

the papers lost." Mr. Dewar, however, retains in his possession a copy of the royal investment granted to Malice Doire, one of his ancestors, by James III. in 1467, in confirmation of more ancient royal deeds by Robert the Bruce; and registered by the Lords of Council and Session, at Edinburgh, in 1734. In this royal investment,—endorsed on the back of the old copy in Mr. Dewar's possession: "Charter of King James anent possessing the Relic of St. Phillan, in favor of Malice Doire, 1466,"*—it is set forth that "For as mekle as we have understand that our servitorre Malice Doire and his forbearis has had an Relick of St. Filane, callit the Quegrich, in keeping of us and our progenitors of maist nobill maynde, quham G^d ascloze, sen the tyme of King Robert the Brays and of before, and made nane obedience nor answer to na persoun spir^{it}ale nor temporale in ony thing concerning the said haly Relick uthirwayis y^e is qteind in the suld infeftment thereof made and [grantit be our said progenitouris. We charge you herefore] and commandis that in tyme to come y^e and ilk ane of you redy answer intend and do obey to the said Malice Doire in the peccable brooking and joising of the said Relick, and x^t 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 successours, according to the said infeftment and foundation of the said Relick. . . . And that ye mak him nane impediment, letting, nor distrourbanse in the passing with the said Relick throw the Countre, as he and his forbearis was a wont to do."†

The virtues ascribed to the Crozier of St. Fillan, in his native district, were of a most varied description. It was regarded as an effectual cure for fever, by administering, or sprinkling with water in which it had been dipped; and was no less infallible in cases of scofula, or the King's evil, by being rubbed on the affected parts. It was serviceable also as a charm for the discovery and restoration of stolen cattle; and generally in all cases of disease of such. On this point Mr. Dewar replies to my queries: "It is quite true that the relic was looked on as a charm, but since it came into my possession

* On the endorsement the date is given in Arabic numerals, 1466; in the deed itself it is "MCCCCLXVII, and of our regne ye XXVII" — the subscriber Jacobus R."

† The whole document is printed in the Archaeologia Scotica, vol. III. p. 226; but the copy in Mr. Dewar's possession, though old enough, differs sufficiently to indicate its being another than that seen in 1708. The portion in brackets, which is a blank in the MS., has been supplied from the printed copy, otherwise I have followed Mr. Dewar's MS.