THE BOOK OF THE THANES OF CAWDOR
By Cosmos Innes and John Frederick Vaughn Campbell, First Earl of Cawdor, 1859
(Excerpts showing relationships and events)

1540, 15th October: At Elgin: Marriage contract of Katherine, daughter of John Campbell of Calder to Alexander Dolles, son and heir of William Dolles de Budgett. (She later married _______Lindsay, Earl of Crawford. Contract signed by Archibald Campbell, heir apparent, to Sir John Campbell of Cawdor, and Alexander Dolles of Galcantrae. Seisin take 21st October, 1540 for Katherine Campbell.

1543, 20th September: Deed by Sir John Campbell and his Lady Muriel settling on son, Alexander (second son) the Easter half of the lands of Rait. Archibald, heir and eldest son signed consent. To their third son, Donald, Sir John granted the fivepenny lands of Classscharrag with the office of baillie deputy of whole lordship of Muckarne. Charter dated at Stirling, 8th June, 1544.

1545–25th June: Sir John obtained a grant from the Bishop of Moray (Stewart), and settled on Alexander church lands of Flenesmore in Barony of Ardclaugh and Regalite of Spynie–grant signed at the Cathedral of Moray.

1545, 16th August: Crown Charter passed the half lands of Rait (Wester half), the lands of Both and the two Banquars resigned by Sir John and Dame Muriel (Campbell) in favor of their son and apparent heir, Archibald and Isabel (sometime called Elisabeth) Grant his spouse, daughter of James Grant of Freuchy in conjunct fee by a transaction with the last Calders.. (In the Spring of 1546 Sir John Campbell of Cawdor died. He was also Sheriff of Nairn when he died.)

1546/7 (actually 1547), 1st March: Fealty Service of Archibald Campbell as heir to Sir John Campbell of Cawdor, at Inverness before George, Earl of Huntly. John died month of Maie, previous (May, 1546). (Archibald Campbell, himself, then died December, 1551.)

1554, February: Legal steps of accasion (accession) for John Campbell, heir of his father, Archibald, were taken to invest him in the lands of (the late) Sir John, Archibald’s father. His uncle, Sir John Campbell, Prior of Ardchattan was his Tutor-at-law and guardian (When Archibald died in 1551, his heir was his son, John, who was a minor but reached the age of majority by 1568 (see below). Sir John Campbell, Prior of Ardchattan was the fourth son of Sir John and Lady Muriel Campbell of Cawdor.) 1563, 15th October: Served him (John Campbell of Cawdor) as heir of the Barony of Strathnairn.

1564: Transactions between Katherine Lindsay,(nee Campbell, daughter of John and Muriel), Countess of Crawford and her brother Master Alexander Campbell of Flenes who sold her his lands at Rait, reserving two ploughs as liferent to Jonet (Janet) Calder (identified by Countess Crawford as “my aunt”–Janet was Muriel’s younger sister). In 1579, the land was redeemed by Cawdor from James Lindsay, Lord Ogilvie, nearest and lawful heir of the umquhile (same) Katherine, Countess of Crawford, his mother. He was the son of her second marriage.
1570, John Campbell of Cawdor, son of Archibald, was of age. His grandmother was still alive and invested in the Thanedom. A document stating he was of age was dated 1568.

1572, 20th August: Family Contract bears that Lady Muriel’s grandson, John Campbell, “apperand” of Calder, and her sons Donald of Ichterschyn and Duncan of Boyth (younger than first four sons) bound themselves for remaining unpaid tocher of 3000 marks covenanted to be paid by Dame Muriel to her daughter, Marjery, the spouse of George Ros (Ross), fiar (heir) of Balnagown. A second Ros (Ross) marriage in a charter granted by John to his uncle Duncan Campbell, and Agnes Ros (Ross) for lands of Both and Little Coniechane, dated 15th April, 1574 and witnessed by John Grant of Freuquhie.

1573, 22nd June: The Crown united all the lands so resigned into one entire Thanage and full Barony to be called the Thanage and Barony of Calder. Seisun taken 17th February 1572 (1573). Muriel (Calder) Campbell, died at this time (in 1573.)

1575, 4th January: Contract and settlement, final discharge of the settlement of the dower of Beatrix, the Thane’s (John’s) sister, spouse of Patrick Grant of Glenmoriston.

