# 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, 21 Howard Place, Edinburgh, and subscriptions paid to the Hon. Treasurer, 21 Craigcrook Road, Edinburgh.

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All material for publication must be sent to the Hon. Editor, c/o Messrs Shepherd & Wedderburn, W.S., 16 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, 2, in a form ready for immediate use. MSS. must be fully referenced, signed and previously unpublished.

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# QUERIES

McNEILL: Dr Daniel McNeill, grandson of a Daniel McNeill who emigrated in 1739 to North Carolina, studied to be a doctor at Edinburgh University. While in Edinburgh he married Mary McLean and had two daughters by her, Alicia and —— (afterwards Mrs William Winstanley of Preston, England). Mary McLean died and Dr Daniel McNeill returned to Wilmington, North Carolina, leaving his daughters with McLeans in Scotland.

Information is sought as to (a) the date of Dr McNeill's marriage, (b) the names of his parents and his wife's parents, (c) the date of death of his wife, and (d) the date of birth of his daughters.

JEAN M. DORSEY.

CAMERON: John Cameron, crofter, died at Bunrie, Nether Lochaber, aged 96, on 9th January, 1885. He was then the oldest crofter on Lochiel's estate. A notice in the following terms was published:—"Of a sept of Camerons located in the district from time immemorial, John was patronymically known as Ian-Mac-Ian 'Ic Eogham. When in his prime he was an exceedingly handsome man, tall and erect of carriage; and being always well dressed and neat and tidy of person, he came to be known by the soubriquet of 'The Colonel,' a title of which he was rather proud than otherwise, for he knew it had been bestowed upon him in acknowledgment of his handsome person and good looks. John was an admirable seannachie, skilled in all the traditions of Lochaber and the neighbouring districts; and as his memory was exceedingly good, his reminiscences could always be depended upon for exactness of date, and the circumstantial details of every important event in the district for upwards of eighty years. He was a man of upright life and thoroughly reliable character, in proof of which may be mentioned the remarkable fact that when a young man he was frequently employed by the well-to-do farmers and merchants of the district as their messenger to the Bank at Callander, there being no branch bank of any denomination in Lochaber, nor even at Oban, nor nearer, in fact, than Inverness on the one hand, and Callander on the other. John was buried in the sacred Island of St. Munn, in Loch-Leven, on Tuesday last, and the great number of people collected on the occasion, showed how much the venerable Ian-Mac-Ian 'Ic Eoghain was respected in the district. John was an Episcopalian of the old school, and was buried according to the forms of the Episcopal Church—Canon Maccoll, Fort William, assisted by the local curates, officiating on the occasion."

Any further information would be welcomed.

N. P. CAMERON.:

JOHN (Baron) McDIARMID, b. circa 1720, lived for a time in Craigianie, Glenlyon, but had moved from there by 1746 (settling some years later at Dunan in Rannoch), Craigianie being taken over by a collateral member of the same family. What relation was John to Angus McDiarmid, also b. circa 1720, who was living in Craigianie about 1754? The latter's wife was CHRISTIAN STEWART from Innervarr in Glenlyon, whose pedigree would likewise be of interest.

E. S. GRAY.

DAVID STEWART of Raiss, a cadet of Darnley, went to Ireland about the middle of the seventeenth century. He had several sons, of whom Lodovick returned to Scotland, while the others settled in Ireland. What were their christian names, and is it known exactly where they lived?

E. S. GRAY.

- McNAB: Information required concerning those who for many generations resided in the Strathardle area of Perthshire. Parishes covered include Kirkmichael, Kinloch, Blairgowrie, Moulin, Logierait, Glenisla. Also connections with the McIntoshes of Glentilt, and Maclagans.
- SPY or SPEY: Believed to be descendants of McIan of Glencoe. A young infant son of the Chief carried to safety by a nurse and took name after the massacre.
- MATHESON: Jacob Matheson, who went from Scotland with George Sinclair to Norway, married there in about 1612 the daughter of Sheriff Lars Gram. Two of his descendants were officers in the Norwegian Army, Major Jacob Matheson (b. 1683, d. 1749), who married Catherine Mohrsen, and their son Major Statius Jacob Matheson (b. 1718, d. 1770). Paintings show the family Arms as a shield parted per pale, bearing dexter a scimitar erect and sinister three setfoils in pale; the supporters are gryphons holding a slip. Any information about the family would be welcomed.

M. Riese.

- SERVICE: A. R. Service of 1 Grange Avenue, London, S.E.25, would welcome any information about members of the Service family or their ancestors.
- KIDD: Andrew Kidd and his wife Jeannie Cairns left Leith for Beunos Aires, along with their eight children, on 22nd May, 1825, in the ship Symmetry. Any information about their ancestry or any pictures of the Symmetry would be appreciated.

E. R. L. WILDE.

- DACRE FISHER: Information about this Argyllshire family originating in Knapdale and Inveraray can be given to those interested by Colin Campbell, c/o The Editor.
- REWARD: \$20 Reward for first proof of birth and parentage of Hugh Sterling born about 1722, emigrated to New England about 1746. Tradition says he came from Glasgow, of noble birth, was preparing for Clergy. Evidence indicates education, military experience. J. B. Threlfall, 5518 Barton Road, Madison, Wisc., U.S.A. (Hugh Stirling of Keir is NOT the one.)

#### REPLY

HOUSTON BARONETCY: (Vol. IX, No. 2, p. 8). Mr Peter Reid, 1948 Norway Road, Montreal, 9, Canada, informs us that data relating to descendants of Sir Patrick Houston, who emigrated in 1736, will be found in "The Houstouns of Georgia," compiled by Miss Edith Duncan Johnston, and published by the University of Georgia Press, Athens, Ga., in 1950.

# Scottish Tartans Information Centre

This non-profit-making organisation has been formed to dispel misconceptions about tartans and to provide reliable information. It has a large library of books at its headquarters in the Old Tolbooth, Stirling, and is building up a collection of specimens, documents, and records for research purposes.

It is financed by voluntary subscriptions and individuals interested in its work can register as Friends at a subscription of 10/6 a year. Friends are entitled to free advice on all problems in connection with tartans. The Secretary is Captain T. S. Davidson, F.S.A. (Scot.).

# 600 TO PICNIC AT PIONEER FAMILY REUNION

About 600 descendants of an Australian pioneer family will gather at the small town of Lyndhurst, 23 miles from Melbourne, on Australia Day, January 26, for a grand reunion.

They will all have to bring their own lunch, for the town is unable to provide catering or a hall large enough for the reunion.

The family are grand-sons and grand-daughters, and their offspring, of John William Greaves, who brought his family of 11 from Buckinghamshire in England 102 years ago.

