WISHART OF PITARROW

The surname of Wishart is of great antiquity in Scotland and began to make a figure in this country about 500 years ago.

(a) Chartulary of
Arbroath in the
Lawyers Library

The immediate ancestor of this family was John Wishart, who was a considerable Proprietor of Lands in the Shire of Kincardine in the beginning of the reign of K. Alexander II (a) who succeeded to the Crown of Scotland, Anno 1214.

1st Sir John, his heir.

1242 (d).

(2)

(b) Lives of the Officers of State p. 14

2nd William Wishart, one of the greatest men of his time. He was Archbishop of St. Andrews and Chancellor of Scotland in the reign of K. Alexander III (b).

(c) Writs of the family of Douglas Bundle 4 3rd Adam, who is a witness in a Charter wherein he is designed "ADAM WISHART de Logyn, filius Johannes" & Anno 12/2 (c). He was the progenitor of the Wisharts of Logie.

(d) Chartulary of Arbroath,

p. 245

He was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir John Wisehard, Swho got a Charter of the lands of Coneveth, Hallton and Scotistown, in the County of Kincardine from Adam, Abbot of Arbroath, the Superior, wherein he is designed "Johannes de Wisehard" fillius "Johannis" & c Anno

(e) Ibidem, p. 248

He had the honour of Knighthood conferred upon him by K. Alexander II and got another Charter from the same Abbot, of the Mill and Mill lands of Conveth "Domino Johanni" Wisehard Militi & c Anno 1245 (e).

(f) Ibidem, p. 250

He afterwards obliges himself to the Abbot of Arbroath, his Superior, not to sell or alienate any of his lands in the Mernes without the Abbot's consent (f). This writ has no date, but by the witnesses appears to have been about the year 1260. He left issue two sons -

(g) Prynnes collections Vol. III
p. 658

1st Sir John, his heir.

2nd Gilbert Wishart, who swore fealty to K. Edward I of England, Anno 1269 (g). Sir John died in the end of the reign of K. Alexander III and was succeeded by his eldest son.-

6

III

(h) Prynnes Vol. III
p. 601 Remarks
on Ragman's Roll
24 & 25

Sir John Wishart, who with many other brave Scotsmen were compelled to swear allegiance to K. Edward I of England when he had overrun Scotland, Anno 1296, and he was then designed "Dominus Johannes de Mernes" (h).

IV

V (a) Chartulary of Arbroath,

p. 250

He died in the reign of K. David Bruce in an advanced age and was succeeded by his grandson - Robert Bishop of Glasgew. Was with Bruce & Wallace at Bannukburn 1314.

Sir John Wishart of Pitarrow, who enjoyed all the lands & that were possessed by his ancestors. He entered into an Indenture with John Abbot of Arbroath, concerning the Mill and Mill lands of Corneth in which he is designed "Nobilis virdominus Johannes Wishart de Pitarrow" & c Anno 1399 (a) and is the first of the family we have found designed by that title.

VI .

(b) Ibidem

He died in the beginning of the reign of K. James I leaving issue a son, Sir John Wishart of Pitarrow, who succeeded him and made a donation out of his lands in the Mernes to the Abbey of Arbroath, Anno 1442 (b).

VII.

(c) Ibidem, p. 252

He left issue a son and successor, James Wishart of Pitarrow, who got a Charter from the Abbot of Arbroath of the Mill and Mill lands of Conveth to him, his heirs and successors, dated 17th July 1461 (c). He was succeeded by his son -

VIII

(d) Ibidem, p. 149

John Wishart of Pitarrow, who was served heir to his father before an inquest of fifteen gentlemen, Anno 1491 (d).

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(e) Ibidem, p. 149

This son, John, pays homage for his lands of Reidhall & c to Robert Leighton, Abbot of Arbroath, the Superior, Anno 1492 (e).

(f) Charter in Public Archives Lib. 14, No 376

He afterwards got a Charter under the Great Seal "Johanni Wishart de Pitarrow et Soneto Lindsay ejus Sponso" of the two Woodtowns and others in the Mernes, dated 1st July 1507 (f). He died soon thereafter and by the said Janet Lindsay, a daughter of the family of Edzel, left issue a son -

IX

Lib. 17, No. 101

James Wishart of Pitarrow, who succeeded him, and made a great figure in the reign of K. James IV with whom he was in high favour and was appointed Clerk of Justiciary and Lord Advocate by that Prince, from whom he got a charter under the Great Seal of the lands of Carnbegs in Kincardine-shire, dated August 11th, 1511 (g).