1585, October-November: The Will of the Thane’s uncle, John Campbell, Prior of Ardchantan, on pages 186-7 of the book The Thanes of Cawdor,. John Campbell, Prior of Ardchantan was also Bishop, before and after John Carswell who was presented by the Crown in 1563. The will mentioned the Bishop’s (Campbell’s) sons: Colin and Alexander and daughter Margaret. It also mentioned Duncan Campbell, son of Donald Campbell, of Kylenmecell (Kilmichael) , Bishop’s wife, his sister Lady Lovat (Fraser). The Will was dated “ferd” (first or third?) of October, 1585. (Following John Campbell of Ardchantan’s death) The king presented John Campbell, son to Alexander Campbell of Flenes to the Vicarage of Evan, 24th February 1585 (1586).

1586, 21st November: Bond of Amities between John Campbell of Calder on the one part and Archibald Campbell of Lochniell (Lochnanell) on the other, after a feud.

1590, 12th September: Some household accounts listed including items of boys’ apparel for Donald, natural son of the Thane (John).

1590-92: John, Thane of Cawdor was the guardian of the young Earl of Argyll, along with Sir James Campbell of Ardkinlas. James died and his son, John, succeeded him and was jealous of the influence of Cawdor over management of the Earldom and slew John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor in February, 1591. (Old style, actually 1592). John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor was shot from a window. The weapon was described as a hackbut of Kaepock in Lorne. The actual assassin was McEllar; immediate director of the murder was John Oig Campbell of Cabraschan, who confessed and accused John Campbell of Ardkinglas (of arranging the affair). Ardkinlas then confessed and afterward recanted his confession stating that his confession had been extracted by threat of torture. Twice more he confessed and twice more he recanted. Crown investigation and trial decided his confessions were invalid because he had indeed been threatened but believed he had been involved in the murder resulting in a judicial decision of essentially “not proved.”
1591. Sir Colin Campbell of Clunes, and his brother Donald Campbell were killed in a robbery. (Members of the Calder family were suspected, as per several mentions/descriptions of disputes with the House of Clunes and the Calders—the remaining males of the Calders, the heiress’s cousins and their descendants, wanted the estates of Clunes returned to them and made a number of violent attempts to drive the Campbells off the lands until they officially were returned—which never happened.)

1595, 24th August: The Young Thane of Cawdor had a Crown Dispensation upon his nonentry and his age.

1596, November: Service of Fealty Document. The Earl of Mar was donator of the Young Thane’s ward and marriage. John, Earl of Mar, Lord Erskine and Gariache (Garioch) related that John Campbell younger, (received ?) “1,000 marks for the assignation of the ward and marriage of John Campbell, now of Calder to Colen (Colin), William, Alexander, Duncan, Margaret and Anne Campbell bairns (children) to the umquhile (same) John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor, deceased, and that by an attour the soume (sum) of uther (another) 2000 marks also advanced and paid to us at fest (feast) of Whitsunday last, Edinburgh, 3rd December, 1593” (The Earl of Mar obtained the right to arrange/control the marriages and the award of dowers and such for the children of the deceased John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor, during the young Thane’s minority and paid security(?) amounts for this right. It’s not clear whether the amounts were paid to the estate of Cawdor in front of the king, or to the king.)

1601, 4th December: Marriage Contract of John Campbell of Cawdor and Jean Campbell, daughter of Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenurquhay (Glenorchie). Contract dated at Edinburgh was not preserved but another record of the marriage was in the “Black Book of Taymouth” and informed that the tocher (dowry) was 17,000 marks, besides 6,000 marks for “holding and abulyments”–lands of Caper, grange and Muckairn enfeofments were used to pay the tocher. John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor was of age in 1601.

1602: John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor’s next brother, Colin, granted a discharge of a contract provision and in it identified himself as “second of the House of Cawdor” (Colin was of age by 1602). A reference was made to their “mother, Dame Jean Lawder, Lady Corstorphine, relict of deceased Sir John Campbell of Cawdor.” She was a daughter of Lawder of Halton in Lothian and married (1) John Campbell of Cawdor and (2) James Forester of Corstorphine, (3) Robert Gray of Cranislie in Angus. In 1603, she sold her liferent to her son John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor.

1603-04: Plague (The “Black Death”–bubonic plague) was in Scotland. Many people in Edinburgh left the city. The king then laid an extra tax upon the baronies for relief of the City.

