

LIST OF CHARTERS, DOCUMENTS, &c.,

UPON WHICH THE

CLAIMS OF THE BARONETS TO LANDS AND RIGHTS IN NOVA SCOTIA ARE FOUNDED.

- I. The Charter of James I., 10th September, 1621, annexing Nova Scotia to Scotland.
- II. Charter of Novodamus, 1624.
- III. One hundred and fifty Charters to the different Baronets, granted from 1625 to 1707; and the Infeftments taken by many of them to their grants of land.
- IV. The Royal Commission of Charles I. to the Lords of the Privy Council of Scotland, 25th July, 1625, empowering them to complete the creation of one hundred and fifty Baronets, and to confer upon each like privileges, grants, immunities, &c.
- V. Two Acts of Parliament, made and passed 31st July, 1630, and 28th June, 1633, ratifying and confirming all the rights and privileges of the Baronets then created, or afterwards to be created.
- VI. A Charter of Novodamus by William III. in 1698, to the Premier Baronet, thus recognising the validity of his ancestor's Charter of 1625.
- VII. Numerous Royal Letters, Warrants, and Proclamations, connected with the erection of the Baronetage.
- VIII. The Treaty of Union in 1707, which provides that no alteration shall be made in the Laws which concern the private rights then subsisting in any class of the subjects within Scotland.
- IX. The Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, and the Treaty of Paris in 1763, when Nova Scotia was finally restored to Great Britain, and the rights of the Baronets revived *jure postliminii*.
- X. The various steps and proceedings taken by the Baronets in 1775, 1777, 1781, and 1836, to keep alive their rights.

LEGAL OPINIONS.

First, By GEORGE BOWYER, Esq., of the Temple, Doctor of Civil Laws, &c.,
11th Nov. 1844.

"I have read the Report of the proceedings of the Baronets of Scotland, with much interest, and trust they will go on vigorously in the undertaking so justly commenced. I cannot conceive what pretence the Government can have for refusing to abide by the Charters of the Nova Scotia Baronets, which appear to me unimpeachable in point of Law. I do not see that the loss of the Province by war can have extinguished the rights of the claimants. I think that by the recapture of the Province their rights were revived *jure postliminii*; and I cannot understand how it is possible for the Treaty of Paris, in 1763, to affect them."

Second, By T. CHISHOLME ANSTREY, Esq., of the Chancery Bar, Professor of Jurisprudence, &c., 21st Nov. 1844.

"I take a great interest in the proceedings of the Scottish Baronets, with respect to the Lands and other rights they claim in Nova Scotia. And the facts set forth in the Report of the proceedings of the General Meeting of the Order at Glasgow, in August last (which I have read this morning,) leave no doubt on my mind, as a lawyer pretty conversant with this department of science, that those claims are legal to their fullest extent, and must be upheld as such by any English Court to which they may be referred."

Third, By JOHN HOSACK, Esq., of the Middle Temple, Author of *Conflicts in the Law of England and Scotland*, 22nd Nov., 1844.

"I have read, with great interest, the Reports of the proceedings, both at Glasgow and at Edinburgh, relative to the claims of the Nova Scotia Baronets. As the question is one of high importance, not merely to the parties immediately concerned, but to the nation at large, every exertion ought certainly to be made to bring it prominently before the public. Were this done effectually, I confess I cannot see upon what ground the Government could resist the just claims of the Order."