PCR 4.212

As far back as 1587, so many Scotsmen had gone many Peopseen had cons abroad abroad to join continental armies that the Privy Council had forbidden the raising of bands of men for foreign service. Nor were shippers and mariners allowed to export the 'said men of weare 'under penalty of losing their ships. Neverthe-less Scotsmen continued continued to look for foreign service

> The outbreak of the Thirty years war in 1518 involved the Protestant Powers in a life and death struggle with Imperial Austria. Frederick, the Elector Palatine, had accepted the crown of Bohemia offered to him by the Brotestants of that country, only to be driven from his kingdom and from the Palatinate by He had married the (English) Princess the Catholics. Elizabth, sister of Charles I, and great indignation was aroused in England when he lost his throne; Volunteers poured across thexthammel to the continent to fight for the Princess and her hushand, Among those who were stirred to martial ardour was Sir Donald Mackay. He tad received permission from King Charles

IX

The outbreak of the Thirty ye is war in 1518 involved the Protestant Powers in a life and teach struggle with Imperial Austria. Frederick, the Pleator Palatine, had accepted the crown of Bonemia offered to nim by the Protestants of that country, only to be driven from the Fredestants of that country, only to be driven from the kingdom and from the Palatinate by the Cabholics. He had married the English Princess Flisabth, sister of Charles I, and great indiraction was aroused in English when he lost his throne, Volunteers oured across taxxImmumal to the continent to fight for the Princess and her husband, Among those who were shirned to martiel drdour was Sir Donald Mackey. He had received permission from King Charles

gantes to him by his King

toraine a

The thing 2 communion of the

The King Crows the communion to Si Danaboregiment of 2000 men in Scotland for service under Count Mansfeld, the leader of the Bohemian army. He received two Commissions from the King. The first, dated March 3rd, 1626, gave him leave to raise 2,000 men; the second, dated 21st July, gave him leave to raise another 3,000 men. By an agreement drawn up by Captain David Lermont on behalf of Count Mansfelt, dated March 4th, 1626, Sir Bonald MacKay was to have the rank of Colonel; his pay was to be £150 a month, and he was to have the free choice and disposition of his officers.

Mackay's Reg: p.3 App: C p. 211 - 212.

Between 2,000 and 3,000 men were raised in a very short time. According to the historian of the regiment, the men of Sir Donald Mackay's own Companywere, "picked men of great strength and stature from Strathnaver and Strathhalladale.."

The men of these districts were celebrated for their extraordinary size and soldierly bearing."

The regiment set sail from Cromarty on October 6th , and arrived at Gluckstadt on

Ibid 205-6-7. in November 1626, made necessary other arrangements for the service of the regiment and it was transferred to the service of the King of Denmark, uncle of Charles 1st. It was not long before the regiment was engaged in severe fighting . Their losses were heavy and before the end of the year their numbers were reduced to 800 effective In 1628, Sir Donald Mackay, who fighting men. had been severely wounded, returned to Scotland to raise another 1000 men. He went to London, where he obtained from Charles tot a charter under the Great Seal of the lands of Reay and Sandside, and at the same time he was raised created Doanld, Lord In November following he was made a Nova Scotia Baronet.

Lord Reay returned to Denmark with the men he had enlisted as replacements, but the King of Denmark had determined to make peace with Austria

Splendid in a scoulet clothe hour flush with side with a stand with the flush

to provide himself with an outfit suitable to his position. Re appeared in Court, a tall stately man, dressed in black velvet with silver buttons, his aword belt em--broidered with silver and his order of a Baronet of Novaf Scotia about his neck. His adversary was clad in scarlet cloth heavily laced with silver and lined with blue plush. The duel was fixed for April 12th but eventually King Charles forbade that it should take place and Lord Reay and Ramsay had to find sureties

M Rose Historical

p.193

Notes P. 4-5-6that the would keep the peace.

Ladon P.

In the summer of 1632, Lord Peay severed his connection with the regiment and the command was taken over by Colonel Robert Munro. The regiment was cut to perces at the Swedish defeat of Nordlingen and reduced to a single company. It was eventually joined with remnants of Hepburns regiment and ceased to exist as a separate c MacKay's Reg corps . In order to extricate himself from his financial troubles Lord Reay was obliged to sell his lands in Caithness and in Ross-shire (and in 1634 he sold Strathnaver to the Earl of Sutherland.)

