithstanding his bodily disadvantages" - and that - he made vows and promises of amendment with a pen dipt in his own blood" - My grandfather destroyed these notes, but records that "a reformation was wrought thro' God's blessing and grace". In this my Grandfather acted wisely, but had these "Confessions" been preserved they would have given a graphic picture, alike of the manners of that age and the character of the individual!

In the year 1715 on the evening of Friday the 27th May he was married by Mr. Wright, one of the Ministers of Kilmarnock, to Barbara Hodgert, the second of four daughters of Mr. Robert Hodgert - Surgeon - and of Janet Brown, daughter of Mr. Robert Brown - Minister of Quothquan and Laird of Knockmarlock in Riccarton Parish - but whose parents were both dead. Her friends had engaged to give her a tocher of 900 Merks and William Findlay had engaged to life rent her in all his Heritage and to give her 1,000 Merks at her own disposal, but as her friends drew back from their engagement saying they had nothing to give, he also refused to fulfil his - saying that "his wife must be content to take her lot with him in the world" - and thus the debate was settled. Robert Paterson (father of my Grandmother) who had married the elder daughter (Annabella) after whose death he married the Widow of John Douglas of Mains - agreed to "fit her out a Bride" (the accounts of which by the curious in such matters, may still be found in the old Cabinet) and mutual discharges were granted, William Findlay being relieved from all claims on account of his wife or of her family. The following is the record by my Grandfather of his mother's ancestors - Her Grandfather Robert Hodgert, a Minister in Galloway who fled to Ireland in troublesome times and died - Her Grandmother, Annabella Boyd, daughter of Robert Boyd of Pitcon married in 1633 to Anne, daughter of Bryce Blair of Blair. Her Father, a surgeon in Kilmarnock, her mother, daughter of Mr. Robert Brown - Minister of Quothquan, by a daughter of Andrew Hay of Craignethan and her mother's sisters were married to Williamson of Cardrona and Mr. Hay, Surgeon in Peebles, who either was Laird of Haystoun or brother to the Laird - Her mother's brother was Andrew Brown, Laird of Knockmarlock, Riccarton, Andrew Hay of Craignethan was brother of a former Hay of Haystoun and was a man of some eminence in his day, as may be seen in Woodrow's History. In the Records of Scotch retours published by order of the House of Commons in 1807 I find as follows "14th July 1657 - Mr. Robert Brown, Minister of Quothquan, Heir of Richard Brown of Knockmarlock his father in the 5 Pund land of Knockmarlock of old extent" - and "23rd April 1608 - Thomas Boyd de Pitcon Heir Male of Thomas Boyd de Pitcon his father in the 2 merk land of Pitcon etc. etc." In Nisbet's Heraldry this Boyd of Pitcon is stated to be son of the Lord Boyd of Kilmarnock.

The marriage jaunt which followed was a cavalcade on horseback of the Bride and Bridegroom and their friends to visit her relatives in the South of Scotland and particularly her Aunts at Peebles and Cardrona. The Bride was only 17 and although the marriage took place in 1715 my Grandfather, the eldest, was not born until Wednesday the 22nd March 1721 "at a quarter of an hour after four of the clock afternoon" - to the great joy of his parents and much gratitude to God. He was baptised Robert "in memory of his memorable uncle deceased" by Mr. G. Pedon, one of the Ministers of Kilmarnock - on Thursday the 30th March/

March. There were also other children of the marriage, John born on Sabbath March 24th 1723 who died of the "Bolehive" 5th April in the same year, and William born on Thursday 24th December 1724 who survived indeed his father but died 23rd March 1727. William Findlay died after a short fever on 17th December 1725 being 39 years and eight months old - my Grandfather thus being the only surviving child and being only between 4 and 5 years of age at the time of his father's death.

Such is the history of his family given by my father, evidently copied from his Grandfather's records with due appreciation of their quaintness. He adds the following notes - "See Douglas Baronage page 55 - Sir James Maxwell of Calderwood married Jean daughter of Sir James Hamilton of Evandale (sister of Lady Anne, Marchioness of Hamilton) by Lady Margaret Cunninghame his Wife daughter of James 7th Earl of Glencairn - By her, Sir James Maxwell had an only daughter Mary, married to Hay of Craignethan. I think it is either in Woodrow or in Naphtali, or the Wrestlings of the Kirk of Scotland, where it is recorded that this Andrew Hay of Craignethan being one of the four persons named to present "the remonstrance" to Charles II after the Restoration for nonadherence to the "Holy League and Covenant" - was the only one of the four who escaped being put to death - but that when the soldiery were in search of him his Wife was driven by them out of the house of Craignethan and perished in the snow" - See also Douglas' peerage Vol. 2nd page 33 - "Thomas 2nd son of Alexander Boyd, 2nd son of Robert Lord Boyd and Ancestor of the Boyds of Pitcon". This Lord Boyd was father of Thomas Boyd, Earl of Arran, who married Mary eldest daughter of James II, afterwards married to James, Lord Hamilton, whose son was created Earl of Arran and the Earl of Glencairn from whom my Grandfather was descended as above, married their daughter".