1605: John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor obtained a renunciation of the lands of Ardachan (Ardchatan) in Benderloche, Kilbrandon in Sele and Killekerran in Lesmoine being a great part of the lands of the late Bishop of the Isles from Colin Campbell of Ardacha, the Bishop’s eldest son. John Campbell of Ardchatan was the great-uncle to John Campbell, the Thane in 1605, and uncle to his father the Thane who was killed in 1592. Colin was thus the “young Thane’s” first cousin, once removed.—CFB)
1606/7, 12th January: The Right Honorable John Campbell of Calder acknowledged himself debtor to his brother, Alexander, in 3000 marks in full of his rights, by the deceased John, his father, or the deceased Marie Keith, his mother, for part of Clunes occupied by Thomas Calder. Deed witnessed by William Campbell, brother to John Campbell of Calder, Mr. Donald Campbell of Barbrek, Hew Campbell in Balnagown, and Duncan Campbell, brother to the Laird. (Marie Keith was daughter of the Earl Marischal (Marshall) of Scotland.)

1607, 18th September: Alexander Campbell, brother of John Campbell of Calder, renounced the lands of Clunes in favor of his brother, Colin, henceforth styled “of Clunes.” William, the Thane’s third brother (Colin and Alexander were older—Colin was next oldest to John), had two ploughs of Easter Brechlie for his provision of 2000 marks. He married (1) Agnes Rose, daughter of the Black Baron of Kilvarock, and relict of David Rose of Holme and he married (2) Fingwall Campbell, eldest daughter of Alexander Campbell of Ardchattan (younger brother of Colin Campbell, formerly of Ardacha). Duncan Campbell (youngest brother of the Thane), styled “brother german” of these is not found receiving any apanage.

1607-1611. John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor was knight and became Sir John Campbell, Thane, and received the lands of Little Budyet, disponed by the Bishop of Moray in 1568 to Alexander Campbell of Flenes. This property went to Duncan, Alexander’s brother who was enfeoffed in 1570. Colin, son of Duncan, disponed (sold) Little Budyet to Sir John Campbell of Cawdor in 1608, 10th October. Additionally, Rose of Kilravock lost the lands of half of Rait by “Recognition”—having sold or leased some part of them without license by the King. James Campbell, in Rait, the “donator” conveyed them to Calder 12th April, 1611. Also in 1611, Alexander Campbell, Abbot of Eidnekill (natural son of John Campbell, the Bishop of the Isles) set in Tach, the Abbey Hall to Sir John Campbell of Calder, 20th December, 1611.

1611: The Thane’s brother-in-law, Sir James McConnell was tried and sentenced to death in 1609, but no time was fixed for executing the sentence and he was still alive in 1611. McConnell was visited by an Archibald Campbell, regarding an agreement between McConnell and Calder/Cawdor. (It was not stated in this record which sister of the Thane who McConnell had married, but from the next record, it had to be his sister, Anne.—CFB.)

1612/13, 1st January: Renunciation of lands in Islay to Sir John Campbell of Calder for 6,000 marks by Angus McDonald of Duniraig. King’s Recognition of ownership of Isla (Islay) refers to Lord John Campbell, “alias que personas viz” magistrate Donald Campbell in Barbrecklochhow, Archibald Campbell, brother of Lord Lawers, Archibald Campbell in Dunstafniege, Colin Campbell in Kilcalneowhill, Archibald Campbell in Inneraw, and Colin Campbell in Both. Sir James McDonald tried to regain the lands of Islay by marrying Margaret Campbell, daughter of the murdered Thane and sister of the then Thane). However, the King recognized the right of Sir John Campbell of Calder/Cawdor to retain the lands, though Sir John Campbell, then had to fight McDonald to keep his right and the lands of Islay.

1615, 11th October: Archibald, Earl of Argyll, recognized his cousin’s, John Campbell of Cawdor’s, claim to Islay, and agreed to support it. Witnesses were Colin Campbell of Abiringsquhill, Archibald Campbell his brother, McDonald Campbell of BarbrekLochow.
1615: Accounts showed preparations of the Thane and his family for a visit to the Royal Court in London. In 1617, the Thane of Cawdor, his wife, two oldest sons and one daughter made the visit to the Royal Court. (Note: this was just before the Thane invaded Islay.–CFB)

1617: To meet Court expenses, Sir John Campbell sold to William Dollas (Dolles) of Cantroy, the lands of Croy. The wife of John Dollas was Jonnet (Janet, Jeanette) Campbell, sister of the Thane, Sir John Campbell of Calder, the seller.

