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ANDREW JOHNSTON AND HIS ANCESTORS

BY EDITH H. MATHER, BOUND BROOK, N. J.

THE JOURNALS of Andrew Johnston, now being published in the QUARTERLY, mention so many of the old county families still represented here, and well-known localities made interesting by that delightful book, "The Story of an Old Farm," that many readers may lose sight of the fact that the writer of the "Journals" was himself an interesting and distinguished citizen. A great part of his life was spent in the public service and covers a most trying and exciting period of Colonial history.

He was the son of Dr. John Johnstone and his wife, Eupham Scot, and was born in Perth Amboy, December 20, 1694. Some authorities state that he was born in New York, but I feel convinced that Perth Amboy is correct, because his father was not only a very large land holder in New Jersey, but held numerous offices in the State about that time, which would indicate a residence here, and certainly he was particularly identified with New Jersey, except for a few years, 1714-1719, when he was Mayor of the City of New York. During that period Dr. Johnstone and his family lived in that promising metropolis, probably in Gold street, where he owned some lots.

Andrew Johnston, having by this time grown to be a man, went into business in New York as a merchant. He married early, and his bride was Catherine Van Cortlandt, one of the lovely daughters of Stephanus Van Cortlandt, the first American-born Mayor of New York. Her mother was Gertrude Schuyler, daughter of Philip Pietersen Schuyler, and her uncle was Peter Schuyler, that splendid old statesman and patriot, whose military genius and unbounded influence with the Indians saved the State of New York from the horrors of a French and Indian invasion at a time when it was in no condition to resist one.

About 1718 or '19 the Johnstones returned to Perth Amboy, New Jersey, which was, henceforth, their permanent home. Here Andrew Johnston built a fine house on High Street, which was known as "Edin-

borough Castle.”¹ He went into partnership with his brother-in-law, John Parker. They owned a line of ships that traded with the West Indies, especially Barbadoes, and evidently conducted a prosperous business. For some years he devoted himself to his family and to his private affairs, not taking much part in public matters until his father’s death, which occurred in 1732. In that year he was elected mayor of Perth Amboy, and Lewis Morris recommended him for a seat in the Governor’s Council. He is described as “a church man, an inhabitant of Perth Amboy; he is a merchant, brother to John Johnston the councillor lately dead; is a modest good man and declines all publick Employ.” (“New Jersey Archives,” Vol. V., page 317). The same year he succeeded Michael Kearney as Treasurer of the Eastern Division of New Jersey.

At this time New York and New Jersey were under one Governor, but had separate Assemblies. In 1738, the Colonies were separated and Lewis Morris was appointed Governor of New Jersey. The Assembly met on the twenty-seventh of October and the members from Perth Amboy were Andrew Johnston and his brother, Lewis. Andrew was chosen Speaker. He was reelected to the Assembly until he became “Councillor,” and was Speaker most of that time. Considering the fact that he was a friend of the Governor and the majority of the Assembly were very warmly opposed to the Executive, his character for moderation and justice must have been much respected.

In 1739 war was declared between England and Spain, and a large English fleet was sent to the Spanish islands. There was great excitement throughout the Colonies, and New Jersey was requested by the home government to send troops and supplies. She always responded very promptly with troops, but the money voted by the Assembly for their equipment and pay was generally totally inadequate. This policy, almost uniformly adhered to, was probably to save the pride of the Assembly, which seemed to have a rooted aversion to complying with any demands made by the Governor. They yielded to their patriotic impulses in raising troops for the defense of the Colonies and maintained the liberties of the people by refusing the Governor money enough to pay them! This was doubtless very satisfactory to the Assembly, but it must have been hard on the troops.

Andrew Johnston was Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment of Militia and seems to have had charge of equipping and transporting them,

¹ It is true that Andrew Johnston, later in life, had a farm and residence at Matchaponix, near the border of Monmouth and Middlesex counties, where he evidently spent a great deal of his time, as his “Journals” show, but he never seems to have given up his Perth Amboy home, as it was there that he died.

as there are a number of letters to him from Governor Morris on the subject, giving minute directions as to the kind and size of the ship they were to sail in, and the equipment with which each man should be supplied. Three companies were raised and they were to sail from Perth Amboy to the South, where they were to join the expedition to the West Indies off the Virginia Capes. There is an interesting letter from Governor Morris on this subject, written Aug. 26, 1740, and addressed to "Andrew Johnston, Speaker of the New Jersey Assembly." It is quite a long letter, and shows much care for the proper equipment and welfare of the men, anxiety to get the expedition off betimes and in a creditable manner, ending with this little paragraph, so human, friendly and old-fashioned:

"If your old wine is not gone, lay by two pipes for me that I can depend on for good. I hope this will find you and your family in health to whom make the tender of my regards & service acceptable and be assured that I am very much Sir your Affectionate friend & very humble Servant.
L. M."

