A HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF CAITHNESS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649747269

A History of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Caithness by J. B. Craven

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. B. CRAVEN

A HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF CAITHNESS



			¥3	
10 10	8	91		
		THE CHURCH I	N CAITHNESS	
				9

0

HISTORY

OF THE

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

DIOCESE OF CAITHNESS

THE REV. J. B. CRAVEN, D.D.
REGOTOR OF ST. CLAS'S CHURGE, KIRKWALL

KIRKWALL WILLIAM PEACE & SON 1908 DEDICATED

TO

MRS SINCLAIR OF BARROCK.

NOTE.

In issuing this (the last of his diocesan histories), the author begs to return grateful thanks to Mrs Sinclair of Barrock for much help and continued encouragement. He also gladly acknowledges the assistance of the Rev. J. M. Joass, LL.D., minister of Golspie; the Rev. J. R. Forbes, minister of Canisbay; the Session Clerks of Wick and Thurso; the late Town Clerk of Wick; and the Sheriff Clerk of Caithness.

He regrets the unnecessary delays and difficulties raised by the official in charge of the Presbytery and Synod Records of Caithness in regard to their inspection, but gratefully acknowledges the kindness and assistance given by the late Rev. Donald Grant, D.D., minister of Dornoch, and clerk to the Presbytery of Dornoch, in giving ready access to the records under his charge.

J. B. CRAVEN.

KIBRWALL, Ascension Day 1908.

3.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER FIRST.

UP TO THE FOUNDATION OF THE BISHOPRIC.

Cultus of St. Ninian—and St. Martin, St. Barr or Finbar—His Image preserved in Barra—Dornoch identified with his Personality—Barris Fair—St. Fergus—Kildonan—Donnan of Ega—St. Drostan—Carved Crusses at Thurso—The Ulbeter Stone—Lives of the Earlier Saints—St. Duthus of Tain—Lived near Dornoch—Church at Lybster—Other early Dedications—St. Modan—Criech—St. Devenick—Hospital of St. Magnus at Spittal

CHAPTER SECOND.

THE EARLIEST BISHOPS.

Extent of Bishoprio—Halkirk the first Episcopal Church—St. Volce of Dunmeth—Description of the Northern People—Perils of Missionaries — Audrew the first Bishop — Others nominal — Darrus — Christian—John—Refused obedience to Rome—Blinded at Scrapbeter—Invokes St. Tredwell—Adam of Melros—Duty of Butter—Increased—Refused by Inhabitants—Burned—Wyntoun's Description—King Alexander's Anger and Vengence—Harakl's Gift to Boone . . 8

CHAPTER THIRD.

BISHOP GILBERT AND THE FOUNDATION OF THE CATHEDRAL AT DORNOCH.

Agencies of Feudal System—Closer Union of the Church to Rome—Grants of Burghal Privileges—Arrival of Sutherland Family—William first Earl—New Bishop, Gilbert de Moravia, Archdescon of Moray, Cousin of Earl William—A great Builder—Founder and Builder of Dornoch Cathedral—Constitution granted—Still preserved—1223-1245—Lincoln chosen as Model—Cathedral Dedicated to St. Mary and St. Bar—Different Dignitaries and their Churches—Site of Building—Description by Neale—St. Gilbert—Collect for his Festival—Miracles—Miracles in Civilization of Province

CHAPTER FOURTH.

MEDIEVAL HISTORY.

Early History of St. Gilbert given by Spottiswood—At Council of Northampton—Translated Psalms and Gospels into Gaelic—Built Scrabster
—Successors mere Names—Alan de St. Edmund friend of Edward I.
—Grant of Wood—Proposed Marriage of Edward and Maid of
Norway—King Robert confirms Constitution—Bishop Mudy—
Family—Will of Sinclair of Dunbeath, 1456—Provisions—His Son
Ersden of Caithness—Sanctuary rights granted—Next Bishops—
Andrew Stewart—Early Wick Charter—Robert Stewart—Elect and
Administrator—Charges against Earl of Caithness for Excesses—
Bishop at Dornoch in 1549—Earl lays violent hands on Pricets—
Arche Keyth—His Servant—Violent and Profane—Curate of Bowar
assaulted at Easter—Ornaments of Church of Far removed—Character of this Earl—Church Boildings—Wick—Thurso—Two Churches
there—St. Peter's—Kirk at the Ebb—Officials—Seals—Page 17

CHAPTER FIFTH.

BISHOP ROBERT STEWART.

Bishop Stewart-of Royal Descent-Provost of Dur	wha	eto	n -	R.	e els	, F	Tin.
tory — Accepts Reformation — Plants Kirks opposes Reformation — Stewart a Privy Con	_ F	Carl	0	f	Cai	thr	eas
Bishop assists Earl in seizing Earl of Suthe							
Ewelick opens St. Gilbert's Grave—Treats the —His Loathsome End—Bishop Stewart presid	Re	lica	wi	th	Ind	ig.	ity
Douglas-Reforming Party at St. Andrews-1							
Cheer by Bishop-He Marries-Divorced-							
before Kirk Session of St. Andrews-His T							
1565-Institutes Boirthuik as Dean there-In-	digr	iti	88	at (Cat	hed	iral
Church-Kindness of Bishop to Nicolson		35000	::e				24
APPENDICES.—1. Notes as to Bishop Stewart's Seals		•	3.		::: ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::		
O Tohn Widow							0.0

CHAPTER SIXTH.

THE REFORMATION IN THE DIOCESE OF CAITHNESS.

The Poisoning of the Earl of Sutherland in 1567—Portrait of Countess of Sutherland—holding a String of Beads—Y Mackay—State of Strathnaver—Planting of Kirks, Readers, &c., in 1567—Dornoch, William Gray Exhorter—Lesly—Old Clergy conform—Sir Donald Reid—Sir Robert Ferne—Sir William Reid—Bradie or Brady—Probendary of Helmsdale—Hospital there—James Brady Arohdeacon—Roman Party keep Chapel at Glutt—Eyersden Priest—Holy Grass at Thurso—Veneration of Images—St. Fergus—Prunto—Name in Later Times—Arohdeacon Watsoun—at Canisbay, Dunnet, and Bower—Description of a Book—Voragine's Legonda Aurea—formerly his Property—Notes on this Book