

FASTI ECCLESIAE SCOTICANÆ

THE SUCCESSION OF MINISTERS IN
THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND FROM
THE REFORMATION

BY
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NEW EDITION

*Revised and continued to the Present Time under the Superintendence
of a Committee appointed by the General Assembly*

VOLUME II

SYNODS OF MERSE AND TEVIOTDALE
DUMFRIES, AND GALLOWAY

OLIVER AND BOYD
EDINBURGH: TWEEDDALE COURT

1917

PRESBYTERY OF KIRKCUDBRIGHT

[A proposal to constitute a Presbytery for the central part of Galloway was before the General Assembly in 1581. In 1601 we find this locality still under the control of the Presbytery of Nithsdale, now called that of Dumfries. It was, however, then the avowed purpose of the supreme court to set up a separate jurisdiction for the Kirkcudbright district, so soon as the parishes there should be sufficiently organised to warrant such a course. The actual erection of the new Presbytery evidently occurred shortly after this. The Presbytery Register begins 30th April 1700, and extends to eleven volumes. There are gaps from 1st Aug. 1733 to 2nd Jan. 1734; from 8th Jan. 1755 to 17th Aug. 1768; from 14th Oct. 1782 to 12th May 1784; from 7th Oct. 1789 to 1st Oct. 1794; and from 15th Aug. 1812 to 11th March 1816. There were two earlier volumes of records. Neither of these is now known to exist. One of them dealt with the period from 1647 to 1658. Regarding it we have an account in a Presbytery minute of 21st Dec. 1780. The other volume, beginning 10th June 1663, is mentioned in the Synod Register of that time.]

ANWOTH, or AVONWATH.

[At the time of the Reformation the church of this parish was in the possession of the Priory of St Mary's Isle. At an earlier time it had belonged to the Abbey of Holyrood. There were in the parish two chapels: St Bride's, at Kirkbride, near the Skyre Burn; and another at Culeness. The parish church was rebuilt in 1626. That building is now roofless, but otherwise in very good condition. A new church close to it was erected in 1828.]

ALEXANDER YOUNG, reader, May 1570 1570 to 1572.

MALCOLM M'CUCCLOCH, M.A.; 1572 reader, May 1572; died in 1577.

DAVID MURRAY of Fenton, Auchtermuchty, and Clonyaird (probably a pre-Reformation incumbent), son of Sir Charles M. of Cockpool, Annandale; pres. to the vicarage by James VI. 4th Jan. 1577; deprived before 5th Jan. 1585; became master of the King's stable;

died 16th Aug. 1613. He marr. Marion Maclellan, who survived him, and marr. John Reddick of Dalbeattie. He left a natural son, Charles.—[*Scots Peerage*, i., 224.]

ROBERT MURRAY, brother of preceding; reader in 1578; pres. by James 1585 VI. 5th Jan. 1585-6.—[*Reg. Assig.*]

ISAAC PATERSON, M.A. (Edinburgh, 1601 12th Aug. 1593); adm. in 1601, Girthon also being in the charge; pres. to the vicarage by James VI. 23rd May 1602; still min. 14th Feb. 1616, under threat of deposition by Bishop Cowper, who had "a worthie and learned man there to be planted." He died before 15th July 1627, when a nephew, George P., was served heir.—[*Reg. Assig.*; *Inq. Ret. Gen.*, 2313; *Murray's Life of Rutherford.*]

SAMUEL RUTHERFORD [RUTHERFURD], adm. in 1627; app. Professor of Divinity in the Univ. of St Andrews 7th Jan. 1639 (*q.v.*).

fast, and has issue—John Sydney St Tuan, born 15th Dec. 1909; Arthur Douglas, born 14th March 1912; Dorothy Noreen, born 17th June 1913.

CARSPHAIRN.

[This parish was erected in 1640. It was disjoined from Dalry and Kells. In 1815 the parish church was rebuilt.]

JAMES [or JOHN] ADAMSON, near
1637 kinsman, perhaps son of John A.,
Principal of the Univ. of Edinburgh;
M.A. (Edinburgh, 23rd July 1631); pres.
by Charles I. 10th May 1637. He was
commissioned by the General Assembly to
preach in the north-west of Ireland for
three months, and had a grant of 300
merks from Parliament, 22nd June 1644,
for his conveyance thither. He was settled
in Omagh, and outed in 1661. He marr.
Margaret Callendar, and had issue—John,
bapt. 4th June 1644.—[*Reg. Sec. Sig.*;
Reid's Ireland, ii., 363; *Edin. Reg. (Bapt.)*.]