"On the flyleaf of Horatius Minelii 1568, is the following, written upon it by Robert Findlay then 14 years old - "

Robert Findlay est hujus liber possessor anno domini 1685
 Hic liber est meus, possum producere testes
 Signis me qua erit Robertus hic nomen erit
 Findlay jungatur, qui scripsit hic nominatur
 Ian scripsi feri - merendam bellam haberi
 Ian scripsi totum, puella da mihi potum -
 "Robert Findlay ought this Book". (Pencil note adds: pronounced "ocht" Scottise)

and on same leaf "Gulielmus Findlay est mihi nomen"

The following is another note of my father's relating to his Great Grand-uncle Robert, or rather a copy of one of his Grandfather's notes:-

"My Grandfather's Elder son Robert, landed from Ireland at Greenock after boisterous weather at sea, walked to Kilmarnock, fevered and died in the year 1695. A young man being no more than 24 years of age - of a fair unspotted character - which was not then very common for persons of his standing. He had been infert before he died in the Mailing of Lawhill, which his father had purchased for him from Sir William Cunningham, but his father did not long survive him - and indeed he mourned very much the loss he had sustained by his removal".

The following is the concluding part of a note from my father to his son John then on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton - "as I am writing I send you some family lucubrations which may save you trouble (if you retain them) at a future date, should you ever think of following them out to greater extent. I ~~act~~ sc~~ip~~ myself with it as I had to keep the house for the rain. My respectful regards to the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton. You will notice there is a more recent descent from that family thro Hamilton of Evandale" - Again writing to John on the 10th October 1860 from Boturich - the previous note having apparently been written on the 8th he says - "I wrote to you on the 8th and enclose a statement of Lineage from James II of Scotland - which I was led to draw out for your brother Charles - (I believe thoroughly correct) and as it has cost me some leisure hours I think it as well to send you a copy with some notes/

notes for your information. I may possibly have told you formerly of this line of descent as well as of others - but this seems to be most appropriate for the family as in those other lines - I am not the head as I am in this.

As far as I can see both these notes to John refer to the same document of which he has given me two copies in my father's hand writing dated respectively 8th and 9th October 1860 - the latter being apparently an amended copy of the former, as regards some trifling details. It is as follows -

"Lineage from James II of Scotland, and through him to the Plantagenet Kings of England -

- James II == Mary of Gueldres
 - James Lord Hamilton == Princess Mary
 - James 1st Earl of Arran == Janet Betorin, daughter of Sir David Betorin of Creich
 - 5th Earl of Glencairn == Lady Johanna Hamilton
 - 6th Earl of Glencairn == Janet Gordon
 - 7th Earl of Glencairn == Margaret Campbell, daughter of Sir Colin Campbell of Glenorchy
 - Sir James Hamilton of Evandale == Lady Margaret Cunninghame (see p.34)
 - Sir James Maxwell of Calderwood == Jean Hamilton (sister of Anne who married Marquis of Hamilton)
1. Andrew Hay of Craignethan == Mary Maxwell
 - Robert Brown of Knockmarlock == Hay (see p.64)
 2. Robert Hodgert == Janet Brown
 3. William Findlay == Barbara Hodgert) Coheireses of
 - Robert Paterson == Annabella Hodgert) Robert Hodgert
 - Robert Findlay == Annabella Paterson
 - Robert Findlay == Dorothea Dunlop
 - Robert Findlay == Mary Buchanan

1. It is stated by Woodrow that he was one of the four deputies from Scotland to present "The Remonstrance" to Charles II for nonadherence to the "Holy League and Covenant" - to which he had sworn formerly in adverse times and that Craignethan was the only one of the four who escaped a violent death, but I have read in Woodrow, or some other historian of the period, that when the soldiers sent to search the house of Craignethan could not find him they turned Lady Craignethan out of doors - in the depth of winter when the ground was covered with snow wherein she perished. (No wonder that Scott selected Craignethan for his Tillytudem).
2. Son of Robert Hodgert, Minister in Galloway who fled to Ireland during the persecutions and died there. He married Annabella Boyd, dam of Boyd of Pitcon by a dau of Blair of that ilk. (See Woodrow Vol.1 page 241 1666. See also page 263 1667 for origin of "Whiggs".)
3. Son of John Findlay and Margaret Smith - John was proprietor of the Lands of Waxford and Lawhill and of the Gleibhouse and Garden in Kilmarnock, which Dr. Findlay records was the residence of the family for 100 years. (Gleibhouse life rented to Mrs. Cunninghame and sold after her death 1787.)

