

CHAPTER XXXIII.

BRUX.

ALASTAIR CAM FORBES is generally considered to be the fourth son of Sir John Forbes of the black lip, but some writers have thrown doubt upon the probability of Sir John having had a younger son named Alastair, as the eldest, the 1st Lord Forbes, was Alexander, which is the same name. Alastair is also not mentioned in any of the documents in which Sir Alexander speaks of the other brothers. If not son of Sir John, he was either a much younger brother, or a nephew. In any case, Alastair Cam Forbes, brother, uncle or cousin of Sir Alexander, afterwards 1st Lord Forbes, married in 1409 Catherine, daughter and heiress of Sir Ewen Cameron of Brux and Drumallachie. Since, according to tradition, Alastair obtained both his bride and his estates by the slaughter of Mowat, enemy of Cameron, he could not have been a mere stripling at the time, which is an additional reason for supposing him to have been of the same age, if not *older* than Sir Alexander, 1st Lord Forbes, and not a much younger brother. The date of his birth is however not known. Traditional accounts of the feud between Mowats and Camerons represent the last Cameron laird of Brux as meeting his enemy by appointment at Drumgoudrum, each accompanied, as agreed, by twelve horsemen, but Mowat had treacherously placed two riders on each horse, and the Camerons, thus outnumbered, were all slain. The widow of Cameron then offered the hand of her daughter and the Brux estates to whoever should avenge her husband's death, and Alastair Forbes, having slain Mowat, claimed and obtained his reward; the stone commemorating the slaughter is still shown.¹

Forbes had a charter of Brux in 1426 from the king, confirming that of the Earl of Mar in 1409. He also had a charter of Glencarvie 1426.² He died before 1438. By Catherine Cameron he had three sons:

Arthur, died young. John, his heir, "with the slick hair," also called the "White Laird." Duncan of Drumallachie, sometimes said to have succeeded his brother in Brux, married Elizabeth Crichton of Conland and had William of Little Kildrummy (see p. 438), John of Brux, James, parson of Forbes, Alex. of Drumallachie, and Agnes, married Duguid of Auchinhove.

II. John, 2nd Forbes, Laird of Brux, married Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Cairnburrow, and had four daughters:

¹ Near the new shooting lodge of Glenbucket.

² The seal of Alastair Forbes of Brux is in Laing's collection of seals. It was affixed to a deed of 1427.

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One, Elizabeth, married William Forbes of Daach (see Pitsligo family). One married John Forbes of Clova, son of John Forbes in Terpersie of the Tolquhon family. One married William Forbes of Terpersie, brother of above. One married Simon Grant.

When John, the 2nd Laird, died he was succeeded either first by his brother Duncan, or immediately by his nephew.

III. John, son of Duncan of Drummalachie. He married (1) Agnes, daughter of Arthur Forbes of Rires (see p. 359), by whom he had Elizabeth, married Robert Forbes of Echt (see p. 460), and (2) Mariota, daughter and co-heiress of Robert Gordon of Fodderletter, by whom he had Alexander and two daughters: Margaret, married Thomas Gordon of Kinaldie, and Janet, married John Forbes of Balfluig.

John died before 1527. He thus appears, in 1504, in the Register of the Great Seal—

“ A letter direct to the schiref of Aberdeen that the kingis hienes be his infetment made to John Forbes of the landis of Burchis, Drummelloch, Newtown, Macharis-hauch, Glenkerby, Glenconry and the Orde, this is to command and charge all the King's lieges that nane of them take upoun hand to destroy or waist the said forests or lands. At Edinburgh, and in the Privy Seal, 12 Jan.

