

killed at the surprise of Stirling castle 1578, Thomas, who became a great favourite of the king's, and was supposed to save him from Gowrie's assassination, was made Viscount Fenton and Earl of Kelly, and after the king went to London, a knight of the garter, George became one of the Lords of session or Scotch judges, and living to a good old age, used to recount many of the little anecdotes of the royal college at Stirling, to his grandson the learned Earl of Cromarty; by whom they were imparted to Dr George Mackenzie, author of the lives and characters of the most eminent writers of the Scotch nation; a book, which though loaded with extraneous matter, contains many authentic

king in the struggle, killed the poor sparrow. Buchanan gave the king a box on the ear for his tyranny and cruelty!

Would to God we had a breed of Buchanans, to train young princes to humanity and justice! MACKENZIE'S LIVES.

After the appointment of Morton to the regency, the Lords of the secret council by the admonition of the estates of Parliament, gave a charge to Alexander Erskine, the late regent's brother, the original of which, is in the archives of the family of Marr at Alloa castle, wherein are the following decrees and admonitions: "That the said Alexander be himself, and the friends of the young Earl of Mar his nephew, for quills he sall be answerable, sall keep the castel of Striveling, in name, and to the use and behufe of our Sovereign Lord; and sall alswa surely and faithfully, keep and observe the maist nobill person of his Hieness within the said castle, at the devotion of his said present regent, his Hieness continuing as afore, under the noriture of the lady Countesse of Marr his Majesty's governante, as toward his mouthes and ordering of his person, &c. And that the instruction and education of our said sovereign Lord on literature and religion, under Maisters George Buchanan and Peter Young his present pedagogis, or such as sall hereafter be appointit be the said Lord Regent, agreeing in religion with the said George and Peter, as it is approvit in Parliament, and usit in the said castell, &c. &c."