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THE STRACHANS

OF

GLENKINDIE

1357—1726

BY

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THE STRACHANS OF GLENKINDIE.

THIS family was a branch of the Strachans in Kincardineshire. The first Strachans mentioned are the Strachans of Strachan in 1100.

In 1316 the barony of Strachan, Fetteresso, &c., merged by marriage in the family of Keith, but in the reign of David II. Sir James Strachan of Monboddo married Agneta de Thornton, and obtained with her the lands of Thornton, in Kincardineshire, which was the title of the principal branch of the family for a very long period. (See the *Scottish Nation*, Anderson.)

Besides the Strachans of Glenkindie and Auchmagatt, there were many families of the name, known by their lands as Carmyllie, Lynturk, Tillyfroskie, Losmordy, Thornton (in Bourtie), Kinaldie, Annachy, Tibbertie, Tillihaikie, Kincardine, Dalkaikie, and others, extending back as in the case of the Glenkindie family, to the middle of the 14th century. By the year 1800—as will be seen by the following extract—they had all disappeared from Aberdeenshire, except the family of Campfield, and it was not very long till that family also vanished.

Extract of letter from John Strachan of Campfield to his sister, dated Campfield, 5th Sept., 1800:—

Dr. Sister,

“Within the compas of my memory there were several

landholders of the name of Strachan in this county, viz.: the family of Kincardine, of Dalhaikie, of Tilliefour, of Kebaty, and Kemnay, beside the family of Glenkindy, and I have observed several landholders in the County records centurys back, and at the present time there is not another landholder of that name but myself in the County."

Sd. JOHN STRACHAN.

Campfield, 5th Sept., 1800.

The ancestor of the Glenkindie Strachans is said to have been John de Strathachyn, a witness to the Garioch Charter, 1357. (Davidson's *Earldom of the Garioch*, p. 67.)

I. The first of the Glenkindie branch, on record, was Adam de Strachanen, who in 1357 married Margaret, a relative or kinswoman ("consanguinea") of Thomas, Earl of Mar, and got with her, in strict entail, certain lands, viz., the davoch of land called Glenkenety, and the fourth part of the davoch of land of Glenboul, called Rummor, lying in the Earldom of Mar. The lands to revert to the granter and his heirs in the event of failure of issue of the marriage. ("Collections," *A. and B.*, p. 618.) "Rummor" is said to be in Gaelic, *Ruigh-Mhor*—the big shealing. Glenkindie again is said to be *Gleann-cinn-dubh*—the valley of the dark head. At the top of the glen the Kindie passes through a deep gorge.

Laing, in *Donean Tourist*, says, p. 77:—"Sir John succeeded and was present at the Statute made at Scone in 3^d. year of Robert II."

Amongst the signatories is that of "Sir John de Glenkennedy." (*Stuart*, Vol. II., App., p. 146.)

The above is quite incorrect. There is no such entry in *Stuart*, Vol. II. The facsimile of the Statute, or Act, shows the name of Sir John de Strathachin, and it is followed by that of *John de Kennedy*.

II. The next of the name on record is Thomas de Strachan (son, no doubt, of the above, and probably named after Earl Thomas). In a Charter, dated 1406, he is designed "Thomas de Strathachan dominus de Glenkenedy in Mar." He also owned lands in the Mearns (which is perhaps proof of the descent from the Strachans in Kincardineshire), for in this Charter he gives his estate of Snowdown, in the barony of Craigy, to Sir Patrick Gray, lord of Broxmouth, for a certain sum of money, which sum, it is declared in the Charter, he intended to use for the recovery of his lands of Glenkindie from Alexander de Forbes, son and heir of Sir John de Forbes, "domini ejusdem." (See copy of Charter, *Antiq. A. and B.*, Vol. IV., p. 467, and *Mis. Sp. Club.*, Vol. V., pp. 253, 254.)

From a very early period the lands of Auchnagatt in Buchan, were in the possession of the Strachans of Glenkindie, as will be seen further on.

On March 5, 1408, Thomas de Strathenyne, lord of Glenkindie, granted in lease for 19 years one-half of the lands of Aldnagtoe (? Auchnagatt), in the barony of Kelly, to Sir Andrew Stewart Knight, for a sum of money to be paid to the granter, and an annual payment of 18 pence to Sir Robert Erskine (*Ant. A. and B.*, Vol. III., p. 51).

Auchnagatt was in the ancient barony of Kelly, and *Aldnagtoe* is evidently an incorrect reading of Auchnagatt.*

The next who held the lands after Thomas above mentioned we find to have been,

III. "Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie," to whom, on 28th March, 1474, was issued a Precept of Infeftment in certain lands by the Earl of Huntly in favour of "his beloved cousin, Thomas of Gordon." *Records of Aboyne*, p. 12.

From a *sett*, dated 1488, of the lands of Murthlich, in Mar (now Morlich), which belonged to the Abbey of Cupar, it appears that Margaret Charteris was the name of the lady of Glenkindie at that date, and that she had "twa sonniss callit Johnne and Alexander of Strahaquhyn." (*Ant. A. and B.*, IV., 427.)

Want of documents leaves the dates of succession of Nos. III. and IV. uncertain. In the *Records of Sheriff Court of Aberdeen* the following entries occur:—

From "Collections."

p. 110. Temporal Barons—The lesser.

. . . Strachan of Glenkindie.

p. 112. Head Court of Sherrifdom of Abdn., 9th Jan., 1503-4 (the earliest on record).

Dominus de Glenkindie fined for absence. (This must have been Duncan No. IV.)

* I have been unable to trace the old papers of Auchnagatt, now the property of Lord Aberdeen, though every search has been made for them at Haddo House, and by Lord Aberdeen's Agents and Commissioner.—J. A.

"31 July, 1504. Margaret, Lady of Glenkindie, and her sone Sande Gordone raised an action of spulzie before the Assize, who declarit yai could (not?) decide nor determine in the actiounne of spulzie of a mair."

And again, on same date,

"31 July, 1504. Several tenants at Miln of Auchnagat were summoned to answer at the instance of Margaret Charteris,* Lady of ye toune of Glenkyndy for wrangous manurand and occupation of ye lands and biggings of the *third* part of Auchnagat, and for the profits of the same extending yeirlie to ten marks"—evidently the lady's tierce or widow's share of the lands.

It would appear from the above that Alexander Strachan had died before 1488; that Margaret Charteris must have been married before, to one of the name of Gordon; her "twa sonniss, Johnne and Alexander of Strahaquhyn" were not the only Strachan children. What became of "Johnne" is not known. The next Laird we find is *Duncan*.

IV. Duncan Strachan of Glenkindie. His name frequently occurs in *Ant. A. and B.* In Vol. IV., p. 442, Alexander Strathachin of Glenkindie appears as a member of an inquest on 20th April, 1506, while Duncan Strachan's name is shown in an inquest of Alexander Annand in parish of Methlic, in January, 1506. (*A. and B.*, Vol. III., p. 52.) It would seem that the Alexander mentioned above must be a mistake for

* The Charteris family (of Kinfauns) at a very early period held lands in Lumphanan parish, and it is quite likely that Margaret Charteris belonged to that family.

Duncan, or else that this Alexander resided at Auchnagat, and, being of the Glenkindie family, had that designation attached to his name. In this case he might be the Lady of Glenkindie's "sonne Alexander." There is no doubt, however, that the Laird of Glenkindie at that time was Duncan. He married Margaret Lundy, and, in 1511, he granted a charter confirmed by King James, 20th July, 1511, to William Strachin, his son and heir, reserving a life interest to the said Duncan, and to Margaret Lundy, his wife, her widow's tierce (Copy of Charter, *Ant. A. and B.*, Vol. IV., p. 468). The Original Charter is amongst the Glenkindie papers, and also a Sasine in favour of William Strachan proceeding on above Charter. In this Charter is mentioned as part of the lands the woods of Alt na kist. Alt na kist, now called the Ward Burn, is a tributary of the Kindy, joining it at the east end of the Tornabuckle Wood. About 150 yards from where the streams join, and in a north-westerly direction is the site of an old peel, and it seems probable that that peel or fortalice was the abode of the earlier Strachans before the "Castle" was erected on the banks of the Don, in 1595.