“ A Lettre maid to JOHN FORBES of Brux and his assignais, ane or many,—of the gift of the Ward of all landis that pertenet to umquhile Johne Forbes of Echt and now being in the Kingis handis be resoun of ward throu his deceis, with all malis and profitis thair of, during the time of the ward . . . , with the releif of the sammyn, and also the mariage of Robert Forbes, the Nevo and aire of the said umquhile Johne, and failzeing of him be deceis unmaryt, the mariage of ony uther airis or aire male . . . with power frely to dispose thair on and apoun the ward, nonentres and releif,—and with power to occupy the sammyn, with their awn gerdis or to set thairin to tenentis; and with power of bailzery. . . .
“ Per Signaturam. gratis eidem per dominam sigillationis.”

IV. Alexander¹ married Marjory, daughter of John, the 6th Lord Forbes, by whom he had four sons and three daughters:

John, the 5th Laird. William of Savocho, who married (1) the relict of David Gordon of Savocho, and (2) a daughter of Keith of Clackriach, *o.s.p.* Duncan of Byth, married a Turing of Foveran.

Janet, married William Strachan of Glenkindie. — married Mr. Walter Wilson. — married John Burnett, burgess of Aberdeen.

Alexander died before 1536, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

V. John Forbes,² “ the Red Laird,” married a daughter of Alexander Forbes, 5th of Pitsligo, by whom he had six sons:

¹ Sasine of Alexander Forbes, in the lands and barony of Brux, and in the lands and mill of Sonahaird, A.D. 1531.

² Charter by Queen Mary to John Forbes, son and heir-apparent of Alexander Forbes of Brux, of the lands and barony of Brux with the tower, the lands of Synnahard, the half the lands of Udochis, the lands of Mickle Byth, the half of the lands of Little Auchry,

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John, his heir. Alexander in Gellan, married a daughter of Forbes of Byth. Robert, married a daughter of the Laird of Rires. James, William and Duncan, all *o.s.p.*

He died before 1576, and was succeeded by his eldest son :

VI. John Forbes of Brux, married Elizabeth, daughter of George Gordon of Tilphoudie, by whom he had one son, John, who succeeded before 1599.

VII. John,¹ married Isobel, daughter of Gordon of Cairnburrow, and had five sons and two daughters :

Arthur, his heir. John, Patrick and William, all *o.s.p.* Adam, married Jean, daughter of Mr. John Strachan, parson of Kincardine. He became tutor to his young nephew and had a commission to apprehend rebels in 1663.

One daughter married (1) John Forbes of Barnes and (2) the Laird of Culbin. Another married Burnett of Cowcardie.

He died in 1646, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

VIII. Arthur Forbes, married Isobel, daughter of Mr. Duncan Forbes of Lethenty, by whom he had one son, Arthur. He died before 1642.

IX. Arthur Forbes, married in 1696 Elizabeth Murray of Auchinhove, by whom he had six sons and three daughters :

John, Arthur, Robert and Alexander, all *o.s.p.* Roderick, his ultimate heir. Charles, the Jacobite agent (see p. 433).

Sophia, married 1707 John Forbes of Newe. (Marriage Contract at Castle Forbes.) Mary. Jean, married 1710 George Gordon of Carnousie.

Arthur died in 1707, and was succeeded by his fifth son :

X. Roderick, married 1696 Margaret, daughter of Robert Young of Auldbar, by whom he had three sons :

XI. Arthur, who succeeded his father, and *o.s.p.* 1725 ;

XII. Robert, who succeeded Arthur, *o.s.p.* 1751 ;

XIII. Jonathan Forbes (the Jacobite), who died 1801. Brux is now part of the Castle Forbes estate, having been frequently held by a younger brother, in accordance with the special entail made by Jonathan, the last laird (see p. 272).

