

SECONDARY SCHOOLS' UNITED NATIONS
SYMPOSIUM 2016

Scottish War of Independence: Scotland

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Scottish War of Independence: Scotland

Crisis Letter

Famed and Illustrious Delegates!

Bienvenue and welcome to the JCC: First Scottish War of Independence committee of SSUNS 2016! My name is Yakau Feldman and I will be your Crisis Director in your incredible journey through the treachery, drama, and warfare of the British Isles at the turn of the 13th Century. A Model U.N. crisis junkie since sophomore year of high school and now head of McGill's very own team, I promise to bring all my knowledge and experience to the table to provide for you the most immersive simulation you have seen to date. As I finish my Finance major this year and prepare to depart into the real world, I plan to finish off my SSUNS career with a feat William Wallace would be proud of!

I will not be alone on this quest, besides from your wonderful dais I will be aided by Austin Northey and Shiraz Zia, my two Assistant Crisis Directors. Austin is one of the most conniving and menacing staffers in all of SSUNS. Best known for the infamous Oil Scandal of SSUNS 2014, Austin will be sure to keep you on the edge of your seats! Shiraz is another charming personality that goes "zero to a hundred – real quick". Previously known for his many acting roles (with a preference to Billionaires), Shiraz is stepping up to the plate of this JCC with a commitment to treason, espionage, and a particularity for hangings.

Supporting our entire venture will be a crew of the finest crises staffers SSUNS has ever seen! Last year we were able to keep all note replies to less than five minutes, and this year the bar has been set even higher. Providing you fluidity, data, and constant updates our crisis team can't wait to spend the weekend challenging you at every step of your British exploits!



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Kind Regards,

Yakau Feldman

Crisis Director

Scottish War of Independence – Joint

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It's all for nothing if you don't have freedom. – William Wallace



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Chair Letter

Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to SSUNS 2016 and to this simulation of the First Scottish War of Independence. My name is Orla Mahon and I am thrilled to be serving as your Chair for the duration of the committee. Whether this will be your first conference or you have many under your belt, I hope each and every one of you thoroughly enjoys your experience in the Scottish side of this Joint Crisis at SSUNS 2016. For the time being however, we will leave Montreal and 2016 behind us and move to the year of our Lord 1286, in feudal Scotland. The death of Alexander III, King of the Scots, and his lack of an apparent heir has resulted a succession crisis that is leaving the small Northern nation vulnerable to its Southern neighbour, England. Over the course of the weekend, you will be participating in debate and decision-making with other Scottish Lords and Ladies as you decide how to proceed on this issue, and many others that may arise.

Your Vice-Chair is Louis Angus Olivé, who had a very international upbringing. Born in Switzerland, but raised in the Philippines and then Vietnam, this Frenchman is a third year Political Science major at McGill. He has done ParisMUN as a delegate and has been a vice-chair at both SSUNS and McMUN, as well as a staffer for McGill's MonWHO conferences. Louis is also a member of McGill's MUN team, competing on the East Coast college circuit last year. After travelling the world, he aspires to later work in French Politics.

As for myself, born in the Netherlands and of Irish origin, I am a proud Montrealer and a third year Computer Science and Biology Major at McGill University. Having first encountered MUN in high school, I was fortunate to be able to continue my involvement at CEGEP and now at University.



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This will be my third SSUNS, having taken part first as a crisis staffer and then as a vice-chair, and I am also involved in our sister conference, McMUN, as Deputy Director of Public Relations. I have always been fascinated by old-time tales of kings, knights and conquests, and I am very excited to see what each of you brings to our own little piece of History.