1617: To raise funds for the invasion of Islay, many estates were mortgaged by Sir John Campbell, Thane of Cawdor.

1618: Bond of Allegiance acknowledging Sir John Campbell of Cawdor by Patrick Breghounies Lagan and son Donald Breghoun and other McBreachounies. Submitted at Dunyvege, last of July, 1618, before their witnesses, Archibald Campbell, brother to the said Sir John Campbell of Cawdor, Alexander Ross, and Ewin Oig.

1618: A Finding that Sir Colin Campbell of Ardkinlas was a minor at the time his father, John, took part in the murder of the Thane of Cawdor and Colin had not part in it. Amity to be re-established among Ardkinlas, Cawdor and Argyll. Signed by Sir John Campbell of Cawdor, Sir Colin Campbell of Ardkinlas, other Campbells including: Ar (Archibald) Campbell of Dunstofnyc, Archibald Campbell of Otter, Archibald Campbell of Strondour.

1618: McDougald Bond of Amity with Sir John Campbell of Cawdor. Witnesses were Alexander Campbell of Ardchattan, John Campbell “fiar” (heir) of Ardchattan (son of Alexander), Archibald Campbell his brother (brother to the heir), Mr. William Campbell of Geddes, Mr. Donald Campbell of Barbrek Lochow, Archibald Campbell of Dounstaffynish, etc.

1621: Meeting of “friends” (creditors) of Sir John Campbell of Calder with recommendations being written as to how he might repay 100,000 marks of debt to them (debt acquired mostly in the taking and pacifying of Islay.) (1) Sell reversions at Cupergrange for 10,000 marks; (2) Sell Delnes and Ardeseir for 37,000 marks; (3) Sell Dowmaglas for 5,000 marks; (4) Wadset lands of Ruyrioch, Little Urchay, Drynychane, Bancher, Auchiadoun, Reat-Castell, etc. and appanted lands in Argyll to be sold. Recommended James Campbell in Reat be created chamberlain of the lands and living in the north...; Captain of Dunstaffynish be made chamberlain of lands in Argyll, and McDonald Campbell of Barbreck be cautioner (legal adviser).

1622: Sir John’s brother, Colin Campbell of Clunes was nearly burned alive by robbers–Calders, sons of Thomas Calder. A few years earlier, Colin had been living peacefully at Clunes and refused a trip to Edinburgh that year to help select curators for John’s sons etc. (He told his brother that rather than curators, they needed someone to teach them to live within the means of a diminished estate and that he was finally enjoying peace and did not wish it disturbed by the effort of being the one to have to teach sons with high expectations and the lifestyle they were enjoying under their father to live differently.)

1622, 9th August: Marriage Contract between the Thane’s oldest son, John Campbell and
Elizabeth Urquhart, eldest lawful daughter of Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty. Sir John Campbell, of Calder, Thane, as part of the Contract was to give his son the whole of the barony and thanage of Calder in Nairn, barony of Kilmachronage (Muckairn), etc., reserving from the following... on Rinache and Easter Evan to William Campbell, brother of the Thane, the lands of Clune to Colin Campbell, brother of the Thane, also a payment of 10,000 marks was to be reserved for the tocher of Jean Campbell, sister to the fiar (heir). Sir Thomas Urquhart agreed to pay besides tocher to redeem wadsett of Ardeysyr (Ardeseir) for 12,000 marks; also the heir of the Thane was to agree to pay to next brother Colin, 5,000 marks; Robert his third brother 4,000 marks and to George and Duncan his (next) lawful brothers, 3,000 marks each.

“Marriage to be solemnized before 30th June, next (1623) in contract relations are (to whom lands connected with the barony have been reserved for inheritance)–Mr. Andrew Balfour, minister of Calder 400 marks for lands of Ballinokan, James Campbell; William Campbell–brother to Sir John Campbell (the father); Colin Campbell of Clunes, brother to Sir John; John Calder, son to Sir Thomas Calder of Clunes; lands of Torriche to James Campbell, brother of Commissar of Inverness; sister of heir, Jean.” (From the records surrounding this marriage: the “next” brother of the heir was Colin, the 2nd brother (and third son) was Robert, and George and Duncan were the youngest brothers and Jean was his sister.)

1623/4, February 6: Charter granting son John Campbell, fiar of Cawdor, the Thanage as promised in the marriage contract, but with additional conditions was made. The son was not yet 25 in 1622.