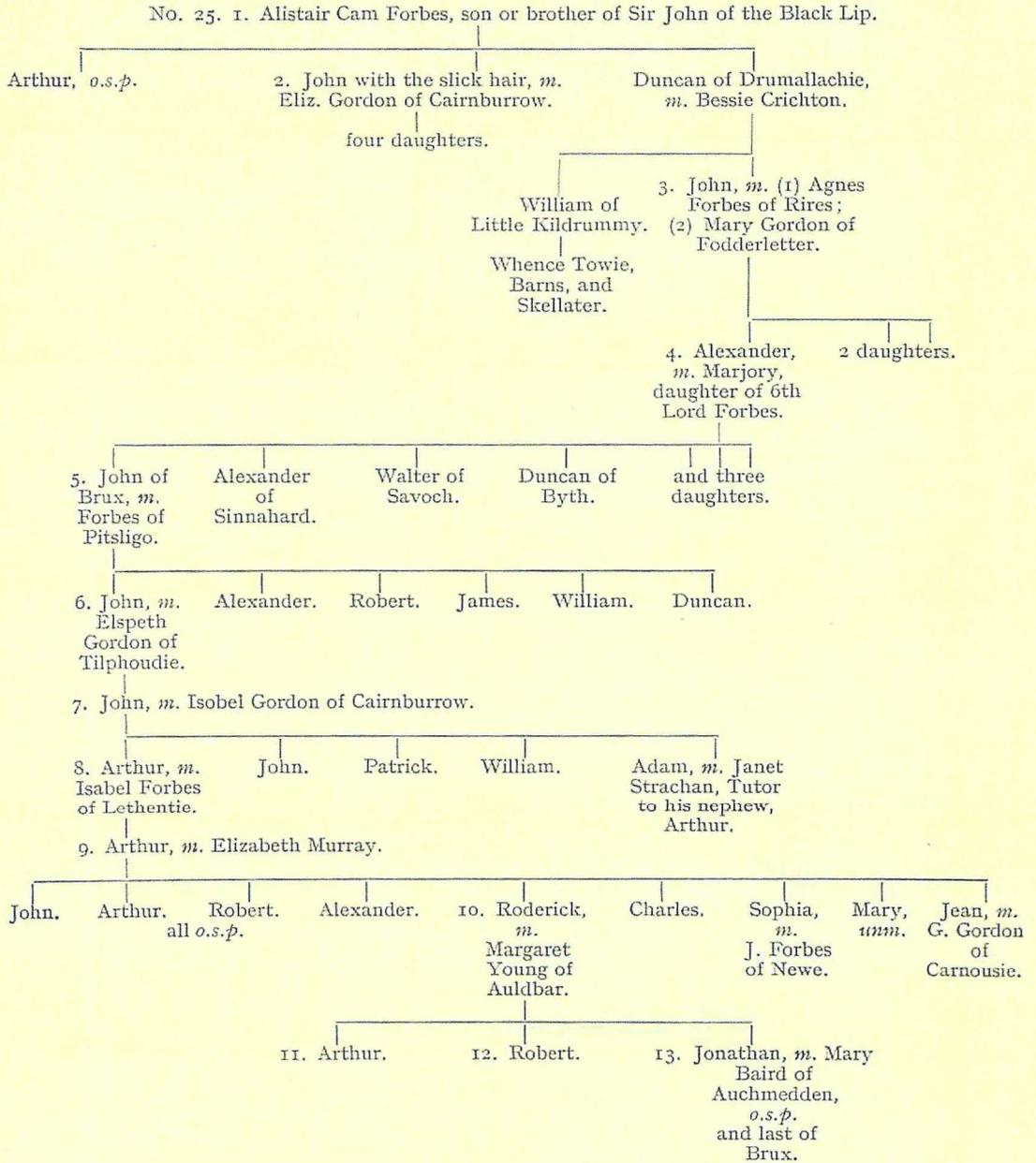
Roderick Forbes died between April, 1713, and January, 1714. His Will is at Castle Forbes.

resigned by the said Alexander Forbes of Brux, A.D. 1546. Sasine of John Forbes, in the lands and barony of Brux, with the tower, in the half of the lands of Little Auchry; in the whole lands of Mekill Bythe ; and in the lands and mill of Gellan, A.D. 1573.

