

RAIT

OF HALGREEN

DAVID RAIT OF DRUMNAGAR, had a charter for that part of the lands of Inverberyy called "Hawgrene" from Alexander Menzies, Burgess of Aberdeen, on 21 January 1471¹ and was witness to a mortification by John de Strachan of Thornton granting an of eleven merks in annualrent to the church of Arbuthnot on 7 October 1490.² He was dead by 1 February 1507, when his son William had succeeded him, and was father of,

WILLIAM RAIT OF DRUMNAGAR, styled as son and heir to David Rait of Drumnagar when witness with his father to the mortification by John de Strachan of Thornton referred to above, and dated 7 October 1490, and had succeeded his father by 1 February 1506-07, when he is named in a charter for the lands of Jackston in favour of John Troup of Cawmalegy.³ On 23 July 1490, his father contracted with Robert Arbuthnot of that Ilk for William, his son and heir, to marry one of his daughters.⁴ He resigned his lands of Drumnagar in favour of his eldest son and heir, David Rait, in 1512, and *d.* by April 1533, being father of ;

DAVID RAIT OF DRUMNAGAR & HALGREEN, styled as eldest son and heir to William Rait of Drumnagar when on his father's resignation, he had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Drumnagar, dated 11 June 1512, and which the King then erected into the Barony of Drumnagar.⁵ He had succeeded his father by 11 April 1533, when Sir John Fyne granted a discharge to him for teind silver for the crop of 1532,⁶ and acquired he lands of Jackston from David Barclay of Mathers, in 1546. He *d.* in 1551 and was father of ;

¹ RMS 1424-1513. No. 1384.

² RMS 1424-1513. No. 1987.

³ RMS 1424-1513. No. 3043.

⁴ MS3021/31

⁵ RMS 1424-1513. No. 3739.

⁶ RD15/37/4

1. David Rait of Jackston, to whom his father assigned these lands and is styled as his son and heir in circa 1547.¹ He *dsp* soon after.
2. Robert Rait, *m.* Katherine Lindsay, who is styled as his relict on 1 March 1554, and pre-deceased his father. He was father of :
 - 2a) William Rait of Halgreen, (*see below*).
 - 2a) Robert Rait, named in a summons of removing at the instance of his mother against his uncles John and Thomas Rait on 1 March 1554.
3. John Rait, to whom his father granted a Tack for the store house of Gerdoun for his lifetime on 23 April 1549,² and acted as bailie in a Sasine for the lands of Westr Mathers in favour of his niece Isobel Rait dated 20 November 1579.
4. Thomas Rait, named with his brother John and nephew, Robert Rait, in a summons of removing by Katherine Lindsay, relict of their brother Robert Rait, from the lands of Silleflet, dated 1 March 1554.³
5. Katherine Rait, *m.* Andrew Auchinleck in Peterhead, and had issue.

WILLIAM RAIT OF HALGREEN, styled as nevy and heir to the deceased William Rait of Drumnagar when he petitioned the Lords of Council for heir assistance in his taking possession of the writs pertaining to the his deceased grandfather, David Rait of Drumnagar, in 1557. On 18 December 1557, signet letters were issued summoning an inquest to be held to consider his claim to be heir to his grandfather⁴ which found in his favour and following which he took Sasine on 30 April 1560.⁵ He *m.* Margaret Gardye, was alive on 18 September 1622, and dead by 15 January 1625, being father of :

1. David Rait of Halgreen, (*see below*).
2. Robert Rait of Cononsythe, named with his father in a contract between he and David Gardyne of that ilk, for the atter to supply them with victual from the lands of Mains of Gardyne, dated

¹ RMS 1546-1580. No. 43

² RH15/37/8

³ RH15/37/10

⁴ RH15/37/12

⁵ Ex. Rolls. Vol. XIX. P. 455. The lands are then stated to have lapsed and been in the King's hands for nine years.

