

The Scottish Genealogist

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

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By the constitution, the Scottish Genealogy Society exists "to promote research into Scottish Family History," and "to undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish Genealogy by means of meetings, lectures, etc." By the expressed desire of the Original Members, the Society was to remain an academic and consultative body, and was not to engage itself professionally in record searching. Arrangements will be made by which the Society can supply a list of those members who are professional searchers but any commissions of this kind must be carried out independently of the Society.

Monthly meetings of the Society are held from September to April in the St. Andrew Society Rooms, 24 Hill Street (Castle Street end), Edinburgh, at 7 p.m. on 15th of the month. In the event of the 15th falling on Saturday or Sunday, the meeting is held on the following Monday.

Membership of the Scottish Genealogy Society is by election at an annual subscription of £1 10s. 0d, (\$4.50) inclusive of *The Scottish Genealogist*. This subscription which is payable on 1st October entitles members to receive the Magazine during the following year beginning with the January issue. Inquiries may be made to the Hon. Secretary, 28 Pitbauchlie Bank, Dunfermline, and subscriptions paid to the Hon. Treasurer, 74 Brunstane Road, Joppa, Midlothian.

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DICTIONARY OF SCOTTISH EMIGRANTS

Donald Whyte, F.S.A.(Scot.).

Since 1953, when the Scottish Genealogy Society was founded by a group of genealogists and historians, the Council have had under consideration proposals to create a special library and to compile a "Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants." Both projects are virtually inseparable as the facilities ~~required by genealogists and record-searchers in general~~ are necessary for work on a project so large as the proposed dictionary.

The quarterly publication, by a comparatively new Scottish Society, of a magazine devoted to genealogy and related subjects, has required considerable thought and energy; and the greater part of the Society's income. It is not therefore surprising that the Council have found it necessary to proceed carefully with their plans relating to the dictionary and the library,

In the past eight years a great deal of useful information has been printed in "The Scottish Genealogist," and there is no doubt that the publication has been accepted in this country and overseas as invaluable to all students of Scottish Family History. The gradual increase in membership of the Society and in the number of magazine subscribers (including institutional and public libraries), would appear to have justified the policy of giving priority to its production. The editors have preserved a proper balance between space allotted to clan and family history (from either side of the Highland Line); to comment on records and bibliographical matter; to heraldry; to notes and queries; and to genetics. No contemporary Scottish publication offers such opportunities for the examination, exchange and co-ordination of genealogical data.

The increase in income, due largely to the success of the magazine, has enabled the Council to permit further expenditure on the dictionary project, but no decision has yet been reached regarding library policy. Some printed books have already been collected, together with MS. and TS. volumes of tombstone inscriptions from Scottish burial grounds; and an increasing number of foreign periodicals are being obtained in exchange for "The Scottish Genealogist." At recent Council meetings the problems of providing a library service have been under consideration, and it is hoped soon to define a policy which will be in the best interests of the Society.

Information relating to sources of material for the "Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants" was collected by Miss Jean Dunlop, Ph.D. (now Mrs. R. W. Munro), honorary editor of "The Scottish Genealogist" from 1954 to 1959; and preliminary work on the card indices was begun in 1957 by Mr Donald J. Macdonald, secretary of the Clan Donald Society of Edinburgh. Unfortunately, owing to pressure of other work, Mr Macdonald found it necessary to relinquish the task in 1961.

Many of the problems apparent in so large an undertaking as the dictionary have been discussed, and a proposal was made at the Annual General Meeting of the Society in 1961 that the work be combined with that of building up a genealogical library. As no section of the dictionary would be ready for publication for many years, the members agreed that in the intervening period the card indices would form a valuable adjunct to the library; moreover, that research on emigration could best be carried out where the Society's books and MSS. were available, and where borrowing facilities could be used advantageously. In accordance with this viewpoint, the writer was elected editor of the dictionary, and undertook to continue the library work until the associated problems were solved.

The compilation of a "Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants" is a prodigious task. Literally tens of thousands of Scots have left the homeland to give to the world the benefit of high culture, or of a rich and imaginative character. Commenting on this exportation, Mr J. G. Kyd, C.B.E., a former Registrar General, points out¹ that, while of the greatest value to the Empire and the world at large, it places a strain on the vitality of the Motherland. Certainly something of value has been extracted from the people and environment of Scotland. Apart from purely genealogical considerations, an authoritative "Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants" should throw considerable light on the incidence made upon historical events by Scots abroad.

Comprehensive and selective the dictionary must be, but identification of the emigrants, with even the barest details regarding family links, occupation, original and ultimate residence, together with chronological data, will be of inestimable value. Of many emigrants no record survives, but a systematic work of reference on those who can be traced should find an honoured place beside the "Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue" and the "Scottish National Dictionary," both of which may be completed in 1973.

Overseas readers have already shown considerable interest in the concept of a "Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants," and it is evident that the descendants of early emigrants (like the Welsh in Patagonia) have retained native customs and traditions and that spirit of kinship which has always been an integral part of Scottish life. As the days of the pioneers recede into the past, interest in the Motherland increases. Many interested parties have forwarded details relating to their own ancestors, some have sent old passenger lists of emigrant ships, and others have actually commenced wide research on the subject.²

To show precisely the kind of information we are recording, and to assist our growing host of voluntary workers, we reproduce with this article data from an index card. A supply of identical forms will be sent

on request, or the information may be given on plain paper. A separate card should be used for each emigrant, with cross-references for wives and children listed under male emigrants. It is not expected that full details can be entered for every known emigrant, but information from overseas, collated with data collected in Scotland, will complete many cards.

Details sent to the dictionary editor by research workers, individually or collectively, should be referenced in the following manner:—

~~Printed Books—Author's (or editor's) surname, initials, title, volume and~~
 page reference, place and year of publication. Periodicals—Author's surname, initials, title of article, periodical, year of publication, volume number, and number of first page of article, unless specific pages are referred to, when it should be given pp. x-y. Where MSS. are quoted, their location should be clearly indicated and reference given to folios or other divisions.

