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(*To be continued.*)

Notes and Queries.

THE EARLY EARLS OF MAR, vol. iv, p. 177.—In the Lyon Herald's article on the Continuity of the Celtic "Mormaers" and their immediate successors, the "Earls" of Mar, he refers (pp. 187-8) to the third marriage of Christian Bruce (widow of Earl Gratnet) to Sir Andrew Moray of Bothwell, and gives a most convincing reason against the received belief that John Moray of Bothwell was a son of this marriage. This is the Papal Dispensation for the marriage of John Moray's widow, the Countess of Menteth, to Thomas, Earl of Mar, grandson of Christian Bruce, in 1352, where the only relationship between Moray and Mar is stated as in the third and fourth degrees of *affinity*. On the common hypothesis, Moray, as uterine brother of Earl Donald of Mar, would have been Earl Thomas's uncle; thus in the closest degree of *Consanquinity*—the second. The Lyon further refers to a discovery made by me regarding Sir Andrew Moray's age, and says that "John Moray could scarcely have been his son by a former marriage, and is more likely to have been his brother." I hardly think Sir Andrew's age (though only 28 when he married Christian Bruce in 1326) is an obstacle, for he might have had a wife six or seven years earlier, but apart from this I would refer my learned friend, the Lyon, to *the Chartulary of Moray*, p. 296,[1] where there is a grant on 12 April, 1351, by "Johannes de Moravia Panetarius Scotie," of 8 marks to a chaplaincy in Elgin Cathedral, out of the lands of Ardtrilly and Croy, for the soul of "Domini Andree de Moravia Patris mei;" and Confirmation on 8 May, 1353, by "Thomas de Moravia Panetarius Scotie," of the above grant, "Johannis de Moravio fratris mei senioris." The Lyon must have temporarily forgotten these references, which prove that John and Thomas were sons of Sir Andrew Moray. Who their mother was is another question. Another reason why John could not be Sir Andrew's brother is that the latter is shewn in the inquisition to have been born after his father's death; therefore, could not have had two younger brothers—for Thomas requires to be accounted for. In the work referred to, Mr. Riddell touched on the curious circumstance that Sir Andrew Moray of Touch-Adam and Manuel (ancestor of the present Murrays of Polmaise, in Stirlingshire), was styled "cousin" by David II., and hence he inferred that he was nearly related maternally—perhaps a younger brother of John and Thomas Moray as sons of Christian Bruce.

Now Sir Andrew of Bothwell, was styled in the dispensation for his marriage to Christian Bruce, to be in the 4th degree of consanquinity, so David II. as her nephew would naturally call Andrew of Touch-Adam as his father's son, his cousin; and while this infers no descent from Christian Bruce, it greatly strengthens the probability

[1] Cited by Riddell, *Stewartiana*, p. 94.

that Andrew of Touch-Adam was a younger brother of John and Thomas ; in which case the Murrays of Polmaise must be the chiefs of the ancient Moravii, presuming their male descent from Sir Andrew of Touch-Adam and Manuel to be unbroken. This fact of his being a younger brother, would also account for David II. giving him crown lands in Stirlingshire as a compensation for the great Bothwell estates carried to the Douglas family by Johanna the daughter and heiress[2] of his elder brother, Sir Thomas of Bothwell.

Wicketshaw, in Lanarkshire, which Mr. Riddell stated to be in the barony of Bothwell, and referred to the fact of Andrew of Touch-Adam holding it in appanage, as a strong proof of his near relationship to the Lord of Bothwell, does not seem to have been so, but appears to be in the barony of Touch-Adam by annexation. Besides, it was crown property in 1303, and under the name of "Wygoteshawe" appears in an Exchequer Roll of that year,[3] as paying 12 marks (3s. 4d.) rent to the officers of Edward I., who was then in possession.

The descent from Christian Bruce is also said to be testified by the appearance of the royal tressure of Scotland on the Moray of Bothwell Seals, though Mr. Riddell acknowledges he had not "found it on their Ancienter Seals" to use his quaint language ; nor have I among any in the Public Record Office, but there is a seal of Thomas Moray of Bothwell, on 5 Oct., 1357, appended to the ratification of the treaty for King David's ransom, which shows a shield with 3 stars or mullets, 2 and 1 within a bordure charged with 8 bezants or roundels. There is an earlier one of Sir Andrew, his grandfather, in 1292,[4] showing the 3 mullets and bordure, charged with 11 roundels. In Laing's *Catalogue* they are called "roses," but this is only conjecture. In Thomas's seal of 1357, they are plain roundels, beyond question ; where these came from is a point for the Lyon to solve. The only instance that I have seen of the tressure on a Moray shield, is in the choir of Bothwell church. This was founded about 1399 or 1400, by Archibald, Earl of Douglas, husband of Johanna Moray; and in the East window there are four shields, two outside and two inside, at the spring of the arch. One gives his own shield, as Lord of Galloway ; another, the arms of David, Duke of Rothesay, and Marjory Douglas, impaled ; a third, those of Archibald Douglas and his wife, a daughter of Robert III, also impaled; the fourth, also impaled, bears, dexter, 3 mullets, 2 and 1, within a tressure—and 3 mullets in chief ; sinister, 3 mullets, 2 and 1. I have often tried to conjecture the meaning of this fourth shield, and what persons it commemorates. The Lyon, in some one of his exchequer prefaces, remarks, in my opinion with great truth, that the common belief of the royal tressure in a shield, indicating royal descent, is far from being invariably correct.

On the same instrument to which Sir Thomas Moray's seal is attached will be found that of Sir William Livingston, of Calendar, which bears the double tressure of Scotland. How, or if, he was related to royalty is not, I believe, known.

JOSEPH BAIN.

TRAFFORD OF SWYTHAMLEY, CO. STAFFORD.—Where can I find proof that William Trafford, of Wilmslow, co. Chester, who purchased the estate of Swythamley, co. Stafford, 32 Hen. VIII., was identical with William Trafford, Under Sheriff, co. Chester, 1540, second son of Sir Edmund Trafford, Knt., of Trafford, co. Lancaster, by Margaret, dau. of Sir John Savage, Knt., of Clifton ?

From the will of Philip Mainwaring, of Peover (*Lancashire and Cheshire Wills and Inventories, Chetham Soc. Publications, vol.* 3, *New Series*, 1884) I find that a William Trafford, there described as "late of the parish of Wilmslow," was dead in 1573, and that his son Philip Trafford was then under age. This William was probably the same person who purchased Swythamley, as the latter had a son and heir named Philip. H. W. F. HARWOOD, *12, Onslow Gardens, S.W.*

PLANK FAMILY.—Can any of the readers of the *Genealogist* give me some information respecting a family of the name of Plank, supposed to have resided in Essex between the years 1650 and 1800 ? I shall be glad to have notes of the Planks of any other counties. E. S. A., *14, Westbury Road, Forest Gate, London.*

[2] Called "Widow" (Theiner), though one would almost think this must be an error. For Sir Thomas, if not the son of Christian Bruce, was quite old enough to be the father of the future Countess of Douglas, as he was probably born about 1324, and she was married about 1366.

[3] Sc. Calendar, ii, p. 427.

[4] Sc. Cal. II., Plate i, (5.)