

## PREFACE.

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I dedicate this little compilation to the members of the clan in the hope that they may find it interesting. It does not profess to be a full history of the Moffat family, but only such an outline as may perhaps form the skeleton of some future work by one who has more time at his disposal. Little as it is, its production has necessitated an expenditure of much time, correspondence, and some money. The great destruction of ancient records in Scotland is an immense barrier to the genealogist, and many charters and deeds, being in the hands of private persons, are inaccessible. Of private family papers there appears to be none extant, and the Sundaywell papers, which would have thrown some light on the affairs of the Moffats during the Sixteenth or Seventeenth Centuries, were lost between 1820, when Mr. Alexander Moffat died, and 1832, when my father succeeded. This loss has, perhaps, as much as anything, induced me to place on record what I know and what I could collect regarding the clan, lest it also should be lost.

The Moffat family, though sufficiently influential to play its part in local and national history, was never powerful enough to attract to itself outside adherents, who would have adopted the family name, as was usual in the case of the highly distinguished houses of Douglas, Hamilton, Graham, etc. which had many adherents of all ranks of the same name in no way related to each other. All Moffats spring from the same parent stem, and rightly bear their name *by virtue of descent*, and are, therefore, all more

or less remotely related. This fact should prove of special interest to all who bear the name, and particularly to those many scattered members of the family for whom I do not find a place in this little work; but as my researches have already established a blood connection between many who were unaware of their relationship, so I hope this little book may enable others to trace their connection with some of the branches mentioned herein.

The book has been interleaved with blank sheets to allow of space for notes of the many changes which must occur from time to time.

R. MAXWELL MOFFAT.

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St. Helier, Jersey.

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## THE MOFFATS OF THAT ILK.

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Caledonia,  
Vol. III.

THE Parish and Township of Moffat extends to about 15 miles long by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  broad and is situated in upper Annandale and Moffatdale in the North of Dumfriesshire and South of Lanarkshire. Its name is derived, according to Chalmers, from the *Erse*, *Mai-fad* signifying "the long plain," while others deduce it from the *Gaelic*, *Oua-vat*, "a long mountain hollow." Moffatdale contains some wild and mountainous scenery, a glimpse of which is obtained from the introduction to the 2nd Canto of *Marmion* by Sir Walter Scott, who describes a well-known part in the following lines:—

"Just on the verge straining his ken,  
"To view the bottom of the den,  
"Where deep deep down and far within,  
"Toils with the rocks the roaring linn ;  
"Then issues forth one foaming wave  
"And boiling round the Giant's grave,  
"White as the snowy charger's tail \*  
"Drives down the pass of Moffatdale."

This is the district from which the family of Moffat takes its name, and it is probably the cradle of the race. The actual origin of the family is unknown, and whether it were Pictish, Scottish, Roman, Danish, Saxon, or Norman, it would be useless to speculate. While tradition says the family was established at Moffat from a very much

\* The Grey Mare's Tail, a well-known Waterfall.

more remote date, we know that in the twelfth century there was a family of sufficient importance to be designated in deeds and history as "de Moffet," a description which shewed that the family then held the position of principal lairds or landowners. At this time surnames were becoming hereditary and those who owned lands and baronies took their names from them. Hence this family came to be known as the "Moffats of that Ilk."

About the year 1124, the second Robert de Brus had acquired from King David I., a Charter of the Lordship of Annandale, which, at that time, included half Dumfriesshire; and it is not improbable that one of that family went in the train of David, Earl of Huntingdon (the brother of King William the Lion) to accompany Richard Cœur de Lion to the third Crusade in 1189—1192. If so, he would not lack a following of Annandale men. Whether or not to that Crusade, certainly to the next went Robert de Brus, seventh Lord of Annandale and first Earl of Carrick, and with him a Scottish following. They joined Edward I. of England and Louis IX. of France in 1268.