¹ Charter by King James VI. to John Forbes of Brux, and Elizabeth Gordon his wife, of the lands of Drumallachie with the mill, etc., in the barony of Brux. On *March 25th, 1602*, John Forbes of Brux was denounced rebel, with Lord Forbes and the Baron of Braichlie, for not entering before the Lords of Council certain of his men who came to the lands of Glenfarquhar belonging to David Wood of Craig, and "reft from him and his tenants six score nolt and twelve score sheep." The marauders drove this booty to Lord Forbes' property and there disposed of it.

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Jonathan Forbes, last laird of Brux, was one of the most romantic and disinterested of the Jacobites of 1745, and one who survived the rising by fifty-five years.



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Born in 1710 he was, as a younger brother of the Laird of Brux, of no particular importance in 1745, and in the official list of Rebels, is described as "Farmer, Brux, Kildrummie, possesses 22,000 merks" (this sum being elsewhere incorrectly stated to be worth £1000 sterling—it would have been more). He farmed the lands at Mains or Tower of Brux, and was one of the earliest to go out from Donside, being present with the Prince's forces throughout the campaign. He escaped after Culloden, and though remaining in the country, managed by assuming various disguises to evade capture. His attachment to his own property was so great that he prepared a small burying ground in the field near the house (the wall round which he is popularly supposed to have built with his own hands), and now lies within it.¹ He married late in life Mary Baird of Auchmedden, but had no children, and when 75 years old and infirm, he executed a fresh settlement of his estate on the second son of Lord Forbes. He died October 26th, 1801, aged 91. His silver watch is still at Castle Forbes.

CHARLES FORBES OF BRUX.

Charles Forbes, youngest son of Arthur, the 9th Laird, was a Jacobite agent from his youth. The date of his birth is not known, but he died and was buried at St. Germain's.

Before the rising of 1715 he had been several times to France and back on political errands. The Master of Sinclair alludes to him as "Charles Forbes whom we sent to France," and also refers to him more than once in no very complimentary terms, as "a little broken merchant, who had been in prison for a small debt," and ascribes to him the failure of the attempt, on September 8th, 1715, to take Edinburgh Castle, which attempt, if successful, would have put into Mar's hands most of the Government money, arms and military stores at that time in Scotland. The story of the failure is well known, and is variously ascribed to the betrayal by Ensign Arthur to his brother, whose wife warned the Lord Justice Clerk; ² to the delay of the principal conspirators, who celebrated their success too prematurely and too long in an Edinburgh tavern "powdering their hair"; and to the fact that the scaling ladders were inadequate in number and too short. The providing of these had been the responsibility of Charles Forbes. According to letters in the Public Record Office, he was also one of those employed to tamper with members of the garrison. That Mar and the Old Chevalier himself bore him no grudge is shown by the fact that he was, ten days later, appointed A.D.C. to the latter. After the failure of the rising, he escaped to the Continent, and wrote to Mar from Amsterdam in July, 1716, and to John Patterson from Rotterdam in November of the same year. (Printed *Stuart Papers*.)

¹ It is said that his mother, old Margaret Young, when dying, declared she would not be buried "in such a cauld out o' the world place," but Jonathan replied, "We'll try ye there first, Mither, and gin ye winna lie, we'll shift ye to the auld kirk yard." There is no legend of her ghost having "walked."

² Ensign Thomas Arthur, in spite of this unfortunate occurrence, was long a pensioner of the Jacobite Court at Rome, as shown by the *Stuart Papers* at Windsor.

