

Family of Schank (Shank or Schankis) of Castlerig, Kinghorn, co. Fife, N.B.

Communicated by E. G. W.

.... Schank of that ilk was of a very ancient family in Mid Lothian. (Nisbet.)

Murdoch Schank, who was an immediate son of Schank of that ilk, settled in Kinghorn in Fife, and got lands there in the reign of Robert Bruce, anno 1319. (Nisbet.) Tradition says that he found the body of King Alexander III. among the cliffs at Kinghorn 1286, and for this service he received a gift of the lands of Castlerig, near Kinghorn, from King Robert Bruce.

Robert Schankis. Lands of Robert Schankis are mentioned in a charter of confirmation dated 1360 as bounding certain lands in Kinghorn.

John Schank. Kirkcaldie.

Possibly Robert Schankis may have been brother to this Henry. In the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland (A.D. 1455) is recorded grant of lands in county Ayr "quas Robert Schankis resignavit."

Henry Schank, infeft and seised in the year 1442. Christian Melvil, dau. to the Laird of Raith.

Possibly Ninian Schank, in A.D. 1497 Provincial Prior in Scotland of the Dominicans, may have been brother to this Martin.

Possibly Robert Schankis may have been brother to this Martin. "Robert Schankis" is mentioned in the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland in a confirmation of Robert Peirson—"burgensis de Kingorne"—as owner of bounding property anno 1478.

As also James Schankis, mentioned as owner of bounding tenements in Register of Great Seal of Scotland A.D. 1488-89.

Martin Schank, mar. 1482. Alison, dau. to "Glasmount Boswell," i.e. Boswell of Glasmount, now known as Boswell of Balmuto. (Glasmount is near Kinghorn.)

Martin Schank, infeft anno 1520. Bessie Lochore.

Henry Schank, mar. 1565. Henry Schank in 1608 was Elder of Kinghorn. Bessie, dau. to John Balfour of Ballo.

Martin Shankis, witnesses several baptisms in Kinghorn 1577-78.

Henry Schank or Schankis. Hen. Schankis mar. A.D. 1609. In 1624 was allowed "to set up ane foir-face to the boukar of his dask to saue his wyfe and wynis fra being tred upo' by these y^t gois in to the yll." Kirk Treasurer. Henrie Shanks was Fellow of the Fishing Company (incorporated by charter) 1632. In 1643 Henry Shank was "Commissioner of burrowis for Kingorne." (Acts of Parliament of Scotland 1643.) Henry Shank was M.P. for the borough of Kinghorn 1643. (Foster's 'Members of Parliament, Scotland'.)

Janet, dau. to Robert Cuninghame or Cuningham of Woodfield. (In 1678 Robert Cunningham of Woodfield was witness to the baptism of one of the children of Henry Shank, grandson of this lady.)

A

Martin Schank, mar. A.D. 1640. = Christian, dau. to John Reddie, shipmaster in Burntisland.

Henry Schank or Shanks, mar. 1669. Bailie of Kinghorn 1670. Appears in the Valuation Roll of Fife 1695 as owner of land in parish of Kinghorn, which land his son Martin inherited—heritor 1695. Was Kirk Treasurer. His house still standing. This house at Kinghorn presents two nicely carved but slightly defaced coats of arms over the principal door. They are in pale, with crest: the dexter are much the same coat and crest as are now borne by Schank; and the Balfour coat has a crescent in base, which may indicate descent from a second son. The initials and date of "16 H. S. B. B. 38" are upon the door.

<p>Rev. Martin Schank, born 28 June 1670, bapt. at Kinghorn 10 July 1670. M.A. of St. Andrews 19 July 1690; studied at St. Leonard's College; Chaplain to the Lady of Ednam; licensed by Presbytery of Kelso 11 April 1693; called in July, and ordained 20 Sept. or 7 Oct. 1694; Minister of Auchtertool, co. Fife, 1694. Trans. to Newhills 4 Nov. 1696; adm. there 29 April 1697. Mar. April 1698. Was a widower 23 Oct. 1744 (see separate Register of Presbytery by Kincardine O'Neil). Trans. to Banchory-Ternan, co. Kincardine, 10 May; called there 9 April; admitted there 12 July 1699. Died 18 April 1747, aged about 75, in 53rd of his ministry. This Martin did dispose to his son and Mary Burnet his wife the lands called Easter Castleriggs, near the burgh of Kinghorn, and a tenement of land in the said burgh in pursuance of covenant in son's marriage settlement.</p>	<p>= Margaret, dau. to Thomas Downie, merchant in Edinburgh, whose mother was a daughter of Dobie of Stoniehill. The name is spelt Daune in the Register of Kincardine O'Neil. She died in her husband's lifetime, and before 23 Oct. 1744.</p>	<p>Henry Shank, bapt. at Kinghorn 1672. — Christian, bapt. at Kinghorn 1674.</p>	<p>Elizabeth, bapt. at Kinghorn 1676. — Mary, bapt. at Kinghorn 1681. — Elizabeth, bapt. at Kinghorn 1683.</p>	<p>Rev. Alexander Schank or Shanks, bapt. at Kinghorn 1678. M.A. of St. Andrews 25 June 1700. Minister of Drumoak 1703. Mar. 4 Dec. 1705. Died 6 March 1749 in the 73rd year of his age and 46th of his ministry.</p>	<p>= Elizabeth Burnett of the parish of Banchory-Ternan, born 1676. Died 1 April 1730, aged 54.</p>	<p>John Shanks, feuar of Third-part Townhouse Customs and Miln of Ceres, who died in 1755, aged 70, consequently born 1685, may have been another son.</p>
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Alexander Schank of Castlerig possessed A.D. 1747 of the lands mentioned in the charter of confirmation of A.D. 1360 as belonging to Robert Schank. Mentioned as only son of his father in Register of Presbytery of Kincardine O'Neil. He bequeathed £100 to the poor of his father's parish of Banchory-Ternan. (Presb. Sess. and Test. Reg. (Aberd.), New St. Acc., xi.) Entered Arms of Schank in Lyon Office 23 June 1732. Representative of the family at the time Nisbet's 'Heraldry' was published, and it is presumed he supplied the information therein contained. This Alexander purchased the land called Wester Castleriggs and other lands in and near Kinghorn, and also lands called Gleniston. Executed deed of entail of Castlerig and Gleniston 13 March 1769, by which these properties passed to his kinsman Rev. Alexander Schank, then Minister of St. Cyrus. He died 24 Oct. 1771.

