

it was subsequently altered to bear the arms of Douglas.

The Cavers family have never themselves had any doubt as to the character of the two objects thus strangely confounded. In the opinion of the speaker the Percy trophies are a pair of lady's gauntlets, which Sir Henry Percy, like Sir Lancelot of old in the Idylls of the King, hung from his crest, or it may be from his spear, and the loss of which were likely to be a greater cause of grief and shame than that of any standard or simple pennon.

While the gallant Archibald succeeded to his father in actual possession of the barony of Cavers, the superiority, according to the feudal usage of the time, remained with his aunt, the Countess of Mar—and an informality in neglecting to obtain royal confirmation to a charter from her nearly lost both; they being actually forfeited and conferred by the king upon one of the Flemings of Biggar. The fate of Sir Alexander Ramsay of Dalhousie, in accepting the Wardenship of the Marches when forfeited two generations earlier, might well have taught Sir David Fleming the danger he incurred in overstepping the estates or functions of a Douglas; and, accordingly, we find that ere he could take possession of the pleasant lands of Cavers, he was assassinated by one of the Douglasses, and Sir Archibald, in accordance with the law of the time, which seldom failed to recognise the right of might, immediately obtained from James I., then in his youthful captivity at Croydon, a confirmation of his land of Cavers, as well as the office of Warden of the Middle Marches, which he had inherited from the Earls his ancestors, and which, in its more peaceful form of Sheriff of Teviotdale, remained in the family till the abolition of such hereditary offices in 1745. The Wardens of the Marches and Sheriffs of Teviotdale seem to have been loyal to the Crown during the subsequent rebellion of the Earls of Douglas in the reign of the second James, usurpation of the Angus branch in the minority of James V., for, amid the confiscations of the family on both these occasions, we find them still the undisputed Barons of Cavers, and faithful Wardens of Teviotdale. Drummond of Hawthornden, in his history of the five Jameses, tells us that the old Earl of Douglas, the last of that daring line who so often defied royalty, but who was at last defeated and compelled to retire to the monastery of Lindores and take the cowl, wrote to his kinsman of Cavers, exhorting him not to follow in his footsteps, but continue faithful to his king. In still later times, the Sheriffs of Teviotdale were distinguished for their valiant adherence to the Reformed faith, and the principles of constitutional liberty. Three successive barons, Sir William, Sir Archibald, and Sir William, during the civil war consequent upon the usurpations of Charles I., commanded in the armies of the Parliament, and otherwise aided the party of freedom in Scotland. For this, the last of the three, was deprived by Charles II. of the sheriffship (which was, however, restored to the family at the Revolution), and after his death his wife, Dame Catherine Rigg, traditionally remembered as the Good Lady Cavers, one of the

heroines of the Covenant, was subjected to a series of grievous persecutions, ending with two years' imprisonment in Stirling Castle from which she was only liberated to be banished from the country. In compliance no doubt, with the principles in which he had been trained, her son, Sir William, took the command of a troop of dragoons from William III., at the Revolution, and his brother Archibald, who succeeded him also in the barony of Cavers, did good service against the Jacobites in the insurrection of 1715, advancing money at his own wish when the Scottish exchequer was empty, and raising large forces from Roxburghshire in defence of the loyal cause. The writer may be permitted to refer, with feelings of personal pleasure, to this baron of Cavers, and add a testimony to the fact that not only did he publicly support the side of justice, but privately granted his succour and protection to those who suffered from his allegiance to the same principles. For, when the Earl of Mar rose in 1715, in behalf of the Pretender and forced his vassals, tenants, and inferior to join his standard, he found among them one sturdy puritan and loyalist who would not join the side of tyranny. Andrew Murray's principles, however, cost him something to maintain, as most principles will that are worth anything; his house burned down, his property destroyed, and his cattle and flock carried off and slaughtered, he himself barely escaped with his life, and fleeing southward from that Jacobite and Romanistic region, he obtained from the Sheriff of Teviotdale succour and aid, and a farm on his estate. Six generations have trod the green banks of the border streams since old Andrew Murray became a sojourner in Teviotdale, and the writer is proud to add that his descendants still continue faithful to the puritan principles and political liberalism for which their ancestors suffered. Of Sir William Douglas, son of Catherine Rigg, a fine portrait exists in Cavers House, and it is easy to detect in the countenance those well-marked features, which, in later times, still distinguish a family, round which philosophical grasp of intellect, unflinching energy of character, and active benevolence of heart shed a halo of brightness, proving that, in a family as in an individual sense,

“Old age ne'er cools the Douglas blood,”

though it temper it, and divert its energies to other aims and higher enterprises.

ANTIQUITIES OF CAVERS.

Cavers House, the baronial residence of the Douglasses, consists, in its present state, of a large square mass of buildings, fronting the north-east, with a narrow wing projecting behind, the whole quadrangle being completely enclosed by a courtyard and outhouses. It is surrounded by an extensive park, studded with ancestral wood, and occupies a considerable elevation standing upon one of those narrow graywacke ridges whose undulations characterise Upper Teviotdale, and closely overhanging a low hollow or ravine, which, at a very recent period was filled with water, and formed a natural moat of great security in defence. This hollow surrounds the mansion on the south-east and south-west sides, and traces are still