

XIII

12

XIII

When civil war broke out in England Scotland was not immediately involved, But the General Assembly sat throughout July and August that year, ^{it} appointed a standing committee of the Estates, which, with the Privy Council, was responsible for the government of the country in the troubled ^{year} times ahead. For many Scots the defence of the Covenant was above all other loyalties. The committee of the Estates was dominated by Argyl and their sympathies were on the side of the English parliament. in the long run it was inevitable that the Scots who who favoured the Covenant would join with the parliament. The signing of the Solemn League and Covenant in London promised the enforcement of Presbyterianism in England. ^{the} handsome offer of pay for Scottish troupes completed the alliance. On the 19th of January, 1644, an army of 18000 troupes and 2000 horse led by Leslie crossed the Tweed. It was to remain in England for ^{three} years.

The Earl of Sutherland was appointed a member of the committee for the Defence of the Realm in 1643 and a Colonel of Horse and Foot in the same year.

Hume. Annals II 327
330

Lord Reay left his affairs in the care of the
of the Master of Reay and sailed for Denmark on
July 17th, 1643. He remained in Denmark for nearly
a year in command of a regiment ^{of} which his son Angus
was second in command. Early in 1644 he was recalled
by King Charles. He left Denmark with some ships
laden with arms and treasure for the King,) but these
were seized when he landed in England involving
Lord Reay in a loss of £20000 Scots. He was sent
north and reached Newcastle, ^{by the King} Just as ^{Ben Leslie} began a siege
which lasted until October 14th. When Newcastle
surrendered, Lord Reay was made a prisoner and sent
to Edinburgh, where he remained until August, 1645.
In the meantime, Huntly had raised an army of 3000
troops and 200 horse, but when he encountered opposition
at the Spey he dissolved his force and fled to
Sutherland, where he took refuge with the Master of
Reay at Tongue.

In July, 1644, the landing of Colkitto MacDonald
with a force of 1500 Irish MacDonalds, caused great
alarm in the Highlands. Colkitto marched north

A. Mackay
139

Am Mackay
140

hoping to meet with Seaforth, but when he found that Seaforth had joined with Sutherland to oppose him he turned south again and marched into Athol. In February, Montrose had arrived in Scotland with the King's commission as Lieutenant General; when he joined forces with Colkitto his wonderful series of victories began. All through that summer, Covenanter and Royalist harried and robbed the country over which they fought. For many, the choice of their allegiance must have been agonising, a choice that might mean ruin or survival. The very name of Colkitto and his Irish followers spread terror; It was said that for them "there was no distinction between a man and a beast." It was no wonder that many prodigious signs, apparitions, spectres, strange sights were seen everywhere, which presaged warr and revolutions, such as men fighting in the air, horse and foot, retreating, and returning again, visibly observed. People mustered in rank and file upon our hills, that the spectators observed their cloaths, armes and stature, and have often alarmed the country

Wardlaw Mss
290-1

that Montrose and M'Coll were invading us yet all
evanished again & again. James Fraser relates these
marvels in good faith, saying he had them from eye-
-witnesses. ⑨⑩

After Montrose's great victory over Argyll at
Inverlochy on February 2nd 1645, Argyll went back to
Edinburgh where he gave up his command. The Estates
promoted General Sir John Hurry and General Baillie &
detached four regiments of foot, from Leslie's army
over the Border, to strenghten their ^{number} command. They also
called on levies from the north, which involved both
Sutherland and Seaforth. Montrose rested his ~~his~~ army
for a few days and then marched into Badenoch. He
crossed the Spey and reached Elgin on Friday, 19th
February. Here, he received recruits from the laird
of Grant, and later, he was joined by Lord Gordon,
Huntly's heir, and his brother, Lord Lewis Gordon,
and ~~his brother, Lord Lewis Gordon.~~ ^{conveniently} The gentry of Moray
were scattered, Duffus had gone to Sutherland, others