(This grant to William was no doubt made on the marriage of the latter to Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Fulzemont and Johnisleys—see *Records of Aboyne*, MS. Pedigree, p. 210, where, however, the name of Elizabeth's husband is said to be *Patrick* Strachan of Glenkindie. This is evidently a mistake. From a Retour amongst Glenkindie papers, as well as other references, it is clear there were not two Patricks in succession. The William

named in the Charter of 1511 was alive in 1549, and in 1566 William Strachan of Glenkindie succeeded his grandfather.)

V. William Strachan of Glenkindie, son of Duncan, married Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Fulzemont and Johnisleys—see *Records of Aboyne*, p. 210—where it is stated that they had issue, Patrick, who married Bessie, sister of Robert Stuart of Laithers, with issue, William, who married Margaret Forbes of Brux, and Agnes, wife of John Lumsden of Cushny. He got the estate, as we have seen, from his father, in 1511.

In 1535 he had a lawsuit with Lord Elphinston (see record of same, *Ant. A. and B.*, Vol. IV., p. 468), where the names of the persons composing the Court of Assize are given. A Decreet was pronounced by the Sheriff, finding the possession of William Strachan, and of his predecessors, in the lands of Prinagappit, Altnakist, Ardler, and others, was fully proved, and *discharging* Lord Elphinston from molesting him in his possession of the same, 5th October, 1535. (Decreet amongst Glenkindie papers.)

In 1540, William Strachan of Glenkindie had a dispute with Gilbert Gray of Schives, the Master of Erskine, and Gordon of Gight regarding the boundaries of Auchnagat. See copy of "Decreet Arbitral," in *5th Report of Hist. MSS. Comms.*, p. 609. *Haddo House MSS.*

In "Collections," *Sheriff Court Records*, p. 113, there is copy of an Edict by Queen Marie, Anno 1549, to Sheriff of Abdn. and Deputies, from which the following is taken:—

"Understanding that our auld enemies of Ingland intendes the spring of this year to invaid our realme with all their force and power quhilkis may nocht guidlie be resistit without ane generall taxt of men," &c., &c., and charged them to "convене an assyse and tax all manner of lands lying within their bounds," &c.

Given at Stirling, 3rd January, 1549, "and of our regne the sevint yeir."

Amongst the landholders "taxt" was Willeam Straquhyn of Glenkindie for his landis of the samen, vj. lbs. (Scots).

On 2nd June, 1552, a contract was executed betwixt Alexander Forbes of Towie and William Strachan of Glenkindie, whereby the said Alexander Forbes licenses the said William Strachan to big a miln upon the south-west part of the lands of Morlich (*Glenkindie Papers*). [It is said that this "Mill of Glenkindie" was on the spot where there was an old lint or flax mill, lately removed. The present Mill of Glenkindie was, of old, The Mill of Morlich.]

On 10th January, 1558, William Straquhan was present as one of a jury on the Sp. Service of Barclay of Towie. Said day the Sheriff Depute charged William Straquhan of Glenkindie to pay Master Rob. Lumsden four score merks, due by him on his own confession.

Patrick Strachan, son of William Strachan of Glenkindie and Elizabeth Gordon, married Bessie Stuart, sister of Robert Stuart of Laithers.

This lady's name is given as "Issobell Stuart, daughter of

the Laird of Laithers," in Birth Brieve of George Gardyn, d. October 25th, 1639 (*Misc. Sp. Club*, Vol. V., p. 326):—

"George Gardyn" was "procreat betwixt Alexander Gardyn of Bannochie and Jonet Strauchan his Spouse." "Sicklyk that Janet Forbes, daughter of James? Forbes of Brux, was mother to the said Janet Strachan—her guiddam was Marjorie Forbes, daughter to Lord Forbes; the Laird of Glenkindie's Mother was Issobell Stewart, daughter of the Laird of Laithers, quha was descended of the house of Innermeath."

Patrick Strachan evidently died before his father, for—

VI. William Strachan succeeded his grandfather in 1566. (See *Ret. Sp. Serv.*, No. 38, April 6th.) William is stated to be "haeres Willielmi Strathachni de Glenkindie *avi*, in terris de Glenkindie" (and other lands). (See copy of Sasine, *Antiq. A. and B.*, Vol. IV., p. 779.)

On 2nd March, 1573, Williame Strachauchin of Glenkindie compeared before the Sheriff Depute Court in Aberdeen in a cause raised by him against one William Gray, feuar of the third part of the lands of barrak, "contegue adjacent" to the lands of touxhill, and obtained decree against the said Wm. Gray. Williame Strachauchin at that trial produced his sasine of the lands of Auchnagatt, &c., dated the 20th February, 1566, under the signe and subscriptioun of Schir Williame proctour, noter.

From the above it is shown that William Strachan got legal possession of Auchnagat on 20th February, 1566.

William Straachane, fiar of Glenkindie, was one of the friends of Lord Forbes exempted by Act and Decreet of the Court of Session, 27th June, 1573, from the jurisdiction of the Earl of Huntly as Sheriff of Aberdeen. (*Acts and Decrees of the Lords of Council and Session*, Lib. 51, f. 210.)

In 1573, William Strachan of Glenkindie is mentioned as a partisan of the Forbeses. (*Ant. A. and B.*, Vol. IV., p. 762.)

On 30th November, 1574, by decree of the Sheriff of Aberdeen, for payment to William, Earl Marischal, of the greater tithes of the parish of Deer, William Buchan is decreed to pay "sex pekis half ane pek meill of the teynd chaves of the Milne of Achnagat and Yonkis Hill, and Williame Strauthauchin of Glenkyndy ten bollis meill of the teynd chaves of Achnagat with the pendiculis."

William Strachan of Glenkindie signed at Aberdeen, 2nd September, 1574, the Bond of the Barons in the North, whereby they obliged themselves to continue faithful subjects to King James VI. (*P. C. Records*, Vol. II., p. 249.)

He married Janet Forbes, daughter of Forbes of Brux, and had at least three sons and one daughter, who is mentioned above as the wife of Gardyn of Bannochie. His son, William, died at Aberdeen, 11th November, 1575. (See *Misc. Sp. Club*, Vol. II., p. 42.) His son, Alexander, predeceased him, and he had a third son, Adam Strachan, frequently mentioned in *Privy Council Records*.

20th June, 1576. An action of removal was raised by William Strauchachan of Glenkindie against Alexander Williamson, pikeman, of the Milne of Auchnagat, and uptaker

of the Miltures and knaveships of the townes and lands of the Mill town of Achmagat and others belonging to the said William in heritage, liand within the barony of Kelly and Sherifffdome of Aberdeen. (*Sheriff Clerk Records.*)

In January, 1580, William Strachan of Glenkindie resigned his lands of Glenkindie and others in favour of Alexander Strachan, his son, in implement of a Contract of Marriage betwixt William and his eldest son Alexander, on the one part, d. January, 1580, and Duncan Forbes of Monymusk and Elspet Forbes, his daughter, on the other part, d. 16th September, 1607. This lady was widow of Forbes of Towie.

These two dates, 1580 and 1607, suggest the possibility of a bit of romance connected with young Strachan and Elspet Forbes. The Strachan part of the Contract was entered into in 1580—but the young lady married Forbes of Towie. After his death, circa 1597, Alexander Strachan married Elspet or Elizabeth Forbes, the widow, and he died before succeeding to Glenkindie.

