



A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF GENEALOGICAL, ANTIQUARIAN,
TOPOGRAPHICAL, AND HERALDIC RESEARCH.

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VOLUME XXXV.

LONDON:
GEORGE BELL & SONS,
YORK HOUSE, PORTUGAL STREET, KINGSWAY, W.C.

EXETER:
WILLIAM POLLARD & Co. LTD.
1919.

Genealogist, N.S., should be continued, also married Henry 1394, when an extent 18 Richard II, as her son and heir. 20 Richard II,

W.H.B.B.

any particulars re- and heir of Thomas 9. Sampson Wace sale of the lands in Hartopp.

H.C.W.

ARROWSMITH.—Can Robert Arrowsmith, Warwick Parish, Land- mund Arrowsmith . Is it likely that Rev. John Arrow- well's Assessors?

F. ARROWSMITH.

OF BUCKINGHAM- —"W.D.R." should Berks," by Compton unindexed, family and Carver). In rs of the name are count of the Redes gs Or—are said to coat of Sir William ure, three pheasants icorns' heads couped vo bucks' heads Sa. of Wanborough and k, the arms of the between four fleurs-

H.W.F.H.

THE MCGROUTHERS OF MEIGOR IN GLENARTNEY.

The name McGrouther appears in various forms—McCrouder, Makgruder, McGruder, McGrudder, and latterly McGrowth, McGruther and MacGrouther—McGrewer is probably another form. The name is found principally in the south of Perthshire, about Glenartney, and in Dunblane and Doune. It never was of frequent occurrence, and is now very scarce in Scotland. The name occurs only once in the County Directory of Scotland, 1912, and once in the Edinburgh Directory, 1913-14; in the Glasgow Directory, 1913-14, it occurs three times, twice as McGrouther and once as McGruther. In the Post Office London Directory, 1913, McGruther occurs once, and it is not represented in the Official Army List and is absent from the Clergy List and the Medical Directory for 1913.

There are many explanations given of the name McGruther and it is difficult to say which is correct, but it seems to have been derived from a trade. Dr. Macbain gives McGruer and M'Gruther, as Fuller's son (Gaelic, *grudaire*).¹ I have, however, heard it explained as derived from *cruit*, a harp, and as meaning the Harper's son, and from *grudair* a brewer, hence son of the Brewer. The earliest form in which I have seen the name, McCrouder, certainly does not favour the idea that it is a modification of the name MacGregor, and this is confirmed by the opinion of competent Gaelic scholars, who state that philologically the name MacGregor could not be converted into McGruther. The probability is that originally the McGruthers were servants or dependents of the Drummonds, afterwards Earls of Perth, as harpers, brewers or fullers.

Glenartney, the home of the McGrouthers of Meigor, is in the parish of Comrie, although there is a small detached portion of the parish of Monzievaird and Strowan situated in it. In latter times there were several families of the name of McGrouther dwelling in different places in the Glen. They seem to have held some portions of it as proprietors and others as tenants or wadsetters. In many cases it is impossible to connect McGrouthers living in one place with those in another, and sometimes a father was in possession of a holding while his sons had another. Until they became proprietors it is almost impossible to connect one generation with another.

There appears to be little doubt that Alexander MacGrouther, the ancestor of the MacGrouthers in America, was one of the family of that name who possessed Meigor in Glenartney. For long, these MacGrouthers in Glenartney lived at Craigneich, and the fact that Alexander MacGrouther named one of the tracts of land that he acquired in America "Craigneich," goes far to impress one with the certainty that he was of this family.

¹ *Personal Names and Surnames of the Town of Inverness*, by Alexander Macbain (1895), p. 38.

The story of this Alexander MacGrouther who settled in Maryland according to tradition is, I believe, as follows. He and his brothers, James and John, were at the Battle of Worcester, where James was killed. Alexander and John were taken prisoners, transported *via* Barbados to Virginia and thence conveyed to Maryland. One of the earliest patents of lands in favour of Alexander MacGrouther is said to be dated in the year 1651. I must say I doubt the above-mentioned tradition in part. The Battle of Worcester was fought on the 3rd of September 1651. On the 1st of October in that year eleven hundred of the prisoners were given up to the Adventurers for draining the fens, and on the ninth of that month others were handed over to them. Orders for transporting some of the prisoners to Bermuda were made on 27th October, and we are informed Barbados was not at that time available for them.² Considering the tedious journey necessary in those days to cross the Atlantic, it is hardly conceivable that a poor Scotch prisoner of war, after being transported as an indentured servant to Bermuda, went thence to Virginia and afterwards to Maryland, and before the end of the year 1651 had acquired means to get a patent of lands. Evidently there is some mistake, possibly as to dates. As the prisoners sent to America after the Battle of Dunbar were indentured for six, seven or eight years, it seems impossible that Alexander MacGrouther could be acquiring patents within a week or two of landing.

So far as I am aware the earliest occurrence of the name is when Gilawne McCrouder was one of the witnesses to a charter granted by Patrick de Cumre to John de Cumre, which was dated at Comrie on the feast of St. Kessog the Confessor, 10th March 1447.³

For a long period after 1447 I have found no notices regarding McGrouthers, and it is only from a date one hundred and forty years later that I am able to begin a genealogical deduction of the family of Meigor.