Another letter, written on the same trying subject, dated Sept. 4, 1740, ends:

"Your account of the wine is not a little refreshing & I am in hopes when this puzzling affair is over we may take a chirruping glass together and disperse all the clouds and mists about it, w'ch nobody more desires should be done than

"Sir, &c

L. M."

(See "Papers of Governor Morris," Coll. N. J. Hist. Soc.)

One cannot help sympathizing with these men in their noble struggles with difficult and discouraging problems. Altogether it must have been rather a heartbreaking affair. They finally succeeded, however, and, let us hope, enjoyed their "chirruping glass" together, with contented minds.

It may also be interesting to know that the troops had a good voyage and arrived pleasantly and quickly at the Capes of Virginia.

Another letter, written the following year and short enough to quote in full, is dated July 17, 1741:

"I give you joy on the Safe arrival of your Brigg & the good voyage she has made. I desire you'll send a pipe of good wine, and the account between us, as also the expedition account of the disposal of that part of the money applied by you &c for that use. I should have had it long ago but charged the not receiving it to the account of Illness, w'ch I am glad to heare you have got the better of. My compliments to your spouse and family and to y^e Doctor, concludes this letter from
"Sir, &c
L. M."

"Ye Doctor" was Andrew Johnston's brother, Lewis. The "Brigg," whose safe arrival was a matter of congratulation, must have been one of Johnston's own ships probably bound from the West Indies where the war had caused anxiety as to her safety.

In 1744 war was declared between England and France. Between the English and French colonies in America, peace could hardly be said to have existed at any time. The Algonquin tribes, allies of the French, and the fierce, powerful Iroquois, allies of the English, were implacable enemies; so there was an ever-present menace of invasion and Indian massacre on both sides of the border. The far-sighted Governors of Canada were constantly striving to detach the "Long House" from the English cause and win them over to the French. They were unhampered by Assemblies, and had the invaluable assistance of the able and courageous Jesuit missionaries, who, being French, naturally worked enthusiastically for the cause. However, the Colonies had some equally able and patriotic Governors and citizens, who did not hesitate to draw on their own private funds to make up the necessary deficiencies in paying the troops and building forts for the protection of their frontiers.

Andrew Johnston became a member of Governor Lewis Morris's Council, June 19, 1745, in place of Cornelius Van Horne. This was just before the surrender of Louisburg. In this brilliant achievement, which reflected such glory on the New Englanders, New Jersey had no part; but the following year she equipped five companies to aid in the projected conquest of Canada. The invasion did not take place, as England neglected to send the necessary assistance; so the troops remained to protect the frontier, under the command of Colonel Schuyler. The New Jersey troops finally mutinied, as they received no pay and were in great distress. The Assembly refused to pay, considering they had done enough when they "equipped, transported and victualled" them. Col. Schuyler generously provided for them out of his own purse. This is mortifying but a matter of history, and it must have tried the soul of the good Andrew Johnston.

In 1746 he had to act as one of the pall-bearers for his friend, Governor Morris, who died in May of that year. Jonathan Belcher was next appointed Governor of New Jersey (1747), and Andrew Johnston was retained as a member of the Council; in fact he held that office for the rest of his life. It was in this same year that a great misfortune overtook him in the death of his wife, a charming, lovable woman, and it was a great loss to her family and to the community. She was buried in St. Peter's Churchyard, Perth Amboy. Her tombstone, in an excellent state of preservation, bears the following inscription:

"Here lies deposited the remains of Katherine Johnstone who's benevolence endeared her to the distressed her life was a continued example of conjugal affection and maternal tenderness, she left this vale of tears for a happy immortality Aug. 27, 1747 aged 50 years."