In 1589, William Strachan signed, with many others, a Bond of Caution to adhere to King James VI. John Forbes of Echt being his security for 2000 marks. (*P. C. Records*, Vol. IV., p. 378.)

On 17th July, 1591, John Lumsden of Cushny signed at Glenkindie a Bond of Caution in 1000 marks that William Strachan of Glenkindie should not harm James Robertson in Wester Leochell. (*P. C. Records*, Vol. IV., p. 569.)

In 1598 (*P. C. Records*, Vol. V., p. 689, Edinb.), there is a registration, by Alexander King as Procurator, of a bond by

William Forbes of Monymusk for William Strachan, elder of Glenkindie, for 2000 marks, and for Alexander Strachan, his son and apparent heir, in 1000 marks, not to harm James Gordoun of Haddo and Robert Gordoun in Chappeltoun, and 30 others—subscribed at Monymusk, 12th May, 1598.

On 21st January, 1600, caution was taken from Patrick Thomson in Cowfourde not to harm Alexander Strachan, apparent of Glenkindie. (*P. C. Records.*)

In 1601 there was a complaint by Mowat of Balquholly against the Gordons of Gight, and others, and Alexander, apparent of Glenkindie (*P. C. Records*, Vol. VI., pp. 203-4), and at p. 284 complaint is made by Alexander Coupland and others of Turriff of a raid by Gordon of Gight, Alexander Strachan, apparent of Glenkindie, Adam Strachan, brother of said Alexander, and several of the name of Cheyne, possibly from Auchnagatt, Arnage, &c., in Buchan, who came to Turriff at midnight, 18th July, 1601, with long guns, spears, and pistolets and oppressed the "hail town."

On 8th December, 1601, William Strachan of Glenkindie, and Alexander Strachan, apparent of Glenkindie, were witnesses to a Charter in favour of Baird of Auchmedden.

On 31st July, 1604, at Perth, a Bond of Caution was taken from Arthur, Master of Forbes, for Alexander Forbes of Towie, in £1000, and others of the name of Forbes, not to harm William Strachan of Glenkindie, Alexander Strachan, his son, and Alexander Strachan, Oy (grandson) to said William. (*P. C. Records*, Vol. VII., p. 651.)

On 26th June, 1605, William Wode of Fettercarne signed Bond of Caution for 500 marks for William Strachan of Glenkindie, that he should not slay any salmon in the waters of the Dee or Don, graves and branches thereof, with coble, spear, pock, "herry watter," or any other kind of engine, conform to the letters executed against him at the instance of the Provost and Baillies of Aberdeen. (*P. C. Records*, Vol. VII., p. 605.)

In the same year, William Strachan of Glenkindie became surety for William Wode of Fettercarne, in 2000 marks, not to harm Sir John Wishart, or to take part with Sir David Lindsay. (*P. C. Records*, Vol. VII., p. 605.)

On 7th and 8th January, 1608, Irvine of Drum and Gordon of Abergeldie signed a Bond of Caution of 2000 marks, and Irvine's brother for 1000 marks, not to harm Arthour, Lord Forbes, and other Forbese, and also William Strachan of Glenkindie, Alexander Strachan, *fiar* of Glenkindie, and Alexander and Patrick, his sons, and Forbes of Towie. (*P. C. Records*, Vol. VIII., p. 641.)

Alexander Strachan, "*fiar* of Glenkindie," son of William, No. VI., who had married Elizabeth Forbes, widow of Forbes of Towie, must have died early in 1609, for on 26th May, 1609, William Strachan of Glenkindie gave Charter of Glenkindie to his grandson, Alexander Strachan, who is described in the Crown confirmation of the charter as follows: "predilecto nostro Alexandro Strathachin nepoti Willielmi Strathachin de Glenkindie filio legitimo natu maximo Alexandri Strathachin filii natu maximi dicti Willielmi inter ipsum Alexan-

drum et quondam Elizabetham Forbes ejus conjugam legitime procreati," &c., &c. (See copy, *Antiq. A. and B.*, Vol. IV., p. 469.)

It would appear that William Strachan died soon after he had executed the resignation of his lands to his grandson, Alexander—for Alexander obtained sasine of resignation "of umquhile Wm. Strachan," his grandfather, by deed dated 30th June, 1609.

Before referring to the son and grandsons of William, however, it may be well to note the lands, as described in the deed above quoted, which he resigned. They are mentioned as under:—

The lands of Glenkindie, manor place, fortalice, and orchards. Mill and mill lands of Glenkindie, with the multures. The towns and lands of Ardler, with the woods of Aldnakest and Lochery. The towns and lands of Ferme town of Glenkindie, Delroisache, Craingingour, Leochory, Tollofraik, Leargkindie, Tornahaithneiche; Rinnavoan (*Ruigh-abhuin*—the shealing by the stream), and the "molendinum fullonum," called in the deeds the Waulk Miln.

From the above it would appear that the lands were all on the west side of the Kindy—in the detached part of the parish of Strathdon—at the time mentioned, the present Mill of Glenkindie on east side of the Kindy was then the Mill of Morlich. The Mill of Glenkindie was near the present wool mill, and not far from the blacksmith's shop. This mill was built on the lands of Morlich, and on east side of Kindy.

There is nothing to indicate the exact spot where the "manor place and fortalice" erected by William Strachan stood. Laing, in the *Doncan Tourist*, p. 77, states that the Castle was *near* the present house of Glenkindie, and that it was erected by William Strachan in 1595, "as can be seen by several stones fixed in the present villa." On one of them is MVLXXXV., and the initials V.S., with a hart standing at gaze, and the following inscription, "Velam Straquhen of Glenkende bigget this house."

Under this, on another stone, in old English characters:—
"Willelmus Straquhen de Glenkende hoc op. fecit anno dom. 1595."

These stones had been preserved from the old keep or castle, and are inserted in the wall of the present house of Glenkindie. The cutting is very rude, and of unmistakable antiquity. The lands were plundered *and the castle demolished*, 12th and 13th September, 1643, in the absence of Alexander Strachan at a gathering of Covenanters in Aberdeen.

Alexander Strachan, son of William Strachan, predeceased his father, and as stated above, married Elspett or Elizabeth Forbes, *widow of Forbes of Towie*. This is proved from the following entry, copied from records in custody of County Clerk, Aberdeen.

29th June, 1597. Elspett Forbes, relict of umq^l (deceased) Alexander Forbes, Fiar of Towie, lyvrenter of lands under written, and Alexander Straqhan, aperand of Glenkindie, now her spous for his interest, raised an action against a number of tenants of the lands of Towie, and obtained decree against them.

The widow was in possession of her widow's tierce, and had no doubt sued for what was due to her. The lands in possession of the tenants included Belnaboth, Culquoich, and many other places from Sinnahard upwards, on the south side of the Don, as far as Corgarff. Elspett (or Elizabeth) Forbes had proved her right to the widow's tierce by a special service before the Sheriff and a Jury on the 13th January, 1595. The suit on 29th June, 1597, was raised against 37 persons, tenants.

This Alexander therefore married Elspett or Elizabeth Forbes between January, 1595, and June, 1597, and, as has been shown above, he predeceased his father William. He seems to have had several sons—Patrick, of whom frequent mention is made, Adam and Robert, besides his son, Alexander, who succeeded to Glenkindie.

VII. Alexander Strachan, son of the last-named Alexander Strachan and Elspett or Elizabeth Forbes, succeeded his grandfather, William Strachan, in 1609—and in 1618 he is mentioned as petitioning the Privy Council. (*Privy Council Records*, Vol. II., p. 618.)

The following entry is taken from the *Records* in County Clerk's Office:—"4th June, 1612. Compearit bessie hatter, relict of umq^{ll} William Kemp, in Auchnagat, and granted her lawfully removit from the shadow half of the miln town of Auchnagat, belonging to Alexander Straquhan of Glenkindie.

