Their History and Their Place-Names
(Being a Compendium of Information on the MacMillans, the MacSweens, the Campbells, The MacNeills, the MacAllisters, the MacTavishes, the MacIlvernocks (or Grahams), and Others in Knapdale.

by
Somerled Macmillan, Bard and Historian
of the Clan MacMillan
FAMILIES OF KNAPDALE

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Bard and Historian

of

THE CLAN MACMILLAN

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PREFACE

This brochure has been specially written for MacMillans attending the Clan Rally at Asheville, North Carolina this summer, and it goes out with the sincere good wishes of the author. It should have a special appeal to Robert Leroy McMillan, our esteemed President, and to his family and kinsfolk belonging to the Knapdale group in North and South Carolina. However, there is much in it to commend the interest of others outwith our clan, particularly to MacDonals, MacNeils and Campbells, for, after all, they, too, had a share in making the history of Knapdale.

Unfortunately, the past history of Knapdale has been sadly neglected and almost forgotten, and it was with great difficulty, not to mention time and patient research, that the writer was able to rescue a few fragments from oblivion. However, even in this brief sketch one is conscious that Knapdale was once more important than it is now, for it was the very hub of early civilisation and culture in Scotland in the bygone ages. Indeed, the soil of this small district is sacred, for the writer knows of no other place in Scotland or outside of it so rich in hagiography. One only needs to look at the place-names to see the names of the saints enshrined in them. The very name Knapdale is practically synonymous with MacMillan, and although centuries have passed since our chiefs held this proud possession, nevertheless, they will always be associated with it as long as the MacMillan Cross, the tiny chapel of Kilmore, and MacMillan's Tower at Castle Sween defy the ravages of time.

The writer desires to thank Edward B. McMillan and members of his staff for time and labour freely given, and were it not for his keen interest and kindness this booklet would still be in manuscript form, or, in all-probability it might never have been written. In conclusion, the author craves your generous indulgence to adopt a blind eye to any blemish and look for those things which will ensure profit and delight.

7 High Calside,
Paisley, Renfrewshire
Scotland
28th April, 1960

SOMERLED MACMILLAN
FAMILIES OF KNAPODALE

Knapdale is the name of a district in Mid Argyll. Its ancient bounds originally extended from Crinan, in the north-west, to Lochgilphead, in the north-east, and followed the coastline down to Gour on the east side of Kintyre, across to Rhunahaorine on the west side of the peninsula. To-day, its southern extremity extends to the northern shore of East and West Loch Tarbert.

The name of the district in Gaelic is Cnapadal, which is obviously borrowed from the Norse Knappa-dair, and means 'knobdale'. This name is most descriptive of the whole district owing to the peculiar shape of the hills, especially when seen at a distance, either by land or sea. The dale follows the course of Abhainn Mhor or Big River.

It was here that the Dalriadic Scots had an early settlement on the west shore of Loch Sween prior to making Dunadd their capital. In 560 A.D. Conall, King of Dalriada and nephew of Gobann, dwelt in a fortress on the site where the present Castle Sween stands. It is believed that St. Columba actually resided with this king for a time and later received Iona as a gift from him, which was probably confirmed by Brude, King of the Picts. Close to the castle there is a well, which was known to an older generation as 'St. Columba's Well.' They firmly believed that it had the best drinking water in the whole of Argyll. Not far from Kenlochiltsport, at a place called Owu, there is a cave chapel which has an altar and font cut in the rock with a cross carved above. Tradition affirms that this primitive place of worship was used by St. Columba during the time of his sojourn in Knapdale. At that time the part of Argyll stretching from the River Add to the Mull of Kintyre was known as Kintyre, for it was only with the coming of the Norsemen that the district under our consideration came to be known as Knapdale.
However, long before the coming of the Dalriadic Scots from Ireland there lived a people throughout the entire area who were known to the Romans as the Epidii or 'horse-tribe.' We have good reason to believe that their descendants are the MacEachrans or 'sons of the horse-lords', once numerous in Craignish and the Mull of Kintyre.

The soil of Knapdale is pretty poor for growing crops but appears to be ideally suited for grazing. At one time it was famous throughout the Highlands for breeding horses, and this is borne out by an old saying: “Peumalaidh do chur do Chnapadal far a bheil la a’ cur thu anns na h-îch” (“You must be sent to Knapdale where they put sense into the horses”). On the other hand, the natives of South Uist did not think there was much wealth in Knapdale when they said -- “Tha fo lìc ann an Cìrcedal gìbh na’s fhèarr na Chnapadal” (“There is under a tombstone in Kirkdale a better gift than Knapdale”).

The colonization of the Dalriadic Scots was followed by a zealous band of missionaries from different parts of Ireland who had a profound influence over their own countrymen, so much so that even after a thousand years have gone their names are still enshrined in the toponymy of those places where they had laboured faithfully. One is astounded at the number of missionaries who visited Knapdale. There, we find the name of St. Cormac in Kilmaccharmick; St. Maol-Rubha in Kilmore (now Kilmory); St. Bride in Kilbride; St. Mo Luag in Kilmoreag; St. Barry in Kilberry; St. Angus in Kilanish; St. Camnoc in Kilchamaig; St. Colman Eile in Kilcolmoneill; St. Martin in Eilean Mhartainn; St. Bacoich in Suidhe Bhacaich; and St. Gumoc in Kilchumanaig. Others not so easily recognised are St. Beccan in Cruach Gilie-Bheagain; St. Necthan in Ardanackaig; and St. Blean in Lochan a’ Ghille-Bhliathain. Two other saints are also commemorated in the surnames of two families once numerous in Knapdale. They are MacIvernoch (now Graham), from the Gaelic -- “MacGhilleMhaearnaig” (“Son of the Servant of St. Mernoc”), and MacGurom, from the Gaelic -- “MacGhilleGhuilmein” (“Son of the Servant of St. Gorman”).

The Norse settlement of Knapdale took place during the second half of the ninth century. Traces of their language are to be found in a number of place-names, such as Skipness, Ormsary, Ulva, Fascadale and Danna. It is obvious from the last name that those Scandinavian settlers were a Danish stock. Indeed, tradition has it that Sween, King of Denmark, who died in 1004, built Castle Sween on the site of an earlier fortres, but evidence shows that the castle is more likely to have derived its name from Subhne Ruadh (Red-haired Sween), of royal Dalriadic stock, who owned it at the end of the twelfth century.

It was during the twelfth century that the Norsemen were driven out of Kintyre and Knapdale by Somhairle Mor mac Ghille-Bhrighde (Great Somerled, son of Gilbride). We have every reason to believe that he received considerable support from his kinsman Sween, son of Dunslebhe, who held extensive lands in Glassary, Knapdale, Cowal and Kintyre.

THE MACSWEEN LORDS OF KNAJDAL

The history of the ancient Lords of Knapdale has either been overlooked or misunderstood by modern historiographers. The MacSweens claim descent from Caithbre Riada, the eldest son of Conaire I., King of Ireland, and his wife Sadbh (daughter of Conn of the Hundred Battles). From the well-known Nial Glun-Dubh (Black-Knee), High King of Ireland, who was slain by the Danes in 917 A.D., the descent ran -- Donald of Armangh, King of Ireland; Murchertach, an Ulster chief; Flaitheartailgh; Aedh Athcamh, Chief of Tyrone, Anradan; and Aedh Alain (Hugh Splendid), who died in 1047. Aedh Alain had a son called Dunslebhe (progenitor of the MacLays of Livingstones), and from the latter's son Subbhne or Sween, sprang the MacSweens.

Sween's lands were well fortified. Castle Sween dominating the western sea-board and aptly called 'the Key of Knapdale', also Skipness Castle, built by him, which dominated the eastern approaches to his lands in the Terbert and Cowal areas. One of Sween's daughters married Sir Colin Campbell of Loch Awe, by whom she had Iver, progenitor of the MacIvers of Askinish in Glassary, and Tavish, progenitor of the MacTavishes of Dunardery in North Knapdale. In order to make a more powerful alliance, Campbell repudiated Sween's daughter. This naturally led to a feud between the Campbells and the MacSweens. The lady, deserted by her husband, was remarried to MacLachlan and received as a dowry from her father all his lands in Glassary,
John, 3rd Lord of Knapdale, supported King Edward I of England and his son, and this only heightened the enmity already existing between him and the Campbells. Such a move also incurred enmity between him and Robert Bruce, who later stripped him of his lands in Knapdale.

In 1301, John MacSween sailed with a fleet in the service of King Edward I, calling at Bute and Kintyre in company of Sir Hugh Bissett and Angus MacDonald of Islay. A little later he wrote to the King of England, complaining that he had visited his own lands in Knapdale, which King Edward had given him by letters patent, and had found them occupied by John (MacDougall) of Argyll and Sir John Menteith, with a vast force of men. Shortly before 1310 John MacSween was deprived of his lands on account of his opposition to Bruce, who granted them to Menteith, the betrayer of Sir William Wallace.

In 1310, King Edward II of England, in order that John MacSween and his brothers might render themselves more hateful to John of Menteith, the king’s enemy, and to his other enemies in Scotland, granted to them the whole of the lands in Knapdale which belonged to their ancestors, ‘if they are able to recover them from their enemies.’ Needless to say, the MacSweens were unable to recover their lost estates in Knapdale. A grandson of John bearing the same Christian name, whose father was called Ewen, changed his name to MacEwen and quietly retiring to Ottir in Gowail, he became the progenitor of the MacEwens of Ottir.

Knapdale Under the Stewarts of Menteith

Walter Stewart, called Balloch, or Speckled, third son of Walter, third high steward of Scotland, having married Mary, the younger sister of the Countess of Menteith, laid claim to the Earlom of Menteith in right of his wife, and by favour of the Estates of the Realm, obtained it, in 1258, and kept it.

In 1262 he received from Dugall MacSween the gift of lands in Skipness, and, in 1292, those lands in Knapdale were named in an ordinance of King John Balliol.

He had two sons who assumed the name of Menteith, although they retained the Stewart Coat of Arms; Alexander, who
succeeded his father to the earldom, and John de Menteith of Ruske, whose name appears in history as the betrayer of Sir William Wallace. He altered the Stewart fesse into a band, and the colours to sable and argent.

On 9th August 1297, Sir John Menteith was released from an English prison on condition of serving with the English against the French. In 1305 he was appointed keeper of Dumbarton Castle by King Edward I, and the same year, according to tradition, he treacherously delivered over the heroic Wallace into the hands of the English. He held the Castle of Dumbarton for the English till 1309, and then took sides with Bruce, who granted him the lands of Knapdale. He died in 1323 and was succeeded by his son, Sir John Menteith, Lord of Arran and Knapdale.

In 1353, Sir John Menteith made Archibald Campbell of Loch Awe, hereditary keeper of Castle Sween, with a considerable grant of lands in North Knapdale. Five years later he deposed the greater part of South Knapdale to the Earl of Argyll, and on his death, in 1360, the rest of Knapdale fell to the Crown.

KNAPDALE UNDER THE LORDS OF THE ISLES

The first person to bear the renowned title of 'Lord of the Isles' was John, son of Angus Og MacDonald of Islay, the friend and staunch supporter of King Robert Bruce, who was awarded some of the former possessions belonging to the MacDougalls before 1308. Unlike his father, he fell foul of the Scottish Crown, as did his son, grandson, and great-grandson after him. The first signs of such antagonism began to appear when Bruce's nephew, Randolph, Earl of Moray, acted as Regent during the minority of King David II. Rather than come to some understanding over a mutual adjustment of his lands he only aggravated the situation by his refusal and matters became worse when he took sides with Edward Balliol.

On Thursday, 12th September 1335, John received an Indenture from Edward Balliol at Perth, wherein he was granted, among other possessions, the lands of Knapdale, which had to be confirmed by King Edward III of England.

In 1341, King David II returned to Scotland from France, and on 12th June 1343, he issued John of the Isles a Charter to that previously granted by Edward Balliol and endorsed by the English King. This new Charter included Duror, Glencoe, Movern, Jura, Coll and Tiree, but Skye, Kintyre, Knapdale and Ardnamurchan are not mentioned. The fact that Knapdale was not included may be one of the reasons why John made no effort to take possession of it during Menteith's lifetime.

John of the Isles was married twice. By Amy MacRury, his first wife, he obtained extensive possessions in the north-west of Scotland, but later repudiated her for Margaret, daughter of King Robert II in 1350. Four years later he assumed the title of Dominus Insularum or Lord of the Isles.

After the death of Sir John Menteith, in 1360, John, 1st Lord of the Isles, took steps to possess Knapdale and wrest it from the Campbells, and he employed the MacMillans for this purpose.

In 1376, King Robert II granted to John, 1st Lord of the Isles, and to Margaret, his wife, half of his lands in Knapdale (Reg. Mag. Sig. p.130; Robertson's Index, p.118, No. 14). John died about the year 1385 and was succeeded by Donald, the eldest son by his second wife.

Donald, 2nd Lord of the Isles, married Mary, daughter of Sir William Leslie and Euphemia, Countess of Ross, and sought to claim the said earldom in his wife's name who was heretrix of Ross and Skye. The Duke of Albany, then acting as Regent, coveted the earldom for his own son. This led to a show of strength which brought about the disastrous battle of Harlaw on 24th July 1411. Many lives were lost on both sides and among the slain from Knapdale was the Chief of the MacMillans. The following year, the Regent pressed Donald hard and compelled him to come to terms. A settlement was concluded at Lochgilphead when Donald made submission and withdrew his claims to the Earldom of Ross. He died in 1423 and was succeeded by his eldest son --

Alexander, 3rd Lord of the Isles and Earl of Ross, who, like his father, was continually coming to blows with the Crown, between 1425 and 1428 he was arrested by the king and released from prison after a short period of detention. After his release he
raised an army, advanced on Inverness, burning the town, but was unable to take Inverness Castle. He was forced to withdraw to Lochaber where he intended to fight the king's forces, but on the eve of battle some of his vassals abandoned his side, and, with depleted forces, he was compelled to seek shelter in a more inaccessible part of his domain. It was most foolhardy of him to challenge the authority of King James I. He sent a message to the king offering to make peace, just as if he had been a king himself. James told him in no uncertain manner that he must come and submit himself to his mercy. Shortly after this summons Alexander presented himself in a most peculiar and undignified way, for, while the king and his nobles were attending worship in Holyrood Church, Edinburgh, he drew near only attired in his shirt and drawers, in a cringing manner he fell on his knees before the king in supplication, and held out his sword with the point in his own hand, to show that James might slay him if he so desired. Instead, the king took pity on him and sent him as a prisoner to Tantallon Castle for a short period. During his confinement Alexander's cousin, Donald Balloch, rose up in rebellion against the king. James took the necessary precautions, seized Alexander's lands in Knapdale, in 1439, and appointed Alexander Montgomery of Ardrossan and Sir Robert Cunningham of Kilmaurs to act as joint-wardens of the district for seven years. This was done with the king's intention of making peace with the inhabitants. The joint-wardens were given the liberty of levying the farms of those lands for their own use. This, however, was only a temporary measure and it was not long until Alexander had his lands restored to him.

