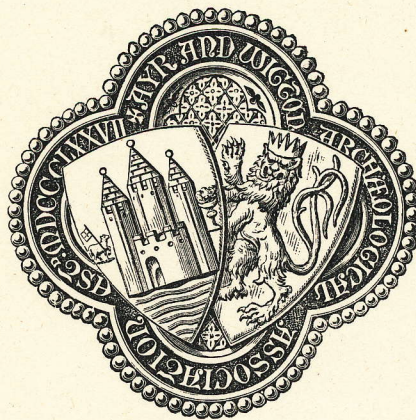


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VI.

THE LOGAN CHARTER.

*Charter by Uchtred, Son of Fergus, Lord of Galloway.*

[*Circ.* A.D. 1166.]

*Endorsed* "Grant to the Church of Holy Cross," etc.

De Blaked.

Hictredus.

UCHTRED, son of Feregus : To all the sons of Holy Mother Church, Greeting. Know all men, as well to come as present, that I have given and conceded for a perpetual alms, and for the safety of the soul of King David,<sup>1</sup> and of his son Henry, and of King Malcolm,<sup>2</sup> and my father Feregus, and of my ancestors, to the Church of Holy Cross of Edenesburch, and to the canons there serving God, the church of St<sup>t</sup>. Bridget de Blachet, with one carucate of land, and all its rights and easements, namely, in fisheries, in wood and plain, in waters and meadows, and with common of pasture. I will therefore that the aforesaid canons may hold the aforesaid church, with all its adjuncts and appurtenances, free and quiet and clear of all exaction, as any other church in all *Laudonia* is freely and quietly held and possessed. These being witnesses, Robert the archdeacon, Salomon the dean, Malbec the dean, Helias, clerk to the bishop, Ingerannus, chaplain to the bishop, Ralph, priest of Lintune, Gillecharfar, Gillecrist, MacGillewinne, Daniel, son of Herlewine.

[The words on the seal-tie convey no particular meaning, being  
2(con)firm . . . . . placet.]

<sup>1</sup> David I. [1124-1153].

<sup>2</sup> Malcolm [1153-1165].

<sup>3</sup> Lothiana.



This charter is in the possession of James M'Douall, Esq., of Logan. Although it bears no date, that can be established from internal evidence to within the limits of very few years.

By this deed, Uchtred, son of Fergus, Lord of Galloway, grants the church of St. Bridget of Blacher or Blached, with one ploughgate of land, to the Church of Holy Cross (Holyrood) in Edinburgh. This is no doubt Kirkbride, in the parish of Kirkmaiden, part of the present estate of Logan.

The object of the grant was the salvation of the souls of King David, of his son Henry (who predeceased him), of King Malcolm (who succeeded him), and of Uchtred's father and his predecessors.

Consequently, the deed must have been executed after the deaths of King David and King Malcolm. David, who built Holyrood, and also, among others, the cathedral of St. Ninian at Whithorn, died in 1153.

Malcolm, surnamed the Maiden, died in 1165.

Fergus, Lord of Galloway, of whose parentage we know nothing, succeeded Ulgric and Dovenald, who were probably brothers,<sup>1</sup> and who wielded the vice-royalty of Galloway together. He married Elizabeth, illegitimate daughter of Henry I. of England, and founded the monasteries of Tongland, Whithorn, and Saulseat, the abbey of Dundrennan, and the priory of St. Mary's Isle (the place was previously called the Isle of Trahil). His principal stronghold was on an island (crannog ?) in Loch Fergus, near Kirkcudbright. In 1160 he became a monk, and was made abbot of Holyrood, leaving his principality divided between his sons Gilbert and Uchtred. Under their suzerainty Galloway was led to revolt against King William the Lion, and independence was declared. But strife arose thereafter between the two brothers, and Uchtred was attacked in his castle at Loch Fergus by Gilbert, who cut out his tongue and eyes, and put him to death on 22d September 1174.

This charter, therefore, must have been executed between the death of King Malcolm in 1165 and the death of Uchtred in 1174.

The ruins of Kirkbride still exist, but no trace of the name Blacher or Blached can be recognised. The descent of the M'Doualls from Fergus

<sup>1</sup> *History of Galloway* (vol. i. p. 159), by Rev. William Mackenzie; published at Kirkcudbright, 1841. From Dovenald or Dovenaldus is traced traditionally the descent of the M'Doualls of Logan and Garthland.



Godfredus fili' feregus. Oibz scē mats ecclie filiis sal'. Sciāt omēs tā possi q̄ p̄sentes. me dedisse 7 in p̄petuā elemosinā concessisse  
 p̄ salute aīe regis claud. 7 fili' ei' henrici. 7 alcolm regis. 7 p̄ris mei feregus. 7 antecessorū meorū. ecclie scē crucis de edenes  
 burgh. 7 canonicis ibide deo sequentibz. eccliam scē Byrgide de Blachet cū una ch̄ructā t̄re. 7 oibz p̄cedentibz suis 7 etia  
 mentis. scilicet. in piscationibz. in nemore. 7 in plano. in aquis. 7 p̄tis. 7 cū cōmuni pastura. Vole itaq; i' p̄dicta canonici p̄e  
 fatā eccliam cū oibz adiacentibz suis 7 p̄tinentiis. libam 7 q̄etā 7 ex omī exactione solutā tenent. sic aliq̄ ecclia in tota  
 laudonia liberius 7 q̄etā tenet 7 possidet. his testibz. Rodbco archid. Salomone decano. Malher decano. helia eleri  
 co ep̄i. Ingerūno capell ep̄i. Radulfo sac̄dote de lincum. Gil' zachasay. Gillecrisb orac Gillewinne. Janelle filio  
 herlesme

THE LOGAN CHARTER.



cannot be traced with accuracy. According to Abercrombie they are descended from a natural son of Alan, great-grandson of Fergus, and last in the male line of the princes of Galloway. He died in 1234. According to this authority the etymology of the name is Mac dhu Alan, son of black Alan, thus setting aside the older derivation from Dovenald or Dovaldus. The M'Doualls still carry as their arms the old cognizance of the Principality of Galloway, a white lion in an azure field.

HERBERT EUSTACE MAXWELL.