H

Donald fst Lord Reay was three times married. His first wife was Barbara MacKenzie, daughter of Kenneth ist Lord of Kintail. She died and he married "achel Winterfield. He obtained a decree of nulity of thes marriage on the grounds that she hah already a husband in Ireland. He them married Elizabeth Tamson," a woman of low birth, "But "achel Winterfield brought a suit against him and was awarded heavy damages. The payment of these added to his financial troubles. He resigned his estates to John, Master of Reay, in ;637.

- circlair, i by the had soliceren

The Tutory of Sir Robert Gordon ended in 1630, when his nephew, John, 13 Earl of Sutherland, came of age. Gratitude is not a common virtue in the young but it is to be hoped that his uncle felt rewarded for the many exhausting journeys he had made and the success of his efforts to free the estates of debt. One of the last benefits he obtained for the earldom was the honour of a royal charter, raising Dornoch to the dignity of a free royal burgh, with all the usual priviledges. included the power to elect a Provost, four Baillies, a Dean of Gulld, a Treasurer and twelve Councillors. who hadauthority to elect Commissioners to Barliament. Permission was given to hold a weekly market on Saturdays and three annual fairs, each for the space of three days. The charter states that Dornoch was the only city of the earldom and county of Sutherland to

districts of Strathnaver, Durness, Edderacilis

Assynt
Assynt and Ferrincosky (a part of the parish of

Criech, which had formed part of the sheriffdom

of Inverness were added to the new sheriffdom.

Dornoch, which had lately been made a royal burgh

was made the head burgh of the sheriffdom and

the seat of justice for all time coming. A special Clause

was inserted reserving to the Earl of Sutherland

the right of pit and gallows on his own proper lands.

The new erection was formerly ratified by the Scots

parliament at Edinburgh in 1633.

Sir Robert Gordon might well congratulate himself. The enlargement of the boundaries of Sutherland meant a great increase in his nephew's power and influence. "Bonny Strathnaver" long coveted was now within his grasp, Soon, with Lord Reay's accumulated financial difficulties, it would pass into Gordon ownership. Compared with the Mackays the Gordon Farls of Sutherland were newcomers

and Strathnaver is ever remembered as Mar the country of the Mackays. Strathy was settled on John Mackay by his elder brother Donald, the Mackays of Scourie were descended from Y Mackay by his first wife Helen Macleod of Assynt. The Mackays of Bighouse purchased their estate towards the end of the 16th century. The Abrach Mackays descended from the victor of the battle of Druim na Coub, the illigitimate son of Angus Mackay. They had no charter for their lands but held them by favour of their chief This was to lay them open to expropriation when a Gordon Earl replaced the chief of the Mackay clan.

In Febuary, 1632, the young Earl married
Lady Jean Drummond daughter of the Earl of Perth
she brought a dowry of 5000 merks a fortune which
must have been most useful to the depleted funds
of the earldom. The young couple made their way
north by easy stages and at the same time a shipload

che brought witer her

SB 11 158

Tain B Documents 1.330 18124 1638 331. 160.

of new furniturewas sent from London to Preston-pans where it was loaded into another vessel and sent to Dunrobin. The old castle may have become very shabby duringgthe long minority, but in the south, Scottish houses were undergoing great improvments. Even the gaunt Highland castles were new furnished with fine bedsand velvet cushions on their chairs. The houses of the small lairds and the town merchants were still primitive. Tables with on trestles with forms to sit on, a few dishes of pewter or wooden platters, chests or 'kists' for holding clothes. There would be a bed in every room and this was a feature of Scottish Saastish domestic attangements right up to the last quarter of the 18th century and in poor houses even into the 19th century. The beds were often of the type known as 'box beds', that is, they were built into the wall and during the daysime could be closed with shutters. The households were self-supporting, salted their own