After the murder of King James I, in 1437, there was great unrest throughout the Lordship of the Isles. A number of Alexander's followers invaded and caused chaos throughout the shire of Lennox (now Dunbarton). About the year 1443 the men of Knapdale and Kintyre invaded the island of Arran, which they ravaged so seriously that during the years 1445, 1446, and 1447 the taxes due to be paid to the Exchequer were only a mere fraction of what was usually paid in respect of the lands in time of peace. The writer of this account describes the men of Knapdale and Kintyre as 'accursed invaders.' Alexander died in 1448 and was succeeded by his eldest son —

John, 4th Lord of the Isles and Earl of Ross, who had the misfortune of making an alliance with James, 9th Earl of Douglas, and this not only proved his undoing but led to the forfeiture of the Earldom of Ross and the Lordship of the Isles. In April 1453, Douglas was appointed to act as one of the King's Commissioners in negotiating a truce with England, but before going there he paid the Lord of the Isles a secret visit the month following, either at Castle Sween, or, what seems more likely, on the tiny islet in West Loch Tarbert called Eilean da Ghallagair. It is recorded that Douglas brought him 'right great' gifts of clothes, wine, silk, English cloth and silver, and received in return presents of 'mantles.' No doubt, this dainty sop was given with a view to obtaining support from the Lord of the Isles in his treasonable designs against the Scottish Crown. A year later the same earl was engaged in a treasonable exchange with the Yorkist party in England which welcomed the support of Douglas, mainly because their rivals, the Lancastrians, as rightful occupants of the English throne, received support from the King of Scots, either as a matter of policy, or as a sense of duty of one royal house to another.

In 1462, a treaty was signed by which the Lord of the Isles and Donald Balloch of Dunnyveg and the Glens of Antrim agreed to become vassals of King Edward IV, and to support the Yorkist cause in Scotland. The whole country north of the Forth was to be divided equally between the Earl of Douglas, the Lord of the Isles, and Donald Balloch, while Douglas' former possessions in the South of Scotland were to be restored to him.

This treaty, however, could not be carried out without waging war against the King of Scots, and so the Lord of the Isles began operations by assuming sovereign power in the Sherifdoms of Inverness and Nairn. The Crown dues were collected in his name, and Angus Og, his son, acted as his Lieutenant.

Meanwhile the policy of King Edward IV was changing, and circumstances had arisen which gave the Yorkist party power at the Scottish Court without having to resort to force. This meant that the measures envisaged by the treaty appeared no longer necessary so far as the English were concerned. Nevertheless, the Lord of the Isles continued to usurp royal authority in the North un molested for twelve years.

In 1474, negotiations for a marriage between King James III's infant son and the daughter of King Edward IV seems to have brought the treaty to light with dire consequences. Forthwith, the Lord of
the Isles was summoned before Parliament in Edinburgh and charged with treason. On his failure to appear, sentence of forfeiture was passed against him in 1475.

Colin, 1st Earl of Argyll, was given powers to execute the sentence. The Lord of the Isles now realised that he was not in a position to withstand the concentrated might of Scotland, but the King was equally conscious of the fact that execution of the forfeiture would be a heavy task. John, therefore, accepted a surrender on terms in 1476. He was made to give up the Earldom of Ross, the Sherifdoms of Inverness and Nairn, and the districts of Knapdale and Kintyre, to the Crown. The rest of his former possessions were regranted to him and he was created a Peer of Parliament with the title of Lord of the Isles. In default of legitimate issue, Angus, his natural son, was recognised as heir. A marriage was arranged between Angus and Argyll’s daughter, an event which Argyll undoubtedly considered of potential advantage to his family, and which the King could regard as a good stroke of public policy in that he could reckon on Campbell influence to hold in check the proud Independent spirit of the House of Islay.

The various branches of Clan Donald did not take kindly to the submission of the Lord of the Isles, especially the powerful southern branch. Troubles in Kintyre resulted in a summons of the Lord of the Isles before Parliament in 1478, when John so successfully represented the state of feeling among his dependents, that Kintyre and Knapdale were restored to him for life. This fact is brought out in a charter dated 1481 wherein he received from King James III the following lands in Knapdale — “the lands of Barmore, Caralane, Achnafey, Strondow, Glenmelane, Glenroele (Glenrrob?) , Largbahan, Barneellane, Kowildinoch, Giannafeoch, Ardpatrick, Armdensys, Largnahowslyn, Ferleyngloch, Crevey, and Drumnamowkloch, extending to 31 marks; Kilmolowok, 4 marks; Drumdrishok, 2 marks; Schengart, 4 marks; Bararoreghane, 4 marks; Clachbrek, 2 marks; and Barlonkyrt, 4 marks — all claimed by Makelane and Makene — in the lordship of Knapdale.” (Reg. Sec. Sig. Vol. 1, fol. 101)

Angus was very popular with those recalcitrants within the Lordship of the Isles who made him their leader, and it was not long until he was in open rebellion against both his father and the King.

A quarrel with Kenneth MacKenzie, the Master of Kintail, was used as a pretext by Angus for attempting to recover Ross. In this attempt he proved unsuccessful, but all efforts at pacification failed. John was forced to take the field against his son. About the year 1484 his fleet was destroyed by that of Angus at the Battle of Bloody Bay, near Tobermory, Mull. By way of retaliation, Angus' son, Donald, was kidnapped by the Earl of Atholl and handed over to Argyll, who placed him in safe keeping at Ardconnel Castle on Loch Awe, Angus swiftly retaliated, raided Atholl and carried off the Earl and Countess while they were at Mass in the Church of St. Bridget at Blair. He was induced to release them a year later and do penance for the violation of the sanctuary, but, in 1490, he invaded Ross again. There, he was treacherously slain by an Irish harper who was paid to carry out the deed.

Alexander MacDonald of Lochais, a first cousin of Angus, took over the leadership of the insurgents. He succeeded in taking Inverness, but was defeated by the MacKenzie and the MacRaeas at the famous Battle of Park, in 1491.

The Lord of the Isles was by this time an old man and obviously unfit to control the situation. Seventeen years of continual disorder had been the outcome of the settlement of 1476. King James IV, who had come to the throne in 1488, was determined to put an end to the troubles and disturbances of the peace in the West. In 1493, all the affairs of the Isles were brought before Parliament and the Lord of the Isles once more declared forfeit. The Lordship of the Isles virtually passed away and with it much of the Celtic culture fostered within its domain during the one hundred and thirty-nine years of its existence.

Now, although the Lords of the Isles were the Superiors of Knapdale, their estates were there held by the MacMillans and the MacNeill as in lieu of sword-service. It is only fitting that some mention be made of them and the MacAllisters, who were given land in South Knapdale near the close of the Lordship of the Isles.

THE MACMILLANS OF KNAP

The MacMillans had earlier lost their lands on Loch Tayside when David II granted them to a court favourite called Chalmers. For a time they stoutly resisted expulsion, but when the Sheriff
threatened them with fire and sword they very reluctantly gave up the Barony of Lawers which they had held for two hundred years. Their arrival in Knapdale in 1366 when John, 1st Lord of the Isles, employed them in sword-service against the Campbells. It was probably about this period when the MacMillans routed the MacIvers. Tradition has it that the Clan Iver employed a witch called Mor (Sarah) to assist them against the MacMillans and when occult powers and diablerie failed they attributed their defeat to the fact that it was because they had not time to put Sarah on her horse. This fight is said to have taken place at Lergnamhunston.

Malcolm, son of John, son of Maolmuire, was the first MacMillan Chief of Knap, and for his great prowess he was designated in Gaelic 'MacMhaolain Mor a' Chnaip' (Great MacMillan of Knap). His possessions included Dunmore, Kilchamaig on the opposite side of West Loch Tarbert, also Tiretigan and Kilberry. It was on the Eiteag, a rock near the shore and down from Tiretigan that the 'Cour', or 'Right' of the MacMillans was engraved, Malcolm had several sons. John, the eldest son, lived at Kilchamaig. Life there does not appear to have been too happy for him owing to a troublesome neighbour called Marralach Mor, who proved quite a menace to the community. Under great provocation, young MacMillan slew him and was compelled to flee with six of his clansmen to Lochaber. The MacMillans at this period do not appear entirely faultless, for tradition has it that they, too, were troublesome neighbours, hence the origin of the old Gaelic saying --

"Clearn 'ic 'illeimhaoil bho Chnapaile,--
Gheibh ias smachd no mothalachd."

"The Clan MacMillan of Knapdale,--
(Either) they'll find authority or resentment."

Malcolm Mor's death took place about the year 1376, when he was succeeded by his second son --

Malcolm Og, 2nd of Knap, of whom nothing is known beyond the fact that he succeeded his father and left a son and heir --

Lachlan, 3rd of Knap. In the Red Book of Clan Ranald mention is made that he was killed in action before the actual battle of Harlaw in 1411. The entry is as follows: "For there were four that went out of the army before any part of the main force went with them, viz. Tormoid (Norman) Macleoid and Torcuill his brother, Lochlunn mac Gillemhaoil (Lachlan MacMillan) and Giolla Padraig mac Ruaidhri (Patrick MacRury). Giolla Padraig mac Ruaidhri and Lochlunn mac Gillemhaoil were killed, but Tormoid and Torcuill escaped safe from the pursuit." Lachlan was succeeded by his son and heir --

Lachlan Og, 4th of Knap. The writer has good reason to believe that this Chief, when young, was sent to be fostered by MacCallum of Colagin, near Oban, and when he was not given an assurance of inheriting his father-in-law's property, a party of his clansmen were sent to wreak vengeance on old MacCallum. Lachlan Og had, at least, Alexander, his heir; Archibald Ban; and Eva. The story is told of how Archibald Ban attended a fair at Inveraray one day when, in a melee, he slew one of the Campbells and was hotly pursued by the relatives and friends of the dead man. As he drew near to old Inveraray Castle (built by Wonderful Colin in 1420) he decided there and then to seek shelter in the kitchen. Before long he had exchanged clothes with the baker and in this new guise he deceived his assailants. Thereafter, he was nicknamed 'Am Bacsdaill' ('The Baker'), and in this way his descendants came to be known as MacBaxter and latterly Baxter. Eva was the mistress of McIain of Ardnamurchan and by him she had a natural son called Iain Braysch MacInain. The latter was granted a lease of the Crown lands in Islay from King James IV in 1491, when he took a number of his mother's people to live there. Lachlan Og was chief when the lands of Knapdale were temporarily leased by the King to Alexander Montgomery of Ardrossan and Sir Robert Cunningham of Kilmours while Alexander, 3rd Lord of the Isles, was a prisoner in Tantallon Castle. We have good reason to believe that a number of MacMillans found their way down to Ayrshire through the help and influence of those Lowland gentlemen. It is also possible that Lachlan Og and his clansmen had some share in the raids on Lennox and Aran. He was succeeded by his son --

Alexander, 5th of Knap, who married Era, daughter of Hector Mac Torquill MacNeill, 1st of Taynish and Constable of Castle Sween, with issue -- Hector, his heir; Alexander; Malcolm; and Neil. After their marriage they went to live at Castle Sween and a new section was built for them which is still known as 'MacMillan's Tower.' Era received as her marriage dowry ten farms which covered the area extending from the Castle to Kenlochkillisport. Alexander, we are told, was not content with his sheepskin charter for those lands but preferred to have a charter engraved on a rock at the extremity of those bounds. The
little chapel at Kilmore is said to have been built by him and in all probability he was buried near the spot where the famous Cross was erected to his memory. However, he and his clan did not enjoy those new possessions for long, because it was towards the close of his life that Argyll was given the Constableship of Castle Sween with certain lands there in 1481. It is interesting to note that when certain lands listed were restored to John, 4th Lord of the Isles, in 1481, the names of Dunmore, Tireigean and Kilberry are not mentioned, and so it is feasible to conclude that they were still held of the Crown by the MacMillans. In 1494, the year after the forfeiture of the Lordship of the Isles, the MacMillans and other former vassals of the Lords of the Isles were granted charters for their lands from King James IV, but in 1499 those charters were suddenly revoked with no definite reason given. Alexander was succeeded by his eldest son --

Hector, 6th of Knap, who was chief of the clan when Argyll took over the whole of Knapdale. He is only mentioned indirectly in the patronymic of his grandson, Neil Glas. He was succeeded by his son --

Duncan, 7th of Knap, who is known to have had, at least, two sons -- Neil Glas, his heir; and John Roy, progenitor of the Glachbreck, Ballyaurgan and New Dunmore branches. He was succeeded by his eldest son --

Neil Glas, 8th of Knap, who was called upon to act as a witness after a series of disturbances caused by Alexander MacAlester of Loup and his followers in 1539, in those disturbances, certain families had been rated for their allegiance to the MacDonals camp rather than the King, and they also sought to take Argyll's life when he paid a visit to Craignagat in North Knapdale. Two MacMillans are included in the list of the disturbers of the peace and their names are given as Donald O'H (Ober) McMeane and Duncan, son of Neil Glas. Neil was succeeded by his son --

Duncan, 9th of Knap. It was probably during Duncan's lifetime that Colin Mor, second son of Archibald Campbell of Danna, was settled as the first Campbell laird of Kilberry. There is a tradition in that family that their ancestor came to take possession of Kilberry, riding on a white horse. MacMillan is believed to have challenged his right to Kilberry by inviting him to go down to the rock known as the 'Elteag' where he would see his ancient Knap charter engraved on the rock. Campbell told him that he was not interested in the rock-charter and could not care less since he had been granted the possession of Kilberry from Argyll himself. Duncan was succeeded by his son --

Donald, 10th of Knap. Little is known about him beyond the fact that he appeared as a witness to an Argyll charter at Tangy Loch on 2nd June, 1576. His patronymic is given thus -- "Donald McDonche vec mylen." He had, at least, two sons -- Angus and Malcolm Gair. The latter is mentioned as a witness at Tuingtaynish (Duntaynish) on 15th April, 1591. Malcolm Gair and his family lived near Castle Sween. He had a son, John Gair, who for his part in an abortive rising, was hanged with others at the Grassmarket, Edinburgh, on 8th July, 1615. In September of that year, the father and other members of the family came to blows with Campbell of Calder and his men at Castle Sween, and, if we can accept the traditional account as wholly authentic, all were slain with the exception of the youngest son. An air of mystery hangs over the rest of this dark chapter. However, we know more about Angus and his family, and the writer has, after much careful study and research, come to the conclusion that Angus was the elder brother who succeeded his father as heir.

