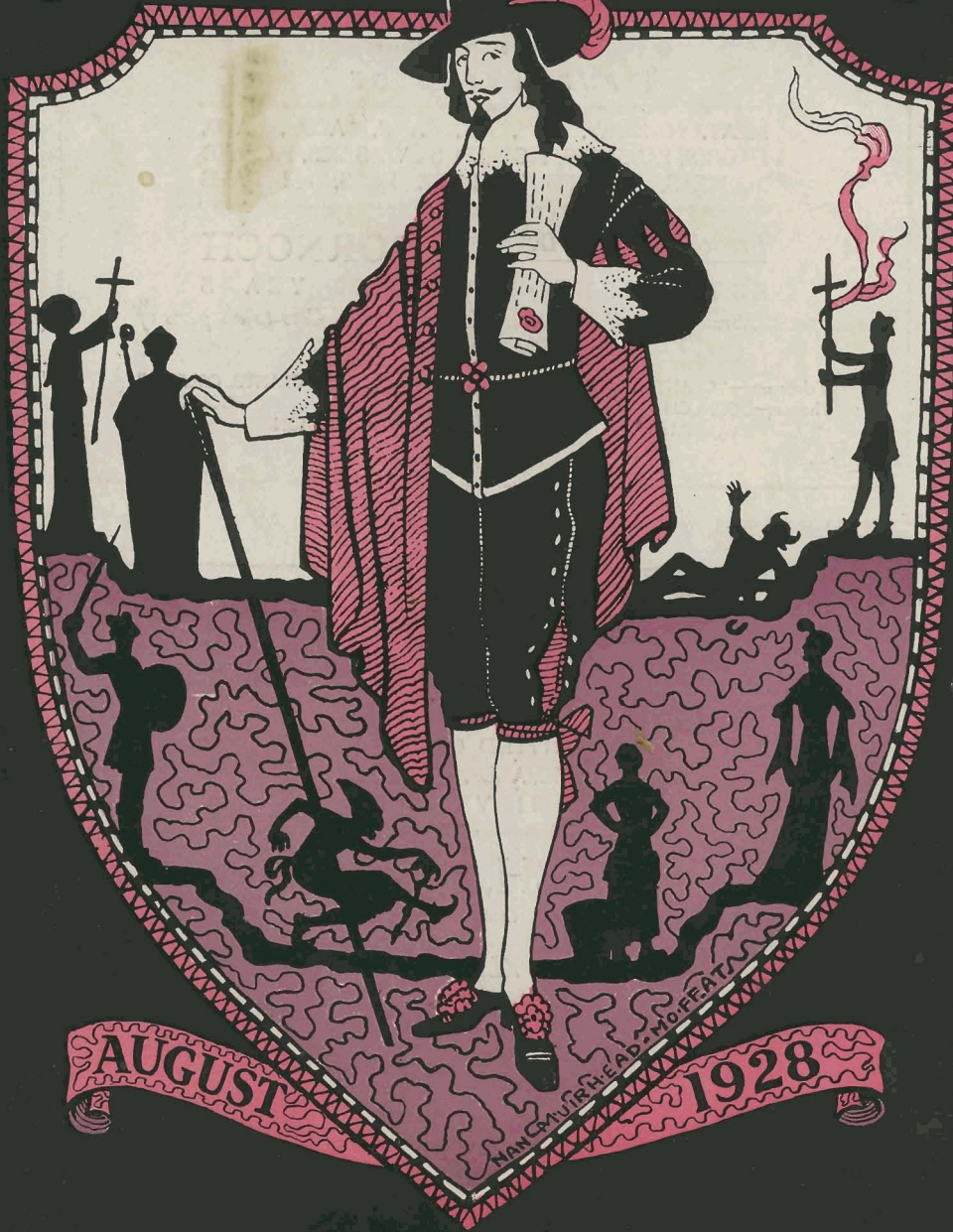


Property of Miss Jean I. C. Mackay, Sunnyside, Dornoch

# DORNOCH PAGEANT



AUGUST 1928

NAN CUNNINGHEAD-MOFFAT



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## Dornoch Historical Pageant



## Tercentenary Celebrations

of the Granting of the Royal Charter by  
King Charles 1. in 1628

Arena—Cathedral Square  
Dornoch

29th August  
1928





Charles I. (who erected Dornoch into a Free Royal Burgh in 1628) while playing Golf on Leith Links, receives news of the breaking out of the Irish Rebellion

## DORNOCH HISTORICAL PAGEANT

### General Organisation

*Convener of Pageant Committee.*

Miss MOULD, Dornoch Castle.

*Director and Producer of Pageant.*

R. S. HENDERSON, Esq., Dornoch.

*Executive Committee.*

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*Finance Committee.*

JOHN MURRAY, *Convener*.

D. DINGWALL, *Treasurer*.

JOHN SUTHERLAND, *Town Clerk*.


*Convener of Ladies' Work Committee.*—Mrs. J. BELL.

*Refreshment Committee.*

Mrs. MACKINTOSH, Miss J. MACRAE, and Mrs. CHISHOLM, *Conveners*.  
THOS. WOOLEY, Esq., *Superintendent*.

*Chief Marshal.*—R. ROBERTSON, Esq.

## FOREWORD

HROUGH the good offices of Sir Robert Gordon, the historian of Sutherland, who had considerable influence at Court, King Charles I. conferred upon Dornoch the dignity of a Royal Burgh by a charter dated 14th July, 1628. In his history Sir Robert thus records his achievement :—

“ In the moneth of Julie, the yeir of God 1628, Sir Robert Gordon procured from his Ma'tie at London the priviledge of a burgh-royall to the toun of Dornogh in Sutherland, with divers priviledges conteaned in that gift ; which Sir Robert sent home into Scotland to passe vnder the greate seale.”

A copy of the original charter is in the custody of the Town-Clerk and is a document of great historic interest. It sets forth the grounds upon which His Majesty bestowed so great a distinction upon the little burgh situated in a remote corner of his dominions, and describes Dornoch as the only city of the Earldom and County of Sutherland to which, beyond the memory of man, the inhabitants of that country resorted as to a common emporium in order to purchase the necessaries of life, and that, owing to its situation near the seashore, it had a suitable site for the construction of a harbour for the importation and exportation of merchandise ; further that, as the inhabitants of that country were for the most part barbarous and uncultivated mountaineers, it might be of great advantage in reducing them to a state of civilisation. His Majesty accordingly erected the burgh and city of Dornoch with all its lands, tenements, houses, buildings, roods and “ outsettis,” together with a port and harbour of the same, into a free royal burgh and port. The three hundredth anniversary of so interesting and outstanding an event in the history of Dornoch could not be allowed to pass unnoticed, and the Town Council decided to celebrate the historic occasion in a manner befitting its character and importance.