



Clan MAIR

ARMS	Silver with a black lymphad.
CREST	Not available
MOTTO	None

MAIR. "Mair was the designation of an officer who executed summonses and other legal writs. Those who held hereditary appointments being termed 'mairs of fee'". Skene (*De verborum significatione*) adds that the mair was otherwise called *Praeco Regis*, the king's crier or herald. In the Act of 1426 the mair is described as the "king's sergeant" and entitled to bear a "horn and wand." It was "however, a common term denoting any deligated office. It might, for instance, denote a head forester". In 1606 Robert Dumbar, heir of George Dumbar, in Little Tarie, was retoured heir of his father "in officio mari vulgo vocato the office of Mairschip of the earldom of Murray and Westschyre of the samin". Abraham Marus held land in the Garuach in the reign of William the Lion, Robert Le Mare witnessed a charter to the Priory of May by Eggou Ruffus early in the thirteenth century, and Alexander Marus was witness in a Maule charter, 1261. Symon Le Mare of Perthshire rendered homage in 1296. Eustace Marr or Mare was collector of contributions of the sherifffdom of Perth 'super lleff' in 1360 and 1367. John Mair, Scottish merchant, had a safe conduct to trade between Scotland and England in 1453, Andreas Mayr, witness in Aberdeen, 1477, James Mayr, witness in Dumfries, 1544 (*Anderson*), and John Major or Mair (1469-1550), born in Haddington, was "the last of the schoolmen." John Mair, "apostle of temperance," in North America, was born in Aberdeen, 1788.

Taken from "Surnames of Scotland", by Black, The New York Public Library.

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