The descent from James II may be traced thro the Blairs of Blair - Napiers of Kilmahew etc. etc., but I select the above as best suited for me as descended from above coheireses and certainly the legal representative of Barbara Hodgert

sgd. R. F. Boturich 9th October 1860."

The next in order is a note to John and altho - the memo - which accompanies it contains some repetition of what has gone before I give it in extensu for the sake of the new matter it contains.

"On amended page you have some more particulars regarding the family referring to which I am your affecte further - R.F. P.S. You may place these in retentis There are many texts for futher investigation if worth the trouble - Boturich 31st October 1861. Memoranda from Dr. Findlay's notes etc.etc. "As to the family/

family of Hedgart (or Hodgert. Query? is this derived from Hogsherd?) (marginal note - I think a clue to this query may be found in Woodrow Vol.1 p.78 (Appendix) where the name "Robert Hogsherd" appears in a list of the Nonconformist Ministers of the Synod of Bellinnoch in Ireland, Presbytery of Rout". I doubt whether this is much to the point however as Woodrow's spelling of names is not always reliable, which also he acknowledges.) which ended in coheiresses" (Before going further I would here mention that this query of my father's was always a matter of joke with him, it was always said he suggested it in the same principle as a former laird of Dennistoun was said to ride with one spur, viz., to keep down the pride of the family!) "Annabella married to my Great-Grandfather Robert Paterson (who married the widow of John Douglas of Mains) now /2 represented by Smoult Paterson and Barbara married to my Great-Grandfather William Findlay represented by me. I think another daughter, Euphemia Hodgert married Reid according to my father, but it must have been Jean (marginal note - neither), who was Minister of Stevenson - perhaps to the latter's father. Dr. F. records that Robert Hodgert Minister in Galloway (who fled to Ireland during the persecutions and died there) married Annabella Boyd, daughter of Boyd of Pitcon by Anne Blair, a daughter of Bryce Blair of that ilk, but as her Uncle Alexander, a younger son of Blair, married the heiress and assumed the name of Cochrane, I apprehend that his descendents, the Earls of Dundonald, now represent Blair in the male line, so that there can be no representation of that family through the above Annabella". Here I think my father was mistaken. The idea was that his Great-Grandmother, Annabella Hodgert, was, or might be, heir of line of Blair, in which case the representation of Blair - as such - would undoubtedly have rested in him, although Dundonald would nevertheless have remained mail heir, but I think it will be seen in the sequel that there are others who have a Better claim to represent Blair in line. My father proceeds - "I have read somewhere (perhaps in the life of Boyd of Trochrigg) that the last Boyd of Pitcon was drowned at Duncoon. It may be interesting to trace whether the representation of that family may be through her, but I incline to think there may be others better entitled to it. The late Mr. Robison of Pitcon purchased it in 1780 I heard". I may here observe that Paterson in his history of Cunninghame confirmed in a foot note to his account of the family of Pitcon, the death of one of them in Duncoon as mentioned above, but he was not the last of the family - "His (Robert Hodgert's) son Robert Hodgert, married Janet Brown, daughter of Robert Brown (he was Minister of Buchuan and succeeded on the death of his elder brother Andrew) of the ancient family of Knockmarlock and Hay, daughter of Andrew Hay of Craignethan (said by Nisbet to be a branch of the family of Tweedale) and Mary Maxwell, only child of Sir James Maxwell of Calderwood's first marriage with Jean Hamilton, daughter of Sir James Hamilton of Evandale and Lady Margaret Cunningham, daughter of the 7th Earl of Glencairn (Jean's sister was married to the Marquis of Hamilton) see Douglas Baronage page 55 etc. etc. Two sisters of Janet Brown were married to Williamson of Cardona and Hay of Haystoun (or his brother) in Peebleshire and Dr. F. records that his father's marriage jaunt in 1715 was a cavalcade en horseback to visit these relations of the Bride. The late Major Brown sold Knockmarlock and resided for many years with his family at Tours in France. His only son succeeded a number of years ago to Hamilton of Grange, but sold the estate to Mr. Gavin Ferguson. If alive, he is the only male descendent but he had sisters living at Tours when my cousins of Househill spent some time there more than twenty years since. Whether any of the family now survive I know not, but my impression is that I and Smoult Paterson are at least as near as any other collateral descendent of that family. As to the question of Quartering Arms (which, when no estate is got with the right, seems of little moment) there is no question of my right to quarter those of Hodgert, if that family had arms Matriculated, and possibly, if the investigation was worth the trouble, others might be discovered though not apparent. I know of no descendents of Hay of Craignethan for instance, except those through above channel, but "Hodgert" is rich in collateral Ancestry. Boyd of Pitcon was descended from Sir Alexander Boyd, brother of Boyd Earl of Arran, and I have read was the appointed instructor of James V in all chivalrous and manly accomplishments.

Sgd. R.F."

(Marginal/