



In his History of Scotland, Hector Boece, tells the legend of how the Turnbull family received its name in 1315. Boece records that William of Rule accompanied the King of Scotland, Robert the Bruce on a hunting expedition. The king shot an arrow into a bull and injured but did not kill the animal. William, who was a very strong man, saved the king from the charge of the angry bull by wrestling it to the ground in the Caledon woods. As a reward for his feat, William was dubbed sir TURN-E-BULL by the king "for thou hast turned the bull."



*His arms robust the hardy hunter flung
Around his bending horns and upward rung,
With writhing force his neck retorted round,
And roll'd the panting monster on the ground,
Crush'd with enormous strength his bony skull,
And courtiers hail'd the man who turned the bull.*

John Leyden