GLENDONWYN, or Glendoning, as it has been often wrote, is probably a local surname, and was assumed by the proprietor of the territory known of old by that name, which comprehended a considerable district of Eskdale, Eufdale, Liddifdale, and west parts of Teviotdale, when surnames began first to be used in Scotland.

But, paffing over all conjectural and traditional accounts of the origin, and the imperfect history of the first generations of this family, we shall only begin where we can instruct their succession by authentic evidences, viz.

I. ADAM of Glendonwyn de eodem, a man of rank and figure in the reign of king Alexander III. This appears by an original document still preserved, viz., a charter to him from John Macgill of that ilk, of all his part of the lands and baronies of Clifton and Merbothil in the shire of Roxburgh, to be held of the king; to which sir Alexander and sir William Lindfay, Alexander de Menteith, knights, etc. are witneffes.

This charter, which we have seen, has no date, but, by the witneffes, must have been granted in the reign of king Alexander III, or before the 1286, in which year the king died.

By a daughter of sir John of Towers, he left a fon.

II. Sir ADAM of Glendoning, who succeeded him. He was in all times a firm and faithful friend of king Robert Bruce, and a confant companion of James lord Douglas, called Good fir James.

As many of his lands held of the houfe of Douglas, he obtained a discharge from Archibald lord of Galloway, brother of good fir James, of all his bygone feu-duties, anno 1313.

There is a charter from king Robert Bruce, Ade de Glendonwyne de eodem, militi, etc. of twenty thillings fterling yearly, payable to his majesty out of the caftleward duties of the caftle of Roxburgh, dated 12th April 1320.

He got alo another from the fame great king, confirming to him, pro fidelis fervitio nobis impeno, the lands of Falthope in Roxburghshire, with several other lands lying in the shire of Jedburgh, anno 1325.

He left fìue by a daughter of ——— Walchope of that ilk, four fons.

1. Sir Adam, his heir.
2. Sir Simon, who early fhewed the spirit of a hero, and often fought gallantly againft the enemies of his country. He died in the field by the fide of the brave earl of Douglas at the memorable battle of Otterburn, in the year 1388.

3. Matthew, devoted himfelf to the church, and was confecrated bishop of Glafgow, anno 1389. He was appointed commiffioner, together with the bishop of Dunkeld, to treat with the Englifh, having full power to conclude a peace, anno 1390, and again in 1404.

4. Sir John, who was one of the confervators of the peace with the Englifh, anno 1398.

Sir Adam was followed by his eldeft fon.

III. Sir ADAM, who, being general receiver of all the earl of Douglas's rents, got a discharge from William earl of Douglas, 4th September 1380, of his whole intromiffions preceding that date, the earl acknowledging himfelf L.16 : 12 : 10 in fir Adam's debt, which he had expended in the earl's affairs.

He got a charter from king Robert II. of the feu-duties of Scarborough that were payable to the caftle of Roxburgh, dated the fourteenth year of his reign, that is 1385.

He was fent with fir Henry Douglas of Lugton, envoys of the king of Scotland to king Richard of England, then in Picardy, before whom the faid king fware to the observation of a truce, at Lenlyngham 18th June 1389.

He obtained from the fame king Robert a charter of confirmation of several charters granted by James earl of Douglas, of many lands and baronies. The 1ft, Dilecto et fidelis noftri Ade de Glendonwyne, militi, omnes et fingularas terras de Eafter Fawhope, which fir John Towers had refigned in fir Adam's favour. The 2d, Domino Ade de Glendonwyne, militi, pro homaggio et fervitio nobis impenfo, omnes teras noftras de Brecallow, Etc. in vicecomitat. de Dumfries.

The 3d Alexandro de Walchope, omnes teras de Walchope, etc. etc. upon his own refignation, et heredibus masculis de corpore fui ; quibus forte deficientibus, domino Adæ de Glendonwyne, militi, et heredibus suis, etc. etc. The confirmation is dated 4th December 1389.

This fir Adam appears to have been much about the court of king Robert III. being witnefs to many of that prince's charters, particularly to a confirmation of the lands of Minto to fir William Stewart of Jedburgh, anno 1390.

There is a confirmation by Archibald earl of Douglas, of a charter, dilecti noftri domini Ade de Glendonwyne, militis, domini ejufdem, mortifying certain of his lands in the barony of Hawick, for the foundation of a chapel in the parifh of Wefterker, with a fuitable maintenance for a chaplain thereto, for the safety of the fouls of James late earl of Douglas, and fir Simon of Glendonwyn his brother-german; also for his own foul, Margaret his wife, and their children, etc. dated Glendonwyn 9th December, and confirmed the penult day of the fame month, in the year 1391.