1624/5, 11th March: Marriage Contract of Jean Campbell, sister to John Campbell, the heir to the Thane, to Alexander Dunbar of Westgrange which took place in 1625.

1625/6: William Campbell, brother of the Thane of Calder was accused of being an obstinate Papist and of corrupting the inhabitants of Islay. He was summoned to Council, the heir of the Thane of Cawdor was to ensure his appearance at Council.

1627: The Lords of Cawdor, both old and young were both still alive in this year.

1628: Letter from Sir John Campbell of Calder (Thane, not heir) to Colin Campbell, now styled Kilchoman, his second son about a deal between Colin and his brothers and father.

1629: Colin Campbell, of Kilchoman named a “justice of the barony.” 1629/30: Archibald Campbell, Lord Lorn of Argyle and Tarbest, etc., named John Campbell fiar of Calder and his brother Colin as co-justices in their area.

1632: The Thane and his heir were both still alive and signed a contract with Douglas of Sandiland, and with Colin Campbell of Clunes.

1633, 20th March: At Kilvorow, a mutual support agreement between brothers, John Campbell, fiar (heir) of Calder and his brother Colin Campbell. Witnesses, etc.: Donald Campbell of Ardnamucrhan who noted that neither John nor Colin had heirs of their bodies as yet, thus
Donald was named heir after John and Colins. Witness: brother german to John Campbell, hear if Cawdor; and Donald Campbell, eldest son to James Campbell of Achindown.

1635: Complaint in Edinburgh by John Campbell, heir of Calder, against his father, Sir John Campbell, “for letting the castle (at Nairn) deteriorate and fall waste.”

1631–but executed in 1635: Gift of Sir John Campbell and heir John Campbell to Mr. George Norvell, servitor “our trusted familiar councillor” and Sir Thomas Hope of Craighall, “our advocate” (in legal matters). The 9th of December, 1631 was the date of the original gift.

1636, 13th June: Sale of household goods by Sir John Campbell of Cawdor to his second son, Colin Campbell, now Tutor of Cawdor for 500 marks. Between 1627-1636, Sir John Campbell took a 2nd wife, Dame Elizabeth Douglas, daughter of William, Earl of Angus whose brother was created 1st Marquis of Douglas—she was granted a contract for maintenance in 1636, money for her and two daughters. She was still alive in 1641, but dead before the end of 1642.

1636-7: Colin Campbell, 2nd son of the Thane, acquired the titles “of Ardeseyr and Galcantray” as per letters from Donald Campbell to his “loving nephew.”

1639, 1st January: Kilchoman in Islay. John Campbell, the younger of Calder, granted to his eldest son, Colin, a disposition making him fiar (heir) to the thanage. Colin died before 1650 while attending the University of Glasgow. He was his father’s only son, so the Thanage then passed to John the Thane’s second son, Colin and his heirs.

1639, 19th September: John Campbell, fiar (heir) of Calder, declared incompetent in the burgh Court house of Forres. His brother, Colin was then made curator (conservator of John and the estate) (from other sources, the heir’s illness was described as “melancholy”—severe depression).

1639-1643: Colin Campbell, Tutor of Cawdor, restored the castle at Nairn (in the records were a number of records such as contracts for work, accounts of supplies and materials, etc.)

1640, 11th May: Castle of Cawdor: John Campbell, the younger of Cawdor, with consent of his brother, Colin Campbell of Galcantray (the Tutor) granted a disposition to Elizabeth Brodie, spouse of the said Colin and to Hugh and Alexander, their sons—of the town and lands of Ardeseyr. The lady was the daughter of David Brodie of that ilk. The oldest son was afterward, Sir Hugh Campbell and Thane of Cawdor. The younger son, Alexander, was killed by an accident at Ardeseyr, while yet a youth (family chronicles of the Thanes). Jean, the daughter of Colin and Elizabeth married John Hay, the last Laird of Lochloy and Park, of the old line. An illegitimate son of Colin, Tutor of Cawdor, was Donald of Urchany and Boghole who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Muirton. Of that family was Colin Campbell, the author of Vitruvius Britannicus.

1642, 4th July: George Campbell gave an account of his service in Ireland to his brother, Colin Campbell, Tutor of Cawdor.
1642, September: Colin Campbell, Tutor of Cawdor became very ill and was at the home of Dolles of Cantroy and died there. The family of Cawdor wrote to Dolles, asking for the return of keys, red boxes (with family papers) etc. still there after Colin’s death. Sir Donald Campbell was named “Tutor to the heir”, Hugh Campbell, son of Colin, in his juniority. The Earl of Argyll wrote again to Dolles informing of this (and thus directing him where to send Colin’s keys, papers, etc.).