11. 48

of new furniture was sent from London to Preston-pans where it was loaded into another vessel and sent to Dunrobin. The old castle may have become very snabby during the long minority, but in the south, Scottlan houses were undergoing great improvments. Even the gaunt Mighland coatles were new furnished with fine bedannd velvet cushions on their chairs. The nouses of the small lairdeand the town merchants were atill primitive. Tables with on trestles, with forms to sit on, a few dishes of pewter or wooden platters, cheats or 'kists' for holding clothes. There would be a bed in every room and this was & feature of Scottish marking domestic attancements right up to the last quarter of the 18th century and in poor nouses even into the 19th century. The beds were often of the type known as ' box beds', that is, they were built into the wall and during the daysime could be closed with shutters. The nwo mient beites , grifforting, salted their own

of fund he dans no woto come of the washe agter awar Govern how mornes a into tue county after ten marriably ad un Govern to Elizabetu Culentan et ula week descendents of two Beam & Couthin) + related in some some to the Huntley Flew wer areo tu cumo, fullifel antino aphiperite of the Seiles of Sulunter is pos able. Of ar away in Certifut to before 7 Biswills to places of The Vivinia who had had funder to cavela & the menso of Fullo lolo had to factor of activers of took erobeth Runnes & achany were co How brunes of acuary was who wie derculed from Tensamo seelie wite dis content Du l'ul Center visit q truy Charles for his contralis Bisho Charles act q -- demanded les rights Bishor Pilo de infusiate Cen notificy who were determined to have on to have on to have return & Church I conto to les Croson, har to had on to lei ourner as more Società y luo father tentrick Was

beef, beend bleis own ale, made canoles for the writer to light the thing with the light the tribes owns of warrner but the rooms with hear & wood- Clothes were an important part of beial life

September selicion facion Tregle every one of the son the Dinated Hackey Died in 1550, his son type Succeeded him -) / Some of the Pois hope forseering the ruing their church tried to preserve blows revenues y creating leaves; chevely bands to great landowners in return for Cheir made an appearent with the Soul of Sulmand whenly in return for (an Indianal of Sulmand whenly in return for (an Indianal of Sulmand whenly the return for (an Indianal of Sulmand whenly the return for (an Indianal of Sulmand whenly probled (an Issishop of his chapter

But Donated Fal haw many enemies it was said wet he had front tool along soids tou Sulish army of that he led too army to the Defort which was burnt I plumbered of the Sylini:

Som spile I his falture frucept y lefelt macy it was contraled tract Donald Backage was o'lle p'lined I his son "yes could not inherit from him. I his son "yes could not inherit from him. I his was the excess of he hestowring the lother human such was like excess of hestowring the lother human such was such on Biohop Reid of Orhuly

Champeionship

Shawing . USTE 1276. 1640.

Gilbert Pers. Muster of Strin - broke Down les lomby hartetin Deriving the kinds from the chosen which and wood his a ten upromation - Phe consulty on an acide with strang (old I ten day of in Calement in the stren. And actions to speet in the church weight repleters that the church weight softers have been the fire went out of world out fire but the fire went out of world out hindle in the ownering - so at last the minister buildle in the ownering - so at last the minister but to them any orner fil.

lX

3

in bad weather. A man of Sur Robert's standing did not travel without servants, and he always took with him from Sutherland one or two young men, sons of his friends, that they might see England and 'remark' the Court--'by which meanes the chieff gentlemen of the country of Southerland became more civill than the rest of their neighbouring cuntries.' Sir Robert saw no attractions in the Highland way of life, the 'pretty men' armed with bows and arrows, the trumpet and the great pipe, and the gatherings of armed men thoughthecessary to mark every important occasion.

In Sutherland, Sir Robert found several disputes were brewing. The old Countess Jean did not agree with heer daughter-in-law, "arl John's widow; and his nephew, Donald Mackay of Farr, was less amenable to the interests of the earldom than his father had been. He had revived a process against John Murray of Abiscors, laying claim to the lands of Kinauld and he had purchased the lands of Golspietour from John Gordon of Embo, from whom he had obtained

9320

1X

a promise that he would sell to him all the lands that he held in wadset and mortgage from the Earl ofSutherland in Strathfleet. / The suspicious Tutor thought that young Mackay meant to make himself the most powerful man in Sutherland, at the expense of the Earl, but by tactful persuasion he persuaded his nephew to renounce all his purchases. Sir Robert also objected to Mackay buying a house for himself in Pornoch. sinse it was the custom for those lairds who could afford it to spend their winters in the nearest town. The Frasers, the Grants and the Lairds of MMckintosh had hired houses in Inverness and ' most pleasant was their correspondance together.' Earl John had wished for leave to spend the winter in Dornoch, where, he said, ' Mackay and the haill gentilmen of the contry will dwell their also' Dornoch was within comparatively easy reach of Tain and Easter Ross, where the Earl had many friends. Monros M'Kenzies and Frasers. The heads of these families might take a wife with a good tocher from the south.

