



Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses: Pairt 17

Walcome tae pairt seeventeen o Scotland's Ain Kingly Hooses. Queen Mary is ane o the maist weel kent – an maist controvertit – rulers o Scotland.

HOOSE O THE STEWART (haudin-gauin)

Mary I 1542-1567 Born 7 Dezember 1542 in Lithgae palace, Wast Lothian, she wis the dochter an ae lawfae heir o Jeems V an Mary o Guise. Mary becam queen at jist sax days auld. On 3 Januar 1543 Jeems Hamilton erle o Arran (*ab.*1516-1575), near o kin tae Mary, wis made govrenor o the kinrik. The Inglis king, Hendrie VIII, noo pit forrit his ploy tae hae Mary mairried on his son an throu the lassie rule Scotland. Arran cuid be a sapsie. Offert Hendrie's dochter Leezabeth for his son, or hints or mair weir, he gied in til Hendrie's fleitchin. Bi the Treaties o Grenidge gree'd on 1 July 1543 Mary wad mairry the Soothron prince, but the Inglis king demandit the Scots brek wi Fraunce an send Mary til Ingland. The queen dowriar Mary o Guise an Cardinal Dauvit Beaton, the heids o the Frainch pairty, noo brocht Arran ower tae thair side an wee Queen Mary wis crount 9 September 1543, at Stirlin castle, tae mak a pynt tae the Inglis aboot sovereignty. In the Dezember pairlament elided the treaty on the grunds that the Inglis haed claucht Scots shipping. It wis bad eneuch that Hendrie VIII jaloused hisel anither Langshanks, but fae takkin a ding tae the harns, in 1536, he becam an ill-kindit tirran that slauchtert his ain folk. Sae he didna swither tae slauchter Scotland's fowk an-aw.

In Mey 1544 the Inglis king lowsed a veecious invasion on Scotland, for tae gie the Scots thair heids in thair hauns. Leith, Embra an Halyrood wis set alowe, an syne the burghs o Dunbar, Haidintoun an ithers. The Inglis took Jethart an Kelsae sae Arran gaed tae the mairches an on 17 Februar 1545 vankisht the Inglis at the fecht o Ancrum Muir. But in September 1545 the Inglis cam back wi anither army. The erle o Hertford noo brunt Drybra, Kelsae, Melrose an Jethart an waur, the crop o 1545 wis hasht at the hairst, leain the fowk scant o victuals. The Hendrie ane sent Protestant preachers, sic as George Wishart, intae Scotland, tae steer up ony reformers that nicht favour Ingland. Awready the queen's cooncil wis fleggit wi ballants, prose warks an letters that disputit heids o the Bible. Wishart wis brunt for heresy at Saunt Aundraes bi Cardinal Beaton on 1 Mairch 1546. But on 29 Mey Norman Lesslie, son o the erle o Rothies, along wi his follaers, got ingait tae Saunt Aundraes castle, brak intae Beaton's chaumer, an stickit him tae deith. The murderers took the castle an held it agin Arran's siege until July 1547 whan a fleet o Frainch galleys kythed, seigit an took the castle. The murderers, wi thair preacher John Knox, wis sent tae the galleys. Hendrie o Ingland haed got his ally, Imperor Chairles, tae declare weir agin Scotland in 1544, but Chairles soon took the rue at the skaith Scots men o weir

did tae his shipping. In parteclar, the weir sairly fasht the fowk o the Laich Kintras that's tred lippent on guid's fae Scotland. Ower mony Scots merchants wis makkin a profit oot o takkin Dutch ships.

Hendrie VIII haed dee'd but the weir gaed on. In September 1547 the Inglis invadit unner the duik o Somerside, but an airmy unner Arran, Angus an Huntly wis defait at Pinkie Cleuch, by Inneresk, on 10 September. Huntly wis capturt an whan askit whit he thocht o the mairrage ploy, he said he haed nae liking for Ingland's 'rauch wenching'. Inglis ships capturt Brochty castle by Dundee an in Februar 1548 the burgh o Haidintoun. It wis Ingland's ettle noo tae haud Scotland doun throu capturt strengths sae Scotland wis driven intae the airms o Fraunce. King Hendrie II o Fraunce offert help, as lang as Queen Mary wis mairried on his son Frauncis insteid. Frauncis wis Hendrie's son bi Katren o Medici, born on 19 Januar 1544. Bi the Treaty o Haidintoun on 7 July 1548 Mary wis sent tae be reared up at the Frainch coort. Wi a Frainch airmy noo in Scotland, the weir turnt agin Ingland. In September 1549 thay forleit the heidquarters at Haidintoun an gree'd tae peace in 1550. The same year Imperor Chairles gree'd peace wi Scotland on behauf o the Dutch touns.