But although there is no hall and no catering for them there will be plenty of spare beds—in the homes of about 100 Greaves families living in the Cranbourne-Lyndhurst district.

Greaves of all ages, from babies to octagenarians, will arrive from every corner of the continent for the picnic.

"I think we traced them all," said Councillor Stephen Greaves, of Korumburra, who, with a committee of 12 Greaves, organised the reunion.

He and the committee took eight months to track down their 600 long-range relatives.

"As there are so many, we hired the picnic park at Lyndhurst," he said, "but they must bring their own meals. We will supply the drinks, ice cream and the merry-go-rounds for the kids."

John William Greaves and his family settled at Yarra Glen when they arrived in Australia.

"Each member of the family raised a big family and soon Victoria became too small and they moved to other States," Councillor Greaves said.

# WHO WAS LADY JEANNE MACPHERSON?

A French correspondent's discovery has faced genealogists of the Clan Macpherson with an absorbing problem which is, as yet, unresolved.

After the Forty-Five, about twenty Scottish refugees took up residence in Sancerre, in the Department of Cher. This town is some thirty miles from Bourges which was the ancient capital of the Province of Berri which has a connection with Scotland dating back to the days of the Hundred Years War.

The leader of this group of exiled Scots was Lord John Naime and it may well be that he chose this place of residence on the advice of Louis Hector Drummond, Comte de Welford (born 1722) who was a cousin twice removed of Lord John Drummond who accompanied Lord Naime on his journey to France where he had received a commission from the King in the Regiment of the "Royal Ecossais." His own father, Andrew, had married a local heiress and, through his wife, was the owner of the estates of Ivoy le-Pré, near Sancerre: Another probable reason for choosing these parts in which to live was the fact that there was a strong Protestant tradition still alive there and also that the cost of living was particularly low in that district.

Lord Nairne and his wife, Catherine Murray, had lived near Paris in great poverty and moved to Sancerre in 1752. They were accompanied, or were soon afterwards followed, by Lady Jeanne Macpherson, the widow of the Sieur (or, possibly, Seigneur) de Macpherson. She acted as lady-in-waiting to Lady Nairne until the latter died, in Paris, in 1754.

Lady Jeanne Macpherson died in 1766 of a "putrid fever."—which may well have been typhoid. She was buried in the Nairne family lair, just outside Sancerre, known as "Le Jardin de la Loge." This plot was maintained by Lord Nairne's son Henry until the end of the century. When development of the site took place in 1893, three coffins were found and removed. According to local records there must have been a further four graves there, but these have not been located.

The Death Certificate of Lady Jeanne Macpherson, which is appended in original and in translation, raises a most interesting problem of identity. She could not possibly have been Janet Fraser, Lady Cluny of the Forty-Five, for that lady died in Badenoch in 1765. Moreover, Cluny did not die in Scotland, but at Dunkirk in 1764—whereas Lady Jeanne's husband is stated to have died in Scotland some eighteen years earlier. A further fact which rules out Janet Fraser is that Dame Jeanne was born about 1728, whereas Janet Fraser; a daughter of Lovat, married Ewan of Cluny in 1742. Simon Fraser was a queer fellow—but not as queer as all that! Moreover, Janet Fraser joined her husband in France in May, 1757, which was ten years after Dame Jeanne's coming to France:

Who, then, was Dame Jeanne? And who was the Sieur de McPherson, her husband? It was suggested that he might have been William the Purser, ancestor of the Blairgowrie family, who was the only leading man of the Clan known to have been killed in the Forty-Five. But William was killed at Falkirk in January, 1746. In any case, his wife's name was Anna—so that rules him out.

It is unfortunate that the French Certificate is somewhat smudged and also, in part, deleted. The main part of it, however, is quite clear and presents a

most intriguing puzzle.

J. HARVEY MACPHERSON.

#### FRENCH TEXT OF DEATH CERTIFICATE

Transcript from Les Archives Municipales de Sancerre, Etat-Civil des protestants. 1741-1752.

Anée 1766, acte 98.

15 février 1766. Dames Jeanne de Mcpherson.

Aujourd'huy, samedy quinze février mil sept cent soixante six, heure de sept de rellevé, nous, Francois-Marie Desbans, avocat en Parlement et Bailly des ville et comté de Sancerre, avec Me Etienne Perrinet de Lassay, procureur fiscal, et de Claude Germain, notre greffier ordinaire, á lay réquisition de haut et puissant Seigneur Mylord Jean Nairne, comte de Nerne, Pere (sic) d'Ecosse, demeurant en cette ville, sommes transportes en l'hôtel dudit Mylord comte de Nairne par nous trouvé en son dit hôtel, accompagne dé Messire Thomas Nairne, chevallier de l'ordre royal et militaire due Mérite, et de Messire Henry Nairne, encien capitaine au Régiment Royal-Eccossais, ses deux fils, nous a dit que Dame Jeanne de Mcpherson, ve de S. . . . r (illegible; query "Sieur" or "Seigneur") . . . . . . (illegible) de McPherson, agee d'environ trente huit ans, ... retirée en France depuis le décèds de son mary arrivé en Ecosse vers l'année mil sept cent quarante six ou mil sept cent quarante sept, demeurante en ce royaume sous la protection du Roy . . . . . (a line here deleted) . . . . . et avec et dans las maison dudit Mylord Nairne depuis l'anée mil sept cent cinquante deux, aprés une maladie de quatre semaines qualliffiée par les medicins de fiévre putride, vient de dácéder chez lui, il y a environ une heure de temps, dans laquelle circonstance a l'éffet de constater le temps du dácèds de laditte Dame de Mcpherson et que le présnt acte puisse en ce royaume, suivant les loix qui y sont établis, et partout ailleurs où besoin seroit, luy servir d'acte mortuaire, ledit Mylord comte de Nairne avec lesdits messires Thomas et Henry Nairne, ses fils, onus font la présente déclaration dont ils ont ensemblement requis acte que leur avons octroyá, permettant que dans les vingt heures du décèds de la ditte dame de Mcpherson elle soit inhumée en la forme ordinaire, suivant la disposition des

ordonnances rendues pour pareil cas, et lesdits Mylord comte de Nairne, Messires Thomas et Henry Nairne, signés avec nous, ledit procureur fiscal et notre greffier.

(Signatures) DESBANS COMTE DE NAIRNE, PAIR D'ECOSSE
THO NAIRNE
H. NAIRNE
PERRINET DE LASSAY
C. GERMAIN GREFFIER.

#### ENGLISH TRANSLATION

In the year 1766. Deed 98. 15 February 1766. Lady Jean Macpherson.

