

The Descendants of George Carruthers of Brydegill.

By A. STANLEY CARRUTHERS.

In the account of the Carruthers family of Dormont in the "Records of the Carruthers Family," at pages 128 and 129, some details were given of George Carruthers, fourth son of Francis Carruthers, third Laird of Dormont, and his descendants. An investigation of the Parish Register of St. Mungo down to the year 1800 has provided further particulars and it is now possible to prepare a fairly complete "tree" for this family to that date.

Francis Carruthers, third Laird of Dormont, was born in 1575, as he died in 1679 at the remarkable age of 104 years. He married a lady of the Bell family (Christian name not known) and by her had five sons, viz:

1. John, who in 1639 married Katherine, daughter of the Rev. Robert Herreis, and who predeceased his father in 1670, his eldest son, John, succeeding to the Dormont estates.
2. James, of Breckonhill, who married in 1666 Margaret Henderson of St. Mungo Manse.
3. Walter, of Whitecroft, who married Janet Carruthers.
4. George of Brydegill (see below).
5. Francis, mentioned 1634.¹

Full details of the Breckonhill and Whitecroft families are given in the "Records" (See Charts on pages 24 and 25).

George Carruthers "of Braidgill" was infeft by his father in a wadset of 800 merks from the lands of Medilshaw.^{1a} He died before 1680,² but it was not until 1705 that his son John Carruthers was infeft in the Medilshaw wadset as heir to his father, George.³ John some time prior to 1684 had married Mary Carruthers.⁴ George Carruthers had another son, James Carruthers, in Breckonhill, who on 5th October, 1710, married Agnes Davidson.⁵ Particulars of their descendants will be given later.

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John Carruthers, called of Brydegill and thereafter of Guileburn, had two children, at least: William, who succeeded him in the estates, and James, who died at Guileburn, aged 76, and was buried 21st March, 1763.⁵ According to the pedigree accompanying the Petition of the late Lieut.-Col. Francis Carruthers of Dormont, for a grant of Arms (Lyon Register Office) two further sons are named, John and George but other than the pedigree there is no evidence to support this so far as can be traced.

William Carruthers of Guileburn was served heir general to his father, John, on 21st August, 1737,⁶ and under date 19th September, 1744, he received sasine as elder son and heir of decest John Carruthers, "called of Brydegill and thereafter of Guileburn," in a merkland of Sorrisky and a $\frac{1}{2}$ -merkland of Guileburn.⁷ William married, circa 1720-21, Mary, daughter of John Bell in Bankside⁵ and by her had six children, viz:

1. John Carruthers of Guileburn, of whom later.
2. Christopher, in Kirkbank, mentioned 1768, who married Janet Ker, and had a daughter, Elizabeth, baptised 11th October, 1760.⁵
3. William, in "Sorrisky," baptised 24th May, 1737,⁵ and mentioned in February, 1768.⁸ (For descendants see later.)
- 4, 5, 6. Elizabeth, Mary and Jean,⁹ mentioned in February, 1768.

John Carruthers of Guileburn was baptised 19th September, 1721⁵ and on 11th December, 1797, was infeft heir to his father in the lands of Sorrisky (Dumfries Reg. Sas.). In 1798 he disposed to his son, James, a merkland of Sorrisky and the $\frac{1}{2}$ -merkland of Guileburn in which James was infeft in 1818 (Dumfries Reg. Sas.), having as "younger of Guileburn" been infeft in part of Middleshaw in 1791 (ibid). On 13th February, 1810, there was a Bond of Provision to his younger children by John Carruthers of Guileburn and his eldest son and heir apparent James Carruthers: the children named were William, John,

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Christopher, David, Walter and Mary, the only daughter (Sheriff Court Deeds).

John Carruthers was married twice. The name of his first wife is not known, but his second wife was Jean Johnston.⁵ In all he had nine children, four being by his second wife:

1. John, baptised 13th July, 1746,⁵ but who must have died in infancy before 22nd August, 1755.
2. James, who succeeded him, and of whom later.
3. William, baptised May, 1753.⁵
4. John, baptised 22nd August, 1755.⁵
5. Mary, baptised 11th March, 1759, and married 2nd August, 1786, John Carruthers in Know.⁵
By his second wife, Jean Johnston:
6. Robert, baptised 17th July, 1768,⁵ but who must have died before February, 1810, as he is not mentioned with the other children in the Bond of Provision.
7. Christopher, baptised 25th November, 1769.⁵
8. David, baptised 22nd December, 1771.⁵
9. Walter, baptised 22nd July, 1775.⁵