I. JAMES MAKGRUDER,⁴ servant to Lord Drummond, had a son John against whom a complaint was made on 19th January 1580-81, who was possibly John McGruder No. II. This James MakGruder may be the same James McGruder whose daughter is stated to have married Thomas Drummond of Drummondearnoch, whose son John Drummond of Drummondearnoch was slain by the MacGregors in 1589.⁵

II. JOHN MCGRUDER in Innerclair on 27th October 1601 purchased for £100 the lands of Innerchrutak from James Murray, fiar of Strowan, with consent of his wife.⁶ He possibly is the same

² Gardiner's *History of the Commonwealth and Protectorate*, vol. ii, pp. 64, 65.

³ Register of the Great Seal, 6th Nov. 1458, No. 640.

⁴ The name is usually given as Mchruder or Mchrudder until about the year 1600, when the form McGruther more frequently occurs.

⁵ *The Genealogy of the House of Drummond*, p. 126.

⁶ Perthshire Register of Sasines.

John McGruder as the John Makgruder son of James referred to in the following complaint: On 19th January 1580-81 John Makintalgart in Bocastell, servant to James, Comendator of Sanct Colme, complained to the Privy Council that on the 17th of November last John Drummond of Drummondearnoch, John Makgruder, son to James Makgruder, servant to the Lord Drummond, with others their accomplices, "came under silence of night to the said John's dwellinghouse of Bocastell, and perforce reft spuileit and away tuke ane hundrith pundis of reddie money, being in ane kist in his said house, pertening to him and uthers nychtbouris, thre mylk kye, and all the said John's insicht and plennesing of his said house, to his utter wrak and herschip; lyke as thairefter thay pat violent handis in the said John's persoun, tuke him perforce with thame, and detenis and withhaldis him in strait prisoun and captivitie." They were ordered to produce their prisoner and failing to do so on 4th February were denounced rebels.⁷ John McGruder in Innerclair married Margaret Murray, possibly a daughter or sister of the above-mentioned James Murray. He died before 21st April 1631, leaving two sons—

1. John (III).
2. James, who is named in the Crown Charter to his brother.

III. JOHN MCGRUDER, on 21st April 1631, was retoured heir to his father, John McGruder in Innerclair, in two halves of the lands of Meigor called Wester Quarter and the lands of Innerchrutak lying in the Stewartry of Strathearn.⁸ On 30th July 1631 the King granted a Crown Charter to John McGruder of Nether Meigor (who presumably was the same individual) and Margaret Drummond his spouse in liferent and to John McGruder their eldest son and heir apparent and his heirs male and assignees of the lands of the fourth part of Meigor called Middlethrid or Tryinmeanache with part of the mill, which subjects had been resigned on 4th November 1630 with consent of certain parties including the deceased John McGruder of Nether Meigor, Margaret Murray his spouse and James McGruder their son.⁹ He died in January 1652 when an inventory of the whole goods, gear, debts and sums of money belonging to him at the time of his death was given up by his two sons, for whom James McGruther in Bridgend of Dunblane was cautioner or surety. As it affords an insight into the primitive life of a small country laird of these times the Inventory is here given:—

⁷ *Register of the Privy Council*, vol. iii, pp. 350, 355.

⁸ *Retours*, Perthshire, No. 403.

⁹ Register of the Great Seal, No. 1829.

INVENTORY.

Imprimis, off horss heall eight at xij^{lib} the peice, Inde iiij^{xx} xvj^{lib}. Item twelf kye at x^{lib} the peice ourhead, Inde jc xx^{lib}. Item ten stirks and quoyes at iiij^{lib} the peice, Inde xl^{lib}. Item fyftein sheip at xxxij^s iiij^d the peice, Inde xxv^{lib}. Item the sawing of ane boll aitts estimate to the thrid corne, Inde three bolls at iiij^{lib} the boll with the fother, Inde ix^{lib}. Item the sawing of ane firloft bear estimate to the fourth corne, Inde ane boll pryce q^r of v^{lib}. Item the utenseills and domi-cells estimat to xx^{lib}.

Summa Inventarij iiij^c xv^{lib}.

Debtis resting to the dead.

Imprimis be Mr John Murray of Coudoun, Lxvj^{lib} 13/4

Summa patet

Inventarij therwith iiij^ciiij^{xxj}^{lib} 13/4

Debtis resting be the dead.

Imprimis to the Earle of Perth his dutie that yeir he died lx^{lib}. Item of servant fie xx^{lib}.

Summa iiij^{xxlib}.

Rests of frie geir iiij^c^{lib} 13/4

John McGrouther had at least two, and probably four or more sons—

1. John (IV).
2. Alexander McGrouther in Dalchruine, brother german to John McGrouther of Meigor, on 17th Sept. 1674 entered into a marriage contract with Annas Murray probably a daughter of Murray of Coudoun. He died in November 1700 when his relict was his executrix dative *qua* credetrix in respect of obligations in their marriage contract. The inventory of his estate amounted to £206 2s.¹⁰
3. William McGrouther in Glassnafeid, who died in November 1663, may also have been a son of John McGrouther although not so stated, for the inventory of his estate was given up by John McGrouther of Meigor, Alexander McGrouther in Glassnafeid and Patrick McGrouther in Blairinroar in respect of the minority of James, Jeonet and Issobell McGrouthers lawful children of the defunct William McGrouther.¹¹

¹⁰ Dunblane Commissariat Register of Testaments. There was another Alexander McGrouther in Dalchruine, for on 15th August 1681 Catherine Campbell, daughter to Patrick Downmore Campbell, elder of Edinchip, who had married first William McDuff, and secondly Alexander McGrouther in Dalchruine, entered into a contract of marriage with her third husband James McNab, in Auchessan. An Alexander McGrouther in Glassnafeid (who may have been identical with one or other of the above-mentioned Alexander McGrouthers) was married to Marie Stewart, who died in July 1666, survived by her husband, and left four children, John, James, Margaret and Janet. Dunblane Commissariat Register of Testaments, 4 April, 1667.