The Armorial Bearings of the *Annans* or *Annands*, the old Lords of Annandale, were "*Or, a Saltyre and Chief Gules,*" and those arms were adopted by the Bruces after they had acquired that Lordship. They were apparently first used about 1190 (probably on the eve of the third Crusade) by the fourth Lord of Annandale, the grandfather of Robert de Brus, the sixth Lord, who was known as "the Competitor" for the Throne and the grandfather of King Robert I. Previously to this, the Bruces had borne as their heraldic device, "*Argent, a Lion rampant azure.*" From the fact that all the old Annandale families also adopted the same "Annand" arms suitably differenced, it is supposed they did this at the time of the Crusades, both to shew forth their dependence on their leader and their Scottish Nationality as typified by the Saltyre or St. Andrew's Cross. Amongst those, "Moffat of that Ilk" bore "*Sable, a Saltyre and Chief Argent,*" as displayed in Workman's M.S., 1565—66, and in "Nisbet's Heraldry," published by Royal authority in 1722. Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, remarks of this family in

his "Encyclopedia of Heraldry, 3rd Edition," 1844: "A very  
"ancient Border family influential and powerful so far back as  
"the time of Wallace and conspicuous for the deadly feud which  
"existed between them and the Johnstones. So early as 1268  
"Nicholas de Moffat was Bishop of Glasgow, and the armorial  
"bearings of the different branches seem to indicate some con-  
"nection with the Church."

The system of clanship prevailed among the Borderers much  
as it did among the Highlanders. The chief landowners were  
given baronial rights—were in fact barons—but not necessarily  
LORDS of Parliament, though they sat in the Estates of the Realm  
in Parliament. This included the services of the freemen on  
their lands, whose disputes and quarrels they settled and whom  
they protected from enemies. The County Courts held by the  
Sheriffs were afterwards instituted to adjudicate between the  
families of the landowners and to punish ill doers among them—  
*when they could!* The peasantry were dealt with by their own  
lairds. Life was of the roughest description, and even Princes in  
those days fared less sumptuously than the middle classes of the  
twentieth Century. All the borderers were mounted men and  
Bruce's Army was nearly all Cavalry and contained a Knight or  
Esquire to every five troopers. Froissart in 1323 describes their life:  
"The bold and hardy troopers armed after the manner of their  
"country, and mounted on little hackneys that are never tied up  
"or dressed, but turned immediately after the day's march to  
"pasture on the heath or in the fields, brought no carts and  
"carried no bread. They can live on flesh half sodden, without  
"bread, and drink the river water without wine. They dress the  
"flesh of the cattle in their skins after they have flayed them.  
"Under the flaps of his saddle every man carries a broad piece  
"of metal behind him with a little bag of oatmeal. When they  
"have eaten too much of the sodden flesh, they set this plate  
"over the fire, knead the meal with water and make a thin cake  
"of it, which they bake on the heated plate to warm their bodies."

From the 12th to the close of the 16th Century, the family  
appears to have flourished as minor barons and freeholders

("tenants in capita") possessing a fair share of power and influence, and leading the usual life of such Border families.

It was while Wallace had withdrawn into the Ettrick Forest after the desertion of the Nobles at Irving that the Moffats gave what help they could to him. They occupied lands in the surrounding districts and they probably helped in finding labour for the construction of the famous trench\* which still bears his name on a steep hillside between Tweed and Yarrow. It is 1,000 feet in length and in places is deep enough to hide a man on horseback, and the bottom is paved with stones set on edge. At the hill-top it communicates with an extensive rectangular enclosure. It has all the appearance of the work of a skilled military commander, both in choice of site and in construction. This military work was executed in 1297, only one year after nearly all the Border notables had sworn allegiance to Edward I. of England; so little are such oaths kept when obtained through compulsion, exercised in an unjust cause. After this, the Moffats continued to serve Wallace, and after his eclipse they transferred their allegiance to Bruce, whose fortunes they followed till the culminating victory of Bannockburn seated him securely on the Throne, and finally established the Independence of Scotland.

The Borderers subsisted on such products of the soil as they were able to cultivate in the time of peace, on the cattle and sheep which they pastured on their lands, on the big and small game of the country, on the fish with which the rivers were plentifully stocked and on the results of their "raiding and reiving" the English marches and sometimes the lands of those neighbours with whom they were at feud. The rights of ownership were not much considered in those days. They all believed in and practised—

"The good old rule, the simple plan  
"That they should take who had the power  
"And they should keep who can."

When the Johnstones extended their possessions to upper Annandale, about the beginning of the 15th century, the Moffats

\* Craig-Brown's Selkirkshire, vol. i, p. 73.

looked upon them as interlopers and resented their growing influence and hence arose a keen struggle for local power, and the feud between the two clans which continued through several generations, and only ended when the Moffat clan became "broken" and ultimately dispersed.

