

HENRY HAMILTON² (John² and Anna Elphinstone), baptized October 21, 1640, was a merchant of note in Edinburgh. He was undoubtedly named for "Harie Elphinstone of Calder Hall," who was one of the witnesses at his baptism, as also at his sister Lillias'. He married, in middle life, Margaret Gourlay (who may have been his brother David's widow), who was a sister of Olement Gourlay of North Charlton. They had a son Thomas,³ baptized August 1, 1685, at which baptism the names of five of Henry's brothers appear, viz., Thomas, Alexander, John, Frederick, and James. Both mother and child must soon have died, for when Henry himself died in 1708, he was evidently a widower and childless.

The first notice we have of Henry Hamilton² as a man, is in the Dictionary of Decisions, vol. 23, p. 9655, under date of February 21, 1663. At that time we find that "Hary Hamilton pursues his brother William as behaving himself as heir to their father John Hamilton to pay 6000 merks of provision by bond, and condescends that William intronitted with the rents of the lands of Ulistobe whereunto his father had heritable right," etc., etc.

The will of Henry Hamilton was made September 17, 1707, and recorded February 4, 1708. It begin, "I, Henry Hamilton, merchant in Edinburgh, knowing that nothing is more certain than death and nothing more uncertain than the time and place thereof, And being desirous to order my affairs so that there be no debate among my friends thereanent after my decease, do therefore make my latter will and testament as follows: viz.: I doe nominate and appoint Gavin Hamilton of Innerdovot, one of the Sub Clerks of Session, and John Cunningham of Ballandalloch, Writer to the Signet, to be my executors." (Of these executors his nephew Gavin alone acted.) He leaves by this will a thousand merks, Scotch money, to his brother-in-law, Olement Gourlay of North Charlton, and failing of him by decease to his children; a thousand merks to Janet Wylie, his servitour; a thousand merks to Sarah Hamilton, daughter of his late brother William of Olivestob, and failing of her by decease to her children; two thousand merks to Arthur and Gartrick Hamilton, "children to the said umquhile William Hamilton, equally betwixt them, and the deceasand's part to fall to the survivor"; two thousand merks to Sarah Hamilton, daughter of his late brother Frederick, and failing of