A Scottish Branch of Urquharts in the Loewenwolde Family Tree

by Vsevolod K. Malinovskii

Gerhard Johann Baron Loewenwolde was a confidant of the Russian Emperor, Peter the Great. The distinguished careers of his three sons, which deserve their own article, began in the reign of Peter I and culminated in the reign of Anna I. The two elder sons, Karl Gustav and Gustav Reinhold, were created Counts of the Russian Empire in 1726, during the reign of Catherine I, Peter's widow. The youngest, Friedrich Casimir, became a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, where he served after leaving Russia in 1734.

Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde not only belonged to an outstanding Baltic German family, was a determined fighter against the Swedish reductions, was a relative and friend of Johann Pattkuell, but he was also, which remains generally unknown at this time, a close relative by birth of a noble Scottish family. On his maternal side Gerhard Johann Lowenwolde was a descendant of the Urquhart family. After the Civil War, his grandfather, John Urquhart, being of a Royalist family, was either forced to emigrate or could not return to Scotland from Sweden.

That Scottish descent is noteworthy, since it may cast light onto the puzzle of why Peter I, who did have many Scotsmen as advisers, not only entrusted Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde with a prominent role in the settlement of Baltic affairs after the Great Northern War (Gerhard being his counsellor and plenipotentiary in Baltic countries in 1710), but also with confidential problems concerning the marriage and family affairs of the Tsarevich Alexey and also with matrimonial matters concerning the Tsar's daughters. Entrustment with the Royal Family's personal matters might be surprising, if Gerhard had been considered a foreigner, or even an enemy, who had entered Russian service only in 1709.

The principal aims of this article are to demonstrate the Scottish branch in the family tree of Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde and his descendants and to invite readers' commentaries. Knowledge of this branch is based mainly on two documents, the family trees of the elder two sons, Karl Gustav and Gustav Reinhold Loewenwolde. Both trees were compiled as Matriculations on the occasion of the brothers' elevation to the Russian peerage. The first, a copy, is included in a book, "A Collection of Various Latvian Monuments" (Sammlung verschiedner Lieflandischer Monumente) by J. K. Brotze (see below). The second is the original and was found by me in the Archive of Ancient Acts, Moscow.

My personal interest consists in my being, to my surprise, descended from the Urquharts through Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde's daughter Helena Christina (later known as Charlotte).

The Loewenwolde Family

Below is an extract from a Matriculation (translated from German), delineating Gerhard Johann Loewenwolde, his parentage and children.

Christoph Bernhard von Loewenwolde of Malla, Estonia, Swedish Army Captain, who married Isabella Urquhart, daughter of John Urquhart and Isabella Kenmur-Gordon, both from Scotland.

Their children:

Anna Margaretha (born ca 1640-45, died 1711) who married in the 1690s Joachim Friedrich von Loewenwolde

Gerhard Johann (died 26th April 1723), who married in 1680 Magdalene Elisabeth von Loewen. After a career in the Swedish Army, he joined the service of Russia in 1709, as an adviser to Peter I. From 1710 to 1713 he was the Civilian Governor of Estonia and between 1710 and 1723 he was President of the Legal Commission.

The children of Gerhard Johann & Magdalene:

Karl Gustav (died 30 April 1735) who married in 1722 Charlotte von Rosen (1698-1782). Also had a military career, and at one point he was sent as Envoy to Vienna. Created Count 24 October1726. Childless.

Gustav Reinhold (born 1693, died in Siberia 22 July 1758). In 1725 he was appointed President of the Russian Chamber; in 1730 Commander of the Household Guard; later Inspector of Salt Production. Created Count 24 October 1726. After his fall from Court favour and his exile to Solikamsk (in west central Russia, about 750 miles from Moscow) in 1742, all the lands granted to him by Tsarina Anna in 1736 and by Tsar Peter II in 1737 were confiscated by the Crown

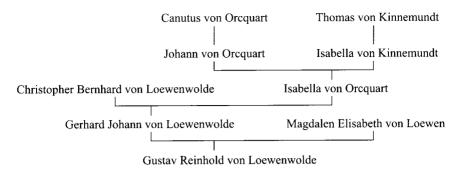
Friedrich Casimir (born 1697, died 8 April 1769), who had a distinguished military career in the Holy Roman Empire. Had one natural son, whom he acknowledged as hs heir.

