

CHAPTER VII.

MURDOCH.

Circa 1235-1310.

Murdoch (sometimes Murdach, Murechauch, Morthan), son of Corc, obtained, towards the end of the thirteenth century, probably before the year 1292, a grant of the entire quarter lands of Croyne, or Croy, from Thomas de Crememane. The lands are described in the charter as lying between Finnich and Killearn, which shows them to be identical with the lands of Croy-Leckie of modern times. The deed carried with it the usual pertinents, but excepted pleas of life and limb and theft, but the escheats arising therefrom were included. The witnesses were Malcolm, Earl of Lennox (probably the fourth Earl), Patrick de Grahame, Duncan, the son of Amelech (Aulay), Arthur Galbraith, and John de Luss, Knights.¹

The gift of Thomas de Crememane was confirmed by Malcolm, Earl of Lennox, in another charter witnessed by Patrick de Graham, Duncan, son of Amelech (Aulay), William Olyfard (Oliphant), and John de Luss, Knights, Malcolm de Drummond, Arthur Galbraith, and Walter Sprewl, Malcolm's steward.

A further charter by Earl Malcolm granted to the same Murdoch the right of erecting a mill on any part of the lands of Croyne, or of grinding all the grain of Croyne at the Earl's mill of Aschend, without payment other than a single firloft out of each chaldar for the service of the miller.²

The lands of Croyne or Croy remained in the possession of Murdoch and his descendants, the Leckies, for about five hundred years.

Murdoch, under the designation of "Morthan Mac-Korc," is among those threatened with excommunication,

¹ Cart. Com. de Levenax, pp. 79 and xi.

² Cart. Com. de Levenax, pp. 79-80.