For a number of years during Governor Belcher's administration, and even before Governor Morris died, there were serious disturbances in the Province over the question of quit-rents. The Proprietary government had always been unpopular in New Jersey, but, after its surrender to the Crown, things were peaceful for a while. It seems, however, that some of the prominent men in the Colony had bought up large tracts of land under the Carteret title. Many people who had bought land of the Indians, believing themselves absolute owners, found they were liable for quit-rents and, if unpaid, sued for the same with arrears, and ejectment suits were commenced against them by those who had bought up the Proprietary shares. They were also liable to imprisonment. This naturally created much dissatisfaction and excitement. There were riots and so many acts of violence were committed that the jails were not large enough to contain their prisoners. Parties of men went about breaking open jails and freeing their friends. The Government was unable to deal with the situation. The Governor and Council, of course, were on the side of the law and order. Andrew Johnston had succeeded his father in the Board of Proprietors and was its president. He signed their petition to the King, December 23, 1748, wherein these disturbers of the peace are described as a "rebellious mob," a "set of traitors," guilty of "high treason" and various crimes and misdemeanors more or less heinous. The Assembly, on the other hand, seems to have had considerable sympathy with the rioters. They sent in a counter-petition to the King, which takes quite a different view of the matter. It accuses Robert Hunter Morris, Chief Justice, and James Alexander, Surveyor General, of harassing a number of poor people with suits, and avers that the latter obstructed the course of legal proceedings from fear lest the suits be decided against them, as the Judges of the Supreme Court and the sheriffs throughout the colony received their appointments from Governor Morris, father of the Chief Justice.

As late as 1753, Andrew Johnston, in his "Journals," mentions some "Elizabethtown rioters" trying to make trouble for him with his tenants in the Peapack Patent. This Peapack Patent had been bought, in 1701, by Dr. John Johnstone, Andrew's father, and George Willocks. When bought it was supposed to contain about three thousand acres, but, on being surveyed, was found to amount to over ten thousand.

Andrew Johnston was also much interested in the founding of

Princeton College, then called the College of New Jersey. He was one of the charter trustees and its first treasurer, 1749.

In 1748 the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle declared peace between England and France; but that did not necessarily include their respective Colonies in America. The mighty struggle for the possession of this continent went on just the same, and at one time it looked as if it might fall into the hands of France. The English Colonies had been gradually weakening their influence with Indians by their apathy and lack of energy in combating the French advance. The defenses were insufficient, the troops inadequate and unprepared. The Colonies were either jealous of each other, or indifferent, making concerted action well-nigh impossible. After the terrible and wholly unnecessary defeat of Braddock in 1755, the Indians decided that the French were more desirable allies. They went on the warpath and the border became a place of untold horror. Scalping parties penetrated even to New Jersey. Settlements along the Delaware were scenes of massacre and devastation. Finally war was again declared between France and England, and the struggle was on in dead earnest. This time it was to be a fight to the finish. New Jersey rose nobly to the occasion. They voted more troops than they were asked for, agreed to pay and equip them, and to maintain a permanent force for the defense of the colony.

The "New American Magazine" for May, 1758, gives an interesting item on this subject (See "N. J. Archives," Vol. XX, p. 219):

"PERTH AMBOY, MAY 22.

"This day the New Jersey regiment, under the command of Col. John Johnston, consisting of one thousand men, officers included, embarked here for Albany, in order to join the forces there: The regiment was complete, and consisted of as jolly likely young fellows as were ever seen in these parts: they made a very handsome appearance being genteely clothed from head to foot. And both officers and soldiers went off with the highest spirits, cheerfulness, and resolution: And we doubt not they will behave with such courage and bravery as will do honour to their country."

This brave departure brought many a sad sequel, but they amply justified the praise bestowed upon them and fully realized the hopes of the community. The gallant Colonel met his death soon afterwards, at Fort Niagara. He was Andrew Johnston's nephew, being the son of his brother, John, and also his son-in-law, having married his daughter, Eupham. His death is touchingly related in this letter of condolence, written by the Chaplain to the dead officer's brother, David Johnston:

"NIAGARA, July 21, 1758.