Angus, 11th of Knap had four sons -- Donald Oc, his heir; Robert; Malcolm in Lag; and Neil in Kenlochkillisport. In the Burgh Records of Dumbarton (1599-1604), we come across an interesting entry which reads as follows: "Thomas Fallisdall, burgess of Dumbartane, for Alexander Colquhoun of Lois(s), 300 merks, to appear himself personally and enter Johnne Colquhoun of Camstodane, Patrick Colquhoun alias Nidar, John Dow Moonell Vc Neill, Scrogie McIntire, Robert and Donald the Leuch, Makmyllan's sons, and Walter McPatrick Dow Vc Wattie, before the Secret Council upon 11th August next, to answer to a complaint made against them by Sir Johnne Murray of Toilibeirdin, touching the alleged reft (theft) of certain goods," Angus and his son Donald Oc appear as witnesses to different charters and sasines during the early part of the 17th century. In the Register of the Privy Council we come across the following entry -- "1605. Johanne Robertsoone of Foinnit for Archibald MacConnell (MacDonald) of Giga (Gigha) 3,000 merks, not to harm Johanne MacCaerich of Clune. The bond, registered by Mr. William Borthuick, Advocate, and written by Malcolm Hunter, is subscribed at Foinnit, 26th October, before Neil McKay, servitor to the said Archibald, Angus MacMillan, and Robert Gilchrist, servitor to Ninian Ramsay." In the Argyll Charter Chest we find the following:
"7 and 12 May, 1606. Charter of Confirmation by Archd. Mak Connyll o Giga, heritable proprietor to his beloved son, etc. Witnesses: Angus Mcmelayn, Donald Og Mcmelayn, etc. Angus was succeeded by his eldest son --

Donald Og, 12th of Knap. He appears as witness to a sasine on 25th May, 1632, and his patronymic is given thus -- "Donald McAngus vc Millan in Kyllisla." It is the writer's opinion that Donald Og and his family had fallen on evil days and either before his death or shortly after it, the Dunmore estate was taken from them and given to a collateral family in Clachbreck. He had, at least, three sons -- Neil, representative of the family; Malcolm; and Duncan. The last mention of Donald Og is when he appears as witness to a sasine granted to James, seventh son of Colin Campbell of Kilberry, of Ormsary, in 1649. In it he is described as (land) officer in Kells-late. On his death, he was succeeded, as representative of the family, by his eldest son --

Neil in Dunmore. He and his son appear as witnesses to a sasine in 1659, and their address is given as "in Dunmore." He was succeeded, as representative of the family, by his son --

Neil Mor in Dunmore. Apart from a stray reference about him acting as a witness to a sasine, in 1659, we know nothing else about him except that he was succeeded, as representative of the family, by his son --

Donald of Clachbreck and Baillie. We learn quite a lot about Donald from existing records. The following was recorded at Dumbarton on 18th May, 1711: "Sasine in favour of Donald MacMillan of Clachbreck of the 4 merk lands of Clachbreck, lying in Kollsersoll (Killslet), Parish of Knap, and lands of Tiritigan, Parish of Kilberry in Keall, warrandice granted by Dugall Campbell of Kilberry with consent of Barbra Campbell, his spouse, to the said Donald MacMillan for the sum of 2,150 merk." Two years later, Donald MacMillan and his spouse Mor (Sarah) Nicintaggart (MacTaggart) had a sasine drawn up for the lands of Baillie and poundings thereof lying in the parish of Kilberry." On 24th February, 1718, the following notice was given: "Rental. James Campbell of Ormsary to Donald MacMillan in Baillie and of any rights of revision to him upon the lands of Baillie." Donald had two sons and one daughter -- Donald, Neil, and Margaret Isobel. By the month of August, 1734, the lands of Clachbreck were taken over in favour of Duncan MacMillan of Dunmore. That same year, Captain Dugall Campbell of Kilberry granted to Margaret Isobel, daughter of the deceased Donald MacMillan, "all and hail the lands of Tiritigan." After their father's death the two sons carried on the working of the estates, and, in 1759, both are mentioned as having the life rents of Baillie. Neil became miller at the lint mill of Tangy, which belonged to Alexander MacMillan of Dunmore, D.K.S., and when the latter died in 1770 he left Neil one hundred pounds in his will.

In June, 1767, Donald MacMillan, junior, promised to pay Alexander MacMillan of Dunmore an annual rent of one hundred and twenty pounds from the lands of Baillie, and by January, 1774, his wife, Alice Fleming or Fleming, was granted a sasine for half of the said lands. In 1781, Donald was listed among the creditors of Duncan MacMillan, Writer in Edinburgh, and by March, 1791, Archibald Bell was granted a disposition in his favour by Donald MacMillan of the lands of Baillie and other lands in the parish of Kilberry. The family removed to Clachbreck and during last century some of their descendants emigrated to the United States of America.

Nothing is known of Robert, second son of Angus, 11th of Knap, unless that he may have removed to Campbeltown early in the 17th century. Malcolm, his brother, was living at Lagg in Glassary on 6th June, 1622, when he appeared as witness to a sasine there. His patronymic is given thus -- "Gillecallum McAngus Vc Moylen." He had, at least, one son -- Duncan, who was tenant in Fernoch, Knap, in 1641. In a sasine of the same date his name is given in patronymic form as follows -- "Duncan McGillecallum Vicmilen." He had, at least, two sons -- Angus in Baltimore, Knap, in 1674; and Duncan, who was tenant in Dannamore during the Ayryll rising in 1685. No MacMillan's name is given under Baltimore in 1685 and 1692, and it is the writer's opinion that those mentioned later were descendants of Duncan in Dannamore, who had four sons -- John in Dannanacloich; Robert in Kilmacl-mul-vin-ruisse; Gillies in Cosandrochaid; and Alexander in Barsea. In 1720, five MacMillans, in all probability descendants of Duncan in Dannamore, were taken to task by Patrick Campbell of Dunntraigh for cutting greenwood. Duncan, Donald and Malcolm MacMillan were living in Cosandrochaid at the time, and John and Duncan MacMillan were in Kilmory in Qib. Duncan in Cosandrochaid had a son, John, who was the father of Archibald MacMillan, miller of Baltimore Mill from 1732 to 1797, and John, tenant in Castle Swee. The latter married a Sarah Mcgilp, with issue -- Effie, Archibald, Peggy, Alexander, John, Dugald, Sarah,
and Isabelle. Five of those children were born in Knapdale and the other three in North America. John and his wife and young family emigrated to Robeson County, North Carolina. Today, their numerous descendants have formed a group which is known as the Knapdale MacMillans.

Neil, the fourth son of Angus, 11th of Knap, settled in Kenlochkillisport. His name appears as a witness to different sasines. He had three sons -- Neil, tenant in Ardnaw, Archibald Roy in Acharolsh and Donald in Kenlochkillisport. It is difficult to trace in unbroken succession the descendants of Neil from 1685 until 1791, but from then until 1833 it is straightforward. Angus MacMillan had a quarter of Ardnaw from 1791 to 1810, when he was succeeded by his son Alexander who tenant the same farm down to 1821. His son, Angus, who succeeded his father in the tenancy, married Katherine Brown, with issue -- Dugald, Angus, Archibald, Duncan, Alexander, Margaret, Katherine, and Mary. Margaret married a Mr. Campbell and went to live in Australia; Katherine married a Mr. MacLachlan and lived with her family in Glasgow. Alexander, the youngest brother, spent some years at College in Glasgow with the intention of becoming a Doctor of Medicine, but he had a breakdown in health, and on returning home, was accepted by his brothers and sister Mary as the boss. He did no manual work, but, being well-educated, he transacted all the business and directed the running of the farm. Unfortunately, Alexander died when still a comparatively young man, and Angus then took over responsibility. Archibald also died in the prime of life, but the others lived to a good age. Angus lived to a ripe old age as did Dugald, who died at 90, Mary at 84, and Duncan at 92. They were a very shrewd, hard-working family, and they found their pleasures in their everyday activities. Duncan, who survived the other members of the family, died at Tayvallich in 1933. The following tribute appeared in the "Glasgow Herald": "At the age of 92 the death has occurred at Tayvallich, Argyllshire, of Duncan MacMillan, retired farmer, the last of the MacMillans, who were tenants of Ardnoe farm for centuries. There was a Gaelic inscription on a rock on the seashore at Ardnoe (Ardnaw), well-known to older residents, to the effect that as long as waves lapped this rock, the MacMillans would remain at Ardnoe. The inscription is now obliterated."

**THE MACMILLANS IN CLACHBRECK AND THE NEW DUNMORE LINE**

The progenitor of the MacMillans in Clachbreck was John Roy, younger brother of Neil Glas, 8th of Knap. John Roy was probably the first of the Knapdale MacMillans to curry favour with the Campbells of Argyll, as all his descendants did after him. This new allegiance infuriated others of the old MacDonald persuasion and in one of those outbreaks against the Earl of Argyll by McAlaster of Lopu and his associates, in 1539, John Roy was cruelly murdered. He was succeeded by his son --

Archibald, who, on 13th November, 1552, witnesses an instrument of sasine at Dunstaffnage Castle, following a precept of sasine by King James VI in favour of Archibald Campbell, son and heir of Archibald, 4th Earl of Argyll, of the bordland and Castle of Dunoon, and of the ejection of the Lordship of Lorn. Archibald was succeeded by his son --

Duncan Mor, who acted as a witness to the reversion of a wadset at Dunaynish, in 1593. He was succeeded by his son --

Alexander, who had three sons -- Archibald, Duncan, and Iain Dubh, Archibald succeeded his father in the tenancy of Clachbreck before he received a wadset feu charter for Dunmore. Duncan and Iain Dubh lived in the township of Ballyaurgan. Alexander was succeeded by his eldest son --

Archibald, 1st of the New Dunmore line. In the Argyll Charter Chest we find the following: "19th May, 1666. Wadset Feu Charter by Archibald, 9th Earl of Argyll, to Archibald McMillan in Clachbreck, and his heirs and assignees, the 4 merk land of Dunmore, 2 merk Barzawfragean (Ballyaurgan) and 1/2 merk Clachaig, all lying in Kellsate, for yearly payment of 110 merks with a none weddir. Redeemable for payment of 5000 merks, etc." Tradition has it that he took part in the burning of 'the bonnie house o' Airlie'. He was also paid by Campbell of Ardersier to recruit members of his clan to fight in Ireland against the MacDonalds during the Antrim rising. Archibald married Katherine MacAllister, a member of the Cour branch, with issue -- Alexander, his heir; and Mary. In 1672, Mary entered into an ante-nuptial contract with Duncan Campbell of Gulghallitro, which was witnessed by her brother Alexander. By the following year she was his wife and had by him two sons -- Donald and John. Archibald died
in 1676 and was succeeded by his son —

Alexander, 2nd of Dunmore, who married Geillis, daughter of John MacFarlane of Arrochar, with issue — Duncan, his heir; and John, progenitor of the Laggalgarve branch. Grisel, the mother of Geillis, was a daughter of Sir Colin Lemont, and her grandmother, Beatrice, was a daughter of Lord Sempill. Jean, a sister of Geillis, was the wife of Sir John Buchanan of Leny. Geillis seems to have had money and, no doubt, it was largely due to her that the estate of Dunmore was redeemed for the payment of 5,000 merks. She 'infested' in an annual rent of 120 pounds from the said lands. Alexander took an active part in the Argyll rising, in 1685, and died shortly after being taken prisoner. On 19th March, 1686, the Dunmore estate was forfeited to John, Viscount of Melfort, who held it until 1690, when it was restored to Alexander's heir —

Duncan, 3rd of Dunmore, who married (1) Katherine Buchanan of Leny, his cousin, with issue — Alexander, his heir, John, and Geillis. His first wife appears to have been somewhat delicate and was cut down in the bloom of womanhood. She died at Dunmore on 5th March, 1707, in her 41st year, and her mortal remains were laid to rest in the Dunmore section of Kilinash burial ground. Duncan married (2) Katherine Campbell, widow of Archibald Campbell of Lussin in Islay, about two years after the death of his first wife. Tradition has it that he and his son John and fifteen others were drowned when returning from a spree in Clachan where they had gone to celebrate after he had been recognised by Brodie of Brodie, the then Lord Lyon, as hereditary chief of the MacMillans of Knap on 20th December, 1742. The story is told that two dogs began fighting and those on board became so engrossed in the fight that they forgot to attend to the steering and a sudden squall capsized the vessel and all the occupants were drowned. The writer is of the opinion that they had been drinking and someone under the influence of John Barnecorn started an argument over the claims of Chiefship of this ended in a brawl. Duncan's daughter, Geillis, who was the wife of Hector MacNeill of Ardmonish, was given the life-rent of Dunmore. Her eldest brother succeeded the father as lawful heir —

Alexander, 4th of Dunmore, who studied law under John Cunningham of Dundaloch, and by 13th October, 1725, was admitted into the Society of Writers. During the middle of the 18th century Alexander was one of the biggest land-owners in Argyllshire, holding several estates in Kintyre and Knapdale. He was twice married.

Margaret, his first wife, was a daughter of John Campbell, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and it was largely through his father-in-law's influence that he succeeded to the post of Deputy Keeper of the Signet and Comptroller of the Post Office in the city. He had a family by this union, but, unfortunately the writer has searched the records in vain in his efforts to try and clear up two very conflicting accounts. According to the late Miss Margaret Macmillan of Glenbar, he had two sons — Alexander, who is believed to have been murdered by angry tenants near Amul by Barr Glen, and James, who fought against the British in the American War of Independence and was disowned by his father. The other account is noted down by the late Duncan Macmillan of Glenskibble and London, who maintained that Dunmore had an only son called Duncan who was accidentally killed while playing shinty. At first, the writer accepted Miss Macmillan's account without querying it, but, now, after much reflection and weighty consideration he finds that it presents difficulties and does not appear to be as reliable as Duncan Macmillan's version. If Dunmore's son had been murdered one would have expected some record of the deed and of the murderers. The account of the second son also presents difficulties, seeing that the American War of Independence did not take place until 1775 and Dunmore was dead five years before it had begun. It is now the writer's opinion that the James in question was not Dunmore's son but his grand-nephew. Dunmore's first wife died on 5th June, 1748. In 1755, he married Janet, daughter of Daniel Campbell of Shawfield, without issue. This was purely a marriage of convenience. His death took place at Morningside, Edinburgh, on 26th July, 1770, and his passing terminated the main male line of the Dunmore family.

THE MACMILLANS IN BALLYAURGAN

Two younger brothers of Archibald, 1st of Dunmore, held Ballyaurgan of him and were the progenitors of this branch. They were Duncan and Iain Dubh. Duncan had, at least, two sons — Alexander, who was banished for his part in the Argyll rising in 1685; and John. The latter was the father of Neil. In Clan Campbell Records we find the following entry — "Bond by Archibald Campbell of Auchendarroch narrating the contract of marriage between Neil McMillan in Barngaregan (Ballyaurgan) in Calsleat, and Jean Campbell, his sister, now spouse of Neil, in which the tocher (dowry) was 200 merks, for which the said Neil has granted him a discharge,
dated Kilmichael, Glassary, 31st October 1697. There were two sons by this union -- John and Duncan. About a hundred years later we find in the Baptismal Register of South Knapdale that Archibald, son to Neil McMillan and Peggy McMillan in Barivaragan (Ballyaragan), was baptized on 2nd October, 1796. Nothing further is known of this family.

