

document, purporting to be the inscription upon the tombstone of John Alexander, of Antrim (the chief party in dispute), was discovered, and put in as evidence for Lord Stirling. If no new evidence had been produced for years, if no effort had ever been made by searches and enquiries to obtain further proof, this argument, without looking further, might have some weight. The recovery of this inscription was followed by an enquiry at Newtown, in Ireland, for the tombstone itself, by Lord Stirling's agent, who, in June 1836, received a letter from an Architect named Campbell, intimating that he had been employed, some years previously, to pull down the old church, and that, in the chancel, he found a part of a tombstone bearing an inscription to Mr. John Alexander. In this chancel was the vault of the family of Montgomery, Earls of Mount Alexander, and in it were buried the old Countess of Stirling; her daughter, Lady Jane Alexander, wife of Viscount Montgomery; and others of the Alexanders, who settled in Ireland. The tablets containing the inscriptions were against the walls of the church, and the architect says, the one he saw was taken down and laid in the floor of the new Court-House, and, he believes, "dressed over," to match the other stones. A Commission was granted to take the evidence of this man, and several persons of great age and competent knowledge of the parties, from former connections with the Montgomery family, to prove the existence of such tombstone. On arriving in Ireland, however, Lord Stirling's agent learnt, to his surprise, that this important witness was to give evidence for the Crown! Campbell, it appears, however, on being called upon refused to swear for either party, and Lord Cockburn ordered his letter, which had been produced in Court, to be withdrawn.