

to the new Baronets, "together with the appellation of Ladie, Madame and Dame to their Wyffs."

The death of King James did not put an end to Sir William's patriotic schemes, for Charles I issued a new charter on 12th July, 1625, confirming the institution of the Order of Baronets. It must not be supposed, however, that the ancient Scottish nobles accepted without protest the creation in their midst of a new and numerous Order, endowed, too, with imposing rank and dignity. So vigorous did the attack upon the Nova Scotia Baronets become, that the Ægis of a Royal Proclamation had to be thrown over them. In 1626, the King found it necessary to address his liege subjects of Scotland in these quaint words: "And thairfore we wairne all and sundrie the gentrie of this Kingdome that they either procure the said dignitie for thameselfs, or not repyne at othis for doing the same;" and giving it to be distinctly understood that if they "doe in the contrair, thay sal be punist as contempnaries of His Majestie's inclinaioun, and disturbaris of the publick peace."

In a later royal missive, of 17th November, 1629, the King made more clear than ever how lofty a place he awarded the members of this favoured Order. He authorized "the Baronettis, and everie one of them, and thare heires male, to wear and carry about their nekis, in all time coming, ane orange tauney silk ribbane, whereon shall hing pendant in a scutcheon *argent* a saltoire *azeur*, thairon ane inscutcheune of the armes of Scotland, with an Imperiall crowne above the scutchone."

The heraldic distinctions of the Order were unquestionably imposing; but the broad acres in Nova Scotia which were to sustain the baronies were "like the baseless fabric of a vision." The same royal hand which lavished the honours so freely in 1629, signed the fatal treaty in 1632, which ceded the entire territory of New Scotland to the French. Lord Stirling was compensated for his losses by a royal Warrant from Charles for £10,000 (which was never paid); but the poor Baronets only received their "orange tauney ribbanes", their