

VIII.

THE HERALDRY IN SOME OF THE OLD CHURCHYARDS BETWEEN TAIN AND INVERNESS. By W. RAE MACDONALD, F.S.A. Scot.

The town of Tain stands on slightly elevated ground overlooking the Dornoch Firth, with an expanse of low sandy links in front. It contains three old churches, all, it is believed, dedicated to St Duthac. The most ancient of the three, situate on a knoll in the low ground, is now quite ruinous and is surrounded by a modern cemetery. The other two stand in one churchyard on the higher ground close to the town. The larger, converted into a Collegiate Church in 1487, is in good repair, though not now used as a place of worship, while the smaller and more ancient is a roofless ruin. On the floor of the latter is a burial slab with marginal inscription in capitals:—

HEIR LYIS ANE HO
 NEST MAN CALLED DONALD ROSS BVR
 GESS OF TAIN Q
 VHA DEPAIRTIT THE 10 DAY OF SEPTEMBER
 1649.

The year is placed at the foot of the central portion of the stone and is inverted ; near the upper end are two shields side by side, measuring 22 inches across and bearing arms (fig. 1).

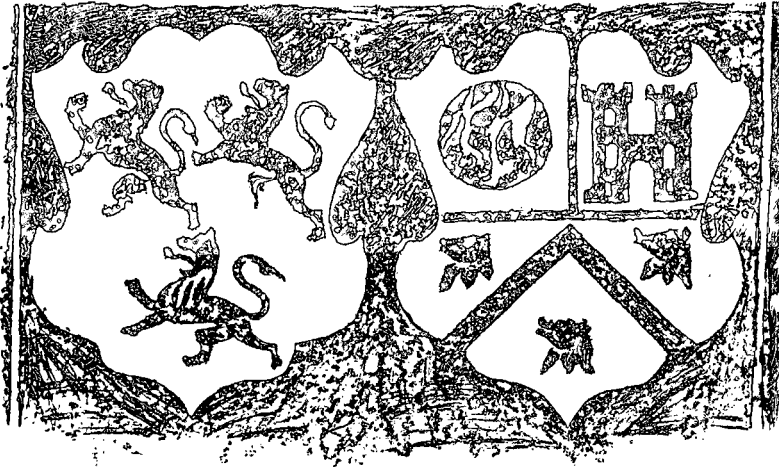


Fig. 1. On Burial Slab at Tain.

Dexter, Three lions rampant (for Ross). *Sinister*, Parted per fess and the chief per pale, forming three divisions. 1st, A fountain. 2nd, A castle double towered. In the base, A chevron between three boar heads erased. Beneath the shields are the initials DR, BF
 IR, HR

Another stone lying beside the above has a marginal inscription, continued down the centre, also in capitals :—

HEIR LYES ANE PROPER
GENTLEMAN CALLIT IHONE ROSS OF ALDIE
SVMTYME PROVEST
OF TAINE WHA DEPAIRTIT THIS MOR
TAL LYFE VPPON THE
17 OF IVLY 1654.

Beneath this inscription are two shields with identical arms to those described above, and under these are the initials:—DR BF.

FEARN.—The most interesting feature remaining in the Abbey is the tomb of Abbot Finlay M^cFead (1442–1485).¹ The monument is on the south wall of a chapel abutting on the south side of the Abbey Church, and called St Michael's Aisle. Under an arched and decorated canopy the effigy of the abbot rests on a flat stone, along the bevelled edge of which is inscribed in Gothic letters:—

hic . iacet . finlaius . m^cfaed . quod . allas² . de .
ffearn . qui . obiit . anno . m cccc lxxxv .

At the ends of the canopy are two small shields now defaced, and in the centre a larger shield, 7½ inches wide, sloping inwards, and bearing the abbot's arms (fig. 2), viz. :—

Between three stars a stag lodged.

The abbot's crosier is represented in front of the shield instead of behind it as is usual, the head of the crosier appearing above the shield, and the point extending below it, while the staff is represented on the face of the shield, but underneath the charges. This peculiarity in the representation of the crosier has led to incorrect blasoning of the arms, it having apparently been mistaken for a tree.³

¹ MacGibbon and Ross, *Ecclesiastical Architecture*, vol. ii. p. 546 (fig. 937).

² For "abbas."

³ See the following Note in *The Priory of Beaully*, by E. Chisholm Batten, p. 314: "Finlay MacFead (Faid or Fearn) suc. in or before A.D. 1442 . . . died A.D. 1485 at Fearn, interred in St Michael's aisle there under a monument, still existing, with effigy and inscription:—'Hic jacet Finlaius M^cfead abbas de Fern qui obiit anno m cccc l xxx v,' and on top of ornamental arch over tomb are his armorial bearings (as copied by me, A.D. 1840, when much defaced)—a stag lodged behind

Within the church, near the middle of the north wall, is a shield surrounded with two mouldings. It bears a lion rampant, the tail of which has been chiselled off. There are no initials or date to help in identifying it. Possibly it may have originally borne the Royal

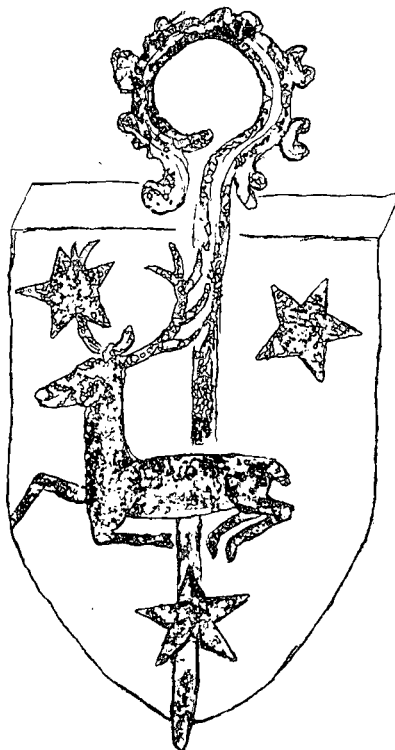


Fig. 2. On Monument at Fearn.

a tree with three stars; or *heraldically* 'az. a stag arg. lodged within a grove of trees vert and in chief three stars of the second'—arms of family of Fearn of Tarlogie in Ross-shire (as recorded in Lyon Reg. and Nisbet's Heraldry, vol. i. p. 333)." The Arms of Fairne of Tarlogie are blasoned in the *Lyon Register*, vol. i. p. 300, as:—"Gules a stag Argent lodged within a grove of trees Vert, in chief between the attires three stars of the second. *Nota.*—The field is azur and not gules as above."

Arms of Scotland, the tressure having been chiselled off, and converted into the double moulding.

At the east end of the church is the Balnagoun monument, occupying the centre of the wall. It has the following inscription (in script):—

Nam
Hic Jacet
Dominus David Rossius
A Balnagoun Baro Inclitus
Priscorum Rossiae Comitum
etc. etc.
Iliusque Conjux Charissimæ
Domina Anna Stewart
Jacobi Moraviae Comitiss Illustris Filia
Obiit Ille
XIV Cal Maij An MDCCXI
Illa vero
XVII Cal Septembris MDCCXIX.

On the shield are the following arms impaled:—*Dexter*, Three lions rampant. *Sinister*, Quarterly. 1st and 4th, A lion rampant. 2nd, A fess chequy. 3rd. Three cushions lozengeways. The crest, on a helmet front face with mantling, is now broken off, but on a tombstone in the churchyard with the same arms the crest is a hind head cabossed. Supporters dexter a savage and sinister a hound.

In the churchyard, on the south side of the church, a small wall has been built, and in it has been inserted a panel bearing in the centre a shield of arms impaled, viz.:—*Dexter*, Three lions rampant (for Ross). *Sinister*, Three water budgets with a hawk head at fess point (also for Ross) with initials DR, MR; also various symbols, including that of a hand holding a hammer.

NIGG CHURCHYARD.—The sculptured stone here¹ is rather hidden

¹ Stuart's *Sculptured Stones*, vol. i. pls. xxviii.-xxix.

away at the east end of the church. It is enclosed by an iron railing, but is a good deal dripped on by the trees.