We will be offering several awards at the end of the committee sessions, three gavel awards, one book award and an honourable mention. For more details on these, please consult the *Awards* page on the ssuns.org website or contact the Chargée D'affaires, Wendy Zhang, at schools@ssuns.org. Please be advised that in order to be eligible for an award, you **must** submit a position paper by the deadline. There will be absolutely no exceptions to this. That being said, I wish all of you the best of times at SSUNS 2016 and look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Orla Mahon

Chair, Scottish War of Independence – Scotland

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Rules of Procedure

In general, delegates can expect the JCC: First Scottish War of Independence to function similarly to other crisis committees. That being said, below is a general list of rules specific to this JCC in order to best accommodate its unique structure. They are subject to change pending the chairs discretion for the betterment of the committee experience.

- The committee will not have a speakers list and default to a Moderated Caucus of one-minute speaking time in perpetuity unless another motion is made.
- The number of signatories required for a directive is either five or 1/3 of the committee (whichever is less) including the writer of the directive themselves.
- A group directive requires a majority of the committee to pass.
- An abstention is subtracted from the vote count to reset the majority.
- A delegate can be censored:
 - This requires a 2/3 majority vote;
 - A censored delegate retains the ability to speak, submit directives (although their signature is voided) and send crisis notes (although they can expect their authority to decrease and some, but not all, notes to be confiscated) but they cannot vote;
 - The censoring of a delegate puts the character's portfolio at the discretion of the committee (i.e. if the censored delegate was the Royal Treasurer the committee as a whole will be responsible for the Treasury). However, action against that person's portfolio's interests may lead to insubordination and the movement of that Character into the other committee;



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- The censoring period will last no longer than 30 minutes. The chair, at their discretion, can lift the censoring early and/or the committee can return full rights to the delegate with a 2/3 vote.
- Communication and movement between the two committees is allowed, but is an extremely difficult endeavour,
 - Committee Communiques have a much higher chance of success than singular crisis notes;
 - Defecting, pending extraordinary circumstances, will be allowed – but not encouraged. Delegates will be continuously urged to stay true to their characters.
- Specific to the Scottish Side (since the Scottish committee lacks any individual with absolute power and has a structure more similar to that of a summit than to a cabinet, thus certain sovereignty is retained by characters):
 - If a directive calls for action from the subjects of a specific character (i.e. moving the troops of a certain clan or providing food from a specific clan), that directive requires the vote of the concerned individual, otherwise the clauses concerning that character will be considered null and void;
 - However, if the committee does reorganize, it can transfer and redistribute portfolios in order to accommodate the new structure (i.e. six clans can unite and reorganize into a military representative, treasury, religion, etc).



General History of Scotland

Creation of Scotland

There existed in Scotland - at the time of these events - four distinct races, roughly equal in numbers: the Picts, the Scottish Gaels, the Anglicans, and the Scandinavians¹. This section will give a brief overview of how each of these populations came to inhabit Scotland and the various effects they had on the country as a whole. It will also examine the close relationships and intermarriages between the royal houses of Scotland and England, as well as the issue of land ownership in Scotland, where many of the ancestral lands of native chiefs had at this time passed into the confusing ownership of Barons loyal to both the English and Scottish thrones.

The first recorded history of Scotland dates back to the arrival of the Romans circa 124 AD². While their Empire soon stretched across most of what is now known as Europe, they were never truly able to gain control of ancient Caledonia and its Pict and Caledonian inhabitants³. The Romans eventually left Britain, leaving these early inhabitants and the previously occupied Gaels and Britons to themselves. Circa 600 or 700 AD⁴, the Gaelic Kingdom of Dal Riata was formed in the area now on the border of Scotland and England, probably by Scoti Gaelic raiders, and with their arrival, Celtic Christianity was first introduced to previously pagan occupants of the Island⁵. By the year 800⁶, the

¹ Education Scotland. Scotland's History. 15 May 2016 <educationscotland.gov.uk>.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.



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Vikings of what is now Norway and Denmark were at their sea-worthy best and began crossing the North Sea to first pillage and then settle in Scotland, where they eventually merged into the general population.