9.

Wardlaw MSS p238.

S.B. 1 188.

Larl of Caithness left thair, I think scho sall do littil wher good to her sone. 'The dispute was not settled when the countess died the following year. In Febuary 1616 she had given birth to a son , who was christened George Posthumous Gordon. But the child did not live.

S.B. I 209-10

There were difficulties with the Sutherlands of Duffus, never on friendly terms with the Gordons.

William Sutherland of Duffus died while Sir Robert was in the north, leaving a son who was still a minor. The young laird disputed the ward of his lands which fell to the Earl as Superior, But Sir Robert left this to be settled at a later date. His most urgent task was to satisfy the Earl's creditors who were promised relief as far as it was possible at the time.

G 329

The Earl of Caithness might have been tempted to make mischief at this time, but Earl George was now overwhelmed with debt and had become involved in a

TX

a crime that was to benefit only his enemies.

During the autumn of 1614, he had undertaken to reduce the wastle of Kirkwall for the government. Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney, with whom Sir Robert and his brothers had spent a fortnight as his guests in 1602, was now a prisoner in Edinburgh, stripped of his possessions and accused of treating his Orkney subjects with such harshness and cruelty that he was to be tried for his life. In defiance of the Council he sent a message to his natural son, Robert to uplift his Orkney rents as usual. Robert did and then seized the castle of Kirkwall and other strong points in the islands which he fortified.

P.C.R Vol

10. p 713 lX

TX

8

The expedition was provided with a Herald and a trunpeter to proclaim the terms offered to the rebells, As wounds and sickness might be expected a doctor was senfwith them who was paid £30 a month and allowed £100 for his outfit of drugs.

PCR 10,713

Salvodu clear

This force laid seige to Kirkwall castle but the walls were so strong that Thrawn Mow and her three score of bullets had no effect on them. For three weeks Robert Stewart held out in the castle with a garrison of only 16 men; but in the end he was forced to surrender through the treachery of one of the defenders a man named Hacto, who was willing to betray his friends to save his own life. A number of the garrison were hanged on the spot, but Robert Stewart, who was only 22', of a tall stature and comely countenance 'was sent to Edinburgh, where he was condemned and hanged at the Market Cross, with five of his companions, on January 5th, 1615. A month later, Earl Patrick himself was led to the scafold and beheaded.

F.E.R. Fulsoluction the 10 P/XIII

During the autumn of 1614 the Eark had undertaken to reduce the castle of Kirkwall for the government.

For this service he rewarded by King James rewarded him with a remission for all his past offences and a yearly pension of 1000 crowns; he was also made a member of the Privy Council. But it was not long before the Earl's enemies were able to seize on fresh offences and press that these priviledges might be withdrawn.

Amongst those who suffered from garl George's grasping disposition his own kinsmen were not exempt. William Sinclair of Dunbeath was so persecuted, his lands wasted and himself in some danger of his life, that he fled to Moray, where he remained till his geath. He was succeeded by his grandson George Sinclair, who was married to a sister of Lord Forbes. George Sinclair drew up a deed of entail, by which failing heirs of his own body, he left all his proterty to the earl of Caithness, but no sooner was the Earl aware of this than he began plotting to get of his cousin and seize his inheritance, warned of a plot

Ouring the suturn of 1614 the -ark jad undertoken to reduce the castle of Kirkwall for the government.

For this service he rewarded by King James rewented him with a remission for all his past offences and a yearly pension of 1000 crowns; he was also made a member of the Frivy Council. Due in was not long before the -arl's enemies were able to seize on fresh offences and press that these priviledges might be withdrawn.