to Inverness & Ross-shire

4 5

Montrose determined to capture Dundee. On the 4th April, he sent a trumpeter to summon the magistrates of the town to surrender, but the assault began before their answer was received. Soon, much of the town was in the hands of the invaders and the plundering of the little city was yielding rich rewards to poor Highlanders. Stores of wine were broached with the inevitable scenes of drunkenness, when suddenly, word was brought to Montrose that Hurry and Baillie were within a mile of Dundee. Now began that celebrated retreat, a feat of arms worthy of a great leader. Beating his Highlanders off their plunder, Montrose left the city as the Covenanters were almost within gunshot of his rearguard. Marching and countermarching he eluded his pursuers. He drove his men for two days and nights until, at last, ~~they were~~ exhausted and starving, they reached the safety of the hills.

Now Baillie and Hurry divided their army. forces. Hurry crossed the Spey and reached Inverness, where he was joined by the levies of Caithness, Sutherland and Ross-shire. With these reinforcements he returned to the pursuit of Montrose who had followed him north

Buckan
237-
38-9.

Philiphaugh 14 Sept: 1645

6

X111

on April 9th 1645

1645-

through Elgin and Forres. ¹ At Auldearn, about three miles from Nairn, Hurry was defeated by Montrose. ¹⁶⁴⁵ The regiments of Coventers fought bravely, but they were cut down where they stood. The raw Highland levies, who had been held in reserve, fled without striking a blow; their pursuers gave no quarter and took no prisoners. The two earls, Sutherland and Seaforth, left the battlefield and made an inglorious retreat to Inverness which they reached in safety.

Buchan
249

Alford, on July 20th, and Kilsyth, on August 15th, completed Montrose's triumphs. The army of the Estates was practically destroyed. There was pestilence in Edinburgh and the Estates had fled, first to Stirling and then to Perth. After Kilsyth the royalist prisoners in Edinburgh were set free---- it was well for them that they escaped from the horrors of the Tolbooth prison before the defeat of Montrose at Philiphaugh, on September 14th, destroyed all the hopes of the Royalists.

Buchan
276

Lord Reay returned to Strathnaver at the end of October. Huntly had left the House of Tongue in time to avoid what might have been an awkward encounter; he went into Caithness accompanied by the Master of Reay and 300 men. ~~and xxxxxxxx~~ after he had dismissed the Master of Reay, he took a ship

1645-

to 166

he went to Wick and from there took a ship and returned to his own country. Lord Reay's return was marked by a renewal of disputes with the Earl of Sutherland. He was accused of taking up rents in a part of Strathnaver which had been sold to the Earl, and of 'taking away' the Earl's own proper ky out of Baddenloch and distributing them among his friends and followers." Lord Reay denied the charge and a truce was patched up, but the accusations were only laid aside until till they could be pressed with more hope of success.

x Gordon
532

85

Gordon
532/582

The Earl took no part in the fighting that took place after Philiphaugh when Huntly tried to revive the fortunes of the royalists. Now the forces of the Covenant were triumphant and they celebrated it by the slaughter of prisoners, even those who had surrendered on a promise of quarter. Towards the end of the year the Earl of Sutherland petitioned the Estates to furnish clothing and pay for his men, 800 in number, and In January, 1646, an order was issued for 800 suits of clothes, 2 800 prs of shoes, and 1600 dollars, which were to be paid.

their 1646

Buchan
292
P. 293.

beginning

100

104

~~to the Earl.~~ The regiment was to be mustered and
S.B. 243. equipped and monthly pay to the officers was allowed.

In January, the Scottish parliament, sitting at
St. Andrews, voted a grant of 1,600 dollars to the
Earl of Sutherland, ~~to the Earl~~ to compensate him ~~for his~~
losses he claimed to have sustained. Nevertheless
the Earl felt himself threatened on every side. He
kept his regiment in arms and put a guard on the Shim
to give warning if his neighbours threatened and
Gordon. attack. Montrose, Reay, and Huntly were preparing
for another effort in the spring of 1646; but meanwhile,
the Royal cause had foundered beyond hope in the south.