¹¹ Dunblane Commissariat Register of Testaments, 20th April 1665.

4. Patrick McGrouther in Blairinroar, mentioned above, may also have been a son of John McGrouther of Meigor. Patrick McGrouther in Blairinroar, on 12th April 1660 was infest on a contract of wadset dated 7th January 1660 in the town and lands of Craigintor.¹² On 23rd March 1681 he was infest in liferent, and Duncan and Geils his bairns in fee in these subjects. Alexander, his eldest lawfu son, was a witness.¹³ Patrick McGrouther in Blairinroar died in June 1685, when his son Alexander, was his executor.¹⁴ Probably these references all relate to the same individual.

IV. JOHN MCGROUTHER, in Craigneich on 20th September 1666 was served heir-general to his father John McGrouther in Craigneich,¹⁵ and on the same day he was retoured heir to John McGrouther of Nether Meigor, his grandfather, in the fourth part of the lands of Meigor called Middlethrid *alias* Treymanich with part of the mill, and half of the lands of Meigor called Westirquarter.¹⁶ In July 1668 he entered into a marriage contract with Jean Drummond, lawful daughter of the deceased Thomas Drummond who was a son of the deceased Mr. John Drummond of Drummaquhance, with the advice of Janet Scot her mother, and on 11th August she was seised in liferent by him in the lands of Meigor.¹⁷ John McGrouther was evidently married more than once, and may have been the John McGrouther of Meigor who is stated to have married Barbara daughter of Major James Stewart of Ardvorlich.¹⁸ Certainly he was twice married, for on 30th December 1706 he received sasine for Grissell Drummond his spouse on a charter of adjudication of various lands which had belonged to the deceased David Drummond of Comrie and afterwards to Mr. James Drummond, his brother.¹⁹ On 7th August 1716, when he was evidently over eighty years of age, John McGrouther conveyed his lands reserving his life-rent, to his grandson. When he died is not known, but obviously it was after 7th August 1716. He had several sons:—

1. James, who was probably the eldest son, had a natural child baptised on 16th May 1698 named William.²⁰ The probability that James was the eldest son

¹² Perthshire Register of Sasines, v. 519.

¹³ *Ibid.*, fol. 111.

¹⁴ Dunblane Commissariat Register of Testaments.

¹⁵ General Retours, No. 5031.

¹⁶ Perthshire Retours, No. 754.

¹⁷ Perthshire Register of Sasines, 12th August 1668.

¹⁸ Duncan Stewart's Account of the Surname of Stewart, 1739, p. 130.

¹⁹ Perthshire Register of Sasines, 10th February, 1707.

²⁰ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

rests on the entry—"Jean, lawful daughter to James McGruder of Migar and Mary Maxwell his Lady born 12th baptised 13th December 1699."²¹ He, however, must have died before 2nd June 1707 and during his father's lifetime without surviving male issue, as appears from the Inventory on the death of Duncan (VII) below.

2. Alexander (V).
3. Thomas, "the second son," in 1741, who was dead evidently without issue, before 11th June 1741, when the inventory of his moveable estate was given up by Alexander McGrouther then of Meigor, William McGrouther in Dalclathick and Patrick McGrouther in Blairinroar his brothers.²² These four sons were probably all by their father's first marriage.
4. William (VIII).
5. Patrick in Blairinroar, who is mentioned above.
6. John, in Blairinroar, "fourth" son of the deceased John McGrouther of Meigor, died before 23rd June 1748 when the inventory of his moveable estate was given up by his two daughters.²³ He was evidently a child of a second or later marriage of his father. He married Henrietta Menzies, and had only two daughters—

- (1). Mary, born 12th, and baptised 13th Sept. 1713.²⁴ She married Charles Farquharson, sometime forester to the Duke of Perth in Glenartney, afterwards overseer to Mr. Drummond of Blair, described as "a modest, worthy, sensible, man, warmly attached to his master's interest."²⁵
- (2). Barbara, born 18th, and baptised 19th April 1715,²⁶ who married George Drummond of Drummaquhance. These two ladies, in 1752, were successful in making a claim upon the forfeited estate of Perth, in respect of a bond for £1,000 Scots, dated 15th April 1710 granted by James Lord Drummond to their father.²⁷

V. ALEXANDER MCGROUTHER, son of John McGrouther of Meigor and Jean Drummond, was apparently born in or about the

²¹ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

²² Dunblane Commissariat Register of Testaments, 11th June 1741.

²³ *Ibid.*, 23rd June 1748.

²⁴ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

²⁵ *Scotland and Scotsmen from the Ochertyre MSS.*, vol. ii, pp. 229, 230.