Iain Dubh, youngest brother of Archibald, 1st of Dunmore, had a son, Donald, who was land-officer in Torinturk. In the "Commons of Argyll" we find 'Donald Mac induy alias Mcmillan, elder, and (and) Donald Mccmillan, younger,' took part in the Argyll rising in 1685. Members of the Ballyaragan branch must have been occupied with fuller's work and in this way some of them came to be known as 'Mac an Phucadair' ('Son of the Fuller'), Anglicised to 'Mac- Nucator', and changed latterly to 'Walker.' Several of those Walkers are buried in Kilanaisl Cemetery, near Dunmore.

THE MACNEILLS OF TAYNISH AND CASTLE SWEEN

A great deal of controversy has arisen over the true descent of the MacNeills belonging to Argyllshire. They are not descended from the MacSweens of Knapdale, nor are they related to the MacNeills of Barra, but spring from the same stock as the Macleans of Duart.

Gillies, youngest son of Gillean of the Battle-Axe, settled in Kintyre, and his son, Malcolm, appears there as a landlord in 1296. He married Reens, grand-daughter of the Lord of Carrick, and their second son, Neil, became the progenitor of the Argyllshire MacNeills. He was born about the year 1305. The latter had a son called Malcolm, and he became known as Malcolm MacNeill, the first MacNeill in Kintyre. Malcolm had a son called Neil, who, in turn, had a son called Torquil.

Early in the 18th century Torquil received from the Lord of the Isles a charter of the lands of Gigha and Tynish, with the Constabulary of Castle Sween. In this charter he is designated 'fillus Nigellii' ('son of Neil'). He had two sons -- Neil, his heir; and Hector, progenitor of the Tynish family. The elder son died without leaving male issue and was succeeded by his brother --

Hector, 1st of Tynish and Constable of Castle Sween. A
Hector, 6th of Taynish. We gather from the Potaaloch Writs that he acted as a witness to a feu charter by Lord Lorne to Niall Campbell of Oib, in 1633. He was an elder of the Presbytery of Argyll in 1640 and attended the Provincial Assembly of Argyll that year at Inveraray on 7th May. He had, at least, two sons -- John, his heir; and Donald. He was succeeded by his elder son --

John, 7th of Taynish. Very little appears on record about this chief and only when he is indirectly mentioned in connection with others. In the General Register of Sasines we discover the following entries -- "15 Feb., 1672: Wadset of Ardachie in Gigha by Malcolm MacNeill of Ardacham in Gigha (with consent of his superior, John MacNeill of Taynish) to Niall Oig MacNeill in Craignant agich, etc." and "17 Oct., 1673: Sasine given by Donald MacNeill of Gallichollie (Gallichollie) to his wife Elspeth, lawful dau. of John MacNeill of Taynish, a witness being Donald's brother german John, Torquil MacNeill in Ardbeg for the wife." John was succeeded by his son --

Neil, 8th of Taynish. The first mention of Neil was in 1695, when his father must have still been alive. That year the lands and Teinds (tithes) of Colonsay and Oronsay were leased to him for nineteen years by Charles Campbell, a brother of Argyll, and in this lease he is described as "Neil McNeill, younger of Thaynish." He married Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Campbell, Advocate, Commissary of the Isles, with issue -- Hector, his heir; Donald; and Margaret. Neil was succeeded by his eldest son --

Hector, 9th of Taynish. He was succeeded by his heir -- Roger, who, in the reign of King George III sold the estates of Gigha and Taynish. The latter married Elizabeth Price, eventual heiress of the Hamiltoms of Raploch. Their descendants have assumed the name of Hamilton.

THE MACNEILLS OF GALCHOILLE, ARICHONAN, AND CREAR

John Oig, ancestor of the MacNeills of Galchoille, Arichonan, and Crear, was the younger son of Neil, 3rd of Taynish. He had two sons -- Donald, progenitor of the Galchoille MacNeills, and Malcolm Beg, progenitor of the MacNeills of Arichonan and Crear. Little is known of the Galchoille MacNeills. Donald, either a son or grandson of Donald, 1st of Galchoille, is mentioned several times in the General Register of Sasines: "15 May, 1669: Charter of Galichollie in Knapsdale and some isles by Argyll to Donald MacNeill of Galichollie," On 7th June, 1671, he acted as attorney to a wadset given to Niall Oig MacNeill in Craignantagich. On 25th August, 1673, he witnesses the resignation of the lands and barony of Gigha to Argyll by Malcolm MacNeill of Ardacham, and on 17th October of the same year he gave a sasine to his wife, Elspeth, lawful daughter of John MacNeill, 7th of Taynish. His brother John acted as a witness.

Malcolm Beg, progenitor of the Arichonan and Crear MacNeills, was, according to Highland tradition, celebrated for his extraordinary prowess and great strength. He was succeeded by his only son --

Neil Oig of Arichonan, who had three sons -- Malcolm, John, and Donald. In the Sasines of Argyll we read the following: "8 July, 1659: Sasine of an annual rent of 32 bolls oatmeal from the lands of Arichonan, Lecknavane, Ariluge, Erervie and Ardnaa (7 merk land in all, in Knapsdale) given by Duncan Duncansson, notary in Inveraray, as baillie, to John McClerich in Inveraray, as attorney for Catherine Campbell, wife of Malcolm MacNeill, of Arichonan, eldest lawful son of Niall Oig MacNeill of Arichonan, on a charter to her by said Niall and Malcolm, which was written by Duncan McLean, servitor of Alexander Campbell, baillie of Kellate, and was signed at Drummanuchloch, 20 June, 1659, before said Alexander Campbell and McLean, Niall McMillan in Dunmore and his son Niall mor McMillan there also; etc." Malcolm does not appear to have had any male heir, because John, his brother next to him, succeeded his father. Donald, the youngest son, is mentioned several times in the General Register of Sasines: "In 1671, he witnessed a marriage contract," 24 January, 1672: Charter of Crear, etc. by Argyll to Donald MacNeill, lawful son of Niall Oig MacNeill of Arichonan." On 15th April, 1676, he entered a marriage contract with Mary, daughter of Lachlan MacNeill of Tjrfergs, but on 17th May of that year they were still unmarried. The marriage, however, did take place and four sons were born of that union -- Malcolm of Colonsay, his heir; Neil; Hector; and John. Donald took part in the Argyll rising, 1685, and on 8th May 1686, he is mentioned as a vassal of Argyll. In 1700, Donald came to an agreement with the Duke of Argyll and exchanged the lands of Crear and Drumlaidheig for the islands of Colonsay and Oronsay.
The following year a charter was drawn up by the Duke in favour of Malcolm, Donald's eldest son and heir, to the said islands.

THE MCALESTERS OF LOUP

This family traces its descent from Alasdair Mor (Great Alexander), second son of Donald of Islay, progenitor of Clan Donald. After the forfeiture of the Lordship of the Isles, in 1493, the McAlesters became so numerous as to form a separate and independent clan. At that period their chief was lain Dubh (dark-haired John), whose residence was at Ardpatrick in Kilberry parish. His son, Charles, was appointed Steward of Kintyre in 1481. The latter had a son --

Angus, 1st of Loup. In the Register of the Privy Seal for 1515 his patronymic is given as "Angus vic Ean Dubh" ("Angus, (son) of a son of John Dubh"). He had three sons -- Alexander, his heir; Donald, Constable of the Castle of Tarbert, Loch Fyne, an office which became hereditary in the family; and Roderick, said to have been bishop of the Isles, in 1545, although the name is not given in Keith's Catalogue. Angus was succeeded by his eldest son --

Alexander 2nd of Loup. He was forfeited for treasonably abiding from the army at Solway, but, in 1540, he obtained a remission for himself and fifteen of his clan. A year earlier he was responsible for a rising in Knaphale which was directed against Argyll and some of his subjects. He was succeeded by his son --

Hector, 3rd of Loup, who did not survive his father long. He was succeeded by his elder son --

Alexander, 4th of Loup, who, in 1573, obtained a charter from Archibald, 5th Earl of Argyll. He was one of those Highland chiefs who were held responsible, by the Act of Parliament, called "the Black Band", passed in 1587, for the peaceable behaviour of their clansmen and the "broken men" who lived on their lands. He was succeeded by his brother --

Godfrey, 5th of Loup, who was yet under age at the time of his brother's death. In 1591, he obtained a charter from Archibald, 7th Earl of Argyll, and in it he is designated thus -- "Gorrie Mc-

Eachine Vic-Alester-Vic Ean Dubh". This youthful chief became the hero of a tragedy which forms one of the most remarkable cases in Pictain's "Criminal Trials" (vol. iii. p.7). A mutual love existed between him and young lady of great property not far from his own possessions, but their union was prevented by his guardian, who contrived to get her married to one of his own sons. Apprehensive, however, of the resentment of his ward, who had now attained his majority, he removed for a time to a distant part of the country. On the tutor's return, in 1598, he was attacked and slain by the young chief. As the latter's vengeance was equally directed against the sons of the tutor, they took refuge in the house of Askomull in Kintyre, belonging to Angus MacDonald of Dunvegan, chief of the southern branch of Clan Donald, known in Gaelic as Clann Iain Mhoir (family of Great John), whilst the chief of the McAlesters procured the assistance of Sir James MacDonald, the son of Angus, then at variance with his father. With about three hundred men, they surrounded the house of Askomull at midnight, and on the refusal of those within to surrender, it was immediately set on fire. Although Sir James knew that his father and mother were at the time in the house, he savagely refused to let the fire be extinguished. At length his father, in endeavouring to make his escape, was made prisoner, after being burnt and receiving many indignities from the servants of his most unnatural son. The other inmates of the house also fell into his hands, and were treated with various degrees of severity, but he does not appear to have caused any of them to be put to death. For his share in this transaction McAlester was obliged to conceal himself for a time. He afterwards returned and joined Sir James MacDonald in the deadly conflict which took place, on 8th August, 1598, at Loch Gruinard in Islay, between the Macdonalds and the Macleans, in which the latter were defeated and their chief slain. In 1605, Sir David Murray, Lord Scone, Comptroller of Scotland, was directed to repair to Kintyre, to receive the obedience of the principal men of the clans in the South Isles, with surety for the payment of his majesty's rents and duties, when the laird of Loup, with Angus MacDonald and his relatives and vassals in Kintyre, were the only persons who appeared before him. Dying soon after, he was interred at Iona, in the tomb of his ancestors. He was succeeded by his son --

Hector, 5th of Loup, who had charters from the Earl of Argyll for the lands of Loup and others, wherein he is designated "Hector Mcurr-Rvic-Eachin-Rvic-Allister-Rvic Ean Dubh". On 3rd July, 1615, two of his kinsmen, Alester and Angus McAlester, with Angus Olg,
Rifle Regiment, Charles was succeeded by his elder son —

Angus, 11th of Lopu, who married his cousin Jane, then a widow, daughter of John MacDonald of Ardnamoish, cousin of the celebrated Flora MacDonald, and died in 1795. By this union there was a son, Charles and three daughters. In 1761, the lands of Ard-patrick, Kintarbert, Barnellan, etc., were sold. Charles, only son of Angus, married Janet Somerville, heiress of Kennox in the County of Ayr, and their descendants style themselves of Loup and Kennox.

THE MACALLISTERS OF TARBERT

The progenitor of this family was Donald, second son of Angus, 1st of Lopu. He was appointed Constable of Tarbert Castle, Loch Fyne, an office which became hereditary in the family. The next notice we find of this family is in 1593 when Charles, probably a son or grandson of Donald took action against a Campbell. In the Writs and Charters of the Campbells of Strachur we find the following: "Action at the instance of Colin Campbell, son of Charles Campbell, Prior of Strachur, for registration of a Contract between them dated at Otter 2 October, 1593, for the marriage of the said Margaret and Colin wherein she is to infest in the 3 Merkland of Cregan and the lands of Gairloch and Sokoch Over and others, and the tocher was to be £1000 with 40 great kie (cows). Witnesses: Archibald McAllister, apparent of Tarbert, Hector McAllister of Balmakill and others" (Register of Deeds, vol. 67). Ronald, probably a grandson of Charles, was head of the Tarbert family in 1660 when he was an elder of the Presbytery of Cowal. In the General Register of Sasines we find the following: "23 March, 1671: Ronald McAllister of Tarbert gave a bond in respect of Attichan, and on the same day Isobel McAllister, who was probably his daughter or sister, and was wife of Donald Campbell of Kilmichael-Glassary, had sasine on a bond from the said Ronald". Again on "17th July, 1674: Ronald McAllister of Tarbert gave a wadset, his mother, Margaret Campbell, consenting". On 4th October, Ann Campbell, spouse of Charles McAllister of Tarbert, was given the liletrent of Barmore Park and the Mansion House of Barmore. One of the most illustrious members of this branch of the clan was the late Sir Donald MacAllister, Principal of Glasgow University.
THE MACALLISTERS OF KENLOCHKILLISPORT

The progenitor of this family was a Duncan daw MacAllister, probably a member of the Tarbert branch. He had a son, Ronald, who appears to be the first of this family to possess Kenlochkillisport. Tradition has it that he found it necessary to resort to force before he could finally dislodge MacMillans, former possessors. He, with the help of his clan, drove them into the sea and left them stranded on the Iron Rock in the Sound of Jura, known since as "Sgeir Mhaol", or "the MacMillan Rock." On 19th December, 1670, John, 2nd of Kenlochkillisport, had a sasine of Kenlochkillisport, Croichie, Achachills and Ellery, on a charter by Argyll. He was succeeded by his son, Hector, who, in 1693, entered into an Ante-nuptial Marriage Contract with Christiana, daughter of the Rev. William MacLochlan, parson of Kilmartin and possessor of Fernoch. On 14th November, 1694, the couple, as man and wife, had a sasine of Kenlochkillisport as security for £1000. Nothing further is known of this family.

KNAPDALE UNDER THE CAMPBELLS OF ARGYLL

Sometime before 1480, Sir Colin Campbell, first laird of Glenurquhart, acquired the 4 merklands of Inverpolly in Knapdale, which he afterwards exchanged for lands in Perthshire (Black Book of Taymouth). This was but a prelude to the Campbells possessing other lands in Knapdale.

In 1480, Argyll profited greatly as the result of the King's action against the Lord of the Isles, for that same year there was conferred upon him much of North Knapdale along with the keeping of Castle Sween.

Hitherto, King James IV had been fairly lenient with the vassals of the Lord of the Isles in 1475, but, in 1499, he suddenly changed his attitude toward them, for, without giving a reason, he revoked all the charters granted by him during the last five years. Gregory, commenting on this sudden change of policy, writes: "We find him at Tarbert in the month of April (1499), when he gave commission to Archibald III, Earl of Argyll, and others for letting on lease, for the term of three years, the entire Lordship of the Isles as possessed by the last Lord, both in the Isles and on the mainland, excepting only the island of Isla, and the lands of North and South Kintyre. Argyll received also a commission of Lieutenant, with the fullest powers over the Lordship of the Isles; and some months later, was appointed Keeper of the Castle of Tarbert, and Bailie and Governor of the King's lands in Knapdale."