"DEAR DAVID:

"I am extremely unable to express what I feel upon this melancholy Occasion: Nothing but the most perfect Resignation to (the) Will of

God, I am sensible can support you under the loss of so worthy a Brother, who fell yesterday in his Country's Cause universally lamented by the whole Army: I sympathize with you, with the most intire Affection, & mingle my Tears with yours.

"But what shall I say to your dear Mother! I cannot write to her, you must therefore introduce the heavy Tydings in the most prudent manner. I pray God support her.

"A very remarkable Defect in our Engineering Department, obliged the Gen^l to call upon your dear Brother for his advice and Assistance in that Board, which he cheerfully gave to the intire Satisfaction of the Army, in short our Eyes were all upon him with Regard to our Approaches, & the Construction of the Batteries. He was upon this Service yesterday Evening & pointing out to the Gen^l the operations for the ensuing Night, when the fatal shot struck him & immediately put an end to his valuable life. It was a musket Ball, & entered under his arm, & so through his Lungs. Our Gen^l was just by him when he received the shot & behaved with great Signs of the most sincere Grief: But alas! poor Gentleman, about an hour after recd his Summons to the other World, by an accident from one of (our) own shells: It being almost dark, & the Gen^l just passing one of the Batteries, as the Gunner was firing one of the Cohorts, the Shell struck him in the back of the Head, & put an immediate Period to his Life. We shall interr them both in one Grave this Evening, with all the Decency we can, & if we should gain Possession of the Place, we shall remove y^e Remains to the Fort with all the Honours of War.

"My mind is in such a melancholy Situation that I can't write you all the Particulars of our Expedition: I make no doubt we shall soon carry the Point. We are intrenched within 80 yards of the Fort, & shall open a Battery there this Night, which I trust will bring the Mosrs to due Submission. Our Indians are of great Consequence to us as they keep all quiet about us & have prevailed upon a Number of Indians who were coming to the Assistance of the French to retire to y^e own Habitations. The Command is now devolved upon Sir William Johnson, who has nine hundred Indians here upon the spot. We have about 40 of our Men wounded, & about 10 or 12 killed, & blessed be God, we are in general very healthy. Col Nody(?) was wounded the same unhappy Day in the Leg but slightly. I am persuaded that the Consideration of the Cause in which your Brother fell & his own good character thro the course of his life, will afford your Mother Comfort under this afflictive Dispensation. His name will be embalmed to Posterity & always mentioned with honour by every lover of his Country, but I hope he is in the fruition of glorious Immortality. In which reviving Hope I shall commit his Remains to the dust this Evening.

"Tell your dear Mother how much I sympathize with her, & that I bear her upon my Mind in my Prayers. My friendly Respect to your Wife & believe me to be with the most affectionate Esteem

"Your sincere & affected Friend

"JOHN OGILVIE."

This letter is still in possession of a family which is descended from this David Johnston and his wife, Magdalen Walton. Her sister married Lewis Morris, Signer of the Declaration of Independence. Col. Johnston's mother was Elizabeth Jamison, daughter of David Jamison, one time Chief Justice of New Jersey.

It is comforting to know that this brave officer did not die in a losing cause and that the fall of Fort Niagara soon followed. The General who was killed at the same time was General Prideaux.

The following year brought the wonderful capture of Quebec, and North America became English. It must have thrilled the country with an excitement approaching that of the surrender of Yorktown.

This was in 1759, and Andrew Johnston was nearing the close of his active and useful life. The previous year he had been made Indian Commissioner. He was still a member of the Governor's Council, which office he had held from the time of his appointment in 1745 until his death, June 24, 1762. At that time he was still Treasurer of the Eastern Division of the Province, having filled this position for thirty years. A man of great dignity and character, he seems to have been universally esteemed. His obituary appeared in the "New York Mercury" for July 5, 1762:

"Last Thursday se'ennight (June 24) died at Perth Amboy in an advanced age, the Hon. Andrew Johnston, Esq., one of His Majesty's Council of the Province of New Jersey and Treasurer of the Eastern division of that province. A gentleman of so fair and worthy a character that truly to attempt to draw it would be throwing away words. He was really equal to what Pope means when he says 'An honest man is the noblest work of God.'"