Alexander Strachan, VII., married Margaret Fraser—of what family does not appear—and amongst their children are found the following:—Alexander, who was put in possession

of Kemnay, which his father purchased for him, and who predeceased his father; Michael, who appears to have been put in possession of Auchnagatt; Betty, married to Garden of Troup; and Margaret, married James Leith of Leith-hall.

In an entry dated February 23rd, 1613, Robert Strachan of Glenkindie appears in *Sheriff Court Records*, the brother of Alexander Strauchan mentioned above.

On 17th August, 1613, Adam Strauchane, son of the late (? William) Strauchane of Glenkindie, was one of a party of "Strauchanes" and others who assembled at Thoruton, in Kincardineshire, and was charged with doing violence to Captain Alexander Wishart of Blairdo, but was assolizied.

In 1620, Alexander Strachan receives a tack of the tiends of the lands of Glenkindie from the Lord Kildrummy, Master of Elphinstone, with consent of his father (Lord Elphinstone), during all the days of his life, and for 19 years after his decease. This was dated 20th and 22nd April, 1620. (*Glenkindie Papers*.)

In 1622, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie, and Patrick Strachan of Kinaldie* (his brother) were appointed, with others, as commissioners to apprehend some of the Keiths. (*Privy Council Records*, Vols. 11 and 12, p. 609.)

In 1627 the Estate of Annachie was acquired by the Laird of Glenkindie. It adjoins the Estate of Auchnagatt, on the east side of the Ebric. It remained in the family

* In a MS. account of the Rosses of Auchlossan, Patrick Strachan of Kinaldie is stated to have married Barbara Ross, daughter of John Ross, and grand-daughter of Nicol Ross of Auchlossan.

till 1709, when it was purchased by Garden of Troup, who had infeftment that year. (*Title Deeds of Annachie, now belonging to Educational Trust, Aberdeen.*)

Kinaldie, or Kinnadie, adjoins Annachie, in Buchan, but the Title Deeds of the time cannot be found, and the date of its having been acquired is wanting. It belonged to the Strachans for at least two generations.

The next document in chronological order is a Retour of 4th February, 1631, and in it Alexander Strachane de Glenkyndie is retoured as heir to Adam Strachane de Glenkyndie *avi tritavi*—the first of the family—and the cause of his having to prove his propinquity was as follows:—

On 1st July, 1626, the Earl of Mar got decree of Reduction by the Court of Session of the Charters of the lands, forming part of the Earldom of Mar, that had been illegally granted by the Crown to the Lords Elphinstone in 1509 and 1513. That decree was followed by Actions of Removing against all Vassals of the Elphinstones and others holding the lands of the Earldom who could not show Charters from the old Earls of Mar. The Strachans were *thus compelled to produce their title deeds.*

In Lord Crawford's *Earldom of Mar* it is stated that there ensued such a hunting for old Charters and searching of old iron-bound chests as had never taken place before. Fortunately for the Strachans their original title was extant, viz., the Charter by Earl Thomas, of 1357, in favour of Adam, and accordingly to connect himself with this Charter, and to establish himself as a Vassal of the Earls of Mar, and

not of the Lords Elphinstone, Alexander No. VII. had himself served as heir of Adam, *avi tritavi*, and, on this being completed, the Earl of Mar and Lord Erskine granted a new Charter to Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie, and he was retoured accordingly.

This service seems to accord with the descents given above. *Tritavus* is the great-grandfather of a great-grandfather, and *avus* a grandfather. Alexander VII. therefore showed that he was the grandson of *William*, who was the great-grandson of *Duncan*, who was the great-grandson of Adam, the first of the family.

This Charter was dated 19th January, 1632, of all and haill the Davoch of land of Glenkindie and one quarter (davoch) of Glencoyl.

In 1637, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie was Bailie to the Earl of Mar, and held a Baron's Court at Kildrummie. (*Records, County Clerk's Office.*)

In 1641, Alexander Strachan was Cautioner for James Fraser in Auchnagatt. (*Records, County Clerk's Office.*)

Sometime before 1620 Lord Elphinstone had, for the sum of 4000 merks, wadset the following lands on the north and east of the Kindy to Alexander Strachan:—"All and haill the touns and lands of Glencuy, Rinmore, Chapelton, Goriehill and Pitandlich, with the teinds," and on 20th May, 1620, he granted a charter of the same, and this was confirmed to Alexander Strachan by the Earl of Mar and his son on 6th May, 1642. (*Glenkindie Papers.*)

Alexander Strachan is mentioned as "a great covenanter," and what follows will show the rather important part he played. The prominent men of Aberdeenshire were much divided, and those of the Royalist or Marquis of Huntly's party were constantly making reprisals on the other or covenanting party, and *vice versa*.

In Spalding's *History of the Troubles* there is frequent mention made of the Strachans from 1634-1644. The following extracts indicate the position the family took up in these troublous times:—

On November 13th, 1634, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie was one of a large number of landowners summoned to appear before the Lords of Privie Council on 16th Dec. following to give evidence as to the "slaughters and depradations on the Laird of Frendraucht by broken men from Lochaber, Stradoun, Glencoe, Bramar, &c., believed to be incited thereto by the Marquis of Huntly."

On 16th December, 1634, amongst witnesses ordered to appear to give similar information are the names of Alexander Strauchane, elder of Glenkindie, and Alexander Strauchan, appearand thair of.

On 16th June, 1635, the Privy Council ordered the provost and bailies of Aberdeen to receive from Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie some "lymmars" apprehended by him, and amongst others one Allaster Forbes, "one of the most notorious lymmars in the Kingdome," whom they had "verie undewtifullie refused to receive in their waird" when presented to them by the laird of Glenkindie.

In April, 1639, Alexander Straquhan of Glenkyndie, a "gryte covenanter, maisterfullie carried off a quantity of

The Strachans of Glenkindie.

muscates, pikis and other armour from the servants of Donald Farquharson of Tulligarmouth, baillie of the Marquis of Huntleys lands in Strathavin, as the same was being conveyed from Aberdeen to the said Donald Farquharson's house." In the following month, however, Donald Farquharson plundered the bounds of the Laird of Glenkindie "for taking of his arms away."

In August, 1643, Alexander Strathauchin of Glenkindie was one of those summoned "in Scherrefdome of Aberdein" to assist in framing the roll of persons who were to be taxed to make up the sum required for the wants and necessities of the States Army in Ireland, under the Solemn League and Covenant anent Religioun. A sum of 1200,000 merkis Scotis money had been fixed as the sum necessary at the Convention of Estates held in Edinburgh.

On 19th December, 1643, the Laird of Glenkindie was one of a "Committee of Warr holden in the lauche counsal hous of the tolbuith of Aberdeen."

On, or about, 7th April, 1644, very extensive plunderings took place under the orders of the Marquis of Huntly, and it is stated that "the Lord Forbes flies with Glenkindie and other friends to Kildrymmy." Parties were sent down to Buchan where "Auchnagat, pertaining to the Laird of Glenkindie, his girnells, his goods, and ground wes pitifullie plunderit, his brother Patrick Strachan of Kynnadie plunderit and spolzeit his bigging, victuall and all, syne took him self prissoner and had him to Kellie, quhair he remanit upone his awin expenssis."

On 26th April, 1644, the Marquis of Argyle came to Dunnottar—and among others who went to the "Committees of Angous and Mearnis" was Alexander Strathauchin of Glenkindie.

On 12th and 13th September, the same year, a great gathering of all the Covenanter lairds and others was held at Aberdeen, when Alexander Strathauchin of Glenkindie, his brother, Patrick Strathauchin of Kynnadie, and many others, with their friends and followeris, were present, and in his absence the "lands of Glenkindie were again plundered and the Castle demolished."