²⁶ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

²⁷ Register of Decrees, Durie, vol. 455, 12th Feb. 1752.

year 1673. In 1698 he was designed second son of John McGrouther of Meigor. Whatever was the name of Alexander's eldest brother, he seems to have died before 2nd June 1707 without lawful male issue, as shown by the Inventory on the death of Duncan (VII), and in 1716 John McGrouther disposed his estate to John, "eldest son" of Alexander, who was eldest son to the disponent. The reason why Alexander was passed over in the succession in favour of his eldest son is obvious. In 1715, when Alexander was living in Dalchruin he was called upon, along with his brother William to join his master the Duke of Perth on behalf of King James. Alexander was then a man of about forty-two years of age, and as his grandfather died in 1652, when his eldest son seems to have been of age, Alexander's father would probably be a man considerably over eighty years of age in 1715. In the letter and note after inserted it is stated that Alexander McGrouther was taken prisoner at Preston in November 1715. In lists of the prisoners taken when that town surrendered occurs a list of officers of Logie's Regiment, consisting of seven names including "Alex. Macrudder, Cap.," and the last name is "William Gruder."²⁸ According to the former authority there were of Scots prisoners in all 1103, whereof 778 private men were left prisoners at Preston; according to the *Faithful Register* there were 1,022 Scotch prisoners. Those who were not left at Preston were marched to London and on May 31st 1716 at the Court of Exchequer "seven persons were ordered for trial, viz. John Thornton, who being ill, was not brought down; Philip Hodgson, uncle to the Lord Widdrington; Charles Widdrington, Peregrine Widdrington, Donald Robertson, *alias* Robeson, Alexander Macrudder, and Thomas Errington: the latter said he humbly submitted to his Majesty's mercy"; but nothing is stated regarding the result of the trials of the others.²⁹ Evidently, however, Alexander McGrouther was released under the Act of Indemnity of 1717, and returned to Scotland.

Undeterred by his experiences in the Rising of 1715, when the call came in the year 1745 Alexander McGrouther, although then a man of 72 years of age, not only again drew his sword for the Stuarts, but embarked his son in the same cause.

²⁸ *A Faithful Register of the late Rebellion*, 1718, p. 36. Although in the preface to this work "the reader is desired to excuse some little errors in the proper Writing of the Scotch names, which being deliver'd to those employ'd by the King, by Pronunciation only, it will be thought the more excusable if they are not so duly spelt," the names appear to be more correctly given in this work than in the List appearing in the *Lancashire Memorials of the Rebellion MDCCXV* (Chetham Society, 1845), p. 161. In a document printed at Edinburgh by James Moncur, 1715, containing "a list of the most considerable of the Scots and English noblemen and gentlemen with the number of their servants, taken prisoners at Preston, November 13, 1715," occurs "Officers of Logie's Regiment, Captains—Alexander McGregor. Subalterns, William McGregor."

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 276.

In the list of rebel officers and soldiers who surrendered at Carlisle occur "two Alexander McGrouthers, Perthshire, and James Nicolson, all of the Duke of Perth's regiment."³⁰ The officers taken at Carlisle were brought to London on 10th February in four waggons and a coach, under a strong guard of soldiers, and committed to various prisons. On 25th and 26th June 1746 the Grand Jury found bills of indictment against the following "rebel officers taken at Carlisle" Alexander McGrouthers senior and junior. In their indictments they are designed "Alexander McGrouther, the elder, otherwise Robinson, otherwise Robison, otherwise Robertson, Carlisle, Cumberland, Gentleman, otherwise farmer, otherwise yeoman"; and "Alexander McGrouther, the younger, Carlisle, Cumberland, Gentleman, otherwise farmer, otherwise yeoman."³¹ Counsel for the prisoners begged further time to prepare for trial, because their witnesses were not ready. This was opposed by the Counsel for the Crown, and refused by the Court, for on 31st July the Court met at St. Margaret's Hill for their trial, when Alexander McGrouther, senior, of Perthshire, a lieutenant in Perth's regiment, was brought to the Bar and pleaded Not Guilty. He brought four witnesses to prove that the Duke of Perth, whose vassal he was, had forced him into the rebellion, threatening, if he did not immediately join the army, to burn all his houses, destroy his lands and drive his cattle away. But they only swore that they heard himself say that he was ordered to join the Duke of Perth, and he must comply. The King's counsel answered that as all personal attendance, hosting, hunting, watching and warding, due by vassals in Scotland to their chiefs were discharged by an Act of 1 George I, and the value of these services appointed to be paid in money, this plea could have no weight; that it was unreasonable to suppose that a man forced into the rebel army should continue so long in it, accept of a commission, and act as an officer, and that it was proved that when the rebels got possession of Edinburgh he was with them in a highland dress, a white cockade in his blue bonnet, a dirk and pistols in his girdle, and was very vigilant and active, encouraging the rebel officers to be hearty in the cause, and not to doubt of success; that he acted at the battle of Prestonpans as a lieutenant; that he marched with the rebels into England; and that when Carlisle surrendered to the Duke, he acknowledged himself to be a lieutenant in Perth's regiment; which last fact was proved by two captains in the King's army who took down the names of the officers who surrendered. Abstracts of the depositions of the wit-

³⁰ *Scots Mag.*, vol. vii, p. 580.

³¹ *The Life and Times of Prince Charles Stewart*, by A. C. Ewald, 1883. App., p. 431.

nesses are printed in *Historical Papers, 1699-1750* (New Spalding Club), vol. ii, pp. 384-386.

After a trial of three hours, the jury, without going out of the Court found Alexander McGrouther Guilty; and thereupon the prisoner, as the keeper was taking him from the Bar, said, "By my faith, this is a very infamous verdict they have brought in against me." Alexander McGrouther, when brought to the Bar to receive sentence, still affirmed that he was forced into the rebel service and therefore could not be guilty of the indictment. The Lord Chief Justice Willes, having made a pathetic speech, pronounced sentence on James Nicolson, Donald Macdonald, Alexander McGrouther, senior, and Walter Ogilvie, and concluded thus: "Let the several prisoners above named return to the gaol of the county of Surrey, from whence they came; and from thence they must be drawn to the place of execution, and when they come there they must be severally hanged by the neck, but not till they be dead; for they must be cut down alive; then their bowels must be taken out, and burned before their faces; then their heads must be severed from their bodies, and their bodies severally divided into four quarters; and these must be at the King's disposal."