In the last days of April the king rode out of 1646
Oxford in disguise, and appeared before the Scots
army at Southwell, near Newark, on May 5th. He
surrendered his person, but refused the terms on which
he could have obtained their assistance, and the
Scots would not accept him unless he consented to
sign the Covenant. Charles rejected the Covenant,
but the Scots withdrew with their prize to Newcastle,
where they endeavoured by reasoning and persuasioun
to make him change his mind. The King was not

referred
523.

Home Brown
E 339

Buchan
310

accustomed to being challenged, but he held his own and though refusing to sign the hated Covenant, he consented to write letters to Huntly and Montrose, commanding them to lay down their arms.

Buchan
338

The Scots army was not loved in England. There were enormous arrears in its pay, it was ill-clothed and underfed; but with the King in their hands the Scots were able to exact terms, ~~and when~~ early in February, 1647, the army re-crossed the Border, the parliament in London had consented to pay £300,000 of arrears. The King was handed over, to be taken to Holmby House in Northamptonshire, a well-guarded prisoner beyond the reach of supporters still loyal in the north. / ^{had been already been} Peace was declared in Scotland about

Gordon
534

the middle of May, 1646, General John Middleton, who commanded the army of the Covenant in the north was ^{empowered} empowered by the Estates "to deal with all those that have stood out against the parliament and to grant them ^{on} remission and passes upon such conditions as he should think most expedient for the service of the kingdom." The minister ~~in~~ complained that the terms he offered were too lenient, but they could not persuade the Estates

Gordon
534

to reject them .

In June, the Scots parliament sat in Edinburgh, the Earl of Sutherland attended ~~the~~ parliament, not only as a legislator but also to prosecute his private claims against Lord Reay. These were four in number, and included a renewal of the accusation that Lord Reay had taken up rents and driven away cattle in a part of Strathnaver that had been sold to the Earl. Gordon says ' the parliament stood fast to the Earl of Sutherland as for one who had ~~stuke~~ ^{struck} hard to them / and most advanced their affairs in the north of Scotland' ^o

Gordon
535-

They not only supported the Earl's claims, they also ordered that 500 men should be detached to be under the Earl's orders when he should require them for his own protection

~~In August~~ While the Earl was in Edinburgh the Achness drabegs aided the hands of Robert Gray ^{& Crick} in Guise & took goods away from account of having ^{encouraged} ~~not to take~~ This too was said at Lord Reay's Lord Reay denied all knowledge the drabegs ~~to commit~~.

to reject them.

In June, the Scots parliament sat in Edinburgh, the Earl of Sutherland attended this parliament, not only as a legislator but also to prosecute his private claims against Lord Reay. These were four in number and included a renewal of the accusation that Lord Reay had taken up rents and driven away cattle in a part of Strathnaver that had been sold to the Earl. Gordon says, the parliament stood fast to the Earl of Sutherland as for one who had stuke hard to them, and most advanced their affairs in the north of Scotland! Nor was this all. In August, the Achness Mackays raided the lands of Robert Gray of Crieich at Gruids and took goods away. Lord Reay was accused of having encouraged the ~~xxx~~ Mackays and to have made no effort to force them to return the goods they had taken, but he denied having had any knowledge or being in any way concerned in the offence. In the parliament of March, 1647, the Earl received yet further proofs of gratitude for his services. For the sums he claimed to have expended on his regiment he was granted a payment of £3,000 sterling as his share

by the Abenaki Indians -

The Estates supported the Earl of S. in the dispute & ordered that £500 on the 27th March 1647 ordered that £500^{new} should be sent to assist the Earl to confront Lord Pease against Lord Pease, finally a meeting was arranged at Rossal & the ~~dispute~~^{a settlement} was settled. made. -

In 1648 Lord Pease sailed from Thurso to Denmark, where he was received with honour & made -

He died in 1649 & his body was returned for burial at Kirkhill the church of Kirkhill.