By the faid Margaret, daughter of fir John and fifter of fir James Douglas firit lord Dalkeith (omitted in the Peerage, page 489) he had two fons.

1. Sir Simon, his heir.

Sir Adam died anno 1397, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. Sir Simon Glendoning, a man of spirit and great parts. As there had been always a firm friendship betwixt the house of Douglas and Glendoning, this Sir Simon had a share in the achievements of both the third and fourth earls, and was concerned in all the transactions of thefe great men.

He became surety to the English for keeping the peace in all the earl of Douglas's lands on the borders, together with his uncle Sir John, as before observed, anno 1398.

He got letters of safe conduct from King Henry IV. to travel through England in company with several other eminent knights, anno 1409.

In 1406, he got two other safe conducts from the said king to go to the court of England, together with Archibald and James the earl of Douglas's sons, John Stewart son of the duke of Albany, Henry earl Crawford, Sir William Graham ancestor of the duke of Montrose, etc.

In an indenture made betwixt Henry king of England and Archibald earl of Douglas, dated at London 14th March 1407, Sir Simon is a witness. And when the earl obtained leave to go to Scotland, upon his giving security to return and surrender himself prisoner again, his own two sons and Sir Simon, son and heir of Sir Adam of Glendoning, are hostages required, anno 1408. He got a charter from that earl of the lands of Wythyn, Glencrofs, Crownyarton, etc. in the shire of Roxburgh, dated at London 20th Feb. 1406.

And another of the hereditary office of bailiary of the regality of Eskdale, 26th April 1407.

He married lady Mary Douglas, daughter of Archibald fourth earl of Douglas and first duke of Turenne, by lady Margaret Stewart his wife, daughter of King Robert III. and by her had issue three sons.

1. Sir Simon, his heir.
2. John de Glendoning, who got a charter under the great seal of the lands of Kingslands, 2d March 1440. He followed the fortune of James ninth earl of Douglas, settled in England, and was progenitor of several of his name in that kingdom.
3. Bartholomew, took orders in the church. He was chaplain to the chapel of Wetherker, but was deprived of his charge for non-refidence, by Andrew Bishop of Glaafsow, anno 1459.
He died in the beginning of the reign of King James II. and was succeeded by his eldest son.

V. Sir Simon of Glendoning. Etc. He made a great figure in Scotland, and was highly esteemed by King James II. from whom he had the honour of knighthood. He commanded a brave and warlike race of men well respected on the borders. Veiled with the most extended justiciary powers within his own lands, particularly in Glendoning, and with privilege of regality in the adjacent country, of which he was hereditary bailie, and his family having made some most noble alliances by marriages; he maintained a character of authority, which made him on many honourable occasions stand in the rank of the most potent barons of the kingdom.

He was one of the guarantees of a treaty of peace with King Henry VI. of England, together with the earls of Douglas, Angus, Ros, Murray, Crawford, etc. anno 1449; and is amongst the several great lords who were guarantees of peace in the years 1451-53-57-59, etc.

He got a charter under the great seal, of a twenty pound land in the barony of Auld-Roxburgh, anno 1450.

Upon his own resignation, he obtained another from King James II. Simoni de Glendoning de eodem, militi, totas terras baronie de Partone in fenecallatu de Kirkcudbright, cum omnibus curis, furia, fofta; etc. annu cum advocacione ecclesie ejufdem, etc. dated 23d February 1458.

He was again guarantee of a treaty with the English, together with the earls of Athole, Crawford, Huntly, Argyle, Etc. Etc. anno 1464, where he is designed Sir Simon Glendoning of Parton, by which title this family have been often promiscuously designed with that of Glendoning.

He married lady Elisabeth Lindfay, daughter of Alexander earl of Crawford (omitted in the Peerage, page 157) by whom he had four sons.
1. John, his heir.
2. Alexander, who probably was progenitor of the Glendonnings of Drumrask.
3. Archibald.
4. Matthew, who got a charter under the great seal, of lands of Quhitfdale, Glenkirk, etc. anno 1398, where he is designed Sir Simon Glendoning de eodem, militi, totas terras baronie de Partone in senefcallatu de Kirkcudbright, cum omnibus curis, furia, fofta; etc. annu cum advocacione ecclesie ejufdem, etc. dated 18th March 1489.

Sir Simon was succeeded by his eldest son.

VI. John of Glendoning and Parton, who by many authentic evidents appears to have been poifefled of an immense estate, viz. the 80 pound land of old extent of Glendoning, the lands and baronies of Clifton, Scarborough, Brescaw, Walhope, Watterker, Langholm, and many others too numerous to be here inserted.

He married, 1ft, Agnes, daughter of Robert lord Maxwell, who died without issue.