A "broken" clan was one which had no recognised Chief—one to whom the obedience and sworn allegiance of every other member were due. How or when the Moffats lost their Chief it is not easy to say, but about 1560 they only had "Principals"—heads of branches. This greatly weakened the clan as it necessarily led to divided councils and want of concerted action.

Notwithstanding this feud, it is said, there were frequent marriages between the members of the two clans, and it might well be, in those times, that such marriages, especially if property were involved, would only accentuate the bitterness of the feud. The final overthrow of the Moffats appears to have been brought about by the Johnstones taking advantage of an assembling together of the Moffats in a large building wherein they had met for Council or prayer. The Johnstones set fire to the building and, on the Moffats attempting to escape from the flames, attacked and killed many of their "principals." This disaster deprived the clan of its leaders and ultimately led to its breaking up. At this time many of the Moffats were undergoing a condition of affairs common enough to every border family in turn, viz., *outlawry*. And as killing outlaws was no murder, the Johnstones do not appear to have been called upon to answer for their act, and the Moffats were apparently then too weak to avenge it privately. There had been no recognised Chief since about 1560, and it was probably some time after that this event took place. Previously the Chieftainship was vested in the family of Moffat of Grantoun, *i.e.*, of that Ilk. From 1569 the Moffats of Knock appear to have been the most influential till 1608. After this time some of the surviving branches settled in Glencairne, Lauderdale, and other parts, while some went to England and Ireland, and some to the Continent.

Notwithstanding this feud, some of the Moffats appear to have fought on the Johnstone side against the Maxwells at the battle of Dryfe Sands in 1594. For certain Moffats were included in the King's Warrant in 1594 directing a respite for 5 years in favour of Sir James Johnstone of Dunskeillie and eight score followers for the pursuit and slaughter of John, Lord Maxwell, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Warden for the time. The fact that this same Sir James Johnstone was afterwards himself appointed to be His Majesty's Lieutenant and Warden of the Middle Marches is a strong commentary on the power of these border lairds, the weakness of the regal authority, and the state of the country in those days.

Anno 1594  
24 Dec.

Historical  
Families of  
Dumfriesshire,  
p. 126.

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### SOME NOTICES OF THE MOFFATS.

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A.D. 1268.

Nicolas de Moffet was Bishop of Glasgow from 1268 to 1270, then the most important and powerful ecclesiastical position in Scotland. He was in learning, intelligence, and scientific attainments the foremost man in Scotland at the time.

1296.  
Ragman's Roll.

Public Record  
Office, London,  
Scotch Docu-  
ments Series—  
Tray 2, No. 278.

Bruce  
Armstrong's  
History of the  
Borders.  
Robertson's  
Index,  
p. 21, No. 36.  
p. 12, No. 71.

When Edward I. of England overran Scotland, Robert and Thomas de Moffet, both of the County of Dumfries, did homage to him in 1296 and the Seal ascribed to Robert bears the device of a Fleur-de-lys and the letters "S. ROBERTI. MOVEST." The name is written in the Roll, "Robert de Moffet." This homage they did in common with many other Lords and Lairds; but we have it on tradition in the family that afterwards all the Moffats threw in their lot with Wallace and again with Bruce whom they greatly assisted; and it was for those services that King Robert I. granted, in 1300 or 1303, the four charters of lands in the barony of Westerkirk which continued in the family of Moffat of Knock till after 1608.

Many of the Moffats fought for Bruce at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314.

Anno 1329. King David II. granted a charter to William de Douglas of all-lands which formerly belonged to Jacob Lovell, Knight, in the valley of Eske and de Ewys now in the King's hands by reason of forfeiture "exceptis tantumodo terris p celebris dūm. patrem nostra Ade de Moffet et Thome de Moffet." In this reign certain grants of land were forfeited and there were wadsets (temporary alienations to pay debts) by the Moffats.

Anno 1336. On 3rd Sept., 1336, a Safe Conduct was granted by the English King till 30th November for Adam Bishop of Buchan, Rymer's Feodora Ed. II. "William de Moffete and Gartenet Bysset coming as Ambassadors "from David de Brus—extended to Easter."