1642, October: George Campbell, younger brother of Colin, was named Tutor of Cawdor (he’d returned from Ireland–Donald was just a temporary appointment).

1642: George, now curator of John Campbell of Calder made a reckoning between himself and Elizabeth Brodie, relict of Colin Campbell of Ardeseyr, with consent of Alexander Brodie of that ilk, her brother, and Alexander Brodie of Lethin, her uncle.

1643: Item paid for board of Archibald Campbell son, natural, to Duncan Campbell, brother to the Lord of Calder, the said Archibald being a child at school, his father’s portion and means having fallen to his brother for 3 years board. Paid to Lady Calder to hire this sonne’s heir’s nurse, the sonne being deceased (meaning Duncan was dead, his son was quite young, though in school, still requiring a nurse or governess and Lady Calder was to employ said nurse). (This is a confusing record and actually suggests in the second part of it that Duncan was the son of the Thane and died relatively young with only one son who was still quite young. George and Duncan were the two youngest brothers of John, Colin and Robert.)

1646: Payment made for fabric for Jean Campbell, Lady Douglas’ daughter (by the Thane, as his second wife), sister to John Campbell, the heir (who had been declared incompetent).

1650, 22nd April: Hugh Campbell signed a payment order for work on the Castle (but he may not have been of age and thus was a co-signer, not sole signer–see additional records, such as those of his marriage.–CFB).

1650, 20th May, George Campbell was at Laggan in Northern Ireland.

1651, December: Sir Donald Campbell died.

1653-6: Various records mention that the Laird of Calder had an additional brother James, and a sister Mary (this was now Hugh as Laird, his brother Alexander being deceased, and likewise by this time both John Campbells, Thane and heir.). (Colin and Elizabeth (Brodie) Campbell had, according to the records thus far, five children: Hugh, Alexander, James, Jean (who married Lord Hay) and Mary.

“Colin the Curator died in 1642, and was succeeded as curator by his brother, George. Sir John Campbell, the Thane of Cawdor, and their father, died in 1653 and in the following year, 1654, John, the heir died. Hugh Campbell, son of Colin, succeeded as Thane of Cawdor to his grandfather, the heir never having become Thane because of his illness (and related finding of incompetence). The young Thane’s ward and marriage were bestowed by the King in the year of
the Restoration (1660) upon the Earl of Lauderdale whom, however, chose to hold them in the name of Lord Duffus. The King, Charles II, acknowledged the wardship being held by Alexander, Lord Duffus, in October, 1660.”

1662, 28th January: Dernway. Earl Alexander Stewart of Moray, Lord Down and Abernathie made a contract for his sister, Henrietta, to marry Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder, knight. Payment of 9,000 marks to be made at Martinmas in 1664, 2 years after the contract. Signed by Alexander Stewart and his brothers, Francis, John, and David. Contract also signed by Hugh, Calder (Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder), and Henrietta Stewart. The marriage contract was also approved by King Charles II.

1664, Sir Hugh Campbell, was knight and laird in his own right (signed his own correspondence, contracts, etc.)

1669– (no children mentioned in records selected by the authors of The Thanes of Cawdor up to this point, but other later records indicate children were actually born to Hugh and Henrietta by this time: at the least, his oldest son and oldest daughter). Hugh was warned in this year by King Charles II to not delay making annual amounts of fealty revenues—he was warned of fines and confiscation of his rents if he delayed again, by the King’s servants.

1674: A letter from Brodie, Hugh’s uncle to him, Lady Henrietta; wanted to know of her and her children’s welfare.

1677: Sir Hugh Campbell, Thane of Cawdor was in serious debt and looked to the lead mines in Islay to rescue him.

1679: Hugh’s uncle (?) (Could be great-uncle) James Campbell and his cousin, John Campbell of Airds were accused by others of mismanaging some of Hugh’s properties.

1679, January: A report came from John Buchan, Regent of King's College in Aberdeen, giving a report on Alexander, Hugh’s oldest son who was already at this college.