Around this time, the Pict Kenneth McAlpin became the first king of a united Scotland, which came to be known locally as the **Kingdom of Alba**, and subsequently the first of the House of Alpin Royal line⁷. In the early 11th century⁸, King Duncan I, son of a daughter of a King of House McAlpin, began a new line of kings: House of Dunkeld (Canmore), of which the most famous is his successor, Macbeth, the Red King, forever immortalized by the works of Shakespeare. In the following centuries, Alba was on relatively good terms with its southern neighbour⁹, but their relationship would slowly change of the course of the years. The last of the line of Dunkeld kings, Alexander III has just recently passed (1286) and his death and lack of an apparent heir has caused a crisis of succession which this very committee has met to discuss.

English dominance over Scotland

William the Conqueror's invasion of Scotland circa 1066 and the King of Alba's, Mael Coluim's (Malcolm Canmore) submission to him in exchange for peace first opened the door for claims of suzerainty made by later English Kings¹⁰. It is around this time that the land north of England ceased to be referred to as Alba and became thereafter known as Scotland. However, in an arrangement promptly and very conveniently forgotten by all future English monarchs, Richard I

⁷ Education Scotland.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Herbert, Sir Maxwell. Robert the Bruce and the struggle for Scottish independence. New York and London: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1897.

¹⁰ Ibid.



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Lionheart, King of England from 1189-1199, looking to both show himself as worthy of taking the cross and finance the 3rd Crusade, offered to free his counterpart William I the Lion, King of Scotland, from his oath of subservience to the English crown in return for a large payment¹¹. This ‘fine’ was promptly paid¹² and for the remainder of the Lionheart’s reign, the Scots were left at peace, but future rulers refused to take this into account and each in turn claimed suzerainty over the Kingdom of Alba. Not only through these repeated oaths of subservience, but also through trade and proximity, English culture began to have a profound impact on both the Scottish court and the general lifestyle of the country. Feudalism was introduced around 1100 AD under King David I in what became known as the Davidian Revolution¹³ and under both Alexander II and III more and more Scottish land became dedicated to agriculture.

King Alexander the 3rd of Scotland

Alexander the 3rd became King of Scotland at the age of 7 following the death of his father, Alexander II¹⁴. Shortly after, he was married to the daughter of Henry II of England, who would try and use his position as father-in-law to manipulate the young ruler into submission, without success¹⁵. Alexander II cultivated Scotland’s relationships with stronger national powers, including pursuing

¹¹ Burton, John Hill. The History of Scotland. Vol. 2. Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood and Sons, 1876. 8 vols.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Education Scotland.

¹⁴ Brown, Michael. The wars of Scotland, 1214-1371. Vol. 4. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2004.

¹⁵ Ibid.



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lasting peace with England¹⁶, while simultaneously expanding and strengthening his authority in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, shaping the kingdom into a more geographical likeness of today's boundaries¹⁷. He also managed to set aside divisions between Highlanders, Normans and Picts who all shared the Scottish land, sowing the seeds of nationalism and patriotism for the first time in the history of the nation¹⁸. His death would cement this growing sentiment of common nationality between the races of the North.

King Edward the 1st of England

Having already led the charge against a rebellion of the English Barons during his father, Henry III's, reign and having participated actively in the 9th Crusade, it will come as no surprise that the fledgling monarch Edward the 1st dealt with domestic insecurity shortly after his ascension both swiftly and brutally¹⁹. The Welsh rebellion of 1276 was quashed within a year and a second rebellion less the 5 years later was met with a full-scale war of conquest²⁰. This was followed by the establishment of English castles and nobles in the Welsh lands, and it is safe to say that Wales did not see any more signs of rebellion for quite some time. With the death of Alexander the 3rd and the subsequent uncertain succession to the Scottish throne²¹, Edward I has been called upon to arbitrate the selection of the next King of a country he claims federal suzerainty over, which leads us to the

¹⁶ Education Scotland.

¹⁷ Herbert.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Burton.



