

# MEMOIRS

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Memoirs by Archibald Napier

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**ARCHIBALD NAPIER**

**MEMOIRS**



MEMOIRS  
OF  
ARCHIBALD,

*FIRST LORD NAPIER:*

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF,

MEMOIRS  
OF  
ARCHIBALD,  
*FIRST LORD NAPIER:*  
WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

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PUBLISHED FROM THE  
ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT,  
IN THE  
POSSESSION OF THE PRESENT  
*LORD NAPIER.*

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EDINBURGH:

1793.



210. n. 352.

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TO  
ANDREW PLUMMER

OF MIDDLESTEAD,

ESQUIRE, ADVOCATE,

SHERIFF-DEPUTE OF THE COUNTY OF SELKIRK,

THE FOLLOWING MEMOIRS ARE INSCRIBED,

AS A MARK OF THE ESTEEM OF HIS

MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

NAPIER.

WILTON LODGE,  
MARCH 1793.





## TO THE READER.

**ARCHIBALD**, the first **LORD NAPIER**, was the only son of John Napier of Merchiston, Inventor of the Logarithms, by his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Stirling of Keir. He was appointed, Treasurer Depute of Scotland, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and Lord Justice Clerk, by King James VI. His Commission, as Treasurer Depute, being for life, he remained in that office, after the Accession of King Charles I. till he resigned it, in favour of the Earl of Traquair, as mentioned in his Memoirs. King Charles I. continued him as an Extraordinary Lord of Session, created him a Baronet, and at length was graciously pleased to raise him  
to

to the dignity of a Peer, by the title of LORD NAPIER of Merchistoun, by patent, dated 4th May 1627. His Lordship married Lady Margaret Grahame, daughter of John, fourth Earl of Montrose, and sister of the Great Marquis of Montrose. Lord Napier died at Fincastle, in Atholl, where he had retired after the defeat of Montrose's army at Philiphaugh, (in which action he was present), *anno* 1645, being then upwards of seventy years old. He was steadily attached to the interests of King Charles I. for which reason he and his family were particularly persecuted by the Covenanters.

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A  
TRUE RELATION  
OF  
THE INJUST PERSUTE AGAINST  
*THE LORD NAPIER,*  
WRITTEN BY HIMSELFE.

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**T**HE principall cause, that moved me to attempt this Relation, wes, thankfullnes to All-mighty God, of whose speciall care and protection, in my Troubles, I had sufficient prooffe: for I esteeme the concealing of a Benefit, even amongst men, a high degree of ingratitude. Next, charity to the Reader, who may heerby informe himselfe of the state of these tymes, and receive direction, how to behave himselfe in the like and like occasions. And if he shall, by my exemple, in his Troubles, have recourse to God, who, for causes knowne to him, hath sent them,

A

(for