Only emigrants before 1855 (when registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages become compulsory in Scotland) are being recorded, and under present conditions the editor must limit his researches to the U.S.A. and Canadian sections of the dictionary. An attempt will be made, however, to record information uncovered incidentally or contributed relating to emigrants to other parts of the world.

Reports on the progress of the dictionary work will be given at the Annual General Meetings of the Society and summarised in the Council reports. No appeal for financial assistance with research work has yet been considered; but the Council will welcome accretions to membership of the Society and additional magazine sales. With such, and voluntary help from all who are interested in the ambitious project, it is hoped to produce an outstanding contribution to Scottish historical literature.

1. In a contribution to "Scotland" (p. 50), edited by H. W. Meikle, C.B.E. Edin, 1947.

2. Particular thanks are due to Robert Alan Temple, 1323 North Central Avenue, Knoxville, 17, Tennessee, U.S.A.; to John Douglas Gillespie, 1605 Highland Avenue, Knoxville, 16, Tennessee; to William Howard Galbraith, 3408 10th Street, N.E., Washington 17, D.C., U.S.A.; to Willis J. Campbell, P.O. Box 155, Dixie, Washington (State), U.S.A.; and to Lawrence J. Beaudin, P.O. Box 301, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

NAME—*Crawford, Henry*

PARENTAGE—*William C. and Ellen Beveridge*

DESTINATION—*sld. Sparta, Ill., moved 1872 to Girard, Kansas.*

DATE AND SHIP—*Before May, 1843, on "Romulus."*

PLACE OF ORIGIN—*Dreghorn, Ayrshire.*

DATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH—*18/11/1809 — 13/5/1892.*

OCCUPATION—*Farmer.*

DATE OF MARRIAGE—*3/10/1833*

WIFE—*Jane Boyle (q.v.)*

PARENTAGE—*David B. and Martha Johnston.*

CHILDREN—*1 William Boyle (q.v.) 2 Barbara Allen (q.v.) 3 John (q.v.) 4 James Garvin (q.v.)
 5 Ellen (q.v.) 6 Margaret Craig (q.v.) 7 Robert George 8 Hector Allen.*

REFERENCES—*S.G.S. MSS.*

(Recorded 12/12/61).

THE CARGILLS OF DUNKELD

By DAVID C. CARGILL

The enquiry in your issue of February, 1961, regarding the Cargills in Dunkeld and the banking firm of Cargill McDuff & Co. there, leads me to give the following information concerning the Dunkeld family of Cargills, most of which was made available to me some twelve years ago by a descendant of that family, the late Dr Featherston Cargill, C.M.G., who died in Edinburgh in 1959 at the age of 89.

The earliest trace which the Doctor was able to find of his Cargill ancestry was the record of the marriage in Alyth of James Cargill, glover and merchant, to Elizabeth Willson (sic) on 10th September, 1725. She was baptised at Alyth on the 14th April, 1703, and was the eldest child of Francis Wilson (sic), merchant in Alyth, and his wife, Margaret Ogilvy, who were married at Alyth on 24th April, 1702. Baptisms of the following children are recorded:—Margaret and Elizabeth, at Alyth; and Walter, in Dundee. In 1735, James Cargill removed from Dundee to Dunkeld, where he was postmaster till his death, about January, 1779. There were other five children whose baptisms were not registered, viz. Agnes, who married William Wilson, of Stirling; Eupham, who married John Taylor, of Perth; James, who married Editha Beveridge; Jean, who married John Conacher; and William, who was a-wright in Dunkeld and married Hannah Scott. William's daughter, Elizabeth, born on the 5th November, 1773, married George Baxter, manufacturer, and they had 12 children.

Walter Cargill, baptised at Dundee on 6th July, 1729, is described as a merchant in Dunkeld. He married Margaret McDuff at Dunkeld on 3rd August, 1751, she being a daughter of Robert McDuff, merchant there. The date of death of Walter Cargill is not known, but his son Robert, was served as heir on 12th March, 1787.

About 1765, or earlier, Walter Cargill and his brother-in-law, Daniel McDuff (son of Archibald McDuff of Ballinloan) formed a banking company with some other merchants under the firm name of Cargill McDuff & Company (quite distinct from Cargill & McDuff, merchants in Dunkeld). The bank does not appear to have lasted very long, and Cargill McDuff & Company then became meal merchants, and afterwards linen manufacturers. Cargill McDuff & Company issued their own bank notes. One was worded as follows:—

Twenty Shillings Sterling.
Dunkeld. 6th May, 1765.

We, Cargill McDuff & Compy.,
Promise to pay to or Bearer on demand

at our office here ONE POUND Sterling, in Cash,
or in our option an Edinburgh note of the same
value.

Walter Cargill had seven children — Robert, James, Janet, Daniel, Margaret, and twins Elizabeth and Margaret. Particulars of the two oldest sons follow, and Janet married David Arrat, a hosier in Edinburgh.

Robert Cargill, described as a merchant and banker in Dunkeld, was born there on 20th November, 1752, and at an early age was a partner of Cargill McDuff & Co., and latterly a merchant and manufacturer and Agent for the Perth Union Bank at Dunkeld. In 1812 he became Agent of the Commercial Banking Company of Scotland, and in 1822 he lost a large part of his fortune through burglars breaking into his bank while he was giving a dinner party and robbing it of a large sum of money, which he was obliged to make good out of his private means. He continued in the bank's service at Dunkeld until his death in 1834.

Robert Cargill was married at Dunkeld on 19th November, 1786, to Louisa Stewart, eldest daughter of James Stewart of Derculich, by his first wife, Agnes Campbell, daughter of Duncan Campbell, of Auchline. They had ten children, of whom:—Margaret McDuff married John Leslie, Writer in Dunkeld, who had a son, Robert Cargill Leslie, also a Writer in Dunkeld, who died in 1888; Louisa married on 26th September, 1816, William Smytham, surgeon in Brechin (spelt Smyttam in the Brechin Cathedral baptismal register, where the births of sons William and Robert are recorded); Janet Susanna married William Ranken; Frances McDuff married Dr Henry Fisher, and their daughter Helen, born 21st April, 1830, married her second cousin, William Walter Cargill—of whom more later; and Arabella married the Rev. James Melville McCulloch, at one time minister in Arbroath, and later at Greenock.