In 1504-5, a Charter was given by King James IV, under the Great Seal, in favour of Archibald (II), Earl of Argyll, of the offices of Justiciary, Sheriff, and Chamberlain, of the lands and Lordships of Knapdale and Kintyre, and also Captain of the House and Fortalice of Tarbert, with the lands of the South Half of Knapdale, and the advocation and donation of the Kirk of Kilberry in the Sheriffdom of Tarbert, all united into a free barony called the barony of Tarbert, which offices and lands are disposed heritably by the King to the Earl and his heirs, with the half escheats and amerciements of the said courts, and half of the fees and casualties of the offices of Coroner, to be held in Ward (Argyll Charters No. 43).

That same year another charter was given by the same King, under the Great Seal, in favour of Archibald (II), Earl of Argyll, of the offices of Justiciary and Sheriffship, Crownry and Chamberlainery, of the lands and Lordships of Knapdale and Kintyre, and Captain of the House and Fortalice of Tarbert when it shall be built, also disposing heritably to the Earl of Argyll, and his heirs, the lands of Kilberry and the South Half of Knapdale with the patronage of the Kirk of Kilberry, and uniting the same into a barony called the barony of Tarbert, lying within the Sheriffdom of Tarbert, with the half of the Escheats and amerciements of the said Courts, and the half of the fees and casualties of the foresaid office of Crownry, to be held in Ward (Argyll Charters No. 239).

Precept of Sasine following on the Above Charter, (ibid) directed to Gilbert MakNachtan, Niall and Alexander Campbells, Charles Makarthur and Duncan Mak -- as his sheriffs and bailies ordering them to give Sasine.

The witnesses to the above Charter arc William, Bishop of Aberdeen; Keeper of the Privy Seal, Patrick, Earl of Bothwell; Lord Halls; Mathew, Earl of Lennox; Lord Darnlie; Alexander, Lord Hume, our Great Chancellor; Andrew, Lord Grey, our Justiciary; John, Prior and Vicar General of the Metropolitan Church of St. Andrews; James, Abbot of Dunfermline (Argyll Charter Chest).
In 1511, Archibald, Earl of Argyll, granted, and King James V confirmed to Archibald Campbell, the Earl's son and heir, 1 merkland of Glenkil, 4 merks Torinturk, 1 merk of Glenfeoch, 4 merks Crangataguach, 2 merks of Achinglachail and Clachaig, 4 merks Donnoch (Dunmore), 1 merk Fewrtilloch, 6 merks Creus (Carse), 1 merk of Ardmenis, 4 merks of Larghunog, 6 merks Teyredyn (Tireigean), 4 merks Cogielbreil (Culghalintio), 2 merks of Kilpoy, 4 merks of Grey, 4 merks of Kilmalowieg, 2 merks of Drumrysaig, 4 merks of Omsay, 4 merks of Dawargeorgone (Ballyaurgan), 2 merks of Clachbreck and 4 merks of Barionart — all included in the Barony of Skypynych (Skipness). (Reg. Mag. Sig. lib. xvii. No. 33).

That same year an Instrument of Sasine, under the hand of Niall Fisher, priest of the Diocese of Lismore, following on a Precept of Sasine addressed by Archibald (III), Earl of Argyll, to Donald Campbell of Downtron (Duntron), Archibald McLauchlan of Stralchan, Iain McCloone, Niall Dewar, and Duncan Roy Mclechan as his Baille in that part, ordering them to give Sasine to his beloved son Archibald Campbell, of all the lands of the Barony of Skypynych with the custody of the Castle of the same (vide at 30 July 1511 supra). The Sasine is witnessed by Iain Lawmund (Lamont) of Ardlawmund, Robert Lawmund of Askrik, Angus McCotter, Archibald son of Niall Lawmund, Iain McGillekinnych Vc Niall, Duncan McYlle Keir, Alexander Craufurd, Alexander Dewar, Ronald Hynde, Kylch (?) McAlister, Angus NcAne Keir, Duncan McCellar, Iain McYndewir, and Alexander McaNangus and others (Argyll Charter Chest).

The old possessors of those lands in Knapdale did not give them up without a struggle, for we learn that in 1515, Colin, Earl of Argyll, Archibald Campbell of Skipineche (Simpness), and their friends, inhabiting Knapdale and other parts, had a remission from King James V for all their crimes except treason (Reg. Sec. Sig. vol. v. fol. 31).

In 1526, King James V granted to Archibald, son and heir of Earl Colin, the lands of South Knapdale with the keeping of the castle of Tarbert when built, 'called the barony of Tarbert and sheriffdom of the same' (Reg. Mag. Sig. lib. xxiii No. 44). Three years later the same King granted to the same Archibald, on resignation by Earl Colin, his father, the lands of South and North Knapdale with the keeping of the castle of Tarbert (Argyll Inventory).

Argyll met with much opposition from the former vassals of the Lords of the Isles after he had virtually become owner of their estates, as witness to the following account: 1539. Letters from King James V to his Sheriff of Tarbert and his deputies and to his lovil William Champney, messengers and sheriffs in that part, following on a complaint by the King's balist cousing and counselor Archibald Erle of Erlye against Rannald more mcanguss Mc Ewane duff, who, with his complices to the number of 30 persons "bodin in feir of weir upoun auld feid and fourth fenollany our said cousing being actuallie or since come to ane town in Knapdall cailliit Craganaget" and there on the 18 of May last cruelly slew and murdered Gillesellium Mcname Makneill and on the 22 May the said persons and Alexander McAllester of Loupe, rannald McAllester his brother, Archibald Maklarliche, Ailestr his son, Rannald bowy mcconilly va clesse rannald Wayne, John mcconilly va rannald wayne, Allanrewiche, his brother and his complices to the number of 300 persons "bodin in feir of weir with Habberscanis, bowis, dorlochis, swordis, baltis, langfoidis come in arrayit batal with displayit bener to our said cousings lands of Kelsibatt cruellie upoun auld feid and fenollany" murdered and slew umghile (late) John Mcmullane alias reid in Clachbreck John mcvoory in Culghalint, Neil Mcnamich there, Patrick Makbreck in Kanloch and took away a low spoil of 200 Ky from the tennants and the 'insight of the houses' to the extent of 200 merks. Ordered that the messenger pass to the Market cross of the places they dwell at and by open Proclamation that they be put to our horn. Givin at Edinburgh under the Signet Seal in the 26th year of our reign" (Argyll Charter Chest).

1539. Proclamation by the said William Champney, messenger as one of the King's Sheriffs stating that he had been unable to seize them but that he had apprehended the Laird of Loop personally and had proclaimed the above persons to appear before him and find surety within 6 days. Witnesses: William Gillandrist McWeliwechan, Neil gill mcmlane mcconilly mcwileiwchen, Duncan Mcalll' Mylchan, Donald Mcgorre vacane v c vcnynus du and on the same day he proclaimed and summoned at Tarbert Market Cross:

Rannald dow mc rynald v c connil dow,
Alexander balf mc rynald his brothe,
Angus of innan (?) mc ynal v c conill dow,
Gotha mc rynald Kyst,
Donald mc fersoun mc Kyne,
Johne Mcalister vc Sorle vc conill,
Rynald roy vc Sorle vc Conill,
Rynald mc vc Sorie moy,
Alexander Mc vc Sorie moy,
Donald dow mc rynald vc Sorie moy,
Gilcrest mc ilkoane vc murche,
Duncan mc ilkoane vc Wuriche mc inish mc Murche,
John bane Mc illaspa mc Murche,
Niall muroche vc ewin,
Johne mc illaspa vc wuriche vc inish makmurache,
Johne mc conche vc murrich,
Gilcrest roy vc Kymare,
Johne mc coull vc Kennane,
Duncan mc auirh vc ilcair,
Johne roy mc gowikane,
Duncan mc conche,
Donald mc ilchallum vc Keynane,
Alexander mc ane vc rynald bane,
Donald eur mc melane,
Niall mc Keyn,
Wilzem mc canry,
Neyne mc gilllyn Lywk,
Alexander Mc gillaspa vc gorre,
Donald Mc nikoll mc ilbreid,
Suene McKannane,
Glipatrik McKannane,
Angus mc Conche bane vc Angus,
Duncan mc angus conill,
Gilcrest mc nikoll mc ilbreid,
Achyne mc ane ewyr,
Gillcallum mc conche mc Killup,
Johne mc Ronald vc rynald bane,
Allane reoch mc conahd vc rynald bane,
Alexander buy mc conell vc Alester,
Gilnelt McKeich,
Johne Dow McKeich,
John Dow mc vc coul moy,
Johne Dow mc farlane,
Duncan mc nell glass mc melane,
Yepip (?) McIlkure,
Molicallum mc darziddich.
was his intention to have blasted it if he met with stout opposition. Colin Campbell of Kilberry and others were taken prisoner by Coli Clotech in a surprise attack, but on hearing of Argyll's advance with a superior force MacDonald's men retreated. This was the last great struggle made by the once powerful Clan Donald of Islay and Kintyre to try and reclaim the lands of their ancestors from the Campbells.

In 1644, Alasdair, son of Coli Clotech, was paying off old scores in Knadale against his inveterate foes — the Campbells. Everywhere he went with his men he left destruction behind him. It was that same year he besieged and burned Castle Sween.

The next tragic episode in the history of Knadale was when Argyll rashly supported Monmouth's rebellion in 1688. Both of them met and held a council of war in Tarbert Castle. Argyll's vassals were in no heart to fight and after putting up a very weak effort the rebellion fell through. The principal men in Knadale were taken prisoner, including Alexander MacMillan of Dunmore, who died shortly after the incident.

Much of the history of Knadale under the Argyll family deals with cadets and other vassals who received estates there, and so the remaining part of this section will be devoted briefly to them.

THE CAMPBELLS OF SKIPNESS

The progenitor of this family was Archibald Campbell, second son of Archibald, 2nd Earl of Argyll. He had a charter of Skipness from his father on 30th July, 1511, and was still alive on 22nd June, 1536. By his first wife he had an only daughter who married Campbell of Ardentinny. He married, secondly, Janet, sister of Archibald Douglas, 5th Earl of Angus, and widow of John Lyon, 6th Lord Glamis. She was burned on Castleshill, Edinburgh, on 17th July, 1537, after being wrongly condemned for the death of King James V through the means of witchcraft. Her burning was subsequently declared to have been a judicial error, as she had been convicted "without any substantial ground or proof of matter against her." Her husband was imprisoned in Edinburgh Castle and, in trying to escape the day after his wife's death, fell from the Rock and was killed. He was succeeded by his son —

John, 2nd of Skipness, whose name appears in records between 19th August, 1553, and 6th June, 1553. He married Marion Montgomery, widow of Thomas Craufurd of Auchinames, by whom he left a daughter, Jane, heiress of Skipness, in whose right her husband, Walter Campbell, of the Ardkinglas family, was installed as Captain of Skipness Castle during the life of his father-in-law. For the rest of this family, see "Burke's Landed Gentry."

THE CAMPBELLS OF CASTLE SWEEN

The progenitor of this family was Duncan, second son of Archibald Campbell, 3rd of Auchinbreck. He married Mary, daughter and heiress of William MacLeod of Harris. She was for some years a maid of honour to Mary, Queen of Scots, 'being, no doubt, one of the Queen's celebrated Maids.' In a charter dated 16th June, 1570, Argyll granted to his beloved Mariota ne vec loyde, future wife of Duncan Campbell, Captain of Castell Sweeney, various lands in Knadell on the resignation of Dugald Campbell of Achinbreck. In the sasing she is described as heres de Herets and Duncan as apparent heir of Achinbreck. The marriage took place about the year 1573. Her testament as Marie nick Cloyd, relict of Duncan Campbell of Castle Sweeney, was given up on 3rd August, 1607. There was one son by this union — Dugald, who was created Knight Baronet of Nova Scotia by King Charles I. The Patent was dated at Whitehall, 12th January, 1628, but he appears to have been knighted at an earlier date.

Sir Dugald Campbell, 5th of Auchinbreck and Captain of Castle Sween, was first married to Lady Mary Erskine, sister of Thomas, Viscount of Pentoun, by whom he had two sons — Archibald and Duncan, and two daughters — Anne, who became the wife of the Laird of Lochnell, and Fingwell, who married the Laird of Coll. He was thereafter married to Dame Isobel Boyd, widow of John Blair, younger of that ilk, by whom he had three daughters. He was succeeded by his second son —

Sir Duncan, 7th of Auchinbreck and Captain of Castle Sween, who was married three times. His first wife, Margaret, daughter of the Laird of Blair, died without issue. His second wife, a daughter of the Laird of Newark, bore him a son, Sir Dugald, and a daughter, who died unmarried. By his third wife, Dame Jean Colquhoun, Lady Cathcart, he had Archibald, James, William, and Alexander. He was succeeded by his eldest son —
Sir Dugald, 8th of Auchinbreck and Captain of Castle Sween, who died unmarried.

THE CAMPBELLS OF KILMORY

The progenitor of this family was Donald, third son of Archibald Campbell, 3rd of Auchinbreck. He married a daughter of Stewart of Kildonan, with issue -- Dugald, his heir; Duncan, Vicar of Killean; Archibald; Colin; Patrick Dubh of Stuik; and Marion. He was succeeded by his eldest son --

Dugald, 2nd of Kilmory, who married Elizabeth Lamont, with issue -- Dugald, unmarried; Duncan; Patrick; and John. He was succeeded by his third son --

Patrick, 3rd of Kilmory, who married (1) a daughter of Mc- Lachlan of Levenmore, without issue; (2) Grizel, daughter of Donald Campbell of Kilmichael in Bute, with issue. He was succeeded by his only son --

Donald, 4th of Kilmory, who, dying without male issue, made over his estate to Dugald Campbell of Torblaren. For his descent we must go back to Patrick Dubh of Stuik, fifth son of Donald, 1st of Kilmory.

Patrick Dubh of Stuik married Elizabeth, daughter of Cameron of Callart, with issue -- Dugald, person of North Knapdale; Duncan of Argaddan, Baillie of Kintyre; John of Fernoch; Archibald; and Elizabeth, who married Duncan McIlvernock of Arnoackaig.

Dugald, eldest son of Patrick Dubh, married Margaret, daughter of George Maxwell, and niece of Sir Patrick Maxwell of Newark, with issue -- Patrick of Torblaren, Minister of Glenaray; Duncan of Barchull, who succeeded his father as Minister of North Knapdale; Alexander, Advocate and Commissary of Argyll; Bessie, who married Donald McTavish of Dunardary; Elizabeth, who married Archibald Campbell of Kinran; and Mary, who married Archibald Campbell of Ormsary.

Patrick Campbell of Torblaren married Jean, daughter of Campbell of Pennymore, with issue -- Dugald of Torblaren (thereafter, 5th of Kilmory; Duncan, Merchant in Glasgow; Colin of Knockbuy; Colonel John of Black River, Jamaica; Elizabeth; Bessie; and Jean.

THE CAMPBELLS OF DANNA

There were two distinct families styled 'of Danna' The first family belonged to the House of Craignish, whereas the second family sprang from the Campbells of Auchinbreck.