Helena Christina, who married in 1722 Berend Friedrich von Sclippenbach (1695-1737) and with whom she had at least three children.

The Family Tree of Gustav Reinhold von Loewenwolde

(Scottish branch only)

The original document depicted a tree with its many branches. As stated above, it is deposited in the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts. It is accompanied by a written certification (in German), dated 19th August 1726, and signed by responsible persons, with apposition of their seals. There are many gaps in it, especially as regards the Scottish branches, and, furthermore, it has some differences from his brother's tree. The Scottish descent is shown in the following diagram.



This was accompanied by an open letter of introduction, dated 19 August 1726, from Justus Johannes Rosenkampff, Imperial Secretary to the Imperial High Court Judge for His Imperial Majesty in Estonia, plus 11 other signatories, part of which (in translation from German) reads:

"After showing you this family tree, your Russian Imperial Majesty, the high-born Chamberlain Gustav Reinhold von Loewenwolde of the House of Malla in your Russian Imperial Majesty's Higher Court in the Duchy of Estonia, would like it to be known that attention should be drawn to the fact that both the father's and the mother's lines are of old aristocratic stock."

This was followed with a statement describing the contribution of both lines to Russia and her government and emphasising their nobility, together with some written family history.

The Family Tree of Karl Gustav von Loewenwolde

(Scottish branch only)

This document is far more elaborate and has greater detail. (See back cover for John Urquhart's lineage.) The names, designations and relationships in the following list are as they appear in Brotze's book.

Isabella ab Urquart

Parents:

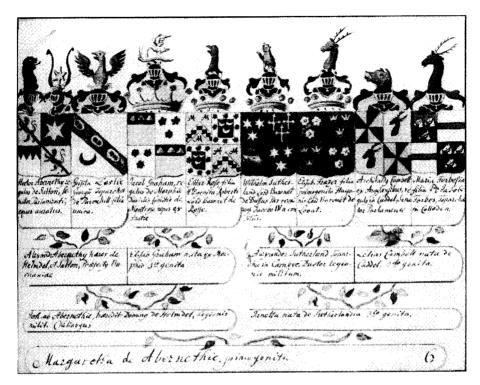
Joh. ab Urquart, Toparcha in Kinbaikie Caroli X regis Svec. Tribunus militum 1663 Isabella de Kenmur, Gordon filia unica

Grandparents:

Alexander ab Urquart Toparcha in Kienbackie, Castri et Comitatus Inverness praefectus

Margaretha de Abernethie primogenita

Thomas Kenmur, Gordon haeres Dominy de Peningham, regni Sver. Tribunus equitum Isabella Kieth ex linea Pavburniana primogenita



Great-grandparents:

Rodericus ab Urquart Toparcha in Kenbackie, Provinciae Rossiae Praefectus Anna Monroe, tertia genita, obiit, an at:112

Joh. Abernethie, haeredit: Dominy de Helmdel, Legionis milit. Chiliargus Janetta nata de Sutherlandia 3-io genita

Georgius Kenmur Gordon har. in Peningham, regis Jacobi IV Consiliarius Thesaurarius Helena Ogilvie 3-io genita