On the 19th of August, the dead warrant came to the gaol for their execution on the 22nd of that month; but Alexander McGrouther got a reprieve for three weeks on the 21st. The other three were executed on Kennington Common.³²

On the 9th of September, Alexander McGrouther and other eight condemned rebels were further reprieved for six weeks. On the 22nd of October the nine rebels in the new gaol received a further reprieve.³³ For three years and two months I have no further notice of this poor unfortunate—the insanitary state of the prisons augmented by overcrowding was frightful, and very many prisoners were carried off by disease owing to the pestilential condition of the places where they were kept, some in prisons and some on hulks in the Thames. On 12th January 1750, Bishop Forbes, Edinburgh, received the following letter from Thomas Forbes, London, upon which there is the annexed note by Bishop Forbes:—

"29 Dec. 1749.

"Dear Sir,—The bearer³⁴ is the man who has been longer "in prison than any other for the default of Britons. You "know I am *piger scribendi*, and as I recommend him to you, "I hope, I should have said am certain, that you'll treat "him as an honest man, and use your interest for him. Many

³² *Scots Mag.*, vol. viii, pp. 94, 293, 294, 326, 330, 396, 397.

³³ *Scots Mag.*, vol. viii, pp. 442, 450, 498.

"less deserving have been more taken notice of when our
 "Tavern heroes were in spirit than he has been now at the
 "end of his captivity, which he would in all probability
 "have seen had it not been for a gentleman³⁵ discharged
 "at the same time with himself. I never recommended a
 "wrong man to you; and upon conversing with the bearer
 "you'll find him AN HONEST MAN, and me not yet a bad
 "judge. The good wishes of me and my concerns attend
 "you and yours.

(*Sic subscribitur*) "THOM PHILO. MANLIUS.
 "London at large. December 29, 1749."

Alexander McGrouther seems to have lived at Auchin-
 selloch and Achinner, and latterly at Craigneich. William
 his son deponed in 1747 that his father was tenant of half of
 Straid, Mewzie, a quarter of Blairmore, a quarter of Achinner
 and of the lands of Innerclair and grazings of Leadnaskea,³⁶
 and in addition he was proprietor of Meigor. He died before
 29th February 1752, having married Margaret Drummond
 and had at least ten children:--

1. John (VI).
2. James, a twin with Grizal, born 14th and baptised
 16th October 1703, who evidently died an infant.³⁷

³⁴ "Alexander MacGrowther at Dalchruin, in Glenartney, in the Duke of
 Perth's estate, who delivered the letter to me on Friday, Jan. 12th, 1750. Mr.
 MacGrowther was made prisoner in Carlisle on Dec. 31st, 1745, and was (with the
 other prisoners) carried up to London, where he stood his trial, and was condemned.
 After several reprieves he was at last doom'd to be banished. When the ships
 were making ready to sail with those who were sentenced to banishment for life,
 Mr. MacGrowther was in such a low dangerous condition with rheumatism, etc.
 that he could not be moved, and therefore he was let alone as a dying man. How-
 ever, when he began to recover, one Smith (the undertaker for transporting the
 banished) was not slow in asking questions about him, and desiring to know if
 he was ready to set out. But old MacGrowther always answered, He was not yet
 ready. By this time honest MacGrowther was much talked of over all London;
 and friends (particularly Mrs. Cheap and Mrs. Magdalene Clerk, daughters of Cap-
 tain Hugh Clerk in Edinburgh) began to bestir themselves for him, and having
 collected a purse of about ten guineas they gave it to Smith, who kindly accepted
 of the present, and became so complaisant as to forget MacGrowther altogether.
 Some great personages (the Sardinian Ambassador, the Duchess of Norfolk, the
 Countess of Newburgh, etc., etc., etc.) at length interested themselves for Mac-
 Growther in order to procure his releasement, which accordingly was accomplished
 without the common form of a remission, by an order from the Duke of Bedford's
 office upon Dec. 11th, 1749, MacGrowther being then seventy-six years of age,
 but so healthy and well-look'd that people imagined him not to be sixty. He was
 likewise made prisoner at Preston in England in 1715, and endured at that time
 a confinement of two full years." *The Lyon in Mourning*, vol. ii, pp. 372, 373.

³⁵ "Aeneas MacDonald, banker (brother to Kenlochmoydart), whose company
 and facetious conversation contributed much to keep up the spirits of honest
 old MacGrowther after all the other prisoners were gone. The Banker (tho' a
 young man) contracted such a swelling in his legs that immediately after his
 releasement he was obliged to go to Bath. But old MacGrowther was of so healthy
 and robust a constitution that he had no swellings in his body at all.--Robert
 Forbes, A.M." *The Lyon in Mourning*, vol. ii, pp. 372, 373.

³⁶ MS. Judicial Rental of the Perth Estates, 1747.

