

BALFOUR

OF DENMILN

JAMES BALFOUR OF DENMILN, descended from Balfour of Montquhannie, acquired the lands of Denmiln and is said to have been *k.* at the seige of Roxburgh in 1460. He was father of :

PATRICK BALFOUR OF DENMILN, was entered in the lands of Mill of Den on 15 April 1490,¹ and *d.* by 5 April 1502, when his son John was next entered. He was father of :

JOHN BALFOUR OF DENMILN, succeeded his father in the lands of Mill of Den in which he was first entered on 5 April 1502,² then on 7 May 1505,³ and in which he was set in feu on 1 May 1508.⁴ He was *k.* at the battle of Flodden in September of 1513,⁵ having *m.* Christian Sibbald, said to be a daughter of Sibbald of Rankeilour, who is styled as his widow when she had a liferent of the lands of Denmiln confirmed to her on 2 January 1516,⁶ and was father of :

1. Patrick Balfour of Denmiln, (*see below*).
2. Michael Balfour, was appointed a Canon of the Cathedral Church of Dunkeld and Commendator of Melrose Abbey.

PATRICK BALFOUR OF DENMILN, is styled as a Herald when he received payment for his services in 1501,⁷ and was entered in the lands of Mill of Den on 9 November 1513,

¹ Ex. Rolls. Vol. X. P. 674.

² Ex. Rolls. Vol. X. P. 620.

³ Ex. Rolls. Vol. X. P. 692.

⁴ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XII. P. 615.

⁵ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XV. P. 564.

⁶ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XIV. P. 495.

⁷ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XI. P. 294-295.

as heir to his deceased father “qui obiit in campo de Flowdon.”¹ He had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Denmiln as heir to his deceased father on 29 September, 1541, *m.* Janet Ballingall and *d.* in 1542² being father of :

ALEXANDER BALFOUR OF DENMILN, succeeded his father and had Sasine for the lands of Denmiln on 2 July 1546, which had lapsed and been in the King’s hands for the space four years.³ He had the gift of the escheat of James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, on 3 March, 1568,⁴ and *d.* in August of 1587 having *m.* firstly by 18 January, 1566, to Marion Balfour when they had a charter for the lands of Fardelschaw, in the barony of Dunkeld, from his uncle Michael Balfour, Commendator of Melrose, by whom he had issue :

1. Elizabeth Balfour, *m.* Robert Balfour, (*c/m* 1 June 1584⁵).

He *m.* secondly to Janet Hay and was father of :

2. Sir Michael Balfour of Denmiln, (*see below*).

SIR MICHAEL BALFOUR OF DENMILN, *b. bap.* 1579/80, succeeded his father and, with his mother Janet Hay, he had a Tack of the teinds of the lands of Denmiln on 10 February, 1597.⁶ He was appointed Comptroller to the Household of King Charles I., obtained the lands of Glentarkie from the heirs of Andrew Balvaird of Glentarkie on 30 April, 1647, and *m.* Jean, daughter of James Durham of Pitkerro, (she *d.* at Denmiln on 8 November 1640). He *d.* at Denmiln on 4 February, 1652,⁷ and was father of :

1. **SIR JAMES BALFOUR, OF KINNAIRD AND 1ST BARONET OF DENMILN**, appointed Lord Lyon, King of Arms, and was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia on 22 December, 1633, with remainder

¹ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XV. P. 564.

² Ex. Rolls. Vol. XVIII. P. 402.

³ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XVIII. P. 402.

⁴ GD224/997/1/4

⁵ RD1/34/173b

⁶ GD38/1/30

⁷ Lamont’s Diary.

to his heirs male whatsoever. He *m.* firstly, on 21 October, 1630, Ann, daughter of Andrew Aytoun of that Ilk, (she *d.* at Falkland on 26 August 1644), whom he infeft in a liferent of the lands of Kinnaird on 29 January 1631, and by whom he had issue ; secondly, in 1645, Jean, daughter of Sir James Durham of Pitkerro, (she was widow of James Smeaton, son of Sir John Smeaton of Stevenston, and *d.* on 19 July, 1645¹), and thirdly, Margaret, daughter of Sir James Arnot, 2nd of Fernie, (she *d.* at Denmiln in December of 1653²). He *m.* fourthly, in June of 1654, Janet, daughter of Sir William Auchinleck of Balmanno,³ *d.* at Denmiln on 13 February, 1657, aged fifty-three years, and was buried at Abdie,⁴ and was father of :