To-day, Saturday, 15th February, 1766, at the hour of 7 a.m., we Francois-Marie, Advocate in the Supreme Court and Baillie of the town and county of Sancerre, together with M. Etienne Perrinet de Lassay, Procurator Fiscal, and with Claud Germain, our clerk-in-ordinary, at the request of the high and mighty nobleman, Lord John Nairn, count of Nairn, peer of the realm of Scotland, living in this town, were taken to the lodging of the aforesaid Lord Count of Nairn there to hear and to receive the declaration which he had given notice of having to make to us; which Lord Count of Nairn was found by us in his said lodging, accompanied by Sir Thomas Naim, Knight of the Royal and Military Order of Merit, and by Sir Henry Nairn, former captain in the Regiment Royal Ecossaise, his two sons, and has told us that Lady Jeanne Mcpherson, widow of Lord . . . . Mcpherson, aged about thirty-eight years, who retired to France after the occurrence of her husband's death in Scotland in about the year 1746 or 1747, living in this kingdom under the protection of King . . . . and with and in the house of the aforesaid Lord Nairn since the year 1752, after an illness lasting four weeks, certified by the doctors as being a septic fever, died in his house, approximately an hour ago, under which circumstances in order to establish the time of death of the aforesaid Lady Mcpherson and that this present Deed may be effective in this kingdom according to the laws in force, and also in any place where there may be need, to serve as a Certificate of Death for her, the said Lord Count of Nairn, with the said Sir Thomas and Sir Henry Nairn, his sons, have made this present declaration, which we have recorded at their joint request, permitting that within twenty-four hours of the death of the aforesaid Lady Mcpherson she may be interred in accordance with the normal form, according to the provisions of the laws relating to such cases, and the aforesaid Lord Count of Nairn, Sir Thomas and Sir Henry Nairn have signed together with us, the said Procurator Fiscal and our Clerk.

## Canadian Census Records

The following census returns are held by the Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa 2.

Lower Canada (Quebec)-:1825, 1831, 1842, 1851, 1861, 1871.

Upper Canada (Ontario)—1842, 1851, 1861, 1871.

New Brunswick—1851, 1861, 1871.

Nova Scotia—1871.

Returns prior to 185.1 list only the heads of households and the total numbers in each household. Census records subsequent to 1871 are confidential and are retained by the Dominion Statistician.

Microfilm copies of census records in the Public Archives may be borrowed (three reels at a time) by any library which possesses a microfilm reader and participates in the inter-library loan arrangement. Requests for inter-library loans must be submitted by the borrowing institution and should specify the census year and the town or township required.

We are indebted for the above information to Mr Archibald A. MacNeil, Box 683, Stn. A., Vancouver, B.C.)

# HEARTH TAX AND POLL TAX

It is well that attention should have been drawn in Mr Rodger's article in "The Scottish Genealogist" for February, 1964, to the Poil Tax Rolls of 1695; for Renfrewshire, which constitute what almost amounts to a census of the population at that time, with names, relationships, occupations and locations. These rolls are not widely accessible, printed copies being apparently limited to London, Glasgow, Paisley and Edinburgh, though it may be mentioned that there is, besides the institutions mentioned by Mr Rodger, also a copy in the library of the Scottish Society of Antiquaries in Edinburgh, which is open for consultation by the public.

Inquiry in the Historical Section, Old Register House, has elicited, however, that rolls are extant for other areas than Renfrewshire, with, in many cases, a like profusion of genealogical information. In four cases these rolls have been printed, namely:—

1. Lists of Pollable Persons within the Shire of Aberdeen, 1696, in two volumes, Aberdeen, 1844, printed by instruction of the Committee of

the Spalding Club. Each volume has an index of places, but the index of persons seems to refer to only the more important people, and is far from complete. When it was issued in 1844 the Committee, even after considerable inquiry, had been unable to ascertain the existence of any similar record; for other counties of Scotland. The details are like those above alluded to for Renfrewshire.

- 2. The Scottish Record Society published in 1950 Edinburgh Polic Tax Returns for 1964 edited by Marguerite Wood, Keeper of the Burgh Records: These cover only the Tolbooth and Old Kirk parishes and have adequate indices of persons; for this compilation information in the poll tax rolls in Register House and the original returns in the muniments of the City of Edinburgh were collated, one set supplementing the other in respect of names of wives and children:
- 3. Annals of Leshmahagow by J. B. Greenshields, advocate, 1864, has about: 20 pages reproducing the Poll Tax records for the town and parish of Leshmahagow, omitting the Blackwood quarter.
- 4. The Transactions of the Banffshire Field Club of 18th December, 1903; have a copy of the poll tax documents then in the Sheriff Court; these, however, are only lists of "deficients," i.e. of those who have not paid their tax before March, 1697, and in consequence this record is a scanty one.

Many original poll tax rolls or lists recorded between 1693 and 1698 are now preserved in the Historical Section, Old Register House, and the relevant "Repertory" for boxes E69 and 70 has much useful information: Their content varies considerably. The most complete lists set out; as in Renfrewshire, the names of the inhabitants, male and female, even if some of them are below the poll tax age of 12; give the relationship to the head of the household and mention occupation and perhaps location of the house. They are arranged by parishes. Sometimes the names of the poor are shown in a separate list; and there may be lists of: "deficients" as in the case of Banffshire mentioned above. At the worst, it may be that only the names of the principal landowners are given. There may be all sorts of variation from parish to parish within the county and there is not always uniformity of treatment within the parish. A few have been so damaged in the past that but little remains of the original record:

Among the records which have very few names are:-

Argyll.—Glassary, Kintyre, Kilfinan, Islay. Ayrshire.—Barr, Dailly, Girvan, Largs. Berwickshire.—Lauder:

саят Lothian—Dirleton.

Fife—Aberdour, Wemyss.

Inverness-shire—Dalcrossie, Dores, Petty, etc.

Lanarkshire—Barony, Bothwell, Calder, Cambuslang, Carmunnock, Cathcart (really in Renfrewshire), Govan, Rutherglen.

Moray—Ardclach, Auldearn, Croy, Nairn.

The following parish records are more complete; the figures in brackets after the name of each parish are intended to show something of the scope of the list according to the following code, though exceptions will be found in nearly every case:—

1—Has names of wives.

3—Gives occupations.

2—Has names of children.

4—Location of houses.

5—Imperfect.

Berwickshire—Ayton (3, 4), Edrom (3, 4), Eyemouth (3, 4), Greenlaw (1, 2, 3, 4), Hutton (1, 2, 3, 4), Polwarth (1, 2, 3, 4), Swinton (3, 4). Edrom shows Mr William Laing, dispossessed minister and wife Katharine Home. Fasti Ecclesiastae Scoticanae, volume ii, page 156, shows him as an "outed" minister from Legerwood but does not mention his wife.