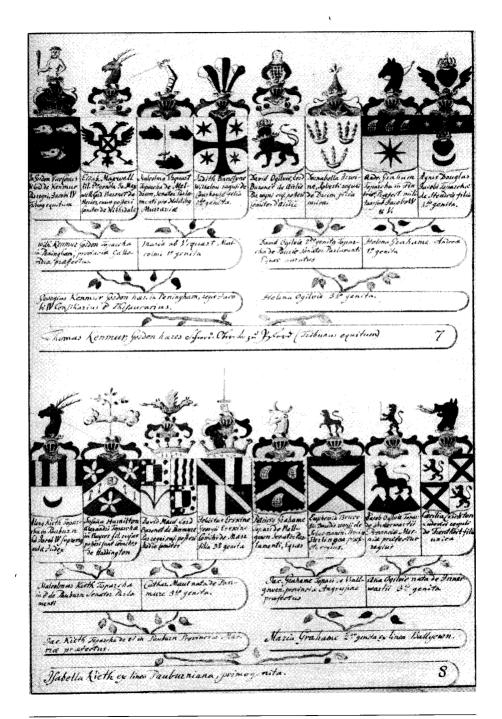
Jac. Kieth Toparcha de et in Pauburn Provincia Marriae praefectus Maria Grahame 2-da genita ex linea Ballgown

<u>Great-grandparents:</u>

Jacob ab Urquart Toparcha in Kenbackie, Senator Parlamenti pro Nobilius Moraviae Margaretha Stuart, Mater 14 filiorum et 9 filiarum

Hector Monroe Toparcha in Kilternie, Senator Parlamenti pro Nobilus Rossiae Grisilia Gordon, ex Gordonstoun primogenita

Alexander Abernethy haires de Helmdel et Seaton, Praefectus Buchaniae Elisabeth Graham naeta ex Morhio 3-io genita



Alexander Sutherland Toparcha in Carnseye, Doctor legionis militum Lelias Cambell nata de caddel, 2-do genita

Wilh. Kenmur Gordon Toparcha in Peningham, provinciae Gallovidia praefectus Maria ab Urquart Malcolmi 1-o genita

David Ogilvie 2-do genity Toparcha de Pourie Senator Parlamenti Eques auratus Helena Grahame Andrew 1-o genita

Malcolmus Kieth Toparcha in de Pauburn Senator Parlamenti Cathar. Maul nata de Panmure 3-o genita

Jac. Grahame Toparcha de Ballgoven, provincia Angrusiae praefectus Anna Ogilvie nata de Innerwartii 3-ia genita

Great-great-grandparents

Alexander ab Urquart, Fil 2-dis Joannis L. B et Lord de Cromatrie, acrepit Toparchium de Kenbakie hereditario

Magdalena Grant Filia Roberti ... familia Grant

Jo. Stuart regulus in Reston, nepos Joanis Comitis de Athol et filius Alexandri in Reston

Majorana Seaton Jacobi Toparchae in Petineden filia 2-da

Robert Monro Toparchae de Alkenge Roberti Monro filius secundus Helena Dumbar Jacobi Toparchae de Drun filia primogenita

Georg Gordon refulus de Gordonstoun Catharina Lindsey, Davidus L. Lord de Spenzia filia 2-da

Hector Abernethy regulus de Salton, Senator Parlamenti, equesauratus Grisilia Leslie Georgii Toparcha de Parekhill filia unica

Jacob Graham, regulus de Morphie Davidis Comitis de Montrose nepos et fratre Esther Rose filia 4-to genita Roberti Lord Baronet de Rosse

Wilhelm Sutherland Lord Baronet de Duffus Par regni Jacobo IV a consiliis Elisab. Frazer filia primogenita Hugonis Lord Baronet de Lovat

Archibald Cambell ex Argylensibus, regulus in Caddel. Senator Parlamenti Maria Forbesia filia 2-da Jacoba Forbes, Toparcha in Colloden

Jo. Gordon Vicecomes Lord de Kenmur Par. regni, Jacobi IV Tribunis equitum Elisab. Maxwell fil. 2-da genita Jo. Maxwell Lord Baronet de Heries, euius prosteri Comites de Nithsdale

Malcolm Urquart Toparcha de Meldrum, Senator Parlamenti pro Nobility Murraviae Judith Banetyne Wilhelmi reguli de Courhouse filia 2-da genita

David Ogilvie, Lord Baronet de Airlie Par regni euj. posteri Comites d'Airlie Dornabella Irwine,Roberti reguli de Drum filia unica

Andr. Graham Toparcha in Fintrie, Praefect. militar sub Jacobo IV & V Agnes Douglas Jacobi Toparchae de Stendrie filia 3-io genita

