

BRUCE

OF RAIT AND FINGASK

ROBERT BRUCE, FIAR OF CLACKMANNAN & OF RAIT, was the eldest son of Sir David Bruce of Clackmannan by his first marriage with Janet Stirling and had a charter from his father to himself and Elizabeth Lindsay, his spouse, for the lands of Raith, in Perthshire, on 28 August, 1481.¹ It is generally said that through the connivance of his stepmother, Mariote Herries, who wished her own son David Bruce to succeed to the family lands, that he was passed over in succession to the lands of Clackmannan although there is no evidence for this and as he died in his father's lifetime, by 29 November 1490, when his father granted an endowment from the lands of Rait to the Abbey of Scone for the souls of Mariote Herries, his wife, and his deceased son, Robert, sometime husband of Elizabeth Lindsay² he could not have been disinherited. By the said Elizabeth Lindsay, who survived him and *m.* secondly, to Alexander Scott, son of Sir William Scott of Balweary, he was father of :

DAVID BRUCE OF RAIT, succeeded his father in the lands of Rait and resigned what rights he had to the Clackmannan estate in favour of his uncle David Bruce by Renunciation dated 1 February, 1507.³ He had a charter for the lands of Rait, in the Barony of Ruthven, in which he is described as '*grandson and heir to the deceased David Bruce of Clackmannan*' in 1504.⁴ He *m.* Janet, daughter of John Arnot of that Ilk, *d.* by December of 1516⁵ and was father of :

JAMES BRUCE OF FINGASK, who was under age at the time of his father's death and was placed under the care of his granduncle Alexander Bruce on 10 December, 1516, who, if

¹ Fingask Papers.

² RMS 1424-1513. No. 2031.

³ Fingask Papers.

⁴ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives

⁵ It is probable that he was killed at the battle of Flodden in September of 1513.

dying during his minority, to be replaced by John Arnot of that Ilk, his grandfather on his mother's side.¹ He had Sasine for the lands of Rait on 15 January, 1525,² and *m.* Janet, daughter of Andrew Lundy, 2nd of Benholm, who had liferent of the lands of Rait reserved for her on 15 July 1545,³ and was father of :

JOHN BRUCE, FIAR OF FINGASK, to whom his father granted a charter for the lands of Rait dated at Fingask on 15 July, 1545,⁴ and *m.* Agnes, daughter of William Kinnaird of that Ilk, with whom he had a charter from his father for the lands of Fingask, on 25 July, 1545.⁵ He was *k. vita patris* at the battle of Pinkiecleuch in September of 1547 and was father of :

WILLIAM BRUCE OF FINGASK, had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Rait on 10 May, 1555, and in which he is styled as grandson and heir of James Bruce of Rait.⁶ He *m.* Helen, daughter of Peter Hay, 4th of Megginch, who survived him and had a liferent of the lands of Rait reserved to her on 1 November 1595,⁷ and was father of :

1. Patrick Bruce of Fingask, (*see below*).
2. Peter Bruce, gave his consent to the marriage of his elder brother Patrick of Fingask and is mentioned in the contract dated 19 November, 1603. He had a rental from the lands of Fingask in 1611 and was appointed Regent of St. Leonards College, St. Andrews, under which designation he appears when his brother Patrick Bruce of Fingask, executed an Instrument of Requisition for the payment of 500 merks Scots on 21 September, 1622.⁸ He *m.* Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Alexander Wedderburn of Blackness, (she was widow of Alexander Campbell, 1st of Balgirsho, whom she had *m.* by *c/m* 29 March, 1606,⁹ and by whom she had issue), and *d.* by March of 1628. He had issue :

¹ GD86/79

² Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

³ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

⁴ Fingask Papers.

⁵ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

⁶ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

⁷ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XXIII. P. 370.

