

**THE HISTORIE AND  
DESCENT OF THE HOUSE  
OF ROWALLANE**

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The Historie and Descent of the House of Rowallane by Sir William Mure

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**SIR WILLIAM MURE**

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OF ROWALLANE**



THE  
HISTORIE AND DESCENT  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF ROWALLANE.

BY  
SIR WILLIAM MURE, KNIGHT,  
OF ROWALLAN.

WRITTEN IN, OR PRIOR TO

1657.

*Edited by William Muir.*

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TO  
THE MOST NOBLE  
FLORA MURE CAMPBELL,  
MARCHIONESS OF HASTINGS,

AND  
COUNTESS OF LOUDOUN, BARONESS MAUCHLINE,  
&c. &c. &c.  
(IN HER OWN RIGHT,)

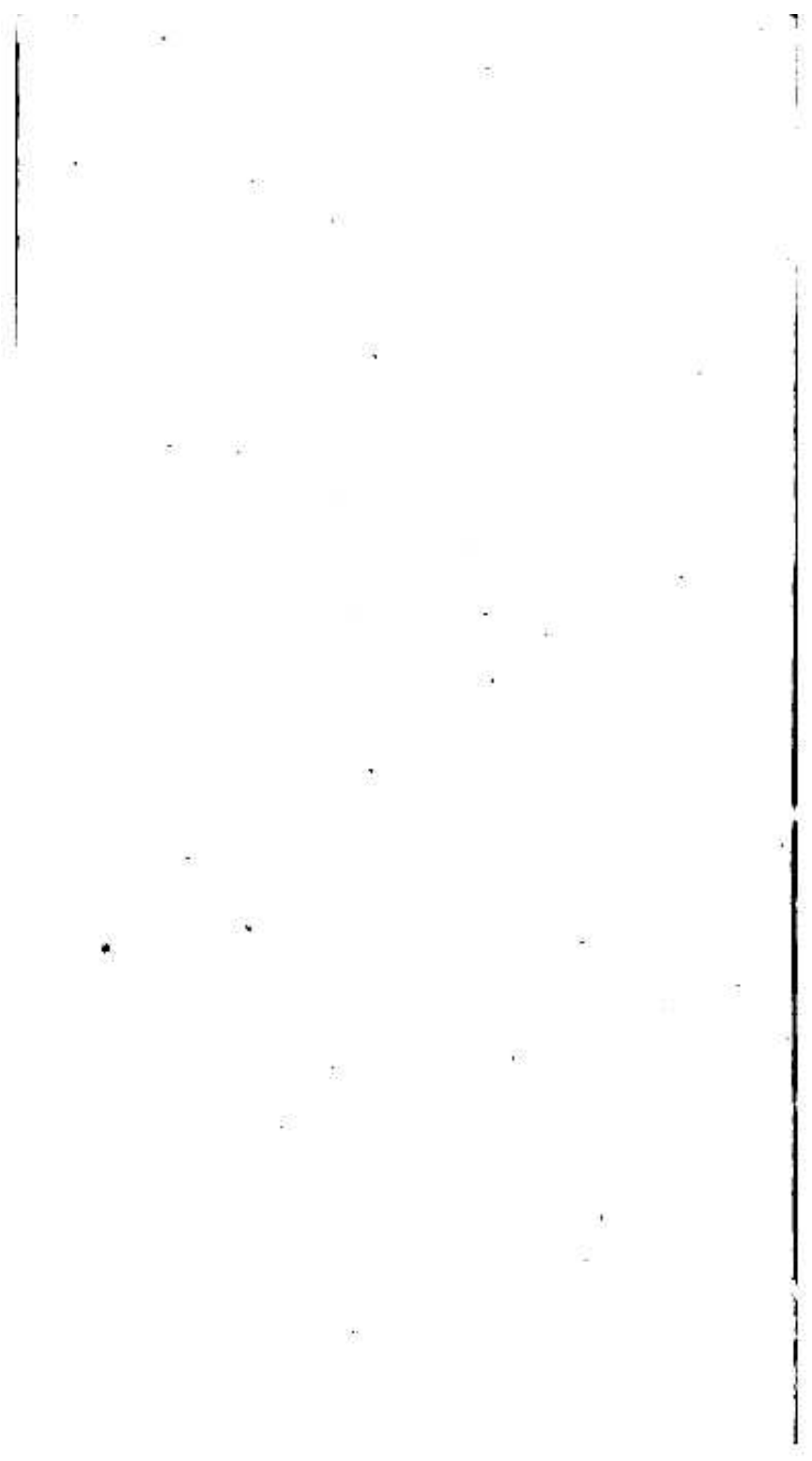
*This History*  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF ROWALLAN,

PUBLISHED FROM THE MANUSCRIPT OF HER LADYSHIP'S ANCESTOR,

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY  
THE EDITOR.

*S. Stevens Sept. 28, 1911 5/5*





## PREFACE.

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THE following Genealogical History of his ancestors from the pen of SIR WILLIAM MURE, was lately found in the castle of Rowallan, together with a variety of his poetical manuscripts, amongst a miscellaneous collection of old family papers. It is, probably, notwithstanding the eminent antiquity, rank, and high alliance of the family to which it refers, the only detailed account of them which has ever appeared.

In offering, then, the present publication to the attention of the curious, to whom only we expect it will be mainly interesting, little further apology, it is trusted, will appear necessary. Though it may seem very doubtful, whether the Author ever contem-

plated the publication of this history, yet, it certainly bears such ample testimony of his education, and literary acquirements, as may probably make it vie with any similar composition of that, or any prior time. The state of our public history and records, down to the time in question, forbids the expectation of historical exactness in the more early parts of the narrative, but wherever errors have been observed, they have, as far as possible, been corrected.

As illustrative, however, of former manners and usages, productions of this nature must, no doubt, ever derive their chief value; yet the origin and progress of the family, which has here been delineated, through the various fortunes and changes evolved by the long period of well nigh six hundred years, may not be found altogether without a more special claim on the regard of even the most general reader; whilst it cannot fail to afford matter of far deeper interest to the contemplation of the moralist—in their struggles through many a dismal

day of lawless turbulence and bloodshed, before the blessings of civilization and consequent security, had rendered existence useful, or society interesting; and the place they were afterwards, through a long period of the history of their country, destined to occupy. The fortune of Elizabeth, whose virtues and beauty recommended her to the heir of the crown, has the grace of fiction with the reality of truth, and every reader will rejoice that time has now removed the mistakes that posterity had fallen into regarding her marriage. Like many other ancient Scottish families, their history bears testimony to the fatal days of Flodden and Pinkie—the reader will probably lament the shortness of the graphic sketch of the “waistor Rud.” To a number of readers, the notices which have been recovered of the pious and poetic Sir William, our Author, it is hoped, may not be less interesting; and the sufferings of his posterity, during the troubles of the Church of Scotland, are worthy of record.

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