

It is certain, however, that he was not the first of the name who settled in that country. His descendants are still in possession of Herdmanston.

Roslin, or Roslyn, is a Gaelic word, and means *ros linne*, or the promontory of the pool. The place known by this name is about eight miles from Edinburgh. Willielmus de Sancto Claro, Miles, or William St. Clair, Knight, received in 1280 a charter of the lands and barony of Roslin. This William was the progenitor of the St. Clairs of Roslin and the Sinclairs of Caithness. He was succeeded by his son, Sir Henry. Sir William, son of Sir Henry, was killed in Spain in 1330. Sir William, son of Sir William, succeeded his grandfather in Roslin. He married Isabel, daughter of Malise, the Keltic Earl of Stratherne, Caithness, and Orkney, and had by her one son, Sir Henry, fourth of Roslin. Sir Henry claimed the Earldom of Orkney through his mother, and received it from Haco, King of Norway, in 1379. He was Admiral of Scotland. He died in 1404, and was succeeded by his son, Henry. Sir Henry, fifth Baron of Roslin and second Earl of Orkney, succeeded his father as Admiral of Scotland. He was created Lord Sinclair in the Scottish peerage. He married Egidia, daughter of Sir William Douglas of Nithsdale—the Black Douglas of history—and had by her two children, William and Beatrix. He died in 1420, and was succeeded by his son. Beatrix, his daughter was married to James, seventh Earl of Douglas. She was the mother of William, eighth Earl of Douglas, of James, ninth Earl of Douglas, of Archibald, Earl of Moray, and of Hugh, Earl of Ormand.

William St. Clair, sixth Baron of Roslin, third Earl of Orkney, and second Lord Sinclair, possessed immense estates, and lived at Roslin Castle in a style of the greatest magnificence. He was Admiral of Scotland in 1436, and High-Chancellor in 1454. He received a grant of the earldom of Caithness, August 28, 1455. He married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Archibald, Earl of Douglas, and had by her one son, William the Waster. He married secondly, Marjory Sutherland, by whom he had Oliver, William, and other sons. He was deprived of the Earldom of Orkney by