Amongst those who suffered from garl deorge's reasping disposition his own kinsmen were not exempt. Villiam Sinclair of Dunbeath was so persecuted his lands wasted and himself in some dender of his life, that he fied to Moray, where he remained till his death. He was succeeded by his grandson George Sinclair, who was married to a sister of Lord Forbes. George Sinclair drew up a deed fo Lord Forbes. George Sinclair drew up a deed all his proterty to the marl of Caithness, but no sooner was the Marl aware of this than he began plotting to get of his cousin and seize his inheritance, warned of a plot

lX

9

For his services in Orkney the Earl of Caithness was rewarded by King James with a remission for all his past offences and a yearly pension of 1000 crowns; he was also made a member of the Scottish Privy Council. But it was not long before the Earl's enemies were able to seize on fresh offences and press that these proviledges might be withdrawn.

Amongst those who suffered from EarlGeorge's grasping disposition his own kinsmen were not exempt.

William Sinclair of of Dunbaith was so persecuted,

his lands wasted and homself in some danger of his life, thou he fled to Moray, where he remained until his death.

He was succeeded by his grandson, George Sinclair, who was married to a sister of Lord Forbes, George Sinclair drew up a deed of entail, by which, failing heirs of his own body he left all his property to the Earl of Caithness; but no sooner was the Earl aware of this that he began plotting to get rid of his cousinand seize his inheritance. Warned of a plot against his life

13 h Earl George Einclain Forade d'inll Cowing his purity to Line Forbio

lX

the Laird of Dunbeath left Caithness and went to stay with his brother-in-law. In gratitude for the kindness he received from him he withdrew the deed of entail mand made a fresh disposition of his property, which he conveyed to Lord Forbes. Soon after the deed was executed he became ill and died. Lord Forbes then entered into possession of the lands of DounrayaySands thand Dumbaith.

Jealous that Lord Forbes ahould possess so much Sinclair property the Earl made use of his powers as harass tenants. (As far back as 1613 complaints had come before the Privy Council that had prevebted them paying their rents to Lord Forbes, with threats of hanging. / In May, 1614, there was another complaint by the King's Advocate and Arthur, Lord Forbes, that Robert Keyth, falconer to William, Lord Berridale, accompanied by 40 bowmen marmed with bows, darlocks, swords, dirks, efc and wearing hacquebuts and pisto ets, went nby direction of the Earl of Caithness and William, Lord Berridale, to Lord Forbesos lands

9320

1X

11

and the Craig of Dumbaith where John Gariauche, his servitor, was keeping his falcon nest for the time. The said Robert first presented a bent pistolet and held it to the breast of the said Johnne and thereafter causit clyme the said craig and took furth thairof ane young falcone not past six nichtis old and kaist the whole unklettit eggis ovir the craig in the sea.' Keyth was fined 10 merks and ordered to be confined in the Tolbooth till he had paid it.

PCR Vol 10 802-3

The Earl's spite was particularly directed against William Innes, a Morayshir man who lived at Sandsett and acted as Lord Forbes factor. One night, in the late autumn of 1615, the stackyord st Sandsett was set on fire and 'eight great stacks of beare and eight great stacks of oats' were burnt out. A report was circulated that some of Mackay's temants were responsible for the fire for some days previous to the fire

OPER 18/12. P414

Charles -- 9 1 DOJ 1624 1602. 7 " May Robert Gray 11 hay 1602 Gober Gray. Lie 742 23° any 1609 gleber Gay _____ 1627 1671) alex - Gray -(Caline in bowom. alex. Clumo. Bobert Gay. 1716 Charles & Conformation Bobert Gay 1741 Disposition tobut Gray 1787 Died 1624 = Christian Pruns Elver Gray. Robert. 2 son- le = Berrie Goson, Silena-slew agns Versenuel. Alexander- crien. Copiène & Over Stells

Mapis Double. 1641

K:l-maily

1627

Vlll

N 40 8181

21

S.B 184

of Smith took place. The Earl of Caithness was in Edinburgh when news of the happenings in Thurso reached him. Humiliated that such as attack whould have taken place in the heart of his own country and in its chief town, he issued a summons against Donald Mackay and John gordon for the slaughter of his nephew, John Sinclair and his brother James Sinclair of Dun. A similar process was raised by Sir Robert Gordon and Donald Mackay against the Earl of Caithness and his son Lord Berridale, for opposing the king's commission and for other crimes.

with the second second

On the day appointed by the council for the hearing of the case, both parties appeared in Edinburgh accompanied by their most influential friends, but Sir Robert Gordon's escort, which included the Earl of Winton Livithyow, Lord Elphinstone and many others