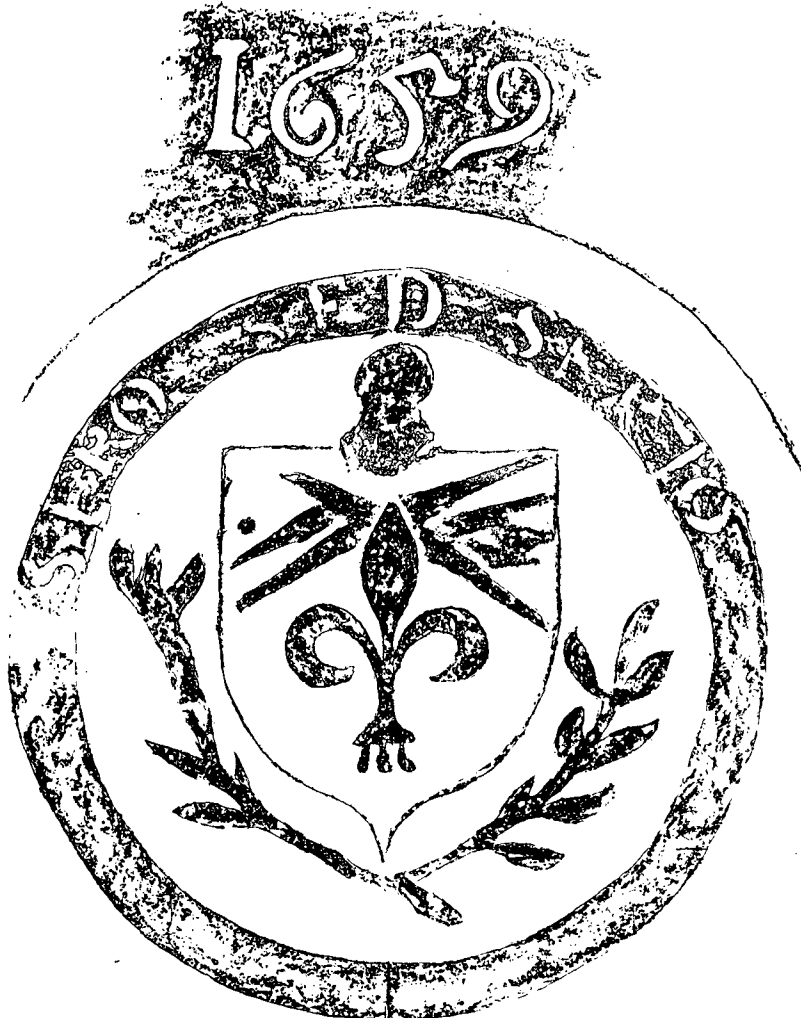


Fig. 3. On Burial Slab at Nigg.

On the south side of the church, near its eastern end, is a recumbent slab of red sandstone which has originally been sculptured with a Gothic cross and a sword. It has again been made use of by sinking a circular panel, within which is carved a shield of arms between two branches of laurel, with a small helmet at top. The arms are:—A fleur-de-lis with a star (or thunderbolt?) in chief.¹ The whole is surrounded by a raised circular band $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, on which is incised the motto SERO SED SERIO (fig. 3). Above this is incised the name, initials, and date as follows:—

ALLEXANDER
GAIR
K M^cC
1659

A rather handsome looking sarcophagus tomb, without arms, and not of particularly good design, stands opposite the west end of the church, and there are also a few stones with the names Rose and Ross, of comparatively late date, bearing arms.

Cromarty churchyard contains nothing specially noteworthy.

In the churchyard of Kirkmichael, in Udale, the gables of the old church remain, part of it being used as a burial vault. On the south boundary wall is a monument to Munro of Pointfield, with arms, and date 1680, but it appears to have been renewed.

At Cullicudden there are said to be some coats of arms.

Within the grounds of Invergordon Castle is the important sculptured stone removed there from Hilton of Cadboll in Easter Ross.² It measures 92 inches in height by 55 inches in width. The

¹ In the *Lyon Register*, vol. i. p. 310, is this entry:—*Gair, Alexander, portioner of Nigg*. Argent, a fleur-de-lis sable, on a chief of the second, a mullet of the first.

² *Stuart's Sculptured Stones*, vol. i. pl. xxv.

principal panel on one side contains a hunting scene, in which a lady or queen is represented on horseback seated on a sidesaddle, with two trumpeters behind her, and beneath two men on horses with javelins following a hind, which is pierced by a spear, and pursued by dogs. The subordinate panels and border are filled with interlaced work. With the scene here represented may be compared the very similar one depicted on the more archaic sculptured stone at Aberlemno,¹ in which, however, a male figure on horseback occupies the principal place. On the other side of the Invergordon stone there had no doubt originally been a cross of interlaced work; this has, however, been entirely chiselled off, and the stone appropriated as a grave slab, the following inscription being incised near the top:—

HE . THAT . LEIVES . VEIL . DOOES . VEIL
 SAYETH SOLOMON THE VYSE
 HEIR LYES ALEXANDER DVF
 AND HIS : THREE WYVES 1676

Underneath is a quartered shield, 18 inches wide (fig. 4), bearing arms, probably intended in some way to represent those of the appropriator and his three wives, viz.—1st, A stag head cabossed with a star between the attires. 2nd, A hand holding a banner. 3rd, Three boar heads coupéd (for Vrquhart?). 4th, as the 3rd. At the sides of the shield are the name and initials A. DVF, K. S, C. V, and H. V, arranged under each other.

In Ainess churchyard, on the gable of a burial vault, there appears to be a coat of arms, but it was only seen from the train in passing. From Ainess also came two sculptured stones, now in the Inverness Museum, the one of a wolf, 20 inches long, the other of a horse head, 13 inches high.²

¹ *Stuart's Sculptured Stones*, vol. i. pl. lxxx.

² These are figured in the *Transactions of the Glasgow Archæological Society*—new series, vol. ii. p. 80, pl. vi. figs. 1 and 2.

Some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of the Muir of Ord station is Urray old churchyard, where there is a fragment of a grave cover, 23 inches in width, with an ornamental Gothic cross (fig. 5).

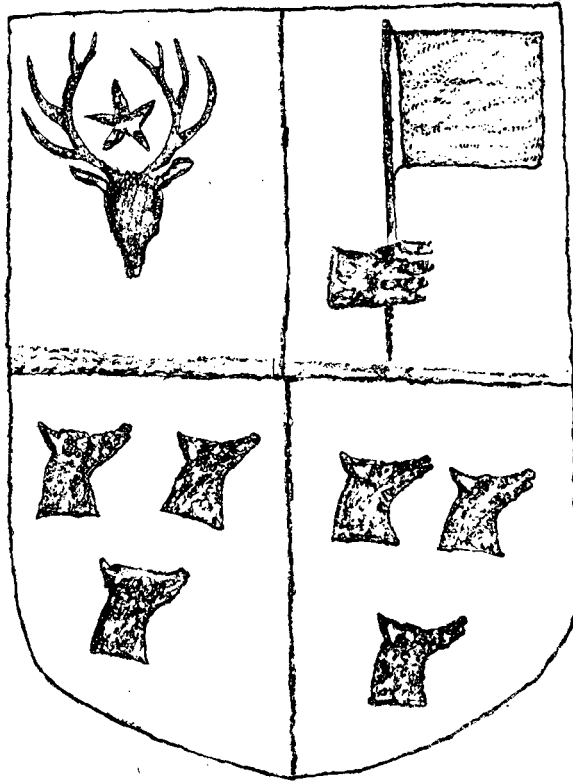


Fig. 4. On Sculptured Stone at Invergordon Castle.

South-west of Urray about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles is Fairburn Tower,¹ but there are no arms or remains of carved stone work about it.

¹ MacGibbon and Ross, *Castellated and Domestic Architecture*, vol. iii, p. 462.

Gilchrist churchyard, a mile south-east of the Muir of Ord station, contains a burial vault belonging to the Mackenzies of Ord, to which

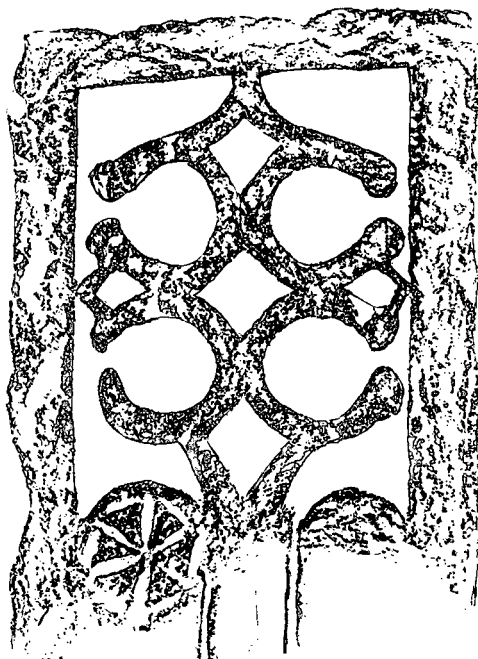


Fig. 5. In Urray Churchyard.

I did not obtain access. In the churchyard is a recumbent slab with an inscription in capitals round the margin and continued down the centre :—

THIS STONE IS PLACED
 HERE in MEMORY OF Duncan MACKAY TAXMAN
 OF TEANADALLICH
 WHO DYED THE 20 DAY OF October 1707 YEARS &
 MARGARET M^c
 KENZIE HYS SPOU^c
 WHO DYED THE
 DAY OF 17
 YEARS Aged
 D MK M MK

Beneath is a shield, $18\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width, bearing arms:—1st, A lion rampant. 2nd, A boar head erased in dexter chief, and in sinister base a right hand fessways holding a dagger erect. 3rd, A stag head cabossed. 4th, A ship with two masts and a salmon naiant beneath it.

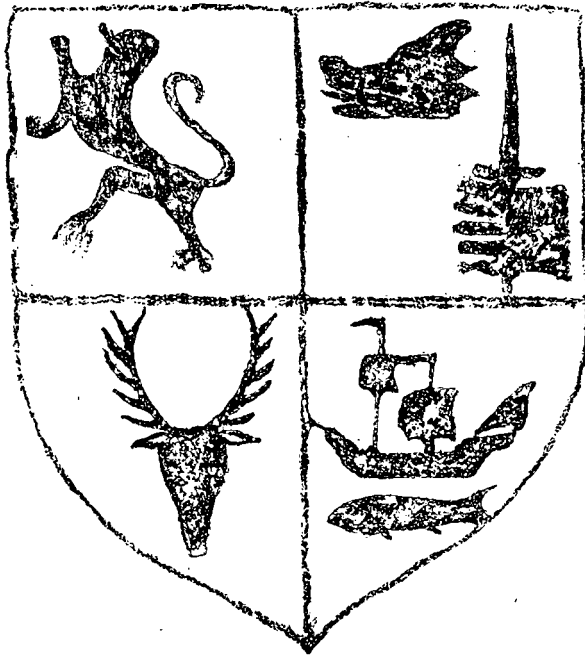


Fig. 6. In Gilchrist Churchyard.