He left two sons and six daughters: John, who married Isabella, daughter of Robert Lettis Hooper; Stephen, who married a daughter of Philip Kearney; Ann, who married John Terrill; Gertrude, who married John Barberie; Catherine, who married Stephen Skinner; Margaret, who married John Smyth; Elizabeth and Mary, unmarried; and Euphemia, who married her cousin, Col. John Johnston. (See Whitehead's "History of Perth Amboy").

The parents of Andrew Johnston were both of ancient and illustrious lineage. His mother, Eupham Scot, was the daughter of George Scot, Laird of Pitlochrie, and his wife, Margaret Rigg of Aithernie. Her grandfather was Sir John Scot of Scotstarvit, a man of great learning and distinction. In an old Baronage he is quaintly described as having "cut a great figure in his time." Scot of Scotstarvit was a cadet of the noble house of Buccleuch, who were said to be "the most renowned freebooters, the fiercest and bravest warriors of the

border tribes." Their chief seat, Branxholme Castle, is most beautifully described in Sir Walter Scott's "Lay of the Last Minstrel." Scotstarvit Tower was the seat of the Scots of Scotstarvit. It is in the county of Fife, near the town of Cupar, and is still in good preservation.

The Johnstones were quite as warlike a family as the Scots and as ancient. Andrew Johnston's father, Dr. John Johnstone of Perth Amboy, was born in Scotland, probably in Berwickshire, about 1661, the second son of the Rev. William Johnstone of Laverocklaw, Berwickshire, and his wife Isabel Maitland. Further than this the family cannot now be traced with absolute certainty, owing to the mutilated condition of the records. But the following seems sufficiently proven by researches made by the family. The papers were in possession of the late Louis Morris Johnstone, of Staten Island. He was descended from the eldest son of Dr. Johnstone and custodian of the family papers.

Rev. William Johnstone, A. M., graduated at St. Andrews, Edinburgh, June 5, 1638; was ordained minister at Lauder, 1652; translated to Coldstream, 1659; deprived by Parliament June 11, and by Privy Council, Oct. 1, 1662; died at Hadington Abbey, 1670, or '71. Will dated December 14, 1670; proved February 23, 1671. He nominated Alexander Maitland, factor to the Earl of Lauderdale, with others, as trustees and overseers to his children during their minority. His children were: James, John, William, Margaret, Isabel, and a daughter unnamed. His wife died in 1686. His son, William, was baptized at Hadington, Aug. 1, 1666. William Johnstone acquired the lands of Laverocklaw, Aug. 20, 1663; they were part of the lands of Elvingstone, in the barony of Dalkeith, Berwickshire. He was then styled minister of the Church of Lomwell, which was the ancient name for Coldstream, on the river Tweed. It is also in Berwickshire, about six miles from the battlefield of Flodden. He also held lands of Cauldshields and Woodheads in the parish of Lauder, same shire. The western part of Berwick, known as Lauderdale, gave the title to the noble family of Maitland, to which the Rev. William Johnstone's wife undoubtedly belonged. In 1675 "James Johnstone of Laverocklaw, eldest lawful son of the late Mr. William Johnstone, of Laverocklaw," bought a small estate of Spotswood, from John Bell. After that date he appears in records as "James Johnstone of Spotswood."

On April 20, 1684, David Barclay of Urie conveyed to James Johnstone of Spotswood, 1/10 of 1/48 part of East Jersey. The witnesses were, "John Johnstone, p. falconer, John Swinton." The deed was evidently drawn in Scotland, but is recorded in the office of Secretary of State, Trenton, N. J., in Liber A (or 5) of Deeds, page 249.

Johnstone of Spotswood sailed from Scotland three months later, July, 1684, and after a voyage of eighteen weeks arrived in East Jersey. He was appointed one of the commissioners to confirm the Acts of Assembly, Aug., 1684; was proxy for Thomas Cox, one of the twenty-four Proprietors, also commissioner and proxy for same, for Business of Lands, July 3, 1685. (Leaming & Spicer, pp. 6, 7, 195, 213). He imported nine servants into the Province, whom he had registered in October, 1685. (Liber A of Deeds, p. 226). He died June 22, 1690. After his arrival in East Jersey he wrote some very pleasing letters to his brother, John Johnstone, "Drugest in Edinburgh," which may be found in Scot's "Model Government of East New Jersey." (See Whitehead's "East Jersey Under the Proprietors," Appendix).