1679, January: Adjournment of Parliament while Hugh’s daughters were in Edinburgh for a “season” (marriage mart for at least the oldest). The City was “in consternation with shops closed, strife in the streets.” Donald, a brother of the Lord of Calder was in charge of his nieces, there, and writing to Hugh. He mentioned encountering the Laird of Auchinbreck (this would have been the 4th baronet) in the suite of L.H.L., and advised Hugh that he would likely be contacted by Auchinbreck and that he, Donald, did not favor Auchinbreck’s (cause or appeal).

1679, April: Hugh Campbell, Thane of Cawdor wrote a letter to the Countess of Caithness and in it complained of limitations and pain from a tumor in his knee. Gave thanks for her good opinion of his daughter, “Meg” (Margaret), mentions the existence of three or four daughters including his youngest, Marie and asked Lady Caithness’ help in arranging marriages for them. He wanted to try and get them married off by Quitsunday, 1679, or as soon as possible after. In 1679, he had one more daughter born to him and his wife, Henrietta, who died as a child. George
McKenzie’s wife was named godmother to the daughter born in August or September of 1679.

1679: Accounts show payment for music for Mistress Margaret (the oldest daughter) (she had a virginal and lessons for it and enjoyed playing it) and for an apothecary for Hugh’s daughter Marie (next to the youngest).

1681: Hugh’s son Alexander was studying law and Hugh received letters describing his son’s progress from his tutor, Robert Campbell. One letter described how Alexander studied in Blois, in France, for a year. Alexander Brodie was identified in one of the letters as a cousin of Hugh Campbell of Calder (Cawdor).

1684: Sir Hugh Campbell remodeled the Castle (at Nairn).

1686, 31st January: Sir Hugh wrote to Mr. Andrew Balfour and described an illness of his younger son, Colin Campbell—fever for 17 days; took ill 20 days ago (3 days before the onset of the fever), was still ill at that time. He recommended his son, Archibald (second son) to Balfour’s care (and education).

1685: Hugh’s son, Alexander Campbell, the heir, helped put down Monmouth’s rebellion and met Mistress Elizabeth Lort, sister of Gilbert Lort and daughter of Lady Susanna Lort of Turnham Green, and asked permission for marriage. The marriage contract was dated 20th September, 1688. Upon Alexander’s marriage, Sir Hugh gave his son, Alexander, control of lands in Islay and Jura, 13th November, 1688.

1688: Archibald Campbell, second son of Sir Hugh Campbell, Thane of Cawdor, married Anne McPherson, the only daughter of Duncan McPherson of Cluny. The contract was dated 15th March, 1688. (The other McPherson males—brothers, cousins of Duncan, were not happy with the marriage and insisted upon an addition to the contract guaranteeing their own property rights, out of fear the Campbells would take all the McPherson lands and re-assign them to their own Campbells. Sir Hugh and his son Archibald, did sign the addition to the contract and respected the rights of the other McPhersons.)

1688: In a private letter to Hugh, Archibald Campbell of Octomore was identified as “a cousin” to Sir Hugh (his uncle Duncan’s son?)

1691: In a list of accounts, Sir Hugh Campbell paid for a wig for his son George (4th son: after Alexander, Archibald and Colin).

1691, October 23: Sir Hugh Campbell, resigned as Thane of Cawdor, handing over his entire barony to his son, Alexander—and heirs of his (Alexander’s) marriage.

1693, 3rd February: Second, “official” resignation made by Hugh to the King, (William of Orange by this time). On the 10th February, 1693, the King granted the Charter of the barony to Alexander Campbell, Hugh’s son and heir.
1697, September: A list of accounts showed charges for the funeral of Sir Alexander Campbell of Cawdor, Hugh’s oldest son, at Islay. His brother Archibald became heir during the minority of Alexander’s sons. Alexander left two sons and two daughters.

1703, October: Sir Hugh Campbell wrote to his nephew Colin Campbell of Boghole. Son Archibald had children by 1704, daughter Anna. Hugh’s relation, the Countess of Moray sent her regards to Archibald’s father (Hugh) for him and his lady.

1708, 5th March: George Brodie reported the deaths of his parents within a very short time of one another. They were buried the same day. Told Sir Hugh that his son Archibald need not come just yet to Brodie House.

1714, 6th May: London, from Breadalbane (Earl?) to Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder commending him on his grandson, Duncan who had just visited. He also wanted Hugh to send Duncan to Argyllshire to rally support for the Queen (Anne) there.