On 27th May, 1523, Colin, Earl of Argyll, gave a charter of the 4 merk land of Danna and other lands in Knapdale to his beloved cousin and servitor, Dugall Campbell McDougall, Craignish, of Corrwarren, in lieu of, and to his natural son, Dugall, in fee (Craignish MS., Appendix E.1). The lifierer was Head of the House of Craignish, and the author of the Craignish MS. says, in reference to the fier: "This is the race of siloch Drughall Dannach and did not possess it above two generations, So it fell soon again to Argyll, from whom Mr. Archibald, son of Auchinbreck, purchased these lands about the year 1560 or 70."

The progenitor of the second family of Danna Campbells was Archibald, fourth son of Archibald Campbell, 3rd of Auchinbreck. He was better known in Gaelic as Gileasubh na Luirich (Archibald of the coat of mail), no doubt, due to the fact that he was so clad when taking an active part in the Irish wars. He died about the year 1582, leaving a widow, Anna nein VeCkerie, and family -- Duncan, his heir; and Colin Mor of Killyberry.

Duncan, 2nd of Danna, whom we encounter at various dates between 1589 and 1615. In the Manuscript History of Craignish we note the following: "At Toitynny, 15th April, 1589: Charter of sale by Duncan McDougall VeEan alias Campbell of Sorobay to Duncan Campbell of Danna, of the above lands and islands; with precept of sasine, addressed to John Campbell of Rudill. Witnesses: Duncan ga'ir McDougall Dannay, Malcolm ga'ir McMoIen, Gilbert McErnie Conyche (sic) and his son, Patrick McConachie Ve Coull, Donald McVicar, pastor of Kilmore (Kilmory), and Cuthbert Adamson, notary public."

"At Toitynny, 11th December, 1593: Letters of Revision by Duncan Campbell of Danna to Duncan McDuff alias Campbell of
Sorobay, in respect of above wadset, the charter of which is stated to have been signed on 29th April, 1589, Witnesses: Angus McIlmoun in Ylen McNevein, Patrick McConchle McCoyle, said son of Duncan McDull, Duncan Mor McMolen and Cuthbert Adamson, notary. ---

In 1591, Duncan Campbell of Danna acted as witness to a bond of friendship between John Campbell of Calder and Angus MacDonald of Dunnyveg. He is mentioned in correspondence regarding the seizure of Dunnyveg Castle in 1614. His daughter, Katherine, was married to Angus Og MacDonald, who was executed in 1615. He was succeeded by his son --

Donald, 3rd of Danna, who became laird in succession to his father sometime before 5th March, 1618 (P. R., Argyll, vol. xi. fol. 83). He was succeeded by his son --

Archibald, 4th of Danna. We discover from the Synod Minutes of Argyll that he was an elder in the Presbytery of Inveraray and that he attended the Provincial Assembly there on 18th October, 1659. He was succeeded by his son --

Archibald, 5th of Danna, who took an active part in the Argyll rising in 1685 when he was taken prisoner. He was succeeded by his son --

Dugald, 6th of Danna, who was an army captain. He sold the estate to Campbell of Auchinbreck. It was later sold to Colonel Archibald Campbell of Inverneill in 1774.

THE CAMPBELLS OF KILBERRY

The progenitor of this family was Colin Mor, 2nd son of Archibald Campbell, 1st of Danna. He was three times married and had a family of eight sons and two daughters. By his first wife, Helen Wood, daughter of the Laird of Largo, Fife, he had Colin, his heir. He married, secondly, Marlon, daughter of MacDougall of Raray, with issue -- Archibald, Duncan, Dugall, Patrick, James, Donald, Alexander, and Margaret, who married Hector McAlester, 6th of Loup, on 11th November, 1620. By his third wife, Helen Lyon, he had a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Hector MacNell, 6th of Taynish, on 16th May, 1648. It is only fitting that some account be briefly given regarding the younger sons: Archibald was infested in the fee of Carradale on 9th February, 1614, and from him sprang the Campbells of Carradale; Duncan was of Drumnamuckloch on 11th August, 1619; Dugall (who appears subsequently as "Mr. Dugall"), which implies that he had a University degree, was of Garvait on 27th June, 1622, and was later of Lagg; Patrick had a charter of Inveraray, etc. On 20th February, 1609, with the remainder to his brother James; James Mor, who acquired Ormsary on 1st October, 1635, and died in 1700; Donald was of Culligalltro and died before May, 1652; and Alexander, who was of Glenman. Colin Mor, who died before 5th March, 1619, was succeeded by his eldest son --

Colin Og, 2nd of Kilberry, who, on 23rd June, 1615, married Elspeth, sister of Archibald Campbell of Ottir (old line), with issue -- Colin, who left no issue; Dugald, who succeeded his father; Elizabeth, who married Matthew Campbell, 4th of Skipness; and Mary, who married Patrick Campbell, 3rd of Knap. Colin Og was succeeded by his second son --

Dugald, 3rd of Kilberry, who married, first, a daughter of MacDonald of Largie, Kintyre, with issue -- Angus, his heir, and Colin, who left no issue. He married, secondly, Mary third daughter of Sir John Knivet, of Ashwellthorpe, Norfolk, and by her had issue -- Duncan, who married Alicia, niece of Campbell of Glenorchy, with issue -- Colin, Lieut.-Col. of the 4th Troop of Life Guards; Dugald, who later became 5th Laird of Kilberry; and Angus. Dugald, 3rd of Kilberry, was succeeded by his eldest son --

Angus, 4th of Kilberry, who had succeeded his father by 24th September, 1675, and died in 1693. He was Commissioner of Argyll in 1660, a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Argyllshire Regiment, and acted as A.D.C. to James, Duke of Monmouth. His first wife was a sister of Archibald Campbell of Inveraray, and two children were born of this union -- Dugald, his heir; and Margaret, who, on 24th December, 1696, married Robert Murray, Merchant in Inveraray, and gave up her husband's testament on 27th December, 1709. He married, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of John MacFarlane of Arrochar, without issue by this union. His third wife, Grizel MacAllister, whom he married on 23rd February, 1687, bore him a son, Colin, and survived him. He was succeeded by his eldest son --

Dugald, 5th of Kilberry, who is described as a youth on
30th January, 1678. He married Barbara, only child of Dugall Campbell of Logg, who was a younger brother of Colin Og, 2nd of Kilberry, on 30th January, 1678. His name appears on the list of those who supported Argyll in the rising of 1685, and he is described as “feuer of Kilberry heritor.” He died in December, 1715, leaving only four daughters — Elizabeth, who married her cousin, Dugald Campbell, 6th of Kilberry, on 5th November, 1718; Florence who married Archibald Campbell, younger of Ormsary (whose father, James Mor, was a younger brother of Colin Og, 2nd of Kilberry), on 4th April 1727; Grizel, who married Archibald Campbell, 2nd of Knockbuy, in February, 1718; and Isobel. He was succeeded by his cousin —

Dugald, 6th of Kilberry, eldest son of Duncan (who was the youngest brother of Angus, 4th of Kilberry), who died in 1733. By his wife, Elizabeth, he had issue — Colin, his heir; Angus; James; Archibald; Barbara; and Sussanah. He was succeeded by his eldest son —

Colin, 7th of Kilberry, who was a Lieutenant in Loudoun’s Highlanders in 1745; Captain of the 4th King’s Own Regiment in 1756; and raised and commanded the 10th Regiment of Highlanders in 1760. The following year he rose to the rank of Major. He married Catherine, daughter and heiress of Edward Glass, without issue. His death took place in Edinburgh on 15th January, 1793, in his 75th year. He left his estate to the grandson of his mother’s sister, John Campbell, 4th of Knockbuy.

THE CAMPBELLS OF KNAPE

The progenitor of this family was Patrick Campbell, a son of Campbell of Duntroon. In the Knap Inventory we find that the first deed mentioned is an Instrument of Sasine in favour of Patrick Campbell of Knap of the lands of Kilmore, Fernoche, Ballemore and Stronefield, lying in the Lordship of Knapdale, and dated 1567. On 10th June, 1568, Archibald, Earl of Argyll, granted a charter of confirmation in favour of the said Patrick. He was succeeded by his son —

Archibald Roy, 2nd of Knap. All that we know of him is that his death took place shortly before 21st July, 1631, when he was succeeded by his son —

Iain, 3rd of Knap. On 21st July, 1631, a Charter of Confirmation was granted in favour of Iain Campbell of Knap. Witnesses: Alexander Campbell, apparent of Phanass, Dugald Campbell of Laggan, Hugh McNeill in Fernoche, Knapdale, and Niall McMillan in Kendloch Kylesport (Reg. 15th June, 1632). On 29th May, 1632, a Sasine (George Campbell, Clerk of Dunkeld Diocese as Notary) following the Charter of Confirmation by Archibald, Lord Lorn, heir of the Earlom of Argyll, dated 21st July, 1631, was given in favour of Iain Campbell of Knap as son and heir of unquhile (the late Archibald roy Campbell of Knap, in the 2 merkland of Kilmore (Kilmory), 2 merk Fernoche (Fernoche), 4 merk Ballemore, 4 merk Stroneyll (now Stronefield), lying in the Lordship of Knapdale). Witnesses: Alexander Campbell, apparent of Phanasses, Dugald Campbell of Lagane, Duncan McCannell in Fernoche, Hew McNeill in Fernoche in Ross, and Niall McMillan in Kendloch Kylesport. Further mention is made of Iain when his son Patrick entered into a marriage contract with Mary, daughter of Colin Og, 2nd of Kilberry. In March, 1641, a Sasine (Duncan Duncanson, Clerk of Lismore Diocese, Notary Public) bearing that Iain Campbell of Knap came with Patrick Campbell, his lawful son, to the 2 merkland of Kilmory, 2 merk Fernoche, 4 merk Ballemore, 4 merk Stroneyll, lying in the Bailiary of Knapdale, and there, in completion of his part of the Marriage contract with Patrick Campbell, his son, and Mary Campbell, daughter of Colin Campbell of Kilberry, dated on 22 January, 1641, he gave Patrick Sasine, receiving his (Iain’s) own liferent except out of Ballemore. Witnesses: Iain Mcknavis (MacTavish) of Dunardarrie, Duncan McCannell in Fernoche, Duncan Mclgilleallum mcumillen there, Registrate at Glasgow 12 April, 1641 (Abstract from the original Knapp Writ in Inverneill Charter Chest). Iain was succeeded by his son —

Patrick, 4th of Knap. He had, at least, three sons — John, his heir; Archibald; and Neill. He was succeeded by his eldest son —

John 5th of Knap, who was hertor of the estate in 1685 when he and his two brothers took an active part in the Argyll rising. He was succeeded by his son —

Duncan, 6th of Knap, whose name appears with other Argyllshire lairds in a document, dated 1715, wherein a resolution was made to defend King George First’s person and government. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Captain Archibald Campbell of Achnadarroch, with issue — Patrick, his heir; Colin; Dugald; Isobel; and
Jean. He was succeeded by his eldest son —

Patrick, 7th of Knap. Little further is known of this family beyond the fact that the estate of Knap was bought by Colonel Archibald Campbell of Inverneill in 1775.

THE MACTAVISHES OF DUNARDARY

This old family held their lands in North Knapdale for centuries, and take their descent from Tavish, second son of Sir Colin Campbell of Loch Awe by a daughter of Subhne, Lord of Knapdale and Thane of Glascary. The name appears in strange forms such as McCaus, McCawis, McKavis and McNavis, and is from the Gaelic MacTamhais and MacTamhais, and means ‘son of Tammas’, the Lowland Scots form of Thomas.

John MacTavish, 1st of Dunardary, received a feu charter for his lands from the Earl of Argyll in 1533, which reads as follows: “At Kilmartin, 10 Dec., 1533. Feu charter by the Earl of Argyll to his beloved John McAllister VeEwin VeCaus and his son, Dugall McCane, and the lawful heirs of Dugall’s body, of the 3 merk lands of Tonardare (Dunardary), 2 merk lands of Dunnsna, 1 merk land of Bardarroch, 1 merk land of Barinoiskin and 1/2 merk land of Barindalp. Witnesses: Colin Campbell of Ardkinglass, Lachlan MacLachlan of that Ilk, Mr. Niall Campbell, Vicar of Kilmartin and Dean of Loch Awe, Mr. Rolland McCawis, Vicar of Inchald, and Ewer McCur of Rennymore.” At the same place and date a Precept of sasine was given, and on 16th December of the same year a sasine was given on the above charter. John MacTavish died sometime before 10th June, 1547, and was succeeded by his son —

Dugall, 2nd of Dunardary. This fact is borne out by the following: “At Glenselchis, 18 June, 1547. Precept of Clare Constat by the Master and the Earl of Argyll, addressed to their beloved Mr. Archibald Campbell of Arinafead and Donald McKay of Kilmachumaig, for the infeftment of Dugall McAn Alexander VeCewn as son and heir of deceased John McAllister VeEwin, in the above 7/2 merk lands in Knapdale. Witnesses: John Lamont of Knockdow, Dugall Campbell of Arduhillyardre (Arduholyan), John Ullitre of Kildalvan, Mr. Archibald McVicar, provost of Kilmen, and Mr. Alexander McCavis, rector of Kilmoir.” Dugall did not enjoy his estates long, for his death took place before 20th October of the same year. He was succeeded by his elder son —

Patrick, 3rd of Dunardary. On 20th October, 1547, a Precept of Clare Constat was given at Inveraray to Patrick for his infeftment in succession to his father, and on 2nd November of the same year he was granted a sasine for the said lands. On 28th July, 1569, he received a charter for his lands from the Earl of Argyll. The last we learn of him was in 1580, when he received a discharge of payment for part of the feu-deutesies of his estate. He was succeeded by his elder son —

John, 4th of Dunardary, who succeeded his father shortly after 8th June, 1580, and was dead before 6th November, 1633. He was succeeded by his son —

Archibald, 5th of Dunardary, who, on the same day as he was lawfully recognised as his father’s heir, resigned the said lands in favour of John, his eldest son, as witness the following: “At Kilmichael, 6th November, 1633. Procurator of resignation by Archibald McCawis of Tonardarie (through his procurator, Mr. James King, Advocate), appointing Archibald Campbell of Kildalvan his procurator for the resignation to Lord Lorn of the above 7 1/2 merk lands, for the purpose of a re-grant to John McCawis, eldest lawful son and apparent heir of the resigner. Witnesses: Walter Logane, John Thomson and Niall Cuik, all in Kilmichael. As the resigner cannot write, Alexander Kincaid appears as co-notary.