Meant Chat change for the inhalitant.

y the saldon. In harbitular his

nepheus Donard & Toler markery avoise
his paloury the accused Daukary y

Cuy had been in terms y great frummer

with Salet John, but S. h & was

leadons y ter young chuy to tem be

and the lead to the temporal ter to teet

in ter good one motestance of ter to entre

On the day appointed by the council for the bearing of the case, both parties appeared in Edinburgh accompanied by their most influential friends, but Sir Robert Gordon's escert, which included the Tarl of Winton

When in course of time, it was found that the country was being flooded with false coin, Smith was naturally suspected.

G 279

Sootel Sintain time wife of Solder And Dis Eley were provious & corbeb Eris chair earle uncle . The consent to do surdy much to earl & his wife but also with his wall for alexander & by that orwans her orun 800 Course hers to the Salendam early on - the earl o his wo faculy well on a west to his uncle ? the powers was mixed fut into the try were considery with the same life was saven & his falter who realisms he had taken his faller to me to Town him to take to take the boy at once to Town him to take the boy at once to Town him to take the boy at once to Dunishing him to select the contract of the contrac died following Day tous Sould Count were carried to Dunn bin when try or ofter find Days to later September selicion facion Tregle every one of the son the Dinated Hackey Died in 1550, his son type Succeeded him -) / Some of the Pois hope forseering the ruing their church tried to preserve blows revenues y creating leaves; chevely bands to great landowners in return for Cheir made an appearent with the Soul of Sulmand whenly in return for (an Indianal of Sulmand whenly the return for the Prisonop of his chapter

But Donated Fal haw many enemies it was said wet he had front tool along soids tou Sulish army of that he led too army to the Defort which was burnt I plumbered of the Sylini:

Som spile I his falture frucept y lefelt macy it was contraled tract Donald Backage was o'lle p'lined I his son "yes could not inherit from him. I his son "yes could not inherit from him. I his was the excess of he hestowring the lother human such was like excess of hestowring the lother human such was such on Biohop Reid of Orhuly

Champeionship

Shawing . USTI 1276. 1640.

Gilbert Pers. Muster of Strin - broke Down les lomby harteten his die les upromation - Plu creating which and wood his a less upromation - Plu creating on an about with strang (old I less day of consumption of the chance and the consumptions of the chance and the wood to light his less town for his less than fire went out I would not hindle in the mineral - es at last the mineral hindle in the mineral or or of it.

lX

3

in bad weather. A man of Sur Robert's standing did not travel without servants, and he always took with him from Sutherland one or two young men, sons of his friends, that they might see England and 'remark' the Court--'by which meanes the chieff gentlemen of the country of Southerland became more civill than the rest of their neighbouring cuntries.' Sir Robert saw no attractions in the Highland way of life, the 'pretty men' armed with bows and arrows, the trumpet and the great pipe, and the gatherings of armed men thoughthecessary to mark every important occasion.

In Sutherland, Sir Robert found several disputes were brewing. The old Countess Jean did not agree with heer daughter-in-law, "arl John's widow; and his nephew, Donald Mackay of Farr, was less amenable to the interests of the earldom than his father had been. He had revived a process against John Murray of Abiscors, laying claim to the lands of Kinauld, and he had purchased the lands of Golspietour from John Gordon of Embo, from whom he had obtained

9320

1X

a promise that he would sell to him all the lands that he held in wadset and mortgage from the Earl ofSutherland in Strathfleet. / The suspicious Tutor thought that young Mackay meant to make himself the most powerful man in Sutherland, at the expense of the Earl, but by tactful persuasion he persuaded his nephew to renounce all his purchases. Sir Robert also objected to Mackay buying a house for himself in Pornoch. sinse it was the custom for those lairds who could afford it to spend their winters in the nearest town. The Frasers, the Grants and the Lairds of MMckintosh had hired houses in Inverness and ' most pleasant was their correspondance together.' Earl John had wished for leave to spend the winter in Dornoch, where, he said, ' Mackay and the haill gentilmen of the contry will dwell their also' Dornoch was within comparatively easy reach of Tain and Easter Ross, where the Earl had many friends. Monros M'Kenzies and Frasers. The heads of these families might take a wife with a good tocher from the south.