Under this again is the text—Job xix., ver. 26, and date :

AND THOUGH AFTER MY
SKIN WORMS DESTROY
THIS BODIE YET IN MY FLESH
SHAL I SEE GOD

1750

Another stone, with initials D MK and KC, has a panel 19 inches wide, with the curious device, on the dexter side, of a human figure holding above his head an animal resembling a lion, and on the sinister side a sailing boat with the two parts of a ploughshare as shown in fig 7.

KILLEARNAN Church stands on the north shore of the Beauly Firth, $2\frac{1}{2}$

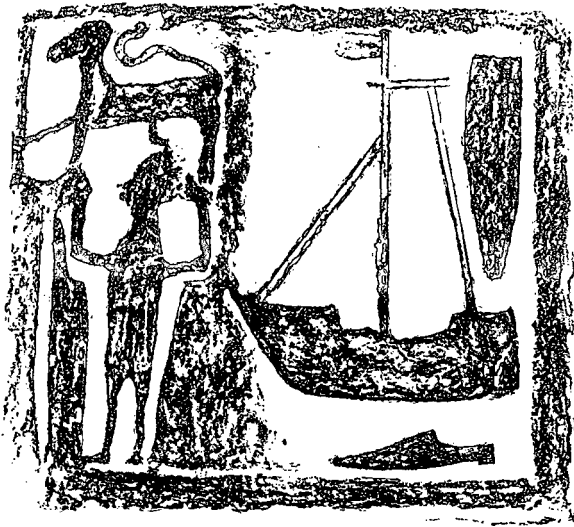


Fig. 7. In Gilchrist Churchyard.

miles east of Gilchrist. The church has been restored, and the churchyard re-arranged.

In the latter is a recumbent slab of red sandstone, measuring about 66 inches in length by 33 in width. On it is sculptured a calvary cross, with ornamental head, 25 inches in diameter, consisting of eight sunk spade-shaped divisions, with a small central cross within a sunk octagon. The stem is about 20 inches in length, with three

steps which occupy about 10 inches more formed by incised lines (fig. 8).

There is also a mural tablet within the burial enclosure now belonging to the Mackenzies of Kilcoy. It is 30 inches in width, and the upper portion is occupied by a shield of arms (fig. 9), viz.:—A stag head

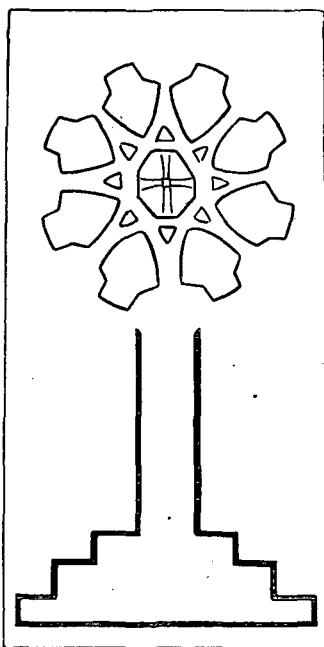


Fig. 8. In Killearnan Churchyard.

cabossed with a star between the attires. Above the shield is a helmet with mantling disposed down the sides, and beyond that the following initials incised, C—^C_MK, A—G, K—^C_MK, M—^C_MK, A—^C_MK.

Beneath is an inscription in capitals, from which the years of death have been chiselled out. The monument was probably erected towards the close of the seventeenth century:—



Fig. 9. On Mural Tablet in Killearnan Churchyard.

THIS . IS THE . BURIAL . PLA
 CE . ERECTED . IN MEÖRY
 OF COLLIN . M^cKENZIE . OF
 MUIRTOUN . WHO . DEPAR
 TED . THIS . LIF^e AUGUST
 YEARS . & . ANNE . GRANT . HIS
 SPOUSE . DEPARTED . MARCH
 YEARS . memento mori

KILCOY Castle is situate about $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of Killearnan Church. After lying in ruins for a number of years, it was restored in 1890.

There is a very fine heraldic mantelpiece in the hall, now the drawing-room.¹ It is of red sandstone, 99 inches in length by 18 inches in depth. The decoration consists of three shields of arms enclosed by circular bands, 15 inches in diameter, on which the mottoes are incised. At either end is a mermaid, a foot in height (fig. 10), playing on a harp; under the one on the left hand is a hound inscribed "COURAGE," and under the one on the right hand is a hare sitting up representing Timidity. Between the mermaids and the shields of arms is the date 1·6·7·9. The arms on the shields commemorate the marriages of the first three Mackenzie lairds of Kilcoy.

On the shield to the left, the marriage (anno 1611) of Master Alexander Mackenzie, first of Kilcoy, with Jean Fraser, daughter of the Tutor of Lovat, and widow of Sir James Stewart of Kilcoy,² the arms being those of Mackenzie;—A stag head cabossed, with a star between the attires, impaling those of Fraser of Lovat:—Quarterly. 1st and 4th, Three fraises. 2nd and 3rd, Three open crowns. Motto, VINCENTI CORONA DABITUR. Initials, ^MA—MK, I—F.

On the shield in the centre (fig. 11), the marriage (anno 1640) of Colin

¹ MacGibbon and Ross, *Castellated and Domestic Architecture*, vol. ii. p. 253, fig. 707.

² Douglas's *Baronage*, p. 397.

Mackenzie, second of Kilcoy, with Lilius Sutherland, daughter of William, Baron of Duffus,¹ the arms being those of Mackenzie, as above, impaling those of Sutherland of Duffus, viz. :—A boar head erased between three



Fig. 10. On Mantelpiece in Kilcoy Castle.

crosslets fitchée, and in chief three stars. Motto, DEUM TIMENTIBUS NIHIL DEEST. Initials, C—MK, L—S.

On the shield to the right, the marriage (anno 1664) of Alexander Mackenzie and Marie Mackenzie, daughter of Kenneth of Gairloch,²

¹ Douglas's *Baronage*, p. 397.

² *Ibid.*, p. 398.

the arms being those of Mackenzie, as above, standing for both families of Mackenzie. Motto, *CÆLESTIA SUNT MIHI CURÆ*. Initials, A—MK, M—MK.

Among the outside decorations of the Castle are two shields of arms above the dormers of the west round tower; the one for Stewart, Earl of Atholl—Quarterly. 1st and 4th, Three pallets. 2nd and 3rd, A



Fig. 11. On Mantelpiece in Kilcoy Castle.

fess chequy, with coronet above, and initials I S at sides; the other for Sutherland of Duffus, viz. :—Parted per fess and the chief per pale. 1st, Three cross crosslets fitchée (for Cheyne); 2nd, Three stars (for Sutherland); In the base, A boar head coupéd contourné (for Chisholm), with initials I. S. at sides.¹

In the drawing-room is an interesting piece of furniture, an oak

¹ MacGibbon and Ross, *Castellated and Domestic Architecture*, vol. ii. p. 253, fig. 707.

cabinet carved in 1620 with the arms and initials of Master Alexander Mackenzie, first of Kilcoy, and of his wife Jean Fraser, above referred to. It is the more interesting as being the reputed work of the Laird's own

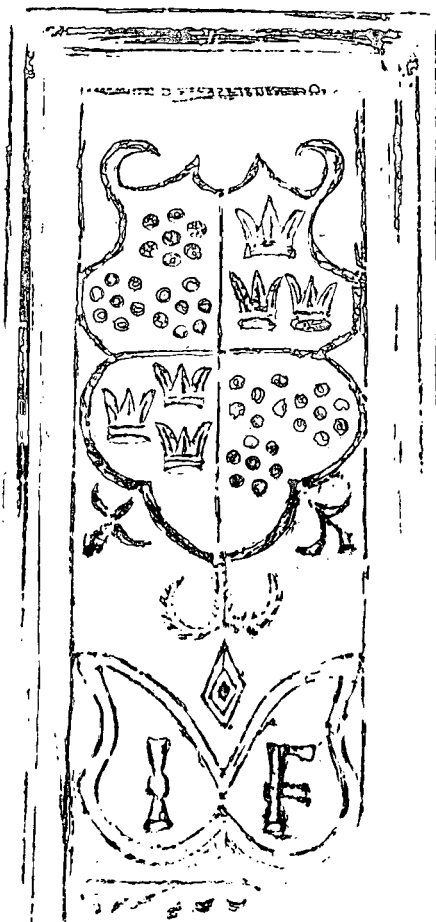


Fig. 12.

