

Although some researches have been made in Edinburgh, it has been impossible thus far to obtain any further definite information respecting the Pursuivant. It is evident, however, from his designation, "Sr.," that he had a son bearing the same name, and that son was undoubtedly Alexander John Thomson, the Loyalist; for the latter brought with him from Scotland the old family Bible, which contained the arms and family records for generations. It is most regrettable that the Bible was lost in the burning of the house of the late George John Furnace Burnham Thomson, Esq., at Hampstead, Queens County, N. B. This occurred March 1st, 1878. Many old papers were also destroyed, which would have been of great value from an historical point of view. Fortunately the arms were familiar to many who have been able to certify that they were the same as those of the Pursuivant. The author has written testimony of this from the above named George John Furnace Burnham Thomson, from his son, George Furnace Thomson, and from his daughter, Elizabeth Burnham Thomson (Mrs. Moses Cowan), of St. John, N. B. He also received from Mrs. Mary Jane Stockford, of Woodstock, N. B., before she had seen the arms of the Pursuivant, a letter in which she stated that the crest in the Bible was a thistle, and the motto, "pro patria." Thus it is proved beyond doubt that the arms in the old Bible were those of Alexander Thomson Bute Pursuivant; and there is no reason to doubt that John Alexander Thomson, the Loyalist, was his son. The Lyon King of Arms, Sir James Balfour Paul, has stated in a letter to the author, that he considers the proof of descent sufficient to grant a matriculation, or confirmation, of the arms.