- 1a) Michael Balfour, a son by his father's first marriage, who *d.* young.
- 1a) John Balfour, a son by his father's first marriage, who *d.* young.
- 1a) Michael Balfour, a son by his father's first marriage, who *d.* young.
- 1a) Margaret Balfour, by her father's first marriage. She *d.* unmarried.
- 1a) Jean Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 28 March, 1633, and *d.* unmarried.
- 1a) Elizabeth Balfour, by her father's first marriage. She *d.* unmarried.
- 1a) Barbara Balfour, by her father's first marriage. She *d.* unmarried.
- 1a) Anna Balfour, by her father's first marriage. She *d.* unmarried.
- 1a) Elizabeth Balfour, by her father's first marriage. She *d.* unmarried.
- 1a) Michael Balfour, by his father's third marriage. He *d.* young.
- 1a) **ROBERT BALFOUR, 2ND BARONET OF DENMILN**, *bap.* at Abdie on 14 March, 1652, and was served heir male to his father and his grandfather, Sir Michael Balfour, in the lands of Kinnaird and Denmiln on 27 October, 1657.⁵ He was *ksp* in a duel with James Makgill in 1673.
- 1a) Elizabeth Balfour, by her father's third marriage. She *d.* young.
- 1a) Jean Balfour, by her father's third marriage. She *d.* young.
- 1a) Helen Balfour, by her father's third marriage. She was *bap.* at Abdie on 16 June, 1653.
- 1a) Janet Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 25 July, 1655, and *m.* James Arnot of Woodmiln. They had issue.
- 1a) Katherine Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 28 October, 1656, and *m.* at Kingsbarns on 24 April, 1674, Dr. George Patullo of Balhouffie.⁶ They had issue.

¹ Edinburgh Tests.

² Lamont's Diary.

³ Lamont's Diary.

⁴ Lamont's Diary.

⁵ Retours. Fife. Nos. 876 & 877.

⁶ OPR – Kingsbarns.

2. Sir Alexander Balfour, Minister of Abdie and 3rd Baronet of Denmiln, (*see below*).
3. Michael Balfour of Pitmeddan and Randerston, obtained the lands of Randerston in 1663, and *m.* firstly, Katherine, daughter of John Lepar, Provost of St. Andrews, (she *d.* in 1652). He *m.* secondly, Marie, daughter of Peter Hay of Leys, (*c/m* 9 & 11 February 1653). He entailed his lands of Randerston upon his nephew, James Balfour, and other male relatives on 23 October, 1677, and *dsp* soon after.
4. Sir David Balfour of Glentarkie and Forret, *bap.* at Abdie on 12 September, 1623, and to whom his father assigned the lands of Glentarkie and Pittenbrog on 24 January, 1652.¹ He was admitted an Advocate on 29 January, 1650, was Knighted in 1674 and nominated a judge in the Court of Session, and took his seat on the bench with the title of Lord Forret on 2 June 1674. The following year he was appointed a judge of the court of justiciary. In 1685 he was elected a commissioner for the county of Fife to the parliament which met that year, was chosen one of the lords of the articles, and appointed a commissioner for the plantation of kirks. He *m.* firstly, a woman whose name has not yet been ascertained, and secondly, after June of 1669, to Ann, daughter of John Forrester of Stratheny, (she was widow of William Aytoun of Feddinch, who had *dsp* on 22 June, 1669²). He was father of :
 - 4a) Michael Balfour, 2nd of Forret, succeeded his father and was served his heir on 1 November, 1707. He had his lands forfeited for his support of the Jacobite cause in 1715, and was father of :
 - 4b) James Balfour 3rd of Forret, succeeded his father and disposed the lands of Forret, becoming a merchant in Edinburgh. He *m.* Christian, daughter of Sir John Carstairs of Kilconquhar, *d.* in 1763³ and was father of :
 - 4c) Ann Balfour, *m.* at Edinburgh on 20 June, 1773, to Andrew Simpson, younger of Pendreich.⁴
 - 4c) Alison Balfour, who, with her sister Ann, was returned heir to their grandfather Robert Rutherford of Fairlee, and their uncle, John Rutherford of Faldonside, on 16 March, 1764.
 - 4a) Andrew Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 20 January, 1669.
 - 4a) James Balfour of Randerston, named as heir of entail in a talzie of the lands of Randerston by his uncle Michael Balfour of Randerston on 23 October, 1677, and whom he