Edinburgh and Leith—Canongate (1, 3), College Kirk (1), Greyfriars (1, 5), Lady Yesters (1, 5), New Kirk (2, 5), North Leith (3), Old Kirk (2), South Leith (5), Tolbooth, Tron (1, 2, 3), (see also below), West Kirk (4).

Fife—Anstruther Wester (1, 2, 3), St. Andrews (1, 2, 3).

Inverness Burgh (3, 4).

MIDLOTHIAN (less Edinburgh and Leith)—Borthwick (2, 3, 4), Carrington (1, 2, 3), Cockpen (1, 2, 3), Colinton (1, 3, 5), Cramond (1, 2, 4), Cranston and Fala (3), Crichton (2, 3, 4), Currie (1, 3, 5), Dalkeith and Lasswade, Duddingston, East Calder or Calder Clere (4), Heriot (2, 3), Kirknewton (3, 4), Liberton (2, 3, 4), Mid Calder (2, 3), Newbattle (1, 2, 3, 5), Penicuik 2, 3, 4), Ratho (1, 2, 3, 4), Stow (1 2, 3, 4), Temple (3).

Orkney—All parishes (1, 2, 3, 4 for some parishes only).

Pertheme—Part of Dunning (Dalreoch and Ballgower pertaining to the laird of Gleneagles).

Renfrewshire—Houston (2, 3), Inchinnan (1, 2, 5), Kilbarchan (1, 2, 4), Killelland (3, 4), Kilmacolm (1, 2, 3). These Renfrewshire lists sometimes have material which is additional to that already published and referred to in "The Scottish Genealogist" of May, 1964.

Selkirkshire—Ettrick, Selkirk.

West Lothian—Abercom (1, 2, 5), Bathgate (3, 4), Bo'ness (1, 2, 3), Carriden (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), Dalmeny (2, 3, 4), Ecclesmachen (1, 2, 5), Kirkliston (1, 2, 3, 4), Livingston (2, 3, 4), Torphichen (3, 4), Uphall or Strathbrock (1, 2, 5).

Some of these lists, such as those for Bo'ness, Kirkliston and Stow, are very good, but special mention should be made of the Tron parish list, Edinburgh, of 75 pages, which, one would think, was of sufficient interest to merit reproduction. One finds in it references to the following "outed" ministers who, having refused to read the proclamation of the Estates and to pray for William and Mary, were deprived of their livings by order of the Privy Council in 1789:—

(References are given in brackets to relevant volume and page of Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticanae, and wives and children not mentioned in Fasti are shown in italics.)

William Bain from Torphichen, wife Helen Butler, son John (i 230).

David Balfour from Logie, wife (and or in) family (v 163).

Robert Bannerman from Newton and Woomet, wife and son Alexander (i 336). John Cameron from Kincardine-in-Menteith, wife Janet Barclay, 1 son, 3 daughters, the eldest not 10, a nephew of 10 (iv 348).

Andrew Cant from Trinity, Edinburgh, wife and daughter (i 127).

Thomas Harper from Wiston, wife Katharine Reid, children James and Rachel (i 263, iii 321).

John Innes from Glenluce, wife Christian Walker (ii 348).

John Kinneir from Neilston, wife and 3 children (iii 158).

John Langlands from Hawick, wife Margaret Rutherford, 3 children, eldest aged 14 (ii 113).

James Meik, "minister having no benefice payes as a gentleman"; I have not found him in Fasti.

Andrew Meldrum from Mertoun, wife and 2 children, 1 aged 7 (ii 159).

Thomas Paterson from Borthwick, wife Anna Murray, 3 children, eldest aged 8, daughter-in-law Anna White (i 302).

Alexander Ruddach from Elchies, wife Anna Henderson, son John (vi 340, he died July, 1695).

Henry Walker from Mochrum, wife Isobell Cock (ii 370).

James Walker from Buittle, wife, 3 young children (ii 399); and

William McOlney and wife. I am uncertain about his surname and have not identified him.

The Tron records also show Laurence Charteris, a retired minister from Dirleton (i 360), with his nephéw of the same name.

Ministers' widows in the Tron were:—

Beatrice Melville, widow of Charles Lumsden of Duddingston (i 18) with daughter Margaret, widow of Robert Bell, WS, and children Charles, Beatrix and Margaret Bell;

Anna Gray, widow of William Gray of Duns (ii 9) with her eldest son, Mr John;

Alison Fletcher, widow of John Graham of Meigle (v 270);

Elizabeth Charteris, widow of George Leslie of the Canongate (i 24); and

Katharine Smith, widow of David Drummond of Moneydie (i:215); living near her was Mr. David Drummond.

Members of the peerage in the Tron parish included: Helen, Countess of Tarras: (The Scots Peerage ii 237), Earl of Crawford, Duke of Gordon, Dowager Countess of Linlithgow, Lady Minto and Lady Susanna Campbell (The Scots Peerage i 361) and some of their families.

Another household had John Wedderburn of Blackness, eldest son Alexander with his wife Elizabeth Seaton, son John age 4 months and daughter Matilda (the latter not mentioned in *The Wedderburn Book*, though another later daughter Matilda is mentioned), niece Rachel Wedderburn and nephew Alexander Wedderburn "whom he maintains gratis."

Some of the entries make quaint reading:—"Mrs Kello and her daughter dwelling in one house. Mrs Kello declares her husband was worth 10,000 merks . . . . tax £3.6.8.

and her daur the Lady Broadmeadows knowes not what her husband was worth she being a widow and cannot declare it untill she got it from the air."; they had two maidservants on fees of £12 and £10 Scots respectively. I have not identified the unfortunate Lady Broadmeadows.

Those who would like to know more about Edinburgh and Leitheresidents about this time should also see the original manuscript lists of householders made by the constables in 1682; it is in the Edinburgh Room of the Edinburgh Public Library. In addition, the City Archivist has poll taxelists for New Kirk parish 1695, 1698 and 1699 and Lady Yester's parish 1698, and these would probably yield information supplementary to the Register House versions:

Also in the Historical Section, Old Register House, are numerous lists of the Hearth Tax payers of about 1691. These contains at most the names of the lieads of households which liad hearts and are, in consequence, not of such great interest to the genealogist as the polls tax records. They cover, however, a greater part of the country than the extant poll tax records and may be found useful for a parish where the poll tax list is not extant. The following will give an indication of areas for which the hearth tax returns may prove useful. They do not include areas, such as Banffshire, where only the principal landowners' names are given.