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In 1718 he was in Paris, and corresponding hopefully with other Jacobites over the possibility of another rising. To Mar, in April of that year he wrote— "All those who daily come from England agree that the nation was never more ready to favour any design for the King than now," but later he doubts "if, without a foreign force it would be possible to raise the country, though if 3,000 men could be got, I am persuaded it would be effectively done." (*Stuart Papers.*)

On July 18th, 1718, Charles wrote to the Duke of Mar, urging another immediate descent on England, where he said "A Whig is hardly to be seen, and many think that though they had good grounds to expect a foreign assistance next year, they would not lose the present opportunity for any such hopes. . . . I have had no subsistence since the Queen's death (i.e. May 7th), so if you could write to Mr. Gordon to allow me 60 livres a month it would be very kind, and what I much want." In the same month William Gordon wrote to Mar that he will "give Forbes credit for a suit of clothes and hopes that will content him."

In September of the same year Charles Forbes was sent from Paris to meet Mar's wife at Calais and escort her to Rome. He seems to have proved but an indifferent cicerone, not even capable of finding a proper carriage in which the poor lady could travel. Before her arrival he wrote that "the chaise was not very easy, but he thought it was strong!" It had apparently not even that virtue, from the accounts of the journey, as at one point the wheels came off. He announces in October that he has bought another chaise in Paris for my Lady and Lady Frances,¹ and the other will serve her maids. "They are to set out for Rome as soon as possible" and Forbes says he is "afraid of the Alps," but will take all the care he can of the travellers on their way. On the 15th October, Lady Mar writes a long letter to her husband describing this care. "The guide you allotted me, sometimes makes me laugh and sometimes makes me cry. I fancy you chose him for his strength that in case the voitures failed he might bring me on his back, which I daresay he would do very willingly. His courage is very great, but his conduct is but small. . . . I don't find he has much knowledge of the way or wisdom to find it out and he piques himself too much on his performances to suffer me to advise with anybody else. . . . I wish I may pick up somebody else to accompany me the rest of my journey, for how I shall get over the Alps with nobody but your Highland Gentleman, I can't tell. I can't find it in my heart to be angry with my guide, when he has done any silly thing, he is in such concern about it, and if I do come safe I shall make you laugh with the detail of what has happened."

Writing again from Turin, October 26th, she says: "Mr. Forbes is so very slow that I shall be twice as long as if I was without him and he's excessively saving, which makes us worse served everywhere." It appears from other accounts that Forbes was not very fluent in either French or Italian, which must have detracted from any merits he may have had as a courier. The travellers eventually reached Rome on November 28th, but a month later William Gordon

¹ Mar's little daughter, by his second wife, to whose son the title was restored. She was then three, and in 1740 married her cousin, son of Lord Grange. She seems to have been an excellent traveller at this early age, and a "diverting companion," though Lady Mar says, "many thought me *mad* to have brought her."

from Paris wrote to John Paterson in Rome, "I have written again and again to Charles Forbes and sent him account of the money he took up for her Grace's journey, but he sends me no answer, nor has he I suppose minded his Grace of it, though he knew I was very scarce of money." One is driven to the conclusion that Charles Forbes was not a very businesslike person, but essentially a dreamer, as shown by William Erskine's account of a conversation with him in 1718 as to seizing the Tower in the Jacobite interest. To the end he remained firmly convinced of the possibility of a Stuart restoration.

From Rome he wrote to George Mackenzie, son of John Mackenzie of Delvin, an advocate in Edinburgh, and a well-known friend to Jacobites, though he never openly espoused the cause.

"Rome. 18 Nov. 1719.

"Dear George,

"Nothing of moment has passed since you left this, only the Regent is as much in favour as ever with percy (i.e. the King). I heard last post from Pitsligo who is gone by sea to Genova in his way to France where he hopes to meet you and honest Jo. The D. of Mar is verie tender and last post he writes that he is closer confined than ever and no hopes of his release. B. Campbell leaves this for Spain in 4 weeks time and presses me to go along, but I wait the D's orders first—wee are all perswaded that the Queen is with child and she grows more charming everie day. Tis said the English expedition are embarked at Vigo; all your frends mynds you verie kindly. Clephan, Campbell, Kennadie and Jamie (Murray) supps at my Chamber this night, where your companie will be mynded after the wives. I hope or now the Dutchess is safe over the Alps, tho the last letter I had from Paterson was from Parma. All our news are about the peace and the Mirakles of Mr. Law who is to ease the subjects of half the taxes, double the Crown rent and pay the public debt in one year. Faill not to make yourself acquainted with Mr. Campion—write me all your news and where to direct for you. I shall ad no more but that I am in all sincerity D. George, Unalterable yours

"Charles Forbes.