Anno 1337. Robertson's Index of Charters, p. 176, Col. 2. Les Ecosais en France par Francesque Michel. A.D. 1337 Walter de Moffet was paid LXVj lbs. xiii Solidi iiij denarii per Bishop of Moray, expenses as Ambassador to France.

Anno 1342. Walter Moffat was King's Messenger to France, England and the Marches in 1342. Exchequer Rolls of Scotland, Vol. I & II.

Anno 1504. James IV. hanged two men named Little and Thomson for killing Thomas Moffat who was described in the record as "the King's liegeman."

Anno 1513. After the battle of Flodden Field, in 1513, which was as disastrous to the Scots as Bannockburn had been to the English, the whole of the Scottish Border having lost the best of its defenders in the war, was continually exposed to the raids of the

History of  
Dumfriesshire  
and Galloway  
by Sir Herbert  
Maxwell, Bart.

English under Lord Dacre, who took full advantage of the opportunity to harry, burn and destroy houses and crops through miles of territory. It may be said he destroyed all Eskdale, Ewesdale and Liddelldale down to Cannonby, and left nothing but a howling waste. It was impossible for any man to live a quiet honest life in these districts. Houses, live stock and crops were insecure: consequently these lands went out of cultivation and became filled with men, who, although of good families, were little better than armed brigands; and very well armed and accoutred some of them were. The strongest of these clans was that of the Armstrongs, which could put 3,000 horsemen into the field! One of the chief leaders of this clan was the famous Johnnie Armstrong of Gilknockie, who was brother to the Laird of Mangerton. He was a man of many exploits and daring deeds, and his death through bad faith and treachery on the part of King James V. happened in this way:—

Anno 1529.

The King had gone to the Borders to quiet them and reduce them to good order partly by treaty with the turbulent chiefs and clans and partly by force. He had arranged a convention of the border clans and had issued a letter of safe conduct to Gilknockie to come in and discuss matters. Gilknockie, trusting in the King's honour, rode in attended by 34 followers all splendidly horsed, accoutred, and armed. This display was so brilliant that it angered the King who exclaimed, "What wants yon knave that a King should have?" and immediately ordered them all to be seized and hanged forthwith. This was at once done—to the great distress of the Borderers,—but it lost the King the support of the Borderers, which he afterwards greatly needed—especially in 1541 when he wished to invade England.

Gilknockie Tower was in the neighbourhood of Langholm and in the Armstrong Country. Langholm stands at a point from which three valleys diverge, Ewesdale to the North, Eskdale to the North-West, both running over the hills into Moffatdale, and Wachhopedale to the South-West. In each of these valleys there were families of Moffats, the Laird of Knock in Ewesdale, certain Moffats in Eskdale, and Moffat of Wachagilie (Wachhope-

gill) in the last. They were all in close proximity to the Armstrongs and on friendly relations with them, having intermarried with some of them: and their interests being practically the same, they were "hand in glove" in all raiding and reiving expeditions against the English.

A.D. 1515. The following extracts from Public Records will give a fair idea of the kind of raids and forays in which the border gentry took part:—

See also  
"Historical  
Families of  
Dumfriesshire,"  
by C. L. John-  
stone.

"On the 27th November, 1515, Lord Dacre wrote that the  
"Warden of the Scottish Borders with Lord Carlyle, Sir John  
"Murray of Cockpool, the Laird of Johnstone, Symon Carruthers  
"of Mouswald, Sir Alexander Jardine (Comptroller of the Duke of  
"Albany's house), Carruthers of Holmains, Charteris of Amisfield,  
"William Johnstone of Gretna, Dinwiddie, the Lairds of Knock,\*  
"Castlemilk, Kirkconnel, Tinwald and others came to Solan Chapel  
"in England, where the said Warden sent forth in a scrymage  
"the Laird of Johnstone, Captain of Lochmaben, and others to  
"the number of 400 horses and more. They came to Arthuret  
"in the Duchy of Lancaster, burnt a grange and a whole village  
"to the number of 16 houses. Returning to Scotland, the Warden  
"sent forth in another scrymage Sir John Murray, Laird of  
"Cockpool, Sir Alexander Jardine, the Lairds of Mansfield, Amis-  
"field, Tynwald, the Provost of Dumfries and others to the number  
"of 700 horsemen who robbed Bowness and burnt 18 houses  
"with much corn, hay, &c., assaulted the tower and barmkyn for  
"half an hour and returned."

