

The page begins with a tree starting with Thomas, 3rd son of Sir Walter, 13th Laird of Buchanan by his wife the Lady Isabel Stewart, had a Charter from his father, 1461, of the Lands of Gartencaber, and is designed of Gartencaber and Meikle Carbeth in a Charter granted by John Haldane of Gleneagles 1476. The tree continues down until we come to the family of John Buchanan of Ardoch (1761 to 1839), married 1785 Elisabeth, daughter of John Parkes of Netherton, Co. Worcester, died 1807. The family shews the eldest son John Buchanan, then Mary who married Robert Findlay, then Margaret, and finally Elisabeth Parkes. John Buchanan's family is continued two generations further to John Parkes Buchanan.

(The script then continues).

The estate having gone in time of my grandfather his descendants can no longer be called of Ardoch. My uncle long hoped to buy it back some day and had he been a prudent man he might, but he was not prudent. Late in life in consequence of his father's misfortunes he went into business as a merchant in Glasgow, aided by friends, my father among others, who had great sympathy for him, and who all lost by him! Amiable, and greatly liked by all who knew him, he was a weak wrong headed man. To crown and confirm the downfall of the Family, he married a domestic servant in his father's house. The result was a life of misery, and in a great degree, exclusion from Society in which he had always been a favorite, besides, for a time at least, estrangement from his nearest relations. The only child Thomas John, spoilt in early years, naturally grew up a selfish and self-willed man. His father was unsparing in giving him what no doubt he considered a good education, although the foreign element in it may be open to question. As he grew up mercantile life, forsooth, was not good enough for him. Thereupon between his father's and (especially) my brother John's influence, a commission was obtained for him in the 9th Regt., one of the Crack Corps of the service. In this he did well as far as I have heard, and being a clever man from all accounts, had he stuck to the service, he might have become in time an honour to his name, and so far have redeemed the credit of it. Instead of this, having married without consulting, or even with the knowledge of his father, he by and bye gave up the service and settled down to live on his father. His extravagance seems to have known no bounds, and his father, who never knew the value of money, could refuse him nothing. The result can easily be imagined. His father in his old age was dragged down to poverty and absolute beggary, and that in order to meet the demands of this relentless bloodsucker. Let no one in after years think that I exaggerate. Every word I write is only too true. It was one of the most wonderful things I ever saw. I should rather say the most wonderful. This indulged spoilt boy repaying all the indulgence and what no doubt was meant for love and kindness, with ingratitude and utter indifference to the happiness and comfort of the overaffectionate father, in his declining years. Never was such retribution as my dear uncle suffered, for that one false step of marrying as he did. Thomas John since his father's death, having prior to that event exhausted all the resources of his relations on this side of the Tweed has been living as he can on the South Side of it. He is always dying with the view of extracting money from even such hardhearted people as us, but somehow he never does die. If little John Parkes Buchanan grows up to be a man it is very much to be hoped that by some extraordinary freak of nature he may have been enabled to resist the influences of such a father, and for the honour of the old name, turn out a good man. I would here specially request my son, if he is spared, and sees his way to lend a hand to this (now) forlorn little boy (whose fate I sincerely pity) to do it, more especially remembering how differently his own childhood has been spent (a pencil margin note here states: 1883 I believe his mother's family is taking care of him. Just above this there is another margin note which says: Died at last however.). My uncle as I have said reduced himself to beggary in his infatuated

weekness for his son, turned himself out of house and home, sold off everything he had, furniture, plate, Family pictures, everything in fact and of course became entirely dependant on his friends. Those who read this when we are all gone will marvel, but every word I write is true. I purchased the Family pictures and among them is one of himself, by Graham, afterwards Graham Gilbert. It was originally painted in his uniform as Captain of Dumbartonshire Yeomanry Cavalry, with his hat under his arm. Afterwards this was painted over with no hat under his arm and the attitude is constrained and awkward in consequence. There is likewise a little picture of his mother Elisabeth Parkes, done in 1774 as my uncle told me when she was 11 years old. It has been very much admired, and supposed to be by Gainsborough by judges who have seen it latterly, but on making enquiry among the Parkes connection I am told that the artist was "Clarkson of Islington, London". This picture was bequeathed by my granduncle John Parkes to his nephew John Buchanan. A copy of it always hung at Balloch and after my grandfather's death came to my mother. It now hangs at Boturich. The Parkes family being English have no information as to their history beyond what is contained in the Pedigree in my possession which see.