James Cargill, second son of Walter Cargill, was born at Dunkeld on 23rd February, 1755, and became a Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh on 18th November, 1784. He resigned his Commission as a W.S., however, on 23rd March, 1795. He married on 27th June, 1781, Marion Jamieson, daughter of William Jamieson, mason in Edinburgh. They had five children—Walter, William, Robert, Christian and James. Robert became a Writer to the Signet on 10th July, 1812, and died on 21st February, 1867, unmarried. William, the second son, had a remarkable career, which will form the subject of a later article. James, the youngest son, went to Demerara, in British Guiana.

DAVID C. CARGILL.

Extract from Rigasche Biographion (a shortened translation).

Patrick Cumming, merchant; born in Scotland at Haig (?) Park of Inchinnan, on 7th January, 1764; died in Riga on 22nd February, 1830.

His firm, as it was then known, "Cumming Fenton & Co.", was always under the leadership of kinfolk and relatives. His uncle, James Cumming, and Phillipp Ibbetson Fenton should be dealt with here since they belong to the history of this firm.

After the death of James Cumming, John Cumming, a brother of Patrick, became the sole heir, and entered as such into the business.

John asked Patrick to join him in Riga as from 1777, employed him as an apprentice, and after a couple of years as his companion, after Fenton had returned to England in 1792. It is thanks to this Fenton that Patrick acquired his mercantile abilities.

In 1797 Patrick married Elisabeth Christine von Gersdorff, a daughter of the Landrat von Gersdorff, after his brother John had retired from their business, and had asked that a third brother of theirs, William, should join the firm. This brother William died in Riga in 1817.

Patrick and his family went to England in 1800, returned to Riga in 1817. Since then and up to his death he stayed permanently in Riga.

He was of a very happy nature, possessed a sound sense of business, and his impact on public opinion was a very high one. His moral seriousness was linked with good humanity (owing to which he possessed a lot of admirers, friends and thankful relations). He was lucky to be permanently in excellent health. His was a modest self-reliance, and due to it a satisfaction that wordly wealth was given into his hands so lavishly.

Owing to his position and all his personal merits, he could always enjoy all the fortunes of his life as a member of the community. He joined into the activities open to him, as far as they were concerned with the commercial life of Riga, both ways as a consultant and as a promoter.

For a couple of years he was the president of the local committee of the Stock Exchange, being the whole time its illustrious member.

He was chairman of the local English "Factorei," and its treasurer.

He was vice-convener of the parish of the Reformed Church, and very active in the work about the welfare to the poor.

He used to assist and give personally sums of money to about 80 persons, and did it weekly for years and years. Thus he could be considered as one of the most known benefactors of Riga.

He was survived by three sons and two daughters. His business was at first continued by his two elder sons, John and James, but the former

retired soon to England. Then the firm was going on in connection with members of the Fenton family up to 1864, led by James Cumming. This gentleman retired in 1868, and died at Schlangenbad on 13th June, 1873.

The firm Cumming and Company was then continued by various foreigners, but came to a close in 1876.

The third son, William, returned to England soon after the death of Patrick without having been participating in the firm.

James Cumming had married Mathilde von Stryk, who survived him with two daughters. The elder one was married to a Major Greigh, son of the admiral, brother of the Minister of Finance (1878).

J. GREENE.

Note.—The Russian admiral of Scots extraction, Alexei Samuilovitch Greigh, lived 1775-1845.

The Russian Minister of Finance (1878-1880), Samuil Alexeyevitch Greigh, lived 1827-1887.

Cf. *Russian Encyclopaedia* (Brockhaus Efron), vol. 18 (St Petersburg, 1893), p. 606 (Scottish National Library).

REVIEW

THE FAMILY OF COX IN ANGUS AND PERTHSHIRE

By Mr Harry K. Cox

51 pages. Privately printed, 1961

This excellent family history records the ramifications of a family which came from Holland in the fifteenth century to settle round Perth and in the Carse of Gowrie. Having quoted early references to the family in its various spellings, the compiler starts the genealogical table with David Cock, a farmer in the Parish of Errol, who died in 1619. From that source the branches are traced down to the present day, and after dealing with those whose fame and fortunes were founded on jute, he turns his attention to the Liverpool branch of the family.

Clearly and methodically set out, the tree will be most helpful to anyone trying to establish relationship and descents in the family, and is a model for others contemplating the writing of their family's history. Enough biographical information is included to give life to the various members, and it adds a sociological value for anyone who wants to find out the probable employment of a younger son or the likelihood of a daughter marrying within the family.

There is, finally, to be commended to future compilers, the admirable feature of several blank pages being bound in at the end of the book on which alterations and additions can be inserted.

QUERIES

RENWICK. — James William Maitland Renwick was born on 4th May, 1861, and is believed to have been the grandson of Henry Edward Renwick, sometime Ensign in the 2nd (Queen's Royal) Regiment of Foot. It is thought that his mother was a Tait and that he was born in Gallo-way. Any information about J. W. M. Renwick, especially as to his birth and parents' marriage, or about H. E. Renwick's marriage (possibly to a Miss Maitland after 1838) and children would be appreciated.—H. R.

FAMILIES OF STEWART AND ROSS

MURDOCH STEWART, Sawyer of Merkinch, Inverness, and Ann Ross, his wife, were married there 19th August, 1828. On the 13th October they had a son named Robert. The Rev. Thomas Fraser married them and baptised their son. The witnesses were Alexander Fraser and Alexander MacIennan. Murdoch Stewart and his wife both died of the plague of cholera about 1836 and Robert was brought up by his uncle, Alexander Ross of Seafield, a farmer of 79 acres near Inverness. He was born at Creich, Sutherlandshire, in 1802. Robert Stewart, aged 20, bank clerk, was living with them in the 1859 census. The other Ross uncle was Hugh Ross of Dingwall, 1789-1849, a messenger-at-arms, who died at High Street, Dingwall, 1849. He married Mary, daughter of Alexander McDonald and Jane Douglas. Her dates were 1799-1871. She died at 11 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, and her eldest son, Hugh Cameron Ross, was a director of the Standard Bank. Now Robert Stewart, 1830-1885, was the first general manager of the Standard Bank of South Africa and was also a director of the same. There was living in High Street, Dingwall, also, who may have been an uncle, Alexander Stewart, a messenger-at-arms. His dates are circa 1800-1860. Any information about this family will be most gratefully received. It is supposed that they were descendants from the Stewarts of Appin, also that they were connected with the Stewarts of Garth, who were a small sept in Perthshire.