1525. These border clans were continually taking reprisals on the English, and in 1525 the English Government made representation to the Scottish Government that "*the Armstrongs of Liddersdaile and the thieffs of Ewysdaill † were joined with the rebels of Tyndaill and were comyn into theym and kepert all compuny togedders.*"

\* One of the principal Moffats.

† "The thieffs of Ewysdaill" were mostly Moffats.

It must not be thought that "*the thieffs of Ewesdaile*" were thieves in the common acceptation of the term to-day. This was merely an epithet applied to them by an enraged English Government. The Borders having to bear the brunt of the wars between the two countries were in a state of almost continual turmoil and had a law of their own agreed to by both Governments. The inhabitants were fighting men to the core and the salt of their country. They were "freebooters" by compulsion of their circumstances, but they "played the game" in a sportsman like way, and the law of reprisal was quite recognised and consistent with the custom and honour of the times. The same may be said of the English Bordermen.

Anno 1547.

Historical  
Families, by  
C. L. Johnstone.

After the death of James V., Henry of England desired to marry his son Edward to the young Queen Mary of Scotland, and so bring about the union of the two kingdoms; and with that view he had already possessed himself of Caerlavrock, Lochmabon, and Thrieve Castles. Caerlavrock was however recaptured by the Scots. By way of reprisal, early in 1547, Johnstone, Lochinvar and the Master of Maxwell raided Cumberland. Next month Sir Thomas Carleton crossed the frontier, took Dumfries, Lochwood Tower, Moffat, Lamington and James Douglas's Castle in Lanarkshire. At the same time an English army ravaged Teviotdale and East Lothian, and Lord Wharton laid siege to the Castle of Annan, which he blew up with gunpowder and completely destroyed. He also sacked and burned the town and left no stone standing "for it had ever been a right noisome neighbour to "England."

"Holinshead."

"After this, most of the Dumfriesshire Lairds and Chiefs of "Lower Annandale went and received an oath of obeisance as "subjects to the King of England, delivering pledges for their "assured loyalty."

Vide State  
Papers of  
Edward VI.

In *Bell's M.S.*, in Carlisle Cathedral Library, there is a list of Chiefs and their men who surrendered. Lord Wharton also left a list of those who took the oath of allegiance to Edward VI., but the two lists do not quite agree.

LIST OF LAIRDS AND CHIEFS WHO SURRENDERED TO  
THE ENGLISH IN 1547.

*In Dumfriesshire.*

History of  
Dumfriesshire  
and Galloway  
by Sir Herbert  
Maxwell, Bart.

Lord Carlisle - - - -	with 101 men
John, Master of Maxwell - - -	1000 „
Edward Maxwell of Tynwald - -	102 „
Robert Maxwell of Cowhills - -	91 „
John Maxwell of Breconside - -	320 „
Johnstone of Craighburn - - -	64 „
Johnstone of Cotis - - - -	164 „
Johnstone of Craigland - - -	37 „
Johnstone of Dryfesdale - - -	47 „
Johnstone of Malinshaw - - -	65 „
Gavin Johnstone - - - -	31 „
William Johnstone, the laird's brother	110 „
Robin Johnstone of Lochmabon - -	67 „
Irving of Bonshaw - - - -	102 „
Irving of Rosgill - - - -	34 „
Richard Irving - - - -	142 „
Irving of Lannersack - - - -	40 „
Wattie Irving - - - -	20 „
Jeffrey Irving - - - -	93 „
Jardine of Applegarth - - - -	242 „
Kirkpatrick of Closeburn - - -	403 „
Grierson of Lag - - - -	202 „
The Laird of Kirkmichael - - -	122 „
The Laird of Rosse - - - -	165 „
Charteris of Amisfield - - - -	163 „
The Laird of Holmends - - - -	162 „
The Chaplain of Crawford - - -	110 „
Simon Carruthers - - - -	71 „
The Laird of Wamphray - - - -	102 „
The Laird of Dinwoodie - - - -	41 „
The Laird of Newbie & Graitney -	122 „
The Laird of Criffell - - - -	27 „
Patrick Murray of Cockpule - - -	203 „
The Laird of Gillsby - - - -	30 „