¹ GD62/122

² Lamont's Diary.

³ Edinburgh Tests.

⁴ Scots Magazine, 1st June 1773, edition.

succeeded in these lands shortly afterwards. He *m.* Marie, daughter of Peter Hay of Leys, (*c/m* 21 November, 1690), *d.* in February of 1729, and was father of :

- 4b) Michael Balfour, younger of Randerston, witness to his sister Mary's contract of marriage with George Hay of Leys, in 1713, and *dsp.*
 - 4b) Robert Balfour of Randerston, *bap.* at Kingsbarns on 23 December 1698, succeeded his father on his death in 1729, and *dsp* in October of 1741 with his brother-in-law George Hay of Leys acting as his executor.¹
 - 4b) Jean Balfour, styled as eldest daughter of James Balfour of Randerston in her aunt Agnes Hay's Testament in 1702.
 - 4b) Anna Balfour, *bap.* on 30 March, 1695, and is named in her aunt Agnes Hay's Testament in 1702.
 - 4b) Mary Balfour, *m.* at Errol on 15 August, 1713, George Hay of Leys,² (*c/m* at Randeston on 11 August, 1713. He *d.* in February of 1752), and had issue which succeeded to the lands of Randerston, (*see Hay of Leys*).
 - 4b) Catherine Balfour, *bap.* on 4 April, 1696.
 - 4b) Rachel Balfour, *bap.* on 5 June, 1700.
 - 4b) Janet Balfour, *bap.* on 18 October, 1701, and *d.* in infancy.
 - 4b) Janet Balfour, *bap.* on 3 April 1703.
 - 4b) Helen Balour, *bap.* on 24 March, 1705.
 - 4a) Alexander Balfour,
 - 4a) Elizabeth Balfour, *m.* at Edinburgh on 20 November 1679, to David Balfour of Grange,³ from whom she had a charter for an annualrent from his lands of Grange in implementation of their contract of marriage on 21 July, 1686. They had issue.
 - 4a) Rachel Balfour, *m.* firstly, William Forrester W.S., and had issue ; and secondly on 14 December, 1702, to Patrick Coutts, Merchant and Banker in Edinburgh,⁴ (he was widow of Jean Dunlop by whom he had issue), by whom she had issue.
5. Sir Andrew Balfour, *bap.* at Adbdie on 10 January, 1630, and was founder of the Royal College of Physicians. He *m.* Anne Napier, (she was buried at Greyfriars, Edinburgh, on 20 August, 1692⁵), *d.* in January, 1694, being buried in the Greyfriars, Edinburgh, on 13th of that month,¹ and was father of :

¹ St. Andrew's Tests.

² OPR – Errol.

³ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁴ OPR – Edinburgh. She is then styled as relict of William Forrester W.S.

⁵ Greyfriars Burial Register.

5a) Michael Balfour of Northbank, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 10 May, 1672, is named, in 1677, as one of the substitute heirs to his uncle Michael Balfour in his lands of Randerston and was witness with his father to an Instrument of Sasine for an annualrent from the lands of Mugdrum in favour of Margaret Graham, wife of Henry Cheap, fiar of Rossie, on 27 July, 1691. He was retoured heir to his father in certain lands around St. Andrews on 28 May 1696, and *m.* on 31 December 1694, to Christian, daughter of John Barclay and sister of John Barclay of Collernie.² He was father of,

5b) John Balfour, *bap.* at Dunbog on 3 September 1697.