1588,¹ and had a Tack from Andrew Arbuthnot of that Ilk for the 2/9 parts of the lands of Inverbervie, on 17 September 1597, in which he is styled as second son of William Rait of Halgreen.² He *m.* Margaret Ross, (*c/m* 14 April 1591), and *d.* by 6 March 1606, when his relict, then spouse to Robert Fraser, raised an action against her father-in-law, William Rait of Halgreen, for fulfilling of the terms of contract of marriage with his son, the deceased Robert Rait, and infesting her in the lands of Prestko and others in the barony of Gardyne³ and was father of :

2a) William Rait of Cononsythe, styled as “oy” to William Rait of Halgreen by the deceased Robert Rait, his son, in a renunciation in his favour by William Gardyne and Thomas and Walter, his brothers, for the lands of Cononsythe, dated 24 July 1609.⁴ He was retoured heir to his father in the lands of Cononsythe on 8 May 1629.⁵ (*see Rait of Cononsythe*).

2a) Isobel Rait, *m.* John Strachan of Tillifrostane, (*c/m* 8 October 1613⁶).

3. Catherine Rait, included in letters of reversion by her father to James, Lord Ogilvy, for the shadow half lands of Garlot, upon payment of 1250 merks Scots dated 16 March 1584.⁷
4. Isobel Rait, whom her father infest in the third part of the lands of Wester Mathers on 20 November 1579.⁸
5. Elizabeth Rait, *m.* David Arbuthnot of Findowrie, (*c/m* at Inverbervie on 8 October 1586⁹).

DAVID RAIT OF HALGREEN, acted as bailie to his sister Elizabeth Rait in her contract of marriage and subsequent infestment by David Arbuthnot, her future spouse, in the liferent of the lands of Findowrie on 21 December 1586,¹⁰ and succeeded his father by 15 January 1625. He *d.* by 25 January 1640 having *m.* first, to Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Straiton of Laurieston, (*c/m* in May of 1595¹¹), by whom he had issue :

¹ RH15/37/29

² RH15/37/38

³ RH15/37/45

⁴ RH15/37/47

⁵ Retours. Angus. No. 181.

⁶ RH15/37/53

⁷ RH15/37/23

⁸ RH6/2535

⁹ RH6/2873

¹⁰ RH6/2874

¹¹ RH15/37/37

1. William Rait of Halgreen, (*see below*).
2. Robert Rait, styled as second son on 5 June 1630.¹
3. Elizabeth Rait, *m.* Robert Lumsden, eldest son and heir of John Lumsden of Cushny, (*c/m* 29 October 1612²).

He *m.* secondly, Margaret Graham, (*c/m* 21 June 1604. She was widow of James Strachan, fiar of Monbuddo³), and was father of :

4. George Rait, apparently a son by his father's second marriage. On 10 July 1672, he entered into a contract with his nephew William Rait of Halgreen to relieve the lands of Halgreen, Drumnagar and others, of cess and is then styled as son of the deceased William Rait of Halgreen.⁴
5. Mr. Peter Rait, was appointed Minister of Bervie⁵ and was father of :
 - 5a) Robert Rait, was served heir general to his father on 31 January 1707.
6. Francis Rait,
7. Andrew Rait,⁶
8. Jean Rait, *m.* Robert Arbuthnot, eldest son and heir of Andrew Arbuthnot of Little Fiddes, (*c/m* 15 January 1625⁷).
9. Euphame Rait, *m.* William Napier of Blacklaws, (*c/m* 30 August 1628⁸).
10. Isobel Rait, who *dsp.*

WILLIAM RAIT OF HALGREEN, who, as heir of his father, had a renunciation of the lands of Mains of Drumnagar from Mr. James Rait, Minister of Aberluthnot, on 6 July 1626, and had succeeded his father by 25 January 1640, when he granted a five year Tack for the lands of East Corsdails, to William Malison. He *m.* first, by 13 November 1621, to Jean, sister of Sir William Douglas of Glenbervie, when his grandfather and father issued

¹ RH15/37/72

² RH15/37/52

³ RH15/37/44

⁴ RH15/37/136

⁵ RH15/37/234

⁶ See correspondence to him from Thomas Stewart, collector of Maintenance in the Mearns. GD237/11/25

⁷ RH15/37/67

⁸ RH15/37/70

a Procuratory of Resignation in their favour for the lands of Kirkton of Aberluthnot,¹ and secondly, Magdalen Symmer, and *d.* in about 1670. He was father of :

1. William Rait of Hallgreen, (*see below*).
2. Robert Rait, granted a Bond of Relief to his his brother William Rait, fiar of Halgreen, that incase he should die hiis brother and father shall pay to Jean Scott, his spouse, 600 merks yearly. Dated 26 May 1658.²
3. Elspeth Rait, *m.* on 4 November 1641, to Robert Arbuthnot, eldest son and apparent heir of Robert Arbuthnot of Findowrie, (*c/m* 8 July 1641³). They had issue.
4. Anna Rait, *m.* on 19 May 1653, to Sir Francis Ogilvy of Pitnamoon, from whom she had a charter for the lands of Mains of Pitnamoon and others on 15 April 1653.⁴ They had issue.
5. Margaret Rait, *m.* on 14 February 1660, to Andrew Wood of Balbegno, and had issue.
6. Alexander Rait, a son by his father's second marriage. He was *bap.* at Bervie on 24 January 1643.