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COLONEL JOHN FINDLAY 3d. of EASTERHILL

Succeeded his father in 1862. He was born to be a soldier, and was to have been one, but the disastrous year 1825 put a stop to it. In due time he was initiated into the law as a writer, and for some years practiced in Glasgow, but the profession was so utterly distasteful to him that he abandoned it, and on the Militia being reorganised on the breaking out of the Crimean war he obtained a Captaincy in the Lanarkshire Regiment. From this he removed on obtaining from the Duke of Montrose a Majority in the Stirlingshire and Dumbartonshire Militia, afterwards distinguished by H.M. in consideration of their splendid appearance and discipline with the Title of The Queen's Highland Borderers. This Regiment was embodied for many years (margin note at "many" amends this in pencil to several) and held its own with the crack line Regiments, attracting the attention of the C.in C. and drawing forth the highest commendations on all occasions. On one occasion when the war appeared likely to be protracted it volunteered en masse for foreign service and in that event would probably have been made a line regiment. The war came to an end however and instead of going abroad the Regiment was disembodied. The distinguished position which it has always maintained for efficiency and discipline has been largely due to its Major, and, since the withdrawal of Sir Alexander Maitland from the command, entirely so, to lieutt. colonel and latterly Coll. Commandant Findlay, whose thorough knowledge and hearty interest in everything pertaining to the regiment added to his pride in its prestige and untiring energy in promoting everything relating to its welfare, have resulted in making it the foremost Militia Regiment in Scotland, and second to none in the kingdom whether Militia or Line, not only for its perfection of discipline or drill but for the character of its Officers. In fact the character the regiment now bears is largely due to the discrimination shewn by the Collonel in the selection of Officers combining thorough capacity to carry out his views, with devotion to him to do it, and being at the same time thorough gentlemen, and men belonging to the best Families in the Country.

Besides the Highland Borderers Collonel Findlay has for many years commanded the Regiment of Dumbartonshire Rifle Volunteers which in their efficiency have done him as much credit as the Borderers, and although for some years past pluralities of command have been, strictly speaking, illegal, it has been by special request (margin note: of Sir James Colquhoun Lord Lieutenant of Dumbartonshire on behalf of the Volunteers) that he has hitherto retained Command of both Regiments. Two years ago the Volunteers presented him with a full length picture of himself and his old favorite charger the General, painted by Mr. Glasgow, a very excellent likeness of man and horse. The latter was presented to him when a colt by his old

friend General McIntosh of Dunchattan.

Coll. Findlay besides being Coll. Commandant of these two Regiments is a J.P. for Cos. of Lanark and Dumbarton and likewise a Deputy Lieutt. for both counties.

He succeeded to Boturich on our father's death but sold it in 1872 to Charles. As already mentioned he purchased Blair Lusk an adjoining property which he also formed a part of our grandfather's estate, and this still remains in his possession.

Coll. Findlay was Senior Officer in Stirling Castle in 18      when the Douglas Chamber was destroyed by fire.

Under the new Army System the Militia Regiment ceased to be called the "Queen's Highland Borderers", and became linked with the      as the 3d. Battalion of "the Princess Louise's Argyleshire Highlanders", thereby entirely losing its individuality as far as that could be affected by the name. Under the new Regulations also Coll. Findlay in due time ceased to hold the rank of Coll. Commandant. It was heartbreaking to him to think of separating his connection with the Regiment. By the generosity however of the Young Duke of Montrose this was obviated. The Duke resigned in his favor the Honorary Colonelship, becoming Colonel Commandant. There never had been any Honorary Colonels save the Dukes of Montrose beginning with this young man's grandfather who raised the Regiment, having our grandfather John Buchanan of Ardoch for his Lieutt. Coll. and Coll. Commandant.

Coll. Findlay thus retained his connection with the Regiment till his death at Newton House, Mid Lothian on 26th Nov. 1885. He had a wonderful acquaintance with his fellowmen of all ranks. Perhaps few men have had a wider circle of Acquaintance. At the same time he exercised an extraordinary influence for the benefit of many, but unfortunately never saw the advisability of exercising some portion of it on his own behalf.

A cutting from the Dumbarton Herald, 2nd Dec. 1885, headed Death of Coll. Findlay of Easterhill states:

Many in Dumbartonshire will regret to see that our obituary today contains the name of Coll. Findlay of Easterhill, Lanarkshire who died on Friday last at Newton House, Mid Lothian. The deceased gentleman who was 71 years of age had all his life been associated with this county and was universally respected. He took a deep interest in the business of the county, and was a frequent attender at County and Licensing Court meetings. He was a courteous and warm-hearted gentleman, having all the bearing of a good old-fashioned county squire. He had been for long connected with the Stirlingshire and Dumbartonshire Militia; and for many years also acted as Colonel of the Dumbartonshire Regiment of Rifle Volunteers, in which Regiment he had the liveliest interest until the day of his death. Latterly he took the office of hon. colonel, and was succeeded by Colonel Henry Currie, the present Commandant; but there was no greater favourite among the officers and men than Colonel Findlay, and on review day the old soldier was never amissing. Colonel Findlay was an ardent Conservative in politics. He succeeded to the estates of Boturich, Dumbartonshire on the death of his father. Subsequently he sold this estate to one of his brothers and had been living in comparative retirement for some time past. His demise will be widely regretted.