5b) Elizabeth Balfour, *bap.* at Dunbog on 3 September, 1696.

5a) Andrew Balfour, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 29 January, 1675, and *d.* young.

5a) David Balfour, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 1 June, 1679.

5a) John Balfour, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 30 December, 1680.

5a) Andrew Balfour, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 15 April, 1682.

5a) Andrew Balfour, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 5 June, 1683.

5a) James Balfour, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 8 January, 1686.

5a) Anna Balfour, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 15 April, 1682.

6. Margaret Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 30 October, 1626.

7. Lillias Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 12 October, 1627.

8. Elizabeth Balfour, *m.* William Murray of Drumcairn, younger son of David Murray of Letterbannochy, (*c/m* 18 June, 1636), and had issue.

9. Alison Balfour, *m.* James Cheap of Ormiston and Rossie, (*c/m* 30 July 1639), and had issue.

SIR ALEXANDER BALFOUR, 3RD BARONET OF DENMILN, was appointed Minister of Abdie and succeeded his nephew Sir Robert Balfour, 2nd Baronet of Denmiln, in the lands of Denmiln and to whom he was retoured heir on 29 July, 1674.³ He *d.* by 22 July 1675, when his eldest son Michael was retoured his heir, having *m.* first, Euphemia Carstairs, (she *d.* in August of 1634⁴), by whom he was father of :

By his first wife he had issue :

¹ Greyfriars Burial Register.

² OPR – Dunbog.

³ Retours. Fife. No. 1134.

⁴ St. Andrews Tests.

1. Sir Michael Balfour, 4th Baronet of Denmiln, (*see below*).
2. Jean Balfour, *m.* James MakGill of Flass, son of James MakGill of Rankeilour, (*c/m* dated 17 May 1648).

He *m.* secondly, Katherine, daughter of David Pitcairn of that Ilk, by whom he had further issue :

3. William Balfour, named as one of the substitute heirs to his uncle Michael Balfour's lands of Randerston in 1677.
4. Alexander Balfour,
5. James Balfour,
6. Anna Balfour,
7. Grissel Balfour,

He *m.* thirdly, Janet, daughter of Peter Hay of Leys, by whom he had no apparent issue.

SIR MICHAEL BALFOUR, 4TH BARONET OF DENMILN, succeeded his father and was retoured his heir in the lands of Denmiln on 22 July, 1675.¹ He *m.* Jean, daughter of Sir John Aytoun of that Ilk, *d.* in February of 1698² and was father of :

1. Sir Michael Balfour, 5th Baronet, (*see below*).
2. John Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 17 December 1677.
3. Alexander Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 20 May 1682.
4. Andrew Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 22 February 1686.
5. David Balfour, who practiced as a physician. He *m.* firstly, Grisel, daughter of Sir John Foulis of Ravelston, (she was widow of Alexander Melville of Murdocairney, whom she had *m.* in 1695 and by whom she had issue), and had issue ; and secondly, on 25 August 1719, to Margaret, daughter of Alexander Watson of Aithernie.³ He *m.* thirdly, at Dysart on 24 October 1733, to Mary, daughter of William Hamilton of Wishaw,⁴ (she *d.* at Wishaw on 26 December 1773¹), *d.* at Kirkcaldy on 21 February 1763, aged 83 years and was father of :

¹ Retours. Fife. No. 1143.

² Chancery record.

³ OPR – Scoonie.

⁴ OPR – Dysart.

5a) Alexander Balfour, *bap.* at Dysart on 17 May 1720.

5a) **MICHAEL BALFOUR OF DENMILN**, *bap.* at Dysart on 2 April 1721, and became a Merchant in Kirkaldy. He *m.* Anne, second daughter of Patrick Davidson of Woodmiln, (*c/m* 3 December 1751), and is styled as eldest son in life of Doctor David Balfour and heritable proprietor of the lands and barony of Denmiln in his marriage contract. He *d.* prior to April of 1756 and was father of :

5b) Mary Balfour, *b.* on 15 November 1752, and *d.* in infancy.