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present day situation. Will this neighbouring King lend a fair and honest voice to the discussion? Or will he take this chance to appoint a King he can manipulate easily? Only time will tell.

Domestic history of Scotland

The people who lived in Scotland at the time of the Romans (100 AD) were the Picts. In 500 AD, the Scots came from Ireland and established their settlements with Dunadd as the capital. By the middle of the 9th century, Scots only represented 10% of the population, a figure which would increase through marriage and battles.²² Picts did not disappear as they assimilated into Scottish and Norsemen society. It was not until the 9th century that Kenneth MacAlpin became first king of a united Scotland, the Kingdom of Alba. However, historians widely agree that the transition from the Pictish Kingdom to the Kingdom of Alba was completed during the 43 year reign of Constantin II, the grandson of Kenneth MacAlpin²³. The Kingdom of Alba is said to run from 900, the death of Constantin II, to 1286, the death of Alexander III. The main element of domestic strife during the Kingdom of Alba was the Viking invasions²⁴. Constantin II would set the first path towards domestic stability when he married his daughter to the Viking king of Dublin. It is Alexander the III who would bring forward a strong and stable Kingdom of Alba.

International Relations of Scotland

Scotland was quickly confronted with the problem of Viking invasions. As early as the 8th century, Vikings from Norway came to Scotland to carry out raids on wealthy monasteries and bring

²² Brown.

²³ "Scotland's History." - Explore 5000 Years of Scottish History. N.p., n.d. Web. 14 Sept. 2016.

²⁴ Simpson, Eric. Vikings in Scotland. N.p.: Chambers, n.d. Print. Pg 245



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back the treasures²⁵. These monasteries, mainly on the islands closest to Norway, were easy, unguarded targets. Initially, these Norsemen only explored and settled the islands of Orkney and Shetland, where the people were culturally similar to them. Many Scottish islands, such as the Western Isles or the Isle of Skye, became inhabited by settlers from Norway. However, Orkney would be the base for the Norsemen whom would later discover the inner parts of Scotland. In the Western Isles, Norwegian and Gaelic were the common languages. This Scandinavian heritage can still be seen today in Aberdeen, for example, where the advanced ship building industry is a heritage from the Viking settlers.²⁶

Alexander III, who reigned from 1249 to 1286, left a prosperous Scotland where agriculture, trade, monasteries, abbeys and the economy grew. He also established peace with England. Alexander III solved the Scandinavian problem through intermarriage, which would integrate the foreign settlers into society. Furthermore, following the Battle of Largs in 1266, the treaty of Perth was signed by the Norwegian King Magnus VI who surrendered all territory held in Scotland except the Orkney and Shetland islands, which were the core of Scandinavian Scotland. The death of Alexander III would upturn this stability and allow Edward I to take advantage of the situation.²⁷

Goal of the Scottish Movement

The goals of the Scottish side of this committee will be threefold; the first and most pressing issue is to discuss and agree on the selection process of the royal succession to the Scottish throne.

²⁵ Simpson, 323.

²⁶ Oliver, Neil. A History of Scotland. London: Phoenix, 2010. Print. Pg 134

²⁷ Ibid, 175.



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The death of Margaret, Maid of Norway and heir of King Alexander III of Scotland has left 14 contenders - many of them English Barons - vying for the throne, from whom this committee will need to appoint a successor. The second order of business will be to secure independence from the British crown. King Edward I of England has made a demand that the Scots acknowledge his suzerainty in return for his advising on the aforementioned selection process. You must decide whether this royal advice is worth the price it demands, or whether it is better to do without. The final matter of importance is that of peaceful co-existence with England. For the last 200 years or so, Scotland has existed in a state of cautious peace with England, though often with the payment of swearing fealty or declaring suzerainty of the land to the English King. While some Scottish Barons are keen to declare their country's independence from the Southern power, this may not be the view of every Scotsman, many of whom want to avoid drawn out warfare.