In *Antiq. A. and B.*, Vol. IV., p. 470, will be found an Act of Parliament in favour of the Laird of Glenkindie, dated 16th March, 1649. This gives a very full account of the plundering of Auchnagatt, the names of the plunderers, and the contents of the house, which must have been of very considerable value. The ringleaders were Francis Hay in Kellie, and John Gordoune of Haddo, who are designated as "Malignantis," and are directed "to give back and delyver the foresaidis guidis." The paper gives an interesting account of the raid. See Appendix.

No trace of the mansion or manor place of Auchnagatt now remains—its site even is unknown.

On 5th August, 1644, Alexander Strachan, elder of Glenkindie, granted a Charter to Alexander Strachan, his son, of all and hail the lands of Glenkindie—*terras ducales*—Mill of Glenkindie, &c., &c., as mentioned in former Charter, in implement of a contract of marriage entered into by Alexander Strachan, elder, with consent of his spouse, Margaret Fraser, and Alexander Strachan, his eldest son. This was preliminary to the marriage of Alexander Strachan, younger, with Margaret Grahame, eldest daughter of Mr. George Grahame of Claverhouse. Sasine followed on above

Charter in favour of Alexander Strachan, younger, 14th October, 1646. (*Glenkindie Papers.*)

On 1st December, 1649, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie disposed the lands of Annachie to Patrick Strachan—evidently his son, as subsequently Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie was infeft in the lands as heir to his uncle Patrick. (*Title Deeds of Annachie.*)

In 1650, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie acquired the Barony of Kemnay from Thomas Crombie, and put his son, Alexander Strachan, younger, in possession of it.

In 1650, Alexander Strachan, younger of Glenkindie, is mentioned as Laird of Kemnay, and gave a tack for Moss of Bogfur. (*Earldom of Garioch*, p. 296).

In 1650 and 1651, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie was a member of Scottish Parliament. See Forten, *List of Members of Scottish Parliament.*

On 16th June, 1656, Patrick Strachan of Annachie was witness to a disposition of the lands of Arnage by Alexander Irving to John Sibbald and Alexander Sibbald, his son. (*Arnage Papers.*)

On 7th May, 1662, Alexander Strachan granted a Charter of the "lands of Glencuy, Rinmore, Chapelton, Gorie Hill and Pitanlich, with the tiends," in favour of his *grandchild*, Alexander Strachan.

Sasine followed same day, and was recorded 20th June, 1662. The Earl of Mar finally disposed of these lands to Alexander Strachan, 19th June, 1666. (*Glenkindie Papers.*)

Margaret Strachan, a daughter of the "great Covenanter," Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie, as mentioned above, was

married to James Leith of Leith-hall *about 1660*—for her second son, Alexander Leith, the first of Freefield (who purchased Glenkindie from his cousin, Sir Patrick Strachan's bankrupt estate in 1738 for his son, Alexander), died in 1754, aged 90. This would give the year of his birth as 1664. She was sister of Alexander Strachan, younger, who was laird of Kemnay. By this marriage the Leiths of Glenkindie are descended from the Strachans.

In 1666, Aprile 18th, "William Strachan, second son to Kemnay, or Glenkindie younger, died a bajan at Colledge Marshall." (Diary of John Row, *Scottish Notes and Queries*, Vol. VII., p. 99.)

On 30th June, 1668, Alexander Strachan, younger of Glenkindie, was one of the consenting parties to the sale of the Estate of Arnage, by Alexander Sibbald to George Rickart of Auchnacant and his sons.—Alexander Strachan subscribes thus—"Alex^r. Straqⁿ. consents." (*Arnage Papers.*)

Alexander Strachan of Kemnay, "or Glenkindie yo^r," died in 1675, for in that year Alexander Strachan was served heir to his father in the Barony of Kemnay. He did not retain it long, having sold it to Sir George Nicolson in 1682. (*Sec. Antiq. A. and B.*, Vol. III., p. 481.)

On 22nd April, 1675, there is Precept of Clare Constat by Earl of Mar in favour of Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie, *grandchild* of Alexander Strachan, followed by Sasine on 10th February, 1677. (*Glenkindie Papers.*)

From these records it is shown that Alexander Strachan, the "great Covenanter," and Alexander Strachan, younger,

who was put in possession of Kemnay, both died about 1674, or very early in 1675.

VIII. Alexander Strachan succeeded his grandfather in 1675. His wife's name was Lillas Stewart. He had his Arms registered in Lyon Office the same year, and obtained the following Blazon:—"Azure a Hart tripping, Or, Attyred and Unguled gules. One ane Helmet beyfitting his degree with a Mantle gules, doubled argent. On a torse of his collours is sett for his Crest a Hart standing at a gaze as the former." His Motto in an Escroll above—"Non Timeo sed Caveo."

Which coat above blazoned I declare to be the said Alexander Strachan His Coat and bearing.

17th February, 1675.

(S^d) CHARLES ARASKINE,
Lyon.

In 1676, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie was accused of the murder of one Alexander Stour; the charge was said to have been maliciously made by Adam Gordon of Glenbucket. Glenkindie was held to bail (after having been imprisoned apparently) in the sum of £20,000 Scots. Charles, Earl of Mar, became his bondsman. A very long litigation ensued. In 1695 an Act of the Scottish Parliament was passed in his favour cancelling his bail, and also stating that the charge had originated in the malice of Adam Gordon of Glenbucket. (See *Acts of Scottish Parliament*, 1695, p. 471. For an account of the stages of this trial, see Brown's *Supplement*, 7th January, 1697.)

On 4th April, 1690, Alexander Strachan executed a disposition of the lands of Annachie in favour of his brother, Mr. Andrew Strachan.

In 1694, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie and Mr. Andrew Strachan of Anachie, his "brother-german," executed a disposition of Tailzie of the lands of Glenkindie and others, and of the lands of Anachie, in favour of Patrick Strachan of Auchnagatt, their cousin-german (d. 21st October, 1694). See Appendix.

In 1695, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie and Mrs. Lillias Stewart presented a petition to Parliament (*Acts of Scottish Parliament*, 1695). No doubt the long litigation had involved him in very great embarrassment, and necessitated Alexander Strachan's parting with the Estate.

They had no issue, and on 1st June, 1700, an agreement was executed betwixt Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie and Patrick Strachan of Auchnagatt, whereby the former obliged himself to dispoise to Patrick Strachan, his cousin, all and haill the Estate of Glenkindie. This was followed by the disposition or sale of the lands on 25th September, 1700, and sasine in favour of Patrick Strachan followed on 4th November the same year.

A Decree of Adjudication, specifying the sum finally due by the purchaser, is dated 5th July, 1705; it contains a long list of debts due by Alexander Strachan.

IX. Patrick Strachan was second son of Michael Strachan of Auchnagatt (*vide* Extract from Marriage Contract of his sister, Helen Strachan, and deed of entail referred to above).

See Appendix. He at once began to add extensively to the lands of Glenkindie, as will be seen from what follows, and to have got his affairs into confusion in consequence.

On 12th June, 1703, Patrick Strachan purchased the lands of Old Morlich and the teinds thereof.

In 1709, 5th July, he purchased the lands of Newbigging, Foussies, and Mill of Morlich, &c.

On 13th September, 1712, Patrick Strachan acquired from the Earl of Mar the whole of New Morlich with the teinds, and also a charter of all the lands purchased from his cousin, Alexander Strachan, of which the Earl was the superior, with the teinds of the lands lying in the parish of Invernochty, of which the Earl of Mar was patron, and also on the same day he purchased the wadset of Auchmullen [in Auchindoir, part of the Estate of Kildrummy, at one time a separate estate], and appears to have got possession of the lands, 6th July, 1713.

