

by his Majesty, and his late deare Father of blessed memorie, and conferred by them on sundrie gentlemen of good qualitie, for their better encouragement and retribution of their undertakings in the plantation of New Scotland; with all the acts of Secret Council and Proclamations following thereupon, made for maintaining of the said dignity, place, and precedencie due thereto, to continue and stand in force in all time coming; and that intimation be made hereof to all his Majesty's lieges by open Proclamation at the Mercat Cross of Edinburgh, and other places needful.

"The Estates presentlie convened, having duly considered the benefit arising to this kingdom by the accession of New Scotland, and the successful plantation already made there by the gentlemen undertakers of the same—In regard whereof, and that the said lands and territories of New Scotland are by the patent thereof made in favour of Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, Knight, his Majesty's Secretary, annexed to the Crown, therefore the said Estates, all in one voice, have concluded and agreed, that his Majesty shall be petitioned to maintain his right of New Scotland; and to protect his subjects undertakers of the said plantation in the peaceable possession of the same, as being a purpose highlie concerning his Majesty's honour, and the good and credit of this his ancient kingdom."—*Acts of Scottish Parliament, edited by Thomson, vol. v. p. 223.*

In June 1632, King Charles I. addressed a letter to "the Lord Advocate of Scotland, requiring him to draw up a sufficient WARRANT, for his Majesty's signature, to pass under the Great Seal, to the Earl of Stirling, and those his loving subjects who intended to advance the plantation of Nova Scotia, to go on with the said work *whensoever* they should think it fitting so to do." His Majesty promising, "on THE WORD OF A PRINCE, that he should at all times be ready, by his gracious favour, to protect them in the undertaking."—*Letter from King Charles I. to the Lord Advocate, 14 June, 1632.*

On the 15th of August, this same year, King Charles wrote a letter to the Baronets, stating—"That out of his royal care for THE HONOR AND WEAL of his ancient kingdom, his late dear father had annexed the dominion of Nova Scotia to the Scottish Crown, that the use of it might arise to the BENEFIT OF THE NATION; that he was desirous the wished effects might follow by the continuance of so noble a design; that he considered the plantation of Nova Scotia to be for the glory of God and THE GOOD OF THE NATION, from the benefit that was likely to flow from the right prosecution of it; and that he conceived there were none of his subjects whom it concerned so much in credit to be affectioned to the progress of the work as those of their Order, for justifying the grounds of his princely favour which they had received by a most honorable and generous way."—*Letter from Charles I. to the Baronets of Scotland, 15 August, 1632.*

From the ratification of the Order by Parliament in July 1630, till the year 1633, fifteen other Baronets were created, all of them receiving the