³⁷ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

3. Grizal, born and baptised along with her brother
 James.³⁸ Possibly she also died a child, as I know
 of no other reference to her.
4. Anable, who was baptised on 29th November 1705.³⁹
5. Thomas, born on 13th, baptised 19th May 1707.⁴⁰
 He seems also to have died young.
6. James, baptised on 12th August 1708.⁴⁰ He also
 probably died young.
7. Duncan (VII).
8. Alexander, born 24th and baptised 28th June 1715,⁴¹
 was only a few weeks old when the Earl of Mar
 raised his standard on the braes of Mar on 26th Aug.
 1715, where he was joined by, among others, Lord
 Drummond. Alexander McGrouther was out in 1745
 for Prince Charlie in the Duke of Perth's regiment
 as a lieutenant, and taken prisoner, along with his
 father, at Carlisle, and with other prisoners sent to
 London. On the 9th of September 1746 he died,
 before trial, in the New Gaol, Southwark, unmarried.⁴²
 Abstracts of the depositions against him also appear
 in *Historical Papers*, 1699-1750 (New Spalding
 Club), vol. ii, pp. 389-390.
9. Robert, born 30th November and baptised 4th December
 1718.⁴³ Probably died young.
10. William, who made the above-mentioned deposition,
 was certified by a Justice of the Peace, and the
 Minister of the united Parish of Monzievaird and
 Strowan on 23rd December 1751, to have died without
 marriage or leaving lawful issue in July 1748.⁴⁴

VI. JOHN, the eldest son of Alexander McGrouther and Margaret
 Drummond, was baptised on 8th July 1701,⁴⁵ so that he
 must have been a boy of about fifteen years of age when,
 on 7th August 1716, his grandfather conveyed the estate
 of Meigor to him as before-mentioned. He died without male
 issue, and so far as I am aware, unmarried, before 23rd Novem-
 ber 1748, when he was succeeded in the property by his brother
 Duncan.⁴⁶

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ Comrie Parish Register of Baptisms.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

⁴² *Scots Mag.*, vol. viii, p. 450, where he is erroneously described as a lieutenant
 in Lord Lewis Gordon's regiment. Decrees of Court of Session, Durie, 455, 29th
 February 1752.

⁴³ Comrie Parish Register of Baptisms.

⁴⁴ Decrees of Court of Session, Durie, 455, 29th February 1752.

⁴⁵ Comrie Parish Register of Baptisms.

⁴⁶ Decennial Services of Heirs in Scotland.

VII. DUNCAN, who was born on the 12th and baptised on the 15th April 1714,⁴⁷ was a surgeon in Crieff, and served heir general to his eldest brother John on 23rd November 1748,⁴⁸ but evidently did not complete his title to the estate of Meigor. He married Margaret, daughter of Patrick Stirling, of Kippendavie, who survived him. He died in 1755. As an Eik to the Inventory of his estate is interesting as showing the extent to which the different members of the family had advanced money to James Lord Drummond and William, Viscount Strathallan, an abstract of it is given:—

1000 merks Scots contained in a bond granted by James Lord Drummond and Stobhall to Alexander McGrouther, second son of John McGrouther of Meigor, dated 19th April 1698 years, payable at Candlemas (2nd February) thereafter, registered 17th July 1746.

Item. 1000 merks Scots contained in another bond granted by the said James, Lord Drummond, to said Alexander McGrouther designed younger of Meigor, dated 2nd June 1707, payable at Martinmas (11th November) 1707, registered 17th July 1746.

Item. 500 merks Scots contained in another bond granted by the said James Drummond to the said Alexander McGrouther, younger, of Meigor, dated 31st October 1711, payable at Candlemas 1712, and registered 17th July 1746.

Item. 1000 merks Scots contained in a bond granted by the said James Lord Drummond to the said Alexander McGrouther dated the 28th August 1713, payable at Martinmas then next and registered 17th July 1746.

Item. 1300 merks Scots contained in a bond granted by the said James Lord Drummond of Perth to the said Alexander McGrouther, dated 5th December 1741, registered 17th July 1746.

Item. 900 merks money foresaid contained in a bond granted by the said James, Lord Drummond of Perth, to the said Alexander McGrouther, dated 24th Aug. 1743, registered 17th July 1746.

Item. 1000 merks money foresaid contained in a bond granted by the said James Lord Drummond to Thomas McGrouther, dated 15th April 1710, registered 17th July 1746, and to which 1000 merks and annual-rents thereof the said Alexander McGrouther had right as executor dative confirmed to the said Thomas McGrouther conform to confirmed testament expd 11th June 1741, and which several sums, &c., were conveyed by the said Alexander McGrouther in favor of Duncan McGrouther, late of Meigor, surgeon in Crieff, the defunct, conform to disposition dated 21st November 1745.

⁴⁷ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

⁴⁸ Decennial Services of Heirs in Scotland.

Item. £20 sterling contained in a bond granted by the said James Drummond of Perth to Alexander McGrouther, son of the said Alexander McGrouther, dated 15th November 1743, and which was made over by him the said Alexander McGrouther in favour of John Bruce, merchant in Crieff, conform to Assignation dated 14th June 1746, and by said John Bruce conveyed in favour of said Duncan McGrouther, the defunct, conform to translation, dated 3rd October 1748.

Item. The annualrents (interests) due on the said several sums abovementioned and which were by decret of the Court of Session bearing date the [blank] day of [blank] 17[blank] years sustained as a just and lawful debt on the estate of Perth, and on 25th December 1752 there was received £124 6s. 3¼d., by which the balance at that date of principal and interest was £374 10s. 11d. sterling due to the said Duncan McGrouther.

Item. 100 merks contained in a promissory note by the deceased William, late Viscount of Strathallan, to said deceased Alexander McGrouther, dated 12th June 1734, to which the said Duncan McGrouther had right by assignation dated 21st December 1745, and whereupon he obtained a decret of the Lords of Council and Session on 14th February 1751.

