

# WHITE

## OF BENNOCHY & STRATHKINNESS

ROBERT WHYTE, 1<sup>ST</sup> OF BENNOCHY, descended from Whyte of Maw, was a successful merchant and was elected first Provost of Kirkcaldy in 1658. He purchased the lands of Arnbog and Balsusney, being part of the barony of Abbotshall, from Sir John Wemyss of Bogie on 1 June 1659, to which he afterwards added those of Bennochy. He *m.* on 5 July, 1636, to Janet Tennant,<sup>1</sup> with whom he was infeft in the lands of Arnbog on 1 June, 1659, and *d.* in August of 1666. He was father of,

1. Robert Whyte, *bap.* at Kirkcaldy on 13 September 1640, and *d.* prior to May of 1661.
2. John Whyte, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Bennochy, (*see below*).
3. James Whyte, *bap.* at Kirkcaldy on 24 December 1643, and *d.* prior to May of 1661.
4. Janet Whyte, *bap.* at Kirkcaldy on 13 January 1639.
5. Agnes Whyte, *bap.* at Kirkcaldy on 7 May 1648.

JOHN WHYTE OF BENNOCHY, *bap.* at Kirkcaldy on 6 February 1642, and as only son of his father he had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Arnboig and part of Balsusney on 22 February 1667. He was served heir general to his father on 28 February 1674,<sup>2</sup> and *m.* firstly, on 21 June 1661, to Jean, daughter of Thomas Melville of Murdocairney,<sup>3</sup> (*c/m* 3 & 4 May 1661<sup>4</sup>) by whom he had issue. He *m.* secondly, on 9 February 1673, to Catherine Arnot,<sup>5</sup> and *d.* in 1695. He was father of,

1. Robert Whyte of Bennochy, (*see below*).
2. John Whyte, a merchant in Kirkcaldy. He acquired the lands of Bello which he left to his daughter.
3. Agnes Whyte, *d.* unmarried.

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<sup>1</sup> OPR – Kirkcaldy.

<sup>2</sup> Retours. Gen. No. 5694.

<sup>3</sup> OPR – Kirkcaldy.

<sup>4</sup> RMS 1660-1668. No. 1029.

<sup>5</sup> OPR – Abbotshall.

ROBERT WHITE OF BENNOCHY, succeeded his father and was served heir to him in the lands of Bennoch on 15 October 1697.<sup>1</sup> He *m.* on 14 February 1697, to Jean, daughter of Anthony Murray of Woodend, *d.* on 23 February 1714, and was father of :

1. GEORGE WHYTE OF BENNOCHY, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 22 December 1701, was retoured heir to his father in the lands of Bennoch on 29 April 1715, and *dsp* on 9 May 1728.
2. Anthony Whyte, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 2 January 1706.
3. Thomas Whyte, *bap.* at Abbotshall on 4 April 1707.
4. Robert Whyte of Bennoch, (*see below*).
5. Jean Whyte, *m.* on 4 September 1717, to John Ramsay, Merchant in Edinburgh, and had issue.
6. Janet Whyte, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 12 October 1708.
7. Barbara Whyte, *bap.* at Abbotshall on 19 June 1710.
8. Helen Whyte *m.* on 22 August 1719, to Mr. Andrew Melville, Minister of Monimail,<sup>2</sup> and had issue.

DR. ROBERT WHYTE OF BENNOCHY, was *b.* posthumously on 5 September 1714, and succeeded his brother, George Whyte, on his death in 1728, being served heir to him in the lands of Bennoch on 2 June 1732. He attended St. Andrews University then Edinburgh where he studied medicine and travelling the continent to improve his education, he had the degree of Doctor of Physic conferred upon him by the University of Rheims in 1736. He was admitted a licentiate of medicine by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh in 1737, and in 1738 he was raised to fellow of the college. His academic career was a distinguished one, authoring a number of works as well as holding several appointments including Royal Physician. He *d.* on 15 April 1766,<sup>3</sup> having *m.* firstly, to a sister of General Robertson of Newbigging, and had two children who both died in infancy. He *m.* secondly on 24 April, 1743, to Louisa, daughter of James Balfour of Pilrig, (she *d.* at Edinburgh on 25 May 1764<sup>4</sup>), and by her he was father of :

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<sup>1</sup> Retours. Fife. No. 1398.

<sup>2</sup> OPR – Monimail.

<sup>3</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> January 1812, edition.

<sup>4</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> May 1764, edition.

1. ROBERT WHYTE OF BENNOCHY, *b.* on 19 May 1749, succeeded his father and *dsp* at Naples on 22 March 1776, where he had gone for the benefit of his health.<sup>1</sup>
2. John Whyte of Bennoch, (*see below*).
3. Melville Whyte, *d.* at Belritiro, Dumbartonshire, on 1779, in his 21<sup>st</sup> year.
4. Louisa Whyte, *b.* on 22 March 1748, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 5 June 1768, to William Rouet of Auchindonan.<sup>2</sup> They had issue.
5. Jean Whyte, *m.* at Edinburgh on 24 January 1773, to John Balfour, younger of Pilrig, eldest son and heir of Mr. James Balfour of Pilrig,<sup>3</sup> (*c/m* 26 January 1773<sup>4</sup>), and had issue.
6. Martha Whyte, *b.* on 3 February 1758.

