

Some Account of writers on the Scots Law.

For George M^r Kerr of Rossburgh in the county of Ross was the son of Simon M^r Kerr (Brother to the Earl of Ross) by Elizabeth Bruce his wife daughter to Dr Andrew Bruce doctor of the University of St Andrews was born at Dundee in the year 1636. After he had run thro' the stages of Logic and Philosophy in Aberdeen and St Andrews when he was scarce 16 years of age: he travelled into France, and in the University of Bourges applied his studies with great zeal to the civil Law about three years time. After his return into his native country when scarce twenty years of age he became an Advocate. 9 June 1662 He was ~~made~~ ^{appointed} one of the Kings Majesties Justice Depu^tes against the Scotch Rebels. He was ~~made~~ ^{appointed} one of the Kings Majesties Justice Depu^tes against the Scotch Rebels. He was in the year 1678 made the Kings Advocate. But a few years past he kept till the beginning of the reign of King James 7. At which time seeing him self obliged to lend an helping hand to the taking away of the penal statutes he was in February 1687 turned out and for John Dalrymple younger of Stair was put in his place. He was restored again to his office of Lord Advocate 27 February 1688, and continued in it till the Revolution made by King William coming to the Throne in 1689. In September that year he retired to Oxford, became a Fellow of the University, a Fellow of the publick Library, and on the 2 June 1690 was by the favour of the burroughs congregation of Glasgow admitted a student therein. He died in St James's Street 2 May 1691. His Body was taken up and conveyed by Land to Scotland, and on the 5 June following buried in a vault made for himself by him self, with a cupula of free stone over it in the church of the Franciscan or Grey Friars Church in Edinburgh. In the continuation of Mr Kerrs Supplement to the Great Historical Dictionary this Character is given of Sir G. Kerr, He was a Gentleman well acquainted with the best Authors whether ancient or modern of indefatigable Industry in his Studies, great Abilities and Integrity in his profession, powerful at the Bar, just on the Bench, an able statesman, a faithful Friend, a loyal subject, a constant Advocate for the Liberty and Liberties of Great Britain in all his actions, and a zealous Defender of Liberty and Religion in all places and companies; his conversation was pleasant and useful, he bore against bias and deep principles without regard to Quality or Authority, a Contemner of popularity and high Favour in his Expressions, abominous in his Dist. But his name is not in the second volume of the History of his own Time, gives the following Character of Sir G. Kerr, He was a man of much Wit and wit but was neither equal nor correct in it. He has published many Books of Law, but all full of Faults; for he was a slight and superficial man.