



## Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses: Pairt 14

Walcome tae pairt fourteen o Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses. Aince mair Scotland haed a laddie king, but whit an orra king Jeems III wad turn oot.

### **HOOSE O THE STEWART** (haudin-gauin)

**Jeems III 1460-1488** Jeems wis born 10 July 1451 at Saunt Aundraes, in Fife, an wis the son o Jeems II an Mary o Gilder. His faither haed been killt wi the flist o a cannon, leain nine year auld Jeems as king. The laddie king's mither, Queen Mary, pit herself at the heid o the kinrik an haed Jeems crount 10 August 1460 at Kelsae Abbey in the Borders. It wis a kenspeckle crouning for the airmy o Scotland haedna lang taen Roxbra, an sae the war a thrang o knichts, sodgers an follaers in-aboot. It wisna lang afore thay brak Wark castle an brocht hit at the yird an-aw. In Februar 1461 pairlament forgaitert an confirmed that Queen Mary haed the keeping o the king, an airtin o the govrenment, at the heid o a cooncil o nobles. Hooanever, Bishop Jeems Kinnedy o Saunt Aundraes won hame fae Fraunce in 1461 an pit hisel at the heid o the nobles that differt wi the queen's policies. In parteclar, Kinnedy wis for Fraunce while the queen wis for Burgundy in fremmit maiters.

In Aprile 1461 the Frainch queen o Inland, Magret o Anjou, turnt up at the coort o Scotland an speirt at Queen Mary aboot help, efter Inland haed sliddert intae ceevil weir. Mary wad gie the king an queen o Inland beild in Scotland for a twalmonth, but thay haed tae gie Berrick back tae Scotland. Queen Mary wis sweirt tae be soukit intil Inland's weir, but, in Januar 1463, the erle o Angus led an airmy tae help the Magret ane's men at Anneik, while Mary o Gilder brocht her son King Jeems tae siege Norham castle in July. But It gaed aley, an Mary's airmy gied backs til a Soothron airmy. At the same time, the Inglis usurper, Edwart IV, haed made a treaty in Februar 1462 wi the banisht erle o Dooglas, that's faimly haed been blootert bi Jeems II, an wi John MacDonell lord o the Isles. The twa traitors gree'd that thay wad gie the Edwart ane uphaud in ony conquest o Scotland, haudin pairts o the kinrik as his vassals. The treaty wis, in coorse, haivers, but the ettle ahin it wis tae fash the Scots govrenment.

Bi the hairst o 1463 Queen Mary wisna weel gettin, giein Bishop Kinnedy the scowth he socht for airtin the kinrik's affairs, an whan Mary dee'd, at Embra on 1 Dezember 1463, aged aboot 30, pouer fell tae Bishop Kineddy his lane wi the king in the keeping o his brither Lord Gilbert Kinnedy at Stirlin castle. Queen Mary wis burried at Trinity College Kirk, in Embra, but whan thon wis cawed doun in the 1840's her deidkist wis taen an burried at Halyrood abbey. Kinnedy took the rue for his uphaud o Magret o Anjou an in Juin 1464 made a truce wi Edwart IV, seen as the king o Fraunce wadna back Scotland. The bishop noo

took King Jeems a gang-roond Scotland in the simmer o 1464, takkin in Aiberdeen, Dundee an Inness. But Kinnedy hisel wisna weel, an he dee'd on 24 Mey 1465 at Saunt Aundraes aged about 57. This wis the inlat for sleekit Lord Robert Boyd tae forder his ettles. On 9 July 1466, at the skailin o the chakkar audit, in Lithgae, 15 year auld King Jeems set oot for the hunt, but the Boyds turnt up an wheecht him awa til Embra. In October a weel staged pairlament wis held an King Jeems declared that Boyd haed actit on his say. Naebody seemed that fasht, until Boyd gaed ower faur in his ambeetion. In 1467 Lord Robert haed his son Tamas made erle o Arran an mairried him on King Jeems's sister Mary. It is said that Jeems wis in a dreidfae wey an gret at the waddin. Boyd noo haed hisel made chaumerlain forby. Amang the fendin for hisel, tho, Boyd did tak in haun the ootstaunin maiter o Norrowa.

