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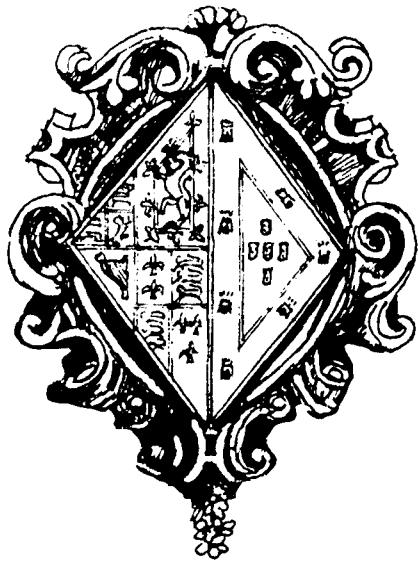
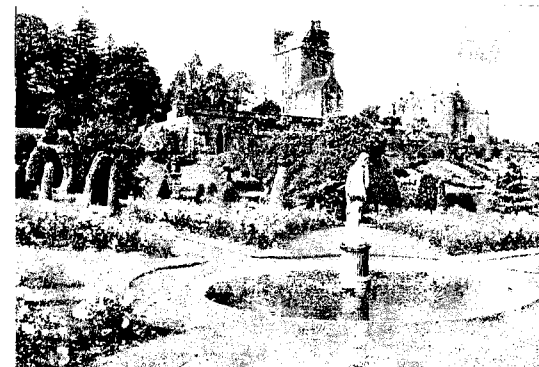
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## THE DRUMMONDS IN PORTUGAL AND BRAZIL

by Augusto de Athatyde

By the first years of the XVth Century, a second son of the most illustrious House of Drummond impelled by his spirit of adventure, left his homeland. He is said to have participated in the "Hundred Years War", on the side of Joan of Arc and Charles VIII of France. Subsequently, he may have been in the service of John I, King of Castille, and afterwards, having moved to Portugal, he can be found, between 1418 and 1430, among the first who colonised the Island of Madeira, immediately after its discovery.

Settling in Santa Cruz, near Ribeira da Boa Ventura, he built Saint Peter's Chapel, which was destroyed by a landslide in 1724, and was very quickly known as "João Escórcio" or "Escórcio", these ancient Portuguese words meaning that he was a 'Scot' or 'from Scotland'. Possibly, he, but certainly his nearest descendants, were also known as "da Casta Grande", ("of the great lineage" or of the "high caste"), an obvious reference to their remarkable Drummond origin.



Historians and genealogists have been unable to trace the origin and the ancestors of many of those who colonised the Portuguese Atlantic islands of Madeira and the Azores. This is clearly not John "Escócio" or "Escórcio" Drummond's case. On the contrary, few founding settlers have their origins so clearly and soundly proved. Some say that only (one wonders why?) in the last moments of his life did he reveal his true identity: his name was John Drummond, son of Sir John Drummond, (13<sup>th</sup> Thane of Lennox, Earl of Stobhall and Cargill, etc., etc.), who was an in-law, by Queen Annabel, of Robert III of Scotland. His elder brother was Sir Walter Drummond of Stobhall.

Years passed, and, in Madeira, the descendants of John "Escórcio" Drummond grew in number and importance.

During the minority of King James V, a letter was sent to Scotland, concerning men, women and children, all not inferior in number to 200, who said they were his descendants. It was signed by Manuel Afonso Ferreira or Ferreira Drummond, and other Drummonds. Dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1519, it was addressed to David, Lord Drummond (still a minor at that time) through a Thomas Drummond, who, during his voyages, had met Manuel Afonso and his brothers in Porto Santo.

Lord Drummond, wishing to render to his Portuguese cousins exact information as regards the origin of the family, requested and received from the Scottish Council of State a document (which appears to be of 1525 and has been published in various books) sealed with the Arms of the Kingdom and signed by thirteen dignitaries. It was a genealogical summary of the House from the Hungarian Admiral Mauritius, said to descend from the Kings of Hungary and, namely, from Attila, the infamous Hun chief. According to that source Mauritius joined firstly, in England, one of the pretenders to the throne, Prince Edgard-Aetheling (the son of

a Hungarian Princess) who, defeated by William the Conqueror, retired to Scotland with two sisters, Princesses Margaret and Christine.

They travelled by sea under the command of the Hungarian seaman, who is said to have miraculously saved the ship. In Scotland the party was extremely well received by King Malcolm III, who married Margaret, later canonised as St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland.

Mauritius received extensive rewards, namely the Lordship of Drummond.

This letter containing this precious information for the Drummonds of Madeira, was brought, apparently, by the same Thomas Drummond and was delivered to Manuel Afonso and his brothers, who decided to send one of their kin immediately to Portugal, in order to request from the King of Portugal the privileges and honours to which they deemed to be entitled to. They chose as envoy Diogo Pires Drummond who, it is believed, acted efficiently.

King John III of Portugal bestowed the first Coat of Arms of the Portuguese Drummond in Évora on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1536, to Manuel Afonso Ferreira Drummond, the difference being a blue escutcheon with a D in silver. On the basis of "public and authentic documents stamped with the seals of the High Court of Chancery of the King of Scotland and of the other Lords of the Kingdom (...)", as can be read in the Patents Letters granting the Coat of Arms.