⁸ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

⁹ GD137/3001

- 2a) Helen Bruce,
- 2a) Elizabeth Bruce, *m.* Simon MacKenzie of Lochslin, (*c/m* May and June of 1634. He *m.* secondly, Agnes, daughter of William Fraser of Culbokie, and *d.* at Balcony in January of 1666), and had issue.
- 2a) Rachel Bruce, *m.* John Graham of Craigie, and which sisters and their respective spouses, with their mother, granted a Renunciation for certain sums paid to them by William Bruce of Fingask at Fingask on 2 March, 1628.¹
3. Alexander Bruce, educated at the university of St. Andrews where he obtained a Master of Arts in 1599. He was admitted to the charge of the church of Kinfauns on 6 September, 1611, and afterwards was transferred to Tealing by 10 September, 1623. He *m.* Isobel Kinninmont and had issue,
- 3a) George Bruce,
- 3a) Catherine Bruce, *m.* William Drummond, eldest son of Robert Drummond, in Smithston, (*c/m* 21 August, 1663).
- 3a) Barbara Bruce,
- 3a) Margaret Bruce,
4. John Bruce, had a rental from the lands of Fingask in 1611.
5. Robert Bruce, witness to the contract of marriage of his brother Patrick Bruce on 19 November, 1603, and had a rental to be uplifted from the lands of Fingask in 1611. He *m.* Margaret Kinnaird, (*c/m* 18 September, 1600.² She was widow of Andrew Chalmer, portioner of Nether Delridge).
6. William Bruce, apprenticed to John Baxter, Tailor in Edinburgh, on 8 August, 1610.
7. David Bruce, styled as brother to Patrick Bruce of Fingask when he granted a Discharge of an annualrent uplifted from the lands of Fingask, in favour of this said brother in 1612.³ He *m.* Margaret, daughter of Archibald Dundas, 7th of Fingask, and was father of :
- 7a) Andrew Bruce of Polcack, styled as only son of the deceased David Bruce, brother german of the deceased Patrick Bruce of Fingask, and obtained the lands of Polcack.⁴ He was appointed Tutor to his great-nephew Patrick Bruce of Spoutwalls and *m.* firstly at Errol on 10 February, 1655, Sophia Kinman. He *m.* secondly on 3 January, 1686, Isabel Scrimgeour and apparently *dsp.*

¹ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

² Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

³ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

⁴ RS52/1

8. Barbara Bruce, *m.* Alexander Lindsay of Evelick, Bishop of Dunkeld, (*c/m* 15 July, 1595. He *m.* secondly by 9 June, 1636, Nichole Dundas), and had issue.

PATRICK BRUCE OF FINGASK, succeeded his father and had Sasine for the lands and barony of Rait on 1 November 1595.¹ He was witness to a charter by his brother-in-law Alexander Lindsay of Evelick, granting the lands of Aberladie to Patrick Douglas of Kilspindie, on 14 July, 1619. He *m.* firstly by 11 July, 1600, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Bruce, 1st of Pitlethie, when she is styled as his spouse in a Charter by Patrick in favour of Peter Bruce, his brother.² He *m.* secondly, Agnes, natural daughter of Andrew Hay, 8th Earl of Erroll, (*c/m* at Fingask on 19 November, 1603³). He *d.* by 5 August, 1633, and was father of :

1. William Bruce of Fingask, (*see below*).
2. Francis Bruce, had a charter from his father for the shadow part of the lands of Fingask in which he is styled as son by Agnes, natural sister to Francis, Earl of Erroll, on 12 March, 1611. He *m.* by 1633, Cecil, daughter of Alexander Ruthven, brother of William, 1st Earl of Gowrie,⁴ (she was buried in Greyfriars, Edinburgh, on 10 January, 1690⁵), and was father of,
 - 2a) John Bruce, styled as son to his parents in a Bond dated 28 June, 1666.
3. Elizabeth Bruce, *m.* Patrick Inglis, younger of Byres, (*c/m* 26 January, 1629⁶), and had issue.

WILLIAM BRUCE OF FINGASK, had a charter for the lands of Fingask from his father to be held by himself and Janet Gibson, his spouse, jointly and with remainder to their heirs-male bearing the surname and arms of Bruce on 6 February, 1630. He was retoured heir general to William Bruce of Fingask, his grandfather, on 25 June 1642,⁷ and *m.* Janet, only child and heiress of Thomas Gibson of Kirkstyle of Mailler, (she was retoured heir to her father on 23 May, 1629⁸), and had issue :

¹ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XXIII. P. 370.

