

Preston. In this way several important branches of the Hamilton family became closely connected, and those of us who are fortunate enough to be descended from Colonel Thomas Hamilton² can also trace our ancestry on his wife's side back to the original stock, through the Hamiltons of Westport, Silvertonhill, Innerwick, Little Preston, and Fala, and can claim a near relationship to the Earls of Haddington, Sir Patrick Hamilton of Little Preston, maternal grandfather of Grizel Hamilton having been a brother of Thomas, first Earl of Haddington.

August 25, 1673, Captain Thomas Hamilton² recorded his arms in the Lyon Office in Edinburgh as follows:

Gules, a martlet between three cinquefoils argent, within a bordure embattled or. His crest and motto were, Crest: an antelope's head proper, gorged and attired gules; Motto: "*In via virtuti pervia.*" The martlet was undoubtedly assumed by Captain Thomas in reference to his being the *fourth* son of his father John.

The family of Colonel Thomas Hamilton² and his wife Grizel Hamilton, was a large one, but unfortunately the baptisms of only six of their children are recorded. The names of the others, however, have in one way or another been preserved, and are here given in as nearly as possible their true order. They are as follows:

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| James, ³ | baptized | 17 June, 1675. |
| Alexander, ³ | " | 10 Dec., 1676. |
| Anna, ³ | " | 27 March, 1679. |
| Archibald, ³ | " | 21 April, 1681. |
| Robina, ³ | " | 18 May, 1682. |
| William, ³ | | |
| Andrew, ³ | | |
| Alexander, ³ | " | 6 Feb'y., 1687. |
| Frederick, ³ | | |
| Otho, ³ | | |
| Helen, ³ | | |
| Martha, ³ | | |

At the baptism of James³ the witnesses were: *James Hamilton of Westport*, James Hamilton of Innerdovot, James Murray of Skirling, James Murray, Clerk to His Majesty's Guard of Horse, Sir Alexander Bruce, of Broomhall, George Murray, Cornet to His Majesty's Guard of Horse, Captain Andrew Dick, &c. At the baptism of *Archibald* the