"My humble service to honest
Compton and Sim. fraser."

(National Library of Scotland.)

In a letter from James Edgar, March 12th, 1720, to the same correspondent he says, "Charles (Forbes) makes you his kindest compliments, he's very sensible what a loss it is for him to be here, but the Devil's in't, without a little money there's no leaving this enchanted place." ¹ (*Ibid.*)

Charles Forbes was, like other exiled Scots Jacobites, in perpetual need of money, as shown by many of his letters, and he apparently tried to add to his income by dealing in fish.

He took no part in the 1719 effort, remaining in France, and he was in Rome

¹ George Mackenzie had himself at one time travelled to Rome as escort to Lady Nithsdale, so saving him all expense—the accounts are extant. He apparently remained there some time, and was a friend of Lord Pitsligo.

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in 1720, for Lord Pitsligo laments on 1st January in that year (writing from Paris) that Charles Forbes was not *there*, as he might have made some money with the assistance of John Law (whose Jacobite sympathies have only lately come to light).

Charles Forbes was married at that date and had several children, but only one is known, Roderick, who died in Persia in 1760. Charles seems to have remained on in Rome and to have eventually outstayed his welcome with the Chevalier, though the cause of his disgrace is not revealed in any of the unpublished *Stuart Papers* at Windsor, where the following letters are to be found :—

In 1722 Charles Forbes was still in Rome and wrote :

“ TO THE HON. BRIGADIER HAY,

“ Rome, May 5th, 1722.

“ Dear Col. I am afraid I shall not be in condition to come abroad before the King goes to the countrye, otherwayes I would have waited upon you personally and given you hearty thanks for the five pistols you sent by Ja. Hay. I assure you they came very opportunely. Att present I have nothing that troubles me so much as 20 pistols I owe to Belloni for which he is very unease. I thought to have been able to have payed him long ere now, but unluckilie for me I had a Barrell of Salmond aboard Capt. Midleton’s ship coming for Livorne wch was lost and with wch I thought to have payed all I owe in this part of the world ; however there is no help for misfortune. If yoe wd be so kind before you go out of town as to speak to Belloni to be easie for some time for his mony, It will be a singular favour for to tell you the truth until I get a receipt with the next ship that comes to Livorne from our place I know not how to pay him and that I expect not before next season, and if the fellow should speak to the King it would do me prejudice. Dear John, I am not good at compliment, but I hope you will be so good as pardon the trouble I give you and wherein I am capable to serve you, you may freely command me.

“ Believe me your most obliged and humble servant to

“ CHARLES FORBES.”

Docketed “ Mr. Forbes from his chamber.”

(Stuart MS. at Windsor.)

Four years later—

CHARLES FORBES TO THE KING.

“ Rome, 30 Jan. 1726.

“ Great Sir,

“ I have just now received your Majesty’s commands by Sir William Ellis to leave Italy and as your Sacred commands shall never be disobeyed by me in anything in my poüer, I shall leave Rome on Munday. If your Majesty thinks this too long a delay, let me know and I shall shorten it all in my poüer. It is with the outmost affliction I find myself fallen under your Majestie’s displeasure by the Malice of those about you. Being, I am conscious to myself, I have never swerved from the principles of loyalty and Honour, nor ever shall

while I live and I hope in God the time will come when your Majesty will know so. In the mean time if your Majesty will have the goodness to allow me to kiss your hand or I part, it is all the favour I shall Beg of you in this part of the world and where ever fate throws me I shall always be ready to testify with the Last Drop of my blood how much I am, as in duty I ought, Great Sir

“ Your most devoted and most faithfull and obedient serv.

