

against Bruce at the Battle of Dalree. Afterwards, when the cause of Bruce prevailed, the lands of MacNab were ravaged by his victorious troops, their houses burned, and all their family writs destroyed. Of all their possessions only the barony of Bowain, or Bovain, in Glendochart, remained to them; and of it, Gilbert MacNab of that ilk, from whom the line is usually deduced, as the first undoubted laird of MacNab, received from David II., on being reconciled to that Monarch, a Charter under the great seal, to him and his heirs whomsoever, dated in 1336. He died in the reign of Robert II. His son, Finlay MacNab, styled of Bovain, as well as "of that ilk," died in the reign of James I. He is said to have been a famous bard. According to tradition he composed one of the Gaelic poems which James MacPherson at-

*codem,*" &c., Sept. 18th, 1511. He died about the close of the reign of James V.

His son, Finlay, sixth chief from Gilbert, alienated or mortgaged a great portion of his lands to Campbell of Glenorchy, ancestor of the Marquis of Breadalbane, as appears by a charter to "Colin Campbell of Glenorchy, his heirs and assignees whatever," etc. This charter was confirmed by a charter under the great seal from Mary, dated 27th June, 1553. But Glenorchy's right of superiority the MacNab's always refused to acknowledge. His son, Finlay MacNab, seventh laird, entered into a bond of friendship and man-rent with his cousin, Lachlan MacKinnon, of Strathairdle, 12th July, 1606. This chief carried on a deadly feud with the Keish's or MacIlduys, a tribe that possessed the upper parts of Strathearn, and inhabited an island in the lower part of Loch Earn, called from them Keish Island.

The next laird, son of Finlay who was called "smooth John," made a distinguished figure in the reign of Charles I., and suffered many hardships on account of his attachment to the royal cause. He was killed at the Battle of Worcester in 1651. During the minority of his son, who was only four years old at the time of his death, Campbell of Glenorchy, taking advantage of the family troubles, took possession of the estates. But after the Restoration, Lady MacNab, on behalf of her son, received a considerable portion of them back again in 1661. This son, Alexander, ninth laird of MacNab, had a son Robert, who married a daughter of the Earl of Breadalbane, and was succeeded by his son John, who held a commission in the Black Watch, and who was taken prisoner at the Battle of Preston-pans, and confined in Downe Castle, under the charge of MacGregor of Glengyle, in which confinement he remained until after the Battle of Culloden. He was succeeded by his son Francis, who was succeeded by his nephew, Archibald MacNab, of MacNab, thirteenth chief. The property being by this time heavily encumbered, Archibald was forced to sell it on behalf of his creditors, and shortly afterwards, in 1821, he emigrated to Canada, where his subsequent life formed the subject of the remarkable career narrated in the story of *THE LAST LAIRD OF MACNAB*, the first instalment of which will appear in the next issue of the *FIERY CROSS*.



MACNAB COAT-OF-ARMS.

tributed to Ossian. He was the father of Patrick MacNab of Bovain and of that ilk, whose son was named Finlay MacNab, after his grandfather. Indeed, Finlay appears at this time to have been a favorite name of the Chief, "as the next three lairds were so designated. Upon his father's resignation he got a charter under the great seal, in the reign of James III., of the lands of Ardchyle and Wester Duinish, in the barony of Glendochart and County of Perth, dated January 1st, 1486. He had also a charter from James IV. of the lands of Ewir Leiragan, in the same barony, dated January 9th, 1502. He died soon thereafter, leaving a son, Finlay MacNab, fifth laird of MacNab, who is witness in a charter under the great seal, to Duncan Campbell, of Glenorchy, wherein he is designated *Finlaus MacNab, dominus de*