

**GENEALOGICAL
MEMOIRS OF JOHN
KNOX AND OF THE
FAMILY OF KNOX**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649030767

Genealogical Memoirs of John Knox and of the Family of Knox by Charles Rogers

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

CHARLES ROGERS

**GENEALOGICAL
MEMOIRS OF JOHN
KNOX AND OF THE
FAMILY OF KNOX**



Frontispice.

De Jure

GENEALOGICAL
MEMOIRS OF JOHN KNOX

AND OF THE

FAMILY OF KNOX

BY THE

REV. CHARLES ROGERS, LL.D.

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF
SCOTLAND, FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF FORTIFIERS ANTIQUARIES, GOTTINGEN;
FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, ASSOCIATE OF THE IMPERIAL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ROMANIA, MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF QUEBEC, MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,
AND CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL AND
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ENGLAND

LONDON .

PRINTED FOR THE GRAMPIAN CLUB

1879

PREFACE

ALL who love liberty and value Protestantism venerate the character of John Knox; no British Reformer is more entitled to the designation of illustrious. By three centuries he anticipated that parochial system of education which has lately become the law of England; by nearly half that period he set forth those principles of civil and religious liberty which culminated in a system of constitutional government. To him Englishmen are indebted for the Protestant character of their "Book of Common Prayer," Scotsmen for a Reformation so thorough as permanently to resist the encroachments of an ever aggressive sacerdotalism.

Knox belonged to a House ancient and respectable; but those bearing his name derive their chiefest lustre from being connected with a race of which he was a member. The family annals presented in these pages reveal not a few of the members exhibiting vast intellectual capacity and moral worth.

What follows is the result of wide research and a very extensive correspondence. So many have helped that a catalogue of them would be cumbrous. But special acknow-

ledgments are due to the Rev. Dr Gordon of Newbattle, Mr David Semple of Paisley, and Mr David A. Hume of London, who have carefully gleaned original materials. Colonel Dewar of Vogrie is entitled to best thanks for so readily granting the use of the Lochquareit writs. In collecting materials from the public records Mr Walter Macleod has evinced his usual skill and diligence, which entitle him to the warm commendation of all who have recourse to his professional services.

GRAMPIAN LODGE,
FOREST HILL, S.E.,
December 1878.

GENEALOGICAL MEMOIRS.

THE family name of Knox has a territorial origin, being derived from the Celtic word *Cnoc*, signifying a small hill.

About the year 1260, "Johanne de Cnok" is named as witness in a charter of the lands of Ingliston, Renfrewshire.¹ On the 9th June 1272, he witnessed a gift which Sir Anthony the Lombard made to the abbot and convent of Paisley, of his right in the lands of Fulton.² "Wilelmus de Knoc" is witness to a charter without date, but apparently about 1284, by Johannes de Aldhus,³ of his right in a certain portion of land; to which were appended the seals of "Johannis de Knoc" and others, as that of Johannis de Aldhus was not well known ("quia sigillum meum non est notorium"). In 1328 two payments from the exchequer of King Robert the Bruce were made to Alanus del Knoc, or Knockis, and in 1330 he is named in the public accounts as Alanus de Knokis, on receiving 44s. 10d. for conveying the royal stud to the forest of Selkirk, from the north ("de partibus ultramontanis").⁴ During the reign of Robert III. (1390-1406), Robert Knock received a royal charter confirming to him the lands of

¹ Reg. Mon. de Passelet, Edin. 1832, p. 66. ² *Ibid.*, p. 61. ³ *Ibid.*, p. 65.

⁴ Great Chamberlain's Accounts, Edin. 1817, 4to, vol. I., pp. 22, 25, 209.

Knock, within the liberty of Renfrew, on the resignation of William Cunyngame, son of the sheriff of Ayr.¹

In an instrument of sasine, dated 8th July 1472, investing Alexander Dunbar of Westfield in certain lands at Peterhead, "Andrea Knox de eodem" is named as a witness.² In the Treasurer's Accounts is named, in 1491 and subsequent years, "Jok of Knoxe," one of the falconers of James IV.³ In February 1498 a contract was entered into between John Chaumer of Auchcowy and David Knox of Auchorthty in the parish of Strichen, for the marriage of the son and heir-apparent of the latter with one of the daughters of the former.⁴ "Johannes Knokis de eodem" is, in February 1507, one of a jury which served Agnes Leslie, one of the heirs of Henry Leslie, her father, in lands situated in the parish of Oyne, Aberdeenshire.⁵ "Jhon Knox of that Ilk" obtained, on the 31st May 1538, judgment from the Lords of Session against George Craufurd of Federat, for not fulfilling the conditions of a "decret-arbitrale;" he is also named in a decret of the Lords of Session against the Earl of Murray, sheriff-principal of Aberdeen, dated 21st March 1538-9.⁶ Among thirty-three landed persons who, in January 1549, constituted an assize in the county of Aberdeen for levying a tax, is named "Gilbert Knox of that Ilk."⁷ The estate from which Gilbert Knox and his predecessors derived their designation is situated in the parish of Deer, about ten

¹ Robertson's Index of Charters, 137, 14.

² From the original in Scrabster charter-chest, quoted in "Antiquities of Shires of Aberdeen and Banff," Spalding Club, 1862, vol. iv., p. 592.

³ Lord High Treasurer's Accounts, Edin. 1877, vol. i., pp. 177, 284, 329, 362, 367, 373.

⁴ Antiquities of Shires of Aberdeen and Banff, iv. 65.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. iii., p. 450.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. iv., pp. 576, 232.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. i., p. 115.

miles to the west of Peterhead. In the parish of Deer stood the well-known Cistercian abbey, founded in 1219 by William Cumyn, first Earl of Buchan, and which being suppressed at the Reformation, the greater tithes were by its commendator assigned to William, fourth Earl Marischal, who, in November 1574, summoned before the sheriff those formerly bound to pay tithes to the abbey. Among these was "Andrew Knox of that Ilk," who was adjudged to pay "five bollis, tua firloittis, tua pekis of the teynd-schaves of the Knoikailhoua."¹ The abbey was, on the 29th July 1587, erected into a temporal lordship in favour of Robert Keith, second son of the Earl Marischal, who was created Baron Altria. Among those who subscribed as witnesses the legal instrument by which, on the 7th July 1587, the commendator resigned into the king's hands the possession of the abbey for erection into a temporal lordship, were William Knox and George Knox,² not otherwise designed. In a valuation of Deer parish, made towards the close of the seventeenth century, John Knox of that Ilk is named; he disposed of his lands to Keith of Whiteriggis, a cadet of the Earl Marischal. In the poll-book of Aberdeen a John Knox appears in 1696, living in the vicinity of the lands of Knock; he is there designated as "grassman" at the "Maynes of Knock," in the parish of Deer, and is assessed at six shillings.³

Returning to the Renfrewshire family, Mr George Crawford⁴ in his history of that house derives its origin from Adam, son of Uchtred, who, in the reign of Alexander II., received

¹ Antiquities of Shires of Aberdeen and Banff, vol. ii., p. 432.

² *Ibid.*, vol. ii., p. 439.

³ List of Pollable Persons within the Shire of Aberdeen, 1696, vol. i., p. 634.

⁴ Crawford's Genealogical MSS., Advocates Library.