Alang Kieth Toparcha in Panburn sub Jacob IV supremy aula Judex Susana Hamilton Alexandri Toparcha in Bayres fil. oujus posserisunt Comites de Haddington

David Maul Lord Baronet de Panmure Par regni euj. posteri hodie Comites Felicitas Erskine Georgii Erskine Comitis de Marr filia 3-da genita

Patricig Grahame Toparcha de Ballgown Senator Parlamenti Eques Euphemia Bruce fil. Davidis reguli de Solacmanen. Provinicia Sterlingae prefectus regius

Jacob Ogilvie Toparcha de Innerwartii Provinciae Merniae prefectus regius Caecilia Crichton Ludovici reguli de Frentheit filia unica

This was accompanied by a Certification in Latin, which was translated as follow:

In the year of restored salvation 1730, on the 22nd May, at Aberdeen in the royal kingdom of Scotland, in a very crowded gathering of learned men, an arrangement was put in place concerning the Genealogy of the famous family of the Urquharts of Kinbeachie and in particular about the parents and ancestors of Lady Isabella Urquhart, daughter of Lord John Urquhart, at one time Commader for the most serene and most powerful King of the Swedes and the Goths, and Lady Isabella Kendur-Gordon, wife of the same John. And so that this historical-critical Act might duly and legally proceed in due order, there were most dutifully gathered together very important men, most distinguished by birth, most versatile in learning and in long practice in this sort of argument, especially they seemed more suitable at examining the business more

accurately and judging it more capably. Those who were of the proposed known ancestors and connected those marriage had enquiries placed before them. Thus when everything was set out in due order and documents authentic partly ! produced, represented pictorially and written, partly stamped and carved, after a most diligent discussion, all agreed with this judgment:



Detail from The Blaeu Atlas of Scotland, Extima Scotiae, 1654, showing Kinbreachie (Kinbrachy) near the Cromarty Firth.

Reproduced by permission of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland.

that the aforementioned Isabella was the legitimate daughter of the said John Urquhart of Kinbeachie and of his wife Isabella Kenmur-Gordon, and that John would have had as his father Alexander Toparch of Kinbeachie, son of Roderick of Kinbeachie and Anna Monro of Kilternie: indeed he would have had as his mother Margaret born in Abernethy, daughter of John hereditary lord of Helmdel, and Janet born in Sutherland. Moreover Thomas Kenmur Gordon hereditary lord of Penningham Tribune of horses of the most serene King of Sweden, son of George hereditary lord of Penningham and Helen Ogilvie born in Purie, was the father of Isabella Kendur Gordon: indeed his mother was Isabella Kiets born in Pauburn, daughter of James Kiets Toparch of Pauburn and Maria/Mary Graham born in Ballgown, and thus by ascending through 2 generations thus far there were counted on both sides and sex in the fifth generation not less than 32 ancestors, which, so that confusion from the crowd may be avoided, it seemed good that all these ancestors be distinguished clearly in one plan, and set out in turn in an orderly way, just as the (versa) page will show.

I, John, Duke of Sutherland, Lord Baron of Strathnevern and Dunrobin to His Sacred Royal Majesty in the most secret Council and of the same Locumtenens of the provinces of Moray, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, and the Orkney Islands, Peer of the Kingdom, and I, James Ogilvie Count of Airlie and Elight, Lord Baron of Ogilvie and Lentrathen, hereditary Baillie of Arbroath, Peer of the Kingdom etc, to the abovesaid confession and genealogical-heraldic-critical act, when the Plan of the Ancestors of the Urquhart of Kinbeachie family was produced, examined and proved, we were asked separately and most kindly summoned: after we heard, saw, examined every single thing previously noted and described, and considered carefully near of best faith the public records and the genuine documents of things done, we found that the obverse Scheme of the ancestors and antecedents of Lady Isabella Urquhart, wife of Lord Christopher Bernard Count of Loewenwold to be genuine, true and agreeing in all things with the historical truth, and what is especially certain to us from it, is because very many of our ancestors were counted in it, thus nothing could be had more certain or more evident. Besides these things, there was shown to us at the same time an oblong document with two skins joined firmly with glue, in which in the manner of a genealogical tree the ancestors of the aforementioned Lady Isabella were wholly and skilfully placed and expressed charmingly with colours close to the Clansmen's arrangement of the preceding scheme: in the upper row were added arms of individual people, without the insignia of nobility which is recognised as suitable and proper for individual families, just as today they are able to and ought to bear or carry on their seals and other ornaments, by absolute right. Since therefore all 32 ancestors continuously, of whichever sex, of the said Lady not only would have been born legitimately, but also none of them, as much as can be found out, will have mixed with commoners, or worked with merchandise or mechanical arts, nor has anyone unworthy of their ancestors appeared: it seemed good to us to confirm, strengthen and restore without doubt the aforesaid young shoot next to all her stages