Moffats	- - - - -	with 24 men
Bell of Toftyetts	- - - - -	142 "
Bell of Tyndells	- - - - -	112 "
Sir John Lawson	- - - - -	32 "
Sir Edward Crichton	- - - - -	10 "
Rowe of Tordoff	- - - - -	32 "
Batesons and Thomsons (Eskdale)	-	166 "
Armstrongs	- - - - -	300 "
Ellwoods (Elliotts)	- - - - -	74 "
Nixons	- - - - -	32 "
The Town of Dumfries	- - - - -	221 "
The Town of Annan	- - - - -	38 "
		<hr/>
		5970 "

*In the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright.*

The Laird of Tabatye (Dalbeattie?)	- with	41 men
The Laird of Orchardton	- - -	102 "
The Laird of Carlisle	- - -	206 "
Gordon of Lochinvar	- - -	95 "
The Tutor of Bomby	- - -	150 "
The Town of Kirkcudbright	- - -	36 "
The Abbot of New Abbey	- - -	141 "
		<hr/>
		771 "

Ibid.

Lord Maxwell had been taken prisoner at Wauchopedale in 1545, and the Laird of Johnstone was already a prisoner in the hands of the English before this invasion—hence their names do not appear in the above list.

Historical Families of Dumfriesshire, by C. L. Johnstone, p. 97.

Besides those who surrendered, the Laird of Gillesbie\* with 72 men; 55 Jardines and Moffats; 104 Bells of Middlebie; 60 Nixons, Hunters of Glendinning; 25 Carlises; 80 Elliotts and Simpsons; the Armstrongs of Liddisdail; 11 Grahams and 304 Beatties, Littles and Tomsons had all served the English, some for a year and some for more than three years. In all about 6,000 men surrendered (in Dumfriesshire alone) mostly under

\* A Moffat?

stress of circumstances. For about eighteen months after this time the shire of Dumfries and the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright were completely under the English rule.

Anno 1548. "On 2nd March, 1548 (the following year), Robert Moffat of  
—  
State Papers of "the Grantoun writes to Lord Wharton reporting the Queen's  
Scotland, "departure to Dumbarton and arrival of ships at Bute to take  
Vol. III, p. 64. "her away to France" where the Regent was sending her for  
safety; the English having brought over a band of Germans and  
Italians and a Spanish Corps and marched on Edinburgh, which  
they burned.

"Historical Families," by C. L. Johnstone. At the first Session of Parliament in Edinburgh after this, on 12th June 1548 the Lords declared the following chiefs who had taken the oath to the English King to be guilty of high treason and therefore outlawed :

Willia Kirkpatrick of Kirkmichael  
John Jardine of Aplegarth  
John Carruthers of Holmends  
The Laird of Ros  
\*The Laird of Knock  
\*The Laird of Granton  
The Laird of Gillesbie  
Graham of Thornick  
Gawyne of Johnstone  
Johnstone of Kirktown  
Johnstonn of Craigeburn  
James Johnstone of Cottis  
(The Laird ?) — of Newbie  
Michael Lord Carlisle  
Carruthers of Mouswald  
Cuthbert Irving of Robgill  
Irving of Cowquhate  
Cuthbert Johnstone of Lockerbie  
James sometime Abbot of Saulsyde  
Tweedie of Drummelzear

None of these gentlemen appear to have been much the worse for their outlawry and they were all subsequently pardoned.

Anno 1550. After much suffering to both countries, peace was established by the Treaty of Norham on 24th March 1550.

\* Moffats.

Anno 1557.  
—  
History of  
Dumfriesshire  
and Galloway,  
p. 135.

In "Pitcairn's Criminal Trials," it is recorded, Vol. I., page 398, that on the 11th May 1557 "Roger Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, William Kirkpatrick of Kirkmichael, and Thomas Kirkpatrick of Friar's Carse got remission from the Queen for abiding from the Army ordered to assemble at Lochmabonstone in February 6 'to meet the Warden before sunrise to pass forward with him to the day of Trew for meeting of the Warden of England,' and three days later, Alexander Stewart of Garlies, John Dunbar of Mochrum, John Gordon of Barskeoch, John McCulloch of Torhouse, John Jardine of Applegarth, Robert Moffat senior and junior of Granton, Thomas Moffat of Knock, Robert Johnstone of Coittis, and John Creghton tutor of Sanquhar were ordered to underly the law at the next assize of Dumfries for the same offence."