John, 6th of Dunardary, was married to a MacNeill, with issue — Donald, his heir; Dugall; Archibald; and Hew. Dugall is mentioned on record as having been a vassal of Argyll, but, contrary to tradition, he was not hanged from the battlements of Carnassary Castle in 1685, for he died peacefully at Dunracsona, Knapdale, in February or April, 1677. The inventory of the goods, etc. of the “deceist Dugall McTavish of Tonardarie” (sic) was given up “be Hew McTavish, his lawful brother german”, who was confirmed executor-dative at Kilmichael on 20th February, 1678; his cautioner being Colin Campbell of Blairintbert. John died sometime before 15th May, 1689, when he was succeeded by his eldest son —

Donald, 7th of Dunardary. On 24th July, 1658, “Donald McAvish, son to John McAvish of Dunardrie, who was served heir
of John McNeill, his mother's brother. He received a charter from Argyll for the lands of Dunardary shortly after his father's death on 15th May, 1669. His lands were forfeited in 1685 for his part in the Monmouth Rebellion the previous year, but they were later restored to him. He married Beasie, daughter of Rev. Dugald Campbell, parson of North Knapdale, with issue — Archibald. He died in June, 1694, and at the time of his death the debts due to him amounted to £62, 13. 4d., and debts due by him to £308. 10/. His funeral cost £120. We also learn that "on 24th October, 1694, the inventory of the goods and gear pertaining to usquhile Donald McTavish of Dunardary at the time of his decease in the month of June, 1694, was given up by 'Archibald McTavish, the defunct's brother', and Patrick Campbell of Kilduskland, executors-creditors decerned to the dead." He was succeeded by his only son —

Archibald, 8th of Dunardary. On 18th September, 1700, a Precept of Clare Constat was given him by the Earl of Argyll, and on 20th May, 1701, he received a same for his lands. His death took place shortly before 18th November, 1752, when he was succeeded by his son —

Dugald, 9th of Dunardary. He married Isabel, daughter of Lachlan MacLachlan of Stralachlan, with issue. Lachlan, his eldest son, entered into a Marriage Contract with Mary, only daughter of William Loch of Halkshaw, on 14th August, 1770. Among the lands mentioned are the 8 merk lands of Kilmichael, Inverlussa, with Mill and the 3 merk lands of Achachoirish in Glassary, of which no prior mention occurs in the Writs. Dugald's death took place sometime before 24th January, 1782, when he was succeeded by his eldest son —

Lachlan, 10th of Dunardary. He seems to have been in financial difficulties after his father's death, for, on 12th October, 1782, we find a "Trust Disposition by Lachlan McTavish of Tonnaldie in favour of James Ferrier, W. S., as Trustee on behalf of said Lachlan and his creditors. Registered in the Books of the Council and Session, 10 December, 1782." On 31st December, 1785, we have Argyll's confirmation of the above Trust, and on the same date the sale of the property went to Major-General John Campbell of Barbreck. By his wife, Mary Loch, he had Dugald, his heir; John; Margaret; and Flora. He died at Edinburgh in 1796. By disposition dated 11th August, 1796, Lachlan appointed Mary, his wife, as sole executor and legatee, and nominated her, along with John Loch, Esq., of

Rechan, Limen McTavish, Esq., Merchant, London, and Hector McNeal of Ugdale as curators to the children, Dugald, John, and Flora, which indicates that Margaret must have been of age. Dugald was apprentice to James and John Ferrier, and became a Writer to the Signet in 1813. On 30th April, 1810, he married Letitia, only daughter of the Rev. William Lockhard, D.D., of Glasgow. He was Sheriff-Substitute at Campbeltown from 1823 to 1848, and died in 1855. He was succeeded by his son, William, of the Hudson Bay Company, Canada. The family became well-known in Canada.

THE MACILVERNOCKS OF OIB AND ARDNACKAIG

This very old family is of ecclesiastical origin, their name in the Gaelic language being MacGhillieMhearraige, 'son of the servant of St. Mennoc', but through fanciful etymology they imagined that it was derived from Gilley-Mherreage, 'servant of the bite', or 'greim', hence the change of their surname to Graham. Their lands were known as Oib-Macilvernock, and latterly as Oib-Greim.

The first of the name to be found in records belonging to Knapdale is John McIlvernock of Oib, who, in 1684, was granted a bond of caution. We have good reason to believe that Archibald McIlvernock, minister of Rothesay in 1667 and last bishop of the Isles from 1680 to 1688, was a brother of John. The latter was succeeded by his son Archibald, who was heritor of Oib in 1686, when he was taken prisoner for his part in the Argyll rising. Archibald was succeeded by his son, Duncan, who married Margaret, sister of the Rev. Patrick Campbell, Minister of North Knapdale, with issue. In Clan Campbell records we glean the following: "1758, Aug. 9th — Discharge and Renunciation by John Campbell, sheriff-clerk of Argyll, narrating a bond by Duncan McIlvernock of Oib (then younger) and John McIlvernock of Ardnackaig as cautioner for him, dated 18th May, 1733, to the deceased Duncan McIntyre, then in Ardglass of Oib and Donald and Dugald, his sons, for £1000, which they resigned to the now deceased Archibald Campbell, sheriff-clerk, 'my' father, on 17th February, 1737, and the said Duncan McIlvernock having paid the same the discharge is now granted at Inveraray, 25th May, 1758." "1761, July 18th — Bond by Duncan McIlvernock of Oib, John McIlvernock, his heir thereof and Donald Graham, younger of Ardnackaig; dated at Kilmichael-Glassary 2nd June, 1759, James Campbell of Rudill being a witness."
Duncan McIlvernock was heritor of Ardackaig in 1649, when his son Donald was being considered as a student to be educated by the Synod of Argyll. Duncan married Elizabeth, daughter of Patrick Dubh Campbell of Stuik, fifth son of Donald Campbell, 1st of Kilmory. Donald McIlvernock was heritor of Ardackaig at the time of the Argyll rising, in 1685, when he was taken prisoner. He was succeeded by his son John, who appears as a cautioner for Duncan McIlvernock, younger of Obh, in 1733. John’s son and heir was Donald, referred to as “Donald Graham, younger of Ardackaig” in connection with a bond dated 2nd June, 1759.

During the first half of last century there were several Grahams living in Kilberry parish of Macilvernock stock. Some of them emigrated to Canada in 1832. Here are a few of the names: Alexander Graham, Kilberry; Duncan Graham, who married Katie MacKerral from Brunerican, Southend, Kintyre, and went to Canada in 1832. They had a son, Duncan, who became a captain and was drowned in 1872. He married Ann Graham, daughter of Donald Graham and Grace Campbell, both belonging to Lochgilphead, who emigrated in 1832. Captain Graham had a son, the Rev. Dr. Angus Graham, of Moose Jaw College, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada. There was also a John Graham from Kilberry, who married Catherine MacCormick, from Knapdale, and emigrated to Canada in 1832. On 22nd June, 1946, the following notice appeared in a well-known Scottish newspaper: “By giving up New Donna Farm, Tayvallich, Argyll, Mr. Archibald Graham is said to be ending a tenancy held by his family since 1692.”

THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISHES OF Knapdale

(1) North Knapdale or Gill Mo Charnaig

About the year 1200, a new bishopric was set up in Argyll with its headquarters in the island of Lismore. The new bishop exercised authority over the mainland of Argyll, Morvern and Lochaber, and these territories were divided into four “rural deaneries” known as Morvern, Lora, Glassary, and Kintyre. Knapdale was included within the latter and formed one parish until it was divided, in 1734, into two parishes — North and South Knapdale.

The Church of this parish was dedicated to St. Cormac, who is believed to be buried in Eilean Mór, S.W. of Danna, where two churches were dedicated to his memory, and on Bleau’s map a church is indicated to have been built to his memory at Kells. It was a prebend of Lismore and belonged to the Abbey of Kilwinning, Ayrshire. In the reign of Mary, Queen of Scots, the following entry was made: “The rental or fruits of the Church of Kilmacharnan, conforme to the charter of Lismore, to the Archdeacon of Kilwinning, and extractit be him brewlie to be glevin in befoir our soveraine lady and my lorde commissars’ in 1561, and also as ‘tain’ by Sir William of Tullibardin, the Queen’s Comptroller in 1566, amounted to £16.”

At Drumnaeraig, near Kilmichael-Inverlussa, are the ruins of an ancient chapel dedicated to St. Michael, the patron saint of mariners. At Kilbride also stood a chapel which was dedicated to St. Bride. Besides these, there was of old a chapel at Kilmallie dedicated to St. Loesic of Brittany; one to St. Cummoc at Kilmochalmaig, and another to St. Connoc in Kilmachonock, all in North Knapdale.

North Knapdale has two parish churches, the one at Kilmichael-Inverlussa, near the Manse, and the other on the farther side of Loch Sween, at Tayvallich. The following list contains the names of clergy who served from pre-Reformation times down to 1810:

1551 - James Lindsay, presented by Mary Queen of Scots in 1551.
1609 - John McCallum, presented to the parsonage and vicarage by King James VI, on 24th February, 1609. He died c.1619.
1620 - Dugald Campbell, who translated some of the Psalms into Gaelic, also the Book of Ecclesiastes. He was sent to minister to the congregation of Kilmallie in 1658 but returned to North Knapdale in 1661. He died in 1673, and was succeeded by his son Duncan as minister.
1673-1687 (?) Duncan Campbell.
1688 - William Campbell. His goods were plundered and he left the parish in June, 1689.
1715-1723 - John McGilchrist.
1725-1745 - Patrick Campbell, M.A.
1745-1756 - Donald Campbell.
1759-1774 - Archibald Campbell.
1776 - John McKinnon, presented to the Church, but his appointment was declared illegal.
1778–1810 - Archibald Campbell.

(2) South Knapdale

This parish was disjoined from North Knapdale on 20th February, 1734. There are two fine ruined chapels in South Knapdale -- St. Maolruhiu's at Kilmory, and St. Columba's at Kells. The Kilmory Church was built by Alexander MacMillan, 5th of Knap, who married Erca MacNeill, the heiress of Castle Sween. It is curiously built in that it has only one window towards the east. This, no doubt, was in accord with the symbolism and the significance of the eucharistic rites in the worship of the Mediaeval Church that the lighting of the material fabric should be concentrated upon that portion of it to which the eye and the heart of the worshippers would naturally be directed. The dimensions of the church are 38 feet by 17 feet internally, and 44 feet by 22 1/2 feet externally; width of wall from 2 3/4 feet to 3 feet. Some years ago when the church was rapidly falling into decay it was restored with the consent of Mr. Fox Tarrant, the then Laird of Ellary, at the expense of the Marquis of Northampton. The most interesting and famous relic in Kilmory Churchyard is the MacMillan Cross, which stands outside the west end of the Church. It is 9 feet high, and with the pedestal 12 feet. The inscription on the east side of the Cross reads thus: "Haec est crux Alexandri MacMullen" ("This is the cross of Alexander MacMullen"). At St. Columba's, Kells, there is a very fine Celtic Cross, some interesting stones in the Churchyard, also a cave in the neighbourhood, known as St. Columba's Cave. South Knapdale has two parish churches -- one at Achaholsh, where the Manse is, and the other at Inverneill. The following list contains the names of parish ministers there from 1715 to 1842:

1715–1761 - Patrick Pollock, son of John Pollock of Baranlongart.
1762–1768 - Hugh Campbell.
1771–1805 - Daniel Hyndman.
1806–1842 - Duncan Rankin.

(3) Kilcolmanell and Kilberry

Those two churches were united before 1560. Each parish has its own church, KILCOLMANELL: - The Church is situated at Clachan on the south bank of West Loch Tarbert, and it is known as the Kirkton of Kilcolmanell. This church was dedicated to St. Colman Eala. It was a prebend of Lismore and belonged to the Abbey of Paisley. In 1433, John Arons, a priest of St. Andrews diocease, was removed from the perpetual vicarage of Kilcolmanell on the ground of inter alia that he does not well understand nor intelligently speak the language (Gaelic) of the parishioners (Papal Letters, vol. viii, p. 470; Highland Papers, vol. iv, p. 17). KILBERRY -- According to the late Prof. W. J. Watson and others, the ancient church of Kilberry was dedicated to St. Berach of Kilberry in Roscommon, but local tradition strongly favours Baire (Bairre) from Cork. Indeed, the spelling of the name in 1541 was Kilberry, which seems more feasible than Kilberach. In Argyllshire the tendency in Gaelic is to narrow the vowel 'a' to sound like 'e', hence the reason why, over a period of time, the name Kilberry has been changed to Kilberach. In 1492, John of Islay, Lord of the Isles and patron of the Church of Kilberry in Knapdall, with consent of Thomas Flemmyng the rector, for the benefit of the Church of Lismore, which was of slender revenue, for the benefit of the prelates, and for the relief of himself and his successors, who were unqualified to present fit persons to the Church, granted to Robert, Bishop of Argyll, his right of patronage of the Church of Kilberry, so that it should be lawful for him or his successors to annex it to the See, or otherwise to dispose of it (Reg. Mag. Sig. lib. xiv, No. 389). In 1531, on the decease of Sir Cornelius Man, prebendary of Kilberheith (Kilberry) in Knapdall, King James V appointed Master Duncan Man to the benefice (Reg. Mag. Sig. vol. ix, fol. 64). In 1541, the advowson of Kilberry was included in a grant of the barony of Lochow by King James V to Archibald, Earl of Argyll (Reg. Mag. Sig. lib. xxvii, No. 152; Argyll Charters), which, in 1542, was confirmed by the same king to Archibald, his son and heir apparent (Reg. Mag. Sib. lib. xxviii, No. 346). In 1667, the patronage of Kilberry was granted to Archibald, Earl of Argyll, in a new charter of the earldom by King Charles II (Argyll Inventory). In 1695, the patronage was still in the hands of Argyll (Retours). The old Church of Kilberry stood on the right bank of the Lornahunson burn, whereas the old burial-place was inside Kilberry Castle grounds and now the front lawn. In 1767, Colin Campbell, 7th of Kilberry, removed many of the old gravestones...
from this ancient burial-place, built a bridge with some of them, and turned the cemetery into a bowling green. This sacrilege was brought to the notice of the Duke of Argyll who took action and summoned Colin to appear before him at Inveraray on 3rd June, 1768. The following is an account of the decision reached: “1769, April 8th. Mutual Contract between Colin Campbell of Kilberry on the one part, and Dugald Campbell of Xintartbert and John Campbell of Drimmamuckloch for themselves and all the other persons pursuers in the action of declarator or damages depending against the said Colin Campbell respecting a new burial-place within the Parish of Kilberry, to which the said Colin Campbell is to cause to remove the grave stones of the old burial-place or as many as can be found there or in any other place whither he has already removed them. He is not to plough up the old burying ground near the Castle of Kilberry, but leave the same for ever in grass and verdure: dated at Inveraray, 3rd June, 1768. Witnesses: 2 Campbells.” An agreement was reached between Kilberry and the Kirk Session of the Parish Church and a new place of interment was opened on the Carse estate. A few years ago, the bridge in the Castle grounds was taken down and the tombstones are now housed in a small museum at the entrance. Kilberry Castle is built on the site of what was once an old monastery of an independent order and probably attached to Lismore. There are traces of remains of the refectory, the monks’ fish-ponds, and what were once the cloister walls. The present Church of Kilberry stands on or near the site of the old church at Lornahunston, and was built in 1821. The following list contains the names of those who have served as ministers of the united parishes from 1580 to 1823:

1580 – Hector McAllister, presented to the vicarage by King James VI with the parsonage of Kilmore, Arran, on 23rd August, 1580.