In 1468 ambassadors, comprehendin Tamas erle o Arran, an Bishop Tulloch o Orkney, gaed tae Denmark. In September, bi the Treaty o Copmanhaven, King

Christiern I Audenburg o Denmark-Norrowa gree'd that the wad be nae mair peyments askit for the Waster Isles an that the twa kings wad be allies, yokit wi a mairrage atween Christiern's dochter Magret, bi his wife Dorothy Hohenzollern o Brandenberry, an King Jeems. Pairt o Magret's tocher wis tae be 60,000 florins. The war nae wey Christiern cuid pey this, sae Orkney wis pit in pawn atween hauns. In Mey 1469, whan he haedna come up wi ony mair siller, Shetland wis pit in pawn forby. The Dens king cuidna dae muckle either whan Weelum Sinclair, erle o Orkney, wadna pey him homage. In 1470 Weelum sellt his richts tae King Jeems, an Jeems wad annex the erledom o Orkney an



lordship o Shetland tae the croun o Scotland in 1472. This mairrage wis the dounfaw o the Boyds. In Juin 1469 Lord Robert wis awa in Inland, while his son Tamas, bringin Princess Magret fae Denmark, wis warned no tae get aff the ship aince he won hame. At the hinnerend the Boyds fled tae Birges in Flaunders an King Jeems, fasht at the wey thay haed dealt wi him, declared the faimly forfeit. Jeems, noo aged 18, wis mairried on Magret Audenburg 13 July 1469 at Halyrood. She wis about 13 year auld.

In Jeems III, the Scots soon fund thay haed an orra king wi a rare conceit o hisel, gauin bi novations that's ettle wis tae heize the staunin o kingship ayont whit wis actual fact. Jeems spak in terms o his imperial croun, an clearly haed in mind his sibness wi the kingly hooses o Austrich, Burgundy an ithers. Fae this time dates the rare pentings o the king an queen, pentit bi the Fleeming Hugo Van der Goes, in a style unkent in Scotland fernyears. Bi the 1480's Jeems wis makkin coins shawin his face three-quartert an weirin an imperial croun. It kittled the king tae mell wi the politics o his imperial kizzens. In 1471 he an Chairles the Gallus o Burgundy socht tae redd-up tred richts disputit atween Fleemings an Scots, an the follaein year Jeems hostit ambassadors o Denmark an Fraunce. But his nobles took a fleg at Jeems's ploys tae conquest fremmit lands. Ane wis tae gie Lewis o Fraunce a hauder in the conquest o Bertany. Anither wis tae conquest the coonty o Saintonge, in Fraunce. In 1473 the king pit forrit his claim til his granfaither's duikry o Gilder, but the estates o pairlament, wanrestie at the king's ploys, hummed an hawed an didna vote Jeems the siller he wantit for tae pey sodgers.

But, abuin awthing ither, it wis Jeems's ettles at alliance wi Ingland that cawed his nobles aff thair stotter. Efter King Lewis o Fraunce lat Jeems doun, the king haedna muckle choice but tae treat wi Edwart IV o Ingland. The Inglis king wis gled tae speak about peace an gree'd that his dochter wad mairry Jeems's son. A when nobles, tho, haed come tae haud tuithy opeenions o the king. Heidmaist amang them wis Airchibald Dooglas erle o Angus an the king's ain brither, Alisaunder duik o Albany. Baith lords made profit oot o weir on the mairches, throu raids an political troke, an didna want peace gettin in the road. An it wisna for naething that Blin Harry's *Wallace* first kythed in thae days. This bit screive wis meant tae steer Scots fowk agin Ingland.

Mair nor aince John MacDonell lord o the Isles haed Jeems on a preenheid. In 1475 the king forfeitit him for dealin wi Ingland in years bygane, for takkin on the king's pouers, an siegin Rossay castle. The king led airmies agin John in 1476, makkin uiss o George Gordon erle o Huntly, in the north, an Airchibald Campbell erle o Argyll, in the sooth. Poor John haedna the smeddum an haed tae gie hisel up. Left as lord o the Isles, John tint the erledom o Ross tae the king. In the comin years the Campbells an Gordons wad hae intae their aughts bodies an lands aince in the aucht o MacDonell. But waur, John's natural son, Angus o Isla, pit hisel at the heid o his ain airmy an brocht weir tae the faimly.