9.

Wardlaw MSS p238.

S.B. 1 188.

Larl of Caithness left thair, I think scho sall do littil wher good to her sone. 'The dispute was not settled when the countess died the following year. In Febuary 1616 she had given birth to a son , who was christened George Posthumous Gordon. But the child did not live.

S.B. I 209-10

There were difficulties with the Sutherlands of Duffus, never on friendly terms with the Gordons.

William Sutherland of Duffus died while Sir Robert was in the north, leaving a son who was still a minor. The young laird disputed the ward of his lands which fell to the Earl as Superior, But Sir Robert left this to be settled at a later date. His most urgent task was to satisfy the Earl's creditors who were promised relief as far as it was possible at the time.

G 329

The Earl of Caithness might have been tempted to make mischief at this time, but Earl George was now overwhelmed with debt and had become involved in a

TX

a crime that was to benefit only his enemies.

During the autumn of 1614, he had undertaken to reduce the wastle of Kirkwall for the government. Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney, with whom Sir Robert and his brothers had spent a fortnight as his guests in 1602, was now a prisoner in Edinburgh, stripped of his possessions and accused of treating his Orkney subjects with such harshness and cruelty that he was to be tried for his life. In defiance of the Council he sent a message to his natural son, Robert to uplift his Orkney rents as usual. Robert did and then seized the castle of Kirkwall and other strong points in the islands which he fortified.

P.C.R Vol

10. p 713 lX

TX

8

The expedition was provided with a Herald and a trunpeter to proclaim the terms offered to the rebells, As wounds and sickness might be expected a doctor was senfwith them who was paid £30 a month and allowed £100 for his outfit of drugs.

PCR 10,713

Salvodu clear

This force laid seige to Kirkwall castle but the walls were so strong that Thrawn Mow and her three score of bullets had no effect on them. For three weeks Robert Stewart held out in the castle with a garrison of only 16 men; but in the end he was forced to surrender through the treachery of one of the defenders a man named Hacto, who was willing to betray his friends to save his own life. A number of the garrison were hanged on the spot, but Robert Stewart, who was only 22', of a tall stature and comely countenance 'was sent to Edinburgh, where he was condemned and hanged at the Market Cross, with five of his companions, on January 5th, 1615. A month later, Earl Patrick himself was led to the scafold and beheaded.

F.E.R. Fulsoluction the 10 P/XIII

During the autumn of 1614 the Eark had undertaken to reduce the castle of Kirkwall for the government.

For this service he rewarded by King James rewarded him with a remission for all his past offences and a yearly pension of 1000 crowns; he was also made a member of the Privy Council. But it was not long before the Earl's enemies were able to seize on fresh offences and press that these priviledges might be withdrawn.

Amongst those who suffered from garl George's grasping disposition his own kinsmen were not exempt. William Sinclair of Dunbeath was so persecuted, his lands wasted and himself in some danger of his life, that he fled to Moray, where he remained till his geath. He was succeeded by his grandson George Sinclair, who was married to a sister of Lord Forbes. George Sinclair drew up a deed of entail, by which failing heirs of his own body, he left all his proterty to the earl of Caithness, but no sooner was the Earl aware of this than he began plotting to get of his cousin and seize his inheritance, warned of a plot

lX

9

For his services in Orkney the Earl of Caithness was rewarded by King James with a remission for all his past offences and a yearly pension of 1000 crowns; he was also made a member of the Scottish Privy Council. But it was not long before the Earl's enemies were able to seize on fresh offences and press that these proviledges might be withdrawn.

Amongst those who suffered from EarlGeorge's grasping disposition his own kinsmen were not exempt.

William Sinclair of of Dunbaith was so persecuted,

his lands wasted and homself in some danger of his life, thou he fled to Moray, where he remained until his death.

He was succeeded by his grandson, George Sinclair, who was married to a sister of Lord Forbes, George Sinclair drew up a deed of entail, by which, failing heirs of his own body he left all his property to the Earl of Caithness; but no sooner was the Earl aware of this that he began plotting to get rid of his cousinand seize his inheritance. Warned of a plot against his life

13 h Earl George Einclain Forade d'inll Cowing his purity to Line Forbio

lX

the Laird of Dunbeath left Caithness and went to stay with his brother-in-law. In gratitude for the kindness he received from him he withdrew the deed of entail mand made a fresh disposition of his property, which he conveyed to Lord Forbes. Soon after the deed was executed he became ill and died. Lord Forbes then entered into possession of the lands of DounrayaySands thand Dumbaith.

