

Mr. Coutts and Mennie Rannie, his wife, were the maternal grand-parents of the late Mr. Scrymgeour Fotheringham of Tealing. This relationship arose through the marriage on the 22nd June, 1781, of Patrick Scrymgeour of Tealing with Isobel, second daughter of James Coutts and his wife, Mennie Rannie. She died at Tealing 25th Feby., 1857, aged 61 years. Mr. Coutts sold Hallgreen about the year 1768, to the Hon. Thomas Lyon of Pitpointy, son of the Earl of Strathmore; and after passing through various proprietors, it was acquired in 1806 by the late Mr. James Farquhar, M.P.

Like his father, James Coutts held a situation in the town council, having been elected a member in 1739, and would eventually have been elected provost if a particular incident had not barred the way. On the 28th Sept., 1743, he was elected burgh treasurer, and held this post until his deposition by the Duke of Cumberland in 1746. He was a keen Jacobite, and one of the leading spirits during the Rebellion of the '45. During the rising, Coutts supplied the rebels both with provisions and money, and for his extreme conduct both he and Provost Skinner were carried off prisoners to Arbroath by orders of the Duke of Cumberland. This action was considered necessary in order to deprive the council from re-electing them to the town council, and for which injury Skinner and Coutts raised an action against the remanent members of the town council for not recording their votes, when prisoners of war and unable to be present at the election. The result of this action we have been unable to discover, but the stigma which appears to have been attached to it left its mark on the family, for not one of them ever