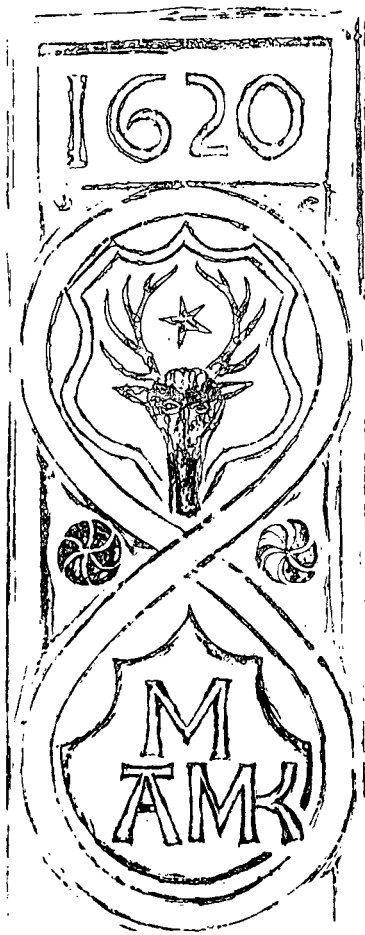


Fig. 13.

Carved Panels in Oak Cabinet at Kilcoy Castle.

hands. The front of the cabinet consists of a central part containing two doors of four panels each carved with different patterns of interlacing work and the spaces between inlaid with boxwood. The ends each contain two carved panels, the upper ones of arms and the lower of a decorative design. The arms on the dexter side are those of the lady (fig. 12)—about 8 inches wide.—Quarterly. 1st and 4th, Three fraises 2nd and 3rd, Three antique crowns. With initials at foot I. F. The arms on the sinister are those of the carver (fig. 13), viz.:—A stag head cabossed with star between the attires. The date 1620 at top and initials $\begin{matrix} M \\ A \quad MK \end{matrix}$ at foot.¹

Leaning against the garden wall near to the front door of the house is a large heraldic panel about 58 inches in height by 49 in width, which is said to have been brought from the bishop's palace at Fortrose. On the upper portion is the full achievement of Scotland,² and beneath, the arms of James Hay, Bishop of Ross (1525–1537), viz.:—Three escutcheons with a cinquefoil at the fess point, the shield ensigned with a mitre, and supported by two angels, the motto SPERO LVCEM on an escroll passing behind the mitre.

Half a mile east of Killearnan Church is Redcastle, sometimes spoken of as the oldest inhabited house in Scotland. Its outside appearance

¹ There is also, a heraldic dinner service of white china with dark blue border. In the centre of each plate is a shield bearing a sinister hand gules (the badge of a Baronet); above the shield two crests, (1) a dexter arm embowed holding a sword, and (2) a stag head cabossed pierced by an arrow; over these a coronet of two pearls, one of the few instances of the use of this coronet for baronets which they tried to introduce last century; beneath the shield an escroll with the name Evan, and at each side a Highlander with target charged with a stag head cabossed.

² On shield, a lion rampant within the royal tressure. Surrounding shield, a collar of alternated thistle heads and knots with pendant medallion of St Andrew holding his cross in front of him. Above the shield, a helmet front face with mantling and closed crown above which no doubt had been the crest. At top of slab the motto, IN DEFENS. Supporters: two unicorns each gorged with a crown having chain attached ending in a ring and holding a spear with a fringed banner, that on the dexter bearing Scotland as on the shield, and that on the sinister a St Andrew's cross or saltire.

does not indicate any great age, and a panel on the north side with date 1641, and initials R MK, probably indicates the time when it was remodelled. Above the dormer windows in the front are carved stones, said to have been brought from Inverness. So far as could be made out from beneath, the central one had on it a shield bearing arms:—A stag in front of a tree, with the initials H F at foot,¹ and on the apex a human figure holding by their heads two dragons which climb up the sloping sides. Of the other two stones, that to the dexter had a monogram, and that to the sinister a shield of arms, probably:—Quarterly. 1st and 4th, A lion rampant. 2nd and 3rd, A lymphad, with initials I. S. at foot.²

About a mile east of Munloch station, and half a mile up from the high road on the north side, is the churchyard of Suddie. Part of the old church is used as a burial vault, and there are also several burial enclosures. In one of these, not far from the entrance stile, is a somewhat modern tablet to a person of the name of Matheson, with a shield, the field of which is marked to represent Or, bearing arms:—Two lochaber axes with curved hafts and heads to chief in saltire between a bird passant in chief and a cinquefoil in base. Crest, on a helmet, a hand holding a quill pen. Mottoes—on an escroll above, OCHIAN, and on another beneath, FAC ET SPERA.³

AVOCH.—In the churchyard is a recumbent slab 63 inches by 24, with inscription round margin, and continued down the centre in raised caps:—

THIS . STONE . IS . PLACE
D . HERE . IN . MEMORY . OF . DONALD . MONRO . SMITH . WHO . LI
VED . SOMETIME . IN
CULBOCKIE . WHO . DEPARTEDT THE DAY OF
. . . . & HIS . SPO

¹ See note 3 on p. 690 and arms in Chapelyards described at foot of p. 732.

² See arms in High Church burying-ground, Inverness, p. 723, and in Chapelyards, p. 732.

³ In Burke's General Armory is the entry:—"Matheson (Bennetsfield). Argent two lochaber axes in saltire heads to the chief between a cock in chief and a rose in base. Crest, a dexter hand brandishing a scimitar pp. Motto, Fac et spera."

USE . ISOBEL . FOR
 SYTH . WHO . DEP
 ARTED . THE
 DAY . OF

Beneath is a shield, bearing arms:—An eagle head couped (for Munro), with date and initials at sides,

17—44, D—M, I—F.

Fortrose was the seat of the Bishops of Ross. Of its cathedral only the south aisle now remains.¹ On the south wall of the nave, inside, near the west end, is a mural tablet of slate painted white. At the top of this is a shield bearing impaled arms:—*Dexter*, Three cushions lozengeways (Dunbar). *Sinister*, A stag head cabossed with a star between the attires (Mackenzie). There are cherub heads at the sides, and above them the initials I.D. and A.MK. On a panel beneath is an inscription in capitals:—

MONVMENTVM · SEPVL
 CHRI · HONRABILIS
 IOANNIS · DVNBAR DE
 BENNETHFEILD · EIVS
 SPONSÆ · AGNETÆ ·
 MACKENZIE · EIVS
 PRÆ DICESSORVM · ET
 SVCCESORVM · COGNOM
 EN · DE · DVNBAR · GEREN²

Near the middle of the aisle is a recumbent slab of sandstone with incised shield 16½ inches wide (fig. 14) bearing arms:—A hand appaumée and a castle triple towered in chief with a lymphad in base, and the initials at top and foot of the shield R—^S—ML with inscription in capitals:—

¹ For plan see M'Gibbon and Ross, *Ecclesiastical Architecture*, vol. ii, p. 396.

² Douglas's *Baronage*, p. 401. The fourth daughter of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, second of Coul, by his first marriage, married to John Dunbar younger of Binnagefield or Bennetsfield.

HEIR LYETH THE
 RIGHT WORSHIPFVLL SIR RORIE MACKLEOD
 OF DVNVEGAN
 KNIGHT¹

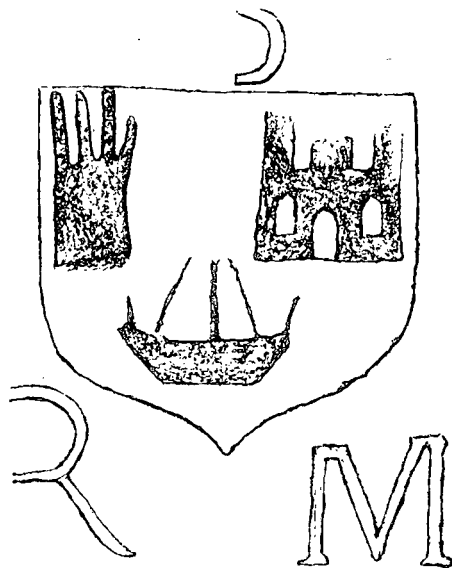


Fig. 14. On Recumbent Slab in Fortrose Cathedral.

Nearly opposite this is the entrance to a small vaulted chamber, which contains several stones of interest. On the west wall is a large red sandstone slab with marginal inscription in capitals :—

[HEIR LYES] ANE HONO
 RABLE WOMAN CALLED CHRISTIAN MONRO SOME
 TYME SPOVS TO ALE
 XANDER MACKINE OF COVL WHA DEPAIRTED
 THE . . . OF IANVAR

[16]47.²

¹ Douglas's *Baronage*, p. 378. Sir Rorie is stated to have died in the beginning of the year 1626.

² *Ibid.*, p. 400. Alexander Mackenzie, first of Coull, married as his second wife Christian, daughter of Hector Munro of Assynt. This stone supplies the date of her death.

In the centre of the stone the upper part is occupied by a shield of arms bearing:—*Dexter*, A stag head cabossed with a star between the attires (Mackenzie). *Sinister*, An eagle head couped (Munro), with initials at sides A—MK and C—M. The lower part of the centre of the slab has been chiselled off, and a new inscription, incised, reading lengthways from the bottom upward.

On the floor of the same chamber is a slab of sandstone, with inscription in capitals round the margin, and continued down the centre:—

[HERE . LYES]
IHONE MACKENZEI SON LAWFVL [TO]
THE HONOVR
ABEL [SIR] ALEXANDER MACKENZEI OF [COVL]
QVHA | DEPAIR | TIT YE 1 | DAY OF | SEPTEMB | ER | 1626 | ¹

Beneath this is a shield bearing arms:—A stag head cabossed with a star between the attires.

