

**THE DIARY AND GENERAL
EXPENDITURE BOOK OF
WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM OF
CRAIGENDS: KEPT CHIEFLY
FROM 1673 TO 1680**

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The diary and general expenditure book of William Cunningham of Craighend: kept chiefly from 1673 to 1680 by William Cunningham & James Dodds

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WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM & JAMES DODDS

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WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM OF
CRAIGENDS: KEPT CHIEFLY
FROM 1673 TO 1680**

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CUNNINGHAM'S DIARY

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THE DIARY
AND GENERAL EXPENDITURE BOOK OF
WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM
OF CRAIGENDS

Commissioner to the Convention of Estates and
Member of Parliament for Renfrewshire

KEPT CHIEFLY FROM 1673 to 1680

Edited from the Original Manuscript by the Rev.
JAMES DODDS, D.D. GLASG., F.S.A. SCOT.



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1887

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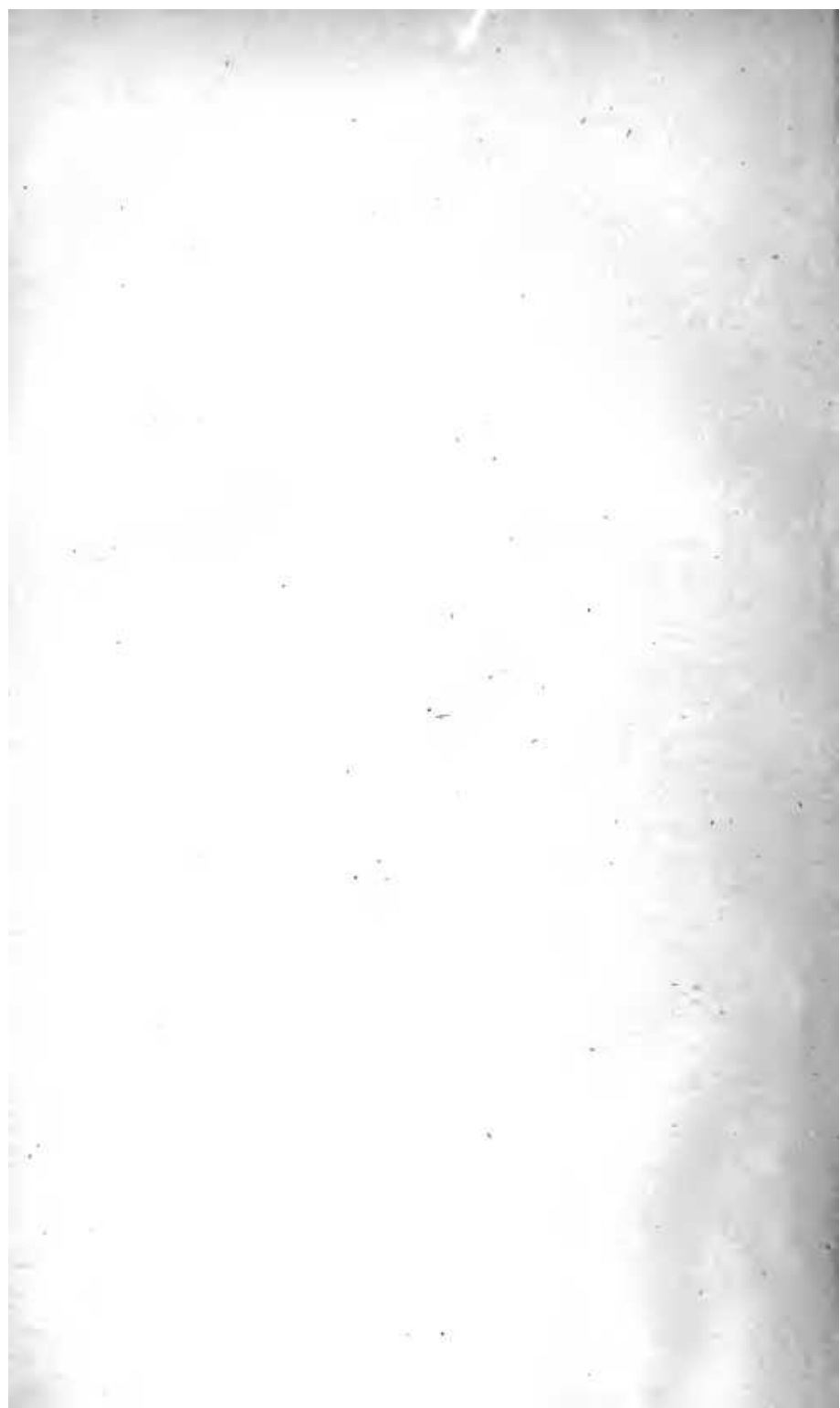
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INTRODUCTION.

ALTHOUGH the carefully-written manuscript volume from which the following notes and diary are taken does not contain the name, formally stated, of the author, it yet affords evidence clear and unmistakable as to his identity. Even were there any room for doubt in regard to the authorship after perusal of its contents, this would be dispelled on a comparison of the handwriting with that of other authenticated documents bearing the signature of William Cuninghame, younger, or, as he designated himself, 'Master' of Craighends, in the county of Renfrew. Cuninghame was a member of an old influential family, founded by a cadet of the earldom of Glencairn to whom the first Earl gave the lands of Craighends in 1479.¹ This estate is still possessed by a Cuninghame who is descended from the diarist.

During the period covered by the volume, the house of Craighends was jointly occupied by Alexander Cuninghame, father of the writer, and the diarist, his only son. In accordance with a practice not unusual at the period, the elder Cuninghame seems to have transferred the estates to his son, about the time of the marriage of the latter, retaining only certain life-rent rights to himself and wife.² The elder Cuninghame had married Janet, daughter of William Cuninghame of Auchinyards, and had issue five children: William, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Janet, and Marion. Woodrow in his *Analecta* incidentally states that this marriage took place when Alexander Cuninghame was only nineteen

¹ P. 28.

² P. 15.