Ayrshire; Argyll except: Mull, Tiree, Coll and other parts in rebellion; Berwickshire, County of Bute; Glackmannanshire; Dunbartonshire—Easter and Wester Lenzie, town of Cumbernauld, Bonhill, Kilmaronock, Luss, Row, Cardross; Roseneath, Tarbet, Dumbarton; Dumfriesshire—Annan; Angus, Lanarkshire; Midlothian, Perthshire—Culross, Tulliallan, presbyteries of Dunblane, Auchterarder, Perth and Dunkeld; Renfrewshire; Stirlingshire, Sutherlandshire, West Lothian; and: Wigtonshire.

## BOOK REVIEW

Inhabitants of the Argyll Estate, 1779, edited by Eric R. Gregeen, M.A., and published by the Scottish Record Society, 1963.

If one had to search for a forefather named Donald McLean or Neil McLean it is likely that there would be such an embarras decrichesse that the quest-might well be given up in despair. At any rate, this might be the conclusion on consulting the Index of Persons of the above publication as it shows 48 persons bearing each of these two names. The area concerned seems to be the islands of Mull, Icolmkill (Iona) and Tiree, the parishes of Morvern, Inveraray, Kilmichael-and-Glassary, North and South Knapdale, Kilcolmonell-and-Kilchinzie, as well as some farms around Oban—all these in Argyll—and parts of Roseneath parish in Dunbartonshire. Unfortunately, however, though the name of the farm is given, there is in many cases nothing to show in which parish it lies. Inveraray town is not included, and the genealogist will not be interested in the part dealing with the lower end of the Kintyre peninsula, as totals by numbers without names are given.

"Donald McLean" and "Neil McLean" are here extreme examples, but similar difficulties would be found with the names John McLean (42 representatives), John Campbell (36), John McDonald (28), Allan McLean (25), Archibald Campbell (25), John McKinnon (24), John McArthur (24), and many others—all within a single year, 1779. This was the year for which John, 5th Duke of Argyll, decided that a census should be taken of all the inhabitants living on his lands, and the results are tabulated in this, to genealogists and others, very interesting book.

The quantum of genealogical information is not uniform. It begins in the following form:—

Kenchregan (a:farm which appears to be:in:Inverary:parish)

Donald McLean herd			.age-42
Ann McIntyre his wife			.age 36
Peggy Sinclair his daughter			age 12
John Sinclair his son			age .10
Gilbert Sinclair his son		:	age 4
Catherine Sinclair his daugh	ter		age 1
Margaret McIntyre his serva	ant		age 20

Is "Donald McLean" here a mistake for "Donald Sinclair" otherwise why should his children be called Sinclair? The Inversey register of births for the period 1767-80 shows no John McLean as parent, but has the birth of Margaret Sinclair on 26 June 1767, daughter of Donald Sinclair, bowman (i.e. a variety of larm tenant) in Cairness and Ann McIntyre.

From page 23 to page 26 (perhaps in South Knapdale, Kilcolmonell-and-Kilberry and Killean-and-Kilchinzie parishes) the entries follow the pattern:—

#### Barinlongart Old Town

Rev. Mr Hindman, a wife, 1 son, 2 daughters, 1 man and 3 women servants.

This would appear to be the Rev. Daniel Hyndman, minister of South Knapdale Parish, mentioned in Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticanae, vol. IV, page 18, who in 1770 married Marrione Hamilton; Fasti, however, does not mention any children.

For the whole of the island of Tiree (pages 26 to 65) 1,881 persons are listed, the pattern being:—

#### Gortandonuil, cottars

Hugh McMillan			• • •	age	36
Mary Cameron	•••	•••		age	32
Malcolm McMillan			• • •	age	5
Archibald McMillan			***	age	2

It is reasonable to suppose that here, though relationship is not expressed, it follows the same order as before page 23, and that Mary Cameron is the wife and Malcolm and Archibald are the sons of Hugh McMillan.

Similarly, also in Tiree, we have:—

#### Ballafetruis Tenants

Mr Charles Campbe	ll, mir	nister	•••	age 80	
Mrs Campbell	•••		• • •	age 36	
Malcolm Campbell	• • •	* * *	•••	age 18	
Robert Campbell			* * *	age 16	
Janet Campbell	***	• • •		age 11	
Duncan Campbell			• • •	age 4	

The above particulars agree with those given in Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticanae, vol. IV, page 20, except that (1) Fasti gives the wife's name as Elizabeth Campbell, married in 1757, when she would be 14 or 15 if her age was really 36 in 1779; (2) Fasti mentions a son John born in 1758, apparently dead or left home by 1779; and (3) Fasti does not mention son Duncan above, born 1774-75.

In Morvern parish, pages 65 to 70, 942 persons, the pattern is:—

Hugh Cameron worksman & family 2 males, 5 women.

In Mull (pages 70 to 98, 2,127 persons) and Iona (pages 98 to 101, 229 persons) details of ages and relationship are given, but only males are mentioned by name, women's names, whether of wives, daughters or maidservants, being omitted.

Pages 119 to 123 list the names of 168 males from the age of 12 upwards in various farms on the Duke's estate in Roseneath, Dunbartonshire, but neither

relationship, age nor occupation is given.

The Index of Persons covers  $8\frac{1}{2}$  pages, of which  $5\frac{1}{2}$  are devoted to Macs, a half page to Campbells, with sprinklings of Beatons (in Mull and Tiree, doubtless representatives of the Beatons or Macbeths who were once the hereditary physicians to the Lords of the Isles—see History of Scottish Medicine by John D. Comrie), Bells, Blacks, Browns, Buchanans, Camerons, Fergusons, Grahams, Lamonts, Livingstones, Monros, Morrisons, Sinclairs, Turners and Walkers. (George F. Black in The Surnames of Scotland, says that the Turners, formerly W'Inturner of Drumlee, Glen Shira and Glen Shiray are reputed to have been lairds there for centuries).

Lowland names are few. A footnote refers to the McUolries and McCualrigs of Tiree (54 of them are mentioned in the census) and says that they are now represented by the Kennedys of Tiree—a common surname there nowadays descended from Walrick Kennedy, a member of the Cassilis family, who came to Lochaber from Ayrshire in the 15th century as a fugitive from justice.

Although Smith was the commonest Scottish surname in 1860 (see Annual Report of the Registrar General for Scotland, 1937, Appendix VII), only one is recorded and he was in Roseneath. There is no mention of Gow, the Celtic equivalent of Smith.

Genealogists would assuredly welcome any further publication by the Scottish Record Society as full of information and interest as this one certainly is.