John McGrouther in Cambushinie was cautioner to the Inventory and Eik.⁴⁹

Duncan McGrouther had two daughters but no son, and was apparently succeeded in the heritable property by his uncle William. The two daughters were:—

1. Margaret, born 17th and baptised 20th November 1752.⁵⁰ She died unmarried, and was interred at Tullichettle on 22nd December 1801, having bequeathed £10 sterling to the poor of the parish of Tullichettle, which was paid to the minister of the Parish of Comrie in 1805, upon her mother's death.⁵¹
2. Christian, who was born on 7th March and baptised on 13th May 1756, after her father's death.⁵²

Returning now to William McGrouther, the son of John McGrouther (IV), evidently by his first wife—

VIII. WILLIAM MCGROUTHER lived at Blairinroar and afterwards at Dalclathie. The following order was sent to him by his feudal superior and doubtless obeyed: "William McGrouther in Dalclathick, you are hereby ordered to acquaint William McNiven in the same town, and Alexander McGrouther in

⁴⁹ Dunkeld Commissariat. Register of Testaments, vol. v, pp. 350, 390.

⁵⁰ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

⁵¹ Comrie Kirk Session Minute Book, 26th December 1805.

⁵² Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

Dalchrown to goe alongs with you as officers to command the company of our men that is to come out of your glen, and all the men are hereby ordered to obey your commands on their highest perille, which you are to intimate to them as you will be answerable to us, and this shall be your warrant Given at Drummond Castle, the fifteenth day of August 1713.

“(Signed) Drummond.

“ See that none of the men of whatever rank of Achunner be absent as they will be answerable to us, and all the men in good order.”⁵³

In all probability he was the “ William Gruder,” subaltern in Logie’s regiment, who was taken prisoner at Preston in 1715.⁵⁴ Like so many of his relatives, although a heritor and having a seat in the Parish Church of Comrie, his family were apparently baptised by the Episcopalian clergyman at Muthill. In August or September 1747 “ William McGruther of Meggar, for repairing the flooring of the loft and loft door [in the parish church of Comrie] paid five Pounds seventeen shillings four pennies scots money as his proportion for his seat in the Breast of the Loft South side.” The breast of the loft or front of the gallery was the seat of honour, and indicates that he occupied a social position of some standing in the parish. He seems to have been alive on 24th June 1759, as his son Alexander is designed “ younger of Miggar,” and thus William survived his nephew Duncan, but he does not appear to have made up any title to the estate. William McGruther married Elizabeth Dewar and had—

1. Jean, born 30th June, baptised 4th July 1711.⁵⁵
2. John, born 31st August and baptised 2nd Sept. 1713.⁵⁶ He evidently died young.
3. Alexander (IX).
4. James, born 27th and baptised 30th March 1719.⁵⁶
5. Elizabeth, born 21st and baptised 25th May 1721.⁵⁶
6. Ann, born 5th and baptised 9th June 1722.⁵⁶
7. Lilius, born 18th and baptised 24th August 1723.⁵⁶

IX. ALEXANDER MCGROUTHER, son of William McGruther and Elizabeth Dewar, was born on the 17th and baptised on the 18th of May 1715.⁵⁶ On 28th March 1770, a jury—one of whom was John McGruther in Wester Cambusheney—retoured him lawful and nearest heir male and of provision to his cousin John the son of Alexander McGruther in virtue of and conform to the disposition of the lands of Meigor and others, dated 7th August 1716, by which the deceased John McGruther of Meigor disposed the lands of Meigor

⁵³ *Edinburgh Evening Dispatch*, 10th June 1886.

⁵⁴ *A Faithful Register of the late Rebellion*, 1718, p. 36.

⁵⁵ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

and others therein specified to his grandson the said John McGruther, eldest son of Alexander McGruther his eldest son and the heirs male of the body of the said John McGruther, whom failing to his own heirs male and assignees whomsoever.⁵⁷ On 27th May 1794 Alexander McGruther disposed to Helen, Veronica and Janet his lawful and only children in life equally between them and their heirs and assignees whomsoever ALL and WHOLE the lands of Meigor which comprehended the fourth part or quarterlands of Meigor commonly called Middlethird *alias* Treyanmanuach and the part of the Mill thereof with the tenants and tenandries of the same, houses, beggings, yards, tofts, crofts, parts, pendicles and pertinents thereto belonging extending to a twenty-five shilling land of old extent lying within the united parishes of Strowan and Monivaird, Stewartry of Strathearn and Sheriffdom of Perth; as also ALL and HALL that two quarters or half-lands of Meigor commonly called Wester Quarter with the houses, biggings, yards, tofts, crofts, mosses, muirs, woods, parts, pendicles, and pertinents thereof lying as above-mentioned.⁵⁸ Alexander McGruther married in 1744 Helen Forrester, from the Parish of Port of Menteith,⁵⁹ and died on 28th March 1797. His wife died on 28th April 1792, aged 71 years. They had five sons and four daughters, of whom all the sons and one of the daughters predeceased him—

1. James, born 24th, baptised 26th April 1745.⁶⁰ He died abroad.
2. David. A child, probably named David, was baptised in February 1747.⁶¹ He died abroad.
3. Duncan, whose baptism I have not found recorded, is named on the tombstone referred to below.
4. William, born 1st, baptised 5th, March 1751,⁶² and died abroad.
5. John, whose baptism I have also not found recorded. He died abroad.

⁵⁷ General Retour at Dunblane, 28 March 1770.