(h) Ibidem Lib. 18, No. 44

Also a Charter to him and Elizabeth Learmont, his spouse, of the lands of Pitarrow united into one Barony and dated 13th April 1512 (h).

(i) Ibidem Lib. 19, No.41 And another Charter 'Mr. Jacob Wishart de Pitarrow" of the lands of Easter and Wester Howlaws Howlawshead & c dated 13th Nov. 1516 (i).

By the said Elizabeth Learmont, a daughter of the ancient family of Balcolmie, he left issue two sons -

1st Sir John, his heir.

Buchanan & Spottiswoode, 2nd March 154 5

2nd Mr. George Wishart, who was the first Martyr for the Protestant Religion in the infancy of the Reformation. He died in the end of the reign of K. James V. and was succeeded by his eldest son -

(a) Charta in Pub-

lic Archives Lib. 31, No. 217

Sir John Wishart of Pitarrow, who got a Charter under the Great Seal "Johanni Wishart filios et haeredi quondam Jacobi" of the lands of Bathargarties & c dated 12th March 1558.

(b) Ibidem Lib. 32, No. 253 Also a Charter to him and Marjory Falconer, his spouse, (3) of the third part of the lands of Halkerston & c dated 2nd Dec. 1557 (b).

(c) Criticil Remarks on Ragman's Roll He was a zealous promoter of the Reformation and was Comptroller of Scotland in the reign of Queen Mary, Anno 1567 (c). By the said Marjory, a daughter of the family of Halkerston, he left issue a son -

XI

Sir John Wishart of Pitarrow who succeeded him and married Lady Jean Douglas, daughter ofSir William Douglas of Glenbervie, who succeeded to the Earldom of Angus, Anno 1588 by which marriage his posterity become allied to most the great families of the Kingdom.

(e) Charter in Public Archives Lib. 43, No. 345

He got a Charter under the Great Seal "Domino Johanni Wishart de Pitarrow et Domino Jean Douglas ejus Sponso baroniarum de Pitarrow Reidhall" & c dated 7th April 1603 (e).

By the said Lady Jean Douglas he had four sons -

1st Sir John who succeeded him and spent the greatest part of his Estate in the troublesome reign of K. Charles I and died abroad without issue.

(f) Lib. 48, No. 24

2nd James of Glenfarquhar who acquired part of the Estate of Pitarrow upon which he got a Charter under the Great Seal to him and Elizabeth Bickerton, his spouse, dated 12th Dec. 1615 (f) but of whom there is no male descendant.

3rd William Wishart, who was Minister of the Gospel at Leith. He married and had issue one son, John, who was killed fighting for K. Charles I without issue.

XII

4th Alexander, who carried on the line of this family, (9) Alexandra 4th, son of Sir John Wishart by Lady Jean Douglas, married Catherine, daughter of Mr. William Kerr, Vicar of Lindon and Brother German of the Laird of Linton in the South Country, by whom he had one son -

XIII

Mr. William Wishart who being bred to the church was Minister of the Gospel at Kinneil near Borrowstownness and by Christian Burns, his wife, descended of the family of Middle Mill in Fife. He had issue 3 sons -

1st Sir George Wishart of Cliftonhall created a Baronet by Queen Ann, Anno 1706.

2nd Sir James, who having betaken himself to a maritime life, by his bravery and merit rose to the rank of Admiral of the White Squadron and was one of the Lord's Commissioners of the Admiralty.

WILK

3rd Mr. William, who carried on the line of this family(3)

XIV

This Mr. William Wishart was a man of great probity and learning. He was one of the Ministers of Edinburgh, Principal of the College, and first Professor of Divinity in the University there. He married Janet, daughter of Major William Murray, a son of the most ancient family of Polmaise by whom he had two sons - William & George.

VX

lst Dr. William Wishart, a man of great learning and knowledge, was also one of the Ministers of Edinburgh, Principal and first Professor of Divinity in the University there. He married, 1724, Margaret, daughter of Mr. Thos Halyburton, Professor of Divinity in the University of St. Andrews and left one son -

XVI

William Thomas who married Ann, daughter of Mr. George (3) Balfour, Writer to the Signet, Brother of James Balfour Esq. of Pilrig near Edinburgh, by whom he had issue six sons viz.

XVII

William, George, James, Patrick, Archibald and John Henry, and a daughter, Margaret. **

William Wishart, who was a Major in the Army and Captain in the 15th Regiment of Foot, died in the West

Received from Lexie Sunner 29 Dug 1988:

Indies unmarried.

(23)