“ Charles Forbes.”

“ P.S. If your Majesty think fit to allow me to send you a Line some time, perhaps I shall give you as true and just an account both of the Circumstance and situation of things in our Country, as those who are thought more Capable, since most of those who will, or are Capable to serve your Interest, will still give me, under their hands, what they will do, and what they wish your Majesty to do. I took the freedom to write you once before on this subject. But having no answer I forbore giving your Majesty any more trouble. I have wrote a Line this post to the Viscount of Kilsyth, who I am sure can give you better advice than any at Rome.” (*Ibid.*)

John Hay, Lord Inverness, wrote to the Duke of Ormonde on November 12th, 1726, “ I am told from many different hands that Mr fforbes is very busy.”

There is also a letter at Windsor, undated, but endorsed : “ *received July 16th, 1731* ” (five years later).

“ May it please your Majesty

“ Sir

“ The Difficulties I have Laboured under for these severall years bygone, necessitates me to give your Majesty the trouble of this Line, to lay before you my present Circumstance, which I hope your Majesty will take to Consideration. Since I had the honour to attend your Majesty, I have not had one shilling from any person, save what Mr. Arbuthnot has advanced me for my support ever since I left Itally. I got Col. Obrion to write to Ld. Inverness on my coming to France, and Mr. Arbuthnot wrote to Ld. Dunbar. I also wrote to Sir Jo. Grame when in your Majesties service, but all has no effect. Therefor knowing your Majesties own Inclination to justice, and to assist those who have been so long in exile, for their Duety to your Majesty, makes me give you this trouble to put you in mind of my present situation, that you may order my reliefe in what manner your Majesty shall think proper. No subject is more unwilling to give your Royall Majesty trouble in your present situation, nor shall any be found more zealous and forward in your service to the Last drop of my Blood, when occasion offer. That Heaven may Bless your Majesty, and all the Royall family, and soon send us an opportunity to testify our Inclinations to your service by our actions, always was, and still shall be the prayer of him who is with the Duety and respect which becomes

“ Sir

“ your Majesty’s most Devouted and most obedient humble Servant,

“ Charles Forbes.”

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Of Charles Forbes' later history not much is known, but he was apparently still carrying Jacobite dispatches in 1746. George Kelly, writing to Sir Thomas Sheridan on February 12th, 1746, from Dunkerque, says, "I have heard nothing of the packet you mention having been sent about a month ago. If it was by Mr. Forbes, I hear he was obliged to destroy it."

(*Public Record Office, S.P. 35.81.*)

And the following letter is at Windsor (endorsed in pencil "Bruce?").

"FOR THE LAIRD OF BRUX, ROBERT, ELDER BROTHER OF JONATHAN.

"Albano. June 15. 1725.

"The present situation of my brave Highlanders hath induced me to send them a General and all that lies in my power for their support in diffence of their libertie. The attachment of your family to the Crown and the handsome appearance those of your name formerly made in my service assures me that you will all of you on this occasion heartily concur with the said General in his endeavours for your relief and you may be assured of receiving from me suitable returns for your zealous behaviour on this important occasion.

"JAMES R."

King James had addressed the above letter to Robert, Laird of Brux, nephew of Charles, the Jacobite agent. Numbers of letters in similar terms were sent in this year to all the Highland chiefs. Roderick, the father of Robert, had died in 1713. His Will is at Castle Forbes. He took no part in the Jacobite rising of 1715, though his son Jonathan, afterwards 14th of Brux and brother to the Laird to whom the above letter was addressed, was, as already seen, an active participator in the "Forty-five."

DRUMALLACHIE AND TOWIE.