HUGH HENDERSON [HENRYSON],
1638 min. in 1638; trans. to Dalry in
1639.

JOHN SEMPLE, was sometime pre-
centor in a church in Co. Down.
1646 He is said to have been called to
the ministry under the following circum-
stances. It was then the custom to begin
divine service with praise, and this con-
tinued until the minister had entered the
pulpit. On one occasion when a preacher
was late in arriving, S. "had an impulse"
to expound the psalm which had been sung,
and did it very well. He was shortly
afterwards permitted to go on exhorting
in private houses, and had many people
to hear him in different parts of the
country. He became min. of this parish
in 1646, and joined the Protesters in 1651.
On 23rd Aug. 1660 he was imprisoned in
Edinburgh Castle by order of the Com-
mittee of Estates, who also sequestered
his stipend, 25th Sept. following. He was
included in the list of rebels whom the
lieges were prohibited from receiving, 4th

Dec. 1666, and in a list of those who were
to be prosecuted, 15th Aug. 1667, as well
as in the list of those to whom pardon and
indemnity were granted, 1st Oct. following.
At the request of Alexander, Viscount Ken-
mure, he was granted indulgence here, 3rd
Sept. 1672; was fined, 10th July 1673, for
not observing the anniversary of the Re-
storation. When cited before the Privy
Council, 4th Aug. 1677, and threatened
with death or banishment, he replied, "He
is above that guides the gully [knife]; my
God will not let you either kill me or
banish me, but I will go home and die
in peace." He returned, preached in the
parish, and died soon afterwards, aged 75.
He left a considerable sum of money to the
poor of Kirkcudbright.—[*Wodrow's Hist.*,
ii., 348; *War Committee of Kirkcudbright*;
Scot. Presb. Elog.]

NORMAN MACKENZIE, M.A.; adm.
1664 before 25th Oct. 1664; trans. to
Whitern after 1st Nov. 1665.

DAVID M'QUERNE, M.A.; adm. be-
1668 tween 26th April and 30th Oct.
1666; trans. to Kirkmabreck be-
tween 28th April and 27th Oct. 1668.

THOMAS COLDEN, M.A. (St An-
1669 drews 1657); coll. to Dalmeny in
1657; trans. and adm. between 29th
April and 5th Oct. 1669; still min. March
1672, when he made renunciation of the
twenty-shilling lands of Tarbrax, which he
and his wife, Lucie Mudie, widow of Lewis
Lawson, had acquired, Aug. 1669.—[*New
Gen. Reg. Sasines*, xxiii., xxix.; *G. R.
Inhib.*, 15th March 1681.]

1672 JOHN SEMPLE (*supra*).

[WILLIAM ERSKINE, M.A.; min. of
1672 Girthon, who had been deprived in
1662; was granted indulgence here
by the Privy Council 3rd Sept. 1672. It
is doubtful whether he accepted the charge.
Letters of intercommuning were passed
against him 6th Aug. 1675, and after an
imprisonment of three years at Stirling
Castle, he was set at liberty, Aug. 1679.
He was again imprisoned in Stirling, and
ordered to be removed to Blackness in

1682. After being confined there and in other places for seven years, he petitioned the Privy Council, 8th April 1684, "for their compassion, and was allowed to walk about the castle, and take the air with a keeper." He became min. of the Tron Parish, Edinburgh, 1687.—[Wodrow's *Hist.*, ii. 286, iii. 406, iv. 38.]