1629-1638 – Maurice Darroch was in charge when the teinds (tithes) were valued on 16th and 17th August, 1629. He died on 10th March, 1638, aged 63.

1641-1649 – Dugald Darroch, M.A.

1649-1650 – Archibald McAllister, M.A., minister of Kilarrow.

1659-1661 – John Darroch, who was deprived by the Test in 1659.

1664-1668 – Swayne McSweyne, M.A., who was deprived of his charge for taking part in the rising of 1685.

1687-1688 – John Darroch.


1704-1732 – John Campbell. Deposited for drunkenness on 8th March, 1732.

1751-1779 – Archibald MacNelle.

1781-1823 – Alexander Campbell.

STATISTICS OF THE PARISHES

The Parish of North Knapdale is bounded N.E. and N.W. by the Crinan Canal and Loch Crinan; W. and S.W. by the Sound of Jura; from 12 to 13 miles long by 5 or 6 miles broad. Castle Sween intersects the parish. The extent of the area is 43 square miles, a seventh part of which was under cultivation and above 2,000 acres under afforestation, in 1841. Then, there were fifteen heritors in the parish when their rentals were valued each at £100 Scots. The population was 2,170 in 1841. At the last census taken in 1951, the population was 440; 213 being males and 227 females.

The Parish of South Knapdale is 15 miles long by 5 1/2 broad, with an area of about 57 square miles, a small proportion of which is arable and produces very light crops. Loch Killisport intersects the parish for several miles. There were twelve heritors in the parish in 1841, when their rentals were valued each at £100 Scots. Then, the population of the parish was 2,223. At the last census, taken in 1951, the population was 2,330; 1,092 being males and 1,238 females.

The united parishes of Kilcolmanell and Kilberry cover both sides of West Loch Tarbert. In 1842, the soil was described as fertile, but agriculture in the back-ground. Potatoes were then the main crop. The population was 2,460 in 1841. At the last census, taken in 1951, the population of Kilcolmanell was 1,353; 577 being males and 686 females.

THE PLACE-NAMES OF KNApadale

(1) Places:

ACHADACAE, G. Achadh da chathaidh, 'field of the two breaches or defiles.' S.W. of Bardaravine.

ACHADH GHAORRUNN, G. for 'field of rowan trees.' N.E. of Ardpatrick House.

ACHADH GHOSON, G. for 'field of hollows.' W. of Bhr Thormaid.


AIGHHOISH, G. Achadh e' choilis, 'field of the hollow.' S. of Lochhead

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BARDARAVINE, G. Börr dā reabhairn, 'height of two rignamora.' S.N. of Achadnagoss.

BARNABUR, G. Börr darsach, 'oak-tree height.' S.N. of Blaristibhert.

BARLOCHAN, G. Börr lochain, 'lakelet height.' S. of Carnachrochan.

BARNACAD, G. Börr Nan gaid, 'height of the mica.' S.R. of Anachmara.

BARNACLADDEN, G. Börr nan mbaile, 'height of the town.' S. of Anachmara.

BARNKLADAN, G. Börr an sheallain, 'the fennel's height.' S.W. of Banbarra.


BARNAWALL, G. Börr nan dbha, 'the boundary of the region.' S. of Little Orskaile.

BELSAICH A' DHUUIN, G. for 'the gun pass.' S.E. of Castle Swann.

BLEACH GAÓDÁGH, G. for 'windpass.' S. of Loch nan Altair.

BLEACH MÜHLION, G. for 'the knife-waves.' S.E. of Little Orskaile.

BLEANTIN, G. Börr an t-ubhair, 'field of the wall.' S.E. of Ballach.

BLANACHNAN, G. for 'the thistle.' S. of Ballach.

BLOCHDABH, G. for 'the backpack.' S. of Bank in Dronch.

BLOCHETH, G. for 'the lady's bay.' S. of Rudh' Cianach an Treighdaich.

BOLIGEAD, G. O. für 'the smelly bay.' S. of rutha Lagh rothag.

BOLIGEAD, G. 'in Old Norse, car,' 'a pool, marsh, or fen-land.' Probably means 'marshy place.' N. of Isballoich.

BOLIGEAD, G. 'in Lowland Scots and means 'a stretch of flat, fertile land near a river.' E.S. of Arnpark.

BOLIGEAD, G. 'in Lowland Scots and means 'a stretch of flat, fertile land near a river.' E.S. of Arnpark.

CASTLE SWANN, G. Dan suidhe, 'Swann's fort.' The date of its erection is not known, but it is evidently the work of different ages. The walls displaythickness, height, and, including MacKinnon's Tower, 105 ft. In length. MacKinnon's Tower, 20 ft. in diameter. All the old houses in the castle chambers there are traces of windows and two vents. It stands opposite the Island of Durness.

CASTLE LOCH CÉLLAICH FORT, G. for 'beachhead fort.' Near Achadel.

CRAIG NA BÉ, G. 'in Arrochar farm.

CRAIGACH, G. for 'poky place.' N.E. of Kilmauch.

CRAIGACH ON KINSION OF RICKLOMGNILL, Clachan, G. for 'village where there is a high cliff, an island, and a spring.' S.E. of Arnpark.

CRAIGIEBHUR, G. 'a black rock.' S. of Ballysken.

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CROAG MAN TALLAGH, G. for 'rock of the small thorns.' 5 1/2 ft. of Beoco's Seat.

CROAG MAN RACNULI, G. for 'Ronald's rock.' N.S. of Gleann Tarmuidh.

CROAG A' BHAAILLECH, G. for 'the estate factor's hill.' 658 ft. S. of Loch a' Bhaillich.

CROAG MAN GHOLAIN, G. for 'grey field hill.' 880 ft. S. of Loch an t-Achar.

CROAG A' IRIDE, G. for 'hill of sentiments.' 699 ft. S. of Keppoch.

CROAG MAN LOCHA, G. for 'hill of the loch.' 1003 ft. S. of Loch a' Chaer-duirn.

CROAG AN SSALADH, G. for 'hill of the view.' 858 ft. S. of Cruach a' Bhalail.

CROAG MAN TAILLIR, G. for 'the tailor's hill.' 1000 ft. W. of Loch nan Torran.

CROAG MAN T-BHOCNAI, G. for 'hill of the rest.' 1285 ft. S.W. of Cruach an Fhreasteidin.

CROAG A' FHEARRULL, G. for 'hill of the tank.' 1564 ft. W. of Artiglach.

CROAG MAN GHOLAIN, G. for 'aparted hill.' (174)0 ft. S.E. of Assay Point; (2) N.S. of Loch Garadhail.

CROAG CHAIGHT, G. for 'rowan tree hill.' 1001 ft. N. of Stenfield.

CROAG MAN GHOLAIN, G. for 'aparted hill.' 1285 ft. S. of Cruach an Bhalail.

CROAG DOIRE LONNAIG, G. for 'grey grove hill.' 1225 ft. S. of Cruach an Bhalail.

CROAG KIN CINTAIR, G. for 'den grove hill.' 825 ft. S.E. of Glenlochil.


CROAG LACAIN, G. for 'little hollow hill.' 907 ft. N.W. of Cruach an Fhreasteidin.

CROAG LUSACH, G. for 'hill abounding in herbs.' 1535 ft. S.W. of Beaco's Seat.

CROAG MIEADHNOICH, G. for 'middle hill.' 7 ft. of Acharbre.

CROAG 'BHAAILLECH, G. for 'McConagher's hill.' 918 ft. S. of Loch Garadhail.

CROAG MAN NHAILLECH, G. for 'hill of the cullar hill.' 736 ft. N.S. of Cruach a' Bhaillich.

CROAG BLAIN, G. for 'grey hill.' 642 ft. W. of Stronachull.

CROAG MINNICHDA, G. for 'balchan-calf hill.' 742 ft. N.S. of Cruach a' Bhaillich.

CROAG DONN, G. for 'brown hill.' 682 ft. N.W. of Ballochroy.

CROAG DUBH, G. for 'black hill.' (1181 ft. N.W. of Loch an t-Achar; (2) E. N. of Cruach an Bhalail.

CROAG MAN NA BHALAIL, G. for 'black hill of the loch.' N. of Loch a' Bhalail.

CROAG DUBH AN LOCHU, G. for 'black hill of the loch.' N. of Loch an t-Achar.

CROAG LACAIN, G. for 'little hollow hill.' 907 ft. N.W. of Cruach an Fhreasteidin.

CROAG CREDACH, G. for 'rocky hill.' 907 ft. N.W. of Cruagail.

CROAG CREAGAIN, G. for 'little rock hill.' W. of Glenmor.

CROAG DONN, G. for 'brown hill.' 682 ft. N.W. of Ballochroy.

CROAG DUBH, G. for 'black hill.' 1181 ft. N.W. of Loch an t-Achar; (2) E. N. of Cruach an Bhalail.

CROAG GHOLAIN, G. for 'hill of the barn.' 553 ft. S. of Glemisdall.

CROAG A' T-SAMAIL, G. for 'hill of the aperture.' 865 ft. W. of Corg.

CROAG A' T-SAMAILL, GHOLAIN, G. for 'hill of the little view.' 615 ft. W. of Cruach.

CROAG MAN SNUIEUR, G. for 'hill of the seat.' N.W. of Skippin.

CROAG MAN 'FhROCH, G. for 'hill of the prop or support.' 793 ft. S.E. of Saille Bhalailch.

CROAG CHAIGHT, G. for 'rocky hill.' 907 ft. N.W. of Cruagail.

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CROAG MAN NA BHALAIL, G. for 'black hill of the loch.' N. of Loch a' Bhalail.
DUBH CHROM, G. for 'black rock.', [Reft. 2. S.E. of Drumichael.]
POUR LAUCHON or LAUCH (irregularly small LAACH on map), G. for 'cold slope.'
EAD-BEACH, G. for 'Chruish.'
CERCAICH GHAIRDS CHROM, G. for 'big den streddle.' N.Y. of Druim nan Colkam.
CERCAICH KROH, G. for 'big shoulder.' 9876.T. S.W. of Ruche Grian.
TRAI GHROD, G. for 'small hill.' 1645.T. S.W. of Loch a' Chulile Edirre.
BALL BUIDHE, G. for 'yellow hill.' S. of Loch an Torrnan.
LAUCH DORN, G. for 'black hill.' 3081.T. S. of Sronain.
LAUCH DORN, G. for 'black hill.' 1632.T. S.E. of Sronain.
LAUCH NA GORD, G. for 'the sheep hill.' 7. S.W. of Ball Buidhe.
LAUCH NA NAIRISE, G. for 'vain-colored hill.' S.W. of Small Sea.
LAUCH NA NAIRISE, G. for 'vain colored hill.' 1. S.E. of Loch an Shratheach.
(2) YCRR, S. of Cruach Gair Dhitr.
LAUCH NA NAIRISE, G. for 'red hill.' 1. S.W. of Craig Mhurchaidh; 2. S.W. of Cruach Bhuidhe.
SEIR'DHUI, G. Seir dhui, 'the west ridge.' 11. S. of Achearaid.
CERCAICH GROIL, G. for 'mountain of Jow.' 1044.T. of Coire Thomag.
COILRATH, G. for 'famine volk.' S.W. of Cruach Dhrichein Chin.
SURT EARADH, G. for 'spedked pinnacle.' 3. S. of Cuco an h-Elatra.
(3) Islands and Skerries.
RAGADH ISLAND, G. Bliadh mhor, 'big helpht' and an illam, 'island.' S. of Stornfield Castle.
GALLOCH, A. FOR 'strike rocks.' 1644.T. of Dhubh Spior.
GOLACH ISLAN, G. for 'steam island.' 1. W. of Gillean Charn.
CERCAICH GHOLACH, G. for 'black skerry.' 1. S.E. of Corrag an domh.
ISLAN A' CHIEPPIN, G. for the hoga island.' S. of Rannoch Island.
ISLAN CHAIR N A GRILL, G. for 'the isle of comas.' 1. S. of Eillmore Point.
ISLAN GHOLACH, G. for 'isile of the little fort.' N. of Port an Dunain.
GOLACH ORCHO, G. for 'isile of the gruffy place.' 1. W. of Port an Dunain.
ISLAN ORCHO CHAI, G. for 'Kennycrag Island.' S.W. of Kennycrag.
SURT ORCHO CHAI, G. for 'stones of the savage island.' 1. W. of Port an Dunain.
ISLAN CHAIR N A GRILL, G. for 'steam island.' 1. W. of Cruach Gair Dhitr.
ISLAN DA' GALLACHAGH, G. for 'isile of the two small landwader.' S. of Stornfield.
ISLAN NA GRAI, G. for 'Swoon's island.' 3. S. of the Point.
ISLAN PADA, G. for 'Sloch island.' 1. W. of Cleechree.
ISLAN CHAI, G. for 'stirk island.' 1. S. of Corrag Eilean.
ISLAN NA GRAI, G. for 'the martins isle.' S.W. of Kilmichael.
ISLAN KOM, G. for 'big island.' 1. S. of Corrag Gills.
ISLAN NA GRAI, G. for 'isile of the cave or den.' 1. S. of Illiy.
ISLAN NA GRAI, G. for 'isile of the little lands.' S. of Balemore. It is probably an error for Eilen Killichair, 'MacHiven's isle,' which too gives the same words about the same location.
ISLAN POINT LOA, G. for 'isile of the grey port.' N.S. of Dullen nan leith.
ISLAN NA GRAI, G. for 'sowen's isle.' (1) S. of Xollus; (2) S. of Stornfield; (3) W. of Omery; (4) S. of Ardochch.
SIRTACHACH, G. for 'little white stone.' 1. W. of Timachgett; 2. S. of Stornfield.
ISLAN CHAIR, G. for 'the traditional rocks where the MacKillopans of Knap had their rock-mortar engraven.'
CLAY EILSAN, G. for 'grey isle.' 1. S. of Port an Aineail.
DURRELL, G. for 'black hill.' S. of Dulean. Opposite Dulean.
LIATH EILSAN, G. for 'grey isle.' 1. W. of wide Den; (2) N. of Ruche nan Lamhag; (3) W. of Knap Point.
GOLAGH AN PHOEDHIGH, G. for 'the wood skerry.' N. of Scuir nan Sgorbo.
GOLACH PSEATHACH, G. for 'Sophie's skerry.' N. of Kaeach Point.
GOLACH DURRACH, G. for 'yellow skerry.' S. of Port an Aineail.
GOLACH DURRACH, G. for 'bottom of the loch skerry.' W. of Doilea.
GOLACH DURRACH, G. for 'Duncan's skerry.' S. of Eileen a' Chapullil.
GOLACH DURRACH, G. for 'black skerry of the devility.' S. of Dulean.
GOLACH DURRACH, G. for 'black skerry of the devility.' S. of Dulean.
GOLACH DURRACH, G. for 'black skerry of the devility.' S. of Dulean.
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The Map on the cover of this .pdf was published by J. Blaeu in 1654. It was, however, originally drafted in the late 1500s.

An original is in the collection of the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh.

For more information, go to: www.n.s.uk/maps/atlas/blaeu

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