On 23rd July, 1712, he purchased from Charles Innes the lands of Belnaboth and Croft Muirell (called in one deed "Muirhill"), together with the teinds thereof, and had sasine of the lands, 13th December same year.

The lands of Auchnagatt were sold, but, from want of records, the date of sale has not been ascertained.

Thereafter Patrick Strachan received the honour of knight-hood, for on 29th November, 1716, he obtained a Crown Charter, under the *Great Seal*, of all the lands mentioned above, and had sasine of the same on 7th October, 1717— in the deed of Sasine he is designated Sir Patrick Strachan of Glenkindie.

After the Rising of 1715 he was imprisoned (see Memorial to King George II., printed in Appendix), and on his release he appears to have been very active in the disarming of the country. His name appears as a Justice of Peace to various lists of persons from whom arms were recovered (*Mis. Sp. Club*), and it is most likely he got the honour of knighthood for his activity on behalf of the Government, and for what he had undergone.

Sir Patrick Strachan was Barrack Master General in Scotland in 1719 (see *Chronicles of Atholl Family*, privately printed by Duke of Atholl).

Sir Patrick was twice married. His first wife was Isobell Forbes, of what family is not stated, probably of Edinglassie. He had no family by that marriage, and Isobell Forbes died subsequent to 4th February, 1715, for on that date he executed a very elaborate deed of entail, the particulars of which, with the different properties forming the Estate of Glenkindie follow.

After the death of Isobell Forbes he married an English lady, Elizabeth Allgood, from Northumberland, and by her he had two daughters—

Christian, born 28th February, 1725, and

Elizabeth, born 30th March, 1726.

Sir Patrick Strachan died at Aberdeen, 2nd January, 1726. Elizabeth was, therefore, a posthumous child.

In the *Sheriff Clerk Records of Aberdeen* there is recorded a Special Service, dated 2nd December, 1726, of Christian Strachan as heiress of Tailzie, and provision to the deceased

Sir Patrick Strachan of Glenkindie, her father, and on the same date there is another Special Service of Christian and Elizabeth Strachan as heiresses portioners to the said deceased Sir Patrick Strachan.

On the 30th December, 1725, three days before his death, Sir Patrick Strachan nominated certain Tutors and Curators to his child and expected child, viz.: John Innes of Edingight, Thomas Grant, Alexander Innes, and James Uduy. Elizabeth Allgood, his wife, to be one, if in Scotland. It was these Tutors and Curators who carried out the Special Services in favour of the two children, on 2nd December, 1726, the elder being then of the age of 1 year 9 months and 4 days, the younger being only 8 months and 3 days.

Dame Elizabeth Allgood or Strachan subsequently married Charles Baldwin, whose name appears as one of the creditors of the deceased Sir Patrick Strachan.

Sir Patrick's affairs appear to have been "hopelessly involved," and the estate to have been taken charge of judicially by Court of Session. Certain claims upon the estate were made on behalf of the children, but these were disallowed by the "Decreet of Ranking." On this an appeal on their behalf was made to Parliament. William Forbes of Edinglassie, a creditor, subsequently came to some arrangement regarding them, and they got their discharge, which is registered in the Sheriff Court Books, Aberdeen.

One of the daughters, Christian, married the Rev. William Oakeley (see below), with issue; the other, Elizabeth, has not been traced.

It is stated by Laing, in the *Donean Tourist*, p. 84, that Peter Strachan was the last proprietor of Glenkindie of that name; that his wife was Jane Forbes, by whom he had no issue; that he resided in a small house, over the window of which were the initials, P.S. J.F., 1711.

No one can tell where this house was, or ever heard of it. Laing gives no authority for his statement. It is no doubt based on information he picked up when wandering about Donside. The records quoted above show that the first wife of Sir P. Strachan was Isobell Forbes.

After Sir Patrick Strachan's death, in 1726, his estate was taken charge of, as stated above, for the benefit of his creditors, and remained under judicial management until 1738, when it was sold. The purchaser, Alexander Leith, was a cousin of the late proprietor (his mother having been Margaret Strachan, sister of Sir Patrick's father), and he got possession of Glenkindie in that year.

Charter of Sale under the *Great Seal* in favour of Alexander Leith of Freefield is dated 12th February, 1740. Sasine followed on 19th, and was recorded 21st March, 1740. (*Glenkindie Papers.*)

No burial place of the Strachans of Glenkindie can be found; no monuments or tombstones exist, and even a tradition of where they were buried is not to be got. [In *Scottish Notes and Queries* for March, 1897, Vol. X., p. 191, it is stated that the burial place of the Strachans of Annachie was at Old Deer.]

As the Glenkindie part of the possessions of the family, held by them for centuries, was in a detached portion of the old parish of Invernochty (now Strathdon), and as the "Glenkindie Seat" in the old church was well known, it seems most probable that the burying place was *within* the Church of Strathdon. This had been the case, no doubt, with regard to other families in the parish, for when the old church was pulled down, some 40 years ago, large quantities of bones were found within the church, but no trace of any particular burying-ground, so far as is known, was discovered.

It is remarkable that there is nothing to show the last resting-place of a family of very considerable standing, which held extensive estates in the parish of Strathdon for nearly 400 years, whilst Auchnagatt was also in their possession for over 300 years.

Nesbit states that there was a Baronetcy* in the family of Glenkindie, but this is evidently a mistake. It is not shown in any of the Glenkindie titles, and there is no record of it in the Lyon Office.

Sir Patrick Strachan's deed of Entail, dated 4th February, 1715, shows that, failing male heirs of his body, the succession was to go to heirs female, the eldest succeeding without division; failing these to Alexander Strachan (who signed, in 1727, the birth register of a son of John Innes, yr of Edingight, and Jane Duff of Craigston, who were married in 1720), his brother german, and heirs male of his body; whom

* May have been confused with another title, viz., Sir James Strachan of Thornton.

failing to Captain Alexander Southerland of Kinminity (this Kinminity is shown in old maps in Banffshire), and the heirs male of a marriage then contemplated, the lady being — Gresden, "his future spouse;" whom failing to Alexander Southerland, son to the said Captain Alexander Southerland by the deceast Mary Dunbar; whom failing to James Gordon, eldest lawful son to George Gordon of Clashtyrum, and Violet Strachan, sister to the said Sir Patrick, and their heirs male; whom failing to John Innes, eldest son to John Innes of Edingight, and Helen Strachan, sister to the said Sir Patrick. [From MS. in Edingight Charter Chest it appears that John Innes, y^r of Edingight, was married to Helen Strachan in 1691. She is described as second daughter of "Michael Strachan of Auchnagatt," who settled a dowry of 4000 merks on his daughter, Helen Strachan]; whom failing to James Innes, second son of said John Innes; whom failing to Alexander Innes, the third son; whom failing to Thomas Innes, the fourth son; and failing all these to the said Sir Patrick's nearest heirs "whatsomever."

Another clause provided that, in the event of an heir female of Sir Patrick's own body succeeding, that heir and her descendants were to bear the name and carry the arms of Strachan of Glenkindie in all time coming, or lose the estate, and, *if already married, then the husband must change his surname.*

In the Special Service of Christian Strachan as heiress of Tailzie and Provision to Sir Patrick Strachan, it is stated that he died "vest" in the following lands, viz. :—

"One dauch of land, which is called Glenkindie, with great tiends and parsonage tiends thereof; one quarter dauch of Glenkoyle, wh^{ch} quarter is called Rumor, with pertinent in Lordship of Marr, &c. "The town and lands of Glencouie and Rinmoir thereof, lands of Chappleton *alias* Chappedonald-Pittanlich, Gorryhill, with houses, &c., &c., lying within the regalitie of Kildrummie. The town and lands of Old Morlich, as they were possessed of old by John fforbes of Old Morlich, and his tenants within the parish of Kinbattock. Town and lands of Newbigging and ffoussies within s^d parish. All and hail the Milne of Morlich in s^d parish. Town and lands of New Morlich in s^d parish. Town and lands of Belnaboth, otherwise called Sinnaboth, with pertinent thereof called Muirhill, lying within the parochin of Kinbattock, held under a Crown Charter, which empowered the heirs of the said Sir Patrick Strachan to have themselves served and retoured as heirs to their predecessors." (For Davoch or Dauch, see Appendix.)