WILLIAM RAIT OF HALGREEN, succeeded his father and to whom and Janet Arbuthnot, his spouse, his father resigned the lands of Ballandro, Johnshavven, Drumnagar and others for which he had a confirmation under the Great Seal on 16 July 1649.⁵ He *d.* by 16 January 1675, having *m.* on 29 October 1646, to Janet, sister of Robert, 1st Viscount Arbuthnot, (*c/m* 19 September 1646⁶), by whom he was father of :

1. William Rait of Halgreen, (*see below*).
2. James Rait, to whom his mother granted a three year Tack of the lands of Balladro on 28 July 1679.⁷ He *m.* Catherine Pearson, who is styled s his relict in a decree in her favour dated 26 July 1688, by which she pursuedher brother-in-law William Rait of Halgreen and others for payment of an annualrent of 1000 on principal sum of 18,000 merks secured on the lands of Halgreen. He

¹ RH15/37/63

² RH15/37/110

³ RH15/37/85

⁴ RH15/37/102

⁵ RMS 1634-1651. No. 2095.

⁶ RH15/37/93

⁷ RH15/37/166

m. on 2 December 1680, to the said Catherine Pearson, (she survived him and *m.* secondly, to William Coutts, Merchant in Montrose, by whom she had issue), and was father of :

2a) Janet Rait, *bap.* at Montrose on 29 January 1683.

3. Marjorie Rait, *m.* William Ogilvy, fiar of Barras, (*c/m* 20 March 1663¹).

4. Katherine Rait, *m.* Mr. James Guthrie of Conansythe, and had issue.²

5. Anna Rait, *m.* Thomas Mercer of Todlaw, (*c/m* 13 July 1681³).

6. Helen Rait,

7. Janet Rait. She and her sister Helen had Bonds from their brother William Rait of Halgreen on 28 May 1684.⁴

WILLIAM RAIT OF HALGREEN, to whom his father assigned his rights to his liferent to all of his lands on 6 May 1672,⁵ and whom he had succeeded by 16 January 1675, when he agreed to secure his mother in the lands of Mains of Ballandrew for her lifetime. He was reoutred heir to his grandfather, William Rait of Halgreen, in th lands of Ballandro, Drumnagar and others, on 16 March 1677,⁶ and appears to have been spendthrift and squandered the majority of his estates within his lifetime. His lands of Ballandro, Whitefield, Johnsfild, Drumnagar and others were adjudged in favour of Mr. David Thomson, Minister of Kinnel, on 3 March 1694, He *m.* at Dundee on 19 April 1670, to Helen, daughter of James Crichton of Ruthven,⁷ (she was widow of Robert Clayhills of Invergowrie), and was imprisoned in Edinburgh Tolbooth in 1697, petitioning the Privy Council for his release on the grounds that he had been there for five months and his health had suffered greatly through want of fresh air and meat. He *d.* in February of 1698⁸ and was father of :

1. James Rait of Halgreen, (*see below*).

2. William Rait, *c.* at Bervie on 24 April 1674.

¹ RH15/37/115

² RH15/37/169

³ RH15/37/177

⁴ RH15/37/189

⁵ RH15/37/134

⁶ Retours, Kincardine. No. 131.

⁷ OPR – Dundee

⁸ GD49/338

3. Katherine Rait, *c.* at Bervie on 10 October 1676.

JAMES RAIT OF HALGREEN, succeed his father in a greatly reduced and encumbered estate. His mother assigned to him her rights to the lands of Johnshaven on 4 November 1704, which he afterwards assigned to Sir James Burnett of Leys on 22 July 1706, and *d.* by 13 September 1733. He *m.* Isobel, daughter and heir of Robert Douglas of Brigford, who survived him and was served heir general to her father on 7 October 1737.

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