B

<p>Martin. — Henry. Marjory. — Margaret. — Jean.</p>	<p>Rev. William Schank, M.A. Aberdeen Univ. 1 April 1730; Minister of Brechin; licensed by Presbytery of Kincardine O'Neil 1 June 1736. Died 1744 in his 29th year. Left £66 13s. 4d. for school at Pitpallox.</p>	<p>Rev. Alexander Schank, Minister of Ecclesgreig or St. Cyrus 1732-43, and of Arbuthnott 1743-80 (in which parish his son John succeeded him). He was of the University of Aberdeen. Died 3 Jan. 1780 in his 72nd year. His son Alexander was also afterwards Minister of St. Cyrus.</p>	<p>= Jane Gordon, dau. of Bailie Gordon.</p>
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C

Mrs. Fitzgerald, widow of General Fitzgerald. (First wife.)

John Schank, R.N., F.R.S., a distinguished Admiral. Bapt. 26 April 1726. (Kinghorn Parish Registers.) Went to sea early in life, and was for some time in the merchant service. First served in Navy as Master's Mate 1757; promoted Lieutenant (after 18 years' service) June 1776; Captain 15 Aug. 1783; Rear-Admiral 1805; Vice-Admiral 1810; Admiral 19 July 1821. Served in wars of the American and French Revolutions. Died 6 Feb. 1823. Bur. at Dawlish, co. Devon. Monumental inscription in Dawlish Church and Churchyard, where, however, his age is erroneously stated as 83 instead of 96 years. See his life in Conolly's 'Eminent Men of Fife,' and in Marshall's 'Naval Biography.'

Margaret Grant, sister of Sir Wm. Grant, Master of the Rolls. (Second wife.)

Alexander Schank, born at Banchory 26 June 1727, and bapt. there the same day. (Kinghorn Par. Regs.) O.s.p. in his father's lifetime, his father served heir general to him 27 Jan. 1747. He is mentioned in deed dated July 1745, and registered 30 Sept. 1746.

Margaret, only dau. by first wife. John Wight, Vice-Admiral of the White, of Minadab Cottage, Dawlish, co. Devon. Born about 1776 at Eyemouth, co. Mar. June 1800. ('Gent. Mag.') Berwick. Entered Navy 7 April 1789. Obtained a war medal. Son of George Wight, Esq., Purser and Paymaster R.N. 1793, by his wife, a member of the family of Grieve of Berwickshire, and first-cousin of Admiral Schank. (Burke.) She died at Teignmouth 6 May 1812.

John Mackellar Skeene Grieve Wight. Assumed by royal licence, dated 13 June 1840, the surname and arms of "Schank" in lieu of his patronymic "Wight." Of Barton House, Dawlish, co. Devon. (Burke, 1868.)

Algernon Wight, drowned in the river Teign, aged 12.

Alexander Wight, R.N., died unmar. 1843.

Elizabeth Helen Margaret, Mather Byles, Esq. mar. 19 Aug. 1830. Died 19 April 1851.

George Byles.

Alexander Byles, died 13 Dec. 1861.

Mather Byles, a Lieutenant in R.N.

John George Harding, Esq.=Eliza Frances.

Diana, dau. of Robert Scott of Dunninald (of the family of Scott, Baronet of Dunninald) by his wife Anne Middleton of Seaton. She died 24 Feb. 1825, aged 84 years. M.I. at Laurencekirk. Bequeathed £100 to the poor of that parish.

Rev. Alexander Schank of Castlerig, born 2 June 1736. Succeeded to the fortune of his namesake 1741, and afterwards lived at Laurencekirk. Minister of St. Cyrus or Ecclesgreig 16 May 1759, which church had been held by his father. Mar. 5 May 1770. Died in 55th year of his ministry at Laurencekirk 5 Jan. 1814, aged 75. M.I. at Laurencekirk. ('Gent. Mag.')

Rev. John Schank, born 23 Jan. 1738. Minister of Arbuthnott, co. Kincardine, 1780-1818. (Succeeded his father in the ministry of that parish.) Died 10 Dec. 1818, in his 70th year, unmar. This gentleman originally passed Philosophy at the University, and then studied Law, and afterwards Theology in his father's house; but he was never of a Divinity Hall. This caused opposition to his obtaining a licence as a preacher, but the General Assembly ultimately decided in his favour 1780 by special Act.

Rev. William Schank, born 29 June 1739. Licensed 1761; ordained 2 March 1762. Minister of Fetteresso, co. Kincardine, to which he was presented by George III. 2 March 1763. Died 2 July 1763 unmar. Degree from Marisc. College, Aberdeen.

Henry Schank.

Jean,=Kenneth Mackenzie March of Tippeton, 1743. Merchant in Aberdeen. Died s.p.