J. F. M.

# JAMES "OSSIAN" MACPHERSON'S ANCESTRY

In the leading article of the "Fingal" Number (Creag Dhubh No. 13, p. 6) Major J. E. Macpherson made the statement that the translator of Ossian was the son of "Andrew Macpherson, brother of Lachlan of Nuide, who became the seventeenth chief of the clan." The present writer challenged this in a letter to the editor which appeared in  $Creig\ Dhubh\ No.\ 14,\ 1962$  (p. 23), where a tentative genealogy was presented to suggest that his father, Andrew Macpherson in Invertromie, was the son of Andrew Macpherson, brother of Lachlan of Nuide. In this I was following statements made by W. Cheyne-Macpherson in his "Chiefs of Clan Macpherson" (p. 125) about the close relationship of "Ossian" to the Macphersons of Blairgowrie, based upon information obtained from that family. Brigadier Alan Macpherson of Blairgowrie's letter to Creag Dhubh No. 15 1963 (p. 44) confirms that this was first recorded in a clan genealogy compiled

by his grandfather, Allan Macpherson of Blairgowrie (1815-1901). Further consideration of the evidence suggests that the Blairgowrie account is incorrect, and that Cheyne-Macpherson and the present writer were in error in following it. It is the purpose of this article to elucidate the mystery.

It should be noted immediately that there is no mystery about James' birth. The baptismal register of the Parish of Kingussie records his birth on the 27th October 1736 to Andrew Macpherson in Invertromie and his wife Helen Macpherson, who is recorded under her maiden name according to the custom of the time. The problem revolves around the identity of these two individuals.

The most important piece of evidence concerning his parents' identities comes in a statement in a letter from Alexander Clark, "writer at Ruthven in Badenoch," to the Reverend John Anderson, minister of Kingussie; one of the translator's executors, dated 25th October 1797 (the year after James' death and

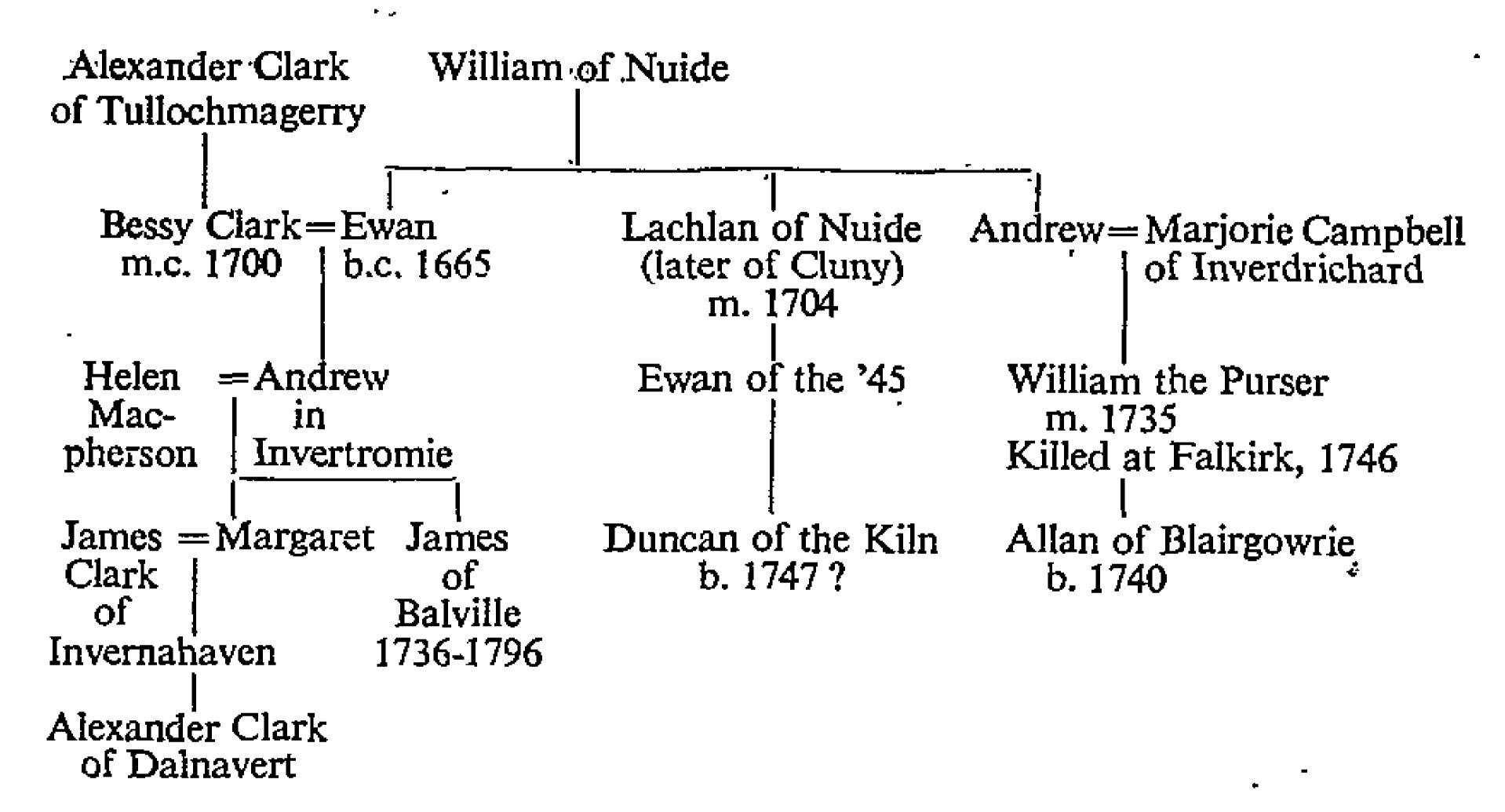
burial in Westminster Abbey):

"... the late James Macpherson of Balville, Esquire; was born 27th October 1736, and dyed in February 1796, in the fifty-ninth year of his age: His fathers' name was Andrew Macpherson, son to Ewan Macpherson, brother to the then Macpherson of Cluny. His mother's name was Ellen Macpherson, daughter of a respectable tacksman of the second branch of the Clan." (Alexander Macpherson, Glimpses of Church and Social Life in the Highlands, pp. 255, 256). Alexander Clark, the informant, was a nephew of James Macpherson, being son of James' only sister, Margaret, and can be accepted as a reliable witness. The problem, now, is to identify "the then Macpherson of Cluny," that is, the chief in 1736, and find evidence of his having a brother Ewan, and to identify "the second branch of the Clan," and its tacksman around 1700 when, we may assume, Helen (Ellen) Macpherson was born.