He married, 2dly, Elisabeth Sinclair, daughter of William lord Sinclair (omitted in the Peerage, page 621) by whom he had issue four sons.
1. Bartholomew, defigned, in a precept after mentioned, his eldest son and apparent heir.
2. Ninian, who became his father's heir.
3. Simon,  
4. Adam, father of John of Bifhopton.  
He died in autumn 1503, and Bartholomew his eldest son before or immediately after him, without issue. This appears by a precept granted by Johannes Glendoning de eodem, dominus de Scarsburgh, for infesting of George Madyr as heir to John his grandfather, in some lands in the territory of Langholm, thire of Roxburgh, of which he was superior, proceeding upon the king's brieve directed to him for that effect, to which he appointed the same as his bailies, dated at Parton 14th July 1510.

And of date the 7th of October that year, a like precept was granted by his then eldest son, Niniano Glendonwin dominus de eodem, upon which George Gladftanes got faine of the lands of Gladftanes lying in the same territory and thire of Roxburgh.

VII. This NINIAN de Glendoning of that ilk, obtained a confirmation under the great seal, Niniano Glendonwyn, filio et heredi Johannis Glendonwyn de Parten, etc. of the lands and barony of Scarsburgh in Roxburghshire, dated 6th September 1510.

There are three faines, honorabili viro Niniano Glendonynx domino de Partone, filio et heredi quondam honorabilibis viri Johannes Glendonwin de eodem, of the eftate of Glendoning and others his lands in Roxburghshire, proceeding upon precepts forth of chancery, dated 12th May, 29th Oct. 12th Nov. 1513.

He afterwards obtained several charters under the great seal, Niniano Glendwin de eodem, et Janeta Dunbar ejus spoufe, confirming the lands of Clifton, Parton, etc. etc. in the thire of Roxburgh and fewayrty of Kirkcudbright, intra annos 1528 et 1537.

By the said Janet, daughter of fir John Dunbar of Mochrum, he left issue a fon and fuccedtor.

VIII. JOHN, who, upon his father's refignation, got charter under the great seal, Johanni Glendoning, filio et apparenti heredi Niniani Glendonwyn de eodem, et Ifabella Gordon ejus spoufæ, of a number of lands in Dumfries-fhire and in the fewayrty of Kirkcudbright, dated 3rd December 1531.

By the said Ifabel, daughter of fir Robert Gordon of Lochinya, anecelor of viccount Kenmair (omitted in the Peerage, page 369) he left issue three fons.

1. Alexander, his heir.
2. William of Garquhinye, of whom the Glendonings of Mochrum in dominio de Parton, were defenced.
3. Simon, who is witenes to feveral deeds of his brother Alexander, and was father of George of Laggan.

He died about the year 1560, and was succeeded by his eldest fon,

IX. ALEXANDER GLENDONING of that ilk and Parton, who got faine of the lands of Templefiel, Caftlery, Alynton, and many others in Liddifdale, which belonged to Ninian Glendonwyn of that ilk his grandfather, by virtue of a precept of clare confiat from James earl of Bothwell, dated 16th April 1562.

He was retoured heir to his father in 1572, and to his grandfather in the lands of Glendoning, etc. etc. 20th April 1585.

He married, 1ft, Alifon, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Troquhane, and got a charter under the great feal, to him and his faid fpoufe, of the lands of Glengunyoch, etc. dated 3d December 1564. By her he had a fon, John, who died before his father, without issue.

He married, 2dly, Nicolas, daughter of Robert Harries of Mabie, fon of Andrew third lord Harries, who became heir male of that noble family. By her he had three fons.

1. Robert, his heir.
2. Simon. 3. William ; both died young.

He was fucceeded by his only surviving fon,

X. ROBERT, who was retoured heir to his brother John, and got a charter under the great feal, Roberto Glendoning, unico filio legitimo Alexandri Glendoning de Parton, totas et integras terras et baroniam de Parton. Infuper nos, pro fidelis prompti et gratuito servitio nobis per dictum Alexandrum impenfo, de novo damus, et de novo unimus, tenendas cum curiis, fueria, foffa, etc. etc. castris, advocatione, etc. ut libera baronia in perpetuum, cum curiis, fueria, foffa, etc. etc. 26th July 1595.

He married dame Margaret Maxwell, daughter of William lord Harries, anecelor of the earl of Nithfdale, by Katherine Ker his wife, daughter of Mark lord of Newbottle, anecelor of the marquis of Lothian. (This lord Harries is omitted in Peerage, page 339 and 520, and only mentioned page 420 in the history of the family of Lothian.) This appears in particular by their contract, whereby John lord Harries, her brother-german, became bound to pay 9000 merks in name of his fifter's thocol ; and Alexander Glendoning of that ilk obliges himfelf to infet and feafe his fon and her heretably, in fo much of his eftate of Eskdale, viz. the lands of Curcleugh, etc. Megdail, Parkdail, etc. Wafterker, Daldaren, etc. 1st October 1565.