The second Portuguese Drummond's Coat of Arms was granted to the aforementioned Diogo Pires Drummond (19<sup>th</sup> March, 1538).

The contacts between Scotland and the Portuguese Drummonds seem to have been interrupted until the year of 1604 when Martim Mendes de Vasconcelos of Porto Santo, descendant of both Diogo Pires and Manuel Afonso, managed to obtain a certificate of these old papers, which were in the hands of a Notary.

Martim Mendes learned that the Earl of Perth - at that time Chief of the House of Drummond - had been in Madrid for the signature of a Peace Treaty between England and Spain. As he was well known to the English sovereign, he wrote to him (in Latin) requesting him to obtain letters of recommendation from the King. The Drummond cousin showed his interest in the case and the petitioner got what he wanted, as shown in a letter (of 1613) from the King of England (James I), to the King of Spain and Portugal (Felipe III) recommending Martim Mendes with great solicitude. (Henrique Henriques de Noronha notes in his quoted peerage book). In another Latin letter (16<sup>th</sup> May, 1634), Martim Mendes expresses his gratitude to the Earl.

In the extremely important publication, for the History of Madeira, '*Historical Archive of Madeira*', directed by João Cabral do Nascimento these letters and other relevant documents for the history of the Drummonds in Portugal have been published (Vol. III), translated from '*The Genealogy of the Most Noble and Ancient House of Drummond*' Edinburgh, 1831. According to Luiz Peter Clode, (of English descent), one of the main Madeira genealogists, quoting (in his book '*Registo Genealógico das Famílias que passaram à Madeira 1152*'), '*The Scottish Nation*, by William Andersen 1871, Vol. IV, the letters have also been published in the XVII Century in '*The Genealogy of the House of Drummond*' by the Viscount Strathallan.

By 1870, the direct male line of the descendants of Sir Walter Drummond, the fourteenth chief of the family and João Escórcio's brother, ended in Scotland. The Portuguese Drummonds tried to assert their rights of succession, but without success, either due to the lack of legal evidence or because the British candidates had better claims (one should not forget that João Escórcio was the youngest of his brothers).

Innumerable descendants from the Drummonds exist today in Portugal.

In Madeira several male lines remain descended from the first Drummond, and a very large number of families descend from him through female lines. Among these are, for instance, the illustrious Herédias, (now in continental Portugal), direct ancestors (among others) of Dom Jorge de Herédia, father of Dona Isabel, present Duchess of Bragança. Thus, the Heir-Apparent to the Portuguese Royal House, Dom Afonso, Prince of Beira, descends too from the remotest origins of the Drummonds. Also in continental Portugal a descendant of João 'Escórcio' married the head of the Ludovice family, (a German family with Portuguese nobility since the XVII Century). They now use the name of Drummond-Ludovice.

Many descendants of João Escórcio Drummond, (always through female lines) went to the Azores, where they gave origin to various and numerous families.

João Escórcio Drummond's 7<sup>th</sup> grandson, João de Freitas da Silva Esmeraldo, married D. Rosa Margarida Isabel de Canto Cymbron Borges in Ponta Delgada, at the end of the XVIII Century. They had a very large number of descendants.

To give another example, João Gonçalves Ferreira "of the High Caste", arrived in S. Miguel by 1521, and left also

descendants who married into the principal families of the Island.

The Drummonds went from Madeira to Terceira with Francisco Ferreira Drummond, appointed officer of the Crown in Praia da Vitória on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 1634, who distinguished himself during the expulsion of the Spanish occupants after the Portuguese revolution of independence in 1640. His descendants are, also, extremely numerous.

From the Portuguese islands of the Atlantic, especially from Madeira, several of João Escórcio's descendants went to Brazil as well. In their monumental work '*Dictionary of Brazilian Families*', S. Paulo, 2000, CE. Almeida Barata and António Henrique Cunha Bueno give us the following information: Francisco Carvalho Drummond, the son of João Escórcio's daughter, Beatriz Escórcio, went to Minas Gerais giving origin to the Carvalho Drummond family, of whom descended one of the greatest writers of the Portuguese language of the XX Century, Carlos Drummond d'Andrade, (deceased not many years ago). In Rio de Janeiro several families descend from another daughter, Isabel Anes Escórcio: Drummond Menezes Vasconcelos, Mendonya Drummond and Drummond Furtado de Mendonya. In this last family a Baron of Drummond was created (1888) one year before the end of the Brazilian monarchy. The Drummonds of São Paulo and of Bahia descend from Catarina Anes Escórcio, a sister to the former ones: the family reached São Paulo through Manuel Luz Escórcio Drummond, who was a Notary in São Vicente in 1581. Still according to Cunha Bueno, António José da Rocha Souza Drummond, of the Bahia branch, was granted a Coat of Arms on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 1784, in which a quarter bears the arms of the Drummonds. Another Drummond, (António João de Freitas de Carvalho Drummond) had, as well, a Coat of Arms, but without including the Drummond arms.

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