Like John o the Isles, Jeems haed his ain faimly troubles. In 1479 he haed an ootcast wi baith o his brithers. The elder ane, Albany, as warden o the mairches, haed steert up trouble for the king's Inglis policy. Aw a sudden the king lichtit on Albany at Dunbar, but Albany fled tae Fraunce. The same year, the king haed his ither brither, John erle o Mar, liftit, but Mar haed dee'd bi 1480. Whit happent wi Mar naebody kens tae this day, but it didna lea the king lookin sakless. Bi noo the king o Ingland, wi naething tae shaw for peyin his dochter's mairrage tocher, an the Scots on the mairches brekin the truce, took the pet wi Jeems an gaed tae weir. Bi 1481 the twa sides haed fleets settin the coasts o the ither alowe, but Scots tred took a heavy dunt. In 1482 Jeems's brither Albany turnt up at the

coort o Ingland an wis set at the heid o an Inglis airmy, for tae come hame, turn Jeems aff the throne, an mak hisel the vassal king o Ingland. But whan Jeems gaihert his ain airmy, at Lauder, his thrawart hauf-uncles, Atholl an Buchan, along wi Airchibald erle o Angus, took a grup o the king an hung twa-three o his servitors ower the brig. The king clippit the coinage, thay said, an fed swallen prices, his evil cooncillors held the laws in contempt, an whiles the king favoured lesser-born cheils. An anither thing, Saunt Aundraes haed been erectit an airchbishopy bi the paip in 1472. Rome wis faur-awa, but an airchbishop wis hame-aboot, an this fasht the ither bishops. Aw thir excuses wis gien bi nobles that felt thay cuidna lippen on the king ony mair. Albany fund the king, an his uncles, steekit ahin the yetts o Embra castle. The Inglis airmy, for aince, didna dae muckle skaith an thocht better tae tak Berrick back an lea the Scots tae thair lug-nippin an drumlie politics, efter the provost o Embra haed gree'd tae pey the Soothron invaders aff. Naebody wad tak Albany on, sae he chenged sides an helpit his brither lowse hisel fae Atholl an Buchan, but Albany cuidna keep fae intrigues. In Juin 1483 he wis forfeitit but fled tae Fraunce whaur he wis killt at the rinks in 1485.

Queen Magret haed taen a haun in dealin wi Albany, for tae fend for her son, but the king cuidna see by this an the twa never bade thegither again. The king peyed her veesits, but Magret bade at Stirlin along wi her eldest son Jeems. She dee'd on 14 July 1486 an wis burried at Cambuskenneth Abbey, aged about 30. Aince mair the king jaloused he nicht mak alliance, this time wi the new Inglis king, anither usurper, an aiblins mairry the auld king's weeda, but ower mony nobles at hame wis feart for Jeems. Bi 1488 he haed taen sair agin the Hume faimly, an ither like Airchibald o Angus, sae that thir lords made common cause as a pairty contrair the king. But, wi the king shawin favour til his younger son, Prince Jeems mislippent him an in Februar 1488 left tae jyne wi the pairty contrair. Twa airmies, baith steert throu suspeecion, tried tae mak terms, but neither side wis aefauld. On 10 Juin the king made a breenge at Stirlin tae tak Prince Jeems at the castle. The prince cam oot an thay blattert a wee at Stirlin Brig, afore he haed tae gie backs. But noo the rebel lords cam forrit, pit the prince at their heid, an the twa airmies focht at the sinderins o the Bannock an Sauchie burns on 11 Juin. In the middle o the stramash, dounby the Bannock Burn mill, King Jeems, cairryin the sword o Robert the Bruce, wis killt bi unkent bodies. His corp wis taen on 25 Juin an burried at Cambuskenneth Abbey, alangside Queen Magret.