On the north side of this south aisle are three canopied tombs, also coats of arms on two of the bosses of the vaulting,² namely, Leslie:—On a bend three buckles; and John Bullock, Bishop of Ross (1420–1439):—A bull head cabossed.³

On the outside of the west gable is a monument with two shields bearing arms:—*Dexter*, Three bear heads muzzled and couped (Forbes), *Sinister*, A fess chequy (Stewart), with corresponding initials T F and H S. Beneath is a Latin inscription—

SUB . SPE . BEATÆ . RESURREC | TIONIS . DOMINO . HIC . CO |
NDUNTUR . CINERES . THOM | Æ . FORBESII QUONDAM .
BA | LIVI . FORTROSSENSIS . MOR | TUI . 21 SEPULTI . 25
MAII 1699 | | |
. | | |
. | HAC . IN . URBI . DICAVIT MO |

¹ This son of Alexander Mackenzie does not appear in Douglas's *Baronage*.

² MacGibbon and Ross, *Ecclesiastical Architecture*, vol. ii. p. 399.

³ The same arms appear on the bishop's seal appended to State paper in Reg. Ho., dated 4th September 1439, described and illustrated in Laing's *Seals*, vol. ii. No. 1067, pl. ix. fig. 4, where his surname, however, is erroneously given as Turnbull.

NUMENTUM HOC . MARITI | IMPENSIS EXSTRUENDUM |
 CURAVIT . HELENA . STUART | A . RELICTA . CONIUNX .
 HIC | ETIAM . SESEPELIENDAM | SPERANS . ∞

On the front of the house named St Catherine's, which was formerly one of the manses for the Canons of the Cathedral and belonged to the Vicar of Contin, there is a shield bearing arms :—Three holly leaves in chief and a hunting horn in base, and inscription above in ornamental capitals :—

M . R . BVRNET . A^D . 1558 .

A mile north-east of Fortrose is the restored church of Rosemarkie, beautifully situated on the Moray Firth. On its south side, near the

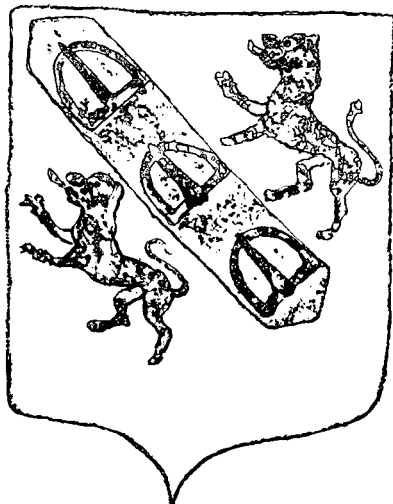


Fig. 15. On Tablet in Leslie Burial Enclosure at Rosemarkie.

west door, is the sculptured stone,¹ and near the east end is the Leslie burial enclosure. Within the latter is a mural tablet with shield, 9 inches wide, bearing arms (fig. 15):—On a bend couped, between two lions rampant, three buckles (intended to represent the quartered arms

¹ Stuart's *Sculptured Stones*, vol. i. pls. cv. and cvi.

of Leslie and Abernethie). Above this is a helmet with mantling and coronet, but no crest, over that the motto GRIPP FAST, and with two griffins as supporters. In the same enclosure is a table stone with shield bearing:—Three cushions, and the initials $\begin{matrix} D \\ M D \end{matrix}$ at top and sides, beneath which is a skull and cross bones with legend MEMENTO MORI. The marginal inscription in capitals continued on the centre is:—

HIC . IACET . HONORABILIS
 MVLIER . DOMINA . MARGARETA . DVNBAR . CONIVX .
 QVONDAM . VIR . HONOR
 ABILIS . ROBERT . ILESLIE . DE . FINDRASIE . QVÆ OBIIT
 4 DECEMB 1643.

On the south wall of the churchyard, near the middle, is an elaborate monument erected by Provost Alexander Houston, decorated at the top with a shield of arms bearing:—A chevron chequy between three hunting horns, on each side of which are initials and date A—H, I—R, 17—66. The arms are those of Sempill, not of Houston, the latter having martlets in place of hunting horns.

BEAULY Priory is in a rather neglected state, and there is not much heraldic decoration. Above the west doorway is a shield about 9 inches high by 8 inches wide (fig. 16) bearing the arms of Robert Reid,¹ viz.:—A stag head couped with his crozier, and his initials R.R. also on the shield. At the terminations of the arched moulding above the door there are small shields; that on the north side still shows the pierced heart, hands, and feet; that on the south side is obliterated, but is said to have borne the monogram I.H.S.² The tomb of Sir Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail is within the chapel on the north side of the choir. This was closed at the time of my visit, but the following description is given

¹ He was Abbot of Kinloss as well as Prior of Beauly, was created Bishop of Orkney in 1540, and died in 1558. He was also the founder of Edinburgh University.

² MacGibbon and Ross, *Ecclesiastical Architecture*, vol. ii. p. 248.

by Messrs MacGibbon and Ross¹:—"The recumbent figure clad in full armour rests on an arcaded tomb or pedestal, and the recess, which is covered with a pointed canopy, is enriched with a crocketed label and pinnacle bearing a shield, and the whole tomb is flanked by two thin buttresses. On the sill is engraved the following inscription:—*Hic jacet Kanyeus M^oKynych d^{ns} de Kyntayl q. obiit die Februarii A. Di. M. CCCC. LXXXXI.*"

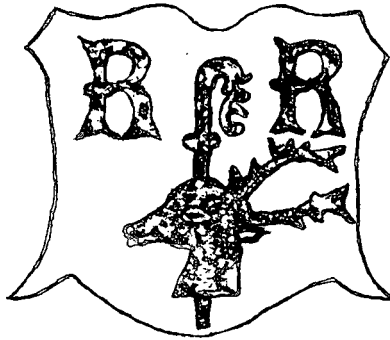


Fig. 16. Above West Doorway of Beauly Priory.

Within the burial place of the Frasers of Newton, in the choir, is a table stone with marginal inscription:—

HEIR+LYES+ANE+
 HONEST+THOMAS+FRASER+AND+HIS
 SPOWS+MARGRAT+
 GOWEN+WHO+DEPARED . . . ANNO.

In the centre of the stone, arranged underneath each other, are the initials and date:—

SF ♡ IC, 17—56, T—F, M—G.

About two and a half miles south-west of Beauly is the churchyard of Kilmorack, picturesquely situated on a high bank above the falls

¹ MacGibbon and Ross, *Ecclesiastical Architecture*, p. 250.

of the same name, and overlooking the wild scenery of that part of the Beaulieu river. Few old stones remain, and none of much interest. The church has been rebuilt on the other side of the road.

Half a mile further down the river, and on the opposite bank, is the churchyard of Kiltarlity. The church, probably erected in the sixteenth century, remains almost entire, but roofless. Lying on one of the windowsills is a stone $18\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ inches (fig. 17), with shield of arms:—

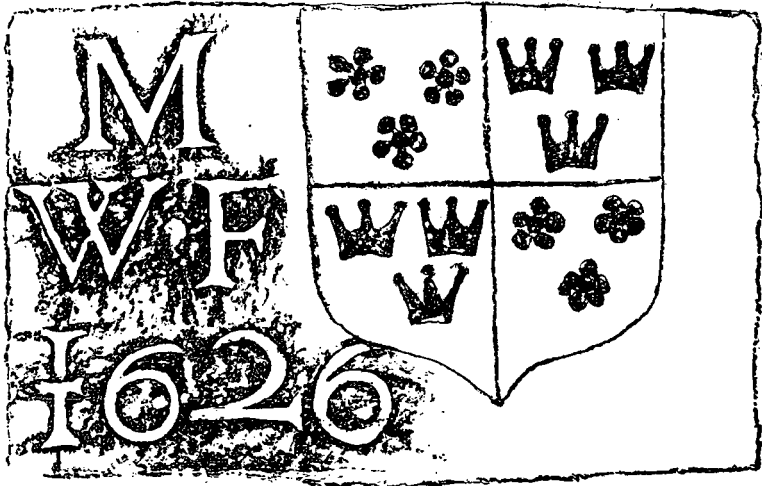


Fig. 17. In Kiltarlity Churchyard.

Quarterly. 1st and 4th, Three fraises; 2nd and 3rd, Three antique crowns. The shield is raised half an inch from the surface, and the charges are in relief, while on the other part of the stone are incised the initials and date $W^M F, 1626$.

The new parish church lies two miles south-east, within the burial-ground of Tomnacross, which has only recently been enclosed for that purpose, but which contains the "Seat of Judgment," an ancient

circular mound with a smaller one on the top, on which grew the "hanging tree."

