

his foot upon the rider's breast and pointing his weapon at the head of the fallen man, demanded both his weapon and his horse, 'lest a worse thing befall him.'

For the second time the death-warrant for Sir John had disappeared and for the second time he was granted a reprieve of fourteen days. His father was at last successful, (History says by the payment of five thousand pounds Sterling), and Sir John was at last set free. With his father, he hurried from prison and while surrounded by his family, a stranger craved admittance, and handing him two documents, said — 'when you have read these, cast them into the fire.' They were the two death-warrants.

'How shall I ever thank thee?' Sir John exclaimed, while the old Earl his father, grasped the stranger's hand and the children embraced his knees. The stranger removed his hat and disclosed the identity of — Grizel."

SIR JOHN COCHRAN AND HIS DESCENDANTS

Sir John Cochrane, of Ochiltree, was the second son of the first Earl of Dundonald. He married Margaret Strickland of Boynton County, York, whose father was one of Cromwell's Lords of Parliament. Several children were born of their union; William, the heir; Grizel, the heroine; a second son, John, who escaped to Holland with his father, but who was forfeited, April 9, 1684, for being in arms at Bothwell Bridge in 1679, when he was only sixteen years old; also several younger children.

Sir John was succeeded by his oldest son, William, to the estates of Ochiltree. William was married to Lady Mary Bruce in 1681. She was the oldest daughter of Alexander, the second Earl of Kincardine; she was also heir to her brother, Alexander, third Earl of Kincardine who died unmarried in 1705. Her claim to the succession was as follows: Sir Edward Bruce, of Carnock was created Earl of Kincardine and Lord Bruce of Torry; to him and his heirs male by patent, dated Dec. 26, 1647. He died unmarried in 1662 and his estates and honours, fell upon his brother Alexander, a prominent statesman after the Restoration.

On July 10, 1667, he was made an extra Lord of Session, and one of the King's Commissioners, for the government of

Scotland, until dismissed through the influence of Lauderdale. He married Veronica, daughter of the Lord of Sommelsdyck and Spyck, of Holland. They had two sons and three daughters; Mary, the oldest, married William Cochran, of Ochiltree; her father, dying on July 9, 1680 had been succeeded by his son Alexander, third Earl of Kincardine; who also died in November, 1705, without heirs, when his sister, Lady Mary Cochrane laid claim to the honors, by virtue of a resignation in her favor, by the late Earl, not completed by a crown charter; (but which it was legally held to be within the power of the Crown to accept and complete,) but the Queen would not interfere, as it was held that she was not entitled to do so after the union of England and Scotland; 1707; the male heir was a son of Sir Alexander of Broomhall, who was a son of Robert, a grand-son of George, who had extensive coal works in Culross, which he also represented in Parliament. Because of all this litigation, Lady Mary had to sell her estate of Carnock to Lord Erskine a cousin-german.

Sir William and Lady Mary Cochrane had a family of nine sons and four daughters. After the death of Sir William, the estates of Ochiltree passed to his oldest son Charles, who also acquired the estates of Culross, after the death of his mother. Charles died, unmarried, in 1752, and was succeeded by his brother James, who was a Lieutenant-General in the army, who died in 1758 leaving two daughters, but the estates passed to Thomas, who had survived his six older brothers, four of whom had served in either the Army or Navy. Sir Thomas in that same year succeeded to the peerage and became the Eighth Earl of Dundonald.

The issue of Sir William and Lady Mary were as follows: Elizabeth, Archibald, Charles, John, James, Basil, Sir Alexander, Sir Thomas, Maria, Andrew James, Matilda and others.

SKETCHES OF THE EIGHTH, NINTH AND TENTH EARLS OF DUNDONALD

Under the heading of the House of Dundonald, there is brief mention of Thomas, the Eighth Earl, and his descendants. He was a Major in the Army, and died at his estate, La Mancha, in Peebleshire, 1778, and was succeeded by his elder son, Archibald.