FAMILY MCGREGOR

GEORGE MCGREGOR, Colonel of the 59th Regiment, died on his way home from India in 1828. In 1824 Elizabeth McGregor was living at Con-nage, near Fort George. An aunt was Mrs McDonald. Colonel George McGregor served throughout the Peninsular campaign, but not at Water-

100, but was present with the 1st Battalion of his regiment at Bhurtpore. Captain Thomas McGregor was killed in a duel at Madras; also Captain Robert whilst serving in Ireland with the 59th Regiment. Colonel George McGregor had two sons, Lieutenant John McGregor, retired on half pay, 59th Regiment, alive in 1873, and Lieutenant Robert McGregor, paymaster of the 15th Regiment, who died in Ceylon. Captain James was also a brother of Colonel George and was drowned in the Sea Horse transport off Tranmore Bay, Co. Waterford, in 1816. The daughter, Margarete, was born in 1775, and was married 20th July, 1799, at Dalnies, Nairn; to Major John Willett Audain, of the 16th Regiment. She died on 4th March, 1824, at Kornegalle, Ceylon, aged 48, and leaving issue. In a letter from Aunt Hermina McGregor to Miss Audain she says that Penuel Grant, a cousin, eldest daughter of Captain John Grant, is married to Mr Leslie, brother of Sir Charles Leslie of Wardis. Aunt Hermina was sometime living at Campbelltown and was going with Cousin John to Urquhart, in the Highlands. That was in a letter dated about 1824-1830.

Any information on this family will be gratefully received.

FAMILIES OF KING AND WARREN

ALEXANDER KING, sometime of Bristol, ship-owner, dates circa 1730-1790, married Catherine and had issue. Alexander had a son, Alexander, born 1773 in Londonderry. He entered the Royal Navy on the 19th June, 1793, aged 20, at Kingston, Jamaica. He died at Port au Prince, St. Dominigo, in 1794. Sergeant John King died in Jamaica, 9th August, 1796. He enlisted between 1782 and 1783 as a drummer. He was in the same company as Sergeant Robert Warren, his brother-in-law, in the 20th Regiment, at Cork on the 20th January, 1786. He died in Jamaica, 9th August, 1796. He was born about 1768. Captain George King was born 1780. He enlisted in the 20th Regiment in 1793. He was a sergeant from the 20th Foot, Ensign and Adjutant Sicilian Regiment, February 5th, 1807. He was Captain, half paid, Sicilian Regiment, 1816; Captain, 10th Foot, exchange paying difference, 27th June, 1816. He married by licence at Valetta, Malta, on 4th June, 1810, Jane McIntosh, spinster, probably sister of Captain John McIntosh, 92nd Regiment Foot. One of the forlorn hope at the taking of Alexandria, died s.p. at St. Peter Port, Guernsey, September, 1845, aged 65. Buried in the Warren vault at Candie cemetery, Warren grave. Ann King, born 1760 in Scotland, married probably 1785 at Cork, Robert Warren, who was born Boyle, Co. Roscommon, Ireland,

1752. He enlisted at Charlesfort, Co. Cork, 15th January, 1772, in the 47th Regiment Foot. Sergeant in the 20th Regiment Foot, Colonel's Company, Cork, 5th July, 1785. Appointed Quarter Master, 20th Foot, at Preston, 25th January, 1799, 5th Royal Veteran Battalion. Wounded and taken prisoner at Bunkers Hill, 1775. Engaged in secret expedition to Egypt. Died at his house, 20 Paris Street, St Peter Port, Guernsey, 16th March, 1844, aged 92 years. Mrs Warren died 27th May, 1843, aged 83. Only son Captain John Warren, born Ireland 1786; volunteer 20th Regiment Foot, 1798; served in every battle in the Peninsula Campaign under the Duke of Wellington; Ensign, 92nd Highland Regiment, 3rd September, 1801. Captain 15th April, 1813. Retired 14th April, 1825, casualty 1826. Friend of Robert Burns, who gave him a complete pocket first edition of his poems, all signed: "To my dear friend, Robert Warren."

Any information on this family will be most gratefully received.

REPLY

LAURIE and SOMERVILLE. — (Query contained in vol. VIII, 4).— There are accounts of the Rev. Simon Sommerville as U.P. Minister at Carnoustie (page 105) and at Elgin (page 627) in Vol. I of the Rev. Dr. Robert Small's "History of the Congregations of the United Presbyterian Church from 1733 to 1900" (Edinburgh, 1904) and a reference to him on page 492 of Volume II. The reference to the Rev. James Laurie on page 455 of Volume II is probably not the one required. It is possible that "H. C." might find the Rev. James Laurie in the Rev. Dr William Ewing's "Annals of the Free Church of Scotland" (Edinburgh, 1914).

M. S.

THE LAST BARON REID-ROBERTSON

of Straloch

By Duncan McNaughton

The Robertsons of Straloch, in Strathardle, Perthshire, date back to the mid-15th century as a separate family, springing from the Robertsons of Struan. From the beginning they also carried the cognomen of "Reid" from the Gaelic "Ruadh" derived from their Robertson ancestors. At the same time they were known by the old Scots designation of "Baron" as landholders in their own right from the crown.