and generations first in the described plan, then in the painted membraned document with its arms and insignia, by our noble word and according to our noted reputation, and also by our signatures and our seals put on as is the custom. Just as by presiding over this public instrument we make firm, strengthen and without doubt restore it. This was settled in Aberdeen, on the day and the year as above, happily in the name of God. Amen

The Book by J. K. Brotze

Johann Christoph Brotze (1742-1823) was born in Gerlitz, studied theology and philosophy at the Universities of Lepzig and Wittenberg and also mastered technical drawing. In 1768 he moved to Riga where he worked as a tutor and in 1769 he started a 46-year teaching career at the Riga Lyceum. Brotze belonged to the trend of late humanism, the so-called school of erudites. He considered the collection and processing of historical sources to be his main task.

He collected historical materials and drew everything that seemed significant to him: people, buildings, coins, armorial bearings, plans of towns, technical innovations, etc, fixing everything with great preciseness and always adding written explanations which might sometimes contain just a couple of lines and which might sometimes extend to several pages. Many of the objects and documents drawn and described by him have perished or disappeared over the course of time, information about them being preserved only in his book.

This collection consists of 10 leather-bound volumes, containing a total of 3,246 pages. A page measures 33 x 21cm (13 x 8ins). Most of the pictures are Brotze's originals, although there are also some plans and drawing by other artists. Many of Brotze's originals are pen-and-ink drawings. The colour illustrations are either water-colours or ink drawings with added water-colours. Unfortunately some of these 18th & 19th century drawings have faded, their colours altered, and in some cases only specks of the water-colours remain.

Some of Brotze's ilustrations are of armorial bearings of the Baltic nobility, stamps and monuments of archbishops, bishops, towns, courts and churches. Others are of inscriptions on gravestones, buildings, bells and goblets. There are views of Baltic estates, castles, towns & settlements, public edifices and dwelling-houses, as well as topographical maps of various places. He recorded too the human factor: inhabitants of both town and country, their clothing, lifestyle, occupations, work procedures and equipment used, for example, for water supply and telegraph. In these volumes can be found a wealth of information about Latvia and Estonia at that time and of their histories. It was characteristic of Brotze to record as much information as possible. To show a town in development, for example, he would collect plans drawn in different years, draw its most significant buildings and offer an historical outline of its economy and administration.

Addenda

Sir Thomas Urquhart

Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty (1611-1660), the noted translator of Rabelais, wrote in his personal genealogical volume *Pantochronochanon* that Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty, Sixth Chief of the Clan Urquhart, had a second son from whom is "descended lineally, that learned and valorous gentleman, Colonel John Urquhart, who went to Germany, and for many years together, most faithfully discharged the duty of Lieutenant-Colonel to the queen regnant of Swedeland."

A Swedish Source

A Swedish document has been found

(In translation)

The noble family Urqvard nr. 423, probably extinct 1656.

One Henrik Urqvart was an ensign in the Swedish army in 1644

John Urquhart became a Swedish citizen in 1648 and his name was changed to Urqvard. He was a resident of Skäggesta, a farm on duty-free land in Börje parish just east of Uppsala which he was granted on 19 May 1645 and 18 April 1646 and where he erected a manorhouse in 1650.