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Character List

Warning: It is quite possible Wikipedia and other more reputable sources say that your character is dead or not yet born when the committee begins. Please pay no attention to these dates. For the sake of having the most interesting characters present at the table, we have decided to play God to an extent, as any crisis committee is wont to do. In addition, some last names may have different spellings depending on your source so pay close attention! (ex: de Brus Vs Bruce, Ros Vs Ross) Please feel free to use the information below, as well as your research and imagination, to put together your character, and don't hesitate to contact the chair or crisis director if you have any further questions. Last but not least, **Numbers are important!** Please make sure you are researching the correct historical figure and not his father or son.

Robert de Brus, 7th Lord of Annandale:

Grandson of Robert de Brus the Elder (5th) and brother of Edward de Brus, this young man is, along with his brother, Lord and governor of the de Brus lands of Ripe in Sussex and Writtle in Essex. While still relatively young, much has been said of this smart, courageous and just Lord who is unafraid to do what is right. He wholeheartedly supports his aging grandfather's claim to the throne, but at the same time is heir to the earldom of Carrick, which requires him to be loyal to the King of England. One thing is for sure, this young Lord will carve his place in history, no matter what side he ends up on.

Commander William Wallace

The son of a Crown tenant in Ayrshire, the young William Wallace grew up in an environment quite opposite to that of most of the nobles assembled here. As such, he brings in a very different viewpoint than they do and can be said to represent the "common people's" cause. Having spent time



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in the English army, likely as a mercenary, he has come to witness the conflict between his native Scotland and the English power. He supports an independent Scotland, no matter her King and may not be patient enough to wait for a diplomatic solution.

Thomas Randolph, 1st Earl of Moray

The nephew of Sir Andrew Moray and son of another Thomas Randolph, he is the heir to the position of Chamberlain of Scotland and Sheriff of Roxburgh. This means Sir Randolph will be responsible for administering justice and a fair trial to those accused of crimes in the Kingdom of Scotland. Due to this, the young Earl has been raised with an appreciation of the laws of the country and, despite his youth, is probably the nobleman with the most knowledge of the laws and customs of Scotland at this assembly. He is a distant relation of the de Brus family.

John Balliol, Lord of Galloway

A great-etc-grandson of King David II through his mother, Balliol has one of the strongest cases to make that he is the rightful heir of the late King Alexander III. From his father, he has inherited a number of large estates in England and France, such as the county of Hitchin in Hertfordshire and from his mother, he has claim to the Lordship of Gallovidians, in Galloway. While not an overwhelmingly popular figure among Scottish Lords, he does command a significant following, comprised of those who feel he would be the best choice for King. An easily placated and soft-spoken man, many feel he lacks the mettle necessary to stand up to the English Crown.

Edward de Brus, Earl of Carrick

The younger brother of Robert de Brus the younger (5th) was raised in Ireland for the first part of his life, before coming back to assist his older brother in the governing of the southern de Brus lands of Ripe in Sussex and Writtle in Essex. At the same time, he holds an innate desire to have



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lands of his own and remembers fondly the small green island he spent so much time on in his youth. Nevertheless, he is a strong supporter of both his brother and grandfather and places family values above all else in his life.

William Lamberton, Bishop of St-Andrews

One of the youngest Bishops ever consecrated in Scotland, he is a charismatic and curious clergyman who has very suddenly found himself at the helm of one of the wealthiest and most powerful Sees in Scotland. This daunting task should be of no problem to the young Bishop, and his mentor, the Bishop of Glasgow, as well as his friend William Wallace will no doubt be there to help him should ever the task prove to be too much.

Robert Wishart, Bishop of Glasgow

Bishop Wishart rose to political prominence during the reign of King Alexander III, to whom he was a much trusted advisor. One of the six Guardians of Scotland in the present interim period, he, like many other ecclesiastics, see the freedom of the Scottish Nation and that of its church as one and the same. As a Scholar and a man of faith, Bishop Wishart's many years of experience have made him a man of great observation, who prefers to listen more and talk less. This allows him to keep track of the most finite details that might escape a man of lesser patience.

