

## From STRATHENDRICK AND ITS INHABITANTS BY GUTHRIE SMITH 1895

### FINTRY KIRK - Concerned about school attendance 1654

5 February 1654. ——"Act concerning ignorantis —"The Session taking to consideration of what was mentioned the last session, the great ignorance of the most part of the parishes notwithstanding all the pains taken upon them, which comes to pass through the great neglect of the education of young ones, notwithstanding there has been schools in several parts of the parishes, and parents exhorted and pressed by several acts of Session their many years bygone to bring up their children at the school, whereby they might have learned not only to read and write, but also, through the blessing of God, might have attained to the knowledge of the grounds of Christianity contained either in the former Catechism or in this lately enjoined; through which neglect it is seen that many thus bred in ignorance through the backwardness of godless and cruel parents continued in ignorance still growing up to men and women, to have families and so to have children of their own whom they usually bring up as themselves, a generation without the knowledge of God, and thus whereas by their marriage they should bring up children to God, they bring up children at the best but to and for the world. For some apparent help hereof, till some other remedy be found, whether by presbytery or assembly, general or provincial, the Session for the present thinks fitting that whatever person or persons shall hereafter come to give up their names for marriage, their knowledge in points of Christianity, specially in the Catechism, shall be taken trial of, and if they shall be found ignorant after judicial trial, their booking or at least proclamation to be delayed for three months till they take pains for further knowledge, and longer if in that space they profit not; yet this act shall not hinder any to have the benefit sooner when they shall give proof of their pains and proficiency.

### DAVID SMITH – in Trouble 1667! (particularly enjoyed by David Smith of today!)

22 Deer. 1667. ——"David Smith being summoned compared and being interrogated about an scandal verified upon him for going to Edinburgh to

see David Howat, who is called ane sooth saye, for some hydys stollin." David's defence was "that he would not have gone to him if he had not heard tell that he was approved in Edinburgh and that no minister there could say anything to him when he was summoned to their sessions. Likewise many others, both in this parish, Killearne and Campsie went to him and he told

them of that which they wanted and they were never challenged —"whairfor the Session refers the same to the Presbytery for advice." The Presbytery after hearing the case appointed him "to confess his fault before the congregation in that he went to one in Edinburgh who hath a familiar spirit."

## GALBRAITH HANGED

Thomas Galbraith of Culcreuch. The first and last we hear of Thomas Galbraith is that he was present at the battle of Talla Moss, near Touch in Stirlingshire, fought in October 1489. This battle proved the end of a rising headed by the Earl of Lennox, Lord Lyle, and others, against the ruling faction, who had possession of the young king. They were defeated, and "of the house of Lennox are many slain; Barons not few, in whom was the Lord of Kilcreuch, farther many were slain and hanged." 2 The principal offenders were pardoned. Sir James Balfour in his Annals of Scotland, in a short notice of this battle, says: "Many ... were presently hanged; amongst which was the Laird of Kelcreuch, chieffe of the Galbraithes; " and an entry in the Register of the Great Seal, a few days after the battle, 4 tells of his forfeiture: "The King (James IV.) granted to Adam Hepburn, brothergerman to Patrick, Earl of Bothwell, the lands of Culcreuch, Culyownane, Tundarroch, and Calyegat, County of Stirling; Mulig and Bannachar, County of Dunbarton; and Over Johnstone, County of Renfrew, which belonged to the King by the decease of Thomas Galbraith, late of Culcreuch, who was executed for his crimes, 16th Oct. 1489." All his estates, however, were restored to his successor, James Galbraith. Thomas Galbraith of Culcreuch was survived by his wife, Agnes Cunningham, who was alive in 1493. 5