JOHN WHYTE OF BENNOCHY AND STRATHKINNESS, *b.* 27 February, 1755, and succeeded his brother, Robert, in the lands of Bennoch on his death without issue in 1776. He succeeded to his cousin General Robert Melville's estate of Strathkinness upon which he quartered his arms with those of Melville, in 1799. He *m.* on 20 April 1781, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Archibald McGilchrist of North Bar,<sup>5</sup> (she *d.* at Cheltenham on Wednesday 9 April 1814<sup>6</sup>), and *d.* at Bath on 27 May 1813.<sup>7</sup> He was father of,

1. ROBERT WHYTE-MELVILLE OF BENNOCHY AND STRATHKINNESS, *b.* on 12 August 1794, and *dsp* at Geneva, Switzerland, on 25 February 1818.<sup>8</sup>
2. John Whyte-Melville of Strathkinness, (*see below*).
3. Jane Whyte-Melville, *d.* unmarried at Dalmeny on 6 August 1876, in her 85<sup>th</sup> year.<sup>9</sup>
4. Elizabeth Whyte-Melville, *d.* unmarried at Moray Place, Edinburgh, on 29 December 1870.<sup>10</sup>
5. Louisa Whyte-Melville, *d.* unmarried at Moray Place, Edinburgh, on 17 October 1875.<sup>11</sup>
6. Margaret Whyte-Melville,

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<sup>1</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> April 1776, edition.

<sup>2</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>3</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>4</sup> GD69/14

<sup>5</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>6</sup> Morning Post, 12<sup>th</sup> February 1814, edition.

<sup>7</sup> Caledonian Mercury, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1813, edition.

<sup>8</sup> The Globe, 25<sup>th</sup> March 1818, edition.

<sup>9</sup> Statutory record. See also Dundee Courier. 10<sup>th</sup> august 1876, edition.

<sup>10</sup> Statutory record. See also: Fife Herald, 5<sup>th</sup> January 1871, edition.

<sup>11</sup> London Evening Standard, 21<sup>st</sup> October 1875, edition.

JOHN WHYTE-MELVILLE OF STRATHKINNESS, *b.* on 21 June 1797, and succeeded his brother, Robert, on his death in 1818. He *m.* at London 1 June 1819, to Catherine Ann Sarah, only daughter of Francis Godolphin Osborne, 5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Leeds, (she *d.* at Mount Melville on 23 December 1878<sup>1</sup>), *d.* at Mount Melville on 16 July 1883,<sup>2</sup> when the Strathkinness estate passed to his cousin, John Balfour of Pilrig, and was father of,

1. George John Whyte-Melville, *b.* on 19 July 1821, and *m.* on 7 August 1847, to Charlotte, daughter of William Bateman-Hanbury, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Bateman of Shobdon, (she survived him and *m.* secondly, to Leslie Fraser Duncan). He *d. vitae patris* on 5 December 1878, as a result of a hunting accident,<sup>3</sup> and was father of,

1a) FLORENCE ELIZABETH WHYTE-MELVILLE OF BENNOCHY, *b.* in 1848 and *m.* on 4 October 1870, to Clotworthy John Eyre Skeffington, Viscount Massereene. She *d.* at Milland Place, Liphook, on 14 October 1929,<sup>4</sup> (he *d.* in 1905), and had issue.

2. Catherine Margaret Whyte-Melville, *m.* at Mount Melville on 23 November 1841, to Sir David Barnett Dundas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baronet,<sup>5</sup> and *d.* on 23 April 1856, having had issue.

3. Elizabeth Charlotte Whyte Melville, *b.* on 19 January 1828, and *m.* at Mount Melville on 25 March 1852, to James Wolfe Murray of Cringletie,<sup>6</sup> (he *d.* on 20 June 1890<sup>7</sup>). She *d.* on 4 October 1857,<sup>8</sup> having had issue.

4. Maria Louisa Whyte-Melville, *b.* in 1825, and *d.* young.

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<sup>1</sup> London Evening Standard, 27<sup>th</sup> December 1878, edition.

<sup>2</sup> Statutory record.

<sup>3</sup> Illustrated London News, 14<sup>th</sup> December 1878, edition.

<sup>4</sup> St. Andrews Citizen, 19<sup>th</sup> October 1929, edition.

<sup>5</sup> OPR – Comrie. See also: Perthshire Courier, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1841, edition.

<sup>6</sup> OPR – Cameron. See also: Morning Post, 29<sup>th</sup> March 1852, edition.

<sup>7</sup> Statutory record. See also Dundee Evening Telegraph, 25<sup>th</sup> June 1890, edition.

<sup>8</sup> Morning Post, 7<sup>th</sup> October 1857, editon.