The new evidence comes from Sir Aeneas Macpherson of Invereshie's marvellously detailed genealogy of the clan, a copy of which has been discovered recently in the Invereshie Book in the Clan Museum. The genealogy was finished in 1705, and contains marriages and births which occurred immediately prior to that date. Among the marriages is that of Lachlan Macpherson of Nuide, who became Laird of Cluny and chief of the clan in 1722, and whose eldest son, Ewan of Cluny, led the men of Badenoch in the Jacobite rising of 1745. Lachlan of Nuide and Cluny died in 1746, and must be the chief referred to in Alexander Clark's statement. Sir Aeneas Macpherson's genealogy shows that, besides three legitimate brothers and six sisters, Lachlan of Nuide had an illegitimate halfbrother, Ewan, who was married to Bessy Clark, a daughter of Alexander Clark of Tullochmagerry. No children are recorded of this marriage, and it might be a reasonable assumption that it was a new one made about 1704. Ewan and Lachlan of Nuide's common parent was William of Nuide who, according to the genealogy, was married in 1667; it is probable that Ewan was born a year or two prior to that date, and was about 35 years old in 1700. It should be noted

that illegitimacy was not a social stigma in the seventeenth century in the High-lands—although it carried penalties in terms of inheritance of property. Ewan Macpherson was not only acknowledged by his father before the clan, but had obtained a good marriage with a well-known and respected family of some property.

With the evidence from the Invereshie genealogy the relationship of James Macpherson to the families of Cluny and Blairgowrie can be restated. He was, in fact, a second cousin of Duncan of the Kiln and Allan of Blairgowrie.



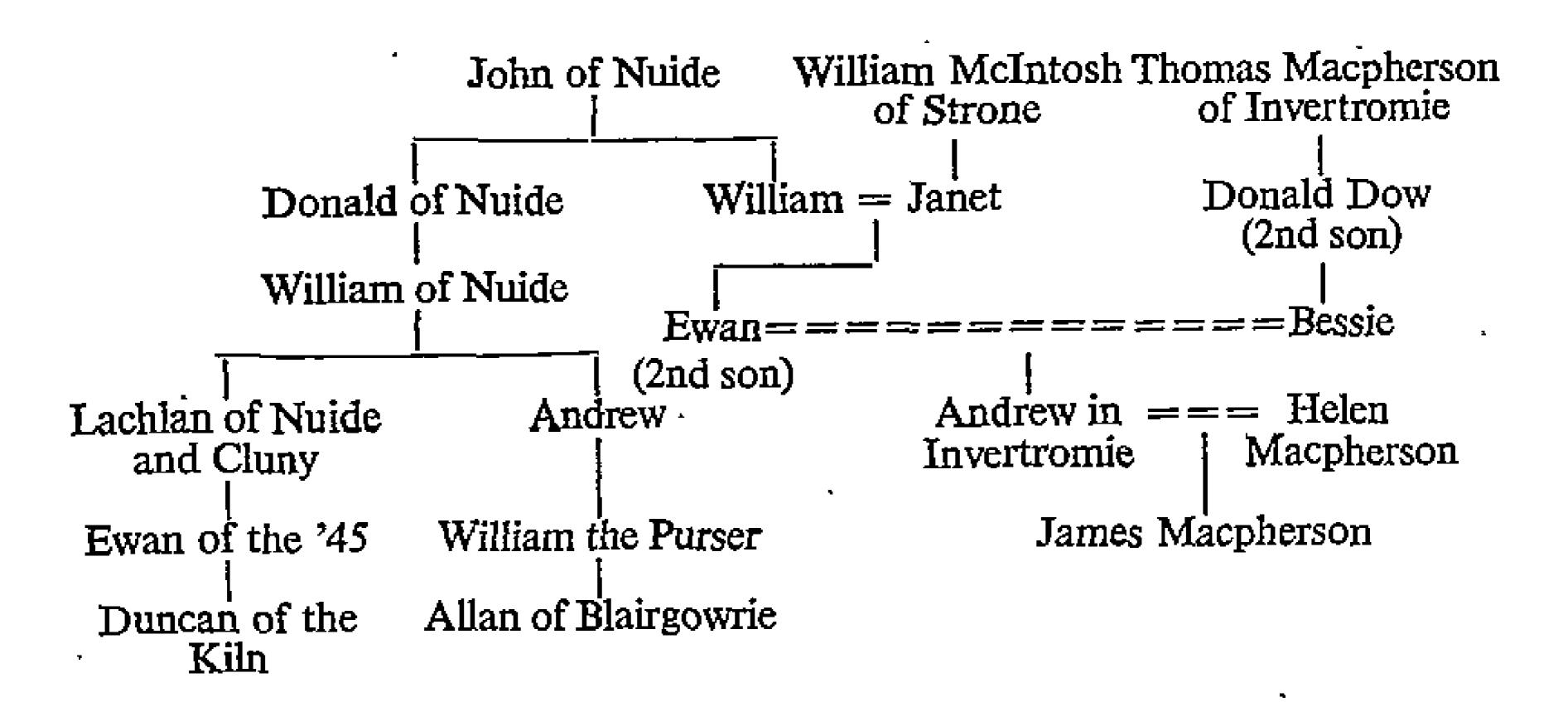
The evidence of Alexander Clark and the Invereshie genealogy seems conclusive, and the writer is prepared to accept it as correct. However, there is conflicting evidence from another source which must be examined. Douglas of Glenbervie's Baronage of Scotland, published in 1798, contains a fairly detailed genealogy of a few leading families in the clan. Internal evidence dates this information to 1766, thirty years before Clark's statement. In spite of this date, Glenbervie's information is only reliable in places: much of it is highly inaccurate and misleading, despite his access to Sir Aeneas' manuscript genealogy and several informants among the clansmen. For what it is worth, Glenbervie makes the following statement about William Macpherson, second son of John of Nuide, and uncle of William of Nuide:

".... married twice, and of him there are a great many descendents, particularly the celebrated Mr James Macpherson who translated Ossian's poems, &c., and is now secretary to the province of West Florida, &c."

Sir Aeneas Macpherson of Invereshie's genealogy confirms that John of

Nuide's second son was called William, that he was married twice, and that his second son was called Ewan. This Ewan, according to Sir Aeneas, was married to Bessy Macpherson, daughter of Donald Dow Macpherson, son of Captain Thomas of Invertromie, one of Montrose's officers in the great campaign of 1645 during the Civil War. No children are recorded, although married nephews and nieces are shown in the Nuide genealogy. Both Ewan and his wife belong to a generation earlier than that of Lachlan of Nuide and his brothers, but this does not exclude them as possible grandparents for James "Ossian" Macpherson. The Invertromie genealogy does not show any member of the generation after Bessy, although there were seven marriages recorded among her Invertromie cousins, including Duncan Macpherson of Invertromie himself.