Five and a half miles south of Beauly is Glen Convinth churchyard. Some portions of the old church remain, and leaning against the wall

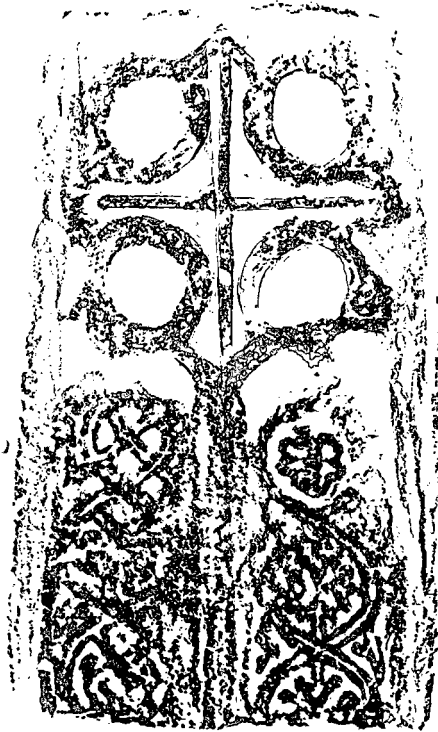


Fig. 18. In Glen Convinth Churchyard.

is part of a slab of red sandstone, $34\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, sculptured with a Gothic cross and interlacing work (fig. 18). On the top of a slight mound near the south-west corner of the churchyard are two erect slabs of red sandstone, each about 3 inches thick, which have evidently long occupied the same position. The size of the one is 41 inches in length

by 26 inches in height, and of the other 29 inches in length by 27 inches in height. There are also several flat stones on the mound, none of them with any inscription or device; but near lies a red sandstone slab, 16 inches wide by 32 inches long, with a human head front face carved in high relief, the sides being deeply cut away, and the remainder of the slab left of the original height as if for the shoulders and rest of the body to be carved out of it.

Less than a mile east of Beauly, on the south side of the river, is the site of the old castle of Lovat. Nothing remains of it, but a tall ash tree in the farm steading of Wester Lovat is said to mark its site, and a little to the west is an old pear tree, probably indicating the position of its orchard.

Half a mile further east is Kirkhill, where stood the ancient church of Wardlaw. On the site of what was probably the choir of the church now stands the mausoleum of the Frasers of Lovat, having at its east end a tower of hewn freestone much resembling in style the tower of the Tolbooth of Tain, and probably dating from the sixteenth century. Near the centre of the mausoleum is the entrance to the burial vault of the Frasers. The east end, which is slightly raised and contains a large monument, is railed off by a balustrade, in the centre of which is a tablet, 33 inches high, with impaled arms (fig. 19):—*Dexter*, Quarterly. 1st and 4th, Three fraises; 2nd and 3rd, Three open crowns. At the intersection of the quarters an increscent. *Sinister*, A castle with two towers. Above the shield is a helmet front face with elaborate mantling, and on it two crests:—A demi stag issuant from the wreath to the dexter and a stag head cabossed. The mottoes I. AM. RADIE, and MVRVS ÆTHENEVS are on escrolls at the top and on each side of the crests.

The supporters, each on a bracket, are a stag, and a savage with loin cloth. Behind the former is a bell, and behind the latter an hour-glass and a circular disc. Along the foot are carved a monogram and emblems of mortality as follows:—In the centre on



Fig. 19. In Mausoleum at Kirkhill.

a cartouche a monogram of the initials T F and S M, being those of Thomas Fraser of Beaufort,¹ and his wife Sibylla, fourth daughter of John Macleod of Macleod,² the parents of the notorious Simon, 12th Lord Lovat. On the dexter is a skull, then crossbones. To the sinister is a coffin, then a mattock and spade in saltire.

There are also other tablets on the walls of the mausoleum, including one to the above-mentioned Simon. The objects, however, of most



Fig. 20. At Kirkhill.

interest are two detached stones, no doubt from the old church. The better preserved and older of the two is a flat stone, 23 x 18 inches (fig. 20), the margin bearing a raised inscription in Gothic letters, and the centre being hollowed out into a crocketed niche within which

¹ He became 11th Lord Lovat in 1606, but did not assume the title, and died at Dunvegan in May 1699.

² Douglas's *Peerage*, vol. ii. p. 160.

kneels to the sinister an ecclesiastic. The inscription, though sharp, is in parts difficult to decipher. It appears to be :—

✠hic facet | dns wills wlfhard quōd |
vicarius de war | dlau q. obiit a^on m^o ccccxxxi.

The other stone, 25 × 13½ inches, has evidently also contained a kneeling figure in the centre, now much mutilated, with a boldly projecting arched canopy above, decorated on the front and sides. The inscription consisted of two lines at each side of the kneeling figure, and probably also two lines on the raised base on which he knelt. The inscription is :—

✠ hic : facet : obiit anno dñi
ns donald de. m cccc l xii.

The inscription on the base is quite defaced.

Close to the door of the mausoleum is a recumbent slab of red sandstone about 26 inches wide (fig. 21). The centre of the stone has a decoration of fleur-de-lis in the four corners, with a shield of arms in the upper portion and a skull in the lower. The arms are :—A chevron coupé between two stars in chief and a (spear head?) in base, on a chief a crescent flanked by two stars. Originally there appears to have been a marginal inscription in raised letters, but the stone having been subsequently appropriated, the inscription has been chiselled off, and there has been incised above the shield the date ANNO 1642, and beneath it the initials A F, MF.

Another stone not far off has the quaint figure of a man with a bell in his right hand, and his left upraised holding a skull (fig. 22). The inscription in capitals round the margin and continued down the centre is :—HERE LYES ANE HO | NEST MAN CALLED ANDREW M^rROBB THE | OFFICER OF | WARDLAW WHO SERVED IN THAT OFFICE 14 YE | ARES & DEPAR | TED THE 10 OF | NO^r 1677 IN THE | 60 YEARE OF | HIS AGE | , then the figure above mentioned with inscription MEMENTO MORI, and beneath another panel with emblems of mortality.

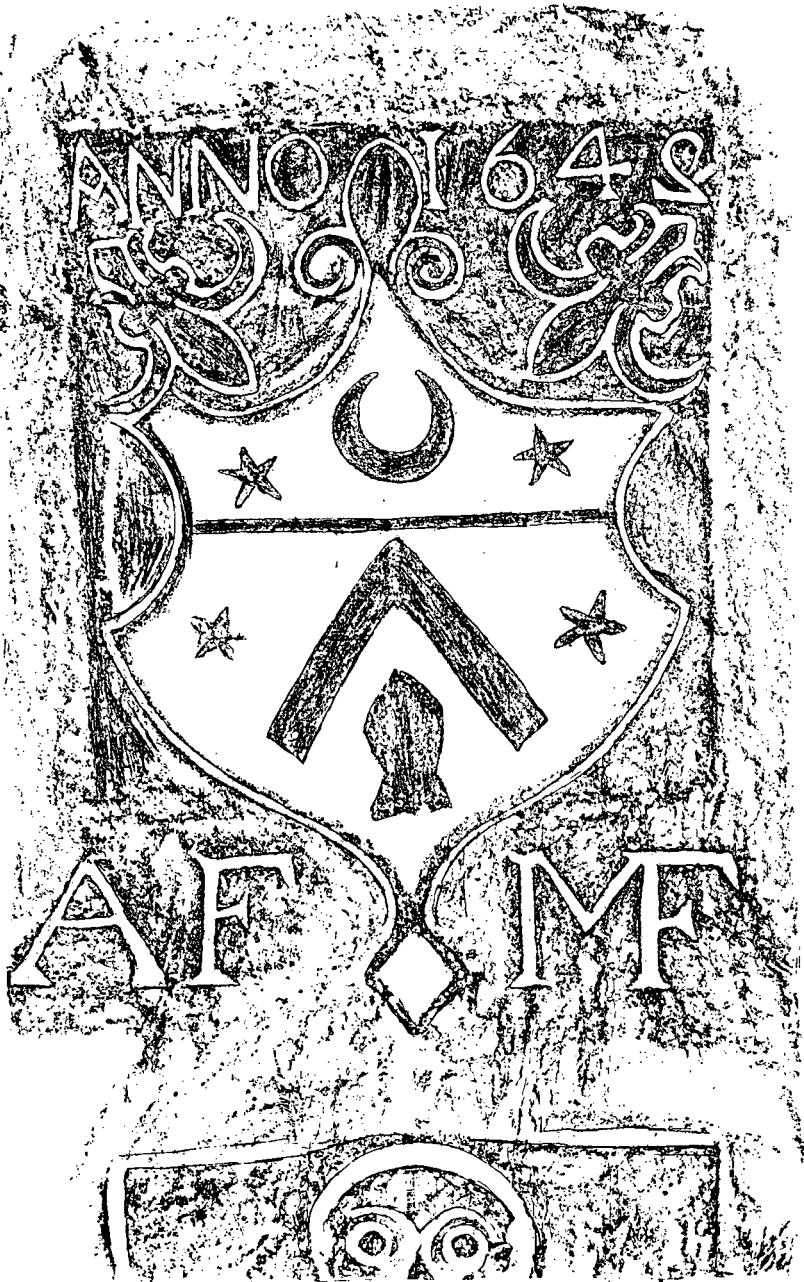


Fig. 21. In Kirkhill Churchyard.

A mile south of Kirkhill is Moniack Castle, where there is an interesting stone with an incised figure of a man in a kilt-like dress with staff in hand (fig. 23). It is described and figured in a paper by Mr W. Jolly in the *Proceedings*, vol. xvi. p. 341. It is also figured in Stuart's *Sculptured Stones*, vol. ii. pl. cxxx. The stone, which stands at the end of the rockery opposite the front door, was removed by the late Lord



Fig. 22. On Tombstone in Kirkhill Churchyard.

Lovat or his father from near the schoolhouse in the hamlet of Balblair, about a quarter of a mile west of Lovat Bridge.¹ Its measurements are : height 49 inches, width at foot 34 inches, at foot of kilt 27 inches, at line under feet of the figure 27 inches, thickness about 14½ inches, height of figure 24 inches.