John Carruthers of Guileburn must have lived to a ripe old age as he was 88 years of age when the Bond of Provision was entered into in February, 1810. James Carruthers, of Guileburn, was baptised on 2nd October, 1748. He was dead by 24th March, 1824, when his son Walter, then of Guileburn, was infeft heir to his father, James, in Sorrisky, etc. (Dumfries Reg. Sas.). James married Mary Carlyle as she is referred to in a sasine dated 29th January, 1825, as "relict of James Carruthers of Guileburn" (ibid). They had six children:

1. Walter Carruthers of Guileburn, heir to father, 24th March, 1824.
2. Philadelphia, baptised 6th August, 1775.⁵
3. William, baptised 26th February, 1778.⁵
4. James, baptised 28th April, 1783.⁵
5. Christopher, baptised 25th September, 1798.⁵
6. William, 14th March, 1800.⁵

Descendants of James Carruthers in Breckonhill.

James Carruthers in Breckonhill (son of George Carruthers of Brydegill—see above) married on 5th October, 1710, Agnes Davidson.⁵ They had four children:

1. Isobel, baptised 7th November, 1711.
2. George, in *Sorrysick*, baptised 18th August, 1713, who married *Janet Bell* and had three children—
 - (a) Agnes, baptised 18th May, 1744.⁵
 - (b) William, in *Ecclefechan*, baptised 13th July, 1746.⁵
 - (c) ^{JEANET} Janet, baptised 23rd September, 1748.⁵

George was dead when his daughter, Janet, was baptised.⁵

3. Philadelphia, baptised 23rd September, 1715.⁵
4. James, baptised 14th July, 1719,⁵ may be identified as the James Carruthers, farmer in Bankhead, Middlebie Parish, who married Mary Johnstone. She died 28th January, 1790, and was buried in Langholm Churchyard.⁹

James Carruthers, farmer in Bankhead, and his wife, Mary Johnstone, had four children:

1. John, cotton thread manufacturer in Langholm, married Janet Armstrong, and died 1st December, 1810, aged 66.¹⁰
2. James, cotton thread manufacturer in Langholm, married Janet Cartner, and died 7th June, 1821, aged 75.¹⁰
3. Johnstone, mentioned 11th July, 1818,¹¹ was probably a son.
4. Janet, who died 15th July, 1794,⁹ may also have been a daughter.

For details of their descendants see Chart on page 33 of "Records of the Carruthers Family."

Descendants of William Carruthers in Sorrysyke.

William Carruthers in "Sorrysick" (third son of William Carruthers of Guileburn—see above) was baptised

24th May, 1737.⁵ He is mentioned in the Dumfries Register of Sasines⁸ along with the other children of his father, William Carruthers. The name of his wife is not known, but he had seven children:

1. William, baptised 18th February, 1768.⁵
2. Janet, baptised 20th October, 1771.⁵
3. James, baptised 4th June, 1773.⁵
4. Jean, baptised 22nd March, 1775.⁵
5. Elizabeth, baptised 6th March, 1777.⁵
6. Mary, baptised 15th November, 1781.⁵
7. Christopher, baptised 22nd December, 1782.⁵

In conclusion, may I say that I am indebted to Dr Jean Dunlop of Edinburgh for carrying out the search in St. Mungo's Parish Register. This was undertaken as part of a general search through south Dumfriesshire Parish Registers for Carruthers entries down to the year 1800.

- 1 Dumfries Reg. Sas. Vol. iv., fo. 75a.
- 1a Dumfries Reg. Sas., 2nd Ser. Vol. vii., fo. 125.
- 2 Dumfries Testaments. Vol. v.
- 3 Dumfries Reg. Sas., 2nd Ser. Vol. vii., fo. 75.
- 4 Reg. Priv. Conc., 3rd Ser. Vol. ix.
- 5 St Mungo Parish Register.
- 6 Retours.
- 7 Dumfries Reg. Sas. Vol. xiv., fo. 354.
- 8 Dumfries Reg. Sas. Vol. xx., fo. 120. Four grandchildren, viz., Joseph, Mary, Elizabeth and Jean are also mentioned.
- 9 Langholm Parish Register.
- 10 Tombstones, Langholm Kirkyard.
- 11 Dumfries Reg. Sas., 1781-1820.