

ter granted by King James III. of Scotland and registered by the Lords of Council and Session at Edinburgh in 1733. A copy of this ancient document has been preserved, endorsed :—"Charter of King James anent possessing the relic of St. Phillan, in favour of Malice Deore 1488." The charter itself reads as follows :—"For as mekle as we have understand that our servitoure Malice Doire and his forbearis has had an Relick of St. Filane, callit the Quegrich, in keeping of us and oure progenitors of maist nobil mynde, quham gd assoleze, sen th tyme of King Robert th Bruys and of before, and made nane obedience nor answer to na persoun spirale nor temporale in ony thing concerning the said haly Relick utherwayis yn is qteind in the auld infestment thereof made and grantit be our said progenitouris. We charge you herefore and commandis that in tyme to come ye and ilk ane of you reddy answer intend and do obey to the said Malice Doire in the peciable brooking and joising of the said Relick, and zt ye nain of you tak upon hand to compell nor distreze him to mak obedience nor answer to you nor till ony either bot alanerly to us and our successoures, according to the said infestment and foundation of the said Relick * * * And that ye mak him nane impediment, letting nor distroubance in the passing with the said Relik throw the Countre, as he and his forbearis was a wont to do."

The Malice Doire mentioned in the charter was himself lineally descended from the person to whom Robert Bruce is said to have entrusted the crosier on the field of Bannockburn, when, displeased with the conduct of the Abbot who then had it in charge, he deprived him of its guardianship. The incident is thus narrated in Bollandus' "Acta Sanctorum": "During the night when Robert, anxiously bent on his affairs, enjoyed not a moment's rest, and revolving all things in his mind, was at length engaged with some of his friends in earnest devotion and prayer to God and St. Fillan (whose