¹ Mr Jolly, writing in 1882, notes the existence of cup marks on this stone, and adds : "This stone was brought from a spot where it stood for a time, close to the old parish school of Kilmorack, near Kilmorack Free Church. It was, however,

In INVERNESS there are three old churchyards. That of the High Church enters from Church Street, and close to the gate is an elaborate



Fig. 23. At Moniak Castle.

removed to this place between fifty and sixty years ago, from a spot about 100 yards farther west, when the ground was then reclaimed. There is nothing known of the stone, traditional or otherwise, beyond this.'

burial enclosure surrounded by a wall about 5 feet high from which rise decorated pillars supporting a cornice. Over the entrance door of this enclosure is a tablet with inscription, probably recut:—

MONVMENTVM . MARLÆ | PVRVES . DOMINÆ . DE . WAL |
 STOVN . MATRIS | JANETÆ . SINCLAIR . [SPONSÆ] . JOANNIS |
 ROBERTSONI . DE INCHES . OB | IIT 14th AP . ANNO DOM .
 1660 | ÆTATIS . AVTEM SVÆ . 88 : |

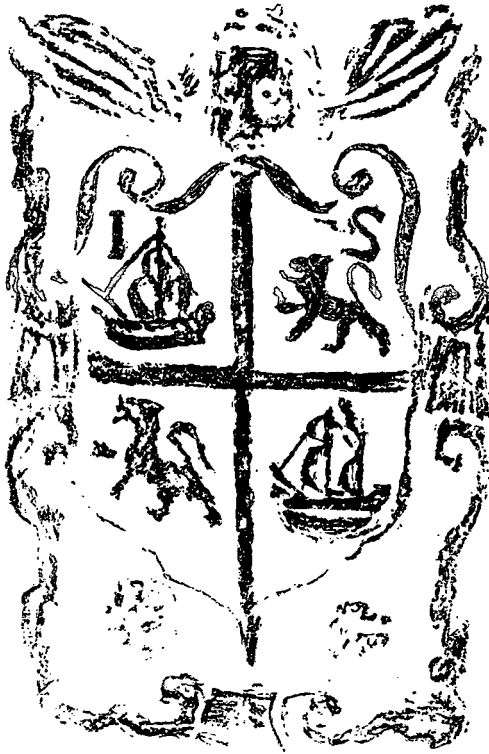


Fig. 24. On Burial Enclosure at High Church, Inverness.

On the dexter side of the inscribed tablet is an ornamental panel enclosing a shield without arms, but with the initials W R on it, and

beneath the shield the date 16—65. On the sinister side is a similar ornamental panel enclosing a shield bearing arms:—Quarterly. 1st and 4th, A ship with two masts, the sails set. 2nd and 3rd, A lion rampant. On the shield near the top are the initials I.S. (Janet Sinclair), and beneath the shield two roses (fig. 24).

There are also in the churchyard many old tombstones, some with arms, but none of these are very distinctive.

A short distance to the north of the High Church is the Grayfriars churchyard, a very small place, in which one pillar of the old church is still standing. A recumbent effigy of a knight in armour, with face quite gone and arms broken off, is set up against the south wall near its eastern end. There are also some tombstones of eighteenth century date with carving and arms.

Still further to the north is Chapelyards, by far the most interesting burying-ground of the three. In it are a large number of armorial stones, recumbent and with incised inscriptions unless otherwise mentioned. Commencing at the entrance and proceeding along the west side, we observe two stones bearing the arms of Shivas or Chivas. The first has in the centre two shields of arms conjoined (or *accollée*) with helmet and mantling above. The arms are:—*Dexter*, Three mountain cats passant guardant (Shivas). *Sinister*, A saltire engrailed between four stars (Anderson), with initials in raised capitals R S and M A. The inscription is in incised capitals on the bevelled margin of the stone with continuation down the centre.

HERE . LYES . THE . BO
DY . OF . ROBERT . SCHIVES . MERCH^r . IN . INVERN
ESS . WHO . DYED . THE
1 AUG . 1739 . AND . HIS . SPOUSE . MARIORY . ANDER
SON . WHO

The other stone has two similar shields bearing arms, viz:—*Dexter*, Three mountain cats passant guardant (Shivas). *Sinister*, A stag head cabossed with a star between the attires (Mackenzie). The inscription is incised on the margin with continuation down the centre.

This stone is | Placed In Memory of George schevez |
 merchth in Inver | ness who died 16 June 1787 & his |
 spouse Anna | Mackenzie |
 GS♥A M^cK and other initials.

Near the middle of the west side is a stone with shield of arms:—
 Quarterly. 1st, A lion rampant. 2nd, A dexter hand appaumée. 3rd,
 A sword erect. 4th, A lymphad. It has a marginal inscription in incised
 capitals which is continued down the centre, viz. :—

HEIR LYES ANE HONEST MAN
 CALLED TO HIS NAME DONALD SHAW MERCHANT BVRG
 ES OF INVERNES WHO
 DEPARTED THIS LYFE THE FOVRTEINT DAY OF MAY THE
 YEAR OF OVR LORD
 AND SAVIOVR IESVS
 CHRIST 1645

Initials D.S. The stone appears to have been recut.

Not far from this is another stone, with marginal inscription in incised
 capitals :—

HERE LYES INTERED GEORGE
 DUNCAN MERCHANT OF INVERNES WHO DEPARTED
 THIS LIFE THE 12 DAY
 OF MARCH 1715 AND IEAN KYNARD HIS SPOUS.

On a panel in the centre of the stone, apparently in older lettering, is
 a text in incised capitals :—

FOR I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH, etc.

At the foot are two shields accollée (fig. 25), with mantling and
 bearing arms :—*Dexter*, On a chevron, between two cinquefoils in chief
 and a hunting horn stringed in base, three round buckles (Duncan of
 Ardownie). *Sinister*, Quarterly. 1st and 4th, A saltire between four
 crescents inverted. 2nd and 3rd, three stars (Kinnaird and Kirkcaldy
 of Inchturie quarterly).

We next come to an interesting mural monument near the north end
 of the west wall. It consists of a rectangular slab 30 inches wide by 24

inches high, with moulded sides, each 6 inches broad, and above it a semicircular stone with square ends, $42\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide by $19\frac{1}{4}$ high.

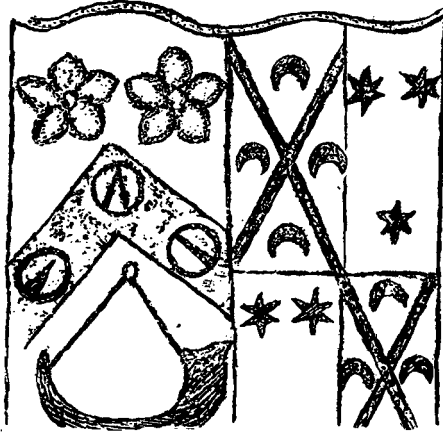


Fig. 25. Arms of Duncan and Kinneair on Stone in Chapelyards, Inverness.

On the semicircular top is a monogram flanked by handbells, and above an hourglass. At the top of the slab are two separate shields



Fig. 26. Arms of Fowler and Mackenzie on Mural Tablet in Chapelyards, Inverness.

of arms:—*Dexter*, Quarterly. 1st and 4th, A cinquefoil; 2nd and 3rd, A pelican vulning her breast (in the 3rd quarter contournée). *Sinister*, A stag head cabossed with a star between the attires, date 1674, and

initials D F. and M MK (fig. 26).¹ In the centre of the slab is a raised panel with incised inscription in capitals, viz. :—

HERE IS DAVID FOW
LER OF COULNALD
LATE BAILIE IN INVER
NES & MARGARET M^c
KENZIE ELDEST DAUG
HTER TO MURDO M^c
KENZIE BISHOP OF MO
RAY THEIR BURIAL PLACE.

At the foot are emblems of mortality, viz., a coffin in the centre and on each side a skull with cross bones beneath, and scrolls above the dexter inscribed "MEMENTO" and the other "MORI."

At the north end of the churchyard are a number of armorial stones, principally of Mackintoshes.

Near the middle is a recumbent slab, probably a table stone originally. In the upper portion (fig. 27) is a shield of impaled arms within a circle 22 inches in diameter, viz. :—*Dexter*, A lion rampant and a right hand appaumée in chief, and in base a three-masted ship with flags flying and under it a salmon naiant. *Sinister*, Per chevron embattled three cushions lozengeways, initials A MT and M D. In the middle portion is a raised panel with text, in incised capitals :—

I . KNOW . THAT . MY . REDEEMER . LIV | ETH, etc.

In the lower portion are emblems of mortality with the initials H. R. incised. The marginal inscription is in capitals :—

¹ In a MS. in the Lyon Office, attributed to Sir David Lindsay of Rathillet, and probably executed about 1570: on folio 115, No. 1, is a coat of arms named *foular*—Az, a cross between two cinquefoils in chief and two pelicans in their piety respectant in base O. In another MS. in the Lyon Office, attributed to Sir Robert Forman, and executed about 1566, on p. 48 of Part II., has been afterwards added a coat of arms named fuller, Foular, viz. :—Per fess Az and A a cross O between two cinquefoils in chief of the second and two pelicans in their piety respectant in base G. The tinctures are somewhat uncertain, as the coat is not fully coloured.