⁵⁸ Disposition registered in Books of Council and Session, 18th December 1806.

⁵⁹ Register of Marriages, Port of Menteith Parish.

⁶⁰ The Episcopal Register of Muthill does not give the christian name nor sex of this child baptised on above date. There are no baptisms recorded in that register in 1746, 1747 or 1748, but there is this note: “ The confusion of the times, occasioned by a civil war raging in this country, and the persecution that followed in great severity, often driving me from attending my charge, make a chasm here that cannot now be filled up, for tho’ many baptisms were performed, the inserting of them was not attended to in proper time but some room is left for such as may be recovered.” The Comrie Parish Register of Baptisms under the year 1747 has “ Alexander McGruther and Helen Forrester in Dalclathiek had a child baptised *incertum est*, James, Aprile the 23 (?) 1745.”

⁶¹ Comrie Parish Register records a baptism at that time but omits the christian name.

⁶² Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

6. Elizabeth, born 22nd January and baptised 6th February 1753, died 23rd May 1785.⁶³
7. Helen (X).
8. Veronica, born at Craigneich on 17th, baptised on 24th June 1759.⁶⁴ She survived her father, and was seised in an equal third part of Meigor. On 6th June 1806 she was served, along with her sister Helen, heir portioner general to their sister Janet.⁶⁵ She died 1st January 1808.
9. Janet, born at Craigneich on 15th, baptised 20th November 1761.⁶⁶ She likewise survived her father, and was seised in an equal third part of Meigor on 3rd April 1797. She died on 15th May 1798.

X. HELEN MCGROUTHER, daughter of Alexander McGrouther and Helen Forrester, was born 17th and baptised 21st February 1755.⁶⁷ On her father's death she succeeded to one-third of the estate of Meigor, and afterwards to one-half of her sister Janet's one-third part of that estate. On the death of her sister Veronica she had a Precept of Clare Constat as only surviving sister and nearest and lawful heir of the deceased Veronica. Upon this she was infeft on 11th June 1808.⁶⁸ On 9th May 1811 Miss Helen McGrouther sold the little property which had been for so long held by her ancestors to the Right Honourable Robert Dundas of Melville for £1,000 sterling and interest thereon from Martinmas preceding, and also in consideration of bonds and dispositions in security to be granted to her by him for the several sums of £1,200, £800 and £6,000 sterling, with the respective interests from Martinmas last on said several sums of £1,000, £1,200, £800 and £6,000, making up £9,000 as the adequate and agreed on price. She erected in the burying-ground at Tullichettle a tombstone to the memory of her parents, brothers and sisters, which has the following inscription. She died on 23rd March 1831.

Here are deposited the remains of
Alexander McGruther, Esq. of Meigor
who departed this life 28 March 1797
in the eighty second year of his age,
and of

Mrs. Helen Forester his wife who died 28th April 1792,
aged seventy one,

⁶³ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill. The date of birth on the tombstone does not agree with the register.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.* Dates here also do not exactly tally with those on the tombstone.

⁶⁵ Decennial Indexes to the Services of Heirs in Scotland.

⁶⁶ Episcopal Register of Baptisms, Muthill.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸ Perthshire Register of Sasines, 24th June 1808.

THEIR DAUGHTERS,

Elizabeth born 11th Jany. 1753 who died 23rd May 1785
Veronica born 15th June 1759 who died 1st Jan. 1808
and Janet born 15th Nov. 1762 who died 15th May 1798
are interred with them in this place.

THEIR SONS

James, David, Duncan, William and John
all died in foreign countries.

Miss Helen McGruther

The sole survivor of the family raised this monument
to their memory
A.D. 1820.

Her body now lies below.

She was born 8th Jany. 1755 and died 23rd March 1831.

Much and Justly regretted.

By the sale of Meigor in 1811 the possession of this property, which had been in the family for about two hundred years, terminated, and when Miss Helen McGruther died in 1831 the probability is she had no near relatives—her father and his elder brother were dead without surviving descendants—and unless her father's youngest brother left issue, all the descendants in the male line of her grandfather William McGrouther, who was the fourth son of John McGrouther (who was born before 1652), were extinct.

JOHN MACGREGOR.

NEVILL OF ESSEX.

By the REV. CANON EDMUND R. NEVILL, B.A., F.R.Hist.Soc.

It is a matter of immense difficulty to piece together the four main groups of the family in the sixteenth century. Five of the earliest wills are missing: Edmund 1459, Salomon 1462, Margaret 1489, Thomas 1506, and Joan 1508.

The first extant will is that of Johan Nevell, widow of Edward of Willingale Spain. After legacies to her maid Aves Gomm, her "gossip" John Wittam, and her god-daughter Alice Wittam, the residue is left to her son John Nevill as Exor. (Com. of Lond. and Essex 24 May 1528.)

The point to be noticed in the wills that follow is that the Nevills of Willingale Spain and Doe all have lands in Fifield and Ongar as well: none of them are found in the Ongar registers but many at Fifield, none I have been told at Willingale Spain, and two girls only at Willingale Doe, in 1572 and 1574. The entries are subjoined. I have assumed that Johan and Edward were the parents not only of John the executor of Johan's will, but also of Thomas, William, and Robert, who occur in the Subsidy Roll, $\frac{1}{100}$ (1523) for Willingale Spain; but this is tentative.

This branch were evidently people of importance, as several of them are buried in their parish churches and not in the churchyards. In the 1539 Subsidy Roll $\frac{1}{100}$, Thomas Nevill pays 40s. at Ongar on