In November 1548 Queen Mary haed been sent tae bide in Fraunce. King Hendrie wis fasht that she kent nae Frainch an brocht in servants tae learn her the leid. In fact, she learnt Greek, Italiens, Latin, an Spenish, an wi her ain fowk spak Scots. Her mither, Mary o Guise, cam ower tae Fraunce in 1550 an bade a year. She wis the heidmaist advocate for the Frainch alliance an in Aprile 1554 took ower fae Arran as govrenor, efter a hantle luifs haed been creisht. Frainch policy wis weel seen. Scotland wad be tae Fraunce whit the Netherlands wis tae Spainie. Bi the mid-1550s, some Frainch haed been appyntit tae kenspeckle poseetions, Dosell, the Frainch ambassador, haed an undue say ower political maiters, while Frainch sodgers held Blackness, Dunbar an Leith. Bi 1557 Mary o Guise wis wantin taxes tae pey for sodgers an bigg new forts. Whan Hendrie o Fraunce gaed tae weir wi Spainie the same year he wantit Scotland tae mak weir on Ingland that's queen, Mary, wis mairried tae Philip o Spainie. The Scots nobles wad hae nane o it. Noo the ordnar fowk haed taen tae cawin the Frainch for awthing.

The Protestant lords, noo cryin thairsels the Lords o the Congregation, cam oot in favour o preachers that haed foondit congregations along the east coast. Whan Mary o Guise tried tae dauntin them she jist steert fowk agin Frainch an Catholic rule. On 24t Aprile 1558 Queen Mary an Frauncis wis mairried oot Noterdames Heich Kirk, Pairis. Frauncis wis 14 year auld, while Mary wis 15. In hidlins Mary signed a deal whaurby she left Scotland tae the Frainch croun, gin she dee'd athoot bairns. No lang efter, the twasome took-on the airms an teetle o Ingland on the grunds that Leezabeth o Ingland wis born oot o lawfae mairrage. In Mey o 1559 Protestant preachers in Scotland gied a deif lug whan summoned afore the cooncil. Noo heidit bi the erle o Arran an Mary's hauf brither Lord Jeems Stewart, thay gaihert an airmy an blattert wi the Frainch sodgers in Scotland. In July, efter makkin peace wi Spainie, King Hendrie o Fraunce wis ridin in the rink whan he took a skelf tae the ee an syne dee'd in commandin pain. This made Frauncis an Mary king an queen o Fraunce. In October the

Lords o the Congregation declared the demission o Mary o Guise fae office but haed tae mak a contract wi the Inglis at Berrick on 27 Februar 1560 for the aims tae uphaud the 'freedom' o the kinrik. A sma Inglis fleet lichtit on the coast an in the Mairch an Inglis army cam the length o Embra an siegit the Frainch in Leith. But whit chenged awthing wis the deith o Mary o Guise in Embra castle on the nicht o 11 Juin, fae a disease o the hert, aged 44. Laid oot in Saunt Magret's chaipel it wisna until Mairch 1561 that her bouk wis taen tae Fraunce an burried at Rheims. The Treaty o Embra, gree'd on 6 July 1560, providit that baith the Frainch an Inglis lea Scotland, that a pairlament be held, an Frauncis an Mary gie up teetle til England. The pairlament held in August cryed down the authority o the paip, brak fae Rome, made Catholic mass unlawfae, an took-on a Calvinist Confession o Faith. Unlike England, whaur the brek fae Rome wis done fae the tap down, in Scotland the brek wis made athoot the queen.

Mary wisna lang queen o Fraunce for her man Frauncis II dee'd on 5 Dezesember

1560 whan his harns took attery throu a bad lug. He wis jist 16. The Lord Jeems Stewart heidit the nobles that noo askit Mary tae come hame, sae lang as she toleratit the new releegion. This wis the kinrik Mary cam hame til in August 1561. Whan she tried tae hear mass at Halyrood it caused a sma stoushie an Lord Jeems haed tae staun at the door tae turn the steerars awa. Syne Mary gied the gallus preacher John Knox a hearin at the palace. She wisna used tae raucle langage an the tryst left her begrutten, but Mary set



oot tae maister her land. In 1562 she gied the erledom o Moray til her brither Lord Jeems, but George Gordon erle o Huntly haed its estates an income unner his admeenistration an wadna gie them up. Huntly wis lord over the heidmaist Catholic faimly, wi thousands o men in his aucht, an he thocht the queen wisna daein eneuch tae keep the faith. His son, Sir John Gordon, wis a braisent cheil that thocht he didna hae tae answer for his feuds. The queen cam north til Innerness whaur the Gordon keeper wadna lat her ben the castle until Huntly sent word. Sir John Gordon haed gaihert follaers north o Aiberdeen, bodin in fear o weir, an act that left the queen beelin. Whan she gaed til Aiberdeen Huntly

made tae mairch sooth. Lord Jeems an Weelum Maitland o Lethington led an airmy oot the toun an focht Huntly at Corrichie on 28 October. Huntly wis taen presonar but while his horse wis led forrit he took a shock an drappit deid tae the grund. Thay brocht his corp til Embra, whaur stood up in its deidkist, in the middle o the pairlament, haed sentence o forfeiture passt ower it. Queen Mary wis scunnert syne at the ugsome sicht o a fouterin heidsman takkin the heid aff Sir John Gordon.