The only account ever written on this family was compiled in 1728 by the Rev. James Robertson, minister of Glenmuik and Glengairn, near Kirkmichael, from 1699 to 1748. He was the third son of John Robertson of Straloch, who died in 1727, and was therefore the uncle of the last Baron Reid-Robertson, the subject of this account. Several copies of his M.S. history seem to have been made, and a printed version was published in Blairgowrie in 1887, now fairly rare, though it is to be found in several of the larger libraries. A short time ago a copy of the M.S., together with a miscellaneous correspondence on the Robertsons of Straloch came into my hands. This proved to be letters by Dr Small, librarian to the University of Edinburgh at the beginning of the 19th century, who was endeavouring to elicit information on this Alexander Reid-Robertson, as he was the father of General Reid, the founder of the Reid Chair of Music in Edinburgh. Dr Small, whose family was related by marriage to the Robertsons of Straloch, corresponded with relatives who had actually known the "Baron," and had collected a number of letters and Memorials by Alexander Reid-Robertson. These may have belonged to Miss Small, a niece of the Baron, whose sister had married Patrick Small of Leanach. In addition there was an M.S. copy of the history of the family, which Dr. Small's son, in a loose note, states had belonged to the Robertsons of Cray. It appears to be the M.S. from which the printed version has been taken.

The M.S. ends in 1728, and little is known of the intervening period until the death of General Reid, the period in which the family lands were lost. These fragmentary papers in some way fill this gap, and reveal a fascinating and pathetic story of Alexander Reid Robertson, whose character reveals a great love for his inheritance, his disappointment that his son not only did not share this love, but had no male heir to carry on the name, and reveals the desperate attempts to raise money to stave off the forced sale of his lands, which arouses our sympathy despite the flamboyant boastfulness and lack of common sense of the man himself.

In the end, having given up the struggle, he is merely a pathetic figure, forgiving his son, whom perhaps his own eccentric behaviour had estranged.

The early origins of the family have been obscure, the traditions recorded by the Rev. James being particularly confused, a confusion made worse by an editorial emendation to the M.S. in the printed version. The M.S. states that the earliest mention of Straloch is contained in a charter by James I, dated 1451, granted to Matilda Duncanson, daughter of Thomas Duncanson of Struan, and her son John, son of Alexander, the son of John Reid Patrickson. This was emended in the printed text to read—"to John and Alexander, sons of Patrick of Lude." Robertson of Struan in his 18th century history of the Struan Robertsons, stated that Matilda Duncanson, daughter of Thomas Duncanson, third son of Duncan 3rd of Struan, married John Reid of Straloch. The actual reference in the Register of the Great Seal is, however, to "Matilda Duncanson, daughter of the former Thomas Duncanson . . . and in fee to her son John Alexanderson, son of Alexander Reid Patrickson." (R.M.S. 1424-1513, 490). A note in the M.S., brought into the text in the printed version, states that this John, son of Matilda, left no male heirs, but a daughter who married a Robertson of Struan, who took the name of Reid, and implies he is the ancestor of the Reids of Straloch. In the next breath the Rev. James speaks of "this John Reid," apparently a previously noted John, as the ancestor in the direct male line: This John is supposed to have gained the lands as a reward for discovering a plot against the king, which is suspiciously like the tradition of the Robert Robertson of Struan who assisted in the capture of the murderers of James I. As both this John Reid and Robert Robertson are said to marry a Margaret Stewart, it is obvious that traditions have become mixed. It is clear that the Robertsons of Straloch owe their origin as a separate branch to the marriage of Matilda to her cousin Alexander, the son of Patrick of Lude, the second son of Duncan 3rd of Struan, and that their son John, already known as Ruadh from the cognomen borne by previous members of the Struan Robertsons, is the first of the male line of the distinctive Reids of Straloch, who, at the same time, are also designated Robertson.

The succession of the Reids of Straloch as given by the M.S. is as follows.—If we assume that the line indeed springs from the John, son of Matilda, and we equate him with the John (2nd) of the M.S., this John who had married a daughter of Stewart of Kincardine, in Strathspey, was shot in his own house and was succeeded by his son Robert. Robert Reid married about the year 1483 a daughter of Rattray of Rattray. By this marriage there were two sons, John, the eldest, who succeeded him, and

another who, purchasing the estate of Ballochmyle, founded a family of that designation.

John (3rd), the eldest son, married c. 1504, a daughter of Gordon of Abergeldy, having two sons, John, his heir, and Alexander, later merchant in Dundee. John (3rd) was killed at Dunkeld by Stewart of Ficastle.

John (4th) married Elizabeth Maxwell, daughter of the laird of Tellen, having been brought up by the Earl of Huntly, a cousin on his mother's side. It was to this Reid of Straloch that the Earl of Athol gave a charter of the lands of Dalchranich, 1539, and to whom Thomas Scott of Pitgornny gave the lands of Inverchroskie, 1554.

He had at least two sons, John (his heir), and Alexander, who later purchased Dunny and founded a family. His son was named Walter McAllister Mhic a Bharain of Dunny. John (5th) was commonly known as Baron Liath and married Marjory Farlisson alias Robertson, daughter of John (Charles?) Robertson of Clune. He had three sons—John, his heir; Leonard, later of Bleaton; and Alexander, who purchased Wester Straloch. From Alexander appears to have descended the other branches of Robertsons, who appear also as Robertsons of Straloch down to the 19th century. There were four daughters—the eldest married to Robert Farquharson of Invercauld, the second to Spalding of Ashintully, and the third (Janet) to David Fenton of Wester Ogle. A fourth married Sylvester Rattray, minister at Kirkmichael. At this time the estates consisted of Easter Straloch, Wester Kindrogan, Inverchroskie and Lair.

John (6th), known as Baron Cuttach, married Margaret Ruthven, daughter of Alexander Ruthven, elder, Laird of Freeland, stated by the M.S. to be "now Lord Ruthven, heir to the Earl of Gowrie." He had five sons—Alexander, his heir, John, James, Leonard, and apparently another John, if this is not an error of the author. James, the third son, purchased Cray, which had been disposed to his father in 1595. A daughter, Grisell, married George Farquharson, of Rohailly, and her daughter married Patrick Small, of Dimanean. He was a noted upholder of law and order in Strathardle and Glenshee, being a man of great courage and resource, executing summary justice on the spot. He appears to have survived to 1592, but was dead by 1596.