Dr. John Johnstone came over the following year on the vessel "Henry and Francis," with George Scot and his family, whose daughter he afterwards married. His subsequent career is too distinguished and too well-known to need repetition in this article.

One of the interesting heirlooms brought over by the Johnstones was a silver cup, bearing an inscription, "James Johnstone of Westerhall & Isabel, dau. of Walter Scott of Harden a. d. 1643." This date is the year in which James Johnstone of Westerhall died, and he had married Isabel, dau. of Walter Scott of Harden. The cup is now in possession of a Mr. Tudor, a direct descendant of the Doctor's. (Information supplied by Francis Johnstone Hopson, Esq., of New York City).

The coat-of-arms always used by Dr. Johnstone proves a near relationship to either the Annandale or Westerhall lines. The arms are as follows:

Arms—Argent, a saltire sable, on a chief, gules three cushions or.

Crest—A spur erect or, winged argent.

Motto—*Nunquam non paratus.* (Never unprepared).

The saltire, which is a St. Andrew's cross, was adopted when they went on the Crusades. Concerning the crest, there is a legend given in Debrett's "Baronetage." "The chief, Johnstone, while at the Scotch Court, hearing of the English King's meditated treachery, in endeavoring to get rid of Bruce in favor of Baliol, who was at that time at the English Court, sent him a spur with a feather tied to it, to indicate 'flight with speed.' Bruce acted on this hint, and when King of Scotland conferred upon him this crest."

The family of Johnstone takes its place among the oldest and noblest in Scotland. An old ballad runs:

"Within the bounds of Annandale,
The gentle Johnstones ride,
They have been there a thousand years,
A thousand more they'll bide."

The term "gentle" does not by any possibility apply to their dispositions, which were anything but mild. It meant that they were of noble blood. A "gentleman" was one who had a right to a coat-of-arms.

The Seigneur de Jeanville came over with William the Conqueror and fought at the Battle of Hastings. His descendants settled in Scotland and the name became translated from French into English. Jeanville became Johnstown and Johnstone. The first to establish Johnstone as the family name was Hugo de Johnstone, whose son, Sir John de Johnstone, Chevalier of the county of Dumfries, presented the monastery of Soltray with land as early as 1296. They became a numerous family and were among the most powerful and warlike of the border clans. They went on the Crusades with the elder Bruce. Sir John de Johnstone, warden of the West Border, gained a great victory over an English army in 1370. His son fought with Douglas at the Battle of Chevy Chase. In fact they took a most active part in the history of their country. The chief of the clan was known as the "Laird of Johnstone" or "Johnstone of that Ilk." His residence and stronghold was Lochwood Castle, a massive tower of great strength, situated on a hill in the midst of a morass that no stranger could penetrate without a guide. The office of Warden of the Marches was frequently held by the chief Johnstone, also that of Constable of Lochmaben. This was a royal castle, where the king occasionally resided, and the constable was appointed from among the nobles or lairds of that county. The Johnstones illustrated, in rather a luminous manner, the lack of control that the Scotch King had over his turbulent nobles. In 1454, "the Lord of Johnstone's two sons took the castle of Lochmaben from the Lord of Mouswald, called Carruthers, and all through treason of the porter; and since the King gave them the keeping of his house to his profit." (*"Historical Families of Dumfries,"* by C. L. Johnstone).

There were numerous cadets of the house of Johnstone, younger sons who had gained lands and castles of their own; so that in the Sixteenth Century they had nine lairds in Dumfries alone, and one in Lanark. No other family in the county could boast so many. Their estates were adjoining and stretched along most of the southern border of Dumfries. They were related to the Maxwells, the Douglasses, the Hamiltons, the Scotts of Buccleuch, the Carlises, and other noted families. The Scotts of Buccleuch and the Gordons of Lochinvar were always allies of the Johnstones, but, with the Maxwells, they were usually on fighting terms. At one time the feud between them assumed such proportions as to convulse all of that part of Scotland. Lord Dacre, in a letter to Cardinal Woolsey, described the "debeatable