Lord Feo Highland Chief had such a dramatic career as Lord Pease -

Though his motives of entering themselves & Highlanders to fight for a Protestant Army abroad are hard to define, he was a long and outlandish & loyal

succeeded to the support of King Charles
by his son John, who

P. 509

Gordon

1641. This year of God. one thousand six hundred
 41. The Earl of Sulhufsen did begin
 to repair the house at Dundubinn &
 finished the great tower the same year,
 working it to the top; wherein Anna
 Countesse of Sulhufsen was a very
 diligent overseer, during her husbands
 absence in the Scots; for the most part
 of the summer —

509 The year of God one thousand six hundred
 42. The Earl of Sulhufsen perfected & finished
 the bargain which he had formerly
 begun with the Lord Reay for the lands
 of Shaltonnau, & bought them even
 from Howdackill to Inverness; & at
 which while the year 1642 the
 Earl did sell these lands to such
 tenants as he pleased. At the time
 the Earl did quite (quit) & discharge
 to the Lord Reay the claim which he
 then had for the lands of Duriness

in the year 1642 he took a new intefronee
under the great seal from the King & called the
lands the Barony of Gordonstown.

clan Mackay suffered a ~~ill~~ a loss of prestige they did
not regain.

Sir Robert Gordon too had increased his properties
in Murray. he had purchased from Huntly the lands of
Plewlady and ~~Logstown~~, the names of which he changed
to Gordonstown. He ~~then~~ ^{now} deserted King Charles and
removed himself with his family to Murray to watch over
his possessions and take no part in the disasters that
befell his late master, from whom he had had nothing but
kindness and who had raised him to a position of trust
and power.

In July , 1643, Lord Reay embarked at Aberdeen for
Denmark where he remained for nearly a year. Early in
1644 King Charles recalled him. He left Denmark with
some ships laden with arms. But these were seized when
he landed in England, involving Lord Reay in a loss of
some £20.000 Scots. He ~~was~~ sent north by the King and
arrived in Newcastle ~~shotly~~ ^{shortly} before it was invested by
Leallie. The seige of Newcastle lasted till October 14th
After its fall Lord Reay was sent ~~with~~ a prisoner to

Gordon
813 .

h 97

He had created a set of laws, an order
to the several persons of the army to give
him 500 men upon public charges whenever
he should call for them. He had a tract
against the L. had his son the Master
Wm M^r of Bighouse, Henry of Dilbert. Huchinson
Seigneur Robert Dumas of Achamps his son
American Dumas. Neil Dumas (also known
as Hector Dumas of Smith's excepted this
and excluding them out of pardon
of forbidding the several persons to have
been any person or persons, until they
salvaged the L. & S. in what he would say
to their charge & gave him possession of
the lands of Stralmeers & restore all the
goods taken out of his country & give him
sufficient security for the future
meaning also to the F. & S. all his civil
actions against the Lord here

S.
5-37

S. Hurley taken prisoner by Lt. Col. Dumas
& sent to Seaboard his 2 sons also sent

Meanwhile the Scots army at Newcastle
repaired while continued to guard the
king.

Lord May was accused of having conspired
against the L.R. his son, the Duke
of Burgundy, Hugh A. of Brie
Hachem R. of Sicilie Robert D.
of Alhessa his son Thomas R.
Neil Hartley (alias Lullianus)
to Hector Monoy Smith &
forbidding the several persons
to grant letters any person
remits until they satisfied the
Sgt. in what he could say &
tell the Chap. & gave him most
of the lands of Strathmore & West
all the goods he had taken out of
Dunfermline

Letters from Dunrobin

- 1 July 31st
- 2 August
- 3 August 7th
- 4 August 28 (3 seals)
- 10 September
- 25 September