



Born: 1517 Kilmarnock, Scotland
Married: Margaret Colquhoun
Died: 2 Jan 1589 Alnwick, England
Parents: Robert Boyd & Helen Sommerville

Robert, 5th Lord Boyd, was born in 1517, and married Margarat (or Mariot), daughter and heir of Sir John Colquhoun of Glins. He had charters of the Lordship of Kilmarnock, etc... , September 6, 1545, on the resignation of his father, and of Balindoran in Sterlingshire, February 18, 1516-7.

He assisted the Regent Arran in suppressing Lennox's rebellion in 1544. Warred against the Queen-Regent with the Lords of Congregation in 1559. In 1560, he signed the treaty of Berwick, joining the English at Prestonpans. There is record of his subscription to the "Book of Discipline of the Kirk" in 1561. According to some accounts, he was privy to the murder of Henry Stewart, Lord Darnley, husband of Queen Mary, on February 10, 1567. He was a member of the jury acquitting the Earl of Bothwell of the deed in the same year. Later, he joined a band of Nobles to protect the young Prince from supposed designs, and then took Bothwell's part again. He was made a member of the Privy Council in 1567. He was one of the Queen's commissioners at York and Westminster where he entered into an association to support Queen Mary at Hamilton on May 8, 1568. At the Battle of Langslide on May 13, 1568, he was made one of the Nobles to form round the Queen's person after her defeat.

For espousing the Queen's cause, he was compelled to leave the country with his two sons. They were in the conflict, too, but evidently returned after a short time. Because, he was made a member of her council again in 1569, being employed by her on various missions. One of them being to obtain her divorce from Bothwell.

Lord Boyd was suspected of complicity in the murder of Murry in 1570, and joined the party of Lennox in 1571. He was made Privy Counciller and received a remission dated September 8, 1571, under The Great Seal to Robert, Lord Boyd. Thomas, Master of Boyd, and Robert Boyd of Badenheath, and his sons, received remission for fighting against the King at Langside. He had charters of the office of Bailiary and Justiciary of the Regality of Glasgow, dated January 2, 1573 or 74, and of Giffartland, dated September 14, 1577. He was appointed extraordinary Lord of Sessions on October 24, 1573, which he held until May 8, 1578. He was reappointed on October 25, 1578 and sat until December 10, 1583.

Then, for the third time, was appointed on June 21, 1586. He resigned his seat on July 4, 1588. He was one of the commissioners for negotiating an alliance with England in 1578, and again in 1586.

He took part, with the Earls of Mar, Glencairn, and others, in the Raid of Ruthven at Ruthven Castle on August 23, 1582. It was here the King was seized in order to curb some of their actions. Lord Boyd was banished, but soon returned to become Warden of the Marches in 1578. Then in 1589, he was a commissioner to enforce the statutes against the Jesuits. He died on January 3, 1589.

An epitaph may still be found on a stone in the interior of the Low Church in Kilmarnock. It had been a part of the old church, and was preserved by being put in the wall of the present building when it was erected in 1802. It reads:

1589

Heir lyis godlie Noble wyis Lord Boyd
 Quha Kirk and King Commin weil decoir'd
 Quhilke war (quhill they yis jowell all injoyed)
 Defendit, counsailed, governd, be that lord
 His ancient hous (oft parreld) he restoired
 Twyis sax and saxtie zeirs he lived and syne
 By death (ye third of Januare) devoird
 In anno thrys fyve hundreth auchtye nyne.

Lord Boyd granted a charter of the lands of Law to his wife in life-rent, February 10, 1548-9. He had a charter of the lands of Bedlay, Molnays, etc... , February 10, 1582-3. His wife died in February 1601. They had seven children: The first Robert, Master of Boyd, who had a charter of the land of Auchintuerlie, in Dunbartonshire, October 14, 1550. He died, without issue, soon after; The second son was Thomas, 5th Lord Boyd (23); The third was William Boyd of Badenheath, (miss named Robert in "Peerage") who was tutor to his nephew, Hugh, 5th Earl of Eglinton, and died in July, 1611. Robert, 6th Lord Boyd (25), was served heir of him March 20, 1617. Four daughters were: Egidia (Giles), who married Hugh, 4th Earl of Eglinton; Agnes, who married Sir John Colquhoun of Luss; Christian, who married Sir James Hamilton of Evandale; and Elizabeth, who married John Cunninghame of Drumquhassell.