land" as being "clear waste" from the Maxwell and Johnstone feuds. At one stage of their disagreements, Lord Maxwell set fire to Lochwood Tower, saying "he would give Lady Johnstone a light to set her hood by"—a witty remark for those days and showing they had a sense of humor. Another Maxwell set fire to a house of one of the Johnstones and burned him alive in it. The Johnstones were neither slow nor mild in their revenge; but the Maxwells happened to be in favor at Court, at the time, and had a cousin, Sir James Johnstone of the Ilk, imprisoned in Edinburgh. That worthy chieftain, however, made his escape, returned to Dumfries, and, calling together the clan and their friends, prepared for battle. The Scotts, Eliots, Grahams, Gordons and Irvings joined the Johnstones, while the Maxwells were aided by the Douglasses, Hamiltons and some of the King's own troops. Lord Maxwell offered a "ten pound land" to anyone who would bring him the head or hand of the Laird of Johnstone. Johnstone replied by offering a "five merk land" to any who would bring him the head or hand of a Maxwell. The clans, with their adherents, met in the famous Battle of Dryfe Sands, December, 1593, the last clan-battle of any importance fought in that part of the country. Sir James Johnstone gained a complete victory. Lord Maxwell was slain and the "five merk land" won by one of the Johnstones of Wamphray. He seemed a fitting one to receive it, as his uncle, celebrated as the "Galliard," had been hung by Lord Maxwell a short time before.

"Now, Simmy, Simmy of the Side,
Come out and see a Johnstone ride!
Here's the bonniest horse in a' Nithside,
And a gentle Johnstone aboon his hide."
(*"The Lads of Wamphray"* in Scott's *"Border Minstrelsy"*).

The Nith is one of Dumfries' beautiful rivers and the "gentle Johnstone" was a Johnstone of Wamphray.

Immediately after this battle Sir James Johnstone was outlawed. This seems to have affected him but little, however, and the King soon restored him to all his honors and made him Warden of the Marches. He was afterwards treacherously murdered by Maxwell's son and heir, who shot him in the back during a conference. Maxwell was executed for this and the feud gradually died out. Sir James Johnstone's son was made Lord Johnstone of Lochwood and later, Earl of Hartfell. He lost his estates at the Revolution, but after the Restoration, was made Earl of Annandale. In the next generation the title was raised to a marquisate, but became extinct in 1792, when the third Marquis died without heirs. (See Douglas' *"Peerage of Scotland,"* Douglas' *"Baronage of Scotland,"* and *"Historical Families of Dumfries,"* by C. L. Johnstone.)

The family in America have maintained the distinguished position to which they were born; but here also, the name seems to be threatened with extinction. The late John Johnstone, of Staten Island, was the head of the family in the eldest male line. He left one daughter but no sons. There are three other brothers, two of whom are married, but daughters only represent them. Andrew Johnston had two sons, but I have not found any grandsons, although he has many descendants through female lines. There was an Andrew Johnston in the Revolutionary War, New Jersey Continental Line, but I have no proof of any relationship between the two—although it seems probable.

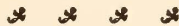
William Johnstone, third son of Dr. Johnstone and Eupham Scot, was born in 1696, but died in 1698.

James Johnstone, 4th son, born 1700; married Elizabeth Parker; died before his father, leaving a son, James, of whom nothing further seems to be known.

George Johnstone, 5th son, born 1702; married, 1727, Bathsheba, daughter of Augustus Lucas and Bathsheba Eliot, daughter of Joseph Eliot, son of the Indian apostle. He had one son, Augustus, who had but one son, a major in the British Army.

Dr. Lewis Johnston, sixth son of Andrew, born 1704; died 1773; married Martha, daughter of Col. Caleb Heathcote of New York. He had two sons and two daughters. Heathcote, the eldest, was a Tory during the Revolution. His property was confiscated and he went to England, where he died, leaving no issue. This line, also, now seems to have descendants only through females.

Let us hope that this ancient and illustrious name will not perish. If some of the old ancestors seem a bit fierce to us and curious in their ways now and then, we have but to remember that they were not bad for those days. They were good for their times and much admired by their contemporaries, who did not have our superior standards by which to judge them.



THE "REBELLION" AT RARITAN IN 1723

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THIS ARTICLE is not intended as a church history, but a resumé of the history of the secession by a part of the members of the church at Raritan in 1723 from the administration of Rev. Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen, their settled pastor, and is almost entirely eclectic, the material parts being selected from the minutes and correspondence of the Amsterdam Classis translated by the Rev. Dr. E. T. Corwin, and