Alexander married in 1617 Marjory Graham, daughter of Graham of Claypots, Dundee, brother to Graham of Fintry. He had three sons—John, James and Robert. James purchased the estate of Ferniehurst, but the line died out. Robert lived on the family estate at Minach, but the family also appears to have died out.

There were also three daughters—Isobel, who married Patrick Robertson of Dalcalpan, with 400 merks of dowry, but this family died out; Mar-

garet, married to James Herring of Cally, and Barbara, who married Farquharson of Fenacain. Alexander died in 1636, being succeeded by John (7th), who suffered for his attachment to the Estates in the Civil War by having his houses burned and his tenants plundered by the troops of Montrose, and in being fined after the Revolution. He married at the age of 16, Anna Robertson, daughter of Alexander Robertson of Lude, their eldest son, John, being born in 1643. A daughter, Margaret, was married to David Spalding, who later purchased the lands of Whitehouse.

His first wife died about 1662, when he married Christian Campbell, daughter of Campbell of Glenlyon, but as the author says: "She was a handsome young woman, and genteely educated, but he spent much more in courting and at the marriage than he got by her." By this marriage he had one son, Alexander, who died young, and two daughters—Katherine, who died young, and Susanna, who married Charles Robertson of Balnacaird.

In 1678 he was forced by his superior, the Marquis of Athol, to go with the Highland host, much against his will. He died in 1704 at the age of 84. His heir, John (8th), was married in 1663 to Magdalen Farquharson, daughter of Robert Farquharson of Invercauld, and he had five sons and five daughters—Alexander, his heir, father of the last Baron Reid Robertson of this article, who married in 1692 Margaret Farquharson, second daughter of Francis Farquharson of Finzean; John; James, the author of the M.S., who was a graduate of St Andrews and was ordained at Invermuick in 1699; Robert, who married Grissell, daughter of Robertson of Bleaton, and whose second son was later minister at Kirkmichael, and Thomas, who went on the Darien expedition in 1700 with Lord Mungo Murray, son of the Marquis of Athol, and perished there. This John survived to 1727, when he was succeeded by Alexander.

Alexander Robertson of Straloch married in 1692 Margaret Farquharson, second daughter of Francis Farquharson of Finzean, but of his family only two seem to have survived—Alexander, his heir, and the subject of this latter part of the Straloch story, and Magdalen (also known as Isobel), who married Patrick Small of Leanach. He succeeded to his father's estates in 1727 and survived to 1742. Alexander, his only surviving son, had married (according to his own account in a memorial) c. 1718, a daughter of the family of Scotts of Dunanald, and had settled down at Inverchrosky on the Robertson lands, looking after his grandfather till he died. He had two sons, John, the eldest, and Alexander. He tells us that he had a house in Perth while they were at school (or at least being educated), which he later claimed was an expense contributing to his later insolvency. Both then went to the University of Edinburgh—the elder to study

law and the other Divinity. On the outbreak of the '45 rebellion, however, both received commissions—John in Loudon's Regiment, and the other in Dutch service at first, but later in the 42nd Highlanders, the Black Watch. John, at least, saw service during the Rebellion, being taken prisoner at Prestonpans, but it is not known whether he was one who refused to return to duty after giving his parole, on being ordered to do so by Cumberland. The fitting out of these boys with their regimentals, and the purchase of their commissions, is also given as an additional reason for the father's insolvency. A letter at Blair from Alexander thanks the Duke of Atholl for securing these promotions, so perhaps this was just another of the excuses to put his conduct in government service in a good light.

What Alexander was doing at this time is unknown, but as Lord George Murray ordered his arrest, it is probable he was in Strathardle attempting to persuade the Atholemen to stay at home. Just as the last stages of the Rebellion were drawing to a close the curtain lifts for a second to give us a glimpse of the Baron which reveals the character of the man. By chance a group of related papers for February-April, 1746, have been preserved concerning the Government's moves to disarm Strathardle and prevent any further recruitment by the Highland army, already leaving Stirling on its way north to Culloden. There was a real danger that if Charles had retired to the Highlands, he might have been able to prolong the rising, and at this time, in the early days of February, Highland recruiting agents were in Strathardle, forcing out men, though most deserted at the earliest opportunity (Ch. AIII).

Alexander had represented in his typical exaggerated fashion that he was the very man to pacify Strathardle, and had received a commission from the Duke of Cumberland to that effect, with authority to obtain military assistance from the troops available. He went to Dunkeld with a covering letter from the Duke of Atholl to Commissary Bisset, who was to "Order the people of Athol, under pain of Burning, to leave the Rebels and repair to Dunkeld or Kirkmichael" (Another letter to Bisset at Blair indicates that Alexander Reid Robertson was to receive their surrenders at the latter place). Alexander arrived at Dunkeld with a party of 200 Argyllshire men under Lieutenant Campbell of Ardsignish, to deal with the rebels.

All did not go well, however, as this series of letters indicate. On the 20th February, Lieut. Campbell was so exasperated that he reported as follows—"Lieut. Campbell of Ardsignish, commander of the party of Argyllshire men that went with Baron Reid to Strathardle his report 'Baron Reid having represented to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland That the countrys of Strathardle, Glenshee, etc., were in the pos-

session of the Rebels and that they had several partys imployed in forcing out the men of these countrys to Joyn them, Did therefore obtain His Royal Highnesses order upon the Earl of Loudon's men and the Argyllshire militia lying at Dunkeld to march and dislodge them. Upon Monday morning, the tenth, when the Baron intimat this order the men were willing to obey, But he told them he was informed that the Rebels had left Stratheroll two or three days before, and that he had dispatched an Express to Bring him the Certainly thereof, And he did not incline to give the Detachment the trouble of marching Untill the Return of his Express, Upon whose Return he had the Accounts of the Rebels having left Stratheroll confirmed. He therefore Demanded a party of fourty men to go alongst with him to Assist in receiving the Arms of that Country. Whereupon he and the party went to Stratheroll upon Friday the Fourteenth, when the Baron sent about Sircular letters ordering all to come in with yr arms.. Lieutenant Campbell of Ardslnish, who commanded the party was of the opinion that this Circular letters would alarm the Country and give them an opportunity to put the Arms and goods of the Rebels out of the way, which proved so accordingly. Having found neither Arms nor Goods, the Lieut. proposed that notwithstanding such Circular letters the Party should goe directly and search, But as he was tied up to receive orders from the Baron he was obliged to yield to his method of Executing the same.' ”