JOHN GILCHRIST, was adm. to this
1677 parish by John Welsh, min. of Kirkpatrick-Irongray, but was soon after deprived by the Privy Council, and imprisoned in Edinburgh.—[Wodrow's *Hist.*, ii., 348; *War Committee of Kirkcudbright.*]

PETER PEIRSON, M.A. (Edinburgh
1684 1666); adm. to Carmichael before 29th Sept. 1669; min. here in 1684. He was shot dead in his manse in Nov. of that year (perhaps in self-defence), by a parishioner, said to be James M'Michael. The latter and another had been deputed to request P. to refrain from reporting against those who were friendly to the Covenant. For this murderous act, the Privy Council ordered the parish to be prosecuted, 17th Jan. 1688. P. was aged 39, and unmarr.—[Wodrow's *Hist.*, iv., 196; Fountainhall's *Diary*; *List of Disorderly*; *Rule's Sec. Vindication.*]

ALEXANDER STEPHEN, M.A. (King's
1688 College, Aberdeen, 14th July 1674); min. about 1688; outed in 1689. He became chaplain on H.M.S. *Sunderland*, and died on board her at Jamaica, 24th May 1696. He marr. Mary Jolly, who survived him, and had three children alive in 1700.—[*Charity Papers*; *MS. Acc. of Min.*, 1689; *Wodrow MSS.*]

ANDREW CAMERON, ord. 15th April
1690 1690; trans. to Kirkcudbright between 15th Jan. and 2nd April 1693.

JOHN REID, M.A. (Glasgow); licen. by
1694 Presb. of Glasgow 12th July 1693; min. of this parish in 1694; died 18th March 1737. He presented a bell to the church in 1723. He marr. (1) Janet Richardson (died 31st Dec. 1730), widow of William Galloway of Lipnoch; (2) Janet

Fisher, who survived him, and marr. again.

ANDREW REID, educated at Univ. of
1737 Glasgow; licen. by Presb. of Wigtown 28th Aug. 1722; called 17th Sept. 1736; pres. by Sir Thomas Gordon of Earlston, Bart., 6th April, and ord. 5th May 1737. He died 28th Oct. 1753, aged 55. He marr. 24th Jan. 1740, Margaret (died 29th July 1793), daugh. of Thomas Campbell, min. of Monigaff, and had issue—Thomas, born 25th July 1742; John, born 15th Sept. 1744; Patrick, born 21st June 1746; Ebenezer, born 10th Jan. 1750.—[*Tombst.*]

WILLIAM BOYD, educated at Univ.
1758 of Glasgow; licen. by Presb. of Kirkcudbright 8th June 1753; pres. by Thomas Gordon of Earlston April 1754; ord. (after reference to the General Assembly) 24th Feb. 1756; died 5th Feb. 1772. He marr. 14th Jan. 1758, Janet (died at Clackmannan, *s.p.*, 27th Oct. 1784), daugh. of John Masterton of Wester Grange.—[*Morren's Annals*, ii., 66.]

JOHN CAMPBELL, M.A. (St Andrews
1773 1761); licen. by Presb. of Kirkcudbright 3rd June 1772; schoolmaster of St John's, Dalry; pres. by George III. 3rd July 1772; ord. 25th March 1773; died 28th May 1780. He marr. Margaret Hair, who died at Philadelphia, U.S.A., 15th May 1824, and had issue—Quentin, born 1st Dec. 1773; Thomas; Agnes.

SAMUEL SMITH, ord. 28th Aug. 1783;
1783 trans. to Borgue 20th Sept. 1792.

ROBERT GORDON, pres. by George
1793 III.; ord. 29th Aug. 1793; trans. to Girthon 24th Dec. 1801.

HENRY CORREY [CURRIE, or
1802 CURROR], born 1761, a native of Kinross-shire; licen. by Presb. of Glasgow 27th March 1793; pres. by Patrick Heron of Heron 20th March, and ord. 23rd Sept. 1802; died after having officiated at a marriage, 9th Dec. 1825. He marr. 10th Jan. 1812, Isabella Hastings (died at Glencuce, 16th Nov. 1869, aged 105), widow of —Moffat of Muirbrock.—[*Tombst.*]

THOMAS CANNAN, born 1788, a
 1828 native of Galloway; tutor in the
 family of Sir William Ogilvie; licen.
 by Presb. of Forfar 3rd April 1816; ord.
 to Spynie 17th Sept. 1818; pres. by George
 IV. 18th April, trans. and adm. 7th Sept.
 1826; died 19th Dec. 1832. He marr. 20th
 Oct. 1818, Margaret (died 7th March 1882),
 daugh. of David Kennedy of Knocknalling,
 and had issue—Mary Louisa, born 31st
 July 1819, died at The Shieling, Grasmere,
 1910 [vide "In Memoriam," *The Gallowidian*,
 1912]; Agnes, born 10th April 1821; James,
 merchant, Manchester, born 1st April 1823;
 Margaret Watt, born 18th Sept. 1824;
 David Alexander, born 3rd April 1826;
 John Kennedy, born 27th March 1828;
 Thomas Robert Story, merchant, Man-
 chester, born 10th Jan. 1830; Henry
 M'Connel, born 17th Oct. 1831, died 29th
 May 1833.—[Vide *Robert Story of Ros-
 neath; Tombst.*]

