

COLONEL THOMAS HAMILTON* (John*, and Anna Elphinstone), baptized April 21, 1638.

The record of Colonel Thomas Hamilton, as given by Anderson, is that in early life he served with reputation in the Swedish Army, and after his return to Scotland about the year 1670, became a merchant in Edinburgh, being elected one of the magistrates of that city. He is mentioned with applause by Lord Kaim's in his Law Tracts, and by Fountainehall, in his Decisions, "for bringing the other magistrates to account for their intromission with the Guild Town's revenue." At the Revolution of 1688, when James II. was driven from the English throne and William and Mary were seated thereon, a regiment was raised in Edinburgh of which Mr. Hamilton was, by the Committee of Estates, appointed Lieutenant Colonel. This Committee of Estates was the outcome of a meeting of the Scottish nobility and gentry held in London, on the arrival of the Prince of Orange in 1688, of which William, Marquis of Douglas, third Duke of Hamilton, was elected President. These gentlemen framed an address, January 10, 1689, requesting the Prince to assume the government and to call a Convention of Estates. The Convention met at Edinburgh, March 14, 1689, and being resolved into a Parliament the following June, the Duke was constituted their Majesties' Lord High Commissioner thereto, His Grace also being given the office of President of the Council and High Admiral of Scotland. The Hamiltons were now, accordingly, in great favor in the kingdom, and the position occupied by Captain Thomas Hamilton, as Lieutenant Colonel of the Edinburgh Regiment, was only one of the honors borne by the family. Of the service in which Mr. Hamilton had been engaged in Sweden before 1670, we have no knowledge, but it is at least certain that in the Swedish Army he had attained the rank of Captain. One mark left by that service on the family was probably the name *Otto*, which he gave his youngest son, a name which has been perpetuated in the family to the present time, and which occurs in no other branch of the Hamilton family in Great Britain or America.

At some period, we do not know exactly when, he bought the estate of Olivestob from his less fortunate brother William, and probably in 1674, married Grizel Hamilton of the Westport family, daughter of James Hamilton and his wife Anna, daughter of Sir Patrick Hamilton of Little