

The Inch Family of Ulster, Ireland,

AND

The Province of New Brunswick, Canada.

PART I.

The name "Inch" is of Celtic origin and means "Island." Other forms of the same name are Inche, Inches, Ince, Innis and Ennis, all of which have the same significance. From the Scottish custom of calling the owner or landlord of a property by the name of his holding or domain, it is probable that some Scottish Laird or Landlord whose property consisted of a valuable Island or Islands was called "Inch" because of his estate, and the name thus became a patronymic of the family.

There are still families of the name about Aberdeen and Glasgow, and round the shores of Loch Lomond, in which lake there are many beautiful islands called "Inches."

The tradition of the Ulster family is that the ancestor of that branch came to Ireland as an officer in the army of William of Orange—that he distinguished himself by the capture of some post in a night attack, and that when the army was disbanded he remained in Ireland, having received a valuable property as a recognition of his services. There are no authentic records in the family