He belonged to an old noble family in Scotland and came to Sweden in the beginning of the 1630s with one of the Scottish mercenary regiments (hired by the Swedes to fight the Thirty Years War in Germany.) He was a lieutenant in a Swedish regiment led by Johan Skytte (a well-known Swedish nobleman, scientist and politician of his time) and became captain of that regiment in 1636.

On 23 August 1643 he assisted the commander on Neumunde Skans, a fortification in Germany. He became a Major of the Lifeguards on 14 May 1645 and Lieutenant-Colonel of the same regiment on 8 April 1647.

On 12 April 1648 he became a Swedish citizen and was ennobled. In 1650 he was introduced to knighthood at the House of the Nobility. His Family's number there was 404, later changed to 423. In 1655 he was a colonel at Magnus Gabriel De la Gardie's household regiment and he was also commander at Birsen in Livonia.

He was dead by the spring of 1656, probably the last of his family on the male side.

Wife: He was married to Isabella Kinnimund, born in Scotland, daughter of William Kinnimund and sister to Patrick and Thomas Kinnimund, ennobled in Sweden to Kinniemond nr. 505.

Children: Isabella, married to Baron Bernhard von Lowenwolde of Ayasch and Murricas in the parish of Tryden, Livonia.

(Addendum) A Thomas Urquhart was a student in Uppsala in September 1654.

Testimonial issued by Charles II to John Urquhart

(In translation from Latin)

Charles, by the Grace of God, etc.... into whose hands these letters will arrive, Greetings Since the origin of this noble and vigorous man. John Urquhart, loved above all by us, a Tribune of soldiers under Swedish command, is overlooked in the regions in which he is staying, nor can letters be cited as evidence concerning the innate nobility of this man, - letters which on such occasions are accustomed to be freed from our Chancellory in the Kingdom of Scotland - because of a tyrannical rebellion of the English and internal disagreements in that Kingdom of ours, we can't get them for a long time.

When he asked us, after due enquiry and an examination of the whole affair, we testify to all whom it concerns that the said John Urquhart is a Scot by birth, son of Alexander Urquhart of Kinbeachie of the most noble and ancient family of Urquhart, hereditary Sheriffs of Cromarty in the County of Ross, born in the family of chiefs of his clan, and of Margaret Abernethy from the most noble and ancient Abernethys Barons of Saltoun in the County of Lothian, also born in the family of chiefs of her clan - that John Urquhart is born legitimately and we ask that the same honour which his ancestors deserve, should be granted to him

Delivered at Cologne under our signature and seal, 22 February, in the year of Salvation 1655, in the 7th of our reign.

Sources:

Family Tree of Gustav Reinhold von Loewenwolde: Russian Archive of Ancient Acts, f. 154, inv. 2, af. 294, p II.

Family Tree of Carl Gustave von Loewenwolde: J. K Brotze (or J. C. Broce): Sammlung verschiedner Lieflandisher Monumente, vol. 5, part 1 (of 2).

Swedish reference: Elgenstierna G. Den introducerade svenska adelns attartavlor, Stockholm, 1925-1936. The article: Adliga atten Urqvard, 423, utdod.

Charles II's Testimonial: British Library Add MS 15856: Copies of official documents during the reigns of Charles I and Charles II 1634-1658, f.49

Comments on this article may be made via the Journal or directly to the author:

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Related websites:

The Genealogisches Handbuch der Baltischen Ritterschaften (Genealogy book of Balic nobility) is now available in Internet

http://mdz1.bib-bvb.de/cocoon/baltlex/Blatt_bsb00000600,00623.html

In particular, for a branch of the Loewenwolde family

http://mdz1.bib-bvb.de/cocoon/baltlex/Blatt bsb00000600,00623.html

A CD and prints of the Matriculations have been deposited in the SGS Library.

The Editor thanks Birgitta Berger for the translation from Swedish, Carol Stubbs for the translations from Latin, Max Ridder-Patrick for the translations from German and Charlie Napier for his advice on some historical factors.