The alternative genealogy would look like this:



Bessie Macpherson was the only child of Donald Dow Macpherson, and she probably inherited her father's right to possession of land in the farm of Invertromie. It will be recalled that James Macpherson's father, Andrew, was a tenant in Invertromie in 1736 when James was born. If Glenbervie's information is accepted as correct, it implies that Andrew was in Invertromie by right through his mother, not through right of his father. We have to dismiss Alexander Clark's claim on our credence and ignore his statement that James' grandfather, Ewan Macpherson, was a brother of the "then Macpherson of Cluny."

James Macpherson appears now as a third cousin once removed to Allan of Blairgowrie, and the question arises as to what family obligations were responsible for bringing them together in their early boyhood. Allan and his brother John were brought up with James after the Rising of 1745, in which William the Purser was killed. Were Andrew in Invertromie and Helen Macpherson the

foster-parents? Most important of all, where in Badenoch was James brought up? Answers to these questions would help to reduce the dilemma.

The identity of Helen Macpherson, "daughter of a respectable tacksman of the second branch of the clan," presents even greater difficulties than that of James' father. Sir Aeneas' genealogy shows that the second branch of the clan in 1705 consisted of the families of Pitmain, Invertromie, Pitchirn, Clune, Strathmashie, Tirfodown, Garvamore, Shiromore, Bealid, Coronach and Invernaliaun. For some reason no representatives of Pitmain, Invertromie, Bealid and Coronach appear in the Arbitration Bond signed by the tacksmen of the clan at Clune in May 1722, but this does not mean that these families were no longer prominent after that date. We have a wide choice.

It is always dangerous to base genealogical arguments upon first names. The name Helen appears in the families of Pitmain, Pitchirn, Coronach and Invernahaun. The name Margaret appears in the families of Invertromie, Clune and Invernahaun. No conclusions can be drawn from these facts. On the other hand, Duncan Macpherson of Invertromie appears in Sir Aeneas' genealogy as married to Margaret Grant of Achnahannet. We might speculate that Helen Macpherson was a daughter of Duncan of Invertromie and Margaret Grant,

and that she named her daughter after her mother.

If we assume that Helen was a daughter of the tacksman of Invertromie several implications can be drawn. First it tends to dismiss Glenbervie's statement as incorrect. It implies that Andrew in Invertromie was tenant there by right of his wife and not by right of this mother. It further implies that Andrew may have moved from Invertromie when he succeeded to rights in land in the township of Nuide after the father Ewan's death. In this connection it is interesting to note that he was not among the Macphersons from Invertromie who surrendered at the end of the Rising in 1746. It is also noteworthy that one Andrew Macpherson in Ballintian surrendered at Blair Castle on the 17th May 1746, Ballintian being part of the farm of Laggan of Nuidbeg in the township of Nuide. He was evicted from Ballintian in 1751 by Ewan Macpherson, wadsetter of Laggan of Nuidbeg, a younger son of the Macphersons of Benchar, themselves a branch of the Macphersons of Nuide. If Andrew in Ballintian is identical with Andrew in Invertromie his eviction was in the nature of a family quarrel, probably involving the family of Cluny as principal in the wadset. Andrew in Ballintian moved to Nuidmore, another part of the township of Nuide possessed by another cousin, Donald Macpherson of Coulinlinn. In 1751 and 1752 Andrew was ground officer on the Annexed Estate of Cluny, and was engaged till 1756 in an attempt to have the wadset of Laggan declared void in accordance with the wishes of the family of Cluny. This could all be regarded as circumstantial evidence that this was the father of James Macpherson the translator. Again, we have to ask where James Macpherson spent his boyhood in Badenoch.

According to Brig. Alan G. Macpherson of Blairgowrie (Private Communication: 29th May 1963), the mother of Allan and John, and widow of William the Purser, was Anna Macpherson. Cheyne-Macpherson limits his reference to this lady in his "Chiefs" (p. 125) with the remark that she was the relict or widow of Grant of Laggan when William the Purser married her. The Blairgowrie family, however, have documentary evidence that she was originally Anna Macpherson, sister of Donald Macpherson of Kinlochlaggan and Alexander Macpherson in Druminuird, a small farm in Strathmashie. Her family was, in fact, a cadet of the Macphersons of Strathmashie. Blairgowrie says that Allan and John appear to have lived with their maternal uncle, Alexander in Druminuird, after their father's death. If so, there appears to be little room for James. Perhaps James' mother was a Strathmashie rather than an Invertromie, but this would force us to accept Glenbervie's version. Another explanation might be that there was a fostering relationship between the Strathmashie and Invertromie Macphersons. We know practically nothing about the way this custom would work in the early eighteenth century Highlands.

A question about the location of William the Purser's home in Badenoch elicited from Blairgowrie the fact that this was believed to have been near Crathie Bridge. This connection, although peripheral to the problem of James Macpheron's ancestry, raises problems not unrelated. The 1705 genealogy makes it perfectly clear that the Macphersons of Crathie Croy were cadets of Clunie who branched off in the mid-1500's. Glenbervie, however, makes two statements about the origin of the family, both in conflict with the 1705 genealogy:

1. He states that Andrew, third son of John of Nuide, was the "ancestor of the Macphersons of Crathy-Croy." The 1705 MS makes it perfectly clear that

this man was the ancestor of the Macphersons of Benchar.

2. He further states that Andrew, third son of William of Nuide, was the ancestor of James Macpherson of Crath-Croy. This last person, it is implied, was alive in 1766 when Glenbervie's material was collected. In this connection it is noteworthy that there is evidence, quoted in "The Chiefs" (p. 125), that William the Purser had an elder brother James who might well have been alive in 1766 and in possession of Crathy Croy. James of Crathy Croy would then be a cousin of Andrew in Invertromie, if we accept Alexander Clark's version, and it might well be the case that James "Ossian" lived part of his boyhood with him. Crathy Croy is close enough to Druminuird to make it quite possible that he would see something of his cousins, Allan and John.

Obviously, in elucidating this problem no solution has been found. It is the present writer's view, however, that the most likely explanation of James' ancestry is that given by Alexander Clark: that his father was a son of Ewan Macpherson, a bastard half-brother of Lachlan Macpherson of Nuide and Cluny; and that his mother was a daughter of the tacksman of Invertromie.

(Reprinted from Creagh Dhubh)

#### 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 underake 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, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Editor, Honorary Librarian, 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 issue of The Scottish Genealogist, 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.

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