1715, 1st September: At Aboyne: The Earl of Mar’s Proclamation in support of James VIII retaking the throne (for his line of Stuarts). The Earl of Mar called upon Hugh Campbell of Calder to order his grandchild, Duncan Campbell, the younger of Clunies, to march Cawdor’s men in shires of Inverness, Murray and Nairn to join the McKenzies and McPhersons and march through Perthshire toward Stirling.

“This is likewise empowering you to send any of your grandchildren you think fittest to raise the men of Illy (Islay), Muckairn, and other places in Argyleshire, and to transport the men of Islay to Argyle and Lorn as shall be most convenient and that there they may join the Earl of Breadalbane, Sir James Campbell of Auchinbreck, Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochniel, etc. “ (Letter sent to Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder and Duncan Campbell, the younger of Clunes.) (It’s not clear if this was Hugh’s oldest grandson by his son Alexander or by his son Archibald. It’s more likely this was a son of Archibald, since Archibald was styled “of Clunes”–CFB)

1715, September 23: “in a tremulous hand” (description made by his descendant, co-author of The Thanes of Cawdor), Sir Hugh wrote to his grandson, Duncan Campbell and gave him permission to act to raise the standard of Calder in support of King James VIII. A second letter to Duncan identified other supporters of the cause, including his aunt, Lady Meldrum. “Also, you will be giving humble service to his Grace, the Duke of Newcastle and to my Lady Susan, your grandmother, whom I am glad to hear is kind to all our grandchildren and especially yourself.”

1716, 6th January. Letter from Sir Hugh Campbell to his grandson, John Campbell, mentions a grand-daughter.

1716, Order from King George I, delivered by the Sheriff of Nairn and others to Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder, ordering him “to surrender to the King’s justice all those men in his barony and additional lands who had participated in the late rebellion.”
1716, 8th August: Hugh’s nephew, Colin Campbell of Boghole wrote: “Sir, this morning I was with your grandchild and showed him your letter and from that took occasion to press his going down to Scotland which he heard very willingly and is fully resolved to see you at Calder next Spring. He is advised by his physicians to go to Bath (at present). In my former (letter), I told you what legacies Lady Lort had left and when all is paid, I think he will clear 2000 pounds, besides the house in Golden Square, with the house and gardens at Turnham Green, which are rented near 200 per annum. I find my Lady Campbell a little inclined to sell her jointure in Scotland to her son. (Alexander’s widow was living in Wales with her children having moved there from Islay after Alexander’s death.) In my last letter to your son (Archibald?), I told him that your grandchild was most desirous to get into the House (Parliament) if there was a new election.” (It’s not clear whether this was Hugh’s oldest grandson by his son Alexander or the second son, John. Since the oldest son had “died as a teen,” it’s more likely the grandson being discussed was John Campbell. The oldest son of Hugh died without heirs and John Campbell, the younger, became heir to the Thanage.)

1716/7, March-April: Lists of charges and accounts indicated that Sir Hugh Campbell, Thane of Cawdor, died Sunday, the 11th of March, 1716 and was buried 29th March, 1716. Sir Archibald Campbell of Clunes (Duncan of Clunes’ father) became Thane of Cawdor and in 1717 again had the Castle at Nairn remodeled. (This record is confused because another record states that in August, 1716, Hugh received a letter regarding his grandson, who was expecting to visit him within a year. Given the fact the old calendar was still in effect, it is more likely that Hugh Campbell died in March, 1717.)

1725, 30th November: At Elgin, Scotland. “Memorial” done by Sir Archibald Campbell of Clunes in answer to questions put to him by his nephew, Sir John Campbell of Calder regarding rebuilding of Church at Calder and burial of all the Thanes, there. John was now heir, Duncan (both) having died. (Duncan, John’s older brother died as a teen in an accident; his older cousin, Duncan of Clunes, apparently survived Prestonpans, and “the king’s justice” but is not mentioned often afterward.)

1726, 30th April: Letter from Sir John Campbell of Calder to Sir Archibald Campbell of Clunes and Calder. “This morning I was married to Mistress Pryse, a young lady of North Wales... Your Affectionate Nephew and Very Humble Servant, John Campbell. Duncan Campbell was identified in a letter the same year as son to Sir Archibald. The letter was written by Lord Lovat to John’s cousin, Duncan. In it was noted that Duncan had a daughter, young Mistress Campbell. (Note: from other sources: a son or grandson of John, named Gilbert Campbell, emigrated to Westmoreland County, Virginia and had a son and grandson both named Pryse Campbell who were in Northumberland Counties. John had 3 sons and 3 daughters.)