² RMS 1593-1608. No. 1068

³ RMS 1609-1620. No. 445

⁴ RMS 1620-1633. No. 2242

⁵ Greyfriars Burial Register.

⁶ RS50/4/f.32r

⁷ Retours. Gen. No. 2708.

⁸ Retours. Gen. No. 1508.

1. Patrick Bruce, styled as eldest son to the deceased William Bruce of Fingask in a Discharge in favour of Laurence Bruce, his brother, for £50 Scots on 28 July, 1672.¹ He *dsp* prior to 20 June, 1684, when James Drummond of Gairdrum, gave receipt for the costs of his board to Sir Patrick Threipland of Fingask.²
2. Lawrence Bruce of Fingask, (*see below*).
3. Peter Bruce, 2nd of Spoutwalls, was retoured heir to his immediate younger brother William Bruce in the lands of Spoutwalls on 28 June, 1672,³ and *m.* at Perth on 9 July, 1668, Mary, daughter of Mr. James Mercer, Minister of Clunie, (*c/m* 13 May, 1668.⁴ She *m.* secondly, James Blair, in Spoutwalls). He *d.* in July of 1673⁵ and was father of :
 - 3a) Patrick Bruce, 3rd of Spoutwalls, who was under age at his father's death in 1673 and to whom Andrew Bruce of Polcack was appointed Tutor. He was retoured heir general to his father on 24 July 1678,⁶ and granted a Contract dated at Errol on 7 April, 1681, in which he renounced all rights he may have to the Fingask estate in favour of Sir Patrick Threipland, and *dsp* prior to 11 November, 1687, when his cousin William Bruce, son of Lawrence Bruce of Fingask, was retoured his heir.
 - 3a) Janet Bruce, *bap.* at Perth on 10 July, 1669.
4. William Bruce, 1st of Spoutwalls, obtained these lands and was witness to a Notarial Instrument concerning Laurence Bruce of Fingask, dated 5 August, 1665, and is therein styled his brother. He had a grant from his father for the quarter part of the Mill and Villa of Rait in which he was infeft on 15 February, 1665, and in which he is styled as his fourth son.⁷ He *m.* Janet, daughter of Andrew Gray, Notary in Perth, (*c/m* 15 December, 1666⁸), *d.* prior to 28 June 1672, when his brother Peter Bruce was retoured his heir in the lands of Spoutwalls, and was father of :
 - 4a) Jean Bruce, *bap.* at Perth on 4 December, 1669.
5. Alexander Bruce, apprenticed to John Maine, Merchant in Edinburgh, on 20 February, 1661.
6. Helen Bruce, *bap.* at Kinnaird on 20 November, 1635.

¹ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

² Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

³ Retours. Perth. No. 836.

⁴ RS52/4/f.80r

⁵ St Andrews Tests

⁶ Retours. Gen. No. 6093.

⁷ Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

⁸ RS52/3/f.348

LAWRENCE BRUCE OF FINGASK, had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Fingask with the Manor Place thereof, as son of William Bruce of Fingask, on 11 August, 1665, and with Sasine following afterwards on 4 September.¹ He sold the lands of Fingask of Patrick Threipland, Provost of Perth, in 1672, and *m.* Elspeth, eldest daughter of Alexander Campbell, 2nd of Balgirsho, (*c/m* at Coupar Angus on 9 March, 1665²). He was father of :

1. William Bruce, 4th of Spoutwalls, *bap.* at Kilspindie on 14 January, 1666, and was retoured heir general to his cousin Patrick Bruce of Spoutwalls firstly on 11 November, 1687,³ then again on 14 June 1694.⁴
2. Agnes Bruce, *bap.* at Kilspindie on 10 January, 1669.

He was also father of a natural son :

3. Alexander Bruce, was child by Beatrix Low and was *bap.* at Kilspindie on 19 December, 1658.

¹ Fingask Papers.

² Fingask Papers. Perth Archives.

³ Retours. Gen. No. 7157

⁴ Retours. Gen. No. 7490 & 7491 when he is retoured heir on the same day to his uncle Peter Bruce of Soutwalls.