5b) Jean Balfour, *b.* on 28 May 1754. She was retoured heir general to her father 28 April 1756, and had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Denmiln on 10 December 1756.

5a) Archibald Balfour, *bap.* at Cupar on 22 May 1706.

5a) Margaret Balfour,

5a) Agnes Balfour, *bap.* at Cupar on 22 July 1707. All of these children are named their father on 5 March, 1750, and are styled as children by Grisel, daughter of Sir John Foulis. She *m.* James Carmichael of Balmbrae.

6. Elizabeth Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 20 January 1678.

7. Margaret Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 3 March 1684.

8. Jean Balfour, *m.* on 22 November 1720, Mr. Robert Balfour, Minister of Ballingry, and *d.* on 27 May 1766. They had issue.

SIR MICHAEL BALFOUR, 5TH BARONET OF DENMILN, *bap.* at Abdie on 30 November, 1676, and succeeded his father on his death in 1698. He *m.* Marjory, daughter of George Moncreiff of Readie, (she *d.* at Cupar on 22 August 1762, in her 86th year²), *d.* in 1709 and was father of :

1. Sir Michael Balfour, 6th Baronet of Denmiln, (*see below*).

2. George Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 28 December, 1705.

3. Alexander Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 29 March, 1707.

4. Margaret Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 31 May, 1701, and *m.* on 14 June, 1723, Mr. Joseph Walker, Minister at Abdie,³ (he *d.* in 1745). She *d.* at Cupar on 8 July 1775, and was buried there on 11th following.⁴

¹ Scots Magazine, 1st December 1773, edition.

² Caledonian Mercury. 28th August 1762, edition.

³ OPR – Abdie.

⁴ Cupar OPR. See also: Scots Magazine. 1st July 1775, edition.

5. Catherine Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 15 October, 1704, and *m.* Mr. James Stewart, Minister of Tealing. She *d.* at Dundee on 20 July 1784.¹
6. Helen Balfour, *m.* John Riddell, second son of Walter Riddell of Grange, and had issue.
7. Jean Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie in September of 1708, and *m.* on 16 June, 1743, Mr. Hugh Glas, Minister of Kettle,² (he was widow of Elizabeth, daughter of William Arnot of Dalginch, by whom he had issue). She *d.* on 4 March, 1777, and had issue.

SIR MICHAEL BALFOUR, 6TH BARONET OF DENMILN, succeeded his father and was served heir to his grandfather in the lands of Denmiln on 12 May 1730. His estate being burdened with debt, it was exposed for sale in 1749 and it is said that to escape his creditors, he rode off one day in 1750, never to return. He *m.* at Abdie on 5 July 1723, Jane, daughter John Ross, 3rd of Innerneathie, and was father of :

1. **SIR MICHAEL BALFOUR, 7TH BARONET**, *bap.* at Abdie on 5 May 1725, and *d.* unmarried in 1759.
2. **SIR JOHN BALFOUR, 8TH BARONET**, *bap.* at Abdie on 25 June 1728, and *d.* unmarried in 1772.³
3. **SIR PATRICK BALFOUR, 9TH BARONET**, was served heir to his brother Sir John Balfour, 8th Baronet of Denmiln, on 20 October 1779, and *dsp* in 1793.
4. Grisel Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 10 April, 1724, and *m.* Patrick Duff, W.S. She *d.* prior to 20 October 1779, when her brother Sir Patrick Balfour was served her heir.
5. Susan Balfour, *m.* at Edinburgh on 1 February 1764, to Robert Hamilton of Wishaw,⁴ and *dsp.* Her brother Sir Patrick Balfour was served heir on 20 October 1779.
6. Helen Balfour, *d.* at Edinburgh on 20 February 1814.⁵

He was also father of a natural daughter :

7. Euphemia Balfour, *bap.* at Abdie on 18 March 1724.

¹ Scots Magazine. 1st July 1784, edition.

² OPR – Kettle.

³ CC8/8/124

⁴ Scots Magazine. 1st January 1764, edition.

⁵ Aberdeen Journal. 9th March 1814, edition.