Michael Strachan, who obtained Auchnagatt, was evidently the second son of Alexander Strachan No. VII. It is not known to whom he was married, but, as has been shown, we have records of several of his family. Patrick (afterwards Sir Patrick) is described as the second son, and Alexander is mentioned as his "brother-german." Violet was married to George Gordon of Clashtyrum, and Helen to John Innes, yr., of Edingight.

Sir Patrick Strachan was the last of the Strachans of Glenkindie. They are now represented by the family of Oakeley (Bart.).

William Oakeley, Rector of Forton, Staffordshire, and Vicar of Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, married Christian Strachan, the elder of Sir Patrick's daughters, on 13th April, 1740. She died 1790. He survived till October, 1803.

Their son, Charles Oakeley, was created a baronet in 1790, was Governor of Madras, 1790-94; and held other important appointments.

Sir Charles William Atholl Oakeley, the 4th and present Bart., is the direct representative in the female line of Sir Patrick Strachan and the Strachans of Glenkindie.

APPENDIX.

THE DAVOCH OR DAUCH OF LAND (see p. 2).

The Davoch was an ancient land measure, and, in the north-east of Scotland, according to W. F. Skene and Cosmo Innes, was made up as under:—

- 1 ox-gang = 13 acres (Scotch).
- 8 ox-gangs = 1 plough-gate (104 acres).
- 4 plough-gates = 1 Davoch or Dauch.

The Davoch, therefore, consisted of 416 Scotch acres, so that the dower that Adam de Strachanen got with his wife in 1357 was 520 acres (Scotch).

The term Dauch (or Davoch) is a very common one in old Rent Rolls, and was applied to certain parts of a district. In the old Strathspey Rent Rolls we find the "Dauch of Dellyfour," the "Dauch of Gartinnore," the "Dauch of Delnabo," and many others, while, as stated by Cosmo Innes, "the 'Aucht-and-forty Dauch of Huntly' is still spoken of in the north, and by natives of the district, with affectionate remembrance" (see *Lectures on Scotch Legal Antiquities*, by Cosmo Innes, p. 273).

THE RAID UPON AUCHNAGATT (p. 22).

The following description of the raid upon Auchnagatt, referred to in the text, is taken from an account of various places in Buchan, which appeared some time ago:—

"There was a Manor House and fortalice at Auchnagatt. It must have been of considerable size and importance, as we infer from

the inventory of the goods stolen and destroyed by Sir John Gordon of Haddo, John Gordon of Auchleuchries, and others, in the complaint of Alexander Strauchan of Glenkyndie to the estates of Parliament, on the 27th April, 1649, 'makand mention That quhere in Aprile 1644 the persones vnderwritten did conveene themselfes and there accomplices in ane most barbarous and violent way in contempt of the lawes of this Kingdome haveing no reason but onlie because the persewer was ane Covenanter contrare to there wicked plotts against the Covenant did come to the persewers house of Auchnagat and there with forehammers breake up the vthir and inner yates and doores and then entered the house and brake vp the coffer kists and vther lockfast places and plundered the hail moveable goodes money and silver work beeing within the said house together with the meals malt and whyte oats within the girnells and horse and nolt esterspecificid That is to say Ane thousand pundis of silver Ane thousand merks worth of silver work Four oxen worth twenti four pundis the peice Four horse and mares worth fyftie merks the peice Ten score bolls of meale pryce of the boll eight pundis Sixtein bolls of whyte oates pryce for said as the meale Ten bolls of malt at nyne pundis the boll Twentie eight furnished beds with all sorts of cloathis pertainning thereto pryce of ilk furnished bed ane hundred pund Twa new greene boord cloathes pryce of ilk ane fortie pund Ten counter cloathes pryce of ilk ane twentie merks Threttie sex cushings pryce of ilk ane four pund Ten linnen and dornick boord cloathes pryce of ilk ane eight pund Four round board cloathes pryce of ilk ane thrie pund Ten dison of linnen and dornick servets pryce of ilk dison tuelf pund Four dison of round servets pryce of the dison sex pund Ten drinking towells pryce of the peice twentie shillings Eight washing towells pryce of the peice thirteen shillings and eightpence Item ane black figured gounne with the doublet and skirt of plane black velvet layed over with silver lace in all parts pryce thereof eight hundred merks Ane gounne of iboured tafetic layed over with silk lace pryce thereof thrie hundred merks Item ane gounne of silke burred pryce ane hundred pundis Thrie floured silke waskings pryce of the peice ane

hundred merks Sex stand of cloathes sex hundred pund Twa hewed plaides pryce of the paire sextein pund Fyve hattes pryce of each thereof ten pund Twa elnes of cloath to be a pavilion pryce of the elne twelff shilling Four tunn quart stoupes pryce of the peice sex pund Twentie speares pryce of the peice twentie shillings Fyve dison of plaite pryce of ilk dison threttie sex pund Four dison of peuter trunshers ilk dison thrie pund Sex dison of timber trunshers pryce of the dison ten shillings Sextein pottes pryce of the peice four pund Sex pannes pryce of each one overhead four pund Thrie crookes pryce of ilk one sex pund Sex paire of tongs pryce of the paire twentie shillings Twa goose pannes pryce of ilk ane four pund Four spittes pryce of ilk ane thrie pund Twa paire of axes pryce of the paire eight pund Twa yron laddles pryce of ilk ane twentie shilling Twa branderis pryce of ilk ane threttie shilling Ane kitching axe thirty shilling Ten brasen chandlers pryce of ilk one four pund Twelff stone weight of goad yron at threttie sex shillings the stane Ten stone weight of quhyte candle at fyve pund the stane Ten stane weight of tauch four pund the stane Four carcasses of salt beefe at twentie pund the carcase Ane great puncheon full of salt fish pryce sextein pund Ane bolt of salt pryce ten merks Sex stane weight of cheese forty shillings the stane Threttie nyne lockes quhere of eight great yron lockes at sex pund the peice of the great yron lockes and the rest at twentie shillings ilk lock Item ane brew lead threescore pund Ten dison of capons sex pund the dison Item bee breakeing of yates doores and timber plenishing within the place burneing of dailes and timber work and plenishing demolishing of glasse windowes and iron stanchells of skaith in that sort thrie hundred merks Fourtie elnes of linnen at twelff shillings the elne Sextein shirts et fourtie shilling the shirt Tua looking glasses at sex pund the peice Item the furnishing of tua pleughes iron and timber work at twentie pund Item ane girdell sex pund Item sextie pund worth of bookes Item ten oxen . . . pryce of the peice sex pund.

“The raiders charged with the spoliation were—Hendrie Brone, in Kellie; George Dewgat there, John Godisman thair, Master

Thomas Gordoune in Auchleuchries, John Gordone of Auchleuchries, James Eleis there, James Reith in Tarves, James Couper in Schives, Alexander Reid there, John Fynn timer there, James Byres there, William Ramsay in Westertoun of Auchleuchries, John Fynn timer there, George Black in Nethirbarnes, John Stot in Aberdene, Francis Hay in Kellie, with his wife (Agnes) Cossie, and his sonne James Hay, George Hay in Schives, John Ogilvie of Achannachie, George Adamsonne in Elwires, George Geddes of Achinhoofe, John Williamsonne of Hauches in Strathyla, Adam Schives there, George Gordoun of Leitchistoun, Alexander Gordone of Oxhill, Alexander Gordoune of Coquaroch, James Gordone there, Robert Stewart of Fornachtie, Adam Duff of Clunybeg, Alexander and John Duffes his sons, John Scot in Old Aberdene, and John Gordone of Haddo, and remanent complices. The whole brunt of the claims, however, came against Francis Hay in Kellie and John Gordon of Haddo. The spoliation, it appears, took place in April 1644, during a rising of the northern Royalists, for Spalding records that 'thair wes parties send down to Banf and to Buchane, quhair Auchnagat, perteing to the Laird of Genkindie, his girnellis, his goodis, and ground, wes pitifullie plunderit.'