Sir James Douglas (the Black Douglas)

The eldest son of William the Hardy, Lord of Douglas, the younger Douglas is a great friend of Robert de Brus the younger (7th). He was raised and educated in Paris, where he met, and became the squire of, William Lamberton, the Bishop of St-Andrews. While not as battle-worn as his father, he has the same sense of self-preservation that allows him to wish for a peaceful resolution to the



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conflict. At the same time, due to his prolonged stay away from his homeland, he has developed a profound attachment to the lands he knew as a boy and is determined that they remain in his family.

Sir Andrew Moray (Uncle of Randolph)

A wealthy baron who holds power over extensive lands in the province of Moray, including the lordship of Petty and many surrounding castles. His many land ownerships have translated into political capital and he is a very well-connected Lord in Scotland. However, despite his extravagant wealth and rich upbringing, he is a man who empathizes with the plight of the less fortunate and looks well upon those making a name for themselves when they were not born into one.

Sir Robert Keith – Knight and Diplomat

Sir Keith is a descendent of a long line of Scottish Marischals, or Lord protectors, who have been known to be great Leaders and Commanders, especially during times of War. Though still rather young, Sir Keith is renowned for his strength of character and his almost instinctual ease in positions of command, having become accustomed to serving in military positions from a young age. He is a strong friend of Robert de Brus the younger (7th) and the two hold one another in high esteem.

James Stewart, 5th High Steward of Scotland

Lord Stewart is one of the Guardians of the Kingdom of Scotland and a longtime friend of Robert de Brus the elder (5th). As hereditary High Steward, he is responsible for overseeing the finances of the Kingdom of Scotland, and more specifically the King himself. Though he is a very loyal and methodic man, Lord Stewart is well known for his caution in all aspects of his life, especially in his decision making. It would take quite a deal of evidence to convince the Steward of something that seems like a rash decision to him.



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John II Comyn (the Black Comyn), Lord of Badenoch

A descendent of King Donald II of Scotland, Lord Comyn the elder is a former regent of Scotland and one of the claimants to the Scottish throne. During the reign of the late King Alexander III, Lord Comyn was responsible for securing the defense of the North of Scotland against Viking and Danish Invaders. His lands make up most of the area surrounding Inverness, on which he has built many strong castles. A proud and wise man, Lord Comyn is however cautious with his claim to the throne, as he does not wish to risk interfering with the stronger claim of his brother-in-law, John de Balliol.

John III Comyn (the Red Comyn), Lord of Badenoch

Son of Lord John II Comyn, this young man, though about the same age as Robert de Brus the younger (7th), has never gotten along with the young heir to Annandale, preferring the company of John de Balliol. A loyal and cunning man, the Red Comyn's devotion and unconditional support of de Balliol is impressive and, like his father, he would sooner see a de Balliol claim the throne than a Comyn. He exerts power over the lordship of Badenoch as well as part of Lochabar.

Maol Choluim II, Earl of Lennox

A childhood friend of Robert de Brus the younger (7th), this Gaelic knight has no love for the English crown and wishes to see both Ireland and Scotland be forever independent of this usurper's claims. A passionate and opinionated man, his respect and admiration for the de Brus men trumps all else, and he strongly desires to see one of them named King of Scotland.

Robert de Brus, 5th Lord of Annandale

Closest surviving male relative to King Alexander III, this Robert de Brus is the former Regent of Scotland, a position he held during his aforementioned second cousin's reign. His young



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grandson, Robert de Brus (7th Lord of Annandale) is also present at this assembly and is seen as the bright light of the next generation of Scottish noblemen. Having previously accompanied the King of England's brother Edmund on their crusade to the Holy Land, this Lord is both a warrior and a diplomat, and holds the English King in high respect, but not quite friendship. Having left the southern parts of his domain to his sons, he has power over the lordships of Hartlepool in Durham and Ireby in Cumberland.