DAVID WELSH, born Dalmellington,
 1838 5th July 1787, second son of David
 W.; educated at Univ. of Glasgow;
 tutor in the family of Brigadier-General
 Walker of Bowland; licen. by Presb. of
 Lauder 3rd July 1821; ord. 31st July 1822
 chaplain to General Walker on his appoint-
 ment as Governor of St Helena; pres. by
 William Forbes of Callander, and adm.
 22nd Aug. 1833; died unmarr., 22nd Nov.
 1869. Publication—Account of the Parish
 (*New Stat. Acc.*, iv.).

JOHN M'KAY CANDLISH, born New
 1869 Galloway, 13th Jan. 1843, son of
 William C., bank agent, and Ann
 Churchill Douglas; educated at Kells
 Parish School, New Galloway, and Univ.
 of Edinburgh; licen. by Presb. of Kirkcud-
 bright 1st Aug. 1866; ord. (assistant and
 successor) 28th Jan. 1869; died unmarr.,
 7th March 1892.

PETER CHARLES FINDLAY, born
 1881 Wardhouse, Kennethmont, Aber-
 deenshire, 2nd Aug. 1850, son of
 William F. and Isabella Duncan; edu-
 cated at Kennethmont Parish School,
 Grammar School, Old Aberdeen, and Univ.
 of Aberdeen; M.A. (1876), B.D. (1879);
 licen. by Presb. of Aberdeen 7th May 1879;

assistant at St Clement's Parish, Aberdeen,
 and Kinneff, Kincardineshire; ord. to
 Rothes 12th Feb. 1880; trans. and adm.
 (assistant and successor) 5th Oct. 1881;
 dem. 16th May 1913. Marr. 8th Dec.
 1896, Barbara Stuart, daugh. of Murdoch
 Macleod, Aberdeen, and Ann Craik.

GEORGE FERRIER ANDREW MAC-
 1913 NAUGHTON, born Auchinleck,
 Ayrshire, 4th Jan. 1855, son of
 James M. and Ellen Ferrier; educated
 at Ayr Academy, Stewarston Public School,
 and Univ. of Glasgow; M.A. (1880); licen.
 by Presb. of Ayr 6th July 1881; assistant
 at Hillhead (Glasgow), Wallacetown (Ayr),
 and St Mungo's (Glasgow). The General
 Assembly of 1890 having, on the petition
 of certain heritors and parishioners, come
 to an arrangement by which, under certain
 conditions, Mr Findlay "agreed to reside
 out of the parish, the sole charge of the
 parish being committed to an ordained as-
 sistant to be appointed by the congregation
 under the supervision of the Presbytery,"
 Mr M. was ord. 18th Sept. 1900. On Mr
 Finlay's demission in 1913, he was elected
 to the full charge, and adm. 7th Aug. 1913.
 Marr. 7th April 1891, Margaret (died 6th
 June 1906), daugh. of John Anderson,
 Glasgow, and Margaret Finlayson, and has
 issue—John, Royal Trust Co., Montreal,
 Canada, lieut. 42nd Canadian Highlanders,
 born 20th Feb. 1892; George Stewart
 Burns, C.A., Glasgow, born 13th June
 1894. Publication—English translation of
 the Latin hymn, *Jesu dulcis memoria*, set
 to music by A. L. Peace, Mus.D., vide
 No. 120 *The Scottish Anthem Book* (Edin-
 burgh, 1892).

CASTLE-DOUGLAS (Q.S.).

[In 1866 a mission station was begun in
 the Town Hall, Castle-Douglas, for the town
 people, owing to the distance of the parish
 church at Kelton. A site for a church was
 given by Sir George Abercromby of Birken-
 bog and Forglen, Bart., and a church was
 opened in 1869. The parish of Castle-
 Douglas was disjoined *quoad sacra* from

Kelton and Crossmichael, and erected by Decree of the Court of Teinds 1st Dec. 1873.]