I. Duncan Forbes of Drumallachie (second son of Alistair Cam, and sometimes called 3rd Laird of Brux) had, besides his son, John, who succeeded to Brux, a son, William of Kildrummy, usually said to have been older than John.

II. This William, who succeeded to Kildrummy in 1490, married (1) Katherine Seton of Meldrum and had three sons, whence came three cadet branches of Brux :

Alexander of Towie. Mr. John of Barnes (see p. 440). William of Ardmurdo, born 1522, and four daughters.

He married (2) Elizabeth Calder, by whom he had :

John, killed at Pinkie, 1547. Thomas, *o.s.p.* William in Abergonie.

Margaret, who married Alexander Leslie of Wardes. — married Thomas Strachan of Linturk. — married Walter Innes of Touch. — married Thomas Lumsden of Cushnie.

III. Alexander, eldest son of Drumallachie, acquired Towie by marriage with Christian, eldest daughter of Barclay of Towie in Auchterless. By her he had one daughter, Margaret.

He married, secondly, Janet, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Haddo, and had six sons :

John, his heir. Duncan in Finnelost. James in Tonley, Alexander, William and Patrick.

Katherine, married George Gordon of Lesmoir, and Elizabeth, married John Calder of Asloun.

He died before 1548, and was succeeded by his eldest son.¹

IV. John Forbes of Towie, married (1) a daughter of John Grant of Ballindalloch, by whom he had one son, killed at Corgarff. He married (2) Margaret, daughter of John Campbell of Cawdor, by whom he had Alexander and John, who both succeeded, and William, *o.s.p.* He married, thirdly, Elizabeth Forbes of Rires, and had a son, Arthur, who died a Captain in the German wars, leaving a son, Arthur, who met the same fate.

John died before 1582 ; his widow married, secondly, Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels.²

V. Alexander, the eldest son, succeeded, married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Duncan Forbes of Monymusk, and died without issue. His widow afterwards married Strachan of Glenkindy and his brother succeeded.³

VI. John, married a daughter of Symmers of Balzeordie, and had :

(1) Alexander, his heir. (2) "Black Arthur of Towie." (3) Thomas, who married Isabella Lorimer and had William, Alexander in Holy Orders, and Thomas, baillie of Aberdeen.

William, the eldest of these, married Jane, daughter of George Morrison of Pitfour, provost of Aberdeen in 1652, and had two sons, William and Roderick.

VII. Alexander, seventh and last of Towie, was served heir to his father in 1607, and sold the estate before 1617. He apparently left no descendants.

¹ He had a charter of Overtowie and Colquersk in the Earldom of Mar, and in 1542 "a license to remane and byde at hame, instead of appearing at assizes, justice aires etc. for all the days of his life." (*Privy Council.*)

² John Forbes, 4th of Tollie, had a sister, Margaret, who married John Cow of Ochtercoul. (*Ibid.*) (She does not appear in the tree.)

³ 1579. Alex. Forbes, yr. of Tollie, son of John, 4th Laird, and William Forbes of Tolquhon "fell out in the presence of the Kingis Maj. they are commandit to subscribe sic forms of assurance as sall be presented under pain of rebellione." (*Ibid.*)

6 Mar. 1601. Bond by Alexander Forbes now of Toweis and apperand heir to umquhel Johne Forbes of Toweis whereby "Remembering how pruderillie my said umquhel father and his predecessors has be their vertew, great industrie and travellis in tyme bigane conqueist and left to me ane honest lyfe and honorable leveing, quhairunte I am to succed to their deceess, and also calling to mynd the money eventis accidenttis and haisertis quhairunto the youth is subject in their age, quhairby not onlie thair self but alsua the landis and leveing acquiret to thame be their predecessors are offtime imparrellit baith be thair temarious and rasche behaviour as alsue be circumventioun, intysment and persuatioune of particular persones"—he interdicts himself from all alienation of land without the advice of Sir David Lindsay of Edzell Knight, and George Symmer of Balzordie. (*Forbes Papers.*)