Extract from old Drumhead Bible belonging to Archibald Buchanan and dated 13th Dec. 1720 (a note adds: Archibald 8th Laird of Drumhead whose wife was Janet d. of Buchann ("Gilbert" shewn in pencil to precede Buchanan) of Bonkel and whose pictures along with that of their son Archibald 9th Laird are in John's possession). nuptas Aprile 28, 1720.

I took up house in Glasgow December 13 1720. My mother-in-law died Feb. 3rd. at one in ye morning 1723 (note: Dorothy Napier). My wife bare a dead boy on Thursday ye 13th of Aprile 1721, after hard labour from ye Sunday's night before. Her delivery was near 11 o'clock fore noon of ye sd day, and on the first of August 1722 she was delivered of another dead boy. August 5th 1723 my wife was delivered of a living son who was baptised in the Laigh Church of Glasgow Aug. 22 1723 by Mr. James Clark and named Archibald. He was born about two afternoon. (pencil note: portrait in blue coat).

October 24th 1724 my wife was delivered of a daughter who was baptised by Mr. James Semple, Minr. in Dreg orn, and named Dorothea. She was delivered about nine att night.

Sept. 9 1726. My wife was delivered of a daughter about half an hour after three after noon. She was baptised by Mr. Andrew Boyd, Minr. of Gwynham on Wednesday ye 21 of Sept. and named Jarret. (red ink note: Mrs. Dunlop of Househill).

Glasgow Octr. 18 1727. My wife was delivered of a daughter about half an hour after eleven in the forenoon. She was baptised by Mr. William Parlan, Minister of Eglishom on that day eight days being Wednesday the 25 of Octr. 1727 and named Jean.

Glasgow 2 June 1729. My wife was delivered of a son att half an hour after three in the morning. He was baptised by Mr. Parland on Wednesday the 4 of June and named Gilbert.

Glasgow Febr. 13 1731. My wife was delivered of a daughter named Mary who died ye 28 of Decr. 1731 at Drumhead.

Drumhead 24 of March 1732. My wife was delivered of a daughter named Margaret.

Drumhead 3 May 1733. My wife was delivered of a son half an hour after six in ye morning, named James.

Greenock 27 Augt. 1734. My wife was delivered of a daughter att five in ye afternoon named Rebecca.

Greenock 22 Augt. 1735. My wife was delivered of a son half an hour after seven after noon, named John.

My wife died Decr. 29 1735 on Monday att ten att night. She was buried in the chappell of Killmahew on the 2d of January 1736. N.B. my father died the first day of Decr. 1729 att ten ockl att night.

My father-in-law died the 28 or 29 Decr. 1730, about Midnight. Also my daughter Mary died the 28 Decr. 1731 about midnight.

My mother died Decr. 26 or 27 1742.

Red ink note added later: 11 Octr. 1890. Visited Chapel of Killmahew. Only 2 Tombstones of Drumhead visible. No doubt others might be found by clearing the ground. Inscriptions on these 2 were: "Archibald Buchanan of Drumhead Esqre. died May 26 1789". This was the last laird born 1723 as below. "Dorothy Buchanan died July 21 1789". She was Mrs. Shannan born 1724 as below. No traces of any Napier Tombs; floor buried in rubbish.

DUNLOP of HOUSEHILL (see p.24)

Extract from Househill Family Bible belonging to James Dunlop in 1762 but having also belonged probably to his father, its date being 1726.

Robert Dunlop Esq. of Househill (2d Son of James Dunlop of Garnkirk, Cadder Parish in Co. ) died 13th May 1762 and was interred in the Abbey Church Yard of Paisley on the 18th of May 1762 aged 62. Janet Buchanan 2d daughter of Archibald Buchanan Esq. of Drumhead, Cardross Parish, Dumbartonshire and wife of Robert Dunlop of Househill, Renfrewshire, Esq. died on the 26th of Decr. 1812 and was interred in the Abbey Churchyard of Paisley aged 87.

James Dunlop son of the above Robert Dunlop and Janet Buchanan born 30 Sept. 1748; married to Elisabeth Buchanan eldest daughter of John Buchanan; second son Buchanan Bunkel, mercht London. Mrs. Dunlop died 23 Jany. 1820.

Archibald Dunlop died young. Lillias Dunlop wife of Robert Muirhead Esq. of Croy Leckie, Stirlingshire, parish Kilearn, born at Househill 15th day of June 1753.

Robert Dunlop son to the above Robert Dunlop and Janet Buchanan born 9th day of March 1756, succeeded to the estate of Drumhead according to the will of his uncle and as heir of entail to the estate of Drumhead in Dumbartonshire and in compliance with that Deed assumed the name and arms of that family, now Robert Buchanan Dunlop of Drumhead, parish of Cardross, Dumbartonshire.

Janet died young. Dorothy Dunlop youngest daughter of Robert Dunlop and Janet Buchanan; born Sept. 1st 1759; married Robert Findlay of Easterhill, Merchant in Glasgow, only son of Dr. Findlay, Professor Divinity College of Glasgow.