Sir Gilbert de la Hay, 5th Baron of Errol

This young feudal baron of the village of Errol, near Perth, is a bodyguard and confidant of Robert de Brus the younger (7th), to whom he has pledged life, sword and fealty. While his knowledge of diplomacy is not as high as many of the more experienced knights at this assembly, this young lord's prowess in battle is not to be underestimated. De Brus himself has high regard for him and is known to trust the Baron with his life.

William II, Earl of Ross

Ruler of the northern Scottish province of Ross, William Ross is a strong lord who not only believes in Scottish Independence, but is also adamant that the Northern Islands (the Hebrides) should be under stricter control, as they are currently inhabited only by remnants of the Highlanders. While Ross does still owe allegiance to the English crown, this fiery man is not one to take kindly to any sort of perceived slight against his honour.

Patrick de Dunbar, 8th Earl of March

Dunbar is both the Earl of Dunbar and the Earl of March and has power over the barony of Dunbar and its Castle, in the crucial border region of East Lothian. Due to his advantageous geographical position, as well as a distant relation on his mother's side, the Earl of March considers



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himself to be a potential heir to Alexander III as King of Scotland and, while he may eventually concede that other candidates might be better suited to the role than he, it is likely he would bear the resulting grudge of this decision for a long time.

John of Strathbogie, Earl of Atholl

Strathbogie is a good friend of Robert de Brus the elder (5th) and great-great-grandson of the deceased King John of England. Through his father, he has dominion over the region of Atholl in Pethshire, and through his grandfather that of Chilham in Kent. A strong and just governor, who has easily won the love and respect of those in his land, he is known to many as an oddly fair and compassionate nobleman.

William the Hardy, Lord of Douglas

Heir to the lordship of Fawdon and has dominion over the region of Warndon, Northumberland. Having taken part in the 8th crusade, Douglas is keen to avoid further conflict and would like for a peaceful solution to the issue of succession be obtained. He does not hold any particular like for English Crown, but has learned that coexisting is often necessary when the imbalance of power is so great. Lord Douglas is not a supporter of John de Balliol and would be prepared to do anything to avoid the latter being put in any position of power.

Sir Neil Campbell (Niall mac Cailein)

Son of the Clan Chief of newly minted Clan Campbell, Sir Neil hails from the county of Ayr and has Gaelic roots. Sir Campbell is a strong supported of Robert de Brus the elder (5th) and his claim to the throne of Scotland, and has pledged to be of service to him in whatever way he may. At the same time, Campbell is wary of angering the English crown, as his Clan still pledges fealty to King Edward in order to maintain their land.



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Isabella MacDuff, Countess of Buchan

Daughter of the Earl of Fife, granddaughter of the Earl of Hertford and wife to John Comyn, Earl of Buchan (cousin to the Red Comyn), Countess MacDuff, like her ancestors before her holds the divine right to crown each and every King and Queen of Scotland. This means she has a vested interest in seeing the right person be awarded the crown of her beloved Nation. She may not have the military prowess of the Knights and Lords at the table, but she is a good strategist and provides much needed perspective to this group of men.

Sir Simon Fraser of Oliver and Neidpath

A Scottish Nobleman of Clan Fraser, Sir Fraser has, due to his birthright, dominion over the Lordship of Oliver Castle, as well as other lands in Beaulieu and Kincardineshire. A strong-willed and hot-tempered young man, Sir Fraser comes from a proud history of Scotsmen and is keen to distance himself from English rule.

Sir Ingram de Umfraville

Scottish Nobleman with dominion over the lands of Foston in Leicestershire, Wharrington-upon-Tees in Durham, the barony of Urr in Galloway and the Red Castle in Angus. A good diplomat, de Umfraville is somewhat easily swayed from one side to another during debates. A strong supporter of John de Balliol, he is held in high opinion by many other noblemen and has a strong sense of loyalty and honour.



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