"The house must have been of considerable size to contain twenty-eight furnished beds. It appears to have been well supplied, for the month of April, with provisions in the shape of oats, meal, malt, salt beef, stock-fish, cheese, and capons, with an abundant store of tallow (tauch) and candles. Ten dozen peuter and timber trunshers, with five dozen plates in addition, must have made a big pile in the pantry. Horse and nolt—four horses and four oxen make a small bestial; while the farm implements are represented by two ploughs.

"Nothing now remains of Strachan's mansion house, and its very site is unknown. The garden, however, is understood to have been on the east side of the road, a little to the west of the present farmhouse of Mains of Auchnagatt."

DEED OF ENTAIL, dated 21st October, 1694 (p. 26).

The Deed of Entail referred to states as follows :—

“Be it known to all men whom these presents may concern—Us, Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie and Master Andrew Strachan of Annachie—Brothers German, forasmuch as we stand and exist infest and seised in the lands of Glenkindie with the milne and other pertinents, and the lands of Annachie with the milne and pertinents thereof and both of the same lands proprietors, and none of us as yet having any aires maill procreat of our own bodies, and finding that the estate above-named may fall and proceed to some persone at law who is not capable to manage and rule the lands conforme to the antiquity thereof in time bygone and dignity of the former heritors in years past, and considering that Patrick Strachan, now of Auchnagatt, second lawful son to the deceased Michael Strachan of Auchnagatt, our cousin german, is to enjoy and estate we have to tailzie to him, finding he is the worthiest person to represent thair ancient family,” &c., &c.

ROUGH TREATMENT OF PATRICK STRACHAN NO. IX. AND HIS WIFE
AT KIRK OF TOWIE, 1709.

The following extract from the Minutes of the Presbytery of Alford will show the treatment experienced by the Laird of Glenkindie, Patrick Strachan, and his wife, Isobel Forbes (p. 28), on the occasion of a disputed settlement of a minister to the parish of Towie, in 1709 :—

1709. Alford, January 7th, A.M.

The which day the Moderator reported that the *res nata* why he had called the Presbyterie, was a Rabble which happened at the Kirk of Towie on the second of this current, being a Lord's Day, whereof he had certain information upon the back thereof from these who were present; which rabble opposed Mr. George Moir, Probationer

appointed by them to supply the vacancy there, and under call to that Church, and had violently dragged him, and carried him off from the Church Yard to the water of Don, wherein they threatened to drown him, often thrusting him into the water, and some cried drown him, others wring his heart blood, and continued thus to maltreat him, till one out of pity carried him throw the said water from their fury and inhumanity; and as these rabbling woemen, and men in woemen's cloaths had abused the said Master Moir, so the rabbling men had beaten, stricken, and wounded the Laird of Glenkindie with severalls of his tenants, and likewise stricken and trampled the said Glenkindie's Lady, who had all come in a peaceable manner to hear sermon; that the said rabble consisted of a great many ruffians convened out of the paroches of Strathdon, Migvie, Cushney, Kildrumy, and Clate who were tenants of the opposers of Master Moir's call, hounded out by the Laird of Brux, who had concerted the same with his highland friends that were personally there with drawn swords and the most of them actors in the said rabble.

COPY MEMORIAL BY PATRICK STRACHAN OF GLENKINDY TO KING
GEORGE II., found amongst the Edingight Papers.*

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty—

MEMORIAL OF PATRICK STRACHAN OF GLENKINDY, ESQ.

Humbly sheweth,

That whereas his affection to the present Establishment in his Majesty's person and family was manifestly seen by his having supply'd himself and Tennents with a considerable quantity of armes and amunition for Supporting of the Protestant succession as Established by Law, some time before the Queen's death when the Jacobit party openly to shew their dislike to the above settlement,

* I am indebted to Colonel Thomas Innes of Learney for the copy of Patrick Strachan's Memorial.

and to shew how much the said Patrick Strachan have adher'd to his first oppinion will appear in his after services done to and Sufferings for his Majesty and present Establishment.

In the moneth of July last the said Patrick Strachan did observe all the Jacobit Families in the Cowntrey where he lives keeping private Cabals buying up of horses and arms upon prospect of an Invasion which they did give out would happen before the 29th of the said moneth. this he gave notties off as can be avouch'd upon the place and how soon the late Earle of Marr came to the country where his Interest lays he gave likeways notties thereof by an express by which he signified his apprehensions of what he was come about and while he staid in the country being till 14 & 30th once in the 2 days he did advise what motions he made and what men he had about him and of the severall Quality and Gentlemen with whom he caballed. The said Earle of Marr having often called him to come to him yett he still shifted and hearing he was to be at his house of Glenkindy obliged him to fly south. And the said Earle having come to his house and finding him not at home was so intraged at his flight and refusall to goe into his measures that he caused carie off a considerable pairt of his victuall which he did order to be destribute among the first convention of the Rebels.

How soon he came south he gave a faithfull account of all his procedure and thereafter waited of his grace the Duke of Argile at Edinburgh and Stirling and continued till the battle of Dumblain where he had the misfortune to fall into the enemies hands and by them was thrown into a Dungeon within the prison of Dundee where common malefactors are ordenarily keepit. In which place he lay for three moneths and one half and thereafter was taken out when the Pretender made his Runn from Perth and carried along with the rest of the Prisoners to Montross where he was Incarcerat for three days and obledg'd to begg his bread over the windows from which place he was carried northward to Stonehive being still obliged to travell on foot. And their he along with two others broke jayle being afraid to be caried to the Isles where they proposed to have taken

him, howsoon he got ridd of them he came to the Duke of Argile at Stonehive and waited off him to Aberdeen at which place he was pleased to Imploy him to goe to the Highlands along with Generall Montceis in order to settle some Garisons their and to disarme all the Rebels they could meet with in Mar. After the went for England he was Employed by General Cadogan to take up all the Rebels where ever he could find them and accordingly did apprehend severall gentlemen of Distinction who are now in the hands of the Government

All which hase so Irritate that pairty not yet in the hands of the Government that since he came to London they have sent and taken away his cattle from off the lands of Glenkindy which will infalibly incapasitate his Tennents to labour their ground and consequently bring ruine upon himself and family

All which is most humbly submitted to his Majestys consideration and its hopp'd his Majesty will be graciously pleased to consider the great charges Imprisonment fatigue and present loss the humble Petitioner hase been at.

NOTE AS TO DEATH OF SIR PATRICK STRACHAN OF GLENKINDY
(p. 28).

The following extract is from an old Manuscript Diary of the early part of last century :—

“Glenkindy died in Aberdeen in the beginning of January, 1726, but was not regreted by any person. if he had lived longer the Gentry in the Country was to pursue him for taking of soums of (money?) from them for protections, &c.”

FAMILIES OF THE NAME OF STRACHAN.

Several families of the name of Strachan, in the parish of Towie, claim to be descended from the old Strachans of Glenkindie, viz., the

Strachans at Mill of Culfork, and the Strachans at New Mains. The claim rests on tradition : there is no documentary proof.

There was also a family of Strachan at Drumnagarrow, in Glenbucket (now, it is believed, extinct), which was understood to be of the Glenkindie stock. The last of this family was a famous violinist, and had a great reputation as a player of strathspeys.

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