Jealous that Lord Forbes ahould possess so much Sinclair property the Earl made use of his powers as harass tenants. (As far back as 1613 complaints had come before the Privy Council that had prevebted them paying their rents to Lord Forbes, with threats of hanging. / In May, 1614, there was another complaint by the King's Advocate and Arthur, Lord Forbes, that Robert Keyth, falconer to William, Lord Berridale, accompanied by 40 bowmen marmed with bows, darlocks, swords, dirks, efc and wearing hacquebuts and pisto ets, went nby direction of the Earl of Caithness and William, Lord Berridale, to Lord Forbesos lands

9320

1X

11

and the Craig of Dumbaith where John Gariauche, his servitor, was keeping his falcon nest for the time. The said Robert first presented a bent pistolet and held it to the breast of the said Johnne and thereafter causit clyme the said craig and took furth thairof ane young falcone not past six nichtis old and kaist the whole unklettit eggis ovir the craig in the sea.' Keyth was fined 10 merks and ordered to be confined in the Tolbooth till he had paid it.

PCR Vol 10 802-3

The Earl's spite was particularly directed against William Innes, a Morayshir man who lived at Sandsett and acted as Lord Forbes factor. One night, in the late autumn of 1615, the stackyord st Sandsett was set on fire and 'eight great stacks of beare and eight great stacks of oats' were burnt out. A report was circulated that some of Mackay's temants were responsible for the fire for some days previous to the fire

OPER 18/12. P414

Charles -- 9 1 DOJ 1624 1602. 7 " May Robert Gray 11 hay 1602 Gober Gray. Lie 742 23° any 1609 gleber Gay _____ 1627 1671) alex - Gray -(Caline in bowom. alex. Clumo. Bobert Gay. 1716 Charles & Conformation Bobert Gay 1741 Disposition tobut Gray 1787 Died 1624 = Christian Pruns Elver Gray. Robert. 2 son- le = Berrie Goson, Silena-slew agns Versenuel. Alexander- crien. Copiène & Over Stells

Mapis Double. 1641

K:l-maily

1627

Vlll

N 40 8181

21

S.B 184

of Smith took place. The Earl of Caithness was in Edinburgh when news of the happenings in Thurso reached him. Humiliated that such as attack whould have taken place in the heart of his own country and in its chief town, he issued a summons against Donald Mackay and John gordon for the slaughter of his nephew, John Sinclair and his brother James Sinclair of Dun. A similar process was raised by Sir Robert Gordon and Donald Mackay against the Earl of Caithness and his son Lord Berridale, for opposing the king's commission and for other crimes.

with the second second

On the day appointed by the council for the hearing of the case, both parties appeared in Edinburgh accompanied by their most influential friends, but Sir Robert Gordon's escort, which included the Earl of Winton Livithyow, Lord Elphinstone and many others

Meant Chat change for the inhalitant.

y the saldon. In harbitular his

nepheus Donard & Toler markery avoise
his paloury the accused Daukary y

Cuy had been in terms y great frummer

with Salet John, but S. h & was

leadons y ter young chuy to tem be

and the lead to the temporal ter to teet

in ter good one motestance of ter to entre

On the day appointed by the council for the bearing of the case, both parties appeared in Edinburgh accompanied by their most influential friends, but Sir Robert Gordon's escert, which included the Tarl of Winton

When in course of time, it was found that the country was being flooded with false coin, Smith was naturally suspected.

G 279

Sootel Sintain time wife of Solder And Dis Eley were provious & corbeb Eris chair earle uncle . The consent to do surdy much to earl & his wife but also with his wall for alexander & by that orwans her orun 800 Course hers to the Salendam early on - the earl o his wo faculy well on a west to his uncle ? the powers was mixed fut into the try were considery with the same life was saven & his falter who realisms he had taken his faller to me to Town him to take to take the boy at once to Town him to take the boy at once to Town him to take the boy at once to Dunishing him to select the contract of the contrac died following Day tous Sould Count were carried to Dunn bin when try or ofter find Days to later