CLAN GRAHAM



ARMS CREST ΜΟΤΤΟ

PLANT BADGE Spurge laurel

Or, on a chief Sable three escallop Or (Graham) A falcon Proper, beaked and armed Or, killing a stork Argent, armed Gules Ne oubie (Do not forget) SUPPORTERS Two storks Proper

Despite a colorful tradition which asserts that Greme was a mighty Caledonian chief who broke the Antonine Wall driving the Roman legions out of Scotland,. The likely origin of this family is Anglo-Norman; the Manor of Gregham, or Grehome, is recorded in William the Conqueror's Domesday Book. When David I came to Scotland to claim his throne, Graham was one of the knights who accompanied him. Sir William de Graham was present at the erection of the great Abbey of Holyrood and witnessed its foundation charter.

The first lands the family acquired in Scotland appear to have been around Dalkeith in Midlothian. Sir Nicholas de Graham attended the Parliament in 1290 where the Treaty of Brigham, for the marriage of the infant heir to the Scottish throne, Margaret, the Maid of Norway, to Prince Edward of England, was agreed. Their acceptance in Celtic Scotland was assured when they married into the princely family of Strathearn, and from Malise of Strathearn they acquired the lands around Auchterarder which were to become their principal seat. Sir John de Graham was a companion-in-arms of Sir William Wallace, the great patriot. His bravery was legendary even in his own lifetime, and he was called 'Graham with the bright sword'. He fell at the Battle of Falkirk in 1298, and his gravestone and effigy can still be bound in Falkirk Old Parish Church.

The family's landholdings and power grew throughout the centuries. They acquired the lands of Mugdock north of Glasgow, where they built a stout castle around 1370. Patrick Graham of Kincardine was created a peer in 1451 with the title, 'Lord Graham'. Two generations later they were created Earls of Montrose and in 1504 their hereditary lands of 'Auld Montross' were erected into a free barony and earldom of Montrose. The first Earl fell at the fateful field of Flodden in 1513. By means of purchase and inheritance the Graham lands had become, by the late seventeenth century, among the richest in Scotland.

The name would have been remembered for the many great deeds of the family, but it passed into legend in the person of the fifth Earl and first Marquess of Montrose, James Graham, probably the most glamorous figure in Scottish history. A renowned scholar and poet, he was one of the leaders of the movement opposed to Charles I's attempt to introduce new practices of worship into the Scottish Church. Montrose signed the Covenant, but later decided not to take up arms against the king. He offered his services to the king, who gratefully accepted and created him captain general of the king's army in Scotland. This was a grand-sounding title, but the king's general was left to find his own army. The Grahams rallied to their chief, and they were joined by a large force of Highlanders led by Alasdair Macdonald, 'Colkitto'. The campaign of 1644-45 is one of the most remarkable in Scottish military history. At one point, Montrose seemed poised not only to hold Scotland for the king, but to drive south to ward off the certain defeat faced in England. However, on 13 September 1645, Montrose was taken by surprise at Philiphaugh n the Borders by a substantial force of Covenant cavalry under General David Lesley. The captain general escaped to the north, but his forces were massacred after they surrendered, and the royalist cause in Scotland seemed mortally wounded. In May 1646, Montrose received orders from Charles to disband his army and leave the kingdom. Charles had by this time placed himself in the keeping of the Scottish Covenanting forces in England, setting in motion the series of events which led him to the scaffold ant Whitehall.

Montrose arrived safely in Norway and thereafter traveled extensively on the Continent. His military prowess, coupled with his own personal wit and charm, guaranteed the warmth of his reception. In Germany he was raised to the rank of marshal, and offered field command. The French similarly honored him. He had done everything and more that could be expected of a loyal subject, but the glitter of royal courts and the power which was offered to him could not sway his belief that his duty and loyalty lay with his king. He was given commission by the newly proclaimed Charles II to recover Scotland. With the assistance of arms and supplies from Sweden and Denmark, Montrose landed din Orkney in March 1650. He reached the mainland but the anticipated rising of royalists did not materialize. At Invercharron in Ross-shire, the tiny royal army was totally defeated and Montrose forced to flee. He was betrayed, captured and transported to Edinburgh, where he was sentenced to death without the formality of a trial, and executed on 21 May 1650. After the Restoration, the Stuarts repaid their debt to the Grahams in some small measure by according the captain general's remains one of the grandest state funerals ever held in Scotland. The chiefs were raised to the highest rank of peerage in 1707, when the fourth Marquess was created Duke of Montrose.

The third Duke of Montrose sat in Parliament, and was responsible for the Act which in 1782 repealed the prohibition on the wearing of Highland dress.

Taken from "Scottish Clan & Family Encyclopedia", by Collins, HarperCollins Publishers 1994

Clan GRAHAM Septs

AIRTH	DUCHRAY	KRAHAM	MONTROSE	
ALLARDYCE,-ICE	DUCHWRAY	LINGO	MONTROWSE	
ALLERDYCE	DUGALSTON	MAC CRIBBON	NETHERBY,-IE	
ARDES	ESBANK	MAC CURTAIN	NETHERY,-IE	
AUCHINLOCKY	FINTRAY, -IE	MAC GIBBON	NEVERY	
AUCHINLOICK	FINTRY,-IE	MAC GILVERNOCK	ORCHILLE	
BALLEWEN	GENTLEMAN	MAC GIVEN(S)	PIATT	
BLAIR	GLENNIE, -Y	MAC GRAHAM	PIE	
BONAR	GRAEME	MAC GRAIME	PITCAIRN	
BONNAR	GRAHAM(E)	MAC GRIMEN	PYATT	
BONNER	GRAHAN	MAC GRIME	PYE	
BONTIEN	GRAHYM	MAC HARG	PYOTT	
BONTINE	GRAM(M)	MAC ILVERN	REDDICK	
BUCHLYRIE -Y	GRIM(M)	MAC KIBBEN,-IN(S)	REDDOCK,-H	
BULLMAN	GRIME (S)	MAC PIOT(T)	REDNOCK	
BUNTAIN	GRYMN	MAC POTTS	RIDDICK	
BUNTEN	HADDEN,-IN	MAC REE	RIDDOCH,-K	
BUTINE	HADDON	MAC RIBBON	SERJEANT	
BUNTING	HALDANE	MAC RIGH	SERJEANT	
CONYER(S)	HALDEN	MAC RIS(S)	SIROWAN	
CONYER(S)	HALDINE	MAC SHILE	STROWAN,-EN	
CRAMPSHEE	HASTIE,-Y	MENTEITH		
CRAMSIE,-Y	HASTY	MONTEATH		
DRUMAGAHASSIE,-Y	HOWDEN	MONTEITH		
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