By now Lt.-Col. Sir Andrew Agnew had arrived at Dunkeld as military commander of the district, and wellwishers had been informing him about the Baron. As a result of the ineffective disarming of the district of Strathardle and Glenshee, and his Lieutenant's report, Sir Andrew had now grave doubts of the loyalty of that gentleman, who was by now putting pen to paper to justify himself to the Duke of Atholl. The excuses are typical of his plausible character when in difficulties. He writes from his own house at Inverchroskie : “ The Gentlemen who command the party here know that Sir Andrew Agnew told Capt. Campbell he was informed that I am a Jacobite by a person in Dunkeld, and would therefore not let me have the troops ordered here by his Royall Highness the Duke of Cumberland. This vile aspersion and untruth lost so much time that the Rebell officers were all gone with their Horses, Armes, etc.” On the 1st April he is again writing the Duke from his house with a typical piece of advice: “. . . the Gentleman my informer spoke with says Lord George got Letters Sabothe night promissing a Speedy reinforcement. The gentleman told my friend that he sincerely thinks theyle wait the promised reinforcements to the very last moment and give out they are to fight, but if the Hessians appear before the reinforcement come, he's of the opinion they must still retreat because he says they have only 1200 fighting men,

which is about the number they brought from the north with them All depends on despach, and I wish it may be communicate to all the Troops Officers and souldiers it's better for them to lose a night's Sleep and march hard for 24 hours and have the Glory of deciding this matter without Blood than lose time till they be reinforced when theyle find it uphill work to bear the furious shock of the united forse of these desperate Highlanders, and now on a days despach depends much the whole affair. When the Rebels in the North find their friends are disappointed oft the levies they Expected to raise here, and find the Hessians on their march to Joyn his Royal Highness the Duke, it will dispirate them and Easily end the Rebellion." However, the Hessians did not advance, and this advice towards the end of the Rebellion was ignored. In any case, Cumberland had no very high opinion of the Duke of Atholl and probably by this time less of Alexander Robertson. Nevertheless, Robertson did bring in a number of lairds from his district to prove their loyalty (Chron. III, 219).

After the '45 we know little of the activities of the Baron. From his own admissions in his later letters he was purchasing land around Strathardle to restore the estate to the former extent, and the family to a position of importance, but lacking ready money he borrowed heavily, both from the banks and others. Though he had plans to enclose the lands on the lines of the Improvers, and particularly to extend the grazings, he had not the capital to do so. He later claimed that the expense of purchasing commissions for his sons had contributed to the lack of capital. It is clear that he had had to let some at least of his creditors into possession of parts of the estate before many years had passed. That he had his sons' interests at heart is shown that in 1761 he was attempting to solicit the patronage of the Duke of Atholl and possibly of the Duke of Argyll to that effect. At the same time he was also putting forward his claim for a pension for his past services, presumably during the rebellion, but without success. By this time his son John had purchased or had been granted an extensive estate in New York, and had married Susannah Alexander, daughter of James Alexander, Surveyor-General of New York and New Jersey. His brother-in-law, Alexander, claimed the Earldom of Stirling, and apparently had a favourable reception on a visit to Scotland, but failed to pursue the claim. Col. Reid had little ready cash to assist his father in his difficulties, which by 1774 had amounted to a debt of at least £12,000. The Baron was vague as to the exact amount. The pressure of the creditors grew, and he was forced, probably about this time, to sign a trust deed by the advice of Farquherson of Invercauld, his nephew John Small, and a Duncan McDonald, a writer in Edinburgh, the latter being a substantial creditor. The Baron was by no means grateful for their efforts, as he says in a Memorial c. 1778—"The general Demands and Scarcity forced him

to deal with Banks and Bankers, was induced under sincere Trust and Confidence, by Blandishments and Sophistry to grant a Trust Disposition, highly thereby hurt, his Debts exaggerate . . . the Rents and Value of his Estate greatly diminished." Nevertheless, his son John had guaranteed the rents of the family home, Inverchroskie, and in answer to one of his father's letters (for permission to use his mother's effects for security of a loan of £10), advised him to go there and live quietly, rather than make the efforts to raise further loans to rescue his estate.

During this period Alexander was making desperate efforts to raise money to save his estates, bombarding prominent men with appeals for immediate loans, appeals for the pension he and his son expected for past services to the Government, and even approaching the creditors for further loans, so great was his faith in his plan for improving the estates.

One of the principal creditors, and Trustee, was Duncan Macdonald, father of Alexander Macdonald, W.S., Edinburgh. In reply to a letter of the Baron's apparently requesting a further loan or guarantee, Duncan Macdonald replies: ". . . . after being in Strathardle and seeing Cray, from whom I have not received one Shilling of your rents that you look so high upon, You have brought me into the greatest distress, what you are due me, what I am engaged for you, And what I paid to keep you from Jail, of which you don't seem to be sensible. Surprising you would think of hunting me further by drawing on me unless you imagine me altogether wrong in the head. You have imposed on me too much already. I wish you may make out the account you will of your Estate and effects with all my heart. You complain of the Trust right, but it has prevented your estate being sequestrated and yourself being thrown in jail in your old Days. I have done more for you than any friend you have, think you of it what you will. I shall be glad how soon your Son appears, as everything will go to destruction if he does not appear by the term, in spite of all I can do. I never met with anything that gave me more Vexation than my Acquaintance with you, and I hope I never shall. Your conduct I can never forgive."