Anno 1569.

About the year 1569 the Moffats appear to have been particularly active in raiding and disturbing their neighbours—as the following extracts will shew, wherein they are required to give security for their good conduct :

Orders of the  
Privy Council  
of Scotland.

"Apud aquam de Milk in Campis xxv die mens: Octob:  
"Anno etc LXIX—

"Ane of the Moffats of Powbody to ly as plege for the rest  
"of that gang on Sunday nixt in Dumfrieis under pane of two  
"thowsand markis."

"The quhilk day, James, Erll of Mortoun, and Johnne Jar-  
"dine of Apilgirth obleist some sall bring one of the principallis  
"of the Moffetis of Bludewuse in Dumfrieis on Sunday nixt  
"under pane of twa thousand markis."

"The quhilk day David Moffet in Hewykis interit plege for  
"himself, Willie Sym and Cristie his brother their bairnes,  
"tenantis and servandis and also for the hail gang of Powbody  
"to be interchangeit with ane of the twa brether of the said  
"David and James Moffat of Powbody."

Anno 1578.

Register of  
Orders of the  
Privy Council.  
Stirling Castle,  
18 Oct.  
p. 41, Vol. III.

“Willia Moffet sone of James Moffet of Powbudy to ly as a  
“plege for gude order and quietness of the Borders.”

Sederunt of  
Privy Council,  
Edinburgh,  
23 June, 1582.

“Thomas Cant of Scangelegrange finds caution for £500 for  
“Johnne Moffet the said Johnne Moffat and Robert Moffett of  
“Crympton not to hold intercourse with declarit tratoures for-  
“falted and now remaining furth of this realm.”

Ibid.

Holyrood House,  
8th May, 1583,  
p. 567, Vol. III.

“Alexander Jardine of Apilgirth as brother master\* and  
“haver in household of John and James Jardine his brothers, and  
“as master and haver in household of Thomas Jardine of Birnock,  
“Thomas Jardine his son, Will Jardine called Reid Will, David  
“Johnnestoun in Mylenbank, David Moffet in Sybbellesyde, Matho  
“Moffet in Woodend called Daveschaw, Will Bell and Ninian  
“Jardine, is charged to enter all these persons before the King’s  
“Privy Council to answer ‘taiching the tryell’ of the crimes of  
“fire raising and slaying and hocking of hors and oxin of which  
“they are said to be guilty.”

#### THE RAIDS OF MYNYEANE AND COMMILHOIP.

Register of the  
Privy Council of  
Scotland.

St. Andrew’s,  
27 August, 1583,  
Vol. III, p. 591.

“Complaint by Gilbert Hay of Monkstoun that William  
“Moffet of Aricstanes, Robert Moffet his son thair, James Moffett  
“of Mekleimside, James Moffet of Mekleholme, James Moffet of  
“Garigholme, John Moffet his son, William Moffet thair, James  
“Moffet in the town of Moffet, Thomas Moffet *alias* Thomas  
“Lyne, Gilbert Moffet his broder, James Moffet callit Scald James  
“and David Moffet alssua brether to the said Thomas and Robert  
“Moffet in the Altoun with their complices upon the I day of  
“Aprile last by past came to the toun and lands of Nether

\* It was thought no degradation for younger sons of a baron or gentleman to act as serving men in another house. It was part of the old system of training through the grades of page, valet, and esquire to the rank of Knight.

“Mynyeane pertaining to the said Gilbert Hay in heritage and  
“not only chassait the haill nolt and Scheip being thereupon  
“pertening to him, of the ground and drownit the maist part of  
“thame in the Watter of Tweid, but als maisterfullie reft  
“spuilyist and tuik away the haill insicht, guidis, and geir being  
“within the houssis biggit upoun the samin landis and thair  
“throw hes alluterlie depauperat the puir tenantis thair of: like  
“as the saidis William Moffett of Arikstane and Thomas Moffett  
“alias Thome of Lyne hes sensyne and speciallie upon the  
“xxviii day of Maii last by past and xix day of Junii instant  
“violentie and perforce ejectit and put out the said Gilbertis  
“tenantis of Commilhoip being a part of the saidis landis per-  
“tening like wise to him in heritage and sitting down theirupoun  
“thinking with the assistance of the broken men in the Cuntrie  
“violentie to bruike the same and to debar the said Gilbert and  
“his tennentis fra the occupatioun and labouring thair of heirafter  
“against law, reasoun and gude ordour.”