Jeems erle o Moray wis noo the queen's ae best cooncillor an for the neist twa year helpit her airt policy, but Mary's search for a new man threitent Moray's poseetion. The coorts o Austrich, Denmark, Fraunce, Spainie an Swaiden aw pit in for her haun, but at the hinnerend she fell for Hendrie Stewart lord Dernley. The eldest son o Mattha Stewart 4t erle o the Lennox an Magret Dooglas, he haed been born 7 Dezember 1545 in Inglan. Throu his mither, Dernley haed a claim on the throne o Inglan, like Mary. The twa war mairried oot o Halyrood on 29 July 1565 but Moray led a rising agin the queen in the August an Queen Mary haed tae chase him about til Moray fled intil Inglan. Bi the back-end o 1565 tho, Mary haed fund oot ower late the nature o the cheil she haed mairried. He wis pettit, cuidna be fasht wi maiters o state, bade awa fae cooncil, an waur, for the queen's guid name, gaed drinkin an hurein at nicht in Embra. She lippent mair nor ever on men sic as Jeems Heburn erle o Bothwell, Lord Home, an her Italiens secretar Davie Riccio. The causay clash haed it that the queen wis ower freenly wi Maister Riccio, a cheil that Dernley thocht haed usurpit his place. The queen wis awa tae forfeit Moray an his pairt-takars at her neist pairlament sae thay collogued wi Dernley tae dae awa wi Riccio, pardon Moray, an gie Dernley



the croun. On the nicht o 9 Mairch 1566, while the queen wis takkin her supper in Halyrood, Dernley, along wi Paitrik lord Ruthven an the follaers o Jeems Dooglas erle o Morton, burstit in, cowpin chairs an buirds, an stickit the greetin Riccio in front o Mary an her ladies afore flingin his bluidy corp doun the stair. An the queen weel gane wi her bairn an-aw. Thir lords thocht tae hae owerance o Scotland throu Dernley but Mary threapit thay wad dae awa wi him. Sae the twa escapit fae Halyrood an the lords fled til Inglan.

The queen cam back til Embra an thare, in a sma chaumer in the castle, gied birth til a son cryed Jeems on 18 Juin 1566. She thocht tae brek the maucht o the rebel lords an gied her brither Moray a pardon. Dernley wisna muckle uiss til her an bi the

end o 1566 took cooncil fae Moray, an ithers, anent the best weys o endin her mairrage. A when o drumlie lords, Bothwell, Morton, an Moray, jaloused it wad be better tae kill Dernley, the man that haed betrayed them. On the nicht o 10

Februar 1567 Dernley's ludgings at Kirk o Field, in Embra, wis blawn up an Dernley fund deid in the gairden. Historians jalouses that Morton's men smooed Dernley while he tried tae get awa. A wheen o clavers wis noo spreid that Bothwell haed cairried oot the deed wi Mary's ken. In Aprile, whan Mary wis traivelin fae Stirlin til Embra, Bothwell kythed wi his men an took her, mony said wheecht agin her will, tae Dunbar. Mary noo stammygastert awbody bi mairryin on Bothwell, at Halyrood, on 15 Mey 1567. Mary's new man wis aged about 31, an wis the son o Paitrik the fair erle o Bothwell an Agnes Sinclair.

Mony nobles unner Moray took up airms but whan thay met at Carberry on 15 Juin 1567 Mary's army stertit tae traipse hame. Efter seein Bothwell aff the field she randert an wis brocht at the hinnerend tae the island castle o Lochleven. Here on 24 July 1567 she wis made tae demit the croun in favour o her son an Moray wis proclaimed govrenor on 22 August. Moray's hauf brither Sir Weelum Dooglas held Mary a presonar, but his brither Sir George Dooglas fell for Mary an he, an a kizzen Wullie Dooglas, helpit Mary get awa ae nicht, rowin her ower the loch tae freens an freedom. She raised men an focht Moray at Langside by Glesca on 13 Mey 1568 whaur she wis defeat, an syne fled til Ingland. Leezabeth o Ingland swithert ower whit tae dae wi her 'guest' for the neist 19 year. Mary wis at the heid o ilka Catholic plot agin the Leezabeth ane until tried an heidit on 8 Februar 1587 at Fotheringhay castle, aged 44. She wis burried in Westmaister Abbey, Lunnon. Her man Bothwell haed dee'd years afore, on 14 Aprile 1578, in the jyle o Dragsholm castle, Denmark.

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