Colonel Reid, though he appears to have been in Edinburgh about this time, does not seem to have done anything to rescue the estates, and this was the real cause of the estrangement of father and son. Col. Reid was interested only in his America estates, and indeed by this time had adopted the name of Reid, dropping that of Robertson entirely. This was a bitter blow to the old man. There is probably no doubt that the father's subsequent conduct in abusing the trustees and in writing begging letters to raise money, and his grandiose schemes proposed to gain credit for the same purpose contributed to Col. Reid's apparent resolve to allow the Straloch estates to go, for he had never been resident there, having been

abroad on military service nearly his whole life since 1745, and as his father later complains, had no knowledge of estate management.

It is to this time that another letter refers. To an unnamed Lord Alexander Robertson addresses himself in 1775, suggestion that as he had an estate to sell (which was doubtful, as by this time he had signed a trust deed) it would be to the advantage to his correspondent to have an estate in Scotland. He goes on to suggest that the Lord's son should marry Col. Reid's daughter as heiress of an estate in America, a suggestion that is somewhat weakened by the final paragraphs. Having, as a last attempt, mentioned the question of a pension of £200 for his past services, says: "But take care to have the pension granted to me and not to my son, for if to him he will take the whole advantage to himself and disappoint the above plan in your Lordship's favours and mine. If it be found difficult to obtain £200 I think an application for £100 out of the annexed forfeitures may be sufficient, because when you have the estate the other £100 can easily be raised out of the rents. . . . My son knows nothing of soil, grass or corn farms occasioned by his absence from this country, is coxed and flattered by the Trustees as I was, resolves to continue in America for life, hows no filial regard for father or family."

During part of this time at least it appears that Alexander was living or being supported by his nephew, John Small, later Major-General John Small, who left his fortune to General Reid, and thus contributed indirectly to the Reid Bequest to the University of Edinburgh.

What then was the estate that he was so determined to save that he should throw aside his self respect to appeal for money in such terms and schemes? In more than one of the four memorials, compiled to aid him in his suits against the trustees, and to assist the raising of funds, he enumerates the lands, and characteristically exaggerates the possibilities. This was his normal approach, for one of his correspondents in Strathardle writes to him in June, 1777, when he was still trying to find a purchaser for the estate to stave off the sale of the whole, that a visit of valuers to Strathardle had come at a bad time. "I am afraid they will see the lands too soon, which may be hurtful . . . as your country has not that look that was to be expected from your state of the matter . . . I need not desire you to have as good eating as possible for them, to see if this will fill up the breach of bad appearance."

The estate consisted of the lands of Easter Straloch and Davan, Glenferriate (including two enclosed corn farms), the enclosed corrie of Whitefield, eight farms on Whitefield; the forest of Corrievourich (including three corn farms), the three corn farms of Auchinchapel, the grazing of Foidinne, Killichoiry; 1500 acres of Bleaton, the Stron of Gallic (with pasture for 1,000 sheep), and his own Inverchroskie.

In the memorials he proposed to increase the rents, to raise mortgages (on estates that were already mortgaged), and to carry out enclosures, by which he hoped to raise the rent roll to £1133 from a valuation of £950. He seemingly at this time (the memorials are undated) had hoped to have the backing of his son, but Col. Reid's name is scored out, suggesting that the Colonel had dissociated himself from the action. I have a feeling that these may be earlier than the letter to the unknown lord and that the quarrel between father and son was already developing, though it had not come to a complete break, as the latter part of the following extract suggests: He addresses the Lord Advocate saying he had hoped "to restore his family to the former antient State by the assistance of his sons, But by the death of the one and the present unhappy State of America Col. Reid can afford his father no assistance. It will appear from the enclosed memorial that this Alexander Robertson had reason to think himself well entitled to a pension of £200 per annum for services done which he flatters himself might yet be, and will be a good collateral security for payment of £5000 at 4 per cent. which will prevent the sale of his estate and preserve his family from Ruin and be useful for the Interest of the present happy Establishment as formerly in a highland country where by their Family interest and influence they prevented 1000 men from joining any Rebellion since the Revolution and if need be could raise them for his matie's service vice. . . ." The memorialist further states he was "prevailed upon to grant a trust disposition of his Estate, imagining he would still possess and improve it by inclosing and by the yearly increase of his Flocks and Herds which were in a prosperous way, But the Trustees turned him out of possession of this estate, which occasioned the sale of his sheep and cattle, etc., at the lowest prices." He goes on to state that the 25,000 to 30,000 acres could be enclosed from £1200 to £1500. It had been put up for sale at £15,000 but no buyer had come forward. The Baron says he knows where he can borrow £5000 and could raise the rest by sale of part of the estate. This, of course, was nonsensical, for he no longer held the estate, which was already mortgaged to the hilt to other creditors, and I feel that the other letter to the lord was an attempt to raise that amount. Typically, this memorial ends with a grandiose scheme that the officers of the recently reduced Highland regiments should be embodied in a new regiment under the command of Col. Reid. "The above proposal will show the Colonel's known zeal and tho' not granted may promote his obtaining for himself the pension promised to his father as per memorial."

(To be continued).

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

At a General Meeting of the Scottish Genealogy Society, the following Constitution was adopted on Saturday, 4th July, 1953:—

1. The objects of the Scottish Genealogy Society are:—
 - To promote research into Scottish Family History.
 - To undertake the collection, exchange and publication of information and material relating to Scottish Genealogy, by means of meetings, lectures, etc., etc.
2. The Society will consist of all duly elected Members whose subscriptions are paid. A President and one or more Vice-Presidents may be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
3. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council consisting of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Editor, and not more than twelve other Members. A non-Council Member of the Society shall be appointed to audit the accounts annually.
4. Office-Bearers shall be elected annually. Four Ordinary Members of Council shall retire annually in rotation, but shall be eligible for re-election. At meetings of the Council, a quorum shall consist of not less than one-third of the members.
5. An Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at or about the end of October, on a date to be determined by the Council, at which reports will be submitted.
6. Members shall receive one copy of each publication issued by, or on behalf of the Society, but these shall not be supplied to any Members who are in arrears.
7. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, when a two-thirds majority will be required.

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

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