HEIR . LYES . THE . BODY . OF
 MARGRAT . DUNBAR . SPOVS . TO . ANGUS . MACKIN
 TOSH . MERCHAND BURGES
 IN . INVERNES : WHO . DEPARTED . THE . 19 . OF . FEB^R 1710.

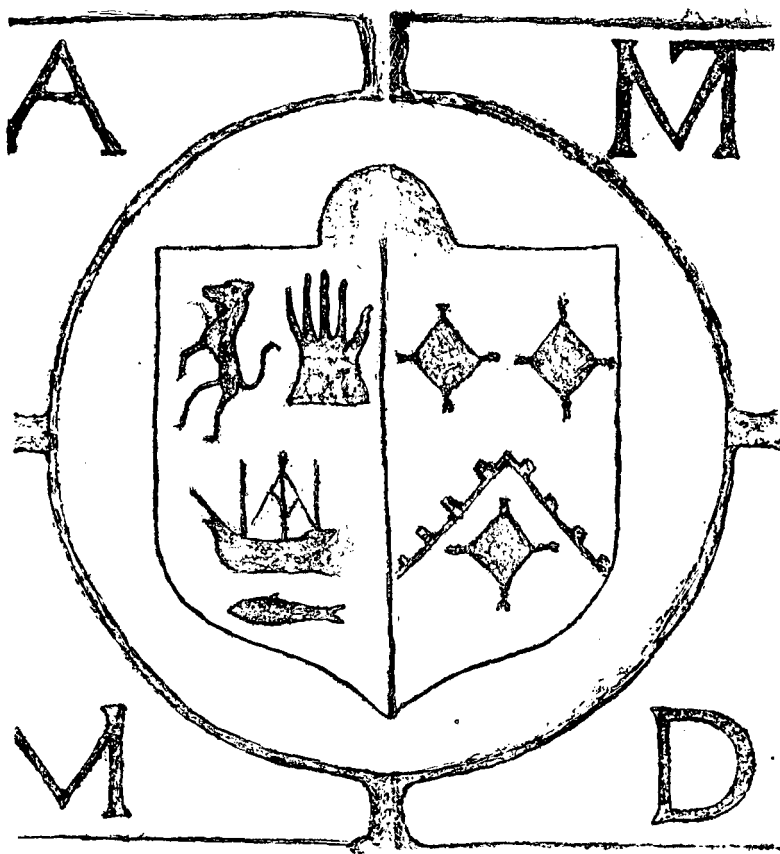


Fig. 27. Arms of Mackintosh and Dunbar on Tombstone in Chapelyards, Inverness.

The whole stone looks as if it had been recut.

Another slab has the inscription round the margin, and continued on the centre in incised capitals :—

THIS STONE IS PLACED HERE
FOR ALEX^r M^cDONALD VINTNER & BURGESS
IN INVERNES WHO
DYED 9 FEB^r 1717 & CHRISTIAN M^c
INTOSH HIS SPOUSE.

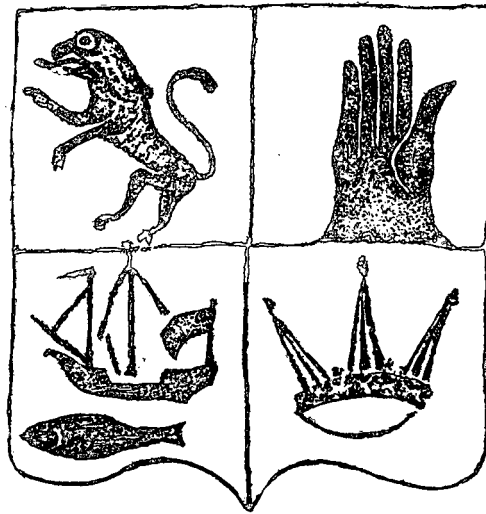


Fig. 28. Arms of M'Intosh (?) on Tombstone in Chapelyards, Inverness.

In the centre, near the top, within a sunk panel, is a shield 14 inches wide bearing arms (fig. 28) :—Quarterly. 1st, A lion rampant. 2nd, A right hand appaumée. 3rd, A two-masted ship with a salmon naiant beneath it. 4th, A celestial or antique crown. Above the shield is a helmet with mantling but no crest, and beneath are incised the initials A MD ♡ C MT.

Under this is another sunk panel with emblems of mortality.

Not far from the last is an upright slab 35 inches wide and 40 inches high (above ground), within a moulded frame at top and sides. Near the top are two shields of arms accolée (fig. 29). *Dexter*, Quarterly. 1st, A lion rampant. 2nd, A right hand (or glove) appaumée. 3rd, A salmon naiant. 4th, A three-masted ship with square flags flying. *Sinister*, Three fraises (of seven petals) with a crown at the fess point,

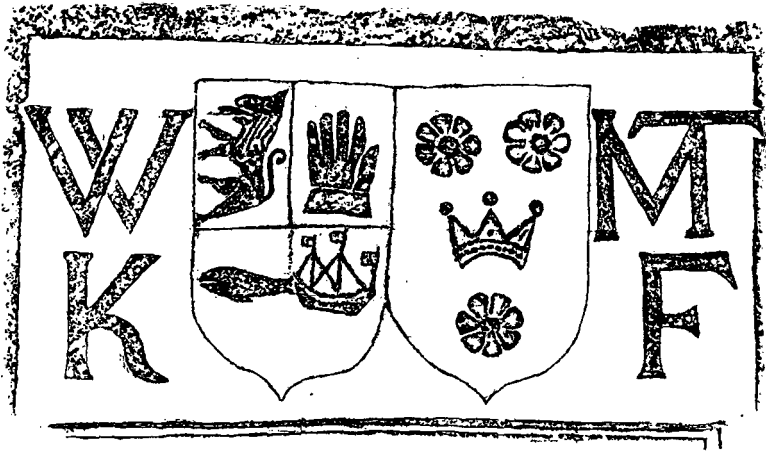


Fig. 29. Arms of Mackintosh and Fraser on upright Slab in Chapelyards, Inverness.

initials W MT and K F. Beneath the arms, on a raised panel, is an inscription in incised capitals:—

TO . THE . MEMORY . OF . WILLIAM
 MACKINTOSH . OF . HOLM . &
 KATHERINE . FRASER . HIS . SP
 OUS . & . THEIR . CHILDREN
 PSAL . 84 . VER . 11 . & . 12
 ANNO 1713.

Under this again are emblems of mortality, some of them partly buried in the ground. The stone appears to have been entirely recut.

At the north end of the churchyard is still another stone bearing arms

(fig. 30):—Quarterly. 1st, A lion rampant. 2nd, A dexter hand (or glove) appaumée. 3rd, A sword erect. 4th, A lymphad to sinister with flag flying and oars in saltire. The inscription is for the most part in capitals:—

TO THE MEMORIE OF
GILLIES M^cBEAN OF
WESTER DRAKES ∞
WHO DYED 15 OF
SEPTEM^r 1701 & HIS
SPOUSE MARIORY
M^cINTOSH WHO
DYED 13 OF MARCH 1700.



Fig. 30. Arms of M^cBean (?) on Stone in Chapelyards, Inverness.

There is a stone in the south-east portion of the churchyard with the upper right hand corner broken off, the marginal inscription on which is in incised capitals:—

HEIR LYES ANE
. . . . CALLED IOHN COWY BVRGES OF INVER
NES WHO DEPARTED
THE 26 OF SEPTEMBER 1667.

In the upper portion of the centre within a sunk panel is a shield of impaled arms (fig. 31), with initials in relief at the sides. The arms are:—*Dexter*, A fess between a cinquefoil in chief and a crescent in base (Cowie). *Sinister*, Three (wolf or boar) heads erased (Robertson?), initials I C and M R. In the middle portion is a tablet with text in incised capitals, and in the lower portion another sunk panel with emblems of mortality in relief.

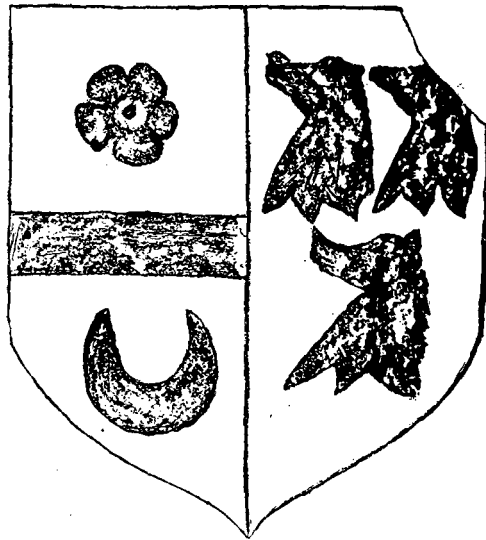


Fig. 31. Arms of Cowie and Robertson (?) on Stone in Chapelyards, Inverness.

On the south wall is a monument with shield of impaled arms within a circle, viz. :—*Dexter*, 1st and 4th, A lion rampant. 2nd and 3rd, A two-masted ship.¹ *Sinister*, A stag lodged in front of a tree.² Unfortunately, however, the inscription was so decayed that nothing could be made of it.

¹ See arms in High Church burying-ground, p. 724, and at Redcastle on sinister dormer, p. 707.

² See arms at Redcastle on central dormer, p. 707.