He married dame Margaret Maxwell, daughter of William lord Harries, anecelor of the earl of Nithfdale, by Katherine Ker his wife, daughter of Mark lord of Newbottle, anecelor of the marquis of Lothian. (This lord Harries is omitted in Peerage, page 339 and 520, and only mentioned page 420 in the history of the family of Lothian.) This appears in particular by their contract, whereby John lord Harries, her brother-german, became bound to pay 9000 merks in name of his fifter's thocol ; and Alexander Glendoning of that ilk obliges himfelf to infet and feafe his fon and her heretably, in so much of his eftate of Eskdale, viz. the lands of Curcleugh, etc. Megdail, Parkdail, etc. Wafterker, Daldaren, etc. 1st October 1565.

By his faid wife he had a fon,
XI. JOHN, who suceeded and got a charter under the great seal, confirming a charter of Robert Glendoning for of Parton, to John Glendoning his eldeft fon and apparent heir, of the lands and barony of Parton, extending to a L. 40 land of old extent. The confirmation is dated 11th December 1630.

He joined Montrofe on his firft setting up the king's ftandard at Dumfries in spring 1644, for which he was on the 27th May that year denounced a traitor in open rebellion againft God, and a profefl enemy to holy religion; in confequence, was outlawed and forfeited, and all his goods and gear fold by Robert Gordon commiffary of Dumfries, the 29th of October thereafter, part whereof was bought back by friends for behoof of his wife and children. He adhered with inviolable fidelity to the royal family during all their troubles, and was at laft forced to take refuge in foreign parts, where he remained till the reftoration.

He married lady Ifabel Seton, daughter of George fecond earl of Winton, and fifter of Alexander vifcount Kingfton, (omitted in the Peerage, page 707,) as appears by the affectionate letters of that loyal lord to him, and particularly by a precept from John Glendoning his eldeft fon and apparent heir, of that ilk, for infefting the faid lady Ifabel particularly by other original documents, as appears by the confirmation is dated 11th December 1630.

By his faid lady he had four fons.
1. George, who married Elifabeth, only child of William Glendoning of Gilfon; but died before his father without iffue.
2. James, succeded his father; but died foon after him without iffue.
3. William, furvived his brother; but died in a fhort time thereafter, alfo unmarried.

XII. 4. ROBERT, who succeded them, and carried on the line of the family.

He got a charter under the great seal, of the lands and barony of Parton, etc. dated 2d of March 1698.

He married Agnes Harries, a daughter of the family of Mabie, by whom he had three fons and two daughters.
1ft daughter, Ifabel, alfo died unmarried.
2. Agnes, who became her father's heir.
He was a man of great integrity, honour and benevolence, living a life of retirement mostly at Parton; and dying anno 1720, was succeded by his only surviving child,

XIII. AGNES de Glendoning, who was married to James Murray of Conheath, Efq; who, in confequence of the family fettlements, affumed the firname and arms of Glendoning.

This James was fon of Gilbert Murray of Ur and Conheath, by Elifabeth his wife, eldeft daughter and heirefs of Alexander Maxwell of Conheath; which Gilbert was fon of John Murray of Ur, fon of another John, fon and heir of Cuthbert Murray of Howelfet, fecond fon of Cuthbert; and brother of sir Charles Murray of Cockpool, progenitor of the Murrays earls of Annadale, (which Cuthbert of Howelfet, is omitted in the Peerage, page 23).

By the faid Agnes, he had iffue one fon,
Robert, ----and two daughters.
1. Henrietta. --- 2. Elifabeth; who both died unmarried.

XIV. ROBERT GLENDONWYN or Glendoning, of that ilk and Parton, grandfon of the faid Robert, succeded his father and mother, and married Mary, only daughter and heirefs of Robert Neilfon of Barnealzie, by Catherine Maxwell his wife. Daughter of Alexander Maxwell of Terrapeutic, apparent heir-male of the family of Nithdale.

By her he had five fons and four daughters.
5. Charles.

1ft daughter, Agnes.
He died in November 1766, and is succeded by his eldeft surviving fon,

XV. WILLIAM GLENDONING of Glendoning.

ARMS

Quarterly; argent and fable, a crofs parted per frous indented, and countercharged of the fame.

CREST; the fleeve of a coat or, upon the point of a fword.

SUPPORTERS; on the dexter fide, a knight in armour, holding in his right hand a lance erect; on the finifter, an angel, touching with one foot the ground, flewing in his hand a twig of laurel.

MOTTO; Have faith in Chrift.

CHIEF SEAT

At Parton in the fiewartry of Kirkcudbright.