JAMES LILLIE, M.A.; licentiate of the
1866 Presb. of Caithness; had charge of the mission church from 1866 to 1872. He was afterwards a chaplain in India.

GEORGE WALKER, born Aberdeen,
1874 18th Feb. 1842, son of William W., merchant burghess there, and Amelia Duthie; educated at Aberdeen Grammar School (dux), Marischal College, and Univ. of Aberdeen, M.A. (1861), B.D. (1868), and at Berlin; licen. by Presb. of Aberdeen 17th Oct. 1865; assistant at Kingsbarns, and St Andrews-Lhanbryd; app. to Castle-Douglas Mission May 1872; pres. by the trustees as first min.; ord. 12th Feb. 1874; clerk of Presb., 1874-1914; chaplain of the Galloway Rifles, 1875-1908; V.D., D.D. (St Andrews 1916); dem. 11th Nov. 1914. Marr. 24th Sept. 1885, Mary (died 13th May 1913), daugh. of William Murdoch, solicitor, Huntly, and has issue—William Robert, M.A. (Edinburgh), LL.B. (Edinburgh), advocate, born 30th Jan. 1887. Publications—*Sermon on late Samuel Cowan, Minister of Kelton* (Castle-Douglas, 1886); *Christian Patriotism; or, National Defence a Religious Duty* (Aberdeen, 1904); *Britain's One Clear Call* (Castle-Douglas, 1914); *For the Great Cause: Some Bits of Spiritual Munition Work* (Aberdeen, 1915).

LUKE M'QUITTY, born Ballymena,
1915 Co. Antrim, 28th Aug. 1881, son of George M. and Frances Montgomery; educated at Ballymena Model School, Gracehill Academy, Ballymena Grammar School, Queen's College, and Presbyterian College, Belfast; B.A. (Royal Univ. of Ireland 1901); licen. by Presb. of Ballymena 13th Dec. 1904; assistant at Newtonbreda, Belfast, 1904-7; ord. to Templepatrick 19th Nov. 1907; trans. and adm. 6th May 1915. Marr. 14th Oct. 1908, Floranna Thompson Harvey, and has issue—Flora Louisa, born 25th April 1910; George, born 5th Jan. 1913; Frances Margaret, born 5th May 1914; Grace Rosemary, born 13th Oct. 1915.

CORSOCK (Q.S.).

[Disjoined from Balmaclellan and Parton (Presb. of Kirkcudbright), and Kirkpatrick-Durham (Presb. of Dumfries), and attached by decree of the General Assembly to Presb. of Kirkcudbright. Services were begun in Drumhughy Schoolroom, and in 1839 a church was built after the design of a chapel at Wharton, in Cheshire, on a site given by Captain, Fletcher of Corsock. The parish was erected *quoad sacra* in 1863.]

WILLIAM CORSON, 1839 to 1844
1839 [afterwards of Girvan].

JOHN MILLIGAN, M.A., 1845 to 1855
1845 [afterwards of Twynholm].

JOHN THOMSON, M.A., 1855 to 1858.
1855 [He emigrated to New Zealand, where he became a member of the Legislative Assembly.]

JOHN ALLAN HUNTER PATON,
1858 1858 to 1861 [afterwards of Dud-
dingston].

JOSEPH BURNET, 1861 [afterwards
1861 min. of St Andrew's Church, Col-
ombo, Ceylon].

GEORGE STURROCK, born Kirkden,
1861 Forfarshire, 18th Feb. 1832, son of George S.; educated at Kirkden School and King's College, Aberdeen; assistant schoolmaster of Tyrie, Aberdeenshire; licen. by Presb. of Aberdeen 7th May 1861; assistant at North Parish, Aberdeen; took charge of Corsock Mission in 1861; app. first min., and ord. 20th Aug. 1863; died 3rd May 1902. He marr. 20th Oct. 1863, Catherine (died 31st May 1900), daugh. of Charles Stewart, Aberdeen, and had issue—Margaret Mary, born 26th July 1864; Charles Stewart, born 30th Dec. 1865; died at Melbourne, Victoria, 5th May 1885; George Steven, born 10th Oct. 1871, died 8th March 1872; George Steven, born 26th March 1875. Publication—*Corsock Parish Church* (Castle-Douglas, n.d.).