The usual charge having been given and “the said Gilbert  
“Hay comperand be James Maxwell his procuratour and the  
“foirsaid persones comperit, upon being oftymis\* callit and not  
“compeirand, the order is to denounce them rebels.”

Acts of Parlt., Act of forfeiture against David Moffet in Sibbiehelfield and  
1583, 25 Nov., Mathew Moffet in Woodend and Doweshaw and others for high  
Vol. III, p. 289b. treason and lesé Majesty.

Acts of Parlt., The Moffets declared to be an unruly clan in the West  
1587, July, Marches.  
Vol. III, p. 467a.

\* “Ofttimes called, but never appeared” was the usual ending of nearly all such citations of the Border Lairds before the Lords in Council at Edinburgh. The Johnstones were frequently cited, but never appeared till 1617 in the person of John Johnstone of Mylnfield. The Crown was now stronger and more able to enforce its demands.

- Order of the  
Privy Council,  
Holyrood,  
10 June 1590.      The Laird of Knock (one of the Principal Moffets) was to  
find caution for the good behaviour of the Moffats.
- Acts of Parlt.,  
1594,  
Vol. IV, 72a.      Measures to be taken to suppress the lawless Moffats and  
other lawless clans on the border.
- Ibid. 1593,  
Vol. IV, p. 251.      The election of William Moffat to be one of the Bailies of  
St. Andrew's confirmed by the King.
- Ibid. 1645,  
Vol. VI, p. 123-  
357.      Certain arrears due to deceased Major Thomas Moffat to be  
paid to his father.
- Ibid. 1661,  
Charles II.,  
Edinburgh,  
4 June.      "Act and decret in favour of Jeane Countess of Annandale"  
directing certain tenants and occupiers (Moffats and others) of  
the twenty pound land of Lochmabon to pay certain duties  
which they had refused to do.
- Ibid. 1662,  
Edinburgh,  
9 Sept.,  
Vol. VII, p. 423b.      James Moffat Merchant in Dumfries, one of those excepted  
from the general Act of Pardon of Charles II. to the extent of  
being fined £300.

According to Moneypeny's Chronicle, published in 1587, there  
were these 65 Lairds and Gentlemen residing in the County of  
Dumfries and the Stewartry of Kirkeudbright:—

- 9 Johnstones—the Lairds of Johnstone, Newbie, Graitney,  
Wamphray, Corrie, Corehead, Craighopburn, Newton, and  
Kirkton.
- 6 Gordons—Lochinvar, Traquhair, Barskeoche, Airdis, Sker-  
naes, and of the Cule.
- 3 Murrays—of Broghton, of Cockpool, of Morayquhat.
- 1 Glendyning of Portoun.

X  
The Moffats of Castle Lacey

## MOFFATS OF TONEYWALL, CO. FERMANAGH.

### Lineage.

IN, it is believed, the Eighteenth Century four brothers came from Scotland to Ireland, two of whom settled in Co. Fermanagh and two in Co. Tyrone. A son or grandson of one of the former had two sons *Andrew* and *Thomas*, and the elder of these two was the founder of the family known as the Toneywall family. The family of the younger became extinct with the second generation.

I.—ANDREW MOFFITT, *b.* about 1782 (who commanded the Donegal Yeomanry), *m.* Margaret Robinson and their family consisted of five sons and four daughters, viz. :—

1. *Andrew*, *b.* 1812 (?), a Naval Surgeon, of whom hereafter.
2. *John*, a land agent and farmer at Clonturkle, Co. Fermanagh, who died a few years ago having never married.
3. *William*, a dentist at Springtown, Co. Fermanagh, who died a few years ago having never married.
4. *Thomas*, who continued to occupy Toneywall, and whose issue is given at length later on.
5. *James*, a clergyman of the Church of Ireland, who died a few years after entering it.